



Anthropolog

Newsletter of The Department of Anthropology
National Museum of Natural History

Summer 2008

FROM THE CHAIR

Many people think of summer as a reasonably quiet time, for relaxing, perhaps a vacation, a kind of alternative to the time and pattern of all the other seasons. Surely, this view is a distant hold over from our school days because around the Department of Anthropology summer has never been a quiet time. As summer draws to a close, I want to briefly acknowledge some of the hard work and insightful contributions of Department staff.

Secretary's Research Prizes

Three members of the department were recipients of the Secretary's Research Prizes for 2008. These new pan-Smithsonian prizes, which Acting Secretary Cristián Samper initiated jointly with the Smithsonian Congress of Scholars, recognize excellence in recent research by the Institution's employees and carry a \$2,000 award to each prize winner's research account. Of the nine awards given, three recipients are from the Department of Anthropology:

Joanna Cohan Scherer, book: *A Danish Photographer of Idaho Indians: Benedicte Wrensted* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2006).

Matthew Tocheri, article: "The Primitive Wrist of *Homo floresiensis* and Its Implications for Hominin Evolution," *Science* 317, 1743-45 (2007) [co-authors:

Caley M. Orr, Susan G. Larson, Thomas Sutikna, Jatmiko, E. Wahyu Saptomo, Rokus Awe Due, Tony Djubiantono, Michael J. Morwood, William L. Jungers].

Melinda A. Zeder, book: *Documenting Domestication: New Genetic and Archaeological Paradigms* (University of California Press, 2006) [co-editors: Daniel G. Bradley, Eve Emshwiller, and **Bruce D. Smith**].

Science Achievement Awards

In addition to the Secretary's Research Prizes, the National Museum of Natural History awards annual Science Achievement Awards. Recipients this year from the Department of Anthropology were **Daniel Rogers**, chair of the Department, and **Matthew Tocheri** of the Human Origins Program. The awards were given for the following research contributions:

Daniel Rogers. 2007. "The Contingencies of State Formation in Eastern Inner Asia." *Asian Perspectives*, vol. 46, no. 2, pp., 249-274. University of Hawai'i Press. (Dan won the same award in 2005.)

Matthew Tocheri. 2007. "The Primitive Wrist of *Homo floresiensis* and Its Implications for Hominin Evolution," *Science* 317, 1743-45 [co-authors: Caley M. Orr, Susan G. Larson, Thomas Sutikna, Jatmiko, E. Wahyu Saptomo, Rokus Awe Due, Tony Djubiantono, Michael J. Morwood, William L. Jungers].



New Handbook Volume Published

While the Department produced many important publications over the last few months, I would especially like to acknowledge the publication of *Indians in Contemporary Society*, Vol. 2, of the *Handbook of North American Indians*, edited by Garrick A. Bailey. Distributed by GPO's Superintendent of Documents, <http://bookstore.gpo.gov/>

The 46 chapters in this volume explore how Indians and Arctic peoples maintain their Native identity in contemporary societies, including their responses to the social forces around them. The major sections include The Issues in the United States, The Issues in Canada, Demographic and Ethnic Issues, and Social and Cultural Revitalization.

Special thanks goes to Garrick for his fine and productive approach to the volume. I also thank the members of the production staff: **Diane Della Loggia**, **Cesare Marino**, **Roger Roop**, and **Paula Cardwell**. **Ives Goddard** served as the linguistic and technical editor; the editorial advisory team consisted of **JoAllyn Archambault**, Eva Marie Garrouette, **Sally McClendon**, David Miller, Robert Warrior, and David Wilkens. **William Sturtevant** was the general editor of the Handbook series until his death in 2007. I know he would have been proud of the quality of scholarship so evident in this volume.

Dan Rogers



Law students. Photo: American Indian Law Center, NM. Vol. 2, *Handbook of North American Indians*., p. 422.

WORLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS IN DUBLIN

Stephen Loring of the Arctic Studies Center attended the 6th World Archaeological Congress (WAC) in Dublin, Ireland, June 29 – July 4. The World Archaeological Congress (WAC) is a leading forum for addressing world heritage issues through a strong commitment to social justice and global inclusion. Along with co-organizers Dr. Natasha Lyons and Dr. Richard Knecht, he organized a session in the Indigenous Archaeology theme titled “Dismantling the Master’s House: Envisioning and Implementing New Directions in Theory and Practice,” which brought together researchers from Canada, Mexico, Germany, Pakistan, Australia and the United States to discuss new methodologies and practice when working for and with First Nations and indigenous communities. Stephen’s presentation (prepared with his Tshikapisk and Innu Nation colleagues Anthony Jenkinson and Sebastian Piwas) was titled “*Kamamuetimak Tshentusentimak Nte Steniunu Utat* (Gathering Voices: Discovering Our Past): Owning Innu Archaeology and History in Nitassinan (Labrador, Canada).

In Dublin, **Stephen** was elected as the Senior North American representative to WAC. **Dorothy Lippert** of the Repatriation Office was re-elected to serve as the Indigenous Representative on both the WAC Council and the WAC Executive.

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Darwins restaurant in Dublin.

Eric Hollinger of the Repatriation Office gave a talk at WAC on “Archaeological approaches to identity in the repatriation process.” Repatriation Review Committee Member **T.J. Ferguson** co-authored a paper titled “Yep Hisat Hoopq’yaqam Yeesiwa (Hopi ancestors were once here): Hopi cultural affiliation with the ancient Hohokam of southern Arizona.” Former Repatriation Office Osteology Lab Director Steve Ousley was co-author of a paper titled “Bones can speak to us too: How the techniques of physical anthropology can reveal human identities,” presented by his colleague. The session, Materializing Identity: Archaeology in the Service of Repatriation, was co-organized by **Eric, T.J.** and colleagues.

SMITHSONIAN STAFF PICNIC

On July 2, the Smithsonian held its annual staff picnic that included presentations by department staff to Smithsonian employees and visitors.

Dave Hunt and **Deb Hull-Walski** presented a poster presentation on their research on a 19th century iron coffin found in Northwest Washington DC. Assisted by interns, Dave and Deb talked about the history of iron coffin manufacture and the biological (skeletal, tissue and DNA work), genealogical, and DC history research that was done to positively identify the remains as of William Taylor White, a 15 yr old boy from Accomack Co. Va., who died in 1852.

Dave Hunt and **Chris Dudar** participated in a staff interview panel (along with Carla Dove and Faridah Dahlan from the Birds Division) on “Written in Bones.” Dave and Chris talked about their work in the Anthropology Department: **Chris** as director of the Osteology Laboratory for Repatriation and his background in archeology and physical anthropology; and **Dave** who manages the Physical Anthropology Division collections and his work as a forensic anthropologist and skeletal biological consultant for various law enforcement agencies and archeological investigations. Carla Dove and

Faridah Dahlan presented their work in identification of bird species in “bird strikes,” when birds are hit airplanes (commercial and military).



Faridah Dahlan, Carla Dove, Chris Dudar and Dave Hunt. Photo by Kim Wells.



Chris Dudar and Dave Hunt. Photo by Kim Wells.

Greta Hansen, Landis Smith, Michele Austin-Dennehy, Kim Cobb, Ryan Kenny, and Ann Starkweather (intern) of the Anthropology Conservation Lab and Kelly McHugh and Heather Farley from NMAI presented a poster session titled “The Anchorage Project: An Integrated Approach to the Conservation of Anthropology Collections.” The poster series summarized their conservation work on the Anchorage project, with descriptions of photos of its various com-

ponents; ethnographic literature, and NMNH Anthropology records and collections research; curatorial consultations; Alaska Native consultations; conservation research and technical studies; and SI collaborations including NMAI, MCI, the Divisions of Mammals and Ornithology. Ways in which these components are synthesized in conservation treatment decisions and documentation were illustrated in a poster of case studies.

The Anthropology Conservation Lab (ACL) presented another poster, The Anthropology Conservation Laboratory, that described the ACL, the work of Greta Hansen as Head of Conservation, and the ACL's long history at the SI, from the 19th century to the present.



Igor Krupnik and Michele Austin-Denney.

Photographs by Kim Cobb.



Greta Hansen (above); Ryan Kenny

NAMING CEREMONY AND PROGRAM CELEBRATING THE "RAVEN" CANOE

A naming ceremony and launch of the Tlingit canoe that will be featured in the forthcoming Oceans Hall took place at Thompson's Boat Center on the Potomac River in Georgetown on June 19. Present for this special occasion were Tlingit master carver Doug Chilton and his fellow Native carvers, representatives of Sealaska Heritage Institute, NMNH scientist **Stephen Loring** and **Eric Hollinger**.

The 26-foot-long canoe was built out of a red cedar log, donated by Sealaska Heritage Institute, using traditional tools and techniques. Master carver Doug Chilton and other Alaska Native artists spent nearly ten months carving and finishing the canoe at the Sealaska Plaza in downtown Juneau. The traditional story depicted on the canoe is the "Raven Stealing the Sun."

An afternoon program at NMNH continued the celebration of the Smithsonian-Sealaska "Raven" Canoe. Stephen Loring, curator of the anthropology section of the Oceans Hall and Chairman **Dan Rogers** gave welcoming remarks and introduction. Chris McNeil, President and CEO of Sealaska Corporation, showed a Tree Ceremony video. Other speakers included Rosita

World, President Sealaska Heritage Institute, and Clarence Jackson, Clan Leader of the Tsaagweidí Clan of Kake. Staff presentations included **Stephen Loring** who spoke on “The Voyage to Washington: Great Canoes from the Northwest Coast at the Smithsonian Institution” and **Eric Hollinger** and **Aron Crowell** who gave a talk on “From the Ancestors to the Present Day: Smithsonian Consultation and Collaboration with the Tlingit Community of Southeast Alaska.”



DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Chair Dan Rogers, Jai Alterman, and interns **Teresa Nichols** and **Natalia Luna**, attended the 2nd World Congress on Social Simulation, held at George Mason University, July 14-17. **Claudio Cioffi, Daniel Rogers** and **Maciej Latek** presented a study titled “The MA-

SON Household World of Nomads,” which described their research on pastoralist economic and social systems and the emergence of early states and empires in Inner Asia.

Dan Rogers sponsored Research Training Program Intern **Teresa Nichols** who presented a poster on “Modeling Sustainability and Severe Weather Events in Mongolia” to the museum community.

DIVISION OF ETHNOLOGY

The Smithsonian’s Crystal Skull Revealed

For the past few months **Jane Walsh** has been interviewed by the international media about her decade-long research on the authenticity of crystal skulls in museum collections. The recent opening of the movie *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, has brought much attention not only to Jane’s work but to the museum’s own 31-pound, ten-inch high crystal skull, which was mailed to the museum in 1992 with an unsigned letter stating that it was of Aztec origin and bought in Mexico in 1960. Jane describes this skull as not ancient but carved and polished with modern tools.

On July 9 the museum held a special preview of *The Truth about Crystal Skulls* exhibit and an advance screening of Smithsonian Channel’s *The Legend of the Crystal Skulls* documentary film. At the press conference were NMNH director **Cristián Samper**, **Jane MacLaren Walsh**, **Scott Whittaker**, NMNH SEM lab manager, and **David Royle**, executive vice president, Smithsonian Networks. The crystal skull is on exhibit through September 1; the documentary premiered on July 10 at 8 p.m. The July issue of *Smithsonian* magazine features the crystal skull in **Owen Edward’s** article “The Object at Hand: Crystal Cranium” (p. 20) in the magazine’s “Around the Mall,” also available on the Smithsonian blog:

http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/The_Smithsonians_Crystal_Skull.html. In addition, Jane and museum colleagues have created an informative

website on crystal skulls located at http://anthropology.si.edu/crystal_skulls/



The film *The Legend of the Crystal Skulls* was shown in Baird Auditorium on August 1. Following the film, **Jane Walsh** participated in a question and answer session along with Scott Whittaker of the SEM lab and David Royle of Smithsonian Networks.

On July 10 the Associated Press published a story on Jane Walsh's crystal skulls research in the article "Aztec, Mayan or Toltec Crystal Skulls: Fact or Fiction"; Laura Yao of *The Washington Post* wrote "The Legend of the Crystal No-Brainer; Smithsonian Proudly Displays Its Hoax Skull" (Style Section C1 & 12).

Meetings/Presentations

Mary Jo Arnoldi participated in the International Mande Studies Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, from June 23-June 30th. She organized and chaired a panel on Global Collaboration in the Arts in the Mande World.

Adrienne Kaeppler attended a symposium on "Exhibiting Polynesia: Presentation, Re-presentation, and Representation" at Musee du Quai Branly in Paris, from June 16 to 18th, in conjunction with the opening of the exhibition *Polynesian Art and Divinity*. Her paper was titled "Exhibiting Cook's Voyages in the Leverian Museum and Today."

Adrienne also traveled to Seoul and Busan, Korea, where she gave a series of lectures from May 15-22. She gave the keynote address, "Capturing Dance: A Meditation on Imprisonment," and another talk on "Viewing Dance in a Globalized World" for the Korean Dance Documentation Society. She also presented a variety of talks on dance, aesthetics, and music to the Dance Department of Ewha Woman's University; the Institute of Cross-Cultural Studies at Seoul National University; the School of Music, Korea National University of Arts; and the Department of Arts, Culture & Image and the Institute of Korea Aesthetics at Busan National University.

Jane Walsh was invited to join a panel of Aztec experts by an independent artifact-based United Kingdom educational program for schools and museums throughout England.

Publications

Jane Walsh. 2008. The Dumbarton Oaks Tlazolteotl: Looking Beneath the Surface. *The Journal de la Société des Américanistes* 94-1. pp.7-43.

RTP Intern

Ives Goddard sponsored Research Training Program intern Maureen Hoffman, who presented a poster on her research titled "Seeing Sounds: Phonemic Contrasts and Sentence Intonation in Unami" to the museum community.

New Website on the Olmec

Jane Walsh produced, with the assistance of colleagues, a new online exhibit, Smithsonian Olmec Legacy (<http://anthropology.si.edu/olmec/index.htm>), presented in both English and Spanish and funded by the Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives.

The website tells the story of eight expeditions to Mexico to explore archaeological sites in Veracruz, Tabasco, and Campeche, between 1939 and 1946, and some of the later fieldwork as well. These archaeological expeditions were co-sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the National Geographic Society. The website also provides an overview and searchable databases of the Department of Anthropology's Olmec archaeological collections and the related manuscript and photographic material that are housed in the National Anthropological Archives and the Smithsonian Institution Archives.

Remko Jansonius and **Abelardo Sandoval** contributed to the text; James Kochert, Reginald Renwick, Remko Jansonius, and Michael LeClaire di-



rected the web design and production, and Sebastian Encina, Viviana Cristian, and Grayson Topping scanned slides and prints and photographed artifacts for the databases. Volunteers included Chalon Rodriguez and Becky Malinsky. Rebecca Gonzalez Lauck, director of archaeology at the site of La Venta in Tabasco, was a consultant.

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Archaeological Excavation and Reburial of General Alexander Macomb

General Alexander Macomb, veteran of the War of 1812 and Commander of the Army, was laid to rest for the second time on July 17th in Congressional Cemetery, Washington, DC. The Smithsonian participated in this multi-agency project led by the Veterans Administration, including the National Cemetery Administration and the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Team. **Laurie Burgess** and **Douglas Owsley** participated in the project, along with interns **Amanda Camp** and **Katie Sabella**, and former intern **James Cannon**. The Macomb vault, constructed in 1842, required extensive renovation, so Laurie led an excavation of the subsurface burial chamber on June 10th and recovered the remains of the General and his first wife, Catherine Macomb. The metal liner of General Macomb's wooden coffin was removed intact and brought to the museum, where, on June 26th, the General's lineal descendants and their families were present for the opening. The night before the funeral the family returned to the museum so that they could personally place the bones of General Macomb and his wife in a mahogany box crafted by the National Park Service. They were reburied on July 17th in a ceremony that included family members, representatives of the military, including Major General William Grisoli, and other agency officials.

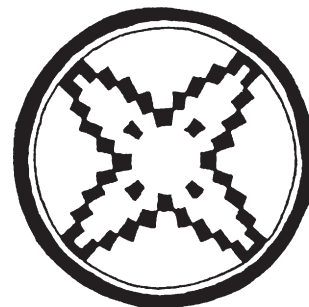
Laurie Burgess was quoted in the *Washington Post* (July 18, 2008; Page B03) and on the front page of the *Washington Times* (July 18, 2008, Page A01) regarding this excavation.

AMERICAN INDIAN PROGRAM

Richard Meyers, ABD in anthropology at Arizona State University, has spent 8 months with the AI Program as a pre-doc fellow working on his dissertation about Indian identity among professional Indian scholars. While here, Richard greatly increased his data base and completed a first draft for his committee. He should receive his doctorate in December. He has accepted a position with the Bureau of Indian Affairs's public affairs office in D.C.

MAP Project (Montana Archival Project)

Five University of Montana students and one faculty person arrived for a month's stay to initiate a long term study to identify and then duplicate archival records in D.C. archives (National Anthropological Archives, National Archives) relative to the six tribes of the state (Crow, Blackfeet, Cree, Assiniboine, Sioux, Gros Ventre). The goal of this summer's work was to locate records that are pertinent to Montana tribes in order to plan for copying them in subsequent years. The five students were Wilena Old Person (Blackfeet), Helen Cryer (Cree), Glen Still Smoking (Blackfeet), Eli Suzukovich III (Chippewa-Cree) and Miranda McCarvel. The faculty person was David Beck. Once the records are located the University of Montana will digitize them and put them on web sites where they will be available to any interested person. All of the Montana tribes will receive copies for deposit in their own educational institutions. Professor Beck estimates that the entire process will take at least 6-9 years to complete all of the work.



ARCHAEOBIOLOGY PROGRAM

The Archaeological Institute of America has elected **Dolores Piperno** the 2009 recipient of the Pomerance Award for Scientific Contributions to Archaeology. This award is one of the two highest honors that the Institute confers. The Science Medal will be presented at the AIA Annual Meeting, which will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in January 2009.

Dolores Piperno also was appointed to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Archaeological Science*.

Publication

Melinda Zeder. 2008. Domestication and early agriculture in the Mediterranean Basin: Origins, diffusion, and impact. *PNAS*, vol. 105, no. 33 (August 19): 11597-11604.

In the Media

Melinda's *PNAS* article was the focus of the *The New York Times* online article "How the First Farmers colonized the Mediterranean" by Nicholas Wade (August 11). It includes a map by illustrator **Marcia Bakry**.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/11/science/12visuals.html?ref=science>

Research Collaborator **Linda Perry** was quoted in *The Oregonian* newspaper in the article "Chili pepper heat a matter of evolution" by Joe rojas-Burke, August 12. She was asked to comment on the forthcoming *PNAS* paper, "Evolutionary ecology of pungency in wild chilies," by Joshua J. Tewksbury, et al.



ARCTIC STUDIES CENTER



Community Outreach in Alaska

Igor Krupnik has participated over the past five years as one of two arctic specialists representing the social sciences and polar indigenous peoples in the planning of the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008. His contributions to this effort have brought a scientific focus on the cultures and environments of native populations in the Far North to people around the world.

The IPY Speaker Series for the Bering Strait Region, organized by the Nome Campus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, was the first IPY event in the Alaskan town of Nome (population 3,500) that focused on northern residents and their languages, history and culture, in addition to meteorological, geophysical, and biological research, including climate change. Igor's visit to Nome in February, during his fieldwork in the Bering Strait area, and his talk about his current IPY project, "Sea Ice Knowledge and Use (SIKU)," to local residents and students expressed the collaborative approach his research has taken, using the knowledge and observations of Native people in understanding climate change and its effect on northern communities.

Of the many speakers in the series, **Igor's** talk was highlighted in a recent report sent out by the Nome organizers. According to the report, the speaker series has reached 717 Bering Strait residents and 15 regional villages by way of radio and distance education techniques. Six village schools have joined in on the discussions and some have invited community members to participate. This IPY project, which resumes this September, is an example of the kinds of community outreach undertaken by Smithsonian scientists and the goodwill it creates between indigenous populations and the Smithsonian Institution.

Stephen Loring attended a conference on polar historiography, held at The Academy of Natural Sciences and at the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, May 21-23. In the session, Knowledge of the Natural World, Stephen presented a paper titled “Nineteenth Century Natural History and Arctic Science: A Smithsonian Perspective on Nomenclature, Knowledge, and ‘good-for-nothing-things’.”

Noel Broadbent’s Saami research was the focus of the article “Native Sweden, Indigenous Saami are rediscovering their long-lost heritage” by Zach Zorich in the July/August issue of *Archaeology* magazine (pp. 30-35).



Noel (sitting in the white shirt) and his field crew at the site of Grundskatan.



Noel Broadbent

ASIAN CULTURAL HISTORY PROGRAM

A hearty congratulations to **Chris Lotis**, who won the tough competition for a fellowship to attend (all expenses paid) the Korea Foundation Workshop for Overseas Curators, mostly in Seoul, Korea, Sept 21-Oct. 2. For the first time ever, this year’s workshop also offers an additional optional component to be held in North Korea.

Chris has been with the ACHP since March 2004, after working with the NMNH’s Office of Development & Public Affairs. Alongside his extensive and insightful research and editorial work on archival sources in anthropology, he has been a key member of the Korea Gallery team since its inception.



Christopher Lotis enjoys another fine meal in Seoul, Korea, November, 2006.

Congratulations also to **Jared Koller** and **Greg Shook** who received Special Act Awards (\$1,900 each) for setting up the new ACHP accounting system.

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Jared M. Koller (at right) heads a U.S. Department of State meeting on Cultural Heritage Preservation for visitors from Turkmenistan, at NMNH's Asian Cultural History Program (June 2008). Left: Redjepmurad Jepbarov, Director of the Merw State Historical reserve (Turkmenistan). Center: Ahmet Halmuradov, Director of the Abywerd State Historical Reserve (Turkmenistan).

HUMAN ORIGINS PROGRAM



Rick Potts sent an update from the field site at Olorgesailie, Kenya, to report that his team has uncovered new information about early human use of rare stone materials used in tool making and the use of ocher and manganese as pigment at surprisingly early dates: older than 220 thousand years at one excavation, and likely older than 340 thousand years at a second site.

Members of his team include Smithsonian researchers Kay Behrensmeyer (Department of Paleobiology), **Jennifer Clark**, **Matt Tocheri**, and **Briana Pobiner**, and SI research associates **Alison Brooks** and **John Yellen**.

A television crew for WGBH/NOVA visited Olorgesailie for 3 days of filming for a three part NOVA series on human evolution. The program is due to air next fall as part of a collaboration with NMNH related to the opening of the David H. Koch Hall of Human Origins. The series will feature interviews with **Rick Potts**, who is a consultant on the series, and **Alison Brooks**.



Gregory P. Shook pauses at the doorway of a medieval church in Dmanisi, Republic of Georgia (March 2008).



WGBH/NOVA crew filming Rick Potts at the prehistoric site of Olorgesailie, Kenya.

A second television crew for Scientific American Frontiers did a brief film shoot of **Alison Brooks** and **Rick Potts** at the Olorgesailie excavations and in Rick's camp for a future program titled "The Human Spark."

Meeting

Rick Potts attended the 5th Annual Stony Brook Human Evolution Workshop, August 17 – 24, held in Illeret, Kenya. The workshop was titled Prehistory of the Turkana Basin: Opportunities and Priorities for Future Field Research and hosted by the Turkana Basin Institute and Stony Brook University.

Scholarly Studies Program Grant Awards

Matthew Tocheri was the recipient of the Scholarly Studies Program grant award for his proposal, "The evolution and functional morphology of the wrist in hominoids, with an emphasis on the Late Pleistocene hominin species *Homo floresiensis*."

Publications

Pobiner, B.L., Rogers, M.J., Monahan, C.M., Harris, J. W.K. 2008. New evidence for hominin carcass processing strategies at 1.5 Ma, Koobi Fora, Kenya. *Journal of Human Evolution* 55(1), 103-130.

Rick Potts is a co-author for the August issue of the *Journal of Human Evolution* concerning scientific sampling of fossil human bones and teeth. The article, "Suggested guidelines for invasive sampling of hominid remains," makes reference to NMNH Anthropology sampling protocols and requirements as part of an international effort to define the conditions under which fossil material may be sampled and the responsibilities of curators in conserving early human fossils.

Authors include: J.-J. Hublin, S. Pääbo, A. P. Derevianko, V. B. Doronichev, Liubov V. Golovanova, Martin Friess, Alain Froment, Almut Hoffmann, N. E. Jillani Kachache, O. Kullmer, D. Lordkipanidze, M.-H. Moncel, R. Potts, J. Radovic, Y. Z. Rak, M. Richards, J. R. Méndez, A. Rosas, M. Schmauder, R. W. Schmitz, P. Semal, T. Smith, M. A. Tafuri, I. Tattersall, J.-F. Tournepiche, M. Toussaint, S. Vassiliev, A. Vialet, T. White and R. Ziegler.

PALEOINDIAN PROGRAM

Dennis Stanford attended a board of directors meeting of the Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve in June. The Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve, working with the Archaeological Conservancy, raised enough money to purchase the Lamb Spring site, one of the oldest North American human habitation sites, approximately 8,000 years-old, located outside of Denver near Littleton, Colorado in Douglas County. Former curator **Waldo Wedel** excavated the site in the early 1960s. Dennis returned to the site in the late 1970s, with National Geographic Society funding, and found a large number of mammoth as well as Cody-age bison bones and later human occupations still in situ. Plans are to build a research/educational/museum facility at the site with a larger section of adjacent land available for green space. The project, an idea that Dennis has fostered for many years, has received much local support, including from county officials.



Mammoth bones found at Lamb Spring.

LATIN AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGY PROGRAM

Betty Meggers attended Paths Across the Sea, VI conference in Sitka Alaska, from July 23-27. She gave a talk on “Transpacific voyages from Japan to America.”

Betty Meggers. 2007. Sustainable Intensive Exploitation of Amazonia: Cultural, Environmental, and Geopolitical Perspectives. In Alf Hornborg and Carole L. Crumley, eds., *The World System and the Earth System: Global Socioenvironmental Change and Sustainability since the Neolithic*, pp. 195-209. Left Coast Press.

This publication was reviewed in the *American Anthropologist* (June 2008: pp. 261-62) by Torben C. Rick of Southern Methodist University who considered it an “important and influential” work.

ANTHROPOLOGY OUTREACH OFFICE

Ruth Selig has returned to the NMNH after 15 months working with Cristián Samper as his special assistant while he was Acting Secretary in the Castle. She is currently affiliated with the Department as a Research Collaborator with the Anthropology Outreach Office but, in addition, Ruth is working 20 hours a week for Secretary Clough on specific writing assignments. She is located in “Cube City” and can be reached at 633-1118.

After 29 years on the *AnthroNotes* editorial board, **JoAnne Lanouette** has retired from both her teaching at Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC, and from *AnthroNotes*. JoAnne was one of the founding editors of *AnthroNotes*, which in 2002 received the Society for American Archaeology Award for Excellence in Public Education. JoAnne participated in the NSF-funded George Washington University/Smithsonian Institution Anthropology for Teachers Pro-

gram (1978-82) from which *AnthroNotes* was born in spring 1979. To help maintain the publication’s quality and relevance to precollege teachers, **Carolyn Gecan**, an anthropology teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, has joined the editorial team of **Alison Brooks**, **Ann Kaupp**, and **Ruth Selig**. Carolyn has been a loyal *AnthroNotes* reader for many years and has incorporated many of the articles into her teaching. She also has acted as a consultant for the *Anthropology Explored* book and has participated in several workshops organized by the Anthropology Outreach Office. Alison, Ruth, and Ann look forward to more fruitful and rewarding years developing and editing this unique publication.

COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES PROGRAM

Field Research in Jamaica

Jake Homiak was in Jamaica for two weeks (July 26-Aug 9, 2008) doing fieldwork and meeting with various Rastafari organizations about the status of the Discovering Rastafari! exhibition in the African Voices Hall. Jake collected oral histories from several elder Rastafari who have been key figures over the years in agitating for the people of African descent to return to the African continent. One of the individuals Jake worked with is Ras Philmore Alvaranga, one of three Rasta representatives sent to Ethiopia by the Jamaica government in 1961.

While in Jamaica, Jake attended an international gathering of Rastafari that included individuals from North America, England, Chile, Venezuela, Trinidad, St. Lucia, and Grenada. He also met with representatives of the Jamaican Ministry of Culture and the Institute of Jamaica about the possibility of permanently relocating Discovering Rastafari! in Jamaica after it closes at NMNH at the end of 2009.



Jake with “Doc” Bagga—a Jamaican Rastafari naturopath who treated the late Bob Marley and whose services are widely patronized by leading figures in the reggae music community.

Planning Workshop for a Research Training Program

The Department of Anthropology hosted a workshop on June 2-4, organized by **Candace Greene** as part of the planning for a training program in the research use of anthropological museum collections. Workshop participants were a group of scholars with diverse interests in museum collections research from universities in the U.S., Canada, and the UK. They shared perspectives on current research directions in anthropology and related disciplines and worked with a core team of Smithsonian staff from NMNH (**Dan Rogers, Mary Jo Arnoldi**), NMAI (Ann McMullen), and NMAfA (Chris Kreamer) to define needs and opportunities. Participants focused particularly on the unique opportunities provided by the Smithsonian’s extensive collections and research resources, which are distinct from a university setting. The outcome was a series of recommendations on the content and methods appropriate to a training program.

Anthropology as a discipline is experiencing a revitalized interest in the study of material culture. However, little formal academic training is now available,

particularly in appropriate methods for the use of museum collections. The department is proposing to develop a graduate level summer training program to help address this need, utilizing the Smithsonian’s extensive collections to train students from throughout the nation in collection-based research methods.

The workshop was funded by a grant **Candace** received from the National Science Foundation, with additional support from the Smithsonian National Collections Program, the NMNH Associate Director for Research and Collections.

Twenty-first Forensic Anthropology Course

Marilyn London and **David Hunt** participated in the 21st Annual Forensic Anthropology Course, held from June 9-13. The course was sponsored by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology/National Museum of the History of Medicine (AFIP/NMHM) and held at the National Transportation Safety Board Training Academy. Hunt and London lectured on methods and techniques of human skeletal biology and, along with Martin Solano (NMNH Repatriation Office), gave hands-on laboratory training in osteology, aging, sexing, ancestry, trauma and pathology and forensic anthropology techniques.

Presentations

Ruth O. Selig, Beth Schuster (Thomas Balch Library), and **Jake Homiak** gave a presentation titled “There and Back Again: Nazi Anthropological Data at the Smithsonian,” on July 17 as part of the Anthropology Seminar Series. Lech Kaczynsk, President of Poland, formally accepted transfer from the Smithsonian Institution of the Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit papers during a ceremony at the Polish Consulate, New York City, 26 September 2007. The transfer marked the end of the collection’s sixty-plus year odyssey from Krakow to Germany to the United States and back to Poland. The collection consists primarily of anthropological research data from the Institute for German Eastern Research’s Section for Race and National Traditions Research (Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit – Sektion für Rassen-und

Volkstumforschung) gathered from Poles in Nazi-occupied Poland by anthropologists employed by the Nazi government. The nature of this collection makes it an invaluable resource for genealogists, historians, and scholars of many specialties. The presenters discussed the story of the documents, how they ended up in Poland, and the types of data found in the collection.

Visitor/Intern

Dave Hunt hosted for three days the president and CEO of World Care, a non-profit international health and education relief organization that is involved with disaster-related rebuilding of schools, colleges and medical facilities around the world. Their work has included people and areas such as Katrina victims, Tsunami victims and revitalization of destroyed medical and school systems from political unrest in Afghanistan, Iraq and countries in Middle America. Dave has been acting as an advisor regarding mass disaster relief, mass burials, and personal identification.

Dave also hosted **Rebecca Barlas**, an honors intern from Yorktown High School, from May 27-June 13. Rebecca has her focus on anthropology and will begin her college career in anthropology this fall.

REPATRIATION OFFICE

Visit by the First Nation of Ojibways

On May 28th, representatives of the Batchewana First Nation of Ojibways and the Sault Ste. Marie Band of Chippewa visited the museum to consult with **Eric Hollinger** of the Repatriation Office on their request to repatriate human remains. The representatives conducted ceremonies for the spirits of the individuals on the front lawn of the museum under the canopy of a large Elm tree. The ceremonies included a drum ceremony, pipe ceremony and a feast for the dead. Afterwards, the representatives shared their traditional drum, known as Agwa Gumii, and songs with museum visitors in the museum rotunda. The representatives expressed their appreciation for



the many staff from different parts of the museum (Repatriation, OPS, OFEO, Education and Public Programs) for helping to make a complex and emotional visit a positive and productive one.



Eric Hollinger and DennisStanford (far right) join in the Batchewana First Nation ceremony.

Presentations

Chris Dudar was invited to present preliminary results of his research to the Archaeological Society of Maryland (Montgomery County Chapter) at Needwood Mansion on May 22. His presentation was titled “Non-destructive documentation of human remains using X-ray fluorescence (XRF), and other non-invasive methods.”

RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM

The department was pleased to host two students this year in the NMNH’s Research Training Program.

Maureen Hoffmann of Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania was supervised by linguist **Ives Goddard**.

Maureen’s research examined phonological properties of the Algonquian language Unami, whose last speaker died in 2000. The purpose was to provide technical analysis of recordings using computer software that was not readily available at the time of the original field research (1966-1970). As a culmination of her project, she prepared a poster titled “Seeing Sounds: Phonemic Contrasts and Sentence Intonation in Unami” to the museum community.



Teresa Nichols of the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania was supervised by archaeologist **J. Daniel Rogers**.

Teresa’s research focused on sustainability, a central factor in the long tradition of a nomadic pastoralist lifestyle in the Mongolian steppes. To understand how social complexity has developed in the region since the Bronze



Age, she looked at the dynamics of the human-environment relationship. Teresa and colleagues used an agent-based simulation model called HouseholdWorld, developed by scientists at George Mason University in conjunction with archaeological research conducted by the National Museum of Natural History, to explore the interplay between ecology, herds, and humans in Mongolia. Maureen’s poster was titled “Modeling Sustainability and Severe Weather Events in Mongolia.”

Contributors: Joalyn Archambault, Mary Jo Arnoldi, Noel Broadbent, Laurie Burgess, Jennifer Clark, Kim Cobb, Chris Dudar, Ives Goddard, Candace Greene, Eric Hollinger, Jake Homiak, David Hunt, Adrienne Kaeppler, Marilyn London, Stephen Loring, Betty Meggers, Linda Perry, Dolores Piperno, Rick Potts, Briana Pobiner, Daniel Rogers, Ruth Selig, Landis Smith, Dennis Stanford, Paul Taylor, Jane Walsh, Kim Wells, Melinda Zeder.

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