Professor Virginia Dominguez, just completing a one-year appointment as interim head of department, shares her reflections on the past year. This fall we welcome Professor Brenda Farnell back from a long-delayed sabbatical as she steps into a 5-year appointment as our next department head. Welcome Brenda, and thanks Virginia for all the hard work over the past 12 months!

Engaged Anthropology, Community Outreach, and Work Beyond the Academy

We write scholarly books, get research grants, run scholarly societies, edit scholarly journals, publish journal articles and book chapters, and teach courses (both face-to-face and online). We really do all of that in this department and I am quite proud of all that work we do as individuals and as a department. But we also do more, and I think it is important that we recognize that work and applaud it, too. It is all anthropology but it seeks a larger and larger audience, as Paul Liebman recognized long ago.

Korinta Maldonado has just gotten a grant to help her develop an Activist/Advocacy Anthropology (AAA) program in our department (and Gilberto Rosas and Jeff Martin will play a major role), and it will lead to a Certificate in Engaged Anthropology. This is great for (continued on page 2)
us and for our students, but she is not alone. In the past year alone, Kate Clancy has testified in Congress, served on a National Academy of Sciences committee to address sexual harassment, published an essay in National Geographic, and received an award from our YWCA as Woman of the Year in STEM. She does this alongside research and publishing that fills our more traditional expectations of anthropology faculty at Illinois (and she is now also holder of the bio anthro seat on the AAA Executive Board).

Ellen Moodie has succeeded in getting her wonderful book “El Salvador in the Aftermath of Peace: Crime, Uncertainty, and the Transition to Democracy” revised, updated, and published in Spanish as Las Secuelas de la Paz: Criminalidad, Incertidumbre y Transición de la Democracia en El Salvador* (San Salvador: UCA Editores, 2017). This will allow many more people who do not read English to engage with her work and I wish many more of us followed her example. She also serves as an expert witness in a variety of immigration cases that go to trial or are prepared for trial.

Jenny Davis, who also won a coveted LEAP award this year, gave workshops in Quito and Ibarra, Ecuador, on language revitalization to university students, faculty, and members of three Indigenous Kichwa communities. She also organized an NSF-funded workshop at the AAA meetings bringing together scholars from four continents to train graduate students and faculty from underrepresented groups in anthropology in the specialized skills and methodologies necessary for language documentation in Indigenous and endangered language communities.

Jeff Martin, otherwise known for his work on policing in Taiwan and teaching about China, continues to work with and on policing but this time in the U.S. He is now co-PI on a large multi-year grant on policing in Champaign-Urbana from the National Institute of Justice and is employing at least one of our graduate students as part of this work.

Lisa Lucero, now president of the Archaeology Division of the American Anthropological Association, typically works in Belize on the Maya but also on climate change more generally, yet she offered a 3-hour archaeology workshop for 63 Girl Scouts this past November in Mahomet, Illinois, along with four of our graduate students. And I would be remiss if I didn’t also mention (1) Ripan Malhi’s work with indigenous students, scholars, and communities interested in ancient DNA, (2) Brenda Farnell’s ongoing work with creators of indigenous theater in Canada and (3) Chris Fennell’s work with African American scholars and communities rectifying much of the written record. That all of their work is deeply collaborative is important to all of us and exemplifies good, ethical anthropology in the 21st century.
FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACCOLADES:

As usual, our faculty continue to publish books and articles at a dizzying pace, and many have garnered new grants and on- and off-campus awards. Only a few accomplishments can be noted here. Please see our department website for further information on the activities of all our individual faculty members!

Professor Andy Orta’s new book “Making Global MBAs: The Culture of Business and the Business of Culture” has been published by HAU Books through the University of Chicago Press. Many of you will remember when Andy began his research on this project with the help of a campus fellowship in “Study in a Second Discipline,” which gave him time to conduct field work in the College of Business. It builds on his long-time expertise in analyzing the cultures of capitalism. Here is a brief description: “Based upon extensive field research at a set of leading US business schools, this groundbreaking ethnography shows how the culture of MBA training provides a window onto contemporary understandings of capitalism in the context of globalization. Orta details the rituals of MBA life and the ways MBA curricula cultivate at once habits of fast-paced technical competence and “softer” qualities and talents thought to be essential to unlocking the value of international cultural difference, while managing its risks.”

www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/M/bo28709386.html

Assistant professor Jessica Brinkworth recently received good news from the NSF. She has been awarded a large grant to fund three years of study on “Human population history and the evolution of human immune function.” The project focuses on the potential evolutionary impact of plague on current human immune diversity. Congratulations, Jessica!

Brinkworth’s lab in evolutionary immunology and genomics trained 12 undergraduates in immunogenomic techniques this past year, engaging those students in hands-on research on the evolution of the human immune system, including exploring the role in humans and non-humans of the role of white blood cells called neutrophils. These undergraduate research experiences are a critical part of our department’s offerings, and really engage our undergrads.

Assistant professor Jenny Davis (Chickasaw) just published her book “Talking Indian: Identity and Language Revitalization in the Chickasaw Renaissance,” released in spring 2018 by the University of Arizona Press, with a striking cover of contemporary art. She extended her work on language revitalization by travelling to Ecuador, where she gave several talks in Quito and Ibarra, and worked with community members involved with the Kichwa speaking communities. Back home in the U.S., she organized an NSF-funded workshop on “Language Documentation Technologies and Methodologies” to train graduate students and faculty in specialized skills for language documentation in Indigenous and endangered language communities.
Assistant professor **Jeff Martin** also engages his students in hands-on research, through his new research on the police-community relationship in Champaign-Urbana. Over the four years he has taught at Illinois, he has developed a series of classes on the topic, including a graduate course titled “The Anthropology of Policing,” and an undergraduate course titled “Policing, Culture and Inequality.” In fall, 2018, he will give these courses a brand new practical component, through a field project on police-community relations in the Champaign-Urbana area. Funded by the National Institute of Justice, this is a three-year project which examines the history of policing in the area and explores how changes in the organization of police patrol and record-keeping affect the ways different communities experience their relationship with police. It is a collaborative project, bringing a team of graduate students led by Dr. Martin into collaboration with professors from the Law School, teachers from the Police Training Institute, and practitioners from the Urbana Police Department. Through collaborative research like this, Professor Martin hopes to develop a clinical program on police-community relations as part of the department’s new program in applied and engaged anthropology.

Professor **Jane Desmond** received an Arnold O. Beckman Award for innovative research from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research this spring for a research proposal at the intersection of the medical humanities and the study of the cultural dimensions of veterinary medicine. She also expanded the department’s reach by co-directing the second annual Human-Animal Studies Summer Institute, co-sponsored on campus by the Center for Advanced Study and the national non-profit Animals and Society Institute. The week-long institute, the only one of its kind in the world, brought together 20 early career scholars and artists from a dozen disciplines from six countries for a week of intensive lectures, seminars, and fieldtrips, helping to build the rapidly emerging scholarly field of “Human-Animal Studies,” and to position the University of Illinois at the forefront of this field. A recent article on the LAS website featured the Institute. www.las.illinois.edu/news/article/?id=27259&/news//news/2018/humananimalstudies18

Associate professor **Kate Clancy** also put the department’s expertise in the national news when she provided Congressional testimony to the House Committee on Space, Science, and Technology on the topic of sexual misconduct in the sciences. Testifying with her were the National Science Foundation Office for Diversity Head Rhonda Davis, employment lawyer Kristina Larsen, and American Geophysical Union Executive Director Christine McEmfee. Clancy was also on NPR’s Marketplace show speaking on the same topic recently, and you can find a related essay written by her in the May 2018 issue of National Geographic. Thanks Kate for all the work you are doing as an anthropologist in the public sphere!

For more on all our faculty are doing, check out our departmental website!
Our emeriti professors are part of the heart of the department and continue to shape their fields in “retirement” through substantial research publications, public engagement, and teaching. Here’s just a glimpse of what a few of our emeriti have been up to recently. We know you will enjoy these updates on familiar names.

**Dr. Alma Gottlieb**, now relocated to Providence, Rhode Island, recently returned from a month of lecturing and guest teaching in China, including at Sun Yat-Sen University, where she was hosted by associate professor Wenyi Zhang, who is an alumna of our graduate program.

Her co-edited, updated book “A World of Babies,” continues to circulate widely, with ongoing discussions on the book’s Facebook page reaching half a million views so far by readers from 45 countries. Alma’s public engagement work is thriving, her short piece “Diapers, Potties, and Split Pants” on toilet training and parenting around the world appeared in The Conversation, and was then reprinted in dozens of major news outlets across the nation.

**Dr. Paul Garber** continues to run his famous summer field schools, and publish widely. He’ll have a bit more time for research now that he has just completed a decade long term as editor in chief of the Journal of American Primatology. Congratulations Paul on such a critical contribution to shaping the field of primatology! Paul’s impact on the field was recognized recently when he was awarded the career achievement Distinguished Primatologist Award by the American Society of Primatologists in 2017. In receiving this award, Paul gave the keynote address at the 41st annual meetings of the Society in San Antonio, Texas.

**Dr. Norm Whitten** has just published his memoir “Patterns Through Time: An Ethnographer’s Quest and Journey,” published by Sean Kingston Publishing and available on Amazon.com. Here is a description:

“For well over half a century, Norman Whitten has spent a third of his professional life undertaking ethnography with Afro-Latin American and Indigenous peoples living in tropical forest-riverine environments of northern South America. He has spent the other two thirds engaged with theory constructions in Anthropology in institutional settings. In this memoir, he tells of his contributions to ethnography as a theory-constructive endeavor and depicts an academic and practical environment in which strong support exists, but where obstacles and strong resistance must also be navigated.”

Congratulations, Norm!

**Dr. David Plath** continues to make important films, including the documentary “So Long Asleep: Waking the Ghosts of a War,” which he produced and directed. The description below makes clear the power of this work, which has been screened both in Hawai’i and here on our campus.

“So Long Asleep: Waking the Ghosts of a War” chronicles a decades-long project to excavate and repatriate the remains of Korean men who died doing forced labor in Hokkaido during the Asia-Pacific War. During WWII, “more than a million men were taken from Korea to labor at sites across Japanese and the South Pacific Islands; over 200,000 of them were sent to Hokkaido.” (Byung-ho Chung) Many died in harsh conditions in the foreign land. In 2015, 70 years after the war’s end, a group of international volunteers, led by Japanese priest Yoshikih and Korean scholar Byun-ho Chung, repatriated 115 victim remains to South Korea. The documentary raises important questions about war remembrance, reconciliation, repatriation, and international cooperation. (Produced and Directed by David Plath, 60 minutes, 2016.)

The collaboration with Byung-ho Chung is especially meaningful as Dr. Chung is a 1992 PhD graduate of our department, and currently a professor of cultural anthropology at Hanyang University in South Korea, where he is also active in several social justice initiatives.
As everyone knows, our staff are the heart of the day to day operations of the department, and their expertise and dedication is crucial to our success. So, it is with very mixed feelings that we announce the forthcoming retirement in fall 2018 of Ms. Elizabeth Spears. Many, many graduate students will remember with appreciation all their conversations with Liz and the many ways that she helped keep them on track through the long journey of graduate school. Faculty too are already missing her, even though she hasn’t left yet. Beyond her expertise, Liz’s sense of humor has always been a boon to students and faculty alike. Interim department head and professor Virginia Domínguez presented Liz with an award of appreciation at this spring’s awards banquet. You can tell this is a happy moment for Liz but not so much for Virginia!

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**Katharine Lee**, a graduate student in biological anthropology and member of the Clancey Lab, served on a panel for the National Center for Supercomputing Applications on campus in April for a discussion of “Beyond #MeToo in Tech and Academic Workplaces.”

**John Ben Soileau** published a book review in Anthropology and Humanism 42 (2), discussing Jeremy Campbell’s work Conjuring Property: Speculation and Environmental Futures in the Brazilian Amazon, published by the University of Washington Press.


**Erin Benson**, PhD candidate in archaeology, ran the Field School in Midwestern Archaeology at the Rhea site in Belleville, Illinois in May and June of 2017. The Rhea site is a Mississippian site that was occupied during the rise (AD 1050-1100) and decline (AD 1200-1300) of nearby Cahokia, the largest pre-Columbian city north of Mexico. Erin mentored six undergraduates, who learned everything from surveying and mapping to excavating and interpreting the features and artifacts they encountered. The results of this fieldwork will form the basis of Erin’s dissertation. Congratulations on such a successful field school, Erin!

In addition, many graduate students won departmental awards to support their research and to recognize excellence in writing. We celebrated their accomplishments at the spring award’s banquet held in the Union.
One of the highlights of the year is always the spring Capstone Conference of Undergraduate Research Presentations, a festive evening of sharing of food and discoveries, as graduating majors share their capstone projects. Some give podium presentations and others share posters. Faculty, students, friends, and fans all attend to see the fruits of a year’s work coming to conclusion. Congratulations to those faculty who mentored these students, directed the capstone seminar, and to the students themselves for their passion for understanding the research process and contributing new knowledge to the world!

Our majors are actively engaged throughout the year under the dynamic direction of faculty director associate professor Jessica Greenberg. Their club, the “Anthropology Leaders” sponsored a number of activities including resume workshops, evenings with faculty, and special meetings with guest speakers. Club president Julia Carter prepared this statement about just some of their activities:

“The Anthropology Leaders is an undergraduate student group that is associated with the Anthropology Department and focuses on organizing events on social issues that are impacting our campus and community. Additionally, the Anthropology Leaders are dedicated to bringing undergraduates, graduates, and faculty from the Anthropology Department together to celebrate scholarship and research being done at all levels of academia. For instance, this past year for Anthropology Day, the Anthropology Leaders organized a series of events centered around exploring research being conducted in each concentration of Anthropology in addition to exploring different career paths that an undergraduate anthropology Major could pursue.

A common question for many students is how to best harness the skills that they gain from being an anthropology major and apply those skills to various career fields. In light of such questions, the Anthropology Leaders wanted to organize an event to help students reflect on the ways that their anthropology major can transfer to any career field. One of the events we organized to meet this objective was titled “Hiring 2.0: What Anthropology Helps You Understand about Looking for a Job” and featured Ilana Gershon from Indiana University. Dr. Gershon is an anthropologist whose recent research examined hiring rituals in corporate America. This event attracted over 20 attendees and presented the conclusions from Dr. Gershon’s work, which highlighted the ‘bad’ advice that college students often receive with regards to professional development and getting started in a career. Some highlights from the talk was the emphasis placed on personal branding on college campuses and while some companies may be interested in such branding, a more effective strategy to develop professionally is to seek out informational interviews with potential employers. This event allowed undergraduates, graduates, and faculty to come together and collaborate on the ways that students can take the skills they gain as anthropology majors and apply them to careers in a multitude of fields.”

Dr. Gershon’s visit was sponsored by the generous funding provided for Engaged Anthropology initiatives by alumnus Paul Liebman, whose donations also fund summer research awards for undergraduates.
Distinguished alumnus Dr. Donald Johanson, best known for his discovery at age 31 of the skeletal remains of “Lucy,” returned to campus last fall to receive the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award, and to spend time with our students. After meeting him, undergraduates in Anthro 243 prepared short reflections on his visit. It was clear that this visit was inspirational. Student Celeste Kim wrote: “I never dreamed that I would ever have the opportunity to meet Dr. Johanson, the man who discovered Lucy. Especially being an anthropology major, this is certainly an unforgettable experience that will remain with me, and that I will cherish throughout my life. Thank you for… the opportunity to experience something so very special!”

In other news, Woodrow (Woody) Clark II, who completed his PhD under David Plath’s direction in the early 1970s, writes to say that his new book “Violence in Schools, Colleges, and Universities” is just out from NOVA Press. Dr. Clark has also published many other books, including on issues relating to climate change. The latest book harks back to his original interest in violence in public schools, the subject of his PhD thesis here at Illinois. Congratulations on your latest publication, Woody!

We are sad to share the news that Maggie Bareis passed away in September 2017. Staff member Karla Harmon recalls: “Maggie was the widow of Dr. Charles (Chuck) J. Bareis, a faculty member from 1959-1993 when he retired. Chuck died in 1998 and then his family established the Charles J. Bareis Memorial Fund. This award is given to an undergraduate in anthropology studying North American Archaeology. Maggie attended our annual spring awards banquets each year to meet the recipients of this award and she was very involved in Chuck’s work and the students.”

Many in our department remember her well, and all appreciate the generosity of their establishment of the Bareis Memorial Fund. Professor Emerita Janet Dixon Keller described her this way: “Maggie was a wonderful person. So proud of everything the department accomplished in Illinois archaeology… We have lost a kindhearted soul.” Our department sends its condolences to her family and recognizes with gratitude her and Chuck’s sustained commitment to our students.
INTRODUCING: Joseph Baldwin—assistant director of development

We are pleased to introduce Joseph Baldwin as the new assistant director of development for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and the Department of Anthropology, in particular. Joseph worked most recently in the development office in the Illinois School of Music and as the development director for Three Spinners, a local nonprofit that provides scholarships, housing, and emergency support to immigrant and refugee families in Illinois. He is also the music director of the Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana and previously served as a faculty member in the music departments at Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He holds degrees from Northwestern University and the University of Michigan. Joseph very much looks forward to getting to know anthropology’s many loyal donors! He can be reached at jbbaldw2@illinois.edu or (217) 300-5967.

If you are an alumna/us thinking about ways to support our department’s endeavors, please contact Joseph to discuss your priorities and ideas. Our donors make possible special awards, help fund student research, foster community engagement, and energize our community with their generosity. Thank you!

This newsletter is produced annually by the department of Anthropology and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and is edited by Professor Jane Desmond. If you’d like to send news for forthcoming newsletters, you can reach her at desmondj@illinois.edu.