THE RE-VENERATION OF THEIR SACRED PAST: EVIDENCE FOR AN EMERGING PATTERN OF RITUAL BEHAVIOR AT SAN BARTOLO, GUATEMALA

By Jessica H. Craig

Investigations at the ancient Maya site of San Bartolo continue to yield evidence for the use of ceremonial practice for the maintenance of social, political, and spiritual order. While the spectacular murals for which the site is most well known continue to regale scholars with tales of Maya creation and mythology, evidence for ritual practices across the site in ceremonial and residential structures indicate the community’s desire for direct communication with the gods. Excavations conducted between 2002 and 2006 at Structure 63, the royal palace, and one of the site's two main pyramids have yielded evidence that the community participated in a unique type of ceremonial behavior that involved the provision of offerings and burning events for the sake of ancestral buildings and monuments (Fig. 1, page 4). This specific practice I have termed "re-veneration" because it involves the re-use of ancient features, both functionally and ritually.

Structure 63 is small T-shaped building that is among the structures surrounding San Bartolo's main plaza. Set into the floor of the structure is a large barrigon, or pot-bellied boulder monument, measuring over a meter in length and height (Fig. 2, page 4). The

(Ritual Behavior, Continued on page 4)

MITOCHONDRIAL DNA VARIATION IN YAKUTIA: THE GENETIC STRUCTURE OF AN EXPANDING POPULATION

By Mark Zlojutro

Introduction

During the past thirty years, major advances in DNA-based technologies have revolutionized the field of molecular biology and provided the high-throughput and efficient sequencing that was necessary for the successful completion of the much-publicized Human Genome Project. This proficiency at characterizing genetic variation at the DNA level has increasingly been utilized by physical anthropologists that have collected and analyzed a wealth of genetic data from various human populations to address questions concerning topics such as human disease, adaptation, and growth and development. However, the most notable insights garnered from this burgeoning field of study, known today as molecular anthropology, relate to human origins and evolutionary history.

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) has been the most popular genetic system for this area of research, highlighted by

(MtDNA, Continued on page 8)
CULTURAL INVOCATION IN COMMERCIAL SPACE:
A CASE STUDY OF CULTURAL ADHERENCE
UTILIZING MATERIAL CULTURE

By Molly Debailles

Lykins neighborhood in northeast Kansas City, Missouri, was my home from 1998 to 2005. During those seven years, I observed the context and development of two local corner stores, Nelson’s Island Mart and Las Tres Palmas. Differences in the inclusive/exclusive nature of spatial arrangements, the extent to which cultural heritage is invoked, and economic specializations emerged. Symbol systems, embodied in material culture at Las Tres Palmas and Nelson’s Island Market, are important in understanding the cultural, economic, geographic, and global meanings of each business’s relationship to the community. My theoretical basis hails from symbolic archaeology and sociology which stipulates “material culture is meaningfully constituted… ideas and concepts embedded in social life which influence the way material culture is used, embellished and discarded” (Hodder:1992). Artifacts with meaning are deemed symbolic when their meanings are of particular interest (Halle:1998). Thus, interesting meanings found in the material artifacts and constructed space of each businesses examined place analysis firmly in the theoretical realm of symbol systems. As this study focuses on material culture, I shall not discuss the owners or clientele. In many ways this approach encourages you, the reader, to make and examine your assumptions about the owners and patrons. I deem this approach helpful as it forces us to examine our assumptions and deductive processes.

Adaptation to existing space differs in each store. Cultural assumptions are implied by use and construction of space (Rapoport:1989) facilitating each business’ relationship to the community. The material record bespeaks an exclusive relationship between Nelson’s and the community, in contrast to an inclusive relationship between Las Palmas and the community. The conclusion links findings to the neighborhood’s economics, geography, and finally, to global meanings.

The “corner stores” are two blocks from each other, within walking distance of the same clientele and subject to the same municipal policies. Their proximity, similar merchandise, and corner locations provide a similar context and thus the basis for comparison.

Photograph 1 is of Ninth Street; Nelson’s Island Mart is in the foreground. On the same side of the street, at the bottom of the hill, is Las Tres Palmas (Photo 2). The stores are two blocks from one another and market themselves to the same geographic community. Like many other buildings on Ninth Street, Nelson’s was built in the 1930s. Las Tres Palmas occupies a former 7-11 store built in the 1970s. Both stores carry general groceries, cigarettes, snacks, and toiletries. Nelson’s specializes in alcohol sales while Las Tres Palmas sells prepared food. Exterior signage communicates store owners’ intended image. The name, design, and placement of exterior signs convey differing cultural invocation. Interior decoration also differs: Las Tres Palmas has Piñatas and Rosaries displayed for sale; Nelson’s displays mass produced alcohol advertisements and a shrine facing the entrance.
Cultural Invocation in Commercial Space...

(Culture & Space, Continued from page 2)

The exterior presentation of Nelson’s Island Mart is congruent with norms of the historic Anglo/Italian host culture (Heldstab: 2000). “Nelson’s” sounds Anglo, representative of the majority of the city’s inhabitants. “Island” refers to the nature of the building, surrounded on all sides by streets. The business name sign is placed above the entrance. Flanking it, above the windows on both sides, as well as in the windows, are mass produced beer signs.

The historical built environment shapes the space of Nelson’s Island Mart in dramatic ways. Historic architectural features include high ceilings, a full basement, brick construction, picture windows on three sides, street parking, and modest size. Nelson’s Island thus invokes norms of the historic host culture in its signage, and historical architecture in its constructed space. Current owners reference the historic host culture and architecture in the business name.

The name Las Tres Palmas, “the three palms,” evokes a Mexican landscape, not Kansas City’s. Signs are raised next to the street, above the door and on each side of the façade. Utilizing every available space on the building, not just above the door, is a norm for Mexican businesses in America (Arreola:1988). Most signs are produced specifically for this business; there are, however, mass produced cigarette ads placed in the window. The store’s signage indicates dual affiliation with Mexican and Anglo culture: primarily Mexican due to the language, name and images of palm trees; secondarily the historic Anglo host culture because of mass produced ads and English use.

The architecture intends to display the store’s interior to automotive passersby and facilitate easy access to motorists. Construction favoring motorists is evident by the large windows across the façade facing the busiest street and parking lot in front of the building. Despite the architectural intentions of the original 7-11, Las Tres Palmas communicates, via sign placement, imagery and language, norms which differ from those of the historic host culture.

Examining the exteriors of these neighborhood businesses, differential cultural invocation is discernable. On one hand, Las Tres Palmas invokes both Anglo and Mexican culture through sign placement, imagery, and the use of two languages. On the other, signs at Nelson’s Island Mart adhere to the historic Anglo host culture’s norms through sign placement and name.

Further examination of material culture inside the stores reveals their bicultural nature. Entering the stores, use and construction of space point to differing manners of relating to the community: exclusivity is materially communicated at Nelson’s Island Mart, while Las Tres Palmas communicates inclusiveness.

The countertop in Nelson’s Island mart is raised; the sales person stands about 2 feet higher than the customer (Photo 3). The counter’s entrance is at the rear of the store, limiting accessibility. Such construction forms a clear distinction between the customer and sales person, creating an exclusive space for employees. Thus constructed space communicates exclusivity separating the sales person from the customer.

The countertop at Las Tres Palmas is level with the customer and the entrance is easily accessible (Photo 4). This arrangement differs from that of the previous business. Spatial distinction between the customer and employee is de-emphasized, creating an inclusive environment. Thus, the relationship to the customer and community is one of inclusion, as separation between employees and customers is spatially de-emphasized, in contrast to Nelson’s Island Mart.

Photograph 3: Nelson’s Island. Note the raised countertop, creating an exclusive space for employees and a separation from the customer.

Photograph 4: Las Tres Palmas. The spatial arrangement de-emphasizes the separation between employees and customers. (Note the children to the left.)
RITUAL BEHAVIOR AT SAN BARTOLO...

(Continued from page 1)

barrigon is significant because this sculptural style dates to the Late Preclassic period, 700 years before the construction of Structure 63. Fanning out from the east and south sides the barrigon was a deposit of over 6500 sherds, which comprised the majority of the sherd assemblage associated with this feature (Fig. 3, page 5). There was abundant evidence of burning directly east of the boulder and a secondary deposit of human remains on its south side. Behind the barrigon was a complete vessel that had been placed in the 30 cm space between the back of the figure and the west wall of the structure. Under the floor of the building on the north side of the monument were two whole vessels, found inverted and surrounded by white marl, a pasty limestone-based substance associated with ritual deposits. Ceramic analyses and AMS dates from above and below the structure floor indicate that the building was constructed between AD 700 and 800 and the majority of the sherds and other offerings were deposited in the period between AD 800 and 900, all of which falls within the Late Classic period. Based on the evidence from excavations at Structure 63, the ritual behavior that occurred most prominently at this building was its continual use, or its “perpetuation,” as a shrine during this period. The concept of perpetuation is the provision of offerings with regularity. It is literally the upkeep of sacred space, via the bringing of offerings.

Recent finds from the 2005 and 2006 excavations at San Bartolo have indicated that Structure 63 may have been more than the site of perpetual offerings. New data have suggested that a larger pattern of ritual behavior at San Bartolo is emerging, in which the Late Classic community was participating in a re-veneration of their sacred past via the provision of offerings. Excavations across the site indicate that after a period of abandonment following the Late Preclassic (200 B.C. - A.D. 200), San Bartolo was re-occupied in the Late Classic (A.D. 600-900). This period of re-occupation is marked by the construction of elite and non-elite residential compounds, the remodeling of the royal palace, as well as a pattern of unique ritual practices. The 2005 excavations along the front façade of Las Pinturas, which houses the murals for which the site is most well-known, established that the pyramid was looted of its facing stones and subsequently became an offering site. Lenses of ash and large quantities of Late Classic ceramics were recovered from on top of the ruined Late Preclassic structure (Figs. 4 & 5, page 5). Given the absence of Late Classic construction or activity within this plaza or its immediate vicinity, the ash and ceramics are best explained as a kind of offering, probably related to the dismantling of the pyramid. Compelling evidence for similar ceremonial practices was found.
**RITUAL BEHAVIOR AT SAN BARTOLO...**

during the 2006 excavations associated with the Late Preclassic phases of royal palace. The re-use of the Late Preclassic barrigon as the central feature of the Late Classic shrine at Structure 63, along with the ritual deposition of ceramics and ash at important ancient structures suggest an emergent pattern of behavior at San Bartolo, whereupon the Late Classic community was paying homage to their sacred past through ceremony and offerings.

This proposed re-veneration is something I will continue to explore in the immediate future through further analysis. Dr. Steven Bozarth, of the Geography Department at KU, has graciously agreed to help me conduct a phytolith analysis on the ash itself, in an effort to determine some of its components. I will also conduct intensive analyses on the sherds from the deposits to gather information about the types of vessels being used in the rituals and where in the site or region they are coming from.

The Late Classic re-occupation of San Bartolo after several hundreds years of abandonment is fairly indisputable at this point. Therefore, now that we know what we're looking for, I predict that as excavations by myself and other project members continue, this pattern of re-occupation and subsequent re-veneration will become increasingly apparent in the investigations at San Bartolo.

(*It should be noted that I conducted excavations at Structure 63 and Las Pinturas, whereas work at the palace was done by Astrid Ranggaldier, who is writing her dissertation on this structure.)*

Jessica Craig is a first year PhD student who has been working at the site of San Bartolo since 2002. She got the opportunity to join this project during her first year as a graduate student at KU, when Dr. John Hoopes recommended her to Dr. William Saturno, the director of the San Bartolo project. Her PhD research centers on the investigation of ancient ritual behavior across the site. She completed her master's thesis, "Dedication, Termination, and Perpetuation: Evidence for a Continuum of Ritual Behavior at San Bartolo, Guatemala," in 2004.

Jessica's other work at the site has included assisting Saturno in the excavation of the West Wall of the mural room, which was featured in the January 2006 issue of National Geographic. In 2005, she was supported by a Fulbright Grant to conduct dissertation field and lab work in Guatemala. Jessica has accepted a full-time teaching position at the University of New Hampshire for the 2006-7 academic year. She will be returning in the fall of 2007 to continue with her PhD work at KU.
Cultural Invocation in Commercial Space...

Spatial configuration of both the television and seating at Las Tres Palmas further illustrates the inclusive nature of the business. Seating and television are provided for the customers. This inclusion of customers encourages them to stay. Further demonstrating inclusiveness at Las Tres Palmas, a playpen sits alongside the tables. Space is thus familial; public commercial space is also used for child care, illustrating the perception that customers and family can share the same area.

There are 3 chairs at Nelson’s for private use. Chairs are placed in a circular manner around the edges of the store’s entry. A TV behind the counter is also for private use. Congruent with the construction of the counter, private seating and TV communicate the exclusive nature of Nelson’s Island Mart.

Both stores have religious material differing, as with the construction and use of space, in their private or public nature. Hanging above the counter of Las Tres Palmas, a cluster of Mexican made rosaries is for sale. This piece of Mexican Catholic culture invokes the owner’s cultural heritage. As the rosaries are for sale, they communicate the public, inclusive nature of the store.

Nelson’s Island Mart has a shrine facing the entrance, a symbol for the shop owners. The shrine is the only easily identifiable material item indicating adherence to norms which differ from the historical host culture. The shrine concretely invokes Vietnamese culture in its placement and use (Photo 5) (Raulin:1993).

Both stores communicate religiosity through material representation in the shop, invoking cultural adherence to Catholic and historical Eastern belief systems. The rosaries for sale are public, whereas the shrine is intended for private benefit. Although the private and public nature as well as religion of each differs, both stores invoke culture through presentation of religious items.

Primarily I have discussed the secondary uses of each store; they are, however, primarily retail businesses, each with its own specialization. Nelson’s Island Mart and Las Tres Palmas sell many of the same items: toiletries, food, and cigarettes. Las Tres Palmas, however, carries specialty items for a Mexican clientele; these include snacks like nuts with chili salt and spices labeled in Spanish. The store is also a taqueria, the entire menu of which is displayed in Spanish only. Nelson’s offers general items congruent with historical community norms and Las Palmas offers Mexican products in addition to those offered at Nelson’s. Examining the merchandise, it is clear Las Palmas targets a culturally specific clientele while Nelson’s specialization targets the historically Anglo community.

The greatest difference in what each store has to offer is prepared food at Las Palmas and alcohol at Nelson’s. The choice to sell these items contributes to spatial arrangements. Owners translate spatial needs based upon products sold. Prepared food at Las Tres Palmas necessitates, in the owner’s view, public seating, an arrangement translated into inclusiveness at Las Palmas (Photo 6, page 7). Alcohol sales dictate, for the owner’s of Nelsons Island Mart, a higher degree of separation from clientele, leading to exclusivity in Nelson’s. The possibility of becoming a bar is negated because 1) the space is not conducive for such an arrangement and 2) friends own a bar half a block away. Thus merchandise couples with owners’ perceptions and architectural limitations in creating the spatial arrangements of each shop. Specializations of prepared food and alcohol are congruent with creation of space and reflect personal cultural norms of each of the shop owners.

In both stores two cultures are invoked, that of the historical and partially current culture, and that of the personal heritage of the shop owners. In both stores, mass advertising, general merchandise, and architecture display adherence to historical cultural norms in Lykins. Las Tres Palmas invokes Mexican culture in its sign’s images and placement, name, use of printed language, imagery, merchandise and inclusive use of space. Nelson’s Island Mart only invokes Vietnamese culture through the shrine and exclusive structure of space; otherwise it invokes the historical cultural norm of Lykins.

Not only does each store invoke its owner’s personal culture differently, the extent of displayed invocation differs. Nelson’s Island Mart conveys adherence to norms of the historic Anglo community in many ways: its name, sign placement, merchandising, and décor are devoid of reference to the owner’s heritage. Las Tres Palmas, on the other hand, invokes the owner’s heritage in each of those manners. Cultural invocation, of either the urban norm or personal heritage, indicates the targeted clientele and personal cultural norms of private versus public displays of cultural adherence and an inclusive or exclusive nature of relating to the community.

Although the extent and manner of cultural invocation differ, the fact that each

(Culture & Space, Continued on page 7)
store has chosen to invoke two cultures bespeaks the neighborhood’s cultural pluralism. Both stores represent the dual nature of displayed culture in this setting. Acceptance of culturally plural stores indicates a community-wide norm of diversity. Even when expression is for private benefit, as with the shrine, the fact that it is publicly displayed indicates community acceptance of multiple cultures and a neighborhood norm of meshing historical Anglo community norms with those of cultural heritage. As indicated by the material record, the neighborhood accepts material representation of both Vietnamese and Mexican cultural heritage, illuminating the presence, and a degree of acceptance, of a culturally plural community.

Economic factors influence the stores in several ways. Lack of capital disables owners’ architectural expression, forcing adaptation to existing space, the age of which necessitates a high level of maintenance. The poor neighborhood is subject to municipal neglect (Harvey:1972), functioning to marginalize the businesses and their clientele (Lewis:2002). Commercial space in this culturally plural neighborhood is an acceptable arena for material displays of varied cultural expression. Thus economic forces simultaneously marginalize and enable expression of norms differing from the greater urban area.

Geographically the neighborhood has traditionally been composed of recent immigrants (Heldstab:2000). Examining the historical context of the neighborhood, material vestiges of historical immigrant groups can be identified. Comparing the North-East neighborhood to the greater urban area, a clear containment of material expression of varied cultural heritage in businesses is visible. Stores coupling new immigrant cultures with historic Anglo norms are predominantly located within the geographical bounds of the northeast neighborhood.

Culturally plural neighborhoods are found in urban areas around the world. Concentration of economically marginalized ethnic diversity in neighborhoods is common in North America (Valdes: 2000). Settlement patterns of new immigrants in areas municipally, economically and geographically marginalized is also common. While marginalization in poor diverse communities is imposed by urban host culture (Menchaca:1989), a higher degree of cultural acceptance in such marginalized communities allows for the material expression of varied cultures. Cultural maintenance and economic niches are thus facilitated in such diverse neighborhoods which are perhaps hindered in other, more affluent, neighborhoods. The question follows, what institutional changes are necessary to facilitate equal structural support of culturally rich communities, such as Lykins, which only more affluent neighborhoods have historically enjoyed?

Molly DesBaillets is an MA student interested in culturally plural urban neighborhoods. For her thesis she is studying how municipal policy affects culturally diverse urban neighborhoods.

Molly plans to get her PHD and become a practicing applied anthropologist.

An earlier version of this paper was presented in Vancouver for the 2006 SfAA meeting. Thanks to professors Radovonovich and Stull for their input and assistance in creating and revising this paper.

**Literature Cited**


Lewis, Melinda K. (n.d.) “…Y la gente sigue adelante”: Examination of the Social, Economic, Educational, and Civic Realities of Latino Immigrants in the Kansas City Area. Kansas City: El Centro.


MtDNA Variation in Yakutia...

(MtDNA, Continued from page 1)

the seminal work conducted by Rebecca Cann, Mark Stoneking and Allen Wilson at the University of California at Berkeley in 1987. This group produced a genealogical tree for mtDNAs from individuals representing the major geographic regions of the world, which placed humankind’s most recent mtDNA ancestor, dubbed by the press as “Mitochondrial Eve”, on the African continent approximately 200,000 years ago. Since this publication, a multitude of mtDNA studies have contributed to an expanding model of specific population fission/fusion events and interrelated migratory patterns and chronologies that detail human evolutionary history based on this genetic record.

But how accurate are these reconstructions of human evolutionary history? Various issues have been raised about mtDNA’s purported lack of recombination and strict maternal transmission, the different mutation rate estimates reported in literature, and the assumed absence of selective pressures for certain segments of this genetic molecule. Moreover, changes in population size is an important variable that affects the degree of genetic drift and gene flow experienced by populations, which in turn can impact the overall genetic structure in ways that differ from populations with relatively stable historical demographics. My recently defended M.A. thesis examined this question by applying commonly used statistical and dating methodologies on the mtDNA structure of a population whose origin and historical demography are well understood from ethnohistorical, archaeological and linguistic evidence – the Yakuts of northeastern Siberia.

Population Background

The Yakuts (or Sakha, as they call themselves) are a native population of nearly 400,000 that mainly live throughout the Sakha Autonomous Republic (Yakutia) of the Russian Federation (see Fig. 1). The Yakut language and its dialects collectively represent the northernmost Turkic language and are considered to be an isolate within this linguistic family, although it shares features with Turkic languages spoken in the mountainous Altai-Sayan region of south Siberia, such as Tuvan. The traditional Yakut economy is based on horse and cattle breeding, which contrasts neighboring Tungusic-speaking populations that predominantly relied on reindeer herding and hunting, and is akin to the pastoralism practiced by various Turkic and Mongolic tribes inhabiting the vast Asian steppes to the south. A number of other features of Yakut culture also reveal affinities to southern Turkic peoples. This includes material culture, religious deities, celebrated festivals, and epic poems.

Based on the archaeological record and various Chinese texts and drawings attributed to the T’ang Dynasty, the extinct Turkic-speaking Kurykans from the northwest shores of Lake Baikal (7th – 13th centuries AD) exhibit close similarities to traditional Yakut culture and are considered to be the ancestors of the Yakuts. During the 11th to 13th centuries, repeated Mongol invasions are believed to be responsible for both the ultimate demise of the Kurykan culture and the concurrent large-scale population movements documented in the region (Okladnikov 1970). Thus, from these different lines of evidence, the Yakuts likely derive from a Kurykan group that migrated to the north along the Lena River system after a protracted period of repeated Mongol invasions during the 11th to 13th centuries, and in the process displaced and/or mixed with non-Turkic indigenous populations residing in the territories of Yakutia (see Fig. 2). Russian contact with the Yakuts began in the 1620s, and unlike other native Siberian peoples under the Russian colonial regime, the Yakuts successfully adapted to the new cultural conditions and expanded throughout the region. As a result, their population size has risen more than tenfold since 1700, from about 30,000 to over 380,000 today (Forsyth 1992).

Materials and Methods

In 2000, Yakut blood samples were obtained from participants representing seven communities from the Sakha Republic: Asyma, Berdigestiakh, Dikymdyke, Khorobut, Maia, Nizhny Bestiakh, and Viljujsk. Russian researchers L.A. Tar...
MtDNA Variation in Yakutia...

skaia and R.V. Alekseeva collected blood samples (n = 99) from Yakut coronary patients at Vilyuysk Regional Hospital. For the remaining six Yakut communities, blood samples (n = 272) were obtained by M. Sorensen and J. Snodgrass from Northwestern University. All participants provided informed consent.

DNA was extracted from the whole blood specimens and then typed for a series of restriction fragment length polymorphisms (RFLPs) (note: this methodology involves the cleavage of specific DNA sequences using restriction enzymes and identifying the presence or absence of these cut sites through gel electrophoresis). In addition, a subset of the Yakut sample (n = 144) was sequenced for the Hypervariable Segment I (HVS-I) of the control region that regulates the replication of mtDNA and gene expression. This mtDNA region has a higher mutation rate and thus greater variation that allows for more robust investigations of microevolutionary processes.

Comparative mtDNA data were compiled from literature, representing populations throughout Eurasia. The analytical methods employed in this study include diversity measures, neutrality test statistics, mismatch analyses, coalescence time estimation, network construction, D_{ij} genetic distances, multi-dimensional scaling (MDS), and other statistical tests.

Results

Returning to the objective of the study, are the results from the mtDNA analyses consistent with what is known about Yakut origins and demography? This can be evaluated in three ways:

- Do the Yakuts exhibit genetic affinities with southern Turkic populations?
- Is there genetic evidence for recent population expansion?
- Are the estimated coalescent dates congruent with an ancestral Yakut migration approximately 800 years ago?

RFLP analyses revealed that the vast majority of the study sample belongs to two mtDNA lineages, haplogroups C and D (41.2% and 28.6%, respectively), which is similar to the haplogroup composition reported in the neighboring Evenki, as well as south Siberian populations such as the Tuva and Buryats. The majority of the Yakut HVS-I sequences belonging to haplogroups C and D are shared with south Siberian and Central Asian groups, and overall exhibit high diversity levels that are generally consistent with the values calculated for other Turkic populations. NJ trees and MDS plots of D_{ij} genetic distance matrices show close genetic affinities between the Yakuts and Turkic groups from south Siberia (see Fig. 3, page 10). SAMOVA algorithmic analyses confirm this relationship, coupling the Yakuts with the Tuva. Furthermore, Mantel tests of genetic, linguistic, and geographic distance matrices indicate a disruption in the Isolation by Distance Model with the inclusion of the Yakut data set, suggesting that the Yakuts are a foreign genetic element in relation to the mtDNA landscape of northeastern Siberia.

The Median-Joining (MJ) network presents a phylogenetic structure dominated by isolated, high-frequency nodes within haplogroups C and D, producing an overall appearance that resembles "beads on a string." This is reflected by a significant deviation in the observed high frequency haplotypes relative to the expected Ewens sampling distribution and likely represents the genetic consequence of a recent founder event involving a limited number of maternal lineages. The Yakut mismatch distribution is unimodal, a feature that is considered to be the hallmark of an expanding population.

However, the expansion date estimated using Rogers and Harpending’s (1992) mismatch model is approximately 42,000 years ago, and thus the unimodality likely reflects Paleolithic demography associated with the earliest peopling of Asia and Siberia. Two high frequency Yakut subhaplogroups, C4a and D5a, were identified as potential founder lineages with strong phylogeographic ties to south Siberians and East Asians, and were dated to about 2,300 and 450 years ago, respectively.

Conclusions

The results from this study indicate that close phylogenetic relationships between human populations can be accurately identified by characterizing the geographic distribution of shared mtDNA haplotypes and employing multivariate techniques such as MDS projections of genetic distance matrices. In this instance, the Yakuts exhibit strong genetic ties to southern Turkic groups. Reconstructing historical demography proved to be more problematic.
Neutral test statistics and the modality of mismatch distributions are unreliable indicators of population growth or decline, and based on simulation work appear to be heavily influenced by regional gene flow (Ray et al. 2002). The MJ network and haplotype frequency distribution, on the other hand, retain genetic features of the Yakuts’ recent founder event, and the coalescent dates estimated from high frequency lineages within haplogroups C and D, notably C4a and D5a, are more congruent with the timing of Yakut expansion into northeastern Siberia.

Therefore, theascertainment of historical demography, notably periods of expansion, for individual populations requires careful examination of both network structures and phylogeographic distributions in order to identify those lineages that may retain important genetic information regarding such events. Only then can a robust picture of human evolutionary history emerge, interdigitating the earliest expansions of humankind with the fission and fusion processes related to the recent ethogenesis of contemporary peoples. With continued analyses of human genetic variation and the parallel refinement of evolutionary models that better accommodate demographic and genomic variables, our understanding of our origins will surely grow.

Mark Zlojutro is a PhD student in the Laboratory of Biological Anthropology. Mark recently defended his M.A. thesis entitled "Mitochondrial DNA Variation in Yakutia: The Genetic Structure of an Expanding Population" with honors. He will travel to the eastern Aleutian Islands next month to collect DNA samples and plans to investigate potential regional differences in the genetic structure of the Aleut population.

Literature Cited

Below:
Figure 3: Multidimensional Scaling Plot for Intermatch-Mismatch Distances ($D_{ij}$) for the Yakuts and East Eurasian Populations

- Kamchatkan
- Mongolic
- Sino-Tibetan
- Tungusic
- Turkic
- Stress = 0.109
The analysis of a marker gene, immunoglobulin enhancer, for population differentiation, with Dr. Olga Rickard, Tor Vergata-University of Rome, Italy.

Comparison of mt-DNA among the contemporary and skeletal populations of the Aleutian Islands, with Dennis O'Rourke, Department of Anthropology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City. We have received a collaborative research award from NSF for the last 7 years.

Mapping of QTLs for biological aging in Mennonite families, with Ravi Duggirala and John Blangero, Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio, TX. We have a grant pending with NIA for a five year project.

NY markers of Siberia and the peopling of the Americas, R. J. Mitchell, LaTrobe University, Bundoora, Australia. Admixture estimates in Garifuna populations based upon Y-chromosome markers.

Genetic Structure of Algerian Populations, Philippe LeFevre-Witier, Centre d’Immunologie et Genetique Humaine, CNRS, Toulouse-France

Pooling of population samples of DNA for establishing unbiased genetic phylogenetic relationships between populations. James Knowles, Director of the Genome Center, Columbia University, NY.

Formation of Black Carib (Garifuna) populations of Dominica. Noel Boaz, Department of Anatomy, Ross Medical School, Dominica.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:
PAPERS/POSTERS PRESENTED AT NATIONAL MEETINGS

American Association of Physical Anthropologists, March 6-12, Fourth Annual Wiley-Liss Symposium for the AAPA Meetings in Anchorage, Alaska, March 11, 2006, organized with Christine Hanson.

Title: Human Populations of the Circumpolar Regions: Origins, Adaptation and Disease

Papers:

Introduction.


Field Research

Field research with Mark Zlojutro and Liza Mack (Aleut graduate student from Idaho State University) on Eastern Aleut communities: King Cove and Sand Point, Alaska, July-August, 2005.


Lectures by the Director:

Extension Workshop: Mongols: Forging a Bridge of Trade and Knowledge between Asia and Europe (800th Anniversary of the Founding of the Mongol Empire), organized by Tatyana Wils, on Mongols, April 8, 2006 Lecture by Michael Crawford: "Peoples of Siberia."

LBA GRADUATE STUDENT HONORS

Rohina Rubicz won the best student paper/poster at the Human Biology Association meetings in 2005.
Jay Sarthy was awarded a 4-year Self Fellowship, starting Spring, 2006.

April 12th, 2006, Mark Zlojutro was awarded an honor’s pass for the defense of his M.A. thesis: “Mitochondrial DNA Variation in Yakutia: The Genetic Structure of an Expanding Population.”

Rohina Rubicz successfully completed her oral doctoral examinations, with honors, on January 17th, 2006.

Marion Mealey-Ferrara has received grants from the McDonald Foundation and the Carol Clark Fund in the Department of Anthropology to initiate her research on the genetic consequences of the clan system of Scotland.

VISITING SCIENTISTS AND POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

Larissa Tarskaia, Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, Moscow, 2005.

Dr. Raghavendra Rao Vadlamudi (better known as V.R. Rao), director of the prestigious Anthropological Survey of India, with its nine regional centers, gave a lecture to the LBA, entitled “DNA Polymorphism in the Indian Tribes.” He met with the LBA personnel to discuss long-term collaborative anthropological research on Indian tribal and caste populations.

Professor Bernd Herrmann of Georg August Universitaet Goettingen, visiting the Laboratory of Biological Anthropology in November, 2005. Dr. Herrmann has published one of the pioneering volumes on ancient DNA and its applications.

NEWS FROM FORMER LBA MEMBERS

Dr. Dennis O’Rourke has been elected vice-president of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. His duties, 2007-9, include organizing and running the scientific program for the yearly national meetings. He is currently an Associate Editor of the American Journal of Physical Anthropology.

Dr. Lorena Madrigal has published a new volume with Cambridge University, entitled: “Human Biology of Afro-Caribbean Populations.” Her earlier, highly regarded volume on the application of statistics to biological anthropology is going into its second edition. Dr. Madrigal is an Associate Editor of American Journal of Physical Anthropology. She has completed her term as secretary-treasurer of the American Association of Anthropological Genetics. We thank her dedication and hard work through the formative years of the Association.

Drs. Sobha Puppala, Ravi Duggirala, and a number of scientists from the SW Foundation for Biomedical Research, have published the lead article in the March issue of the American Journal of Human Genetics. Dr. Puppala is the senior author of: “A genomewide search finds major susceptibility loci for gallbladder disease on chromosome 1 in Mexican Americans. Vol. 78 (3): 377-392.

The latest issue of Human Biology contains an article by Dr. MJ Mosher and three other former LBA members: Lisa Martin, Jeff T. Williams, and Kari E. Martin. It is entitled “Genotype-by-sex interaction in the regulation of high-density lipoprotein: The Framingham heart study. 77 (6): 773-793. She co-authored another article in 2005: Demarchi D, Mosher MJ and Crawford MH. Apoprotein and LPL variation in Mennonite Populations of Kansas and Nebraska American Journal of Human Biology 17(5) 593-600.

Drs. Rector Arya, Sobha Puppala, Tony Comuzzie, Ravi Duggirala et al have identified a quantitative trait locus (QTL) involved in birth weight. This discovery is discussed in an article in the current issue of the journal Human Molecular Genetics, May 15; 15(10): 1569-79.

Dr. Kari North, an assistant professor in the Department of Epidemiology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, is continuing to be highly productive with numerous publications in various prestigious journals. In addition to an article on linkage analysis of LDL cholesterol in American Indian populations (Journal of Lipid Research 47(1): 59-66), for 2006 Kari North is co-author on 13 articles that have either been published or are in press. Her most impressive publication record should shortly result in promotion to Associate Professor.

Professor Tibor Koertvelyessy (Ohio University) has retired this Spring and moved from Athens to Florida. He spent a sabbatical leave in the LBA during the early 1980s, switching research orientation from physiological adaptation to genetic demography of Newfoundland and Tiszahat, Hungary. Tibor Koertvelyessy served as the Associate Editor of Human Biology from 1989 to 2000. I thank him for his service and friendship for all those years. Anyone wishing to congratulate him on his retirement can reach him at: tibor611@yahoo.com

LBA Logo © 2001 Kenneth Crawford
Faculty News

Professor John M. Janzen presented a paper at the November 2005 African Studies Association annual conference on "Etiological dualism in Ebola public health crises in Central Africa" for the panel "Ethnographic Turns and Cognitive Dissonance: Exploring Science, Magic, Healing, and Race." He participated at a conference in Clinton, Oklahoma commemorating 125 years of Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Mennonite relationships. His paper was entitled "Tsistsistas in Kauffman Museum [Bethel College, North Newton, KS]: On the making and meaning of the Cheyenne segment in the permanent exhibition 'Of Land and People.'" The conference also included a session with Sherry Hutt, director of the National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program and the dedication of a burial site for the first group of culturally unidentified native human remains at the Cheyenne Cultural Center, a first step in the Return to the Earth initiative.

Mainly, Professor Janzen has devoted more than 50% directing the Kansas African Studies Center, a post he will turn over to Garth Myers on June 30, 2006 after eight years on the job. A few of the projects recently run by the Center include: an international conference on "Business and Islam" (collaboratively with KU’s Center for International Business Education & Research and Dept. of Economics), research and public meetings on "New African Immigrants to Metropolitan Kansas" (with support from the Kansas Humanities Council). This year the Center has run two successful thematic seminars, on "Celebrating African Languages: KU's African Language Program" (Khalid Elhassan and the African Language faculty, Fall 2005), and "African Politics" (Khalid Elhassan and Hannah Britton, Spring 2006). Finally, the Center has received two grants, from the Longview Foundation ($20,000—including funds for a graduate student assistant) for review of Kansas and Missouri state curriculum standards and the preparation of African Studies modules; and from the Department of Education Title VI Program, Foreign Language and Area Study fellowships for graduate students ($510,000 for 4 full year, 3 summer, fellowships from 2006-2010); we await news from the Department of Education on National Resource Center funding for this same period.


Brent Metz organized, chaired, and presented at 2 panels in the 2005-06 academic year. One panel, entitled "The Ch'orti' Area, Past and Present", took place at the AAA meetings in Washington, DC. It had 15 participants from all subdisciplines except Biological, as well as history and ethnobotany. The second panel, "Borderline Indigeneities", took place at the Latin American Studies Association meetings in Puerto Rico in March. Metz also presented "Indigeneity in the Ch'orti' Maya Region of Northern Central America" for the Merienda Brown Bag series in Latin American Studies in November. In March 2006 his book Ch'orti' Maya Survival in Eastern Guatemala: Indigeneity in Transition was published by the University of New Mexico Press. This summer he will be taking 14 Kansas schoolteachers on a Fulbright Group Study Abroad to Guatemala for 6 weeks.

Alumni News

Dale Brown, PhD, graduated from KU in 1958 with a BA in Anthropology. He had taken his Sophomore year at Northwestern University, and after his Junior year, he received a grant from the Universidad de San Carlos in Guatemala City to study archeology in Mayan ruin sites. Dr. Stephen deBorhegi from Oklahoma University had conducted these programs for several years. "Between the time of the offering and class starting," Brown shares, "the Guatemalan government became mad at the U.S. and canceled the free airplane flight to the country from New Orleans. The University kept their commitment and I went there. It was a great experience." When Brown got back to KU he made an exhibit for the museum that utilized Indian artifacts the museum had.

"Fortunately or unfortunately," writes Brown, "the draft was in place and my early plans to continue in Anthropology were curtailed and I became a U.S. Navy Aviator where I completed my career. I can't complain because I had the opportunity to serve on a cabinet level task force for President Reagan. I share this with you because KU gave me a wonderful education that I took far beyond what I ever expected."

Craig Scandrett Leatherman, PhD 2005, has received a 2006-8 Fellowship in the "Science and the Spirit" Initiative funded by the Templeton Foundation to encourage scholars of Pentecostalism to look at science in relation to Pentecostal practice. He will explore the role of Pentecostalism in drug addiction rehabilitation programs. The fellowship includes a stipend for research, and participation in an interdisciplinary research colloquium at Regent University Divinity School.

Sue Schuessler, PhD 2001, continues to teach anthropology and African Studies at Creighton University, Omaha.
**GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS**

**Kristine G. Beaty** has completed her first year of the Master’s Program in Biological Anthropology. She has spent most of her last year researching the origins of the peoples of the Philippines. Kristine hopes to work with the Agta of Luzon next winter. She hopes to complete her degree in 2008, and continue on in the PhD program at KU.

**David Unruh** is attending the University of Kansas archaeological field school this summer. His plans to do future research in the Mayan area and is interested in shamantic activities of the ancient Maya. His plans for finishing his MA are still uncertain.

**Kerry Vanden Heuvel** has been awarded a Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship for this summer (2006) through the Center for Latin American Studies to go to Ecuador. Kerry will continue learning the Quechua language, and she will also do research involving health, illness, and healing in Quechua communities to compliment her master’s thesis.

**Shawna Carroll** published an article entitled Smoking, Weight Loss Intention and Obesity-Promoting Behaviors in College Students in the Journal of the American College of Nutrition. It is scheduled to print this fall. She presented a poster (with the same title) at the North American Association for the Study of Obesity in Vancouver. Shawna won one of two first place awards for the Graduate Student Research Summit at KU. She is currently trying to finish her field statements for the PhD program and will have finished the Masters of Public Health Program in Spring of 2007. Further congratulations will soon be in order, as Shawna heads to the Bahamas over Fall Break for her wedding!

**Chris Widge** is currently completing his dissertation from Tucson AZ. Supported by a NSF dissertation improvement grant, this project addresses multi-scalar subsistence and settlement patterns in middle Holocene archaeological assemblages from the eastern Great Plains and explores the potential applications of archaeological data to modern problems in conservation biology. The article, “Niche variability in late Holocene bison: a perspective from Big Bone Lick, KY,” will be published in an upcoming issue of the Journal of Archaeological Science.

**Ginny Arthur** will graduate this May with an MA in Cultural Anthropology.

**Melissa Filippi-Franz** received a FLAS from Indiana University. She will attend the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute this summer to study Somali at IIU. Melissa is a PhD student in the Department of Anthropology actively engaged in field research. Her research focuses on the place of women in the immigrant Somali community of Kansas City and how they renegotiate relationships and restore functional households and families in the face of war-shattered identities. She is attempting to identify the actions Somali refugees employ when reestablishing themselves in a functional society. The significance of her research rests in its examination of a Somali community’s internalization of a disintegrated social infrastructure. The purpose is to see how Somalis use social networks in their daily lives and how these relationships relate to reconciliation. Also, her research investigates the development, maintenance, and absence of healing methods through women’s efforts in establishing effective networks. In Somalia, women hold the societal position of care-takers. At the same time, women were often the target of attacks, implying an assault on family pride, virtue, and ethnic identity, due to their reproductive capacity. Women strive to keep familial ties and households functioning while coping with their own experiences of war. Although there is no formal system for people receiving care to heal from war trauma, women are known to be creative and the force that keeps households going. In sum, her research investigates women’s strategies in providing care for their families after forced migration.

“The Journal on Developmental Disabilities will be publishing a special issue later this spring that will feature a major article by Matt Stowe, Rud Turnbull, Suzanne Schrandt and Jennifer Rack entitled "Looking to the future: Intellectual and developmental disabilities in the genetics era."

**Emily Williams** co-organized the Explorations in Archaeology (EIA) lecture series, an informal public venue for faculty, professional archaeologists, graduate students, and undergraduate students to present archaeological research. She received a 2005 McKinney Award for Archaeological Fieldwork and continues to research the Westfall site. Her recent publications and presentations include:

Anne E. Kraemer, Shannon R. Ryan, and **Emily G. Williams.** Gender Panel: Archaeology of Gender or Gendered Archaeology? A Discussion. Presented at the Fall 2005 Explorations in Archaeology Series, Univ. of Kansas Museum of Anthropology, Lawrence, KS.


**Anne Kraemer** is finishing her Master’s degree in September and will continue research in anthropology and sustainable development for her PhD. She was awarded a Fulbright Grant for a year long dissertation study of collaborative sustainable and non-profit development in Guatemala which will begin in 2007. This upcoming summer 2006 she has been awarded a FLAS Grant from Tulane University for a Kaqchikel Maya language immersion program in Guatemala. This past year she presented at the AAA and SFAA annual meetings for “The Other Side of Middletown” and a poster at the SFAA’s about her thesis in Community Archaeology in Chocola, Guatemala.

**Phil Melton** published several papers over the last year, including:


**Melton PE, I. Briceño, R. Devor, SS Papiha and MH Crawford** (2006) "Biological relationship between Central and South (Grad Student News, Continued on page 16)
**Graduate Student News...**

American Chibchan populations: evidence from mtDNA” Journal article submitted to American Journal of Physical Anthropology

Taraskia L & P. Melton (2006) "Comparative analysis of Yakut mitochondrial DNA and other Asian populations" Genetika - In Press In Russian

Mark Zlojutro has had a busy – and a productive – year. He successfully defended his MA Thesis entitled "Mitochondrial DNA variation in Yakutia: The genetic structure of an expanding population" with honors in May. Mark’s recent presentations and first-author publications include:


**Presentations:**


Rebecca Crosthwait received FLAS funding through the Center of Latin American Studies to study Puárépecha in Morelia, Michoacan, Mexico this summer.

James Herynk received a FLAS Academic Year Fellowship for 2005-2006. He was awarded the E. Jackson Baur Student Award for Research and Study of Social conflict and Conflict Resolution, and won First Place in the student poster competition at the Society for Applied Anthropology.

**Kelsey Needham**, MA student in Biological Anthropology, presented data from her research on alcohol consumption among the Karimojong agropastoralists of northeastern Uganda at the Mid-America Alliance for African Studies conference in Springfield, MO in September. She presented further data about the Karimojong in poster presentations at the Human Biology Association meetings in Anchorage, and at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Vancouver.

Kelsey plans to finish her MA this summer and will begin a PhD program in Biological Anthropology at Binghamton University in New York in the Fall.

Rachel Robinson has a publication and presentation coming up this month at the International Conference of Social Science entitled: “Hawaiian Sovereignty Development: A Return to Aìti”

Roche Lindsey expects a book chapter to be published before the end of the year. The book, entitled “Assessing Plains Village Mobility Patterns on the Central High Plains,” is in publishers review at the University of Utah.

Marion Mealey-Ferrara was awarded a Clan Donald Academic Scholarship of $5,000 for her proposed PhD research on the genetic marriage and migration patterns of the Scottish Clans. Marion is a United Animal Nations volunteer and coordinator, and in October was deployed to Louisiana in response to Hurricanes Katrina/Rita where she assisted with manning a temporary staging animal shelter for approximately 200 rescued dogs from the area. She continues to help volunteers organize animal or disaster related events and trainings, recruitment, and networking as the organization’s Volunteer MO State Coordinator.

**DINNER & DISCUSSION**

**Dinner & Discussion** is a series of gatherings that provides a forum for faculty and students to share their research in an informal setting. In May, we were delighted to hear Dr. Frayer discuss Late Pleistocene findings from Flores, Indonesia during a night of **Adventures with the Hobbits!**

We took advantage of the festive gathering to honor Dr. Brent Metz for his recently published book, *Ch’orti’-Maya Survival in Eastern Guatemala: Indigeneity in Transition*. Good food and good times were had by all. Next year’s Dinner & Discussions will prove equally entertaining, so we hope to see you all there!

The Graduate Student Association

Professors and students gathered to hear Dave Frayer speak on the Hobbits of Flores. L to R: Anne Kraemer, David Robles, Dr. Allen Hanson, Rebecca Crosthwait, Dr. David Frayer, Dr. Jack Hofman, Kerry Vanden Heuvel

Assistant Professor Dr. Brent Metz with his congratulatory cake, decorated with the cover of his new book. He was surprised to find out that he was being congratulated at Dinner and Discussion.
Wow, what a fast year! The past two semesters in UAA have been filled with planning for future events. We still squeezed in several exciting and educational activities, but primarily focused on establishing a framework for several action packed years to come.

To kick things off, Mary Adair was kind enough to conduct a tour of the Anthropological Research and Cultural Collections for the club. Although many may take the former museum for granted, it is important for us to educate our new undergraduate students about its significance. As last year, we organized the highly successful Anthropology Department Halloween Party. We owe a special thanks to Kelsey Needham and Dr. Gray, as well as anybody else that contributed for making that event worthwhile. I firmly believe that was the best sausage I've ever eaten!

We held a variety of social events, ranging from bowling to potlucks and discussions in which undergrads were able to mingle with graduate students in a laid-back "less than academic" setting. At our final meeting, we were honored to have Dr. Hofman grace us with his superb flintknapping skills, where in two hours time he created "a lot of smaller rocks from bigger rocks."

For the second year in a row, we were pleased to have several undergraduates speak at the Explorations in Archaeology Series, including Joe Brewer, Scott Chaussee, Sarah Mendoza, and Mark Volumut. We also updated the undergraduate website (http://www.ku.edu/~uaa), and designed T-shirts which should soon be hot off the press. We discussed several ways to increase funding for next semester, as well as possible travel destination for an anthropology filled weekend. Our biggest task is to organize an informal poster-presentation session where members of the club can present their past and current research.

We also need to congratulate several of our members that have climbed the academic ranks to College Graduate, including two of our officers. Gabriel Krieshok, the club Vice-president will be leaving Lawrence for a teaching position in Nancy, France. I'll be leaving the club as well, but am continuing on at KU for my MA. In short, this leaves us with very few officers for next semester. However, the new and current members have displayed tremendous leadership and interest and should have no problem continuing the fine tradition of UAA.

That pretty much does it for the annual KU Undergraduate Anthropology Association year-end wrap-up. I want to thank everyone for their continued support and passion for helping to sustain an interest in Undergraduate Anthropology at KU.

Sincerely,

Brendon P. Asher
President

The 2006 Anthropology Halloween Party, hosted by the UAA at the home of Dr. Sandra Gray, proved to be a rousing success. A happy gathering around the chiminea turned into a sausage roasting extravaganza that might, if the folks to the left have anything to say about it, become an annual event.

Pictured left to right:
As the year ends, I look back at our accomplishments, gains, and our loss with mixed emotions. We added two new faculty members to the department – Drs. Brent Metz and Alan Redd. They have both survived their first year and look forward to many more productive years at KU. On the other hand, we are saddened by losing Professor Darcy Morey, who has resigned and will be moving to Martin, Tennessee. Beth has accepted a tenure-track appointment at the University of Tennessee at Martin, and Darcy will be an adjunct professor there also. We wish them the best and hope to hear from them in the future.

Our students have really distinguished themselves this past year. Shawna Carroll won one of the two grand prizes at the Graduate Student Fair for her presentation, “Smoking, Weight Loss Intention and Obesity-Promoting Behaviors in College Students.” A presentation, “The Bio-Puzzle of Anemia among Poqomchi, Maya in Guatemala,” by James Herynk at the SfAA annual meetings was awarded First Place Poster Award. And, Rohina Rubicz won the Best Paper/Poster Award at the annual meeting of the Human Biology Association.

Two students have been awarded grants for their research. Marion Mealey-Ferrara received a Clan Donald Academic Scholarship to conduct research on the genetics, marriage and migration patterns of Scottish Clans. Chris Widga received a National Sciences Foundation (NSF) dissertation improvement grant. He will be working with Jack Hofman on early peopling of the Americas.

Four graduate students have been awarded FLAS Fellowships to study languages. Rebecca Crosthwait will study P’urépecha in Morelai, Michoacan, Mexico; Kerry Vanden Heuvel will study Quechua in Ecuador; Melissa Filippi-Franz will study Somali at Indiana University; and Anne Kraemer will study K’aqchi’ikel Maya in Guatemala. Anne also received a Fulbright Grant for 2007 to study in Guatemala.

This year’s winner of the Allan Hanson GTA Excellence in Teaching Award goes to Rohina Rubicz for her excellent teaching in Fundamentals of Physical Anthropology class. Please congratulate Rohina if you see her.

Justin Wipf, who will pursue a Master’s degree in the department next year, is the recipient of the Allen S. Wilber Scholarship. Whitney Onasch and Zachary Viets have been awarded Harley S. Nelson Scholarships. It is also my pleasure to note that the winners of the Kappelman Award are Honey Hooper and Scott Chaussee. Our congratulations go out to all students.

Last, but not least, please congratulate Professor Sandra Gray on her Guggenheim Fellowship.

Have a great summer.

Jim Mielke
Chair, Anthropology

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIR

EXPLORING KU ARCHAEOLOGY

By Shannon Ryan and Emily Williams

Explorations in Archaeology was started in 2004 as an informal lecture series designed to provide an opportunity for students, faculty, and professionals from various disciplines to share their research on topics pertaining to archaeology. During the 2005-2006 academic year, there were 19 total speakers and 12 presentations, including both individual presenters and panel discussions. In addition, we had a good turnout for Explorations and the average number of people in attendance was fifteen.

Most of the contributors to Explorations were members of the KU Department of Anthropology. However, speakers also came from other departments on the KU campus and some are professional archeologists not at KU. Although focusing primarily on the New World, the lectures have ranged geographically from South America northward. Starting in South America, Dr. Bill Woods (Environmental Studies Chair, KU) shared his research about the dark earths in Amazonia. Moving northward to Central America, Dr. John Hoopes (Department of Anthropology, KU) spoke on the Chibchan region. Still further north to North America, topics such as paleoethnobotany (Dr. Mary Adair, Anthropological Research and Cultural Collections, KU) and a panel on NAGPRA (Dr. Donna Roper, professional archaeologist; Dr. Bob Hoard, State Archaeologist, Kansas State Historical Society; and Myra Giesen, National NAGPRA Coordinator, Bureau of Reclamation) were included.

Another way of considering the range of the lectures presented is to consider the temporal range of research. Hai Huang (Department of Anthropology, KU) spoke about the early origins of agriculture in China around 10,000 years ago, while Dr. Gina Powell (Center for Archaeological Research, Missouri State University) gave an overview of Delaware Town in Missouri which dates to the 1820s.

Beginning in the fall we look forward to another successful Explorations in Archaeology lecture series. Thank you to those who presented at and attended Explorations during 2005-2006; you make this series successful! Also, we would like to give a special thanks to Jeannette Blackmar for initiating this lecture series last year. If you are interested in joining us next fall, either as a presenter or attendee, we look forward to seeing you at Explorations!
The University of Kansas Department of Anthropology is proud to welcome fifteen new graduate students in the Fall of 2006. They join us at KU from a variety of universities and programs. We look forward to working with this diverse group of individuals.

**Welcome to KU!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Graduates from the Department of Anthropology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2006</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Arthur, MA  &quot;Old Old Age: &quot;Enriching Rewards or Season of Despair&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Hatfield, PhD  &quot;Historical Continuity from Shemya to Dutch Harbor: An Evolutionary Analysis of Chipped Stone Technology in the Aleutian Islands&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Zlojutro, MA  &quot;Mitochondrial DNA Variation in Yakutia: The Genetic Structure of an Expanding Population&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall 2005</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roche M. Lindsey, MA  &quot;Analysis of Feature 5 at the Late Prehistoric Barnes Site on the Southeastern High Plains of Colorado&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2005</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Scandrett-Leatherman, PhD  &quot;Can't Nobody Do Me Like Jesus&quot;: The Politics of Embodied Aesthetics in Afro-Pentecostal Rituals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Congratulations to all New Graduates!**

**Incoming Graduate Students**

Brendon Asher (KU Student)  
*MA, ARCH* (Dr. Hofman)  
Jennifer Lapp  
*PhD, ARCH* (Dr. Hoopes)  
Frances Ryder  
*MA, CULT* (Dr. Metz)  
Andrew Gottsfield  
*MA, ARCH* (Dr. Mandel)  
Jolene Munger  
*MA, BIOL* (Dr. Redd)  
Sarah Sobonya  
*MA, CULT* (Dr. Janzen)  
Joshua Homan (KU student)  
*MA, CULT* (Dr. Dean)  
Laura Murphy  
*MA, ARCH* (Dr. Mandel)  
Heather Mae Souter  
*MA, LING* (Dr. Dwyer)  
Aaron Kirby (KU student)  
*MA, CULT* (Dr. Moos)  
Josie Nixon  
*MA, CULT* (Dr. Metz)  
Ariane Tulloch  
*MA, LING* (Dr. Dwyer)  
Theresa Lammer  
*MS, CULT* (Dr. Metz)  
Ann Raab  
*PhD, ARCH* (Dr. Hoopes)  
Maria Weir  
*PhD, CULT* (Dr. Dean)
Statement of Purpose

To increase awareness and circulate information about the Department of Anthropology at the University of Kansas. To inform graduate and undergraduate students, alumni, and other institutions of ongoing research, publications, grants, and scholarly endeavors in which the faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Anthropology are involved.

KU Anthropologist is produced annually by graduate students of the Department of Anthropology of the University of Kansas, 622 Fraser Hall, Lawrence, KS 66045. Tel. (765) 864-4103.
Please direct questions and comments to the editor at: kneedham@ku.edu.

Anthropology Dept. Web Address: http://www.ku.edu/~kuanth/
Graduate Student Web Address: http://www.ukans.edu/~gsanth/

Comments?
We welcome letters from our readers.
Please send your comments, complaints, suggestions, or praise to the editor at the Department of Anthropology or via e-mail. Thank you.

Editor’s Note: For Mark Zlojutro’s willingness to meet her absurdly last-minute pleas, the editor is grateful. For his unusual ability to do so cheerfully, she is absolutely flabbergasted. Thanks, Mark.