Anthropology 100 years ago was already a vibrant four-field endeavor in the United States headed by Franz Boas, Margaret Mead and Ruth Benedict among other cultural icons. Since 1913, American Anthropology has grown considerably into a mature corpus of knowledge about the human condition across time and space. Currently every major research institution in the US has a Ph.D granting program in Anthropology along with strong M.A. and BA programs. New trends in research have emerged within the past 100 years in Anthropology, including shifts from processual to post-processual modes of inquiry. In the last 100 years, cultural anthropologists have moved from studying small-scale technologically simple societies in remote regions of the world to ethnographic examinations of globalization, power, and human agency in the making and remaking of nation-states, communities, and identities in the post-modern world. Engaged anthropologists contribute data-based explanations of human problems and culturally informed recommendations on how to solve them. Post-modernism has allowed for multiple perspectives to be voiced. The establishment of Applied Anthropology during the past 100 years allowed for the knowledge and insights of the discipline to be practiced in such venues as Cultural Resource Management, Forensic Anthropology, Anthropology of Work, Engaged Anthropology, Medical Anthropology and Public Archaeology. Now more than ever anthropologists are entering the public domain. In terms of basic research, a greater understanding of human evolution has been garnered through fascinating discoveries of fossil humans and through natural observations of nonhuman primate societies; the application of cultural relativism—a hallmark of Anthropology—has transformed the way in which “culture” and human difference is perceived and expressed; attention to everyday lives has been brought to bear against the monumental architecture of elites in prehistoric contexts. Looking forward, Anthropology is ripe for transformation as anthropologists continually reinvent and reinvigorate the field with new insights, new applications and new directions of inquiry. The Department of Anthropology at Georgia State University is well suited to participate in this endeavor through the strengths of its faculty and the enthusiasm and talents of its students.

We appreciate your interest in the Department of Anthropology at Georgia State University which boasts nearly 200 majors, 38 graduate students, 10 regular faculty, and an excellent staff. The year 2012 was full of recognition for the faculty and successes for the students. Dr. Jeffrey Glover organized the receipt of the MARTA artifact collection excavated from the construction of the MARTA rail line which includes over 100,000 artifacts detailing the emergence of Atlanta as a major metropolitan and state capital. The Department of Anthropology is happy to have received support from the College of Arts and Sciences which requested new space and resources for the collection in order for it to be properly curated at GSU. Graduate students, undergraduate majors and members of the Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society have already conducted preliminary investigations of this vast repository. The faculty in Anthropology have excelled in many ways during the years as demonstrated in the following pages. The signature experiences offered by the Department of Anthropology resulted in numerous achievements. For example, 13 of our undergraduates participated in the 2012 Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference and the faculty supervised 4 internships and 4 honors theses. More than 15 of our recent graduates began prestigious graduate programs while many others received gainful employment using training and references from the faculty. Our graduate students and faculty were represented through presentations and participation in the annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association, the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, the Society for American Archaeology and the Society for Applied Anthropology. The department graduated 49 undergraduates majors and 18 graduate students during 2012.

The Department continues its search for a 2CI candidate in Primate Social Cognition, Behavior and Evolution awarded from the Office of the Provost with two candidates interviewing in 2013. At the same time, the faculty have been developing the proposed Ph.D program in Anthropology. Looking forward we welcome our alumni and friends to join us at the newly created Facebook page “GSU Anthropology.”

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I invite you to take a closer look at the Department of Anthropology in the following pages. We welcome your support in our efforts to understand the human condition globally and locally.
Steven Black

In 2012 Dr. Black published the first two pieces based on his dissertation research. This included an article, “Laughing to Death: Joking as Support Amid Stigma for Zulu-Speaking South Africans Living with HIV/AIDS,” which appeared in the flagship journal for the subdiscipline of linguistic anthropology, the Journal of Linguistic Anthropology. The second piece, a co-authored book chapter, titled “Language Socialization and Verbal Improvisation,” was published in a Wiley-Blackwell edited volume, titled, The Handbook of Language Socialization. This volume promises to be a key resource in the interdisciplinary field of language socialization studies.


In addition to this dissertation-based research, he was also selected to write the linguistic anthropology “year in review” for American Anthropologist, one of anthropology’s two flagship four-fields journals. This review consolidates the current state of the subdiscipline and suggests emerging theoretical and practical paradigm shifts. This piece will appear in June, 2013.

Dr. Black has also been working with the Society for Linguistic Anthropology’s committee on language and social justice to represent the concerns of scholars interested in language, health, and social justice. This work culminated in a column on this topic that appeared in December in Anthropology News, the monthly newsletter published by the American Anthropological Association and disseminated to all association members. He also signed on with other members of the committee on language and social justice to support a statement critiquing the use of the term “illegal immigrant” in news media and everyday discourse. This statement appeared in an article by Univision/ABC news: http://abcnews.go.com/ABC_Univision/linguists-york-times-illegal-neutral-accurate/story?id=17366512#UGpBtG0Lwy.

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Jeffrey Glover

In 2012, Dr. Glover continued work on a number of local and international projects and began working on an exciting new project that pertains to the history of Atlanta. In his main research field the Maya area, Dr. Glover continued his collaborative research on the Maritime Maya that was funded in 2011 by NOAA. At this point most of the work is being done in the lab and behind a computer. Not quite as exciting as the fieldwork, but certainly a lot less sweaty.

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The plans are to submit another collaborative grant proposal for the coming years in hopes of continuing to shed light on the dynamic lives of the inhabitants of Vista Alegre and other sites along the north coast of Quintana Roo, Mexico over the past three millennia.

Closer to home, Dr. Glover conducted his third archaeological field school in association with Dr. Dennis Banton and the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. The “Points of Contact” project, which received National Geographic support in 2010, is redefining Hernando de Soto’s path through Georgia in the spring of AD 1540. This past field season Dr. Glover had 12 students join him in South Georgia for three weeks of intensive archaeological investigations. As with the previous field school, it was a great group of hard-working students that learned a great deal about archaeology by actually doing it. They also got to learn a little about producing a television show as their work was featured on a recent WSB TV program Georgia’s Hidden Treasures.

In addition to his work with Fernbank, Dr. Glover began assisting Dr. Jim D’Angelo in his excavations of the War of 1812 site of Fort Daniel in northern Gwinnett County. In fact, Dr. Glover headed back out to the site in October to participate with his students in the public archaeology events that Dr. D’Angelo organized.

Dr. Glover’s most ambitious undertaking by far, aside from adding a new son to the family in May, involves the return of the MARTA archaeological collection to Georgia State’s campus. In August, Dr. Glover along with graduate student David Cook brought the remaining 300-plus boxes of the 469-box collection back to GSU. This collection is the result of fieldwork undertaken during the 1970s by GSU archaeologist Dr. Roy Dickens and his students. The work was done to document the cultural resources encountered during the construction of the MARTA rail lines. This project recovered the material remains of Atlanta’s past, and these materials represent the single most comprehensive archaeological collection of Atlanta’s history. In addition, the excavations themselves are among the pioneering projects of urban archaeology in the then-nascent field of CRM (Cultural Resource Management). The collection’s broader significance stems from the insight it can provide into the development of Atlanta from an agrarian backwater to a raved, railway hub at the end of the Civil War into the major metropolis in the Southeast in the 20th century. While this transformation has been documented historically, the written record only tells part of the story. The more than 100,000 artifacts that make up the MARTA archaeological collection have much to add to the story of Atlanta’s rebirth and showcase significant moments in the life of the city, and Dr. Glover looks forward to getting his students involved in sharing that story in the years to come.

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Emanuela Guano

Dr. Guano spent the summer conducting ethnographic research in Italy and working on her book (tentatively titled Reimagining Genoa). The book problematizes North Atlantic approaches to urban renewal and the rise of culture industries as exclusively top-down phenomena whose only stakeholders are developers and corporations. Drawing on her ethnographic research, Dr. Guano purports to show how existing analyses of gentrification processes may be inadequate for the study of Mediterranean cities, and she explores the contribution of relatively marginal groups such as self-employed women to shaping new urban imaginaries for postindustrial cities in which leisure, though implicated in consumption, is not fully dependent on it. Though approaching the urban experience through vision, Dr. Guano’s ethnography also takes into account the role of the other senses—hearing, touch, smell, taste—in creating a sense of place, and, with it, an urban imaginary. A chapter from this book titled “Inside the Magic Circle: Conjuring the Terrorist Enemy at the 2001 Group of Eight Summit” is forthcoming in Making Place: Space and Embodiment in the City, edited by Arijit Sen and Lisa D. Silverman for Indiana University Press. The chapter is an analysis of the role of the built environment in materializing a conflictive political imaginary during an international event in which the city of Genoa was turned into a television set by former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

In 2012, Dr. Guano presented her work at the Anthropology Colloquium Series of Emory University, as well as at a SAS session in memory of her former mentor Miles Richardson, to whom she owes her interest in the anthropology of cities and the social production of space. She also collaborated with an Italian artist who is currently working on a series of paintings and installations on the Italian immigrant experience in Argentina, and she served as a consultant for her artist. She also collaborated with an Italian artist who is currently working on a series of paintings and installations on the Italian immigrant experience in Argentina, and she served as a consultant for her artist.

Kathryn Kozaitis

Following nine years as chair of the Department of Anthropology, Dr. Kathryn A. Kozaitis received a Professional Leave during AY 2011-2012. She received a Fulbright Research Award to conduct ethnographic research on the Greek economic crisis in Thessaloniki, the second largest city of Greece, and one of Europe’s cultural capitals. The Center for Hellenic Studies of Georgia State University funded Dr. Kozaitis’ 2009 preliminary study in Thessaloniki and the first phase of her field research in 2011.

Dr. Kozaitis’ research interests include global-local articulations of social change, urban processes and transnational populations, and theories and methods of planned systemic cultural reforms. Kozaitis studied Thessaloniki on its Centennial as a Greek territory, reclaimed in November 1912 when the Ottoman garrison surrendered the city to the Greeks. Attention to the city’s topographic, geographic, and demographic shifts, wars, economic and political regimes, waves of immigrants and refugees, education, the arts, and other antecedents help explain the transformations of a global city in yet another historical transition. Central to her ethnography are Thessalonikians today—their sentiments, practices, and worldview in the midst of the country’s economic crisis. She examines the agency and work of locals to rediscover “the great purpose” of rebuilding their city and their nation, by cognizing their identity as Europeans, and through organized practices on the ground to re-stabilize their identity as Hellenes. Analysis of the cultural manifestations of globalization situates this ethnography in wider economic, political, and socio-cultural processes of a destabilizing Europe. The research contributes to urban anthropology in the 21st century, and builds on Kozaitis’ previous year-long research in Athens, Greece among Roma refugees from Turkey, also funded by a Fulbright Scholarship.

During the tenure of her professional leave, Kozaitis held a Visiting Professorship at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, with which Georgia State University maintains an official exchange program for faculty and students. She also presented a paper on “Cultural Constructions of an Unlikely Epistemon: A Diasporic Autoethnographic Analysis” at the International Symposium on Women’s Biographies and Life Stories held at the American College of Thessaloniki. She served as Discussant in a panel on “Post-socialist Life in the Balkans” organized by the Fulbright Association, gave a seminar on “The Multicultural Society: A Theoretical Exposition”, at Aristotle University, and a lecture on “Ethnic Groups and Boundaries in Greece” at a national conference on the Armenian diaspora. She also presented preliminary analyses of her research on the Greek crisis to local community groups.

Christopher Morehart

The summer of 2012 was a particularly busy one for Dr. Christopher Morehart. He directed a field season of the Northern Basin of Mexico Historical Ecology Project. Three GSU students, Hazel Sanchez, Les Brown, and Tony Fitzpatrick, accompanied him. The project excavated two sites and found one of the largest deposits of mass sacrifice discovered in Mesoamerica, research that has been reported recently in several international news outlets. Morehart's research will continue this summer, which will involve the survey of ancient communities and political centers that date to different periods of time.

Morehart gave different research talks, one at the Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society on his work on ancient farming and another at the Society for American Archaeology on the ritual use of plants by past people. While at the Society for American Archaeology meetings, Morehart received their annual dissertation award, which they give to one recent Ph.D dissertation each year and is one of the most prestigious awards of the society. Morehart published three articles this year: One, in American Anthropologist, “What if the Aztec Empire Never Existed?” The Prerequisites of Empire and the Politics of Plausible Alternative Histories, examines the politics of contemporary archaeology. Another, in the Journal of Archaeological Science, presents a study on remote sensing and GIS analysis of ancient landscapes. Finally, with colleagues from the National and Autonomous University in Mexico, he published in Latin American Antiquity an article on human sacrifice in the Basin of Mexico. Morehart applied for several research grants, including a Wenner Gren Post-Ph.D grant, an NSF CAREER award, an NSF research grant, and a Dumbarton Oaks grant. So far he has received the Wenner Gren grant, which will support his ongoing research in central Mexico. Morehart continues to develop the environmental anthropology lab and is working with undergraduate and graduate students on the analysis of ancient botanical data from several archaeological sites.

Faidra Papavasiliou

Dr. Faidra Papavasiliou has been developing a new research project in Lemnos, Greece, which examines emergent alternative and activist responses to the Euro crisis, and traces the intersection of heritage and sustainability in the discourse and practices of local activists. The combined debt and Euro crises, and the highly problematic policies of austerity imposed throughout Europe are precipitating a rise in alternative mobilization, and particularly, grassroots solidarity economies and alternative agriculture initiatives. Dr. Papavasiliou is focusing on the ways in which localism and alternative globalization ideologies inform official and grassroots discourse and practice in Greece, with particular attention to how they are materialized in objects, especially agricultural seed varietals. As part of the participatory action methodology for this project, she has been consulting with grassroots organizations on alternative and solidarity-based production and exchange systems and gave videotaped and live lectures for community events, as well as two radio interviews on community economies. She presented parts of this work to the Modern Greek Studies Association conference and is organizing a panel on the topic of crisis at the upcoming AAA meetings in November, while having two manuscripts in preparation for submission to the Journal of Modern Greek Studies and to SEN – Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism.

In connection to her research, Dr. Papavasiliou has created a new study-abroad program to introduce students to the anthropology of Greece through the lens of the crisis and its alternative responses that will be offered for the first time in the summer of 2013. She is continuing to teach classes at the introductory level as well as ethnographic methods, the anthropology of globalization and the Graduate Professionalization Seminar, while mentoring and advising graduate and undergraduate students conducting thesis research. She maintains her involvement in local agriculture and sustainability, participating with the South Georgia Sustainable Agriculture Consortium in a multi-year USAID AFRI grant proposal on mid-level sustainable agriculture and local food hubs, and being involved in the production of the first local food day at GSU. In addition to her other appointments and affiliations, she is now a member of the executive committee of the Center for Hellenic Studies at GSU, and, with Dr. Jeffrey Glover, revived the Anthropology Department Colloquium. In the past year she has walked on salt and learned how to milk goats. She aspires to continue using her powers for good.
Jennifer Patico

Dr. Patico had a busy 2012 as she stepped into the role of program co-chair of the Association for Feminist Anthropology. Among her tasks for AAA 2012 was co-organizing a roundtable to be held at the American Anthropological Association meetings in San Francisco, titled, “Activism, Advocacy, and Academia: Undoing the Borders in Feminist Anthropology?” She also led a graduate workshop on professional networking for the Society for the Anthropology of Europe at AAA in San Francisco, and she co-organized a panel on “Parents, Children, and Affect: Negotiations of Love, Obligation, and Economy.” Within this panel, Dr. Patico presented her new ethnographic research on children’s food and parenting ideologies. She was joined in the panel by former advisee Tim Gitzen—a 2012 GSA Anthropology M.A. and current doctoral student at the University of Minnesota—who gave a paper based upon his M.A. thesis on homosexuality, coming out narratives, and mother-son relationships in Korea. (Congratulations to Tim on his funded graduate school acceptances and two scholarly publications forthcoming!)

Patico’s current ethnographic research on children’s food and parenting is based in Atlanta. Food for children has been cast in popular U.S. discourse as a “crisis” with various proposed solutions, and concern about children’s nutrition is doubly intense since it draws both upon Americans’ widespread tendency to imbue eating with moral meanings and on the anxieties surrounding the near-sacralized work of childrearing in the contemporary U.S. Patico’s research investigates the moral anxieties, material constraints, and discursive tropes that interactively frame children’s food, both within families and at a community level where socioeconomic and other differences may be foregrounded and reproduced. With preliminary research already underway, she has submitted a revised grant proposal to the National Science Foundation that would support this research, including graduate student assistantships and training.

In 2012, Dr. Patico’s 2009 Critique of Anthropology article, “Spinning the Market: The Moral Alchemy of Everyday Talk in Postsocialist Russia,” was reprinted in Post-Soviet Politics (ed. Steven White, SAGE). Also in 2012, she was invited by the Oxford Bibliographies in Anthropology to author the peer-reviewed, annotated bibliography on “Commodities.” The bibliography provides section introductions and individual annotations for over 100 key sources in the anthropology of consumption and commodities (forthcoming 2013). Currently, she is working on article manuscripts including a review essay on the anthropology of children’s food (co-authored with Fuji Lozada), invited for inclusion in Handbook of Food and Anthropology (Jacob Klein and James Watson, eds.). In May, she will deliver a lecture on her previous research concerning international (Russian-U.S.) marriage migration at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University. Dr. Patico serves on the newsletter editorial board of the AAA Children and Youth Interest Group.

Bethany Turner-Livermore

In 2012, Dr. Turner continued work on several groups of human skeletal remains from different regions of the globe. She and two of her graduate students used stable carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen isotope analysis to reconstruct diet and residential mobility among human sacrificial victims from a 15th-century ceremonial site in north coastal Peru. The results of this study, which are now published in *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, indicate a novel system of victim selection and treatment prior to sacrifice compared to other sacrificial contexts in Peru. Dr. Turner also wrapped up a similar study of human remains from medieval Mongolia, the results of which are now published in *Journal of Archaeological Science*. She and her colleagues utilized osteological and isotopic analyses to reconstruct the late-life experiences of individuals who were violently killed and naturally mummified, to better understand how they fit into larger contexts of famine and war during the periods in which they died. Dr. Turner and her graduate students also moved full-steam ahead in analyzing isotope ratios and microscopic dental features in a large sample of human remains from an early colonial period cemetery in coastal Peru.

This year, Dr. Turner also took advantage of several opportunities to present her collaborative research findings both at home and abroad. These included two podium presentations at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Memphis, TN, and participation in an invited panel at the Archaeological Symposium of the Americas at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. During the summer, Dr. Turner was an invited speaker at the Primera Jornada Científica de Bioarqueología y Antropología Física (First Scientific Symposium in Bioarchaeology and Physical Anthropology), which was held at the Ministry of Culture in Cuzco, Peru. Dr. Turner also co-authored a chapter on evolutionary perspectives in paleopathology in the edited volume *A Companion to Paleopathology*, and continued work on a review article for the journal *Nutrition Reviews* discussing human dietary evolution and the limitations of the “Paleo Diet.” She also joined the editorial board of the *Journal of Archaeological Science*.

This year, three of Dr. Turner’s M.A. advisees—Leslie Brown, Sarah Livengood, and Emily Vanderpool—and her co-advisor Heath Kerr were accepted into competitive Ph.D. programs in the US and UK after completing their masters theses. Dr. Turner and Emily Vanderpool also submitted an article based on Emily’s isotopic analysis of a post-Bellum African American cemetery population to the journal *Southeastern Archaeology*. After enjoying a course release in the fall semester, Dr. Turner is looking forward to returning to the classroom in the Spring 2013 semester to teach Diet, Demography, and Disease and Introduction to Biological Anthropology, as well as Graduate Professionalization Seminar with Dr. Papavasiliou. Finally, she submitted a revised grant proposal to the National Science Foundation for a multi-year research study on human remains from three Inca sites in Peru; if this proposal is funded, she looks forward to including both graduate and undergraduate students in this exciting new project.
In January of 2012, Dr. White organized a symposium (sponsored by the Center for Latin American and Latino/a Studies and the Anthropology Club) called “Readying Rio: The Impact of Preparations for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games on Citizens of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.” Participants included Tufts University Synaptic Scholar and Fulbright scholar Alison Coffey; Daniel de Oliveira Silva, president of the non-profit organization Instituto Dois Irmãos in Rio de Janeiro; and current and former GSU students Matthew Johnson, John Woollard, and Suzanne Ayd- lotte, all of whom had experience living and working in Rio de Janeiro.

In March, several Georgia State students and former students (Mark Flanagan, Kanan Mehta, David Alexander Philips, and Kristen Kuhns) presented their original research on a panel organized and chaired by Dr. White at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Baltimore, Maryland in March. Dr. Faidra Papatasiou of Georgia State and Dr. Rosana Resende of the University of Florida were invited discussants on this panel, titled “Health in Transit: Access and Agency Across Global and Local Borders.” Dr. White also presented a paper (“When No One Knows for Sure: Making Sense of Biomedical Models of Etiology in Transnational Context”) as part of this panel.

Dr. White was the faculty advisor for David Alexander Phillips’ paper, “What do Etiologies Do?,” for which he won second place in the Oral Presentations category at the Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference (GSURC) in 2012. This research was based on his Honors thesis research on congenital heart disease in Iraq. Dr. White was the faculty supervisor for presentations at GSURC by Laura Calle and Maeghan Dessecker. She also chaired committees for five graduate students and one Honors thesis student who graduated in May and August this year (see section on Student Research in this newsletter).

Dr. White directed her fourth applied anthropology field school in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in the summer of 2012, with 20 graduate and undergraduate students. This year, many of her field school students participated in a research project with IRB approval, to learn more about how Brazilians living in Rio are being affected by changes and policies associated with upcoming mega-events, including the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games. She will work with students on submitting the results of this research to peer-reviewed journals and preparing academic conference posters and presentations.

This year, Dr. White will be collaborating with the National Hansen’s Disease Center on a project involving analysis of qualitative data associated with experiences of stigma for people in treatment for Hansen’s Disease - commonly known as leprosy - in the United States. She is also initiating a new project on experiences and perceptions of extended breastfeeding in the United States. Dr. White continues to serve as the department’s Undergraduate Director and is part of the Standing Committee for a new Brazil Task Force at Georgia State.

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March 2012 marked the sixth anniversary of the annual Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference. Close to 150 student presentations were featured spanning 35 different departments. Each student research project was supported by a faculty sponsor and was presented either orally, artistically or as a poster. The Anthropology department was proud to have several students present their research at the conference.


2. Maeghan Dessecker presented her honors thesis research on the Amish entitled “Contemporary Amish Adolescence and the Transition to Adulthood.”


4. Chris Curry (L) presented his poster “Distinguishing Fossil Parapapio jonesi from Two Sites: Sterkfontein (2.4 mya) and Swartkrans (1.8 mya)”

5. Cristel Bender presented her poster “Development of the Acetabulo-Cristal Buttress; Implications for Bipedalism.”

6. Laura Calle-Romero presents her research entitled “Transnational Identities as a Modern Discourse.”


8. Yesilene Gonzalez presented her poster “Does Pan Paniscus Closely Resemble the Dental Microwear Signal of Gorilla Gorilla?”

9. Dr. Frank Williams with presenter Cristel Bender.

10. Dr. Faidra Papavasiliou (R) admires student Natasha Hill's (L) poster for her presentation "A Comparative Analysis of Pre-molar and Molar Morphology to Determine Sivapithecus Evolutionary Relationship, between African Apes and Modern Orangutan."

11. Dr. Frank Williams with presenter Kyle Rolla and his research poster entitled “Pair of Papios: A Look at Possible Speciation Amongst Three Varieties of Parapapio in South Africa.”

GSURC Investigate ........Innovate...........Inspire
Our department’s field school in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil originated as a collaborative program with the College of Law in 2005. In 2006, Dr. White started a separate program, the Field School in Medical Anthropology, designed with the specific interests of anthropology students in mind. In 2010, it was renamed the Field School in Applied Anthropology to reflect the activities of the students, topics covered, and places visited on this summer study abroad program. Participants of the field school have visited non-profit community development projects in at least six different favela (shantytown or informal housing) communities throughout Rio and have had guest lectures from professors and students engaged in research in the city. They have also visited public health posts and medical research institutions. For the 2012 summer field schools, students conducted original research on the dramatic changes taking place to the urban landscape and economy in Rio with mega-events such as the World Cup and Olympic Games. The 2013 field school will continue to focus on these issues. More than 60 students have attended the program for credit in our department. Following the program, several students have returned to Rio to volunteer teaching English for up to six months at a time. Many former field school students have gone on to M.A. and Ph.D. programs and medical schools in the U.S. and abroad.

“My time in Rio de Janeiro is the pinnacle of my achievements at Georgia State University. Under the guidance of Dr. Cassandra White, I acquired new skills to develop my work in anthropology. I took all that I have been taught in the department and applied it to my research project, which centered on the interviews I conducted. I was interested in finding out how preparations for the upcoming World Cup and Olympics affect the lives of people in the local communities. I had a chance to have open-ended, informative conversations with people of all socioeconomic standings. I can’t imagine myself receiving better exposure to applied anthropology if I had not participated in this program. Not only did I get to challenge myself academically, I also had the most memorable trip of my life. The program allows a lot of freedom for students to focus on what they are most interested in: volunteering, academic development, or even just staying out all night! I recommend that interested students take the leap and step out of their comfort zone by heading to Rio; they may be surprised to find that the most difficult challenge of all is actually returning home from Brazil. Whatever students decide to do in Rio, they need to be sure to experience a Baile Funk and visit the juice bars every day to have açai!” Christina Phillips
“Before I decided to do the field school in South Georgia I was interested in archaeology, but lacked the real world experience outside of the traditional classroom setting to be sure if the field was something I could see myself doing professionally. A field school is not only a resume booster, it is the most important step an archaeology student will take in their professional development. It will show you that you want to be an archaeologist, and provide experience to back it up.

My experience on this field school was remarkable both in terms of academic and professional development as well as a development of relationships with my cohort. In fact, I developed a relationship with the project director of the field school and am working with him and another field school student on a publishable, original research project.

Participating in a field school unlocks the door for students that want to achieve at the next level. Receiving course credit for this opportunity is a great perk, but the professional connections you make during the course are a great deal more important. My participation strongly boosted my ambitions in the discipline, and the letters of recommendation I was able to gain by professional archaeologists who had actually seen me in the field were instrumental to my acceptances to doctoral programs. Don’t consider the field school, DO IT!” — Christian Holmes (pictured R)

After conducting a field school in El Salvador in 2007, Dr. Glover realized that he needed to find a more affordable option for students. Following informal conversations with Dr. Dennis Blanton of the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, GSU was asked to team-up on the “Points of Contact” project. Since 2009, Dr. Glover has conducted three field schools in partnership with Dr. Blanton and Fernbank (2009, 2010, and 2012). In total, 33 GSU students have participated in this project and have received a hands-on introduction to basic archaeological field techniques. These include excavation, survey, artifact analysis, and GIS applications. The “Points of Contact” project has mainly involved work at the Glass site (9TF145) in Telfair County (South-central Georgia), not far from the confluence of the Oconee and Ocmulgee rivers. This site dates to the Lamar period (Late Mississippian – A.D. 1350 - 1600) and has produced the largest collection of 16th century Spanish artifacts north of Florida, including four types of glass beads, iron tools, a decorative brass piece, a silver pendant, and lead shot. The project is re-charting Hernando DeSoto’s trek through Georgia in the spring of 1540 and providing a rare glimpse into the events surrounding some of the earliest contact between European peoples and Native Americans in the Southeastern US. Over the course of the project, students have been involved in expansive horizontal excavations of a Lamar period “council house” or temple as well as systematic shovel tests over a much broader area. They have also been able to work with volunteers and the engage with visitors to the site. In fact, the 2012 field school students were featured on a WSB TV program, “Georgia’s Hidden Treasures,” that highlighted Fernbank and the “Points of Contact” project. Overall, Dr. Glover has found the field school to be an incredibly rewarding experience for him as well as for the students. A number of the field school participants have moved on to pursue M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in archaeology, and the field school certainly played a role in helping them make that decision. Dr. Glover looks forward to continued collaboration with Dr. Blanton and the “Points of Contact” project and is eager to expose more students to archaeological fieldwork.
Alumni News

'07
David Blumenfeld completed his B.A. and went on to complete his masters in International Relations and Communications at the American University in Paris (2011).

Jana M. Champion completed the B.A. and is currently studying at Liberty University pursuing her M.A. in Professional Counseling. She is also the Volunteer Coordinator at Georgia Mountains Hospice. Jana says, “Majoring in Anthropology was the greatest educational decision I ever made. I'm so proud and thankful to have learned from the impeccable faculty of the GSU Anthropology Dept.”

Secil Goksu completed the B.A. and went on to become Programs Director and Fundraising Manager for the Assembly of Turkish American Associations from 2010-2012. Secil also worked as a Legislative Intern for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2010.

Jennifer Pirtle completed her B.A. and is currently a graduate student in Anthropology with a focus in Archaeology at the Carter Center (Emory) and has entered a degree program to assist the firm at a global health institution.

'09

Amber Russell completed her B.A. and is now in the MPH program at Tulane University.

Since graduating from Georgia State, Wayman R. Smith, M.A. worked as an adjunct instructor at Georgia Perimeter College teaching Introduction to Anthropology and Introduction to Cultural Anthropology courses. He enjoys the small class sizes and the challenge of making anthropology interesting and exciting to a wide variety of students on different campuses. He would like to thank all his colleagues at GSU for their great encouragement and support!

Jen Weber earned her M.A. with a concentration in Archaeology and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in (Maya-) Archaeology at the University of Bonn, Germany. For this, she is continuing her Masters research at an ancient Maya site in Belize where she also continues to co-direct a yearly archaeological field school through Kennesaw State University. Jen also joined the GA Dept of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division, as the Forestry (WRD) Staff Archaeologist. She had interned there since 2010 while in school at GSU and started working there full-time in fall 2012. In addition, Jen has been teaching introductory level Anthropology courses at Kennesaw State University and Georgia Perimeter College.

'10

Justin Hosbey completed his B.A. and was admitted to the University of Florida's Ph.D. program in Anthropology in 2011.

Joy Messerschmidt completed her B.A. and was accepted to the University of Connecticut's graduate program in Anthropology.

Cheryl Case completed her M.A. and went on to receive a Certificate in Public Health at GSU. She was an intern with USAID through the Global Health Fellows Program. She is currently working for USAID Namibia as a Public Health Consultant.

Tina Rezvani completed her M.A., and is now the Assistant Program Coordinator for the mental health program at the Carter Center (Emory) and has entered a degree program (MS) in Marketing at GSU.

'11

Kaniqua Robinson completed the M.A. and is now in the Ph.D. program in Anthropology at the University of South Florida.

Emily Vanderpool completed her M.A. and is now in the Ph.D. program in Anthropology at the University of South Florida.

Dana Russell completed her M.A. and continued on to study archaeology at the University of Sheffield program in 2012. She was recently awarded the Clendenin Fellowship from KSU.

Steven Schultz completed the B.A.and began the M.A. program in Medical Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam in 2012.

Denis Sharapov completed his M.A. with a focus in Archaeology. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pittsburgh. His research interests include investigating catalysts for social change among the Bronze Age pastoral groups of the Eurasian steppes through reconstructing prehistoric human and environmental landscapes. Over the last few field seasons, Denis participated in National Science Foundation supported projects focused on metallurgical practice and social organization in the Southern Urals, Russia during 2100 -1000 BC.

Melissa Webb completed the B.A. and was admitted to the Museum and Artefact Studies graduate program in the Archaeology Department of Durham University.

Caitlin Farley completed the B.A. and began the graduate program in Cultural Sustainability at Goucher College in 2012.

'12

Jason Brooks completed the M.A. and was admitted to the doctoral program at Louisiana State University. He will continue archaeological research in the southeastern U.S.

Elizabeth (Les) Brown completed the M.A. and was admitted to the University of Wyoming to study under Dr. Melissa Murphy. Her research interests continue to focus on bioarchaeology with particular emphasis on stable isotope analysis and archeoanthropology.

Maeghan Dessecker completed the B.A. program and was admitted to Georgia State University MPH and M.A. Anthropology programs in fall 2012.

Tony Fitzpatrick completed his M.A. and became a Registered Professional Archaeologist. He completed fieldwork in Mexico with Dr. Morehart, and is currently researching PhD programs and further training.
Mark Flanagan completed the M.A. program and is currently completing 14 months of service with Truly Living Well Center for Natural Urban Agriculture through Americorps VISTA. He is developing TLW’s capacity to grow organic fruits and vegetables, train community members in urban agriculture, and promote urban economic development. Mark primarily works with TLW’s Urban Grower Program which teaches men and women everything they need to start their own agricultural enterprise. In the process, Mark has experienced the therapeutic benefits of farming. Mark plans to obtain training in body psychotherapy and develop a nature-based stress treatment program. He plans to eventually open a community-based healing center incorporating gardening, counseling, body work, dietetics, herbalism, and social healing.

Timothy Gitzen completed the M.A. and was accepted to the University of Minnesota’s doctoral program in cultural anthropology. He continues to pursue research in kinship and sexuality in South Korea among self-identified gay college students and their families.

Lauren Hodge completed her B.A. degree and was accepted to the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology’s Clinical Psy.D. program.

Kris Kuhns completed her M.A. and began consulting for a development communications and advocacy firm. She began as an intern and slowly specialized her skills as a database, research and systems analyst. This quickly evolved into an opportunity to start a small business, Program Impact Analysis, which Kris continues to consult through for Development Vision.

Sarah Livengood completed the M.A. and began the doctoral program in anthropology at the University of Arkansas where she also serves as Lab Coordinator for the UA Paleoanthropology Lab. She conducts dental microwear analysis in bioarchaeological populations from Peru and Sudan.

Tarey Milton completed the B.A. degree and was admitted to the University of Florida’s Ph.D. Anthropology program for fall 2012.

Gabriella Y. Ramel graduated with a B.A. and has been interning at The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights in Washington D.C., a coalition of over 200 organizations nationwide working to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all persons in the U.S. Gabriella has been published in their blog for a piece on the School-to-Prison Pipeline (http://www.unfinishedbusiness.org/20130118-closing-the-school-discipline-gap-from-research-to-action/). Gabriella’s work in research and in the field primarily focuses on combating policies which go against the civil and human rights of people in the U.S., while promoting those policies which uphold those rights.

John Woolard completed his M.A. and recently began consulting for a development communications and advocacy firm. He is conducting research in support of a US Diplomacy Center engagement for the Foreign Affairs Museum Council.

Lauren Hodge completed her B.A. degree and was accepted to the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology’s Clinical Psy.D. program.

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