

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Summer 2021 Annual Newsletter

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Welcome!

Dear Colleagues, Alumni, and Friends of the Department:

What a year! After extraordinary movements for racial justice and the devastating impact of an ever-shifting global Covid-19 pandemic, we turn to the summer of 2021 with renewed hope.

We honor all those we have lost to the twin forces of racism and to the deadly pandemic, and remain grateful for the campus community of staff, students, faculty, administrators all across our colleges who have come together with exceptional generosity and determination to make it possible for learning and teaching to continue to happen, even as our students dialed in from all around the world to virtual classes and our professors and staff zoomed from their kitchen tables.

Our annual newsletter had to be put on hold in the midst of all this, and we turn now with a bit of a look back to catch up and a view to the future, celebrating our brand new graduates. In these cyber pages you will find news from the past year and a half or so, necessarily an incomplete portrait, but sharing something of all that has happened. We feature contributions by graduate students, faculty, and staff, and a few highlights of marvelous nuggets of news from all across our departmental community from Emeriti to undergraduates (see our "Marvelous Miscellany" section.).

But loss also marks these pages, as the “In Memoriam” section makes clear. In the past year we have lost three Emeriti Professors, each of whom left a big mark on the department through their long and distinguished careers, and, in addition, the year also claimed our most generous benefactor, Paul Liebman, committed to anthropology since his undergraduate days and all through a successful business career. Like our emeriti, his connection with our department remains indelible---funding crucial learning experiences in our Engaged Anthropology Initiative.

We salute the future too, as we engage deeply with international calls to “Decolonize”---not only the fields of Anthropology as a discipline, but the U.S. University, rebuilding knowledge structures for a more equitable future. A first report on some of those efforts appears here as well, marking our commitment to futures yet to be written.

Thank you for spending time with us, and do get in touch!

Sincerely,



Prof. Jane Desmond



Assoc. Prof. Jeff Martin

Newsletter Editors

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE PANDEMIC



Laura Shackelford
Associate Professor

When our world changed in Spring 2020 and all classes went online, I was teaching cadaver-based human anatomy to 36 medical students in the Carle Illinois College of Medicine. Prior to this spring, I had never taught an online course. I didn't know HOW to teach an online course. Despite the wealth of online anatomy

resources, an immediate pivot from hours in the cadaver lab each week to online-only teaching felt like a disaster in the making.

When an entire university is forced to make this transition to online learning quickly en masse, it's impossible to provide the resources and support that we all need. Like all of my colleagues, I struggled with an increased workload as I learned the difference between effectively delivering information online and just uploading content. With shelter-in-place orders in effect, I missed collaboration and commiseration with colleagues who were having the same struggles. At the same time, I missed my students. I frequently teach hands-on, lab-based classes that rely on one-on-one or small group learning. Time spent in the anatomy lab is when I get to know many of my students as scholars and as people. I missed that time with this class.

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE PANDEMIC (CONTINUED)

But in retrospect, my experiences with this transition have been more positive than negative. As one of many anatomy teachers across the country struggling to adapt to our new circumstances, I benefited from a community of scholars and an array of online resources. Although many anatomy learning platforms and apps require a site license, publishers made them freely available for all educators. Rather than struggling alone on what felt like an overwhelming task, I became more connected to my colleagues as we shared information and swapped resources. I learned a great deal about the power of collective knowledge and shared commiseration.

Although I missed the lab interactions that would have occurred, I learned to interact differently with my students. I spent most “office hours” by myself in a Zoom room every Friday afternoon, but some students who were normally shy about asking questions found this to be an easier forum for engagement. I am now thinking about different teaching methods, and I am more cognizant of the need to address different types of learners. I received positive feedback from students about many of the online activities and resources. This Fall, I will use a combination of online teaching tools and lab learning that may be a better pedagogical model going forward. I worry, however, about missing nuances of learner anxiety and learner equity when I can’t interact freely with classes.

I am in a privileged position, which made my transition to online learning much easier than for most. Not only have I had the resources to make this transition, but I am currently teaching a class of high-achieving, professional students who are

predominantly middle-class and resource-rich. I am incredibly lucky that my students were patient as we transitioned this course, and they didn’t hold my mistakes against me. Instead, everyone understood that we were in this together.



Maritza Quiñones, Ph.D.
Academic Advisor

Transitioning from f2f academic advising to virtual meetings became an intuitive act. Handling routine questions relating to whether or not to drop a course or to apply for credit/no credit for a course remained a norm - yet managing the unprecedented demands that virtual education presented shifted paradigms.

You quickly learn to evolve and find answers and/or solutions to new problems. The new demands also unveiled the greatest disparities among our students - from loss of employment and student health center access, renter scavengers, faster internet access or lack of it, hotspot(s), family demands, and so much more. Most importantly, I learned so much from my students including their optimism, resiliency, and determination to finish strong.



Feature Contribution from our Graduate Students



Alana Ackerman



Chibundo Anwuli Egwatu

Editors' note: The summer of 2020 exploded with protests, and here in Champaign-Urbana graduate students Alana Ackerman and Chibundo Anwuli Egwatu were part of the work for racial justice. This short reflection reports on events in C-U at that time.

This summer [2020], we have joined residents in Champaign-Urbana in activist organizations and collectives, emergent and established, in responding to institutional harm.

In CU, protests against policing have emerged as part of the national Black Lives Matter movement and public outrage at the murder of George Floyd. On May 31st, 27 people were arrested during a protest, and the Champaign County Bailout Coalition (CCBC) performed 16 bails on June 3rd with donations from the Chicago Community Bail Fund (CCBF) and the local community. As a member of CCBC, Chibundo was a part of the effort to bail out the protesters, who received bails ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Many

of these protesters, all under the age of 35, are still facing felony charges that have yet to be dismissed. We also organized a car rally and a call-in campaign to decarcerate the local jails for public health, due to jails and prisons being recognized as hotspots for COVID-19 transmission.

Both Alana and Chibundo are members of the Graduate Employees Organization (GEO), the union for graduate employees at UIUC. Earlier in July, ICE emitted a policy that would have stripped international students of their visas if they take all online coursework in the fall, essentially forcing students to decide between their health and their visa status. Through the GEO, several UIUC graduate workers organized a call-a-thon to let university administration know that we opposed this policy and supported legal action against ICE. ICE eventually rescinded its policy, but recently emitted a new one that denies

international students entry into the US if their coursework will be online in the fall. [Editors' note: this was later rescinded due to national push back.] We continue to organize to oppose these oppressive policies and ultimately abolish ICE.

Alana is organizing a collective conversation among UIUC students with disabilities (principally DREAM and GEO members), to discuss what accommodations we will require for fall semester, and what strategies we can implement to stay safe during the return to campus.

Alana has also helped organize No Police C-U, a group that has participated in multiple rallies and marches against the police in the city and local schools,

and signees of a letter to the UIUC administration calling for the university to divest from police on campus.

Alana Ackerman is a sixth-year graduate student in the anthropology department. She studies movement, embodiment, and displacement in the global South. She is an active member of the Graduate Employees' Organization and the UIUC chapter of Disability Rights, Education, Activism, and Mentoring.

Chibundo Anwuli Egwatu is a sixth-year graduate student in the anthropology department working with the activism of Black sex workers as Black liberation praxis. Chibundo is an officer in the Graduate Employees' Organization and a member of

SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVES

Library Grant

UIUC has received a major grant from the Doris Duke Native Oral History Revitalization Project led by the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums. The grant, led in part by Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of American Indian Studies, Dr. **Jenny Davis**, will facilitate the digitizing and repatriation of the University's collection of Native American oral histories collected by linguistic and cultural anthropologists at UIUC in the late 1960s.

For many years this important resource sat, underutilized by scholars and not easily available to members of tribal nations, in the departmental archives until being transferred in the early 2000s to the University Archives. As Dr. Davis has noted, this effort at enlarging the collaborative and redistributive aspects of university archives resonates with initiatives connected to the Native Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) to return to Native American communities those remains of their ancestors, or of ceremonial objects, which have been held without permission in University and museum archives as part of colonial practices of acquisition.



Krystiana Krupa

30 Years of NAGPRA: Implications for Research, Teaching and Training

University of Illinois NAGPRA Office Coordinator, Ms. Krystiana Krupa gave a presentation on March 4, 2021. The presentation focused on the an overview of NAGPRA and the anthropological practices that necessitated its development, and describes research and teaching frameworks that have shifted or need shifting in response to best practices in the field of repatriation. She also summarized the history and current state of NAGPRA in Illinois and at the University of Illinois specifically, and how repatriation work can address some of the injustices perpetuated by the field of anthropology.

SPOTLIGHT: DECOLONIZING INITIATIVES

During the past academic year, our department, like several others across the nation, has been intensely involved in discussions regarding anti-Black racism and of strategies to “decolonize” anthropology in the department and the discipline by reflecting on the colonial and imperial aspects of the origins of the discipline and the lingering legacies of that today. Below we sketch a brief narrative of some of the ongoing work that we are doing as a departmental collective to address these concerns and to initiate new practices.

In June 2020, the department issued its **Statement Concerning Anti-Black Racism** that was developed by Krystal Smalls , Faye Harrison, Jenny Davis, Kate Clancy, Maritza Quiñones, and department head Brenda Farnell.

Following the ‘calls to action’ at the end of that Statement, the faculty met in January 2021 to discuss how best to address Decolonizing Anthropology in our teaching and research. We agreed that first we needed to share the perspectives of those faculty whose work has always been inspired and informed by a decolonizing lens, acknowledging especially the major contributions of Faye Harrison who has been calling for this move since 1991. This resulted in the first department-wide Decolonizing Anthropology discussion on January 25th facilitated by Brenda Farnell, during which faculty members Korinta Maldonado Goti,

Gilberto Rosas, Ellen Moodie, and Jenny Davis presented aspects of their decolonizing approaches, followed by discussion.

Decolonizing Anthropology # 2 on February 11th featured a presentation by Faye Harrison, followed by DA #3 on February 25th led by a presentation from Krystal Smalls. A presentation on 30 yrs of NAGPRA on March 4th by Krystiana Krupa, our new campus wide NAPGRA officer, contributed to the DA discussions. DA #4 on April 1st focused discussion on a motion from the Brazilian Anthropology Association regarding decolonizing globally. A draft resolution in support of the ABA motion was presented by Virginia Dominguez and developed with Faye Harrison and Jenny Davis .The **resolution was presented for discussion and later passed by the faculty.** Plans to continue these challenging department-wide conversations are underway for Fall of 2021.

In addition, as part of the spring’s departmental conversations, a collective of sociocultural and linguistic graduate students prepared an hour long powerpoint which they presented to a meeting of the faculty and graduate students convened at their request to discuss various aspects of departmental life from a graduate student perspective. These discussions will also continue in the fall.

MARVELLOUS MISCELLANY

Celebrating!

Good news!

The anthropology department at UIUC is home to great people doing great work.

Here are some of the awesome things they have done recently!

LABOR, HEALTH, EQUITY, ACTION PROJECT

Gilberto Rosas, Korinta (Kora) Maldonado, Ellen Moodie, and Jessica Brinkworth spent the summer developing an important new research initiative. They are co-PIs on an emerging research project involving questions about the susceptibility of COVID among marginalized communities in southern Illinois, particularly Black, Puerto Rican, Indigenous migrants, and migrants from the DCR. Spurred by the COVID outbreaks in Rantoul, they have combined forces with faculty in Veterinary Medicine, Microbiology, Engineering, and other departments, many affiliated with the Institute of Genomic Biology, to study the biological science and ethnography of infection and its likelihood, as well as provide testing to these underserved communities.

They used and trained Community Research Assistants, who are representative of the affected communities, to conduct remote ethnography. They have received funding and support of the IGB, local industry, the OVCR, the IPRH, and



others, as seed money. Jessica is the PI of the biological sciences component and Kora is the PI of the sociocultural component. A third component is looking at the nonhuman environment.

The LHEAP project has been featured in local and campus news. Recently, both the research team collectively and Jessica Brinkworth individually received LAS Impact Award!



In 2018, **Jenny Davis** was named Chancellor's Fellow of Indigenous Research and Ethics at UIUC. She also won the Beatrice Medicine Book Award for Best Monograph in American Indian Studies, awarded by the Native American Literature Symposium and the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures. She chaired an American Anthropological Association working group for partnership with UNESCO on the Declaration of 2019 as Year of Indigenous Languages, which culminated in multiple events, including a Presidential Panel at 2019 AAA conference. She also taught "Revitalizing Indigenous Language and Culture," as a Summer Graduate Seminar for the Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL. In 2019 she was elected to the Executive Board of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology as a member-at-large, and appointed to the Advisory Council of the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the Newberry Library. And in 2020, she was named Helen Corley Petit Fellow, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, UIUC; established a campus-wide NAGPRA office, including hiring of full-time NAGPRA officer; and taken up a 5-year appointment as director of American Indian Studies.



Gilberto Rosas was designated a Conrad Humanities Scholar, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2020-2025. Along with Dr. Mireya Loza at NYU, he is co-editing *The Border Reader*, which is currently in production with Duke University Press.



Paul Michael Leonardo Atienza was announced as the 2019-2020 Gender and Women's Studies Outstanding Student of the Year. From his nomination letter: "His dedication to collaboration, dialogue, and exchange as important to the creative and intellectual production of knowledge about our world most recently manifested as the gathering called, 'Solidarities of Difference: Keywords in Feminist, Queer, and Trans Studies,' facilitating 'conversations among GWS Graduate Minors and Interested Graduate Students,' held on September 20, 2019 at the Asian American Cultural Center. [He] initiated this symposium, which entailed his extensive collaborative work with fellow students to bring together for the first time our graduate minors and interested graduate students in an intellectual exchange." He was also awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2020-2021 from the Graduate College.



Chris Fennell received the "Daniel G. Roberts Award for Excellence in Public Historical Archaeology," in January 2020, for "commitment to public scholarship" and "anti-racism scholarship and education in historical archaeology," awarded by the Society for Historical Archaeology. Formed in 1967, the Society for Historical Archaeology is the largest scholarly group concerned with the archaeology of the modern world. He also published a new book, entitled "**The Archaeology of Craft and Industry**" (University of Florida Press, 2021). He also served as the elected President of the Illinois Archaeological Survey in 2018 and 2019. The Illinois Archaeological Survey is a society of professional archaeologists, and other technical professionals, dedicated to identifying and preserving important archaeological resources throughout the state of Illinois.



Jane Desmond was appointed a Visiting Research Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study at the University of Edinburgh during spring of 2019 to conduct research on expanding the medical humanities to include veterinary medicine. In March of 2020, she held a John Daniels research Fellowship at the National Sporting Library and Museum in Middleburg, Virginia, to conduct archival research on human-animal relations in the world of sport. And during the 2019-2020 academic year she was named one of 20 Public Voices Fellows from across the U of I system, to work with the Op Ed Project. As a result of this fellowship, she produced several Opinion pieces for national publications like "Newsweek" and "Scientific American".



Virginia Dominguez published a new book, coauthored with Brigittine French, titled *Anthropological Lives: An Introduction to the Profession of Anthropology* (2020, Rutgers University Press). The endorsement on the back of the book by Don Brenneis says a lot about the book and its goals, he writes: "Lively, though-provoking, and grounded in the lives and practices of twenty contemporary anthropologists, *Anthropological Lives* provides a rich and textured account of the field today. Dominguez and French have shaped an engaging and subtle account, one charting multiple sensibilities, orientations, and intellectual trajectories with insight and panache. A distinctive and stimulating work, one that conveys a remarkable feeling for the profession and its possibilities." She is also nearly finished with a new book she is co-editing with Argentina's Mariano Perelman on anthropology and neoliberalism around the world.



Krystal Smalls, received the Faculty Prize for Research in the Humanities for AY 2021-22

Professor Smalls has also been featured among the Stars from the AAA Sections.



Helaine Silverman, a specialist in archaeology and Director of CHAMP, the Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy, is co-directing a major grant from the UIUC System-Wide Initiative in the Arts and Humanities. Her two year project, "The Mythic Mississippi: Heritage as Public Engagement and Economic and Social Development" will assist a number of downstate communities in creating themed heritage tourism routes.



Laura Shackelford Laura Shackelford was awarded a NSF grant for research on VR for students in wheelchairs. It is a follow-up on the current research that she is doing to teach field work using VR.



Lisa J. Lucero was recently awarded a 3-year National Science Foundation Grant for a project titled, 'Diverse and Sustainable Resource Management among the Rural Maya: Salvage Archaeology in Central Belize.' "The project's main goal is to collect as much information as possible from ancient Maya houses that are being plowed away. The Maya would rebuild in the same spot for centuries and centuries—including burying ancestors in house floors. Each time mounds are plowed, it erases history and exposes human remains." In November of 2019 she finished her three-year term as President of the Archaeology Division of the American Anthropological Association (2017-2019), a position which brought her into contact with peers from all over the world. She was also listed in the top 1% of researchers on Academia by 30-day views, showing the respect with which her peers view her work. She has recently published several papers and book chapters with her graduate students, including "A Year in the Life of a Giant Ground Sloth During the Last Glacial Maximum in Belize" a well-received piece in an AAAS journal, which received wide press and continues to do so because of all of the important data and information extracted from a c. 27,000 year old extinct giant sloth tooth from a cenote in central Belize. Her then-graduate student Jean Larmon (who received her PhD in Oct. 2019) was first author on that piece. She has an edited book *Sustainability and Water Management in the Maya World and Beyond* forthcoming in 2021 from the University Press of Colorado, Boulder, co-edited with Jean Larmon and Fred Valdez. She coauthored "Reconceptualizing Urbanism: Insights from Maya Cosmology" with her then-student Jess Gonzalez (currently a NRES PhD student) published in *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities: Urban Resource Management*. Her 2018 paper "A Cosmology of Conservation in the Ancient Maya World," published in the *Journal of Anthropological Research*, resulted in several invitations to

She has been interviewed for a number of articles, including a BuzzFeed article, 'College Classes And Major Coronavirus Risks Are About To Be In Session Across America' about the risks of in-person teaching; a Nature article on, 'Monumental Architecture at Aguada Fénix and the Rise of Maya Civilization' for Live Science, 'Oldest and largest Maya structure on record discovered in southern Mexico'; and a National Geographic piece on 'Colossal Volcano behind 'Mystery' Global Cooling Finally Found.' She has also been busy with public engagement connected to the #MeToo movement. Finally, after lots of hard work, especially by Jesann Gonzalez Cruz, her ANTH278 course, "Climate Change and Civilization" was approved as Gen Ed course, with its first offering this past spring with 33 students; so far 40 have signed up for fall class. This class is applied anthropology at its best. First created over 10 years ago, it has attracted students from about 15 different majors.



Dr. Maritza Quiñones, Anthropology Academic Advisor delivered a presentation on "Afrosaberes: Weaving U.S. Black and Latin American/Caribbean Feminist Thought" as part of a featured presentation in the Department of African American Studies' Friday Brown Bag lecture series on March 12, 2021.



Breanna Escammilla was named Humanities without Walls Predoctoral Fellow for 2021



Graduate Student **Alana Ackerman** received a Fulbright-Hayes award.



Claire T. Branigan was awarded the Barbara A. Yates International Fellowship through the Women and Gender in a Global Perspective Program for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Joseph Coyle was awarded the 2020-2021 Holstein Dissertation Fellowship from the University of California, Riverside. Department of Religious Studies, a 2020 Nicholson Graduate Fellowship from the UIUC, Unit for Criticism, a 2019 Baer Fellowship, Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies, UIUC, and a 2019 Sarah Pettit Doctoral Fellowship in Lesbian Studies from Yale.



Graduate Student **Lila Ann Dodge**, received a Wenner-Gren Award for dissertation research in Burkina-Fasso2021.



Nicole Cox received the 2021 Ed Bruner Award for outstanding graduate scholar from the department.



Kate Clancy received recognition for her work on gender equity in STEM, including being named a co-winner of the AAA Gender Equity Award and the YWCA Leadership Award in STEM. The impact of her work in this area is further extended through testimony at a Congressional hearing on sexual harassment in the sciences, as well as her related co-authored report for the National Academy of Sciences, which was one of the most impactful reports issued in NAS's 150 year history.

Also, Professor Clancy received last summer the prestigious Campus Distinguished Award for Excellence in Public Engagement

More recently, Professor Clancy along with PhD alumna Kate Lee developed a social media survey, which later received IRB approval, investigating the relationship between COVID-19 vaccine and menstruation. The survey has been featured in major publications such as the *New York Times* and *The Lily*.



Ripan S. Malhi has been awarded a Levenick Teaching Sustainability Fellowship for AY 2021-22. Dr Malhi joins an expanding cohort of sustainability educators on campus eager to introduce new ideas and strategies to the classroom. The fellowship program is administered by the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and the Environment (iSEE)

Celebrating! (Continued)



Head of Department, **Brenda M Farnell** was Choreomundus Visiting Scholar 2021. Choreomundus is a European Union Erasmus Mundus program that investigates dance and other movement systems (ritual practices, martial arts, games and physical theatre) as intangible cultural heritage.

From Korinta Maldonado Goti, Clinical Assistant Prof. of Anthropology:

The Inaugural Symposium on Local Latinx Immigration Activism was held on February 28, 2019. It drew some 110 attendees and involved constituencies as diverse as faculty, staff, community members, teachers from the Champaign public schools, Carle Hospital, and of course, Parkland, UIUC, ISU students. Organized by scholars and local activists, including Ricardo Diaz, Professors Paik, Rosas, and Maldonado, the day long symposium, included workshops on organizing, the law, and Indigenous interpretation. The FIOB, the Frente Indigena de Organizaciones Binacionales, followed up the symposium by putting on a three day Indigenous Interpreters Workshop, organized by Professor Maldonado. The workshop had nine Maya speaker participants from Champaign and Ohio. The training was for local indigenous migrants to prepare as interpreters in the legal, health and education realms.

Both events were possible because of support of the anthropology department, the Native American and Indigenous Language Lab, the International Forum for U.S. Studies, and other units, along with the support of the Chicago based Refuge Organization.

Drs. Jane Desmond and Gilberto Rosas were selected as Public Voices Fellows through a system-wide competition for 2019-2020. Public Voices is a year-long training program for faculty fellows run by the national Op-Ed project to train academics to bring their research expertise to wider non-academic audiences by publishing in national outlets.



Emma Verstraete received the 2021 Forest Baker Award from the department.



An-Di Yim received the 2021 Demitri B. Shimkin Award from the department for submitting a superior paper in the discipline of anthropology.

Jeongsu Shin received the 2021 Demitri B. Shimkin Award from the department for submitting a superior paper in the discipline of anthropology.



Caitlyn Antoniuk received an honorable mention in the 2021 Demitri B. Shimkin Award from the department.



Dilara Caliskan received an honorable mention in the 2021 Demitri B. Shimkin Award from the department.

Celeste Courtney received the Patricia O' Brien Award for the best undergraduate paper in Anthropology.

Graduate students **Mary Rogers** and **Talia Melber** from the Clancey lab graduated recently, and newly minted Dr. Katie Lee received a 2019 Special Recognition by the Graduate College for Graduate Student Leadership.

Prof. Emeriti **Norm Whitten** spent a portion of 2019 in Amazonian Ecuador continuing his research on the “Indigeneity of Modernity.”

Prof. Emerita **Alma Gottlieb** sends the good news that her former student Dr. Tim Landry, now on the faculty at Trinity College, Connecticut, received the Clifford Geertz Prize in the Anthropology of Religion award in 2019 for his book *Vodún :Secrecy and the Search for Divine Power*.

Prof. Emerita **Alma Gottlieb** published a **blogpost** on women’s political power considering Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Speaker Nany Pelosi and the illuminating political power of Mendjele older women’s laughter in West Africa, in 2019



UNDERGRADUATE TEAM WINS AA ETHICS BOWL

Undergraduate anthropology students **Brooke Blaszyński**, **Emilia Gibes**, **Carmen Moy** and **Sophia Sato** were crowned co-champions in the Society for American Archaeology Ethics Bowl on Thursday of last week. The Ethics Bowl is a debate-style competition using realistic case studies that challenge participants on their knowledge of anthropological/archaeological ethics and on their judgment. This was the first numerical tie in the 16 years of the event! Professor Brandon Ritchison of Anthropology and Ms. Krystiana Krupa, UIUC NAGPRA coordinator have worked with the Ethics Bowl team and are incredibly proud of the group’s achievement!



ARCHAEOLOGY SUMMER SCHOOL

On June 16, 2021, a fantastic group of undergraduate students led by Anthropology Assistant Professor Dr. Brandon Ritchison and graduate students Blake Coker, Isabella Garcia, and Rachel Gill left Champaign-Urbana and the University of Illinois and took the road to Sapelo Island, GA.

They arrived two days later and have already gone to work, conducting shovel test and geophysical surveys. They’re certainly already finding artifacts! The trip and fieldwork are part of an Archaeology Summer Field School. The course focuses on the introduction of archaeological field techniques and methods, such as archaeological survey, excavation, data and materials recovery, recording, and processing. In addition, it outlines a critical understanding of the methods and approaches by which archaeological knowledge is created and expressed and how heritage is interpreted. The field school allows students to work as a group in the context of a long-term archaeological project and will create data to help better understand how migrants and locals came together to form a new community on the 14th century AD Georgia Coast.



CONVOCATION 2021

OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Kyrie Jevon Agee
 Heather Elizabeth Aubry
 Patricia Rose Avent
 Priyasha Hancin Bhatt
 Karina Cordova
 Doran Patrick Cotter
 Celeste Courtney
 Israel Ramses Gomez
 Raffoul Amber Haines
 Emma Kathryn Harnsberger
 Drew Hong
 Ashley Victoria Ireland
 Nia Symone Jones
 Brooke Kadel
 Antonio M. Pierre
 Yolanda Rivera
 Kirin Amberlin Schlabitz
 Chloe Isabelle Sherwin
 Caroline Marie Tarantino
 Stefanie Villalpando
 Zehui Wang
 Hayat Hanaa Zarzour

CS+Anthro

Amogh Dendukuri
 Nicholas Tower Frey
 Reva Kulkarni
 Uma Paroma Pal
 Sravya Reddy Patakota
 Kai Rae Wiest

MASTER OF ARTS

Matthew Fort
 Grazzia Grimaldi Calderon
 Zarino Lanni

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Erin Benson (August 2020)
 Katharine Lee (August 2020)
 Ezgi Guner (December 2020)
 Yoonjung Kang
 An-Di Yim



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Senior Anthropology Major Ms. Hayat Zarzour has been selected as one of three interns this summer with the American Anthropological Association. A 2021 honors graduate in anthropology, her Senior Honors thesis analyzing gender roles across Syrian refugee communities in Europe was directed by Dr. Virginia Dominguez with second committee reader Dr. Korinta Maldonado Goti. Her selection was featured in a May 6, 2021 AAA News national announcement.

Hayat Zarzour also completed a minor in Arabic Studies, and worked as a copy editor for the student newspaper and as a Registration Assistant at the Spurlock Museum of World Cultures on campus.



IN MEMORIUM

In the past year, the Anthropology Department has lost three distinguished Emeritus Professors who contributed so much intellectual energy and leadership to the department over the years. Many former students and colleagues will remember them well, and many more of course will have been and will continue to be stirred by their huge contributions to anthropological understandings. Short announcements below are linked to longer profiles. Our deepest condolences go to their families, friends, and students.



Prof. Clark Cunningham
Emeritus Professor of Anthropology

Prof. Clark Cunningham passed away peacefully at his home on the morning of April 18th, 2020 in the presence of family and friends. Professor Emeritus in the Department of Anthropology, Clark was a cultural anthropologist who did extensive ethnographic research in Indonesia, Thailand and with migrants to the US. He introduced courses on Medical Anthropology and the Asian-American Experience into our curriculum. Clark was a much beloved teacher and colleague and a supportive mentor whose intellectual rigor was burnished by a gentle sense of humor.



Prof. Charles ("Charlie") Keller
Emeritus Professor of Anthropology

Charles Keller died peacefully on April 17, 2020, at home with his family by his side. He served on the UIUC faculty from 1967-1992, and worked on archaeological excavations in South Africa and Tanzania. His work at the Montagu Caves continues to influence anthropological understandings of the variability of human behavior. Many who knew Charlie will remember his passion for the study of craftsmanship and tools, and he became an artisan blacksmith. Charles leaves his wife, Janet Keller, also Professor Emerita and past department Head. Janet and their children and grandchildren have our deepest sympathies.



Prof. Bruno Nettl
Emeritus Professor of Ethnomusicology and
Affiliated Faculty in Anthropology

Our colleague Professor Emeritus Bruno Nettl passed away on January 15, 2020 after a short illness. Professor Nettl was a pioneer in ethnomusicology, focusing on ethnomusicological theory and method, music of Native American cultures, and music of the Middle East and Europe, including Iran, Israel, India, and his native Czech Republic. His work was also interdisciplinary, drawing from folklore studies, anthropology, and the social sciences. He published many articles and more than a dozen books, the best known being *The Study of Ethnomusicology* (1983), *The Western Impact on World Music* (1985), *Blackfoot Musical Thought: Comparative Perspectives* (1989), *Heartland Excursions: Ethnomusicological Perspectives on Schools of Music* (1995), and *Encounters*

in *Ethnomusicology* (2002), a professional memoir. Certain of his books have been translated into French, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, and Persian.



Paul Liebman
(alumnus)

Mr. Paul A. Liebman (alumnus) a much beloved friend and benefactor of the anthropology department died peacefully on March 20th 2020 after a long battle with cancer. Paul liked to remind us that his exposure to anthropology shaped his entire life, from his service in the Peace Corps in Sri Lanka (where he subsequently established a vocational school) to the development of his successful international electronics company. Paul's joyful presence at our annual Spring Banquet was always a delight. He so enjoyed sharing stories and meeting with the students whose independent research projects had been supported by the Paul A. Liebman Fund for Engaged Anthropology that year. His memory and commitment will live on via that generous gift certainly, but he will be sorely missed.



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Department of Anthropology is on the lands of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations. These lands were the traditional territory of these Native Nations prior to their forced removal; these lands continue to carry the stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity.

As a land-grant institution, the University of Illinois has a particular responsibility to acknowledge the peoples of these lands, as well as the histories of dispossession that have allowed for the growth of this institution for the past 150 years. We are also obligated to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role that this university has played in shaping them. This acknowledgement and the centering of Native peoples is a start as we move forward for the next 150 years.



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