Thinking Back and Ahead
Annette B. Weiner, David B. Kriser Professor and Chair

This fall semester marks the beginning of my sixth year as Chair of the Department and it seems an appropriate time for all of us to think about the accomplishments that these years have wrought as the department faces the future with a renewed commitment to dynamic scholarship and teaching. Over the past five years students and faculty have worked together to create a department that is intellectually stimulating and vitally devoted to engaging in research that is in the forefront of our discipline. So many truly distinguished grants, events, awards, publications, conferences and general growth have marked these years that it is impossible to share every event and prize with you. Therefore, what follows is only a brief summary of our most notable achievements over the last five years. In reading through this newsletter, however, I think you will sense the intellectual excitement that permeates the department from the ninth floor physical lab to the windowless, but highly active archaeology lab in the basement.

New Faculty and New Programs: We are delighted to welcome Professor Bambi Schieffelin, the most recent addition to our department who is setting up a much needed and impressive anthropological linguistic program. Through the efforts of Professor Susan Rogers, who has a joint appointment with our department and the Institute for French Studies, NYU has become the center for coordinating interest in European anthropology. We also now have a joint Ph.D. program with the Institute for French Studies as well as a joint Ph.D. program with the History Department, the latter organized by Professor Bert Salwen, in Historical Archaeology. At the moment, we are in the process of establishing a Certificate Program in Ethnographic Film. Professor Faye Ginsburg and I received a Challenge grant from NYU, as well as FAS Dean's support to set up this program. We are most enthusiastic about its potential.

Major Faculty Awards: Over the past years, departmental faculty have received many impressive grants and fellowships that have made us all very proud such as Tom Beidelman's John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, Randy White's NSF grant and summer NEH Fellowship, Cliff Jolly's Harry Guggenheim research grant, Dale Hickey's award of a NEH Fellowship and my own awards of a Wenner-Gren research grant and an NEH Fellowship. Professors Myers, DeRousseau and White each received an NYU Presidential Fellowship. Professor Myers was invited to teach at the Ecole des Hautes Etude en Science Sociale last summer. As you will see from the list of faculty publications below, all these awards as well as many others have led to a splendid publication record.

Graduate Student Awards: Our graduate students have been equally productive. Most recently, Barbara Bianco and Michael Donovan each were awarded Social Science Research Council grants to undertake two separate field studies in East Africa. Since there
were only seven SSRC grants awarded for African studies nationally. NYU did wonderfully well. Over the past few years, we have also seen the following students receive Fulbright grants: Barbara Bickley, Joan Gany and Michael Mbago and were awarded Wenner-Gren grants and Mary Ursula Brennan and Michael Donovan received NSF grants. Our students have been equally successful each year in competing for University doctoral fellowships. In 1985-86, Delores Walters received the Doane Dissertation Fellowship. This past year Diana Rockman was the recipient of the June Freier Esserman Fellowship and Mary Ursula Brennan was awarded the James Arthur Fellowship.

Undergraduates: We now have seventy anthropology majors and our undergraduate enrollments have tripled since 1981. Under the guidance of Professor Jean DeRousseau the undergraduates organized an Anthropology Club that has been extremely active, sponsoring faculty lectures, film series and parties. All in all, our undergraduate program each year continues to increase in numbers of students participating and in enthusiasm for anthropological training.

Conferences: To celebrate the centenanny of Bronislaw Malinowski, the department hosted a two day conference in May, 1985. Over two hundred scholars came to hear a series of lectures by Marshall Sahlin (Chicago), Luc de Heusch (Brussels) and James Clifford (Santa Cruz) with our own T.O. Beidelman and Alfred Gell (LSE) acting as discussants. In October of this year, Randall White organized a two day international conference on Life in Ice Age Europe with papers presented by Fred Smith (Tennessee), Olga Soffer (Illinois), Margaret Conkey (SUNY-Binghamton) as well as the distinguished French scholars Henri Delporte (Musée des Antiquités Nationales) and Denis Vialou (Musée de l'Homme).

Space: We are still located at 25 Waverly Place, but we have greatly expanded. The department now occupies five floors with a beautifully appointed conference room and a film viewing room with its own projection booth. This latter room was named for David B. Kriser, who has made so many important contributions to the department. Even with all of this expansion, however, we are still desperately in need of more space and recently, we even converted a section of the basement into an archaeology lab. We are now trying to find a corner to create a linguistics and audio-visual lab. Professor Randy White's lab recently underwent major renovation, providing him with controlled temperatures, adequate storage and work space. Professors DeRousseau and Jolly successfully competed with other FAS science departments for part of the Chancellor's Scientific Equipment Grant. We were awarded $90,000 to update our most outmoded equipment in the physical anthropology labs.

Donors: As you can see, many of our efforts have been supported by the administration and we have received many critical
budgetary increases as well as new faculty lines from the Dean's office that made possible our growing presence on the campus. Yet in general this is a difficult time in which the overall university philosophy calls for prudence rather than expansion. Mr. David B. Kriser has been our most generous angel, someone to whom we may always turn. Not only does Mr. Kriser make possible annual graduate fellowships in urban anthropology, but over the years he has provided us with many things, such as computer facilities and much needed film equipment, that continue to enhance our research and teaching. Last year he endowed the David B. Kriser Chair in Anthropology and honored me by making me the first recipient. With all this generosity, Mr. Kriser continues to support those things that make possible what would be literally impossible. His most recent gift to our department was the sponsorship of an event that no faculty member will ever forget.

The Faculty Retreat: Mr. Kriser funded a three day faculty retreat that was held in September of this year at the Cliff Park Inn, Milford, PA, located in the Pocono Mountains. Everything conspired to make this a truly memorable trip. The Inn was lovely, the food excellent, the weather splendid, but most of all, the discussions about the role our department should play in the next decade of anthropology moved all of us to take up the issues surrounding the social and political significance of anthropological knowledge in today's wider world. For three days, in intensive group meetings and faculty discussion sessions, we worked on revisions of internal departmental curriculum, the priorities surrounding graduate and undergraduate teaching, the image of our department within the university and within the subfields of anthropology, and the pressing urgency for securing outside development funds. At the base of these particulars, however, a commitment to actively explore the means for a synthesis on certain basic anthropological issues between subdisciplines became a major intellectual mission. This view extends to constructing research and methods and in preparing curricula. We unanimously felt that all four subdisciplines--cultural, physical, linguistic and archaeological anthropology--are integral to our view of what anthropology means in our department and we reaffirmed a commitment to provide the most stimulating intellectual environment for the training of graduate students who, whether ultimately working in business, the professions or in academia, would carry the message of anthropology forward into the coming decades.

The Future: We want to continue to attract the very best students into our graduate program. We know that we have much to offer them intellectually, but as you know, each year it becomes increasingly difficult to live in New York City on the relatively small stipends the university offers. Thus, we are urgently in need of additional financial support for our graduate students. Because of this urgency, with this first newsletter we are launching a campaign to raise money for graduate fellowships. We ask you, as you participated in our past, to participate in this
future goal with us.

The Alumni Graduate Student Fellowship Fund could become the most important assurance we have to compete for the finest students by offering them adequate support. We hope that you are proud to be part of the NYU Anthropology Family and that you will send your contribution for this fund as a way of participating directly in the continued strong development of anthropology at NYU.

ALUMNI OF THE DEPARTMENT

Jane Phillips Conroy (Ph.D. 1978) is Associate Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology at Washington Medical School and Associate Professor of Anthropology at Washington University. Before going to St. Louis, Jane was an Assistant Professor at Harvard and Brown Universities. Since 1982 she has been working with Professor Cliff Jolly in his fieldwork on the AWASH baboons, and finds that her contact with NYU's Department of Anthropology has been very important to her career. Since 1983 she has been the Primary Investigator for an NSF-funded project on genetics and population structure of yellow baboon from Tanzania, and spent two months in Tanzania and two months in Ethiopia between ... John Moore (Ph.D. 1974) is Chair and Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma where he is currently involved in two field projects, the analysis of variation in modern Cheyenne kinship, and the ethnohistory of the Muskogee Creek Tribal Towns. His book, The Cheyenne Nation: A Social and Demographic History has been accepted by the University of Nebraska Press... Trudy R. Turner (Ph.D. 1977) is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. She is continuing work on the genetics of non-human primates, specifically vervets and miths monkeys. Trudy is also working on paternity determination in primates, using recombinant DNA techniques... Margery Fox (Ph.D. 1973) is Associate Professor of Sociology/Anthropology at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She is currently working on the design of a new, all-university core curriculum and is serving as the campus coordinator of this project, too. Margery also has a small in-house grant to research women in the theater for a new book, and is continuing her research on sexual harrassment... Laura Klein (Ph.D. 1975) is Associate Professor and the first chair of the Anthropology Department at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. She helped create a Global Studies major for the University... Pat Shipman (Ph.D. 1977) is in Nairobi and is enjoying her experience there as a part-time Dean. She also writes a popular science column for Discover and "wonders why I spent all those years writing boring academic papers and books"... Chia-ling Kuo (Ph.D. 1975) is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Anthropology at Hunter College. She is
currently conducting a study of somatization among the Chinese population in New York's Chinatown in collaboration with Professor Bendix, who is a linguist in the department. The study is an investigation of the social origins of psychiatric illnesses such as anxiety and depression.

WHAT THE FACULTY ARE DOING

Owen Lynch

Last year was for me a most exciting one. During July and August I returned to Mathura, India where I had spent 1981-82 doing research on pilgrimage and on the Brahman community of Chaubes. Mathura is the birthplace of Lord Krishna and draws pilgrims from all over India. It was wonderful to see old friends again, to show some papers that I had written to informants and listen to their valuable comments and suggestions, and to fill in holes in the data previously collected. I was particularly pleased with the result of the hundreds of prints from my slides that I had sent to the Chaubes. Because I had not forgotten them, they welcomed me as they would one of their own. One of my nieces came for the last two weeks of the trip and we traveled around India together. Seeing India afresh through her eyes was truly refreshing. We also visited my Untouchable friends in Agra, where I had done fieldwork 1962-64. I felt that her presence in India brought my own life to a satisfying closure and integrity; my family in the USA and my adopted family and friends in India had met and come together.

Last year my edited book, "Culture and Community in Europe: Essays in Honor of Conrad M. Arensberg", was published. Arensberg was my advisor at Columbia University and seeing one's guru honored in this way was a great pleasure. I also received a grant to run a very successful conference on "The Anthropology of Feeling, Emotion and Experience in India". This was part of the Festival of India that was celebrated all throughout the USA last year. My own paper, "The Ideal of the Mastram among Mathura's Chaubes", was well received and will appear in the volume of collected conference papers that I shall edit entitled, "Consuming Passions: Emotions and Feelings in India". Another paper, "Pilgrimage with Krishna: Sovereign of the Emotions" was presented at a number of meetings and will appear in the volume, "Crossing the Sacred Fords". Finally, I was very pleased to be elected a member and Chair of the South Asia Council of the Association of Asian Studies.

Fred Myers

Since last visiting the Pintupi briefly in November of 1984, I've mostly been engaged in putting the finishing touches on my
ethnography of them (Pintupi Country, Pintupi Self) which was published in June. With the completion of that book, I have felt free to explore the implications of various aspects of Pintupi life more like the fox than the hedgehog, papers on the meaning of anger, essays on the situation of ethnography in Aboriginal Australia, and on ethnographic film as a form of analysis in the work of the MacDougalls in Australia. I see this as a sort of preparation for beginning another book related to the Pintupi, but this time considering the circumstances of fieldwork in the formulation of the dominant themes I see in Pintupi life. I don't intend this to be anthropological navel-gazing; rather, I am interested in the impact of the altered political relationship between the people we study and us on what we see as of anthropological importance. So this will be a consideration of my subjectivity as a fieldworker as a social fact.

Having spent most of the summer in Paris giving lectures on Aboriginal society to some colleagues at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and trying to learn something of how the French anthropologists might understand the same problems, I am hoping that these discussions will help me to get some distance and perspective on the cultural dimensions of the process of translation that underlies the creation of ethnographies, especially my own. After Paris I went to Britain to spend the month reading and visiting friends until the Fourth International Conference on Hunters and Gatherers in London, September 8-13. Then it was back to NYU for the fall term.

T.O. Beidelman

I am currently interested in writing rather than research. My present projects are three:

1. Revision of a paper on the roles of women missionaries in a late 19th century Protestant mission station in East Africa as this relates to changing views of women in Victorian and Edwardian Britain.

2. Library research and commencement of writing a new book on the relations between gender, age and initiation among the kaguru of East Africa.

3. Preparation of supplementary paper on my views on Swazi divine rule and the relation of these to the broader issues of the study of divine kingship.


Jean DeRousseau
As I finish up the fourth year of a five year longitudinal study of aging in rhesus monkeys, many avenues of the research have begun to bear fruit. Most exciting for me has been the contrasting data on aging in monkeys and humans, which suggests that aging, like development, is coordinated with life span, and part of a species ontogenetic program for survival. The research design of the project, however, comparing caged and free-ranging monkeys, has also emphasized that the program is not rigidly fixed, that environmental influences can modify growth and aging in monkeys as well as in humans. My students, Suzanne Ochoa, Mary Knezevich, and Louise Gorman are currently reworking their Master's theses for publications that will discuss the hormonal and dietary aspects of growth and aging in two study populations at the Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center and at the Caribbean Primate Research Center. I have begun to collect additional comparative data on chimpanzees from the Yerkes Primate Facility, focusing especially on the development of osteoarthritis in the spine as a measure of aging. I will be particularly interested to discover whether aging in chimps is more or less responsive to environmental influences than is aging in monkeys.

Terry Harrison

I am presently working on fossil primates from three different continents (Africa, Europe and Asia), that date from 23 million years to 8 million years ago. My systematic study of the early Miocene primates from East Africa (23 - 16 million years ago) is now completed and will be published shortly. The results of the analysis have served to greatly clarify the evolutionary relationships of these important fossil primates to the living Old World monkeys and apes.

In 1983, I was involved in a paleontological expedition to Maboko Island on Lake Victoria in Kenya. The site, which is about 15 million years old, has yielded an extensive sample of early fossil apes and monkeys, which I am presently studying. Descriptions of this new material will appear in the American Journal of Physical Anthropology later this year, including details of a new genus and species of fossil ape. I am returning to Kenya in June of this year to continue my study of the Maboko primates by attempting to reconstruct the locomotor and dietary behaviors of the six primate species that lived on the island during the Miocene period.

Several fossil primates of similar age have also been recovered recently from the Siwalik Hills of Pakistan. They represent the dental remains of a small, and apparently quite rare, ape, Dionysopithecus shuangouensis, hitherto known only from the Miocene of China. Dr. Raymond Bernor and Dr. Taseer
Hussein of Howard University, who discovered the primate material, have invited me to describe the specimens for publication, and to discuss their implications for understanding the spread of early higher primates out of Africa and into Eurasia.

Over the past year or so, I have been working closely with Dr. Eric Delson at the American Museum of Natural History on the taxonomic and evolutionary relationships of a rather enigmatic fossil primate, *Oreopithecus bambolii*, from Late Miocene deposits in Italy, dated at 8-9 million years. It is a curious primate with an ape-like skeleton and monkey-like teeth, whose status has been of some concern ever since it was first described in 1872. My recent study of *Oreopithecus* (the results of which I presented at the AAPA meetings in Albuquerque in April of last year) have confirmed that it is a rather specialized ape. However, in order to further clarify its relationships, I visited Switzerland in August to examine the extensive collection of undescribed *Oreopithecus* material housed in the Naturhistorisches Museum in Basel and paid a brief visit this Summer to the British Museum of Natural History in London to carry out research on my next major project - a reconstruction of the last common ancestor of the African apes and humans.

Dale Eickelman

I've been active on several related fronts. Together with historians Barbara D. Metcalf (U California, Berkeley), Ira M. Lapidus (U California, Berkeley), and William R. Roff (Columbia), I co-authored a successful proposal to establish a new American Council of Learned Societies/Social Science Research Council Joint Committee for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies. The initial three-year funding is from the Ford Foundation. The committee's aim is to promote interdisciplinary research on the ways in which the practice of Muslim belief systems shapes and is in turn shaped by configurations of power and economic relations in historical and contemporary societies. Among the first projects is a conference on pilgrimage and migration in the Muslim world, held in New York in April 1986, and an international dissertation workshop for advanced graduate students in which one of our department's Ph.D. candidates, Delores Walters, participated. I also completed several papers on changing political perceptions in the Muslim Middle East, and in the summer of 1985 was invited by the Indonesian government to participate and act as rapporteur in a seminar on new trends in Islamic studies.

The project that I initiated on the anthropological study of political intelligence systems also got underway in summer 1985. The overall goal is to study intelligence organizations from the
perspective of the anthropology of knowledge, a topic which I began to explore in my recently published *Knowledge and Power*, and to make political anthropology more central to the study of contemporary state authority. The paper I presented in the American Anthropological Association's Plenary Session, "Anthropology and International Relations", outlined the potential contribution of political anthropology. The theme of political intelligence itself I developed more fully in another paper, "The Study of Intelligence Systems in an Arab Gulf State", to the International Studies Association in late March and to be published early next year. Meanwhile, I am completing my ethnography of the Omani interior in order to turn my full attention to the intelligence and the anthropology of knowledge project.

SUSAN CAROL ROGERS

My current research interest focus on agricultural development in the advanced industrial societies, especially France and the U.S. I have begun work on a book, based on fieldwork in rural France, on the impact of rapid postwar economic growth on French agricultural communities. This study examines the processes by which national and international forces of change are mediated by region-specific social structures and cultural systems. I have also begun to lay the preliminary groundwork for a new project which will be a study of agricultural research and education, seen as a crucial vehicle of directed change. It will be a comparative examination of policy, institutions and processes in the U.S. and France.

I have capitalized on my joint appointment in Anthropology and French Studies to become involved in another kind of project as well: the promotion of Europeanist anthropology, both within the discipline and among Europeanists in other disciplines. I have been active in a group working to organize a Society for the Anthropology of Europe. The new Society is off to a flying start, and should become an official unit of the American Anthropological Association by the end of this calendar year. As a spin-off of this effort, we have been hosting a Europeanist anthropology workshop at NYU since last March. I am also on the steering committee of the Council for European Studies (an interdisciplinary organization), and served as the anthropological presence on their fellowship selection committee this year, a role I will play again on their program committee in 1986-87.

BERT SALWEN

Much of my thought and time, this past year, has been devoted to implementation of our new Doctoral Concentration in History and Historical Archaeology. We feel that this is an important innovation in the study of the American past, through a truly
interdisciplinary application of ideas and methods from the fields of Anthropology and History. Now that we have solved most of the organizational problems, created the first new courses, and chosen our first group of Ph.D. students for admission in the fall, I have been able to devote more attention to substantive archaeological research.

This summer, I expect to complete the final report on the NYU excavations at the Sullivan Street site, just south of Washington Square Park. This is the first major archaeological investigation of New York's first suburban development. The contents of the cisterns and privies uncovered in the 19th century backyards are providing new insights into the changing ways of life of both middle class and working class residents of the locality. These materials are providing data for at least two MA theses (Jean Howson and Deborah Crichton), and a part of a doctoral dissertation (Diana Wall).

In connection with our long-term interest in urban archaeology, exemplified by the Sullivan Street project, we are preparing a proposal to NEH for an "Access" grant, to be used in development of a computerized data base of New York City archaeological information, including annotated bibliographies, site files, maps, and summaries of important data from previously excavated sites in the city. This should be an extremely important research tool for our own students and faculty, as well as for other researchers in this field.

At the fuzzy border between history and prehistory, another doctoral candidate (Toni Silver) has been investigating the Henry Lloyd manor site, in Suffolk County, Long Island. This site contains evidence of Native American use of the locality in prehistoric times, and also appears to contain an important contact period stratum. An NYU field class worked here in the spring, and we expect to continue both field work and analysis through the summer and fall.

I could go on....and on....but you get the idea.

Clifford J. Jolly

Although I spend a good deal of research time working up data from past projects—in primatology, population genetics, paleontology and evolutionary theory—my major current research interest is in a population of baboons living in central Ethiopia. All baboons are interesting field subjects; comparatively easy to watch, with complex and fascinating social interactions, and an ecology and social system that in some ways provide a model for those of early human ancestors. However, our study area is especially exciting since it is the site of a most unusual evolutionary phenomenon—the interbreeding of two populations generally considered separate species. As such, it provides all kinds of natural experiments for investigating the
role of ecology, genetics and behavioral plasticity in the process of species formation. My co-director and I have been investigating the hybrid zone for over fifteen years. We return each summer to Ethiopia, to trap and collect data from the baboons—following their life careers and movements from one social group to another, and using genetic markers, analysed here in the laboratory, to trace relationships. As long as research support is available, we plan to continue this work, taking with us graduate students from the U.S. and Ethiopia, as well as a limited number of volunteers from the general public (who participate through the "Earthwatch" organization) to help in the gathering of data. The next field season is slated for Summer, 1987. In the meantime, I and a team of NYU students are kept busy in the lab, analysing data and blood samples collected in the field. Thanks to a generous grant from NYU's science development fund, we are currently incorporating a new technique of genetic analysis, detection of DNA restriction fragment polymorphism, into our battery of tests.

My publications consist mainly of factual and theoretical papers derived from this and other primatological and paleontological fieldwork, and appear in specialist scientific journals. However, the 4th edition of my introductory text Physical Anthropology and Archaeology, authored jointly with Archeologist Fred Plog, has just appeared.

Annette B. Weiner

Often my work as Chair absorbs all my energy and effort, leaving me little time for more personal intellectual pursuits. But thanks to word processors, an NEH Fellowship, wonderful departmental office staff and a hide-away in Vermont, I have been able to give some attention to my own research. I just completed a monograph on the Trobriands which will be published next year by Holt, Rinehart and Winston in their case studies series. I feel very pleased with this book because it has given me the opportunity to write about Trobriand exchange and kinship in a very accessible way and yet, at the same time, to take an important theoretical position about the relation between individuals and society.

I also have underway a book manuscript on exchange theory, in which I reanalyze kula exchange from a comparative perspective. Last Spring I gave a Mellon Seminar for Visiting Faculty, in which faculty from ten colleges, located along their east coast from Vermont to Pennsylvania, participated. The focus of the seminar which met all day was on "The Gift: An Anthropological Perspective". This highly stimulating forum allowed me the opportunity to try out many of my ideas on exchange.

In addition to my work on Melanesian and Polynesian exchange, I also have been writing on the importance of cloth wealth and cloth production in the evolution of political hierarchy, a view which I hope will displace or elaborate the almost total emphasis
on agricultural production found in the literature. As a result of a Wenner-Gren sponsored conference, titled "Cloth and its role in human experience" organized by Jane Schneider (Graduate Center, CUNY) and myself, Jane and I have coedited a book to be published by the Smithsonian Institution Press, that will illustrate, as one reviewer said, 'how cloth production is implicated in material culture, social organization and such ideological and cultural products as cosmology and people's sense of themselves.' We expect that the book will provide a framework for exposing and understanding the changes and variations in the relationship between cloth and other cultural forms.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY THE FACULTY


Dale Eickelman Knowledge and Power in Morocco: The Education of a Twentieth Century Notable.

Jean DeRousseau Osteoarthritis in Nonhuman Primates. Accepted for publication.


In June, Leslie Eisenberg received her PH.D. and this fall she will be teaching in the Department. Ilsa Halpern, Joseph Diamond and Paul Beelitz received their M.A.'s in June. We also had undergraduates who received their diplomas with majors in anthropology.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
By Hildi Hendrickson

The Association for Graduate Students in Anthropology (AGSA) has enjoyed renewed interest this year from students in all the subdisciplines and has received solid support from the Department. Last semester, the group participated in interviewing for the Department's new Linguistic Anthropologist, held several social events, and surveyed students to pinpoint some of their key concerns. Foremost among these concerns seem to be setting up a student research forum, compiling grant information for student use, contributing to curriculum planning, and increasing student interaction through parties, films and so on.

At present the AGSA officers elected to help address these issues are:

Hilary Cunningham  Liaison to the University Student Government
Hildi Hendrickson  Liaison to the Anthropology Department
Elisha Renne  Treasurer

Through their efforts last summer, AGSA will be entitled to a small amount of University funding per semester and can apply for several hundred additional dollars this year for a special project such as funded lectures or a group publication. One useful project would be a lecture series focused on obtaining grant money, defining and working through a thesis project, carrying out work in the field, and recent student research results. Other suggestions and opinions about possible AGSA projects would be very welcome.

Last year ended on a particularly positive note with the student's end-of-the-year party in May; we had a great turn-out and the Department contributed funds to help buy food and drink. The first student social events for everyone was the Incoming students reception on Thursday, September 25th. Our student organization will be meeting soon; so be prepared to bring your ideas, your concerns...your beer, too. AGSA hopes to make grad school more human, more productive, or at least more fun.

THE UNDERGRADUATES

By Marcia-Anne Dobres

The 4th annual Undergraduate Research Conference was held on April 25th. This interdisciplinary conference was sponsored by the Department of Psychology and provided a forum for the presentation of original undergraduate research.
This year five Anthropology students had papers accepted. They comprised 1/3 of the conference participants.

Lauren Young won 3rd Place Prize for her paper entitled *Understanding Fundamentalism*.
Tina Luce won 5th Place Prize for her paper entitled *Socio-cultural Development and Resource Exploitation in the Upper Paleolithic*.

The conference theme was the inter-relatedness of the subdisciplines of Psychology, Anthropology and Biology in posing questions about human behavior and incorporated our different methodological/theoretical approaches to the same set of questions.

The experience of presenting research in a professional-like atmosphere is an excellent opportunity for developing, as an undergraduate, self-confidence and poise. The "bridging the disciplinary gap" is also an excellent introduction into the interrelatedness of our research.