

berkeley anthropology matters — *BAM!*

anthropology department † kroeber hall † university of california † berkeley

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<http://anthropology.berkeley.edu/>

*Editor's note: This first **BAM!** of the 2001-2002 academic year contains many articles that were in the queue for May 2001 **BAM!** We delayed the May issue in order to include the tribute from our incoming chair, Bill Hanks, to our outgoing chair, Paul Rabinow. Although we are very glad to have delayed the May issue in order to extend to Paul a proper thank you, we regret that the accomplishments of others in the department were not acknowledged when they occurred. Please accept our apologies and send us your items for the next issue!*

Paul Rabinow, A Note of Thanks

This summer marked a transition in the Chairmanship of the Department, as Paul Rabinow concluded his term as Chair, and headed off to Paris where he will hold the Blaise Pascal Chair at the École Normale Supérieure for the coming academic year. On behalf of all my colleagues, faculty and staff alike, and as incoming Chair, I want to thank Paul for his many contributions to the Department. During a time when the Department has faced substantial challenges, and always with an eye to the welfare of the whole, Paul has been a courageous and intellectually rigorous leader. He has brought clarity to critical issues, including our collective efforts to improve departmental governance, the need to define the intellectual directions of the Department in the context of the University and the discipline at large, our efforts to better fulfill our teaching mission, and the everyday human relations between faculty and staff. Paul spearheaded the revamping of the department web site and developed the first departmental newsletter aimed at development. He significantly improved the departmental space by redecorating the Gifford room, installing display cases on the second floor, and encouraging the display of photography and other arts. He actively supported graduate students and both KAS and AGORA. Finally, as one staff member put it, "Paul's support of the staff cannot be overemphasized," something of critical importance to the Department—not only in terms of the conditions under which we work, but of our ability to function effectively as well. Each of these areas marks an ongoing effort, in which Paul's leadership has done much to advance the Department, and to set an example for myself as the next Chair. Thank you, Paul.

As a scholar, and particularly as an anthropologist, Paul brings great distinction to our Department. He enhances our role as intellectual leaders both nationally and internationally. It is fitting for many reasons that he will hold the Blaise Pascal Chair for the next year. This Chair, financed by the Département de L'Île de France, is held for one year by leading foreign scholars, usually in scientific or engineering fields. In addition to a series of seminars that Paul will present on his own work, the chair provides him with the resources to organize an international seminar series on a theme of his own choice. Paul's theme will be post-genomics, an emerging field in which he is a leading figure internationally. As one who works at the edge of other disciplines, where it is often difficult to establish the kind of credibility that this entails, I must say, "Chapeau, Paul, ça c'est formidable!" When we add to this the fact that Paul has also invited a Berkeley graduate student, Duana Fullwiley, to share in this exceptional opportunity, we see that great scholarship can indeed combine with generous mentoring of junior scholars. For these several reasons, we both congratulate and thank Paul for being one of us.

But there is another reason that the Blaise Pascal Chair is appropriate for Paul, and it has to do with the thinker after which the chair is named. Paul knows well the wisdom of Pascal's insistence that humans behave from habit as much as from concept, that it is supremely difficult but necessary to combine an analytic and abstracting mind with a fine-tuned sensitivity to the situation at hand. Perhaps most strikingly, Pascal's argument that humans have no real choice but to bet on the existence of things they cannot see, finds its echo in Paul's unflinching willingness to run the risk of real innovation in his work. Mathematician, theologian, philosopher of the human, Pascal makes a superb reference point for Paul Rabinow, anthropologist and social thinker among scientists. May they enjoy your hats and your mordant sense of humor! Bon Voyage, Paul. Have a great year and come back full of energy. — *Bill Hanks*

Professors Conkey, Joyce and Tringham Receive Educational Initiatives Award

Professors Meg Conkey, Rosemary Joyce and Ruth Tringham received a campus Educational Initiatives Award at the Distinguished Teaching Awards Ceremony last April. The EIA Award is presented annually to a department or unit on the Berkeley campus that has created an outstanding program or initiative that has had a sustained impact upon undergraduate education and can serve as a workable model for others on campus.

Professors Conkey, Joyce and Tringham received this award for their courses and pedagogy associated with the Class of 1960 Multimedia Authoring Center for Teaching in Anthropology (MACTiA).

The goal of the Multimedia Authoring Initiative has been the integration of a wide range of multimedia into the teaching of anthropology, especially archaeology, and to do so as part of a wider pedagogical philosophy that stresses small-group learning, the uses of computer-based multimedia for the teaching of critical thinking, and a coaching model, rather than a performance or "banking" model of teaching. Students learn a variety of software programs, and they use these in presenting projects that engage students with archaeological concepts, theories, discoveries, and cultural histories.

Congratulations to Professors Conkey, Tringham and Joyce for the vision and hard work that earned them this prestigious award.

Alan Dundes Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Professor Alan Dundes was among twelve Berkeley faculty who were elected fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Academy was founded to "cultivate every art and science which may tend to advance the interest, honor, dignity, and happiness of a free, independent, and virtuous people."

The new fellows from Berkeley are among 185 fellows and 26 foreign honorary members elected this year. They will be formally inducted in ceremonies at the House of the Academy in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in October.

A full list of fellows and their achievements can be found at <http://www.amacad.org/members/new.htm>. Congratulations, Dr. Dundes.

Amy Ramsay Receives Chancellor's Community Service Award

Congratulations to Amy Ramsay who received the Chancellor's Community Service Award. Amy was honored at an awards dinner in April for her continued commitment to Public Education and Outreach. For three years Amy put tremendous amounts of energy into building the ARF/Oakland Project, which organizes graduate and undergraduate Cal students to work with sixth graders at Roosevelt Middle School in Oakland. Amy also spent hours volunteering her time and talents for the ARF Public Education and Outreach Program, and served on the ARF Outreach Committee. Amy has set an example for the ways that anthropological research and knowledge can make a contribution outside of academia in local communities. Congratulations, Amy.

Professor Kirch Publishes *Hawaiki, Ancestral Polynesia*

Professor Patrick V. Kirch, together with Roger C. Green, has recently published the book, *Hawaiki, Ancestral Polynesia, An Essay in Historical Anthropology*.

Their book reconstructs for the first time and in extensive detail the ancestral Polynesian culture that flourished in the Polynesian homeland—Hawaiki—some 2,500 years ago. The authors integrate the approaches of archaeology, comparative ethnography, and historical linguistics to advance a phylogenetic model for cultural diversification.



Diane Tober Tours Public Health System of Iran

In April, Diane Tober, post-doc in medical anthropology, spent two weeks in Iran touring its public health system. She went with a group of students and faculty from UCSF medical school and UCB medical anthropology program.

While in Iran, the group met with colleagues in the Ministry of Health in Iran and Tehran University. The goal of the trip was to understand the challenges surmounted by public health officials and physicians in Iran. Iran has faced one of the largest refugee populations in the world and one of the steepest population increases. Yet, with limited resources, Iran has made innovative inroads in public health issues. This group compared the primary health care models used in Iran with those of our own medically underserved populations, with the goal of benefiting the health of people in both countries.

In Memoriam: June Starr

June Starr, Berkeley anthropology Ph.D. (1970) died on April 27. For most of her teaching career she was a professor of anthropology at SUNY-Stony Brook. She also attended Stanford Law School where she specialized in environmental law and then went on to teach at Indiana Law School. She wrote the books, *Dispute and Settlement in Rural Turkey*, co-wrote (with Jane Collier), *History and Power in the Study of Law*, and edited *Legal Ethnography: New Methods, Enduring Practices*. June Starr was also an active member of the Berkeley Village Law Project.

This newsletter is produced by the Department of Anthropology, UC Berkeley. The next issue of BAM! will be published October 1, 2001. Please submit all story suggestions and announcements to Holly Halligan at 643.4445 or hollyh@uclink.berkeley.edu

Anthropology Centennial Trivia Contest

Congratulations to Laura Leung, anthropology workstudy student, for providing the correct answer in the third round of the Anthropology Centennial Trivia Contest. The question was: *From where did Gerald Berremen receive his honorary doctorates? (2)* Answer: The University of Garthwal, India and the University of Stockholm, Sweden.

Our fourth centennial trivia question is: *How many anthropology Ph.D.s have been awarded at Berkeley in the last 100 years?*

Email your answer to: hollyh@uclink.berkeley.edu (For those of you new to our community, you should know there is a fabulous prize for providing the correct answer.)

The Ear

Three of our recent doctoral graduates start teaching positions this fall: **Jay Dautcher** will be an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Folklore in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania; **Steve Silliman** accepted a tenure-track archaeology faculty position at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, and **Emily Dean** has accepted a visiting faculty position in archaeology at Colgate University in New York . . . **Lucinda Ramberg**, medical anthropology graduate student, has been awarded the Magistretti fellowship for dissertation research by the Center for the Study of Sexual Culture at Berkeley. . . . At the spring Society for California Archaeology meeting two Berkeley people got awards: **Kathleen Hull** got the James Bennyhoff Award to support her research in Yosemite National Park and **Otis Parrish** got the California Indian Heritage Preservation Award for his years of working, as a Native American, with archaeology and its interface with descendant communities. . . . **China Star**, anthropology undergraduate, will have a paper she wrote for Professor Ogbu's 169B class (spring 2000) published in *The Berkeley Undergraduate Journal*. The title of her paper is, "Eating and Ganas Among Mexican American Men and Women with Diabetes II." . . . The Folklore students and archivists would like to extend a thank you to outgoing Visiting Professor **Ülo Valk**, their colleague and friend. The Archives was lucky to have him through the summer and will greatly miss him. If anyone could follow Professor Valk, it would have to be Professor **Francisco Vaz da Silva**, from the anthropology department at ISCTE, Lisbon, Portugal, who will be a visiting professor for 2001-2002. . . . Congratulations to **Krisjon Olson**, **Tatyana Mamut** and **Liza Grandia**, who received NSF fellowships. . . . **Krisjon Olson** has drafted a chapter for a book on children of war. Her chapter is entitled, "The Uncertain Violence of the Truth in a Guatemalan Town." The volume aims to challenge orthodox perspectives about children in conflict based on normative views of childhood and child development by providing insight into children's actual experiences of conflict and displacement. . . . **Paul Rabinow** gave the David M. Schneider Memorial lecture at the Society for Cultural Anthropology meetings in Montreal in May. . . . And last, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of **Misha Klein**, **Jelani Mahiri**, **Kent Lightfoot** and **Bill Whitehead** over the past year. Misha was the creator of the Anthropology Centennial Trivia Contest, devising the monthly question and researching the answer. Jelani supplied several photos to *BAM!* when they were needed, always taken and printed on his own time and at his own expense. Kent Lightfoot wrote the tribute to **Gerald Berremen**, the best *BAM!* article of 2000-2001. And Bill is our resourceful jack-of-all-trades, trouble-shooting computer problems, running errands, and putting together almost every piece of furniture in Kroeber. **Sharon Lilly** was overheard to say at Commencement 2001, "Bill, when you graduate, I'm going to cry." In truth, these individuals give to the department all the time. Their generosity is appreciated and admired.