

THE ANTHROPOLOGIST

Spring 2022 Newsletter



Chair Chat: Our Pandemic Year

As is true for much of the world, CWRU has slowly returned to many in-person activities for the 2021-2022 academic year. Although some events continue to be primarily remote, classes and meetings have been held in-person, with masks. I want to express my continued appreciation to all the students, faculty, and staff who have continued to be patient and flexible as we continue to navigate what it means to return to “normal.”

The last year has brought other changes as well. Dr. Gaines retired on July 1, 2021, after 38 years as a member of our faculty. We wish him luck on his new experiences!

We welcomed Dr. Bridget Haas as a Visiting Assistant Professor. She is already known to many of you. She is teaching courses in her area of expertise, migration and health, in addition to teaching some of our introductory courses.

It has been great to have students in classrooms and hallways again! In August, we welcomed a class of 8 new graduate students this, which includes 5 MA-PhD students, 2 one-year MA students, and an IGS student. At the undergraduate level, our majors continue to grow in number. As I write this, we have almost 100 majors. As department chair, I often meet new majors and they tell me about how excited they are to join the department and how much their classes mean to them. These conversations are the highlight of my day!

Our alumni continue to do awesome things. In the fall, I had the pleasure of meeting with Dr. Vin Tangpricha who received his BA in Anthropology in 1992. He is now a physician and faculty member at Emory University School of Medicine. In August, I met with him and his wife, Dr. Cherry Wongtrakool, when they were on campus delivering their daughter Natalie for her freshman year at CWRU. In November, I visited with Jordin Sirody, who received her BA in 2020. She is now a medical student at University of Maryland in Baltimore. I enjoy hearing from our alumni, so please keep in touch!

Across anthropology there continue to be discussions about the future of our discipline. The pandemic, the climate crisis, racial and political tensions, the war in Ukraine, and other issues of the day challenge us as citizens, but also as anthropologists. Please do not lose sight of the value of anthropology to forging a better understanding of our world. I remain convinced that the work that you do is important. I am confident that our students — the next generation of anthropologists — will move the field in new and exciting directions.

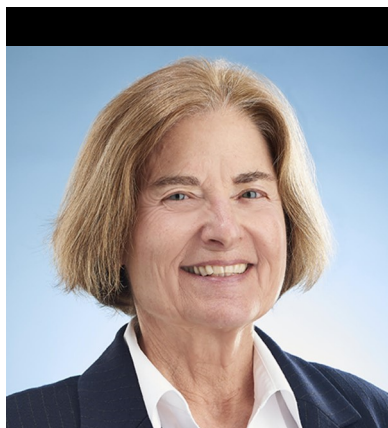
This newsletter reports some of the remarkable accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni over the last year. I hope you share my pride in CWRU anthropology!

I enjoy hearing from you, so please let me know how you are doing. I can be reached by email at janet.mcgrath@case.edu or by phone at 216-368-2287. You can follow me on twitter at [@CWRUAnthChair](https://twitter.com/CWRUAnthChair).

In this issue

Chair Chat.....	1
Faculty News.....	2
Graduate Student News.....	5
Undergraduate Student News.....	6
Alumni News.....	7
Recent Publications.....	7
Graduates.....	8
Donors.....	10

Faculty News



Dr. Cynthia Beall

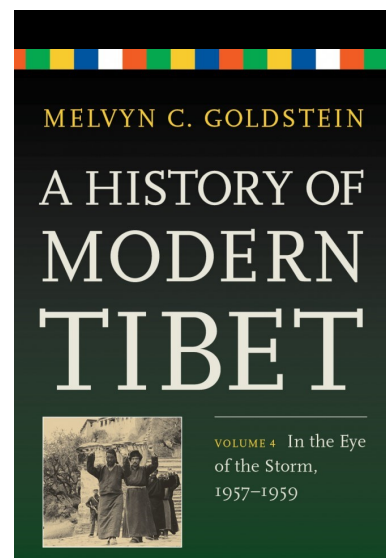
On Jan. 1, 2022, **Dr. Cynthia Beall**, Distinguished University Professor and S. Idell Pyle Professor of Anthropology, became the editor-in-chief of the open-access journal [*Evolution, Medicine, and Public Health*](#), published by Oxford University Press. Among the top ten journals in evolutionary biology, EMPH “publishes original, rigorous applications of evolutionary science to issues in medicine and public health. It aims to connect evolutionary biology with the health sciences to produce insights that may reduce suffering and save lives.”

Dr. Melvyn Goldstein

Professor Melvyn C. Goldstein has been awarded the Association for Asian Studies' **2022 E. Gene Smith Inner Asia Book Prize** for his 2019 book: *A History of Modern Tibet, Volume 4: In the Eye of the Storm, 1957-1959* (University of California Press, 2019).

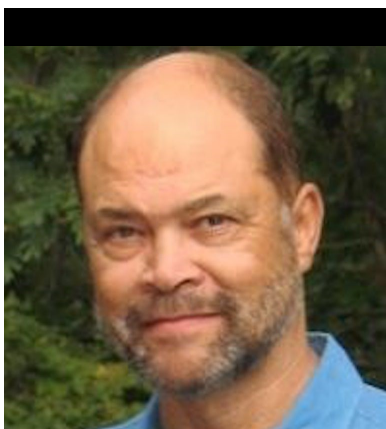
The **E. Gene Smith Inner Asia Book Prize** “honors outstanding and innovative scholarship across disciplines and country of specialization for a book on Inner Asia.” The award statement from the Association for Asian Studies states:

“In this massive tome, the fourth and final volume in Mel Goldstein’s magisterial *History of Modern Tibet*, the author unfolds the events that led to the Lhasa Uprising of 1959, and what Goldstein calls the “End of Old Tibet.” Goldstein ably demonstrates that the decisions undertaken by the major political actors of the era, including the Dalai Lama, Mao Zedong, and many others, ultimately generated an outcome that no one really wanted. Goldstein’s meticulous handling of an impressive range of actors in this distressing drama, including Tibetans, Chinese, and Americans, leaves the reader and the specialist not only with much to think about, but also with many new available materials to explore further. The author’s nuanced and unprejudiced descriptions and analyses rely on an unprecedented wealth of primary sources in multiple languages (primarily Tibetan and Chinese), both oral and written, collected over many years, and overcoming countless challenges, many of them also available online through the Tibetan Oral History Archive Project. With this volume, Goldstein has achieved a remarkable feat.”



Professor Goldstein's first volume in his Tibet History Quartet (*A History of Modern Tibet, 1913-1951, Volume One, The Demise of the Lamaist State*, University of California Press, 1989), also received an award from the Association for Asian Studies:

"This monumental study is a path-breaking contribution to our understanding of modern Tibet. Melvyn Goldstein has marshalled an impressive array of documentary, archival and interview sources to provide critical new insights into the political and diplomatic history of Tibet during its independence of Chinese domination. Particularly important is the author's use of Tibetan sources to go beyond the question of Tibet's relation to China, and narrate in detail the conflicts within Tibetan society: between monastic and lay elements, between reformers and conservatives, between rival regents' cliques. The Levinson Prize Committee of the China and Inner Asia Council is proud to give Honorable Mention to Professor Goldstein for this impressive contribution to the development of an important part of our field."



Dr. Atwood Gaines

Professor Atwood Gaines has been appointed Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, effective January 1, 2022. Professor Gaines retired from the department on July 1, 2021 after 38 years on our faculty. Woody Gaines earned his MA, C.Phil and PhD in cultural anthropology and an MPH at UC Berkeley. He taught at San Francisco State University and Duke University, prior to joining the CWRU Department of Anthropology in 1983.

Dr. Gaines' research interests span many domains in medical anthropology, including health and social identity, ethnopsychiatry, bioethics, gerontology, and the cultural studies of science.

He has published widely, including his 1992 book, *Ethnopsychiatry*, and two volumes edited with Robert Hahn called *Physicians of Western Medicine* (1982, 1985). He published nearly 80 articles in leading journals and served as Editor-in-Chief of *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry: An International Journal of Cross-Cultural Health Research* from 2007-2018.

Woody Gaines also supervised 20 anthropology PhD students and served on dissertation committees for more than a dozen students. In the classroom, Woody taught countless CWRU students — anthropology majors and non-majors alike — sharing his insights into the important contributions of medical anthropology to our understanding of the world.

Thank you for your contributions to anthropology at CWRU and best wishes for your retirement!

You can learn more about our faculty's research interests and accomplishments [here](#)



Dr. Jill Korbin

Professor Jill Korbin, Lucy Adams Leffingwell Professor of Anthropology, is retiring July 1, 2022, after 41 years at CWRU. In addition to serving as faculty in the anthropology department, Korbin served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for 18 years, where she helped steer the College through many leadership and programmatic changes.

Known for her groundbreaking research on cross-cultural child abuse and neglect, Dr. Korbin has published widely and received numerous awards and accolades during her distinguished career. These include the

Margaret Mead Award from the American Anthropological Association and the Society for Applied Anthropology, which is awarded for anthropological work that makes anthropology accessible to a broad audience. She extended the impact of her work by serving as an AAAS Congressional Science Fellow in Child Development in Senator Bradley's office. She was a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Australia and has been a member of numerous scientific advisory boards and committees, including the board of ChildFund International and the Doris Duke Fellowship Program for the Promotion of Child Well-Being. She served as President of the Society for Psychological Anthropology from 2017-2019.

At CWRU, Korbin served as the Armington Professor and directed the Charles Rieley Research Program on Values in Children. She directed the Schubert Center for Child Studies and was a founder and director of the Childhood Studies Program. She is an adjunct faculty member at the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and a faculty associate at its Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development. She developed and directed the Mann Undergraduate Scholars Program in Medical Anthropology and Pediatrics for undergraduate students.

Korbin's research and mentorship has a global reach, as evidenced by the wide scope of her work, which ranges from collaboration at Hebrew University to research in Amish communities in Ohio. She mentored and taught numerous students and received the Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. She has mentored graduate students and served on dozens of doctoral committees across the university and continues to conduct research and publish with many of her students. Through her collaboration with colleagues at Hebrew University she has mentored Israeli Postdoctoral Scholars who have traveled to Cleveland specifically to work with her. She supported and steered the first publication on child abuse and neglect in Uganda written by Ugandan scholars.

These few paragraphs do not do justice to Jill Korbin's many accomplishments over her long and impactful career. Her thoughtful and generous service to the university, the department, and the discipline have had a significant impact on all who have had the pleasure of working with her. From all of us, congratulations and best wishes for your retirement!

Note from Professor Jill Korbin

At the end of the Spring 2022 semester, I will retire from active teaching and apply for emeritus status. This is a time to reflect. I have been very very fortunate to be able to work as an anthropologist for almost 50 years, a little more than 40 of them here at CWRU. I have been fortunate to have been a faculty member in this truly outstanding department as well as to have had a time being an Associate Dean for the College of Arts and

Sciences and being the Director of the Schubert Center for Child Studies. I have been fortunate to have been able to study and write about children, their well-being and their difficulties, most specifically child maltreatment.

I have been privileged to work among extraordinarily accomplished anthropology faculty members who are dedicated to our field and advancing knowledge through research and teaching. I also have been privileged to work with extraordinary students, both graduate and undergraduate, who have gone on to have remarkable careers and lives, contributing to the well-being of people around the world.

Anthropology is a life-changing field. It lets us know that there are commonalities among people but also differences, both to be highly valued. I have been grateful to participate in this project of cross-cultural knowledge. Thank you.

Graduate Student News

Congratulations to our graduate students on their accomplishments in the 2021-2022 academic year!

Daniel Basil Hamilton received the 2021 Ruth Barber Moon award from CWRU's School of Graduate Studies! This award is given to graduate students who demonstrate academic promise, leadership ability, and financial need. They were also awarded a 2021-2022 Social Justice Institute Grant Fellowship for their project, "Patients, Practice, and the Social Construction of Transgender." Read more about the project [here](#).

Alisha Giri successfully defended her prospectus, "Success and Livelihood Outcomes Among Transnational Migrant Returnees in Nepal," and will advance to candidacy in Fall 2022.

Brooke Jespersen received a Jacob Climo Student Travel Award from the Association for Anthropology, Gerontology, and the Life Course to present a paper at the American Anthropological Association's 2021 meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. She organized the panel "Aging in contexts of im/mobility regimes" where she presented her paper "Moral maps of aging: Space, time, and value in older Puerto Rican adults' quests for good old ages."

Brooke also presented a paper "Migration and aging in the 'right' place: Older Puerto Rican adults' narratives" at the Gerontological Society of America's 2021 virtual meeting.

Norma Ojehomon presented remotely at the Society for Applied Anthropology's 2022 Hybrid Annual Meeting, held from March 22 to 26, 2022. A recording of her presentation can be found on the meeting platform for registered attendees. You can read the abstract below:

Global Goal, Local Ownership: Unpacking Sustainable HIV Epidemic Control in USAID/PEPFAR

Development initiatives focus on leaving behind 'locally-owned' and sustainable programs, while simultaneously backing rigorous 'data-driven' approaches and globally agreed-upon targets. However, the latter often requires funding and capacity that many countries do not have. One-time interviews with eight professionals within USAID/PEPFAR found that while the goal of HIV epidemic control warrants extensive use of data for decision making, technical capacity and resources required to maintain/own this locally may not be sustainable long term especially with added complications from COVID-19. They agree that serious consideration is necessary to ensure HIV programs can eventually achieve local ownership while sustaining epidemic control.

Jillian Schulte was awarded a 2021-2022 Social Justice Institute Fellowship for her pre-dissertation research, “Healthcare Navigation & COVID-19 in Cleveland’s Bhutanese-Nepali Refugee Community.” The study developed recommendations for Neighborhood Family Practice to assist in their outreach to the Bhutanese-Nepali refugee community through improved understanding of how the refugee community is experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic. Jillian conducted virtual interviews with local Bhutanese-Nepali refugee patients, community health workers, and health professionals at a local health center. The project constitutes her MPH practicum and capstone project and will inform her future dissertation research. Jillian presented this research at the CWRU Public Health Innovations Conference in April 2022. Read more about the project [here](#).



Sonya Petrakovitz was named the February Photo Contest Winner for the 2022 AAA Calendar! The photo was taken during her fieldwork in Rapa Nui.

Photo description: Sunset Crabbing Lesson. A woman demonstrates to her nephew how to spear-hunt for crabs within the shallow tide pools of Anakena beach on Rapa Nui (Easter Island) in May 2020.

Undergraduate Student News

Congratulations to our undergraduate students on their accomplishments!

Avantika Bhaduri was named the 2021 Laurie D. Zelman International Undergraduate Student by the CWRU Center for International Affairs!

Caleb Curry (BA 2021) received a 2021 [Think Big Leadership Award for Modeling Commitment to Social Impact](#). Caleb was committed to social impact and the university community during his tenure at CWRU. He worked to create community standards for student organizations to combat violence and inequality on campus; expanded access to the CWRU community card; and helped prioritize minority business contracts. He also served as the group coordinator for Amnesty International and spearheaded an LGBT human rights event that attracted nearly 200 people. In addition to the campus community, Curry is dedicated to the Cleveland community and beyond. He worked to eliminate Cleveland’s food deserts and performed public health research focusing on health disparities like asthma and their relation to minority stress. Throughout the pandemic, he worked on a nationwide COVID-19 LGBT+ survey to examine the impact of COVID-19 on many health behaviors of LGBT youth.

Nico Kaplan was awarded a 2021 Outstanding Global Health Award from CWRU’s Public Health department. This award is given annually to the student who exemplifies outstanding work in the Global Health concentration.

Tae-Hee Kim was awarded a 2021 Peter Witt Scholarship from the College of Arts and Sciences! The Peter Witt Scholarship Fund was established in 1960 to provide financial assistance to deserving students of the College of Arts and Sciences whose interests are in social work, city planning, or community involvement. Students awarded this scholarship have demonstrated leadership and engagement in activities on and off campus.

Rhea Kohli was awarded the Scott Frank Student of the Year Award from CWRU's Public Health department. This award is given to the MPH student who best represents the Master of Public Health as a scholar, advocate, and citizen of the program, the department, and the community.

Alumni News

Cortni Borgerson (BA 2005) was featured in an article by The Montclarion, titled "Montclair State Professor and National Geographic Explorer Shared her Passion for Madagascar." You can read the article [here](#).

Ariel Cascio (PhD 2015) received a Post-Ph.D. Research Grant from Wenner-Gren for a project, "Meanings of autism and work: Autistic and non-autistic people navigating shared spaces and conflicting conceptualizations."

Meghan Halley (PhD 2012; MPH 2009) has been awarded a K01 Career Development Award from the National Human Genome Research Institute for her project titled, "Surfacing values in the economic evaluation of genome sequencing for diagnosis of children with rare diseases." This five-year award will support additional training for Dr. Halley in bioethics, health economics, and genetics, as well as ethnographic research exploring how diverse stakeholder values intersect in shaping health policy around new genomic technologies. Dr. Halley is currently a Research Scholar in the Center for Biomedical Ethics at Stanford University.

Carlos Lewis-Miller (MA 2020) was a panelist for the Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health Series: Pipeline to Practice: Uncovering the Pathways to a Career in Environmental Health, held on May 25, 2021. The discussion featured current and past Environmental Health Research trainees of the Swetland Center and included conversations about the panelists' journeys through their training experience, current and future career goals, and how they harness their passion for the field of environmental health.

Stephanie McClure (PhD 2013) spoke with the Human Biology Association on the topic of "Bringing Anthropology to Public Health." Dr. McClure is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama. You can listen to the interview [here](#) or [here](#).

Danrui Song (IGS 2016) moved back to China in 2021 and accepted an offer at AstraZeneca Global R&D Center, Shanghai as a Business Planning & Operations Manager.

Recent Publications

Beall, C. M., Childs, G., Craig, S.R., Strohl, K. P., Quinn, E., & Basnyat, B. (2021). Repeatability of adaptive traits among ethnic Tibetan highlanders. *American Journal of Human Biology*, e23670. [DOI](#).

Beall, C., & Strohl, K. Adaptations to High-Altitude Hypoxia. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. [DOI](#).

Chinese Language Edition of **Melvyn C. Goldstein**, A History of Modern Tibet, Volume Four, 1957-1959: In the Eye of the Storm. Hong Kong: Chinese University of Hong Kong Press.

Tibetan Language Edition (in two volumes) of **Melvyn C. Goldstein**, A History of Modern Tibet, Volume Two, 1951-1955: The Calm Before the Storm. Dehradun, India: Songtsen Institute.

Jespersen, B. V., Korbin, J. E., & Spilsbury, J. C. (2021). Older Neighbors and The Neighborhood Context of Child Well-Being: Pathways to Enhancing Social Capital for Children. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 68(3-4), 402-413. [DOI](#).

Jespersen, B. (2021). Imagining Possibilities: A Conversation with Dr. Aaron T. Seaman, President of AAGE. *Anthropology & Aging*, 42(2), 3-5. [DOI](#).

Mafigiri, D. K., Iradukunda, C., Atumanya, C., Odie, M., Mancuso, A., Tran, N., **McGrath, J.,** & Luzze, H. (2021). A qualitative study of the development and utilization of health facility-based immunization microplans in Uganda. *Health Research Policy and Systems*, 19(2), 1-8. [DOI](#).

Krugman, R., & **J. Korbin**, Eds. *Handbook of Child Maltreatment. Second Edition*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Melillo, S. M. (2021). Hominin footprints at Laetoli reveal a walk on the wild side. [DOI](#).

Shaw, J. L., Beans, J. A., Noonan, C., Smith, J. J., Mosley, M., Lillie, K. M., ... & Simon, G. (2022). Validating a predictive algorithm for suicide risk with Alaska Native populations. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*. [DOI](#).

Shaw, J. L., Semmens, E., Okihiro, M., Lewis, J. L., Hirschfeld, M., VanWagoner, T. M., ... & Singleton, R. (2021). Best Practices for Conducting Clinical Trials With Indigenous Children in the United States. *American journal of public health*, 111(9), 1645-1653. [DOI](#).

McDonell, M. G., Hirchak, K. A., Herron, J., Lyons, A. J., Alcover, K. C., **Shaw, J.,** ... & HONOR Study Team. (2021). Effect of incentives for alcohol abstinence in partnership with 3 American Indian and Alaska Native communities: A randomized clinical trial. *JAMA psychiatry*, 78(6), 599-606. [DOI](#).

Shi, L. (2021). Losing an Only Child: Parental Grief among China's Shidu Parents. In *Chinese Families Upside Down: Intergenerational Dynamics and Neo-Familism in the Early 21st Century* (pp. 176-193). Brill. [DOI](#).

Risley, K. Y., **Welter, C. R.,** Castillo, G., & Castrucci, B. C. (Eds.). (2021). *Leading Systems Change in Public Health: A Field Guide for Practitioners*. Springer Publishing Company.

Spring 2021 - Spring 2022 Graduates

Congratulations to our new 2021 PhDs!

Christine Borden-King-Jones: "Storied Experience: Walking with Everyday Ghosts"

Maureen Floriano: "Models of Addiction and Health Seeking Behaviors: Understanding Participant Utilization of an Overdose Education and Naloxone"

Kelley Kampman: "Mothering on MATs: The Influence of Intensive Mothering and Biomedicalized Addiction Treatment on Opioid Addicted Women's Mothering Practices"

Raakhee Patel: "An Ethnographic Study of Doctor-Patient Communication within Biomedicine and Its Indian Variant in Mumbai"

Congratulations to these students for receiving their MA in May 2021, Winter 2022, or May 2022!

Sydney Becker
Sarah Evans
Eleanor Gillerlane-Hinkes
Anna Hudelson
Heather Jandecka
Hannah Ludlow
Shaneal Newman
Grace Olson

Congratulations to these undergraduates for receiving their BA or minor in Anthropology!

Aneesha Achar	Okiemute Eyemaro	Michelle King	Aashna Shah
Radhika Amin	Tina Fong	Rhea Kohli	Isabella Shawe
Krysta Aulak	Eleanor Gaddy	Courtney Krystek (Schubert)	Kelsey Shearer
Adiah Bailey	Christina Gonzalez	Kurtus Mastandrea	Sophia Sokoloski
Dominic Barandica	Madeline Graves	Nick Micic	Kruthika Uttla
Virginia Behmer	My Linh Hoang	Madison Miles	Madison Vargo
Celestina Boesche	Eileen Huang	Danielle Nwogu	Nicholas Vitello
Naveena Bontha	Chloe Jen	Sarah Oh	Madeleine Weinkopf
Jeb Bugos	Riley Jiang	Grace Olson	Christina Whitehouse
Katie Cerda	Kaylyn Johnson	Issra Osman	Allan Willmon
Cathy Charles	Murathan Kahyaoglu	Jordan Perez	Anisha Yarlagadda
Olivia Connor	Nico Kaplan	Joshua Phelps	Gwendolyn Yates
Ella Copich	Samantha Kelts	Mary Price	Isabella Yazji
Caleb Curry	Arushi Khanna	Kayleigh Risser	Lily Zheng
Sophia Damico	Tae-Hee Kim	Ben Sanchez	Alex Zhenzhen
Jordan Davis			Dalia Zullig

Congratulations to our Spring 2021 and Spring 2022 award recipients for their outstanding achievements!

Graduate

Richard A. Zdanis Research Fellowship Award
Brooke Jespersen

Undergraduate

The Newbell Niles and Ruth Neuer Puckett Award
Caleb Curry
Courtney Krystek (Schubert)
Jordan Perez
Nicholas Vitello
Anisha Yarlagadda
Lily Zheng

The James Dysart Magee Award
Vivian Pryor

The Callender Memorial Award

Aneesha Achar
Krysta Aulak
Samantha Kelts
Kayleigh Risser
Isabella Shawe
Sophia Sokoloski

The Jonathan F. Plimpton Award

Naveena Bontha
Cathy Charles
Christina Gonzalez
Rhea Kohli

Donors

Thank you to these donors for their generous contributions to the Anthropology Department!

Tyler Hoffman (CWR '14)

Kathryn Burke (CWR '15; GRS '15, anthropology)

Dr. Vin Tangpricha (CWR '92) and Dr. Cherry Wongtrakool

Dr. Eugene Best (GRS '72, anthropology)

Dr. Michael Dodson (ADL '70) and Mrs. Charlotte Dodson

Dr. Alisa Goldberg (CWR '90)

Dr. Yachun Gregory (GRS '91, anthropology)

**If you would also like to
support the
Anthropology Department,
please visit
[giving.case.edu/
anthropology](http://giving.case.edu/anthropology)**

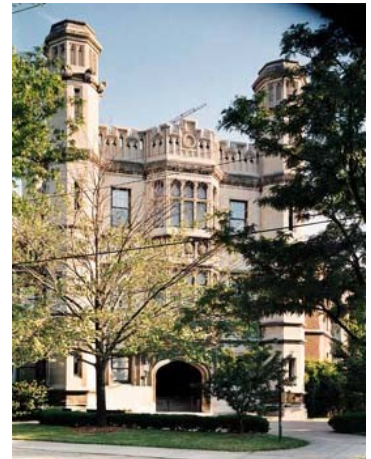
**Do you want to
contribute to the next
newsletter edition?

Submit your items /
updates [here](#)**

Case Western Reserve University

Department of Anthropology, Mather Memorial, Room 238
11220 Bellflower Road, Cleveland, OH 44106-7125

Phone: (216)-368-3703
Fax: (216)-368-5334
Email: anthropology@case.edu



COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY