

THE ANTHROPOLOGIST

Case Western Reserve University College of Arts and Sciences

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

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Graduate Students' Welcome Back luncheon was held on Friday, August 31, 2007 in Mather Memorial. New graduate students were welcomed to the department in an informal gathering.

The Anthropology fall "Welcome Back" party was held on September 5th in Guilford Parlor.

The annual Kassen Lecture took place on October 9th. Dr. Carol Worthman, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Laboratory for Comparative Human Biology at Emory University, presented "You Can't Always Get What You Want: Cultural Models, Parenting Practices and Child Development." A reception followed her lecture.



An Asian Studies Lecture was given by Andrew Fischer, Fellow at the Development Studies Institute (DESTIN) of the London School of Economics. The lecture was entitled "Extreme Dependence and Unequal Growth in Tibet: The Exceptionalities of China's Western Development Strategies in the Tibet Autonomous Region." The lecture was held on October 12th.

Clark Spencer Larsen, Ph.D., Department of Anthropology at Ohio State University, is presenting "Skeletons In Our Closet: Revealing Our Past Through Bioarchaeology" on November 8th in DeGrace Hall. The lecture is sponsored by the Case Chapter of Sigma XI, The Scientific Research Society, Evolutionary Biology Program, Biology Department, and Anthropology Department.

GRADUATE NEWS

Professor McGrath organized three "Professional Development panels."

These classes were open to all Anthropology graduate students. The following sessions were held:

- Human Subjects Protection: Understanding IRB's Procedures for Submitting a Grant at Case
- How to Write a Successful Wenner-Gren Grant Application

Alex Bridges received an NSF dissertation improvement grant for his research entitled: "Cognition and Religion: Religiosity in Tibetan Buddhist Monasticism as a Test Case" to be undertaken in Ladakh.

Nadia El-Sharaawi presented a poster entitled: "Community Academic Partnerships for Health Promotion: The Mother Daughter Health Collaborative" at Case Western Reserve University's 2007 Research ShowCase.

GRADUATE NEWS

Prisca Fall is working as a research assistant on an NIH funded study of doctor-patient communication with Dr. Susan Flocke at the Department of Family Medicine. The study looks at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, the University Hospitals Health System, and the Metrohealth System.

Joseph Galanek received his MPH in May 2007. He was awarded the MPH student of the year and best policy for his Capstone research: "Qualitative Outcomes for a Population of Mentally Ill Offenders in Cuyahoga County." His Capstone research was the qualitative portion of a larger mixed methods outcomes evaluation conducted for the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board, and funded through the Ohio Department of Mental Health. He is currently adjunct faculty at Case's Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Division of Public Health, and is teaching a course on program evaluation. For the 2007-2008 academic year he was hired as adjunct faculty at Cleveland State University's Department of Anthropology. He will be teaching a senior seminar on medical anthropology's approaches to psychiatric disorders in prison.

Meghan Halley attended the National Science Foundation Summer Institute for Research Design.

Charlotte Haney is currently in Chihuahua, Mexico doing research on the "Impact of Violence against women on gender in Chihuahua City, Mexico" supported by an Eva Pancoast Memorial Fellowship. She presented a paper at the American Anthropological Association meeting last year entitled "Childhood Sexual Abuse and Gender Reproduction in the United States" which will be published in the winter 2008 issue of the journal *Voices*.

Elizabeth Olson received the Lenore Kola Graduate Student Community Service Award in recognition of contributions to the university by being actively engaged in a graduation organization. She also received a Graduate Dean Instructional Excellence Award.

Jonathan Metcalfe presented a paper at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings entitled "When the sea gets its revenge: Relief and recovery in southern Sri Lanka." He spent the summer working on a World Health Organization initiative entitled "Treat, Train, and Retain" in Zimbabwe where he conducted interviews, administered questionnaires, and facilitated focus groups. This study looks at barriers to HIV testing and treatment among health workers in six different African countries.

Amy Rezac traveled to Cairo, Egypt with support from an Eva Pancoast Memorial Fellowship. She met with faculty of the Forced Migration and Refugee Studies Program at the American University of Cairo. She also worked with a non governmental organization, Tadamon, teaching beginning English to African refugees and Egyptians. She began to study Arabic at the International Language Institute. Amy is a co-author on a paper called "A Manual-Based Intervention to Address Clinical Crises and Retain Patients in the Treatment of Adolescents With Depression Study (TADS)" which appeared in the May issue of the *Journal of the American Academic of Child*



Image by Amy Rezac



Image of the Cairo Tower and Nile by Amy Rezac

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and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Sarah Rubin was awarded the Phi Beta Kappa Research Grant for pilot work on postpartum depression and “baby blues” in the Amish in Geauga County. She also attended the National Science Foundation Summer Institute for Research Design, a three week workshop in Beaufort, NC.

Sarah Rundall received funding from NSF and the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research for her dissertation entitled: “The Experience of Disability in a Himalayan Community.”

Meg Winchester was appointed program director of the Center for Social Science Research on AIDS (CeSSRA). She will travel to Uganda to participate in activities to organize the Center.

GRADUATE DISCOURSE

Graduate Discourse is looking forward to another busy year. A team is forming for the upcoming ultimate frisbee intramural tournament, and the team looks like it will give the other students quite a challenge. Graduate Discourse sponsored the first in a series of informal workshops for graduate students to gather and discuss works in progress. Its goal is to provide a useful forum for students to receive feedback on their own work and learn about the work of fellow graduate students.

The next issue of Graduate Discourse, The Case Western Reserve Journal of Medical Anthropology, is currently accepting paper submissions. Personal research, work related material, and class papers are all acceptable, as well as research updates from advanced graduate students. The submission deadline is November 1, 2007. Graduate Discourse is also undergoing a shift in leadership with the new academic year, and elections are currently underway. Look for new events and activities for Graduate Discourse in the upcoming year!

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Jeremy Safran spent the summer conducting research under Dr. Marc Hauser and Elisabetta Versace at the Harvard Cognitive Evolution Laboratory on an eight week internship. The topic of his research was “The processing of ‘artificial grammars’ in cotton top tamarins and humans.” He used Visual Operant Conditioning, the presentation of cards with a language of symbols on them, to try to get the tamarins to learn a generalized grammatical rule. The research also included an Acoustic Experiment, the presentation of sounds in a simple grammatical language. Cotton top tamarins were tested on their spontaneous ability to use a basic grammatical rule to predict gaps in white noise. No conditioning took place. The goal was to look for the presence of computational grammatical capacities in New World monkeys that predated, and may have served to facilitate, the development of language in human beings.



Image by Jeremy Safran



Image by Jeremy Safran

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UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Kyle Lovell and Sarah Robinson (Neanderthal excavation site in Israel) also conducted summer research.

Anna Wieser attended a landscape archaeology and geoarchaeological borehole survey school in Corsica this summer run by the University of Washington in cooperation with the University of Winchester (UK) and the University of Corte (Corsica).

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Melvyn Goldstein

Goldstein, M. 2007 *A History of Modern Tibet: Volume 2 The Calm before the Storm, 1951-1955*, University of California Press.

Dr. Charlotte Ikels

Charlotte Ikels delivered an invited talk, "Why Do Western Countries Criticize Organ Transplantation in China?" The event was held at the plenary session of the Medical Ethics Branch of the Chinese Medical Association's Biennial Meeting in Urumqi (Xinjiang) on July 19, 2007.

As part of the Modern Asia Series Charlotte Ikels delivered an invited talk on "Bioethics in China Today: The View from the Top" at the Harvard University Asia Center on April 10, 2007.

Dr. Janet McGrath

Janet McGrath received a five-year grant from the NIH's Global Partnerships for Social Science Research on AIDS. Funds from the grant will establish a new center at CWRU and Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda

called the Center for Social Science Research on AIDS (CeSSRA). CeSSRA is a collaborative effort between the Departments of Anthropology, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and Bioethics at CWRU, Makerere University, the Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC) in Kampala, and Mbarara University of Science and Technology in Mbarara.

Dr. Jill Korbin

The George Gund Foundation has awarded a \$120,000 grant to the Schubert Center for Child Studies at Case Western Reserve University to sustain its Child Policy Initiative (CPI) through 2009. Under the leadership of Schubert Center Director Jill Korbin and CPI Director Molly Irwin, the Child Policy Initiative has mobilized faculty participation in policy-related activities and created opportunities for increased contact between researchers and the policy community.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Dr. James Larry Ross died unexpectedly at the age of 58 on July 29, 2007. Professor Ross earned his doctorate from Case Western Reserve University in Anthropology, had been a researcher, community outreach director, principal investigator, and assistant professor. He is survived by his wife Cheryl of Houlton, Maine, and son Benjamin James, a college student in Florida.



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