

# *Grinnell College*

## *Anthropology Department*

Vicki Bentley-Condit  
Associate Professor  
& Chair

Doug Caulkins  
Professor

Jon Andelson  
Professor

Kathy Kamp  
Professor

John Whittaker  
Professor

Katya Gibel Azoulay  
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Maria Tapias  
Assistant Professor

J. Montgomery Roper  
Assistant Professor

Brigitte French  
Mellon Post-Doctorial  
Fellow and Lecture

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**Fall 2004 Newsletter**

**Then....**



**Constructed in 1885**

Served as the college  
library and astronomical  
observatory.

**Now...**

**Renovated in  
1899, 1905, 1912, 1995.**

Currently houses the  
Department of Anthropology  
and faculty offices.

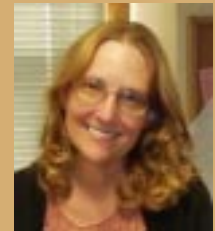


## John Whittaker and Kathy Kamp



We ended our sabbatical with a summer spent mostly in Arizona. We finished mapping the complex of rooms at New Caves. Even with our nice new GPS equipment, it meant spending a number of days in the wind and sun on top of the volcanic peak remembered by many field school students. The scenery has suffered from the last two years of drought and beetle infestation, and many of the ponderosa and pinyon pines are dead and brown. We could see occasional plumes of smoke from forest fires, and one burned over some sites we had recorded out east of Lizard

Man Village, but did no real damage to them. Kathy began GIS analysis of the mass of survey data from Grinnell surveys and the Coconino National Forest, which we labored to clean up last year. John finished his book on modern knappers; *American Flintknappers: Stone Age Art in the Age of Computers* is due out in April from U. Texas Press. Daughter April's anthropological parentage begins to show; she spent the summer as a costumed interpreter at Living History Farms in Des Moines, wearing petticoats and cooking over an open fire, and is now doing a semester abroad in Tanzania.



## Third Year of Grinnell-in-Washington Program

Doug Caulkins, 2003 faculty director

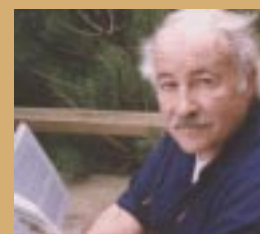


Back row: Doug Caulkins (faculty), Juliette Mushi, Ashanataha Kaluarachchi, Saurabh Saraf, Chumley Sittler, and Rahul Gandhi. Front row: Tin Lin, Siddhi Khajuria, Angela wang, Dolan Talukdar, Ahn Trinh, JP Ramos and Skaksh Kapahi.

Twenty years ago, in 1983, I started the first year of the Grinnell Technology Semester in Washington, a program funded by a grant to Grinnell College by the Sloan Foundation. When the grant ended, the program ended. This year marks the third year of a new Grinnell program in our nation's capital. Like the old program, the new one features full-time internships in any of a huge variety of non-profit, NGO, governmental, and for-profit organizations. Anthropology majors with an interest in global development, social services, museums, environmental activism, or the media, to name but a few areas, would find many opportunities for internships in Washington. The Institute for Experiential Learning, probably the most successful internship provider in Washington, works with our students to find the most fitting internship for their interests

and skills. This year our students (pictured) are living where the action is, either near Dupont Circle (and the cosmopolitan neighborhood of Adams Morgan) or on Capitol Hill, near the entire federal establishment and within easy walking distance of the museums on the Mall. In addition to their internships, students take three courses: an internship seminar, a Public Policy course taught by a Professor at Georgetown University, another a course taught by the Grinnell faculty member. I am teaching a new course on organizational culture for the first time and am keying it to the 12 students' internship organizations as case studies. I am teaching another version of the course for spring semester, 2004, back on campus. In the meantime I am looking forward to an exciting semester in Washington.

# Publications and Presentation Doug Caulkins



## *Publications:*

2003 "Globalization and the Local Hero: Becoming a Small-scale Entrepreneur in Scotland." *Anthropology of Work Review* XXIII (1-2) Spring and Summer. 2002 (pages 24-29).

2003 "Organizational Culture" (1,000 words) in Karen Christensen and David Levinson (General Editors) *Encyclopedia of Community: Shared Places, Shared Meanings, from the Village to the Virtual World*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Reference.

2003 "Voluntary Organizations" (1,000 words) in Karen Christensen and David Levinson (General Editors) *Encyclopedia of Community: Shared Places, Shared Meanings, from the Village to the Virtual World*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Reference.

Forthcoming December 2003 D. Douglas Caulkins, Vickie Schlegel, Christina Hanson, and Jane Cherry, "The Politics of Authenticity and Identity In British Heritage Sites." *Regional Development on the North Atlantic Margin: Selected Contributions to the Sixteenth International Seminar on Marginal Regions*, Reginald Byron and Tim Jenkins, (eds.) Aldershot: Ashgate.



**Maria Tapias**

I spent this past summer doing some library research in Spain and follow-up interviews for my research on health and emotions in Bolivia. During the first part of the summer I mulled over books in the libraries in Madrid and Seville trying to find out information on the colonial influences in health conceptualizations. During the latter part of the summer I returned to Bolivia after almost five years. It was wonderful to be back and see nearly all of the women I had worked with from 1996-98. I continued my research on emotions, focusing in particular on maternal emotions, how women negotiate their emotions in the face of conflict or economic hardship and how they often attribute their breastfeeding infants' illnesses to their own emotions. I was amazed at how nicely my two trips dovetailed. Nearly everyone I spoke to at my field site either had a family member or friend who had migrated to Spain or Italy. I am hoping to return to Spain and track down some of these folks and see what their experiences have been like...

## *Conference Presentations:*

2003 Douglas Caulkins, Christina Hanson and Emily Zabor, "Organizational Culture and Organizational Stress in the British Heritage Industry." 17th International Seminar on Marginal Regions: Government and Governance: Nations, Regions, and Communities on the Margins. Aberystwyth, Wales. August 7, 2003.

2003 Douglas Caulkins and Jennifer Robinson, "Forging the Cultural Connections with the Old Country: The Welsh Diaspora in Mid-Western US" 17th International Seminar on Marginal Regions: Government and Governance: Nations, Regions, and Communities on the Margins. Aberystwyth, Wales. August 7, 2003.

2003 Douglas Caulkins, "A Cultural Revitalization Movement for Scotland and Wales? Devolution and Contested Identity in the UK. 17th International Seminar on Marginal Regions: Government and Governance: Nations, Regions, and Communities on the Margins. Harlech, Wales. August 2, 2003.





**Vicki Bentley-Condit**

Five anthropology majors presented papers at the Iowa Academy of Science Meeting on April 25 at the Hotel Fort Des Moines. These students were all part of Vicki Bentley-Condit's MAP senior seminar on Human Ethology. Each student conducted independent research for his or her project, collecting observational data primarily over spring break. The students and their projects were: Byll Bryce ('03) "Competitiveness in Dyadic Conversations"; Courtney Prior ('03) "Differences in Mate Attraction Strategies between Heterosexual and Homosexual Men"; Aelega Schortman ('04) "Gossip and the Evolution of Human Language"; Matt Watson ('03) "The Expression and Negotiation of Dominance in a Formal, Political Context"; and Alex Woods ('03) "Door Holding as a Model of Altruistic Action".



Back row: Alex Woods, Matt Watson,  
Front row: Byll Bryce, Vicki Bentley-Condit, Aelega Schortman, Courtney Prior

**Brigitte French**



Greetings from 104 Goodnow Hall! Since most faithful readers of the Anthropology Newsletter know that I am the Mellon Fellow in the Department, I'd like to take this opportunity to talk about my scholarly interests as a linguistic anthropologist. My intellectual passions lie in

investigating the broad nexus of the language/culture relationship. More specifically, my research centers on the intersection of language politics and collective identity formation. In my dissertation, I focused on Spanish and Kaqchikel (a Mayan language) linguistic ideologies and versions of collective ethnic and national identities in Guatemala these ideologies helped to create, sustain, and challenge. My recent publication, "The Symbolic Capital of Social Identities: The Genre of Bargaining in a Guatemalan Market," takes up the question of identity formation from the perspective of human agency. Employing a critical discourse analysis of naturally-occurring speech, I show how Maya market women use language, within the relatively stable genre of bargaining, as a resource to negotiate the social value of their identities in the context of Maya cultural and linguistic revitalization.

During my tenure as a Mellon Fellow I will be working on two related projects that bridge linguistic concerns with things like "structure," "grammar," and "variation" with issues in cultural anthropology like political struggles, social stratification, and community formation. One is a book, tentatively

titled, *Revitalizing Mayan Languages in Guatemala: Ideologies and Identities*, that analyzes the shifting social and political meanings of Mayan languages in post-conflict Guatemala. The other project is a comparative study of Irish and Welsh language revitalization that Doug Caulkins and I are collaborating on.

**Selected Publications**

"The Politics and Semiotics of Sounds: Linguistic Analysis and Nation-Building in Guatemala." *Proceedings of the Symposium of Language Dynamics and Linguistic Diversity*, Florence, Italy, forthcoming.

2003 "The Maya Movement and Modernity: Local Kaqchikel Linguistic Ideologies and the Problem of Progress." *Tenth Annual Proceedings Symposium about Language and Society—Austin (SALSA)*. Austin, Texas: Texas Linguistic Forum 45.

2000 "The Symbolic Capital of Social Identities: The Genre of Bargaining in an Urban Guatemalan Market." *The Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, 10(2): 155-189.



# Pictures...

Whittaker's North American Prehistory class processed acorns, grinding them and leaching out the tannins. Acorns were a staple food in California. We did a formal taste test of four different preparations of acorn mush, which received low scores, acorn muffins with modern ingredients, which most people liked and fried weevil grubs from the acorns, which scored higher than any of the mush.



Vicki Bentley-Condit's Intro to Anthropology Molly Thompson '07 analyzing a Burial Site and Grave Goods.

## Student News

### Megan Latchaw '04

This summer I did a MAP with Chuck Hilton, studying a collection of pre-historic human remains from Point Hope, Alaska. One of the skeletons had bone lesions suggestive of rheumatoid arthritis (RA), so I spent my summer researching the paleopathological and clinical manifestations of this disease. I also researched many other diseases that can cause similar damage to the joints. In August, I traveled to the American Museum of Natural History in New York to study the actual skeleton myself. I spent 10 days in New York, and then wrote a paper discussing the aspects of differential diagnosis in a paleopathological context. Even though the distribution of the erosions on the skeleton fit a classic description of rheumatoid arthritis in some respects, I concluded that this was an atypical case and the individual was suffering from an unusual form of arthropathy that mimicked RA. In April, I will go to the American Association of Physical Anthropologists' conference to present my research.

### Sarah Gossett '04

This summer I studied the presence of tuberculosis in two precontact Alaskan Inuit tribes from Point Hope, Alaska. While researchers recognize that TB was present in the pre-Columbian Americas, it is thought that TB was introduced to Inuits through European contact. The first group, the Ipiutak, were caribou hunters and did not have any lesions consistent with tuberculosis infection. The second group, the Tigara, instead relied upon maritime resources for subsistence, and several had tuberculosis lesions. It has been established in many studies that Arctic marine mammals carry TB and can pass it to humans in close contact with them. I proposed that the Pt. Hope Tigara contracted TB after they shifted their subsistence behavior towards hunting whales and seals. Meat eaters are also more susceptible, especially if the meat from an infected animal is eaten raw or undercooked, a situation documented ethnographically for Inuits. Given the maritime hunting lifestyle of the Tigara and the presence of TB in Arctic mammals, it is reasonable to think that pre-contact Inuits contracted TB from contact with animal hosts rather than Europeans. After proposing this hypothesis, I traveled

### *Sarah Gossett Continued...*

to New York to analyze the Inuit remains at the American Museum of Natural History. Aside from looking at and photographing lots of bones, I ate sushi every day and was therefore even more content. Megan Latchaw and I will be presenting our papers in April at the Annual Meeting of Physical Anthropologists in Tampa, Florida. I imagine that there will be at least one paleopathologist that will cite the dangers of laying out in the sun and its effect on bones, as I am certain I will be laying out between poster sessions.

### Erika Doot '05

This past summer I had the great pleasure of working with the Compass Plant CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) right here in Grinnell, IA! In addition, I worked with GALFA, the Grinnell Area Local Food Alliance. I learned a great deal about agriculture in the United States, from national to local perspectives. I had a fabulous time getting down in the dirt learning about organic gardening! Michaela Meckel '05 and I watched over the student garden, so I not only helped out Ann Brau, Brenda Dunham, and Dennis & Doug Terlouw, but also had the chance to begin using my green thumb independently. Right now I am continuing to pursue my agricultural and anthropological interests in Seville, Spain. I have an independent project studying rural tourism as a development strategy, which will culminate in a Modern Western European Studies Thesis next semester.

## SEPC

(Student Educational Policy Committee)

The Anthropology SEPC currently has ten members: Katie Arnold, Katie Casas, Tirza Costello, Megan Drechsel, Phil Ehresmann, Kate Howell, Jen Robinson, Rachel Sandler, Betsy Vecchi, and Erin Will. We have had a couple of meetings and our current projects include: t-shirts, a faculty review, social gatherings, updating the now ancient SEPC website, and getting more computers for Goodnow. Thus far we have held one study break in Goodnow with desserts, which had a higher than expected turn out given inclement weather conditions. We are looking to have more social events following Fall Break.

## Alumni News



**Bill Bryce '03** spent the summer on an archaeological field school in Nebraska and conducting archaeological survey for the Kaibab National Forest, under Neil Weintraub '86

**Courtney Birkett '99** got first place in the women's division at Cahokia last weekend. And only missed being grand champion of the competition by three points. The guy who won deserved it more, though. Just think what I could do if I had more opportunities to practice (scratchblue@angelfire.com)

**Nora (Stick) St. Peter '00** planned on attending the University of Illinois but received a fairly generous financial aid offer from the University of Texas, starting her Masters program in Library and Information Science in Austin. The last few months were incredibly busy to say the least because I didn't decide on a grad school until mid summer and then I was married in Des Moines this August to Tyler St. Peter '00. Following that, we both left our jobs in Chicago and immediately moved down here to Texas. So far I'm enjoying Austin and my classes and I'm considering specializing in archival and digital preservation work. In '98 Fieldschool related news, I've gotten back in touch with Graham Gelling '99, who lives here in Austin and he told me Leslie Kadish '99 is also somewhere around these parts. Coincidentally, I'm having dinner with Misty Huacuja '99 next week when she's in Austin on Grinnell admissions business so it seems I can't stop running into people from fieldschool! (norastick@hotmail.com)

**Rex Osae '85** is teaching soccer, art, and other subjects at the Hillside School, a private elementary school in Marlborough, MA.

**Elaine Aron '01** Well, after two months of re-adjusting, reacquainting, relaxing and feeling totally baffled by what the future may hold, I finally have an answer. And the answer is.... Minneapolis! I'll be moving up to Minneapolis this Friday to start my adult life in the United States. This even includes a job: I'll be the Assistant Director of Education for the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas. I'll be working almost exclusively with their Tolerance Minnesota program, a K-12 educational initiative formed to confront prejudice and respect diversity in the classroom and in the community. The program incorporates art, literature, music, sports, and popular culture themes into pre-existing school curricula, with the goal that students of all backgrounds learn to build relationships by breaking down stereotypes and other barriers. I'm really excited to have this next step laid out, but I definitely feel like the Peace Corps transition is far from over. In fact, it sort of feels like it's only just begun. (earon@gmx.net)

**Nicole Jacobs '01** writes: I was notified last week that I will be a recipient of an NSEP fellowship. I am deferring grad school, however, for another year because I also received the Fulbright to do research in Tunisia on microfinance regulation (basically the same proposal I used for NSEP). I will go to Brandeis when I return and NSEP is allowing me to defer the fellowship and I can keep the same amount of financial support. They will also allow me to modify my proposal since there is overlap between that and my Fulbright.

**Cathy Dean '01** says (in April): I finished up my Masters earlier this month and am now officially unemployed and looking for museum jobs. What a great time to be entering the job market! I have a few things lined up for the immediate future, though. This summer I've landed a (paid, thankfully) internship at Mount Vernon working with one of their outbuildings and am also doing a summer course in the decorative arts of the southern backcountry. I'm also hoping to take some time in the fall if I haven't yet found a job to work on writing for publication. I have a few things that I've written in grad school that are promising. (cdean@gwu.edu)



## Alumni news continued....

A card from **Amanda O'Connor '96** : ...While I didn't get into the Anthropology Master's program at U Duby. I did get into the Masters in Education program [at U Washington]. Since my interest definitely lies in teaching of some sort, I think the program will be a good fit for me. I'll be starting in January, so I'm very excited about that!"

A note from **Emily Zabor '03**: I have arrived in Ghana to start my time in the Peace Corps. After a couple of days in Philadelphia that were jam packed with get-to-know-you activities and policy information, we arrived in Accra Sept 18 to a warm welcome from some current volunteers and a police escort to the private university that we're staying at here in the city. We'll be in Accra for a week getting medical information and shots, having site placement interviews, and doing HIV/AIDS training. At the end of the week, we'll be finding out where in the country we'll be for the next couple of years. The 43 of us who arrived together will then be split into two groups for training based on whether our post is in the north or the south of the country and will travel to either Bolgatanga (North) or Swedru (South) to stay with a host family, get job information, and have language training for two months. I'm feeling good so far but have gotten to see little of the country, really. It is incredibly humid although not too hot. I have yet to catch site of the ocean although I know it's around here somewhere. So far I've enjoyed trying the new kinds of food they prepare for us, which includes a lot of starches like yams, rice, and cassava. The landscape around Accra is very green and forested on rolling hills of bright red soil, which gives the place a very colorful look. (emilyzabor@alumni.grinnell.edu)

**Jenifer Thornton '02** writes: Nick and I have been working for a CRM company out of Albuquerque doing archaeological survey in various national forests. It's been beautiful weather and country so far, and we've found a few interesting little sites too. I've been wanting to find a glass apache point but have only found the regular chert ones so far! :) We're planning on visiting Nick's mom and brother in Japan in the spring, which should be about the cheapest way to visit Japan. I want to schedule our visit so we are there for the cherry blossoms. This winter we should have some time off and I've decided I should use that time to finally stop procrastinating and take the GRE and look into grad school. At this point I keep thinking about applied anthropology but still am not sure about what I should be doing with my life, but at least I've been having fun so far! :)

**Gary Oppenelm '01** I am employed (!) In academia! In a field relating to my major! As a manager of a cognitive neuroscience linguistics laboratory at University of Wisconsin-Madison. I am investigating linguistic phenomena and processes.

## Congressional Briefings

September 17 Report to Paul Bacheller, Economic Development Director in the office of Senator Tom Daschle, Senator Minority Leader, on the progress of Health and Human Services grant for web-based health tracker for diabetes management on two Lakota reservations in South Dakota.

## Welcome Sondi!



Sondi Burnell joined our staff, in August, as the Academic and Technical Support Assistant. She has been employed by Grinnell College since 1999. Sondi has worked in the Office of the Registrar and Office of Admission before coming to support the Anthropology Department.

*If you do not wish to receive the Anthropology Newsletter, please email Sondi Burnell at [burnell@grinnell.edu](mailto:burnell@grinnell.edu) or write to us at Grinnell College, Anthropology Department, Grinnell, Iowa 50112-1690.*