



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Anthropology

2019 News

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Anthropologists and Friends,

This has been a year of accomplishments, changes, and challenges. In 2018 we celebrated the 60th birthday of the Gordon L. Grosscup Museum of Anthropology with a display of 60 objects selected from our collections. The exhibit opening was a huge success attended by over a hundred people. Ongoing visits to the exhibits have been continuous including one from the Michigan Congressional Delegation visiting the state from Washington DC.



Dr. Andrea Sankar

Krysta Ryzewski received the prestigious WSU Career Development Chair, allowing her leave time and resources to complete her new book.

Our efforts to provide training in public and applied anthropology for our students are paying off. Associate Prof. Yuson Jung led a collaboration with Nissan Corporation and the Hearst Agency to study the acceptability of fully automated cars, *Confidence Behind the Wheel*:

An Ethnographic Study of Nissan's Safety Technology Features User Experience (UX). Ten students participated in this project as their MA practicum. This project extends our work in user experience and design ethnography. All ten students in the Chevy project have found jobs or are pursuing Ph.D. degrees. Further, findings from the Chevy project, also known as "Call Me Out" were featured by GM CEO, Mary Barra, in the end of year report to shareholders as one of the four most important accomplishments by GM.

We haven't ignored our undergraduate majors. In summer 2019 5 undergraduate majors collaborated with TechTown in a project led by Ph.D. graduate, Dr. Marlo Rencher, to provide technical support for Start Studio, which is TechTown Detroit's newest three-month program for people at the idea stage of starting their tech business. Our students helped the startup teams develop research designs to help them identify a market and assess the consumers' needs. These paid internships provided invaluable training for these undergraduates. This internship was made possible through the exemplary efforts of our academic advisor, Mr. Harman Singh. Mr. Singh replaced retiring Sue Villerot but was transferred to Psychology when one of their advisors left. We now share Ms. Gayle McCreedy with History. Ms. McCreedy is doing an outstanding job: Welcome Gayle!

We welcomed our first MD-PHD student, Michael Drasher, who comes to us from Partners in Health having worked in Sierra Leon for several years. Three of our doctoral students (Colleen Linn, Kate Blanchard, and Slava Pallas) have been accepted to the NSF funded T-RUST (Training in Research in Urban Sustainability and Transformation) program, described last year.



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CHAIR'S LETTER CONT'D

Professor Allen Batteau, director of the Business and Organizational Anthropology program is retiring as of December 2019. As former Anthropology Department chair and PHD grad, Marietta Baba noted in her praise for Dr. Batteau, his writing and publications have explored the intersection of Anthropology and technical fields such as aeronautics and aviation, allowing our students and colleagues to pursue exciting new research that contribute so much to their understanding of the world. Dr. Baba goes on to acknowledge Batteau's incisive analyses of cultural and organizational issues have provided intellectual value of lasting importance that now is part of the canon in Business and Organizational Anthropology. These achievements have placed Allen Batteau in the front ranks of innovators in contemporary Anthropology. To honor Dr. Batteau's contributions, we have initiated the Allen Batteau-EPIC (Ethnographic Practice in Industry Conference) Fund, designed to support our students' participation in the EPIC conference. Allen has generously committed to matching all donations made to the EPIC fund 2 to 1.

Finally, our long time and much, much loved academic services officer, Susan Villerot retired. I am happy to report that she and husband Hank Villerot are enjoying well earned respite by touring the west and southwest and in general having a great time.

Wishing you and yours a safe and happy new year,

Dr. Andrea Sankar



ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND STAFF. Back row: Krysta Ryzewski, Tamara Bray, Mark Luborsky, Yuson Jung, Gayle McCreedy, Uzma Khan, Julie Lesnik, Jessica Robbins, Megan McCullum. Front Row: Jonathon Stillo, Stephen Chrisomalis, Andrea Sankar, Andrew Newman, Allen Batteau. Not Pictured: Tom Killion, Barry Lyons, Guérin Montilus.



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Student News

2019 GRADUATES

May 2019

PhD

Dawn Batts

Monica Rodriguez

MA

Terri Renaud

Kelsey McKoy

Joshua Wolford

Anna Zabicka

Cory Taylor

Andrew McKinney

Haley Scott

December 2019

MA

Samantha Spolarich

Luke Pickrahn

Jami Van Alstine

Robert McCallum

Molly Sanford



May 2019 Commencement.

Left: Dr. Dawn Batts with advisor Dr. Yuson Jung.

Below: Dr. Monica Rodriguez with advisor Dr. Andrea Sankar.



GRANTS

Kelsey Jorgensen, PhD Candidate

Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant

"Documenting ancient human migration through the co-evolution of the Andean potato weevil."

T-RUST trainees **Colleen Linn** (Anthropology), Camille Akemann (Pharmacology) and Brendan O'Leary (Civil Engineering)

American Geophysical Union Grant

"Groundwater quality in Southeast Michigan: Corridors towards exposure and conceptualizing municipal response."

Dan Harrison, PhD Candidate

Wayne State Humanities Center, Dissertation Fellowship

"Transformation of the St. Clair Maritime Cultural Landscape from the Seventeenth to the Twentieth Centuries."



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NEW INTERNAL AWARDS

The Bolger and Rottenberg Scholarship in Anthropology, established in 2018, is awarded to Wayne State University Anthropology graduate students to support community-oriented scholarship and related professional development. M. Rory Bolger is a '74 M.A. and '79 Ph.D. alumnus of the Department whose graduate training helped him become a proactive community member, and in the course of his career with the Detroit's City Planning and Development Department, he was committed to addressing the environmental, economic, and health needs of Detroiters. He and his wife Helene Rottenberg have provided this generous gift to support Wayne State Anthropology graduate students develop professionally, with special emphasis on community-oriented scholarship.

2019 awardees:

Juliette Andre (MA)

Erin Stanley (Social Work and Anthropology, PhD)

Todd Hartley (Social Work and Anthropology, PhD)



The Michael Marie Dion Scholarship in Anthropology, established in 2019, is awarded to Wayne State Anthropology students to support archaeological research. Michael Marie Dion (BS, 1972; MBA, 1981) has held positions in banking and technology for over thirty years prior to her retirement. Over the past thirty years she has worked with and alongside archaeologists in over a dozen countries through the Earthwatch Institute and the Ohio History Connection, among other groups. Her donation is intended to fund students with demonstrated financial need to support the additional expenses associated with archaeological field and collections research.

The 2019 awardees for the Dion Scholarship are:

Samantha Ellens (PhD)

Amanda Ford (MA; Pictured)

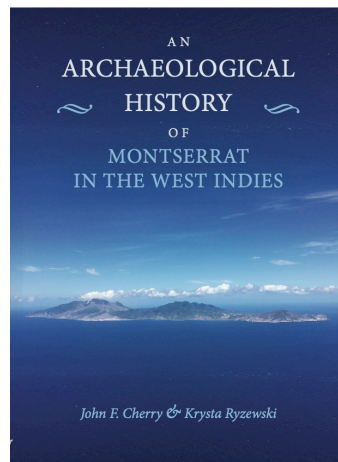


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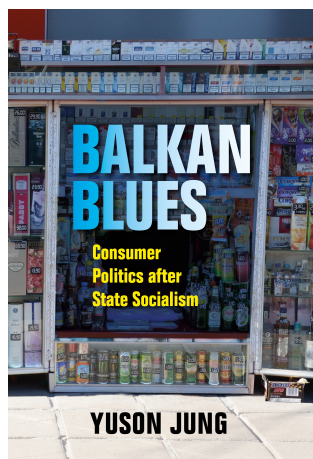
Faculty News

UPCOMING BOOKS



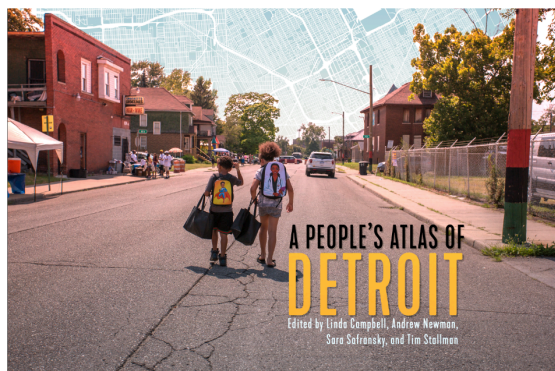
An Archaeological History of Montserrat in the West Indies

John F. Cherry & **Krysta Ryzewski**
Oxbow Press, January 2020



Balkan Blues: Consumer Politics after State Socialism.

Yuson Jung
Indiana University Press, February 2020



A People's Atlas of Detroit.

Linda Campbell, **Andrew Newman**,
Sara Safransky, and Tim Stallman (Eds.)
Wayne State University Press, February
2020



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Faculty News

GRANTS

Andrew Newman

Post-PhD Research grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation.

"Empire's Garden: Anthropology and the Racialization of Vision in fin-de-siècle Paris."

Mark Luborsky and Staffan Josephsson

Planning grant, FORTE – Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

"Stories As Resource In Co-Creation Of Care For Frail Older Persons."

Krysta Ryzewski and colleagues

Heritage grant, Danish Independent Research Fund

"The Legacy of Caribbean Colonialism."

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Marky Luborsky:

"20 Years of Crafting Research Problems Across Disciplines," Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Occupational Therapy, Karolinska Institutet Medical University, Sweden. October 29, 2019.

"Life Span and Rehabilitation," Rehabilitation International World Congress 2020, Aarhus, Denmark. Forthcoming: September 9, 2020.

Julie Lesnik:

"Where are all the women and bugs? Rethinking the evolution of the human diet," Annual Bug Buffet and Academic Conference, Montana State University. February 13, 2019.

"Edible insects and human evolution," Wayne State College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Symposium. April 12, 2019.



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Alumni News

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



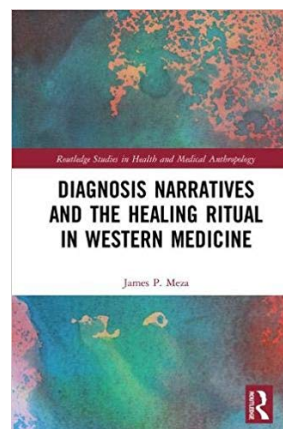
Charles (Chuck) Orser, Jr. (MA 1975) was honored at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology with a lifetime achievement award, the J.C. Harrington Award. Orser is an anthropological historical archaeologist who investigates the modern world as it was created after about 1492. He gained his experience in historical archaeology in the United States (eastern and southern), Europe (Ireland),

and South America (Brazil). He is the author of over 90 professional articles and a number of books, including *Historical Archaeology*, *A Historical Archaeology of the Modern World*, *The Archaeology of Race and Racialization in Historic America*, *Race and Practice in Archaeological Interpretation*, and *Unearthing Hidden Ireland: Historical Archaeology at Ballykilcline, County Roscommon*. He is also the founder and continuing editor of the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*.

RECENT BOOK

Diagnosis Narratives and the Healing Ritual in Western Medicine

James Meza (PhD 2013)
Routledge Press, 2018



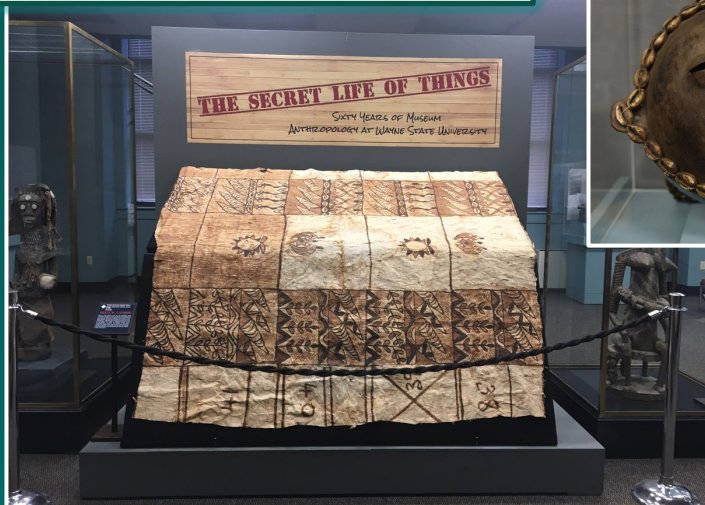


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Photos

SECRET LIVES OF THINGS



CONGRATS SUE!

TECH TOWN INTERNS





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Photos

CELEBRATING THE CAREERS OF DR. BATTEAU AND DR. MONTILUS



Allen Batteau and Guérin Montilus at
Dr. Batteau's retirement party.



Members of the department celebrate Dr. Montilus and his
lifetime achievement award presented at the Haitian
Network of Detroit banquet.



Alumni and current students presented at the Panel on Practice honoring Dr. Batteau.

We would like to thank our donors for their continued support of the department. Donations from our alumni and others help the department fund research and support students. If you would like to make a gift to the department, please go to <http://pivotalmoments.wayne.edu> and follow the instructions listed on the page. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Andrea Sankar at 313-577-6961 or asankar@wayne.edu. Thank you for your continued support!