

# The Informant

the weekly Newsletter of the

The Department of Anthropology • University of California, Santa Barbara



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## KUDOS:

**To Barbara Herr Harthorn**, Associate Professor of Women's Studies, Director of the Center for Nanotechnology in Society and **Faculty Associate in the Department of Anthropology** for her election as a **Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science**. She was elected for her "contribution in bring scientists, social scientists, policy makers, and the public together to gain awareness and understanding of the risks and opportunities in science ant technology" (93106, Nov. 16, 2007).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### \*\*\*\*\*Anthropology of Technology Prize\*\*\*\*\*

**Graduate Students: Call for submissions, Spring 2008 (DUE APRIL 25, 2008)**

**The UCSB Department of Anthropology invites submissions by graduate students in the department for its Anthropology of Technology Prize for 2008.** The prize fund was established in 2000 (\$5,000 donated by Professor Emerita Francesca Bray, \$5,000 by the Dean of Graduate Affairs) and the Department will make awards every two years until the funds run out. In each round one or two awards of \$500 to \$1,000 will be made for the best papers published, or accepted for publication, addressing one of the following themes:

1) The role of technology in the production of scientific or other forms of authoritative knowledge.

This category would include papers that discuss the impact of research technologies on our own discipline, as well as papers on the role of technology in knowledge production more generally. Examples of the first might be how GIS has affected archaeological research, or the ethics of photography in ethnography; a good example of the second is Rabinow's study of how the polymerase chain reaction was conceptualized and of its revolutionary effects on research.)

2) The role of technology (in general or in the case of a specific technology) in the production of material culture. This very broad category would cover analyses ranging from prehistory to the age of globalization, or--to give examples of different ends of the technical spectrum in just one domain of human activity--from how traditional farming methods affected diet, to the impact of biotechnology on modern food systems.

**Papers should be submitted to the Chair of Anthropology by Friday April 25, 2008.** Please provide four copies of the paper, and if it has not yet been published, please also provide a copy of the letter of acceptance for publication. The awards will be announced by Friday, May 23, 2008. The committee reserves the right to make fewer than two awards depending on the quality of submissions.

## DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS:

**Brown Bag  
Eric Schniter**

**HSSB 2001A**  
**Wednesday 5th December, 1 p.m.**

**Culture That Takes a Lifetime: The Distribution and Development of Tsimane' Cultural Skills and Abilities across the Lifespan.**

Eric will be discussing results from the first of three parts of his dissertation research concerning the role of older adults' non-material contributions among Tsimane' of the Bolivian Amazon. This presentation will focus on predictions and results from research about the distribution and development of cultural skills, abilities, and expertise among 427 Tsimane' adults aged 18 through 88. Results indicate that, indeed, the development of Tsimane' cultural skills and abilities take nearly a lifetime and is affected by patterns of acculturation.

**Travis Du Bry**  
**Friday, December 7**  
**4 p.m. HSSB 2001A**

**Bienvenidos a Mecca: The Socioeconomic Transformation of a Farming Community**

An increase in high-value, labor-intensive specialty crop production in rural California has created more diverse possibilities for agricultural employment than at any time in its history. Settlement by farm laborers in rural communities has followed in the wake of longer periods of employment and the possibility of socioeconomic differentiation, due to the agricultural labor market widening to accommodate specialty crop production. Because of these factors, the town of Mecca in the Coachella Valley has undergone a rapid transformation from a town of Anglo small farmers to a town of Mexican immigrant and migrant farm laborers. As the population has shifted, so have the social, economic, and political structures of Mecca. Moreover, the maintenance, creation, and negotiation of participation in these community structures is being undertaken by the farm laboring population. The talk will discuss the effects farm laborer settlement and social differentiation has had on Mecca and its residents, and what the future holds for the community.

**EVENTS:**

**The UCSB Middle East Ensemble presents: An Evening of Mostly Armenian Music & Dance**

Sat., Dec. 1st, 2007, 8pm  
where: Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall, Music Department, UCSB  
tickets: at the Associated Students Ticket Office, 893-2064; \$16/general;  
\$8/students

The UCSB Middle East Ensemble will present its formal Fall Quarter Concert on Saturday, Dec. 1st. The concert will feature Armenian music and dance, with two very special guests, world-renowned Armenian singer, George

Baghdoyan, and world-famous Armenian `ud player and singer, John Bilezikjian. In addition, Dr. Mohamed Moharram will perform two songs by the superstar Egyptian singer, the late `Abd al-Halim Hafiz, and Renée Bergan will sing a 2004 hit song by the Lebanese singer, Nancy `Ajram.

As usual the Ensemble's Dance Troupe will present a wonderful variety of dances. In addition to an array of Armenian dancers, we will present Egyptian, Macedonian, and Turkish dances choreographed by Jatlia van der Veen-Davis, Amanda Baer, and Alexandra King.

This event is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Association and funded by Associated Students.

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES (details are posted under “Academic Positions” in the Departmental Reading Room):**

- **The Anthropology Department at the Grand Valley State University** seeks an Assistant Professor of Anthropology – Medical Anthropology Emphasis. The deadline is December 08, 2007. Contact Dr. Janet Brashler, Anthropology Search Committee Chair at [brashlej@gvsu.edu](mailto:brashlej@gvsu.edu)

**FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS (details posted under “Fellowships/Grants” in Dept. Reading Room):**

- **International Affairs Internships and Dissertation Fellowships**

**IGCC Campus Visit -- Tuesday, December 4, 2007**

**TIME: 2:00 PM**

**LOCATION: Orfalea Center Seminar Room**

**1005 Robertson Gym (in front of the Ocean Road entrance to Gym)**

- **COME DISCUSS FUNDING AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH IGCC STAFF**

**1) Washington DC Internships (Award: \$3000 Stipend, \$500 Travel)**

Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Internships are open to master's, professional, legal, medical, and pre-doctoral students in all disciplines with interests in international affairs.

These internships allow graduate students from a broad range of fields to gain valuable practical experience in Washington DC and contacts for future career opportunities. Applicants should identify potential internship

opportunities with D.C. based international affairs organizations that will provide experience relevant to the student's academic and/or career objectives. Applicants do not have to be returning students to be eligible.

Internship applications are due Monday, January 21, 2008.

Applications will be available in December on our website:  
[http://igcc.ucsd.edu/cprograms/funding/dc\\_internship\\_menu.php](http://igcc.ucsd.edu/cprograms/funding/dc_internship_menu.php)

## **2) Dissertation Fellowships (Award: \$16,000 Stipend, up to \$4,000 Travel/Research)**

Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Currently enrolled UC doctoral graduate students in any discipline, who will have advanced to candidacy for their doctorate by June 30, 2008, are eligible to apply for a dissertation fellowship. Successful proposals will address IGCC's goal of understanding international conflict and promoting cooperation among nations. The international sources and/or consequences of the phenomenon studied must be an integral part of the project. In addition to the standard fellowships, IGCC offers the IGCC Washington D.C. Fellowship in Foreign Policy Studies and the Herbert York Fellowship in Science and International Policy. Smaller travel/research grants are also available.

Fellowship applications are due Friday, February 1, 2008.

Applications submitted ON-LINE! For more information visit our website:  
[http://igcc.ucsd.edu/cprograms/funding/df\\_app\\_menu.php](http://igcc.ucsd.edu/cprograms/funding/df_app_menu.php)

The Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC) is a multi-campus research unit (MRU) of the University of California system. The IGCC Washington office was established in March 1997 to develop programs & projects to promote closer links with the policy community and advance the research and educational opportunities for scholars in international affairs throughout the UC system.

## **CONFERENCES AND CALL FOR PAPERS (details are posted under “Conference Papers and Symposia” in the Departmental Reading Room):**

- **Age of Comparison?**

**NYU Graduate Student Conference**

**Hosted by the departments of Comparative Literature,  
East Asian Studies, and Middle Eastern and Islamic  
Studies**

**March 27-29, 2008**

## Call for Papers

Papers should be 20 minutes long. Please send abstracts (300 words) with full name, paper title, and

institution to [NYU.comparison@gmail.com](mailto:NYU.comparison@gmail.com) by **January 10th, 2008**.

<http://www.ageofcomparison.net>

- **UC Santa Cruz Asia-Pacific-Americas Research Cluster Graduate Student Conference on Uprooting Area Studies February 2, 2008**

CONFERENCE DATE: Saturday, February 2, 2008 at the University of California, Santa Cruz

## SUBMISSIONS:

Papers from any discipline are welcome. Please send to [aparc.ucsc@gmail.com](mailto:aparc.ucsc@gmail.com) the following: your title, abstract (500 word limit), institutional and departmental affiliation, and class year by **Monday, December 31, 2007**. Applicants will be notified by January 10, 2008. Conference updates will also be posted to APARC's website at [www2.ucsc.edu/aparc/](http://www2.ucsc.edu/aparc/).

Important note: Due to budgetary constraints and policies, we are unable to fund student travel and accommodation expenses. Participants are asked to secure funding at their home institutions. We sincerely hope that this will not prevent contributions to this promising event.

- **James Young Colloquium 2008**

## **Perceiving Ambiguity: Embracing Multiple Perspectives**

**February 16, 2008**

**University of California, Riverside  
Riverside, CA**

## **Deadline for Paper Submission: January 4, 2008**

This is an invitation to attend and participate in the 28th Annual James C. Young Colloquium hosted by the Student Association of Graduate Anthropologists at the University of California, Riverside. The colloquium, to be held February 16th, 2008, is an excellent opportunity to share your current or recent research and to engage in dialogue with students from a variety of disciplines, departments and campuses. We welcome and encourage undergraduates and graduate students to present papers on current research.

This year's theme is: Perceiving Ambiguity: Embracing Multiple Perspectives. Although grounded in anthropology, the colloquium will focus on all aspects of culture

and human diversity, past and present. Students from all disciplines are encouraged to submit papers and attend.

The Colloquium is dedicated to the memory of James C. Young, a scholar and former University of California, Riverside student who lost his life in a tragic accident. We honor his memory as a friend and colleague whose dedication and commitment to anthropology is worthy of emulation. His path-breaking study of health and decision-making in Pichataro, Mexico was a milestone in the development of medical anthropology.

Please submit abstracts of 200 words or less in a readable format by **January 4, 2008** to the James Young Committee at [JamesYoungColloq@gmail.com](mailto:JamesYoungColloq@gmail.com) . Electronic applications only please!

### **FIELD SCHOOLS & TRAINING INITIATIVES (details are posted under Grad and Field Schools in the Departmental Reading Room):**

- **Danta: Association for Conservation of the Tropics and its academic affiliates (State University of New York at Oneonta and East Stroudsburg University)** are pleased to announce their winter 2007/2008 and summer 2008 field courses in tropical biology. The courses are intended for undergraduates or early graduate level students who are very interested in tropical biology, but have little or no experience of working in a tropical environment. Participants may enroll on either a credit or non-credit basis.

All field courses are held at El Zota Biological Field Station in North-eastern Costa Rica near the Barro Colorado Reserve. The field station includes approximately 1000 hectares (over 2470 acres) of lush, tropical lowland rain forest. The station is among the largest of its kind in Costa Rica, and is home to a diverse array of wildlife. The fauna includes white-faced capuchins, mantled howling monkeys, black-handed spider monkeys, tapir, jaguar, collared peccary, keel-billed toucan s, great green macaws, brown caimans just to name a few. The station is designed to allow students to learn techniques that can be used in field research on ecological, behavioral and conservation questions in the tropics, and in so doing, to conserve the property of the research station.

#### Course Offerings:

##### Winter 2007/2008

Primate Behavior and Conservation (December 28, 2007 - January 17, 2008).

Instructors: Kim Dingess, State University of New York at Oneonta and Dr. Julie Gros-Louis, Indiana University at Bloomington.

##### Summer 2008

Primate Behavior and Conservation (June 9 - July 6, 2008). Instructors: Kim Dingess, State University of New York at Oneonta and Dr. Dawn Kitchen, Ohio State University

Tropical Biology and Conservation (July 15 - August 11, 2008) Instructors: Dr. Nigel Mann, State University of New York at Oneonta and Dr. Thomas LaDuke, East Stroudsburg University.

Ecotravel Experience (July 7 - July 14, 2007). Trip coordinator: Kimberly Dingess

For more information, please visit our website at [www. DANTA.info](http://www.DANTA.info) or email [kdingess@danta.info](mailto:kdingess@danta.info).