

Sociology & Anthropology

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON
FALL 2015

A Message from the Department Chair



I hope that the 2015-2016 academic year is off to a great start for you! I am happy to have the opportunity to look back at the 2014-2015 year and to share the many accomplishments of our departmental community.

Several members of the faculty have been recognized for their outstanding teaching and research. Dr. Naomi Cleghorn, for example, was awarded the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Krystal Beamon was awarded tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor. We are also excited to welcome three new assistant professors to the department. Dr. David Arditì is coming to Sociology from Interdisciplinary Studies. He specializes in technology and culture. Dr. Kelly Bergstrand is a sociologist specializing in environmental sociology, social movements, and social psychology. Dr. Isabel Montemayor is an anthropologist specializing in medical anthropology and migration. Welcome, Drs. Arditì, Bergstrand and Montemayor!

This year's recipient of the Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology is KeAmber Green. Numerous undergraduate and graduate students received research and travel awards to support their scholarship. Some of our students also presented their research at academic conferences. Forty Sociology undergraduate majors, fourteen Anthropology undergraduate majors, three Sociology graduate students, and five Anthropology graduate students completed their degrees – congratulations! Students and graduates, please keep us informed of your accomplishments!

Dr. Cemal Pulak, the Frederick R. Mayer Faculty Professor of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M University's Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation, was the featured speaker at the 2015 Termini Lecture Series. His presentation, "Excavating the World's Oldest Shipwreck: Uluburun and Late Bronze Age Trade in the Mediterranean," continued a tradition of excellence within this speaker series.

I would like to thank all of those who have made contributions to support the department and our students including Drs. Ben and Trudy Termini, Blaine Williams and Elaine Davenport, Paul and Suzanne Baldon, Gwendolyn J. Notestine, Sam and Celia Stigall, and Matthew Craig and Linda Gregg. Last, but not least, thank you to Pat Woodward for all of her hard work in putting together this newsletter!

Robert Kunovich, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

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Pat Woodward
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M. Faye Hanson-Evans,
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LaDorna McGee,
Undergraduate Advisor

Dr. Heather Jacobson,
Sociology Graduate Advisor

Welcome New Dean of Liberal Arts

Dr. Paul Wong joined the University of Texas Arlington as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts in July 2015. He was formerly dean of the College of Arts and Letters at San Diego State University.

Dr. Wong joined San Diego State University in 2003. He received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the University of California, Berkeley and was a visiting post-doctoral fellow in economics at Berkeley in 1979. Dr. Wong has had an impressive career and has held academic appointments at the University of California at Berkeley, U.C. San Diego, University of Illinois Urbana - Champaign, Arizona State University, and Washington State University, including as a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford.



Dr. Wong was associate provost at Colorado State University; dean of Social Sciences at Hong Kong Baptist University; and from 1999 to 2003, served as the dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, where he also established and directed the Center for Arab American Studies.

He has research grants from the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Mental Health, Rockefeller Foundation, Ford Foundation, Department of Defense, Department of Education, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Rosenberg Foundation, Department of Health Resources and Services Administration, and Administration on Aging, among others.

He has published extensively on comparative racial and ethnic issues, Chinese studies, substance abuse, community and mental health, education, poverty and welfare, community studies, policy analysis, and mathematical/statistical applications in the social sciences.

His public and civic engagement includes consulting for the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control, United States Public Health Service, and the Office of the Arizona State Attorney General. He was appointed by the Chief Executive of Hong Kong to serve as a member of the University Grants Committee (UGC) of Hong Kong, 2000-2002. He is currently working on a book on Social and Cultural Factors in Organ Donation and another book on the Development of Universities in China. - See more at: <https://www.uta.edu/news/releases/2015/05/wong-paul-liberal-arts-dean-announced.php#sthash.FH5wkbIN.dpuf>

Faculty Corner



Three New Assistant Professors

David Ardit, Sociology



David Ardit received his Ph.D. in Cultural Studies from George Mason University in 2012 and he specializes in critical theory and contemporary culture. His published work explores the effects that digital music has on society. Countering the popular narrative that the Internet is killing music, Ardit demonstrates that major record labels are stronger today than any period in history. In fact, he demonstrates that music as a cultural artifact was killed by record labels long ago. The issues Ardit raises about music point to the changing nature of capitalism.

Dr. Ardit is presently Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at UTA and is soon to be Assistant Professor of Sociology in spring 2016. He will be introducing new classes in Sociology related to the Sociology of Science and Technology, Cultural Studies and Popular Culture.

Kelly Bergstrand, Sociology



Kelly Bergstrand has a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Arizona and specializes in social movements, environmental sociology, and social psychology. Her research centers on whether some types of social or environmental problems are inherently more powerful in attracting resources and public support, which has the real world implications of potentially identifying which grievances will be addressed and which might be ignored. Her dissertation drew from social psychology, as well as literature on morality and justice, to develop general theory about how perceptions of the goodness or badness of perpetrators, actions and victims affect public opinion and activism.

She now plans to conduct research examining how perceptions of victims being powerless (as compared to powerful) encourage sympathy toward or action on behalf of groups affected by a grievance. Co-authored papers in environmental sociology include assessing the effectiveness of policies to curb greenhouse gases from power plants and examining how the BP compensation process after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill led to deteriorating community relations. She also greatly enjoys teaching and has taught courses in statistics, environmental sociology, and social movements.

Isabel Montemayor, Anthropology



Dr. Isabel Montemayor, is assistant professor of anthropology. She earned a Ph.D. and M.A in Socio Cultural/Medical Anthropology from Michigan State University and previously earned an M.A. in Latin American Studies at the Teresa Lozano-Long Institute for Latin American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research focuses on the influence and intersection of immigration policy and health care policy on transnational lives. Her previous work focused on the health maintenance strategies of a group of undocumented and transnational Mexican immigrants living in rural Michoacán and an urban center in Michigan. She documented how a Migrant Hometown Association functioned to provide much needed expensive health care for uninsured undocumented immigrants. Her research trajectory includes expanding her work to include documenting the health strategies of undocumented Mexican dairy farm workers in Michigan and Texas.

Most recently, her applied work conducting qualitative assessment for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services through the Michigan Public Health Institute has contributed to changing and improving Medicaid accessibility for underserved populations after the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid Expansion in the State of Michigan. Over the years she has worked tirelessly to promote social justice and equality within the areas of education and health care for migrants and immigrants in Michigan communities. She teaches courses in general Medical Anthropology, Global Cultures, Issues in Latino Health. Dr. Montemayor is also a Faculty Research Associate for the Center for Mexican American Studies.

Faculty Awards and Achievements

Naomi Cleghorn, Assistant professor of Anthropology

Assistant Professor Naomi Cleghorn (Anthropology) has received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching (untenured category) for her work in the classroom and mentoring graduate students. Dr. Cleghorn was honored May 5, 2015 at the Spring Meeting of the University Faculty and Associates.



This summer, Dr. Cleghorn was awarded a National Science Foundation grant in support of her project "Long Term Human Response to Sea Level Change." This archaeological research on early human adaptation in South Africa is also supported by a prestigious Leakey Foundation grant. In 2015, she led a team of researchers and students working at a site near Knysna, South Africa, on the southern coast of the continent. The site dates to a rarely represented time period-between 44,000 and 18,000 years ago-and holds never-



before-seen evidence of early human evolution. "There has been a lot of work in sites dating from 120,000 to 50,000 years ago and plenty of research done at sites younger than 18,000 years ago," she said in a January article, "but there are few sites in between those time periods. The population in that region leading up to this time was one of the largest on Earth compared to other groups around the globe. But there's a drop off in sites dating between 44,000-18,000 years ago, and this needs explanation."

Cleghorn's team this year included researchers from South Africa, Brazil, Australia, Canada, and across the U.S., as well as UTA McNair Scholar Sara Watson, UTA graduate students Erin Nichols and Christopher Shelton, and recent Maverick alumni Hannah Keller and Daniel Peart. This fall, Sara Watson was awarded a McNair Scholarship by the UTA Friends of the Library for her contribution to this project. See more at: <http://www.uta.edu/news/releases/2015/02/cleghorn-leakey-grant.php#sthash.TXsV7MrG.dpuf> (Story by James Dunning/COLA Communications, jdunning@uta.edu).

Christian Zlolniski, Associate professor of Anthropology & Director, Center for Mexican American Studies



A new book, *De Jornaleros A Colonos: Residencia, Trabajo e Identidad en el Valle De San Quintín* by Anthropologist, Dr. Christian Zlolniski co-authored with sociologist Laura Velasco and demographer Marie Laure Coubes from COLEF in Mexico, examines the perennial demand for fresh produce in the United States and the effect of a robust agro-export business on workers in Mexico.

Zlolniski's book sheds light on how transnational agribusinesses in Mexico are growing crops to meet U.S. demand. The book examines the living conditions of farmworkers in Valle de San Quintin, Baja California, an agricultural community located 190 miles south of San Diego. "Despite the harsh life and low paying jobs, I was surprised by the energy and commitment of these farmworkers to adopt this new region as their home," he said. "There was very little there before they moved in. So they are not only growing the foods we eat, but they're building the place where they live from scratch." He and his colleagues also have published articles based on the research in *De Jornaleros A Colonos* in English-and Spanish-language academic journals. Article by James Dunning, Communications assistant, Liberal Arts. College of Liberal Arts Newsroom, June 16, 2015.

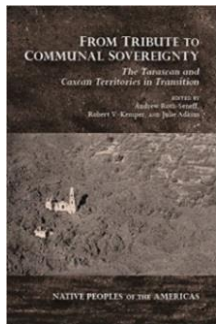


Faculty Profiles

Teach Inspire* Motivate**

Julie Adkins, Anthropology

Dr. Adkins is pleased to be finished with, and to welcome into print, *From Tribute to Communal Sovereignty: The Tarascan and Caxcan Areas in Transition* (University of Arizona), co-edited with her late husband, Robert V. Kemper (Southern Methodist University), and Andrew Roth-Seneff (Colegio de Michoacán, Zamora, Mich., México). She is working on an article for a special issue of the journal *City and Society* on urban religions. She continues to



enjoy introducing students to the joys of anthropology in the introductory class and is also teaching *Language in Culture and Society* this fall. In a remnant of her previous life, Dr. Adkins is preaching most Sundays at First Presbyterian Church, Winnsboro; and in her free time (?) sings with Dallas's Arts District Chorale and the Cathedral Camerata of St. Matthew's Episcopal Cathedral. (Ask her for her rendition of George and Ira Gershwin's "Little Jazz Bird"....)

David Arditi, Sociology

David Arditi is excited to be joining the Sociology faculty. Prior to joining the department, David was an Assistant Professor

of Interdisciplinary Studies at UTA. His research is related to the impact of technology on society from a Cultural perspective. He will be introducing new classes in Sociology related to the Sociology of Science and Technology, Cultural Studies and Popular Culture. Last year, David published his first book entitled *iTake-Over: The Recording Industry in the Digital Era* by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.



Additionally, he published two journal articles entitled "Digital

Down-sizing: The Effects of Digital Music Production on Musician Labor" and "Downloading is Killing Music: The Recording Industry's Piracy Panic Narrative." Currently, David is working on a new book entitled *Music Everywhere: The Digital Music Trap*.

Krystal Beamon, Sociology

Dr. Krystal Beamon received her Bachelors, Masters, and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University. She joined UTA in the fall of 2008 after a three year tenure-track position at The University of Oklahoma. She was awarded tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor in Sociology in 2015 from the University of Texas Arlington. Her primary areas of scholarship are Race and Ethnicity, Sociology of Sport, and Inequality. She is a 2011-

2012 Service-Learning Faculty fellow. Dr. Beamon will be teaching Introduction to Sociology and Race and Ethnicity this Spring.

Kelly Bergstrand, Sociology

Dr. Kelly Bergstrand continues her research into what traits of social and environmental causes make people more (or less) willing to care about the issue or take action for social movement campaigns. This August, she presented on her research, "The Good, The Bad, and The Mobilized: Applying Affect Control Theory to Social Movements," at the annual American Sociological Association meeting in Chicago. She was also a coauthor on an article published this summer in *Sociological Forum* that looked at how disaster compensation processes affected community recovery after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. She teaches courses on environmental sociology, social statistics, and research methods.

Naomi Cleghorn, Anthropology

This summer, Dr. Cleghorn led a seven-week archaeological field expedition on the southern coast of South Africa. Her team included recent UTA graduates Hannah Keller (B.A. 2014), Erin Nichols (M.A. 2015), Daniel Peart (B.A. 2013, now a doctoral candidate at Ohio State U.), and Christopher Shelton (M.A. 2015), current UTA McNair Scholar, Sara Watson, and students from other universities of the US, South Africa, and Australia. Dr. Cleghorn is investigating early modern human responses to significant shifts in shoreline position and environmental change. This summer, her excavation at a coastal cave near



the town of Knysna uncovered a wide area of campfires used more than 20,000 years ago. Previous research shows the site was used at least as early as 44,000 years ago. Samples collected this summer will provide a much more detailed and possibly longer chronology. This summer's research was supported by funds from both the Leakey and Templeton Foundations, and the project has just been awarded a three year National Science Foundation grant.

Brian Connor, Sociology

Dr. Connor's research is largely in the fields of political sociology, cultural sociology, and sociological theory. He recently published a co-authored article, "Durkheim, Punishment, and Prison Privatization." This paper examined the trend of prison privatization in the U.S. from a Durkheimian perspective, looking to see how this shift might affect the symbolic and cultural aspects of punishment in society. His research also focuses on the relationship between politics and inequality. One work in progress examines how sociologists' definitions of politics and the political may in fact limit the venues where inequality can be mapped. Dr. Connor teaches in the areas of theory, culture, and politics as well. Currently he is teaching undergraduate and graduate theory, as well as a course in social movements. In the spring he will continue to teach social movements and also teach a course on the sociology of music.

Scott Ingram, Anthropology

Scott Ingram spent much of his summer writing an invited article titled, "Southwestern Archaeology Beyond Archaeology: Past, Present, and Future." The article (with co-author Dennis Gilpin) organizes his thinking about the public benefits and consumers of archaeology and how archaeologists can contribute insights to global-scale issues. It will be published this spring in the 75th anniversary of the primary Southwestern archaeology journal, *Kiva*. He also completed his contribution to a multi-authored article submitted to the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences: Climate Challenges, Vulnerability, and Food Security (lead author, Margaret Nelson). He enjoys promoting the Anthropology program on campus and meets with dozens of students each semester to discuss the Anthropology major. He is leading the new conference course, "Career Work-shop for Anthropology Majors," this fall and is excited about team-teaching with Dr. Karl Petruso a redesigned "Great Discoveries in Archaeology" course this spring.

Heather Jacobson, Sociology

Heather Jacobson continues her work on contemporary gestational surrogacy in the United States. Her book *Labor of Love: Gestational Surrogacy and the Work of Making Babies* is forthcoming with Rutgers University Press. Based on three years of fieldwork with surrogates, in *Labor of Love* Heather examines how commercial gestational surrogates experience and make sense of their work as surrogates and how they negotiate the complex ideological discourse of "work"

and "family" within the assisted reproduction marketplace. She presented a paper, "Family Work: Commercial Surrogates and their Families in the United States" at the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting in New York City in 2015 and is co-organizing a mini-conference on reproduction at the upcoming ESS meetings in Boston in early 2016. She is Director of Graduate Studies for the MA in Sociology program. She teaches courses on race and family, reproduction, theory, and qualitative research methods.

Ritu Khanduri, Anthropology

Dr. Ritu Gairola Khanduri researches on media material culture, Gandhi, gender and science in the context of India and the Indian diaspora. Her book, [Caricaturing Culture in India: Cartoons and History in the Modern World](#), was published by Cambridge University Press (2014). As part of her public engagement, this past year she contributed two essays in response to the Charlie Hebdo cartoons episode in Paris. She was interviewed about her book on political cartoons and free speech by several media outlets, including [India Abroad](#) and NPR's "All Things Considered." This summer Dr. Khanduri met Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India, and discussed her book. She is pursuing two projects on Gandhi and developing new research on comic books. Her recent invited talks include a paper on comic books at the democracy in India conference at the University of Michigan and on cultural anthropology at the AAA meeting in DC. She serves as an elected member of the AAA's Committee on World Anthropologies. She is the faculty mentor for Lambda

Alpha. Dr. Khanduri enjoys seeing her students' course work presented in seminars and appearing in publications. She is passionate about teaching South Asia, India, Gandhi, visual culture and more broadly, public engagement with cultural anthropology. She enjoys running, twitter, vegetarian cuisine, cooking for family and friends, music and films.

Robert Kunovich, Sociology

Dr. Kunovich conducts research in the areas of race, ethnicity, and nation; political sociology; and the sociology of risk. He is currently working on several research projects. One of these utilizes data from the Houston Area Survey to examine perceived racial group size. The purpose of this paper is to better understand why most people dramatically misestimate the size of racial and ethnic groups in their community. Dr. Kunovich is also beginning a new project in the area of sociology of risk. He is particularly interested in prepping and survivalism. He is thoroughly enjoying the process of starting a new project in a new area. Professor Kunovich is currently teaching Social Statistics at the graduate level. He will be teaching Sociology of Risk at the undergraduate level in the spring. When he is not working, Professor Kunovich enjoys

playing music and kayak fishing. He plays guitar, harmonica, double



bass, and is trying to keep up with his kids on piano. He enjoys fishing at Lake Lewisville and Lake Tawakoni.

Isabel Montemayor, Anthropology

Dr. Isabel Montemayor continues her research on the impact of Health Care Policy and Immigration Policy on transnational lives. She will be presenting her research "New Avenues for Care: How Mexican Immigrants Challenge Forms of Governmentality Inhibiting Health Care Access" at the annual American Anthropological Association meeting in Denver, Colorado. She will be presenting another paper, "Palanca: Pushing Through Health Care With Leverage" at the Society for Applied Anthropology meeting in Vancouver, Canada in the Spring. Over the summer (2015) Dr. Montemayor was Senior Research Associate at the Michigan Public Health Institute where she investigated the patient and provider responses to Michigan's expanded form of Medicaid, she is currently working on a series of publications related to this research. She teaches Medical Anthropology, Global Cultures and Topics in Latino Health.

Karl Petruso, Anthropology

Professor Petruso directed the Honors College study abroad program in Greece in summer



2015, in which ANTH major Sandra Vaquera participated. He published a paper on Iron Age balance weights and weighing in an excavation report of an ancient cemetery in Cyprus in late 2014, and has three invited papers in press for *The Sea in World History: Exploration, Travel and Trade*.

He delivered an invited lecture last fall at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta on nautical archaeology in the eastern Mediterranean, and presented a paper on the western frontier of Egypt in classical antiquity at the annual World History Association of Texas conference in Austin this past spring.

Linda Rouse, Sociology

Dr. Linda Rouse taught core courses in Social Statistics and Social Research, and in the Social Psychology area concentration, Individual & Society and Self & Social Identities. As a social psychologist her own research addresses diverse aspects of the individual in social context.

Josephine Ryan, Anthropology

Dr. Joci Ryan is a cultural Anthropologist with interests including food and culture, gender and sexuality, human rights, public health, and medical anthropology. This spring she will be teaching Food and Culture and Anthropology of Sexuality. She served as the Graduate Advisor for the Anthropology Program from 2009-2015. She will serve as faculty advisor on the December 2015 SMU Embrey Human Rights Program's annual study tour of Holocaust sites in Poland.

Beth Anne Shelton, Sociology

Beth Anne Shelton earned her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. After holding faculty positions in Ohio and New York, she moved back to Texas and began working at the University of Texas at Arlington. Her work primarily focuses on gendered patterns of time use in the home, in the paid labor force and in

volunteer work. Most of her research addresses the relationship between work and family, focusing on how the inner workings of the home impact individuals' labor force activities as well as how the constraints of work impact families, including children, mothers and fathers. She also has interests related to higher education and recently coauthored "Time, Motion, Discipline: The Authoritarian Syllabus on American College Campuses" with Ben Agger. She teaches courses on family, work and the intersection of the two. For leisure she plays tennis and runs, although the latter feels more like work.

Jason Shelton, Sociology

Jason E. Shelton's primary research interests concern the Sociology of religion, as well as the intersections of race, class, and political/social attitudes in the Post-Civil Rights Era. His articles have appeared in *Social Science Quarterly*, *Du Bois Review*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Journal of African American Studies*, *American Behavioral Scientist* and other respected publications. New York University Press published his first book, *Blacks and Whites in Christian America: How Racial Discrimination Shapes Religious Convictions*, which won the distinguished book award, sponsored by the Southern Conference on African American Studies and was recognized by the American Sociological Association's Section on the Sociology of Religion. Dr. Shelton has been interviewed by major media outlets for news stories relevant to his research such as the *Chicago Tribune*, *USA Today*, the *British Broadcasting Company (BBC)*, *Houston Chronicle*, and network television

affiliates in the Dallas/Fort Worth Area.

Shelley Smith, Anthropology

Professor Smith serves as the Anthropology Program Director and the department's Associate Chair. She has recently been working with the Department of Biology to promote cross-listing of courses with biological anthropology and bioarchaeology/zoarchaeology content; the first such cross-lists will occur this spring (Paleoanthropology, formerly titled Human Evolution, and Zooarchaeology). In addition, she is preparing a new course in Evolutionary Medicine. Over this past year, Dr. Smith has worked on multiple manuscripts from several projects. One project, in collaboration with colleagues from the Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, examines maxillary sinus volumetric and surface area growth in children and adolescents; a second explores the historical connections among eugenics, medical genetics, and genetic counseling; and a third is devoted to placing the commentary on the race concept and human variation of paleoanthropologist C. Loring Brace in historical context and demonstrating its continued relevance for today's scholars and the public at large.

Amy Speier, Anthropology

Dr. Amy Speier is a medical anthropologist specializing in medical anthropology, with a focus on reproductive health, globalization and medical tourism. In the summer of 2015, she continued interviewing egg donors in the Czech Republic. Her manuscript *Fertility Holidays*, is based on a multi-



year ethnographic project about North Americans who travel to the Czech Republic for assisted reproductive technologies. In the book, she traces North American fertility journeys to the Czech Republic, examining the multiple motivations that compel them to travel halfway across the globe in their quest for parenthood. Dr. Speier is currently teaching Global Cultures and Research Methods.

Robert Young, Sociology

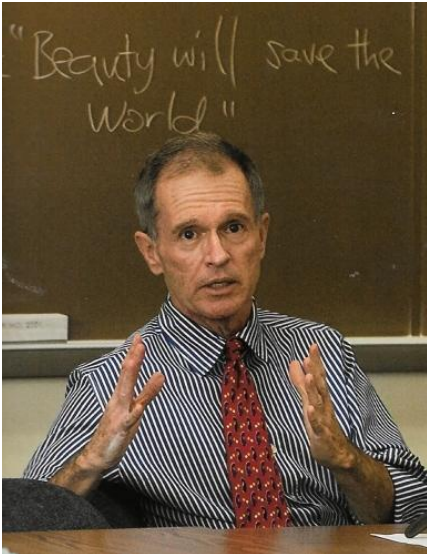
Professor Young teaches courses on Individual and Society, Deviance, Research Methods and Small Groups. His scholarly interests lie within the domains of symbolic interactionism, cognitive sociology and social psychology. His most recent research has dealt with such topics as social interaction processes, the sociology of language and discourse and attitude structures, the role of emotions in human action, the nature of human-animal relationships and nonhuman animal mind. During the past year, his ethnographic research on animal rescue groups focused on the ways in which groups interactively construct difficult decisions about matters of moral consequence. He presented "The Interactional Construction of Moral Discourse and Moral Decisions" at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. His co-authored journal article "Morality as a Discursive Accomplishment among Animal Rescue Workers" is currently under editorial review.

Christian Zolniski, Anthropology

As a social anthropologist, Christian Zolniski's interests focus on labor and transnational migration in Mexico and the United States. Dr. Z is director of the Center for Mexican American and Latino studies. He teaches courses in Anthropology and Mexican American and Latino Studies; he enjoys motivating his students to pursue their research interests and professional goals.



In MEMORY Of



Ben Agger, Professor of Sociology, Director of the Center for Theory and Editor of *Fast Capitalism* passed away on July 14, 2015 in Arlington. Areas of specialization are critical theory and cultural/media studies.

Ben was born in Eugene, Oregon in 1952 but his family moved to Canada, where he received his undergraduate and master's degrees at York University. In 1976, at the age of 24, Ben received his Ph.D. in political economy from the University of Toronto. He married Beth Anne Shelton in Buffalo, N.Y. In 1994 he joined the faculty of the University of Texas at Arlington where he served as dean of the College of Liberal Arts. In 1998 he was appointed director of the Center for Theory at UTA, a position he held until his death. In addition to teaching and mentoring countless undergraduate and graduate students, which he did with passion, Ben served on several editorial boards and was the founding editor of *Fast Capitalism*. He published dozens of articles and more than 20 books. At the time of his death, Ben had additional books in progress including one on which he was collaborating with his spouse and colleague, Dr. Beth Anne Shelton.

Besides his rich academic life, Ben was above all else a proud and doting father and an avid runner, competing in numerous races, including marathons and 5K races. Dr. Agger was a good friend and colleague to the UTA community and will be greatly missed.



Susan Gonzalez Baker, Associate Professor of Sociology and former Director of the Center for Mexican American Studies, passed away on June 30, 2015.

Dr. Baker received her BA in Sociology and Psychology in 1983 from Trinity University in San Antonio, her MA in Sociology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1985, and her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1989.

She was the Director of the Center for Mexican American Studies from 2005 to 2013 while serving as an instructor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Her research areas included Mexican migration to the United States, experiences of Mexican immigrant women in US labor markets, U.S. immigration policy, and race/ethnic differences in homelessness in the U.S.

Dr. Baker served as a Board Member for the United Way of Tarrant County Diversity Committee. This volunteer service allowed her to assist the United Way of Tarrant County in improving the diversity of its donors and funded projects to serve the underrepresented Latino community. Dr. Susan Baker will be greatly missed by family and friends.

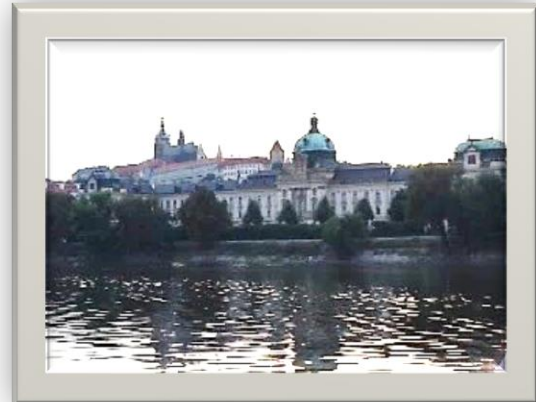
FACULTY RESEARCH & STUDY ABROAD 2015

South Africa



Dr. Naomi Cleghorn, Anthropology, led a team of researchers and students to a site near Knysna, South Africa. Funding was through a grant from the Leaky Foundation.

Czech Republic



Dr. Amy Speier, Anthropology, continued to interview Czech Republic egg donors at two different clinics in Prague, Czech Republic.

Greece



Dr. Karl Petruso, Anthropology, Honors study abroad in Greece. Students and faculty at the site of the Temple Poseidon at Sounion (5th century BCE) on the Coast near Athens.

India



Dr. Ritu Khanduri, Anthropology, meeting with Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India, July 29, 2015 and presenting him with her published book, "*Caricaturing Culture in India: Cartoons and History in the Modern World.*"

Sociology & Anthropology Students

Celebration of Achievement Ceremony



Scenes from the festivities at the Celebration of Achievement Ceremony

The Annual Department of Sociology and Anthropology Awards Ceremony was held May 6, 2015. The guest speaker was Zachary Overfield (ANTH MA 2013). Zack is a project archaeologist for Perennial Environmental Services, LLC in Houston, where he designs and implements cultural resource surveys in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and numerous other federal and state regulations. (2014, *Spring, UT Arlington Magazine, Alumni News*, 47). The following students were honored.

Graduating Anthropology Seniors were Curtis Brown, Charlotte Dannen, Shawn Dunlap^c, Nia Green^c, Rosa Hayes^c, Ryan Komisarz, Hayley Mumaw^m, Rachel Nemeth^c, and Thiviyah Raman^c. *

Graduating Sociology Seniors were Bianca Arielle Brobbey, Curtis Brown, Candace Call, Christina Carney^c, Andres Castillo, Norma Cortez Rios, Cynthia Dorries, Adriana Espinosa^s, Priscilla Frimpong, Porsha Gunishaw, Laurie Mitchell^c, Patricia O'Brien, Norma Ponce, Alma Ramirez, Teresa Santos, Falisa Turner, Latisha Vincent, and Melanie Wheeler. *

**Summa Cum Laude*^(s), *Magna Cum Laude*^(m), *Cum Laude*^(c)

Graduating Anthropology Master's Students were Destiny Micklin, Erin Nichols, and Christopher Shelton.

Graduating Sociology Master's Students were Lukas Szrot, Sharnese Thompson, and John Yowell.

The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology went to KeAmber Green.

ASA Student Department Prize in Honor of Dr. Frank Weed was awarded to Anne Base, KeAmber Green, Jamaica Kennedy, Reynaldo Rangel, James Reinoehl and Erin Taylor.

COLA Conference Travel Support was awarded to Christopher Shelton and Lukas Szrot.

Anthropology Honor Roll Recipients who maintained a GPA of 3.5 or higher within the major and 3.0 overall were Natalie Beavers, Aaron Casperson, Zacary Cotton, Randall Cox, Jeremy Dubhros, Kaitlin Fischer, Joseph Gilchrist, Meredith Kelland, Eric Lamb, Meghan Lowrey, Megan Martin, Lillian Pena, Alexandra Perez, Noemi Rodriguez, Alondra Smith and Kirk West.

Sociology Honor Roll Recipients who maintained a GPA of 3.5 or higher within the major and 3.0 overall were Noah Amb, Cassy Barnard, Bethany Burrows, Diana Garcia, KeAmber Green, Laura Maddock, and Christian Perez.

Anthropology Scholars who maintained a GPA of 3.5 and completed more than 12 hours of coursework within the major were Shawn Dunlap, Nia Green, Rosa Hayes, Marlen Ibarra, Adam Krajewski, Ivy Lopez, Hayley Mumaw, Rachel Nemeth, Chelsea Sims, Katelin Smith and Sara Watson.

Sociology Scholars who maintained a GPA of 3.5 and completed more than 12 hours of coursework within the major were Curtis Brown, Christina Carney, Adriana Espinosa, Jacob Garza, Kasie Harper, Tony Hughes, Laurie Mitchell, James Reinoehl, and Teresa Santos.

Sociology students who pursued a specific area of concentration with a minimum of 12 semester hours in 1. Deviance and Social Control; 2. Family & Gender Studies; 3. Research & Evaluation; 4. Social Psychology; 5. Social Diversity were Bianca Arielle Brobbey², Curtis Brown², Candace Call², Christina Carney², Porsha Gunishaw⁵, Patricia O'Brien², and Latisha Vincent².

Liberal Arts Endowed Scholarship recipient was KeAmber Green.

Junior Woman's Club of Fort Worth Endowed Scholarship recipient was Christina Carney.

College of Liberal Arts (COLA) Scholars were Shawn Dunlap, Adriana Espinosa, Jacob Garza, Kasie Harper, and Rosa Hayes.

Lambda Alpha Inductees were Randall Cox, Jeremy Dubhros, Nia Green, Rosa Hayes, Eric Lamb, Hayley Mumaw, Rachel Nemeth, Veronica Rae Pinson, Thiviyah Raman, Sandra Vaquera, and Sara Watson.

Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees were Noah Ambs, Jordasha Atchison, Christina Carney, LaTonya Davison, Laurie Mitchell, Meagan Sanders, Teresa Santos, Chase White, and John Yowell.

Suzanne & Paul Baldon and Linda Gregg & Matthew Craig Award in Anthropology went to Shawn Dunlap and Rosa Hayes.



Finals week: Super Hero Station

This event was hosted by the Department of Sociology & Anthropology for the first time in the spring 2015 and was quite a success. More than 60 students stopped by the office during finals week to replenish their super powers with Scantrons, pencils, drinks and snacks. They were able to relax in a designated quiet place to study or take a power nap!

Sociology and Anthropology Graduates Final Theses

GORDON BLOCK, *Anthropology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Speier

Motivating Martial Artists: An Examination Of The Drives And Lessons Learned Among Taekwondo Students.

Fall 2014

DESTINY MICKLIN, *Anthropology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Shelley Smith

Using Isotope Analysis To Understand The Interaction Between Migration And Burial At The Eastern Structure of Group 1 At Actuncan, A Maya Archaeological Site In Belize.

Spring 2015

ERIN NICHOLS, *Anthropology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Shelley Smith

Exhibiting the Evidence: Human Evolution and A Modern Science Museum. *Spring 2015*

REBEKAH RUPEL, *Anthropology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Ritu Khanduri

Growing Community By Growing Food: A Comparative Study Of Two Community Gardens In North Texas.

Fall 2014

CHRISTOPHER SHELTON, *Anthropology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Naomi Cleghorn

Parameters for Lithic Raw Material Choice. *Spring 2015*

LUKAS SZROT, *Sociology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Ben Agger

The Idols Of Modernity: The Humanity Of Science And The Science Of Humanity. *Spring 2015*

SHARNESE THOMPSON, *Sociology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Ben Agger

Addressing The Grocery Gap: An Ethnographic Study Of Food Access In Three Tarrant County Neighborhoods. *Spring 2015*

JOHN YOWELL, *Sociology*

Committee Chair: Dr. Ben Agger

If The Hells Are Not Empty: Buddhism As Engaged Critical Social Theory. *Spring 2015*

STUDENT ALUMNI:

WHERE THEIR DEGREES HAVE TAKEN THEM



Molly Beyer, Anthropology

Received her BA in Anthropology in 2013. She is in the UTHSC program and planning research in Sierra Leon.

Christian Crowder, Anthropology

Received his MA in Anthropology in 2001. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto in 2005. He recently moved back to Texas and is employed at an ME office in Houston.

Crystal Daniel, Anthropology

Received her MA in Anthropology in 2013. She is employed at Cooks Children's Medical Center.

Gabriel Escobedo, Anthropology

Received his BA in Anthropology in 2014. He is in the graduate program in Anthropology at Indiana State University.

Carl Feagans, Anthropology

Received his masters in Anthropology in 2014. Recently published a paper, *Culture and History Digital Journal* 3(1), June 2014 "Sacred, Secular, and Ecological Discourses: the Sethusamundram Project". Paper revised following presentation in South Asia course (Khanduri)

Shannon Kern, Sociology

Shannon Kern made her first speaking engagement at SUNY Potsdam State University of New York. She was one of three presenters in October speaking on "Civic Engagement Experience-America's Marriage Equality Movement" and discussed the emergence of gay identity and the resulting LGBTQ rights movement throughout the 20th century.

Ashley Wendell Kranjac, Sociology

Received her Master of Arts in Sociology at UTA in 2012 and her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Buffalo Suny in 2015. Her publications include, "The Moderating Effect of Self-Efficacy on Normal Weight, Overweight, and Obese Children's Math Achievement: A Longitudinal Analysis," February 2014 and "McDonaldizing Croatia," American Sociological Association, Contexts, Food Issue August 2014. Kranjac has been accepted into a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Kinder Institute for Urban Research and the Department of Sociology at Rice University.

Reagan Lockwood, Sociology

Reagan Lockwood has been offered a position in the Masters of Occupational Therapy Program at TWU Houston.

Megan Meier, Anthropology

Received her BA in Honors Program at UTA in 2010. She is in the Ph.D. program in Criminal Justice at Texas State University.

Elizabeth Nelson, Anthropology

Elizabeth Nelson received her BA at UTA in 2012. For the past two years Elizabeth Nelson has attended the University of North Texas Health Science Center as a Ph.D. student in the Structural Anatomy and Rehabilitation program where she has been trained in clinical anatomy and forensic anthropology. Her research focused on anatomical changes and clinical symptoms of diet/environmental toxicity and identifying these conditions in the paleopathological record. She is in the process of transferring to Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History in Germany to complete her Ph.D. and will complete her experience at UNTHSC with a MSc in Biomedical Sciences. At Max Planck Institute, she will study Molecular Paleopathology and Ancient Pathogen Genomics under Dr. Kirsten Bos and Holocene/Pleistocene Population Genetics under Dr. Wolfgang Haak. Her research will focus in bacterial infections specifically evolution and migration of specific strains, while also investigating the populating of the Americas.

William Nutt, Anthropology

Received his MA in Anthropology in 2014. He is a Federal Investigator in Dallas' U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

Alma Ramirez, Sociology

Alma Ramirez is employed with MHMR (Mental Health Mental Retardation Center) in Tarrant County.

Leslie Smith, Anthropology

Received her MA in Anthropology in 2011. She completed her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences at the Baylor College of Dentistry, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Dallas in Spring 2015.

Christopher Shelton, Anthropology

Received his MA in Anthropology spring 2015. Chris is a contract worker with Cultural Resource Management and a Field Lead with SWCA Environmental Consultants and with Perennial Environmental Services, LLC.

Lindsey Teel, Sociology

Lindsey Teel is employed as Policy Advisor with the United States Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. In this role she works on a policy team which is tasked with crafting policies that break down barriers to employment for people with disabilities.

Philip Whitfield, Anthropology

Received his BA at UTA in Anthropology in 2013. He has been accepted into the graduate program in Visual Anthropology at SFSU.

Lukas Szrot, Sociology

Received his MA in Sociology in Spring 2015. He has been accepted into the Ph.D. Program at the University of Kansas. His research was accepted for presentation at this year's ACES symposium.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Anthro Club



The Anthropology Club kicked off with a great start this year with a new set of officers: Alex Melton, President, Jeremy Dubhros, Vice-President, Fatima Hirsi, Secretary, Eric Lamb, Treasurer, Veronica Pinson, Omnigrapher, and Dr. Amy Speier, Faculty Advisor. Our plans include museum visits, distinguished brown bag lecturers, exciting events like flint knapping, and helping with the annual goat roast hosted by Dr. Naomi Cleghorn. We are looking forward to continuing with social events like our cultural lunches at local venues. We seek to promote increased awareness of local and national events in anthropology while encouraging fun activities for our student body. For more information on the Anthro Club you may go to <http://mavorgs.collegiatelink.net/organization/anthropologyclub>.

Lambda Alpha (The Anthropological Honor Society Alpha Chapter of Texas)



Lambda Alpha is a dynamic national collegiate organization which nurtures and rewards undergraduate and graduate students' excellence in Anthropology. This year in addition to assisting with the Termini Lecture and Brown Bag series, we will be focusing on developing professional and scholarly skills such as networking and research. We will be attending conferences and lectures throughout the year. This year will also see the introduction of social hours, events designed to give members an opportunity to discuss anthropological topics and career paths. 2015-16 Lambda Alpha Officers are Sara Watson, President, Randall Cox, Vice-President, Veronica Pinson, Secretary, Eric Lamb, Treasurer, and Dr. Ritu Khanduri, Faculty Advisor.

Sociology Student Association (SSA)



The Sociology Student Association (SSA) is an officially recognized, student-led organization at the University of Texas Arlington. The purpose of SSA is to demonstrate the practical and theoretical aspects of Sociology in ways beneficial to its undergraduate and graduate students and the surrounding Arlington community.

Membership is not limited to sociology majors. SSA activities include career development events, educational activities, community involvement, and social events. Each semester's activities are determined by the student members. SSA officers are KeAmber Green, President, and Meagan Ladd, Vice-President. Faculty advisors are Dr. Krystal Beamon and Dr. Jason Shelton.

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)



The Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) Sociological Honor Society Omicron Chapter of Texas welcomed new sociology scholars from UTA to its ranks during the 2013-2014 year. Dr. Jason Shelton and Dr. Krystal Beamon, Faculty Advisors and Chapter Representatives for AKD, inducted new initiates at last year's ceremony co-sponsored with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Lambda Alpha. The ceremony also honored UTA's own Sociology Scholars and Sociology Honor Roll students with a reception and banquet afterward. AKD also assists with funding for students interested in attending or presenting at professional conventions. To stay informed of the latest national AKD news, join the Facebook group: Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society, and for more information on the Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society of Sociology you can go to: <http://alphakappadeltainternational.com>.

WE RECOGNIZE FOUR STUDENT SCHOLARS

Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology



The **Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology** was presented at the department's Celebration of Achievement Ceremony in the spring of 2015 to **KeAmber Green**. KeAmber Green will be a junior next year. She has been on the Dean's list since her arrival at UTA in the fall of 2013. She received the Maverick Leadership Scholarship Award in 2013-2014. She participates in the Sociology Student Association, the NAACP, the Society for Human Resource Management, and the Leadership Honors Program. She holds a 3.933 GPA and works as a student assistant in the Facilities and Operations Department at the Central Library. In her spare time (!), she volunteers at Mission Arlington. Her "ultimate goal is to open up an office that hosts a variety of accountants, economists, market researchers, and fellow HR consultants to be a resource to local black businesses."

The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology was established by their son, Blaine Williams and his wife, Elaine Davenport. Blaine T. Williams, Sr. and his wife, Jean Wood Williams were pioneers in the Dallas-Fort Worth Sociology and Social Work community. The scholarship is awarded annually to a junior or senior majoring in Sociology at the University of Texas Arlington.

Paul and Suzanne Baldon & Matthew Craig and Linda Gregg Awards in Anthropology

Shawn Dunlap and Rosa Hayes each received a \$200 gift from Suzanne and Paul Baldon and Matthew Craig and Linda Gregg to be used toward the purchase of textbooks for the fall 2015 semester.



Shawn Dunlap is an Anthropology major and member of Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honor Society which recognizes and honors superior achievement in Anthropology among students. In April 2015 Shawn was honored as a COLA scholar at the College of Liberal Arts awards ceremony.



Rosa Hayes is an Anthropology major and member of Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honor Society. In April 2015 Rosa was honored as a COLA scholar at the College of Liberal Arts Awards Ceremony.

McNair Scholar

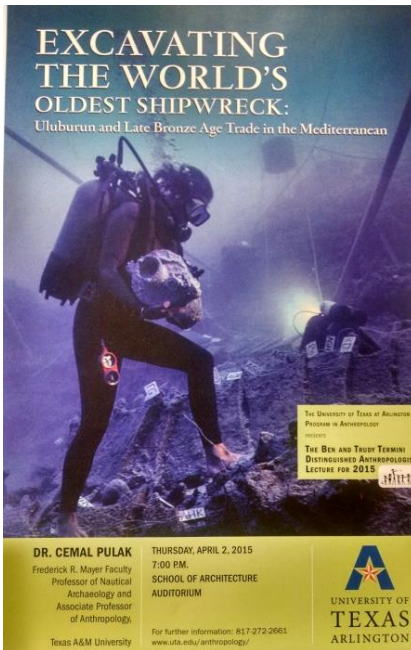
Sara Watson, Anthropology major and McNair Scholar, presented her summer 2015 research paper "Comparative Analysis of MSA to LSA Transitional Technologies in the Cape Floral Region, South Africa. Mentor was Dr. Naomi Cleghorn, Assistant Professor of Anthropology. She was awarded the McNair Scholarship by the UTA Friends of the Library for her contribution to this project.

The McNair Scholars Program is designed to prepare qualified UT Arlington undergraduates for graduate study culminating in the Ph.D. The program thus provides many benefits to assist scholars to become more competitive in the graduate school application process, leading to their admission to top-ranked programs and facilitating a smooth integration into graduate-level work.



Termini Lecture Series 2015

EXCAVATING THE WORLD'S OLDEST SHIPWRECK: Uluburun and Late Bronze Age Trade in the Mediterranean



The Ben and Trudy Termini Distinguished Anthropologist Lecture for 2015 welcomed **Dr. Cemal M. Pulak**, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Texas A&M University, where he is the Frederick R. Mayer Faculty Professor of Nautical Archaeology. In addition, he holds the position of Vice President and Director of Research for the Institute of Nautical Archaeology in Turkey.



Dr. Pulak received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Bosphorus University in Istanbul. He served as Second Lieutenant, Engineer in the Turkish Navy in the late 1970s. He received the M.A. (1987) and Ph.D. (1996) in Anthropology from Texas A&M. From 1983 to 1997 he worked with Professor George F. Bass in the underwater archaeological surveys of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology in the Mediterranean. In addition to his ongoing research on the Uluburun ship and its cargo, Dr. Pulak has been Director of Excavations of the Sultan's Galley (Kadirga) Project of the Istanbul Naval Museum since 1999, and of the excavation of 37 Byzantine shipwrecks discovered in the Theodosian Harbor at Yenikapı (also in Istanbul), since 2005.

He has been Director of Research Trade and Economy since 1983, and he has lectured all over the world. At A&M, Dr. Pulak teaches in the Graduate Program in Nautical Archaeology, which is housed in the Department of Anthropology. His courses focus on Bronze Age maritime trade, technology, seafaring, and nautical archaeology of the eastern Mediterranean. He is one of the preeminent specialists in the world on these topics.

Donations, Gifts, & Endowments

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Ben and Trudy Termini, Endowed Lecture Series, Anthropology
Blaine Williams and Elaine Davenport, Endowed Scholarship, Sociology

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Sam and Celia Stigall, Department donors
Gwendolyn J. Notestine, Department donor

