

THE ANTHROPOLOGIST

Case Western Reserve University College of Arts and Sciences

A newsletter for faculty, students, alumni, and friends of the Department of Anthropology

SPRING 2009

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

PROFESSOR GOLDSTEIN ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The Department of Anthropology is very pleased to announce that Professor Melvyn Goldstein has been elected a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in recognition of his distinguished career in Anthropology. Election to the Academy is one of the highest honors that can be accorded to a scientist. Professor Goldstein joins Professor Cynthia Beall as a member of the Academy. Only three CWRU faculty are members of the Academy – and two of them are from Anthropology! For more information see: blog.case.edu/case-news/2009/05/04/nasgoldstein

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MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND GLOBAL HEALTH LECTURE SERIES

The Department of Anthropology at Case Western Reserve University continued its inaugural lecture series in Medical Anthropology and Global Health, *Global Health, Culture and Change*. This spring, three scholars at the forefront of new perspectives in global health joined the Anthropology community at Case to give lectures and engage in dialogue with graduate students.

Stephen T. McGarvey, Ph.D., MPH, Professor of Community Health and Anthropology and Director of the International Health Institute of Brown University braved the winter weather to give his lecture titled “Public Health in the Samoas: Anthropology, Nutrition, and Translational Research.” Dr. McGarvey’s lecture was held February 12.



Dr. Stephen McGarvey

On March 26, the Anthropology Department welcomed Vinay Kamat, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. Dr. Kamat gave a lecture titled “Success as Failure: Global Discourses on Infectious Disease and the Medicalization of Malaria Control in Tanzania.”



Dr. Vinay Kamat meets with grad students including Aura Newlin pictured here. Photo by John Heintz



Dr. Vinay Kamat lectures at the Mandel Center for Nonprofits. Photo by John Heintz



Dr. Margaret Bentley

Wrapping up the 2008-2009 *Global Health, Culture and Change* lecture series, Margaret Bentley, Ph.D., Professor of Nutrition and Associate Dean for Global Health at the University of North Carolina, gave a lecture on April 14 titled “The Role of Care for Optimal Growth and Development of Infants and Toddlers: Data from North Carolina and India.”

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For more information about the 2008-2009 lecture series please visit: case.edu/arts/sci/anth/NewLectureSeriesonGlobalHealth.html.

SPOTLIGHT LECTURE SERIES: *APPLYING ANTHROPOLOGY TO REAL WORLD PROBLEMS*

Career anthropologist Ruth Sando, Ph.D. was the featured lecturer for this year's spotlight lecture series. Dr. Sando has expertise in qualitative-market research methods and corporate strategic planning and innovation. She is the founder of Sando and Associates, a consulting firm in Washington, D.C. and a Senior Associate with Barbara Perry Associates, a leader in Team Ethnography. Her talk titled "Applications of Anthropology in Business: Thinking and Working 'Outside the Box'" was given April 7. Financial support was provided by Jonathan Plimpton, Managing Director, International Business Management, Inc.



Dr. Ruth Sando



Dr. Sando and anthropology graduate students.

PROFESSOR CYNTHIA BEALL INTRODUCED DISTINGUISHED LECTURER AT SEVERANCE HALL

Cynthia Beall introduced Professor E.O. Wilson, Pellegrino University Research Professor Emeritus, Harvard University, who delivered the 2009 Distinguished Lecture "From So Simple

a Beginning: Darwin and the Future of Biology." There was a full house in Severance Hall for Dr. Wilson's lecture.

TIBETAN SCHOLAR WORKING WITH PROFESSOR MELVYN GOLDSTEIN AT CASE

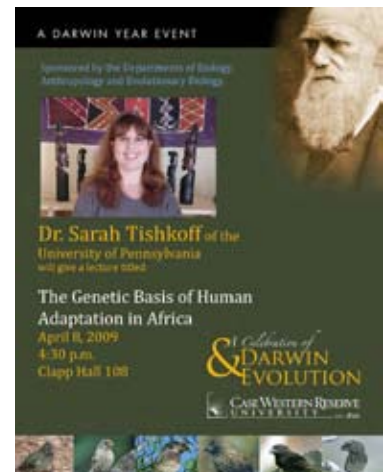
Mr. Tsewang Namgyal Shelling has returned to the department from India to work as a research scholar on Dr. Goldstein's new National Endowment for the Humanities' project, Preserving the Political Oral History of Modern Tibet (RZ-50845-08) that is making final preparations for the archive's publication on-line by the Library of Congress. Mr Shelling has also just published a new book (in Tibetan) titled "The Memoirs of my Personal Experiences."



Mr. Tsewang Namgyal Shelling

DARWIN YEAR LECTURE

The Anthropology Department, the Biology Department, and the Evolutionary Biology Program hosted Professor Sarah Tishkoff of the University of Pennsylvania on April 8. As part of the Year of Darwin Celebration she presented "The Genetic Basis of Human Adaptation in Africa."



GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Charlotte Haney returned from fieldwork in Chihuahua City, Mexico where she was researching the Impact of Violence Against Women on Gender Constructions. Her article, "Child Sexual Abuse and the Reproduction of Femininity

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Charlotte Haney and Maria Pilar, a community leader in the Zona de Tolerance in Ciudad Chihuahua.

in the United States,” will be published in the fall issue of *Voices*. She presented, “Communicating through Femicide: the structural and symbolic violence in direct violence” at the Society for Applied Anthropology and “Dirty Linen: towards an explanation of identity emplotment in times of crisis.” Charlotte is living in Houston where she is teaching a seminar on Violence against Women at the University of Houston.

Liz Olson defended her dissertation the “Differences in Traditional Ethnobotanical-Medical Knowledge, Illness, History and Economic Activity in the Sierra of Manantlan, Mexico” in March. She is teaching the CORE general education course and Writing for the Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of California, Merced. Liz presented her newest paper titled “Indigenous Mexico on a Biosphere Reserve in the 21st century: Conservation, sustainable development, and “new”



Liz Olson

forms of tourism in west central Mexico,” at the Society for Applied Anthropology and the American Association of Geographers in March. Liz continues to work with a small environmental consulting firm that she helped to found with an interdisciplinary team in west central Mexico. *ExOcidente* works to promote community-based conservation of biodiversity and cultural heritage.

Keirsten Snover’s master’s thesis from Eastern Washington University considers how the city of Spokane, Washington experienced and responded to the 1918-1919 Spanish influenza pandemic. Other studies have mainly focused on military and eastern cities, so she focused on the experience of a small northwestern city. (Note: this is a correction to the last newsletter where Keirsten’s information was published incorrectly.)

Sarah Rubin was awarded the 2009 Baker Nord Center for Humanities Graduate Research Fellowship to fund summer language study in her future field language, isiXhosa. She received the Society for Psychological Anthropology (SPA) Lemelson Student Research Fellowship to fund her pre-dissertation fieldwork in Cape Town. Sarah also won an Eva L. Pancoast Fellowship.

Ruth Magtanong won an Eva L. Pancoast Fellowship.

Aura Newlin won an Eva L. Pancoast Fellowship as well.

Meg Winchester received the Richard A. Zdanis Research Fellowship Award as well as a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant for her project “Policy, Service, and Experience: The Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence and Chronic Illness.” She began her dissertation research in Uganda this spring.

Joseph Galanek received a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant for his project: “Sociocultural Context of Mental Illness in Prisons” which he is conducting in Portland, Oregon.

Meghan Halley received a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant for her project: “Unyago and Jando: The Role of Adolescent Initiation Rituals in Shaping Youth Sexuality in Rural Tanzania.” Meghan also began her dissertation research this spring.

The doctoral dissertation proposals of Nadia El-Shaarawi

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“Living in Liminality: Experiences of displacement and mental health among Iraqi refugees in Cairo, Egypt” and Stephanie McClure “Body culture, African-American girls, and physical activity engagement” have been ranked high enough by the National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Advisory Panel to be recommended for funding.

Nadia El-Shaarawi, Hillary Melchiors, and Amy Rezac presented papers at the Society for Psychological Anthropology and Society for the Anthropology of Religion (SPA/SAR) Joint Biennial Conference, March 27 - 29 in Asilomar, CA. Amy and Hillary presented on the same panel titled “Cross-Cultural Explorations of Traumatic Stress and Coping: Migration and Disaster.” Hillary presented “Between Cultures: Turkish German Girls in Berlin” and Amy presented “Be-



Hillary Melchiors (second to the right) and Amy Rezac (far right) presented on the same panel at the SPA conference

yond Trauma: Response to Psychological Distress During Displacement.” Nadia presented “Subjectivity and Suffering: Trauma and ‘Medical Need’ in Iraqi Refugees’ Narratives and International Refugee Policy.” Her paper was part of the panel titled, “Legacies of Mass Violence: Symptom, Memory, Intervention (Part 2).”

Nadia El-Shaarawi, Stephanie McClure, and Amy Rezac participated in the workshop “Building on New Directions in Policy-Relevant Research on Adolescence: Perspectives From Psychological Anthropology” at the SPA/SAR Joint Biennial Conference.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Sarah Robinson studied abroad this semester with the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)’s Thailand program, learning about a broad range of issues dealing with the complex connections of globalization, development, power schemes, social movements, human rights, and the environment in a developing country. Students lived and worked with families in villages dealing with the effects of dams and mining, urban slums, people living with HIV/AIDS, landfills, and organic farming. On-site field work and exchanges with government officials, villag-



Sarah Robinson (in green)



Views of Thailand



ers, and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) outlined much of the learning process. Sarah and a few other students created a human rights report about an “illegal” forest community using the framework of the United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural rights which Thailand ratified in 1999.

Himali Bhatt won the Experiential Learning Fellowship in Anthropology, supported by Jonathan F. Plimpton. Also, Himali was selected as a SOURCE 2009 Summer Research Scholar. With these awards she received funding to assist

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with her project “Pregnancy and Pre-partum Practices and Nutritional Beliefs in Gujarat, India.” In fall 2009, Himali will join the Integrated Graduate Studies program at Case. As a student enrolled in the IGS program, Himali received The James Dysart Magee Award for a graduating senior with outstanding achievement in social and behavioral sciences.

Cristopher Kaps started in the Integrated Graduate Studies program this year.

Jonathan Geisinger and Matthew Cooperrider were awarded The Ruth and Newbell Niles Puckett Award for graduating seniors who exhibited outstanding achievement in anthropology.

John Heintz and Elizabeth McClain were awarded the Jonathan F. Plimpton Award for graduating seniors who had outstanding achievements in anthropology.

Bridget McHugh and Tessa Turnbaugh won the Callender Memorial Award for extraordinary achievement in anthropology.

Joe Drungil was awarded first place in the Social Sciences Oral Competition at Intersections: SOURCE Symposium & Poster Session for his paper “Beyond the Lega Nord and Padanian Political Nationalism: A Cultural Explanation for Shifting Group Identities in Northern Italy.”

GRADUATING SENIORS NEWS

WHAT’S NEXT FOR GRADUATING SENIORS?

Listed below are the very impressive plans for some of our graduating seniors. We’ll update this list next fall.

Jason Bonomo is heading for a joint MD/PhD program at Wake Forest.

Matt Cooperrider will be interning on Michael Ableman’s Foxglove Farm on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia starting this May and staying throughout the growing season until the end of October. Foxglove Farm is a 120 acre farm based on sustainable agriculture principles.

Joe Drungil is currently interviewing with the Peace Corps.

Meghan Fibbi will be attending the MPH program at Drexel University.

Jonathan Geisinger will begin the PhD program in Genetics at Stanford University School of Medicine.

Amanda Kittoe will be entering a graduate program in forensic anthropology. She published in *Discussions* in fall 2008.

Vince Leone will be attending medical school, most likely at the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy.

Caroline Sonnefeld will begin the MPH program at Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health this fall.

Erica Svendsen will be teaching secondary science in Connecticut with Teach for America Corps. After her two year commitment she will be attending the graduate program in Human Genetics at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Anna Wieser will be attending the University of Arkansas graduate program in archaeology. She’ll be participating in a dig in Turkey this summer.

GRADUATE DISCOURSE NEWS

Graduate Discourse continues its tradition of being the body of unity and support for the graduate students. This semester they met regularly for the popular works-in-progress series. Students also planned a practice session before the SPA/SAR conference in Asilomar, CA. Graduate Discourse is moving ahead in the process of publishing another issue of *Graduate Discourse: The Case Western Reserve University Journal of Medical Anthropology* expected to be released in May. The group is also planning the next professional development seminar.



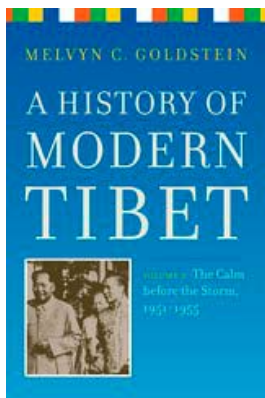
Jonathan Metcalfe, Administrative/Advocate Chair, G.D.

FACULTY NEWS

Cynthia Beall was the 2009 recipient of the Franz Boas Distinguished Achievement Award from the Human Biology Association.

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Professor Lee Hoffer presented a workshop “Agent Based Models in Anthropology (with Michael Agar)” at the 69th annual meeting of the Society of Applied Anthropology in Santa Fe, New Mexico on March 20.



A PAPERBACK EDITION of Dr. Melvyn Goldstein’s “A History of Modern Tibet, Volume 2, 1951-1955: The Calm before the Storm” was released by the University of California Press in early 2009. [see ucpress.edu/books/pages/10123.php]

Professor Atwood Gaines presented a paper at the American Anthropological Association meeting in San Francisco entitled “Psychiatry in Anthropology: From Anthropological Subject to Ethnomedical Object” in a session which he chaired. Dr. Gaines also completed his first full year as Editor-in-Chief of *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*.

Professor Charlotte Ikels received a Baker-Nord grant to present her paper on “Bioethics and Organ Transplantation in China: How Is Culture a Challenge?” at the World Congress of the International Association of Bioethics in Rijeka, Croatia in the fall of 2008. As the only anthropologist in a sea of philosophers, she was warmly welcomed. The Congress official theme was *The Challenge of Cross-Cultural Bioethics*. Using the case of organ transplantation in China Professor Ikels sought to move beyond the reification of the concept of culture in bioethics discourse by demonstrating how the concept is used strategically to advance or defend particular positions.

Drs. Jill Korbin and Eileen Anderson-Fye participated in workshops, presented papers, and organized a workshop at the SPA/SAR Joint Biennial Conference in Asilomar, CA, March 27-29. Dr. Anderson-Fye participated in the workshop “Mixed Methods in Psychological Anthropology.” Both professors organized the workshop “Building on New Directions in Policy-Relevant Research on Adolescence: Perspectives From Psychological Anthropology.” Dr. Anderson-Fye presented “I Want; I Will; I Am; I Do”: Volition and Self-making in the Meaning and Practice of Psychiatric

Medication Usage Among College Students in the session “Volition and Self-direction in Subjective Experience, Emotional Distress, and Healing.” Dr. Anderson-Fye participated in the workshop “A Typology for the Study of Childhood as Cultural Experience.” They both also participated in the workshop “The SPA-Lemelson Conference.”

Professor Eileen Anderson-Fye presented the paper “‘It’s Really Different Up There’: Gender, Return Migration, and Psychological Well-Being Among Adolescent Belizeans” at the 2008 American Anthropological Association meeting in San Francisco. She was also on program review for the Society for Psychological Anthropology section. Dr. Anderson-Fye recently gave the Samuel B. Cummings lecture at Kenyon College.

Dr. Eileen Anderson-Fye, along with co-PIs Dr. Jerry Floresch (MSASS) and Dr. Jes Sellers (University Counseling Services) were awarded a \$75,000 presidential research initiative award for their project “College Student Experience of Mental Health Service Use and Psychiatric Medication.” Graduate students Amy Rezac and Kristi Ninneman are working on the project.

Professor Jill Korbin was a visiting professor in December, 2008 at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Professor Vanessa Hildebrand was awarded the 2009 Richard A. Bloom, M.D. Award for Distinguished teaching in the SAGES program.

Professor Eileen Anderson-Fye received a W.P. Jones Presidential Faculty Development Fund award in spring 2009. These awards support the scholarly activities of untenured tenure-track faculty members in the humanities, arts, and social sciences.



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