Reports on Completed Research for 2012

“Supporting worldwide research in all branches of Anthropology”
REPORTS ON COMPLETED RESEARCH

The following research projects, supported by Foundation grants, were reported as complete during 2012. The reports are listed by subdiscipline, then geographic area (where applicable) and in alphabetical order. A Bibliography of Publications resulting from Foundation-supported research (reported over the same period) follows, along with an Index of Grantees Reporting Completed Research.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Africa:

JOCELYN A. BERNATCHEZ, then a student at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “The Role of Ochre in the Development of Modern Human Behavior: A Case Study from South Africa,” supervised by Dr. Curtis W. Marean. The presence of ochre in Middle Stone Age (MSA ~250-40ka) sites in southern Africa is often proposed as evidence for symbolism and early modern human behavior. However, there is significant debate about the uses of ochre in the past and whether symbolism is the most appropriate explanation for its presence in these sites. This project focused on the following research question: Within the MSA sites at Pinnacle Point, South Africa, is ochre evidence for symbolic behavior, or were more utilitarian activities involving ochre taking place? Several aspects of the record were studied to test these questions, including geological survey and sourcing attempts of archaeological samples. The acquisition of ochre is typically a highly ritualized activity for recent hunter-gatherer groups when compared to the exploitation of other non-symbolically loaded raw materials (such as stone). An exploitation pattern focusing primarily on distant sources rather than closer sources or a pattern focused on a few deposits when many are available may be suggestive of some symbolic meaning. Twenty-four ochre sources were identified. Using Particle Induced X-Ray Emission (PIXE), it was possible to identify a possible preference for the ochre at one source located approximately 19km from Pinnacle Point.

DR. JULIO MERCADER, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Environmental Primer for the Mozambican Middle Stone Age.” This project examines the impact of particular environments on prehistoric cultures as a way to disentangle the early dispersal of our species through central Mozambique. Preliminary work has established the stratigraphic sequence and a framework from which to pursue further investigations. Excavation will continue at two cave sites to achieve a better understanding of the chronological, stratigraphic, and environmental context of the occupation. These caves are in a region whose palaeoanthropology is currently unknown and they will provide valuable first information on late Pleistocene adaptations in the southern end of the East African Rift System. The planned research focuses on two sites where there is direct evidence of a tropical wooded palaeoenvironment, as shown by an abundance of opal silica from arboreal plants and faunal remains from wooded-adapted mammals. Opening these field sites to summer courses for North American and Mozambican undergraduates and graduates will facilitate their experiential learning.

ABIGAIL C. SMITH, then a student at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Mobility and Urbanism: The Place of
Mobile Pastoralists in Mali’s Iron Age Cities,” supervised by Dr. Fiona B. Marshall. This project investigates the relationship between mobile pastoral groups and urban populations in the past, focusing on the site of Jenné-jeno and its surrounding landscape. The project draws on four months of extensive excavation at two archaeological sites, Tato à Sanouna and Thiel, near the modern town of Djenné in Mali’s Inland Niger Delta. In these sites and at the well-known ancient city of Jenné-jeno, multiple lines of evidence are used to identify past modes of life (between 200-1500 CE), particularly the interrelationship between sedentary urbanism, subsistence specialization, and mobile pastoralism. As the first large-scale excavation of smaller outlying sites in the area, this project increases our understanding of the extent and variability of local human settlement. Additionally, the project’s focus on subsistence and specialization provides empirical data about the trajectories of West African pastoralism and agriculture. This information enables discussion of the role of past populations in the Jenné-jeno urban system and impacts our understanding of Jenné-jeno’s trade relationships and political organization. Given the unique trajectories of African food production when compared to other world areas, this project is an important contribution to our understanding of variability in global pastoral strategies and mobile-sedentary interactions.

Asia and the Near East:

DR. IRINA ARZHANTSEVA, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Moscow, Russia, and DR. MINSARA S. KARAMANOVA, University of Kyzlorda, Kazakhstan, were awarded an International Collaborative Research Grant in May 2011 to aid collaborative research on “The Origins of Early Medieval Towns in Northwestern Kazakhstan: The Case of Dzhankent.” The project explores the origins of early medieval towns east of the Aral Sea. Fieldwork in 2011 at the site of Dzhankent, in the dried-out delta of the Syr-Darya river, produced evidence of the fortified town being built in a single process in the ninth century AD (or earlier) on the site of an open predecessor settlement. Geophysical prospection added data on the construction of the citadel, and on the apparently regular, planned layout of the town. Pottery finds show three regional components, possibly implying a mixed population, which could be indicative of early state formation resulting from the impact of Turkic Oguz nomads on a local sedentary population engaged in trade with the south. Undergraduate students from Korkyt Ata State University of Kyzylorda (Kazakhstan) as well as a Kazakh and a Russian doctoral student received training on and off site. A follow-up workshop on early medieval urbanization in the East and West was organized at Kyzylorda University, with international participation from Western Europe. One immediate outcome of the project has been the creation of an archaeological center for research and teaching on regional archaeology at Kyzylorda University.

DR. RODERICK B. CAMPBELL, New York University, New York, New York, and DR. LI ZHIPENG, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China, were awarded an International Collaborative Research Grant in June 2011 to aid collaborative research on “Tiesanlu Production Organization Project: Bone Working at the ‘Great Settlement Shang,’ Anyang, PR China.” During the fall and winter of 2011 and the summer of 2012, an international team conducted research into the organization of production at a massive, late-second-millennium BCE, Chinese bone-working site located in the Shang capital at Anyang. The materials recovered from Tiesanlu included nearly 50 metric tons of bone production debris distributed over approximately 6000 square meters of excavated area. The team focused on determining whether the production organization evidenced at Tiesanlu were the
remains of many independent domestic producers, or of a large, integrated workshop. Research included a survey of the entire assemblage as well as fine-grained analysis of a sample of contexts and replication experiments. The high degree of specialization by product as well as production stage found at the site suggests that standardized products were produced in batches according to standardized and divided production processes, and that huge quantities of everyday objects were being produced in what looks a lot like a proto-factory.

DR. NAOMI E. CLEGHORN, University of California, Berkeley, California, received funding in October 2008 to aid research on “The Upper Paleolithic Fauna of Mezmaiskaya (Russia): Implications for Human Behavior and Ecology.” This project investigated the ecology of Late and Terminal Pleistocene hominins in the Northwestern Caucasus Mountains using faunal remains recently excavated at Mezmaiskaya Cave. This locality is unique within the region in preserving a comprehensively dated stratigraphic sequence from the Middle Paleolithic, through the Late Upper Paleolithic, to the Epipaleolithic. It thus provides a critical perspective on the changing ecological parameters, as well as subsistence and social strategies of Late Neanderthals and Modern Humans at the boundary between the temperate Near East and the unstable glacial climate of Eastern Europe. The new analysis of the Upper and Epipaleolithic fauna from Mezmaiskaya is being used to address four significant questions: 1) Is there evidence for faunal resource intensification across the MP to UP boundary or later? 2) Is there evidence for intensification of site use over this period? 3) Is there a relationship between these variables and local environmental variation? and 4) What are the implications of the richer-than-expected bone industry for human social networks and technological adaptations in the Caucasus? In addition, the new analysis allows the development of a broader inter-regional comparison across the Caucasus with comparably dated sites in Georgia, particularly Ortvale Klde and Dzudzuana.

TRIANTAFYLLIA-EIRINI DOGIAMA, then a student at McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Points of Reference: Projectiles, Hunting, and Identity at Neolithic Catalhoyük, Turkey,” supervised by Dr. Tristan Carter. This dissertation research focuses on how social identity is constructed, expressed, and maintained through the social practice of hunting, with specific reference to the cultural biography of stone projectile points from the Neolithic Catalhoyük, Turkey (7400-6000 BC). Wild faunal remains suggest that hunting remained in frequent practice, even when domesticated animals and plants comprised the staple diet of the Neolithic people of Catalhoyük. At the same time, projectile points (the dominant hunting weapons) are carefully thought of and executed artifacts found almost exclusively in ritualistic/symbolic contexts. Furthermore, hunting and the “wild” seem to be the prevailing theme in the site’s iconography, displayed in wall paintings and wild bull skulls used as mural installations. Therefore, all the evidence suggests that the importance of hunting transcended that of an alternate subsistence strategy. The grantee conducted a detailed contextual analysis of the entire projectile assemblage from Catalhoyük over the course of two field seasons. It is hoped that this research will contribute to a better understanding of hunting practices as an arena of symbolic expression and negotiation of social and gender identities within small-scale agro-pastoral societies.

YU DONG, then a student at University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Eating Identity: Millet versus Rice Consumers in Neolithic Northern China,” supervised by Dr. Stanley Ambrose. The Dawenkou Neolithic Culture (4300-2600 BC) in Shandong, northern Jiangsu and Anhui Provinces, China, provides
insights into the origin of complex stratified society. The initial spread of rice from southern China to the millet agriculture-based societies of the Yellow River Valley occurred during this era. Analyses of burial style and richness of mortuary offerings, chemical profiles of human remains, and radiocarbon dating were performed to understand these fundamental changes. Radiocarbon dating results indicate that three investigated Dawenkou sites dated to 2800-2500 BC, while the fourth site is a few centuries later. Dietary and burial customs can be compared among three contemporary communities, and over a few centuries. Analysis of human chemical profiles (stable isotope analysis) suggests that the spread of rice agriculture did not occur until the end of period, starting with sites located further south. Females might have played a special role in the course. Rice consumption could have been used to publicly differentiate certain individuals from other social classes, hence facilitated the process of social stratification. Burial analysis is still underway to understand the relationship between diet, status, social organization, gender relations, and complexity at Dawenkou sites.

KATHRYN J. FRANKLIN, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Political Economy at the Crossroads: Trade and Economy in the Medieval Armenian Highlands, AD 500-1400,” supervised by Dr. Adam T. Smith. This project investigated the intersection of local political life along the mountain highways of Armenia with regional trade during the late medieval period (AD 900-1400). The project aims to discover how people living in the Armenian highlands at this time imagined themselves in relation to both local history and wider cultural and political phenomena, and how they put such imagined relationships into action through architectural projects that engaged with the material objects carried through the landscape by donkey caravans. To achieve these aims, the project investigated a caravanatun (“caravan house”) built by a local merchant-prince in the early thirteenth century at the site of Arai-Bazarjugh. The excavations revealed the caravanatun to be a rectangular hall divided into vaulted galleries by rows of arches. This large and secure space provided accommodation for human travelers as well as their beasts, which were kept in specially built stable-galleries at the sides of the building. A second phase of the project focused on categorizing the material artifacts found within this building, which includes metal objects, animal bones, and pottery. The ceramic assemblage from the Arai-Bazarjugh caravanatun floors includes cookwares and small bowls, as well as glazed dishes that may have been trade goods on their way to the next town.

MAUREEN E. MARSHALL, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Political Subjects: Movement, Mobility, and Emplacement in the Late Bronze Age (1500-1200 BC) Societies in Armenia,” supervised by Dr. Adam T. Smith. In traditional models of the emergence of early complex polities, centralized political authority is understood to have developed slowly from an agrarian subsistence base predicated upon a stable settled population that provides the necessary intensive labor. Yet, Bronze Age societies in the South Caucasus seem to have experienced a different process. The dissertation research project thus examined the residential movements and geographic origins of subjects within early complex polities in the LBA South Caucasus through a combination of stable isotope analyses including strontium (\(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}\)), trace element concentrations, carbon and oxygen (\(\delta^{13}\text{C}\) and \(\delta^{18}\text{O}\)) carbonates, and carbon and nitrogen (\(\delta^{13}\text{C}\) and \(\delta^{15}\text{N}\)) collagen. These analyses provide information on three types of movement: namely post-mortem movement, residential mobility, and movement in relation to dietary regimes. Such a combined approach to movement will provide a detailed basis for discussing how subjects experienced the socio-political landscape as extremely local (buried in the same place that they lived), as
differentiated in death (moved to certain areas for burial), or as more open (moved residential locations during their lives). The research thus contributes to anthropological theories of early complex polities, political subjects, and mobility, by focusing on individual subject’s practices and experiences of movement and emplacement.

DR. MARY-ANN POULS WEGNER, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, was awarded a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “An Archaeological Analysis of Ritual Practice, Social Identity, and Sacred Geography in Abydos, Egypt.” Utilizing a program of focused archaeological excavation at the ceremonial center of the god Osiris, the research project explored the complex relationship between landscape, social organization, agency, and built environment in the ancient Egyptian cultural context. Fieldwork tested the hypothesis that the boundaries of sacred space associated with an annual performative festival (in which the post-mortem regeneration of Osiris was dramatized) changed over time in response to state initiatives. Excavation at the edge of the sacred area exposed an offering chapel built ca. 1850 BC that was not only allowed to stand during subsequent phases of construction, but also continued to serve as a locus for the deposition of offerings of food, drink, and incense for more than 1500 years. Association with this chapel and the individual whom it commemorated was clearly an important factor in the siting of a royal chapel nearby in the reign of Thutmose III (ca. 1450 BC) and of subsequent private monuments, votive deposits, and interments of human and animal remains. Analysis of the distribution of archaeological material utilizing geographical recording systems demonstrates that older elements of the built environment were deliberately referenced in the negotiation of social identity within this highly charged ceremonial landscape.

DR. THOMAS O. PRYCE, Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom, was awarded funding in October 2009 to aid research on “The ‘Iron Kuay:’ Ethno-Archaeological Investigations of Technological Continuity and Socio-Economic Interaction with the Angkorian Empire.” Wenner-Gren support facilitated study of a 1200 year production sequence in the Phnom Dek area, including Cambodia’s oldest known iron smelting site, Tonle Bak Ach Dek. While data analysis and interpretation is ongoing, the Industries of Angkor Project/Iron Kuay Project (IKP) program has already invalidated a previous hypothesis that demand for iron from the Angkorian Empire was satisfied by smelting at Preah Khan of Kompong Svay (PKKS) using Phnom Dek minerals. Results indicate that Angkor may have been interdependent with numerous upland iron-smelting communities encircling their territory, under both state-controlled and potentially “free” modes of production. Not only do IKP data mesh perfectly with those at PKKS in enhancing our understanding of the socioeconomic and socio-political functioning of the Angkorian Khmer Empire, the evidence they provide for technological continuity (not stasis) also constitute our first picture of long-term stable occupation in the area, potentially by Kuay ancestors.

BENJAMIN T. VALENTINE, then a student at University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Isotopic Perspectives on Migration and Identity: A View from the Harappan Hinterland,” supervised by Dr. John Krigbaum. Indus Civilization cemetery burials provide an important opportunity for understanding the interaction between migration and identity in ancient urban South Asia. Life history data from the multi-isotope analysis of Integration Era (2600-1900 BC) individuals at the lowland sites of Harappa (n=45) and Farmana (n=21) inform a mortuary analysis that seeks to embed the social dimensions of mortuary practices within a context of interregional interaction and highland-lowland exchange. Carbon and oxygen isotope data are variable but show little intra-cemetery patterning. Strontium and lead isotope data, however, suggest
nearly all inhumed individuals were first generation immigrants separated in early childhood from natal groups living in the resource-rich highlands. Further analyses are needed to confirm the trend, but initial interpretations are best explained by fosterage. Known to be practiced in historical South Asia, fosterage can simultaneously create relationships of mutual obligation and hierarchical differentiation between culturally distinct groups. By contrast, isotope data from post-urban Sanauli suggest geographic origin demarcated identity less clearly during the Localization Era (1900-1300 BC). If validated by further work, this archaeological case study helps to understand the complex outcomes of migration across urban cultural boundaries.

**Europe:**

DR. NUNO BICHO, Universidade do Algarve, Faro, Portugal, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “On the Edge: The First Modern Humans in Southwestern Iberia and the Extinction of Neanderthals.” The project focused on the Neanderthal-Modern Human transition, based on the excavation of the Vale Boi (Algarve, Portugal), a site with a long stratigraphical record starting with Late Middle Paleolithic followed by early Gravettian, Solutrean, Proto-Solutrean, and Magdalenian. Excavation of a new area and the continuation of earlier work investigated the presence of a Mousterian level, apparently mixed with the early Gravettian in of the areas of the site. The Gravettian, present in various areas of the site and in different levels, is dated to c. 32,500 cal BP corresponding to the earliest modern humans in southwest Iberia. The humans most likely came from the Spanish Mediterranean coast as bone technology and body ornaments seem to confirm. Starting with the late Mousterian occupation, subsistence was mixed with both terrestrial and marine elements. With the Gravettian there seems to have taken place an intensification and diversification of dietary resources from very early on that included grease-rendering.

DR. EMANUELA CRISTIANI, University of Rome, Rome, Italy, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “In Pursuit of Meso-Neolithic Taskscapes in the Danube Gorges: Techno-Functional Analyses of Osseous Tools, Ornaments, and Knapped Stone Implements.” The project investigated causes and mechanisms of change in technological chaîne opératoire and function of tools over time by focusing on a case study in the Mesolithic and the Early Neolithic Danube Gorges of the north-central Balkans. Different classes of material culture and raw materials have been examined through an explicitly techno-functional approach. Data obtained on osseous tools and ornaments from the sites of Lepenski-Vir, Vlasac, and Padina have provided new insights into the interlocked adaptive and social nature of techno-functional behavior in this region over time. In particular, the Mesolithic tradition of making and using bone tools and ornaments defines successful local adaptations to the specific regional environment and socially embedded values and preferences, which might have endured since the Epipalaeolithic. During the Early Neolithic, technological variability in the production and use of osseous tools, the introduction of new types of artifacts, shell and stone ornaments underpin the hybrid nature of the human adaptations in this period. The hypothesis that these changes in technical, aesthetic, and functional strategies in different social contexts might reflect new socially embedded values developed within different Early Neolithic communities of the area is suggested on the basis of techno-functional results.

DR. LINDA FIBIGER, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in October 2010 to aid research and writing of “Confronting
Violence: Skeletal Evidence for Interpersonal Violence In Neolithic Europe (5500-2000 BC).” The Hunt Fellowship made possible the completion of four articles on patterns of violence in the small-scale societies of Neolithic Europe, exploring regional as well gender and age-related patterns of violent interaction. Skeletal trauma, especially head trauma, presents the only direct evidence for the occurrence of violence in the past. The population-based study of head trauma in over 1000 individuals from Germany, Denmark, and Sweden reveals endemic, yet not uniform levels of violence across the study area and identifies physical violence as a commonplace rather than an exceptional mode of interaction. Injury types and frequencies best fit a context of small-scale violent events, such as minor battles, surprise raids or feuds, which seemed to be most frequent in southern Scandinavia, especially Denmark. Adult males are significantly more affected, though women and children show an equal risk of sustaining fatal head injuries. While injury patterns confirm adult men as the main instigators of violent interaction it was women and children who most frequently suffered its fatal consequences. Indications of active involvement of the latter two in violent confrontations challenges perceived notions of gendered identities and divisions of labor as well as concepts of childhood in the small-scale societies of the central and northern European Neolithic.

JONATHAN T. THOMAS, then a student at University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Fashioning Identities, Forging Inequalities: Personal Ornaments of Late Neolithic Iberia,” supervised by Dr. Katina T. Lillios. In the transition from the Neolithic to the Copper Age (3500-2500 BC), tribe- or chiefdom-like groups in southwestern Iberia used a wide variety of raw materials for the semi-specialized production of personal ornaments, potentially monetized objects through which long-distance exchange connected these groups to areas elsewhere in Atlantic Europe and the western Mediterranean. Using several types of microscopy and stable isotope analysis, this research collected technological, stylistic, and geochemical data from fifteen thousand beads and pendants recovered from thirty-six LN/CA collective burials in Iberia to determine the range of ornament variability, presence of standardization, and geochemical signatures and sources of non-local objects. Preliminary results indicate that: 1) beads produced from locally available raw materials exhibit a much higher degree of morphological and technological standardization, likely as a result of batch production; 2) beads made from non-local or exotic raw materials show a low degree of standardization and occur with much less frequency; 3) many types of highly sought after metamorphic rocks from the interior were widely distributed at coastal sites in the Estremadura, linking even distant groups both economically and in terms of shared symbolic values; and 4) few ornaments show any significant use wear.

Latin America and the Caribbean:

JOANNE P. BARON, then a student at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Patrons of La Corona: Deities and Power in a Classic Maya Community,” supervised by Dr. Richard M. Leventhal. Classic period Maya polities venerated sets of patron deities that were believed to protect and sustain the community. Much like modern patron saints, these deities represented the autonomy and identity of the polity in its relationships with other communities. In order to investigate the ritual practices associated with patron deity veneration and the meaning of those practices, archaeological research was carried out at the site of La Corona, Guatemala. In addition, hieroglyphic texts discussing patron deities were analyzed. This research
demonstrates that, although it has long been assumed that patron deities were simply deified ancestors, this is actually not the case. Patron deities were believed to behave differently from ancestors and they were venerated through the care and maintenance of their effigies and through ritual feasts. Some of these feasts involved the entire polity, thus emphasizing community identity, while others involved only the ruler and elites, thus emphasizing their special status. At La Corona, patron deity veneration was originally associated with one elite family, who introduced these deities to bolster their claims to rulership. Through time, however, these practices became associated with the polity as a whole and remained important even when rulership passed to a different lineage.

LYNSEY ANN BATES, then a student at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Spatial Appropriation and Market Participation by Enslaved Laborers on Colonial Jamaican Plantations,” supervised by Dr. Robert L. Schuyler. This research project explores the dynamic interplay between space, agency, and power in plantation contexts by focusing on the way enslaved people utilized space and material culture on 18th- and 19th-century Jamaican plantations. The provision ground system, which required enslaved laborers to cultivate their own foodstuffs, was an integral part of labor management, profit maximization, and market formation in the British colonial Caribbean. Within this system, enslaved people’s independent cultivation, transport, and sale of surplus production facilitated their participation in local markets. Regional variability and diachronic change in these interrelated activities are examined through the identification of the environmental, spatial, and social control conditions that shaped patterns in the market goods acquired by enslaved people. Quantitative analysis of historic cartographic data using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) techniques suggests the factors that limited independent food cultivation on large-scale, profit-driven sugar plantations. Archaeological evidence from slave villages within those estates indicates the frequency and types of goods produced and purchased by enslaved laborers. Preliminary findings suggest that differences in the conditions related to internal organization and topography of individual estates influenced enslaved people’s consumption of imported and locally made goods. This comparative approach integrates information from planter-imposed spatial order and slave-related artifact discard to understand the role of provisioning in plantation slavery.

ANNA E. HARKEY, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “The Andean Home in a Shifting World: Local Perspectives on a Nested Colonial Encounter,” supervised by Dr. Christine Hastorf. In the late 15th and early 16th centuries CE, the Upper Mantaro Valley in central Peru was the site of massive and rapid political change: communities were colonized first by the Inka, who set a provincial capital there at the site of modern day Jauja, and then mere decades later by the Spanish, who set their own first capital at that same location. This project investigates the impacts of such swift, large-scale change on the daily lives of the region’s inhabitants. Specifically, this work examines two lines of evidence -- ceramics and domestic architecture -- which were made and used locally, as well as closely linked to daily practice. Thousands of previously excavated ceramic sherds were analyzed along nineteen distinct attributes, any of which may reflect conscious stylistic or technological choices, or unconscious results of those choices. These same techniques were then adapted to the study of domestic architecture, allowing detailed, quantifiable comparison of superficially similar structures. All these data are compiled in an ArcGIS database so that local impacts of those broad-scale political shifts, as reflected in these artifacts, may be discerned between sites, neighborhoods, and even households.
CAROLINA BELMAR PANTELIS, then a student at University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Plant Exploitation among Steppe Hunter Gatherers: An Approach from Plant Microfossils, Baño Nuevo I Cave Site,” supervised by Dr. Cristian Favier Dubois. This project was oriented to study the plant remains at a Patagonian steppe hunter-gatherer site, Baño Nuevo (11,480-3000 AP, Aisén, Chile), which is a type of evidence not commonly used in hunter-gatherer investigations. In order to determine what plants are being exploited at Baño Nuevo, the study focused on plant microfossils present in stone tool residues and fruits and seeds recovered from the Early, Middle and Late Holocene Occupations defined for the site. The archaeological seeds and fruits demonstrate the exploitation of local plants -- shrubs with edible fruits and herbaceous plants -- that are recurrent during the three periods of occupation. Residue analysis show the use of a diverse set of stone tools for the procurement and/or processing of plant resources, indicating the multifunctionality of these instruments. There is also a constant in the plants that were identified for each occupation, which corresponds to local herbaceous plants. Thus research was able to identify plant remains for the three Holocene occupations of Baño Nuevo, indicating a tendency to exploit local plants near the site, as well as the presence of a plant from humid environments signaling access to these areas and, thus, mobility or exchange.

DR. IVAN BRIZ GODINO, Catalan Institution for Advanced Research, Barcelona, Spain, was awarded funding in May 2008 to aid research on “Social Aggregation: A Yamana Society’s Short-Term Episode to Analyze Social Interaction, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina.” This project attempted to identify aggregation and cooperative activities between hunter-fisher-gatherer groups of the Beagle Channel (Tierra del Fuego, Argentina) from an ethnoarchaeological perspective. To accomplish this goal extensive excavations and detailed analytical methods were carried out at Lanashuaia archaeological sites (I and II) located on the Beagle shore. The results reveal that the aggregation process, defined as temporary concentrations of peoples, may have taken place due to whale stranding long before the arrival of the Europeans. The radiocarbon and isotopic analysis show contemporaneity between both dwelling units (I and II) and the analysis of the material markers of past activities, indicating some cooperative practices may have developed during the occupation of these sites such as whale and off-shore fishing consumption. Evidence of sharing hunted prey is scarce but similar trends in technological practices were identified between Lanashuaia I and II. The chemical and morphological analysis of residues on archaeological artifacts and sediments reveal the context in which hunter-gatherer tools were used, while simultaneously providing valuable information to test their ethnographic sources.

GABRIEL E. CANTARUTTI, then a student at University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Inca Mining Operations and Imperial Control in the Los Infieles Region, North-Central Chile,” supervised by Dr. Brian S. Bauer. This project studied the organization and imperial control of the mining complex of Los Infieles in north-central Chile during the Inca Period (ca. AD 1450-1541). An archaeological survey was conducted in the Los Infieles area (50 km2) over a twelve-month period. This survey revealed the existence of a large mining complex focused mainly on the extraction of opaline silica and chrysocolla. The materials registered during the survey suggest that each of the five mining clusters recorded at Los Infieles included at least one large site, in which similar operational sequences of mining activities were conducted. The absence of lapidary workshop remains and the small size of the remaining sorted minerals at the sites also suggest that the final products obtained from the mining operations were high-
quality granule and pebble-size minerals. The large number of mines and their associated facilities across the Los Infieles region support the idea that during the Inca Period, chrysocolla and opaline silica had much greater economic value than scholars tend to think, at least at an imperial provincial level. The evidence collected thus far also suggests that the Inca state was significantly involved in sponsoring and supporting these mining operations.

DR. HAAGEN D. KLAUS, Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Escaping Conquest: Human Biology, Ethnogenesis, and Indigenous Engagement with Colonialism in Eten, Peru.” This project completed the second phase of a multi-decade study of the post-contact Central Andes at the ruins of Eten, Lambayeque, Peru (AD 1532-1760). This work tested three linked hypotheses through an innovative integration of regional mortuary patterns, bioarchaeology, and archaeology. It was hypothesized that: 1) due to a unique microenvironment, the local Muchik population of Eten buffered against post-contact morbidity and health stress; 2) hybrid Andean-Iberian burial patterns emerged through colonial Muchik ethnogenesis and identity conservation; and 3) related transformations of pre-contact Muchik identity politics resulted in native biological hybridization. The results show the post-contact native Muchik Eten population bore minimal health stress as ecological and economic variables played key roles (although at least six Early Colonial mass graves were documented indicating episodic epidemic disease). Burial rituals showed little to no evidence of cultural hybridization and were Catholic in style. Micro-evolutionary signatures of ethnogenesis were detected however in variation of inherited tooth size, to indicate regional biological hybridization indeed occurred as pre-Hispanic mating networks disintegrated in tandem with sociopolitical breakdown. As a result, Hypotheses 1 and 3 were accepted, and Hypothesis 2 rejected. This work represents a multidimensional and regional portrait of an indigenous community that avoided some of the most detrimental biological outcomes of contact, but found itself enmeshed in a radically new cultural reality that emerged from unique entanglements with the post-contact adaptive transition in South America.

DR. RICHARD C. SUTTER, Indiana University, Fort Wayne, Indiana, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Assessing Extra-Local Influence and Political Collapse on the Population Structure of Human Remains from San José de Moro, Peru (AD 400-1000).” Both non-metric (epigenetic) and metric tooth crown and root trait data were collected from Middle Moche (AD 500-650), Late Moche (AD 650-750), and Transitional period (AD 750-800) human remains at San José de Moro, Peru. These data were used to derive biodistance comparisons with a previously reported Middle period sample from the nearby Pacatnamú site and eight contemporaneous samples from the Moche Valley located to the south. Preliminary results indicate that during the Middle Moche period, north coast populations represented a coherent breeding population with little inter-sample variation. However, during both the Late Moche and Transitional periods at San José de Moro, there is evidence for increased extra-local gene flow, but not among Late Moche skeletal samples from the Moche Valley. The biodistance results from this study support archaeological evidence from San José de Moro for substantial contacts with contemporaneous Cajamarca peoples who lived in the adjacent highlands to the East. These results have implications regarding population dispersals from the highlands during the Middle Horizon (AD 750-1000). Future analyses of the tooth trait data will explore archaeologically inferred familial relationships for individuals interred both among cemeteries and within graves at San José de Moro.
North America:

MEGHAN E. BUCHANAN, then a student at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Warfare and the Materialization of Daily Life at the Mississippian Common Field Site,” supervised by Dr. Susan Alt. This project examined the ways in which Mississippian Period warfare impacted the daily practices of people living at the Common Field site in southeastern Missouri. Earlier research on violence in the region has focused on overt manifestations of violence (palisades, burning events, iconography, skeletal trauma), leading many to suggest that Mississippian violence was largely low-level raiding and skirmishing that impacted warriors and those few unfortunate enough to get caught during raids. Drawing on ethnographic research conducted in war-torn regions, this project suggests that the Mississippian Midwest is best characterized as a warscape in which the everyday threat of violence created new conditions for the enactment and performance of daily activities. Excavations and artifact analysis conducted as part of this research indicate that the inhabitants of Common Field constructed their palisade soon after settling, created new ceramic vessel construction practices, and engaged in food procurement strategies that minimized potential loss of life. The site was ultimately attacked and burned, people caught in the attack were left unburied and exposed to animals, and much of the region was abandoned. In sum, this project demonstrates that regional violence had both daily and historical impacts in the Mississippian Midwest.

CERISA R. REYNOLDS, then a student at University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Faunal Use and Resource Pressure at the Origins of Agriculture in the Northern U.S. Southwest,” supervised by Dr. James Enloe. In the northern U.S. Southwest, the Basketmaker II (BM II) period (1500 BC - AD 500) marks the entrance of corn-based agriculture into the region. As this system included no domesticated animals, most attention regarding the BM II diet has focused on the use of domesticated plant resources. Unfortunately, the economic importance of wild animals has been less systematically studied. In response to this imbalance, the faunal data from 31 BM II sites were collected and analyzed to investigate how different BM II communities utilized wild animal resources. The results generally suggest that sedentism and a lack of domesticated sources of protein during the BM II period resulted in the overharvesting of high-ranking wild fauna and a subsequent reliance upon smaller, lower-ranking fauna. When the results were correlated with both preexisting chronological data and six newly acquired radiocarbon dates, it becomes clear that the BM II diet did not systematically change over time, and there are no distinct “early BM II diet” and “late BM II diet” trends. Instead, most BM II communities were consistently stressed due to an early overuse of the region's large game. Furthermore, the BM II diet was also periodically impacted by drought and population packing.

DR. DOUGLAS E. ROSS, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in October 2010 to aid research and writing on “Material Life and Socio-Cultural Transformation among Asian Transmigrants in British Columbia.” The book resulting from this writing project is based on doctoral research at Simon Fraser University, comprising a comparative archaeological study of everyday consumer habits and the construction of diasporic ethnic identities among two communities of Chinese and Japanese laborers at a turn-of-the-twentieth-century salmon cannery in British Columbia. Focus is on how diasporic population movements and the relationships migrants maintain with both home and host societies shape aspects of their everyday lives, with particular emphasis on
consumer habits and the formation of collective identities. This study develops a picture of cultural persistence and change that reflects the complexity of migrant experiences in the context of choices, constraints and socio-economic and political circumstances in China, Japan and Canada. Results demonstrate that migrant consumption patterns draw on traditions from the homeland, but are not straightforward reproductions of these things in a new setting; rather, they are influenced by a range of factors at the local, regional, and international levels. Furthermore, diasporic identities are as much a product of the migration process itself and of these contextual factors as they are of homeland traditions, and consumer goods play a significant role in their construction and maintenance.

BETH RYAN, then a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, received funding in May of 2011 to aid research on “Redefining Iroquoia: An Archaeological Study of Haudenasaunee Communities in Post-Revolutionary New York State (1784-1826),” supervised by Dr. Kurt Jordan. The grantee conducted archaeological excavation as part of research on how post-Revolutionary Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) communities in New York state negotiated their rapidly shifting social, political, economic, and geographic landscape between the Treaty of Paris (1783) and the Treaty of Buffalo Creek (1826). Through excavation of Ohagi (Donnan Site), a Tuscarora village on the Genesee River, and comparison with the researcher’s previous archival and collections work from other sites, the project demonstrated that Haudenosaunee communities in early 18th- and late 19th-century New York were able to maintain and redefine social networks beyond reservation and town boundaries while still developing individual responses to their particular local constraints. The project provided a multi-scalar approach, comparing reservations and towns within a Confederacy, while considering differences between and within Nations. The fine-grained comparison illuminates the contingency of local reactions to settler encroachment, while at the same time considering how these individual communities were redefining an Iroquois Confederacy in the face of a shrinking land base and increasing inter-group distances.

PHYSICAL/BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

LIA BETTI, then a student at University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Out of Africa and What Happened Next: Exploring the Origins of Human Pelvic Shape Variability,” supervised by Dr. Noreen von Cramon-Taubadel. The origin of human morphological diversification is one of the most intriguing questions in human evolution. Starting from a single origin of the species, how did the current pattern of morphological diversity between populations develop? Recent studies on cranial shape variation disclosed a very strong signature of the Out Of Africa expansion of our species on the global pattern of morphological diversity. This study builds upon this knowledge and explores the foundation of pelvic shape variation. Being involved in locomotion, childbirth, and potentially subject to climatic factors, the pelvis is a key anatomical region in studies of human biology and evolution. 3D pelvic morphometric data were collected from 27 globally distributed modern human populations. An explicit population genetic approach was used to explore the effect of different evolutionary factors on the global pattern of variation, revealing a strong signature of ancient demographic history on pelvic shape variation, with climatic adaptation and obstetrical constraints playing a secondary role.
SAMANTHA H. BLATT, then a student at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Assessing Growth and Development of Prehistoric Amerindians from Incremental Microstructures of Dental Enamel,” supervised by Dr. Paul W. Sciulli. When estimating age of skeletons, biological anthropologists have long assumed variation in growth between populations to be negligible, but such assumptions are rarely tested. This project investigated the appropriateness of using European reference samples for estimating age-at-death and growth trajectories of prehistoric (i.e. archaeological) Amerindian children from the Ohio Valley. The objectives of this project were to: 1) evaluate the appropriateness of using dental aging techniques derived from reference populations for estimating age in archaeological populations; 2) create a population-specific model for determining more accurate age-at-death estimates of prehistoric Native American juveniles; 3) add to the database evaluating worldwide variation in dental and somatic growth patterns; and 4) better understand the biological interaction of a population with its environment. Age-at-death of children from three archaeological sites is reconstructed using long-term growth lines on the surface of tooth crowns, known as perikymata, combined with daily growth increments in longitudinal section of dental enamel, and skeletal maturity. The result is construction of a developmental schedule of the entire dentition from birth through the day of death in prehistoric Amerindian children. This project has taken a critical first step in evaluating the methods anthropologists use to interpret demography and ontogeny in the past.

NICOLE M. BURT, then a student at University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Reconstructing Juvenile Diet in Medieval York Using a New Method of Dentine Stable Isotope Analysis,” supervised by Dr. Sandra Garvie-Lok. The diet of children changes throughout early childhood from birth, through breastfeeding and weaning. In past populations, weaning was a critical period because it was stressful and often resulted in infant death. By analyzing collagen preserved in human remains using the stable isotope analysis of nitrogen and carbon it is possible to reconstruct these diets. Deciduous tooth dentine is useful for this because it begins forming prenatally and is completed in early childhood. This research created a stable isotope microsampling method to trace the changing dietary signals in the teeth. This method was used to reconstruct juvenile diet at Fishergate House (14th – 16th century) York. The dietary data were compared with growth and pathological data from the skeletons to analyze overall health. The results show that weaning was usually complete by two years. Variation in practice was seen looking at individuals. It appears that children with health problems may have been breastfed longer in an attempt to improve health. Childhood health at the site appears to have been average for the period despite its urban location and low socioeconomic class. High levels of marine proteins such as fish in the diets of children and adults likely account for this.

DR. CRISTIAN CAPELLI, Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom, was awarded a grant in October 2009 to aid research on “Human Evolutionary Genetics in Southern Africa: Insights from Namibia Populations.” The project aimed at providing a preliminary description of the genetic variation present in Namibian populations to investigate the genetic history of the region. DNA samples were collected from different Namibian groups and investigated for their variation in both the Y chromosome and mitochondrial DNA. These molecules are paternally and maternally transmitted and follow specifically the male and female genetic history of populations. Comparisons among Namibian groups showed a broad correspondence between language and genetics, with groups speaking related languages being genetically closer. Deviations from this pattern were also highlighted,
suggesting complex genetic and/or cultural dynamics following the interaction of groups. Interestingly the admixture dynamic appears to have been preferentially female-mediated, a feature common to various human groups worldwide. In the wider context of the peopling of Southern Africa, the Namibian populations suggest the presence of multiple layers associated with the arrival of the pastoralist communities and their subsequent interaction with the communities of foragers.

DR. HERBERT H. COVERT, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado; DR. MARK HAMRICK, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; and DR. TRINH DZAHN, Geological Museum, Hanoi, Vietnam, received an International Collaborative Research Grant in April 1999 to aid collaborative research on “Behavioral Ecology of Sympatric Colobines: Niche Partitioning at Ta Kou and Nui Ong Nature Reserves.” From September of 2009 through May of 2011 feeding and positional behavioral data and substrate use were collected for black-shanked doucs (Pygathrix nigripes) and the Annamese silvered langur (Trachypithecus margarita) along with phenological data at Ta Kou and Nui Ong Nature Reserves in Binh Thuan, Vietnam. Analysis of these data provides support for the hypothesis that black-shanked doucs are more reliant on immature leaves. Both species also frequently eat flowers, fruits, and seeds and silvered langurs appear to seek-out flowers more readily during a portion of the year than do black-shanked doucs. Analysis also provides support for the hypothesis that black shanked doucs do feed more frequently in the periphery of the tree crown. Additionally silvered langurs appear to have larger home ranges and spend more time traveling lower in the canopy on relatively large and near horizontal branches than do doucs. As hypothesized black-shanked doucs do use suspensory locomotion and posture more frequently than do silvered langurs. This can be further refined – silvered langurs rarely use suspensory positional behaviors and black-shanked doucs often use suspensory postures while feeding and resting. Thus, suspensory behavior of doucs may be related to their preference of the smaller substrates of the outer canopy.

DR. MARGARET CROFOOT, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Do Capuchins Punish Cheaters? Cooperation, Coalitions, and Social Sanctions in Cebus capucinus Intergroup Aggression.” In a world of limited resources, group-living animals profit from expanding their range at the expense of the neighbors. The struggle to defend against such intrusions creates a need for strong coalitional partnerships, and this connection between intergroup conflict and intragroup cooperation has become central to hypotheses about the origins of our own uniquely complex social system. However, group-living individuals face an intrinsic tension between their selfish interest in avoiding costly aggression and the collective benefits that stem from cooperative territorial defense. How they resolve this conflict of interest, and what impact their decisions have on the balance of power between groups are critical questions for understanding the evolution of complex cooperative behavior in the primate lineage. This study demonstrates that in capuchin monkeys—a species which, like humans, has intensely competitive intergroup relationships—cheating undermines group strength. Playback experiments show that monkeys respond more vigorously to territorial challenges near the center of their range and are more likely to flee in encounters near the borders. Defection by members of larger groups is more common than defection by members of smaller groups. Thus, groups that outnumber their opponents are able to convert their numerical superiority to a competitive advantage when defending the center of their range against neighboring intruders, but fail to do so when they attempt to invade the ranges of their neighbors. These patterns of behavior even the balance of power among groups and create a “home-field advantage” that may explain how large and small groups are able to coexist.
LUCAS K. DELEZENE, then a student at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, received a grant in October 2008 to aid research on “Coevolutionary Models and the Hominin Canine Honing Complex,” supervised by Dr. William H. Kimbel. Pleiotropy (i.e., a single gene effects multiple phenotypic characters) is hypothesized to play a significant role the production of adaptations for functionally linked characters. This study tested the following hypotheses: 1) pleiotropy between anterior (incisors and canines) and posterior teeth produces a negative correlation for their sizes; 2) pleiotropy is strong between the canines and incisors; 3) the pattern of pleiotropy differs between males and females for characters of the canine honing complex, which has caused the complexes to evolve differentially in males and females; 4) patterns of pleiotropy are stable among anthropoids (monkeys and apes); and 5) pleiotropy strongly biased primate dental diversification. This study found that patterns of pleiotropy are conserved among species, though subtle differences exist between taxa. Despite this shared pattern, dental diversification has frequently occurred in directions not predicted by pleiotropy. For the honing complex, the pleiotropic organization and coevolution of its components in males and females is the same, which undermines arguments that the complex is selectively important only in males. Finally, there is no evidence for strong or negative pleiotropy between any dental characters, which falsifies hypotheses that predict such relationships between incisors and postcanine teeth or between the canines and the postcanine teeth.

DR. SHARON N. DeWITTE, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “The Black Death: Analysis of the Mortality Patterns and Causative Agent of a Medieval Emerging Disease.” The Black Death (c. 1347-1351) was one of most devastating epidemics in history, and it and subsequent outbreaks of medieval plague caused dramatic demographic, social, and economic changes throughout Europe. Using paleodemographic and paleogenomic approaches and skeletal samples from medieval London cemeteries, this project examines the causative agent of medieval plague and how the mortality patterns of plague changed over time. Samples for this study are drawn from medieval cemeteries from London, two of which contain victims of the Black Death (c. 1347-1351) and the second outbreak of plague in 1361. The results include the first complete draft genome of 14th-century *Yersinia pestis*, which confirms that the same bacterium responsible for modern bubonic plague has been affecting human populations for nearly 700 years and also indicates that the ancient strain was surprisingly similar to and the ancestor of modern strains of the disease. Paleodemographic analyses have revealed that females faced higher risks of mortality than males during the 1361 plague, perhaps because of the disproportionately negative effects of 14th-century famines on female health. Additional ancient analyses of the genetic variation present in ancient plague and of temporal changes in the levels and age patterns of plague mortality are currently underway.

DR. TODD R. DISOTELL, New York University, New York, New York, was granted funding in October 2007 to aid research on “Timing the Primate Colonization of Bioko Island through the Use of Multiple Molecular Markers.” This project had three principle results. *Cercopithecus preussi*, *C. pogonias*, and *C. nictictans* subspecies were compared from Bioko Island to mainland subspecies. Very little diversity was found within the Bioko populations compared to mainland forms. However, divergence estimates between the mainland and Bioko were much more ancient than those previously put forth. Comparison of Bioko drills, *Mandrillus leucophaeus*, to other papionins further supports the complex patterns of paraphyly within the *Cercocebus/Mandrillus* clade and the polyphyly of the
mangabeys within the papionins. It was also demonstrated that individual loci -- especially sex specific ones such as mitochondrial DNA and Y chromosome sequences -- are inadequate to infer the full evolutionary history of cercopithecoids in Africa. Multiple independent markers, such as the Alu’s discovered and characterized in this project are essential to tease apart the complex evolutionary history of these primates.

DAN EISENBERG, then a student at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, received a grant in May 2010 to research on “Ecological Predictors of Telomere Lengths: A Longitudinal and Cross-Population Analysis of Human Biological Diversity,” supervised by Dr. Christopher Kuzawa. Telomeres are DNA sequences at chromosome ends that shorten with age and are required for proper cell division. Telomere shortening is associated with diminished cell proliferation capacity, which is believed to be a cause of senescence. Given the importance of cell proliferation to blood telomere length (BTL), it has been hypothesized that BTL reflects previous immune system activation and indicates current immune function. Thus BTL could provide a new biomarker of life history allocations and of developmental exposures to infection. Contrary to the shortening of BTL that occurs with age, previous studies have shown that children of older fathers have longer telomeres. By analyzing BTL data from the Philippines, research showed for the first time that this happens across at least two generations: older fathers not only have offspring with longer telomeres, but their sons also have offspring with longer telomeres. Analyses of how early life infection and growth predicts later BTL are ongoing.

MICHELLE J. ESCASA, then a student at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Female Sociosexuality, Mate Preferences, and Sex Steroid Hormones of Lactating Women in Manila,” supervised by Dr. Peter B. Gray. This project investigates the influence of lactation on female sociosexuality and mate preferences in urban Manila, a population with long-term breastfeeding, low contraceptive use, and quick return to cycling. From an evolutionary perspective, female ancestors were likely spending more time pregnant and lactating rather than ovulating. Moreover, a majority of conceptions in natural fertility societies occurred in lactating, ovulating women. These considerations suggest that lactating women face important life history allocation trade-offs between mating and parenting effort that may be manifested in their sociosexual behavior and mate preferences. Breastfeeding (n=155) and control (n=105) women were recruited to provide a saliva sample (for testosterone and estradiol analyses) and complete a face and voice preference task to determine preferences for masculinity. All participants also completed a questionnaire that assessed sexual functioning, sociosexuality, and relationship satisfaction, along with demographic variables. Breastfeeding women report differences in commitment to their relationship, jealousy levels, sexual functioning, and preferences for high-pitched voices. Further analyses incorporate the age of the infant and the cycling status of participants. Cultural and life history factors will be discussed and will serve as a framework for the findings.

DR. RALPH M. GARRUTO, State University of New York, Binghamton, New York, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Longitudinal Studies of Health Transition and Culture Change in Vanuatu.” Health burdens are changing in developing countries worldwide. Whereas chronic diseases such as hypertension and obesity were once primarily diseases of industrial countries, these now represent major health concerns in the developing world. Vanuatu, a South Pacific nation of 68 inhabited islands, is currently experiencing this change in disease patterns, or “health transition.” Comparing chronic disease risk and population characteristics among islands could help to clarify how health transitions
develop, and the social, behavioral, and economic factors driving the change. From June-August 2011, nearly 2000 individuals from five islands participated in surveys of behavioral, nutritional, and economic patterns and body measurements (such as height, weight, and body fat). Preliminary results indicate that health patterns change in ways specific to the behaviors and economic conditions of each island and the degree of outside influence, regardless of geographic remoteness. Chronic disease risk is also influenced by the risk of infectious diseases, which impact not only an individual’s phenotype, but also behavioral and economic factors (such as growth of the tourism industry) that in turn affect the population’s health. This project contributes to our understanding of human biological variation across geographical regions and the factors that determine health outcomes in Pacific Island populations.

ALEXANDER V. GEORGIEV, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a grant in April 2009 to aid research on “Dominance Rank, Mating Effort, and Energy Use in Male Chimpanzees,” supervised by Dr. Richard W. Wrangham. While differential energy intake is widely recognized as a key factor affecting inter-individual variance in fecundity and lifetime fitness among female mammals, including humans, the role that energetics play in shaping male reproductive strategies is less well understood. This study set out to examine the energetic costs of male mating effort in wild chimpanzees at Kanyawara, Kibale National Park, Uganda, by combining detailed observations of male activity with non-invasive sampling of urinary C-peptide of insulin (UCP). Male chimpanzees incurred important energetic shortfalls during periods of intense mating competition: they reduced their feeding time and had lower levels of UCP (a measure of energy balance). While high-ranking males had lower UCP levels overall, males of all ranks experience a similar reduction in their energy balance during periods of mate competition. Nevertheless, higher-ranking males obtained most copulations with more attractive females. The energy cost per copulation appeared to be lower for high-ranking than low-ranking males. This study extends our understanding of the energetics of male-male sexual competition and highlights the significant energetic costs of mating effort in a non-seasonally breeding primate.

LEE T. GETTLER, then a student at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Longitudinal Perspectives on Paternal Socioendocrinology in the Philippines,” supervised by Dr. Christopher Kuzawa. Much prior research has been conducted on the neuroendocrine underpinnings of maternal care, but much less is known about paternal socioendocrinology, particularly among human males. This research is the first to demonstrate that fatherhood causally decreases testosterone in human males. The finding that fathers involved in high levels of childcare have lower testosterone also adds to the growing body of evidence suggesting that suppression of testosterone by fatherhood is potentially mediated through paternal care. Finally, these data represent one of the few evaluations of human paternal prolactin, especially in the context of short-term, father-child interaction. Prolactin is likely an important hormone influencing expression of paternal care behaviors in men, but it has been given substantially less attention in studies of male socioendocrinology, relative to, for example, testosterone. The findings that first-time fathers and those who feel support by their wives show greater declines in prolactin when interacting with their children provide important insights on the plasticity of human male physiology as men move through different life history stages and priorities shift. In total, this research presents multiple lines of evidence that behavior/personality influence biology and vice versa, reflecting the mutually regulatory, interactive relationship between behavior and biology.
CEDRIC GIRARD-BUTTOZ, then a student at the German Primate Centre, Goettingen, Germany, was awarded a grant in October 2008 to aid research on “Costs of Mate-Guarding in Wild Tong-Tailed Macaques (Macaca fascicularis),” supervised by Dr. Antje Engelhardt. Little is known so far about how primate males cope with the costs arising from mate-guarding females in multi-male groups. The aim of the project therefore was to quantify these costs using long-tailed macaques as a model species. The study was carried out during two reproductive seasons on three groups living in the Gunung Leuser National Park, Indonesia. Research combined behavioral observations and non-invasive measurements of C-peptides as an indicator of male energetic status. Results indicate that males counterbalance reduced energy intake deriving from decreased feeding time and fruit consumption by decreasing their vertical locomotion and thus energy expenditure. Accordingly, no effect of mate-guarding on energetic status was found in the males studied. Results thus far are surprising in that they show alpha male long-tailed macaques do not monopolize all available females even when it may be possible. One explanation may be that results include rare empirical evidence of the concession model in primates. The constraints shaping the evolution of male reproductive strategy in primates might strongly differ between non-strictly seasonal species (such as long-tailed macaques) and strictly seasonal species and further studies on both ends of the spectrum are needed.

JESSICA A. HARTEL, then a student at University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Social Dynamics of Aggression Mitigation and Behavioral Stress Correlates in Wild Chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes) at Kanyawara, Kibale National Park, Uganda,” supervised by Dr. Craig Stanford. Peacemaking strategies are necessary to mitigate aggression and maintain group stability in social animals. While this topic of behavior has been extensively studied in captive primate populations, little is known about the post-conflict behaviors of their wild counterparts. In particular, wild chimpanzees have become well-known for their high rates of intragroup aggression relative to other animal species and even humans making them a model candidate in which to study aggression mitigation strategies. Captive chimpanzees, like humans, use reconciliation and consolation as mechanisms to mitigate the negative effects of aggression. However, the fission-fusion social structure of wild chimpanzees makes it difficult to extrapolate captive results to wild populations. This research investigated the post-conflict behaviors of wild chimpanzees at Kanyawara. In a one-year period, over 600 post-conflict observations were collected. Preliminary analyses indicate that this wild chimpanzee community may have higher conciliatory rates than other wild populations, and that conciliatory decisions are influenced by valuable relationships. The data also demonstrates the strong influence of party composition on conciliatory behavior and dispersal decisions, a component that is absent in captive post-conflict research. While fissioning from the party is not an option in captivity, dispersal and distancing strategies are behavioral luxories of the wild.

ERIN E. HECHT, then a student at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, was granted funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Neural Adaptations Underlying the Evolution of Social Learning and Imitation,” supervised by Dr. Lisa A. Parr. Humans have unique capacities for social learning and culture. Other primates focus mainly on what is achieved by others’ actions. Humans have the additional capacity to focus on how it is achieved. This enables us to copy not just an action’s end result but also its methods. As a result, human culture is cumulative -- socially transmitted behaviors acquire successive improvements that are propagated with high fidelity. This ratchet effect lets each successive generation build
upon the achievements of the last, resulting in things like particle accelerators and the Internet. This project searched for a biological basis for these behavioral adaptations. It compared brain activations and anatomy in macaques, chimpanzees, and humans. It focused on the mirror system, a network that maps others’ movements onto one’s own body. Two major findings have emerged. First, when chimpanzees view others’ actions, they have more activation than humans in frontal cortex, which processes goals, and less activation in parietal cortex, which processes movement details. Second, the human mirror system has stronger anatomical connections with parietal cortex and with other regions that are involved in tool use and spatial attention. Together, these results offer a mechanistic explanation for human specializations for social learning and culture.

JENNIFER HODGSON, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “A GIS-Based Approach to the Study of Hominin Carcass Acquisition at Kanjera South, Kenya,” supervised by Dr. Thomas W. Plummer. Subsistence behaviors are of central importance in addressing questions about the behavioral ecology of Plio-Pleistocene hominins. The shift to increased meat consumption may be one of the major adaptive changes in hominin dietary evolution. While it is established that Oldowan hominins butchered large mammal carcasses, the method of carcass acquisition (i.e., hunting vs. scavenging) and degree of completeness (fleshed vs. defleshed) is less certain. This study addresses these questions through an analysis of bone modification patterns created by hominins and carnivores in the ca. 2.0 Ma zooarcheological assemblage from Kanjera South, Kenya. A GIS image-analysis method is used to compare bone modification patterns in the Kanjera assemblage with modern experimental bone assemblages created by various large carnivore species. Preliminary results indicate hominins had early access to large carcasses at Kanjera, however, data analysis is still underway.

DR. MICHAEL I. JENSEN-SEAMAN, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received a grant in October 2009 to aid research on “Comparative Proteomics of Hominoid Seminal Plasma.” Humans and their closest relatives differ tremendously in their social grouping and mating systems, which are reflected in their physiology including the composition of semen, presumably due to adaptations related to levels of sperm competition. Using several complementary approaches, the complete protein constituents in human, chimpanzee, and gorilla semen were quantitatively characterized. Chimpanzees possess the most complex mixture of proteins, many of which are hypothesized to play a role in sperm competition, predicted to be greatest in chimps among hominoids. Several proteins were identified in chimpanzees that may have rapidly evolved by regulatory changes driven by sexual selection. These proteins include proteases, protease inhibitors, structural proteins, and those involved in energy production. In contrast, gorilla semen is a simpler mix, consistent with a loss of function of many male reproductive genes in this species with very low levels of sperm competition. Human semen appears somewhat intermediate in levels of complexity, while at the same time possessing several uniquely regulated proteins. The adaptations of each species to their mating systems appears to be facilitated more by regulatory changes than changes to protein-coding portions of genes. This general conclusion may hold true for other adaptive phenotypes in human and hominoid evolution.

STEFANO KABURU, then a student at University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Grooming Reciprocity among Wild Chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes) of Mahale National Park, Tanzania,” supervised by
Dr. Nicholas Newton-Fisher. This project aims to investigate the strategies and the social factors behind grooming reciprocity among wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*), as model species to understand how the reciprocal exchange of social acts might have evolved between unrelated individuals within human societies. Detailed data on social behaviors (e.g. grooming, agonistic coalitions, meat sharing) were collected between January and October 2011 from eight adult males and seven adult females living in the M-group chimpanzee community of Mahale National Park. Preliminary results show that males reciprocate grooming both across and within bouts when grooming each other and all males were part of at least one highly reciprocal grooming male-male pair. Conversely, no evidence for reciprocal exchange of grooming was found among females. Male-male grooming sessions show a more complex pattern with a combination of unidirectional and mutual grooming compared to female-female grooming bouts. Future analysis is needed to understand whether this difference is related to particular strategies employed by males to assure grooming reciprocity. Interestingly, although females do not match grooming time when grooming other females, they seem to direct grooming towards few specific grooming partners. Further analysis will shed light on the criteria behind partner choice both in males and females.

SARAH A. MARTIN, then a student at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Expression of Fluctuating Asymmetry in Primate Dentition: Analyzing the Role of Growth Duration,” supervised by Dr. Debra Guatelli-Steinberg. In comparison to other mammalian species, primates exhibit prolonged growth periods. Within the primate order, growth periods lengthen from prosimans to apes and humans. Although prolonged growth periods can be advantageous, extended development may provide more time for developing body structures to be affected by sources of stress. Extended periods of growth are therefore predicted to be associated with greater developmental noise, measured by fluctuating asymmetry (FA). This study tested if and to what extent growth duration influenced the expression of FA in primate dentition. Dental dimensions, collected from 26 primate species, were used to calculate FA. Crown formation times of the primate first molar and canine served as the basis for making comparisons between and within species. To date, FA has been calculated for the dentition of Hominidae and Hylobatidae. Results obtained so far demonstrate that growth duration does influence the expression of FA in primate first molars. FA of Hylobatidae mandibular and maxillary first molars is lower than FA estimations of Pan, Gorilla, and Pongo. Gorilla males exhibited greater canine FA relative to gorilla females while gibbon males and females exhibited similar canine FA, further suggesting the hypothesis that growth duration is a factor in canine FA expression.

DR. EMMA NGUVI MBUA, National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya, received a grant in October 2011 to aid field research at “Kandis Fossil Site (KFS), a New Late Pliocene Site on the Outskirts of Nairobi City.” Kandis Fossil Site (KFS) is a Pliocene site located on the outskirts of Nairobi, on the eastern margins of the Ngong escarpment and was recently dated to 2.77±0.01 Myr. The previous three years of research at the KFS site has yielded diverse and abundant fauna totaling 1100 individuals representing thirteen mammalian taxa. The research supported by this funding yielded a total of 300 mammalian fossils and, for the first time, recovered two hominin baby teeth (possibly *Australopithecus afarensis*). In addition, well preserved mammalian fossils were recovered including an extinct monkey mandible with dentition (Paracolobus), a partially complete white rhino mandible (Ceratotherium), three partially complete Hippo skulls (Hexaprododon), fossil pigs (Notochoerus), and several other ungulates. Preliminary faunal assessment reveals
similarity to Pliocene fauna from Hadar and Laetoli, which suggests an age older than 2.77 Myr date recorded for top of the Kandis sequence.

RACHEL A. MENEGAZ, then a student at University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Ecomorphological Implications of Primate Dietary Variability: An Experimental Model,” supervised by Dr. Matthew J. Ravosa. The evolution and function of the human skull is intimately related to the mechanical demands imposed by diet and food items. However, despite a growing awareness of the complexity of the primate diet, the effects of such seasonal variability in food items on craniomandibular growth and morphology are poorly understood. This gap in the understanding of functional morphology hinders our ability to identify dietary variability in the fossil record, and to identify evolutionarily significant divergences in ecological strategies (such as the use of seasonal “fallback foods”) in closely related species within the human lineage. This integrative study uses an experimental approach to model mammalian skull growth as affected by temporal changes in dietary composition. Results from this study suggest that for anthropologists, changes in diet related to seasonal cycles increase the difficulty of inferring behavior from anatomy. To overcome this challenge, morphological analyses included within this research identify those features within the mandible and the cranium that are the most useful for correctly classifying individuals within the correct dietary category. Such an enhanced understanding of the complex relationship between diet and morphology is critical for understanding human evolution and the ecological and behavioral aspects of early hominins.

DEBORAH MOORE, then a student at University of Texas, San Antonio, Texas, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Investigation of Adaptations of Chimpanzee Social Structure to a Savanna-Woodland Habitat through Genetic Analysis,” supervised by Dr. Carolyn Ehardt. The goal of this project was to determine whether large home range sizes characterize those of chimpanzees living under the resource constraints of a savanna-woodland habitat, and if so whether these range sizes decrease the benefits of male philopatry such that the genetic structure of the population looks different than that of forested sites. DNA from 237 genetic samples collected from a 624 km2 area of Ugalla, Tanzania, were extracted, amplified, and analyzed, from which 197 samples yielded reliable genotypes that were found to represent 113 individuals (69 males and 44 females). A population density estimate of 0.47 (CI 0.30-0.77) individuals/km2 was obtained using a spatially explicit capture-recapture (SECR) method, confirming the necessity of large home ranges in this region. Sample extracts of the 69 males were amplified at 13 Y-chromosome loci, resulting in the identification of four haplotypes. Of these four, one Y-chromosome haplotype was shared by 52 males and found throughout the surveyed area. The remaining three occurred rarely, and each formed a geographic cluster distinct from the others. This pattern suggests several possibilities including the maintenance of male philopatric communities in this challenging environment, and supports the premise that this social structure is a shared trait among chimpanzees, bonobos, and early hominins.

MARLIJN NOBACK, then a student at Eberhard Karls University, Tubingen, Germany, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Climate- and Diet-Related Variation in Human Functional Cranial Components,” supervised by Dr. Katerina Harvati. This study seeks to elucidate the physiological basis of craniofacial variation and the selective forces driving modern human cranial geographic diversity. Funding enabled the CT scanning of 45 individual crania from three different collections based in Paris, London, and Tübingen. These scans form part of a larger database of over 330 CT scans, representing populations
from different climatic and dietary regimes. With the use of the software package AVIZO and a high performance laptop, 3D models of functional facial components are developed from the CT scans. Analyses are currently undertaken and include studies of variation and co-variation of the cranial components and their relation to diet and climate. This project will enhance understanding of the biological processes underlying the evolution of modern human anatomy, adaptation, and geographic diversity.

CAROLINA A. PASCHETTA, Universidad Nacional de Rio Cuarto, Puerto Madryn, Argentina, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Dietary Shifts during Modern Human Evolution and Their Effect on Craniofacial Size and Shape,” supervised by Dr. Rolando González-José. The research consisted of recording craniometric data from three human groups in Mexico (Central Valley of Mexico), Argentina (Cuyo), and United States (Ohio River Valley), representing three independent cases of transition on economic strategy and, hence, diet attributes, from hard to soft diets. Around 350 skulls were digitized and analyzed using geometric morphometric techniques. To test shape and size differences, different statistical analyses were performed at different regions of the skull. Preliminary analysis shows that most of the variation observed in all of the skull components is accounted for by among-transition differences, rather than by among-lifestyles, within-transition comparisons. The groups that represent the hard diet within each transition have larger palates, zigomatic archs, and temporo-mandibular joints. Also, the bite forces are greater on the hard-diet groups than in soft-diet groups. In general the results show more punctual than general changes in shape that optimize the mechanical function of the masticatory function.

DR. JOSEPH M. PLAVCAN, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, received a grant in October 2008 to aid research on “Novel 3D Analysis of Koobi Fora Hominin Postcranial Fossils.” Koobi Fora has yielded numerous hominin postcranial remains, potentially representing up to four separate species. Many of these remains are fragmentary and unassociated, meaning that taxonomic attribution is uncertain. The fragmentary nature of the remains has limited the ability of researchers to analyze the material. Researchers for this project used high-resolution laser scans to create 3D computer models of the Koobi Fora postcrania, and augment an extensive comparative database of extant primates, which serves as a comparative database for the Koobi Fora remains. The study employs Polyworks software to estimate the size of fragmentary fossils, compare surface topologies, and generate estimates of morphological variation not possible with conventional measurement systems. Validation projects for the technique are in progress. Results to date have nearly quadrupled the number of size estimates for specimens in the sample, validated topological comparative methods, and demonstrated that at least one form showed a mosaic of human-like and australopithecine-like features in the pelvis and femur. More than 20 students have been involved in the project, and with data sharing have generated five abstracts to date. Results from this project will form a major part of the forthcoming Koobi Fora Hominin Postcranial monograph, to be edited by Carol Ward.

TABITHA K. PRICE, then a student at Gottingen University, Goettingen, Germany, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Variation in Vervet Vocalizations: Insights into Mechanisms of Call Production and Call Perception,” supervised by Dr. Julia Fischer. The alarm call system of the East African vervet constitutes the textbook example of “functionally referential” signals, with the adult male bark proposed as a functionally referential leopard alarm call. During a six-month field season at Loskop Dam Nature Reserve in South Africa, this study focused on the bark vocalization of the adult male South
African vervet. Leopard models were presented to elicit vocal responses, spontaneous barks were recorded, and playback experiments of conspecific and heterospecific barks carried out. The main objectives of this study were to assess referential specificity, multi-level acoustic variation, and perception of acoustic variation within the bark vocalization. Preliminary results suggest that South African vervets produce barks in alarm and non-alarm contexts, while graded differences in call structure exist between contexts it is unsure how these are perceived by conspecifics. The alarm barks of South African vervets differ in temporal features to the barks of East and West African vervets, and the barks of all three populations can be split into structurally different subunits, each of which demonstrate population specific acoustic features. Playback experiments do not offer conclusive evidence of whether population differences are relevant to conspecifics. Acoustic and statistic analyses continue in order to confirm these results.

KARYNE NANCY RABEY, then a student at University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Forelimb Muscle and Muscle Attachment Morphology in Primates,” supervised by Dr. David R. Begun. Muscle attachment sites are formed during growth and development and are often used to reconstruct lifestyles and activity patterns of past populations. However, little is understood about the relationship between the appearance of bony features and the structure and function of the associated attaching soft-tissues. First, this research investigated whether muscle markings on the forelimbs reflect muscle size, strength, and activity of orangutans and macaques from the Toronto Zoo. Preliminary results show that muscle attachment area seems to correspond to the physiological cross-sectional area and the fiber length values. This relationship was then further explored by testing how activity influenced the morphological development of the shoulder muscles and the corresponding attachments in wild-type mice subjected to three experimental activity patterns: sedentary-control, activity-wheel running, and activity-climbing. Analyses of fiber length and muscle weight indicate that wheel-running mice had greater overall excursion. The rate of bone growth was significantly greater in wheel-running mice than the other groups. However, the climbing mice showed more histologic variation in bone growth remodeling. These results contribute to a better understanding of how muscle and bone interact throughout their development and improve our ability to interpret behavior from human and non-human primate skeletal remains.

MICHELLE A. RODRIGUES, then a student at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, received funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Stress and Sociality in a Patrilocal Primate: Do Female Spider Monkeys Tend-and-Befriend?,” supervised by Dr. Dawn M. Kitchen. Chronic stress has negative consequences. The “tend-and-befriend” strategy is hypothesized to be a coping mechanism in which females affiliate with other females in order to reduce stress. This mechanism is proposed to be a widespread strategy throughout the primate order, and one that underlies patterns of female bonding in humans. Although this strategy has been documented in matrilineal primates, there is little evidence for it in patrilocal primates. Since our hominid ancestors are presumed to be male-philopatric, examining if this strategy applies to unrelated females is crucial. Here, research examined the evolutionary context of this coping mechanism in a species characterized by fission-fusion social organization and female dispersal. The grantee looked at patterns of female-female social relationships, and ecological variables on cortisol concentrations, a measure of physiological stress, among female black-handed spider monkeys. Behavioral, hormonal, and ecological data were collected in wild, habituated females. It was found that when females have spikes in cortisol, they affiliate more with other females. This research has
direct implications for understanding the evolution of the stress-response and coping mechanism.

STACY LYNN ROSENBAUM, then a student at University of California, Los Angeles, California, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on "Male/Immature Relationships in the Mountain Gorilla (Gorilla beringei beringei)," supervised by Dr. Joan B. Silk. The focus of this research is relationships between adult male gorillas and the immature animals in their groups; more specifically, it evaluates: 1) what benefits males offer to young in their groups; 2) whether males and their offspring can discriminate between each other and unrelated animals; 3) if and how relationships with males influence physiological stress levels in immature animals and their mothers; and 4) if male “interest” in immatures correlates with certain hormonal profiles. These questions integrate behavioral observation, non-invasive collection of hormones, and evaluation of genetic relatedness between males and immatures. All work was done at the Karisoke Research Center in Musanze, Rwanda. During this phase of the project, there were 1,019 hours of behavioral data collected, 6,500 fecal samples for testosterone and corticosteroid analysis, and 600 urine samples for prolactin analysis. Paternity data (via fecal samples) on infants in the gorilla population was also obtained. Summary and analyses of all three types of data are ongoing. Initial results, presented at the International Primatological Society Congress in August 2012, indicate that maturing animals sustain long-term relationships with adult males they prefer as infants. Complete results will be forthcoming in scientific publications over the next two years.

PAUL A. SANDBERG, then a student at University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “High Resolution Reconstruction of Early Life History Events in Archaeological Humans: A Biogeochemical Approach,” supervised by Dr. Matt Sponheimer. There has been increasing interest in reconstructing aspects of human life history in the past using stable isotope analysis of bones and teeth. This has most commonly been accomplished by measuring stable isotope ratios in the bone collagen of individuals at various ages of death, or by comparing the stable isotopes in the enamel of teeth that form at different times. While useful, the temporal resolution of these methods is rather coarse grained. A relatively new method of measuring stable isotopes in tooth enamel -- laser ablation/gas chromatography/isotope ratio mass spectrometry -- permits the analysis of very small amounts of enamel in situ and creates the opportunity to generate high-resolution stable isotope profiles within single human teeth. The goal of this project is to use this method to greatly improve the temporal resolution of infant and childhood diet, and dietary changes associated with the weaning process and seasonality. A variety of methodological issues were addressed including sampling location within dental enamel and the comparability of isotope profiles in different tooth types and dental tissues. High resolution intratooth stable isotope analysis holds promise for addressing a number of questions concerning human life history in the archaeological and fossil records.

DR. BROOKE A. SCELZA, University of California, Los Angeles, California, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Female Social Support in Productive Reproductive Domains.” Women around the world strive to balance the dual demands of production and reproduction. Often, they rely on one another for support in these endeavors. Previous research has shown that support networks are critical to the health and well-being of women and their children. However, many previous studies relied on general self-reported measures of support and made broad correlations between support and health outcomes. The goal of this research was to offer an anthropological complement to existing research by providing a thorough understanding of why supportive relationships arise and thrive
between particular individuals, how support networks change across the lifespan, and what the behavioral pathways are that lead to improvements in maternal and child health. These relationships were studied among the Himba, a highly traditional group of Namibian pastoralists. Life history interviews and health measurements were collected on more than 200 individuals. The data show that women have complex support relationships, which change according to age and marital status. The number and sex of their children, how many co-wives they have, and whether they are currently married all affect how much help women receive and their nutritional status. Children were also found to be integral parts of the support network.

DR. ROBERT S SCOTT, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, and DR. TANJU KAYA, Ege University, Bornova-Izmir, Turkey (with collaborators Gildas Merceron, Serdar Mayda, and Dimitrios Kostopoulos) received funding in October 2008 to aid research on “Environmental Dynamics of Western Eurasian Hominids during the Late Miocene.” The aim of this research was to describe paleoecological links to local hominid extinctions and their possible replacement by cercopithecoids. Activities focused on three paleoenvironmental proxies from common mesoherbivore taxa (hipparions, ruminants): postcranial ecomorphology, dental microwear, and dental mesowear. Collections were studied in Turkey, Greece, Moldova, Ukraine, Switzerland, France (summer/fall 2009, 2011) and Spain (summer 2011). Postcrania were measured and teeth were molded for mesowear and microwear analyses. Results include the initial description of a bioprovince represented by Samos, Greece, and a new Turkish locality, Şerefkoy-2, with conditions that appear hostile to cercopithecoids and hominids. These environments include a mosaic of habitats but fail to preserve early West Eurasian cercopithecoids. This bioprovince follows the local extinction of hominids in time and may be linked with changes hostile to hominids. The first analysis of the Kalfa, Moldova hominid site suggests a forested habitat less extreme than the well-studied similarly aged site of Howenegg, Germany.

KATHERINE S. WANDER, then a student at University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, received funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Immunocompetence and the Hygiene Hypothesis,” supervised by Dr. Bettina Shell-Duncan. Extensive research in allergy epidemiology has demonstrated that early exposure to infectious agents is associated with lower risk of allergic disease. An evolutionary perspective suggests that such early exposure may affect not only pathological immune responses to allergens, but also healthy immune responses to pathogens as a developmental adaptation, tailoring immune responses to the local infectious disease ecology. To evaluate this hypothesis, this project evaluated associations between early life infectious disease exposure and: 1) allergic disease; and 2) delayed-type hypersensitivity to Candin (an immune response to pathogen antigen, indicating immunocompetence). Consistent with finding in the US and Europe, large family size was associated with lower risk of diagnosed allergic disease. Consistent with the hypothesized developmental adaptation in immune system development, large family size, hospitalization during infancy with an infectious disease, and BCG vaccination scar were positively associated with immunocompetence (delayed-type hypersensitivity to Candin). These results suggest that not only do early infections discourage the pathological immune responses that result in allergy, they also promote healthy immune responses to pathogens, reflecting adaptive plasticity in immune system development.

EVA C. WIKBERG, then a student at the University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Facultative Female Dispersal in Female Colobus vellerosus and Other Primates,” supervised by Dr. Pascale Sicotte. An increasing body of
evidence suggests that there is significant within-population variation in dispersal, both in human and non-human primate societies. The aim of this study is to investigate dispersal in a population of black-and-white colobus (Colobus vellerosus) residing at Boabeng-Fiema, Ghana. Based on a combination of demographic and genetic data, approximately half of the females in this population were immigrant females while the other half resided in their natal group. Regardless of the group composition of immigrant and natal females, all groups showed strong female-female bonds. Females formed stronger grooming relationships with familiar female kin, and these females showed co-participation in between-group encounters more often. As females defend the core area of their home range during between-group encounters, strong grooming relationships may facilitate cooperative home range defense. Despite these possible benefits of remaining with familiar kin, many females left large groups residing in areas with high local population density. These females may have dispersed to reduce feeding competition. These findings indicate that a combination of costs and benefits associated with dispersal shape individual female’s dispersal decisions. This observed variation cannot be explained by the traditional models of social structure, and future models will need to address this plasticity.

LINGUISTICS

Africa:

JENNIFER L. HALL, then a student at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, received funding in October 2007 to aid research on “Building Bridges: Language Ideology and Passerelle Literacy Education in Morocco,” supervised by Dr. Judith T. Irvine. This dissertation research looks at mother tongue adult literacy education in Morocco through a case study of a new methodology called “passerelle.” The grantee tested the hypothesis that passerelle -- by promoting Standard Arabic script as an ideologically neutral instrument for representing mother tongue languages -- presents an ideological conflict for learners and educators who may hold differing ideas as to the appropriateness of portraying traditionally oral languages in written form using Arabic script. Twelve months of comparative research was conducted on the ideologies of learners and educators in passerelle classrooms, in both urban and rural settings. The grantee observed that passerelle literacy educators tended to avoid utilizing mother tongue literacy activities in the classroom and instead relied on normative methods of Standard Arabic literacy teaching. They restricted the use of mother tongues languages in the classroom to oral activities and the use of Standard Arabic to writing activities, thus indicating that passerelle methodology did indeed present an ideological conflict. In contrast, most adult literacy learners did not express a similar ideological conflict and embraced opportunities to write in dialectical Arabic. This is partially due to the fact that many did not hold any preconceived notions about distinctions between oral and written Arabic.

SARAH M. HILLEWAERT, then a student at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, received funding in October 2008 to aid research on “Language, Space, and Identity: Linguistic Practices among Youth in Lamu, Kenya,” supervised by Dr. Judith T. Irvine. Investigating linguistic practices among youth of Lamu Island (Kenya), this research set out to provide new understandings of the complex relation between language and agency, exploring how everyday linguistic and semiotic practices can be constitutive in redefinitions of identities. A two-year research period on Lamu Island revealed how youth
actively exploit and redefine the linkage between stylistic variation and social identities, statuses, and value systems to monitor social relations in a context of rapid change. Data collection revealed a linguistic complexity on Lamu Island, inextricably tied up with the island’s historical social stratification. Over six Swahili dialects spoken by different ethnic groups reflect social identities that coincide with spatial divisions on the island. As economic, political, and social changes come to undermine these historical social structures, linguistic practices become crucial in monitoring social relations. While spatial divisions remain, youth actively exploit changes in mobility (i.e. movement through the town, across spatial divides) as well as linguistic and semiotic practices to defy ascribed social identities. Switching and mixing of dialects, combined with changes in occupation of social space demonstrate how youth endeavor to challenge historically established ideologies. As changes in mobility proved to play a crucial role in this challenging of social identities, the researcher was forced to investigate the impact of different notions of mobility (i.e. the actual movement through space but also use of cell phones, satellite tv, etc.) on notions of identity and language practices. Analysis also indicates that an important gender aspect needs to be included in the research’s theoretical considerations, as the cultural restrictions in mobility have forced women, more so than man, to exploit linguistic practices in their attempts to redefine their position in Lamu Society.

Asia and the Near East:

YUNUS DOGAN TELLIEL, then a student at the City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, was awarded a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Vernacular Islam and Muslim Citizens: Religious Language Reforms in Secular Turkey,” supervised by Dr. Michael Blim. Exploring questions of religion, language, and reform, as they intersect in modern Turkey, this research examined a set of Islamic reform movements, spanning the early Republican and contemporary eras, which have endorsed, in various ways and toward various ends, the “vernacularization” of religious language. The researcher traced Muslim reformers’ conceptions of language by examining their perspectives on such issues as the translatability of the Qur’an, conducting ritual prayers in Turkish, or the possibility of unmediated engagement with scriptural translations. The researcher also investigated the extent to which these conceptions have been informed and shaped by the language ideologies of the Turkish nation-state. The reformist emphasis on the vernacular has often been seen as an attempt to “Protestantize” (and eventually “secularize”) Turkish Muslims. Although Islamic reformism in Turkey has historically been entangled with the secular state’s strategies of governing Muslim citizens, this research indicated a growing diversification of Islamic reformism in Turkey. New generations of reformers operate not only within, but also against, the political rationalities of the secular nation-state, as they engage with concepts and categories internal to the Islamic tradition.

Latin America and the Caribbean:

DR. LINDA BETH ABARBANELL, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Spatial Language and Reasoning in Tseltal Mayans.” Does language shape speakers’ experiences and perceptions? Some of the strongest yet most controversial claims for linguistic relativity concern the frames of reference speakers use to talk about locations and directions. English speakers use an
egocentric perspective (e.g., left/right), where speakers of other languages use fixed aspects of their geocentric environment. In Tseltal (Mayan, Mexico), the language studied in this project, speakers use the uphill/downhill slope of their terrain. These differences are argued to affect the availability of each system for nonlinguistic thought; however, the experimental evidence has yielded conflicting results. The present research brings more systematic data to the table by: 1) replicating and extending previous studies in order to reconcile conflicting results obtained from different tasks and comparison groups; and 2) using linguistic variations within a single community to minimize environmental and educational differences across language groups while exploring speakers’ ability to use both egocentric and geocentric representations. The results argue that language may help speakers encode non-salient relationships, such as non-egocentric left/right, and develop more complex and accurate mental maps of their environment; however, it does not fundamentally restructure spatial cognition. Rather, task-specific constraints may override linguistic preferences to determine which system is easier to use.

North America:

CHRISTOPHER ENGELKE, then a student at University of California, Los Angeles, California, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “The Design and Use of Augmentative: Alternative Communications Technologies,” supervised by Dr. Paul V. Kroskrity. Current figures suggest that over 2 million Americans have a disability that compromises their speech intelligibility, requiring them to use a special form of assistive technology called augmentative alternative communications (AAC) devices in order to literally and figuratively have “a voice.” This study examines the phenomena of embodiment, empathy, and intersubjectivity that manifest around the design and use of these augmentative communications devices by examining the ways in which individuals’ embodied and ideological familiarities with the world are revealed in their engagements with these specialized communications technologies. By investigating the ways that able-bodied designers approach the task of developing AAC technologies, this study uncovers relationships between one’s physical abilities, normative prescriptions for action, and the forms and limits of understanding others whose bodily abilities may be radically different from one’s own. Moreover, by examining the ways that AAC users take up the features of their devices in everyday interactions, this study reveals the unique ways in which this technology is incorporated into bodily understandings of the “self” and its location in the world.

DR. ANDREW IRVING, University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom, received a grant in October 2009 to aid research on “New York Stories.” New York Stories explores the role of inner expression and dialogue in negotiating illness (namely HIV/AIDS but with wider applications to other conditions and social life more generally), with an emphasis on how people use internally represented speech to cope with disruption, make critical decisions, or establish social and existential continuity. The streams of interior expression, thought, and reverie that accompany illness cannot be regarded as tangential or irrelevant because they are directly constitutive of lived experiences of illness and central to people’s understanding and management of their condition. Persons remain thinking and speaking beings even when outwardly dwelling in silence or maintaining normal social-life but inwardly they may be negotiating critical social issues, emotional conflicts, and existential dilemmas they cannot express to friends and family. In considering how people living with illness reclaim meaning and re-establish social-life amidst disruption or the possibility of
mortality, the project’s outcomes have direct theoretical and practical applications for understanding the human condition, healthcare, and well-being. A number of new research methods were introduced and tested out that use a combination of photography, video, sound recording and movement, in order to better understand and bring to life people’s everyday experiences of illness.

LAL ZIMMAN, then a student at University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Talking like a Man: Identity, Socialization, Biology, and the Gendered Voice among Female-to-Male Transsexuals,” supervised by Dr. Kira Hall. As a window into the relationship between gender and the voice, this study combines methods from linguistic anthropology and sociolinguistics to analyze the changing voices of female-to-male transgender people. Fifteen trans men and others on the female-to-male identity spectrum were recorded in a variety of contexts during their first 1-2 years of hormone therapy. Testosterone, which is one of the most popular medical interventions among trans men, can spur dramatic changes in the larynx along with other so-called “secondary” sex characteristics. By tracking changes in pitch as well as speaking style, this study underscores the intertwined nature of embodiment, socialization, and identity work, which may or may not be aligned in predictable ways. Trans men, who were raised in a female gender role but do not see themselves as women, clearly represent atypical combinations of physiology, early life socialization, and self-defined gender identity. With the marked biological changes that testosterone brings about, these speakers also demonstrate the diversity of speaking styles that can be perceived as male-sounding. Ultimately this study shed light on the inextricable relationship between the body and social practice while simultaneously problematizing the notion that voices can be unproblematically categorized as “female” or “male.”

SOCIAL/CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Africa:

BROOKE BOCAST, then a student at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “‘If Books Fail, Try Beauty’: Gender, Consumption, and Higher Education in Uganda,” supervised by Dr. Judith Goode. Ugandan university students grapple with a paradox common to post-structural adjustment economies in the global south: increased exposure to international media and commodities coupled with the insecurity wrought by the withdrawal of state subsidies and services. Female students occupy the novel life stage of “young, unmarried, educated woman,” and are thereby structurally positioned to be a particularly revelatory group for examining how the aforementioned phenomena impact issues of social change and reproduction. This research examined how female university students at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, negotiate national economic restructuring through novel consumption and exchange strategies, such as university-based forms of transactional sex. In order to assess how, why, and to what effect female students engage in transactional sex, the grantee conducted twelve months of ethnographic research on female university students’ forms of consumption, romantic relationships, and academic careers, as well as on popular discourse and NGO activity targeting female students. By taking recent theoretical reformulations of “sexual economy” as its starting point, this research revealed key dynamics of economic restructuring and transforming gender, class, and generational norms in East Africa.
DR. LUCA CIABARRI, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy, received a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in April 2011 to aid research and writing on “Dubai Style: The Emergence of Somaliland and the Extraversion of Society. Towards an Ethnography of Commercial Routes.” This study addresses the topic of social change in situations of prolonged violence, crisis, and transition. The emergence of Somaliland in the 1990s out of the Somali civil war is taken as specific case-study. Through the prism of the international trading networks and commercial activity (a prominent feature of Somaliland dynamics), the study depicts a post-conflict social landscape built up at the intersection of local political renewal, forced migration, the readjustment of commercial relationships along the trading route connecting Dubai and the Far East to Somaliland and Ethiopia, and a general process of internationalization of society. The pivotal role of Dubai throughout the 1990s in inspiring local models of development (a commercial state, a transit economy) is expressed in the metaphor of “Dubai style” and shows the complex but precarious inclusion of Somaliland in the international economic system. In this study, economic networks are analyzed by looking at the link between economic realm and social and political processes thereby shedding light on the transformation of economic capital into social and political capital and the articulation between the two domains. In addition, economic networks are analyzed in their relationship with territory as specific forms of territorial integration and spatial arrangement: the commercial corridor and the commercial routes.

DR. JENNIFER COLE, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Not Peasants into Frenchmen but Frenchmen into Globals? Malagasy Marriage Migrants in France.” This research explored the complex dynamics of bi-national, cross-cultural marriage between women from the African island of Madagascar and men in rural and semi-rural areas of southwestern France. It has long been noted that one category of French citizens who did not benefit from the rapid modernization and accumulation of wealth that took place in mid 20th-century France were peasants. Instead, these men found themselves comparatively “left behind” in rural areas as their female peers moved to the cities and larger towns. However, since at least the 1980s, and accelerating in the 1990s, these men and have sometimes married women from Madagascar. The research examined how such marriages, and the complex networks of exchange and kinship created in their wake, contribute to new patterns of exclusion and belonging both in France and Madagascar. In contrast to most research on migration to France, which focuses on the question of Islam and is conducted in the peri-urban areas, this research focused on a distinctive pattern of migration into the countryside. It examined how couples and their family members engage in the translation of social, cultural, and material forms of value between Madagascar and France.

MONICA FAGIOLI, then a student at New School for Social Research, New York, New York, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “From Failure to Resource: The Somali Diaspora and State-Making in Somaliland and Puntland,” supervised by Dr. Janet Roitman. This study looks into the processes of state-making and reconstruction that are taking place in Somaliland and Puntland (a region in northeast Somalia) by focusing on the role of the Somali diaspora in these processes. By asking questions about the relationship between the Somali diaspora and state-building programs, this study looks into the nature of state-building in practice. From non-governmental and international organizations’ headquarters in Washington DC and Nairobi, to the offices of ministries, the civil service commission, and a public hospital in Hargeysa (Somaliland), the research juxtaposes the design and the ideas of capacity-building initiatives to their actual implementation in the field. The initiatives undertaken in the field by different international donors -- such as the
UN, the World Bank, and others—often reflect competing understandings of how a state should become effective and stable: state-building multiplies in practice. Internationally funded state-building programs can create tensions between existing practices by local civil servants and the new technical expertise brought in by the Somali diaspora. Standards of governance transferred via these projects are often impossible to enact locally. The Somali diaspora transfer their knowledge and assets, locally tapping into their personal experiences adapting to or challenging local practices.

CLAUDIA GASTROW, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Grounding Citizenship: The Politics of Property in Post-Conflict Luanda,” supervised by Dr. Jean Comaroff. Since the end of the Angolan civil war (1975-2002), the Angolan state and private concerns have invested significant resources in the redevelopment of the capital, Luanda. The remaking of the city has involved a strategy of relocating thousands of informal settlement residents to new state housing areas on the periphery of the city. The mobilization of formal planning mechanisms—after years of the state seemingly leaving residents to occupy and build according to their own wishes—has come into conflict with established means of urban expansion, forcing residents to rethink strategies for gaining access to housing and land. This research tracks how housing has acted as a means for the residents to assess their relationship to the state over the last thirty years. More particularly, it looks at how, over the last decade, demolition and rehousing have impacted urban residents’ notions of citizenship. Based on interviews and participant observation in Luanda’s informal settlements, and with housing rights groups, victims of demolitions, state representatives, in addition to historical research in Luanda’s archives, this research connects micro-level discussions about housing, and acts of housing construction, to larger national and state discourses about the meaning of democracy and social inclusion in Angola.

BRENDAN G. HART, then a student at Columbia University, New York, New York, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Translating Autism: Knowledge Transfer, Expertise, and Therapeutics of the Self in Morocco,” supervised by Dr. Lesley A. Sharp. This dissertation examines the introduction and reworking of the category “autism” in urban Morocco. Drawing on studies of linguistic anthropology and science, technology and society (STS), the project develops a new approach to studying the relationship between clinical classifications and the sociocultural and institutional contexts of their application. The grantee conducted twelve months of intensive fieldwork across a range of sites in Morocco: four family homes, the nation’s first child psychiatry department, an “integration” classroom for adolescents with disabilities, and at numerous sites of religious healing. Research also included in-depth life history interviews with parents, extended interviews with experts, and extended visits to seventeen autism organizations in twelve different cities. Ongoing data analysis examines the impact and transformation of knowledge and practices associated with autism in Morocco. It analyzes shifts in understandings, meanings, and enactments of autism in the context of competing forms of expertise, especially French psychoanalysis and American behaviorism, and the recent rise of transnational and domestic parent activism. Drawing on the fine-grained details of ethnography, it also tracks the real-world consequences of such experiments in autism activism and expertise for people with autism and their families and caregivers.

DR. VINAY R. KAMAT, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in April 2011 to aid research and writing on “Childhood Malaria and Child Survival in Africa: The Medicalization of Malaria Control in
Tanzania.” *Silent Violence* is a monograph that demonstrates how the persistence of childhood malaria in Tanzania can be better explained from an anthropological perspective by framing it within a critique of neoliberal global discourses on malaria control and elimination. The monograph explores the persistence of childhood malaria in Tanzania as a form of structural violence that derives from historically situated structured inequality, and the resultant human suffering. It illuminates the processes that are closely tied to structural inequalities, and hegemonic global discourses on malaria control that are increasingly becoming biomedicine-based, technological fixes. Case studies, illness narratives, and life histories highlight not just the social burden of malaria as mothers who are single/previously married experience it, but the salience of the diversity of experiences within a specific socio-cultural context. The monograph brings people’s lived experience with malaria and the local context in which malaria-related social suffering is embedded to the attention of a global audience and policy makers to demonstrate how “top down” policies are locally experienced. *Silent Violence* argues that global efforts to deal with malaria have achieved limited success because malaria is increasingly being cast as a bureaucratic, managerial problem with the core of the problem depoliticized.

LEONARD NDUBUEZE MBAH, then a student at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “‘Emergent Masculinities’: The Gendered Struggle for Power in Southeastern Nigeria, 1850-1920,” supervised by Dr. Nwando Achebe. From July 2011 to July 2012, the grantee conducted three months of archival research in London, Edinburgh, Ibadan, Lagos, and Enugu, and nine months of oral history and ethnographic research in Ohafia, southeastern Nigeria. Relying on individual and group interviews, life histories, gendered rituals and memorialization ceremonies, emic interpretations of material culture and linguistic expressions, and participant observation, this research locates masculinity as a concept within the cultural logic, norms, practices, idioms, and institutions of Ohafia-Igbo society. The research elucidates the historical processes of the construction of and changes in masculinity, and interrogates the dialectics of individualism, subjectivity, and consciousness in the face of internal (lineage system, warfare and head-hunting, socio-political organization, and indigenous institutions) and external (Atlantic slavery, British colonialism, Christian missionary evangelism, and Western education) influences. This study examines the dynamic relationships between masculinity and femininity within Ohafia-Igbo matrilineal context over time, as well as the tenuous gendered contestations therein, and shows the impact of the historical constructions of masculinities on gendered unequal power distribution in the society between 1850 and 1920. “Emergent Masculinities” argues that constructing new individual and collective identities for political purposes was a real and immediate necessity in both pre-colonial and colonial Africa. The gendered character of this identity formation underlines the dramatic shift from a pre-colonial period characterized by more powerful and more effective female socio-political institutions, to a colonial period of male socio-political domination in southeastern Nigeria.

ASMERET G. MEHARI, then a student at University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, received funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Decolonizing the Pedagogy of Archaeology in East Africa,” supervised by Dr. Peter R. Schmidt. This dissertation research explores the nature of archaeology in postcolonial East Africa using Tanzania and Uganda as case studies. Its main focus is analyzing the history and development of practicing and teaching archaeology by African scholars. Particularly, it examines what constitutes local archaeological research and how emerging local professionals contribute towards decolonizing archaeology in the region, meaning creating archaeological practices and
pedagogies that are liberated and locally relevant. The methods for collecting relevant information include in-depth interviews with archaeologists, students, local communities, and antiquities and museum officials; archival research at university libraries, museums, and national research clearance institutions; participant observation attending field schools and class-room based lectures, occasionally delivering lectures to undergraduate students, and living with local communities who reside around archaeological sites. Research findings show that most archaeological research is performed under collaborative projects that are mainly run by European-descendant Africanist scholars. Local Ugandan and Tanzanian scholars are most likely to have a profound influence on decolonizing archaeology through their own self-initiated and administrated projects. The contributions of local scholars vary but predominantly their efforts have been directed to the final product of archaeological research -- primarily in the rewritings of African history.

LISA POGGIALI, then a student at Stanford University, Stanford, California, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Testimony and Texting: Mobile Phone Technology and Emergent ‘Publics’ in Contemporary Kenya,” supervised by Dr. Sylvia Yanagisako. Twelve months of ethnographic research in Nairobi, Kenya, was undertaken with the following populations: developers in the “Information and Communications Technologies (“ITC”)” community; residents of the informal settlement of Mathare, who were trained in digital cartography skills by a NGO that aimed to map the neighborhood; and governmental and non-governmental figures who engaged with digital mapping and/or urban planning in Nairobi’s informal settlements. Both the epistemological underpinnings of the technical work of writing code and designing software, and the social and political effects of the technology in non-technical settings was examined and analyzed. Significant findings include the following: 1) technical activities such as writing code and designing software are culturally situated practices connected to local understandings of political patronage and corruption, labor markets, and consumption patterns, despite the fact that developers often described their work as “value-free;” and 2) concepts such as “transparency” and “accountability” were regularly mobilized by disparate groups of informants to explain the benefits of digital mapping, but the meaning of these terms was dependent upon the identity of the speaker and the discursive context. This resulted in different understandings of the underlying ethics and politics at stake in digital mapping projects, and different barometers for measuring the “success” of related projects.

DR. TRICIA REDEKER-HEPNER, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Generation Asylum: New Eritrean Refugees, Human Rights, and the Politics of Forced Migration.” This project investigated the proliferation of rights-based discourse and organizing among recent refugees and asylum seekers in Eritrea. It asked whether and how an observable increase in rights-based activity signals a “post-nationalist” shift in political-legal subjectivity among younger people coming of age after independence from Ethiopia in 1993, under conditions of militarization and authoritarian repression. It sought to assess how new Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers navigate securitized post-9/11 migration environments that tend to view refugees as security threats and/or economically motivated; how the historic transnational socio-political field conjoining the Eritrean state and its global diasporas continues to affect, and is affected by, increased migration; and how human rights discourse and organizing is mobilized, and by whom, to address conditions in Eritrea and respond to migration dilemmas and the coercive presence of the Eritrean regime in the diaspora. Findings from ethnographic fieldwork undertaken in Ethiopia, Germany, and the US suggest that human rights discourse...
is a powerful idiom for reframing refugees’ nationalism even as they critique political repression and the retraction of refugee protection globally.

DR. LAUREL L. ROSE, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received funding in October 2007 to aid research on “Swaziland’s Customary Land Law in the Era of HIV/AIDS.” This research project aimed to collect detailed, contextualized data from select communities in Swaziland for the purpose of contributing, first, to social scientific understanding about the intersection between law and medicine, and second, to policy debates about the relevance of customary law, particularly customary land use and inheritance rights, in the context of the AIDS pandemic. By using a research methodology of “immersed observation” during two trips to Swaziland in 2008 and 2012, which involved interviewing villagers and observing proceedings at a customary court, the researcher was able to assess the impact that the pandemic has been having on customary land law and institutions, and conversely, the impact that the latter has been having on the trajectory and expression of the pandemic. An initial assessment of the qualitative data that was collected indicates the following findings: customary land law has changed in some but not other aspects as a consequence of the AIDS pandemic; the changes in customary land law are being driven by the health crisis posed by the AIDS pandemic as well as by the severe economic recession and the promulgation of a new Constitution; the changes in customary land law are being driven by ordinary Swazis whose lives have been impacted by the AIDS pandemic as well as by organizations that are dealing with the effects of the pandemic rather than by local leaders; and ordinary Swazis are increasingly attempting to process their complaints about customary land tenure before judges at formal courts.

AMY B. SALTZMAN, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Routes of Care: HIV- and TB-Infected Migrants’ Return Home to the Rural Transkei for Care,” supervised by Dr. Arthur Kleinman. Migrant populations present one of the greatest challenges to treating the dual epidemics of HIV and TB because most health systems are designed on the assumption that patient populations are static. Little is known about care-seeking behaviors and experiences among HIV- and TB-infected migrant populations, even in South Africa, a country with a century-long history of labor migration and one of the world’s most daunting combined HIV and TB epidemics. This fifteen-month project employed ethnographic methods to investigate HIV- and TB-infected migrants’ experiences of care-seeking and work-seeking. The research revealed that most Xhosa-speaking South Africans are on a constant mission to secure livelihood for extended networks of family members that span South Africa’s geography, and their movement is shaped by this mission. Treatment for chronic TB and HIV is just another factor in the pursuit of livelihood and survival, though acute manifestations of the infections often drive people to seek treatment ahead of other livelihood activities.

MARNIE JANE THOMSON, then a student at University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Solutions and Dissolution: Humanitarian Governance, Congolese Refugees, and Memories of a Neglected War,” supervised by Dr. Carole McGranahan. How do refugees fare when the conflict they fled is declared beyond the scope of humanitarian intervention? The UN recently claimed its resources are too limited to respond to the ongoing violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), while refugees from eastern Congo continue to seek refuge in Tanzania. Despite the ongoing flow of new arrivals since the mid-1990s, Tanzania and the UN are closing their refugee camps. This dissertation research analyzes the politics of humanitarian solutions, and lack
thereof, across national borders through the dissolution of refugee camps in Tanzania and humanitarian assistance in Congo. The grantee conducted fieldwork (September 2011-December 2012) in a number of locations: closing and now-closed refugee camps, aid and government offices within Tanzania, and at United Nations Human Rights Council regional headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, and its global headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. By conducting research with refugees as well as with government and aid representatives at various organizational levels, this dissertation brings refugee experience and institutional bureaucracy together into the same analytical framework, addressing the gap between these normally disaggregated perspectives. This project relates refugee experiences of dislocation and their memories of violence to reveal the politics of humanitarian intervention and withdrawal in both the DRC and Tanzania.

JOSHUA WALKER, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Crisis or Reconstruction? Street Children and Diamond Miners in Mbujimayi, Democratic Republic of Congo,” supervised by Dr. Jean Comaroff. This research in the diamond mining town of Mbujimayi examined the lives and livelihoods of two socially marginalized groups of young people: street children and artisanal diamond miners. It asked how they create futures and fashion themselves as “responsible” adults amidst precarious socio-economic circumstances borne of a declining diamond economy. The research found, first, that while they are often seen by the public as a menace to future social order, they in fact are following new pathways that participate in “traditionally” valued forms of social reproduction. Second, the context of decline creates a situation in which these pathways themselves are often shaped by an inability to imagine wealth creation beyond diamonds, which attests to how the diamond commodity and Mbujimayi’s dependence on it have foreshortened the imagination of different kinds of wealth creation. Finally, changes in the structure of diamond labor (from employees working for an industrial mining company to artisanal diggers) also have an impact on the temporality of everyday life, in which the inherent precarity of artisanal mining truncates the possibility of imagining futures even as they are being created in practice.

MARIEKE WILSON, then a student at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “God is in the Medium: Evangelical Filmmaking and Salvation in Southwestern Nigeria,” supervised by Dr. Jane I. Guyer. The fieldwork in Lagos and other areas in the southwest of Nigeria is set forth in a dissertation that examines the emotional, social, and political dynamics informing Nigerian evangelical film productions funded by Pentecostal “mega-churches.” The primary goal of the dissertation lies in discerning how we can read evangelical films, to be differentiated from popular mainstream “Nollywood” films, as cultural commodities that play on and reinforce popular understandings of salvation. It also explores the ways in which individuals perceive their belonging to a spiritual community and attempts to track the ways in which visual media help to shape religious affiliations and movements of a transnational character. The research conducted in Nigeria engages the varying forms of sentimental and political community encouraged by evangelical media and video, and traces the ways in which these overlap and compete with understandings of national belonging and community. The resulting dissertation aims to shed light on the impact of religious media on emerging forms of political subjectivity in Nigeria and beyond.
Asia:

DR. MARC ASKEW, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Idioms of Justice in Thailand’s Turbulent South: Muslim Justice Volunteers between the State and Insurgents.” This ethnographic research project was set in the southern Malay-Muslim majority border provinces of Thailand, which have been experiencing sustained instability due to an ongoing insurgency since 2004. One policy objective of the Thai state has been to enhance what it describes as local “justice” processes in order to resurrect the legitimacy of the state, and “justice networks” of local volunteers have been utilized to act an interface between the state and local communities. The research explored the relationship between Muslim justice volunteers and Thai bureaucrats, focusing on concerns about facilitating justice processes in a context where volunteers are deemed by insurgents as agents of the Thai state. The research involved participant observation at formal seminars, together with informal interviews and ongoing contact with Malay Muslim volunteers in leadership positions, aiming to gather anecdotes and narratives among both bureaucrats and volunteers concerning concrete challenges and judgements of success and failure. The hypotheses of the research were borne out by the results from the field, which showed a major mismatch between bureaucrats’ perceptions of success and the volunteers’ continuing dilemmas and problems, which extended from insufficient resources for their work and the dangers involved in overtly championing state projects.

DWAIpayan Banerjee, then a student at New York University, New York, New York, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Ethical Practice at the End-of-Life: Caring for the Dying in North India,” supervised by Dr. Emily Martin. This dissertation explores how the experience of cancer in India -- in its ability to unmake and remake human worlds -- has become a site of new ethical understandings about the dignity and care of human life. Specifically, this research examines how the experience of cancer has produced a space of uncertainty in social relations, medicine, and law. It describes the ethical demands made by the uncertain trajectory of the disease, the challenge of responding to its accompanying pain, and the problem of the disparity in the economic conditions of patients. This research concludes that these ethical demands have proved generative for new ideas about human dignity, the right to health, and the ethics of familial and biomedical care in India. While prior work on end-of-life ethics has focused on normative medical bioethics, legal codes, and religious texts, this dissertation opens up the productive gaps between ethical norms and actions by focusing on everyday practices of giving and receiving care. Thus, this research suggests that an emphasis on ethics in practice reveals new insights about understandings of human life, illness vulnerability, and the forms of its care in India.

Bhawani Buswala, then a student at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Untouchable Butchers: Caste, Gender, and Occupation in India,” supervised by Dr. Lina Fruzzetti. The social life of caste in contemporary India creates precarious conditions for the “untouchables” to carry out their everyday lives. They continue to negotiate different caste practices, varying from daily subtle discriminations to extreme forms of physical violence. Focusing on a butcher caste in north India, this dissertation project examines how a low caste negotiates its untouchable status through everyday practices. A caste’s relation with its conventional occupation in a changing politico-economic context is analyzed through different symbolic and material values attached to the occupation, contests around these values, and practical implications of these on daily conduct and community relations. Changing occupational possibilities for the women of this caste are examined for their role in status negotiations. Inter-caste relations
with reference to similar ranking lower status castes are also examined to understand the collaborating and competing conditions that shape the local socio-political relations. Taking untouchable occupation as a site for caste and gender formations, and based on ethnographic data collected through participant observations and informal interviews, this project studies how everyday struggles by the untouchables create possibilities for resisting caste marginality, the forms and the limits of these struggles, and how they may relate to broader political actions.

JENNIFER CHIEN, then a student at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Corporate Social Responsibility and Community Development in China,” supervised by Dr. Ralph Litzinger. From September 2010 to July 2011, this research investigated the forms of collective identities emerging within migrant communities along with the phenomenon of Corporate Social Responsibility or “CRS” in Beijing, China. Research findings gathered from participant observation as a volunteer with three different social organizations engaged in CSR partnerships showed: 1) the solidification of a “migrant” identity and culture; 2) distinct divergences in how “migrant” and “community” are conceived of by different CSR partners; 3) the basis of these divergences as two different principles of integration and scission.; 4) the social impact of CSR grasped at the level of socialized production; and 5) the importance of culture as a site of antagonism. These research findings helped to address the following research questions: How is CSR reconfiguring forms of collective identity in China, and what political claims are enabled or precluded within its discourses and practices? How do migrants in China, associated with agricultural or factory production, affect a global economy increasingly driven by cultural and informational production? How does “community” as code for forms of common production become both desirable and risky for business practice?

JULIA CHUANG, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Scandals of the Absent: Migration, Village, and Homecoming in Rural China,” supervised by Dr. Michael Burawoy. As the Chinese state shifts from treating the vast hinterland as a source of deployable labor to seeing it as a site of convertible land, the hinterland becomes a site of exodus. Welfare reforms facilitate rural departures by linking normative forms of mobility to distinct visions of rural modernity. This dissertation compares divergent departures in rural Sichuan -- labor migration and marital endogamy in Shixi Town (where land underwrites subsistence) and urban relocation and exogamy in Julong Town (where evictions encroach) -- and argues that in both sites, the local stigmatization of discrepant mobilities, enacted by wayward Shixi wives and immobile Julong bachelors, enables the extraction of labor and land for development through the respective preservation and erosion of agrarian society.

ARYO DANUSIRI, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Sufi Bikers and Arab Saints: Islam, Media, and Mobility in Urban Indonesia,” supervised by Dr. Mary Steedly. The project is about the process that several Tariqa Alawiya groups went through in developing their youth movement through the production of various circulatory forms. Research focused on the dynamic development of the study group, Nurul Musthofa (“The Prophetic Light”), one of the biggest voluntary study groups of Tariqa Alawiya based in Jakarta. In August 2011, the group was conducting a congregation on the main street that led to suburban Depok. The group blocked the main road and redirected cars to other, smaller streets and created a massive traffic jam that lasted until 11 p.m. The next day on television and social media, many people expressed their resentment at being trapped for hours in traffic. They
questioned the rights of a religious group to occupy a public space including streets outside central Jakarta. Disciples of the majelis commented on Facebook about Nurul Musthofa’s merits in transforming thousands of Jakartan youngsters into pious followers. The disciples argued that the public should consider Nurul Musthofa’s endeavors in popularizing mawlid practices and making redemption possible in “the disobedient city.” without which Jakarta would have been demolished by disasters like the tsunami that had ruined Aceh. This is just one example of Nurul Musthofa’s recent efforts to build an Islamic populist movement in an urban setting. By following the ups and downs of the group’s formative process, the grantee aims to understand the group not merely as a religious entity but also an urban institution that intimately engages with the city formation.

ELSA LAI FAN, then a student at University of California, Irvine, California, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Opportunistic Infections: The Governance of HIV/AIDS in China,” supervised by Dr. Tom Boellstorff. This research explores how HIV/AIDS interventions are increasingly determined by market logics rather than public health models. Underscored by the principles of the free market, competition, and value, the response to the epidemic in China has shifted away from prevention and treatment, and towards market-oriented approaches that commodify HIV testing. These approaches focus on creating markets to sell testing as a product, and cultivating consumers among men who have sex with men (MSM). In part, these markets are a response to epidemiological trends that highlight the increasing rates of infection among MSM. These trends have generated a public health crisis around this population, placing them at the crux of interventions. On the other hand, such approaches are mobilized under the impetus of international institutions, namely the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. In effect, a new kind of AIDS industry is emerging, one that invokes a domestic market that profits from the epidemic and its potential crisis. At the same time, the grantee questions how these market opportunities conflict with the fundamental goal of ending the epidemic.

NAMRATA GAIKWAD, then a student at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Men against Matrilineage: Contestations around Gender Politics in Shillong, India,” supervised by Dr. Jean Langford. During Summer 2011, a second-phase of research was conducted (through participant observation, discussions and interviews) both in the urban center of Shillong and the semi-urban and rural settings in the state of Meghalaya. The data collected provided unique insights into the ways in which dynamics around gender and kinship intersect with conceptualizations of modernity, futurity, and personhood among Khasi village-folk. These discussions threw new light on the research previously conducted in Shillong by reframing problems that had been articulated by more educated and well-to-do people. Consequently, this facilitated a sharpening of research questions and a fresh approach to the same theoretical problems encountered in the city. The research also followed relatives of people from the village who now live in Shillong, in order to track their continued, yet somewhat realigned kinship relations and responsibilities, in all their gendered dimensions. It highlighted an interesting urban-rural schism with the nongkynđongs (Khasi for “villagers” or “country bumpkins”) both reflecting on what they felt was a false divide created by urbanites but also simultaneously owning their difference and purported lack of class and cultural capital in the name of something more genuinely Khasi.

GUANGTIAN HA, then a student at Columbia University, New York, New York, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Reshaping Governance in a Liberalizing China: A
Study of the Ethnically Unmarked Chinese Hui Muslims,” supervised by Dr. Myron L. Cohen. In contrast to the admiration the Chinese government often receives for its impressive economic achievement, its treatment of religion and ethnic minorities has come under incessant attack from around the globe in the name of human rights protection. This research studies a particular minority group in China that is situated between religion and ethnicity. The Hui are ethnically unmarked (physically and, to a large extent, culturally indistinguishable from the majority Han) and stand in a disputed relation to Islam (some Hui find their identity defined solely by their Muslim identity, while others vociferously reject this religious definition and insist on a secular ethno-nationalist one). This research is based upon two years of fieldwork in Zhengzhou, Henan Province, and Yinchuan, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. The research addresses how the separation between the religious and the secular socio-ethnic affairs is discursively constructed by a series of governmental regulations on religion and ethnicity and how this separation affects the ordinary Hui. It also analyzes the history and the current forms of the United Front (the major strategy deployed by the Communist Party to cope with religion and ethnic minority in contemporary China), the intricate ways this strategy works either for or against the logic of governance formulated more openly by the State Council, and how this strategy produces internal conflicts within the Hui, producing peculiar forms of subjectivity on the side of the Hui officials. The research examines the complex history of Hui-Han interaction, especially the debate on Hui ethnicity in the Republican period, how this history is inscribed on the body of the Hui, etched into its depth, and how this history puts the newly converted Han Muslim in a paradoxical situation. And, finally, it addresses Chinese intellectual and scholarly discourses on the politics of ethnic minority, especially those that draw an analogy between neo-Confucianism and US liberal constitutionalism as the framework for multi-culturalism.

SHINGO HAMADA, then a student at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Network, Biotechnology, and Cultural Consensus in Conservation Projects in Coastal Fishing Communities in Northern Japan,” supervised by Dr. Richard R. Wilk. Examining herring restoration efforts in northern Japan as a case study, this research focuses on consensus and variation in the perceptions and practices concerning conservation. Sea ranching projects, fisheries scientific researches, and community-based reforestation efforts for ecosystem recovery have developed in coastal fishing communities in the last two decades despite the economic and ecological uncertainty of harvests from restoration projects. This ethnographic research describes under what conditions humans engage in conservationist behaviors after experiencing a crisis in coastal common pool resources. This research applied Actor-Network Theory to navigate in and not through a priori defined “fishing communities;” and it examines how inshore fishers, fisheries managers, fisheries scientists, and seafood buyers interpret local resource issues and restoration and values of conservation. The researcher used qualitative text analysis and questionnaires to understand how fishery techno-sciences influence actors’ decision-making processes concerning fisheries management. Ultimately, this research explores how the acts of cultivating seascape through transplanting fish species blurs the boundary between the natural and cultural while becoming an anti-politics machine that blurs locations of environmental stewardships among different social groups.

BRIDGET C. HANNA, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, was awarded a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Illness in North India: Medicine, Risk, and Experience,” supervised by Dr. Arthur Kleinman. The grantee conducted research in north India looking at the effect of controversies over toxic chemical exposure on health experience and health care. The project was based in New Delhi and Bhopal, India, and
focused on discourses of health and healing that have followed in the wake of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster. The grantee looked at the experiential, legal, and epidemiological history of attempts to concretize and make sense of the long-term effects of the exposure of half the city to methyl-isocyanate. With archival research, and through extended conversations with patients, doctors, researchers, bureaucrats, and activists, the grantee mapped usage of health care by survivors, and tried to understand the dynamics that structured the provision of health care to the affected group. The project asked: How is environmental illness causality survivor, the healer, and the state? What effect do these perceptions have on the lived experience of the individual, the family, and the city? What are the roles of state and non-state actors in articulating medical frameworks in Bhopal? And what are the implications of the culture of medical anxiety and obfuscation that has characterized the aftermath?

GE JIAN, then a student at University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “The Impact of Global English in Xianjiang, China: Linguistic Capital and Identity Negotiation among the Han and Ethnic Minority Students,” supervised by Dr. Laada Bilaniuk. In the past thirty years of China’s capitalist transformation, the globalizing English language has played a key role in young people’s upward socio-economic mobility, acquisition of symbolic power, and their cosmopolitan aspirations. However, while English education is widely available in urban China, it is offered in a stratified manner. It is a privileged site that is very much classed, raced, and gendered. This research examines the linguistic capital acquisition and identity negotiation through English learning among the Han Chinese and Uyghur young people in the multi-ethnic, multi-lingual Xinjiang, China, a geopolitically contested area in the crossroads of Eurasia. The research that was funded by Wenner-Gren was the last phase (Phase III) of a sixteen-month fieldwork project. In the last phase, ethnographic research was carried out in cities (Kashgar, Aksu and Yili) in Xinjiang other than the provincial capital, Urumqi, which was the focus of previous phases. Research sites included local colleges, private English training centers, English corners, English speaking competitions, and local archives. It is hoped that the findings from this research will generate future discussions among scholars and policy makers in China that will pursue new possibilities in language policy that will balance equality and efficiency.

ARSALAN KHALID KHAN, then a student at University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, received funding in May 2010 to aid “Performing Ummah: Practice, Piety, and Moral Order among the Tablighi Jama’at in Pakistan,” supervised by Dr. Richard Handler. This research investigates how Pakistani Tablighis (practitioners of the Tablighi Jama’at), a transnational Islamic preaching movement, actualize Islamic ideals in the space of the preaching movement. Tablighis state that preaching (dawat/tabligh) is completely different from giving “speeches” or “mere talk.” It is, they say, a “ritual practice” (amaal), which, if done according to the method established by the Prophet, cultivates the moral and ethical sensibilities necessary for the Pakistani nation (millat) and the global Islamic community (ummah). Drawing on twelve months of ethnographic research based in Karachi, the research explores the significance Tablighis place on preaching, and their distinct ideas about the power of ritual speech to transform speakers and listeners, turning them into moral persons. Furthermore, the research explores how these ideas about ritual speech help organize a hierarchical form of sociality that Tablighis see as distinctly Islamic, a feature that differentiates them from other Islamic groups and movements in Pakistan. This research contributes to growing body of literature on the Islamic revival and religious revivals more
generally, as well as to scholarship that addresses the relationship between speech, religion, and morality in various religious traditions.

DR. RITU KHANDURI, University of Texas, Arlington, Texas, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in October 2010, to aid research and writing on “Caricaturing Culture: Cartoons, History and Modernity in India.” During the fellowship tenure, the grantee completed the manuscript, revising chapters and incorporating new research completed in 2009 and 2010. The manuscript is currently under review.

JI EUN KIM, then a student at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Building the Future and Mapping the Past: Urban Regeneration and Politics of Memory in Yokohama, Japan,” supervised by Dr. Jennifer Robertson. Based on eleven months of ethnographic fieldwork in the Kotobuki district, Yokohama City, this research project delved into the institutionalization of a marginalized enclave shaped around the enterprise of protecting and managing the lives of the homeless in Japan. In order to understand the malleability and constancy of Kotobuki district as an urban underclass enclave, this research delved into three aspects: 1) the historical junctures that led to the institutionalization of the homeless support activities in Kotobuki based on the agenda to secure “the right to survive;” 2) the spatial politics that places Kotobuki district at the hub of the homeless rescue regime that stretches out to the city, and the place-making activities within the district shaping it as an asylum town; and 3) the emergent social critique and alternative aspirations of life amidst the dialogic learning among diverse actors (the homeless, welfare recipients, activists, volunteers, welfare and medical experts) in Kotobuki.

DR. TERESA KUAN, Whittier College, Los Angeles, California, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in April 2011 to aid research and writing on “Adjusting the Bonds of Love: Chinese Governmentalities and Lived Experience in Post-Mao China.” China’s economic strategy for building a knowledge economy depends on the art of subject-making. The education reform known as “education for quality” is emblematic of this art in its aim to cultivate high “quality” individuals who possess a spirit for innovation. This movement is broad, and it includes the dissemination of expert advice to ordinary parents. “Adjusting the Bonds of Love” is a dissertation-to-book project that examines the intersection between popular advice and the lived experience of raising a child amongst urban, middle-class families. It explores the tension between the regulatory power of expert advice on the one hand, and the challenges posed by uneven economic development on the other. The lived experience of this tension amongst ordinary parents, and the practical strategies they develop in the face of uncertainty, reveal how global transformations articulate with the most intimate of human experiences. “Adjusting the Bonds of Love” is an exploration into the nature of moral agency, experienced and expressed in the management of life contingencies. In the contemporary Chinese context, moral agency involves something the author calls the “art of disposition:” the art of discerning the nature of situations, and of determining where action is either possible or required. The book project offers this concept as a way of more radically connecting the scale of the political with the scale of the everyday, by demonstrating a mutual correspondence between different modalities of power -- between governmentality on the one hand, and the “native’s” concern with worldly efficacy on the other.

JANELLE LAMOREAUX, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Studying Sperm, Enacting Environment:
The Science of Male Infertility in China,” supervised by Dr. Cori P. Hayden. This project explored the ways male reproductive health scientists in China study sperm, and how studies of “sperm-environment interaction” have become a means to evaluate how China’s unique environmental problems are within the bodies and biologies of its people. Focused in Nanjing, China, the study investigated how toxic “environments-within” are brought out through scientific practice, focusing on the ways bodily fluids taken from infertile humans and other animals are turned into evidence for interaction between environments and bodies via toxins. Besides the practicalities of laboratory research, both in the lab and in the larger academic community, the research also investigated the interface of environmental activism and reproductive health science. The resulting dissertation will explore the legal and moral philosophies behind changing notions of environmental responsibility and compensation, as well as the way science may or may not be a key player in deciding how the side effects of China’s recent history of rapid industrialism will be dealt with in order to ensure a fertile future.

MADHURA LOHOKARE, then a student at Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Articulating Public Space to the Public Sphere: A Study of Neighborhood Associations in Pune, India,” supervised by Dr. Cecilia Van Hollen. Describing the myriad ways in which the working class/urban poor imagine themselves to be a part of the city of Pune in western India as well as the relevance of these ways for questions of citizenship, the research focuses on two disparate sites: a working class neighborhood in the old part of the city, and on the collective process of an incipient resistance of slum dwellers in the same city to state-sponsored slum rehabilitation programs. An ethnographic investigation of these sites demonstrates how modes of belonging to and claiming the city are structured by embodied and affective identities rooted in the physical and social spaces of the neighborhood; while a radically different mode of belonging is engendered for slum dwellers as they locate themselves in the city in legal, political, and economic terms, through their explicit struggle to defend their dynamic living spaces. This ethnography of the urban poor in contemporary India illustrates how modes of belonging to the city are linked to questions of citizenship and participation in the public sphere.

JANE E. LYNCH, then a student at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Fashioning Value: Materiality, Cloth, and Political Economy in India,” supervised by Dr. Webb Keane. This research examined the consequences and prospects of economic liberalization in contemporary India through a study of the handloom textile industry. Given its historical depth and institutional diversity - ranging from cooperative societies and government corporations to private companies and self-help groups -- this industry and its politics offer unique perspectives on India’s transition from state-led economic development to market liberalization. By focusing on the workings and institutional frictions of the commodity networks for cloth woven in the central Indian town of Chanderi, this study examined the social geographies, moral claims about production and consumption, and locally mediated conceptions of ownership and community that are navigated and produced in the commoditization of cloth. Ethnographic research undertaken in Chanderi as well as in the cities of Indore and Delhi, revealed a key effect of liberalization on this industry has been the heightened competition over intellectual property and rights to production, for example, in terms of branding. Extended fieldwork and document-based research showed that practices of branding are being defined not only in terms of consumer sentiment, but also through the efforts of institutions, collectivities, and individuals to delineate on moral grounds the ways in which cloth can be manufactured, valued, and owned.
NIDHI A. MAHAJAN, then a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Merchants of Mombasa and the Making of a Shadow Economy,” supervised by Dr. Viranjini Munasinghe. This project focuses on the articulation of Indian Ocean trade networks on the East African coast, the Kenyan nation-state, and the international order. Since the 1998 bombings of American embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam by Al-Qaeda, the Swahili coast of Kenya has become a flashpoint for national and international security. These security concerns are ultimately linked to an anxiety over the coast’s long history of trade in the Indian Ocean. This research analyzes attempts to make Indian Ocean trade networks in East Africa legible to state power and the response of merchants, sailors, and residents who rework these networks in the shadow economy, suggesting that this uneasy articulation between these trade networks and the state has led to increasing insecurity for both government and coastal residents.

SAIKAT MAITRA, then a student at University of Texas, Austin, Texas, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Laboring to Create Magic: New Worker-Subjectivity, State and Capital in Kolkata,” supervised by Dr. Kaushik Ghosh. The project investigates the formation of a new worker-subjectivity among youth populations employed in upscale retail spaces in Kolkata, India. Under the liberalizing effects of a formerly socialist government in Kolkata and private investments flowing into the organized retail sector of the city, a large number of jobs are being created in this sector. Most of the employees in the lower segments of this sector are from socially under-privileged backgrounds for whom jobs in such spaces offer them the thrills of participating in a global lifestyle of high-end consumption otherwise unavailable to them. However, with the reluctance of the state to intervene in the protection of labor rights in private retail institutions, these young workers have to negotiate with increasingly precarious work environments demanding constant flexibility, pressures to maintain sales targets, and the ever-present threat of job loss. The dissertation fieldwork focuses on the ways in which the subjectivity of these workers are being molded through negotiations between the institutional forces of the state and corporate capital trying to produce malleable and self-regulated workers and the employees’ subjective desires for class mobility and better ways of inhabiting the urban space.

BEN J. MICHAELS, then a student at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Team Tibet: Soccer as the Performance of Human Rights in the Transnational Tibetan Exile Community,” supervised by Dr. Marvin Sterling. For this phase of research, ethnographic fieldwork was carried out in Dharamsala/Mcleod Ganj, India, which is the seat of the Tibetan Government in Exile and the major hub of Tibetan exile life. 2011 became a historic year for the transnational Tibetan exile community as the Dalai Lama announced his retirement from political life and handed over leadership of the Tibetan Government in Exile to an elected prime minister. This marked the next major step in the materialization of his long-envisioned process of Tibetan democratization and emboldened a new generation of politically active Tibetans to embrace their democratic right to disagree with their leaders. Acknowledging dissent as an essential element of the democratic process, this study examines the social mechanisms by which dissenting opinions are either muted at the local level or propagated and allowed to evolve into transnational social movements able to transcend spatial and political boundaries. At the same time, this research highlights some of the generational gaps in social and political views as young Tibetans, raised and educated in exile, use the emergence of new and globally accessible communicative media to express and circulate new ideas throughout the Tibetan world.
MICAH F. MORTON, then a student at University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Negotiating the Changing Zomia of Mainland Southeast Asia: Akha Indentitarian Politics,” supervised by Dr. Katherine A. Bowie. Between June 2011 and May 2012, the researcher conducted twelve months of fieldwork with certain members of the Akha indigenous group in Thailand who are involved in efforts to promote a more formal sense of belonging among Akha throughout the Upper Mekong Region, including East Burma, Southwest China, Northwest Laos and North Thailand. It was found that a growing number of Akha are participating in various activities being arranged as part of the movement and that a cross-border sense of belonging is developing. These activities ranged from Akha literacy training workshops to cultural festivals and formal meetings held to discuss how to go about preserving and modifying “traditional” Akha culture. It was further found, however, that the cross-border sense of belonging that is developing exists beneath the various national level senses of belonging that different Akha communities have depending upon their particular country of residence. In short, Akha in Thailand for the most part see themselves as being Thai first and foremost and members of an international Akha community only second. Last, it was found that the cultural and linguistic emphasis of the movement fails to address the more practical concerns faced by the general Akha community.

HEATHER E. O’LEARY, then a student at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, received funding in October 2011 to aid research on “The Disparity of Water Access in Delhi, India,” supervised by Dr. William O. Beeman. This research explores the disparity of water access in Delhi, India, through the perspective of urban domestic workers. These workers often live in informal “slum” communities adjacent to the homes of their employers. Like many who struggle to meet minimum consumption requirements for drinking water, domestic workers must also make difficult decisions about using water for the most basic household chores. Yet, many have been exposed to and trained in the aesthetics of modernization, and experience tension over meeting high standards of cleanliness, purity, and order with limited resources. Moreover, their active participation as agents of purification in upper-middle class homes distance them from traditional, informal, and peer networks of water sourcing, and as a result they are excluded from both formal and informal networks of water access. By elucidating the dynamics of water access, theories from economic anthropology, environmental anthropology, and anthropology of development can be employed to shed light on not only the local water disparity, but can also contribute to a greater understanding of how structures of development, class privilege, and resource management are embroiled in socio-political problems of urban water scarcity beyond the context of India.

MELODY LI ORNELLAS, then a student at University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Negotiating Citizenship: Cross-Border Marriages and Collective Actions in Hong Kong,” supervised by Dr. Nicole Constable. This research investigated contemporary Hong Kong/China cross-border marriages and the complexity of politics, power, and agency involved in mainland Chinese migrant wives’ experiences in negotiating their immigration, citizenship, and adaptation to life in Hong Kong. Specifically, it focused on the rise of collective struggles among a group of “visiting wives” who are only allowed to live temporarily in Hong Kong by utilizing a family visit permit, which must be periodically renewed in the mainland. Based on fieldwork conducted in Hong Kong and Guangdong Province, this research explored the wives’ cross-border living conditions, difficulties they face during permit renewal, impacts
of a non-local/visitor immigration status on their experience of living in Hong Kong, and how this situation prompts them and their Hong Kong husbands and families to engage in political activism to claim rights. This project demonstrates that citizenship is best understood as a negotiated process. In contrast to the state’s formalistic definitions of local vs. visitor, “visiting wives” and their families strive to redefine such meanings in their own terms by emphasizing the wives’ familial relationships and significant participation in a range of social activities through which their “local” status and ties to Hong Kong are substantively expressed.

KETAKI PANT, then a student at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Homes of Capital: Merchants and Mobility in the Indian Ocean,” supervised by Dr. Engseng Ho. This project studies the relationship between merchant homes and long-distance capital networks in the Indian Ocean. It asks how homes offered a way for itinerant merchants -- resident across different sovereign boundaries of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries -- to channel capital across the Indian Ocean. The project focuses on merchant homes in the region of Gujarat as spaces of intimacy and affect, studying how these seemingly innocuous spaces were lynchpins of sophisticated capital networks across Independent Princely States, English East India Company territories, and city-states. The project looks at portraits, furniture, interior objects, genealogies, medals, and architectural ornamentation as part of the transnational world Gujarati itinerants inhabited in the 19th and 20th centuries. These objects were witness to the economic transactions that occurred within homes. They are spurs to and figure in merchant narratives of trade and travel. In bringing an affective and aesthetic dimension to the study of capital networks, this project seeks to produce an ethnotheory of merchant families cut up across cities of the Indian Ocean connected through the consumption of interior objects. In doing so, this project argues that unlike the contemporary multinational corporation -- which though independent of operates under the umbrella of an imperial state and its transnational armies - - Gujarati itinerant merchants sustained a transnational capital world through shaded spaces independent of a strong state.

MAYA RATNAM, then a student at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, received funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Performing Life in the Human-Animal Borderlands: Animal Rights, Ethical Subjects, and the Politics of Exclusion in Contemporary North India,” supervised by Dr. Veena Das. Fieldwork conducted over the last 20 months explores transformations in the lives and livelihoods of wildlife and forest-dependent communities in rural central India in the context of emergent environmental legislation, specifically the global animal rights movement. The grantee documented on the one hand the manner in which the Kalandars, a community of nomadic animal handlers came to be criminalized and their livelihood disbanded on account of “cruelty” to animals, contrasting this with the State’s ambiguity toward another neighboring community, the Baigas, whose relations to animals were seen as part of their “tradition.” The grantee worked in this community to document how their relations to nature are being redefined, and the resulting fieldwork comprises an archive on a vanishing or vanished form of life in relation to Kalandar and a mode of ethnographic dwelling among the Baigas. Designated a “primitive” tribal group by the Indian state, accusations of hunting and poaching frequently bring the Baiga into conflict with forest officers, mainstream environmental and animal rights groups. On the other, the government also invests in schemes for the protection and care of their livestock as part of a larger state policy of protecting the traditions and livelihoods of so-called “primitive” tribal groups. Ambivalences in state and NGO approaches to the Baigas’ livelihood reflect continuities from older colonial and postcolonial
debates that wavered between isolating such “savage” or “primitive” communities to reform their “animal-like” natures, confining them to the realm of “nature,” and “integrating” them into a wider sociocultural milieu through exposure to education, development projects, and the market. This research aims to capture how ethical and political projects of reform and civilization at the local level unfold in relation to the differential ways in which global projects of animal rights and wildlife conservation are translated at the national level through middle-class orientations to nature and conservation.

ADAM C. SARGENT, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Building Capitalism: The Cultural Politics of Construction in North India,” supervised by Dr. Susan Gal. Research was conducted for seven months on a residential condominium construction project in Gurgaon, India. The construction industry is held out, by industry organizations, as having the potential to not only develop the necessary infrastructure for India but also to bring a largely rural workforce into modern forms of capitalist employment. That this has not happened is often blamed on an incomplete process of modernization. The persistence of recruitment along kinship, caste, and village networks is pointed to as evidence of this failure to modernize. Close observation of work practices and interactions between managers and workers on the site produced a more nuanced approach. Rather than posing a barrier to developing modern workers, kinship and village networks were mobilized to provide the necessary social structure to support modes of flexible employment. Thus family members were preferred hired because their extra-economic relationships meant that they could be more easily put to work when needed and sent home when work on the site was slow. In this way seemingly “traditional” forms of work organization were actually supporting what are taken to be “modern” forms of work organization (piece-rate contracts, etc.).

VAIBHAV SARIA, then a student at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “The Lives of Orgasms: Sex, Intimacy and Carnality among the Hijras in Rural Orissa,” supervised by Dr. Veena Das. The grantee conducted fieldwork in rural Orissa in the districts of Bhadrak and Kalahandi among the hijras – who are now a staple inclusion in postcolonial studies of gender and sexuality and are usually referenced as a “Third Gender” -- investigating the various ways in which same-sex intimacy and desire is imagined outside the city, and what were the freedom and restraints offered to this population now labeled as a sexual minority, by the globalizing of categories, narratives, and desire through the AIDS International. The grantee collected narratives not only of desire, love, sex, intimacy, seduction, and flirtation to see how actions, aspirations, and failures of the hijra are organized, but also collected data related to their work -- which involves, begging, prostitution, dancing and singing -- to see how the relationship between poverty and sexual desire are configured and how the carnality of both gain expression in the hijra body. These questions were studied by conducting fieldwork on different various sites -- a local NGO, mosques, the natal family in which some hijra reside, and in trains and train stations. The grantee participated in religious festivals and accompanied hijras as they performed on the occasions of birth and marriage and also as they were recruited to act in music videos and films. The grantee collected narratives about fields where sexual relations occur for pleasure and money, outside the ordered domains of family and village, and was thus able to systematically investigate the relationship between poverty and sexual desire. Given the agenda of a global program to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic that has brought anal sex into such scrutiny while also trying to legitimize its existence, this research addresses the contradictions that redraw the erogenous zones of the hijra through the traffic between global categories and locally embedded practices.
PASANG YANGJEE SHERPA, then a student at Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Sherpa Perceptions of Climate Change: Local Understanding of a Global Problem,” supervised by Dr. John Bodley. This research was designed to examine how Sherpa perceptions of climate change differ between on-route and off-route villages, as to what causes these differences and how the differences might affect the effectiveness of risk management policies and practices. This research found that Pharak Sherpas are knowledgeable and adapting to the changing climate, while also vulnerable to the short-term and long-term effects of climate change. The data collected from the field show that in addition to the on-route/off-route residence, a Pharak Sherpa’s age, gender, and employment situation also play a role in how he/she perceives climate change. This research therefore defines socio-economically created cultural units as consisting of Pharak Sherpas from same residence, age group, gender, and employment, who are likely to interact with each other more than with someone from outside their own unit. The vulnerability to the inevitable effects of climate change in Pharak depends on the cultural unit an individual and his/her family belongs to. Further analysis of policies suggest that collaborating with the local people and accommodating to the existing cultural units by the institutions, local and foreign, as they design, develop, and implement climate change risk management programs can increase their effectiveness.

DR. AKIKO TAKEYAMA, University of Kansas, United States, received a Hunt Fellowship in July 2010 to aid research and writing on “Affect Economy: Neoliberal Class Struggle and Gender Politics in Tokyo Host Clubs.” This ethnography examines how men and women in Japan’s sex-related entertainment industry negotiate changing-yet-pervasive gender, sexual, and class norms. The study focuses on Japan’s host clubs, where young working-class men “sell” romance, love, and sometimes sex to their female clients. The grantee argues that a commodified form of romance allows opportunities for Japanese men’s upward class mobility and women’s sexual liberation, while it simultaneously underscores new configurations of gender subordination, social inequality, and the exploitative nature of what she calls an “affect economy” in Japan. The affect economy refers to the so-called service industry and, by extension, a postindustrial society that capitalizes on affect -- a physiological intensity that can be strategically evoked to mobilize the other. This project proposes an anthropological understanding of the affect economy whereby political rationality is transmitted, market value is generated, and social norms are negotiated. Affect Economy thus theorizes new forms and meanings of labor, commodities, and subjectivity that intertwine to reconfigure gender, class, and the notion of freedom in contemporary Japan.

ANAND VIVEK TANEJA, then a student at Columbia University, New York, New York, was awarded funding in October 2009 to aid research on “The Sacred as History: Jinns and Justice in the Ruins of Delhi,” supervised by Dr. Partha Chatterjee. This research is concerned with contemporary ritual practices around medieval Islamic ruins in Delhi. Many of these sacralized ruins are those of “secular” buildings, not intended to be places of worship -- palaces, dams, hunting lodges. The grantee argues that the sacredness of these ruins can be understood through an alternate ontology and epistemology linked both to the Islamic tradition, and to the massive disruptions and dislocations that have characterized everyday life in Delhi over the past hundred years. Through this research, the grantee argues for understanding the sacred as history, understanding these terms to be co-constitutive rather than antithetical. The emphasis on alternate epistemologies also offers a way of understanding relations between religiously defined communities beyond the usual
approaches of secularism and tolerance. This research explored the understanding of Islam among non-Muslims who come to these ruins, and argues for the idea of Islam not as an identity, but as a remembered way of being, linked to pre-modern ideas of justice and ethics, and with powers of healing across confessional divides.

WILLIAM B. THOMSON, then a student at New York University, New York, New York, was awarded a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Harmony under Construction: The Work of Building the Chinese Century,” supervised by Dr. Angela Zito. This research investigated how migrant construction workers in Xian, China, relate to the growing city that is being built through their labor. It explored how these workers negotiate the spatial and social gap between China’s countryside and its cities, how their rural identities shape their prospects for work and life. This project documented how social, legal, and economic restrictions make it impossible for them to settle permanently in the cities, while at the same time foreclose the possibility of returning to farm work in the countryside. Some of the principal findings and directions that are to be explored in the resulting dissertation include the masculine gender projects that motivate worker sojourns in the cities, especially of material and social preparations for marriage, which include building or buying a house. The grantee is especially interested in how these attitudes are changed as younger generations spend more time in city environments and begin to cultivate different urban desires and urban pleasures than their parents’ generation, and has focused research around the structure of the relationship between those who design and those who build the cities. The architectural industry relies on these very distinct and separate roles, and this research contends that understanding that relationship is a window into the way that new class divides are being structured in China along multiple axes of education, urban/rural identity and profession.

GABRIEL O. TUSINSKI, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Violence Beyond the Body: House Destruction, Construction and the Contestation of Timorese National Belonging,” supervised by Dr. Susan Gal. This project explores the social contours of house construction and destruction in Dili, the post-conflict capital city of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. It examines the material practices (migration, narration, and exchange) through which Timorese people draw connections between their urban places of inhabitation and their rural places of origin to reveal how social identities and relations to land have persisted and been transformed in the urban capital in the post-independence era. The project suggests the forms of violence that have plagued Timor must be understood in relation to distinctly Timorese ways of understanding their connections to each other and to their territory, namely through the mediation of ancestral origin houses (uma lulik). Timorese people conceptualize their rights and obligations to one another through their membership in these houses and their associated networks of kin. Migration to the capital city and ongoing internationally fostered development and nation-building have additionally politicized housing, often resulting in tensions and misapprehensions over the significance and value of infrastructure, and specifically of domestic architecture. This study examines the minute details of these conflicts in values, exposing how the conditions for national integration and disintegration are built into reconstruction itself.

BHARAT VENKAT, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Paradoxes of Giving: The Business of Health in the Indian AIDS Crisis,” supervised by Dr. Lawrence M. Cohen. The last fifteen years have witnessed a renaissance of philanthropic giving reminiscent of the early
twentieth century. In India, much of this money had gone towards the funding of HIV prevention and treatment programs. However, recent epidemiological surveys conducted by both private foundations and the Indian government revealed that HIV in India had not taken on the proportions of the epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa. This research examined how funding in India began to dry up, how decisions were made about where to re-invest resources, how accounting was conducted for already spent funds, and how conceptions of impact were both measured and made. In a broader sense, this work looked at how practices of business became central to practices of public health and how these very same business principles were used to justify the ending of HIV/AIDS funding by philanthropic organizations and international health bodies. Fieldwork with philanthropic organizations in Delhi, as well as with government agencies, NGOs, and hospitals in Chennai, provided multiple entry points across various scales into the ways in which funding was being actively reorganized within the context of what appears to be an epidemiologically stabilizing and biologically mutating epidemic.

LEILAH S. VEVAINA, then a student at New School for Social Research, New York, New York, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “In Community We Trust: Parsis and Property in Mumbai,” supervised by Dr. Vyjayanthi Rao. Funding supported field research in Mumbai, India, from July through December 2011, which centered on Parsi (Indian Zoroastrian) religious endowments. Collectively with their governing trust, the Bombay Parsi Panchayat or Parsis, who number about 50,000, are the largest private landowners in this megacity of 18 million. The research explores how the communal trust, with its particular econo-legal status, manages access to its holdings to mitigate a perceived demographic crisis of the community, and to construct boundaries of membership. The large amounts of litigation that surround Parsi trusts also expresses the complex authority and regulatory structures within the community, and the ways in which the courts negotiate their authority over this minority religious group. The research also explores how litigation can be a technology of property management in this city strangled by outdated rent laws and an overwhelmed legal bureaucracy. Lastly, the project undertakes an analysis of the large-scale redevelopment projects that are planned for much of existing Parsi trust real estate. While completely in step with Mumbai’s real estate boom, these trust assets in motion create new entanglements for Parsi residents, and reveal new circuits of value and property in the landscape of megacity Mumbai.

GAIA von HATZFELDT, then a student at University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Vernacular Justice: Adjudicating Corruption in Rural India,” supervised by Dr. Jonathan Spenser. Policy-making is not a static linear process; it is intrinsically dynamic involving a broad constellation of variables, actors, and activities. A significant variable in this dynamism of policy-making is the role played by civil society. This project examines the processes involved in the formulation of one of India’s landmark social policies -- the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) -- through the lens of one particular civil society formation. Specifically, it focuses on the efforts of these civil society actors in institutionalizing social audits, a mechanism for safeguarding transparency and accountability in NREGA. MKSS, an organisation active in rural Rajasthan, has over its two decades of campaigning against corruption become widely recognized as pundits in the practice of social audits. By mobilizing on various scales and performing multiple roles and affiliations, MKSS has played a significant role in drafting national transparency and accountability measures. The entry of MKSS into domains of decision-making in the formulation of NREGA indicates that policy-making is a porous and fluid process. By
shaping the formulation of social audits for NREGA, MKSS contributes to the blurring of boundaries between state and society and the reconfiguration of policy-making processes in India.

SARAH J. WEBB, then a student at University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Materials Reformed, Materials of Reform: Value and Forest Product Trade on Palawan Island, the Philippines,” supervised by Dr. Wolfram H. Dressler. This project traces how values of Palawan forest honey are produced through socio-economic relations between Tagbanua harvesters, middle traders, civil society, and the state. Value-adding such non-timber forest products (NTFPs) is heralded as a market-based solution to sustainable forest use. The grantee’s multi-sited ethnography highlights the need to consider the specificities and complexities of how value is made through everyday exchanges. Rather than relying on linear production-to-consumption models dominating forest product valuations, this study uses a commodityscape approach. Well established in anthropological studies of globalization, the approach suggests commodity values are contextually created within the networks of people, places, ideas, and things through which products circulate. Data from participant observation, workshops, interviews, and surveys were collated with secondary sources to document how a product with a relatively localized market is embedded within national, regional, and global value-making networks. This study contributes an analysis of how marginalizations of Tagbanua families --from broader meanings made about honey value, and the romanticisms of forest-livelihoods, which make it valuable -- are not abnormalities external to processes of “value-adding” that can be technically amended, but cultural politics endogenous to the creation and communication of value.

DR. JIANHUA ZHAO, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Making China’s Second Generation Family Business Owners.” This research is an ethnographic study of the processes through which second generation family business owners are constituted in China. It investigates the formation of a particular group of capitalist subjects in the political-economic context of contemporary China. This study was conducted over the summers 2011 and 2012, consisting of surveys, participant observation, and ethnographic interviews with eighty some participants in two schools specialized in training family business successors in Zhejiang province. Preliminary findings of this research include: 1) second-generation Chinese entrepreneurs have developed different subjectivities from those of their parents due to their different notions of family, gender, filial piety, and business management; and 2) Chinese familial capitalism is a cultural practice that is constantly reconfigured in socially and historically specific circumstances. This research offers a critical understanding of the concepts of culture and capitalism by examining the process of social reproduction of business elites and shifting patterns and values of family, kinship, and intergenerational relationship in contemporary China.

INA ZHARKEVICH, then a student at University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Generation, Gender and Change in the Maoist Base Areas of Nepal during the Conflict and its Aftermath,” supervised by Dr. David Gellner. The fieldwork was carried out in the village of Thabang, hailed as the capital of the Maoist base areas during the war. The findings of the fieldwork suggest that the “people’s war” has reconfigured key hierarchies along which Nepali society was organized – that of caste, gender and generation. However, the old hierarchies were subverted not only due to the spread of Maoist ideology, but also due to the processes engendered by the situation of
war -- the exodus of able-bodied men who either joined the Maoists or migrated abroad, the concurrent feminization of villages, and inevitable change in the gender and generational structure of society. While the “people’s war” had a clear generational dimension, these were predominantly unmarried youth who joined the rebels -- pointing towards the importance of the moral economy of marriage and kinship for understanding the Maoist mobilization campaign and broader social processes during the war. The fact that such practices as beef-eating and inter-caste commensality, considered as a serious transgression in the once Hindu Kingdom of Nepal, endure in post-conflict environment testifies that the “people’s war” undermined Hindu ideology as the basis of the moral order in Nepal and introduced new ideas about morality grounded in the Maoist discourse of equality and progress.

ATHER ZIA, then a student at University of California, Irvine, California, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Politics of Absence: Women Searching for the Disappeared in Kashmir,” supervised by Dr. Victoria Bernal. Since 1989, Kashmir has been engulfed in an anti-India armed militancy. Approximately 8,000 to 10,000 men have disappeared in the Indian counter-insurgency actions. Kashmiri women have assumed the task of caring for families in the absence of men. They have organized to search for those who have been subjected to enforced disappearance after being arrested by the Indian army. The research explores why some Kashmiri women become activists, what factors sustain their political struggle, and how their work as women redefines notions of activism and public engagement in a primarily Islamic social context. The resulting dissertation focuses on understanding the questions of agency, affect, ethics and emotion, memorialization, and mourning in this kin-based activism.

Europe:

JENNIFER D. CARLSON, then a student at University of Texas, Austin, Texas, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Generating Landscapes: The Impact of Wind Turbine Installation on Frisian Communities in Coastal Northern Germany,” supervised by Dr. Kathleen C. Stewart. This project employed participant observation, interviews, and archival research to explore practices of speculation that have arisen with the advent of renewable energy in rural northern Germany. The spread of wind turbines, solar panels, and bio-gas plants across Ostfriesland, Lower Saxony, as well as an influx of jobs in the environmental sector, have led villagers to see themselves as speculators with an unforeclosed future, in contrast to the rigid caste system that once held sway over their communities. In an atmosphere of development driven by environmental concerns, the possibility of capital gain is twinned with the threat of catastrophe in the public consciousness. Data collected over a year of fieldwork suggest that everyday talk in Ostfriesland is a social poetics where even the most mundane conversations may hold consequences for capital gain and wider economic and environmental stability. Here speculation is the ground of belonging in a world where fortunes, daily routines, social distinctions, and the built environment are in a state of constant flux. This case sheds light on the cultural generativity of renewable energy, with an eye to the social repercussions of eco-capitalist development in formerly preindustrial societies.

XENIA A. CHERKAEV, then a student at Columbia University, New York, New York, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “I Don't Know Why, but that One Wants Me: The Saturation of Use and the Agency of Things in Russia,” supervised by Dr.
Elizabeth A. Povinelli. In 2011, Putin warned that the American-funded political opposition would falsify election results, and might kill someone off in order to blame the government. Attempting to write a history of this present, where universal corruption accusations blend easily into conspiracy theory, this project examines changing regimes of circulation, and the correlating changes in regimes of truth. It begins in late-Soviet Leningrad, asking how people made and obtained everyday things by using their positions in the centralized distribution system, their access to surplus material hoarded by enterprises, and the reified norms of State institutions – and how State Secrecy, permeating everyday life as another monolithic norm, guaranteed a truth, just out of reach: “It irritated! There were certain things some idiot didn't want me to know!” It then asks how regimes of both truth and circulation changed with the post-Soviet transition, in which the sudden disclosure of previously unavailable materials correlated with widespread political discussion, extrasensory and religious activity, sharp commodity deficit, and new economic policies that allowed people to make cash off State surplus and informal deals that “took the country apart by the screws … swiped everything from precious metals to Arab horses… fantastic times!”

TEREZA DVOŘÁKOVÁ, then a student at Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Between Practice and Purpose: The Money of Unemployed Roma and the Czech Welfare System,” supervised by Dr. Yasar Abu Ghosh. This project examined the ways welfare providers established relations of inequality among the poor and ways Romani women defended these relations in context of Czech welfare politics. Its central focus was an ethnographic research based on participant observation method of the morally loaded field of welfare policy. The ethnographer examined the politics of welfare from different settings, conducting a long-term observation of welfare providers’ decision-making on “deserving poor” in the context of welfare changes toward moral individualism. Study also documented current experiences and economic practices of Romani women and ways by which they challenged the individualistic understanding of poverty. The project explored the intricate positions of women, their kinship networks, and welfare providers’ take with the aim of understanding their positions and “earmarking” (zelizer) for benefit money. The findings indicate how welfare providers impose a category of “deserving” poor by framing it by social relations of claimants, by visibility of material hardship, consumption strategies, homelessness, and nationality in order not to “spend money on the undeserving” and “save states’ money”. The findings show how Roma women symbolically perform their moral position as “deserving” and distinguish themselves from white (homeless) people devalued as “undeserving” but for all that still get benefits.

RABIA HARMANSAH, then a student at University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Social Forgetting in Post-Conflict Landscapes in Cyprus,” supervised by Dr. Robert Hayden. The research investigated the practice of social forgetting by relating it to the selective construction of history and to the human interactions with the commemorative and religious landscape. Social forgetting was taken as practices of disremembering, misremembering, omitting, distorting, or silencing past events/experiences and their traces, in order to shape the collective memory. The research, conducted in Republic of Cyprus and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in 2011-12, entailed multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork, semi-structured and unstructured interviews with Greek/Turkish Cypriots and immigrant Turks, participant observation, archival research, and examination of patterns of transformations in built landscape. The research demonstrated that the local perceptions of the past have been
shaped not simply by the official discourses, but by various complex cultural processes, personal experiences and active engagement of ordinary people with landscape in the process of memory and history. The research addressed theoretical and analytical issues of understanding social forgetting not only as a negation, neglect, failure of remembering, or unintended social amnesia, but as a positive process through which a certain kind of knowledge of the past is produced deliberately and actively by obscuring material evidence of what others wish to have remembered.

DARRYL CHI-YEE LI, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a grant in April 2008 to aid research on “Another Universalism? Transnational Islamist Movements and Bosnia-Herzegovina,” supervised by Dr. Engseng Ho. This project analyzes how Arab Islamists -- especially ex-fighters and aid workers -- in Bosnia-Herzegovina reconciled their pan-Islamist commitments with their experiences of cultural, racial, and doctrinal difference vis-à-vis Bosnian Muslims. This research was conducted between September 2009 and July 2011, and based in Sarajevo and Zenica, with trips to Brcko, Bugojno, Travnik, Tuzla, and Visoko. Extensive ethnographic life-history interviews were conducted with Arab immigrants in Bosnia-Herzegovina, with a focus on ex-combatants and NGO workers. These interviews took place in a variety of locales, including family homes, cafes, offices, during roadtrips, and in an immigration detention center. A similar number of Bosnians who fought alongside, married, or worked with such individuals were also interviewed at length. Archival research supplemented this data, conducted reviewing Bosnian court records and administrative papers, army and state documents gathered by the UN International Criminal Tribunal for ex-Yugoslavia, wartime and post-war newspaper and magazine collections, and Islamic booklets and pamphlets produced by and about Arab Islamists in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

DR. MARYON McDONALD, Brunel University, Middlesex, England, was awarded a grant in July 1993 to aid research on “The European Commission and the Construction of European Identity, Brussels, Belgium.” An anthropological study of the European Parliament and European Commission during 1993 and 1994 has highlighted some of the difficulties involved in the ideal of “Unity in Diversity.” Both institutions have proclaimed this ideal to be part and parcel of their joint endeavor of constructing a democratic Europe unified by a single European culture and identity. Cross-national or supranational unifications in both institutions present problems and national boundaries and perceived differences emerge in common, stereotypical images that member states hold of each other. In the European Commission, there have been strong cries for management reform. Organizational issues are highlighted and a different use of language in each institution -- nine languages in the European Parliament, two in the European Commission -- is noted, along with some of the problems and tensions involved. One thing that seems clear is that where some political science has tended to talk generally of the formal and ideal workings of institutions, and of “socialization” and “political culture,” and has sometimes seemed to assume “institutions” to be unitary entities, it has taken for granted issues that for anthropologists demand rigorous investigation.

DR. JOANNA Z. MISHTAL, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in April 2011 to aid research and writing on “Contradictions of Democratization: Reproductive Rights and the Politics of Morality in Poland.” The book is a historical, theoretical, and ethnographic study of the intersections of politics, gender, and religion. Based on 21 months of ethnographic fieldwork during doctoral and postdoctoral research between 2000 and 2007 in Krakow, Warsaw, and Gdansk, the book
explains the postsocialist democratization process and the contentiousness of reproductive politics that emerged since the 1989 fall of state socialism. As reproductive rights became significantly curtailed after the fall of the socialist regime due to the new-found political power of the Catholic Church in Poland, the politics of gender and reproduction shifted to the center of transformative negotiations taking place nationally in Poland and internationally within the European Union. Findings argue for an alternative understanding of Polish democratization refocused around reproductive politics, and make a contribution to the theoretical debates on the significance of regime change and transition politics for feminist consciousness-raising and mobilization. This study demonstrates the centrality of the governance of women’s bodies in postsocialist politics—a constitutive feature of the Polish democratization process.

MARIYA I. RADEVA, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Frontiers of Progress, Landscapes of Enchantment: Sustainable Development in Postsocialist Europe,” supervised by Dr. Katherine Verdery. This dissertation project focused on one territorially exceptional space -- Strandzha Nature Park in Bulgaria -- in order to ask how, since the 1990s, the creation of “sustainable” public goods such as nature parks has commodified previously non-commodified objects and how this process is resisted or contested. Data collected through interviews with experts, archival research, and participant observation suggest an uneven temporality of the process, beginning in late socialism and continuing today. Yet a critical transformation of value occurred in the 1990s, when aid from foreign development agencies was made conditional upon nature conservation. Swapping differently valued objects in the then expanding green market altered the macroeconomic terrain. Different mechanisms were used to disburse large amounts of project funding to reform land tenure, build civil society, and preserve the environment. While never a singular force, investing new value in nature has had fascinating effects. A coalition of green NGOs emerged, who vie for legislative power and manifest as a civic social movement. The localities cut out for conservation experienced dramatic change because devalued socialist assets have been revalued as natural and cultural heritage. Such revaluation articulated with the creation of new forms of global intangible commodities in UNESCO’s world heritage preservation.

ELANA F. RESNICK, then a student at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Waste, Work, and Racialization in Bulgaria,” supervised by Dr. Alaina Lemon. This research examined disposal, collection, processing, storage, and recycling of waste in Bulgaria focusing on the capital city, Sofia. Fieldwork addressed relations between informal waste collection (individuals collecting trash objects for re-use or resale) and formal waste management sectors. Relying on ethnographic and archival data, preliminary analyses explore waste collection in Bulgaria as deeply built on, and a result of, time’s ability to pass, create, and “waste,” as well as the physical environment’s capacity to change, develop, and decompose. Through participant observation and interviews with individual trash collectors, privately owned trash companies, and recycling organizations, as well as visits to diverse landfill sites, this research addressed the potential for continued “life”—and ultimate “death”—of waste (often discussed in terms of recycling or energy-from-waste as “life” and landfilling as “death”). Investigating waste on a variety of scales -- from the elderly who gather plastic bottles each morning, to waste management and recycling companies that collect and sort household garbage, to the practical and legal implementation of E.U. waste and environmental directives -- this work looks beyond dichotomies of dirty vs. clean or animate life vs.
inanimate objects, to show how personhood, sensory phenomena, and life-death processes are better understood through the study of waste.

JONAH S. RUBIN, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Re-Membering the Spanish Civil War: Thanatopolitics and the Making of Modern Citizens in Spain,” supervised by Dr. Jean Comaroff. This research project consisted of a multi-sited ethnographic study of the Spanish historical memory movements, a loose conglomeration of NGOs, academics, and individuals dedicated to locating, exhuming, and honoring Republican and civilian victims of the Spanish Civil War. It sought to answer: What is meant by the term “historical memory” as it is deployed on the ground? How do the memory movements go about the work of re-membering and honoring the dead? What is the place of the dead in the formation of a liberal-democratic polity? Answering these questions required research at diverse sites where the work of re-membering the dead takes place. These included: exhumations and reburials of victims; weekly protests demanding government action on behalf of the disappeared; NGO offices dedicated to investigating the fate of the deceased; formal and informal education programs; state archives; and a wide variety of ceremonies, public lectures, and conferences organized by the movements. Ultimately, this research seeks to empirically demonstrate that, even in the context of regime change, the crimes of past regimes continue to effect the nation in complex—but-discernable ways. While remembering the dead is certainly not a straightforward matter of reconstructing the past, it is through this work that ideals of citizenship and democracy are worked out.

EDIT SZENASSY, then a student at Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, was awarded funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Governing Romani Women’s Bodies: Between Everyday Reproductive Decisions and Population Politics in Slovakia,” supervised by Dr. Jaroslav Skupnik. High fertility rates of Romani/Gypsy women are portrayed by some public actors in Slovakia as a burden on society or welfare system. Facing diverse forms of discrimination and violence (including impeded access to healthcare), Romani women’s wombs have historically been of grave concern to state power, and continue being regarded as a “time-bomb” bound to explode as presently Romani births outnumber those of the Slovak majority. Between 1977 and 1991, special benefits were granted in return for Romani women’s voluntary sterilization, however recent scandals indicate that many of the operations during this period were neither voluntary nor performed with due consent. The results of this fieldwork research indicate that the coerced sterilization of Romani women continued to the mid-2000s. This project examined Romani women’s reproductive decision-making and its tensions with Slovak population politics. Its central focus was an ethnographic research based on participant observation into current reproductive practices among Romani women in a poor, segregated Roma slum in East Slovakia. It explored the intricate positions assumed by women, their kinship networks, health professionals, and authorities, with the aim of revealing and understanding their potentially conflicting interests. The ethnographer was situated in a politically and ethically loaded field, as she attempted to analyze the ramifications intertwining the state, nationalism, and the politics and poetics of reproduction.

Latin America and the Caribbean:

DOC M. BILLINGSLEY, then a student at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Networks of Maya Knowledge
Production: An Ethnography of Memory in Practice,” supervised by Dr. Bret D. Gustafson. This research investigates the emergence of new knowledge practices in Guatemala centered on the rise of widespread literacy among Maya citizens. It explores how the renewed participation of Maya scholars in literature production is affecting dialogues about memory, history, and the politics of identity in a postwar society still burdened by unresolved tensions. How does the “Maya intellectual renaissance” reflect new strategies of resistance? Why do activists focus their energy on adding Maya perspectives to Guatemalan history? How would the recuperation of historical memory transform the meanings and practices of democratic citizenship in Guatemala? These questions are engaged through ethnography at key sites in the production and “consumption” of literature, from the publishing houses of the capital city to the rural classrooms of bilingual schools. By communicating with actors involved in this network of literacy activity, collaborating in their work, and comparing multiple perspectives on Guatemala’s written and unwritten histories, the research provides an ethnographic description of the practices of collective remembering. A combination of innovative methods and a comparative, multi-sited research design provide an uncommonly empirical response to questions about the nature and effects of collective memory.

DAVID BOND, then a student at New School for Social Research, New York, New York, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Hydrocarbon Frontiers: Experts and the Social Life of Facts at a Caribbean Refinery,” supervised by Dr. Ann Stoler. This project is an ethnographic analysis of the composition of hydrocarbons and the environment at the HOVENSA refinery in the US Virgin Islands. Taking the substance of oil as an ethnographic question, this research documents the making (and unmaking) of what counts as crude oil in practices and policies of environmental protection. As one of the most technologically sophisticated systems, HOVENSA is a strategic site for observing the role of experts in fabricating new forms of hydrocarbon facts and the political effects of such a process. This research pushes the anthropology of fact production into a critical engagement with the political economy of facts.

ALEJANDRO CERÓN, then a student at University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Epidemiology and the Everyday Life of the Right to Health in Post-War Guatemala,” supervised by Dr. Janelle Taylor. This project is a study of the everyday practice of epidemiology in Guatemala and how it shapes and is shaped by the notion of the right to health. Much of the research on the relationship between public health and human rights adopts either a critical position towards public health as a potential human rights violator, or an uncritical assumption that what is good for public health is good for human rights, without an examination of how that relationship happens. However research findings indicate that the human rights impact of epidemiological practice is not unidirectional but is influenced by the concrete configuration of transnational and local forces (political, economic, bureaucratic, scientific, and symbolic) mediated by social relations in which the epidemiologist plays a moderating role. This study introduces the notion of “fourth-world epidemiology” (alternatively “post-neocolonial epidemiology,” and “magic realism epidemiology”) to synthesize the ways in which these forces take shape in the Guatemalan context. To complete this research the grantee spent twelve months doing fieldwork in Guatemala and carried out archival work, accompanied epidemiologists in their work, and interviewed public health officials, human rights activists, international health officers, and people affected by epidemics or the work of epidemiologists.

KENDRA C. FEHrer, then a student at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, was awarded a grant in May 2009 to aid research on “Decentralizing Democracy: Urban
Participation in Chavez’s Venezuela,” supervised by Dr. Kay B. Warren. Research investigated the interaction of local citizenship practices with national development policy, and more specifically how citizens participate in a government program designed to foster grassroots democracy. Over the last several decades, political anthropologists studying the state have viewed participatory state programs as techniques of governance, mechanisms of constructing a “governable subject” amenable to the state agenda. At the same time, development studies scholars have documented emerging participatory programs as institutionalized mechanisms of “deepening democracy,” providing communities opportunities to expand the range and substance of their claims as citizens. Through twelve months of ethnographic research in a working class community in peri-urban Venezuela, the grantee explored the uneven, partial, and contested interaction of local practices with participatory development programs. Findings indicate that participatory programs -- as sights of negotiation and contestation over public resources -- were altering the mechanisms and meanings of citizen participation. Specifically, they are circumscribing new practices and categories of citizenship closely tied to consumption of consumer goods, performance of public policy, and proximity to party structures. In a politically and geographically peripheral community far from the national capital, these practices are being contested and negotiated by community members seeking to create their own historical memory, livelihoods, and aspirations.

ROSA FICEK TORRES, then a student at University of California, Santa Cruz, California, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Migration and Integration along the Pan American Highway in Panama’s Darien Gap,” supervised by Dr. Anna Tsing. The researcher’s dissertation examines how a powerful road-building dream of physical connection created regions at national and hemispheric scales in Latin America. Ethnographic fieldwork was conducted in Darien Province, Panama, where the Pan American Highway remains an on-going but unfinished project. The researcher mapped the changing social geography of Darien in relationship of the highway—how people, plants, and animals move in, out, and through Darien -- and how this has changed over time since the highway’s construction. Oral community histories focused on the 20th-century migrations of Afro-Darienita, indigenous Choco, and mestizo settler ethnicities. Participant observation focused on current movements of people, cattle, logs, and agricultural products along the highway as well as everyday experiences of marginality in Darien. By tracing and historicizing mobility along the Pan American Highway, this research suggests that region-making does not happen through the unfettered movement of people and things. In Darien, these movements are controlled by state and foreign organizations. What matters is not that things move, but how they move. Data on mobility and on marginality in Darien, will enable the researcher to theorize how regions are made at the national (Panamanian) level and hemispheric (Latin American) level through the analysis of a single road-building project.

RUTH E. GOLDSTEIN, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Plants, Prostitutes, and Pharmaceuticals: By the Edge and at the End of the Inter-Oceanic Road,” supervised by Dr. Charles Briggs. Latin America’s Inter-Oceanic Road stretches from Peru’s Pacific coast to Brazil’s Atlantic coast, dipping into Bolivia. The road changes the physical and the social landscape, opening up previously inaccessible land in the Peruvian Amazon, flush with streams of gold. A stumbling world economy has stimulated a resurgence in the importance of gold. The gold attracts miners and the miners bring women. Women, ensnared by promises of working in restaurants, end up in debtpeonage sex-work by the side of the road. Plants trafficked along the road—often sexual stimulants—go to laboratories for
pharmaceutical testing and intellectual property evaluation. The gold travels along the road and then worldwide as the currency to buy and sell everything from gasoline and food, to women, plants, and pharmaceuticals. This project situates the trajectories of the women-plant-gold assemblages within the history of the taxonomic narrative and the current economic crisis, analyzing how particular groups of people have come to be treated as less-than-human. Understanding how differences among humans, animals, plants, and minerals come into being and affect national and international politics and public health policies highlights how particular groups of people have come to matter less politically—as well as the possibilities for changing that.

CHELSEY L. KIVLAND, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, received funding in April 2008 to aid research on “Of Bands and Soldiers: Performance, Sovereignty, and Violence in Haiti,” supervised by Dr. Stephan Palmie. This ethnography examines the expressive political action of young men involved in both carnival street bands and social service organizations in a slum of Port-au-Prince, in order to show how they imagine and enact a novel model of statehood based on the Haitian ideal of respè, or respect.

MAURICE R. MAGAÑA, then a student at University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, was awarded a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Contentious Walls: The Cultural Politics of Social Movement Street Art in Southern Mexico,” supervised by Dr. Lynn Stephen. This dissertation explores the nature of contemporary struggles for social change through ethnographic analysis of the practices, norms and organization of urban youth activists in Oaxaca, Mexico. While this research emphasizes the uniqueness of the Mexican context (such as the influence that centuries of indigenous organizing have had on the current generation of activists, as well as the impact that the violent militarization of society has had), it also considers the implications of commonalities that these youth activists share with their global counterparts in #Occupy Movement, Arab Spring, and recent anti-austerity protests as evinced in their interaction with urban space, their use of cultural forms like graffiti and networking technologies, and the privileging of process over ideology.

ANDREA MALDONADO, then a student at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Culture: The New Drug of Choice in Mexico City,” supervised by Dr. Matthew Gutmann. This dissertation explores new forms of state-sponsored care among low-income Mexicans in relation to the places where they surface and the interests fueling their support. Since 2002, an assortment of “cultural therapies” (from yoga to tai chi) has emerged as Mexico’s prescription of choice to prevent and treat what authorities identify as “culturally transmitted diseases” (such as diabetes) among the urban poor. In Mexico City, these measures take shape in health institutes, cultural centers, parks, and streets. The growth of this campaign—which blames sickness on the culture of poor people and outsources their care to non-medical providers—raises questions about how states manage the production and circulation of knowledge in this nascent health arena, and why ordinary Mexicans subscribe to these policies. This study investigates the nuances and contradictions of this “turn to culture,” suggesting that in spite of its appeal, it may be exacerbating aspects of inequality in public health. It reveals how the enactment of cultural healing in place encourages new techniques of self-care and new sites of social differentiation. Health services constituted outside clinical settings, but operating with institutional legitimacy, can generate new exchanges even as they also engender novel practices of state and expert surveillance.
PHILIPPE-RICHARD MARIUS, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Trading in Race: Nationalist Ideologies, Elites and Political Economy in Haiti,” supervised by Dr. Donald K. Robotham. This project investigates the social economy of Haiti’s elites. It proceeds principally through an ethnography in the privileged classes of Port-au-Prince (the capital city), interviews, and study of public and private histories. The full range of Haiti’s colorist identities, from noir (black) to clair (light) to mulâtre (mulatto) is represented among research subjects drawn from Haiti’s political, economic, and intellectual elites. The investigation indicates that the Black Republic national narrative maintains in Haiti a situation that is emblematic of the Caribbean region: “politics” and “economics” are experienced as sharply separated spheres dominated by complementary elites, and the black political elite and the mulatto business elite are held to represent different national “publics.” The research suggests that, notwithstanding tenacious colorist identitarian boundaries, Haiti’s apparently fragmented elites nevertheless find cohesion in the practice of Western modernity. The analysis finally argues that while these elites, which appear fragmented, actually cohere in their dominant practice of politics by virtue of a monopoly on the requisite cultural capital, expression of progressive Haitian politics tends to disintegrate at the colorist border. One of the theoretical goals of the project is to demystify the cohesion of Haiti’s elites, the better to facilitate coherent, pragmatic, progressive political action.

RAM NATARAJAN, then a student at New York University, New York, New York, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “The Power of Memory: Transitional Justice and the Aftermath of Argentina’s Dirty War,” supervised by Dr. Sally Merry. This project is a study of human rights movements, law, and military soldiers in the context of contemporary Argentine dictatorship trials -- one of the most lionized, discussed, and circulated forms of judicial responses to Latin American authoritarian regimes. It is about how efforts to prosecute violence committed during the 1976-1983 Argentine military rule become implicated with and generate new forms of violence, and about how the legal construction of categories of perpetrators is so shaped by social forces that such construction is never simply about identifying who is responsible for a crime. It draws from twenty months of fieldwork with retired and convicted military men, women and men affiliated with human rights’ victim groups, and employees of the Argentine state judiciary system to ask what happens to these individuals’ senses of self, social relationships, and national belonging once the Argentine executive, legislative, and judicial branches began enforcing and instituting a new understanding of the past. This research helps shed light on why closure in the aftermath of political violence becomes, in the context of Argentina, a national impossibility.

FEDERICO PÉREZ, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Rethinking the City: The Making of Policy and Space in Bogotá, Colombia,” supervised by Dr. Kimberly Theidon. This project explored the making of contemporary urban policy in Bogotá, Colombia, through the ethnographic study of the city’s planning department and its related communities of practice. Employing collaborative research, participant observation, and in-depth interviews, the grantee studied the everyday discourses and practices of policy actors -- planners, experts, developers, and citizens, among others -- involved in the implementation of Colombia’s progressive planning instruments. Focusing on the production and circulation of knowledge, the socio-political contexts of policymaking, and the heterogeneity of socio-spatial assemblages, this project examined ongoing efforts to bridge the gaps between the rhetoric and practice of socio-spatial justice. Research findings obtained with the support of
this grant emphasize the processual, political, and networked dimensions of urban planning and policymaking. Furthermore, they call attention to emergent forms of knowledge, shifting modes of political action, and power-laden policy circuits through which the “urban” is being produced and reassembled in contemporary Latin America.

MICHA L. RAHDER, then a student at University of California, Santa Cruz, California, received a grant in October 2011 to aid research on “Satellites and Senses of Place: Local Perceptions of Remote Sensing in Guatemala’s Maya Biosphere Reserve,” supervised by Dr. Andrew Matthews. This project covered the final phase of field research examining the role of remote sensing and geographic information system (GIS) sciences in forest conservation in Guatemala’s Maya Biosphere Reserve. Remote sensing technologies, such as satellite imagery along with GIS computer programs that can analyze complex multi-scalar spatial data are emerging as key instruments in the global conservation toolbox. Funding supported three months of ethnographic fieldwork focusing on the impacts and perceptions of remote sensing, GIS, and conservation among communities living inside the reserve, and on encounters between reserve inhabitants and conservation workers. The Maya Biosphere Reserve is widely recognized as one of the most difficult places in the world to do forest conservation, and this project analyzes how Guatemala’s continued history of violence and inequality shape the production and use of scientific knowledge, and its intersections with daily life on the landscape. By examining local perceptions of remote monitoring in two highly contrasting communities within the reserve, this research found that complex relations of power, identity, and social location shaped local interactions with remote monitoring practices and data.

DAVID M. ROJAS, then a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Putting a Price on the Amazon: The Constitution of Environmental Payments in Mato Grosso.” During 2011, the grantee conducted ten months of ethnographic research in Brazil, studying a strategy that will pay Amazonian landholders for not cutting down their forests. Research examined this strategy -- known as REDD+ (an acronym for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, with the “+” representing carbon stocks improvements) -- working with scientists and Amazonian landholders who are involved in its constitution. The grantee examined how the scientists and peasants who take part in REDD+ pilot projects create and mobilize documents, skills, and tools in order to accomplish three politically significant goals: 1) establishing new relations across rural sites, scientific laboratories and policy forums; 2) sharing their personal experiences on potentially catastrophic environmental transformations; and, 3) participating in national and international climate change policy forums. Although the flow of documents, skills, and tools that REDD+ pilot projects facilitate is not new to the Amazon (which draws on the activities of scientists and landholders who have studied and lived in the region for decades), the grantee has studied how REDD+ represents an unprecedented incursion of scientific and economic strategies into political undertakings that intend to endure and to manage—not avoid—human-driven, large-scale environmental disruptions.

DR. PHILLIP WYMAN SCHER, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, received funding in April 2011 to aid research on “The Politics of Historic Preservation and the Development of Heritage Tourism in Barbados.” The focus of this project was the ethnographic investigation of the political and economic processes that lie behind the protection and preservation of cultural heritage in Barbados, specifically the World Heritage site designated for Bridgetown (the capital city) and its historic military garrison. Over the last fifteen years,
a dramatic transformation has occurred in the economic profile of this nation and of the region that has profoundly affected official and unofficial conceptions of culture and heritage. In the wake of decreasing economic options in the Caribbean due to free market initiatives, renewed pressure on creating or expanding a market for culture and tourism has developed. At the forefront of this development are applications for World Heritage status from UNESCO and attempts to copyright cultural forms in order to protect them. Barbados has pursued and recently obtained World Heritage Status for “Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison.” This research pursued two different lines of inquiry. The first was to understand the nomination process and the various state and local parties involved in the successful nomination. The second was to gain insight into the neighborhoods surrounding the World Heritage site, including local businesses, schools and residents, and how they view the historical legacy of British colonialism and their role in the memorialization of Colonial history.

DR. HEATHER SETTLE, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, was awarded a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in October 2009 to aid research and writing on “Love in the Last Days of Fidel: Everyday Life in Post-Revolutionary Cuba.” This project theorizes the emergence of discourses of crisis as a key dimension of everyday life during the late years of Cuba’s Special Period. It looks at how Cubans in two poor barrios of Havana in the early 2000s drew on the language of “crisis” to make sense of their experiences of economic hardship and personal distress since the fall of the Soviet Union and the subsequent introduction of neoliberal economic reforms. Revisions to the project, undertaken during the fellowship period, added four new elements: 1) incorporation of new anthropological understandings of “crisis” developed by theorists of humanitarian intervention and exception; 2) post-2008 reflections on the relationship of Cuba’s crisis to the global economic crisis; 3) greater historical contextualization of phases within the Special Period and its relationship to earlier cycles of revolution, reform, and critique; and 4) an argument for reading the assertion that “Cuba is in crisis” as a form of discursive intervention that indexes not only disenchantment and loss but persistent, ambivalent hopes for a better future.

DR. MIRIAM N. SHAKOW, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, received a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in October 2010 to aid research and writing on “States of Discontent: Patronage, Liberalism, and Indigenous Democracy in Bolivia.” This monograph narrates the surprising dilemmas of new middle classes in central Bolivia as they participate in and respond to the rise of a left-wing indigenous movement and party. Over the past decade, Bolivians have been at the forefront of movements for indigenous autonomy and against free market economic policies. The recent success of “new left” parties in Latin American countries marked by longstanding social and economic inequalities, such as Bolivia, raises important questions about political change. How do people re-think their identities as citizens after the election of indigenous leaders? How are political ideals and practices affected by the rapid turnover of state regimes and ideologies? Following the election of Evo Morales, Bolivia’s first indigenous President, first-generation professionals in central Bolivia wrestled earnestly with how to distinguish their identity from those of their “Indian” and “peasant” parents, cousins and neighbors—and their new President. By tracing everyday dilemmas of class, racial, and political identification from 1995 to present in the central Bolivian municipality of Sacaba, States of Discontent highlights the unexpected hybridity of radicalism and neoliberal political practices. The book also traces Bolivians’ attempts to reconcile conflicting social and political ideals of equality, upward mobility, and middle class distinction.
MARGARET K. WATSON, then a student at University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “From Rural Street Theater to Big City Extravaganza: The Manaus Boi-bumbá in an Urbanizing Brazil,” supervised by Dr. Suzanne Oakdale. This study focused on the Boi-bumbá festival of Manaus, capital of the Brazilian state of Amazonas. Over the last few decades the Boi-bumbá, which tells the folkloric story of the death and resurrection of a rancher’s favorite bull, has grown from a humble street drama associated with the rural poor into a highly mediated, government-sponsored, urban extravaganza in which teams battle to present the best version of the drama. Through life historical interviews with festival participants, musicians, artists, neighborhood politicians, and city tourism officials, this research investigated the meaning of Boi-Bumbá festivals to participants in the neighborhood of Educandos, where increasingly individuals self-identify as Caboclos. This research showed that the Boi-bumbá serves as a core of neighborhood sociality, providing a safe space for otherwise marginalized individuals, including older women, at-risk youth, and transvestites. Additionally, the festival functions as a realm for local musicians and artists to professionalize. Finally, the Boi-bumbá, the “Caboclo opera,” is being implemented as a branding device for cities throughout Brazilian Amazônia. In short, the Boi-bumbá of Educandos is an emblem of Caboclo pride for participants. This, however, is part of a regional process of image creation aimed at distinguishing Amazônia from the rest of Brazil.

MAREIKE WINCHELL, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “The Politics of Ayllu Justice: Translations of Tradition and Law among Quechua Activists in Cochabamba, Bolivia,” supervised by Dr. Charles Hirschkind. Research focused on the ways recent legal reforms reshape existing practices of historical consciousness and ethical subjectivity in Bolivia, with emphasis on the frictions between the Bolivian state’s vision of revolutionary change on the one hand, and rural experiences of state reform among Quechua and Spanish-speaking descendents of landowners, and servants in ex-hacienda regions on the other. Through research with land reform officials and rural Quechua-speakers, the study shed light on: 1) how emergent ideals of revolutionary citizenship and temporal change become institutionalized; and 2) the ways institutional efforts coexist uneasily with a set of vertical relational practices that rural residents imbue with ethical significance.

NANCY H. WORTHINGTON, then a student at Barnard College, New York, New York, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “‘Healing Hearts and Training Minds in Honduras’: Pediatric Heart Surgery Missions and Globally Circulating Biotechnologies,” supervised by Dr. Lesley Sharp. In poor countries, children with heart defects either go untreated (which can result in an early death) or are transferred overseas for surgical intervention. Now these children are treated in country by traveling cardiovascular teams. This study involved thirteen months of ethnographic field research in Honduras to examine the practices, meanings, and effects associated with this contemporary form of medical technology transfer. Cardiovascular teams develop innovations to address challenging situations they encounter globally, which supports the idea that biomedicine is not universally the same. Access to leading-edge treatments in a poor country also refines current thinking about medical migration, since a superior form of pediatric heart care is being made available not to medical migrants but to those for whom medical travel is impossible. Honduran parents consent to even the riskiest procedures. Given the difficulties associated with managing a chronic illness in a poor country, they view surgery as a means to a better future. Such desires, however, do not always come to fruition, thus extending the
idea within anthropology that humanitarian efforts may restore only minimalist survival—a limitation that must be seen as not the fault of humanitarian actors but as a function of the wider contexts in which they work.

**Middle East:**

ORKIDEH BEHROUZAN, then a student at Massachusetts Institute for Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a grant in May 2009 to aid research on “Prozak Diaries: Alternative Genealogies of Psychiatric Selves, Discourses, and Dealing with Conditions of Impossibility in Post-War Iran,” supervised by Dr. Michael Fischer. This work is a historically situated ethnography of the rise in psychiatric discourses in Iran since the 1990s. It explores the trajectory of emerging psychiatric selves in the convergence of the social and the psychological. Research examines psychiatric mindsets, the ways different sectors of the society embody, internalize, and modify psychiatric discourses to articulate and understand their distinct generational experiences and sedimented anxieties. “Generational” in the inquiry has to do with the way different generations’ experiences the 1980s, the Iran-Iraq war, new forms of citizenship and the politicization of their bodies and minds. This is an interdisciplinary and multi-sited ethnography of medical training and practice, neuroscientific models for mental illness, biomedical vs. psychodynamic modes of thinking, subjective experiences of being medicated, historical trajectories of psychiatry in Iran and its knowledge communities, cultural material, shifting gendered and gendering paradigms of biomedical modernization, and discursive processes that shape emerging psychiatric selves. The 1990s paradigm shift is a significant pretext to the emergence of spaces in literature, art, and particularly Persian blogs, where belated articulation and dialogical reconstruction of traumatic memory create forms of identification, and grounds for making sense of the past in order to heal, cope, and move on.

JOSHUA L. CARNEY, then a student at University of Indiana, Bloomington, Indiana, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Storms through the Valley: Fact, Fiction, and the US Image in Turkish Popular Media,” supervised by Dr. Ilana M. Gershon. Research examined the publics and discourses emerging around two immensely influential Turkish TV dramas or “dizi.” The contemporary mafia drama, *Valley of the Wolves,* and the Ottoman costume drama, *Magnificent Century,* relate disparate periods and cater to very different audiences, but both have set the political and social agendas in Turkey due to the uneasy blend of fact and fiction in their plots. The project focuses on the increasing relevance of screen culture in the Turkish milieu through an ethnographic engagement with the publics generated by these shows, touching on conspiracy theory and nostalgia as strategies for coping in an era of multiple modernities, the creation and maintenance of gendered and national identities, and the political implications of the international distribution of these shows.

GÖKÇE GÜNEL, then a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, was awarded a grant in October 2011 to aid research on “Imagining an Oil-less Future: Responses to Global Climate Change in Abu Dhabi,” supervised by Dr. Hirokazu Miyazaki. The grantee conducted research with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bonn, Germany. While the dissertation project mainly focused on the production of renewable energy infrastructures in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, the grantee understood policy-making through United Nations to be a significant building block of this process, and decided to work more specifically on issues related to carbon capture and
storage technology. The making of carbon capture and storage policy now constitutes one of the five chapters of the dissertation, which was filed May 2012.

Dr. AMIRA MITTERMAIER, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “An Ethics of Giving: Islamic Charity in Neoliberal Egypt.” Whereas many NGOs in Egypt have shifted their focus from handouts to development, this project examines distributive forms of charity that are often quickly dismissed as “ineffective” and “outdated.” Fieldwork was conducted at large-scale charity organizations that collect and distribute obligatory and voluntary alms among believers who prefer giving food or money directly to the poor, and in religious spaces of food distribution, such as Sufi khidmas and Ramadan tables (mawa’id al-rahman). Through in-depth fieldwork this project traces varied, shifting, and conflicting understandings of Muslims’ religious-ethical responsibilities toward others in need. Against the backdrop of the Egyptian revolution in 2011, the project pays particularly close attention to overlaps, tensions, and interplays between political calls for “social justice” and everyday acts of giving. It aims to contribute to a more nuanced understanding of intersections between religious practices, politics, ethics, and economics.

ALIREZA MOHAMMADI-DOOSTDAR, then a student at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, received a grant in April 2009 to aid research on “Sciences of the Strange and the Sociality of Science in Iran,” supervised by Dr. Steven C. Caton. The dissertation research examines the emergence of the category of the “supernatural” (mavara or metajizik) in Iran as a domain of potential knowledge (speculative, visionary, or empirical) and practical manipulation (through mystical experience or technical procedure). It focuses on the articulation of various discourses -- philosophical, theological, jurisprudential, mystical, occult, and modern scientific -- in middle class Iranians’ encounters with the supernatural. Specifically, it examines these encounters as marked by various forms of doubt, uncertainty, and hesitation, which individuals attempt to bridge or resolve by drawing on multiple discourses and forms of reasoning in an ad-hoc fashion. Such uncertainties appear in a range of encounters with the supernatural such as attempts to explain apparent communications with souls, make sense of supposed spirit possession, and sift true magic from charlatanism. The different ways in which people resolve their hesitations -- or continue to dwell within them -- are animated by divergent social and political stakes that precipitate realignments among science, religion, and the supernatural.

YASMIN MOLL, then a student at New York University, New York, New York, was awarded a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Virtuous Viewing: Islamic Televangelical Channels in Egypt,” supervised by Dr. Michael Gilsenan. The project is an ethnographic exploration of Islamic media production practices in Egypt. Research involved participant observation of everyday work practices at an Islamic television channel located in Cairo and in-depth interviews with producers, directors, editors, translators, managers, and Islamic televangelists working at this channel. The main research questions addressed were: the ways in which the category of “Islamic television” is materially and discursively produced and how cultural producers involved in the Islamic televangelical world imagine their audience and the regimens of viewing appropriate to this audience. While most of the existing studies of new media in Muslim societies focuses on the reception of such media among audiences, the production practice focus of this research asks what does it mean to “produce Islam” (both as a media form and in the broader social sense) in a revolutionary context. This research thus addresses a burgeoning theoretical literature in anthropology and beyond on religion and/as media.
JOANNE R. NUCHO, then a student at University of California, Irvine, California, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Producing the Neighborhood without the Nation: ‘Trans-Municipal’ Urban Planning in Lebanon,” supervised by Dr. Bill Maurer. In the wake of a fifteen-year civil war (1975-1990) and ongoing political strife, urban planning and infrastructure in Beirut remains fragmented. Residents negotiate access to basic services, from garbage collection to electricity, delivered through a byzantine web of private, public, and informal networks, often run by local political parties organized around ethnicity or sect. In the absence of a national or citywide planning apparatus, local parties shape the social, political, and visual landscape of each neighborhood. While local municipal actors often reach out to funding sources outside Lebanon, one such urban planning initiative, the Collaborative Development Strategy (CDS), takes a unique form. The CDS was initiated in 2009 as a joint strategy between two municipalities: Hospitalet, a suburb of Barcelona in Catalonia, Spain, and Bourj Hammoud, a polluted, working-class suburb of Beirut dominated by an Armenian political party, Tashnak. This dissertation research investigates the CDS using ethnographic methods in order to better understand the ramifications of planning in a postconflict city, where municipal actors circumvent both national and transnational institutions to create city-to-city partnerships outside the purview of both the state and large transnational actors like the European Union.

DR. MAHIR ŞAUD, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “African Journeys in Turkey: From Suitcase Trade to Soccer.” Research was conducted among immigrants from West and Central Africa in Istanbul, Turkey. The largest immigrant groups in the city are from Nigeria, Senegal, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, with about a thousand people in each, followed by Cameroon with about four hundred; many other sub-Saharan countries are also represented. Many of those interviewed arrived with tourist visas but fell into undocumented status by overstaying their visa. They engage in various kinds of salaried and self-employed work, but the ideal was generally self-employment that would allow returning to the home country with substantial savings, a target that may elude many of the migrants. The flow of migrants to Turkey is connected to the growing trade and diplomatic ties between Turkey and many sub-Saharan countries and stimulated by both the recent surge in export capacity of Turkey and rising incomes and the growing consumer market in African countries. The research tried to uncover the subjective disposition and planning of the immigrants and their views of the immigration experience.

NESLIHAN SEN, then a student at University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Vaginismus: The Embodiment of Modernity and Negotiations with Biomedical Authority in Turkey,” supervised by Dr. Gayatri Reddy. The research was conducted in Istanbul, Turkey, from August 2011 to August 2012 with women diagnosed with vaginismus, a specific sexual disorder, and health care professionals who work on the issue. Additional data was collected through archival and media research as well as participant observation in women’s houses, the waiting rooms of the hospitals and private clinics, and three different feminist organizations in Istanbul. The study analyzes the ways in which women’s bodies and sexualities are perceived and politicized in Turkey. By including both ends of the biomedical spectrum, this study addresses the structures of the state, biomedicine, and ideologies of patriarchy, as well as negotiations with these structures to better understand the complex, shifting constructions of women’s bodies and sexualities.
VASILIKI TOUHOULIOTIS, then a student at New School for Social Research, New York, New York, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Weapons between Wars: Cluster Bombs, Technological Failure and the Durability of War in South Lebanon,” by Dr. Ann Laura Stoler. This project is an ethnographic study of the millions of cluster bombs dropped by Israel on south Lebanon during the 2006 war. Six months of ethnographic research in Lebanon were premised on the hypothesis that these cluster bombs are productive agents that render war durable by assembling people, objects, practices, and discourses in ways that defy the official end of war. To understand how cluster bombs prolong the time of war and what the forms of this prolongation look like, ethnographic research was conducted across the following sites: de-mining teams working to clear contaminated fields; local organizations providing mine risk education and victim assistance; surgical units specializing in treating injuries by cluster bombs; inhabitants of bomb afflicted areas; and farmers cultivating currently or formerly contaminated land. Evidence was collected on how cluster bombs continue to affect work, agricultural practices and land use, regimes of care, health and mobility, structures of governance, and ways of talking about prolonged and continuous war. Preliminary findings indicate a further militarization of South Lebanon through the sustained presence of the bombs and their de-mining, their importance as objects of discourse, and their location in a web of conspiracy theories, generalized suspicion, and potential for betrayal.

ANA VINEA, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Between the Psyche and the Soul: Mental Disorders, Quranic Healing and Psychiatry in Contemporary Egypt,” supervised by Dr. Talal Asad. This project explored questions of affliction and well-being, as well of the relation between science and religion as they are configured in the contemporary Egyptian field of “mental disorders.” It has ethnographically examined two therapeutic practices -- biomedical psychiatry and Quranic healing, both employed by suffering Egyptians. It has also analyzed the debates between these two groups of practitioners. Approaching these therapeutic practices as forms of knowledge about the human, the researcher investigated the techniques employed by psychiatrists and Quranic healers to construct their knowledge, as well as the concepts of affliction, causality, and reality articulated and enacted in their practices. She also examined the styles of reasoning and ways of invoking authority used by psychiatrists and Quranic healers. The evidence collected shows that in contemporary Egypt psychiatry gains authority by its state-authorization as the only legitimate way of treating mental disorders and by its “scientific” status. However, psychiatry’s etiology, diagnostic categories, and treatment methods are contested by Quranic healers’ practices. These practices, while themselves partly reconfigured by the encounter with psychiatry, continue to argumentatively engage with the Islamic tradition providing different ways of understanding affliction and of being in the world.

DENIZ YONUCU, then a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Transforming Space and Citizens: Neoliberal Urban Governance and the Re-Formation of the State in Turkey,” supervised by Dr. P. Steven Sangren. The research has concentrated on the processes that led to the emergence of state of exception policies in some working-class neighborhoods of Istanbul during the 1990s. The first phase research was based on an ethnographic study conducted in a working class neighborhood of Istanbul. The second phase of the research was concentrated on the examination of the human rights abuse documents of the 1990s. The dissertation will argue that in addition to the officially declared state-of-exception policies in the Kurdish region of...
Turkey, the residents of the mostly Alevi-populated, leftist-identified neighborhoods have also been subjected to state-of-exception policies during the 1990s. The dissertation will analyze the effects of these policies on the marginalized working classes. It will also investigate the ways in which these policies -- that sometimes express themselves in the most brutal forms of violence -- inform the political subjectivities of the leftist-identified, working-class people in Istanbul.

North America:

MARIA T. BRODINE, then a student at Columbia University, New York, New York, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Engineering Levees: Reconstructing Water Management in New Orleans,” supervised by Dr. Herve Varenne. This ethnographic study explores how levees and their roles in flood events -- and flood protection or risk reduction -- are continuously redefined and (re)constructed by human and nonhuman actors as well as how the levee reconstruction project is shaped by, and shaping, competing conceptions of the relationship between people, technology, and the environment in New Orleans. Building on an Actor-Network Theory (ANT) within a Science, Technology, Society (STS) framework, this study focuses on conflict around levees and draws on a range of historical and ethnographic sources in order to trace associations mediated by levees. This research engages with questions about the active roles of technologies in engineered landscapes and extends the application of ANT within anthropology. This research may also contribute to public policy, especially as global warming and coastal restoration are issues directly shaped by engineering and scientific paradigms constructed around notions of the roles of people, industry, and technologies in relationship to "nature."

CHELSEA CHAPMAN, then a student at University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Conceptions of Energy and Economies of Knowledge in Central Alaska’s Yukon Flats,” supervised by Dr. Larry Nesper. This project investigated concepts of energy in central Alaska, asking how regional developments of hydrocarbon and renewable resources are experienced, evaluated, and disputed. Via ethnographic study of a land trade between an Alaska Native corporation and a regional wildlife refuge in the Yukon Flats -- and bio-mass energy projects in the same region -- the research looked at how fields of energy knowledge manifest, and how they are rendered authoritative or marginal as they animate local conflict. Multiple cultural orientations toward nature, land, and power were found to circulate within regional energy production. Despite heterogeneity among cultural models of energy, findings confirmed the relationship of oil, gas, and bio-mass fuels to personal and societal characteristics like vitality, independence, stamina, and life force. Participants conceptualized central Alaska as precarious (energy-brittle) due to political relationships hardened by North Slope oil production, legacies of social inequality, and consequences of climate change. Apocalyptic forecasts related to energy crisis were shared across ethnic, cultural, and occupational groups. Findings further indicate that spiritual practice, especially Pentecostal Christianity, relates closely to a powerful conception of energy as a morally compelling substance languishing untapped in the trees and subterranean hydrocarbons of the boreal forest.

GABRIELLE CLARK, then a student at New York University, New York, New York, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “From Apples to Engineering: American Guestworkers and the Law in Three Northeast Labor Markets,” supervised by Dr. Sally Merry. The research investigates what it means to be a non-resident “alien” worker, as well
as what kinds of legal forms are produced through non-resident workers’ rights mobilizations. This research is important because, since the 1970s, several million temporary “alien” workers enter and exit US labor markets annually across sectors, while more state law has emerged to govern their relations with their employers. Through fifteen months of fieldwork, the grantee undertook a legal ethnography following legal professionals as they served non-resident workers, engaged in administrative court-observation, interviewed workers and state bureaucrats (investigators and judges), and gathered hundreds of unpublished case-files from agencies hearing worker claims. When placed in comparison to historical research on past worker claims (1942-1990), this ethnography reveals that workers have lost power in the workplace over time. In the past, the state took a more interventionist role in managing foreign temporary employment relations. Today, as this structure has re-trenched, workers across sectors: 1) often do not consider themselves rights-bearing subjects; 2) do not challenge employers in significant areas of law and work, such as employment termination; 3) encounter a greater range of problems with labor contractors operating in the new privatized framework; and 4) generally lose in court.

RISA D. CROMER, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Of Bio-Valuables and Adoptable Children: The Politics of Resurrecting Frozen Human Embryos in the United States,” supervised by Dr. Katherine Verdery. This project dedicated fourteen months in California to studying a new ethnographic object -- frozen human embryos -- to trace the political, cultural, legal, and moral implications that their “lives” and futures entail in the contemporary United States. Each primary field site -- an embryo adoption program, and a university-based tissue bank and stem-cell research institute -- represents a solution for remaining embryos after IVF. What might these putatively opposing sites -- one utilizing embryos for research; one committed to giving embryos a chance to be born -- have in common? Three qualitative methods elicited data for this project: archival research, participant observation, and semi-structured ethnographic interviews. These methods helped elucidate how remaining embryos after IVF are materially and symbolically detached from their IVF origins as fertility patients make embryo disposition decisions. They also outline social networks and key actors involved in the practices that facilitate the movement of embryos from freezers to wombs, labs, and waste bins. Research gathered puts into relief the relations, conditions, and histories that enliven frozen embryos in diverse ways and contributes significantly toward understanding of how frozen embryos’ futures became political and with what effects.

MAGGIE DICKINSON, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Re-Calibrating the Welfare State: The Politics of Food Insecurity in New York City,” supervised by Dr. Leith Mullings. This ethnography of food insecurity in North Brooklyn found that, despite the growth of state and private charitable food aid, the resources that currently exist in this area are inadequate for preventing food insecurity, particularly for those families and individuals who are unemployed or marginally employed. The work-first orientation of welfare policy, codified in the 1996 welfare reform legislation, continues to impact people’s abilities to access food aid, making it far more difficult for families and individuals who are unemployed or who rely on cash welfare benefits to maintain a Food Stamp case than for families where at least one household member is employed. These findings reflect a broader, neoliberal approach to urban poverty governance based on the idea that poverty should be dealt with by encouraging poor and working class people to
participate in the labor market through a system of state-administered incentives and punishments. It finds that food aid programs based on this model are inadequate at preventing food insecurity for the poorest urban dwellers and that food program recipients, working with community-based organizations and anti-hunger advocates, have begun to challenge this approach to providing food aid.

ALANA LEE GLASER, then a student at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, received funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Francophone African Women’s Domestic Labor: Migration, Workplace Politics, and Cross-Ethnic Alliances in New York,” supervised by Dr. Micaela de Leonardo. Building on political-economic and feminist scholarship on the positioning of migrant domestic labor in the contemporary global neoliberal era, this dissertation research provides an ethnographic study of the routine and often invisible labor market participation of West African women in New York City’s low-income service and caregiving sectors in positions such as childcare, home healthcare, and hair braiding. It simultaneously attends to the New York City domestic worker movement at a critical moment in its history, as New York State passed the Domestic Worker Bill of Rights, the nation’s first-ever legislation granting basic workplace protection to home-based workers. The findings are based on more than two years of deep-immersion participant observation in New York and short-term research trips alongside interlocutors to Mali and Senegal, as well as in-depth, institutional ethnography within labor, activist, cultural, and religious organizations throughout New York City. Drawing upon roughly 100 oral history interviews, this ethnography demonstrates the ways in which domestic work both constrains and empowers women workers, while exigencies of migration status, poverty, racism, and gender oppression complicate both their daily lives and activist inclinations.

NAOMI GLENN-LEVIN, then a student at University of California, Santa Cruz, California, was awarded funding in May 2010 to aid research on “Translating Care: Foster Placements and Bureaucratic Collaborations,” supervised by Dr. Donald L. Brenneis. This project, based on twelve months of ethnographic research, examines the entanglement of transnational families with the U.S. child welfare system at the US-México border. It examines decisions made about child removal and custody, asking how structures of race, citizenship, and nationality inform determinations about proper parents, ideal homes, and state responsibility for minor citizens. This research contends that the lack of communication between two legal systems -- dependency law, which governs child welfare, and immigration law -- creates a situation where families entangled simultaneously in both systems are subject to the translation of immigration policies into categories of neglect and abuse employed by child welfare authorities. This research asks, what sorts of translations occur that remake immigration actions -- such as detention and deportation -- into instances of “bad” parenting? How do child welfare’s categories lead to the termination of parental rights despite international laws protecting children’s and family’s rights? This project presents an analysis of the structural violence inflicted on families at the intersection of immigration law and child welfare policy. It considers the family as a locus for interrogating notions of citizenship and the state, and a crucial site where ideals of belonging and exclusion are produced and reinforced.

HARMONY GOLDBERG, then a student at the City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “The Making of the Service Working Classes: Multi-National Worker Organizing in New York’s Low-Wage Service Industries,” supervised by Dr. Leith Mullings. The grantee conducted a twelve-month ethnographic study of the work of Domestic Workers United (DWU), a
grassroots organization of Caribbean and Latina nannies, housecleaners, and elderly care providers in New York City. In 2010, Domestic Workers United won a historic legislative victory in New York State, which ended the longstanding exclusion of domestic workers from labor rights and employment protections. However, the highly decentralized, informal, and privatized nature of the domestic work industry made it difficult to enforce these new-won rights in a substantive way. This study followed DWU’s work in the year after the Bill of Rights victory, tracing the organizing methodologies that the organization developed in order to enforce these new-won rights and to win more substantive gains in the lives of domestic workers in New York City. Challenging the historic assertion that the domestic work industry is “unorganizable,” this study suggests that not only is it possible to effectively organize domestic workers but that the political methodologies that they are developing suggest the directions in which the broader workers movement in the United States needs to transform if it is to remain relevant to contemporary workers.

MIRANDA S. GUARINO, then a student at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, received funding in May 2009 to aid research on “Musical Performance, Social Order, and Mystical Spirituality in Two North American Benedictine Monasteries,” supervised by Dr. Michelle Kisliuk. During one year of field research with Benedictine monks in Vermont and Quebec, the grantee examined the interface between musical performance, monastic social order, and mystical spiritual experience. Research points to a mutually constitutive relationship between these three processes, and asks how does musical performance structure a monastic community, and how does the structure of the community influence musical performance? Further, how does this relationship foster a specifically Benedictine spiritual experience and religious life? The grantee addressed these questions through a study of two North American monasteries: one embracing Latin Gregorian chant and hierarchical social order; the other embracing vernacular folk music and egalitarian social order. Findings suggest that, while musical and social processes are flexible, this does not point to flexibility in foundational Benedictine spiritual sensibilities. Instead, there are multiple paths that insiders recognize as pointing toward a singular Benedictine way of life. These paths are defined by the rich interaction of musical performance, social order, and mystical spirituality.

RODOLFO HERNANDEZ CORCHADO, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, received a grant in May 2010 to aid research on “Mexican Indigenous Migrants in New York City: On the Cross of Inequality and Ethnic Stratification,” supervised by Dr. Michael L. Blim. For this research observation, informal and formal interviews, and oral life stories were conducted in New York City with indigenous Mixteco and Mestizo migrants from the Montana region in Mexico. Evidence was gathered in three different New York City neighborhoods, where a majority of Guerrerenses have settled, and are now being incorporated into the labor process mainly as undocumented workers. In these places they have begun to create their own religious, communitarian, and recreational institutions for collective organization. As part of this research, more than 150 formal interviews were conducted to create life stories and examine the different process of labor and migrant incorporation that exists within a segment of the Mexican migrant stream that is previously differentiated in terms of ethnicity and class.

DR. SARAH HORTON, University of Colorado, Denver, Colorado, received a Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship in April 2010 to aid research and writing on “Medical Entrepreneurs: Middle Class Americans in the Medical Borderlands.” Research examines the way that middle class Americans have increasingly adopted medical travel as a response
to the neoliberal restructuring of the U.S. health care system. The project explores the way that the restructuring of the U.S. health care system has instilled a neoliberal spirit of medical entrepreneurialism towards health among middle class Americans, and proposes that medical travel is an expression of this spirit. The grantee has examined this through two manuscripts. The first, “Medical Entrepreneurs: Middle Class Americans in the Medical Borderlands,” examines middle class Americans’ seeking of pharmaceuticals in Mexico as a response to their under- and un-insurance, and shows that middle class Americans increasingly self-diagnose and self-medicate as they internalize the neoliberal ethic of being an “informed consumer.” A second manuscript, “Medical Tourism and the Health Care ‘Gray Market’ in Baja California,” examines the contradictions of medical tourism as a development strategy through the lens of bariatric surgery. This study shows that even as economists tout medical tourism as a means of gainful economic development—and of diverting black market economic flows to legal channels—it has also led to an expansion of “gray market,” or illicit, medical treatments.

BRANDI JO JANSSEN, then a student at University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, received a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Producing Local Food and Local Knowledge: The Experience of Iowa Farmers,” supervised by Dr. Michael S. Chibnik. The growing demand for local food can be seen in national increases in farmers markets attendance and Community Supported Agriculture memberships. The local food movement, often framed in terms of consumers, has implications for agricultural production in the US, particularly in states like Iowa with strong connections to large-scale, industrialized agriculture. Local food production is significantly different than most conventional, industrialized farming in that it requires producers to grow, market, and distribute a variety of products. Because producers of local food engage in different activities than conventional farmers, they also need different kinds of knowledge to be successful. This project examined how producers of local food in eastern Iowa use and apply the various sources of knowledge available to them. Iowa’s long agricultural history contributes to many sources of agricultural knowledge including scientific based extension services, farming organizations, and historic family knowledge. Applying a variety of ethnographic methods, including in-depth interviews and participant observation, this project viewed the local food system in Iowa from the producers’ perspective. In particular, this study examined the process of “scaling-up” to meet larger, institutional markets, the challenges associated with obtaining adequate labor, and the relationships that local food farmers have with their industrial neighbors.

ERIC PLEMONS, then a student at University of California, Berkeley, California, received funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Making the Gendered Face,” supervised by Dr. Cori Hayden. Facial Feminization Surgery (FFS)—a set of bone and soft tissue surgical procedures intended to feminize the faces of male-to-female transwomen—is predicated upon the notion that femininity is a measurable quality that can be both reliably assessed and surgically reproduced. Through ethnographic field research in the offices and operating rooms of two prominent FFS surgeons, this research seeks to understand what “feminization” means as a target of surgical intervention. Constituted by a tension in which “feminization” sometimes refers to the biologically female and other times to the desirably beautiful, FFS emerges here as both an art and a science. Through its complicated relationship to the contested status of transsexualism and its surgical treatment, FFS offers a distinct way to reconsider well-worn debates about bodily cultivation and the literal creation of the gendered body.
MICHAEL R. POLSON, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “The Shifting Governance of Marijuana in Northern California: Medicalization, Illegality, and Practices of Citizenship,” supervised by Dr. Leith Mullings. This project analyzed the elaboration and negotiation of social relations and practices in the emerging medical and underground marijuana markets of northern California. It sought to understand the inter-relationship of policy production, activism, economic activity, and everyday practices of those related to marijuana in order to decipher the broader regional transformations in the political economy of marijuana. During fieldwork, substantial shifts occurred as the federal government intervened in the medical marijuana distribution system, thus altering marijuana’s institutional composition, commodity chain flow, medical significance, il/legal status, and governance. Because the political terrain continues to change, this project focused on the dynamics of these changes, particularly on several key and enduring phenomena, including: tensions over modes of distribution; the significance of marijuana land transactions and agricultural practices; intermeshing of medical and “recreational” marijuana markets; differing modes of governance; and biomedical vs. medicinal-herbal understandings of marijuana. The summation of these factors creates a picture of a regional economy in transformation with widespread implications for the War on Drugs, understandings of the relation between plants, medicine, and the body, and the power of law and emergent modes of governance and political activism.

DVERA I. SAXTON, then a student at American University, Washington, DC, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Producers of the Sustainable: Organic Production and Farmworker Health,” supervised by Dr. Brett Williams. This research explores the relationships between immigrant farmworker health, the organization of farm labor management on different kinds of farms, and the structures of agricultural markets and state policies in California. Semi-structured interviews and observations of occupationally injured and ill farmworkers revealed that broader, structurally based practices and legal policies -- as they are designed and influenced by agricultural corporate power -- not only inform on-farm occupational inequalities and health problems, but also contribute to farmworkers’ lives in off-farm contexts. These processes were more significant than organic and conventional farming practices. An interrogation of the workers’ compensation insurance and pesticide approval systems in the state of California highlight processes of contestation that persistently deny access to health benefits by negating the lived experiences and embodied knowledge of sick and injured farmworkers. Farmworker communities encompass many layers of vulnerabilities, including race, gender, work status, class, and state of health. These vulnerabilities are exacerbated by on-farm practices as well as off-farm relationships and structures. A number of social services and non-profits are often funded by the agricultural industry through corporate social responsibility and philanthropy programs. While mitigating some suffering, such problems fail to address the root sources of farmworker health problems. Consequently, many farmworkers develop their own coping strategies including innovative, non-capitalist cross-border exchanges, which are not limited to sending monetary remittances to Mexico. These range from emotional and social support, medical care, seed exchange, child and elder care, and alternative income generating strategies.

JEFFREY J. SCHIFFER, while a student at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, New York, was awarded a grant in December 2010 to support ethnographic research on “The Everyday Work of Achieving and Reproducing Indigeneity: Cases from the Northwest Coast,” supervised by Dr. Hervé Varenne. The one-year period of research
comprised the primary phase of the grantee’s dissertation research conducted in a large Aboriginal organization for child and family services in Vancouver, British Columbia -- the largest of its kind in Canada. In the midst of an organization providing child welfare and family support services to Aboriginal peoples from more than 100 communities across Canada, the grantee queried the process by which particular discourses, concepts, and practices are achieved and reproduced as indigenous in the diverse urban setting of Vancouver. Primarily by means of interviews, focus groups, and participation in ceremonies, feasts, special events, and daily activities within the organization, the grantee engaged his research participants in a collaborative exploration of the manner by which contemporary Aboriginal organizations for Aboriginal child and family have been and continue to be shaped by inherited colonial structures, histories of residential schooling, policies banning indigenous cultural practices, and attempted cultural genocide.

SAUL GOODMAN SCHWARTZ, then a student at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, was awarded funding in April 2011 to aid research on “Linguistics as a Vocation: Professional Legitimacy in Endangered Language Documentation,” supervised by Dr. Rena Lederman. In a time of unprecedented language loss on a global scale, endangered language documentation promotes the scientific and moral value of languages and the cultures they encode as essential elements of human diversity. Language documentation is both a research paradigm in linguistics and part of a broader social movement to preserve endangered languages. Ethnographic research on documentation demonstrates that language ideologies (beliefs and feelings about language) mediate social organization and knowledge production in this subfield of linguistics through complex processes of ideological feedback. Language ideologies organize practitioners and audiences from various backgrounds into networks of collaboration and evaluation. However, these networks of expertise in turn produce new linguistic and social knowledge that can transform the ideologies, identities, and solidarities of their members and constituencies. Central to language documentation ideologies are complementary and conflicting conceptions of time and technology, which also animate socially strategic discourses about motivation and expertise in particular practitioner-audience interactions. These findings are based on participant-observation fieldwork with a Siouan language documentation and revitalization project, participation in linguistics conferences and summer programs, interviews with practitioners involved in Siouan documentation, and archival research on the history of Siouan linguistics.

AARON T. SEAMAN, then a student at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded funding in October 2010 to aid research on “Experts of Experience: The Production of Lay Expertise among Family Caregivers of People with Dementia,” supervised by Dr. Jennifer Cole. This project examined “caregiving” as a historically contingent type of expertise among people with young-onset dementia and their families in the United States. Ethnographic fieldwork was conducted over fifteen months in multiple locations, including a memory clinic, support groups, conference and trainings, and families’ homes. Preliminary findings suggest multiple ways that family members work to remain recognizable in the midst of changes that threaten to render them incommensurable with their own conceptions of what it means to be a family. First, biological changes experienced by the person diagnosed with dementia destabilize the very grounds upon which family as a sociocultural unit is constituted and maintained. Second, families are forced to recalibrate their relations as they are disarticulated into the component parts of “person with dementia” and “family caregiver” by biomedical and popular discourses. Third, while tending to one’s health historically fell under the domain of gendered domestic duties, “caregiving” has become a domain of expertise foreign to familial relations and practices. As such, when families are
recruited to the caregiving role by a healthcare system steeped in a state moment of retrenchment, they find themselves unable to reconcile the work of medicalized “caring” with the recognized practices that constitute family.

BOONE W. SHEAR, then a student at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, was awarded a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “Making the Green Economy: Culture, Politics, and Economic Desire in Massachusetts,” supervised by Dr. Elizabeth L. Krause. The fieldwork explored how groups of activists are imagining, responding to, and enacting the economy in relation to green economy discourse in Massachusetts. In particular, the project investigated economic subjectivity among green economy coalition members, focusing on the conditions under which both capitalist and non-capitalist desires and practices emerge. This engaged research project combined participant observation while working alongside activists and organizers, with semi-structured and informal interviews in order to better understand how different economic dispositions and desires emerge, are closed-off, or are enacted. The research revealed that interest in economic innovation, experimentation, and organizing around alternative economic projects -- what Gibson-Graham and others have described as “non-capitalism” -- appears to be increasing among green coalition members. Though preliminary research suggests that discursive interventions can lead to new economic identities and desires, the research also shows that a politics of non-capitalist possibility might also be able to utilize capitalist and anti-capitalist desires in the construction of on-the-ground, non-capitalist enterprises and relations. More broadly, this research intends to expand understandings around the complex relationship between structure, subjectivity, and agency.

DEVORAH SHUBOWITZ, then a student at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, received a grant in April 2011 to aid research on “The Effects of Liberal Jewish Women’s Historically Newfound Sacred Text Study,” supervised by Dr. Sara Friedman. Since the 1970s feminist movement and over the past forty years, gender egalitarian religious Jewish communities have flourished in the United States. In these communities, women study sacred texts and perform rituals that were historically male-only practices. Currently, in New York, women fill egalitarian rabbinic schools, adult education programs, and yeshivas to study male-authored religious law and hermeneutical texts. These biblical, talmudic, and Jewish legal writings describe, sexualize, and analogize women within moral-legal-godly frameworks as conceived by generations of males over thousands of years. Egalitarian institutions widely accept the male dominance of the texts as a historical reality while positioning the same texts and rituals as ideal “gender-neutral” standards, instructing men and women alike to propel this canon into contemporary relevance. The project analyzes egalitarian interpretive practices in different educational contexts and women’s interpretive processes in their study and daily lives. Understanding women’s interpretive tensions and norms reveals how and why four generations of women who identify with liberal values of free choice, equal opportunity, and personal meaning shape their voices, embodiments, politics, relationships, and selves in dialogue with a canon that assumes and prescribes male dominance in religious, legal, and social life. Placing women’s sacred text study in the context of the 1970s Jewish feminists’ call for women’s equal access to male religious practice reveals the “gender trouble” that results from welding ideologies of unimpeded interpretive freedom with ideologies that assign a male-authored religious canon the status to speak for all.

KAJA TRETJAK, then a student at City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, New York, received funding in October 2009 to aid research on “U.S. Conservatism
in Decline? Power, Governance, and Knowledge Production in the Contemporary University,” supervised by Dr. Leith Mullings. This project explores the resurgence of libertarianism in the US, particularly among youth, examining a rapidly expanding transnational network of thousands of activists connected through student groups, community organizations, and established classical liberal institutions, as well as through social media and a vast array of online forums. Funding supported twelve months of in-depth ethnographic fieldwork in Princeton, New Jersey, and Austin, Texas. Research included attendance of over 150 libertarian and conservative events; over 50 unstructured and semi-structured interviews as well as six life-history interviews, and countless hours of informal day-to-day interactions. Preliminary analysis highlights the importance of the libertarian movement’s internal heterogeneity and the emergence of liminal spaces between “right” and “left” political formations through which participants challenge existing political economic arrangements and construct utopian visions of possible futures. Ongoing analysis will provide additional frameworks to understand how such spaces emerge from a shifting economic, political, and cultural context through investigating how the everyday practices of participants reproduce and contest established institutions and trends. By rethinking the translation of political knowledge, the intersection of social movements and political rationalities, and the role of expertise in these processes, the project will contribute to U.S. ethnography, political anthropology, and social movement studies.

HANNAH VOORHEES, then a student at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was awarded a grant in October 2010 to aid research on “Co-Management of Alaskan Marine Mammals: Dilemmas of Indigenous Legitimacy in the Age of Environmental Risk,” supervised by Dr. Adriana Petryna. The research focuses on collaborations between Alaska Native subsistence hunters and governmental biologists conducting marine mammal research in the Bering Strait region amidst accelerating loss of arctic sea ice. The mandates of the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act have increased scientific demand for information about the changing Arctic environment. Biologists seek the knowledge, skills, and cooperation of Inupiat and Siberian Yupiit hunters, who are uniquely skilled at locating, capturing, and tagging animals traditionally harvested for subsistence. These skills, along with Traditional Ecological Knowledge and community support, have become valuable resources in a new Arctic “economy of loss.” Environmental monitoring is a valuable asset, and increasingly, a subjective mode of being on the land (and sea) for Alaska Natives. Yet hunters, scientists, and bureaucrats continue to negotiate a “fair price” for indigenous contributions, in both economic and political terms.

Oceania and the Pacific:

MICHELLE MacCARTHY, then a student at University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand, was awarded funding in May 2008 to aid research on “Contextualizing Authenticity: Cultural Tourism in the Trobriand Islands, Papua New Guinea,” supervised by Dr. Mark W. Busse. This project entailed eighteen months of fieldwork on the island of Kiriwina in the Trobriand Islands of Papua New Guinea. Ethnographic research with both Trobriand Islanders and tourists facilitated an examination of how both parties understand and manipulate notions of tradition and authenticity in the milieu of cultural tourism. This research explored, on the one hand, how Trobrianders enact “Trobriandness” to tourists, and their own ideas about the importance of tradition for Trobriand life and for presentation to tourists. It also examined the ways in which tourists exoticize persistent notions of “the
primitive” and narrate their experiences in terms of cultural tourism as a lens into a more “traditional, authentic” way of life. By considering various aspects of life that have been commoditized for tourist consumption, including material culture, dance and performance, and village life, this project analyzes the discourses of both tourists and Trobrianders as a way of understanding the intercultural encounter as it is seen by both parties, with a particular focus on how ideas of authenticity are constructed and are essential to both Trobriand and touristic notions of “culture.”

DR. MARK S. MOSKO, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, was awarded funding in October 2009 to aid research on “Trobriand Chieftainship and Social Change: New Directions in the Study of Trobriand Agency and History.” This Project consisted of eleven months of archival research at two locations -- the Digital Ethnographic Project at California State University at Sacramento, and the Melanesian Archives at the University of California at San Diego -- concerning the renowned Tabalu “Paramount Chieftainship” system of the Trobriand Islands, Papua New Guinea, and related institutions. Adopting the perspective of the “New Melanesian Ethnography” (NME), which has revolutionized much of the ethnographic reporting on the cultures and societies of the South Pacific, access to the wealth of DEP and Melanesian Archive holdings has greatly facilitated the reinterpretation of numerous dimensions of classic Trobriand ethnography and the analysis of post-contact history and social change, including: the discovery of a diarchic system of chieftainship similar to that found through Polynesia; confirmation of the applicability of the NME model of personal agency to Trobriand chieftainship and leadership; the magico-ritual basis of chieftainship; reconfigurations of indigenous Trobriand cosmology; revised understanding of indigenous notions of procreation; botanical metaphors and imagery throughout cultural and social contexts; early encounters with whalers, traders, missionaries and government agents; and social changes resulting from commoditization, the introduction of Western clothing styles, Christian proselytization, and the imposition of colonial government.

General

DR. MARGARET LOCK, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, received a grant in April 2009 to aid research on “Biosociality and Genetic Testing for Susceptibility Genes.” Social science research about individual genetic testing has been carried out almost exclusively in connection with single gene disorders. The focus of such research has been on postulated changes in identity after being informed of genotype results, and on advocacy activities undertaken by groups of people known to be at risk for specific diseases. In contrast, this project examined the impact of emerging knowledge about susceptibility genes, by far the majority of active genes in the human genome. A new technology, GWAS (Genome-Wide Association Studies), involving many thousands of samples of DNA is being used globally in an effort to better understand Alzheimer’s Disease genetics. Involved scientists, clinicians, and AD advocacy representatives were interviewed about the strengths and weaknesses of this new technology. The interviews made it clear that GWAS findings thus far are very inconclusive, and every interviewed individual argued that genetic testing for the late-onset common form of AD should not be carried out other than in research settings. It is evident that creating risk estimates for complex diseases such as AD based on genotyping alone is not realistic, with important implications for anthropological research in connection with the social impact of genetic testing.
CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

“Description and Interpretation of Hominin Postcranial Remains from Sterkfontein; in honor of Charles Lockwood”

January 9-14, 2010, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Organizers: Brian Richmond (George Washington U.), Carol Ward (U. Missouri), and Bernhard Zipfel (U. Witwatersrand)

Over 150 hominin postcranial fossils have been catalogued from the site of Sterkfontein, South Africa, representing virtually all elements of the skeleton. While some of these are familiar to specialists, most have not been systematically published and analyzed. These fossils are important because they represent most of the evidence of the postcranial skeleton of Australopithecus africanus, a species that was likely close to the ancestry of Homo. Some studies have suggested that the postcranial anatomy of A. africanus and A. afarensis (Lucy's species) was very similar, while others have suggested some important differences. Understanding the variation among hominins is critical to how we interpret the evolution of human bipedalism, and the link between Australopithecus species and the origin of genus Homo. This workshop brought together experts on early hominin postcranial anatomy, and the site and taxonomic context, to describe and analyze the Sterkfontein fossils, exchange ideas, and foster innovative and internationally collaborative research. The workshop contributed to anthropology in a tangible way, by producing a major edited monograph, currently in preparation, on the anatomy of the Sterkfontein postcranial collection; stimulating further research on A. africanus and the evolution of the human skeleton in general; and, finally, strengthening ties between scholars in South Africa and the broader international research community.

“Third World Council of Associations of Anthropology (WCAA)”

August 25, 2010, Maynooth, Ireland

Organizers: Laurent Bazin (CNRS, Paris) and Andrew Spiegel (U. Cape Town)

Funding allowed the World Council of Associations of Anthropology (WCAA) to organize a workshop within a larger gathering for the Congress of the European Association of Social Anthropologists being held at Maynooth, Ireland. The workshop’s goal was to stimulate a common epistemological reflection among the WCAA members about the diversity of national situations when considering the development of national schools of anthropology in relation to their historical and political backgrounds as well as with the emergence of specific interests raised by local society. Workshop participants gave an overview of the state of anthropology in their countries, analyzing the context in which specific concerns and methodologies were elaborated. The workshop examined the state of anthropology in such contexts as Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, the USA, the former Yugoslavia.
“Passages and Afterworlds: Anthropological Perspectives on Death and Mortuary Rituals in the Caribbean”

*June 6-8, 2011, The University of the West Indies, Barbados*

Organizers: Maarit Forde (U. West Indies-St. Augustine) and Yanique Hume (U. West Indies-Cave Hill)

The workshop facilitated discussion between anthropologists whose work has addressed ideas and practices related to death in various parts of the Caribbean. It brought together seventeen anthropologists from the Caribbean and the US at different stages of their careers. In addition to the workshop participants, an audience of 30 graduate students and faculty members from the University of the West Indies were in attendance to listen to the presentations and to take part in the Q&A sessions. Each presenter was allocated 45 minutes, of which 20 minutes was used towards the presentation, leaving 25 minutes for questions and comments. At the end of each day, Professors Aisha Khan and Richard Price discussed the presentations. The scholarly exchange was genuinely fruitful and thought-provoking, with many of the papers addressing important theoretical discussions relevant not only to Caribbean studies, but to anthropology in general. While discussions focused on important matters and problems in the contemporary Caribbean (including high murder rates, the development of ritual practice in the face of high emigration figures and active transnational connections, and the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti), the perspectives presented make original and significant contributions to anthropological theorizing on death and its rituals.

“Indigenous Literacy in Colonial Mesoamerica”

*June 15-17, 2011, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island (USA)*

Organizer: Kathryn Sampeck (Illinois State U.)

Nineteen scholars of several Mesoamerican regions gathered to debate ideas about history and role of literacy in Mexico and Central America. Literacy in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica has a long and fascinating history that continued to flourish in new ways after Spanish contact. Some ways of communicating about history, lineage, territory, economy, and belief, such as painted bark paper books (codices) were suppressed or eliminated as a matter of Spanish colonial policies, while other genres, such as legal pleadings written in indigenous Mesoamerican languages, blossomed. The very existence of Mesoamerican writing challenged European ideas about the nature of writing and civilization. This workshop asked participants to bridge the span between pre-Columbian and postconquest writing, to consider indigenous and Spanish writing as an interactive nexus of literacy that included illiterate participants, and to consider the ways in which knowledge, power, identity, and memory are rooted in conceptions of reading and writing. Research time was scheduled as part of the workshop, and during this time, a long-lost system of counting in the Mayan language of Kaqchikel was rediscovered. Ajpub’ Pablo García Ixmata’ will help communities restore it to a living part of the language once again.
Mesoamerica is understood as a geographically diverse area with shared cultural behaviors characterized by social complexity. Mesoamerican cultural “traditions” are associated with sedentism, social hierarchy, economic complexity and exchange, and a fundamentally consistent religious system. One result of this perspective is that cultural antecedents of ranked village communities, societies defined by hunting, foraging and low-level food production, and with unknown historical language affiliations are viewed through different analytical approaches. As a consequence, deep-time perspectives of developmental trajectories taken by groups prior to thresholds of complexity remain beyond most inquiries. The primary objective of this workshop was expanding the anthropological view of the origins of cultural systems in Mesoamerica. Presentations and discussions of recent and ongoing research showed how initial human occupations and millennia of patterned adaptations contributed to the emergence of cultural traditions in what anthropologists recognize, later, as Mesoamerica. Over three days, a community of scholars that included advanced students and established researchers exchanged data, ideas, and perspectives. Topics that were discussed during the workshop were shared with local students and the interested public in a closing symposium.

Over 100 attendees convened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to discuss paleontological and archaeological research in the region and to explore strategies for overcoming the particular challenges facing the paleosciences in Africa. Themes of podium presentations included a wide range of research on paleontology, archaeology, paleoenvironments, heritage management, comparative anatomy and issues related to public outreach and education. Paleoscientists, government officials, and representatives of non-governmental organizations from the continent delivered keynote speeches aimed at addressing the disconnect between researchers and policy makers, and the responsibility for researchers to engage local communities where paleontological and archaeological work is being done. The need for educational opportunities was particularly stressed, and the meeting itself represented a great accomplishment in making African paleostudies accessible to African students and young scholars, many of whom have little to no resources which would have allowed them to attend conferences elsewhere. Finally, post-conference excursion was organized to Melka Kunture, where remains of Homo erectus as well as abundant stone artifacts have been recovered and to a megalithic site of Tiya.
“Developing International Geoarchaeology”  
September 20-24, 2011, University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Organizers: Calla McNamee (U. Tennessee) and Boyce N. Driskell (U. Tennessee)

The 5th periodic Developing International Geoarchaeology (DIG) conference, as the only conference series dedicated to the promotion of international collegiality within the field of Geoarchaeology, provides a venue for international researchers to present and discuss a broad range of geoarchaeological topics. Through the application of geomorphology, soil sciences, sedimentology, petrography and archaeometry, geoarchaeologists address questions pertaining to land use practices, human-environmental interactions, landscape reconstruction, site formation processes, and trade and exchange. Although the methodologies within the earth sciences are theoretically universal, their applications vary depending upon local geomorphic, environmental, and archaeological contexts. By pulling together researchers from multiple regions, DIG promotes dialogue on new and alternative approaches to geoarchaeological problems. The specific goals of the 5th DIG conference were to: 1) explore current and innovative geoarchaeological methods and techniques; 2) discuss the challenges in applying these techniques to various geographic and archaeological settings; and 3) examine the application of earth science methodologies to broad anthropological questions. The conference was able to bring together participants from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Russia, Greece, Mexico, the Philippines, Japan, Brazil, the Ukraine, and Vietnam.

“Fish and Fishing: Archaeological, Anthropological, Taphonomical, and Ecological Perspectives”  
October 23-30, October 2011, Jerusalem, Haifa, and Eilat, Israel  
Organizers: Irit Zohar, Rivka Rabinovich and Naama Goren-Inbar (Hebrew U.)

The 16th meeting of the Fish Remains Working Group (FRWG) was the first archaeozoological meeting ever held in Israel. Surrounded by diverse aquatic habitats, coastal and inland archaeological sites dating from the Lower Palaeolithic, Israel presents an ideal place for a thorough discussion on the role of fish and aquatic habitats in human evolution and fish-based economies. For these reasons, the meeting was held in Jerusalem, Haifa, and Eilat, and drew together a diverse group of 64 scholars from 24 countries, with training in archaeology, zoology, palaeontology, geology, history, and anthropology. The communications were of great interest and included 40 oral presentations and a session with 12 posters. A special session was dedicated to the memory of Prof. Oscar Polaco, from Mexico, who passed away in October 2009. The topic of fish exploitation, fishing and seafaring along the Mediterranean Sea included a visit to Mount Carmel caves and an ichthyological workshop. This allowed the participants to collect fish for their reference collections. The Red Sea ichthyofauna was explored by visiting the Dolphin Reef and the Underwater Marine Park in Eilat. The meeting encouraged rich and productive formal and informal dialogues among the participants and across disciplines, and exposed students to new advances in the study of fish remains.
“Pathways to Power: The Emergence of Political Authority and Hierarchy in the 6th-5th millennia BC Near East- Comparative Perspectives”

November 4-5, 2011, the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Organizers: Gil Stein, Abbas Alizadeh, and Yorke Rowan (Oriental Institute)

This conference brought together 20 leading international researchers to compare the development of incipient complex societies across the Near East, in Egypt, the southern Levant, Syria, Anatolia, southern Caucasus, Mesopotamia, and Iran during the 6th-5th millennia BC. The conference’s goal was to gain a synthetic understanding of the different pathways by which leadership, economic stratification, and political structures developed and laid the foundations for the emergence of the first state societies. The tremendous range of variation in these polities suggests that there were marked inter-regional differences in the processes and strategies through which leadership, hierarchy, and socio-economic differentiation emerged and were formalized. Participants examined the emergence of complexity in a comparative framework to identify processual similarities while also recognizing multiple developmental pathways, and the importance of historical contingency in each region. The main conclusions were: 1) that complexity developed gradually in the 5th millennium, with a major acceleration in the early 4th millennium; 2) there were multiple developmental pathways that varied by region and included ritual, long-distance exchange, and control over agro-pastoral production; 3) large scale warfare did not play a major developmental role until the later stages of the process -- in the mid 4th millennium, at the cusp of the actual emergence of the state.

“An Integration of Use-Wear and Residues Analysis for the Identification of the Function of Archaeological Stone Tools”

March 5-7, 2012, Sapienza University and the National Council of Research, Rome, Italy

Organizers: C. Lemorini (Sapienza U.) and S. Nunziante Cesaro (ISMN-CNR, SMATCH-ITA)

This international workshop focused on the integration of use-wear and residues analyses, and has been carried out due to a need of a standardized methodological framework in the discipline, which is currently lacking. In this regard, scholars coming from several countries composed the group of participants invited to join the workshop. The papers presented during the conference covered different themes related to the application of use-wear and residues analysis, and were not only restricted to prehistoric tools but, for instance, also included the production of ornamental implements. The workshop, diffused also in real time, had a large participation of Italian and foreigner students, post doc and researchers and it could be considered the first step toward a solid partnership between archaeologists and scientists involved in the functional analysis of prehistoric tools.

“European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association Conference”

March 25-28, 2012, Durham University, Durham, UK

Organizers: Jamshid Tehrani and Robert Barton (Durham U.)

The European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association (EHBEA) Conference brought together anthropologists, psychologists, linguists, and zoologists working within various traditions of evolutionary social science, including human behavioural ecology, evolutionary psychology and cultural evolution. The conference promoted dialogue and integration of
these approaches through minimal parallel sessions and world-leading plenary speakers promoted this research ethos. The scientific program comprised seven one-hour plenary presentations by world-leading researchers, 42 twenty-five-minute proffered presentations, and 80+ posters. In addition to the scientific program, conference delegates were entertained by a wine reception, a local-beer reception during poster viewing, an evolutionary rap performance, a river cruise, and a banquet in Durham Castle. Wenner-Gren support allowed the EHBEA to offer a special discounted rate to students. More than a hundred students attended, and were well represented in the talks and posters. The student experience was also enhanced by specially organized events, including a workshop (co-led by Prof. Aiello) on applying for grants (open to non-students too), and a student lunch.

**“Engaging Resources: New Anthropological Perspectives on Natural Resource Environments”**  
*April 12-14, 2012, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, Canada.*  
*Organizers: Gisa Weszkalnys (U. Exeter) and Tanya Richardson (Wilfrid Laurier U.)*

This colloquium aimed to address the persistent lack of a synthetic anthropological perspective on the formation, contestation, and materiality of natural resource environments. It brought together sixteen international scholars whose work has been characterized by a critical outlook on resource-related questions, in an effort to outline a systematic and sophisticated approach to the ways in which resources mediate social life in particular historical and geographical contexts. Participants presented cutting-edge research focused on the themes of abstraction, value, and potentiality, and drawing on a variety of cross-disciplinary insights. Instead of imposing a unified theoretical framework, the colloquium confirmed the richness of ethnographic accounts, thus positing a valuable counterpoint to conventional, reductive framings of resources in their commodified form. The participants emphasized the role played by the meaning-making practices of human actors as well as the ways in which human actors and material environments may be seen as co-constitutive of each other in such moments of interaction. The colloquium took an important first step towards exploring the precise nature of the affordances, qualities, and potentialities of resource materials, and in sketching the historical and ontological contours of their resourceness.

**“What’s New about ‘Parenting’? Comparative Studies in Kinship, Self, and Politics”**  
*April 15-18, 2012, University of Kent,*  
*Organizers: Charlotte Faircloth (U. Kent) and Diane Hoffman (U. Virginia)*

Drawing on perspectives from the new kinship studies, medical anthropology and reproduction, this workshop discussed the nascent “anthropology of parenting.” A trend towards “intensive” parenting has been widely noted by a range of social scientists working in middle class milieux across the UK, US, Australia and Canada, yet the ways in which parents’ and families’ experiences have been affected by this shift – in short, the transformation of ‘parent’ from a noun to a verb, ‘parenting’ – is not a topic, so far, that has been explored significantly within anthropology.

The workshop examined the sociocultural significance of “parenting” as a subject of professional expertise, and as an activity in which adults are increasingly expected to be emotionally absorbed and find personally fulfilling. Discussions helped locate “parenting”
as a central and contested site where parents’ and children’s personhood, family ties, and unequal political economic relations are (re) produced. While this ‘intensive parenting’ ideology has emerged from specific (middle-class) settings, workshop participants observed that it nevertheless has far-reaching implications both within and beyond these settings and therefore included issues concerning parenting, class and race -- in a range of ethnographic locales, from Europe, Canada and the US, as well non-Euro-American settings (including Turkey, Chile and Brazil) – within the discussions. By enabling us to come together at the University of Kent to discuss this volume, this workshop grant fostered an international community of scholars, and helped establish the ‘anthropology of parenting’ as a discrete disciplinary field.

“New Ethnoscapes of a Cosmopolitan Malaysia”
June 7-9, 2012, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur
Organizers: Julian Lee (Monash U.) and Gaik Cheng Khoo (Australian National U.)

This workshop brought together international and local scholars and researchers to examine a range of ethnoscapes in the urban Greater Klang Valley, Malaysia, that characterize Malaysia's globalized modernity. The project asked about the possibilities of conceptualizing Malaysian multiculturalism as more inclusive, by going beyond the Chinese-Malay-Indian-Dan Lain-Lain (Others) ethnic categories to encompass non-citizens such as migrant workers, refugees, traders, stateless persons, expat spouses, international students and marginalized “failed subjects” like Orang Asli. The broad scope of the study aims to cover identities from diverse classes, ethnicities, citizenship/country of origin and migration status in order to conceptualize different forms and modes of belonging and home-building; alternative ways of constructing subjectivity and rights for non-citizens with the view of seeing possible cosmopolitan solidarities forged between citizens and non-citizens. Examining work, play and family will uncover the extent of which the state interpellates these subjects through what Aihwa Ong calls “graduated zones of sovereignty.” By focusing on the everyday lives of these subjects, the organizers sought to show the complex and diverse processes whereby these subjects (often using the discourses of human rights, citizenship rights) find ways to define themselves as agents and to claim rights.

Low-Density Urbanism, Water Management, and Sustainability in the Tropics
July 7-12, 2012, Siem Reap, Cambodia
Organizers: Lisa J. Lucero (U. Illinois) and Roland Fletcher (U. Sydney)

The Maya of Central America (5th-9th century), the Khmer of Cambodia (9th-16th century), and the Sinhalese of Sri Lanka (4th B.C.-A.D. 11th century) created vast tropical cities and states—then kings faded away. Yet farmers adapted for millennia. This cross-cultural conference assessed the role of the relationship between water management and land management practices of ancient tropical low-density urban societies. Scholars working in different parts of the tropical world came together and presented papers, visited several ancient Khmer sites, and discussed the major similarities and differences in tropical societies in an attempt to go beyond making generalizations of past successes and failures and to gain lessons that are relevant for the present and the future, especially in terms of sustainable water management systems and agricultural practices. This conference was the first of a planned series of IHOPE (The Integrated History and future Of the People on Earth) conferences. IHOPE is an international organization consisting of a global network of
scholars who aim to reveal lessons from the past to ensure a sustainable future.

“Taking Stock: Anthropology, Craft and Artisans in the 21st Century”  
*July 26-27, 2012, Washington State University, Vancouver, Washington (USA)*  
Organizers: Clare Wilkinson-Weber and Alicia DeNicola (Washington Stat U., Vancouver)

This workshop's rationale was that close attention to the contexts in which craft is deployed both practically and discursively allows for sharpened insight into ongoing reconfigurations of labor, consumption, and exchange around the world. Sixteen scholars with research interests in material and digital domains from Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Europe presented work on issues of authorship and ownership in craft; the inculcation of discriminations in craft production, consumption and exchange; the crafting of imagination alongside the crafting of materials and environments; and the complexities associated with mobility in both material and digital objects, and their makers. Rather than seeking to define craft, participants set out to explore craft as a discursive practice that is marshaled and used in different yet interconnected ways. Three themes emerged to unify and connect participants’ research: claims (to authenticity, to aesthetic superiority, to value); contingencies (the particularities of material, time, and heuristics in craft); and conflicts (battles over nomenclature and status -- designer vs. artisan for example -- and access to cultural, social, and actual capital). These themes, alongside the argument for inquiring into the strategic aspects of professing or consuming craft, will be elaborated in a forthcoming volume.

“Paleoethnobotanical Studies in South America: Problems and Updates”  
*August 20-25, 2012, Universidad Internacional SEK, Santiago, Chile*  
Organizers: Veronica Lema (U. Nacional de La Plata) and Carolina Belmar Pantelis (U. Buenos Aires)

This workshop brought together researchers from eleven different countries – Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay, and the US -- to present and discuss different lines of investigations, with reference to methodological aspects of Paleo-ethnobotanical research. The primary objective of the meeting was to present various methodological issues and discuss their inherent problems with the aim of arriving at a group consensus if not an actual solution. Discussions were limited to issues common to Paleoethnobotanical research with reference to the following fields: 1) carpological evidence; 2) microfossils; 3) wood, anthracology, monocotyledons; 4) reference collection; and 5) actualistic studies (ethnobotany-ethnoarchaeology). Five sessions were organized around these topics and were structured by presentations and laboratory work. The greatest achievement of this workshop was the consensus of the necessity of sharing the information and discussions with researchers of other geographical areas, which materialized creating of workgroups that will continue the investigation of specific topics and the existence of a space that allows the circulation of the information generated by the different groups, which would be a webpage.
18th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists  
*August 29 – September 1, 2012, Helsinki, Finland*  
Organizers: Mika Lavento (U. Helsinki) and Friedrich Luth (German Archaeological Institute, Berlin)

With over 1100 participants from over 40 countries, the 18th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) in Helsinki was one of the largest in the history of the EAA. The main themes of the meeting were heritage management, interpreting the archaeological record and maritime archaeology. The meeting included the MERC (Medieval Europe Research Congress) and therefore welcomed an increased number of Medievalists – a sector in archaeology that was up to this year rather underrepresented in the EAA. A strong section on Medieval archaeology has been brought together, enriching the scientific program and providing a new platform for the exchange of research activities across Europe. We hope this novelty may become a standard and integral part of the EAA structure. The annual meetings of the EAA form the main forum for EAA members to interact. The EAA conferences aim to bring together archaeologists from all parts of Europe and beyond with the purpose of exchanging ideas, developing partnerships, stimulating academic debate in a variety of archaeological fields, and coordinating the management of cultural resources and the development of the archaeological profession.

“Entrepreneurial Culture, Corporate Responsibility and Urban Development”  
*September 10-14, 2012, Naples, Italy*  
Organizers: Giuliana Prata and Italo Pardo (U. Kent)

This conference was convened by the IUAES (International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences) Commissions on Urban Anthropology and on Enterprise Anthropology. The Group Il Denaro and Italian and international academic associations collaborated to organize this major event: the first international conference on Urban Development and Enterprise, aiming at addressing the relationship between these two important fields. The conference as a whole demonstrated the value of interdisciplinary exchange (among social and biological anthropologists, sociologists, economists, jurists and political scientists) and of a renewed theoretical and methodological approach. Through empirically based analyses, these complex issues were addressed in Western and non-Western settings. The proceedings were structured around five sub-themes: 1) Access to Credit, Entrepreneurialism and the Law: Problematic Issues for Enterprise; 2) Cross Cultural and Ethnic Business in Mixed Cities; 3) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Urban Development; 4) Entrepreneurialism, Neo-Liberalism and Socio-Economic Policy; and 5) Women Entrepreneurs: Between Socio-Cultural Hindrance, Challenged Integration and Economic Success. The conference concluded with a plenary debate that addressed the relevance of the finding to professionals who operate in the broader society.

“Spirit Possession: European Contributions to Comparative Studies”  
*September 16-18, 2012, University of Pécs, Hungary*  
Organizers: Éva Pócs (U. of Pécs) and Andras Zempleni (CNRS Paris)

Anthropological studies on spirit possession are still rooted in Western notions of body-soul dualism, concepts of self and personhood, and convey many presuppositions inherited from Christian models of divine and demonic possession. This workshop allowed to compare for
the first time some European concepts of possession with those studied by anthropologists elsewhere in the world. Gathering 31 anthropologists and historians working in Africa, India, South America and Europe, the conference gave rise to intense debates on several comparative issues. How to redefine the very notion of possession, regularly merged (especially in Europe) with related idioms such as witchcraft or mysticism? How historians may help anthropologists to analyze changes and transitions in concepts of possession? How to approach interactive transformations of both popular and official possession idioms competing in the same religious area? Why the messages uttered by North Indian mediums incite us to reconsider the nature of “communication” triggered by the state of trance? If several African cults such as Zar or Tromba are convincingly analyzed as a form of indigenous historiography, should we invite historians to reconsider spirit possession as a universal means to compress both time and space?

“6th Simposio Internacional El Hombre Temprano en America”
November 19-24, 2012, Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira and the Museo Quimbaya de Armenia, Colombia.
Organizers: Carlos Lopez (U. Tecnológica de Pereira, Colombia) and Martha Cano

The goal for the 6SHTA meeting was to bring together archaeologists, paleoecologists and related experts to integrate the early data sets with the new record about the peopling of the Americas. Understanding the adaptive shifts at the Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene is dependent on a solid understanding of the environmental variation and particularly on the relationship between human behavior and human lifestyle. During six days, 63 international researchers and a hundred Colombians participated as lecturers or assistants on the subjects of Models for Early Peopling and Advances from the Tropical Territories. The academic sessions consisted of 66 papers and 8 posters. Two days of fieldtrips allowed conference participants to visit archaeological sites nearby. Aided by grants from the Wenner-Gren and the Fundación de Investigaciones Arqueológicas del Banco de la República (Colombia), twenty people participated in a pre-symposium lithic course, hosted by the Universidad de Caldas (Manizales) and coordinated by the Argentinian expert, Nora Flegenheimer. The 6SHTA meeting was a great opportunity to strengthen academic dialogue among scientists working in the early peopling of the Americas, to acknowledge pioneers in the field, and to share theoretical and methodological approaches from diverse perspectives. The proceedings of the symposium are to be published next year with the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia de México, edited by the conference organizers.

“Encounters between History and Anthropology in Studying the Israeli-Palestinian Space”
December 21-22, 2012, St. Gabriel Hotel, Nazareth, Israel
Organizer: Dafna R. Hirsch (Open U., Tel Aviv)

The workshop was the culmination of two years' work by a group of Arab and Jewish anthropologists, sociologists, and historians from Israel, in the early stages of their academic careers. The aim of the group, which convened under the auspices of the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, was to develop a cross-disciplinary approach that promotes listening to life stories, pays attention to everyday practices and to relationships between communities and people, and seeks to understand the different and changing ways in which they understand and produce reality in the framework of ongoing negotiations with the state and
its agents. The two-day workshop was devoted to discussing the final drafts of papers based on group members' research projects, which are intended to appear in an edited volume, as well as the introduction to the volume, and its structure. The workshop brought group members in Israel with group members working or studying abroad together with invited guests to respond to the papers presented; and make the work of editing the volume a truly shared venture.
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