

Fall 2013 - Department of Anthropology, 316 Manning Hall, University of Memphis, Memphis TN 38152
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Dr. Kathryn Hicks used a fall 2012 sabbatical to finalize manuscripts on two projects. The first is a collaborative study on experiences of global warming and social movement strategies to press for climate justice in Bolivia. A resulting co-authored manuscript "Living Well" in El Alto: Bringing Urban Voices into Conversations about Climate Change and Adaptation on the Bolivian Altiplano" addresses potential ecological and social consequences of Bolivia's largely rural focus of climate change planning and activism. Dr. Hicks also continues to collaborate with Dr. Katherine Lambert-Pennington to evaluate the nutritional and social impacts of the neighborhood-led South Memphis Farmers Market. She participated in data collection at Advisory Committee meetings and during market hours, and a market shopper survey. Results formed the basis for an agency report and manuscripts, including "Assessing the accessibility and effectiveness of the South Memphis Farmers Market as a strategy to address structural barriers to healthy eating."



Letter from the Chair The Department of Anthropology recently completed a high successful administrative review. We produce numerous degrees yet have one of the smallest budgets on campus, and our ratio of faculty per degree is one of the highest in the University. All of this positions us well as new Interim President Brad Martin, new Provost Dr. Michael Rudd, and new College of Arts and Sciences Interim Dean Dr. Thomas Nenon plan sweeping changes to programs. Details will follow as proposals are finalized and implemented.

The Department also continues to evolve. This fall, we welcome Dr. Micah Trapp as a new Assistant Professor. Dr. Trapp specializes in food systems and refugee resettlement, and has worked with organizations such as the UN Committee on Refugees. Read our interview with Dr. Trapp in this newsletter. Other faculty, student, and alumni continue to win awards; this newsletter highlights just a few of these honors. We are proud of our tradition of service to the profession, to our students, and to the greater community.

Congratulations to Dr. Chad Morris, 2001



MA alum and Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Roanoke College. Chad will receive the Virginia Federation of Independent Colleges' 2013 Hiter Harris Jr. Rising Star Award. The Rising Star Award recognizes an "up-and-coming professor" who shows "a strong, clear, and abiding commitment to excellence in classroom

teaching within the undergraduate liberal arts and sciences." Only one Rising Star Award is given each year, making Chad's selection a great honor.

Dr. Micah Trapp Before joining the University of Memphis, Dr. Trapp taught Anthropology at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. Her work includes both international and domestic research. She notes "At the Buduburam Liberian refugee settlement camp in Ghana, I studied transnational household economies and how those economies impacted livelihoods and migratory options." Her US research focuses on food, such as grocery auctions which provide "a way for people to get inexpensive, affordable food." Food auctions also are "a form of collective determination of value, or how people reassign value to these kinds of foods." Dr. Trapp also enjoys teaching as a means to "encourage students to think about the idea of living anthropologically" and how students "can use anthropological concepts or questions to think about the worlds that they live in, and a different way to engage with those worlds." She encourages students "to think critically about the world. I focus on inequality and power, and get students to make connections between these themes."



Dr. Trapp considers The University of Memphis to be "a really exciting place because the faculty has such a strong commitment to local research in communities, and to social change. For me that is a big draw." She also appreciates the

emphasis on giving students "practical learning skills" and "because the professors are engaged in local research, that gives students many opportunities to apply and learn and practice anthropology." Dr. Trapp describes the Department as well connected and "very much rooted in making change in its applied focus. We're trying to get at the layers of meaning and understand why the world is the way it is, but also changing that world once we understand it."

Congratulations to Anthropology's Spring and Summer 2013 MA Graduates Master of Arts Degrees were conferred on Susannah Acuff, Mallory Bader, Karen Connolly, Jennifer Earheart, Gayle Ozanne, Traci Petty, and LaKenya Smith. We encourage them and all alumni to stay in touch.

Congratulations to Dr. Keri Brondo, Associate Professor of Anthropology, the first recipient of the new College of Arts and Sciences' Learn and Serve Award.

Dr. Brondo has created unique and productive course-based service learning activities that engage agencies as well as diverse community stakeholders. And, she has engaged graduate students to mentor undergraduates with less experience. The CAS Learn and Serve Award is supporting embedded service-learning in her Fall 2013 course "Culture and Consumerism." Students are working on two research projects related to food security in Memphis. Collaborating with Shelby Farms Park Conservancy or GrowMemphis, 10 undergraduate students and 3 graduate students examines the relationship between culture, consumer behavior, and food justice. They are assisting in research framing and design, and hands-on data collection.



Congratulations Dr. Ruthbeth Finerman and co-author Dr. Lynda Sagrestano (University of Memphis Center for Research on Women), who contributed a chapter to the book *Reproductive Justice: A Global Concern*, edited by Joan Chrisler. Their book has won the 2013 Distinguished Publication Award from the Association for Women in Psychology, the AWP's highest honor.



Department of Anthropology Reunion Dinner for faculty, alumni, and students at the Spring 2013 Society for Applied Anthropology Meeting in Denver, CO. Please join us at the March 2014 SfAA meetings in Albuquerque, NM!