

Anthropology Department

The Anthropology Department's 2012-2013 Newsletter, Issue No. 8

To defend life in the Andes



By Teresa Velásquez

In late 2009, a few hundred dairy farmers and their allies gathered around Father Ramiro. The cold rain and wind wicked across the tough grasses, craggy rocks, and barren hillocks.

Father Ramiro led an outdoor mass in the Southern Ecuadorian Andes. At 12,000 feet, Kimsacocha was a toponym meaning three highland lakes in Quechua and the place from which thousands of dairy farmers drew their drinking and irrigation water. Father Ramiro evoked Kimsacocha as a "sacred place" and as the "source of life."

I was struck by the outdoor mass. I had conducted nearly two years of research among dairy farmers to understand why they protested gold extraction in their watershed.

But, this was the first time that Kimsacocha was venerated as a "source of life."

For nearly five years farmers had opposed plans for gold extraction in their watershed out of fear that it would jeopardize rural water supplies.

I came to understand that venerating the Kimsacocha watershed was a recognition that nature is an integral part of sustaining cultural and material life in the highlands. This idea was often expressed in everyday

talk through the idioms of Andean cosmologies.

As one woman put it, "Kimsacocha is the Pachamama [Mother Earth]; she nourishes us, she sustains us ... if the miners take out the gold, it's like taking out a liver or a kidney. How will we live?"

Andean cosmologies helped farmers create coalitions with indigenous organizations, environmentalists, and Catholic priests to defend agrarian ways of life as an alternative to extractive industries.

The multi-ethnic coalition demanded that the government implement Sumak Kawsay, a form of development based on indigenous cosmologies that integrates human material needs with nature's entitlements recognized in the 2008 constitution.

While the coalition has not successfully eliminated state plans to expand gold mining activity, they have successfully delayed gold extraction in the Kimsacocha watershed.

This case shows how spiritual practices rooted in Andean and Catholic traditions can be used in popular environmental struggles.

Dr. Velásquez joined the full-time faculty of the Anthropology Department in the fall of 2012. This brief article describes her doctoral research in Ecuador. Dr. Velásquez was awarded her Ph.D. by the University of Texas at Austin earlier this year.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Our Department Hosts a Royal Visit!

On Nov. 8, 2012, our department welcomed His Majesty Solomon Iguru I, the Omukama (king) of Bunyoro-Kitara in Uganda, to CSUSB.

The Omukama, who was visiting southern California, was accompanied by his Principal Private Secretary, Yolamu Nsamba Ndoleriire, who spoke to a class of anthropology students on the history of the kingdom's regalia and also presented the Omukama's remarks on the economic development climate of the kingdom to a luncheon of Phi Beta Delta, the campus's international honor society.



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Alumni News

Christine Carter (Peralta), B.A. 2009, was recently married and is an assistant branch manager at JP Morgan Chase in Santa Ana, CA.

Jenny Diaz, B.A. 2010, is in Albany, NY, attending SUNY working on her master's in Information Science. She is currently working as a graduate assistant at the New York State Library in the Operations Unit and hopes to gain invaluable experience in the field.

Manuel Galaviz, B.A. 2011, will be attending graduate school, next fall, at the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) at the University of Texas at Austin. This is a laborious 2-year terminal interdisciplinary M.A. program with more than 30 affiliate departments.

Alyse Romero, B.A. 2010, has been awarded a James Madison

Fellowship by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Washington, D.C. This fellowship will fund up to \$24,000 of her course of study toward a master's degree, which must include a concentration of courses on the history and principles of the United States Constitution. Alyse is currently subbing (long-term) for California Cadet Corps (CASS) at Curtis Middle School in San Bernardino, which is a program with a military foundation that teaches students leadership skills as well as other life skills such as first aid, health, fitness, and confidence. She is also in the process of applying for a commission to be an officer and becoming a full-time commandant for the program. Once she has completed her master's and teaching credential, she plans to teach social studies and Cadet Corps.

Linda Stockham, B.A. Anthropology, 1973; Interdisciplinary M.A. Anthropological Studies, 1987) and retiree (Administrative Support Coordinator for Anthropology & Geography departments), has received word that her play *Divorce Sale* is to be produced by the Pattaya Players Community Theatre in Pattaya, Thailand, and scheduled to open on March 1, 2013. This is the first time her play has been produced in Thailand. Pattaya is the second largest city in Thailand and is a popular tourist spot.

In Memoriam

Lesley Dwight-Cochran, B.A. 2000, died suddenly Aug. 29, 2012, in Redlands. Lesley was a Community Service Officer with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and was working on an MA in Criminal Justice at CSUSB.

Student Awards and Recognition

Jennifer Laviguer was one of six CSUSB students selected to represent our university at the 2013 National Model UN Conference – Latin America held in the Galapagos Islands.

Blanca Garcia was a member of the CSUSB Model UN Team that won an Outstanding Delegation award in New York.

Gloria Aragon-Gonzalez was awarded the Yolanda T. Moses Scholarship to help defray the costs of her CSUSB education.

Leysett Silva won a McNair Scholarship so that she spent part of last summer conducting literature-based research on the archaeology of maroon (escaped slave) settlements in the Americas.

Juanita Cabrera, Barry Chew, Sieuzaan Eygabroad, and Leysett Silva were awarded Dora J. Prieto Scholarships to help defray the costs of their CSUSB education.

Miguel Garcia has been accepted into the MA program in Applied Anthropology at San José State

University.

At the 2012 College Awards Night, **Desiree Lopez** and **Manny Galaviz** were recognized for their outstanding service to our department as leaders of ALPACA.

Kamelle Leggette, anthropology major, was a member of a team of four students representing CSUSB who captured first place at the Black Voice Foundation's "Opportunity of a Lifetime" national case study competition. The CSUSB team beat the defending champions from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in the final round of the competition. Please join us in congratulating Kamelle on her success!

2012 Summer Fieldwork Scholarships

As a result of exceptionally generous donations from our alumnus **Mike Swank**, B.A. 2011, and other donors, five anthropology students were awarded scholarships to support their summer fieldwork and training:

Ashleigh Clayton undertook

an archaeological internship at Statistical Research Inc. in Redlands.

Kelley Bartels-Flack went to Nicaragua where she participated in a field school in primate behavioral ecology.

Senior Honors Theses

In the last year four students wrote senior honors theses and thereby graduated with departmental honors:

- **Barbara Curcic-Miles**: *The Swahili Coast and the Indian Ocean: Trade Patterns from the Ninth to the Fifteenth Centuries*
- **Joe Curran**: *Discovering Monuments of the Past: Remote Sensing of Earthworks in Uganda*
- **Manny Galaviz**: *Chicano Park and the Chicano Park Steering Committee: History, Myth, and Identity*
- **Sue Honey**: *Khoekhoe: The Origin and Spread of Domestic Animals and Pottery to the Cape*

Two new exhibits open at The Anthropology Museum

Since our last departmental newsletter, two exhibits have opened at The Anthropology Museum.

The first, curated by Professor Russell Barber of the Anthropology Department, opened in spring of 2012 and explored beads and their place in history.

It featured many antique beads from around the world and discussions of the technological

steps in their production, as well as several exquisite reproductions and original pieces of beadwork by Sharon Yellowfly.

The second, "Bountiful Harvest," opened in spring of 2013 and shows the place of plants – as food, medicine, and industrial materials – in the traditional lifeways of Native Americans in Southern California.

Curated by Professor Thomas Long of the History Department,

this exhibit has brought input from several of the local tribes who have shared items and traditional knowledge for the exhibit.

The Museum also has established the Friends of the Anthropology Museum, an organization established to help the Museum gain the resources needed to support its goals.

Laboratory for Ancient Materials Analysis (LAMA) News from Dr. Berdan

In September I traveled to Washington, D.C., to obtain loose adhesive samples from four ancient Mexican turquoise mosaics (two shields, one mask, and one especially exquisite disk).

These artifacts were discovered in a cave in the early 1900s, and I had previously obtained loose samples of adhesives and turquoise stones from a jar catalogued with the artifacts.

Dr. David Maynard from the CSUSB Chemistry Department has been analyzing these samples – our

current results are still preliminary, but we will have definitive results soon.

The turquoise stones are being sourced by a geologist on our team, Dr. Alyson Thibodeau of the University of Arizona.

A symposium devoted to turquoise at the recent Society for American Archaeology meetings in Honolulu suggests some new interpretations of ancient turquoise trade are being forged, and LAMA is right in there (I was a discussant for that symposium).

LAMA is grateful and privileged to have been granted permission by the National Museum of the American Indian (Smithsonian Institution) to analyze these materials.

Recent results of other analyses have been published in a volume on Mayan art at Dumbarton Oaks (Washington, D.C.) and a volume on Mayan masks published in Mexico.

Seeking Support

The Anthropology Department and department Chair Pete Robertshaw are very grateful to those who have donated to the department during the last year. As a result of your generosity, we have given some student scholarships and used money to buy materials for exhibits in our Anthropology Museum. Most of our own faculty are also continuing to contribute via payroll deduction to a scholarship fund for our anthropology majors. We hope that some of you will consider adding your donations to the department or designating a larger gift in your name or in someone else's honor. We have many needs, including scholarships, our museum, student fieldwork and travel, and lab equipment.

If you would like to make a gift to Anthropology Department, you may make your check payable to the **CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation**, and in the memo section write **Anthropology Department**. You may send your check to **Brent Hunter**, Director of Development, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, California State University, San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407. For more information on how to make a gift to the department please contact Brent Hunter at (909) 537-7363, or via e-mail at bhunter@csusb.edu.

To give online, go to <https://development.csusb.edu/makeagift>.



ALPACA carried on as if the summer break did not happen at all! We continued with the traditional Ethnic Dines, visited museums, and hosted guest lectures by professionals in the anthropology field.

Starting off with the fall quarter, ALPACA's first ethnic dine was held at SalvaNica Restaurant in Rancho Cucamonga.

Later in the quarter, we visited The Museum of Tolerance and re-visited Merkato Ethiopian Restaurant and Market in Los Angeles.

Throughout the fall quarter we conducted a Fundraiser/Raffle with a first place prize of a Kindle Fire, courtesy of Lorraine Frost, which went to CSUSB grad student Trevor McFann.

At the end of the quarter, we held an ethnic dine, well attended by both students and faculty, at Gul Naz – Cuisine of Pakistan in Colton.

During the winter quarter, we hosted ethnic dines at Bright Star Thai Vegan in Rancho Cucamonga and El Rico Pollo – Peruvian Cuisine and Grill in San Bernardino.

Our brave members dared to visit the infamous Museum of Death in Hollywood and lived to tell the tale!

A few members accompanied



Professor Dubois on a rock art field trip to Black and Inscription Canyons, north of Barstow.

We also acquired ALPACA T-shirts for our members to represent their favorite anthropology club. We unexpectedly received an ALPACA mascot donated to us by ALPACA member, Sarah Lewis!

During spring break we visited San Diego's Museum of Art and also revisited Pokez Mexican Restaurant in

Downtown San Diego.

Early in the spring quarter, we welcomed forensic anthropologist, Dr. Alexis Gray, to the CSUSB campus.

After her amazing lecture, we visited I Love Sushi in Highland. At the end of April, we visited the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, where the actual "Lucy" (*Australopithecus afarensis*) was being publicly exhibited for the last time in the United States.

The experience was unforgettable and surreal. After filling our eyes with wonder, we filled our tummies with German delicacies courtesy of Jagerhaus located in Anaheim.

In June Professor Michael Fong from Chaffey Community College gave a lecture to us on the topic of paleopathology. The year ended with a celebratory dinner at the Delhi Palace restaurant in San Bernardino, hosted by the faculty.

ALPACA would like to thank all those who participated in our events, ethnic dines, and trips. We would also like to give a special thanks to Patricia and the CSUSB Anthropology Department.

2012 – 2013 ALPACA Officers: president, Miguel Garcia; vice president, Andrea Frost; treasurer, Gloria Aragon; secretary, Brenda Hernandez; historian, Jose Rodriguez; honorary shaman, Barbara Curcic.

Anthropology students out in the field



Andrea Frost spent four weeks in Romania, participating in an "osteological survey and workshop" on Late Bronze Age populations in Transylvania.



Manny Galaviz attended the Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance field school and also took the opportunity to visit Tikal in Guatemala.



Danny Ramon flew to Kenya to participate in a "field practicum in environmental public health" among the Maasai run by the School for Field Studies.

FACULTY NEWS

Russell Barber

Over the past year, I completed a number of projects and made substantial progress on several others. Two articles have been accepted for publication: "Numerical Place Names in California" (*Names*, the Journal of the Onomastics Society) and "Adena Tablets, Vultures, and Dualism" (*Mid-continental Journal of Archaeology*). In addition, I put what I believe to be the finishing touches on the second edition of *Doing Historical Archaeology*. Last spring I designed and prepared an exhibit, "Beads," in the Anthropology Museum, and Sharon Yellowfly and I are making progress on a long-term joint project to promote healthier eating on the Siksika (Blackfoot) Reserve in Alberta.

Frannie Berdan

I thought I was retired, but I'm coming to think that it's an illusion. I really enjoy still teaching "my" Mexico courses one quarter a year, and can still do that for a couple more years. It does leave more time for research and writing, and the projects seem to keep piling up. The book that I've been writing forever (or so it seems), *Aztec Archaeology and Ethnohistory* with Cambridge University Press, is finally in production. In the next newsletter I should be able to say that it's "on the shelf." Two articles have recently appeared. One, "Turquoise in the Aztec Imperial World," is published in a landmark volume published by the British Museum. Another is a synthetic article on "Central Mexican States and Imperial Tribute Systems" for the *Oxford Handbook of Mesoamerican*



Archaeology. I have also been busy presenting papers here and there: one on Aztec phonetic glyphs at the International Congress of Americanists in Vienna, Austria; another on different aspects of Aztec featherworking at Penn State University, and yet another featherworking twist at the Society for American Archaeology meetings in Honolulu. Featherworking is getting a pretty heavy workout on my research lately! While in Vienna I had the great privilege of closely examining the famous "Moctezuma's headdress" – an outrageously glorious artifact (am sure there are images of it online). I am also doing more research with ancient American turquoise, which has recently become a really exciting matter among Mesoamerican and Southwest USA archaeologists (see LAMA, this issue). And now back to the next book, *Aztec Daily Lives*, co-authored with Michael Smith of Arizona State University.

Jennifer Miller-Thayer

In May of last year I gave a presentation on my dissertation fieldwork on cross-border healthcare at the U.S. – Mexican border to the Chaffey College anthropology club and dental students. I also published a short article on this in the last CSUSB newsletter. This past year I was chosen as the full-time temporary anthropology instructor at Chaffey College, which provided me the opportunity to experience the perks of being a full-time college instructor. While there I began teaching the physical anthropology lecture and lab which has added to the list of classes that I now have experience teaching. I also continued to teach at CSUSB during this time, so I have been pretty busy teaching! This past winter, I developed and taught an on-line version of the ANTH 331: Anthropology of Human Development class. At present I am developing



an introductory linguistics course for Chaffey. Furthermore, I am working on a revision of my cultural anthropology textbook and developing exercise workbooks for

all four fields of anthropology with another colleague.

Kathleen Nadeau

My book, *Women's Roles in Asia*, co-authored with Sangita Rayamajhi, is coming out with Greenwood Press in June 2013. Dr. Rayamajhi of Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu, Nepal, happens to be the mother of one of our majors, whom I met at his commencement ceremony! Last year, I co-authored, with William Holden, "Exemplifying Accumulation by Dispossession: Mining and Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines" in *Geografiska Annaler*, the journal of the *Swedish Society of Geography and Anthropology*. We also co-authored and presented "Neoliberalism and Eco-Feminist Liberation Theology: Does the Philippine Basic Ecclesial Community Movement Help the Poor?" at the 9th *International Conference on Philippine Studies*, which came out in *East Asian Pastoral Review*.

This past December was especially fun as a result of my receiving a *Professor Across Borders* grant to visit Somaiya College in Mumbai, India, where I met and exchanged ideas with colleagues and gave several guest lectures in their classes. I wanted to learn more about the role of women and development in India's micro-financing projects. Dr. Radha from the Somaiya College of Business accompanied me to meet a group of



Anthropology faculty, from left: Teresa Velasquez, Kathleen Nadeau, Peter Robertshaw, Russell Barber and Wes Niewoehner.

women involved with Suryoday Micro Financing in East Kurla, central Mumbai. I was fascinated to observe that this micro financing company presented itself as being a social justice and women's empowerment organization, when, contrarily, it was charging what I considered to be a high interest rate of 26 percent. I consequently became interested in the question of whether, or not, this organization is a for-profit organization. I plan to conduct further research on this question of whether, or not, such micro-financing loans help to improve the conditions of poor women's lives and that of their families.

Wes Niewoehner

This spring I attended the 2013 Paleoanthropology Society meetings and presented my research poster, *Preliminary radiographic analysis of Neandertal and Holocene human MC1 opponens pollicis crests*, which focuses on the morphology of recent human and Neandertal first metacarpal (the bone that runs through the palm of the hand at the base of the

thumb). Neandertal first metacarpals are remarkable for their large *opponens pollicis* muscle insertion, which is expressed as a flange-like projecting ridge. My current research on recent human first metacarpals combines information from X-rays and CT scans to demonstrate that the *opponens* crest in both Neandertals and recent humans has the same internal morphology. This further substantiates my claim that the trait is developmentally plastic and therefore cannot be used as evidence for Neandertal/early modern human admixture.

This is not to say that there is no evidence for Neandertal/recent human admixture, since analyses of the Neandertal genome continue to suggest that there could have been a low-level of hybridization between these two groups 100,000 to 30,000 years ago. In fact, ancient DNA analyses show us that our population history is much more complex than we previously envisioned. The newly described Denisovan DNA sequences obtained from a 40,000 year old finger bone fragment from Denisova cave in Siberia suggests that there may have been another human population in Asia that was related to, but genetically distinct from, European Neandertals. I'm looking forward to more fossil evidence to show us what they looked like. I do sound a note of caution about ancient DNA studies: we are just learning how to interpret the results, and these interpretations are likely to change. Is it possible that the concept of a Denisovan population, which is defined solely on the basis of ancient DNA, will

not survive future scientific scrutiny? Indeed, these are exciting times for paleoanthropology!

Teresa Velasquez

I've had a busy, but exciting first year. I worked diligently to develop my classes and get to know all of our wonderful students. I'm already advising some really interesting undergraduate and graduate theses. I presented my research at the American Anthropological Association, the Abriendo Brecha Activist-Scholarship Conference, and will be off to Washington D.C. in late spring to deliver yet another paper at the Latin American Studies Congress. I'm happy to report that I had a co-authored book chapter published earlier this year and another is due out very soon. I look forward to finally getting back to Ecuador this summer after a two and half year absence. More research, hooray!

Peter Robertshaw

I recently returned from the Society for American Archaeology meetings in Honolulu where I presented a paper titled "Collective Action Theory and Those Despotical Bakitara" about the political economic history and archaeology of western Uganda. I was in the same session with Frannie Berdan! Both our papers will eventually appear as chapters in an edited book. My paper on the future of African archaeology was published late last year in the journal, the African Archaeological Review. Currently I am revising a paper reporting the results of analysis of glass beads from a historic site in Niger; the reviewers for the *Journal of Archaeological Science* thought the paper worthy of publication but they are requiring quite a lot of revisions (dang!). Finally I continue to serve as one of three editors for the peer-reviewed academic journal *Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa*. On the home front, I became a grandfather last year.

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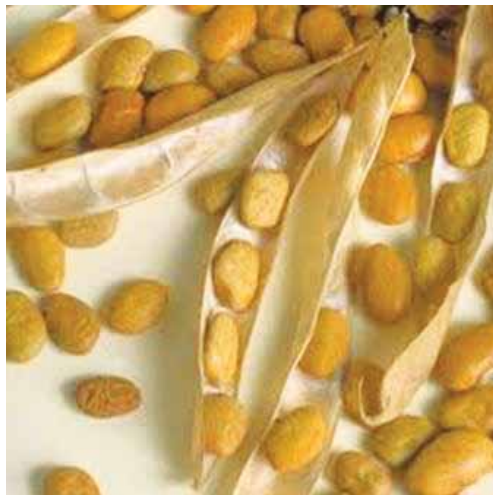
Gustatory Corner: The Tepary Bean

While everyone knows the common bean in its various forms (kidney, pinto, black, and navy beans), almost no one knows the tepary bean.

The tepary bean is an agricultural rarity: a species that was domesticated in what would become the United States. In particular, around AD 500, the Hohokam people of southern Arizona domesticated a wild ancestor to produce the first domesticated tepary beans.

Their real advantage is that they can withstand heat and drought better than any other bean. They have been reported as cultivated by the O’odham (“Sand Papago”) around Why, Arizona, a place whose average annual rainfall is below half an inch and whose temperatures regularly exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit!

They also have been cultivated at high elevations, as in the



Pinacate Peaks at around 4,000 feet in elevation.

Traditionally, Oodham farmers – and probably their Hohokam ancestors – planted tepary beans in small hills on floodplains and in intermittent stream beds, taking advantage of scarce moisture there.

The O’odham continue to raise tepary beans, but the main place of cultivation today is India, where they are a component of snack mixes called bhujia and Punjabi Tadka.

Interested in growing or cooking some on your own? Gary Nabhan of the University of Arizona has collected a variety of strains of tepary beans for his traditional seed bank project, and they are available quite inexpensively through his commercial seed supply company, Seeds of Change (www.seedsofchange.com).