

Anthropology Department Newsletter

Colorado College

Issue No. 6

Spring 2008



Seniors claiming victory over their Senior papers



Burn baby Burn!



Blair Daverman, Marco Arriaga and Arlo Furst roasting their papers

Class of '08 Celebrates

Department BBQ and Senior Theses Draft Burning

This year's end of the year celebrations for the Anthropology was a great success. The second week of Block 8 saw the "End of the Year" BBQ and Senior Draft Burning Day. Seniors and other Anthropology majors joined faculty and staff for an afternoon of fun in the sun. Because of the enormous graduating Senior class this year, the draft burning time was more like a bonfire compared to other years! But all went well and nothing caught on fire that wasn't supposed to. With this year rapidly coming to an end, the Seniors and others found this time great for getting together as a department and the release of Senior theses stress with the "ritual" like burning of their rough drafts.

Wormington and Cusick Awards presented at Honors Convocation

This year, the *H. Marie Wormington Award*, an annual acknowledgement of an outstanding anthropology senior was shared by **Blair Daverman** and **Whitney Conti**.

The *Courtney Cusick Memorial Award*, an annual award for the outstanding senior paper, was presented to **Natalie Fast** for her senior paper "**Remembering Early Great Houses: Chaco's Beginnings.**" Natalie's paper was also selected for inclusion in the Rocky Mountain Undergraduate Review, a new journal published by Colorado College students.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Anthropology Department Newsletter is edited by the paraprofessional.

If you would like to make a submission, feel free to email at SRidings@coloradocollege.edu

Alumni are especially welcome to send in a 150 word update, letting us know what you are up to these days. Pictures are great too!

AN 326 Religion and Ritual

This course is an introduction to the comparative study of religion based on anthropological research among native peoples and folk traditions. Topics include: shamanism, peyotism, witchcraft, the genesis of religious cults, syncretism of native religions with major religious traditions, ritual processes. The course also considers major cultural theories arising from the study of religion and ritual. For the 2008 class, the students worked on a project concerning the Baca National Wildlife Refuge, the Crestone Spiritual Alliance and the impacts of the proposed natural gas drilling on the refuge.

The Project: What We Did

This advanced anthropology course spent the week of February 25-28, 2008 conducting an intensive, team-based investigation focused on place, religious practice and the potential effects of natural gas drilling. The group, comprised of 25 students, paraprofessional Mallory Sevey and under the guidance of Professor Sarah Hautzinger, accomplished the following:

- ❖ Visited five religious communities and participated in their ceremonial observances
- ❖ Convened three roundtables with environmental activists and Crestone Spiritual Alliance representatives respectively
- ❖ Conducted individual interviews with over forty long-term and recent-arrival residents, as well as several frequent attendees at retreats
- ❖ The results of their research are documented in a website created by the students:

<http://www.coloradocollege.edu/dept/AN/BACAAN326/Website/index.htm>

Activities, Participants and Communities

The five religious communities we visited and participated with in worship, ceremonial or meditative practices were:

Shumei International Insitute (Shinto-derived; morning Sampai and Jyorei chant; Matthew Crowley contact) www.shumeicrestone.org

Humanity in Unity (Hindu-based, interfaith; morning public meditation, Aarti, and Tai Chi class; Dagini Amba) <http://humanityinunity.org>



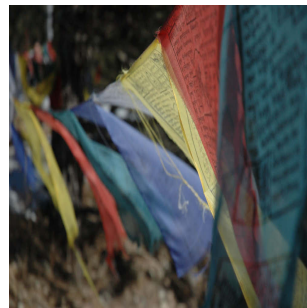
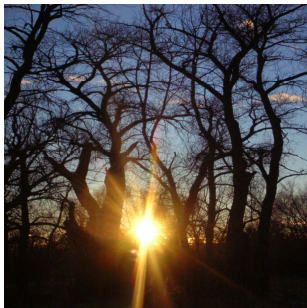
Rediscovery Four Corners (Lorain Fox Davis, Blackfeet and Cree; Smudging, Stories and Tobacco Blessing)

rediscovery@fairpoint.net

Bön (Tibetan, pre-Buddhist shamanistic practice Tsa Lung, with Peter May and Cindy Pearson)

<http://yeruboncenter.net/>

Yeshe Khorlo (Bhutanese Buddhist; Mountain Burnt Offering with Lama Lopon Phurba Dorje) www.yeshehorlo.org



Anthropology Days

Everyone in the Department is tremendously excited about the large number of Seniors this year! In the last edition of the newsletter we saw the first group of presenters showcase their Senior theses and below are the five groups of Seniors that have presented since. We would all like to congratulate the Seniors for all their hard work and contribution to the field of anthropology.



Brittany Wheeler, Will Hine-Ramsberger, Blair Daverman, Sarah Miller, Arlo Furst, Alysia Crocker



Bevin Condon, Marian Keglovits, Natalie Fast, Whitney Conti, Sarah Sincerbeaux



Adriane Ohanesian, Kelsey Gustafson, Greg Breslau, Addie Schwarz, Dan Bertrand, Marco Arriaga



Kelsey Wright, Raquel Saenz, Rachel Johnson, Brittany Howe, Morgan Maxwell, Leela Perez, Christen Lara



Jen Leichter, Claire Borgeson, Laura Toebe, Jordan Romero, Jacob Reuter, Vanessa Richardson

Brittany Howe:

Re-examining Teenage Motherhood among Homeless Youth in Colorado Springs

Rachel Johnson:

The Culture of Torture in the Chicago Police Department

Marian Keglovits:

Visual Representations of Disability Culture

Christen Lara:

Putting Action into Words: Cultural Brokerage and Hybridity in Northern New Mexico

Marco Arriaga-Perez:

Graffiti in Las Vegas, Nevada

Dan Bertrand:

Coercion as a Driving Force in Social Complexity Using the Southwest as Case Study

Claire Borgeson:

Modern Sansei in California: Rebuilding Severed Ties to Japanese Heritage

Greg Breslau:

The Potential Impacts of Tourism: The Case of South Caicos

Bevin Condon:

Dental Health in the Late Roman Empire

Whitney Conti:

Visualizing Difference Through the Modern Tourist's lens: Memory Formation and the "Western" Touristic Experience of "Developing" Countries

Alysia Crocker:

The Subversive Farmer: Cultural History of Corn in the Southwest

Blair Daverman:

A Bioarchaeological Analysis of Health and its Relation to Urbanization in Kish, Iraq

Natalie Fast:

Remembering Early Great Houses: Chaco's Beginnings

Arlo Furst:

Alcoholics Anonymous and the Culture of the Mutual-help Group

Kelsey Gustafson:

Hype on Hyphy

Will Hine-Ramsberger:

Political Empowerment and Cultural Preservation: Rewriting the Selective Tradition in Oaxaca Mexico

Jen Leichter:

The Evolution of Human Endurance Running

Morgan Maxwell:

Our Whole World Changed: A Discourse-Centered Approach to Memory, Emotion, and Identity in the Grieving Process

Sara Miller:

The People's Disease: Battle and Theory of Medical Exercises Based on Socioeconomic Position

Adriane Ohanesian:

Women, Ritual, and the Reproduction of Culture in Bali, Indonesia

Leela Perez:

Huipiles of the Tz'utujil and Kaqchikel Maya: An Ethnohistorical Analysis

Jacob Reuter:

Bwiti and the Religious Discord of an Equatorial Microcosm

Vanessa Richardson:

Literal Warfare and the Roma of Romania

Jordan Romero:

Consigned to the Past in order to Live in the Present; Tourism and Taos Pueblo

Raquel Saenz:

Symbolic Rebellion: Assimilation versus Cultural Maintenance in Romani Communities of Southern Spain

Addie Schwarz:

Centering Pregnancy

Sarah Sincerbeaux:

The Female Motive: A Study of Proximity Relationships in Western Lowland Gorillas to Determine the Reason for Grouping Patterns

Laura Toebe: Understanding Australian Aboriginal Art

Brittany Wheeler: Amazon Women: Greek Representation and Nomadic Fighters in 4th Century B.C.E

Kelsey Wright:

Centennial Homestead Ranchers: Cultural Value System

Alumni Updates

Susie Fiore '86

I have enjoyed living in Taos, NM since finishing my paraprof position at CC in 1988. For several years I worked as an archeologist for the Forest Service here in Northern New Mexico. In 1996, I started a non profit organization offering active, hands-on educational opportunities in the outdoors (www.fitaos.org). I guess all of those Anthro and Geology field trips got me hooked on being outside, exploring, and getting my hands dirty! I work primarily with youth ages 6 and up. It's easy to get the kids interested as we have access to so many amazing places within a wide range of lifezones. I am also a personal trainer, cycling coach, and ski coach. In my spare time, I race mountain bikes. I

got married in 2002 and we built a great little casita with views all around. Yes, we have room for visitors!

Jessi Burns '06

Will be attending graduate school at Pepperdine University for Communications this fall.

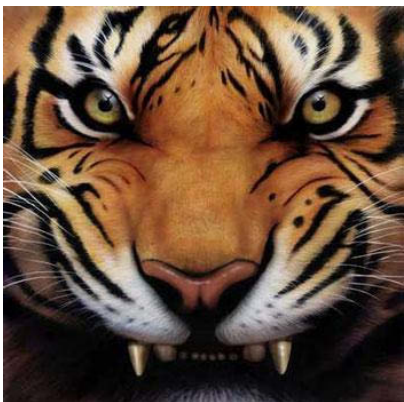
Sterling Roop '04

Will be attending graduate school at Boston University for International Relations this fall.

Teo Ballvé '01

I've been living in Bogotá, Colombia, and I still work as an editor with NACLA. I just wrapped up a Fulbright grant on violence, para-legality, and social movements of displaced campesinos. Teo Ballve may be coming back to CC in the near future to teach a course.

Colorado College



Alumni

Nancy Pollock '65

While we do not teach the four sections of Anthropology as such in NZ, following the British Universities' tradition, my own work has drawn on all four fields, and includes history, nutrition and development. My research, following my Senior Research study in Jamaica into the 100 villages development programme, has tracked the importance of food in culture, as a social as well as biological entity. Add the time factor, so that my book *These Roots Remain* (1995) traces the importance of taro and other starch foods in Pacific cultures over time. Last November I added geographical breadth contributing a paper to the Chinese Dietary History Symposium in Malaysia. My paper was entitled "Chinese influences on Pacific cultural gastronomy over a 6000 year period up to present day Chinese market gardens, restaurants and take aways in the Pacific." Earlier in 2007 I published a paper entitled "Nutrition and Anthropology - cooperation and convergences in Ecology of Food and Nutrition". The Anthropology of Food is a rapidly growing subsector of Anthropology which encompasses the social dimension, its material forms, linguistic terms over time, and the pots etc. that archaeologists and prehistorians use to build a picture of the past. Add nutrition and history, and you will see that the Anthropology of Food, or Gastronomy as I prefer, is a broad subject that appeals to many 'tastes'.

Best wishes to future generations of Anthropologists from CC.

Dr. Nancy J. Pollock

Depts. Of Anthropology
and Development Studies Victoria
University (retired)
Wellington, New Zealand

Roxanne Crittenden '05

This is an article a friend published about school garden programs in the Bay Area, including the one I and 15 other fabulous folks work for, the Hayward Nutritional Learning Community Project (HNLCP) ! Check it out if you get a chance!

http://www.sfbg.com/entry.php?entry_id=6171

Submit your alumni update to: 4
SRidings@coloradocollege.edu

Congratulations!



Halley Brunsteter and Courtney Rose Harris

Each year, the Southwest Studies Research Fellowship Program provides Regional Research Services Awards to Southwestern community groups working on Environmental Justice, Economic Justice, and Cultural Rights. Research services this year include the placement of two full time student research fellows supported by SWS faculty for ten weeks in the summer: the equivalent of \$20,000 of in-kind services. The Post '71 Mine Workers Committee (Grants, New Mexico) has been granted the SWS 2008 Research Services Award. Southwest Studies Research Fellowships for 2008 have been awarded to **Halley Brunsteter, ('09)**, an Anthropology and Asian Studies double major from Oklahoma City, OK and **Courtney Rose Harris, ('10)** a History and Political Science double major from Colorado Springs, CO. They will live in Grants, NM, for the summer and assist the Post '71 Committee with its research.

Anthropology Professor and Staff Updates:

Christina Torres-Rouff

Professor Torres-Rouff and two of our anthropology majors – Blair Daverman and Laura King – will be traveling to San Pedro de Atacama, Chile this summer to start work on a three year NSF project titled “A Bioarchaeological Approach to Identity in the Middle Horizon to Late Intermediate Period Transition in San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.” They will be looking at demography, health, genetic affinity, and cranial vault modification in samples from three cemetery sites that date to the late Middle Horizon (AD 750-1000). A partner in this research, Dr. Kelly Knudson (ASU) will be running chemical analyses to determine the geographic origin of this population. Together these data should help reveal the relationship between individuals biological identity and how they represent themselves culturally. In addition to the Chile trip this summer, Christina, Blair Daverman and Will Pestle (Field Museum) presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA) in early April 2008 on their research on Kish, Iraq.

Ruth Van Dyke

Professor Ruth Van Dyke has resigned from Colorado College and has accepted a position at SUNY-Binghamton. She's made valuable contributions, and been an important member of our family needless to say, we will miss her! We do hope to welcome her back to teach as a visitor at some point in the near future. Rich Wilshusen will continue in a second full-time year, ably serving as our archaeologist in residence. We all hope for the very best for Ruth and her new position, she will be missed.

Suzanne Ridings

Our very own Staff Assistant Suzanne Ridings celebrated 15 years with Colorado College this year, lets all give her a big congratulations! Hoorah!

Sarah Hautzinger

This summer Sarah will be taking a group of students to Brazil for a Community Based Learning Class.



National Geographic Explorer Visits Colorado College



Wade Davis: An ethnographer, writer, photographer, and filmmaker, he holds degrees in anthropology and biology, and received his Ph.D. in ethnobotany, all from Harvard University. Wade has traveled and lived among the people of traditional cultures in many countries. "Light at the Edge of the World" a four-hour series shot in Rapanui, Tahiti, the Marquesas, Nunuvut, Greenland, and Peru, that aired internationally on the National Geographic, documented his journeys among vanishing cultures of the world. Each of the four indigenous cultures, each uniquely dedicated to the preservation of their customs in the face of modernization: Inuit, Nepali Buddhist, pan-Andean and Polynesian. While visiting CC, Wade made a great impression on the Anthropology students and the CC community at large when they heard his inspirational talks about his life and work. Many of the Anthropology students were also lucky enough to enjoy a lunch and personal time with Wade, which is sure to have generated many interesting conversations.

AN 301 Human Osteology : The Class Goes In-Depth with the Human Skeleton



The Human Osteology Class Working Hard



Will Hine-Ramsberger measuring a cranium

This course was an in-depth study of the human skeleton as a dynamic, living system. Exploring the human skeleton as a means of reconstructing past lives through the archaeological and forensic record combining theory, its applications, and exploring the limitations of osteological methods with laboratory analysis. In this course, each bone was examined with a review of normal and abnormal variations, emphasizing the identification of fragmentary human remains. In the course of this examination the students covered bone biology, development and anatomy, and paleopathology. This knowledge forms the underpinnings for advanced study in forensics, paleoanthropology and bioarchaeology.

During the third and fourth weeks of Block 8 students completed a detailed study of the human skeleton, and participated, first hand, in the preparation of an osteological report. The reports were based on a series of fragments from an Egyptian colonial site in Nubia (modern-day Sudan). These fragments were recovered in excavations in 2000 and 2002 and form part of a larger collection housed in the University of California, Santa Barbara's osteological repository.

Students found themselves in lab at all hours of the day and night practicing for their timed exams and commiserating with others about spending their spring in Barnes 405. This was a wonderful course for all involved! ☺

On May 19, 2008 the Colorado College Class of 2008 will graduate and make their mark on the world... We all wish them all the very best and many wondrous adventures... which are sure to come.

Congratulations Class of 2008 !!



Look What Four Years Has Done to the Anthropology Seniors ☺

** Disclaimer: In no way does this represent any Seniors in real life!*



Freshman Year- First Day of Class = Cub

- ❖ Blind at birth
- ❖ Helpless
- ❖ Dependent on Mother for Food
- ❖ Uncoordinated
- ❖ Quite Funny looking
- ❖ Naïve
- ❖ Head is bigger than body



Senior Year- Commencement = Regal Adult

- ❖ Confident
- ❖ Independent
- ❖ Super Predator
- ❖ Boundless Courage
- ❖ No one would dare mess with you
- ❖ Majestic
- ❖ Works Hard for a Living