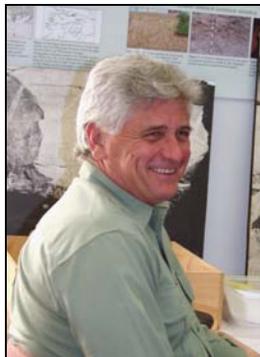


Department of Anthropology Newsletter

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. In 2010 the faculty has been active in research, publication, and receipt of external funding. The faculty published 28 scholarly works that included a book, numerous book chapters, journal articles and monographs and presented papers at 17 professional meetings while providing journal and grant proposal reviews. In addition to teaching and research the faculty continued their contributions to the college and university, students, and community by their service on various committees, advisory boards, and working groups. This year the faculty had over 100 service commitments. Professionally the faculty served as officers in state, regional, and national organizations and as editors of major state, national, and international journals. Professional service included five editorships housed within the department. Faculty research efforts were supported by their receipt of grants and contracts totaling more than \$250,000. Faculty conducted regional field research in Idaho, Oregon, Minnesota, and internationally in Siberia and northern Guyana. During the past year Dr. John Ziker spent his sabbatical year as a Fulbright Visiting Chair in North American Studies at the University of Calgary. While in Canada Dr. Ziker organized the BOREAS conference in Rovaniemi, Finland. The department conducted the fourth annual Denis Williams Archaeological Field School (DWAF) with the University of Guyana and the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology near St. Cuthbert's Mission in northern Guyana which provided training in archaeological methods to ten Guyanese university students as well as members of the staff of the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology. Locally, the department conducted its field school at Three Island Crossing State Park and at locations near Bruneau, Idaho

under sponsorship of the Idaho Power Company. The department continues its cooperative work with a number of agencies and private companies including the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, Idaho Transportation Department, the Idaho Army National Guard and, as noted, the Idaho Power Company. Internally, the department continues its cooperation with faculty with the Department of Geosciences in administering the Geoarchaeology major, and with the Departments of Geosciences and Computer Sciences in development an interactive Geo-Archaeology Data Base for the Intermountain West. One of the major developments of the year was the signing of 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. In addition, the department has agreed to house Boise State's Environmental Studies Program. Dr. Christopher Hill, the department's geoarchaeologist, will serve as Director of the program which at present has over 100 majors.

During the past year the department served more than 3,800 university students—had 240 majors and minors in anthropology and an additional 11 geoarchaeology majors. The department offered 47 courses and 36 workshops while graduating 17 students. Of note, 44 students made Dean's List and six students were awarded scholarships. The department graduated two Masters candidates and saw graduate students participate 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. Both graduate and undergraduate students were award recipients during the past year.

The faculty continues 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.

DEPARTMENT of ANTHROPOLOGY

FACULTY

Mark Plew, Professor and Chair

Christopher Hill, Associate Professor

Margaret Streeter, Associate Professor

John Ziker, Associate Professor

Chris Willson, Lecturer

Kendall House, Adj. Assistant Professor

T. Virginia Cox, Associate Professor
Emerita

Robert Graff, Adjunct

Jake Fruhlinger, Adjunct

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

James C. Woods

Beverly Crum

Janette Forte

STAFF

Faith Brigham

Administrative Assistant

Environmental Studies and Anthropology at Boise State University



By Christopher Hill

Since the 1700s, our understanding of the nature and the connections of humans with the environment has expanded greatly. Over time, specialized disciplines of knowledge have developed, many of which are represented by degree programs at universities like BSU.

For instance, at BSU, the study of past and present human behavior and biology is the focus of the major in anthropology. Students are provided with a core set of classes that cover cultural anthropology, human biology, and archaeology. These experiences highlight the holistic tradition within the broad discipline of the “the study of humans” with the goal of providing preparation for a career or further, more specialized, academic training. In addition, the Anthropology Department and Geosciences Department have teamed up to offer a degree in geoarchaeology which has the distinction of being the first undergraduate major in geoarchaeology at a public university in the United States. While the degree in anthropology offers a broad-based holistic approach to the study of humans, the geoarchaeology degree is more specialized, with more requirements in the natural sciences and a greater focus on human-earth connections.

Since 2000, BSU has also offered a degree in environmental studies. This degree integrates scientific, socio-political, and humanistic perspectives to develop an understanding of nature and of how humans are connected with the rest of nature. While the term “environmental” is often used to refer to landscapes, plants, and animals (nature, in the general sense), it has also been applied to the physical places and social relations developed by people. Thus “environmental studies” has been used to describe the effort to learn about the

amazing variety of interconnections between the organisms and abiotic processes that constitute the natural world as well as the ways humans impact or are influenced by natural systems. Increasingly, the goals of undergraduate training environmental studies include--along with experience in interpreting scientific information--developing a broad perspective that transcends disciplinary boundaries. It has become more apparent that it is important for students to understand the interface between nature and social systems—the ways societies impact the environment and the ways the environments impacts societies. Thus, training in environmental studies--as in anthropology--requires exposure to a broad range of subjects including the humanities and the natural, social, and applied sciences. It has become crucial for students in environmental studies to have both a foundation of knowledge and skills that can be used to understand environmental topics and an appreciation of the geographical, cultural, historical, philosophical, economic, and ethical contexts of environmental topics.

One of the lessons shared by environmental studies and geoarchaeology, for instance, is that the study of the environment, the influence of the environment on humans, and the effect of people on the environment is based on questions and concepts that go beyond any single discipline. A good example might be the study of climate change. An important question related to climate change is its variability over time and space, a question that can be addressed by using the natural sciences to measure past and ongoing change. Documenting natural variability is a first step, but understanding the consequences of change is also crucial. We can attempt to address the complexity of natural ecological systems by documenting the ways climate change influences the land, plants, and animals (including humans). How is

the fossil record of human origins linked to patterns of climate change? What types of environmental changes lead to the changes in the availability of resources or in mobility and migration? What kinds of patterns are connected with stress on populations and extinction? The interface

The Anthropology Department and Geosciences Department have teamed up to offer a degree in geoarchaeology which has the distinction of being the first undergraduate major in geoarchaeology at a public university in the United States.

Environmental Studies and Anthropology at Boise State University, continued...

between humans and nature is not limited to the ways humans have been influenced by environmental change. Besides these types of questions, anthropology and environmental studies share a goal of understanding how past and present activities by humans have had an impact on the environment and potentially contribute to modifying climate. How do religious and philosophical beliefs, economic and technological systems, historical and cultural traditions, and policy choices affect the environment and other human societies? Anthropology and environmental studies both share the view that these types of questions can best be examined through a wide-ranging, broad, interdisciplinary approach.

In practical terms, both anthropology and environmental studies rely on concepts and information from many disciplines and then attempt to integrate this knowledge as a basis for understanding the natural world. Both should support a critical, objective, open-minded and informed appraisal of the relationships between the natural world and people. The goals of both anthropology and environmental studies programs should be to train students to understand the ways observations are made and data is collected, the ways patterns are interpreted and debated, and how this inclusive process can lead to informed judgments and conclusions. Both

should emphasize the importance of critical thinking and problems solving.

While environmental studies have the potential to encompass all aspects of the natural world, anthropological studies must ultimately be focused on humans. In some of the classes I teach, students can learn how some human groups have been able to develop resilient, long-lasting connections with the environment while other societies have followed practices that were unsustainable over long periods of time. In contrast to some aspects of western traditions, there were and are societies where people are not considered separate from nature but where beliefs and subsistence lead to a holistic view of humans and the rest of nature. The human story shows that there are a wide variety of technological and organizational approaches that can lead to resilient relationships between humans and the environment. At BSU, an interdisciplinary, inclusive, holistic approach is the cornerstone for both anthropology and environmental studies. This perspective includes the use and understanding of scientific data, and an appreciation of historical, cultural, economic, ethical, and policy contexts connected with human biology and behavior, as well as human relationships with the natural world.

Environments, Movements, Narratives in the Circumpolar North: The Final BOREAS Conference

John Ziker was co-organizer of a major international conference in Arctic social sciences on October 28-31, 2009 in Rovaniemi, Finland at the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland. Over 100 participants were in attendance, including members of the seven BOREAS collaborative research projects, invited speakers, and 22 students from North America and Europe. BOREAS projects focused on relationships between humans and environments, challenging the image of a static Arctic by exploring the importance of movements (both seasonal and long-term)—especially those associated with the creation, permanence and dissolution of communities—and the ways in which these are mapped in ancient and new social configurations, and expressed in narratives (histories, philosophies, mythologies, arts, and other forms).

Two keynote speeches, one by Elina Helander and the other by Tim Ingold, contributed to a lively discussion, highlighting both the strengths and possibly painful misunderstandings and divides in the academic community. Such rifts became evident in the discussion on the role that indigenous people had in the entire BOREAS program. Helander's keynote stated that it is time to pay more respect to indigenous scholarship in northern humanities, and that this respect should result in more indigenous researchers receiving research awards. Ingold's keynote explored environments has BOREAS generated, the movements has it engendered, and the movements has it told. In the question and answer, Ingold expressed his caution about using the indigenous label: good scholars, like good artists, likely want to be recognized for their work and not their identity. The conference organizers felt honored that this conference was the arena to openly address such controversies.

Many presentations at the final BOREAS conference demonstrated that the Arctic is more than an early warning system for global climate change with all its implications. Since all of the BOREAS projects required international collaboration and interdisciplinary research teams, all the projects developed multi-faceted approaches to principles of social and cultural change in the North. While there has been a lot of intra-northern cooperation, particularly in the framework of the international polar year (IPY), the BOREAS program and the final BOREAS conference intended to emphasize a humanities perspective in the scholarship of the North. The final BOREAS conference was supported in large part by a grant from the National Science Foundation (0946278) administered through BSU.



Anthropology Faculty Research Highlights

- **Margaret Streeter** continues collaboration with Canadian colleagues M. Drapeau, and E.L. Raguine (U. Montreal), and R.A. Lazenby (U. Northern British Columbia). They presented a poster at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Physical Anthropologists in British Columbia entitled "Modeling-Remodeling Comparisons of the Bones of the Hand." The poster presented results of joint research on age, sex and biomechanical influences on metacarpals from an 18th century cemetery in Ontario, Canada. Three graduate students, E.L. Raguine (U. Montreal), Robert Karinen and Bridget Denny (BSU) presented posters on their thesis research directed by Dr. Streeter at the American Association of Physical Anthropologist in Albuquerque, New Mexico in April. An unidentified coffin was discovered in an unmarked burial plot in a Lexington, Missouri cemetery in 2006. Dr. Streeter was part of a multifaceted investigation conducted to determine the identity of the unknown woman. Multiple lines of evidence including stable isotope studies of bones and teeth, toxicology, osteological analysis, facial reconstruction, textile analysis of clothing, and documentation of the ornate metal burial case were compared with historical documentation to determine if the individual was a member of a local family. A tentative identification indicates that the skeletal remains are those of a 20 year old female who died in 1856 of pulmonary tuberculosis. Bacterial DNA analysis of rib fragments confirmed the presence of tuberculosis infection.



- According to research presented at the 2010 meeting of the Geological Society of America by **Christopher Hill**, changing relationships between landforms, vegetation and wildlife situated around Mores Creek, a tributary to the Boise River within the boundaries of the Boise National Forest, can be linked to past and present human land use patterns. In addition, human activities in this wildland-urban interface area are directly linked to a variety of past and ongoing geologic processes and the availability of different kinds of resources. Dr. Hill has initiated a research project in the lower Mores Creek Valley east of Boise. Mores Creek flows into the Boise River where they combine to fill Lucky Peak Reservoir. The valley containing Mores Creek is filled with a distinctive black rock called basalt that was a lava flow about 100,000 years ago. Mores Creek has cut through the basalt, exposing the granite-like bedrock and ancient river gravels. The top of the flow is exposed along tributary creeks and gulches or is covered with slope wash sediments as well as other stream sediments. Away from the lava-filled canyon, slopes are unstable and subject to landslides which may lead to more problems as more houses and other structures are built in the area. The types of plants that grow along Mores Creek valley are related to elevation, topog-

raphy, and precipitation. Lower, more arid areas closer to Boise contain sagebrush and grasslands. These are part of the High Desert eco-region, mostly consisting of sagebrush steppe. Higher elevations contain pine and fir forests. The valley is a transition zone, or ecotone, for several different kinds of environments. Except in special situations along or near streams or within the basalt canyon, grass and sagebrush (*Artemisia* sp.) communities typically cover the south facing slopes while ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) cover the north facing slopes. The intensity of human use of has increased during the later prehistoric and historic times. Beaver trapping in the region during the early 1800s altered the settings around the streams. Starting in the 1860s placer mining for gold, deforestation related to logging, and grazing also had a big impact on changing the landscape. Changes in the use of the have helped to modify the streams and there has also been an increase in the frequency and intensity of wildland fires in the area. One example of a dramatic change in land use is the construction of dams in the Boise River watershed. For instance, a proposed dam along Mores Creek in the vicinity of Badger Gulch and Rush Creek (just upstream from Robie Creek) lies in an area of documented landslides. The dam would inundate several miles along the canyon and effect habitat used by elk (*Cervus elaphus*) and deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*). The research being conducted by Dr. Hill shows that this part of the Boise River watershed is a wildland-urban interface area where human activities are influenced by the changing ecologic setting and availability of resources, and the long-terms trend of intensification of human land use has contributed to environmental change.

- Kendall House traveled to Germany in May-June pursuing his interests in the Franz Boas and the Central European origins of cultural anthropology.

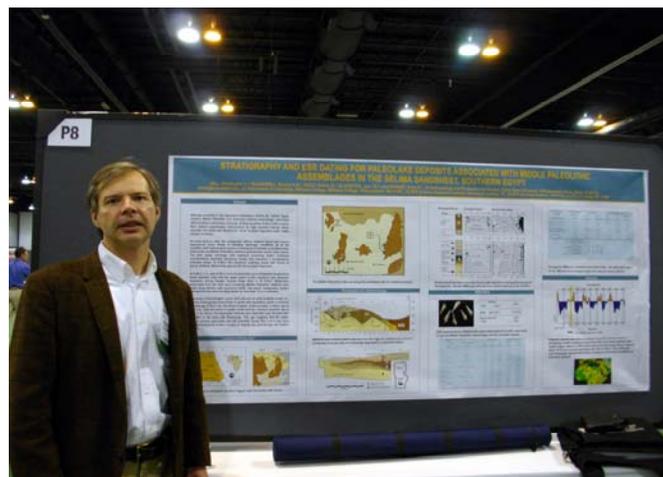


Kendall House stands next to the bronze plaque marking where Franz Boas's house once stood in Minden, Westphalia.

Anthropology Faculty Research Highlights

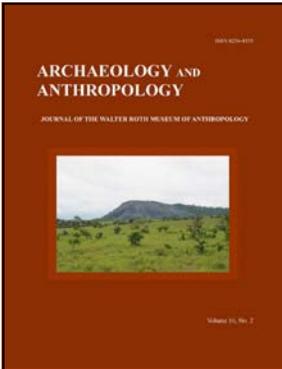
- **Chris Willson** has been involved with various field projects during the last year. In the early summer of 2010, Mr. Willson served as co-instructor and field director for the BSU archaeological field school examining a Late Archaic site (10-EL-294) located near Glenn's Ferry Idaho and site 10-EL-438 near Bruneau, Idaho. Archaeological surveys and additional field projects were conducted with **Mark Plew**, near the Snake River near Bruneau, Idaho in Cascade, Idaho and in South America. 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. More recently, Mr. Willson has been integrating new available technologies in order to streamline Boise State's Center for Applied Archaeological Science field and laboratory work, curation practices, and analysis. These include various GIS components, digital database management, and advanced digital recordation for archaeological assemblages.
- **Mark Plew**, assisted by **Chris Willson**, supervised archaeological excavations at Three Island Crossing and at 10-EL-438, a multi-component Archaic site along the Snake River near Bruneau, Idaho. The work at Three Island Crossing resulted in the recovery of considerable Oregon Trail period materials while work at 10-EL-438 documented Middle and Late Archaic occupations. The work at these sites was conducted as part of the department's Archaeological Field School. Additional projects were conducted near Cascade, Idaho and along the Snake River near Indian Cove. Test excavations at 10-BN-419 were sponsored by the Boise National Forest and sought to assess the extent of cultural deposits within a proposed camp extension. Testing at Indian Cove was performed under an MOA with Mr. Dale Hooley. Though collections made by Mr. Hooley suggested a range of Archaic materials, testing identified only sparse evidence of a Late Archaic occupation.
- One hundred thousand years ago, stone age people were living around lakes in what is now the driest part of the largest desert on earth. That is one of the conclusions of research conducted by **Christopher Hill** with a team from Williams College and the RFK Science Research Institute based on new dating of a Middle Paleolithic archaeological discovery from southern Egypt. Although now in the hyperarid southeastern Sahara, the region of Bir Tarfawi, Egypt, contains artifacts that elsewhere are found with *Homo erectus* and the earliest examples of anatomically "modern" humans that lived at the same time as Neanderthals. While Neanderthals lived in Europe and Asia, fossils of anatomically modern humans first appear in East Africa around 200,000 years ago. At the site in Egypt the collection of Middle Paleolithic artifacts were found in sedimentary layers formed in an ancient lake. The sediments show that there was a dry period followed by a wet climate episode. It was during the times with wetter climates that early humans lived in the area. Using the thermoluminescence dating techniques the an-

cient sands in the lake beach deposits were measured to date to about 60,000 years ago, while using the electron spin resonance technique an underlying set of deposits date to around 100,000 years ago. This is about the same time when global climate conditions were even warmer than today, with sea level higher than at present. This age suggests that the wetter climatic phases might be associated with a change in the geographic range or intensity of African rains and that this shift is associated with the transition to warmer global climates. This change may have enabled biologically modern humans to expand into, and travel through, the eastern Sahara. Besides the discovery of the presence of lakes in the Sahara and their connection with ancient forms of humans making stone tools, there is a controversy regarding the origin of water in the lakes. One new theory is that the water is the result of overflow from the River Nile. Dr. Hill was quoted this December in an article on Discover.com and MSNBC regarding some other potential sources of the water including the possibility of local rains or the presence of streams flowing into the region from the highlands to the west. One of the Anthropology Department's graduate students, Cynthia Bradbury, is studying the chemistry of the molluscs from lake sediments associated with the Middle Paleolithic artifacts in southern Egypt to determine what the ancient environment was like. Whatever the source of the water, the research conducted by the team working with Dr. Hill has shown about 100,000 years ago the Sahara was much wetter than today and the environment was able to support groups of ancient Ice Age humans.



Christopher Hill presents his research findings at the 2010 Geological Society of America meeting in Denver, Co.

Anthropology Faculty Publication Highlights



Archaeology and Anthropology
Vol. 16, No. 2, the Journal of the
Walter Roth Museum of
Anthropology, South America.

- **Mark Plew** continued his editorship of the *Idaho Archaeologist*, Journal of the Idaho Archaeological Society and as co-editor of *Archaeology and Anthropology*, Journal of the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology, the national anthropological journal of Guyana. During the past year he has overseen the move of AA to an electronic format, expanded the memberships of the Editorial Advisory Boards of each journal and is working to increase the national and international circulation of both. The AA e-journal can be purchased at <http://anthro.boisestate.edu/archaeology-and-anthropology-journal/PreWPindex.html>
- **John Ziker** is co-editor and contributor to *The 1926/27 Polar Census of Russia's European North (Arkhangel'sk Guberniia and Komi Autonomous Oblast')*, Saint-Petersburg: MPSS, 2010. The volume publishes for the first time a set of letters and memoranda concerning the organization of the 1926/27 Polar Census for Arkhangel'sk province and the Komi autonomous district. It also provides readers with several unique studies analyzing the contemporary population of these districts today in light of the historical records provided by this census. This book forms one part of a large international collaborative effort to recover and reanalyze the results of the Polar Census across the former Soviet Union. A comprehensive volume in English is in press to appear shortly. The volume is also accompanied with a public access internet database giving access to a sample of the digitized records (www.abdn.ac.uk/polarcensus). This volume will be an important resource for historians wishing to learn more about how to use the surviving primary records of the Polar Census for the Russian North, as for members of the general public who will be struck by the continuities and changes to this region.
- **Mark Plew** published several monographs, book chapters and abstracts. Among the monographs are Archaeological Test Excavations at Wyva Creek, Northeastern Guyana, *Monographs in Archaeology* No. 3, University of Guyana and Archaeological Excavations at Site 10-EL-216: Late Archaic Occupations on the Middle Snake River, Idaho. *Cultural Resource Reports* No. 6, Center for Applied Archaeological Science. He contributed to the *Idaho Archaeologist*, *Archaeology and Anthropology* and the *Journal of the Idaho Academy of Sciences*. He contributed a chapter to *Anthropologies of Guayana: Cultural Spaces in Northeastern Amazonia* edited by Neil Whitehead and Stephanie Aleman entitled "Pleistocene-Early Holocene Environmental Change: Implications for Human Adaptive Responses in the Guianas."
- **Margaret Streeter** wrote a chapter entitled "Histological Age Estimation in Subadults" published in a book *Age Estimation of the Human Skeleton* edited by K.E. Latham and M. Finnegan, CC Thomas.
- **John Ziker** is part of an interdisciplinary team that published an article in the March 18, 2010 issue of *Science*, the academic journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. *Science* is considered one of the world's most prominent journals, and this article marks the seventh time peer-reviewed contributions by Boise State faculty have been included in its pages. The article entitled "Markets, religion, community size and the evolution of fairness and punishment," summarizes new results of a project in which evolutionary game-theory experiments were used to examine the relationship between measures of fairness and punishment, and variables like community size, adherence to a world religion and market integration. It is the second paper from the 14-member team to be published in *Science* (the first was in June, 2006). Researchers hailed from institutions including University of British Columbia, California Institute of Technology, UC Davis, UCLA, UCSB, Oxford University and Florida State University. The study shows that people living in the smallest communities with minimal market integration or world religion – absences that likely characterized all societies until about 10,000 years ago – display relatively little concern for fairness or punishing unfairness in transactions involving strangers or anonymous players in the experiment. In contrast, participants in the largest societies with the highest levels of market integration and participation in world religions show both a greater willingness to make fair offers and the most willingness to punish unfair offers in the experiments. "This result challenges previous findings from numerous experiments conducted mostly with college students in Western societies that social norms arise directly from an evolved psychology that metaphorically applies kin and reciprocity-based heuristics to strangers," said Ziker, whose years of work with indigenous Siberians laid the groundwork for conducting the experiments in a Siberian settlement. "It also means that the development of complex societies over the last 10 millennia is in large part dependent on norms for fairness and punishment that best facilitated exchange and cooperation in social spheres well beyond local networks of durable kin and reciprocity relationships." The project, funded by the National Science Foundation, involved a series of controlled experiments in 15 societies on five continents. The team conducted behavioral experiments with 2,100 respondents from 15 societies, whose communities ranged in size from 20 to 10,000 people. These small-scale societies, from Africa, North and South America, Oceania, New Guinea, and Siberia, included hunter-gatherers, marine foragers, pastoralists, horticulturalists and wage laborers.

Anthropology Faculty Service Highlights

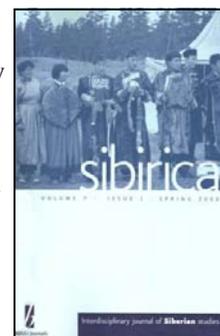
The department faculty continue their active service commitments through service to the department, college and university, and community. During the past year the department faculty had a combined total of 119 service commitments. These commitments included professional and community service. Professionally faculty served as editors of state and international journals, as reviewers for major regional, national and international journals and granting agencies that included the National Science Foundation. In addition, faculty served as members of professional and community advisory boards, as consultants to federal, state and county agencies and to public/community groups. Among the this year's community service commitments were consultations with the Ada County Coroner's Office, Mores Creek Water District, and the Snake River Water Trail Project.

Mark Plew hosted the 37th Annual Conference of the Idaho Archaeological Society and continued to chair the Idaho Archaeology Working Group. In August, he presented by invitation "Recent Discoveries in Guyana Prehistory" at the Guyana National Museum—an annual heritage lecture sponsored by the Guyana Ministry of Culture. He continues as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board for the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology, as Research

Affiliate of the Amerindian Research Unit, University of Guyana and Iwokrama, International Center for Rainforest Conservation and Development.

In September 2010 **Margaret Streeter** and graduate students Joseph Purcell and Cynthia Bradbury presented a short course for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute entitled, "What it Means to be Human."

John Ziker continues his service activities as Reviews Editor for the peer-reviewed journal *Sibirica: Interdisciplinary Journal of Siberian Studies*, published by Berghahn Press. He is also Contributing Editor to *Anthropology News* on behalf of the Evolutionary Anthropology Society. Anthropology News is the monthly newsletter of the American Anthropological Association. In August 2010 Ziker began a two-year term in the Boise State University Faculty Senate as a representative of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs.



John Ziker Fulbright Visiting Chair

John Ziker held the Fulbright Visiting Chair in North American Studies at University of Calgary Department of Archaeology in 2009-2010 while he was on sabbatical at BSU. He focused on developing book and journal article manuscripts with the theme of Home, Hearth and Household in indigenous Arctic communities. The

research facilitated developing North American materials on mobile dwellings, indigenous property rights to symbolic and material resources, and the institutions and communities supported. The project followed the participatory research exchange on the Tlicho caribou-skin lodge and chronicled the near-term outcomes of that

activity. The Fulbright Chair in North American Studies allowed Ziker to promptly complete manuscripts based on the Home, Hearth, and Household research. These publications link these materials to the wider issues of social resilience, the development of cooperation, and human/environment relationships.

SSPA Announces \$20.11 Campaign

The College of Social Science and Public Affairs (SSPA) is proud to announce the beginning of a new scholarship campaign – Campaign \$20.11. SSPA is one of the largest colleges on campus with the largest graduating class year in and year out, yet we also have the fewest number of endowed scholarship funds – 48 to be exact. If we are to successfully meet the needs of the over 70% of SSPA students who require financial support in order to continue their education - ***We must do better!***

This year we have created a new scholarship initiative called Campaign \$20.11.

The premise is simple. If each and every student graduating from SSPA this year were to make a gift of \$20.11 to the SSPA \$20.11 Endowed Scholarship Fund we could potentially raise well over \$15,000. This would be enough to provide one new scholarship to a deserving SSPA student in perpetuity. But we are taking this a little further. We are also asking the SSPA Advisory Board to support this endeavor with matching gifts as well as family, friends, faculty and staff to step up and support this project. When this campaign is completed at the end of June 2011 we are hoping

to have raised \$25,000. Then we will start all over again on July 2011 with campaign \$20.12.

We here in the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs hope that you will consider making your gift in support of campaign \$20.11. We realize that many of you struggled to make this dream of a college education a reality. We are asking that you leave behind a permanent legacy that will ensure students following in your footsteps will have it just a little easier. Your gift of \$20.11 will do that.

For more information
please contact Rick Jung
at
rickjung@boisestate.edu.

2010 Archaeological Field School

In late May and June, 2010, Boise State University conducted its annual Archaeological Field School at sites 10-EL-294 and 10-EL-438 located on the Snake River (shown here). 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 Kimberly Brown, Stephanie Carlson, Tami Cox, Claire Daniels, Reid Donovan, Stacey Guinn, Valerie Hayes, Eric “Ejvand” Nielsen, Clayton Pleasant, and Dalene Studyvin. Meghan Eastman served as graduate field school assistant.

Anthropologist John Ziker Receives Fulbright Grant for Sustainable Garden

John Ziker has been awarded Fulbright Canada’s Eco-Leadership Grant for the project “Sustainable Space and Community Garden.” Ziker will work with campus groups to build a sustainable space and community garden in the Boise State University neighborhood. As part of this proposed activity, Boise State has committed to provide an approximately quarter-acre site to house the garden, tools and raw materials. Ziker is working with the Boise State Sustainability Club and John Gardner, director of the Energy Efficiency Research Institute.

The space will include a garden, compost area and water management system. It also will serve as a location for broader educational outreach and community networking and engagement on sustainability. The three main goals of the project are to:

- Develop a space where food can be grown
- Educate students and the community about sustainable ways of living, with a focus on growing food locally
- Foster collaboration between the university, students, and the broader community

The Sustainable Space will emphasize integration of people as part of the environment and demonstrate the relationship between our behavior and natural systems. The project is intended to build relationships between campus activities and the community to help accomplish the goal of growing Boise into a more sustainable community. Community outreach will be aimed at creating an on-going cycle of education that integrates the university and community in conscious environmental endeavors.

2010-2011 Anthropology Lectures

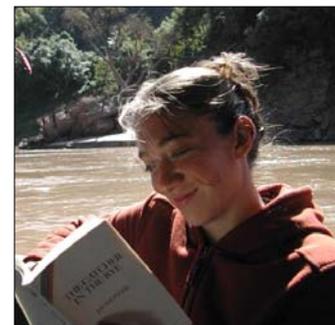
“FRIENDS OF ANTHROPOLOGY”

Dr. Arthur Scarritt, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Boise State University, spoke on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 3:00 PM in the Simplot A Ballroom of the Student Union Building. He lectured on “The Second Time as Farce: Neoliberal Racism in Highland Peru.”



DEPARTMENT LECTURE SERIES

Elizabeth Marino, a PhD candidate in socio-cultural anthropology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, was invited to speak on Friday, November 5, 2010 at 2:00 PM in the Jordan B Ballroom of the Student Union Building. Her lecture was entitled, “Losing Ground: Understanding Environmental Relocations and Climate Change Response in Alaska and throughout the World.”



BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference

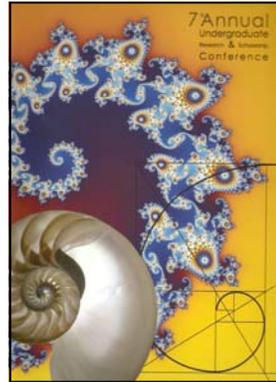
The BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship conference provides undergraduate students at Boise State University a forum to share their research projects and be recognized for their exceptional work.

Christiane Campbell was selected to present a paper at the 7th annual BSU Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference on April 12, 2010.

Christiane's presentation was entitled, "*Geoarchaeology of Holocene Terrace Deposits Near Glens Ferry, Idaho.*" Sediments associated with archaeological sites provide information that can be used to infer local formational processes and broader-scale environmental conditions. Laboratory studies were conducted of sediment samples collected as part of the 2009 Boise State University Archaeological Field

School excavations near Glens Ferry, in southwestern Idaho. The site, 10-EL-216, is on a Holocene-aged terrace running along the west bank of the Snake River. The terrace landform can be interpreted as the product of alluvial and aeolian erosion and deposition. For instance, large boulders near the excavation site were deposited about 14,500 radiocarbon years ago by the Bonneville flood. Since that event, wind has transported loess across the landscape and alluvial processes have been active within the floodplain of the Snake River. Stratigraphic samples were collected from river bank profiles and a series of excavation units that were dug at intervals spread-

ing approximately 120 m north to south across the terrace. Sediment samples were collected from various strata within these units. The sediment samples from the site were analyzed to contribute to the understanding of the depositional formation processes related to the site. The data obtained from sediment analysis – including particle size distribution, percent carbonate, and mineral composition – were used to construct a stratigraphic cross-section which shows the vertical and horizontal features of the terrace and to evaluate late Quaternary environments.



Denis Williams Archaeological Field School, Guyana



In early August 2010, Mark Plew and Chris Willson led the fourth annual Denis Williams Archaeological Field School near St. Cuthbert's, Guyana where 8 students from the University of Guyana and the Guyana Environmental Protection Agency were trained in methods of archaeological survey. The survey identified a Horticultural Period site containing Mabaruma Phase ceramics.



OTHER NEWS

- Chris Willson received a lectureship at Boise State University and is now full time faculty in the Department of Anthropology.
- The department co-hosted the Idaho Archaeological Society Conference on Saturday, October 2, 2010.
- Three students, Joseph Purcell from The Ohio State University, Jillian Roberts from Boise State University, and Ryan Raeder from the University of Wisconsin-Madison have been accepted into the Fall 2010 graduate program cohort.
- Eighteen Certificates of Completion were awarded to students who completed the department's Cultural Awareness Training Program in 2010.
- The Department of Anthropology was honored at the May 1, 2010 Canyon County Parks, Recreation and Waterways **Par-kopalooza** celebration for its superlative guidance, resources and opportunities that contributed to the creation of Celebration Park and its interpretive and academic offerings.

Master's in Anthropology Graduates

Three students graduated from the Anthropology graduate program in 2010.



Robert Karinen received his BS from the University of Idaho and his MPA from Boise State University. He completed the Boise State Masters of Arts in Anthropology with his thesis entitled, "Histomorphometry of the Human Rib Cortex in Methamphetamine Users." Margaret Streeter was his faculty advisor.



Bridget Denny received her BA from the University of New Mexico. She completed the Boise State Masters of Arts in Anthropology program with her thesis entitled, "Does Mean Osteon Size Change with Age, Sex or Handedness?" Margaret Streeter was her faculty advisor.



Garrett Webb received his BA from Boise State University. He completed the Boise State Masters of Arts in Anthropology program with his thesis entitled, "Environmental Impact of the Euro-American Emigration through the Western Snake River Plain (1840-1862): Effect on Native Lifeways." Christopher Hill was his faculty advisor.

Anthropology Graduate Student Research Activities

Cynthia Bradbury presented a poster presentation entitled "Chiribayan subadult age estimation using rib histology" at the 52nd Idaho Academy of Science conference in Twin Falls, Idaho, March 11-13, 2010. Subadult mortuary remains from the Chiribaya polity of the Peruvian Late Intermediate Period (AD 1000-1300) were initially evaluated using gross morphology and were subsequently assigned to broad age ranges: below ten years and between ten and twenty-five years. In this study we applied the Streeter method which uses the sequential pattern observed in rib cortical bone thin sections to assign a developmental stage that is associated with a specific age range. The rate and quality of growth and development are known to be affected by variation in genetics, diet, health status, and activity levels. Because the Streeter method was developed using bone samples from a modern population, evaluation of its applicability to archaeological samples was necessary. The goals for this study were to assign more precise ages and to compare the developmental sequence between the modern and archaeological samples.

Karl Mertens' review of the book, Popkov, Yu.V., and E.A. Tyugashev, *Philosophy of the North: Indigenous Peoples of the North in World Order Scenarios*. Novosibirsk: Siberian Research Publishing House, 2006, 374 pp. is being published in the winter issue of *Sibirica*.

Garrett Webb received 2nd place in the Best Student Presentation General Science or Ecology Paper category at the Idaho Academy of Science 52nd Annual Symposium in Twin Falls, Idaho, March 11-13, 2010. Garrett's paper was entitled, "Southern Idaho Oregon Trail Survey: Boise to Glenns Ferry." During the summer of 2009, archaeologists from the Bureau of Land Manage-

ment's Four Rivers Field Office inventoried and mapped a significant portion of the Oregon Trail between Boise and Glenns Ferry, Idaho. Forty-four miles were walked and photographed, many of which were categorized as unaltered Class 1. Recommendations were made to assist future management and preservation for the surveyed portions of trail. Future work will focus on what the environmental impact of the mid-19th century Euro-American migration was in southern Idaho and how it may have affected native subsistence strategies.

Garrett Webb presented at the Idaho Archaeological Society Conference on October 2, 2010. Garrett's presentation was entitled, "Emigrants, Environment, and Native Lifeways: Implications of the Quantitative Nature of Emigration in Southwestern Idaho Prior to Settlement." Euro-American contact in southwestern Idaho was defined by transitory emigrant traffic between 1840 and 1862 until settlement began in 1863. During this period it is estimated that over 50,000 emigrants and accompanying livestock utilized the physiographically expedient western Snake River Plain en route to western Oregon territory. Contemporary historical works state that during this time, environmental degradation resulting from emigrant passage adversely affected native lifeways. Such assertions, however, are predicated upon non-analogous, interregional comparisons that do not consider spatial disparities in the quantitative nature of the westward migration. Compared to other regions that were conducive to emigrant passage, southwestern Idaho experienced relatively light emigrant traffic prior to settlement, which brings into question the expectation that native lifeways were undermined by ecological damage caused by Euro-Americans.

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 2010:

Robert and Marsha Hood
Gypsy Hall
Peter Lutze and Katherine Cote
Robert and Michele McCarl
Mark Plew and Sarah Saras
John Ziker

In Memoriam

The department sadly reports the passing of Rebecca Trent (nee Baird) on October 4, 2010.

Alumni In Action

Maria Venegas (B.A. '07) received her MA in anthropology from the University of Cincinnati in 2009, and is currently working on her PhD in anthropology (emphasis on medical anthropology) and Masters in Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh.

Kersti Harter (B.A. '07) is in her second year of law school at University of Washington in Seattle. This past summer, she worked for Judge Alan Lance on the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Currently, she is serving as an editor for the student-run Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal.

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.

Name _____ Degree and Year Graduated _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ email address _____

My News _____

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
1910 University Drive
Boise, Idaho 83725-1950

Phone: 208-426-3023
Fax: 208-426-4329
E-mail: fbrigha@boisestate.edu

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/anthropology/>

Anthropology Club

The officers for 2010-2011 are:
President—Mason Ireland
Vice-President—Keesha Renna
Treasurer—Erin Van Tassel
Secretary—Joseph Hackman

Archaeological Student Assoc

The officers for 2010-2011 are:
Director—Reid Donovan
Events Coord—Michael Bishop
Secretary—Stacey Guinn
Treasurer—Erin Van Tassel

2010 FAST FACTS:

Anthropology Majors: 166
Freshmen: 35
Sophomores: 45
Juniors: 32
Seniors: 54
Geoarchaeology Majors: 11
Anthropology Minors: 59
Native Amer Studies Minors: 15
Internships: 5
Independent Studies: 5
CAT workshop certificates: 18
Students served by department:
3,842

Student News

Dean's List Spring 2010

Highest Honors: Keitha Gamble, Stacey Guinn, Clayton Pleasant, Hannah Smith, Michael Stover.

High Honors: Christopher Arenz, Charles Gilbert, Joseph Hackman, Sean Kelly, Noel Moore-Hughes, Jeremiah Pate, RyAnn Stafford, Christiane Campbell.

Honors: Michael Bishop, Tami Cox, Choya Davis, Michael Dobkins, Adam Keener, Keri Urbanski.

Dean's List Fall 2010

Highest Honors: David Christensen, Jacqueline Hutchings.

High Honors: Tyler Burkholder, Kelli Freeman, Keitha Gamble, Joseph Hackman, Sarah Issuree, Sarah Kehne, Hannah Smith, Cheryl Wonder.

Honors: Sarah Hoopes, Sean Patrick Kelly, Tabor Kluza, Matthew Koob, Devyn Lish, Jeremiah Pate, Darren Peters, RyAnn Stafford, Michael Stover, Jennifer Tabbutt, Caleb Thom, Keri Urbanski

2010 Scholarship Recipients

Joseph Hackman, Hannah Smith, Tami Cox, RyAnn Stafford, and Rachel Barnett received Anthropology Department scholarships. **Jeremy Buzzard** received the Native American Student Scholarship.



Donna Bortfeld was a winner of the 2010 Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month Digital Photography Contest and Show. Donna's photo was on display at the Idaho State Historical Museum in Boise.

Keesha Renna was featured in the Citizen section of the Nov. 3, 2010 Boise Weekly. Keesha spoke on behalf of the Anthropology Club's efforts to assist the IRC and the need to help the refugee community in Boise.



The Anthropology Club joined forces with Kesziah Sullivan, the Community Outreach Specialist at the International Rescue Committee, to design an educational venue concerning the expanding refugee population in Boise. The presentation exposed tragic personal histories, the excruciating journey a refugee must make to seek asylum, the obstacles they face within a new culture, the IRC's role in the process, and the volunteer opportunities available to community members. Following the presentation basic needs donations were collected for IRC families and volunteers signed up to assist their newest neighbors.

2009-2010 Anthropology Graduates

Rhett Atagi, Jason Bogstie, Mary Bybee, Christianne Campbell, Brett Chapman, Choya Davis, Bridget Denny, Jessica Dougherty, Jonathan Dugmore, Paige Fetzer, Robert Karinen, Amy Ludwig, Patrick Reed McDonald, Clayton Pleasant, Samuel Smith, Skyler Sweat, Rachel Wong, Garrett Webb