No matter what, it seems that Michigan stays in the news or in the media. With Chrysler’s Super Bowl ads featuring Eminem last year and Clint Eastwood this year, you’d think the Department of Anthropology would hang up its jersey and head home. But we’re not quite willing to get out of the game just yet thanks to the faculty who keep on doing what they love best. Recognition follows commitment and there’s plenty of that going around in the hallways here at West Hall. This current issue of the newsletter will get you up to date.

There are arrivals to note. Our newest assistant professor, Abigail Bigham, gets a profile on the next page. Her arrival renews and diversifies our biological anthropology program and continues the important Michigan tradition of research into the evolutionary components of disease. And we note departures with the retirement of celebrated scholar and teacher of undergraduates John Speth. Like any community, too, we remember our members who have died, Fernando Coronil and Norma Diamond.

In the midst of transitions, we also note the continuing tradition of commitment. Take Jason De León who was featured in the last newsletter. Usually, a fresh face takes a while to settle in, but Jason broke loose from the norm to turn his full attention to the Undocumented Migrant Project. Jason not only teaches highly regarded undergraduate classes at Michigan, but also actively involves undergraduates, from freshmen on up, in research activities at his bustling lab just down the hall from my office. His work was recently featured in a news story picked up by outlets throughout the United States and in countries including Spain, Mexico, Chile, and many more. You can find the link to the Huffington Post story (video, too!) on the front page of the department web site in the news menu, or simply click here.

In other news, Discover Magazine’s end of the year issue selected work from Professor John Mitani, one of our biological anthropologists, as one of the top 100 scientific articles of the year. But John’s media presence goes further to include an editorial in the August 20, 2011 New York Times timed with the début of the new installment of Planet of the Apes movies. Professor Jennifer Robertson was the recipient of a prestigious Guggenheim award for her new project on service robots in Japan. And Professor Barbra Meek’s book featured here, We Are Our Language, sold out so quickly that the University of Arizona Press went into a paperback printing in record time.

There’s just too much to give an account of: Other new and soon to appear books from Professors Michael Lempert, Erik Mueggler, Damani Partridge, Elizabeth Roberts, and Andrew Shryock; a generous alumni gift from anthropologist and novelist Mary Doria Russell allowing the department to recognize graduate student writing with the first Milford H. Wolpoff Awards for Excellence in Graduate Student Writing, and much more.

Michigan anthropology’s commitment to excellence in scholarship, public presence, and undergraduate teaching continues and grows ever stronger thanks to the generosity of our alumni. Your presence as students inspired us to the best teaching and research. Your continuing gifts help us to make that tradition stronger. Please consider us again in your gift plans. You can designate your gift for the new “Michigan Anthropology Alumni Fellowship for Excellence in Undergraduate Education” or for the general uses of the department if you prefer. Your support will go to enhancing the education experience in Michigan Anthropology. We are grateful for all that you have done and continue to do.
Abigail Bigham joined the Anthropology Department this past fall as a new Assistant Professor of Biological Anthropology. Her research interests focus on human patterns of genetic adaptation and how these adaptations affect modern human health and disease. She first became interested in human evolutionary genetics as an undergraduate at the University of Arizona. This led her to pursue graduate studies at Penn State University where her research focused on understanding the genetic basis for altitude adaptation in Andeans and Tibetans. Since then, she has conducted research on resistance and susceptibility to West Nile Virus infection in North America and investigated patterns of variation at a genetic locus hypothesized to be under selective pressure from malaria. One focus of her current research, in collaboration with professors in the School of Public Health at the University of Washington, focuses on identifying genetic variants associated with HIV-1 transmission in two patient cohorts from sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, this summer Abby is heading to Peru to begin work on a 3 year National Science Foundation funded project that investigates the role of oxygen sensing genes in controlling arterial oxygen saturation among Peruvian Quechua. In the future, she is interested in extending her HIV-1 work to include Central and South American populations. Through these projects, she hopes to contribute to our understanding of genotype-phenotype relationships and shed light onto the patterns and prevalence of disease. Abby translates her research interests into the classroom by offering courses that focus on both evolution and disease. Her current course offerings include Molecular Anthropology and Human Genetics, Disease and Culture. She also has an active research laboratory that trains both undergraduate and graduate students in molecular and statistical methods used in human evolutionary genetics.

Abby grew up in Pittsburgh, PA. She received her B.A. from the University of Arizona in 2001 and earned her PhD from Penn State University in 2008. Before joining the department, she completed a 3-year post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Washington. She lives with her husband, Jason De León, a cultural anthropologist also in the Department of Anthropology, her dog Willie Nelson, and two cats, Santi and Holmes.
John D. Speth, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Curator at the Museum of Archeological Anthropology will be retiring from the University of Michigan in May of 2011.

John Speth received his BA in Geology from the University of New Mexico in 1965, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan in 1966 and 1971 respectively. He has received both the Horace H. Rackham Faculty Recognition Award as well as the Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Speth has published a number of works including The Paleoanthropology and Archeology of Big-Game Hunting: Protein, Fat, or Politics? and Bison Kills and Bone Counts: Decision Making by Ancient Hunters (Prehistoric Archeology and Ecology).

His research is focused in various areas. In the Southwestern United States, the research is concerned with the forager-farmer interaction in the late prehistoric period. Speth has taken the UMMA Field Training Program to both the Henderson and Bloom Mound site in the past several years. In Israel, Speth has been analyzing the role of large-mammal hunting in the adaptations of Near Eastern Neanderthals toward the end of the Middle Paleolithic. The larger mammal remains were recovered in the 1980s from the deeply stratified Kebara Cave located on the Mediterranean coast near Haifa. The analysis of the faunal collections found there are integral to developing a clearer understanding of the causes and consequences of the gradually increasing Neanderthal procurement strategies during the latter part of the Middle Paleolithic.

Speth has also been involved in the research of big-game hunting and exploring the reasons why foragers invested large amounts of time and effort in hunting these large animals. Specifically, he has been studying the flip-side of hunting high-protein game, looking at the costs and the negative effects of large intakes of protein.

Milford Wolpoff adds, “John Speth – archaeologist extraordinaire – has been my colleague, my research partner, my co-teacher, my friend when I needed one most, a victim of my most horrible puns, and yes, even a drinking partner (of Vernor’s Ginger Ale, of course). Indiana Jones could have been modeled after John: he is a daring adventurer, a skilled scientist, and perhaps most of all a real “rock hound”, the rocks in question being everything from human and animal fossils to stone tools to sapphires and other precious stones... and when not being a rock hound he is working on bone, human and animal. Some of his most interesting and groundbreaking (pun intended) research is on bone and on fat metabolism in human evolution. This can be quite personal – one time teaching together he was on weight-watchers and I was on an Atkins diet, and the weights went up on the blackboard every week, and of course were discussed.”

John Speth has been teaching at Michigan since 1976, and we will all miss him greatly as we wish him a wonderful retirement.
Fernando Coronil, emeritus professor of Anthropology and History, died on August 16, 2011 at the age of 66.

Professor Coronil was born on Nov. 30, 1944 in Caracas, Venezuela. His mother was the first female doctor in Venezuela, his father an eminent surgeon. Coronil received his BA at Stanford University in 1967, with distinction in History and Social Thought and Institutions. There, he met Julie Skurski. They married and entered into what became a life-long intellectual partnership. Together they went to the University of Chicago for graduate training in Anthropology. Coronil’s studies there were interrupted after he was blocked from undertaking fieldwork in Cuba and barred from the United States on unspecified charges. The ban was eventually lifted and Coronil completed his PhD based on fieldwork in Venezuela in 1987. In 1988 he came to the University of Michigan as a member of the Society of Fellows, after which he was hired in a position split between the departments of Anthropology and History. Coronil was a highly visible participant in numerous intellectual activities across campus. Of particular importance was his role in the freshly created Program in the Comparative Study of Social Transformations (CSST), which did so much in the 1990s to pioneer Michigan’s fostering of cross-fertilization across the humanities and social sciences. CSST also added enormous impetus to the concurrently founded Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Anthropology, which two decades later has become an internationally recognized model of rigorous and creative interdisciplinary training. Coronil was a key member of its core faculty from the start, and served as its director and guiding spirit during much of the period between 1997 and 2008. He also directed the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program.

Coronil’s scholarly research focused on political culture, economics, and the nation-state. His first book, *The Magical State: Nature, Money, and Modernity in Venezuela*, was a wide ranging analysis centered on the role of the petroleum based economy and land rents in the formation of that country’s national culture. At the time of his death, he was writing a volume on Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. Coronil put great efforts into the work of his colleagues and students. Among the results were the volumes *States of Violence and Anthrohistory: Unsettling Knowledge and Questioning Discipline*, both coedited with Skurski. The latter collection represents his concern with the ethics and epistemology of the scholarly professions. His writings and lectures challenging often unrecognized dimensions of Eurocentrism in anthropology and history have had a wide impact in both disciplines, as well as in Latin American Studies. Despite its often critical thrust, his work was always characterized by generosity, elegance, and subtlety.

A keen observer of current events, Coronil was very much a public intellectual, an increasingly visible media presence in both the US and Venezuela. He was appointed by the American Anthropological Association to a commission set up to investigate charges of ethical breaches by scientific researchers among the Yanomami of Venezuela, which resulted in the two volume *El Dorado Task Force Report*.

In 2008, after twenty years at Michigan, Coronil and Skurski took up appointments at the CUNY Graduate Center. Fernando Coronil is survived by Julie Skurski and their daughters, Mariana and Andrea Coronil, all of New York City.

- Webb Keane, Professor, Department of Anthropology
Norma J. Diamond, Professor Emerita of anthropology, died on March 30, 2011 in Gainesville, Florida. Professor Diamond was born on February 12, 1933, the child of European immigrants. She received her B.A. degree in anthropology in 1954 from the University of Wisconsin and her Ph.D. degree in 1966 from Cornell University. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 1963. She was promoted to associate professor in 1970 and professor in 1976. She was one of the first tenured women in the Department of Anthropology, and among a small handful in the College.

Professor Diamond’s career as one of the premier American anthropologists who conduct research in China was pioneering and exceptional. Her research in Taiwan among peasant smallholders was among the first field studies of Taiwan, and as the People’s Republic of China opened itself to foreign scholars in the late 1970s, she similarly did pioneering ethnography there, concentrating her research on the Hua Miao minority group. Her research in the People’s Republic of China emphasized inter-ethnic interaction and religion (as the Hua Miao were famously Christian, so much so that scholars of Chinese minorities considered Christianity their “native” religion.) Her engagement with Hua Miao religion led her to study the work of the Anglican missionary Samuel Pollard who worked in the region at the beginning of the century, and this in turn led her to join the Anglican Church when she returned to Ann Arbor. Her research is notable for her commitment to the peoples she worked with, and for engagement that extended beyond the field to her becoming active in the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars in the late 1960s.

A second, critical intellectual engagement for Professor Diamond was with then-nascent feminist anthropology. Author of several articles on Taiwanese women, she was faculty sponsor of a student-organized course informally titled, “The Second Sex in the Third World”—a less memorable title appeared in the course catalogue—with the participation of a cohort of graduate students who are now widely recognized as the founding generation of feminist anthropologists, a cohort that has gone on to transform the field of anthropology.

Professor Diamond attracted numerous students to train at the University of Michigan and to receive Ph.D.s under her direction, including leading scholars of Taiwan and the People’s Republic of China. Professor Diamond gave ample service to the University, the Center for Chinese Studies, and the Department of Anthropology. Each unit benefited from her exceptional insight and commitment to excellence in all aspects of University activities.

As an educator, Professor Diamond was demanding and exciting, while remaining supportive of individual student needs. A dry wit, with the ability to cut academic pretense to the quick with a bon mot, Professor Diamond conducted her research and university life with extraordinary forthrightness and ethical commitment surpassed by none. The Department of Anthropology and the College owe a debt of gratitude to this remarkable scholar who has now been taken from us.

-Professor Bruce Mannheim
If you peeked through the door of 221 West Hall this summer you may have been surprised to see close to two hundred cardboard boxes containing thousands of water bottles, backpacks, shoes, and other items brought back from the Sonoran Desert of Southern Arizona by Assistant Professor Jason De León. These artifacts were used and deposited by the hundreds of thousands of undocumented migrants who attempt to enter the U.S. each year by walking across the harsh desert. As part of his Undocumented Migration Project, De León directs a field school in Arizona that trains students how to use archaeological methods to collect data on contemporary border crossings. This includes mapping and collecting the many objects that migrants leave behind while attempting to walk several days from Mexico to towns in Arizona. The material culture associated with this clandestine behavior is providing unique insight into the social process of border crossing, including how migrants prepare for these events and the difficulties they encounter along the way.

Since July of 2011, De León has had students help him to catalog, curate, and analyze the several tons of material that he has collected. There are currently three freshman Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) students (Emma Duross, Sarah Rybak, and Joia Sanders), a recent UM graduate (Hannah DeRose-Wilson) and a senior from Green Hills High School (Anna Forringer) working in the lab. In addition, these students are all conducting independent research projects on migration. De León is proud to report that high school student Anna Forringer has recently submitted her first abstract to the Society for American Archaeology meetings for 2012. It is anticipated that she will present a paper in Memphis entitled “Fragments and Females: Using Micro-Debitage to Understand the Border Crossing Experiences of Women Migrants in Southern Arizona.” De León encourages all to stop by and check out the lab.

On September 15th, the Department hosted its first annual Fall Welcome event. Undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff gathered for a rare chance to chat about anthropology and meet new members of the department. Despite the 40-degree weather, many persisted in sticking around until the end of the event, cradling cups of coffee and tea as they talked about anthropology and the unseasonable weather. The department displayed its latest swag for students to claim as they munched on delicacies like sandwich wraps and double-chocolate brownies. “This was great,” said one graduate student. “I talked with an undergraduate student about her interests in Franz Boas’ work. It was great to see her so interested.”

For more updates about upcoming events, click on this link to our facebook page: U Mich Anthropology
Since the conclusion of its 14-year civil war, Liberia has been rebuilding its government, infrastructure, and health delivery system. Though policy changes and infrastructural improvements have helped to increase the country’s capacity to provide basic health and social services, they are slow to manifest themselves in rural communities, which need them most. I interned with Tiyatien Health in Zwedru, Liberia to augment its community health worker (“accompanier”) program through qualitative research, improving this innovative community-based program’s capacity to provide support in rural areas.

To be successful, qualitative research and narrative collecting requires a great deal of trust and familiarity between the members of both parties. Because of this, I started my internship by observing the organization and community, and by fostering relationships with Tiyatien Health staff. After I established my role within the organization, I began to qualitatively assess Tiyatien Health’s accompanier program. I performed formal interviews with many of TH’s accompaniers, which elucidated multiple aspects of these individuals’ roles within TH, and the strengths and weaknesses of the accompanier program. I also held informal discussions to delve further into the personal lives of TH’s accompaniers, and to gain a perspective on the broader context in which these individuals live and work. As I built friendships and trust with the accompaniers, I visited patients’ homes with them, where I was able to observe how accompaniers interact with their patients. I also talked with patients about the vital role their accompanier plays in their lives.

My work uncovered aspects of TH’s innovative accompanier program that will facilitate its further development. Because I was able to collect numerous accompanier perspectives, Tiyatien Health is better equipped to make systemic improvements to its accompanier program. Additionally, my internship with Tiyatien Health has aided me in my own personal and professional development, and has deepened my passion for and commitment to global health and social justice. I have gained valuable perspectives that will help guide me in my future endeavors to promote health and social justice from the grassroots level, as well as from the policy and systems-based levels.
Four months ago, I had just left what some consider to be the world’s “cute” capital: Tokyo. Thanks to the Anthropology Department and International Institute, I was able to spend 3 months there researching Japanese cuteness, or kawaisa. You are probably already familiar with examples of this aesthetic: Pokemon, Hello Kitty, and many well-known anime all fall within the realm of kawaii, or “cute.” Once I arrived in Japan, however, I started to notice there were some cute things that didn’t seem to quite fit the bill...

Take, for example, the bizarre pink gnome-like creature below. To paraphrase one of my friends, he looks like an obsequious man in a teletubby suit. However, in interviews with other Japanese friends I made in Tokyo, he came up as an example of a “disgusting-cute” creature. Besides this descriptor, other categories describe things that are debatably cute, like “adult-cute,” “ugly-cute,” “frumpy-cute,” “sexy-cute,” “scary-cute,” and so on. Though many Japanese bemoan these words and creatures as evidence of “escapism” among Japanese youth, I started to wonder how such a diverse typology of cute things blossomed in postwar Japan.

Conservative criticisms of Japanese youth and their supposed obsession with cute things became still more interesting when I discovered government uses of cute mascots to increase local tourism. Though these “loose characters” have existed in Japan since at least the 1980s, the early 2000s witnessed a government mascot explosion. Now, there are almost no cities, towns, or even prefectures that do not have their respective mascot, which is responsible for promoting the area’s tourist attractions and specialty foods. Even after I returned from Tokyo, I continued to research these mascots through skype interviews and lengthy emails with “loose character” fans, designers, and staff at government institutions that decided to create the mascots in the first place. The mascot explosion may have something to do with postwar “open government” efforts to democratize Japan by creating friendlier relations between citizens and local government organizations in particular. By linguistically and visually embodying informality, these mascots allow government institutions to have “loose,” fun interactions with residents. I’m looking forward to finishing up my thesis and figuring out how and why this is done.

Besides mountains of notes and images, I returned from Japan with a better understanding of myself, and of anthropology. I have relatives and friends in Tokyo that I had not seen in 6 years who were happy to answer my strange questions about Japanese pop culture, and who challenged me to rethink some of my assumptions about cuteness. I left reminded of the importance of building relationships so key to doing ethnography well, and to having fun while I was at it.
**BROKEN BONES**

Dmanisi is home to Oldowon technology, a method for making basic stone tools. The site is filled with bone fragments, but many of them seem to have been broken into the same particular patterns. To test hypotheses about how these bones broke, we decided to make our own Oldowon tools and try them out on half a sheep we bought at a local market. Some of the tools we made included cleavers strong enough to break bone and flakes sharp enough to cut ligaments. We butchered the sheep with our newly made tools, confirming the technology they had 1.8 million years ago was sufficient to eat meat. We then broke the bones, a commonly found technique to extract the fat-rich marrow. The bones broke into the same pattern that we often found fossilized at the site.

**RESEARCH**

I spent this field season at the *Homo erectus* site of Dmanisi in Patara Dmanisi, Republic of Georgia. Close to two million years old, it is the earliest known site of human occupation outside of Africa. The excavations I assisted were successful; we excavated a number of unique large mammals as well as many microfaunal remains. We catalogued our entries to analyze how the site formed, how the animals died, if a human component was involved with either, and where to look for more fossils next season. All the bones were in incredible condition given their age; they were remarkably complete and only partially fossilized. We collected sediment samples from the site’s geological layers to study the fossilization process that occurred so we could better understand this unique preservation.
SCIENCE AND COMMUNITY

Working at Dmanisi was more than just a scientific experience. With professionals from Italy, Spain, the Republic of Georgia, and others, I encountered a group of people that was truly international. This broadened my scientific network and fostered my commitment to collaboration. Lectures given by visiting scholars gave me a new perspective on topics I had thought were one-dimensional. I also enjoyed meeting new Georgian friends. Working together in the heat all day and bunking together every night, we quickly became close through the daily routine of fieldwork. I had the opportunity to learn some basics of the Georgian language, share in festivities for the Georgian National Museum Director’s birthday and participate in the “Paleolithic Games” on Georgian television. We traveled to other local sites as well, including the oldest known gold mine in the world.

A unique feature of the Dmanisi site is that it is a working open air museum. It is open to the public throughout the year, including during our excavations. The way the site was advertised to the public clearly demonstrated how the scientific community and larger society interact: the site was advertised as the home of the first ‘Europeans.’ The term is closely tied with modern national identity and how contemporary Georgians see themselves and their country.

My field work and excavations at Dmanisi gave me a holistic picture of how science can be conducted in a global setting. I am confident that I will continue to bring that spirit of collaboration and my experiences in Georgia with me throughout my career. It has reinforced my interest in human evolution and provided me with a network of mentors around the world.
ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE
Abby Work

This April, I was able to attend the annual Society of American Archaeology Conference on a scholarship from the Daniel Carl Maier Fund. There, I was able to meet archaeologists intimately involved in the research questions I investigate as part of my senior thesis project. Not only was I able to meet professors who share my research interests, but also those knowledgeable about the technical aspects of my data collection, specifically ground stone analysis. Meeting these professionals not only strengthened my arguments on my topic but also prodded me to question some of the assumptions in my analysis. Besides guiding me through my thesis writing, these conversations helped me to build professional relationships with archaeologists working in areas of future interest to me. This was an invaluable opportunity that will further my future career. I was able to network with scholars with whom I will continue working in graduate school next year, and to discuss research interests beyond my thesis project with them. This allowed me to consider new approaches to my central concerns and helped me to reimagine some of the questions I would like to pursue in graduate school.

Attending this conference helped my senior research project while fostering larger research interests I plan to pursue in the future. Aside from the valuable information gained from discussions with other scholars, the opportunity to network provided a good basis for me to begin my graduate career this fall.
To continue with its four-field tradition, the Michigan Anthropology Graduate Association will host a graduate student conference on anthropology’s seminal theme of kinship. Students from all four fields (biological anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and anthropological archaeology) and scholars from related disciplines will present innovative research they have done on kinship.

Among other things, the conference hopes to answer questions such as: How are the boundaries of kinship defined, rehearsed, and enacted? What differences are made between biological kin and other forms of relatedness? What lines are drawn between humans and other species? What constitutes the substance of kinship? How is kinship tied to space and place?

For the full schedule, visit: [http://sitemaker.umich.edu/maga/dynamic_kinship_2012](http://sitemaker.umich.edu/maga/dynamic_kinship_2012)

**Four-Field Talks**

On December 2nd, about 30 graduate students gathered in West Hall to listen to four representatives of each subfield discuss their research. The topics represented the discipline’s breadth well. After Andy Gurstelle enumerated on the importance of nails in fleshing out the biographies of Congolese Minkonde objects, Zach Cofran talked about the relationship between development and evolution. Then came “the Peruvian half-hour:” a discussion of mining, labor, and ecology in Peru by Federico Helfgott, and an interesting conclusion by Josh Shapero about how glacial lakes and other landmarks can ground discussions of morality.

The tone remained informal throughout, as students presenting cracked a few jokes and those listening snuck through the short breaks to grab food. They seemed to agree that the talks were valuable for learning what peers, especially those in other subfields, were doing. “After a while, you might recognize someone by face but you don’t know much else about them. This is a way to learn what people are thinking about,” said one of the organizers of the talk.
In October, the department displayed a photography exhibit by Anthropology Ph.D. candidate Vanessa Díaz. The display reflected on the personal relationship between ethnographers and their research. After an opening event, the pictures remained on display in the department’s Titiev library for 3 weeks. The exhibit was made possible by the department and the McKinnel Memorial Award, which was established in honor of U of M Art & Design alumna Kelly McKinnell. Vanessa dedicated the exhibit to Kelly and the late Mihail Georgiev.

In her own words, the photos “are not only a glimpse into life in the various countries represented here, but also of the diverse University of Michigan graduate students with fieldwork experiences that are distinct to their local contexts and their relationships to their fieldsites. The photos are of the ethnographers living daily life and engaging in their ethnographic research. Visiting these dispersed locations at the midpoint of my fieldwork provided me with insight into the dramatically different fieldsites my peers are working in, and a refreshed perspective on the notion of fieldwork and its complex meanings and manifestations. As someone working ‘at home’ in the US, it was fascinating to explore how ‘at home’ my peers felt in their respective research sites.”

“Jane Lynch is pictured here at Sarojini Nagar, a popular export-reject market in Delhi for readymade clothing and home textiles...it’s interesting for her to visit this market and consider which kinds of items are being produced for foreign vs. local markets and what trends are visible in rejected clothing items.”

“Born February 28, 2011, Aida has changed Luciana’s life and shaped her fieldwork experience. ‘[Before, people] felt like, “Oh, she’s just here because they sent her and then she’s gonna go away.” Like there is nothing for us in this relationship. But now people see me as a mom and as more permanent.’”
- Luciana Aenasoaie

“On a Friday night in Sofia, Elana attends services at the local synagogue. The Jewish community is small, but present, and Elana has integrated herself into it naturally. The people at the synagogue are familiar with her research and seem happy to help her in any way they can. For Elana, attending synagogue helps her feel balanced while she conducts her sometimes emotionally intense fieldwork.”
With the financial support of the 2011 Marshall Weinberg Award for Teaching and Research, I was able to make substantial progress on my dissertation manuscript, “The Long Expulsion: Asian-Indian Difference, Gender, and the Politics of Citizenship in Uganda.” My work explores the possibilities for Indian inclusion in the post-Idi Amin era of Uganda. I am interested in politics and power in Uganda, in mapping the shifting terrain of ideologies, apprehensions and practices of Indian citizenship over the longue durée in the polity, and exploring new political-economic and social formations such as “Indian investment-networks” and “community sovereigns” that become central to the reconstruction of Indian communities in Uganda. Over the summer term, I wrote an article entitled “Exceptions to the Expulsion: Community, Violence, and Security among Ugandan Asians (1972-1979)” that will be published in a special issue on “Reframing Knowledge Production on 1970s Uganda” in the Journal of East African Studies. This essay analyses the strategies of Ugandan Asian men and women who continued to live in Uganda during Idi Amin’s governance regime in Uganda. I am now drafting this essay into a longer version of a dissertation chapter.

I spent the second half of the summer term at the Uganda National Archives (UNA) in Entebbe, Uganda, where, under the guidance of Dr. Derek Peterson (History, U of M), I worked on a cataloguing project to create an archival record of colonial-era documents under British governance of the Uganda Protectorate. In the process of sorting through boxes of files, I found a number of documents that will be helpful to my overall project, including census information on Indian laborers and migrants and records of Indian widows’ pension claims to the British government. I hope to begin to analyze these files in my dissertation and use them in my future work. I plan to develop an imperial framework for understanding citizenship claims in the Indian Ocean arena that will help me to build on my anthropological analysis of trans-national mobility, new formations of sovereignty, and ideologies of citizenship in East Africa and the Indian Ocean. I will defend my dissertation in August 2012 under the guidance of Dr. Kelly Askew and Dr. Damani Partridge. The support of the Weinberg Award has been critical to the progress of my research.

Anneeth and Dr. Joshua Muvumba just outside of Mbarara town in southwestern Uganda. She interviews this oral historian about African-Indian relationships in Mbarara district in the colonial period and gives her his impressions of new Indian migrants in Uganda.
In presenting the case of Kaska, an endangered language in an Athabaskan community in Canada’s Yukon territory, Barbra Meek asserts that language revitalization requires more than just linguistic rehabilitation; it demands a social transformation. This book provides a detailed investigation of language revitalization based most immediately on two years of field research among the Kaska speaking community of the Yukon territory in Canada, though it also reflects a longer engagement with research in language revitalization and north country people. Each chapter focuses on a different dimension of this issue, such as spelling and expertise, conversation and social status, family practices, and bureaucratic involvement in local language choices, to illustrate the balance between the desire for linguistic continuity and the reality of disruption.

The book is now available from the University of Arizona Press. For more information, see: http://firstpeoplesnewdirections.org/book.php?id=1091

Andrew Shryock was one of the 2011 recipients of the Harold R. Johnson Diversity Service Award. One of the more prestigious recognitions conferred by the University, this award honors those who have shown exemplary commitment to the communities surrounding our university. Andrew receives this honor in light of diverse accomplishments, but most especially those connected to his work with the Arab and Arab-American community of Southeast Michigan. He joins Kelly Askew as the second member from the Anthropology Department to receive this award.

Professor Shryock also received the 2011 John Dewey Award for long term commitment to undergraduate teaching. This award is presented by the LSA Executive Committee to one among the pool of those who are recommended for promotion from Associate Professor to Professor in a given year. It honors those who, in the spirit of John Dewey, have shown a consistent dedication to the education of undergraduates at the University. Modeling Dewey’s own example, recipients show a parallel engagement in scholarly productivity, provision of leadership, and engagement with and care for students.
FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

THE PAPER ROAD

This exhilarating book interweaves the stories of two early twentieth-century botanists to explore the collaborative relationships each formed with Yunnan villagers in gathering botanical specimens from the borderlands between China, Tibet, and Burma. Erik Mueggler introduces Scottish botanist George Forrest, who employed Naxi adventurers in his fieldwork from 1906 until his death in 1932. We also meet American Joseph Francis Charles Rock, who, in 1924, undertook a dangerous expedition to Gansu and Tibet with the sons and nephews of Forrest’s workers. Mueggler describes how the Naxi workers and their Western employers rendered the earth into specimens, notes, maps, diaries, letters, books, photographs, and ritual manuscripts. Drawing on an ancient metaphor of the earth as a book, Mueggler provides a sustained meditation on what can be copied, translated, and revised and what can be folded back into the earth.

- University of California Press

DEEP HISTORY

In “Deep History: The Architecture of Past and Present,” Andrew Shryock and co-editor Daniel Smail of Harvard University seek to expand our understanding of human history through interdisciplinary scholarship. With the postmodernist retreat from “grand narrative” perspectives, historians increasingly tend to focus on trends from the past few centuries. The two editors believe the antidote to this “shallow history” is “deep history,” or broadening historians’ scholarship to include non-textual evidence spanning back to when the earliest humans existed - 2.6 million years ago. The book sprang from a workshop organized by the two in 2008. As Diane Swanbrow writes in an [article](http://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520270282), “The aim was to transcend specialization, grouping themselves by themes and tackling their subjects collectively.” The article has also been reviewed in the New York Times (click here). Clearly, a ground-breaking read for scholars and non-academics alike.

### EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td><strong>MARCH 16-17.</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAGA CONFERENCE.</strong> Fri-Sat. East Hall 4448&lt;br&gt;The Michigan Anthropology Graduate Association will host a four-field conference titled “Dynamic Kinship.” Students will present papers that study kinship in innovative ways. For the full schedule, visit <a href="http://sitemaker.umich.edu/maga/dynamic_kinship_2012">http://sitemaker.umich.edu/maga/dynamic_kinship_2012</a></td>
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| **MARCH 19.** | **ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM.** 4 - 6 PM. West Hall 411.  
   The speaker will be Timothy Ingold. |
| **APRIL 16.** | **ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM.** 4 - 6 PM. West Hall 411.  
   The speaker will be Duana Fullwiley. |
| **APRIL 17.** | **HONORS POSTER SESSION.** 4:30 - 6 PM West Hall.  
   Honors Anthropology students will display posters summarizing their thesis projects, and enjoy an opportunity to share their original research with the general public. |
| **APRIL 27.** | **ANTHROPOLOGY COMMENCEMENT.** 1-3 PM. Union Study Lounge  
   On April 27th, we will continue our tradition of celebrating the achievements of our graduating concentrators and minors with a lunch in their honor at the Michigan Union. It is a great time for our seniors, their families, and our faculty to come together for a few hours of fun and recognition for the hard work our undergraduates have accomplished. On display will be posters designed by our Honors Anthropology seniors showcasing their thesis projects. For those who cannot attend, or who would like more time to read about students’ projects, posters will also be displayed at an earlier date, April 17th.  
   Please see [http://lsa.umich.edu/anthro/events](http://lsa.umich.edu/anthro/events) for more event information. |
Anthropology is committed to strengthening our program in many areas. For more information about Anthropology priorities, see [http://www.lsa.umich.edu/anthro/alumnifriends/giftopportunities](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/anthro/alumnifriends/giftopportunities)

Through the extraordinary generosity of a bequest from the Robert H. Thomas Trust, the department announces the creation of the Michigan Anthropology Alumni Graduate Fellowship for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. We take it as our charge to responsibly use this gift for the future benefit of our department’s teaching and contributions to the discipline.

Mr. Thomas’s generosity will allow us, through subsequent donations from throughout the Michigan community, alumni and others, to award a graduate fellowship for a meritorious student who has shown exemplary commitment and ability in undergraduate teaching as a Graduate Student Instructor. We hope you will help us build on Mr. Thomas’ gift.

Donations may be made by credit card or check payable to the University of Michigan. Please feel free to use the donation card provided at the end of the newsletter.
Please send to:
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