

# berkeley anthropology matters — *BAM!*

anthropology department † kroeber hall † university of california † berkeley

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## From Chair Hanks: Anthropology to Receive Permanent Endowment

Dean Breslauer has been engaged in ongoing discussions with a private donor whose primary area of interest is language, in its formal, historical, psychological and social dimensions. As a direct result of these discussions, the Anthropology Department has recently received a permanent endowment of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of Graduate Student Fellowships in Linguistic Anthropology.

At a time of financial uncertainty, this is extraordinary news and it will greatly help Anthropology graduate students who chose to work in Linguistic Anthropology. Given the current forecasts of return on endowment funds, we anticipate that it will provide about twenty-five thousand dollars additional graduate fellowship support per year, in perpetuity. Funds will be available for AY 2004-2005.

While this endowment was made to augment, not replace, Block Grant and other forms of fellowship support in Linguistic Anthropology, it will help the entire department. It will, for instance, allow us to shoulder some of the financial burden of graduate support in Linguistic Anthropology, thus freeing up monies for the benefit of other students. As the senior linguistic anthropologist, I will be working with other faculty in the subfield to identify students for support. We will also consult with the Graduate Advisor with an eye to maximizing the benefit to the Department more broadly.

As Chair and as a faculty member of Anthropology, I want to express publicly my deep gratitude to Dean Breslauer for having once again been so effective, to the benefit of our Department. — *Happy New Year!* Bill Hanks

## Professor Mariane Ferme's Recent Research and Projects

*As Professor Ferme has been away (2003 was split between Berkeley and Cambridge University!) she wanted to take this opportunity to inform the Berkeley anthropology community of some of her projects and publications.*

In Fall of 2003, I moved back from Cambridge, England with my family. I resigned my post in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, and as Director of Studies in Archaeology and Anthropology in Churchill College (Cambridge). Here at Berkeley, I now am Director of the Center for African Studies.

I have a forthcoming article in the journal, *Africa*, on changing forms of political life in Sierra Leone, particularly focusing on the chiefship, which in the context of civil war- and post-war reform efforts is seen as a potential for decentralization in a notoriously corrupt and centralizing state. An earlier version of this article was published in *Cambridge Anthropology*, 2003. This will also be a chapter in my book on the political imagination in Sierra Leone.

In 2003, I also did research with humanitarian organizations in UK and France (governmental, NGO, intergovernmental) doing work in Sierra Leone and on

conflict intervention more generally. I participated in UK and French government roundtables on the regionalization of the Liberian-Sierra Leone-Ivoirian conflict, stemming from the special issue of *Politique Africaine* I co-edited in December 2002 (where I also contributed an article).

On this topic, I presented a paper at the University of Chicago departmental seminar last year called "From Red Cross to Rebel Cross: Rumours and Humanitarianism in the Sierra Leonean conflict." I also presented a paper on a related topic, "Humanitarian Discourses and the Construction of Exemplary Bodies," at the very successful double panel I organized at the annual meetings of the African Studies Association in Boston, Oct-Nov 2003. This ASA panel (which I improbably titled "Afro-theories / Afro-Empiricities I and II") was an effort to engage with recent work by scholars committed to rigorous empirical work in/out of Africa and its place in the imagination, but at the same time remaining in dialogue with current theoretical debates in the social sciences (including the sociology of science) and humanities.

UC-Berkeley and Yale co-sponsored an event on "African Cities" in December 2003, where I had a role—along with Donald Moore. I presented a paper on roadblocks as sites where careful analytical work can help bridge disciplinary and methodological gaps in thinking about space through time, or of the practice of shaping of space as always one unfolding temporally (and often temporarily!), and also from different perspectives. I used empirical material from Sierra Leone on rural-urban roadblocks for this paper (ambushes, checkpoints, border crossings, etc.). Then some of the same people, Achille Mbembe, Donald Moore, and myself, who were at the Yale event, braved the New England blizzard to fly back to Berkeley and once again join forces in the wonderful workshop put together by Donald Moore in the Gifford room (12/ 9) to showcase the work of our colleague Achille Mbembe, a South-Africa-based Cameroonian writer on the African postcolony.

I am working very hard to make the spring term a bit calmer, and a good beginning was my new year resolution of hiring Robin DeLugan to reorganize my office!! — *Cheers!* Mariane Ferme

## A Photo taken by Nelson Graburn Over the Holiday Break



Nelson Graburn (Apirku Nilisi) with famed artist and printer maker, Luktua of Cape Dorset, Nunavut, in the Baffin Island medical residence in Ottawa.

## February Happenings in Anthropology

All **Brown Bag Lectures**: noon, 2251 College, unless otherwise noted.

All **290 Lectures**: 4pm, 160 Kroeber, unless otherwise noted.

- 2/1** Arch House admission meeting (admissions and fellowship nominations)
- 2/2** Lunchtime meeting to confirm Archaeo admissions and recommendations
- 290 Lecture Series**  
Helene Mialet (Visiting Professor, UCB)  
*Hawking Hawking: Following the Fabrication of an Autobiographical Text*  
*This lecture is co-sponsored with the Office for History of Science and Technology and the Townsend Center for Humanities.*  
160 Kroeber, 4-6pm
- 2/4** **ARF Brown Bag Lecture:** Jeanne Lopiparo:  
*Crafting Identity: Household production and the creation of house societies in the Ulua Valley, Honduras*  
noon, 2251 College seminar room.
- 2/6** Nominations for entering fellowships due in Grad Fellowships
- Departmental Lecture (Bio-archaeology candidate)  
Beth Shultz Shook (Ph.D candidate at UC Davis)  
*Ancient DNA: Investigating the Prehistory of Northeastern North America*  
3-5pm, Seminar Room, 2251 College (ARF).
- 2/9** Excom Mtg., 10-12, Faculty Lounge  
House Mtgs., 3-5pm
- Grad. Div. deadline for Graduate Admission/Fellowship recommendations.
- 2/11** **ARF Brown Bag Lecture:** Michael Ashley  
*An Archaeology of Vision: Seeing Past and Present at Çatalhöyük, Turkey*  
noon, 2251 College seminar room.
- 2/16** President's Day Holiday
- 2/17** Sp '04 Lowie Olson applications available: call for language exam candidates and rota re-announced.
- 2/18** **ARF Brown Bag Lecture:** Kathy Morrisson  
*Title: TBA*  
noon, 2251 College seminar room.
- 2/23** **290 Lecture Series**  
Alcinda Honwana (Children and Armed Conflict & Africa Programs, Social Science Research Council)  
*Rituals of Possession and Post-war Reintegration in Mozambique*  
*This lecture is co-sponsored with the Center for African Studies.*  
160 Kroeber, 4-6pm
- 2/25** Grad Committee mtg. (Dire Need and Diss. Yr./Mentored Research Awards)
- ARF Brown Bag Lecture:** Lesley Head  
*Title: TBA*  
noon, 2251 College seminar room.

## Publications from Berkeley Anthropologists

Ouzman, Sven. 2003. Foreword: Persistence and resistance: blurring boundaries between reality and representation in southern African landscape art. In: Breedlove, Gwen and van Schalkwyk, Thea (eds.). *Landscape - Landskap*, pp. 7-18. Pretoria: University of Pretoria Press.

## Meet Annette Gearlds, Curriculum Assistant

Annette Gearlds joined the anthro staff as the half-time curriculum assistant in August 2003. She was already acquainted with the department because while a Berkeley sociology undergraduate, she was employed as Sandy Jones's workstudy student. Annette is responsible for planning the curriculum for upcoming semesters, scheduling rooms, gathering course descriptions, communicating with potential visiting faculty, attending the curriculum committee meetings, and an amazing amount of other detail that goes into supporting the teaching program.



Annette Gearlds

Annette has many interests. She might want to teach, possibly kids, as she has tutored kids in the past and found aspects of it interesting. She reads voraciously—in spurts. A particular interest is capoeira, which Annette describes as a combative dancing game—a form that you study in order to play. She was intrigued by capoeira's goal of learning how to fight with a smile.

Annette is a thinker: she ponders the use of reason vs. intuition, conflict resolution, how to act decisively while respecting opposing perspectives. She was drawn to sociology because she had a lot of observations about behavior, and was surprised to hear these developed into theories and presented in her early sociology classes.

Please welcome Annette to Anthropology. She's in Room 232 (in the corner). She sits with her back to her door, so come up behind her and scream, **WELCOME ANNETTE**. This would be memorable for her.

## The Ear

In early January **Nelson Graburn** traveled to Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal to research urban Inuit art and artists. He visited many art galleries and met many Inuit artists who have decided to live in Southern Canada. He also met with many old friends, including artists from the Canadian Arctic temporarily in "the south" for medical treatment or to visit friends and family. This research will be presented in a paper at the upcoming International Congress of Arctic Social Scientists to be held in Fairbanks, AK in May. He was also successful in persuading some young Inuit scholars to present papers and participate in these meetings. Along the way he met with Berkeley anthropologists **Margaret Lock**, **Pam Stern** and **Lisa Stevenson**. . . . There is a new university initiative called "The Berkeley Book List", and **Rosemary Joyce** was one of the faculty asked to contribute to it. The project was just released in January and will be accessible at <http://books.berkeley.edu/> where Rosemary's contribution is listed under Anthropological Archaeology. . . . **Simon Craddock Lee** filed his dissertation in December, "Caritas et communitas: An ethnographic account of the ethics and social values of Catholic healthcare in contemporary California." He will be relocating later this spring to Washington DC to take a multi-year post-doctoral appointment in the ethics of prevention and public health as a Cancer Prevention Fellow at the National Cancer Institute at NIH. Lee has also been offered an adjunct assistant professorship in anthropology at American University. He is grateful for the camaraderie and intellectual community of anthropologists and archaeologists who made the last five years so fabulous. Thank you all and come visit. . . .

When asked what she did on her holiday break, **Sandy Jones** replied, "I conducted traditional Participant/Observer research on the rare seasonal phenomena of available parking in Berkeley. Stunning. Very exciting. I confess, I parked around.