A Message from the Department Chair

It is my pleasure once again to bring you the newest installment in our newsletter series. We are delighted to welcome Dr. Amy Speier, who joined us this fall, to our faculty. Hearty congratulations are due to Dr. Heather Jacobson on her promotion to Associate Professor! Drs. Beamon, Khanduri, Kunovich, and Ryan all received substantial awards, detailed herein. Dr. Jason Shelton has just published his first book, which is already receiving stellar reviews. Finally, we congratulate our two new Professors Emeriti, Drs. Bastien and Eve.

Sadly, archaeologist Dr. Angela Keller has departed, but she did teach a field school for us this summer, and we are fortunate to have Dr. Scott Ingram as a Visiting Assistant Professor this academic year. There have been staff changes as well. We were sad to see Ms. Ayesha Fatima leave to move to India, but pleased to be able to fill her vacated position by promoting Ms. Pat Woodward. (Thanks again to Pat, without whose help you would not be reading this newsletter.) In turn, we have hired a person familiar to many of you, recent Sociology M.A. graduate Ms. Ashley Kranjac. Ashley’s current research interests involve the social aspects of food, eating, and nutrition, including the social causes and consequences of obesity. She presented a paper (“Feeding the Family: Gender Responsibilities in Croatia and the United States”) at the 2012 American Sociological Association’s annual meeting in Colorado.

Anthropology’s 2012 Termini Lecture was delivered by Dr. Cynthia Robin of Northwestern. David Ofuoku received the 2012 Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology. Once again we sincerely thank the Drs. Termini, Blaine Williams, Elaine Davenport, and all our other departmental donors; the names of those making substantial financial contributions appear at the end of this newsletter. (Apologies in advance if I have inadvertently omitted anyone.)

Our speaker at this year’s departmental awards ceremony was Dr. Sheryl Skaggs, a 1997 UT Arlington Sociology M.A. alumna. Dr. Skaggs is now an Associate Professor of Sociology and the Program Coordinator for Sociology in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences at UT Dallas. Her research primarily focuses on workplace diversity among racial and ethnic minorities and women. We thank Dr. Skaggs for being an excellent speaker and role model for our current students.

I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter. If you are among our alumni, we’d love to hear from you and find out where you are and what you are doing. Suggestions for future newsletters are always welcome.

Shelley L. Smith, Professor and Chair
**Ben Agger, Sociology**

Ben Agger published *Oversharing: Presentations of Self in the Internet Age*, in which he examines Facebook, Twitter, Internet dating, pornography and texting. He worries that the boundary between public and private life is being effaced. He continues work on a related book, *Texting toward Utopia: Reading our Kids*, in which he considers the paradox that young people may be late submitting their term papers on Shakespeare or sociology, but they write furiously in non-traditional ways that fly below adult radar (e.g., texting, tweeting). He tries to make sense of life in what he contends is a highly literary age. He continues to edit the journal *Fast Capitalism*, and he concluded a third year editing his Routledge book series on contemporary social problems. He taught a new course on the legacy of the sixties, in which students read books and saw videos about the civil rights era and the war in Vietnam. The course attracted 71 students, and is being opened to 100 this coming spring semester. He stopped eating meat, and is preparing for his first marathon in 30 years.

**Susan González Baker, Sociology and the Center for Mexican American Studies**

Dr. Baker is a social demographer and Director of the Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS). Her teaching experience includes Introductory Sociology, Racial and Ethnic Minorities (a topic on which she co-authored a popular textbook), Population Trends and Processes, The Latina Experience (a class on the gendered aspects of life for Latinas in the United States) and Introduction to Mexican American Studies. Her research interests include immigration policy analysis, migration and settlement experiences of Mexican immigrant women in the United States, ethnicity as a factor in homelessness, and Mexican immigrant women in U.S. labor markets. She is currently working on a research project examining Mexican women immigrant entrepreneurs in Fort Worth, Texas in collaboration with a Mexican anthropology professor working as a scholar-in-residence at CMAS. She is also embarking on a new project examining Latinos and Homelessness.

**Krystal Beamon, Sociology**

Krystal Beamon presented papers at both the American Sociological Association’s annual meetings and the Association of Black Sociology annual meetings in Denver, CO this August. Dr. Beamon’s article “I’m a Baller: Athletic Identity foreclosure among African-American former Student-Athletes” appeared in the spring 2012 edition of the *Journal of African American Studies*. She gave guest lectures at the City of Arlington public library events and American Sociological Association Minority fellowship program’s annual orientation. Additionally, Dr. Beamon was named the Service Learning Faculty Member of the Year for her work with underserved minority K-12 grade students in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

**Naomi Cleghorn, Anthropology**

Naomi Cleghorn is an archaeologist studying the evolution of hominin behavior and subsistence strategies during the later Pleistocene in Africa and Eurasia. Her current projects include a study of late Neanderthal behavior in the Caucasus Mountains. In addition, she is pursuing a parallel investigation of early modern human adaptations and strategies in South Africa, in collaboration with the NSF funded SAC-P4 (South African Coast Paleoclimate, Paleoenvironment, Paleoecology, Paleoanthropology) project at Pinnacle Point. In July, Dr. Cleghorn and UTA graduate student Chris Shelton surveyed several new Middle Stone Age sites along the coast.

**Dana Dunn, Sociology**

Dana Dunn spent much of the year working on grant proposals to the National Science Foundation focused on the under-representation of women and minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) higher education and the professoriate. One proposal examines gender differences in the causes of job satisfaction for STEM faculty; the other is focused on the STEM identity formation process for under-represented students and how STEM identity is related to educational persistence and success. Dr. Dunn also chaired the University Strategic Planning Committee. After holding meetings to gather input from hundreds of faculty, students, staff and alumni, the committee completed a new draft strategic plan which will be shared with the campus later this semester. She is currently chairing the search for a new Dean for the College of Business.

**Chunping Han, Sociology**

Dr. Chunping Han's areas of interest include inequality and stratification, physical and psychological well-being, education, comparative sociology, and research methods. Her ongoing projects involve how social cleavages in inequality attitudes, subjective well-being, and health are shaped by the political-economic institutions typical of a country. Her inquiry is based on the analysis of data from two waves of nationally representative sample surveys as well as in-depth interviews conducted in China. Dr. Han presented a paper on the association between perceptions of inequality and health at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in Denver, CO in August 2012.
Dr. Heather Jacobson continues her work on contemporary gestational surrogacy. Her book in progress examines how commercial gestational surrogates experience and make sense of their work as surrogates and how they negotiate the complex ideological discourse of “work” and “family” within the assisted reproduction marketplace. She presented two papers from this project, one at the International Conference on Adoption and Culture at The Claremont Colleges, and the second at the inaugural Work and Family Researchers Conference in New York City. A paper on her ongoing work on international adoption will be forthcoming in Journal of Family Issues. In 2012, Dr. Jacobson received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor.

Angela Keller, Anthropology
During the summer of 2012, Dr. Keller continued her research in Belize at the Classic period Maya site of Actuncan along the Guatemalan border. Working with local archaeologists, the team accomplished the complete geophysical (remote sensing) survey of a large plaza and nearby neighborhood, the excavation of six household groups, and the mapping of the entire site core and near periphery. With the assistance of UTA graduate student Destiny Micklin, Dr. Keller and students attending a field school conducted a comprehensive testing program focused on a large public plaza that may be the grounds of an ancient marketplace. This past year, Dr. Keller also gave several public talks about her work and submitted and published a number of articles and chapters detailing the research at Actuncan and other Maya sites in the Belize River Valley.

Ritu Khanduri, Anthropology
Dr. Khanduri's recent journal articles include "Some things about Gandhi" (Contemporary South Asia, 2012), which situates public yearning for Gandhi and his brand in relation to history, photographs, and material culture; and "Picturing India" (Visual Anthropology, 2012), which examines India's famous cartoonist R. K. Laxman's cartoons about India's democracy and developmental agenda. She also published a chapter, "Does this offend you!" in the edited book, Public Hinduisms (Sage, 2012), tracking the sentiment of offence generated by commodified Hindu images. Ritu was named a Fulbright Research Scholar to launch her multi-year research of women engineers in India. She writes a monthly column, "J Drive" in Anthropology News and serves on UTA's Women and Gender Studies advisory board. This year Ritu is the faculty sponsor for UTA's Lambda Alpha, the Anthropology Honor Society. She is excited to teach Global Cultures and Graduate Theory this fall, and to work with Honors Students Hannah, Thiviyah and Naureen on a range of topics in cultural anthropology.

Robert Kunovich, Sociology
Dr. Kunovich is currently teaching Social Research and Social Statistics. He will be teaching the Sociology of Risk and Social Statistics in the spring. He is particularly excited to teach Sociology of Risk again, which he first developed for spring 2012. This course focuses on several major perspectives on risk including Risk Society and Edgework and will cover a variety of interesting topics, such as industrial food production, extreme vacations, and drinking and fighting. Three of Dr. Kunovich’s papers will soon be published: “Perceived Unemployment: The Sources and Consequences of Misperceptions” (forthcoming in International Journal of Sociology); “Political Knowledge in Poland” (forthcoming in Communist and Post-Communist Studies); and “Obesity Trends and Perinatal Outcomes in Black and White Teenagers” (forthcoming in American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology; the lead author is Donna R. Halloran). Most of Dr. Kunovich’s current research focuses on public attitudes toward immigrants. Finally, Dr. Kunovich is looking forward to attending a conference and statistics workshop in Warsaw, Poland (December 2012). He will be presenting his research and team teaching the statistics workshop, which is being organized by the Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program (The Ohio State University and the Polish Academy of Sciences).

Karl Petruso, Anthropology and Honors College
Professor Petruso, an archaeologist, also serves as Dean of the Honors College. He continues to teach in the Anthropology Program as his administrative duties permit. In spring 2013 he will teach a new course, ANTH 3374: Archaeology of Europe. In summer 2013 he will direct the Honors College study abroad program in Scotland (which is open to non-Honors members) and will teach an undergraduate course on the archaeology of northern Britain (Stone Age to Vikings). His analysis of weight measurement and Late Bronze Age trade at Mycenae in Greece will appear in 2013 in the series of final reports on the British excavations at that site. He is currently working on artifacts from Early Bronze Age Troy that are in a private collection in the United States.

Linda Rouse, Sociology
Dr. Linda Rouse attended the American Medical Women Association’s annual meeting this year in Miami to learn more about identity, work, and gender among women physicians. At the conference she met with AMWA’s committee on gender equity, currently working on a grant to investigate the work habits of women physicians. Of general interest, the keynote speaker was Gloria Steinem, still a compelling advocate for women’s rights and health issues. Dr. Rouse was also invited to serve as a reviewer for the International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology in the areas of social psychology, family sociology, and evaluation research, including review of an article on the impact of marriage on women (in India). Dr. Rouse finished a manuscript on the intersection of theories in social psychology and clinical practice, submitted to the Journal of Applied Social Science. She taught “Individual and Society” and “Self and Social Identity” courses in the social psychology area and several sections of the always popular SOCI 3352, Social Statistics (bazanga). She continued working with UTA’s Center for Community Service Learning to develop an applied research component for the required undergraduate social research course that will allow students to advance their research skills in partnership with community agencies.

Gloria Steinem at AMWA
Beth Anne Shelton, Sociology
Beth Anne Shelton earned her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. After spending ten years working at universities in Ohio and New York she relocated to the University of Texas at Arlington. Her work focuses on patterns of time use in the home and in the labor force and most recently has expanded to explore the unwaged work of volunteering. She has published numerous articles on the relationship between work and family, focusing on how the inner workings of the home impact individuals’ labor force activities as well as how the constraints of work impact families, including children, mothers and fathers. She regularly teaches courses on family, work and the intersection of the two. In her free time, Beth Anne Shelton plays tennis, seriously if not superbly, reads fiction and enjoys the warm Texas winters.

Jason Shelton, Sociology
Dr. Shelton’s primary research interests concern the sociology of religion and the intersections between race, class, and political/social attitudes in the post-Civil Rights Era. New York University Press recently published his co-authored book, Blacks and Whites in Christian America: How Racial Discrimination Shapes Religious Convictions. Conventional wisdom holds that Christians, as members of a “universal” religion, all believe more or less the same things when it comes to their faith. Yet black and white Christians differ in significant ways, from their frequency of praying or attending services to whether they regularly read the Bible or believe in Heaven or Hell. Shelton and co-author Michael Emerson push beyond establishing that there are racial differences in belief and practice among members of American Protestantism to explore why those differences exist. Drawing on the most comprehensive and systematic empirical analysis of African American religious actions and beliefs to date, they delineate five building blocks of black Protestant faith which have emerged from the particular dynamics of American race relations. Shelton and Emerson find that America’s history of racial oppression has had a deep and fundamental effect on the religious beliefs and practices of blacks and whites across America.

Shelley Smith, Anthropology
Professor Smith agreed to extend her term as Department Chair two more years, through the summer of 2014. As Chair, she devotes most of her time to administrative duties; she also teaches one course per semester. This term she is teaching Growth, Development and Evolution, and next term she will teach a Primates course. Along with Drs. Trey Fondon and Jesse Meik of the Department of Biology at UT Arlington, she continues her interest in domestic dogs as a model for certain aspects of human variation and evolution. She is planning a new study (with Professor Peter Buschang of the Baylor College of Dentistry, a long-time collaborator) on maxillary sinus volume growth in a longitudinal sample of children, pending verification that the available 3D software will cooperate.

Robert Young, Sociology
Professor Young teaches courses on Individual and Society, Deviance, The Social Psychology of Crime, and Small Groups. His scholarly interests lie within the domains of symbolic interactionism, cognitive sociology and social psychology. Although his previous research has focused primarily on social interaction processes, the sociology of language and discourse, and attitude structures, he has recently turned his attention to understanding humans’ relationships to other species and the nature of non-human animal mind. He has forthcoming articles in the journals Studies in Symbolic Interaction and Society and Animals.

Christian Zlolniski, Anthropology and the Center for Mexican American Studies
Dr. Z, as most of his students call him, specializes in the study of international migration, work and labor issues, and regularly conducts ethnographic fieldwork in Northern Mexico. Last year he published the article “Water Flowing North of the Border” in the journal Cultural Anthropology (26: 4), where he documents how the production of fresh fruits and vegetables for export to the United States – a model of regional development championed by neoliberal economic policies in Mexico– has led to critical water shortages for the workers who produce these crops, and social and political unrest in the region. He also continues pursuing his interest on Latino immigration to the United States, and published a review essay in the journal Latin American Research Review (46.2) assessing the risks and strategies confronted by undocumented immigrants in light of the enforcement of strong border control policies. In addition to his anthropology courses on globalization, migration, and applied anthropology, Dr. Z regularly teaches courses on Mexican Americans and Latinos in the United States, and serves as student advisor at the Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS).
Amy Speier, Anthropology Assistant Professor

Amy Speier is a medical anthropologist who specializes in various forms of medical travel to the Czech Republic. Her interests include the post-socialist privatization of a Czech medical industry, and the global political-economic realities that encourage more and more patients to seek various treatments abroad.

Amy earned a B.S. from the University of California at Berkeley, and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Her dissertation is entitled “Czech Balneotherapy: From Public Health to Health Tourism.” This research focused on the transformation of balneotherapy, a traditional Czech health tourism industry. Over the last few years, she has been conducting ethnographic research with patients and owners of web-based companies that facilitate travel for North Americans to visit the Czech Republic for in-vitro fertilization. Professor Speier is focusing her attention on the ways in which patient travelers are making decisions to travel abroad for care, the networks that are established between North American patient travelers, and their experiences in Czech clinics.

Previous teaching experience includes appointments at Lawrence University and Eckerd College. In addition to conducting fieldwork in the Czech Republic for the past twelve years, Professor Speier has often taken students to the Czech Republic to conduct ethnographic research. This past summer, she took ten students to Prague for three weeks, where they each conducted an independent fieldwork project. Professor Speier hopes to bring UTA students with her to the Czech Republic sometime in the future.

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Scott Ingram, Anthropology Visiting Assistant Professor

Scott Ingram is an anthropologist and archaeologist specializing in the study of long-term human and environment interactions. Scott’s courses at UTA this fall include Archaeology of Sustainability, Principles of Archaeology, and Prehistory of the North American Southwest. For more information on his courses see www.ingramanthropology.com.

Scott’s research objective is to use the prehistoric and historic record to gain insights into human behavior that can be used to inform the study of contemporary challenges such as human vulnerability to climate change and the sustainability of social-ecological systems. He is also interested in advancing understanding of classic archaeological problems (e.g., cultural transitions, regional depopulations, “collapses”) through new spatially and temporally comprehensive datasets, methods, and analyses.

Scott earned his Ph.D. from Arizona State University (2010) where he was also a National Science Foundation Interdisciplinary (IGERT) Fellow. Scott recently organized an interdisciplinary workshop on “Dryland Agriculture” and is the lead editor of the associated forthcoming book. He is also an active member of an NSF and Wenner-Gren funded interdisciplinary team of scientists from the North Atlantic and U.S. Southwest investigating the causes of periods of societal transformation, collapse, and stability in those regions.
Kudos to Our Faculty: Honors and Awards

Krystal Beamon, Assistant Professor of Sociology

**UT Arlington Faculty Service Learning Award**

This award of an honorarium and a plaque has been established to honor an outstanding faculty member for innovations in engaged scholarship that integrate service learning into the curriculum. This year’s award recipient is Krystal Beamon, Assistant Professor of Sociology (2008). She received her B.S. from Oklahoma State University, 1999; M.S., 2001; Ph.D., 2005. “It’s a good feeling,” Beamon said. “It’s a great time to be part of UTA. I think we all recognize that.” Beamon was recognized for incorporating service learning in a sociology course on race, ethnicity and class. She said she knows and understands the community and wanted her students to as well. “I just wanted to be a steward to help make students more civic minded - learning to give back to the community,” she said.

Ritu Khanduri, Assistant Professor of Anthropology

**Fulbright Scholar Award**

Dr. Ritu Khanduri was recently named a Fulbright Scholar for her continuing research on globalization processes and India. Khanduri's award will support her research on women engineers. The Fulbright Program is a flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. State Department. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. Dr. Khanduri is also the recipient of the Charles McDowell Center for Critical Languages and Area Studies Research Award. This award supports her book project on Gandhi, and the anthropology of stuff that tracks globalization in the cultural arena. This book is under contract with Routledge.

Robert Kunovich, Associate Professor of Sociology

**Outstanding Teaching Award (COLA)**

Celebrating faculty excellence in the College of Liberal Arts, Dr. Robert Kunovich received the Outstanding Teaching Award. Dr. Kunovich received his B.A in Political Science/Diplomacy and Foreign Affairs, with a minor in History (1993) from Miami University. He received his M.A. (1996) and Ph.D. (2001) from The Ohio State University; he is currently Associate Professor, Associate Chair, and Sociology Program Director. Areas of specialization are race, ethnicity, and nation; social stratification and inequality; political sociology; and quantitative research methods. Dr. Kunovich also is a Global Research Faculty Fellow.

Josephine Caldwell-Ryan, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology

**Provost’s Award for Excellence in Teaching**

The Provost’s Award honors non-tenure track instructors who have demonstrated a record of excellence in teaching, strong personal commitment to students, and the ability to motivate, challenge, and inspire. Each winner receives a plaque and an honorarium. One of this year’s award recipients is Dr. Josephine Caldwell Ryan, Adjunct Lecturer of Anthropology (1988). Dr. Ryan received her B.A. from the University of Georgia (1976) and her Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University (1996); she received an M.P.H. from the University of North Texas Health Science Center in 2010. Dr. Ryan was also honored with an Outstanding Lecturer Award from the College of Liberal Arts.
Professors Emeriti:

**Joseph Bastien, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology**
Dr. Joseph Bastien is a recent retiree of the Anthropology Program. He just published *Peoples of the Water: Change and Continuity Among the Uru-Chipayans of Bolivia*. The Board of Regents recently approved the awarding of the title of **Professor Emeritus** to Dr. Bastien. We thank him for all his service to UTA and our department. He was recognized at the university-wide faculty meeting on October 2, 2012.

**Raymond Eve, Professor Emeritus of Sociology**
Dr. Ray Eve is a recent retiree of the Sociology Program, but he continues teaching on a part-time basis as an internet instructor for Introduction to Sociology. The Board of Regents recently approved the awarding of the title of **Professor Emeritus** to Dr. Eve. We thank him for all his service to UTA and our department. He was recognized at the university-wide faculty meeting on October 2, 2012.

*Summer 2012 Sociology and Anthropology Faculty Mentors:*

**Dr. Krystal Beamon & Dr. Beth Anne Shelton, Sociology**
Mentored Sociology major and McNair Scholar Ceola Brown

**Dr. Josephine Caldwell-Ryan, Anthropology**
Mentored Anthropology major and McNair Scholar Angel Aymond

**Dr. Jason Shelton, Sociology**
Mentored Sociology major and McNair Scholar TiMar Long

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**Student News**

**Sociology and Anthropology M.A. Graduates**

**M.A. Theses**

**CLAUDIA CORTINAS, Anthropology**
*Making the Invisible Visible: The Dallas Museum of Art’s Efforts to Engage Latino Visitors*

**BRANDYN (PAIGE) GABRIEL, Sociology**
*The Rugged Action Hero and His Sexy Love Interest: Interpretations of Characters in Movie Posters*

**ASHLEY KRANJAC, Sociology**
*Mcdonaldization and de-Mcdonaldization in Croatia and the United States*

**JENNIFER LAMB, Sociology**
*Sociology of Swinging: A Literature Review*

**HAMIDULLAH QEYAM, Sociology**
*Ethnicization of Politics in Afghanistan*

**SARA RIDENOUR, Sociology**
*Facebook or Face-to-Face? Connection and Community in a Wired World*

**RASSAN SOWELL, Anthropology**
*Expectations and Experiences of Seniors in an Independent Living Retirement Community*
The Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES): “The symposium is a university-wide, daylong event that occurs in late March. ACES showcases the best of our students’ research and creativity. Undergraduate and graduate students work with faculty mentors in their disciplines to write and submit abstracts for the competition. The approved abstracts are then turned into oral presentations or posters to be presented at the symposium.” Presenting in March 2012 at the ACES Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students was graduate student Ashley Wendell Kranjac. She submitted a poster entitled “McDonaldization and de-McDonaldization in Croatia and the U.S.”

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

AKD Honor Society

The Alpha Kappa Delta Sociological Honor Society Omicron Chapter of Texas welcomed new sociology scholars from UTA to its ranks during the 2011-2012 year. Dr. Chunping Han, faculty advisor and chapter representative for AKD, inducted new initiates at last year’s ceremony co-sponsored with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Lambda Alpha. The ceremony also honored UTA’s own Sociology Scholars and Sociology Honor Roll students with a lavish banquet and reception afterward. AKD also assists with funding for students interested in attending or presenting at professional conventions. To stay informed of the latest national AKD news, join the Facebook group: Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society, and for more information on the Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society of Sociology you can go to: http://alphakappadeltainternational.com.

Anthro Club

The Anthropology Club kicked off with a great start this year with a new set of officers: Leo Giron (President), Freya McDonald (Vice-President), Patrick Gainey (Secretary), and Daniel Peart (Public Relations). Our plans include museum visits, distinguished brown bag lecturers, exciting events like flint knapping, and helping with the annual goat roast hosted by Dr. Naomi Cleghorn. We will be continuing with social events like our cultural lunches at local venues. We seek to promote increased awareness of local and national events in anthropology while encouraging fun activities for our student body. Anthro Club faculty advisor is Dr. Amy Speier. For more information on the Anthro Club you may go to http://mavorgs.collegiatelink.net/organization/anthropologyclub.

Lambda Alpha Honor Society

The 2012-13 school year promises to be an active one for Lambda Alpha. In addition to assisting with the Termini Lecture and Brown Bag series, we will be focusing on developing professional and scholarly skills such as networking and research. We will be attending conferences and lectures throughout the year. This year will also see the introduction of social hours, events designed to give members an opportunity to discuss anthropological topics and career paths. 2012-13 Lambda Alpha Officers are Gabriel Escobedo (President), Destiny Micklin (Vice President), Christopher Shelton (Treasurer), and Dr. Ritu Khanduri (Faculty Advisor).

Sociology Student Association (SSA)

The Sociology Student Association (SSA) is an officially recognized, student-led organization at the University of Texas at Arlington. The purpose of SSA is to demonstrate the practical and theoretical aspects of Sociology in ways beneficial to its undergraduate and graduate students interested in sociology. Membership is not limited to sociology majors. SSA engages in a range of activities including career development events, educational activities, community involvement such as food and clothing drives, and social events. One of the events planned this semester is Scare Away Hunger. It kicks off on Halloween night by students going door to door in local neighborhoods asking for canned food donations. Food items go into the Mission Arlington Food Pantry. The 2012 goal is 2,000 cans. SSA will be working all semester long on planning a V-Day event for the Spring 2013 semester. “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” will be a peaceful protest against domestic violence. Each semester’s activities are determined by the student members. This year’s elected officers are Letecia McClendon (President), TiMar Long (Vice-President), Robin McDavid (Secretary), and Jerome Johnson (Treasurer). The faculty advisors to SSA are Sociology Assistant Professors Dr. Krystal Beamon and Dr. Jason Shelton.
The following Graduate and Undergraduate students were honored at the Annual Department of Sociology and Anthropology Awards Ceremony held in May 2012.

**Graduating Anthropology Seniors** were Cindy Adkinson, Megan Bruton, Aimee Cooley (*Magna Cum Laude*), Melissa Cowan, Caitlin Dodd (*Magna Cum Laude*), Katrina Gilley-Hall, Brett McKee (*Cum Laude*), Jacob Reed (*Cum Laude*), Lisa Tesh (*Summa Cum Laude*), Cassandra Valencia (*Magna Cum Laude*), Kimberly Waddle, and Leann du Menil.

**Graduating Sociology Seniors** were Katherine Anderson, Diana Baena, Ofelia Carranza, Phyllis Carrier, Jesus Ceballos (*Summa Cum Laude*), Robin Collins, Meagan Crockett, Rosalinda Davila, Daniel Fitzgerald, Dana Hensley, Kenise Hollins, Sundus Khalil, Cassandra Lira (*Summa Cum Laude*), Emmet Massaquoi, Stephanie Mastromoro (*Summa Cum Laude*), Shereka McClain, Jason Montelongo (*Cum Laude*), Jennifer Morris (*Summa Cum Laude*), Carlos Olguin, April Oughton, Jaala Robinson, and Allyson Whitehead.

**Graduating Anthropology Master’s Students** were Claudia Cortinas and Rassan Sowell.

**Graduating Sociology Master’s Students** were Brandyn (Paige) Gabriel, Ashley Kranjac, Hamidullah Qeyam and Sara Ridenour.

**McNair Scholars** were Angel Aymond, Amanda Bell, Ceola Brown and TiMar Long.

**College of Liberal Arts Merit Scholarship** went to Gabriel Escobedo.

**College of Liberal Arts Scholars** were Amy Ford, Ryan Gates, Stephanie Mastromoro, Freya McDonald and Amie Varner.

**The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology** went to David Ofuoku.

**Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society Inductees** were Karla Arenas, Angel Aymond, Kaitlin Johnson, Tanya Kamin, Jamaica Kennedy, Ashley Kranjac, William Nutt, and Tonya Smith.

**Anthropology Honor Roll Recipients** who maintained a GPA of 3.5 or higher within the major and a 3.0 overall were Angel Aymond, Molly Beyer, Dane Devoe, Shawn Dunlap, Gabriel Escobedo, Erin Greene, Keith Hause, Chloe Hobbie, Elizabeth Lin, Jennifer Mirossay, Daniel Peart, Lori Phillips, Kenneth Rhodes, Kayla Rogers, Tonya Smith, Sac Takeda, Kevin Waddle, Angela Walley, Philip Whitfield, and Tania Zuniga.

**Sociology Honor Roll Recipients** who maintained a GPA of 3.5 or higher within the major and a 3.0 overall were Aamal Alabed, Carley Crandall, Kellandra Daniels, Erica Demeis, Cynthia Dorries, Brittany Hather, Devyn Jackson, Sarah Kijjnitchee, Reynaldo Rangel, Estefania Rodriguez, Lynne Seaborn, Brandi Simpson, Victoria Tran, and Hannah Wilfong.

**Anthropology Scholars** who maintained a GPA of 3.5 or higher and completed more than 12 hours of coursework within the major were Robin Chester, Aimee Cooley, Krystal Craiker, Caitlin Dodd, Leann du Menil, Ryan Ellis, Azure Garza, Ryan Gates, Ana Mariscal, Freya McDonald, Brett McKee, Misty Mikuls-Alloy, Natalie Morrisssey, Colleen Mullen, Elizabeth Nelson, Joshua Peterson, Jacob Reed, Kimmberly Reilly, Rebecca Ruppert, Lauren Savage, Douglas Steinecke, Lisa Tesh, and Cassandra Valencia.

**Sociology Scholars** who maintained a GPA of 3.5 or higher and completed more than 12 hours of coursework within the major were Katherine Anderson, Jesus Ceballos, Amy Ford, Edward Hemphill, Kaitlin Johnson, Kenda Jones, Jamaica Kennedy, Cassandra Lira, TiMar Long, Stephanie Mastromoro, Letecia McClendon, Jennifer Morris, Emily Nixon, Jerushah Stewart, and Amie Varner.

**Lambda Alpha Inductees** were Krystal Craiker, Kailon Howard, Destiny Micklin, Natalie Morrisssey, Colleen Mullen, Daniel Peart, and Christopher Shelton.

**Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees** were Katherine Anderson, Jesus Ceballos, Amy Ford, Jamaica Kennedy, Cassandra Lira, TiMar Long, Maria de la Luz Perez, Lynne Seaborn, Victoria Tran, and Veronika Ellison.
SPECIAL STUDENT RECOGNITION

Claudia Cortinas, Anthropology

Claudia Cortinas graduated with an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Texas at Arlington in May 2012. Before coming to UTA, in 2008 she obtained a B.A. in Anthropology and History at Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Her M.A. thesis, *Making the Invisible Visible: The Dallas Museum of Art’s Efforts to Engage Latino Visitors*, examines how museums have approached the growing Latino population in the United States, and specifically how the Dallas Museum of Art (DMA) has attempted to engage Latina/os through its programs.

Following a successful internship at the DMA and her M.A. in anthropology, Claudia is Outreach Coordinator in the Department of Education and Outreach. In this position she is involved at the DMA in programming that reaches out to the Latino community in the Metroplex. Reflecting on her academic preparation in UTA’s Anthropology Program, Claudia says, “The Anthropology Program at UTA helped prepare me for this career by giving me a solid foundation in qualitative and quantitative research methods and skills to apply them in the real world. By taking courses in several topics, I furthered my knowledge in a field that is now applicable in my daily life.”

Well done, Claudia!

David Ofuoku, Sociology

*Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology*

The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology was recently established by their son, Blaine Williams, and his wife, Elaine Davenport. Blaine T. Williams, Sr., and his wife, Jean Wood Williams were pioneers in the Dallas-Fort Worth sociology and social work community. The scholarship is awarded annually to a junior or senior majoring in Sociology at the University of Texas at Arlington.

This year’s honoree is David Ofuoku, originally from Richardson, Texas, a senior set to graduate in spring 2013. David is working toward a bachelor’s degree in Sociology with a minor in Business Administration. He has a special interest in the field of Human Resources. David is a member of the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) at UTA and a member of the Sigma Alpha Lambda Honor Society. David was presented this year’s scholarship at the department’s Celebration of Achievement Ceremony in the spring of 2012.

Congratulations, David!
Termini Lecture, 2012

Dr. Cynthia Robin, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Northwestern University, was this year’s speaker. Dr. Robin is an anthropological archaeologist who specializes in the study of the everyday lives of ordinary people in ancient Maya society. Her research has paid particular attention to household and gender relations. She strives to document the manner in which ordinary people make a difference in the past, and are not merely the pawns of history.

Since 2001, Dr. Robin has led an international, multi-disciplinary team studying the 2000-year history of the ancient Maya farming community of Chan in Belize, Central America. Chan’s occupation spans the rise and fall of pre-Columbian Maya civilization, making Chan an ideal place to explore how ordinary farmers’ lives affected, and were affected by, broader changes in Maya society. Her research at Chan has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Geographic Society, the John J. Heinz III Charitable Trust, and Northwestern University.

Dr. Robin has published her research in a variety of books and journals including Current Anthropology, Journal of Archaeological Research, and Journal of Social Archaeology. In 2010, Robin and her colleague Elizabeth Brumfiel collaborated on an edited volume for the distinguished Archeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association, entitled Gender, Households, and Society: Unraveling the Threads of the Past and the Present. Her most recent edited volume is Chan: An Ancient Maya Farming Community.

Donations, Gifts, and Endowments

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