Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the Department of Anthropology’s Annual newsletter. It’s been a year of changes!

The Department launched its PhD program in Anthropology and Environmental Policy this year. Financial times being tight, we had envisaged an initial intake of no more than a couple of students in the coming Fall. As things turned out, we were able to accept five, mainly because we were able to secure more external funding support for students than we had anticipated. One particularly exciting development was a National Science Foundation award to Anthropology, the Climate Change Institute, and the School of Policy and International Affairs to support 24 PhD students over the next five years in a new Adaption to Abrupt Climate Change program. The new program will dovetail very well with our proposal for a new undergraduate program in the Human Dimensions of Climate Change, which we hope to have approved this academic year.

We were delighted this year to welcome new faculty member Catherine West, congratulate Greg Zaro on his tenure and promotion to Associate Professor, and saddened to bid goodbye to James Acheson upon his retirement after 43 years of service.

Another major loss for the department was Professor Kristin Sobolik, who – amid the wailing, gnashing of teeth, and protests of the new chair – left us at the beginning of the academic year to become Associate Dean for Research and External Affairs of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Kris chaired the Department since 2006. We thank Kris for her extraordinary achievements in advancing the Department’s well-being and the prominence and importance of anthropology on campus.

Under the current Chair, of course, it’s been downhill ever since! Surprisingly, things have yet to fall completely apart, the credit for which goes to our wonderful administrative assistant, Shelley Palmer, the heart and soul of our department and the person almost single-handedly responsible for producing this newsletter. Thanks, Shell!

Jim Roscoe
Banner Year for the Archaeological Field School

The University of Maine archaeological field school had a remarkable season in 2012. Funded by a Maine Academic Prominence Initiative grant, we held a month-long field school to excavate Maine’s eroding coastal shell middens. For the past four years we have worked on a site in Machias Bay associated with the Passamaquoddy petroglyph (rock art) project. The Passamaquoddy reacquired the major petroglyph site in 2006. They have been working to protect and increase our understanding of it, and to use the rock art of their ancestors to communicate cultural and spiritual values of the Wabanaki. We contribute by investigating the occupation sites where petroglyph makers lived.

After four years we are now fine-tuning our questions, tracing out a 2200-year old house floor, and defining ways in which different animals were treated. This year a sharp-eyed student found the teeth and upper jaws from three individuals of the extinct sea mink, placed in a space the size of your hand, perhaps an act of respect for the spirit of this animal, as recorded in Wabanaki oral traditions. Another student used our new laser scanner to record the eroding petroglyphs. Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy Tribal Historian, led a field trip to the petroglyph site, conveying the historical and spiritual value of the hundreds of pecked stone images.

We visited the Passamaquoddy Heritage Museum in Indian Township where Donald Soctomah again showed us important items from the past and the present. Standing around a brand new 21-foot birch bark canoe, he explained the intricacies of its construction and the importance of the canoe to the Wabanaki. Then he said, “Would you like to take a ride?” Transformed to another place, we carried the canoe from the museum and spent the morning paddling the lake. In a world full of greatness and despair, sometimes a ride is of great value. With no apologies for enthusiasm, we thank those who made it possible.

Fieldwork in Grenada

In May, Assoc. Research Professor Marci Sorg led a forensic anthropology team of nine to Grenada to conduct a search for victims of the 1983 governmental coup. The team included a number of alumni of the Department of Anthropology who were her former students, and who began their forensic anthropology training with Dr. Sorg while at UMaine. Boyd Brown III graduated in 1996. After two tours with the Marines in Iraq, Boyd has returned to complete his doctoral work at Ohio State. He currently teaches anthropology at Nichols College in Dudley, MA. Sarah Kiley graduated in 2000 and is in the physical anthropology doctoral program at the University of Florida. Jamie Wren just graduated in 2012 and is a graduate student in the University of New England public health master’s program; he continues to assist with forensic cases. Rob Ingraham received his M.S. in 2011 in the UMaine Quaternary and Climate Studies program. He has a forensic archaeology position with the U.S. Dept. of Defense, Joint POW and MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) in Honolulu. Drs. Bill Haglund, Melissa Connor and Constantine Eliopoulos have all worked on numerous human rights and war crimes missions internationally.
**Undergraduate Research**

On April 11, 2012 six undergraduate Anthropology students presented their research at the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) 3rd annual Academic Showcase. Heather White (below left) won Honorable Mention for her oral presentation on Hybrid Healing: the process of integrating complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) into biomedicine. Heather's research was advised by Ann Acheson. Kalie Hess presented her research on Household Chemical Exposure: The Newest Tributary. Kalie worked under the advisement of Darren Ranco. Kendra Bird (above left) was awarded the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Undergraduate Research Exhibition Award for her poster entitled Zooarchaeology and Conservation Biology in the Gulf of Alaska, under the advisement of Catherine West. Chris Sockalexis presented his poster entitled Bone Tool Production on Frenchman Bay, under the advisement of Brian Robinson. Erin Snape's research, advised by Kristin Sobolik was entitled Human Health at the Advent of Agriculture. Kaitlin Anderson presented her poster entitled Swedish in Aroostook County, Maine under the advisement of Pauleena MacDougall. Congratulations to all!

**Student Honors**

In April the Department held its annual Honors Ceremony to celebrate the academic achievements of our majors who attained Dean’s List status for the year. We are fortunate to have so many talented students. Our award for Outstanding Graduating Senior was shared by Kalie Hess and Morgan Brockington. They each received book awards for their excellent service, research, and academics. Each book reflected their particular interests and was signed by the Anthropology faculty.

Kalie, who was a teaching assistant for Intro to Anthropology; Human Origins and Prehistory and Intro to Anthropology; Diversity of Cultures, was awarded Pathologies of Power; Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor. After graduating in May, 2012 Kalie received an internship working with the Maine Migrant Health Program, an organization that provides low-cost health care services and education to migrant workers in the state of Maine. She worked specifically with the migrant workers in Aroostook county, the majority of whom come from Mexico, Honduras, and El Salvador. Kalie explained, “I provided health education to these workers on pesticide safety, heat stress, and hypertension and also created health education materials, translated for various appointments, and coordinated outreach efforts in the camps. This job opened my eyes to the difficulties migrant workers face every day and made me even more excited to pursue my Masters of Public Health at the University of Albany in the Fall.”

Morgan, a teaching assistant for World Geography, was awarded Cross-Cultural Medicine. About her future plans, Morgan told us “My education and training as an anthropologist has taught me so much about other cultures and has shaped my future career goals. I am currently applying to medical schools and plan to receive a medical degree specializing in Emergency Medicine or Infectious Diseases. In addition, I’d like to complete a Masters in Medical Anthropology that focuses on women’s and international health. I hope to use the tools that the UMaine Anthropology Department provided me to become a more culturally understanding and empathetic physician and one day work with the World Health Organization or Doctors Without Borders.

Other outstanding students honored were Top First Year student, Corey Stephens, Top Sophomores, Jennifer Morrill and Ryan Rybka, and Top Juniors, Ariel Bothen and Kaidi Ilves. Each received a gift certificate to the UMaine Bookstore.

**UMaine Anthropology Alums – We Want to Hear From You!**

What have you done since graduation? We would like to inform current and prospective students of the many opportunities that a degree in anthropology can lead to. Send to the University of Maine Department of Anthropology, 5773 S. Stevens Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5773 or email Anthropology.Info@umit.maine.edu.
Ph.D. in Anthropology and Environmental Policy

The department welcomes the first entering cohort of five graduate students for the Ph.D. in Anthropology and Environmental Policy program starting this fall. The program is the only one of its kind and will engage students in important problems facing the world today, offer training within a multi-disciplinary framework bridging environmental sciences, policy, and the human dimension, and provide excellent options for students who are yearning to make a positive impact on important, imperative, global issues. The students will engage in core anthropological theory, methods, and policy courses, with additional training in national or international environmental areas of their choice such as climate change, marine sciences, forestry, ecology, or energy. The students are being supported with teaching assistantship and grant funding for research including "Pollination Security for Fruit and Vegetable Crops in the Northeast", Sam Hanes’ blueberry bee research, Darren Ranco’s Sustainability Solutions Native American Collaborative Research, and lobster and fisheries policy analysis in Maine.

Adaptations to Abrupt Climate Change NSF Grant

The department collaborated with the Climate Change Institute and the School of Policy and International Affairs and received a $3M National Science Foundation IGERT (Integrated Graduate Education Research and Training) grant to support students in a unique program on Adaptations to Abrupt Climate Change. Similar to our new Ph.D., the IGERT program is interdisciplinary and will engage students and faculty in the social and natural mechanisms, causes, and consequences of non-linear climate change. The IGERT will provide support for our Ph.D. students interested in abrupt climate change issues. Anthropology faculty involved in the program include Kristin Sobolik (coPI on the grant), Paul Roscoe, Sam Hanes, Darren Ranco, Greg Zaro, Constanza Ocampo-Raeder, Dan Sandweiss, and Catherine West. The first entering cohort of the IGERT program is also starting this fall.

Graduate Degrees 2011-2012

Samuel L. Belknap III, M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies
*Ancient Diet in an Arid Environment: The View from Hinds Cave (41VV456)*
Advisor: Kristin Sobolik

Amber Sky Heller, M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies
*Histological Contributions to Species Identification of Calcined Bone from the Bull Brook and Morrill Point Mound Archaeological Sites*
Advisor: Brian Robinson

Robert C. Ingraham, M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies
*Specialized Taphonomies in an Eastern Maine Shell Midden: Faunal Analysis of Site 62-8, Holmes Point West, Machias, Maine*
Advisor: Kristin Sobolik

Ana Cecilia Mauricio, M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies
*The Huaca 20 Site in the Maranga Complex: Human-Environment Interactions, Household Activities, and Funerary Practices on the Central Coast of Peru*
Advisor: Daniel Sandweiss

Elizabeth J. Olson, M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies
*Climate, Environment, Geomorphology, and Settlement during the Preceramic Period at the Salinas De Chao, North Coast of Peru*
Advisor: Daniel Sandweiss

Jennifer C. Ort, M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies
*Paleoindian Aggregation Patterns in Northeastern North America: Analysis of the Bull Brook Site, Ipswich, Massachusetts*
Advisor: Brian Robinson

Kurt M. Rademaker, Ph.D. in Quaternary Archaeology
*Early Human Settlement of the High-Altitude Pucuncho Basin, Peruvian Andes*
Advisor: Daniel Sandweiss
Student Travels Abroad

Shelby Saucier - Tanzania, Africa
*Anthropology Major, Spanish Minor*

I find that sometimes, students, including myself, have doubts about the usefulness of the things we learn in the classroom. We tend to think, “Well, this is interesting, but when the heck am I ever going to use it in the real world?” Fortunately, I had the immense pleasure of discovering just how useful the topics I have been learning about these three years at UMaine can really be in the real world. Over spring break, a class right here at UMaine brought a select twenty two students to the beautiful country of Tanzania, Africa, to study not only the ecology and the wildlife in the area, but also the different cultures and the way that they interact with the environment. Surrounded by Wildlife Ecology and Zoology majors, I felt a bit out of the loop when bird watching or classifying the different species of wildlife we encountered, but I felt right at home when we spent the day with one of the last hunter-gatherer tribes left in Africa, or when we visited a Maasai village and got to peek inside their huts and talk to the families in person. I was thrilled to actually grind corn with the Datoga tribe, a pastoral community. Each of our guides had fascinating stories to tell us about their life in Tanzania. Traveling to Africa was a life-long dream. I was so fortunate that I had the opportunity to experience Tanzania, however, it would have been less meaningful if I did not have the strong academic support and preparation that I received through my favorite department here at the University of Maine – the Department of Anthropology.

Andrew O’Neill - Hirosaki, Japan
*Anthropology and History Double Major*

I studied in Hirosaki, Japan which is in the northern part of the main island. The temperature year-round is very similar to Maine’s. Being a student in Japan was very interesting because I was afforded many opportunities to be immersed in the local and national culture. The studies were well structured and organized giving plenty of time to be able to study and make the most of our time, as well as be able to take some time to explore the city and get to know people outside of school. One of the most interesting experiences I had was going to sing Karaoke with all my friends. Each group of people gets their own private, sound-proofed room, where they can sing as loud as they want! I learned how to create a good balance between work and free time that allowed me to focus better and get more out of my studies. Studying in a country where there is only some English spoken, has provided me with a new way of looking at situations. I had to learn to simplify thoughts and ideas in order to more easily translate them into another language. The highlight of my entire trip was the Nepeta festival. They build giant lanterns with pictures of warriors on the front and they parade them around town at night while cheering and chanting “YA YA DOO!” at the top of their lungs. I was able to participate on the first night of this week-long event and the feeling of being a part of it was indescribable. The celebration was as fun and interesting the first day as it was the last.

Archaeological Excavation of Cuncaicha, a High-Altitude Ice-Age Rockshelter in the Peruvian Andes

This July-August a UMaine team conducted interdisciplinary research in the Pucuncho Basin, a spectacular wetland oasis ringed by glaciated volcanoes and situated at 4500 m (~14,760 feet) in the southern Peruvian Andes. Field investigations included glacial geologic work at moraines and collection of an ice core from Nevado Coropuna ice cap to understand past climate change, as well as National Geographic-sponsored archaeological investigations at Cuncaicha rockshelter, the world’s highest ice-age site and one of the earliest sites in South America.

The project team included Director, Dr. Kurt Rademaker, Peruvian Co-Director Willy Yepez, UMaine graduate students, Walter Beckwith and Liz Olson, UMaine undergraduates, Matthew Koehler and Tamara Labanowski, and UMaine alumni Christopher Miller and David Reid. The archaeological team camped at 4500 m elevation for six weeks, weathering 10°F nights and even a late July snow shower! The goals of their excavations were to study the formation of Cuncaicha’s 12,000-year occupation sequence using cutting-edge geoaarchaeological techniques, to identify early activity areas, and to recover artifacts, animal, and plant remains to learn about late ice-age life in the high Andes and early connections with other eco-zones. Ongoing work at Cuncaicha offers a tremendous opportunity to learn about the development of human adaptations to extreme environments, and the origins of camelid domestication and exchange systems that formed the basis of Andean civilization.
Gregory Zaro earned Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor of Anthropology and Climate Change starting in September, 2012. Greg’s area of specialization is Andean South America and Mesoamerica. His research focuses on long-term human-environment dynamics, with a principal interest in agricultural landscape evolution in arid regions. Greg has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and conduct research at the University of Zadar, Croatia, during the Spring 2013 semester. His interdisciplinary teaching and research project will provide an overview of landscape evolution and resource management along the Dalmatian coast from early Roman colonization, through the Medieval period, and into the present era. In conjunction with on-site assessment of landscape features, Zaro will collaborate with Croatian scholars and students in an effort to compile data from the archaeological, cultural, historical, and environmental sciences as they relate to landscape evolution and human agency along the Eastern Adriatic over the past two thousand years.

Dan Sandweiss organized the Society for American Archaeology’s first Conferencia Intercontinental (Intercontinental Conference), held (entirely in Spanish) in Panama in January 2012. For the effort, the Society awarded him the Galardón de Reconocimiento Presidencial in Panama and the English equivalent Presidential Recognition Award at the Annual Meeting in Memphis in April, 2012. The citation reads: “For his tireless organizational efforts and superb coordination, his promotion of the program, his review process of the abstracts and construction of the program and his many other tangible contributions that have made the Conferencia Intercontinental a success, we proudly present this award to Daniel H. Sandweiss.”

The poster in the background is by Ana Cecilia Mauricio, an IPhD student in Anthropology and Climate Change, who was selected to present at the Conferencia. Photo courtesy of the Society for American Archaeology.

Catherine West spent a week in June at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa with funding from the University of Maine’s ADVANCE Rising Tide Center. While there, she and geologist Dr. Fred Andrus developed a research project to reconstruct prehistoric climate conditions in the Gulf of Alaska using archaeological clams. The clams record climate conditions in their shells as they grow. Samples were taken of clams from archaeological sites on Kodiak Island, Alaska, in the University of Alabama Stable Isotope Laboratory. The chemical data in these shells can be used to address the effects of changing climate on ocean temperatures, animal populations, and prehistoric hunter-gatherers in this region over the last 4,000 years. This project will continue over the next year with the help from students at the University of Maine and the University of Alabama.

Faculty Associate Sam Hanes is co-PI on a US Department of Agriculture grant entitled “Pollination Security for Fruit and Vegetable Crops in the Northeast”. Colony Collapse Disorder and rising commercial honeybee prices have promoted the team, led by Frank Drummond in Ecology and Environmental Sciences and Ann Avril at the University of Massachusetts, to study ways of increasing farmers’ pollination security. The interdisciplinary, multi-state team is assessing native bees’ potential as crop pollinators, as well as looking at ways to enhance commercial honeybees’ usefulness. They are studying four insect-pollinated fruit and vegetable crops in the Northeast US: blueberries, apples, cranberries, and squash/pumpkin. Sam’s role is to study farmers’ pollination practices and the obstacles they face in utilizing native bees or in using commercial bees in more sustainable ways. He and his grad student, Kourtney Collum, will be conducting surveys and interviews to understand farmers’ behavior and concerns.
September 2011 saw the publication of the final manuscript of the *Historical Atlas of Maine* to the University Press of New England. More than a decade in the making, financially supported by NEH and other foundations, and involving more than 30 contributors, including the Anthropology Department’s David Sanger, Brian Robinson, and the late Alaric Faulkner, the atlas promises to be an astonishing book in design and content. It is scheduled to be published in Spring 2013.

Stephen will be using final proofs of the atlas to teach GEO 212: Geography of Maine in Spring 2013.

At the end of 2011, we bid a formal farewell to Professor Jim Acheson, whom decades of alumni will surely remember well. Jim spent his entire academic life at UMaine and devoted an enormous amount of that time to its well-being. He also received a raft of awards and recognitions: the American Anthropology Association’s biannual, Solon T. Kimball Award for Applied Anthropology and Public Policy; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Research Award; the Presidential Research and Creative Activity Award; a citation from the State of Maine for his contributions to the State; and – to cap one of the most illustrious careers of any UMaine professor – the Distinguished Maine Professor award. We bid Jim a formal farewell, but I’m happy to report that you’ll still find him working away every day on his grants and research in his South Stevens office as Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and Marine Sciences, as well as his new title of Research Professor of Anthropology.

A major loss for the department was Professor Kristin Sobolik, who left us at the beginning of the academic year to become Associate Dean for Research and External Affairs of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Kris has chaired the Department since 2006. We are grateful for her extraordinary achievements in advancing its well-being and the prominence and importance of anthropology on campus. During her five years at the helm, Kris presided over a rise in the number of our majors of more than 72%. Largely as a result of her astute redesign of our curriculum and her managerial skills, we also now teach more credit hours per faculty member than any other unit on campus. During her tenure, the department averaged half a million dollars in external grants annually, and thanks to her work in helping secure the new IGERT grant, the Department this year generated well over one million dollars! Finally, it was Kris who initiated this annual newsletter. She is already sorely missed.

Darren Ranco, Associate Professor of Anthropology, and Coordinator of Native American Research welcomes graduate student, Kristine Reed, who has a Sustainability Solutions Native American Collaborative Research Assistantship. Research outreach and collaboration is a key principle of the Sustainable Solutions Initiative (SSI), in particular to the Sustainability Solutions Native American Collaborative Research Assistantships, which seek to build research collaborations with Maine’s Native American communities and help train the next generation of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) researchers in collaborative research and outreach. Kristine will be part of an integrated research program built on strong stakeholder partnerships and collaborative, interdisciplinary research teams focused on urbanization, forest ecosystem management, and climate change. These efforts address the dynamics of social-ecological systems with an emphasis on moving from knowledge to action.

Stephen Hornsby, Director of the Canadian American Center and professor of geography and Canadian Studies, has received two awards for his recent book *Surveyors of Empire: Samuel Holland, J.F.W. Des Barres, and the Making of the Atlantic Neptune*; the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation’s Publication of the Year Award, and the North American Society for Oceanic History John Lyman Award for Naval and Maritime Science and Technology.

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The FUND is an opportunity for those closest to the University of Maine, our Alumni, Parents, Friends, and Faculty/Staff to play an important role in the University’s present and in its future.

Last year, with Department of Anthropology gift funds, we helped students travel abroad to participate in research projects. This hands-on experience is invaluable. Our main objective is to ensure there are funds available to allow us to respond quickly and appropriately to the areas of greatest need within the Department of Anthropology. Your donations, combined with those of others, make a significant and immediate impact on the quality of the ‘UMaine Experience’ for our students.

We invite you to become an active part of this campaign by making your gift on behalf of the Department of Anthropology to The FUND by visiting us on-line at www.umaine.edu/give or by calling 207-581-1148 or toll-free at 866-578-2156. Remember, it isn’t just about how much you give, but the fact that you give that makes a real difference.

For more information about The FUND, contact Ullysses Tucker, Jr. (ullysses.tucker@maine.edu), Director of Annual Giving at 207-581-1157.

Thank you for your consideration and support.