Marta Weigle Telling New Mexico

Marta Weigle, Regents Professor of Anthropology and American Studies, and former chair of the Departments of American Studies and Anthropology, came to New Mexico because her father was president of St. John’s College Annapolis when the college established the St. John’s Santa Fe campus. Through her parents, Richard D. and Mary D. Weigle, and their dedication to the College, she came to know many people who were “significant in fashioning a twentieth-century New Mexico cultural discourse,” notably John Gaw and Faith Meem.

Arriving in Santa Fe with parents and sister in 1961, she and her family first stayed in Sallie Wagner’s guesthouse. Sallie and her then-husband Bill Lippincott had owned a trading post on the Navajo reservation at Wide Ruins. Sallie took them “everywhere” and introduced them to Santa Feans, Pueblos, and high-road Hispanic villagers. Sallie also introduced her to the Penitente Brotherhood which ten years later became the subject of her doctoral dissertation at the University of Pennsylvania.

La Posada Inn (then billed as “Santa Fe’s Motor Hotel in the Center of Old Santa Fe, NM”) contained the first offices of St. John’s College. Weigle worked behind the desk and acted as hostess in the dining room during her summer vacations from college. La Posada was her opening into the world of tourism in northern New Mexico. The doors to the Navajo world and to anthropology were opened by Florence Kluckhohn who stayed at La Posada one summer and hired her to sort Clyde Kluckhohn’s papers and type his and W. W. Hill’s (UNM Anthropology Chair, 1947-1964) Navaho Material Culture during her sophomore through senior years at Harvard. A rich knowledge of the multiethnic history of New Mexico along with an interest in the development of tourism and how it has shaped the image of the state are interwoven in Dr. Weigle’s teaching and publications, including The Lore of New Mexico, co-authored with Peter White, The Great Southwest of the Fred Harvey Company and the Santa Fe Railway, a collection of symposium papers edited with Barbara A. Babcock, and classes on “New Mexico Folklore/lure,” now taught as “New Mexico Lore and Lure” in the Anthropology Department.

Her most recent work, Telling New Mexico: A New History (Museum of New Mexico Press, 2009), edited by Dr. Weigle with Frances Levine and Louise Stiver, anticipates two centennials: that of the Museum of New Mexico in 2009 and of New Mexico statehood in 2012. The former was marked this May with the opening of the New Mexico History Museum behind the Palace of Governors on the Santa Fe plaza. The latter occurs on January 6, 2012; one hundred years after President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation admitting New Mexico as the forty-seventh state.

The new history museum houses a core exhibit that displays New Mexico history from the prehistoric to the present in broad thematic sections. During the planning of the exhibit, authors were solicited to write pieces for an associated collection of essays that would “craft the overall scope of a New Mexico” and would be published during the opening year. Reprinted sections dating back to the 1940s complement the work of modern writers in the edited volume which comprises 52 essays.

Dr. Weigle continues to teach in the Anthropology Department and is currently finalizing a book manuscript, “Alluring New Mexico: Engineered Enchantment, 1821–2001.”
Dr. Michael Graves

Anthropology and New Mexico have an intertwined history since the late nineteenth century. The large numbers of museums and cultural centers in the State are testament to this linkage. Earlier this year the State completed construction of the New Mexico History Museum. To commemorate this event Regents Professor Marta Weigle with Frances Levine and Louise Stiver published a book of essays by 50 scholars demonstrating again the close connection between our discipline and New Mexico. Congratulations Marta.

This past year the Department completed its Self-Study and external review. As part of this process, I compiled a complete listing of all of the doctorates awarded in Anthropology, beginning with John Adair in 1949. As of 2008, 291 PhDs had been awarded. This listing, along with the current or last known position of every individual, is now available on the Department’s website: http://www.unm.edu/~anthro/pdf/grad/Web PhD Listing.pdf

I encourage everyone, but especially our alumni, to check this out (and let me know if it needs to be corrected or updated with new information). A report is also available through the Department that documents the professional placement of our PhDs and their successful careers in a variety of areas: academic; government; private enterprise; and non-profits.

As we approach the end of this calendar year, let me extend my best wishes to everyone for this holiday season and the year to come.

Michael W. Graves

Focus on Research - Archaeology on Ice

Dr. James Dixon, Director of the Maxwell Museum, has completed the third year of a five-year grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Office of Polar Programs to identify ice patches in Alaska’s Wrangell-St. Elias National Park most likely to contain artifacts. Ice patches are comparatively small areas of perennial ice that occur along the margins of high plateaus or other large landforms. Caribou and sheep use these places to escape the heat of summer and people have hunted these areas for thousands of years. Artifacts that they lost froze and became preserved in the ice. As a result of climate change, rare archaeological materials are melting from ancient glaciers and ice patches worldwide. Recovery of these artifacts which include baskets, clothing, hunting tools, and items of bark and even leather, allows reconstruction of the lifeways of ancient people in high-elevation and high-latitude environments. Dixon has been assisted in this work by UNM graduate students Nick Jarman and Michael Grooms.

Dr. Dixon and the Maxwell Museum have also received a $43,914 NSF Office of Polar Programs “Gateway to the Americas” grant. With assistance from UNM graduate student Kelly Monteleone, and working in partnership with a team from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology/Museum of Natural History and Archaeology in Trondheim, the project is designed to search for submerged archaeological sites on the continental shelf of Southeast Alaska dating to the last Ice Age. Recent discoveries by fishermen of artifacts on the ocean floor, Native American oral histories, and refined paleographic reconstructions may make it possible to identify specific locales where ancient submerged sites might be located. Ms. Monteleone is developing a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) model to assist in the search for ancient underwater sites. Underwater survey is planned for summer 2010.
Fort Craig Repatriation

On July 28, 2009, National Buffalo Soldier Day, the remains of three Buffalo soldiers exhumed from Fort Craig Cemetery in central New Mexico under the direction of the Bureau of Reclamation (see Anthropology Newsletter, Spring 2008) were reburied with full military honors in the Santa Fe National Cemetery. The three soldiers were identified as U.S. Army Privates Levi Morris, Thomas Smith, and David Ford, two of whom were former slaves.

Study of the well-preserved remains of these men and other unidentified persons recovered from the cemetery revealed the harsh conditions of the frontier. Besides the danger of warfare, there was always the risk of accidents and diseases such as typhoid, cholera, dysentery, and smallpox. UNM Anthropology students Stefanie Michaels and Alaina Goff, working with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Smithsonian Institute, were instrumental in the final identification of Private Smith, whose skull had been recovered by law enforcement agents during a looting investigation. In May 2009 Alaina Goff was able to rejoin Smith’s skull with one of four skeletons missing skulls. The smallest, and her last try, was a perfect match (see Washington Post, June 16, 2009).

A memorial marker created by the Department of Veterans Affairs was placed over the remains of the unknown who were buried in June. It reads:

Dedicated to the men, women and children who perished at Fort Craig. New Mexico in the late 1800s. Soldiers stationed there conducted military campaigns against the Apaches and Navajos, and during the Civil War, engaged the Texas Army in the Battle of Valverde in February 1862. Here lie the brave men who fought and died in those campaigns, along with their families who died of disease and other causes. These graves were not exhumed when most of the Fort Craig post cemetery was moved to national cemeteries in Santa Fe in 1878 and Leavenworth, Kansas in 1886. The Bureau of Reclamation discovered the graves in 2007 and recovered the remains of 64 individuals. Of these, the identities of three persons were documented, the others remain unknown. May they never again be forgotten. Rest in peace. July 2009.

Ortiz Center News

The Fall 2009 semester is off to a busy start at the Ortiz Center (OC). Work continues on two projects initiated in 2008: the Mayordomo Project, undertaken in partnership with the NM Acequia Association (NMAA), and a community radio series in public anthropology to be produced in collaboration with Cultural Energy.

Community-based interviewers affiliated with the NMAA have completed more than 20 interviews with mayodemos or ditch bosses from various parts of northern New Mexico, and the research team is now reviewing the material in preparation for transcription. The interviews are to be archived by NMAA and used to develop a pilot apprenticeship program to address the problem of knowledge loss and attrition in the mayordomio system of irrigation management in traditional acequia communities.

During spring and summer 2009, the OC sponsored a community garden organized by the Taos County Economic Development Center. Work in the garden was contributed largely by youth volunteers interested in acquiring skills in organic growing. Produce has been distributed to low-income families and service organizations in the Taos area.

In July, OC collaborated with the Archaeological Field School conducted by Southern Methodist University at Ft. Burgwin in co-sponsoring a community meeting in the St. Francis parish to discuss a proposed project on the Archaeology of Childhood.

The Center also assisted the Taos Lions Club in the design and pilot of an oral history project that deals with “Tío Vivo,” an antique carousel owned and maintained by the Lions Club, which has been a centerpiece of the community fiestas of Santa Ana and Santiago for more than six decades.

A collection of children’s artwork from the Zuni Day School, dating from the 1920s to the 1950s, is housed at the Maxwell Museum. Former principal and teacher, Claire Gonzales, collected the items which were donated to the Maxwell after she passed away in the 1970s. The writings and images reveal the continuity of Zuni everyday and ceremonial life, as well as reflecting on the dramatic changes in Zuni life.

The Zuni Day School collection is currently being examined by the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center in Zuni. It is being scanned at the Maxwell Museum and put into digital formats that can be used within the Zuni community to solicit descriptions, narratives, comments, and biographies. These digital images will be shared with students at the Zuni Public Schools to create a dialog among students about their elders’ experiences when they were school-aged children. This project will provide the foundation for a community-inspired collaborative exhibition curated by the Director of the A:shiwi A:wan Museum, Jim Enoté, to be shown at Zuni and in the Ortiz Gathering Space at the Maxwell Museum.
Ph.D. Recipients Summer/Fall 2009

Kiara M. Hughes
The Women of Mata Ortiz: Growing Empowerment through Artistic Work. (Louise Lamphere, Chair)

Jonathan Steiglitz (with Distinction)
Nuclear Family Conflict and Cooperation among Tsimane Forager-Horticulturalists of Bolivia. (Hillard Kaplan, Chair)

William Wagner
Aquí No Pasó Nada: Terror, Remembrance, and Feeling in a Guatemalan “Green Zone.” (Carole Nagengast, Chair)

Julian D. Hayden Award

F. Scott Worman and Hannah V. Mattson, Archaeology Ph.D. candidates, received the Julian D. Hayden Student Paper Competition award for their paper “Arroyos and Agriculture: Geoarchaeological Investigations at Pueblo Pintada.” This competition through the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society awards a $500 prize and publication of the paper in *The Kiva*.

Dual Awards

Dorothy Larson, Archaeology graduate student, has received both a Statistical Research Inc. (SRI) Foundation Research Scholarship and an NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant for her research entitled “Exploring Migration and Social Identity in the Albuquerque Area during the Late Developmental to Coalition Period Transition.” Her research examines the relationship between migration, social identity, and variation in ceramic technological and decorative style.

NSF Award

Elizabeth Eadie received a NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant for research entitled “Feeding Ecology and Life History Strategies of White-faced Capuchin Monkeys.” The goals of this research are to test the ecological complexity model and the food scarcity/difficulty hypothesis for capuchin monkeys.

MA/MS Recipients Spring-Fall 2009

B. Lee Drake
Nick Jarman
Anne Santos
Anastasia Theodoropoulos

Andrew Mellon Awards 2009-2010

Dissertation Fellowship Awards have been made to the following students:

Rebecca Jasso Aguilar (Sociology) Social Mobilization in Mexico and Bolivia;

Claudia A. Anguiano (Communication and Journalism). Her research interests combines the communicative aspect of race and law and their intersection with discourse about immigration;

Jacob Baca (History) Hispanics, Pueblos, and Land Loss in Modern New Mexico, 1904–2004;


Eric Castillo (American Studies) Expressions of Another Center: Borderlands Visual Theory and the Art of Luis Jiminez;

Stephanie Sanchez (Anthropology) Ritual, Cultural Retention, and Migration in San Rafael, New Mexico.

Second-year renewals have been awarded to:

Theresa Cordova (American Studies), Edward Jolie (Anthropology), Brian Lucero (History), and Elvira Pichardo (Anthropology).

A welcoming reception was held on September 29, 2009 at which the keynote address *On Vampire Bats and a Mysterious Epidemic: Joining an Indigenous Struggle for Survival and Social Justice* was delivered by Dr. Charles Briggs and Dr. Clara Mantini-Briggs, University of California, Berkeley.

Forensics on the West Mesa

Last spring, recent human remains were discovered on Albuquerque’s West Mesa. Wendy Potter and Chris Grivas, UNM graduate students, directed and participated in the 2½-month-long excavation; their involvement continued with the forensic anthropological analysis of the remains in collaboration with Dr. H. Gill-King (University of North Texas). To assist with the recovery effort, the Office of the Medical Investigator (OMI) requested help from Robin Cordero (Office of Contract Archaeology), who interpreted soil changes and assisted with excavation, and the Maxwell Museum’s Laboratory of Human Osteology. Dr. Heather Edgar, and graduate students Lara Noldner, Catherine Mitchell, and Anna Rautman volunteered, helping to identify human remains as Albuquerque police and OMI employees combed the site.

The bodies of twelve women and one fetus have been found since February. Many have been identified, but the Albuquerque Police Department continues to work the case.
Other Southweets
Keiko Kitagawa (Ph.D. Candidate, Archaeology)

This summer provided me with opportunities to walk and work in unfamiliar territories – outside the caves instead of my usual place inside them. My first project of the summer was in the Pyrenees region of southwestern France, which is known for its caves with paintings and rich archaeological finds. However, a survey project led by Dr. Margaret Conkey from UC Berkeley revealed an abundance of open-air sites that have not been well studied, although local farmers have reported finding artifacts in their vineyards. Peyre Blanque (13,000–14,000 BP), one of the few sites with intact deposits, was excavated this summer. The resulting diverse assemblage of lithic artifacts of various sizes, raw materials, and tool types complements our current understanding of Upper Paleolithic Europe which primarily derives from excavations at caves and rockshelters.

Two weeks later, I participated in another project, this one in the southwestern region of Germany, in the Swabian Jura, led by Dr. Nicholas Conard from University of Tübingen. We were screening deposits that had been excavated in the 1930s from the mouth of Vogelherd cave (dating to as early as 33,000 BP). Many artifacts were recovered in this “re-excavation.” The abundance of faunal and lithic artifacts was somewhat expected, but the finds of ivory pieces and personal ornaments were quite striking. I was stunned as I picked out a handful of pendants from the piles of sediments and reflected on their meaning and significance. If we only knew . . . but then again, it is this unknown that is the source of our incessant curiosity and the driving force of archaeological research.

JAR Lecture
Dr. George J. Armelagos, Goodrich C. White Professor and Chair of Anthropology at Emory University, delivered the XXIX JAR Distinguished Lecture in November 2009. “Omnivore’s Dilemma: The Evolution of the Brain and the Determinates of Food Choice” debates whether our current pattern of eating is the end product of the way that Homo sapiens evolved or the necessary desire for dietary variety to meet energy requirements paired with the often perilous search for new foods.

Hibben Foundation Reception
The Board of Trustees of the Hibben Foundation attended a reception in their honor on November 13, 2009. Board members and Anthropology faculty had the chance to meet and exchange ideas and senior recipients of Hibben Awards gave brief presentations on their research.
In 2005, Dr. Steven Feld encountered Por Por (pronounced “Paw Paw”) music while on a trip to Ghana. This music is named for the honking sound of antique squeeze-bulb car horns. Added to bells, drums, and voices, Por Por music has a jazzy sound and is now kept alive by a fellowship of bus and truck driver trade unionists in the Accra township of La. International exposure came when Feld produced the group’s debut CD for Smithsonian Folkways in 2007. On November 14, 2009 Feld premiered their new CD on VoxLoxentitle KLEBO! at the Outpost Performance Space in Albuquerque. The music was followed by a screening of Feld’s just-released documentary film A Por Por Funeral for Ashirifie. This follows a honk horn driver’s funeral and links this type of funeral to the jazz funeral history of New Orleans.

Dr. Bruce Huckell has been investigating a cache of Clovis artifacts that came to light in North Dakota 35 to 40 years ago. The Beach Cache is composed mainly of bifacially flaked preforms — tools left at an intermediate state of manufacture, which would ultimately be finished into spear points or knives. Many of these bifacest exhibit typical Clovis “overshot” flaking, a stone-working technique in which flakes are struck from one margin of the biface and travel all the way across to the opposite margin. The Beach Cache is approximately 13,000 years old and is one of the northernmost Clovis caches. Investigations are supported by the National Geographic Society and the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology.

Dr. Jeffrey C. Long, Professor of Anthropology, returned to UNM in August 2009. He had been a faculty member from 1987–1995. His research focuses on human population genetics and the genetic basis of common diseases. He has studied alcohol dependence at several different levels, including a full genome linkage scan, the roles of metabolic and neurobiological candidate genes, and animal models. He has also conducted research on the evolutionary genetics of human populations, including Native Americans, New Guinea Highlanders, and Northern Europeans. A major focus of current research in his laboratory is the molecular population genetics of the ALDH2 locus. Other current research foci include the analysis of genetic and geographical structure in human populations and quantifying the information on ancestry provided by human genetic polymorphisms. In recent years, Dr. Long has written on evolutionary and genomic insights into the question of human races.

Dr. Martin Muller and Dr. Melissa Emery Thompson received a two-year NSF grant of $150,000 to study Stress, Energetics, and the Costs of Reproduction in Wild Chimpanzees. This research exploits a unique 14-year dataset of urine samples and behavioral and ecological data from the Kanyawara chimpanzees in Kibale National Park, Uganda. The study tests the hypothesis that competition results in increased stress for dominant animals, reflecting the substantial energy costs of male reproduction.

Harvard University Press has recently published Sexual Coercion in Primates and Humans: An Evolutionary Perspective on Male Aggression against Females edited by Drs. Martin Muller and Richard Wrangham.

Dr. Carole Nagengast, former Anthropology Chair (2002–2005) and Director of Peace Studies, retired from the department earlier this year. She has returned to California to be closer to her family.

Dr. Jeremy Sabloff, former Anthropology Chair (1980–1982 and 1986) and faculty member, has recently accepted the position of President of the Santa Fe Institute. We welcome Dr. Sabloff back to New Mexico.

Dr. Steven K. Scott, Visiting Assistant Professor, received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2009. His primary research examines the communicative dimensions of technoscientific projects as they come to intersect with the politics of language and culture in multi-ethnic societies. His work attempts to draw linguistic anthropologists into a mutually productive dialogue with scholars of science, technology, and society. His dissertation, The Metrological Mountain: Translating Tuberculosis in Peri-urban Bolivia, explored how local ideologies and practices of pragmatic translation—translation across ethnically-marked speech varieties, or “registers”—shape the circulation and reception of public health discourse in the Ayamara- and Spanish-speaking neighborhoods of El Alto, Bolivia. This coming spring, Scott’s class on the “Anthropology of Advocacy” will consider some of these issues and themes.

Dr. Lawrence G. Straus spent part of his summer in Western Europe and North Africa with Jean Auel, author of the Earth’s Children series of books about the interactions between Neanderthals and Cro-Magnons. Auel was collecting information for her seventh book. They toured several Stone Age sites in Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, and Ceuta (N. Africa) and met with many of Straus’s Spanish colleagues to discuss the latest research.
Alumni News

Laurens (Larry) Hammack (BA 1958, MA 1964, Archaeology) worked at the Museum of NM on the Highway Salvage Program after earning his undergraduate degree. After being drafted into the Army in 1959, he returned to UNM in 1961 to complete his MA. During that time, he met Nancy (nee Stopper) Hammack (BA 1964, Archaeology) and they were married at the Pecos Mission Church with a reception hosted by Florence Ellis in Santa Fe.

Laurens attended Frank Hibben’s first field school at Pottery Mound in 1957 and Nancy was a student “digger” at San Gabriel del Yunque for Florence Hawley Ellis, later working as a TA at the Sapawe and Taos field schools. In 1966 Larry was hired by the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona to run their newly established Highway Salvage Program. While they lived in Tucson and later Oracle, a small town north of Tucson, Nancy obtained her MA in Cultural Resource Management at the University of Arizona and worked in contract archaeology. Larry continued as the State Highway Archaeologist until 1979, when the program was to be moved to Phoenix. Having no interest in living in Phoenix, he and Nancy began a small archaeological contracting business.

In 1981, they moved to Cortez, Colorado to take advantage of the booming energy development in the area. After thirty years, Complete Archaeological Service Associates (CASA) is still doing a thriving business. Nancy has semi-retired but Larry is still out in the field and says “If people want to pay me for doing what I love to do, why retire?”

Oskar Burger (Ph.D. 2008) has taken an 18-month post-doctoral position shared jointly by Stanford and Toulouse universities. He will be working with modeling the effects of changing resource use on biodiversity by Amazonian communities. He is based in Palo Alto but will travel to Toulouse and to their field station in Guyana.

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Anthropology Fundraising Program

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