

Understanding Disaster

Anthony Oliver-Smith

"How do the events of September 11, 2001 affect our understanding of crisis and crisis management?" was the question that led the National Science Foundation Directorates of Computer and Information Sciences, Engineering and Social Sciences to convene a workshop entitled "Responding to the Unexpected" on February 27-March 1, 2002. As an anthropologist with roughly 30 years of research and consultation in disaster response and recovery, I was invited to assist in replying to that question as well developing an appropriate research agenda in crisis and disaster management that would reflect the changes that 9/11 has initiated.

The NSF workshop focused on developments in information technology (IT), engineering, and the social sciences that can enable construction of effective response organization at the instant of disaster. The specific tasks of the workshop were to begin understanding and developing the new technical, social, and policy requirements for responding to unexpected disasters to improve the way society deals with such events.

Initial discussions were organized around the 9/11 attacks, earthquakes, and nuclear accidents. The workshop participants then worked toward establishing research priorities in breakout groups on (1) urban infrastructure and its protection; (2) risk assessment; (3) organizational integration and response, including policy and regulation jurisdictional issues and virtual and actual organizational behavior; (4)

overarching technologies of information storage and retrieval and networking and communications, and 5) the creation of infrastructure, evaluation, and transfer of research results.

The workshop brought together a small group of leading researchers from across the relevant subdisciplines of IT, engineering, and social sciences along with representatives of agencies and organizations involved in crisis response. Because disasters are multidimensional phenomena, emphasis was placed on finding areas of mutual concern and cooperation across the various disciplines. Represented among the social sciences at the workshop were sociologists, psychologists, political scientists, and economists. I was the sole

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representative from anthropology. A final report is being compiled from the presentations and break-out sessions and will be due out in early April of this year.

Although social scientific disaster research has traditionally been the preserve of sociology and geography, the issue of disaster has become increasingly salient to the research and practice concerns of anthropology. Anthropologists at the University of Florida in particular have made important contributions to the study and management of disasters. Moreover, they have been at the forefront of the effort to link socially structured patterns of vulnerability to disaster impacts. Natural, technological, and politically driven

disasters are becoming more frequent and more serious as communities around the world become more vulnerable. The increasing vulnerability of communities and consequent intensity of disaster repercussions, particularly in regions where anthropologists have traditionally studied, have challenged the field to come to grips with the practical and theoretical problems that disasters present.

In recent years, anthropology has added significant cross-cultural, methodological, and theoretical breadth to study of disasters. Archaeology has revealed how cultural systems often incorporate long developed harmonies or contradictions with their environments. Ethnography has illustrated how disaster intervention based on narrow research sometimes disrupts native adaptations and diminishes rather than augments disaster recovery. Earlier disaster research concentrated almost entirely on immediate responses to calamity and first-tier agency intervention and left unexplored the fluctuations in response and recovery that transpire over time. Yet, disasters are enduring events with many punctuations in reaching their inevitable outcomes. Anthropology's long-term perspective and in-depth fieldwork have added significantly to comprehending the protracted repercussions calamities provoke. An anthropological perspective has further enhanced comprehension of factors that lead to people's vulnerability, bringing to light the roles that age, gender, social class, race, and ethnicity play in putting people in harm's way. From ground level anthropology has asked who are the likely victims of calamity, and what are the practices that lead to unequal shares of safety, simultaneously broadening the ethnographic data base for cross-cultural studies of disaster.

From the Chair

Allan F. Burns

This year began with the shocks of 9/11. Forensic anthropologists **Tony Falsetti**, **Mike Warren**, and graduate student **Heather Walsh-Haney** went to ground

zero, helping to make sense of the attacks and the destruction to people's lives. Then in October, Graduate Research Professor

Marvin Harris passed away, and his death affected us as well.

The department, and the university, suffered very deep cutbacks this year as the Florida economy suffered from the loss of tourism and travel. Key faculty positions could not be filled, teaching and research assistantships were placed in jeopardy, and we have all had to make the best we could in a much different world. But the department is spirited and



agile: faculty members wrote the most grants in the department's history last year; our new graduate students arrived on campus with enthusiasm and keen curiosity, and the department office staff met department needs with initiative and grace. The department was able to secure two lines even in this difficult year, one for **Rick Stepp**, and another for **Elizabeth "Buzzy" Guillette**. Rick receives his Ph.D. from Georgia this summer, and will hold a combined position between Anthropology and Latin American Studies. His work on ethnomedicine in southern Mexico will further strengthen our medical anthropology interests in the department. Rick will also work closely with the Land Use and Environmental Change Institute (LUECI) and the GIS/Ethnography computer lab.

Dr. Guillette's research in the Yaqui areas of Sonora on the effects of environmental contaminants had startling results: children who grow up in industrial agricultural areas are developmentally slower than their counterparts where industrial agriculture has not spread. Buzzy and her work have been featured on the Discovery Channel, many news reports, and a slew of scientific publications.

The department has undergone remarkable changes this past year. We are now a comprehensive laboratory department: this past year saw the construction of laboratories in human molecular genetics, biomechanics, forensics and osteology, digital imaging, video editing, Geographic Information Systems and ethnography, southeastern US archaeology, and zooarchaeology, and Diaspora studies, just to name a few. Florida Anthropology now has the resources to give "hands on" proficiency that only laboratories can provide.

The department is a key program in the University of Florida, in part because of the enthusiasm of the faculty, the quality of the students, and the critical research that is done on both a statewide and world scale. The department has also flourished through the generosity of donors who have funded the new lecture series, graduate research in Latin America, and excellence in undergraduate and graduate research. I hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter and also hope that you can help us with a gift. Alumni and friends are the heart and soul of the department; your support is the value added that moves us forward.

Was DeSalvo the "Boston Strangler?"

On November 19, 2001, **Michael Warren** worked as a member of an interdisciplinary forensic science team that exhumed the body of the so-called "Boston Strangler" – Albert DeSalvo – from its Massachusetts grave in order to re-investigate his murder and, if possible, collect genetic evidence that might exonerate him in the death of Mary A. Sullivan, the last victim of the Boston Strangler. DeSalvo was murdered in his cell at Walpole State Prison, Massachusetts, after he allegedly decided to reveal that he was not, in fact, the Boston Strangler. DeSalvo – who was never charged or convicted as the "Strangler" because there was no evidence linking him to any of the crime scenes – was murdered while in protective custody where he was serving a life sentence for convictions unrelated to the stranglings. No one was ever convicted of DeSalvo's murder. DeSalvo's body was taken to a forensic facility at York College of Pennsylvania where some of the nation's top experts re-investigated his 1973 stabbing death and collected DNA samples. Warren was part of a scientific team that included York College professor of anthropology John S. Levisky; forensic pathologist Michael Baden (of O.J. Simpson fame); criminalist Henry Lee, and University of Florida forensic toxicologist Bruce Goldberger, among others. The re-investigation was the result of a request by members of both the DeSalvo and Sullivan families, who are unconvinced of DeSalvo's earlier claims that he was the "Boston Strangler." DeSalvo claimed he raped and manually strangled Sullivan, but his confession did not match the autopsy report: there was no genetic evidence suggesting rape and no evidence she had been strangled by anything other than ligatures. The investigation confirmed the cause of death as multiple stab wounds to the chest, however, results of DNA testing are pending and will be released at a later date.



Warren examines remains while, from left to right, Michelle Hamburger (law student, The George Washington University), Elaine Whitfield-Sharp (attorney) and Patti

Welcome Aboard!

Four anthropologists joined the department this year. Brenda Chalfin, Stacey Langwick, Marilyn Thomas-Houston, and Buzzy Guillette add their wealth of research and educational experiences to our growing faculty. Another new faculty member, Rick Stepp, will join us this fall.

Brenda Chalfin is a cultural anthropologist specializing in economic and political anthropology.



Her research is based in West Africa, which Brenda first visited in 1985 as a development volunteer. Before coming to UF last fall, she spent ten months in

Ghana embarking on a new project involving an ethnographic study of the Customs Service. This project builds on an earlier study of cross-border trade which examined traders' manipulation and redefinition of state mandates in the frontier zone spanning Ghana, Burkina Faso and Togo in the early and mid-1990s.

Shifting the lens from traders to state agents, in her current research Brenda looks closely at customs officers' response to the twin processes of globalization and liberalization. She is particularly interested in the way new types of commerce, trade regulations, and corporate forms reshape customs officers' conceptions and expressions of state authority and what this implies for the character of national sovereignty more generally. During the 2002-03 academic year Brenda will be writing a book on this research, tentatively titled: *Subversive States: Sovereignty and Survival on the West African Frontier*, while a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J.

In addition to exploring the interface of markets and states, much of her work has examined the livelihood strategies within

impoverished rural communities of Ghana's northern savanna. Brenda recently completed a book manuscript based on this research. The book is a case study of an indigenous oilseed known as shea that is central to women's livelihoods throughout the West African savanna. Although a low-priced staple at home, shea is a luxury good on the world market. The book examines how the growing value and popularity of shea abroad has brought with it new forms of state engagement with rural communities, leading to the restructuring of rural economic institutions, especially women's cooperative work and the flow of resources within households and kin groups.

The first response by so many who hear about traditional healing in Africa is to ask: "Does it really work?"

Stacey Langwick, who joined the Department of Anthropology this January, contextualizes this question, which implicitly expresses a concern as to whether the agents accused of affliction exist and whether the



medicines that are used initiate change. Her research explores issues concerning knowledge, materiality, post-colonialism

and gender through empirical analyses of healing and health in Sub-Saharan Africa. Trained as a medical anthropologist (University of North Carolina, 2001) and also holding a master's degree in public health (University of North Carolina, 1995), Stacey is jointly appointed by the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research.

Stacey's work is located at the intersection of science, gender and politics. Currently, she is investigating how certain kinds of practices concerning well-being and bodies have come to be understood as "healing" in southern Tanzania. "Traditional

healing" in Tanzania continues to be constructed through the re-definition and marginalization of practices concerned with the world of spirits, and through the intervention of biomedicine. Stacey addresses moments of cultural and scientific translation that occur during encounters between biomedical and indigenous medical systems. The objects needing to be treated, as well as the actors capable of effecting a transformation in non-biomedical therapies are dramatically different than those in biomedical therapies. Working in a geographical region shaped by past and current forms of oppression, Stacey argues that the politics of these therapeutic objects – we might say their right to exist – is a critical concern both practically and theoretically.

Marilyn M. Thomas-Houston joins the department after serving as Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. Her most recent work focuses on the establishment of an African American Diaspora Summer Field School that conducts comparative and interdisciplinary research between communities formed by the descendants and relatives of Black Loyalists. Particular forms of freedom and oppression under colonialism have shaped Black communities in Nova Scotia, Canada, South Carolina, USA, and Sierra Leone, West Africa and as such the ethnographic studies are intended to bring together an understanding of the social and political organization of these three regions for comparative analyses. Marilyn hopes to begin the first phase of the Field School in Nova Scotia during the Summer of 2003.



Marilyn's work in visual anthropology continues with the impact of the federally funded HOPE VI initia-

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tive on the lives of public housing residents. She co-organized with Mark Schuller a 2001 AAA invited session panel on the subject, which has resulted in bringing those papers and others to UF in the form of a mini-conference, sponsored by the African American Studies Program, designed to develop into an edited book for academic or trade publication. Marilyn also hopes to organize local undergraduate and graduate service-learning research here in Gainesville. She would appreciate getting feedback from students regarding their interests in service learning or local research.

Elizabeth "Buzzy" Guillette

has been contributing to the department for years as an instructor, teaching many sections of Human Sexuality and Culture to great reviews. Buzzy now joins the rank-in-file, bringing her



research on health and the environment to an increasingly diverse faculty.

Rick Stepp will join the faculty this fall as the recent hire in ecological anthropology. His time will be divided between the Department of Anthropology, the Center for Latin American Studies Tropical Conservation and Development Program, and the Land Use and Environmental Change Institute. Rick comes from the program in ecological anthropology at the University of Georgia. His primary research interests are Mesoamerica, ethnobiology, and medical anthropology. For the last several years he has been working in Chiapas, Mexico with the Tzeltal Maya. His ethnobotanical research there examines variation in traditional ecological knowledge, use, and procurement of medicinal plants. The Highland Maya utilize over 1600 plants for medicinal purposes, most of them obtained from human modified landscapes. He has also conducted conservation research in the montane cloud forests of Ecuador and is starting research in Southern Belize with the Q'echi'

Maya. In addition, he has been involved in documentary film projects in the Southeast U.S. and Mexico. In the fall semester of 2002 he will be teaching a course on regional analysis,



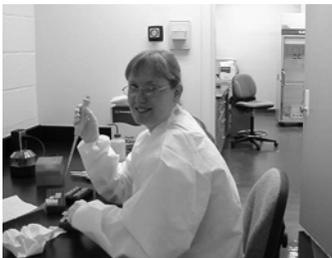
that will cover theory, methodology and techniques, including GIS. He will be coordinating projects in the GIS-LUECI lab in the basement of Turlington

and encourages students to consider utilizing the lab in their research. He also plans to collaborate on remote sensing research with satellite imagery through LUECI. Of particular interest is a project involving land-use change, medicinal plant conservation and healthcare strategies in the Maya region. He is looking at how deforestation and environmental degradation are changing disease patterns and how people treat illness and conceptualize their biophysical environment.

GENETIC ANTHROPOLOGY

Connie Mulligan

The Molecular Genetics Lab is up and running! After 1 1/2 years of struggle to pry the previous residents out of B103 and B105 Turlington Hall and overseeing renovations by the Physical Plant (who were great to work with), the Molecular Genetics Lab is fully equipped and filled with eager students. My lab analyzes human genetic variation in order to reconstruct the evolutionary history and relationships of human populations and human pathogens. We use a technique called the polymerase chain reaction, which revolutionized the field of human population genetics (and other fields) in the 1990s. Recently, a NSF equipment grant with matching funds from the college enabled the purchase of a Beckman-Coulter Automated DNA Analysis System, a state-of-the-art capillary-based machine for the automated analysis of all types of genetic variants, including point mutations, insertion/deletions, microsatellites, and DNA sequence data. A separate Ancient DNA Laboratory is equipped with an independent air supply



and HEPA filtration to reduce the chance of contamination during the analysis of DNA from old specimens, such as those curated at the Florida Museum of Natural History. Currently, graduate students **Ben Burkley** (upper right) and **Nicole Nowak** are assisting on NIH-funded research to identify genetic variants that predispose people to alcohol dependence. University Scholar undergraduate **Sherin Smallwood** (upper left) is analyzing ancient DNA in several projects to study the evolution of the St. Johns culture in NE Florida, investigate the origin of venereal syphilis, and identify museum specimens amenable to DNA analysis. This semester also marked the first offering of the Molecular Anthropology Laboratory course, designed to provide graduate students with a hands-on opportunity to assay genetic variants on their own.



Faculty Watch

Paul J. Magnarella remains active in the human rights area. This past year he offered one course on Human Rights in CLAS and one on Humanitarian Law in the College of Law. He joined the editorial boards of the journals *Social Justice* and *Human Rights and Human Welfare*, and became the *Encyclopedia of the Developing World's* editorial advisor for human rights. Paul also serves as legal counsel to and member of the American Anthropological Association's Human Rights Committee.

In addition, Paul directed another successful summer program in Northern



Italy with 16 undergraduates. They explored the cultural ecology of an alpine village, Trento, and Venice.

Paul's recent human rights publications include: "Assessing the Concept of Human Rights in Africa," *Human Rights and Human Welfare*; "The Evolving Right of Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples," *St. Thomas Law Review*; and "Explaining Rwanda's 1994 Genocide," *Human Rights and Human Welfare*.

Paul also keeps up his Turkish research. He recently authored: "Turkish Social Anthropology Since the 1970s, (with A. Erdentug) *Oriental Anthropologist*, and the chapter on *Turkey in Countries and Their Cultures*.

Steven Brandt continues to conduct archaeological and ethnoarchaeological research in Ethiopia. In May, 2001 he supervised the emergency excavation of a Middle Stone Age/Late Stone Age prehistoric site threatened by the

construction of a new road being built to circumvent a new dam and reservoir in southern Ethiopia. Funded by the European Union and undertaken in conjunction with staff from Ethiopia's Authority for Research and Conservation of the Cultural Heritage (ARCCH) and graduate students from UF, the excavations revealed what appears to be a continuous stratified deposit reaching almost 2.5 meters in depth and probably spanning the last 20-40,000 years.

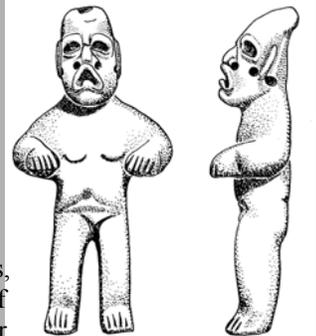
Brandt returned to Ethiopia for short periods in February and March 2002 to organize emergency archaeological investigations of the dam and reservoir being constructed in southern Ethiopia. Funded by the World Bank, the emergency survey and excavations began in mid March 2002 and are being conducted by members of ARCCH and John Kinahan of Namibia. Fieldwork and laboratory analyses will continue through December, 2002.

In June, 2001 Brandt joined his colleague and co-Principal Investigator, **Kathryn Weedman**, in Konso, southern Ethiopia to begin the first season of a two year National Science Foundation funded project on the "Ethnoarchaeology of Hide Working and Stone Tool Use." The goal of this project is to study probably the last women in the world still making flaked stone tools on a regular basis, in this case for scraping animal hides into bedding, bags and clothing. The project had five main components: The "Census" team identified and obtained demographic data on hide workers from all Konso villages, while the "Life Cycle" teams followed individual hide workers from procurement of raw materials through manufacturing and use of hide products, including clothing, to discard. The "Archaeology" team excavated a recently abandoned compound occupied by hide workers for at least one hundred years and over three generations, while the "Ethnographic/Ethnohistoric" team interviewed past and present hide workers and other members of the community for data on the internal socio-economic and political dynamics affecting the lives of hide workers and their material culture. Finally, the "Documentation" team digitally filmed all aspects of research, providing a visual analytical record as well as documenting a way of life for future Konso generations and the professional and general public.

The 2002 field season will commence in June 2002 with field members from UF, ARCCH, the University of Cape Town, and University of Leuvan, Belgium.

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Susan D. Gillespie is in the process of putting together the Mesoamerican Archaeology and Iconography Lab. The special mission of this lab is to create a digital (computerized) archive of the artworks, architecture, and other artifacts of the major cultures of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica (Mexico and Guatemala). The first objective is to construct a database of the artworks of the Olmec culture of Mexico's Gulf Coast (1200-500 BC). Olmec peoples erected the first monumental stone sculptures in Mesoamerica, including the famous colossal heads as well as stone statues and altars. They and related peoples also crafted small greenstone objects, including human figurines like the one to the right. In addition to the Olmecs, artworks of other major



cultures, including the Aztecs, Maya, Zapotecs, and Teotihuacanos, will be entered into the archive. The database will provide images along with technical information on each artifact and its original location. Digitizing photographs of objects and structures also permits the rapid computer-assisted creation and manipulation of line drawings based on the photos. Having all of this information virtually at one's fingertips will facilitate the detailed analysis of Mesoamerican religion, worldview, society, and politics as represented symbolically (iconographically) in their artworks and architecture. It will also enhance the teaching of courses on Mesoamerican peoples, as the images can easily be incorporated in lectures and other presentations.

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Helen Safa and **John Dumoulin** are completing a background paper for the Inter-American Development Bank on the current socioeconomic status of women of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean. Helen and John conducted brief field visits to Rio, Sao Paulo and Salvador in Brazil, and to the Atlantic coast of Honduras, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, interviewing primarily black local academics and NGO activists working with women of African descent in the region. The report should be completed by mid-March, and will include sections written by UF anthropology Ph.D. **Nathalie Lebon** (now teaching at Randolph-Macon in Virginia) and **Kiran Asher**, also trained at UF in political science and currently on a post-doc at Rutgers.

Researchers under the direction of **Susan deFrance** completed an excellent season of field research at Quebrada Tacahuay this past summer. With funding from The Foundation for Exploration of Cultural Origins and the National Geographic Society, deFrance was able to complete eight weeks of field research at the site located on the far southern coast of Peru. In addition to two Peruvian archaeologists and a local field crew of 11 workers, graduate student **Erin Kennedy** (photo right) participated in the project as did University Scholar, **Anna Wright** (left).



We were able to excavate four 5x5 m blocks to a depth of almost 3 meters. We uncovered excellent deposits dating to the Late Pleistocene. Thus far, our findings support previous interpretations that the site was a specialized marine bird processing locale.

Our field season also had added excitement on June 23 when an 8.4

magnitude earthquake struck southern Peru. Fortunately, we had completed excavations for the day and were not deep in our excavation units. Despite the threat of a tsunami, the site and our community suffered minimal damage.

DeFrance presented a paper on this past summer's work at the Institute of Andean Studies Meeting at UC-Berkeley in January. Anna Wright will present her findings on one component of the site at the University Scholars program this March. An article on research conducted at the site in 1998 was published in *Latin American Antiquity* this past December.



Ken Sassaman, TAs **Patrick O'Day** (photo left) and **Jon Endonino**, and 18 students spent another five weeks on the St. Johns River this past summer delving into Florida's ancient past. Work continued at Blue Spring and Hontoon Island State Parks, home to several shell mounds and middens dating from 6000 years ago. All goals for the project were met. In addition to resolving all major stratigraphic issues raised by testing in 2000, remote sensing was used to delineate the outlines of probable household space. With students assisting, **John Schultz** of the C.A. Pound Lab deployed ground penetrating radar to predict subsurface clusters of hearths and pit features. These hi-tech data were ground-truthed by traditional stratigraphic excavation. Additional work involved detailed laser-transit mapping of a 5-m-high shell mound—all done by the students—along with continued reconnaissance survey of Hontoon Island.

The St. Johns Archaeological Field School is off for 2002, but will resume in 2003 at another venue in the middle St. Johns Basin. In the meantime, a shoreline survey of Crescent Lake, in partnership with **Barbara Purdy**, awaits state funds.

The State of Florida awarded a grant to the Department to conduct a social marketing study of migrant housing. **Allan Burns**, P.I., notes that Florida received 9 million dollars last year to improve migrant housing, but little is known about migrant workers' perceptions of and expectations for housing. Working with **Joan Flocks** of the Institute of Child Health Policy, Burns will conduct the study this June.

FINDING THE SAND CREEK DESCENDANTS

On November 29, 1864, a field expedition of the U. S. Army attacked a camp of Cheyenne Indians at the Sand Creek Crossing, near Lamar, Colorado, killing more than 200 persons, mostly women and children. The Cheyennes had been instructed to camp at Sand Creek by their Indian Agent, who guaranteed their safety. The fighting was very brutal. Many Cheyennes, according to eyewitness testimony, were scalped, tortured and mutilated. After an official investigation by the U. S. Congress, the next year, survivors of the massacre and their descendants were promised reparations in the form of cash payments and land. The treaty was solemnly signed and ratified by Congress. The payments were never made.

A group of scholars and graduate students, led by Florida anthropologist **John Moore**, are presently identifying the Sand Creek descendants. After decades of intermarriage and migration, the descendants are spread all over North American and represent many tribes and ethnicities. By use of genealogies, computers, and important demographic theories, and in cooperation with the Sand Creek Descendants Trust Association, have compiled a list of more than 20,000 descendants, and are awaiting action by the U. S. Congress to pay this obligation, which is long overdue.

John Krigbaum is excited! His first year at UF has been a busy one and satisfying in many ways.



During these past two semesters much of his attention has focused on the design and

construction of a bone chemistry and bone "prep" lab in the basement of Turlington. Here John and his students will continue studies of archaeological and paleontological bones and teeth in order to say something meaningful about diet in the past. The new facility will provide hands-on training in bone chemistry studies and stable isotope analysis. The contractors are now finishing up the installation of cabinets, benches, and hoods.

The bone chemistry lab is a facility that will function in a number of ways. A third of the space will be outfitted with computers and a seminar/meeting space. The remaining two-thirds is devoted to "wet" work space and an extraction line for isolating gases to be analyzed by mass spectrometry. The bone "prep" lab will be where samples are prepared. A molding/casting operation is also in the works. John welcomes all to come visit.

Maxine L. Margolis published several articles and book chapters over the last year. These include "Notes on Transnational Migration: The Case of Brazilian Immigrants" in *Negotiating Transnationalism: Selected Papers in Refugees and Immigrants* published by the General Anthropology Division of the American Anthropological Association; and "With New Eyes: Returned International Immigrants in Rio de Janeiro" in *Raízes e Rumos: Perspectivas Interdisciplinares em Estudos Americanos* (Editora 7 Letras, Rio de Janeiro). Maxine also published the entry on Brazil in *Countries and Their Cultures* published by Macmillan Reference. It was co-authored with her students **Neda Bezerra** and **Jason Fox**. In addition, she authored a portrait of Dr. Norma Wollner, an eminent Brazilian immigrant who is a pediatric oncologist at Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York in the volume, *Making It in America: A*

Biographical Sourcebook of Eminent Ethnic Americans (ABC-Clio Books). A chapter from Maxine's book, *True to Her Nature* (Waveland 2000) was reprinted as "Putting Mothers on the Pedestal" in *Family Patterns, Gender Relation*, 2nd ed. Oxford University Press. Finally, Maxine wrote the introduction for the 2001 re-issue of *The Rise of Anthropological Theory* (orig. 1968) by **Marvin Harris** (AltaMira Press).

Kesha Fikes is completing a book manuscript entitled *Managing African Portugal: Regulating Labor and Spatial Mobility in the Post/Colonial Portuguese Project*. The book addresses the regulation of colonial space (which once linked Portugal and Portuguese Africa) through migrant labor practices. It relates this history to contemporary migrant labor legislation in Portugal. The objective is to understand the bureaucracies involved with attaining Portuguese citizenship, for long-term resident African nationals in Portugal, given repeated transformations in migrant labor legislation in Portugal (since independence in former Portuguese Africa). These transformations, occurring every few years, monitor the requirements of citizenship acquisition, while managing a cultural and economic connection to former Portuguese Africa. This connection, importantly, is also about securing the Portuguese project of increased visibility in the European Union. The book approaches the regulation of Portuguese citizenship by emphasizing the bureaucratic details of migrant labor policy, from late colonialism to the present.

Jerry Murray was P.I. on the preparation of a \$1.2 million contract between USAID and UF to support a five-year hillside agricultural program in Haiti. He continues to work on a series of microenterprise studies in the Dominican Republic. He submitted to his Dominican sponsors a book-length manuscript in Spanish on the decline of the public schools and the anthropology of newly emergent for-profit private schools.

The events of 9/11 forced Jerry to redesign in midstream his Anthropology of

Religion course in the Fall of 2001, to analyze the vulnerability of monotheistic religions – Judaism and Christianity, no less than Islam – to being kidnapped in the service of agents of violence. In the Spring of 2001 he has been involved in a special departmental project: identifying web sites, gathering reading materials, and preparing workshops (and possibly a semester-long course) on the evolution of the anthropological job market and on the steps required for our Ph.D. students to confront and flourish in that changing market.



Michael Heckenberger returns to the Xingu this summer to resume field work on the history and archaeology of the Kuikuru. That's Mike (above, left) and **Afukaka**, the Kuikuru chief, in 1994. The Kuikuru are "traditional" Amerindians from the headwaters of the Xingu River, a major southern tributary of the Amazon. They are part of a "nation" of culturally related peoples: "Xingu" or "Xinguano." Mike's work examines their shared histories from prehistory to the present. Their history runs deep, extending across a millennium (ca. AD 1000 - present) and is very dynamic, both before and after 1492. Equally clear is how much has stayed the same, in terms of the primary symbolic and bodily orientations of Xinguanos in ritual and daily life. Mike begins 18 months of fieldwork (sponsored by UF and NSF), with Brazilian linguists, ethnologists, and archaeologists from the Museu Nacional (Rio) and Museu Goeldi (Belem), new colleagues at UF, particularly through LUECI, and, most importantly, graduate students, **David Mead**, **Christian Russell**, **Morgan Schmidt** (Geography), and **Joshua Toney** (accepted for '02). His hopes are high that this multi-disciplinary study will be a landmark of historical ethnography in Amazonia; we'll let you know.

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Anita Spring continues researching the new generation of African entrepreneurs in the global market. This is a six-country study in collaboration with Barbara McDade, Department of Geography, that compares African entrepreneurial methods to other parts of the world and examines African business connections with the United States and Florida.

Anita participated in the Trade Mission by the State of Florida to South Africa that was led by the Lieutenant Governor. In Uganda and Kenya, Anita interviewed most of the members of the Enterprise Network chapters, about 20 percent of which are women. In an effort to distinguish the new generation entrepreneurs from large-scale traders, she also interviewed women and men wholesalers and large-scale vendors.

The types of medium- and large-scale businesses that new generation men and women operate may be standard manufacturing and sales companies, but are more likely to include banking, consultancy services, tourism, publishing and information technology. Virtually all new generation business people use global methods of communication (cell phones, fax and emails, websites).

This research moves beyond market traders and traditional African industries to study the "new" African entrepreneurs who use global methods of operation and form national and international associations and networks. Future research with Christopher McCarty will focus on network analysis of the membership.

Finally, the focus on business and agricultural commercialization has led to the development of a new seminar on "Culture and International Business," taught by Anita this spring term with Roy Crum in the College of Business.

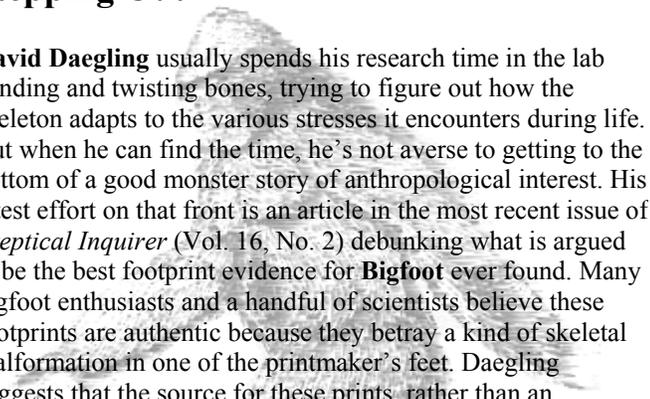
University Scholars 2002-03

Two UF undergraduate students were named University Scholar for 2002-2003. The Scholars program provides research

opportunities for advanced undergraduate students under the mentoring of UF faculty. Students are awarded a \$2500 stipend and present the results of their research at a symposium and in the on-line undergraduate research journal.

Erica Chambers will conduct a non-destructive paleodietary study of human skeletal remains dating to the Florida Archaic, a period of hunter-gatherer lifestyle dating to over 5,000 years ago. This research is strongly interdisciplinary in nature with collaboration with labs in Physics and Geology. The project will serve as a pilot study for this methodology

Stepping Out



David Daegling usually spends his research time in the lab bending and twisting bones, trying to figure out how the skeleton adapts to the various stresses it encounters during life. But when he can find the time, he's not averse to getting to the bottom of a good monster story of anthropological interest. His latest effort on that front is an article in the most recent issue of *Skeptical Inquirer* (Vol. 16, No. 2) debunking what is argued to be the best footprint evidence for **Bigfoot** ever found. Many bigfoot enthusiasts and a handful of scientists believe these footprints are authentic because they betray a kind of skeletal malformation in one of the printmaker's feet. Daegling suggests that the source for these prints, rather than an undiscovered giant ape, was probably the medical literature on pediatric orthopedics: enlargements of children's clubfoot deformities bear a striking resemblance to the allegedly crippled sasquatch, and were accessible to a would-be hoaxer when the tracks first appeared in 1969. Daegling teaches a course on the pervasiveness and persistence of pseudoscientific theories in anthropology called "**Fantastic Anthropology and Fringe Science.**" In this graduate seminar, students hone their critical skills and attempt to uncover logical and scientific fallacies underlying crank theories that often dominate the headlines.

in examining human paleodiet through trace element analysis. This research is original and may have significant results for future studies in human archaeological dietary studies. Erica's faculty mentor, John Krigbaum, has an active research program in paleodietary studies.

Cris Crookshanks will study the role of ancestor veneration in the mortuary practices of modern Yucatecan Maya and Mexican populations in Merida, Yucatan. This project will be conducted as part of a study abroad program in the Yucatan. Cris's study will involve visual

anthropology, forensic anthropology, and traditional ethnographic field methods to understand the role of death and cultural attitudes toward death in Yucatecan culture. Cris will also explore human attitudes towards death. The mentoring relationship with Allan Burns and various resources in the Yucatan will assure the success of this research.

Students in Diaspora Studies

Tracey Graham, Student Liaison, Zora Neale Hurston Diaspora Studies Research

In February the Zora Neale Hurston Diaspora Studies Program hosted its 1st **Annual Diaspora Circle**, which was open to students and faculty members. This was an opportunity for everyone to share in their research interest, as well as build upon a sense of community within the department. As **Dawn Banks** stated, "I really enjoyed myself. The Diaspora Circle gave me a stronger connection with individuals who are studying the Diaspora."

Several graduate students presented interesting papers for the department's Zora Neale Hurston Diaspora Spring Seminar Series. **Janie Johnson** presented a paper titled *Rodeo and Performing Black Identity*, and **Ed Shaw** presented *Creative Visual Expressions within Diaspora Studies*.

Antoinette Jackson and **Tracey Graham** will be presenting papers at the Zora Neale Hurston Society this May in Baltimore.

Students are also creating a Zora Neale Hurston Diaspora website, under the coordination of **Alana Lynch**.

This summer UF students are collaborating with the Gainesville community by presenting a Zora Neale Hurston display for the 23rd Annual 5th Avenue Arts Festival, May 18-19. Finally, Diaspora students are hosting a radio talk show on WRUF that will highlight Zora Neale Hurston's contributions to the field of Anthropology. *The Diaspora Students are on the move.*

Marvin Harris, 1927-2201

Marvin Harris, among the foremost anthropological theoreticians in the world, died from complications after hip surgery on October 25, 2001 in Gainesville, Florida, at age 74. From 1980 until his retirement in 2000, he was Graduate Research Professor of Anthropology at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1927, Harris received his undergraduate and graduate training at Columbia University where he earned his Ph.D. in 1953. He taught at Columbia from 1953 until 1980 and served a three-year term as chair of the Department of Anthropology.

Harris is best known as the originator of cultural materialism, a major theoretical paradigm and research strategy which has the goal of providing causal explanations for differences and similarities in cultural behavior among human populations around the world. Cultural patterns are understood as deriving from the practical problems of human existence. The paradigm, first introduced in *The Rise of Anthropological Theory* (1968), awaited its full elaboration and defense in his subsequent book, *Cultural Materialism: The Struggle for a Science of Culture* (1979). Both volumes were re-issued in 2001.

The application of his theoretical principles is found in his popular books written in a clear accessible style for a general audience—*Cows, Pigs, Wars and Witches* (1974), *Cannibals and Kings* (1977), *America Now* (orig. 1981), *Good To Eat* (1985), and *Our Kind* (1989). In all of them Harris provides scientific explanations for what he calls “the riddles of culture,” an approach that made him both highly influential and controversial.

Harris also wrote two widely used introductory textbooks that have gone through several editions each, *Culture, People and Nature* (1997) and *Cultural Anthropology* (2000, with Orna Johnson) Here too, a cultural materialist paradigm consistently informs the traditional topics covered in introductory texts.

In all, Harris published seventeen books collectively translated into fourteen

languages, including French, Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Norwegian, Finnish, Korean, Hebrew, Japanese, Chinese and Malaysian.

His field research carried him to four continents. In Brazil, Mozambique, India, and the U.S. Harris investigated racial categories, forced labor, the economic importance of sacred cows, the significance of food taboos and the causes of warfare, among other topics.

Having earned an early reputation for combativeness in defense of his



theoretical principles, Harris mellowed after arriving at the University of Florida. Both there and at Columbia he was a major force in training students in the science of anthropology. His popular theory courses were filled with

hard-driving debates and students who found his critical style invigorating.

A strong proponent of the four-field approach, Harris’s influence was not limited to cultural anthropology. As David Hearst Thomas has noted, “roughly half of the practicing American archaeologists consider themselves to be cultural materialists to one degree or another.” As a result of the forcefulness of his ideas elaborated in his many publications, Marvin Harris’s theoretical paradigm has become one of the best known in contemporary social science.

For many years Marvin and his wife Madeline summered on the Maine coast on Great Cranberry Island. Guests at their home were treated to memorable dinners, day-long fishing trips, and sunset cocktail cruises aboard the *Maddy Sue*, Marvin’s 36-foot antique “lobster yacht” built in 1932. His theoretical adversaries would have had a difficult time deconstructing Marvin’s penchant for sea chanties, freshly-caught fish, and the waters off Mount Desert Island.

In recognition of his academic achievements, Harris gave the 1990 Distinguished Lecture at the annual meetings of the American

Anthropological Association. He also served as president of the Association’s General Anthropology Division. Marvin Harris is survived by his wife, Madeline Harris, who lives in Gainesville, and his daughter, Susan Harris who lives in the San Francisco area.

Maxine L. Margolis

Marvin Harris Memorial

A memorial program celebrating the life and work of Marvin Harris, Graduate Research Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Latin American Studies at the University of Florida was held on Wednesday, January 30, 2002 at the Keene Faculty Lounge in Dauer Hall on the University of Florida campus. Memories of Marvin’s life and work were shared by his colleagues, students and friends during the memorial program. Speakers included faculty from the University of Florida, Russell Bernard, Allan Burns, Jerry Milanich, Helen Safa, Murdo MacLeod, John Moore, Jerry Murray, Mike Heckenberger, Paul Magnarella and Jim Stansbury. Remarks written by George Armelagos, Emory University; Betty Wagley Kottak and Conrad Kottak, University of Michigan; and Niles Eldridge, American Museum of Natural History, were also read. Assorted E-Mails from Marvin’s friends and colleagues were read by Maxine L. Margolis who organized the event along with Anita Spring.

Announcing the Marvin Harris Lecture Fund

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Florida is establishing an endowed Marvin Harris Lecture Fund, which will be used to bring distinguished scholars in the discipline to campus to present a public lecture. Please send your contributions to the Marvin Harris Lecture Fund-University of Florida Foundation, Department of Anthropology, PO Box 117305, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611

Florida Museum of Natural History

Kitty F. Emery (Ph.D. Cornell 1997) has recently joined the FLMNH as the new Curator of Environmental Archaeology (replacing Elizabeth Wing, now Curator Emeritus). Emery is an environmental archaeologist with a technical speciality in zooarchaeology, and her geographic focus is in the Maya world of Mesoamerica.



Recent research projects include zooarchaeological analyses of elite and rural assemblages from the sites of Aguacatal (Yucatan), Aguateca, Nakbe, El Mirador, and Piedras Negras (Guatemalan Peten), Urias (Guatemalan highlands), and Copan (Honduras), as well as a broader study of the economic parameters of Classic Maya natural resource use at Motul de San Jose (Guatemala) combining soil science, archaeobotany, and zooarchaeology.

Thanks to a lead grant from the Stans Foundation, the **Randell Research Center** (RRC) will build a teaching pavilion, walkways, and public restrooms at the Pineland site, near Fort Myers in southwest Florida in 2002. The RRC is a research and education program of the Florida Museum of Natural History. In 2001, Lee County purchased the historic Ruby Gill House, which has been leased to the Museum for use as RRC headquarters. For the first time, the RRC has its own office, meeting rooms, labs, and work areas right at the Pineland site. We are at 7450 Pineland Road, next to the Pineland post office. We invite you to come and see the RRC's new home whenever you can. Phone 941-283-2062



for information on tours and programs.

Archaeologist/ ethnohistorian **John E. Worth** has been hired to manage research and public programs at the RRC. A native of Georgia, John completed his Ph.D. at the University of Florida in 1992, and has written three books and many articles on the Indians of Florida and Georgia. He has a decade of experience in public archaeology and education at the Fernbank Museum in Atlanta and Coosawattee Foundation. His RRC duties involve managing and coordinating the development of the Center's public-education programs and facilities.

The Maple Hill Foundation has granted the RRC up to \$230,000 in operating expenses over the next five years while we make a concerted effort to build our endowment fund to its minimal goal of \$1,300,000. Once the RRC endowment is established, it will provide dependable annual income for future teaching, research, and public programs.

Bill Marquardt (Box 117800, Gainesville, FL 32611) while supplies last.

A new permanent exhibit in the Hall of South Florida People and Environments in UF's Powell Hall will open to the public on October 5, 2002. Five years in construction, the 6000-square-foot exhibit features a walk-through mangrove forest; a natural-habitats study center; a larger-than-life underwater walk-through exhibit; a gallery about southwest Florida's 6,000-year fishing heritage; an outdoor mound and village display; a palm-thatched building featuring the Calusa leader Carlos and his advisors; a gallery showcasing some of the most interesting objects in our collections from South Florida; and a gallery on South Florida Indian people today — the Seminole and Miccosukee.

Susan Milbrath is currently researching the Late Postclassic Maya site of Mayapan, working with Carlos Peraza of the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e

Menéndez's St. Augustine

Excavations are underway at the Pedro Menéndez fort and campsites in St. Augustine, under the direction of faculty member **Kathleen Deagan** and the field supervision of Anthropology graduate students **Al Woods** and **Deb Mullins**. The 2002 season of the ongoing Menéndez project is taking place at the Fountain of Youth Park tourist attraction in St. Augustine, where the original settlement of St. Augustine was established in 1565-66. Excavations in previous years have uncovered the remnants of palm thatch, barracks-like buildings that housed Spanish colonists, as well as barrel wells, trash pits, a defensive ditch, a lime kiln and more than 50,000 artifacts. The 2002 excavations are designed to test ground penetrating radar anomalies located by



UF Anthropology graduate students **John Schultz** and **Al Woods** earlier this year.

The anomalies are thought to represent large structural features representing the Timucua Indian council house that was commandeered by Menéndez in 1565, and refurbished as the first Spanish fort in Florida. The work is funded by the St. Augustine Foundation, Inc., the Florida Department of State Historic Preservation Grants in Aid program, and the Florida Museum of Natural History. Excavations take place Wednesday through Saturday each week through April. Both visitors and

on into the future. Calusa News no. 10 *Calusa News* no. 10 was published in November, 2001, and is available from

Historia, Merida, Yucatan. Recent excavations have revealed a number of very unusual murals and reliefs, indicating contact with Central Mexico. She is also collaborating with Anthony F. Aveni on an archaeoastronomy project at Mayapan, which has resulted in some interesting overlaps with the site of Chichen Itza. In her role as Curator of Latin American Art and Archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History, she is also working with **Beth Boyd**, a graduate student in anthropology, on an online data base of the museum's Precolumbian collection. And she is working on an anthropology related project with another graduate student in the Museum Studies program, **Sandie Starr**, who will curate an exhibit on the museum's Pearsall collection of North American Indian art and artifacts.

Jerald T. Milanich, curator in archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History and professor of anthropology, is continuing his long-term study of the Franciscan missions of Spanish Florida and their impact on the native peoples. Along with Lawrence Aten of the National Park Service, he also is carrying out research on Clarence B. Moore, a turn of the century archaeologist, who excavated literally thousands of sites in the Southeast United States. Many of the basic taxonomic culture units used by archaeologists in the Southeast today derive from Moore's work. Publishing endeavors include writing a number of popular articles for *Archaeology* magazine. In addition to serving as general editor for two University Press of Florida book series, Milanich is helping to edit the Southeast volume of the Smithsonian Institution's *Handbook of North American Indians*.

Become a Friend of Anthropology

Your financial gifts to the Department of Anthropology support scholarships, student travel, lecture series, and so much more. Please see insert in this issue for details on giving. Thank you!

KUDOS

Last fall **Susan Boinski** was named a *Jean and Robin Gibson Term Professor* in



recognition of her outstanding research and teaching contributions to UF. Bo has studied primates in Costa Rica, Peru, Argentina, and Brazil, and is in the midst of a long-term study on the

behavioral ecology of the eight species of Neotropical monkeys at Raleighvallen, a research site in the interior of Suriname in South America....**Brenda Chalfin** was one of 15 scholars from the US and abroad invited to be a member of the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton for the 2002-2003 academic year. The theme for the School's program is "Corruption" and Brenda will be in residence in Princeton to work on a book tentatively titled *Subversion, Sovereignty and State Survival: Working the Border in Ghana* based on her ethnographic study of the Ghana Customs Service....**Marianne Schmink** was awarded a CLAS Advising/Mentoring Award for 2001-2002. Congratulations Marianne....**Ann H. Ross**, post-doc at the C.A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory, received the first-ever Ellis R. Kerley Award for her paper *Population Specific Identification Criteria for Cuban Americans in South Florida*, which was presented at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences meeting in Atlanta.

Student Awards

Fred Smith won the Jay I. Kislak Prize for papers in Caribbean Studies....**Alex Rodlach** received a David Niddrie Award from UF's Center for African Studies....**J. Hale Gallardo** and **Kendall Campbell** were recipients of a Polly and Paul Doughty Awards....**Suzanne Abel** received a William R. Maples Scholarship.... **Roos Willems** was granted a Wenner-Gren Doctoral Research Award for fieldwork in Tanzania.... **Santiago Ruiz**, **Brad Ensor**, **Amber Yoder Wutich**, **J. Hale Gallardo** and **Kendall**

Campbell each won a Tinker Summer Field Award from UF's Center for Latin American Studies....**Ade Ofunniyin** received a Auzene Fellowship...**Kathleen Ragsdale** was granted a National Research Service Award for HIV Prevention...**Phoebe Stubblefield** received a 2001-2002 Ford Foundation Fellowship.... **Dawn Banks** received a fellowship from the Japan Foundation for ethnographic work last summer in Japan and a grant from a private donor to represent the International Research Foundation for Development at the 2001 United Nations World Conference Against Racism in South Africa....**John Schultz** won first place for the Social Sciences in the Graduate Student Council's Student Forum....**Tracy Swilley** was one a small number of students nationwide accepted to the 2002 NSF-sponsored University of Arizona Archaeological Field School.... The 2002 Patricia Essenpreis Award went to **Katherine Littig**... **Amanda Rosecrans** received the 2002 Brendan O'Sullivan Award for Outstanding Undergraduate... the College recognized **Terry Weik** for Outstanding Graduate Research; **Antoinette Jackson** for Outstanding Public Service; and **Tracey Graham** for Promoting Excellence in Service.... **Roberto Porro** was recognized by UF's International Center as an Outstanding International Student....recipients of 2002 Charles H. Fairbanks Awards for dissertation research include **Keith H. Ashley** for *Interaction, Migration, and Politics: The Changing Social Landscape of Northern Florida and Southern Georgia*; **Bradley E. Ensor's** for research on political developments within the Chontalpa region of Tabasco, México; **C. Andrew Hemmings** for research on Paleoindian diet and technological organization; and **Sharyn Jones O'Day's** for *Ethnoarchaeology of Food, Hierarchy, and Gender Roles in the Lau Islands, Fiji*... John Goggin Award winners for 2002 include **Nanette Barkey**, **David Kennedy**, **Noemi Miyasaka Porro**, **Mercedes Prieto**, **Kathleen Ragsdale**, **Samantha Stone**, **Phoebe Stubblefield**, **Rod Stubina**, and **Richard Wallace**.... Ruth McQuown scholarships were awarded this year to graduate student **Shuala Martin** and undergraduate **Lia Mitchell**.

Students explore the world of the Maya in Yucatan

The Yucatan exchange program, now in its 18th year, had a lively and enthusiastic group of students this past summer. The program is now part of the BEST teacher training program in the college of education and gives bilingual and ESL teachers a chance to live and understand another society. The six weeks of the program gave students a chance to explore Chiapas, snorkel on the reefs off of Cozumel, and explore new archaeology sites with University of Yucatan faculty. The home page projects students did this year included studies of graffiti in Merida, the informal economy, ethnomedicine, and education. Program directors **Mark Brenner** (LUECI) and **Allan Burns** are expanding the program to include veterinary medicine, dentistry, and medical students.



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