

W I N T E R 2 0 1 7

# the Department of Anthropology Newsletter



College of  
Liberal Arts and Sciences

## Letter from the Chair

Greetings Anthropology Community!

2016 was a productive and successful year for the WSU Anthropology Department. We had a successful search to replace the irreplaceable Todd Meyers and were able to hire Jonathan Stillo from CUNY. Jonathan, profiled later in this newsletter, has been an important addition to the WSU faculty with his extensive experience, even so early in his career, working with international health agencies. Our department has hosted several national and international conferences in the past year. The faculty and graduate students have been the recipients of several awards, published numerous articles and books, received external funding, and placed our students in prestigious positions both within and outside academia.

We are close to meeting our long-term goals for graduate training. In the past three years we have doubled the number of masters students while restructuring the graduate program to guarantee three years of funding to incoming doctoral students thus making the program more nationally competitive.



Life is going well in the department. Although we have not been able to achieve our goal of finding a home for the entire department and especially for finding a secure location for the GLG museum, we continue to work on this challenge. This semester we are inaugurating a lecture series for outside speakers, titled “Compassion, Morality and Ethics” and will also host the Midwest Meso-American Archaeology Conference in March.

We encourage you to stay in touch, attend the lecture series, and join us in our outreach efforts to spread the understanding of anthropological concepts and knowledge to the wider communities in which we live.

**Best wishes in the New Year.**

## Winter 2017 Lecture Series – Save the Dates!

**Melissa Caldwell**  
UC Santa Cruz

**January 18, 2017**

**“Living Faithfully in  
an Unjust World:  
Compassionate Care  
in Russia”**

**Deborah Padgett**  
New York University

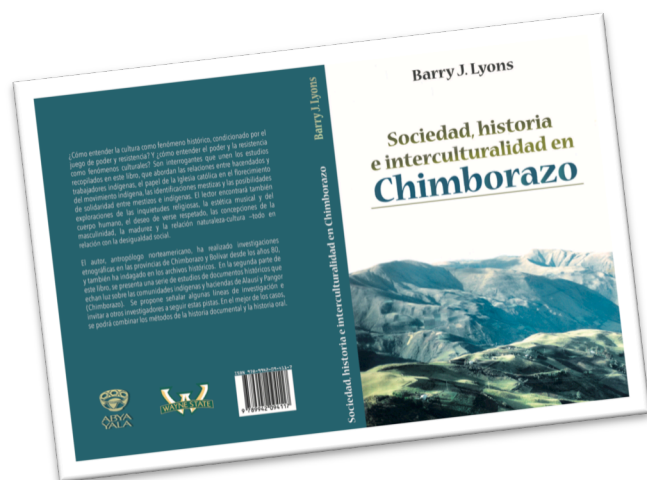
**February 15, 2017**

**“Theory and Method  
Matters: Finding the  
Right Combination”**

**Sharon Kaufman**  
UC-San Francisco

**April 25, 2017**

**“Ordinary Medicine:  
Extraordinary  
treatments, longer lives  
and where to draw the  
line”**



## New Book for Barry Lyons!

*Sociedad, historia e interculturalidad en Chimborazo*  
is in press and will be out soon!



## Jessica Robbins-Ruszkowski Receives Grant

Jessica Robbins-Ruszkowski, assistant professor, received a grant from the National Institutes of Health and the Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research to begin two new ethnographic projects in southeastern Michigan. Congratulations!!!

## Tamara Bray in Copacabana

Tamara Bray, professor, on a hilltop above town of Copacabana, Bolivia, in the archaeological site of Intinqala where she conducted fieldwork this past summer [pictured in the open field to the left of the big, white Basilica in center of town behind Dr. Bray]. (July 2016)



## Krysta Ryzewski wins Research Award

Krysta Ryzewski, assistant professor, has been named as the 2016 Junior Faculty Award recipient by the Wayne State University Academy of Scholars for her research exploring the consequences of disruptive socio-environmental pressures on past landscapes, communities and material culture production. Congratulations!!!

## Congratulations to Allen Batteau!!

Dr. Allen Batteau was promoted to full-professor this year, in recognition of his scholarly career!





## New Faculty Member in Anthropology Jonathan Stillo

Jonathan Stillo is our new Medical Anthropologist from the City University of New York Graduate Center. As a medical anthropologist his research focuses on the social aspects of health, especially epidemic diseases such as tuberculosis (TB). He is interested in issues of health and human rights, anti-microbial resistance, health disparities among vulnerable populations.

Stillo has received research grants from the US National Science Foundation, Fulbright-Hays Commission (Funded by the US Department Education), The Social Science Research Council, Fulbright IIE (Funded by the US State Department), The International Research and Exchanges Board (Funded by the US Dept. of State Title VII), The Romanian Cultural Institute, The Council for European Studies, and among others. Since 2006, he has researched tuberculosis (TB) in Romania—including living at a Romanian TB sanatorium for several months—interviewing hundreds of patients and medical personnel across the country. Jonathan has served as an International Expert on the World Health Organization teams that conducted the 2014 review of Romania's national TB program, as well as the TB program review in Republic of Moldova in 2013, has served as a TB consultant for The US Embassy in Bucharest, and has helped develop multiple regional and national-level guidelines and expert opinion documents for European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). He is planning a future project in Detroit examining TB among African Americans with diabetes and among recent migrants to the USA. In addition to his research activities, Stillo is an advocate for improved TB diagnosis and care, is a member of the Global TB Community Advisory Board and is a Steering Committee member of the TB Europe Coalition.



## More Faculty Accomplishments

### Stephen Chrisomalis Awarded NSF Grant

Wayne State University's Math Corps recently received a nearly \$3 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop and study the replication of its award-winning mathematics enrichment and mentoring program, which operates during summers and on Saturdays. Stephen Chrisomalis, associate professor and graduate director in Wayne State's Department of Anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is one of the project's co-principal investigators. He has been involved in doing research on Math Corps since 2008 and has written two previous articles about the program.



### Andrew Newman wins CLAS Teaching Award

Andrew Newman, assistant professor and a scholar of urban anthropology, has played a key role in the department's initiative, [Anthropology of the City](#). He has engaged his students in the study of our city in a variety of hands-on ways, making a large difference in their lives. A model of the engaged scholar, he is an expert in the cultivation of experiential learning.



### Krysta Ryzewski wins CLAS Teaching Award

Professor Ryzewski's scholarly work crosses disciplinary borders between her home field of anthropology and allied areas of history and engineering. Also part of the [Anthropology of the City](#) initiative, she has deeply involved her students in the archaeology of industrial Detroit, working with them on projects that have been featured in Science magazine and elsewhere.



**Yuson Jung publishes monograph  
"Balkan Blues: Consumer Politics after State Socialism."  
(Indian University Press, forthcoming).**

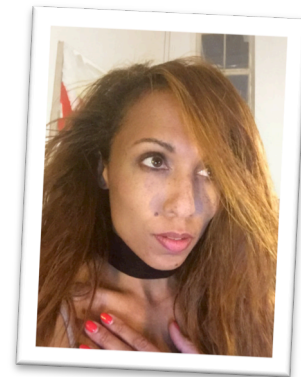


## Graduate Students in the News



Samantha Ellens, a second-year doctoral student, is one of this year's recipients of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada) Doctoral Fellowships. This prestigious award will support her ongoing field archaeological and historical research on Montserrat. Congratulations to Samantha on this awesome accomplishment!!

Maya Stovall, doctoral student, has had the great recognition of being included in this year's Whitney Biennial. Inclusion in the Biennial, which is the preeminent survey of American contemporary art, is a career-making moment for many artists. It is also a proud moment for our department, and Wayne State. Congratulations Maya!!



Kimberly Shay, first-year doctoral student, was approved as first director of the Governor Warner Mansion in Farmington. The position was approved unanimously by the city council. Congratulation to Kimberly on this exciting position!



Michael Henson, SWAN PhD student, along with Dr. Angelique Day from Social Work are featured with the Acting Assistant Secretary Mark Greenberg of the Administration for Children, Youth and Families. Their poster, "Increasing College Access and Retention Rates of Foster Youth: An Analysis of 21 State Tuition Waiver Programs" was well received at a presentation to officials from the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Youth and Families in Washington DC. He was also invited to return to Washington DC in August to present the poster again at the 20<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. Congratulations to Michael!!!

# Conferences

**This past year the Department of Anthropology hosted several major conferences on campus bringing national attention to the department and the University.**

**Dr. Tamara Bray hosted the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Conference on Andean and Amazonian Archaeology and Ethnohistory**

**Dr. Julie Lesnik hosted the Eating Insects Detroit: Exploring the Culture of Insects as Food and Feed on May 26-28, 2016.**

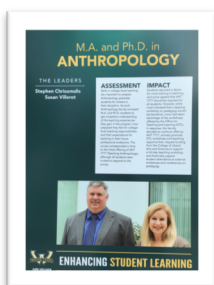
**Transformations Graduate Conference  
Anthropology Speaks: Connecting People, Place, Space and Time on March 5, 2016  
Hosted by the Anthropology Graduate Student Organization.**

**Dr. Krysta Ryzewski hosted the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Historical Archaeology Conference  
“Archaeology & the Power/Danger of Neighborhoods September 23-24, 2016**

**Coming this spring . . .  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Conference on Mesoamerican Archaeology and Ethnohistory, March 10-11, 2017.  
Hosted by Dr. Thomas Killion.**

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 Debra Mazur at 313.577.0402 or at [aa6438@wayne.edu](mailto:aa6438@wayne.edu) Thank you for your continued support!



Stephen Chrisomalis  
and Susan Villerot



Krysta Ryzewski and students outside  
the Grande Ballroom.



Spring at F/AB