Both anthropology and archaeology are for anyone interested in working with people in all of their cultural diversity, solving social problems, unearthing historical mysteries, teaching social sciences, examining human behavior and biology from an evolutionary point of view.

As the new Chair of the SUNY Potsdam Anthropology Department, I’d like to welcome you to the second edition of the Anthropology Department Newsletter! In this issue there’s news about the 2011 NEAA conference at Franklin Pierce, archaeological fields schools, student awards, internship opportunities and much, much more. And, of course, updates on students, graduates and faculty.

Last year was an eventful one for us and there’s much I could write about. But I would like to focus on three “transitions” within the department. In the first, Dr. John Omohundro moves from faculty to faculty emeritus. Although he “retired” a few years ago, Dr. O generously agreed to stay for a while to help the Anthropology Department and Environmental Studies Program as we hire and train new faculty members. Now, he and Susan can finally enjoy their new “cabin” and work on that “to-do list” of hiking and climbing adventures.

Second, we would all like to wish Dr. Pykles and his family the best in their move from Potsdam to Bountiful, Utah. Dr. Pykles was a valued and integral member of our department and we will all miss him as he begins a new career path in archaeology with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We hope that he’ll stay in touch and continue to work with SUNY Potsdam Anthropology and Archaeological Studies students.

Finally, on behalf of everyone in the department, I would like to thank Dr Johnson-Weiner for her service as department chair. Under her leadership, our department has grown dramatically and she initiated changes to our major requirements which will better prepare our graduates for their professional careers. She accomplished much for our department, all while we weathered the most severe budget and staffing cuts in recent SUNY history. She has been a tireless advocate for anthropology within the university as well as locally, nationally and internationally.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter. And we would love to hear from you about your own news: feel free to send an email, write a letter, or – best – give us a call. Have a fun, safe and anthropological winter!

Alan Hersker
Associate Professor & Chair
315-267-2720
herskeal@potsdam.edu
We say goodbye to Dr. John Omohundro, who has retired after thirty-seven years of service. Dr. Omohundro is Distinguished Teaching Professor of Cultural Anthropology and the author of several influential articles and books, including *Thinking Like an Anthropologist* (2008), *Careers in Anthropology* (2002), and *Chinese Merchant Families of Iloilo: Kin and Commerce in a Central Philippine City* (1981). Throughout his career at SUNY Potsdam he has taught anthropology courses such as Cultural Anthropology, Environmental Anthropology, Ethnographic Field Methods, and Theory and Method. Dr. Omohundro plans to spend his retirement in the North Country with his wife Susan. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues and students!

We also bid farewell to Dr. Benjamin Pykles, who began his service at SUNY Potsdam in 2006. Dr. Pykles is the author of such articles as “A Brief History of Historical Archaeology in the United States” (2008) and “An Early Example of Public Archaeology in the United States: Nauvoo, Illinois, 1962-1969” (2006). His book, *Excavating Nauvoo: The Mormons and the Rise of Historical Archaeology in America* (2010), was recently awarded the Smith-Pettit Best First Book Award. This award is given for the best first book published on Mormon history. Dr. Pykles will be leaving us for the position of Curator of Historic Sites for the Church History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We are sad to see Dr. Pykles go but wish him and his family the best of luck in their new endeavors!

Dr. Omohundro’s Retirement Party

Dr. Pykles and His Family at the Anthropology Club Barbeque

More Faculty News…

This has been a busy year for Dr. Karen Johnson-Weiner. In addition to chairing the department and teaching courses in linguistic anthropology, she has continued her research of the Old Order Amish, which this year has involved her in a variety of new situations!

Her research has taken a decidedly more applied focus since more conservative Amish groups have moved into New York State, and they have run up against legal requirements that most of us take for granted: building codes. She has been working as an expert witness for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a Washington, D.C.—based non-profit group that takes on First Amendment cases. The Becket Fund has filed a suit in federal court charging that particular aspects of local building codes infringe on the religious liberty of the Old Order Amish. She was able to prepare
a little bit for this on-going work by participating in the 2010 NEH Summer Seminar, which focused on the First Amendment. As a result of this work, she has served, or been consulted, as an expert witness in two child custody cases involving the Amish. She has also been involved as a consultant in the filming of a documentary on the Amish that will be part of the WGBH (Boston) Public Television American Experience series. More recently, she was interviewed on the Amish for Mountain Lake Journal, a local PBS show out of Plattsburgh’s Mountain Lake PBS.

Lest anyone think Dr. Johnson-Weiner has abandoned her research for a film career, she and her co-authors (Don Kraybill and Steve Nolt) have made great progress on The Amish in America. They hope to have this manuscript, a study of diverging Amish cultures in the 20th and 21st centuries, to the press late in the fall. Finishing this project will enable her to get moving on a study she has long anticipated: an exploration of the culture of the Amish who didn’t immigrate to North America. Her goal is to understand better why there are no longer any Amish in Europe. She was fortunate to receive a grant from the Research and Creative Endeavors Program that will help support research in the Mennonite Archives in Belfort, France, in 2012.

Finally, Dr. Johnson-Weiner received several honors this year. She was inducted into the honor society of Phi Kappa Phi this spring, and she looks forward to working with this group in the coming years. She also received the President’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, as well as the Students’ Choice Award from Student Support Services.

Dr. Alan Hersker notes that this was a great year for Applied Anthropology at SUNY Potsdam! In addition to adding lab components to Cultural Anthropology and Language & Culture (which will give our students hands-on experience gathering and analyzing data), ANTH 305 Applying Anthropology will now be a required course for all majors. We also awarded four Certificates in Applied Anthropology this year to Beth Canfield, Amber Gentry, Jasmine Johnson and Audrie MacDuff.

Dr. Hersker continues his research into Aging and the Built Environment along with advocating for members of the local Senior Citizen community. He is particularly excited about working with our students on the Potsdam Public Museum Oral History project, funded in part by a Title III Department Curriculum Development Grant. He is also honored to be taking over from Dr Johnson-Weiner as chair of the Anthropology Department this summer.

The 2010-2011 academic year has been a busy one for Dr. Kruczek-Aaron, both personally and professionally. After giving birth to her son Miles over the summer, she carried out a major phase of archival research associated with the Timbuktu Archaeology Project during a fall research leave (as part of the Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Affirmative Action/Diversity Leave Program). She investigated land, census, church, and newspaper records held by a range of archives in order to learn more about the pre-Adirondack lives of African American settlers who came to the High Peaks as part of a mid-19th-century land reform experiment. The leave also allowed her to make progress on a number of writing projects that involve both her Adirondack work and her dissertation research on the central New York estate of abolitionist Gerrit Smith. Awarded a book contract from the University Press of
Florida, she continues to prepare a manuscript (titled *An Archaeology of Religion and Reform in Nineteenth-century Protestant America*) detailing the results of her dissertation research. Additionally, she prepared an article (titled “Writing class: Analytical boundaries, social relations, and the limits of traditional archaeological narratives”) for submission to *Historical Archaeology* as part of a proposed special issue, and she is currently revising a book chapter (titled “Race and remembering in the Adirondacks: Accounting for Timbucto in the past and the present”) for a volume on race and archaeology in the Northeast. She also gave papers at the 2010 Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology and the 2011 Society for Historical Archaeology meetings, and gave the inaugural lecture in the Syracuse University Anthropology Graduate Student Alumni lecture series in December 2010. Since returning from leave in January 2011, Dr. Kruczek-Aaron has taught four classes (including Material Culture, a new offering); advised two Kilmer assistantships, five internships, as well as dozens of students who are majors and minors within the department, and who participate in our Anthropology Club and serve the *Collegiate Anthropologist*. Last but not least, the 2010-11 academic year culminated with a successful field school in the Adirondacks, where she supervised 13 students and 1 teaching assistant at one site associated with the land reform experiment. During the field school, the students investigated house remains and a midden area, located yard deposits, and identified areas in need of further testing. Dr. Kruczek-Aaron is looking forward to learning more during future field seasons. Stay tuned!

Dr. Nasser Malit has continued his research pursuits focusing on the study and evolution of *Homo erectus*. These studies employ morphometric methods in understanding the biology and variability among these defunct hominins. His current focus is on dental morphology whereby he evaluates and compares the dental cusp areas of both the Middle and Early Pleistocene members of the taxon. Besides these commitments, Nasser is also involved in a human decomposition study currently underway in Canton, NY. This collaborative effort between the New York State (NYS) Troopers, Forensic Identification Unit, Ray Brook, NY and Dr. Malit involves the estimation and recording of the nature of decomposition of human bodies in North Country climes. This will have direct relevance to forensic investigations in the region. This project hopes to accomplish the unique body deterioration rate by using pig bodies (closest analog to the human body) in shallow burial and on surface deposition in wooded environments. It will also offer opportunities for training students in the upcoming forensic anthropology class in party search and body recovery techniques employed in both forensic and archaeological fields.

Morgan Perkins is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Art, Director of the Museum Studies Program and Director of the Weaver Museum of Anthropology at Potsdam, where he teaches courses on the anthropology of art, museum anthropology and Chinese culture. As part of his museum work, he serves on the Executive Board of the Council for Museum Anthropology through the American Anthropological Association. Much of his current research explores the relationship between knowledge systems, contemporary art and education with a particular focus upon Native North American and Chinese art. Some of his recent articles include “Cultural Knowledge on Display: Chinese and Haudenosaunee Fieldnotes” in *Between Art and Anthropology* and “Learning the Rules? An Anthropological Approach to Art Education Practices” in
Histoire de l'art et anthropologie.

Having returned to China for a sabbatical, his most recent research projects are centered on anthropological studies of contemporary Chinese art practice. He was invited to give a keynote lecture at the Australian National University for a conference, entitled In the Image of Asia, and he is now in the process of editing a collection of essays on Asian material culture resulting from that conference. Based upon a chapter for another book project involving fieldwork in China, he is curating an exhibition for the SUNY Potsdam Gibson Gallery, entitled Chinese Painting on Location: The Art of Lin Haizhong. This display will give the Museum Studies students at Potsdam an opportunity to act as curatorial assistants, and the accompanying exhibition at the Weaver Museum will allow them to curate displays for themselves. The Museum Studies Program has been thriving with students pursuing internships at museums throughout the country and the current Weaver Museum exhibition, Representations of the Congo: Selections from the Weaver Museum Collection of African Material Culture, highlights the founding collection donated by Professor Charles Weaver.

As well as teaching courses in cultural anthropology, Dr. Carolyn Schwarz was busy writing. She continued working on her book, The Work of Well-Being: Christianity and Its Paradoxes, which is a study of charismatic Christianity and everyday life in an Australian Aboriginal community.

Dr. Schwarz was awarded a contract with Carolina Academic Press for her manuscript and hopes to have the book completed sometime next year. In November, Dr. Schwarz gave a paper at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA. Her paper, which was titled “Lost and Found in Translation: Charismatic Christianity In and Out of Remote Aboriginal Australia,” was part of a session that she co-organized (with Diane Austin-Broos) on the global spread of Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity. Dr. Schwarz also began work co-editing (with Fiona Magowan) a volume about the history and contemporary life of Christianity in the Pacific and Australia. She and her co-editor have submitted a book proposal to the Brill book series, Studies in Critical Research on Religion. In addition, Dr. Schwarz was fortunate to be the recipient of an Individual Development Award. This award allowed her to present a paper about recurrent religious conversion at the European Society of Oceanists Conference in St. Andrews, Scotland. Besides teaching and writing, Dr. Schwarz was on Parental Leave in the spring semester—she and her husband are the proud parents of a baby girl!

Dr. Susan Stebbins was busy this year giving presentations about the Iroquois at Family Weekend, Clarkson University and Sienna College. In addition she organized a panel for the Native American and Indigenous Studies Conference about casinos and Native American oral traditions, that included her paper "Chickadees to Slots: The Symbolism of Gambling at Akwesasne.” In addition her article “The Searchers: Making the West a ‘Fine, Good Place’” will appear in Seeing Red: Native Americans Look at Native Americans in Film, due out this summer.
Dr. Jaimin Weets’ continuing research on prehistoric human dentition of Ireland sparked new endeavors this year. Having served as a consultant for *Blood of the Irish*, a national broadcast film for Irish television, Dr. Weets recently provided consultation on Irish origins to a leading Indo-European languages authority. Dr. Weets’ discovery of a new dental morphological trait among ancient populations of Ireland brought a consultation on Neolithic/Chalcolithic populations in Portugal and Spain and an article review for the American Journal of Physical Anthropology. He also presented continuing research on Amish cemetery structure at the national physical anthropology meetings with his wife, former SUNY Potsdam faculty, Bethany Usher.

On a personal note, Dr. Weets was inducted this year into his alma mater’s Sports Hall of Fame as a member of Moorhead State University’s 1991 national semi-finals football team.

After returning in August from sabbatical in San Francisco, CA to work on the *Encyclopedia of Human Sexuality* [EHS](Wiley-Blackwell Press) with Dr. Anne Bolin, Elon University, Dr. Patricia Whelehan resumed her on-campus activities. She and Dr. Bolin have made significant progress on the EHS this academic year, including progressing to inviting people to write entries, and finalizing all but one position on the Editorial Board. The EHS has been helped significantly by having interns work on it, including the spring 2011 academic year.

Dr. Whelehan also attended both the AAA and SfAA meetings in New Orleans in November and Seattle, WA, in March respectively. She chaired and co-chaired two panels—one on gender and one on incorporating student interns into professional research—at the SfAAs. The editors of both Global Health Policy and Society and the Body have asked her to review for them regarding HIV and/or sexuality issues, and she completed one review in the fall and another will be done in June.

This past year, she trained 31 Peer AIDS Educators for PAEG, supervised the revision and update of its campus website, attended training in Rochester, NY about implementing the state’s new HIV test laws, and continues to write a sexuality/HIV column for the Racquette which will continue in the fall. This summer she will teach in the first summer school session and then spend the rest of the summer in San Francisco to work on the EHS.
### Student News

Congratulations to Andrea Wendell, Andrea Hill, Grace Boyd-Pollack who have all been granted Kilmer Awards for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Jonathan Reeves received a "Letter of Achievement" from the Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honors Society. Five of our students and Dr. Karen Johnson-Weiner (R) were inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi academic honor society. Congratulations to Andrea Wendel (R), Kara Chapin (Middle), Jessica Bellingham, Chelsea Richards, and Alyssa Petroski (L)!

### Alumni News

**Denice Szafran** “I have been appointed to a 2-year renewable visiting assistant professor position in the anthropology department of SUNY Geneseo. I am a December 2001 grad of the anthropology department at Potsdam, and will be defending my dissertation this fall at the University of Buffalo. Thanks!”

**Dr. Matthew Trevett-Smith** “I start an Academic Technology Consultant position April 20th at the University of Richmond in Virginia. I will help the UR social science faculty integrate the latest technology and pedagogy into their courses. It is a great full time job that has a lot of growth potential either as faculty or administration. Plus the change in weather will be nice.”

**Seth Defayette** has been accepted into Concordia University's master's program in Community Economic Development.

**Madalyn Baron** has been accepted in Pratt University's school of library science, her first choice. She begins her MA work in August.

**Kelsie Engelhard** “I received my letter of acceptance to UNC-Wilmington today. I'm very happy and excited for ‘the next step.’ Thank you [Dr. Whelehan] so much for helping make this possible. I truly appreciate the help you gave me. Best wises”

**Joseph W. Bernier** “After graduating in 2011, I moved down to NYC. I spent the first few months working as a fundraiser for a nonprofit called Park51. However, about a month and a half ago, I was taken on at an employment agency and they found me a full time temp to perm position within two weeks. So I am now working at The Kaplan Thaler Group (KTG) as an Account Assistant for the Wendy's Team. KTG is an Ad Agency and works on campaigns such as Aflac, Swiffer, Dawn Soap, and many others. I really love the company and look forward to moving up and taking on more responsibilities.”

**Ken Quagliarello** “Here is the latest update about me... I am still living, teaching and coaching in Dallas, TX. I just began my 17th year of teaching/coaching, all at the same school. My wife, Kristi & I are expecting our 1st child (a little girl!!) November 5th! Excited that football season is back once again! Go Cowboys & Long Horns!! Life is good!!”

**Rebecca Nelson Jacobs** “I'm still in a Ph.D. program at UConn- I just got an Inter-American Foundation Grassroots Development Fellowship grant to do my dissertation research in a women's weaving cooperative in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, so I'll be spending the next year starting in November here in Guatemala! I'm so excited, and it means that I get to improve my salsa dancing as well...”
Katie Seeber “I hope you had a great summer. I'm now stationed down in Virginia working on staff at Montpelier as an archaeologist. I work 2 days in their lab working with conservation and ceramic reconstruction, and the other 3 days in the field helping teach weekly volunteers how to do archaeology. We're working on the Main House slave duplexes this summer, and finally found the second foundation. It took a while so that's pretty cool. I'm so glad to have gotten a job in my field, and it looks like I'll be here a while I'm prepping for grad school application season. Hope everyone up there is doing great, and the dept changes are running smoothly! I'm hoping to visit soon and see everyone.”

Christine Kemp Diaz “I am from the class of 1980. I work at Toshiba Business Solutions in Rochester NY, and have been here since 1989. I reside in Hornell, NY. I would love to hear from any of my classmates, especially those who went on the summer trip to Guatemala. Christine Diaz, Corporate Leasing Director, 585-697-5508 (Phone), 585-427-0887 (Fax) Please note new e-mail address Chris.Diaz@tbs.toshiba.com”

Kathryn Ashley Hollinger “I'm the executive director of the Livingston Center for the Arts. We help the community create arts programming, offer classes and workshops and are home to a large collection of WPA easel paintings. We're right next to Letchworth Park. Come visit!”

Valerie Paige “I am enrolled as a New York City Teaching Fellow. Through this program, I am currently a CUNY Hunter College Graduate student, studying Secondary Special Education. I was recently employed at Fordham HS for The Arts, serving as a global and US history teacher. I have a few private flute students and may eventually expand this as part of my teaching load at school. I'm currently living in Whitestone, NY and rock climbing and hiking often. Let's se how the teaching schedule will alter that!”

Bob Ewing “After leaving Potsdam I received an MA in Anthropology from SUNY-Binghampton and an MBA from SUNY at Albany. I've compiled over thirty years of experience in research, compliance archaeology, cultural resource management, environmental permitting and program administration including supervision of diverse research programs and report writing on prehistoric and historic cultural resources of eastern North America. I worked in private and academic settings after obtaining my MA, notably SUNY-Binghampton and the University of New Hampshire. Joined NYS government in 1986, and since that time have worked in three agencies: the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the NYS Department of Transportation. Currently, I work as an environmental analyst in the NYS DEC in various roles including state environmental and cultural resource review. It's fair to say that I never strayed too far from my original Potsdam education and field training. I am a volunteer firefighter in my local community of Defreestville NY and was a search and rescue responder to the World Trade Center collapse in 2001. I have been married for 27 years with two grown children.”

Jon Easton “I am currently enrolled in the graduate childhood education graduate program here at Potsdam (MST Childhood Education). I have completed my course work and only have my student teaching ahead of me. I will be student teaching this fall in Brushton/Moira and Canton. In addition, I have co-authored a couple of articles for peer reviewed educational journals (awaiting on confirmation that they will be published) and taught an afterschool math enrichment activity which I will be presenting about at the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New York State conference in October. Though I hope to find employment after I complete this program, it is unlikely because of the time of year (January) and because of recent economic realities in education. Most likely I will return to SUNY Potsdam in the Fall 2012 in the Reading Specialist graduate program.

“My wife Janet Studor McCart class of ‘82, Myself, Keith McCart class of ‘82 , and our three sons have been doing missionary work with orphaned and abandoned children in Port au Prince, Haiti since the earthquake there. I remember the stories my advisor Dr. Charles Weaver would tell about serving the Lord in Africa as a missionary teacher. Now I have a much better appreciation of his work.”

Krista M. Raven “I am currently Assistant Registrar at Bennington College in Bennington, VT. It is a unique and very small liberal arts school located about 40 minutes from Albany.”
Gabriela C. Martinez “I have some updates from the class of 2008. Marvin Francisco and I are engaged and getting married in 4 weeks on Long Island, NY. We are living in Charlotte, NC where Marvin is a police officer and I work for a national non-profit org. called Communities in Schools, essentially working as a guidance counselor in a middle school. We are excited to be getting married, after 10 years dating, from Central Islip H.S., to SUNY Potsdam, to adulthood. Our wedding date is September 25, 2011. If the newsletter isn’t out by then I will forward you a picture. Attached is a photograph from our engagement session. Hope all is well! We miss Potsdam like CRAZY!”

Tammi Scott-Lynch “As the Director of the Stevenson Fund for Stevenson University, I manage the annual giving program with special emphasis on securing leadership gifts while managing a team of two associate directors. My current Master’s of Science in Negotiation and Conflict management studies are focused on collaborative peace building approaches within the international arena. I reside in Towson, MD.”

Julie Parrinello Wolff “Currently working at Merck in the Quality department supporting the manufacture of the Varicella “Chicken Pox” Vaccine. I am married with 3 kids, running between Soccer, Baseball, and Ice Hockey practice and games. I am currently living in the Allentown, PA area.”

Scholarships & Awards

Thomas & Elizabeth Omohundro Anthropology

This award, made possible through the generosity of John and Susan Omohundro in commemoration of his parents, honors an Anthropology major. Students are chosen through an application process on the basis of academic merit and financial need, with preference given to rising juniors. Andrea writes, “Being the first recipient of anything is a great privilege. That is why it is such an honor to be awarded the Thomas and Elizabeth Omohundro Anthropology Scholarship. This award has been very helpful financially. Beyond that however, this scholarship has given me motivation to continue on with my studies in anthropology. I am truly grateful to be recognized for merit and to be associated with this remarkable scholarship.”

2010-2011 Recipient
Andrea Wendel

Archaeological Science Award

Presented to the archaeological major(s) who have the highest overall grade point average with senior status and who are demonstrating academic excellence in this department.

2011 Recipients
Nia Alecksynas, Rebekah Barrett, and Kristina Traudt
**Canfield Scholar**

Scholarship presented annually to a Junior Anthropology major with the highest grade point average and carries with it a $500 award.

**2011 Recipient, Jared Muehlbauer**

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**Scott Powell Scholar**

This award, which honors the late Scott Powell, an Archaeological Studies major, has been made possible through the generosity of his family, The SUNY Potsdam Anthropology Club, the SUNY Potsdam Student Government Association, the Anthropology and History departments, and many individual donors. The award provides a scholarship for participation in an archaeology field school. Students are chosen through an application process.

**2011 Recipient, Kristara Bly**

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**Department Scholars**

Presented to the Anthropology majors who have the highest overall grade point average with senior status and who are demonstrating academic excellence in this department.

Katrina Brainard  Alyssa Petroski  Jonathan Reeves
**Lambda Alpha Award**

Named for the national honor society for anthropology, the Lambda Alpha Award is offered by the Anthropology Department’s Alpha Chapter to the graduating senior who shows the most promise in the pursuit of graduate studies. A subscription to an appropriate professional journal accompanies the award.

**I. Thomas Stone Award**

This award is presented to the anthropology major who has produced the most professional example of anthropological original research and/or writing. A certificate and gift constitute the award which is given by the Anthropology Department faculty.

**Archaeological Studies Award**

This award is presented to the senior archaeological studies major who has produced the most professional example of archaeological original research and/or writing. A certificate and gift constitute the award which is given by the Archaeological Studies faculty.

**First Year Scholars**

In recognition of outstanding performance in introductory courses by students early in their college careers, regardless of major.

Zachary Bedell  
John Bressett  
Renee Burdick  
Michael Cataldo  
Nicolas Cotton-Baez  
Rebecca Dolan  
Rebecca Don  
Andrew Duffer  
Michael Durgin  
*Joel Ehrlich  
Robert Fowler  
Morgan Frederick  
Brandy Salyers  
Sarah Skinner  
Scott Spink  
Xicong Tang  
Krystal Vaughn  
Leanna Guerrieri  
Morgan Harris  
*Amy Hudson  
Julissa Lopez  
Katherine Lord  
Cheyenne Martin  
Kyle Mathieu  
Matthew McGarry  
Danielle Munding  
Spencer Proulx  
Tyler Richardson

* nominated by two professors
Donald Armagost Award
Founded in 1979, the Donald Armagost (formerly Margaret Mead) Award is given annually to the student or students demonstrating outstanding participation in activities in support of anthropology on the campus. A certificate and gift constitute the award, which is given by the Anthropology Department faculty.
2011 Recipients, Alyssa Petroski, Katherine Seeber & Mary Brunet

Cheryl McMartin Award
This award is named in honor of one of our brightest anthropology/education certification students who died tragically in March 1995. The award, which carries a small cash prize, honors the most promising anthropology/education certification student as judged by the Anthropology Department faculty.
2011 Recipients, Beth McGlinchey and Rebecca Shoemaker

Birgit Weaver Award
Normally given to seniors, this award recognizes excellence in the museum studies minor. A certificate and gift constitute the award, which is given by the Museum Studies Director.
2011 Recipient, Jessica Bellingham

Certificate of Excellence for Minors

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Lambda Alpha Honor Society

This National Honor Society is open to Anthropology and/or Archaeological Studies majors who meet the following criteria: Major in these fields, completed a minimum of 12 credits in anthropology, completed a minimum of 28 credits overall.

2011 Masters of Ceremony:
Katrina Brainard & Joseph Friedel

2011 Lambda Alpha Honor Society Inductees

*Nia Aleksynas*
Kristara Bly*
Kara Chapin*
*Stephanie Ciotti
*Jennifer Dawson
*Lauren Dodaro
*Amanda Hernandez
Grace Highsmith*
*Alyssa Lemmerman
*Andrea Levine
*Alexandra Morris*
*Jared Muehlbauer*
 *Jacob Orcutt*
Chelsea Richard*

*Anthropology Major
Archaeology Major*
*Both*

Anthropology Club

2010-2011 Officers
President: Katie Seeber
Vice President: Rachel Passannante
Treasurer: Alyssa Petroski
Secretary: Alexandra Morris
Public Relations: Courtney Doyle

2011-2012 Officers
President: Andrea Wendel
Vice President: Megan Comins
Treasurer: Samuel Bourcey
Secretary: Alexandra Morris
Public Relations: Kara Chapin
On March 25-26, nearly 30 SUNY Potsdam students and faculty attended the 2011 meetings of the Northeastern Anthropological Association (NEAA) held at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire. The NEAA is a professional organization of anthropology students, faculty and professionals who live and work in the northeastern United States and the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario. SUNY Potsdam students Alyssa Petroski, Audrie MacDuff, Jesse Hancock, and Courtney Doyle presented papers and Beth Canfield, Katie Seeber, Nia Alecksynas and Kristina Traudt had posters on display.

All student presentations and posters were based on original research. SUNY Potsdam faculty members John Omohundro and Alan Hersker co-organized a panel discussion and Q&A on Career Advice for Undergraduates.

In addition to papers and posters, the NEAA meetings featured the annual business meeting of the organization, mixers, and a Saturday night banquet with keynote speaker Katharine Curtis Donahue, who spoke on Celebrating the Diversity of Anthropological Research in the 21st Century.
In July 2010, Dr. Pykles and 10 SUNY Potsdam students traveled to the Skull Valley of Utah to continue excavation of Iosepa, a settlement occupied by Pacific Islander converts to Mormonism from 1889 to 1917. The summer's excavations were focused on what is believed to be the remains of the foundation of the home of the John K. and Emily Mahoe family. Students excavated a 20 meter trench and three adjoining units (3m x 2m) to explore the rock alignments believed to be the remaining walls of the house foundation. Among the more exciting finds of the season was a small perforated cowry shell that had to have come from the Pacific Ocean, perhaps even Hawaii itself. On Saturdays, we went on field trips, including a trip into Salt Lake City to see the Mormon Temple and associated attractions. Overall, it was a successful field school.

Brian Butts, Dr. Pykles, Rich Bliss, Dr. Pykles's Dad, Nia Alecksynas, Corinne Lally, Jesse Millek, Dr. Kelson, Grace Highsmith, Jennifer Weber, Cym Lashupel, Michela Occhi, Alexandra Morris, Amy Smith
Changes …
If you have been on campus lately, then you may have noticed a lot of construction going on. As for our department, we went through asbestos abatement in our labs. After the old tiles were replaced with new, all three of our labs received a make-over. We are very excited to have new furniture including tables, chairs and cabinets along with a fresh coat of paint! The pictures below show the anthropology faculty, staff and students working to move everything from the labs into a storage room for the summer:

Lost Art of the Arch Lab
Here are some photos of artwork created by our students that had to be painted over in the Archaeology lab:
Opportunities to Get Experience:

- The department magazine *Collegiate Anthropologist*, published twice a year.
- Laboratory and research assistantships in archaeology and biological anthropology.
- Teaching assistantships.
- Independent research with faculty mentors.
- Preparing museum exhibits.
- Planning the Northeastern Anthropological Association annual meeting.
- Internships in North Country schools, businesses, government offices and social work agencies.
- Summer expeditions to archaeological dig sites in the North Country and elsewhere. Recently, students have excavated at the site of slave cabins in Virginia, and cemeteries in Poland.
- The Anthropology Club, which hosts speakers, shows films, takes field trips and provides social opportunities.
Dear Alumni:

Please write to us TODAY! We look forward to hearing from you. Even if you responded earlier, please give us updated information! We are asking all of our graduates to write to us and get at least one other anthropology alum to also write to us. Help make next year’s Alumni News section of our newsletter even longer than this year’s. Thanks for your help.

PART I

Name__________________________________
Maiden Name, (if married)_____________________
Address__________________________________________________
Telephone: Home________________     Office_________________
Class Year__________e-mail________________________________
Contribution___________________________

PART II

Name of Employer__________________________ City____________________

To help us with our majors, please provide a “job description” in this space - what is your job title? What are your principal daily activities? (These are questions our majors ask.)

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

PART III

Please use this portion to make comments to us - personal information, suggestions for improving the Newsletter, whatever. (Don’t tell us anything that you may not want to share with the alumni.)

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

PART IV

May we put your home and email information on our On-line newsletter?  □ Yes □ No

PART IV

Please enter here name(s) and address(es) of any anthropology alumni not receiving the Newsletter:

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

PART V

Please check here _____ if you are interested in coming to campus as a Guest Speaker for our majors.

Would the company for which you work underwrite your expenses to come to campus?

Yes_____ No_____