

November 2012 - Department of Anthropology, 316 Manning Hall., University of Memphis, Memphis Tennessee 38152  
(901) 678 -2080 - <http://www.memphis.edu/anthropology>

## *from the Chair . . .*



Both our faculty and alums continue to excel in the field of applied anthropology and receive national recognition for their tremendous accomplishments. In this newsletter

we recognize the contributions of two faculty - Drs. Stan Hyland and Keri Brondo. We also report on the success of our alums as they continue their professional training and careers. Congratulations to all!

~ *Ruthbeth Finerman*

## ***Dr. Hyland 2012 Kimball Recipient!***

Dr. Stan Hyland of the University of Memphis has been selected to receive the 2012 Solon T. Kimball Award for Public and Applied Anthropology. Hyland, a professor of anthropology and head of the School of Urban Affairs & Public Policy at the University, will be honored at the American Anthropological Association's annual meeting in November.

The Kimball Award was initiated by royalties from *Applied Anthropology in America*, a volume dedicated to Kimball, who taught that "the study of human behavior should be of service to people." The award has been presented every other year since 1984. Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, the award now provides a \$1,000 prize.

The Kimball Award honors exemplary anthropologists for outstanding recent achievements that have



contributed to the development of anthropology as an applied science and that have significant impact on public policy. The anthropological contribution may be theoretical or methodological. The impact on public policy may be in any area — domestic or international

— including biodiversity, climate change, energy, international relations, medicine, public health, language conservation, education, criminal justice, development, or cultural heritage.

Since joining the U of M in 1976, Hyland has received 30 major honors. His research interests include neighborhood revitalization, community building, social entrepreneurship, and economic development. He has been involved in major community initiatives throughout Shelby County, including Uptown, the University District, College Park, and Lakeland.

"Stan Hyland is truly deserving of the Solon T. Kimball Award," said Dr. Linda Bennett, professor of anthropology and associate dean of graduate programs and research for the College of Arts & Sciences. "He will receive the award for his dedication to addressing economic and social inequalities in the Mid-South. Stan's work as a faculty member at the University of Memphis has unquestionably contributed to 'the development of anthropology as applied sciences' and has had 'important impact on public policy' as the award announcement stipulates."

## ***Dr. Brondo Completes Book on PDA***



Dr. Brondo used her fall 2011 Professional Development Assignment to complete a book manuscript and begin preliminary research on a new project in Honduras. Her book *Roots, Rights and Belonging: Gender and Development in Garifuna Territory Before and After the Honduran Coup* will be published by the University of Arizona

Press in Spring 2013. The book is an ethnographic account of the relationship between identity politics, neoliberal development policy, and rights to resource management in afroindigenous Garifuna communities on the north coast of Honduras. In her book, Dr. Brondo employs feminist political ecology and critical race and ethnic studies to shed light on current development paradoxes in Honduras. Three central paradoxes are explored: (1) the recognition of multiculturalism and indigenous rights at the same time as Garifuna are displaced from lands within their own communities in the name of development; (2) the privileging of foreign research tourists in a Garifuna-inhabited protected area under projects that promote of conservation ecotourism as sustainable development, but in turn effectively marginalize the Garifuna from sources of traditional livelihood; and (3) the contradictions inherent in Garifuna land rights claims based on native presence and cultural difference at the same time that mestizos reserve rights to resources as natives themselves. Most crucially, the book reveals how Garifuna women have been the most seriously marginalized as a result of changing property regimes and neoliberal policies, but that they also stand at the forefront of the most progressive forms of ethnic activism.

In addition to completing her ethnography on the Garifuna, Dr. Brondo spent the summer of 2011 in Honduras conducting preliminary research on a new project on the island of Utila. This new research project focuses on conservation “voluntourism” and the relationship

between mangrove destruction and climate change within a rapidly urbanizing island tourist economy. Locally, Dr. Brondo used her sabbatical to continue her collaborative work with Shelby Farms Park Conservancy on local perceptions of greenway expansion, bike/pedestrian infrastructure, and sustainable transportation.

## ***Alum Updates***



**Meagan Brown** (2010) is in her second year of the Community Health Sciences doctoral program at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. As a researcher on the National

HIV Behavioral Surveillance project, she interviews and provides HIV tests to high-risk populations including men who have sex with men (MSM) and injection drug users. Her current research explores chosen family networks of MSM and the implications of new forms of kinship on HIV risk and prevention using a socio-ecological framework. In her free time, Meagan enjoys exploring the Big Easy and trying to grow a vegetable garden in the swamp.

**Jason Hodges** (2007) now works at the Memphis Shelby County Health Department (MSCHD) as a Public Health Coordinator. The responsibilities include planning, developing, and implementing a community health assessment initiative in Shelby County guided by the Mobilizing Action through Partnerships and Planning framework. Jason is also responsible for building process and outcomes evaluations aimed at assessing public health interventions and policies throughout Shelby County. Jason writes that he is “extremely excited about this opportunity and feel that it is a natural extension of my past training in Anthropology and current work towards a PhD in the School of Public Health at the University of Memphis.” He hopes that his position at MSCHD and current work on campus will enable him to play a role in facilitating community-campus partnerships.