



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM- THURSDAY POSTER SESSION

American Anthropological Association Annual
Meeting 2024: PRAXIS

Happy Hour Poster Session
6pm-730pm

Poster Presentation Sessions- Thursday 6pm- 7:30pm

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3585 "University Vampires": Examining the Intersection of Student Life and Disability in Academic Spaces from an Ethnographic Perspective

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Disability is best understood as a relation, a comparison of ability, and the university campus can be said to be the ultimate test of ability. Who exactly are these university, "universal", students that are supposed to "succeed" in such places? And, what does it mean for students that struggle to adapt and assimilate to such environments? How can we grapple with occupying these states of "undead"-bodies/minds that are too unregulated and undisciplined to be "normalized", too dynamic and understandable to be "othered"? Human, an often assumed state, is not a universal category. Yes, in common vernacular, we are human, but some of us are more human than others. If we take "human" as the standard that it is upheld as the superior being, one capable of dynamism and agency, then the opposite must be true; those that do not fall under the supposed inclusive definition of "human" fail to deserve this assumed, inherent dynamism and agency. Disability is qualification that connotes human, in theory, but lesser-than-human, in practice. And, for many, the label of "disability" is not an isolated incident, but part of a larger disqualification from the category of "rational man" that controls academic discourse, the production of knowledge without a "body" as put by Oyeronke Oyewumi. This knowledge can, of course, be generalized and universalized to "everyone", that is "everyone" that is considered human, a malleable category. Students, then, of course, do not possess bodies; their minds as facilities for knowledge production are not at all influenced by their bodies; they all ideally possess the "universal body" that does not taking into account eating, sleeping, moving-all these tasks that consists of the body in the physical realm does not translate well to the social understanding of the student. And, when disability is framed as a qualification of a student, what is unstated is that the ideal student is not disabled, not limited in mental/physical activities by their "body"? Playing with semiotics of the Western cultural image of the "vampire", the monstrous figure that hides in "plain sight", this project, through student interviews and literature review, aims to provide critical perspective on how "invisibilized" disabilities, in relation to other marginalities, function on a systemic academic-level by deconstructing the "universal" student.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Meghna Yennu

2716 'The birthkeepers within us': Analyzing Los Angeles' birthworkers of color communities through the violent history of obstetrics

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

For low-income birthing people of color in the United States, the experience of giving birth is often riddled with obstacles. The increased medicalization of births has placed low-income birthing people of color in a vulnerable position where their autonomy over their bodies and experiences is constantly being challenged. The midwifery model of care aims to prioritize birthing people's autonomy. Under the midwifery model of care the birthing person's physical and emotional health is centered, as well as the goal to avoid unnecessary medical interventions. This model of care is believed to be nurturing in a way that other models of care aren't, such as the techno-medical model of maternal care. Although the midwifery model of care aims to make up for some of the negative outcomes experienced by birthing people in more techno-medical settings, the structural inequities experienced by racial and class minorities makes this goal more complicated. The demographics for midwives in the United States is overwhelmingly white. According to the 2020 demographic report by the American Midwifery Certification Board, over 85% of registered midwives identified as white. This lack of diversity is believed to influence the ways in which birthing people of color experience care. This poster presentation analyses the faults in maternal health that transcend the models of care. This poster presentation will compare narratives of birthing people of color receiving care in a low-income serving birth center in Los Angeles and narratives of white birthing people receiving care at a private/exclusive birth center in Los Angeles. The goal is to be able to map out the ways in which race and class can negatively influence birthing experiences despite receiving care within a model that prioritizes the patient. This poster presentation aims to communicate ways in which midwifery care can further cater to non-wealthy/non-white populations.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Cathy Roman, University of California, Los Angeles Cathy Roman, University of California, Los Angeles

2083 A Cultural Domain Analysis of How Dads and Doulas Perceive Maternal Support in Tampa, FL

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

A 2019 report by the National Home Visiting Resource Center (NHVRC) demonstrates that when doulas are brought into a two-parent home, dads do not feel like they know what their own roles are. Likewise, preliminary conversations with doulas have shown that they have differential

attitudes about how to cooperate with fathers: some say their client is the birthing person, while others feel their client is the whole family (including the expectant or new father). In Summer 2024, we conducted a primary phase of free-list interviews followed by secondary phase of pile-sort interviews with dads (n=12) and doulas (n=12) in Hillsborough County. We examined our data using a B' Score analysis for cultural salience (FLARES), multidimensional scaling (UCINET), and thematic coding of the interview data (MAXQDA). Using Social Support Theory as well as a Marxist Feminist perspective of the gendered division of care and labor, we set out to accomplish three things: (1) determine what each population perceives to be the most culturally salient forms of maternal support, (2) examine the population perceptions have in common and where they diverge, and (3) gain new insights into potential avenues for cooperation so that they can build a stronger base of support for pregnant and postpartum people.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Richard Powis Kiara Perez-Cans

2443 An American View of Death: Mortality and Remembrance through the Camera Lens

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Material artistic renditions of remembrance, such as post-mortem photography, Victorian hair sculpture, kotsubotoke, and mourning quilts, can mediate ideas of mortality, as well as broaden how and where we grieve and remember. Earlier analyses of the North American perception of death have focused on taboo and denial (Ariès 1974, Becker 1973), but the popular re-emergence of art as a vehicle for death-related processes suggests differing attitudes. Specifically, contemporary memorial uses of objects and landscapes reflect a transition to new beliefs concerning mortality and the sacred that engage less with traditional religion (Dawdy 2021). Such uses of objects and landscapes include cremation art, living headstones, and commemorative murals. In this project, I combine art and ethnography to consider how people make sense of mortality and remembrance through photography of places and objects in 21st-century urban South Texas. How and why does photography mediate the relationship between the deceased, the artist, and the viewer? What ideas and beliefs about death and remembrance are reflected through the camera lens? Data stem from analysis of participants' photographs, ethnographic interviewing, and participant observation of a photography exhibit about materiality, mortality, and remembrance. Themes include experiences in the production and consumption of remembrance art, including how artists render that relationship between materiality, space, and death, and how viewers understand and experience this relationship. I argue that photography itself can act as a liminal phenomenon and object between the deceased/the other and the living/the physical. Such research adds to disciplinary conversations regarding transitional processes and spaces, making sense of death, and continuing relationships with the deceased.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Rory O'Reilly Rory O'Reilly

3560 An Anthropological Excavation on an Archeological Site: A History of Race Relations at Chucalissa

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

A public anthropology project that examines the history of incarcerated men who were forced to labor during the construction of the C.H. Nash Museum. The project aims to analyze the connections between the intertwined geographies of plantations, sharecropping, incarcerated labor, and White exclaves in the territory of and surrounding the museum. In 1936, the state of Tennessee repurchased the land on which the Chucalissa museum now stands, transforming it into the T.O. Fuller State Park. As park clearance commenced, artifacts from the Mississippian era were unearthed by an African American Civilian Conservation Corps team. In 1938, archaeologists and incarcerated individuals began excavations. This research aims to bring the history of incarcerated labor to the forefront of public awareness.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Kelcy Ramirez Kelcy Ramirez

2626 Artifacts of Affluence: Unearthing Socioeconomic Insights from Mingqi Across Chinese History

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Mingqi are Chinese funerary replicas of the deceased's material objects placed inside their tomb. Mingqi had been a part of Chinese spiritual tradition since 700 BCE and continued to be so until 1900. My research focuses on the composition and symbolism of mingqi using pieces from the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, Florida, for analysis. Norton Museum of Art has one of the largest Chinese artifact collections in Florida, which includes mingqi from the Han (206 BCE–220 CE), Tang (618–907), and Ming (1368–1644) dynasties acquired as gifts from Ralph Norton's and Ben Schepps' collections. With this research, I use approaches from symbolic anthropology to analyze how, over time, mingqi became spiritual indicators of socioeconomic status.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Karina Syc Karina Syc

1468 Attempted 3D Modelling of Reflective Objects

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Obsidian is difficult to model using standard photogrammetric methods, due to its high reflectivity in the visible light range. Photographing under UV or IR lighting offers a potential non-invasive solution to collecting accurate photogrammetric data of highly reflective objects. This study examined the accuracy of data collected under UV and IR lighting when used to photograph obsidian. UV photography was expected to prove to be the most useful method for producing accurate 3D models, but failed to produce any usable models.

Archaeology Division

Brian Carroll, Temple University, Department of Anthropology
Brian Carroll, Temple University,
Department of Anthropology

2954 Attraction Spectrum: A Comparative Study of Heterosexual and Non-heterosexual Mate Preferences

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Evolutionary research on mate preference suggests that there are differences in the qualities that women and men prefer in a partner and that these preferences are relatively consistent across cultures. Most of these studies have centered on heterosexual individuals, and the limited research conducted that considers the LGBTQ+ community focuses largely on non-heterosexual men. This research aims to investigate mate preferences within the LGBTQ+ community by comparing mate preferences of women and men who identify as non-heterosexual to those who identify as heterosexual. In order to compare mate preferences by sex and sexual orientation, adults living in the US who identify as either male or female and as either heterosexual or non-heterosexual will be invited to complete a multi-part survey that includes a mock dating profile task, a demographic, and perceived mate value questionnaire, and a preferred partner traits task. The mock dating profile serves as a measure of projected mate value and an indicator of how the participants portray themselves as a partner under the guise of constructing a dating profile, while the remainder of the survey will evaluate the participants' perceptions of their own mate value and the traits they find most important in a partner. To identify the characteristics that are most important in a partner, participants will be asked to rate the importance of a series of traits in a potential partner by using a budget allocation task to 'create' their ideal partner, and to indicate their level of compromise for each trait. The mock dating profiles will be analyzed using thematic coding and responses will be compared between heterosexual and non-heterosexual individuals to identify differences in relationship preferences. Responses for the perceived mate value questionnaire and the preferred partner traits task will be compared to assess differences between the four groups and provide insight into the magnitude of these differences.

The results of this study will add to the research on non-heterosexual mate preferences, including the perspectives of non-heterosexual women. With rising numbers of individuals in the United States identifying as non-heterosexual, a more holistic understanding of mate preferences that represents all identities is needed to work toward a more complete understanding of the evolution of human mate preferences.

Biological Anthropology Section

Holly Love, University of Southern Mississippi Holly Love, University of Southern Mississippi

3141 Beyond Survival: Post-treatment Challenges for Young Cancer Patients in South Korea

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In this presentation, I will address the challenges young cancer patients in their 20s and 30s in South Korea face in their everyday lives post-treatment. Regardless of their cancer types and stages, young cancer patients encounter problems related to (1) physical appearance, (2) romantic relationship, and (3) health care. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork conducted for four months between September to December 2023 in a cancer support group, this paper examines how young patients experience the challenges of cancer more severely than other age groups of patients due to the age factor and their pursuit for normalcy.

In terms of physical appearance, young patients are particularly sensitive to weight and hair loss. The notion that the youth is the most beautiful phase of life magnifies the degree of pain that young patients feel. Secondly, romantic relationships and marriage are seen as important tasks that young adults have to achieve. In this context, cancer becomes an even greater obstacle. Finally, the perception that young adults are the healthiest population of all age groups poses harsher blame upon young patients' cancer diagnosis. Although these challenges may affect cancer patients of all ages, I argue that, for young cancer patients, hardships are amplified at the intersection of their young phase of life and their desire to stay within the norms of the society. While the continued failures of young cancer patients' efforts to look 'normal' give frustration, the patients find comfort and the feeling of normalcy in the cancer support group.

Stories of surviving cancer, especially when experienced at a young age, are often depicted as heroic. While their stories of pain and survival, from diagnosis to treatment, gain substantial attention, the way they navigate their lives afterward is largely unknown to the public. However, for young cancer patients, survival marks just the beginning; they confront numerous challenges in their daily lives after their treatment concludes. Through this study, I aim to shed light on the everyday struggles of young cancer survivors and draw attention to the marginalized lives of these individuals.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Yeonju Kim Yeonju Kim

1354 Birth Praxis Through Generations

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Conditions predisposing to cesarean birth (CB) cluster by physical, demographic, and environmental factors. Familial clustering of CB is a little-studied bio-social phenomenon. This mixed methods study explores transgenerational trends in birth praxis. The primary quantitative outcome is mode of delivery by individual birthing person: all vaginal birth (VB) or any CB. Qualitative outcomes include satisfaction with birth experience.

Persons >18 years of age who gave birth to a child in the US were eligible for participation. 85 persons met criteria and consented to provide demographic and birth experience information for themselves and maternal family members (Grandmothers, Mothers, Daughters, Sisters) using structured and open-ended questions. Responses were analyzed by cohort: Baby Boom Generation (BBG, 1946-1964); Generation X (GX, 1965-1980); Millennial Generation (MG, 1981-1996); Generation Z (GZ, 1997-2012). Index cases are persons of BBG or GX, (childbearing generally complete). Grandmother, Mother, Index and Daughter outcomes were compared.

Persons of diverse age, biosocial location, and ancestry participated. The incidence of any CB increased with each generation: Grandmothers 2.33% (n=43), Mothers 8.24% (n=85), Indexes 31.76% (n=85), Daughters 51.22% (n=41). No difference was found between the ratio of all VB versus any CB ($p=0.48$) among the offspring of Mothers delivered by all VB (ratio 1.33) or any CS (ratio 1.36). However, a strong trend ($p=0.08$) was identified toward increased CB among the offspring of Indices who had any CB (ratio 0.05; CB rate 66.67%) compared to Indices who had all VB (ratio 1.14; CB rate 46.67%). Parity decreased across generations; no differences in parity was found between all VB and any CB groups within generational cohorts.

Participant narratives generally convey satisfaction with birth experience, whether VB or CB. Attitudes toward delivery ranged from strongly desirous of VB, to ambivalence, to embracing planned CB. Some participants from each generation perceived a lack of provider care and/or knowledge, referencing both physicians and midwives as sources of adverse interpersonal and medical experience.

Participants readily recalled their birth stories; many knew little of their mothers' birth experiences, and knowledge of grandmothers' experiences were mostly lost. Persons whose mothers shared positive expectations of VB usually embodied these expectations. Likewise, expectation of CB was normalized in some families.

The dramatic increase in CB over the past 50 years is due to multiple inter-related biosocial factors. This study describes lived experience of individual birthing persons - all VB or any CB. Generational comparison suggests that CB rates are higher among those persons who themselves were born by CB, beginning with BBG and GX generations. Data from diverse populations and emergent generations are needed to confirm these trends and implications of transgenerational birth praxis.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg

1447 Care in Medieval Transylvania: A Bioarchaeological Study

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Disabled individuals have historically been omitted from the archaeological record, appearing only as liminal figures who retain minimal agency and association. When they do appear, these individuals are misrepresented in an emotional context of despitiness, dread, and despair. Due to this, archaeological analysis overlooks a significant demographic, resulting in an incomplete understanding of the past. Efforts to remedy this omission of the disabled experience require us to examine how bioarchaeologists approach the subject of disability, as well as the theoretical shortcomings associated with integrating the heterogeneity of abilities into analysis.

In this poster, we display one method for reinserting disabled individuals into the historical record. This analysis exhibits a microhistorical bioarchaeology of caregiving behaviors employed for Burial 13 and Burial 150, two disabled adults excavated from the Bögöz archaeological site (1100-1700) in Mugeni, Romania. Care-giving behaviors are complex and multi-faceted human behaviors that offer rich information into the traditions and values of the society in which care is occurring. Analyzing the lived experience of caring for rheumatoid arthritis and a traumatically dislocated hip in medieval and early modern Transylvania offers as an example for how bioarchaeologists can include disabled individuals as active historical agents worthy of analysis- that the lived disabled experience offers unique insights into archaeological societies that, otherwise, would go unobserved.

Further, this project is an extraordinary opportunity for the ethnically Hungarian Székely community, as this study integrates and involves descendant communities into analysis. Although the Székely have inhabited the Transylvanian region since the year 894, their community has been swapped between ruling powers and most recently became politically isolated in 1918 after the Treaty of Trianon was enacted. Living people today recall a time when they or their grandparents experienced a shift in international borders and national identity. Despite the presence of Hungarian-speaking Székely in Transylvania, very few studies contribute any knowledge of their history. Aligned with the AAA's 2024 theme, "Praxis," this project aims to construct a more holistic approach to bioarchaeological analysis by integrating traditionally omitted demographics, analyzing forgotten cultures, and involving living descendant communities into the larger effort.

Biological Anthropology Section

Megan Heron Megan Heron

2379 Coastal Identity & Community Museums In Ecuador

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

As a tangible linkage to the past, archaeological material culture plays a vital role in constructing contemporary identities. In Ecuador, archaeology focused on the state societies of the Andean highlands has long informed an Inca-centric national narrative about the indigenous past, leaving coastal peoples on the margins. Conversely, more recent efforts at investigating overlooked coastal sites have paralleled the process of coastal communities publicly reclaiming their indigenous status.

Archaeology Division

Benjmain Crawford Benjmain Crawford

2505 Companionship as Medicine: Health Buddies has the Perfect Dose!

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Chronic conditions often lead to social isolation, affecting nearly 25% of individuals aged 65 years and older according to the CDC. This isolation is linked to poor health outcomes, increased hospitalization rates, and a nearly 50% higher risk of dementia. In response, Health Buddies was developed in 2020 as a 12-week telephone reassurance program pairing isolated older adults with college students, serving as their Health Buddies. Over the program's duration, Health Buddies are trained on various topics to discuss with their clients.

This intergenerational relationship has shown significant benefits, including reducing unnecessary medical visits, enhancing confidence in aging in place, decreasing isolation, increasing physical activity, and empowering patients to manage their health. In 2023, 104 participants (80 female, 24 male) received the Health Buddies intervention. An independent program analysis from the University of South Florida demonstrated statistically significant improvements.

Recognizing the epidemic of isolation and loneliness, the US Surgeon General has underscored the importance of interventions like Health Buddies. The program has demonstrated that the weekly phone calls foster meaningful connections and companionship, offering a valuable antidote to the epidemic of loneliness.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Aria Garling Aria Garling

3521 Confronting the Serpent: Risk-Taking and Mortality Perceptions in Python Pursuits

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In 1992 Hurricane Andrew destroyed a reptile breeding facility in the Everglades, setting loose hundreds of Burmese pythons that have since exploded in population, heralding an ecological catastrophe. With no natural predators to challenge their dominance on the landscape, they threaten to radiate northward, decimating all mammal life south of the Mason-Dixon line. Enter Florida Man. In one of the many public programs aimed at stopping this threat, the state government of Florida has mobilized the public in capturing and eliminating the giant snakes during the 10-day annual Florida Python Challenge, an open season where amateur and professional hunters compete for cash prizes. Participants in the challenge come from diverse backgrounds but are all united in at least one thing: their willingness to approach and handle dangerous snakes.

It has been suggested that the predation risk posed by dangerous snakes may have provided the prototypical stimulus for the evolution of the mammalian fear module. Evidence of perceptual privilege towards snakes within humans, even in conditions of limited experience, supports the notion of a deep evolutionary history of serpentine threats. Consequently, the Florida Python Challenge provides an opportunity to explore experiences of fear and arousal, as well as perceptions of mortality and risk-taking within the context of an environmental challenge of profound salience to the mammalian class. Through a combination of participant observation and person-centered interviews, I explore perceptions of both short and long-term mortality risks and the role these play in shaping risk-taking decisions while in the field pursuing pythons.

New insights into the relationship between risk-taking and perceptions of mortality among high sensation-seeking individuals gained from this analysis complement work on the evolutionary relationship between fear, arousal, perceptions of death, and risk-taking behavior, specifically research which seek to apply life-history theory to explore the link between ecological cues of extrinsic mortality and individual differences in impulsivity and risk-taking propensity. How do early-life and recent experiences shape perceived life-expectancy and what influence, if any, does this have on willingness to hunt pythons and risk management during the act? By adopting an ethnographic approach, I seek to add nuance to ongoing conversations about risk-taking propensity and extrinsic mortality cues, allowing participants in the Florida Python Challenge to describe for themselves their motivations, expectations, and experiences when approaching dangerous snakes in ways that are not possible using typical survey-based study design.

Biological Anthropology Section

Ashley Mensing Ashley Mensing

1735 Creating a University Sustainability Strategy: an anthropological analysis of actors

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In the light of changing policy themes in different countries in the context of climate change, a number of European universities are incorporating sustainability principles into their operations. Taking the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a starting point, they should become part of

the functioning of universities. Individual universities are starting to develop their own strategies and tools to achieve their goals. However, the problem is people, both students and staff, who generally approve of the goals but do not want to change their behaviour. This paper analyses the process of sustainability strategy development at Czech universities and presents the results of an empirical investigation that analysed the approaches and strategies of different types of actors and their willingness to participate both in the development of the university sustainability strategy and subsequently in the implementation of specific sustainability goals. The paper synthesises the analysis of the institutional environment with an analysis of actor interests, motivations and approaches. The methods used were interviews, focus groups and a questionnaire survey. The paper demonstrates the practical application of anthropology in the development and implementation of university strategy.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Dušan Lužný Jan Váně

2150 Decolonizing Anthropology: From a Multinational Translation Project to World Anthropologies

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Multilingual publication has been overlooked in today's publishing politics and academic landscape, particularly under the influence of English cultural and economic hegemony. Globally, non-native English-speaking scholars are encouraged to publish in English rather than their native languages to conform to publishing markets and academic promotion requirements. This ethnographic study examines the often-neglected non-English publishing implementation process of a Sino-Portuguese academic translation project across Brazil, China, Portugal, and the U.S. By studying groups of anthropologists, professors, editors, and communities around these people within and beyond academia, this study investigates how publications in non-English languages are challenged, encouraged, or negotiated within specific publishing environment and institutional organization. The aspiration of translating/sharing knowledge of the local anthropological setting and practice with people "far away"/outsiders is carried with different academic ambitions. At the intersection of multi-layered networks of global scholarship and sociology of knowledge, I explore how non-native English-speaking scholars navigate academic publication and the unique anthropology culture characterized by reconstructing/creating/bounding new identities intersecting with the post-colonial decolonizing academia.

The research broadens the discussion of studying people who are above the researcher within profound geopolitical and social-economic dynamics across countries, which also demonstrates the idiosyncratic scholar identities within knowledge production processes and lived experiences of cross-national anthropological translation that potentially reshaping the publication regime, theory of Decolonizing Anthropology and World Anthropologies.

Keywords: Multilingual publication, non-native English-speaking scholars, studying anthropologists, sociology of knowledge, decolonizing anthropology, world anthropologies, STS

Society for Anthropological Sciences

Danlu Yang, Oregon State University Danlu Yang, Oregon State University

2848 Determining the Pubertal Age of Female Subadults Within the New Mexico Decedent Image Database

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Adolescence marks a critical period of social and biological transition, characterized by the onset of puberty—a pivotal milestone indicating sexual maturity. Shapland and Lewis (2013, 2014) proposed a method for tracking pubertal stages within the skeleton, encompassing observations of various skeletal developments such as the mandibular canine, hamate bone, distal radius, phalanges, iliac crest, and cervical vertebrae 3-5. This study analyzes the pubertal stages in 26 subadult females from the New Mexico Decedent Image Database between the ages of eight to 20. By integrating the extensive background information provided by the New Mexico Decedent Image Database, this study explores the factors influencing the onset of puberty—early, normal, or delayed—and their correlation with nutritional and social stresses. The results of this project reveal a diverse range of pubertal ages and the impact of socioeconomic, environmental, and health factors on the age of menarche. This study aims to contribute to the understanding of adolescence in bioarchaeology, emphasizing the biocultural implications of pubertal development.

Biological Anthropology Section

Jessica Parenti Jessica Parenti

2698 Digging Through the Archives: An Archaeology of New France's Bovine Legacy through modern Natural Language Processing

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

The arrival of cattle in New France was an event that played a major role in shaping the environment, economy and culture of the region during colonial times. Despite its importance there is still much to learn about the pathways of cattle dispersal in eastern Canada and how this introduction affected the daily lives of European settlers and Native communities.

To apprehend this phenomenon and its broader anthropological consequences, we have designed a multifaceted research project that aims at integrating archaeological, zooarchaeological, and biomolecular data (RABBA – "Recherches en archéologie biomoléculaire sur les bovins aux

Amériques: origines, mobilité, pratiques") with the automated analysis of large amounts of digitized archival texts (Projet BNF – "Bovins Nouvelle-France"). Our approach involves exploring both material evidence and historical texts to understand how cattle were introduced into New France and how they impacted society and the environment. By combining findings with insights from written records we aim to show how human interactions with animals like cattle transformed landscapes and livelihoods.

This poster details the first results of BNF part of the project and how the innovative use of modern large language models offers new methodological possibilities to the exploration of historical and archaeological phenomena.

We pursued various avenues of analysis of a corpus of text from and about New France representing various genres and totalling more than a million tokens. All analyses have comparable goals: characterizing the contexts in which cattle is referred to in the corpus. We first created static Word2Vec vector embeddings for all word-types in the corpus, allowing us to (i) map the semantic neighborhood of a set of manually selected target terms related to cattle, and (ii) observe the evolution of that neighborhood through time. We then used topic modeling techniques leveraging the D'AleMBERT large language model to further characterize these neighborhoods. Finally, we used clustering techniques to group the representations of the target tokens given by the language model and measure the overlap with the topics that emerged from the Topic Modeling approach.

Archaeology Division

Nicolas Delsol, Université Laval Nicolas Delsol, Université Laval

2158 Education in Death: The Post-Mortem Life of Academic Collections

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Some anatomical skeletal collections housed in universities have unknown origins. In some cases, anatomical collections are missing paper and acquisition histories. Even those with known provenance may have been purchased from anatomical companies. Those companies may have obtained those individuals without clear consent. Such collections may be used to teach students and train researchers. With the current conversations in bioarchaeology around the continued use of these collections, it is important to take any steps necessary toward thoughtful and careful curation of these collections. Keeping proper documentation should always have been a necessity, but routine tracking of taphonomy alterations after classroom use is not currently standardized. This poster will introduce a curation taphonomy form for future use. These forms are meant to document any damage that has been caused by routine handling and are intended to be used for any skeletal collection that is in routine use. Moving towards a more ethical method of collection, forms like this will be necessary as future collections will be from bodies actively donated with informed consent or obtained with the informed consent of descendants. Documenting handling damage with these condition forms is one way to ensure that proper care is taken during osteology lessons. This poster will illustrate how these forms can be used through the case study of the

teaching skeletons formerly used, and currently housed, at Florida Atlantic University. Prior to retiring the collections from active use in 2023, these legally purchased but historically unknown individuals were used 1-2 semesters a year as teaching material for osteology and forensic courses, over a period of at least 40 years.

Biological Anthropology Section

Alexis Bunce Alexis Bunce

1521 Entanglements of Care: Politics, Practice, and Morality of Family Dementia Caregiving in China

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Rapid social transformations in China have created both challenges and opportunities for family caregivers to deal with an increasing number of people with dementia who are in dependent situations. While existing studies on population aging in China have addressed how social changes such as economic reforms, the one-child policy, and migration affect the sustainability of filial piety and the emerging forms of eldercare, there has been no sustained investigation on how changing social contexts fundamentally shape the experience of family caregiving, particularly for a group of people with a stigmatized illness, dementia. Investigating the experiential aspects of aging and care draw our attention to how different modes of power, which involves the state legislation of family's responsibility for eldercare, the medicalization of aging bodies, the popularity of gerontechnology, the burgeoning religious activities, and the micro politics in terms of who should provide what types of care to whom, shape the intimate life.

As the first scholarly book to examine the experience of family dementia caregiving in China, "Entanglements of Care" shows how it gains perspectives on the politics, practice, and morality surrounding care. Given that the state has enacted laws to shift the responsibility for eldercare to each household, family politics, i.e., who should provide care to dependent kin with dementia, not only involves the availability and willingness of a family member but also is contingent on his/her rights to inherit parental property. The medicalization of aging bodies and the emerging hypercognitive culture further shape the experiences of people with dementia and the ensuing care they receive by dividing them into certain groups based on age (young old versus oldest old) and behavior (amenable versus aggressive). This biocultural reconstruction of dementia enables some young old with amenable behavior to receive "high quality" of care, which is closely related to gerontechnology -- and disables others due to the associated stigma. While different modes of power offer family caregivers possibilities of care practices, the fact that more family caregivers provide more difficult care to more people with dementia over much longer periods of time than the older cohorts did often renders them into moral ambiguities, contests, and messy edges. To navigate misfits between possibilities and limits of care, family caregivers seek the burgeoning religious activities as strategies to make sense of and respond to a health catastrophe at late stage

of life. I argue that care, while it's essentially moral, relational, and emotional, has been increasingly entangled by various modes of power in contemporary world. This social configuration of care not only generates difference and hierarchy, which undermines core values of care ethics, but also becomes a contested terrain for individuals to negotiate their moral subjectivity.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Yan Zhang Yan Zhang

2763 Ethnography as Storytelling, Storytelling as Ethnography: Writing Children's History as Anthropological Praxis

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

There is an overlap, both in technique and purpose, between the literary forms of ethnography and creative narratives, both in fiction and non-fiction. Effective ethnographers use storytelling techniques to create works that engage the reader in an interpretive analysis of their data. Storytellers connect readers to their own data, often subconsciously, by using an ethnographic approach to character, narrative, and worldmaking. While the data used may seem to be as different as the forms produced, I argue that both ethnographers and literary storytellers actually take parallel approaches to a shared source— their observations— informed by differing methods and standards. A conscious approach to these parallels could allow educators to better connect readers to educational materials. Existing literature suggests that children are best engaged by analysis in the form of narrative, as the use of story enriches learning in multiple subjects. Using examples from written materials, which I created for a children's anthropology club and for the purpose of children-oriented museum education, I demonstrate how these parallels between ethnographic and creative writing allows history and anthropology educators to create for their audience an authentic sense of reality that reflects the way that both ethnographies and works of creative writing connect readers to an interpretive approach to culture and history. Storytelling can be used to bring an anthropological perspective to children's understanding of people and cultures of the past and present.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Jackson Eagan Jackson Eagan

3441 Examining The Importance of Local Community Gardens in Migrant Latinx Communities in LA County

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This poster presentation is based on ethnographic data examining the relationship between migrant Latinx communities and community gardens. Historically, many migrant communities across Los Angeles County have been disproportionately affected by economic inequality, health disparities, poor environments, and systematic racism. Past research shows how these issues can syndemically combine, directly worsening one another, especially within the context of unfamiliar urban environments which can carry additional stressors. Community gardens can serve as a key to resolving many of these issues by fostering stronger connections between people in their communities, and their concept of food by creating accessible healthy diet options. It can also allow for reconnections to their culture through their implementation of traditional ecological knowledge while, fortifying community health by creating a space for members to manage chronic illnesses, such as hypertension and diabetes, that disproportionately affect these communities. By collecting data from local migrant communities in LA County using mixed methods, the effectiveness of increasing migrant community well-being through the use of local community gardens can be closely analyzed to understand best practices in incorporating community knowledge into community-based projects.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Gabriela Rodriguez Delgado Gabriela Rodriguez Delgado

2058 Exploring Contemporary Discourses on Music Sharing: An Analysis of Online Forums and Social Media Platforms

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

From traditional methods of sharing music, such as cassette tapes and CD mixes, to modern digital platforms like streaming services and peer-to-peer sharing networks, the landscape of music sharing has evolved significantly in recent years. In this project, I explore the shifting practices of music sharing, examining how advancements in technology have influenced these changes. By analyzing discussions in online forums and social media platforms, this study seeks to uncover contemporary discourses surrounding music sharing.

Utilizing the text analysis tool Voyant, I will conduct content analysis to identify prevalent themes, attitudes, and perspectives within these online communities. Through this approach, key issues and debates surrounding music sharing emerge, including discussions on copyright infringement, the debate between streaming and downloading, artist compensation, and the broader impact of technology on music consumption habits.

The findings of this study contribute to our understanding of the complex and dynamic nature of contemporary music sharing culture. By shedding light on the multifaceted discussions taking place online, this research provides valuable insights into the evolving landscape of music sharing in the digital age.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Alexander Hickman Alexander Hickman

3147 Exploring Fentanyl Abuse and Spinal Cord Injuries: Implications for Intervention and Healthcare Practices in Urban Communities

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Ingrid Panameno

PI: Dr. William Lucas

Cal State University Dominguez Hills

Fentanyl, a potent opioid, poses various health risks, including overdose, depression, and increased susceptibility to traumatic incidents due to impaired cognitive function. Although specific studies dedicated solely to fentanyl-related spinal cord injuries are absent, existing literature on fentanyl abuse sheds light on its physiological impact, notably on the nervous system. Given this, what is the prevalence and nature of spinal cord injuries among individuals with substance use disorders, particularly those related to fentanyl abuse? I ask how fentanyl affects the spinal cord directly and how its use contributes to the risk and misuse of pain medication following such injuries. Due to the existence of regions in Los Angeles associated with higher risk behaviors, such as Skid Row, and urban areas like East Hollywood, South Central, Compton, and Watts, data collection presents a chance to gain fresh perspectives on these phenomena. This poster presentation analyzes the findings from archival data and ethnographic research conducted with methadone clinics and rehabilitation centers. The data gained from this research can shed light on the extent of the problems, and findings help inform intervention practices to help reduce the incidence of such injuries. It can also help healthcare providers address both substance use and pain.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Ingrid Panameno Ingrid Panameno

1910 Exploring the Marginalization of Seizure Disorders in Three Cultures

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Seizure disorders are some of the most prevalent neurological conditions in the world. However, due to potentially alarming symptoms, such as full-body spasming and loss of consciousness, seizures often appear "inhuman" to those who are not familiar with them. The othering of seizures has commonly led to the marginalization of the condition in multiple cultural settings. In this project, I compare the various ways that people with seizure conditions are marginalized in three

cultures: the Navajo, Hmong, and Meitei. I apply Mary Douglas's work on cultural approaches to anomalous/ambiguous events/things in [i] Purity and Danger[/i] (1966), and more recent anthropological discussions of the work, in the new context of disability studies, specifically to seizures. The varied outcomes of Douglas's theories are well modeled in these case studies. While in some cultural contexts, such as the Navajo, historically, prejudices against people with seizures have led them to be labeled as dangerous, in other contexts, such as the Hmong and Meitei, seizures are more positively viewed as they fit into ritual contexts as the result of a person having been chosen by spirits. Both perspectives of seizures, while vastly different, still marginalize people with the condition.

Biological Anthropology Section

Alexandria Lagergren Alexandria Lagergren

2727 Extracting the Core: A Bottom-Up Approach to Building a Necessity Based Training Scenario

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This poster discusses a joint project between anthropology and computer science to design and test scenario-based education. Scenario-based education combines experiential learning with problem-based pedagogy, emerging as a potential strategy for addressing the open question of how to design cybersecurity training courses. By stripping away the technical demands and focusing on the core critical thinking and reasoning needs, the research team has explored how to build a training scenario by combining anthropology, experiential learning, and computer science. Critically, both the development of the Mock SOC scenario and the evaluation of the training itself utilize ethnographic research, technical and engineering considerations via computer science.

Starting with ethnographic work with in-the-field SOC (Security Operation Center) analysts, we derived the necessary skills and tactics required for high-level performance as a security analyst and separated them from what we label 'perishable knowledge' or skills which atrophy over time. We then developed a scenario based on real network data and stripped away the need for perishable skills, leaving only the need to critically think and reason through the material produced.

The scenario is based on the breach of an organization's internal network managed by Microsoft's Active Directory through a social engineering entry followed by a high severity Golden Ticket attack. The Mock SOC training session lasts three hours, and includes the collection of technical, observation, and interview data. We begin with a 20-minute primer-based learning session which introduces the trainees to the core components of the Kerberos authentication system, Microsoft's Active Directory file management system, and the Golden Ticket Attack. This primer provides trainees with knowledge and direction required to complete the investigation. We transition immediately from the training primer to presenting the trainees with a service ticket which details the events leading up to the mock attack and the task they are issued to complete. The schedule then allows 1 hour and 15 minutes for the trainees to freely begin their investigation as they see fit.

The goal is for the trainees to begin requesting data from our pool of curated data files which contain information that is both 'relevant' and 'irrelevant' to the solution parameters we produced. The trainees are provided no knowledge of any data available to them and must request data upon their own volition, the idea of requesting data is suggested in the primer. We conclude the proceedings with a presentation of our solution and a round-table discussion to speak on the scenario. The goal of this scenario is to provide a hands-on approach to teaching a highly technical role alleviating the need for a priori technical skill. The methods and design choices made were to reduce and condense all aspects of the learning process as to provide trainees a rich learning experience.

General Anthropology Division

Francis Hahn Francis Hahn

1578 Florida Public Archaeology Network's Jupiter Inlet Field School

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

The Southeast Region Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) has run a field school at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area, funded by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the past two springs. FPAN is a statewide program of the University of West Florida. The Southeast Region is hosted by Florida Atlantic University. The field school program is a semester-long free program that meets every Monday, providing credits for college students and a learning experience for lifelong learners. Field schools are essential for getting a job in archaeology, but are often cost-prohibitive. The program is an effort to increase accessibility for those who can't afford traditional field schools, offering a more local option for students in south Florida. The field school focuses on professional development and teaches students about standard archaeological techniques in cultural resource management, and brings in scientists and scholars from local schools to discuss and perform other aspects of archaeology and related fields such as marine archaeology and soil analysis. This year, we were working with the Bureau of Land Management to create an informational display around its primary excavation unit which features a cistern from the 1800s, which will function to inform the hundreds of weekly visitors to the site about its past. The site is also located on a heavily eroding shoreline with over 5,000 years of human history, and provides the opportunity for students to learn about conservation techniques on Florida's rapidly changing shores while helping inform the greater archaeological record about the past of this unique part of Florida history. Every year, we host a public day run by the students of the field school, inviting local families and interested individuals for a free day at the site to learn about different archaeological techniques. The students design activities based on what they learned, creating family-friendly stations to show adults and children alike what real archaeology is all about. This year, some of the activities involved mapping, creating mock stratigraphic layers with colored sand, and explaining the kinds of artifacts found at the site using a timeline and fabricated miniature soil cores. The students learn how to translate their work to the public, and get the chance to help plan a big event as a group with the help of FPAN.

This poster will present the work done by the field school, highlighting the findings made by students, the importance of public archaeology as a whole, and the realized and potential contributions of our discipline to conservation at beautiful Florida sites like the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse ONA.

Archaeology Division

Victoria Piotrowski Victoria Piotrowski

3595 From Graduate Student Perspectives: D.E.I. & "Doing Diversity" in Southeastern States within an Era of Increasing Politicization

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

According to the University of Southern Mississippi's website, "USM is proud to be the most diverse university in the state of Mississippi with a student body that reflects our larger community". This research asks: how is diversity defined and valued at USM, and second, do graduate students experience inclusion and belonging in their own programs as well across their USM campus, and if so how? This project examines how graduate student perspectives specifically can contribute to broader conversations surrounding what diversity is and if the statement above proves true in representation among leadership at USM. Secondly, how institutions of higher learning (IHL) like USM understand, support, and provide resources and accommodations that promote sustainable relationships between students and leadership (staff/faculty/administration) based on identity. One of the key factors in utilizing inclusive teaching practices or hiring strategies is the professional and overall educational development that adds value to an institution's structural achievements. However, recent political controversies concerning DEI and "wokeness" at IHLs across the US, specifically in the Gulf South region, call into question whether such initiatives will continue to be prioritized, or indeed, if "diversity" remains a celebrated aspect at this Gulf South public university. Student-led initiatives, such as "Celebrate Diversity," provided student engagement in the conversations of experiences regarding identity in their graduate programs as well as with their academic leadership. By participating in ongoing discussions about intersectionality, and the various proponents of the concept of diversity, students and leadership can participate in administrative and actionary empowerment as well as provide graduate students increased visibility and a sense of belonging at IHLs. Ethnographic data documentation methods of this project were participant observation, demographic questionnaires, semi-structured interviews - four campuses (Hattiesburg, Gulf Park, Stennis, and Online), different graduate programs, and among various identity demographics - with the aim to collaborate with the Department of Anthropology and Sociology to propose Graduate Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for USM. My data analysis methods used qualitative, hegemonic standard discourse paired followed by validity tests. After data collection and analysis were administered, the information spoke widely to graduate student experiences of frustrations/institutional struggles to reach leadership, and even if able, the lack of accessibility to bring issues of systematic racism, microaggression, linguistic barriers, as well as equity of representation among graduate students across USM campuses to

light. This data proposes that more research must be surveyed broadly to ensure a welcoming and inclusive graduate student atmosphere, thus encouraging diversity is not a politically driven agenda.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Jenna Dittman, Graduate Student Jenna Dittman, Graduate Student

2149 Global Education for Global Citizens: Exploring the Complexity of Decolonization through an Examination of Worldschooled Educational Practices

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Worldschooling is K-12 homeschooling that centers the idea of experiential learning through culturally immersive travel. Parents assert this type of alternative education challenges normative American pedagogies by emphasizing learner-directed curriculum, a flexible environment, and cultural sensitivity. Inherent in their argument is a decolonial spatial praxis, locating education about Others outside the U.S. and orienting it alongside communities different than their own. Drawing from authors such as Marjorie Elaine and Kim TallBear, my work explores what parents claim to teach and why, how they incorporate local people and perspectives into education, their impact on local communities, and how these practices simultaneously challenge and reproduce systems of colonial power. I conducted spatial analysis using ArcGIS as well as discourse analysis of public text to visualize Worldschooled travel patterns, select research sites, and identify themes for further investigation. I then spent three months in Guanajuato, Mexico, collecting data from participant observation, autoethnography, and ethnographic interviewing. I compare worldschooled educational practices outside of academia with the work being done in anthropology to decolonize the academy to consider how we can reimagine anthropological and educational praxis.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Amanda Camarillo, University of Texas at San Antonio Amanda Camarillo, University of Texas at San Antonio

2862 Grab Your Crucifix: An Analysis of Virtual Public Discourse on the Perversion of Religious Symbolism in Horror Films

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This research focuses on the prevalence of religious symbolism in horror films, exploring contemporary North American reactions to these depictions through analysis of public discourses on the perception of relationships between religion and horror films. Utilizing Douglas E. Cowan's model for religious symbols in *Sacred Terror: Religion and Horror on the Silver Screen*, I apply the analytical categories of religious inversion, invasion, and insignificance to understand the use of Christian symbols in American horror films, and how this manipulation of religion shapes public interactions with the American horror industry. Informed by anthropological theories of violence and religion, I link the use of religious symbols in popular American horror films, and their perversion, to contemporary audience reception through the use of computer-aided text analysis of public online discussion forums. In this ongoing research, my content analysis of public discourses online demonstrates the prevalence of recognized forms of religious symbolism in the horror genre and how modern audiences view these manipulations.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Calyssa Setterberg Calyssa Setterberg

3396 Heat in East Jesus and Slab City

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Slab City and East Jesus are off-the-grid alternative living communities located in Imperial County, California (Hailey 2018; Op't Hof 2015; Simmons 2023). Slab City and East Jesus are 640 acre desert camps (Op't Hof 2015, 44), known for heat reaching up to 120 degrees Fahrenheit and subsistence living with no running water or sanitation. These fieldsites are unique for having both nomadic and year round populations, with "snowbirds" who only reside in the community during cooler months, and residents, who are defined as "individuals who have chosen Slab City as their primary place of domicile" (Op't Hof 2015, 2-3). Heat has been a consistent theme throughout previous academic literature on Slab City and East Jesus (Hailey 2018, John–Alder and Op't Hof 2016; Op't Hof 2015; Simmons 2023). I build on this scholarship and seeks to make it a focal point of interrogation. I employ participant observation, interviews, visual ethnography, and auto ethnography as methods to understand residents and their relationship to heat and extreme environmental conditions. I aim to understand methods of coping with heat by established summertime residents of these communities and, in turn, understand how these heat adaptations can inform practices in other sites affected by extreme heat.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Victoria Gutierrez, University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA), Department of Anthropology
Victoria Gutierrez, University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA), Department of Anthropology

1924 Incorporating Cultural Humility and Community-Engagement into an NIH-sponsored Drug Use Research Training Program: Insights from Practice

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In Arizona, long distances between rural areas, diverse populations, and wide-ranging medical provider-shortage areas lead to a need for substance use treatment professionals equipped with the skills and knowledge to work with Indigenous and historically excluded populations. This presentation describes a NIDA-funded R25 Research Education Program for doctoral students and community professionals that want to conduct culturally-informed research focused on prevention and treatment of substance use disorders (SUD). The Culturally-Centered Addictions Research Training (C-CART) program is an interprofessional, advanced graduate certificate focused on research training for doctoral students in various clinical doctoral programs as well as interdisciplinary health PhD students and clinicians practicing in the community. The Program is designed to train students from these various fields to engage in community-centered, culturally-informed research and evaluation projects, and to foster interprofessional collaboration aimed at improving substance use services for diverse populations in Arizona. This poster offers an overview of the program design and goals, implementation and lessons learned after 3 years of student cohorts, and ethnographic observation from the perspective of a faculty mentor partnered with a group of scholars and a community organization. Using the student research process as a case study, the presentation presents reflections on how the emphasis on equitable partnerships, research design, collective reflection, and interprofessional collaboration has been received by community partners and clinically focused students. We also describe successful areas of implementation and recommendations for similar programs, as well as areas of difficulty in emphasizing culture in a substance use training program.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Emery Eaves, Northern Arizona University, Department of Anthropology
Emery Eaves, Northern Arizona University, Department of Anthropology

2275 Inside the margins: the effects of policies for access to higher education in the urban peripheries of São Paulo

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This presentation refers to post-doctoral research, still in progress, which aims to analyze the impacts of access policies to higher education, with an emphasis on affirmative actions, from the

urban peripheries of the city of São Paulo. Through a multi-situated analysis, that is, one that considers local and global aspects – especially from a South-South perspective – it proposes to understand how such policies are linked to other production processes in peripheral territories. It is based on the hypothesis that expanding access to higher education constitutes a productive dimension of the city's outskirts through an ambiguous path that involves inclusion in a scenario of maintenance of inequalities. The research has been developed based on anthropological investigation in the outskirts of the city of São Paulo with graduated and undergraduate students, their families, activists and members of popular courses operating in these territories. In-depth interviews and ethnography of different spaces in which these subjects circulate have made it possible to get closer to their daily lives and life stories, allowing us to understand how educational paths are lived and managed. Academic production on peripheral areas and the expansion of higher education have contributed to the analysis of this material. Still on a preliminary basis, research has demonstrated that access to higher education by students living in the outskirts is intertwined with the production process of these territories. On the one hand, students who enter universities through inclusion policies are the first generation in their families to access higher education. On the other hand, this generation is the one that has suffered from the increase in unemployment, state violence and crime. However, it is also this generation that has forged new spaces, agendas and political subjects based on diverse experiences, including university education, making higher education deeply lived and managed along lines of social class, generation, race, gender and territory.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Milena M. Carmo Milena M. Carmo

2309 Is Fatphobia Present in Anthropology?

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Obesity, or a large accumulation of fat, is a common research topic across many disciplines, including anthropology. The ways in which individuals speak about obesity can show underlying beliefs and sentiments about it. The resulting fatphobia (or anti-fat bias) can have detrimental effects in the lives of obese people. In the last half century, the medical world has adopted the Body Mass Index (BMI) measurement to define obesity, but its use has been recently disputed by medical specialists and fat people alike, with complaints including its inaccuracy as a measurement of overall health and its racist origins. In reducing health to a single number, the BMI creates very clear lines as to who is healthy and who is not, opening the doors for fat people to face societal derision and mockery. To identify if there is a potential fatphobic trend in anthropology, a content analysis, using a mixed methods approach, was conducted of English-language anthropological articles published between 2003-2023 (n=42) mentioning "BMI" and "obesity" in its abstract. Approximately 42.9% of the sample use the BMI without mention of its issues and 33.3% associate obesity to health risks. These results indicate there is a fatphobic tendency in the English-speaking anthropological community. In studying and acknowledging the existence of anti-fat bias within the

anthropological field, this project takes the first step needed to combat fatphobia in a discipline that prioritizes the equal treatment of all peoples.

National Association for the Practice of Anthropology

Natasha Ovies Natasha Ovies

2991 Is this your story or mine? A Collaborative Interactive Ethnographic Event

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Ethnographic storytelling as a form and method has led anthropology to a plethora of knowledge claims and knowledge-making from thick description to post-writing culture in the digital realm (cf Jackson 2012; Bluteau 2019). Interactive ethnography emerged briefly in the 90s in visual anthropology (cf Biella 1996), but beyond some forays into AR (Eagle 2020), hypermedia (Choi & Chung 2017), VR (Ceuterick & Ingraham 2020), and explorations using web environments (Underberg & Zorn 2013; Walley 2015), taking the interactive and collaborative outside of the screen and text (Bird & Donelan 2020) is still largely confined to the language of performance and pedagogy (Snodgrass 2016) within anthropology. Much of this digital ethnographic work is highly accessible in our always already multimodal world, but conferences like the AAA enclose the networking and discussion of this work in both format and access. Using the unique spatial and time affordances of a poster session at the AAA, this "poster" presentation seeks to collapse the boundaries of an oral presentation and poster presentation with an ethnographic "event" that is collectively enacted by whoever stops by to participate. Through scanning QR codes, engaging with content on your smartphone, tallying up data and metadata, and switching from interfaces both flat and 3D, through immersive and sensory/haptic interaction (cf Ferrarini 2017), text and image, this roughly 90 minute ethnographic event will require you to ask: is this your story, or mine, and who is telling it?

General Anthropology Division

Kara White, Osaka University Kara White, Osaka University

2361 Journeying Through Pain: Exploring the Psychological Effects of Sickle Cell Anemia (SCA) in Lagos, Nigeria

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

TITLE: Journeying Through Pain: Exploring the Psychological Effects of Sickle Cell Anemia (SCA) in Lagos, Nigeria

PRESENTERS: Morenike Samuel (University of Alabama) and Courtney Helfrecht (University of Alabama)

This project looks at the psychological effects experienced by individuals with Sickle Cell Anemia in Lagos, Nigeria. Sickle Cell Anemia (SCA) is a genetic blood condition characterized by defective hemoglobin, the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen around the body. In Nigeria, home to most of the world's sickle cell disease patients, approximately 1 in 4 individuals carry the sickle cell trait. Beyond the risk of death, this condition can cause a wide range of long-term problems and most sufferers experience fatigue, swelling of hands and feet, stunted growth, episodes of bone pain, recurring infections, and other comorbidities. In addition to these physical challenges, the stigmatization of those with the disease is also truly damaging to health and can lead to negative social experiences like loneliness, isolation, marginalization, and discrimination. Recent qualitative studies on SCA in Nigeria have unveiled new insights, challenging and reshaping our comprehension of the psychological impacts linked with the illness by establishing that psychological stress does not result solely from having the condition, and socioeconomic and cultural factors (stigma) may amplify experiences of psychological stress. Using semi-structured interviews and surveys, I explore the lived experiences of individuals with SCA in Lagos, particularly focusing on their navigation of stigma and discrimination across diverse cultural settings, while also assessing how socioeconomic status amplifies mental health effects. I evaluate my findings using syndemics theory. Exploring these relationships over individual life trajectories and actively listening to the experiences of individuals with SCA can pave the way for more comprehensive and effective interventions that address the full spectrum of challenges faced by individuals and families living with this complex disease. This project contributes valuable qualitative data to the limited research on the mental health effects of SCA, particularly regarding the connection between socioeconomic and cultural factors and psychological well-being.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Morenike Samuel Morenike Samuel

2825 K-Drama Connections: Documenting the Global Flows of the 'Korean Wave' in Asia

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

The "Korean Wave" phenomenon, which refers to the rising global popularity of South Korean popular media since the 1990s, is often discussed in terms of influences on the popular culture of the United States and Europe. However, this boost in South Korean pop culture has also influenced culture and society in the rest of Asia as well. In this project I focus specifically on the genre of Korean romance dramas, exploring their spread and influence throughout Asia, with a specific focus on the complex of shows based on the Drama "Boys Over Flowers". This research, which is part of a larger study on the role of Korean media in Asia, focuses on the global flows that have enabled this rise in popularity. Using Appadurai's concept of "scapes", I focus particularly on

documenting the technoscapes, mediascapes, and financescapes that make it possible for Korean romance dramas to be shared and watched across Asia. A focus on these arenas of globalization demonstrates some of the specific ways that the Korean Wave phenomenon has emerged, and illustrates the significance of connections formed across Asia through popular media.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Saturn Vogeley Saturn Vogeley

2720 Learning About Well-being from the Perspective of Pan-Amazonian Indigenous Communities: A Literature Review

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

The goal of this poster is to present and discuss the preliminary findings of a systematic literature review of ethnographic discussions of well-being amongst Indigenous people from the Amazon. Sixty-three papers have been identified and fourteen have been analyzed which include descriptions of the way well-being is understood by Matsigenka, Shuar, Awajun, Kulina, Huarani, and Urarina ethnic groups. The review thus far reveals a holistic understanding of health that goes beyond physical health, it includes the relation with natural resources, spirituality, and the value of kin and community. One particularly relevant component is the way in which community plays a role in well-being through the notion of shared substance (consubstantiality). This plays a role in both mental and physical health and materializes in the way diagnosis and treatments are prescribed. Ultimately, the exploration of community wellbeing and shared substance is essential to foster a more comprehensive and culturally resonant approach to mental health and well-being research within indigenous communities. This review is part of a larger collaborative project called: "Water justice and youth mental health resilience: co-creating art-based solutions with Alaskan Native and Awajun communities." A critical aspect of this project is understanding the relationship between water access and youth mental health resilience. This review is an attempt to move away from dominant forms of Western concepts of mental health and well-being and to provide an interpretation of mental health and well-being based in the experiences amongst pan-amazonian indigenous populations.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Nora Stocovaz Nora Stocovaz

2171 Learning About “These Days”: Menstrual Education and Communication in Turkmenistan

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Menstrual health literacy or the knowledge about menstrual health, is crucial for young adolescents as this is usually the stepping stone to a more comprehensive reproductive health education. Insufficient awareness about menstrual health has significant implications for the health and well-being of young adults and is linked to increased stigma and an ecology of silence. Ineffective reproductive health education is also linked to an increase in teenage pregnancies and unwillingness to get help for reproductive health issues when needed. In Turkmenistan, many secondary school students lack adequate education on menstruation. Students are limited to one chapter on the basic anatomy of the reproductive system, and word of mouth for any additional information. While mothers (or another maternal figure) are usually the primary source of information about menarche for menstruating people, other knowledge providers include biology teachers and health professionals. To the best of my knowledge, there is no ethnography exploring menstrual health education and communication in Turkmenistan. This study aims to examine how knowledge providers located in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan discuss and explain menarche and menstruation to adolescents. I will conduct semi-structured interviews with parents (n=10), teachers (n=10), and health professionals (n=10) to reveal their views and experiences with menstrual education in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Moreover, I will employ textual analysis to explore the content of biology books and any other sources used by the knowledge providers for menstrual health education.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Yuliya Gluhova, University of Alabama, Department of Anthropology Yuliya Gluhova, University of Alabama, Department of Anthropology

3392 Learning to Teach: Navigating Institutional Expectations, Teacher Talk, and Idealism

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Before they begin their first day of work, novice teachers already have a working knowledge of formal schooling processes through their experiences as students. However, knowing how to be a student is not enough-standing in front of a classroom requires the acquisition of specialized knowledge through formal training processes as well as informal training that takes place "on the clock," in which novice teachers learn the values and norms of a workplace through their interactions with others in the building. Motivated by examining my own transformation from a "bad" student to a teacher, I was interested in examining how teachers learn how to teach, and how their newfound professional vision affects their perception of self, both as a teacher and a student.

This ethnographic study delves into my time as a first- and second-year teacher at a Title I charter middle school in a large city in Texas. I analyzed the norms, values, and routines that made up the study site by examining the physical spaces of the school, documentary data, interview data, and accounts of my own experiences as the school. I placed this analysis in juxtaposition with accounts of teacher-as-student to examine the connection between student experience and teaching

practice. Findings show that novice teachers learn how to teach via a negotiation between institutionally sanctioned teacher training, values and norms passed on from veteran teachers, and teachers' own experiences as students, often downplayed as idealism. Far from being an afterthought, the knowledge that teachers acquire as students play a crucial role in how teachers navigate the expectations of their profession and how they embody their presence as teachers in the classroom. These findings demonstrate that in order to effect positive change in schools, teacher training must focus on a ground-up transmission of culture, in which student voices and needs are centered and valued.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Emily Shim Emily Shim

3027 Less is More: A study on educating in the mid-realm between nothing and too much

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This poster will discuss preliminary results from an NSF and ONR funded project on scenario-based learning that combines anthropology and cybersecurity. Scenario-based learning involves participants taking part in a simulation, in this case, trying to solve a cybersecurity problem. The creation of the scenario relied on both ethnographic work with security operation centers and the generation of realistic technical demands and problem-solving within the scenario. Under the scenario, the students were tasked to find the point of entry for a cybersecurity breach that happened in a company. We designed this scenario to alleviate the need for tools and only rely on reasoning and critical thinking skills for their data requests. We perform this study as a 3-hour session with 3 separate groups that briefly introduces them to the necessary concepts in a compressed format where the students then apply their newly acquired knowledge to solve a mock SOC scenario. Our preliminary results from going through the scenarios with the students and our key take-aways are that 1) The research design employed information restriction to encourage students to engage in critical thinking by independently identifying and requesting relevant data based on their analytical strategies. 2) Our study identified a potential shortcoming in existing cybersecurity curricula, which often prioritize the mechanics ("how") of utilizing security tools over the underlying principles ("why") and appropriate application contexts ("when"). Student feedback during the study suggests that the proposed pedagogy may address this gap by fostering a more holistic understanding of cybersecurity practices. 3) The student cohort exhibited a wide range of prior cybersecurity experience, encompassing both seasoned professionals and individuals with minimal exposure. Notably, performance outcomes did not significantly differ across this spectrum, suggesting the curriculum's effectiveness in catering to learners with diverse knowledge backgrounds. Furthermore, all participants reported acquiring valuable new insights from the study. 4) The current cybersecurity curriculum's emphasis on theoretical knowledge may be insufficient, as evidenced by students reporting a lack of prior exposure to practical cybersecurity

challenges. This highlights the need for a curriculum that integrates real-world scenarios, necessitating critical thinking skills for successful navigation.

General Anthropology Division

Kumar Shashwat, University of South Florida Kumar Shashwat, University of South Florida

2174 Lost to Care: Barriers to Engagement of Care for Individuals Presenting with Comorbid HIV and Major Depression or Anxiety

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Despite significant global advances and policy initiatives that have fundamentally shifted the environment of HIV in clinical care, only 64% of people living with HIV (PLWH) received some form of HIV treatment, while only 49% of PLWH were retained in continuous care (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2023). There has been significant clinical and public health research focusing on the barriers PLWH experience with consistent HIV care, including the impact of mental health disorder diagnoses. PLWH are significantly more likely to experience mental health disorders compared to those living without HIV (Weaver, 2016; Weaver, Barrett, and Nitcher, 2016). Most literature available on the impacts of comorbid HIV and depression and/or anxiety diagnoses on the engagement of HIV care have primarily been produced by biomedical or public health researchers that treat HIV as the "index" or "primary" disease and the mental health disorders as the "secondary" disease (Weaver, Barrett, and Nitcher, 2016). However, the biomedical conceptualization of comorbidity ignores the societal and cultural processes that affect both health and health outcomes and ignores the complexity of comorbidity as a lived experience, as opposed to simple disease pathologies (Manderson and Warren, 2016). Anthropologists understand that comorbid conditions are not an isolated occurrence, but rather, are created and perpetuated by a complex mix of biological, social, and economic factors. The objective of this study was to examine the barriers to engaging in continuous HIV care which individuals diagnosed with comorbid HIV and depression and/or anxiety face. This poster presentation will examine the ethnographic methods used for this study, including participant observation, interviews, and quantitatively utilizing the Structural Vulnerability Assessment Tool, which was utilized to examine how local hierarchies and broader sets of power relations contribute to negative health outcomes (Bourgois et al., 2017). This poster presentation will also examine the results of this study, which includes, participant's challenges to adhering to continuous HIV treatment (such as problems maintaining appointments, obstacles with medication adherence, and barriers to navigating the biomedical healthcare system), living with comorbid HIV and depression and/or anxiety (such as the experiences of these diagnoses interacting with one another to create particular experiences of disease states and, more broadly, embodied experiences of comorbidity), experiences with treating HIV and depression/anxiety (either with an integrated or separate treatment approach), the impact of community belongingness, and the role of participant resilience in on medication adherence and engaging in care. Finally, this poster presentation will introduce recommendations for clinicians

and anthropologists alike in the holistic treatment of PLWH and comorbid depression and/or anxiety.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Rachel Kingsley, University of South Florida, Department of Anthropology Rachel Kingsley,
University of South Florida, Department of Anthropology

3584 Mental Health Stigma Among Guatemalan Adolescents

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Mental health stigma studies tend to focus on adults in high-income countries and there are relatively few studies conducted on adolescents' views of mental health conditions, particularly in Latin America. In this study we examine Guatemalan adolescents' stigma towards mental and physical health by using standardized vignettes for alcohol misuse, depression, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), asthma, and a baseline person experiencing 'normal troubles'. Participants were recruited from secondary schools (grades 7-12) in a small town in the Central Highlands of Guatemala. After reading each vignette, students responded to questions about perceptions of labeling, causation, violence, treatments, and stigma, operationalized as preferences for social distance. Regression analyses identify the factors influencing stigma, highlighting the distinction between mental and physical conditions, the role of individual causes, and perceptions of violence. This study contributes to the limited number of studies on mental health stigma in Guatemala and highlights the differences in mental health stigma among adolescents and adults towards their peers.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Jonathan Maupin, Arizona State University Jonathan Maupin, Arizona State University

2416 Networking as Trail Building: Conferences as a Praxis Arena

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Equitable access to outdoor spaces has been a challenging social issue which trail organizations like American Trails have been trying to address. According to their website, "American Trails supports and encourages respectful, equitable access to outdoor environments that are inviting, inclusive, and beneficial to all". American Trails also host a bi-annual International Trails Summit which brings together all kinds of stakeholders including trail planners, trail builders, trail supply vendors, community developers, and more. This trails conference facilitates networking between various trail stakeholders. In this sense, the trail conference is a third space that not only replicates the connections that exist between trail stakeholders but has the potential to increase those

networks and create "connector trails" between those who have been left out of or cut off from trail networks. By mapping and analyzing the already existing networks at trail conferences and seeking to understand the networking experiences that previous ITS attendees have had, we can identify where these "connector trails" and "trail bridges" are needed and begin to explore possibilities for bridging these gaps.

My research will explore the existing networks at the International Trails Summit and the networking experiences of both attendees & vendors at the conference, with a potential two-part focus on networks between organizations in addition to networks between individuals. Applying an anthropological lens to both the topic of equitable access to the outdoors, and to the vehicle of the conference itself, I will consider how third space theory and placemaking can be applied to maximize the value of the trails summit to both attendees and vendors, particularly by facilitating networking and increasing the potential networks available at the conference. The potential focus demographic for in-depth interviews will be first-time trail conference attendees with a focus on how ITS can harness the new energy and help these individuals take advantage of networking opportunities at ITS to become integrated into the trail community.

THIS RESEARCH STUDY HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE UNT INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB-23-453). THE UNT IRB CAN BE CONTACTED AT (940) 565-4643 OR BY EMAIL AT UNTIRB@UNT.EDU FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RIGHTS OF RESEARCH SUBJECTS

NOTE:

I am currently wrapping up the data collection phase of my research and will be doing data analysis over the next few months and using this research to write my thesis for my MA program. I will be also using results of this research to help my client with planning next year's conference including providing a deliverable to them in the form of a both an executive report and a session at next year's conference. This project is a great example of Praxis since it combines theoretical analysis and data analysis with a practical application.

National Association for the Practice of Anthropology

Hannah Morrison Hannah Morrison

3124 Ni Olvido, Ni Perdón: Creating an interdisciplinary and experiential humanities course

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Ni Olvido, Ni Perdón (Neither Forgetting, Nor Forgiving) is a phrase used in Central America to refer to historical memory. It is a call to action, to remember the many murdered and disappeared. This poster presentation will center this phrase and how it informed the creation of an experiential and collaborative humanities course that focused on praxis.

The presentation will present the course's genesis, goals, and tenets. The course was part of a Mellon Foundation funded program at the speaker's institution. The program required the creation of an interdisciplinary, collaborative course, team taught by two faculty members and a community partner. As part of the program, the course addressed the theme of "Democracy and Rights," in particular the following questions:

What can we learn from Chicago organizations that have been involved in human rights work, specifically in international work?

How can the work of human rights organizations be made public? And why should the work of human rights organizations be communicated to the larger public?

How can past injustices be documented?

What is the bridge that connects our shared histories from the past with the fight for justice today?

To address these questions, the speaker collaborated with another professor and a local human rights organization based in Chicago. The organization's mission has been to work with community partners across Latin America on "popular education, grassroots organizing, public policy advocacy, and direct action to dismantle U.S. militarism, neoliberal economic and immigration policy, and other forms of state and institutional violence." The organization was among the first to work with Central American asylum seekers in the 1980s and they continue today with programs supporting the work for human rights. Together, we created a course that was divided in half. The first half of the quarter, we worked on historically and politically situating and contextualizing Central America, specifically Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Because our community partner was adamant that the students think about ways to inform the larger public in creative ways, the second half of the quarter, students will engage (at the time of this proposal, the course is still on-going) in disseminating information to the public via art. As such, during the first half, students participated in an academic conference held at the university. During the second half, students will translate the research into an artistic display, held publicly to invite the larger Chicago community.

The poster presentation will show how collaboratively, we created an experiential course that asked students to consider the connections between post-1960s historical events and current movements and injustices impacting Central America. Furthermore, the poster presentation will detail how we strategically framed the course for reflection (research) and action (art).

Council on Anthropology and Education

Lydia Saravia Lydia Saravia

2701 Nurse or secondary patient? A discourse on the differences between assigned and familial caretakers during in-home care for Disabled folx

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

The following study is ongoing and aims to investigate the relationships between disabled individuals and their caretakers, comparing the relationships between those who have familial caretakers versus those who have placed caretakers. Past literature on these issues describe instances where "professional" caretakers are seen as preferable because of their extensive training, while many are averse to the paternalistic nature of medicine as it can lead to discomfort. This is due to the surveillance and scrutiny that can come from a medical professional, compounded by the inability to afford these services in many homes. For many in disability studies, the Foucaultian panopticon-esque surveillance in medicine is seen as continuous punishment for those in group-care facilities. This poster presentation is based on ethnographic data interrogating the differences between familial and professional caregivers in order to discuss the lifestyle of those under in-home care in the greater Los Angeles area, exploring how each group could inform their practice through cross fertilization. This is especially relevant as familial caretakers, also referred to as "secondary patients," tend to be untrained in providing care, both to their patients and themselves. This is a precursor to a larger study that will evaluate ways to improve the care of disabled people while keeping familial caretakers mentally and physically sound in ways that have previously been overlooked.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Taylor Galuppi Taylor Galuppi

2426 Phantoms of the Ecuadorian Past and How They're Changing Into the Present

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Every culture has a repertoire of stories or folklore that are commonly told within the context of the family. These stories, often told to children by adults, represent something about the culture itself, and about the experiences, expectations, and worldview of the tellers. Stories, from this perspective, are windows into culture as history and tradition, and, as well, as emergent in the moment.

My project focuses on the folkloric stories of the south-central Ecuadorian coast, within the community and surrounding region of Salango, Ecuador. The proposed study is ethnographic in nature, utilizing the methodologies of interviewing, both formal and informal. The goals of my research are to register or record the historical folklore and myths of the region and to analyze them in terms of local history and contemporary events.

General Anthropology Division

Mason Shapiro Mason Shapiro

2744 Political Diasporism: Examining Praxis of Radical Imaginaries on Jewish Community Farms

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In the US and UK, there is a growing movement of Jewish people practicing self-determination by cultivating Judaism without Zionism. Many of these Jewish people claim the condition of being 'in diaspora', mobilizing this concept as a political identity. As theorized by scholars of the black radical tradition, this conceptualization of diaspora, unlike traditional models that stipulate a people relating to a homeland (Safran 1991), describes a community outside the norms of nation-states and borders (Hall 1995, 207), a space of counterculture (Gilroy 1993) whose inhabitants experience a multiplicity of consciousness (Du Bois 1903). Thinking with these scholars, Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz (2007) coined the term 'diasporism', defining it by a political commitment to solidarity and a belief in a Jewish history and future independent of a national homeland.

Through an examination of Jewish community farms outside of Palestine, this project enters an ongoing debate regarding the conceptualization of 'diaspora'. Scholars such as Nadia Abu El-Haj (2012), have criticized the conceptual soundness of a Jewish diaspora connected through genealogy (Boyarin 1993) purporting to be anti-racist or non-national. Others, such as Carolyn Aviv and David Schneer (2005), take issue with using diaspora to describe modern Jewish communities, arguing the word does not aptly describe the dissimilarity of Jewish experience.

Drawing on participant observation and interviews with members of Linke Fligl Farm, a "queer Jewish chicken farm and cultural organizing project" in Millerton, NY, this project explores the embrace of diaspora as a third space and its deployment as a political ideology amongst Jewish community farm members (Our Story, 2022). This research asks why members are drawn to diaspora as a political identity and what possibilities they believe it engenders. Amid the potentials and implications of deploying diaspora as a political ideology, this paper attends particularly to the tensions inherent in an ideology that claims diaspora while building communities rooted in land. It asks, if, and in what ways, community members reconcile claims to diasporism with projects for rootedness in a world structured by ongoing coloniality (Grosfuegel 2002).

General Anthropology Division

Chana Rose Rabinovitz Chana Rose Rabinovitz

1403 Post-Pandemic Possibilities for Community-University-Government Partnerships

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This poster analyzes a Participatory Action Research (PAR) Project focused on improving public safety and community lighting in one Latinx immigrant community in California. The project occurred during the 2021-2022 academic year within the drastically altered socio-political landscape that followed the 2020 coronavirus pandemic and renewed BLM movement, and serves as a case example to better understand the post-pandemic possibilities for new relationships and strategies for urban transformation to develop within university-community-government partnerships. The poster illustrates how the success of the project was tied to several pivotal moments during the research process when the community residents in the group took the lead in identifying the scope of the project, designing the process for data collection, and presenting the research findings to the City Council. I contend that the process that unfolded during the PAR project not only centered the aspirations of people most affected by racialized inequalities in the city planning process, but also created an opportunity for residents to learn how to navigate their rights to the city.

National Association for the Practice of Anthropology

Jennifer Lucko Jennifer Lucko

1784 Reclaiming Turtle Island: Decolonizing Anthropological Narratives of Migration

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In my work I critically examine understandings of early habitation of Turtle Island (North America) and how prevailing theories remain centered in Western ideals, often dismissing Indigenous oral histories. By delving into the dogmatic nature of the Bering Strait Theory, one can analyze the inherent colonial undertones. It is critical to question how migration theories not only constrain accepted time frames of habitation but can also undermine the credibility of Indigenous voices. Much research has been harmful in that it situates Indigenous oral histories as myth, objectifies Western ideals of science, and often supports ancient ancestral ties that counter Indigenous knowledge. These facets contribute to reproducing settler-colonial views and treatment of living Indigenous populations.

In this presentation, I also interrogate the Clovis First Theory's hold on the archaeological community and how it has shaped the trajectory of early habitation studies. Through the dismissal of pre-Clovis sites and the fictional creation of a Clovis people, I show the effects of this theory leading to the long denial of findings dating earlier than 12,000 years. Numerous archaeological sites across North America show habitation from 12,500 to 200,000 years ago. Within western academia, there is a history of dismissal of these early sites and the views of pre-Clovis scholars. Thus, this work underscores the importance of honoring Indigenous oral histories and advocates for a more inclusive approach to archaeology and anthropology as a whole. Through exploring recent changes in the field, from pre-Clovis dating acceptance to an increase in community-centered

methods, I suggest further changes that could help decolonize archaeological methodology within North America.

Archaeology Division

Sadie Neff Sadie Neff

2824 Resiliency and a Mother's Intuition: Navigating Congenital Cardiac Care in Central Washington - Através de Nuestros Ojos

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This study seeks to provide a better understanding of the complex social processes and experiences of seeking cardiac care in rural clinics and what that looks like through the eyes of Spanish-speaking parents and caregivers. This research focuses on Spanish-speaking families who have a child with a cardiac diagnosis and receive care at the Seattle Children's Hospital's Tri-Cities or Wenatchee Clinics – both of which are situated within DOH-designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) and Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs). What do parents and caregivers say and think about the processes that we've put forth and what are their stories? These experiences and narratives are highlighted using semi-structured interviews, walking ethnography, and secondary quantitative/qualitative data analysis.

This ethnographic study rooted in anthropological methods will be one of the first of its kind to be designed and implemented by a Heart Center employee – an anthropologist researcher and Seattle Children's social service specialist. This research provides a nuanced understanding of our Spanish-speaking populations' experiences that a Likert scale survey could never uncover and suggests a roadmap for a reimagined state of care in rural Central Washington.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Ale Barrientos Ale Barrientos

2910 Social Reproduction in Education : A Critical Autoethnography of Middle-Class Parenting in South Korea

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Education has long been considered as a great equalizer for social mobility, providing individuals the opportunity to meet their potential and hope for a better life. However, many scholars argue that education can also serve as a means for social reproduction, particularly within the middle and wealthier classes. Research suggests that active parental involvement in education tends to be more prominent among those of high social status, as dominant groups view the academic

hierarchy as merely a new social order. Pierre Bourdieu asserts that parents of higher social status leverage their class-based cultural strategies and resources to maintain social position and pass along their class advantage through education.

This autobiography offers a critical examination of the researcher's lived experiences as both a student and a parent in a community in South Korea well-known for its intense academic competition and high educational standards. It provides an honest look at and in-depth understanding of how the parenting practices of a particular social group perpetuate class ideologies and exacerbate educational disparities. Additionally, as a well-educated middle-class mother of two children and an insider of a competitive culture, the researcher reflects on how her life trajectory and experiences within that community have shaped her positionality and motivated her to become an educational activist advocating for the marginalized children. The research aims to uncover how middle-class parents transmit privilege and advantages to the next generation through their cultural logic while also highlighting how the culture of competition and individual success can detract from the authentic purpose of education. In this paper, middle-class parenting practices are examined through three key facets based on Susan D. Blum's categories of human learning: first, parents' engagement in formal education, such as schooling; second, parents' engagement in informal education, structured learning occurring outside schools; and third, parents' engagement in nonformal education acquired throughout life, such as within the home and community. Additionally, each facet is analyzed in terms of Bourdieu's key concepts—field, cultural capital, and habitus. Through "prolonged engagement" and "persistent observation" as a privileged insider, this autoethnography reveals the middle-class parents' perception of education and their intensified cultural logic of parenting aimed at accumulating transferrable and durable advantage. Furthermore, the paper also proposes further discussion on alternative parenting strategies that could challenge the prevailing ideology of middle-class parenting, and suggests ways in which educational institutions can work to narrow the educational gap between social classes.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Yoosong Lee Yoosong Lee

2155 Strontium and Oxygen Isotope Analysis as a Means of Identifying Potential Geographic Provenance for Unidentified Human Remains

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In the United States, there are numerous institutions who possess human skeletal remains without proper documentation. Many human remains today are unidentified due to their complicated history and movement across time and space. Due to the lack of information that can be gathered from isolated sets of remains, isotopic analysis of dentition can provide background information for resituating unknown remains. Analysis of the isotopic composition of human skeletal remains is an established method to reconstruct human processes, history, events, and lifeways. This project employs strontium ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$) and oxygen ($^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$) isotope analysis from the dentition of

individuals A11 and A12 in the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Anthropology Department in order to narrow the scope of potential geographic provenances for both individuals. Using their isotopic compositions, I compare previously constructed global isoscape models to identified potential provenance locations. The individuals in my sample have no record and are not associated with any collections previously held at FAU.

In order to compare individuals A11 and A12 to strontium and oxygen isoscapes, I first gathered data through biological profiling methods. Upon analysis of A11, I observed tabular-style cranial modification, which is a consistent cultural practice within a number of pre-Columbian American societies in North and South America. Using the global predicted $87\text{Sr}/86\text{Sr}$ map constructed by Bataille et al. (2020), I found that A11's strontium values are consistent with this hypothesis. I observed that Skull A12 has extremely white teeth consistent with contemporary samples. Using Bataille et al. (2020) global $87\text{Sr}/86\text{Sr}$ map, I found a smaller range of values, which is characteristic of a smaller locality range. There is a higher probability that A12 came from one of the places highlighted within this range due to the $87\text{Sr}/86\text{Sr}$ values encompassing a smaller geographic scope.

In this poster, I display a minimally destructive method bioarchaeologists can employ in their collections in order to understand a way to biologically identify human remains with no known provenance. Using established methods of studying provenance allows us to contextualize who is in our collections and assist in repatriation and community outreach efforts when applicable. My research falls within the American Anthropological Association's theme of "Praxis" by using biological means in order to conceptualize human remains with no documentation, no record, and who have historically been devoid of personhood. This will contribute to the ongoing ethical conversations in modern bioarchaeology as American institutions assess the unknown individuals in their collections.

Biological Anthropology Section

Hallie Colonna Hallie Colonna

2922 Supporting Solid Science with Solid Business:Applying Anthropological Approaches to Architect Agile Projects &Products in Community-Based TBI Research

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Reports show at least 80% of projects do not meet objectives. Large, interdisciplinary projects with high levels of specialization & unpredictable external factors (i.e., human needs & reactions) present a level of complexity that lends to increasingly divergent understandings of project goals, increasing failure rate. Failure to meet goals constitutes national concern as many large-scale studies are supported by federal initiatives aimed at addressing social issues for vulnerable populations. The stakes are indeed high when outcomes relate to quality of life and, specifically,

Veterans with traumatic brain injuries (TBI) who face intersectional barriers to consistent, high-quality care.

Architecting and applying Agile project management (PM) methodologies (collaborative, iterative approaches to guide processes) with an anthropological lens of 'Studying Through' (tracing historical trajectories of policies and how they impact those who experience them) focuses projects on impact measures. It also increases efficiency across disciplines by developing a feedback loop of iteratively implemented, research-driven products and solutions. Whether structuring funding requests with an Agile approach or adjusting operations to implement Agile PM with the framework of Studying Through, projects increase effectiveness by producing iterative products tested by stakeholders (identified by Studying Through). The approach allows researchers to identify efficacy throughout a project's lifecycle versus at the end when it is too late to make adjustments. Moreover, Agile business practices permit quick adjustments and therefore better align with Community-Based Participatory Research where emerging cultural factors guide and shape research and science. The synergy between Implementation Science/IS (the study of strategies to uptake findings into practice) and Agile methodologies is a mixed methods approach that bolsters project success through improved praxis.

This presentation leverages a CDMRP (Dept of Defense) funded Veteran Affairs grant (I-HEAL) as a case study. I-HEAL includes four interrelated and interdisciplinary IS projects centered on community engagement. It engages stakeholders throughout the TBI ecosystem (policymakers, practitioners, Veterans with TBI). While operational success is not similarly prioritized as other project parts more directly and obviously related to scientific research, smart business through Agile PM provides the foundation for groundbreaking IS, and is a necessity for large, complex studies like I-HEAL to meet objectives. The presentation reflects on the development and execution of I-HEAL using Agile PM that will continuously create products implemented throughout the grant's lifecycle. It brings forward how strong PM and iterative product development tested by stakeholders using the frameworks of Studying Through and IS supports better science and drives project success.

*Flyvbjerg & Gardner, 2023

National Association for the Practice of Anthropology

Cassandra Decker, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Cassandra Decker, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

1556 Survivor Trajectories: Structural Vulnerability Before, During, and After Human Trafficking

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Over the past two and a half decades a human trafficking narrative has taken hold that constructs the issue narrowly and runs counter to the realities on the ground. It depends on an ideal victim who is portrayed as young, innocent, and sexually naive who is lured into the sex trade against her will. In addition, an evil trafficker serves as the villain and a valiant rescuer, usually a member of law enforcement, is the hero in this storyline. Relying on this narrative, nearly all U.S. government policy and much of the academic literature on trafficking construes the issue as one of interpersonal violence between trafficker and victim. The narrative decontextualizes and isolates the period of victimization and rescue from broader experiences of vulnerability. Based on two years of ethnographic research this poster contextualizes how structural vulnerability is embodied by domestic sex trafficking survivors in complex ways over time. It draws on a series of narratives of cisgender women with substance use disorder trafficked for commercial sex, sometimes combined with forced drug trafficking, in the northern New England region of the United States to highlight the trajectories of survivors of human trafficking before, during, and after trafficking. Focusing on the lived realities of survivors, it argues that prioritizing an interventionist criminal legal response to trafficking does little to address the issues that make individuals vulnerable to trafficking in the first place and very little to end trafficking. The presentation makes the case for moving beyond addressing solely the proximal causes of trafficking– in the context of the research, traffickers exploiting the addictions of young women in order to coerce them into commercial sex work for their own profit – to prioritizing addressing the fundamental root causes that often remain long after trafficking – economic insecurity, inequitable access to education, lack of safe and affordable housing, and inadequate health care, mental health care, and treatment for substance use disorder, among others.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Alicia Peters, University of New England Alicia Peters, University of New England

1958 The "Origin of Japanese" Theory : Cultural Nationalism or Scientific Racism?

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In Japan, the topic of the "origin of Japanese" is very popular among both biological anthropologists and the general public. Although the research concerns, methodology, and indicators of origin are based on the methods of natural science, mass media reports and commentary books for the general public are often written in a manner that could be interpreted as cultural nationalism.

Since the representations of group characteristics used by biological anthropology to argue for Japanese origins are anthropometric and skeletal measurements and genomic analyses, scientists are suggesting racial characteristics in the sense of shared biological characteristics of the group. Thus, in a more scientific explanation of the theory of Japanese origins, the element of nationalism recedes and takes on a more racist explanation. Otherwise, it is thought that the discussion takes the form of a nationalistic discourse that conceals racism.

Because of the nature of their treatment of biological essence, their arguments may take on the aspect of scientific racism. However, the frame of reference for defining racism or racist discrimination and exclusion in the definition of the term is the comparison with other races, both domestic and foreign, and the reference to superiority or inferiority. In other words, the analysis will be based on the discussion of variations within the same species category and the analogy of clusters of "people with Japanese-like characteristics," which are defined as group attributes, and their origin relationships.

Therefore, we will focus on the controversy between the "Dual Structure Theory," which was the established theory of Japanese origins based on anatomical characteristics, and the integrated model, which is based on genome analysis and refers to linguistic and archaeological data, and use it as material to examine whether it is scientific racism or not.

In Japan today, among the remains collected in various parts of Japan after the Japanese modernization, the Ainu remains have actually been returned to their original owners. In addition, a lawsuit was filed for the return of the remains from Okinawa, although it was unsuccessful. In this context, anthropologists and archaeologists are preparing to develop ethical guidelines for research. Scientists, however, are concerned about restrictions on their previously unrestricted research on human remains and the "origin of Japanese," which has been conducted using materials obtained from these studies. This presentation will examine the possibility that the expert discourse on the "origin of Japanese" may have provided anthropological evidence of the uniqueness of the Japanese "race." The presenter will question the relationship between cultural nationalism and scientific racism in the area of research known as "origin of Japanese."

Society for Medical Anthropology

Mitsuho Ikeda, Osaka University Mitsuho Ikeda, Osaka University

3480 The 2018 Sarr-Savoy Report: Its Findings, Recommendations, and Implications for the Future of the Restitution of African Cultural Heritage Objects

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This poster describes the results of my research on the historical development of international conventions regarding cultural heritage objects and restitution, focusing on the theoretical arguments used to support conventions authored between 1899 and 2018. I conducted research across a series of primary and secondary sources starting with the first international convention making illegal the annexation of cultural property in times of war (Hague 1899), and ending with a recent French national research study proposing a new theoretical framework and legal structure arguing for the return of African cultural objects acquired in colonial contexts, the 2018 Sarr-Savoy Report. I investigate specific successful and unsuccessful restitution claims during this period

between specific pairs of countries-Britain and Nigeria, France and Nigeria, and Germany and Nigeria-and assess the primary theoretical and legal obstacles preventing adequate restitution. I argue that the current 'freeze' on the restitution of African cultural heritage objects is a result of conflict between international conventions that obliged signees to treat access to cultural heritage as if it was a human right, and national laws of post-colonial powers that make all cultural heritage objects within national museums the inalienable property of the citizens of the country the object resided in when the law was written. My analysis of the Sarr-Savoy report demonstrates its utility in solving future cases of restitution, citing the successful and adequate restitution of over 1,000 'Benin Bronzes' held by German museums to Nigeria in 2022. Thus, adequate restitution entails the legal recognition by former colonial powers of the annexation of cultural property taken in colonial contexts as an indignity and requires the full transfer of ownership to the country making the restitution claim, as well as proactive cooperation the part of both nations involved.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Thomas Testa Thomas Testa

1557 The Phenomenology of Silence: A Spatial Ethnography of the Little Chapel of Silence

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This spatial ethnography examines silence as a facilitator of introspection and intersubjectivity within the Little Chapel of Silence. Located on the University of Southern California (USC)'s campus, the Little Chapel of Silence is an interfaith space dedicated to silent reflection, meditation, and prayer that was built in 1935. Within it, a journal serves as a repository for personal reflections, offering insight into visitors' experiences of spatial silence. Entries transcribe experiences, thoughts, and events from the perspective of the composer. Through inductive analysis of over 500 journal entries and 20 interviews with visitors, this study articulates how silence produces and embodies introspection and silent intersubjectivity. The chapel, despite limited explicit interaction among its participants, is a space in which people gain access to a mutual sense of consciousness that is informed by a shared exposure to silence. The Little Chapel of Silence is a microcosm of the human experience. Within it, people develop a deeply intimate relationship with spatial silence and, by extension, with one another. The chapel is central to how people make sense of who they are in relation to the world at USC and beyond. For 88 years, this 225-square-foot box has offered a haven from the cacophony of USC's campus and remains unknown to most. Within its confines, the Little Chapel of Silence saves lives, rebuilds relationships, and promotes empathy. This phenomenological ethnography transcends the mundane and reveals the symbiotic relationship between silence and humans.

National Association of Student Anthropologists

Audrey Joachim, University of Southern California, Department of Anthropology Audrey Joachim, University of Southern California, Department of Anthropology

2134 The Praxis of Applying Anthropology to Increase Inclusivity and Engagement within a HyFlex Learning Environment

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

With the recent changes in higher education due to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing students the opportunity to complete coursework in different modalities has become one path toward student success. HyFlex (Hybrid-Flexible) course design combines in-person and online learning, allowing students to choose their mode of participation while fostering inclusivity, engagement, and adaptability. The impacts of HyFlex course design on students' perceived learning experiences have been explored through a five-year service-learning project with undergraduate students at a regional comprehensive university. Interviews during the first phase focused on how students experienced a socially distant education, how students experienced college through a blend of socially distant and face-to-face modalities, and the pandemic's emotional toll on the students. The most recent data collection is on student preferences for course content delivery modalities and how these modalities impact inclusivity and engagement. In addition to presenting the findings of this project and methods by which students were taught basic ethnographic methods, this poster includes recommendations for adapting course content delivery to meet post-pandemic student preferences. In addition, these modes' impact on inclusivity and engagement will be addressed.

Society for Anthropological Sciences

Douglas Hume, Northern Kentucky University, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Philosophy
Douglas Hume, Northern Kentucky University, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Philosophy

2880 The Stories We Tell (Ourselves): Narration, Translation, and Knowledge Creation Across the Subdisciplines

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

How do the stories we tell ourselves during fieldwork inform not only our interpretations but also the process itself? This poster explores subdisciplinary knowledge practices and how our respective subfields approach what "counts" as data. We are Ph.D. students in archaeology, primatology, and cultural anthropology who have united to illuminate the processes of narrative note-taking during fieldwork, the utility of these notes as sources of insight, and ultimately, the value of dialogue across the subdisciplines. In what follows, we offer perspectives on these issues from our subfields.

In archaeology, narrative has been discussed as an alternative way to present data, but not its role in initial stages of fieldwork. Because excavation is a destructive process, fieldnotes are intended to preserve an objective record of the process, leaving room for future archaeologists to make new or different interpretations from the same data. This remains a critical part of our work, but the differences between fieldnotes and lot forms highlight that we are already telling ourselves stories in the field. It would be worthwhile to present these stories alongside conventional writing in order to foreground our own positionality in our work.

The early 20th century effort to establish primatology as a credible field science marked the abandonment of descriptive natural history techniques as researchers increasingly sought to standardize and quantify their observations. Today, behavioral sampling and the use of predefined ethograms allow researchers to statistically analyze primate complexity and variability, but also acts as a filter, priming observers to prioritize quantitative over qualitative data, generality over specificity, precision over ambiguity, and systematic over open-ended observations. Observations that capture the vivid lives of primates, but are deemed irrelevant or unquantifiable, often remain unwritten in our field books, and are almost certainly excluded in analyses and published work, reinforcing the boundary between what counts as science and what does not.

In our graduate program, I have been privileged to participate in classes alongside archaeologists and primatologists, and it was only in the course of discussing the ways in which we capture data in the field that I really thought about how I take notes. My own jottings are often a running internal dialogue, and I don't write much of these internal asides into my longer, translated fieldnotes. But they matter! Cultural anthropologists don't always agree on our theoretical framings, or the meaning of "culture," but we agree that one of the keys to our research is in our ability to reflect, and to recognize our own place in our research environment. How can we be more mindful of how we are centering ourselves in our fieldwork?

Archaeology Division

Madeline Snyder Madeline Snyder

2372 Three ethnic villages along one trail: the effects of heritage management policies on rural landscapes

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

According to the World Heritage Convention, rural landscapes are dynamic cultural landscapes whose heritage and management are of major concern to the international society. Since the 1990s, tourism-triggered changes in rural landscapes have become a common phenomenon in Chinese villages. In particular, many villages in the southwestern ethnic minority areas have undergone industrial transformation. Meanwhile, the development of tourism using unique cultural heritage has become an important mode of development. Local authorities respond to the impact of tourism on landscape heritage without compromising economic development. Under the influence of top-down rural planning policies and market economic activities, different heritage

management policies are initiated with domestic and international experts. This study takes three Dong villages (the three villages are the largest Dong community, a Chinese-Norwegian co-operative ecomuseum and an ordinary Dong village, respectively) under three different heritage management frameworks connected by a trail as an example to explore and illustrate how different heritage policies affect rural landscapes and the sustainable development of landscape heritage.

General Anthropology Division

Xiaoyan Zhang Xiaoyan Zhang

2172 Traditional healers referring for malaria in Uganda: results from rapid ethnographies

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Available evidence on Uganda suggests that traditional healers are common, however, few studies document the emergence of acquiescence for, and collaboration with, modern medical services. This study investigated traditional healer practices which promote malaria prevention and treatment.

Between 27 November and 10 December 2022, a cross-sectional design comprising seven key informant interviews (KIIs) and six rapid ethnographic observations was conducted with traditional healers from the West Nile and Karamoja regions of Uganda. Participants were purposively selected using snowball sampling in areas of high malaria positivity. KIIs were used to collect individual perspectives while ethnographic observation triangulated with contextualized data.

Results illustrated that traditional healers were appreciative and supportive of ongoing referrals and linkages with the health facilities. Traditional healer skills were used by health facilities under supervision, to address shortages of staff, for example in the maternity ward where they observed pregnant women progression towards delivery and alerted the midwife. Observation data revealed; a traditional healer tendency for testing for malaria from the facility before complimentary herbal healing was commenced; that traditional healers do not treat conditions they do not understand because they want to avoid wasting herbs and time and fear the consequences of adverse client outcomes. Traditional healers request clients to first get a test at a health facility to ensure the specificity of their treatment methods. KII data revealed that traditional healers were mostly confident of facility-based test results and medicines, which they perceived as fast in healing compared to "slow" herbs.

From this study, traditional healers were receptive towards a referral role to health facilities for confirmation of malaria before herbal treatments commence. Potential interventions among traditional healers may include engagement as partners and referral agents.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Anna Passaniti Anna Passaniti

2476 Transformative Approaches to Understanding the Escalation of Interpersonal Violence: An Examination of Skeletal Trauma and Tactics of Abuse

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Interpersonal violence is a pervasive social problem, plaguing all populations. Anyone can be a victim or perpetrator of interpersonal violence; however, there may be some individuals or populations that experience higher rates of violence than others. If an understanding of the factors and skeletal effects related to interpersonal violence can be developed, context aiding in forensic and bioarchaeological investigations can be identified, prevention programs aiming to help specific populations can be created, and new tools to support survivors can be advanced. This two-part project seeks to identify patterns in the occurrence of skeletal trauma and tactics of abuse related to three types of interpersonal violence: domestic violence, sexual violence, and child abuse, and examine risk factors that may be associated with those skeletal trauma types and/or effected osteological regions. The first part of this project is a comparative assessment of recorded traumas in living and deceased individuals, aiming to identify types, osteological region, and frequency of skeletal traumas occurring due to those types of interpersonal violence, as well as identifying any other types or tactics of abuse that may be co-occurring. The second part of the project is an ethnographic study utilizing surveys of program participants at support services centers, and semi-structured interviews of victim advocates/direct service staff to examine what factors may increase the overall occurrence of skeletal trauma or level of lethality from those types of violence, as well as identify any barriers to the reporting process. This project seeks to understand the intersection of culture, diverse identities, and systemic inequalities as it may impact the prevalence of injuries, differences in injury outcomes, escalation of violence, and the long-term impacts of interpersonal violence.

Biological Anthropology Section

Averi Jones, University of Montana, Department of Anthropology Averi Jones, University of Montana, Department of Anthropology

2621 Transronterizo families' language policies at the U.S.-México border.

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Many Latinx and immigrant families know that to navigate in this country, their children need to learn English even though they also want them to maintain their heritage language (HL). This research is a qualitative, multiple-case study, using Seidman's (2006) three-part, in-depth interviews, that looks at the decisions parents make about their language use at home. Particularly,

it focuses on the language practices at home of transfronterizo families, who are frequent border crossers.

Many language minority parents in the U.S. view bilingualism as a family goal and aim to provide their children with the opportunity to learn a second language at a young age (King & Fogle, 2006). Schools in the U.S. have a deficit way of thinking which views minority students and their families at fault for poor academic performance, which claims that students enter school without cultural knowledge and skills and that parents do not value or support their children's education (Yosso, 2005).

The exploration of the language use and decision-making practices taken by Latinx, and immigrant parents can be explained by the understanding of the development of family language policy (FLP) which is seen as an action taken by parents to provide support for children's HL maintenance and development. However, the support that parents provide for their children, is not viewed as a contribution to what happens in the classroom. FLP is shaped by what the family believes will strengthen the family's language goals (Curdt-Christiansen, 2009). Soltero-González and Reyes (2012) emphasizes the importance of building on the language and cultural resources children bring from home into the classroom to support English language and literacy development.

Looking at FLP is significant for the Latinx and immigrant student population, as is the practice that centers around what the family believes is better for their children's language acquisition and practices when it comes to learning a second language. There is research on the FLP of immigrant children in the U.S. schools, however, it is not particularly focused on the FLP of transfronterizo children on the border.

This research can potentially bring light to the language policies that happen within the homes of transfronterizo families when it comes to their children's upbringing and how those policies are connected to their experiences as transfronterizo families living in the U.S-Mexico border. I expect through this research, to inform policymakers and educators, about the language practices already in place in transfronterizo homes to better understand and utilize this information towards improving the instruction and classroom experiences of transfronterizo students. Potentially, this research could bridge the communication gap between transfronterizo parents, educators, and school administrators.

Council on Anthropology and Education

Alejandra Sanmiguel-Lopez, University of Texas at El Paso Alejandra Sanmiguel-Lopez, University of Texas at El Paso

3459 Unveiling the Legacy of Zika: Anthropological Perspectives on Microcephaly as a Disability in Brazil and Colombia

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

The World Health Organization declared the Zika virus (ZIKV) a Public Health Emergency in 2016 due to the increase in microcephaly, which is when a neonate's head circumference is below the expected range. In this anthropological study investigating the cultural and biological impact of the ZIKV epidemic, I compare maternal health, fetal development, and cultural perceptions to explore the nuances of microcephalic disability in Brazil and Colombia. Synthesizing existing scientific and anthropological literature, my research creates a comparative analysis that reveals cultural understandings, beliefs, and reactions to ZIKV-related fetal abnormalities in Brazil and Colombia through ethnographic methods focused on maternal, caregiver, and healthcare worker perspectives. The case studies demonstrate how infection and disabilities from ZIKV are sometimes viewed as both a challenge and a divine gift, highlighting the resilience and unwavering dedication of mothers with affected children.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Emily Serrano Emily Serrano

3145 Using Ethnographic Methods to Inform Thorough Analyses

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

As an effort to streamline the preparation associated with thorough analyses, and as a means to construct guardrails for a quality professional not clinically trained, we sought to harness our culture of lean learning and the clinical expertise of our medical staff. Our goal was to reduce the scope of chart abstraction necessary to complete the discussion tools and ensure that all relevant subject matter expert (SME) perspectives were incorporated prior to the general discussion. During a lull between events, at the start of October 2023, a new process was devised to perform more focused chart abstraction and focus more on interviewing clinical staff for insight into the events as they occur. Drawing on elements of Positivist (using SME's extensive experiences to identify impacts on self and practices from interactions with other communities and departments), Ecological (using SME's layered understanding of the event to identify structural impacts on self and practices, like policies and norms), and Network analysis (using SME interactional perspectives of the event to identify relational impacts on self and practices) paradigms a new process was devised that incorporated more focused chart review and targeted interviewing of SMEs (NTE 30mins), using the latter to identify additional interviewees. Using this framework our we were able to quickly compile key elements and interview SMEs in preparation for a general discussion with the full transplant team and any relevant external departments (e.g. Radiology, Infectious Diseases, etc.). This process was used to prep all cases in 2023 Q4 (N=5) and is in ongoing use.

Through this new format, we were able to streamline the process and reduce manual chart abstraction for non-clinical personnel, while ensuring that we incorporated valuable elements. Scope of chart abstraction was drastically cut to include: review of post-mortem documentation, assigned clinical staff, most recent providers to see the patient (Transplant physician and surgeon, as well as those relevant to patient's course of care), and specific elements indicated by SMEs.

Incorporating the separate SME voices in conjunction strongly elicits the overlapping patterns of behavior, policies, and practices to determine variation and opportunities to improve our workflows, as a result of a patient event and to avoid similar events in the future. Doing so early in the process ensures that the general discussion will be more robust, while reducing rework for a non-clinical staff person preparing the review. A significant dependency of this process is to develop a culture of learning and growth, this will ensure a more complete picture of the circumstances leading up to the patient event.

National Association for the Practice of Anthropology

Joshua Liggett, University of California, San Diego Joshua Liggett, University of California, San Diego

1413 WE LOVE YOU: Lived Experience , Connection , and Health Care Access amongst Harm Reduction Workers and Syringe Exchange Participants

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

Harm Reduction is a public health practice and social justice philosophy which aims to reduce the harms associated with drug use through pragmatic health strategies and advocacy. This is an excerpt from my thesis, which ethnographically details the experiences and challenges of Harm Reduction advocates in Palm Beach County, Florida for the purpose of exploring cultural and structural barriers for harm reduction in this local setting. Utilizing a lens of Critical Medical Anthropology, cultural and structural barriers represent the shared beliefs and institutional realities which combine to create barriers for advocates in maintaining the Harm Reduction resource they provide, as well as barriers people who use drugs (PWUD) face when trying to access those resources. These issues are explored through ethnographic data featuring the knowledge and experience of Rebel Recovery and its associated syringe services program(SSP), Florida Access to Syringe and Health services (FLASH). This poster presentation focuses on the significance of SSP employees sharing similar lived experiences as the participants they are serving, and the impact this has on increasing accessibility to healthcare resources and social connection for PWUD on the margins. Harm reduction workers' shared experiences with participants, particularly as it relates to violent relationships with local healthcare workers and law enforcement, bridges a gap in community services that allows participants to receive essential healthcare services such as syringe access, infectious disease testing, peer support, and on-site wound care.

Society for Medical Anthropology

Tessa Moody Tessa Moody

1891 We 'Used What We Had:' How a COVID-19 Worksite Vaccination Initiative Sought to Promote Economic and Population Health in a Southern Town.

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In mid-2021, the CommuniVax Alabama team broadened their community engagement by partnering with the Chamber of Commerce, the Alabama Department of Public Health, and others to bring vaccines to the workplace. Through this collaboration, the team hoped to fortify the state's persistently anemic rate of vaccination. The goals of increasing access to, and convenience of COVID-19 vaccination were only partially achieved, due to human resource and policy challenges and the incongruent priorities that resulted from those challenges. Accomplishments, challenges, and lessons learned are outlined to aid future efforts at health promotion and community outreach, especially in jurisdictions with very limited extant public health infrastructure.

Society for Anthropological Sciences

Kathryn Oths, University of Alabama, Department of Anthropology Kathryn Oths, University of Alabama, Department of Anthropology

1892 You Owe Yourself Another Drunk: A Secondary Analysis of Spradley's Study of Urban Nomads

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

James P. Spradley carried out ground-breaking work on unhoused men in the late 1960s. His research employed a then-innovative cognitive theoretical orientation of "ethnoscience," describing the men's lives from an emic perspective. Spradley used the classic methods of ethnoscience: emic data elicitation, taxonomic analysis, and componential analysis. He examined multiple cultural domains among the unhoused men, and his work is perhaps best remembered for his analysis of "making a flop" (or, finding a place to sleep, an analysis for which he won the Stirling Award from the AAA). Unlike the classic examples from componential analyses of kinship systems, "making a flop" proved to be highly complex, with 35 different kinds of flops distinguished by 8 different distinctive features, some of which could assume 6 different values. While his work is a fascinating glimpse into the lives of these men, the analysis is unwieldy, complicating inferences about the reasoning process the men use in deciding on a flop. I suggest in this presentation that this is not the fault of Spradley's data collection, but rather a problem with the analytic tools he had available to him. Here I re-analyze his main results using contemporary methods of cultural domain analysis. This analysis reinforces and clarifies his original findings. This secondary analysis also

helps to clarify the position of Spradley's work in the larger development of cognitive anthropology. Discussions of cognitive anthropology at the time often mention Spradley's work in passing, but his focus on a public policy issue-the unhoused-places his research in a context of praxis rarely found in the ethnoscience of the time. That, plus the unwieldy complexity of the original analysis, made his research somewhat of an anomaly in cognitive anthropology. The secondary analysis presented here suggests instead that Spradley could be considered a transition figure between ethnoscience and the nascent cultural models theory emerging at roughly the same time. His emphasis on the men's collective representations of "making a flop" as an adaptive mechanism for coping with their socially marginal status presages later work on the role of cultural models in social practice.

Society for Anthropological Sciences

William Dressler, University of Alabama, Department of Anthropology William Dressler, University of Alabama, Department of Anthropology

3605 “It is like a Snake”: Cancer, Metaphors and the Illness Experience among Indian Immigrants in the United States

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

This research study explores the use of metaphors regarding perceptions of cancer and the disparate ways in which it articulates the illness experience among Indian immigrants in the United States. The study utilized in-depth semi-structured interviews that were conducted in Atlanta, Georgia, and other cities in the United States. It presents an in-depth perspective on how the illness experience guides the conversations around cancer, etiology, acceptance of diagnosis and agency in dealing with the illness.

The Common Sense Model posits that lay perceptions about a serious illness influence individual responses and attitudes toward that health condition. In this regard, the findings show that the metaphorical descriptions of cancer shared by participants reflect their beliefs about physiological aspects such as the role of diet in its causality on one hand while presenting underlying themes of resilience in the management of their or their loved one's health condition. In addition, these responses correspond with the type and stage of cancer apart from being situated in the respective roles of survivors and caregivers. These narratives frame the varied experiences of cancer and provide in-depth insights into patterns of cancer communication in social and clinical settings. Additionally, they highlight the deep and lasting influence of the lived experiences of cancer and their ability to transform suffering into a site of action in the personal, social and therapeutic sphere among survivors and caregivers.

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1632 “Somehow No One Has Realised I Am the Common Denominator”: Gender Inequality in Social Media Representations of Infertility in Ghana and Nigeria

11/21/2024 06:00 PM-07:30 PM

TCC West Hall

Poster – In-Person Live

In the wake of modern technologies, new forms of gender inequality have emerged in terms of the ways parenthood, motherhood and fertility are presented and celebrated on social media platforms such as Instagram. This paper looks at the ways these inequalities are manifested and the coping mechanisms women dealing with infertility utilize to manage these pressures. To this end, social media groups that have converged around the common experience of infertility are interrogated to reveal new challenges social media poses to their shared experience and solutions these platforms may also provide.

An internet ethnography is conducted of social media posts and comments by bloggers and followers of ten (10) Ghanaian and Nigerian social media groups and pages focused on infertility and related reproductive health issues.

These research findings shed light on the gender differences at play in current experiences of infertility in Ghana and Nigeria via social media revealing prevalent gender inequalities and new forms they take considering emerging Assisted Reproductive technologies and contemporary understandings of infertility. Additionally, this paper provides an overview of gender representation and participation in these social media spaces dedicated to infertility and related reproductive issues.

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