

FIELD NOTES

USC DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER
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compiled by **Kenneth G. Kelly, Undergraduate Director**

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DEPARTMENT NEWS

Advising for Maymester, Summer, and Fall 2004 is here! Advising for Anthropology students runs from March 24 to April 12. Look up your name on the list that is posted outside the Anthropology Department office (Hamilton 317). Note who your advisor is (it may have changed from last semester) – go to their office door and sign up for an advisement time that does not conflict with any of your classes. At the time of your advisement appointment, stop by the Anthropology Dept. office and pick up your file to take with you to your appointment. Go to your appointment prepared with a list of the courses you want to take.

Course descriptions for Maymester, Summer and Fall 2004 are posted on the Department of Anthropology web page and available in the Department Office – find out what a particular anthropology course will cover, what books will be used, and how students will be graded. Be prepared for advisement! Think about what you would like to take, and keep your eyes open for info on new and exciting classes. Schedules are available in the Department Office and on the web. Check out the great offerings, including:

Maymester

ANTH 322M Field School in Prehistoric Archaeology with Dr. Wagner
ANTH 359M Theories of Culture with Dr. Toumey
ANTH 363M Primate Studies with Dr. Cahue
ANTH 591M Race, Ethnicity and Gender in Media with Dr. Fenigsen

Summer I

ANTH 101 Primates, Peoples and Prehistory with Dr. Buxhoeveden
ANTH 300 Comparing Cultures Through Film with Dr. Heider
ANTH 322 Field School in Historical Archaeology with Dr. Weik
ANTH 591 Talk at Work with Dr. Fenigsen

Summer II

ANTH 102 Understanding Other Cultures with Dr. Fenigsen
ANTH 367 Basic Forensic Anthropology with Dr. Cahue
ANTH 442 African American English with Dr. Weldon
ANTH 513 Anthropological Ethnobotany with Dr. Wagner

Note that a number of these courses are ONLY available as Maymester or Summer courses, so take advantage of these exciting offerings.

GRADUATION RECEPTION

The Anthropology Department will host a Graduation Reception in 318 Hamilton on Saturday May 8 for all anthropology students who are graduating. Please bring your parents, friends, family, and others to meet with your anthropology department faculty before heading over to the graduation ceremony. The reception begins at 8 am, so you can have an hour or so before you need to be at the ceremony. We hope to see you there.

ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION NEWS

The ASA is planning on several fun and interesting events for what is left of this semester. Please keep your eyes open for flyers in Hamilton College and on the ASA bulletin board across the hall from room 318. The events scheduled are:

"Multifaith Forum on Stereotyping Fundamentalism", Wednesday, April 14th. With the current international political climate the way it is, an emic understanding of religious fundamentalism, especially Islamic, may prove to be a useful perspective to see in deciding where you sit with the issues. We'll be attending this event, which is sponsored and conducted by the Muslim Student Association, as part of Islamic Awareness Week. **CHECK YOUR E-MAIL FOR MORE INFO SOON.**

"Islam 101", Friday, April 16th. Join ASA in attending a class entitled "Islam 101", presented by Sabrina Kidwai. This talk will focus on the Misrepresentation of Islam in the media. This event is part of the activities planned for Islamic Awareness Week, sponsored by the Muslim Student Association. Refreshments will follow. **CHECK YOUR E-MAIL FOR MORE INFO SOON.**

Primate Tour. Saturday, April 17th. We will be visiting Riverbanks Zoo for a tour of the primate areas, and all are welcome to attend. Best part: its free! Entry fees have been waived for our group. We'll meet at Riverbanks' front entrance at 1:00pm, but if anyone needs a ride then a carpool can be arranged. To reserve your spot on this tour, please e-mail Mitch Lynch at lynchr@sc.edu, or sign up on the roster posted on our 3rd floor bulletin board in Hamilton College. If you are uncertain if you can attend, please please let Mitch know you're a "maybe" and not a "sure thing". Thanks!

Student/Faculty Cook-out. Monday, April 26th. Join anthropology students, faculty, and staff for a hotdog cook-out for lunch! Grub will be served from 11:30 to 1:30 outside the Pickens St. side of Hamilton College (rain locus is in 1st floor corridor, like last time). Come by and visit with us, even if you aren't an anthro major/minor. interested students are always welcome! A vegetarian alternative is always provided at ASA-sponsored feastings. Although there's no charge for lunch, even the smallest donation will be the greatest help! Questions, comments, or suggestions should be directed to Marcy Link at junofthemoon@aol.com.

ASA Officer Elections. We are currently accepting (self and third-party) nominations for ASA officer positions. The positions are: president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, April 17th. Info on voting procedure will be e-mailed and posted shortly. Please send your nominations to Laura Hayden at haydenlauras@yahoo.com. Thanks!

WASCL

If you are at all interested in Archaeology, please come to the Wednesday Archaeology at South Carolina Lunch (WASCL) Talks. These brown bag talks are held every other Wednesday at 12:05 in Hamilton 302 throughout the semester and provide a great opportunity to meet archaeologists, learn about their research, and maybe make connections that turn into jobs. Look for the flyers in the department, and remember this schedule:

March 31: **Dr. Katherine Grier (Dept. of History)** "Historians and Material Culture"

April 14: **Dr. Leland Ferguson**

April 28: TBA

ETHNOGRAPHIC FILMS

All films will be shown in Hamilton 318 from 3-5 pm.

April 2: Knud Rasmussen's 1935 Inuit fiction film, *Wedding of Palo*

April 9: David Plath dramatizes the 1910 diary of a Kyoto merchant's wife: *Makiko's New World 57 min*

April 16: the recent Inuit fiction film, *The Fast Runner*

April 23: the Indonesian feature film, *Mementoes*.

ACHIEVEMENTS BY ANTHROPOLOGY STUDENTS

Congratulations to Lindsey Davis who has been awarded a McNair Scholarship.

CAREER CORNER - AROUND CAMPUS

NEW RESOURCES

The Career Center has recently added several new or updated resources to the Career Center Library. Below are listed those which may be of interest to liberal arts students. Stop by any time between 8:30am-5pm, M-F to take a peek at these and other new additions!

- Careers in Anthropology
- Vault Guide to International Careers
- National Directory of Corporate Public Affairs 2004: A Profile of the Public and Government Affairs Programs and Executives in America's Largest and Most Influential Corporations, 2004
- Great Jobs for Political Science Majors
- Wetfeet Guide to Non-profits and Government Agencies
- Wetfeet Guide to Advertising and Public Relations
- Vault Career Guide to Media & Entertainment
- Career Opportunities in the Film Industry
- The Social Work Graduate School Applicant's Handbook: The Complete Guide To Selecting and Applying to MSW Programs
- CPST Salaries of Scientists, Engineers & Technicians (includes the social sciences such as sociology and psychology)
- Holland File: Consumer Safety Officer, SAE
- Holland File: Human Service Worker, SRE
- Holland File: Volunteer Service Coordinator, SEC
- Holland File: Commercial and Industrial Designer, AES

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

The Office of Personnel Management reports one-third of the 1.5 million federal civilian employees will retire by 2012. That's a lot of jobs to fill in 9 short years. The reason so many people are retiring within the next decade has to do with the aging baby-boomer population (those people born between 1946 and 1964).

As a result, the government has ramped up its recruiting effort to fill the jobs that OPM's projections estimate will open up at a rate of 50,000 per year from retirements alone. To find out who's recruiting and where the job fairs are being held, go to www.fedjobs.com/chat/jobfairs.html

JOB OUTLOOK WITH ENTRY LEVEL EMPLOYERS
CollegeGrad.com Names Top 500 Entry Level Employers
(reprinted with permission)

PHILADELPHIA, PA--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 24, 2004--CollegeGrad.com, the #1 Entry Level Job Site, today announced the Top 500 Entry Level Employers for 2004. The list represents more than 120,000 jobs for the graduating class of 2004, with a substantial 12.9% increase in hiring versus 2003.

"Entry level hiring is taking a very positive turn in 2004," said Brian Krueger, President of CollegeGrad.com. "We are seeing a large increase in the number of entry level jobs available in nearly every discipline. While the market is still very competitive, the jobs are there to be found for those who take the time to do the research."

Employers listed in the survey results, which are posted at www.CollegeGrad.com/topemployers, are hiring as many as 6500 new grads and as few as 10. But large or small, respondents have expressed their commitment to hiring entry level college grads.

For the first time in four years, the tide has truly turned as employers are again singing the praises of entry level college grad hires. "College recruiting is a priority for us," said Jyoti Cox, Director of Recruitment at GEICO. "Given the current economy, we are fortunate to be in a position to hire a large number of college graduates into various career paths. Through the CollegeGrad.com recognition as a Top Entry Level Employer, we will continue to get the message out that we are an employer of choice."

Other employers also note the value of new college hires. "We consider graduating students to be a wealth of talent and energy who are dynamic and in-touch with current events and trends," said Steven Jungman, National Recruiter at Mattress Firm, Inc.

The upward hiring trend has not gone unnoticed on college campuses. "We are definitely seeing signs of recovery for the new college hire job market, said Melanie Parker, Director of the Career Resource Center at the University of Central Florida. "Our recent career fair had a 21% increase in employer participation and we have a busier recruiting season this semester than at the same period last year."

"In terms of the technology and engineering sectors, we have been anticipating a marketplace rebound given this year's increased hiring of co-op students," said Maureen Crawford Hentz, Director of Career Services at Wentworth Institute of Technology. "We are experiencing a very busy spring recruiting on campus for this cohort of technologically-savvy students."

The CollegeGrad.com survey results names Enterprise Rent-A-Car as the #1 Entry Level Employer for 2004 with 6,500 projected entry level hires. "As we continue to grow, we will be seeking to hire motivated, college-educated employees who will be trained to provide exceptional customer service at the front line of our company's local operations," said Marie Artim, Corporate HR Manager for Enterprise. "The so-called 'jobless recovery' is not an issue at Enterprise. We're not just creating great jobs, but great careers."

The publicly posted survey results at CollegeGrad.com include the hiring plans for more than 500 top entry level employers. While many on the list are household name employers such as Microsoft, Procter & Gamble, the FBI and General Electric, there are also many lesser known employers such as Cintas, Chancellor Beacon Academies and Alcatel. The common link is that they are all actively hiring entry level college grads.

The 2004 Top Entry Level Employer list will aid college graduates who face the highly competitive entry level job market. "The latest CollegeGrad.com list and research will be an invaluable resource to students, said Marguerite Armas-Buseti, Director-Career Planning and Placement at Mercy College. "View the CollegeGrad.com Top Entry Level Employer List as a slam-dunk way to network yourself into a job in your field."

The best employers have maintained their commitment to hiring at the entry level. "During the past few years, the best employers didn't desert the colleges they recruited at during the economic 'boom' of the late 90's," said Roger Young, Director of Career Services at Southwestern University. "They maintained strong relationships and a presence on campus through volunteering at, or sponsorship of, career related programs. They kept in touch and were there when needed. Those are the organizations that will have a head start in recruiting as the economy gets back on track."

This all spells good news for the Class of 2004. "When grad school is not an option and moving back in with the parents is definitely not an option, the good news is that there are still many entry level positions available," said Krueger. "Just do the research."

To access archived Career Corners, see
<http://www.sc.edu/career/lacdp/corner.html>

NOTES FROM AFIELD

An occasional contribution from faculty who are away from South Carolina.

A contribution from Dr. Ann Kingsolver

2 March 2004

Hello everyone,

I guess you are about to wake up on Super Tuesday as I write from Sri Lanka. We are following the U.S. electoral stories through the Sri Lankan newspapers. There is lots of electioneering here, as well. The President disbanded Parliament last month while the Prime Minister was out of the country, which meant that she called for new elections of Members of Parliament. The President's party, the SLFP, made an alliance with the JVP, which is not very supportive of the peace process. The ceasefire is holding, but the peace process which was proceeding with Norwegian monitoring is at a standstill during these elections.

People here are pretty tired of elections. There have been three parliamentary elections in the last four years. Each time, it is a costly process, and there are lots of other financial needs in the country. The Prime Minister's party, the UNP, has a slim majority of seats, or did have (before the dissolution), but not the two-thirds needed for constitutional changes related to moving the peace process forward in Sri Lanka.

Political parties tend (in broad terms) to break down by religion/ethnicity, and then there are alternatives within self-identified groups. For example, the swing vote in the Parliament just dissolved was considered to be the Muslim M.P.s' votes. The new elections have been called for April 2, a Friday. Many in and beyond Muslim communities are very upset by this date because most Muslim men are in mosques on Fridays, which precludes voting or serving as election observers and officials. The LTTE, which continues to control militarily the northern and eastern provinces, has sanctioned the Tamil National Alliance ticket, but there are other Tamil parties fielding candidates. There are, in all, over 6,000 candidates for Members of Parliament in this election. Since there are two major languages spoken on the island, Sinhalese (the official language of the nation, but definitely not spoken by all its inhabitants) and Tamil, the issue of balloting becomes complex in a way that rivals hanging chads.

For the first time, Buddhist monks have decided to enter politics in Sri Lanka. They have formed a political party and are running candidates for every seat. The symbol of the party is a conch shell, and the platform is to clean up politics from corruption and protect Buddhist interests in the country. (The constitution declares Sri Lanka to be a Buddhist state, although there are other religions represented among the nation's population). There are lots of political cartoons about people, for example, trying to find a monk to perform a funeral ceremony and finding all of them tied up in budget meetings. There is ambivalence about crossing

the line in this particular way between religion and politics. (A line that comes up in various ways in the U.S., to be sure.)

There is another group upset about the timing of these elections: students studying for examinations. O and A level exams (as in the British system) are given once a year. Students prepare all year, most taking extra “tuition” (tutoring) beyond the school day for these exams. Places in Sri Lankan universities are free, but competition for those places is extremely stiff and exam results matter intensely. The elections will now occur when the examinations would have been, so exams have been bumped a month later. This means that students will not receive scores in time to make deadlines for decisions at a number of educational institutions in and outside the country.

At least, in comparison with the U.S., the period of hustings is over relatively quickly; candidates have just over a month to make their case for being elected to office. Campaign posters and party flags are banned by law from being displayed on public property. There is a lot of house-to-house visiting and road repair going on, as there would be in South Carolina at election time.

As you can see, elections are the big news here. Meanwhile, I am learning new things every day in my research on the tea sector in Sri Lanka. Today I visited tea nurseries, and saw how cuttings turn into plants that can be set out in the fields. I hear the drought has broken, finally, in South Carolina, but there is a severe drought here. The farmers on the east coast of Sri Lanka did not get a crop out of this monsoon (there are usually two chances for harvests per year), and women I talked with today who pluck tea said that the tea plants are so stressed that they can only work 10 days a month instead of every day. They are paid 100 rupees (approximately one dollar) for picking 25 kilos of tea per day, so the drought means they might earn the equivalent of ten dollars per month. It is not enough for one person to live on, never mind a family. I have learned that tea workers here get paid a lot better than those plucking tea in Kenya and India. For those working to close the loop between producers and consumers, you might want to learn more.

We are getting to know more people in the village of Bowalawatta, where we live. The main topic of conversation is one’s water supply, since most homes, the store, and the school are now without water due to the drought. Inevitably that conversation will end, though, with its being worth living here on the mountain because it is so beautiful. I talked with a woman yesterday who moved back here from Colombo, giving up a well-paying job, because she didn’t want to live anywhere else. And when I watch a purple sunset through the coconut palms, mango and banana trees over the valley and the mountain on the other side called the great yam, I can understand why she came home.

I hope your spring semester is going well!
with best regards,
Ann Kingsolver
Bowalawatta
Kandy
Sri Lanka