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The chair’s discretionary portion of the Clark fund allows me to add assistance when the costs of research are especially high—as in studies conducted abroad—so I’ve used this fund to help grad students get to the field, and to send students to professional conferences to present their work, get feedback from a bigger audience, and meet and learn from other professionals in their areas of interest.

Department funds helped me get to Peru, an otherwise really expensive trip for a grad student. Once there, I gave a presentation at the Universidad Nacional de San Martin on urban ethnography and participatory research methods. This was really exciting for me because the university doesn’t have a social science component and they’re looking to add one on research and methodology to their current graduate programs. I was also able to meet with regional government officials to discuss using participatory research methods in development of community programs.

~Sydney Silverstein, MA student

The Dennis R. and Nancy Ann Dahl Anthropology Undergraduate Awards provide cash awards to outstanding undergraduate students in introductory anthropology classes each semester. The fund also provides cash in late Spring to the student who writes the best senior honors thesis in anthropology.

The Mark Kappelman Award honors Mark Kappelman, a 1980 graduate of KU, who passed away in 1990. Beginning in 1991, KU students who share Mark's curiosity about the world and interest in archaeological excavations and other field explorations apply for this award to support their research projects in archaeology. One student each year receives the Mark Kappelman Award.

I couldn’t have attended the summer archaeological field school in June if it weren’t for the Mark Kappelman Award. It was really exciting to be able learn and apply proper excavation techniques in the field. I learned how to use the total station, surveying equipment that uses GPS to plot artifacts within an excavation unit.

~Greg Kauffman, MA student

The Carlyle S. Smith Memorial Fund honors Prof. of Archaeology, the late Carlyle Smith by funding archaeological research carried out by faculty and students, participation in professional conferences to present results, and special analyses such as Carbon 14 dating.

Phytoliths, or silica particles, are preserved in many parts of a plant and can tell us a lot about such things as the distribution of domesticated plants, uses of native wild plant species, and people’s diets. I used money from the Carlyle S. Smith fund to carry out phytolith analysis on residues found on an Early Woodland vessel dated ca. 500 BC. I was looking for remnants of maize, but the analysis showed grasses! How or why these grasses were used will require more research, especially more phytolith analysis. I will build on this pilot study in my current application for a National Science Foundation grant to broaden research on Plains Woodland subsistence practices.

~Prof. Mary Adair, Archaeologist and Senior Curator of the Archaeological Research Center

The Allan Hanson Outstanding GTA Award was created by an alumnus in honor of Prof. Allan Hanson. The award is given yearly to one graduate teaching assistant for excellence in classroom teaching.

The Felix Moos Scholarship in Anthropology honors Emeritus Felix Moos who joined the KU faculty in 1961 and retired in December 2010. This fund will provide an outstanding undergraduate or graduate student with a scholarship to help pay the costs of their training. The recipient will exhibit strong academic performance; a natural curiosity about the world; willingness to take risks, innovate, and think in original ways; and a desire to apply anthropology to solve real-world problems that originate from the lack of cross-cultural awareness. This is a fund that is not yet fully endowed, but we will put it to great use when it is.

The R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates Award has helped faculty members in archaeology attend and participate in professional meetings.

The Anthropology Development Fund contributes to all of the uses shown above and more. In addition to supporting graduate and undergraduate student training, this fund supports initiatives by our student anthropology organizations such as the mentorship program, contributes to efforts that integrate the department across sub-disciplines, pays to bring speakers to campus and candidates for new positions in our department, recruits students to our programs, purchases instructional technologies, and helps us build and sustain relationships with other programs and departments on and off campus.

Without these gifts, the Department of Anthropology would have to do much less towards its mission to advance excellent teaching and learning, significant research and training, and first-rate public service within the state of Kansas and beyond. On behalf of the Department’s faculty, students, and staff, thank you to our friends and alumni for continued support of our efforts.
Dr. Carlos Nash is the newest member of our faculty, joining us in Spring 2011. Nash received his undergraduate training and MA (2001) in linguistics at Rice University in Houston. He received his PhD (2011) from the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB). Nash was a faculty member of the English Department at Sam Houston State University from 2001 until 2003 before entering UCSB as a PhD student. Over the summer, he worked as the Layout and Technical Editor for a commemorative issue of the journal Himalayan Linguistics, which is published through UCSB. The journal is available at no cost and can be accessed at: http://www.linguistics.ucsb.edu/HimalayanLinguistics.

Correspondent and co-editor of the KU Anthropologist, Holly Glasgow, sat down with Nash.

Glasgow: Where are you from originally?

Nash: I consider Houston my home, but I traveled a lot as a child. My dad was in the Air Force and met my mom while he was stationed in Southeast Asia. My mom is from Cebu, a large island in the Philippines.

Glasgow: Did you always want to study languages?

Nash: I was very close to getting a BS in chemistry and math, but I ended up getting a BA in linguistics.

Glasgow: So why did you decide to major in linguistics?

Nash: I really enjoyed working with people—more so than numbers.

Glasgow: What are your areas of specialization within the field?

Nash: I have two primary focuses: phonetics/phonology and socio-cultural linguistics.

Glasgow: How do you characterize yourself?


Glasgow: What do you like most about anthropology?
Nash: I love working with people. It’s good to learn how to be with other people in general.

Glasgow: How do you feel about living in Kansas now?

Nash: I love it so far. People are much friendlier here, and the atmosphere is highly intellectual. Plus, I don’t have to worry about parking.

Glasgow: How many languages have you studied?

Nash: Lots of dead languages: Old English, Old Norse and Latin. And the living languages: Spanish, German, Sinhala (Sri Lanka) and Ekegusii (Kenya).

Glasgow: And now for the question that all linguists are constantly asked: How many languages do you speak fluently?

Nash: Well, that depends on what you mean by “fluently.” I speak English and German well, and I have good comprehension of Spanish.

Glasgow: Who is your favorite anthropologist and/or linguist?

Nash: My favorite linguist is Peter Ladefoged. He was a great phonetician and field linguist from UCLA. His writings got me interested in phonetics. My favorite anthropologist would have to be Mary Bucholtz, a sociocultural linguist at UCSB. She studies the relationship between race/language and gender/language.

Glasgow: What kind of research are you working on currently?

Nash: I have been working on an Ekegusii language dictionary as part of a revitalization project. It will be the first community dictionary in Ekegusii to be published in Kenya, and it contains about 11,000 words. I will also continue to work with internet discourse to see how identities are constructed on online technology forums.

Glasgow: Why should anthropology students take classes in linguistic anthropology?

Nash: Language is a major aspect of understanding humans. It’s a unique, human innovation; it’s how we communicate and relate to one another. Because of language we can remember the past and plan for the future.

Glasgow: Where do you see the future of linguistic anthropology in this department?

Nash: I see LingAnth growing in the next few years in respect to courses. We want to introduce more areas of linguistic anthropology—things like language and sexuality and the evolution of language.

Glasgow: Do you have any advice for graduate students of anthropology?

Nash: I would have to say, “Have a considerable breadth of knowledge.” We all have to specialize, but it’s important to be as flexible as possible. I thought I would end up in a linguistics department. But now I get to study people, and I’m quite happy with that.

Dr. Nash is currently teaching a class about language contact (ANTH/LING 748) and a class about language, gender and sexuality (ANTH 502). He will be teaching the following courses during the Spring 2012 semester:

ANTH 430/730: The Evolution of Language  
An exploration of the origin and evolution of human language. Includes a comparison against other animal communicative systems, an overview of linguistic structures, an examination of the origin of humans, and the questioning of the plausible genetic basis of language.

ANTH 502: Language and the Internet – Computer-Mediated Discourse  
An exploration on how language affects technology and the Internet and how technology and the Internet impacts language. Includes topics such as language and cultural contact on the Internet and the development and transmission of memes. Primary focus will be on text-based computer-mediated discourse (e.g. SMS text messaging and chatboards). Will also include audiovisual based CMC.
Judy Ross, a friend to us all, retired from KU in March. She worked for multiple KU departments as Graduate Secretary from 1987 until 2011. Ross began working at KU in Chemistry, then she moved to Biological Sciences, Anthropology, Sociology, Anthropology (again), Student Senate and finally, at last, she came back to the Anthropology department and has worked with us for the past 24 years. Judy bounced around KU due to having two kids and moving from the area, but, following her heart, she returned to Anthropology. Her retirement reception was attended by students, staff and faculty. Graduate students spoke fondly of her care and concern about their admission and enrollment in the department. They were also grateful for her watchful eyes and encouragement as they completed their graduate requirements. Faculty praised Judy’s knowledge of and competence in the often arcane, sometimes contradictory, graduate school rules and they spoke about their appreciation of Judy’s soft temperament and positive attitude. We had cake and toasted to Judy, but it was hard to say goodbye to such a good friend. She says she is enjoying her retirement but that she misses us too.
Le-Thu Erazmus, MSE
our new graduate secretary

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Le-Thu (pronounced ‘Lay too’) comes to us with a lot of KU experience and skill. She has a deep history with KU as the daughter of Ed Erazmus (professor emeritus, Linguistics). A graduate from KU herself (BSE and MSE), she also strutted as Baby Jay from 1993 until 1999. Erazmus worked in a variety of departments on the Edwards and Lawrence campuses. In the usual interconnectedness of Lawrence, she went to the same high school as Carol Archinal (a year ahead) and worked with Kathleen Womack’s daughter at the KU Medical Center. Like Judy, she brings an air of competence, helpfulness and good will to the graduate students and faculty, and we could not have found a better person to run the graduate program. She can be reached at 785-864-2630 and lerazmus@ku.edu.
Majid Hannoum is away from campus for two semesters, returning Spring 2012. His work on immigrants is grant-supported, and he picked a perfect time to return to North Africa. In this account, sent in late Spring 2011, Majid writes about the revolutions occurring in Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt and Morocco. Much has changed since this report was submitted, but the same issues remain. We look forward to his safe return and updates.

After spending two days in Rabat, I arrived to Tangier on December 25, 2010. Nothing in the news of the region, which I always follow closely, announced any big transformation or upheaval. Everything seemed as it used to be. It was more on the Palestinian side that things did not seem to go well for the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), because of documents revealed by WikiLeaks about major concessions regarding fundamentals of the Palestinian cause. This seemed to announce a tsunami in Arab politics. However, a small event surfaced at the same time and appeared insignificant even without comparison. A young man burned himself in protests against police brutality.

I immediately plunged into my work and noticed that the population I came to study was as numerous as ever. African immigrants were present everywhere in the city. Young men, most of them in their twenties, can be found begging in front of bakeries, restaurants and cafés. I also went to the port frequently to interview another group of mostly underage immigrants from Morocco. Despite the fact that the major activities of the port are being moved to another port outside of the city, one can still see these children, between the ages of 9 and 16. Several of them are now in their twenties, hanging out in the area and waiting for the first opportunity to slide under a track and cross to Europe.

I talked to several of them. Their stories seemed to be the same: extremely poor family background, little or no schooling, a resolute dream to change their condition after being convinced the country that is supposed to be theirs promises nothing but a life of deprivation and misery.

Because my main research topic is immigrants in the city, I wondered why Europeans and Americans who come here, and who are as numerous, would not qualify to be called immigrants. They seem to be here in search of new life, too. They seem to have run away from something, the least of which may be boredom of urban life. Unlike the children and the African immigrants I meet in dismal places, deserted places of the port and tents in the outskirts of the city, I meet the Europeans and Americans in nice coffee shops, restaurants, theaters, and, once, in a Parisian-like fashion show.

While hanging out, events of tremendous importance unfolded, almost all of a sudden, as a consequence of the young man who burned himself. His desperate act was transformed relatively quickly to a major protest that Tunisia had never known, resulting in the downfall of one of the most brutal dictators of the region despite his benevolent look. This distracted almost everybody from the scandals leaked regarding the negotiators of the PLO. It also immediately triggered a whole democratic movement that embraced the area. The events took the breath of everybody in the region and beyond. I initially was skeptical about the protests, and I wrote in my journal that they would go nowhere because the Tunisian state was notorious for its brutality and known to be solidly backed by France, its former colonizer. Events proved me wrong. And, to tell you the truth, I am glad they did.

From the time the Tunisian president fell, most of my time was spent in front of the Aljazeera television or reading national and international newspapers. I had no time for anything else. Often my sleep was interrupted to turn on the television.
and see the outcome. While events were unfolding in Egypt, the movement touched Morocco. Indeed, by the time Moubarrak’s regime fell, a strong youth movement had already formed, and members planned major protests in Moroccan cities on February 20. Algeria, a country that I specialized in, was also touched by the wave of youth revolution, and its youth also planned major protests.

I became emotionally entangled with these events for a variety of reasons, the least of which was my existential connection to the region. However, intellectually, or rather anthropologically, the unfolding events created a serious challenge for me. Why have anthropologists not been interested in these developments? But also, how was I to study them? Are these events separate from the phenomena I came to study? How is Tangier connected to what was happening in Tunisia and in Egypt?

I became frustrated by the fact that I was spending all of my time observing and living these phenomenal events and not spending time on the subject I came for. Finally, I decided that my time spent following these events should also be part of my fieldwork experience, especially when I started to see connections between those events and the topic I was set to study.

Immigration, of young people and educated people, became one of the arguments used, at least in Morocco, to ask for radical reform (mainly the dissolution of the government and parliament, the ending of the sacredness of the king and giving him all powers, and the writing of a new constitution coming from the people). Now and then, the protesters use the argument of les enfants de la rue as evidence of the lamentable situation of the country. In Tunisia, as a result of the chaotic situation following the fall of the president, thousands of illegal immigrants took advantage of the situation to cross to Europe. France and Italy became alarmed at the waves of immigrants coming from the North African shores as a consequence of political instability. In Libya, immigration was also used by Gaddafi who threatened to unleash sub Saharan Africans on Europe and turn it into a “Black Europe” (something Gaddafi knows Europe is terrified of). A whole confusion erupted regarding whether the mercenaries used by Gaddafi to suppress the protests were professional ones recruited by international companies or if they were illegal immigrants who were forced or paid to fight.

Tangier witnessed major protests and major acts of vandalism on February 20. The vandalism was caused by very young people who seemed to have come out of nowhere at exactly the time when the protests seemed to be over. Banks, shops and boutiques were targeted, and some were destroyed or burned.

For Europeans and Americans who came here for a different life, attracted by the fact that Morocco has been a haven of political stability, the situation was alarming. Information about the decline of tourism threatened the state and businesses. The few Europeans I know either refuse to mention the topic in front of a “native” like myself, or they subtly want to hear the opinion of a “native” about what might happen in Morocco now that the wave of revolution has reached its shore.

An important idea that I reached was that one may spend months and even years working on a research proposal only to find out in the field that there may be other things to study. Some instances would even require a change of the topic. I knew that the field was marked by unpredictability, but this experience of mine is uniquely unpredictable. Instead of thinking of it as disorienting, I came to believe it is a great chance to witness the un-happened happen.

I also came to the conclusion that things are connected in this city—connected to each other of course, but also connected nationally and internationally. Some of these connections are visible, not to say obvious, but others are not. Part of my work as an anthropologist may be to find these connections and demonstrate not that small events speak to larger issues, as Geertz once put it, but that large events speak to local issues.

Tangier, March 23, 2011
For 20 days in June 2011, participants in the Kansas Archaeology Training Program (KATP), volunteers from the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA), archaeologists from the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers joined forces with KU anthropology faculty and students at the Coffey Site (14PO1). At one point, some 90 people were at the Coffey site.

The site is located 30 miles north of Manhattan, Kansas along the Big Blue River. It has been primarily known as an Archaic period site, but previous excavations revealed some older cultural deposits containing chipped stone artifacts that might be pre-Paleoindian in age.

Fred Sellet ran the Summer Archaeological Field School (ANTH 418/ANTH 889), where he and seven KU students focused on the Archaic stratigraphic layers of the site. While they were eventually able to excavate a portion of Archaic cultural deposits, the flooded Big Blue River impeded their ability to concentrate on this period. Interested in the pre-Paleoindian possibilities at the Coffey site, Jack Hofman joined Rolfe Mandel, director of the Odyssey Geoarchaeological Research Program at KU, and his team of KU graduate students with the goal of determining how early the Coffey site was occupied by humans and what those people were doing there. With considerable help from the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and KAA, they were able to put in about 20 days of fieldwork targeting the potential pre-Paleoindian archaeological component.

An unexpected discovery this June was the documentation of both a Clovis projectile point base and a Folsom point base on a terrace near the Coffey Site. The discovery of these two point types was unexpected, so Hofman and Mandel are already planning to revisit these locations to evaluate the possibility of Clovis and Folsom occupations.

Initial 14C ages determined on charcoal from the potential pre-Paleoindian component at Coffey are not as early as expected. However, there appears to have been some mixing of late-Holocene age charcoal in late-Pleistocene deposits, and sorting this out will be challenging. In Hofman’s words, they are still in the “head scratching phase” of the data analysis.
In early August, Jack Hofman, Rolfe Mandel, and a team of KU archaeology students conducted archaeological investigations at the Ehmke Playa Site in Lane County during the second half of the Odyssey Archaeological Research Program field season. The Ehmke Playa is a very large basin on the High Plains of west central Kansas where a fair amount of archaeological material has been found on a dune created by winds blowing sediment out from the basin. Tom Witty (KSHS) had worked at this site in the 1980s, but the Odyssey Program hoped to conduct investigations to test the possibilities of pre-Paleoindian occupations. While they were doing some testing at Ehmke, they received a surprise phone call, which quickly changed their plans. A Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) crew was terracing a field in neighboring Scott County when they discovered mammoth bones in a field relatively close to Hell Creek and not far from Monument Rock. They contacted the KSHS who recruited the Odyssey crew to assist in the discovery.

For much of the 10-day field session, Odyssey focused its efforts on what is now known as the Scheuerman Site. The mammoth is situated on a high upland landscape, an unusual place for a mammoth to die of natural causes. Based on its stratigraphic position, it appears this mammoth is of Clovis age. However, whether people were involved in the death of the mammoth is unknown. From their limited excavations, the team recovered a scapula, a radius and half a dozen or more ribs. It seems likely most of the mammoth skeleton remains at the site.

Some lithic material was found in the immediate vicinity of the mammoth and at the same elevation that was exposed by the terrace-building project. It appears to be a lithic cache that could be 12,000 to 13,000 years old. Hofman noted that a couple of items could be Folsom age. Odyssey will likely return next summer as they try to learn more about this mammoth.
This summer, Ivana Radovanovic brought Rolfe Mandel and Kale Bruner (incoming PhD student) with her to Serbia as part of an investigation of the Mesolithic hunter-gatherer interaction between the fluvial environments and the inland areas of the Iron Gates region. Joining them in Serbia was Dusan Mihailovic and colleagues and students from the University of Belgrade. Individuals from the University of Leiden, the National Museum in Belgrade and the Regional Museum of Negotin also participated. The Mesolithic, spanning the end of the Pleistocene and beginning of the Holocene, was a time of rapid changes in both the climate and cultures of the Iron Gates. Culturally, the first farming communities came into the region during this period. Some 20 Mesolithic sites are already known in the Iron Gates region, the majority of which are located along riverbanks. But almost nothing is known about inland sites. Radovanovic’s goal was to learn how Mesolithic people exploited the inlands of the Iron Gates region.

Phase one of the project was to survey five target areas chosen in eastern Serbia. Targeted survey, as Radovanovic explained, means that they were looking for those sites that were not buried but exposed on the surface. Two of these target areas are still along the river, but downstream from the previously explored areas. These areas were not in danger of being disturbed by the development and flooding of the hydroelectric dam and artificial lake that prompted the archaeological survey of many other areas in the past. Three additional target areas were inland from the river canyons where numerous caves and rockshelters were previously recorded in 2005. In one area they found three or four potential Paleolithic or Mesolithic sites, judged by the raw materials. Radovanovic and Mihailovic think these are Mesolithic, but they await confirmatory radiocarbon dates. They are planning to survey other target areas based on this season’s fieldwork in conjunction with geoarchaeological contributions and analysis of animal bones. Finally, one team opened a small trench in a rockshelter and uncovered a Celtic urn containing a 16-month-old child. Radovanovic presented her summer work at a brownbag lecture on September 20th in the Center for Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies.
71st annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA)
Program: “Expanding the influence of Applied Social Sciences”
Seattle, WA
March 29-April 2, 2011

Poster Presentation:
Holly H. Glasgow
“Find your thrill on Strawberry Hill”—The Strawberry Hill neighborhood association of Kansas City, Kansas

Podium Presentations:
Clarice Amorim
Community health in rural Guatemala: The role of applied anthropologists working with non-governmental organizations

Rebecca Crosthwait
More than the butterfly effect: Monarch overwintering sites and climate change

Anne Kraemer Diaz & Christine Daley Makosky
Creating and executing a culturally-tailored smoking cessation program via community-based participatory research among American Indians

Jane Gibson, Stacey White & Adam Benfer
Climate science, farm policy, and farmer decision making

Benjamin J. Gray
Deviance and discourse: Sex offenders in the United States

Madison Huber-Smith
Are Latino nonprofit organizations good for the community?

Tejal Patel
Health care use among undocumented Mexican immigrants in a Kansas community

Sydney Silverstein
A dialectic of solidarity and exclusion: First-time voters in urban and rural Peru

Chaya Spears
Dueling values: Political and civic engagement, fiscal responsibility, and family orientation in rural communities

Don Stull & Michael Broadway
What goes up must come down?: Three decades of upheaval in Garden City, Kansas

Benjamin J. Gray, Madison Huber-Smith, Clarice Amorim and Tejal Patel at the Pike Place Fish Market. These students presented research at the Society for Applied Anthropology’s annual meeting in Seattle.
76th annual meeting of the Society of American Archaeology (SAA)
Sacramento, CA
March 30-April 3, 2011

Poster Presentations:

Zachary Day, Paul Thacker, Cynthia Day & Carlos Pereira
Clay sourcing and ceramic production at Iron Age Castro de São Martinho, Portugal

Kristina Eronat-Davis
Marine subsistence as probable cause for dental health variations in prehistoric Panamanians of the Caribbean coast: quantitative and non-metric dental analysis from Sitio Drago, Isla Colón, Bocas del Toro, Panama

Jessica Raab
And you shall know us by the trail of the dead: Documenting traumatic injury in the Pericú of Baja California Sur

Podium Presentations:

Clive Bonsall, Ivana Radovanovic, Adina Boroneant, Catriona Pickard & Gordon Cook
Distinguishing between freshwater- and terrestrial-based diets: The case of the Iron Gates Mesolithic

Michael Davis, Thomas Wake & Tomás Mendizabal
Towards a settlement chronology for Bocas del Toro, Panama

David Kaufman
Orion, Uaxactun, Izapa and Creation

Rolfe Mandel & Alan Simmons
Geoarchaeology of Ais Giorkis, an upland Early Aceramic Neolithic site in Western Cyprus

80th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA)
Minneapolis, MN
April 12-16, 2011

Poster Presentations:

Anne E. Justice, Stephen Johnson & Michael H. Crawford
Y chromosome variation of the Ch’orti’ Maya population in Eastern Guatemala

Alessandra Sperduti, Paola Francesca Rossi, David W. Frayer & Luca Bondioli
Non-masticatory tooth wear at Gricignano d’Aversa, Italy (2500-1750 BCE): The importance of macro- and microscopic analysis

Diana A. Taylor, Geetanjali Tiwari, Michaela Beals, Anand P Tyagi & Alan J. Redd
Mitochondrial DNA variation in the Fijian Archipelago

Jasem Theyab, Suzanne Al-Bustan & Michael H. Crawford
The genetic structure of the Kuwaiti population: Mitochondrial DNA markers

Kristin L. Young, Arantzaz G. Apraiz, Guangyun Sun, Ranjan Deka & Michael H. Crawford
Paternal genetics history of the Basque population of Spain

Podium Presentations:

Michael H. Crawford
Patterns of gene flow into the indigenous populations of the Aleutian Archipelago

20th annual meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society
Minneapolis, MN
April 12-13, 2011

Poster Presentations:

Emiliano Bruner, Luca Bondioli, Alfredo Coppa, David W. Frayer, Yoseph Libsekal, Roberto Macchiarelli & Lorenzo Rook
A preliminary paleoneurological survey of the endocast from Buia (UA-31)

Jean-Luc Voisin, David W. Frayer & Silvana Condemi
A new and free database about teeth

36th annual meeting of the Human Biology Association (HBA)
Minneapolis, MN
April 13-14, 2011

Award:

The Human Biology Association (HBA) named Michael H. Crawford the 2011 winner of the Franz Boas Distinguished Achievement Award. Crawford’s colleagues, students, family and friends gathered at the HBA luncheon held during the 2011 annual conference to celebrate his award. Pictured above is Crawford holding the bronze bust of Boas, surrounded by many of his past and present students.
Undergraduate students

Erica Henderson, Jason Kingman, Jennifer Kirmer, Linzy Kirkpatrick and Benjamin Tannenwald completed the Honors Program in anthropology.

Alison King also completed the Honors Program in anthropology, graduating in December 2010.

Robbie House was awarded an Undergraduate Research Award. He will present the results of his research at the April 2012 KU Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Graduate students

Clarice Amorim (MA, Cultural) worked as a GTA for Dr. Dean’s ANTH 160/360 class, the Varieties of Human Experience, for two semesters. Currently, she is a GTA for Dr. Stull’s ANTH 108/308 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. She conducted field work in Suchitepequez, Guatemala during summer 2010 with the support of a Tinker grant and a Carroll Clark Research Award. She presented preliminary results of this research at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in Seattle. She also held a Merienda for Latin American Studies and competed in the KU Latin American Graduate Research Competition.

Adam Benfer (MA, Archaeology) spent the past two years working as Jane Gibson’s GTA on the Kansas NSF EPSCoR Project, studying Kansas farmer land use. This summer, he was part of the team consisting of Jane Gibson, Lydia Gibson (Urban Planning), B.J. Gray, Stacey White (Urban Planning) and colleagues from K-State who conducted interviews with approximately 150 farmers all across the state of Kansas. Starting in mid-August, Benfer began working as a GTA for ANTH 108/308. He and Michael Davis, Kristina Eronat-Davis, Anne Egitto, Greg Kauffman and John Hoopes are part of the interdisciplinary team that received funding from the Center of Latin American Studies for a Latin Americanist Research Cluster called “Multithetic Interaction in the Pan-Caribbean.”

Erin Dempsey (PhD, Archaeology) spent the spring semester working on field statements and her dissertation proposal while completing coursework for her degree. She spent the majority of the summer working for ODYSSEY, an archaeological research program directed by Dr. Mandel, and conducting some small field projects for the National Park Service. She also conducted fieldwork in the Current River basin in southeast Missouri to collect samples for her dissertation research.

Meghan Farley Webb (PhD, Cultural) spent two weeks in Copán Ruinas, Honduras over Winter Break as a GTA for Dr. Metz’s field school on Indigenous development among the Ch’ortí’ Maya. She presented preliminary results from her dissertation work at the American Association of Physical Anthropology conference in Minneapolis. The poster was titled “Y-chromosome variation of a Chor’ti’ Maya population in eastern Guatemala.”

Holly Glasgow (MA, Linguistics) worked as a GTA for Dr. Dean’s ANTH 160/360 class, the Varieties of Human Experience, for two semesters. She received a Carroll Clark Research Award and presented a poster about her research in Strawberry Hill at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in Seattle. In April, she was honored with an award from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures for Excellence in the Study of Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (B/C/S). She received a Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) from the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies and studied Croatian language and culture in Zadar, Croatia for seven weeks over the summer. She also received a 2011-2012 academic year FLAS to study Slovene.

Alison Hadley Hilburn (PhD, Archaeology) is currently working on her second and third field statements under Dr. Adair in the Spring 2011 semester. In addition to her dissertation research, Alison is the Chair of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference’s Student Affairs Committee. The committee is organizing workshops and a reception for students at the November conference. This year the subject of the workshop is “Getting to Know Soil,” and the lunch forum will focus on “Effective Geophysical Data Presentation.”

Madison Huber-Smith (MA, Cultural) worked as a GTA for Dr. Stull’s ANTH 108/308 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, for two semesters. She spent two weeks in Copán Ruinas, Honduras over Winter Break, participating Dr. Metz’s field school on Indigenous development among the Ch’ortí’ Maya. She presented research at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in Seattle. She also defended her MA thesis in April and competed in the KU Latin American Graduate Research Competition. Currently, she is an adjunct professor of anthropology at Johnson County Community College.

Christine Inman (MA, Museum Studies/ANTH track) interned at the Eudora Area Historical Society over the summer.

Anne Justice (PhD, Biological) presented preliminary results from her dissertation work at the American Association of Physical Anthropology conference in Minneapolis. The poster was titled “Y-chromosome variation of a Chor’ti’ Maya population in eastern Guatemala.”

David Kaufman (PhD, Linguistics) presented a research paper at the Society for American Archaeology conference in Sacramento in April. He is currently working on his dissertation, titled “The Lower Mississippi Valley as a Language Area.” It covers language contact in the region during the period from ca. 500 - 1700 CE and includes the languages of Biloxi, Ofo, Tunica, Natchez, Atakapa, Chitimacha, Choctaw and Chickasaw.

Anne Kraemer Diaz (PhD, Cultural) will have an article published in Human Organization in Winter 2011 titled “Beyond Development: A Critical Appraisal of the Nongovernmental Sector in Guatemala” (co-authored with P. Rohlfof and S. Dasgupta). She also presented research at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in Seattle. Currently, she is completing her field statements for dissertation research in Guatemala and is working as an ethnographer for the Kansas City based company Ethnographic Research, Inc. She continues as the volunteer Executive Director for the nonprofit Wuqu’ Kawoq, which provides health care in Mayan languages in Guatemala. She welcomed her first daughter, Sophia Linda, in October 2010.

Tejal Patel (MA, Cultural) worked as a GTA for Dr. Dean’s ANTH 160/360 class, the Varieties of Human Experience, for two semesters. She spent two weeks in Copán Ruinas, Honduras over Winter Break, participating Dr. Metz’s field school on Indigenous development among the Ch’ortí’ Maya. She also presented part of her thesis research at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in Seattle. She was awarded a scholarship from the KU Women 4 KU Women fund to attend the conference. Tejal also competed in the KU Latin American Graduate Research Competition and defended her MA thesis with honors in April.

Colleen Pollock (MA, Cultural) presented a paper titled “Plural Relationships: Child Fostering and Non-Parental Care in West Africa” at the Mid-American Humanities Conference hosted by KU in March. She also defended her MA thesis in May.

Kristine Schenk (MA, Museum Studies/ANTH track) was awarded the first Dole Institute Archive Student Employee Merit Award. She also defended her MA research titled “Comparative Analysis of the Institutional and Spatial Organization of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics and Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm” in April with honors.

Diana Taylor (MA, Biological) worked in the Molecular Biosciences department as a GTA for BIOL 247/674, Human and Mammalian Physiology labs. Over the summer, she and Kristine Beaty (PhD, Biological) worked under the supervision of Dr. Kelly Johnson (KU Molecular Biosciences) to update existing student physiology lab protocols utilizing new Powerlab equipment and programs. Both are credited as contributors in the revised edition published this fall. Taylor also worked as a research assistant in Dr. Redd’s Molecular Anthropology Laboratory (MAL). She presented MAL preliminary research at the 2011 AAPA conferences held in Minneapolis.
Faculty News

Mary Adair was promoted to Senior Curator of the Archaeological Research Center of the Biodiversity Institute. She also received a grant from the US Army Corps of Engineers for the purchase and installation of mobile compact storage units for the archaeological collections on west campus. This mobile shelving will increase curation capacity by about 58 percent, which will allow for some materials to be moved from Spooner Hall to west campus, creating more lab and research space at the ARC. She and Donna Roper (KSU) published an article this year in the journal Plains Anthropologist entitled “Interpreting AMS Radiocarbon Age Determinations from Selected Central Plains Tradition Sites.” This year, she also published a chapter with Richard Drass (OU) entitled “Patterns of Plant Use in the Prehistoric Central and Southern Plains” in the edited volume Subsistence Economies of Indigenous North American Societies: A Handbook.

Allan Hanson completed his 45th year in the Department of Anthropology and was awarded his 6th sabbatical for Fall 2011 to extend his work on technology and the self. On this project he writes, “Technology transforms not only what we do, but also what we are.” Building on Foucault’s concept of Power/Knowledge and his own previous work regarding the social consequences of technology, he will use case law from American society as a lens through which to examine the impact of technology on the cultural construction of the self.

Jack Hofman studied a collection from the Neodesha area in the Osage Cuestas Hills Region of southeast Kansas this summer. This collection dates to Clovis and appears to be a focal point for a series of Clovis made from lithic material from eastern Oklahoma or Arkansas. Hofman worked on another collection from the Miller-Branson Cache of southeastern Colorado, which was discovered in the 1950s. These interesting collections add to the recent update he published with Andrew Gottsfeld in Spring 2011. Brendon Asher and Hofman have also worked on a series of Clovis finds in Republic County near the Nebraska border, which was recently submitted for publication.

Michael Crawford marked his 40th year in the Department of Anthropology at KU. This fall, he is on a sabbatical to develop a monograph on “The Origins and Genetic Structure of Populations of the Aleutian Archipelago.” He participated in several research presentations at the Human Biology Association conference in Minneapolis in April, and he was presented with the Boas Distinguished Lifetime Achievement award.

Bart Dean was awarded a Fulbright to teach in Peru and develop a graduate program in anthropology during the Fall 2011 semester.

Arienne Dwyer received a National Science Foundation grant. She was also nominated for the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages’ Walton Award for developing Uyghur language pedagogy in the United States.

John Hoopes spent his summer finishing up publications and submitting manuscripts. Some of his recent activities were related to his ongoing research at the Nuevo Corinto Site in Costa Rica where his graduate students Adam Benfer and Anne Egitto have been conducting research. Recent progress on the project has included getting the radiocarbon samples into the United States for analysis and coordinating interpretations of observations from last year’s fieldwork. Over Spring Break 2011, he gave a presentation about his team’s research at Nuevo Corinto at a conference in Costa Rica organized by KU’s Center of Latin American Studies and the University of Costa Rica. Hoopes has also contributed a chapter to the catalogue publication accompanying a Panamanian gold exhibit at the Gilchrist Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in which he wrote about the impact of Columbian gold on the European economy during the early 16th century, specifically focusing on the interface between contact with Panama and the Antilles. Hoopes’ investigations of the Maya Calendar and 2012 have resulted in a couple publications and presentations, including a contribution to the International Astronomical Union publication based on a conference held in Lima, Peru in January. He was also a featured speaker at the Texas Maya Meetings in March 2011, which was organized around the theme of prophecy in ancient Central America. There, he presented a critique of the 2012 phenomena and its historical context. In early August 2011, he gave the keynote address for a symposium called “Collecting Ancient Central America: Museums, Explorers and Archaeologists in the Pursuit of the Past” at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. There he had the opportunity to visit the archaeological collections of Minor C. Keith and the ethnographic collections of George Heye, now a part of the collections at NMAI and the Brooklyn Museum.

John Janzen supervised or participated in a total of ten MA defenses and PhD exams during Spring 2011.

Rolfe Mandel was recognized at the Celebration of Graduate Teaching Reception sponsored by KU’s Center for Teaching Excellence. Laura Murphy read the citation prepared by the Anthropology graduate students, which included the following statement: “He always takes time to succinctly explain foreign concepts and theories. But more importantly, his passion for his work radiates to his students, bringing them a cross-disciplinary perspective toward their own research. Rolfe knows exactly when to stand back and let students make mistakes, and exactly when to step in, ask questions and make us think.”

Brent Metz was promoted to Associate Professor of Anthropology with tenure. He has been away on a Hall Center Fellowship and was awarded a sabbatical for Fall 2011, which will be used to finish writing a book about the politics of indigeneity. The title of the project is “In search of the Ch’orti’ Maya: An Exploration of Indigeneity and Mestija in Northern Central America.” He also received an Outstanding Faculty Award from the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars.

Jim Mielle published the second edition of his co-authored textbook, Human Biological Variation, by Oxford University Press. This edition is updated with new material and was described in a review in the American Journal of Human Biology as “a wonderful volume… highly recommended for its thorough and up-to-date coverage.” Jim was also appointed as Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
Ivana Radovanovic received funding from the National Science Foundation and a General Research Fund award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for phase one of her project “Coastal/inland Interaction in the Iron Gates Mesolithic.” She began archaeological fieldwork in Serbia over the summer (see article above).

Alan Redd, director of the Molecular Anthropology Laboratory (MAL) in Fraser Hall, is currently researching genetic variation within the Fijian archipelago. Geographically, Fiji is the gateway to Polynesia and thus plays a central role in the history of the peopling of Oceania. This study is the first to examine variation in Rotuma and among the Fijian islands. Dr. Redd and his graduate student Diana Taylor will examine Hage’s Matrilineality Hypothesis using maternally and paternally inherited genetic markers in populations from Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, Kadavu, Rotuma and the Lau Islands.

Kathryn Rhine received one grant from the Kansas African Studies Center and another from the Transportation Research Institute for her new project on car accidents. She also received a travel grant from the Office of International Programs and a General Research Fund award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. These awards supported summer 2011 fieldwork and a Graduate Research Assistant during Fall 2011.

Frederic Sellet directed the Summer Archaeological Field School and traveled to Laramie, Wyoming to conduct research on a Paleoindian collection from the Sheaman Site. Last February, he spent several weeks lecturing in Paris as a visiting professor at the Institute of Human Paleontology and received an invitation to go back again this February. Additionally, Sellet has a new publication coming out in a French edited volume.

Don Stull was interviewed by Dan Rathers, host of Dan Rathers Reports for an episode titled Shell Games. The program premiered on HDNet November 16, 2010.

Akiko Takeyama received a General Research Fund award from International Programs for Internationalizing the Curriculum to develop her course “East Asia in Global Contexts.” She also received a fellowship from the Social Science Research Council/Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and will use the fellowship to conduct fieldwork on “affective labor” in contemporary Japan.

The Undergraduate Anthropology Association (UAA) has partnered up with 3 Spoons Yogurt, the frozen yogurt place on Massachusetts Street, to receive 25% of their sales from noon - 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 15th to pay for club events. Support the club by mentioning the Undergraduate Anthropology Association when purchasing yogurt at the specified time and date.

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