

The Informant

the monthly Newsletter of the

Department of Anthropology • University of California, Santa Barbara



Volume 2, Number 1

Welcome back everybody! I hope everyone had a terrific summer and is well rested and eager to jump into a new academic year. As the first order of business, let's welcome the new members of our department. ~KS

We have a new faculty member, Professor Lynn Gamble. Lynn is an archaeologist specializing in the prehistory of California, and she is one of the leading experts on the Chumash, the Native American culture that has populated the Santa Barbara region for millennia. Her 30 years of research in southern California have addressed emergent sociopolitical complexity among hunter-gatherer societies through the examination of ecological adaptations, exchange systems, and religious and political hierarchies. She also contributes to innovative approaches considering cultural landscapes. She received her BA from Berkeley in 1979, and her PhD from UCSB in 1991. She comes to us from San Diego State University, where she has taught since 1997; prior to that she was Director of Research at the American Indian Studies Center at UCLA. She is the current editor of the journal, *California and Great Basin Anthropology*. This year she will be teaching undergraduate courses on California prehistory and North American Indians, and a graduate seminar, and she will be coordinating our Central Coast Information Center and the Repository for Ethnographic and Archaeological Collections. Her office and laboratory are in HSSB 1059, phone 893-7341.



Joining our department staff is Sharon Applegate, our new undergraduate program assistant. She replaces Javier Acosta who moved to a new position at UCLA. Sharon received her BS in Nutrition and Food Science from UC Berkeley. She has worked in education for the past several years including a stint as the undergrad advisor in Economics at UCSB. Sharon was also the successful recipient of an Orfalea Foundations Grant to provide a nutrition education program in the Santa Barbara Elementary and Hope School districts. With fall in full swing, we're happy to have her with us.

Let us also welcome the new cohort of graduate students!

Akmenkalns, Jessika

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Jessika Akmenkalns is originally from Denver, Colorado and comes to UCSB with a B.A. in Anthropology and an M.A. in Classical Art & Archaeology, both from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is primarily interested in the archaeology of the Mediterranean, the Near East, and Egypt and in issues surrounding cultural change and ethnic identity among colonized peoples in the ancient world. When she's not doing archaeology, Jessika enjoys music (singing, playing, and listening), outdoor activities of all kinds, and zombie films.



Biwer, Matthew

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I am coming from my hometown of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, having recently graduated from my undergraduate institution (Ripon College in Ripon, WI) in May. I am interested in studying paleoethnobotany as it relates to food production and usage of plants for subsistence and non-subsistence activities. I am interested in how people were using plants as food, what they were doing with it and if not using it for food, what it was used for. Right now, I am unsure of a geographic area of focus, but I have experience with paleobotanical materials from Southern Peru and am interested in the archaeology of the Andes.



Clinton, Jennifer

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My name is Jennifer Clinton. I received my BS in Anthropology from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee in the fall of 2007. My hometown is Brentwood, Tennessee located about 15 miles south of Nashville. I have lived in Washington, DC for about the past year.

My current research focuses on the interaction between ancient peoples and their environments. My current research interests have a geographic focus in the Southeastern United States, specifically, Middle and East Tennessee. I am interested in using both paleoethnobotany and zooarchaeology to create a more complete understanding of subsistence strategies. I am interested in understanding the maintenance of foodways under different population pressures such as migration, abnormal fluctuations in crop yields and animal populations including shortage and surplus, and diseases within human, animal, and plant populations. I would like to better understand how population movement and adaptations in agriculture, such as in the types of crops grown or the methods used to grow crops, affected subsistence strategies. I am also interested in researching how cultural modifiers such as gender or age groups would affect the maintenance of subsistence patterns.





Dost, Sarah

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I grew up in the Allentown-Bethlehem area of eastern Pennsylvania. I attended Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pennsylvania and graduated in 2005 with a B.A. in Anthropology. After graduation I worked for the Mercyhurst Archaeological Institute (M.A.I.) housed at Mercyhurst College. In addition to several field projects, I was involved in the analysis of woven perishable artifacts through the R. L. Andrews Perishables Analysis Facility, which is part of M.A.I. In 2007 I entered into the newly formed Masters of Anthropology and Archaeology at Mercyhurst. I graduated in 2009 from said program with a M.S. in Anthropology and Archaeology. I have been pursuing an interest in the archaeological perishables including but not limited to textiles, basketry, cordage, and sandals. In coming to UCSB, I look forward to applying my previous experiences to a new setting. In addition, I will be focusing on another interest, South American archaeology with an emphasis on Peru.

On a more personal level, I am newly and happily wed. I am new to California specifically and to the west coast generally. I am moving here from Erie, PA which has almost the exact opposite weather pattern to Santa Barbara but is the only place I have ever seen a lightning storm during a snow storm. I am a music lover. Until recently I sang soprano in a choir; and I play guitar though I am novice at it. When I have time I like to take on creative projects like sketching, sculpting, sewing, or painting. I try to keep active and exercise several times a week and I enjoy hiking, jogging, and weight lifting especially. I used to take Karate and got all the way up to my second degree brown belt before I got too busy at the start of grad school in Erie.



Heins-Gelder, Dana

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From: Kernville, California (little town in the southern sierra mountains)

Previous Schools: University of Colorado, partial completion of masters in cultural anthropology, CSU Northridge, BA, teachers credentials in multiple subjects and special education

Research Interests: Farm Labor Communities, Gender

Other stuff: Before going back to school, I worked as a software/firmware engineer for 16 years. I love outdoors stuff, i.e., whitewater kayaking, backpacking, and biking. I teach kids to kayak.



LaMon, Shelley

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My name is Shelley LaMon and I am thrilled to be at UCSB! I graduated in 2008 from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California. I grew up in Lafayette, California, but my family and I have resided in San Luis Obispo for the last ten years. My parents are both professors at Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo and I have a twin brother who is currently finishing up his studies in enology at Cal Poly.

At Cal Poly, I majored in Social Science and minored in Spanish and Latin American Studies. Some of my research interests include rural communities in California and the transborder lives of immigrant farm workers. I am also interested in studying how indigenous populations living transnationally organize themselves to achieve social advocacy. These interests were inspired in part by my work in Oaxaca with the NGO, ProMexico, and by my most recent work as a legal assistant with California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA).

Lastly, I will mention that I have my dog here with me- her name is Wilma and she's a pug with a lot of personality!

Mellinger, Sarah

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From: California

Previous university/degrees: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo B.S. Environmental Geography; Minor: Anthropology & Geography

Research interests: hunter-gatherers, coastal adaptations, cultural ecology



Miner, Emily

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I was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. I received a BA in biology from the University of Chicago. During college I spent one summer doing field work in Michigan on house sparrows, an experience which helped solidify my interest in working with humans. I taught marine biology in Florida for a bit before enrolling in a MA program in psychology at Florida Atlantic University. My research focused on costly mating behaviors including insults and violence. I'm excited to continue my research here. I'm interested in the consequences of mate choice decisions. In my free time I enjoy reading and playing sports.

Pisor, Anne

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I'm Anne Pisor and I'm originally from Napa and San Francisco, CA. I have my BA from UCLA in Anthro and Psychology. I'm interested in both human behavioral ecology and evolutionary psychology, particularly the evolution of cooperation, cultural transmission and change, and various applications of life history theory. I'm into photography and national park visits, I used to sing women's barbershop, and I find sheep and small, halting animals hilarious.



Smith, Craig

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Degrees: BA and MA (both in Anthropology) from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

Research interests: Andean South America; California; development of complex societies and strategies of chiefly and state power; interregional and cultural interaction; ethnogenesis; human-environment interaction; bioarchaeology

Research goals: I am interested in exploring culture contact on a regional and macroregional scale. More specifically, I plan to study the ways in which local cultures and communities affect and are affected by changes taking place in increasingly more complex societies (e.g., ethnogenesis, the formation of urban centers, imperialism and expansion). My goal is to explore the impacts of such changes or events through the study of human skeletal remains from archaeological sites in order to document the social conditions (including diet, health, violence, etc.) in which people in these communities lived. When considered alongside the evidence from other contexts these remains stand to tell a great deal about how individuals and communities experienced and managed significant events that they may or may not have been directly a part of.

Smith, Madeleine

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I'm Madeleine Smith. I recently graduated from Kenyon College with a Bachelor's in Anthropology. My research interests include gender and sexuality, drinking culture, and anthropology of food. The geographic regions I'm interested in include South India and the US.



In our next issue we will be profiling some of the temporary lecturers and researchers who are also important members of our department community.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2. The annual **DEPARTMENT PICNIC** will be held on Friday, October 2nd, 4-6 pm, at Goleta Beach area B. The Department will provide barbecued chicken and tri-tip, and charcoal for those who wish to barbecue their own food. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, and something to drink. See the sign-up sheet by the mail room.

October 2-4. California **Avocado Festival**. Downtown Carpinteria.

October 5. Our **Terry Joslin** will be speaking at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History on Monday evening, October 5, at 7:30. Her talk is titled, "Other Fish to Fry: Reconstructing Prehistoric Fishing Strategies along the San Simeon Reef."

October 5. The first **BROWN BAG** talk(s) of the year will be held at 11:00-11:50 in HSSB 2001A. Speaker(s) TBA.

October 11. Old-Time **Fiddlers' Festival**. Stow House, Goleta, 10-5.

October 17-18. 18th Annual Goleta **Lemon Festival**. Girsh Park, 10-6.

October 19. The second **BROWN BAG** talk(s) of the year will be held at 11:00-11:50 in HSSB 2001A. Speaker(s) TBA.

Ongoing events:

Every Tuesday morning, 9:00-9:15. AGSA is sponsoring a YOGA BREAK on the 2nd floor patio. All are welcome.

Every Thursday evening, 6:00-9:00. AGSA has organized SPANISH NIGHT, to be held at Heather Thakar's house. Details TBA.

Every Tuesday afternoon, 4:00-6:00. Graduate student writing group, in HSSB 2024 (the reading room/kitchen).

Every other Monday, 11-12, Brown Bag series, HSSB 2001A. Organized by Lindsay Vogt and Melanie Martin.

Upcoming Graduate Division Workshops:

October 5. CERTIFICATE IN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING INFO SESSION, Monday 10/5/09, 11:30am-12:30pm, SRB Multipurpose Room

Considering a career teaching in academia? Then you should attend the Certificate in College and University Teaching (CCUT) Information Session to learn how you can gain an edge in the highly competitive academic job market. This workshop, led by CCUT Fellow Diana Leonard, will introduce interested doctoral and MFA students to the certificate requirements and filing process. For more information about the CCUT be sure to check out: www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/ccut/ RSVP to Thai Chu at fundingpeer@graddiv.ucsb.edu with your name, dept, and year.

October 9. NSF & FORD FELLOWSHIP WORKSHOP, Friday 10/9/09, 11:30pm-1:00pm, Engineering Science Building 1001

Mark your calendars for this much-anticipated info session! The National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship, Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship, and Jacob K. Javits Fellowship are 3 of the most honorable funding awards for 1st and 2nd year graduate students. These awards may be competitive, but don't worry! Graduate Division is here to inform you on the application process and aid you in writing a strong proposal. RSVP: Name, Year, & Field of Study to Thai Chu at fundingpeer@graddiv.ucsb.edu



Last year's picnic



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

(most fliers are posted in the reading room)

University of Kansas, Department of Anthropology, seeks an **anthropological archaeologist** specializing in Holocene cultures of the North American Great plains or adjacent areas for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor. Application deadline: October 19.

Dartmouth College, Department of Anthropology, seeks a **biological anthropologist** specializing in paleoanthropology and/or human biology for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor. Application deadline: November 15.

Cornell College Post-Doctoral Teacher-Scholar Fellowship. Fellow will reside in Department of Sociology and Anthropology and teach introductory anthropology and area studies courses in **Latin America**. Application deadline: November 18.

University of Nevada, Reno, Department of Anthropology is seeking candidates for Assistant or Associate Professor, **prehistoric archaeology**, and Executive Director of the Sundance Archaeological Research Fund. Application deadline: December 1.

FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS

(most fliers are posted in the reading room)
(Please note that the AAA maintains a list of fellowship opportunities on their website at www.aaanet.org/profdev/fellowships.)

Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowships in Women's Studies. Information at www.woodrow.org/womens-studies. Application deadline: October 11.

Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships. Information at <http://national-academies.org/fellowships>. Application deadlines: Predoctoral: November 2, Dissertation: November 9, Postdoctoral, November 9.

International Dissertation Research Fellowship. Support for international research. Information at www.ssrc.org/fellowships/idrf-fellowship. Application deadline: November 3.

National Gallery of Art, Predoctoral Fellowship Program. Information at www.nga.gov/resources/casva.htm (see especially the Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship). Application deadline : November 15.

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships, for the study of religious or ethical values. Information at www.woodrow.org/newcombe. Application deadline: November 15.

American Anthropological Association Minority Dissertation Fellowships. Information at <http://www.aaanet.org>. Application deadline: February 15.

INTRAMURAL GRANTS

Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Faculty Awards:

Release Time Awards. Up to six awards will be given to ladder-rank faculty to release them from teaching one quarter to concentrate on research projects. Award recipients will be designated IHC Fellows and are required to deliver a public lecture or hold a seminar on a topic related to their research during their tenure as fellows. Faculty may receive this award once every five years, and must not teach during the award quarter.

Individual Research Grants. Up to six awards will be made to support individual research. Eligible expenses include research assistance, travel expenses, and miscellaneous research expenses. Award amounts up to \$1000.

Collaborative Research Grants. Up to eight awards will be made to support collaborative projects. Eligible projects include conferences at UCSB or in the Santa Barbara area; collaborative research or instructional projects by faculty in one or more departments/programs; and initiatives to bring visiting scholars and arts practitioners to campus for collaborative research or teaching. Award amounts up to \$3000.

For more information, visit <http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/funding>

CONFERENCES

(most fliers are posted in the reading room)

(Please note that the AAA also maintains a list of conferences on its website, at http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/meetings_cal.cfm.)

42nd Annual Chacmool Archaeological Conference, Identity Crisis: Archaeology and Issues of Identity, November 13-15, University of Calgary. Information at <http://arky.ucalgary.ca/chacmool2009/>. Submissions accepted until October 31.

Southwest Council of Latin American Studies, March 23-27, 2010, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Information at <http://www.baylor.edu/scolas>. Submission deadline: October 31.