

Department of Anthropology
Case Western Reserve University

Departmental Newsletter

Spring 2001

TWO NEW GRANTS ON TIBET

1) Tibet Archive and Oral History project, The Henry Luce Foundation, \$270,000, 2001-2004. P.I.-Dr. Melvyn C. Goldstein

This three year project is designed to fill a critical gap in our knowledge of modern Tibetan history and society by producing two important outcomes: 1) the collection on audiotape of roughly 1,000 hours of oral history interviews with Tibetans in Tibet, 2) the creation of a digitalized on-line archive to ensure that the entire corpus of Tibetan oral history accounts are available to future historians/scholars and to future generations of Tibetans. The new archive will also include roughly a thousand hours of interviews that Dr. Goldstein conducted on a previous project with Tibetan historical figures on historical events as well as interviews on the Cultural Revolution in Tibet that are currently being conducted with funding received last semester from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The archive will be housed in the Center for Research on Tibet (Anthropology Department) and the Kelvin J. Smith Library, and will become a major resource for the study of twentieth century Tibetan history and society.

The oral history interviews that will be conducted by this project will provide the first in-depth window on how diverse Tibetans lived their lives in the traditional society and how their lives changed after the Chinese government ended the traditional

system and implemented socialist institutions in 1959 (after the Dalai Lama fled to exile in India). It will result in a book tentatively titled: "Tibetan Voices: An Oral History of Modern Tibet".

2) A Political and Social History of the Cultural Revolution in Tibet, National Endowment for the Humanities, \$170,000, 2000-2003. P.I.-Dr. Melvyn C. Goldstein

One of the glaring gaps in our knowledge of modern Tibet/Chinese history is the ten-year period of the Cultural Revolution (CR) in Tibet (1966-76). Although a great deal of excellent research has been produced for the Cultural Revolution in China (for the Han Chinese areas), there is virtually no research about this period in Tibet (the Tibet Autonomous Region), either within the Chinese academic community or in the West. The decade of the CR, however, is extremely important for understanding modern Tibetan history and the current Sino-Tibetan conflict. Tibet during the Cultural Revolution experienced massive internal conflict and struggle, foundational socio-cultural and economic transformations, and a little known series of bloody anti-government revolts. The aim of this three year project is to fill this critical gap in our knowledge by investigating the Tibetan Cultural Revolution in depth using a multifaceted approach that integrates "oral history" data with other published and archival materials. The result will be an objective and detailed political and social history of the period and the creation of a unique and invaluable archive of oral-history interviews.



FACULTY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. Cynthia Beall was appointed Chair of the U.S. National Committee of the International Union of Biological Sciences. She was also elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in the United States.

Dr. Rachel Chapman and **Dr. Jim Shaffer** have been nominated for the 2001 Carl F. Wittke Award.

Dr. Thomas Csordas has been appointed Armington Professor of Anthropology and Religion for the two year period from 2001-2003. This endowed professorship was established by Elizabeth and Raymond Armington to support a faculty member whose professional activity and personal character exemplify important values, in particular the “qualities of individual initiative tempered with appropriate concern for the rights of others”.

Dr. Jill Korbin is serving on an Institute of Medicine Panel, “Pathophysiology and Prevention of Adolescent and Adult Suicide”.

Dr. Janet McGrath received a \$25,000 grant from the Center for AIDS Research for a one-year study of “Feasibility of the clinical trials of vaginal microbicides for protection from HIV infection in Kampala, Uganda”. The study co-PI is **Dr. Charles Rwabukwali**, Associate Dean of Social Sciences at Makerere University in Kampala. **Dr. Rwabukwali** received his Ph.D. at CWRU in 1997. The study will examine women and men’s anticipated attitudes towards use of vaginal microbicides and participation in clinical trials. The study is in collaboration with

Dr. Michael Lederman and **Dr. Robert Salata** of the Division of Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Brian Redmond (Adjunct) was appointed in January, Acting Director for Science to fill in for **Dr. Bruce Latimer** (Adjunct), who is now serving as the Interim Director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Melvyn Goldstein was appointed to the Academic Advisory Board and Research Committee of the Observatori del Tibet i Asia Central de la Universitat de Barcelona, the first center dedicated to Tibet and Central Asia in Spain.

LECTURES

Dr. Melvyn Goldstein has given four recent lectures: (1) “*China and Its Minority Populations*” to the Asia Society in Washington, D.C. on February 5, 2001; (2) “*China’s Minority Policy Toward Tibetans*” at the Smith Richardson Foundation Conference on China’s Administration of National Minorities, Washington, D.C., February 2-4, 2001. (3) “*Progress and Problems in Rural Tibet*” at the annual meeting of the Association of Asian Studies meetings in March, 2001. (4) “*Problems Concerning Pastoral Development in Tibet*” at the Symposium on Sustainable Development in Tibet at Brandeis University on May 6, 2001.

Dr. Cynthia Beall made a presentation of her research on high altitude adaptation at the annual AAAS meeting in February. The title of her presentation was “*Humans and Mountain Environments: Evolutionary Perspectives*”. She also spoke at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology University of California at Berkeley, on “*Andean and Tibetan Patterns of Adaptation to High-Altitude Hypoxia*” on February 15, 2001.



Dr. Charlotte Ikels delivered a paper entitled “Between Socialism and the Market: Housing Privatization in Guangzhou” at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco in November, 2000.

Dr. Jim Shaffer and **Dr. Diane Lichtenstein** of Baldwin-Wallace College participated in a symposium during April 18-22, 2001 in New Orleans, Louisiana. It was the program of the 66th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology. Their topic was “The Concept of Migration in South Asian Archaeology.”

NEW BOOKS PUBLISHED:

Dr. Melvyn Goldstein “*The New Tibetan-English Dictionary of Modern Tibetan.*” University of California Press, 2001, 1211 pages.

Dr. Thomas Csordas has edited a theme issue of Medical Anthropology Quarterly (December, 2000) devoted to the Navajo Healing Project. The issue is entitled “*Ritual Healing in Navajo Society*”, and features articles by **Dr. Csordas**, graduate students, and Navajo researchers who have worked on the project.

RECENT ARTICLES PUBLISHED

Dr. Cynthia Beall - 2000 - Tibetan and Andean Patterns of Adaptation to High-Altitude Hypoxia, in *Human Biology* 72(1):201-228.

Dr. Cynthia Beall – 2000 - Oxygen Saturation Increases During Childhood and Decreases During Adulthood Among High-Altitude Native Tibetans Residing at 3800-4200m in *High-Altitude Medicine and Biology* 1(1):25-32.

Dr. Cynthia Beall, - 2000 - Tibetan and Andean Contrasts in Adaptation to High-Altitude Hypoxia in *Oxygen Sensing. Molecule to Man*. S. Lahiri, N.R. Prabhakar, R. E. Forster (eds.). *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*, volume 475, pp. 63-74.

Dr. Cynthia Beall, and **A. T. Steegmann, Jr.**- 2000 - Human Adaptation to Climate: Temperature, Ultraviolet Radiation, and Altitude in *Human Biology: An Evolutionary and Biocultural Perspective*. Stinson, B. Bogin, R. Huss-Ashmore, and D. O'Rourke (eds.), Wiley-Liss, Inc., New York, pp. 163-224.

Dr. Atwood Gaines, Amasa Ford, Marie Haug, Kurt Stange, Linda S. Noelker, and Paul K. Jones - 2000 - Sustained Personal Autonomy: A Measure of Successful Aging in *Journal of Aging and Health* 12(4). (October).

Dr. Rachel Chapman, and **D. Irvin** - 2000 “On Our Own and In Our Own Way: A Study of African-American Motherhood in Los Angeles”. In Gail Harrison, ed. *Studies in Diversity: Rapid Ethnographic Assessment of Experiences and Perceptions of Pregnancy. Feeding and Health Care in Four Los Angeles Ethnic Groups*. Los Angeles, CA: Public Health Foundation of Los Angeles County. (September).

Dr. Brian Redmond - 2000 – Reviewing the Late Prehistory of Ohio. In: “*Cultures Before Contact: The Late Prehistory of Ohio and Surrounding Regions*”, edited by R. Genheimer, pp. 426-437. Ohio Archaeological Council, Columbus.

Dr. Brian Redmond and **Robert G. McCullough** – 2000 – The Late Woodland to Late Prehistoric Occupations of Central Indiana. In: *Late Woodland Societies: Tradition and Transformation Across the Midcontinent*, edited by T. Emerson, D. McElrath, and A. Fortier, pp. 643-683. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln.



Kenneth B. Tankersley and **Dr. Brian Redmond** - 2000 – “*Ice Age Ohio: A Deep Cave Yields Evidence of Paleoindian, Climate Change, and the Demise of the Megamimals*”. *Archaeology*, November/December 2000:42-46. The Archaeological Institute of America. (With **K. B. Tankersley**).

GRADUATE NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Christina Saunders has received a NSF dissertation award to conduct her dissertation fieldwork in the Cleveland area. She is examining the illness experiences of women who are short-term breast cancer survivors. The focus is on capturing and understanding their illness experience in the light of their disease, which leaves them in a state of uncertainty – unable to know if they are cured or facing a future recurrence (and subsequent death from breast cancer). Emphasis is being placed on the understanding of the women as sick or healthy, conceptualization and response to recurrence risk, the concept of survivorship, health promoting behaviors, and information acquisition through social networks. This project is funded by the National Science Foundation. **Dr. Janet McGrath** is PI, **Dr. Charlotte Ikels** and **Dr. Janis Jenkins** are committee members. Participants are being recruited through a parent study through the support of **Dr. Laura Siminoff** at CWRU’s School of Medicine and come from across Northeast Ohio.

Dawn Miller, M.A., doctoral student in medical anthropology, has been awarded the Phi Beta Kappa grant for her dissertation research in Cuba.

Kate Masley and **Sanna Chen** have received the *Eva L. Pancoast Fellowship* for the summer of 2001. **Kate Masley** plans to travel to Honduras and begin some preliminary dissertation research. She is going to investigate barriers to access and treatment of prenatal care experienced by Honduran women. **Sanna Chen** plans to conduct a preliminary research in Taiwan of her dissertation topic, which is on Chinese women’s lying in practices, since there is a tradition of what is called “Sitting in a Month”. Some of her time will be spent in Taipei, the capital, to gather literature and information at the National Taiwan University. The rest of the time will be spent in Pingtung City to explore specifically the situation there.

DISSERTATIONS DEFENDED

Elizabeth Coker has successfully defended her dissertation, “Reinterpreting Cultural Symbols through Biomedical Discourse: The Making of the Psychiatric Patient in Egypt”, last year and graduated. She took up a new job as assistant professor of anthropology in the department of anthropology/sociology/psychology of the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

C. Jeffrey Jacobson, Jr. has successfully defended his dissertation “Spirits, Demons, and Nightmares: Moral Images of Self and Other in Puerto Rican Life History and Religious Discourse” last November. He will be graduating in May, 2001. He is interviewing for faculty positions in Medical and Psychological Anthropology.

Ben Jiao has successfully defended his dissertation entitled, “Socio-economic and Cultural Factors Underlying the Contemporary Revival of Fraternal Polyandry in Tibet”. He returned to a position at the Tibet Academy of Social Sciences in Lhasa.



Joanna Skilogianis has successfully defended her dissertation, “Great Expectations vs. State Expectations: Fertility Limitation Among Women in Urban Greece”. She received her degree last August, and has taken a new post with the CDC’s population branch in Washington, D.C.

Students’ Association of Graduate Anthropologists (SAGA)

Anthropology graduate students have started Graduate Discourse: Students’ Association of Graduate Anthropologists (SAGA) this semester, and hope to continue the organization in the future. They have also begun a Buddy System where incoming graduate students are paired up with older graduate students here in the department so that they will have a source to ask questions and receive information both about living in Cleveland as well as the anthropology experience here at CWRU. We’ve had prospective students visit in the past couple of weeks and all the graduate students have been wonderful about meeting with them and answering endless questions as well as offering advice. This has sure made a definite impact on the decision making of the incoming students. The older graduate students have made a wonderful welcoming committee. The Anthropology Department would like to thank these graduate students for all their efforts.

There is also a website, for Graduate Discourse,
<http://home.cwru.edu/graduatediscourse/>.

BABY NEWS!

Heather Lindstrom-Ufuti is proud to announce the arrival of her son, **Christopher Tinoga Ufuti**, on September 25, 2000 at 11:01 am. Christopher is beautiful, healthy and strong, and weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces at birth. He was 20 inches long and has fingers and toes that makes **Heather** worry whether he'll be wearing size 17 shoes in no time at all!

Heather would like to thank all of you who have kept her in your thoughts throughout the pregnancy and difficult birth, and most especially for your well wishes and congratulations.

Also **Christina Saunders** had a baby! **Tristan Alexander Johannes Sturm** was born November 25, 2000. He was born at six pounds, 13 ounces, 19 inches. He joins **Katrina Isabel**, who is two. She seems to think that he is very funny and good to kiss. At 4 months, he is all smiles and struggles to sit up.

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS’ NEWS!

Congratulations!

Stephanie M. Rieder is the 2001 winner of the James Dysart Magee Award. She is enrolled in the department’s Integrated Graduate Studies Program.



The newly elected 2001-2002 Anthropology Society Executive Board members:

President: **Melissa Rae Giglio (mrg7)**
Vice President: **Joseph Sage (jds27)**
Publicity Chair: **Karl Knauer (kuk)**
Treasurer/Webmaster: **Sahar Dar (sxd25)**
Secretary: **Meaghan Combs (mac13)**

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Anthropology Society events planned for Fall 2001 include:

Alcohol: Cross-Country Perspectives Panel Discussion at the annual **Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll Conference** on September 28, 2001. If you are interested in serving on the panel for this event, email mrg7.

Anthropology Appreciation Day tentatively set for August 30, 2001.

What Can I Do With an Anthropology Degree? Discussion led by a panel of faculty, professionals, graduate/undergraduate students who hold an Anthropology degree, or are in the process of obtaining one. Tentatively set for October 25, 2001. If you are interested in serving on the panel for this event, email mrg7.

Natural History Museum Trip tentatively set for November 10, 2001.

All of these programs are tentative, depending on USG funding allotments.

For more information about the CWRU Anthropology Society, stop by their table at the **Annual Student Activities Fair** in August 2001, or email mrg7@po.cwru.edu for more details. They maintain an email list that keeps members informed about Anthropology Society/Department happenings, lectures of interest, etc. If you have any ideas for program, lectures, or events that you would like to see happen, email mrg7@po.cwru.edu. They'd love to hear your feedback and ideas!

**We hope that everyone will
have a great summer!**

