

ANTHROPOS

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

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HUMANS HAVE MORE IMPACT ON THE LANDSCAPE THAN RIVERS AND GLACIERS

Recently, University of Michigan geologist Bruce Wilkinson published an article in *Geology* that argued that human activities shift ten times as much material on the earth's surface as all natural geological processes put together.

Wilkinson based his calculations on both intentional land-moving processes, such as excavation and mining, and unintentional effects caused

by the erosion of cultivated land.

Wilkinson looked first at the rate at which sedimentary rock has been formed over the past billion years. Taking into account that such rocks are also steadily destroyed as one tectonic plate slides under another, he decided that, on average, the continents lose a few meters thickness of sediment every million years.

In contrast, human activity leads to a current average loss rate of 360 meters per million years. That's enough material to fill in the Grand Canyon in about 50 years.

Wilkinson notes that the pace of earth moving picked up exponentially in the last century with the advent of mechanization, but that this has been going on ever since the invention of intensive agriculture 10,000 years ago.

BOHLIN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO ANDREA FRANTZ

Andrea Frantz of Berwick will be the recipient of the Michelle Bohlin Memorial Scholarship in Anthropology for the Fall 2005 semester. Andrea was the unanimous choice of the anthropology faculty voting on this award.

The Bohlin scholarship was set up by department alumnus Jeff Bohlin in memory of his daughter, Michelle, who died on TWA flight #800 in 1997.

Andrea is a junior anthropology major who is also minoring in Spanish,

French, Latin American Studies and Ethnic Studies. She has recently received a Kozloff Award for Undergraduate Research for her work on Native American identity issues in Pennsylvania.

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ANDREA FRANTZ RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS INTERNSHIP

Junior anthropology major Andrea Frantz has recently been notified that she has been accepted as a fieldwork intern with the Field Museum in Chicago for May and June 2005. She will be part of a crew conducting archaeological survey, mapping, and excavation at a site in Oaxaca, Mexico under the direction of Dr. Gary Feinman, chairman of the Department of Anthropology at the Field Museum. The position Andrea will hold is normally reserved for a first or second year graduate student, but she was selected for the position based on her outstanding record of undergraduate academic achievement at Bloomsburg.

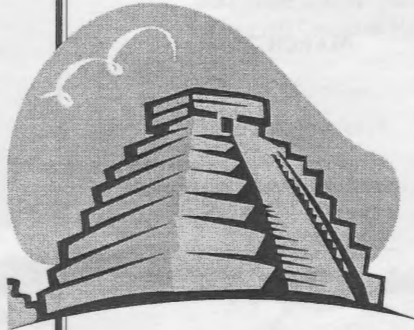
Dr. Feinman is one of the premier figures in American archaeology. He has spent the last 20 years conducting archaeological research in Oaxaca, focusing on regional settlement patterns. His current research is focused on

the site of El Palmillo, a large hilltop terrace site in the eastern Valley of Oaxaca. The site dates from the Classic Period (AD 200-800). Since 1995, Dr. Feinman has also been part of a collaborative team of North American and Chinese scholars studying the Late Neolithic through the Han periods in Shandong, China. In addition to his post at the Field Museum, Dr. Feinman also holds a chair at Shandong University in China and is an Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at Northwestern University. He previously taught at the University of Wisconsin. He has published or coauthored numerous books and articles on the archaeology of Oaxaca. In 2001, he co-edited Archaeology at the Millenium: A Sourcebook with T. Douglas Price for Kluwer

Academic Press, an overview of the discipline of prehistoric archaeology.

Last year, Andrea Frantz co-authored and presented a paper at the Northeastern Anthropological Association meetings which won the prize as best undergraduate paper. She will be presenting her most recent work, based on a study of Native American identity issues, at the NEAA meetings next month in Lake Placid, NY. She is also designing and constructing an exhibit on the Native Americans of Pennsylvania for the Bloomsburg Children's Museum. Andrea is from Berwick, PA.

THIS INTERNSHIP
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STUDENT.



GRADUATE SCHOOLS IN ANTHROPOLOGY RANKED

Two years ago, ANTHROPOS reported on a report which ranked the 69 Ph.D. programs in this country from 1 to 69. That report was based on reported perceptions of university administrators and graduate faculty. At the time, the top ten programs were (from 1-10): Harvard, Chicago, Michigan, UCLA, Berkeley, SUNY-Stony Brook, Arizona, Penn State, Penn, and Washington University in St. Louis.

More recently another ranking has been called to the editor's attention. This one is based on surveys carried out by the National Association of Graduate/Professional Students. The rankings are based on responses given by graduate students enrolled in these programs. Several categories are given. For overall satisfaction, the rankings were (1) Washington University;



(2-tie) Michigan, Penn State; and (4-tie) UC-Santa Barbara & Arizona State.

The best mentoring programs were deemed to be (1) Arizona State, (2) Washington U, (3) Arizona, (4) Santa Barbara, and (5) Penn State.

The programs that did the best job of controlling the time taken to get a degree were (1) Washington U; (2) Virginia; (3) Yale; (4) Santa Barbara; and (5) Pittsburgh.

The best schools for career guidance and placement were (1) CUNY; (2-tie) Washington U and Santa Barbara; (4) Stony Brook; and (5) Penn State.

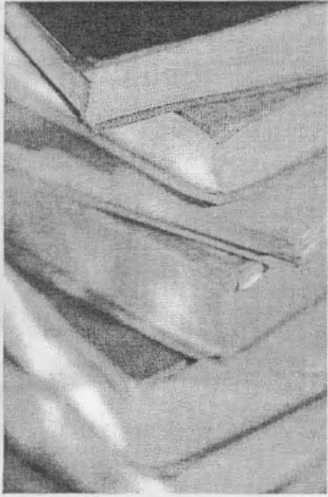
GRADUATE
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STATE.

For teaching preparation, the top schools were (1) Massachusetts; (2-tie) Harvard & Virginia; (4) Michigan and (5) UCLA.

The schools that did the best job of broadly preparing students for a career in the discipline were (1) Penn State; (2) CUNY; (3-tie) Washington U. and Georgia; and (5) Florida.

Finally the schools that provided the best information for prospective students were (1) Virginia; (2-tie) Washington U and Santa Barbara; (4) CUNY; and (5) Stony Brook.

DR. WYMER PUBLISHES...



Dr. Wymer has recently had published chapters in two books. In The Emergence of the Moundbuilders: The Archaeology of Tribal Societies in Southeastern Ohio (Elliot M. Abrams and Ann Corinne Freter, eds), her chapter is entitled "Late Prehistoric Agriculture and Land Use in the Hocking Volume." She also has a chapter, "organic Preservation on Prehistoric Artifacts of the Ohio Hopewell," in Perishable Material Culture in the Northeast, edited by Penelope Ballard Drooker and published by the New York State Museum. Earlier this semester, Dr. Wymer presented a talk on her work in Egypt last summer for the Committee on Women's Issues.

DR. DAURIA PRESENTS...



Recently, Dr. Dauria presented a paper as part of a panel titled "Negotiating Literacy and Identity," for the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Urban Ethnography's 26th Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum in Philadelphia. Her presentation focused on the history of migrant education projects at Bloomsburg University.

In February, Dr. Dauria traveled to Amsterdam, NY as an invited scholar-consultant for a new industrial exhibit for the Walter Elwood Museum. This exhibit is being funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and will open this summer.

ANTHROPOLOGY CLUB PRESENTS FACULTY PROGRAMS



The Anthropology Club will present four faculty talks during the months of March and April. Dr. Wymer spoke on employment opportunities with anthropology students who do not wish to go on to graduate school on March 3. Dr. Beaulieu will discuss gender problems in her research in Bolivia in a talk on March 22 at 5 PM. Dr. Minderhout will talk about his field research in the Caribbean at 5:30 on March 30. Dr. Froemming will speak on his field experiences in Peru on April 14 at 4 PM. All the talks will be in the Anthropology Lab, 146 CEH.

LAMBDA ALPHA SCHOLARSHIP NOMINEES SELECTED

Sharon Cabana and Joanna Salicki have been selected as the department's nominees for the national scholarship awards of the Lambda Alpha honorary society for anthropology. Ms. Cabana was nominated for the senior award, the National Lambda Alpha Scholarship, which carries a \$5000 base award. Ms. Salicki was nominated for the junior award, the Lambda Alpha National Dean's List Scholarship, which carries a base award of \$1000. Dr. Warner, the faculty Lambda Alpha advisor, personally chose the nominees.



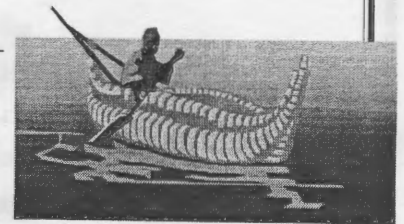
A NEW FACULTY MEMBER FOR FALL 2005

The Department of Anthropology is pleased to announce that Dr. Conrad Quintyn has accepted the tenure-track position in anthropology which begins with the Fall 2005 semester. Dr. Quintyn is a biological anthropologist with a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. His Ph.D. dissertation was entitled The Morphometric Affinities of the Qafzeh and Skhul Hominids; his Ph.D. advisor was C. Loring Brace, a world-renown biological anthropologist. In addition, Dr. Quintyn has a background in forensic anthropology, having worked at the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, identifying the remains of U.S. servicemen from World War II, Korea and Vietnam. We are looking forward to what he will bring to our program.

DR. CONRAD
QUINTYN WILL
BE THE 6TH
FACULTY MEMBER
IN
ANTHROPOLOGY.

DR. BEAULE RECEIVES A POST-DOC

Dr. Christine Beaulé has received a postdoctoral teaching fellowship with Duke University for the Fall 2005 semester. She will be teaching several intensive seminars on academic writing entitled "The Archaeology of Urbanism: Communication in the Ancient City" with the University Writing Program there. Dr. Beaulé has also been awarded a research grant by the Heinz Grant Program in Latin American Archaeology for her project in highland Bolivia. This summer, she and her crew will be excavating households and non-domestic features at the site of Condor Chinoka. This work will be used to design a larger three-year project proposal.





JOANNA SALICKI SELECTED FOR ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT IN SCOTLAND

Junior anthropology major Joanna Salicki has been selected to join a project sponsored by Pennsylvania State University's Department of Anthropology. This summer, Salicki will be traveling to two remote islands located off the northern tip of Scotland to participate in the North Orkney Population History Project. Funded by a National Science Foundation grant, the project will reconstruct changes in the population, settlement and landscape use over the past 300 years by integrating information from archaeology, history and cultural anthropology. The National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduate Awards will cover her expenses as she conducts archaeological explorations of the island and interviews members of the current population.

OLDEST FOSSIL HUMAN PROTEIN EVER SEQUENCED

Researchers in Germany recently announced that they had extracted and sequenced protein from a Neanderthal skeleton from Shanidar Cave, Iraq, dating to approximately 75,000 years ago. Protein sequences can be used in a similar way to DNA to provide information on the genetic relationships between extinct and living species. As ancient DNA rarely survives, this method opens up new possibilities for assessing genetic relationships among species. The researchers found that the protein sequence was the same in Neanderthals as it is in modern humans and chimpanzees. The sequence was different from what is found in gorillas and monkeys. This is consistent with current thinking on human origins.

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SSHE UNDERGRADUATE ANTHROPOLOGY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT BU.

This year's SSHE Undergraduate Anthropology Research Conference will be held at Bloomsburg April 16 and 17. Students planning to present papers are required to submit abstracts of no more than 250 words by April 1, 2005. Abstracts should be e-mailed to sshe2005@hotmail.com. Interested students should see anthropology faculty members for copies of the call for papers and the abstract forms. Dr. Warner is the faculty organizer for the conference with the aid of senior anthropology majors Sharon Cabana and Brandi Burlingame.

CASSAVA POISONING

A news story on March 10 illustrated some interesting facts about cross-cultural nutritional practices. It was reported that 27 elementary school children died in the Philippines after eating fried cassava roots; another estimated 100 students were reportedly receiving hospital care. The roots had been sold by a vendor stationed outside the school. There was apparently no malicious intent involved; the deaths appear to be accidental due to improper preparation of the cassava.

Cassava or manioc is a commonly grown food crop in tropical regions of the world. The roots will grow in water-logged soils and do not require much sunlight, thus making them ideal for tropical agriculture. They are a rich source of carbohydrates and are an important dietary item, if supple-



-mented by a protein source.

The problem is that cassava is poisonous. It contains cyanide, sometimes in truly potent amounts. Tropical people who rely on cassava as a food source often distinguish between bitter and sweet cassava. Sweet cassava contains less than 100 parts per million of cyanide (below which a dose is not lethal to humans); bitter cassava contains more than 100 ppm—some varieties contain as much as 400 ppm. Tropical cultures have learned to detoxify cassava by grinding or pounding the root and soaking the pulp in water. The cyanide leaches into the water, which is then thrown off. Multiple soakings are usually required to reduce the cyanide content to below a lethal

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dose. The resulting flour can be fried or baked. In some studies, anthropologists have found that people will prefer the taste of the bitter varieties over the sweet—but then, there's no accounting for taste.

In the Philippine tragedy, the roots had been caramelized and fried, but not processed to remove enough of the cyanide. Children who ate the snacks became ill only 10 to 15 minutes after ingestion. Victims suffered severe stomach pain, vomiting and diarrhea. One can only wonder when and how people learned to convert cassava into food.



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SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. David Minderhout, Editor
Department of Anthropology
Room 150 Centennial Hall

Phone: 389-4859
Fax: 389-5015
Email: dminderh@bloomu.edu

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ANTHROPOLOGY IS THE STUDY OF
HUMANS.

ANTHROPOS, the Anthropology Newsletter is published six times during the academic year and is mailed to interested students, faculty, administrators, and alumni. It is also distributed in anthropology classes on campus and made available on the department's home page. If you would like to be on the newsletter mailing list, please contact Dr. Dave Minderhout at the address and numbers on the left.

The Department of Anthropology offers a 36 credit B.A. degree and an 18 credit minor in anthropology. If you would like to see details, please see any of the anthropology faculty.

ANTHROPOLOGY COURSE OFFERINGS FALL 2005

Dr. Aletto:	the Child—TuTh 2	46.385—Anthro Research/Writing
46.200 Principles of Cultural Anthropology—MWF 10, 11	Dr. Minderhout :	
46.210 Prehistoric Archaeology—Tu 6:30-9:30	46.102 Anthropology & World Problems—MWF 9	
46.310 Aztecs & Mayas TuTh 3:30	46.200—Tu 6:30-9:30	
Dr. Dauria:	46.480 Religion & Magic—TuTh 12:30	
46.101 Intro to Anthropology—MWF 9	Dr. Wymer:	
46.200—TuTh 8, 11	46.210—TuTh 9:30	
46.390 Socialization of	46.340—Native North Americans—TuTh 2	

FYI: There will be several changes in these course offerings before Fall 2005 due to Dr. Minderhout's becoming chair, Dr. Quintyn's addition to the staff, and Dr. Warner's being on sabbatical.

