



From the Chair

I am very pleased to share with you some highlights from the year in the Anthropology Department at IU Bloomington! As always, our newsletter illustrates the rich and diverse activities that our faculty and students engage in and the vibrancy of the department. During the spring semester, we featured alumni in our colloquium series, in celebration of the department's 70th anniversary. We welcomed back to campus **Jeff Cohen** (Ohio State University, featured in this newsletter), along with **Eduardo Neves** (Visiting at Harvard University), and **Lisa Cliggett** (University of Kentucky), who was the alumni speaker at the February AGSA symposium.

Continuing to recognize our 70th anniversary, in September we sponsored a conference in collaboration with AISRI (American Indian Studies Research Institute) organized by **Laura Scheiber**, the interim Director: "Indiana at the Crossroads of American Anthropology and History: Symposium in Honor of **Raymond J. DeMallie**".

Our faculty have been busy getting grants and writing books. **Brian Gilley** and **Virginia Vitzthum** were Fulbright scholars for fall 2017, and **Jane Goodman** received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for the academic year 2017-18. **Jennifer Meta Robinson** published *Eating Local: Why Local Food Movements Matter* (with James Farmer), and

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IU Anthropology...at home in Mexico

The Anthropology Department has an unusually strong faculty presence working in Oaxaca, one of the southernmost states in Mexico. Their research and teaching span three of the four subfields of anthropology: Stacie King, archaeology; Anya Peterson Royce, social and cultural anthropology, and Daniel Suslak, linguistic anthropology. All three maintain ties with Mexican scholars and institutions, publishing their research in Spanish as well as English. They also collaborate with the communities in which they work, to further projects important to those communities. They mentor graduate students at Indiana University and encourage and facilitate the students' application to the IU/UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México), graduate student exchange program, which allows our students to spend a semester in Mexico at UNAM. They also serve on thesis committees of Mexican doctoral students.

The faculty working in Oaxaca maintain a summer Oaxaca Anthropology Program for undergraduates that runs for three weeks and includes visits to each of the areas in which the three faculty work. Students see not only some of the regional differences in culture and language but also how these three subfields of the discipline approach their work.

Each of these faculty have been recognized by their Mexican



Anya Royce with friends and family.



Stacie King with IU students in Oaxaca learning about making textiles.

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PROCESS

This newsletter is published by the Department of Anthropology with support from the College of Arts and Sciences, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or visit <http://alumni.iu.edu>

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and indigenous counterparts, strengthening the links between IU and Mexico and establishing a base for expansion of programs that connect the two.

After close to 50 years working in the region, Anya Royce has established strong professional ties and familial bonds with the Zapotec people. Professor Royce was awarded the medalla Binnaza (Medal of the Zapotec People) in June 2016. It was given by the Fundación Histórico Cultural Juchitán for distinguished scholarly contributions to the Isthmus Zapotec. Her future work, supported by grants from New Frontiers and CAHI, will include collaborative ventures with the Juchitecos to produce a documentary, a trilingual book of essays, and an archive on the embodiment of Zapotec tradition while innovating on a global scale.

On September 7, 2017, the Chiapas earthquake (8.2 magnitude) proved quite devastating for the Juchitan area, where Anya Peterson Royce works. Professor Royce has been in contact with her family in the area and has learned that about 60 percent of the homes and public buildings in Juchitan were damaged or destroyed. Weeks of aftershocks and the arrival of the rainy season have created miserable conditions. Professor Royce notes that the artists she works with have been among the heroes and heroines during this tragic event. They have created spaces for local children to paint, tell stories, learn poetry in Zapotec, and learn to play the traditional cane flute and turtle-shell drum. Musicians have also played the traditional songs that accompany funerals in front of buildings that are marked for demolition. While it will be years before Juchitan is rebuilt, the spirit of *Juchitán Valiente* (Juchitan is Strong) will keep this community moving forward.

For more details on community rebuilding efforts in Juchitan, see Professor Royce's entry on the CAMP anthropology blog: <https://campanthropology.org/2017/11/06/anya-royce-and-the-people-of-juchitan-oaxaca/>



From the Chair, cont.

Susan Alt's book *Cahokia's Complexities: Ceremonies and Politics of the First Mississippian Farmers* is coming out this spring.

Susan Lepselter's book *The Resonance of Unseen Things: Poetics, Power, Captivity, and UFOs in the American Uncanny* won the Gregory Bateson Prize. **Sarah Osterhoudt** both published a book, *Vanilla Landscapes: Meaning, Memory and the Cultivation of Place in Madagascar*, and received an NSF Senior Researcher grant to study vanilla farmers in Madagascar. **Ilana Gershon**'s new book, *Down and Out in the New Economy*, is featured with an author interview in this newsletter.

Our students are similarly engaged in all kinds of interesting

projects, with funding from the National Science Foundation and Wenner-Gren, among others, as well as from many IU sources.

This year we also said goodbye to two staff members. Our scheduling officer, Joey Kendrick, was with us only a few months before leaving for New Jersey to pursue graduate studies in jazz. Emma Young, our office manager, left in summer 2017 to work as an editor. On the upside, we welcomed two new staff members: **Stephanie Odaffer** is our new office manager, having formerly worked in the College Budget Office, and **Jesika Holmes** joined us from New York City as the new scheduling officer in September. We are delighted to have them join Agatha Wong in the Anthropology office!

Distinguished Professor Richard Wilk retired this past year, but he remains actively engaged in food studies on campus and is the co-director of the Food Institute, where his office now resides.

I hope you enjoy this update and that the newsletter finds you well and thriving—keep in touch with us!



Andrea Wiley
Interim
Chair

A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communication (A122) enriching for undergraduate and graduate students alike

An anthropology course some students are calling “mind blowing” and “awesome” is reaching undergraduates across the Bloomington campus. Brought over from the former Communication and Culture Department by Professor Jennifer Robinson, A 122 is in its fourth year as an introductory course in the Anthropology Department. A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communication introduces undergraduate



Alex Cotofana teaching A122

students to the complexity of the ways they communicate and use language and culture to achieve these ends. Nearly 500 students each semester are introduced to anthropology through this course. Befitting its interpersonal focus, the course has no large lecture but is instead taught by graduate students in small sections of just 24 students each. There, students examine everyday conversations ranging from North Africa to North America, from 17th-century Quakers to contemporary text messaging, and from grade-school students to college undergraduates. Brooke Herzog, who took the class last fall, says that “A 122 was a great experience and allowed me to view my everyday conversations differently. Learning about how value, identity, and power affect how we communicate across cultures was not only interesting, but has allowed me to communicate more effectively professionally and in life in general.” Students do original

ethnographic research on the language used every day by Indiana University students, including slang, verbal play, and gendered language. They carry their new skills and insights well beyond the classroom, notes James Conner, a junior who took the course during his freshman year: “Initially, A 122 changed the way I saw communication and the different forms it takes. It was awesome to take what I learned in class and actually see it happening in real life. That’s not something I get out of chemistry class. After a while, breaking down language into its raw form and looking at what is truly being communicated became second nature.” Professor Robinson, who is also a co-director of IU’s new Graduate Certificate on College Pedagogy, directs the course, which was originally envisioned by Professor Jane Goodman. Robinson says that Interpersonal Communication “asks students to consider how people use

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language to create the world they live in and to achieve their social goals.” Throughout the course, students practice critical thinking, reading, research, writing, and presentation skills that prepare them for more advanced coursework in many disciplines. Sophie Sweany, a sophomore who took the course her first semester on campus, describes the impact it had on her: “A 122 was mind blowing, for lack of a better term. I went into the class with an entirely false expectation, and left knowing more than I ever would have thought I’d learn. It was fascinating to learn the norms and standards of communication across the world and how they’re so different than ours. I’m an education major, and to be able to apply what I’ve learned to help students who come from a different sociocultural background is incredible.”

This course affects more than just the students who enroll in it. The graduate students who teach the course gain invaluable skills that often immediately translate into acquiring stand-alone teaching positions with Collins Living Learning Center or the

Global Village, thus exposing even more undergraduate students to rich offerings in the Anthropology Department. Lindsey Pullum and Jordan Lynton, graduate students who both taught the course for two years, provide their insights on the value of the course:

Lindsey Pullum: I started teaching A 122 in fall 2015. New to teaching anthropology, I was a bit nervous taking on my own course sections, even with the oversight of the course director. It became clear to me within weeks, though, that A 122 provided students with a critical lens through which to observe their everyday reality. Introductory readings from linguistic and sociocultural anthropology, in combination with a scaffolded ethnographic project, help students see their everyday life, language, and interactions through a heightened awareness.

In turn, A 122’s structure helped me think about the everyday with a critical lens. And what’s something we do every day? Lie. It was the course’s emphasis on language and ethnography that helped me design my own course called the Rhetoric and Performance of Lying, which I

taught for the Collins Living-Learning Center in spring 2017. My stand-alone course felt like an extension of the practices and assignments of A 122.

Overall, I couldn’t be more grateful for my time teaching A 122 because it instilled a sense of creative agency I had yet to experience. The encouragement I had to be creative with presenting material and creating exercises translated into my own course. Learning the organization of readings and assignments helped me both in creating my own course and its execution.

Jordan Lynton: A 122 was the first class I taught in a university. When I first learned that I was going to be teaching the course, I was nervous. But A 122 provided a safe space to engage in fun and often challenging conversations with students around topics of race, gender, class, and sexuality. While the course came with recommended lesson plans, PowerPoints and activities, Professor Robinson gave us each autonomy over our own classrooms. Furthermore, we had weekly debriefing sessions with our mixed cohort of new and more seasoned AIs. When I had problems in the classroom, I was able to bring them to this group, who would often provide a listening ear or supportive advice.

When I decided to propose a Collins course, A 122 provided a framework for what a well-structured course looked like. As I planned my own syllabus and attended CITL sessions, I was able to see more clearly all the ways in which Professor Robinson weaved in active pedagogy strategies. I even incorporated some of the activities, such as write-pair-shares, minute papers, and an ethnographic assignment. I truly believe that A 122 provided me with the skills and supportive environment I needed not only to become a proficient lecturer but also to develop my own courses.



The display case by the Anthropology Dept. office has a new look! Stop by to learn about the work our professors and students do with vanilla and chocolate, the human experience with both and their global influences. The display has engaging videos about vanilla and chocolate, fun facts, and images directly from the field!

To learn more about A122 at IU, check out the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jUu25RBnjc>

Alumni Profile: Jeff Cohen



IU Anthropology alumnus Jeff Cohen returned to campus in spring 2017 for the Anthropology Alumni speaker series. Following his talk, “Was there ever a Neolithic in the Neotropics?” Mr. Cohen spoke about his experience at IU and in the Department of Anthropology.

What was your overall experience studying anthropology at IU?

My experience at IU was just the best. Not only did I learn how to be an anthropologist, I learned to love the breadth of our field. Training beyond my specialization was critical, as history, health, and so much more has come up in my research. I also remember always cheering for (and often going to) IU basketball games. No better way to spend an evening—now, instead of attending games in person, I cheer for the Hoosiers when they play on television.

How did your studies/activities/guidance at IU prepare you for your current career?

My professors, and in particular Rick Wilk and Anya Royce, taught me that you never stop learning and there is always something

new to ponder. They taught me how to be a professional, how to conduct research and write it up, and the value of friendship and support. I know that their lessons make me a better professor and a stronger mentor to my students.

What advice would you give current grad students regarding their studies, dissertation writing, and post grad-school career trajectory?

Do what you love, pick carefully, and don't forget your family. It is hard, hard work, but anything worthwhile always is.

Soak in Bloomington, the beauty of campus, and the rich opportunities that abound—between classes, research, and dissertating, don't forget to take in at least one opera.

Did you have any mentors while at IU? How did you develop that relationship? What value did they bring to your path? Do they continue to be integral in your career?

I had many mentors. Rick Wilk and Anya Royce remain two important mentors for me. Their dedication to the field and their families as well as their love for their research—research that continues in new and exciting ways—is inspiring. Other people who inspired me throughout my training and mentored me in ways both small and large include Ray DeMallie, Della Cook, and Dennis Conway (in Geography), as well as Roger Janelli and Henry Glassie (in Folklore). I hope they all know how much their support meant and means to me.



In this picture, Maria and I are sitting in front of our house in Santa Ana del Valle, Oaxaca, Mexico in 1992. We had driven down from Bloomington to spend the year. But we never would have made it, nor would we have succeeded at fieldwork without the support, training, and friendship that defined my time at IU. My committee—Rick Wilk, Anya Royce, Ray DeMallie, and Roger Janelli—trained and mentored me to success. Dennis Conway, from Geography, instilled a love of migration that continues to this day and made sure I never went hungry! My friends from my years in Bloomington made all of the hard work a bit less stressful and a lot more meaningful.



Down and Out in the New Economy, a new book by Ilana Gershon

Professor Ilana Gershon released a new book in early 2017. She aims to make “the notion of the neoliberal self as rigorous as possible, by using historical comparison with earlier forms of capitalism.” To do so, she analyzes the current job environment and provides valuable suggestions for students going onto the job market. In a recent interview with Matt Tomlinson, Professor Gershon provided her thoughts on how her book can help those who soon will be trying to figure out how to get a job in corporate America:

You describe how your students’ questions about how they should go about getting jobs led you to write the book. Can you say more about this, and what practical critical tools you see linguistic anthropology offering to students and job-seekers?

I am so glad that you asked, because the more I studied what hiring actually involves, the more I realized that linguistic and media anthropologists teach very helpful analytical tools for being a competent job candidate. And I also think that we could all be much more direct when faced with the question “How will this major help me get a job?” about all the ways that an anthropology degree is truly helpful preparation for specific tasks involved in looking for a job.

For example, all the workshops that I attended were openly guides for how to master a certain genre. The instructors were teaching how to understand the way information should be presented on the page to anticipate a certain kind of reader—often an impatient one who wants clear signals that the applicant fits certain criteria, and with their own styles for interpretation. These are readers who are also reading with other people’s assessments in mind, who are anticipating having to show a resume to someone else in their workplace with his or her own techniques for interpreting a genre. And while the workshops tend to focus on one genre alone, the job seeker is supposed to be competent at a range of genres, all of which are supposed to interconnect and tell a persuasive narrative about the applicant. This is precisely what students learn in our courses. You learn how to become competent at new genres. You

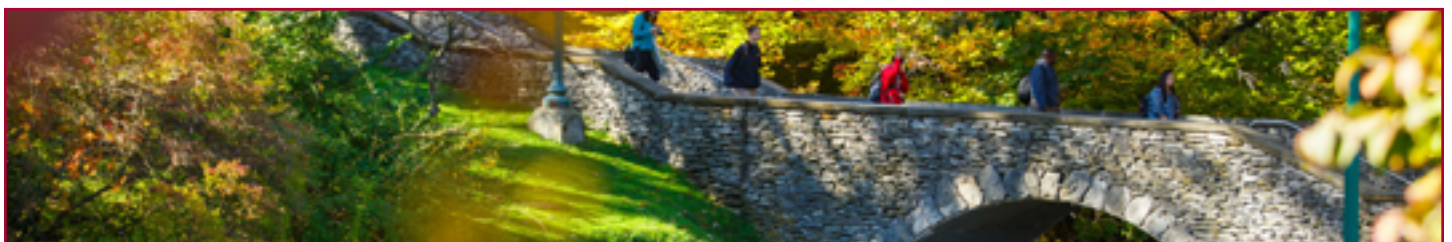
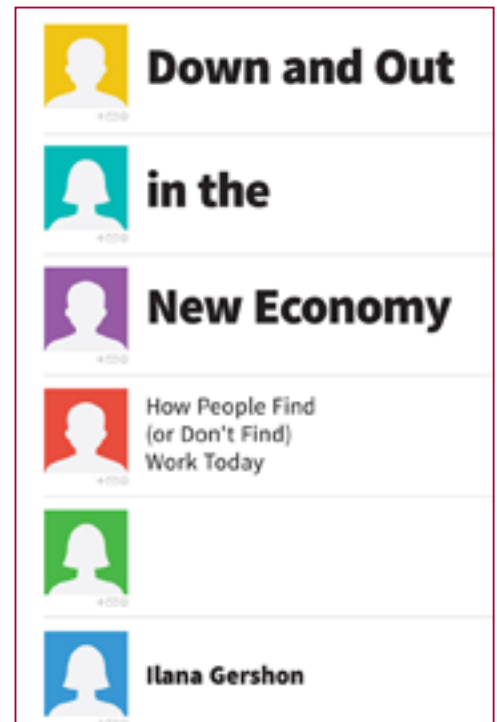
learn how to anticipate the different ways people might interpret your own texts, at the same time that you are learning a range of different techniques for interpreting a text. You often learn the relationships between a textual genre and a performance genre. And, as importantly, you learn how to be persuasive about your own interpretations of a text, a skill that will come in handy when our students have to discuss with their future co-workers whom they want to hire.

Who do you most hope will read your book?

I wrote this book for people looking for jobs, for people looking to hire, and for the career counselors who are giving advice. I don’t like the model of the neoliberal self and want to encourage people to refuse it. The question is how to do this persuasively? I turned to analyzing hiring because it is a moment of such uncertainty and anxiety that when people are told they have to become a neoliberal self in order to get a job, they will do it for pragmatic purposes. I hoped with this book to suggest that this was not the way to go, both because becoming a neoliberal self isn’t all that effective as a set of strategies and because it is not allowing people to be as ethical and good to each other as I hope they want to be.

Source:

<https://campanthropology.org/2017/06/12/ilana-gershon-down-and-out/>



Spring 2017 Skomp Distinguished Lecture Series:

Dr. Hendrik Poinar, “Yersina, Variola, Staph, Oh My! Using genetics to help uncover the origins of pandemics past,” April 13, 2017



Dr. Poinar describes the aims of his lecture last spring: “Pandemics occur at the crossroads of a complex interplay between biological, ecological, and social factors (to name a few). At various points in our history (and our pre-history), favorable ecological conditions have set the stage for the emergence, re-emergence, or resurgence of infectious microbes to play out their (sometimes) final acts. Unravelling the where, what, why, and how of our recent (Virbrioin North America) and not so recent (Yersinia and Variolain Medieval Europe) pandemics helps build frameworks for a better understanding of ‘plagues’ in the present and future. An accurate genomic identification of our infectious companions from such times is a small, yet important part of the overall work. I discuss the benefits of genetic ‘time-travel,’ that is, the processes we use to glean small but significant stretches of genetic information that, when pieced together, begin to address questions about the origins, timing, and spread of these plagues, and how together, in meaningful collaboration with other disciplines such as history, ecology, and archaeology, we can come to a more consilient approach to the study of ancient disease.”



Department News

Sara Friedman and Shane Greene promoted to full professors

Professor Friedman's work focuses on the intersections of marriage and intimate life with state power and transnational migrations. She co-edited two recent volumes: *Wives, Husbands, and Lovers: Marriage and Sexuality in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Urban China* (Stanford, 2014) and *Migrant Encounters: Intimate Labor, the State, and Mobility Across Asia* (Pennsylvania, 2015). Professor Friedman is currently engaged in two research projects. One studies middle-class families in China who abandon successful urban lives and seek alternative lifestyles and alternative education for their children in China's rural southwest. The other project focuses on newly emerging family forms in Taiwan and urban China as a consequence of lesbian and gay childbearing. This research investigates how non-heteronormative sexuality and gender intersect with family law and household registration law on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, with particular attention to the effects of Taiwan's future legalization of same-sex marriage.



Shane recently finished a second book titled *Punk and Revolution: 7 More Interpretations of Peruvian Reality*. Published in 2016 by Duke University Press, the book is based on research into the political history of the underground punk scene in Lima during Peru's war with the Maoist insurgency known as the Shining Path. Taking a one-year leave to work as a visiting professor at MIT, he is starting two new projects. The first, *Punk, Las Américas Edition*, is a reader composed of original essays from scholarly collaborators and assorted art, zine fragments, and interviews from punk scenes across the Americas. The other project is a third book, titled *Misanthropology*, about the desire to abandon utopias amid the crisis of the human species.



New Anthropology Staff



Stephanie Odaffer **Office Manager and Administrative Coordinator**

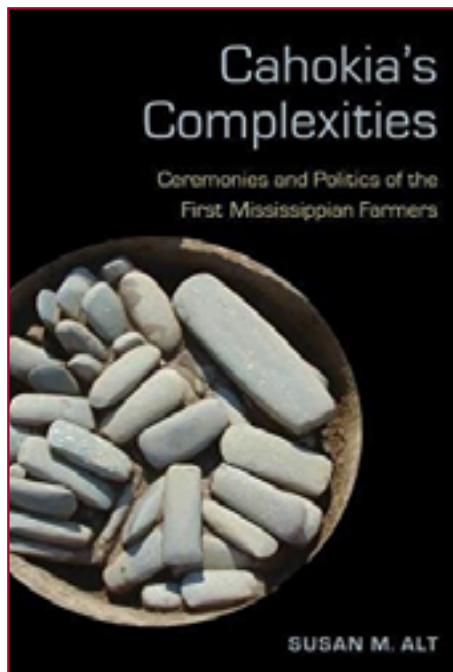
Stephanie joined the Anthropology office team in August 2017. If she seems familiar to you, it's because she supported the department as fiscal officer while working at the College of Arts and Sciences. Stephanie brings seven years of IU administration knowledge to the department and a plucky can-do attitude. She is also a master's student in public affairs in SPEA.



Jesika Holmes, Scheduling Officer

Jesika joins the Anthropology Department after spending three years serving as an assistant property manager at Tishman Speyer in New York City. At Tishman, an international real estate investment company, Jesika managed three properties and worked closely with commercial tenants. Jesika began her professional career after a stellar collegiate athletic career during which she played Division I basketball at St. Peter's University in New Jersey. Jesika currently lives in Bloomington with her fiancé and IU basketball coach, Drew

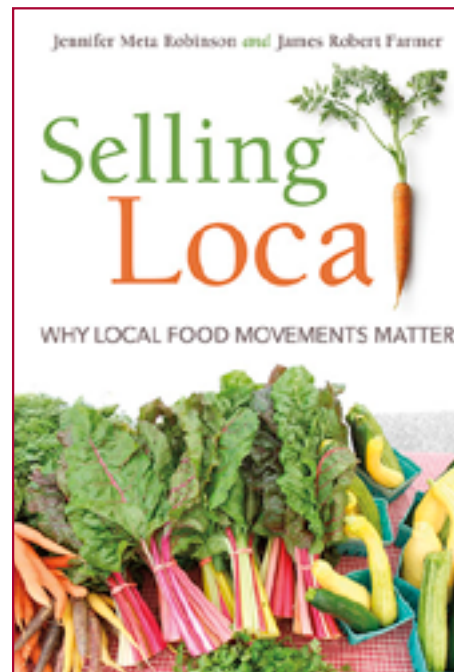
Major Works Published in 2017



Susan M. Alt. *Cahokia's Complexities: Ceremonies and Politics of the First Mississippian Farmers* (Archaeology of the American South: New Directions and Perspectives). University of Alabama Press, 2018.



Sarah Osterhoudt and Michael R. Dove. *Vanilla Landscapes: Meaning, Memory, and the Cultivation of Place in Madagascar*. (Advances in Economic Botany 18), ALL, 2017.



Jennifer Meta Robinson and James R. Farmer. *Selling Local: Why Local Food Movements Matter*. Indiana University Press, 2017.



Faculty News

Jennifer Meta-Robinson

published her latest book in April, *Selling Local: Why Local Food Movements Matter*. In addition, she is a member of two related research teams that were funded in 2017. The new Campus Farm won a \$50,000 grant from the Office of Sustainability and the Office of the Provost to provide teaching and research facilities related to local food systems. And the Grand Challenge Initiative Prepared for Environmental Change, led by Biology Professor Ellen Kettering, won \$55 million in funding from IU's Office of the President to address sustainability issues in Indiana. In addition, in 2017, Professor Robinson won IU's 2017 P.A. Mack Award for Distinguished Service to Teaching and became an honorary lifetime member of IU's Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching.

Susan Lepselter was awarded the Society for Cultural Anthropology (SCA) ninth annual Gregory Bateson Prize for her book *The Resonance of Unseen Things: Poetics, Power, Captivity, and UFOs in the American Uncanny*. The Gregory Bateson Book Prize is awarded by the Society for Cultural Anthropology, a section of the American Anthropological Association. Named after distinguished anthropologist, semiotician, cyberneticist, and photographer Gregory Bateson, the award reflects the SCA's mandate to promote theoretically rich, ethnographically grounded research that engages the most current thinking across the arts and sciences. Welcoming a wide range of styles and argument, the Gregory Bateson Prize looks to single out work that is interdisciplinary, experimental, and innovative.

Sarah Osterhoudt published her book, *Vanilla Landscapes: Meaning, Memory and the Cultivation of Place in Madagascar*, with the Advances in Economic Botany Series of the New York Botanical Garden Press. She was awarded the Sustainability Course Development Fellowship for summer 2017. She also received a Cultural Anthropology Senior Research grant from the National Science Foundation to work on her next project, which will examine how the dramatic spike in world vanilla prices is influencing the environmental and cultural dynamics of smallholder farmers in Madagascar.

Sarah Phillips is co-investigator on a two-year project funded by the NIH "Exploring gendered access to drug and HIV services to improve programs for women in Ukraine." This study will conduct a comprehensive assessment of HIV and drug use-related services for women in Ukraine to guide the development of a gender-informed, integrated service strategy that addresses the unique HIV-related risks and service needs of women who use drugs. In 2017 Phillips and co-author Jill Owczarzak published the photo essay "HIV prevention, precarity, and fragmented landscapes of service provision in Ukraine" in the journal *Medical Anthropology Theory*. <http://www.medanthrotheory.org/read/7172/hiv-prevention-precarity-and-fragmented-landscapes-of-service-provision-in-ukraine>

Susan Seizer was interviewed for the National Registry of the Library of Congress upon the induction of George Carlin's masterful 1972 comedy album *Class Clown*. The interview was aired on NPR stations around the country. <http://www.wnyc.org/story/george-carlins-class-clown/>

Update from the president of Lamda Alpha:

Lambda Alpha, Kappa chapter, is a national honors society for both undergraduate and graduate students of anthropology. We offer grants for seniors to complete research and publishing opportunities in the *Lambda Alpha Journal*, as well as other initiatives set by our chapter, such as philanthropic service and networking opportunities. In addition to these opportunities, we strive to provide all-subfield conference opportunities during the spring semester for our members. In turn, we require that members maintain an overall GPA of 2.5, a GPA within their major of 3.0, and to have completed 12 credits in anthropology. This year is particularly exciting because we are looking to greatly expand our membership and influence in the department, in part by partnering with the Undergraduate Anthropology Association for events. Not only are we looking to collaborate with the UAA, but we are also interested in forging relationships with the graduate students in our department through informal "get to know you" events. Finally, we are in the market for a new philanthropy, and we are open to any initiatives our members are passionate about. So getting involved with Lambda Alpha this year allows students the unique opportunity to have an impact on the future of this organization!

—Ellie Roach, Lamda Alpha president

Graduate Student News

Feray Baskin co-chaired, with Ana De Lima, the panel “Off-Track: Fieldwork Evidence and Foodways Theories” at the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) 2017 annual conference, where she presented a paper on “Integration and the Role of Traditional Food and Cultural Events.” Baskin also wrote a book review, which was published in the *Nordic Journal of Migration Research*, issue 2/2017: Toğuşulu, Erkan (ed.) (2015), on *Current Issues in Islam: Everyday Life Practices of Muslims in Europe*.

Lillian Brown received an IU Office of Sustainability Student Research Development Grant in spring 2017.

Tetiana Bulukh was awarded dissertation research funding from both the Wenner-Gren Foundation and the National Science Foundation (NSF) in spring 2017.

Mark Chatarpal presented at the National Toshias Council Conference in his home country of Guyana on the methods to increase cassava production to help sustain their communities and tap into the international markets. Chatarpal was

interviewed by the Guyana press about his presentation at the conference: <http://gina.gov.gy/an-indigenous-centered-approach-to-development-the-belizean-mayan-experience/>

Leslie Drane was awarded the John H. Edwards Fellowship for the 2017-18 school year to write her dissertation, as well as the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology Summer Research Fellowship, “Continuous Community: A Relational Approach to the John Chapman Site in Northwestern Illinois.”

Catalina Fernandez was awarded the Student Diversity Award from the American Association of Anthropological Genetics (AAAG) during the 86th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, and published, with her advisor Andrea Wiley, an article (“Rethinking the starch digestion hypothesis for AMY1 copy number variation in humans,”) in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 163(4):645-657.

Sarah Monson was awarded a Grant-in-Aid of Doctoral Research and a COAS Dissertation

Completion Grant for 2017-18. She also published the article “Ebola as African: American Media Discourses of Panic and Otherization” in *Africa Today* 63, no. 3 (2017): 3-27.

Kristin Otto was awarded the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to fund her research on “The Soweï Diaspora: Producing Knowledge about and for Sierra Leone.” Her work aspires to determine how the soweï serves as a transnational icon of Sierra Leone, as well as a connecting force in museum assemblages producing knowledge about Africa for public audiences.

Chris Upton was awarded dissertation research funding from both the National Science Foundation (NSF) and Fulbright IIE in spring 2017.

Thierry Veyrie received a National Science Foundation dissertation grant from the Documenting Endangered Languages program (BCS-1723388) this year. He also received a grant from the Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research from the American Philosophical Society.

AGSA update:

AGSA started the fall semester by welcoming new graduate students with the traditional dinner and drinks, and then we enjoyed a beautiful Saturday afternoon on a double-decker pontoon out on Lake Monroe! The event was definitely a success, and I think we all hope that it becomes an AGSA tradition. Another new event that we tried this semester was a fundraiser: graduate students volunteered to help with a fun run at Butler Winery. As a result, we raised over \$500 to put toward our upcoming AGSA spring symposium. We wish to thank Colleen Friedly and the folks at Butler Winery for offering AGSA the opportunity. The twelfth annual AGSA Symposium took place on February 16 and 17, 2018. The theme, “Activist Anthropology,” was intended to provide an opportunity for scholars who conduct anthropologically related work to share the value of their work to society at large. Finally, we recently welcomed Emily Van Alst as our president for the next academic year. Thank you to the department for their continued assistance and support.

—Molly Mesner, AGSA President





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THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY - SPRING/FALL 2017

