

ASU NEWSLETTER

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James Johnson - jammer@uwm.edu

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Letter from the former Chair
J. Patrick Gray

ASU has asked for a brief review of the four years I have been chair of the department. Frankly, this is hard to do without appearing to take credit for events and outcomes that resulted from work of others or from the continual grinding of institutional gears over which I had no control. So as you peruse the following, be assured I will take no credit and will accept only part of the blame. I think it is obvious that the department has grown stronger in the past four years, continuing a trend that started when Trudy Turner was chair. In 2000, the department office and faculty offices were located in Bolton Hall, but the archaeology laboratories were in the Kenilworth Building, and the biological anthropology laboratory was in Lapham Hall. Teaching assistants holding labs or discussion sections in Bolton often had to move teaching materials from the seventh floor to the second floor in crowded elevators. The department had to compete with other social science departments for teaching time in the Bolton computer labs. All of this changed with the move to Sabin Hall. All faculty members are in one building and we now have research and teaching facilities that are the envy of many anthropology departments. All the candidates we interviewed in the last year remarked on the amount of space we have and on the quality our laboratories. The computer lab is one of the best teaching labs on campus and will continue to improve with the addition of new software.

A second indicator of the department's strength is the expansion of the faculty over the past eight years. When Trudy took over as chair in 1996, we had only eight faculty members. We started adding faculty during Trudy's tenure and have accelerated the process in the last four years. We will start the fall semester at an all time high of 18 faculty members. We have been extraordinarily successful in attracting high

quality faculty, a fact that has been noticed around campus and in the discipline at large.

A third strength I'll note is a growing sense of professionalism among the graduate students in the department. I see an increasing number of students who are aware that graduate school needs to be a very different experience than undergraduate education. It is the last chance to hone skills in critical thinking and to learn new research skills before launching a new career. I've been impressed with the willingness of our students to tackle difficult research problems, carry them through to completion, and to broadcast their results to wider audiences. I've been encouraged by signs that this attitude among graduate students has started to influence some of the department's undergraduates.

The students active in ASU best exemplify this spirit of professionalism. I have been fortunate that ASU has been in one of its "up" periods during my time as chair. Many candidates and prospective students remark on the spirit of the students in the department. I have found that the intellectual and social atmosphere in the department is strongly affected by the dedication of ASU officers and members. I would like to thank all the ASU members for their help over the past four years. I'm sure Bob will come to rely on your help as much as I did.

Finally, for the benefit of Bob (and others who might face a chairpersonship in the future), I offer the three lessons I have learned over the past four years. Your life will be much happier if you accept your fate and do not struggle against the inevitable operation of these laws:

Law 1: Time for your research will suffer a spontaneous massive existence failure.

Law 2: The formula for scheduling the length of a faculty meeting is:

$$\text{Time} = A + 5 * FM + I^3$$

where **A** is the actual time the agenda should take, **FM** is the number of faculty members, and **I** is the importance of the items on the agenda.

Law 3: Law 2 is always correct. 

Letter from the Chair *Robert Jeske*

Welcome to a new year! Let me begin by thanking Pat Gray and Trudy Turner for the last eight years that they were department chairs. As a result of their hard work, we enjoy a blossoming program: new faculty, increasing undergraduate and graduate enrollments, excellent graduation rates, a newly renovated building with very good facilities--and still room for growth. I can honestly say that I have never seen an anthropology department that is in as good a shape as we are now, nor one as poised to achieve more in the future.

We now have 18 full-time faculty members and enjoy the luxury of more than a dozen other committed professionals who teach for us and sit on student committees. In 2004, more than 25 majors graduated with bachelor's degrees, and our graduate students have produced seven Master's theses and three Ph.D. dissertations. The faculty earned over \$300,000 in externally funded grants. We support approximately 15 graduate teaching assistants with tuition reimbursements and stipends. Several other students have won awards and fellowships, and one was honored as Graduate Student of the Month by the Graduate School (go Stephanie!)

Whether your interests are in archaeology or in cultural, linguistic, or biological anthropology, we have added faculty, resources, and programs last year or are starting up new ones this year. Things are happening, and happening in a hurry around here. Check out this newsletter for more.

On the other hand, we face several challenges. The costs of education and research increase yearly, and we do not have all the resources we would like to have. Budget cuts to the UW system hurt students and faculty alike, and we are trying to be more efficient in what we do. Moreover, the changing needs of students, both in terms of epistemology and employability, have us constantly revising and renegotiating degree requirements and programmatic directions. Tight budgets and changing curricula make for difficult decisions and tense relationships around a department. But in my time here, I have been impressed again and again with the way the faculty and students have shown an overriding concern for the integrity of the program. We are a remarkably stable and cooperative group of people (for anthropologists, at least!) and have grown in many new and innovative ways without the rancor and discord one often hears about in other departments of our size.

I have had a lot of fun the last seven years and now must pay for it. But despite my whining ("*Another* meeting..."), I am really excited to be able to do my part to continue the tradition of growth and cooperative relationships within our department. I ask you to join in and do the same. Do a little service for the profession, yourself and the department. Pitch in and help your colleagues--get involved in the ASU. And as this issue arrives in your mailbox, I offer you my oft-repeated greeting/farewell/advice to all students: "Work harder." 

Letter from the ASU *President* *Emily Mueller*

It has been my privilege to serve as the Anthropology Student Union (ASU) president this semester and I look forward to the continued opportunities and challenges during the remainder of my term next spring. The organization's success is due to

the efforts of many people. Jackie Lillis, President of ASU 2002-2004, diligently negotiated ASU's course during her two-year term. Her leadership yielded the strong student network we rely on today. The 2004-2005 executive board works well together and we are grateful for having one another for support while continuing the ASU legacy. Jacquie Nodell- Vice President, Bridget Sabo- Secretary, and Holly Shea- Treasurer, made this semester a success. In addition, Patricia Stavish and Brett Lowry, the faculty representatives, and Ricky Kubicek and Jim Johnson, the ASU Newsletter editors, serve their student comrades well. Dr. Jeske and Dr. Arnold graciously continue their efforts as faculty advisors to ASU. Dr. Jeske, Department Chair, assisted ASU in obtaining workspace at the beginning of the Fall Term. ASU now enjoys the western nook of the department office as world headquarters. ASU participated in the AIDS Walk and raised funds to assist in the battle against this pandemic. Alejandra Estrin and I worked with Dr. Jeske to develop a mentoring program that pairs undergraduate students with graduate students in laboratory projects. Patricia Stavish organized a highly informative workshop for undergraduate students interested in pursuing graduate studies in Anthropology. With ASU's assistance, UWM Anthropology Department students participated in myriad academic conferences, presenting original research in such places as Egypt (Jocelyn Boor), Denmark (Stephanie Bjork), Canada (Jaclyn Lillis, Jim Johnson, Patricia Stavish, Jessie Heydt-Nelson, Ricky Kubicek, Brett Lowry, Murph Pizza, and me), and the United States (all those who participated in the Midwest Archy Conference).

ASU looks forward to supporting student presenters at the Central States Anthropological Conference next March (Alejandra Estrin, Ann Williams, and Mary Roffers). Meetings for the physical anthropology organizations will occur this

Spring in Milwaukee. Dr. Anapol and Dr. Turner seek ASU and student volunteers to support the meeting's smooth operation. ASU also looks forward to Stephanie Bjork's proposed graduate funding workshop as well as another tentatively planned workshop focused on successfully approaching the tenure track job search.

It is ASU's primary mission to serve the students of the Anthropology Department at all levels of study as an information conduit regarding academic enrichment opportunities. **Sign-up for the ASU listserv (directions on our website: <http://www.uwm.edu/StudentOrg/ASU/>) to be "in-the-UWM Anthropological-know."** We also raise funds to assist students who are presenting original research at conferences by providing assistance in covering respective "student rate" registration and presenter fees. As anthropology is the study of human beings, ASU members enjoy participating in community service projects; these opportunities generally provide occasions where anthropology students can educate individuals within Milwaukee communities about the amazing variation humans represent and create across the globe regarding cultural, linguistic, biological, and material phenomena. We also plan social activities so as to commiserate and decompress from the student experience.

Chances are that ASU has something to offer anyone reading this article. Whether you are student, prospective student, faculty, UWM employee, or if you live in the neighborhood and are interested in Anthropology, you are more than welcome to direct questions to ASU. We like people; we study them! We will happily address your questions about the Anthropological discipline.

Thanks again to all who tirelessly work towards making the UWM Anthropology experience the best for university students in Wisconsin! 

*Nomad: An Anthropology
Graduate Student's Winter
Break
Masoud Naseri*

For most students Winter Break is a time to relax – a time to take a break from all the stresses of school, to be with family and friends, and to recharge for the spring semester. For most anthropology graduate students, however, it's just the opposite. It is a time to conduct fieldwork, take a study abroad course, start an internship, or basically find some other way to keep busy. For myself, this past Winter Break was probably one of the most memorable experiences of my life. For one month I experienced a lifestyle that most people couldn't even imagine. It made me learn so much about myself, and forever changed the way I look at the world around me.

Since starting UWM last fall, I knew that I wanted to focus my graduate research on medical anthropology. Combining this with my interest in the anthropology of Iran, I decided that I wanted to conduct my fieldwork there. So during the month-long winter break this year, I set off to look at medical pluralism, and the competition between the various medical practices among Iran's nomadic pastoralist ethnic minorities. I spent the entire fall semester filling out paperwork, making phone calls, and sending letters in hopes of getting approval to conduct research with tribespeople living in some of the most remote areas half way around the world. It wasn't easy, but as I was soon to discover, it was certainly well worth it.

I left just two days after my last final exam in December. It didn't leave much time to pack, but then again, since I knew I would be living with nomads for a month, I didn't need to take much. The flight was long and exhausting. I had a transfer in

London, which would have been nice had I been able to leave the airport. I remember the flight into Iran though. We flew over some spectacular mountains, and because it was a clear morning you could see them quite well. In fact most of the country is very rugged as it is one of the most mountainous countries in the world. As I gazed down at those snow-capped peaks, I couldn't help but wonder how on earth I would survive living there for a month! This was the point where I wrote in my journal, "Can I turn back now?"



At the airport I met the professor I had contacted from back home who would help me throughout my stay. He was a professor of nutrition at the Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, in Pars (Persia) province, and his area of research was on nutrition among nomadic children. A very nice man who spoke fairly decent English, he often times accompanied me to the field and helped with translation. The first day was spent doing more paperwork, and getting the official approval from the Nomadic Affairs Organization, which is overseen by the Iranian Ministry of Agriculture. While waiting for some important government officials to sign documents, I had a chance to be shown around town. Shiraz, the provincial capital, is a beautiful city. There are old palaces, ancient citadels, mausoleums of famous Persian poets, and bazaars galore, all next to modern sky-rises and expressways with some of the heaviest traffic you'll ever see. It was my chance to

feel more like a tourist than an anthropologist.

My first two nights I stayed in what used to be one of the palaces of Emperor Reza Pahlavi in the 1930s and 1940s. It has now been converted into a dormitory that's used by tribal leaders when they need to visit the provincial capital for official business. There was no one else there during my stay, except a lonely night guard who told me stories about how he used to be a veterinarian before the revolution. The Islamic Revolution of 1979, by the way, has left a tremendous impact on the country. You're constantly reminded of it, from the building-sized murals of the current and former ruling clerics, to advertisements on buses and billboards telling you how often to pray, how to dress, and basically how to live your life. Needless to say people are quite fed up, and politics was always a factor in any question I asked.

From then on I was able to conduct my research. I had the opportunity to stay with a few nomadic communities, representing different ethnic groups and tribal confederations. Though I spent the fall semester brushing up on my Persian language skills, it often came in little use since most everyone I interviewed spoke a different language. I must admit that at first I was a bit intimidated coming into a community where everyone asked why on earth I would come all the way from the United States to live with them. It didn't help that most didn't know what anthropology was, and just assumed I was a doctor when I started to ask questions regarding their healthcare system. From old men with joint aches to babies with fever, I was asked to cure it all. It was quite difficult to turn them away and admit I couldn't help. In my short time there though, I made some great friends and soon adapted to this new lifestyle.



Day to day life with the nomads was quite an experience. Since it was winter, they were living in the southern Zagros Mountains where their winter pasturelands are located. They spend five months there, then one month en route north to their summer quarters, where they live for another five months before heading back. The weather was cold, yet the scenery was absolutely amazing. Huge valleys surrounded by majestic cliffs, open land dotted with short trees and scrubs, and green fields next to rocky terrain – it was truly a land of contrasts.



I stayed in both felt tents and temporary winter homes, which were made of stonewalls and thatched roofs. I experienced the daily life of a nomad, from tending flocks, to cooking, cleaning, and making clothes and carpets. Words cannot describe the feeling one gets waking up every day surrounded by nature. From sheep, goats, chickens, and turkeys, to dogs, horses, and donkeys – the sights, sounds, and smells will forever be remembered.

But like all good things, it came to an end. It was amazing how fast the month flew by. As I sat back in the airplane coming home, I remember reminiscing about all that I had experienced and learned, and hoped that I could soon return one day. I learned so much from them, and not just about medicine. I learned how important family and community are, and that people who often times live under the harshest conditions enjoy life the most. From the diverse people I met and all their generous hospitality, from the knowledge I gained about different healthcare and medical practices, to finally being able to use my anthropological training, it was truly an experience of a lifetime.



Masoud Naseri with "adopted" family.

Murph Pizza has been attending Sacred Harvest Festival as part of her fieldwork since 2002. Here are some photos, courtesy of Murph and Harmony Tribe.



Mar Free spins fire.

*Photo Journal of Ethnographic
Fieldwork
Murph Pizza*

The Harmony Tribe of Minnesota had its sixth annual Sacred Harvest Festival recently. This is a religious and social gathering for NeoPagans from Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Illinois. The theme for the festival was "Dark Moon Mysteries." A review can be found via a link at www.harmonytribe.org.



Renata Fire Fingers.



Fairy Pranksters fire show.



Foxfire, doing what he does best.



Sparky T Rabbit and Ivo Domingez, guests and respected Pagan Elders.



The Sacred Hunt Feast.



Mystic Melange, the musical guests.



Campfire discussion (Anthropologist spotted!)



Morning Meeting (Anthropologist Spotted!)



The Shadows, characters in the evening ritual.



The Henna artist, Joe.



The Minotaur, rehearsing for the evening ritual.



Harmony Tribe "Pep Rally!"



Harmony Park, Harmony Tribe, and the last ritual of the Fest.



M.Macha NightMare and participants in the "Witchual."



Writing the Master's Thesis *Ralph Koziarski*

2004 has produced a sizable batch of Master's Degree students who have finished or are finishing up their theses. I myself am one of them. Since the experience will be different for everybody I'd only waste my time and yours by telling the oh, so interesting tale of how I wrote my thesis and did my research. Instead I have come up with a few points that may be considered helpful. So to all of you out there who haven't begun the frustrating yet ultimately rewarding experience of working on a thesis; read on:

- Know your advisory committee and know them well. Make sure you pick the professors who not only can provide insight on what you do, but also ones you get on well with. Don't be afraid to take up their time and get their advice if you feel you don't know something; that is what they're there for.
- Your fellow students can often be an untapped well of information regarding literary sources, background information and other useful knowledge. Not to mention, it is great to have friends who will listen to you whine about your research and know exactly what you're going through.
- Remember your time limit; you have a few years at most to finish your work. So your fanciful ideas on the cosmological significance behind clothing patterns amongst the nomadic cultures of Inner Mongolia or complex predictive mathematical models of the efficiency of sharing knowledge of local environments in sub-arctic foraging systems will have to wait for a PhD, if you feel up to it.

- Stats are your friend! Know them and use them, they'll add a lot of weight to your argument. I learned this one the hard way.
- Double check all your data. There is nothing worse than having a freshly minted chapter of quantitative results supporting your argument and then realizing that your math skills hover around the fifth-grade level. Ignore that one at your own peril.
- At some point even looking at your thesis will make you sick to your stomach. I'd been told this by others before I began and thought they were exaggerating. They were not. Just hang in there and eventually you'll begin to build up momentum and things will start falling together.
- Finally, give yourselves ample time to finish; it took me two semesters for research (while also doing full time class work and working) and then a semester and some days to write everything up (this time with out class work).

I wish you all the best of luck with your studies. Before you know it, you'll be done too. 

Attending Professional Conferences *Jessie Heydt-nelson*

Recently I presented a paper entitled *Sheela-na-Gigs and the Expedient Transmutation of Female Imagery* at the Chacmool Archaeology Conference in Calgary, Canada. This was my first international conference as well as my first archaeological conference (you see, I'm technically a student of cultural anthropology, but why label myself!). I wasn't quite sure what to expect from this experience. Would my paper be well received? Would I make some helpful

contacts regarding my research? Would I trip on my way up to the podium? Who knew?!? All I did know was that I would present for twenty minutes on Thursday afternoon, thus, once 3:40pm to 4:00pm came and went I would be able to relax for the rest of the weekend—not that I was all that nervous, mind you (yeah, right!). In actuality though, presenting at a conference is a wonderful experience and I'd like to take a few minutes to share my experience with you.

On the day of my presentation my afternoon was spent in the lecture hall that was assigned to me for my session. I was the last one to present, so of course I was required to embrace patience. Little did I know the room we were presenting in would remain at below freezing temperatures, and that by the time I was to speak I'd be a snow-woman. At any rate, thanks to all the adrenaline flowing through my body I thawed out on my way up to the podium (no, I didn't trip) and put on a successful performance. In hindsight my presentation seems to be a blur, but friends and strangers alike assured me that I did a great job. Plus, my PowerPoint visuals went off without a hitch!

At the end of the session there was some discussion time set aside for the audience to ask questions for those of us who spoke. Again I didn't know what to expect, but I was confident in my knowledge on Sheelana-Gigs. The ample number of comments and questions I received regarding my topic surprised me. People seemed fascinated with the Sheelas. I met a woman from Dublin, Ireland, who I think will be a great contact for my research; in addition I spoke with a professor from the United Kingdom who has a PhD student also working with Sheela-na-Gigs, and I exchanged information with her. I had no idea I'd make such an impression on the people I had presented to.

During the Friday and Saturday sessions of the conference I listened to some great papers on gender, which reaffirmed

how necessary it is for researchers to remember gender in our work. Saturday night was the closing reception and Alison Wylie was the guest speaker. I really wanted to meet her, but I was feeling too nervous for some reason (maybe I was starstruck). I'll have to get over that for my next conference, however, because these meetings are great places to meet the authors of the articles we've all had the opportunity to read.

Sunday was the day most everybody went home. My flight didn't leave until the following afternoon, however; so into town I went with a friend to watch the Viking-Packer game and explore the city. Unfortunately the Vikings lost, but they sure gave the Pack a run for their money (I'm from Minnesota, by the way!)

And so, that's my conference attending experience in a nutshell. It was fun as well as thought provoking and I hope to return to this particular conference in a couple of years to present again. I encourage each and every one of you to consider attending a conference such as this one in the future.



Attending and presenting at conferences is one of the best ways for graduate and undergraduate students to achieve a number of their academic goals. First of all, by attending conferences we participate in the age-old tradition of hobnobbery. The opportunity to communicate and share interests with professors, students and professionals in formal (conference) and informal (evening activities) settings provides a valuable means of networking. This is one of those professional social skills that our professors at UWM always stress, and to their credit, they often assist in facilitating introductions and providing moral support (especially important for the shy and geeky, i.e. the vast majority of us).

By presenting at conferences, students at UWM achieve several significant accomplishments, both for themselves and the department. First, we share our research, theories, and experience with our colleagues. This opens our work to comments, criticism, and suggestions; for which we may build to improve our research. This process forces us to engage in the delicate procedure of public debate, where we sharpen our impromptu speaking skills- thereby exhibiting the much lauded professional and social dexterity required within our field. Second, we build a name for the student body of the department. The more we attend and present our work at conferences, the more we contribute to the growing reputation of our department and university. Incoming students can be impressed by the activity and passion of current UWM students in developing and sharing their research in public forums. In addition, we should be motivated by the fact that we continue to develop our professional aptitude, build our curriculum vita, and strengthen the department.

Papers and Presentations

Brett Lowry

2004 "Rinse, Reuse, and Recycle: The Conflation of Material Culture in Prehistoric and Modern Religions" 69th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Montreal, Canada.

Brett Lowry and Murph Pizza

2004 "Goddess at the Crossroads: the politics of religious and archaeological validation" Chacmool Archaeological Conference, the 15th Anniversary Gender Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Ricky Kubicek

2004 "A New Look at the Gemma Augustea" University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Art History Graduate Student Symposium.

2004 "Engendering Barbarian Representations of Labor in Roman Sculpture" Chacmool Archaeological Conference, the 15th Anniversary Gender Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Seth Schneider

2004 "Social Memory, Identity and Ritual in the Early Iron Age of Southwest Germany" Paper presented in symposium titled "Recent Research from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee," Annual Meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

James A. Johnson and Seth Schneider

2003 "Making their Mark: Mapping the Socio-Physical Landscape in Iron Age South-West Germany." Poster presented in invited session titled "Constructed Landscapes and Persistent Places: Studies from Prehistoric Europe" organized by Sarah B. McClure at the 102nd Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago, Illinois.

James A. Johnson

2004 "All Broken Up Inside: Ceramics, Tumuli and Performance." 69th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Montreal, Canada.

2004 "Beyond *post ergo propter hoc*: An Investigation into Prehistoric Tool Production and Engendered Social Practices." Chacmool Archaeological Conference, the 15th Anniversary Gender Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

2003 "The Price is Right: Costly Signaling Theory and Early Neolithic Monument Construction in the Boyne River Valley, CO. Meath, Ireland." 68th Annual Meeting

of the Society for American Archaeology, Milwaukee, WI.

Jaclyn E. Lillis

2004 "Working with an Unworkable Collection: Robenhausen Textile Remains at the Milwaukee Public Museum" 69th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Montreal, Canada.

2004 "The Role of Women at Robenhausen: A Neolithic Textile Production Site." Chacmool Archaeological Conference, the 15th Anniversary Gender Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Emily Mueller

2004 "Who Used the Ground Stone Here? An Engendered View of Prehistoric Modes of Production Within the Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District, Steens Mountain, Oregon" Chacmool Archaeological Conference, the 15th Anniversary Gender Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Stephanie R. Bjork

2004 "Clan Identities in Practice: The Somali Diaspora in Finland." 9th Somali Studies International Conference, Research Centre on Development and International Relations (DIR), Aalborg University, Denmark.

2004 "Ethnographic Field Research among Diasporic Somalis in Finland." Department of Sociology's Brown Bag Seminar, University of Helsinki, Finland.

Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research The American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship

Elizabeth Handwerk

2005 recipient of the Ritzentaler Internship in Museum Studies at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Sam Snell

2003 "GIS: Not just for Research Anymore." 49th Annual Midwest Archaeological Conference, Milwaukee, WI.

2003 *GIS Database and Preliminary Analysis for Green Infrastructure Planning: Fond du Lac and North Neighborhood*, a class project report from Urban Planning 793 (Applied Projects in Urban GIS), Co-Authored with Dye, J. Jenkins, K., Rybarczyk, G., Schmidt, S., Weckerly, K., and Witebsky, J. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Melissa Brown

2004 "Kaolin Pipe Fragments from an Historic Fur-Trade Post in Racine County, Wisconsin" Midwest/Southeastern Archaeological Conference in St. Louis, co-authored with Cheri Price of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

Kira Kaufman

2004 "Moving Beyond Shape: Using Theory and Multidisciplinary Methods the Reinterpret the Effigy Mound Phenomena." Society for American Archaeology Conference, Montreal, Canada.

2003 "Archaeological Geophysical Investigations at a Late Woodland Effigy Mound Site, Jefferson County, Wisconsin." Midwest Archaeological Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

2003 "Inter- and Intrasite Spatial Analysis of Mounds in the Lake Koshkonog Area." 68th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Milwaukee, WI.

Jessie Heydt-nelson

2004 "Sheela-na-gigs and the Expedient Transmutation of Female Imagery." Chacmool Archaeological Conference, the 15th Anniversary Gender Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

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Student Bios

Brian Hart

I moved to Milwaukee from St. Louis in 2001 and completed my BA in Anthropology, with a certificate in Celtic Studies, at UWM in 2002. I received my Masters from the University of Limerick's Irish World Music Centre program in 2004, and am now enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Anthropology at UWM. The research interests that I plan to pursue for my Ph.D. include Gaelic song tradition, Gaelic language, music and cultural survival. I am especially interested in exploring the effects of transplantation to North America on the traditional Irish style of singing known as sean nos. I am currently the Administrative Assistant for the Center for Celtic Studies and am developing a course on Song Traditions of the Gaelic World for Fall 2005.

Brett Lowry

I am a Master's candidate in Archaeology and am advised by Dr. Bettina Arnold. I received my Bachelor's of Arts in 1998 having attended Reed College, the Université de Haut-Bretagne Rennes II, and the University of Houston. My research focus is on religion in Iron Age Europe, particularly Late La Tène Gaul.

Melissa E. Brown

I am a Master's candidate in both Anthropology and Library and Information science. I received my Bachelor's of Arts in 2003 from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. My current research interests lie in historical archaeology, especially of westward expansion and first contact in the United States. Other interests include Native American groups of the Southwest and cultural studies relating to media, music, and the visual arts. I also belong to the American

Anthropological Association since 2003, American Library Association since 2003 and the Wisconsin Library Association since 2003.

Nichole Sorensen

This is my third year as a graduate student at UWM after having received my BS in Archaeology at UW-LaCrosse. My focus is in historical archaeology, mostly nineteenth century Wisconsin. My thesis topic is a small town on the Door Peninsula that burned down during the Peshtigo Fire of 1871. I've worked in the lab and as part of the field crew for HRMS.

Masoud Naseri

I received my BA and BS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. My interests are in medical anthropology, medical practices among nomadic ethnic minorities in Iran, competition between cosmopolitan and indigenous medicine, ethnomedical practices and ethnic identity, rural heritage and pastoral nomadism, bilingualism and its influence on how Iranian doctors from nomadic areas practice medicine.

Jeralyn Gasper

I am a Master's student in Archaeology and Museum Studies. My interests include North American prehistory, especially in the Great Lakes and Mayan regions. I am also interested in early Chinese history.

Sam Snell

I am an archaeologist in my fourth year of the Master's of Science program. My interests include mapping, surveying, GIS in archaeology, historical archaeology, and field work. My geographical area of interest is the midwestern United States and northern New Jersey. Since I have been in graduate school I have worked for HRMS and worked in the field in Wisconsin. I also have experience working in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and northern New Jersey. My thesis involves

the creation of a flexible and updatable GIS for the Bell Site in Winnebago Co., WI. I will also be testing the intra-site analytical ability of a GIS.

Gregory Moore

I am in my fourth year in the Master's program at UWM. I am studying archaeology and have finished the Museum Studies program. My thesis concerns archaeological patterns for conflict and mass graves, with a current focus on interaction between Rome and Iron Age Britain. I am usually confined to a dismal chamber (my apartment) composing works of forbidden lore (writing my thesis), so I do not get out much.

Jon Van Beckum

I am an Anthropology Master's student with an emphasis in Historical Archaeology. In addition, I completed the Museum Studies program at the Milwaukee Public Museum. My career goal is to teach and do archaeological research in academia, or to become a curator at a small to medium sized museum, with an interest in military archaeology and history.

Daniel Kreutzer

I received my Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin and my Master of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Texas at San Antonio. My master's thesis, entitled "Homesteads and *Empresarios*," examined local and regional development of the 19th century central Texas frontier. I am a teaching assistant and a recipient of the Chancellor's Fellowship. I am also an adjunct instructor of anthropology at Austin Community College.

Alejandra (aka CiCi) Estrin

I am a PhD student in Physical Anthropology with a minor in Biology. My academic interests are in modern human variation and adaptation within reproductive endocrinology and ecology. My research

topic is on the biology of women and the relationship between stress and social structure. I have been a TA in anthropology; I am currently an ad hoc in our department and I tutor a variety of courses in the Tutoring and Academic Resource Center.

Nicholas Weber

I am in my third year here at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and am currently in my third semester in the Anthropology department. Upon completion of my bachelor's degree in Anthropology/Archaeology, I would like to obtain a master's degree in Archaeology, work in the field, and then possibly teach at a University. While attending UWM, I have been active in the UWM Panther Pep Band, the American Institute of Architecture Students, and the UWM Paintball Club.

Jocelyn Boor

I'm an anthropologist who studies Ancient Egypt, and I am adding northern Mesopotamia to my sphere of interest. During this past year, I have focused on finishing my coursework, teaching three sections of Anthropology 101 each semester, and interning at the Milwaukee Public Museum for the Quest for Immortality exhibit. The ceramics from the Tell Hadidi excavations (at the museum) are the focus of my PhD research. I do eat and sleep occasionally. This past September I attended the Fifth World Congress on Mummy Studies in Turin, Italy.

Murph Pizza

I am a Doctoral student in Cultural Anthropology, minoring in Comparative Religions, certifying in Women's Studies. I have been doing ethnographic fieldwork on the NeoPagan/Wiccan/Druid/Heathen community in the Twin Cities (a.k.a. Paganistan) and their community building efforts. My other interests, scholastic and personal include: occult traditions and esoteric religions, magic and ritual, New

Religious Movements, the Anthropology of Consciousness, gender and religious experience. I am also currently a lecturer in the Department of Ethnic Studies, where I have been teaching courses on Wicca and NeoPaganism and Ethnicity and the Occult. For fun, I collect books, music, and magical materials like amulets and spells.

Jacque Nodell

I am a senior majoring in Anthropology and History at UWM. I am the Vice-President of the Anthropology Student Union, as well as a member of Circle K (a service organization) and I do volunteer work at the Milwaukee Public Museum. My areas of interest include, African Culture, Appalachia, Anthropology of Infants and Children, Pop Culture, and American History (Colonial to Civil War era). I plan on going to Grad school after taking a bit of time off, perhaps after doing some work with Americorps.

Ricky Kubicek

I am a Master's student focusing on prehistoric and Roman era Europe. Last summer I did field work at a Bronze/Iron Age hillfort in West Bohemia in the Czech Republic, where I hope to return this summer. My research interests include the above mentioned area as well as Roman/Barbarian interaction; specifically Roman iconography that depicts scenes of barbarians. For a day job I work for GLARC. My non-anthro interests include football, cards, chess, books, Frisbee and beer.

Seth A. Schneider

I completed my Master's thesis in the summer of 2003 through the Anthropology Department at UWM and promptly went into the PhD program. My interests are many and varied, but I have concentrated on ceramic analysis, mortuary studies, social complexity, and monument studies. Recently, I have added Museum Studies to the list and will be finishing the certificate

program in the spring. My Master's thesis focused on the early Iron Age of southwest Germany, but European archaeology may not be the best route for my Ph. D.

Katy J. Mollerud

I am a Master's student concentrating in archaeology, who will graduate in May. My thesis is an analysis of the Ramey Incised pottery found at the site of Aztalan, located in southeastern Wisconsin. I am particularly interested in the symbolic and religious aspects of Ramey Incised pottery, as well as Mississippian Period ritual and religion in general, and various aspects of the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex.

Emily Mueller

I am a Master's student in Anthropology, with a focus on archaeology. I am a GIS Certificate student. My thesis topic is: The Mortar Riddle Site (35HA2627) Fauna: Spatial and Gender Analysis (not the real title, I'm still working on that). I am the current ASU President and Mentoring Program Committee Co-Chair (Cici is the other Co-Chair). In 2001 I received my B.S. from the University of Oregon. I completed field school with the University of Oregon Archaeological Field School -Harney Basin, Northern Great Basin Prehistory Project, 2000.

Mary Kohli

My interest in Minoan pottery only developed in the early 90s. After reading about Bronze Age Crete for a few years, my husband and I made several trips to Crete. Actually seeing these pieces in the museums, I was intrigued. In 1997, after retiring from nursing, I went back to school with 2 semesters of Art History. There were also lectures at the AIA meetings, and several conferences focusing on Aegean Archaeology. It became clear that I needed to move over to the Anthropology Department, to learn about archaeology. Several years as a Special Student did not

make me feel special. Getting into field work became a goal, as a true test of how serious I really was. That happened in May of 2000, on a slippery slope called Halasmenos, in eastern Crete, near the Bay of Mirabello. Surviving that hot, dirty and difficult project was a confirmation. With my application to Grad School accepted, I thought I was off and running. In October of 2002, my husband became seriously ill, and I took some time off. In January of 2004, I returned on an awful, snowy day, marked by locking myself out of my car. Things have been challenging since then, but my research is beginning to show some progress. On my next trip to Crete, I will study some conical rhyta which were excavated by an American archaeologist, Harriet Boyd-Hawes, at Gournia, Crete in 1903. This may happen in March, 2005.

Matthew Spigelman

I am a first year student pursuing a Master's degree in Anthropological Archaeology.

For the past three seasons I have been involved in excavations on the island of Cyprus with Dr. Derek Counts of the UWM Art History Department. My MS thesis will investigate the cooking pots from this site, a rural sanctuary dating from the Archaic through Roman periods. Previous to enrolling at UWM I received my undergraduate education at Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges with a major in the Growth and Structure of Cities program and a minor in Physics. I was also a four year member of the track and cross country teams.

Tracy Tessman

I am a senior undergrad in Anthropology. I will be graduating in May and plan to go on to graduate school. I am interested in applied anthropology, particularly developmental anthropology, and I would like to get a certificate in Museum Studies. I am also a photographer and have an interest in Latin America from my experience living in Mexico.

Bridget Sabo

I graduated from UW-Stevens Point with a degree in History. After some time off to volunteer and travel I am now working on my Master's in Archaeology with the Museum Studies Certificate. I spent this past summer in beautiful Maine doing an internship at the home of a Civil War general. Concerning archaeology, I am mainly interested in Great Lakes and Mississippi Valley lithics and am currently formulating a thesis topic.

Jessie Heydt-nelson

This is my third year as a cultural anthropology graduate student. I'm also a participant in the Women's Studies graduate certificate program here at UWM. I received my BA from the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a double major in Anthropology and Women's Studies. Currently I'm interested in expanding this preliminary research into my master's thesis.

Patricia Stavish

I am a second year Master's student here at UWM. Originally from Minnesota, I received my BA in Anthropology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and then followed my interest in Old World archaeology to Wisconsin. My current scholastic interests are centered in mortuary analysis, gender and social organization.

Thus my Master's thesis attempts to understand representations of age, gender, and social status via the distribution of grave goods within the La Tène Iron Age cemetery population of Münsingen-Rain, Switzerland.

Holly Shea

I am an undergraduate student double majoring in Anthropology and American Indian Studies. I transferred to UWM two years ago from the University of Missouri – St. Louis. By that time I already had most of my anthropology credits out of the way, which is why I know no one in the department! My interests are in prehistoric archaeology here in the Midwest as well as

contemporary Native American nations in the area. In my spare time I love to travel, see live shows, and see movies. I collect finger puppets, old View Masters and corresponding reels and snow globes. I have a beautiful cat named June.

Christine Hamlin

I am a doctoral candidate in Archaeology (minor: Physical Anthropology) whose research is centered on Late Pre-Roman and Roman Dorset, England. My research interests are mortuary archaeology, gender studies, and human osteology.

James A. Johnson

I am a third year Master's candidate focusing on Neolithic and Bronze Age Central and Eastern Europe. My thesis centers on the role of prehistoric bone and antler tools within engendered social practices. I am also interested in mortuary practices, monumental funerary architecture and performance theory. I enjoy beer, whiskey and a good game of chess.

Melissa Bradley

I am a Master's student interested in physical anthropology; human osteology, paleopathology; Museum Studies.

Mary Roffers

I am a Ph.D. Student in Cultural Anthropology focusing on sociolinguistics, language and identity, Ojibwe language, ethnicity, anthropology of education, and culturally relevant education.

Matthew Warwick

I am an archeology PhD student with an interest in the role animals played in the diet, economy, and social beliefs of people within the prehistoric Eastern U.S. and Peru. My doctorate research focuses on the study of animal remains from a domestic context at the Pre-Inkan, highland Peruvian center of Pukara.

Lora Linder

I am a third year graduate student in Archaeology and plan to focus on ethnic farmsteads and landscape utilization. I received my Associates Degree from UW-Washington County in 2000 and my Bachelor's Degree from UW-Milwaukee in 2002. My other interests include immigration and migration during the 19th century and historic preservation. Late at night while I lie in bed, visions of trowels dance in my head.

Elizabeth Handwerk

I am a first year graduate student pursuing my Master's degree in Anthropology and a certificate in Museum Studies. I received my BA from the University of Iowa in May 2002, where I majored in Anthropology and Ancient Civilization. For the last two years I worked for the Wisconsin Historical Society, Museum Archaeology Program doing CRM around Wisconsin. I have a strong interest in mortuary archaeology of Europe and the Mediterranean. I am interested in the study of burial patterns, customs and rituals, especially in relation to social organization and gender issues. This spring I will be doing an internship at the Milwaukee Public Museum working with remains excavated from several burials at the Tell Hadidi site in Syria.

Stephanie Bjork

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in Cultural Anthropology. My research focuses on the contemporary African diaspora, particularly the Somali diaspora. My dissertation, *Clan as Social Capital among Somalis in Finland*, explores the use and meaning of clan in the diaspora among Somali immigrants living in Finland. In addition to writing my dissertation, I am co-editing a volume on the global Somali diaspora with Dr. Abdi M. Kusow to be published next year.

Jaclyn Lillis

I am a Master's student in archaeology with a research interest in Neolithic Europe and gender studies. My thesis research is focusing on the textile remains from the Neolithic Swiss Lake Dwelling site of Robenhausen. In addition to my Masters research, I completed the Museum Studies Program and will receive my M.S. and Certificate in May.

Faculty

Ajirotutu, Cheryl

Linguistics/Sociocultural

yinka@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4390 Sabin 308

Sociolinguistics, Africa, Women and Development and Field School Director (Senegal). Senior Faculty Associate in the Cultures and Communities Program.

<http://www.uwm.edu/~yinka/>

Anapol, Fred

Biological

fred@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4231 Sabin 140/125c/115

The neuromuscular biology of feeding and locomotion from the perspectives of both evolutionary morphology and function. Director, Center for Forensic Science.

<http://www.uwm.edu/~fred/>

Applbaum, Kalman

Sociocultural

applbaum@uwm.edu

(414) 229-5638 Sabin 319

Economic anthropology, globalization, transnational corporations, Japan, U.S.

Arnold, Bettina

Archaeology

barnold@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4583 Sabin 229

Pre-Roman Iron Age Europe, Celtic studies, mortuary and gender studies, nationalism, history of archaeology, museum studies.

Editor of *e-Keltoi*; Co-Director Center for Celtic Studies, UWM, Coordinator, Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies.

<http://www.uwm.edu/~barnold>

Aycock, Alan

Sociocultural

aycock@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4319 Golda Meir E-177

Web cultures; advertising and visual culture in North America; evangelical/charismatic Christianity; New Age, neoPaganism, and Wicca

<http://www.uwm.edu/~aycock>

Bornstein, Erica

Sociocultural

elbornst@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4881 Sabin 304

Philanthropy, charity and humanitarianism, non-governmental organizations, human rights, political anthropology, anthropology of religion, economic anthropology, ethnographic methods, southern Africa, India.

Brodwin, Paul

Sociocultural

brodwin@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4734 Sabin 180

Medical anthropology, classic and critical social theory, bioethics and biotechnology, marginality, Haiti/Haitian diaspora.

<http://www.uwm.edu/~brodwin>

Gray, Patrick

Sociocultural

jpgray@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4822/4175 Sabin 290D

Holocultural research, sociobiology, methodology, and religion. He is co-editor of the World Cultures journal.

Heatherington, Tracey

Sociocultural

pistoccu@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4175 Sabin 290

Resistance to ecocodevelopment, cultural politics, environmentalism, Europeanisation, post-national citizenship, Italy, Europe.

Hudson, Jean

Archaeology

jhudson@uwm.edu

(414) 229-2821 Sabin 225

Human ecology, foraging adaptations, cooperative and egalitarian social strategies, zooarchaeology, ethnoarchaeology, coastal environments, Latin America, North America.

<http://www.uwm.edu/~jhudson>

Jeske, Robert J.

Archaeology

jeske@uwm.edu

(414) 229-2430 Sabin 275B

Midwest/Great Lakes, lithics, Late Prehistoric, Core-Periphery models, ethnicity, settlement, site formation, method and technique

<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/ArchLab/>

Jordt, Ingrid

Sociocultural

jordt@uwm.edu

(414) 229-3197 Sabin 321

Religion and politics, Burma, Buddhism.

Malaby, Thomas

Sociocultural

malaby@uwm.edu

(414) 229-5247 Sabin 325

Risk, modernity, history and futurity, globalization projects, urban criminality, medical anthropology, social theory, ritual and performance

<http://www.uwm.edu/~malaby/>

Muehlenbein, Michael P.

Biological

mpm1@uwm.edu

(414) 229-6250 Sabin 125C

Life history evolution, reproductive ecology, evolutionary physiology and medicine, developmental endocrinology, and ecological parasitology.

www.uwm.edu/~mpml/

Perley, Bernard

Linguistics/Sociocultural

bcperley@uwm.edu

(414) 229-6380 Sabin 329

Sociolinguistic research, Native American Studies, Cultural Repatriation and Sovereignty, ethnography method and theory.

Richards, John D.

Archaeology

jdr@uwm.edu

(414) 229-2440 Sabin 221

Great Lakes prehistory; historic preservation; ceramic analysis; Director of UWM Historic Resource Management Services; Editor, Wisconsin Archaeologist

Richards, Patricia B

Archaeology

pbrownr@uwm.edu

(414) 229-2416 Sabin 204

Mortuary analysis, 19th century cemeteries, historical archaeology, Great Lakes Indian peoples, cultural resource management.

Turner, Trudy R.

Biological

trudy@uwm.edu

(414) 229-4613 Sabin 125B

Molecular anthropology and evolution, Primate Life History, Women in Science, Biological anthropology and ethics

<http://www.uwm.edu/~trudy/>

Washabaugh, William

Linguistics/Sociocultural

wash@uwm.edu

(414) 229-6323 Sabin 310

Linguistic Anthropology, Popular Culture
Studies

<http://www.uwm.edu/~wash>

Adjunct Faculty

Alan Aycock

Alex Barker

Barbara Crass

Alice Kehoe

Anna Mansson

Christopher Roth

Ann L. W. Stodder

Linea Sundstrom

Jane Waldbaum

Emeritus

Melvin Fowler

Sidney Greenfield

Bernard James

Donald Kurtz

Neil Tappen

Edward Wellin

Administrative Staff

Jean Bauer

Linda Naunapper

Lynn Tatham

Dan Winkler

**New Faculty Greeting from:
Tracey Heatherington**

My research interests focus on political ecology and science in society, particularly with regard to emerging narratives of postnational citizenship, identity and codevelopment in Italy and the European Union.

I carried out my fieldwork in rural Sardinia, an island belonging to Italy, studying the cultural politics of local contestation against a project to establish a new national park. I've written about the anthropology of the senses, embodiment, the gendered negotiation of identity, and environmental racism affecting 'post-peasant communities in the central, highland area of the island. My current writing projects cover issues of political subjectivity, notions of 'resistance', science vs. cultural knowledge, and the museumification of the landscape in Sardinia.

I taught at Queen's University Belfast and the University of Western Ontario before coming to UWM; you'll find me offering courses in globalization and environment as well as the anthropology of science and technology. In the spring, I'll be giving the Applications of Anthropology course (Anthro 540).

Let me know if I can do anything to support ASU. I look forward to meeting more of you.

**The Spring Newsletter is already
filling up.**

So far featured articles will include:

- interview with new faculty member, Michael Muehlenbein
- update on the fieldwork of archaeologist and ASU president, Emily Mueller
- interview with Harvard professor and mentor to some of our faculty, Michael Herzfeld
- update on recently published work by faculty members

If you would like to contribute an article for next semester's newsletter, please contact

Ricky Kubicek (rkubicek@uwm.edu) or Jim Johnson (jammer@uwm.edu).

If you need to get on the ASU listserve, and you do, go here:
<http://www.uwm.edu/StudentOrg/ASU/>)

The ASU staff for 2004-2005-

Emily Mueller- President
Jacquie Nodell- Vice President
Bridget Sabo- Secretary
Holly Shea- Treasurer
Patricia Stavish- Faculty representative
Brett Lowry- Faculty representatives
Jim Johnson- Newsletter co-editor
Ricky Kubicek- Newsletter co-editors
Greg Moore- Museum studies newsletter editor
Dr. Arnold- Faculty advisor
Dr. Jeske- Faculty advisor

What is ASU?

The UWM Anthropology Student Union is a student-run, non-profit organization designed to serve the needs and interests of undergraduate and graduate students. Membership is open to all registered UWM students and alumni.

All ASU meetings are open to attendance by anyone. General meetings are held on the first Friday of every month. For more information please write:

Anthropology Student Union
Department of Anthropology
Sabin Hall 290
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Or via email through our website at:
www.uwm.edu/StudentOrg/ASU

Disclaimer: Any mistakes in content and/or grievous errors of morality are solely the fault of the editorial staff, which is a non-elected body. Complaints can be sent to the ASU Newsletter Complaints Department, via the email of the editors- rkubicek@uwm.edu / jammer@uwm.edu.

ENJOY YOUR WINTER BREAK!



James A. Johnson

R.H. Kubicek