## DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

winter 2016

University of Florida, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

### **Greetings from the Chair**

Susan deFrance

Greetings from the UF Department of Anthropology! We have had an exciting year. This Fall we welcomed the arrival of Aaron Broadwell (linguistics) and Catherine Tucker (cultural) to UF. Our new col-



leagues are providing opportunities for students and helping to raise the visibility of the department.

This year's newsletter highlights many of the accomplishments of our faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates. New this year is a great section on graduate student "field selfies." Our students are doing exciting fieldwork across the globe. Take a look at the map of field photos. Donations to our various endowment funds help our graduate students get into the field.

We also highlight some of our graduate alumni and provide an update on how they use anthropology in their professional lives.

If you want to help the department, please consider donating to the Friends of Anthropology or to one of the many departmental endowment funds. We use these to support speakers, student travel, and various departmental activities.

Please let us know what you are doing by dropping us a line or stopping by the department when you are in town.

This issue, research highlights by: Richard Kernaghan, Transportation in Post-War Peru (pg. 1) Sharon Abramowitz, International Ebola Response (pg. 2) Michael Heckenberger, Kuikuro Cultural Center (pg. 3) Ieva Jusionyte, Florida State Prison Site Visit (pg. 4)

Valerie DeLeon, Virtual Morphology Lab (pg. 5)

# Huallaga Portraits: transportation ethnography in a post-war landscape of Peru

### Dr. Richard Kernaghan

Richard Kernaghan tracks the history of rural transportation in a coca-growing region of central Peru, known as the Upper Huallaga Valley, in order to ask how everyday experiences of law take shape through shifting formations of territory. Following the defeat of the Maoist Shining Path insurgency, he examines emerging transportation practices with a special focus on the ethnography of river crossings. Combining fieldwork photography with the collection of local narratives about a war entangled with the coca/cocaine trade, he is documenting the social life of rural mobility along the Amazon tributary for which this valley is named.

The Huallaga River pushes northeastwardly towards the tropical lowlands of Peru. As it passes the city of Tingo María, it partitions what in modern times has been one of the country's



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## Advising on an international, interdisciplinary response to Ebola

#### Dr. Sharon Abramowitz

Charon Abramowitz has been playing a lead role as the Ofounder and principal coordinator of the American Anthropological Association's Emergency Ebola Anthropology Initiative since September 2014. The Initiative was founded with the overarching goal of bringing together interdisciplinary and international social science experts to inform the Ebola response. Presently, the network includes close to 350 experts in 15 countries, including the U.S., U.K., Canada, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. Most participants have 10-30 years of experience working as anthropologists in the West African region on issues of global health and epidemic diseases, and with humanitarian organizations. Abramowitz has built strategic alliances between the network and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the United Nations Mission for Emergency Ebola Response (UNMEER), UNICEF, the World Bank, and the governments of Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and academic institutions globally to ensure that social scientists are directly involved in helping to set the agenda for action and informing the response through consultations, the drafting of briefs, and the issuance of strategic guidance.

To date, the Emergency Ebola Anthropology Initiative has co-produced numerous advisory briefs and guidelines aimed at providing guidance to governmental and humanitarian actors involved in the Ebola response at local, national and international levels. Topics addressed include: Culture and Clinical Trials (1/2015), The Flow of Money at the Community Level (11/14), Mobilising Youth for Ebola Education: Sierra Leone and Liberia (10/14), Sierra Leone: Gift-giving During Initial Community Consultations (for

CCCs) (10/14), Region-

al Food Security, Work Migration, and Roadblocks (10/14), Liberia: Handling of Bodies and National Memorials – Community Perceptions from Monrovia (10/14).

The network functions via a publicly accessible listserv, a discussion board, and a website hosted by the UK Ebola Anthropology Platform:

- Website: http://www.ebola-anthropology.net
- Listserv: https://lists.capalon.com/lists/listinfo/ebola-anthropology-initiative

Key achievements include:

- The establishment of the UF Center for African Studies Ebola Research Group
- Organizing key events:
- o UF Event: "The West African Ebola Epidemic: A UF Faculty Discussion & Research Poster Session," October 8, 2015
- o Wenner-Gren/American Anthropological Association Recommendations for Ebola Response. George Washington University, November 7, 2014.



### **Kuikuro Cultural Center**

### Dr. Michael Heckenberger

The Kuikuro Cultural Center (KCC) began in 1993, when Dr. Michael Heckenberger acquired a seven acre parcel of land in Canarana, the closest major town to the Parque Indígena do Xingu (PIX). Afukaka, the paramount chief, and Heckenberger had long discussed creating a cultural center for the Kuikuro, the largest of the indigenous sub-groups of the Xinguano nation in the PIX. In 2014, the William T. Hillman Foundation (Pittsburgh) provided initial support to develop the cultural center. They had supported community projects since 1992, including the first two-way radios (1992), a large river boat for medical assistance and community activities (2000) and, most recently (2013), language studies (UF ELI) for the chief's grandson (Assuso). This year they provided a major grant to build the center, the first of its kind in the broad region.

The KCC or "Casa da Cultura" is designed as a center for the promotion of indigenous culture and urban headquarters of the Associação Indígena Kuikuro do Alto Xingu, established in 2007. It will showcase local biodiversity, agro-biodiversity and indigenous knowledge. The KCC will enable the community to interact more directly in Brazilian political and economic arenas, including education, tourism and research, such as our long-running project on indigenous history supported by NSF-Archaeology with the Museu Nacional (Rio) and Museu Goeldi (Belém).

Last year a small group, including William Hillman (of the William T. Hillman Foundation), visited the Kuikuro to discuss the project. The trip marked the 20th anniversary of a visit by members of the group in 1994, following initial Foundation support. It was also a commemoration of friend and anthropologist Jim Petersen, an anthropology professor at the University of Vermont, who participated in the 1994 visit and later UF Anthropology research. He was assassinated on another project in the Brazilian Amazon in 2005. Just before the group arrived,



Afukaka Kuikuro discussing aspects of the UF-Museu Nacional indigenous history project (2004)

the chief's younger brother Tabata said: "you are our brother and he was yours: we should include him in a Kwyrup." Two weeks later another major chief died: we agreed to co-host the Kwyrup in August 2015.

During the KCC inauguration planned for April 2016, a workshop is planned to initiate the first KCC project: hybrid fish-farming and water filtration systems along streams that extend beyond the limits of the PIX. The KCC will be the base for renewed interdisciplinary studies on coupled human-natural systems over the past millennium, including recuperation of Pre-Columbian land and water management technologies. This project is a prime example of contextual anthropology and context-sensitive science, more generally, which focus on questions that emerge from the social life of the research itself, and certain questions or projects that only develop after twenty years or more of dialogues.



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### Site Visit: Florida State Prison

### Dr. leva Jusionyte

Since I began teaching a seminar on Law and Order in the Americas in 2013, I've taken four student groups on site visits to the Florida State Prison (FSP). Located about an hour north of Gainesville in Raiford, FSP is one of the largest prisons in the state and houses inmates in close management and maximum management wings—all solitary confinement cells. The state's execution chamber is also located in the facility. An integral part of this theoretically intense course on sovereignty, policing, security and justice, the tour to the state prison has become a quintessential, even if difficult, learning experience for all of us.

In order to do the site visit, we have to go through background checks, and we receive guidelines about the dress code on prison grounds. After passing through rigorous security screening to enter the facility, we spend a few hours with a lieutenant who narrates the life inside of the institution: from demonstrating makeshift weapons they confiscate from inmates to explaining the detailed schedule of capital punishment. We walk through alphabetically named cellblocks, where inmates are locked in solitary confinement, and we end the tour on death row. Students are allowed to talk to the death row inmates and to ask them questions. After the trip we talk about what we saw during the visit in class and it becomes a recurring reference in our discussions for the remainder of the semester.

The focus of the visit is on the prison as an institution rather than on the inmates—except for several men on death row, we don't interact with any prisoners. I ask students to use their training as anthropologists to see the facility from the perspective of corrections officers, to notice the categories they use, their verbal and body language. Those students who can shift their perspective from horror and empathy with the inmates to think-



ing about the everyday life of the corrections officers come back with a much better understanding of the gray areas of violence and the marginal subjects of the carceral regime.

Students also write reflection essays - they write about domestic violence in corrections officers' families (the prison walls are decorated with posters raising awareness about the issue), about the societal stigma of convicts' spouses and children (whom we pass on the way in or out of the gate). Others, blending their eye-opening experience on the tour with concepts and theories discussed in class, speak out even more persuasively against existing policies of crime punishment in the U.S., expressing their activist determination to change them. Many convey in their essays that they need more time to wrap their minds around what they have seen and to understand how they feel and what they think about it. Instead of providing answers, the tour raises questions, stirring the uncomfortable edges of the popular debates on the politics and ethics of law and order.

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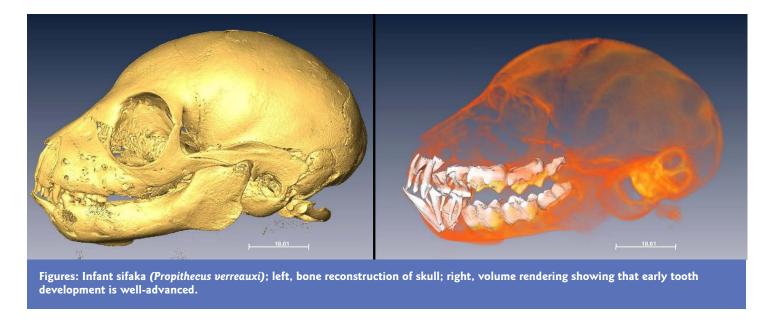
## Huallaga Portraits: transportation ethnography in a post-war landscape of Peru

main centers for producing illicit cocaine. During the war the Huallaga separated hostile political domains: insurgent territories on the left bank; areas of state control on the right. In between those banks the river became a dumpsite for victims of the violence—a burial practice that continually re-iterated the boundary and made crossing the river a charged political act.

Post-war era transformations can be tracked through visible modifications in rural mobility practices. Today, traffic between town and country has markedly increased with moto-taxis emerging as a preferred form of public transport. Networks of rural roads have expanded as part of a generalized extension of social services to once remote areas. Bridges are under construction with a few already complete. Notably, when long-time residents recount their region's past, they trace out broad periodizations of time that tend to coincide with major shifts in the dominant means of rural travel. History, thus, can be read through how people move in and out of the countryside. All of which makes this an especially important moment to do transportation ethnography.

## Introducing UF's Anthropology's Virtual Morphology Lab

#### Dr. Valerie DeLeon



These anatomical reconstructions are then used for all types of studies, including Dr. DeLeon's particular research focus on growth and development of the skull.

A major project in the lab is an NSF-funded comparative study on growth of the face in non-human primates. Virtual reconstructions of infant primate skulls allow the researchers to study the spatial relationships of structures inside the skull (unerupted teeth, paranasal sinuses, orbit, and brain cavity), in order to determine how these factors influence growth of the face. One additional benefit of virtual reconstructions is the ability to digitally repair broken bone and other damage to the structures under study. Using the specialized software in the Virtual Morphology Lab, the broken pieces can be reconstructed and reassembled, and a complete skull or skeleton becomes available for study using morphometric and other metric analyses. Dr. DeLeon and her students have used these methods to repair damaged museum specimens, autopsied specimens, and crushed fossils. These methods also allow virtual reconstruction of soft tissue structures. An article by Dr. DeLeon based on a virtual reconstruction of an ancient Egyptian mummy and an in-depth review of facial reconstruction methods was featured on the cover of the June issue of The Anatomical Record.

Tarsiers are a major focus in the Virtual Morphology Lab and reconstructions of a growth series of these unique, large-eyed little animals have led to multiple studies. Graduate student Kim Le presented a poster at the South Florida Primate Group Conference in Boca Raton showing that the characteristic bell-shaped curve of the dental row in tarsiers is already apparent at birth. Undergraduate students Catherine Llera, Abigail Peeples, and Lisa Matthias-Barnes have made significant progress in creating virtual reconstructions of infant primates and an atlas of primate growth scheduled for publication in 2017. Undergraduate student Malea Neese used virtual reconstructions of primate skulls as the basis for her senior honors thesis relating brain volume to the diagnostic feature of cranial base angle.



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### What are recent Department of Anthropology graduates doing?



Tom Abel MA '90, PhD '00 is an associate professor in the Department of Human Development at Tzu Chi University in Hualien, Taiwan. His most recent research is in 'cultural transmission', a specialty among the thriving new forms of cultural evolution studies. In addition, over eleven years in Taiwan, he has worked in ecosystem anthropology (household and community structure in Hualien County), historical ecology (indigenous Taiwan sociocultural integration), and sustainability (whale watching ecotourism development impacts). His most recent paper, "Culture in Cycles: Considering H.T. Odum's 'Information Cycle'" in the Int. J. Gen. Sys. (2013), is redefining the topic of culture for all of anthropology. Lastly, in eleven years at Tzu Chi, he has developed nine courses in evolutionary, environmental, cognitive, and linguistic anthropology, plus the history and theory graduate seminar all for which this year he was awarded with university "Teacher of the Year" honors.

Dr. Bertram Mapunda MA '91, PhD '95 is an associate professor at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Tanzania where he has been



in teaching and administration, since completion of his doctoral studies in 1995. In April 2015, he was the Distinguished Lecturer for the African Archaeology series in UF's Department

working, both

of Anthropology. At UDSM, his courses include Introduction to Anthropology; Archaeology of Tanzania (where the question for his distinguished lecture emerged, "do we really have a Tanzanian/African archaeology), Survey World History of Science and Technology, Metal technology, and Managing the Intangible Heritage. Administration has ranged from coordination of the Archaeology Unit (1996-2000), to Head of History and Archaeology Department (2003-2009) to Principal (Dean) of the College of Arts and Social Sciences (2009-2013), and lately (2013-2015) of the College of Humanities. He is now on a year-long sabbatical leave to focus on research in archaeometallurgy, public archaeology, and social history (using historical archaeology approach). Currently, he is working on slave trade in southern Tanzania. He has published two single-authored books, both on ironworking; two edited volumes, one on heritage and the other on history; 15 articles and 22 chapters.

**Dr. Amy Non** MA '05, MPH '09, PhD '10 is a genetic anthropologist and joined the faculty of University of California, San Diego this Fall as an assistant professor of Anthropology. She left Vanderbilt University, where she has been an assistant professor of Anthropology for the past three years, following her postdoctoral fellowship with the Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars Program at Harvard University. Her current research explores epigenetic mechanisms, or modifications to the genome, that can link early adverse environmental exposures with altered gene expression, potentially resulting in longterm consequences for adult health and disease. She is investigating these epigenetic mechanisms in her latest project studying the biological embedding of stress experiences of children of Mexican-born immigrants living in Nashville.



Dr. Amy Non (far right) and her students in the Genetic Anthropology lab at Vanderbilt University.

### What are UF Department of Anthropology students doing?

#### **Graduate students:**

- Marlon Carranza co-authored a report for the World Bank on violence in Honduras. http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/07/24746742/ crime-violence-community-based-prevention-honduras-research-report
- Chris Clukay received a Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation.
- Megan Cogburn will be on a research fellowship with the Transparency for Development Project in Tanzania in Spring 2016.
- Michelle Eusebio received a fellowship from the Wenner-Gren Foundation as well as an NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.
- Crystal Felima was awarded a Boren Fellowship from the National Security Education Program.
- Eshe Lewis received a fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council in Canada.
- Jamie Lee Marks got a Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship from Canada as well as a fellowship from the Wenner-Gren Foundation.
- Kevin McDaniel received a Fulbright study/research grant.
- Abebe Taffere received fellowships from both the Wenner-Gren Foundation and the Leakey Foundation.
- Allysha Winburn received a P.E.O. scholar award from the International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

#### **Undergraduate Students:**

- University Scholars mentored by Anthropoligists Jose Abastida (Dr. Ieva Jusionyte), Savannah Mandel (Dr. Richard Kernaghan), Domenique Sorresso (Dr. Neill Wallis), and Madeleine Yeakle (Dr. John Krigbaum).
- In 2014-2015, 219 undergraduate anthropology majors graduated with a B.A.

The Department of Anthropology awarded a total of 15 PhD degrees last year: 3 in Fall 2014, 4 in Spring 2015 and 8 in Summer 2015.



Summer 2015 Graduation - Back row: Gypsy Price, Yang Jiao, Amanda Groff, Brittany Osbourne. Front row: June Carrington, Camee Maddox

#### **Highlights of Some** of Our Graduates

#### Class of 2005

Eric Goodman Minzenberg – Santa Monica College, CA

Alayne Unterberger - Director, Florida Institute for Community Studies

#### Class of 2006

Debra Hain Rodman – Professor, Anthropology and Women's Studies, Randolph-Macon College Luis Claudio Symanski, Professor,

Universidade Federal de Parana

#### Class of 2007

Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey - Station archaeologist, Arkansas Archaeological

Heather Walsh-Haney - Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University

#### Class of 2008

Michelle L. Edwards – Historian and Visitor Services, Fairfax County Park Authority Andrew Kitchen – Assistant professor, Anthropology, University of Iowa

#### Class of 2009

Bryan Tucker - Deputy State Archaeologist, Georgia Historic Preservation Division

#### Class of 2010

Hilary Zarin - Social Scientist, Bureau of Land Management, US Department of Interior

#### Class of 2011

Nicholas Kawa – Assistant professor, Anthropology, Ball State University Edward Shaw – Partner, Brigge-Shaw Group

#### Class of 2012

Anna Brodrecht – Asylum officer, US Citizenship and Immigration Rafael Mendoza - Conservation specialist, The Nature Conservancy

#### Class of 2013

Mussa Sultan Idris – Assistant professor, Elon University Alan Schultz – Assistant professor, Anthropology, Baylor University

## Anthropology Student

## Research Field Selfies



Mia Carey doing historical archaeology in Georgetown, DC at the home of Yarrow Mount, a freed Muslim slave



James Pavidson's field school at Bulow Plantation in Florida Front row: David Markus, Brett Mogensen Second row: Liz Ibarrola, 2 undergraduates, Amber Grafft-Weiss



Jelena Brezjanovic doing graffiti text analysis in Serbia



Alissa Jordan in Yucatan, Mexico

**Deb Andrews processing quinoa in Peru** 



**Jessica-Jean Casler honoring** fathers in Nicaragua



**Gypsy Price using isotopes** to study Greece



**Michelle Eusebio in Vietnam** 



at a Catholic baptism in Honduras



**June Carrington testing** cultural knowledge of breast David Markus surveying a Jewish cancer in Puerto Rico



cemetery in Nevis, West Indies



Amanda Groff excavating at the Kellis 2 cemetery in the Dakhlah Oasis, Egypt



Haiyan Xing (center) studying the ethnic minority Tu Nationality in Qinghai **Province, China** 



Lisa Van Voorhis (left) sorting bones in Ecuador



**Ann Laffey (right) in Peru** 



ustin Dunnavant excavating in Ethiopia



**Christina Callicott (right)** checking cacao in Peru

## Faculty Member & Affiliate

## Research Spans the Globe

Pete Collings with Dr. Meredith Marten boating outside his research site in Ulukhadtok, Canada.



Justonyte, Quitural Anthropology MADA - Peter Collings, Gultural Anthropology

FLORIDA - James Davidson, Historical Archaeology

FLORIDA – **Lance Gravlee**, *Medical* Anthropology & Connie Mulligan, Molecular Anthropology

LORIDA – **William Marguardt,** 

Archaeology

FLORIDA - Chris McCarty, Cultural Anthropology

FLORIDA - Ken Sassaman, SE Prehistoric Archaeology

FLORIDA - Mike Warren, Forensic Anthropology

MISSISSIPPI - Charlie Cobb, Archaeoloav

N. AMERICA & ANTARCTICA –

Jeff Johnson, Cultural Anthropology BULGARIA - Maria Stoilkova, Cultural Anthropology POLAND & ISRAEL - Jack Kugelmass. Cultural Anthropology





CHINA - C. K. Shih, Cultural Anthropology CHINA – John Krigbaum, Biological Anthropology

CHINA, YUNNAN & BURMA - Rick Stepp, Cultural Anthropology

SE ASIA/GLOBAL - Valerie DeLeon, Biological Anthropology



Ken Sassaman (third row, right of center) participated in the International Expert Meeting to the UNESCO World Heritage List in Puebla, Mexico in August, 2014.

BRAZIL - **Mike Heckenberger,** *Archaeology* 

BRAZIL & CHILE - **Susan Paulson,** Cultural Anthropology

CARIBBEAN - William Keegan, Archaeology

COLOMBIA – Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo, Archaeology

GUATEMALA – **Kitty Emery,** *Archaeology* 

MEXICO - Susan Gillespie, Archaeology

MEXICO - **Susan Milbrath**, Archaeology

PERU - Susan deFrance & Mike Moseley, Archaeology

PERU - Richard Kernaghan, Cultural Anthropology

PERU - Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo, Archaeology

Susan deFrance in the upper Sierra near Carumas, Peru.



MOROCCO - Abdoulaye Kane, Cultural Anthropology SENEGAL - Abdoulaye Kane, Cultural Anthropology

SRI LANKA - **Peter Schmidt**, *Archaeology* 

Mochena Borago Rockshelter,

SW Ethiopia.

TANZANIA - **Peter Schmidt,** *Archaeology* 

TANZANIA - **Alyson Young,** *Medical Anthropology* YEMEN - Connie Mulligan, Molecular Anthropology









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Ph.D. students in cultural anthropology, biological anthropology, and

linguistic anthropology in their final year)

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☐ Friends of Anthropology (provides for a wide variety of department initiatives and needs)	☐ William R. Maples Scholarship (defrays research costs for forensic anthropology graduate students)
☐ Custom Copies Graduate Travel (defrays costs for graduate students to travel to professional meetings)	☐ Marvin Harris Lecture Fund (lecture series honors the late Professor Marvin Harris, one of the nation's leading anthropological theorists)
Patricia S. Essenpreis Award for Undergraduate Archaeology Research (assists female undergraduates to attend field school)	☐ <b>Zora Neale Hurston Fellowship</b> (celebrates diversity, in honor of Zora Neale Hurston)
☐ Brendan O'Sullivan Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Majors (honors the highest-ranking major at graduation)	☐ James C. Waggoner, Jr. Grants-in-Aid Endowment (supports graduate student research)
☐ Polly and Paul Doughty Graduate Research Award (funds graduate student research in Latin America)	☐ Zoe Martin del Campo-Hermosillo Award (supports travel to conferences for graduate students who are single custodial parents)
□ Burns Amaya Graduate Research Awards (funds graduate student research, preference Latin America)	Gift Amount: □\$25 □\$50 □\$100 □\$250 □\$
□ Charles H. Fairbanks Scholarship (defrays research costs for archaeology Ph.D. students in their final year)	Please fill out and return this page, along with your check made payable to the UF Foundation, to Anthropology, PO Box 117305, University of
□ John M. Goggin Memorial Scholarship (defrays research costs for	Florida, Gainesville FL 32611-7305.

Please make any corrections needed to the address on the above label.