



PROCESS

The alumni newsletter of the Indiana University Department of Anthropology
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IU Anthropologists Travel Above the Arctic Circle to Repatriate Alaska Native Human Remains and Funerary Objects

The month of June found IU anthropologists Jayne-Leigh Thomas and April Sievert over 350 miles above the Arctic Circle in Barrow, a town with a population of 4,000 on Alaska's North Slope.

Bundled against the 40-degree summer cold, they ate maktak (bowhead whale skin with blubber) and natchiq (seal meat), and then Thomas was thrown in the air on a bearded seal skin blanket (trampoline-style) held tight by villagers; and attended late-night traditional dances at a local gym -- all part of the Nalukataq, an annual whaling

festival and celebration of community.

"We were invited by the Native Village of Barrow. Travel arrangements were made so we could attend the entire celebration," said Thomas, director of the IU Bloomington NAGPRA Office.

She and Sievert, director of the Glenn Black Laboratory of Archaeology, traveled to Barrow to repatriate Alaska Native human remains and funerary objects from IU. The project was funded under the auspices of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, known as NAGPRA. Federal law requires museums and agencies to inventory human remains and sacred items and return them to the appropriate tribes. The project was a collaborative effort in partnership with the Native Village of Barrow Iñupiat Traditional Government.

Their visit is the continuation of a relationship that began nearly 100 years ago



From left, Native Village of Barrow NAGPRA coordinator and realty director Flossie Mongoyak and IU anthropologists April Sievert and Jayne-Leigh Thomas stand near the village's welcome sign. | PHOTO COURTESY OF JAYNE-LEIGH THOMAS

between Barrow and IU. The collection came to IU from Mollie Greist, a missionary nurse from Monticello, Ind. She and her husband, physician Henry Greist, lived and worked in the remote North Slope community from 1921 to 1936.

In This Issue



DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
Bloomington

New Faces in the Department



Top: From left, Ilana Gershon, Jane Goodman, Susan Lepselter

Bottom: Jennifer Meta Robinson, Susan Seizer

We are excited to welcome five new colleagues to the department: Ilana Gershon, Jane Goodman, Susan Lepselter, Jennifer Meta Robinson, and Susan Seizer. They come to Anthropology from the former IU Department of Communication and Culture, bringing a wealth of expertise in the areas of performance and ethnography. Along with others in the department, they have already created a new area of focus and corresponding undergraduate certificate titled, "Communication, Media and Performance" (CaMP). Read more on the [CaMP blog here](#).

A Chair's Perspective

IU's fall semester began amazingly early this year, in mid-August, when I think most of us would rather have still been doing field work. But welcoming new students and new faculty into the department got things off to an exciting start. A highlight was the hospitality of Professors Rick Wilk and Anne Pyburn who hosted our Welcome Party for the graduate students, complete with a splendid array of grilled sausages and marvelous salads and desserts contributed by all. It was more than a party. I remember my own first days in graduate school, working with a research group on the archaeology

of human origins. Nothing says "humanity" like food-sharing we thought then, and I still do. Food is one of the many things that helps our intellectual community thrive and grow, linking us and the many peoples we study, past and present. Food, as Marvin Harris said, is good to think.

Sharing pizza and ideas at the end of the semester marked another important occasion – professor Stacie King met for the last time with the 16 undergraduates who had been interning as Undergraduate Teaching Assistants. Each of them had helped a professor teach a class, and together they had

learned about principles of pedagogy and the process of creating a university course in our A420 seminar led by professor King. We can all be grateful that these undergrads not only wanted to help their fellow students learn to appreciate anthropology, but also that they wanted to learn about teaching...a brave ambition, perhaps analogous to learning to make the wide variety of sausages we happily ate at the start of the semester. Cultures of ideas and food-sharing connect our past, present, and anthropological future. Thanks to all, and a toast to 2016!

Summer 2016 Study Abroad & Field Schools

Next summer, IU students will have the opportunity to participate in two archaeological field schools and a study abroad class in Italy, led by Anthropology faculty. There will be an information session for interested students on Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 5:30pm. in Student Building 159.

"Fieldwork in Anthropology: "Food, Tourism, and Sustainability In Italy"

Study Abroad on the Amalfi Coast of Italy this summer! Instruction will be in English. This program is designed to introduce students to a broad range of topics within anthropology, including 1) food, 2) culture change, 3) tourism and 4) cultural persistence. Students will attend lectures on the food, agricultural and fishing practices, the culture of the Italian South, as well as the economic challenges to the coastal communities with globalization and organized crime. The class includes cooking classes; marine ecology; vineyard, orchard, and food explorations; and a guided tour of Pompeii! [Learn more here.](#)

"Bighorn Archaeology: Exploring Historical and Social Landscapes of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem"

Celebrating its tenth year as Bighorn Archaeology, the 2016 cooperative program in archaeological field methods will take place in the beautiful Absaroka Mountain ranges of Wyoming. This field school is a holistic, field-based program in the social history and human ecology of the North-western Plains and Middle Rocky Mountains with a special emphasis on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. If you like camping, hiking, and archaeology, this field school is for you! [Learn more here.](#)

"Revealing Cahokia's Religion"

This summer will be year five of the "Revealing Cahokia's Religion" project. This year will be examining 1000-year-old habitation sites around the Emerald Shrine center



Bighorn Archaeology Fieldschool
Photo by Laura Scheiber.

to look for the caretakers of that religious center. Student participants will learn basic field skills qualifying them for employment as a field technician upon completion of the class.

Funded by the J. Templeton Society, the NEH and NSF, this project has been highlighted in *Archaeology Magazine*, NPR and TV programs such as "Earth 2050." Visit the [Revealing Cahokia's Religion Facebook page](#) for more information.

Anthropologists Consult on Feature Film

Douglas Parks and Logan Sutton (IU American Indian Studies Research Institute) recently consulted in the production of *The Revenant* (New Regency Productions). The film, which releases this month, is directed and co-written by Academy Award winner Alejandro G. Iñárritu (Birdman, Babel), with Leonardo DiCaprio starring as the historical frontiersman and fur trapper, Hugh Glass.

The film incorporates extensive dialogs in Pawnee and Arikara, two Northern Caddoan languages researched by Parks over a 40-year period and, more recently,

Logan Sutton. Parks was first given lists of sentences to translate into the two languages and then flown to Los Angeles to review the material with production staff. Subsequently, Sutton spent three weeks at the studio working on additional translations and coaching actors to pronounce lines correctly. After tutoring Leonardo DiCaprio, Sutton said the actor was all business and a quick learner. What was most impressive to Parks and Sutton was the producers' insistence that the Pawnee and Arikara dialog be authentic in both content and pronunciation, unlike

many movies featuring Plains Indians.

The film chronicles an 1823 expedition into an uncharted American wilderness by explorer and fur trapper Hugh Glass, who is mauled by a bear and left for dead by members of his hunting team. The story follows Glass' adventures over a vicious winter to survive and seek vengeance on those who murdered his young Indian son and left him to die. (A "revenant" is a dead spirit that comes back to life.) The film has already received very good critical reviews, and is expected to receive many awards.

Visitor Spotlight: John Bunce

John Bunce joined the Department of Anthropology and the Human Biology Program in the fall as a Visiting Assistant Professor. His broad research interests lie in the processes of cultural change in indigenous and mestizo communities in lowland tropical forests of Eastern Peru. He is currently examining cultural change and how inter-ethnic interaction affects people's norms in indigenous Matsigenka and immigrant Mestizo communities in and around

[Manu National Park](#) in the department of Madre de Dios, in the Amazonian region of Southeastern Peru.

This year, he is teaching "Bioanthropology," "Controversies in Human Adaptation," and "Biocultural Medical Anthropology." He comes to IU following appointments at UC Davis, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Vanderbilt University, and Western Kentucky University. To learn more about John's research, [visit his website](#).



Photo courtesy of John Bunce

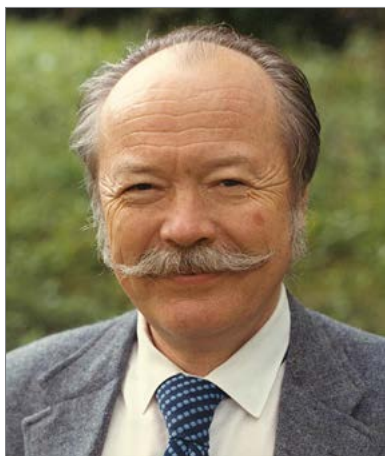
Wilk Named AAAS Fellow

Richard Wilk was named a fellow of the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#), a distinction that recognizes outstanding contributions to the progress of science and research. The AAAS citation of merit describes Wilk's honor: "for distinguished contributions to anthropology, especially innovative research in economic anthropology that has been highly influential in both sociocultural anthropology and archaeology."

Wilk, who is Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, is a scholar on the subjects of sustainability, food, globalization and the rights of native people. He is the author of four books: *The Anthropology of Everyday Life*, *Home Cooking in the Global Village*, and two publications on the native people of Belize -- as well as more than 160 research papers and book chapters, a textbook on economic anthropology, and 14 edited volumes. His research in Belize, the U.S. and West

Africa has been supported by two Fulbright fellowships, the Mellon Foundation, and grants from the National Science Foundation and other organizations, including IU.

Wilk has also served as a [member of the American Anthropological Association's Global Climate Change Task Force](#) and as a consultant to multiple native-rights organizations and USAID programs in Central America. [Read the full IU news release here](#).



Paul Gebhard

In Memoriam: Paul Gebhard

Dr. Paul Gebhard, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and former director of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction, died on July 9, 2015, near his home in Nashville, Indiana after a brief illness. He was 98 years old.

Gebhard was one of the earliest members of the Department of Anthropology, joining Alfred Kinsey's research team at IU in 1946. He was a co-author of the 1953 bestselling research book, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*, which revealed sexual experiences of women in mid-century America. A Harvard-trained anthropologist, he conducted interviews and also devised the classification scheme for the Institute's extensive collection of photographs.

Following the death of Alfred Kinsey in 1956, Gebhard served as director of the Institute and continued in this position until 1982. Under his leadership, the institute staff continued to conduct interviews and analyze data. Notable books include *Pregnancy, Birth and Abortion* in 1958 and *Sex Offenders: An Analysis of Types* in 1965.

During his tenure, the Kinsey Institute researchers continued ground-breaking research on homosexuality, sexual deviance,

erotic art around the world, and the social structure of sexuality, among other topics. In 1979, Gebhard and Alan Johnson published *The Kinsey Data: Marginal tabulations of the 1938-1963 interviews conducted by The Institute for Sex Research*. The primary purpose was to encourage secondary analysis and facilitate new approaches and ideas. The original Kinsey data continues to be analyzed and compared with new approaches by contemporary researchers.

A series of interviews with Paul from last year recalling his experiences, such as his first meeting with Alfred Kinsey, working with Masters and Johnson, and his opinion on the movie *KINSEY*, can be [viewed on the Kinsey website](#).

Paul is survived by his son Mark Gebhard, of Nashville, Indiana, his daughters Jan Worthy of Harrisonburg, Virginia, and Karla Gebhard of Bloomington, Indiana, four grandchildren and one great grandchild, and his stepchildren: George E. Huntington III and his family, and John Christie Huntington and his family.

[Read full article here.](#)



Alfred Kinsey and Paul Gebhard, 1953.
Photos by Bill Dellenback

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT:

Undergraduate Field Research Supported by New Scholarship

Three undergraduates returned this fall from successful field seasons in North American archaeology. Errin Mitchell, Ryann Sieffers, and Jessica Skiles were the recipients of the inaugural Mary Suzanne Savage Field Research Scholarship, which supported their training and research.

Errin Mitchell spent May and June in the southern lowlands of Belize with an archaeological field school through Michigan State University. Her group excavated primarily at two sites: Tipan Chen Uitz, a large civic center, and Caves Branch Rock Shelter, a Terminal Classic and Late Classic Mayan burial site. "I found that my love for Archaeology and Anthropology can get me through the toughest and hottest of things (like the insanely hot jungle) and also that I would love to return to Belize for more



From left: Ryann Seifers, Errin Mitchell, Jessica Skiles

archaeological studies," Mitchell said.

Ryann Seifers' and Jessica Skiles' scholarships supported their field research as part of the IU archaeological field school "Exploring Social and Historical Landscapes of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem" in the Shoshone National Forest

and the Crow Reservation in Wyoming. The research focused on residential use of space and heritage management. They studied domestic architecture at nomadic Crow and Shoshone archaeological sites, where they gained experience in map making, surveying, and excavation techniques. "Archaeologically, I now have experience with the process of analyzing a site from start to finish," Skiles said of her experience. Seifers, who served as an undergraduate teaching assistant for the class, said, "these past few months prepared me to not only continue my own research within the realm of archaeology, but to teach other scholars about archaeological research."

The three scholarships were generously funded by Mrs Sara Rudolph in honor of her late sister, who had so enjoyed her own fieldwork in North American archaeology.

Colloquium Series Kicks Off the Year

This fall, the department kicked off a new colloquium series. Faculty, graduate students, affiliates, and friends attended the Monday talks. Following each presentation, speakers engaged the crowd for extended Q&A and stimulating discussion. The talks were as follows:

"Cultural Change at an Amazonian Ethnic Boundary: Insights from Evolutionary Models and Ethnography," delivered on September 21 by John Bunce, Visiting Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Human Biology.

"The In-Between and the Unknown," a joint presentation on October 12 featuring CaMP (Communication, Media and Performance) faculty in the department. It included "Before the Ruins: Waiting for the

Bulldozer in Algeria" by Jane Goodman and "Isthmus Zapotec artists and their art: image, word, and sound" by Anya Peterson Royce.

"Why Does Skin Color Vary? Evolutionary and Genetic Perspectives," delivered on October 26 by Heather L. Norton, University of Cincinnati.

"The Tyranny of Ethnonyms in Multi-ethnic Worlds," delivered on November 9 by Stacie King with Dan Suslak as discussant.

"Creating New Partnerships Under NAGPRA: Collaboration and Repatriation in the Alaskan Arctic," delivered on November 30 by Jayne-Leigh Thomas, IU NAGPRA Director, and April Sievert.

Six Undergraduates Inducted to Phi Beta Kappa

This fall, Six anthropology seniors were inducted to Phi Beta Kappa in December:

- Korinne A. Dunn
- Brandon Ray Hall
- Alexandra Claire Humm
- Bridget Gilchrist Kelly
- Cailey Dayle Mullins
- Amber Leili Lipman

New Course: "A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communication"

With the arrival of Jennifer Meta Robinson this fall, she brings with her a large first-year course on "A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communication." It currently enrolls about 400 students, but there is no large lecture. "I work backstage to mentor graduate students who teach small sections,"

she said. "Small classes mean undergraduates can work on their own interpersonal skills as well as their original ethnographic research."

The class's cross-cultural approach examines how people use everyday conversation to create the world they live in--ranging

from North Africa to North America, from 17th-century Quakers to today's virtual worlds, and from grade school to college.

"Interpersonal has the potential to change the way students see the world," Robinson said. "And every semester, some tell us that it has done just that."

Anthropology Alumni Updates

Stefano Fiorini (Ph.D. 2006) and his co-authors received a Charles F. Elton Best Paper Award from the Association for Institutional Research in May. Fiorini co-authored the paper with colleagues from the IU Bloomington Research and Assessment office. The paper, titled “Using NSSE to Understand Student Success: A Multi-Year Analysis,” uses National Survey of Student Engagement responses to predict student retention, academic performance, time to degree and on-time graduation. The predictions were based on factors such as student background and pre-college information, financial aid, previous college academic performance, and NSSE Benchmarks and individual items. Results show that student characteristics and earlier achievement predict college success while higher levels of student engagement are also marginally significant. Fiorini is Lead Research Analyst at the Bloomington Research and Assessment office. [Read the full news release here.](#)

Hannah Foster (B.A. 2014) began graduate study in linguistic anthropology at the University of Texas – Austin.

Joann Kealiinohomoku (Ph.D. 1976) passed away on December 2 in Flagstaff, Arizona. She was 85. Dr. Kealiinohomoku was one of a group of scholars whose work took the Anthropology of Dance in new directions. Coming from our four-field department, she looked at dance holistically as performed by the biological, language-using, social, culturally embedded human being. Her comparison of Hopi and Polynesian dance was one of the first and best comparative studies. Her article, “An Anthropologist looks at Ballet as a Form of Ethnic Dance,” challenged the arbitrary division into Western dance and traditional forms. She created a lasting legacy when she co-founded the Cross-Cultural Dance Resources organization. Joann was a scholar, teacher, dancer, mentor, and anthropologist.

Michael O’Neal (BA 1993) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Delaware. He is also a registered archaeologist and runs consulting projects with the state to provide Geoarchaeological training to students. While Geoarchaeology is only a small part of his research, he loves to keep it alive to remind him of what started his career. Some of his publications in Geoarchaeology include:

O’Neal, M.A. 2012. An Objective approach to Delineating Earthwork Geometry Using Sub-Decimeter DEMs. *Geoarchaeology*. Vol. 27, No. 2, pp. 157-165. [Read online.](#)

Lowery, D.*, M.A. O’Neal, et al. 2010. Late Pleistocene upland stratigraphy of the western Delmarva Peninsula, USA. *Quaternary Science Reviews*. Vol. 29, pp. 1472-1480. [Read online.](#)

O’Neal, M.A., M. O’Mansky, and J. MacGregor. 2005. Modeling the natural degradation of earthworks. *Geoarchaeology*, Vol. 20, No. 7, pp. 739-748. [Read online.](#)

Faculty Updates

Susan Alt’s summer Emerald Mounds field project was featured on the FOX television series, *Xploration Earth 2050*. The episode, “The Future Explains the Past,” aired in November and [is available on Hulu](#). Also in the segment are graduate students Elizabeth Watts, Rebecca Barzilai, and Leslie Drane.

Beth Buggenhagen was named a Residential Fellow in the IU Institute for Advanced Study. She is currently working to complete a book manuscript, *The Global Circulation of Photography in Muslim Senegal*. The book focuses on the global movements of photographers through the colonial cities of St. Louis and Dakar in the French Soudan, and ways in which present day photographers re-envision narratives of colonial history and build on their personal family archives and albums of photography to grapple with urban transformations.

Sara Friedman published *Exceptional States: Chinese Immigrants and Taiwanese Sovereignty* (University of California Press) and a co-edited volume, *Migrant Encounters: Intimate Labor, the State, and Mobility across Asia* (University of Pennsylvania Press). In October, she presented a talk titled “Competing Modes of Sovereign Assertion: Border Regimes, Human Rights, and Taiwan’s De Facto Sovereignty” at the conference *The*

Everyday Lives of Sovereignty held in Nicosia, Cyprus. During the fall semester she served as interim director of IU’s East Asian Studies Center and the Pan-Asia Institute.

Ilana Gershon is a 2015-16 Residential Fellow at the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, working on a book project tentatively titled *Getting a Job in the Digital Age: An Anti-Advice Book*. She published an edited volume, *A World of Work: Imagined Manuals for Real Jobs* (Cornell University Press, 2015), which included a chapter by Kate Graber: “Making Do in Perpetual Crisis: How to Be a Journalist in Buryatia.” Gershon also received a collaborative NSF Eager grant with Raquel Hill in the IU School of Informatics and Computing.

Jane E. Goodman received funding to begin work on her project “On Tour: Algerian Actors in the United States.” The project follows the dynamic social and cultural roles of Algerian actors as they develop their production and then take it on tour through the U.S. She will share her scholarship in an exceptional way by hosting the theater troupe in Bloomington, for performances and meetings with students. This will be followed by an e-book with IU Press. Goodman received support for the project from the Mellon Foundation, the IU Office of the Vice Provost for Research, the IU New Frontiers

in the Arts and Humanities program, the IU Institute for Advanced Study.

Kate Graber published this year’s annual review of linguistic anthropology for *American Anthropologist* (June 2015 issue, reviewing the year 2014) and a co-authored article on Siberian shamanism’s role in linguistic and cultural revitalization in *Problems of Post-Communism* (volume 62, issue 5), as well as shorter pieces. She was invited to the University of Virginia Linguistic Anthropology Seminar and the University of Chicago Semiotics Workshop to present her research on minority media in Russia’s Buryat territories, for which she was also awarded a Summer Faculty Research Fellowship from IU’s Russian and East European Institute.

Sarah Phillips became Director of the [IU Russian and East European Institute](#), in June. She also was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies. Read the [full description of her award here](#).

Anya Peterson Royce received the Medalla Guendabinnizaa (Medal, Spirit of the Zapotec People) 2015-2016, given by the Fundación Histórico Cultural Juchitán for distinguished scholarly contributions to the Isthmus Zapotec. A ceremony is planned for June 3, 2016, to coincide with an exhibition

Faculty Updates Continued

of selected photographs she has taken of the Isthmus Zapotec since 1968. Royce is the first non-Mexican to be awarded the medal. She also spent three weeks documenting several of the pilgrimages in the western counties of Ireland. Glencolmcille pilgrimage includes a landscape of inhabitants dating to megalithic farmers (4000-3000 BC) whose court cairns, portal dolmens, and ringforts sit next to Christian-era standing stones and places visited by St. Colm. Wells and streams on the route speak to their transformative power and



Standing stone and cairn, station 2, Glencolmcille
Photo by Anya Peterson Royce

are featured in medieval Irish literature. She also began a project in Juchitán, Oaxaca with Zapotec poets, painters, and musicians. These artists have negotiated being bearers of cultural heritage and bringers of innovation, of speaking to the pueblo and of addressing a global audience. Read her [blog post on one artist here](#).

April Sievert was appointed by Governor Mike Pence to serve on Indiana's Historic Preservation Review Board. The members of the Review Board are appointed for their experience and

knowledge within the areas of archaeology, architecture, architectural history or history to serve three-year terms. Sievert begins her term in January. [Read more here](#).

Frances Trix, Professor Emerita, was a visiting scholar at the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies of Peking University in Beijing, China. While there, she lectured at universities in Beijing, Shanghai, and Xi'an. She published "Islam in the Balkans" in the *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*, and presented a paper, "Five-Thousand Hanging Skirts: How Women Came to Remember War Rape in Kosovo," at the International Symposium: Gender, Language and Politics, at the University of Vienna, in Vienna, Austria. On her return she traveled by train with many refugees across Germany.

Student News

Alex Elvis Badillo received a [National Science Foundation \(NSF\) Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant \(DDRIG\)](#) to return to a rural region of southern Mexico in January 2016 for a regional archaeological settlement survey investigating land-use change in the rural mountainous region of Quiechapa during the Postclassic period (A.D. 800 - 1521). For more details, [visit](#)



Photo by Alex Elvis Badillo

[here](#). His project, PAQuie (El Proyecto Antropológico de Quiechapa, Anthropological Project of Quiechapa), is a multidisciplinary research project using archaeology, ethnography, linguistic dialect mapping, archival research, oral histories, satellite remote sensing, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to understand more about the people living in the region and their role within the broader context of southern Mexico in prehispanic times.

Feray Baskin had her paper "Turkish Women in Alsace: Language Maintenance and Integration" published in the peer reviewed journal *RoSS* (Review of Social

Studies). She also delivered a guest lecture in the course "Right Wing Social Mobilization Around the World," where she talked about immigration and Identity in the French context.

Tania Bulakh was elected Graduate Student Representative for SOYUZ, the Post-Communist Cultural Studies Interest Group of the American Anthropological Association.

Amanda Burt was chosen as a research fellow at the Glenn Black Laboratory Archaeology. She conducted research in the summer in Wyoming while assisting the



Feray Baskin in Leiden



Amanda Burt at the Bighorn Archaeology Field School in Wyoming

Bighorn Archaeology Field School, led by Laura Scheiber. The fellowship supported her efforts to gather and process GIS data from their field site, Heart Mountain, which is sacred among the Crow tribe. Additionally, she contributed to the project by examining ethnohistorical records housed at the Kellar Library.

Korinne Dunn, an undergraduate major, was one of two winners in the Society for Linguistic Anthropology [Undergraduate Essay contest this year](#).

She received the prize for a paper "Binders Full of Regret: The Circulation of Blunders in US Presidential Politics," written for Kate Graber's class "Language in/of Media" in spring 2015. She accepted the award in Denver at the AAA Annual Meeting.

Ricardo Higelin published two articles in *Arqueología Mexicana*. During the Summer 2015 he collaborated on three archaeological projects in Oaxaca led by the Field Museum of Chicago, SUNY-ALBANY, and the American Museum of Natural History, NY. Also, he participated in the Learning NAGPRA Collegium at Indiana



Korinne Dunn with Paul V. Kroskrity, President of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology

Student News Continued

University in August. He presented two papers at the Mexican Association of Biological Anthropology in November. In the past year he has been promoting the Bioarchaeology of Oaxaca research in international conferences in the United States and Mexico. In 2016, he will conduct his dissertation research “Engaging Descendent Communities with the Ancient Past: Zapotec Cultural Heritage from Oaxaca, Southern Mexico,” funded by a Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching, and Collaboration grant.

Bridget Kelly, an undergraduate major, is collaborating with Alex Badillo to analyze linguistic survey data collected in

Quiechapa, Mexico. Kelly and Badillo plan to systematically compare these data with survey data from nearby regions collected through Dr. Mark Sicoli’s project and map the differences and similarities in arcGIS.

Eli Konwest received the IU Anthropology Associate Instructor of the Year Award for teaching a stand-alone course, “Altruism - from Evolution to Morality.” She also received an American Anthropological Association Archaeology Division Student Membership Award. At the AAA Annual Meeting, she presented a paper, “Implementing a Service-Learning Course within the Limitations and Supports of the University System.”

Emma McDonnell published her paper, “Miracle Foods: depoliticizing global hunger politics” in the November issue of *Gastronomica*. She is working on a chapter about agrobiodiversity politics and the quinoa boom for an edited volume on Andean foodways. She received a Mellon Innovating International Research, Training, and Collaboration (MIIRT) Dissertation Research Fellowship for her project, titled: “The Global Creation of Locality: “Traditional” Products, International Intellectual Property Rights, and the Management of the Symbolic Commons in Peru’s Quinoa Bust.” She plans to complete coursework this spring and embark on dissertation fieldwork in late 2016.

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The IU anthropologists said they were made to feel extraordinarily welcome by their hosts, Native Village of Barrow president Thomas Olemaun, finance director Eunice Brower and NAGPRA coordinator and realty director Flossie Mongoyak, who helped arrange the visit.

“It was great to finally meet Flossie after so many phone conversations and emails over the past year,” Thomas said.

Thomas worked with representatives of the Native Village of Barrow to be awarded the National Park Service NAGPRA grant.

Oil and gas exploration brought change to the North Slope in recent decades, and modern Barrow is well connected to the global economy. The Iñupiat people make up two-thirds of the population of Barrow and continue to live the subsistence lifestyle, which is vital. The Iñupiat depend on whaling, fishing, hunting seals, walrus, caribou and geese.

Bowhead whales migrate along the coast twice a year, allowing for whaling seasons in the spring and fall. The Iñupiat whale in skin boats in the spring, using harpoons to harvest 30 to 49 foot long whales. Whaling is regulated by the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission and the International Whaling Commission. This spring, nine of 39 crews succeeded in harvesting the whales.

The spring whaling season is followed by the Nalukataq. Successful crews celebrate their harvest and share their bounty with the entire community. All attending are fed and portions are distributed: frozen whale meat, maktak, fins, fermented whale, duck soup, baked bread, eskimo doughnuts, donated oranges and apples, a sprinkling of candy, unlimited tea, coffee and juice and, finally,

cake.

“It’s all about community,” Thomas said. “Nothing is wasted.”

The festivities continue with the characteristic blanket-toss. Participants are bounced into the air on a seal-skin blanket. The day concludes with traditional dancing. Children to elders, many wearing traditional clothing, take turns dancing with joy to ancient songs. The celebrations extend past midnight but take place in bright daylight: The midsummer sun doesn’t set in Barrow for nearly three months.

Eldon Fischer and Forrest Ahkiviana, Native Village of Barrow employees, did the main work to rebury the ancestral remains and associated funerary objects. They were laid to rest in the Barrow town cemetery.



The spring whaling season is followed by the Nalukataq, at which successful crews celebrate their harvest and share their bounty with the entire community. | PHOTO COURTESY OF JAYNE-LEIGH THOMAS

Soon after Thomas and Sievert returned to Bloomington, additional remains were repatriated. They were from museums in Alaska and Illinois and the Utkeagvik Iñupiat Corporation. A plaque recognizes the three institutions and the Utkeagvik Iñupiat Corporation science anthropologist Anne Jensen for their roles in returning the remains.

The IU scholars hope the relationship will lead to other projects -- for example, bringing Barrow residents to Indiana.

Their travel aligns with several priorities in the university’s [Bicentennial Strategic Plan](#), including a global university and a community of scholars.

[Read the original news release here.](#)

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Ilana Gerson

Ilana Gerson is interested in how new media affects highly charged social tasks, such as breaking up or hiring in the United States. She has written about how people use new media to end romantic relationships in her book *The Breakup 2.0: Disconnecting over New Media*. Her current research addresses how new media affects hiring in the contemporary U.S. workplace.

She has a new edited volume, *A World of Work: Imagined Manuals for Real Jobs*, a collection of imagined job manuals for real jobs around the world, written for people who want to know how to be a professional wrestler in Mexico or a professional magician in Paris. She has also published *No Family Is an Island: Cultural Expertise among Samoans in Diaspora*, and edited special issues on topics ranging from ignorance, reflexivity, media ideologies, to the “newness” of new media. Her intellectual interests range from linguistic anthropology, science studies, media studies, legal anthropology, anthropology of democracy, and anthropology of work.

Jane E. Goodman

Jane Goodman’s areas of interest include cultural production, intertextuality, and colonial and postcolonial formations. She has been conducting fieldwork in Algeria and France since 1988. Her first book, *Berber Culture on the World Stage: From Village to Video* (Indiana University Press, 2005), explored how Amazigh/Berber world music emerged out of Algeria’s Kabyle Berber singing traditions. Since 2008, she has been working on several projects related to Algerian theater. She is currently researching a new book, tentatively titled *On Tour: Algerian Actors in the United States*, in which she follows the Algerian theater troupe Istijmam as they prepare for and then tour the United States in Fall 2016 (the tour is under the auspices of the Center Stage program, which brings artists from under-represented countries to the U.S. to promote cross-cultural dialogue and understanding). This enhanced digital book with embedded video will include collaborative material created by the actors.

Susan Lepselter

Susan Lepselter came to Indiana University in 2007 as an assistant professor in the departments of Communication and Culture and American Studies. She received her PhD in Social Anthropology and Folklore from the University of Texas at Austin in 2005. Lepselter is an interdisciplinary scholar whose work, in addition to Anthropology, draws particularly on literary approaches to ethnography. Her research takes place in the United States and focuses on the relationship of the uncanny to ordinary life, narrative and poetics, captivity narratives, and discourses of consumption. Her first ethnographic work was about UFO experiencers and conspiracy theorists. Her second project analyzed hoarding disorder as an American cultural narrative. She also studies and teaches courses on indigenous film and media. Her book *The Resonance of Unseen Things: Poetics, Power, Captivity and UFOs in the American Uncanny* is forthcoming in Spring 2016 from University of Michigan Press.

Jennifer Meta Robinson

Jennifer Meta Robinson researches intersections of food and environment and social pedagogies of higher education. Her work on food and environment is based in ethnography and engages with sustainable farmers and other contemporary food movements. She is author of *The Farmers’ Market Book: Growing Food, Cultivating Community* (2007) and co-editor of *Teaching Environmental Literacy* (2010). Her work on social pedagogies studies the negotiation of individual identity in educational and professional communities and the scholarship of teach-

ing and learning in higher education. She directs the course, “A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communication” and teaches graduate seminars on pedagogy. She served as president of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and was director of the Indiana University SOTL Program when it was honored with a Hesburgh Award for Faculty Development.

Susan Seizer

Susan Seizer’s interests include: humor cross-culturally; management of social stigma; and performance in South Asia (live and mediated). Her first ethnographic research project focused on the lives of popular theater artists in Tamilnadu, South India. Her book, *Stigmas of the Tamil Stage: An Ethnography of Special Drama artists in South India* (Duke University Press 2005) won the prestigious A.K. Coomaraswamy Book Prize from the Association for Asian Studies in 2007. Her current research turns an anthropological lens on the lives of road comics in the contemporary U.S.

Prior to becoming an anthropologist, Professor Seizer was a performer of dance, theater, and circus. Many of her scholarly interests follow threads she first explored as a performer: improvisation, the way comedy can be used to do just about anything, and the particular exhilaration many women find in transgressing normative gender roles through public performance.



Graduate Student Lindsey Pullum (Left) and Professor Susan Seizer discuss the CaMP program with prospective graduate students at the AAA graduate recruitment fair in Denver, CO.

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*IU Anthropology alumni are all over the world doing everything from A to Z. **We want to connect with you and hear your story.** Contact the department chair, Dr. Jeanne Sept at 812-855-2555 or sept@indiana.edu to get in touch.*

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