CSAS 2016 Paper and Poster Abstracts

(alphabetical order by first author's last name)

Ackerman, Alana (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
A Revolution in Time: Chronotope and Contemporary Ecuadorian Government Discourse
     This paper offers an analysis of *Línea Sur*, the Ecuadorian government's biannual journal of foreign affairs, which was first published in 2011. Using the concept of chronotope, I argue that the Ecuadorian government discursively implements a "Citizens' Revolution"space-time: It partitions space into nation-states that are either part of the global North (also called the West) or the global South. It also organizes time into a catastrophic past (the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s) and an expansive, emancipated present, which began in 2007, when the current administration was elected into power. In this discourse, the global North is associated with Ecuador's past, a space-time of military rule, illegitimate debt, and neoliberal policies. Meanwhile, the global South is associated with Ecuador's present, a space-time of regional integration, sovereignty, and twenty-first century socialism. This chronotope supports the positioning of the new government as legitimate, while delegitimizing prior government administrations. I also argue that the "Citizens' Revolution"chronotope both challenges and upholds Western neocolonialism. The Ecuadorian government takes up a foundational Western ideology by associating the past with ignorance and catastrophe, and the present with education and salvation. However, by discursively relegating the West to the ignorant past, and by associating the present with the sovereign South, the Ecuadorian government challenges not only the legitimacy, but the modern existence, of the neocolonial West.
keywords: Ecuador, Chronotope, Government Discourse

Adachi, Nobuko (Illinois State University)
Imagined Aliens: Japanese Soldiers Detained in the USSR After World War II
     In September, 1945, after Japan's surrender to the Allies, the USSR took the Japanese soldiers they captured in Manchuria and put them into forced-labor camps across Siberia and Central Asia. Recently released documents show that the Japanese government was complicit in this, granting the Soviet Union the labor of some 600,000 prisoners of war in return for the USSR's promise not to invade Japan. Many of these detainees suffered severe hardships under cold and horrific working conditions. But somehow 400,000 former soldiers survived, and were released by1958. When they returned to Japan they still had a long fight for readjustment back into their own society. In Japan, people were suspicious of the returnees — who were thought to have been brainwashed by the Communists — and faced shame due their perceived surrender. As a result jobs were hard to find, and the Japanese government did not even acknowledge their existence until the 2000s (much less compensate them). In this paper, I will examine some of these feelings of alienation felt by these returnees through ethnographic interviews with survivors and written documents. Some detainees are hesitant to talk about their life in Russia. Those that do often find the new generations dismissive, implying the war and their capture was their own — or the old militaristic Japan's — fault. Instead of comfort, they find ridicule. In this study, then, I look at people being dispossessed by their own government and alienated in their own society through no fault of their own.
keywords: Japanese detainees, human rights, prisoners of war

Alford, Cassidy (Principia College)
India and the Future of Caste Equality
     Is social equality possible in India? Rigid social structures such as the caste system would suggest that equality is nothing but an idealistic pipe dream. However, by understanding the challenges of low caste individuals and the impact of government policies such as the reservations, it becomes clear that education has been and will continue to be the driving force in creating widespread equality. This paper is a compilation of ethnographic research regarding the topic of caste relations in India — specifically the scheduled tribes (STs) and scheduled castes (SCSs). It was conducted over the span of three weeks in 2015 in Udaipur, Rajhastan, India, where I interviewed a number of individuals spanning the various castes and socioeconomic groups.
     Throughout this research, I discovered three major themes concerning SC and ST communities and their experiences: a) poverty is a primary issue for low caste people, 2) the reservation system, while a force for change, is also a force for perpetuating caste, and 3) progress, especially due to the impact of

education, is evident and continuing. In this paper I will elaborate on these three points, including excerpts from interviews conducted on this topic.
keywords: caste, India

Anderson, Myrdene (Purdue University) and Katja Pettinen (Mount Royal University)
BEFORE, BELOW, BEHIND, BEYOND—SEEKING CONSCIOUSNESSES
       In English, a prominent index of "consciousness" refers to it as the "quality of being aware". While earlier scholarly accounts of consciousness were centered upon an awareness of a self, such formulations turned out problematic, troubled in part by echoes of a homunculus, as well as distinct forms of Christian-based anthropocentrism. A contemporary approach to consciousness positions it toward more ecologically-grounded processes emerging between an organism and the "significant surround" suturing it within an environment and emphatically with those relations constituting ecology, even as it harbors other ecologies as microbiomes. Ultimately the emerging paradigm troubles the very notion of edges, insides, and outsides.
       In this paper, we explore various tensions across neurological, evolutionary, and semiotic accounts of consciousness, including the ways in which consciousness is mediated via processes such as magic, memory, emotion, and affect. Cognitive science has taken an increasingly neurological turn with newer technologies in the service of pinpointing processes in/of the brain/mind. These technologies, for instance ubiquitous brain-scanning techniques, even when layered or sequenced, can not be expected to discern all significant processes, and even could they, the concluding models would tend to localize presumed functions, ascertain sequence to impute causality, and reduce the fascinating, open, and expanding questions around consciousness to simpler, essentially non-problematic material processes with intended closures.
keywords: consciousness, magic, brain/mind

Arroyo-Arellano, Berenice (Cottey College)
Narcocorridos: The Truth Behind the Bloody Ballads
       The study of drug ballads, more commonly known in both Mexican and Mexican-American cultures as *Narcocorridos*, is a study that leaves many wondering why it is that songs about beheading, killing, and terrorizing communities are so popular? This paper looks at these musical phenomena at the front end of a gruesome drug war involving both Mexicans and Americans alike. At the center of this paper is an analysis of one of the most infamous drug ballads "Los Sanguinarios del M1" that incorporates over a dozen famous singers in regional Mexican music. Whiles these singers lyrically invoke the use of a bazooka to shoot somebody's head off, in their public lives they encourage the youth to attend schools and do well for their communities. Furthermore, although the drug war is based in Mexico, most of this music is produced and sold to Mexican and Mexican-American youth in the United States. The analysis of fan culture is easily accessible through observation at the popular Mexican nightclubs where bands both famous and unheard of perform these songs to hundreds and thousands of fans from all ages. With the rise in the global drug trade and the terrorism that drug cartels continue to reap, the demand for Narcocorridos seems to only increase, leaving us to wonder if this violent cycle will ever end. Nevertheless, we also analyze whether these ballads serve additional purposes for their creators and consumers beyond the recounting and glorification of violent acts.
keywords: Music

Assaf, Amanda (Wichita State University)
Community Health and Social Justice: Impacts of Segregation on Health in a Community in Wichita, Kansas
       Predominantly African American neighborhoods have been linked to environmental injustice and decades of institutionalized and systemic racism that push residents into liminal spaces. These spaces often have inadequate resources, and environments lacking in quality nutritional, educational, and economic opportunities. Research on the residual impacts of segregation on community health in urban areas points out a need to look deeper at these socially shaped spaces in health research. To identify the potential reasons for health disparities in a particular community, one must recognize the web of social and historical relationships in which it is embedded and look closer at the idiosyncratic relationships that exist within these spaces and how they have shaped perceptions of health over time and space. This paper reports on research that illuminates the felt needs of the predominantly African American

neighborhoods in Central Northeast Wichita, Kansas surrounding an urban university. The researcher aimed to understand the place in which this community is embedded and how it relates to social and historical contexts that shape understandings of neighborhood health in the community. This study highlights the utility of an anthropological approach to address issues of community health and to identify important social and historical factors that shape the overall health and well-being of a population.
keywords: Public Health, Segregation , Social Health

Babchuk, Wayne (Univesity of Nebraska) and Robert K. Hitchcock (University of New Mexico)
Conducting Ethical Fieldwork in Anthropology: Historical and Contemporary Challenges and Responsibilities
     This session focuses on the ethics of historical and contemporary fieldwork in anthropology. We begin with a broad overview of the history and implications of the ethics and the responsible conduct of research over time and across disciplines. We outline key legislation bearing on ethical conduct in the research enterprise and identify an extensive array of well-publicized ethics cases that have evoked much controversy in the social and health sciences. Given this holistic and interdisciplinary backdrop, we then focus specifically on this history of the ethical conduct of research in anthropology. This historical analysis will set the stage for a more detailed overview of three contemporary case studies that have permeated the literature of the discipline over the past twenty years including: (1) the Ju/'hoansi and other Kalahari San groups of Sub-Saharan Africa, (2) the Yanomamo of Venezuela and Brazil, and (3) the Huaorani (Woarani) of the Oriente Region Ecuador. We will consider the role anthropologists have played and the challenges they have faced both in terms of traditional academic research and in their efforts to do applied, development, and human rights work. Our session concludes with an interactive participant-centered discussion of suggestions or guidelines for the ethical conduct of research in the U.S. and abroad.
keywords: ethics , applied human rights

Bauer, Daniel (University of Southern Indiana)
Materiality and the Politics of Identity: Connecting the Past and the Present
     Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in coastal Ecuador, this presentation emphasizes archaeology and community prehistory as important constituents of contemporary expressions of identity. In particular, this presentation reflects critically on how the archaeological record is leveraged by community residents in order to stake claim to an ancestral identity, loosely framed as Indigenous, in a manner that I refer to as "the politics of the past". I focus on local conceptions of the pre-Columbian past and on the role that material connections, in the form of the archaeological record, play in the everyday lives of residents of Macaboa. I center this discussion with reference to wider anthropological discussions on Indigeneity and *mestizaje* in Latin America, while at the same time providing an analysis of the material links that serve as anchoring points for claims about identity in a community traditionally regarded to be *mestizo*.
keywords: identity, ethnography, archaeology

Bhattacharya, Sugata (Independent Scholar)
Creating and Re-creating Art across Cultures.
     This paper examines how creativity is conceived across cultures and the role it plays in the lives of individual artists. It will discuss the legitimacy of the perceived boundaries between "Western", "Traditional" and "non-Western" cultures, and how inherited cultural customs, rituals and religions shape these distinctions. It will focus on how contemporary technologies like the ubiquitous cell phone camera and the internet shape how things are created, viewed and transmitted; in particular how the visual sense takes precedence over all the other senses. Anthropologist Michael Thompson's "Rubbish Theory" will be employed to look at how the value of objects is determined in contemporary society, where the use of fossil-fuels has lead to the production of a plethora of objects with low or no human labour. It will discuss the coexistence of objects in the marketplace with a sliding scale of human intervention: hand-drawn, letterpress, machine and digital postcards and the visibility of the artist in these different media. It will compare and contrast uniquely produced art with art that is reproduced on an annual basis.
keywords: Creativity, Culture, Internet

Blatzheim, John (Illinois State University)

Organizing Agency: Community Organizing and the Formation of Activist Subjects

On Monday, November 2nd I and roughly 40 others stood in front of the doors of Chicago Board of Trade, blocking all traffic from coming in or out. One by one we were approached by police officers and told leave. One by one we were arrested, some of us going willingly while others went limp, forcing the police officers to carry us away. Many people who consider themselves politically involved and who would sympathize with the protest — demanding the implementation of a Financial Transaction Tax locally dubbed the LaSalle Street Tax — would not engage in such actions. How, then, did these 40 individuals find themselves engaging in civil disobedience? How did hundreds of others end up on the streets with them, chanting and marching? And how did these individuals hope to achieve social change through their actions? In this paper I address these questions. I argue that contradictions both internal to and between social structures and cultural discourses produce oppositional subjects. I further argue that a set of practices commonly referred to as ‘community organizing' acts on these subjects to (re)form them into activist subjects. Finally I argue that these activist subjects draw on a set of practices developed during the Civil Rights era which are often referred to under the umbrella term direct action to pursue social change.
keywords: Agency, Community Organizing, Activism

Blurton, Brittany
University of Central Missouri
International Student Development in the Conversation Partners Program

Conversation Partners is a program designed to help International students learn conversational American English and expose domestic students to new cultures. In this program, International students are paired up with local students and assigned to meet at least one hour, once a week, to talk with one another. I have conducted a program evaluation of this program through interviews, focus groups, online and pen and paper surveys, and observation during the Conversation Partners Hour, which met biweekly.While this program is excellent in both supporting and encouraging its participants, no program is without problems.

Many students who join the program do not fulfil the minimum requirements. It is not uncommon for partners to be "abandoned". For international students, this "abandonment" can have terrible effects on their cultural adaptation, "To become fully integrated into the mainstream curriculum; newcomers must learn to adapt to the linguistic, sociocultural, discursive, and academic norms and practices" (Duff 2001). Many international students adapt well with the help of their domestic partners. However, "abandoned" partners have a more difficult time.

With the data from my evaluation, I hypothesize that international student development in language and cultural adaptation can be affected by positive or negative experiences in the Conversation Partners Program. As international student populations grow throughout the country, it is paramount to recognize and support their needs. This research hopes to do that.
keywords: International Students, Culture Shock/Adaptation

Bordner, Raschel (University of Toledo)
Extroverting Introverts

The purpose of this study is to examine the dedication of the Goth community, a stereotypically and seemingly introverted culture, to social venues such as night clubs and bars that host Goth themed events. Research for this study took place at just such a themed event called INation that occurs weekly at Liquid Bar in Bowling Green, Ohio. The dedicated clientele of INation, formerly known as I.G.U.N., has served multiple establishments and vice versa for over a decade. What is it about INation that draws attention from this tri-regional area that includes both quadrants of Northern Ohio as well as Southeast Michigan? This environment reinforces something within these people that allows them to be brave enough to step outside of their proverbial shells and into the world while expanding social spheres as they experiment, relax, have fun, and lose their inhibitions. Through diligent research and an experiential knowledge of the community, there is not just one answer to this question, but a cumulative cultural bond that results in an exchange between business and client rarely seen within the entertainment industry. INation has helped hundreds of wayward individuals find a sense of self they take pride in through the provision of a safe haven for social outcasts, reshaping hundreds of lives for the better. In return, the Goth community has played an integral role in supporting more than one hosting venue economically. At INation, these Goth outcasts are superstars.

keywords: Goth, microculture, ethnography

Briggs, Mary Fair (Beloit College)
Cosmo Christians: Evangelicalism as Modern and Cosmopolitan in Seoul, Korea
　　This paper will explore the embodied and vocalized religious expressions of university age evangelical Christians in two faith communities in Seoul. Through focusing on physical expressions of religiosity such as shouting out prayers and holdings hands to the chest while praying, I argue that young evangelical Koreans use these expressions to demonstrate cosmopolitan and modern identities as well as to challenge traditional gender norms in the process. In the U.S., many liberal Americans view evangelical Christianity as conservative and anti-progressive (Harding 2000, xv.) I argue that this reductive categorization of fundamentalist Christianity as antimodern does not exist in South Korea. This paper aims to show that for young evangelicals in Seoul, fundamentalist Christianity is perceived differently than in the US, because its South Korean practitioners view themselves as at the forefront of modernity while their non-Christian peers remain behind in an "oppressive"traditional Korea. These religious expressions I have observed are part of a larger performative cultural style that worshippers use to signal their belonging with other evangelicals around the world while maintaining their difference from non-Christian Koreans.
keywords: Christianity, Korea, Modernity

Brinkman, Heather (University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee)
GamerGate: Identity in Peril
　　GamerGate laid bare the horrors that the female population of gamers had been facing. Many articles and studies have danced around the atrocities caused within the digital realm, but it was not until a few brave women decided to expose the brutalities that the truth was open for the public to grasp. In their quest for justice, these women were stripped of their dignity and their truths were shown all the clearer as they were brutally attacked. Not only were the assaults virtual mudslinging, but there was an attempt to cross this attack over into the meat world as home addresses and phone numbers of the women were posted as plainly as their reevaluations of the problem at hand. This paper will focus on how these atrocities helped to not only reify, but also to perpetuate performativity, the identity of the male and female gamer. Through anthropological theorists such as Goffman, Butler, Athanasiu, and Bourdieu, I will look at how identity is being performed as well as reified within the GamerGate revolution. While I know that GamerGate has been publicized as a problem with the way that journalism is being done within the gaming community, I see it as a being more about the female gamers attempting to make changes within the games.
keywords: GamerGate, Idenity, Digital

Byrd, Jennifer (University of Central Missouri)
POSTER The History and Significance of the Frederick W. Schmidt Mesoamerican Collection
　　The Frederick W. Schmidt Mesoamerican Collection, currently housed at the University of Central Missouri's McClure Archives and University Museum, is a relatively untapped resource. The materials contained within this collection include authentic pieces and detailed replicas that originate from several different cultures. Mr. Schmidt was a florist from Chicago that began taking trips to Mexico in the early 1950s, hoping to expand his business. During his travels (ca. 1950-1970), he began to develop a fondness for collecting interesting pieces that he found along the way, and the resulting range of collected artifacts therefore spans several cultures and time periods from Pre-Columbian to modern. The discussed history of the Schmidt Collection includes its journey into UCM's possession, as well as the historical connections of a specific portion of the collection's lithic artifacts. Other included information is a brief explanation Mesoamerican chronology, artifact typology, and curation as they apply to the Schmidt Collection. Recording details about individual artifacts helped to complete preexisting files, and included (but is be limited to) fully measuring and weighing pieces, photographing them with a scale for sizing, separating them by the historical range (such as reproductions, authentic material, or modified authentic material), then rehousing the collection in newer storage containers. This information can be used to further the understanding of the Schmidt Collection, so that it can be used as an academic resource for further research, interpretation, and preservation.

Caselman, Emily (The University of Tulsa)

The Spatial and Temporal Variation of the Mesoamerican Ballgame

The Mesoamerican Ballgame has existed since at least 1400 B.C.E., believing to have been invented by the Olmec. While many have studied the ballcourts themselves, there has been little work done to look at the spatial and temporal variation of the ballgame itself. This presentation will explore that variation of ballcourts throughout the Classic period in Mesoamerica using well-documented examples. It should be noted that many ballcourts, while important, were not able to be used in this study due to the lack of detail of the site records. The Classic Maya period offers the largest number of ballcourts as well as the most complete descriptions, so this is where most of the data is pulled from. The analysis of ballcourts is then paired with Dr. Jessica Munson and Dr. Martha Macri's sociopolitical network analysis on the Classic Maya to see if political affiliation could be a driving force behind ballcourt variation.
keywords: Ballgame, Maya

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

The objective of this research was to broadly explore the way in which violence against women by specific immigrants groups is presented by newspapers throughout the United States, and specifically examine the understanding of culture inherent within those print media-based discussions. This was done in an effort to determine the validity of the notion that the existing framework employed by newspapers, or print media, regarding such violence has become dominated by the assumed incompatibility between the values attributed to the Middle East and those of the United States. In order to understand the way in which such framing is employed, the following paper details the content of several news articles regarding alleged honor killings in the United States collected from twenty-three newspapers from seven different states, and using NVivo coding software, examines the extent to which the discussions presented throughout the articles are evidence of a larger recognized trend in print media discourse. The results of this research suggest that the presentation of so-called honor killings in the United States by American newspapers relies upon an understanding of the crime as a product of the intersection between ethnicity, culture, and religion, which reinforces the binary narrative of the conflict between modernity and tradition and thus strengthens the perception of incompatibility between the Middle East and the United States.
keywords: honor killing, United States, the Middle East

Collura, Vince (University of Minnesota)
Shattered Boundaries: Contemporary Freight Train Riders

While the hobo of yesteryear and her decline has been theorized thoroughly, contemporary existence of a freight riding subculture has not been given satisfactory academic treatment. Today, hidden from society's gaze, the majority of train riders are not full time vagabonds but are participants in the punk scene and live lives of voracious yet precarious cross continental travel. Through participant observation and ethnographic exploration of the life stories of the participants themselves, I will convey how people usually come to trains through punk, and this itself is usually a process of radical disidentification from mainstream American culture. This disidentification is never complete and can reinscribe dominant and domineering power dynamics in spite of itself. A few insights follow: Although many train riders in the past and present have been queer, women, or of color, the subculture, in spite its frequently leftwing political ideals, is still nonetheless numerically and qualitatively dominated by straight, cisgenedered, white men. Thus, train riding, in all its beauty and shortcomings, offers new ways to discuss individual and collective relationships towards race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability, as well as an opportunity to study the co-constitution of subculture and collective political praxis vis a vis train riding's historical and contemporary boundedness with bohemianism and radical left politics.
keywords: hobo, punk, railroad

Corazzo, Nina (Valparaiso University)
"What will my future be?" Imagining as Provocation for Dawoud Bey's "The Birmingham Project" Diptychs of 2013

The photographer Dawoud Bey, in 2013, exhibited large diptychs which offer intriguing, hypothetical scenarios commenting on the questions haunting our imagination and sparking our curiosity about what might victims, murdered in their youth, have made of the lives denied to them, and how would they look today had they lived? His point of departure is the events which transpired on September 15, 1963, when

four girls died in the blast and two boys lost their lives in the eruption of violence that followed the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama by white supremacists. Bey created large portraits, in the form of diptychs, to commemorate their loss. He went to Birmingham and photographed boys and girls who were the same age as those murdered. He then photographed adults who would be the ages the victims would have been had they lived. These paired photographs of unrelated sitters in identical settings pique our curiosity. They raise questions about identity, they focus our attention on the concepts of presence and absence, simulation and simulacrum. They speak of loss and restoration, of the intertwining of histories and destinies.
keywords: Birmingham Project, Photography

Patrick, Dakota (University of Central Missouri)
POSTER The Kukri: A Way of Life
     The kukri is an iconic curved blade native to the Gurkhali culture of central Nepal that many can recognize, but few are aware of its origins. The Gurkhali, and the Nepalese, are proud of their association with the kukri and consider it one of the national symbols of Nepal. It is this significance to a culture and people that interested me to research the kukri. The knife has a long history associated with the so called Gurkha Regiments employed as mercenaries by the old British Empire. Many Gurkhali youth compete to earn a place amongst the Gurkha regiments as a way of achieving sustainability for themselves and their family. In this way, the knife can be linked to both the warrior culture and a subsistence strategy for the Gurkhali. The kukri, as a weapon and as multi-purpose field knife, is a primary tool for survival and reflects the rough and unforgiving environment in which the Gurkhali live. The Gorkha region of Nepal, the lands native to the Gurkhali, is heavily mountainous and thickly wooded. A tool like the kukri is vital and supremely necessary, reflecting the warrior and survivalist spirit of the culture that wields it. Due to this significance, the kukri also has a special religious meaning along with its practical meaning to the Gurkhali. Overall, the kukri is more than just an icon, but a way of life for the Gurkhali.

DeSelms, Jacalyn (University of Toledo)
Bottoms Up
     This presentation is based on ethnographic research completed in Toledo, Ohio about the micro culture at bars in the area. The research was completed in the warehouse district and observed bartenders and patrons in the area. The findings that will be reviewed include the ways in which gender, ethnicity, and age contribute to a person's identity within drinking culture. It will also cover sex, drug use, and ethics for participants of this microculture.

Dial, Rhett (Butler Univesity)
Tradition and Revolutionary Art: The Contemporary Russian Theatre
     Contemporary Russian theatre artists produce plays and performance art in the context of a rich cultural tradition. The contributions of Russian theatre artists during the late 19th and early 20th century fundamentally altered how theatre is practiced all around the world even in the present day. Practitioners such as Anton Chekhov, Vsevolod Meyerhold, Vladimir Mayakovsky, and Konstantin Stanislavsky created the framework of forms such as naturalism, biomechanics, and surrealism.
      This ethnography explores the significance tradition in the process of producing contemporary, and often revolutionary, theatre. Fieldwork conducted in Moscow in the summer of 2015 investigates how students and teachers of the Moscow Art Theatre School, as well as several professional theatre artists, go about devising and producing commercially successful plays in a city that has over 200 operating commercial theatres. More specifically, students' multidisciplinary training at the Moscow Art Theatre School is examined in all of its constituent parts: acting, singing, ballet, stage combat, voice, theatre history, Russian literature, and foreign literature. These elements are instrumental in the holistic production of successful actors, directors, and designers in Moscow today.
keywords: ethnography, Russia, performance art

Durchholz, Aaron (Illinois State University)
POSTER Evidence of Medical Acculturation in the Peruvian Amazon
     This study was conducted in the summer of 2013 within the perimeter of the Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Communal Reserve, located approximately fifty miles up the Amazon River from Iquitos, Peru, and another forty miles farther along the Tahuayo River Tributary in a markedly rural area where the relatively

recent introduction of Western biomedicine has resulted in a current state of medical pluralism. Health care treatment practices available to the people of two villages were investigated, and individual preference between, and reliance on, the methodologies of indigenous medicinal techniques and biomedical practice were identified. Using local guides as facilitators and translators, the author obtained data through semi-structured interviews, informal discussions, forest hikes, proxemics, and participant observation. Data reveal that residents continue to show a preference for the longstanding indigenous medicinal techniques, including the use of medicinal plants, midwives, and shamanistic practices. At the same time, the relative success of the local biomedical clinic, erected by the government in 1986, demonstrates a readiness by a growing number of individuals to accept outside ideas and methods into their society. Residents interviewed expressed discomfort with the unfamiliar clinical settings and treatment methods of, as well as difficulty in accessing or an unwillingness to travel to, the aforementioned clinic and the more distant hospital in Iquitos. The fact that a clinic practicing biomedicine is present in this community, to which people of nearby villages travel for certain needs, demonstrates the initial steps of acculturation; moreover, for this reason, future study is suggested.

Feinberg, Rick (Kent State University)
Taumako as Religious Crossroads: Syncretism and Change on a Polynesian Outlier
     The global spread of European political and military dominance was accompanied by the introduction of Christianity into many previously non-Christian areas. Through most the Solomon Islands, a British colony until 1978, Christianity's leading exemplar was the Church of England. Yet, despite adopting Anglican doctrine and institutions, many local communities have retained important elements of their older beliefs and practices, combining them in a variety of ways with the new religious order. Taumako, where I conducted anthropological research in 2007-08, offers a powerful illustration of such religious syncretism. The island was settled by Polynesians, but it has long maintained close contacts with the larger and more populous Melanesian outposts of the Santa Cruz Islands. Through centuries of interaction, Taumako has absorbed important cultural features from local Melanesians while retaining aspects of its older Polynesian heritage. Later, when the southeastern Solomons came under British control, Christianity was added to the mix. Today, Taumako residents are strongly committed to the Anglican Church. Yet, they remain preoccupied with pre-Christian gods and spirits. And magical spells, which were largely imported from the nearby Melanesian communities of the Santa Cruz group and play an important role in Taumako life, derive their power from appeals to "The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit."This paper explores the ways in which these disparate strands have been combined to produce an integrated body of religious practice.
keywords: Polynesia, Religion, Syncretism

Fredenhagen, Laura (Illinois State University)
POSTER Grand Island's Hematite: Evidence of Pigment Production and Application in the Great Lakes Region
     The region surrounding the Great Lakes is rich in iron deposits. For thousands of years, this area was home to a number of Native groups—including the Chippewa and the Ojibwe peoples. During their occupation, these people would utilize the natural resources around them in order to maintain the ways in which they lived their lives. This manner of exploitation included mineral resources. On the south shore of Lake Superior, evidence of mineral exploitation has surfaced due to ongoing archaeological excavations on Grand Island. Here, a concentration of hematite has been unearthed. Hematite is not part of the natural geology of the island. Given the archaeological context, the hematite was likely brought to Grand Island from outside sources for a particular purpose. Evidence for hematite use can be found on the north shore of Lake Superior in the form of rock art. While this is a common occurrence in the north, rock art is rarely or never found on the south shore. Provided with the information above, I am led to ask: Why was hematite part of the archaeological record on Grand Island? In order to answer this question, I will attempt to determine both the utilitarian and ritual significance of hematite among groups that occupied the Great lakes region during that time period. In doing so, I hope to identify the role played the mineral in both intra-site and extra-site contexts.

Galloway, Lily D (Grinnell College), Charles Linneman (Carleton College), and Dan Hagen (St. Olaf College)

Homo erectus refuse site demonstrating occupation near Makuyuni, Tanzania and the hunting and butchery of elephantid Loxodonta adaurora

The simultaneous appearance throughout Africa of *Homo erectus* and large concentrations of stone tools with modified bones indicate that this hominin was the first of our ancestors to habitually butcher animals. Previous studies at our research site, locality MK4 near the town of Makuyuni, have uncovered hominin bones tentatively assigned to H. erectus. Our excavation uncovered a large deposit of *Loxodonta adaurora* bones as well as other faunal remains and lithic debitage. The presence of quartz as non-local raw material and hominin cutmarks on bones of *L. adaurora* clearly show hominin activity and butchering of the elephantid. Insight into the hunting or scavenging habits of early hominins is hindered by a small sample size but the presence of faunal remains typifying the diet of *H. erectus*, the lack of carnivore teeth, and the existence of anthropogenically modified bones in the absence of carnivore toothmarks, all point to early hominins at Makuyuni engaging in hunting activity. Furthermore, the abundance of quartz debitage and evidence of tool manufacture among faunal remains may indicate the location was a refuse site associated with temporary occupation.
keywords: Homo erectus, Hunting, Lithics

Gier, Emma (DePaul University)
POSTER Access to Water in Urban Ugandan Schools

Access to water in urban Uganda has proven to be a problem for schools and access to clean water is practically out of the question. I taught at Royal Nursery and Primary School in Bwebajja, Uganda for two months this past summer. While water was not completely inaccessible for Royal, a great deal of time and energy that went into obtaining the water. Everyday, the "houseboy" went to fetch water from a local source for washing and cleaning of the facilities. Not only did this take a lot of time, but it also was very expensive. This poster shows the schools efforts in bringing water access to the site via a water tank, which would save time and money. I observed the schools efforts to resolve this problem for a month and a half. As it turns out, the funding for the water tank proved to be far less of an issue than negotiating the bureaucracy of the National Water and Sewage Corporation.

Glazier, Jack (Oberlin College)
Souls Piled Like Timber: Paul Radin's Unpublished Manuscript on the Narratives of Former Slaves

Between 1927 and 1930, Paul Radin held a research professorship at Fisk University, where he and graduate student Andrew Polk Watson collected the narratives of former slaves living in Nashville. The Radin-Watson collaboration represented to that time the most extensive and systematic recording of personal memories of bondage. It occurred nearly a decade before the famous Works Progress Administration collection under New Deal auspices. The Radin-Watson corpus consists of eight autobiographies and a much larger number of accounts of conversion to Christianity. While Radin during his lifetime published most of the narratives without comment, his incomplete and very rough book-length manuscript has remained unpublished. In attempting to bring the manuscript to publication, I want to document this little known phase in Radin's career, otherwise defined by his multi-decade research among the Winnebago. Second, the publication of *Souls Piled Like Timber* will establish the research context of the previously published texts and bring to light Radin's commentary on the narratives. Finally, Radin's theory of culture and his perspective on race— the latter squarely within the Boasian tradition and apparent in the manuscript— can refresh our view of an anthropological past that requires neither apology nor the disciplinary self-immolation of the past three decades. On the contrary, only anthropology among the disciplines dealing with race exhibited a truly progressive, even radical viewpoint shared by Radin's African American scholarly contemporaries.
keywords: Radin, slavery, narrative

Gooding, Erik (Minnesota State University Moorhead)
Meskwaki and Thaaki Sociopolitical Organization, 1640-1901

The Meskwaki (Fox) and Thaaki (Sauk/Sac) are two culturally and linguistically related central Algonquian peoples. Throughout their histories these two groups interact with each other, other native groups, as well as non-natives. This paper explores how these interactions have shaped and reshaped Meskwaki and Thaaki sociopolitical organizations from their first descriptions in the 1600s to the 1901 epidemic on the Meskwaki Settlement. Topics to be discussed include; clans and lineages, villages, and chiefs and tribal councils.

Griffith-Rosenberger, Jacob (Kenyon College)
Understanding the Candelero

This paper reviews current knowledge about candeleros, a little-known ancient Mesoamerican ceramic artifact type predominately found at and around Teotihuacan, Copan, and in the Naco and lower Cacaulapa Valleys of northwestern Honduras. These artifacts feature one or more chambers that pierce their upper surfaces. The paper synthesizes recent experimental, archival, and library research bearing on a collection of candeleros dating from the 7th-10th centuries in the Naco and lower Cacaulapa Valleys. It examines regional variations in candelero forms, decorations, and intra- and inter-site distributions as guides to their possible chaîne opératoire, functions, and cultural significance. Artifacts called "candeleros" encompass a wide range of variation; whereas small, two-holed examples are most common at Teotihuacan, one-holed examples in varied forms are found at Copan, and larger, many-holed examples in very varied forms come from the Naco and lower Cacaulapa Valleys. That most of these examples show signs of burning within their chambers suggests they served as personal, highly-portable ritual incense burners or fumigators for storage spaces. In either case, red-hot coals are thought to have been used in them to smoke copal resin, which generates white smoke and a strong piney fragrance. Their recovery in relatively large numbers, in forms that include unprecedented zoomorphic shapes, in the Naco and lower Cacaulapa valleys implies that these examples served diverse functions and conveyed sundry meanings not replicated elsewhere in Mesoamerica. This paper seeks to reconstruct those functions and infer those meanings.
keywords: ceramics, Mesoamerica, candeleros

Henderson, Sarah (Grinnell College)
Representing Collective Memory: An Exploration in Art and Participatory Museum Experience

Maurice Halbwachs (1992), Pierre Nora (1996), and Geoffrey White (2006) discuss the many intricacies of collective memory, but none of them explicitly describe art as directly potentially representing the collective memory of a specific group or time. I argue that art has this potential and that this potential is invaluable when enriching visitor experience in a participatory museum model. Nina Simon, a prominent mind in museums, has spoken a great deal on participatory museum experience. Her goal, "to make cultural institutions more dynamic, relevant, and essential places" (2010) has revolutionized the way museum professionals think about presenting their collections. In my research at Grinnell College, I asked students to contribute their handwritten and drawn memories to my project, which combines these stories with relevant photographs of Grinnell in a bound book. Responses were printed on either translucent vellum or transparent plastic sheets. The overlapping parings then create one image where multiple texts and photos simultaneously work together to tell a story. The collection of pairings creates a visual and literal representation of Grinnell student's collective memory, thus becoming a concrete example for my first argument. As a deeply personal and literal mirror of student collective memory, the book serves as an excellent opportunity to practice participatory museum experience, as it remains relevant and engaging for its student body audience. My exploration creates a model for new thinking in museums that considers the potency of collective memory and the ability for participatory experience to evoke that potency.
keywords: Collective Memory, Art, Museum

Higgins, Alexander (Ohio University)
Cuties Killing Video Games: Gender Politics and Performance in Indie Game Developer Subculture

This thesis explores how dominant gender norms in video game subculture are challenged by independent game development communities, promoting gender equality. It begins with a review of the literature on video games and gender and continues with original qualitative research on various online game communities, including Gamergate, Games and Play (a private progressive indie developer community), and the queer games scene. The thesis argues that, through the internet, noncapitalist modes of production and niche political communities are made possible, transforming gaming subculture from one in which political activism is nearly impossible to one in which activism is entrenched within it.
keywords: Gender, Video games, Gamergate

Hoffman, Austin (UMKC)

Rituals of Black Lives Matter: Pain, Protest, and Representation

This paper analyzes the recent emergence of the Black Lives Matter movement and researches the transformation of collective pain into creative forms of demonstration that objectify the realities of oppression and racism that had otherwise been invisible to the larger society. By objectifying these realities through activist demonstrations the oppressed groups and their allies allow for this pain to be addressed and alleviated. Drawing from participant observation and a series of ethnographic experiences I will outline ways this collective pain is channeled and converted into political performances. My analysis employs Elaine Scarry's model of power or agency tied to the objectifying capacity of language. Agency expands by diminishing the other through pain. As the agency of the one causing the pain expands, the agency of the one incurring pain shrinks. When pain is being inflicted upon us, we lose our ability to convert it into words. We become completely embodied and lose our ability to be social agents. Although Scarry's model of power is applied exclusively to the level of the individual body, I argue that by using Pierre Bourdieu's concept of symbolic violence her position can be expanded beyond the body to social and structural forms of domination. Symbolic violence, which entails misrecognition of pain, diminishes the political representation of whole communities. These perspectives allow for an analysis of shared experiences of pain such as that inflicted by racism and also challenges the misrecognition that occurs when communities collectively express their suffering.

keywords: Black Lives Matter, Pain, Symbolic Violence

Holmquist, Stefan (University of Minnesota - Twin Cities)
Neo-burlesque and Its Connection to Early American Burlesque Performance

The modern burlesque genre, or neo-burlesque genre, is more artistically similar to Victorian-era burlesque performance than the more popular and well-known early 20th century burlesque shows. But from the 1920's to the 1940's, the creation of controversial shows which pushed the boundaries of striptease, sexuality and all things "risqué"essentially became the focus on burlesque routines, and the construction of large burlesque theaters helped facilitate the popularity of this particular style until the genre's decline in the 60's and 70's. Strikingly similar to Victorian-era burlesque, modern neo-burlesque performance - which emerged in the 1990's as an attempt to revitalize the genre - focuses on parodying well-known social phenomena and questioning culturally constructed gender norms by having women perform masculine gender roles and having men perform feminine gender roles. Since this past year, I observed multiple burlesque shows in the Twin Cities and spoke with burlesque performers, producers, and other notable informants about their involvement in the "burlesque scene" since the 1970's. Based on my own ethnographic work as well as my analysis on literature about burlesque performance, I will highlight how neo-burlesque performance today challenges the dominant perception of the genre as an archaic art form while also paying homage to its roots as an art form which challenged culturally-embedded social conventions and gender norms. I will also present how burlesque has been revived to promote feminism and how it has become a source of capital gain for many different individuals and establishments.

keywords: burlesque, neo-burlesque, performance

Huberman, Jenny (University of Missouri-Kansas City)
Virtually Human: Reflections on Mind Cloning and Digital Immortality

In 2004 Martine Rothblatt, one of the leading proponents of the Transhumanist Movement in the United States, founded the Terasam Movement Foundation in Bristol, Vermont. One of the main purposes of the foundation is to investigate whether it is possible to "create a conscious analog of a person" in digital form by "combining sufficiently detailed data about the person (a "mindfile") using future consciousness software ("mindware"). "In 2015, Rothblatt continued to champion the foundation's efforts at "mind cloning"with the publication of her latest book, *Virtually Human: The Promise and Peril of Digital Immortality*. The book has been heralded as an "ingenious exploration of the role of virtual humans in our future."

Drawing upon Rothblatt's writings and work, this paper provides some anthropological reflections on the transhumanist effort to achieve digital immortality through mind cloning and the transfer of consciousness. It asks: how is this effort both similar to and different from other attempts our species has made to achieve "symbolic immortality" (Lifton and Olson 1974)? Can Lifton and Olson's concept of symbolic immortality adequately account for the transhumanist attempt to live forever in digital form? Or, is this effort predicated upon very different ontologies and conceptions of what it means to be human? By

placing the transhumanist quest for digital immortality within a comparative perspective, this paper hopes to enrich our understanding of the transhumanist project and develop a better sense for how it is both reproducing and reconfiguring the way human beings deal with enduring existential dilemmas.
keywords: mind cloning, digital immortality, transhumanism

Ingram, Ethan (Illinois State University)
Audience Interaction in Professional Wrestling: An Anatomy of a Failed Performance
    Professional wrestling is a popular form of "sports entertainment" which purposefully toes an ambiguous line between legitimate athletic performance and fictionalized dramatic narrative. While professional wrestling is most visible in large-scale, televised forms, numerous regional promotions across the country offer smaller-scale productions to live audiences. These small-scale events differ from their larger counterparts in the degree of intimacy between performers and audience, allowing for a great deal of interaction within the performative frame. In this presentation, I propose that audience interaction plays a necessary role in wrestling performances. Audience behavior, also known as "heat," plays a fundamental role in the establishment of wrestling narratives and also serves as an evaluation of a wrestler's performance. When an audience does not provide heat during a match, the performer-audience relationship breaks down and wrestlers are forced to re-establish this connection. Drawing on my long-term participant observation in a local wrestling community in central Illinois, I analyze one example of a "failed" wrestling performance as an illustration of what happens when the typical performer-audience dynamics of a wrestling match are compromised. Generally, this research proposes a definition of audiencehood as a learned and contextually dependent practice that is formed through negotiation with performers.
keywords: Anthropology of Performance, American Popular Culture, Professional Wrestling

Jackson, Shannon (University of Missouri, Kansas City)
Digital Citizenship in Kansas City
    This paper examines how the meaning of citizenship, a category traditionally anchored in principles of liberal humanism, shifts and changes alongside technologically driven patterns of urban development. It asks the central question: how does digital technology affect citizenship as a sphere of urban public engagement? The research for the paper comes from following investment in cyberinfrastructure and discourses surrounding high tech innovation in Kansas City, MO. In 2011 the city became experimental ground for Google, Inc. as it developed its own cyberinfrastructural network. Google Fiber placed the city on a path of development that mimics Silicon Valley. But, Kansas City is a "hypersegregated" city historically hostile to its African American population, the majority of whom rent rather than own, and live east of Troost Avenue. Most "fiberhoods"and nodes of development are therefore in predominantly white neighborhoods west of Troost. This form of "red-lining"by other means has the potential to deepen the challenge of particular groups of citizens to maintain political visibility and economic access. Findings from this research show there is a key shift in the lexicon of citizenship from rights-bearing subject to consumer to user. Political officials, for example, now refer to "smart phone-dependent citizenship." Citizenship therefore becomes an outcome of use rather than struggle.
keywords: Urbanization, Technology, Citizenship

Kapicka, Josephine (University of Kansas)
Where Have All the Mermaids Gone? : The Cultural Impacts of Climate Change in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN) of Nicaragua
    The focus of my paper is a research project that I conducted on the indigenous Miskitu peoples' perceptions of climate change and extreme weather events in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region, Nicaragua (RAAN). The Miskitu people of the RAAN can be divided into two sub-groups, each with their own social organization and dialect— the riverine *Wangki* peoples and the coastal beach people, also called *Tawira*. I have conducted comparative research on local perceptions of climate change and extreme weather events among the *Tawira* and *Wangki* Miskitu peoples. The results produce a comparative study of climate change perceptions between the riverine and coastal Miskitu people, a valuable measure of the variations between the different regions. Although seemingly a culturally homogenous indigenous groups, the Miskitu experience severe weather events in particular differently, as is reflected environmental affects of climate change and severe weather events, which is reflected in the locals' discourse on the subject. A primary indicator of these changing perceptions is the increasing

presence or absence of the mermaid in the coastal region. The Miskitu people believe that there are both fresh-water and salt-water mermaids that live and reign supreme in their own specialized niches. Results from this study will contribute to the overall cultural understanding of the Miskitu peoples, as well as the cultural and psychological impact of environmental threats to the people of the region.
keywords: Miskitu, Climate Change, Indigenous

Kochensparger, Andrea (Minnesota State University Moorhead) and Carra Strader (Minnesota State University Moorhead)
The Meskwaki at the end of the Nineteenth Century
    Meskwaki history includes a series of conflicts and migrations from the northeast, through Michigan into Wisconsin, and eventually into Iowa. During this time Meskwaki culture was negotiated and renegotiated. In the 1850s the Meskwaki resettled in Iowa on what is known today as the Meskwaki Settlement. Here, for the first time in over 200 years, they<span class="text_exposed_show">established a single village and lived in peace. This paper explores Meskwaki culture during this unique time period leading up to the 1901 epidemic which led to their forced dispersal and the end of Meskwaki village life forever. Topics to be covered include social and political organization, marriage and families, and subsistence and economics.
keywords: Meskwaki

Ladd, Anna (Kansas State University)
Wife like a fruitful vine and children like olive plants: Socialization into evangelical homeschooling in Manhattan, KS
    Evangelical homeschooling, a growing phenomenon in the United States, is scarcely studied in the social sciences. The communities are small, isolated, and often distrustful of outsiders. To understand how these communities socialize their children and reproduce values, I spent time in the conservative Christian homeschool community in Manhattan, Kansas from January to May 2015. I focused on one family, the Wades, to show the micro moments of language socialization, using a community of practice model. The Wades are a large family with 12 children and have homeschooled for 20 years, making them pioneers of the homeschooling movement. The Wade family uses everyday practices and language mediated by their faith and politics to socialize their children into the evangelical Christian homeschooling community. The Wade parents socialize their children not only through family meals, devotions, and music rehearsals, but also through specific linguistic practices in their everyday speech. From the family rules, posted on the refrigerator, state ""Do not show exclusive interest in a member of the opposite sex until you are ready to have children with them" to scaffolding by the mother and encouragement of mediated questioning, the children are socialized into being a moral member of the homeschool community. The larger values of parenthood, self-sufficiency, and agency are continually built through language practices of the idealization of parenthood, independent and active speech, and an overall grammar of agency. These processes are important to understanding both the larger political evangelical movement and the next generation of homeschoolers.
keywords: linguistic anthropology, socialization, religion

Liebeseller, Laya (University of Wisconsin Milwaukee)
GamerGate: The Why
    GamerGate. Those well integrated into gamer society might take one look at the word and roll their eyes, tired of a conversation that seems to wind endlessly into cyberspaces. However large the voluminous mass of the current dialog on GamerGate seems to be, I find the discussion, particularly in academia, still lacking. Why did the GamerGate Controversy happen? What caused the massive uproar that pit gamer against gamer and split gamer society in two? This paper is an attempt to explore that question academically. I will use the Bourdieuvian theory of doxa, heterodoxy and orthodoxy to explain the why behind the actions and attitudes taken by the four main factions in this controversy gaming journals, GamerGaters, Anti-GamerGaters, and a faction I have dubbed GamersNotDead.
keywords: GamerGate, Game Culture , Gaming

Liu, Congyao (Wichita State University)
Display, Hide, and Display: Interactions in Chinese Slash Community on Weibo and XQ

As the biggest social networking website in China, Weibo has become a major online platform for Chinese slash girls to communicate with other community members. Famous fan-artists post their works and enjoys their popularity, while regular slash girls feed on the latest art. This paper explores a series of activities on both Weibo and Xian Qing (XQ), and the identity construction within these interactions. The networks in the slash community expand through these following/being followed interactions. Meanwhile, XQ has played its role as an anonymous forum for the Danmei (gay romance for a female audience) community for over 10 years. It is common knowledge among the Chinese Danmei community that people tend to be more offensive on XQ. Many Weibo slash girls display an openly negative attitude toward the forum for the "unfriendly atmosphere." A famous fan-artist might have over 50,000 followers, and the number is clearly displayed on her personal page. Anyone who has conflict with such artists may end up with serious problems, from personal attack to private information exposure. XQ, on the other hand, offers a platform for free debate. This paper compares the differences and similarities between interactions on these two platforms to identify the motivation behind these behaviors. Through such practice, joining the online slash community can be not only just enjoying the fandom, but also constructing identities and gaining power among a real population.
keywords: Slash Fandom Community, Chinese, Online

Maggos, Alexia (Butler University)
"Capitalist Societies": Self-Governmentality Produces Model Citizenship Continually Reinforced Through the Spirit of Capitalism

This ethnography follows employees within corporate settings who have accepted societal norms, such as the embodiment of an ethical individual within a capitalist society. I analyze how societal ideologies shape what an ethical employee within a corporation is, which is reminiscent of Aihwa Ong's theoretical paradigm surrounding the model citizen. The model citizen in a corporate setting adheres to societal rules of ethical business practices while also governing themselves within their actions as employees. I attribute this ethical, civilized individual as being shaped by Michel Foucault's characterization of a normal society influenced by social institutions. Due to these social institutions, these individuals possess the ability to self-govern their thoughts and actions thus allowing them to go about their work on a daily basis. The need for a model citizen who can self-govern remains an essential asset within corporations, as the employee represents both a labor and capital investment. These employees see fit that their model citizen stature will result in compensation from their employers, expressing the cultural significance of Max Weber's *Spirit of Capitalism* as the employee conceals traditionalistic character, continually being shaped by ideologies within social institutions. As I conduct my ethnography,exploring how these particular ideologies, shaped through social institutions, reign deep within capitalist societies willassist in further understanding of how corporationsare able to govern their employees and ensure proper work ethic without the necessity of CEO's being present within the
keywords: workplace., self-govern

Mithelman, Taylor (North Central College)
The Unfinished Story of Ewe Kente: Recognizing Complexities of Traditional Art in Modern Ghana

Often recognized globally for its distinctly "African" aesthetic, Kente cloth is an important symbol of the national culture of Ghana as well as a representation of the localized communities that produce the woven textile. Within the larger conversation about African textiles, Kente commands a significant amount of attention from art historians. These scholars note its excellent craft as well as the extensive cultural meanings communicated through color and pattern. This paper extends the conversation past the physical characteristics of Kente and examines a community of Ewe weavers in Agotime Kpetoe, Ghana. By becoming a student of a Kente cooperative in Kpetoe, I was able to witness its vibrant culture of teaching, creativity, and tradition. Ethnography and participant observation, supplemented by interviews with the weavers, reveals a perspective on Kente and the occupation of weaving that has been underrepresented, within Ghana as well as the larger academic community. The literature considers Kente to be an art form of complexities, as shown by centuries of woven material communicating varying meanings and cultural nuances. This paper gives the same consideration of complexity to a community of Ewe weavers, recognizing that producers of Kente are affected by social forces and do not necessarily maintain the same understanding and goals as their fellow weavers. The weavers' perspectives on their occupation ranges from purely economic motivation, an interest in its creative opportunities, a desire to preserve cultural history, and an intrinsic connection and love for Kente.

Moses, Ellen (Beloit College)
Making Babies: Selecting Semen from Donor Catalogues at Sperm Banks
     In this paper, I examine how single women and couples make their decision of what sperm to choose from a sperm bank based on their preconceived notions of heritability, desirable traits and science. Until the 1970s, couples having trouble conceiving traditionally went to physicians who would facilitate the process of finding a donor, often choosing for the couple based off of the physical appearance of the non-reproducing member. With advances in methods of freezing and thawing sperm, the sperm banking industry blossomed, becoming more widespread and accessible for individuals seeking assistance in conceiving. This time was also marked by a growth in the amount of information that recipients had access to about their potential donor. Using data from interviews conducted with sperm bank users and donor bios from a California sperm bank, I will present the kinds of information available to individuals hoping to conceive using sperm donation and how it is used, or ignored, by those making the choices. In this paper, I argue that the extensive categories of information available to recipients, which range from health history to hobbies, are used selectively by recipients in a way that does not always correspond with their understanding of the heritability of those traits.
keywords: Sperm Bank, Heritability

Oleary, Heather (McMaster University)
Collaborative Feminist Ethnography: Visual Survey Design in an Illiterate Community
     This paper presents a method of empowering vulnerable populations during ethnographic research by using an innovative form of collaborative survey design in ethnography. It demonstrates how data collection from vulnerable populations can be shaped beyond the chance to explore intersectionality into a larger opportunity to foster participatory, self-led capacity-building. This method for participatory survey design was created to incorporate the perspectives of poor, illiterate women living in Delhi's slums to capture personal data on domestic water allocations that might otherwise be misrepresented. Through this method, contributors of the data became not only collaborators, but citizen scientists. This method relies on fostering epistemological agency in (1) prioritizing the data of underrepresented groups which impact our holistic, interdisciplinary understanding of the most pressing world issues and (2) building mechanisms into ethnographic methods to acknowledge the population of study as owners of data and conclusions. This paper addresses the danger that ethnographic intervention can be a form of epistemological violence, suggesting it is not enough to simply represent the perspectives of the marginalized, it is imperative to actively cultivate marginalized peoples' identities of producers of global knowledge. This shift of agency is critical to developing a historical record and future pathway for epistemological inclusion and equity.
keywords: Methods, Illiteracy, Participatory Research

Ortiz, Cristina (University of Minnesota Morris)
Notions of Belonging in the Rural Midwest: Meshing "How things have always been" with the Social and Economic Realities of "New Gateways"
     This paper presents findings from two research sites (one in Iowa and one in Minnesota) to examine how non-immigrant residents of rural communities that have become destinations for immigrants understand belonging. The data set consists primarily of semi-structured interviews and several years of participant observation in each community. This analysis examines the contexts in which non-immigrants and immigrants interact with one another and how non-immigrants become aware of the experiences of immigrants in their community. By expanding the focus beyond immigrants themselves, this research seeks to understand how the perceptions of their own community may differ from that of immigrants, particularly with respect to how "welcoming" the community is. Such an approach may have serious implications for service-providers and activists who are trying to make sure that any definition of community includes immigrants. Additionally, this research seeks to complicate stereotypical notions of rural people as either backwards racists or overwhelmingly "nice" by presenting reliable data that highlights the perspectives of actual non-immigrant rural residents.
keywords: immigration, rural, belonging

Passariello, Phyllis (Centre College)

MAGICAL REALISM AS ETHNOGRAPHIC TRUTH: Giant Otters and Others of the Napo Runa Rainforest
     During the last several decades, literary criticism and anthropological theory have hopscotched with each other, introducing , defining and finally surpassing postmodern paradigms. The literary genre of *magical realism* overlaps the rise of postmodernism, with historical roots back to the rise of surrealism and post-expressionism in painting, and crystallized by Colombian author, Gabriel Garcia Marquez's masterpiece, *100 years of Solitude,* a rich and magical ethnographic novel set in the Amazonian rainforest, which then solidly centered the genre in Latin America. My own experience with the Amazon spans almost 20 years, and from my first moment in the rainforest, I understood that magical realism was simply ethnographic truth in that milieu. Comparing my own field experiences with two superlative and ground-breaking ethnographic works about jungle cultures, together spanning over 30 years of research, Philippe Descola's 1972 book, *The Spears of Twilight: Life and Death in the Amazon Jungle*, and Eduardo Kohn's 2014 book, *How Forests Think: an anthropology beyond the human*, this paper examines how so-called magical realism has outlined one of the most convincing portrayals of an alternative worldview in all of anthropology.
keywords: magical realism, Amazon, worldview

Patrick, Dakota (University of Central Missouri)

Perusek, David (Kent State University at Ashtabula)
Distance Learning: The Lights Are On, But Nobody's Home--An Anthropologists Critique of a Decadent Development
     Written as enrollments in my Anthropology courses evaporate, within a campus landscape of empty hallways, sparsely peopled classrooms, and a cafeteria without food or food vendors, this paper explores the phenomenon of distance learning and its relationship to the social order, the corporate university and the public good.
keywords: Distance Learning, Corporate University, Public Good

Pfeiffer, Elizabeth (Butler University)
The Power of Words: HIV/AIDS, Gossip, and Gender Politics in Western Kenya
     Social scientists have long noted the significance of gossip and rumors about HIV/AIDS in myriad field settings, with some scholars arguing that rumors are one way that dominant biomedical knowledge, practices, and technologies are resisted, manipulated, and rendered local. Drawing on theories of gossip and rumor in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as ethnographic research conducted in a highway trading center in western Kenya, this paper documents and critically analyzes the interpretations and effects of local gossip that circulated during the field study— and in relation to a major "scale up" of HIV/AIDS testing, counseling, and drug therapy in the community— about a lengthy list of names of "married women"who were allegedly intentionally infected with HIV by a taxi driver. I contend that gossip and accusations about the list were used to fuel and strengthen new and already existing gender differences and inequalities. The paper demonstrates how HIV/AIDS-related gossip and accusations sharpened local gender politics and conflicts on the ground, and ultimately documents one community's highly contentious struggle to normalize the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
keywords: HIV/AIDS, Gossip, Kenya

Pomales, Tony (Augustana College)
The Subjectivity of Sexual Labor
     This paper, based on ethnographic research conducted in San Jose, Costa Rica, explores how veteran female workers in that city's sex sector make sense of both the conditions of their labor and their continued involvement in sexual labor. Drawing on the work of James C. Scott (1990) and Sherry Ortner (2006), I trace the myriad ways veteran female sex workers experience, perceive, and evaluate their lived reality. A careful examination of these women's subjective accounts reveals that a lack of education or other employment opportunities only partly explains their decision to continue working in the sex sector despite being faced with a diminishing clientele and a severe reduction in pay. This analysis argues for a more complex understanding of these women's lived realities in terms of tactics and strategy, and affect and emplacement.
keywords: subjectivity, sexual labor, acting-subject

Proctor, Lavanya Murali (Lawrence University), Sarah Shulist (MacEwan University), and Michael Oman-Reagan (Memorial University of Newfoundland)
Confronting Language Ideologies in Public Anthropology: A Case Study of the #OxfordSexism Debate

This paper will discuss the role of anthropology and anthropologists in a January 2016 public debate about sexism in the Oxford Dictionary of English. The example sentences Oxford used to illustrate definitions reinforced sexist stereotypes about women. Anthropologists drew attention to it, which led to responses in worldwide media outlets as well as from Oxford Dictionaries itself.

We will consider the language ideological debate that ensued on this topic. We will analyze the public commentary of various actors (including Oxford representatives, media agencies, anthropologists and other scholars, and members of the general public) in order to comment on ideologies about linguistic authority and about sexist speech. The central questions concern what role dictionaries play in shaping, rather than merely documenting, language use and linguistic meaning. We argue that ideological processes erase the active role dictionaries play in shaping perceptions about language and the world, and that the perception of dictionaries as outside of the social context of language-in-use affords them additional power in entextualizing meaning. These ideological processes were at work in the debated question of whether the dictionary examples constituted mere representations of sexism that exists in the world, or whether they themselves could be considered sexist speech.

We will also explore the dynamics of how and why anthropological expertise became relevant to this story, and the implications this had for the anthropologists involved. These questions involve further commentary on the nature of authority and authoritative voices about language, as well as about the profession of anthropology and its role in the public sphere.
keywords: language and sexism, public anthropology, language ideology

QuickBear, Bret (Minnesota State University, Moorhead)
Animacy in Meskwaki: A Preliminary Look

The Meskwaki, being a Central Algonquian group, divide their language not in terms of gender, but in terms of animacy. Although animacy has been studied in other Algonquian groups, like Cree and Ojibwe, little has been done to study animacy in Meskwaki. This paper features a preliminary look at both the cultural and linguistic viewpoints of Meskwaki animacy; comparatively examines the concepts with that of other Algonquian languages; and discusses efforts to further study Meskwaki animacy.
keywords: Animacy, Algonquian

Ragland, Katie (Northern Kentucky University) and Justin Wynne (Northern Kentucky University)
Marine Ecology and Perceptions of Change in Nasinu Village, Fiji

The Fijian villagers of Nasinu, located on the island of Vanua Levu, rely heavily on the marine resources of the bay on which they live.Natewa Bay is the largest saltwater bay in the south Pacific and providessurrounding villages a means of subsistence, and, increasingly, the sale of fish and shellfish at local markets provides a source of monetary income.The villagers of Nasinu possess a unique set of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) that allow them to maximize their fishing and harvesting practices in the bay. They are able to perceive changes over time by exploiting and observing the ecosystem on a daily basis. Our team conducted ethnographic interviews with local fishers in Nasinu, enabling us to document local fishing strategies, TEK, and perceived changes in the bay over time.Our interviews revealed a perceived reduction in fish size and population numbers and the availability of consumable reef fish and shellfish.Throughout we found concurrence that change has occurred in Natewa Bay, however, the cited causes of change alters between age groups and the frequency that an individual goes fishing.Overfishing by those who sell at market was identified by informants as the primary reason for depletion of marine resources in the Bay, yet climate change, water contamination, and lack ofTabu areas were also cited.Establishing the relationships between individuals and perceptions of ecological change helps our understanding of base-line perception of subtle resource changes in vulnerable areas.
keywords: Fiji, Ecology, Perceptions
Justin Wynne, Northern Kentucky University

Ragsdale, Sarah (University of Central Missouri) and Hannah Marsh (University of Central Missouri)
POSTER The Gene Flow of Coastal New Guineans in Southeast Asian Island Population

Evidence suggests that *Homo sapiens* arrived on Sahul, present Australia and New Guinea, 50,000 years ago. Travel from Sunda to Sahul required boating between 8-17 islands with three single migrations to the present island of New Guinea occurring 15,000-5,000 years ago. Modern mtDNA research shows a high level of genetic variation integrated into the Coastal New Guinean populations, possibly signifying gene flow via boating. This study will examine relatedness patterns among the Coastal New Guinean and nearby Southeast Asian Island populations to identify trends in current Oceanic migration. New Guinea possesses extreme language diversity, and evidence has shown an integration of Austronesian linguistics into the Coastal languages ~3,500-5,000 year ago. Therefore, our hypothesis predicts modern populations of Malaysian descent as the current nearest relatives to Coastal New Guineans. Specifically, we expect the indigenous Malaysian populations originating from Borneo to exhibit the highest rate of gene flow with the Coastal populations due to the shorter distance between the islands, as opposed to Malaysian peninsula lineages. An average of 30 sequenced complete modern mtDNA samples were collected per surrounding population representing 17 islands located near mainland New Guinea from the GenBank database. These samples are being analyzed via the Molecular Evolutionary Genetic Analysis program to generate a phylogenetic tree following the Maximum Likelihood Statistical model to determine the relatedness of the Coastal New Guinean population to Southeast Asian populations, mapping recent migrations within the present Oceanic region. We expect boating has been used to facilitate gene flow and overcome geographical barriers.
keywords: Gene Flow, New Guinea, Southeast Asia

Reed, Casey (University of Central Missouri)
Kansas City Chiefs Fans and Their Relationship with Cultural Appropriation
POSTER Kansas City Chiefs Fans and Their Relationship with Cultural Appropriation
This research aims to explore the customs and traditions of Kansas City Chiefs fans. Particularly actions and traditions that have been deemed as cultural misappropriation by other groups. Around the time the American Indian Movement began to gain political steam, the Kansas City Chiefs organization began to move away from Native American imagery. However, since fan backlash in the early 1990s there has not been much movement of that kind within the organization. This project attempts to elicit the multitudes of feelings and emotions within the fan base towards their traditions, and what part these traditions play in their experience as fans. The research explores how Kansas City Chiefs fans think about the traditions of other fan bases that have also been labeled cultural misappropriation, and how those traditions relate to their own. Central to the research is exploring how the fan base understands cultural misappropriation, and the potential effects it can have on people at the group level and individual level. The research looks at how, if at all, Kansas City Chiefs fans associate any of their customs with cultural misappropriation, and how they feel about those traditions being carried out. The project also aims to discover the extent of the fan base’s knowledge of what kinds of change to the Kansas City Chiefs organization and the customs of its fans are being called for by other groups, such as Native American advocacy groups.

Richards-Greaves, Gillian (Coastal Carolina University)
"The Bible never asked us to give up our culture": Kweh-kweh ritual, religion, and the construction of African Guyanese Identities
African Guyanese in Guyana and abroad practice a pre-wedding ritual called *kweh-kweh* which historically functioned as a medium for matrimonial instruction for soon-to-be married couples. By speaking with proverbs, singing, and performing the choreographed *kweh-kweh* ritual dance, *kweh-kweh* attendees advise, instruct, and critique the bride and groom on domesticity, sexual prowess, child rearing, and other conjugal matters. While African Guyanese acknowledge that *kweh-kweh* is an Africanized tradition, their views on the role of the ritual in the African Guyanese community are diverse and often contradictory. Christians are particularly disparaging of *kweh-kweh*, which they often regard as pagan or evil, on account of its African origin. However, because they also view *kweh-kweh* as a crucial rite of passage from singlehood to married life, many African Guyanese Christians are often compelled to modify the ritual to accommodate their religious values when there is an impending wedding. In many instances, African Guyanese Christians would eliminate ritual elements they regard as *obeah* (witchcraft) or "too African," such as the pouring of libations to welcome or appease the ancestors, and the beating of drums as musical accompaniment. These modifications to the *kweh-kweh* ritual are often met with opposition from other members of the African Guyanese community who regard "African" elements in the

ritual as crucial aspects and expressions of their Africanness. In this paper I will examine the ways that Christianity and Africanist beliefs shape African Guyanese perceptions of blackness and affect their engagement with the *kweh-kweh* ritual.
keywords: Kweh-kweh, religion, identity

Rissing, Andrea (Emory University)
Conversation and Confrontation in Iowa Agriculture

Iowa, the country's leading producer of corn, soybeans, and hogs, has been a stronghold of conventional agriculture for decades. But within the heart of the Corn Belt, a different set of agricultural practices and values is emerging among some of Iowa's newest farmers. This paper presents preliminary findings and analyses from the author's ongoing dissertation fieldwork on the livelihoods and motivations of beginning farmers in Iowa. Preliminary results will be drawn from 12 months of intensive participant-observation and in-depth interviews with over 40 beginning farmers running a range of agricultural operations. Focused particularly on the experiences of young people starting direct market, diversified farms, this paper examines several key points of contact between the conventional agricultural system and beginning alternative farmers' livelihoods. While popular discourses on the U.S. food system often position "conventional" and "alternative" agricultures as opposing monoliths, this paper argues that in the case of contemporary Iowa, alternative food production cannot be understood outside the context of agro-commodity production. I highlight several examples where the food systems' differing sets of values, practices, and experiences come into contact with each other. These contact points— including farm family histories, the experience of spray drift between neighbors, and landlord/tenant relationships— variously provide examples of resistance, cooperation, and mutual influence among Iowa's diverse food producers. Together, these examples illustrate how the dialectical relationship between two agricultural paradigms is changing Iowa's social and ecological landscapes of food production.
food systems
keywords: American Midwest, beginning farmers

Rogers, Matthew (Kansas State University)
"This Home of Hope": A Portrait of Transition at Manhattan Emergency Shelter Inc.

I engaged in participant-observation in the community of residents and staff at Caroline Peine Transitional Shelter to write about the struggles involved in the transition from homelessness to permanent housing while using the detailed accounts of its residents in the hopes of crafting a rich portrait of their journey and experience. First, I explain my research methods (and thus my limitations), then explore the landscape of homelessness by showing the difficulties posed by the "homeless" label and pointing towards the vast (and ultimately beneficial) organizational differences between MESI and other homeless-serving agencies. Then, I present the setting of the Caroline Peine Transitional Shelter, liven it with character descriptions of Mama Sue, and use her story as color when depicting the average client's journey through the shelter. I then "zoom in" to an average day of the residents, show the residents' ambivalent reactions to the shelter's organizational structure, and reveal surprising glimpses of familial relations found within the community. Lastly and most importantly, I contextualize the resident's experiences and relationships within the observed difficulties associated with transitioning from homelessness. This includes the tension between MESI's imposed organizational structure and the resident's long-term autonomy, the expected tension between the search for independence and the sometimes urgent need for camaraderie, the transience that defines the relationships and the constructed community, and how both the shelter and the residents respond to these apparent difficulties.
keywords: homelessness, transition

Romero Lopez, Jesus (Minnesota State University Moorhead) and Lee Smalt (Minnesota State University Moorhead)
Geospatial Anthropology Among the Meskwaki and Ioway

This presentation reports on the research of the Prairie Nations Research Group (PNRG) at Minnesota State University Moorhead. Our research combines Anthropology and Geography to explore the diachronic process of histories of the Native American groups of the prairies in relation to their physical/cultural /linguistic environments. This talk discusses GIS-related projects of the PNRG: 1) Ioway and Meshwaki Cultural Geography; 2) Ioway Friends-Foes/Meshkwaki Friends-Foes; and 3) Meshkwaki

Dialect Survey, it will discuss the data gathering process as well as the products/results, and will highlight the contribution a GIS-based analysis can make to anthropological research.
keywords: Meskwaki, Ioway, geospatial anthroplogy

Roosevelt, Anna C. (UIC)
New Evidence on Paleoindian Habitats and Subsistence: From Alaska to Tierra del Fuego
    For a long time, archaeologists have had some rather fixed ideas about the environments Paleonindians lived in and the ways they lived. Yet the evidence for the old assumptions was scant indeed. Since the 1960s, a good deal of specific, new data has been collected that forces a rather drastic revision of ideas on the early humans' ecological adaptations. The treeless tundra, beloved by Paleo archaeologists, is very hard to find in pollen and macrobotanical records, even in Alaska and Patagonia, and Pleistocene savanna is also difficult to document. Regions with verifiable big-game kills are almost non-existent, with a few obvious exeptions, such as the High Plains. Fish, though, are common, even in such different regions as the Atlantic coast, Amazon, Peru coast, and Patagonia, and nuts, fruits, legumes, and shellfish are also quite common. So, what is going on, methodologically, to produce such counter-intutive results so widely? The first element is better dating. The assumptions about when habitats changed in the terminal Pleistocene were misled by a hypothetical climate sequence that hardened before radiocarbon dating. The supposed tundra periods turn out to be Late Glacial Maximum in age, instead. By 13,000, wetlands and forests fed by glacial melt had already expanded, creating habitats more like today's. The second element is the use of archaeobotany, zooarchaeology, especially flotation and fine screening, isotopic chemistry, and dated macro-specimens, to check palynological hypotheses.
keywords: Peopling of the Americas, Environmental Archaeology, Archaeological Method and Theory

Roy, Juliette (Principia College)
Marriage in Rajasthan, India: Secret dating, love, and joint families
    In this paper, I examine arranged marriages, love marriages, and dating in Udaipur, Rajasthan in India looking specifically at different views of love and arranged marriage, "secret" dating, and how living as a joint family affects marriage. Some of the questions this paper explores include: How are marriages changing? How do love marriages begin? How does society view those who choose love marriages over arranged marriages? Based on what I learned from ethnographic research conducted in Udaipur in the spring of 2015, I argue that in Udaipur, love marriages are becoming more common, especially for the younger generation. Many of the youth I interviewed are open to love marriages and hold secret relationships. One reason for this change may be the accessibility of dating for those of the younger generation who can use technology to easily communicate to the opposite gender. Although over time love marriages may start to replace arranged marriages, the desire to live in a joint family after marriage is still prevalent among those I interviewed.
keywords: India, marriage, gender

Skala, Rebecca (Children's Future International)
The Construction of Womanhood and Female Identity in India
    This paper examines the construction of womanhood and female identity in India through ethnographic field research conducted in the spring of 2015. In exploring the idea of womanhood, it draws conclusions about social forces as they apply to the lives of individual Indian women and as they influence general female identity development processes. The research presented in this paper was conducted in the city of Udaipur and small town of Kothariya in the state of Rajasthan in western India. Data was collected through 15 translated interviews with local women, the majority of whom were young to middle-aged, Hindu, lower class, employed, married, and mothers. This paper presents research findings in three sections: how research subjects define womanhood, the images of and ideas about womanhood that these subjects encounter in their lives, and the avenues through which they learn about womanhood. The research shows that the women interviewed understand womanhood and their own identities largely through relative comparisons. Processes that facilitate this comparison include being exposed to diverse images of women in public and private life, learning about gender roles through media exposure and personal experiences such as marriage, comparing their experiences with those of men, and understanding women's status over time and in their geographic area. In comparing their

experiences with those they encounter, these women can understand social and cultural gender expectations and can explore how those expectations shape their own complex identities and roles.
keywords: India, gender, identity

Slater, Jesse (Illinois State University)
Affect of Horror and Creepypasta as Postmodern Urban Legend
    In this paper I will argue that the internet horror genre known as "creepypasta" is an example of postmodern folklore/urban legendry. I will show that, having evolved out of digitally proliferated urban legends, many typical genre characteristics of creepypasta continue to follow the urban legend format described by Brunvand (1981): anonymous authorship, conceit of describing real events, and the threat that the reader is not safe from the dangers within the story. The subjects of popular stories frequently are appropriated into the public domain, around which variations and mythologies develop. I argue that themes of societal concerns and anxieties can be found within these stories, just as they are found within the subtext of "traditional"urban legends. I demonstrate this thesis with archetype and folklore analysis establishing the continuity of form between urban legends and creepypasta, as well as with data from informant interviews conducted in an interpretive methodology. The reason for this is the other half of my thesis: that the affectivity of horror is subjective based upon individual consumers. I support this claim ethnographicly by utilizing the contributions of my informants (horror media/creepypasta consumers) in a manner that highlights the variety of their experiences. As we see this genre form continue to grow and enter the mainstream (e.g. Slenderman), this paper offers a useful case study that will add to the emerging literature on this subject.
keywords: horror, folklore

Smith, Darcy (Minnesota State University Moorhead)
POSTER Dakota Foods and the Spirit Lake Food Distribution Program
    This poster looks at the food lifeways of the Dakota people of the Spirit Lake Reservation in North Dakota. It will discuss the traditional, pre-contact diet of the Dakota people, the health affects of the introduction of new foods, and the contemporary work of the Spirit Lake Food Distribution Program, a branch of the Native American Food Program. Examples will be presented with emphasis on the contemporary efforts of the Spirit Lake Program.

Solis, Ashley (Cottey College)
Unsigned: Musicians in the Age of Social Media
    This paper examines the evolution of self-promotion tools available to unsigned musicians from the 1990s, before the internet and social media boom, to the present day as well as changing attitudes towards major music labels. Through an analysis of one-on-one interviews and follow-up interviews with three members of an unsigned rock band from Dallas, Texas and a former Indie musician who now runs an Indie mixing and mastering studio, I consider how self-promotion has evolved for these individuals over the last ten to twenty years, also asking them about licensing, music competitions, networking, and fan participation. Finally, I queried these participants about their earlier to more recent desires to sign with major labels. Ultimately I sought to learn how the changing terrain of online promotion tools has had an effect on contemporary musicians as well as their views on the necessity of major labels.
keywords: Independent Musicians, Social Media, Self-Promotion

Sommers, Madison (University of Central Missouri)
POSTER Material Culture Research: The Nance Collection's Bells
    The Nance Collection was donated to the University of Central Missouri's McClure Archives and University Museum by Paul J. Nance in 2003. Mr. Nance worked for Aramco for 35 years, during which he and his wife accrued a vast collection of Middle Eastern artifacts. Currently, The Nance Collection is the largest collection of Middle Eastern artifacts in the United States (Nance Middle East Collection). The artifacts were collected over several decades from a variety of sources and records documenting the history of each artifact were not available at the time of donation. The only information now associated with many of the artifacts in the collection is solely from the memory of Mr. Nance. My project was to research an artifact within the Nance Collection and provide as much detailed background information about that artifact as much as possible to aid in exhibitions. The artifact selected was a set of three bells labeled only as Saudi Arabian camel bells. My poster will describe the processes utilized throughout the

research, the issues encountered, and the possible avenues of continued research. The research will allow for the bells to be exhibited with accurate and in-depth information. Continuing on, I would explore the possibility of utilizing the uncovered information to host a window display at the University of Central Missouri's McClure Archives and University Museum.

Spick, Benjamin (Iowa State University)
Considering Conscience-Development in the Lives of LGBT and Allied Catholics
       In this paper, I will explore the role which the development and cultivation of conscience plays in the lived experiences of LGBT and allied Catholics in a parish situated in a Midwestern college town. In conversations with informants for my project, the theological notion of "primacy of conscience" — that is, an individual has the moral obligation to follow their informed conscience in making judgments or decisions — emerged as a key explanation for their championing of LGBT issues as Roman Catholics. Thus in this paper, I seek to explore the discourses (conversations and practices) surrounding conscience among my informants: how it is valued; how it is cultivated; and how it is used in explaining their positions as LGBT and allied Catholics. I will put informants' discourses in conversation with a broader discussion of the "primacy of conscience"in Roman Catholicism, and suggest that this topic may offer potential for futher study of the lived experiences of LGBT and allied Catholics. I will conclude this paper by reflecting on the outcomes of this study in terms of both its potential and limitations in laying groundwork for further study of this topic. In so concluding, I will also touch on some identifiable contributions such further study could make both queer anthropology and anthropology of religion.
keywords: anthropology of religion, Roman Catholicism, queer anthropology

Stanlaw, James (Illinois State Universiy)
Do Blonds Really Have More Fun?: "Race, Language, Culture," and the Other in Japan's Popular Morning Drama "Massan"
       The connections between race, language, and culture are critical social issues, and are sometimes expressed in popular culture, such as *Massan*, the NHK drama about how a Japanese husband and his Scottish wife Ellie attempt to build the first whisky distillery in Japan. Ellie has to overcome barriers of family acceptance, social discrimination, and language— and these are starkly depicted. I focus on how language is used to demonstrate Ellie's varying states: as human being, racialized Other, or social adult-child. Certain tropes and linguistic features are used to show this to great effect. For example, Massan's mother, Sanae, at first refuses to accept Ellie. But Ellie gradually ingratiates herself into the family. On her deathbed Sanae tells Ellie that she is *ningen*. *Ningen* literally means "human being" — the implication being that a blond-haired girl might not be. Such racialized comments are frequent. When Ellie is taken away by the secret police, Massan counters that she can't be arrested simply because of appearance: she is a Japanese who just happens to have been born in Scotland. We also see that Ellie's Japanese language in the program is used to show her varying degrees of distance from "real"Japanese.This "foreigner talk"is similar to speech spoken by children in popular TV programs and *manga* comics. The *Massan* story has given the Japanese audience a new opportunity to look notions language, foreignness, and what it means to be Japanese
keywords: Japan, popular culture, race and language

Steindorf, Sally (Principia College)
Teaching Ethnographic Methods in India: Successes & Challenges
       This paper explores an Ethnographic Research Methods course designed for a study abroad trip to India through Principia College. I will discuss to what extent I was able to make this course replicate ethnographic fieldwork that might be conducted by a doctoral student or professional anthropologist — pointing out both the successes and challenges. The students in the course all conducted original ethnographic research in Udaipur, Rajasthan with the help of local translators who were also students. While on campus before leaving for India, the students formulated research questions and conducted background research on their topics. They also went through Principia College's IRB process. In India they had the opportunity to conduct interviews with individuals connected to their topics, found with the help of their local translators. Every day for three hours for a period of several weeks, a pair of students along with a local translator traveled via auto rikshaw through Udaipur to meet with interviewees. Since the local translators were also students, this gave my students a first window into India through someone their age. Another window into India were the homestay families with whom the students lived during the

research process. Before leaving Udaipur, the students wrote ethnographic papers based on their interviews and the background information they had gathered while in the United States.
keywords: ethnographic research, methodology, India

Steinhauer, Emily (DePaul University)
POSTER Mercado Del Progreso: Market Culture's Implications on Argentine Society
        In the middle of one of Buenos Aires' center barrios, Caballito, lies Mercado del Progreso. Established 126 years ago, it is now the oldest functioning market in the city. The market stands in the middle of a bustling block of street vendors, high school students and Porteños (locals of Buenos Aires). When I studied in Argentina in the beginning months of 2015, a class assignment brought me to Mercado del Progreso. Initially, I did not know exactly what I would be searching for or what questions I would be asking about the relevancy of the market. After about an hour of note taking and getting comfortable with the space, a security guard approached me, skeptical of my note taking and foreignness. I asked questions about competition and rivalry, history amongst vendors who had been there for many years. Through my research I found that Mercado del Progreso lies in the hands of the vendors — that common, acknowledged goal amongst the majority of vendors. They work together civilly in order to build trust and comfort both in their space and with their customers. The market displays higher social implications of the Argentine society in terms of both buyer and seller culture.

Strader, Carra (Minnesota State University Moorhead) and Andrea Kochensparger (Minnesota State University Moorhead)
The Meskwaki at the end of the Nineteenth Century
    Meskwaki history includes a series of conflicts and migrations from the northeast, through Michigan into Wisconsin, and eventually into Iowa. During this time Meskwaki culture was negotiated and renegotiated. In the 1850s the Meskwaki resettled in Iowa on what is known today as the Meskwaki Settlement. Here, for the first time in over 200 years, they established a single village and lived in peace. This paper explores Meskwaki culture during this unique time period leading up to the 1901 epidemic which led to their forced dispersal and the end of Meskwaki village life forever. Topics to be covered include social and political organization, marriage and families, and subsistence and economics.
keywords: Meskwaki

Suber, Annelise (Principia College)
Women's Aspirations in Rajasthan, India: A Generational Comparison
    This paper seeks to answer the question: "Have the aspirations of Rajasthani women changed over time, and if so, how?" In an effort to compare answers to this question across generations, I interviewed a total of fifteen Hindu, lower class women representing three generations living in Udaipur, Rajasthan. According to their answers, the kinds of things to which women aspired were dependent on various circumstances, mainly their environment, their family and themselves. Moreover, having the support of their family substantially influenced women's ambitions for specific pursuits, such as an education and career. My research ultimately found that the generations of the middle aged and the younger women share similar ways of thinking, both of which emphasize the necessity of education. In this paper I argue that the younger generation is able to have more individualistic and career-oriented goals as a result of the foundation created and supported by the middle-aged generation.
keywords: gender, work, education

Taylor, Sarah (Wichita State University)
Meliponiculture: Beekeeping, ancient Maya tradition, and a new gendered economy
    Beekeeping in Yucatan, Mexico has undergone massive transformations in the last 100 years. Native stingless bees (*Melipona beecheii*) were domesticated in log hives from the time of the ancient Maya through the mid-1900s. Around 1930, the Western or European Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) was introduced in Yucatan, which meant a fundamental change in bee husbandry. This paper reports on the potential of meliponiculture, or the Maya tradition of beekeeping with native stingless bees *Melipona beecheii*), for diversifying household earning strategies in indigenous villages in Yucatan, Mexico. Specifically, I examine the role that meliponiculture played in family and community life in the past and how the reintroduction of this practice influences household economics in select villages. When honeybees were introduced, beekeepers moved hives away from the living space of the village and out

into the forests and agricultural fields. This move had a gendered dimension as well. The shift from passive, stingless beekeeping in the household space to aggressive Western beekeeping in the more dangerous forested space meant that the primary beekeepers were no longer women. Meliponiculture is being reintroduced throughout the region and is, in many cases, reestablishing itself as a diversified household earning strategy for women. This ethnographic research focuses on the outcomes in these communities in terms of conservation and gender relations. The results of this study illuminate the gendered nature of meliponiculture in terms of community life and the ever-shifting household economies of Maya villages in Yucatan, Mexico.
keywords: Maya, Household economic strategies, Environmental anthropology

Thomas, Jordan (Kansas State University) and MacKenzie Wade (Kansas State University)
Cultivating Culture: Youth Food Movement and Cultural Revival in the Tiwa Pueblo Community
     A great deal of studies have emerged in recent years regarding the social effects of local food systems. They have been shown to bolster local economies, increase general health, and even decrease crime rates. Our recent study analyzes a less explored effect, which is how local food systems can help to preserve indigenous language and culture in native communities. With globalization, cultures and languages are going extinct at increasing rates. Estimates predict that 90% of all languages will disappear by the end of the century, along with all of the ecological, historical, and ontological knowledge encoded within. To study how these trends could be reversed, we moved to Taos, New Mexico and studied a Tiwa Pueblo food movement that seemed to be related to a revival in youth pride and participation in native culture. Throughout three months of immersive fieldwork, we gathered interview data and engaged with participant observation in the community in order to elicit localized perceptions of native culture and local food cultivation. The language, ceremonies, and rituals of historically land-based native cultures are intimately intertwined in the practice of food cultivation, and we found a mutually reciprocal relationship between positive community ethics of food cultivation and positive ethics of participation in traditional native culture. This study sheds light on yet another social effect of local food systems, which could be capitalized upon when dealing with future development issues. This study also points to further research into the causes of language and culture death, and methods to combat these trends.
keywords: Pueblo, Food, Revival

Vance, Liza (Northern Kentucky University) and Sharyn Jones
POSTER Material Culture of Freedom and Resistance from the 1839 Parker Academy
     The Parker or Clermont Academy was founded in 1839 outside the village of New Richmond, Ohio by Daniel and Priscilla Parker. Remarkably, this is believed to be the first school in the United States to offer fully integrated classrooms that were open to all races, religions, and genders. The Parker preparatory school was a safe haven for its numerous students, many of whom were runaway slaves. The curriculum was a classical one that included training in music, Latin, mathematics, theatre, literature, and astronomy. In the midst of one of the country's darkest moments, this place was a beacon of hope, freedom, and resistance, in a small town on the Ohio River that divided the North and South. In the summer of 2015, faculty and students from the Department of History and programs in Anthropology and Public History from Northern Kentucky University partnered with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center to conduct the first archaeological excavations of this 7.5-acre site. Initial excavations focused on the schoolhouse foundation and the men's dormitory. This poster presentation illustrates the intriguing history of the Parker Academy through its material culture. Ceramics, glass, building materials, coins, game pieces, fragments of musical instruments, and buttons are among the many artifacts that have been recovered. Analysis is ongoing but already there are patterns emerging from the data that tell a story about daily life in the academy.

Velasquez, Camila (Kenyon College)
Scripting Language, Portraying Identity: Codeswitching in "¿Que Pasa USA?" and "Mia Mundo"
     This project investigates how two television shows, produced thirty five years apart, portray the codeswitching practices of Latinos living in Miami. In 1977, PBS launched the first bilingual sitcom in the United States. Conceived of as an educational resource for young Cuban Americans, the show was meant to aid them in navigating their Cuban and American identities. Language, particularly through English-Spanish codeswitching, was a primary means through which this emerging biculturality was negotiated and reconciled. After the show was pulled off the air in 1980, codeswitching all but

disappeared in both mainstream and Spanish-language networks until the release of "Mia Mundo" in 2012. The webnovela was Telemundo's first bilingual-branded television program, and was designed to attract young Latino viewers who had gravitated away from the network's Spanish-only content. As with "Que Pasa," language acted as an important vector in making the show relevant to its audiences' bicultural experiences. Making use of Bhatt and Bolonyai's (2010) model of codeswitching and Barth's Boundary Theory (1969), I analyze the strategic uses of language depicted on each show and the broader linguistic and cultural imaginaries they mobilize. I argue that the inclusion of codeswitching in both programs is rooted in and has important implications for the evolving nature of Cubanidad and Latinidad, for both have consistently employed language as a crucial symbol of ethnic identity.
keywords: ethnic identity, language, television

Weier, Jacklyn (Illinois State University)
An Uncaring America: Turkey in the Orient
    In this paper I will argue that a lack of representation of Turkey in popular American journalist periodicals and media results in Americans believing Turkey to be a part of the Middle East and consequently leaves it subject to Orientalism or neo-Orientalism. Orientalism (Said 1978) shows how scholarship, literature, and art portray stereotypes of the Arab/Islamic Orient that developed through imperialism and racism. It has been claimed that neo-Orientalism now plays a major role in what is considered the Orient or the Middle East, which supposedly no longer includes Turkey (Altwaiji 2014). Recent articles have shown that Western Europeans still use orientalist language and stereotypes to describe Turkey in journalistic periodicals. The lack of information in American journalistic periodicals will leave open for interpretation the perception of Turkey by Americans. Additionally, a public survey will further show the lack of knowledge that Americans have about Turkey. Turkish Americans further decide for themselves their own exclusion from the Middle East, while affirming that Americans do view them in this way. When media has such a strong influence on how Americans interpret areas of the Near and Middle East, this paper is useful in showing what stereotypes are being perpetuated and how they affect others.
keywords: Turkey, Orientalism, America

West, Donna (State University of New York at Cortland)
The Ins and Outs of Playing-fields in Early Pretense
    The present approach acknowledges the import of culturally determined playing fields as a catalyst for the emergence of different kinds of pretense: renaming, reconstructing events, and role play shifts. It asserts that cultures which encourage play in less restricted spaces do not increase children's propensity to pretend, but may actually limit it. Conversely, cultures which encourage play in more contained spaces (inside rooms) may hasten children's need to construct alternative, less conventional ways to supersede the boundaries of imposed, restricted spaces. Differing concepts of inclusionary space (near, far) and landmark utilization across cultures appear to give rise to different degrees of imagined space. Pretend practices invoked by spatial barriers in western cultures (Lieven and Stoll 2013) defy limitations, whereas Nepali and Huli children do not reconstruct space but rename objects (Goldman 1998).
    Furthermore, particular play/work practices culminate in different assumptions about how objects conduct themselves with respect to objects, e.g., precluding them from passing, or destroying them altogether; and acquisition of world and scientific knowledge would be short-circuited, absent the inferences which children construct implicitly from objects' location/motility in contexts. Concepts of containment and object habitation across cultures result from the particular amplitude of play/work environments, demonstrating that object affordances do not represent wholly invariant constructs. Nonetheless, Gibson's revolutionary model of affordances demonstrates unequivocally that without perceiving latent characteristics intrinsic to objects in their milieu, many inferences would never naturally surface.
keywords: Near/Far, Children's Pretense, Landmarks