

Anthropology Newsletter

Taking action today for a better tomorrow

Invest in Anthropology
Details On The Next Page

In this Issue:

Jason Labelle Wins Teaching Award

Chris Fisher Discovers Ancient City

Kate Browne Premieres Documentary

**Anthropology Professors Part
of Copenhagen Climate Work**

*Plus Field School Participants, New Online Courses, Alumni Spotlight, AGSS Update,
Recent Graduates, Australian Archaeologist visits CSU, Faculty Updates, and more*

Invest in Anthropology

Help us make a difference

CSU Anthropology faculty are working globally to create solutions to our most pressing problems. In these challenging fiscal times your generous gift, no matter the size, allows us to help train the next generation of anthropologists and continue our work.

We are here to make a difference and now you can as well – please donate today. Your gift supports student involvement in research, seminars, student events, hands-on learning, and most importantly, scholarships.



Enclosed is my check for \$2,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Charge this gift of \$ _____ to my Visa MasterCard American Express

Name _____

Card Number _____

Address _____

Name on Card _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Signature _____

Phone (____) _____

Please apply this gift to: Anthropology Foundation 30083/L0915

E-Mail _____

The Campaign for Colorado State University

Please mail your completed form to: Donations, Department of Anthropology, Colorado State University, B219 Clark, Fort Collins CO, 80523-1787. (970) 491-5447

Anthropology Winter 2010

in this issue

- 2 Support Anthropology
Donate Today
- 4 Message From Our Chair
Poised for an incredible year
- 5 News From Campus
LaBelle wins award, climate research, online courses, Archaeologist visits CSU
- 7 News From the Field
Fisher discovers settlement, new Browne documentary, field school updates
- 10 Student News
Bush Benefest, Student presentations, Recent graduates, AGSS update
- 12 Alumni News
Cynthia Isenhour
- 13 New Books
Economics and Morality, The Archaeology of Environmental Change



On The Cover
Graduate Student Florencia Pezzutti at the site of Sacapu Angamucu, Mexico



Contact: Department of Anthropology,
Colorado State University, B219 Andrew G. Clark Bldg.
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1787
Voice: (970) 491-5447 Fax: (970) 491-7597
cla-anthro_info@mail.colostate.edu
<http://www.colostate.edu/Dept/Anthropology/index.html>

Thanks To Our Donors - You Make Our Work Possible

Dr. Tilman G. Freitag, Dr. Rodney P. Frey and Ms. Kristine A. Roby, Mr. William E. Greager, Anne R. Wilson, D.D.S., and Michael L. Wilson, M.D., Mr. Brian J. Kimsey-Hickman and Mrs. Melissa H. Kimsey-Hickman, Mrs. Laurie G. Parkinson and Daniel E. Parkinson, D.V.M., Ms. Valerie E. Pearson, Dr. Deborah I. Olszewski, Ms. Nicola A. Upright, Mr. Phillip W. Dawson, Mrs. Nanci M. Sutula and Dr. Thomas L. Sutula, Mrs. Marilyn B. Quinn

From The Chair of Anthropology

Poised For an Incredible Year



Kathy Sherman

I am so pleased to be the new chair of the Anthropology Department at CSU. It is a real privilege to work with the dedicated faculty and outstanding students in our program. The faculty members are tireless in their teaching and mentoring of students. Jason LaBelle, assistant professor in archaeology, was awarded the prestigious College of Liberal Arts Excellence in Teaching Award. Graduate and undergraduate students experienced field research in North America at the Lindenmeier Site, the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Indian Reservations,

and in the Lake Pátzcuaro Basin, Mexico. Our students have also made impressive presentations of their research at anthropology conferences on and off campus. Our faculty members continue their exceptional research programs, spanning the globe from Vietnam to Mexico and Bolivia to Kenya, from India to Norway. Perhaps most importantly, our sense of community motivated students and faculty to raise more than \$12,700 to help one of our graduate students. He is fighting cancer without health insurance coverage to pay for his medical bills.

Much of the work you read about in this newsletter is possible only because of the generous donations we receive from our alumni and friends, and we thank you for that support. Unfortunately, Colorado is struggling under the same economic challenges that are reducing the funding for public higher education across our nation. Your vocal and ongoing support of the work of our department and Colorado State is more critical now than ever. Thanks for your help in keeping our first-class teaching, research, and outreach going strong.

Kathleen Sherman
Kathleen Sherman, Chair

We are seeking volunteers to serve on the newly formed Department of Anthropology Steering Committee.

Please e-mail Kathy Sherman for details

Kathleen.Sherman@colostate.edu

Anthropology Faculty:

Katherine Browne, Cultural
Christopher T. Fisher, Archaeology
Kathleen Galvin, Cultural
Michelle M. Glantz, Biological
Lynn Kwiatkowski, Cultural
Jason M. LaBelle, Archaeology
Stephen J. Leisz, Geography
Ann L. Magennis, Biological
Kathleen Sherman, Chair, Cultural
Jason S. Sibold, Geography
Jeffrey G. Snodgrass, Cultural
Mary Van Buren, Archaeology

The Department of Anthropology Mission:

(1) to offer and maintain instructional programs that provide an understanding of people and their cultures, past and present, and knowledge of their social, political, economic and environmental systems; (2) to conduct research in our programmatic areas within the various sub-disciplines of anthropology, in order to advance and expand knowledge of the field of anthropology; (3) to participate actively in programs of interdisciplinary research. One of the ways we accomplish these things is through the synergistic effects of an active program of field and laboratory research and the teaching and training of students. To fulfill our mission, the Department of Anthropology currently has 12 full-time faculty, including two geographers. Six of these also serve as advising faculty in the Graduate Degree Program in Ecology, and three are advising faculty within the Sociology Department. Currently, we have 130 undergraduate majors and 55 master students.

Jason LaBelle Wins Teaching Award

Dr. Jason LaBelle, assistant professor in the Anthropology Department, won the 2009 College of Liberal Arts Excellence in Teaching Untenured Faculty award which will be formally presented in the spring. Dr. Ann Gill, dean of the College of Liberal Arts said, "This award is a wonderful acknowledgment of the outstanding work Jason does in the classroom and for our students."

"Dr. LaBelle's passion for archaeology is immediately clear in his teaching style, in his students' successes in the field and their careers, and in his involvement with the public." said Kathy Sherman, chair of anthropology.



Jason LaBelle at the Lindenmeier site, Colorado

This award is a wonderful acknowledgement of the outstanding work Jason does in the classroom and for our students. Ann Gill, dean CLA

"This dedication is what makes him a great person and an incredible asset to the Anthropology Department, and to archaeology as a whole," wrote students David Anderson and Jessica Anderson in a letter to the selection committee. They added, "This is a passion that has infected every one of his students, both from the field school, as well as those who deal with him on a daily basis. Dr. LaBelle is truly a wonderful and inspirational teacher and mentor."

LaBelle teaches a variety of courses including, Archaeology of North America, Great Plains Archaeology, Archaeology and the

Public, Lithic Technology, a Paleoindian graduate seminar and an experimental archaeology class. He also teaches the summer Archaeological Field School, which is a CSU institution, dating back to the late 1960s. LaBelle said the field school provides a "life-changing experience for the students" and offers work as "real field archaeologists." "It is a great honor to be recognized by the students for all of the hard work we have done together, said LaBelle.

Sherman added, "Jason is a great teacher. He has outstanding mastery of the materials, and he uses an exciting and innovative approach to making the distant past compelling and relevant to young people."



Archaeology Field School students taking notes about the site setting, Soapstone Prairie Natural Area, Colorado.

Australian Archaeologist Visits CSU

In November, Dr. Annie Ross of the University of Queensland, visited the Department of Anthropology at CSU to deliver a paper on her research with the Jarowair Aboriginal people of the Darling Downs, west of Brisbane, in southern Queensland, Australia. Her paper was entitled "The Anthropology of an Archaeological Site: An Ancient Australian Aboriginal Stone Arrangement in the 21st Century." The Jarowair Aboriginal people are managers of a large stone arrangement known as Gummingurru. This site was once a secret, sacred men's initiation site. With the removal of traditional owners to Palm Island, more than 500 miles away, in the 1940s and 1950s, much knowledge about the site was lost and it is only now being resurrected. Since 2000, traditional custodians have returned to the site and have given the place and its cultural landscape a new meaning. No longer used for initiation, Gummingurru now has contemporary value as a site of learning and reconciliation for all Australians. Furthermore, Jarowair traditional custodians are once again maintaining the site, which involves active creation of new motifs and realignment of damaged arrangements. This challenges archaeological desires for the retention of ancient motifs, but meets Aboriginal aims for reconnection with their ancestral places of significance.



Dr. Annie Ross during her talk.

Connecting with Students and the Public: Anthropology Online

In an effort to reach students who are unable to attend a traditional classroom setting due to work, family, or location, the Department of Anthropology at Colorado State University is developing online courses. Students will be able to obtain an undergraduate minor in Anthropology, a Liberal Arts major with a concentration in Anthropology, or an Anthropology graduate specialization in International Development. These courses also are designed to have a broad appeal to the general public and to students considering higher education.

Among the courses to be offered online are Cultures and the Global System, Introduction to Geography, Gender and Anthropology, Indians of North America, and Seminar in Mesopotamian Prehistory. We anticipate these and other anthropology courses will be available by the Fall 2010. For more information, please visit the Division of Continuing Education website at <http://www.learn.colostate.edu/courses/>. Now your friends and family can share your interests in anthropology at CSU without having to leave home!

Stephen Leisz on Copenhagen Panel

On Monday, Nov. 9, Stephen Leisz, assistant professor of Geography within the Department of Anthropology, participated on the panel of the SOGES-sponsored discussion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen that took place in December 2009. Dr. Leisz was invited to participate on the panel following his attendance at the Climate Change Congress in Copenhagen (March 10-12, 2009) where he presented a poster on "Changing Farming Systems in Montane Mainland Southeast Asia, Environmental Impacts, Resiliency, and Climate Change." The panel discussed issues related to the current thinking on science and politics behind the debates that recently took place at the Copenhagen Conference and also discussed some of the projected impacts of climate change on different regions of the world. As a follow-up to the panel, Dr. Leisz also participated in a round-table discussion with Michael Nash, director of the film *Climate Refugees*, Pat McConathy, chair of CSU's Board of Governors, and CSU President Tony Frank. The round-table discussion focused on CSU faculty members climate change-related research and on our immediate experience with how climate change is affecting areas of the world where we have ongoing research projects.

Quick Link

Division of Continuing Education
<http://www.learn.colostate.edu/courses>

Chris Fisher Discovers Ancient Settlement

How can past societies help us better respond to contemporary climate change? Legacies of Resilience: the Lake Pátzcuaro Archaeological Project (LORE-LPB) is a long-term multidisciplinary project, led by CSU archaeologist Chris Fisher, designed to explore this question. The Lake Pátzcuaro Basin is a critical cultural region of Mexico that has seen limited archaeological research. At the time of European contact, the region was the core of



Students on the summit of Pyramid 1, Sacapu Angamucu, Mexico.

“The largest settlement – which may be the Prehispanic site of Sacapu Angamucu – covers more than four square kilometers.”

the Purépecha (Tarascan) Empire with a dense population, centralized settlement system, social stratification, and a highly engineered environment. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation, our 2009 summer season was incredibly successful.

Over two months this summer I conducted the full coverage survey of more than 25 square kilometers documenting more than 16 major settlements and hundreds of associated agricultural terraces. The largest settlement – which may be the Prehispanic site of Sacapu Angamucu – covers more than four square kilometers. Located on a

geologically recent lava flow, the settlement covers an area that is considered unsuitable for modern agriculture effectively preserving ancient architecture. This summer, with the help of 11 students, I was able to survey roughly half of the site. Using highly accurate GPS equipment – donated in part by TDS-Way/Trimble – we were able to document more than 1,600 stone house foundations, large buildings, circular structures, granaries, room-blocks, and pyramids. The area is extremely rugged and covered in dense vegetation making this some of the most difficult archaeological conditions I have experienced.



Chris Fisher taking notes.

At the center’s height, roughly A.D. 1000-1350, Sacapu Angamucu may have contained as many as 20,000 people making it minimally a ‘proto-city’ in archaeological lingo. In the following summers I will be continuing my work at Sacapu Angamucu, and the rest of the Lake Basin, to more fully document the settlement, and relate its occupation to past environmental change in the region. I am also seeking additional funds to continue this important work in the years to come.

Ultimately this project will make a direct contribution to explanations for the development of the archaic Purépecha Empire, its expansion into an empire, and Central Mexican prehistory, and serve as an important anthropological example of coupled human/natural systems over long time frames. Not only will this research provide fascinating information about the past, but it also will provide prehistoric case studies that can aid modern conservation efforts in the region.

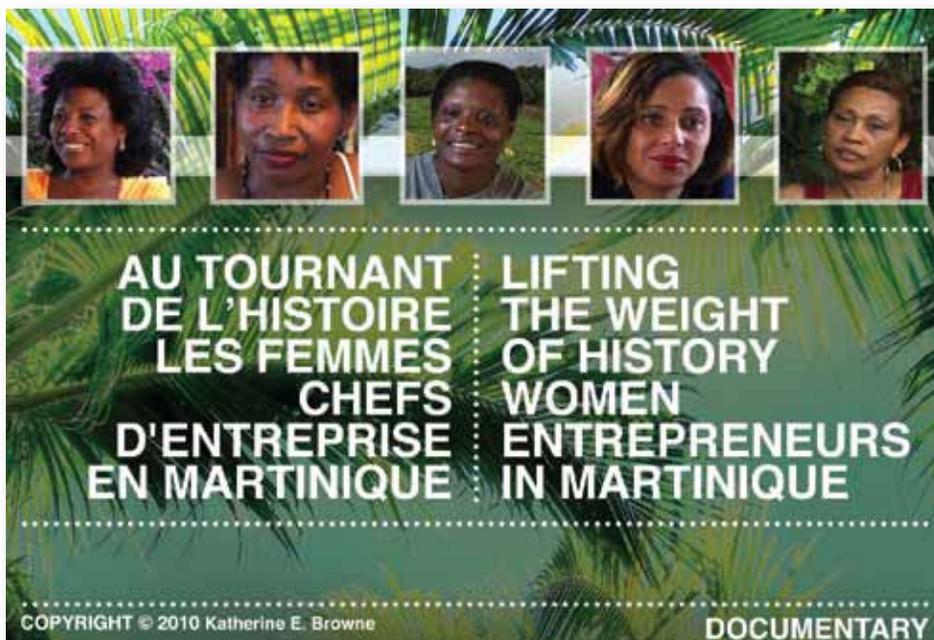
New Documentary From Kate Browne

Kate Browne, a Colorado State University professor in the Department of Anthropology, premiered the English version of her latest film, *Lifting the Weight of History*, on Oct. 27 at Howard University. The documentary tells the story of Afro-Caribbean entrepreneurial women who are helping overcome longstanding workplace hostilities in Martinique's world of business.

About the Film

Like the slave-based histories of most Caribbean islands, Martinique's troubled past has tainted islanders' perception of work and bosses. For 10 generations of slavery, African-descended majorities constituted the laborers for a tiny minority of whites (1 percent) known locally as *békés*.

It has been 150 years since abolition, but because *békés* still control most of the local economy, tensions between workers and bosses that began during slavery live on today. Indeed, mistrust and suspicion still fuel the sense among many that bosses exploit workers and that working hard is unrelated to advancement. Such deeply entrenched problems in the workplace drain energy from the life force of local business. With increasing competition from Caribbean neighbors and other countries, an anemic culture of business threatens Martinique's control of its own future. In the midst of such global challenges, growing numbers of Afro-Caribbean women business owners are bringing new management styles to the world of work and creating big changes.



The DVD cover for Kate Browne's new documentary film. The two-DVD set will be released in January 2010 in both English and French versions.

"Women business owners were not just approaching business differently from men – they were practicing a whole new paradigm."

Browne's Research

"The inspiration for this film began with a revelation," said Browne, anthropologist, writer and producer of the documentary film. After studying my in-depth interviews with more than 100 female and male entrepreneurs in Martinique, it hit me: women business owners were not just approaching business differently from men – they were practicing a whole new paradigm.

"Their secret, I believe, is the ethic of family that they bring to the workplace. For them, it's about awareness, communication, and standards. Once I realized what was happening, it became important to me to tell their story to a broader audience."

Background and Funding

Browne secured funding from the National Science Foundation to create the footage for this documentary. She recruited Emmy-winning filmmaker, Ginny Martin, and together they captured the stories of five representative women entrepreneurs and numerous local experts, all drawn from Browne's long-term ethnographic research in Martinique.

International Broadcast and DVD Release

An earlier version of *Au Tournant de l'Histoire* was first broadcast in Summer 2008, nationally on French TV (France 3), in overseas French departments and territories (RFO), and around the world (TV5, French satellite TV).

The DVD package will be released to the public in January 2010 and contain two DVDs – one in the original French language, and one with English subtitles and narration. For more information about *Lifting the Weight of History*, visit <http://www.liftingtheweight.colostate.edu/>

Browne also collaborated with Martin to create the documentary film, *Still Waiting: Life After Katrina*, which aired on PBS stations nationwide. This documentary follows the lives of an African-American kin network of 155 people for 20 months following the storm. <http://www.stillwaiting.colostate.edu/>

Quick Links

Lifting the Weight <http://www.liftingtheweight.colostate.edu/>
 Still Waiting <http://www.stillwaiting.colostate.edu/>
 Kate Browne <http://amar.colostate.edu/~browne/>

Field School Students Expand Horizons

One of the strengths of the Anthropology Department at CSU is that students are able to participate in what anthropologists do, rather than just reading about what anthropologists think. Two undergraduate students who attended the Ethnographic Field School in the summer of 2008, conducted on the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Indian Reservations in South Dakota, shared these reactions.

Michael Brydger, Class of 2010

The Ethnographic Field School is a collaborative effort between Dr. Kathleen Sherman, students, and Lakota individuals, communities, and institutions. Students took part in administering surveys, then used their knowledge and specific interests to analyze quantitative and qualitative data. Experiential learning through field school has led me to a greater understanding of the social structure, economic structures, political red tape, cultural integrity, and community values on the reservation today. My academic interests include the differences between Lakota and non-Indian agricultural household decision making. My undergraduate Honors Thesis expounds upon the differences that ethnicity produces in agricultural operations on the Great Plains. Applied anthropology provides a means for reciprocity between anthropologists and the communities where they work that was not emphasized during the times of Kroeber or Boas. As surveys are completed, the ethnographic data provides important information for Lakota people, as well as for anthropological research. Currently, data from the ethnographic field school is being used by Oglala Lakota College to present a business plan for a recycling center; by the Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce to more effectively meet the economic and cultural needs of the community; to exemplify the need for bilingual education within reservation schools; to identify farmers and ranchers with water quality concerns; to demonstrate the need for welfare reform; and to encourage agricultural policy reform. This process strengthens ties between the anthropologist and the community. Anthropology at CSU is not merely a study of culture but an avenue for advancing community development, culturally appropriate economic development, social networking, and reciprocal relationships among community members



2009 Field School students learn badlands ecology.

and anthropologists.

Andrea Akers, Class of 2010

Before I attended the summer Ethnographic Field School, I was unsure as to whether or not anthropology was what I wanted to do with my life. Before this time, I had become proficient at academic endeavors, writing papers, taking tests, and giving presentations, but this was not what I was expecting from anthropology. During the summer Ethnographic Field School, we traveled to Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Reservations and stayed with Lakota friends of Dr. Kathleen Sherman.

It was profoundly different to be sharing moments of my life with the Lakota people I had read and done reports on for so many years. Hearing their opinions and standpoints on issues that I had written about was very meaningful to me and helped to put a real person behind my academic ideas. I was able to do data analysis, prepare it in a presentation, help present it to a group of Native professionals, and participate in their discussions of plans and ideas of how to make that information useful. This experience really solidified my desire to become an applied anthropologist in being able to use my expertise to provide Natives with a service that they can then use for their benefit. My Honors Thesis will focus on "Lakota Women Entrepreneurs through History," and will be a combination of literary analysis and original research from data collected on Pine Ridge. Overall the field school experience was invaluable and has shaped who I want to be as an anthropologist and what the goals of my work will be.



Gathering of field school students from 2002-2009 at Walter Littlemoon's home.

Students Support Classmate

It was only a matter of days after Jason Bush, a graduate student in the Anthropology Department, was diagnosed with stage IIIA testicular cancer that his friends and classmates were planning a benefit for him. In November, that benefit exceeded the original goal of \$4,000 by raising \$12,700! "As soon as we heard about Jason, we wanted to do something to help him so that he could focus on getting well, rather than worrying about how he would pay his medical bills," said Maureen McNamara, one of many graduate students who worked on the Bushdoctor Benefest and silent auction.

The benefit, along with a website and a fundraiser hosted by his friends in Alpine, Texas, have raised close to \$32,000. "It is a testament to Jason and what kind of a person he is that so many people showed up and donated to this event," said Dr. Ann Magennis. "The students and people who organized this event are a tribute to what incredible things can happen with enough resolve, goodwill, and talent," said Dr. Kate Browne. To learn more about Jason and to donate to his fund, please go to <http://www.jasonbushcancerfund.org>.



Jason doing fieldwork, Mexico, Summer 2009.

Quick Link

Jason Bush Cancer Fund

<http://jasonbushcancerfund.org>

CSU Students Present at National Meetings

CSU Anthropology students are some of the most active on campus and routinely give presentations at national conferences. Here is a recent sample:

Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference, October 2009, Gunnison, Colo.

Jessica Anderson, Erin Parsons, and Vlisha Stanerson: "Tubes and Spirals: An Analysis of Bird Bone Beads from the Weinmeister Site"

Larry Beidle, Mary Van Buren, Steven Baker, Bonnie Gibson, Michelle Hansen, Rachel Kline, Annie Maggard, Cashel McGloin, and Josh Weinberg: "The Corner Saloon: Middle Class Comforts in a Working Man's Bar"

Sam Germaine-Richings:

"Archaeological Investigations of Duffy Shelter (5MF435): A Stratified Rockshelter in Northwestern Colorado with Possible Evidence of a Fremont Forager Occupation"

Ashleigh J. Knapp and Jason M. LaBelle:

"The Red Rock Road: Protohistoric Archaeology along the Northern Colorado Front Range"

Annie E. Maggard and Jason M. LaBelle:

"Investigating the High Country: A GIS-Based Synthesis of Colorado Archaeology Above 3,000 Meters"

Erin E. Parsons and Vlisha Stanerson:

"Carved in Bone: Experiments in Turkey Bone Bead Production"

Carissa Ramirez, Megan Finch, Jason LaBelle, and Courtney Carlson: "Black Shale Arroyo: Early Ceramic Occupation Along the Northern Colorado Hogbacks"

Michael Troyer and Christopher Reed:

"The Line Shack Site (5LR110): A Multi-Component, High Intensity Occupation Site in Northern Larimer County, Colorado"

Plains Anthropological Conference October 2009, Norman, Okla.

Kvale Thompson, John Lambert, and Lawrence Todd: "In-Field Faunal Analysis: Assemblage Properties and Site Specific Activities Revealed by the Little Venus Fire"

Paul Burnett, Jason LaBelle, and Garry Weinmeister: "Bone Beads and the Weinmeister Site: Private Collections and Preservation on the Colorado Front Range"

American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, December 2009, Philadelphia, Pa.

Sara Jamieson: "The Wayuu Indigenous Woman as Commentary on Venezuelan Progress: From Barbarism to Politics and Professionalism"

Congratulations To Our Graduates

Majors

Brian Anderson
 Lydia Archuleta
 Joshua Craft
 Laura Debortoli
 Jody Drummond
 Lori Fager
 Angelina Granata
 Jenny Herrera
 Anthony Holdier
 Amanda Huffman+
 Ashleigh Knapp
 Jacob Mussler
 Louise Nelson
 Kyle Peters *+
 Lindsay Spaulding
 Diana Wallis

Minors

Caitlin Carson
 Nicole Numamoto
 Jessica Quig
 Amy Roos
 Amy Strakbein

 * Cum Laude
 +Double Major

Masters

Melanie Graham
 Thesis "From Souvenir to Sundance: Perceptions and Participation of Residents in Cultural Tourism on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation," Dr. Kathleen Sherman, adviser

Rebecca Latanich
 Thesis "As Seen on TV: Television as a Forum for Interpreting Paleoindian Archaeology," Dr. Jason LaBelle, adviser

Brian Thomas
 Thesis "Three Dimensional Sustainability and Ecotourism in Vietnam," Dr. Stephen Leisz, adviser

Anthropology Graduate Student Society Update

The AGSS is proud to announce officers for 2009-2010: Meaghan Bludau, president, Aziza Bayou, vice president, Lauren Denton, secretary, Jason Chambers, treasurer. We look forward to contributing our talents and dedication to serving fellow anthropology students, and hope to continue the tradition of excellence established by the students, faculty and staff of the CSU Department of Anthropology! AGSS sponsored a bake sale on Oct. 26-27, 2009 to raise money for the anthropology department's peer-edited, graduate student-run journal, "Furthering Perspectives: Anthropological Views of the World." Thanks to everyone who donated and volunteered, we raised \$240 toward the publication of the journal, the centerpiece of the AGSS. This student-organized and published journal has seen three successful volumes, with the fourth edition submissions being screened now. It includes current student research in Biological and Cultural Anthropology, and Archaeology sub-fields. by CSU's graduate and undergraduate anthropology students. In November, the Bushdoctor Benefest was held at Avogadro's Number. The fundraiser was organized by dedicated friends (and members of AGSS!) and family to raise money and awareness for Jason Bush, a fellow anthropology graduate student diagnosed with cancer prior to the beginning of the semester. A tremendous success, this event raised more than \$12,700 via donations and a silent auction, helping Jason with the high costs associated with his treatment. This full day of fun, live music, and personal stories brought together members of the University, the public

and the public, and honored Jason's struggle with a sense of camaraderie and community. AGSS and the Department of Anthropology sponsored speaker Walter Littlemoon and his wife, Jane Ridgway, in November. Littlemoon, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Ridgway, wrote a book titled, *They Call Me Uncivilized, The Memoir of an Everyday Lakota Man from Wounded Knee*. This work describes the impact federal Indian policies have had on his life and family. AGSS looks forward to presenting upcoming events co-sponsored by the Anthropology Club, chaired by senior undergraduate Rae Mosher and advised by Dr. Jason Sibold. These events include talks by Department of Anthropology faculty and instructors regarding their current research, including a discussion of tree ring analysis presented by Dr. Jason Sibold and also a recap of last summer's archaeological field school findings presented by Dr. Jason LaBelle and field school alumni. Other upcoming events include a department kickball tournament, a career night, and other presentations led by graduate students. AGSS and the Anthropology Club look forward to bringing together graduate and undergraduate students in order to benefit from each other's learning experiences and enthusiasm, while fostering personal and professional relationships among fellow practitioners in the discipline of anthropology. If you would like to find out more about these organizations please contact Rae Mosher (rmliptak@rams.colostate.edu) (Anthropology Club) and (mbludau@gmail.com or Abayou@gmail.com) (Anthropology Graduate Student Society).

By Jason Chambers

Cynthia Isenhour Completing Her Doctorate in Anthropology

Submitted by Cynthia Isenhour, who graduated from Colorado State University in 2003 with a master of arts degree in Anthropology, is currently teaching cultural diversity classes and is in the final stages of writing her Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Kentucky. Her areas of study include environmental and economic anthropology. Her research focuses on consumption, the cultural construction of need, and how factors such as environmental risk perceptions and environmental philosophies inform consumption decisions in post-industrial urban contexts. Cynthia did her dissertation fieldwork over the course of 14 months in Sweden where she studied sustainable consumer initiatives, paying particular attention to how discourses of sustainability are constructed and contested on multiple levels.

What have you done since graduating?

After getting an M.A. I worked for two years for an environmental nonprofit as a grant writer and program consultant. Among other things, the organization helped to fund community-based reforestation and watershed protection projects in Central America and the American West. I was always impressed by their community-based approach. However, by urging sustainability in economically disadvantaged communities without addressing global connections, the organization's programs neglected any consideration of the demands that wealthy consumers place on natural resources. Production driven by northern demand is certainly a predominant force behind the degradation of the forests and watersheds we were trying to help people protect. Yet ironically very few of the American "experts" with whom I worked took time to reflect on their own consumption as part of this process. I wanted to study this contradiction and to reframe the debate about sustainable development, refocusing my interest on the global north, where citizens in post-industrial urban societies are much more culpable for environmental degradation than poor farmers in Central America.



Cynthia Isenhour

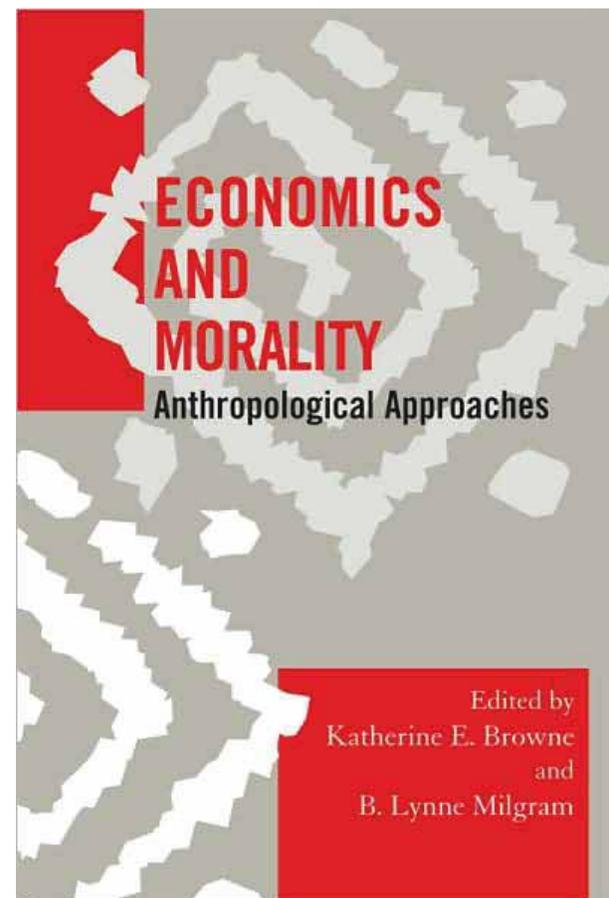
What important things did you learn from your studies at CSU?

Since I'm continuing in academia, the training I got at CSU really laid the groundwork for all that I am doing now, as both a researcher and instructor. I learned to think differently about my everyday surroundings, I ask questions about why things are the way they are. I became curious about the historical and cultural roots that inform our behaviors and beliefs, rather than accepting them as innate, static realities. In some ways, anthropology opens our eyes to the world's problems and can leave us feeling overwhelmed and hopeless. I can remember biking home from class at CSU on several occasions feeling so burdened by what I'd learned that I was brought to tears. But the great thing about anthropology is that it teaches us to examine the conditions that led to contemporary problems, recognizing them as historical products subject to change rather than any sort of natural and static reality. That realization can give us hope.

What do you think about the Department of Anthropology at CSU?

I think it is rare to find so much talent in anthropology departments the size of CSU's. While it is a fairly small department, the faculty members are extremely talented and complement one another nicely. In too many departments, students are forced to trade individual attention and good mentorship for the chance to work with talented faculty. I was lucky not to have to make this trade.

We are looking for interesting stories from anthropology alumni. Please tell us about how you are using anthropology in your life! Please e-mail us at cla-anthro_info@mail.colostate.edu



NEW RELEASE 2009: *Economics and Morality Anthropological Approaches*
Edited by Katherine E. Browne and B. Lynne Milgram

“Notions of the economic and the moral have long been intertwined, but recent changes in the world and in social theory have newly problematized the interrelationship. *Economics and Morality* is a wide-ranging and superbly edited collection that revitalizes an anthropological tradition, making it speak to new concerns.”

Donald L. Dohnam, University of California, Davis

“Economic activity involves more than rational, calculating individuals buying and selling with each other as amply demonstrated by the essays in *Economics and Morality*. The breadth of this collection is impressive, ranging from exchange in Papua New Guinea, ethical consumption in the United Kingdom, and toxic waste in the United States to stocks and shares in the global markets ...”

James G. Carrier, Oxford Brookes University, Indiana University.

NEW RELEASE 2009: *The Archaeology of Environmental Change: Socionatural Legacies of Degradation and Resilience*. Edited by Christopher T. Fisher, J. Brett Hill, and Gary M. Feinman.

Water management, soil conservation, sustainable animal husbandry . . . because such socio-environmental challenges have been faced throughout history, lessons from the past can often inform modern policy. In this book, case studies from a wide range of times and places reveal how archaeology can contribute to a better understanding of humans' relation to the environment.

The Archaeology of Environmental Change shows that the challenges facing humanity today, in terms of causing and reacting to environmental change, can be better approached through an attempt to understand how societies in the past dealt with similar circumstances. The contributors draw on archaeological research in multiple regions – North America, Mesoamerica, Europe, the Near East, and Africa – from time periods spanning the Holocene, and from environments ranging from tropical forest to desert.

These contributions show that by examining long-term trajectories of socio-natural relationships we can better define concepts such as sustainability, land degradation, and conservation – and that gaining a more accurate and complete understanding of these connections is essential for evaluating current theories and models of environmental degradation and conservation. Their insights demonstrate that to understand the present environment and to manage landscapes for the future, we must consider the historical record of the total sweep of anthropogenic environmental change.

