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Letter from the Chair

Every year brings its distinctive sentiments, and this year’s are bittersweet -- bitter, because we have had to face the passing of Annette Weiner who was such an important part of the department’s development; “sweet,” because the department has continued to develop and flower in its own eminently collegial way. The memorial service held for Annette in March marked a moment in our lives and our collective history. I remember when she accepted the position as Chair of the Department in 1981, because we were friends. “If I take this,” she asked me, “would you want to come to NYU?” I did want to come, and I came here the next year. I hardly knew what I was doing at the time, but working with my colleagues and Annette has been a rare experience. Our lives, the department, and our careers all grew together and overlapped in this rich environment. The love for and commitment to anthropology as a way of knowing is exceptional. Whether sometimes sternly or sometimes with extraordinary grace, it was this sensibility that Annette had and shared with us all that we wish to pass on to those who join us -- as colleagues and as students.

Professionally, Annette wrote a lot about death, the way societies respond to the entropy it threatens, and the way that exchange and gifts work to sustain identities over time. Last October, Annette told me that she was going to leave some money to the department to help cultural anthropology graduate students here. Accepting her gift, we have established a fund in her name that will honor her contributions to the field of anthropology, to the department which she rebuilt, and to the future of our field. And in small recognition of all that she did for us, the department’s graduate student lounge -- once her office as Chair -- will be named the Annette Weiner Graduate Library. Annette had a great sense of style, as well as an appreciation of the pleasures of material culture, and what these can contribute to the ongoing process of daily life. The airy calm of that room reminds me so much of her aesthetic touch. Next year, I hope to launch an annual lecture series in her honor.

There are many projects moving through their own rites of passage. We are all pleased that Lila Abu-Lughod has been promoted to Full Professor and that Todd Disotell has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Our recruitment efforts were also fruitful, and Meg McLagan will join us this fall as Assistant Professor, filling a position for the Program in Culture and Media. Meg's familiarity with our department, having recently been a graduate student here, should provide a continuity and sustained focus in our visual program, and her work on international human rights and diaspora communities will be a significant addition to what we offer in sociocultural anthropology. Our judgment in offering her the position was seconded by her receipt of a Bunting Fellowship, so she will spend a semester at Harvard in the spring of next year. After a year of study-leave in Santa Fe, Prof. Steven Feld will join us. Steve’s arrival crystalizes our department’s direction and intellectual profile in the area of communication, cultural poetics, and aesthetics. We now hope that our search in Physical Anthropology will end as successfully; negotiations for that position are taking place now.

Finally, undoubtedly the greatest pleasure one can have is in the success the graduate students have had with their research and their research grants. The range of projects, their imagination, and their focus are a promise of a bright future.

Fred Myers
THOMAS ABERCROMBIE

I have apparently survived my first year as a full-time member of the faculty. It has been a very busy year. With Rob Moore, I helped to organize the department’s colloquium series, which was in itself satisfying. Apart from many interesting guest speakers, I was especially heartened to hear exciting presentations by my colleagues Lila Abu-Lughod and Bambi Schieffelin. After an astonishing number of searches, I am also pleased with the directions the department is taking with our new hires.

Teaching has also occupied much of my time, particularly (with the help of TAs Melissa Checker, Heather Levi, and Lotti Silber), leading a large group of undergraduates through the anthropological poppy fields in Human Society and Culture, which I will teach again in the Fall. My graduate seminars (World Cultures, Latin America, and Nationalism and Literature, Latin America and Elsewhere) were also satisfying.

On the research and writing front, the final proofing and indexing of my book was finally completed. Pathways of Memory and Power: Ethnography and History Among an Andean People, is now available from University of Wisconsin Press.

I also completed revisions and editing of two essays for edited volumes. “Tributes to Bad Conscience: Charity, Restitution, and Inheritance in Cacique; and Encomendero Testaments of 16th Century Charcas” is to appear as the concluding chapter in Dead Giveaways, a book on indigenous wills of colonial Spanish-America edited by Susan Kellogg and Matthew Restall (in press at the University of Utah). In it I aimed to understand how Early Modern testators engaged in two contradictory efforts to achieve immortality (of the soul, by emulating Christ and giving up their property to charity; and of social identity, by passing property to their heirs). I also completed another product of my forays into history, one involving confession, but for sins beyond the ordinary, and committed in the name of honor to preserve social repute. “Affairs of the Courtroom: A Prosecutor’s Adultery, A Scrivener’s Honor, and a Wife’s Witchcraft and Murder in 16th-Century Audiencia de Charcas,” will appear in an Oxford University Press volume of primary sources: Colonial Lives: Documents on Latin American History, 1550-1850, Richard Boyer and Geoffrey Spurling, editors. This study of the 1596 confession and trial of a man who killed his wife is one of four cases of social-climbing gone awry that I am developing for a future book, tentatively titled Fiction and the Archive: Gossip, Honor and Violence in the Genesis of Spanish Modernity, 1550-1624.

Conferences, of course, were also part of the picture in 1997-98. In November, I participated in a session organized by my old friend Joseph Gaughan titles Mything in Action, where the aim was to query the absence of myth analysis in recent anthropology. My contribution, “Saintly Apparition or Satanic Idolatry? Rethinking Indigenous Resistance to Spanish Resettlement Policies,” discussed the unwillingness of some Latin Americanist anthropologists to consider saint apparition tales within the same frame as mythical narrative, and then interpreted one such tale within the context of the saint’s historical documentation. I continued to develop my interest in the relationship between history and historical consciousness or social memory in “Whose Histories? Recognizing Without Rewriting Other Peoples’ Pasts,” a paper delivered as part of a panel, “History and Cross Cultural Narration” at the American Historical Association meetings in January. At the same meeting, I was discussant of a symposium on “Memory and Violence in Transnational Contexts.”

After all that activity, and before taking over from Bambi the demanding job of being Director of Graduate Studies next year, a break now seems in order. For me, that means research. In the early summer I plan to spend three weeks in the archives of Quito pinning down details of the life of another wife-murderer (the judge in the Charcas case). Ten years earlier, he had been acquitted on murder charges of his own. Since his case is documented not only in trial testimony but also in the quasi-fictional parodic chronicle El Carnero (widely regarded as the founding prose narrative of Latin American literature), this case opens up new possibilities for the analysis of the relationship between writing for the archive and literary narrative.

Once back in Manhattan, I hope to complete my book manuscript surveying the development of the nationalist and folkloric pageantry of Bolivia: Carnivals of Solidarity and Rebellion: Indians in and Of the Urban Public Sphere (Oruro and Potosi, 1750-1998). I will also be developing my Fall graduate seminar on the anthropology of history.
Lila Abu-Lughod

I spent the summer in England working on a number of different projects. First, and most satisfying, I finished the manuscript of an edited volume called Remaking Women: Feminism and Modernity in the Middle East that will come out in August 1998. I revised a number of other papers on my television research, two focusing on marginal groups in Egypt, rural and urban. "Television and the Virtues of Education: Upper Egyptian Encounters with State Culture" will come out in a volume on rural Egypt, and "Producing Modern Subjects: Television Melodrama and Postcolonial Difference" will come out in a volume of work by South Asia and Middle East scholars called Questions of Modernity. Then, I was invited to write a piece for inclusion as part of the catalogue for a major exhibition called "Soaps" at the Rotterdam Museum of Ethnology. I had assisted the curators in choosing an Egyptian television serial to include (along with Indonesian, Japanese, American, Dutch, and other soap operas) and so agreed to write the article. I didn't realize that the catalogue (in Dutch) would be in the spirit of the genre -- with bubbles and soap stars in psychedelic orange and pink on the cover!

Fall saw me back in New York, ostensibly on leave thanks to a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation. I did manage to work on the materials I had collected last year in Egypt for my book on the cultural politics of television serials. Translating magazine clippings, transcribing interviews of domestic workers, television directors and writers, and making sense of my fieldnotes, I found plenty to work with for a paper I had agreed to write for the Mellon Seminar on "Transnationalism and Public Culture" at Duke University. The paper analyzes the ambivalence created when Egyptian television tries to produce cultural national identity.

Meanwhile, of course, I was unable to maintain my distance from NYU. The Fall was a busy time for student grant proposals and job applications (but by the end of Spring it has become clear that it was all worth it, since the fellowships and jobs and prizes rolled in for them). As co-director of the Ford Foundation funded project to internationalize gender studies at NYU, I also found myself involved with NYU. Over the course of the year we brought in four international scholars and writers -- from Ghana, Brazil, Palestine, and Vietnam -- for two-week residencies. These were enormously successful visits that helped bring the international women's studies community together. And finally, the activities of the Center for Near Eastern Studies, especially lively this year with the theme of "The Place of the Public Intellectual," were hard to miss.

Spring semester saw me back to teaching and fully into this wonderful department again. The rewards are real, but I must say that I will also be happy to get back this summer to thinking about my research again (in between planning my new course on nationalism and figuring out what to say in the plenary address I will have to give next Fall at the Middle East Studies Association meetings, on the impact of Edward Said's Orientalism, twenty years later). I'm hoping to work on a section about women in the ideology of development. And in my spare time, I'll work on my belly-boarding in the waves of Cornwall.

Thomas G. 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 1997. He also completed a long introduction for the International African Institute's new edition of John Middleton's Lugbara Religion. He is now working on a new book about colonialism in East Africa.

Karen I. Blu

During the past academic year, I gained a refreshed view of our undergraduate program by becoming Director of Undergraduate Studies. We now have more than 200 majors and have been undertaking a reformulation of the undergraduate program. The department is working to strengthen the major in ways that will complement our commitments to teaching in the College of Arts and Science. Morse Academic Plan (MAP). I am happy to report that our department's majors are well represented among the elected to Phi Beta Kappa and that our honors students produced exceptionally strong theses this past year. One of them was awarded the Borgman/Phi Beta Kappa Prize for the best honors thesis in the social sciences. We are looking forward to the research and writing of next year's seniors.

My own research on the ongoing process by which the U.S. government certifies and enrolls groups of Native Americans who are otherwise not currently on the federal books (a process termed Federal Acknowledgment) continues. I have recently been reading the transcripts of
Senate and House hearings on bills that seek immediate and direct federal recognition through Congressional action. These hearings include testimony by anthropologists. Although it is fairly common to include oneself in an anthropological account, it is still rather rare to include other anthropologists, perhaps a more sensitive and complicated issue. I have become particularly interested in the changing roles anthropologists have played in the current Acknowledgment process but also in their activities during earlier periods when Indian groups were being characterized and written into or omitted from the documentary record.

In a second continuing line of research on artisanal production in the U.S., I have begun to consider whether ideas about types of artisanal work and why people might be drawn to or put off from them can be illuminatingly extended from models based on potters and tailors to people who devise and fit replacement limbs and eyes as part of medical rehabilitation.

Pamela Crabtree

As many of you know, I have been on leave throughout the 1997-98 academic year. I began my leave with a summer field season at the Thomas Eakins House in Philadelphia. Our excavation uncovered a turn of the century kitchen and earlier well/septic system in the backyard of this national landmark. The artifacts we recovered were an interesting mix of domestic refuse -- pottery, animal bones, medicine bottles -- and artist's supplies including a paint tube, clay, and plaster. Narmita Sugandhi, Janet Six, and Mieka Brand joined me in this work. Janet continued to work on the well/privy during the Fall of 1997, and she has written her senior honors thesis on that feature.

This summer I will be excavating in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. I will begin a multi-year project designed to identify, excavate, and interpret French and Indian War period forts in the park. We hope to begin our work at Fort Johns, the headquarters of New Jersey's defense. It is an exciting project because it allows us to examine relationships between colonists and Native Americans and to use archaeology to explore an understudied period in colonial history.

I will return to teaching in September. In the Fall, I expect to teach the MAP course in human ecology and the graduate core course in archaeology. I look forward to returning to the classroom, but I could easily use two or three more years of leave!

On the personal side, my three sons are growing up rapidly. My "baby," Robby, has completed kindergarten. He is really beginning to read and is developing into quite a mathematician. Tom and Mike are in Middle School!! My husband, Doug Campana, recently completed a short excavation project at the Petersburg Battlefield National Historic Park in Virginia. He and his colleagues used ground-penetrating radar to identify a union fort that had been leveled immediately after the Civil War. Doug's work crew consisted of cadets from VMI who were taking part in a community service project. Those cadets could really shovel dirt!!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer of research and recreation. I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Todd Disotell

I have had three articles published in the last year, with several more in review or about to be submitted. I am writing several articles with both graduate and undergraduate co-authors and putting the finishing touches on a book chapter on primate molecular evolution. I am very busy overseeing the use of two automated DNA analysis systems which can perform DNA sequencing and genotyping. Several laboratory groups in chemistry and biology are working alongside students in our laboratory to carry out genomic analyses in a variety of organisms.

Now that I have made tenure, my wife and I will be spending a considerable amount of time this summer remodeling our house and landscaping our yard. My two sons, Rick and Sam, will of course be in charge of moving piles of dirt from one side of the yard to the other with their fleet of Tonka trucks.

I have been relatively busy giving several lectures at various universities around the country and teaching seminars for high school and college instructors on the biological aspects of human variation as well as several television and radio interviews on various aspects of biological anthropology. This summer I will be lecturing at SUNY Stony Brook and Arizona State University on the evolution of modern humans and biological aspects of race. I am continuing to develop computer-based teaching materials in our multimedia teaching laboratory and for a new computer laboratory being developed for the Natural Sciences component of the Morse Academic Plan (MAP) for undergraduates. In May I supervised the Undergraduate Research Conference which was the largest ever held at NYU with over 50 student presenters. My research centers around the evolution of Old World monkeys along with side interests in most 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 beginning the fourth year of a five-year NSF Career grant which provides me support for these activities and in the second year of 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 primatology 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, Race, Primate Molecular Evolution, Molecular Anthropological Laboratory Techniques, Methods of Phylogenetic Analysis, and Human Evolution.

STEVEN FELD

I spent the 1997-98 academic year on leave in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with a visit to Australia, working on various research projects.

One project is called Vocal Knowledge, a book that is both about "voice" in social theory and cultural politics, and an ethnography of voice in Bosavi, Papua New Guinea. A chapter from the book, which in part was given as a lecture at NYU in 1997, appeared in the winter 1998 Intimacy theme issue of Critical Inquiry as "They Repeatedly Lick Their Own Things!"

A second project concerns the human rights and environmental struggles surrounding the massive Freeport mine in the heavily militarized western part of New Guinea (Irian Jaya/West Papua). For the past four years I've been investigating Freeport's mining practices in New Guinea and in the US, the company's involvement with the governments of Indonesia and the US, and their relationship to American universities. I'll be presenting a paper on this work at the 1998 AAA meetings.

Other writing and recording projects published or completed this year included contributions to the International Encyclopedia of Dance, the Musée de l'Homme anthology Dances of the World, the International Encyclopedia of Popular Musics of the World, and the Rough Guide to World Music. I also finalized "Sound Worlds," my Darwin lecture given in Cambridge last year, to be published in a volume of the 1997 Darwin Lectures on Sound. The Bosavi-English-Tok Pisin Dictionary, which I compiled with Bambi Schieffelin and five Bosavi collaborators, is now being revised and will be moving this Fall to a new publisher, Pacific Linguistics at Australian National University.

The best part of having a whole year on leave was the amount of time I had to compose and play music. I worked on a song cycle in the form of a country avant operetta about the woman from North Carolina who was jailed for taking a deer as a pet and piercing its ears. I also did a lot of playing with the Tom Guralnick Trio. Our CD got great reviews in Cadence, 54/4, and Option, and the band is playing in the Southwest, California, and Europe this summer.

I'm looking forward to settling in and teaching an undergraduate course on music globalization, The Anthropology of World Beat, and a graduate seminar on The Anthropology of the Senses in the Fall.

FAYE GINSBURG

I have been on partial sabbatical for 1997-98; while I continue to direct the Program in Culture and Media and the Center for Media, Culture and History (see Culture and Media section), 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 that, with the help of funding from the UN Environmental Programme, 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 Culture and Media section). 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 spent much of the summer of 1997 in Australia to do some final research with a number of Aborigina producers I have worked with since 1988 when I began this project. While there, I also was invited to and presented a paper at an
international conference on Indigenous Cultures in an Interconnected World in Darwin. This March, I gave the annual Daryl Forde Memorial lecture "Mediating Aboriginal Modernities" at the Department of Anthropology, University College, London and also gave talks on this research at the Center for Literary and Cultural Studies at Harvard University and at the American Photography Institute, New York City.

My most recent writings on this project include "Video Kinship: A Arcas dos Zo'e and Eu Ja Fui Seu Irmão" for the Brazilian visual anthropology journal Cadernos de Antropologia e Imagem, July 1998; "Institutionalizing the Unruly: Charting A Future for Visual Anthropology" which appeared in the July 1998 issue of Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology; "Learning from the Local in a Transnational Era" for a forthcoming collection, Indigenous Cultures in an Interconnected World, (Allen and Unwin) edited by Claire Smith; and "From Little Things, Big Things Grow: Indigenous Media and Cultural Activism" in the collection Between Resistance and Revolution (1997, Rutgers, editors, Dick Fox and Orin Starn) based on an international conference on social movements in the late 20th century. "The Parallax Effect: The Impact of Aboriginal Media on Ethnographic Film," is being republished in the forthcoming collection Visible Evidence (Duke) edited by Jane Gaines and Michael Renov. My own and other people's research on indigenous media is featured in the June issue of Lingua Franca. The topic was also the subject of a rather vigorous debate, entitled "Televisionist Anthropology," in the April 1997 issue of Current Anthropology. Additionally, my work on indigenous media (and that of other scholars) was featured in the June 1998 issue of Lingua Franca.

On other topics in the field of culture and media, my article "Producing Culture: Shifting Representations of Social Theory in the Works of Tim Asch" will be published in a collection edited by Doug Lewis, Timothy Asch: Ethnographic Film and Anthropology devoted to the memory of this distinguished ethnographic filmmaker.

My other major research area -- on the politics of reproduction -- has continued in several directions. Based on ongoing research in Fargo, North Dakota, I finished the second edition of my long-term study of abortion activists, Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in an American Community, which will be out this Fall. My article "Rescuing the Nation: Operation Rescue and the Rise of Anti-Abortion Violence" came out in 1997 in the collection Fifty Years' War: A Half Century of Abortion Politics, 1950-2000, edited by Rickie Solinger (California). I also have been doing work with Search for Common Ground, an organization bringing pro-choice and pro-life activists together around common concerns in order to help de-escalate violence on this issue.

On a different but related topic, I co-authored an article entitled "Fetal Reflections: Confessions of Two Feminist Anthropologists as Mutual Informants" for the collection The Fetal Imperative: Feminist Positions (forthcoming, Pennsylvania; Lynn Morgan, Meredith Michaels, eds.). This was my first effort to launch a new research project I am engaged in on disability, embodiment, and public space.

Finally, I was honored to be chosen as one of 40 "Young Leaders of the Academy" elected by The Leadership Project of the American Association for Higher Education.

STEVEN GREGORY

During this past academic year, I was (officially) on leave while serving as a faculty fellow at NYU's International Center for Advanced Studies (ICAS). At ICAS, I participated in the center's weekly seminar, which focused on the topic of "divided cities," and developed a project proposal for a three-year, comparative ethnographic study of environmental activism in Brooklyn, New York. In this project, I will investigate how race, class, ethnicity and citizenship status shape the ways in which activist groups in four socioeconomically distinct neighborhoods interpret and politically respond to a set of related waterfront development projects. I am particularly interested in how local and translocal place meanings and political dispositions are culturally produced, negotiated and exercised in relations to land use conflicts associated with the spatial practices and ideologies of global economic restructuring.

I have also begun preliminary research on a second (albeit somewhat different project) that will examine the everyday crafting of male sex/gender identities through the deeply gendered and very militarized hobby of plastic model making. In this project, I will investigate the ideologies, forms of male sociality and, perhaps most
illusive, structures of feeling engendered by this widespread yet somewhat "closeted" hobby.

In the Fall, I will be teaching a new graduate Africana Studies seminar, *Ethnography and the Global City*, which will be cross-listed in Anthropology and American Studies. And during the spring semester, I will be teaching the History of Anthropology in the graduate program, and co-teaching a new advanced undergraduate seminar with Todd Disotell tentatively called Race, Science and Politics.

**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. I have recently 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 jiangluanensis*) that represent the earliest known catarrhines from Eurasia, and these help to explain several key problems concerning catarrhine paleo-zoogeography.

Last summer I spent six productive weeks at the National Museums of Kenya in Nairobi studying the wonderfully complete fossil remains of *Proconsul*, a form widely regarded as a primitive hominoid. The preliminary results of this research indicate that the current perception of the phylogenetic and taxonomic status of *Proconsul* requires radical rethinking. I recently presented a paper on this topic at the AAPA meetings in Salt Lake City, and ongoing research projects on *Proconsul* brain size and vertebral morphology, with Jessica Manser and Bill Sanders (University of Michigan) respectively, are slated to be presented at the next AAPA meetings.

I also have a paper in press on zooarchaeological materials from a late Pleistocene cave site in Sabah, 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 Krighbaum 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.

The results of my previous research in East Africa, on the geology and paleontology of the Manonga Valley were recently published as an edited volume of Plenum Press. This summer I am planning to return to East Africa as director of a new paleoanthropological initiative at the famous early hominin site of Laetoli in northern Tanzania. The international research team will include three of our graduate students, Chris Robinson, Aviel Malyango and Eric Baker. The aim of the expedition is to recover further remains of early hominids, and to learn more about their paleobiology, paleoecology and biogeography. During my previous visit to Tanzania in 1996 I 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 landsnails 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 co-authored paper (with Michael Mbago and Charles Msuya) describing the results of this research has recently appeared in *Nyame Akuma*.

In 1996 I began work at an Eocene site called Mahenge, which is located 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.
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**

The present academic year has been busy as usual -- but I can report steady progress on a number of research projects, most of them spinning off our major collaborative effort on baboons in Ethiopia. I spent three months in the field during summer, 1997, with an expedition that included two doctoral students from this department, as well as participants from Washington University, St Louis. For the first time we were able to collect biomedical data and samples for genetic analysis from hamadryas baboons, the species that was shipped to ancient Egypt. Another first during this year was assaying neurotransmitters in cerebrospinal fluid collected in the field from the baboons; this work was done by collaborators at Bowman Gray School of Medicine and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital Medical Center. The results are promising, and have begun to open a window onto the genetic and physiological pathways that underlie differences in social behavior and temperament in the two baboon populations we study. In the laboratory, work on genetic variation within the wild primate populations has developed in several interesting directions. The rich database derived from microsatellite markers (the highly variable elements that make possible the mapping of the genome) is beginning to show us the population structure of wild primate populations (the kinship of animals, their reproductive success, and their movement from group to group) that could never be learned from observation alone. It is from data like these that we continually refine fundamental evolutionary concepts such as the nature of species -- including our own -- and the ways in which they originate. These findings were presented by my colleagues, myself, and our graduate student collaborators at a variety of different professional meetings.

As well as this basic research, I've been co-editing a collection of papers that document the present state of knowledge about the Old World monkeys; this should appear within the current calendar year.

During the coming year, I look forward to more work in our African project (at the time of writing, I'm just about to leave for another two months' fieldwork in Ethiopia) and also to a new collaborative venture on primate populations of Bolivia.

**OWEN LYNCH**

Good things come first! Three of our students (Lisa Milot, Melissa Checker and Charlotte Moore) nominated me for a Golden Dozens Teaching Award and, lo and behold!, I received one. The award's sweetness comes from students themselves initiating it. Again this year, one of my students, Melissa Checker, was given a NSF doctoral dissertation grant under my sponsorship. And finally once again this year, Frank Cody, an undergraduate, was awarded the Borgman/Phi Beta Kappa Prize for the best Honors Thesis in the Social Sciences under my supervision. Frank's thesis particularly pleased me because it concerned the Pushi Marg Sect in India upon which I also have done a little research. Teaching at NYU continues to be as exciting as it always was and students continue to produce the work that makes an NYU diploma a highly valued one to have in today's world.

During the year I gave papers on Dalit (formerly known as untouchable) Buddhist women activists at the AAA meetings, at a Conference on Buddhist women in Trinity College, New Haven, and at the Association for Asian Studies meetings. The Asian Studies paper went over very well and I've had many requests for a copy of it. The women involved have only grammar school education, but they have led a protest against lottery ticket sellers upon which their men waste all their money, have taken a major part in trying to liberate the Mahabodhi Temple from non-Buddhist control, and have fought for the rights of widows and other unfortunate women. Such actions in 1994 were unimaginable in 1962-64 when I first studied Agra's Dalits. I also gave another paper on the untouchable leader Dr. B.R. Ambedkar at Howard University, in Washington, D.C. Indian Dalits, many of them professionals, are now resident here in the USA. The meeting at Howard is the first step of their trying to come together with Afro-Americans in the USA to work on mutual concerns. It is, then, the beginning of a globalized movement of great importance. In that regard, I also supported Dalits when they protested in front of the Indian
Ambassador's residence in Washington, D.C. against an atrocity in Bombay in which the police killed 11 Dalits. "The field," once a far away place, has now, after many years, followed me home to live next door and changed my view of what doing anthropology means and involves.

Much of my free time was taken up with my duties as President of what was formerly the Society for Urban Anthropology and is now the Society for Urban, National, and Transnational Anthropology. That change was made in recognition that city, nation and globe are interrelated. Anthropologists study those three in terms of the people who embody and enact them. Most often those people live in cities. I've also been a member of the AAA Board, which took up the issue of the AAA's reorganization. After interminable talk, an overwhelming number of e-mail messages that literally flooded my computer, and many meetings of both the Board and the Assembly, the final plan is before the membership for its vote. You will remember that Max Gluckman once wrote an article on gossip in which he noted that the word "anthropologist" in Greek also means "gossipmonger." It's true! Anthropologists can talk, argue, and gossip, but somehow we muddle through and that's for the best. We take our discipline seriously because it has much to offer.

ROBERT MOORE

Work on two separate book-publishing ventures has continued, as time from other obligations during the academic year has allowed, in a more sustained way over the summer months. My Ph.D. dissertation manuscript has been accepted by Cambridge University Press for inclusion in their book series The Social and Cultural Foundations of Language. Summer will be spent revising the dissertation manuscript so that book production can proceed onto the next stage as quickly as possible.

Meanwhile, I have been assembling an anthology/reader of anthropological pieces on North American Indians with Robert Brightman (a former colleague at Reed College) as co-editor. All the papers haven't been signed yet, but I'm pleased to find a publisher willing to take on this rather lengthy and elaborate project.

Right now, I am looking forward to spending most of the summer in New York, preparing several journal articles for publication, and attending to a couple of new research projects conceptualized, and begun, during the school year, but that need the kind of sustained attention that only the summer seems to provide, to really get underway.

In late February, I attended the College Art Association's 86th Annual Conference in Toronto -- a new experience for me, in several respects, and an excellent one. I participated in a session entitled "Dandies: Sartorial Finesse and Cultural Identity," in which I was the only anthropologist among a group of art historians.

My paper entitled "Multiculturalism and the semiotics of sartorial finesses on the frontier: incipient dandyism on the Columbia River, 1790-1855," was based on ethnohistorical materials from the early 19th century-explorers' journals, missionary reports and documents, and so on. The reading of them was informed by extended fieldwork with the descendants of the (mainly Wasco Chinook) Indian people mentioned in these early accounts, and it examined the sartorial and related visual and bodily symbolisms manifested by a group of early "Indian dandies" who are often identified as "chiefs" in the early documents. These were people who devised ways of incorporating European clothing, accessories, and other items (including objects not belonging to either category, by European standards) into astonishing new ensembles of clothing and accessories, striking assemblages that were emblematic of their status as people who straddled cultural and social boundaries of various sorts. And who, for a period of time, successfully managed the flow of cultural, symbolic, and economic "capital" into and out of the local system, "brokering" the early period of contact between Indian communities and the incoming EuroAmerican missionaries and fur traders. It's a paper I've been wanting to write for years.

Meanwhile, Karen Blu and I continued to convene meetings of our informal North American Indians reading group. The core group included Karen and I, Peter Whiteley, Arnold Krupat, and Alice Nash (all of Sarah Lawrence College), Michael Hittman (Long Island University), and Karin Kupperman of NYU's History Department, augmented by participation from Sally McLendon (Hunter) and Sidney Harring, who joined us on the day we discussed his book on American Indian versus Euro-American legal systems, Crow Dog's Case. This has been a really pleasant and rewarding enterprise!

In addition to my usual roster of (mainly linguistic
anthropology) teaching. I embarked on two collaborative teaching enterprises this past year, one in each semester. During the Fall, Bambi Schieffelin and I devised an ambitious graduate seminar covering a truly daunting subject: "Language and Identity." The readings ranged all the way from early classics like Cooley's Social Organization to recent work by Judith Butler, with sections on "the deaf community," urban gang girls, and "whiteness" falling somewhere in the middle. This seminar was not for the faint of heart, as the students (who eventually syncopated into two separate groups, meeting at two separate times) might well attest. But memorable and utterly worthwhile.

Karen Blu and I collaborated, with real success, I think, in a very different kind of teaching enterprise, a large (70+ students, mostly freshmen) MAP course during the spring semester, "Native Peoples of North America," with Alexandra Meyers functioning superbly as TA. This was a really rewarding adventure in collaborative teaching, and the students seemed to be fully "engaged," even as Karen and I took turns gently exploding some of their cherished beliefs about Native American spiritualities.

Fred Myers

Fall and Spring were like two different years for me -- one productive in my own writing and research on Aboriginal art, and the other devoted to departmental pursuits. No doubt the dividing point was Annette Weiner's death. We were friends for over 25 years. Her death has meant much reworking, personal and professional. She did leave many memories, and a close friend's voice remains always with one. I cannot forget her enthusiasm and support for the directions my work has taken.

The Spring was really "department time," with recruitment of new faculty the principal activity. I'm very pleased that Meg McLagan -- a former student -- is joining the department. There is a kind of poetry in this, since she took the core course, when she first came here, with Annette. Personally, the most marked time was the memorial service we held for Annette in early March, planned by Robin Nagle, Sarah Morse and I. We felt we wanted to do justice to Annette's full personality in organizing this, and I thought the result was very moving.

Both "years" were productive and, as one might expect, each had its own leftover threads for completion, but the departmental year can be left aside in this portion. I have a number of projects underway. My main ongoing project is the research and book on the circulation of Aboriginal acrylic paintings. Last summer, I wrote a paper on the exhibition of such paintings in France, focusing on my ethnography of one such exhibition at the Museum of African and Oceanic Arts in 1993. Two versions of the paper appeared in journals this spring, one in French in Terrain, and the longer version in English in Ethnos, as "Uncertain Regard: Understanding an Exhibition of Aboriginal Acrylic Paintings in France." In the Fall, I worked on a catalog essay that was presented at a symposium on Aboriginal art organized by the Morven Foundation. This foundation, funded by John Kluge, who has one of the largest collections of Aboriginal art, plans to publish a catalog to further the understanding of Aboriginal art. My essay was a trial run of what I think is the final chapter of the book I have been working on - a guide to the paintings, looking at the formal qualities of a corpus of paintings by two different Pintupi men. I gathered the documentation of over two hundred Pintupi paintings as they were done in the early 1970s, so the paper explores the development and deployment of different techniques of representing their understanding and experiences of "The Dreaming." The paper, entitled "The Aesthetic Function and the Practice of Pintupi Painting: A Local Art History," is a new direction in my own writing, addressed to the visual language of the paintings as "painting." This part of the project, linked to the development of a genuine history of Aboriginal painting, tends to take on its own life, and there is much more to be done, but I think this paper is adequate as a final chapter for my book -- which I hope to whip into final manuscript form over the summer.

The symposium on Aboriginal art was exciting and productive. Four days on a country estate with most of the main scholars of Aboriginal art from Australia, the US, and Britain was joyously raucous and memorable, but there seems no division between my ethnography of Aboriginal art worlds and my participation! A goal of the symposium was to show the value of Kluge's collection and scholarly legitimacy of Aboriginal art. As a result, Kluge is giving his collection to the University of Virginia where it will become the basis of a center for the study of Aboriginal art. Of course, what this really shows is how the interlocking network of scholars, collectors, dealers, and producers that is the "art world" works.

This summer is also the time I've set aside to write the introduction and complete the editing of papers from an Advanced Seminar on Material Culture at the School of American Research organized by Annette Weiner and I in 1996. With papers from Nicholas Thomas, Chris Steiner,
Danny Miller, Claudio Lomnitz, Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Ivan Karp, Webb Keane, Annie Coombes, and myself, the volume is tentatively entitled Regimes of Value: Material Culture and Modernity. Since Annette was unable to attend, we hope to include interviews that Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett and I did with her in the volume. I hope this will mark formally the significance for me of our long intellectual collaboration.

Susana Carol Rogers

This year I have spent considerable time wishing I could get to the stacks of fieldnotes, tourist brochures, and development reports collected during my six months of field research last year on rural tourism in the Limousin region of central France. A conference organized this Spring at the Institute of French Studies with two NYU colleagues, Shanny Peer from the French Department and Kenneth Silver from Fine Arts, called "En Route: Toward the Study of Tourism and Travel in France", did give me the opportunity to begin thinking about a small part of my material, as well as about some broader issues relevant to tourism. The three of us--all just beginning to work in the tourism realm--had a good time putting together this small conference, and were delighted with the results. Vague plans are in the air for organizing a larger conference on European tourism in two years.

With the end of this school year, I am preparing to return to the Limousin for another four months of fieldwork. I am very much looking forward to getting back to the country life, and to picking up again with the many local residents involved in tourism that I came to know last year. Most of my time, though, will be spent with the tourists who arrive in greatest number during July and August. Last year, I found it extremely challenging to discover ways of making satisfactory contact with the dispersed, nomadic, heterogeneous population of tourists in the area. The challenge is all the greater because the season is so short -- it barely lasts longer than the time it takes to work out how to best go about being a participant-observer of it. This year I will do a second season, knowing that group hikes and Tourist Office open-houses are good meeting places, for example, while bed-and-breakfasts usually are not. I also expect that some of the tourists I met last year will be back again too. Unfortunately, I haven't had a chance to do much hiking since I came back to New York last Fall, but I am hoping to get back into shape reasonably quickly.

I expect that my fieldwork for this project will be largely completed at the end of this fieldstay. Next year I look forward to beginning the process of analyzing and writing up my material. I hope that the ultimate result will be a book-length monograph on rural tourism, but I am thinking of it as a kind of fine wine -- improved with careful aging.

Several articles resulting from earlier enterprises were published last year. One on the historiography of the American Land Grant system of agricultural education and research was published in the French journal Histoire et Sociétés Rurales. Another on the development of the anthropology of France among American anthropologists was published in a collection of papers on the history of Europeanist anthropology in the US.

Bambi B. Schieffelin

This year some of my publication projects saw the light of day, others are still in the tunnel. Language Ideologies: Practice and Theory, edited for Oxford University Press, emerged, and I am very pleased with the results. The Kaluli-English-Tok Pisin Dictionary which Steve Feld and I anticipated would appear in 1997, should be published by Pacific Linguistics by the end of this year. My chapter "Introducing Kaluli literacy: A Chronology of Influences" is in press in Regimes of Language, edited by P. Kroscnit, a volume that is the product of an Advanced Seminar at the School of American Research held in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

In terms of professional activities, I helped organize the Montreal Workshop on Bilingualism and Language Socialization (August 1997) held at McGill University and was a discussant for several papers. I gave invited talks at several universities including the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and CUNY Graduate Center. During the year I continued 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, in addition to a new series of text books in linguistic anthropology.

I have had very good news regarding my anticipated sabbatical for 1998-99. I have been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, and a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for my book project New Words, New Worlds: Missionization, Literacy, and Social Transformation in
**Kaluli Society.** The book focuses on the impact of rapid Christian missionization and introduction of literacy on the communicative resources and social organization of Kaluli society. Introduced forms of knowledge about their own and the outside world challenged Kaluli notions of truth, knowledge and authority, transforming ways they interpret events, establish facts, convey opinions and imagine themselves. Based on linguistic and ethnographic research in Papua New Guinea both before and during missionization (1967-1995), I analyze the emergence of new Kaluli genres and interpretive procedures, e.g., Bible translation, sermons, literacy lessons, demonstrating the active role Kaluli play in linguistic innovation and social reorganization of their society. This work contributes to anthropological studies of missionization, literacy, and social change, and will provide important insights into cultural contact and indigenous responses to and reworkings of imposed ideologies. I look forward to writing and finishing the book by the end of the sabbatical time.

**Constance Sutton**

As the term ends, the Caribbean is much on my mind. I meet tonight with a group of students from my undergraduate Caribbean course (given this past term) to go over the itinerary for a trip to Cuba which I have been busily arranging. The US restrictions on travel to Cuba have made this a very complicated affair, including the long wait to receive a license from the Treasury Department to spend money in Cuba. But the trip is now scheduled to take place in early July when the Santiago de Cuba Caribbean festival will be occurring. The students will also be spending time in Santa Clara, where the revolution "put the final nail in Batista's coffin," and where Che Guevara's remains are buried. Students will be researching issues of race, politics, gender and the African legacy for their final term project, which they will submit when they return. They are fortunate to have as their guide my Afro-Cuban friend and colleague, Pedro Perez Sarduy who is a poet, novelist, journalist and comes from Santa Clara. The trip will include visits to Havana, Guantanamo, Camaguey, Mantanza, as well as Manzanillo and Trinidad.

The Caribbean is on my mind as I also make arrangements to go to Barbados in late July to complete the field research on the project I began four years ago. I had to cancel my plans to do this last summer, but it looks good for this summer and I will be able to stay on into September because I will be on sabbatical for the fall term. The project is a study of how Barbadians of differing generations, genders, and socio-economic status re-envision their pasts, both personal and national. It addresses the issue of how a changing historical consciousness relates to changing personal and national identities. My base line for comparison is the material I collected on the subject 40 years ago when I was doing my doctoral research in a sugar plantation community on the island.

The Caribbean weighs in as well in the papers I have recently been writing, I am currently revising for publication a paper on "Rituals of Caribbean Family Reunions" which I gave in England at an international conference on The Caribbean Family in Britain and the Trans-Atlantic World. I carried out the research for this in New York City during the winter months with individuals from Trinidad, Barbados and Grenada. The study provides another perspective on the active construction of kin-based identities among today's transnational migrants. The research was fun to do not only because the Caribbeanns I interviewed were excited about the events they described but also because it involved doing genealogical charts of significant kin relations -- something I haven't done for years.

The Caribbean, and Barbados specifically, also played a big role in a paper I finally completed on "Motherhood is Powerful: Embodied Knowledge of Evolving Field Research" for an issue of the journal Anthropology and Humanism entitled: "In the Field and at Home: Families and Anthropology." What I learned about motherhood from my research with the Yoruba of Nigeria is also in the paper.

Before leaving for Barbados I hope also to complete revision of a paper I gave at the AAA meetings last November on "Coalitional Politics and Agenda-Setting Successes of Women's International NGOs." This paper is based on on-going research over the past few years on bringing a grounded anthropological perspective to different aspects of the international women's movements. I spent part of last summer as a participant observer at the UN Conference on "Governance for Sustainable Growth and Equity" where I tracked the coalition-building of
women from different parts of the world who together had a significant input and impact on conference proceedings and became an important sub-text of the final conference document.

I will be picking up more on the workings of the international women's movement on my upcoming fieldwork because like Trinidad, Barbados is the center of some very active women's regional groups, including CAFRA, DAWN (third world), and WAND. So I am looking forward to being "on my way, for many a day..."

RANDALL WHITE

This has been a rewarding year of research, writing and teaching for me. My research energies are focused in three directions: First, I have continued my large-scale analysis of the technology of female statuette production in the Upper Paleolithic. This year, as a first step in publication, Michael Bisson (McGill University) and I published in the journal Culture, our analysis of the recently discovered female statuette from Grimaldi, Italy. I also published the first of a series of articles on the statuettes from sites on the Russian Plain. Two books are in the works on Paleolithic art: one on Upper Paleolithic female representations and the other a massive volume entitled Prehistoric Art: Global Perspectives. (New York: Abrams). Second, I have continued my collaboration with Yvette Taborin (Sorbonne) on the Neandertal personal ornaments from Arcy-sur-Cure, France. This work is shedding new light on the symbolic and technological capacities of the last surviving Neandertals in Europe. Third, and most importantly, Jacques Pelegrin (CNRS) and I completed a very successful fourth season at Abri Castanet (Dordogne), France. Among the many exciting results was a series of accelerator radiocarbon dates placing the symbolically and technologically rich Aurignacian level at Castanet among the three or four oldest Upper Paleolithic sites in Europe. We now have a strong basis for demonstrating the relatively long co-existence of the Cro-Magnon-produced Aurignacian and the Neandertal-produced Châtelperronian.

Our first four years of work at Castanet have been generously supported by the French Ministry of Culture and by the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation. The importance of our results (which include the recovery and dating of the most ancient examples of graphic representation and personal adornment in Europe) and the rigor of our methods, have just been recognized by the awarding to us of a very large, three-year National Science Foundation research grant to continue this work.

The Castanet project is a collaborative Franco-American endeavor and the 1997 campaign included as key American participants many current and former NYU students (Heidi Knecht, Anne Pike-Tay, Brooke Blades, Noah Thomas, Magen O'Farrell, Laurie Matthews, and Lori Allen), as well as participants from other US universities.

RITA WRIGHT

In January, my collaborator, Joe Schuldenrein, and I continued our investigations of settlements and landscapes along the dried-up bed of the Beas River near the city of Harappa. The research was supported this year by a grant from the National Geographic Society. Settlements along the Beas are within the Harappa catchment and therefore, critical to our understanding of urbanism in the Indus Valley civilization. During the third millennium B.C., the Beas and the Ravi, on which Harappa is located, provided the major focus of settlement of the upper Punjab. This year we continued coring operations and surface analysis of these newly discovered sites. In addition, five new sites were investigated that were discovered three years ago; since that time they have been almost totally destroyed through encroaching cultivation. Located in an area, in which tube wells have recently been introduced, they have been subjected to extensive modification by tractors. One site had been scraped down to a cultural level, making it possible to see the outline of a substantial building, smaller buildings along what appeared to be a street, a possible town wall, and extensive evidence for production of ceramics or metal. At another, a well, engineered exactly like others at the cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-daro, was clearly visible on the surface and had not been destroyed. If only we had gotten there three weeks before! Seeing this destruction was heart-wrenching and makes our work even more urgent than previously. The research will continue for two more field seasons with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In September I began planning for the symposium, "Forgotten Cities," described elsewhere in the Newsletter. Although labor intensive, it was a totally gratifying experience. It involved working closely with members of the Asia Society staff, from whom I learned a great deal about organizing first-class symposia. The public response was remarkable; I continue to receive letters thanking me for organizing it. This response demonstrates the strong interest in archaeology among people in many walks of life. The symposium also provided a backdrop to the two courses I was teaching. In my graduate seminar, Cities and
States, the students read and critiqued publications of the participants as well as the papers they presented on the day of the symposium. They, along with students not in my course, also provided invaluable assistance before, during and after the event. A number of students from my undergraduate course, Rise and Fall of Civilizations, also attended the conference.

In between planning the symposium, teaching, conducting field research in January, and executing the symposium in March, my co-author, Cathy Costin and I, prepared the volume, *Craft and Social Identity,* for publication. Cathy and I were invited to publish this volume in the Archeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association, one of eight published since 1987 by the Archeology Division of AAA. With funding from outside sources, we were able to hire Susan Malin-Boyce and Mark Smith to prepare the camera-ready manuscript. Another publication project that came to fruition in 1998 was the *Case Studies in Early Societies* series that I initially proposed to Cambridge University Press in 1993. By the end of this year or early next, two volumes—one by Richard Blanton et al., *Monte Albán: The First Mesoamerican State,* and the other, *Ancient Mesopotamia: The Eden That Never Was* by Susan Pollock—will be in print. My own volume on the Indus civilization, *Arthur Demarest's on the Maya,* and Robert Wenke's on ancient Egypt, should also be in print by the end of 1999. Four other volumes are in various stages of preparation on the Aztec, Jomon, southwest U.S. and Middle Niger.

Finally, I presented papers on the Beas River project and other research at Harappa at the South Asia Archaeology meetings in Rome and the Society for American Archaeology meetings. I also co-organized an invited session with Johanna Lessinger at the AAA meetings. *Getting Things Together: Technology, Gender and Production* included papers by social anthropologists and archaeologists on a topic of common interest within the discipline of anthropology.

VISITING FACULTY

JAMES DELLE

It is with mixed emotions that I bid farewell to the NYU Anthropology Department, for although I am excited about my new tenure-track position at Franklin and Marshall, I will miss everyone here in New York, and am sorry to have to leave you all. My two years here at NYU have been personally fulfilling: Thanks to one and all for making my time here so enjoyable!

This past year has been particularly productive. I finished (with the able assistance of Mark Smith and Susan Malin-Boyce) my first book, *An Archaeology of Social Space,* which has just hit the shelves out of Plenum Press. I have submitted my second manuscript, an edited volume titled *Lines That Divide: Historical Archaeologies of Race, Gender, and Class,* and hope that will be appearing next year. In this past academic year, I have also finished two book chapters and three journal articles, the latter of which are currently under review (two at *Historical Archaeology,* a third at the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*); several book reviews have appeared this year, one each in *Ethnohistory,* *Winterthur Portfolio,* *Antiquity,* and *Passages.* I presented papers at several conferences, including the Society for Historical Archaeology, and the Society for American Archaeology, organized an invited session on archaeology and tourism for last November's AAA, and served as a discussant for sessions at the SAA and Chacmool.

This coming year will be equally busy. I am in the process of editing a volume on GIS and Historical Archaeology, which is based on work completed by the archaeology graduate students on my Finger Lakes National Forest Project this past year. I have a tentative commitment from *Historical Archaeology* to publish the papers as a special issue of that journal; the results of the project will also be presented as a poster session at next
year's SAA, and (hopefully) as a symposium at next year's Northeastern Anthropological Association meeting. I also plan to present some of my own work at conferences in Durham, England, and in Cape Town, South Africa. This summer I will be co-directing a field school on a prehistoric site near Ithaca, with my wife Mary Ann Levine. Next summer, I will be bringing a group of undergraduates from Franklin and Marshall with me to the field in Jamaica, where I will be initiating a new field program. All in all, a busy year lies ahead.

Thanks again to all the NYU students, faculty, and staff, who have made my visit to New York so memorable.

JEAN-PAUL COLLEYN

Coming from Paris (I am teaching visual anthropology at Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales), I had the pleasure to teach the video production spring program this year and I am delighted to be able to do the same next year. It was a pleasure because I had an excellent class of ten students (which is few by comparison with Paris), but what is remarkable is that they are so gifted, so motivated, and so dedicated to their work. I appreciated how quickly they learned to use the new digital editing equipment, while helping each other as well. I also enjoyed the friendly and intellectually appealing environment of the department of anthropology where I have friends I have known for years.

I am an anthropologist and a filmmaker. As such, I am in favor of using both the written text and the film. In fact, I consider filmmaking as a new way to make fieldwork -- with all the complex issues of interaction with people, the dialectic between present observations and conceptual analysis, the reconstruction of reality in a communicative process, and so on. I consider also that ethnographic film belongs to the broader documentary genre and that the anthropologist has a responsibility in the public sphere. I was lucky enough, up to this point, to have the 26 films I could make since 1980 shown on TV in Europe and to be part of the reflection on ethics of documentary films engaged by La Sept/Arte, a European cultural TV channel for which I was adviser and producer between 1988 and 1996. Before coming to New York, I just finished a film portraying a peaceful Senegalese Muslim brotherhood, the Mourids, who try to adapt to a changing world. Their Saint, Cheikh Amadou Bamba, who died in 1927, had persuaded his followers that salvation could only be attained through work. The Mourids were first engaged in the planting of peanuts but when their country was victim of a persistent and severe drought, they converted to small trade and emigration. Their solid social and religious networks appear to be remarkably efficient, and Mourid traders can be seen all around the world. For this last film, I worked with Victoria Ebin, an American anthropologist who has been working in the field for several years. Until next spring, I am also working on a study on the contribution of documentary films to anthropology with the support of a grant from The American Museum of Natural History.

Photo by Jean-Paul Colleyn
From the film, "The Night of the Pumé Indians (Venezuela)"
Pedro Juan, shaman, explaining his dreams.
FACULTY AWARDS & HONORS

Lila Abu-Lughod
* Promoted to Full Professor

Pamela Crabtree
* Grant from the National Park Service (research and excavations at French and Indian War period forts, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area)

Todd Disotell
* Promoted to Associate Professor with tenure
* NYU Research Challenge Fund Grant for Ancient DNA Extraction Facility
* National Science Foundation Grant for Interdepartmental (Biology, Anthropology, Chemistry) Genetic Analysis Facility (Director)

Terry Harrison
* National Geographic Society Grant
* L.S.B. Leakey Grant

Faye Ginsburg
* Darryl Forde Memorial Lecture, Department of Anthropology, University College London
* Young Leader of the Academy, The Leadership Project for the American Association for Higher Education

Bambi Schieffelin
* National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers
* American Council for Learned Societies Fellowship
* John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship

Rita Wright
* National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grant
* National Geographic Society Grant
* Archaeological Institute of America Grant
* The New York Council for the Humanities and National Endowment for the Humanities Grants ("Forgotten Cities" symposium)

Owen Lynch
* 1998 Golden Dozen Teaching Award

Randall White
* National Science Foundation Grant (excavations at Abri Castanet)
James Boyle presented a paper entitled "Phun With Physics: A Student's Perspective Of Geophysical Remote Sensing" at the Society for American Archaeology conference in March. This summer, he will be doing geophysical fieldwork in Indiana on a contact-era site and assisting Professor Pam Crabtree with her summer field school in the Delaware Water Gap. In other news, he will be happily marrying Ms. Alexandra Matthews in Kansas City on August 1.

Sally Casey received a Sigma Delta Epsilon Graduate Women in Science grant to do a biomechanical study on Natufian skeletons at Tel Aviv University. She spent two months last summer as a supervisor excavating at the Natufian site Ein Mallaha in Israel and will be returning there this year to excavate and to conduct research at Tel Aviv University.

Kathy Erhardt spent last summer working on her dissertation research on protohistoric native North American metalworking technology at the Missouri University Research Reactor (MURR) and the University of Missouri Department of Anthropology at Columbia. Last winter, she conducted a pilot metallographic study on the same materials at the Applied Science Center for Archaeology (MASCA) at the University of Pennsylvania Museum in Philadelphia.

Kathy also presented a paper entitled "Rethinking Technological Change: European Materials in Native Contexts" in the session "Argument or Assertion? Exposing the Historical Embeddedness of Unexamined Assumptions in North American Archaeology" at the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meetings in Seattle in March.

Patrick Heaton spent the summer of 1997 involved in archaeological fieldwork projects in the northeastern U.S. In May and June, he held an adjunct faculty/fellow instructor position at Montclair State University in New Jersey for their summer field school. During this field school, he taught undergraduates excavation methods at a prehistoric chert quarry, and supervised a mapping project around the facilities of a 19th-century mining complex in Franklin, New Jersey.

In July and August, Patrick worked on a number of projects locally with a contract archaeology company based in Connecticut. He has also been conducting historical archive research in upstate New York in preparing to write his MA thesis. This project involves researching land ownership, land use, and changing land values for a number of abandoned 19th and early 20th-century farmsteads in the Finger Lakes National Forest. This information is being incorporated into a GIS (Geographic Information System) as a means of exploring the potential of such applications for historical archaeology research projects.

Christine Kimbrough spent the academic year funded by the Fulbright Foundation and the American Research Institute in Turkey Fellowships, conducting ethnoarchaeological research on contemporary Turkish weavers and studying artifacts from several archaeological sites with evidence of textile production. She presented a paper entitled "Identification of Archaeological Fiber and Wood Using Low Vacuum Scanning Electron Microscopy" at the Society for American Archaeology meetings in March, which was jointly authored by David Lentz at the New York Botanical Gardens and NYU's Rita Wright.

Susan Malin-Boyce worked with Dr. Joseph Schultenrein at Geoarchaeological Research Associates (GRA) during the 1997-98 academic year. This summer Susan is continuing to work part-time at GRA on local projects and mapping of materials collected in the field in Pakistan.

Laura Miller, with the support of a National Science Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, spent the spring semester at Harappa, Pakistan, where she collected ethnographic data. Laura also studied the intra-site distribution of archaeological fauna from a variety of activity areas within the ancient city.

Suanna Selby participated in the poster session at the Society for American Archaeology meetings. She spent the fall semester at Texas A&M studying geoarchaeology and conducted field research at Tell Brak in Syria during part of the spring semester.

Mark Smith received a Salwen Fellowship for his dissertation research. He also participated in several excavations this year, one of which was at the Yeronisos Island excavation in Cyprus where he was trench supervisor under NYU's Prof. Joan Connelly. He also participated in a study season in Bodrum (Turkey) with material from the Uluburun shipwreck excavation, under Prof. Cemal Pulak of the Institute of Nautical
Archaeology. Another excavation brought him back to Turkey to study at the Bozburun shipwreck under Prof. Fred Hocker, also of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology. Lastly, he participated in an archaeological survey of the Finger Lakes National Forest and implementation of the associated GIS project under NYU visiting professor James Delle.

Laurie Tedesco was a preceptor for Prof. Wright’s MAP course, Ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt, for which she received an NYU Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award. She also conducted dissertation research at Tell Brak in Syria during the spring semester. Laurie also published the preface of the encyclopedia series History of the Ancient and Medieval World entitled “Origins of Humanity.”

Noah Thomas will participate in excavations for the fifth season at the Early Upper Paleolithic site of Abri Castanet, Dordogne, France, this summer. He completed his MA thesis entitled “Microvestige Analysis: A Preliminary Methodology” on materials from Abri Castanet, detailing the methods and results of an analysis involving the microremains of subsistence activities, tool and ornament production present in the site.

Julie Zimmerman-Holt is currently working at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield, identifying bones for her dissertation. She also taught at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, this past Fall.

Alice Apley presented a paper in November entitled “The Cabbage Shredders: Women and Work in Botswana” at the African Studies Association Conference in Columbus, Ohio. She is also working part-time for the Brooklyn Children’s Museum, collecting video and still images of children’s play and gatherings for an exhibit which will open late this year called “Together!”

Jessica R. Cattelino retired as president of the Anthropology Graduate Student Association to continue her research on gated communities, civilian policing, political participation and space.

Melissa Checker will be reading her paper entitled “We All Breathe the Same Air: Redefining the Environment as a New Metaphor for Old Social Justice Struggles” at the AAA conference this December. She also organized and chaired a session for the 1997 AAA meetings entitled “Bridging Unsafe Waters: Anthropologists in Environmental Justice Struggles” and also presented it as a poster session at the “City, Space and Globalization” symposium at the University of Michigan College of Architecture and Urban Planning in February. Melissa recently received a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant to support her research.

Beth Epstein successfully defended her dissertation, entitled “Collective Terms: The Politics of Race, Culture and Community in a French New Town,” in the Spring. She is currently teaching at the NYU Study Abroad Program in Paris. Beth will marry Max Hounza in June and plans to live in Paris.

Marcelo Fiorini presented his paper “Embodied Names: Construing Namibiquara Personhood through Naming Practices” at a panel presented at the 1997 AAA meetings. The panel was entitled “Personhood, Ritual, and Memory,” and it was chaired by Prof. Beth A. Conklin of Vanderbilt University. He has completed the Program in Culture and Media and is hoping to put his final video project “River of Gold: Land and the Sarar Namibiquara” online this summer. His review of “Taking Aim,” a video by Monica Frota on the introduction of video technology among the Kayapo of Brazil, is due to appear in the Fall Visual Anthropology Review.

Daniel Todd Fisher received a Foreign Languages Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for the study of Arabic. He will be going to Seattle to study Arabic and to work at the University of Washington.

Wendy Leynse received the Michel Fribourg Fellowship and spent the Spring at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris, France, finishing her coursework and doing preliminary dissertation research.


Irina Carlota Silber will present a paper at the LASA Conference in September entitled “Fui, Soy y Seguire Siendo Revolucionaria: Development Contradictions in Post-War El Salvador.” She recently returned from her
fieldwork and dissertation research in Chalatenango, El Salvador.

Elizabeth Smith spent last summer doing fieldwork on tourism in Aswan, Egypt, for her MA. Following her research, she wrote a paper based on her MA thesis entitled "Representations of Nubian Culture in Tourism in Aswan: The Village and the Museum as Sites of Contested Identity." It was accepted to a conference on "Manufacturing Heritage, Consuming Tradition: Development, Preservation, and Tourism in the Age of Globalization" which will be held in Cairo, Egypt, on December 15-19, 1998.

Deborah Thomas, after returning from her fieldwork in December, received a Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for the 1998-99 academic year. Deborah also gave a talk at the American Museum of Natural History as part of a Diaspora program during Black History Month and has been invited to present a lecture at Tulane University in New Orleans this Fall.

Winifred Tate received a Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) Summer Travel Grant. Last Fall, she presented a paper, "Maquila Monitoring: Lessons from Central America," at the Southern Labor Conference at the College of William and Mary. In October, she presented a work in progress entitled "Critical Reflections on Human Rights Practice" at a Human Rights Discussion Group at Columbia University. Winifred also authored a report, "Losing Ground: Human Rights Advocates Under Attack," which was published in November by the Washington Office on Latin America and guest lectured at the "Human Rights and Foreign Policy" seminar at the School for International Policy (SIPA) at Columbia University in March. She has also been a consultant for BBC Radio on vallenato music for a program on Colombia that was aired in April.

Kristen Wehner received a Wenner-Gren Pre-doctoral Dissertation Grant in 1997 to conduct her fieldwork. Since then, she has been in Canberra, Australia, researching the effects of how cultural, organizational and policy contexts for developing the National Museum of Australia will shape the narratives of nation, history and identity when the museum opens in the year 2001. She has also written a review of Judith Kapferer's Being All Equal in JASO (the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford) (forthcoming).

Diana Wells, while writing her dissertation, is working part time at Ashoka: Innovators for the Public, a global nonprofit organization that finds and supports outstanding individuals with ideas for far-reaching social change.

Linguistics

Steve Albert conducted preliminary fieldwork during a four-week visit to France last summer, and selected a field site for his dissertation on linguistic innovation among French adolescents. He has received a Chateaubriand Fellowship and a Fulbright Fellowship for dissertation fieldwork (to begin this October), as well as a pre-doctoral Wenner-Gren grant for his research.

Jilllan Cavanaugh received her MA, entitled "Italian Language Ideologies: a Metalevel Exploration of Academic Discourses," in September. She was granted a GSAS Predoctoral Summer Fellowship and The Council for European Studies' Pre-dissertation Fellowship for travel to Italy this summer where she will continue her research.

Ayala Fader received a Spencer Dissertation Fellowship for Research Related to Education, the Jewish Memorial Dissertation Fellowship, and a Lucius Littauer Foundation Fellowship. She also presented several papers. The first, entitled "Socializing Bilingualism in a Hasidic Community in Brooklyn," was presented last year at the Montreal Workshop on Bilingualism, where Ayala also co-organized an invited session, "Language Socialization in Multilingual Contexts: Reproduction and Change of Ideology, Codes and Community." She presented another paper at the 1997 AAA meetings entitled "Learning Difference: Language Socialization in a Hasidic community in Boro Park, Brooklyn" as well as a paper at the 1998 American Association of Applied Linguistics meeting in Seattle entitled "Morality and Linguistic Practice."

Paul Garrett wrote and presented a number of papers this year. The first of these was "High Kwéyól: The Emergence of a Formal Creole Register in St. Lucia," a chapter to appear in a volume edited by John McWhorter with the working title Current Issues in Pidgin and Creole Linguistics (Amsterdam: John Benjamins). Paul also presented this paper at an annual meeting of the Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics in London last June. He presented his paper "Language Socialization, Convergence, and Shift in St. Lucia" at the Montreal Workshop on Bilingualism and Language Socialization.

Jerry Lombardi spent the year working on his dissertation and some conference papers on the social worlds of computer users in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He focused on the extremely creative ways in which different age groups use the written word online to position themselves in a complex setting that reflects the history of technology in Brazil as well as the structural adjustments the country is currently undergoing.

Kathe Managan received a CLACS summer travel grant to do pre-dissertation fieldwork in Guadeloupe. She completed her MA last year, entitled "The Mangrove Swamp of Creoleness: Articulations of Gender and Race in the Language Ideology of Creolité," and presented a paper entitled "Gendered Language Ideology in the Martinican Creolité Movement" at the Berkeley Women and Language conference.

Amy Paugh completed her doctoral dissertation fieldwork in Dominica, West Indies. She was awarded a Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for Research Related to Education for her dissertation write-up. At the annual AAA meetings, Amy presented a paper entitled "Language Socialization and the Changing Status of Patwa in Dominica, W.I." as part of the invited panel on "Language Socialization in Multilingual Contexts: Reproduction and Change of Ideologies, Communities, and Codes."

PHYSICAL

Tamsin Wooley-Barker received a Sokol Travel Award and a Dean's Dissertation Award. She has written an article with Professors Clifford Jolly, Todd Disotell and Shimelis Beyene entitled "Intergeneric Hybrid Baboons" which was published in the International Journal of Primatology. She also presented a paper at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meetings in St. Louis and Salt Lake City as well as the Society for the Study of Evolution 1998 meetings in Vancouver. She plans to do fieldwork and travel to Awash National Park and Menagesha National Forest in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Wendy Dirks received the James Arthur Dissertation Fellowship for "Dental Development and Life History in Catarrhine Primates." She made her third trip to England in February to do research at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and University College, London. The purpose of her trip was to explore alternative laboratory techniques for the preparation of histological thin sections which Wendy has modified for use in our department's newly upgraded faunal increment laboratory in the paleolithic archaeology facilities. Her first publication, "Histological Reconstruction of Dental Development and Age at Death in a Juvenile Gibbon (Hylobates lar)," will be in a special issue of the Journal of Human Evolution this Fall.

Catherine White Flattmann and her husband Gerald became the proud parents of Theodore Riley Flattmann on February 24.

Kimberly Williams-Guillén received her MA last year entitled "Inter- and Intra-Specific Variation in the Locomotor Behavior of Captive Callitrichins." She received a Herman and Margaret Sokol Pre-dissertation Summer Travel Grant which she will utilize to travel to Nicaragua for one month with researchers from the Wildlife Conservation Society. The focus of her trip will be to census mantled howler monkeys living on coffee plantations, which is part of a long-term conservation project which will involve her conducting a year-long study of their feeding ecology and ranging behavior.

John Krighbaum conducted his fieldwork in Las Vegas this Spring and will be again at Sarawak this Summer. He presented a paper at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meetings entitled "Prehistoric human subsistence in tropical Southeast Asia: Isotopic evidence from Niah Cave." This Summer, he will be co-convening with a colleague, Ipoi Datan (Sarawak Museum), on a session at the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association meeting entitled "Recent Advances in Bornean Archaeology," where he will also present his research. In other news, the National Geographic Society staff has plans to visit the Niah Cave this July for possible coverage in their continued series on "The Dawn of Humans."

Varsha Pilbrow received an L.S.B. Leakey Research Grant and a Wenner-Gren Foundation grant. This Summer and Fall, Varsha will travel to museums in the U.S.,
Europe, and Africa to study the craniodental specimens of recent hominoids and the fossil material of some Miocene hominoids.

Lisa Schlotterhausen submitted an abstract entitled "A comparison of the social and feeding behaviors between a wild and commensal group of Bonnet Macaques (Macaca radiata) in the Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary, South India," which has been accepted by the American Society of Primatologists. She has also submitted a second abstract entitled "Poor Creatures! They can't find food in the forest: People's views on monkeys in South India" to the International Primatological Society. In September of 1996, Lisa married Annamalai Prabhakar and gave birth to her son, Karthik Meta Prabhakar, this February. She is currently writing her dissertation.

PROGRAM IN CULTURE & MEDIA

Julie Yuan Yu Chu will present her paper "Local Color: Early Visual Representations of New York's Chinatown in Tourist Discourses" at the "Urban Sites/Urbanites" panel at the August "Visible Evidence VI" conference in San Francisco. She will also publish a paper in the Fall entitled "Navigating the Media Environment: How Youths Claim a 'Place' Through Zines" in Social Justice.

Tejaswini Ganti presented a paper entitled "Imagining the Audience: The Cultural Logic of the Production and Distribution of Hindi Films" at an April conference held at the University of Iowa entitled "Bollywood (Un)Limited: Global Responses to Indian Popular Cinema." She has also been a panelist on "The Effect of Hollywood on World Cinema" at the May "Craft and Commerce in Cinema" conference sponsored by NYU's Stern School of Business. As a discussant, Teja attended a conference on "Colonialism, Neo-Colonialism, and the Media: India and the Western Imaginary" at the 26th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin at Madison last October.

Teja screened her documentary "Gimme Somethin' To Dance To!" as well as gave a presentation about popular culture and the South Asian Diaspora in Meg McLagan's "Asians in America" seminar at Barnard College. She was also a participant in the Ford and MacArthur Foundation jointly sponsored NYU-University of Chicago Graduate Student Workshop at NYU in May.

Brian Larkin was hired as an Assistant Professor at Barnard College. He was also recognized as a Mellon Fellow at Wesleyan University Center for the Humanities and obtained a Major Cultures Fellowship from the Columbia University Society of Fellows. Brian also published two articles: "Indian Films and Nigerian Lovers: Media and the Creation of Parallel Modernities" (Africa 1997 67(3)) and "Hausa Dramas and the Rise of Video Culture in Nigeria" in Nigerian Video Films (Jonathan Haynes, ed., 1997; Jos: Nigerian Film Corporation). Most importantly, Brian received his Ph.D. this Spring; his dissertation was entitled "Islam and the Social Practice of Media in Northern Nigeria."

Lisa Stefanoff has written a chapter on Australian and Oceanic film and video collections for Footage: the Worldwide Moving Image Sourcebook (Prelinger Archives/Second Line Search, 1997). She also conducted fieldwork in Australia towards the end of 1997, and began to produce a Ph.D. project whilst there. She will return to the northwest of Australia for pre-field work research this summer. Lisa also curated and produced a one-day symposium of screenings and discussions in April. Entitled "Views From Australia: Race, Media, Ethnography," it featured the film work of Carolyn Strachen and Alessandro Cavadini with commentary from the NYU Anthropology Department and Culture and Media faculty. Following this she continued to work as a freelance correspondent/photographer for a Sydney community newspaper, and produced her Culture and Media video project entitled Saxophonelisa.

Margaret (Pegi) Vail screened her documentary, The Dodgers Sym-Phony, at the Museum of the City of New York in March. Her work will now be continually shown as a two-minute excerpt within the exhibit "The New Metropolis: A Century of Greater New York, 1898 - 1998," which will be on view for two months beginning this December. For this documentary, Pegi won the 1998 Cine Golden Eagle Award. This summer, Pegi will be busy at several of her documentary's screenings. In June it will be shown at the Williamsburg Brooklyn Film Festival, where she won the Audience Award for Documentary and the Brooklyn Project award. The documentary will also be shown throughout the summer at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York.

In August, in an unusual move, the documentary will be shown as part of the Independent Feature Project and Northwest (IFP/N) Airline "Independents-in-Flight" on first and business-class international destination flights. Channel 13/WNET will also screen the film twice in August. And in July, as part of the Celluloid City: New York City in Film and Video Festival, as well as on an international scale, Pegi's documentary has been shown at the Galway Film Fleadh in July and at the RAI (Sixth
Jessica was also a participant in the NYU-Chicago Graduate Student Workshop on "Globalization, Citizenship and Discontent in the Middle East and North Africa" funded by the Ford and MacArthur Foundations. She has also organized a panel for the upcoming AAA meetings on "Anxiety and Ambivalence in Postcolonial Art Worlds."

### Graduate Student 1998 Awards & Honors

- **Steve Albert**  
  * Chateaubriand Fellowship  
  * Fulbright Fellowship  
  * Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant

- **Alicia Carmona**  
  * NSF Graduate Fellowship

- **Sally Casey**  
  * Sigma Delta Epsilon - Graduate Women in Science Grant

- **Jillian Cavanaugh**  
  * GSAS Pre-doctoral Summer Fellowship  
  * Council for European Studies Pre-dissertation Fellowship

- **Melissa Checker**  
  * NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

- **Wendy Dirks**  
  * James Arthur Dissertation Fellowship

- **Ayala Fader**  
  * Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship  
  * The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Research Dissertation Fellowship

- **Daniel Fisher**  
  * FLAS Fellowship for the Study of Arabic

- **Thalia Gray**  
  * American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship

- **Bert Salwen Fellowship**  
  * Leo Hsu  
  * NSF Graduate Fellowship

- **Wendy Leynse**  
  * Michel Fribourg Fellowship

- **Brian Larkin**  
  * Mellon Fellowship, Wesleyan University Center for the Humanities  
  * Major Cultures Fellowship, Columbia University Society of Fellows

- **Kathe Managan**  
  * CLACS Summer Travel Grant  
  * Social Sciences and the Caribbean University Summer Scholarship

- **Laura Miller**  
  * NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

- **Ayshe Parla**  
  * NYU Alumnae Club University-Wide Scholarship Award

- **Jennifer Patico**  
  * P.E.O. Scholar Award  
  * IREX Individual Advanced Research Improvement Grant

- **Amy Paugh**  
  * Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship  
  * Wenner-Gren Foundation Grant (extension)
Varsha Pilbrow  
* L.S.B. Leakey Foundation Research Grant  
* Wenner-Gren Foundation Pre-doctoral Grant

Suanna Selby  
* Goodman Fellowship

Shalini Shanker  
* SSRC Minority Summer Dissertation Fellowship Workshop

Mark Smith  
* Bert Salwen Fellowship

Winifred Tate  
* CLACS Summer Travel Grant

Lauri Tedesco  
* Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

Deborah Thomas  
* Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

Noah Thomas  
* Goodman Fellowship

Tamsin Woolley-Barker  
* Herman and Margaret Sokol Pre-dissertation Summer Travel Grant  
* June Frier Esserman Dissertation Award

Kimberly Williams-Guillén  
* Herman and Margaret Sokol Pre-dissertation Summer Travel Grant

Jessica Winegar  
* American Research Center in Egypt Dissertation Fellowship  
* Fulbright Fellowship
The Program in Culture and Media has had a very active year, with a lot of very exciting developments in terms of funding, faculty additions and achievements, and student accomplishments.

CONTINUING, NEW AND VISITING FACULTY AND STAFF

Faye Ginsburg continued to direct the Program while on sabbatical this past year and next, finishing her book on indigenous media (see her listing under faculty). While she was on leave from teaching, we have had excellent support from new and adjunct faculty.

After an extensive search, we were delighted to hire Meg McLagan as our new junior faculty person. Meg, who received her doctorate from NYU two years ago, has been teaching at Barnard College for the last two years as a Mellon Humanities Fellow; prior to that she was a Weatherhead Resident Fellow at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Currently, Meg is co-producing a documentary, “Between Worlds,” on young Tibetans living in exile in Dharmsala, India; and a book on the relations between the Tibetan diaspora and their western supporters based on her dissertation “Mobilizing for Tibet.” Meg has worked on a number of films, including the acclaimed “Paris is Burning” and “Tibet in Exile,” which has won a number of awards. She will be on leave during the spring of 1999 to take a prestigious Bunting Fellowship at Radcliffe College. Her articles include “Computing for Tibet: Virtual Politics in the Post Cold War Era” in Connected: Engagements with Media at Century’s End (George Marcus, ed.) and “Mystical Visions in Manhattan: Deploying Culture in the Year of Tibet” in Tibetan Culture in the Diaspora (Frank Korem, ed.).

We were also fortunate to have the distinguished anthropologist and filmmaker Jean-Paul Colley, a visiting faculty member from École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. Author of a number of books on West Africa, social anthropology, and ethnographic film, Jean-Paul is also a prolific filmmaker. He has been in charge of programming and producing documentaries for Belgium Television (RTBF) and the European Cultural Channel (ARTE). He has just completed a new film, “La Baraka des Marchands Mourides,” on the migration of young Senegalese men from Africa to Marseilles, France, which was screened in Belgium (RTBF) this January and will be screened in France (ARTE) this August as well as at the 1998 Margaret Mead Festival in November. While here, he screened and lectured on his most recent film made for French television, “L’école d’Asie,” on the French scholars who lived and worked in France’s former colonies in Southeast Asia. Jean-Paul is also a research fellow for 1997-98 at the Department of Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History where he is researching the history of ethnographic film in the U.S.

Brian Larkin, who received his Ph.D. from our department in May 1998 for his dissertation “Uncertain Consequences: The Social and Religious Life of Media in Northern Nigeria,” taught our spring semester seminar in Culture and Media. In the Fall of 1998, he will begin as an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at Barnard College. In the Spring of 1999, he will be a Senior Research Fellow at the Center for the Humanities at Wesleyan College. His publications include “Indian Films, Nigerian Loves: Media and the Creation of Parallel Modernities,” (Africa 1998 (67)3) and “Hausa Dramas and the Rise of Video Culture in Nigeria” in Nigerian Video Films, edited by John Haynes.

We were sorry to lose Barry Dornfeld, who taught in our department and the Culture and Media program for five years. He has decided to move out of the academy and is currently working as an associate at the Center for Applied Research in Philadelphia. Barry’s book, Producing Public Television: Producing Public Culture (Princeton University Press) came out in Spring of 1998. His award-winning film, “Plenty of Good Women Dancers: African-American Hoofers in Philadelphia,” on the artistic relationship between old and young African American tap dancers has been shown in numerous places around Philadelphia, including a premiere at The Clef Club last year. It was also shown this year at the Philadelphia Tap Festival and the national meeting of the Oral History Association.

Our counterpart in Cinema Studies, Prof. Toby Miller, had two books come out in 1998: Technologies of Truth: Cultural Citizenship and the Popular Media (Minnesota), and The Avengers (British Film Institute), the latter of which has received wide praise in a number of publications including The New York Times Book Review.

The talent, dedication, and enthusiasm of our program staff have been absolutely crucial to things going so well this year. Our studio and equipment coordinator, Brian de Cubellis, 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. Brian has recently completed a 35mm short narrative, “Be Mine Forever,” set...
in a nursing home. Trish finished her video documentary “React” about the New York City performers Living Lessons and Sapphire who use their experiences of domestic violence in their theatrical work. She also co-edited *Queer Transexions of Race, Nation and Gender* (forthcoming, Duke University Press).

Pegi Vail, the Program’s graduate assistant for this year, has kept us all organized and informed and has had wonderful success with her recently completed award-winning video documentary “The Dodgers Sym-phony” (see screenings below).

**FUNDING AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADES**

This year, we received a grant of $8500 from the Curricular Development Challenge Fund to upgrade our studios to meet the current professional standard. The funding enabled us to buy a non-linear digital video editing system (the Avid MC Express) this Spring.

We are also extremely grateful for a grant from anthropologist William (Bill) Heaney for $15,000, to support the continued development of ethnographic film at NYU. The money will enable us to buy several digital cameras for next year’s class, professional tape recorders, production materials for students, and will also help support the annual conference with the Margaret Mead festival.

**STUDENTS**

**NEW PH.D.S, JOBS AND POST-DOCS**

Congratulations to Culture and Media students who completed their dissertations:

- **Tom Bikales** (Anthropology) “From Culture to Commercialization: The Production and Packaging of an African Cinema in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso” (with funding from the Social Science Research Council and ACLS). Tom is now studying at Yale Law School.

- **Brian Larkin** (Anthropology) “Uncertain Consequences: The Social and Religious Life of Media in Northern Nigeria” (with funding from SSRC, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, and an NYU Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship). Brian has a tenure-track line at the Barnard College Department of Anthropology, and in the Spring of 1999 he will be a Senior Research Fellowship at the Center for the Humanities at Wesleyan College.

- **Alison Griffiths** (Cinema Studies): “The Origins of Ethnographic Film” (with funding from an NYU Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship, a Charlotte Newcombe Fellowship, and a Jay Leyda Award for Academic Achievement). Alison has a tenure-track line in the Department of Speech at Baruch College in New York City, and has deferred a postdoctoral fellowship at the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research at the Australian National University in Canberra.

**Maureen Mahon** and **Marilyn Thomas-Houston**, who completed their dissertations last year, are teaching, respectively, at Wesleyan College and at the University of South Carolina.

**DISSERTATION PROJECTS**

**Teja Ganti**, funded by the American Institute of Indian Studies, is currently writing up her dissertation, “Projecting National Culture: Hindi Film Production and Producers in Bombay.” She presented her research findings at an international conference held at the University of Iowa, “Bollywood (Un)limited: Global Responses to Indian Popular Cinema,” and at a conference on “Craft and Commerce in Cinema” sponsored by NYU’s Stern School of Business. She also has a paper, entitled “Centenary Commemorations or Centenary Contestations?: Celebrating a Hundred Years of Cinema in Bombay,” which will appear in a special issue of *Visual Anthropologist*.

**Nancy Sullivan** is completing her thesis on the development of media in Papua, New Guinea.

Congratulations to **Erica Wortham**, who has received both SSRC and Fulbright Hays moneys to support her field research in indigenous media collectives in the Oaxaca area, groups she has been working with for several years now as a staff person in the Film and Video Center of the National Museum of the American Indian.

**Kirsten Wehner**, funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, is currently in the field researching the creation of the National Museum of Australia.

**PRODUCTIONS AND SCREENINGS**

**Pegi Vail’s** video documentary, “The Dodgers Sym-phony” (1998, 30 min.), looks at the history and meaning of an amateur Brooklyn baseball band that got its start with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Screenings to date include: The Museum of the City of New York; The American Museum of Natural History film and video program on New York, “The Celluloid City;” the Williamsburg Brooklyn International Film festival; the National Baseball Hall of Fame; RAI (International Film and Video festival, London); and the Galway Film Pleadh, Ireland. Her film has been acquired by the NY Public Library, Donnell Branch; PBS (WNET); and IFP/North, to be shown on
Northwest Airlines. Two works from this year’s production class, Liz Mermin’s “Citystate: The Media and the Mayor” (on Village Voice investigative journalist Wayne Barrett) and Jennie Raskin’s “Book Groupies” were shown at the Cantor Film Center as part of a series on New York City documentary.

AND PUBLICATIONS


ALUMNI

Former student Ashley David’s cinema verite piece on life in the independent film world, “Below the Line,” was shown on NYU-TV. She has also worked as assistant director and second-unit director on Claus Biedermann’s new feature “Stringer,” produced Brian de Cubellis’s film, and is in pre-production on a new documentary, “The Chicken Capital of the World.” Bill Dickerson was associate producer on Bill Greave’s PBS documentary on Ralph Bunche, and is currently working on a screenplay. Dina Hossain is associate producer at PBS/NET for the American Master’s profile of Leonard Bernstein. Laura Hubber was an associate editor of Susan Meiselas’ important new book, In the Shadow of History: Kurdistan. Greg Milner is working as an editor at Spin Magazine. Marinella Nicolson is working as an independent documentary director in London. Jonathan Stack won the Sundance Film Festival Audience Award for his feature-length documentary “The Farm,” which explores life on a prison farm in Louisiana (see also Maureen Mahon, Meg McLagan, and Marilyn Thomas-Houston, listed above).

EVENTS

PROGRAMMING

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 where, among other things, they helped to coordinate the week-long Native American Film and Video Festival, held last fall.

Lisa Stefanoff organized a one-day conference in April on Race, Ethnography, and Media: Views From Australia, featuring screenings and discussions with breakthrough filmmakers Carolyn Strachan and Allesandro Cavirdini. The event was funded by the Australian Consulate General Office and co-sponsored by the Center for Media, Culture, and History.

MEAD FESTIVAL

Our annual international conference, held in collaboration with former NYU student Elaine Charnov, director of the Margaret Mead Film Festival, took place at The American Museum of Natural History last November 7. This year’s conference, organized by Barbara Abrash (Center for Media, Culture, and History) and Bob Stam (Cinema Studies), was entitled “Tuning In: Media North and South.” The morning panel focused on “Community Antennae: The Early Years of Grassroots Media.” Panelists included Deedee Halleck (founder, Paper Tiger TV); veteran documentarist George Stoney; Deirdre Boyle (author of Subject to Change); and documentary maker Charles Hobson. The session “Samba, Sertão, and Sexuality: New Voices in Brazilian Documentary” had an equally distinguished panel including leading scholars of Brazilian cinema Jiao Luis Viera and Bob Stam; experimental filmmaker Tanya Cypriato; and Brazil’s veteran filmmaker Eduardo Coutinho.

In 1998, we will be organizing panels around the work of Haitian filmmaker Raoul Peck and the early work of Maya Deren, and will also examine the new documentary and experimental work emerging from Taiwan and Aboriginal Australia. For information on the Festival, contact http://www.amnh.org/Mead/ or the festival office at (212) 769-5305.

THE CENTER FOR MEDIA, CULTURE AND HISTORY

Our affiliated interdisciplinary Center for Media, Culture, and History (Director, Faye Ginsburg; Associate Director, Barbara Abrash; Faculty Director, Bob Stam of Cinema Studies) sponsored an interdisciplinary series of lectures, screenings, and seminars entitled “The Social Space of Media.” The Fall 1997 series included lectures by:

* Cultural critic and lawyer Patricia Williams, “Trial by Media: My Walk on the Wild Side with the London Daily Mail” on September 26;
* Anthropologist Arjun Appadurai, "Circulation and Mediation: Problematics for an Anthropology of Reception" on October 23;

* Historian Natalie Zemon Davis and filmmaker Laurie Kahn-Leavitt, "Writing History, Filming History: A Midwife’s Tale" on December 5; and

* Sociologist Herman Grey, "The Black Public Sphere in the Age of Globalization" on April 24.

Fall 1997 screenings and seminars included:

* "Tuning In: Media North and South," a seminar held in conjunction with the Margaret Mead Film and Video Festival, on November 7;

* "Out at Work: The Documentary PBS Refused to Air: A Symposium on Sexuality and Labor" on November 15 (co-sponsored with NYU American Studies); and

* "Visualizing MegaCities" (with International Center for Advanced Studies), a mini-series with Chris Choy, Akhtar Badshah, and Angel Shaw, with screenings of "Last Wish" (Tikoy Aguiluz, Phillipines) on November 25 and "In the Name of the Emperor" (Chris Choy/Nancy Tong) on December 9.


Spring 1998 screenings and seminars included:

* "Myth, Imagination, and Reality: New Egyptian Directors" (co-sponsored with the Kevorkian Center), January 30-February 1;

* Historian Nayan Shah, who presented "Urban Geographies and Vexed Bodyscapes" (co-sponsored with The International Center for Advanced Studies) on March 5; and

* Anthropologist and filmmaker Jean-Paul Colleyn, who presented "L’ecole d’Asie: French Scholarship in Former French Colonies" (co-sponsored with NYU Anthropology and La Maison Francaise) (screening and lecture) on March 6.

Spring conferences included:

* "Chantal Akerman on Her Work" (February 19 - 21) with Annette Michelson, B. Ruby Rich, Ivone Margulies, and Stuart Klawans (co-sponsored with Cinema Studies and La Maison Francaise, with support from Deutsches Haus, the Faculty of Arts and Science, and Tisch School of the Arts; with the assistance of the French Embassy).

* Lecture and screening mini-series "Mediating China: Gender, Generation & Citizenship" (co-sponsored with NYU Anthropology, East Asian Studies and History, with presentations by anthropologist Mayfair Yang, "Through Chinese Women’s Eyes: Transitions From Maoist State Feminism to New Constructions of Gender" (screening and lecture) on February 6; and media-studies scholar Stephanie Donald (Murdoch University) "Children as Political Messengers; Posters and Films in China, 1960s-1980s" and historian Harriet Evans (University of Westminster) "The Iconography of Posters in the Cultural Revolution" on March 30.

A memorial service was held on January 30 for Brazilian scholar and filmmaker Arlindo Castro, who died last year.

On May 27, the Center and ICAS co-sponsored a presentation of "Body and City, Exhibitions, Installations and Films," by Dutch filmmaker and photographer Johan van der Keuken.

While Faye Ginsburg was on sabbatical this year, Barbara Abrash served as the Center’s Acting Director. In addition to running the Center’s activities, Barbara taught a graduate seminar on History and Media, served as Associate Director for the International Center for Advanced Studies, and co-curated the 1998 Flaherty International Film Seminar: "Investigating the Real: New Forms of Documentary," to take place at Welles College in August, 1998, and Kfar Blum, Israel, in November, 1998, (contact IFSNYC@aol.com for more information).

The Center hosted two visiting scholars this year, Dr. Lalitha Gopalan, School of Foreign Service and Department of English, Georgetown University, and Dr. Marcio Friere, UNICAMP (State University of Campinas), Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The Center also received two grants from the Ford Foundation for two research projects; "Public Television in a Transnational Era" ($100,000), project directors Barbara Abrash, Faye Ginsburg and Toby Miller; and the "Religion, Globalization and Media" project ($212,000), director Diane Winston.
DEGREES AWARDED

MASTER OF ARTS

Karen Bellinger Wehner
“Through the Lens of the Built Environment: Material Life and Social Organization in a Nineteenth-century Chesapeake Plantation Household”

Jillian Cavanaugh
“Italian Language Ideologies: A Metalevel Exploration of Academic Discourses”

Kathie Managan
“The Mangrove Swamp of Creoleness: Articulations of Gender and Race in the Language Ideology of Creole”

Jessica Manser
“A Cranial Analysis of Banded and Mitered Leaf Monkeys of South East Asia”

Lisa Milot
“Written on the Surface: The Body and American Ambivalence”

Ripa Rashid
“Ritual or Riot? Colonial Confrontations and the Hosein Massacre in Trinidad”

Jennifer Raskin
“Media Educators: Forging a Link Between Critical Pedagogy and Cultural Activism”

Shalini Shankar
“Globalization and ImagiNation: Representations and Articulations of Indian-American Communities”

Sandra Suarez
“MHC heterozygote advantage in a hybrid zone between Papio hamadryas anubis and Papio hamadryas hamadryas, demonstrated by linked microsatellite loci”

Noah Thomas
“Microvestige Analysis: A Preliminary Methodology”

Margaret (Pegi) Vail
“Producing America”

Kimberley Williams-Guillen
“Inter- and Intra-Specific Variation in the Locomotor Behavior of Captive Callirhinus”

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Alex Dark
“Public Sphere, Politics and Community Conflict Over the Environment and Native Land Rights in Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia”

Dimitra Doukas

Deborah Elliston
“En/Gendering Nationalism: Colonialism, Sex and Independence in French Polynesia”

Beth Epstein
“Collective Terms: The Politics of Race, Culture, and Community in a French New Town”

Brian Larkin
“Islam and the Social Practice of Media in Northern Nigeria”
UNDERGRADUATES IN ANTHROPOLOGY

This year the undergraduate anthropology program had 205 majors and 84 minors. The department had 41 majors graduate this year, six of whom graduated with Honors in Anthropology and 15 of whom graduated with Latin Honors.

HONORS IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Francis P. Cody
“Encounters with Krishna as Shri Nathji: The Cultural Construction of Sensory and Emotional Experience in a Bhakti Sect”

Michael DiIorio
“Phylogenetic Analysis of the Coding Region of CCR-5, a Co-receptor for HIV/SIV”

David R. Gurley
“The Transcultural Movement in Psychotherapy: Interpreting and Constructing Difference”

Janet Six
“Thomas Bakins House: Feature #3”

Katie Marie Thomas
“Tibetan-American? Constructing Identity in a New York City Community”

Dawn Ward
“The Impact of Wild Rubber Extraction in the Brazilian Amazon”

LATIN HONORS

Cum Laude
Ananda N. Chaudhuri, Michael DiIorio, Monica A. Foster, David R. Gurley, Bridget M. Haas, Elizabeth P. Martin, Colin M. Robinson, Tien-An Shih, Nicole C. Sorel

Magna Cum Laude
Francis P. Cody, Francis M. Hult, Brian W. Riordan, Janet Six

Summa Cum Laude
Sophia Lynn Pitcher and Katie Marie Thomas

Elected to Phi Beta Kappa

Francis P. Cody, Kristin D. Corapi, Francis M. Hult, Noriko Ishibashi, Molly L. Mayhall, Julie C. Pastaglia, Namita S. Sugandhi (alumna – May 1997), and Katie Marie Thomas.

AWARDS

Francis P. Cody received the Albert S. Borgman/Phi Beta Kappa Thesis Prize for best Social Science Honors Thesis in the College of Arts and Science. Mr. Cody also received the Annette B. Weiner Award for excellence in the field of Sociocultural Anthropology. Michael DiIorio received the Robert Bruce Dow Memorial Award for four years of devoted service to the College of Arts and Science, the Golden Torch Award for leadership, and the President’s Award for assisting in the production of the CAS Course Evaluation Guide and starting the Class of 1998 Scholarship. Mr. DiIorio was the president of the CAS Student Council for the 1997-1998 academic year. Gabrielle C. Nickel received a Dean’s Undergraduate Research Grant and is a Sylvia Engel Friedman Research Scholar. Ms. Nickel will use this grant to finish her research for her honors thesis entitled “Primate Mitochondrial Genes and Their Nuclear Pseudogenes.” David Ng received an REU National Science Foundation grant to continue his honors research on the population genetics of Hamadryas baboons. Brian W. Riordan was the first recipient of the Edward Sapir Award for excellence in the joint anthropology-linguistics major. Katie M. Thomas received the Department of Anthropology Prize for demonstrating excellence in academic achievement and outstanding promise in Cultural Anthropology.

CONFERENCES & OTHER EVENTS

In March the Department jointly hosted the “Forgotten Cities” symposium with the Asia Society. At the time the Asia Society was also showing a major archaeological exhibit – “Great Cities, Small Treasures: The Ancient World of the Indus Valley” – which featured Harappan artifacts excavated by Anthropology’s Prof. Rita Wright. Prof. Wright took her students from the Rise and Fall of Civilizations course to the exhibition to view first hand
many artifacts from the Indus Valley. This exhibit, coupled with the symposium, served as a wonderful learning experience for future archaeologists. Prof. Wright suggested that students visit the Virtual Library for Archaeology hosted by the University of Connecticut; its URL is http://www.lib.uconn.edu/ArchNet/ArchNet.html.

This spring, Prof. Karen L. Blu, Director of Undergraduate Studies, held the first annual Honors Research and Graduate School Application Advisement Meeting. Students interested in pursuing honors research and a graduate career in anthropology were invited to attend a session which provided information on how to go about designing an honors project and applying to graduate school. Representing the four sub-fields of Anthropology were: Prof. Blu for Cultural Anthropology; Prof. Terry Harrison for Physical Anthropology; Prof. Bambi Schieffelin for Linguistic Anthropology; and Prof. Rita Wright for Archaeological Anthropology.

In April, the faculty members of the Urban Sociolinguistics Working Group (Prof. Renee Blake, Prof. Robert E. Moore, Prof. Bambi Schieffelin, Prof. John Singler) hosted an informal presentation and buffet for NYU undergraduates embarking upon the joint major in anthropology and linguistics, prospective joint majors, and other interested parties. The four professors each shared relevant parts of their respective intellectual "autobiographies," describing how they first encountered and were drawn into the study of language use in its social and cultural context. This was a successful, well-attended event, and from it students gained a sense of the "context" for their professors' respective enthusiasms in and for various aspects of anthropology (and/or sociolinguistics), as well as a sense of the excitement of "discovery" in diverse settings around the globe, from Liberia (Singler) to Papua New Guinea (Schieffelin), and from the Caribbean (Blake) to the Pacific Northwest (Moore).

The 1998 Undergraduate Research Conference for the Natural and Social Sciences (organized by Prof. Todd Disotell and Michael DiLorio) was held on May 1. This was the 25th annual conference at which students from across the sciences had the opportunity to present their research to the NYU community. There were 48 participants, making this year's conference the largest ever. The presentation format was either a 15-minute oral presentation or a poster presentation, and they covered empirical research projects conducted by the students under faculty supervision. A panel of graduate students, drawn from across the science departments, heard each presentation and judged the quality. Prizes were awarded for the best presentations. Abstracts of all of the research presented were included in the Undergraduate Research Conference Program Book, which was distributed to the over 400 professors, administrators and students who attended the conference.

A group of six students in Prof. Constance Sutton's class, World Cultures: the Caribbean, including anthropology major Adam R. Sylvain, will be carrying out research for their final course assignment during a trip to Cuba in July. They will be researching issues related to race, politics, gender, and the African legacy under the guidance of Pedro Perez Sarduy, an Afro-Cuban poet, novelist, reporter for BBC, and co-editor of AFROCUBA: An Anthology of Cuban Writing on Race, Politics, and Culture (1993). When Prof. Sutton found out that her friend Pedro Sarduy would be visiting his home country in June and early July, she asked him to take a group of her students on a guided tour. Their itinerary includes visiting people and places in Havana, Santiago, Matanzas and the regions surrounding them, such as Guantanamo, Camaguey, Manzanillo, Trinidad, and Cienfuegos. The students are all looking forward to the trip as they await their license from the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control, giving them permission to spend U.S. dollars in Cuba. Prof. Sutton, who for more than 20 years has been teaching undergraduate courses on the Caribbean, is very pleased that she was able, at long last, to arrange for students to have direct experiences and learn more about this important Caribbean country.

ALUMNI NEWS

Lori E. Allen, NYU '97, has been accepted to the Institute of Archaeology at the University College of London. Ms. Allen will be assisting Prof. Randy White this summer, as she has for the past two summers, on the Castanet project in France. Adam Becker, NYU '97, has completed his first year of law school at the University of Michigan. Mieka Brand, NYU '97, received a fellowship and will be attending the University of Virginia in the Fall.

Michael DiLorio, NYU '98, is continuing the research he started for his honors thesis. Mr. DiLorio has been accepted to the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Erin P. Dooley, "fundi wa bundi" NYU '98, is working with graduate student Wendy Dirks this summer on the taphonomy of East African rodent remains collected from owl pellets in Tanzania. Julie Pastaglia, NYU '99, has been accepted early into Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Erika Petersen, NYU '97, will be doing the MSC program at University of Sheffield in England. Ms. Petersen has been excavating in Scotland. Michael E. Steiper, NYU '97, received a National Science Foundation grant to continue his research in molecular systematics of the Guenons. Mr. Steiper has completed his first year of graduate school at Harvard and his future plans to do fieldwork in Africa. Janet Six, NYU '98, will be working this year as the assistant to David Prechure,
who is the manager of the band Blues Travelers. Ms. Six is also co-authoring (with graduate student Susan Malin-Boyce) a chapter on artifact analysis for Prof. James Delle's upcoming book about his historic site in Ithaca, New York. Namita Sugandhi, NYU '97, received a Century Fellowship and will be attending the University of Chicago in the Fall.

UNDERGRADUATE CLUB

The Anthropology Club has a new name. It is now known as the Anthropology Undergraduate Student Association. It also has a new president, Shannon Matlovsky, NYU '01. Ms. Matlovsky hosted an end of the year meeting in order to elect new officers and encourage majors and minors to join. There will soon be a listserv (an e-mail forum), for students to share information. Students interested in more information should contact the department at anthropology@nyu.edu—or stop by the Anthropology Department!

The current officers of AUSA are: Shannon Matlovsky, president; Margaret Burchianti, secretary; Jennifer Toro and Danaijali Ratnayaka, cultural/urban student representatives; Charlotte Moore, linguistic student anthropology representative; Diana Zamora and Katherine Kearney, physical student representatives. Volunteers are still needed for the positions of vice president, treasurer, and archaeology student representative.
AGSA & ALUMNI NEWS

AGSA

Over the past year, AGSA sponsored a number of successful activities that were both enjoyable and intellectually stimulating. Highlights included:

* A graduate student symposium in the spring, showcasing a diverse and high-quality collection of student papers;

* The continuation of the “Fieldwork Conversations” series, in which students who have completed fieldwork share their wisdom and warnings with their peers (participants included Paul Garrett, Heather Levi, Lotti Silber, Deborah Thomas, and David Valentine);

* A new series of “Faculty Brown Bags,” in which faculty members, including Todd Disotell, Michael Gilsenan, Robert Moore, Susan Carol Rogers and Randy White, discussed their scholarly interests, past and present;

* The first annual “M.A. Workshop,” in which advanced students provided practical advice to those entering the M.A. paper process;

* A number of activities at the New York Academy of Sciences in which AGSA collaborated with other anthropology departments in the area, including a symposium on “Food and Culture” organized by Jennifer Patico;

* And last but not least, several better-than-usual (if we do say so ourselves) AGSA parties.

For the coming year, the 1997-98 officers, Steve Albert, Jessica Cattelino, Rae Ostman, and Laurie Tedesco, will be entrusting the leadership of the Association to a new and highly competent team consisting of Jillian Cavanaugh, Omri Elisa, Leo Hsu, and Kathe Managan.

ALUMNI

Brooke Blades is currently a research associate at the University of Maryland Department of Anthropology.

Ariane Burke has been working at the University of Manitoba for four years, surviving the bitter winters by skiing and learning to build igloos. She just completed the first phase of her research in Western Crimea (Ukraine), where she analyzed faunal assemblages from two Middle Palaeolithic (Mousterian) sites, Starosele' and Kabazi V, and is now writing results up prior to applying for funding for additional research there. She is also completing a report on faunal remains from the ancient Roman port of Lepti Minor (modern-day Lanta) in Tunisia and will be in the field in Tunisia this summer. Final publication of her postdoctoral research on the equid teeth from Bluefish Caves (Yukon Territory, Canada) is due in June in Arctic. She has also just begun background research for a projected survey of Palaeoindian colonization of Manitoba as Glacial Lake Agassiz retreated between roughly 7-10,000 years ago as well as compilation of a GIS database for the purpose of designing a comprehensive survey of southwest Manitoba. Ariane also received an RH award for research in humanities, awarded 1997.

Hannah Davis Ta'ieb is now teaching in the Communications Program at the American University of Paris, after having spent four years as editor of the review Mediterraneus.

Michael Donovan is doing consulting work on consumer research.

Deborah A. Elliston received her Ph.D. in September of 1997, with her dissertation “En/Gendering Nationalism: Colonialism, Sex, and Independence in French Polynesia.” During 1997-98, she was a visiting assistant professor at Cornell University, which was a wonderful experience for her. Her forthcoming publications include “Negotiating Transnational Sexual Economies: Female Mahu and Same-Sex Sexuality in Tahiti and her Islands,” forthcoming in Culture, Identity and Sexuality: Perspectives on Lesbian Identities and Female Friendships, Evelyn Blackwood and Saskia Wieringa, eds. (New York: Columbia University Press); “The Queer Fuck versus the Gender Fuck; Or, This ‘Sex’ Which Is Not One,” forthcoming in Steps Toward an Anthropology of Homosexuality, Ellen Lewin and Bill Leap, eds. (Champaign, Illinois: University of Illinois Press); and the film review “The Not So Pacific: Pacific Islander Films at the Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival, New York” in Pacific Studies 20(1):150-161 (in press).

Sarah Franklin is teaching at Lancaster University in England, where she’s been based since 1989. Sarah recently launched a new institute with which she’s been very involved for the past three years, called the Lancaster Institute for Cultural Research, which has M.A., Ph.D. and funded research programs. Specialist areas include visual culture, migration and refugees, and the new genetics. Meanwhile, Sarah co-organized a Wenner-Gren symposium this past Spring with Susie McKinnon from UVA on “New Directions in Kinship Study.” One of the panels based on this event at this year’s AAA will be an executive-sponsored session, which she hopes will ensure
good attendance for this important area of anthropology, in which Sarah was first taught as a graduate student by Fred Myers (who will be a discussant at one of the sessions). Sarah also co-edited Reproducing Reproduction: kinship, power and technological innovation with Helena Ragone, which was published this year by the University of Pennsylvania Press, continuing the growth trend in the anthropology of reproduction sparked by NYU Anthropology Prof. Faye Ginsburg’s and Rayna Rapp’s volume Conceiving the New World Order.

Helle Valborg Goldman returned to Zanzibar (where she had done her doctoral fieldwork) after receiving her Ph.D. from NYU and working as a consultant for the Jozani-Chwaka Bay Conservation Project. The project concerned the conservation of Jozani Forest and adjacent areas and was funded by CARE-Austria and a partnership between CARE-Tanzania and Zanzibar’s Commission for Natural Resources. The projects primary goal was to enhance the livelihoods of local villagers -- primarily subsistence farmers and fishermen -- by helping them better manage their rapidly disappearing natural resources. Among other duties, Helle drafted a five-year tourism plan for the forest reserve, demarcated part of the reserve boundary, carried out or supervised research on several species of flora and fauna (e.g., Zanzibar red colobus, Sykes’ monkeys, civets, leopards, caycads), oversaw the construction of a mangrove forest boardwalk for tourists, and trained forest staff. She completed her contract with the project in June, 1997, and is now seeking similar work, i.e., that which combines anthropology with wildlife conservation, in southern Africa. Helle was married last October to Jon Winther-Hansen, a Norwegian pilot whom she met in Zanzibar. They are now living in Troms, Norway, a town well north of the Arctic Circle.

Tina Kalkstein graduated in 1995 with a DVM from Michigan State University after receiving her MA from NYU. During veterinary school Tina studied bats in New Guinea and armadillos in a Chicago zoo, but now she works only with dogs and cats. After a one-year internship at the Animal Medical Center in NYC, she is currently in advanced post-doctoral training at Michigan State University in small-animal internal medicine. Her current areas of research involve feline nephrology/urology and hematology, and she hopes to continue in academic veterinary medicine.

Michael Mbago is Director General of the National Museums of Tanzania in Dar es Salaam.

Margaret McLagan completed the second year of her two-year Mellon Postdoc at Barnard College this year and taught two undergraduate courses there. She and Brian Larkin had a baby, Annie McLagan Larkin (9lb 4 oz.), on March 18. During the year, she gave talks at the AAA, at a faculty seminar at Barnard, at NYU, and at the University of Colorado at Boulder. This spring, Meg was hired as the new faculty member in the NYU Anthropology Department’s Program in Culture and Media.

Tim Newman has been at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio, Texas, for two years, working on several projects related to primate evolution. Most of the Foundation’s efforts in the lab are centered on developing a genetic map of the baboon genome, analogous, but on a smaller scale, to the human genome project. The group recently began developing similar projects for vervets and macaques. The principal goal of developing these genome maps is for searching and localizing disease genes common to humans, but the methods are equally applicable to studies of wild non-human primate populations, an aspect of the research done here in which Tim is most interested. Tim is also continuing to pursue his interests in the mitochondrial genome as a tool for understanding the evolutionary history of baboons, and has begun generating sequence data from different baboon populations and hopes to eventually return to the field. Tim occupies his remaining free time with hikes in the nearby Texas hill country and entering local road-running races.

Marinella Nicolson is currently directing and producing two documentaries for Channel 4 in Britain. They are part of a series on the social history of housing in the United Kingdom, and will be broadcast this July (but not in the US).

Anne Pike-Tay has been an assistant professor in Vassar College’s Anthropology Department since 1990, teaching a range of courses in archaeology, human evolution, and the anthropology of art. At Vassar she has served on the Environmental Studies Development Project’s Steering Committee and the American Culture
Program's Panel of Advisors, teaching a course in the history and changing role of archaeology and ethnographic museums for the latter.

Since 1990, her zooarchaeological research has primarily focused on the Middle-Upper Paleolithic and Upper Paleolithic-Mesolithic transitions in Cantabrian Spain, where she has excavated and/or worked on materials from the sites of El Castillo, Cueva Mor'n, El Pendo and La Pila. This work has been complemented by smaller-scale analyses of Middle Paleolithic materials from two German Rhineland sites, Upper Paleolithic materials from two French sites, and Mesolithic materials from two sites in Western Scotland.

Her recent professional activities include the public lectures she gave at Cambridge University's McDonald Institute of Archaeology, the Summer Institute on Human Origins at the American Museum of Natural History, the Institut fur Urgeschichte at Tubingen University, Germany, and at the New York Academy of Sciences. Publications since 1996 include four zooarchaeological contributions to monographs of the sites referred to above; a review of the Perigordian (Gravettian) in Belgium, France and Spain for the *Encyclopedia of Prehistory* (HRAF, Yale University); chapters in two edited volumes; and an article in the journal *Archaeofauna*. Finally, she has enjoyed serving as an associate editor for the *Journal of Human Evolution* since 1996.

Mariana Regalado is currently working in the General and Humanities Reference Department at the NYU Bobst Library and has almost finished her MLS at St. John's University. She is also working as a consultant for a carnival exhibit project with the Museum of International Folk Art of New Mexico and the St. Louis Art Museum. She has also been helping to plan the part of the exhibit about the Entroido (Carnival) of Laza, Spain, as well as writing the section on Entroido for the exhibit book.

Elisha Renne is currently completing a three-year Andrew W. Mellon Foundation fellowship at Princeton University, where he has taught graduate seminars in the Woodrow Wilson School and has had the luxury of continuing research in Nigeria. He recently accepted an assistant professor position at the University of Michigan, a joint appointment at the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies and the Department of Anthropology. He also co-wrote a paper with two public health physicians entitled, "The Politics of the 1996 Cerebrospinal Meningitis Epidemic in Nigeria," which was recently published in the journal *Africa*. Elisha will soon be leaving for Nigeria in June to continue research on childbirth practices and to continue support for the Queen Amina embroidery project, both in Zaria City.

Lucy Hodgson Robinson has continued her career as a sculptor and has had eight one-person exhibitions in NYC and elsewhere since receiving her degree in anthropology. She has also participated in numerous group exhibitions and been invited to exhibit in Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands and South Korea.

Bill Sanders now holds the faculty position of assistant research scientist at the University of Michigan in their Museum of Paleontology and Department of Geological Sciences. He just published a paper entitled "Comparative morphometric study of the australopithcine vertebral series Stw-H8/H41" in the *Journal of Human Evolution* 34(3): 249-302. He is currently working with NYU Anthropology Prof. Terry Harrison on vertebral morphology and positional behavior in Proconsul, as well as with John Mitani on eagle predation of primates in Kibale Forest, Uganda. Aside from his anthropological work, Bill has a fairly busy research program studying fossil proboscidians from the Sinap Formation, Turkey (to be discussed in a paper in a volume edited by John Kappelman and Mikael Fortelius), from Wadi Moghara, Egypt, and from Chilga. Bill will also be working with Terry Harrison doing geological and paleontological survey of Pliocene sediments in the Southern Serengeti, Tanzania, this summer.

Vilma Santiago-Irizarry has presented papers at conferences in Cuba, Mexico, and the U.S., mostly focusing on Puerto Rico and the reinscription of its colonial relationship with the United States in the ethnic hierarchies generated in the identity politics that characterize intercultural relations in the United States. She has also been looking at the historic construction of Puerto Rican identity through textual representations, and was recently elected to a three-year term to the Humanities Council of the Society for the Humanities at Cornell.

Diane Scheiman is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the NYU Department of Cinema Studies, working on her dissertation, "Consuming Passions: Cannibalism and Cinema." Her chapter entitled, "The Dialogic Imagination of Jean Rouch: Covert Conversations in Les Maitres
Fous, is forthcoming (Fall 1998) in the text *Documenting the Documentary*, edited by Barry Grant and Jeannette Sloniowski (Wayne State University Press).

Deborah Swartz found four adjunct positions in the metro area this past year, including very satisfying experiences teaching primate ecology at NYU and introductory physical anthropology at Seton Hall University. She has also been working part time for a home tutoring agency for four years, teaching sick and emotionally disturbed high-school students biology and earth science. This last year, she has also worked for the Science Museum of Long Island, mostly teaching paleontology and archaeology classes children K-12. She has made progress with her research, giving presentations and submitting several proposals and a manuscript.

Sarah Teitler returned to New York this winter after living in Mexico for the last three years, where she worked as a reporter and was the assistant editor of the cultural section of the Mexico City daily, *The News*. She is currently editing a experimental short that she shot while in Mexico, and will return to NYU in the fall as a graduate assistant at the Tisch School’s Interactive Telecommunications Program.
COLLOQUIA & EVENTS

The Anthropology Department’s 1997-98 colloquium series again offered a wide range of guest speakers addressing a rich array of topics in a way that provided a kind of “mapping” of the complex and changing intellectual landscape of contemporary anthropology. The series encompasses all of the discipline’s traditional “four fields” and brought to NYU an unusual and engaging set of scholars, many of them of international stature and all of them highly active at or near the intellectual “center of gravity” of their respective traditions of work.

In November, Gil Stein of Northwestern University presented results of his recent research at Hacenebi in a talk entitled, “Anatomy of a Mesopotamian Colony: Hacenebi, Turkey, 3700 B.C.” This talk was jointly sponsored with the New York chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America and NYU’s Hagop Kevorkian Center. A two-day symposium, “Forgotten Cities,” was organized by our own Rita Wright, and brought together scholars from archaeology and architecture in an event that took place at The Asia Society and NYU’s Cantor Film Center. It coincided with a major archaeological exhibition “Great Cities, Small Treasures: The Ancient World of the Indus Valley.” The symposium was devoted to presentations by archaeologists on “forgotten cities” from several corners of the world. Their discussions focused on recent archaeological discoveries and new interpretations on urbanism.


Symposium discussants were Anne-Marie Cantwell of Rutgers University and Geoff Emberling of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, both of whom are research associates at the NYU Department of Anthropology. Other discussants were NYU’s Pam Crabtree and Jonathan Hay, David O’Connor and Christopher Ratte, all of the Institute of Fine Arts at NYU. Anthropology Chair Fred Myers and Thomas Bender, Dean of Humanities at NYU, provided introductory remarks. This event was funded by grants from the Archaeological Institute of America, the New York Council for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as support from NYU’s Center for Ancient Studies, Department of Anthropology, Dean for Humanities, Dean for Social Sciences, Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, Institute of Fine Arts, and the Center for Urban Knowledge at the International Center for Advanced Studies.

Socio-cultural anthropology was represented in September by Mary Steedly of Harvard University, whose talk, titled “Imagining Independence: East Sumatra 1945-47,” drew upon her fieldwork on historical memory in this former Dutch colony. In October, NYU research associate David Graeber discussed “Magic as Unfetishized Consciousness: Kings and Coins in Madagascar,” which re-visited the earlier work of Maurice Bloch. Also in October, Suzanne Oakdale of Williams College drew upon her fieldwork with the Ge-speaking Kayabi people of Brazil to limn “The Culture-Conscious Brazilian Indian: The 1992 Earth Summit and the Formation of the Xingu Indigenous Park in Kayabi Political Discourse.” In November, Luise White of Emory University addressed “Genealogies of Gossip: The Limits of the Politics of Interviewing and the Boundaries of Discourse,” drawing on several years of fieldwork in East Africa. In December, NYU adjunct instructor Neni Panourgia drew on her fieldwork in rural Greece to discuss “Oedipal ‘Native’ Ethnographies: Vision, Truth, and Fieldwork.”

Deborah Reed-Danahay of the University of Texas at Arlington started off the spring colloquia with a discussion of “Autoethnography and the French School” in an event co-sponsored by the Center for French Studies. James Holston of the University of Southern California drew on work in Brazil to address “Citizenship and Justice in a Disjunctive Democracy,” while in March, Teresa Caldeira...
of the University of California at Irvine, a visiting scholar at NYU's International Center for Advanced Studies, discussed "Violence, Rights, and the Unbounded Body in Brazil," both of these talks were co-sponsored by the NYU Institute for Law and Society. A talk by Emily Martin of Princeton University entitled "The Culture of Mania" was the stimulus for a lively, wide-ranging discussion in early April.

At the end of March, the Anthropology Department was especially pleased to welcome Alban Bensa of the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris). Professor Bensa drew upon his decades of fieldwork in New Caledonia to discuss "Putting Kanak Culture to the Test: The Cultural Center Jean-Marie Tjibaou (Noumea, New Caledonia)." This was a remarkable story about the planning and construction of an astonishing series of buildings designed by Renzo Piano, and named for the martyred leader of a Kanak insurgency movement -- a project in which French Prime Minister F. Mitterrand took a personal interest -- culminating in the opening of a "cultural center." While the center attempted to celebrate the architectural and other cultural traditions of these New Caledonian indigenous peoples, Kanak people themselves were prevented from visiting at any time outside regular business hours by a state-of-the-art security system -- only one of several ironies limned in Bensa's memorable talk.

Primate ethology was the central focus of three colloquium presentations during 1997-98, all of them in February: Ryne Palombit of the University of Pennsylvania discussed "The Evolution of Male-Female Bonds in Primates," Craig Stanford of the University of Southern California presented material on "Hunting Apes: Chimpanzee Predatory Behavior and Hominid Evolution," and Marina Cords of Columbia University discussed "Sex and Social Life in Primates: Insights from an African Monkey." In April, Susan Anton of the University of Florida discussed "Cranial Growth in Hominoid Erectus: Implications for Dispersal and Development."

Given the Department's preeminence in the study of film and media and other forms of cultural production, it is not surprising that another series of colloquium presentations focused on the cross-cultural intricacies of media production, reception, and circulation, with notions of cultural mediation providing a central kind of orienting framework. In October, Arjun Appadurai of the University of Chicago provoked much productive and interdisciplinary discussion with his intervention on "Circulation and Mediation: Problems for an Anthropology of Reception," an event co-sponsored by the Center for Media, Culture, and History. In January, Jeffrey Himpele of California State University at Fullerton returned to the scene of Bolivian populist television programming in a paper entitled "My Tribal Terror of Self-Awareness: An Anthropology of Media Agency in the Bolivian Popular Classes." Also in January, Margaret McLagan of Barnard College evoked a rich cultural drama in addressing the problem of "Spinning the Dalai Lama: The 'Year of Tibet' Campaign, Media Management, and the Production of an Intercultural Social Movement."

Michele Grossman of the Victoria University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia, and Denise Cuthbert of Monash University visited the Department in February for an afternoon workshop presentation co-sponsored by the Department of Cinema Studies on "Aboriginality and the New Age." In March, Carolyn Strachan and Alessandro Cavadini, filmmakers from Australia, gave a presentation on "Race, Ethnography and Media: Views from Australia."

The activities of a group of "public intellectuals" in the Francophone Caribbean were the central focus for a colloquium presentation in February by Lucien Taylor of the University of California at Berkeley entitled "Créolité in Context: The Social Genesis and Cultural Logic of the Antillean Literary Field." The problem of cultural production in former French colonies was also the context for the colloquium presentation in April by Jean-Paul Colleyn of the École des Hautes Études en Science Sociales (Paris), an anthropologist and filmmaker who discussed "L'Ecole d'Asie: French Scholarship in Former French Colonies" (co-sponsored with La Maison Française). Also in April, Georgina Born, Senior Research Fellow, King's College, and Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Cambridge, journeyed "Between Aesthetics, Ethics, and Audi: Reflexivities and Disciplines at the BBC," providing the basis for another lively discussion. The presentation in early March by our own Lila Abu-Lughod, entitled "The Ambivalence of Authenticity: Making Cultural Identity on Egyptian Television in a Transnational Age," served to introduce her work to graduate students who may not have encountered her during her recent semesters of research leave, and to give all of us a detailed understanding of the really exciting directions her own work is taking.

Once again this year, Anthropology Department faculty and graduate students played numerous roles in the Margaret Mead Film and Video Festival, held November 6-12 at the American Museum of Natural History's Kaufmann Theater. This year the festival included symposia organized around themes of "Samba, Sexuality, and Sertao: New Voices in Brazilian Documentary," "Community Antenna: Early Grassroots Media" and "Tuning In: Independent Media North and South." Finally, a concern with language has been at the very center of social and cultural anthropology, certainly in the U.S. Since the very inception of the field, it was in terms of patterns of language structure and language use that
many problems of what we now call “mediation” were first articulated -- so it is perhaps no surprise that an interest in the anthropological study of language should be a strong area of focus, alongside film and media, in our department. In October, Kathryn Woolard of the University of California at San Diego drew on her long-term fieldwork in the bilingual (Catalan-Castilian [Spanish]) metropolis of Barcelona, in a presentation co-sponsored by the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center and the Working Group in Urban Sociolinguistics titled “Between Friends: Gender, Social Class, and the Nationalist Language Project in Urban Catalonia.” In November, Bruce Grant of Swarthmore College addressed “Siberian Language Policy and the Commodities of History.” During the spring semester, the department held yet another in its series of “faculty seminars” -- smaller-scale events designed to promote more fully participatory exchanges with visiting scholars -- when Michael Silverstein of the University of Chicago offered himself up for discussion stimulated by a paper entitled “Linguistic Nimbyism and Other Voicings from the Culture of Local Languages,” which had been circulated to interested faculty and graduate students well in advance of this late-April seminar event, obviating the need for a monologic reading of the paper, and freeing up virtually the whole colloquium period for dialogue and discussion. Earlier in April, Bambi B. Schieffelin of our own department had delved into the world of missionary literacy practices and Bible translation in “Introducing Kaluli Literacy: A Chronology of Influences,” giving us a preview of her emerging research project.

This year’s colloquium series clearly became an important “site” where faculty and graduate students could conjointly focus on problems of intellectual interest in a way that helps not only to generate a sense of shared participation in a set of intellectual projects, but also serves to clarify the NYU Department’s distinctive “place” in that (now global) series of discussions, enabling us collectively to perform our covalence with anthropological scholars around the world.
In Memory of Annette Weiner
by T.O. Beidelman and Fred R. Myers

Professor Annette B. Weiner died in New York City on December 7, 1997, after a long battle with cancer. Annette was one of the most prominent American cultural anthropologists, having distinguished herself as President of the American Anthropological Association (1991-93), and President of the Society for Cultural Anthropology (1987-89), and serving as Chair of Anthropology (1981-91), Dean of Social Science (1993-96), and Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Science (1991-96) at New York University. She earlier taught at the University of Texas, Austin, and at Franklin and Marshall College. At New York University, she held the David B. Kriser Distinguished Professorship in Anthropology from 1984 until her death.

Born Annette B. Cohen in Philadelphia, February 14, 1933, Annette began her academic career late, having earlier worked in business, married and raised a son and daughter before receiving a B.A. in Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania (1968) and a Ph.D. at Bryn Mawr College (1974).

At Bryn Mawr, Annette studied principally with Professors Jane C. Goodale and Frederica de Laguna. Her major fieldwork was in the Trobriand Islands, and her rich ethnography and brilliant analyses of that society are her most lasting achievements. Her fieldwork there (1971-72, 1976, 1980, 1982, 1989) led to major reappraisal of Trobriand culture and to reassessment of Malinowski's pioneer contributions to anthropology. Annette also conducted archaeological work in Guatemala (1969-70) and ethnographic fieldwork in Western Samoa (1980).

Annette published some of the most significant and influential works in Pacific region anthropology in the post-war era: Women of Value, Men of Renown: New Perspectives in Trobriand Exchange (1976), The Trobrianders of Papua New Guinea (1988), Inalienable Possessions: The Paradox of Keeping-While-Giving (1992), and a symposium volume co-edited with Jane Schneider, Cloth and Human Experience (1989). She also advised an award-winning film, “The Trobrianders of Papua New Guinea” (1990) by David Wason, for Granada Television. She published over thirty articles and numerous reviews, the most important supplementing her monographs on the Trobriands or modifying her deep concerns with the value and circulation of goods.

Annette made significant contributions to ethnography and anthropological theory in the areas of gender and women's studies, kinship, material culture, and exchange. With her dissertation and first book on the classically central Trobriand Islands, Women of Value, Men of Renown, Annette became a leading figure in the anthropology of Oceania and its contributions to anthropological theory. Her work is characterized by a profound originality in recognizing the gendered and political ramifications of exchange and kinship, rethinking such classic questions as reciprocity, incest, inalienability, and hierarchy. For example, her first publications on the Trobriands, illuminating women's roles in mortuary rituals, recognized that women were involved in exchange and therefore expanded the earlier picture of Trobriand culture and society provided by Malinowski. She showed that women's exchange in "sagali" (mortuary) rituals occupied a central role in the total Trobriand system of social organization -- through which subclans ("dala") reproduced themselves. They did so, she showed, by reclaiming "dala" valuables that men had "given" to their sons and daughters, who were not members of the matrilineal "dala." Such reclamation was a central political moment in the subclan's reconstitution, a show of its strengths and durability.

These gifts were significant components of the larger exchange cycle and ought not to be understood as a "free gift," an expression of love, as Malinowski had wrongly done due to his ethnocentric view of reciprocity. In The Trobrianders of Papua New Guinea, Annette's approach to exchange is reflected finally in her innovative discussion of sexuality and gifts to children and in her analysis of the kula as realized through different media and cycles of exchange, with distinctive attributes for producing power and hierarchy in the social system. This second Trobriand book also raised new questions about the ways magic related to wealth, power and sexuality.
In Annette’s work, the problem of recognizing women’s value in social systems is never satisfied simply by an acknowledgment of women’s power. Instead, she used the gendered perspective to stretch social theory further. In doing so, she pointed out that Trobriand men’s gardening for their affines, rather than for their wives, is part of a system in which the ongoing bond between brother and sister, rather than husband and wife, is critical. Subsequently, using comparative work in Samoa and ethnographic materials from other Pacific societies, she developed an analysis that emphasized the relative importance of the brother-sister tie, as opposed to the husband-wife tie which only emphasized women as central by way of offering sexuality in marriage. This emphasis drew attention to the centrality of reproduction, seen as a complex and total cultural phenomenon, as a framework for understanding men and women, a framework which did not reduce women to the role of mothers but placed reproduction in a broader cosmological framework. One of the keys to following this in Annette’s work has been attention to “women’s wealth” and its circulation, usually in the form of cloth. The failure to recognize the significance of such forms of value, she showed repeatedly, has led to an inability to recognize the full nature of exchange and the role of different actors within such a system. The book she co-edited with Jane Schneider, *Cloth and Human Experience*, was a major contribution to this project, expanding on her study of reciprocity, fostering complementary work by other scholars, and re-establishing cloth and weaving as major material modes of cultural expression and understanding.

Finally, Annette’s work on exchange, gender, and kinship culminated in a series of papers and the book *Inalienable Possessions*, drawing her insights about exchange and gender into a theoretical confrontation with some of the most enduring confusions about “reciprocity” as the central question involving exchange. Pursuing the subtle intimations of Mauss, she challenged the simplistic “gift”/“commodity” dichotomy for exchange and argued that exchange should be understood as having the capacity to express identity and to produce hierarchy -- ranked or valued difference. Hierarchy is produced or sustained in the ongoing political struggle among social agents to claim their identity through holding on to valued objects or forms of property, such as those claimed by Trobriand subclans in mortuary rituals. This is an interpretation that recognizes not a class of objects called “inalienable” but rather a set of social processes in which the capacity to exchange or withhold can become a marker of social strength and identity. Annette succeeded in rethinking what anthropologists call “exchange” by forcing us to move beyond the simple categories of “reciprocity” and understanding the practices of giving, receiving and taking as part of much more complex temporarities -- extending the effects of the gift, as she often said, beyond death. She also contributed famously to the study of material culture by her emphasis on the substantial properties of the objects of exchange. This body of intellectual production expresses a personal vision, her willingness and ability to engage with the concrete, material, sensual properties of the world -- too often rejected in the course of intellectual abstraction. In recent years, the insights derived from her theorizing of what she called “inalienability” have become significant not only in Oceanic ethnography, but in many other areas of work on material culture and consumption.

As an institution-builder, Annette was highly successful. Shortly after gaining tenure at the University of Texas, Weiner arrived at New York University to take over the Chair of a department in disarray. Through her energy and vision, she turned Anthropology into one of the strongest disciplines here. Part of her legacy was the introduction of Linguistic Anthropology and the program within social anthropology that has become known as the Program in Culture and Media. After a lengthy period as Chair, Annette’s tenure as Dean of the Graduate School displayed the same energy, as she transformed the structure of graduate funding and shaped a transition to a smaller, Ph.D.-focused set of programs. She gave a similar attention to her work as President of the American Anthropological Association, a period during which the Association undertook substantial reorganization.

Annette Weiner’s personal qualities were central to her successes and the social presence she had. There was little division in her life between the private and the professional, both sides incorporated in the romantic project of personal becoming in which anthropology became her life. Late in 1997, in the course of an interview about her interest in material culture, she explained her development to Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett and Fred Myers in terms that illuminate anthropology’s meaning for her as well as the gendered situation of anthropological study at the time: “I felt very diminished by the fact that I had not [gone to college],” she said.

“ I got married when I was very young and I had two children and I found myself searching for something else to fill out my life, something to do intellectually. I was by no means an intellectual; I hadn’t even read any literature of note. I read pop best sellers at the time.

And for a while when I started at Penn, I decided I would be an art major, and then I decided, where would that really take me? Would I end up teaching art in some place? That idea didn’t seem very interesting to me. Having written off the fact that I could really be an artist, I mean, that seemed to be something that I couldn’t be.

So I found anthropology along the way as an undergraduate because someone I knew gave me a copy of Hortense Powdermaker’s Stranger and Friend. I found there this romantic notion of living in New Guinea, and she studied with Malinowski. Then she worked in the South of
the United States and then she worked in Hollywood. What could be more spectacular? It was all so wonderful. I had never really heard of anthropology before and there I was and I was totally convinced that that was it. Love at first sight. And I thought that this person Malinowski must be really important because she’s always referring to him. So I went and I ordered a hardback of Argonauts of the Western Pacific. I had only read this book and there I had Argonauts. I mean, about six years later I’d be there! It was quite unbelievable that that was going to be my life.”

[Annette Weiner, interview, New York City, December 7, 1996]

In the course of her fieldwork, she became “Anna,” a name the Trobrianders could pronounce and an identity she embraced as a changed person.

She was deeply generous, not only materially but equally in her appreciation of people’s quirky qualities and her ability to accept them. Despite the intensity of her commitment to intellectual life, she had a remarkable capacity to emphasize pleasure -- the positive -- instead of the negative. And while she had a sense of iconoclasm, she loved ritual and formal occasions and saw them as productive, as fun, and as providing an excuse for elegance and pleasure. This positive orientation towards pleasure and even ambition gave her an extraordinary capacity for joy as well as an attention to growth and change, and also a basic trust in herself and what she “knew.” Annette -- once a talented painter -- was strongly visual, trusting what she saw, and knowing what she perceived. It made her an extraordinary anthropologist -- prepared to take on the truisms of one of anthropology’s greatest practitioners, Bronislaw Malinowski, who preceded her in the Trobriands, and also the biases of generations of male anthropologists who never really saw women or what they did in the field. Whether it was Marshall Sahlins, Edmund Leach, or Roger Keesing, Annette (all five feet three inches of her and dressed in the stylish manner of few academics) never doubted what she saw or what she knew. This surety could be infuriating, as many of her closest friends can attest, but it was her strength and also a source of joy.

Many people wrote to us, following her death. Annette might most have wanted to hear what Frederica de Laguna said. “Freddy,” a former teacher at Bryn Mawr, was one of Franz Boas’s last students, and is now herself 91. Annette greatly admired Freddy, and had talked of doing her life history. Freddy wrote as follows:

“Annette was such a warm, vibrant person, that it’s hard for me to realize that she is gone. She accomplished much in her life, and I hope she realized how proud we all were of her. I tried to tell her that, and also how much I admired her courage... I remember our long association at Bryn Mawr College with great pleasure; I loved meeting her daughter, and I triumphed in her Trobriand work that showed how much that egoist Malinowski had missed! From that start, her career just took off.”

Annette’s accomplishments were many, and her contributions widely recognized with fellowships from the J.S. Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton. Weiner was strongly committed to anthropology both as an intellectual discipline and as a practical means to better human appreciation and the ability to change social life. Her impact on Pacific studies and American anthropology in general was recognized by the profession when shortly before her death she was given the American Anthropological Association’s Distinguished Service Award. Annette is survived by her husband, the anthropologist William Mitchell, and by her two children, two step-children and many grandchildren.