News from the Chair
Contributed by James Enloe, DEO
News from the Chair; for the 2012-2013 newsletter

There have been a lot of accomplishments and honors among our community during the past year. Most notably, Margaret Beck was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure; as the cream of that promotion crop, she was named a Dean’s Scholar. Bob Franciscus was promoted to Full Professor. Emily Wentzell, having been successfully reviewed for her third-year contract renewal, was awarded a Collegiate Teaching Award. Among the faculty, we have had a number of new faces in Anthropology this year. Elana Buch is our new medical anthropologist. Drew Kitchen is our new anthropological geneticist. Jonathan Larson has been back with us as a Visiting Assistant Professor, as has Rachel Horner-Beck.

From a total of over 170 Anthropology majors, a total of 52 undergraduate degrees in Anthropology were awarded this year, of which 46 are BA degrees and 6 are BS degrees. We are particularly proud of the accomplishments and recognition of our undergraduate students. Isabela De Soriano, Katelyn Ingersoll, Dale Mallory, Alexa Meins, Ana-Monica Racila, Claire Roberts and Hanna Rosman will graduate with honors. Rachel Beck, Amanda Heller, Mckenzie Overton and Leonie Sparling distinguished themselves with appointment to Phi Beta Kappa. Alexa Meins was awarded a Dean’s Achievement Award for outstanding academic achievement and service to the academic community. In addition, Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU) scholars presented their research in posters at the Spring Undergraduate Research Fair, where Ana-Monica Racila’s presentation was recognized as Distinguished in Social Sciences and Samantha Skaar’s was selected for Research at the Capitol and also presented at Des Moines. Samantha also serves as a Research Ambassador, encouraging other undergraduates across campus to participate in such programs. Five students from Glenn Storey’s Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems class, Katelyn Meyer, Andrew Mullinnix, Abram Nothnagle, Alicia Filloon, and Ryan Kauffman were named Public Anthropology Award Winners in a competition involving over 3,500 students from 24 schools.
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Our 40 graduate students have been very active and productive this year. It has been an exceptionally good year for internal and external grants. Sarah Trabert was awarded a very competitive National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant for her research on Scott Pueblo, Kansas. Suzanna Donaldson and Jonathan Thomas were awarded Ballard-Seashore Fellowships for next year. Jill Davis and Meredith Anderson were awarded Graduate College Summer Fellowships. Teddy Marks received T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowships for 2012-2013 for his archaeological project in Namibia. Noah Johnson was awarded a Stanley Graduate Award for International Research in Okinawa.

A number of them have achieved significant milestones in their academic careers. Ligia Fragoso was awarded her MA degree in Fall 2012; Christie Vogler and Noah Johnson were awarded theirs in Spring 2013. This has been a particularly significant year for producing new PhDs – eight! Cerisa Reynolds defended her dissertation in Summer 2012, and holds a tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Aims Community College in Greeley, Colorado. Chad Uran defended his dissertation in Fall 2012. This spring has been particularly busy with defenses by Erica Begun, Jenna Grant, Hannah Marsh, who will begin as Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Nina Ortiz, who will begin as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota at Morris, Clare Tolmie and Alissa Whitmore. We will miss them all and wish them continued success in their future endeavors. Recent graduates have also made progress in their academic careers. Rachel Horner Brackett (Fall 2011 PhD), who has been teaching as a Visiting Professor at Iowa, has been offered a tenure-track job at Blackhawk College in Moline. Anna Waterman (Spring 2012 PhD) began a appointment in Biology at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids.

The faculty was also quite productive this year, particularly in major publications and in successful research grant proposals. There were, of course, substantial numbers of publications in peer reviewed scholarly journals and chapters in edited volumes. Our faculty, as well as undergraduate and graduate students, was very active in presenting in local, regional, national and international conferences and congresses. We had several books published this year, including those by Russ Ciochon – co-author, 14th edition of Introduction to Physical Anthropology, Cengage-Wadsworth and Emily Wentzel – co-editor, Medical Anthropology at the Intersections: Histories, Activisms and Futures, Duke University Press. Erica Prussing has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant in addition to her existing Wenner-Gren grant to conduct new research in New Zealand during her Career Development Leave (spring 2013). Scott Schnell, funded by a Japan Foundation Research Fellowship is conducting research in Japan during his Career Development Leave in 2012-2013 Jim Enloe, funded by a Social Science Funding Program (SSFP) award began archaeological excavations in Namibia. Prussing and Enloe were also awarded Summer Research Fellowships from International Programs.

Sonia Ryang has been named Director of Academic Programs at International Programs. Our faculty has received considerable recognition at the national and international scale. Mike Chibnik continues editor-in-chief for the American Anthropologist, the flagship journal of the largest anthropological association in the world. Ellen Lewin was elected President Elect of the Association for Feminist Anthropology and will become President in 2013.

We have continued progress in updating our teaching and research infrastructure. The Analytical Anthropology Laboratory in 218 Macbride Hall, funded by Instructional Improvement grants to Margaret Beck, Matt Hill,
NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Erica Prussing and Emily Wentzell, and a Student Technology Funds grant to Katina Lillios and Matt Hill has updated solid stage hard drives software and double screens, enhancing the operation of the software for Geographic Information Systems, Ground Penetrating Radar, and quantitative ethnographic programs. Renovation of Matt Hill’s Environmental Archaeological Laboratory in 16 Macbride Hall was completed and is already a busy nexus of research activity by Matt, graduate students and undergraduates.

Anthropologists in our department also play significant roles in programs in the University. Erica Prussing and Margaret Beck have shared duties as the coordinator of the American Indian and Native Studies Program. Russ Ciochon is the coordinator of the Museum Studies Program, which although it includes far ranging interests and input from faculty, staff and students across the university is under the administration of the Anthropology Department. Adjunct faculty who teach in that program have appointments in Anthropology, including Tiffany Adrain, Shalla Ashworth, Dale Fisher, David McCartney and Will Thompson. Adjunct faculty at the Office of the State Archaeologist who teach courses and serve on undergraduate and graduate student committees include Joe Artz, John Doershuk, Steve Lensink, Melody Pope, Shirley Shermer and Bill Whittaker. Additional adjunct faculty elsewhere on campus include Nathan Holton, Kevin Kelly, Jonathan Larson and Dongwang Liu.

As always, we would like to thank our alumni and friends who have supported us, and we would especially like to remember June Helm, our founding doyenne, whose generosity continues to support student scholarships and awards in our department. We are looking forward to another year of growth and success for our community in Anthropology and at the University of Iowa.
Beginnings are always tricky things for me, fraught with expectations, uncertainty, and the awkwardness that comes with enthusiasm, so changing institutions and assuming my first faculty position was, I admit, a source of some anxiety. Pleasantly, this has not been my experience during this first year at the University of Iowa—faculty and staff have been overwhelmingly helpful with my ongoing adjustment to a new life here. It is not hyperbole to say that every single member of the department, from staff to faculty and students, has helped me in one way or another, often enthusiastically but (probably more often than I know) also subtly and always with kindness.

Most importantly, the department community embraced me enthusiastically as a colleague. The numerous coffees, meals, and informal chats have encouraged me to reciprocate broadly, engaging students and faculty in ad hoc journal discussions and ruminations about the direction of the field, or, more often, wise-cracking about apparent shared absurdities of a life in academia. In short, I now feel like I belong to a welcoming and dynamic academic community.

My experiences during this year have set a standard that, prior to coming to Iowa, would have seemed exceedingly difficult to match in subsequent years. However, I now expect each year to be just as fulfilling, especially as I develop my course portfolio and continue to establish my research program in anthropological genetics and evolutionary anthropology. In particular, I am excited to elaborate on connections between on-going projects in my lab that consider Native American and Paleo population history and the dynamics of infectious disease evolution with existing research and pedagogical interests of my departmental colleagues. I look forward with pleasant anticipation to contributing more to the department as I continue to explore my roles as researcher, mentor, and colleague.
Focus on New Faculty

New Faculty Members reflect on First Year at Iowa

Elana Buch

Looking back on the past year, my first as a Hawkeye, I’m so grateful for the warm welcome I’ve received from students and colleagues in this incredible department, and the University of Iowa community. Over the course of the year, I’ve had the opportunity to teach students at every level of our curriculum from General Education lectures to doctoral courses. Students at the University of Iowa do our state proud – they are bright, hard working and care deeply about the future of their communities, their country and the world. They regularly remind me of the value of an anthropological education that prepares students to successfully navigate our diverse and ever-changing world. As people, ideas and things travel ever more swiftly across the globe, anthropology offers students the tools to harness this energy and shape the future of our increasingly global society. Drawing on my training in medical anthropology, social work and gerontology, my courses push students to think comparatively and critically about some of the most important challenges we face: health disparities, population aging and growing global and national inequality.

My research addresses these challenges through the prism of caregiving. As the population ages, the United States faces profound shortages of caregivers who play a crucial role in maintaining elders’ wellbeing. While family caregivers frequently struggle with burnout, professional caregivers often earn low-wages and face perpetual economic insecurity. My work seeks to understand how cultural understandings and expectations around care impact caregiving relationships and the well being of all involved. I am in the planning stages of an exciting new project, which will examine the experiences of those caring for military veterans from both recent and earlier conflicts.

Dr. Elana Buch

“Looking back on the past year, my first as a Hawkeye, I’m so grateful for the warm welcome I’ve received from students and colleagues in this incredible department, and the University of Iowa community.”
Amana colonies excavation
Contributed by Christian Haunton

In the summer of 2012 Christian Haunton, Sarah Trabert, and a half-dozen undergraduate volunteers began the first season of archaeological excavation at the Amana Colonies in East Central Iowa. The project is part of Christian’s dissertation work, which looks at how the religious beliefs and practices of a population interact with the material culture of that community (and particularly, with how those interactions are reflected in the archaeological record). The Amana Colonies make an excellent location for this kind of research.

In the mid-19th century a group of German pietists calling themselves “The Community of True Inspiration” made their way to the New World in order to seek a place to establish a religious community. They started first by founding the New York town of Ebenezar, but they soon found that their close proximity to the growing metropolis of Buffalo, New York placed them too close to worldly concerns. They decided to look for a place where the modern world had not yet reached and, naturally, they chose Iowa. There they established a communal society of several small villages most bearing the name Amana (meaning “remain true”). This group operated under a religiously-guided communal model until 1932 when the decision was made to separate the religious and economic concerns of the community into separate entities—an event which is referred to today as the Great Change.

The 2012 season was a pilot project intended to focus on those areas likely to have domestic or communal refuse from the time leading up to and following the Great Change. In this case, those refuse concentrations took the form of privies or “outhouses.” The excavation group worked for four weeks in late May and early June exploring three privies—one associated with the school in Main Amana, one associated with the church in Homestead, and one attached to a private residence in Homestead. The school outhouse in Main Amana proved to have been filled in with soil at some point within the last few decades. The outhouse at Homestead’s church was buried under a layer of construction rubble from when the associated building (to which the outhouse of been attached) was torn down. As such, most of last summer’s work was spent at the outhouse of the Hoehnle family, who had lived in the associated house for several generations, since its construction in the 19th century.
Material found at the site included two marbles, two medicine bottles, a teacup, a urinal, and a great many chicken heads, as well as hundreds of pieces of glass, ceramic, metal, and bone, which were collected for more detailed analysis.

Excavations will resume at the Amana Colonies as part of a practicum being offered to undergraduates this fall. Feel free to come out and see the project for yourself some time!
Focus on Teaching

Emily Wentzell Receives 2012-2013 Collegiate Teaching Award

Emily Wentzell, assistant professor and undergraduate advisor in Anthropology, teaches popular courses in health, medical anthropology, sexuality, and contemporary world problems. She introduced the course Using Ethnographic Methods, now core to Anthropology’s undergraduate curriculum. She particularly excels at teaching students to think critically and apply anthropological analysis outside of the classroom—to “talk back to the TV.” This class made me look at the world differently,” one student writes. “A class with Professor Wentzell should be required for everyone.” Both colleagues and students admire her energy, her ability to teach to diverse learning styles, and her talent for incorporating student feedback into class discussion.

New Course Offerings

The department added a number of courses over the past year. Some new courses being taught in 2013 and 2014 include: Anthropology of Caregiving & Health (113:152), Origins of Human Infectious Disease (213:090), Infectious Disease & Human Evolution (213:153), Origins of Life in the Universe (Part 2) (113:041), Culture & Healing for Future Health Professionals (113:091), American Cultures (113:128), and Anthropology & Human Rights (113:117).

The UI Department of Anthropology 2012-2013 Colloquium Series

Bernard Perley (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee): “‘Then, a miracle occurs:’ Metaphors at the intersections of language and social relations” September 28, 2012

Jessica L. Westin (Kirkwood Community College): “Monkeys at the Margins: Tourism Mediated Encounters with Howler Monkeys in Suriname” October 26, 2012

Maria Tapias (Grinnell College) and Xavier Escandell (University of Northern Iowa): “Remittances and the negotiation of new moral economies: The case of Bolivian migrants in Spain” November 2, 2012

Mark Houser (Northwestern University): “Administering Diversity: Archaeology, Community and Slavery in Colonial Dominica” February 15, 2013

Crystal Patil (University of Illinois): “Choosing’a Place for Childbirth in a Rural Tanzania after Implementation of Hospital Policy Changes” April 26, 2013
Forensic Anthropology and CSI mock crime scene gains notice

Contributed by Jill Scott

On an uncharacteristically warm autumn evening on the UI Pentacrest, something sinister appeared to be afoot. While several passersby craned their necks to see what was in the cordoned-off area, undergraduate students in the Forensic Anthropology and CSI course used skills learned in the classroom to sketch and analyze skeletal material and associated items arranged in a mock crime scene.

Interactive activities like this have made the Forensic Anthropology and CSI course a popular one ever since it was first taught by department alum Dan Procter in Fall 2006. Students routinely state that they most appreciate the interactive lab components of the course, and these portions have been further developed and expanded by all of the grad students who have since instructed the course: Hannah Marsh, Christina Nicholas, Josh Polanski, and Jill Scott.
In Fall 2012, the Daily Iowan came out to the Pentacrest Lawn to photograph the Mock Crime Scene Mapping Exercise that has been a key component of the course ever since Dan originally introduced it. The photographs taken by the DI’s Tessa Hursh were then made into a photo spread in The Daily Iowan Online Edition, the photos from which are included here and can be viewed online at: http://www.dailyiowan.com/slideshow/0926crime/.

The publicity gained from the Daily Iowan’s coverage of this class activity served as a catalyst for me to present about teaching forensic anthropology at the 2013 Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) meetings in Denver, speaking on a panel with four fellow UI Anthropology graduate students: Jill Davis, Susie Donaldson, Eli Gonzalez, and Nina Ortiz. Since the SfAA meetings focus heavily on applied cultural anthropology, I used this opportunity to discuss how in any applied anthropology class, applications of anthropology across the subdisciplines can be incorporated by including sections devoted to forensic anthropology and forensic archaeology. I have greatly enjoyed teaching the Forensic Anthropology and CSI course during 2.5 years of my time in the UI Anthropology Department, as I have learned a lot from my fellow grad student instructors as well as other grad students in the development of our SfAA panel, and also from colleagues who provided thoughtful discussion at the SfAA conference. This course has been a lot of fun to teach (and the students seem to greatly enjoy it as well!) so I look forward to seeing future graduate students take the reins and continue adding their own flare to how it’s taught!
Professor Michael Chibnik (above) drew on his past experience as editor-in-chief of Anthropology of Work Review and his current experience as editor-in-chief of American Anthropologist to lead the first workshop about the process of publishing in anthropology journals.

Anthropology Department organizes professional development workshops for graduate students
Contributed by Susie Donalson

In an effort to guide UI Anthropology graduate students into their professional careers, it has become customary for the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) to prepare workshops to meet the educational needs of current graduate students. The DGS works closely with the University of Iowa Anthropology Graduate Students (AnthGrad) to organize workshops that meet the collective concerns and interests of students. This year, AnthGrad President, Nina Ortiz, and Vice-President, Susie Donaldson, worked closely with Department DGS, Sonia Ryang, to organize three professional development workshops voted on by anthropology graduate students. These workshops were offered during the Spring Semester and covered the following three topics: publishing, abstract writing for professional conferences, and CV development.

The first workshop of the series focused on publishing in academic journals. Graduate students, as well as faculty were in attendance at this workshop provided by Michael Chibnik. Drawing on his past experience as editor-in-chief of Anthropology of Work Review and his current experience as editor-in-chief of American Anthropologist, Mike talked to students and faculty about the process of publishing in anthropology journals. Mike generously went through the process of publication from submission to acceptance from an editor’s point of view. While he focused on publishing in American Anthropologist, the four-field flagship journal of the American Anthropology Association, the information provide was applicable for many anthropological journals. Students in attendance noted that the workshop was both informative and helpful regardless of where they were in their graduate career.
Focus on Writing

The second workshop focused on writing abstracts for professional conferences. In an effort to encourage department graduate students to submit an abstract to be considered for the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), (an event to be held in Chicago, Illinois in November 2013) Susie Donaldson and Cristina Ortiz organized this abstract workshop. Susie provided attendees with information on the submission and review process, drawing on her experience as Chair of the Culture & Agriculture Program Committee. Susie also provided handouts with tips for getting an abstract accepted. Following this brief presentation, attendees workshopped each other’s abstracts.

The final workshop of the Spring Semester was a workshop on writing and editing curriculum vitae. Emily Wentzel generously shared her time and experience with attendees. The workshop was organized in a way that created a space for the peer review of curriculum vitae. Attendees were assigned readings that helped guide the writing process and Emily began the workshop with a presentation on the components and rules of CV development. Emily’s discussion of her own experience and the strategy inherent in the organization of a CV was invaluable. This information was then put to use during a peer review session where attendees broke up into groups to work on their individual CVs. This exercise, coupled with Emily’s guidance, left many attendees feeling that they now had stronger, more strategic curriculum vitae.

This year, the department was able to provide refreshments at each event thanks to Sonia Ryang, who worked with the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) to obtain funding for up to four workshops. While Sonia, Nina and Susie served as organizers, this year’s workshops would not have been possible without the generosity of department faculty and graduate students who offered their time and expertise and to the department staff, Beverly and Shari, who kindly helped to secure rooms, arrange for food, and jump through the financial hoops that often come with UI funding.
Finding my place in anthropology
Contributed by Ana-Monica Racila

First Year: I was raised as the only child and first generation immigrant of two Romanian medical doctors. It was always expected that I would follow in my parents’ paths, as was reflected in my mother’s eagerness to recommend me for a job in a pulmonary laboratory near the small lab where she worked. Amidst learning how to pipet and mix solutions, I excitedly babbled on with my coworkers and supervisor about the behaviors and physical traits that unite us and non-human primates. I didn’t know it then, but Dr. Nelson Ting’s large Human Origins lecture class had already taken root as the origin of my career path.

Second Year: During the fall of my second year of undergraduate, I took Introduction to Prehistory with Dr. Matthew Hill. I knew that animals and crops came to be domesticated while living in close contact with humans over thousands of years, but this was the first time I learned about the transition from the hunter-gatherer lifestyle to intensive farming, and the health changes and human struggle that came with it. This information wasn’t left behind when the class ended; it continued to appear in the conversations I had with friends regarding the food placed in front of us on the table, the current state of the U.S. food system, and the inability of our genetics to catch up with our current food choices.

Third Year: I enjoyed learning about the skeletal transition to bipedalism in Human Origins, so when I saw Dr. Robert Franciscus’s Human Osteology listed in the course catalogue as part of the Anthropology curriculum, my finger immediately clicked the “Add” button. By the end of the class, I had surprised myself by successfully putting together a thick, professional-looking skeletal report on a whole skeleton with two of my classmates. I was still rigorously involved in my biology classes during this time, and had enrolled in an Animal Behavior course. A few weeks into the course, the professor announced that there was a study abroad opportunity available through the Anthropology department: Primate Conservation in Tanzania, in part led by Dr. Nelson Ting.

Summer 2011: While hiking in the tropical rain forests of the Udzungwa Mountains National Park in Tanzania with students and professors, I was lucky to both hear and see monkey species endemic to the protected area. It was the common yellow baboons around the perimeter of the park, though, that lead me to perceive first-hand the almost frightening similarities between humans and non-human primates. I had the chance to speak to a few farmers about their experiences with crop-raiding baboons, and learned that the overlap in diet between them causes great conflict in this area, as well as in other places of overlap between terrestrial monkey species and humans. This experience deepened my desire to study non-human primate behavior, both for its own sake and within the context of ethnoprimatology.

Fourth Year: It was during my fourth year that I received my biggest exposure to cultural anthropology. Although I regretfully haven’t had the chance to learn about the niches each professor has settled into, I gained an appreciation for the cultures that my professors elucidated through their ethnography. This year was a turning point for me; I decided to pursue a B.S. in anthropology and finish a minor in biology after realizing that the medical field is as culture-bound as the rest of what we as humans experience. I began to view the skills that I learned in my biology courses as essential for understanding the physical changes humans experienced alongs
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Undergraduate Studies

Finding my place in anthropology

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side the cultural. Upon designating my B.S., I knew I wanted to graduate with honors, but I had trouble finding a project that utilized a biocultural approach. Just as I started to grow hopeless, Dr. Katina Lillios told me she had heard that I had some osteological experience, and asked if I would like to join her archaeological team during the 2012 excavation season at the Late Neolithic burial site of Bolores, Portugal.

Summer 2012: At Bolores, I learned how to excavate human remains properly in view of the rolling green hills of Portugal. Under the direction of professor Lillios, my honors project, which investigates the skeletal health of the Bolores population through an interdisciplinary lens to determine the influence of environmental change on their diet and lifestyle, was born. The fundamental archaeological knowledge I gained in Introduction to Prehistory was crucial to its conceptualization.

Fifth Year and Beyond: This year I made it a goal to share what I had learned during my undergraduate study. Together with my good friend and palaeoanthropology major Natalie O’Shea, I revived the four-field University of Iowa Anthropology Club, a student organization that had been inactive for years and now has over 60 members in its Facebook group. Natalie and I also hosted The Science Hour, a weekly KRUI radio show featuring the week’s top stories in the sciences. We recently had the amazing opportunity to interview prominent astrophysicist Neil Degrasse Tyson! (Pictured, right.) In the spring, I presented my honors work at the Spring Undergraduate Research Festival (SURF) and felt proud to win the SURF Distinguished Poster award in the Social Sciences.

In May I will graduate with a B.S. in Anthropology (with Honors) and a minor in Biology. It’s time for me to find my own niche in this vast field with the tools I’ve been given by the wonderful faculty of my pulmonary lab and this department. I will take a year off to sketch a good idea of what this space will be, but I’m sure it will involve straddling biological and cultural anthropology, perhaps in areas such as ethnoprimatology, sexuality studies, the public understanding of science, or a combination of these. I plan to apply to graduate schools this winter.
Margaret Beck
Margaret Beck is continuing her work on several projects, including the Scott County Pueblo archaeological project in western Kansas, the Picuris Pueblo ceramic collections, and a collaboration with archaeologists from the University of Kansas and the Nebraska State Historical Society on a new project about Kansas City Hopewell. Her research has been accepted for publication this year in the Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology and Journal of Family Psychology (with colleagues from UCLA’s Center on Everyday Lives of Families), and appeared in the online publication of The Atlantic. She’d like to congratulate her Ph.D. student and collaborator Sarah Trabert, who received a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant for her work on Dismal River ceramics. She is very happy to have weathered her tenure review this year and to be named a CLAS Dean’s Scholar for 2013-2015. New daughter Georgia (born August 2012) will be joining the crew in western Kansas this summer.

Elana Buch
Elana has been enjoying her first year at the University of Iowa and getting to know the department’s wonderful students, faculty and staff. Buch’s research draws on her training in medical anthropology and social work to examine the complex intersections of caregiving and power in later life. She has been hard at work writing articles and preparing her book manuscript based on her research focused on the politics and everyday practice of paid home care in Chicago. Elana also wrote a chapter on Feminist Ethnographic Methods that will appear in the forthcoming volume of Feminist Research Practice (Sage Books). She is also in the early stages of planning a new research project focused on the ways that caring for disabled and aging veterans’ alters people’s understandings of and relationships to the state. Elana teaches courses on aging, caregiving, the beginnings and ends of life and ethnographic methods and also serves on the curriculum advisory board for the Aging Studies Program.

Michael Chibnik
Mike Chibnik has found that being editor-in-chief of American Anthropologist (AA) is practically a full-time job. He greatly enjoys the opportunities and challenges associated with the editorship and is gradually introducing changes in the journal. This spring Mike presented workshops on journal publishing at the University of Illinois, Vanderbilt University, and...
Russell L. Ciochon

Russ has been busy with his continuing academic research in Southeast Asian Homo erectus, Gigantopithecus, and other Asian fossil primates. Russ’s most recent fieldwork, along with Gregg Gunnell (Director of Fossil Primates, Duke Lemur Center), has focused on finding the first record of fossil primates in Sumatra. They spent the summer in Sumatra on a National Geographic Society grant collecting Eocene mammals including the first evidence of early primates from this Southeast Asian island. In future years they will expand their search for Eocene and Oligocene primates to Kalimantan (Borneo). To this end, they have also secured two-years of private funding for this fieldwork from the Gordon Getty Foundation, a longtime supporter of the Duke Lemur Center. Russ’s work with Chris Ruff (Center for Functional Anatomy and Evolution, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine) on the Homo erectus femora from Trinil was presented at the AAPA meeting this April. Russ was published this past in year in the Journal of Asian Earth Sciences on “Ichnological constraints on the deposition environment of the Sawahlunto Formation, Kandi, Northwest Ombilin Basin, west Sumatra, Indonesia.” Additionally, he has three papers in press in Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology, and The Cambridge World Prehistory, volume 1. Russ balances his research with teaching and administrative duties. He continues to serve as Director of CLAS’ Museum Studies Certificate Program and is advisor to all registered undergraduate participants. He also oversaw the publication of three titles, with a fourth in press, in his “Cambridge Studies in Morphology and Molecules: New Paradigms in Evolutionary Biology” editorship series by Cambridge University Press. He continued to serve on the Board of Directors for Integrative Centers for Science and Medicine and the Board of Trustees for College of Henricopolis.
Jim Enloe
Jim Enloe is in the third year of his term as Chair of the Department of Anthropology, which has taken substantial amounts of his time and effort. He has nonetheless continued his research on Paleolithic sites in France and elsewhere. In 2012, Jim continued analyses of data from the excavation of Middle Paleolithic levels of the Grotte du Bison at Arcy-sur-Cure. This important site documents the transition from Neanderthals of the Middle Paleolithic to anatomically modern humans of the Upper Paleolithic. Jim has launched a new research program in collaboration with Grant McCall of Tulane University and Ted Marks, current grad student at Iowa to investigate behavioral modernity in the Middle Stone Age. Jim was awarded a Social Studies Funding Program Seed Grant to fund travel for himself, Teddy, alumnus Alex Woods and colleague Paul Grigg to Africa this past summer to excavate at Erb Tanks Rock Shelter, Namibia. Further research in Namibia will be funded by an International Programs Summer Research Fellowship.

Jim published “Middle Paleolithic Spatial Analysis in Caves: Discerning humans from hyenas at Arcy-sur-Cure, France” in the International Journal of Osteoarchaeology. He coauthored “Les vestiges néanderthaliens provenant des niveaux moustériens I et J de la Grotte du Bison à Arcy-sur-Cure (Yonne): bilan actuel” in the Bulletins et Mémoires de la Société d’anthropologie de Paris. It has been an active year for public and professional presentations, including an invitation to a symposium on “Late Glacial Reindeer Migrations in Northwest Europe,” at Schleswig, Germany, at which “Mobility of reindeer herd and hunters at Verberie (Le Buisson Campin), Northern France” was presented with Françoise Audouze. He co-authored a presentation with Teddy Marks and Grant McCall at the 78th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, in Honolulu, April, 2013, entitled “Stratified MSA and LSA in the Namib: Preliminary results from Erb Tanks.”

Jim has also taken over the reins from Margaret Beck for direction of the department’s archaeological field school, shifting the focus from historic archaeology to excavation of the prehistoric Archaic to late Woodland archaeological site at Woodpecker Cave, near the Sugar Bottom Recreation Area at Coralville Reservoir. The first season concentrated on discerning back dirt from previous excavations in 1956 from intact deposits and, of course, on training undergraduate students in excavation, recording and mapping procedures. Woodpecker Cave promises to be a long-term commitment to education and research involving undergraduate not only in excavation, but also in post-season curation and analysis of the artifactual materials.

Robert Franciscus
Bob was promoted to full professor in July, 2012. As part of his career development award for this past year, he spent portions of the spring semester collecting 3-dimensional landmark data on wolf and dog skeletons from the mammalogy collections at the Field Museum in Chicago along with his former student, Scott Maddux (currently assistant professor in pathology and anatomical sciences at U. Missouri, Columbia). Bob also collected similar data during the summer on 5,000 year old dog skeletons that were intentionally buried at the Kentucky Green River valley Archaic Period site complex housed at the William S. Webb Museum at the University of Kentucky, Lexington. These data on domesticated dogs and their ancestral forms (gray wolves) are being compared to homologous data that he and Scott have collected on original fossil hominins spanning the entire temporal and global range of genus Homo in order to explore a model of “self-domestication” for the emergence of behaviorally modern Homo sapiens. A subset of these data on portions of the wolf and dog limb skeleton also
formed the basis for an undergraduate honors thesis conducted by Krystal Wikstrom (2012 B.S. in Anthropology, and currently a graduate student at ISU) that Bob supervised. Bob also co-authored 2 articles that were published in 2012; one in the *Journal of Human Evolution* [The mesosternum of the Regourdou 1 Neandertal revisited. 62:511-519], and one in *PaleoAnthropology* [Humeral length allometry in African hominids (*sensu lato*) with special reference to A.L. 288-1 and Liang Bua 1.1–12. doi:10.4207/PA.2012.ART68]. The latter article represents the second peer-reviewed study that Bob has co-authored with Trent Holliday (Tulane U.) dealing with key morphological aspects of the well-known “hobbit” skeleton from Flores. Bob was also a co-author on a poster presented by his doctoral advisee, Shelby Putt, at the 2012 annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology held in Memphis, TN, dealing with Acheulian handaxe production in verbal and non-verbal experimental learning environments. Bob was also a scientific consultant for a BBC human evolution television program “Prehistoric Autopsy: Neanderthal” which first aired October 22, 2012. Finally, Bob was pleased to hood his fifth PhD student, Dr. Anna Waterman, in 2012 along with Katina Lillios who co-advised Anna’s thesis. Both Bob and Katina are thrilled that Anna immediately landed a tenure-track position as assistant professor of biology at Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids where she is teaching human anatomy, and busy developing courses that combine human biology and anatomy with her bioarchaeology research focus.

**Matthew Hill**  
In the last year I continued my on-going research project focused on my two main research interests: the earliest big game hunters of the Americas, and the impact that hunting on the past environments of the Great Plains. This work resulted in the publication of a co-authored article in *American Antiquity*, and two book chapters in an edited volume published by the University of Utah Press. I look forward to our planned fieldwork this summer that will involve a number of Anthropology undergraduate and graduate students.

**Meena Khandelwal**  
Meena Khandelwal continues to play a key role in the study of Hindu renunciation. She published “The Cosmopolitan Guru” in *The Guru*, edited by Copeman and Ikegame, and is writing an essay on renunciation and domesticity for *Hinduism in the Modern World*, edited by Brian Hatcher. At the same time, she is making progress on her book project on Indian diaspora development. Meena is also collaborating with Prof. Udaykumar (UI, Engineering) on project to address intertwined issues of energy use, cooking fuel, forest and water resources, gender, and household labor in Rajasthan, India. This year, they gave two presentations on their work and ran an Obermann Center working group to discuss development in India. In Spring 2013 Meena is completing her work as co-editor of the interdisciplinary journal *Religion Compass* and her three-year term on the South Asia Council for Association of Asian Studies. In March 2013, she organized a sponsored panel for AAS that brought together key scholars working on feminist critiques of NGOization and empowerment discourses. At UI, she is completing two years on the Educational Policy Committee and will step down as Director of Undergraduate Studies for GWSS to become the new Director of the South Asian Studies Program.
**DREW KITCHEN**

I had an eventful first year, between teaching three new courses, setting up my computational lab, continuing my research, and settling into my new role as a faculty member in the Anthropology department. In addition to articles published in *Nature Genetics* and *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, I chaired a symposium on infectious disease and evolution at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists and participated in a University of Iowa WorldCanvass outreach program on new genomic technologies. I am now a member of the Genetics Cluster, the Informatics program, and an Obermann Center working group investigating the interstices of social and biological understandings of human behavior. I am excited to have two Iowa Institute of Human Genetics undergraduate interns join my lab for the summer and to tour the state of Iowa with the Faculty Engagement Corps.

**ELLEN LEWIN**

Ellen is making slow progress on her book on a predominantly Africa American LGBT coalition of Pentecostal churches. The book, tentatively titled *Filled With the Spirit*, is under contract with University of Chicago Press. She continues serving as President-Elect of the Association for Feminist Anthropology (AFA), until November 2013, when she will become President. After years of complaining about the lack of curriculum on American cultures, she will teach a new course on the topic in Spring 2014.

**KATINA LILLIOS**

This past year, Katina experienced many firsts and lasts. In the spring of 2012, she hooded her first PhD, Anna Waterman. In the fall, she taught a new class: *The Stuff of Lives: The Archaeology of Material Culture*. After stepping down as DGS, she assumed the role of DUGS. The summer of 2012 was devoted to the final season of excavations at the Late Neolithic burial cave of Bolores, in Portugal. For this season, in addition to Joe Alan Artz and Anna Waterman, the team included UI undergraduates Ana-Monica Racila, Tyler Perkins, and Samantha Sink. Over 1300 remains of adult and children were recovered, many in articulated positions. The minimum number of individuals has now been updated to 34 (although this will likely increase as a result of the systematic study of the entire assemblage, currently underway in Katina’s lab). While finds of material culture were rare (as in previous seasons), some unusual artifacts - a calcite betyl and limestone ‘idol’ - were found. In the fall of 2012, Katina...
gave lectures at Cambridge and Leicester on the early museum guards of the Museu Etnológico Português, and she delivered a conference paper on her plaques work in Stockholm at a meeting of Signum, a new society dedicated to the study of marks and signs. In the spring of 2013, she published her first paper on her guards research in *Museum Anthropology*. This spring Katina also ran her first race in 35 years (just a 5k), and is pleased to report that she neither came in last nor got lost.

**ERICA PRUSSING**

This year Erica managed to procure funding from both the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and the National Science Foundation for a new project that compares how knowledge production and activism are connected in indigenous-controlled epidemiology research centers in New Zealand (Aotearoa) and the United States. She is spending much of the spring in Aotearoa thanks to a Career Development Award from UI, and will continue to gather data for this project at sites in the U.S. over the next several summers. Erica also has two publications in the pipeline about social justice and the politics of knowledge production in health research. The first is forthcoming in *Transcultural Psychiatry*, and examines how the conceptual framework of historical trauma in Native North America has circulated since its initial development in the 1990s. The second had an incredibly long gestation (Erica wrote a very preliminary version as a grad student in public health at UC-Berkeley MANY years ago...!), but is now under review and concerns the interplay of “conventional” and “contextual” perspectives on race in U.S. epidemiological research about social disparities in infant mortality. Erica’s second doctoral student (Jenna Grant) successfully completed and defended a fascinating dissertation this spring about biomedical imaging in Cambodia. Wearing many hats as ever, Erica was elected to Faculty Assembly for 2012-13 and subsequently to the Faculty Senate, where she will begin a 3-year term in fall 2013. Finally, Erica also continues to serve as academic coordinator for the small but vital American Indian & Native Studies Program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

**SONIA RYANG**

Sonia Ryang has obtained an unconditional contract for her “Eating Korean in America: Gastronomic Ethnography of Authenticity” with the University of Hawaii Press. She will be conducting one short additional data gathering trip to Hawaii in December toward this manuscript. She was invited to Stanford University to participate in a conference on North Korea as a dis-

Scott Schnell received a Career Development Award for fall semester, 2012. A generous fellowship from the Japan Foundation allowed him to extend his leave through the spring. He was thus able to spend the entire 2012-2013 academic year in Japan pursuing his research. Scott’s current project focuses on the matagi—traditional hunters, most famously of bear, in the mountainous beech forests of the northeast. The matagi see themselves as vital elements of a complex ecosystem that has been sustained at least in part by human activity for several thousand years. Ironically, as their numbers decline they are currently being promoted by the mass media and ecotourist industry as instructive examples for “coexisting with nature” by maintaining its balance. While in Japan, Scott collaborated with colleagues in publishing articles and presented aspects of his research at several institutions, including Toyama University, Wakayama University, and the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka. His essay entitled “Believing is Seeing: A Religious Perspective on Mountaineering in the Japanese Alps,” was published as a chapter in Nature, Science, and Religion: Intersections Shaping Society and the Environment, a book edited by Catherine Tucker and emanating from the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe.

Glenn Storey

Glenn took a field school to Sicily in the Summer of 2012, which was very successful, initiating a collaboration with Medieval archaeologists from the University of Palermo. Much work was done on exposing the Roman villa, and details of the Abbey structure were illuminated. Much more ground penetrating radar work in Iowa is currently on the agenda, especially cemetery work, including taking students in an Honors Primetime Course to the North Liberty cemetery in Tipton to look for the graves of African-Americans escaping on the Underground Railroad. Glenn and his sister, Dr. Rebecca Storey of the Department of Anthropology, University of Houston, are collaborating on a book-length study of collapse, comparing Rome and the Maya which is in final revision. They also participated in the SIU Visiting Scholar’s Conference on Collapse. Glenn’s chapter on housing and domestic configurations in Rome will soon be appearing in the Cambridge Companion to Ancient Rome.
**EMILY WENTZELL**

Emily is wrapping up a long-term project researching the ways that erectile difficulty influences older, urban Mexican men’s understandings of masculinity and sexuality. In the 2012-3 year, she has published data from this project in *Ethos* and *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, as well as in the edited volumes *Transitions and Transformations: Cultural Perspectives on the Life Course* (Berghan Books) and *Aging Men: Masculinities and Modern Medicine* (Routledge). A book from this project, *Maturing Masculinities: Aging, Chronic Illness and Viagra in Mexico*, is coming out this summer from Duke University Press. Emily also co-edited a volume on medical anthropology’s interdisciplinary commitments, entitled *Medical Anthropology at the Intersections* (Duke University Press). This summer, Emily will complete her third phase of field research with married couples participating in the Cuernavaca, Mexico arm of a multinational, longitudinal study of HPV transmission. On the teaching front, she was honored to receive a College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Collegiate Teaching Award, and to have had the opportunity to advise several fantastic undergraduate research and thesis projects.

**VISITING FACULTY**

**JONATHAN LARSON**

Jonathan’s research focuses on practices of criticism in East Central Europe. While teaching a course and co-supervising an honors thesis in the UI Department of Anthropology during much of the past academic year, Jonathan has been employed three-quarters time at Grinnell College as Assistant Director of Off-Campus Study. His responsibilities there include overseeing two programs, advising students on off-campus study, and contributing to the college’s strategy for international programs.

This April Jonathan’s book, *Critical Thinking in Slovakia after Socialism*, was published by the University of Rochester Press. The book interrogates the putative relationship between critical thought and society through an ethnographic study of civic discourse and education in Slovakia during and after Communist rule. Jonathan has also produced three articles for edited volumes in various stages. “The Authorial Self and Acquiring a Language of Neoliberalism in Slovakia,” on teaching college students to write academic essays in English, is due to be published this year in *Neoliberalism, Personhood, and Postsocialism: Enterprising Selves in Changing Economies* by
Ashgate. The other two—one on samizdat, theories of civil society, and the other on memory and emotion in socialist era denunciation—are under review.

This summer Jonathan is looking forward to spending two and a half weeks in Costa Rica as part of a Grinnell faculty seminar focused on global health. He is using the experience—and hopefully one in Brazil later in 2013—to explore some writing on expertise, cultural brokerage, and internationalization strategies in higher education. He also plans to work on some popular essays around his new book before returning to his next book project on alternative media and sociability in the former Czechoslovakia.

**Adjunct Faculty**

**John Doershuk**

John Doershuk, State Archaeologist and adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology, again organized and served as lead instructor a First-year Seminar (Honors) entitled “Archaeology” during the fall semester (2012) which introduced new UI students to the many resources on the campus for learning about the archaeological past, including labs at the OSA and Macbride Hall. He greatly enjoys the interaction this course provides with the archaeology faculty who kindly share their labs and expertise. John taught “CRM Archaeology: Practice and Practicalities” during spring semester 2013 with 15 undergrads (mostly Anthropology majors) and three Anthropology graduate students. Doershuk attended the fall 2012 Midwest Archaeological Conference, Inc. annual meeting and presented on the Rummells-Maske Clovis Cache (13CD15) at the annual spring meeting (2013) of the Iowa Archeological Society. In addition to serving as the MAC, Inc. Treasurer, he was recently nominated to the Society for American Archaeology Nominating Committee, but retired from the Register of Professional Archaeologists’ Field School Certification Committee after serving 12 years. He reminds all students with archaeological interests to visit OSA and avail themselves of the collections, archives, and personnel to enhance their UI learning experience.

**Kevin Kelly**

Associate research scientist, College of Public Health and adjunct associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, continues work on two CDC funded center grants as well as numerous extracurricular and outreach projects. He is co-investigator and study coordinator for the Keokuk County Rural Health Study and co-investigator and co-director, Evaluation Center, Healthier Workforce Center for Excellence. Extracurricular activities include working with U of South Florida academic and U of Iowa anthropology alumnus (PhD 1993), Richard Nisbett on the analysis of West African anthropometric data, continued collaboration with Dr. John Terrell of the Field Museum, and a manuscript regarding the demise of pre-Columbian lowland population. With the recent publication of the book chapter, “Biological Basis of Cleft Palate,” he now adds ‘veterinary medicine’ to the varied list of academic disciplines within which he has published. Kevin encourages student with interests in human health and variations to contact him regarding research and publication opportunities.
Meredith Anderson
Meredith is an anthropological archaeologist currently working on her Ph.D. Her professional interests include American Southwest and Mesoamerican ceramic analysis, lithic technologies, and Prehistoric exchange networks. Meredith’s doctoral research is focused on trade economy and consumption patterns in rural Classic-period sites at Teotihuacan. This research in part examines the relationship between the phenomenal economic and political success of Teotihuacan during the first few hundreds of years A.D. and the control and maintenance of obsidian exchange and procurement. Meredith also has approximately seven years of Cultural Resource Management (CRM) experience, and has worked on a range of Phase I, II, and III projects, including large Federal energy and infrastructure projects. Recently, her CRM work has focused on ensuring compliance with FCC requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Meredith received a 2013 Graduate College Summer Fellowship to support her ongoing dissertation research in Teotihuacan, Mexico.

Cindee Calton
Cindee is a sixth year student in linguistic anthropology. Her research examines ideologies of American Sign Language students and their teachers, and how these ideologies influence classroom experiences. Cindee conducted a multi-site dissertation research project at U.S. universities about sign language in higher education. She is currently in the process of writing her dissertation. Cindee’s chapter, “Sign-Gain: What We Learned From Sign Languages When We Stopped Having To Defend Them” will be published in the edited volume, The New Normal: Deaf-gain and the Future of Human Diversity in 2014. Cindee is currently working in the Lifelong Learning division of the Science Museum of Minnesota. At the museum, Cindee helps coordinate technology classes and develops and teaches classes in technology, engineering, science, and math. Cindee has also recently become involved in applied research at the museum. She is putting her anthropology skills to work by participating in data collection for an evaluation of a recently built museum exhibit entitled “The Wonder Years.” Cindee is also as adjunct instructor at Black Hawk College, where she teaches introductory Cultural Anthropology and Physical Anthropology.

Congratulations to Susie Donaldson. Susie was the recipient of the 2012-2013 June Helm Award. The June Helm Award is a solely grad student administered award and provides a means for UI Department of Anthropology grad students to recognize one of our own peers for commitment to service to the department and to the broader community.

The award is given in honor of our department’s founder and her life of service to the four-fielded discipline of Anthropology. June Helm’s record of service to the discipline, and her reputation for standing up to “absurd bureaucratic practices and departmental policies,” had earned her the tremendous respect of many.

June enthusiastically gave her support and her name to the award upon one condition: that the award remain in the hands of graduate students and not in the hands of the faculty. Now that June Helm is no longer with us, the award is presented with honorable admiration and remembrance of all she did for our department and the discipline as a whole.
SusieDonaldson

Susie is a PhD candidate currently writing her dissertation on burley tobacco farm work and identity in a community in Northeast Tennessee. Her work focuses on a period of rapid change in tobacco production and marketing: 1990 – 2012. She examines the ways in which rural residents, particularly farmers and seasonal farmworkers, negotiate the materiality and cultural meaning of work within this context. Susie was awarded a Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship to complete this dissertation during the 2013 – 2014 school year. Despite returning from the field in 2012, Susie has continued to do quite a bit of traveling. She attended four conferences this year, where she served as an organizer and presenter. Susie particularly enjoyed co-organizing a panel for the Annual Meeting of Society for Applied Anthropology with fellow UI graduate students Nina Ortiz, Jill Scott, Jill Davis and Eli Gonzalez. Their panel, “Accessing the Resource of Anthropology: Making Anthropology More Public and Making the Public More Anthropological,” is available via podcast @ http://sfaapodcasts.net/

This year, Susie served as AnthGrad Vice-President for the 2012 – 2013 and worked as a student mentor for the UI CriticalMASS program. She also remains active in the AAA where she continues to serve as Program Chair for Culture & Agriculture and has taken a new position as Anthropology News Section Editor for the Society for the Anthropology of Work (SAW).

Elias “Eli” Gonzalez

Eli has completed his second year of course work in the anthropology department and his research interests involve issues surrounding race, class, gender, sex, ability and how these various social phenomena interact and inform attitudes and constructions of sexuality. Elias is interested in different aspects of sexuality such as: kink/fetish sexuality; sex education and advocacy; and sexual health in local, national and international contexts. Non-sexuality based areas of interests include: activism and community building; fandom/nerd/geek subcultures; urban development; social history narratives of local/regional identities; and sense of place.

Eli’s dissertation research focuses on how queer identified people on the U.S.-Mexico border navigate, construct and interpret space and risk in the context of their intersecting identities of race, class, gender and sexuality. Elias is currently serving as a Teaching Assistant for “Language, Culture and Communication” and is currently serving as Treasurer for the Anthropology Graduate Student Association at the University of Iowa.

This year he presented his Master’s research on sexual silence as a changing cultural practice among lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals living in El
End of Year Update Graduate Students

Paso, TX at the 2012 American Anthropological Association meetings in San Francisco, CA in November. He also presented on a panel at the 2013 Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Denver, CO in March. The panel consisted of fellow graduate students Susie Donaldson, Nina Ortiz, Jill Scott and Jill Davis. Despite a harrowing journey back to Iowa City which involved a busted tire, frozen roads and multiple detours he had a great time with his fellow graduate students and looks forward to the 2013 AAA meetings in Chicago.

Brandi Janssen
Brandi is a cultural anthropologist, finishing her sixth year in the department. Much of 2012-2013 was spent teaching at Kirkwood Community College and Knox College in Galesburg, IL. In addition, she is the Editorial Assistant for American Anthropologist. This year Brandi presented research at the AAA Meetings as well as the annual meeting of the Society for Economic Anthropology. Next year will be her final year and she will continue to teach at Kirkwood and work for *American Anthropologist*.

Noah Johnson
Noah is completing his second year of graduate work in the Anthropology program, and closing in on the completion of his Master’s. He continues to do fieldwork into the practice and organization of Matsubayashi Shōrin-ryu karate, a specific style of karate developed in Okinawa, Japan that now has a global presence, including organizations in the United States. Over the last summer, he traveled to Okinawa, Japan to conduct his preliminary fieldwork on a Stanley Award, and has presented the preliminary findings of this, his Master’s researcher, at the Second City Anthropology Conference hosted by UI - Chicago. Noah is dedicated to the philosophy that academic research should engage and inform responses to contemporary problems and seeks to take direction in developing research projects from the challenges that face society. As such, he participated in the Obermann Institute for Engagement in the Academy over the Winter Break, a week-long workshop on public engagement. 2012-2013 also saw the publication of Noah’s first academic article, “The Japanization of Karate? Placing an Intangible Cultural Practice” in *The Journal of Contemporary Anthropology*, a peer-referred graduate student journal published at Purdue University.

Eleanor King
Eleanor King is a fifth year Cultural Anthropology graduate student currently living in Princeton, NJ. Before completing her comprehensive exams in the Fall of 2012, Eleanor received a Critical Language Scholarship from the State Department to study Japanese at Doshisha University in Kyoto during the Summer of 2012. In November, Eleanor presented a paper on the object-ification of gender in Japanese popular culture at the annual National Communication Studies conference in Orlando, Florida.

Farai Marazi
Farai Marazi completed his comprehensive exams in December 2012 and will start the dissertation fieldwork component of his studies in the summer of 2013. His current work involves the use of ethnographic methods to investigate diabetes treatment for homeless people in Brooklyn, New York, that use mobile clinics. Farai has been conducting research about homelessness in New York City since the summer of 2009. During the summer of 2011, he was in NYC conducting pilot research for the proposed project on diabetes, which will be the
subject of his dissertation fieldwork. The aim of the study is to examine the microeconomic demands of treating diabetes that pose problems to homeless populations, and the degree to which their health care providers understand and respond to this social context. Throughout graduate school, Farai’s research interests and coursework in medical anthropology have focused on unmasking the sources of social inequality and poor health for the homeless by exploring conditions of inadequate housing and health structures.

**HANNAH MARSH**

Hannah has had a busy and productive year. Just recently she successfully defended her dissertation, “Beyond Thick versus Thin: Mapping Cranial Vault Thickness Patterns in Recent Homo sapiens” and is graduating on May, 2013, and will be moving on to take a one year visiting faculty position at the University of Central Missouri to teach Physical Anthropology. At the Annual Meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, she presented an outgrowth of her ongoing research: “Is Thicker Better? Testing Adaptation Hypotheses for Cranial Vault Thickness.” The 2013 Oliven Invited Lecture at Kirkwood Community College was given by Hannah in which she explored the broad subject of: “Race and Biology: Why do people look different and what does it all mean?” Along with Deirdre Egan, a PhD student in Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, she has also developed an educational lecture on the history and biology of the so-called “racial” differences discussed in society, and together they have presented this lecture to classes in Anthropology, Nursing and Biology. The goal of this work is to encourage frank conversations about the public perceptions and misnomers of race. Hannah has also contributed to the founding of an Obermann Working Group called “Crossing the Social/Biological Divide,” which focuses on interpretations of scientific work in the general media and culture, especially when pertaining to gender and population/geographic variation in humans. At the Annual Meetings of the Iowa Association of Community College Biology Teachers on the topic of Race and Biology in September, 2012, Hannah was the keynote speaker. During the past academic year she also taught full courses in anthropology for the University of Iowa, and for Kirkwood Community College. To keep a healthy perspective on research and teaching, she has also competed at 6 ballroom dancing competitions this school year, including the Collegiate National Championships, with the Hawkeye Ballroom and Latin Dance Company, receiving many ribbons. Although she has been quite busy, the year has also been highly productive and we’re sure that Hannah looks forward to an even more productive year coming up.
Brandi Muller
Having graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. in Anthropology in May of 2011, Brandi is finishing her first year of graduate school with a focus on medical anthropology. She is particularly interested in American cultures of food and eating, cross-cultural food studies, and American cultural contributions to obesity. This summer, she will begin field research for her M.A. project during which she will be studying the relationships between occupational spaces and diet. In the fall of 2012, she will begin teaching assistantship and the writing portion of her M.A. project.

Marlis M. Muschal
Marlis is an archaeology student with a research focus on Great Plains prehistory. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and History from Marquette University, and she spent 2 field seasons working for the U.S. Forest Service in Wilmington, Illinois (Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie), and in Steamboat Springs, Colorado (Routt National Forest). Her academic interests, among many, include lithic studies, landscape use, and geomorphology.

Alejandro Muzzio
Alejandro is a PhD candidate specializing in Latin American Cultural Anthropology, advised by Dr. Michael Chibnik. He researches the effects of politics on development programs in emerging markets, with specific attention paid to the conditions of labor. Currently, he’s collecting data on the viability and outcomes of tourism ventures and development programs in Garifuna communities on the north coast of Honduras. His masters thesis focused on immigrant labor in Iowa’s agricultural sector. In his spare time he researches and implements equities investment strategies in his online brokerage account. Also, he buys and sells silver bullion, military relics, and used road bicycles. He’s taught courses on culture and society, world problems, socio-linguistics, human impacts on the environment, and archeology.

Liz Newbury
Liz is continuing data collection for her dissertation, working with biobanks in Iowa and Wisconsin, focusing on community representation and engagement in biobanking and the use of community advisory boards in biobank governance. Work in Wisconsin is supported in part by a research travel grant from the UI Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research (CGRER). A co-authored paper, “Public perspectives on biospecimen pro-
Cristina (Nina) Ortiz
Nina spent the year finishing her dissertation funded by a Ballard-Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship. Her research and community involvement have led to a number of interesting opportunities this year including consulting with a community college about cultural competence, interpreting for the Iowa Department of Corrections, advocating for eliminating paperwork barriers to adult education programs, and fielding media interest in her research. She participated in the Refugees in the Heartland conference in Iowa City, presented with a panel of Iowa students at SfAA in Denver and had a poster at SEA in St. Louis. This year was also Nina’s first as co-editor of the CSAS section news with former Iowa student Lauren Anaya. Nina was introduced to the academic job market in Anthropology this year and will begin as Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota at Morris in the Fall.

Tony Pomales
Tony is completing his fifth year of graduate studies in cultural anthropology with a focus on medical feminist anthropology. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame. His research interests include the politics of reproduction and gender and sexuality in Latin America. Tony is currently completing a year of fieldwork in Costa Rica. His article entitled “Men’s Narratives of Vasectomy: Rearticulating Masculinity and Contraceptive Responsibility in San Jose, Costa Rica” was recently published in the March 2013 edition of Medical Anthropology Quarterly. In the fall, Tony will be returning to Iowa City to TA in the Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies Department and begin work on his dissertation.

Shelby Putt
Shelby is a fourth year student with a focus in paleoanthropology. Since last year, she has focused on completing the last of her course credit requirements and working on her dissertation prospectus. She defends her prospectus in May and will be taking her comprehensive exams this summer. Shelby is now affiliated with the Delta Center at the University of Iowa, which is an interdisciplinary research center that seeks to understand the processes of change in learning and development. She is collaborating with several psy-
chologists on a pilot experiment using functional near infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) to investigate whether the presence of language while learning to flintknap leads to measurable differences in neural activation patterns. Shelby is working with Dr. Lillios on a paper that examines the uses and trafficking of ground stone tools in southwestern Iberia during the Neolithic, and she is also preparing her Masters research for publication. She continues to TA for Human Origins but is looking forward to teaching two classes she proposed, next year.

**Misha Quill**

Misha is a PhD candidate, currently conducting dissertation fieldwork on the role of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) on the resolution of protracted refugee situations. Her fieldsite is in Teknaf, Bangladesh, where a number of INGOs work alongside local organizations and UN agencies to assist Rohingya refugees, most of whom fled Myanmar in the 1990s. Misha’s fieldwork has been supported by a dissertation fellowship from the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, a T. Anne Cleary Fellowship, Crossing Borders research funds, and summer funding from the UI graduate college.

**Jill Scott**

Jill is a PhD candidate in paleoanthropology whose research continues to focus on the evolutionary significance of the chin in Homo sapiens as well as assessing variation in mandibular symphyseal morphology across genus Homo. In summer 2012, Jill helped excavate one of the field sites of fellow graduate student, Christian Haunton, in Homestead, IA, where she learned more about the historic use of outhouses than she ever expected. During the fall 2012 semester, Jill taught Forensic Anthropology and CSI in the UI Department of Anthropology as well as Human Biology at Kirkwood Community College. Jill also assisted Dr. Chibnik with a statistical analysis of the peer review process for the American Anthropologist, the results of which will be featured in the “From the Editor” piece in the June 2013 American Anthropologist. In March 2013, Jill presented a talk entitled “Teaching the Applied Science of Forensic Anthropology as a Public Resource” at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Denver as part of a panel with four other UI Anthropology graduate students. In April 2013, Jill presented a talk about her research entitled, “Masticatory and Non-Masticatory Spatial Explanations for Mandibular Symphyseal Morphology in Extant Homo sapiens” at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA) annual meeting in Knoxville, TN. At
the 2013 AAPAs Jill also served as an abstract reviewer and undergraduate student mentor for the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Jill was also selected as the first ever AAPA Student Liaison to the Executive Committee, and in this role she has led a number of initiatives to increase student engagement in the AAPA, including founding an AAPA student committee. This summer, Jill is traveling to 12 countries throughout Europe to collect dissertation data from fossil and recent Homo. Additionally, Jill will present some of her preliminary dissertation findings at the BioAnthropological Meeting at the University of Coimbra in Portugal.

JONATHAN T. THOMAS
Jonathan T. Thomas is an anthropologist who studies the relationship between the production of material culture and archaeological ideas about social complexity. His research centers on the creation of complex sociopolitical identities through the use of diverse types of personal ornaments found in the Late Neolithic and Copper Age collective burials of southwestern Portugal. Jonathan is slated to finish his dissertation “Late Neolithic and Copper Age Beads of the Portuguese Estremadura” in the spring of 2014, with the support of a Ballard and Seashore Graduate Fellowship. He also currently works as a medical anthropologist at the Iowa City VA Medical Center, researching issues related to patient care. The courses he has taught include Cultural Anthropology, Prehistory, Rhetoric, The Anthropology of Art, and The Origins of Inequality. His latest work, “The Cousins of Sarah Baartman: Fertility, Pornography, and the ‘Curvaceous’ Venuses of Ice Age Europe” is set to appear in an upcoming issue of The Believer magazine.

SARAH TRABERT
Sarah is in her fifth year and has spent the last two semesters writing grants and planning the last of her data collection. Her dissertation is focusing on the effects of colonialism on populations not directly under colonial rule and will continue her research into the connections between Puebloan groups in the Southwest and Dismal River Aspect groups living on the High Plains during the Protohistoric period. She has applied for ten grants, received three, and is awaiting decisions on five of them. She is planning on traveling to Colorado, Wyoming, and Kansas this summer to finish her data collection and visit family. In addition to serving as Dr. Jim Enloe’s teaching assistant for the UI archaeological field school in May and June, Sarah, along with Dr. Matt Hill, Dr. Margaret Beck, and Marlis Muschal, will be taking several undergraduate and graduate students out to western Kansas in June to excavate a Dismal River aspect site. On a more personal note, Sarah got engaged last October and will be getting married in May 2014, and looks forward to juggling wedding planning with research, travel, and work!
JENNIFER TRIVEDI
Jennifer is a sociocultural anthropology doctoral candidate writing her dissertation on recovery from Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, Mississippi. She is part of a University of Iowa student team working with the CDC to design training for hospital staff to learn to use an Emergency Operations Plan. She is currently a volunteer/intern with the Gender and Disaster Network (GDN). Jennifer presented her paper, Humanitarian Assistance After Katrina: Agency, Resilience, and Sustainability, at the University of Iowa Continuing Education on Campus Workshop on Topics in Global Health: Natural Disasters and Humanitarian Assistance and her paper, “The Land Mass between New Orleans and Mobile”: Perception of Media Coverage and Resource Distribution for Hurricanes in Mississippi, was presented on her behalf by A. Rey Villanueva at the 2013 SfAAs. She had articles on the definition of disasters, documentation, FEMA, hurricanes, typhoons, and cyclones, NIMS, and poverty appear in the Encyclopedia of Crisis Management in 2013 and has a book chapter “Empty Lots: Success or Failure of Sustainable Urbanization and Development Against Flooding?” forthcoming in A Global Survey of Sustainable Development in Areas of Social Vulnerability in 2014.

MIRANDA (RANDI) UTZINGER
Miranda (Randi) Utzinger is a biological anthropology graduate student, with a primary interest in paleoanthropology. She received her BA in Anthropology from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2008, and her MS in Archaeology/Bioarchaeology from Illinois State University in 2010. She is currently researching the ontogenetic patterning of the posterior cranium in fossil and extant Homo, and working on her comprehensive exams. She has presented her research at the 2010 Central States Anthropological Society meeting, the 2010 Illinois State University Graduate Research Symposium, and the 2013 American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting.

ALISSA WHITMORE
Alissa Whitmore is a 7th year Archaeology Grad Student, who defended her dissertation this April. Her project uses small finds from Roman public baths to explore the social identities of bathers, their activities, and variation in Roman bathing culture across baths of different types, dates, and geographic locations. She has presented the results of her dissertation at the AIA and SAA annual meetings and was invited to present a paper at the Thermae in Context International Congress this past February. Her research has also been picked up by the media, and has appeared in Archaeology magazine, the Huffington Post, Iowa Public Radio, and the German news magazine Der Spiegel.

MEREDITH WISMER
Meredith is an archaeology graduate student with a focus on zooarchaeology. Her dissertation research focuses on changes in faunal subsistence throughout the Archaic and Woodland periods of the northern tallgrass prairies in the midcontinental United States. Meredith is continuing her studies from Arizona, where she moved last fall semester. In addition to working on her dissertation research, she is an instructor for Arizona Western College, working as an archaeological field technician, and finishing the faunal analysis for the West Fork Rock Creek site (10Oa275) with Matthew E. Hill, Jr. She presented the preliminary results of this analysis at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology this spring in Honolulu, Hawaii.
anthropology Students Ana-Monica Racila and Samantha Skaar setting high standards for undergraduate research

At the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU) Spring Undergraduate Research Fair both Ana-Monica Racila and Samantha Skaar presented outstanding posters. Anthropology major Ana-Monica Racila for had her poster recognized as Distinguished in the Social Sciences, the top award, at the Spring Undergraduate Research Fair. Samantha Skaar’s poster was selected for Research at the Capitol and also presented at Des Moines. Samantha also serves as a Research Ambassador, encouraging other undergraduates across campus to participate in such programs. Congratulations to both of these accomplished students!

Above: Ana-Monica Racila with her poster at the Spring Undergraduate Research Fair Summer 2012.
Below: Samantha Skaar working in the research lab to identify remains found at the Plum Grove historical site in Iowa City.

Photos courtesy of Shelby Putt
Degree Conferrals

Ph.D. Degrees Summer 2012

Cerisa Reynolds
Meat at the Origins of Agriculture: Faunal Use and Resource Pressure at the Origins of Agriculture in the Northern U.S. Southwest (Enloe)

Ph.D. Degrees Fall 2012

Chad S. Uran
The Aesthetics and Politics of Ojibwe Language Revitalization (Colloredo-Mansfeld/Schnell)

Ph.D. Degrees Spring 2013

Erica Begun-Veenstra
Detecting Ethnicity at Teotihuacan through Archaeology: The West Mexican Presence at Structure N1W5:19 (Storey)

Jenna Grant
Technology, Clarity, and Uncertainty: An Ethnography of Biomedical Imaging in Phnom Penh (Prussing)

Hannah Marsh
Beyond Thick Versus Thin: Mapping Cranial Vault Thickness Patterns in Recent Homo Sapiens (Ciochon)

Cristina L. Ortiz
Making Meatville: Belonging and Migration in a Midwest Meatpacking Town (Khandelwal)

Clare Tolmie
Animals for Food, Animals for Tools: Fauna as a Source of Raw Material at Abri Cellier and the Grotte Du Renne, Arcy-Sur-Cure (Enloe)

Alissa M. Whitmore
Small Finds and the Social Environment of the Roman Public Baths (Storey)
**M.A Degrees**

**FALL 2012**

**Ligia Fragoso**
Decentering religious practice through new media? The case of online gohonzon distribution (Schnell)

**S.PRING 2013**

**Noah Johnson**
Defenders, Brokers, and Disciples: Transnational Encounters in Okinawan Karate (Schnell)

**Christie Vogler**
Imaginings of the Other: A new interpretation of Oedipus and the Sphinx in Greek Vase Painting (Storey)

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**Thank You to our administrative support staff members!**

Beverly Poduska and Shari Knight expertly juggle the multiple demands of a busy department and do so with grace, flexibility, and good humor. Their hard work and dedication is deeply appreciated by faculty and students alike.

Below: Beverly welcomes her granddaughter, Katelyn Elizabeth, into the world, and we welcome her into the anthropology department family!

Photo courtesy of Beverly Poduska
Note from the Editor:

Thanks to everyone in the UI Anthropology Department who has contributed to producing this edition of The AnthroObserver!

Special thanks go to Christian Haunton, Jill Scott, Ana-Monica Racila, and Susie Donaldson for writing extended features, and to Drew Kitchen and Elana Buch for sending such thoughtful reflections at the last minute. Also to Nina Ortiz, Katina Lillios, Alejandro Muzzio, and Shelby Putt for photo contributions, to Ryan Nenninger for IT wizardry, and to Shari Knight, Beverly Poduska, and the newsletter faculty advisor Meena Khandelwal for information-gathering assistance.

And finally, thanks to Liz Newbury, former AnthroObserver editor, for answering and predicting all of my questions, and for generously providing me with all the tools I needed to follow in her footsteps.

As usual, all errors and omissions are entirely my own.

Best to you all,
Eleanor King
AnthroObserver editor, 2012-2013

To give a gift to the Department of Anthropology please click here.