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Signs & Symbols

Fall 2018 • VOLUME 18

Newsletter of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology



James M. Skibo, distinguished professor and chair emeritus has "Gone Fishin"! Please refer to page 18 for an article on his retirement, and visit his website: jimskibo.com to follow him on his next journey.

Sociology-Anthropology Donor Roll: January 1–December 31, 2017

Anonymous

Michael and Margaret Allen
 Carl and Linda Anderson
 Wallace and April Anderson
 Jennifer Bagby
 Roy and Sheri Bauer
 Robert and Kirsten Bishir
 Marlene and Charles Black
 Sarah and Brad Boesdorfer
 Adam and Karen Brady
 David and Frances Brate
 Marc and Jennifer Bulandr
 Lee Bullwinkel and Barbara Devignier
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 Maxine Cordell-Brunton and Scott Brunton
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 William Specht
 Susan Sprecher and Charles Fisher
 Karen and Robert Stanuch
 Katherine and Martin Sullivan
 Darrel Sutter
 Paulette Svensson
 Shailer and Sheralyn Thomas
 William Tolone
 Maura Toro-Morn and Frank Morn
 Nicole Truong and Jason Keller
 Elizabeth Walsh
 Joan and Bill Warrick
 Linda Waters
 Michael Wiant
 Elizabeth Wickes and Michael Feltes
 William Wonderlin and Linda Shuster

Student recognition

The Department's 18th annual Student Awards Ceremony and Luncheon was held on May 4, 2018, at the Bone Student Center's Old Main Room. Friends and family members came to help celebrate the achievements of our students.

Below are the names of this year's awardees:

Dean's List

Andrea Banda
 Radiance Campbell
 Danielle Creasey
 Tallulah Gill
 Brian Keeling
 Emma Lynn
 Logan Moore
 Madeleine Perry
 Kamie Schladenhauffen
 Brent Stewart
 Ian Thomas
 Kris Travis
 Tyler Zimansky

Katharine Benshoof
 Alyssa Christensen
 Katrina Frank
 Alessandria Hayes
 Joanna Klein
 Kellsie Mohr
 Sierra Peritore
 Meghan Peuterbaugh
 Michael Schueler
 Alexis Swanson
 Chelsea Thompson
 Tosca Waasdorp



Dean's list ceremony attendees

Honors Students

Katharine Benshoof	Radiance Campbell
Katrina Frank	Samantha Gray
Joanna Klein	Emma Lynn
Alexa Parker	Madeleine Perry
Kamie Schladenhauffen	Sidney Weth



Honors Students ceremony attendees

Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees

Tanner Colclasure
Emily Eichholzer
Luisa Gomez
Alecsandria Hayes
Leanne Mordan
Danielle Creasey
Alberto Espinosa
Samantha Gray
Emma Lynn
Jennifer Wadas



AKD ceremony Inductees along with co-advisors, Maria Schmeackle and Richard Sullivan, associate professors of sociology

Lambda Alpha Inductees

Gwendolyn Allen
Emily Bartz
Brianna Durkin
Tyler Heneghan
Alesha Klein
Logan Moore
Alexa Parker
Andrew Bartolone
Paige Dobbins
Lindsey Earl
Allison Huber
Joanna Klein
Emily Newman
Abigail Peeples



Lambda Alpha ceremony inductees with Liv Stone, faculty advisor and assistant professor of anthropology

Ed Jelks Outstanding Anthropology Senior

Brian Keeling
Kris Travis



Kris Travis, middle, and Brian Keeling, right, with Gina Hunter, associate professor of anthropology

John A. Kinneman Scholarship

Kamie Schladenhauffen



Kamie Schladenhauffen, left, with Chris Wellin, associate professor of sociology

Ben Keeley Scholarship

Alberto Espinosa



Alberto Espinosa, left, with Tom Gerschick, associate professor of sociology

Martin Nickels Endowed Scholarship for Field School

Katrina Frank



Katrina Frank, middle, with Logan Miller, assistant professor of anthropology, and Martin Nickels, professor emeritus of anthropology

R. Douglas & Janice Luecke Irvine Scholarship

Danielle Creasey



Maria Schmeckle, left, associate professor of sociology, Janice Luecke Irvine and Douglas Irvine, right, with Danielle Creasey

**Central States Anthropological Society (CSAS)
Department Travel Award
Bloomington, Indiana**

Jordan Ballard
Alex Schauer
Jacklyn Weier

Alexa Parker
Jessica Vinson



Nobuko Adachi and Jim Stanlaw, professors of anthropology, with CSAS presenters

**Dr. Wib Leonard Scholarship in
Quantitative/Sociology of Sport**

Brian Keeling



Wib Leonard, professor of sociology, left, with Brian Keeling

Charter Department Graduate Student Excellence Award

Raelynn Parmely

**ASA/ISU Distinguished Sociology
Graduate Student Award**

Iwona Franczak



From Left: Raelynn Parmely, recipient of the Charter Department Graduate award, Joan Brehm, professor and undergraduate coordinator of sociology, and Iwona Franczak, recipient of the ASA/ISU Distinguished Sociology Graduate Student award

Emeritus Professor Nick Maroules Travel Award

Natalie Larson

Scott Elliott Endowment for Sociology and Anthropology

Scott Elliott was a 1985 graduate of Illinois State University who minored in sociology. He established an endowed fund to help support the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The department has decided to use these funds to support students who are traveling to present their scholarly work at professional meetings. Recipients of this year's Scott Elliot awards and titles of their presentations are listed below:

Jordan Ballard

*Central States Anthropological Society Meeting
Bloomington, Indiana; April 2018*

Presented paper: "Constriction of Ainu Lands: Gradual Japanese Encroachment, Exploitation, and Eventual Takeover of the Northern Territories"

Emily Bartz

*Midwest Archaeological Conference
Indianapolis; October 2017*

Presented poster: "Pit Features: A View from Grand Island, Michigan"

Molly Cook

Midwest Sociological Society Meeting, Minneapolis; March 2018

Presented paper: "More Than Just a Job: A Social Enterprise's Response to Homelessness"

Paige Dobbins

*Midwest Archaeological Conference
Indianapolis; October 2017*

Presented poster: "Imagining Schroeder: Contextualizing Mortuary Patterning in an Illinois Mound Site Using GIS"

Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Meeting, Milwaukee; November 2017

Presented paper: "Mounds on Mounds on Mounds: Support for the Presence of Multiple Phases of Late Woodland Period Mortuary Context through Analysis of Subadult Dentition"

Lindsey Earl

*Midwest Sociological Society Meeting
Minneapolis; March 2018*

Presented paper: "What's Really the Disaster Here?: Autoethnography of Power Dynamics in a Post-Harvey Emergency Shelter"

Iwona Franczak

*International Montessori Congress
Prague, Czech Republic; July 2017*

Presented poster: "Social Mobility and Transferable Skills in Public Conventional and Montessori Elementary Schools"

Tyler Heneghan

*2017 Illinois Geographic Information Systems Association Annual Conference
Normal; October 2017*

Presented poster: "In Search of Ohio Hopewell Campsites: Utilizing GIS to Uncover Sites Like Spracklen"

*Midwest Archaeological Conference
Indianapolis;
October 2017*

Presented poster: "In Search of the Ohio Hopewell in the Uplands: A Lithic Analysis of the Spracklen Site (33GR1585)"

Allison Huber

*Midwest Archaeological Conference
Indianapolis; October 2017*

Presented poster: "Prehistoric Dog Pathology in the American Bottom: Reanalysis of the Range Site (11S47) Canid Assemblage, St. Clair County, Illinois"

Alexa Parker

*Central States Anthropological Society Meeting
Bloomington, Indiana; April 2018*

Presented paper: "The Anglo-Saxon Struggle Towards Literacy: A Linguistic and Literary Examination"

Abigail Peebles

*Midwest Archaeological Conference
Indianapolis; October 2017*

Presented poster: "Imagining Schroeder: Contextualizing Mortuary Patterning in an Illinois Mound Site Using GIS"

*Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Meeting
Milwaukee; November 2017*

Presented paper: "Back Breaking Labor: Examining Spinal Pathology in a Late Woodland Site"

Jessica Vinson

*Central States Anthropological Society Meeting
Bloomington, Indiana; April 2018*

Presented paper: "The Dukha of Northern Mongolia: Invisible Reindeer Herders of the Taiga"

Jacklyn Weier

*American Association of Geographers Meeting
New Orleans; April 2018*

Presented paper: "Towards Queer Space: Bisexual Experiences and Imaginative Geographies"

Katharine Woollen

*Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Meeting
Milwaukee; November 2017*

Presented paper: "Tibio-talar Squatting Facets and Pedal Arthritis in a Pre-Columbian Osteological Sample From West-Central Illinois"



Recipients from left: Jordan Ballard, Jessica Vinson, Jacklyn Weier, Emily Bartz, Abigail Peebles, Tyler Heneghan, Alexa Parker, and Iwona Franczak

Undergraduate advising news

By Ryan Gray, assistant to the chair and undergraduate advisor

The advising office in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology has been a busy place. Our enrollment in Sociology and Anthropology continues to be strong, allowing us the flexibility to offer an interesting, varied selection of courses for our undergraduates. I'm looking forward to meeting our new class of Sociology and Anthropology majors, both freshmen and new transfer students, for the upcoming school year. The Sociology and Anthropology internship program continues to grow, as we had 46 students during the 2016-2017 school year complete internships in professional organizations. The internship is a great way for students to gain valuable professional experience, as well as career exploration.

I'm happy to report that four of our undergraduates, Luisa Gomez, Emma Lynn, Danielle Creasey, and Kamie Schladenhauffen, attended sociology meetings in Montreal in the fall of 2017. Gomez, Lynn, and Creasey attended the American Sociological Association while Schladenhauffen attended the Society for the Study of Social Problems meetings. Gomez is part of the ASA Honors Program, which provided the invaluable experience of attending the ASA Annual Meeting. Through attending sessions and networking with other students



Kamie Schladenhauffen (second from the left) with her peers after presenting at the Society for Social Problem's Roundtable No. 1 Title: "Advanced Undergraduate Research in Montreal"

and sociologists, participants consider the annual meetings to be an invaluable part of their education and start to their professional careers.

We've expanded the careers class to anthropology majors, and it is now a graduation requirement in anthropology. We are also working collaboratively with the Career Center for special programs in the careers class. In addition to having the Career Center work with students on interviewing and resumes, students attend several Career Center events. These include Instacareer, career and internship fairs, and "What to do with THAT degree." For this fall's "What to do with THAT degree" program, we had four alumni return to participate: Cherie Dew (COUNTRY Financial) and Tianna Hogan

(The Bleeding and Clotting Disorders Institute) from sociology and Emma Meyer (McLean County Museum of History) and Buck Farley (State Farm) from anthropology. This program allowed students to hear how these alumni developed their transferable skills to apply to their current positions. Any alumni of Sociology and Anthropology interested in coming back to share their professional experiences in the careers class should contact me.

Check out our department Facebook page. You can link to it at [SOA.IllinoisState.edu](https://www.facebook.com/soa.illinoisstate.edu). Please stay in touch, and let us know what you are doing. If you'd like to be featured on our webpage highlighting what you are doing, please contact me. Drop by and say hi when you visit campus.

Sociology graduate program news

By Joan Brehm, professor of sociology and sociology graduate program coordinator

2017-18 has been another year of exciting accomplishments and activities among our graduate students. Working closely with our graduate students is immensely rewarding and has remained one of the highlights of my time at Illinois State. I have served now as graduate program coordinator for sociology for six years, and this will be my final newsletter submission as I am transitioning to the role of interim department chair starting July 1, 2018. Michael Dougherty will be taking over as coordinator starting fall 2018.

Fall 2018 we will be welcoming a total of four new students into our program. The following students have been accepted into the applied community and economic development (ACED) sequence with the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development: Rebecca Forsythe, Hannah Gdalmán, and Isabella Green. Forsythe (ACED Fellow) received her B.A. in sociology and anthropology from Salve Regina University. Gdalmán (Peace Corps Fellow) received her B.A. in Spanish and anthropology/sociology from Knox College and has completed her Peace Corps service in Guatemala. Green (ACED Fellow) received her B.A. in sociology and community studies/Chinese from North Central College. Brian Hadsell has been accepted into the sociology master's program. He is an alumnus of Illinois State University, receiving his B.A. in secondary English education and a minor in writing and film studies. These four incoming students represent another outstanding cohort with tremendous diversity and talents. The program continues to draw some of the best and brightest students from outstanding schools across the country and even the globe. We are very excited for this new cohort to join us this fall.



The 2017-2018 sociology graduate student cohort from left: Elise West, Jalisa Holifield, Rachel Almburg, Derek Ruzskowski, Cami Pereira, and Raelynn Parmely

Several of our current students have embarked on the next exciting phase of their program as part of the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development. Teddy Dondanville (MI) continues his Peace Corps service, working in youth development with the Peace Corps in Peru, and Renee Palecek continues her work in youth development with the Peace Corps in Morocco. Several other Stevenson Center students are continuing their service across the globe. MI student Carolyn Moe will conclude her Peace Corps service in Botswana this year, and MI student Amanda Breitenstein concluded her Peace Corps service in Ukraine and successfully defended her capstone research project “An Auto-ethnographic Examination of Adapting to Life and Teaching in Rural Ukraine.” Molly Cook (ACED Fellow) is completing her professional practice with the Missoula Economic Partnership in Missoula, Montana, and successfully defended her thesis “More Than Just a Job: A Social Enterprise’s Response to Homelessness” in May 2018.

We also have another exciting graduation announcement to share. Master of Science student Iwona Franczak defended her thesis “Bridging the Divide: Two Educational Models in Urban Public Schools” in June 2018.

The 2017-2018 recipient of the Department Charter Graduate Student Excellence Award is Raelynn Parmely. This award is given annually to a student who demonstrates the most academic promise for success in the program, and Parmely is exceptionally deserving of this award. One faculty member wrote: “Raelynn was the strongest student in my course last fall, earning the highest grade in the course. She excelled on all her assignments and easily grasped the challenging quantitative concepts and statistical techniques. She particularly excelled on the mini thesis proposal, identifying a gaping hole in the research on farm families, specifically noting that women who are either owners or operators of farms have been almost completely ignored in the extant literature. Raelynn decided to pursue this work for her master’s thesis. It is highly unusual for a first-year student to have accomplished so much on a thesis at this point in the master’s program, and this is a testament to Raelynn’s work ethic and dedication to the program.” Another fac-

ulty member wrote: “It has been such a complete joy to work with Raelynn guiding her thesis work. Her level of intellectual insight into her work is impressive, especially considering that this is only her second semester. She is exceptionally prepared for every meeting and is well on track to finish her thesis by the end of her second year. Her work is undoubtedly going to make a significant contribution to the body of empirical work on women in agriculture, and I am excited to see her data and analyses.” We are very proud to honor her accomplishments and recognize her future potential in the field of sociology.

Franczak was honored as the recipient of the ASA/ISU Distinguished Sociology Graduate Student Award. This award has been given annually since 1994 to the student who has most distinguished himself/herself over the course of the master’s degree program. In 2018, Franczak demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in her final year of the master’s program, and we felt that she was more than deserving of this recognition. One faculty member wrote: “Iwona Franczak is one of the most outstanding graduate students—bright, conscientious, hard-working, and engaged—I have had in class and as a thesis advisee. She possesses strong statistical skills and has practical experience with designing and conducting quantitative and qualitative research. On a personal and passionate level, she is a proponent of equal education that fosters engagement, transferable skills, and community.”

Another faculty member wrote: “Iwona is a very promising young sociologist. Her list of scholarly accomplishments is impressive. She already has one publication to her credit, as well as several presentations at professional conferences—including having four papers accepted during her time in our program. One of the papers she presented was for an international conference in Prague this past summer, and this spring she will be presenting at the Midwest Sociological Society meetings in Minneapolis. She is already preparing for her next research projects after the master’s. Iwona is precisely the type of person this award was established to recognize. She has been a valuable asset to our program and a role-model for our other students.” Franczak has been an exceptional student, and completed our program in two years. We look forward to sharing her future accomplishments as she moves on to the next phase in her life.

Finally, we should all be exceptionally proud of the caliber and accomplishments of our graduate students. We continue to draw some of the best students from outstanding programs across the country. Our program has certainly been enhanced by the diversity of strong students who fill our classes and interact with us on their research pursuits. I could not be more proud of our students and the faculty who support them and hope you all join me in sharing in this celebration of their varied accomplishments.

Grad students fight for union

Sociology graduate student and union organizer **Erik Zdansky** was interviewed by several media outlets, reflecting the group efforts of graduate students on campus to obtain representation:

videtteonline.com

wgl.t.org

Anthropology undergraduate program

By Gina Hunter, associate professor of anthropology and anthropology undergraduate coordinator

The undergraduate anthropology program enjoyed an impressive group of seniors during the 2017-2018 year. Last spring, the anthropology faculty awarded two students with the Edward Jelks Outstanding Senior Award: Kris Travis and Brian Keeling. Travis earned a perfect 4.0 GPA and wrote an excellent senior thesis titled, "A Search for a Museum's Lost History: Analyzing a Collection of Artifacts and their Catalog to Discover Collecting Behavior, Donor Relationships, and the Mission of a Museum." Travis worked tirelessly over the past two years to establish online archives of images and information about the thousands of artifacts in our Ethnology Teaching Collection. The online archives will make the collection accessible to a larger public. We are delighted that Travis will continue to work with this collection as an M.A. student in our program next year. In fact, Travis is the inaugural student in our new accelerated M.A. program, which allows high-achieving juniors to apply to our graduate program and take graduate courses during their senior year.

Keeling earned a 4.0 GPA and has a particular interest in biological anthropology and paleopathology. He is already well on his way to a very successful scholarly career with his research in this area. For one research project, he used skeletal materials from the Schroeder Mounds site to determine the frequency of osteoarthritis of the ribs in this population. He presented this work at the Midwest Bioarchaeology/Forensic Anthropology Meetings in 2017 and wrote a single-authored, peer-reviewed publication that will appear later this year in *Field Notes: A Journal of Collegiate Anthropology*. Keeling's senior thesis, "The Neandertal Site of Krapina: Using Dental Metrics To Determine Population Variability In Neandertals" also won our Robert Dirks Outstanding Anthropology Thesis Award. Keeling will continue his studies in the Ph.D. program in anthropology at Binghamton University starting in Fall 2018.

We gave a second Dirks Award to Brianna Durkin for her excellent thesis, "The Culture of Stuff and Things: A Study of Material Culture and Collecting." Durkin is a historian/anthropologist with a special interest in muse-

um studies. She will be continuing her studies in anthropology in the M.A. program at Indiana University, Purdue University-Indianapolis.

We were delighted that such a large number of our undergraduates this year were accepted to graduate programs. In addition to those already mentioned, Alex Celozzi will attend the M.A. program at Aurora University; Mike Eichstaedt, the M.A. program Ball State; Logan Moore, the Ph.D. program at University of Iowa; and Joanna Klein, the M.S. program at University of Southern Mississippi. We were also happy to accept Andrew Bartolone, as a junior-standing student, to our own accelerated M.A. in anthropology. Congratulations to these and all of our 2018 graduates.

While we celebrated the accomplishments of all of our graduates, the 2017-2018 academic year ended on a bittersweet note. We came to the end of an era with the retirement of several long-time professors: Distinguished Professor and Chairperson Jim Skibo; Professor Maria Smith; and Instructor Michael Wiant, who taught our Museum Studies course each spring semester for the last 27 years. These scholars leave big shoes to fill, but we wish them all well in their retirement and new endeavors.

The Anthropology master's degree program

By Katie Sampeck, associate professor of anthropology and anthropology graduate program coordinator

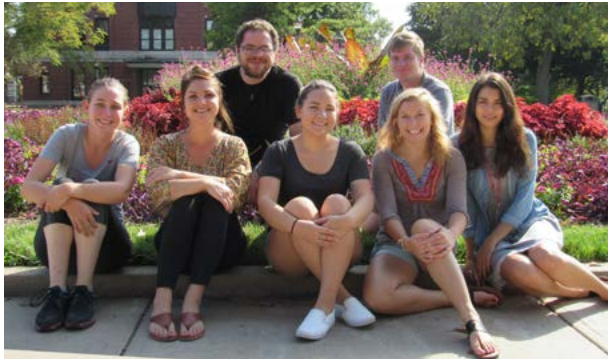
News

The big development in the graduate program was to create a smooth and efficient transition for excellent ISU undergraduates to continue in graduate studies in our program. Even though this is a pathway to graduate studies, the main change took place within the undergraduate program, thanks to the hard work of **Gina Hunter**. A proposal for an accelerated anthropology program was approved by ISU this year, and we are excited by the project and progress of our first accelerated student **Kris Travis**, in her first year of a fast-paced program.

With the spring admissions cycle, we were very glad to welcome **Andrew Bartolone** into the accelerated anthropology program.

New graduate students

We were very happy to welcome two new ACED students, Angela Eastlund and Ana Fochesatto. A new graduate student in historical archaeology was ISU's own Kenzie May, and Jessica Vinson joined the program in cultural anthropology. Silas Chapman was a new prehistoric archaeologist. Jordan Ballard (Western Michigan University) joined ISU's program in Japanese studies. Maria Smith's last student in biological anthropology at ISU is ISU's own Katharine Woollen.



Anthropology graduate student cohort for 2017-2018, from left: Kenzie May, Jessica Vinson, Jordan Ballard, Katharine Woollen, Angela Eastlund, Silas Chapman, and Ana Fochesatto

Master's degrees awarded in 2017-2018

We had a bumper crop of master's degrees awarded in 2018:

Emily Bartz, "Pit Features: a View from Grand Island, Michigan"

Paige Dobbins, "Working Women: Agricultural Intensification, Osteoarthritis in Females, and Subadult Health in Four Illinois Woodland and Mississippian Mortuary Contexts"

Lindsay Earl, "You Have Seventy-Two Hours: How Public Servanthood Enables Criminalization of the Unsheltered Population"

Tyler Heneghan, "Bladelet Polish: A Lithic Analysis of Spracklen (33GR1585), An Upland Hopewell Campsite"

James W. (Trey) Hill III, "Methodological Considerations and Use Wear Analysis of the Late Archaic Sites of Duck Lake and Popper from Grand Island, Michigan"

Allison Huber, "The Role of Dogs in Prehistoric Illinois: A Study of Dog Paleopathology at the Range Site in the American Bottom"

Alesha Klein, (capstone) "Understanding the Ins and Outs of Financial Services and Products is a Daunting and Difficult Task: a Fellows Reflections of Financial Services and Products over 11 Months"

Abigail Peeples, "Time Does Not Heal All Wounds: Temporal Differences in Spinal Pathology Among Pre-Columbian Sites in West-Central Illinois"

Brooke Wamsley, "Mortuary Patterns in West-Central Tennessee: Contextualizing Historic Field Data From Nine Mississippian Period Sites"

Jacklyn Weier, "Towards Queer Space: Bisexual Experiences and Imaginative Geographies."

Publications

Jacklyn Weier Forthcoming [published online Sept 9, 2017]. Review of Market Orientalism by Benjamin Smith. *Geographical Review*.

Katharine Woollen and Maria O. Smith. 2017. "Adult Foot and Ankle Trauma at Schroeder Mounds (11He177): A Late Woodland Period Site." *Field Notes: A Journal of Collegiate Anthropology* 9(1): 32-52.

Presentations

In addition to those listed under the Scott Elliot award, **Aaron Durchholz** also gave a presentation at the Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Meetings in November 2017: "Candy Corn: Subsistence Strategy and Dental Decay at the West-Central Illinois Schroeder Mounds (11He177) Site"

Alumni Update

Autumn Beyer (M.S., Arch 2013) and **Jeff Painter** ('12, M.S., Arch 2013) are in their third and fourth years respectively at Michigan State University.

Lauren Bridges (M.A., Hist Arch 2010) completed her doctoral qualifying exams at the College of William and Mary.

Jenna (Carlson) Dietmeier (M.A., Arch 2011) earned her Ph.D. in the Anthropology Department at the College of William and Mary and is now the review and compliance archaeologist at the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.

Valerie Hall (M.A., Arch 2012) finished her first year in the doctoral program at the University of Maryland.

Kelsey Hanson (M.A., Arch 2016) is in her second year at the University of Arizona.

Lindsey Helms-Thorson (M.A., Arch 2012) defended her dissertation on April 19, 2017, at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee for a Ph.D. in biological anthropology. Helms-Thorson also co-authored with Tracy K. Betsinger, Maria O. Smith, and Leslie Lea Williams the article, "Endemic treponemal disease in late pre-Columbian prehistory: New parameters, new insights," *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 15: 252-261 (2017).

Susan Kooiman (M.A., Arch 2012) defended her dissertation in May 2017 at Michigan State University.

Tracie Mayfield (M.A., Hist Arch 2009) is a lecturer in anthropology at the University of Southern California.

JT Travis (B.S. '15 Arch) received a master's degree from DePaul University in Non-profit Management.

News from the Stevenson Center

Lindsey Earl: Reflections on the Peru summer democracy trip

There I was, sitting on ledge overlooking one of the most renowned archeological sites in the world.

Each day for the entire month of June, I thought our study abroad group had reached the pinnacle of the trip and would never see anything more beautiful. Each day, I was proved wrong.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.



Lindsey Earl on top of the Machu Picchu Mountain



Moe works with Humana People to People to help the community

Stevenson Center student empowering girls in Botswana

By Sarah Aten

Carolyn Moe wants to equip the girls in Botswana she has encountered during her Peace Corps service with skills to stand up for themselves. Now in her second year of service, Moe uses her experiences from the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development to help her community.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Peace Corps fellow brings lessons from Ethiopia to graduate work

By Sarah Aten

Fueled by her desire to serve, Alesha Klein became a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia. Now in the second year of her master's degree with the Stevenson Center



Alesha Klein taught ninth-grade English at Sagure Secondary High School in Ethiopia

for Community and Economic Development, Klein is completing her professional practice in Washington, D.C., with a focus on financial empowerment.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Stevenson Center student reaching new heights in Montana

By Sarah Aten

Molly Cook's desire to help others led her to the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development at Illinois State

University. An experienced public servant, she focuses on providing resources for those

in need. Cook is currently completing the professional practice portion of the program while earning a master's degree in sociology.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.



Molly Cook's serving spirit brought her to Montana for her professional practice with the Missoula Economic Partnership

Graduate fellow brings experience to Houston nonprofit

By Sarah Aten

Change Happens, a Houston-based nonprofit, is hosting applied community and economic development (ACED) fellow Lindsey Earl

for her professional practice. This is the first year that Change Happens is partnering with the Stevenson Center, providing an invaluable opportunity for Earl to refine skills

while helping Change Happens fulfill its mission.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.

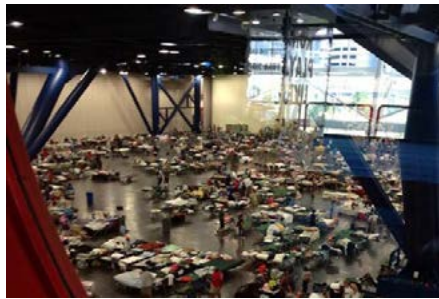


Change Happens, a nonprofit organization in Houston, is hosting a Stevenson Center graduate fellow

Redbirds contribute to Harvey relief efforts

By Tyler Emken

Hurricane Harvey hit Texas and Louisiana last August devastating the region. The storm dropped several feet of



Red Cross Shelter where Lindsey Earl volunteered after Hurricane Harvey hit Houston

rain, causing widespread flooding. Authorities estimated more than 80 people died from the storm, which caused billions of dollars in property damage.

In the face of tremendous amounts of need, Redbirds stepped up and helped with the relief effort.

Lindsey Earl, a graduate student in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and a 2017 Newman Civic Fellow, arrived August 19 in Houston for her placement as part of the Stevenson Center applied community and economic development program. She was placed with Change Happens, a nonprofit organization operating out of Houston's Third Ward.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Society of Student Anthropologists (SOSA)

By Logan Miller, assistant professor of anthropology and SOSA club advisor

The Society of Student Anthropologists (SOSA) is a registered student organization that is open to all students interested in anthropology. It is dedicated to enhancing anthropology education at Illinois State University through extracurricular activities such as guest speakers, field trips, and behind-the-scenes tours of local museums.

SOSA also organizes a number of social events. The group kicked off the year with its traditional bonfire initiation in October at the Miller residence. Festivities included food, collegial fun, and initiation of new SOSA



Fall 2018 SOSA initiation ceremony

members. During initiation, new members received the name of a famous anthropologist they are to carry with them until graduation. It is the students' job to research their namesake, and be ready to answer questions. If you see some of these new SOSA initiates be sure to ask them about their new role model. SOSA had a highly successful fundraiser selling T-shirts designed by Madison Brown and advertised anthropology books recommended by the faculty around campus in February for World Anthropology Day. Bi-weekly SOSA meetings often featured anthropology-themed games such as Cards Against



SOSA members Molly McManus (seated), Luke Gallagher, Katrina Frank, Nick Wilkins, Joanna Klein, Chelsea Thompson, Brian Keeling, Ashley Bauman, and Mike Eichstaedt after escaping their Indiana Jones adventure

Anthropology and an Indiana Jones-themed escape room, featured on TV-10. SOSA outings included a trip to the Spurlock Museum, Japan House, and Curtis Orchard, as well as a behind-the-scenes tour of the Field Museum in Chicago.

For current updates on the Society of Student Anthropologists, please see the [SOSA Facebook page](#).

Field School 2018: The Noble-Wieting site

By Logan Miller, assistant professor of anthropology

The 2018 archaeological field school returned to the 13th-14th century Native American village of Noble-Wieting, north of Heyworth. The prehistoric occupants of Noble-Wieting belonged to the Langford Tradition, an Upper Mississippian lifestyle typically found further to the north along the upper Illinois River. Nine students spent one month investigating the remainder of a house foundation that we began excavating in 2017. In addition to the house foundation walls, we uncovered many small pit features. Remains of ancient fires, likely to cook the meals of the family who occupied the house, lined the bottom of several of these pits. We confirmed that the house was rebuilt at least once, and that the second version was larger than the first. Along the way, we endured many days on the wrong side of 90 degrees and lots of mud from the occasional unexpected rain shower. After the traditional field trip to Cahokia, we spent several



2018 Miller Field School, from left: Molly McManus, Emily Newman, Megan Ollesch, Caleb Fogler, Alyse Smith, Logan Miller, Katrina Frank, and Silas Chapman

days in the lab washing, sorting, and bagging thousands of artifacts ranging from arrowheads to broken pottery to charred squash rind. The artifacts and other records are now ready to serve as the foundation for student research projects and to guide future excavations at the site.

For more information about the Field School, please visit: wglc.org and/or News.IllinoisState.edu

Professional practice in bioarchaeology

By Maria Smith, professor of anthropology

During the summer 2018 semester, three bioarchaeology students—one graduate, Katharine Woollen and two undergraduates, Joanna Klein and Joshua Boone—were actively engaged in research as part of the Professional Practice in Anthropology course (ANT 398/498) in biological anthropology. The research was conducted under the supervision of Maria O. Smith, professor of anthropology, and took place at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield. The projects were an outgrowth of research each previously conducted in Paleopathology and Bioarchaeology of the Human Skeleton (ANT 372) on pre-Columbian human skeletal remains from the Schroeder Mounds site (A.D 800-1100). Each student examined a research question in samples dating earlier in time than the Schroeder sample in order to look for temporal change. The samples examined dated from 200



An inflicted projectile point from Schroeder Mound that was embedded in one of the facial bones of an adult male during warfare

B.C. to A.D. 300 (Hopewell Culture) and A.D. 600-800 (Late Woodland period). Klein (now in the graduate program at the University of Southern Mississippi) looked for evidence of inter-group violence (manuscript for publication is pending); Woollen and Boone looked for evidence of habitual kneeling, sitting, or squatting postures by examining reactive changes in the bones of the ankle (Woollen) and the hip (Boone). Both Woollen and Boone presented their respective research results at the Midwest Archaeology Conference (October 4-6, 2018, at the University of Notre Dame) and will each be submitting manuscripts for journal publication by December 2018.

Schroeder Hall Gallery

By Trish Gudeman, office support specialist

This year marked the second year of the Schroeder Hall Gallery with a new exhibit featuring the works of Assistant Professor of Anthropology Liv Stone.

On October 18, 2017, Stone presented “As Fluid as a Brick Wall: Urban Surfaces in Oaxaca and Mexico City.” All of the pieces were images of graffiti from Oaxaca that



Liv Stone, guest artist, provides some commentary on the gallery installation: “As Fluid as a Brick Wall: Urban Surfaces in Oaxaca and Mexico City”



From left: Jim Skibo, chair of sociology and anthropology; Liv Stone, assistant professor of anthropology; and Mike Wille, director of the school of art

were photographed by Stone, enlarged and reproduced digitally, and then affixed to cement board to help recapture their original context. Stone also provided a video installation that displayed scenes from the Mexico City subway system and objects in a standing display case that represented what might be found in a Mexican rebels/protester's apartment.

Chair and Distinguished Professor of Anthropology Jim Skibo said about the installations: "Dr. Stone's exhibit is not only important to the field of visual anthropology, but the urban images are remarkable pieces of art as well."

The Schroeder Hall Gallery is a collaboration between the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the School of Art at Illinois State University and is designed to showcase sociologically and anthropologically relevant artwork in a venue with wide exposure to students.

ISU plans center to address 'real world' problems of clean water

By Judith Valente, *WGLT's Sound Ideas*

Illinois State University scholars—from biologists to sociologists—have been working for years on individual projects involving water.



Algae blooms grow on the surface of Lake Evergreen. Algae, which can affect the taste and odor of drinking water, are a problem at both Lake Evergreen and Lake Bloomington, from which Bloomington draws its drinking water. (photo courtesy of Joan Brehm)

Now, ISU plans to establish a Center for a Sustainable Water Future to make collaboration easier.

Joan Brehm, an ISU sociologist working on the effort, said the center will allow for a multidisciplinary approach to water issues with a view toward creating real-world solutions.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Special programs and presentations

The SOA Department Research Series, organized by **Aaron Pitluck**, associate professor of sociology, started fresh in fall 2018 with great talks about the research of various alumni, professors, and grad students. These are

presented periodically throughout the year, and all are welcome to attend. Information regarding future talks can be found on both our web-page and our Facebook page.

September 8, 2017: "The 2017 Archaeological Field School at Noble Wieting, McLean County, IL" by Logan Miller

October 13, 2018: "Yeah, Cuz Everybody Uses It: College Student Use and Interpretation of the N-Word" by alumna Rhonda E. Dugan

November 10, 2017: "The Influence of Buddhism and Gross National Happiness in Promoting the Well-being of Bhutan's Street Dogs" by Marion Willetts

February 2, 2018: A book club style discussion of the book, *Evicted*, winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction by Matthew Desmond

Other presentations in the department

Queertalks presentation, "Religious Sexual Politics in Haiti: Vodou, Catholicism, and Protestantism" by Erin Durban-Albrecht on November 2, 2018

The Main Street College Series presentation, "Water, Water Everywhere: Will There Be a Drop to Drink in 20 Years in Bloomington-Normal?" led by Joan Brehm and Bill Perry on November 2, 2017

College of Arts and Sciences fall lecture, "Tales Told by the Bones: The Archaeology of the Human Skeleton," by Professor of Anthropology Maria Smith on November 7, 2018

"Social, Ethnic, and Racial Boundaries on Campus and Community in the 21st century" was organized by Professor of Anthropology Nobuko Adachi on February 9-10, 2018, with a keynote address by Professor of Psychology Yolanda Flores Niemann of the University of North Texas.

A speaker series, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences Interdisciplinary Initiative and the ISU Interdisciplinary Research Group on Personal Relationships, organized by Sue Sprecher:

"Modern Love: Finding Your Signal within All the Noise" by Michelle Druin on March 29, 2018

"Chew on this: Managing Misoponia in Close Relationships" by Leah Bryant of De Paul University on April 19, 2018

"Stretching the Ties that Bind: Intergenerational Estrangement Between Mothers & Adult Children" by Megan Gilligan of Iowa State University on April 23, 2018

Sabbatical accounting

By Mike Dougherty, associate professor of sociology

I am on sabbatical for the 2017-2018 academic year. I write this at the end of January, five and a half months into my nine-month sabbatical. I would be lying if I said that the



Mike Daugherty with son Leo doing one of those random things accounted for during his sabbatical

organization of this sabbatical leave was principally around research and creative goals. The organizing framework was that my spouse and I wanted our son to be around his grandparents for extended periods of time. It doesn't hurt that both sets of his grandparents live in spectacular places. To that end we spent August through December in St. Michaels, Maryland,

near my parents. We had the luxury of living right on the water where the Miles River meets the Eastern Chesapeake Bay. On Christmas Eve we left Maryland and flew to San Lucas, Sacatepéquez, Guatemala, where my in-laws live. We are renting an efficiency apartment seven doors down from them in a gated community in a pine forest overlooking mountains and volcanoes.

This is not to say that I haven't been working. I've been writing as much as my kiddo will let me, and now that I am in Guatemala (my primary research site) I am setting up interviews for two research projects and working with a Guatemalan university on ideas for exchanges with ISU. But I spend too much time with paragraphs, so let's add some whitespace to this piece.

- Houses lived in: Three
- States lived in: Two
- Successful conference proposals: Two
- Countries lived in: Two
- Miles run: 526
- Journal articles submitted for review: Three
- Grant applications submitted: One
- Monkeys living in my gated community here in Guatemala: One
- Articles reviewed: Four
- Maryland Blue Crabs caught, cleaned, seasoned, steamed, picked, and eaten: 230 (approximately)
- Theses supervised: One
- Wild raspberries picked: Two dry pints
- Hours kayaking: Nine (ish)

- Oysters caught, cleaned, shucked, battered, fried, and eaten: 120 (approximately)
- Yard waste bags filled with leaves: 27
- Goats living in my gated community here in Guatemala: Eight
- Stray dogs living in my gated community here in Guatemala: 1,723 (or so it seems)

Here is my sabbatical so far in wild animals seen up close (squirrels and rabbits don't count)

- Bald eagles
- Manta rays
- Blue crabs, oysters, mussels, horseshoe crabs (which are not crabs but are super fascinating)
- Snapping and box turtles
- Great Blue Herons (lots)
- Eastern Great Egrets
- Striped Bass
- Many, many deer
- Oyster toad fish (they kept getting caught in the crab traps. Gross.)
- The tiniest little hummingbirds (watching one right now)
- Frogs and toads
- Ducks and geese

Here's my sabbatical in stuff I haven't finished yet but intend to.

- Two more article manuscripts
- Small research projects on environmental consulting companies as mineral governance institutions
- Figure out all the hard stuff related to elderly parents and in-laws and make it magically super easy
- Small research projects on mine closure and community relations
- Trip to Italy (visit friends of spouse)
- Trip to Spain (conference presentation)
- Trip to Norway (conference presentation)

Here is my sabbatical so far in titles of scholarly journal articles.

- "How Does Development Mean? Attitudes toward Mining and the Social Meaning of Development in Guatemala"
- "Where Will We Live? Places of Residence and Spaces of Survival in Guatemala's Mineral Economy"
- "Contingent Work in the Recycling Industry: Permatemps and Precarious Green Jobs" (co-authored with Alexis Econie)
- "Boom times for Technocrats: Natural Resource Exploitation and the Environmental Consulting Industry"

Meet the new faculty

Jeff Stokes, assistant professor of sociology

The 2017–2018 school year was my first year as assistant professor of sociology here at Illinois State University. Originally from southeastern Massachusetts, I completed both my undergraduate and graduate studies at Boston



Jeff Stokes with his wife, Christa Borgman, M.D., enjoying a sip on their honeymoon

College, where I met my lovely wife Christa. In fact, the first time Christa or I ever moved outside of Massachusetts was when we relocated to Central Illinois last summer. The transition was certainly tricky at times—I was clueless and frightened

hearing cicadas and a tornado siren for the first time, and it took a solid week or two to learn how to properly pronounce Schroeder Hall—but it was all made infinitely easier by the generous support from the faculty, staff, and, yes, even students in the Sociology and Anthropology Department.

I had the good fortune to teach two sections of Research Methods in the fall and a section of Senior Experience in the spring, which gave me the opportunity to work closely with a group of around 20 seniors for the entire year. I was consistently impressed by their passion for social issues and their hard work and ingenuity when it came to matching secondary data sets to their research interests. They made my first year a much easier and more rewarding task than it could have been otherwise. I also taught a course in Death and Dying, where students' experiences and perspectives improved upon the course material I had prepared myself—on some days, class was co-taught with my students. As wonderful as this first year was, I will not be returning to Illinois State in the fall. I was offered an opportunity to return home and accepted a new position as assistant professor of gerontology at the University of Massachusetts Boston. I will be sure to take the lessons and insights with me that I have gained here at ISU and remain ever indebted to the faculty, staff, and students who have made my time here so rewarding. Even on the East Coast, I'll be a Redbird for life.

Abby Stone, assistant professor of anthropology

I grew up in Austin, Texas. My mom is an environmental toxicologist who (until she retired last year) worked to assess pollution levels and develop cleanup plans for sites of industrial pollution. My dad is a professor of art history at the University of Texas. His job meant that we spent several sabbatical years living in Germany when I was a

child and several summers in other parts of Europe. He would entertain my brothers and me during his research trips to various churches by telling us the grisly details of the lives of saints whose remains were housed in the church reliquaries. Something about this stuck, because I eventually became an archaeologist specializing in bones (though primarily those of animals). My older brother is a physics professor at Mount Holyoke College, and my younger brother (a former cultural anthropology major) is a computer programmer in Austin.

I received my bachelor's degree at Rice University in Houston, where a class as a first-semester freshman convinced me to pursue an academic career in archaeology. One of the things I love most about archaeology is its interdisciplinary nature. It combines elements of the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences in trying to disentangle the puzzle of the human past. I also see the discipline as a bridge between the fields of my mother (the chemist) and my father (the art historian).

I went on to pursue a Ph.D. in anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis. My dissertation work focused on the development and nature of early cities in Mali, West Africa. As part of this work I lived in the town of Djenné, Mali, for eight months in 2010–2011 with my now-wife, Liv. During this time, a group of Malian colleagues and I excavated portions of two small sites neighboring the ancient city of Jenné-jeno. Highlights



Liv Stone, left, with her wife, Abby Stone (also an assistant professor of anthropology) and their son Paul

from the trip include excavating a terra cotta statue depicting a woman giving birth to snakes and hiking in the Bandiagara Escarpment, whose ruins resemble those of Mesa Verde.

I began teaching courses at the University in fall 2014, while I was finishing my dissertation. I was thrilled to accept the offer of a tenure-track position here last fall and am enjoying the experience of being a full-time faculty member immensely. This year I taught courses on Human Origins (ANT 102), Zooarchaeology (ANT 370), and Human Osteology (ANT 371). In ANT 102, I aim to

get students to draw connections between anthropological ideas and issues playing out in their lives and in the news today.

In my upper-level courses, I engage students in primary laboratory research. In Zooarchaeology we have been analyzing the animal bones excavated by Logan Miller and his field school students at the nearby Nobel-Wieting site. Many of our students overlap, so it is particularly interesting for students to be able to identify bones that they dug up themselves. This semester in Human Osteology, my students are undertaking a forensic analysis of an assemblage of human bones of unknown origins that was given to us by the department of biology. All information about this group of people was lost over the years, so one of the primary aims of this work is to understand who these people were.

In addition to these courses, I have enjoyed working with undergraduate and graduate students on independent research projects. I also look forward to teaching classes on African archaeology and the archaeology of sex and gender in the future.

Faculty Publications

Logan Miller, published “Hopewell Bladelets: A Bayesian Radiocarbon Analysis” in *American Antiquity*, 83:224-243; “The Morphometrics and Microwear of a Small Clovis Assemblage from Guernsey County, Southeastern Ohio, U.S.A.” in the *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*; and “No Smoking Please? Campus Cigarette Butt Collection as an Archaeological Field Exercise” in the *Journal of Archaeology and Education*, Vol. 1, Iss. 2 (2017).

Kathryn Sampeck, co-edited *Substance and Seduction: Ingested Commodities in Early Modern Mesoamerica*, University of Texas Press (2017); and also published “Insights into Afro-Latin American Archaeology” in the *Journal of Historical Archaeology*.

Jim Skibo, is the series editor of *Foundations of Archaeological Inquiry* and within the series, co-authored a chapter with William Longacre and Margaret Beck in “The Strong Case Approach in Behavioral Archaeology,” University of Utah Press, 2017.

Chris Wellin, edited *Critical Gerontology Comes of Age: Advances in Theory and Research for a New Century*, Routledge/Taylor & Francis (2018), as well as contributing the introductory chapter, “The Need for, and Fruits of, a Current, Critical Gerontology” and Chapter 8, “Paid Caregiving for Older Adults with Serious or Chronic Illness: Ethnographic Perspectives, Evidence, and Implications for Training.” **Maria Schmeckle**, contributed Chapter 12, “How Thinking about Children from a Global Perspective Can Fortify Social Gerontology”, and **Maura Toro-Morn** contributed Chapter 14, “Migration and Gendered Webs of Obligation: Caring for my Elderly Puerto Rican Mother in a Transnational Context.”

Tip of the hat

Frank Beck, associate professor of sociology and director of the Stevenson Center, has been inducted into the ISU Million Dollar Club by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for helping to obtain \$1 million or more in external funding for programs during the 2017 fiscal year.

Beverly Beyer (M.S. '03), applied community and economic development senior associate director, was awarded the E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award during the Founder's Day convocation. This award recognizes the outstanding service of alumni to Illinois State University, the Alumni Association, or humanity.

Ryan Gray, academic advisor and assistant to the chair, is the recipient of the 2018 Administrative Professional Distinguished Service Award.

Logan Miller, assistant professor of anthropology, is the recipient of the 2018 University Research Initiative Award. The Research Initiative Award recognizes faculty members who have initiated a promising research agenda early in their academic careers. Research Initiative Award recipients will receive a \$500 award.

Katie Sampeck, associate professor of anthropology, has been named the incoming editor of *Historical Archaeology*, considered the flagship journal for the discipline. Sampeck is the first female editor in the 50-year history of the journal.

Richard Sullivan, associate professor of sociology, is the winner of the 2018 Dossey Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Maura Toro-Morn, professor of sociology and director of Latin American and Latinx Studies, was one of several women from Illinois State University to be nominated for the 2018 YWCA McLean County Women of Distinction Award. Toro-Morn also placed in the 2018 Run for Hope, which benefits Home Sweet Home Ministries.

Alumni News

Beverly Beyer M.S. '03 sociology-ACED, is Applied Community and Economic Development Senior Associate Director at Illinois State University Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development. During Illinois State's 2018 Founders Day convocation, she was awarded the E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award, which recognizes her outstanding service to Illinois State University, the Alumni Association, or humanity.

Molly Cook M.S. '18 sociology, is pursuing Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Arizona.

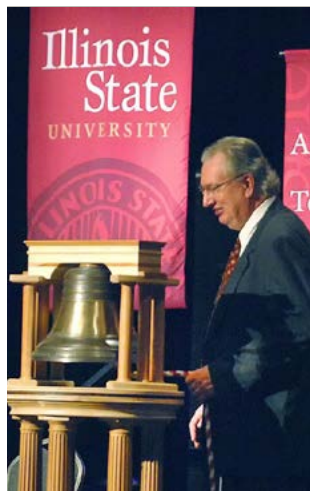
Kelsie Diaz '15 sociology, M.S '17 political science, is a career coach at Rock Valley College in Rockford. She assists RVC students with resume building, interviewing,

and job hunting. About her job, Diaz says: “I really enjoy it and couldn’t have done it without my academic advising internship with Ryan Gray from 2013-2015 and my graduate assistantship with Erik Rankin from 2015-2017!”

Alexis Econie ’17 sociology, applied to and was admitted to several sociology Ph.D. programs for Fall 2018 and has chosen University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she will begin course work the first week of September 2018. She has also been selected for a first-year graduate research assistantship where she will personally choose faculty to collaborate with on a research project for the 2018-19 academic year.

Amelia Franck Meyer ’89 psychology, M.S. ’95 sociology, received the Alumni Achievement Award at the 2018 Founders Day convocation. She is the CEO and founder of Alia, a national nonprofit that is transforming the child welfare system. Franck Meyer and her foster care agency team received the Bush Prize for Innovation and the Center for the Study of Social Policy’s Youth Thrive Award for Exemplary Programs. She has been the driving force behind child welfare reform internationally and in more than half the United States.

Torii Moré ’10 anthropology, is the curator of Digital Humanities at the McLean County Museum of History. She wrote her senior thesis about freegans in Bloomington-Normal. The textbook publisher, Macmillan, found the thesis online in the *Journal for Undergraduate Ethnography* and is using it in the next edition of the *St. Martin’s Guide to Writing*.



Peter Rankaitis rings the bell during the Founders Day Ceremony. (Photo courtesy of David Proeber, *The Pantagraph*)

JT Travis ’15 anthropology, received his master’s degree from DePaul University in Spring 2018.

Alumni Stories

Set Up for Success

By Molly O’Keefe

I earned both a B.S. (1997) and M.S. (2004) in sociology through the program, and it was an incredibly positive experience working with such supportive faculty and great classmates. I am happy to share what I’ve been up to since my graduation, as I feel that the program really set me up for my career success.

Since I left ISU, I predominantly stayed in higher education, working for the University of Illinois (institutional research analyst, along with Kevin Knott, another sociology alum), William and Mary (research analyst), University of Richmond (assistant director, Institutional Effectiveness), and at Virginia Commonwealth University (director, Institutional Planning and Analysis). For the last two years I have been at the University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health, as the assistant dean for Strategic Analysis and Business Intelligence.

My career has solid roots in the research methods and statistics courses I took throughout the program, as well as my graduate assistant work. My focus throughout my career has always been on supporting higher education through the use of data to inform leadership decision making around everything from recruitment, admissions, enrollment management, and student success to faculty recruitment and retention, faculty research, university finance, and resource planning. It has become more advanced over the years, going from basic descriptive data analysis for standard reporting to more of a business intelligence and analytics approach to provide timely and actionable information.

Along the way, I also earned my Ph.D. in higher education administration from William and Mary, with a focus on educational policy, planning and leadership (2017). My dissertation topic was on the use of analytics in higher education as a response to pressures of academic capitalism. I also worked in a couple of other corporate positions, both as a business intelligence analyst and director of academic solutions at companies that worked with higher education recruitment, enrollment, and faculty productivity data. I also had the opportunity of working with EDUCAUSE on research about learning analytics in higher education, co-authoring a publication in 2016.

Finally, my daughter, who was very young when I was in the program and could occasionally be seen in the hallways at my side, benefited from my time at ISU, as she was able to attend the Child Care Center there. The value and importance of higher education were ingrained in her life from an early start, and she graduated last year from Virginia Tech with a bachelor’s degree in psychology.

My professors at ISU were fabulous, and my experience in the program truly impacted my life in such positive and productive ways.

(If you have a story you would like to share, please email Trish at pmgudem@IllinoisState.edu)

Lots of Retirement News

Jim Skibo, years of service at ISU: 1992-2018

By Chris Wellin, associate professor of sociology

James M. Skibo retired from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Illinois State University in July 2018 after more than 25 years of service to the University as



a teacher, administrator, and distinguished professor. Skibo was raised in Michigan and earned his Bachelor of Science degree at Northern Michigan University in 1982. He completed graduate study in anthropology at the University of Arizona in 1990. An archaeologist, Jim's foci included the production and use of ceramics and, more broadly, the theory and practice of archaeology

and ethno-archaeology. His research was rooted geographically in the Great Lakes Region (where for many years he led an archaeological field school in Grand Island, Michigan, involving over 100 students), in the American Southwest, and the Philippines. The author or editor of 11 books and over 50 articles or book chapters, Skibo also served for over 15 years as co-editor of the *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, among the highest-ranking journals of archaeology in the world. He is founding editor of a book series—*Foundations of Archaeological Inquiry*—which has published over 25 books since its launch in 1995.

Skibo achieved the rank of full professor in 2001 after less than a decade on the ISU faculty and was named distinguished professor in 2012. His excellence and productivity as a scholar were fully matched by distinctions as a teacher and later an administrator both within and beyond his home department. Always attuned and committed to his local institution and community, Skibo was co-director (with Professor Gina Hunter) of the Old Main Project and served as chair of the ISU English Department (2012-2013) and of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology from 2014 until his retirement. The Old Main Project became a fascinating mirror for the ISU community and created numerous and varied research opportunities for students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. According to the ISU website: "After serving the University for 100 years, the Main building was razed in 1958, but remains an important archaeological and historical site. Through the Old Main Project, students, faculty, and alumni collaborate to tell the building's proud story through the analysis of excavated artifacts, oral histories, and historical documents."

Skibo's commitment to student teaching and mentorship is nowhere more evident than in his enduring record of creating apprenticeships for aspiring students. For two decades, he directed a very successful field program, including an annual field school and an annual archaeological field experience for pre-college students, all at Grand Island, Michigan. Not only has this work trained dozens of field archaeologists, research derived from this work has shed much new light on the prehistory of the Great Lakes region. Additionally, Skibo's mentoring of students, including field training during the annual field school, has resulted in several of his students going on to do doctoral work at some of the best programs in the country (e.g. Michigan State University, University of Arizona, and University of Wisconsin).

Throughout these years of varied roles and demands, Skibo continued to advance his scholarship, culminating in his receiving the 2008 CAS Dean's Award for Outstanding Scholarship. In his letter of nomination, former Chair Fred Smith wrote, "In 2008, Professor Skibo published a co-authored book (published by Springer, with Michael Schiffer at Arizona) entitled *People and Things*. This volume is a culmination to date of his insightful career as an ethno-archaeologist—in fact, one of the best ethno-archaeologists working today. In this book, Professor Skibo tackles the knotty problem of how to interpret material culture in an ethno-archaeological context. Among archaeologists on one side, and ethnologists on the other, there is a long-standing argument about how material culture (the actual things that are made rather than ideas or norms about what manufactured things should be like) should be used in interpreting cultural meaning. What is absolutely outstanding about this volume is that this difference of opinion is assessed in terms of both competing theoretical perspectives and the use of actual case studies."

This narrative of achievement might naturally convey an image of a rather intense, driven person. But, in contrast, as the legions of friends and fans of Jim Skibo will



Skibo examines a rock cluster with his students on Grand Island

attest, he maintains a relaxed, good-humored, gracious approach to life, which has been a gift to students facing the rigors of completing a thesis and, as chair, to colleagues dealing with the many demands of work in a

university seeking to blend excellence in teaching, service, and research. One always feels heard, respected, and valued in his presence. And his remarkable individual



Jim Skibo and his wife, Becky, at his retirement party

Nor are Skibo's gifts as a writer confined to academic subjects or styles. His memoir *Bear Cave Hill* (2007) recounts his youth in Alpha, a mining town in Northern Michigan, and the ethnic/cultural mosaic that characterized this rather remote and austere place. A tribute and elegy for his father, whom he lost too early to cancer, the book becomes a meditation on war—both as myth and reality, since Skibo came of age when the Vietnam conflict was roiling the nation—and on masculinity. In it he sustains a most candid and engaging prose voice.

Skibo also felt compelled in recent years to write and publish a series of columns with Professor Gregory Simpson (recently retired dean of ISU's College of Arts and Sciences) affirming the value of liberal arts education. Published in *The Pantagraph*, the regional newspaper, the columns decried the erosion of public support and funding for public higher education and what the authors perceived as a lack of appreciation for liberal arts in an age when colleges and universities are under greater pressure to justify high tuition costs and demonstrate the relevance of higher learning for current "labor force" needs. In one they wrote, "The liberal arts are seen as less valuable than business, engineering, and nursing, for example, because we can't always draw a straight line between a major and a career with a specific title. Even within the liberal arts, the humanities fields are deemed less worthy than science and mathematics. The humanities are those fields that explore human thought and culture, including such disciplines as literature, history, philosophy, religion, and languages. Devaluing the humanities is unfortunate for several reasons. First, the economic picture is not nearly as bleak as it is painted to be. Employers frequently cite skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and communication—skills that the humanities excel in teaching—as their most important criteria in hiring decisions. Moreover, data from Illinois State University tracking 10 years of income show that rates of income growth for humanities graduates are comparable to those of other disciplines."

accomplishments co-exist with a broad curiosity about and celebration of the range of interests and activities that animate a department that spans bio-archaeology and physical anthropology, along with interpretive, cultural, and historical studies in sociology and anthropology—not to mention applied, community-based research, fostered by close ties to the Stevenson Center.

Lending his voice and considerable leadership skills to the public debate on public higher education is among the goals that Skibo identified as central in his decision to write a new chapter in his career. With wife Becky, newly ensconced in Wisconsin and closer to his children, Matt and Sadie and to extended family, he has our gratitude and lasting friendship as he embarks on this new phase of life.

Maria Ostendorf Smith, years of service at ISU: 2008-2018

By Fred Smith

Maria Ostendorf Smith formally retired from ISU on August 1, 2018, after 10 years of distinguished service in our department.

Professor Smith grew up in Chicago and did her undergraduate work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She majored in anthropology and finished in just three years. After graduation in 1973, she began her graduate career at the University of Michigan, where she worked and did research in the Center for Human Growth and Development. Smith received a master's degree from Michigan and then transferred to the University of Tennessee, where she earned her Ph.D. in 1982 with a dissertation on dental pathologies in prehistoric Native American groups in Tennessee. Her dissertation research opened a career-long focus on these skeletal samples, and her research on various aspects of disease and adaptation in the Tennessee Valley area serves as the primary body of knowledge on these samples. Her publications have appeared in the leading scholarly journals in her field. These include *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, *Human Biology*, *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, and *International Journal of Paleopathology*.



Professor Maria Smith receives the honorable retirement clock upon her retirement



Maria Smith doing a forensic assessment, circa 1996

Smith has worked tirelessly in her career to demonstrate the value of skeletal analysis to understanding prehistoric peoples in the Americas. She is a founding member and unwavering supporter of the Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association (BARFAA), which she has served in several capacities. This organization allows both undergraduate



Maria Smith receiving the Distinguished Lecturer Award, fall 2017

and graduate students to get experience at presenting their research before they do so for larger societies. Smith also serves as associate editor of the *International Journal of Paleopathology*. She has received several recognitions for her work, including being named the fall 2017 Distinguished Lecturer in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a keynote speaker at the 2018 European Meeting of the Paleopathology Association in Zagreb, Croatia.

At ISU, Smith was responsible for teaching a wide array of biological anthropology courses, including very large sections of the introductory biological anthropology course, Human Origins. She also worked closely with both undergraduate and graduate students on the laboratory analysis of skeletal samples from Tennessee and Illinois, offering a summer training school for students every summer. One example of this engagement with students is that seven graduate students and five undergraduate students have published with her, and 18 students have co-authored presentations at scholarly meetings with her. Perhaps most impressive is that she served as the thesis adviser for 18 graduate students during her ISU tenure.

An accomplished artist, Smith plans to do a lot of painting in her new home state of Colorado interspersed with spoiling her two grandkids, Lucas and Josie. But she also plans to continue her work on the prehistoric peoples of the Tennessee Valley. We wish her well.

Mike Wiant, years of service at ISU: 1990-2018 A brief autobiography of an archaeologist

By Mike Wiant

After attending Metcalf School and University High School, Illinois State University was an obvious choice for undergraduate study; I had been on campus for nearly all my education. A chance summer-job lumber delivery to the residence of a new professor, Edward B. Jelks, in 1968 concluded with a recommendation to take a course in archaeology. I graduated in 1971 with a B.S. in what was then known as a social sciences comprehensive major (a degree in anthropology was not available). The social science curriculum was suited to prospective K-12 teachers, but I was inclined to explore a career in archaeology.

After three years of archaeological fieldwork, I returned to ISU in 1974 to pursue a master's degree in sociology-anthropology, which I received in 1977. The hybrid program offered a rich view of human culture and society, brought to life by an exceptional faculty—Jelks, Honerkamp, Christie, Reyman, Calavan, Tolone, Eaton, and Baker among them.

In 1975, I started graduate school in anthropology at Northwestern University, spending summers in the Illinois River valley excavating a series of extraordinary Native American sites such as Koster and Napoleon Hollow. I completed an M.A. in anthropology in 1977 and Ph.D. in 1987.

In 1982, I accepted a position at the Illinois State Museum serving first as a research associate and soon thereafter as a curator of anthropology (1983). After that, I was head of the Anthropology Section (1988-2002), director of the Illinois State Museum-Dickson Mounds (2003-2015), and interim director of the Illinois State Museum (2015-2017). I retired in December 2017.

In 1990, I accepted an invitation to teach a course titled Museum Studies at Illinois State University, in addition to my museum duties, and taught a course for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology nearly every spring semester since until 2018, thanks to many faculty members including but not limited to Stanlaw, Maroules, Skibo, and Fred Smith. I had long desired to be a teacher, and the opportunity to fulfill that wish at Illinois State has been a great and rewarding experience. I am the beneficiary of the curiosity of exceptional students who have engaged me in thoughtful discussions about museums, anthropology, and education year after year.



Mike Wiant as an archaeology student



We bid farewell to Wiant during his final Museum Studies presentation with a reception and a gift

Anne Wortham, years of service at ISU: 1991-2018 sociology professor Anne Wortham retires

By Sarah Aten

After a long career as an associate professor of sociology, Anne Wortham is retiring. Wortham has taught at Illinois State since 1991, adding to a diverse set of experiences

that include service as a Peace Corps volunteer and as a journalist.

In 1959, Wortham enrolled in Tuskegee University, where she obtained a degree in secondary education and planned to pursue social work.

In the summer of 1962, while at Tuskegee, Wortham participated in an international community development project called Operation Crossroads Africa. The project united American, Canadian, and African college students to construct community resources in Africa while fostering cross-cultural relationships.

Wortham then joined the Peace Corps in 1963 and served as a primary school teacher in Tanganyika, which is now Tanzania.

“I enjoyed the challenge of teaching students from British, Danish, Israeli, and Tanganyikan families, but who were adept in communicating in British English,” Wortham said.

Wortham was in Africa when she and other Peace Corps volunteers learned of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Kennedy signed an executive order establishing the Peace Corps in 1961.

“As we listened to the news on Voice of America radio, we were shocked and disoriented. It was deeply disturbing, as it forced us to view our country from afar in a manner for which we were totally unprepared,” Wortham said.

Although her time in the Peace Corps showed her that international relations was not her intended career field, it gave Wortham the opportunity for self-reflection and growth.

“Because we volunteers were of diverse backgrounds, different ages and levels of education, being a PCV involved not only the development of transcultural appreciation of our Tanzanian hosts, but also of each other,” Wortham said.

Following her Peace Corps tour, Wortham resided in New York City for 12 years. There, she worked in print and broadcast media, beginning as an editorial researcher, then as an assistant editor at *Esquire*. She also worked at NBC News as secretary/researcher for news anchor Chet Huntley of the renowned *Huntley-Brinkley Report*, created public service announcements for local radio, and was the research librarian at King Features Syndicate.

“Working in the media was truly an educational and broadening experience for me,” Wortham said. “In broadcast media, I got to see how news was gathered, edited, and reported.”



Fred Smith and Anne Wortham at Anne's retirement celebration

Wortham worked in the media during important moments in history.

“There was so much news: the Vietnam War, anti-war protests; the hot summers of racial violence; the explosion of the youth

movement; the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy; the turbulent 1968 Democratic Party convention; the

ongoing space race and landing on the moon,” Wortham said. “News was being made every hour of the day.”

While working in the media, Wortham continued the self-study of philosophy and history she had begun while in the Peace Corps. She wrote extensively, published numerous essays and articles, and began her book, *The Other Side of Racism: A Philosophical Study of Black Race Consciousness*, which was published in 1981, the year prior to earning her Ph.D. at Boston College.

“As I reviewed research and analyses of race relations, I became increasingly convinced that if I were to contribute anything significant to contemporary discourse I would need the credentials of a graduate degree,” Wortham said.

As she expressed in a lengthy interview with Bill Moyers (published in 2003, as part of the series *A World of Ideas*), Wortham expressed having had a complicated reaction to some aspects of the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, which seemed to present a monolithic view, both of African-Americans and whites. The former, she felt, were portrayed without nuance as “socially defined, historical victims,” which tended to erase the rich traditions and institutions that had emerged from the black community, including the founding of the Tuskegee University in Alabama, founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington—a figure of enduring interest to Wortham, who continues to expand her research on Washington.

Torn between philosophy and sociology, Wortham decided to pursue a Ph.D. in sociology at Boston College.

“To this day, I cannot do sociology without philosophy and history books nearby,” Wortham said.

After obtaining her Ph.D., Wortham taught at Wellesley College, Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Washington and Lee University. She began teaching at Illinois State University in 1991 and was awarded tenure in 1994.

Wortham has appreciated working with students and helping them reach their “aha” moments. “More than any



Wortham obtained a degree in secondary education before serving in the Peace Corps

thing, I love the search for knowledge and the reward of learning—in myself and in others.”

“I’ll miss my colleagues,” Wortham said. “I’ll miss the daily chats with the departmental staff; they have been wonderful in their support and assistance.”

Wortham cared about her students, and it showed in many ways. She would push for correct structure and grammar within papers to a degree I have not seen from



Wortham, front left, with the other Peace Corps volunteers in Tanganyika (now Tanzania)

other professors. While it was challenging to write for her, it was well worth it. I believe that my ability to write papers was greatly increased by Wortham in her theory course.

While these areas are highlights of my time

spent with her, this only scratches the surface of the wonderful work she has done as a professor.

Wortham’s impact on students, in her many years as a teacher, is reflected in these remarks from one of her students, sociology major Conrad Fredricksen:

“In my time as an undergraduate sociology student, Dr. Wortham was one of the most influential teachers in how I form perspectives,” Fredricksen said. Her courses on stratification taught much more than the material, they also informed me on how to see things from multiple angles, and not just follow my gut assumption. In addition to the scholarly guidance she provided, Dr. Wortham was a very responsive and supportive individual to her students, and was willing to lend an ear to anyone who was in a bind. The insight that she provided toward my personal struggles helped me immensely.”

Wortham plans to stay busy in her retirement, devoting time to previously abandoned projects. She will also remain active in campus life.

“I want to continue my association with the Stevenson Center and contribute to its Peace Corps recruitment program, as well as work on the Dr. Hoon Mok Chung undergraduate scholarship for study abroad. Some of ISU’s brightest students are involved with the center’s programs, and I need to be inspired by their aspirations,” Wortham said. “I will continue my service on the Illinois Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.”

“Dr. Anne Wortham is an important part of the Stevenson Center family,” said Director Frank Beck. “Her Peace Corps service in



Wortham with Stevenson Center Director Frank Beck

Tanganyika/Tanzania is inspiring to students, alumni, and staff. She always offers a smile and loves meeting with students. We are grateful for her exemplary service.”

Wortham has been a John M. Olin Foundation Faculty Fellow at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, and a Visiting Scholar at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. Her current research focuses on Booker T. Washington as a cultural carrier of the 19th-century success ethic. She is also developing an anthology of her essays on individualism.

Wortham will also take time to enjoy herself.

“Now and then I will take a break and visit with family around the country, spend time with friends and former colleagues, attend classical music concerts, attend lectures on campus, and take pleasure trips,” Wortham said. “So, as always, I will begin each day with plenty to do. In this, I am truly blessed.”

Dean Simpson Retires

Making a Difference: CAS Dean Greg Simpson’s legacy at Illinois State

By Timothy Wyland

After seven years of dedication and service to Illinois State, College of Arts and Sciences Dean Greg Simpson retired on June 30, 2018. Between last-minute home repairs and packing boxes before their move to Kansas City, he and his wife, Mary Margaret Simpson, sat down to discuss their plan for continued involvement with Illinois State.

Click [here](#) to read the full story.



Greg Simpson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and his wife Mary Margaret

Emeriti News

Robert Dirks, professor emeritus of anthropology, published “Diet and Nutrition,” *Encyclopedia of Chicago Food and Drink*. Carol M. Haddix, Bruce Kraig, Colleen Taylor Sen, eds. University of Illinois Press, pp. 91-92 (2017).

Virginia Teas Gill, professor emeritus of sociology, presented “A Cancer in Your Breast Is Not Gonna Kill Ya’: Addressing the Risk of Death in Surgical Consultations for Early-stage Breast Cancer” at the International Pragmatics Association conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Kathleen McKinney, professor emeritus of sociology, together with her husband **Bob Wazienski**, also professor emeritus of sociology, travel often to Arizona to visit their grandson. They are planning their next inter-

national trip (last one was to South America) for May 2018. McKinney published an article in *Teaching Sociology* (McKinney, K. 2018, in press, April. "The Integration of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in to the Discipline of Sociology." *Teaching Sociology* 46(2)). She also co-edited a book (with Jennifer Friberg of CSD at ISU) that is in final review/under contract at Indiana University Press titled *Conducting and Applying the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning beyond the Individual Classroom Level*.

Fred H. Smith, emeritus university professor of anthropology, was the 2017 Central States Anthropological Society's Distinguished Lecturer. Smith also co-authored four pieces this last year: "Cranial Measures and Ancient DNA both Show Greater Similarity of Neandertals to Recent Modern Eurasians than to Recent Modern Sub-Saharan Africans" for the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*; "New Research on the Late Pleistocene in the Lim Channel Istra" for the *Journal Antiquity*; "Paleolithic hominins and Settlement in Croatia from MIS 6 to MIS 3: Research History and Current Interpretations"; and the chapter "Human Skeletal Remains" in *The Archaeolim Project*, Archaeological Museum, Zagreb, (2017). Smith will also be one of the keynote speakers at the 17th annual meeting of the European Paleopathological Association in Zagreb, Croatia, in September 2018.

In Loving Memory

Juliet 'Judy' Jelks, wife of Ed Jelks, professor emeritus of anthropology, passed away December 13, 2017, aged 93.

From *The Pantagraph*, December 16, 2017

For some years after marriage, Judy worked as a technician, compiling statistics on oil and other commodities in Texas to help finance husband Ed's education as an archaeologist. Later, although she had no formal training in archaeology, she became an accomplished field archaeologist by assisting Ed on scores of digs in Texas; Illinois; Newfoundland, New York; and the Marshall Islands in Micronesia. She co-authored several published articles on archaeology with Ed, and the two of them co-edited "Historical Dictionary of North American Archaeology," which was named as the best reference book of 1988 by *The Library Journal*.

Over a period of about 40 years, she and Ed were host parents to dozens of international students, who viewed her as a sort of surrogate mother, at the University of Texas, Southern Methodist University, and Illinois State University. Until the time of her death, she communicated regularly with many students in several foreign countries. In 2000 she and Ed were awarded a bronze plaque in Beijing by the Chinese Ministry of Culture expressing "appreciation for their 20 years as hosts of numerous exchange students and for their efforts to promote greater

understanding between the Chinese and American people."

Judy will be fondly remembered by the many people whose lives she touched.

Parting words from our graduated student worker

By Katie Zumwalt, 18, health promotion and education

What a pleasure it has been serving the professors and staff of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Illinois State University. Thank you for all the scanning, copying, collating, and stapling jobs. I will bill you all for my carpal tunnel surgery.



Katie Zumwalt, SOA student worker from 2016-2018, at graduation

One of the first classes I took at Illinois State University was Sociology 112 with Doug Dowell. It was an interesting class and I learned a lot, but I also have never met someone as genuine and as kind as Doug. His hospitality and kindness were something I never forgot about him as I parted the class.

Semesters later I found myself in another sociology class, Human Sexuality with Jennifer Woodruff. All I can say is "wow". Such an interesting class with information my high school failed to provide me (a debate to be had later). Jennifer was open, caring, and hilarious, to say the least, and I never forgot her generosity and transparency.

Once I became familiar with campus, I began to look there for jobs. I applied to several, and nothing came up. I found the listing for a clerical assistant for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and I thought that if everyone had the same personality and kindness as Doug Dowell and Jennifer Woodruff that it would be a great place to work, and I was not disappointed. What a great place and environment this has been to work in and the many memories I have made with the staff are to be cherished for years and years. So, a huge thank you to Jim, Jennifer, and Trish for this wonderful opportunity. I am so grateful for the many semesters that I got to work here.

To Trish, thank you for all the help, venting sessions, and patience. You are the best person to work with and the best mom. You are a rock star, so thank you for everything you have done for me and for working with me through my times of annoying you and always asking questions.

Thank you Chris Wellin, Wib Leonard, and Aaron Pitluck, and everyone else for the always-intriguing conversations about healthcare, the future, *Hamilton*, sports teams, statistics, and the ways and means of other cultures outside of the United States. There are days where I wish I had taken one anthro class just to learn more interesting things you all have devoted your lives to studying. Thank you all for the hospitality—without you guys my days would be cold and dreary, also full of less laughter.

To my successor, this is the most wonderful department and filled with the most wonderful and interesting people. I have had the best time here and made some of the best friendships. Oh! Don't forget to always fill the coffee wheel and make sure the paper is topped off in all the paper trays. Do this, and Trish won't yell at you.

Photos of the Year



Maria Smith



Fred Smith

The Lighter Side

This from Mike Dougherty, regarding a collection of jokes gathered from his Sociological Inquiry class from 2012-2016:

Part of the goal in teaching Sociological Inquiry, SOC 206, is to develop, on the part of the students, a collective identity as sociology majors. The inside joke is a common emblem of group belonging. To that end, I assign my SOC 206 students, in the last weeks of the semester to write two sociology inside jokes.

Here is a small selection of such jokes:

- Q How many sociologists does it take to screw in a light bulb?
- A None. They're all too busy looking for the sources of power.
- Q Why did the sociology major turn in an incomplete dissertation?
- A He wanted his dissertation to adequately demonstrate the partiality of concepts.

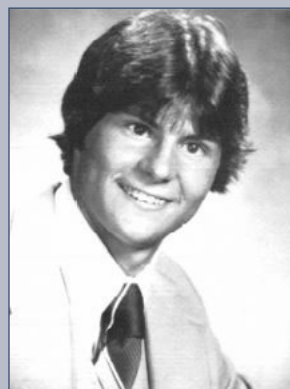
A sociologist is building his dream house. For the foundation, he lays a bunch of abstract paintings on the ground. When asked why he did this he responds, "If you reify them they will become concrete."

Did you know?

Now-retired Dean of the College of Arts and Science Greg Simpson and now-retired Chair Jim Skibo wrote guest commentaries about liberal arts education for *The Pantagraph* from October-December 2017. They can be read at CAS.IllinoisState.edu/about/op-ed.

Did you know that Jim Stanlaw plays the mandolin in the Orpheus Mandolin Orchestra?

Guess who



James Skibo, high school senior and voted "Best All Around"

