Weekly MEGA MEMO January 2106

Anthropology Dept.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst,
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Department Calendar / Department Blog

Welcome BACK!

From the Chair:
Welcome everyone back to the start of a new semester. We had a busy Fall filled with many wonderful guest lectures: Tiffiny Tung, Byron and Mary-Jo Del Good, Maple Razsa, a Five College seminar with Ann Stoler, the screening of Portraits of a Search by Alicia Calderón, and moving visit of the film participants Margarita López and Guadalupe Aguilar, Mexican activist mothers who have lost children in drug war violence. We wrapped up with the European distinguished lecture and seminar by Valeria Siniscalchi from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales, and documentary photographer Franco Zecchin. Many thanks to everyone who made those events successful.

We have lots of activities planned for the Spring. As always, please check the Department web page Events calendar for locations, times and titles of events and meetings. We are also going to be going live soon with a new Anthro Information Central web page that will have the schedule of committee meetings, key deadlines and a digital calendar for E-16, W 17, Herter 101 and other Anthropology room reservations. We hope it will be easier to find information in one central place.

We are happy to announce our new Department Administrator, Beverly Morrison. Beverly received her Master’s in Business Administration here at UMass and has over a decade of

SBS News:

Dept. Defense/Exams:

Julieta Chaparro successfully passed her PhD prospectus and comprehensive Exam.

Kasey Jernigan successfully passed her PhD prospectus and comprehensive exam.

1/22: Rebecca Bartusewich
Prospectus presentation 1-3pm in Herter 101
Title: Social Groups and Boundaries: The Archaeology of Iron Age Cyprus

1/29: Rebecca Bartusewich, PhD Comprehensive Exam, 1-3pm in Herter 101

2/4: Eleanor Finley, MA General Exam, 9:30-10:30am Machmer E31

2/4: Lillian Muir, MA General Exam, 11:00-12:30, Machmer E31

Title: Ideological Conflict Embedded in Anthropology and the Road to Restructuring the Discipline
experience in office management. We are thrilled to have her join us. Please stop by and introduce yourself to her. She will be overseeing office operations, helping in strategic planning, and our public communications. In addition, Beverly has also developed a one credit course to be offered this spring in job interviewing skills for our majors.

We are also happy to be welcoming back Dr. Sonya Atalay, who is returning from after wrapping up a three semester Mellon New Directions fellowship. Sonya will be stepping in to replace Dr. Battle Baptiste as the Undergraduate Program Director. Her Public Anthropology Lab in Machmer E 25 will continue to be the site for meetings of the Transformative Practice in Anthropology group as well as her own research in community-based archaeology. It’s great to have her teaching, creativity and energy back with us.

**Developments in the Anthropology Major:**

**Pathways Approved**

As many of you know, we started the academic year with a real concern over the low numbers of anthropology majors. A focus this past Fall has been on restructuring, revitalizing and raising the visibility of our major. We met at the start of the semester with all Gen Ed instructors to brainstorm on this together. At our Department meeting Nov. 30, 2015, Milena Marches (CUA) and I presented a plan for restructuring the curriculum and major requirements. These were discussed and the Department voted to approve them. We will be introducing more 200 level “gateway” courses we have designed 5 thematic “pathways” that can help students in structuring their courses. Our undergraduate club president, Frida Caro, conveyed that our majors were very happy to see these changes and we are excited to move them forward.

**Global Ed replaced by Global and Intercultural Requirement**

The College of Social and Behavioral is moving forward with its plan to eliminate the 15 credit Global Education Requirement. All SBS Departments have been asked to propose their own way of ensuring their majors have global and intercultural awareness in their curriculum. We have incorporated a 9 credit “Global and Intercultural Requirement” into the Anthropology major. Other departments in SBS are introducing similar requirements.

These proposals will be sent forward to the CSBS Undergraduate Curriculum and then to the Faculty Senate this Spring. Look for a full description of the changes on our web page once they are formally approved.

**Save the Date! Five College Anthropology Conference – April 23**

Our Department is hosting for the Five College Anthropology Conference this year. The date set is Saturday April 23rd. This will mark the 20th anniversary of the Conference and will be commemorating our former Chair Sylvia Forman who did so much to foster this and other forms of
Five College collaboration. In addition to papers, roundtables and useful workshops, the conference will include a lunchtime keynote lecture by award-winning UMass alum Barbara Rose Johnston. The organizing committee is Felicity Aulino, Sonya Atalay and Ventura Pérez. They are looking for undergrad volunteers who want to contribute ideas and participate in planning the program.

Deadlines for submitting proposals for papers, panels, round tables, workshops, and posters will be posted soon.

**Anthropology’s Web Page & Communications**

Over the Fall, graduate student Ramon Sanchez worked to develop some stories to profile faculty and student awards and research. He has also been working on developing short bios for grad students. A lot of work remains to be done for our Research tab and other sections. I welcome your ideas and your help.

Please remember to check with the Chair and the Department Events calendar before planning any events. Also please note that all web pages related to Department activities or programs must be approved by the Chair before going live. We want to have a coherent message and be sure to follow University-wide branding regulations.

**April 29-30. Anthropology of Europe Conference**

The Graduate Association of Europeanists welcomes submissions for its Spring conference, “Communities of Exclusion,” to be held April 29-30th, 2016. We seek papers focused on Europe from a variety of academic perspectives and encourage graduate scholars at all levels to apply. Conference themes will broadly consider the re-imagining of European identity in light of: migration and social exclusion, economic globalization, and the changing role of the state accompanying austerity politics. The deadline for submissions is March 4th. Applicants should send 250-word abstracts to UMassGAE@gmail.com. For any questions, contact GAE secretary Cat Tebaldi at ctebaldi@umass.edu

**More Save the Dates:**
Master’s Assessments: Wednesday April 20
Department Awards luncheon: Thursday April 28
Bob Paynter Retirement Party—Saturday April 30

**Last, but not least: Congratulations!**

Sarah Reedy, PhD student was awarded the Society for the Study of Human Bilgy (SSHB) Travel Grant for best student poster presentation! Sarah was also the recipient of the Fall Student Travel Award from the Center for Research and Families. This award helps offset the costs of travel and allows students the opportunity to meet and present with other researches in their field.
Kasey Jernigan, PhD student received a dissertation fellowship from Perdue University’s RIDGE Center target Studies.

Marc Lorenc, PhD student was awarded an $11,924 grant by the New Jersey Historical Commission for a 2016 project grant to fund archaeological field work at the Dr. James Still Historic Office and Homestead in Medford, NJ. The project “Dr. James Still Community Archaeology Project” will be using community-based participatory research as a methodology to carry out this project.

Elena Sesma, PhD student was awarded a Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant for $19,850 to aid in research on “The Political Work of Memory in Collaborative Caribbean Archaeology”, a community based research project on how southern Eleutherans remember and relate to the landscapes that they have lived and worked on since the early 19th century when the land was part of the Millar’s Plantation.

Berra Topcu has been awarded a short-term fellowship as a visiting researcher at the Istanbul Urban Observatory (Observatoire Urbain d'Istanbul) of the French Institute for Anatolian Research in Istanbul (IFEA - Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, http://www.ifea-istanbul.net/) in Summer 2016. IFEA is a research institute for social sciences and humanities funded by the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS). Berra's project is entitled “Contested Spaces and Uncertain Futures: Place, Agency, and Mobilization in Old Town Istanbul.” At the end of her fellowship, she will give a presentation to IFEA researchers and submit a formal report. She will also provide a copy of her dissertation when it is completed.

Alum Deb Martin wins AAA Distinguished Teaching Award
The American Anthropological Association (AAA) and Oxford University Press have named human osteology and bio-archaeology expert Debra L. Martin, Ph.D. as the recipient of the 2015 AAA/Oxford Teaching Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching of Anthropology. Dr. Martin’s teaching efforts have made an indelible impact in classrooms across the country where her hands-on, supportive-yet-challenging approach inspires students regularly. http://www.americananthro.org/StayInformed/NewsDetail.aspx?ItemNumber=13167


Alum, Vanessa Martinez-Renunico, PhD; Holyoke Community College, has been selected as a 2015 AAA Leadership Fellow

Alum, Barbara Rose Johnston, PhD; UC Santa Cruz, receives AAA Award in Public Policy
Academic Information - Undergrads and Grads

Undergraduate Advising:
Milena Marchesi in Machmer 207A Chief Undergraduate Advisor
We have on-line Appointment Plus Scheduling for Advising
make an Advising Appointment Click Here

Undergrad Archaeology Internship: More Info

UNDERGRADUATE SBS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Applications and more information can be found here:
http://www.umass.edu/sbs/current-students/undergraduate/sbs-scholarships

Upcoming Career Events going in SBS: (general calendar)
http://www.umass.edu/sbs/news-events/calendar

Graduate Students:
Workshops and Training:
* Graduate School Office of Professional Development Workshops:
The Center for Teaching and Faculty Development and the Graduate School are sponsoring a number of workshops to support graduate student teaching. Below you will find a list of offerings sent to graduate students, along with a link to register.
Complete List of Events

Grad School Office of Professional Development Events and Workshops:

ISSR Events:

OTHER Information:
***** LAB SECURITY:
Please remember, when using or teaching in any departmental labs, that the doors and windows MUST be locked when you leave. We’ve been told that E16 has been left open on numerous occasions, please double check all are closed and locked when you leave.

Also blinds in W12 and W17 should be left closed when room is unused. These rooms are all on the first floor with full window visibility and accessibility, so we need to be diligent in keeping them secure.