

THE ANTHROPOLOGIST

The College of Arts and Sciences

Case Western Reserve University

A newsletter for faculty, students, alumni, and friends of the Department of Anthropology

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F a l l F o c u s: Kassen Lecture Series

This year's Kassen Lecture Series will be held on Thursday, October 20th in Mather Memorial Room 201 from 4-5:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. Judith Justice, a Professor of Medical Anthropology and Health Policy at the University of California at San Francisco, will be the guest speaker. Dr. Justice received her PhD in Medical Anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley. She also has Master's Degrees in Anthropology, Public Health and Social Welfare. Dr. Justice has conducted research in South and Southeast Asia and Africa and has served as an evaluator for foundations and international organizations. Her research includes two multi-country studies of the political and cultural dimensions of child health and another on immunization and adoption of new vaccines in Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Philippines, and Uganda. She has studied special health problems related to stigmatized and chronic diseases (e.g., HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis) among ethnic and minority populations in the U.S., South Asia, and the Himalayan region. In Nepal, she conducted a restudy of her earlier research on foreign assistance to the health sector, *Policies, Plans and People: Foreign Aid and Health Development*. Her recent work focuses on HIV/AIDS, including a comparative study of community health volunteers within the broader context of volunteerism in poorer countries. Dr. Justice is collaborating with researchers in developing countries to strengthen research capabilities, to increase interest in research related to health policy, and to increase the role of social scientists in health-related research. She is a member of the Steering Committees of the International Forum on Social Science and Health (IFSSH) and the International Consortium for Research and Action Against health-related Stigma (ICRAAS).

undergraduate research, internships, and volunteer work

- ◆ **Josh Angelini:** Archaeology field school
- ◆ **Danielle Gartner:** Participated in project to revitalize Thai traditional medicine; internship at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital
- ◆ **Jennifer Mohler:** Archaeology field school
- ◆ **Rachel Pope:** Study of doulas in Brazil

Submit any news we may have missed about you to lawrence.greksa@case.edu.

new graduate students

Anne-Marie Bertino: Anne-Marie joins us from Ohio State University where she received her BA in Anthropology. Anne-Marie is interested in the intersection of traditional medicine and biomedicine, in particular, the effectiveness of biomedicine in non-Western communities. She has previously conducted research among the Mikea in Madagascar.

Meghan Halley: Meghan completed her BA in Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She is interested in cross-cultural experiences of biomedicine, especially in Africa; she has conducted research on HIV/AIDS in Kenya. She is in the joint MPH program.

new graduate students

Ana Maria Ramos: Ana Maria received a BA in History from Catolica do Salvador in Brazil and an MA from Pontificia University Catolica Sao Paulo in Brazilian History. Her interests include the links between culture, health, and food consumption in Brazil, particularly the increasing rates of adolescent obesity in Salvador, Brazil.

Nadia El-Shaarawi: Nadia received her BA in Health Studies from McMasters University in Canada and an MS in Medical Anthropology from the University of Oxford in England. She is interested in public health, public policy, and the politics of health care in western nations. Nadia previously conducted evaluation research on a needle exchange program in Ontario, Canada. She is in the joint MPH program.

Shyh-Wei Yang: Shyh-Wei (Ray) comes to our program after completing a BA in Architecture at Washington University in Saint Louis and an MA in International Development from the University of Denver. He is interested in public health issues among aboriginal peoples of Taiwan, where he previously conducted research on the impact of government policy on the aborigine populations. He is in the joint MPH program.

David Zeman: David received his BA in Anthropology from the University of the South. He is interested in health care, particularly the links between biomedicine and traditional medicine in Latin America. He previously conducted research in Ecuador. He is in the joint MPH program.

graduate news

Elizabeth Carpenter-Song defended her dissertation prospectus on June 21st. She is now starting data collection for the project titled "Subjective Experience of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Bipolar Spectrum Disorder (BPSD) in Youth and Families." Dr. Eric Youngstrom (Principal Investigator) from Psychology and Dr. Janis Jenkins (Co-Investigator) will be working with Elizabeth on the project which is being funded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health.

Kate Masley was awarded a National Women's Studies Association Conference scholarship from the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women to participate in the annual NWSA conference in Orlando, Florida this past June. She was also awarded a Phi Beta Kappa research grant from Case to support her ongoing dissertation research. The *Hispanas Organizadas de Lake y Ashtabula (HOLA) July/August Journal* featured Kate discussing her dissertation research which focuses on the pregnancy management practices and "paradoxical" infant health outcomes among Mexican immigrant and Mexican American women in Northeast Ohio. The article can be found at: www.holatoday.org

Michelle Nebergall participated in intensive Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian language training this summer at Indiana University's Summer Workshop in Eastern European and Slavic Languages. This training, which was supported by an American Council of Learned Societies Individual Training Grant, is part of Michelle's preparation for her upcoming dissertation research in Croatia and Bosnia. In October, Michelle will be presenting her Capstone Project titled "The Relationship of Perceived Stress to Mental Health and Health Risk Behaviors among Adolescents" in the Public Health Program. This same project will be presented in December at the annual American Public Health Association meeting in Philadelphia.

Megan Nordquest received funding from the Masters of Public Health Program for a summer internship at the Hospice of the Western Reserve. Her internship involved looking at issues of access and utilization in relation to hospice and palliative care. She was also able to complete some preliminary fieldwork in the clinical setting, exploring the family dynamics of pain communication and management.

graduate news

Sarah Rubin spent the summer working with Professor Jill Korbin on a paper that reviews the social science literature on cross-cultural postpartum depression. This work may contribute to a future project on motherhood and postpartum depression in the Amish community of Geauga County. Sarah is currently on leave from Case and is a master's student at Oxford University in the Programme for African Studies. It is a nine month program that will culminate in a master's thesis.

Diana Sepehri received her MA degree in May and is now a continuing student in the joint MPH/PhD program at Case. She also received a grant from the Endowment of Sponsored Mentorship Program to present "Shamanism in Post-USSR Kyrgyzstan" at the World Congress on Social Sciences and Health in Istanbul, Turkey this past August.

Maggie Zraly is happy to be doing her fieldwork in Rwanda. Over the summer, she received funding for her dissertation research in the form of a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant.

faculty highlights

Professor Cynthia Beall was awarded a National Science Foundation grant on her research entitled "Ethiopian Adaptation to High Altitude Hypoxia." (BCS 0452326) 2005-2008.

Professor Cynthia Beall and Professor Melvyn Goldstein were awarded a Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research grant for their research entitled "Nomadic Pastoral Society in Tibet: A study of 20 years of change and adaptation." 2005.

Professor Melvyn Goldstein was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for his research entitled "Oral History of Tibetans in India." (RZ-50326-05) 2005-2008.

Professor Melvyn Goldstein was awarded a National Science Foundation (Human and Social Dynamics Program) grant for his research entitled "Economic Development and Intergenerational Relations in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China." (0527500) 2005-2008.

Professor Charlotte Ikels received funding from the President's Initiative Funds for the Enhancement of Interdisciplinary Programs to develop a public panel on current issues in Asia. This May, Professor Ikels and her husband, Ezra Vogel, served as the academic leaders of a Harvard Alumni Tour to Southwest China and Tibet. The tour visited various subgroups of the Miao nationality (also known outside of China as the Hmong) in Guizhou Province, the Naxi nationality in northwest Yunnan Province, and the Tibetan nationality in the Greater Lhasa area of the Tibetan Autonomous Region. The trip to Lhasa was enriched by their visit with three Tibetans who had earned their degrees or studied anthropology at Case. All three are still affiliated with the Tibetan Academy of Social Science and are also working for international NGOs in the area of wildlife preservation or poverty alleviation. Dawa Tsering and Ben Jiao gave PowerPoint presentations of the work of their NGOs to the tour group. Later, Puchung Wangdui joined them all for dinner and provided insider views of what is and has been happening in Tibet.

Professor Janis Jenkins, Co-Investigator (with Professor Eric Youngstrom), received funding from the Ohio Department of Mental Health to study the subjective experience of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and bipolar spectrum disorders (BPSD) in youth and families.

Professor Jill Korbin received funding from The George Gund Foundation and The Cleveland Foundation. She also received a Fulbright Senior Specialist award to lecture on childhood, child maltreatment, and neighborhood research in Australia.

**adjunct faculty
highlights**

Patricia Marshall, Professor in the Department of Bioethics and Adjunct Professor in Anthropology, was chosen by the School of Medicine as its first award winner of the Spotlight Series Prize for Women's Scholarship at Case. She is among eight women scholars chosen this year. The awards are funded by the Spotlight Series Endowment, established in 1989 by the Mather Centennial Celebration Committee of the Flora Stone Mather Alumnae Association. The income from the fund is to be used to "spotlight the creative, scholarly process experienced by the faculty and students throughout the university by supporting a lecture series with emphasis placed on the work of women faculty and students." As a prize recipient, she will be asked to discuss her work to a learned but diverse audience sometime during the next year. She will receive her award at the Spotlight Prizes Reception on Thursday, December 1, 2005. She will also be among the honorees recognized for their work at the annual Women of Achievement Luncheon on Friday, March 3, 2006.

new staff

Jessica Curtis was hired as a part-time secretary, replacing Charvez D. Forte'. She moved to Cleveland in July for her husband to attend dental school at Case. Before moving to Ohio, she edited for a nonprofit agency, taught composition and technical writing courses, and tutored writing at Brigham Young University. She's currently finishing her MA in English with emphases in teaching writing and creative writing.

graduate discourse

Several second-year students launched a theory discussion group and met twice a month this summer. Selected readings from Foucault's "Birth of the Clinic" were discussed, along with journal articles chosen to reflect application of Foucault's notion of the gaze. The last meeting was held in August when the group officially folded into Graduate Discourse as part of its professional development activities. Graduate Discourse plans to convene the theory discussion group with a faculty discussant who will select a book for the group to read, as well as other topics of relevant interest. This semester's sessions will take place on October 18 and November 17. The faculty discussant will be Baker-Nord Visiting Fellow Dr. Myra Bluebond-Langner, and the book will be her work, "In the Shadow of Illness."

**center for research
on tibet**

With four new grants in 2005 and two continuing projects, the center now has over one million dollars in funding.

contact

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