Chair’s Welcome

This has been an exciting time for the Sociology/Anthropology/Justice Studies department. In the fall, Stacey Camp joined our department as a historical archaeologist, coming from Stanford University. Camp has jumped into the anthropology program with an enthusiasm not seen for a long time. Debbie Stortz, associate professor of Sociology, was promoted to associate dean and we currently are searching for a replacement.

In these unnerving times and economy concerns, the need for higher education has never been greater. Funding for all educational institutions, including the University of Idaho, are declining and the need for donations from alumni is even greater. If you are able to donate something towards scholarships for our students, please complete the form enclosed in this newsletter. Any small amount will be welcome by deserving students.

The University currently is reviewing all programs in an effort to consolidate and strengthen departments, and to bring the University current with the needs of the 21st century. At this time, we do not know how this might effect the department, and though change is sometimes difficult we are excited to contribute to the overall campus life. By next March, the campus will have a better idea of the changes that will be implemented.

Brian Wolf, assistant professor of Justice Studies, traveled to Palestine last summer on a Fulbright-Hayes travel grant with a 13-member research team. The purpose of the trip was to understand the Middle East problems, and to bring that knowledge back to students in the U.S. Wolf teaches a class on terrorism, and the knowledge gained from this trip will enhance his classes.

Mark Warner, associate professor of Anthropology, is working with the Idaho Department of Transportation and CH2M-Hill on an archaeological dig in the Sandpoint, Idaho area. Currently, there are more than 500 boxes of artifacts from this site that will be analyzed and cataloged by both graduate and undergraduate students.

Lee Sappington, associate professor of Anthropology, continues to conduct archaeological monitoring projects within northern Idaho, mainly for cities, counties, Bureau of Land Management, and the Idaho Transportation Department. He also is available to many individuals who find bones or other artifacts, to provide identification and historical content.

Leontona Hormel, assistant professor of Sociology, traveled to Ukraine during the summer to further research on the community and lifestyles. Funding for this trip was provided by a University SEED grant.

Melanie-Angela Neuille, assistant professor of Justice Studies, traveled to France during the summer to present her dissertation in psychology, and gained her second Ph.D.

In an effort to assess the success of the Sociology/Anthropology/Justice Studies program, we are asking that you complete the enclosed survey. The answers to the survey will assist the department in determining areas that should be improved and what may have to be eliminated. Of course, we welcome any stories you might have describing the course of life your studies have taken you.

May you and your family have a safe holiday, and happy new year.

Donald E. Tyler
Chair and Professor of Anthropology
Leontina Hormel, Assistant Professor

Leontina Hormel is continuing and broadening research by studying the transformation of gender, class and informal work in post-Soviet Ukraine. Since starting at the University in fall 2006, Hormel has received several awards to support her research: the University SEED Grant, the Kurt Olsson Early Career Fellowship (sponsored by CLASS), and the International Research and Exchanges Board Short Term Travel Grant. In summer 2007, Hormel spent a month in Ukraine to conduct ethnographic research and to document the trip on film. A short documentary about ecology and feminism in Ukraine will be completed this term as a result of the trip. Besides her work in Ukraine, she has been developing several articles with colleagues and undergraduate students. One of the articles, “Bring the Salmon Home? Karuk Challenges to Capitalist Incorporation,” which is co-authored with Kari M. Norgaard, assistant professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies at Whitman College, has been accepted for publication in Critical Sociology in 2009.

Patrick Gillham, Assistant Professor

Patrick Gillham’s areas of expertise include globalization, social movements and the policing of dissent. Currently, he is working on several projects. One analyzes individual participation in the European environmental movement. Earlier this year, Gillham published in International Sociology, “Participation in the Environmental Movement: An Analysis of the European Community,” which shows the impact of values and beliefs, and demographic (age, income, education) and national characteristics (e.g., levels of poverty) on environmental activism. Gillham anticipates several other publications to follow from this research, including a longitudinal analysis once the data becomes available.

Another project elaborates on changes in the U.S. global justice movement following the September 11th terrorist attacks. This study identifies the ways that legitimacy concerns and social networks affected the decisions of civil society groups (for example religious, labor and human rights organizations) to join or withdraw from protests following the 9/11 attacks. A paper reporting on this research is currently under review with the journal, Social Forces, and another is being prepared for presentation at the 2009 American Sociological Association’s annual conference.

A third project examines dynamics related to protesting and the control of dissent. This research seeks to explain the changing cultures of resistance and policing in western democracies (mid-1990s-2005). Gillham has co-authored several publications from this research identifying ideological and institutional shifts in both the U.S. protest sector and the criminal justice system that have contributed to changes in tactical repertoires employed by protesters and police alike. These publications note that protests have become more contentious or “transgressive” in nature, and authorities have shifted from using “negotiated management” strategies to “selective incapacitation.” This new era reflects important changes, such as activists adopting decision making styles that undermine hierarchical and patriarchal relations and police now applying “risk assessment” techniques, like “activist profiling,” to anticipate which protesters are presumed “most likely” to break laws. In December 2007, Gillham co-edited a special issue of the journal, Mobilization, which explored these changes in more detail.

Over the last year, Gillham has received a SEED Grant and a Kurt Olsson Fellowship to further support efforts to pursue these studies. He plans to do this by conducting a comparative analysis of policing and protesting occurring at G8 meetings in Canada, the U.S., the UK and France, 2010-2013. To help pay for this study, he currently is co-writing a National Science Foundation proposal with colleagues from MIT, the University of Toronto and Arcadia University. If funded, this study will identify the continuing transference, adoption and innovation in the cultures of resistance and policing in western democracies. This research seeks to explain the changing cultures of resistance and policing in western democracies (mid-1990s-2005). Gillham has co-authored several publications from this research identifying ideological and institutional shifts in both the U.S. protest sector and the criminal justice system that have contributed to changes in tactical repertoires employed by protesters and police alike. These publications note that protests have become more contentious or “transgressive” in nature, and authorities have shifted from using “negotiated management” strategies to “selective incapacitation.” This new era reflects important changes, such as activists adopting decision making styles that undermine hierarchical and patriarchal relations and police now applying “risk assessment” techniques, like “activist profiling,” to anticipate which protesters are presumed “most likely” to break laws. In December 2007, Gillham co-edited a special issue of the journal, Mobilization, which explored these changes in more detail.

In order to explore some of these research interests in more detail, Gillham recently developed a new course called “Dynamics of Social Protest.” Among other things, students learn about the conditions under which protests occur and the state’s response to political dissent. He also explores related materials in his courses on Social Conflict and Political Sociology.

Gillham is interested in reaching out to those concerned with First Amendment issues and the role that civil society organizations play in democratic societies. He currently is constructing an online global justice movement archive (see www.class.uidaho.edu/gjmarchive/) to make his research and data more available. You may find out more about his research and teaching by visiting his Web site, www.class.uidaho.edu/gillham/.
Lynsie Clott (B.A. sociology and psychology 2008) and Aaron Freudenthal (B.A. psychology, minor sociology 2008) presented papers co-authored with Leontina Hormel at the American Sociology Association Annual Meeting in Boston, August 1, 2008. This was a unique opportunity, since few undergraduates qualify to present their work at the ASA. Travel, lodging and food were covered by the Key Fund, which is funded through CLASS with matching funds from the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Justice Studies. Lynsie’s paper, “The Political Economy of United States’ Foreign Policy in the Southern Caucasus: A Case Study of Foreign Aid in Karabagh,” finds that U.S. policy to diversify oil sources throughout the world ultimately means it is strategic to remain ambiguous about the issue of Armenian Karabagh’s demands for nation-state recognition within Azerbaijan. Aaron’s essay, “Revolution from Above? Tracing the Transnational Capitalist Class in Ukraine and the United States,” traces the social networks built between elites and NGOs that sought to influence the outcome of Ukraine’s famous Orange Revolution in 2004. Although many efforts were employed by spontaneous, grassroots organizing, U.S. and Ukrainian political elites orchestrated energies to support a victory for Viktor Yushchenko. Both papers were well received and stirred lively debate at the table with some of the audience members. Lynsie and Aaron are now teaching English to elementary students in South Korea.

Donations Needed for Student Scholarships

If you are interested in making a donation to the department’s scholarship fund, please specify our department name and fund number SOCANT and send to:

University of Idaho
Gift Administration
PO Box 443143
Moscow, ID 83844-3143

Donations are tax deductible and will be used to build principal in the general department’s scholarship accounts. No amount is too small, and will go 100 percent towards helping students in each discipline with school expenses.
Anthropology Faculty News

Stacey Camp
Assistant Professor

Stacey Camp joins the department after completing her Ph.D. at Stanford University in the Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology in conjunction with the Archaeology Interdisciplinary Center. Past research projects concerned the study of immigrants occupying and migrating to the late 19th and early 20th century Western United States and the politics of heritage, memory and tourism in contemporary Ireland. She currently is examining the crucial role American corporations and their financial investments played in shaping Mexican nationals’ migration trajectories between the United States and Mexico. This research builds her dissertation research on the archaeology of a Mexican immigrant railway workers community living in early 20th century Los Angeles.

Camp has several short-term goals for her first year at Idaho. First will be establishing a working GIS laboratory available for department-affiliated students and faculty members. The laboratory will feature a total station, GPS hand-held units, and computers featuring GIS software. Her second initiative is a study of trash and litter on campus. Students taking her Introduction to Archaeological Method and Theory course currently are helping Professor Camp develop this project, which is documented at http://campustrash.wordpress.com.

In her spare time, Camp enjoys hiking and geocaching with her husband, figure skating, and playing with her two dogs.

Mark Warner
Associate Professor

In January, the Society for Historical Archaeology published a thematic issue of the journal, Historical Archaeology, on urban archaeology. Anthropology faculty member Mark Warner was the co-editor of the volume and in that issue published research on 19th century health and sanitation – or in other words, how to explain 57 cats and kittens in a privy!

Idaho Archaeologist in Action

In November 2008, archaeologists wrapped up fieldwork on what was probably the largest archaeology project in the history of the state—and the University of Idaho is playing a major role in the excavation. Excavations were conducted in Sandpoint by CH2M Hill for the Idaho Department of Transportation as part of a cultural resources management project.

The project has recovered more than 200,000 artifacts, the vast majority associated with the early settlement of Sandpoint. The materials recovered will present a unique perspective on Sandpoint, shedding light on what everyday life was like in the logging town at the turn of the century and helping scholars understand the details of small-town life as well as the community’s relationship to national and global markets. The project is being directed by Jim Bard of CH2M Hill, Bob Weaver, a masters degree student and Idaho professor Mark Warner. In addition, the processing of the 500+ boxes of artifacts will be supervised by Jamie Emmick (B.A. Anthropology 1996) and Amanda Haught (B.A. Anthropology 1995), while current graduate students Oliver Bielmann, Joe Mitchell and Colleen Reynolds have all participated as field crew members on the project. The analysis phase of the project is expected to take two and one-half years, and upon completion, this unique collection will be housed at the University of Idaho.

Asian American Comparative Collection

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Brian Wolf, Assistant Professor

Brian Wolf continues research on global justice and violence. This past summer, Wolf participated in a Fulbright-Hays study group in Israel and occupied Palestine. Part of the study included an examination of competing discourses surrounding the construction of a barrier or wall between Israel and the West Bank.

Much of his research will be exploring the effects of the barrier on the social ecology of the region and the economic impacts on the Palestinians. This work also will be incorporated in his newly proposed course on terrorism and global justice. Wolf has embarked on a new research project to explore the deployment and proliferation of energy weapons, specifically Tasers, among police departments. He is in the process of interviewing police training officers about the use of energy weapons and opponents to the use of this technology in policing. Lastly, Wolf is putting the final touches on his much anticipated monograph on corporate environmental crime and justice.

Melanie-Angela Neuilly, Assistant Professor

Melanie-Angela Neuilly presented a report in Boise last May on best practices in gang prevention to the Idaho Criminal Justice Commission. Summer was spent in France, where she worked on her second Ph.D. dissertation. The topic is a phenomenological approach to homicide scenes, and will be defended at the University of Rennes II, in France.

Neuilly attended the American Society of Criminology meeting in St. Louis in November and presented on two research projects: One as first author, in collaboration with Kristen Zgoba of the New Jersey Department of Corrections and George Tita of the University of California–Irvine, on the topic of recidivism in a sample of homicide offenders; the second project is headed by Idaho alumna Amy Nivette ’08, who currently is enrolled as an Mphil student in the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University, UK, and pertains to applying a comparative criminology framework to studying low crime in Idaho. An article, co-authored with Jesenia Pizarro of Michigan State University, on missing data replacement strategies in applied homicide datasets to the journal, Homicide Studies, has been resubmitted. Another article on criminal trajectories leading to homicide co-authored with Jesenia Pizarro (lead), Kristen Zgoba and Nick Corsaro, is being finished and will be submitted to Justice Quarterly. Neuilly was invited to give a presentation to the University Interdisciplinary Colloquium on October 14, entitled “Do Dead People Speak Different Languages: An Interdisciplinary Séance.” Issues discussed pertain to research crossing over traditional scientific fields.

Dianna Bell, M.A. Anthropology 2008, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Religious Studies at Florida State University. For her M.A. thesis, Dianna conducted fieldwork in a small village in Mali, West Africa, and studied the relationship between Muslims and Christians in the region. A paper addressing her findings, entitled “Complications in Conversions from Islam to Christianity in Oueléssébougou, Mali,” was presented at the 2008 Northwest Anthropological Conference. She plans on returning to that village for her dissertation research in order to refine and expand ideas presented in her thesis.

Rachel Burke, B.S. 2005, competed her Master's in bioanthropology at Louisiana State University and is currently teaching anthropology at Edmonds Community College in Seattle.

Brian Wolf continues research on corporate environmental crime and justice.

Sarah Heffner, M.A. 2007 and Steven Holm M.A. 2008, are both enrolled in the Ph.D. program in anthropology at University of Nevada, Reno. Both are continuing their studies in historical archaeology.

Kate Jackson (nee Ruedrich), M.A. 2007, left her position as a project archaeologist at George Washington’s Ferry Farm (Washington’s boyhood home) to take a position as an archaeology programs specialist for the Fernbank Museum of Natural History in Atlanta, Georgia.

Ben Columbi, M.A. Anthropology 2001; Ph.D. Anthropology, Washington State University 2006, is an assistant professor in the American Indian Studies program at the University of Arizona, with joint faculty appointments in the Department of Anthropology and School of Natural Resources. He also is a faculty member in the UA Institute for the Study of Planet Earth (ISPE), a center for disciplinary and interdisciplinary environmental and climate change science. Since 2006 he has served as program chair for the Anthropology and Environment section, American Anthropological Association.

Katrina Prime M.A. Anthropology 2008, presented a paper entitled “Contemporary Food Redistribution: A Case Study,” at the 2007 American Anthropological Association Meeting. The paper was based on her M.A. thesis, and focused on how the re-emergence of small-scale food production and distribution may constitute a cultural response to a contested structure of social power embodied in large-scale, industrial-style agriculture. In addition to Prime’s participation in this very prestigious conference, she also taught two sociology classes during spring 2008 at the Community College of Vermont and currently is teaching Introduction to Anthropology and Introduction to Diversity and Stratification (a Web-based course) at Idaho.

Nathan Stansell, B.S. 2002, is expecting to complete his Ph.D. in geology at the University of Pittsburgh this fall.
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

What have you done since graduation? In an effort to keep track of how our majors are doing since graduation, we would appreciate your help by answering the following survey:

Full name: ____________________________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail address: __________________________________________________________________________________________________

In what year did you graduate from Idaho? _______________________________________________________________________

What is your current occupation? ______________________________________________________________________________

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If you are, or were, in graduate education, please list the institution and field:

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If employed, where are you working (Employer name and city and state)?

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What was your major, and was it useful toward your current work/educational placement?

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To what extent has your major education assisted you in your work experience, and how?

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If you wish to share any news for the next SAJS newsletter, please use the space below to share it. Please attach an additional page if necessary.

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Please return to:
Sociology/Anthropology/Justice Studies
PO Box 441110
Moscow, ID 83844-1110

Submission can also be done electronically. Please visit Alumni Survey at www.class.uidaho.edu/soc_anthro/links.htm. The survey may be submitted as an attachment to socAnth@uidaho.edu.
Featured Student

Lynsie Clott earns CLASS’s Lindley Award

The Lindley Award is presented each year to the graduating senior in the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences who is deemed the Outstanding Senior in scholarship and character. This is the highest award a student in the college can receive.

Lynsie Clott is an activist. Her commitment to social justice, concern for diversity, and interest in equity stem from her family experiences which were informed and enhanced by her education at the University of Idaho. Born in Spokane, Washington, Lynsie was only 13 when her mother died. She and her disabled father supported one another through this loss and the ensuing financial and emotional challenges. As Lynsie notes, one “quickly learns how challenging life is when your family is underprivileged from undue financial struggles and minority status.” As an only child, Lynsie provided her father with care-taking while engaging in the Moscow community through sports and music. She taught swimming, volleyball and softball to children, and participated in the University Christmas Choir Concert and Jazz Festival as a junior high and high school student. After graduating from Moscow High School, she enrolled at the University of Idaho.

At the Idaho, Lynsie followed her “love for understanding and helping others” into the study of psychology, and she worked as a research assistant and peer adviser in the department. Her excellent academic performance led her to join the Honors Program. In pursuit of learning, she also strove to understand the relationship between personal troubles and social issues through the discipline of sociology where she worked with various faculty on research and as an undergraduate teaching mentor. Lynsie graduated summa cum laude in May 2008 with a double major in psychology and sociology.

Lynsie’s many academic honors and awards evidence her commitment to scholarship. Because of outstanding academic performance and extensive extracurricular activities, she received the Hollanda, Florence, Summers Scholarship and the Parent Association Scholarship. She also is a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Golden Key, National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Psi Chi Psychology honor societies. One of her important academic experiences involved research on honors students’ attitudes toward education. Working with a team of peers to collect and analyze interview data, she co-authored and presented a paper at the 2006 Regional Honors Conference in Denver. Subsequently, she and Professor Debbie Storrs engaged in additional analysis and published their findings in the article, “Liberal Arts and Honors Education: The Rare Liberal Scholar,” in College Student Journal.

In her personal educational mission, Lynsie strives to link academic knowledge to social change through activism. She has been an active member and leader in the Feminist Led Activist Movement to Empower, the Sociology Club, and the Socialist Club (now called the Social Forum). Lynsie is committed to such organizations because they empower individuals, facilitate learning, lead to justice and embody inclusiveness. Through her activism, she has helped others understand the value of feminism, the power of grassroots action, and the intersections of global inequalities. In recognition of the support and opportunities the Moscow community has provided her, she has given back by volunteering in local campaigns and consistently voting in local elections and levies.

Now that she is graduated, Lynsie plans to continue a life devoted to education, social justice and activism. She is collaborating with Professor Leontina Hormel to conduct sociological archival research on U.S. foreign policy in Karabagh and presented the preliminary research findings at the 2008 American Sociological Association conference in Boston. Lynsie now lives in South Korea to immerse herself in another country, learn more about global politics and justice, and teach English. After her experience abroad, she plans to pursue graduate school in a degree program that combines public policy and sociology.

Anthropology Lab News

In September, the Alfred W. Bowers Laboratory of Anthropology unveiled a new exhibit celebrating the historical archaeology of the region. According to recent statistics, more than 90 percent of Americans have a sincere interest in archaeology, and more than 60 percent of all Americans believe that federal money should be spent on historic preservation. In an era of dwindling archaeological financial resources, small gestures to reach out to a concerned public are worth the time and effort. Aside from preserving our nation’s heritage, there is the undeniable fun of watching the next generation of scientists fall in love with archaeology.