

## Department of Anthropology Newsletter

### Chair's Welcome



Mark Plew, Chair

I am pleased to introduce this issue of the Anthropology Department newsletter. As always, the newsletter affords us an opportunity to highlight the many individual and collective accomplishments of the past year. During the past year faculty have been active in research, publication, and receipt of external funding.

The faculty published numerous scholarly works that included books, book chapters, journal articles and monographs. They presented papers at professional meetings, provided journal reviews, and reviewed a number of grant proposals. Their research efforts were supported by their receipt of grants and contracts totally more than \$250,000. Faculty conducted regional field research in Idaho, Oregon and Minnesota, and internationally in Siberia and northeastern Guyana. The department continues to expand its international programs. Dr. John Ziker was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Canada in conjunction with his NSF sponsored researches in Siberia and the Canadian Arctic and is in residence at the University of Calgary. The department conducted the third annual Denis Williams Archaeological Field School (DWAFF) with the University of Guyana and the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology at the Wyva Creek Shell Mound in northeastern Guyana. DWAFF provides training in archaeological methods to Guyanese university students. The department has also assumed the responsibility for electronic publishing of Guyana's national anthropology journal, *Archaeology and Anthropology*. The department continues its cooperative work with a number of federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service. Internally, the department continues its cooperation with faculty with the Department of Geosciences in administer-

ing the Geoarchaeology major, and with the departments of Geosciences and Computer Sciences in development an interactive Geo-Archaeology Data Base for the Intermountain West. Margaret Streeter (Anthropology), Greg Hampikian (Biology) and Charles Honts (Psychology) continue their efforts to develop an interdisciplinary Forensic Justice Institute to promote cooperation between BSU faculty and law enforcement agencies. In this regard, the department is poised to sign an MOA with the Ada County Coroner's Office—an agreement that will allow the department to provide forensic training courses for law enforcement and create internships for students.

Three years beyond the implementation of the Master of Arts and Master of Applied Anthropology degrees the department has graduated a number of students, most recently Robert Karinen whose thesis examines the histomorphometry of the human rib cortex in methamphetamine users. Graduate students have participated individually and collectively with faculty in their attendance and presentations at a number of conferences including the Northwest Anthropological Conference, the meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, the Idaho Academy of Sciences meeting and the Idaho Archaeological Conference.

In addition to teaching and research the faculty continue to make contributions to the college and university, students, and community by their service on numerous committees, advisory boards, and working groups. This year the faculty had more than 100 service commitments. Professionally the faculty serve as officers in state, regional, and national organizations and as editors of major state, national, and international journals. The faculty continue to provide an innovative and outstanding curriculum, to conduct basic and applied research across varied geographic and topical areas, and to inform students within the university and community of the diverse nature of the human experience.

The Department of Anthropology presently serves 144 Anthropology and Geoarchaeology majors and 34 Anthropology and Native American Studies minors. In addition, faculty serve on a number of Interdisciplinary Studies and Environmental Studies graduate committees. During the past year the department has offered 56 courses and/or sections of classes and 35 workshops. The faculty has provided oversight on 13 Independent Study, Internship and Directed Research projects. The department has a very high service enrollment, which totaled over 2,800 students for the past year—proportionately one of the highest service loads in the university. The Department of Anthropology graduated 22 Baccalaureate students in 08-09. The department houses the Center for Applied Archaeological Science and co-directs the Desert Studies Institute and the Ethnographic Archive.

## DEPARTMENT of ANTHROPOLOGY

### FACULTY

Mark Plew, Professor and Chair  
Christopher Hill, Associate Professor  
Margaret Streeter, Assistant Professor  
John Ziker, Associate Professor  
Kendall House, Adj. Assistant Professor  
T. Virginia Cox, Associate Professor Emerita  
Jake Fruhlinger, Lecturer  
Chris Willson, Lecturer  
Tommi White, Lecturer

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

James C. Woods  
Beverly Crum  
Gene Titmus  
Janette Forte

### AFFILIATED FACULTY

Jon P. Dayley  
Professor of English

### STAFF

Faith Brigham  
Administrative Assistant

## Peru, Water, and the Farmer's Strike

By John P. Ziker

In May, 2009, I took a trip to the Peruvian Andes for an educational tour and anthropological survey. I was with a group from Idaho. We began in Cusco, the capital of the ancient Inkas (and navel of the Inka universe). After two days adjusting to the altitude in Cusco (3,310 m) we met our guide, Gaby. With a university degree and applied anthropological projects, Gaby was well versed in the archaeology and ethnography of the region. To the northeast of Cusco, we explored sites in the Sacred Valley of the Inkas (the Urubamba River valley), visited a school in a mountain agricultural community, met and had ceremonies with Q'ero shamans, and spent two days at Machu Picchu. As a student of comparative indigenous economies, I was interested in the continuities that have been maintained over time, and what this means for the sustainability of local economies, as well as our concept of sustainability. As in other regions of the world, sustainability in rural Peru is linked to the embeddedness of the economic system within kinship, social, legal, and religious practices.

The first and most prominent anthropological point was a farmers' strike that had shut down public roads and transportation for a day when we were in Cusco and the day after we returned from Machu Picchu. While it had not affected our group directly, except for a delayed train out of Aguas Calientes, we saw a lot of evidence of the strike, and the Peruvians were talking a lot about it. In this dry Andean environment water is everything. Water is life. Benito the Q'ero Shaman emphasized this point when he was preparing the offering for Pachamama (Earth Goddess). He named a number of local lakes and rivers, and had us name our lakes and rivers from our homeland (Figure 1). When these bodies of water were named he blew a blessing into a kintu (a set of 3 coca leaves). In our ceremony there were 26 sets of kintus that he arranged as part of the offering. The Incans knew that water manage-

ment was key to their development, symbolizing that in the fountains which are central to their architecture and carried on today with the water ritual as we experienced with Gaby at Tambomachay—the first site we visited (Figure 2).

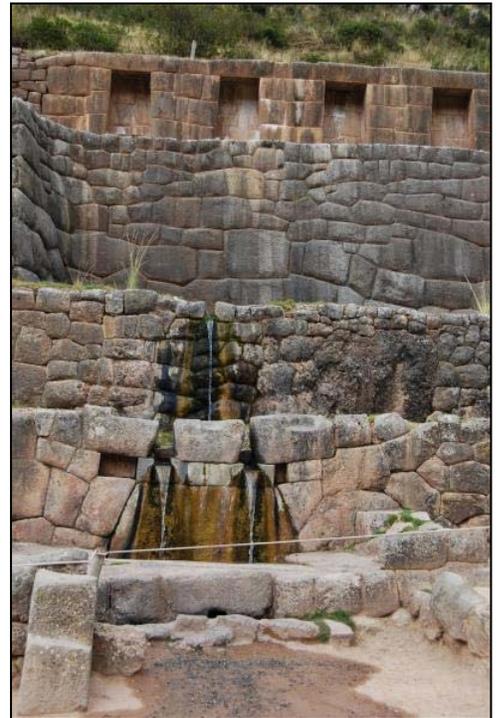


Figure 2. The sacred fountain at Tambomachay (photo: J. Ziker).

Today, water is managed by local water boards instituted in every community--Committee de Riegos (irrigators). They have a rotating formal structure, with a president, secretary, etc., according to Mark at Willka Tika, who has been living there for 10 years. Willka Tika is the retreat where our group stayed in the Sacred Valley. The owner Carol Cumes has written several books on the area, including *Journey To Machu Picchu*, an ethnography of the Urubamba Qechua. Back to water. There are disputes, especially at the end of the dry season. The water boards adjudicate disputes, and mainly determine which farmers can divert water to their plots on which days. Almost all water is transported by small channels and canals and irrigation conducted by flooding the plots. Water comes down the mountain streams from glacial lakes all throughout the dry season, April-November. From mountain streams an ingenious system of small and medium sized canals carry water at angles from the water course. Many canals that I observed were a foot or less in width and depth, some smaller. Farmers have movable doors and rocks with plastic that they open



Figure 1. Benito (a Q'ero paqo, or shaman) preparing the offering to Pachamama (mother earth) and Apu (mountain spirit) (photo courtesy of Willka Tika).

## Peru, Water, and the Farmer's Strike, continued

and close to begin and end watering on their plot. Plots are set up on an incline so the water flows from the upper part of the plot to the lower part through a series of beds separated by small (6" or less) mini-canals (Figure 3).



Figure 3. A typical irrigation ditch in Ramichaka (near Willka Tika) (photo: J. Ziker).

The farmers may open and close these by shoveling dirt which they are watering. Watering is mainly done during the day and water theft mainly occurs at night. Potato fields are on steep slopes of the foothills. I was told that they are watered by rain only during the rain season but it looked as though they are also irrigated. Corn, quinoa, and amaranth (kiwicha) are irrigated. They were being harvested in May at the beginning of the dry season. At higher elevations the harvest is later.

So, the big dispute is over water rights – Lima is running out of water and the President of Peru wants to privatize water rights and sell these rights to some kind of corporation. Which corporation or corporations is unclear. The rumor is that Coca-Cola has taken over water management and distribution in Bolivia. They could be planning something like that here. Coke supplies our bottled water called San Luis and has bought out the Peruvian chamomile-flavored soft drink named Inka Kola. I liked it a lot despite that fact it's now a Coke product. The argument is that the corporation wants to own water rights before they make in-

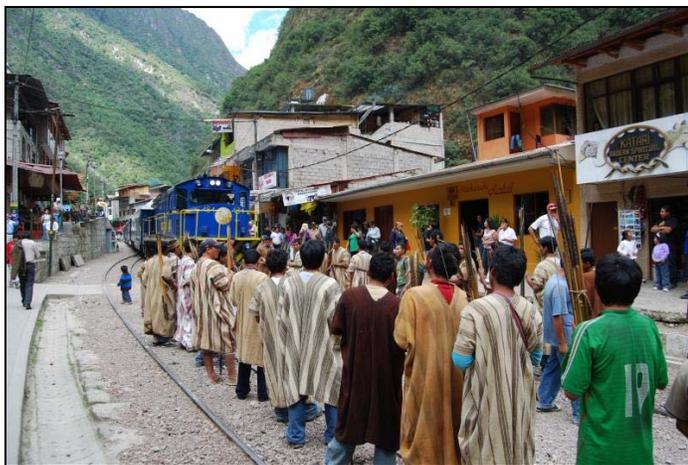


Figure 4. Indigenous protesters holding up trains in Aguas Calientes (Machu Picchu) (photo: J. Ziker).

vestments in building viaducts to bring water from the Andes to Lima. Same old story. If a corporation owned rights to all the water, then local farmers would have to pay for water that they use for subsistence agriculture, thus devastating families and local economies.

Farmers and indigenous peoples from all over Peru joined in a series of 1-day strikes in May. I was lucky to see one of these strikes first hand on my second day in the Machu Picchu area (Figure 4). The protesters, who were said to be Amazonian Indians were actually a mix of Indians and mestizo farmers, some from the Amazon, some from the highlands (Figure 5). They held up the main train line that runs north-south in Eastern Peru. They protested for several hours and the trains back to the Sacred Valley were delayed as a result. The next day, the protesters were promising to shut the train line down completely for 24 hours. Protests took place in a variety of areas simultaneously. Evidence of the strike was still seen a couple days later on the main highway between the Sacred Valley and Cusco.



Figure 5. The protesters move to downtown Aguas Calientes. (photo J. Ziker).

All in all, the water is key to the rural Peruvian economy which has operated for hundreds if not thousands of years following a similar strategy of terraces and glacial-fed irrigation. The diversity of crops being grown is vast and it is a well-known fact in ecology that diversity is critical to a healthy and flexible ecosystem. There are hundreds of varieties of potatoes being grown in the Andes, and many types of corn, legumes, and *Chenopodium* spp. To disrupt the current system in favor of a centralized corporate structure, even if it is ostensibly capitalist in orientation, is to invite social unrest, and potentially threaten the sustainability of the Peruvian rural economy. Water is important both symbolically and socially in this part of the world, and attempts to disenfranchise rural and indigenous people on the behalf of grossly-overpopulated urban areas are not based on sound reasoning or any kind of objective view of the public good. Rather, they are based on outdated neoclassical economic ideas that have been the source of economic trouble in our own country, and the greed of officials and officers in multinational corporations.

## Faculty News and Activities

### Christopher Hill

During the past year Christopher Hill has been especially active in research projects dealing with connections between humans and environmental change. A paper entitled "Stratigraphy and Sedimentology at Bir Sahara, Egypt: Environments, climate change and the Middle Paleolithic," was published in *Catena: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Soil Science-Hydrology-Geomorphology Focusing on Geocology and Landscape Evolution*, (volume 78, pp. 250-259) and a paper entitled "Geology of Mammoth (*Mammuthus*) Fossils on the Western Snake River Plain, Idaho," *Current Research in the Pleistocene* (volume 26) is in press. A book review of "Mammoths: Giants of the Ice Age" was published in *Geoarchaeology: An International Journal* (volume 24, pp. 117-119). Several papers or posters were presented at the annual meetings of the Geological Society of America or the Idaho Archaeological Society. These include: "Late Glacial (Clovis-Folsom) Landscapes and the Archaeological Geology of the Northern Great Plains," "Geomorphology, Chronostratigraphy and Geoarchaeology of the Lower Big Fork River Valley, Northern Minnesota" (with George Rapp), "Late Quaternary Environments in Southern Siberia: Landscape Response to Climate Change and Human Activities in the Baikal-Patom Upland," (with the international team working in Russia) and "Archaeological Site Formation Processes in Alluvial Settings." During the summer Dr. Hill was a presenter and participant at the workshop on "Teaching Paleontology in the 21st Century", held at Cornell University and sponsored by the National Association of Science Teachers and the National Science Foundation. Several of the class-activities he designed were featured as "great strategies for teaching."



### Margaret Streeter

In July Dr. Streeter was a faculty presenter at a three-day workshop on "Forensic Bone Histology" offered by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C. Two of her papers have been accepted for publication, one in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* entitled "Bone remodeling rates in Pleistocene humans are not slower than the rates observed in modern populations: a re-examination of Abbott et al. (1996)" and another paper accepted for publication in the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* entitled "Technical Note: A Four Stage Method of Age at Death Estimation for Use in the Subadult Rib Cortex." Two book reviews were published in the journals *Siberica* and the *Idaho Archaeologist*. Margaret Streeter and six students traveled to Chicago this spring for the annual American Association of Physical Anthropologist meeting in Chicago. At the meeting Dr. Streeter and graduate student Cynthia Bradbury, presented a poster with Jane Buikstra (Arizona State University), on the determination of age at death in an archaeological sample of Peruvian subadult ribs. Dr. Streeter has begun a long-term collaborative research project with Canadian colleagues Michelle Drapeau (University of Montreal) and Richard Lazenby (University of Northern British Columbia) analyzing cross-sectional geometric properties and bone histomorphometry in the 18<sup>th</sup> century St. Thomas Church cemetery in Ontario, Quebec. Two graduate students Bridget Denny (BSU) and Emeline Raguin (University of Montreal) are working on their master's thesis as part of this international collaboration. Dr. Streeter continues assisting with field recovery and skeletal analysis with local law enforcement and the Ada County Coroner's Office.



## Anthropology Professor Awarded \$225,000 NSF Conference Grant

John Ziker, associate professor of anthropology, was recently awarded \$225,355 to support an historic international conference of Arctic humanities and social science scholars that was held in Rovaniemi, Finland Oct. 28-31 at the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland. The meeting was the capstone for the first major international collaborative research program in Arctic Social Sciences and Humanities (BOREAS) and focuses on relationships between people and environments in the circumpolar North, with a strong emphasis on understanding the experience of local peoples. BOREAS was started in 2003 through collaboration between the European Science Foundation, the US National Science Foundation, and the Canadian Social Science and Humanities Research Council. The BOREAS final conference, "Environments, Movements, Narratives in the Circumpolar North," explored the importance of movements (both seasonal and long-term), especially those associated with the creation, permanence and dissolution of communities, and ways in which these are mapped in ancient and new social forms; human engagement with a given or changing environment finds expression in narratives (histories, philosophies, mythologies, arts and other forms). "This conference will provide opportunities for new partnerships, synergies, and cross-cutting publications," said Ziker. "It will showcase Northern research at the forefront of social science and humanities disciplines – the way it was a century ago when Franz Boas introduced a social science agenda into studies of sea ice." The conference brought together junior and senior level scholars with students and indigenous scholars from all of the BOREAS projects. Student participants were chosen based on a student essay indicating how their participation in the BOREAS conference would further their interest/careers in science along with a recommendation from a professor or other mentor.



For more information on BOREAS and the research projects funded under this initiative, see: <http://www.esf.org/index.php?id=392>. For more details about the conference, visit the conference website: <http://www.arcticcentre.org/?Deptid=28867>.

## Faculty News and Activities, cont.

### Mark Plew

During the past year Mark Plew conducted a number of archaeological projects in Idaho, Oregon and Guyana. With Chris Willson he directed the summer Field School at site 10-EL-216 near Glenns Ferry, Idaho. This project, which was supported by the Idaho Power Company, examined a Late Archaic site originally recorded by Plew in 1980. Plew and Willson carried out an intensive survey of the so-called Bumpheads and Antelope Creek areas near Klamath Falls, Oregon—the work to serve as the basis for developing National Register nominations for these unique areas. In August, 2009, Plew and Willson directed the third annual Denis Williams Archaeological Field School at the Wyva Creek Shell Mound in northwestern Guyana. During the past year Dr. Plew had seventeen publications that included one book, four monographs, a book chapter, four technical reports, book reviews and abstracts. Among his publications were “Archaic Hunter Gatherer Diet Breadth and Prey Choice on the Snake River Plain,” *Journal of Northwest Anthropology*, “2008 Archaeological Test Excavations at Three Island Crossing,” *Cultural Resource Reports* No. 4, Center for Applied Archaeological Science, with Roderick Sprague, Obituary: B. Robert Butler 1926-2008, *AAA Newsletter*, “Archaeological Survey in the Vicinity of Moco-Moco Creek and Imprenza, Southern Guyana,” *Archaeology and Anthropology*, with Gerard Pereira “Archaeological Test Excavations at Errol’s Landing, Iwokrama

Reserve, Guyana,” *Monographs in Archaeology*, University of Guyana, and “Pleistocene-Early Holocene Environmental Change: Implications for Human Adaptive Responses in the Guianas,” in *Anthropologies of Guyana* edited by Neil Whitehead and Stephanie Alleman, University of Arizona Press. Dr. Plew received \$33,000.00 in external funding.



Mark Plew conducting research in the Rupununi Savannah, Southern Guyana, South America

## Adjunct Faculty and Research Affiliate Staff Activities

**Kendall House** is currently focused on a study of the first generation of Boasians and the encounter between immigrant New York and Native America in the first decades of the 20th century. Nearly all of the early Boasians were male, and either immigrants themselves or the children of immigrants. Overwhelmingly, their background was Central European, usually German, and frequently at least nominally Jewish. Most remained well versed in German thinking their entire lives. Intellectually, they shared much in common with contemporaries including Ernst Cassirer and Isaiah Berlin. The study focuses on Boas, Kroeber, Lowie, and Radin, their encounters with the Kwakwaka, Yurok, Absalooka, and Winnebago, and their turn back towards Central Europe in their later years. For Boas this expressed itself as a struggle against Nazism, for Kroeber as an interest in civilizational cycles and the “new” postwar Europe, for Lowie postwar fieldwork in German-speaking Europe. Kendall will be traveling to Germany, Austria, and Poland in May-June of 2010.

**Chris Willson** serves as the laboratory and field director for the Center for Applied Archaeological Science located in the Department of Anthropology at BSU. He has also been involved with various field projects during the last year, which includes serving as co-instructor and field director for the BSU archaeological field school examining a late archaic site (10-EL-216) located near Glenn’s Ferry Idaho. Surveys and additional field projects were conducted with Dr. Mark Plew,

near Klamath Falls, Oregon and Wyva Creek in NW Guyana, and most recently participating with Dr. John Ziker in the Final BOREAS conference in Rovaniemi, Finland. Mr. Willson’s research includes geochemical examinations of lava flows in which prehistoric peoples obtained tool stone and how potential variations within the source materials may better explain the variability among tool assemblages in SW Idaho, especially as they relate to mobility patterns among hunter-gatherers.

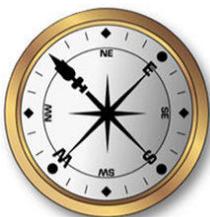
**Tommi White** is currently sorting through some 19,000 hits on the E-HRAF as a major part of a world-survey of ghost/spirit/demon beliefs. This will be the foundation of what will be a series of books on spiritual beliefs around the world. The information uncovered so far appears to point to marked similarities between cultures regarding types of ‘entities’ seen and types of general experiences, which means that either (as a universal experience) these things either do exist, or our brains are wired to perceive things which do not actually exist. Tommi has also been conducting primary research into ghost beliefs with regard to perceptions of an afterlife by terminal patients and family members as opposed to non-believing patients and family members. She is also taking preliminary steps toward writing a textbook on the anthropology of religion.

## 2009 Archaeological Field School

In late May and June, 2009, Boise State University conducted its annual Archaeological Field School at site 10-EL-216 located on the Snake River, about a quarter mile downstream from Bancroft Springs east of Glenn's Ferry, Idaho. Survey and test excavations were conducted under the sponsorship of the Idaho Power Company. Students were introduced to field and laboratory methods, in-field survey and recording techniques, as well as identification and analysis of artifacts and archaeological features. The participants included Daniel Allen, Jason Bogstie, Christiane Campbell, Ed Deckys, Bridget Denny, Amy Ludwig, Reed McDonald, and Rose Saxton.



## Center for Applied Archaeological Science



The Center for Applied Archaeological Science (CAAS) is a research and contract archaeology program established in 1986 and housed within the Department of Anthropology at Boise State University. CAAS, formerly known as the Archaeological Research Facility, has conducted over 300 small and large-scale cultural resource surveys and excavations throughout Idaho and other western states that include the development

of archaeological research designs, archaeological and historical surveys, testing programs, data recovery protocols, full-scale and multi-year excavations, Section 106 compliance coordination, archival research, National Register Nominations, NAGPRA consultations, the production of scholarly and technical papers, and monographs and popular posters and brochures.

In 2009 CAAS contracted with several state and federal agencies, including the State Historic Preservation Office, the Idaho Army Air National Guard, the Bureau of Land Management in Idaho and in Oregon, and several districts for the National Forest Service. These projects ranged from intensive field surveys, the processing of existing archaeological collections, National Register Nominations, Section 106 evaluations and document preparation.

In addition to working closely with state and federal agencies, CAAS conducted field work for Idaho Power and several contractors, environmental firms, land developers, and private land owners. Consequently CAAS has produced numerous technical and cultural survey reports. These include "Archaeological Excavations at Cow Creek, Idaho (10-CA-1075)," "Archaeological Investigations at Cow Hollow Park (35-ML-1416), Nyssa, Oregon," "Archaeological Test Excavations at Three Island Crossing," and "Archaeological Survey and Assessment of the Vardis Fisher Property, Located near Hagerman, Idaho."

For information on CAAS, please contact Mark Plew, Coordinator at [mplew@boisestate.edu](mailto:mplew@boisestate.edu) or Chris Willson, Projects and Laboratory Coordinator at [willson4556@yahoo.com](mailto:willson4556@yahoo.com) or call (208) 426-3444.

## 2009-2010 Anthropology Lectures

### DEPARTMENT LECTURE SERIES:

- Dr. Brooke Arkush, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Weber State University, spoke on Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 2:00 PM in the Lookout Room of the Student Union Building. He lectured on "The Archaeology of Trapper Cliff Shelter: A Late Holocene Residential Base Camp in Cassia county, Southcentral Idaho."



- Dr. Katharine Seibold, Professor of Anthropology at the College of Idaho, has been invited to speak on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 2:00 PM in the Jordan A Ballroom of the Student Union Building. Her lecture is entitled, "Modernization and Globalization in an Andean indigenous Village, 1986-2008."



## BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference

The BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship conference provides undergraduate students at Boise State University a forum to share their research projects and be recognized for their exceptional work. The following anthropology students were selected to present papers or posters at the 6th annual BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference on April 20, 2009.

**William Howe** gave a media presentation on "Sustainable Building: Learning from the Past in Order to Build a Sustainable Future."

**Amber Thompson** gave a podium presentation on "Idaho City and a Historic Chinese Placer Site: Beliefs and Land Use."

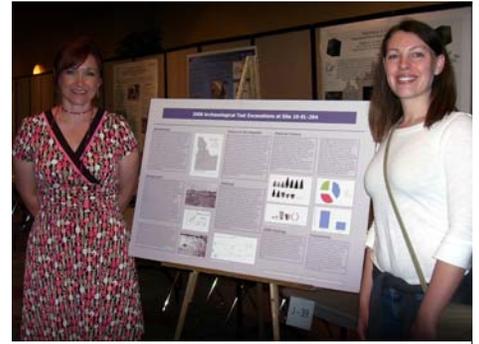
**Alex Blake** and **Betsy Venard** gave a poster presentation on "Violent Death in Northern Siberia: Application of Evolutionary Hypotheses."

**Michael Stadther, Adrienne Hall, Kellie Joyce, and Kat Zeck** gave a poster presentation on "Dani Subsistence and Environmental Adaptations."

**Juli Walker** and **Dianna Bentley** gave a poster presentation on the "2008 Archaeological Excavations at Three Island Crossing."

**Kayla Dawson, Chris Robison, and Joe Hackman** gave a poster presentation on "Hmong Agriculture and Conservation in Northern Thailand."

**Christiane Campbell, Bill Holland-Smith, and Michelle Rosenberger** gave



Juli Walker and Dianna Bentley with their poster presentation at the BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference.

a poster presentation on "Koyukon Issues of Conservation and Sustainability in the 21st Century: Struggling to Preserve Cultural Heritages."

## Archaeology and Anthropology, Journal of the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology



Archaeology and Anthropology, Volume 16, No. 1

The Walter Museum of Anthropology was established in 1974 by the late Denis Williams as the first anthropology museum in the English speaking Caribbean. The journal, founded the same year, publishes papers on the anthropology and archaeology of the Guianas, the Caribbean and South America. Responsibility for electronic publication of the journal was transferred under an existing MOA to the Department of Anthropology, Boise State University in 2009. The journal which is published bi-

annually and other museum publications are now available through the Boise State University anthropology webpage. For the convenience of subscribers annual subscriptions of US \$20 are handled electronically through U-Pay. Back issues of the journal and special publications are available at US \$20 in PDF format. The most recent issue of the *Archaeology and Anthropology* journal (Volume 16, No. 1) includes papers by Bianca Savaro and Arie Boomert. Future issues will include contributions by Betty J. Meggers and Basil Reid.

### OTHER NEWS

- The *Idaho Archaeologist* has expanded its Editorial Advisory Board membership. New members include Dr. Loren Davis, Oregon State University, Dr. Bonnie Pitblado, Utah State University and Dr. Mark Warner, University of Idaho.
- The department co-hosted the Idaho Archaeological Society Conference on October 24, 2009.
- Two students, Meghan Eastman and Karl Mertens, both from Minnesota State University, have been accepted into the Fall 2009 graduate program cohort.
- Thirty-two Certificates of Completion were awarded to students who completed the department's Cultural Awareness Training Program in 2009.

## Master's in Anthropology Graduates



Two students graduated from the Anthropology graduate program in May, 2009.

**Tedd Jacobs** received his B.A. from Boise State University. He completed the Boise State Masters in Anthropology with his thesis entitled, "Archaeology and Mobility at 10-CN-05, An Archaeological Site, Middle Snake River, Idaho." Mark Plew was his faculty advisor.



**Tayana Arakchaa** received her B.A. from Irkutsk State Linguistic University, Irkutsk, Russia. She completed the Boise State Masters in Anthropology program with her thesis entitled "Household and Property Relations in Tuva." The material for her thesis was based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation project, "Home, Hearth, and Household in the Circumpolar North." John Ziker was her faculty advisor.

## Graduate Student Research Activities

**Cynthia Bradbury** is researching southwest Egypt, where there is evidence of occupation by hominins in the later Pleistocene due to the presence of both Acheulean and Middle Paleolithic tools. During these periods, lakes were present in the region; however, the source of the water forming these lakes is uncertain. Analysis of the oxygen and carbon stable isotope composition of snail shells from stratigraphic layers deposited during these wet periods provides information about the source of the water in which they formed. The hydrology of the wet Sahara has important implications for climate forecasting associated with current warming trends.

**Katharine Cross'** research involves the skeletal analysis of subadult remains from a 19th century cemetery in Cedar City, Missouri. The Shiloh Methodist Church Cemetery was excavated in 1993 by the University of Missouri, after a flood exposed several of the burials.



*Subadult skeleton from Shiloh Methodist Church Cemetery, Missouri.*

**Bridget Denny's** thesis research tests whether mean osteon size changes with age in the second metacarpal. The sample is from a nineteenth century cemetery in Bellville, Ontario. Other research interests include osteology, genetics, forensics, bioarchaeology and pathology.

**Robert Karinen** has successfully defended his thesis on the "Histomorphometry of the Human Rib Cortex in Methamphetamine Users" and will graduate in December 2009. In his research Robert has examined the differences in the microscopic structure of cortical rib bone in methamphetamine users. This data was used to demonstrate potential pitfalls of using histological age estimations in a modern forensic setting.

**Brian Wallace's** thesis is entitled, "Geographic Information Systems Correlation Model as a Cultural Resource Management Tool for the Bruneau Geographic Area." This exercise will utilize a correlation model between environmental variables and existing archaeological site data to determine the presence and/or absence of cultural properties. Utilizing this inductive procedure will analyze sufficiently large sample areas of known archaeological sites and weigh specific environmental conditions to show correlative patterns by using a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) regression modeling application. Patterns of co-occurrence are statistically determined, and areas with similar patterns of occurrence are then

'predicted' to be of higher likelihood to contain a similar archaeological site density. If and when a relationship value is determined within the study areas the model will then attempt to successfully predict site locations utilizing existing site data in other unknown testable study areas. This analysis will focus on the following variables: landform, distance to water source, slope, and aspect, elevation, and soil type.

**Garrett Webb's** masters thesis is entitled, "The Environmental Impact of mid-19th Century Emigration in Southern Idaho and Effect on Native Subsistence Strategies." The westward emigration event that occurred during the mid-19th century along what is known as the Oregon Trail had a substantial environmental impact in Southern Idaho. As euro-American encroachment within Southern Idaho increased, the regime of natural resources that native populations relied upon became disrupted. Garrett's research is focusing on such resource perturbations and the impact that it had on native subsistence strategies during this period of punctuated cultural change.

## Donations Needed for Scholarships

If you are interested in making a donation, please make your inquiries to:

Dr. Mark Plew, Chair  
Department of Anthropology  
1910 University Drive  
Boise State University  
Boise, ID 83725-1950

You may designate your gift to the Anthropology Department Scholarship fund (#SR026), the Cultural Learning Project (#SR035), the Wesley Hurt Undergraduate Research Fellowship (#SR044), the Native American Scholarship (#SR050), or the Canyon County Crossroads Museum Project (SR081). Your donation is tax deductible and will be used to build principal in scholarship accounts so that the interest may be used for student awards. In this way your gift will form the basis of financial aid for many years. No amount is too small; please do not hesitate to participate.

### OUR THANKS

to the following individuals who made donations to the department's scholarship accounts in 2008-2009:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hood  
John P. Ziker  
Clyde L. Bradburn  
Mr. and Mrs. Reid Harter  
Deupree Family Foundation  
Dr. Lutze and Ms. Cote  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert McCarl  
Dr. Mark Plew and Sarah  
Saras

## In Memoriam

The department sadly reports the passing of Allison Vieira on February 25, 2009. At the time of her death she was a junior at Boise State University seeking degrees in both anthropology and nursing.

## Alumni In Action

**Kersti Harter** (B.A. '07) has been accepted into the Law School at the University of Washington.

**Molly Humphreys** (B.A. '92) is Senior Cultural Resources Coordinator at Powers Engineering in Boise, Idaho.

**John Kennedy** (B.A. '03) is an archaeologist with Earthworks, Inc. in Boise, Idaho.

**Tayana Arakchaa** (MA '09) has an internship with the Museum of the American Indian.

**Niki Nickoloff** (B.A. '09) is an archaeologist with Bionomics, Inc. in Boise, Idaho.

**Shelby Day** (B.A. '05) is pursuing her Masters in Public Administration at Boise State University.

## We Want to Hear From You!

What have you done since graduation? Do you have any news or an event you would like to contribute to the Department of Anthropology newsletter? Please fill in the information coupon and attach it to your news story. Send it to: Department of Anthropology, 1910 University Drive, Boise State University, Boise, ID 83725-1950 or email your news to [fbrigha@boisestate.edu](mailto:fbrigha@boisestate.edu).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Degree and Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email address \_\_\_\_\_

My News \_\_\_\_\_

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

<http://anthro.boisestate.edu>

## Student News

### Anthropology Club

The officers for 2009-2010 are:  
President—Jason Bogstie  
Vice-President—Daniel Allen  
Treasurer—Mason Ireland  
Secretary—Daniel Christie



*Anthropology Club officers: Daniel Allen, Mason Ireland, and Jason Bogstie. Not pictured: Daniel Christie*

### Archaeological Student Association

The officers for 2009-2010 are:  
Director—Daniel Allen  
Events Coordinator—Jason Bogstie  
Secretary—Ed Deckys  
Treasurer—Rose Saxton

### 2008-09 Anthropology Graduates

Anna Carter, Richard Guinn, Adrienne Hall, Angela Kezele, Kimberly Moss, Ericha Sappington, Wendi Sievers, Michael Stadther, Colette Thomas, Niki Willis, Tayana Arakchaa, Drew Asbury, Alex Blake, Kayla Dawson, Mary Ann Gillis, William Howe, Todd Jacobs, Karl Knight, William Knowlden, Nicole Nickoloff, Amber Thompson, Amanda Vaughn, Rhett Atagi, Mary Bybee, Jessica Dougherty, Amy Ludwig, P. Reed McDonald, Samuel Smith, Robert Karinen

### Dean's List Spring 2009

**Highest Honors:** Daniel Allen, Christiane Campbell, William Howe, Christina Matthies, Eric Richardson, Doris Whitley. **High Honors:** Alex Blake, Daniel Christie, Stacey Guinn, Joseph Hackman, Emilee Kottcamp, RyAnn Stafford. **Honors:** Michael Bishop, Brooke Brown, Alicia Fairbrother, Paige Fetzer, Ashley Fife, Benjamin Harris, Dotti Owens, Clayton Pleasant, Amy Rajkovich.

### 2009-2010 Scholarship Recipients

**Joseph Hackman, Juli Walker, Jennifer Svancara, Eric Richardson, and Tami Cox** received Anthropology Department scholarships. **Jeremy Buzzard** received the Native American Student Scholarship.