

THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS **Anthropology News**

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From the Chair's Desk Spring welcomes new growth, and it is a remarkably fruitful time in our department. The March 2014 meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology in Albuquerque, NM contributes to the flood of activity, as 6 faculty, 15 graduate students, and 9 alumni will present session papers or posters. We anticipate a rousing reunion dinner on March 20. If you attend the SfAA conference please join us to celebrate.

This spring is also a time of momentous transition. Dr. Linda Bennett is retiring in May. Fortunately, she will remain active as Professor Emeritus. One of her post-retirement goals is to help us reach out to our alumni; expect to hear more in the coming year. Our new and long-time faculty members are also attracting honors and transforming the department. Dr. Kathryn Hicks has won tenure and promotion to Associate Professor, and Dr. Keri Brondo won the College's new Learn-and-Serve Award to add service learning in her Consumerism course. Dr. Michael Duke was honored for his first University-based grant. Moreover, Dr. Katherine Lambert-Pennington is a finalist for the University's 2014 Excellence in Engaged Scholarship Award, Dr. Ross Sackett is a finalist for the Distinguished Advising Award, and I am deeply honored to be a finalist for the Distinguished Research Award. At the same time, the University plans a comprehensive restructuring of programs and funding, and we are challenged to do more with less. Still, we are respected for our success and that of our graduates. A recent survey determined that a stunning 96 percent of our MA alumni in the last five years found employment relevant to their training, or placement in prestigious post-MA degree programs. We are only as good as our graduates, and you have made us great indeed.

Dr. Linda Bennett had another busy year in 2013, organizing two conference sessions and publishing four articles:

* Linda A. Bennett & Shirley Fiske. 2013. The Academic-Practitioner Relationship. In: *Handbook of Practicing Anthropology*, Riall Nolan, Editor. Wiley-Blackwell.

* Linda A. Bennett. 2013. Alcohol Studies and Anthropology: Broadening the Venture. *Reviews in Anthropology* 45(3):179-201.

* Linda A. Bennett & L. Whiteford. 2013. Anthropology and the Engaged University: New Vision for the Discipline within Higher Education. *Annals Anthropological Practice* 37(1): 2-18.

* S. E. Hyland & L. A. Bennett 2013. Responding to Community Needs through Linking Academic and Practicing Anthropology: An Engaged Scholarly Framework. Anthropology and the Engaged University: New Vision for the Discipline within Higher Education. *Annals of Anthropological Practice* 37(1): 34-56.



Dr. Keri Brondo's research on environmental anthropology in Memphis and Honduras led to 3 journal articles, an *Amicus Brief* for the Inter-American Human Rights Court on behalf of the afroindigenous Garifuna community, and her book *Land Grab: Green Neoliberalism, Gender, and Garifuna Resistance* (University of Arizona Press). In Fall 2013, she was the first recipient of a new CAS Learn and Serve Award. This grant allowed students in her course on Culture and Consumerism to partner with Shelby Farms and GrowMemphis on 2 urban food security projects. She participated in four symposia at the AAA and SfAA in 2013 and will present in four SfAA 2014 symposia: an organized session on compensation for practitioners who work with academia; a paper on public fishing co-authored with graduate student Kyle Simpson; a session on tenure and promotion guidelines for practicing, applied and public interest anthropologists with Dr. Linda Bennett; and a paper on land grabs & development in Honduran Garifuna communities for a "featured session" at the 2014 SfAA meetings.



Director of the C.H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa, **Dr. Robert Connolly** received the NCCC AmeriCorps Sponsor of the Year award for the Museum at a celebration event in Vicksburg, Mississippi in December. Chucalissa hosted four AmeriCorps Teams over the past 2 years. Chucalissa was also chosen as one of 24 US venues to host the American Library Association traveling exhibit, *The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 to the March on Washington, 1963*. In 2013 his co-edited volume "Open(ing) Authority Through Community Engagement" was published in *Museums and Social Issues*. He and colleague Elizabeth Bollwerk have organized a session *Co-Creation, the Public and the Archaeological Record* for the Society for American Archaeology 2014 Meeting. In 2014 Connolly was nominated to serve his second 3-year term as national chairperson of the Public Education Committee of the Society for American Archaeology. His blog *Archaeology, Museums and Outreach* was featured in this past fall's Faculty Spotlight for the College of Arts and Sciences publication *Profiles*.



Dr. Robert Connolly displays his award at the AmeriCorps ceremony

Michael Duke continues his study of health disparities among Marshall Islanders in Arkansas, Hispanic immigrants in the mid-South, and mental health. He serves on Latino Memphis' Board of Directors and he chaired a well-attended roundtable on new anthropological approaches to mental health at the 2013 American Anthropological Association meeting, as well as Chairing the Anthropology and Mental Health Interest Group within the Society for Medical Anthropology. He gave 2 presentations and released 3 new publications:

* **Duke, M.R.**, Bergmann, L, Cunradi, C, & Ames, G. 2013. Like Swallowing a Butcher Knife: Layoffs, Masculinity and Couple Conflict in the U.S. Construction Industry. *Human Organization*, 72(4): 293-301.

* Ames, G., Cunradi, CM., **Duke, M.R.**, Chin, M., and Todd, M. 2013 Contributions of work stressors, alcohol, and normative beliefs to partner violence. *J of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 74: 195-204.

* **Duke, M.R.**, Ames, G, Moore, R., Cunradi, C.M. 2013 Divergent Drinking Patterns of Restaurant Workers: The Influence of Job Position and Social Networks. *Journal of Workplace Behavioral Health*, 28:30-45.



Dr. Kathryn Hicks co-organized a session with Dr. Keri Brondo on food systems in Memphis for the 2014 SfAA meetings. The panel showcases research by several of our current graduate students. She also presented two papers at the November 2013 meeting of the American Anthropological Association. A paper with Nicole Fabricant of Towson University explored several sustainable development challenges in Bolivia. Another with Robin Nelson, Skidmore College described ethnographic approaches to new food systems research. Dr. Hicks published an article on her Bolivian research in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, and she completed an evaluation report on the South Memphis Farmers Market with Dr. Lambert-Pennington; they also have a paper detailing this project in press with the *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development*.



Dr. Katherine Lambert-Pennington continues research and work with students on projects to advance equitable neighborhood revitalization and food justice. In 2013, she and Dr. Hicks worked with graduate students Sanne Roijmans and Jenessa Gebers, and the South Memphis Farmers Market's Advisory Committee (<http://somefm.org>), to evaluate the market's capacity to expand residents & low-income shopper access to fresh, affordable food. She also worked with St. Patrick Community Outreach to secure funding, implement, and assess the Green Machine Mobile Food Market. Dr. Lambert-Pennington is CAS nominee for the 2014 Alumni Association Excellence in Engaged Scholarship Award.



Dr. Micah Trapp recently published an article for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees concerning the role of remittance as informal aid at a Liberian refugee camp. She is continuing research with this refugee group and will present a paper at the 2014 SfAA meetings concerning vulnerability and survival strategies after refugee food aid is withdrawn. Dr. Trapp's food systems focus extends into her teaching, and she is developing a new course for fall 2014 on Food, Culture, and Power; it will include both service-learning and a kitchen lab. In Memphis she is researching grocery auctions and how value is constructed in these secondary economies.



Congratulations to MA candidate Carolyn Trimble, who won the Society for Applied Anthropology's 2014 Del Jones Memorial Travel Award. The fund supports a travel grant of \$500 for a student to attend the SfAA meeting to present a paper reflecting Del Jones' contributions to the discipline.

Alumni News

Sarah Bogdewiecz Slater (2011) is Academic Support Services Coordinator for Northern Virginia Community College.

Kelly Duke (MA 2001) works at the Kansas City Health Resources and Services Administration, placing health care professionals in rural and underserved areas.

Jennifer Earheart (MA 2013) is Latino Memphis Community Outreach Coordinator.

Angela Helt (MA 2012), a University of Oklahoma doctoral student, studied public views of genetic ancestry testing and communities of excellence for tobacco control. She'll present her work at the 2014 SfAA meetings.

Beth Jacob (2006) left as Women's Health Research Manager at OHSU Family Medicine to complete her Master of Public Health at the University of Washington.

Pamela Jones Martin (MA 1998) researches the role of the domesticated dog in the Pre-Columbian Mississippian area to Mayan cultures in Yucatan, Quintana Roo and Campeche.

Elizabeth McGee (2012) moved to Korea in 2013, where she teaches English as a Second Language.

Laura Meyer Cholera (MA 2012) is Research Coordinator in program evaluation in Preventive Medicine at the UTHSC.

Oliette Murray-Drobot (MA 1997), Family Safety Center of Memphis & Shelby County Executive Director, collaborates on issues of HIV testing, teen pregnancy & reproductive justice.

Chris Reeder (MA 2007) continues as Research and Program Impact Manager at Habitat for Humanity.

Susanne Salehi (MA 2012) is a new Development Specialist at BRIDGES, Inc. of Memphis.

Amy Santee (MA 2011) is co-editor of a forthcoming issue of *Practicing Anthropology* which will examine the process of transitioning from classroom to practitioner. The issue will include an article by fellow alum **Allison Hennie** (MA 2011).

Crystal Ton (MA 2007), MPH is Military Outreach Coordinator for the Florida Covering Kids & Families program at the Lawton & Rhea Chiles Center, University of South Florida.

Shannon Tushingam (MA 2000), Ph.D., RPA is the Assistant Director of the Museum of Anthropology at Washington State University, where her colleague **Marsha Bogar Quinlan** (MA 1994), Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Anthropology.