

ANTHRO-PRESS @ The Beach!



Fall 2008

A newsletter for the Anthropology Department,
LeMaster & Emerine, Co-Editors

Letter from the Chairperson, Dr. Barbara LeMaster

Hello again from the CSULB Anthropology Department! I hope your 2008 year was a great one for you. As we plan our 2009 schedule, we will have guest lectures, film showcases, poster sessions, and other events and activities that may be of interest to you. The department has grown and changed in the past year. You can read in this newsletter about our various activities and events, starting with the retirement of **Dr. Pam Buntz**, and the celebration we had acknowledging her contributions to CSULB students, our department, the university, and beyond. You will also read about our most recent hire, **Dr. Steven Rouso-Schindler**, who is here as our Visual Anthropologist, helping to develop our community-based visual and ethnographic research lab, and our visual anthropology curriculum. Just this semester alone, nearly 40 students have taken advantage of our new lab through a course on ethnographic film, and one on multi-media ethnography (with **Dr. Scott Wilson**). Last year we held 2 ethnographic film festivals, which were very successful. (Take a look at the student-produced films on our website.) This year, we plan to have a dinner in the spring to honor the best CSULB ethnographic films (May 9, 2009). You will all be invited – make sure we have your email addresses so you can be put on our email list. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact me at lemaster@csulb.edu.

Also new to our Anthropology faculty this year, but not new to the campus, is **Dr. Alexandra Jaffe**. Dr. Jaffe has accepted a joint appointment between our department and the Linguistics Department. (Read more about Dr. Jaffe in this

newsletter.)

Also new this Spring 2009 from the work of **Dr. Karen Quintiliani** is a collaborative between CSULB, CSUFH Anthropology Departments and the Historical Society of Long Beach. Students will have an opportunity to do historical ethnography, meeting in the community at the Historical Society offices, conducting research on the Long Beach Cambodian Community. (See more information further in this newsletter.)

Our faculty and students have been active in conference participation and publications (see listings in this newsletter). Last year and this Fall, our faculty and students have participated in 12 conferences, with at least 35 faculty and 44 student presentations with one co-faculty/recent alumni presentation. The department has sponsored or co-sponsored several talks and events on campus, 2 field schools (in China, in Guatemala), and the development of our new community-based Visual and Ethnographic Research Lab.

We will be adding another new faculty member to the department in Fall 2009 in the area of Linguistic Anthropology. We will be bringing candidates to campus early in the Spring 2009 semester, probably the last week of January, first week of February. Look to our website for times and days of their interview talks.

In March 12-14 we will be hosting the Margaret Mead Film Festival. This is a traveling juried film showcase that is offered to the public free of charge (read more later in this newsletter).

Our annual banquet will be held the third week of May. Everyone is invited. If you would like further information on this event, feel free to contact me, or to check our website. Check our "Save the Dates" section for more information on departmental events and activities.

In this newsletter, see the work of alumni and current full-time lecturer **Denise Cucurny, M.A.** who has established her own nonprofit organization to mobilize a surgical team to do life-altering plastic surgery for people around the world. She hopes to bring this effort to the United States. See her website for more information.

Also in this newsletter is information about the

prestigious research (and its funding) of **Dr. Namika Raby** in Sri Lanka. We hope to engage her expertise for discussion of water issues during the Margaret Mead film festival this Spring.

Dr. Hector Neff will be taking students interested in the study of archaeology to Guatemala over the Winter break. This is a continuation of work by Dr. Neff and Guatemalan colleagues. **Drs. Howell and Lipo** are away for the full 2008-2009 academic year on sabbaticals. Dr. Howell is working on her book in Oaxaca, and Dr. Lipo is writing his book locally. **Dr. Ron Loewe** is our new graduate advisor. He is also working on a book on tourism in Mississippi that he hopes to complete soon.

Last, but not least, many of you may have seen the article on the front of the CSULB website that spotlights two of our Anthropology faculty, **Dr. Marcus Young Owl and Linda Light, M.A., M.A.** (our alum) who both won Emmy awards for their participation in the production of the film

I wish all of you a safe and healthy holiday season, and look forward to enjoying Anthropology with you in 2009.

Cheers, Barbara McMaster

Greetings to all our students for the Fall 2008 Semester!

Dr. Marcus Young Owl serves the department as **Undergraduate Advisor**. During the semester, Undergraduate Anthropology Major/Minors (and prospective major and minors) can sign up for a 20 minute appointment on a clipboard near his office, FO3-316. He can be contacted by phone (x5179), but requests face-to-face meeting to address advising questions.

Dr. Ron Loewe serves the department as **Graduate Advisor**. During the semester Graduate Anthropology students can sign up for 20 minute appointments on a clipboard near his office, FO3-324. He can be contacted by email rloewe@csulb.edu or phone (x5034) but requests face-to-face meeting to address advising questions.

WHAT'S NEW @ The Beach!

Visual Lab Upgrade (submitted by Dr. Steven Rousso-Schindler)

The Visual Anthropology lab is undergoing a tremendous upgrade this academic year. New production equipment, including new high-definition video cameras and professional microphones, are already being used in Dr. Wilson's and Dr. Rousso-Schindler's classes. More production equipment will be arriving before the end of the fall semester. In the lab, in addition to the computers already available, we will be getting new Mac Pros. These computers will all have the most recent version of Final Cut Pro so that anthropology students in our film classes can learn how to edit using professional software. We are also looking forward to expanding our lab space in the very near future.

Linguistic Anthropology Hire

The Anthropology and Linguistics Departments have begun the search for a new faculty member in Linguistic Anthropology. This will be a tenured-track position with a joint appointment to both departments. Candidates will interview on campus around early February 2009. The new hire will begin work in Fall 2009.

Retirement of Dr. Pamela Bunte

In October, the Departments of Anthropology and Linguistics hosted a retirement party for Dr. Pamela Bunte. At the celebration, faculty, former students, colleagues, and Paiute representatives shared about the work of Dr. Bunte and the impact she has had on the academic community. We thank Dr. Bunte for her many years of faithful service to CSULB and the Anthropology Department and wish her a happy retirement.

Introducing NEW Faculty Members

Dr. Alexandra Jaffe is joining the Anthropology Department as a joint appointment with Linguistics, where she has been on the faculty since 2001. Before coming to CSULB, she taught in the SUNY system and at the University of Southern Mississippi. Dr. Jaffe received her PhD in Linguistic Anthropology from Indiana University in 1990, writing her

dissertation on Corsican language politics. Her book, *Ideologies in Action: Language Politics on Corsica* (Mouton 1999) was awarded the Edward Sapir Prize by the Society of Linguistic Anthropology of the American Anthropological Association. Since her initial fieldwork, she has returned repeatedly to Corsica to do research, including a year-long ethnographic study of Corsican bilingual schools sponsored by grants from the Spencer and National Science Foundations. During her sabbatical in Spring 2008, she worked on an ethnographic monograph on Corsican bilingual education. Dr. Jaffe is a recent recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Linguistics and Education*.

Dr. Steven Rousso-Schindler is a visual anthropologist who has produced several ethnographic films. His films have covered topics of numerology in Judaism, social structure, wedding rituals and folk religion in rural China, environmentally-friendly homes in the western United States, and a film on Jewish-American women's religious roles in the United States that was broadcast on PBS in 2003. He also works in the Middle East, where he has conducted ethnographic research in West Jerusalem, Israel and in Ramallah, Palestine exploring the national narratives in Israel and Palestine through traditional and non-traditional media. Steven received his B.A. in Cultural Anthropology and then went to the University of Southern California where he earned his M.A. in Visual Anthropology and Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology. As a new member of our department, he brings his experience in anthropological film to help build visual anthropology within our program.

In Remembrance...

On January 30, 2008, Dr. Gretha "Greet" Kershaw passed away unexpectedly at the Mt. San Antonio Gardens Health Center. Dr. Kershaw was an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at CSULB. She served the university from 1966 until she retired in the 1980s. (Information courtesy of *Claremont Courier*)

ANTHROQUEST @ The Beach!

Adventure Stories, Research Experience, Discoveries, etc.

Faculty Research

Dr. Namika Raby was awarded a competitive grant given to only three recipients a year from the American Institute for Sri Lanka Studies (AISLS) and funded by the US Department of Education and the Council of American Overseas Research to conduct field research in Sri Lanka. Stage one of Dr. Raby's research took place this summer and stage two will continue next summer. In her research, Dr. Raby is examining a sustainable public-private partnership in community management of irrigation in one field site using the Farmer Company approach which is then contrasted with two other models of Farmer Companies under different organizational frameworks. She will use her data to examine the social/cultural, institutional and management conditions leading to sustainability with cross culturally transferable implications. Dr. Raby was also invited to give a seminar at the International Water management Institute (one of 15 UN affiliated centers for research on agriculture) and was a Visiting Scholar there attached to their Global Research Division. As a Visiting Scholar, she worked with a local university and hopes to help them establish their Post Graduate Institute of Development Studies next summer.

For the last two summers **Prof. Denise Cucurny** has been doing research on traditional and western healers in the Andes, Amazon, and Himalayas. This summer with her research partner Sal Franco (CSULB alum), Denise conducted interviews in the Himalayas researching medical pluralism trying to discover who gets medical care and how that is decided. Denise is also the co-founder of the organization Women for World Health that does medical missions in poor areas around the world. On November 15, 2008 she went for five days with a team of all women to do plastic reconstructive surgery on children with cleft palates and cleft lips in Cenca, Ecuador. Check her website for more information <http://www.womenforworldhealth.org/>

Graduate Student Research (submitted by students)

Sarah Cote (Spring 2009) - USING THE PARTICIPANTS' PERSPECTIVE: ASSESSMENT OF A RECREATION CENTER. After-school programs play an important role in the lives of youth by offering various academic and social resources or simply providing a welcoming place to spend time. Sarah's research has focused on an underutilized drop-in after-school program in Southern California. Ethnographic methods were used to gather data about perceptions of The Center, how it was utilized, and what participants' desired for the future. The goal of this research was to generate insight on how The Center could better serve the community, promote attendance with neighborhood-specific programs, and create an understanding of the role The Center has within the community.

Rachel Emerine (Spring 2009) - LANGUAGE SHIFT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE NAGU LANGUAGE, SOLOMON ISLANDS. For 6 weeks summer 2008 Rachel conducted thesis research in a small village on the island of Santa Cruz in the Solomon Islands. The goal of this research was to study the Nagu language and discover who was still speaking this language that was previously classified as endangered. Through observations and many interviews, she found that the language is still being spoken by part of the population. Because many of the children are not learning the language and because of other ideological issues, Nagu may become further endangered within the next generations if nothing is done to stop the language shift.

Roman Gratreaks (Spring 2009) - LITERACY AND DIVERGENCE IN PAIUTE IDEOLOGIES OF LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND POLITICS. In an applied linguistic anthropology project, which builds on the longitudinal studies of Pamela Bunte, Roman's research was framed around a literacy workshop geared to teach Paiute elders to read and write Paiute and to generate a Paiute ABC book for the tribe's language revitalization effort. Using the frameworks of language use as acts of identity and the political economy of language, Roman's study of Paiute language ideologies analyzes comments made by Southern Paiutes in a highly-charged diglossic atmosphere (Paiute) and trilingual

environment (Navajo/English/Paiute). While commenting on language-based sociopolitical aspects of Paiute society (authority), the study focuses on how Paiutes construct identity through ideas of language authenticity and language use.

Krystal Kittle (Spring 2010) - Krystal's thesis will be surrounding issues of Elderly Lesbians who reside in the greater Long Beach area. She is interested in their experiences in the gay community as elderly women, as well as their experience in elderly community as lesbians. She is working with the director of the Gay & Lesbian Center, Long Beach, to create a monthly social networking program for elderly lesbians to be held at the center. She did her internship at the center throughout the summer of 2008 and now is employed as a consultant for Special Events and Donor Giving.

Bethany "Bahati" Meadows (Spring 2009) - THE LADY IS A STUD: AFRICAN-AMERICAN LESBIANS, HIP HOP AND GENDER PRESENTATION. Bahati's thesis research is focused on the lives of masculine African-American lesbians, also referred to as "studs" living in southern California. She intends to examine the meanings behind why they choose to present themselves in a masculine way and how they deal with the pressures of challenging established gender roles and presentations expected of women.

Katherine S. Nutter-McClintock (2009) - DEFINING SUCCESS IN A LOW-INCOME HOUSING PROGRAM: WHY DOES IT MATTER? The setting for Katherine's research is a nonprofit, low-income housing organization, "Housing Now Incorporated," located in Orange County that offers programs in the areas of financial literacy, education, and health. She is conducting an ethnographic study to discover how participants within low-income housing define success. This study utilizes participant-observation, semi-structured interviews, and case studies with the overall aim to explore the intersection of tenant and program definitions of success and their convergence towards sustainable outcomes for tenants, which includes averting homelessness and working towards greater "self-sufficiency."

Jessica Steaffens (December 2009) - ENGAGING DIGITAL MEDIA: YOUTH PRODUCERS AND STORYTELLERS.

For her internship, Jessica is co-directing with Donia Lee (Spring 2009) a nine month video storytelling project with youth at a community center in Central Santa Ana, Orange County. They are teaching video arts and helping youth produce two short documentaries. The project is sponsored in part by a grant from the California Council for the Humanities.

In the Spotlight...

At the Spring 2008 Emmy Awards the film series "Physical Anthropology: The Evolving Human" won an Emmy for the Best Instructional Series. This film was produced by Coastline Community College. **Dr. Marcus Young Owl** and **Prof. Linda Light** were advisers for the writing and production of scripts for the episodes, and as a result both won Emmys. Linda was also an advisor and co-wrote the student guide lessons for the "Our Diverse World" series, which looks at cultural anthropology. Dr. Jayne Howell's work in Oaxaca was featured in one of the cultural films, and Dr. Barbara LeMaster appears in the linguistic anthropology film as one of the interviewed experts in the field. They hope to receive an Emmy for this series next year.

Ann Pitts, MA Anthropology Candidate, presented a guest lecture titled "American Culture and Creativity" on October 16, 2008 at UT Austin. Her talk centered around her years as the only woman on the Miller Lite account, a very male-centric brand in the 1980s. She worked on the "Tastes great, less filling" campaign featuring famous retired athletes, and later created the advertising for the introduction of Miller Genuine Draft. She transitioned to applied anthropology by speaking about the expansion of digital media, the globalization of the marketplace, and rise of transnational corporations, sharing her insights into the benefits of training in applied anthropology. (Submitted by Ann Pitts)

FIELD SCHOOLS AND CLASSES @ The Beach!

Dr. Karen Quintiliani will be offering two unique courses in the coming semesters. ANTH 314 Global Ethnography will be offered during the Winter session. This course is a comparative survey of ecological adaptations, social institutions, technology, subsistence strategies and patterns of change in contemporary cultures around the world. ANTH 428/528 Historical Ethnography will be offered in Spring 2009. This course will combine ethnographic methods and historical approaches to understand how the past is linked to the present. This class will work with CCHAP (Cambodian Community History & Archive Project) founded by Dr. Quintiliani and Dr. Susan Needham (CSUDH Faculty, CSULB Alum) and work in collaboration with the Cambodian community and Historical Society of Long Beach. Please contact Dr. Karen Quintiliani at kquintil@csulb.edu for more information.

Drs. Hector Neff and Carl Lipo will be leading a field trip to Guatemala for 2.5 weeks during January. On the trip, students will undertake geophysical survey at the Classic period archaeological site of El Baul, on the Pacific piedmont of Guatemala. Please contact Dr. Neff at hneff@csulb.edu or Dr. Lipo at clipo@csulb.edu for more information.

Dr. Jayne Howell was offering an ethnographic field school in Oaxaca, Mexico January 5-19, 2009. The field school was open to all majors and would result in 3 units of credit ANTH 440/540. The trip would have given students a chance to collect and analyze data, visit cultural sites, participate in Oaxacan life and much more. Unfortunately, due to the economic downturn, the field school was cancelled. Please contact Dr. Howell at jhowell@csulb.edu for information.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS @ The Beach!

Academic Senate Retreat Poster Presentations

Cote, Sarah – “Using the Participants Perspective: An Assessment of a Recreation Center”

Jaffe, Misty

LeMaster, Barbara

Moges, Rez

Neff, Hector

Nutter-McClintock, Katherine – “Defining Success in Low-Income Housing: Why Does It Matter?”

Quintiliani, Karen

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Bouard, Adrienne – Poster “Smoking Within the Gay and Lesbian Community: Findings and the Future” in the session “Bodies and Health.”

Cote, Sarah – Poster “Views of an After School Recreation Center: Findings from Two Years of Participant Observation” in the session “Perspectives on Practice: Social Action.”

Emerine, Rachel – Poster “The Shift and Endangerment of the Nagu Language in the Solomon Island” in the session “Society for Linguistic Anthropology.”

Jaffe, Misty – Paper “Linguistic diversity in the media: Authority, authenticity, mediatization and mediation” presented in the session “Languaging in the Media: Representation, Engagement, and Ideologies.” Also discussant for the session titled “Linguistic Expertise.”

LeMaster, Barbara – Paper “Teenage Mocking” in the session “Toward an Anatomy of Mocking.” Also a discussant for the session title “On the urban/rural border: language and identities in a global landscape.”

Loewe, Ronald – Paper “From Fields to Factories: Article 27, Neoliberal Reform and the case of Maxcanu, Mexico” in the session “Facets of Development: Research from Latin America.”

Martinez, Jacqueline – Poster “PUMA: Environmental Justice and Grassroots Organizing” in the session “Anthropology and Environment.”

Meadows, Bethany “Bahati” – Poster “The Lady Is a Stud: African American lesbians, Hip Hop and Gender Presentation” in the session “The Arts and Aesthetics of Race Making.”

Moges, Rez – Paper “Dicohotomy in the community of Deaf Eritreans” in the session “On the urban/rural border: language and identities in a global landscape.”

Neff, Hector – Paper “‘Maya Blue’ Where Did Its Palygorskite Constituent Originate?” in the symposium “Ceramic Ecology XXII: Current Research on Ceramics.”

Nutter-McClintock, Katherine – Poster “Defining Success in a Low-Income Housing Program: Why does it matter?” in the session “Perspectives on Practice: Social Action.”

Rouso-Schindler, Steven – Paper “The Israeli ‘Demography’ National Narrative: How Narrative Strategies Can Be Employed to Create Justice in Palestine/Israel” in the session “Below the Radar of State Politics and Mainstream Media, II: Initiatives for Peace with Justice in Israel/Palestine” also co-organizer of the session.

Have an interesting story or report to share?

Email **Dr. Barbara LeMaster** lemaster@csulb.edu to contribute your short article(s) from 75-100 words. We intend to have a newsletter every Fall and Spring semesters. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Alumni Corner

Note from Spring 2008 **Alumni Sarah Taylor** – “I am greatly enjoying studying at SUNY Albany. The department has been very welcoming and I am excited to be working with some of the faculty. I am spending this semester working as a Teaching Assistant, taking classes, and getting to know my way around. What I would like to say about my experience at CSULB is how much it helped me and continues to help me to be prepared for pursuing my Ph.D. here. The high level of interaction with the faculty at CSULB gave me the confidence to arrive here and immediately begin to engage with faculty members whose interests coincide with mine. Looking back, I realize how much encouragement I received to professionalize my research through attending meetings and taking part in the larger discussion. The financial support for these endeavors is testament to how important the department and college believe professional meetings to be. My MA from “The Beach” is proving to be a valuable asset.”

Hanna Ruckman, Spring 2008 CSULB Applied Anthropology Alum, traveled to Thailand this summer and worked with Burmese refugees and cyclone victims living in a refugee camp on the Thai-Burma border. For over 20 years the Koran people of Burma have been brutally murdered and forced out of their country; however, neither the UN nor the U.S. has intervened due to the fact that India and China do not acknowledge that genocide is occurring in the Koran state of Burma. While Hanna was working in these refugee camps, she taught English and helped facilitate tuberculosis and malaria control programs. If you would like to learn more about this situation, please check out the website aiyafund.com. Also, feel free to contact Hanna at hannaruckman@yahoo.com.

Save the Date

March 11-13, 2009: The Margaret Mead Film and Video Festival. This is the “longest-running, premier showcase for international anthropological films and documentaries in the United States, encompassing a broad spectrum of work, from indigenous community media to experimental nonfiction.” The event begins at 5:30pm at the Link Theater (UT). Free Admission.

March 17-21, 2009: Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

April 22-26, 2009: Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

April 30-May 3, 2009: Southwestern Anthropological Association Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Saturday, May 9, 2009: Department of Anthropology Ethnographic Film Awards Ceremony and Development Event. Come join us for the Inaugural Anthropology Beach film awards ceremony where we will be showcasing CSULB student-produced ethnographic films and presenting awards for the best films. Prior to the film screening, there will be a departmental fundraiser, including dinner and a silent auction. Those participating in the dinner will receive reserved seating at the film screening and awards ceremony. Film Ceremony begins at 8:00pm in the Link Theater (UT) and admission is free. Look for more information on the dinner coming soon.

May 26 or 27, 2008 (TBA): Graduation Banquet Details Forthcoming

Anthropology Dept website: www.csulb.edu/depts/anthro