

# AnthroNews

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**Editorial Notes:** Welcome back to a new year in the UIUC anthropology department. Our department is very fortunate to have so many new faculty, visiting scholars and graduate students among us this year. The main goals for this issue of AnthroNews are to introduce each of the new people, to highlight a few of the achievements of our community, and offer some perspectives on current events from differing anthropological perspectives.

This newsletter was compiled through the efforts of Kevin Cates, an undergraduate anthropology major in his senior year, Stanley Thangaraj a second-year graduate student in social-cultural anthropology and myself.

One new feature in this issue is one that we hope will continue. We have created a column called "Your Voice" where we will publish opinions on anthropologically relevant issues. Both Stanley and Kevin have provided inaugural pieces for this feature but we hope that more will be submitted to us from all members of our community.

As always, we seek to improve communication across the sub-disciplines and we wish to be as inclusive as possible. Please give us your feedback, send new ideas for future issues.

*John, Stanley and Kevin*

## Your Voice: A reflection on Hurricane Katrina

A slight breeze soothes the humidity of this corn-run region, the fan continues to oscillate slightly loudly so as to drown out the noise outside my apartment. Typing with the luxury of food, water, clothing, and space, I realize my privilege in its most blatant manifestation: I talk and read while lives are lived in uttermost adversity. My mind oscillates like the wings on my fan, however my productivity seems limited and confined. I am furious, I am outraged, yet, I read, I chat, I dialogue.

Lives were lived in severe conditions brought forth by Hurricane Katrina. The waters blanketed entire cities and regions, what had existed before now was hidden like morbid secrets. Waters had rushed in and swallowed up not only New Orleans but also its white spectacle—the prostitution of the visual spectacle of beads and breasts disappeared as the rising waters brought forth the receding of some new truths that had always existed. Floodwaters of Katrina broke the dam of these truths, as the white spectacle dissipated a deeper and more ingrained layer of New Orleans emerged, poverty and blackness. This particular intersectionality produced the new spectacle of the African American bodies colonized through our media representations i.e. impositions of criminality, insanity, and barbarism among these bodies. As I sat comfortably in these classrooms at UIUC, poverty-stricken African Americans, poor whites, and others faced the ghettoization brought on both by this natural disaster and the institutional response.

Through Hurricane Katrina, a natural occurrence had turned into a genocidal machine; yet amidst the destruction and death the water produced a very particular truth. The invisible was now visible, the subaltern now appeared in the mainstream space of our visual media, poverty had always existed in the midst of such sexual and financial splendor of Mardi Gras. Coming to the surface, cleansed in this catastrophe, was the not the debris of racism but it's entirety. Nothing could hide or cover this truth; the waters demonstrated this truth in hostile ways.

*Continued on page 8*

## New Faculty

### Marc Perry



**Please describe your research in a few sentences.**

My research centers on the social dynamics of race and racialization processes particularly as they

find articulation within the present-day black Atlantic world. I am especially interested in the interplay between contemporary neoliberal-inflected modes of racialization and corresponsive kinds of racial subject formation and their sociopolitical mobilizations. My recent dissertation project, as many may know, dealt with race and social transformation in late socialist Cuba through the ethnographic lens of Cuban hip hop. **Who has been your most influential academic mentor?** The individual who has probably had the greatest impact in my academic development would be my dissertation advisor Edmund T. Gordon who currently doubles as directors of the African Diaspora Program in Anthropology and Center for Africa and African American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** If it were not anthropology, then documentary filmmaking (an earlier career path) would most likely have been my professional trajectory. **What book is on your bedside table? What CD is in your stereo?** Among my the current books aside my bed is an anthology of Ishmael Reed's writings. CD in my stereo which I am currently listening to is a live recording of the 1992 Reggae Sunsplash concert in Montego Bay, Jamaica. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** Would like to say the Chief but have so far been spared. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** C.L.R. James **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** A 500 level graduate seminary entitled "The Anthropology of Race, The Race of Anthropology". **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** Dancing

### Hairong Yan

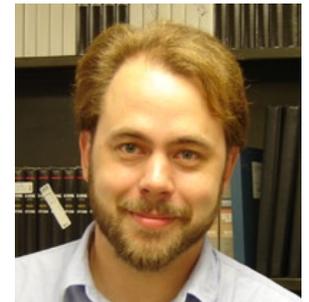


**Please describe your research in a few sentences.**

I work on the migration of rural women in the city working as domestic workers for urban households in China. It's a project that allows me to examine meanings of rurality, class relations, gendered divisions of labor, and debates on socialism/postsocialism in a

globalizing China. **Who has been your most influential academic mentor?** Marx, Fanon, and my committee as a collective. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** a lawyer, a negotiator, a revolutionary, a kindergarten teacher... **What book is on your bedside table? What CD is in your stereo?** no bedside table. The CD currently in my stereo is Kimbo's In a Flash. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** Mao Zedong. **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** anthropology in the changing world, "Asia" and globalization. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** Whatever I'm good at is rather predicatable; whatever I'm not good at is unpredictable.

### Charles Roseman



**Please describe yourself in the form of a title for an academic paper.** Novel mutation in U of I anthropology faculty has no effect on departmental fitness. **Please describe your research in a few sentences.**

I'm an evolutionary anthropologist who is interested in teasing apart the confounding effects of population history/structure and natural selection on the distribution of genetic and phenotypic diversity at various timescales. My active projects include the comparison of patterns of human craniometric diversity and microsatellite diversity, an evolutionary quantitative genetic analysis of modern human and Neandertal craniometric variation (in collaboration with Tim Weaver), and using simulation based approaches to detect the effects of natural selection on modern human microsatellite diversity. **Who has been your most influential academic mentor?** Some of the wisest insights into my work and encouragement came from my fellow graduate students when I was completing my degree at Stanford University. Tim Weaver and Noah Rosenberg figure prominently in helping to shape how I think about problems in evolution. **What book is on your bedside table? What CD is in your stereo?** Book: William Provine's Sewall Wright and Evolutionary Biology My iTunes "Top 25 list" is made up of: The Weakerthans, The Pogues, Steve Earle, The Dolly Ranchers, Velvet Underground, Cowboy Mouth, Whiskeytown, and various selections from the Rushmore soundtrack. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** I usually answer this by saying that I'd be an invertebrate paleontologist, but I don't think it counts because it's still evolution. I'll say a Geographic Information Systems consultant. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** Steve Leigh without the mustache. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible,**

**what person would you most like to have dinner with?** William Buckland, an aggressively eccentric early 19th century British natural historian who was obsessed with eating his way through the whole of the animal kingdom. He was notorious for feeding his guests all manner of strange fauna. **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** 441: Human Genetics and 241: Human Variation and Race. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I was almost killed by James Watson, co-discoverer of the structure of DNA, when he came within a hair's breadth of flattening me with his car in New York.

## Ellen Moodie

**Please describe your research in a few sentences.** Much of my past research has examined structures of violence, inequality and insecurity in Central America, with a particular focus on social suffering as constituted and revealed through circulation in everyday talk, mass media, and historical archives. Currently I am imagining into life a project on ideas about chance, danger and risk as produced through, and producing, different subjectivities. **Who has been your most influential academic mentor?** I have many, and their varied influences surface at different moments. Ruth Behar was my dissertation chair and I would not be the anthropologist I am today if I hadn't worked with her. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** That question assumes we haven't already had previous lives! I might have remained a journalist if I hadn't bumped into cultural anthropology in New York City in the early 1990s. I would like to imagine, however, that my alternative self would have moved

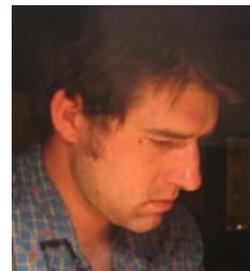


beyond the frustrated newspaper reporter I was when I left the field in 1993. Let's say, I'd be a writer for The New Yorker! **What book is on your bedside table? What CD is in your stereo?** On the floor next to my futon ... under yesterday's jeans ... I think there's the most current issue of The Nation. (The book under my old T-shirt next to that is probably still Carolyn Nordstrom's wonderful SHADOWS OF WAR, which we'll soon be reading in my Anthropology 103 class). For CD, I think it's Ricardo Arjona. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** The speed with which parking tickets appear on car windshields. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** Emma Goldman. **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** Anth 471, Ethnography through Language; and Anth 515, Anthropology of Central America. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** Outrage.

## Visiting Faculty & Post Docs

### Sasha Newell

**Please describe yourself in the form of a title for an academic paper.** Discerning Ambivalence in Secondhand Aesthetics: Notes on the Irreverence of Irrelevance. **What are your research goals?** I am currently working on a book: "The Modernity Bluff: Consuming Others and Migrating Selves in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire". I am starting a new project on the American attic. I am interested in the relationship between memory and materiality, but also in investigating material value that is kept hidden (as opposed to the public display of value with which we are all familiar). I want to explore why people keep some things hidden in the attic and the ways in which these objects mediate between the construction of the subject in the present and his/her imagined past and future. **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** Contemporary Social Issues. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** An interior decorator or magazine editor. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed since you arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** The statistically improbable number of people wearing eye-searingly orange shirts. **What person, living or dead, would you most like to have dinner with?** Fyodor Dostoevsky. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** Although I still need to work on the fine points, I think I just figured out how to cut my own hair. **Who has been your most influential academic mentor?** Gail Kelly. **What book are you reading?** Birds Without Wings by Louis de Bernieres **What CD is in your stereo?** 69 Love Songs- The Magnetic Fields.



### Unearthly Love

*What happened to eternal passions, satiating desires-*

*Love that could sustain everlasting fires?*

*What happened to the Greek gods watching from their thrones?*

*Humanity cries out to them for love*

*in a world where only hate is known.*

*Ecstasy is no longer remembered*

*Eden is no longer revered,*

*The bliss that once existed*

*Now into the shadows has disappeared.*

*While awaiting enlightenment,*

*Meaningless relationships continue to breed*

*All that I ask is for my plea to be heard: An unearthly love is all I need*

Elaine Kandalepas

## Thomas Gillespie



**Please describe yourself in the form of a title for an academic paper.** Evolution of a functionally novel academic: implications for anthropology and veterinary medicine. **What are your research goals?** My research program uses experimental and observational approaches to examine how anthropogenic disturbance affects host-parasite interactions and disease dynamics. I pursue these questions using two complementary pathogen study systems (gastrointestinal eukaryotic parasites and bacteria) within primate metapopulations, human communities, and livestock in western Uganda. The ultimate goal is an implementable plan for protecting the health of humans and wildlife living in and around disturbed ecosystems, while simultaneously ensuring the sustainability of those ecosystems. **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** Evolution and Human Disease. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** Conservation Entrepreneur. **What book is on your bedside table?** Two actually- Alain Ducasse's Spoon and Martin Meredith's Fate Of Africa. **What CD is in your stereo?** Banda Eva's Alo Padcao

## Laura Shackelford



**Please describe yourself in the form of a title for an academic paper.** Paleoanthropologist Casts a Broad Net: the Late Pleistocene of Europe, Africa and Asia. **What are your research goals?** To understand regional variation in postcranial anatomy during the Late Pleistocene. I investigate adaptive and technological changes in early modern humans across the Old World, particularly those in North Africa and Southeast Asia. I use biological reflections of behavioral change to make inferences about levels and patterns of activity and stress in regional Paleolithic samples. **What courses will you be teaching next semester?** Human gross anatomy. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** A dancer. Until my sophomore year of college I was part of a modern dance company. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** There are no helmet laws in Illinois. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** Edna St. Vincent Millay **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I'm freakishly strong. **Who has been your most influential academic mentor?** My graduate advisor, Erik Trinkaus, made the process of writing a dissertation relatively painless. He was a great resource,

and his sense of humor and appreciation of nuance were good lessons in ways to think, as well as ways to think about anthropology. **What book is on your bedside table? What CD is in your stereo?** The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov. Morcheeba, Bill Monroe.

## New Graduate Students

### Sharon Cabana



**Please describe your research goals in a sentence or two.** I would like to continue working with the Asian diaspora to Latin America, looking at ethnic identity, transnationalism, and health. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** I would probably have packed up and gone to Broadway to live the life of the starving artist or become an English professor/creative writer. **What is your most favorite place in the world?** Cathedral Pines Campground in Maine. Not even cell phones work up there. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** It IS flat out here. I didn't really believe it until I arrived. **What book is on your bedside table?** Persuasion by Jane Austin **What CD is in your disk player?** Gretchen Wilson **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** Myself in a past life. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I can juggle.

### Tim Landry



**Please describe your research goals in a sentence or two.** I am interested in topics such as interpretive theory, political-economy, spirit possession, witchcraft, ritual, magic, Vodou, Santeria, Candomblé with ethnographic interests in Haiti, Brazil, and West Africa. I hope to continue my work in the African diaspora on spirit possession as an embodied, sensuous experience. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** Lawyer **What is your most favorite place in the world?** St. Lucia, Lesser Antilles **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** Who has time to observe and experience? So far the most interesting thing I have seen is the inside of a book. **What book is on your bedside table?** Memnoch, The Devil by Anne Rice. **What CD is in your disk player?** Mozart (it helps me study). **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most**

**like >to have dinner with?** Doreen Valiente. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I will never tell.

## Lance Larkin

**Please describe your research goals in a sentence or two.**

I examine the contemporary Zimbabwean stone sculpture movement and the stories that people tell about it. Specifically, I look at the poles of 'fine' art and 'tourist' art and the range of responses between. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** A graphic designer. **What is your most favorite place in the world?** Black Rock City, NV. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you arrived in CU?** The debate about the Chief. I have been spoiled living in liberal Seattle where this probably wouldn't be an issue. **What book is on your bedside table?** You Just Don't Understand by Deborah Tannen (the last non-academic book that I read). **What CD is in your disk player?** Dead can Dance - Into the Labyrinth. **What person, living or dead, would you most like to have dinner with?** The ancient *Homo sapiens* artist responsible for the Chauvet cave art. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I was a circus performer in a past life.



## Krista Milich

**Please describe your research goals in a sentence or two.**

I am interested in looking at sexual behavior in great apes; however, I haven't focused in on a specific question yet. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** Realistically, a zoologist. In my day dreams, a photographer and novelist. **What is your most favorite place in the world?** The forest. Tied for a close second are about a dozen foreign countries and my grandparents' house. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** The pizza around here is horrible!!! Why is that? **What book is on your bedside table?** Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim by David Sedaris **What CD is in your disk player?** I have a 5 CD stereo, which currently has the Beatles (Abbey Road), the new Green Day, Manu Chao, a Bob Marley mix, and the Pixies (Doolittle). **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** My grandfather, PapPap. But since you probably wanted a famous person: Bobby Kennedy! He had it totally together. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature**

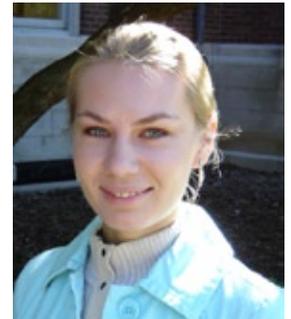


**that your colleagues might not suspect?** Even though I am a vegetarian and I do not advocate killing animals, I am really darn good at catching and cleaning fish. I think it is a genetic thing.

## Marina Sergeyeva

**Please describe your research goals in a sentence or two.**

Studying the lifeways of our ancestors in Pleistocene. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** If I stayed in Russia -- most likely enough to find my really favorite place. But like many people I have been fascinated by Egyptian pyramids -- and would really like to visit them in person. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** Fireflies as I have never seen them before. **What book is on your bedside table?** Russian detective stories. **What CD is in your disk player?** Ramstein. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** I do not have a specific person in mind, but I always wanted to time-travel in the 10th-century Russia -- to look at everyday lives of common people and nobles. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I know a lot of Russian jokes and funny stories that tend to pop up in corresponding situations.



## Cristobal Valencia Ramirez



## Wenyi Zhang

**Please describe your research goals in a sentence or two.**

How do Kachin people conceive themselves and their world under the socialist and postsocialist's context in China. **What would you have become if not an anthropologist?** Bicycle Traveler. **What is your most favorite place in the world?** As far as I know now, the snow-clad peak of Cangshan Mountain in my hometown, 4000 meters in altitude. **What is the most surprising thing you have observed/experienced since you have arrived in Champaign-Urbana?** The cornfield in the campus!



Students are free to take the public bus. **What book is on your bedside table?** Laozi, the oldest original Taoism text. **What CD is in your disk player?** Sara Brightman in China. **If the dead could be raised or time travel possible, what person would you most like to have dinner with?** No one, but the Laozi in my mind, because I will be tranquil to face my disappearance from this world. **What is your favorite talent/ability/feature that your colleagues might not suspect?** I am fascinated by the world of Don Juan, described by Carlos Castaneda. I dreamed to be a Shaman like him.



***Lance's circus skills were on display at the 2nd Annual Department Picnic in September. Julian Bellows was very impressed!***

## Your Voice:

### The Anthropology of Marriage

The United States exists as a highly diverse nation of peoples and cultures, a veritable playground for anthropologists to study diversity on cultural and biological levels. As is true of most things in life, responsibilities remain even in our playground. Racial issues, class issues, religious issues, cultural issues, biological issues, and legal issues are all of interest to anthropologists and all are in need of informed discussion facilitated by the scientific community, especially anthropologists.

At the forefront of many of these issues (currently) is the question of same-sex marriage. Of even greater concern is the rhetoric involved in debates surrounding same-sex marriage. Often arguments against same-sex marriage resort to "Traditional marriage is between a man and a woman" and very often "same-sex marriage will 'open the door' to polygamous marriage." These arguments against equality in marriage are particularly painful from an anthropological perspective. The cultural implications of truly "traditional" marriage in the United States (where women are the property of their husbands, have no rights to contraception, and can be physically abused and even raped by their husbands legally all historically "traditional" components of marriage in the United States) seem incompatible with the socio-political culture of the United States at the present. The polygamy argument is disturbing in another way implying that same sex marriage will have a negative effect in leading to the legalization of polygamy implies an inherent evil in polygamy a cultural component of numerous societies world wide. The concept at work in the argument is that US culture is somehow superior to other cultures (Tibetan culture, for example, traditionally involves polyandrous marriage) and that allowing same-sex marriage will assure that we do not retain our "superiority" over other peoples.

As anthropologists and as scientists, we have a responsibility to provide information to the public and policy-makers about cultural and biological variation. In the issues of same-sex marriage and of marriage in US culture(s) in general, it is especially important that we facilitate both educated and educating conversations incorporating data from both the social science of anthropology and the biological science of anthropology. Now more than ever, anthropologists must not only understand people but must also help people to understand each other. *Kevin Cates*

## Recent Publications:

### Nancy Abelmann

Anthropology, Asian Studies, Asian American Studies: Open Systems, Closed Minds. In Wannu W. Anderson and Robert G. Lee, eds. *Displacements and Diasporas: Asians in the Americas*. Rutgers University Press. 2005. 256-269.

\*\*\*Melodramatic Texts and Contexts: Women's Lives, Movies, and Men. *Gender, Genre, and National Cinema: South Korean Golden Age Melodrama* (co-edited with Kathleen McHugh). Wayne State University Press. 2005. 43-64.

Introduction (with Kathleen McHugh). *Gender, Genre, and National Cinema: South Korean Golden Age Melodrama* (co-edited with Kathleen McHugh). Wayne State University Press, 2005. 1-15.

“Just Because”: Comedy, Melodrama, and Youth Violence in *Attack at the Gas Station* (with Jung-ah Choi). In Chi-Yun Shin and Julian Stringer, eds. *New Korean Cinema*. Edinburgh University Press and New York University Press. 2005. 132-143.

### Andrew Asher

A Paradise on the Oder? Ethnicity, Europeanization, and the EU Referendum in a Polish-German Border City. *City and Society*. (Summer 2005)

In the Laboratory of Europe: Governing the “Europe of Regions” on the Polish/German Frontier. In Polska-Niemcy Pogranicze Kulturowe i Ethniczne. Michal Buchowski and Andzej Brenecz, eds. *Polskie Towarzystwo Ludoznawcze, Uniwersitet Wroclawski, Wydawnictwo Poznanskie Archiwium Etnograficzne*, No. 42.

### Alma Gottlieb

2005 “Babies’ Baths, Babies’ Remembrances: A Beng Theory of Development, History and Memory,” in *Africa* 75 (1):105-118 (special issue: “Collective Memory and Generation in Africa,” ed. Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg).

2005 “Non-Western Approaches to Spiritual Development among Infants and Young Children: A Case Study from West Africa,” in *The Handbook of Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence*, ed. Peter L. Benson, Pamela Ebstyn King, Linda M. Wagener, and Eugene C. Roehlkepartain. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publishers, pp. 150-162.

2005 “Comment on: ‘Parent-Offspring Weaning Conflicts among the Bofi Farmers and Foragers of Central Africa’ by Hillary N. Foutes, Barry S. Hewlett and Michael E. Lamb,” in *Current Anthropology* 46 (1):41-42.

2005 “Dancing a Jig with Genre,” in *Anthropology News* (monthly publication of the American Anthropological Association), April, pp. 27-28.

## Tom Gillespie

Gillespie, T.R., C.A. Chapman, and E.C. Greiner. 2005. Effects of logging on gastrointestinal parasite infections and infection risk in African primate populations. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 42: 699-707.

Gillespie, T.R., E.C. Greiner, and C.A. Chapman. 2005. Gastrointestinal parasites of the colobus monkeys of Uganda. *Journal of Parasitology* 91:569-573.

Chapman, C.A., T.R. Gillespie, and T.L. Goldberg. 2005. Primates and the ecology of their infectious diseases: how will anthropogenic change affect host-parasite interactions? *Evolutionary Anthropology* 14:134-144.

Chapman, C.A., M.D. Wasserman, and T.R. Gillespie. 2005. Behavioural patterns of colobus in logged and unlogged forests: The conservation value of harvested forests. V. Reynolds, H. Notman, and N. Newton-Fisher (eds.). *Primates of Uganda*.

## Kellie Glessner

Glessner, K.D.G. and Britt, A. (2005) Population Density and Home Range Size of *Indri indri* in a Protected Low Altitude Rainforest. *International Journal of Primatology*, 26(4): 855-872.

## Bruno Nettl

2005 *The Study of Ethnomusicology* 2nd Edition University of Illinois Press.

## Akiko Takeyama

2005 “Commodified Romance in a Tokyo Host Club.” In *Genders, Transgenders and Sexualities in Japan*, edited by Mark McLelland and Romit Dasgupta. New York: Routledge.

## Congratulations!!!

\*\*\*The Society for Urban/National/Transnational Anthropology has selected Nancy Abelmann’s new book: “The Melodrama of Mobility: Women, Talk, and Class in Contemporary South Korea” as the winner of the 2004 Leeds Prize. The committee judged this book to be an outstanding contribution to urban anthropology broadly defined, noting (among other things) its eloquent synthesis and sensitive use of the last several decades of discourse, feminist and class theory.

*A Reflection on Hurricane Katrina Continued.*

Institutional racism came through the construction of the black spectacle, a body wrought with impositions of criminality and barbarism. Onto these biological bodies, social constructions of race were lived. With the appropriation of particular meanings on these black bodies, the institutional—local and national—recovery efforts reflected class and racial intersectionality.

W.E.B. DuBois stated in *Souls of Black Folk*, “How does it feel to be the problem?” By this he made clear the color line and the means by which African Americans gained negative valences (constituting the “problem”) in opposition to the whites. Here, I struggle with the same question but in a slightly different context. How have we, in the academia, constituted a new problem by not vehemently addressing how informational outlets had reconstituted African Americans as the problem? Have certain silences affirmed the predictions of black bodies as problematic? What kind of institutionalization can make the space of higher learning one of inaction? Other than financial support, what role does the institution play? Are we in academia making visible, tangible, and explicit the lived experiences of “racism” and “race”?

As the water removed all these other layers of capitalistic excess to expose the blistering wounds of racism, all four disciplines of anthropology need to find ways to make these hidden sores of racism visible, integrate them into the mainstream informational space, facilitate a proliferation of discourses outside of academia, and be engaged in the process of recovery. By recovery I urge us to continue to make explicit “race” and “racism” in its social manifestations and lived experience; part of finding a solution consists of acknowledging the problem. We have to make visible the importance of studying race and situate it locally, translocally, and globally. I do not want to be the problem, I do not want to let my soothing fan calm me to the heat, humidity, and institutional violence played out on African American bodies; I see racism, I shout RACISM, I want to be a part of the solution.

*Stan Thangaraj*



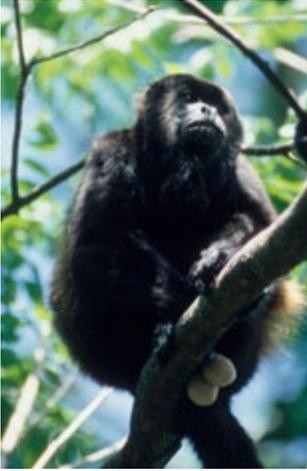
*On Quad Day, graduate student Greg Blomquist realized that, for primates, climbing is not as hard as it looks. He also proved to be a good experimentalist by personally testing for gravitational effects on falling bodies. No humans were harmed during these experiments.*

## **Greetings from the undergraduate advising office!**

I'm Melissa Raguet, the new undergraduate advisor. My office hours this fall are



Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:50am to 2:50pm, Undergrads, please feel free to come see me or send me an email ([raguet@uiuc.edu](mailto:raguet@uiuc.edu)). I can advise you on which courses you will need in order to graduate with an Anthropology degree, and I can help you choose classes based on your interests in Anthropology. If you are thinking about going to graduate school, I can assist you in choosing programs that fit your goals, and I can also help you come up with career options following graduation. Being the undergrad advisor has been a very positive experience so far, and I'm looking forward to continuing working with you all. You can find me in the advising office: Davenport 109F.



Tired of staying at home and watching your family over winter break?

Study monkeys in Costa Rica and get university credit!

## **La Suerte Primatology Field School**

The course is directed to students interested in biological anthropology, tropical ecology, rainforest conservation, environmental

studies, and field biology. Students work with the professor and graduate teaching assistant, attend daily lectures, and spend hours in the rainforest of northeastern Costa Rica observing primate behavior, animal-plant interactions, and gain firsthand knowledge of issues concerning the conservation, behavior, and ecology of howler and capuchin monkeys, ecotourism, agroforestry, and economic development.

This course provides each student with the experience of conducting a scientific research project. With the help of the professor and teaching assistant, each student is required to write a research proposal to conduct a field project, collect the data for the project, and write a final report during the course.

When: December 26, 2005 January 18, 2006\*

Program Fee: \$1950\* Includes: Round-trip airfare (Chicago-San Jose, Costa Rica), onsite airport transfers, housing, most meals, orientation programs, excursions, and international health insurance. Does Not Include: Books or personal expenses. \*Program dates and fees are subject to change due to exchange rate fluctuations and the number of participants.

Contact: Professor Paul Garber, Department of Anthropology p-garber@uiuc.edu

Applications available online: [www.lasuerte.org](http://www.lasuerte.org)



## African Diaspora Archaeology Network

The African Diaspora Archaeology Network (ADAN) provides this web portal as a focal point for archaeological studies of African diasporas, with news, current research, information and links to other web resources related to the archaeology and history of descendants of African peoples.

Through this engagement with African diasporas, the ADAN seeks to connect an intellectual community that considers the historical processes of racialization, gender, power, and culture operating within and upon African descendant communities. The ADAN is edited by Prof. Chris Fennell and can be found online at: <http://www.diaspora.uiuc.edu>



*Students sift for discoveries while participating in the field school at New Philadelphia (left). An aerial view of the site is below.*

## New Philadelphia added to the National Register of Historic Places!

The historic town site of New Philadelphia, Illinois, which was the subject of the 2005 University of Illinois Archaeology Field School taught by Chris Fennell, with TAs Phil Millhouse and Eva Pajuelo, has been added to the National Register of Historic Places as a nationally significant archaeological resource.

Additional updates on this multi-year project are available at: <http://www.anthro.uiuc.edu/faculty/cfennell/NP/updates.html> and in a recent article, "New Philadelphia: The XYZs of the First Excavations," by Chris Fennell, Terrance J. Martin, and Paul A. Shackel, in *Living Museum* 66(4): 8-13 (2004/2005).

New Philadelphia is also the subject of an article by Jennifer Pinkowski in the September/October issue of *Archaeology Magazine*. See the web link at: <http://www.archaeology.org/0509/abstracts/illinois.html>



## Women in the Field

On September 30th, a group of graduate students organized a cross-discipline workshop titled “Women in the Field”. The main objectives of the workshop were to address particular concerns women may face while conducting field research, including personal safety and security, autonomy, respect, and the ability to effectively conduct one’s work unimpeded by gender roles and expectations. This workshop largely arose from the frustration many female graduate students felt about the reluctance to talk openly about these concerns and having to singlehandedly figure out strategies and solutions to these common issues as they arose. The workshop aimed to raise awareness of the issues female graduate students may face while conducting fieldwork as well as their possible consequences, to open the lines of communication, and to suggest practical solutions for dealing with some of these challenges.

Five speakers were invited to share their experiences as women in the field. Eva Pajuelo, Akiko Takeyama, Emma Rueter, Rebecca Stumpf, and Laura Bellows presented eye-opening anecdotes that helped both students and faculty members to understand that, despite the very different circumstances of their field research, there are very real and concrete problems faced by women in the field that can obstruct or complicate research activities. The participants and some attendees shared strategies they have used in the past for dealing with some of these issues, but it was important to recognize that many of these strategies are context dependent and not generalizable across all situations. However, the situations and strategies give women new to fieldwork some ideas of what experiences they may encounter and what strategies might work under certain circumstances so that they can hopefully be more prepared and thus empowered.

As a respondent, Ellen Moodie tied the presentations together nicely by drawing on the work of Diane Nelson and Glória Anzaldúa to highlight the vulnerability and fluidity of gendered subject positions, and to characterize the constantly shifting borders that are an ongoing part of field research. Incessantly negotiating internal and external borderlands, which we construct and which enmesh us, we often enter territories that “have no instruction booklet” be this in the field, in our daily lives, or in the space of a workshop within our own department. What is common to most anthropologists going into

the field is that they are immersed into a new cultural environment in which they are unaccustomed to the social rules and expectations for appropriate behavior for both men and women. The opportunities for misunderstanding are enormous and the potential consequences (from obstructed work to harassment, unwanted pregnancy, rape) can be severe and are largely borne by women.

There are some issues that were not addressed in the workshop, as became obvious during the discussion section afterwards and during subsequent, informal conversations between organizers, presenters, and those who attended the workshop. Can we begin a discussion about the concrete, practical problems faced by women in the field without, simultaneously, engaging more theoretical concerns about positionality, class, race, and our own privilege? What literature might be helpful in thinking about the various dimensions of field research, and gender-specific concerns in the field? Will sharing the field experiences of women faculty and students be beneficial those planning future fieldwork?

We want to acknowledge that we are building on a long tradition of feminist anthropology, including work and teaching by professors in this department. We hope that the discussion will continue, across the sub-disciplines. The looming question is: where do we go from here? We would like to know what you think needs to be done, in what ways you might be interested in extending the conversation, and suggestions that you might have for future formats for discussion. Possibilities could range from organizing an informal reading group, to scheduling informal workshops in which women might continue to share and discuss their field experiences, to undertaking more formal institutional steps to expand the curriculum within specific courses, to a combination of these things.

Please send us your ideas and feedback at: [berkhoud@uiuc.edu](mailto:berkhoud@uiuc.edu)

*Laura Bellows, Karin Berkhoudt, Margaret Brown Vega, Alison Goebel, Ellen Moodie, Eva Pajuelo, Emma Rueter, Rebecca Stumpf, and Akiko Takeyama.*

## *AnthroNews*

is compiled and edited by John Polk, Kevin Cates and Stan Thangaraj. Submissions, ideas and assistance are all welcome. Please send me an email, drop things in my mailbox or come and see us. John can be found in:

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## Department of Anthropology

We Know People



## Undergraduate Association of Student Anthropologists

It is the mission of the Undergraduate Association of Student Anthropologists at the University of Illinois to serve as a resource for all students interested in anthropology. UGASA involves students in both a social and academic atmosphere by organizing opportunities for anthropology related experiences outside of

the university, hosting various teacher and guest lectures, providing peer support, and working on community outreach projects. In addition, UGASA gives undergraduate perspective to departmental decisions, helps inform students about graduate school expectations and preparations, and familiarizes students with the diversity of faculty and courses.

**\*UGASA meets every other Thursday night at 6:00 pm in room 109A Davenport Hall!\***

Here is a list of our scheduled dates for the rest of the fall 2005 semester:

**October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in 109A Davenport Hall**

**October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in 109A Davenport Hall**

**November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in 109A Davenport Hall (Graduate School Workshop)**

**December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm in 109A Davenport Hall**

At the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting we will have a graduate school workshop hosted by undergraduate advisor Melissa Raguette-Schofield to learn about the processes involved in applying to graduate school in the field of anthropology. Several other graduate students and faculty will also attend the workshop to give us their personal experiences about applying to graduate school in the different subfields of anthropology. Additionally, we are planning a field trip to the Primate House at the Brookfield Zoo near Chicago with biological anthropology professor Dr. Steve Leigh either Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>.

For more information and updates about UGASA check our website regularly:

<https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/ro/www/UndergraduateAssociationofStudentAnthropologists/>

You may also check the **UGASA bulletin board** across the hallway from 116 Davenport Hall.

Also for more information you may contact any of the officers:

**President:** Jill Scott ([jescott1@uiuc.edu](mailto:jescott1@uiuc.edu))

**Vice President:** Alex Quiroga ([quiroga2@uiuc.edu](mailto:quiroga2@uiuc.edu))

**Treasurer:** Jennifer Schwarz ([schwarz2@uiuc.edu](mailto:schwarz2@uiuc.edu))

**\*Secretary:** Rachael Levine ([levine2@uiuc.edu](mailto:levine2@uiuc.edu))

\*To join the UGASA e-mail list, contact Rachael Levine.