



# Signs & Symbols

Spring 2015 • VOLUME 14

Newsletter of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology



Eagle Ford Shale from NASA Suomi Satellite. (Source: geology.com/articles/eagle-ford/)

## Hydraulic fracturing for Illinois oil, or fracking in a nutshell

by William Rau, professor emeritus

Since retiring, I have become increasingly active as a liaison between the Unitarian Church and Illinois People's Action (IPA). IPA is an ecumenical, faith-based organization with immigration reform, economic equity, and anti-fracking campaigns. I strongly identify with IPA's efforts to build people power for the poor and immigrants because my first post-collegiate job involved voter mobilization with Martin Luther King Jr.'s organization. Different organization, same justice agenda.

When IPA decided to fight fracking, I was all in. As an industrial sociologist, I knew a fair amount about the oil industry. A pollution-intensive, rural industry, frackers play in industrial sociology's ballpark—and no sociologist likes the outcomes.

What is "fracking"? Illinois oil fracks involve vertical boreholes of 4,000 to 8,000 feet. Drilling then turns horizontally with lateral extensions of 3,500 to 5,000 feet through dense rock. "Tight oil" in less permeable rock will not flow to the bore-

hole. So, rock is hydraulically fractured by injecting highly pressurized water. A "proppant," silica sand or Chinese-manufactured ceramic beads, holds open the fissures. Fracking increases the permeability of fine-grained, oil-saturated rock; oil can then flow to a well.

Thus far, four billion barrels of Illinois oil have been "conventionally" extracted from shallow, vertical wells at depths of 500 to 3,500 feet. These wells target oil-saturated sandstone and limestone, porous and permeable rocks allowing oil to flow freely and cheaply to a vertical borehole. In contrast, tight oil is an expensive, "bottom of the barrel" hydrocarbon.

The cheap, conventional oil is mostly gone leaving Illinois with a dying oil industry. Peaking at 147.6 million barrels in 1940, Illinois oil production had dropped to 9.5 million barrels in 2013.

Oilmen hope to turn things around by finding frackable oil in deeper strata. Since most deeper Illinois strata have lacked systematic exploration, these hopes have wildcatter allure.

Here are some reasons why we fight fracking:

**Radioactivity.** Illinois has highly radioactive oil fields with dangerous levels of radium found in oil tank sludge. Radium is likely to also turn up in

## Notes from the chair

by James Skibo, Distinguished Professor and chair

As an archaeologist I know that change is inevitable and it certainly has been a year of transitions in the department. As you have noticed from the byline, Fred Smith stepped down as chair at the start of the 2014 school year and I was asked to step in for two years. Fred did a wonderful job during his time as chair and he has left me with big shoes to fill. The good news is that he left the department in wonderful shape and he is still teaching for us. In 2013 Fred was also named a University Professor to go along with his many other accolades. Well done, Fred, and thank you for your service.

Elizabeth Scott retired in December 2013 after many years of instruction in our department. She chaired many master's committees during her tenure and was instrumental in developing the MA/MS in historical archaeology. Teri Farr, our long-time undergraduate coordinator and assistant to the chair, also left us this year for a position at Eastern Illinois University. She served our students extremely well during her time with us and she has been missed. But we were lucky to snag Ryan Gray away from the Department of English, where he was the English education advisor. Ryan has many years of advising experience and exciting new ideas for the department. He has already had a positive impact on our department.

Doris Jennings in the main office also retired this past summer after many years of service. We certainly miss her warm smile. Trish Gudeman has joined us and she has fit right in. We are sad to see Doris go, but we certainly appreciate that Trish has stepped in and is doing a wonderful job!

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I also have some sad news as a few members of our extended departmental family have passed away. Bob Walsh (see Bill Tolone's obituary) was a longtime chair of the department (he hired me), and both he and his wife, Judy, passed away this past year. Howard Ernest, husband of Katie Sampeck, also passed away this year. We were certainly saddened by the news, and I know that you will join me in offering our condolences.

Besides the difficult transitions in our department, there will also be some new faces for the fall of 2016. We are hiring a new archaeologist and are jointly hiring a faculty member with the women's and gender studies program. This is an indication that the Department of Sociology and Anthropology is valued by the University and is moving forward in exciting ways. As you read this issue of *Signs & Symbols* you will note that there is a lot to be proud of as we approach the 50th anniversary of the founding of our department at Illinois State University.

## Sociology and Anthropology Donor roll

January 1, 2013–

December 31, 2013

Anonymous

Michael and Margaret Allen

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drill cuttings, oil well pipes and equipment—but testing is presently not required. In fact, oil operators can landspread untested, radium-laced tank bottoms sludge across farmland, where it can bio-accumulate in plants, or spread it as “road oil” on well access roads, where it can turn to inhalable dust.

**Floodplains and earthquake zones.** Large tracts inside the *Illinois 100 Year Floodplain* are being leased for fracking, and the Wabash Valley and New Madrid earthquake zones in Southern Illinois overlap the *100 Year Floodplain*. These quake zones have had, and will have, devastating land and river reshaping Magnitude 7 earthquakes. The four M7+ New Madrid quakes of 1811–1812 did just that while liquefying soil in floodplains; geyser-like eruptions extended up to 100 feet into the air.

Google *Colorado flood* and *fracking photos* to see what flooded and fracked areas look like. Then imagine a big quake-generated destruction plus flooding of frack sites.

**Air pollution.** Flaring oil-associated methane, and volatile organic compound (VOCs) emissions from oil tanks create health damaging, even fatal levels of air pollution. Infant mortality has increased in heavily fracked areas, and at least five workers were killed in 2013 by poisonous gases venting from oil tanks. Extensive flaring in major frack areas now lights up night skies and degrades air quality in nearby cities—Eagle Ford's contribution to San Antonio, for example.

**Water contamination.** Toxic, oilfield brine has destroyed and will destroy aquifers. Ask residents of Poplar, Montana. They lost their aquifer to brine contamination, and an unfolding investigation found nine brine injection wells dumped 3 billion gallons of arsenic- and thallium-laced waste into aquifers in California's Central Valley. Thallium is a rat poison. Not good for the irrigated Central Valley veggies sold at your grocery.

Want more on pollution and health effects of fracking? Google Concerned Health Professionals of New York's (*CHPNY*) *Compendium* and *PACWA's List of the Harmed*.

This is “fracking in a nutshell.” IPA has the will to stop it but we need more bodies; only people power will shut down this pollution-spewing, climate-destroying machine.

If you have some time to spare, call us at (309) 827-9627 and join the movement to prevent run-away climate change.

## Undergraduate advising office news

by Ryan Gray, undergraduate advisor

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new assistant to the department chair and

undergraduate advisor. I took over in March 2014 for Teri Farr when she moved on the position of director of advising at Eastern Illinois University. I've been advising for over 14 years, first at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and most recently in the English Department at Illinois State University. I'm thrilled to be in this position and have enjoyed my first months here immensely! I've been extremely impressed with our students. They are such a diverse and interesting group of students to work with. The students, faculty, and staff are absolutely wonderful.

I've been keeping quite busy advising our approximately 350 majors, assisting them as they progress toward graduation and move into successful careers or onto graduate or professional schools. In addition to advising, admissions, enrollment management, course scheduling, and working with alumni keep me quite busy. I also teach the career class for sociology majors to help them identify what they want to do as a career as well as conduct a successful job search. We hope to expand this class in the next year to the anthropology majors.

We've also partnered with the Career Center, as well as other departments in the College of Arts and Sciences, to offer an informational panel titled “What Are You Going to Do With THAT Degree?” This alumni panel interacts with students highlighting the transferrable skills they learned and how they are applying them to their current and past careers. It's a great event for students to learn how their degree can be applied to a wide variety of diverse careers.

One of the initiatives we're working on is expanding our internship opportunities. We're hoping to get more students into new internship positions in corporations where anthropology and sociology majors can utilize their unique skills. My ultimate goal is to get an anthropology or sociology major in an internship at Google. I know, it's a lofty goal, but I think we can do it!

Be on the lookout in 2015 as our new website goes live. We will also include a new Facebook page for the department. Please stay in touch and let us know what you are doing. We'd like to begin featuring recent alumni highlighting what they are doing know. If you return to campus, please stop by and say hi.

## Anthropology undergraduate program news

by Gina Hunter, associate professor and anthropology undergraduate program coordinator

Spring 2014 was an especially exciting semester for the anthropology program at Illinois State

University because we hosted the Central States Anthropology Society's (CSAS) Annual Meeting at the Marriott Conference Center in Uptown Normal. Professor James Stanlaw, CSAS president, and Professor Nobuko Adachi organized a fabulous program with support from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the College of Arts and Sciences.

A number of our faculty, current students, and recent graduates presented research papers. The conference was well-attended and included a barn dance on Friday night, and a formal banquet and an Indian classical dance performance on Saturday night. Distinguished linguistic anthropologist Michael Silverstein from the University of Chicago presented the keynote address.

Later in the semester, at our annual awards luncheon, we recognized the achievements of many of our students. Fifteen anthropology undergraduate and graduate students were inducted into the Lambda Alpha International Honors Society: Emily Blue, Sarah Caldwell, Tarra Craig, Ian Fricker, Alison Hodges, Travis Huls, Katherine Lacy, Elizabeth Manella, Andrew Mallo, Amanda Miller, Kayleigh Newman, Eric Randolph, Cori Rich, Joshua Rotkovich, and Heather Sells. Two students received the Ed Jelks Outstanding Senior Award: Kareem Zahra and Emily Blankenberger. This award, named to honor the founder of our anthropology program, recognizes students who have achieved top scores in anthropology courses while also participating in community service and contributing to the anthropology program in significant ways.

For over 30 years, the anthropology undergraduate program has required the completion of an undergraduate thesis from every graduate. We are one of few universities in the country to require this of every student—not just those in our Honors Program. Students develop their theses with assistance from the senior thesis instructors and a faculty mentor; then students read and edit each other's work in small writing groups. At the end of the semester, students have a publishable quality thesis and must participate in an oral defense in front of



2014 graduates (with faculty) at the annual Rites of Passage, held at Lucca Grille in downtown Bloomington

the faculty. In spring 2014, 16 students completed their senior theses, and we were delighted to award two students, Kayleigh Newman and Elizabeth Koch, with an Outstanding Thesis Award.

The semester ended, as usual, with our Annual Rites of Passage at Lucca Grille in downtown Bloomington. With face painting, pizza, and the performance of "secret rituals," we sent our 2014 graduates off in style.

## Undergraduate student recognition

The department's 14th annual Student Awards Ceremony and Luncheon was held April 18, 2014, at the Alumni Center in Normal. Many students, parents, and departmental faculty members were in attendance for this special event. The Department



Dean's List students: Shelby Rogers (left), Kayleigh Newman, Amanda Miller, Zachary Houchins, Charles Egner II, Stephanie Voorhees, Jeremy Zaucha, and Greg Simpson (College of Arts and Sciences Dean).

of Sociology and Anthropology is very proud of all of our award recipients. They work very hard to achieve their academic goals, as evidenced by the awards that they receive, and should be duly congratulated for their efforts.

Following are the award recipients:

### Dean's List

Tamilyn Banno  
Emily Blue  
Abdelkarim Daiya  
Diana Davellis  
Charles Egner II  
Jordan Frey  
Collin Goetsch  
Chelsea Gutchewsky  
Zachary Houchins  
Reilly Jaeger  
Ann Johnson

Amanda Miller  
Breanna Morgan  
Samuel Munier  
Kayleigh Newman  
Shelby Rogers  
Eric Stegemann  
Stephanie Voorhees  
David Watt  
Catherine Wheeler  
Kareem Zahra  
Jeremy Zaucha

*Donor roll, continued*

Sandra Flanagan  
Patricia and Ronald Fogle  
John Frattinger  
Deanna Glosser  
Cristina Greenwell  
Dan and Linda Hampton  
Thomas and Ann Hayner  
Ronald Herro and Diane Spencer-Herro  
Michelle and Malcolm Holmes  
James and Linda Hunter  
R. Douglas and Janice Irvine  
Deborah Jackson-Crawford  
Robert Jenkins and Suzanne Morrah  
Dennis and Janice Johnson  
Verlon Jordan  
Karl Kappus  
Klauer Foundation Trust  
Meri and Roy Knapp  
Monte and Patricia Law  
Mary and Rusty Lepley  
Daniel and Dianna Lienard  
Cameron Main  
Janice and Jerry Malak  
Marykellie Marquez  
Angela and Reid McDowell  
Alice Morrissey  
Dawn Mozingo  
Linda and Paul Olszak  
Craig and Jennifer Planson  
Catherine and Matt Praxmarer  
Bob and Stacy Ramsey  
Debra Reeves-Howard and Andrew Howard  
Janis Roberts-Durkin and Thomas Durkin  
Douglas and Mary Roley  
Joseph Saracini  
Timothy and Laura Saterfield  
Scott Seiler  
Fred and Maria Smith  
Lisa and Eric Solak  
Susan Sprecher and Charles Fisher  
Karen and Robert Stanuch  
Paul Storck  
Angelica Taylor  
Tara Testolin  
Nicole Truong and Jason Keller  
Laura Wagreich  
Robert Walsh\*  
Joan and Bill Warrick  
Chardai Washington  
Philip Webb and Cathy Freitag-Webb  
Jeffrey Wheeler  
Elizabeth Wickes  
Lawrence and Patricia Winn  
Rebecca and Richard Young  
\*Deceased

## Dates to remember

### March

- 25–28.. American Association of Physical Anthropologists, St. Louis
- 26–29.. Midwest Sociological Society meeting, Kansas City, Missouri

### April

- 15–19.. Society for American Archaeology meeting, San Francisco

### May

- 1 ..... SOA Student Awards Ceremony and Luncheon
- 2 ..... Last day of classes
- 2–8..... Final exam week
- 8–9..... Commencement
- 11 ..... Summer interim classes begin
- 13 ..... Grades due at noon
- 18 ..... Summer classes begin
- 25 ..... Memorial Day—university is closed
- 29 ..... Summer interim classes end

### July

- 3 ..... Independence Day holiday observed—University is closed

### August

- 7 ..... Summer session ends
- 12 ..... Summer grades due



Alpha Kappa Delta inductees: Richard Sullivan (faculty co-advisor and associate professor of sociology) (back left), Lauren Thompson, Kelsie Diaz, Louise Koehler, Holly Phillips, Shelby Rogers, Christopher Roehl, Jennifer Swick, Chelsey Bozarth (front) and Maria Schmeeckle (faculty co-advisor and associate professor of sociology)

### Alpha Kappa Delta inductees

Chelsey Bozarth	Christopher Roehl
Kelsie Diaz	Shelby Rogers
Louise Koehler	Jennifer Swick
Sarah Lieb	Lauren Thompson
Holly Phillips	Jason Wojcik



Lambda Alpha Inductees: Cori Rich (left), Kayleigh Newman, Amanda Miller, Ian Fricker, Sarah Caldwell, Tarra Craig, Alison Hodges, Katherine Lacy, and Andrew Mallo

### Lambda Alpha inductees

Emily Blue	Andrew Mallo
Tarra Craig	Amanda Miller
Sarah Caldwell	Kayleigh Newman
Ian Fricker	Erin Randolph
Alison Hodges	Cori Rich
Travis Huls	Joshua Rotkvich
Katherine Lacy	Heather Sells
Elizabeth Manella	



Ed Jelks Outstanding Anthropology Senior Emily Blankenberger and Fred Smith (former department chair)



Ed Jelks Outstanding Anthropology Senior Kareem Zahra and Fred Smith (former department chair)

### 2013–2014 Ed Jelks Outstanding Anthropology Senior

Emily Blankenberger      Kareem Zahra

### Gerontology Scholarship

Melissa Buehler



Assistant Professor of Sociology Michael Dougherty with John Kinneman Scholarship recipient Christopher Roehl

### John Kinneman Scholarship

Christopher Roehl



Joan Brehm, professor of sociology and coordinator of sociology graduate program, with Department Charter Graduate Student Excellence Award recipient Shikshya Adhikari

### Department Charter Graduate Student Excellence Award

Shikshya Adhikari



J. Dalton Stevens Jr. (left) (R. Douglas and Janice Luecke Irvine Scholarship recipient) with Janice Luecke-Irvine and R. Douglas Irvine

**R. Douglas and Janice Luecke Irvine Scholarship**  
J. Dalton Stevens, Jr.

**Outstanding Senior Thesis Award**

Elizabeth Koch Kayleigh Newman



Central States Anthropological Society Department Travel Award recipients: Lucas Chamberlain (left), Katie Kurtenbach, Kayleigh Newman, and Anthropology Professor James Stanlaw

**Central States Anthropological Society Department Travel Award**

Lucas Chamberlain Kayleigh Newman  
Travis Huls Joshua (J.T.) Travis  
Katie Kurtenbach Jacqueline Vermaat

**ISU anthropologists host 2014 CSAS meetings in Normal**

*by Professor Jim Stanlaw, president, Central States Anthropological Society*

The 91st Annual Meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society (CSAS) was held at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel and Conference Center April 10-12, 2014. It was sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Illinois State University, and the program chair and local contact were faculty members Jim Stanlaw and Nobuko Adachi.

Professional anthropologists and students were invited to present and hear papers, give poster presentations, and participate in workshops and roundtables in all four subfields of anthropology (cultural anthropology, biological anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics). This meeting was an opportunity for anthropologists throughout the greater Midwest—though there were also participants from

Africa and Europe—to meet, talk, and network together in a formal environment, and through several informal activities (a dance, an evening banquet, an Indian classical music concert, and an ethnographic planetarium show).

Almost 200 scientific papers were given, including 40 panel sessions and five workshops, and Illinois State University was actively represented. Five ambitious anthropology undergrads presented professional papers, something even relatively uncommon for graduate students. Kayleigh Newman (“Analyzing Power Relationships and Care for the Homeless”) was based on her year of fieldwork conducted for her senior thesis. Katie Kurtenbach and Jacqueline Vermaat (“A Comprehensive Analysis of Linear Enamel Hypoplasia in the Schroeder Mounds Skeletons”) was a look at a special skeletal sample at Illinois State University. Lucas Chamberlain (“Environmental Issues in Modern Japanese Society: A Case Study and Test of the Theory of Cultural Ecology”) was also based on his senior thesis research. J.T. Travis, along with Thomas Crist of Utica College, analyzed “Cases of Metabolic Deficiency, Rickets, From 18th and 19th Century Bucharest, Romania.” All these students received a special award and recognition for their efforts at our annual department luncheon in April.

Three former students of the Illinois State University anthropology program also participated in this year’s events. Laura Cunningham presented “Warrior Goddesses and Matronly Allies: An Exploration of Sex, Class, and Leadership in an American Subculture” based on her thesis of last year, as did Ashley Purpura (“One Man’s Diesel Dyke Is Another Woman’s Beyoncé”). Evan Brown, who now teaches at Ivy Tech Community College offered a workshop on “Education Reform, Teaching, and Anthropology.”

Many anthropology faculty were also busy at the conference. Nobuko Adachi organized a panel (“Invisible Discrimination and Hidden Oppression Toward Persons of Asian Descent”), which also included her paper (“Japanese Brazilian Macaco Velho and the Positive Minority in Brazil”). Nicholas Hartlep from the College of Education also participated on this panel. Livia Stone, Abigail Stone, and Jim Stanlaw conducted the workshop “Grades, Grants, and Grad School: Advice About Getting Into Anthropology MA and Ph.D. Programs” for students contemplating going on to graduate school. Gina Hunter was a discussant for the panel “The Ethnography of Women and Their Appearance.” Kathryn Sampeck commented on the session “Discoveries in Classical and Historical Archeology.” Livia Stone was a discussant for “Queer and Performance and Borderlands, Oh My: Classic Theory and Sexual Subcultures.” Maria Smith chaired, and was discussant for, the “New Topics in Bioarchaeology” session.

**Scott Elliott Endowment for Sociology and Anthropology**

Scott Elliott was a 1985 graduate of Illinois State University that minored in sociology. He established an endowed fund to help support the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The department has decided to use these funds to support students who are traveling to present their scholarly work at professional meetings. Recipients of this year’s Scott Elliott awards and titles of their presentations are listed below.

**Sarah Boncal**

American Association of Physical Anthropologists Annual Meeting  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada–April 2014  
Presented poster “Implications of Vertebral Degenerative Disease and Vertebral Ligamentous Ossification in Native Populations of the Lower Tennessee River Valley”

**Sarah Caldwell**

American Association of Physical Anthropologists Annual Meeting  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada–April 2014  
Presented poster “Effects of Cold Adaptation on the Growth and Development of the Neandertal Cranial Base”

**Ian Fricker**

Midwest Archaeological Conference  
Columbus, Ohio–October 2013  
Presented paper “Kitchen Confidential: Initial Observations of Ceramic Vessel Use at the Late Prehistoric Noble-Wieting Site.”

**Alison Hodges**

Southeastern Archaeological Annual Conference  
Tampa, FL–November 2013  
Presented poster “Early Mississippian Mound Use and Occupation at Hiwassee Old Town (4OPK3)”

**Katherine Lacy**

American Association of Physical Anthropologists Annual Meeting  
Calgary, Alberta Canada–April 2014  
Presented poster “The Effect of

*Ellio endowment ... continued from Page 5*

Plastic Remodeling on Mandibular Lingular Morphology: Implications for Paleoanthropological Population Studies”

### **Andrew Licht Mallo**

Midwest Archaeological Conference  
Columbus, Ohio—October 2013  
Presented paper “Squeezing the Past Out of the Archaeological Record: A Summary of the 2012–2013 Field Investigations on Grand Island, Michigan”

### **Jon (Ben) McNair**

Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting  
Omaha, Nebraska—April 2014

Presented papers “(In)Voluntary Change: Returned Sojourner Identity in Everyday Life” and “(In)Voluntary Change: Exploring Sojourner Identity Formation Through Still Images”

### **Germaine Mosher**

Midwest Bioarcheology and Forensic Anthropology Association Annual Meeting

Columbus, Ohio—November 2013

Presented poster “The Children of Hacker South Mound 2: A Community Health Survey”

### **Deborah Neidich**

American Association of Physical Anthropologists Annual Meeting  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada—April 2014

Presented poster “Basket Cases: Temporal Comparison of the Patterns and Prevalence of the Acromioclavicular Facet in Samples From the Pre-Columbian Tennessee River Valley”

### **Jeffrey Painter**

Midwest Archaeological Conference  
Columbus, Ohio—October 2013

Presented paper “Social and Cultural Interaction in the Central Illinois River Valley: A Late Mississippian Case Study”

### **Katie Young**

International Association for Relationship Research Conference  
Louisville, Kentucky—October 2013

Presented poster “Role of Similarity in Activity Preferences in a Sample of Romantic Couples”

*Host ... continued from Page 5*

Former Illinois State University anthropology faculty member Linda Giles also organized a session (“Secret Societies, Witch-finding, and “Traditional” Political Institutions in the Shaping of Mijikenda Identity: Selections from Contesting Identities: The Mijikenda and Their Neighbors in Kenyan Coastal Society”) and gave the paper “The Kaya Legacy: The Role of Mijikenda Makaya and Kaya Elders in Postcolonial Kenya” with John Baya Mitsanze.

The 2014 Distinguished Lecture was “Standards, Styles, and the Semiotic Work of Culture,” by Michael Silverstein Chicago, one of the most eminent anthropologists and linguists working today. Music was provided by Guru Dr. Uma Vyjayanthimala Ka Ilakuri and Mr. Murthy, exponents of the Bharatnatyam and Kuchipudi styles of Indian Classical Dance

Gregory Simpson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of Illinois State University, generously provided the CSAS with funds to offer the Friday evening banquet, as did Fred Smith, former chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Simpson also graciously gave the welcoming remarks. The Illinois State University Graduate School provided the meetings with name-tag lanyards and stylus ballpoint pens. Lee DeLong and Karen Long at Illinois State University Printing Services helped with printing the conference program, and Sarah Walczynski, of the Illinois State University College of Arts and Sciences Information Technology and Web Services, offered help and advice on AV needs and support. Office Staff members Doris Jennings and Jennifer Boolman helped the CSAS in many ways, including making the name cards and printing the stationary for the swag bags. Illinois State University’s anthropology club, the Society of Student Anthropologists, and some of our other students, including Ross Millet and Jacklyn Weier, provided logistic support and (sometimes!) strong backs.

As a final note, we must admit that the Illinois State University team of undergraduate students did not win this year’s Anthropology Bowl (if you’ve ever seen the TV show *Jeopardy!* you know how it works). But some of the sophomore and juniors spectators watched the game carefully. Hopefully they will also join us next year at the 92nd Annual Meeting in Minneapolis.

## **Senior experience capstone seminar**

*by Chris Wellin, assistant professor of sociology*

There are many fine undergraduate programs in sociology that do not require a capstone course of any kind; of those that do, most focus on secondary (library) research and writing, rather than first-hand empirical research projects.

The “capstone” course, however structured, is ideally an experience in which students revisit, apply, and integrate learning not only within the major, but across the curriculum. These goals can certainly be achieved through library research, which places fewer demands on all concerned. However, there has been a long-standing conviction in this department that, unless students are given an opportunity to select and apply the tools—both conceptual and methodological—of their discipline to a question of importance to them, an important opportunity has been lost.

The same commitment is present in anthropology, as majors embark on a senior thesis, under the guidance of a faculty member and present their work orally at the conclusion of the semester. Students face this challenge with a sense of liberation, as well as trepidation: How, one may ask, in the complex social world, which has been studied with such rigor and thoroughness, can one hope to discover something new and important? Indeed they do, however, emerging with findings that often are relevant to their professional and personal development, in addition to their growth as student-sociologists.

Within the sociology program, there are several colleagues who teach sections of Senior Experience, and these sections reflect the breadth of topical and methodological expertise among the faculty.

In Susan Sprecher’s sections, students are encouraged to explore, “questions about topics related to family, personal relationships, social psychology, and sexuality, although other topics can be considered. Quantitative research projects (e.g., surveys) are encouraged. Individual or pair projects are allowed.” Winfred Avogo, who brings skills in demography and macro-level, comparative research in health, supports student researchers in accessing and analyzing secondary data sets, as well as original surveys. Diane Bjorklund and I welcome a broad range of topics, provided that students frame questions in ways that are in keeping with interpretive traditions of social inquiry; in our sections students, whether singly or in pairs, conduct a small number of semi-structured interviews in order to gain insights into diverse social groups, roles, and transitions. Like others in journalism, history, and clinical social work and psychology, our students discover the power of narrative interviewing to provide windows into history, culture, and social organization.

In a community of modest scale, such as Bloomington-Normal, it is often challenging to locate informants, equally so to schedule interviews given the time demands that both informants and student-researchers share. Also, the amount of time required, outside the classroom, to support such research is considerable. Though our students are not required, for example, to gain formal Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for their research, unless opting to do so in order

to present or publish findings to the public, they are bound by the spirit of informed consent and often face and resolve ethical issues in the research process. In this process, we regard our students with a sense of professionalism and maturity that's more commonly associated with graduate education. That the program extends this opportunity and obligation to all majors is a reflection of the trust in which we place in students. This achievement is also made possible by all the prior courses, in the "core" of the curriculum (e.g., Sociological Inquiry; History of Sociological Thought; Introduction to Social Research, and Social Statistics.) Sociology and anthropology are multi-paradigmatic fields, in which varied intellectual traditions and methods co-exist. Finding a voice and confident practice of inquiry is challenging for students, given this breadth, but meeting that challenge for each and every major is a distinctive goal and achievement of our department.

## Notes on gerontology program

by *Chris Wellin, assistant professor and coordinator of gerontology programs*

The past year has seen continued growth and development in the gerontology program, both in terms of the academic achievements of our minors, and as a vehicle for advancing teaching, research, service, and policy advocacy campus-wide in the broader community.

The minor program is being expanded to include a broader array of approved elective courses, offered within the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and in several other departments and programs. For example, Professor Maria Schmeekle's course on Children in Global Society (SOC 318) will be an option for GTY minors, as it has been for students in the Children's Studies minor. Also, Professors Thomas Gerschick and Winfred Avogo will be represented in the minor, through their courses on Sociology of the Body (SOC 342) and Population (SOC 362), respectively.

All these courses reflect the breadth and life course framework of aging studies, which links individual lives and aging with macro-level forces of history and demography, as well as economic and political/policy change. We have also included a course on Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood in Cultural Context (FCS 311), and an advanced course on Bereavement, Grief, and Loss (FCS 363), which will complement Bjorklund's course on the Sociology of Death (SOC 212), which has long been a mainstay of the minor program. The study of aging certainly reflects the multidisciplinary ethos that is central to liberal arts education.

An especially exciting and visible expression of the relevance of gerontology was the Social Work Day conference, on March 19, 2014, sponsored by the School of Social Work and the Kirk Haney Fund. With essential support and guidance from Social Work Chair and Professor Diane Zosky, as well as Tuwana Wingfield (director of Student Services for the MSW Program) we offered a one-day conference at Illinois State University's Brown Ballroom that featured a keynote address by Martha Sparks, addressing dementia care, as well as several panels and research presentations. Nearly 20 presenters spoke to more than 200 attendees, many of whom are students preparing to enter social work and other clinical and allied health fields. The conference also offered continuing education credits for practitioners. Caroline Mallory of the Mennonite College of Nursing was another key part of the planning team, and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology was a co-sponsor. In addition to the immediate goal of organizing a strong conference, our longer-term goal was to use this occasion as a vehicle for nurturing an enduring network on aging, health, and disability, which can serve multiple constituencies in the future.

Finally, the vitality of the gerontology program would not be possible without fine students, at various stages of their careers. At the undergraduate level, we were pleased to recognize Buehler as the winner of the 2014 Gerontology Scholarship. Buehler had completed all of the rigorous requirements for completing her B.S. in speech language pathology. However, she decided that adding a multi-disciplinary minor in gerontology would best equip her for a clinical career working with older adults. Buehler concluded that her science-based and clinical training would be complemented by more knowledge of age transitions, health policies and inequalities, and the broader impacts of illness and disability, from the perspectives of people who are adapting to these challenges. Buehler did excellent work in all her coursework, and completed an internship at Heritage Health of Bloomington. She has been accepted to a master's program in communication sciences and disorders at Jackson State University.

The gerontology program is also enriched by the involvement of graduate students, both in the classroom and through internships, some of which are made possible through the Stevenson Center for Economic and Community Development. Kathleen (Katie) Raynor, a second-year graduate student in the Sociology department, began an internship with the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging (ECIAAA) in August 2014. ECIAAA is located in Bloomington and its main aim is to coordinate services for senior citizens in 16 counties throughout

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the region. These services include legal rights, housing, gerontological counseling, transportation, and meals, among others.

Looking forward, under the leadership of Executive Director Mike O'Donnell, the agency will soon extend its outreach to provide some of these same services to adults (18-59 years old) with disabilities. One of Raynor's tasks as a member of the Planning and Program Development team is to research how local agencies can provide the best possible support to individuals with disabilities. Also, she is taking part in efforts to better integrate services for older adults with those for people with disabilities—services that in the past were too often fragmented and disconnected. She is also providing assistance with evaluating whether or not service providers are meeting their expected outcomes in order to receive grant funding.

Raynor arrived at Illinois State University in the fall of 2013, after completing volunteer service with AmeriCorps in Los Angeles and the Peace Corps in South Africa. The ECIAAAA internship, part of her training in Applied Community and Economic Development, aligns well with Raynor's goal to continue to work in the nonprofit sector of community development in the future. This is another illustration of how our efforts and achievements in gerontology are sustained by the educational mission and infrastructure of the entire Illinois State University community.

## **Desde Nuestra Esquina (From Our Corner): News about ISU's Latin American and Latino studies program**

*by Professor Maura Toro-Morn and Ethel Koney (Latin American and Latino studies graduate assistant)*

Illinois State University's Latin American and Latino Studies program is a multidisciplinary program housed in the College of Arts and Sciences. We are very proud of our ongoing support and collaboration with the department of Sociology and Anthropology. This collaboration is in part made possible by the number of Sociology and Anthropology faculty, students, and staff that are affiliated with the program. Here is a brief overview of key events and developments in the Latin American and Latino studies program (LALS) in the last two years.

An important accomplishment for our program has been to acquire office space. We are grateful for the leadership of Greg Simpson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, for making this happen for us. Our new offices are in 328 Williams Hall. We

celebrated our open house Nov. 1, 2012, a day that coincided with the celebration of the Day of the Dead. Williams Hall figures prominently in the institutional folklore of haunted building on campus. In keeping, a special ofrenda was made for the "ghost" of Ange Milner, the former Illinois State University librarian who is said to haunt the library stacks of Williams Hall.

Another important marker of a developing program is the acquisition of a program acronym. After much deliberation from faculty and staff, in the spring of 2014, we acquired our very own acronym, LAL, short for Latin American and Latino studies. We now have several dedicated courses that are available for student enrollment. These include a course where students can do independent research and two internship courses. We are working on making more courses available for students.

Over the last two years we have sustained important collaborations with several local community organizations in McLean County. We are particularly proud to support the McLean County Museum of History (MCMH) Latino Oral History Project. This community initiative seeks to collect oral histories of local residents for the purpose of creating a history of past and recent Latino immigration to Central Illinois. This project brings to bear key institutional values of our program and the university, but principally our commitment to civic engagement. Oral histories collected are archived at the MCMH as research resources for future generations of students. In the spring of 2014, LALS hosted a community summit, bringing together key campus and community partners; University Housing, Conexiones Latinas de la McLean County, McLean County History of Museum and the Children's Discovery Museum to discuss ongoing community projects. In the fall of 2014, an educational community summit was held with community partners; Conexiones Latinas de McLean County, Illinois Wesleyan University, State Farm, community educators, and parents. These stakeholders came together to explore and discuss the potential benefits of developing a dual language immersion program locally. We also partnered with the Children's Discovery museum for "El Dia de los Muertos" Day of the Dead celebration.

Our community panels are also another dimension of our community partnerships and civic engagement. In the fall of 2013, we held a panel discussion titled "Foreigners, Maids and Criminals: Persisting Latino Stereotypes in the Media" to address the ongoing stereotypes and media "attacks" on Latinos. The panel featured, Livia Stone (Department of Sociology and Anthropology), Rocio Rivadeneyra (Department of Psychology), Juliet Lynd (Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures), and Marcos Mendez, State Farm, HERO, and was moderated by Professor Maura Toro-Morn.

In keeping with the mission of the program, we continue to collaborate with other academic programs on campus. In the fall of 2013, in partnership with the School of Social Work and the McLean County Child Protection Network, we welcomed to campus Juan Ortiz, a motivational speaker and survivor of childhood trauma. He spoke to our community and a range of social service providers who gathered on campus as part of the McLean County Child Protection Network annual fall training. In the fall of 2014, we collaborated with the Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi to show a month-long collection of critically acclaimed Spanish films. Also, we partnered with the Office of International Studies and Programs for an International Lecture Series' Global Cities, to bring to campus Professor Elizabeth Aranda from the University of South Florida. Her lecture on "Making a Life in Multiethnic Miami: Immigration and the Rise of a Global City" focused on a panoramic study of the changing dynamics of the immigration experience and the local effects of globalization.

We are very proud of our faculty and their research/scholarship. We have organized the "Conversando Entre Nosotros" Brown Bag series as part of the Latino Heritage month to showcase faculty research. In the fall of 2013, Professor Juliet Lynd shared her work about Chilean poet Cecilia Vicuna and the symbolic importance of September 11 that initiated the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet in Chile at our brown bag series. Professor Katie Sampeck also shared her research on the complex history of labor relations and colonial market for chocolate that began at the inception of Spanish colonial ventures in the Americas in the late 16th century. More recently, in the fall of 2014, Professor Rivadeneyra gave a lecture on "The Role of Media on Latina/o Youth Development," exploring the intersectionality between violence, sex, gender and different ethnic and racial groups, and the influence of media Latino youth.

In addition to promoting local scholarly efforts, LALS also seeks to bring to campus scholars engaged in cutting edge work in the field of Latin America and Latino studies. In the spring of 2014, we invited to campus Professor Gilberto Rosas, an assistant professor of anthropology and Latino/a studies at the University of Illinois. His lecture explored cultural and racial tensions between the "cholos" and "chúntaros" at the borderlands of the United States and Mexico. Professor Leisy Abrego from UCLA's Chicana and Chicano Studies visited campus last fall as part of the Latino Heritage activities. Abrego's talk focused on her book "Sacrificing Families: U.S. Policies and the Displacement of Central Americans," shedding light on the current plight at the U.S/Mexico border.

The Latino Cultural Dinner, co-hosted with University Housing Services and other student

organizations, is the main highlight of the Latino Heritage month that marks the end of the month-long celebration. In 2013, critically acclaimed Latina actress Rosario Dawson headlined the Latino Cultural Dinner. Dawson is a staunch activist for several civic and social causes and encouraged students to take advantage of civic engagement opportunities. In 2014, J.R. Martinez, a U. S. Army veteran, actor, author, and motivational speaker, was the guest speaker for our cultural dinner. He shared his life experiences in a speech titled "The Unique Story of Latino Veterans: How We Can Face Adversity With Optimism and Resilience."

We want to thank Fred Smith, past chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Department, for his support of our department and activities. We also want to thank James Skibo, current chair of the department, as well as our campus community and partners for their continued support.

## **Sociology graduate program news**

*by Joan Brehm, professor and sociology graduate program coordinator*

2013-2014 has been another year of significant accomplishments and activities among our students. I immensely enjoy working so closely with our amazing graduate students and am excited to share their news and accomplishments with everyone.

This fall we welcomed five new students into our program. Although the cohort is a bit smaller than previous years, the caliber of the applicants overall and our incoming students is outstanding. Peter Elias has been accepted into the sociology master's program and comes to us from our own sociology program at Illinois State University. Ryan Rooney has been accepted into the sociology master's program and graduated from Arizona State University with a major in sociology. Nicholas Dirienzo was accepted into the sociology master's program and comes to us from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a B.A. in liberal arts and sciences: history. Mark Spurgis was accepted into the Applied Community and Economic Development (ACED) Fellows Program and has a B.A. in philosophy and a minor in sociology from Elmhurst College. He has spent the last year working with the AmeriCorps VITS Program in the Chicago area. Erika Perez was accepted into the Peace Corps Fellows Program and has a B.A. in sociology from the University of California-Los Angeles. She has spent the last two years serving with the Peace Corps in rural China. These students represent an outstanding cohort with tremendous diversity. The program continues to draw some

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of the best and brightest students from outstanding schools across the country, and we are very excited for this new cohort to join us this fall.

Several of our current students have recently embarked on new and exciting transitions. Ben McNair finished his master's degree and is now pursuing a second master's degree at the Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology at the University of Manchester in Manchester, Great Britain. Katie Raynor started her professional practice with the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging (ECIAAA), in Bloomington, in July 2014. Nichole Brant is continuing her professional practice with the McLean County Court Services, Domestic Violence Multi-Disciplinary Team, graduating in August 2014.

Two of our master's international students are continuing their Peace Corps service: Robyn Savacool in Moldova and Kate Slisz in Botswana. Ashley Conrad has completed her service in the Philippines and is working to complete her thesis. Several of our recent graduates are moving onto impressive Ph.D. programs. Aaron Tester '13 has been accepted into a fully funded Ph.D. program at the University of California-Irvine and Dustin Stoltz '13 has been accepted into a fully funded Ph.D. program at Purdue. Congratulations to our alumni as they continue to represent our program at some outstanding institutions!

Our students have been very productive in sharing their research at a variety of professional venues this year. The following students have presented their work at a professional meeting or other professional forum:

### Josie Maggio

Paper presentation

- "Unmentionable or Justifiable: How Hooking Up Is Perceived on A College Campus" presented at the Midwest Sociological Society, Omaha, Nebraska, April 5, 2014
- "Credentialism and the System of Higher Education" presented at the Midwest Sociological Society, Omaha, Nebraska, April 5, 2014

### Ben McNair

Paper presentation

- "(In)Voluntary Change: Exploring Sojourner Identity Formation through Still Images" presented at the Midwest Sociological Society, Omaha, Nebraska, April 4, 2014
- "(In)Voluntary Change: Returned Sojourner Identity in Everyday Life" presented at the Midwest Sociological Society, Omaha, Nebraska, April 4, 2014

- "(In)Voluntary Change: Reconciling Sojourner-Related Identity Shifts With Origin Culture Consistency" presented at the International Visual Sociology Association Annual Conference, Duquesne, Pennsylvania, June 26, 2014

Poster presentation

- "(In)Voluntary Change: Returned Sojourner Identity in Everyday Life" presented at the Illinois State University Graduate Research Symposium, Normal, April 11, 2014

### Shikshya Adhikari

Poster presentation

- "The Impact of Self-help Groups on the Social Capital of Rural Community in Nepal" presented at the Illinois State University Graduate Research Symposium, Normal, April 11, 2014

We also have some exciting graduation announcements to share. Master's student Emma Healy finished her thesis "Working Class Women, Resistance Strategies, and Media Depictions of the Female Body" and defended in August 2014. Ben McNair finished his thesis "(In)Voluntary Change: Exploring Sojourner Identity Formation Through Still Images" and defended his work in summer 2014. Applied Community and Economic Development Fellow Nichole Brants finished her thesis "The 'Careers' of American Red Cross Disaster Services Volunteers: Exploring the Narratives of Volunteers' Involvement in Disaster Relief" and defended in August 2014. Master's international student Katie Saunders completed her Peace Corps service in the Dominican Republic and successfully defended her thesis "Good Hair, Bad Hair, Dominican Hair, Haitian Hair" in November 2013. Master's international student Sasha Miranda successfully defended her thesis "Citizens Without a Nation: The Construction of Haitian Illegality and Deportability in the Dominican Republic" in December 2013. ACED Fellow Drew Griffith successfully defended his thesis "Social Forms and Culture in Miller Park" in November 2014. Finally, Master's international student Dustin Stoltz successfully defended his thesis "Social Capital without Trust: Relational Work and the Dynamics of Social Support in Azerbaijan" in February 2014. Congratulations to all of our graduates!

The 2014 recipient of the Department Charter Graduate Student Excellence Award is Shikshya Adhikari. This award is given annually to a student who demonstrates the most academic promise for success in the program and Shikshya is exceptionally deserving of this award. We are very proud to honor her accomplishments and recognize her future potential in the field of sociology.

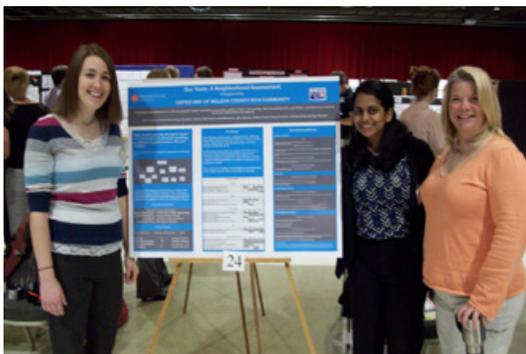
Finally, we should all be exceptionally proud of the caliber and accomplishments of our graduate students. We continue to draw some of the best students from outstanding programs across the country. Our program has certainly been enhanced by the diversity of strong students that fill our classes and interact with us on their research pursuits. I could not be more proud of our students and the faculty that support them, and hope you all will join me in sharing in this celebration of their varied accomplishments.

## **Sociology graduate students present research at 2014 University Research Symposium**

*by Joan Brehm, professor and sociology graduate program coordinator*

The University Research Symposium provides an exciting opportunity for both graduate and undergraduate students to present their findings from a variety of research, scholarship, and creative endeavors to a diverse audience in a professional setting. This year four sociology master's students presented their work at the University Research Symposium, which was held at the Bone Student Center on April 11, 2014.

Katie Raynor and Christina Davila were part of a team of 11 Stevenson Center ACED Sequence students from sociology, economics, and politics and government who presented key findings from their research in collaboration with the United Way of McLean County as part of SOA 477: Community Project Design and Management. Their project, "Our Town: A Neighborhood Assessment in Support of the United Way of McLean County



Christina Davila (ACED graduate student), Ramya Kumaran (POL), Joan Brehm (sociology professor)

2014 Community Assessment" shared key findings from their focused research on communal and individual well-being in selected neighborhoods in McLean County.

Ben McNair presented his poster "(In) Voluntary Change: Returned Sojourner Identity in Everyday Life," which is based on his thesis work. He makes use of multiple qualitative methodologies, including in-depth interviewing, auto-ethnography, and visual methods like photo and object elicitation and portrait photography, to investigate the relative permanence and fluidity of identities, particularly those changed or created while abroad.

Shikshya Adhikari presented her poster "The Impact of Self-help Groups on the Social Capital of Rural Community in Nepal." In this work she is examining how participating in self-help groups affects the relationships of women with their families and communities and how these self-help groups affect the social capital of a rural community in Nepal. We are proud to have our graduate students showcase their exciting research and participate with over 200 other students in this growing event.

## **Sociology graduate students presented their research at International Association for Relationship Research conference**

*by Susan Sprecher, Distinguished Professor of sociology*

Two sociology graduate students, Josephine (Josie) Maggio and Katie Young, traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, to attend the New Scholar Workshop and the Mini-conference for the International Association for Relationship Research. As part of a graduate seminar on personal relationships taught by Susan Sprecher, Maggio, Young, and three other graduate students, co-authored a paper that was presented at the conference in the form of a poster. The paper was titled, "Role of Similarity in Activity Preferences in a Sample of Romantic Couples."

In this research, which was based on 96 romantic couples, the researchers found that existing couples are most similar in their preferences regarding sports activities and spirituality/religious activities. They also found that similarity in couples was modestly associated with relationship quality. Ronald Pikes, another graduate student in sociology, was a co-author but could not attend the conference. Two graduate students from psychology (Amanda Fisher and Michelle Grzybowski) also co-authored the poster and attended the conference. Attendance at the conference gave the students an opportunity to network with other graduate stu-

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*Relationship ... continued from Page 11*

dents from many other universities (including from other countries) and meet faculty who are interested in studying some aspect of personal relationships. One of the students they met was Reginald Nievera,



Back row: Nicole Hilaire, M.S. '13, Reginald Nievera '09, Susan Sprecher, Distinguished Professor of sociology, Stan Treger, former psychology student; now at DePaul. Front row: Amanda Fisher, psychology grad student, left, Katie Young, sociology, grad student, Josie Maggio, sociology grad student, Michelle Grzybowski, psychology grad student

who received his undergraduate degree in sociology from our department and then attended Loyola University for a master's degree. He was presenting his thesis research on hookups after college. In addition, many other topics about relationships (studied from multiple disciplines) were represented in the oral presentations and posters at the conference.

## Anthropology graduate program news

*by James Skibo, Distinguished Professor of anthropology and chair*

We have expanded the graduate program to include cultural anthropology and linguistics. Last fall, we admitted a cohort including: Amanda Miller, Hannah Meyer, Ethan Ingram, Brooke Wamsley, Dan Walther, Kelsey Hanson, Paula Bryant and Meagan Thies. Five students successfully defended their theses this year. They include:

**Jeffrey Painter** "Sharing more than Spaces: Oneota and Mississippian Social and Cultural Interaction at the Crable Site, Fulton, County, Illinois"

**Deborah Neidich** "A Comparative Study Of Mechanical Stress in The Pre-Columbian Tennessee River Valley"

**Sarah Boncal** "Implications of Vertebral Degenerative Disease and Vertebral Ligamentous Ossification in Native Populations of The Lower Tennessee River Valley"

**Sarah Caldwell** "The Effects of Cold Adaptation on the Growth and Development of the Neandertal Cranial Base"

**Katherine Lacy** "Etiology of the Horizontal-

Oval Mandibular Foramen and a Reassessment of its Usefulness for Paleoanthropological Studies"

**Katie Sampeck** also took over as the graduate coordinator for this new program. We are excited about the changes and already have seen some wonderful benefits of the expanded program.

## 2014 Historical archaeology field school

*by Kathryn Sampeck, associate professor of anthropology and archaeology program coordinator*

In June I held the Illinois State University field school in Historical Archaeology in a new region: at two historic Cherokee town sites in the vicinity of today's Cherokee, North Carolina. Illinois State University students in attendance included undergraduates Atley Newlin and Brad Byrne and historical archaeology grad students Theartis Butler, Melissa Frederick, and Erin Randolph.

Students learned archaeological methods at the 17th- to 18th-century settlements of Nvnvnyi, in Cherokee, and at Cowee, near Franklin, North Carolina. At Nvnvnyi, students excavated the remains of what appear to be two structures and outbuildings, and at Cowee, students worked with experts in geophysical remote sensing techniques of magnetometry and Ground Penetrating Radar to detect anomalies that might be habitation and agricultural regions as well as to understand the soil strata at this pristine site.

In 2014, the field school had several visits by people from the community and staff of other Tribal Historic Preservation Offices—it was a chance for the public to learn about and participate in project activities. Students completed artifact and spatial analyses that they then presented as research posters to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Elders' Advisory Board during the last week of the field school. This was a very well-attended event, including local high school students and other tribal members.



2014 Historical Archaeology Attendees—Damon Ayen (EBCI enrolled member) (left), Atley Newlin (ISU), Melissa Frederick (ISU), Theartis Butler (ISU), Garrett Murto (New College), Bradley Byrne (ISU), Alison Hodges (ISU), Beau Carroll (EBCI, Field Director), Kathryn Sampeck, associate professor of anthropology and archaeology program coordinator at ISU

At the Cherokee Archaeology Symposium and the Elders' Advisory Board meeting in 2014, field school students also presented interactive exhibits and presentations. Elizabeth Scott, Illinois State University professor emerita of anthropology, and Jonathan Thayne (Illinois State University—geology and geography) also presented papers at the Cherokee Archaeology Symposium. Scott has compiled an impressive analysis of animal bone from the project. Thayne reported on GIS analysis of 16th



Cherokee Archaeology Symposium Attendees: Kathryn Sampeck, associate professor of anthropology and archaeology program coordinator (left), Melissa Frederick, Garrett Murto, Erin Randolph, Alison Hodges

century road networks in the region. The presentations at the Cherokee Symposium were recorded and re-broadcast on Cherokee Cable Vision channel 28. In all, it was a productive and exciting season of fieldwork.

## 2014 Bioarchaeology field school

by Maria Smith, professor of anthropology

The July-August bioarchaeology field school was conducted at the Illinois State Museum Research and Collections Center in Springfield. This was a new venue for the field school. In previous years, Maria Smith and students conducted research at the Frank H. McClung Museum in Knoxville, Tennessee. The projects undertaken at the ISM



2014 Bioarchaeology Field School Attendees—Illinois State University anthropology graduate student Megan Bauerle (left), Lily Malekfar (Triton College)

R&CC are focused on pre-Columbian osteological samples from northern Illinois and have already generated several student presentations at regional meetings (Megan Bauerle, Lily Malekfar at the Midwest Archaeology Conference [MAC], Oct. 3, 2014; Megann Coad and Megan Bauerle at the Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association [BARFAA], Oct. 18, 2014) as well as abstracts submitted for poster presentations at the national meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (St. Louis, Mo., 2015) (Bauerle, Coad, and Malekfar). One of the projects will be the basis for a master's thesis in biological anthropology at Illinois State University (Bauerle).

## Paleoanthropology at ISU

by Fred Smith, university professor of anthropology

Two graduate students finished master's degrees focusing on understanding aspects of Neandertal cranial morphology in 2014 and have now taken



Paleoanthropology students—Sarah Caldwell (left) and Katie Lacy

their skills to top Ph.D. programs. Sarah Caldwell examined the factors influencing Neandertal craniofacial growth and resulting vault shape and is now in the doctoral program at Purdue University. Katie Lacy investigated Neandertal mandibular form, particularly the basis of an important feature sometimes used to define Neandertals. She entered the doctoral program at Binghamton University.

Both of them presented their research at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting in Calgary, Alberta. Together with their advisor, Fred Smith, Caldwell and Lacy have a paper on aspects of their work in press in the journal *Anthropologie*. Illinois State University graduate Reilly Jaeger, now in the graduate program at Colorado State University, participated in Paleolithic excavations in Croatia. Finally, two earlier master's graduates have advanced to doctoral candidacy, Miranda Utzinger at the University of Iowa and Whitney Karriger at Tulane University.

## How chocolate Came to Be

by Kathryn Sampeck, associate professor of anthropology and archaeology program coordinator

On May 1, 2014, I gave the talk “Chocolate, Friction and Violence” for the Center for Latin American Studies and the Stanford Archaeology Center at Stanford University. I presented similar information at the University Club meeting at Illinois State University on April 11. I am also giving a similar version of this talk for the Archaeological Institute of America as endowed lectures in the spring in New York City, Richmond, Virginia, Gainesville, Florida, and Salem, Oregon. My AIA lecture in October at the Toledo Museum of Art filled the lecture hall to capacity.

Following the information and ideas I presented last year for Latino Heritage Month at ISU, I argue that a tenet of Spanish colonialism was to make life orderly to achieve moral virtue, medical health, and physical prosperity. This ordering also included colonial palates, but exactly what place new substances and flavors were to occupy was uncertain and contested. During the first few decades of the Spanish invasion of Guatemala, Spanish chroniclers described the regionally distinctive concoctions of cacao, one of which was chocolate. Regional identity was intimately bound with cuisine.

Chocolate rose to a universal truth familiar, evocative and expressive only after it was disembedded from its particularistic origins. European sources place chocolate within a universalist dream for prosperity, knowledge, and freedom. Yet chocolate also narrowed considerably in terms of taste, use, and appearance. The raw friction of this change was rooted in the dilemmas of difference and appropriation: European materials depict enthusiasm and disquietude, while indigenous ones lament and subvert the economic, physical, and political violence of producing and consuming cacao. Eating and drinking what eventually was called chocolate was not just a symbolic act of colonial power; cacao production, distribution, and consumption involved numerous acts of violence, coercion, and cruelty. In this way, consumption was a total solution to the dilemma of colonialism how to subsume others (their lives, their labor, their substances) while at the same time holding them as separate ethnicities and tastes. The power and politics of chocolate created structural violence through systematic, exclusive arrangements of space, daily living and laboring conditions, and access to resources. It is no accident, nor part of its “natural” qualities that we think of chocolate as dark, rich, and sinful; these are legacies of its colonial past, a productive friction rooted in violence.

## Investor behavior and moral markets

by Aaron Pitluck, associate professor of sociology

We have many reasons for thinking that investors in developing countries would imitate the trades of powerful competitors like George Soros or Goldman Sachs. After all, Western investors have greater resources, outsized reputations, and perhaps even the ability to manipulate markets. If you were a local observing such powerful outsiders, wouldn't you find it strategic to follow on the foreigner's coattails? In research that Aaron Pitluck presented last year in the New York Stock Exchange (see the last issue of *Signs & Symbols*), and in research published as the front article in the *Socio-Economic Review* 2014, he indeed finds locals assiduously watching foreigners.

Counter to the expectations of conventional wisdom, however, he finds that the locals didn't imitate these powerful international actors, even when they perceived the foreigner's trade as savvy, skilled or informed. Instead, locals bought what foreigners wanted to sell, and sold what foreigners wanted to buy—thereby allowing foreigners to create a herd. This research not only corrects a misperception of how investors behave in global stock markets, but helps to explain how foreigners are able to rapidly ‘herd’ into or out of a stock market—because locals are willing to act as their counterparties, rather than attempting to imitate their trades.

Pitluck has also been conducting research on Islamic finance—a “moralizing” market akin to organic food—that seeks to create financial products where profits are derived from entrepreneurial risk rather than speculation, and necessitating fairness between transacting parties. He argues that while Islamic finance may fail in its utopian ideals, he nevertheless finds many lessons from its “radical intent.” He recently published a [think piece](#) for the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) describing how Islamic finance is a cautionary tale of how alternative economies can use the engine of capitalist innovation to rapidly expand into a trillion dollar global market.

## International Seminar Series

by Livia Stone, assistant professor of anthropology

Every semester the Office of International Studies and Programs sponsors a seminar series in which scholars from a variety of disciplines and universities are invited to speak around a theme. The International Seminar Series is open to the public

and is designed to promote awareness and dialogue about international issues and global dynamics. Maria Schmeeckle from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology is organizing the series this semester around the theme of “World Cities.” All of the talks take place on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the Bone Center and provide light refreshments from the region being discussed.

I had the pleasure of being the first speaker in the series this semester, joining a diverse slate of colleagues from departments across ISU as well as colleagues from the University of Illinois, the University of South Florida, and the University of Iowa Press. The spirit of the seminar series closely aligns with the idea of public anthropology: using anthropological research to further public dialogue about contemporary issues. With this goal in mind, I attempted through the talk to address some important facets of the cultural history of the Americas, including North America, which we don’t think or talk about very much in the U.S.

The premise of my talk, “Mexico City: Three Superimposed Metropolises” draws from an idea of Mexico City promoted by the city’s government since the 1960s and embodied by the Plaza de las Tres Culturas (Plaza of Three Cultures) in an area of the city known as Tlatelolco. I used the idea of these three cultures in Tlatelolco to talk about contemporary Mexico City in general, which can be seen as the culmination of three different cities literally built on top of one another: the indigenous city of Tenochtitlan founded on the site in 1325; the colonial city of Mexico City founded through Spanish conquest in the 16th century, and the contemporary Mexico D.F. (Federal District) that is the cosmopolitan center of Mexico. I argue that by examining the story of these three superimposed cities, which today make up the most populous metropolitan area in the Western Hemisphere, we can learn a lot about the cultural politics of the Americas in general. The talk discussed many aspects of this story, from the persistence of gold vendors in the city center since the colonial period, to the importance of Mexico City to the Surrealist movement of the early 20th century.

One frequent misconception about the Americas in the U.S. is that there was very little here when Europeans came to settle and conquer. Tenochtitlan was a dense urban area and a seat of imperial power when the Spanish arrived. The Mexica people (today often referred to as Aztecs) built the city on a lake using a sophisticated agricultural technique to create artificial islands of farmland that could be easily irrigated by lake water. They also built impressive stone pyramids on these man-made islands that the Spanish tore down, repurposing the stone to build Catholic churches to signify the beginning of a new political and religious regime. The lake that Tenochtitlan was built on

was filled in over time, but the unstable, man-made surface continues to cause infrastructure problems for Mexico City as buildings, especially in the historic center of the city, slowly sink into the unstable lakebed of the canaled indigenous city.

Another piece of this history of Mexico City that is extremely relevant to the contemporary concern over immigration is the US invasion of Mexico City in the 1840s. This war is nearly forgotten in the U.S. popular imagination, but is still very present in Mexico and is often used to talk about the contemporary relationship between the two nations. At a moment when the newly formed independent nation of Mexico was still reeling from a lengthy war for independence, the U.S. Army invaded Mexico’s capital and obliged it to give up a vast area including what is now California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. This area was a continuous territory for thousands of years inhabited by a variety of indigenous groups, many of whom still inhabit the area. It was then part of Spain for around three hundred years. It has only been part of the U.S. for around 150 years, a relatively short period of time. We tend to naturalize the U.S. borders, but recognizing this history can go a long way toward illuminating some of the current disagreements and difficulties surrounding immigration on our shared border.

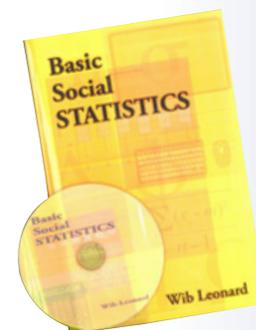
The International Seminar Series is a valuable part of our university community and my hope is that this contribution, as is the stated goal of the Series, was useful for coming to better understandings and productive debates about relevant international issues and global dynamics.

## Faculty authors

Professor of Sociology **Wib Leonard**’s book, *Basic Social Statistics* (2014), is a revision of his earlier statistics book and reflects some of the newer developments in statistical education recommended by the American Statistical Association. One of its highlights is couching statistics within the context of social science theory and research. An accompanying CD contains Web-based statistical applications and exercises, simulations, and meaningful web links that facilitate mining Web-based resources. Additionally, PowerPoint



Diego Rivera’s portrayal of the canded city of Tenochtitlan



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presentations and sample lectures for the teaching, learning, and assessment of basic statistics are included.

**Ed Jelks**, professor emeritus of sociology, contributed a chapter, "Archaeological Salvage at Texas Reservoir Construction Projects, 1945-1969," in the book *Dam Projects and the Growth of American*

*Archaeology*, published in April 2014.

The book, published by the Left Coast Press, is a history of a post-WWII program for excavating archaeological sites to be inundated by scores of reservoirs being constructed on major rivers throughout the United States, administered by the National

Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution. I directed the program in Texas from 1951 to 1965.

Illinois State University alumna **Deborah Hull** (now **Hull-Walski**), M.S. '88, co-authored another chapter in the book, *The National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution: Partners in Salvage Archaeology*. After receiving her bachelor's at the University of Colorado, Hull-Walski earned her master's at Illinois State University. She is a collections manager at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and also teaches classes in museum studies at George Washington University. Her master's is in historical archaeology and was awarded by the History Department, although her course work was almost entirely in anthropology/archaeology.

## Tip of hat

**Winfred Avogo** has been promoted to associate professor and awarded tenure in the department.

**Frank Beck**, associate professor of sociology and director of the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development, was interviewed by *The Pantagraph* about the percentage of mentally ill inmates who return to jail.

**Joan Brehm** has been promoted to the rank of professor.

**Theartis Butler**, an archaeology graduate student, received a John D. Rockefeller Library Fellowship for 2014. It is unusual for a master's student to receive this prestigious award.

**Muriel Dorsey** received the 2014 Undergraduate Legacy of Leadership Award. This award recognizes a student who has engaged in activities that exemplify the University's commitment to diversity.



Jelks—Texas River Basin Surveys field crew, 1950, Jelks crouching at right.

**Tom Gerschick**, associate professor of sociology, was selected as the Outstanding College Teacher of the Year in social sciences. This award recognizes instructors who display exceptional classroom teaching, develop innovative instructional materials and approaches to instruction, involve students in significant learning and/or research activities, and advise and/or counsel students.

**Aaron Pitluck**, associate professor of sociology; **Ryan Gray**, sociology and anthropology undergraduate advisor; **Shauna Hoffman**, M.S. '10, in sociology (assistant coordinator, University College) all received an Impact Award. Impact Awards recognize individuals who have significant positive impacts on first-year students at Illinois State University. Professor Pitluck was also elected as vice president of Research Committee 02 (Economy and Society) of the International Sociological Association (2014-2018).

**Kathryn Sampeck** has been promoted to associate professor and awarded tenure in the department. In addition, she was interviewed by WUIS 91.9 on her archaeological research in the southeast.

**Maria Schmeackle**, associate professor of sociology, is the recipient of a Kenneth A. and Mary Ann Shaw Teaching Fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences. This award is based on teaching excellence.

**James Skibo**, anthropology department chair and Distinguished Professor, presented his Distinguished Professorship Lecture, "From the Mountains of the Philippines to the Shores of Lake Superior: An Archaeologist's Quest to Understand the Relationship Between People and Things."

**Fred Smith**, professor of anthropology, received the William King Medal of the National University of Ireland for his contribution to research on the Neandertals. In addition, Smith received the Outstanding Researcher Award from the Stone Age Institute for Human Evolutionary Studies at Indiana University.

**Maria Smith** has been promoted to the rank of professor.

**Roy Treadway**, emeritus professor of sociology, and his wife, Carolyn, moved from their home of 37 years to an active retirement community in the Olympia, Washington, area. Roy joined the sociology faculty in 1977, teaching demography, research methods, statistics, and senior experience, and directing the Census and Data Users Services; he retired in 2003. On the day of the sale of their home and departure from Normal, their grandson, Colin, joining an older sister, was born in Seattle, where two daughters and their families live. They also have a son and two grandchildren in Washington, D.C. Roy and Carolyn are getting settled in their new home, enjoying the ocean and

mountains and are still biking. Roy misses opportunities to be with his former colleagues, retired and still teaching, particularly during the school year.

**Mike Wiant**, instructional assistant professor and director, Dickson Mounds Museum, was interviewed by WGLT regarding his work on the Dickson Mounds project.

**Jennifer Woodruff**, instructional assistant professor, received an Outstanding Faculty Member award from Illinois State University's College Panhellenic Council.

**Anne Wortham**, associate professor, was elected to serve a three-year term on the College of Arts and Sciences Academic Senate.

## Alumni news

**Robert Bishir '90**—I received a B.S. in anthropology from Illinois State University. I have been working for Johnsonville Sausage for 15 years. I married Kirsten 11 years ago and we have an 8-year-old son. I received an MBA from the University of Phoenix in 2010. I have been treasurer on the Board of Directors at Main Street Mokena since 2012 and I was awarded Rookie Volunteer of the Year honors. I am also on the Board of Directors at the Graham Historic House & Museum in Downtown Mokena, where I also volunteer as town genealogist.

In 2013 I decided to give performance a try after having zero experience. I have appeared in "Chicago: The Musical" in Downtown Mokena and "Les Misérables" in Kankakee. I was most recently asked to perform in an annual reenactment of the story of "A Night In Sleepy Hollow." I have found great shared meaning in performance, as anyone with an understanding of the theatrical experience from the study of cultural and symbolic anthropology can attest. Though I did not pursue a career in anthropology, I firmly believe study in the discipline leads individuals down the path of creative thinking, which is key to being successful in any field.

**Deanna Glosser '84**—With interests in both anthropology and ecology, Glosser pursued a doctoral degree in environmental planning at UIUC's department of urban and regional planning after leaving Illinois State University. Upon completion of her doctoral degree in 1989, Glosser worked for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for almost 13 years, serving as the endangered species program manager, manager of the division of impact assessment, and liaison to the Governor's Office on strategic planning and balanced growth issues. Her next venture was to create her own consulting firm, Environmental Planning Solutions Inc., where she served as president/CEO for eight years.

Glosser worked on a wide range of projects primarily for the not-for-profit sector, with three

projects exemplifying her accomplishments: The Emiquon River Visitor Use and Education Plans with The Nature Conservancy; Of Time and the River, an educational website that explained the geology, archaeology, history, and changing ecology of the Illinois River through the Illinois State Museum; and with the Illinois Natural History Survey, development of the Illinois Sustainable Natural Areas Vision, a vision for the sustainabil-

ity of Illinois' high quality natural areas. She was appointed to the Illinois Pollution Control Board by former Gov. Pat Quinn in October 2011 and has served as chairman of this board since September 2013. Glosser credits the exceptional professors in the Anthropology Department and their challenging course work and high academic expectations for building the foundation of her success.

**Jenny Klouse '98**—With a degree in sociology, I ventured into the world ready for adventure. I took a job with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, a campus ministry located on more than 600 campuses across the country, with a goal to develop communities of students who follow Jesus and become global leaders. Figuring out how to mobilize a group of people in a common direction is a challenge for which sociology prepared me well. In the past 15 years, I have grown student groups, developed new teaching curriculum, and became a director of ministries involving multiple schools and employees.

Two years ago, I moved from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to Sonoma State University and surrounding schools in California, at approximately the same time as the chancellor of the California State University (CSU), the largest public university system in the country, issued an executive order stating that campus clubs that discriminate at membership and leadership levels would be derecognized as clubs. What is basically a good idea, oppose unjust discrimination, has been taken to an unjust extreme in the case of the organization I work for. Across the state, InterVarsity has been derecognized from 19 CSU campuses, including the two where I work. What was written to protect freedom of religion is now being used to harm religious expression on campus as we are no longer allowed to require student leaders of our



Deanna Glosser '84  
(anthropology)



Jenny Klouse '98  
(sociology)

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Christian club to be Christian. The voice and value of religion in the exploration of ideas is being hindered from campus life.

InterVarsity is networking with other religious faiths, talking with the California Legislature, answering media requests, and asking the chancellor for an exemption to the policy (as he has already exempted Greeks, allowing fraternities and sororities to discriminate based on gender). I never would have imagined my sociology degree would have led me to where I am today. I am thankful to Tom Gerschick and Frank Beck for helping me develop as a leader and critical thinker as I engage our culture.

**Alana McGinty '10**—After graduating from Illinois State University, McGinty went on to serve in the Peace Corps in South Africa from 2011–



Alana McGinty '10 (politics and government and sociology)

2013. This year, she was awarded one of the 20 graduate Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowships.

Administered for the U.S. Department of State by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowships develop a source of men and women whose academic backgrounds fulfill the skill needs of the State

Department and who are dedicated to representing America's interests abroad.

Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellows receive financial support towards a two-year, full-time master's degree program in a field related to international affairs and diplomacy such as public policy, international affairs, public administration, and other related academic fields. Fellows participate in one domestic and one overseas internship. Upon the completion of their master's degree, they commit to five years of service as a Foreign Service officer.

McGinty is now a master's candidate at American University School of International Service in international development.

**Kayleigh Newman '14**—Since graduating in May, Newman has completed an internship with the International Rescue Committee working with refugees in their Survivors of Torture Program in Phoenix.

Newman is moving to Denver to start an AmeriCorps VISTA position with Volunteers of America; she will be designing pro-



Kayleigh Newman '14 (anthropology and sociology) at commencement

grams to help end veteran homelessness and ensure veterans have access to all of the services that they need.

**Robert Petersen '69, M.S. '70, Ph.D.** (applied research and statistics), from University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1977—In 1969, after completing my B.S. in sociology, I was full of confidence, energy, and had a burning desire to learn more. My master's year in sociology introduced me to statistics, educational measurement, computer programming, and computer-assisted teaching. With the support of an National Institutes of Health fellowship, I accepted a new R.A. position, which provided me the much-coveted job of partnering with sociology faculty in the design and analysis of their own Ph.D. dissertations.

It was the opportunity of a lifetime and jump-started my career in a direction that eventually included teaching statistics and being in the middle of the personal computer wave. It was a true "turning point" for me. Illinois State University provided the skills and experience necessary to be granted a fellowship at the statistics and methodology training program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW).

Upon completion of my course work at UW, and assisted by a dissertation improvement grant from the National Science Foundation, I went to our nation's capital to conduct on-site data collection at the Superior District Court in Washington, D.C. For my dissertation on delay in the criminal justice system, I analyzed data from the Prosecutor's Information Management System (PROMIS) with a mathematical model I authored.

After graduation, I worked on several evaluation projects for the Police Foundation: the effectiveness of department design in Dallas, police productivity in California, and an anti-robbery program in Birmingham, Alabama.

In 1979, my wife and I moved to the Boston area where I taught intermediate statistics at Boston University and developed mapping and graphing software at the newly formed Micro-Computing Group of Abt Associates in Cambridge. Later, I taught and developed natural language applications for the financial industry at Avco Computing Services, a mainframe time-sharing company. I moved to Addison-Wesley (AW) Publishing where I built the first PC-based Information Center, and successfully implemented procedures to survive the Y2K "event." During my 13 years with AW, I brought Unix to the data center and took ownership of the HR/payroll system, and led the transition of systems to a new parent company during a takeover. In 2000, I worked on a joint project with Lotus Development Corp. and IBM, to integrate their HR/payroll data systems. Upon completion of the project, I managed the data group at Fidelity Employer Services, a startup subsidiary of Fidelity Investments.

Since retiring with my wife, Cheryl, to the Ozark Mountains, I have been running the data systems of Independence County Shooting Sports, where I installed several systems, including a trapshooting simulation system.

Currently, I am analyzing trapshooting performance with Lyon College, through my ClayMetrics initiative, which is under development. ClayMetrics.org applies Statistical Process Control and Six Sigma techniques to develop new measures of performance and develop clinics to assist shooters to enter their Peak Performance “Zone.” Our team has built data collection tools for the Android tablet and partnered with SportExcel training to train the “mental game.”

Life is good, and I credit Illinois State University with helping make it so.

### Here is my selected bibliography:

#### Since retiring:

“What Would Pareto Do.” *Shotgun Sports Magazine*, June 2014

“There Really Is an App For That: A Review of Trap Scorekeeping Software for Android Tablet and Phone.” Accepted for publication in *Shotgun Sports Magazine*.

“ClayMetrics: The Science of Clay Target Shooting” in progress at [www.claymetrics.org](http://www.claymetrics.org).

#### Abt Associates and Abt Computer Graphics Corp.:

“The Crime Spotter: A Mapping System for Crime.” American Society of Criminology, 1980.

“Police Support Service Sharing: The Shibboleth of Functional Consolidation.” American Society of Criminology, 1980. San Francisco.

#### Police Foundation:

“Anti Robbery Tactics in Birmingham, Alabama: An Evaluation.” July 1979.

“Police Role, Stance, and Stress.” Presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences meetings, 1979, Cincinnati.

**Jeanne Schultz Angel '94, M.S. '04**—In November 2013, Angel became the executive director of the Illinois Association of Museums (IAM) with offices in Springfield and Chicago. IAM is an independent museum network that seeks to collaborate with all museum professional groups to promote best practices around the state.

A proud graduate of Illinois State University, she received a B.S. in anthropology in 1994 and an M.S. in history with an emphasis in historical archaeology in 2005. In 1994, while at Illinois State University, she attended a historical archaeologist field school in County Roscommon, Ireland, under Charles Orser Jr. and returned to the site two years later with Orser's team. She also had the opportunity to be a graduate academic senator for the Illinois

State University governing body. From 2000–2006, she was a stay-at-home mother while completing her thesis on the anti-slavery movement in northeastern Illinois. Her thesis was awarded the “Cavanaugh Award for Most Outstanding Master's Thesis” for 2005.

Angel began her career in museums as the curator for the St. Charles Heritage Center in St. Charles from 1996–1998 and became the director of the Center in 1998. In late 2006, she returned to the museum world as executive director of the Lombard Historical Society, where she managed two historic house museums in Lombard, including the Sheldon Peck Homestead, listed on the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. She is a 2010 graduate of the prestigious Seminar for Historical Administration and the Illinois State representative for the American Association of State and Local History “Leadership in History” awards program. She was also accepted to the Illinois Humanities Council “Road Scholar Speaker Bureau” in 2013 to speak about the anti-slavery movement. She resides on the northwest side of Chicago with her husband and three children.



Jeanne Schultz-Angel

## Tessa Zevallos, Alumni Day Honoree

By Emma Lipka, Stevenson Center intern

Illinois State University's Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development trains students for a lifetime of public service and global understanding. The center serves communities and organizations around the world, but most importantly, it provides students with the tools they need for successful careers in community and economic development and related fields of study. The Stevenson Center welcomed one such alum, Tessa Zevallos, M.S. '11, back to campus to share her experiences with students on Alumni Day in October.

Zevallos first came to Illinois State's Stevenson Center as a Peace Corps Fellow in sociology after serving in Peru and earning her B.S. from the University of Illinois in natural resources and environmental science/human dimensions. She earned the 2010 Sociology Charter Graduate Student



Tessa Zevallos

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Excellence Award.

For her professional practice with the Stevenson Center, Zevallos served at Mikva Challenge in Chicago. Mikva Challenge is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization that engages thousands of public high school students in elections, policymaking, and community activism. Mikva connects youth from Chicago's South and West sides to policy and decision makers so that the students can effect change in their neighborhoods. The youth also help Chicago's leaders focus on the positives of the South and West sides, communities where negatives are often the only focus. Mikva Challenge promotes action civics, which Zevallos defined as youth having a voice in their education and communities. "Young people are experts in the issues in their communities," she said.

While at Mikva Challenge, Zevallos developed new systems for evaluating Mikva's civic engagement programs. She also procured foundation funding, organized benefit events, and cultivated individual donors. Mikva Challenge hired her after graduation. She is the grants manager and evaluation director, allowing her to pursue her passion for involving youth in community development while putting into practice the skills she learned at Illinois State.

## Brooke Barber, Anthropology Alumni Day Honoree

By Brooke Barber '04

I graduated from Illinois State University in 2004 with a degree in anthropology. When I first graduated, I was unsure of what to do—where was the “anthropology” specific job I wanted? I had focused



Brooke Barber '04

on cultural anthropology at Illinois State University, and I didn't want to work in academia, so I started out by working as an intern with Green Peace's headquarters in Washington, D.C. (an experience I recommend to anyone).

Looking back, I really didn't have much of an idea of what I was doing or where

I would end up, but what I did know was that I wanted to do something exciting, valuable and different—and something I could philosophically feel good about when I went home each night. The following jobs I had differed quite a bit (from collecting data on land mines and unexploded ordinance in the northern Congo, to running a radio show in

Niger, West Africa, to overseeing after-school programs for at-risk youth in Minnesota), but they all met those self-made requirements.

Now, 10 years on, I've gained a master's degree in international development, with a rural focus, and am working on additional certifications in grant writing and nonprofit administration. I work in leadership roles with two nonprofit organizations: as a grants and development manager, helping Somali refugees in Minneapolis, and as a co-executive director for an organization that provides services to non-literate adults in rural, upstate New York. I've come to see that my anthropology degree on its own didn't *directly* lead me to these jobs, but rather, opened up a numerous array of opportunities.

The time I've spent in Africa with development and humanitarian groups was possible because of my cross-cultural abilities and resulting Peace Corps assignment, both provided by a background in anthropology. I was accepted into grad school in the UK to pursue international development because of my anthropology undergraduate thesis work. Likewise, each nonprofit, NGO and government agency I have worked for highly values my anthropology background, as each day I work with an incredibly diverse array of constituents and my job is to be able to successfully understand and work with *all* of them, which is a constant challenge, and one wherein I am lucky to feel unusually well equipped to handle. Was there a more direct route available to get me where am today? Perhaps. But I am glad I made the choice to study anthropology at Illinois State University, as I benefited greatly from such a variety of opportunities, which helped me to better define not only my professional goals, but what I wanted to accomplish as a person.

## In Memoriam

Robert H. Walsh

March 8, 1938, to July 15, 2014

Robert H. Walsh, professor emeritus of sociology and former chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, passed on July 15, 2014. He is survived by sons Kevin and Patrick, daughter Kelly, and four grandchildren.

Walsh began his college career at the University of Notre Dame and graduated from Illinois State Normal University with a major in social sciences. He became a graduate student at the University of Iowa, earning a master's and Ph.D. in sociology. While at the University of Iowa, he worked with Ira Reiss, a world-renowned sociologist.

He returned to Illinois State University in the mid-1960s and, over a period of 35 years taught a variety of courses, primarily specializing in the sociology of the family and urban sociology/community. He also conducted extensive research, in collabora-



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Thanks for your support. We appreciate it!

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