Department of Anthropology

SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

Ken Ames is retiring after 20 years of dedicated service to Portland State and the archaeology community. He will continue to advise students and periodically teach courses. Thank you Ken!

We are honored to have Michele Gamburd replace Ken as the next Department Chair.

It is our pleasure to welcome Shelby Anderson as a new faculty member in the department. Shelby recently completed her PhD at the University of Washington focused on the development of complex hunter-gatherer social organization during the late Holocene in Northwest Alaska. Welcome Shelby!

You’re invited!

Please join us when we have guest speakers! Check our website for postings about Anthropology Colloquium, Archaeology First Thursdays, or events planned by one of our student groups: the Anthropology Student Association (ASA) and Lambda Alpha (http://www.anthropology.pdx.edu/). Besides learning about an interesting topic, the presentations provide a great way for students (past and present!) to connect with practicing anthropologists in the Portland Area and beyond.

Faculty and Staff News

Ken Ames is completing his ninth and final year as department chair. His term ends August 31st, at which point he steps down from Chair, and retires – sort of. He has been awarded the status of Professor emeritus and will work on writing up the Lower Columbia River projects among others, teaching a couple of classes annually, and supervising graduate students. Somehow this summer, he has to condense his stuff and move into small offices here and at home. With Cameron Smith, Greg Baker, William Gardner-O-Kearny, Emily Shepard, Tony Hofkamp and others, he continues work on the NEH supported analyses of materials from Meier and Cathlapotle and packing them for storage – there’s a job. With H. Kory Cooper (Purdue) and Loren Davis (Oregon State) he presented Analyses of Contact-era Cupreous Artifacts from the Meier and Cathlapotle Archaeological Sites, Lower Columbia River at the spring, 2011 Northwest Anthropological Conference in Moscow, Idaho. He began a three-year term as editor of the Society for American Archaeology Press at the April SAA meetings in Sacramento. He is on the advisory board for an international research project centered at the University of Alberta on “Holocene Hunter—Gatherers of Northeast Asia” funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada which spans the region from Lake Baikal to Hokkaido, and is a co-PI on a second SSHRC grant: The Development of a Hunter-Fisher-Gatherer Polity: The archaeology and history of the Tsimshian village complex at Prince Rupert Harbour, centered at the University of British Columbia.

Nancy Beanini is just starting to determine her target population here in the Pacific NW, and beginning to make contact with possible informants. She is going to research culture change in marriage practices and women’s roles among the American Lebanese Druze. Her MA thesis was on marriage practices and family among the Lebanese Druze in the Shuf Mtns of Lebanon. The Druze are a close-knit community, even internationally, and they work to maintain traditions, however, as Druze grow up in America there are beginning to be changes as they get into the second generation born outside of Lebanon, which is her research focus.

Virginia Butler has been working on various projects over the past year, continuing her interest
in linking archaeology with applied issues in wildlife conservation, heritage management and education. Butler, her graduate student, Alex Stevenson and other specialists from OSU and Simon Fraser University are finishing up a project funded by the National Marine Fisheries (NOAA) which is studying past distribution of salmon species using ancient DNA and geochemistry in the Klamath Basin; results will be incorporated into the Dept. of Interior Secretarial determination regarding removal of four dams on the upper Klamath River. Based on research she began in the late 1990s with a former undergraduate student Greg Baker, she and Greg co-authored a recent paper in *Journal of Archaeological Science* that uses simple quantitative bone measures to distinguish salmonid species from archaeological samples, which will greatly assist our knowledge of past species distribution and human fishing patterns. She is now working with post-baccalaureate student Molly Moore, on a PSU Cradle-to-Career grant, working with a team of educators to develop curricula that uses zooarchaeology to teach science, math and writing to middle-school students.

**Sharon Carstens** has split her time this year between Anthropology and serving as the Director for the Institute for Asian Studies (IAS), while also continuing as Curriculum Coordinator for Asian Studies. The new position with IAS has been both invigorating and challenging with responsibilities ranging from scheduling and hosting guest speakers, to connecting with multiple community groups and individuals, to strategizing on fund raising, to working with PSU Asia related faculty and staff. She has also continued to work with and coordinate her team of four local Chinese teachers on the K-8 Chinese language and culture curriculum project, and they have produced a bilingual (Chinese/English) volume which will be published by Beijing University Press later this year. In addition to her own three chapters, Sharon has served as English translator for the four chapters written in Chinese, as well as the 40 page master thematic chart. She is greatly looking forward to the completion of this project, and the opportunity to turn back to Malaysian related research in the coming year.

**Connie Cash**, still a pillar of loyalty serving our dedicated and growing student population as well as our professional and active faculty of Anthropology for 22 years now! If you are stopping by the Department don't hesitate to drop by the office and gather information or just enjoy a chat.

**Bill Cornett** continues to teach classes in the department here at PSU, as well as at Linfield College and Clark Community College. Several entries he composed for the Oregon Encyclopedia were published and about a half-dozen more are in the works.

**Doug Duer** initiated an ethnographic investigation of settler and development impacts on Native communities in southwest Alaska along the Alagnak River. Working with a local research coordinator - NPS anthropologist and Alaska Native leader, Karen Evanoff (Dena’ina) – Doug collaborated with residents from the villages of Igiugig, Levelock, Naknek, King Salmon and Kokhanok. Together, they developed a research plan identifying appropriate methodologies and envisioning final research ‘products’ that might best convey community concerns to the outside world. Doug also recruited and trained two Alaska Native research assistants from these villages. In the next year and a half, Doug and the Alagnak team will carry out field visits along Alagnak Wild River, mapping and photographing cultural sites, recording stories and traditional ecological knowledge, and documenting the concerns of Native river users. A new federal river management plan is pending, giving some hope that anthropological and biological data might yet help shape the fate of the
Alagnak. The Alagnak research team anticipates that the documentation resulting from this PSU research will give these Native communities a much enhanced voice in resource management planning, will identify pressing natural science research needs, and will serve as a foundation for negotiations that might allow continued recreational uses of the river while insuring that the Alagnak will to continue to sustain Alaska Native communities – dietarily, economically, culturally, and spiritually – for many generations to come.

Michele Gamburd is on sabbatical for the 2011 calendar year. She is using this time to work on a book manuscript, titled *The Golden Wave: Narrating Sri Lanka’s Tsunami Disaster*. The book deals with the aftermath on Sri Lanka’s southwest coast of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. Framed as a contribution to the Anthropology of Disaster, the book examines the cultural construction of disaster, disaster capitalism, and disaster diplomacy at the end of Sri Lanka’s civil war. As people engage in post-tsunami relief and recovery operations, they reconstruct group and individual identities and craft both solidarity and oppositional factions. Drawing on ethnographic data gathered in 2005, 2006, and 2009, the book explores the role of individuals, NGOs, and government bodies in supporting families, rebuilding homes, and revitalizing businesses. This work will contribute to the ongoing anthropological discussions of social vulnerabilities, prestige, and corruption as it examines the narrative strategies people use for making meaning in the wake of disaster.

Cameron Smith will be travelling to Ecuador this summer in a joint project with Dr. Florencio Delgado of Universidad San Francisco de Quito and Linfield College to explore the archaeological potential of an island 25 miles off the coast. In summer 2012 he and his research partners will begin a field school there, focusing on underwater precolombian archaeology. In addition, Cameron recently published "A Three-Step Method for Teaching the Principles of Evolution to Non-Biology Major Undergraduates" in the journal 'Evolution: Education and Outreach' (17 December 2010). Also in May, his second popular-science book on evolution, "The Fact of Evolution" was released by Prometheus Books (New York). This summer he will continue his fieldwork on the Ridgefield National Wildlife refuge by running a small (only 4 students!) field school there in conjunction with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, PSU, and Linfield College.

Jeremy Spoon entered his second year as a faculty member in the department. Over the past year, his federal agency and Native American collaborators included the Department of Defense, the Forest Service, and Fish and Wildlife and seventeen Numic (Southern Paiute, Western Shoshone, and Owen's Valley Paiute) Nations living in Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and California. These projects focus on government-to-government consultation, collaborative resource management, and public engagement. Jeremy also started a Student Internship Program in collaboration with Nellis Air Force Base to train graduate students to conduct collaborative ethnography and to utilize film as a methodological tool. Highlights from these projects included enabling 25 Nuwuvi (Southern Paiute) elders to return to their creation landscape to share stories to serve as the content for a new visitors center and other interpretive facilities. These projects also hosted 30 Newe and Nuwuvi (Western Shoshone and Southern Paiute) individuals to return to areas within the Nevada Test and Training Range for the first time in more than 60 years. Additional activities encompassed the production of a five minute trailer for an ethnographic film premiering in November 2011 and multiple conference presentations including conducting the keynote address for the National Association for Interpretation annual meeting in Las Vegas and presenting papers at the Society for Applied Anthropology Traditional Foods Summit in Seattle and the University of Florida's Symposium on Ethnobiology, Religion, and Nature in Gainesville. He also submitted four manuscripts to academic journals and university presses, produced six reports, and a book review. Jeremy continued his engagement in the Portland community through his Applied Anthropology course, which included 25 projects that addressed issues in the Portland area. The students returned the results of these efforts to the local organizations that engage these issues. Jeremy also organized a community engagement activity for 20 students at Tryon Life Community Farm in Southwest Portland and hosted 13 students at the Society for Applied Anthropology annual meeting in Seattle. This summer he is returning to the Mt. Everest region of Nepal to continue his long-term research on the relationships among tourism,
local ecological knowledge, and environmental sustainability.

Nuwuvi participants in a sharing workshop conducted as part of interpretive planning with the U.S. Forest Service in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, Nevada

Sarah Sterling continues teaching for the Anthropology Department through the Extended Campus Program. She is looking forward to giving a paper in Warsaw this summer about her research on Old Kingdom Egyptian pottery.

Natalie Vasey began the academic year in Madagascar, documenting the communal breeding system of variegated lemurs on the Masoala Peninsula, with backing from the National Geographic Society and Portland State University. She captured the first ever images of infants and caregivers in the wild. She presented a selection of photos taken from the rain forest canopy and some highlights of her recent scholarship as the keynote speaker for the Anthropology Department’s Annual Alumni and Student Lecture, held on May 12th. In January she began teaching Freshman Inquiry in PSU’s University Studies program, a two-year commitment. So Anthropology has seen precious little of Natalie this year!

Doug Wilson continues to direct the Northwest Cultural Resources Institute (NCRI) at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site that conducts research, educational activities, and public outreach at National Parks throughout the Pacific Northwest. This year the NCRI will sponsor the 10th annual archaeological field school, which will continue work at the Fort Vancouver Village. He gave a talk at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings on the Hawaiian Diaspora at the Village. Doug was honored this year with the John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in National Park Service Archeology for his work at the Chinook Middle Village and Lewis & Clark’s Station Camp dating to the late 18th and early 19th century.

Public anthropology field school at Fort Vancouver Village

ANNOUNCING THE OFFICE OF APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH!!!

The Department of Anthropology is proud to announce the establishment of the Office of Applied Anthropology Research (OAAR) at Portland State University. OAAR is a research and pedagogical entity that will serve the peoples and places engaged by faculty and departmental affiliates. Its mission is to operationalize anthropological theory and methods in applied contexts in the United States and abroad. OAAR has the capacity to search out both grant and contract funding and will partner with governments, indigenous peoples, and other stakeholders to address environmental, medical, educational, and other issues relevant to the contexts it serves.
Student interns from the Office of Applied Anthropological Research (OAAR) in the field in Nevada

ALUMNI NEWS

Shingo Hamada (MA 2006) completed the coursework and advanced to a Ph.D. candidacy at Indiana University Bloomington last year. Shingo will start his dissertation research on the environmental discourse of coastal conservation in northern Japan in July 2011. His dissertation fieldwork is funded by the National Science Foundation and Wenner-Gren Foundation.

Julia Ruppell (MA 2007) received a Fulbright scholarship to work in Laos as well as a Primate Action Fund grant from Conservation International to fund her dissertation work “Ecology of Crested Gibbons in Laos”.

Juan Esteban Zea (MA 2010) had an article published in the Michigan Journal of Public Affairs 8th volume. It went to press on April 24 and should be coming out soon. The article is titled: "Internal Displacement: Violence, Public and Socioeconomic Policy in Colombia."


Cassandra Manning (MA 2011) defended her thesis “The role of salmon in Middle Snake River Human Economy: The Hetrick Site in Regional Contexts.” She is currently working as an on-call archaeological technician at ICF International, where she has been employed for the last year.

Meris Mullaley (MA 2010) defended her thesis “Rebuilding the Architectural History of Fort Vancouver’s Village”

RECENT M.A. GRADUATES

Graduate student Dana Holschuh working in the field at Fort Vancouver

STUDENT NEWS

Student Groups

PSU’s Anthropology Department currently has two very active student groups – the Anthropology Student Association and a chapter of the honors society, Lambda Alpha Beta.

Lambda Alpha, the Oregon chapter of the National Anthropology Honors Society has been very active this year. They have sponsored trips to NWAC and the Food Justice Conference as well as educational events on campus. Among the many on campus events, the Annual Induction Ceremony and Creating Connections stand out. Lambda Alphas
vice president elect Ridhi D'Cruz had this to say about Creating Connections: "What I liked most about this event was the inherent spirit of collaboration. For example, we had two speakers and at one point, they were both on the podium, chatting amongst themselves, and it felt like we, the audience, were listening in on a conversation between friends. At times, we piped in. The informal atmosphere, the insights the speakers gave us about representing our thoughts, and our work all came together really well, and it was an evening of sharing, I loved it. And I can't wait for more events that build networks between the many brilliant people we have in our community.”

The Annual induction Ceremony was a capstone to the year. 24 new members were inducted into the society and ten graduating seniors were recognized for their hard work and received invaluable advice from various faculty members.

Newly inducted members of Lambda Alpha.

The Anthropology Student Association (ASA) is an active student organization. The group invites and encourages all members of the community who are interested in all fields of anthropology to participate in their events. The ASA holds monthly CAVEs (Cheesy Anthropology Video Event), usually on Friday evenings, where students and faculty watch anthropology-related movies followed by discussions afterwards about the movie and its relation to anthropological matters. Some of the films featured this last academic year included "The Emerald Forest," "Creation," and "The Fast Runner." The ASA also helps fund travel and housing costs for anthropology-related conferences, such as the SAA (Society for American Archaeology) Annual Meeting held in Sacramento this year and the Northwest Anthropological Association's NWAC (Northwest Anthropology Conference) held in Idaho this year. By funding students’ attendance to such conferences, the ASA hopes not only to make these events financially-feasible for students but also to encourage students to be active members in the professional anthropology community while at the same time helping to build their social networks throughout the community. The ASA holds bi-weekly meetings in the Anthropology Department so come fall term please stop by and give us your input!

(L-R) Shoshanna Rosenberg, Cassie Manning, Alexander Stevenson, Katie Wojcik, and Danny Gilmour in Moscow, Idaho, where they were presenting their research at the Northwest Anthropology Conference

Student Presentations

The Northwest Anthropology Conference (NWAC) in Moscow, Idaho had many attendees, including both undergraduate and graduate students from the Anthropology Student Association. Danny Gilmour, Alexander Stevenson, Cassie Manning, Tony Hofkamp, Katie Wojcik and Shoshana Rosenberg gave paper presentations at the conference.

Several graduate and undergraduate students also attended the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) conference, which took place in Seattle in March.

The annual Society for American Archaeology (SAA) conference took place in Sacramento, California in April. Kristen Fuld presented her paper on the Cathlapotle and Meier bone tools at the Sacramento SAA meetings. Tony Hofkamp and Alexander Stevenson also presented posters at the conference.

Several graduate students presented posters at the Columbia-Willamette Chapter of Sigma Xi student conference at PSU. Alexander Stevenson presented "Anadromous salmonids in the Upper Klamath Basin? Identification of Pacific salmonid (Oncorhynchus spp.) species and life history through mtDNA and geochemical analysis." Danny Gilmour presented "Fish Traps and Data Gaps: A Preliminary Synthesis of Prehistoric Fish Capture
Features on the Washington Coast.” Cassie Manning presented “The role of salmon in Middle Snake River human economy: Hetrick Site faunal records in regional contexts.” Tony Hofkamp presented “Ground trot hing” The use of radiographic analysis of vertebral growth rings for age determination of Pacific salmon (Oncorhynchus spp.).” Katie Wojcik and Shoshana Rosenberg presented their poster “Using vertebral morphometrics to determine salmonid species (Oncorhynchus spp.) at two archaeological sites on the lower Columbia River.” Cassie Manning received first place in the Social/Behavioral Sciences category and Tony Hofkamp won first place in the Environmental Sciences category. Congrats to everyone!

Students from ANTH 415/515 (Environmental Anthropology) participating in a service day at Tryon Life Community Farm

Students who Rock! (Because we received news items from or about them)

Josef Wieland was accepted into the PhD program in Anthropology at the University of California-Irvine with five years of funding. Theresa Dutchuk was accepted into the MA program in Anthropology at the University of Alaska-Anchorage. Judith Edwards was accepted into the Masters of Teaching program at Lewis & Clark University. Alysia Wright was accepted into the Masters of Teaching program at PSU. Roy Watters will begin a PhD Program in the School of the Environment at PSU, with an IGERT Fellowship (2 years of NSF funding). Robert David received an NSF fellowship for archaeological training for Native Americans. Ashley Mazanec was accepted with a scholarship into the Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego. Michalia Kramer is headed o Sabanci University in Istanbul, Turkey to pursue an MA in visual anthropology. Sam Gentz will be participating in an Americorps program in Juneau, Alaska. Flynn Renard will be doing the GIS certificate program at PSU. Cassie Manning, Danny Gilmour, and Tony Hofkamp were accepted as associate members of the Sigma Xi scientific research society. Tony Hofkamp He will be travelling to Hawaii this summer to work on HALE Nu'u Archaeological Survey project for the International Archaeology Research Institute Inc. (IARII).

This year Brye Lefler and Stacie Peterson received the Newman and Scheans Scholarships. Congratulations to Nuhamin Mulat and Jamie Payne, our Anthropology Seniors of the Year!
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 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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