



Signs & Symbols

Spring 2011 • VOLUME 11

Newsletter of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Notes from the chair

by *Fred Smith, professor of anthropology and department chair*

Adlai E. Stevenson II, probably Bloomington-Normal's most famous son and a former University High student, once wrote: "The university is the archive of the Western ideal, the keeper of the Western culture, the guardian of our heritage, the dwelling place of the free mind, the teacher of teachers." As a sociology and anthropology department with a strongly global perspective, we might be quick to chide Adlai for being a bit myopic, because the university has archival and educational importance that reaches far beyond "Western culture." To be fair, it should be noted that Stevenson (1900–1965) was writing at the height of the cold war, and his words were conditioned more by the political confrontations of the time rather than any xenophobia. If we omit "Western" from his quote though, what is left is a really good conception of what a university is, or should be. It is a place where ideals and ideas are kept alive, even if they have fallen from favor in current thinking. It is a place where minds are encouraged to venture beyond the basics or even the "tried and true" perspectives on things and ponder both new paths and how different paths followed in the past might have changed the realities of today. It is a place to seriously consider how governments can do better to help everyone have a chance to reach their individual potentials. If universities do not fulfill these functions, what will?

True as of all this is, I want to focus a bit on the very last part of Stevenson's quote because it is certainly true that the university is the ultimate teacher. Every university has as a part of its mission to teach and mentor students to prepare them for both professions and to be lifetime learners. A university should, of course, help students prepare to find a meaningful path in life and that clearly involves the skills to make a living. But there is much more. There is the joy of learning to learn, learning to develop and maintain an inquisitiveness to know how things work and why things happen, and learning to question the

status quo—even the parts that makes us the most comfortable in our lives. It is often forgotten that this is what the value of a university education really is. Sometimes it takes a lifetime to realize it.

When I think about the role of a university, it makes me especially proud to be at Illinois State and particularly to be a part of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. I have served on the faculties of four fine universities, three here in Illinois. All were wonderful, but I have never been a part of an institution where the commitment to a meaningful balance between the creation of new knowledge and the imparting of cumulative knowledge through teaching and mentoring is as central to the institution as it is here at ISU. We have had three Distinguished Professors in this department, four if you count an equivalent honor from another university, and our research profile is strong. As I did a little more sleuthing I discovered that no fewer than 17 of our faculty have received some kind of formal recognition for teaching excellence. As one reflection of the quality of teaching and mentoring in this department, let me share a list of the graduate schools our



Fred Smith

students were accepted into this year. These are the Universities of Arizona, Iowa, Tennessee, Wisconsin (Madison), Illinois, Indiana, South Carolina, North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Florida, Arkansas, Wisconsin–Milwaukee, and New Mexico; as well as Northern Illinois, Purdue, Southern Illinois, Loyola Chicago, DePaul, Eastern Michigan, William and Mary, Portland State, Vanderbilt, and Pittsburgh. Of course we have graduates pursuing other avenues as well, everything from the ministry, to nonprofit work, to sales of all kinds, to the military. We are proud of them all and pleased we could play a role in their finding their paths.

Next year a good department will get even better with the arrival of our new sociologist, Michael Dougherty. Mike just completed his Ph.D. at Wisconsin–Madison, and we are thrilled to have him join us. We would be even more thrilled to have you visit us this coming year! Your support of this department and university is greatly appreciated by all of us! Come see us.

Dates to remember

August 2011

- 15–21 .. Open registration
- 20–23.. American Sociological Society meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada
- 21..... Last day to withdraw from the University with a full refund
- 22..... Fall 2011 classes begin
- 27–September 2
iCampus open for course drops and department-approved adds with overrides
- 28–31 .. Rural Sociological Society meeting in Boise, Idaho
- 31..... Last day for graduate students to apply for December graduation

September

- 2..... Last day to withdraw from a course with no WX grade
- 5..... **Labor Day Holiday**, university is closed
- 6..... Last day to withdraw from a course and receive a refund
- 10..... Annual Department Picnic, Underwood Park
- 28..... Illinois Sociological Society meeting in Galesburg

October

- 10..... Columbus Day
- 10–16 .. Homecoming Week—Get in the Game
- 14..... Last day to withdraw from a class with a WX grade

November

- 11..... **Veteran's Day**
Last day to officially withdraw from the university
- 16–20 .. American Anthropological Association meeting in Montreal, Canada
- 19..... Thanksgiving vacation begins at noon
- 21–23.. Thanksgiving vacation, no classes—university offices are open

24 & 25

- Thanksgiving Holiday**, university is closed
- 28–December 2
Fall Student Evaluations are administered

December

- 5–9 Fall Student Evaluations are administered
- 12–16 .. Final Exam Week
- 17 December Commencement
- 20 Fall grades are due by noon via iCampus Portal
- Department Holiday Party (tentative)
- 23–30.. **Winter Break**, university is closed

January 2012

- 3 University re-opens
- 4–8 Society for Historical Archaeology meeting in Baltimore, Maryland
- 9–16 Open Registration
- 16 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**, university is closed
- 17 Spring classes begin

March

- 10 Spring Break begins at noon
- 12–16 .. **Spring Break**, no classes—university offices open
- 29 Midwest Sociological Society meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota

April

- 11 American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting in Portland, Oregon
- 18 Society of American Archaeology meeting in Memphis, Tennessee
- 20 12th Annual Department Student Awards Luncheon & Ceremony
- 23–May 4
Spring Student Evaluations are administered

May

- 5 Last Day of classes
- 7–11 Final Exam Week
- 11 153rd Annual Commencement
- 14 Summer Interim classes begin
- 15 Spring grades due at noon via iCampus Portal
- 21 Summer classes begin
- 28 **Memorial Day Holiday**, university is closed

June

- 1 Summer Interim classes end

July

- 4 **Independence Day Holiday**, university is closed

August

- 10 Summer classes end
- 14 Summer grades due at noon via iCampus Portal

Nickels scholarship established

by *Laura Patrick, CASNews intern*



Professor Emeritus Martin Nickels and Wallace Anderson

Wallace Anderson, a former student of Martin Nickels, professor emeritus of anthropology, has established the Dr. Martin Nickels Endowed Scholarship for Field School. Field schools at Illinois State University offer anthropology students the opportunity to receive hands-on field training in archaeology or other aspects of anthropology. This scholarship fund was created for the sole purpose of providing support to undergraduate students. The financial goal is to provide significant, potentially decision-altering support to qualified students who wish to pursue the field school experience. The founding donor wished to continue his support of academic endeavors by students, while honoring a former professor whose instruction had produced lifelong personal benefit. Upon full funding, this scholarship will provide assistance for several students each year. Anyone wishing to contribute to this scholarship fund may contact Mary Crawford, director of Development, at merundu@IllinoisState.edu or (309) 438-7725.

During Nickels' time at ISU, he served as the anthropology program coordinator and Undergraduate advisor and chaired the Educational Committee for the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. He taught classes in physical anthropology, human evolutionary studies, human and primate biological bases of behavior, osteology, and human evolution education. He was honored with the Outstanding University Teacher Award twice, both in 1991–1992 and 1996–1997, and is a recipient of the Gabriel Lasker Award for Outstanding Service to the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

This scholarship was available to students for field school participation during the 2011 summer season. This year's award winners are listed and pictured on page 4.

Sociology undergraduate program

by *Teri Farr-Behnke, assistant to the chair for undergraduate studies*

As the semester winds down, it is a good time to reflect upon the activities of the last few months, accomplishments of our students, and challenges they will likely face as they enter the world after college. As an advisor, my job is to support and encourage students while assisting them to develop and learn from their successes and failures. The end of another academic year is always a bittersweet one for advisors...we have seen our students grow so much over the years we have known them, and now it's time for many of them to move on.

So many students are doing such great and important work. For example, one of our 2009 alums Laura Lyznicki, is now working with the Sierra Club as a regional campaign organizer and Brett Monge, graduating in August 2010 is about to enter the seminary. I am reminded daily of the important and meaningful work our students ultimately pursue. In addition, the award ceremony we have in the department every year also reminds us of the passion, intelligence, and drive our students possess.



Teri Farr pictured with Bekki Ross, graduate student at University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee in the Cultural Foundations of Education program and Paul Kim, legal assistant, Chicago area law firm

The advising office continues to evolve and change, and this year has been an active one for me professionally. Just coming from an extremely successful Region V (National Academic Advising Association) NACADA conference that was held in Normal at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center where I was program cochair, I continue to be blessed with like minded colleagues on campus and in the department who value my continued leadership within the advising community. Recently elected as Illinois Representative to the Region, I will be spearheading an effort to establish a NACADA affiliated state advising organization.

Some new initiatives in the works include developing and coordinating a careers workshop for Anthropology majors that we plan to host in September, developing a group advising program for transfer students new to Illinois State and the department, and do some fine tuning and reviewing to the internship program.

So, in the meantime, I continue to marvel at what we have accomplished and the number of students we serve in the advising office. Additionally, I am very proud of all of our students, their accomplishments, and wish them nothing but the best now and in their future endeavors.

Undergraduate anthropology program notes

by Jim Stanlaw, professor and anthropology undergraduate program coordinator

Bonfire initiation

The anthropology school year began with our traditional—and widely anticipated—Annual Initiation Bonfire held in September in the huge expanse of a yard of former faculty member, Linda Giles. Most anthropology majors attended in spite of the unusually cold weather, including the new officers of SOSA, our very active Society of Student Anthropologists. Food and drink were in ample supply, skits and tricks were performed, and each student received their secret name from the Council of Elders (the anthropology faculty). It is the students' job to research their namesake, and be ready to answer questions on their new moniker later at graduation time during Rites of Passage.

Central States Anthropological Society Meetings

Last April, the meetings of the Central States Anthropological Society (CSAS) were held at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, and three Illinois State anthropology undergraduates presented papers at this professional conference. These presentations were Latent Gender Bias in English: A Key Word Analysis by Mariana Aldana, The Thai Kitchen, from the 20th to the 21st Century by Deborah Neidich, and Signs and Concepts of the Soul in the Amazon by Ylanda Wilhite. Also in attendance was SOSA President Jessie Dorsz. These students had their registration and transportation costs covered by the department. Through the hard work of SOSA officers, the other expenses and hotel costs of these students were also covered by a special undergraduate research grant. Few graduate students—and fewer undergraduates—present papers at professional meetings; these students were especially hard working and ambitious, and we are especially proud of them.



Left to right: Ylanda Wilhite, Mariana Aldana, Deb Neidich, and Professor Jim Stanlaw.

New program may relieve strain on food pantries

by Paul Sweich, health editor, *The Pantagraph*

(The following article is being reprinted with the permission of *The Pantagraph* which was posted on Monday, February 14, 2011.)

BLOOMINGTON -- A new program to help feed people in need and to bring more government money into McLean County may relieve some of the strain on some food pantries.

The McLean County SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Outreach kicks off this week as the new program's coordinator, Brittani Evans, meets with representatives of food pantries and human services agencies to plan when to assist people who are eligible for SNAP benefits (formerly called Food Stamps) but don't receive them.

"This will be beneficial to our economy, our children and families," Evans said Monday in her office in the former Bloomington Junior High School building, 510 E. Washington St., Bloomington.

In McLean County, 7,986 households representing 16,242 people received nutrition assistance program benefits in January, said Tom Green of the Illinois Department of Human Services. He estimated 20 percent to 25 percent of eligible recipients don't get SNAP benefits.

If 25 percent of people eligible for benefits don't apply, 5,000 county residents aren't receiving the benefit, meaning \$330,000 in benefits are unused each month, Steve Beasley has said. Beasley, of Hewlett Packard, is chairman of the Income Vision Council of United Way of McLean County. United Way decided in December to spend \$50,000 in each of the next three years for a SNAP Outreach program also funded by Feeding Illinois and run by Peoria Area Food Bank.

Evans will take a laptop computer to food pantries and some other human services agencies to meet with clients, determine whether they are eligible for benefits and help them sign up online with DHS, which decides after an interview whether the applicant should receive benefits and how much.

Evans, 26, of Normal understands the frustrations and value of the program. The Illinois State University sociology graduate worked throughout high school and college and reluctantly went on SNAP assistance during her final two years in college as she was trying to wrap up her degree while working, raising her son and owning a home.

Evans thinks her work experience -- in the human services (The Baby Fold and YWCA McLean County) as well as in food service (campus dining services at ISU) -- makes her a good fit for SNAP Outreach.



Glenn Wilbourn of Bloomington is out of work and in need of assistance to buy food. With the help of McLean County SNAP Outreach Coordinator Brittani Evans, Wilbourn will be able to receive food stamps.

Credit: *The Pantagraph*/Lori Ann Cook-Neisler

Sociology and Anthropology donor roll

January 1, 2010–
December 31, 2010

Nobuko Adachi and James Stanlaw
Thomas and Denise Aiken
Wallace and April Anderson
Paul and Edith Beach
Robert and Kirsten Bishir
Marlene and Charles Black
Vincent and Laura Bruzan
Karlene and Charles Cappell
Kelly Cardinal
Anne and Thomas Carr
Michaeline and Anthony Chulick
Barbara and Quentin Cooper
Samuel and Elizabeth Cory
Christine Dawson
Richard Dennis
William and Stacia Dowell
Sharon Draper
Donita Duffee and Karen Donovan
Marin Dugal
Mark Esarey
Patricia and Ronald Fogle
Lisa Gaines
Deanna Glosser Hubbell and Marvin Hubbell
Sandra Golden
Ronald Herro and Diane Spencer-Herro
Twanna Hines
Nicole Hoffmann and Mark Hoffman
Michelle and Malcolm Holmes
Wendel and Elvria Hunigan
Deborah Jackson-Crawford
Dennis and Janice Johnson
Jorie Karum
James King
Michael Kurz and Dixie Bell
Josh Layden
Dorothy E. Lee
Lori and John Lenahan
Daniel and Dianna Lienard
Wayne and Nancy Lucas
Cassandra and Dustin Meinert
Alice Morrissey
Donna and Martin Nickels
Robert O'Brien

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Anthropology Student Awards

The Ed Jelks Award for Outstanding Anthropology Senior



The Student of the Year Award for 2011 was given to Arika Ward. She had an amazing 4.0 GPA in two difficult majors (anthropology and biology), clearly demonstrating her remarkable academic strength. She was also an undergraduate teaching assistant for four semesters. In addition, she was an active member of SOSA, and was an officer for the past two years.

Dr. Martin Nickels Endowed Scholarship for Field School

This year was our first presentation of the Martin Nickels scholarship. This award is made possible by the generous donation of a former student of Nickels, Wallace Anderson. (See related story on page 2). This year's first award winners were David Watt and Ylanda Wilhite. This summer Watt will be attending the Spanish Colonial Field School in Tennessee and Wilhite will be attending the Maria Elena Moyano-Democracy in Human Rights Peru international seminar and will be traveling to Lima, Cusco, and Machu Picchu.



Left to right: David Watt; Martin Nickels, professor emeritus; and Ylanda Wilhite.

Outstanding Anthropology Senior Thesis of the Year

As usual, choosing the Senior Thesis of the Year was again a daunting task, with 18 deserving papers to choose from. Two awards were given this time. Mariana Aldana's thesis, "The Mayan Hieroglyphs: Explaining Pseudo-writing in Mesoamerican Orthography" examined an intriguing puzzle in the

Maya writing system: how certain symbols were used for their symbolic and social value, rather than for pure literary meaning. Colleen Zwanzig's "The Digitalization of Research and Its Effect on Academic Patron Performance" examined the changing role of the modern academic library in the lives of students. In addition to completing her thesis, Zwanzig also took a little time out last April to have her first baby—whom she also started off on the right foot to a fledging anthropology career by bringing her to our Rites of Passage.

Lambda Alpha inductees

This year we established at Illinois State University a new chapter of Lambda Alpha, the anthropology honorary society. This organization seeks to foster excellence in anthropological academics, and membership is by invitation only. Fourteen undergraduate and graduate students were among the new initiates. This is quite an honor for these young scholars, and reflects their years of hard work in all four of the program's subdisciplines. We think they show great promise as anthropologists in the future. (See list of initiates on page 14.)



Rites of Passage

On Thursday, May 5, the 2011 graduating anthropology seniors went through the program's annual Rites of Passage held at the Lucca Grill. Besides eating some great pizza, the initiates went through secret and arcane rituals, rivaled only by the most select Greek house or the most cloistered of Masons. The neophytes were queried about some of the highpoints of their undergraduate careers, and it was the last chance for faculty to formally abuse their students before they left the cave and walked about on their own. Our parting advice: As our esteemed silver-back emeritus Martin Nickels used to say to departing undergraduates: "Remember, it's a jungle out there!"

News from the sociology graduate program

Marion C. Willetts, associate professor and sociology graduate program coordinator

The sociology graduate program has enjoyed a very active year. First, the department welcomed two new students who began their studies in the spring 2011 semester. Tyler Flockhart was an undergraduate criminology major at the University of Northern Iowa. Robyn Savacool was an undergraduate at the Wentworth Institute of Technology, where she majored in architecture. Savacool is also enrolled in the master's international sequence through the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development, and is scheduled to depart for Peace Corps service next spring. In addition, seven new students will be joining the department in the fall. Jeff Dillow was an undergraduate sociology major at McKendree College. Katie Saunders, who will be enrolled in both the master's degree in sociology program and the master's international sequence through the Stevenson Center, was a sociology major at the University of Washington. Kate Slisz, another sociology master's student also enrolled in the master's international sequence, joins us from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, where she double-majored in sociology and communications. Andrew Smolski, yet another sociology master's student enrolled in the master's international sequence, earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Houston with three majors: anthropology, philosophy, and sociology. Luke Tervola, a double major in sociology and social work from Concordia College, will be a sociology graduate student who will also be enrolled in the applied community and economic development sequence through the Stevenson Center. Aaron Tester joins us from Skidmore College, where he majored in sociology. And last but not least is Jenna Williams, an anthropology major from the University of Louisville, who will be a sociology graduate student also enrolled in the master's international Sequence this fall. As is apparent from the descriptions of incoming students, the department has set a record this year with the highest number of master's international students we have ever accepted in one semester!

Several students are experiencing some rather exciting transitions. Danielle Pasko will join the sociology department at the University of New Mexico as a Ph.D. student upon her graduation from our program last spring. Trang-Thu Vu (Mimi) Duong, a graduate student in sociology and in the master's international sequence, will be departing this summer for Peace Corps service in Morocco. Also, Dustin Stoltz, another graduate

student in sociology and in the master's international sequence, will be departing this summer for Peace Corps service in Azerbaijan. Several sociology graduate students in the applied community and economic development or Peace Corps Fellows sequences will also be starting their professional practices this summer. Dana Bulba (an ACED student) will be working with Credit Builders Alliance in Washington, D.C.; Katie Mitchell (a Peace Corps Fellow who performed her service in Peru) will be working with ASPIRA in Chicago; and Julie Ornee (a Peace Corps Fellow who performed her service in Macedonia) will be working with the United Way of McLean County in Bloomington. The following students in the Applied Community and Economic Development or Peace Corps Fellows sequences have been working in their professional practice placements since last summer: Andrew Griffin (an ACED student working with Quality Quest for Health of Illinois in Peoria); Jered Ulschmid (a Peace Corps Fellow who performed his service in Namibia and is working with Corporation for Supportive Housing in Chicago); and Tessa Zevallos (a Peace Corps Fellow who performed her service in Peru is working with Mikva Challenge in Chicago). Meanwhile, master's international sequence student Eric Porter is continuing his Peace Corps service in Micronesia, while Sasha Miranda (in the Dominican Republic) and Tyler Curtis (in Togo) are continuing their Peace Corps service as well.



Left to right: Julie Ornee, Missy Gonigan, Mimi Duong, Katie Mitchell, Allie Ziegler, Tyler Flockhart, Annie Munch, Dustin Stoltz, Robyn Savacool, Dana Bulba, and Aaron Hoy.

As of this writing, several students graduated last spring. Danielle Pasko, whose master's thesis is titled "Migration, Transnationalism, and the Brain Drain: A Study of Venezuelan Migrants to Illinois;" Emily Putnam, whose master's thesis is titled "'With Woman:' Perceptions of Midwives among African-American Women;" and Lindsey Ungs, whose master's thesis is titled "The Creation and Examination of the 'Importance of Network Support Index,'" all

Continued from page 4

Meredith Olson
Jason Perlman
Craig and Jennifer Planson
Janet Poff
Vernon Pohlmann
Bob and Stacy Ramsey
Eric and Cynthia Rice
Douglas and Mary Roley
Tina M. and Michael Rowe
Kelly Rushing
Timothy and Laura Saterfield
Sara Scheffert
Kimberly Slattery
Fred and Maria Smith
Lisa and Eric Solak
Susan Sprecher and Charles Fisher
Phyllis Summers
Stephen Sundvall
Robert Townsend
Miranda Utzinger
Gregg and Katherine Watson
Philip Webb and Cathy Freitag-Webb
Lawrence and Patricia Winn
William Wonderlin and Linda Schuster
Anne Wortham
Rebecca and Rick Young

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graduated in May. Kara Harvey, Shane Peterson, Nicole Wengerd, and Tessa Zevallos will be graduating in August.

Numerous sociology graduate students presented papers at professional conferences this year. Their travel to these conferences was supported by funding from the Scott Elliott Endowment for Sociology & Anthropology. Presenting at the Illinois Sociological Association's Annual Meeting in October were Aaron Hoy and Annie Munch. Munch also attended the board meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in March as the elected Graduate Student Representative of the Illinois Sociological Association. Shane Peterson presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in March. Dustin Stoltz also presented at the Midwest Sociological Society meetings. Finally, Peterson and Stoltz also presented a paper they jointly authored at the MSS meeting. (See a list and picture of all Scott Elliott awards on pages 14–15.)

This year's graduate student award-winners include first-year student Dana Bulba, who won the Department Charter Graduate Student Excellence Award, which is granted annually to a student who demonstrates the most academic promise for success in the program. Danielle Pasko was the recipient of the American Sociological Association/Illinois State University Distinguished Sociology Graduate Student Award, which is presented annually to the graduate student who has most distinguished himself/herself over the course of the master's degree program.

Finally, on a more personal note, I am stepping down as the graduate coordinator of the master's degree in sociology program, completing my three-year term on June 30. Joan Brehm, associate professor of sociology and a board member of the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development, will be taking over in this position on July 1, and will serve a three-year term.

Serving as the graduate coordinator has been immensely rewarding for me, both professionally and personally, as I have come to know quite well many of the graduate students who have come through the program in the last few years and have developed strong friendships with quite a few of them (including two students whose weddings I will be attending this summer!). I will greatly miss the amount of interaction I currently enjoy with all of our master's students. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the department in this role, and I hope those of you who were here while I was the graduate coordinator will keep in touch!

Archaeology graduate program news

James M. Skibo, professor of anthropology, archaeology program coordinator

The program welcomed 10 new graduate students this year: bio-archaeology—Micca Metz, Lindsey Helms, and Whitney Karriger; historical—Cailin Meyer, Lorelei Schak, Valerie Hall, and Andrew Border; prehistoric—Susan Kooiman, Jess Haglund, and Carol Richards.

For more information on the archaeology graduate program, check out the website: SociologyAnthropology.IllinoisState.edu/graduate/archeolog.

Master's degrees in archaeology in 2010 (December) and 2011 (May) were granted to:

- Carl Zachmann. "A Study of Consumer Choice and Loyalty Through the Remedies, Medicines, and Nostrums from Two Midwest Site Assemblages."
- Emma Meyer. "The Burgess-Williams Site: An Early Euro-American Settlement on Grand Island."
- Kathrine Hardcastle. "In Search of the Cult of Domesticity: The Archaeology of Nineteenth Century Household Gender Roles."
- Lauren Alston Bridges. "The Social Implications of Ceramic Variability at 19th Century Hacienda in Western El Salvador."
- Cassandra Pardo. "Health and Disease on Hiwassee Island: A Study of Late Mississippian Human Remains."



Joan Brehm, associate professor of sociology



Dana Bulba and Professor Marion Willetts



Danielle Pasko and Professor Marion Willetts

Field schools



2010 Grand Island Archaeological Research Program, The Grand Island Research Program, directed by James M. Skibo with Associate Director Eric C. Drake, completed its ninth field season with the excavation of Site 754, a Woodland Period settlement on the shore of Murray Bay. Tom Collins and Emma Meyer served as the graduate assistants. For more information, visit the website: lilt.ilstu.edu/jmskibo/GrandIsland.

2010 Eastern Tennessee Bio-Archaeology Field School, Maria Smith and four graduate students from ISU (Cassandra Pardo, Sam King, Stephanie Owens, Marissa Wojcinski) and a small team from SUNY Oneonta (under the supervision of T. Betsinger) collectively examined the human osteological remains from several Late Prehistoric (AD 1300–550) and Late Archaic (3000–100 BC) sites curated in the Frank H. McClung Museum (Knoxville, Tennessee). The students collected pathological (anemia, infection, nutritional stress) and metric data comprehensively from three sites (Hiwassee Island, Sale Creek, and Hixon) and particular data sets (oral pathology, metric data) from an additional seven. Much of the data collected has been analyzed and portions have been presented at three conferences (AAPA, SEAC, and BARFAA). The information gleaned will form the basis of three ISU bio-archaeology master's theses.



Society of student anthropologists

by *Jessie Dorsz, copresident*

Evolution, as an anthropologist knows it, is simply change over a period of time. This 2010–2011 academic year has in fact been a year of many changes for the Society of Student Anthropologists (SOSA). Under the direction of Arika Ward (copresident), Jessie Dorsz (copresident), Christine McMillion (secretary), Deb Neidich (cotreasurer), and Neil Cech (cotreasurer), the SOSA Executive Board admitted many new members during Initiation 2010, located at the residence of former ISU professor, Linda Giles. These students enjoyed good food, dancing around the bonfire, and fun, while getting their faces painted by veteran members.



SOSA Executive Board, left to right, Christine McMillion, Neil Cech, Jessie Dorsz, Arika Ward, and Deb Neidich

Throughout the fall semester, SOSA members had the opportunity to attend club meetings when presentations from ISU faculty members were given. This included an exciting Halloween presentation from Associate

Professor Ray Clemens of the History Department on the subject of witchcraft. Other meeting events included activities such as “Anthro Pictionary,” watching anthropology-related videos, and planning for future events. This year, SOSA set up the first of what we hope to be an annual tradition of a “Nontraditional Thanksgiving.” At this event, both students and faculty were invited to bring a dish that would not be found at the average Thanksgiving table to share with the rest of the club. A week later, club members enjoyed a trip to the Chicago



SOSA Fundraiser

Field Museum, where they participated in a creative scavenger hunt.

In the spring semester, SOSA took another chance for change. In lieu of venturing to the Cahokia Mounds, students presented interest in visiting the Logan Museum, located in Beloit College. Here, they were shown what it takes to run a small-scale museum, as well as understand why museums were fundamental to the education of the public. And through the observation of Mochican vessels, SOSA members were taught how to critically examine the culture of a specific group by what the archaeological record has to present. Overall, it was a very enlightening experience.

Plans for next year have already been placed into action. The individuals who will be serving as SOSA's executive board for the 2011–2012 academic year will be copresidents: Deb Neidich and Jessie Dorsz; secretary: Lindsey Frey; treasurer: Elizabeth Wilk; and a new position termed underclass liaison: Chris Jaegle. We hope SOSA will continue to grow and work closely with the campus community in the future. Most importantly, we strive to continue to connect people who love anthropology and provide access to ways with which to experience it.

Changing childhoods

by Sean Kelly,
University Marketing and Communications intern, 2011



For Amelia Franck Meyer '89, M.S. '95, no accomplishment can outshine the true joy of her work. Sure, becoming CEO of Anu Family Services in Wisconsin is special. Being named Illinois State's 2010 sociology alum of the year is an honor too. But the positive impact she has on the lives of children on a daily basis just can't be topped.

"The best part of my job is having the opportunity to change the child welfare system in a way that works better for kids," Meyer said.

"Sometimes we set up systems that are easier for adults and for funding sources than they are for kids. In child welfare, we've forgotten our children in many ways. Just having the opportunity to participate in system redesign or do things in a way that really meets the best interest of kids is a fun thing to do."

Meyer became CEO of Anu Family Services in 2001. Her children-first vision is mirrored in that of the agency, whose mission is to "create permanent connections to loving and stable families." Anu serves children with special emotional, developmental, behavioral, and medical needs through treatment foster care. Anu operates in 57 counties and six tribes throughout Wisconsin, and is newly licensed to operate in Minnesota.

Under Meyer's direction, Anu Family Services has been successful in carrying out its mission. The agency has been nationally recognized for its child permanence and placement stability rates. According to Anu's website, 60 percent of the children who are discharged from Anu's care achieve legal permanence, either with their families or through adoption.

Meyer said her time studying at Illinois State is crucial to her success. She received two degrees from the University, a bachelor's in psychology and a master's in sociology/marriage and family. The distinction of sociology alum of the year is another reminder of the value of her studies.

"Being alum of the year is a great recognition to say I've found ways to effectively implement my learning in a way that has made a small dent in the challenges we're facing as a society," Meyer said.

Understanding community and social connections and their value on the children's well-being are the skills she uses most. Ninety-seven percent of children remain with the same treatment foster family throughout their placement with Anu Family Services.

Illinois State's international appeal is what attracted Meyer. Her first trip to campus was to visit her best friend's sister, who lived in the international house in Walker Hall. The experience resonated with her 1983 trip to Cyprus as a high school exchange student.

Since then, Meyer has been an active supporter of Illinois State. Her best memories are of working as a Preview Guide and participating in the Student Alumni Council.

"I had a very positive, strong experience at ISU," she said. "Even in my student activities, some of my best times were working with groups that were in support of the University."

2010 Eastern Tennessee Historical Archaeology Field School School, This project, directed by Kathryn Sampeck, had its second year of excavation and survey, focusing on the natural and cultural landscape of East Tennessee in the early historic period. The Nolichucky Valley in East Tennessee has been previously identified as a likely area of Spanish contact. DeSoto in 1540 and Pardo in 1567 had a potentially profound impact on native peoples, some of whom are likely the ancestors of today's Cherokee. Artifact analysis shows that contact-period settlements in Greene and Washington Counties are mostly single component sites that show little relationship with prehistoric (Middle to Late Woodland) or later eighteenth-century settlement, which suggests that this was a time of the exploration of new frontiers by Native Americans. Survey efforts in 2010 evaluated settlement placement and viewsheds, and we found that settlements tend to be paired and in sight of each other. Excavations revealed several features, including postmolds, ceramics that date to the contact period, and several rare Woodland period prismatic blades. The field school culminated in a public research presentation at the Yellowhill Community Center. Each student prepared a research poster and discussed their project with tribal and non-tribal members of the community of Cherokee, North Carolina.



Graduate student presentations at regional and national meetings

Tom Collins presented a paper based on the preliminary results of his thesis research on Late Archaic lithics at the Midwestern Archaeology Conference in Bloomington, Indiana.

Holley Brookens presented a paper based on her thesis research at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in New Orleans.

Marissa Wojcinski presented a poster at the Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Conference in West Lafayette, Indiana

and a poster at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meetings in Minneapolis.

Kathrine A. Hardcastle presented a paper on her research at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings in Austin, Texas.

Lauren Bridges presented a paper based on her thesis research at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in New Orleans.

Stephanie Owens and Sam King presented a poster at the Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Conference in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Lisa M. Dretske presented a paper based on her thesis research at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in New Orleans.

Jenna K. Carlson presented a paper on her research at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings in Austin, Texas.

Cassandra Pardo presented a poster based on her thesis research at the ISU Graduate research Symposium.



2011 Graduate Research Symposium participants

Notes on the gerontology program

by Chris Wellin, assistant professor and gerontology minor program coordinator

The past year has been a pivotal one in the development of the gerontology program at Illinois State University. In addition to our long-standing academic programs (the undergraduate minor and graduate certificate in social aspects of aging), we have made exciting progress in building a multi-disciplinary and community-wide network of people who are devoted to enhancing the quality of research, teaching, and service centering on aging, health, and disability. Inasmuch as the field of gerontology has always reflected an applied, policy-relevant ethos, such interdependence and collaboration—across and beyond campus—is essential to the viability of our programs. That we have made such progress in so short a period of time, less than two years after my arrival at ISU, has everything to do with the quality and array of scholars, professionals, and students who make their homes in the Twin Cities.

I report on several achievements, both individual and collective, that express the goals and vibrancy of aging studies at Illinois State University. The thread connecting these activities is the shared commitment of all concerned to integrate teaching, research, and service in ways that will enhance the quality of life for

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Society of Graduate Sociologists



The Society of Graduate Sociologists (SOGS) has completed another successful year. Although we are still a fairly new organization, we have begun to establish ourselves as a regular resource for graduate students pursuing their research and academic interests.

Our annual “Illinois State Sociology” T-shirt fundraiser was once again very successful, and although we did not purchase any new research equipment this year, the digital recorders purchased in the past were once again used for several independent qualitative research projects.

Although SOGS will be saying farewell to our copresidents, Chris May and Shane Peterson, we look forward to another successful year with Annie Munch as our new president. We would also like to say congratulations to our other officers, Allie Ziegler and Tyler Flockhart, who will assist Munch. We look forward to another great year. If you have any questions or ideas on how SOGS can better serve the sociology graduate students, feel free to contact any of the new officers.

people, irrespective of their age, economic resources, health status, or disability. In an aging society, in which nearly 20 percent of the population will be over the age of 65 by the year 2025, this mission assumes special relevance. Moreover, with a state budget deficit that will constrain support for many essential services and policies in the coming years, it has never been more important for the University to be a catalyst and resource in the surrounding community.

Though potentialities and challenges of late life are certainly salient in our work, we are guided by a life-course perspective, which seeks to understand how lives unfold in particular socio-cultural, historical, and policy contexts.

A *Symposium on Aging*—An important event in creating shared understanding and interpersonal networks was the Symposium on Aging that was held in November 2010, at ISU's Alumni Center. (The full program with participants' biographical sketches is available online, though the gerontology minor link of the departmental website). With sponsorship by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Mennonite College of Nursing, the half-day symposium brought together nearly two dozen people—faculty members, students, community professionals, invited speakers, and even a local theater group—for an exchange that reflected the wide range of interdependent efforts underway to enhance understanding of and service to older people in our community.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Jay Noren, a physician, health policy analyst, former Robert Wood Johnson Fellow, and former president of Wayne State University. Noren synthesized demographic, public health, political, and workforce trends to argue forcefully how societal aging will implicate many fields that, heretofore, have worked with substantial independence from one another. For example, a combination of cultural preferences, expanded legal rights of aged and disabled people, and cost pressures are driving the trend toward greater community-based living for people with chronic illness or disability.

These trends are compelling broad re-examination of issues ranging from our traditional reliance on family care-giving, to the training of healthcare professionals (more oriented in the past to challenges of acute-care and curative medicine), and the roles of social workers and others in social service fields who will be central in helping link people to

community-based programs and services.

In turn, Noren's lucid overview illuminated the importance of initiatives in several ISU programs, including the Mennonite College of Nursing and the School of Social Work, that are responding to such new horizons in health, aging, and disability. For example, Daniel Liechty (School of Social Work) and Charlene Aaron, RN (Mennonite College of Nursing) spoke to significant contributions being made by their respective programs. Liechty, whose clinical experience entails work with hospice patients and their families, is teaching a course on *Practice with Older Adults* this summer as part of an expansion of his programs' commitment to gerontological social work.

Aaron is coordinator of the "Expanding the Teaching-Nursing Home Culture in the State of Illinois" project that has been funded by a five-year, \$1.48 million grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The grant money is funding a demonstration project to provide standardized orientation and continuing education in geriatric care best practices for new nurses hired by Heritage Enterprises nursing homes across Illinois. The funding will also support the development of a graduate program focus in gerontology nursing at Mennonite College of Nursing.

Another highlight of the symposium was the performance, by cast members of *Young at Heartland Theater*, of excerpts of a new play, *Last Laughs*, portraying dimensions of the transition to assisted living, for an older woman and her adult children. The play, written with candor and insight by Suzanne Walfoort and Ellen Weisling, reflected the essential role of the humanities in helping us to grapple with issues in aging and mortality that, until recently, have generally been neglected in contemporary theatre and film, or treated with sentimental clichés. The spirited discussion following the performance revealed the cathartic power of performance and, one hopes, will continue as the local company—whose company of actors are all over the age of 55—incorporate the piece into the repertoire of material they perform throughout the community. We gratefully acknowledge the professionalism and talent of Ann White (producer), D. Ann Jones (director), and of the cast members; they speak eloquently to the possibilities for personal expression and community-involvement for people later in life.

An Ongoing Network on Aging, Health, & Disability (NAHD)—In the aftermath of November's symposium, those involved shared a desire to maintain connections that had proved to be so reward-

ing. In this spirit, Caroline Mallory (associate professor, associate dean of research, and graduate program coordinator, Mennonite College of Nursing) suggested that an ongoing series of presentations and development of a website and LISTSERV would be ideal. In developing the NAHD this spring, our goal has been to create an enduring, timely, and flexible conduit for supporting teaching, research, and service across and beyond the ISU campus. The network organized two presentations during the spring 2011 semester: A February presentation on disability, and an April presentation on sexual orientation and long-term care decisions.

Our speakers for the first meeting were Ann Caldwell (director of Disability Concerns for ISU) and Tom Gerschick (associate professor of sociology). Drawing on long and varied experience, these speakers sharpened our awareness (respectively) of specific resources and challenges facing students on campus with disabilities (two decades after passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act), and of the broader impact of disability on people's life chances in American Society. A specific goal of Gerschick's work is to explore the reciprocal influences of disability status and gender, a dynamic central both to theoretical and policy concerns. In April, Marcena Gabrielson (Mennonite College of Nursing) presented her research on "The Long Term Care Decision Making of Older Lesbians: A Narrative Analysis." This engaging presentation revealed how the distinctive social and political conditions in which the baby boomers came of age is shaping their chosen communities in later life.

Celebrating Students and Community Partners—As gerontology coordinator at ISU, I also celebrate the many fine students—undergraduate and graduate—with whom we're privileged to work. This past year has seen the expansion of our minor program to roughly 20 students, and we have also welcomed several new people into our Graduate Certificate Program in *Social Aspects of Aging*. They embody the breadth and quality of gerontology students, and their diversity of age and experience (e.g., in the advanced seminar on the *Changing Terrain of Work and Retirement*) enriches the classroom experience immeasurably. We must also acknowledge the invaluable role of many local agencies who host our students as student-interns. With the skillful guidance of the departments' internship coordinator, Teri Farr-Behnke, we have placed our students in such settings as the East-Central Illinois Area

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Making her own trail

by Sean Kelly,
University Marketing and Communications intern, 2011

The rewards from Mary McCorvie's '76 time spent studying anthropology at Illinois State keep piling up. Her 30-year career preserving Illinois' heritage is one she still considers herself lucky to have. To be honored as alum of the year is another delightful surprise.

"I really, really enjoyed my time in Normal; I just never expected to be asked if I would consent to being alumna of the year," McCorvie said. "It's very odd because there are a lot of people doing pretty high power things who have graduated from Illinois State, and so I don't feel like I'm in that company. Still, it just made me feel good."

McCorvie originally came to Illinois State to study history. A short time in the Sociology and Anthropology Department changed that. After taking introduction to physical anthropology with Professor Ed Jelks, she decided to give field school a try.

The trip to Grand Village of the Kickapoo proved to be inspirational. Although only one field school was required, McCorvie completed three. Since then, she has never looked back at her decision to become an anthropologist.

"It has such a holistic view of history and prehistory and human culture and interaction and landscapes. It just encompasses everything about the human condition," she said. "You could actually begin to see why people behaved in the way they did."

McCorvie was getting into the field at the perfect time too. A greater emphasis on keeping the country's culture intact led to the passing of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966. The federal government started to fund the act in 1974. After receiving her master's from the University of Tennessee in 1978, McCorvie moved to Southern Illinois and began her career in anthropology as a private consultant.

One of her favorite hobbies was hiking the local forests. She was already quite familiar with Shawnee National Forest when the position of forest archaeologist became available in 1993. She jumped on the opportunity, and has held the position since.

The job consists of numerous projects to preserve the 280,000-acre forest. As the trails become more popular for equestrians and hikers alike, maintaining them has become a routine task.

Cleaning up after natural disasters is another of her duties. In addition to wind storms and tornados, the area is also vulnerable to nonnative invasive species, which threaten native wildlife and vegetation. McCorvie recently finished a project to rid Shawnee of parasitic plant species.

Preserving the culture of Illinois is just as important to McCorvie. She regularly presents on the Trail of Tears, which runs through Shawnee. One of the U.S. Forest Service's offices in Jonesboro is at the site of one of the Lincoln-Douglas debates. The task of keeping historical events like these alive makes the job exciting. "There's just so much history and heritage down here that we always have something to do," she said.



Continued from page 11

Agency on Aging (courtesy of Executive Director Michael O'Donnel), the Bloomington-Normal Regional Office of the Alzheimer's Association (courtesy of Tara Keiser and Heather Mulder), and the Senior Services Program of PATH (Providing Access to Help).

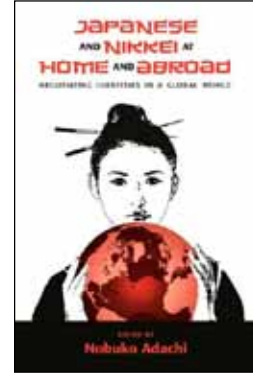
In closing, we congratulate Cathy Merrick, was chosen to receive this year's Gerontology Scholarship. This award is granted in recognition not only of academic excellence in the study of gerontology, but also commitment to and achievement in a professional and/or service setting. In addition to having completed training as certified nursing assistant, Merrick has been a valued team member of the *Home Care Services* program of the YWCA of McLean County. This program provides nonmedical support that allows older people to live independently in the community. It exemplifies the kind of community-based policy to which we alluded at the outset. In her application, Merrick offered that, "The great potential of older people, founded in their great diversity, is surely influential in maintaining an efficiently functioning society. While it is impossible to assign a single role to such a diverse cohort, their wealth of experience, paired with the unique strengths of each member, affords a rich resource for society, and, while age may bring certain limitations, each member's unique role will be decided by his or her choices and interests as developed throughout the entire life course. "Cathy's humane, holistic understanding of aging, health, and disability will serve her well as she prepares to begin the *Accelerated B.S.N.* Program at the Mennonite College of Nursing. It is with great pride and excitement that we acknowledge Merrick's remarkable undergraduate career, and also gratitude that she's remaining close to home."



Cathy Merrick and Professor Chris Wellin

Faculty authors

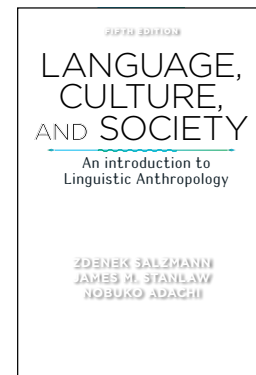
Nobuko Adachi, is editor of *Japanese and Nikkei at Home and Abroad* (Cambria Press, 2010). She also contributed two chapters to the book. Illinois State University Professor of Anthropology James Stanlaw also authored a chapter.



Essays in the volume examine Japanese transnationalism: people of Japanese heritage living abroad (Nikkei), and Japanese nationals living overseas permanently or temporarily. There is also an article on Europeans of distant Japanese ancestry who have recently rediscovered their Japanese roots.

The book consists of eleven chapters, divided into four parts: History and Theory, Nikkei at Home, Nikkei in Japan, and Japanese Overseas.

Language, Culture, and Society: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology (Westview Press, 2011), with new coauthors James Stanlaw and Adachi Nobuko join Zdenek Salzmann in revising this classic text.



With extensive updates and expanded discussions of fundamental issues in the field, this edition continues to be the essential teaching text for the introductory linguistic anthropology course. This edition features three new chapters on language and thought, language and ideology, and language

in a globalized world, as well as expanded consideration of the role of linguistics as a key subfield of anthropology.

New faculty hire, Michael L. Dougherty

My first experience with Illinois State University was in 2001 when I began a master's degree in political science through the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development. (At that time it was known as the Unit for Community and Economic Development. It was inaugurated as the Stevenson Center in my second year on campus.) I enjoyed the year and a half I spent living on East College Avenue. I made wonderful friends that I am still in touch with today, and I learned a great deal. At that time I never imagined I would move back to Normal nine years later, but it is a fitting and welcome opportunity to be a new faculty hire in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, in the area of environmental sociology.

My teaching and research interests center on the intersection of environmental, economic, and community sociologies. I am interested in the range of ways in which economic forces drive environmental and community change, and, conversely, how the constraints of nature and social relations shape economic forces. This includes research projects as seemingly disparate as studies of local food tourism trails in Wisconsin, the community dynamics of protected areas, and my dissertation project, an analysis of shifting social relations around the introduction of gold mines in Guatemala and El Salvador.

I did my undergraduate work at Vassar College in the scenic mid-Hudson Valley area of upstate New York, and I received my Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin–Madison this year. As an undergraduate at a liberal arts institution I pursued my affection for social science with an international flavor as well as the fine arts—drama and literature. I appreciate the university milieu, the world of letters and science, and I consider myself a perennial student and learner, especially now that I will be beginning a position as a university instructor.

I have long had an intellectual and personal interest in Latin America. My mother's family line originates in Monterrey, Mexico, and more recent generations come from Laredo, Texas, on the border with Tamaulipas State. But my interest in Central America, and Guatemala in particular, crystallized when I served in the Peace Corps in Guatemala from 2002 to 2004. As a municipal development worker, I was tasked with increasing citizen participation in the development planning process in a rural municipality in the mountainous Western Highlands of the country. I worked with the local government to increase its responsiveness to citi-

zen demands, and I worked with citizens groups to develop their capacity to participate effectively in the political process. I have since continued to work professionally in community-based development in Latin America as a consultant for various international development agency programs and as a non-profit manager, carrying out, among other things, USAID subcontracts in Nicaragua. I continue my community advocacy work in Latin America today by sitting on the Board of Directors of Long Way Home, a nonprofit organization based in Dallas that builds educational and recreational spaces for marginalized and poor youth in rural Guatemala using exclusively found and discarded materials.

These experiences doing development work in Latin America serve as a bridge between my academic interest in community development as an undergraduate and masters' student and my current teaching and writing in environmental sociology. My years in Latin America have profoundly shaped my perspective and thus inform my teaching and research interests.

At Illinois State, I hope to transfer my enthusiasm for global environmental issues to my students and contribute to the undergraduate and graduate curricula in sociology by adding an international dimension to existing departmental strengths in environment and community, working with the Stevenson Center, the Latin American and Latino/a studies minor, and working with students who have an interest in global environmental issues and the developing world. I learned a great deal as a student at Illinois State, and I hope to inspire students, shape their awareness, and orient their professional lives in the way that my professors did for me.

Outside of my professional life, I am an avid runner, a novice gardener, and I enjoy roasting green chiles on my cast iron griddle to make my famous green salsa.



Michael Dougherty

Undergraduate student recognition

The department's eleventh annual Student Awards Luncheon and Ceremony was held this year on April 23, 2010 at the Alumni Center located on North Main Street in Normal. There was a Hawaiian flavor to this year's ceremony and more than 125 students, family members, current and emeritus faculty, and staff attended to recognize and congratulate our many award-winning students.

Below are the names of this year's winners:

Ben Keeley Scholarship



Amelia M. Hill

John Kinneman Scholarship



Catharine B. Merrick and Sarah E. Nyquist

Gerontology Scholarship Award

Catharine B. Merrick

(See related story and picture on page 12.)

Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees

Rebecca Bogardus	Abigail Meister
Kelley Buck	Laura Miller
Dana Bulba	Jessica Moorehouse
Veronica Contreras	Sarah Nyquist
Caroline Csernus	Shane Peterson
Dierdre Kilcoyne	William Prorok
Margaret Lukebrink	Thomas Prusila
Mealanie Lecaroz	Noreen Smith
Mia Liebmann	Stephanie Standish
Josephine Maggio	



Lambda Alpha inductees

Mariana Aldana	Stephanie Owens
Brianna Andrews	Jeffrey Painter
Sarah Biehl	Cassandra Pardo
Jenna Carlson	Elizabeth Wilk
Jessica Griffin	Marissa Wojcinski
Caiti Kopp	Amber Yerkes
Hannah Meyer	Colleen Zwanzig

(See related story and picture on page 4.)

Martin Nickels Endowed Scholarship for Field School

David Watt
Ylanda Wilhite

(See related stories and pictures on pgs 2 and 4.)

Ed Jelks Outstanding Anthropology Senior

Arika M. Ward (See related story and picture on page 4.)

Outstanding Anthropology Senior Thesis

Mariana Aldana
Colleen Zwanzig

(See related story on page 4.)

Department Travel Award to the Central States Anthropological Society meeting

Mariana Aldana
Deb Neidich
Ylanda Wilhite

(See related story and picture on page 3.)



Dean's List award recipients

Dean's List—fall/spring 2009

Mariana Aldana	Catharine Merrick
Holly Anderson	Illyce Miller
Adrian Bachman	Deborah Neidich
Rebecca Balber	Kayleigh Newman
Brandon Crane	Sarah Nyquist
Cedrita Demus	Jeffrey Painter
Cherié Dew	Asa Powell
Kathryn DeWitt	Carol Richards
Kristen Gianaris	Gavin Robinson
Drew Jacobson	Rebecca Ross
Kelley Jazdzewski	C. Max Saladino
Lacee Kopplin	Megan Waiflein
Caitlin Kopp	Arika Ward
Alison Kuk	
Josephine Maggio	



Emily Lloyd, sociology major and senior, was awarded the *Luellen Laurenti Scholarship* which is given to an outstanding undergraduate women's and gender studies minor and provides support in the amount of \$1,000.

Special recognition



Jessica Bale, a sociology major and senior, was awarded the 2011 *Women's and Gender Studies Achievement Award*. Bale was selected on the basis of her academic standing overall in the minor and for service to women's and gender studies on behalf of women's issues. She was awarded \$250 in connection with this honor.

Caiti Kopp, designation as a *Robert G. Bone Scholar* is the highest academic honor bestowed on ISU undergraduates. Caiti Kopp, a junior anthropology major with a second major in Spanish, was among the 16 recipients of this prestigious recognition. In addition to academic excellence, Caiti also excels as a catcher for the Redbird softball team. She also coordinates student volunteer efforts for the ISU athletic department. Caiti is a "homey," having grown up in Normal. We are all proud of Caiti and happy to have a Bone Scholar among our fine group of majors in the department.



Graduate student recognition

The following graduate students were honored and recognized at this year's student awards ceremony.

American Sociological Association/Illinois State University Distinguished Graduate Student

Danielle Pasko

(See picture and related story on page 5.)

Department Charter Graduate Student Excellence Award

Dana Bulba

(See picture and related story on page 5.)

Scott Elliott Endowment for Sociology and Anthropology

Scott Elliott attended Illinois State University from 1979–1985, graduating with a major in economics and a minor in sociology. In 2006 he made a substantial monetary gift to the College of Arts and Sciences and this department. The department has decided to use his endowment as travel awards for undergraduate and graduate students in the sociology and anthropology programs to present their scholarly work at professional meetings in their discipline. The following students applied for and received a Scott Elliott Endowment travel award:

- Jenna Carlson received funding to present a paper titled, 'Culinary Creolization: Subsistence & Cultural Interaction at Fort Michilimackinac, 1730–1761,' at the Society of Historical Archaeology meeting in January 2011.
- Tom Collins attended and presented his paper titled, "Archaic Tool Technology & Organization in the Upper Great Lakes," at the Midwest Archaeological Conference in October 2010.
- Presenting, "In Search of the Cult of Domesticity: The Archaeology of Nineteenth Century Gender Roles," Katherine Hardcastle attended the Society of Historical Archaeology meeting in January 2011.

- "Examining the Gender-Neutrality of Tokenism: Empirical Evidence of the Theory's Shortcomings," was the title of Aaron Hoy's paper that was presented at the Illinois Sociological Association meeting in October 2010.
- Ann Munch received funding to present a paper titled, "Sexual Language: Use & Offensiveness," at the Illinois Sociological Association meeting in October plus attended a board meeting at the Midwest Sociological Society meetings in March 2011 as the ISA graduate student representative.
- Shane Peterson and Dustin Stoltz both attended the Midwest Sociological Society meeting in March 2011 to present a co-authored paper titled, "The Testimony of Backsliders: Unraveling the Evangelical Youth Narratives & Experiences." They each presented their own papers as well titled, "Transnational Diffusion of Risk Discourse in Development & Poverty Reduction" (Stoltz) and "Mapping the Racial Awareness of undergraduate College Students participating in an Off-Campus Urban-Studies Program" (Peterson).
- Marissa Wojcinski was very busy this year presenting a paper and poster. At the Bioarchaeology & Forensic Anthropological Association in October 2010 she presented a paper titled, "Developmental Defects in Hunter-Gatherer & Agriculturalist Samples from Prehistoric Tennessee." At the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting in April 2011 she presented a poster titled, "Co-association of Subsistence Strategy, Non-Specific Infection & Congenital Defects of the Deciduous Dentition in pre-Columbian Tennessee."



The Stevenson Center Celebrates the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps

by Kati Brei, Stevenson Center intern

“The Peace Corps gave me the most memorable, continuing, morally unblemished, and uncompromised chance ever given any American to serve his country, his countrymen, and his fellow human beings worldwide, simultaneously, and at the grassroots level with the poor everywhere.” This quote, by R. Sargent Shriver from *To Touch The World: The Peace Corps Experience*, encompasses the passion and level of dedication the Peace Corps was built upon, and that still remains today.

Fifty years have passed since President John F. Kennedy signed Executive Order 10924, formally establishing the Peace Corps, and appointed Shriver as the first director. Illinois State University began its affiliation with the Peace Corps in 1994. The Peace Corps Fellows Program, with a focus on community and economic development, was established as a joint program of Illinois State University and Western Illinois University. At that time, included in the program were applied economics and political science students who had previously served in the Peace Corps. The mission of this program was to combine students’ former overseas experience with academic and practical training for the benefit of Illinois communities through education or community services. In 2001, Illinois State welcomed its first Peace Corps Fellows in Sociology.

The University added the Peace Corps Master’s International Program in 1997. The program couples Peace Corps service with a master’s degree in applied economics, political science, and, as of 2000, sociology. “The existence of this program is one of the reasons I came to Illinois State. This partnership is good for the center, sociology, and students,” says Stevenson Center Director and Associate Professor of Sociology Frank Beck.

Marion Willetts, sociology graduate coordinator and advisor, states, “The department has benefited greatly from our collaboration with the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development. For starters, in recent years, more than half of our sociology graduate students have been Stevenson Center students with the Center’s Applied Community and Economic Development sequence. These students have come from all over the country (and some have been international students), giving our program a more national and international feel. Furthermore, Stevenson Center students have come from highly selective institutions and were top performers as undergraduates; as a result, they contribute significantly to the quality of the sociology graduate program as a whole. Finally, recent cohorts of students have been extremely supportive of each other and have developed very strong friendship bonds, which also makes the department as a whole a pleasant place to work.”

Since the beginning of its relationship with the Peace Corps, the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development has graduated 56 Peace Corps Fellows and 34 Peace Corps Master’s International students. Alumni work overseas and domestically in a variety of capacities, mostly with nonprofits and government agencies. The Stevenson Center builds on the legacy of R. Sargent Shriver and its namesake, Adlai E. Stevenson II.

Tip of the hat

Nobuko Adachi was promoted to associate professor and awarded a sabbatical for the fall 2011 semester.



Verna Avogo

Winfred Avogo and wife, Gloria, were blessed with a new baby girl, Verna Webadua Avogo, on September 10, 2010, at 3:51 p.m. Verna weighed in at 8 lbs., 1 oz. Avogo was chosen as one of the recipients of a 2011 Research Initiative Award by the University Research Council.

Joan Brehm, was awarded a Travel Award from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs; received a \$500 Sustainability in Instruction Grant from the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology; and becomes the department's next sociology graduate program coordinator beginning in the fall 2011 semester.

Virginia Gill was selected by the Research and Sponsored Programs Review Committee to participate in the Grant Writing Mentorship Program for the spring 2011 semester. Gill was promoted to a full professor and was awarded a sabbatical during the fall 2011 semester.

Ed Jelks, professor emeritus, made an invited presentation at the plenary session of the annual meeting of the international Society for Historical Archaeology in Austin, Texas, in January. He traced the development of historical archaeology from a virtual nonentity in 1950 to a widely recognized discipline by the end of the 20th century, with degree programs at scores of major universities. He also recounted circumstances surrounding the establishment of the SHA in Dallas in 1967 at a special conference that he organized and chaired. Ed and his wife presented Ed and Judy Jelks Travel Awards to two student SHA members that helped pay their travel costs to attend the meeting. Six of Jelks's former ISU students, all now professional archaeologists, were among the 1,500 attendees at the meeting.

Vern Pohlmann, professor emeritus, as a captain in the Air Corps in WW II, he was invited by Lt. Col. Hart to be the inspirational guest speaker at the annual Redbird R.O.T.C. Military Ball. Among other remarks, he used the occasion to point out how his sociology-anthropology background prepared him to understand, appreciate, and respect the people and cultures of India, where he served, and how important it is for cadets to prepare themselves to do the same. In turn he noted how his firsthand experience with the peoples in the China Burma India Theater of operations enlivened his lectures as a professor, and how a cadet's military experience can be rewarding in the future.

Kathryn Sampeck was awarded a Pre-tenure Faculty Initiative Grant from the College of Arts and Sciences for her proposal titled, "Analysis of Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Ceramics of the Izalocos Region of El Salvador."

Susan Sprecher delivered her Distinguished Professorship Lecture titled, "Scientific Perspectives on Relationship Compatibility: Compatible Matches, and Compatibility Matching," on November 2, 2010.



Sue Sprecher,
Distinguished Professor



Ed Jelks and former students at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting.

Alumni news

Matt Cox, M.A. '09, historical archaeology, is an archaeologist for Archaeological and Historical Services at the Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Washington.

Beverly Dale '82, M.S. '83, sociology and former undergraduate advisor in the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology (1986–1989) at ISU, was featured in an article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Dale is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Access to her article can be found at: http://www.philly.com/inquirer/health_science/weekly/20110124_The_Rev_Bev_preaches_the_goodness_of_sex.html



Beverly Dale

Monica Edwards, M.S. '02, received her Ph.D. in sociology from Loyola University. She is an assistant professor of sociology at Harper College. Edwards' dissertation focused on how popular culture is used as a tool/resource in negotiating relationships across sexual difference. This led to a chapter—“Transversations: New Media, Community, and Identity”—published in the book, *LGBT Identity and Online New Media* (2010, Pullen & Cooper).

Kyle Hensley, M.A. '10, in historical archaeology, is an archaeological field technician for the Illinois State Archaeological Survey located in Champaign. The Illinois State Archaeological Survey's mission is to investigate, preserve, and interpret the archaeological heritage of Illinois within the contexts of long-term public needs and sustainable economic development through its scientific research, public service, education, and outreach activities.

Lacee Koplín '10, sociology, was admitted to the Robert M. LaFollette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She will pursue the master of public affairs (M.P.A.) degree.

Tracie Mayfield, M.A. '09, historical archaeology, will be entering the Ph.D. program in anthropology at University of Arizona in fall 2011.

Maria Cristina Morales '10, anthropology, has had a condensed version of her senior thesis published. This research was reviewed and accepted by the *Undergraduate Research Journal for the Human Sciences*. The manuscript is titled, “An Ethnographic Perspective of ISU Students' Decision to Drink Bottled Water: A College Drinking Problem?” and is posted to Volume 10 at http://kon.org/urc/undergrad_research.html.



Maria Cristina Morales

Kate O'Toole, M.S., '10, historical archaeology, is a district archaeologist for Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, U.S. Forest Service, in Nevada.

Cynthia Panizzi, M.S. '04, in sociology has been employed by the Illinois Valley Center for Independent Living for 12 years. Tolone, professor emeritus, remembers her fondly and admired her for working so hard to overcome her physical disability. In his words, “She was, and is, a remarkable example for others.”

Cecilia Maria Bacellar Sardenberg '77, anthropology, has been appointed to the Brazilian delegation to the United Nations' 55th Annual Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women. After earning her undergraduate degree at Illinois State University, Sardenberg went on to complete a Ph.D. at Boston University. She is teaching anthropology at the University of Bahia in Brazil.

Amber Taylor, M.A. '09, historical archaeology, is the staff archaeologist/historical specialist for TranSystems, a firm in Columbus, Ohio. TranSystems provides transportation solutions. Its mission is to bring a community of transportation experts and a comprehensive suite of services to every project and to deliver superior solutions for their clients' strategic, operational, and built environment needs.

Shawn Wick, M.S. '04, has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Central College in Pella, Iowa, for the fall 2011 semester. He will be defending his dissertation at the University of Illinois in the early fall as well.

Charlee Zingraf '04, was named as the Office of International Studies Program's Study Abroad coordinator at Illinois State University following a national search. Zingraf served as interim Study Abroad coordinator throughout much of 2010.



Charlee Zingraf



Save the date – Homecoming 2011

Plans are being made for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology faculty, staff, students, and alumni to celebrate. More information is available at IllinoisStateHomecoming.com.

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