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Cover image:
"Aborigines Building a House for Missionaries"
Australia, Groote Eylandt (painting on bark)
Musee National des Arts d'Afrique et d'Oceanie, Paris

Above:
Veranda Post (Opo)
Ekiti, Efon-Alaye (wood, ht 45")
from Yoruba Sculpture of West Africa
William Fagg, John Pemberton 3rd, Bryce Holcombe, eds.
The year in which one comes back from Sabbatical to return to full-time duties as Chair of the Department is difficult to forget. It has been an intense period and a lively year, a reminder that very little happens without sustained effort. At the end of such a year, we can look back with some satisfaction — both with the faculty’s accomplishments and those of the students. It is a great pleasure to us all that Steven Gregory was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure, and we all look forward to many years of collaboration. I think I can speak for the whole faculty in expressing the pleasure we feel in discovering yet again that we have such excellent students who share the faculty’s engagement with the field of anthropology. When we are able to share in this enterprise in good faith, the ordinary administrative and funding obstacles seem worth confronting. I know entering a graduate program is a leap of faith — not quite Kierkegaard’s, but significant enough. So I want to congratulate the faculty and students whose hard work has resulted in grants for research and writing. And I want to thank the students for the extraordinarily supportive environment they have helped to build.

I feel fortunate to be heading the Department in these days. Not every Chair can count himself or herself so lucky to have intelligent and committed colleagues. Fewer have been blessed with the kind of support we are receiving from the FAS Administration that has allowed us to have two senior searches this year, one in Sociocultural Anthropology and the other in Archeology. We can regard these positions as expressing confidence in our program. Both of these searches brought excellent people to visit. One has, so far, resulted in a new appointment — in Expressive Culture. We are all very pleased that Dr. Steven Feld has agreed to join the department as a Professor. I know what a significant contribution he can make, both as a professional and as a person. I regard Steve’s appointment as a strong statement to the field of our department’s direction and intellectual profile in the area of communication, cultural poetics, and aesthetics. We now hope that our Archeology search will end up as successfully. Negotiations for that position are still taking place.

New appointments, however, are the manifestation of processes we have already set in motion. We all know what a complex time this is in which to do anthropology. This makes it, also, a moment of reconfiguration. The process of re-thinking the field continues to take place here at NYU in a challenging and fruitful way. It is not a process one expects to come to an end. Indeed, in the next few years, as we keep finding our way with each other, I hope we will play a significant part in the discipline’s development.

Fred Myers
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Fred Myers
THOMAS ABERCROMBIE

Although my fly-by-night association with NYU Anthropology over the past year gave me some pangs of guilt, I managed to translate the resulting free time in New Haven into a productive period. As a fellow at Yale's (or rather, Jim Scott's) Program in Agrarian Studies, I participated in a weekly colloquium/seminar, enjoying the company of other fellows and Yalies, but I also had the luxury of hiding away to focus on my own work. I have been immersed in some carnival and the carnivalesque, never a boring subject matter, while making considerable headway on my new book manuscript, "Indians in and of the urban Bolivian public sphere." In December, another chunk of this project, on the carnival rituals of a guild of mine thieves known as Q'aqchas, was published in a special issue of the *Journal of Latin American Anthropology*.

The luxury of open-ended work time also enabled me to submit another three articles for publication. As a sideline I have also been exploring cases of spouse murder, adultery, public insult to honor, and revenge in a series of colonial-period cases in Peru and Spain, as an entree to the reanalysis of the intersection of gender, social estate, and the so-called "honor and shame complex." I will be spending four weeks in May and June in Paris as an invited professor at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, giving a series of lectures in the seminars of Gilles Riviere and Nathan Wachtel. Following those difficult labors, I will also be travelling to Seville and to the Extremaduran town of Llerena in pursuit of murderous cuckoldoms of the 16th and 17th centuries. Once back in New Haven in late June, I hope to finish off my book on carnival while finalizing plans for my move to the Village, interrupted only by a conference in Quito and perhaps a visit to the festival of San Bartolome in Potosi. I look forward to moving into the NYU and Washington Square milieu full-time in September.

LILA ABU-LUGHOD

I have used my fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation to spend the year abroad doing research and writing. In England last summer, I found myself (rather unexpectedly) editing a book on feminism and modernity in the Middle East. In the introduction I tried to work out the significance of some of the developments in postcolonial theory for our understanding of efforts in the Middle East to remake women. The crucial period was the turn of the century, but I also tried to think through the significance of contemporary Islamist projects for women. This book, to be published by Princeton University Press, in many ways grew out of my course, "Gender Politics in the Muslim World," and even includes an article by a graduate student who took the class.

I spent from October to May in Egypt, dividing my time between a village in the south and the ever more sprawling and crowded city of Cairo (where there was nevertheless a strong NYU presence, including two graduate students from the department, Jessica Winegar and Elizabeth Smith). I was doing fieldwork of a variety of sorts, trying to get a handle on the cultural politics of local television soap operas. I finished two articles on this work, both of which focused on my rural research (I find rural Egypt irresistible). One called "The Interpretation of Culture(s) After Television" will appear this summer.
in a special issue of *Representations* dedicated to Clifford Geertz. The other on state culture (television and education) and village lives in rural Upper Egypt I presented at an extraordinary conference in Aswan (Egypt) that brought together more than twenty scholars who had done recent fieldwork in rural Egypt.

In Cairo I have been taping and watching television serials, interviewing domestic servants, television writers, directors, and some stars, going to public seminars on television serials, and even watching rehearsals. I decided that it must be time to leave when someone from the *Radio and Television Magazine* said she wanted to interview me and that she would include a photo. Immediately I had fantasies of putting on lots of makeup, a glittery gown, and having a photographer pose me, like the stars of the small screen I read about each week. All she wanted was a snapshot.

It has been instructive to see how someone with a history and commitments to particular projects cannot just disappear into fieldwork, as I did in the past. For example, I ended up participating in an Arab regional Gender/Women’s Studies Conference organized by the American University in Cairo where I learned about the variety of women’s studies programs in Palestine, Yemen, Tunisia and Lebanon—which linked up well with my interests in internationalizing women’s studies at NYU. On the other hand, I’ve made several trips back to visit my old friends in the Awdad ‘Ali Bedouin community I have written about. I took them the Arabic translation of *Veiled Sentiments*. They were proud, but also disturbed in various ways by the book—some for the politics it reveals in relation to the Egyptian state, and others because of the frankness about women’s lives. I have been forced to try to explain its intent and significance—something that has brought home to me even more strongly the incommensurability of audiences for our anthropological work. This is a dilemma I think I will deal with more successfully in my current work on television since so many of the readers of this work (when translated into Arabic) would be people with the same concerns and the book will enter into ongoing debates within Egypt and the Arab world.

**T. O. BEIDELMAN**

T. O. Beidelman spent the semester teaching. He also continued his fieldwork studying landmarking in Manhattan. He published an article on African art and his new book, *The Cool Knife* (Smithsonian Press) appeared in August.

**KAREN BLU**

At the American Anthropological Association meetings last Fall in San Francisco, a session that I had organized at the invitation of the Program Committee brought together researchers from the U.S. and Canada to consider ways in which the study of Native North American peoples has been intertwined with the development of the discipline of anthropology, each influencing the other in sometimes unexpected ways. The papers we presented there are now in the process of being reworked for future publication. At those same meetings I had a chance to see in the book exhibits some freshly minted copies of *Senses of Place*, edited by Feld and Basso, in which my article on homeplace and community among Lumbees appeared. Earlier, in September, I was invited to attend an international conference on tourism and cultural heritage in Yogyakarta, Java, which provided good comparative material for thinking about tourism and its impact on homeplaces and communities in Native North America. During the rest of the year, I have continued work on a long term research project on the process of gaining federal status by contempo-
rarny North American Indian peoples, one complicated by the economic possibilities such as status raises (such as the development of local gambling industries). I have also followed a second line of research related only by its location in the U.S.: a comparison of the continuation of pottery and tailoring work by native born practitioners. I want to understand why potters seem to be thriving, numerically, relatively to tailors, who are dwindling in number. At least some of the answers seem to lie in ideas about authenticity as well as in the details of consumer and producer relations. These concerns frame my summer plans.

PAM CRABTREE.

I am stunned that the academic year flew by so fast!! I taught Human Ecology in the MAP social science program for the first time this year. My T.A.'s were Laurie Tedesco and Julie Zimmermann Holt. It was a learning experience for all of us, and I look forward to teaching the course again. We had a wonderfully diverse class of about 85 students, and I think that we recruited a few new anthropology majors and minors. In the spring term I also taught Medieval Archaeology, I am really pleased that the student interest in medieval archaeology is growing, since this is one of my major areas of interest.

I will be on leave during the 1997-98 academic year, and I hope to use the time to catch up on a number of projects. In particular, I will be beginning a five-year program of excavation and research in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The goal of the project is to identify and interpret French and Indian War forts and other contemporary sites in the park area. The first season of survey and excavation will take place in 1998.

On the personal side, my three sons are growing up too fast. My older sons will enter Middle School in September, and my youngest son starts kindergarten this fall!!! I am not sure that the Hopewell Valley Regional public school system is quite ready for Robby. I am still a member of the Hopewell Valley Regional Board of Education, but my term expires in April. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

TODD DISOTELL

I have had two articles published in the last year, with several more in review or about to be submitted, and am awaiting proofs of a book chapter. I am writing several articles with both graduate and undergraduate co-authors and am spending an increasing amount of time analyzing the results of the flood of data that are beginning to pour forth from our laboratory. We have just added, with external support from the National Science Foundation, two automated DNA analysis systems to the lab which can perform DNA sequencing and genotyping. Our lab is continuing to collaborate with Dr. David Schwartz's lab in the Chemistry department on applying the optical mapping technique to population genetic and molecular anthropological approaches to genomic analysis. Most importantly, I will be involved in a study of glider aerodynamics and the construction and running of several railroads along with moving many dump truck loads of sand back and forth in the back yard with my two sons, Rick and Sam, throughout the summer.

I have been relatively busy giving several lectures at various colleges and teaching seminars for high school and college instructors on the biological aspects of human variation. I am continuing to develop computer-based teaching materials in our multimedia teaching laboratory in which I am in the midst of upgrading the hardware.

My research centers around the evolution of Old World monkeys along with side interests in other aspects of primate (of which humans are just one species) evolutionary history. This involves searching for genetic loci that may provide clues about evolutionary relationships and the processes of speciation among different groups of monkeys. Along with several undergraduates and graduate
students, we are sequencing a variety of the co-receptor genes of the SIV/HIV virus complex. I am in the third year of a five year NSF CAREER grant which provides me support for these activities and in the first year of new funding for work with Dr. Cliff Jolly and researchers from Washington University on a genetic survey of a baboon hybrid zone in Ethiopia.

I am an active participant in NYCEP (New York Consortium in Evolutionary Primatology) which links the anthropology and primate faculty and researchers at NYU, CUNY, Columbia University, the American Museum of Natural History, and Wildlife Conservation International (da Bronx Zoo). I jointly teach a NYCEP course in genetics and human biology with other consortium professors which is taken by graduate students from all three universities. My other teaching involves courses in Human Variation, Primate Molecular Evolution, Molecular Anthropological Laboratory Techniques, Methods of Phylogenetic Analysis, and Human Evolution and Prehistory.

BARRY DORNFELD

It took me until the end of this year to finish my book manuscript Producing Public Television, Producing Public Culture, which, after copy editing this Summer, will be released by Princeton University Press next Spring. Earlier this Spring, I completed work on a documentary entitled Plenty of Good Women Dancers: African-American Women Hoofers in Philadelphia. This 50-minute videotape looks at the lives and performance artistry of a group of mostly-retired black women located in Philadelphia, who had extensive careers as dancers traveling through the Eastern part of the U.S. The documentary, a coproduction with the Philadelphia Folklore Project, integrates interviews with these artists with both footage from a revival show they recently staged in Philadelphia and historical footage of accomplished female tap dancers, exploring the hidden history of this art form. We screened a preliminary version of Plenty of Good Women Dancers for several audiences, including the Society for Ethnomusicology’s meetings in Toronto in October and the Media and History Lunch Seminar at NYU, before going into the final edit. The documentary opened at The Clef Club in Philadelphia in February and will be going into distribution this year.

I look forward to beginning a few new projects this summer, including a study of commercial radio and cultural identity and a follow-up to a videotape produced with the Museum of the Chinese in the Americas called “Fly to Freedom: The Art of the Golden Venture Refugees.” We hope to update the piece accompanying the museum’s exhibit by illustrating the lives of their refugees, who were granted their freedom by President Clinton, as they settle into life in the U.S.

FAYE GINSBURG

I am continuing research and writing in several directions. First, with the support of a MacArthur Fellowship, I am completing a book entitled Mediating Culture, which looks at the positive challenges posed by the development, circulation, and multiple meanings of indigenous media to the field of visual anthropology, and the globalization of cultural processes. I have been fortunate, with the help of funding from the UN Environmental Programme, that several indigenous producers — most recently Dean Bear Claw (Crow), Sandy Osawa (Makah), and Loretta Todd (Metis/Cree) — have been in residence over the past few years at the Center for Media, Culture and History (see below). Through seminars, colloquia, and Talking Circles, their work and ideas were more directly available for students at NYU and fellow travelers in New York City.
I will be in Australia in the summer of 1997 to do some final research with a number of Aboriginal producers I have been working with since 1988 when I began this project, and to present a paper at an international conference on Indigenous Cultures in an Interconnected World in Darwin, Australia. To give more visibility to this work in American anthropology, I co-organized a AAA session (invited by the Society for Visual Anthropology) with my colleague Harald Prins entitled Beyond Representation: Visual Anthropology and the Fourth World, where I presented a paper entitled “Cultural Activism, Worldly Intervention, and Indigenous Media.” I also gave invited lectures on this research for the series “Lieux et non-Lieux: “Observatoire” de la contemporanéité” at the Université de Montréal, Departments of Comparative Literature and Anthropology; and at The Humanities Institute, SUNY Stonybrook.


My new research, which I will begin during my upcoming sabbatical (1997-98), will be investigating disability and public space in the U.S.

STEVEN GREGORY

This past academic year has been a challenging and productive one. I completed the final revisions of my book, Black Corona, which will be published next spring by Princeton University Press. The book is the culmination of four years of ethnographic research examining the relationship between political identity, urban space, and memory among African-American activists in Queens County, NY. In November, I presented some of my research on black class formation at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Society at a session which I organized with Sherry Ortner, entitled “Class: Politics, Culture, Consciousness.” This summer I will explore some of these same research issues in Trinidad & Tobago when I conduct preliminary research.

Next year, I will serve as a faculty fellow at NYU’s newly formed International Center for Advanced Studies. The center will convene an international and interdisciplinary group of urban scholars to explore the theme of the “divided city” in global perspective. Building on my preliminary research in Trinidad & Tobago this summer, I will develop a larger project which will investigate how transnational movements of people, capital, and cultural forms between the Caribbean and the U.S.
TERRY HARRISON

This year I have continued my active involvement in four major research areas: the Paleobiology and evolutionary history of the hominoids, the impact of prehistoric humans on the ecology of Borneo, the search for the earliest human ancestors in East Africa, and the exploration of Eocene fossil sites in Tanzania.

My recent research into hominoid evolution has mainly concentrated on the systematics of Miocene apes from Eurasia and Africa. This year I have co-authored a major review of fossil hominoids from Eurasia, and published a paper on *Oreopithecus* from Italy. Additionally, I have almost completed my joint study, with Dr. Gu Yumin (Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Beijing), of a collection of undescribed fossil primates from eastern China. The material is of importance because it contains two species of primates (*Dionysopithecus shuangouensis* and *Platodontopithecus jianghuianus*) that are the earliest known catarrhines from Eurasia, and these help to explain several key problems concerning catarrhine paleozoogeography. This summer I intend to spend several weeks at the National Museums of Kenya in Nairobi studying the wonderfully complete fossil remains of *Proconsul*, a form widely regarded as a basal hominoid. The aim is to critically re-examine the current perception of its phylogenetic relationships and its taxonomy.

I also have a paper in press on zooarchaeological materials from a late Pleistocene cave site in Sabah in East Malaysia, in collaboration with Dr. Peter Bellwood (Australian National University). Remains from the site include human burials, as well as numerous bones and teeth of several species of monkeys, orang-utans and gibbons. The results have provided some interesting insights into human hunting and butchering practices among prehistoric humans, as well as faunal changes in Borneo during the late Pleistocene. This research relates to a larger collaborative project with John Krigbaum that aims to investigate the impact of global and regional climatic change, island biogeography, and human subsistence activities on the mammalian community of Borneo over the past 40,000 years. Spin-off projects include attempts to explain why monkeys and apes on the island became diminished in size during the Pleistocene, and what ecological factors contributed to the extinction of elephants and other large mammals.

Last summer I returned to East Africa as director of the 4th paleoanthropological expedition to the Manonga Valley in north-central Tanzania. The international research team included colleagues from Canada, Great Britain, Tanzania and the U.S.A., as well as four of our graduate students, Becky Dudzik, Avelin Malyango, Chris Robinson, and Leanhane Sarlo. The Manonga Valley exposes sediments laid down in a paleolake basin that have yielded abundant fossils of extinct mammals dating back to more than 5 million years ago. The aim of the expedition was to recover the remains of the earliest hominids, and to learn more about their paleoecology and biogeography. My edited volume on the geology and paleontology of the Manonga Valley was published by Plenum Press in May 1997.

During our visit last summer, we stumbled across a unique archaeological site. It is one of only a handful of Pastoral Neolithic sites in East Africa at which the remains of both domesticated livestock and hunted wild mammals are found together. Even more remarkable, however, is that the pastoralist community that lived at the site exploited giant African land snails as an important food source. Ecological data suggest that pastoralists in this area may have had severe difficulties in maintaining viable
herds because of the high incidence of tsetse flies, which are important vectors of bovine trypanosomiasis or nagana, and, as a consequence, had to resort to the exploitation of a wider range of resources. A paper describing the results of this research is currently in press.

In addition, the expedition began work at an Eocene site called Mahenge, which is located about 100 km to the southeast of the Manonga Valley. This site is of particular scientific importance because the fossils are remarkably well-preserved, and because fossils of this age (about 50-53 million years old) are almost entirely unknown from sub-Saharan Africa. As such, paleontological research at Mahenge provides a unique glimpse into the evolutionary history, paleoecology and biogeography of this region during the early Tertiary. The preliminary results of this project have generated considerable interest, and I have been invited to give a paper at a special symposium at the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology meetings in Salt Lake City, dedicated to discussing sites with extraordinary preservation.

Apart from my research activities, a good deal of my time is taken up with my responsibilities as editor of The Journal of Human Evolution, which is the leading journal in the field of primate and human evolution.

CLIFFORD JOLLY

During 1996-97, my research group continued to work in the general field of primate evolution, especially at the infra- or perispecific levels. Populations of baboons and vervet monkeys living in central Ethiopia were the principal subjects. The baboons belong to two distinct but naturally hybridizing populations, and exemplify many of the problems surrounding the process of speciation and the concept of species. We employ a multi-disciplinary approach, in which behavioral, bio-medical and especially, genetic approaches are integrated. During 1997, 1998 and 1999, substantial support from NSF will permit us to trap, sample, and release baboons from a whole transect across the species/subspecies boundary, and thus derive a clearer picture of the dynamics of this unusual natural model. The vervet monkeys are of interest as models of small-scale demographic and genetic systems, and also as carriers of a version of the SIV, or simian AIDS-type virus, which is almost ubiquitous but apparently non-pathogenic to them. By analyzing the population dynamics and genetic structure of these populations of non-human primates, which, though complex, are far less so than those humans, we hope to throw light upon the evolutionary processes that have affected the history of our own species.

OWEN LYNCH

This year has been a busy one for me. An article entitled Contesting and Contested Identities: the Chaubes of Mathura” was finally published in the volume Narratives of Agency, as well as a short piece entitled “Urban Anthropology: An Agenda for the End of the Millennium” in the Anthropology Newsletter. Among the talks I gave this year one was in Chicago to Indian professionals resident in the USA. The organizer asked me to say something in Hindi and I obliged by telling a story entitled “Ek Bevakuf American” (“A naive, foolish American”). As soon as I announced the title, the audience was in stitches, despite my broken Hindi. It was about a field experience in which I was given an unknown drink, bhang (a cold drink containing marijuana), and how it led me to fear that I was suffering brain damage. It was pleasing to see my Hindi good enough to make people laugh, but also to see them then dig into their pockets to support the cause for which the conference was organized.

I was very busy as Program Chair for the Society of Urban Anthropology’s sections during the 1996 AAA meetings. We sponsored eleven sections, one of which I personally organized entitled, “The City as Contested Nation(s).” The papers in that session were exciting and I expect will soon be published. At that meeting, I also took over as President of the Society for Urban Anthropology and have been busy trying to refocus it and entice urbanists to join.
us!! I have also been on the Executive Board of the AAA which is in the process of developing a plan to reorganize. I've enjoyed representing you all in trying to influence its future and ours in it.

Just before this issue went to press I learned that Joe Mungoli received an NSF dissertation research grant and that Yumi Ota received a Phi Beta Kappa and the Borgman Prize for best undergraduate Honors thesis in the Social Sciences. You can imagine how great that makes a teacher feel to see students do so well under his guidance.

I also had the privilege to be a commentator at a N.Y. Academy of Sciences session, "Anthropologists in Praxis and Politics: Non-Academic Settings." The presenters at the session were almost entirely NYU Ph.D. graduates who work in applied settings. They focused on why and how, as anthropologists, they (Linda Basch, Susan Buchanan, Anne Marie Cantwell, Mary Ann Castle, Wendy Demegret, Joel Klein, and Anita Schwartz) have made a difference in ways that have helped others. All NYU graduates would have been proud to see how the presenters represented the quality and effectiveness of the NYU degree. We owe Linda, Mary Ann and Anita a great debt for organizing the session and putting NYU graduates on the map.

ROBERT MOORE

A bit worn-out but still exhilarated would probably be the fairest and most accurate way to describe the state in which I find myself at the end of my first year in NYU's Anthropology Department. The shift—from the mossy tranquility of life at a small college in the Pacific Northwest to the sensorial and logistical challenges of life at a big urban university in the Capitol of the World—has been a major one; fortunately, there isn’t enough time to complete the process gracefully.

I'm currently involved with two separate book-publishing ventures. My Ph.D. dissertation manuscript, together with a detailed plan of revisions, is currently under review at Cambridge University Press for possible inclusion in their book series on "The Social and Cultural Foundations of Language" (earlier contributions to which include Bambi Schieffelin's The Give and Take of Everyday Life [1990]). The book, envisioned as a monograph-length study of the linguistic culture of an Indian reservation in the Pacific Northwest, tells a story that is both intensely local—anchored in the particular history of people descended from the salmon-fishing Chinook Indians of the Columbia River (Washington-Oregon)—and broadly American, as contemporary people (artists, and others) who are involved in the revival and resuscitation of obsolescent linguistic and cultural traditions seek to fashion an identity, and a cultural "pedigree," that will establish for them a definite "place" in a regional and national culture of ethnic "pluralism."

Meanwhile, a detailed plan for an anthropological "reader" of pieces on North American Indians—made up mainly of (abridgments of) journal articles and excerpts from books—is currently being reviewed by several publishers; this is a collaborative project, undertaken with Robert Brightman, a former colleague at Reed College, as co-editor. Designed with upper-level undergraduate and graduate-level Anthropology course offerings in mind, the proposed volume presents older "classic" pieces by the likes of Boas, Lowie, Kroeber, et al., together with recent work informed by current theoretical debates, including many pieces by Native American authors, with editorial prose of various sorts serving as "connective tissue" bridging major sections and contextualizing many of the older pieces in terms of the anthropological discourses of yesteryear out of which they emerged.

I especially look forward to two collaborative teaching projects during the coming academic year: Bambi Schieffelin and I are already at work developing a jointly-taught course on "Identity in Language" that tries to organize a now-voluminous literature on the centrality of linguistic practices to a wide range of identities that are seemingly avail-
able for people to "inhabit," especially in a complex society like our own--to see, for instance, how the analysis of speech can help to illuminate the principles according to which people are categorized, by gender, age, "race" and ethnicity, nationality, and so on; meanwhile, Karen Blu and I are at work devising an undergraduate course on "Native Peoples of North America" that will introduce students to the history and cultural diversity of the continent, and give them an idea of what's involved in developing a distinctively anthropological perspective on the range and variety of human institutions and activities.

FRED MYERS

After a year of sabbatical leave, I returned to the department last Fall with my project on the circulation of Aboriginal acrylic painting much closer to completion. It has been a happy return, and teaching the core courses in Social Anthropology and Art and Society was genuinely stimulating. This research project is a transition from my earlier work on Aboriginal sociality, personhood, and spatial organization towards a concern with intercultural formations. Through working on this specific case, I am concerned with the way material culture--and the category of "fine art" within that framework--circulates and operates in such formations. Indeed, my theoretical focus has come to be on the way circulation involves distinctive discursive institutions. One of the attractions of the work on these topics has been the way it provides a basis for more constructive engagement with students and their interests.

This has been great for me and I hope as productive for students. I particularly want to thank them for their critical engagement with the field and their enthusiasm. Last year, I completed a paper on the complex historical movement of acrylic paintings into the art market and Australian national identity that is the centerpiece of this analysis of how Aboriginal paintings became "fine art." This paper, entitled "Framing Aboriginal Art," was part of an Advanced Seminar on Material Culture at the School of American Research organized by Annette Weiner and me last November. The five-day conference in Santa Fe included participation and contributions from Nicholas Thomas, Chris Steiner, Danny Miller, Claudio Lomnitz, Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Ivan Karp, Webb Keane, and Annie Coombes. I expect to edit a volume from the conference, tentatively entitled Regimes of Value: Material Culture and Modernity. The seminar was extraordinarily intense and productive. My appreciation for the way these colleagues think and work is dramatically changed. Since Annette was unable to attend, Barbara and I have been interviewing her with the plan that this interview be included in the volume. Work on that volume should occupy this summer.

The research with Aboriginal art has opened many new spaces of discussion. I am quite excited to be giving a paper in the inaugural conference of the Otsego Institute for Native American Art History in June. My contribution represents part of the study of non-western arts in other fields, but this is a great opportunity to consolidate the intersections that have been developing between art historians and anthropologists working with indigenous people's cultural forms. The paper I have written is "From Ethnoaesthetics to Art History: Circulation, Institutions, and Fine Art."

Work on art and material culture has occupied most of my intellectual attention, but I have tried to continue work in other areas. I was invited to give a lecture in March at Linacre College, Oxford, on "culture and the environment." The lecture--"Ways of Placemaking"--will be published as part of a volume of invited lectures on this theme. By great coincidence, Deborah Elliston--who was writing her dissertation on Tahiti--was working on a chapter on "place" at the same time.

It looks to be a busy summer, then. I've begun it by revising a paper I wrote last year, called "The Traffic in Culture: On Knowing Pintupi Painting." The
paper looks back over my fieldnotes to consider the way in which my own anthropological knowledge of Aboriginal acrylic painting was produced. I am very interested in the effects on knowledge deriving from the tenor of social relations among participants within the "field" in which these paintings circulated. The paper is to be published as part of a volume called "The Impossible Object of Exchange," but I expect it to be the first chapter eventually of my own monograph.

SUSAN ROGERS

I am writing this from the depths of the French countryside, where I have been spending my sabbatical leave beginning a fieldwork project on rural tourism. In February, I settled into a small town (population 1,000) in the Limousin region of central France. This very rural region is known for the red Limousin beef cattle raised here, the porcelain produced in its one major city (Limoges), and the stone masons who have migrated for generations out of the area to build cities all over France. It also has a very long history of left-wing politics, and remains one of the few regions in France where that tradition persists. (As they like to say, even the cows are red here!)

Rural tourism has been strongly promoted here, as in many other regions of France, as a way of diversifying an increasingly fragile agricultural economy and of stemming the depopulation of the countryside. Its plausibility rests on the attraction to many urban French people (as well as other Northern Europeans) of a certain idea of rural life—one that makes a place like this seem a good vacation spot. I am aiming to address both the economic development and the cultural imagery dimensions of this kind of tourism.

So I have been spending my time circulating around a three-county area of lovely hilly countryside, with lots of woods, streams, lakes, winding country roads, and little hamlets of ancient stone farm buildings. I have gotten to know most of the people in the area who run bed and breakfasts, do direct mar-

teting of farm products, or provide other kinds of services or attractions to tourists (e.g., the Englishman who has set up an insect museum as a way to get people to come buy the honey he produces on his remote farm). I have also gotten to know many of the tourism "professionals" in the area: the people who run the tourist offices, and those who administer the myriad tourism and local development programs funded by the European Union, the French state, and various other public entities. In the process, I have been developing ways to be in contact with the tourists who come here during the summer season.

I have been delighted to rediscover the challenges and satisfactions of fieldwork and of rural France that drew me to this profession to begin with. I find it as wonderful as I did twenty-five years ago to discover a way of life quite different from my own, and just as satisfying to become familiar with and familiar to a setting in which it would seem that I do not belong at all. I have also been enjoying this chance to update my own ideas about rural France, and to test the advice I have gotten into the habit of giving my students who are embarking on fieldwork (most of which is turning out to be reasonably useful...).

BAMBI SCHIEFFELIN

The Kaluli-English-Tok Pisin dictionary which I have worked on (forever) with Steven Feld will be published by the National Research Institute of Papua New Guinea. Unfortunately, political unrest in Papua New Guinea has complicated our production schedule, but we hope that our 258-page dictionary hits the stands by the end of 1997. Language Ideologies, a volume I have edited for Oxford University Press, is also due to appear by the end of 1997. My chapter, "Introducing Kaluli Literacy: A chronology of influences," is scheduled to appear in Regimes of Language, a volume edited by P. Kroskrityl that is the product of an Advanced Seminar at the School of American Research held in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This is part of my larger book project on language change and social change, and
during the summer I plan to focus on the analysis of Kaluli sermons given from 1975-1995. I am also continuing as Associate Editor of Annual Review of Anthropology, in addition to working with Cambridge University Press as Series Editor for Studies in Social and Cultural Foundations of Language, a new series of text books in linguistic anthropology. I have been invited to join the editorial boards of the Journal of Linguistic Anthropology and the Swedish journal Ethnos.

Over the last year I was invited to speak at a number of conferences, including the American Association of Applied Linguistics held in Chicago, and a conference on language ideologies held at Brandeis University. I also gave a paper at the American Anthropological Association Meetings in San Francisco entitled “Turning talk” which examines issues in Kaluli translation practices.

In addition to my regular teaching duties at NYU, I was co-organizer with John Singler (Dept. of Linguistics) of the Urban Sociolinguistics Working Group. We had a number of very successful events including an all-day workshop given by Gillian Sankoff (Univ. of Pennsylvania) and Pierrette Thibaud (Univ. of Montreal) and a talk by Norma Mendoza Denton (Ohio State University). We look forward to continuing the Working Group during the coming academic year with a series of talks and workshops where graduate students and faculty interested in issues of language use in urban contexts can share their ideas.

CONSTANCE SUTTON

I was greatly honored last November when four sessions at the annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco were devoted to presentations allegedly influenced by my teaching and research interests over the past 30 plus years. Former and current students together with other colleagues and friends gave fascinating papers in sessions entitled “Gender, Consciousness, Mobilization,” “Transnational Dynamics, Identity and Struggle,” and “Culture, Power, and Gender in the Caribbean: Continuities and Contestations.” Together with a reception of reminiscences and toasts, it was an altogether wonderful intellectual and personal tribute that put me on cloud nine for some time after.

Not surprisingly, the event caused me to revisit some of my past work, both published and unpublished, during my fall term sabbatical. I read this material from the perspective of today’s theorizing and from my memory of the specific research contexts and theoretical issues that had informed my past work. I found myself more amazed by the continuities in my work than by shifts over time in the issues I addressed or by my changes in theoretical framings. While this deflated my sense of having made giant leaps forward in understanding and theorizing, it did impel me to pick up on three of my past papers and rework them for publication: one on the wildcat sugar workers strike in Barbados that I had witnessed while carrying out my doctoral research in a plantation community; the second on Yoruba gender differences in social networks and concepts of power; the third on how changes in my kin status as I carried out field work over time, along with changes in field sites from the West Indies to West Africa influenced my knowledge and understanding about the different cultural meanings of motherhood, power, and autonomy. The last paper is almost completed. Past fieldwork, based on understanding of motherhood, is incorporated in the foreword I wrote last fall for the revised issue of Virginia Kerns’ excellent Women and the Ancestors: Black Carib Kinship and Ritual, which just came out (U. of Illinois, 1997).

This summer I look forward to returning to Barbados to carry out further field research on the project I began three years ago on how Barbadians re-envision and gender their pasts, personal and national.
I will also be doing some further interviewing with activists in two feminist NGOs. I hope to present the findings of this research at the AAA annual meetings in November in a session entitled “Women’s Organizations in Alliances: Globalization and Conflict” organized by Gracia Clark. My research on feminist NGOs is being carried out in collaboration with Sheryl Feldman, a recent NYU graduate, and is part of a larger effort to map out how aspects of the international women’s movement operates. The project takes an anthropological approach to its study of NGOs. Its findings will be related to recent debates in both feminist theorizing and new social movements theorizing.

RANDALL WHITE

This year on leave has been the most productive and exciting of my entire career. I’ve just returned from an extended research mission to Europe (France and Russia) where I have been engaged in a number of different research projects. In France, I have been continuing my long-term research into the beginnings of human body decoration. In particular, I worked on the 200 or so personal ornaments from the Aurignacian Levels (c. 33,000 years old) of the site of Brassembouy in the département of Landes. This site, now being excavated by Dominique Gambier of the University of Bordeaux and François Bon of the University of Paris, has yielded dozens of pierced marine shells, pierced teeth and carefully formed beads in wooly mammoth ivory and soapstone. One of the most extraordinary discoveries has been that of a series of pierced human teeth that Gambier, Bon and I are in the process of preparing for publication.

Just before leaving France in early March I began a collaborative study, with Yvette Taborin of the University of Paris, of the several dozen personal ornaments from the Chatelperronian (36-30,000 years ago) levels of the site of Grotte du Renne, Arcy-sur-Cure. These ornaments, excavated by the late André Leroi-Gourhan, are from the same levels as some fragmentary Neandertal remains, implying that Neandertals made these ornaments. Since the Chatelperronians (almost certainly Neandertals) co-occupied western Europe with the anatomically modern Cro-Magnons, it has been proposed that the Neandertal occupants of the Grotte du Renne either obtained the ornaments from their Cro-Magnon contemporaries or at least got the idea of personal ornaments from them. There is, however, some suspicion that the Chatelperronian ornaments may result from a stratigraphic mixture of the Chatelperronian levels with an overlying Aurignacian (40-28,000 years ago) level.

My research with Yvette Taborin is a microscopic and technological analysis of these ornaments to determine whether the techniques used were the same as those of the contemporary Cro-Magnons or whether they were distinctive and therefore probably reflect manufacture by Neandertals. The results of this ongoing analysis speak to the very important evolutionary question of whether or not Neandertals were capable of symbolism.

My primary activity this year, however, has been on an exhaustive analysis of the female statuettes from the European Ice Age. I have now studied nearly a hundred of these with a view to understanding the raw materials employed, the techniques of production and their contexts of use. To date I have taken more than 4,000 photographs and photomicrographs, and have studied in great detail all of the statuettes from the sites of Avdeeevo, Kostenki I, Gagarino, Brassembouy, Grimaldi, Lespugue, Trou-Margite, Dolni Vestonice and Willendorf. The surfaces of these objects are, for the most part, amazingly well preserved and I will be describing the techniques of statue production and evidence for statue use in future publications.

Finally, I am about to head back to France, where Jacques Pelegrin (CNRS Meudon) and I will continue our excavations of the site of Abri Castanet in
the département of Dordogne. This will be the fourth year of this project, financed by the LSB Leakey Foundation and the French Ministry of Culture. As in previous years, the excavation team is composed of some NYU students (Noah Thomas and Lori Allen), but primarily of students and volunteers from around the world.

Abri Castanet is a French National Historic Monument, and is among a handful of sites in Europe that have produced art objects and items of personal adornment from about 35,000 years ago. It was first excavated at the beginning of this century by Denis Peyrony who left an enormous zone of intact deposits. Our goal is to undertake meticulous excavations at Castanet in order to recover this important artifactual record with as much contextual data as possible. To date, we have recovered large numbers of flint and antler artifacts, as well as substantial quantities of ivory and soapstone beads and related production debris. The sector that we are currently excavating has a number of combustion features that seem to be fireplaces that were placed in depressions dug into the bedrock floor of the rock shelter.

Abri Castanet is one of the most promising sites in Europe for a biocultural understanding of the earliest modern humans in Europe. Our work at Castanet contributes to a modern quality data base that will take our understanding of the Upper Paleolithic side of the so-called Middle to Upper Paleolithic transition beyond generalized anecdote. Through a multi-disciplinary project anchored in fundamentals of stratigraphy, radiocarbonology and micromorphology, we aim to provide insight into faunal and floral exploitation, raw material procurement (local and exotic), seasonal organization, fabrication/use of implements and weapons, symbolic production, and shelter construction. The possibility exists for recovery of rare early Aurignacian human skeletal remains, which would contribute greatly to the debates surrounding the origins of modern humans in Europe.

RITA WRIGHT

My primary research this year continued to be focused at Harappa and on technology and gender studies. This year Joe Schuldenrein and I spent a short season of research (begun in 1996) investigating the archaeology and landscape history of the Beas River Settlements, of which there now are 14 known sites. These sites cover a range of occupation from periods immediately preceding and including the urban occupation at Harappa and show strong similarities to the material culture at Harappa. In addition, the project is providing important information on environmental change in the Upper Indus during the Holocene, drawing chiefly from geomorphic and stratigraphic evidence. We have been extraordinarily lucky in identifying bench- mark data with which to reconstruct environment and landscape changes during several thousand years immediately preceding occupation of the Harappan settlements.

At Harappa we continue to uncover a large number of seals and tablets. Of particular interest to me, and the focus of a talk I presented at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in January as a Charles Wilkinson Lecturer, are several narrative seals with the representation of a female standing between (perhaps taming or in combat with) two tigers. We have recovered a number of "narrative" seals that are two- or three-sided with representations of this type of mythological scene and others bearing motifs that are known throughout the Near East in the third millennium B.C. in Egypt, Mesopotamia (southern Iraq), and proto-Elamite Iran, although in every case there is significant variation in flora, fauna and the ways in which motifs are combined to identify them as distinctively Harappan. For example, contest scenes depicting a human between two lions typically are male elsewhere, whereas the Indus Valley seals depict females with tigers.

The year 1997 marks the 50th anniversary of an independent Pakistan and India and in 1998, to com-
memorate independence, we are looking forward to an exhibition on Indus Valley cities to be held at The Asia Society in New York. Some plans are underway at NYU to help celebrate this event.

Finally, this year my book, Gender and Archaeology, was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. The book contains contributions primarily by archaeologists, but also includes essays by a bioanthropologist and a historian of technology. All are leading scholars (Gillian Bentley, Elizabeth Brumfiel, Margaret Conkey, Cathy Costin, Joan Gero, Rosemary Joyce, Judith McGaw, Janet Romanowicz, Ruth Tringham and myself). Among the topics explored in the volume are women in early states, popular culture and the "Goddess Movement," "feminine" technologies, fertility and reproduction, feminist pedagogies, and day-to-day archaeological field practices.

On the teaching side of things, I did a second round of the World Cultures: Mesopotamia and Egypt course. With the help of Maura Smale and Cris Kimbrough I put together a web site for the course that can be accessed at http://www.nyu.edu/classes/wright. I also taught a new graduate course on Technology and Conservation that was jointly offered to NYU anthropology graduate students and conservators at the Institute of Fine Arts conservation program.
JAMES DELLE

I have really enjoyed my first year as a visiting assistant professor here at NYU. My teaching responsibilities have been fun and challenging, as I had the chance to develop and teach three undergraduate classes new to me, lead a graduate seminar and offer a graduate reading course. While my first year of full-time teaching was challenging, I did have the opportunity to remain professionally active, attending the AAA, SAA, and several smaller conferences. My conference presentations included a paper on the archaeology of resistance in 16th-century Ireland at the Theoretical Archaeology Group meetings held in Liverpool, England, a paper comparing the archaeology of colonialism in Ireland to that in Jamaica at a special anniversary conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology, and a poster on my coffee plantation work at the Society for American Archaeology meetings.

Much of my time was spent preparing the manuscript for my first book, An Archaeology of Social Space, which is due out of Plenum Press early in 1998. I also put the finishing touches on an article addressing the archaeology of the modern state (co-authored with Mark Leone and Paul Mullins) for the forthcoming Routledge Encyclopedia of Archaeology, submitted an article on the negotiation of gender identities on Jamaican coffee plantations to Caribbean Quarterly, and finished an article discussing space as a medium of class negotiation in post-emancipation Jamaica. The latter is part of a book I am currently editing with Bob Paynter and Steve Mrozowski on race, class, gender, and ethnicity in historical archaeology. My smaller projects included book reviews for several journals including Winterthur Portfolio, Passages, Ethnohistory, and Antiquity, working on the membership committee of the SAA, and reviewing an article to be published in the International Journal of Historical Archaeology.

My summer promises to be a busy one. I hope to complete several writing projects, including the final version of my book and the first version of the edited volume. I will also be submitting an article on my Irish work to the International Journal of Historical Archaeology in June. I will be spending about a week in the field as the associate director of the St. John's University Field School in Historical Archaeology, to be held in late May in Alley Pond Park in Queens. For the better part of the summer, I will be working as co-director of the Cayuga Lake Archaeological Site Survey, in and around Ithaca. My wife (Mary Ann Levine of Ithaca College) and I will be cataloging and mapping known sites in the Cayuga Lake Basin, testing those sites we feel are most endangered by the very active pot-hunting community of the Finger Lakes region. Our ultimate goal is to preserve at least some of the endangered sites, while at the same time organizing an undergraduate field school in prehistoric archaeology.

This has been a great year for me here at NYU. Next year, I will be offering four new courses (to me at least!) including a graduate-level course in GIS applications for archaeology. I have organized an invited symposium for the upcoming AAA meetings entitled "Archaeology, Tourism, and the State," and hope to travel to Puerto Rico to begin reconnaissance for my next major project, a study in long-term land use/tenure in the highlands. I am very happy to be staying on and look forward to the challenges on my second year!
* ARCHAEOLOGY *

Brooke Blades received his Ph.D. in May, 1997. His Ph.D. is entitled “Environment, Lithic Economy, and Mobility During Aurignacian Occupation of the Lower Vezere Valley in France.” He also presented a paper at the 1997 Paleoanthropology Society meetings in St. Louis.

Sally Casey excavated last August at the Natufian site Ein Mallaha (Eyuan) and will return there this summer. She presented a paper at the 1996 Chacmool conference in Calgary entitled “Gender and the transition to agriculture and sedentism in the Natufian of the Levant,” which will be published in the conference proceedings by the University of Calgary Press.

Thalia Gray spent this year teaching writing and English at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland, and taking archaeology classes there. Thalia initiated her doctoral project at the early medieval city of Wolin on the Baltic Sea, where she will spend the summer. Along with Rae Ostman, she has designed a proposal for an international project between the Polish Academy of Sciences and NYU involving research and publications on Wolin.

Christine Kimbrough received a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, a Foreign Language Area Studies Summer Fellowship, a Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral grant, and an American Research Institute in Turkey Fellowship, all of which she will use to fund her research year abroad. Her paper, “Cloth, Gender, and Technology: New Approaches to Textiles in 3rd Millennium B.C. Mesopotamia,” was presented at the Chacmool conference and is in press from the University of Calgary. Her fieldwork included preliminary dissertation research in Turkey.

David Perry received his Ph.D. in May, 1997. His Ph.D. is entitled “The Archaeology of Hunter-Gatherers: Plant Use in the Dutch Mesolithic.” He also published several articles this year: a preliminary report on dissertation research in The Archaeobotany of Hunter-Gatherers, University College London Press; and “People and Plants in the Past: Unlocking the Technological Knowledge of Past Hunter-Gatherers,” a paper presented at the Chacmool conference and in press at the University of Calgary. He went to Denmark to work on materials from Vedbaek and to Holland and London to do laboratory analysis and continue his research. He is currently a visiting assistant professor at the Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut at Storrs.

Suanna C. Selby is working this summer at the University of Oregon in a field course in geomorphology and geoarchaeology. Later this year she will be on leave studying geoarchaeology at the Texas A & M University. Suanna served as the 1996-97 AGSA president and is the graduate student coordinator of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Laurie Tedesco received the Hagop Kevorkian Near Eastern Archaeology Fellowship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Laurie carried out predissertation fieldwork in Armenia and also participated in an excavation at Tel Dor, Israel. She received her M.A. in September; her thesis title was “Technological Style as a Dimension of Social Communication: Belts and Bronze from Iron Age Hasanlu, Iran.”

Julie Zimmerman Holt received an NSF Dissertation Research Grant and will be at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield August of 1997 identifying mussel shells from the Baehr-Gust site.

* CULTURAL *

Eduardo M. Bryce conducted bibliographical research focused on legal anthropology and ethnography in the Andes.

Jessica R. Cattelino won an NSF Graduate Fellowship and is working on issues of social space and political participation. She plans to conduct research in the United States on gated communities.
Melissa Checker received her master's degree in December, and published an article, "Environmental Justice," in the May, 1997, AAA newsletter.

Alix Dark held a Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship while writing his dissertation on community identity, alliance and confrontation over the environmental movement in Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia. His study examines the political function and interpretation of violence and analyzes its cultural impact on how residents of Clayoquot Sound understand their communities and receive current environmental management initiatives.

Deborah A. Elliston has four publications in press: "The Not So Pacific: Pacific Islander Films at the 1996 Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival, New York" in the journal Pacific Studies; "Mahu" and "Pacific Islands" in the Encyclopedia of Homosexuality; and "The Other Side" (fiction) in 13th Moon: A Feminist Literary Magazine. She also presented several invited lectures: in October, she gave a talk on "Representing Lesbianism: Gender and Sexuality in Polynesia" to The Stonewall Center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; and in March, she presented "Place, Gender and Nationalism: Locating Differences in French Polynesia" to the Anthropology Department at the University of California at Davis. At the Fall AAA meetings, Deborah presented "Practicing Difference, Theorizing Nationalism: Challenges from French Polynesia" and co-organized the invited session "Remarking Sexuality: Feminist Anthropologists Theorize the Sexual." This spring, she and Tim Pilbrow co-organized the series, "Fieldwork Conversations," for the Department.

Teja Ganti spent 1996 in Bombay, India, doing dissertation fieldwork on the Hindi film industry, funded by an American Institute of Indian Studies grant. Teja’s video, “Gimme Something to Dance to!” was screened as a part of Asian Cinevision’s "Videscope 1996: An Asian American Video Showcase" at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, as well as on CUNY-TV and at the Donnel Media Center of the New York Public Library.


Brian Larkin published two papers this year, "Indian Films and Nigerian Lovers: Media and the Creation of Parallel Modernities," Africa 67(3) 1997, and "Hausa Video and Indian Films: Notes on the Creation of Transnational Media Publics” (forthcoming), in Jump Cut. He also organized several panels: a double session on media and anthropology for the 1996 AAA: "The Social Space of Media: New Directions in Anthropological Theory and Methodology," at which he presented his paper "Cinema as Moral Space in Northern Nigeria"; "Media and the Transformation of African Religious Practice" for the African Studies Association Meetings, during which he presented the paper, "The Holy Qur’an, Tafsir, and the Uncertain Development of Religious Media in Northern Nigeria." Brian was also a visiting fellow in the Sawyer Seminar of the Advanced Study Center at the International Institute of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he presented "White Prestige and the Immoral, Subversive Problem of Film: Moral Panic and Colonial Authority."

Jerry Lombardi completed his dissertation fieldwork in Sao Paulo, Brazil, funded by his Fulbright-Hays fellowship. His paper, "Questions of Method in Online Realms," was read at the 1996 AAA meetings. In October, Jerry addressed a teachers’ conference in Sao Paulo on the “culture of computing” and participated in a national radio show, “Internet Connection.” In March, a columnist for Folha de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo’s largest daily, profiled his work under the title “The Lost Tribes of the Internet.”

Lea S. McChesney organized a panel for the American Studies Association entitled “American Indian Identities: Constructions, Appropriations, Transformations,” which was discussed at their annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, in October of 1996. She also presented a paper based on her dissertation research entitled “Hopi Potters and Artists: Marketplace Media and the Transformation of Identities.”

Meg McLagan successfully defended her dissertation, “Mobilizing for Tibet: Transnational Politics & Diaspora Culture in the Post-Cold War Era,” and received her Ph.D. in September of 1996. She completed her first year of a two-year Mellon Post-doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities at Barnard College, where she taught an undergraduate course in the Spring entitled “Diasporas and Refugees.” She also delivered two papers, one in April at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia Uni-
versity on the democratization of the Tibetan exile community, and another in June at University College London on her doctoral research. She also wrote an essay on the Tibetan diaspora for the Encyclopedia of South Asian Folklore and began research on human-rights activism by Tibetans and their supporters.

Maureen Mahon successfully defended her dissertation, "The Black Rock Coalition and the Cultural Politics of Race in the United States," and obtained her Ph.D. in May. Maureen presented a paper at the 1996 AAA meetings called "Black Rock TV: Politics, Identity, and Community Access Television" at a panel organized by Brian Larkin. This year she has been adjusting to her new job at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, where she is an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology and in the African-American Studies Program. In the Spring semester she taught a course called "Anthropology of African-Americans" and supervised two undergraduate senior essays including one on black rock.

Barbara Miller is completing her fieldwork on the social construction of adolescent violence and will begin writing her dissertation this summer. She presented papers on her research at the 1996 AAA meetings, the Ethnography in Education Research Forum, and a Wenner-Gren-sponsored conference on states and illegal networks. Barbara published a book for young readers on teen pregnancy, and is continuing to work with documentalist George Stoney on a film about Paulo Freire.

Tim Pilbrow presented papers at four conferences this year: the June annual seminar of the Sofia University Faculty of History in Varna, Bulgaria; the 1996 AAA meeting on the panel "Concepts of the Nation in Contemporary Europe;" the Third Annual Graduate Student Conference "Surviving at the Margins" at the Rutgers University anthropology department in March; and at an April graduate student workshop "Politics and Identity Formation in Contemporary Europe" at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University.

Elizabeth Mermin published "New Wave Old Wave" (on Senegalese cinema at the Guggenheim) in the Fall, 1996, issue of *Nka: A Journal of Contemporary African Art*. She also has a review of the 1996 Margaret Mead Film Festival in an upcoming issue of *Nka*, as well as an article, "Being Where? Experiencing Narratives of Ethnographic Film," in the Spring, 1997, issue of *Visual Anthropology Review*. She also presented a talk at the 1996 American Ethnological Society conference in Seattle entitled "Filming Ethnography, Filming Culture: David and Judith MacDougall's African Films."

Ripa Rashid was educational consultant for the Technical Educational Research Council in Cambridge, Mass., working on social-science curricula for GLOBALAB, an international NSF-funded, Web-based high school education project in Summer, 1996. Ripa also received a CLACS Summer Travel Award for fieldwork to be carried out this summer in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. The title of her project is "The Social Imagery of India among Indo-Trinidadians."

Lisa Stefanoff was in Australia for two months researching into national telecasting of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade. Lisa helped with
two Center for Media, Culture, and History events, the “Finding Fanon” Conference and the presentation by Koori artist Brenda Croft. She also interned for a second year at the Mead Ethnographic Film Festival. Lisa wrote free-lance articles for the Australian newspaper, *The Sydney Star Observer*, and presented a paper at the Seventh Annual National Queer Studies Conference at CUNY.

Winifred Tate worked as a consultant to the Arms Project of Human Rights Watch, and helped research and write their “Colombia’s Killer Networks,” released in November. This summer, Winifred traveled to Colombia to research and write a report on the human-rights crisis and the impact of the U.S. policy there.

Pegi Vail completed her M.A., entitled “Producing America,” Spring of 1997. For the Summer of 1996, Pegi received the FLAS Fellowship for the Study of Spanish at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She also screened an excerpt of her documentary film, “The Dodgers Symphony at Shea Stadium,” for the historic 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson’s entry into baseball. She also published several articles: “The Domino Effect” in the Fall, 1996, *Breukelen*; “Enduring Cymbals” in the August, 1996, *Brooklyn Bridge Magazine*; and *Omo Peoples*, a young people’s book for Grolier Education Publishing. She is also the founding director of the Storyville Center for the Spoken Word, a nonprofit storytelling organization.

David Valentine is currently engaged in fieldwork in New York’s transgender communities, funded by his SSRC Sexuality Research Fellowship grant. David was a co-author of the article “One Percent on the Burn Chart: Gender, Genitals, and Hermaphrodites with Attitude” with Ricki Anne Wilchins, to be published in Fall, 1997, *Social Text*.


Kirsten Wehner spent three months in New Caledonia on her 1996 Dean’s Pre-dissertation Research Grant. She received a Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Research grant and will begin her dissertation research in Canberra, Australia, this Au-
gust, focussing on the development of the National Museum of Australia in relation to cultural policy and identity formation.

Jessica Winegar received a Social Science Research Council Pre-dissertation Grant to fund her pre-dissertation fieldwork in Egypt researching elites and national identity in the contemporary art world.

Peter Zabielskis taught cultural anthropology at Cooper Union last fall and is currently doing fieldwork in Malaysia. He received The Asian Cultural Council Dissertation Fellowship and a Wenner-Gren Pre-doctoral Grant.

*LINGUISTICS*

Steve Albert was awarded a summer Pre-Dissertation Fellowship sponsored by the Center for European Studies at Columbia. He spent June in France on preliminary research towards his dissertation fieldwork on linguistic innovation and change among adolescents. Steve received his M.A. in November, 1996; his paper is entitled “Linguistic Ideology and Language Policy in France: Debating the Loi Toubon.”

Rachelle Doucet was awarded an NSF Dissertation Research Fellowship and a Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant. She is carrying out her Ph.D. fieldwork in Haiti, focusing on language ideology and pedagogy in Haitian classrooms.

Ayala Fader recently concluded her fieldwork in Brooklyn and began to write her dissertation. This past year she presented a paper at the University of Pennsylvania’s Conference on Ethnicity and Education and has been invited to participate at a workshop on bilingualism at McGill University in August. Ayala and Paul Garrett have organized a panel for the 1997 AAA meetings, “Language Socialization in Multilingual Contexts: Reproduction and Change of Ideologies, Communities and Codes.” Ayala also won two grants: The Lucius Littauer Doctoral Fellowship and the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Doctoral Scholarship.

Paul Garrett presented three papers this year: “‘High’ Kweyol: The Emergence of a Formal Creole Register in St. Lucia” at the 1997 meeting of the Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics, London;
"Language Socialization and Language Change in St. Lucia," part of the panel "Shifting Contexts and Communities in Language Socialization" at the 1996 AAA in San Francisco; and "Language Socialization and the Emergence of an English-lexicon Vernacular in St. Lucia" at the 1996 conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles. He also won a 1997 Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for Research Related to Education. Paul will present at an August workshop on language socialization at McGill University. He will also present a paper, "Socializing Ambivalence: Variation in Language Socialization Practices and Convergence of Codes in St. Lucia," as part of the invited session "Language Socialization in Multilingual Contexts: Reproduction and Change of Ideologies, Communities, and Codes," which he will co-organize with Ayala Fader at the 1997 AAA conference.

Amy Paugh is currently completing her Ph.D. fieldwork on child-language socialization of English and the French-based Patwa of Dominica, W.I. She is funded by Fulbright-Hays, Wenner-Gren and National Science Foundation. She plans to return to New York next April, and will give a paper at the AAA meetings in November.

* PHYSICAL *

Rebeca Araya won a Herman and Margaret Sokol Predoctoral Award for Summer Travel. She published, with T.R. Disotell, "Waste is a terrible thing to mind: extracting DNA from feces," supplement to the American Journal of Physical Anthropology. She will resume Ph.D. fieldwork in Guri, Venezuela, this summer, studying the genetic and social structure of the white-faced saki monkey.

Wendy Dirks received the Elizabeth S. Watts Fellowship in Nonhuman Primate Growth and Development and the NSF Dissertation Research Grant for her dissertation, "Dental Development and Life History in Catarrhine Primates." With D. J. Reid, she published the article "Histological reconstruction of dental development and its relationship to periodic stress in the Awash Baboons" in American Journal of Physical Anthropology. She also presented a paper at the annual meeting of the American Society of Physical Anthropologists in St. Louis at the Awash Baboon Symposium. This summer Wendy was in Zurich, Switzerland, conducting dissertation research at the Anthropologisches Institut und Museum at the Universitat Zurich-Irchel.

Holly Hemmalin published an article "Testosterone levels of the Awash Baboons," American Journal of Physical Anthropology (1997) Supplement 24: 126 (abs.). She also presented a paper "Testosterone levels of the Awash baboons" at a symposium at the 1997 American Association of Physical Anthropology meetings in St. Louis. Holly received a research grant from Sigma Xi for a genetic parentage and relatedness study of two baboon groups in Ethiopia's Awash National Park.

John Krigbaum has been continuing his dissertation project on the interpretation of late Pleistocene and Holocene human diets in Southeast Asia.
Labwork and writing are keeping him busy working in the Department as well as at Yale's Department of Geology and Geophysics and NYU's Dental School. He plans on presenting his results next summer in Malaysia and while there, continuing field and museum research on materials recovered from Niah Cave.

Avelin Malyango received a Wenner-Gren Foundation for Developing Countries Training Fellowship. He continues to teach anatomy to occupational therapy students at the School of Education at NYU.

Tim Newman successfully defended his dissertation, "Mitochondrial DNA analysis of intraspecific hybridization in Papio hamadryas anubis, P.h. hamadryas and their hybrids in the Awash National Park, Ethiopia," and graduated in January, 1997. He currently has a post-doctoral position at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio, Texas, where his primary research focus is mapping the baboon genome using methods analogous to those used for the human genome project.

Varsha Pilbrow continued her data collection for her Ph.D. project, which deals with intraspecific variation and fossil species recognition. She has been studying the hominoid craniodental collections at the American Museum of Natural History, and visited the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University at Cambridge, Massachusetts, to study their extensive hominoid collections.

Sandra Suarez was in Kenya last summer collecting data on the Blue Monkey (ceropithecus mitis mitis) mating behavior with Columbia University's Dr. Marina Cords. This summer she will spend August in Pando, Bolivia, identifying possible field sites for her dissertation research on Saginus (tamarins).

Paul T. Telfer is travelling to the Awash Valley in Ethiopia this summer, where he will participate in the ongoing research project investigating the Baboon hybrid zone.

Our faculty have been very active this year. Barry Dornfeld (Anthropology) completed his ethnography Producing Public Television which will be coming out in 1998 from Princeton University Press; he also completed his award-winning documentary “Plenty of Good Women Hoofers” on the artistic relationship between old and young African American tap dancers in Philadelphia. Our counterpart in Cinema Studies, Professor Toby Miller, has two books coming out in 1998, Technologies of Truth: Cultural Citizenship and the Popular Media, Minnesota; and a monograph on The Avengers, from the British Film Institute.

In terms of staff, our studio and equipment coordinator, Brian deCubellis, and production teaching assistant Trish Rosen have provided a wonderful presence, assisting aspiring videomakers and keeping the studios in working order at all hours of the day or night. Thanks, too, to Pegi Vail, Graduate Assistant for the Program this year.

EVENTS

Events for 1996-97 began with our annual two-day international conference entitled “The Truth of the Matter: New Work in Ethnographic Film” held in conjunction with the Margaret Mead Film Festival at the American Museum of Natural History in November. The first panel was organized with Jay Ruby, who directs the Anthropology of Visual Communications Program at Temple University. Entitled “Sometimes You Have to Lie to Tell the Truth,” the session looked at what appears to be an emerging sub-genre of “Fake Documentary,” featuring filmmakers who are both playing with and seriously exploring the limits and possibilities of a genre form that claims to represent reality while operating as a constructed narrative, pieced together from what appears to be filmed evidence. Panelists included filmmakers Marlon Fuentes (“Bontoc Eulogy”); Ruth Lounsbury (“Halving the Bones”); and Shashwati Talukdar (“My Life As A Poster”); NYU’s Prof. Toby Miller (Cinema Studies) served as discussant. The afternoon panel, “From Snake Handling to AIDS Activism” was devoted to the memory and work of Peter Adair (1943-1996). The son of the distinguished anthropologist John Adair, Peter started out in ethnographic film, making “Holy Ghost People” in 1967, an empathetic portrait of a Christian fundamentalist snake-handling sect, and later produced a series of important documentaries on gay life in the U.S., beginning with the award-winning feature length “Word Is Out” (1978), to “The AIDS Show” (1986), and “Absolutely Positive” (1992). Speakers included John and Margo Adair, Peter’s father and sister, and filmmakers and producers Haney Armstrong, Rob Epstein, Janet Cole, and Veronica Selver, with Terry Lawler (Women Make Movies) as moderator.

In November, we co-sponsored (with Cinema Studies and the Law School) a one-day conference featuring the distinguished documentary maker Fred Wiseman. Entitled “Law, Madness, and the Documentary Gaze: Titicut Follies Revisited,” the event commemorated the thirtieth anniversary of the film “Titicut Follies” about life in the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Bridgewater. Organized by Toby Miller, the event explored the twenty-five years of litigation surrounding this film — which could not be publicly screened until 1992 for legal reasons — concerning image ethics and the rights of documentary subjects production of the film in the U.S.

STUDENTS

Congratulations to Culture and Media students Meg McLagan, Maureen Mahon, and Marilyn Thomas-Houston, who all completed their dissertations this year and are teaching, respectively, at Barnard College, Wesleyan University, and the University of South Carolina.

A number of our students presented at various professional meetings on their current research. For the AAA, Brian Larklin organized two sessions entitled “The Social Space of Media” (sponsored by the AES and the SVA), at which he gave a paper entitled “Cinema as Moral Space: The Social
Relations of Viewing in Northern Nigeria;” Maureen Mahon presented “The Black Rock Coalition: Reclaiming the Right to Rock;” and former student Alex Juhasz (now at Pitzer College) presented a reflexive account of making the first lesbian independent feature, “The Watermelon Woman.” Nancy Sullivan gave a paper on her work on the development of media in Papua New Guinea. Brian Larkin also organized a panel for the African Studies Association on “Media and the Transformation of African Religious Practice” and has a paper coming out in Africa entitled “Indian Films, Nigerian Lovers: Media and the Creation of Parallel Modernities;” and was a Seminar Fellow for the Advanced Study Center of the University of Michigan.

Greg Milner’s documentary, “Charlie in Three Acts,” a portrait of a shortwave radio pirate, was selected and screened at the 1996 Royal Anthropological Film Festival in Canterbury; Greg is currently working at the Museum of Broadcasting. Teja Ganti’s documentary on Banghra dancing, “Gimme Somethin’ to Dance To” was shown at Asian Cine-Vision’s Videoscape 1996 held at The New Museum for Contemporary Art, at the NY Public Library for the Performing Arts’ Performing Arts of Asia Festival, and was cablecast on NYC’s CUNY-TV.

Ruth Von Goeler and Erica Wortham are both working as programmers at the Film and Video Center of the National Museum of the American Indian.

THE CENTER FOR MEDIA, CULTURE AND HISTORY

Our affiliated interdisciplinary Center for Media, Culture, and History (directed by Professor Faye Ginsburg) hosted three visiting Fellows during 1996-97, the concluding year of our Rockefeller Humanities Grant, around the theme “Third World Media, ‘Imagined Communities,’ and the Public Sphere.” Our fellows this year were Dr. Viola Shafik, a writer, critic, and filmmaker based in Cairo, Egypt, and Hamburg, Germany, whose project, “On the Margins of Arab Cinema,” examined the role and representation (or lack of it) of minorities in Egyptian cinema; Dr. Arlindo Castro, a Professor of Communications and Cultural Studies at Universidade Federal do Espirito Santo, Brazil, and an award-winning video producer and director who was in residence during the Fall, 1996, semester working on his project “More Than Just Good Neighbors: Popular Culture and the Brazilian Image in the U.S.;” and scholar/curator Dr. Preminda Jacob, Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of Maryland, who is writing a book entitled Celluloid Deities: Cinema Stars, Political Celebrity, and Advertising in South India. This year introduced new areas of scholarship, with a rich exchange developing around research in South Asia and the Middle East (with guest speakers Ravi Vasudevan, Nata Duvuury, and Khairy Beshara); this exchange will result in a 1998 conference comparing the Egyptian and Indian musical, being organized by Viola Shafik and Lalitha Gopalan; an ongoing seminar group on “Media and the Politics of History;” and a very lively faculty and advanced graduate student study group on “The Social Space of Media.”
In October, we held a two-day international conference (co-sponsored with Africana Studies and funded by The Ford Foundation), organized with 1995-96 fellows Isaac Julien and Mark Nash, entitled "Finding Fanon: Critical Genealogies," based on the research and scholars who had been involved in their experimental 1995 documentary on Fanon. Speakers included Stuart Hall, Maryse Conde, Teresa de Lauretis, Francoise Verges, Manthia Diawara, Ella Shohat, and others. Other conferences included "Media Generations: Age, Agency and Technology" (co-sponsored with American Studies and the Law and Society Program) held in conjunction with a show on new media at The New Museum; and a conference on the debates surrounding the representations of Tiananmen Square, focused around the epic documentary "The Gate of Heavenly Peace" with filmmakers Richard Gordon and Carma Hinton, and scholars Jack Tchen, Michael Frisch, Craig Calhoun, and Todd Gitlin.

Among other Center events were a number of premiere screenings and discussions with filmmakers, including Christine Choy's new work "The Shot Heard Round the World: Hattori vs. Pears;" Cheryl Dunyea and Alex Juhasz speaking on representation and co-optation of queer identity in the making of their award-winning feature film "Watermelon Woman;" Aboriginal Australia multi-media artist Brenda Croft presented her new work in "Blak Girl/Why(te) Girl: In Your Dreams;" anthropologist and filmmaker Jeffery Himpele presented his film in progress on touristic and New Age interest in Mayan culture (with Quetzil Castaneda), "Making Room for Kulkulkan; Disharmonic Convergences at Chichen Itza." Our final event of the year, cosponsored with Africana Studies, was a screening of the new historical documentary, "W.E.B. DuBois: A Biography in Four Voices," followed by a dialogue with filmmaker Louis Massiah, historian Robin D.G. Kelley, and writer Thulani Davis.

During 1997-98, while Dr. Ginsburg is on leave, the Center will be run by its Associate Director, Barbara Abrash, and Bob Stamm, Professor of Cinema Studies. It will sponsor a distinguished lecture series entitled "The Social Space of Media," linked up for the Fall are lawyer, writer and activist Patricia Williams (author of The Alchemy of Race and Rights), anthropologist Arjun Appadurai, and filmmaker Chantal Ackerman. The Center is also planning a conference for Spring, 1998, on "Public Television in a Transnational Era."

The Center is sorry to lose its invaluable program assistant Ruth Von Goeler, but wish her well in her work programming at the National Museum of the American Indian, and look forward to our new assistant, Tanya Turkovich.
This year the undergraduate Anthropology program has 159 majors and 66 minors. The department had 29 majors graduate this year, 14 of whom graduated with honors.

The following students graduated with honors: Amy Bowering, Berenika Byszewski, Carrie Friese, Erika Petersen, Maddalena Romano, Sarah Sanders, and Michael Steiper cum laude; Christopher Anderson, Adam Becker, Mieka Brand, Soofia Rubbani, and Namita Sugandhi magna cum laude; and Lucilla Spini and Caroline Wachtler graduated summa cum laude and were elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Amy Bowering, Shelia Estacio, Sarah Guthier, and Perminder Parnar were selected to be Teaching Scholars for the Spring, 1997, semester sponsored by the New York Collaborative for Excellence in Teacher Preparation (NYCETP). These students worked with education program staff in science museums and public school students and teachers and received a $1500 stipend.

Namita Sugandhi took part in archaeological digs in Israel and Tunisia last summer. She also received the 1997 Dean’s Travel Award and will travel to Italy this summer. Mieka Brand received the 1997 Dean’s Award in Anthropology for excellence in this field and service to the department.

Several members of Prof. Todd Disotell’s lab group won awards. Michael Steiper received second place in the Dean’s Undergraduate Research Conference, and plans to attend Harvard this fall. Michael DiIorio received the 1997 Dean’s Undergraduate Research Grant to support his independent research on the SIV/HIV co-receptor gene in Old World Monkeys. Mike also received third place in the Dean’s Undergraduate Research Conference and a Research Experience for Undergraduates supplement to Professor Disotell’s NSF grant.

Erin Dooley worked in Prof. Terry Harrison’s lab performing research for her honors thesis on upright behavior in meerkats and the origins of human bipedal morphology.

Juliet Reubens won second prize in the Worldwide University and College Student Essay Contest sponsored by Hyundai Group. In May she flew to Seoul, South Korea, where she was awarded $10,000 at a ceremony honoring the winners. Janet Six will be excavating with Professor Crabtree this summer.

Thanks to Janet Six, the Undergraduate Anthropology Club has been revived! The primary focus of the club will be the sharing of resources, i.e., study groups, term paper archives, etc. Possible field trips include the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Bronx Zoo. Janet’s goal is to have eight successful trips over the next academic year. So far there are 21 members and Juliet Reubens has been appointed vice president.
GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS AND AWARDS 1996-1997

Steve Albert
* Council for European Studies
  Summer Research Grant

Rebeca Araya
* Herman & Margaret Sokol
  Pre-doctoral Award for Summer Travel

Sally Casey
* Goodman Fellowship

Jessica Catalino
* NSF Graduate Fellowship

Wendy Dirks
* Elizabeth Watts Fellowship
  * NSF Dissertation Research Fellowship

Rachelle Doucet
  * NSF Dissertation Research Fellowship
  * Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant

Ayala Fader
  * Lucius N. Littauer Foundation grant
  * Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture
    Doctoral Scholarship
  * National Foundation for Jewish Culture grant

Paul Garrett
* Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant
  * Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

Holly Hemmalin
* Sigma Xi

Christine Kimbrough
* FLAS
  * Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship
  * American Research Institute in Turkey Fellowship
  * Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant

John Krigbaum
* Wenner-Gren Foundation Grant (extension)
  * NSF Fellowship (extension)

Megan McCullough
* Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islanders Studies Grant
  * Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant

Avelin Malyango
* Wenner-Gren Foundation
  Developing Countries Fellowship

Elizabeth Machado
* NSF Graduate Fellowship

Robert Moise
* Pitt Rivers Museum Swan Fund Grant

Joseph Mungioi
* NSF Dissertation Research Award

Rae Ostman
* Bert Salwen Fellowship

Tim Pilbrow
* Dean's Dissertation Award

Ripa Rashid
* CLACS Summer Research grant

Laura Rinzel
* FLAS for Spanish

Winifred Tate
* Eleanor B. Leacock Award

Laurie Tedesco
* Hagop Kevorkian Near Eastern Archaeology Fellowship (Metropolitan Museum of Art)
  * Goodman Fellowship
David Valentine  
* Social Science Research Council Program in Sexuality Dissertation Research grant  

Kirsten Wehner  
* Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant  

Derek Wildman  
* Sigma Xi Grant  
* American Institute of Yemeni Studies Fellowship  

Jessica Winegar  
* Social Science Research Council Pre-dissertation Grant  

Tamsin Wooley-Barker  
* Sigma Xi Grant  
* Herman & Margaret Sokol Pre-doctoral Award for Summer Travel  

Peter Zabielskis  
* Dissertation Fellowship Asian Cultural Council  
* Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant  

Julie Zimmermann Holt  
* NSF Dissertation Research Grant  

ANTHROPOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION  

It was another good year for the AGSA. The initiation of the Anthropology listserve has been a great success--dozens of grad students have signed on and are using it as an easy way to communicate about events, concerns, questions and gatherings. Thanks to Maura Smale for help establishing the listserve and to Steve Albert for his diligent maintenance of the network.  

The AGSA also started a series of files on graduate funding in the library. Many thanks to Lisa Milot for her efforts to put that together, for doing the grad student directory and for cleaning out the bookshelves on the second floor! Our journal subscriptions and finances were put in order with the help of Laurie Tedesco. Please stop by the library and browse the collection. Be sure to take advantage of the complete set of Annual Review of Anthropology volumes, the latest addition to the resources in the library. Cheers to Omri Elisha and Eduardo Bryce for their assistance with incorporating the funding files and Annual Reviews into the library.  

AGSA was also involved with the GSAS Graduate Student Association, the New York Academy of Sciences, a student-organized series called "Fieldwork Conversations" (thanks to Tim Pilbrow and Deborah Elliston), and the beginnings of a network for incoming students (thanks to Jessica Catellino and all those who volunteered to help!). Finally, the annual Symposium was great fun. Although shorter (we missed you physical anthropology students!), the papers were very well done. Thanks to everyone who participated and volunteered for the event.  

On behalf of Steve, Lisa and Laurie, I want to thank you for such a fun year. I'll be on leave next year, but I hope to hear from you--and you are all welcome to visit in Texas!  

Suanna  
Suanna Selby, President  
Steve Albert, Vice-president  
Lisa Milot, Secretary  
Laurie Tedesco, Treasurer
DEGREES AWARDED
1996-1997

MASTER OF ARTS

Steve Albert: “Linguistic Ideology and Language Policy in France: Debating the Loi Toubon”

Melissa Checker: “It’s in the Air: Organizing for Environmental Equity in a Multi-Ethnic Coalition”

Ashley David: “Dancing Each Other’s Dances: Exploring Multiculturalism in the Arts as Political Praxis”

Jill Dickerson: “Race, Politics, and Ethnography: St. Clair Drake’s Black Metropolis”

Danielle Greene: “Finding Meaning in Prehistoric Art through the Work of M.W. Conkey”

Greg Milner: “Perfecting Sound Forever: Music and Meditation During the Analog/Digital Transition in the Recording Industry”

Abby Moser: “Bondage Up Yours!: Riot GRRRLs, Feminism, and Punk Rock”


Marinella Nicolson: “New Weddings: An American Cultural Production”


Rae Ostman: “Textiles and the Burial Ritual: Social Identity at Birka, A Viking Age Trade Town”

Jennifer Patico: “Coming Full Circle: The Institution of Soviet Jews in NYC”

Elizabeth Ramsey: “Mechanical and Psychological Constraints on the Size and Shape of the Nasal Aperture in Anthropoid Primates”

Patricia Rosen: “What Constitutes Reform? Special Education in Anthropology, Public Schooling and The United States”

Suanna Selby: “Nomad and City: Textual and Anthropological Considerations of Amorite Populations in the Second Millennium B.C.”

Laurie Tedesco: “Technological Style as a Dimension of Social Communication: Belts and Bronze from Iron Age Hasanlu”

Pegi Vail: “Producing America”

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Brooke Blades: “Environment, Lithic Economy and Mobility During Aurignacian Occupation of the Lower Vezere Valley in France”


Eugene Harris: “Molecular Systematics of the Mangabeys (Primates: Papionini)”

Meg McLagan: “Mobilizing for Tibet: Transnational Politics and Diaspora Culture in the Post-Coldwar Era”


Tim Newman: “Mitochondrial DNA analysis of intraspecific hybridization in Papio hamadryas anubis, P.h. hamadryas and their hybrids in the Awash National Park, Ethiopia. [“Papi hamadryas anubis, P.h. hamadryas”]”

David Perry: “The Archaeology of Hunter Gatherers: Plant Use in The Dutch Mesolithic”
Anita Steinhart: "Comparative Morphology of the Orbit in Anthropod Primates: Function and Phylogenic Implications"

Marilyn Thomas-Houston: "‘Stony the Road’: A Look at Political Participation in an African American Community"

**MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY**

Sally Casey
Kathleen Ehrhardt
Heather Levi
Laura Miller
Amy Paugh
Lotti Silber
Deborah Thomas

Rachelle Doucet
Maggie Fishman
Meg McCullough
Robert Moise
Janet Romanowicz
Laurie Tedesco
David Valentine

Ashley David
Beth Epstein
Brian Larkin
Greg Milner
Marinella Nicolson
Kirsten Wehner
Peter Zabielskis

**CERTIFICATES IN CULTURE & MEDIA**

Kristin Elmquist
Laura Hubber
Maureen Mahon
Abbey Moser
Marilyn Thomas-Houston
Erica Wortham
Our department’s colloquium series this past year offered a broad range of speakers on a rich variety of topics. Archaeologists presented talks on three occasions. Carmel Schrire, from Rutgers University, began the series this year with her presentation “Understanding How to Decode Archeology and History.” James Delle, Visiting Lecturer in our own department, discussed his approach to social space, drawing on his research on Jamaican coffee plantations. Patricia Reiff Anawalt, University of California, Los Angeles, presented “Understanding Aztec Human Sacrifice,” in an event co-sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America.

The Department held two “Faculty Seminars,” smaller-scale events designed to promote more participatory exchanges with scholars. Kay Warren, from the Institute for Advanced Study, presented the first of these, offering discussion on a paper called “Indigenous Movements and their Critics: Pan-Mayanism and Ethnic Resurgence in Guatemala.” Judith Irvine, Brandeis University, discussed her innovative historical work on literacy and translation in West Africa with her paper entitled “Sound Politics: Speaking, Writing and Printing in Early Colonial Africa.”

Language was a central focus of a presentation by the University of Pennsylvania’s Webb Keane, whose paper, “Words and the Problem of Agency in a Colonial Encounter,” drew on his fieldwork in Indonesia. Three of the colloquium presenters focused on media. Lisa Henderson, from the University of Massachusetts, presented a paper entitled “Reading Women’s Culture: Progressive Discourse on ‘Storyline’ on N.P.R.” based on her research on public radio. Margaret Mills, University of Pennsylvania, offered “My Life on TV: An Afghan Refugee Storyteller Watches Japanese Soap Operas on Iranian TV,” concerning the self-conscious comparisons an Afghan woman made with themes from daytime television. And Jeffrey Himpele from Princeton University drew on his research on the host of a popular talk show in Bolivia for “Reality Affect: Cultural Populism in the Bolivian Television Public Sphere.”

Robert Blumenschine, Rutgers University, whose work re-analyzes the initial paleontological findings in Olduvai Gorge, presented “Landscape Ecology and Oldowan Hominid Land Use in the Lowermost Bed II Olduvai Basin.” Papers by Elizabeth Harney, a fellow at NYU’s Draper Program who has studied the exhibition of African art in Great Britain, presented “Out of the Frying Pan, into the Fire?: Africa ’95 and the Contemporary.”

Anthropology Department Chair Fred Myers focused on the circulation of artwork. Myers presented a recent paper on the politics and social organization driving the marketing of Australian Aboriginal art.

Other talks covered a range of important theoretical questions in cultural analysis. Karen Brodkin from UCLA gave a paper entitled “‘Why Can’t We All Get Along?’ Race, Gender, and the Construction of American Capitalism,” that looked at the construction of racial categories across recent American history. Junji Koizumi, also from the Institute for Advanced Study, presented “Conceptions of Person and Time among the Mam of Guatemala: A Direction in Cultural Analysis,” a broad-ranging talk considering the temporal implications of Mam kinship systems. Katie Stewart, from the University of Texas, spoke on “The Private Life of Public Culture: Scenes from the U.S.,” a thoughtful and thought-provoking discussion of narrative and what she called “intimate publicity.” Robin Nagle, head of New York University’s Draper Program, shared her research in Brazil in her paper “Class Unconsciousness and Other Historical Reverberations of Liberation Theology on Brazil.”

SEPTEMBER
Carmel Schrire, Professor of Archaeology & Anthropology, Rutgers University, presented “Understanding How to Decode Archeology and History.”

OCTOBER
Henry Abelove, Program in American Studies, Wesleyan University, presented “Colonialism and Philosophy: Berkeley to Thoreau.”
Lisa Henderson, Department of Communication, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, presented “Reading Women’s Culture: Progressive Discourse on ‘Storyline’ on NPR (National Public Radio)”

James Delle, Visiting Assistant Professor, Anthropology, New York University, presented “Analyzing Space as Material Culture: An Archaeological Consideration of Coffee Plantations in Jamaica’s Blue Mountains.”

NOVEMBER
Nancy Lovell, University of Alberta, Department of Anthropology, presented “Biological Affinities and the Origin of the State in Ancient Egypt.”

Elizabeth Ann Harney, Draper Program in Liberal Studies, New York University, presented “Out of the Frying Pan, into the Fire?: Africa ’95 and the Contemporary.”

DECEMBER
Fred Myers, Anthropology Dept. Chair, New York University, presented “Framing Aboriginal Art.”

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

Alan Kolata, Anthropology, University of Chicago, presented “Human-Environment Interactions in the Andean High Plateau: A Historical Perspective.”

David Friedel, Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, presented “Killing the Ancestors: The Archaeology of Succession, Domination and Resistance in Lowland Maya Civilization.”

Ruth Tringham, Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley, presented “Constructing Places in Prehistory.”

Judith Irvine, Anthropology, Brandeis University, presented “Sound Politics: Speaking, Writing and Printing in Early Colonial Africa.”

MARCH
Steven Feld, Anthropology Board of Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, presented “Vocal Knowledge.”

Rob Blumenschine, Anthropology, Rutgers University, presented “Landscape Ecology and Oldowan Hominid Land Use in the Lowermost Bed II Olduvai Basin.”

Karen Brodkin, Anthropology, University of California at Los Angeles, presented “Why Can’t We All Get Along?: Race, Gender, and the Construction of American Capitalism.”


Sara A. Dickey, Departments of Anthropology and Sociology, Bowdoin College, presented “Mutual Exclusions: Domestic Workers’ and Employers’ Narratives on Labor, Class and Character in South India.”

APRIL
Junji Koizumi, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University, presented “Conceptions of Person and Time among the Mam of Guatemala: A Direction in Cultural Analysis.”

Patricia Reiff Anawalt, Director, Center for Regional Dress, Fowler Museum of Cultural History, University of California, Los Angeles, presented “Understanding Aztec Human Sacrifice.”

Katie Stewart, Anthropology, University of Texas, presented “The Private Life of Public Culture: Scenes from the U.S.”

Robin Nagle, Anthropology, New York University, presented “Class Unconsciousness and Other Historical Reverberations of Liberation Theology on Brazil.”

Jeffrey Himpele, Anthropology, Princeton University, presented “Reality Affects: Cultural Populism in the Bolivian Televisual Public Sphere.”
I'm very excited about joining Anthropology at NYU! I've fondly referred to the department as "my sister's longhouse" for ten years now. But of course much more than my collaborative work with Bambi has brought me close to the department. Conversations and projects with many of you have been important to me, and I greatly look forward to all of the ways they will develop in times ahead.

The 1996-97 academic year was a busy one for me. I spent the first half of it in Australia, mostly in Sydney and Canberra. I worked with Henry Paroi, an ANU anthropology graduate student from Papua New Guinea, to add Tok Pisin translations to the Bosavi-English dictionary that I've done with Bambi Schieffelin and five longtime Bosavi collaborators. The dictionary will be published this year by the National Research Institute of Papua New Guinea. I also did research on indigenous protests to logging and mining projects in Papua New Guinea and West Papua (Irian Jaya).

At the end of 1996 Senses of Place appeared; I edited the volume with Keith Basso for the School of American Research Press. It contains papers on issues of place, emplacement, and displacement, including one by Karen Blu, and one by me on "acoustemology" and the sonic senses of place I've studied in Papua New Guinea. Another side of my research appeared in the 1996 Yearbook for Traditional Music. This volume featured articles on the entanglements of ethnomusicologists with issues of copyright and indigenous intellectual/cultural property. It included my piece "pygmy POP: a Genealogy of Schizophrenic Mimesis."

After returning from Australia, I taught at UCSC and directed its graduate anthropology program for the Winter and Spring quarters of 1997. In the winter I taught a contemporary ethnography/theory graduate seminar with Don Brenneis, topically organized around the themes of discourse, institutions and place. I also taught an undergraduate course, The Anthropology of World Beat, about musical globalization, hybridity, and the recording industry. In the Spring quarter I taught another large undergraduate course with a film festival, New Guinea Representations. We studied several genres of films and writing (indigenous, anthropological, missionary, colonial, adventurer, artistic, exoticia, etc.) toward a critical history of how New Guinea has been imagined and depicted in the last 100 years. The course climaxed with several student video projects, including one on the New Guinea sculpture garden at Stanford University, made jointly for my course and the one Jim Clifford teaches on Histories of the Exotic.

This summer I'll be on the road performing with the Tom Guralnick Trio, promoting "Pitchin," a CD to be released in June on the PostOut label. And for the 1997-98 academic year I'll be in Santa Fe, New Mexico, finishing Vocal Knowledge. This book will be both a theoretical and historical meditation on the concept of "voice" in social theory, and an ethnographic work on vocal performance, embodiment, and memory in Bosavi, Papua New Guinea.
Several students within the department called it quits on the single life this year.

Culture & Media student Eduardo Bryce was married on October 19, 1996, to Maria Teresa Bustamante. Cultural student Kirsten Wehner was happily married to Steven Woods January 4th, 1997.

And then there was the baby carriage...

Cultural student Maggie Fishman and her husband Yiftach Resheff gave birth to Amos Fishman-Resheff on September 18, 1996. Culture & Media students Meg McLagan and Brian Larkin gave birth to Sinead McLagan Larkin on October 4, 1996, who is now nine months old and crawling anywhere she can get to. On February 1, 1997, cultural student Jennifer Gates and her husband John Gourary welcomed their first child, Justin Theodore Gourary, into the world (Jennifer reports that the labor and delivery didn’t seem so bad compared to finishing her Ph.D.). Former Undergraduate Secretary Tonya Brewer gave birth to daughter Kamylnne on March 20, 1997. Physical anthropology student Varsha Pilbrow and cultural student Tim Pilbrow welcomed new daughter Maya Ruth into their family June 14, 1997.

And we proudly announce that graduate office assistant Karen Hewitt received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from NYU in May, 1997.