

SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY NEWS

From the Chair:

Dear Friends of Denison Soc/Anth,

The first issue of our newsletter, published last January, featured the eight students who completed the new one-semester research projects. These eight students joined the twelve other majors who finished their one-year research projects in an all-department Senior Symposium on May 2nd and 3rd in Burton Morgan Lecture Hall. The two-day symposium was a showcase for a variety of research topics, from a study of prison recidivism to an exploration of the fine line between art and craft. See the list on the right for the titles of all twelve one-year projects. More pictures are on our new Facebook group page, "Friends of Denison Sociology/Anthropology."

Over the next year, we will be hiring a seventh, full-time tenure track faculty member to begin in the Fall 2012 semester.

Alums, keep sending us your news and your business cards for our "Where Are They Now?" bulletin board. And join our Facebook group, "Friends of Denison Sociology/Anthropology."

Happy Summer, everyone!

--Anita M. Waters



Twelve students complete year long projects

Lydia Boote - *"Homeless Veterans in the United States"*

Hanyun Cai - *"Neoliberalism and the infant feeding choice in Urban China"*

Fritz Chery - *"Restaveks"*

Mark Heckmann - *"Sorry We Are Not Sorry: Power, Sovereignty, and Apology following Japanese Internment in the United States"*

Megan Keaveney - *"Can Waste Be Productive? Purity and Pollution Among Scavenger Livelihoods in Urban India"*

Tom Mitchell - *"The Paradox of Modernity: An Examination of the Chinese Moral Education Curriculum"*

Kimmi Oshita - *"The Makings of a Medalist: Examining Factors that Predict College Success"*

Belkis Schoenhals - *"Changes and Constants: Women's Empowerment and Autonomy in American Childbirth"*

Jenn Sloan - *"An Investigation of Vaccine Compliance in Licking County, Ohio"*

Maggie Snyder - *"Crafting Art: Modern American Conceptions of 'Art' and 'Craft'"*

Kelsey Sullivan - *"Recidivism, Reentry, and Recycling: How the US Sentences and Resentences Offenders"*

Ellie Thompson - *"'Coloured' Identity in the Context of South African Society"*

FACULTY NEWS

Spotlight on new Faculty

Professor John Davis

We'll be joined next year by Dr. John H. Davis, Jr., an anthropologist who specializes in the study of human rights, Japanese society, and race/ethnicity. He has completed a book recently entitled *Animating Human Rights in Japan: The Politics of Buraku Liberation*, and will be teaching People, Culture and Society as well as theory courses and electives on race and ethnicity in Japan. Dr. Davis joins us for three years, to take the place of Dr. Veerendra Lele, who will become Director of International Studies but will also continue to teach in the department.



Professor Susan Diduk - Invited paper presented at the "Food and Conflict in Africa," Graduate Seminar, ""Indiana University, April 13, 2010. Paper Title: "Grounding Morality: Rural Farmers and Social Movements in Cameroon."

Professor Fareeda Griffith - Focusing on the specialization of the sociology of race and ethnic relations while invoking several quantitative methodologies, Dr. Fareeda Griffith will be conducting research to examine race, residential segregation, and socioeconomic characteristics, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, this summer. Using the current proposed research project as a baseline, she plans to conduct a transnational study and compare the histories of racial formation of South Africa, the United States, and Brazil.

Professor Veerendra Lele will be giving a paper entitled "Mixed Temporalities at the Trowel's Edge: Material 'Shifters' in Archaeological Sites" at an archaeological conference in Ireland this summer. Then, he'll be transitioning to his new role as Director of International Studies for the next three years.

Professor Mary Tuominen is completing a manuscript this summer that explores the challenges of moving from individual empowerment to community empowerment in addressing barriers to healthcare in low-income communities. She and graduating senior Ellie Thompson have submitted a manuscript for publication entitled ""There was no money left to save': Financial Literacy and the Lives of Low-Income People."

Professor Anita Waters has been awarded a Library Travel Research Grant from the University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies to conduct research this summer at the University of Florida's Latin American Collection. She will present a paper on public history in Cuba at the Caribbean Studies Association meetings in Curacao on June 1.

Honors/Awards

Senior majors Mark Heckmann and Tom Mitchell were elected this spring to Phi Beta Kappa, the National Honorary Society. Mark also received a President's Medal, Denison's highest honor for graduating seniors. Congratulations Mark and Tom!

Seniors Jennifer Sloan and Megan Keaveney received the 2010 A. Blair Knapp Awards for this academic year. Each receives a cash award of \$500. This award was made possible by contributions from the class of 1968 in memory of A. Blair Knapp, who was President of Denison from 1951 until his death in 1968. The awards are made to seniors who have shown unusual academic competence and who aspire to dedicate their lives to the field of liberal arts education. Megan also received a Davis Peace Prize, with which she will go to Bombay, India, this summer, to work for women's rights. Congratulations, Jennifer and Megan!

Rising junior major Olivia Cox and rising senior Meg Gaertner each received the 2011 Alumnae Endowed Scholarship for 2011-2012. The scholarship is awarded to junior or senior women who have demonstrated achievement in their academic record in combination with other notable achievements at the College. Congratulations, Olivia and Meg!

Study Abroad

Chelsea McGill has received a Critical Language Scholarship to learn Bengali in Bangladesh this summer. The program is run by the US State Department in an effort to increase the number of Americans studying critically needed foreign languages. Good luck, Chelsea!

ALUMNI NEWS

Sadie Fischesser, class of 1997, is field director for the Brattleboro and Bennington districts of the Agency of Human Services in Vermont.

Sarah Levels, class of 2000, earned her MSW from Ohio State University and is a child welfare supervisor with Franklin County Children's Services in Columbus, Ohio.

Leah Smith, class of 2002, is living in Pittsburgh now, working for the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture. She is a co-author of an article entitled "Agricultural Economic Development at the Rural-Urban Interface: Community Organization, Policy and Agricultural Change" in the *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development*.

Kara Burt, class of 2002, works in the District of Columbia Office of the Inspector General evaluating District agencies. "MPD Officers' Responses to Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Hindered by Policy and Training Deficiencies" is one of the reports I worked on that was released last year.

Sarah Smith Rohrer, class of 2003, is now living in New York City and has transferred to the Northeast regional office of Bread for the World. She asks everyone to contact their members of Congress to ask them to protect key safety net programs like SNAP (food stamps), WIC, Headstart, Free and reduced school lunches, etc from getting unconscionable budget cuts in a time of high unemployment and underemployment.

Anna Moffett, class of 2005, is working on a master's degree in environmental conservation at New York University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development.

Autumn Lotze, class of 2007, will be enrolling in the Master's Program in Planning – Disaster and Risk Management at University of British Columbia in the fall.

Nimarta (Nimo) Singh, class of 2007, will graduate this spring from the Counselor Education Master's Program at OSU, with School Counseling and Clinical Counseling degrees. She and her fiancé are planning two weddings: one in India this fall and another in Columbus next spring.

Anna Brandt, class of 2008, is a home office manager with Uncommon Schools Home Office Division, in New York.

James Davis, class of 2009, successfully defended his Master's thesis in the Department of Sociology, Ohio State University.



Ellie Thompson ('11), Olivia Cox ('13) and Chelsea McGill ('12) at the North Central Sociological Association's annual meeting in Cleveland.



The NCSA meeting took place at the Cleveland Arcade, a restored relic of the 19th century.

“Cake Pops” and coffee mugs for the seniors

