

THE ANTHROPOLOGIST

Case Western Reserve University College of Arts and Sciences

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

FALL 2010

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

DR. CYNTHIA BEALL RECEIVED UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBERS HIGHEST HONOR THE TITLE OF DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

Dr. Cynthia Beall was honored with the title of Distinguished University Professor at this year's Convocation. Distinguished University Professors are individuals who have made exceptional contributions in the areas of teaching, research, and service. Dr. Beall was one of only seven university professors to receive this honor and the only recipient from the College of Arts and Sciences.

To view President Barbara Snyder's announcement visit: www.case.edu/artsci/anth/



DR. CYNTHIA BEALL

KASSEN LECTURE SERIES WELCOMED SARAH LAMB, PH.D. PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF ANTHROPOLOGY AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY



Professor Sarah Lamb, Ph.D.

This year the Department of Anthropology Kassen Lecture Series was delighted to welcome Sarah Lamb, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Anthropology at Brandeis University. Sarah Lamb is a cultural anthropologist who studies the ways people construct their social-cultural worlds and identities, particularly surrounding gender, aging, the body, family, and nation. Her primary ethnographic research has been carried out in West Bengal, India and among Indian immigrants in the San Francisco and Boston areas of the United States. Her Kassen Lecture entitled "Abandonment and Freedom: Elder-Care Institutions, Individualizing Subjectivities and the Ethics of Aging in Contemporary India" was held on October 21, 2010. A luncheon and discussion with the graduate students preceded and a reception followed the lecture.

For more information visit: www.case.edu/artsci/anth/AnthropologyLectureSeries.html

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FACULTY NEWS

DR. CYNTHIA BEALL

SYMPOSIUM AT THE AAAS ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Cynthia Beall will be chairing a session on “Anthropology and global health: genes, biology and culture” at the AAAS Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 19, 2011. The meeting is held in the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. The AAAS (The American Association for the Advancement of Science) is an international non-profit organization dedicated to advancing science around the world by serving as an educator, leader, spokesperson and professional association.

SPEAKERS PARTICIPATING IN THE SYMPOSIUM ARE:

Anna Di Rienzo, University of Chicago. Adaptation to Climate and Susceptibility Genes for Diseases of Global Significance.

David Van Sickle, University of Wisconsin. Cultural Variation in Diagnosis and Management of Asthma.

Kathleen Barnes, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. The Hygiene Hypothesis and Vulnerability to Asthma.

Marcia Inhorn, Yale University. Global Gametes: Assisted Reproduction, Islamic Bioethics, and Middle Eastern Technosciences.

Margaret Bentley, University of North Carolina. Improving Growth and Development Under Conditions of Under or Over Nutrition.

Peter Zimmerman, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Susceptibility to *Plasmodium vivax* Malaria - New Perspectives from Madagascar.

For more information visit: www.aaas.org/meetings/

DR. CHARLOTTE IKELS

On June 9, 2010 Dr. Charlotte Ikels delivered a keynote speech on “Filial Piety in Contemporary East Asia” at the conference on “Strengthening Hong Kong’s Families: Obligations and Care Across the Generations” at the University of Hong Kong.

DR. EILEEN ANDERSON-FYE

Dr. Anderson-Fye was named editor of the two-volume set *Encyclopedia of Body Image and Human Appearance* published by Elsevier.

She was also invited to join an international consortium on children’s body images as a U.S. and anthropology representative.

DR. MELVYN GOLDSTEIN

Dr. Melvyn Goldstein received a grant of \$108,759 from the Bridge Fund of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors for the continuation of his revolving sheep bank project with the nomads in western Tibet.

A French edition of his *The Struggle for Modern Tibet: The Autobiography of Tashi Tsering* has just been published (*Recit de vie de Tashi Tsering: Mon combat pour un Tibet moderne*). The University of California Press also issued a paperback edition of his book, “On the Cultural Revolution in Tibet.” In addition, his article, “When Brothers Share a Wife” was included again in “Annual Editions, Anthropology, 11/12 edition” for the 23rd straight year.

Dr. Goldstein also published the following articles:

“Beijing’s “People First” Development Initiative for the Tibet Autonomous Region’s Rural Sector-A Case Study from the Shgatse Area.” Melvyn C. Goldstein, Geoff Childs, Puchung Wangdui. *The China Journal*. 63: 57-75, January 2010. [refereed journal]

“Tibetan Buddhism and Mass Monasticism.” [In Adeline Herrou and Gisele Krauskopff (eds.) *Moines et moniales de par le monde. La vie monastique au miroir de la parenté*. Presses Universitaires de Toulouse le Mirail, 2010.]

For more information visit: www.case.edu/affil/tibet/

DR. JANET MCGRATH

The Department of Anthropology, in collaboration with the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing and the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the School of Medicine, has received funding for a new interdisciplinary postdoctoral training program.

The program, Global Health Research Expanding Advanced Training (GhREAT), will bring together post-doctoral trainees from epidemiology, nursing, and anthropology to combine on-campus training followed by long term field experience working in collaboration with a filariasis elimination study being conducted by the CWRU Center for Global Health and Disease. The program is funded by the Fogarty International Center at NIH and CWRU’s Provost office. Investigators are Janet McGrath in Anthropology, Elizabeth Madigan in Nursing, and Daniel Tisch in Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

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GRADUATE NEWS

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants are awarded to improve the quality of doctoral student dissertation research. Less than 20% of applicants to this highly competitive program are rated as 'must fund', making the success of the student listed below particularly noteworthy.

This year Sarah Rubin's research "Motherhood and Emotional Distress in a South African Township: An Ethnographical Investigation of Postnatal Depression in Sociocultural Context" received this grant. She is currently conducting her dissertation research on motherhood and emotional distress in a South African township. Her research is being supported by both the above mentioned NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant and a Fulbright-Hayes Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Award.

For more information visit:
www.case.edu/artsci/anth/FulbrightHayesAnnounce.html

Nadia El-Shaarawi and Meghan Halley returned from their dissertation fieldwork this summer. Nadia's dissertation focused on the mental health of Iraqi refugees in Egypt and Meghan investigated the impact of adolescent initiation rites on youth sexuality in southern Tanzania. Meghan is also teaching an upper level course on the Anthropology of Childhood and the Family.

AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

The following graduate students will be presenting papers at the American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting November 17-21, 2010 in New Orleans.

MARGARET WINCHESTER :

School Fees And Beans: Social And Economic Coping Strategies Among HIV Positive Women In Uganda.

MEGHAN HALLEY:

When Does Culture Matter? Culture And Reproductive Health In Rural Southern Tanzania.

DREW HELMUS:

Blurred Boundaries: Finding Balance Between Public Health And Anthropological Perspectives During A South African Pesticide Awareness Campaign.

RUTH MAGTANONG:

Conflicts Of Interest In Public Health And Medical Anthropology: Communicating Research Objectives Regarding Biological Data.

HILLARY MELCHIORS:

Divided Mind: An Anthropologist's Adventures In Public Health.

NADIA EL-SHAARAWI:

Between The Sky And The Earth: Liminality And Psychosocial Well-Being Among Iraqi Refugees In Cairo.

AURA NEWLIN:

Usage Of Insecticide-Treated Bed Nets For The Prevention Of Malaria: A Systematic Review.

SMARANDA ENE:

Mental Health And The Body In Global Context: Diagnosing Chronic Fatigue In Urban Romania.

JONATHAN METCALFE:

Cholera, HIV, And Forex: Reflections On The Intersections Of Public Health And Medical Anthropology In Infectious Disease Fieldwork In Zimbabwe.

KRISTI NINNEMANN:

Vitamin H: Subjective Meaning, Medication Adherence, And The Public Health Utility Of Halo per idol Deaconate.

CHARLOTTE HANEY MUELLER:

Novel Notions Of Gendered Violence In And Out Of Circulation.

ALEX BRIDGES:

"Real Monks": Time, Place, And The Making Of A Tibetan Buddhist Generation Gap.

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NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

Nedda Dastmalchi
Andrea Fischione
Jan Hanson
Laura Howard
Kelley Kampman
Jenna Mason

Absera Melaku
Colin Mulholland
Neil Poria
Devyn Riggio
Jing Wang



Mather Memorial in the fall

GRADUATE DISCOURSE

Graduate Discourse (GD) continues its tradition of being a body of unity and support for anthropology graduate students. Fall 2010 elections resulted in the selection of a new round of leadership for GD. Positions for 2010 are: Jenny Zabel, Administrative/Advocate Chair, Allison Schlosser, Professional Development Chair, Drew Helmus, Journal Chair, Nicole Ureda, Social Chair, Sarah Koopman-Gonzalez and Ariel Cascio, Co-Librarians, and Jenna Mason, Senator.

Graduate Discourse meets every month and continues to organize professional development activities such as Works in Progress, as well as social activities, such as Case's ultimate frisbee tournament.

ALUMNI NEWS

Micah Parzen (Ph.D., 2000), a partner at Luce, Forward, Hamilton and Scripps in San Diego accepted the position as Director of the San Diego Museum of Man.

Timi Barone (Ph.D., 1997), an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha received an outstanding teaching award from the Alumni Association.

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Himali Bhatt (B.A. and M.A. in Spring 2010) is now attending the University of Arizona College of Medicine.

Joe Drungil (2009) worked for a year as an intern in the dean's office. In June 2010 he left for a two year appointment in the Peace Corps in Swaziland where he'll be working on HIV/AIDS educational programs.

Cierra Chiwanga, who graduated with a B.A. in 2008, is using her anthropology background in her work as a human resources analyst at InfoCision, an Akron company which specializes in fund raising for nonprofit organizations.

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THE WORANSO-MILLE PALEONTOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ROBERT GRUENINGER RESEARCH ASSISTANT UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE

From January 16th to August 2nd, 2010, anthropology undergraduate student Robert Grueninger participated in the Woranso-Mille Paleontological Research Project (WORMILPRP) led by Dr. Yohannes Haile-Selassie of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The project site is located in the Mille district of the Afar Regional State of Ethiopia. Through this experience Robert gained knowledge and an understanding of what it takes to lead a paleoanthropological project of this size and run a successful field season.



Robert Grueninger in the Mille district of Ethiopia



The project site in the Mille district of Ethiopia

THE GOALS OF THE PROJECT

The goals of the project were to examine and collect vertebrate fossils from known fossiliferous areas, determine geochronological and stratigraphic frameworks for the known fossil localities, continue investigation into unexplored areas within the Woranso-Mille region, and better understand the biology and physiology of early human ancestors. Since 2003 the Woranso-Mille Paleontological Research Project has been conducting ongoing research in the central Afar region of Ethiopia, an area unique in its abundance of fossiliferous regions dating primarily from the period of 3.6 – 3.9 million years ago.

THE WORANSO-MILLE REGION

The Woranso-Mille region holds one of the largest collections of hominids (humans and our close ancestors and related species) from the period of time between *Australopithecus anamensis* and *Australopithecus afarensis* (e.g. Lucy). The WORMILPRP's continuing mission is to not only discover new hominids, but to collect prehistoric fossil remains and additional geological and paleo-climatic related data. Additional members of the project included scientists from The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Addis Ababa University, Case Western Reserve University, Berkeley Geochronology Center, and local residents of the Afar Region.

PROFESSOR HAILE-SELASSIE

Professor Haile-Selassie currently has funding to take one or two qualified undergraduate students to Ethiopia to participate in his investigations, generally during the spring semester. The selected students work as research assistants in his paleoanthropological investigations and assist in data analysis upon returning to Cleveland. In order to be considered, students must have completed ANTH 103 (Introduction to Human Evolution) and ANTH 375 (Human Evolution: The Fossil Evidence) by the end of fall semester. ANTH 377 (Human Osteology) is recommended. Contact Professor Haile-Selassie at yhailese@cmnh.org for more information.



Collecting vertebrate fossils on research project site

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