



Department of Anthropology

*The College of Arts & Sciences
The University of Alabama*



eNewsletter

May, 2005

Volume 3, Number 2

Department of Anthropology
The University of Alabama
19 ten Hour
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0210

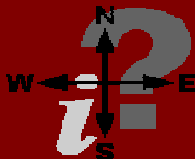
Phone: (205) 348-5947
Fax: (205) 348-7937

E-MAIL

anthro@tenhour.as.ua.edu



<http://www.as.ua.edu/ant>

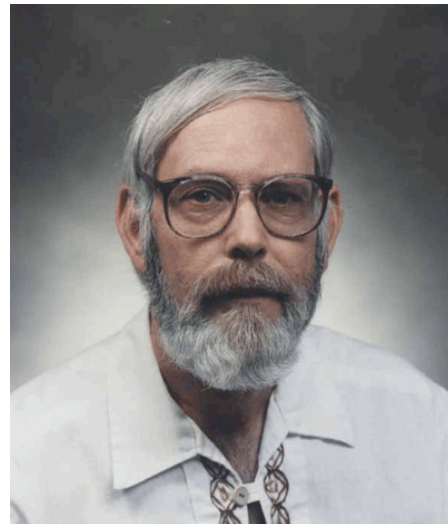


Department Location



Newsletter Archive

Prof. Richard Krause to Retire From UA After 31 Years of Dedicated Service



The end of this academic year marks the retirement of one of our most distinguished senior faculty members, **Prof. Richard A. Krause**. Dick Krause was recruited in 1974 to head the Department of Anthropology, which at that time had only five faculty members. As Chair during the 1970s, Dick set the Department on its present course, as a steadily growing unit of the College of Arts and Sciences with a four-field curriculum and a rigorous graduate program. Dick's extraordinary dedication to teaching and to the improvement of all aspects of Department life will not be forgotten. In

appreciation of this landmark event in our history, our faculty, present students, alumni, and friends all fondly wish Dick a happy and productive retirement.



Dick Krause & Friends in Yucatan, early '80s

The Establishment of the Richard A. Krause Award

At a recent banquet in his honor on the occasion of his retirement, Prof. Krause was presented with a plaque announcing the establishment of a new Department of Anthropology award to be established in his name. **The Richard A. Krause Award** will be bestowed on a graduate student whose work exemplifies the very high standards of scholarship that Dick Krause has fostered in our department over the course of more than three decades. We can think of no better way to recognize Dick's many contributions to our department than to honor a student following in his footsteps.

The Krause Award Fund

The Department has established a fund for the Krause Award and we encourage all of Dick's friends, students and colleagues to contribute to it. Anyone wishing to do so can send a contribution to the Department (at the address indicated near the top of the left column) made out to the "College of Arts and Sciences." Anyone wishing to discuss a contribution can do so by contacting **Michael Murphy**, Department Chair, or **Jim Knight**, chair of the department's Development Committee. We will be most grateful to receive any



Prof. Dick Krause with three of his long-time colleagues: Profs. Norman Singer, Jim Bindon and Allen Maxwell

amount, however large or small, to get the ball rolling.

Prof. Kathy Oths Accorded Two High Honors: The Meyer Award and the A&S Outstanding Commitment to Students Award

Never one to do things in half measure, **Prof. Kathy Oths** has brought recognition to her department by winning two high honors this year. Kathy Oths first won the very prestigious **Morris Lehman Meyer Award** that is annually given to a student and a faculty member who exhibits the highest standards of integrity and great commitment to service to University and community life. One of UA's "Premier" Awards, this honor places Prof. Oths among the most distinguished professors of the University.

Prof. Oths also was accorded the **Arts and Sciences Leadership Board's Outstanding Commitment to Students Award**, one of the highest honors bestowed on professors for their excellence in teaching. Prof. Oths received this award at the annual Honor's Day celebration of the College of Arts and Sciences.

When next you see Kathy Oths, please convey your congratulations to her.



Prof. Kathy Oths with President Witt receiving the Morris Lehman Meyer Award.





Prof. Bill Dressler

Prof. Bill Dressler Named A&S Leadership Board Faculty Fellow, 2005-08

Prof. Bill Dressler joins **Prof. Jim Bindon** as a College of Arts and Sciences Leadership Board Faculty Fellow. This fellowship is arguably the highest honor bestowed on an active member of the A&S faculty. To be named a Faculty Fellow is to be recognized for excellence in all three of the duties assumed by a professor: research, teaching and service.

After serving as a Fellow for three years Jim Bindon passes the torch to Bill Dressler, who begins a term of service that will extend to 2008. Congratulations are in order to Prof. Dressler (who recently won the UA Burnum Award) for this recognition of his distinguished career at the University of Alabama.

This is a fitting honor for one of UA's most prolific and dedicated teacher-scholars.

UA Anthropology Grad Students Shine at the SAA Meetings in Salt Lake City and the SfAA Meetings in Santa Fe

Our graduate students have once again made us proud by their extraordinary level of participation and leadership at national professional meetings. In recent months, fourteen current or recently graduated UA students in Anthropology presented papers at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Santa Fe, New Mexico and the Society for American Archaeology meetings in Salt Lake City, Utah. Our students also organized or chaired sessions at both meetings. Those presenting papers were Patty Alleman-Velez, Toni Copeland, Ashley Dumas, Katy Gillespie, Meredith Jackson, Pam Johnson, Kristin Kostick, Laura Minnich, Jennifer Myer, Christine Newkirk, Brooke Persons, Amanda Regnier, Mary Spanos, and Sarah Szurek.



Society for Applied Anthropology



Society for American Archaeology

Ashley Dumas Wins the Bob Work Award



Ashley Dumas

Ashley Dumas is this year's winner of the Bob Work award, an annual award based on a graduate student paper competition and judged by a departmental committee. Ashley's winning paper is an examination of pottery and other artifacts from several Mississippian-period salt production sites in South Alabama. This research will be incorporated into Ashley's doctoral dissertation, soon to appear!



Cameron Laquement Awarded the David and Elizabeth DeJarnette Fellowship

Cameron Laquement is the 11th winner of the 2005-06 David and Elizabeth DeJarnette Endowed Scholarship. Cameron is the first double-winner, having also won the scholarship in 2003-04 while a Masters student. Following up on his earlier research interest in domestic architecture at Moundville, Cameron will be using the scholarship to develop his PhD research. This research centers on the architecture of the Moundville Earth Lodge recently discovered at Moundville. Our traditional spring barbecue to honor the awardee was held at the Conference Building on the Moundville river bank on April 16, where a large group of faculty, current students, alumni, and friends gathered to enjoy the feasting and fellowship. Our thanks to Sarah and Jim Caldwell for hosting our most important social event of the year.



Cameron's Famous House



Toni Copeland

Toni Copeland Awarded a Coveted Graduate Council Fellowship for 2005-06

A salute to Toni Copeland, one of our talented group of graduate student in medical anthropology, who has been awarded a Graduate Council Fellowship for the coming year. These fellowships are recommended by the Department to the UA Graduate Council and are highly competitive.



Meredith Jackson

Meredith Jackson Wins a UA National Alumni Association's Fellowship for 2005-06

The UA National Alumni Association's Fellowship, also known as the "license tag" fellowship in view of the source of the endowment, has been awarded to Meredith Jackson. The fellowship will allow Meredith, a doctoral student in medical anthropology, to pursue her dissertation research. Congratulations are in order for a dedicated student of anthropology.



**Prof. Ian Brown &
Mandy Edwards**

Mandy Edwards Wins a Randall Undergraduate Research Recognition Award

Our graduating senior Mandy Edwards has won the University's coveted Randall Undergraduate Research Recognition award. She was nominated for this award by Prof. Ian W. Brown, shown with her at left. Prof. Brown directed Mandy in research dealing with differing styles of historic grave markers in Anglo-American and African-American cemeteries. He describes Mandy as "a dream student for a professor because of the way that she approaches research." This is a fine tribute to Mandy's dedication and talent as an undergraduate researcher. Mandy will also be entering our M.A. program in the fall.



Amy Hewitt

Amy Hewitt Wins the C. Earle Smith Award

The C. Earle Smith Award, known among us as the "Smitty," is given once a year during Honors Week to our outstanding graduating senior in Anthropology. This year the Smitty goes to Amy Hewitt, whose overall grade point average to date is a highly commendable 3.83.

Congratulations, Amy, for a job well-done!!



"African Diaspora and the Study of Religion" April 7-8, 2005

The Anthropology Department was delighted to be a co-sponsor of a fascinating two-day conference on "African Diaspora and the Study of Religion" This event was organized and hosted by the Department of Religious Studies and focused on "the place of African cultures within the academic study of religion--including, but not limited to, indigenous African religions, African Christianities, African forms of Islam, religions of African-Americans, Afro-Caribbean

religions, and Afro-Brazilian religions." For more information please see the [conference web site](#) or contact [Dr. Ted Trost](#) of the Department of Religious Studies.

AnthroBabies: Welcome Rohan!

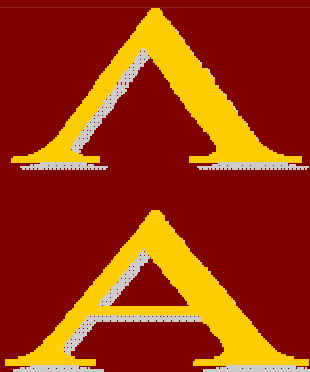


Rohan Caleb Reddy

On March 18, 11:14 p.m., Rohan Caleb Reddy was born to Kim Walters, former UA grad student, and her husband, Krishna Chaitanya Reddy, a software consultant from Andhra Pradesh, India. Rohan weighted in at 8 lbs. and 6 ozs.

Kim is currently pursuing doctoral studies in the Human Development Program of the University of Chicago.

Our best wishes go out to Rohan, Kim and Chaith from their friends in Tuscaloosa.



Erica Gibson-Staneland
President of Lambda Alpha
Beta of Alabama

Lambda Alpha at UA

Under the leadership of [Dr. Jim Bindon](#) and grad students [Erica Gibson-Staneland](#) and [Sarah Szurek](#), last year the University of Alabama became the Alabama Beta Chapter of the national anthropology honorary society, [Lambda Alpha](#). At present the society is extending an invitation to those undergraduates and graduate students who have not yet been formerly initiated into Alabama Beta to step forward. As the first two cohorts of initiates can attest, the ceremonies are entirely painless and only very slightly anxiety provoking. And where else will you be able to enjoy the stylized shamanic rantings of [Steve Meredith](#) and [Matt Grunewald](#)?

Lambda Alpha has elected new officers for the 2005-2006 year. The new president is [Mary Campbell](#), VP is [Lee Ann Walker](#) Lowe, Ritual Protector is [Toni Copeland](#). The outgoing officers in the same order are [Erica Gibson-Staneland](#), [Sarah Szurek](#), and [Cameron Lacquement](#).

Lambda Alpha had two service projects this year, collecting 26 pairs of eyeglasses for Unite for Sight,

2004-05

and canned goods and professional dress clothing for Hunger and Homelessness Week. Lambda Alpha, Beta chapter now has over 50 current and alumni members!

In addition to offering substantial awards and scholarships, Lambda Alpha also produces an academic journal that showcases the work of anthropology students.

Anyone who wishes to join Lambda Alpha should contact [Dr. Jim Bindon](#).



Join the Anthropology Club

Anthropology Club was very busy during the 2004-2005 academic year. We remained a registered organization with the Coordinating Council of Student Organizations. [Sarah Szurek](#) was the president, [Tom Lewis](#) was the vice-president, [Lauren Downs](#) was the secretary, and [Steven Meredith](#) was the treasurer. As always, our fearless advisor was [Dr. Ian Brown](#).

We had fourteen regular meetings during the 2004-2005 year—an average of two per month. Most of our meetings corresponded with Lambda Alpha meetings. In addition, our monthly happy hours are more popular than ever! Sometimes the head count would exceed 25 people. Our new location at Wilhagen's may be the reason—they are very Anthro Club-friendly!

In the Fall 2004 semester, Anthro Club and the department co-sponsored [Dr. Heather McKillop](#), from LSU to come and speak about her research on the Classic Maya Salt Industry.

Anthropology Club members volunteered 113 hours of their time for the Moundville Native American Festival, and the Park donated \$500 to Anthropology Club for our efforts. Anthro Club also participated in the Homecoming Parade for the first time in recent memory. The AnthroTruck was formally exhibited during the parade. The Fall camping trip took place over the weekend of November 5th, to St. Stephen's State Park. A service project was performed in December—five full boxes of canned goods were donated to a local charity during the holiday season. We put the food under a decorated Christmas tree in the [Ed Cook Reading Room](#).

In Spring of 2005, Anthro Club members took it upon themselves to form a committee and redecorate the [Edwin Cook Reading Room](#). We cleaned and organized and purchased a new sofa for student group work, lounging, and snacking. For three of the Anthro Club meetings, speakers from the department were kind enough to share their recent research with the members. [Dr. Brown](#) gave a fascinating



Sarah Szurek
President
Anthropology Club
2004-05

lecture on salt production in China, [Dr. LeCount](#) spoke about her recent research at the ancient Maya center of Actuncan, Belize, and [Dr. Knight](#) addressed the Club regarding his experiences and understanding of life in Cuba.

A bake sale was held on Valentine's Day, and garnered over \$100 for the Club. In addition, the Club applied for and was approved for \$1200 in funding from the Student Government Association for the Spring camping trip to Dauphin Island, and to view the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit in Mobile, Alabama. The trip was a great success, with over 20 undergrads, grads, alumni, and professors attending. As always, the goings-on of Anthropology Club can be viewed online at: <http://www.as.ua.edu/ant/prog/club.htm>.

The officers for the 2005-2006 year are as follows: [Barry Whitehead](#), president; [James Gilbreath](#), vice-president; [Erin Phillips](#), secretary; and [Mary Spanos](#), treasurer.



Planning for Spring 2006

It is not too early to begin planning for Spring 2006. Undergraduate majors and minors might wish to review [degree requirements](#) prior to consulting with faculty advisors. Download a [major/minor checklist](#) to keep track of your progress. To peruse course offerings available to both undergraduates and graduate students, please consult our schedule for [Spring 2006](#).

Keep in Touch

Don't hesitate to contact us with your questions, queries and suggestions. [Michael Murphy](#) is Chair. [Bill Dressler](#) is Director of Graduate Studies and [Lisa LeCount](#) is Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies while [Kathy Oths](#) is on sabbatical leave.

Our [web site](#) contains many resources for students, alumni, and folks who are just interested in anthropology. The site is undergoing some design changes, so don't be surprised by the new look.

Questions, suggestions, and submissions for future issues of this [web newsletter](#) will be gratefully received.

Check out previous newsletters at the [archive page](#).

This newsletter is edited by [Jim Knight](#) & [Michael Murphy](#)

