Grinnell College

Anthropology Department

Spring '16

Brigittine French Professor, Chair

Jon Andelson Professor

Vicki Bentley-Condit Professor

Douglas Caulkins Professor Emeritus

Cynthia Hansen Assistant Professor

Charles Hilton Assistant Professor

Kathryn Kamp Professor

Tess Kulstad Assistant Professor

Katya Gibel Mevorach Professor

Monty Roper Associate Professor,

Maria Tapias Professor

John Whittaker Professor

Marna Montgomery Academic Support/ Technical Assistant

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Anthropology Class of 2016



Class of 2016

Row 1: Jozi Chaet, Lars Naborn, Sam Curry, Andie Semlow, Gracia Lee, John Whittaker, Kathy Kamp.

Row 2: Gloria Magege, Taylor Watts, Glenis Hunt, Taz Grout, Gina Falada, Emma Leverich, Ruby Barnard-Mayers, Sophie Neems.

Row 3: Maria Tapias, Chuck Hilton, Anna Transit, Vicki Bentley-Condit, Jack Dunnington, Summer Jones, Lane Atmore, Annie Casey, Carlie Arango, Jon Andelson. **Not pictured:** Doug Caulkins, Brigittine French, Katya Gibel Mevorach, Cynthia Hansen, Tess Kulstad, Monty Roper, Sarah Henderson, Patrick Kinley, Shae Turner.

Congratulations to our graduates!

Senior Thesis Presentations & Mentored Advanced Project Presentations

The **Senior Thesis** is designed to provide students an opportunity to do a piece of research and writing in any area of anthropology under the direction of two members of the anthropology faculty. A senior thesis may be based on original research, library research, or a combination of the two, but in any case should build on a student's previous course work in anthropology. It should include a thorough review of relevant previous literature and develop an original argument on the topic. In addition to a written paper, students are expected to do a public presentation of their thesis.

Mentored Advanced Projects (MAP) provide a chance to work closely with a faculty member on scholarly research or the creation of a work of art. A Mentored Advanced Project is an approved course of faculty-directed scholarly or creative work that is the culmination of significant preparatory work. It serves to integrate the knowledge and skills gained by the student's course of studies, and aims to produce results that merit presentation to the college community or the wider scholarly world.

Fall 2015

Jozi Chaet '16

"A Father, A Daughter, and a Fatal Clash of Conflicting Cultures": An Analysis of the Presentation of Gendered Violence and Discourse on Honor Killing in American Newspapers

Advisor: Doug Caulkins Second Reader: Kathy Kamp

Spring 2016

Lane Atmore '16

"Transcendental Meditation: A Postcharismatic Analysis"

Advisor: Jon Andelson Second Reader Monty Roper

Jack Dunnington '16

"Social, Cultural, and Political Response to Extreme Environmental
Challenge in the American Southwest"

Advisor: John Whittaker Second Reader: Jon Andelson

Taz Grout '16

"The Donor-NGO relationship: a comparison of USAID and DFID"

Advisor: Monty Roper Second Reader: Kathy Kamp

Patrick Kinley '16

"Fear and the Contingency of Trust: Affective Resistance to HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)"

Advisor: Maria Tapias Second Reader: Brigittine French

Sophie Neems '16

"Women Alternative Farmers in Iowa: Motivation, Identity and Knowledge Sharing"

Advisor: Jon Andelson Second Reader: Brigittine French

Andrea Semlow '16

"The Presentation of Self in Intentional Communities"

Advisor: Jon Andelson Second Reader: Kathy Kamp

2015–2016 HONORS, ASRELSKY AND LUEBBEN PRIZE WINNERS LUEBBEN AWARD

(BEST ALL AROUND STUDENTS IN ANTHROPOLOGY)
PATRICK KINLEY & SOPHIE NEEMS

The Ralph Luebben Prize in Anthropology is awarded to graduating seniors who best exemplify the ideal Anthropology student, including meritorious scholarly work, breadth in the discipline, field experience, and an anthropological viewpoint on life.

RACHEL M. ASRELSKY '89 MEMORIAL PRIZE IN ANTHROPOLOGY (BEST PAPER WRITTEN IN ANTHROPOLOGY)

LANE ATMORE: A Taste of Utopia? Cultivating a Culture of Sustainability in Fairfield, Iowa

ANNA TRANSIT: The Violence of Addition: Social Suffering Manifested.

The Rachel Asrelsky Anthropology Paper Prize award is given annually to the author of an outstanding paper written for an anthropology class in honor of Rachel Asrelsky ('89) who died in the Lockerbie bombing while returning from an off-campus program.

Honors

Lane Atmore
Josephine Chaet
Samuel Curry
Jack Dunnington
Gina Falada
Tasman Grout
Sarah Henderson
Patrick Kinley
Emma Leverich
Sophie Neems
Taylor Watts

Emeritus Research Fund winners:

Patrick Kinley: The Project of Primary HealthCare

Carlina Arango: Communal Studies Association Dancing Rabbit Edible Landscape

Sophie Neems: Women Farmers: Identity, Motivation and Knowledge Sharing

Anais Levin: Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance field school in San Ignacio, Belize

Summer Jones: Institutional Memory: Studying "Success" in Intentional Communities

Anne Casey: Exploring Post-Conflict Reintegration in Northern Ireland

Sasha Middeldrop: Field school on the outskirts of Guymon, Oklahoma



Above - Professor Tess Kulstad instructs students at the Anthropology 104 pot luck dinner.



Professor Brigittine French's Anthropology of Collective Memory class in Ireland over Spring break at Glasnevin Cemetery.

1st row: Clare Roberts, Anna Transit, Bailey Dann, Lucia Tonachel, Brigittine French, Izzy Leo.

2nd row: Gina Falada, Sam Curry, Summer Jones, Lars Naborn, Liz Nelson, Glenys Hunt, Andie Semlow, Annie Casey, Naomi Worob and Casey Oberlin.

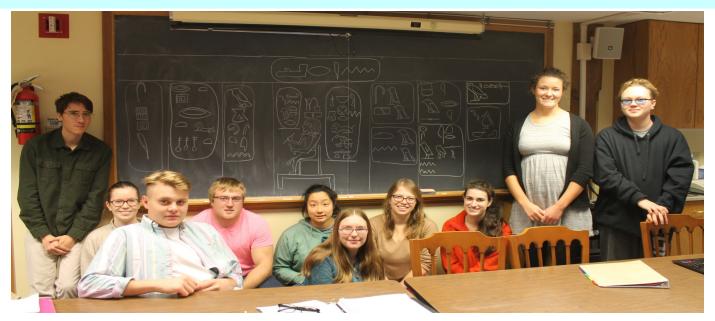
Hazel Batrezchavez '17 had a 2 week exhibition Savage opened in the Smith Gallery on Tuesday November 10th. While constructing the sculptures for this particular show, she was inspired by current events, specifically the Black Lives Matter Movement. Hazel has said that the art pieces that she created, are her personal reaction to the atrocities that have been occurring against African Americans, Latinos, and other minorities.



In a contrasting display of tight leather stretched between sharp metal lines, Smith Gallery show, "Savage," by Hazel Batrezchavez '17, examines a multitude of connections between skin color and identification, such as being perceived as lesser "unconditioned" beings. The show consists of multiple metal-leather sculptures paired with wood block prints.

"[The show] reflects on the way I think about and make art. I didn't make any sketches when I did these pieces, because that felt overwhelming, almost," Batrezchavez said. "I did this process in reverse. I did the sculptures first, and I just went into the metal shop and just looked at the scrap metal. I just laid that on the floor in different shapes and welded it together, and those became my sketches without me realizing it."





Old World Prehistory class with their names in hieroglyphs. (more or less) Left side: Sophie [Neems], Ruth Reidl "The Beautiful", Agustin [Molina]

Center: Erin [Callaway], Djan WTKR "Scribe in the House of Life [= Scribal Teacher]" "Good Righteous Lord in Grinnell Town, Djehuti hotep (= god of scribes is satisfied)"

Right side: Sasha [Middeldorp], Dana [Heilbronner], Pearse [Narum], Merlin [Mathews], Jake B[eecher] Students left to right: A.M., R.R., P.N., J.B., S.Z., E.C., S.M., D.H., S.N., M.M.



Students from Professor Roper's Practicing Anthropology course present their findings from their Applied Community-Based Research.



Jozi Chaet '16 presenting her Senior Thesis in December at the monthly Anthropology Colloquium event. Jozi's title and advisor are listed on page 2.



Lane Atmore '16 presents her MAP at the December Anthropology Colloquium event. Lane's title and advisor are listed on page 2.



Jackson Dunnington '16: Uchronia presents alternate visions of human history, reimagined through an anthropological lens. The centerpiece of the show, Pueblo Hermoso, is a creative reconstruction of actual ancestral Puebloan site Pueblo Bonito, whose extrapolation here invites reconsideration of Western cultural myths, current global circumstances, and the fundamental malleability of



Taylor Watts '16 is a French and anthropology double major from Sacramento, Calif.

the future.

Taylor Watts '16 had never danced before taking a salsa lesson during her New Student Orientation. She discovered she loved dance. Her passion for French goes back a little further, to her sophomore year in high school. Watts is combining both passions in a Mentored Advanced Project (MAP), "A Choreographic Exploration of the 'commerce triangulaire,'" under the direction of Celeste Miller, assistant professor of theatre and dance.

Watts had the idea for this MAP after several powerful academic experiences. One was a summer MAP in Atlanta, also directed by Miller, working with theatre and dance companies whose work addresses social justice issues. *Source: www.grinnell.edu*



Outside Federal Hall

Driven by DATA, Connected by Grinnell

Alumni in tech careers share insights during fall break

by Cindy Deppe

t was all in the DATA for the fall break tour, Oct. 19-24, that connected 20 students seeking career insights with alumni who work in tech startups and at giga-giant Google, in the financial services industry, and in research at a renowned cancer center.

The New York City tour, sponsored by the Donald L. Wilson Program in Enterprise and Leadership, the Center for Careers, Life and Service, and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, was nicknamed DATA for its emphasis on data analysis, technology, and applications.

But it wasn't all stats and spreadsheets as Grinnellians, old and new, learned from each other about the prospects for data-based careers.

For Emily Zabor'03, a research biostatistician at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, the satisfaction of sharing career insights with students came from being reminded that "as an undergraduate, I had never heard of biostatistics or considered the field of public health. So I was excited to share my experiences and opportunities in this way."

Zabor and co-worker Anne Eaton '08 collaborate with doctors to design studies about new cancer drugs, for example, and use data to determine how many patients are needed for a valid study, plan the study design, develop hypotheses, and analyze results.



The charging bull on Wall Street

"My field is specialized but could be very appealing to Grinnellians because it's cuttingedge research and public service," Zabor says.

Biology major Jarren Santos'17 calls the Sloan Kettering visit "pivotal" in his career exploration.

"The DATA tour helped me explore how research and data is applied to a company setting," Santos says. "These individuals were working with data in upcoming health innovations while collaborating with public health experts to determine the impact of new surgeries or the decrease in survivorship of a certain disease. I could totally imagine myself doing this."

The impetus for the DATA tour grew from student interest and faculty recognition of the pervasiveness of data in today's workplace. **Kathy Kamp**, Earl D. Strong Professor of Social Studies, accompanied the tour in her work as director of the College's Data Analysis and Social Inquiry Lab (DASIL).

"With the centrality of data in the modern world, we are doing students a service to engage with data and to visualize how data can be used in creative ways," Kamp said. "The range of work environments and agendas was fascinating, as well as the diversity of majors among alumni who are now involved in the field."

Grinnell Trustee Michael Kahn '74 was a music major at Grinnell and is now an executive in corporate strategy and development for TIAA-CREF, a nonprofit corporation. He has hosted a stream of interns over the past 15 years and enthusiastically agreed to be on the short-term DATA tour schedule.

TIAA-CREF employees Chris Lee '15, Derek Farnam '13, and Christina Mantiziba Cutlip '83 traveled to New York to join Kahn in hosting the tour, as did employee Hans Erickson, son of Luther Erickson, professor emeritus of chemistry, and Jenny Erickson, retired Forum director.

"There is great potential for TIAA-CREF to be a landing place for Grinnell students," Kahn says. "What we do with data is diverse and impactful in a meaningful way. Deep analysis and modeling drives superior investments; it's about getting better outcomes for the people we serve."

Hilary Mason '00, founder and CEO of Fast Forward Labs, gave students a peek into her 18-monthold machine intelligence research business, which reviews research papers, engineering systems, and products that demonstrate machine learning capabilities, then writes about the evolving technology for a general audience.

"All of the technical prototypes we demonstrated for the students use capabilities that only became possible in the last couple of years," Mason says. "The main point of our tour presentation was not so much the specific projects that we work on, but the idea that technology is always evolving, and if you want to succeed in this industry, it helps to be excited by that."

Ajuna Kyaruzi '17, a computer science major from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, has followed Mason's varied and ambitious career path.

"I was very excited to get the chance to talk to Hilary Mason," Kyaruzi says. "Her career was one I have been following for awhile, so speaking to her and learning more about her experiences post-Grinnell was a real opportunity. This past summer I interned at Twitter and got a glimpse of how data drives decisions that a technical company makes, so I was curious to see how other fields use and analyze their data."

The DATA tour also included visits to Bloomberg with Kate Macey '00, Tony Mitzak '86, and Joan Johnson '92; to Lieberman Research Worldwide with Kasia Piekarz '01; at Google with Peter Likarish '04; at Makeover Solutions with Steve Elkes '83; at CredSpark with Lev Kaye '92; and at EDGE Edtech with Ashantha Kaluarachchi '05.

"Diversity of majors and experience was the primary takeaway from meeting alumni," Santos says. "You do not have to major in a business-related field to partake in business and finance or major in a mathematical field to do research in biostatistics. The alumni really emphasized the fact that their diversity was a key component in their career success."

Observing the interactions and connections among current and former students was especially rewarding for **Monty Roper**, Donald Wilson Professor of Enterprise and Leadership and Wilson Program faculty director.

"What I most appreciated hearing from alumni is that they gained the ability to do things 'they had no right doing' because they didn't question that they couldn't. That's the value of the liberal arts," Roper says.

Kahn urges fellow alumni to consider reaching out to students: "If you feel your success is what you took away from Grinnell, you are reaffirming the impact of Grinnell on the world by connecting with a student. It's a *very* powerful connection."

Alumni interested in sharing their workplace experiences with students on future break tours may contact **Nate Dobbels**, assistant director of alumni relations for career programs, **dobbelsn@grinnell.edu**, 641-269-3204.

Restricted Contributions to the Anthropology Department

Mary Niehaus '85

Curtis Scribner '73

Virginia Womack '12

Andrew Derksen '00

Courtney Birkett '99

William Buckheit '82

Sarah Casson '11

Joanna Church '97

Kelly Eldridge '07

Dr. Sarah Gottschalk '92

Anais Levin '19

Kristen Mumaw '12

Steve Alderson '84

Jozi Chaet '16

Mona Ghadiri '11

Willa Akey '15

Thad Bartlett '15

Angelo loffreda '80

Colleen Mahar-Piersma '91

Jeanne Myerson '75

William Green '74

Carol Witz Hunt '80

Danielle Long '00

Julie & Edwin Austin '82

THANK YOU!

Danny Marks '05

The Urban Political Ecology

of the 2011 Floods in Bangkok:

The Creation of Uneven

Vulnerabilities

This paper uses an urban political ecology analysis to question the discourses used by Thai government leaders regarding the causes of the 2011 floods in Bangkok and the solutions that they have proposed in response. In contrast to their argument that the main causes of the floods in Bangkok were climate change and nature, I argue that the causes of the 2011 floods are compound. They are a result of human-nature interactions: while Thailand did receive heavy rainfall that year, a number of human activities interacted with this heavy rainfall to create the floods. During the past few decades, local political elite have risen to power and profited the most from Bangkok's urbanization activities while changes to the physical environment of Bangkok have made those living there more vulnerable to floods. These activities include massive land use change and concretization which have drastically increased run-off, over-pumping of groundwater, and the filling of canals. Further, both the local and national government's overreliance on antiquated and poorly maintained infrastructure made the city more vulnerable to the 2011 floods.

In 2011, human decisions, particularly by politicians, about where to direct and block water heavily influenced which groups were most vulnerable. As a result, the inner city was protected at the expense of those living in the city's peripheral areas. Analyses of disasters in urban areas therefore need to consider how discourses, socio-political relations, and ecological conditions shape governance practices of disasters. **Keywords:** 2011 Thailand floods, urban political ecology, disaster governance, social vulnerability, Bangkok urbanization, Thai flood management.

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.5509/2015883623

September 2015, Volume 88, No. 3 Pacific Affairs

Greetings to my fellow Grinnellians,

I'm writing to you from sunny, 80-degree Santiago, Chile, and despite the smoggy air, I can see the imposing Andes mountain range looming just a few miles beyond the buildings outside my window. After studying abroad here in 2011 and conducting research here for my senior anthropology thesis in 2012, I moved to Santiago in early 2013. My experience living in this thin, coastal, sliver of a country has been challenging but valuable for me in a personal way, a professional way, and of course, in an anthropological and cultural way! It is a country that is still weighed down by a brutal dictatorship that ended 26 years ago. It had 800 earthquakes (some big, mostly small) in the last year, and it is an economic leader in Latin America. Chile's economy is based on mining, business, and tourism, and in recent years, immigrants from Colombia, Peru, and Haiti have flocked to Chile looking for new opportunities. Santiago is a large, modern city that is often overshadowed by more famous cities like Buenos Aires or Rio de Janeiro, but Chile itself has stunning natural landscapes and an interesting history that would catch anyone's attention. From the beginning, I hoped to work in a multi-cultural atmosphere, and that wish has come true. First, I worked with a start-up NGO called VOFAIR, whose team travels the world verifying the impact and honesty of volunteer projects. Then, I taught English as a private tutor for over a year, which I was surprised to find I enjoyed more than I thought I would. I am currently working as Assistant Program Manager at the Fulbright Program, where I've been coordinating our various grants and programs for a little over a year. I've had the chance to work with both U.S. and Chilean professors, students, and scholars, helping them to prepare for their arrival (in the case of the Americans) or their departure (for the Chilean grantees heading to the States). This bright and diverse group's projects and research, of which I've gotten a glimpse during my short time here, are fascinating, and I've enjoyed my time here. Soon, though, I plan to move back to the U.S. to continue my studies in anthropology. Maybe one day I'll run into some of you and invite you over for a pisco sour! Saludos,

Maya Andelson '12

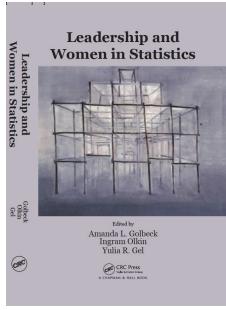
Alumni news

Amanda Golbeck '74

Announcing a New Book: Leadership and Women in Statistics

Chapman & Hall Press, ISBN: 13:978-1-4822-3644-6

This is an edited volume of 27 chapters on a broad range of topics relating to Leadership with special emphasis on Women. With the growth of data science in almost every field of application, statisticians need to take a leadership role. This should not come as a surprise because statisticians have a long history of leadership in agriculture (design of experiments), in engineering (acceptance sampling), in medicine (random clinical trials), in education (tests and measurement) and many more. How can women participate in this growth? This book provides guidelines that will be helpful for both women and men in their professional path. The Editors (Amanda Golbeck, Ingram Olkin, and Yulia Gel) have succeeded in obtaining thoughtful (and at times personal) discussions by leaders in different work environments: government, industrial, and academic, from multi-cultural perspectives, and from different work priorities. This is a book you will want to keep on your shelf and refer to over and over again as you develop your leadership in the course of your career.



Amanda L. Golbeck, PhD

Professor of Biostatistics, School of Public and Community Health Sciences, University of Montana; Elected Member, International Statistical Institute; Fellow, American Statistical Association

Bill Green '74

Recent publications:

- 2014 (W. Green) Identity, Ideology, and the Effigy Mound–Oneota Transformation. *The Wisconsin Archeologist* 95(2):44-72.
- 2014 (C. Pearce and W. Green) Plant Remains from Iowaville. Journal of the Iowa Archeological Society 61:47-56.
- 2014 (E. Starck and W. Green) Shattered Saucers, Broken Bottles, and Family Identity: Historical Archaeology on the Beloit College Campus. *The Wisconsin Archeologist* 95(1):110-112.
- 2014 (D. Bartlett, N. Meister, and W. Green) Employing Museum Objects in Undergraduate Liberal Arts Education. *In formal Learning Review* 124:3-6.
- 2014 (W. Green, G. Mutri, and W. Thompson) North African Archaeological Collections at the Logan Museum of Anthropology: Overview and Research Potential. *Quaternary International* 320:75-82.
- 2013 (S. Schwartz and W. Green) Middle Ground or Native Ground?: Material Culture at Iowaville. *Ethno history* 60(4):537-565.

Ben Shirar '15 published a part of his MAP project.

Shirar, Benjamin T.

2015 By Any Other Name: The Use of Reported Projectile Point Types in Spatial Analysis. *Journal of the Iowa Archaeological Society* 62:41-46.

Cristina Weinberg '82 (weinberg.cristina@gmail.com) is the Mt. Hough Ranger District Archaeologist on the Plumas National Forest, Quincy, CA. She was recently honored for her work as a firefighter and member of the rescue squad for the Quincy Volunteer Fire Department over the past 3 years. "Even with her full-time job with the Forest Service, she still manages to be in the "Top Ten" for emergency responses and training activities," said Chief Cassou. Last year Cristina responded on 201 emergency calls and donated 260 hours in volunteer time to the department. (March 3rd Feather River Bulletin).

Najwa Adra '69

I have organized for AAA meetings in Denver this year: WHAT IS HERITAGE? BRIDGING THE STRANGE AND FAMILIAR IN INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE HERITAGE POLICY. We're on for <u>Friday</u>, <u>November 20</u>, 4-5:45 pm.

I have temporarily relocated to Qatar, the ideal location for a writing residency.

In the past few years, I have been talking with UNESCO in the past few years - attending workshops, meetings - on heritage issues in Yemen, and especially on sustainable heritage.

My recent publications include:

2015 Insight on Conflict. After the Bombing: Can Tribal Institutions Help Rebuild Yemen? http://www.insightonconflict.org/2015/05/can-tribal-institutions-help-rebuild-yemen/

2013 - 2014 Women and Peacebuilding in Yemen: Challenges and Opportunities. Policy Brief, Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre (NOREF). Available online: http://www.peacebuilding.no/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/The-Gulf/Publications/Women-and-peacebuilding-in-Yemen-challenges-and-opportunities Republished in Open Democracy, January 21, 2014 http://www.opendemocracy.net/arab-awakening/najwa-adra/women-and-peacebuilding-in-yemen-challenges-and-opportunities

2011 Tribal Mediation in Yemen and Its Implications to Development. AAS Working Papers in Social Anthropology, 19:1-17. Available online: http://epub.oeaw.ac.at/wpsainhalt?frames=yes

Heads up for my In Focus contribution to AN titled, "Don't Throw Out the Baby with Social Evolution: Revisiting "Tribe" in the Middle East and North Africa.

Ali Benjamin '92

Hi there - it's not exactly anthropology related, but I just published a book called THE THING ABOUT JELLYFISH, which was in the Fall 2015 Grinnell magazine. It's a finalist for a national book award. Writing isn't anthropology exactly, but it does require studying human behavior. Ultimately, stories are always people about relating to (or failing to relate to) one another and to their society at large. It's always *felt* anthropological in nature to me!

thing about letter from

The Thing About Jellyfish

Published by Little, Brown, and Company, this middlegrade novel by Alison Wade Benjamin '92 earned starred reviews from Kirkus and Publisher Weekly. The story centers on a science-obsessed 12-year-old girl who becomes convinced that her best friends death was caused by a rar ejlufyths sting and decides to prove it. The coming-of-age story is also about environmental destruction, cology, the nature of hope and cruelty, family, friendship, and the scientific method.

Kelly Eldridge '07 is at University of California, Davis and in Alaska: "there's too much to do up in Alaska! I accepted a permanent position working for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District as an archaeologist (there are now 2 of us for the entire state (!)). Less than a week before we moved back up to Anchorage, I took (and passed!) my Qualifying Exams for the University of California, Davis, so I am now *officially* a PhD Candidate in Evolutionary Anthropology with a Designated Emphasis in Native American Studies. :)

I'm scheduled to defend my dissertation (still in its nascent writing stage) by 2019, and the Corps is going to let me take time off in the summer to continue excavating out in Shaktoolik (the Alaska community I've been doing research in during the past 3 summers). It feels nice to have a real job with good family health insurance.

In an ideal world, once I finish up the degree, I'll be able to adjunct at the University of Alaska Anchorage in the evenings and continue working for the feds during the day - job security and teaching! We'll see how it works out."

If you do not wish to receive the Anthropology Newsletter, please e-mail Manra Montgomery at montgomm@grinnell.edu or write to Grinnell College, Anthropology Department, Grinnell, IA 50112-1690



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