

# The Informant

the weekly Newsletter of the

The Department of Anthropology • University of California, Santa Barbara



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## **General Information: From the Chair's Chair**

As we push off a new academic year I am launching a weekly newsletter that I hope will keep all members of the Department informed about items and events of special interest. I am also striving to reduce the amount of email that emanates from the Main Office. It may take us a little while to restructure the information flow so please bear with us.

First, I want to welcome everyone back and I hope that each and every one of you has had a productive and restorative break. I especially want to welcome the new faces in the Department. These include graduate students, temporary instructors and visitors:

### **Graduate students:**

Kristina Gill, Sara Grasso, Amy Gusick, Lisa Hosale, Kyong-Woo Lee, Mark Neal, Katherine Rich, Jennifer Taylor, Muriel Vernon and Carolyn Hdges.

### **Temporary instructors: The Doctors**

Thea Cremers, Patty Taber, Matthew Lauer, Mary O'Connor, Nathan Craig, and Liz Klarich.

### **Visitors:**

#### **Rhonda R. Bathurst                      At UCSB on & off 9/22/05-6/30/07**

Dr. Rhonda R. Bathurst will be a Postdoctoral Scholar in our department. She received Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Social Sciences Research Council of Canada. Dr. Bathurst received her Ph.D. in Anthropology (archaeology), at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, in May 2005, and her MA in Anthropology (bioarchaeology), at The University of Western Ontario, Canada, in 2000. Her research interests are: paleoparasitology, parasitological approaches in physical anthropology and archaeology. In her Ph.D. thesis Dr. Bathurst investigated the consequences of parasite burden on the coastal hunter-gatherers of the Pacific Northwest (central British Columbia). She looked at evidence of intestinal human parasites that were recovered from shell middens. While at UCSB she will broaden her interpretations by collecting parasitological samples from coastal archaeological sites on the Channel Islands and elsewhere. These data will be compared with skeletal data on the health status of the same populations. She will be working in Professor Phillip L. Walker's lab.

#### **Marta Muñoz Tuduri                      At UCSB 9/28-12/2/05**

Muñoz Tuduri is a Ph. D. student in Biological Anthropology at the University of Barcelona, Spain. She will be working with Professor Phillip L. Walker on the demographic research project entitled "Biodemografía de la longevidad humana: supervivencia postreproductora" ("Biodemography of Human Longevity: Female Post-reproductive Lifespan"). This work will involve the analysis of demographic data obtained from historical records from the Balearic Islands and the California missions. She will be working in Professor Phillip L. Walker's lab.

**Fernando I. Salmerón Castro      At UCSB 9/20/05-6/30/06**

Prof. Salmerón is a visiting scholar from Mexico's Center for Advanced Study and Research in Social Anthropology (CIESAS), supported by a sabbatical fellowship from UC MEXUS and the National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) in Mexico. Professor Salmerón has dual training in Social Anthropology (MA at Colegio de Michoacan and graduate Study at Cambridge) and Sociology (PhD. UT Austin) His principal areas of interest are urban anthropology (small and medium size cities), space, entrepreneurs, and economic restructuring with fieldwork in the Mexican cities of Veracruz and Aguascalientes. Recent publications include: "Tejidos productivos locales y políticas públicas de fomento a la micro y a la pequeña empresa, los casos de Veracruz y Aguascalientes" (2004), Intermediarios del Progreso. Políticas y Crecimiento Económico en Aguascalientes (1998), and Nueve Estudios Sobre el Espacio: representación y formas de apropiación (1997). Prof. Salmerón is the former Director of CIESAS-Golfo (Xalapa) 1993-96 and Academic Director of CIESAS 2000-04. During his stay at Santa Barbara he will finish a book in progress, and will become involved in the California Rural Communities project headed by Prof. Juan Vicente Palerm, which is supported by the Interinstitutional Program for Academic Collaboration and Exchange in Anthropology involving our department and CIESAS. He will undertake new research in the city of Delano and will in various ways become involved in the instructional activities of our department. Prof. Salmerón's office will be in HSSB 2072.

**Three Cheers:**

To Professor Leda Cosmides who was just named as a recipient of the Director's Pioneer Award, from the National Institute of Health. This award recognizes innovative researchers with exceptional potential in the field of medical research. Dr. Cosmides is an affiliate of our department in addition to being a Professor in Psychology. We all know that this honor is shared with her long-time collaborator, Professor John Tooby. Congratulations to them both.

To Dr. Barbara Herr Harthorn, who has just been named co-director of The Center for Nano-technology in Society-UCSB. Dr. Harthorn is an anthropologist who is an affiliate of our department. Her co-director is W. Patrick McCray, Department of History. This new center will study the implications of nanotechnology for society. Congratulations to Barbara.

**Breaking News**

The 2005 Ig Nobel Award for Medicine has just been awarded to Gregg Miller, maker of neutered dogs' prosthetic testicles. At an award ceremony given at Harvard University by the Annals of Improbable Research magazine Miller was praised for his Neuticles that allow a pet "to retain his natural look" and "self-esteem". (L.A. Times, October 7, 2005)

**Job Opportunities (details are posted under "Academic Positions" in the Departmental Reading Room)**

- ❖ The University of Iowa is seeking applicants for a faculty position in anthropological genetics/primate genomics at the Assistant Professor level.
- ❖ Vanderbilt seeks applicants for a position in Maya epigraphy at the tenure-track, Assistant Professor level.

**See “Fellowships and Grants” in the Reading Room:**

**UC Pacific Rim Research Program** (A call for proposals for the 2006-2007 research cycle). Grant categories include Faculty Development Grants (\$10,000), Research Project Grants; Graduate Student Dissertation Research Fellowships; Workshop and Planning Grants (limit \$15,000) and Mini-grants. The latter follow a separate process.

An informational meeting will be held on Monday, October 20, 2206 North Hall, 2-3 p.m.

NSF invites researchers holding existing NSF awards to request a **Research Experience for Graduates (REG) Supplement**. This grant will provide up to \$5,000 per student in supplemental funds to support the cost of a Cultural Anthropology Ph.D. student's closely mentored but independent research experience. The student's research should be a creative project, not a clerk or assistant's task. The purpose of these awards is to give students a taste of the excitement of real research and to encourage PIs to engage in cooperative, collaborative projects. Supplement Deadline Date: February 1, 2006

**NSF Active Nanostructures and Nanosystems are due Friday, September 30, 2005**

**American Council of Learned Societies** has issued a booklet describing the fellowship and grant competitions to be held in 2005-2006.

**National Gallery of Art** has announced that it is ready to receive nominations for the 2006-2007 predoctoral fellowships.

**American Association for the Advancement of Science** announces a call for applications for the 2006-07 AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships. These fellowships provide opportunities to learn about policy making process by connecting scientific professionals with federal decision makers. The application deadline is January 10, 2006. Available to Ph. D. level candidates.

**And Some Final Stuff:**

**Barry Cunliff, Institute of Archaeology, University of Oxford**

The text of Cunliff's lecture entitled “So, who are the Celts?” is available in a booklet form in the Reading Room. This lecture was delivered on April 12, 2005 at Indiana University as part of the David Skomp Distinguished Lectures in Anthropology.

**Individual picnic photos available at:**

<http://www.anth.ucsb.edu/rituals/2005PicnicPhotos/>

David Lawson is working on the group photo which will soon be available