LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

This is the final newsletter message from the Chair in this millennium. Quite apart from the possible drama of such timing, it does seem clear that the shape of Anthropology and the institutions which embody it are changing. Here, as elsewhere, we are engaged in thinking about what is most vital in the field. Some of this engagement comes as students plan their future research problems, and the faculty must reflect on the relationship these problems have to the development of future courses of training. While Anthropology must always have been changing throughout its history, there has surely been an acceleration in the rate of change in recent times. The relationships of the subfields of Anthropology are clearly not as they were even ten years ago. The certainties of past practice are surely not those of the future. Yet, we do have confidence in the basic commitment of Anthropology—to the value of research into the various dimensions of human life or human lives and to a circuit of communication between the historical and life-sciences.

Looking over the past ten years, we can be proud of our accomplishment, an accomplishment founded on the belief in supportive but demanding training of students and sustained research and theory. This department is now regarded as one of the leading departments of Anthropology in the world, and we owe this to the quality of the faculty's research and writing and to that of the students. The record of grants received by our faculty and students speaks to the respect and confidence we have earned, and this has eventuated in teaching jobs, post-doctoral fellowships, and other careers for graduates. Hard as we may work at producing these results, it should be clear that the magic of success in research is more subtle. What I might call the "susceptibility to research" needs an environment in which to mature. This is especially important at a time when a cookie-cutter approach to the field—a singular paradigm or set of issues—is inappropriate. I am very proud to see the range of thoughtful and independent projects our faculty and students have developed, and I think it important to consider what is valuable in the way this occurs.

Over the years, we have tried—or imagined trying—a range of curricular formulations to "teach anthropology." Often these have stumbled on material and institutional constraints—the right faculty cannot be here to teach courses in the necessary sequence or students cannot possibly do all the work needed to prepare themselves. What I have learned, however, is that the formal courses are but a small scaffold. We do not any longer send students off to the field with just the admonition to buy a good pair of sneakers and to avoid the missionaries, as apocryphal legends might have it. This being New York City, too, we do not typically share social space with students as a community in that sense. Our relationships and the environment for Anthropology has a different life cycle. We put a lot of work into our courses, both for undergraduate and graduate students, but the epiphany of what we do is clearly in the preparation of grant proposals and comprehensive exams. This is where faculty and students genuinely meet, and where—in my experience the kind of training we sustain requires considerable interchange between faculty and students.

I am writing this last note of the decade, the century, at the end of the academic year. This is the season of comprehensive examinations, masters' theses, and Ph.D. defenses. And this is the time when we discover for ourselves the interest and continuing value of anthropological study, the time when students give back to the faculty precisely that which comprises our bond. The work has been excellent, and I thank you all for your contributions to the community that we are. We look forward to the arrival of new faculty next year, with Angela Zito, a joint appointment with Religious Studies, coming from Barnard as an Associate Professor with a specialty in China, Lok Sin, coming as a joint appointment with Asian/Pacific/American Studies and a specialty in Diaspora, and Anthony Di Fiore, coming to join the ranks of Biological Anthropology

Fred Myers
Although the Ford Foundation grant for the program I co-directed at NYU for the last three years to bridge area and gender studies formally ended, we were delighted to have been given permission to extend it to offer graduate students summer research grants. We have received a large number of excellent proposals, which suggests the high level of work on gender and area studies at NYU. I was also pleased that there was such a good turnout for the NYU Women's Studies Program's symposium, 'Future Currents in Gender and Sexuality Studies.' It consisted of two panels, one on the intersection of gender and area studies, at which I and others spoke, and another on gender and sexuality, at which NYU Anthropology graduate student David Valentine spoke. As David was presenting for me in the large core course "Gender and Power in Global Perspective," it was especially fun.

As the Middle Eastern Studies program at NYU continues to thrive and develop, we have all been busier. We had many conferences, but the ones I was most involved with were those on "Questions of Modernity" (part of a long-term project Tim Mitchell and I have worked on to bring Middle East and South Asia scholars together), "Making the City Medieval: Cairo," and "Singing in the Rain: Indo-Egyptian Musicals" (where NYU Anthropology graduate student Teja Ganti gave an excellent talk on Hindi film music). We have had an active series of speakers, especially through the Research Workshop, which is funded by a grant from the Ford Foundation, and with which I tried to coordinate my new graduate course "Culture and the Nation." And finally, in the Spring, the Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies successfully competed for a grant in the "Crossing Border" initiative of the Ford Foundation, an initiative meant to rebuild area studies. So we will have great resources to work with in the following three years.

I continue to work on my project on Egyptian television drama. I had occasion to bring up this work in my response to an article in Current Anthropology called "Writing For Culture" (presumably against my own position on "writing against culture"), and in a short piece I wrote for Xop: Cross-Cultural Poetics called "On Photographs, Fieldnotes, and Participant-Observation." My article "Television and the Virtues of Education: Upper Egyptian Encounters with State Culture" also came out. Over the summer I wrote a rough draft of a paper on television and the eroding hegemony of the developmentalist state. I presented parts of it at the University of California at Santa Barbara, the New School, and Columbia University. I will be revising it this summer for inclusion in the book that Faye Ginsburg and Brian Larkin are editing, "The Social Practice of Media," to be published by the University of California Press. It is exciting to work with them in bringing together work that explores what anthropology and ethnography can contribute to the

Indians In and Of the Urban Public Sphere (Oruro and Potosí, 1750–2000).” The rapid expansion into the countryside of new forms of cultural self-consciousness, and the uptake there of new terminologies and practices abstracted from the flow of social life and commodified as "tradition," "folklore," and "culture," have necessitated some further field work. That is one of my purposes in undertaking CLACS-sponsored research in Bolivia this summer.

Searching in Bolivian archives for cases comparable to those recounted in "Affairs of the Courtroom," I ran across an early 19th-century transatlantic transvestite. Pushing rapidly to complete research on the social background and life in disguise of an extraordinary transgendered person, called "Antonio" by "his" wife, and "my son Maria" by his/her mother, I made two trips to Spain during 1998-99, dug up Maria's parents' business affairs along with birth and marriage records, and met descendants of the family still living in the house where Maria was born. So, my second purpose in this summer's research is to complete an archival search for evidence of Maria's unhappy marriage (as Antonio) to an elite woman of Potosí.

But first, to the beaches! Time permitting, I hope to enjoy some actual leisure time before the Bolivian research and my return to New York City. I look forward to meeting all of the graduate students again during registration, and launching into another year of teaching. And sometime, to write.

LILA ABU-LUGHOD

This has been a year of collaborative work through teaching and conferences. Working in my two general areas of the Middle East, and especially gender and the politics of media, I've been intellectually stretched in all sorts of ways.

Middle East gender studies took center stage in the early part of the year with the publication of my edited collection, Remaking Women: Feminism and Modernity in the Middle East (Princeton); the publication in a Turkish journal Cogito of an interview that NYU Anthropology graduate student Ayse Parla did with me about the book; the publication of my piece on "Identity Politics" in Women's Studies Quarterly; and my invitation to reflect, in front of thousands at the presidential plenary session at the Middle East Studies meetings in Chicago, on the impact of Edward Said's Orientalism twenty years later. I tried to show the ways this book had shaped the development of Middle East gender studies and what Said's positions could teach feminists about how to deal with very thorny issues of East and West. I gave a version of this talk at the Gender/Women's Studies Seminar at the American University in Cairo in December and the discussion was enormously exciting.
In addition to my work at Fort Johns, I am trying to finish up several other writing and research projects. I am completing revisions on the archaeology textbook that Doug Campana and I are writing. I also expect to submit a draft of "Medieval Archaeology: An encyclopedia" to the publisher by the end of June. A Princeton student has been completing analytical work on the pigments we recovered from the Thomas Eakins house in Philadelphia during the summer of 1997. I have completed the identification of the birds and mammals from the Eakins house, and Sophia Perdikaris (now at Brooklyn College) has kindly completed the analysis of the fish bones. Of the three NYU students who worked with me on the Eakins project, two are now in graduate school (University of Chicago and the University of Virginia), and the third has recently been accepted to Columbia University. That's a pretty good track record!!

TODD DISOTELL

I have had five articles and one book chapter published in the last year, with several more about to be submitted. One of my papers, "Primate Evolution: In and Out of Africa," published in Current Biology, was covered extensively by both the scientific and lay press in the international media.

Our laboratory group now runs two automated DNA-analysis systems in our building and shares one, which I acquired along with several researchers from the Biology and Chemistry Departments with an NSF equipment grant last Fall, housed in our new shared lab in the Brown Building. I am also putting the finishing touches on a DNA-extraction facility in our department which will allow us to recover DNA from biological materials such as bone, teeth, hair, feces, museum skins, and other biological detritus. This will pave the way for future analyses of fossil and sub-fossil materials.

I have been relatively busy giving several lectures at various universities around the country and teaching seminars for high school and college instructors, the New York City Medical Examiner's office, and a television interview (on various aspects of human variation and biological anthropology). I presented a talk in Japan this past January at the Japanese Primate Center. I am continuing to develop computer-based teaching materials in our multimedia teaching laboratory. I also supervised the annual NYU Undergraduate Research Conference in May, which featured over 40 student presentations.

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 graduate, undergraduate, and even high school students, we are sequencing a variety of the co-receptor genes of the SIV/HIV virus complex. I am beginning the final year of a five-year NSF Career grant which provides me support for these activities, and I am in the second year of funding for work with Prof. Cliff Jolly and researchers from Washington University on a genetic survey of a baboon hybrid zone in Ethiopia. There are also two CUNY graduate students working in my laboratory investigating chimpanzee and gorilla evolution using samples from populations from Nigeria that, until now, have never been investigated.

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 (a division of the 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. This past semester I taught a topical seminar with Prof. Steven Gregory, "Race, Science and Politics." My other teaching involves courses in human variation, primate molecular evolution, molecular anthropological laboratory techniques, methods of phylogenetic analysis, and human evolution.

STEVEN FELD

The most significant thing about this year was that it was my first at NYU, and that meant much time spent unpacking, getting settled, and coming to know the department, university and city. Adapting to new undergraduate courses and settings was one of the major challenges, and I was lucky to have very dedicated TA's to make it much easier this first year. Many thanks to Shalini Shankar, who helped greatly with "Anthropology of World Beat" in the Fall, and Alice Apley and Lisa Stefanoff, who enthusiastically led sections for the MAP "World Cultures: New Guinea" class in the Spring. I also had fun trying out two new graduate classes, one in the Fall, "The
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 was featured in an article in the June 1997 issue of *Lingua Franca*.

I have also been working on reviews of different aspects of the field of visual anthropology. "Institutionalizing the Unruly: Charting the Past and Future for Visual Anthropology" appeared in the July 1998 issue of *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology*. "Shooting Back: From Ethnographic Film to Indigenous Media" is forthcoming in "A Companion to Film Theory" (Toby Miller and Bob Stam, editors); and a review of the state of anthropology and mass media is forthcoming in "Anthropology for the World" (Jeremy MacClancy, editor). Also on that topic, I gave the opening address, "Fieldwork at the Movies," at a one-day conference on "Culture's Mediated Representations" held at the University of Chicago in October of 1998. Along with colleague Lila Abu-Lughod and Barnard professor Brian Larkin (a former NYU student), I am editing a collection entitled "Anthropology and the Social Practice of Media" (California); I am very excited to be teaching a new course on that topic in the Spring of 2000.

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" is forthcoming in "Timothy Asch: Ethnographic Film and Anthropology," which is devoted to the memory of this distinguished ethnographic filmmaker.

Work in my other major research area—the politics of reproduction—has continued in several directions. Based on ongoing research in Fargo, North Dakota, the second edition of my long-term study of abortion activists, *Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in an American Community*, came out in the Fall of 1998. I also continue to be active on the advisory board for Common Ground for Life and Choice, 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 and Meredith Michaels, editors), the first effort to launch a new research project I am engaged in on disability, embodiment, and public space.

**STEVEN GREGORY**

As years go, 1998-99 was a pleasant and productive one. I taught two new courses this past year. In the Fall I taught "Ethnography and the Global City," a graduate seminar that explored the theoretical and methodological challenges of globalization for anthropology and ethnographic fieldwork. In the Spring, I co-taught an undergraduate seminar with Prof. Todd Disotell, called "Race, Science and Politics," which examined the science and politics of human racial variation for the perspectives of both physical and cultural anthropology. Aside from learning a great deal about evolutionary biology, I found our seminar to be an exciting opportunity to explore areas of mutual interest and concern between the sub-disciplines and to consider future possibilities for collaboration in teaching and program development. (Moreover, Todd is a fun guy.)

Publishing-wise, my book, *Black Corona*, won the 1998 Anthony Leeds Prize, awarded by the Society for Urban, National and Transnational Anthropology. I also had the opportunity to participate in a lively, neighborhood-based discussion program about the book, which was held at a public library in Corona, Queens, and broadcast on CSPAN's Book TV program. I was also invited to publish my doctoral dissertation on Afro-Cuban Santeria with Garland Publishers—a real blast from the past! I spent much of the spring semester editing and re-writing a document that was written by a person who is unrecognizable to me now. It was a peculiar and humbling experience.

In the Fall, I was awarded a National Science Foundation grant for a two-year ethnographic research project that will be looking at the spatial politics of waterfront development in Brooklyn. In addition, during the winter break, I conducted preliminary fieldwork in the Dominican Republic for a project that will examine sex tourism and, more broadly, the impact of globalization and neo-liberal development policies on racialized, sex/gender hierarchies, and labor. I received
CLIFFORD JOLLY

Academic year 1998-99 was a highly productive one for my research program which integrates laboratory and field techniques in the study of primate adaptations, speciation, and evolution. The main thrust continues to be in Ethiopia, where a field program to investigate the genetics, behavior and ecology of two hybridizing baboon species is now in its third decade. The program is co-directed with Dr. Jane Phillips-Conroy of Washington University, St. Louis, and is currently funded by the National Science Foundation. In Summer 1998, we had our most successful field season to date, bringing our total of animals sampled to 1500. The full value of the long-term study is only now being realized, as—thanks to collaboration with Prof. Todd Disotell—we bring the latest lab techniques to bear upon material representing several baboon generations. Our most recent foray—in collaboration with colleagues at NYU and elsewhere—has been into the field of neuropsychopharmacology, seeking the neurochemical, and, ultimately, the genetic bases of social-behavioral differences between the two baboon species we study.

In some ways, the training aspect of the research program is as satisfying as the scientific results obtained. With a summer field season conducted most years, we can provide graduate students with a field experience that, for some, leads directly into a Ph.D. dissertation project. Two NYU students accompanied me to the field in 1998; two others have recently completed Ph.D.'s on aspects of the genetics of the Ethiopian baboons; another is nearing completion. Three more students who joined us last Fall are beginning research programs into, respectively, the ecology, the genetics of behavior, and the genetic determination of hair color in the same baboon populations. Because the baboon project is both integrated and multifaceted, students have the benefit of an extensive background database, yet find that they can also develop their own area of research interest and expertise. There is much yet to be done!

My other activities during the year focussed on publication. A volume of papers on Old World Monkeys (co-edited with Dr. Paul Whitehead) was finally dispatched to Cambridge University Press; I made several presentations at professional meetings; gave invited lectures at Duke University and in Japan; and co-authored accounts of our new neuropsychopharmacological findings. In a new departure for me, I also led an American Museum of Natural History "Discovery" tour to Ethiopia. I look forward to an equally busy and productive year to close the millennium.

OWEN LYNCH

This past year has been an exciting year for me both because of my own work and because of what my students have been doing.

Concerning students, I taught a new undergraduate course on field work in Urban Anthropology. Each student chose a fascinating project from which we all learned much about NYC culture and society. Rebecca Rosen cruised around in squad cars with rookie New York City policemen. She discovered the many Catch-22 situations putting them under tremendous psychological pressure with few opportunities for release of it. She felt this was one of the reasons for the high rates of suicide among rookie cops. Noi Liang's was a fascinating and innovative study of American otaku, fans of Japanese anime communicating on the internet. Although mostly male and solitary, they are a virtual community in which status is determined by detailed knowledge of different anime series and their characters. Peter Rauci joined a group of smokers who were taking cigarette breaks outside the building where they worked. Most wanted to stop smoking, but had little motivation to do so. Interestingly most smoked only one half a cigarette before rushing back to work, in part because a slow elevator forced them to cut short their smoking break time. Finally, Caroline Wachter became a habitue of a newly opened, lower East side bar. She found that the bar succeeded because both the proprietor and the clients worked to make it distinctive, as a place of respite and intimacy in an environment of competing, high action yuppy bars.

As for my graduate students, Melissa Checker won the Society for Environmental Anthropology's prize for best student essay and, supported by an NSF grant, continues her field work on environmental justice in the Southern US. Joe Mugilioli was the first anthropology student to get a dissertation write-up fellowship from NYU's prestigious International Center for Advanced Studies. Jong Bum Kwon's M.A. essay, a highly detailed and theoretically sophisticated reanalysis of ethnographies of Korean work culture, is also an important contribution.

The most exciting part of my work this year was to spend a month of my semester's sabbatical in
On the media front, I am working on another installation of a long-term video project which explores the lives of a group of individuals who fled Tibet in 1990 as children and who are now in their late teens. Some of these refugees, cut off from their families still living in Tibet and essentially orphaned at a young age, have migrated from Dharamsala, India, where they were schooled, to other places such as South India (where there are several large Tibetan settlements) and Kathmandu. Others have stayed behind in Dharamsala and are beginning to face the challenge of constructing meaningful lives in an environment where resources and opportunities are scarce. One of the aims of this project is to document these individuals' struggles over time and, in so doing, to tell the story of a generation in exile. This Fall I will be busy cutting a trailer to raise funds for another shoot in India and Nepal which I hope will take place sometime late next year.

ROBERT MOORE

In 1998-99, I was pleased to be given the opportunity to prepare and teach two new additions to the Anthropology Department's curriculum, one a new undergraduate course, "The Anthropology of Myth," the other a new graduate-level course entitled "Culture, Meaning, and Society." The latter course was designed for graduate students in NYU departments and programs other than Anthropology who may have had pre-existing interests in anthropology, but who heretofore have had relatively few opportunities to develop such an interest in the context of graduate-level course work.

Each of these new courses has had its own distinctive kinds of rewards: The graduate course was a relatively small, intensive seminar-like discussion, while the undergraduate course on myth was a large (~100 students) lecture-based exploration of literature encompassing early work by Tylor, Robertson Smith, and others, along with more recent work by Barthes, Tedlock, Marshall Sahlins, and the poet Anne Carson, among others.

Over the winter months I addressed myself to the long-postponed task of putting the finishing touches on a series of articles, which are now (as of April, 1999) winding their way through the process of editorial review at a number of scholarly journals, including Cultural Anthropology, the American Ethnologist, Ethnohistory, and others, with all deliberate speed.

FRED MYERS

My intellectual work this year has revolved around problems in the contemporary art and art worlds of Aboriginal Australian people. Last summer ended with my book on the circulation of Aboriginal acrylic painting two-thirds completed. I closed on the file in August, part way through a chapter on collectors, and there it has remained. I expect to complete it this summer, although it will probably be subject to further tightening in the early Fall. And I'll probably need a few bottles of wine to choose a title.

I am feeling pretty good about this project and the responses I have had to it. I gave one lecture on it at UC Santa Cruz in the Fall, where I had very productive conversations with colleagues. I gave a tentative version of a portion at the AAA meetings in December. My paper—entitled "On Longing: A Contemporary Aboriginal Painter in Australia"—focused on a woman painter, Linda Syddick, whose adoptive father had been one of my closest friends.

Thanks to Jessica Winegar, a graduate student in this department working on Egyptian art, the paper was part of an excellent session on "Anxiety and Ambivalence in Postcolonial Art Worlds," with thoughtful commentary from Sally Price and Ivan Karp.

I've already written what I think will be the final chapter of my book in the form of a catalog essay, with high production value. "Aesthetic Function and the Practice of Pintupi Painting" is due to come out in July as part of a volume on Aboriginal art called The Art of Place, edited by Howard Morphy and Margo Boles. I am quite pleased with this essay, because it represents a real engagement with image-making—what the painters are doing in their paintings. The material production of this essay, a study of the paintings of two Pintupi men from 1973-75, was very exciting. The editors permitted me to use nearly 60 images, consisting mainly of my own sketch drawing which document Pintupi paintings. Through a consideration of actual sequences of paintings, I was able to illustrate the development of a painter's practice during a period of time. I had the good fortune of brilliant editing and design; the sheer materiality of this essay became a great pleasure. I did, however, spend weeks (or was it months?) during the year, revising and shortening, producing and checking images.

There is a broader trajectory in this work, concerning the question of material culture and meaning, that I have tried to develop in my course on "Art and Society," taught this past Spring. Students from Anthropology, Cinema Studies, and Sociology brought an interesting and challenging range of
I continue as associate editor of *Annual Review of Anthropology*, in addition to working with Cambridge University Press as series editor for “Studies in Social and Cultural Foundations of Language,” a new series of text books in linguistic anthropology. I am looking forward to a quiet summer of writing and biking in New York City.

CONSTANCE SUTTON

Last fall I was on sabbatical. This enabled me to extend my time doing field research in Barbados beyond the summer months. Barbados is the island where I carried out my doctoral research in the late 1950s, living in a sugar plantation community and studying how workers were responding to the recent introduction of trade unionism and mass politics (universal adult suffrage had just been introduced into this very British-like colony). I have returned many times to Barbados over the years—for research on changes that were occurring as well as for the pleasure of being there. My current project, which I had begun more than four years ago, has been on the changing historical consciousness of Barbadians. I was fascinated to find a number of changes that had occurred in the past year which had a direct bearing on how Barbadians were encouraged to view the past, such as: 1) the island government inviting Fidel Castro to come and celebrate their erecting an obelisk to honor those who lost their lives when a Cuban plane was exploded three miles off their shore in 1977 (by a bomb planted by an anti-Castro Cuban); 2) the government’s building a statue in the working class district of Bridgetown in honor of Clement Payne, who was deported to Trinidad in 1937 for leading the famous riots of that year (a turning point in changing the race/class politics of the island); 3) the appearance in political decision-making roles of three women who head up important government ministries; and 4) the government’s establishing an office of African Affairs in the Ministry of Culture and Education at the first regional meeting of Rastafarians which took place while I was there. And now that I’ve received a CLACS faculty travel grant to return this summer to tie up loose ends from last year’s research, I have just heard that considerable controversy has been stirred up by government plans to move the statue of Lord Nelson from Trafalgar Square (which is to be renamed Independence Square), and to replace it with statues of the 20th century Barbadians who have played important roles in the struggles to create a new post-colonial nation state. Another opportunity to probe how Barbadians view their past in relation to the present.

My theoretical interest in this issue has prompted me to introduce a new topical seminar for the coming fall term entitled “Relating the Past to the Present: the Anthropology of Changes in Historical Consciousness.” As is the case with my course on transnational processes, where new issues and perspectives arise each time it is given, I look forward to discussing with students the literature that addresses this material and the kinds of research we see as needing to be done. And for the spring term of the new millennium, I will again teach the graduate course on Caribbean cultures. During the past spring term, a new Caribbean Research Forum, sponsored by CLACS (Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies), was established and two of our graduate students, Deborah Thomas and Diana Wells, gave presentations on their dissertation research in Jamaica and Trinidad, respectively. Their articles, based on this research, have just appeared in the journal *Identities* Vol.5(4). The Caribbean Research Forum will continue to meet regularly during the coming academic year to hear faculty and students discuss their current research in the Caribbean. Another of my Caribbean activities this past year was to meet with group of undergraduate students for whom I had arranged a trip to Cuba last July. They all spoke of different events which had made the trip a “mind-turning” experience and about their plans to visit Cuba again. One of the students, anthropology major Adam Silvia, will in fact be going back this summer to carry out research for his senior honors thesis on how Cubans view tourism. The plan is to then compare this to how Barbadians view tourism.

Looking back, it has been a busy and productive year during which I attended several conferences of direct interest to my work: two on the international women’s movement; one held by the National Council for Research on Women, (whose director, Dr. Linda Basch, is a graduate of our department), entitled “Transformation Through
This year (1998) I also co-edited a collection of essays, Craft and Social Identity, with Cathy Costin. This collection, published by the American Anthropological Association, was selected for this year's contribution to the AAA's Archeology Division's monograph series. Chapters in the book were written by archaeologists working in New and Old World societies and at all levels of social complexity. Its primary goal is to examine conceptions about artisans in early societies and the degree to which their social identities derived from their craft production. Various kinds of data are used, including archaeological, ethnohistorical, ethnarchaeological and documentary.

Particularly gratifying this year was to find, when I returned from Pakistan, that the first two books in my Cambridge University Press series, Case Studies in Early Societies, originally proposed to them in 1991, have now been published. They are Ancient Mesopotamia - The Eden That Never Was by Susan Pollock, and Ancient Oaxaca - The Monte Alban State by Richard Blanton, Gary Feinman, Stephen Kowaleski and Linda Nicholas. These books (with more to come) are written by archaeologists actively engaged in research in their study region. Each has a strong theoretical perspective and focuses on fundamental issues investigated through sustained archaeological research.

Finally, this year Laura Miller, an NYU graduate student, and I developed a new introductory course in archaeology. For those of you who remember T.A.'ing in "Human Evolution and Prehistory," that course is now ancient history. The physical anthropologists now offer a course dedicated to human evolution, and the archaeologists, to archaeology. In the archaeology course, we included weekly laboratory meetings, which focused primarily on using the Internet as a major resource. Check out our website (http://www.nyu.edu/classes/wright) and see the "dueling" Marshalltown trowels that Laura created as our course symbol!

The past year and a half, since finishing my doctorate, has been a busy time. I moved back to the east coast in January of 1998 and began work in the Molecular Genetics Laboratory at the National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. My current project is a continuation and expansion of my doctoral research, combining long-term field work at my study site in Ecuador with molecular work on the mating systems, dispersal patterns, and population genetic structure of several different species found there.

The principal goal of my molecular work thus far—a goal that has recently come to fruition—has been to identify and develop microsatellite genetic markers for neotropical primates that are effective for examining dispersal patterns, for assessing kinship and parentage, and for measuring population subdivision. Additionally, in going through the process of microsatellite marker development, colleagues at the lab and I were able to devise an improved general protocol for enriching and screening genome libraries for microsatellite markers, and our protocol will soon be published in the molecular biology technical journal BioTechniques.

Last Fall and Winter, interspersed with my lab work, I was able to return to Ecuador for seven months to collect tissue and fecal samples for my current genetic study. I was able to perfect and implement a method of remote tissue sampling from arboreal primates using a biopsy darting system originally designed for work with terrestrial taxa. Moreover, with the help of my collaborator and spouse, Dr. Kristin Phillips, I expanded my field site in Ecuador to nearly twice its original size and habituated several additional woolly monkey groups to the presence of human observers. Finally, I was able to add a comparative perspective to my research by initiating a study of the woolly monkeys at a second field site roughly 20 kilometers away from my first one.

Since returning from the field at the end of March 1999, I have finished designing several dozen microsatellite markers based on the genomes of the three genera of ateline primates found in my study site: woolly monkeys, spider monkeys, and howler monkeys. I am now using these markers to investigate the mating systems and population histories of these species.

Recently, I have also begun work on a collaborative project looking at paternity and social behavior in multine female groups of another neotropical primate, the highly endangered golden lion tamarin of Brazil.

The upcoming months before my move to NYU look to be exciting and productive as well. In addition to preparing several of my dissertation chapters for submission to journals, I hope to return to Ecuador for a couple of weeks over the summer to introduce the area to a number of graduate students interested in collaborating on primate research there in the future. While at the site, I also plan to conduct a brief pilot study of vocal communication in woolly and spider

**NEW FACULTY**

**ANTHONY DIFIORE**

In January of 2000, I will become a new member of the NYU Department of Anthropology, a move that I am looking forward to with excitement and enthusiasm. As many of you know, my major research interest is in the comparative socioecology of neotropical primates, and my dissertation research focused on the behavior and ecology of one of the least-studied New World primates, the lowland woolly monkey.
specializing in the cultural history of early modern China.

My education and my relationship to China and the field of China studies are deeply intertwined. I took up the study of the Chinese language as a sort of challenging hobby while an undergraduate journalism major and it subtly took over my life. Talk about language speaking the speaker! After a first year in Taiwan I attended the University of Chicago, where I received an M.A. and Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. While there, I completed the classwork for a degree in anthropology, studying with David Schneider, Nancy Munn, Terence Turner, Bernard Cohn, Ronald Inden and Jean Comaroff.

My dissertation—now a book entitled Of Body and Brush: Grand Sacrifice as Text/Performance in 18th Century China (University of Chicago Press, 1997)—problematises the relation between writing and bodily gesture, representation and referent, by discussing literati writing and editing of the emperor's rituals as part of the ritual process itself. This glimpse of the early modern interdependency of the throne and its imperium raises crucial issues for the current relationship between China's state and its intellectuals.

Most of the research for this project was conducted in the People's Republic of China. Just as I reached the grant-writing stage, Americans were finally given the chance to study there. In 1979, I went to the Department of Philosophy in Beijing University and remained three years. For American scholars, being able to study on the Mainland decisively disrupted Cold War protocols for relations with China. Some of the generation of scholars who went there were also influenced by new critical, post-structuralist methods. Members of this group founded the journal Positions: East Asia Cultures Critique, which began publication out of Duke Press in 1993. I was a founding member of this collective.

The following year, an edited volume containing the work of some of these founding members and based on an earlier conference panel I had organized was published. Body, Subject and Power in China was the first collection to systematically explore what new objects for study (embodiment, subjectivity, power relations reconceived in a Foucauldian manner) made visible by new methods would illuminate about Chinese cultural history. What I like most about the book is its juxtaposition of early modern historical essays with essays based on contemporary fieldwork.

Which brings me to one thing I find especially exciting about coming to NYU. Having been part of the weaving of the nexus between cultural anthropology and social history from the beginning of my graduate education, I am truly delighted to find that our department has a deep commitment, along with NYU's History Department, to furthering this sort of work. I feel that I have found a very congenial environment for working on my current project, a history of how practices of filial piety created social distinctions (especially gender) in the prefecture of Huizhou in the 18th century. I have taught in Departments of Religion for the past nine years, and at NYU I will be a member of the Program in Religious Studies. I'll be teaching graduate courses on Chinese and Japanese religions, and on Buddhism and Taoism at the undergraduate level. At the graduate level I will be exploring how the naturalization of belief is generated and naturalized at the level of bodily, everyday practice in various settings. NYU's growing program in East Asian Studies also beckoned me to remove myself to downtown Manhattan from the Upper West Side. I am looking forward to an exciting year, and to reporting back next summer with more "news" on how things went.

VISITING FACULTY

JEAN-PAUL COLLEYN

For a second year, I have taught the video-production class and, as last year, it was a great pleasure: I very much appreciated the commitment of the students to their work, their imagination, and the way they have worked in teams and have shared the equipment. They were also lucky, as the equipment is improving: The new cameras are gorgeous and the group was small enough that they had a reasonable amount of time with the Avid digital-editing desk. The class in which students analyzed films ranging from strict ethnography to documentary classics and new experiments was an interesting collective experience, as was the feedback when the students screened their first attempts to organize their own footage dealing with subjects as disparate as Native American memories, Afro-Cuban ritual music, a portrait of a Korean rock star in exile, press photographers, and daily life as performance. It
FACULTY AWARDS & HONORS

Thomas Abercrombie
- Pathways of Memory and Power: Ethnography and History Among an Andean People, published by University of Wisconsin Press
- King Juan Carlos I Coca-Cola grant for Curriculum Development

Lila Abu-Lughod
- Remaking Women: Feminism and Modernity in the Middle East, published by Princeton University Press
- 1999 Carleton College Alumni Award for Distinguished Achievement

Pamela Crabtree
- NYU CAS Golden Dozen Teaching Award

Todd Disotell
- National Science Foundation Equipment Grant
- Supplement to National Science Foundation Career Grant

Steven Feld & Bambli Schieffelin
- Bosavi-English-Tok Pisin Dictionary, published by Pacific Linguistics

Faye Ginsburg
- Ford Foundation Grant
- NYU Curriculum Development Challenge Fund Grant
- Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in An American Community republished (second edition with a new afterword)

Steven Gregory
- Black Corona, published and awarded Anthony Leeds Prize for Urban Ethnography
- National Science Foundation Grant
- NYU Office of Sponsored Programs Grant

Terry Harrison
- National Science Foundation Grant
- Leakey Foundation Grant

Constance Sutton
- Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Faculty Travel Grant

Rita Wright
- Craft and Social Identity published by American Anthropological Association
- Gender and Archaeology, reprinted by University of Pennsylvania Press
- National Endowment for the Humanities Grant
- International Collaborative Grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation
- National Geographic Society Grant
American students with an interest in Eastern Europe to participate in excavations and a field school at the Ostrow Lednicki site. This summer will be the foundation's first season, and will hopefully lead to many more.

Patrick Heaton received his M.A. in January, 1999, with his master's thesis, entitled "Farmsteads and Finances in the Finger Lakes: Using GIS to Interpret Archival Records in Historical Archaeology." The research for this thesis provided materials for a series of conference presentations, including papers at the AAA, the AGSA symposium, and the North East Anthropological Association (in a session he organized), and a poster at the SAA. In the summer of 1999, Patrick will be engaged in continued historical research in the Finger Lakes National Forest, assisting Prof. Pam Crabtree with her excavations in the Delaware Water Gap, and serving as the assistant field school instructor for Franklin and Marshall College's first year of archaeological investigations of a slave village on a late 18th- and early 19th-century coffee plantation in the highlands of Jamaica.

Julie Zimmermann Holt was at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield from March through October of 1998 using the museum's extensive comparative osteological collections to identify bones from the Ogden-Fettie and Baehr-Gust sites for her dissertation. During this time she also prepared and submitted ceramic samples from Baehr-Gust for thermoluminescence dating and radiocarbon samples from Ogden-Fettie and Baehr-Gust for radiocarbon dating. In November Julie was aided by several volunteers—including NYU's Thalia Gray—in an attempt to relocate and map NYU's old excavation units at the Baehr-Gust site, which is located near Beardstown, Illinois. At this time a geomorphologist cored the site and performed a stratigraphic analysis which will be included in Julie's dissertation. The lab work, radiometric dating, and geomorphological work were funded in part by a dissertation improvement grant from the National Science Foundation. Since then Julie has been at her new home in Iowa diligently writing her dissertation and is nearly finished with this task. In addition, Julie gave birth to James d'Auria Holt on February 4, 1999. Jamie is handsome, good-natured, and a good little helper, having taken over the writing of Julie's dissertation in early March.

After returning from field research in Turkey in July of 1998, Cris Kimbrough spent the last year working in fits and starts on her dissertation, completing a draft in late June. She plans to finish revisions soon and graduate this fall. Cris made two trips outside of New York in the spring to present papers. In March she travelled to Baltimore to deliver a paper entitled, "Spinning a Yarn: Textile Production in Third Millennium BCE Northern Mesopotamia" at the American Oriental Society annual meeting. Later that month, she flew to Chicago to present "It's a Small Whorl: Spinning, Weaving, and the Rise of the State in Northern Mesopotamia" at the SAA meeting.

Rae Ostman spent last summer and the fall semester working at Acoustiguide, a company that makes audio tours for museums. This was a great opportunity to develop her interest in presenting art and archaeology to the public, but after one too many Impressionism tours she was newly motivated to work on her dissertation, and returned to the department for the spring semester. In November, Rae gave a paper at the annual AAA meetings entitled "The Tale of Bygone Years: Archaeology, nationalism, and Russian state formation." This summer, she will be doing archaeological fieldwork in Tuscany, Italy, related to her dissertation research on craft production in the Etruscan and Roman periods. Next year, Rae will be studying Italian at NYU on a FLAS fellowship.

After a year on leave studying geoarchaeology at Texas A&M and working a field season at Tell Brak, Syria, Suanna Selby returned to NYU to work for Prof. Pam Crabtree's "Human Ecology" course. She also tackled her comprehensive exams, passing them in December and completing her M. Phil. requirements. For the spring semester, she joined Prof. Rita Wright's project on the Beas River in Pakistan. Over the next few months, she looks forward to writing up her dissertation proposal which will focus on a geoarchaeological investigation. Finally, in September 1998, Suanna married Mark Crowley in Boston. Although Mark is not an archaeologist, he agreed to go to Cancun for their honeymoon so Suanna could visit Mayan archaeology sites!

During the past academic year Laurie Tedesco continued dissertation research while working as a teaching assistant for Prof. Pam Crabtree. She is teaching "Archaeology: Early Societies and Cultures" this summer, the new required undergraduate class for anthropology majors and minors. During the Fall term of 1999 Laurie will be a TA for "Human Ecology," and during the spring and summer of 2000 she will complete dissertation research/fieldwork in Syria, Armenia, and Turkey.

The 1998-1999 year was a busy one for Karen Wehner. She finished her comprehensive exams in the Fall and earned her M. Phil. in January, 1999, presented research at four conferences, worked on publications, and TA'd for the introductory archaeology course in the fall and spring semesters. She presented papers based on her M.A. research at a 19th-century Chesapeake plantation site at the fifth Gender and Archaeology Conference in October, and at
Media: The Mediated Circulation of Mexican Professional Wrestling" at the AAA. An article, "Mexican Pro-Wrestling: Sport as Melodrama" was included in the collection Sport/Cult (edited by Randy Martin and Toby Miller) that was released by Duke University Press this April. She was selected as a Dean's Dissertation Fellow for the 1999-2000 academic year.

This May, Gerry Lombardi successfully defended his dissertation, "Computer Networks, Social Networks and the Future of Brazil," and plans to take his defense committee's advice and submit it to a major university press for publication. During the past year he also produced papers for the Latin American Studies Association (Chicago) for an Ohio State University conference entitled "When Languages Collide," and for the International Conference of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences in Williamsburg, VA. The last will be published next year in a volume entitled "Children and Anthropology: Perspectives for the 21st Century." Starting in September, Gerry will be the Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow at the Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago, where the Seminar's theme will be "Computer Science as a Human Science." And with that he bids farewell to NYU (cue the NYU alma mater anthem, crooned by a chorus of crewcut tenors in bulky letter-sweaters)...?

Since returning last October after a wonderful-yet-trying year of field work in Mexico, Joe Mungjoli has been working on his dissertation, which focuses on the rise of cultural movements in a rough-and-tumble area of Mexico City. He has found the initial writing stages of the dissertation to be both intellectually invigorating and emotionally draining. Much to his delight, Joe was awarded a Dissertation Fellowship from NYU's International Center for Advanced Studies/Project on Cities and Urban Knowledge for the 1999-2000 academic year. He looks forward to participating in the Center's interdisciplinary seminars and events. On a more personal note, Joe and his wife Alice's daughter Isabella celebrated her first birthday in March and is now finding creative ways to pull out books and papers and rearrange them in interesting patterns around their apartment. Joe and Alice eagerly await the birth of their second child this September.

Ramona Pérez made an initial field visit to the Mexico-U.S. borderlands region in April, collecting information on the regional agriculture and culinary traditions of New Mexico. A summer research travel grant from NYU's Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies will allow her to return to the area to do fieldwork in Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, Mexico, to study the Feria Regional de Trigo (Regional Wheat Festival). In July, Ramona will be at the Smithsonian Latino Studies Center participating in their fledgling Qualitative Methods Training Seminar. In late summer, she'll be finishing her master's thesis on "public cuisine" in Chihuahua. She'll also help coordinate "Dine Around Downtown"—a restaurant fair/fundraiser held in early September at the World Trade Center.

After four misty-eyed years here at the department, Shalini Shunkar will be studying Hindi this summer in Udaipur, India, on a generous grant provided by the American Institute of Indian Studies. To the undoubted envy of colleagues doing research in such mundane locales as Italy and Guadeloupe, upon her return from India, she'll finally begin fieldwork this Fall in California, funded by the Social Science Research Council. Her proposed study will examine South Asian-American teenage engagements with new media technology and popular culture, and will foreground practices of consumption and language use insofar as they inform generational change and immigrant community formation. In the past year, Shalini has presented papers at the South Asia Conference in Madison, WI; the South Asia Pop Culture conference in Victoria, British Columbia; and the March AGSA symposium. This May, upon the successful completion of her comprehensive exams, she obtained her M.Phil.

Lotti Silber presented three papers this academic year. In September 1998 she presented "Puf, Soy y Seguiré Siendo Revolucionaria: Development Contradictions in Post-War El Salvador" at the Latin American Studies Association conference. In November 1998 she gave a paper at the AAA entitled "Not Revolutionary Enough?: Grassroots Constructions of Salvadoran Women." Most recently she was invited to La Habana, Cuba, and presented "Juventud 'Perdida': El Futuro de El Salvador." She will be completing the writing of her dissertation, "A Spectral Reconciliation: Rebuilding Post-War El Salvador," in the upcoming academic year, for which she has received both a Dean's Dissertation Fellowship and a Charlotte W. Newcombie Dissertation Fellowship. She is also very happy to report that, in October 1998, she married Tony Rossi, a former student in the Culture and Media Program.

Having returned from conducting her field research in Jamaica in December of 1997, Deborah Thomas has been concentrating this year on writing her dissertation with support from the Ford Foundation Fellowships for Minorities. Since her return, she has also been working part-time at the National Council for Research on Women, doing work with the Council's international projects, as well as designing programming for young women and leadership development. In November of 1998, she was invited to present a paper and teach a master dance class at Tulane University as part of the Crossroads Lecture Series of the African Diaspora
Teja Ganti presented a paper at the AAA meetings in December, "Imagining The Audience: The Cultural Logic of the Production of Indian Popular Cinema." She also presented "Not Just Another Song and Dance: The Multiple Roles of Indian Film Music" at a symposium on Egyptian and Indian musical films entitled "Dancing in the Rain" sponsored by the Kevorkian Center in January. Also in January, she provided the introductory remarks for the super-hit Hindi film, "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge" (1995) being screened at the Asia Society as part of its "Bombay Blockbusters: Popular Hindi Cinema" series. She later gave a talk, "Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani: The (H)indianization of Hollywood by the Bombay Film Industry" at the University of Pennsylvania in February as a part of its 51st Annual South Asia Seminar Series. Her article "Centenary Commemorations or Centenary Contestations: Celebrating 100 Years of Cinema in Bombay," has appeared in Visual Anthropology vol. 11, no. 4, 1998.

Leo Hsu finally finished his M.A. paper, "Anthropology and News Production," as well as his film for the Culture and Media video-production class, "Frame Selection," about newspaper photographers in New Jersey. Leo will spend the summer in Hong Kong taking language classes and visiting Hong Kong newspapers.

Eleana Kim received an internship position with the Cultural Restoration Tourism Project (CRTP) in Mongolia for the summer of 1999. She will be working with CRTP on the restoration of a 17th century Buddhist monastery, and will be video documenting the project's work. She will also be working with a San Francisco-based production company, Chroma Productions, on a feature-length documentary about the history and revival of Buddhism in Mongolia, told through the portrait of eleven-time national wrestling champion, Bat-Erdene. Eleana received a practicum grant from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation to help fund this project.

Camilla Nielsson's Culture and Media short film "The Bride Who Wouldn't Smile" made it to the semifinals in the film competition Close Up, Copenhagen, and is now being distributed by Lars von Trier/Zentropa Production. She also received a $1500 travel grant from the Politiken Fonden last October.

Lisa Stefanoff did pre-fieldwork research in northwestern and central Australia in summer 1998 and also worked as a preceptor for Prof. Steven Feld's "World Cultures: New Guinea" course.

Ruti Talmor will be finishing her thesis over the summer, which discusses the collection and exhibition of African art in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and aims to explore the ways in which African material culture was defined in the different fields of consumption it entered in the West, primarily those of anthropology and primitive art. The thesis will be useful for Ruti's Ph.D. work, which will be about "traditional" but current cultural forms in West Africa and how these have been transformed by modernity, globalization, and technological access to the world at large.

Pegi Vail's documentary "The Dodgers Syn-Phony" was rebroadcast this past Spring on PBS/WNET-Thirteen. It also won awards, was screened in the Brooklyn Film Festival, and was featured in Chicago's Silver Images Film Festival. In May, the Donnell Media Center/New York Public Library showed the film as part of a month-long series "Strike Three, Yer Out: Films Of America's Favorite Pastime." In March, Pegi programmed the Irish Breakfast Seminar for Film Fleadh: The Irish International Film Festival.

**LINGUISTICS**

Steve J. Albert has been conducting linguistic and ethnographic fieldwork among adolescents at a private school outside Paris since November 1998. His project involves the use of nonstandard and innovative linguistic forms in the construction of identity among young people, and is funded by a Fulbright grant from the Franco-American Commission for Educational Exchange, and by a grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, both awarded in the Spring of 1998. Steve plans to complete his fieldwork in December 1999. In July 1998, Steve presented a paper entitled "Language as Ideology and Practice: Linguistic Anthropology and the Study of Contemporary France" at the annual convention of the American Association of Teachers of French in Montreal. The presentation was part of a panel on the potential uses of anthropology in the teaching of French language and civilization courses, organized by NYU Anthropology Department alumnus Susan Terrio.

Jillian Cavanaugh spent this year writing grant proposals, taking her comprehensive exams, and serving as an elected representative to the Anthropology Graduate Student Association. Jillian gave a paper at the AAA Annual meeting in Philadelphia on the ideological dimensions of Italian linguistic scholarship, and wrote a book note on The Dialects of Italy (1997) for the *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*. She received her M. Phil. in May 1999. She will be attending the Linguistic Society of America’s Summer Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-
Wendy Dirks received the GSAS James Arthur Dissertation Fellowship for “Dental Development and Life History in Catarrhine Primates” during the 1998-1999 academic year. Her paper, “Histological reconstruction of dental development and age at death in a juvenile gibbon (Hylobates lar),” appeared in the October/November special issue of the Journal of Human Evolution. In August, she will present a paper at the American Society of Primatologists meeting in New Orleans on hylobatid dental development, entitled “An evolutionary perspective on dental development in the siamang (Symphalangus syndactylus) from histology and radiography.” Wendy spent the month of January in the UK, working in Don Reid’s lab at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. While she was there, she gave a talk to the Department of Oral Biology called “Out of the Mouths of Baboons.” She then participated in a symposium on new advances in anthropological research utilizing dental histology at University College London. She also gave a poster presentation at the Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists meeting on the large mammal fauna from ‘Ain So’d, a paleolithic site in the Azraq Basin of Jordan. Her co-authors were archaeologist R. W. Watson of San Juan College, New Mexico, and geologist D. W. Schnurrenberger of the University of Minnesota.

Varsha Pilbrow spent the major part of the academic year doing her doctoral dissertation research on dental variation in extant and fossil hominoids. Her research, which was funded through grants from the Leakey Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, and the National Science Foundation, took her to several museums in the U.S., Europe and Africa. She is currently working on publications resulting from this research.

Ryan Raum completed coursework as well as some labwork in the molecular anthropology laboratory of Prof. Cliff Jolly and Prof. Todd Disotell. He will be working on his master’s research in the lab this summer.

Sandra Suarez is going to start her dissertation research in July. For the next two years, she will be collecting behavioral data on wild red-bellied tamarins (Saguinus labiatus) in northwestern Bolivia, in the western Amazonian rainforest. On the eve of her departure, she was very excited to learn that she was awarded a fellowship from the Fulbright Foundation.

In January, 1999, Paul Telfer received a Grant-in-Aid of Research from Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society. This grant is in support of his research project entitled “Testing a Hypothesis of Primate Dispersal Using an 896-base pair Region of Mitochondrial DNA.” This work is being performed in Prof. Cliff Jolly and Prof. Todd Disotell’s molecular anthropology laboratory at NYU. This summer Paul will travel to Cameroon and Gabon to collect samples for his dissertation research in a collaborative project which will be studying biogeography and the evolution of SIV in West African primates.

Kim Williams-Guillen has spent the last year preparing for her dissertation work on the behavioral ecology of howling monkeys living in Nicaraguan coffee plantations. In May and June 1998, she traveled to Nicaragua with Drs. Colleen McCann and Fred Koontz of the Wildlife Conservation Society to census Nicaraguan primates and locate a field site; this work was supported by a Sokol predoctoral travel grant. She spoke about this fieldwork in a NYCEP seminar in October and during the AGSA symposium in March. In December, Kim completed her comprehensive exams and is expecting her M.Phil. in May. Kim has received a small grant from the American Society of Primatologists to support her upcoming fieldwork, and has submitted proposals for several other grants. She leaves this June for 14 to 16 months of monkey watching in Nicaragua.

Tanusing Woolley-Barker received her Ph.D. in May. She will be spending the rest of her life someplace warm and sunny.
DEGREES AWARDED

MASTER OF ARTS

Jessica Cattelino
“Citizenship, Spatiality and Civilian Crime Prevention in Manhattan’s 9th Precinct”

Meredith Earley
“Talking Heads, Borrowed Voices: David Byrne and the Aesthetics and Cultural Politics of World Music”

Omri Elisha
“Sustaining Charisms: The Mormons and the American Conflict Over Plural Marriage, 1852-1890”

Danny Fisher
“Radiophonic Engagements and Emplacing Sounds: Aesthetics, Acoustics, and Cultural Production in the Andes”

Patrick Heaton
“Farmstead and Finances in the Finger Lakes: Using GIS to Interpret Archival Records in Historical Archaeology”

Leo Hsu
“Anthropology and News Production”

Jong Bum Kwon
“From Village to City: The Limitations of Confucian Explanations in Korean Ethnography”

Susan Lappan
“Origins of the Mammals of Sulawesi: The migration of mammals to Sulawesi, and their subsequent radiations”

Aysje Parla
“The ‘Honor’ of the State: Virginity Examinations in Turkey”

Elizabeth Smith
“‘Primitive Other’ of ‘Our Distant Ancestors’?: Nubian Identity in Tourism in Egypt”

Paul Telfer
“Mangabey Dispersal: Analysis Using an 896-Base Pair Fragment of the Mitochondrial Genome”

Monica Uddin
“Primate Lentiviruses and the Evolution of Chemokine Receptors”

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Paul Garrett
“Language Socialization, Convergence, and Shift in St. Lucia, West Indies”

Gerald Lombardi
“Computer Networks, Social Networks, and the Future of Brazil”

Christine Waley
“Making Waves: Struggles Over the Environment, Development, and Participation in the Mafia Island Marina, Tanzania”

Tamzin Woolley-Barker
“Inbreeding, Outbreeding, and Hybridization Among Baboons of the Awash National Park, Ethiopia”

DEGREES TO BE AWARDED SEPTEMBER 1999

Rebecca Dudzik
“Mass Estimation in Anthropoid Primates: Examining the Principles and the Protocol”

Marcelo Fiorini
“Discourses of Desire: Identity and Alterity in an Amazonian Society”

Joan Garey
“Mechanisms by which Dietary Acacia May Act as a Proximate Regulator of Breeding Seasonality in the Vervet Monkey”

Christine Kimbrough
“From Flock to Frock: Textile Production and Urbanism in Mid-Third Millennium BCE Northwestern Mesopotamia”

John Krigbaum
“Human Paleodiet in Tropical Southeast Asia”

Lisa Schluterhausen
“Town Monkeys, Country Monkey: A Sociocultural Comparison of a Human Commensal and Wild Group of Bonnet Macaques (Macaca radiata)”
Marlana Regalado received her MLS in January, 1999, and has accepted a professional position as Information Literacy Librarian at Brooklyn College.

Elisha Renne just completed her first year as an assistant professor, jointly appointed in the Department of Anthropology and the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan. Her co-authored piece, “Bicycle Decoration and Everyday Aesthetics in Northern Nigeria,” will be published in *African Arts* later this month. She will be spending the summer in Nigeria.

Tony Rossl works in the film industry, presently as a camera assistant. He recently completed working on Stanley Tucci’s latest directorial effort, the forthcoming “Joe Gould’s Secret,” and has worked on numerous features and documentaries in South Africa, Madagascar, India, Italy, France, England, and throughout the U.S.

Bill Sanders is continuing in his dual positions of (faculty) Research Scientist and (technical) Supervising Preparator of Vertebrate Fossils in the Museum of Paleontology and Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Michigan. This past year, he participated in paleontological fieldwork at the well-known early hominid locality of Laetoli, Tanzania. This work was headed by Terry Harrison. He also collaborated with Terry on a paper presented at the 68th AAPA annual meeting, “Scaling of lumbar vertebrae in anthropoid primates: its implications for the positional behavior and phylogenetic affinities of *Proconsul*.” Much of his recent research has been on proboscideans, and he has a paper on mid-late Miocene proboscideans coming out in an edited volume (Columbia Univ. Press) on the Sinap Formation, Turkey, and a note in press on the earliest occurrence of the elephantoid genus *Stegodon* in Kenya. He’s also in the process of revising the systematics of the earliest elephants, and describing a new proboscidean fauna from the early Miocene locality of Wadi Moghara, Egypt.

Diane Scheinman’s chapter, entitled “The ‘Dialogic Imagination’ of Jean Rouch: Covert Conversations in *Les Maîtres Fous*,” was published in *Documenting the Documentary* (Barry Keith Grand & Jeannette Sloniewski, editors; Wayne State University Press, 1998).

After teaching one course each at NYU and C.W. Post last fall, Deborah Swartz has returned to intensive home teaching of high school students in biology, chemistry and earth science. She has also attended the Cold Spring Harbor meeting on Human Evolution, where she presented a poster.
presentations. Abstracts for all of the research presented were included in the Undergraduate Research Conference Program Book, which was distributed to over 400 professors, administrators and students who attended the conference.

Erica Williams presented her paper entitled “The African Influence on Venezuelan Religious Festivals” at the 26th annual Undergraduate Humanities and Social Sciences Research Conference on April 28 and 29.

CURRENT NEWS

Eugene Lewis (NYU ’00) is attending Hunter College’s Archaeology Field School in Hofstaar, Iceland, this summer. Alex Novikoff (’00) is excavating at the Lott House as part of Brooklyn College’s archaeology field school and will study abroad later this summer in Florence. Gabriela Portas (’00) will be researching the urbanization of the Mapuche people and its effect on their cultural identity this fall while studying abroad in Chile. Erica Williams (’01) is attending the summer research early identification program at Howard University.

ALUMNI NEWS

Lori E. Allen (NYU ‘97) has completed her first year at the Institute of Archaeology at the University College of London. Sobia Ansari (’99) will attend Tufts medical school in the Fall. Adam Becker (’97) has completed his first year of law school at the University of Michigan. Mieka Brand (’97) has completed her first year in archaeology at the University of Virginia. Francis P. Cody (’98) will attend the University of Michigan in the Fall on a four-year fellowship to study cultural and linguistic anthropology. David Cohen (’99) will attend the University of California, Berkeley, to pursue a doctorate in archaeology. Michael Dillorio (’98) has completed his first year at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Noriko Ishibashi (’99) is spending the summer in Washington State, working closely with Roger Ioutz and Washoe (the signing chimp) and her family. Ms. Ishibashi is a viola da gamba player and she has three concerts this year, one in January and two in May. Punti Jain (’96) has one more year left at SUNY College of Optometry and will be doing rotations at West Point and Newington, CT. Sadlo Jonas (’99) will be working for the city of NY as a child protective specialist and plans to be enrolled in the Masters of Public Health program at Hunter College. Abby Leap (’99) will spend this summer in Vermont doing an intensive summer French course at Middlebury College. Ms. Leap will then go to Paris for the 1999-2000 academic year to complete her studies to receive her MA before continuing her studies in anthropology and linguistics. Noi Liang (’99), plans to stay in New York for the next year before deciding which graduate school to attend. During that time Ms. Liang will be working closely with China Century on their North American Film Festival, "Celebration of Chinese Cinema." Albert Lim (’99) is a creative content writer for an Internet company. Carolyn Mork (’96) received a National Science Foundation grant for research at the University of Chicago. Perminder Parmar (’99) will attend Albert Einstein School of Medicine this Fall to pursue a doctorate in pediatric oncology and is spending the summer in Ecuador. Julie Pastaglia (’99) will attend Harvard School of Dental Medicine in the Fall. Erika Petersen (’97) will be doing the MSC program at University of Sheffield in England. Kevin Read (’99) will attend law school in the Fall, and will continue translating Swedish children’s books and animated television series. Janet Six (’98) will attend Columbia University in the Fall for historical archaeology. Ms. Six has also co-authored, with Susan Malin-Boyce, a chapter on artifact analysis for Dr. James Delle’s upcoming book on the Geographic Information System and historical archaeology. Michael E. Steiper (’97) continues his research in molecular systematics of the Guenons at Harvard University, supported by a National Science Foundation grant. Namita Sugandhi (’97) received a National Science Foundation grant for her archaeology research at the University of Chicago.

AUSA

The Anthropology Undergraduate Student Association (AUSA) had a very productive first year. AUSA’s listserv (ausa@forums.nyu.edu) kept students informed of anthropological events both inside and outside of the university. AUSA sponsored a number of events this academic year. The Annual Honors Research and Graduate School Discussion Session in October gave students an opportunity to hear different points of view on graduate schools from our professors (Abercrumbie, Blu, Disotell, Moore, Wright) and graduate students (Jessica Cattelino, Onri Elisha, Laura Miller, Paul Telfer). AUSA screened Juzo Itami’s Tampopo, which looked at the role of food in Japanese culture. Most importantly, an undergraduate curriculum committee meeting was held towards the end of the spring semester to discuss changes in the undergraduate academic program. Subsequently, a student version of the committee was formed to work closely with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Karen Blu, and the CAS Student Council. The school year ended with two brown bag lunches with Professors Steven Feld and Fred Myers, and an end-of-the-year party. Next year, AUSA hopes to sponsor more brown bag lunches as well as field trips to museums and archaeology sites.
Mellon Foundation. The seminar’s theme will be “Computer Science as a Human Science: The Cultural Impact of Computerization.” Gerry’s dissertation was entitled “Computer Networks, Social Networks, and the Future of Brazil.”

Brian Larkin (Anthropology 1998) Brian is a tenure-track Associate Professor of Anthropology at Barnard College. For the Spring of 1999, he had a Senior Research Fellowship at the Center for the Humanities at Wesleyan College. His dissertation, “Uncertain Consequences: The Social and Religious Life of Media in Northern Nigeria,” was funded by an SSRC Predissertation grant, support from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, and an NYU Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship.

Alison Griffiths (Cinema Studies, 1998) “The Origins of Ethnographic Film” (Funding: NYU Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship/ Charlotte Newcombe Fellowship, Jay Leyda Award for Academic Achievement) Alison has a tenure-track position in the Dept. of Speech at Baruch College, NYC, and has deferred a post-doctoral fellowship at the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research at the Australian National University in Canberra.

Tom Bikales (Anthropology 1997) “From Culture to Commercialization: The Production and Packaging of an African Cinema in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso” (Funding: Social Science Research Council and ACLS); Tom is now studying at Yale Law School.

Maureen Mahon (Anthropology 1997) is an assistant professor of anthropology and African American Studies at Wesleyan College. She is currently writing a book on music and activism, “The Black Rock Coalition and the Cultural Politics of Race in the United States,” based on her dissertation (Funding: Wenner gren, NSF, Ford Foundation).

Marilyn Thomas-Houston (Anthropology 1997) is teaching anthropology at the University of South Carolina and developing a program in visual anthropology.

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.” Her article, “Centenary Commemoration of a Hundred Years of Cinema in Bombay,” appeared in Visual Anthropology 11 (4), a special issue on cinema and society in India.

Erica Wortham received Wenner-Gren and SSRC/Fulbright Hays grants to support her field research in indigenous media collectives in the Oaxaca, Mexico, 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 carrying out research on the creation of the National Museum of Australia.

Productions and Screenings

Pegi Vail’s video documentary, “The Dodgers Symphony” (1998, 30 min.), looks at the history and meaning of an amateur Brooklyn baseball band that got its start with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Screenings this past academic year included the RAI festival in London; the Williamsburg Brooklyn International Film festival and Brooklyn Film Festival; the National Baseball Hall of Fame; Chicago’s Silver Images Film Festival; the NY Public Library/Donnell Branch as part of the month-long series, “Strike Three, Yer Out,” and was rebroadcast on PBS (WNET). Liz Mermin’s “Citystate: The Media and the Mayor” (on Village Voice investigative journalist Wayne Barrett) was shown at the New York International Independent Short Film and Video Festival. It was also shown at the Cantor Film Center along with Jennie Raskin’s “Book Groups” (on reading groups in New York), as part of a series on New York City documentary. “Book Groups” also won an honorable mention at the Columbus, Ohio, International Film Festival, and was on view at the Royal Anthropological Film Festival in London. Liz and Jennie are currently in the process of producing a documentary on abortion doctors. CamillaNeillson’s short "The Bride Who Wouldn't Smile" (8 min.), about a Vietnamese-American couple’s ordeal on a wedding shoot, made it to the semifinal (25 out of 270 total) in the Danish short-film competition CLOSE UP ’98 and is now being distributed by Zentropa Productions (owned by Lars Von Trier). Barbara Miller is the associate producer of a three-part series for PBS called “American Roots” (directed by NYU’s Jim Brown), and is in development on her own hour-long documentary “Craft” on the divide between folk and popular culture in America. Tsu Ling Toomer has been working at Comedy Central. Jill Dickerson is in Los Angeles casting a documentary for Lifetime called “Real Families,” documenting families over a two-week period; its website is realfamilies@bunim-nunnery.org.

...and Publications

Liz Mermin had a number of pieces come out including “Being Where?: Experiencing Narrative of Ethnographic Film” in Visual Anthropology Review, Vol. 13/1 Spring Summer 1997; “The Burden of Representation: A Review of the Margaret Mead Film Festival,” in NKA: Journal of Contemporary African Art (Summer/Fall 1997); “A Real Retreat: The Robert Flaherty Film Seminar in The Independent” (November 1998); and for Indiewire (an electronic publication for
working group on “Public Television in a Transnational Era.”

ONGOING MONTHLY SEMINARS

People and Things: Material Culture and the Social Practice of Art
Fred Myers and Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, organizers
Participants: Barbara Abrash, Faye Ginsburg, Ed Sullivan, Jean-Paul Colleyn, Steve Feld, Rob Moore, Diana Fane, Jeff Shandler, Judith Goldstein

Television Studies Roundtable: Toby Miller, organizer

Conference, December 5-8: “Changing Foundations of Knowledge”
In conjunction with the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes, ICAS, and the FAS Dean’s Office
Keynote Speaker: Marge Garber, Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University

PROGRAMS 1998-99

1998

September 8, screening and discussion with Chilean filmmaker Patricio Guzmán of a recut version of “Battle of Chile, Part I: The Insurrection of the Bourgeoisie” (Chile/Cuba, 1975/1997)

September 24-25 Playing the Nation, Playing the Person: A Conference on Sports and Popular Culture
Screenings: “Pumping Iron II,” “Woman Basketball Player #5,” “Raging Bull”
Discussants: Toby Miller, Cheryl Cole (Illinois), Chris Straayer, Leger Grindon (Middlebury)

October 2: Susan Meiselas
www.akakurdistan.com: From Field to Archive to Website

October 23: Screening A House in Jerusalem (Israel, 1997) and discussion with filmmaker Amos Gitai and panelists Ammiel Alcalay (Queens College) and Stuart Klawans (The Nation)

November 20-21: The Best of Input (International Public Television Conference) (with Deutches Haus)
Roundtable: Patricia Außerleide (American University), John Santos (Ford Foundation), Katie Carpenter (Ford), Toby Miller, Neil Seiling, Kai Hoffman (WDR/Germany), Rolf Baumer (Deutches Haus)

December 4: Screening, “Hide and Seek” (1996) and discussion with filmmaker Su Friedrich and critic and scholar Patricia White (Swarthmore)

1999

January 28: Screening and discussion on “The Mother of Light and Her Daughters” with filmmaker and scholar Viola Shafik


February 5: Feminist scholar/filmmaker Michelle Citron on Home Movies and Other Necessary Fictions

February 19: Screening and discussion of “The Mouride Brotherhood” (France 1998)
Jean-Paul Colleyn and Victoria Eben

March 8: Seminar, East Side Stories Films by a new generation of East European film directors. Wanda Bershen (moderator), Ibolye Fekete (Hungary), Boris Frumin, David Ondricek (Czech Republic)

March 25-26: Prevaricating the Real: Jill Godmilow’s Non-Fiction Films (screenings and discussions)
With: Jill Godmilow, Peggy Phelan, Rolf Baumer, Kathleen Huiler

April 5: The Music of Chance: Five Unscripted Films on City Life, from Vertov to Jem Cohen
With: Annette Michelson (Cinema Studies), Kenneth Silver (Fine Arts), Henry Smith (Columbia), Xudong Zhang (ICAS), Leo Rubinfien (ICAS)

April 8: Screening “The Dead Weight of a Quarrel Hangs” and discussion with filmmaker Walid Raad (Queens College) and Michael Gilson (Kevkian Center)

April 29: Chris Pinney (University College London) Camera Indica: The Social History of Indian Photographs

April 29, 30, May 1: From Performer to Persona: The Films of Yvonne Rainer, Screenings and discussion: Sally Banes, Noel Carroll, B. Ruby Rich, Scott MacDonald, Lynne Tillman, Yvonne Rainer

May 15: Screening of: “A Season Outside” and discussion with filmmaker Amar Kanwar
ANNETTE B. WEINER MEMORIAL LECTURE

On April 15, 1999, Shirley Lindenbaum of the Graduate Center of the City University of New York gave the inaugural Annette B. Weiner Memorial Lecture. As Fred Myers pointed out in the introduction he gave, the lecture, to be given every year by an eminent sociocultural anthropologist, is a fitting tribute to Annette’s vision of anthropology and will continue to add, in "the Trobriand terms she introduced for us, 'renewed her name'."

Shirley Lindenbaum was the ideal choice to inaugurate this distinguished lecture series. She is known internationally for her many publications on disease and healing; one of her books, Kuru Sorcery, has become a classic, and she is the former editor of The American Ethnologist. She was also a close friend of Annette’s, and her approach to anthropological problems, a combination of intellectual rigor, a concern with issues of power and inequality, an understanding of the human condition, and an extraordinary imagination, was one that Annette greatly admired.

These qualities were all in evidence in her talk, "The Life and Times of Nokoti: How a Melanesian Bush Spirit Robbed a Store, Was Sent to Jail, and Never Left Home." Shirley argued that stories about fairies, ogres, goblins, and other spirits are not innocent fantasies, but rather narratives on troubling aspects of modern life. She showed how stories about the powerful bush spirit Nokoti were both shaped by, and reflected, a series of momentous events that took place in the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea. The Nokoti stories, she contended, are both historical and metaphorical, allowing different constituencies a chance to tell their own histories and to convey their ideas about the present and their visions of the future.

The Weiner lecture was held in the Ben Snow Room in Bobst Library, the setting for the reception held the Spring that Annette was named Kriser Distinguished Professor of Anthropology. Annette always loved events in the Spring, especially when they combined anthropology and a party, and she often planned a distinguished lecture or a conference for that time of year. As Fred observed, Annette not only appreciated occasions in sociocultural celebration, she also believed in fostering such "key moments in cosmological reproduction." This was just such an event. After the lecture, the first of an annual ritual in her honor, everyone ate, drank, and talked—all of the things that Annette dearly loved to do. And over and over again, people talked about her, how much she was missed, how strange it seemed that she wasn’t there, and how enthusiastic she would have been about Shirley’s talk and the party.

There was a small book on every chair with the eulogies that Annette’s friends gave at her memorial service on March 6, 1998. Produced by the Anthropology Department, it was illustrated with images of Annette and objects from the Pacific. As Fred noted, both the booklet and the lecture were part of the acknowledgement of Annette’s "great legacy to us, in the way of her work, her teaching, and her vision of anthropology." They were a testament to the things in which she had a deep and abiding interest—the life of the mind, the power of the anthropological imagination, and the great pleasures of social life. She would have loved every minute of it.

Anne-Marie Cantwell