

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY/JUSTICE STUDIES NEWS

December 2006

From the Chair,

My best wishes to everyone for the New Year. The department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Justice Studies continues to grow and improve in the quality of students and faculty. This fall we welcome three new faculty members, Patrick Gillham and Leontina Hormel in sociology, and Melanie Neuilly in Justice Studies. Their backgrounds in teaching and research are very impressive, and can be found within this newsletter. In addition, we are in the process of searching for another new professor of Justice Studies.

Accomplishments of some of the are faculty are listed within the newsletter, but I would like to direct your attention to professors John Mihelich and Debbie Storrs, who led students in conducting original research, which the students then presented at professional meetings. It is uncommon for undergraduates to present papers at conferences, and experiences such as these help prepare them for graduate school and future professions.

Each year the university presents awards to outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching, research, and advising, and members of our department have received an impressive number over the past several years. Recipients include Debbie Storrs for teaching in 2004, Rodney Frey for research in 2005, myself for research in 2006, and Mark Warner for teaching in 2006. The Sociology/Anthropology/Justice Studies is blessed with a faculty composed of strong teachers, researchers, and advisors who truly care about providing students with the best education. This is reflected in the quality of our students' academic achievements.

Similar to other universities across the nation, the University of Idaho is receiving less financial support from the state. Your continued support is welcomed and appreciated. We are in the process of creating new scholarships for undergraduate students. Your gifts can be directed to these scholarships or for whatever purpose you wish.

During this past summer, **Jared Norman** (M.A. Anthropology candidate) was involved in an archaeological field school at Harpers Bend, located near the town of Peck along the Clearwater River under the direction of Lee Sappington. Approximately 15 undergrad and grad students participated in the field school, funded by the BLM and conducted with support of the Nez Perce Tribe. The field school was carried out prior to the development of the property as a recreation site.

During the two months of excavation, seventeen units were excavated, nine features were exposed, and levels yielding cultural material naturally terminated at 2.7 meters below the surface. Of all the artifacts found at the site, eleven projectile points were recovered as well as a few believed to be small flaked utilized tools, such as scrapers and perforators. Results of this excavation are the main topic of Norman's Master's Thesis. Exciting results have been revealed, such as successful obsidian sourcing, through the Northwest Research Obsidian Laboratory on ten of obsidian artifacts showing three different source locations in southwest Idaho and eastern Oregon. Results from the testing yielded positive correlations in understanding where the Nez Perce obtained their obsidian for stone tools.

With money from the Don Crabtree Scholarship, Norman intends to send points as well as some of the better utilized tools in for protein residue analysis. This type of analysis can chemically determine exactly what animal species the tool was used on. Because all the lithic tools were mapped, removed, then placed immediately into inert curation bags, it is fair to say that they are not contaminated, therefore still contain clues as to their function.

The site yielded three radiocarbon dates ranging from 3,000 to 200 years ago. Some of the tools were found below the oldest dated level, so it will be interesting to see the results of this research. Today, Harpers Bend is a sportsmen access site with little or no trace of the inhabitants that once lived there. Thanks to the Don Crabtree Scholarship, we will now be able to coax out even more information from the data recovered from the site. This will help bridge the gap between the present and the greatly unknown past of the people that inhabited the Clearwater region of north central Idaho.

Kristina Ruiz who graduated with a BS in sociology is working for the Pinellas Marine Institute in St. Pete Beach, FL as a case manager for 20 juveniles. The program is a dropout prevention aftercare program for 14-18 year olds who are either on conditional release from a residential program or on probation and not able to maintain in regular schools. Ms. Ruiz is also the proud mother of one daughter.

ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENTS

Ariana Burns (M.A. Anthropology candidate) is researching how the atomic age effected American religious beliefs especially for the evangelicals and their outlook toward the end of times. She is reviewing and analyzing sermons of Billy Sunday and Billy Graham and other texts of the day. Right now she is developing the thesis proposal, and more specifics will be available during the research phase.

Kurt Perkins (M.A. Anthropology candidate) is a second year graduate student. For the second year in a row, he has been one of the recipients of the Don Crabtree Scholarship for Lithic Studies. This scholarship is going to help fund his thesis research. His thesis will analyzing scrapers from the Clearwater Watershed and the Salmon River Watershed to determine if there are any temporal or special differences in the morphology of scrapers. It is his belief that there will be very little morphological differences because function is more important than style. In addition, the technology and function of these tools does not change over time and presumably, over space, therefore style and form should be very similar. He also hopes to show that these were not expedient one-time use tools, but rather valuable tool that were kept and retouched until lost or worn out. To prove this Perkins intend to use protein analysis to hopefully show multiple residues therefore the scraper was used multiple times.

Katrina Prime (M.A. Anthropology candidate) notes commercial farming has spurred a number of alternative agricultural movements, most notably organic agriculture. Less known in the U.S. is biodynamic agriculture, a type of organic farming that emphasizes the recognition of nature and spirit through specific practices. Prime's research asks three questions: 1. What motivates a farmer to practice biodynamics? 2. How do those practicing biodynamic farming survive economically in an industrially dominated agricultural system? 3. What implications do these practices have in relating to the broader community?

Angie Sowers (M.A. Anthropology candidate) is focusing research on Neopaganism and solitary practitioners specifically. Neopaganism surfaced in the 1960s as a persuasive alternative among a variety of religious options and is a perfect example of the flexibility and diversification of religion in the United States today. The purpose of Bower's study is to obtain detailed information about college-age, solitary practitioners. Solitary practitioners, those who do not engage in group rituals and are generally self-taught, are often absent from research due to their low visibility. Research will focus on the path these individuals have taken to become Neopagan, their individual beliefs and practices, and why they have chosen to practice individually rather than as part of a group. Adding knowledge about these individuals to what is already known about the Neopagan community as a whole will help create a more complete picture of this group.

Life as a Graduate Student

My name is **Sarah Heffner**, currently a second year graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Idaho. I plan on finishing my thesis in Spring '07 and continue on for a doctorate. So far, I have really enjoyed my time here at the University of Idaho. Our smaller department has allowed me to get to know the professors, and to work closely with my advisor on my thesis. Also, I know most of my fellow graduate students and get along well with them. I also feel that, because we have a smaller department, I have had a better chance at getting funding for my thesis and to attend conferences.

This past spring, I received the John Calhoun Smith Memorial Fund grant to work on my thesis, which is on a general store in Spalding, Idaho. I am very grateful to the department and to those who have made it possible for me to fund my research. My thesis is entitled, "(The) History and Significance of the Watson Store: A Community Institution in the town of Spalding, Idaho." With the money from the JC Smith grant, I have been able to pay for numerous trips up to Spalding and the surrounding area to do research in the Archives at Nez Perce National Historical Park, and to visit with informants. Since the Nez Perce tribe requires researchers to pay interviewees an honorarium for their information, I have been able to use the grant to pay for that also. Currently, I have wrapped up almost all the interviews I need for my thesis and am in the process of transcribing those interviews. I plan on spending the spring semester tying all the information from the interviews, documents, and artifacts together for my thesis.

Alyson Kral (M.A. Anthropology candidate) is currently working with John Mihelich on a cultural case study regarding the visions and perceptions of land use within Latah County. Using newly designated athletic fields as a model, interviews are being conducted with citizens who represent various groups with competing interests. These discussions contribute to a sense of local visions for land use and/or preservation, as well as the collaboration efficacy between groups to achieve a common goal.

Serving as the Northern Repository for the state of Idaho, the **Anthropology Laboratory** curates and houses many archaeological collections. One is the extensive collection from the Lenore site, 10NP105, a village site located along the Clearwater River containing deposits spanning over 10,000 years. This site was excavated by the Idaho State College summer field schools from 1967 to 1971. Currently the laboratory, with support from the Idaho Department of Transportation, is in the process of cataloguing and curating the artifacts. A total of 10,254 catalogue entries documenting artifacts recovered from the first three years of excavation now exist. Ultimately the goal is to stabilize the collection and generate a database for future research.

There are currently thirty M.A. Anthropology candidates in the department. Of these three have received full-time TA positions, six received part-time TA positions, and one received the 2-year JC Calhoun Smith scholarship.

ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENTS

Students have again continued their strong tradition of participation in national and regional conferences. In January of 2007 five current or former UI students are presenting papers at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) in Williamsburg, Virginia. They are part of a session on the historical archaeology of Idaho. Students presenting at the meeting are Jennifer Hamilton, Amanda Haught, Sarah Heffner, Leah Evans-Janke and Alex New. Earlier in 2006 six student anthropologists presented their research at the Northwest Anthropological Conference in Seattle Washington. Students presenting were Katy Coddington, Sonja DeLisle, Pam Demo, Rebecca Gordon, Kurt Perkins, and Bill White. Jared Norman, Ryan Harrod and Pam Demo presented papers at the annual Idaho Archaeological Conference in Boise in October.

Alumni Accomplishments.

Bill White completed his MA in December 2005 and has been hired as project archaeologist for Northwest Archaeological Associates of Seattle

Pam Demo completed her MA in the Spring of 2006 and is currently working as a consulting archaeologist in Boise, Idaho

Scott Brown (BS 2006) is the Education Manager for the Washington County Historical Society and Museum in Portland, Oregon

Katie Kirchmeier (BA 2003) returned from serving two years in the Peace Corps and has enrolled in a graduate program in education at Western New Mexico University

Amber Creighton (BS 2003) Recently completed her MA at Cambridge and has been hired as a Principal Investigator by Master Consulting of Middletown, NJ.

Ty Corn completed his MA in August 2006 and is currently working for Idaho Power in Boise, ID.

Dori Ridenour completed her MA in August 2006 and is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program at Laramie, Wyoming.

Chris Willson completed his MA in May 2006 and is currently working at Boise State University.

Julie Rodman completed her MA in May 2006 and is currently working for the Forest Service in Challis, Idaho.

Aaron Denham (MA 2002) is in the Ph.D. program at University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada and is conducting field work in Northern Ghana, West Africa, working with the local cultures and the role of children in those cultures.

Fumi Arakawa (MA 2000) will be defending his doctoral dissertation in December 2006. Currently he is teaching anthropology classes both at WSU and UI.

Tutti Sandmeyer is completing her MA in December 2006 and is currently working at the UI Library in the Special Collections section.

ANTHROPOLOGY LAB

In late 2007, two major collections housed within the Laboratory of Anthropology will be moving online. In recent years, the Pacific Northwest Anthropological Archive (PNAA) and Donald Crabtree Lithic Collection have been rigorously cataloged into electronic databases in readiness for web based searches. To date, about 15,000 items in the PNAA have been prepared for transfer to the internet. In the future, all UI Anthropological Theses will be scanned and made available online. Similarly, the Don Crabtree Document Archive has been cataloged and entered into a database. In addition, Jared Norman photographed approximately 4,000 out of the 11,000 pieces of Don Crabtree's lithic stonetool collection. The photos are digital images taken in order to document individual pieces in the collection, as well as to provide images for public viewing, via our newly revised website, <http://www.class.uidaho.edu/labanth/>

Asian American Comparative Collection (AACC)

All royalties from the picture book biography by Priscilla Wegars, *Polly Bemis: A Chinese American Pioneer* (Cambridge, ID: Backeddy Books, 2003), benefit the AACC. Although written for children in the fourth grade and up, adults are enjoying it, too! If you would like an autographed copy by mail, for yourself or a favorite relative, friend, child, school, or library, please send a check for \$21.00 (includes postage) to the AACC at P.O. Box 441111, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1111. Please include a note stating to whom it should be autographed, or email <pwegars@uidaho.edu> with your questions or instructions.

A more extensive discussion of Polly Bemis's life and times is available in *Wild Women of the Old West*, edited by Glenda Riley and Richard W. Etulain (Golden, CO: Fulcrum, 2003). Chapter 3 is "Polly Bemis: Lurid Life or Literary Legend?," by Priscilla Wegars, pp. 45-68, with sources and further reading on pp. 200-203. Polly wasn't really a "wild woman" but this was an opportunity to dispel some of the myths about her.

Why is there sometimes a chicken in a Chinese funeral procession? Why are Chinese Americans bringing the remains of their ancestors to the US for reburial? Why would Chinese Americans place coins in the coffin or in the mouth, ears, hands, or eyes of their deceased? Why would they leave food at the grave site and burn paper replicas of cell phones and other objects there? Sue Fawn Chung and Priscilla Wegars, editors, and a selection of expert contributors answer these questions and more in *Chinese American Death Rituals: Respecting the Ancestors* (320 pp., AltaMira Press, \$34.95 paper). Chinese American Death Rituals examines Chinese American funerary rituals and cemeteries from the late nineteenth century until the present in order to understand the importance of Chinese funerary rites and their transformation through time. Shaped by individual beliefs, customs, religion, and environment, Chinese Americans have resolved the tensions between assimilation into the mainstream culture and their strong Chinese heritage in a variety of ways. All authors' royalties benefit the AACC. To order, call 1-800-462-6420 or receive a 15% discount at <<http://www.altamirapress.com>>.

FACULTY

Eric L. Jensen's comparative juvenile justice book was published in October: Jensen, Eric L. and Jepsen, Jørgen (eds.). 2006. *Juvenile Law Violators, Human Rights, and the Development of New Juvenile Justice Systems*. Oxford, U.K.: Hart Publishing. In conjunction with the International Institute for the Sociology of Law, Oñati, Spain.

In late November Jensen was invited to deliver a presentation on international trends in juvenile justice as part of a seminar at the Danish Institute for Human Rights in Copenhagen. This seminar introduced the book to the Western European audience. A companion book published by the Danish Institute was also introduced at this seminar: Johnny July Sørensen and Jørgen Jepsen (eds.) 2005. *Juvenile Justice in Transition: Bringing the Convention on the Rights of the Child to Work in Africa and Nepal*.

Other publications this year include:

Jensen, Eric L. and Mosher, Clayton. 2006. Adult Drug Courts: Emergence, Growth, Outcome Evaluations and the Need for a Continuum of Care. *Idaho Law Review*. 42: 443-470.

Wise, Judith and Jensen, Eric L. 2006. International Drug Pollution? Reflections on Trail Smelter and Latin American Drug Trafficking. Pp. 281-294 in Rebecca M. Bratspies and Russell A. Miller (eds.). *Transboundary Harm in International Law: Lessons from the Trail Smelter Arbitration*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press.

Brown, Judy, Shaklee, Harriet, Jensen, Eric L., and Evans, Henry. 2006. *Bridge to Adulthood for Idaho Youth: On Their Own*. Boise, Idaho: Kids Count Idaho.

Jensen also continues the longitudinal outcome evaluation of correctional programs for the Idaho Department of Correction. He recently presented a paper at the annual meetings of the American Society of Criminology on the effects of attaining a GED in prison on re-arrests one year following release from prison.

Patrick Gillham, one of two new sociology faculty joined the department in July 2006. Before coming to the UI, Gillham taught at the University of Alaska. His research focuses on social movements, globalization, and policing of protest in western democracies. He has studied cross-national participation in the European environmental movement and his dissertation (from the University of Colorado, Boulder) explains varying levels of protest groups' involvement in the global justice movement. In addition, Gillham has analyzed the policing of global justice protests in the U.S., Canada, U.K. and other European nations. He plans to take UI students to Germany this summer to observe policing of the G-8 meetings.

Gillham enjoys teaching courses in political sociology, social conflict, social movements, globalization, and social control.

Leontina Hormel another new sociology faculty member joined the Department this fall 2006. She graduated in June 2004 from the Sociology Department at University of Oregon in Eugene, where her doctoral studies examined gender and informal work in a post-Soviet city in Ukraine. She worked as an assistant professor in the Sociology Department at Worcester State College in Massachusetts from 2004-2006 and, in her second year, served as Associate Director of Co-curriculum in WSC's Women's Studies Program. Hormel's interests revolve around issues of social change, political economy, globalization and international development with specific area interest in post-Soviet societies. Her studies and research have been conducted in Ukraine, Nagorno-Karabagh, and areas throughout the Russian Federation. She is currently revising her dissertation to be published as a book, which will include analysis of Gender, Class, and Informal Work in post-Soviet Komsomolsk, Ukraine. Her latest article from her Ukraine research (co-authored with Dr. Caleb Southworth from University of Oregon) was published in June 2006 in the journal, *Europe-Asia Studies*. Hormel and Caleb Southworth are initiating a broader project in Ukraine, which will compare the experiences of two cities in post-Soviet urban development. The research pair are planning to visit the two cities to hold discussions with their city administrations in June 2007. Besides the research endeavors Hormel is thus far pursuing, she is happy with her teaching experience and especially with the social commitment apparent among many of the students in the Department here at University of Idaho.

Her experiences with the students this term are encouraging and they have convinced her the decision to move from Worcester, Massachusetts, to Moscow, Idaho, was wise (her husband, Jim, agrees too).

Leontina Hormel has been working on a personal website highlighting her professional activities, research projects, and courses. Please refer to www.uidaho.edu/~lhormel

John Mihelich continued his efforts to involve undergraduate students in the research process through his ongoing project on young adults, meaning-making and religion. Through participation in the project, students have the opportunity for hands-on participation in interview collection and analysis. Six students participated in the research this past year, and preliminary findings from this project will be presented by Mihelich and Jennifer Haylett (a former undergraduate in sociology, now in graduate school) at the annual meetings of the Pacific Sociological Association in April 2007. Mihelich is also finalizing his research on *Our Lady of the Rockies* in Butte, Montana and consulting on a documentary film about Butte in production by Rattlesnake Productions.

Melanie-Angela Neuilly new in Justice Studies section of the department started in July 2006. Her research focuses on violent crime, methodological issues of crime, and public health data collection in an international context. Primary interest is homicide and violent death research, and currently is working on two sets of data: homicide data from the Newark, NJ Police Department, and mortality records from the Regional Medical Examiner's Office in Newark, NJ and the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Rennes, France.

This semester, she has been working on the quantitative and qualitative analyses of medical examiners data, hoping to finish the results write up before winter break. Her aim is to provide a descriptive, procedural, as well as predictive explanation of the factors influencing medical examiners' decision-making process in assessing whether a death is natural, accidental, suicidal, or homicidal in France and the United States. She presented some of her quantitative results at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in early November in Los Angeles, where, as a member of the Justice Studies Faculty Search Committee, she also met with prospective applicants.

Next semester, she will be finishing an article on missing data patterns and replacement strategies in the Newark Police Department homicide data set, and will begin investigating new research questions using these data. She will also be working on publishing off of her medical examiners study and be presenting the qualitative aspects at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in March in Seattle.

As a participant in the Humanities Fellowship "The Power of Play," Neuilly has been involved in workshops as well as a variety of activities related to play. In that context, she will be presenting in a panel themed around death and play at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Ameri-

Debbie Storrs has been actively working with undergraduate students on a variety of research projects. Last spring she, along with UI Honors Program, took a group of students to the Western Regional Honors Conference to present their research findings on honors education. Undergraduate sociology major Lysie Clott has worked with Storrs even further on this research, and their article, "A Qualitative Study of Honor Students' Learning Orientations: The Rare Liberal Scholar" will soon be published in the College Student Journal. Storrs has also been named as a Humanities Fellow and has worked with colleague Candy Gillis in English to develop a number of campus and faculty educational experiences around the theme "the power of play." For more information on her humanities work see: www.class.uidaho.edu/play.

Deirdre Sommerlad-Rogers is in her second year as Justice Studies faculty. She graduated from Bowling Green State University in Sociology with a concentration in Criminology and minors in Women's Studies and Social Psychology. Research interests include inequalities both in the criminal justice system and in society, victimization, corrections and violence. She is teaching the fall semester research methods course for Sociology and Justice Studies as well as the Introduction to Justice Studies course. She also teaches white collar crime and criminology. She is in the process of developing courses on criminal theory, serial killers and mass murders (which will be taught this summer), and possibly inequalities in the justice system class and crime and mass media.

Some research interests lie in how society shapes perceptions of difference and how this impacts actions, motivations and beliefs. She is working on a series of articles examining hate crime victims in Canada. This work stems from her dissertation and examines the routine activities, victimization and help seeking behaviors of hate crime victims compared to victims of violent crime, property crime and non-victims. This is a unique area, as most of the work is either on offenders or focuses on the US.

She is part of the humanities fellowship, the Power of Play. Her group is looking at the use of humor as a tool for socialization. This group's focus is on fart jokes as a way to control the body. The next thing about working with this group is the fun they are having while completing scholarly research.

As a big believer in experiential learning, she is working with students on several projects. Last spring, she presented work about views towards Islamic post 9/11 with one of her student, Patrick Pellet, at the North Central Sociological Conference. They hope to publish their paper this coming spring and complete a comparison using the General Social Survey. She is also working with the UI Women's Center and her research methods class on a project about the view, attitudes and behaviors of students towards the Women's Center, as a foundation for their self-assessment study this coming spring.

Finally, she is part of a local consortium who recently received a \$375,000 federal grant from the Health Resources and Service Administration to create rural awareness of senior health issues. This is a very exciting opportunity, as this is a unique consortium across county and state lines, bringing together the three local hospitals (Whitman, Gritman, and Pullman Regional) and the two area agencies of aging to create a best practices community outreach program. She was part of the grant writing team and is one of the PIs in evaluating the program's progress and effectiveness. This is the three year grant, with increasing community excitement about this program.

Rodney Frey is currently working on three research projects. The first involves something new, writing from a very personal perspective. The essay entitled, "If All These Great Stories Were Told, Great Stories Will Come," is being co-authored with Tom Yellowtail (Crow) and Cliff SiJohn (Coeur d'Alene). It chronicles Frey's recent journey with cancer, and the healing that came from family and friends in the Indian community. The essay is now undergoing a refereed peer review, and, if all goes well, will appear in *Religion and Healing in Native America*, edited by Suzanne Crawford, Praeger Press.

The second project involves writing an overview of the histories and cultures of the Tribes of Idaho, which will appear as a chapter in a book on Idaho history, being edited by Adam Sowards of the History Department of the University of Idaho. Frey is also working on a new book project, tentatively titled, "Re-Telling the Stories of Others: Research, Publication and Pedagogy Among Plateau Indians." It brings together some of the lessons and insights that have resulted from Frey's thirty-plus years of collaboration with Tribal elders and consultants, and their governing entities. The project attempts to address the question, "how does a *suyepmsh* (white) ethnographer go about comprehending and then telling what is considered most cherished by the Indian?" How can and should ethnographic research be conducted and published, as well as Indian curriculum taught, all of which are both authentic and appropriate, and acknowledge Tribal cultural property rights? How does one, emanating out from a Euro-American academic setting, attempt to grasp and then convey "heart knowledge"? All sorts of issues, ranging from research and publication ethics and application responsibilities, to classroom teaching techniques, will be considered. This is also a collaboratively conducted and co-authored project, with Cliff SiJohn (Coeur d'Alene) and Josiah Blackeagle Pinkham (Nez Perce).

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