LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Thomas M. Wilson

It is not surprising to hear from me that change is the one constant that characterizes our Department of Anthropology. While some things seem to stay the same, as for example when Andy Merrinether, our director of Graduate Studies, and I heard from assorted deans in a recent meeting that our department was doing an exemplary job in contributing to the dual missions of Harpur College and Binghamton University. It is clear that this is because the department community as a whole continues to change, to create and meet new intellectual, scholarly and academic challenges. It has been because of the spirit and enthusiasm which students, staff and faculty have shown in our joint efforts to learn and teach anthropology that I have been both proud and humbled to represent the department as chair for six years, and why I shall be sad to leave the post at the end of the summer.

The new academic year will usher in other changes that will ensure the continuing excellence of our department, and also offer us new avenues for growth and expansion. Chris Robber will become chair of the department in September, and will hand over the leadership of the Graduate Program in Biomedical Anthropology to Gary James. After six years of service Deborah Elliott will step down as Director of Undergraduate Studies, and I thank her for her long and tireless work on our behalf, but also wish to thank a longstanding member of our department’s undergraduate committee, Rolf Quam, who will begin his new role as DUSS this fall. The department is also lucky that Andy Merrinether has agreed to stay on in a role as Director of Graduate Studies, where he has ably guided us through myriad changes in our graduate curriculum, and through our adoption in recent years of new degree programs and tracks, such as the five year BA/BS-MA/MS program and the expanded Biomedical Masters program and new Public Archaeology MA track (which will have its first students admitted in fall 2015). I would like to thank Andy for his efforts to support all of our graduate education programs and goals, and for his willingness to respond positively to my requests over the years to serve on a host of other ad hoc committees. I also thank Rolf Quam who helped to initiate our website, and led our department efforts to create and disseminate this Department Newsletter. Both website and newsletter were produced in concert with Anne Hull, who as graphics and technical resource expert in our department has added immensely to what we are able to achieve.

The ‘same’ and ‘new’ blend in other aspects of our department. Liz DiGangi has almost singlehandedly revitalized our forensic anthropology program, as may be evidenced in the interest we have received from both high school class visits, undergraduate enrolments, and the spike in applications to do forensic anthropology both within our Masters and in our PhD programs. Our specialisms in historical and in public archaeology have seen the largest intake in new PhD students in archaeology in almost a decade, and as mentioned above the university, as part of its Graduate Growth Initiative, and due to the efforts of Randall McGuire and Nina Versaggi, has approved and funded a new MA in Archaeology in Public Archaeology, the details of which may be found on our web page. This program, which will start in 2015, joins the already funded GGI expansion to our MS in Biomedical Anthropology program, which has seen the university fund new hires in biological anthropology and archaeology.

The department’s programs overall, both at undergraduate and graduate levels, seem to be reaching a wider and more receptive audience. For the fifth year in a row our undergraduate major and minor numbers have increased. Our Undergraduate Anthropology Organization continues to publish a refereed research journal, and many of our BA and BS graduates have moved on to world-class graduate programs, as may be seen in the biographical sketch of Tasfi Rahman which is included in this newsletter. The graduate programs have also seen a steady increase in applications and the take up of offers of admission over the recent years, but no grad student intake has been more remarkable than that of this coming semester, when no less than 40 new graduate students will enter the department. To meet the demands of these expanded programs, the university this past year allowed us to hire Dr. Katherine Wander McLaren, an anthropological epidemiologist who will take up her post as Assistant Professor of Anthropology in January 2015, and we expect two more hires this coming year: an archaeologist to help lead our new MA track in Public Archaeology, and a linguistic anthropologist to contribute both to our four-field approach in archaeology within the department and to support the Harpur College Linguistics Program, which under Douglas Glick’s leadership has grown from 6 majors to over 100.

All of these exciting prospects sadly come tinged with other news. Our good friends, Susan Pollock and Reinhard Binnebeck, have decided to pursue other opportunities and have resigned from the department as of August 2014. This is a mutual choice to the department. The loss to our scholarly profile is amply demonstrated by their contribution to this Newsletter, which sets out in detail their research project in Berlin, and shows some of the direction in their future research. But their departure also gives us pause to reflect all they have done for the department in general and the departmental program in specific. But I will most miss the attention and enthusiasm they showed to their students: Susan and Reinhard were at all times dedicated teachers and mentors, and while we will all miss their erudition and scholarship, we will never be able to replace their contributions as citizen-scholar-teachers.

I would like to close this letter from the chair with my usual call to alumni to use the department as a continuing resource, and to consider ways in which you can maintain your role and contributions to our joint goals. I look forward to welcoming Chris to our department in capable hands, and I thank all of our students, staff and faculty for their role and contributions to our joint efforts.

I wish to offer particular thanks to both Laura Potter and Robin Barron whose oversee conscientious administrative assistant to the chair not only made my job easier but made it more worthwhile and enjoyable. Over the last years in particular I have been immensely impressed with the professional dedication which Laura has shown to all in the department, and my biggest regret is that I must leave her protective umbrella and strike out again, alone and unaided, to the wilds of the second floor of Science 1, to re-inhabit my old office. I know I leave the department in capable hands, and I thank again all of our students, staff and faculty for making my stint as chair so rewarding.
EXPLORING NAZI-PERIOD FORCED LABOUR ARCHAEOLOGY

By Reinhard Bernbeck and Susan Pollock

ARCHAEOLOGY IN AND OF BERLIN

Life in Berlin leads almost unavoidably to everyday encounters with the Nazi past. Embedded in the cobblestones next to many house entrances in our street are little plaques on which are engraved a name, birth date, date of deportation and/or date of people who once lived in that house. Newspaper articles continue to reveal the concealed SS-membership of still living or recently deceased VHS. Debates are waged over appropriate forms of commemoration of victims of Nazi terror. Occasional but widely publicized xenophobic attacks of violence and even murder by Neonzis contribute their own share to keeping the memory of the Nazi past alive.

Although we were reasonably well versed in the history of Tempelhof - the former "Chit Airport" - we were also encountered. Handles of some burial pits, fragmentary bodily remains of the coffins in the ground: in a few cases, it had clearly been done in haste, leaving the coffins in the ground: in a few cases, it had clearly been done in haste, leaving the coffins opened, the contents mixed with broken old concrete slabs.

Preliminary results of the excavations

Our excavations on the northern edge of the airfield revealed four major periods of activities. The first comes in the form of grave pits from the late 19th to early 20th centuries. The northern edge of the airfield was used as the burial ground for family members of the imperial army. A substantial number of these burials were removed in 1938, when Hitler decided to turn Berlin into a new capital to be named "Germania". The airfield was part of this megalomaniac project and was conceptualized as a huge, oval "air stadium". To achieve the desired oval plan, a portion of the cemetery was removed. In our excavations, the high density of burial pits became quite apparent. The exhumations had clearly been done in haste, leaving many of the coffins in the ground in few burial pits, fragmentary bodily remains were also encountered. Handles of some of the coffins were elaborately decorated in art déco style. As a "one way packaging system", the luxurious style of the coffins attests to the status and wealth of the members of the Kaiserreich's military. Other burials had a more general architectural structure and contained zinc coffins with an outer wooden layer. These are graves from WWI.

The second slice of time we identified was that of the Norddeutsche Flughafen or "Chit Airport" in the 1920s. One of the first formalized places in the world to start and land, the airport expanded quickly after an initial small building was constructed in 1924. The hard landscape was transformed in a modern style, saw additions such as hangars, tanks for fuel and emergency buildings for passengers. This was an abode for wealthy Berliners. In WW II, the building's NW corner received a direct hit from a bomb. In the basement, we discovered parts of German fighter planes such as cylinders from motors and a speedometer. For the war, the walkers were razed and the bricks used to repair badly damaged buildings.

Of greater interest to us, given our project goals, were the remains of barracks from two armament businesses, Lufthansa and Weser Flugzeugbau. These corporations had not only large numbers of forced laborers who lived in wooden barracks on the edges part of a country that was still well preserved, since U.S. forces had leveled much of Berlin. Even after the war, however, we discovered some foundations of barracks, as well as wooden walls in the excavations. The metals had been laid. One of the barracks had been hit by a bomb, while the others were mostly shapeless masses of iron, window glass, porcelain and other materials.

Some fragments of cheap jewelry, the latter likely the identification numbers of forced laborers from the Soviet Union. In the same way, we encountered several ends of barracks from the 1920s to the 1930s. We have been able to show that the barracks were 52.5 m long and 12.5 m wide, for an area of ca. 650 sq meter. One such building was planned to accommodate 100 workers, allotting ca. 6 sq meter per person, the size of a small phone cell. We encountered several ends of barracks where the toilets and washrooms had been located. Even though the walls of the buildings were not preserved, a number of finds from the period were present. Water pipes in an adjacent ditch indicate that hot and cold water was available, and there was a basic necessity since workers were handling liquids such as kerosene, motor and lubricating oils, then very flammable materials. Often, the building materials such as "dural", an aluminum alloy that attacks the human body, were used in highly repressive conditions for forced laborers. However, they were extremely well preserved, as was the case for other buildings, such as tuberculosis that might be spread in the Volksgemeinschaft, as they called those Germans who were deemed worthy of being full subjects of the state.

The Nazis wanted to maximally exploit forced workers labor power. This is shown by another element of the camp, the subterranean, zig-zag-shaped air raid shelters. Their 2m high vertical sides were lined with perforated concrete slabs onto which concrete roof elements were set. Several of these installations had been destroyed by bombs and post-war bulldozing of the field. However, in one case we found a large number of small metal plates with numbers on them, likely the identification numbers of forced laborers from the Soviet Union. In the same area, we discovered prayer beads and a few fragments of cheap jewelry, the latter likely indicating that this was a place where women laborers took shelter.

A final period attested by features and objects we encountered during our excavations was the time of the American occupation that began just two months after the end of the war. For reasons of space we do not discuss this further here.

Our excavations pose the challenge of writing a history that integrates both change and continuity. The 12 years of Nazi dominance had greater effects on the field than any other time, despite the short duration. At the same time, the inscriptions of memorialization cannot be seen independently from continuities: Tempelhof was a place of militarism since Prussia's Frederick II, through Nazi times, and into the post-WWII years of American occupation. Tempelhof was and is also a space for leisure. From the writer Theodor Fontane's short stories to the crowds that gathered for the first flights in the 1920s to the Berliners of today who use the field for sports, temporary gardening and grill parties.

Another intriguing element is an ambiguity characteristic of many research. One example is a discrepancy between written documents and archaeological reality, an office delivered cement for the foundations of the barracks, but not all of it was used for that purpose. Instead, some of the foundations that we exposed were set in two clearly separate layers. In the upper one, stones and sand slabs of red concrete had been used to save cement. According to the building plans, Lufthansa used forced laborers to set up the barracks. Two possible scenarios present themselves. Either the camp supervisor siphoned off cement for himself or to sell. If so, the protection of forced laborers against the vagaries of the Air Force was distant indeed for private gains. A completely different scenario is if we assume that it was the forced laborers themselves who were able to redirect the cement and sell it on the black market. In reason, the camp supervisor had a very high value and would have been easy to sell, even if such a transaction would have been an extremely dangerous undertaking for forced laborers. Whichever way we read the discrepancy between documents and archaeological findings, some other reoccurring brutality and injustice of the Nazi system.

All of this has also to be seen in the context of a transition from times when former forced laborers could still be asked directly about their experiences, to one where few to none of these people are left alive. We were fortunate enough to benefit from information provided by four former forced laborers, two from Poland and two from Ukraine, who came to Berlin in 2013 and talked to us about their experiences. These meetings were both moving for us, and something of a burden for our elderly visitors. Three had been in Tempelhof as children, one had even been a 7- to 9-year old forced laborer himself. In their stories, they told us of air raid trauma, of the fear of losing a mother, of hunger and of the lack of basic necessities. While archaeological remains do not reveal these horrors, the flimsy remains of the barracks, the edges of the airfield, compared to the bombastic airport building, give a sense of the cruel inequalities that existed in Germany only 75 years ago.

Archaeology in Tempelhof is always a political statement. Remembering a horrible part of a country's history is an essential necessary process that is rarely pursued. Even though young Germans are faced with the fact that they are "indoctrinated" with the moral imperative of "never forget", it would be extremely risky to succumb to the desires for a less direct confrontation with the Nazi past. We insist that remembering benefits new modes of doing so. One such mode that has barely been explored in Germany's archaelogy.

Work at Tempelhof would not have been possible without the support of the Dr. Karin Wagner, head of the Landesdenkmalamt. We thank all the students and colleagues who contributed their time and energy to this project, particularly Ed Collins, Antonia Davidovic, Jessica Meyer, Beatrix Nordheim, Verena Schwartz, Maria Starmann, and Jan Trevenen.

Remains of a subterranean air raid shelter, the part on the left received a direct hit

Porcelain cup with imprint “Deutsche Lufthansa” from the premises of its forlorn labor camp

Cement foundations of a barracks for Lufthansa forced laborers, made from cement mixed with broken old concrete slabs
**FACULTY NEWS**

This was a busy one for Liz DiGangi, as she settled into Binghamton and the department. In addition to working on several forensic cases for the Broome County, NY, Tompkins County, NY, and Bradford County PA, coroner’s offices along with several graduate and undergraduate students, she began mentoring the scientists working in the forensic anthropology laboratory at the Gandermerie National Institute of Forensic Science and Criminology (INCC) in Algiers, Algeria. She spent three weeks over two visits at their laboratory working on developing the lab and meet goals supporting eventual international accreditation. She is looking forward to future visits and collaboration. She additionally travelled to Medellin, Colombia, where she made plans for data collection on a modern skeletal collection that will involve students during summer 2015.

The Lyme Disease Project, led by Ralph Garruto, has been surveying tick density in the prevalence of Lyme and other tick-borne pathogens in Upstate New York. The research group comprises six teams focused on various aspects of Lyme disease. The field ecology team collects deer ticks from the environment and notes potential variables that may influence tick densities. The field trapping team sets traps to catch the white footed mouse, the primary reservoir for the Lyme disease pathogen. The field behavioral team collects biological data on demography and specific behaviors that may put individuals at risk for coming in contact with ticks. The laboratory team assesses infectivity rates in ticks and mice. The clinical team investigates chronic effects of Lyme disease in post-treatment Lyme disease patients. Finally, the modeling team synthesizes all collected data into a risk model of human behavior in vector-host interaction. They have found in 3 sites ticks infected with the Lyme bacteria in the region.

**In summer 2015, Slobhan Hart was the recipient of a grant from the University’s Center for Learning and Teaching to incorporate Team-Based Learning (TBL) pedagogy into ANTH 260: Archaeology of North American Indians. TBL is a form of collaborative learning that emphasizes applying concepts in tangible ways. In September, Slobhan attended a workshop in Atlanta to learn how to structure and implement an effective TBL module. One aspect of the TBL approach in ANTH 260 was that students undertook a semester-long project researching contemporary art objects from a recent acquisition of the University Art Museum. The objects, mainly ceramics and textiles, were produced by artists in the pueblos of the American Southwest and the northern Mexico town of Mata Ortiz. Students worked collaboratively to research how archaeological materials connected to research on evolutionary factors such as early domestication, human dietary changes, lactose tolerance, zoonotic diseases from livestock, and human/livestock coevolution. Much of the fall semester was devoted to the History of Anthropological Thought entry-level graduate course co-taught with Thomas Wilson. In early November, he was invited to Croatia by the Ministry of Science and Technology to be a member of a small re-accreditation team for the Zagreb Institute for Anthropological Research (IR). The IR is the primary anthropological PhD-training and academic research institute in the country with projects centered on evolutionary medicine. He presented a study describing how a small nation of little over four million people can marshal the resources to study primates in a naturalistic setting and is one of the highlights of the course. On the research front, Rolf coauthored a study published in Science describing and interpreting the large collection of skulls from the site he worked at in Spain, the Sima de los Huesos (Pit of the Bones). These fossils represent ancestors of the Neanderthals and date to around half a million years ago. The results of the study suggest that changes in the teeth, jaw and face were the earliest Neanderthal-like features to appear in the fossil record. In addition, Rolf has a book contract signed with Springer to produce an edited volume, building off of his dissertation research, entitled Primate Hearing and Communication.**

This has been another busy year for Chris Reiber. As part of her ongoing commitment to make physicians aware of the importance of evolution and its implications for modern human bodies and health, she continues her work with the National Evolution Synthesis Center (NESSC)-sponsored working group, “Infusing Medical Education with Evolutionary Thinking,” and is working with that multidisciplinary group to move evolutionary thinking into a place of prominence in medical education, since evolution is the foundational theory that underpins all of biological science. She presented a talk based on this work at the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS) conference in April, where she was also featured as an invited panelist on Evolutionary Medicine. She was honored to be the keynote speaker at The Women’s Fund Annual Breakfast in June, speaking on “Cognitive Research in Women’s Health: Things You Should Know.” Health sciences are blossoming here on campus as well, with the inception of the provost’s Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence (TAE) in Health Sciences. Chris sits on the steering Committee for the Health Sciences TAE, and also continued her work as the Director of the Senior Program in Biomedical Anthropology, which has been highlighted as a recipient of a Graduate Growth Initiative (GGI) award which supports the program in many ways, including several recent hires to the department (Liz DiGangi and Gary James) and another expected hire in Fall 2014. Chris will take up her new role as Chair of The Department of Anthropology in September, 2014.

**Dr. DiGangi, on right, is discussing a case in the anthropology lab of the Gandermerie, Algiers**

**Exhibit at the University Art Museum curated by undergraduates in Slobhan Hart’s ANTH 260, Fall 2013**

**Photo of the Laboratory of Biomedical Anthropology and Neurosciences Lyme Disease Research Team led by Ralph Garruto**

**Richard Pavao Rudan. Michael was most impressed with the quality of research at the Institute and how a small nation of little over four million people can marshal the resources to study primates in a naturalistic setting and is one of the highlights of the course. On the research front, Rolf coauthored a study published in Science describing and interpreting the large collection of skulls from the site he worked at in Spain, the Sima de los Huesos (Pit of the Bones). These fossils represent ancestors of the Neanderthals and date to around half a million years ago. The results of the study suggest that changes in the teeth, jaw and face were the earliest Neanderthal-like features to appear in the fossil record. In addition, Rolf has a book contract signed with Springer to produce an edited volume, building off of his dissertation research, entitled Primate Hearing and Communication.**

**Randall McGuire had an eventful year with lots of traveling in September. He published an article in American Anthropologist that used archaeology to study the impacts of the U.S.-Mexico border wall on the communities of Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora. The National University in Cordoba, Argentina invited him to participate in a Wenner-Gren sponsored project to expand their anthropology program to include the Ph.D. During November of 2013, he and Ruth traveled to Argentina to participate in this program. Randy conducted a graduate seminar in Cordoba with students in the newly established and doctoral program. He was also able to visit two Binghamton University alumni, Felix Acuto in Buenos Aires and Juan Baptista in Rosario. Argentinian colleagues took him to see former torture centers of the 1970s military dictatorship. They explained how archaeology was being used to produce evidence for ongoing trials of the military officers who had directed the centers. He and Ruth spent Spring Break in Spain observing the Holy Week processions in Zarra and Cáceres.**

**Michael A. Little in the Market Plaza in downtown Zagreb**

**Michael A. Little completed a review paper during the summer of 2013 on “Pastoralism” for an online edition of Elsevier’s Encyclopaedia of Human Biology, 3rd Edition, edited by Michael Muehlenbein. The paper focused on evolutionary factors such as early domestication, human dietary changes, lactose tolerance, zoonotic diseases from livestock, and human/livestock coevolution. Much of the fall semester was devoted to the History of Anthropological Thought entry-level graduate course co-taught with Thomas Wilson. In early November, he was invited to Croatia by the Ministry of Science and Technology to be a member of a small re-accreditation team for the Zagreb Institute for Anthropological Research (IR). The IR is the primary anthropological PhD-training and academic research institute in the country with projects centered on evolutionary medicine. He presented a study describing how a small nation of little over four million people can marshal the resources to study primates in a naturalistic setting and is one of the highlights of the course. On the research front, Rolf coauthored a study published in Science describing and interpreting the large collection of skulls from the site he worked at in Spain, the Sima de los Huesos (Pit of the Bones). These fossils represent ancestors of the Neanderthals and date to around half a million years ago. The results of the study suggest that changes in the teeth, jaw and face were the earliest Neanderthal-like features to appear in the fossil record. In addition, Rolf has a book contract signed with Springer to produce an edited volume, building off of his dissertation research, entitled Primate Hearing and Communication.**

**This year past, Rolf Quam has been involved in several activities both in and outside the classroom. In February, Rolf traveled to the Bronx Zoo with his Introduction to the Primates class during the field trip, students collected data on primate behavior and wrote a field report on a particular species of their choice. This provides students with the opportunity to study primates in a naturalistic setting and is one of the highlights of the course. On the research front, Rolf coauthored a study published in Science describing and interpreting the large collection of skulls from the site he worked at in Spain, the Sima de los Huesos (Pit of the Bones). These fossils represent ancestors of the Neanderthals and date to around half a million years ago. The results of the study suggest that changes in the teeth, jaw and face were the earliest Neanderthal-like features to appear in the fossil record. In addition, Rolf has a book contract signed with Springer to produce an edited volume, building off of his dissertation research, entitled Primate Hearing and Communication.**
**Faculty NEWS**

In his second year, Josh Razo continued to serve on department, student, and program committees; gave talks both formal and informal in an informal “brown bag” session. They included: Theodore H. (TJ) Penn, Vasilli Neostotis (SUNY Buffalo), Deborah Reed Danahay (SUNY Buffalo), Philipp Weltzer (CNRS), Alex de Voogt (AMNH), Nancy Ries (CQateg), and Paul Nadasy (Cornell). In the summer of 2013 he went to Bonn, Germany to attend the 2013-2014 Robert Bosch Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTV)—an organization that informs UN climate policy—as part of a research program on climate governance. He presented a paper on this research at the annual meetings in Chicago in 2013, where he also continued to serve as a discussant on a different panel on waste. He has original articles appearing this year in Anthropological Quarterly, on energy politics and the environment in Theory, Culture and Society, on a new bio-semiotic theory of waste. He has original articles appearing this year in Anthropological Quarterly, on energy politics and the environment in Theory, Culture and Society, on a new bio-semiotic theory of waste.

**H. Stephen Straight** stayed busy in his fourth year of retirement. Guest lectures every other month; presentation/tour at professional conferences—one of which he was surprisingly invited to submit for peer-reviewed publication in the conference proceedings; continuing program committee/professional-development assignments in two professional organizations, for one of which—the Linguistic Association of Canada and the United States—he is the 2013-2014 president; over the summer he reviewed some major applications for the Fulbright U.S. Student program; service as a mentor for a pilot research, which has continued the GIS-based study of intervisibility among monumental Chacoan architecture, shrines, and other features across northwest New Mexico and adjacent areas. Ruth is also working on a historical archaeological study of Aztec migrants in nineteenth century Texas. She presented talks on this topic: in Arizona, Austin, and Chicago. In summer 2014, with Biry graduate and undergraduate students, Ruth will begin excavating at the Jacob Biry House in Castroviejo, Texas. She is undertaking the project with the support of the Castro Colonies Heritage Association, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and the Texas Archaeological Society. Ruth’s edited volume, Practicing Materiality, is slated to appear in 2015 and contains chapters contributed by participants in her 2012 graduate seminar, “Materiality and Agency.”

In 2013-2014 Thomas Wilson continued the pilot research, which has been funded by the Dean of Harpur College, in the ethnographic analysis of key Hollywood film sites in rural Ireland. In summer 2013 Tom investigated the making of the film Braveheart in Trim, County Meath, Ireland (although the film is about Scottish nationalism, most of the cast and battle exterior shots were filmed in Ireland). In summer 2014 Tom will return to County Mayo in Ireland, where the worldwide cult favorite The Queen Man was filmed. Tom also looks forward to returning to a full teaching schedule now that he is six years as chair of the Anthropology Department will come to an end this August.

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**NEW RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM**

Binghamton University, led by Professor Nancy Stump, has been awarded a $1.2 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to help sustain its Freshman Research Immersion Program. The program provides 30 first year students (per stream) with an “authentic” research experience. The proposed Molecular and Biomedical Anthropology stream anticipates coming on line during the 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 academic year. D. Andy Merriwether, Ralph M. Garruto and J. Koji Lum are the research faculty mentors for this stream. The proposed stream will emphasize core biological anthropology concepts of molecular evolution, population genetics/genomics, natural selection, and infectious, chronic and complex diseases of anthropological populations globally and is expected to bring in academically outstanding new majors to the Department.

For more information on the Program, see links at the Binghamton University webpage.

*binghamton.edu/tri/*

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**DONATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT**

**July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014**

Our thanks to our recent donors, whose contributions fortify our programs and nourish our unique environment.

- Dr. Uzi Baram – BA ’86
- Dr. Maria-Teresa Bazzichelli – MA ’90
- Dr. Ela Orfão – PhD ’92
- Mrs. Cheryl McGee – BA 93
- Basil Kudrle – BA 94
- Dr. Robert A. Rubenstein – MA ’74 PhD ’76
- Mr. Mitchell Williams – MA ’75 PhD ’76
- Mrs. Mary Ellen Williams – ’76
- Dr. Thomas M. Wilson – BA 97

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**NEW FROM THE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY FACILITY**

The Public Archaeology Facility’s (PAF) staff of 33 archaeologists and support personnel conducted research and excavations on a variety of projects in New York and Pennsylvania during the past year. Excavations included urban basement remains and early 17th century dwellings within the footprint of the proposed Broome County High Technology Incubator (M. O’Donovan, Claire Morel), documentary research and landscape mapping for the Ft. Stanwix/Ontario Battlefield Preservation project (Michael Jacobson), a significant Late Woodland site as well as evidence of the Broome County Poor Farm for the proposed Otsiningo Farmlands Marketplace (Daniel Seib, Laurie Curtin), a series of multicomponent (Late Archaic through Late Woodland) sites in Chenango Forks (Andrea Zlotucha Kozub, Sara Grills and Daniel Seib), and a small prehistoric camp on the Owego Apalachin School District’s reconstruction project, funded by FEMA (Timothy Knapp). As part of PAF’s State Education Department OCC contract, Christopher Hoffman and Cynthia Carrington Carter documented four National Register eligible bridges prior to their replacement, demolition, or remodeling. A new cultural heritage series of PAF projects matured in 2013. The New York State Council for the Humanities awarded a grant to PAF that allowed Maria Pizzello, Michael Jacobson, Lydia Carroll and Nina Versaggi to begin the Little Italy History project on the North side of Endicott and produce a walking tour highlighting interviews with residents and preserved family photographs and movies. Maria O’Donovan and Nina Versaggi inaugurated the downtown Binghamton heritage walking tour that focused on regional archaeological excavations and the prehistory of the region. Both tours continue to be popular programs for students and community members alike.

Over 90 cultural resource management reports were produced from 2013 contracts and grants. Of particular note are the CRM monographs summarizing final phases of research and excavation. Michael Jacobson completed reports on historic sites at the Roselund Gatehouse, Marist College in Poughkeepsie, the Lower Creek Road site in Dryden, and the Fort Stanwix/Ontario Revolutionary War Battlefield Preservation Project. Clare Horn submitted the final report on the historic Nohrthup site in St. Lawrence County. Samuel Rudzie and Laurie Curtin finalized the Chenango Prehistoric Site report, Albany County. Rudzie also completed a monograph on the John Moore Farm Prehistoric Site along the Susquehanna River in the City of Binghamton. Daniel Seib and Sudhakar Devaraj collaborated on the data recovery report on the Prehistoric Parsons Site, Ranburne, Chenango County. Versaggi, Curtin, and Edward Curtin submitted the edited volume, Emerging Approaches to Archaeological Landscape Studies, Essays in Memory of Albert A. Delkin, Jr., to the University of Tennessee Press, and they are awaiting reviews before finalizing. The volume contains twelve papers by eighteen authors, including chapters by each of the editors.

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**Ruth Van Dyke** continues to study visibility on Chaco landscapes and to work toward collaboration with Navajo colleagues. In 2013-14, Ruth gave talks on Chaco and pilgrimage in Santa Fe, Abilene, Texas, and Argentina. Ruth and colleagues have completed a GIS-based study of intervisibility among monumental Chacoan architecture, shrines, and other features across northwest New Mexico and adjacent areas.

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**Excavation of a privy during the Broome County Incubator project**

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**SUN Chancellor Nancy L. Zmijewski and Dr. Garruto**

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**PAF excavation of a storage pit feature at the Otsiningo Market site**

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**Excavations during the Owego Elementary School Reconstruction Project**
Priocilia Bennett, a sociocultural anthropology PhD student advised by Douglas Holmes, has been awarded a Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council for Making the Biotech Body: Technologies, Knowledge, and Markets. She will conduct research this summer in Key West, Florida in collaboration with the Florida Department of Health in Monroe County on developments in insect-borne disease prevention and the politics surrounding the potential release of genetically engineered mosquitoes to combat dengue fever. She will also take part during the spring and fall in two dissertation proposal development workshops in Berkeley, California and Arlington, Virginia.

Kaitlyn Bowser completed her MS in Biomedical Anthropology this year and will be continuing on with her education as a Biocultural Anthropology PhD student in the fall of 2013. Over the summer of 2013, Kaitlyn traveled to Vanuatu with other Biomedical graduate students to complete fieldwork that focused on the intergenerational transmission of obesity, part of the ongoing longitudinal Vanuatu Health Transitions study. During the fall of 2013 and spring of 2014, Kaitlyn entered and proofread the data collected during the summer. In April of 2014, Kaitlyn presented the results of her research on cardiometabolic risk factors collected in Vanuatu during the summer of 2013 at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology in Calgary, Canada. Kaitlyn is also involved with the Biomedical Anthropology and Technology-Portugal has been supporting her research.

After advancing to candidacy in December, James Hundleby returned to the Pacific Northwest to conduct extended fieldwork with the Coast Salish First Nations on how post-9/11 security concerns are impacting expressions of sovereignty, governance, and ethnicity. In 2014 he and his supervisor, Thomas Wilson, received a Wenner Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant to support his research. He also has an article titled “Participatory Action Research and the Whatcom Transportation Authority: A Case Study of a Failed Project” due out in the spring of 2014.

Amanda Roome is a second year Biomedical Anthropology MS student working primarily with Ralph Garruto at the University of New Paltz. Her current research is on the relationship between pottery and power. This work looks at how pottery was propaganda and a means of control in this region. Past work includes drinking and feasting rituals at the site of Ur in Iraq. Broader interests include pottery, political power, structural violence, and economic relations. In the spring she worked with the builder of the Binghamton University Museum to curate her own exhibit using pieces from the museum’s permanent collection. This exhibit was entitled “Have Pottery. Will Travel” and looked at the movements of Lustrous Ware, from their possible origin in Cyprus, throughout the Mediterranean. During the Late Bronze Age there was a flourishing of “international” trade across the Mediterranean. Ceramic vessels were popular trade items and contained precious commodities such as perfumed oils or spices. Vessels similar to those displayed in the exhibit have been found throughout the region.

Michelle Turner, a graduate student studying the archaeology of Chaco and A.D. 750 and its outliers, was a summer intern at the Aztec Ruins National Monument in New Mexico. Working with park archaeologist Lori Reed, she analyzed surface collection ceramics from the unexcavated North Ruin. This research, which will be the basis for her MA thesis, will also help park archaeologists understand the Chacoan past and interpret it for visitors. In addition, Michelle presented a paper entitled “Frontiers Reconsidered at Chimney Rock” at the Sixth Annual American Archaeology’s Annual Meeting, as part of a symposium on “Borders and Frontiers in the Puebloan World.”

Arianna M. Stimpf is a first year anthropology student under the supervision of Kathleen Sterling, working in the Ancient Near East. Her current research is on the relationship between pottery and power. This work looks at how pottery was propaganda and a means of control in this region. Past work includes drinking and feasting rituals at the site of Ur in Iraq. Broader interests include pottery, political power, structural violence, and economic relations. In the spring she worked with the builder of the Binghamton University Museum to curate her own exhibit using pieces from the museum’s permanent collection. This exhibit was entitled “Have Pottery. Will Travel” and looked at the movements of Lustrous Ware, from their possible origin in Cyprus, throughout the Mediterranean. During the Late Bronze Age there was a flourishing of “international” trade across the Mediterranean. Ceramic vessels were popular trade items and contained precious commodities such as perfumed oils or spices. Vessels similar to those displayed in the exhibit have been found throughout the region.

Michelle Turner presented a paper at the “Archaeological and Historical Society invited a Travel Grant to present her paper at this conference.”

In November, 2013, Angela Kristin Vandenberg attended the American Anthropological Association conference in Chicago where she presented a paper based on her master’s thesis fieldwork, entitled “Being a Curious Potential: Collaborating With Muslims On Ethnography and Conversion” on reflexivity and working with proselytizing religious communities. In April 2014, she presented the Thames at the Web conference, where she presented a paper titled “Tweeting Sweden: Complicating the Analysis of the World’s Most Democratic Twitter Account,” analyzing the Curators of Sweden Project and critiquing trends in digital anthropologist. This year, Angela was appointed as the Associate Web Producer of the AAA Committee on the Anthropology of Science, Technology and Computing. Her PhD research, led by Doug Hoey, is focused on the para-ethnographic practices of Swedish programmers and the possibilities that arise from these practices as programmers innovate beyond structured and object-oriented programming paradigms.

Edward Zegarra completed his MA thesis in December, 2013 which analyzed a ceramic vessel use database from the Urin Imperial heartland site of Conchopata. His project produced a registry of vessel shapes that have been re-affirmed and re-classified ceramic vessel functions and associated human behavior patterns. He will be excavating at the Wari capital in the Peruvian Andes over the summer, and plans to continue his investigative work on ceramics. For information regarding his work or a copy of his thesis, please write to ezeagarr1@binghamton.edu Edward is advised by William Isbell.

During the summer of 2013, Yukun (Jacobson) Zeng did one month of fieldwork on the revival of ritual and other reading practices in Wuhan, China. Through analyzing how the practices of reading ancient text are metamorphosed by shaped by specific traditional Chinese values, this study investigated the relationships among ancient text, readers and reading practices under the context of renaissance of traditional Chinese culture. This study resulted in a presentation titled “Reading Ancient Text Alive in China” at the 2013 AAA conference in Chicago. Yukun also presented a methodological reflection paper titled “Performing Foucault in Chinese Anthropology” at the 2013 Graduate Student Conference on East Asia in February. His project produced a registry of vessel shapes that have been re-affirmed and re-classified ceramic vessel functions and associated human behavior patterns. He will be excavating at the Wari capital in the Peruvian Andes over the summer, and plans to continue his investigative work on ceramics. For information regarding his work or a copy of his thesis, please write to ezeagarr1@binghamton.edu Edward is advised by William Isbell.

The Ritual of Ouyan Worship in Wuhan, China

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Many department members have asked about John Walsh, since he was granted indefinite medical leave from the graduate program, and his studies of the archaeology of the Incas and Andean region, in the spring of 2012. John was hospitalized (April 10, 2012) for an aneurism in the brain and moved to Buffalo for an emergency craniotomy when he suffered a brain stroke that resulted in coma.

John’s sister, Jessica, who along with other family members has been assisting John in rehabilitation, writes about the challenges he faces daily:

John was flown back to Seattle two months after his brain surgeries and stroke where he remained in a coma until July. He opened his eyes then, but remained completely paralyzed, unable to speak, and experienced severe breathing problems, having to return to the ICU a couple of times for respiratory failure and a collapsed lung. Though John’s health was very precarious, we realized he could communicate with us using his eyes, looking up for yes and down for no, and eventually we were able to get him to spell words out with his eyes by selecting letters from an alphabet board. After spending a full year in the hospital, he was stable enough to be moved home in April of 2013, where his mother and sister have been caring for him full time. Though he has locked-in syndrome, still has no verbal ability, and relies on constant oxygen, he is paralyzed as an editorial intern for the Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies. He has been able to use a spelling board with John every day to communicate. A few weeks ago, he has been able to use his eye movements to select letters from a board with a head-activated mouse. He has also been able to use his swallowing function or use of his mouth, has slowly been improving this past year while he’s been at home.

Through communication is difficult, he is fully cognitively aware and his memory is completely intact. He is always looking for things to engage his active mind, especially things about Peru. Last year we read aloud Turn Right at Machu Picchu and recently finished a Great Courses lecture series titled Lost Worlds of South America by Professor Edwin Barnhart. John just ordered At The Crossroads of the Earth and the Sky: An Andean Cosmology by Gary Urton to read next. Though John is not able to continue his studies, he has found ways to stay engaged in the world of the Incas and Peru, which he loves so much. We also bought a van to accommodate his wheelchair early this year, and John has been able to enjoy a lot of nature walks—there are a lot of wheelchair-accessible parks in the Seattle area, a few that are along Lake Washington which John particularly enjoys. He is happiest outside and has been spending a lot of time on the deck, as the weather gets nicer. He was also able to go to the Seattle Art Museum’s exhibit earlier this year titled: Peru: Kingdoms of the Sun and the Moon where he was very excited to see many lovely Inca artifacts. As he continues to become more stable, we are able to get him out and about a great deal more.

He has been going to physical therapy and slowly regaining the ability to get some movement back in his head, and his breathing is improving. He is also working with a speech therapist to hopefully find a communication device that he can control with his limited movement, something like what Stephen Hawking uses. He has tried out some that have not worked, but we are continuing to explore other options.

While this has been a difficult time for my family, we are very happy to have John here with us, and he is enjoying life as much as he is able. We are constantly impressed by the positive attitude he exhibits and the effort he puts into his physical therapy; we see him improving in little ways all the time and know that he will continue to do so.

Getting into graduate school at Binghamton was a dream realized for John, and he very much enjoyed the time he was there and all that he learned from you. He had great fun learning how to TA and also really enjoyed getting to know all of the other grad students. He made them sound like a great group of people, appreciated their support as well, and hopes that they are all doing well.

In the meantime, I use a spelling board with John every day to communicate. A few weeks ago, he spelled “email an update to my friends in anthropology.” I had asked him several months ago if he wanted me to email you, but he had hoped to wait until he could email everyone himself. Unfortunately, finding the right assistive technology for John to be able to use a computer has been more challenging than we initially thought, so he just spelled out that he wanted me to email you in the meantime. He was very grateful for everyone’s support and kind thoughts during the beginning of all this terrible ordeal, and wanted me to know how much he appreciated that. He would also love to hear from you about your current activities and anthropological adventures. Please send any messages to jessicaannwalsh@gmail.com.
Fred York, the regional anthropologist for the Pacific West Region, retired on January 31st after 22 years with the National Park Service. Fred received his PhD in anthropology from Binghamton University in 1990. He began his career with the NPS the following year as one of the agency’s first three regional anthropologists. Since that time, he has played a major role in developing the NPS ethnography/anthropology program and ensuring that the agency meets its obligations to park-associated populations, past and present.

Fred came to the NPS as “an old field anthropologist” with a background in cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics. His generalist skill set served him well as he learned to navigate the complex legal and political terrain of tribal consultation and ethnographic resource management.

His first assignment was with a “NAGPRA field anthropologist” with a background in Pacific Northwest ethnographic resource management. He coordinated contracts for the Pacific West Region, retired on March 31, 2013, after which he and a team gathered information on the site from Shoshone descendants of the massacre victims, and his work on the general management plan for Minidoka National Monument from 2002-2005, during which he met with Japanese American groups from Alaska to Southern California to better understand their views of the significance of the monument and to provide a foundation for its effective management. Through these experiences, he gained heightened appreciation for diversity and for the importance of “building relationships with people and communities.”

During his career, Fred maintained a strong insistence on building a professional culture in NPS anthropology and in cultural resource programs as a whole. As he puts it: “There is a role for anthropology and social science in providing service to the NPS to meet its obligations to park-associated populations, and to help present to park visitors aspects of American heritage they wouldn’t otherwise have known about.”

Fred will continue living in Seattle, but plans to move more time with family on the East Coast. He also intends to work on writing projects that draw on his research and NPS experience, including a history of Native Americans in Yosemite and another on tribes in the Great Basin. ■

DEGREES AWARDED 2013-2014

Undergraduate Degree Recipients

- 23 BA Degrees
- 15 BS Degrees
- 19 Minors

PhD Degree Recipients

- Brian Broad, PhD, spring 2014
- John Darcy, PhD, spring 2014
- David Hopwood, PhD, spring 2014
- Nicole Jachternski, PhD, spring 2014
- Marina Weinberg, PhD, fall 2013

MA Degree Recipients

- Claire Brown, MA, fall 2013
- Jiyang Chen, MA, fall 2013
- Katie Drouin, MA, spring 2014
- Andrea Fink, MA, fall 2013
- Muren He, MA, summer 2013
- Laura Johnsien, MA, spring 2014
- Kelsey Martinez, MA, spring 2014
- Jeanette Moreland, MA, summer 2013
- Taber Morerell, MA, fall 2013
- Ashley Peterson, MA, spring 2014
- Melanie Riddle, MA, spring 2014
- Halona Young-Wolfe, MA, fall 2013
- Edward Zegarra, MA, fall 2013

MS Degree Recipients

- Michelle Bongermino-Rose, MS, spring 2014
- Kaitlyn Bower, MS, spring 2014
- Gabriela Cenda, MS, spring 2014
- Jessica Goodsell, MS, spring 2014
- Yan Hao, MS, spring 2014
- Leah Hill, MS, spring 2014
- Celia Grace Mummek, MS, spring 2014
- Sasha Pinto, MS, spring 2014
- Melanie Riddle, MS, spring 2014
- Amanda Roome, MS, spring 2014

OWNEN LYNCH

OWNEN LYNCH, PhD, of New York City passed away peacefully at the age of 82 on April 26, 2013. He was a leading scholar of India who pioneered research on the politics of Dalit communities and on the social construction of emotions. Throughout his career, he integrated academic scholarship with personal dedication to the well-being of the Dalits, sustaining long-term relationships with Dalit communities in India and in the American Diaspora. He particularly focused on the importance of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and on in-depth fieldwork in Agra, significantly advanced understanding of changing caste dynamics in contemporary India. His edited volume, Divine Passions: The Social Construction of Emotion in India (1990) countered conventional ideas about the universality of emotions, reconceptualizing them as being fundamentally culturally constructed. He conducted intensive research among Jatavs in Agra, Potters in Dharam (Mumbai’s largest slum), and Chauka Brahmins in Mathura. Some of his deepest personal connections were with the Jatav, whom he felt had made him a better person.

Owen was known as an outstanding and generous mentor and an exceptionally kind and engaged colleague. He took dozens of graduate students under his wing, and continued his guidance long after many became senior scholars. He was equally intellectually generous with his academic colleagues, and sometimes went to great personal expense to help fund needs in need. He held office and was active in the Society for Urban Anthropology, the New York Academy of Sciences, the Association for Asian Studies, and several other organizations.

With great sadness we report the untimely passing of Katie Brown, a 2010 graduate of the MS program in Biomedical Anthropology. Katie was a gifted young woman who, with a brilliant smile, sunny disposition, and great determination, set out to improve the quality of human life for those less fortunate. Her interest in health was fostered during a trip she took to volunteer at a rural health center in Ghana. Here in Binghamton, she interned at the Southern Tier AIDS Program (STAP). She was a lover of animals, and worked on the Merriwether alpaca farm while in school. Katie was also a martial artist, and taught self-defense classes for women on campus. In 2011, Katie became an Officer in the Binghamton Police Department, where she recently earned a commendation bar for life saving. We mourn her loss, and honor her memory. ■

KATIE BROWN

Indian life and the politics of emancipation led to his recognition as one of the outstanding scholars of South Asia. His work clearly demonstrated his lifelong belief that anthropology could be a force of social action and justice. He was a central figure in shaping both the anthropological community and the South Asianist community in New York City. He was loved and respected by his family, students and colleagues, not only for his professional work but for his generosity of time and spirit, his good humor, and his soft-spoken, wise and fully-engaged presence.

His first book, The Politics of Untouchability: Social Mobility & Social Change in a City of India (1969, republished 1974), based on in-depth fieldwork in Agra, significantly advanced understanding of changing caste dynamics in contemporary India. His edited volume, Divine Passions: The Social Construction of Emotion in India (1990) countered conventional ideas about the universality of emotions, reconceptualizing them as being fundamentally culturally constructed. He conducted intensive research among Jatavs in Agra, Potters in Dharam (Mumbai’s largest slum), and Chauka Brahmins in Mathura. Some of his deepest personal connections were with the Jatav, whom he felt had made him a better person.

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A selection of bottles from the excavations at the Tempelhof airfield in Berlin (See feature on page 4)