Welcome to UF Anthropology

Each fall I am once again refreshed by the quality of our undergraduate and graduate students. Students come to our department with enviable backgrounds, enthusiasm about the field, and interesting ideas. Then at the end of the spring term many of our students enthusiastically leave for study abroad courses, to fieldschool with Ken Sassaman, to Africa with Steve Brandt, they receive Fulbrights to study migrants with Maxine Margolis, or leave on their own to develop their anthropological skills throughout the world. Our department is based on the quality and the activities of our students as much as we are on our faculty and alumni. It is truly a pleasure to see how our students today begin to shape the anthropology of the future.

If this year is any example, the future looks good for our department. We joined with Geology and Geography to create a "Land Use and Environmental Change Institute" to understanding human effects on contemporary and historic landscapes; we strengthened our interdisciplinary ties with Women's Studies and African American Studies through joint hires; the Maples Center for Forensic Sciences is off to a great start; and we brought in a new cadre of biological. While we were busy with these activities, we found ourselves in a university environment that was fluid: the State of Florida dissolved the Board of Regents, a new president arrived, we had an interim dean, and the good budget years seemed to be ending.

We have had a wonderfully successful year recruiting new faculty: we have been fortunate to hire five new faculty in our program and added another anthropologist in the Florida Museum of Natural History. I'd like to take the opportunity here to welcome them all: Marilyn Thomas-Houston, a cultural anthropologist specializing in African American culture and history, Susan deFrance, a zooarchaeologist of the Americas, John Krigbaum, a biological anthropologist specializing in human evolution, Susan Gillespie, an archaeologist of Mesoamerica, and Stacey Langwick, a specialist in Gender and Medical Anthropology. Next fall Brenda Chalfin will also be on-board; Brenda has been in Ghana this past year with an NSF grant and so postponed her arrival to Gainesville until August, 2001, even though she joined the faculty a year ago.

We are especially pleased that our program is continuing strong links with other departments and programs: Stacey Langwick will be working half time in Women's Studies and Gender Research and Marilyn Thomas-Houston will be likewise 50% in African American Studies. Of course they both have their tenure in the department. We are also very fortunate to welcome Kitty Emery, a zooarchaeologist, to the Florida Museum of Natural History. Several other anthropologists are joining the anthropological community of Gainesville: Frank Poirier, an active and insightful primatologist, will be living in the area and will have a courtesy appointment in our department next year. Dave Grove, an archaeological theorist and Olmec specialist will also be associated with our department as he is moving here with his wife, Susan Gillespie. We feature some of these new colleagues in the newsletter this year, and others will be featured next year.

This year was also the year that saw the retirement of two of our key faculty members, Dr. Marvin Harris and Dr. Brian du Toit. Marvin and Brian's commitment and contributions to the program and to the shape of anthropology at Florida are the base upon which we build the future.

This spring the Department held the first celebratory dinner for honoring the faculty, students, and alumni. The dinner was sponsored by the Friends of Anthropology and Mr. Kenny Roberts, one of our "angels" in the Gainesville business community. The dinner feted Sonja and Brian du Toit, and we were all touched by the profundity and compassionate sum of Brian's career. The dinner was also an occasion to celebrate the generosity of the "friends of anthropology," those alumni and friends who give to the department for things like graduate student travel. This year we were able to fund over 40 graduate student travel requests to give papers at national and international meetings.

The department has also celebrated two major gifts that enhance our programs. One of these is a bequest of an estate that will one day fund an endowed visiting chair in applied anthropology at UF. The same endowment will fund at least four graduate fellowships at a level equal to the most prestigious fellowships in the university. A second gift by Paul and Polly Doughty establishes an endowment to fund graduate student research on community development and peace. Paul and Polly's contributions to the department have always been a source of pride here (Paul was department chair when the department began the Ph.D. program); their endowment ensures their contributions will continue for as long is there is a department.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. If you can, give a donation to the department to help students. Also, let us know what you are doing. I'd like to feature some of our alumni, especially undergraduates, who have found ways of making anthropology an interesting and vital part of their lives.

-Allan Bums
Filed from the Front Office

The department has again experienced staff changes over the past year. Two new members were welcomed: Salena Robinson and Lee Ann Martin. Salena has assumed the Graduate Program Assistant position. She has previous experience in both the Dean's Office in CLAS and Student Financial Services. Her professional assistance and attitude thus far have been invaluable. As the new Senior Clerk, Lee Ann has been making great progress in organizing the departmental property and inventories. She was previously with the Dean's Office in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Her good humor, great organizational skills and enthusiasm have been a wonderful asset during this difficult transition period.

Patricia King continues to serve the department as the Chair's assistant and the coordinator of travel, textbooks, grades, and evaluations. She has worked diligently to streamline the travel process in order to assist the growing number of faculty and graduate students funded for research or conference travel. Karen Jones has made budgetary and administrative functions current and continues to look for ways to improve the look and function of the main office.

With the staff a cohesive, full unit, every effort will be made to increase productivity to match the needs of this expanding department. - Karen Jones

Some of the New faculty members

Research in Biomechanics

A long-held assumption in comparative studies of the primate skeleton is that bone size and shape is a direct reflection of the mechanical forces encountered during the life of the individual. While the precise mechanisms by which bone cells respond to mechanical stresses remain obscure, what is becoming clear along several lines of independent evidence is that this assumption is incorrect.

Dave Daegling’s studies of bone mass and geometry in primate mandibles reveal that structural reinforcement is often weakest where the effects of chewing forces are most pronounced, and that enhanced buttressing of bone can be found where the need for such support is minimal. This seems to suggest that the relationship between bone structure and biomechanical stresses is more complex than previously realized. One problem, however, is that the ways in which stress levels in bone are inferred - the theoretical models - may also be prone to substantial errors. Until the models of stress can be correctly formulated, the precise relationship between function and form in primate bones can not be evaluated.

To complicate matters further is the understanding that stress cannot be directly measured in bone. Daegling's laboratory uses strain gauges to measure deformations of bones, which can in turn be used to infer stress levels. Experimental strain analysis is used to evaluate how closely textbook formulas for bone stress correspond to empirically-derived stress models. Many of these formulas are alarmingly inaccurate. On the plus side, however, when more appropriate models are developed, the relationship between bone geometry and stress histories becomes clearer. Eventually what this research will provide is dramatically improved resolution of functional inference in the primate and human fossil record. - Dave Daegling

Molecular Anthropology

Connie J. Mulligan (formerly Kolman) joined the faculty this fall as the department's first molecular anthropologist. Molecular anthropologists use molecular data (mainly DNA sequences and single nucleotide polymorphisms, or SNPs) to reconstruct the evolutionary and genetic history of human populations. Because genetic mutations are easily quantifiable and represent directly comparable events, molecular anthropology offers a different perspective on some of anthropology's most interesting questions. Mulligan's research program includes projects to study the peopling of the Americas and Asia, investigations into the genetic basis of complex disease, the use of ancient DNA to directly link ancestral and descendant populations,
and analysis of ancient pathogenic DNA to study human disease.

Ongoing projects include a NIH-funded project to continue work on the identification of genetic variants involved in alcoholism and related disorders. Funding is also being sought for a collecting trip to Mongolia and to initiate a large scale analysis of Asian genetic variation comparing data from mitochondrial, Y-chromosome, and autosomal markers. Sherin Smallwood (Anthropology undergrad) has begun an ancient DNA project to investigate the genetic continuity and evidence for population replacement in populations from the St Johns cultural period. A collaborative project with Pennsylvania State University to investigate the origins of venereal syphilis by extracting DNA from Old and New World skeletons with evidence of treponemal lesions is underway. Two graduate students, Ben Burkley and Nicole Nowak, have been admitted for the fall semester and are interested in the molecular evolution of language and the molecular analysis of the ancient Maya, respectively.

Molecular courses offered this year included two seminar courses on human evolution and genetic diversity. Next fall (2001), a new course on the molecular genetics of disease is scheduled. A lab course is also in development that will give students the opportunity to learn and use some of the techniques that have become commonplace in the field of molecular anthropology. - Connie Mulligan

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Relationship of mutations in alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) gene cluster

Osteology! and Osteometry!, and leads a discussion group in Research Methods.

He also teaches the popular Introduction to Forensic Anthropology course and is excited about increasing that course’s enrollment and exposing students from other disciplines to the exciting world of biological anthropology and forensic identification. Warren continues to do casework at the C.A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory and is in the process of setting up a teaching laboratory in Turlington Hall. He is extremely excited to be accepting his first graduate students next Fall.

Warren’s current research explores the effect of pathology on the growth and proportionality of the developing human fetus. Measurements taken from fetal x-rays, as well as clinical data obtained in collaboration with pathologists in the College of Medicine, are used to evaluate the relative growth and limb proportions of fetuses in various stages of development. By comparing fetuses with significant pathology and those exhibiting normal anatomy, the impact of pathology on linear growth can be assessed and the validity of using aborted fetuses as a tool for understanding growth and development can be tested.

Another of Warren’s research interests involves the relationship between the development of basic body form and the environment. By examining fetuses, infants and juveniles of geographically disparate populations, he hopes to resolve the debate about whether our basic body form is the result of a response to environmental conditions or whether it is determined genetically through natural selection. Warren says "the answer to the genetic versus developmental question lies within early ontogeny. If body proportionality is genetically entrenched and conservative, we can apply basic anthropometry to the fossil record and answer some interesting questions about human descent and migration."

- Mike Warren

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Forensic Anthropology

Michael Warren is enjoying his first year as an Assistant Professor in the department. Warren is currently teaching a challenging course in Human

Zooarchaeology

Susan D. deFrance is an archaeologist who specializes in zooarchaeology, the study of animal remains from archaeological sites. Her research has focused on the prehistoric and historical cultures of
Susan D. Gillespie comes to the department from the University of Illinois with a background in archaeological and ethnohistorical studies focusing on the Aztec, Olmec, and Maya peoples of prehispanic Mesoamerica. Her research deals with classic anthropological issues of social organization and identity within the contemporary paradigm of social and contextual archaeology and historical anthropology. She is especially interested in understanding how ancient peoples reproduced culture and society through the formation and interactions of social groups, and how these groups and identities were represented in material ways. These include architectural forms and constructed landscapes, ritual and mundane actions, the crafting of portable objects and imagery, and the negotiation and maintenance of narratives. Her archaeological and documentary research are intertwined with the goal of achieving an emic understanding of how history or temporality was experienced and represented in meaningful ways. Her 1989 book on the structural patterns in Aztec dynastic histories—*The Aztec Kings: The Construction of Rulership in Mexico History*—established how the concept of divine sovereignty itself was constructed and represented as a cyclical form of "history." Her most recent publications, including a book co-edited by Rosemary Joyce entitled *Beyond Kinship: Social and Material Reproduction in House Societies* (2000), expound a specific model of social organization for complex pre-class societies, based on the "house" as a long-lived corporate group that is materially represented in various ways. She will teach courses on archaeological theory and ethnohistory along with specialized topics in Mesoamerican prehistory, including cosmology and iconography.

*Close to the Bone*

John Krigbaum joins the faculty this fall as the new hire in physical anthropology. As Visiting Assistant Professor this past academic year, he is now well-acclimated to both University and Gainesville and we look forward to his continued commitment in teaching, mentoring, and research. John's broad training (Ph.D. Spring 2001 — New York University) is in the fields of paleoanthropology, archaeology, and isotopic geochemistry. These interests should dovetail well with those of students and faculty in the Department and greater University community and he looks forward to working with multidisciplinary initiatives in the Department, such as LUECI.

His primary research focus is on Pleistocene-Holocene modern humans in Southeast Asia. He plans to continue both field and lab-based research in north Borneo (Sarawak, Malaysia) at the site of Niah Cave and on its excavated materials curated at the Sarawak Museum in Kuching. There are a number of
opportunities here for student research and the sheer size of this cave and its collection promises to keep John busy for several years.

John's specific research interests are in reconstructing paleoecology and prehistoric subsistence using light stable isotopes (C, O, N). Following the premise "you are what you eat" these techniques provide fresh perspectives on past ecological and cultural systems. These tools of biogeochemistry have wide application in the historical life sciences. To further his research and to provide continued training in bone chemistry studies and stable isotope analysis, he will initiate a new "prep" lab in Turlington's basement for processing bone and tooth tissues. Prepared samples will continue to be run at the stable isotope facility in Geology (thanks to David Hodell, Jason Curtis, and colleagues). Students and faculty with interests in human paleodiet and paleoecology are encouraged to participate in the development of this new facility.

- John Krigbaum

**Anthropology and the Graduate Program**

The graduate program continues to grow and at the same time maintains its academic excellence. Approximately 150 undergraduate students from around the world applied for the 2001-2002 academic year and twenty to thirty are expected to enter the graduate program. The majority of the new students will focus on cultural/linguistic anthropology, followed closely by archaeology. Biological anthropology, and in particular the forensics program, saw its biggest increase in applications in many years.

Many of our graduate students have received various grants and fellowships, including a National Science Foundation dissertation grant and an American Heart Association fellowship to Lance Gravlee for his research into "Skin color, culture, and blood pressure in southeast Puerto Rico", and a U.S. Department of Interior grant to Antoinette Jackson for her work on Heritage Tourism, and Roberto Porro, who won the Rappaport Award from the Anthropology and Environment section of the American Anthropological Association.

Gebre Yntiso was one of five international students to receive an Outstanding Achievement Award from the UF International Ctr. The Anthropology Dept awarded John Goggin dissertation writing scholarships to Brad Bigalow and Roberto Porro while Matt Curtis, Donna Nash, Fred Smith, Gifford Waters, and Tanya Peres received Charles Fairbanks dissertation awards.

James Gates, Yntiso Gebre, Kathryn Lynch, and Ruth Trocolli fulfilled the requirements for a PhD degree and Elizabeth Beaver, Matthew Behrend, Melissa Denmark, Lauren Fordyce, Sungwon Jin, Brian King, Rebecca Kiracofe, Rebecca Klein, Shuila Martin, Ade Ofunniyin, Mikal Purcell Jr., Peter Sinellsi, Vanja Smith, Fatma Soud, Ermitte St. Jacques, and Ellen Woodall completed the requirements for a Masters degree.

-Steve Brandt

**Anthropology and the Undergraduate Program**

The undergraduate program in anthropology remains one of the most popular majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Almost 300 majors as well as a number of dual majors are enrolled. The students are very diverse with broad interests primarily in the cultural, biological, and archaeological subfields. With the addition of new faculty and course offerings, student interest in forensic anthropology has increased significantly.

Tanya Perez and Matt Curtis receive Fairbanks awards at the Department Awards Dinner
There is also much interest in various aspects of applied anthropology, particularly in environmental and health-related issues.

Undergraduate students are always interested in gaining hands-on experience in the field. During the last year, an increase in student volunteerism was evident. A number of students are volunteering with collections research at the Florida Museum of Natural History, while others have assisted graduate students in the field with excavations of historical sites. Student interest in overseas study has also increased. In addition to anthropology sponsored programs in the Yucatan and Tirol Alps, students have traveled to Tanzania, Australia, Spain, Italy, and Japan. Our diverse curriculum, in addition to both on and off campus research opportunities, is resulting in the training a well-prepared group of undergraduates.

- Susan deFrance

**Florida Anthropology Student Association**

The Florida Anthropology Student Association (FASA) has had one of its most successful years ever. The Fall used book sale brought in over 300 dollars and with the extra space in the FASA office, a carrel was made available to a graduate student who would not otherwise have space on campus. We hope to continue providing space for qualified students in future years. In addition to the book sale, this year's Potlatch was a great success. Leslie Lieberman graciously hosted the event and Paul Doughty and Ken Sassaman acted as auctioneers. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of the Anthropology faculty, students, friends and family, FASA was able to donate 1,500 dollars to the Friends of Anthropology Fund, which goes to finance graduate student travel. Thanks to everyone who volunteered at various events throughout the year and helped make this one of the best years ever for graduate student fundraising!

In addition to our fundraising activities, FASA also appointed student representatives to five different faculty search committees. Antoinette Jackson was elected the student representative for the joint hire with African-American studies, Suzanne Coyle was the student representative for the Biological Anthropologist search, Tonya Peres served on the Zooarcheology committee, Matt Curtis represented graduate students on the Archeological Theory search committee, and Aline Gubrium was on the committee for the joint hire with Women's Studies.

Still coming in the Spring semester, we look forward to holding elections for FASA's 2001-2002 officers. Interested individuals may contact any of the FASA officers - Ellen Woodall (President), Bradly Alicea (Vice President), Amber Yoder Wutich (Secretary), Katisha Greer (Treasurer) or Nick Mrozinske (Past President) - or send us an e-mail at fasa@grove.ufl.edu. We welcome your comments and suggestions!

**African entrepreneurship**

**Dr. Anita Spring** and Dr. Barbara McDade, Department of Geography, have been conducting a multi-country pilot study of African entrepreneurs in the global market and their new opportunities for enterprise development making four trips to Africa in the past year. This research updates *African Entrepreneurship: Theory and Reality* (Spring and McDade 1998) which explored the differences and similarities of small- and large-scale, urban and rural, female- and male-managed, private and public, and informal and formal-sector enterprises. It also compared African entrepreneurial methods to other parts of the world.

The new research moves beyond the study of small and large market traders and small- and medium-sized traditional African industries, to study the "new" African entrepreneurs who use updated and global methods of operation (i.e., financial transparency and accountability, information and communication systems) and form national and international associations and networks. Countries being studied are Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, and Uganda. Women business globalists are being highlighted.

The research considers formal sector, medium- and large-scale businesses and poses hypothesis to compare the new entrepreneurs with both global and traditional African business practices. The "new" global entrepreneurs work independently (owning individual corporations). They use internet communication, have financial transparency, and...
help negotiate their countries’ trades and tariffs. Sectors they are involved in include finance, transport, tourism, telecommunications, construction, and housing. Three regional Enterprise Networks plus a pan-African Enterprise Network have been formed that assist them in capital generation, sourcing, market intelligence, and network building. The networks are apolitical, selective in membership, and use global business practices. Some members are involved in regional and international commerce that include trade with the US and Florida. Drs. Spring and McDade participated in the first Trade Mission between the State of Florida and South Africa in February 2001.

Women members, who comprise about 22% of the total, often manifest non-traditional gender roles forming companies dealing with IT, construction, tourism, and sector management. Preliminary findings suggest that while there are country differences, there is a tendency among all owners and managers to incorporate “universal” business practices such as contractual business services, using the merit system to hire and promote employees, and gender-positive attitudes. Friendship and school ties, (often made while in the US and UK) augment and replace traditional kinship ties.

In addition to this research Dr. Spring continues to work on her topic of agricultural development and published Women Farmers and Commercial Ventures: Increasing Food Security in Developing Countries, 2000. - Anita Spring

HIV/AIDS research

"El sida es sinonimo de muerte/" This phrase, "AIDS is a synonym for death," was the first free list response emerging in a brief focused ethnographic study on views of the disease in a Garifuna community along the Honduran coast. I was invited to conduct a qualitative study as part of efforts to inform an educational intervention by Honduran colleagues, and spent a couple of weeks in February interviewing people about their experiences and perceptions of HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS is considered a matter of cultural survival locally. This is not surprising since during the past 15 years, prevalence in Garifuna communities has come to reflect the general trend toward high risk among ethnic communities in Central America and the Caribbean, primarily based on heterosexual transmission. From late 1998 to early 1999, a seroepidemiologic study directed by Dr. Manuel Sierra conducted in four communities, showed that about 9% of the women of reproductive age were HIV positive. Over one-half of the women included in the study had children under five-years and of these, 13% were HIV positive.

The current research involved systematic data collection techniques from cognitive anthropology, now routinely used in medical anthropology studies, as well as some semi-structured interviewing. Of over 70 respondents in the study, all knew someone who had died or suffered from the disease and most had extended family whom had been affected. Despite what can be described as a broad and intense familiarity with HIV/AIDS, the disease continues to carry a great deal of stigma for sufferers and family.

Among the most significant concerns are continuing high potential for transmission based in patterns of labor migration and the growing number of AIDS orphans living in this and other communities. Graduate student Rob Freeman and hopefully others will be developing this project. - Jim Stansbury

Tropical Conservation and Development News

The Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) program was established at UF in the mid 1980s to train students for careers in conservation and development by providing interdisciplinary knowledge and technical skills required to promote the conservation of biodiversity, enhance natural resource management and improve the welfare of rural peoples. In 1999 and 2000, the program received a $4,000,000 endowment from the Ford Foundation and state matching funds. This combined support ensures a secure funding source for students, and allows TCD to focus on expanding additional aspects of the program. The primary goal of the TCD program is to train conservation and development professionals, especially those from Latin American and Caribbean countries, to create and implement innovative policies, institutions and strategies that balance conservation with sustainable livelihood improvement. Another important goal of the TCD program is to promote interdisciplinary research that integrates biological conservation and sustainable rural development in the tropics. Finally, TCD seeks to strengthen and expand a learning network with organizations in Latin America and elsewhere that
have compatible goals and approaches to interdisciplinary training and research.

In order to formally incorporate students from other UF departments, the TCD program is developing an interdisciplinary TCD concentration that will be applicable across disciplines. All students in the concentration program will be required to have a TCD faculty member on their committee and will be required to earn 15 credit hours combining require courses and electives.

The TCD program seeks to prepare students by developing their skills for effective work in conservation and development. The integrated, core courses include formal opportunities for strengthening communication proficiency, providing initial practice sessions for skill development. After exposure in the classroom, students are encouraged to participate in on-campus workshops designed to teach their new skills to others. With backstopping from TCD faculty and staff, students will also have the opportunity to lead sessions in undergraduate and/or graduate classes. More experienced students will participate in larger TCD workshops on campus and in the field.

- Marianne Schmink

**Anthropology at the Florida Museum of Natural History**

A teaching pavilion, public rest rooms, a parking area, and an interpreted walking trail will soon be constructed at the Florida Museum's Randeli Research Center at Pineland. A leadership gift from the Stans Foundation, plus additional funding from the Maple Hill Foundation, Michael Hansinger, and Bill Marquardt has been matched by the State for a total building fund of $282,000. Construction will begin in fall, 2001. In advance of construction, volunteer-assisted excavations began in April and continued with an archaeological field school at Pineland in May and June.

**Liz Wing** will retire at the end of June 2001 and is therefore trying to complete several projects and papers. One is a study of Native American uses of plant and animal resources along the West Indian Island archipelago. **Lee Newsom**, a former graduate of the Anthropology Department, and Wing are teaming up on a book based on the plants and animal remains excavated from West Indian sites. They are addressing such topics as evidence of overexploitation of resources, landscape changes resulting from land clearing and intensive agriculture, introductions of plants and animals and their impact on the island biogeography. Search is underway for a Museum based zooarchaeologist.

**Jerald Milanich** is continuing research on Spanish missions in conjunction with Kenneth Johnson of Thomas College (Georgia). He recently received grants from the Florida Division of Historical Resoruces to support that research and research being carried out by anthropology graduate student **Terrance Weik** who is investigation Abraham's Old Town, a Black Seminole village in central Florida. Milanich continues to work as archaeology volume editor for the Southeast volume of the Smithsonian Institution's Handbook of North American Indians.

**Karen Walker, Donna Ruhl, and Lesley Martin** (Anthropology undergrad) of the Environmental Archaeology Laboratory are studying precolumbian artifacts and archaeobiological remains from the Everglades National Park. Funded by the NPS, their goal is to examine past human-environment relationships as they are archaeologically manifested in the ENP coastal and glades landscapes.

**Bill Keegan** has been conducting research in the Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica. The work has focused on human-environmental interactions during periods of island colonization and on the organization of the Taino chiefdoms. He is currently designing a museum and recreated Taino village for Royal Caribbean Cruise Line’s facilities at Labadee, Haiti.

- Bill Keegan

**Joint Degree Program with Law**

The Anthropology Department's joint Ph.D./J.D. and M.A./J.D. programs with the UF College of Law have attracted world-wide attention with inquiries arriving weekly from Africa, Latin America, Europe and across the U.S. Currently, UF is the only university in the US to offer a joint Ph.D. (Anthropology)-J.D. program. Designed and directed by Prof. Paul Magnarella, the programs have existed for only two years and have two students enrolled and several more either accepted or in the process of applying. Advanced student B.J. Brown has already completed the J.D. and is preparing for his Ph.D. qualifying examination. Carol O’Callaghan has completed the M.A. and is currently working on the J.D.

- Paul Magnarella

**Barriers to Breast Cancer Detection Investigated by Anthropologists**

A 2-year $130,000 grant from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, “Lifting While We Climb: Removing Barriers to Breast Cancer
Treatment for African-American Women” focuses on individual, interpersonal, and structural barriers to early breast cancer detection. Although African-American women have an incidence of breast cancer that is lower than Non-Hispanic White Women, their mortality rate is 25-30% higher. This higher mortality rate is primarily due to a low frequency of screening mammography that can detect early-stage cancers.

A set of videos were developed illustrating good and poor physician/patient verbal and non-verbal communication skills that were used in focus groups with health care providers, African-American women of different educational and income levels, and breast cancers survivors. Written cards and posters are being developed to use as cues to questions and answers that address the concerns of African-American women regarding breast health. In addition to focus groups, 150 women receiving free mammograms are being interviewed about their experiences and approximately 200 lay and healthcare professionals have completed surveys involving all aspects of breast cancer and breast health. Sheila Jeffers, Assistant Professor at Florida A & M University and ABD in Anthropology is the Co-PI and Project Director and Leslie Sue Lieberman, Associate professor of Anthropology and Executive Director of the Center for Research on Women's Health is the P.I. Katie Jemmott and David Fazzino are doctoral students in anthropology and graduate research assistants supported by the grant. - Leslie Lieberman

International Anthropology: study abroad

In June of 2001 the Northern Italy Anthropological Field School entered its third year with a full enrollment of 16 students. Directed by Prof. Paul Magnarella, the field school is devoted to the study of the cultural history and cultural ecology of the coastal city of Venice, the inland city of Trento and the alpine village of Dorf Tirol. During their time in Trento, students observe and study the week-long complex of rituals and ceremonies that the townspeople devote to their patron St.Vigilio, the fourth century bishop credited with Christianizing the area. The townspeople dress in Medieval attire and ceremonially reenact historic events important to their treasured past. The program offers students six credits in anthropology.

The Yucatan Program (directed by Allan Burns and Mark Brenner from Geology) for undergraduates and graduates in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico developed “cyberethnographies” as research and publishing projects during the summer of 2000. Students on the program presented their work at the 2001 annual meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology. See the ethnographies at:

http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/afbums/merida2000/intro.htm

Marvin Harris retires

Marvin Harris, Graduate Research Professor of Anthropology, retired from the University of Florida in April 2000. Marvin had been teaching at UF since 1980 when he arrived from Columbia University where he had spent his earlier academic career.

Marvin, arguably among the two or three most important contemporary anthropological theoreticians in the world, is best known as the originator of cultural materialism. This concept is a theoretical paradigm which, in his words, "is based on the simple premise that human social life is a response to the practical problems of earthly existence" and which has the goal of providing causal explanations for the differences and similarities in cultural behavior among human populations. Marvin wrote or edited eighteen books, which have been translated into fifteen languages ranging from Spanish, French, Italian and Portuguese to Finnish, Hebrew, Chinese, Korean, and Malaysian. In recognition of his academic achievements, Marvin was asked to give the Distinguished Lecture at the 1991 meetings of the American Anthropological Association.

On October 21, 2000 Marvin's retirement was celebrated with reception attended by friends and colleagues. Among the out-of-town celebrants were Lambros Comitas (Professor of Anthropology at Teachers College-Columbia), Marvin's first Ph.D student and another student of Marvin's at Columbia, Conrad Kották, (Chair and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan) and his wife, Betty Wagley Kották, who is the daughter of our late colleague, Graduate Research Professor of Anthropology, Charles Wagley.

Several of Marvin's students sent tributes that were read at the reception where he was presented with a large photo montage of the book jackets of his many volumes published in a variety of languages. The dedication read: "Marvin Harris—A Life of Scholarship"

- Maxine Margolis
National Academy of Science and American Association for the Advancement of Science inducts two faculty.

Dr. Leslie Sue Lieberman was inducted into the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science, joining two other of our faculty, Dr. John Moore and Dr. Michael Moseley. Dr. Lieberman’s contributions to leadership in the state associations for the Advancement of Science, her leadership in scholarship on women’s health and illness, and her mentorship of graduate students were all recognized in her induction. Dr. Michael Moseley was inducted into the National Academy of Science. The academy is one of the most prestigious forms of recognizing the contributions of scientists. Moseley joins only ten other NAS members at the University of Florida. His nomination was based on his very influential work on climate change, disasters, and the development of complexity in the Andes. His models for understanding the archaeology of complex societies are used throughout the world today. At the local level, Mike’s work served as a basis for the new LUECI initiative linking GIS methods with theories in geology (paleoclimate), geography (land use) and anthropology (culture and history) in the College. Congratulations to both Leslie and Mike.

Brian du Toit retires

With 25 books or monographs and 80 articles, Brian M. du Toit is both a prodigious scholar and the world's foremost AFRIKANER researcher. Plentiful grants and awards have supported numerous field investigations in his home continent, in North and South America and in New Guinea. Always working with Africans, and other populations, of all ethnic backgrounds, Dr. du Toit has made seminal contributions to Medical Anthropology, to Urban Anthropology, and to migration studies. Joining the Florida faculty in 1966, he is the University's senior anthropologist. Ever a stalwart instructor, Professor du Toit was a guiding force in developing Anthropology's Doctoral Studies Program and in mentoring the advanced degrees of 30 graduate students who now hold research and teaching positions around the world. Thus, through tireless scholarly and pedagogical contributions our distinguished colleague has furthered maturation of the Department of Anthropology into one of the nation's very best. -Allan Bums

What have you been up to? Please email us kjones@anthro.ufl.edu so we can keep in touch with you and include you in the next newsletter. We are especially interested in doing a feature about the department “in the early days,” so we welcome your anecdotes, old photos, and other information about the department. Thanks to Dr. Connie Mulligan for creating this year's department newsletter.

Anthropology Angels

The following people have generously given to the department this past year:

- Katilleen Barnes
- Sue Boinski
- Christy Brigman
- Allan and Julie Bums
- Nick Ciccotosto
- Ann Cordell
- Polly and Paul Doughty
- Susan and Anthony Falsetti
- David Griffith
- Karen Griffith
- Elizabeth Guillette
- Rosina Hassoun
- Gerald Elessels
- Karen N. Jones
- Lynn Kilgore
- Timothy Kollier
- Elaine Konyha
- Murdo and Shena MacLeod
- Maxine Margolis
- Jerry Milanich
- Rochelle Marrinan
- Michael Moseley
- Connie Mulligan
- Jackson Murphy
- LeeAim Newsom
- A.D. Novak
- Wendy Obenmeyer
- Maurice O'Sullivan Jr.
- Barbara & Elank Purdy
- Joan and Tom Rotlirock
- Kenny Roberts
- Robin Smith
- Janies Stansbury
- Michael Warren
- Barbara Wilkes
- Gebre Yntiso

Sonja and Brian du Toit and their family at Brian’s retirement dinner
Anthropology Department Celebrates Students, Faculty, and Alumni at Steve’s Art on the Avenue, April, 2001

Emilio Benites, graduate student, and his family play Andean music

Anthony and Patricia King

Leslie Lieberman, Susan deFrance, Anita Spring, Michael Heckenberger, Maxine Margolis, Mike Moseley and Sue Boinski

Paul Doughty

Allan Bums and Elizabeth Eddy

Brian du Toit helps new faculty Member John Krigbaum with departmental resources
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