

berkeley anthropology matters - BAM!

anthropology department † kroeber hall † university of california † berkeley

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<http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/anth/dept.html>

Belated Thank You's

There are people whose efforts need to be acknowledged even if this recognition is long overdue. Thank you to **Roberto Gonzales** for bringing his mariachi band to play at Commencement '99. The band was so popular that people wouldn't leave when the ceremony ended. This made Physics, the department graduating in Zellerbach after us, very nervous. *When is anthropology getting out of there? We are NOT following them next year.* A highlight of commencement was Roberto bringing his band over to serenade **Laura Nader**. During the serenade **Jelani Mahiri** went up and asked Laura Nader to dance. And she did. And Laura Nader can *dance*, a fact that just doesn't show up in her personnel case, like probably not once. . . . And thanks to **Sandy Jones** who put out her usual superhuman effort, shepherding *everyone*. And wouldn't you know that despite her marshalling, her undergraduates got out of order? Yes, we know, how could they dare? Sandy had to creep down to the front of the graduates, excuse me, excuse me, and *just rearrange everyone*. Next year, there will be provisions made for chaining students together, only to be unlocked right before they cross the stage. There is nothing that just a bit more control won't fix. . . . And last thanks to **Bill Whitehead** who sorted out Commencement's dreaded Will Call area and when staff were starting to wilt during clean up (*surely there isn't more to do?*), Bill saw that there was, and made haul after haul, until the point when we really were done. Those of us watching managed to peel ourselves off the walls even and make another trip or two. We are grateful to Bill for this *and* for all the work he did during the beginning of the school year, hooking up faculty and staff computers and assuring both that no, it wasn't the apocalypse, it was only new software.

Congratulations

John Ogbu has recently received the honor of being listed as one of the four most influential intellectual figures in American Education in the 20th century in the book *Eminent Educators: Studies in Intellectual Influence*, by Maurice R. Berube. The four intellectual giants of the 20th century are listed as being John Dewey, Howard Gardner, Carol Gilligan and John Ogbu. The publishers said, ". . . Dewey represents two aspects of Progressive Education, intellectually and aesthetically; Gardner redefined intelligence; Gilligan probed the moral development of girls/women; and Ogbu remapped the education of African Americans, thus representing the social change aspect of Progressive Education." A reviewer from the U of Illinois says the book is a remarkable achievement in that it expertly analyzes the work of a philosopher, an anthropologist and two psychologists whose legacy the author convincingly

demonstrates is what distinguishes American education from that of any other country in the world." **Gerald Berreman** comments, "How proud we and the entire university must be that our colleague—and our Ph.D. student of years gone by—is placed by his peers in such distinguished company as John Dewey and the others, as the four preeminent and influential innovators of the century in educational social science."

Robin Delugan was recently awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to complete her dissertation research on *Cultural Practices of the State in Post-war El Salvador*.

Alan Dundes has a new book out, *International Folkloristics, Classic Contributions by the Founders of Folklore*. Alan Dundes wrote the book in order to establish the international nature of the field of folklore and to use as a textbook for his classes. He believes that *International Folkloristics* will end up being one of his most popular books even though it isn't as provocative as some of his others. The reason for this is that the book is full of information and history, especially in the densely packed headnotes for each founder. The book includes, among others, folklorists Jacob Grimm, Max Müller, Béla Bartók and those who were not folklorists but who wrote about folklore, W. B. Yeats and Sigmund Freud.

Jonathan Marks was awarded the American Anthropological Association's Mayfield Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching of Anthropology. This award is given annually in recognition of an AAA member's outstanding contribution to the undergraduate teaching of Anthropology. This award will be presented to Dr. Marks during this year's Annual Meeting of the AAA.

Berkeley Anthropologists Out and About

Beverly R. Ortiz is currently lecturing on the Indians of California for CSU Hayward's Anthropology Department.

Nelson Graburn attended a conference on *Anthropology, Chinese Society and Tourism* organized by the Departments of Anthropology of Chinese University Hong Kong and Yunnan University, held in Kunming P.R.C. 9/28-10/1. The conference was attended by more than 10 Yunnan anthropologists, many of them members of national minorities, 6-7 from the USA, 3 each from Hong Kong and Japan and 6 from Europe. The main topic was the key role of the 26 Yunnan minority nationalities as "tourist resources" and the overwhelming impact of (domestic) tourism threatening their cultural viability. With recent affluence, ordinary Han Chinese are indulging in a binge of domestic tourism, sending millions to minority regions in the Southwest, with physical damage to environments and heritage buildings, and considerable demand for prostitution and

drugs (especially from Burma). Chinese tourists are generally content with staged performances and colorful exhibitions of "culture" whereas foreign tourists are much more concerned with "authenticity" and try to penetrate the unstaged villages and living spaces of the minorities. "Interestingly enough," Dr. Graburn notes, "at the conference it was the Chinese anthropologists who were concerned with the 'preservation' of minority cultures as 'tourist resources' whereas the Western anthropologists emphasized the minorities' rights to decide whether they wanted to be tourist resources and how they might be represented."

After graduating in May, **David McDermott Hughes** presented at the "African environments, past and present" conference in Oxford. Then, under a short MacArthur postdoc, he spent July and August working for a Zimbabwean environmental organization as consultant-cum-internal ethnographer. He is starting a new research project on "density and development"—the historic tension between urbanization and sprawl as models of prosperity. He'll continue work in Zimbabwe in October and November and then expand his fieldsite to include New Jersey, an excellent place to study sprawl. In January, David begins a tenure-track assistant professorship at Rutgers University (Department of Human Ecology).

Happenings in the Department

There are a lot of changes going on in Kroeber Hall these days, most of them begun by our new chair, **Paul Rabinow**. "First!" said Paul, "I will decorate," and he took on the daunting task of giving the Anthropology **L** a more hospitable feel. With the help of **Laura Nader's** color sense and **Sharon Lilly's** ability to find free chairs that just so happen to match the newly painted walls, he even managed to turn the Gifford Room into a very nice place to sit.

Check out the new **Anthro website**: <http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/anth/dept.html> Please note especially the *Announcements* section which informs you of upcoming talks and happenings around the department.

The Kroeber Anthropological Society has been re-energized under the leadership of **Laura Nader** and **Junko Habu**. To date there have been six highly popular K.A.S. Noon Talks on varying subjects, each led by a different team of 3 faculty members. Be watching for further installments in this series and the upcoming special issue of the K.A.S. papers, due out soon. If you would like to get involved with the K.A.S., contact **Lisa Bourgeault** at lisabour@uclink4.berkeley.edu or 650.357.7448 for the date and time of their next meeting.

We have a new member of our Anthropology staff, **Juliet Vogt**. Juliet will be the Department's Receptionist and Text Book Coordinator. We are happy to have Juliet as part of our permanent staff. Please come by and give her an official welcome. If you are teaching next semester, you might want to have your

book order with you because the subject will come up.

We have a **New Copier**. It looks a lot like the old copier and for a while it acted just like the old copier but it really is not the old copier. We're pretty sure. During one streak of breakdowns—the period of the infamous F59 error—**Sharon Lilly** discovered if you made a fist, hit the machine on the top then on the side and then leaned against the side panel, you could make your copy. Since it was taking 2 people to make a single copy (one to load the originals, one to lean), Sharon discovered another workaround. This one involved placing a gallon of paint on the middle panel on the top of the machine. **Alan Dundes** was thrilled: "*Sharon, you've found its pressure point!*" Indeed, everyone could make copies that afternoon as long as no one removed the can of paint. **Gerald Berreman** said, "If they would only distribute a can of paint to everyone who owns their copier, they would have fewer service calls."

This semester **Nancy Scheper-Hughes** and **Lawrence Cohen** have launched their research and human rights project, funded by the Open Society Institute in New York and UC Berkeley. The project, called "Medicine, Markets and Bodies," is located in 333 Kroeber (The Foster Room). **Kathleen Erwin** is the project coordinator. The project will fund research on organ trafficking and transplantation practices in Latin America, India, and South Africa, among others. In addition to its research component, the project includes a colloquium series for the 1999-2000 academic year. The series was inaugurated with a provocative lecture by **Paul Rabinow** on "Truth, Ethics, Genomics: The Case of Iceland." Eric Klinenberg and Linda Hogle were the featured speakers in October. Forthcoming speakers include Lawrence Cohen and Hernan Reyes (November 23 and December 1 respectively), as well as a panel discussion, "Inaugurating Organs Watch: Documenting and Preventing Human Rights Abuses" on November 8 featuring David and Sheila Rothman from Columbia University, along with Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Lawrence Cohen. Look for announcements for all these presentations. "Medicine, Markets and Bodies" is also establishing a website: <http://yana.socl.berkeley.edu/~orgwatch> with the assistance of Chuck Wade and is developing a research archive with the assistance of **Suzanne Calpestri**.

Emeriti Corner

The following members of the Emeriti community have recently experienced medical concerns: **George and Mary Foster** and their daughter, **Melissa Betty Clark**, wife of **J. Desmond Clark** and **William Shack**. They are in the thoughts of many in the department.

John J. Gumperz was recently honored at Anthropology's Ninth Emeritus Lecture. The speaker was a former graduate student of Prof. Gumperz—Dr. Susan Gal—who is now a professor at the University of Chicago. The lecture was well attended and considered one of the best ever given in the Emeritus Lecture series.

*This newsletter is an example of thrown-together journalism and is produced by the Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley. The next issue of **BAM!** will be published December 1, 1999. Please submit all story suggestions and announcements to Holly Halligan at 642.3509 or hollyh@uclink4.berkeley.edu by Tuesday, November 23.*