Faculty and Staff News

Ken Ames finished his 2-yr term as President of the Society for American Archaeology in April at the SAA’s 2007 Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. In 2006 Ken was awarded a three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to complete analyses and write-up of the Meier and Cathlapotle sites so he can now focus on that work while continuing his second term as Department chair. While continuing his research on hunter-gatherer complexity and on the Contact era on the Lower Columbia River, he is hoping to join ongoing research on the northern British Columbia coast with colleagues at the University of British Columbia.

Virginia Butler is finishing a 2-yr stint as a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer, which has taken her to Hawai’i, New Mexico, New Jersey, Colorado, Idaho, and Washington to give presentations on Pacific Northwest archaeology and the connections between zooarchaeology and conservation biology, particularly relating to current Columbia River fish populations. She presented at the “Remembering Celilo” conference in March on the 50 yr. anniversary of construction of The Dalles Dam, and will be writing an article for Oregon Historical Quarterly about cultural heritage losses due to the hydro-project.

Sharon Carstens presented two papers in Fall 2006: “Conceptualizing and Teaching Chinese Culture in K-8 Second Language Programs” at a Conference in Portland and “The Spiritual World of a Hakka Village” at a Conference in Taiwan. Dr. Carstens has also developed two new PSU classes: Asian American Experience and Visual Anthropology.

Connie Cash continues to be the heart and soul of department life in Cramer Hall, the glue that ties us all together, the engine that keeps the lobby humming with energy and good spirit.

Margaret Everett will be leading a PSU University Studies Senior Capstone to Oaxaca, Mexico, summer 2007. While there, she and Korana Fiol (BA 2006) will be researching diabetes and health and interviewing health professionals.
Michele Gamburd is writing an ethnography about illicit liquor use in Sri Lanka. The research has three primary foci: it emphasizes issues of consumption and identity, political economics, and cross-cultural concepts of health and healing. The book is scheduled for publication with Cornell University Press in 2009.


Sarah Sterling (Extended Studies/Anthropology) was the principle author of two chapters in a report on the stratigraphy and underlying geomorphology of Tse-whit-zen (45CA523), a continuously occupied 3,000 year old site in Port Angeles, WA. She is currently working with several colleagues, including Virginia Butler, to secure funds for the analysis of the faunal materials from Tse-whit-zen, and is also working on publications on other aspects of this important site. She has been providing occasional geoarchaeological consultation to PSU alum Alex Gall, owner of Archaeological Services of Clark County. Finally, Sarah is in the process of submitting an article for the new, all electronic *Journal of Evolutionary and Historical Sciences* regarding bet-hedging and costly signaling during the Egyptian Old Kingdom period.

Tom Thornton is enjoying and surviving his first year at Portland State. He has a book due out next fall, entitled “Being and Place Among the Tlingit”, and recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation to pursue a study of Alaska Native corporations in the Southeast and Bering Straits regions of the state. This summer, in addition to teaching and research, Tom is looking forward to serving as a guide on a journey down the wild and scenic Tatshenshini-Alsek River watershed from Yukon Territory to Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. [www.riverjourneys.com/sptrips.html#tingit_tales_wilderness_lit](http://www.riverjourneys.com/sptrips.html#tingit_tales_wilderness_lit)

Natalie Vasey is continuing her study on the behavioral ecology of Malagasy lemurs and on the extinctions and development of anthropogenic landscapes and faunal assemblages during the Quaternary of Madagascar. Her recent paleontological work reveals the demise of native small mammals at the time of early human settlement of the island (circa 2300 BP) in tandem with the introduction of rats and mice. Meanwhile, her work on living lemurs is entering a new phase with emphasis on breeding systems. Work is underway at the Lemur Conservation Foundation (a private lemur reserve in southwest Florida) and part of Natalie’s upcoming sabbatical will be spent collecting parallel data in the wild.

Doug Wilson is currently writing and editing reports on excavations at the Station Camp/McGowan site (Lower Chinook Middle Village) and Lewis & Clark’s Fort Clatsop. He is directing the field school at Fort Vancouver at Fort Vancouver National Historic Park, June 19 - August 4, 2007, exploring the early military history of the site. He is editing a book on the collections at Fort Vancouver.

**STUDENT NEWS**

**Anthropology Student Association**

Students in the PSU Anthropology Student Association and new chapter of the honors society, Lambda Alpha Beta, have been very active. Many students (undergraduates and graduates) have been awarded grants for their independent research projects this year. We have a Fulbright scholar and five McNair scholars. We also have students working as interns, conducting overseas and domestic research, and participating in a host of conferences and symposiums.

**Lambda Alpha comes to PSU**

In fall 2006, anthropology graduate students Kristen Fuld, Meris Mullaley, and Anne Morrill organized and chartered a department chapter of Lambda Alpha, the National Anthropology Honor Society. The new chapter, “Beta of Oregon”, has inducted 15 new members thus far. The society offers many opportunities for anthropology students interacting with other students and faculty, leadership, research grants, and also a venue for publication, *Lambda Alpha Journal*. Recently PSU’s Lambda Alpha Beta held an “Anthropology of Food” potluck which featured a talk, “Ritual Feasting in Sri Lanka” by Dr. Michele Gamburd. The first year was a success, and Lambda Alpha Beta members look forward to the 2007/2008 year!

**McNair Students**

The Anthropology Department is honored to have five undergraduate majors accepted into the McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at PSU, spring 2007. This national fellowship program “is designed to encourage intellectually gifted undergraduates to consider enrolling in graduate programs in various disciplines, and beyond this, to complete the Ph.D. and enter the academy as college and university professors and researchers” ([http://www.rochester.edu/college/McNair-Program/aboutus.html](http://www.rochester.edu/college/McNair-Program/aboutus.html)). Among the ways the program helps students prepare for graduate school, the student sets up a research project-collaboration with faculty and the student goes on to present results of their project at conferences. Our scholar-students:
Marcy Foster (working with Katrine Barber in History) is studying Indian and tribal identity. She will interview several past and current Columbia Inter-Tribal Fish Commission employees about the role of CRITFC in salmon protection, the protection of treaty rights and the role of inter-tribal cooperation in the protection of treaty rights. Brittany Howard (with Cameron Smith) is reviewing ways orangutan (Pongo pygmaeus) at the Oregon Zoo will be affected by construction of a new enclosure set for fall 2007. Jacqueline Marcotte (with Doug Wilson) is carrying out underwater archaeology in the Columbia River adjacent to Fort Vancouver National Park. Rebecca Marrall (with Michele Gamburd) will be working at the Portland Mausoleum, examining issues of changing funerary practices, urban planning, and land use management in the 21st century. Wendy Ann Wright (with Virginia Butler) is studying urban cultural resource protection laws in several major cities to identify policies that could be employed in Portland, which currently has very limited archaeological site protection.

PSU Scholarly and Creative Activity Grants for Undergraduates

University grants ($1500) were awarded to two of our undergraduates in support of their research: Jacqueline Marcotte (working with Doug Wilson) and Wendy Ann Wright (with Virginia Butler).

Recent Student Presentations at Meetings

Society for American Archaeology, Austin, TX, April 2007  Kristin Fuld and Ross Smith (posters).

Northwest Anthropology Conference, Pullman, WA, March, 2007:

Oral presentations: Jacqueline Marcotte, Meris Mullaley, Elaine Dorset, Sara Davis, Martin Adams

Posters: Sara Davis, Kristin A. Fuld, William C. Gardner-O’Kearny

Alumni Papers: Melissa Darby, Gretchen Kaehler

Columbia Willamette Chapter of Sigma Xi, Student Research Symposium, PSU Campus, April 2007, Martin Adams (winner of poster award in Earth and Physical Sciences division).

Entomological Society for America Western Branch, Martin Adams (2nd place poster award winner, Masters Thesis division).

Student Internships and Upcoming Research Travel

Anne Morrill just got a position with Oregon Health News, a publication of the Oregon Health Forum. The Health Forum provides policy-related research and discussion to Oregon health professionals and policy makers. Anne will be doing research and writing for Oregon Health News on a variety of health policy topics, including her interest in women's health and reproductive rights. Cash Nigro will be doing a year long internship with two organizations in Northeast Thailand beginning summer 2007. One will develop a study abroad program that educates American study abroad students about the effects of globalization and development on rural Thai communities. She will also be working with a student-run NGO, ENGAGE. ENGAGE’s current campaign is to raise awareness of and accessibility to Fair Trade Thai Jasmine rice for American consumers. Julia Ruppell is heading to Vietnam this summer for second field season to study gibbon song. Ross Smith is continuing his collaboration with the National Park Service this summer, working on an archaeological project in southwest Alaska in Aniakchak Nat’l Park. Roy Watters is currently an intern at Intel, studying ways youth ministries are using technology. Eric Wynkoop is currently working on Masters thesis research in Mumbai, India, on a Fulbright fellowship, studying the transnational influence of fast-food on the healthfulness of the daily Indian diet.
Upcoming Activities -- Come Participate Alums!

Visit the field school at Ft. Vancouver this summer.

Field school at Fort Vancouver National Historic Park, June 19 - August 4, 2007 (Tuesdays-Saturdays). This year’s project will explore the early (ca. 1846-1880) history of the U.S. Army component of the fort, including excavations at enlisted men’s barracks, laundresses’ quarters, officer’s quarters, mess halls and related kitchens. Excavations will search for remnants of these buildings, associated middens and shaft features (privy sites) to collect samples of Victorian material culture and the remains of meals.

Part of the curriculum involves students learning how to give tours and present to the public—so visit while excavation is going on and ask good questions. The field school will be hosting 3-4 speakers that will discuss some aspect of archaeology and history. The public is invited to come hear the presentations, which are on weekday evenings. For more information: http://www.nps.gov/fova/historyculture/2007-archaeology-field-school.htm

Archaeology First Thursdays at Portland State. Please join us for these ~hr long presentations on the first Thursday of each month (October-June) at 4:00 pm in Cramer 41. In the past few months, our speakers have reviewed evidence for pre-Clovis occupation in eastern Oregon, anthropogenic fires in the Willamette Valley, and response of people and fish in Kodiak Is., Alaska to climate change in the “Little Ice Age”. On Thursday, June 7, Cameron Smith will discuss his February visit to Barrow, AK, where he learned ways the Inupiat are responding to clear signs of global warming.

Besides learning about an interesting topic, the presentations provide a great way for students (past and present!) to connect with local professional and avocational archaeologists in the Portland Area. E-mail Virginia Butler (butlerv@pdx.edu) if you want to be added to the e-mail distribution list announcing the talks.

PSU WEEKEND: October 26-27. The Anthropology Department will be hosting an Alumni Event on Friday Afternoon, Oct. 26. We’ll be sending out more details about our activity in early fall. Mark Your Calendars.

We want to hear from you. We’re developing a section of our web site for alumni news and want to include alumni activities in our next newsletter. Please share any activities with us to stay connected.

Email Ken Ames: amesk@pdx.edu
**Department Gift:**

In order to continue and build on the department’s long record of success, we are seeking gifts to increase our PSU Foundation Gift Accounts. Gifts and the payout from our foundation accounts help support the Department’s activities and enrich the experiences of our students and the teaching and scholarship of our faculty. Right now we have four accounts:

- The Department’s General Account, which helps cover the expenses of events such as this one and the annual Outstanding Senior award;
- The Department’s two scholarships:
  - The Newman Scholarship for graduate students;
  - The Scheans Scholarship for undergraduate students
- The Faculty Development fund which will eventually be used to support faculty attendance to professional meetings and other activities crucial to their continued development.

We hope to initiate a Student Development Fund to support student scholarship, including meeting attendance, research costs and the like.

Your Gift Will Help Us Achieve These Goals.

Thank You

Gifts can be made by check, credit card, or cash. Also, gifts-in-kind can also be accepted by the Department.

**Department of Anthropology**  
**Attn: Kenneth Ames**  
**P. O. Box 751**  
**Portland, OR 97207**

Make checks payable to Department of Anthropology/Gift Account.

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**A Gift to Anthropology**

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While you’re filling this out, we’d also like an update on what you’re doing now:

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