

# *Field Notes*

A newsletter of the Sociology and Anthropology Department, Middlebury College  
Summer 2016

Number 12

Editor: Michael Sheridan



*SOAN seniors on the verge of graduation, from left to right:*

*Front row: Charlie Kies, Jamie Soroka, Nicolette Amber, Sophia Miller, Emma Gee, Denise Chan, Tara Seibold,  
Kristina Pallová, Diana Luna*

*Back row: Durga Jayaraman, Hannah Quinn, Anna Chamby, Debanjan Roychoudhury, Emma Homans,  
Nat Blackford*

## *A Note from the Chair...*

Free to a good home, one chair, slightly used.

They say the third time's a charm, but then again, they say a lot of things. Still, year three of my life as a chair has been an eventful and positive one: a year of some important departures, some important arrivals, and some important stays, all of which will significantly contribute to the department's future.

First, the departures. My first contact with Middlebury College was a phone call from **Peggy Nelson**, inviting me to campus to interview for a position in the department. I might have been able to predict that this interview would lead to a job (although my natural pessimism did not favor such wild speculation), I could never have predicted the countless ways that Peggy has had an influence on me and my experience at the job I unlikely ended up in. Thankfully, Peggy's office sat conveniently right next

door to mine, and I often found myself visiting her on advice, both big and small. Never was this truer than during my time as chair, during which Peggy helped me navigate the, for me, wholly uncharted waters of administrative responsibilities. Thus, it was with sadness and joy that I joined my colleagues, from SOAN and from the larger college community, at 51 Main to bid Peggy a fond farewell at the end of the fall semester. As I sit in my new office (taking over Peggy's office being the closest I'll get to following in her footsteps), I am more confident in my place in the College and the discipline, thankful for all that she did to help me get to a place where I may not need as much advice from her as before.



Peggy Nelson speaking at her retirement party at 51 Main

With arrivals, there were many. We had some new faces in the department this year, **Trinh Tran** and **Baishakhi Taylor**. Trinh recently completed her PhD at Berkeley and joins us as a C3 Fellow in the department. She has quickly adapted to life at Middlebury, and we are excited that she's returning for 2016-2017, and will continue to contribute classes in her specialties of urban sociology, education, violence, race, and gender. Baishakhi comes from Duke, accompanying new president **Laurie Patton** in her move to Middlebury. She is the new Dean of Students, and a sociologist, to boot, and hopefully the first step in the college's plans to install more anthropologists and sociologists at the highest levels of the administration. Baishakhi works on transgender issues in India, and will be teaching a course on global genders in the coming year.



Our other exciting arrivals weren't quite here yet as of this writing, but we added them to the club during this past school year. **Matt Lawrence** will be starting this fall as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Sociology. Matt received his PhD from Yale and has taught at both

Princeton and Reed College. His work focuses on higher education, family, and inequality. This means he will be able to take over some of the courses Peggy is leaving behind. Furthermore, Matt's specialty in quantitative methods will allow the department to expand its methodological offerings, providing our students will strong statistical foundations. **Erica Morrell** is another C3 Fellow, part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort in this program which will enter the College this fall. She attended the University of Michigan, where her PhD studied the sociology food, inequality, and environmental justice movements.



Of course, the other department addition is **Jamie McCallum's** new son, **Asa**, although there are no current plans for him to be offering any courses in the near future.

And the rest of us continued to stay put. This was great, if not necessarily surprising, news for **Chong-Suk Han** and **Marybeth Nevins**, who both were granted tenure this year. I hope you will join me in congratulating both of them for their hard work and impressive achievements. In the past years, we have moved from a mostly untenured department to a one where the vast majority of us now hold tenure. That bodes well for a strong and productive SOAN future. Others, even as they stayed put, refused to stand still. Our anthropological colleague in Japanese Studies, **Linda White**, has been tenured, and **James Fitzsimmons** received the 2015 Gladstone Award for exceptional teaching and mentoring. Perhaps most noteworthy for you folks now beyond Midd, however is that Chong-suk was featured in the *Atlantic Monthly* analyzing Kim Chi, a fan favorite of the show *Rupaul's Drag Race*. Really, check it out at

<http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2016/05/kim-chi-rupauls-drag-race-femme-fat-asian-c-winter-han-interview-middlebury/483527/>



Finally, there is one last departure/arrival worth mentioning. This note is my last official act as chair of the SOAN department. When I started this position three years ago, I feared I would quickly find myself in over my head, stuck in a job that my limited talents were ill suited for. Now, as my reign comes to a close, I see just how right I was. Nevertheless, with the helpful guidance of my SOAN colleagues and their infinite patience at my



steep learning curve, I made it through the other end, and I feel like the department itself, through some weird quirk of fate, is stronger and in a better place than it was when I took over. I am happy to pass this position off to **Michael Sheridan**, who will certainly do a great job with it. Thanks for reading, and thanks for your support and interest in our wonderful department, and the faculty and students who make it up.

**Linus Owens**, SOAN Chair 2013-2016



Linus discussing the emerging practices and culture of Halloween in Tokyo, with some help from Hello Kitty, during the NEH Summer Seminar "Tokyo: High City and Low City" at Florida International University

## Faculty and Staff Updates

### Svea Closser

This has been a year of great collaborations with some really special students; J-term was completely full with student meetings on ongoing research projects, and I really enjoyed it. Several articles that I worked on with students got published this year, others moved forward into final drafts, and I had a great time visiting Ethiopia this summer with **Yasmine Gilbert '17** (below). Several students this year have pushed my thinking forward through their careful research and critical thought – I'm grateful to them. Here on campus, I've been very involved with



expanding open access to faculty publications. This past spring, the faculty overwhelmingly voted to approve a repository for faculty publications – this means that soon, everything we publish will be freely available

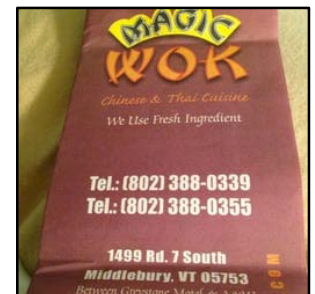
online. Watch for links in next year's newsletter!

### James Fitzsimmons

This year I published another edited volume, *Maya Politics of the Southern Lowlands* (with Damien Marken), which looks at how the ancient Maya conceptualized geographic territories and political entities. It also explores how archaeologists perceive the boundaries between ancient Maya kingdoms (and how sometimes, we inadvertently create false boundaries). As an edited volume, it included three chapters by myself but also (more painfully) many chapters by other scholars. Cajoling, pleading, or devising other tricks to get chapters from people on edited volumes is actually the norm, and so every time I finish an edited work I always say 'never again.' But knowing me, I'll probably do another one soon. In Fall 2015, I also began work on a couple of sole-author books, one of which I hope to have done by the time I come back from academic leave (which started this July!) in Fall 2017. Somehow I will have to fit a January field season at Cuello, Belize, in here too. It's going to be a busy year!

### Chong-Suk Han

2015-16 was a big year for me! I received tenure in January 2016 and am still a bit in a daze as I think about what comes next in my life in terms of what I want to devote more time exploring/researching and writing about. I think tenure gives you a bit of breathing room to think about whether you want to continue doing the research you've been doing or examine topics that you were always interested in but couldn't get "up to speed" fast enough on. For now, I'm still working on a major project examining the intersection of race and sexuality, particularly how racial desire and exclusion "works" in the gay community, but when that wraps up, I probably will shift focus a little bit and delve into looking at how people make sense of race in their everyday lives though two projects that I've been kicking around. One project will examine "race rumors" that get told (especially given how easy they are spread online) and what those rumors tell us about racial anxieties. The second is an "old-fashioned" ethnography of Asian restaurant owners in rural Vermont. I've been really interested in the latter topic for quite a while, given that it will give me a chance to re-visit literature on immigration, ethnic entrepreneurs, and sociology of "space," all topics that I was really interested in graduate school but never got a chance to fully explore.



## Jamie McCallum

During my sabbatical I made two short documentary films with the help of former SOAN major **Molly Stuart '15** and ample support from my fellowship with the Digital Liberal Arts foundation. The first film, *The Real Work*, examines the concept of 'hard work' through interviews and a social experiment in which



15 people were hired to dig holes in an empty field in VT. The second is a short documentary on the US labor movement starring scholar and activist Frances Fox Piven in which she stresses the “importance of being unruly” to social change [see pages 15-16 for links to these videos – Ed.]. I spent this summer working with research assistants on my next book and also took students, along with Political Science Professor **Sarah Stroup**, to Montreal to study the World Social Forum. This past year I was also a Visiting Scholar at UC Berkeley and spent time doing research in California for my next book. In the midst of it all, my son, Asa, was born in late December. Look at him in the accompanying photo. There he is deftly navigating the dazzling hedgerows of grocery items, affectionately gripping the Ruffles Potato Chip bag like it's an old friend, staring uncertainly back at his parental figures, unconscious of the future, and somehow—please let this be a lesson for all of us—managing to look cute and tough at the same time.



## Peggy Nelson

I am writing this from near Geneva, Switzerland where I am enjoying (or will enjoy as soon as my lost luggage arrives) a month of writing in the idyllic setting of the Brocher Foundation. I am working with

my colleague Rosanna Hertz from Wellesley College on outlining the book we hope to write based on the data we collected from our NSF Grant (Social and Biogenetic Factors in the Making of New Families). Last fall I taught for the last time my course on the sociology of education (SOAN 215). As was usually the case, the class was full of inspiring, lively, and challenging students. I also taught a small seminar on the family, public policy and the state. There also I learned much from the students and their astute comments. It was my great good fortune to work with **Jenna Ritchey '16** and **Charlotte Fairless '16** as they completed their terrific senior theses. And as I name names, I want to recognize two more wonderful students, **Chelsea Jerome '17** traveled with me to Washington, DC, Minnesota and Texas over this past year; on those trips she conducted superb interviews with dozens of teenagers and wielded the GPS with technological ease and personal grace. **Haley Tetreault '17**, another research assistant, manipulated data with skill, patiently trained other student researchers, and fed me moose meat to help me recover from knee surgery. Teaching students at Middlebury College has been one of the great joys of the last 40+ years. And it is a joy I will miss enormously as I move into retirement. Please, everybody, stay in touch.

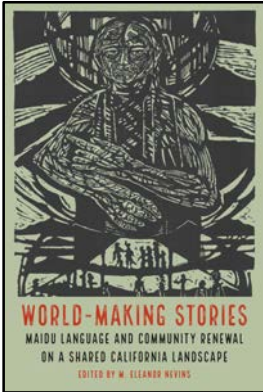


## Marybeth Nevins

My big news is that I am now an Associate Professor with tenure! I send a gushing “thank-you” to all the excellent colleagues and students in the Sociology and Anthropology Department and Linguistics Program who helped make that happen. I am deeply gratified to find myself be here at Middlebury for the long term. In the realm of research, writing and community collaboration, I am wrapping up a book with the Maidu Summit Consortium in California. At the same time, I am beginning a new project: an ethnography of environmental communication focused upon the mountain communities of northern California adjacent to



national forests. The goal is to elucidate the role of conflicting cultural understandings of forests as differently positioned stakeholders respond to increased forest fire (I visited the Forest History Society this summer to prepare). Middlebury students (**Anna Mullen '15**, **Sophie Bufton '16**, **Maddie Gilbert '14.5** and **Madeline Cochrane '16**) were all fabulous in their various roles as research assistants on the Maidu book project; and I look forward to involving Middlebury students in the forest-fire project too. In teaching I continue develop my classes along an undergraduate research model and am very pleased with the results – some student papers are so timely, original and interesting that I wish I could share them with the world. In short, it's been a really good year.



## Linus Owens

Life as chair kept me busy, so my writing and general productivity suffered. My one regret about leaving the chair position is that I won't have this excuse any more for my current levels of output! But I did get a few things done. The Halloween project muddles along, ready to kick into high gear this summer. **Rebecca Tiger** and I received a Fund For Innovation grant, which we used to more fully explore the possibility of creating a prison education program, which included attending the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison in Pittsburgh in the fall. My squatting work continues in dribs and drabs, with a chapter on Amsterdam in 1980 appearing in a new book on European youth revolts in the early 80s, and presenting at a couple of conferences on housing movements, one in Rotterdam and the other in Stockholm. I am also currently planning for my upcoming sabbatical, which starts in January 2017. During the spring, I will be in residence at the college as a Digital Liberal Arts Fellow, working on a documentary about Halloween, and next fall, I will be teaching at the Middlebury College program in Tokyo. In preparation for the latter, I spent the month of June in Miami, attending a seminar on the cultural history of Tokyo funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. While I would not recommend spending June in Miami, I learned a lot, and am excited about applying it to my class in Tokyo. Even better, I learned that Halloween has recently become big there,

so I can take advantage of this chance to extend my current research.



Linus showing off his organizational skills working as the timekeeper for presentations at the 7th annual squatting conference in Rotterdam

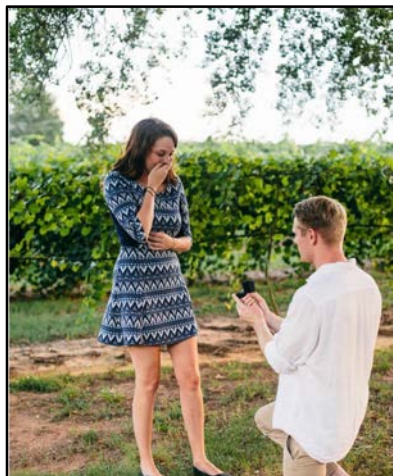
## Ellen Oxfeld

This has been a busy and very interesting year for me. I finished the final draft of my manuscript on the meanings of food in rural China. It will be published by University of California Press and hopefully be out in print sometime in 2017 or early 2018. As usual, it was a fascinating teaching year. I was not only very gratified with my classes, but with senior work advising – I learn so much from our senior's wonderful projects! This year I worked with **Diana Luna '16**, who wrote an exemplary thesis on the voices of undocumented immigrant activist youth, and also **Emma Homans '16**, who worked on a very innovative project focused on the use of food in social media of college students, specifically in instant messaging. Outside of the academy, I was appointed as a member of one of the standing committees at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia (the Credentials Committee). It was a very exciting and also fascinating experience to have a ringside seat at this event. I tried to keep my anthropological hat on, and to look at what I was

experiencing and observing as a large-scale political ritual. I hope to share my analysis with a Middlebury audience later this Fall.



## Mari Price



My most exciting bit of summer news is that my son, Tanner, proposed to his girlfriend, Kelsey. We are looking forward to a wedding in the fall of 2017. My summer has been spent doing the things I love: gardening, travelling to Maine, and spending time with my family.

## Michael Sheridan

It's hard to get back into the swing of Midd after a sabbatical, but I suppose if it's easy, that would mean that you didn't do the sabbatical right. Much of my year was struggling to get through the zillions of short-term projects (= the job) to arrive at the starting line of the longer-term project. At last summer hit and I finished up the edits on a 12,000-word beast of an article for *Environment and Society* and worked on The Book. I finished the draft of the Kilimanjaro chapter and now I'm working on Cameroon. The other news of the summer is about making my corner of Addison County a bit more sustainable. My '99 Subaru rusted out, and its replacement is a Prius that we call The Dark Side (as in, "never underestimate the POWER of the Dark Side!" – D. Vader). In the same week we installed a solar array at our place, so we should have free electricity in 11 years. I've never before had happy emotions about objects/services like cars and electricity – but I really really like these new relationships to (sigh) consumption.

## David Stoll

Big thanks to the Whiting Foundation for my tour of the U.S.-Mexico border last winter. For the first time in my life, I was able to drive across Southern California, Southern Arizona, and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. I stayed in border towns on both sides and talked to a wide range of people including migrants, deportees, social workers and border patrol officers. Park benches were a good social opportunity, but in anthropology there is no substitute for the Catholic clergy. I owe a special thanks to Father Miguel Rolland of Mexicali, Baja California, and Sister Pam Buganski of the South Texas Human

Rights Center in Falfurrias, Texas. Here's some of what I learned:

Cities on both sides of the border were larger and more prosperous than I expected. Booming industrial parks, as well as shopping malls and residential developments, suggest ample economic opportunities. In Mexican side border cities, wages are significantly higher than in the country's interior. On the U.S. side, economic growth is much higher than in the rest of the U.S., but wages are far lower. Eventually I realized that this is the flip side of the Northeastern and Midwestern rust-belt – capital flight from higher-wage regions. The vast spaces of the U.S./Mexican border suggest that there is room for many more people from the south. What does seem to be in very short supply is water. Judging from what people told me, the #1 complaint on both sides is not excessive border enforcement but the closely-linked issue of "insecurity" – cartel extortion, cartel turf wars, and distrust of government security forces. Everyone I met in Mexico was convinced that their government authorities have been bought off by a vast but shadowy criminal conspiracy. On the U.S. side, U.S. citizens are tired of all the border enforcement, but many seem to accept it as necessary because of the dangers posed by corruption and violence on the Mexican side. Nowhere else in the U.S. have I seen as many different kinds of police driving back and forth or sitting in their cars – border patrol, county sheriff, city police and state highway officers. In Mexican border cities, policing has become so militarized, with squads of men in bullet-proof jackets patrolling in jeeps mounted with machine-guns, that it looks like Central America at the height of the civil wars three decades ago. The cost is surely staggering so, given all the fear of equally well-armed gangs, I would like to know if there are alternatives.



## Baishakhi Taylor

This was my first summer in Vermont. I spent two weeks of it in India meeting with research participants who have now become friends over the last five years. The socio-





political landscape for third gender people in India is evolving very quickly and it was inspiring to see some of the changes community based transgender organizations have achieved for their members around issues of civil rights. I was also very fortunate to go to Dhaka, Bangladesh this summer to explore the possibilities of starting a new experiential internship program on emerging markets for Middlebury students. I am excited about the possibilities our students can explore through this program in 2017. The rest of my summer has been dedicated to preparing for my first class at Middlebury this fall.

### Diego Thompson



During the last year, I have really enjoyed teaching sociology courses on food and the environment. I have found that Middlebury students and colleagues are very interested in addressing and discussing the human dimensions of agri-food systems and the environment. To explore these topics in my classes, I have included interdisciplinary and critical theoretical frameworks that students could use to explore power, privilege, and systemic changes that could lead to policies and practices to make communities more sustainable and just. I have encouraged my students to explore solutions for social and environmental problems through community-based projects and institutional partnerships with local organizations. During the last year and especially during this summer, I have been working on new publications (peer-reviewed articles and book chapters) on the characteristics of social inclusion of immigrants and

minority groups in agri-food systems and how rural communities differently perceive and respond to environmental challenges created by natural and/or anthropogenic causes in Vermont, Uruguay, and southern Brazil. I am also working as a volunteer in the Advisory Board of Migrant Justice (MJ) which focuses on human rights and food justice in Vermont. One of my ongoing research projects explores what community capitals (assets) of the 'Milk with Dignity Campaign' (developed by MJ) contribute to social inclusion of immigrant farm workers and what other resources could be mobilized to improve social inclusion and food justice in Vermont rural communities. My recent work in Vermont, Uruguay, and Brazil, has focused on social, political, cultural, and economic factors that influence the construction of 'imaginary maps' of where environmental problems (especially water quality deterioration) are highlighted by centralized actors such as mainstream media and policy makers, focusing their attention and/or allocation of resources for adaptation in some communities but ignoring others. This summer, I shared some of my findings about these studies at the annual meetings of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) in New York and the Rural Sociological Society (RSS) and the World Congress of Rural Sociology in Toronto (Canada). I look forward to continue discussing human dimensions of food and the environment this coming year, with Middlebury colleagues and students in my classes on Migration and Food Systems (Fall) and Environmental Sociology (Spring).

### Rebecca Tiger

This past year, I've been focused on exploring the possibility of starting a prison education program in Vermont. **Linus** and I got a Fund for Innovation Grant from the college to study similar programs in other states. We hosted a day-long workshop with people from UVM and Cornell's Prison Education Program and attended the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison annual meeting. In June, I participated in a week-long prison education training program called Inside/Out. I spent five days in Graterford Prison (outside of Philadelphia, right) with incarcerated people, most serving life without the possibility of parole, learning about the benefits and challenges to teaching in prison. I've also been finishing up my project about the heroin panic in Vermont, working on articles about the hybrid



criminal/medical state response to opiate use. This summer, I started research for a new project – a study of plea bargaining, the source of 96% of criminal convictions in the US. I’m comparing the role plea bargaining (and prosecutors) play in the US and Germany, looking at its application in two countries with very different incarceration rates and punishment philosophes When I’m not working, I sew and play tennis. In July, I spent a glorious week on the beaches of Crete and almost didn’t come back.



### **Trinh Tran**

My first year at Middlebury was a year of many exciting firsts. My first time teaching a course on gender, adolescents, and violence. My first time teaching at a small liberal arts college. My first time living in a non-urban setting. The year ended on a high note, with a warm class hug from the engaged, smart, and funny students of my education and social policy course. This summer, I’ve been bouncing from one coast to another. I’ve spent time in Philadelphia completing ethnographic observations of neighborhoods for my study on charter schools, neighborhood communities, and adolescent networks. I’ve also enjoyed some California sunshine while piloting a comparative study on charter schools in Oakland. In between, I squeezed in a trip to Vienna to share my research at the International Sociological Association. I’m looking forward to teaching my first love in sociology – urban sociology – this fall and crafting a new course on global migration for the spring.



## ***Senior Project Abstracts***

### **Nicolette Amber**

#### **Toeing the Line: Too Thin or Not Thin Enough? Complications in Female Cross-Country Runners’ Narratives on Diet and Body Image**

This project investigates how female cross-country runners construct narratives about diet and body image. Previous literature has suggested a linear relationship wherein female athletes in lean-positive sports continuously strive to be thinner to achieve success. As such, they develop eating disorders and distorted body images. After conducting a narrative analysis based on interviews with eight women on the varsity cross-country team at Middlebury College, I argue this process is more complicated and multi-layered. Not only is there a contrast between the thin ideal promoted by mainstream patriarchal culture in the United States and the thin ideal in the sport of cross-country running, but there also is tension within the sport itself. These athletes must reconcile the fact that becoming too thin is stigmatized by their competitors and by societal values, yet it also leads to optimal athletic performance. They also face the fact that the most efficient body for distance running does not match the mainstream standard of beauty. Toeing this difficult line between thin enough and too thin speaks to the lack of control and agency that female athletes face under patriarchal capitalism. This thesis addresses how their narratives are ultimately about mediating external multi-directional powers stemming from patriarchal, capitalist values that inform and direct their bodily practices.

### **Nat Blackford**

#### **Negotiating Ideology and Practice: Perspectives on Permaculture from Vermont**



This ethnography of permaculture in Vermont explores the hegemonic negotiation through which permaculture practitioners situate their movement as an alternative to industrial agriculture and mass consumerism. The empirical basis of this work includes published literature of permaculture authors in Vermont as well as interviews with a range of practitioners. I explore relationships between permaculture and mainstream society along two dimensions. First, using Bourdieu’s notion of heterodox discourse, I explore the explicit ideology of permaculture, as its adherents critique and pose alternatives to industrial agriculture, mass consumerism and



market economics. I identify three themes elaborated in their critique: a redefinition of progress and success, a redrawing of the boundaries between humans and the natural world, and a challenge to the inevitability of scarcity as a condition of social and economic interaction. Second, I use interview data to explore the reflections of practitioners on their experiences working towards realizing and embodying their heterodox ideology within the constraints (laws, regulations and market conditions) of mainstream consumer society. Here, my consultants report minimal constraint imposed by laws and regulations, but identify as problematic cultural norms of individualism and the conditions of the market economy. In the end, I argue that while permaculture practitioners in Vermont are able to embody many of the alternatives that they propose; they also find themselves caught up in reproducing some of the market conditions and norms of individualism that they critique.

**Sophie Bufton**

### **The Deep Ocean: An Epistemology of Absence and Re-indigenization among Trinidadian Artists and Entrepreneurs**

This experimental ethnography engages with Trinidadian artists and small business developers as they orient to the ocean as a contested space from which they excavate a cultural history, and cultural geography of the Anglophone Caribbean. Drawing upon two summers of ethnographic research, I show that the sea plays a key symbolic role in the way that members of the local arts and small business community actively re-interpret and reimagine their history and identity and engage in acts of decolonization. The Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean act as containers for a cultural history of imperialism; both historical British and European imperialism, whose effects continue to plague Trinidad and Tobago and are a primary concern of decolonization praxis. I propose an “epistemology of absence” as a way of knowing that characterizes the Caribbean diaspora, and their experience of a silenced and erased African past. Trinidadian dance artists, fashion designers, and religious communities fill up the spaces that absence leaves, and in their own terms “re-indigenize” these as their own places within the history of diaspora and contemporary globalization. It is a way of involving themselves with broader decolonization movements and a shared trans-local indigenous identity. In this way re-indigenization is a



post-diasporic decolonization methodology that is consistent across a range of entrepreneurial place-makers in Trinidad and Tobago.

**Emma Cameron**

### **“Welcome to DC”: How High School Students Interpret and Act on Academic Performance Data that is Broken Down by Race and Ethnicity**

Woodrow Wilson High School, a large urban DC public school, failed to make the adequate yearly progress required by the No Child Left Behind Act. I examine the effects of how the school categorizes academic performance data by race and ethnicity. The school gathers the test data, breaks it down along racial and ethnic lines, and then shares that information with the school community – students, teachers, administrators and parents – in order to point out which groups are underperforming, on target, or above average. I investigate student responses to this method for interpreting and sharing test scores. I conducted interviews with current and graduated Wilson High School students and surveyed how, upon being given this statistical representation of performance by race or ethnic group, their own academic performance was affected. I relied entirely on self-reporting, prompted by my interview questions, to gather the data. My qualitative analysis looks at what meanings students ascribe to the test data, individually and collectively, and what stances they take in the wake of it being communicated to them.

**Anna Chamby**

### ***Les Vraies Femmes Camerounaises: Healthcare-Seeking Negotiations of Motherhood Among Women in Yaoundé, Cameroon***



This study explores how women in Yaoundé, Cameroon make maternal healthcare decisions before, during, and after pregnancy based on notions of motherhood. Interviews with thirty-one pregnant women in biomedical healthcare settings, observations of hospital practices, and lived experiences between February and June of 2015 provide the main sources of data for this study, which was framed and contextualized by various anthropological sources. The narratives of various Yaoundéen mothers show that their maternal healthcare-seeking behavior reflects a negotiation of globally, nationally, and biomedically determined conceptions of (in)fertility, pregnancy, and childcare with the socially embedded notions of motherhood as well as the realities of their individual lives. My

research shows that the Yaoundéen female body becomes a symbolic arena on which these conflicting notions of motherhood manifest. However, these women demonstrate varying strategic approaches to managing each stage of their motherhood, revealing the way in which Yaoundéen women, despite the ideological constraints of locally informed and socially disembedded notions of motherhood overall, have a certain degree of agency in their reproductive choices by virtue of their bodies. I explore the particular context and meaning of African motherhood, concluding that the negotiation practices of these Yaoundéen women are fundamentally connected to the maintenance of critical kinship relations. Moreover, I draw upon theories of critical medical anthropology, feminism, kinship, and body politics in order to ultimately shed light on individual, Yaoundéen women's experiences as they navigate the process of motherhood.

### Charlotte Fairless

#### Limited Futures: Elite Women Feel Confined to Choose Between Career Pursuit and Motherhood



This project seeks to determine what heterosexual, female undergraduate students at Middlebury College perceive to be their options for the future. Through in-depth interviews with ten students, I discovered that upper-middle and upper class white

women at Middlebury College see their options limited to two disparate ideals of motherhood or career. The women's status as elite makes them believe that they must embody an "ideal" of one or the other, with very little room for overlap. They use the language of justification to explain why they feel drawn to motherhood or career, and the performance of their gender ties them to this dichotomy. The justifications used to explain the women's choices often rely on conceptions of what is best for a child's upbringing, or what is best for a happy marriage. Women learn these ideas from their own mothers and families. The women expressed a strong desire to reproduce their own privileged upbringing with their hypothetical future children, a phenomenon known as class reproduction. The aspiration for class reproduction binds these women to the socially constructed ideals of upper class femininity, specifically the pursuit of being the ideal mother or the ideal career woman.

### Emma Gee

#### Food for Thought: The Construction of Children's Diet in Yaoundé, Cameroon

Based on interviews with mothers, other caregivers, children, and a pediatrician in a private clinic in Yaoundé, Cameroon, this study explores how children's conceptions about food are constructed in Yaoundé, and the role that mothers play in this process. From this research, I argue that

mothers are instrumental to the transmission of knowledge and beliefs about food in Yaoundé, specifically through their roles as feeder and mentor to their children. However, this transmission of knowledge is deeply shaped by structural and time limitations, broad global narratives, gender inequality, and most importantly the behaviors and desires of their children. As children grow and construct their own beliefs about food, they establish their own role in this process of transmission, sometimes running counter to the directives of their mothers. Through comprehension of this give-and-take relationship – especially within the context of the other forces shaping maternal beliefs about food – this study brings together ideas of family, gender, globalization, and power. The issue of constructing children's beliefs about food in Cameroon becomes not just an issue specific to Yaoundé society, not just an issue of nutrition or malnutrition, and not just an issue of childhood education. Rather, my research comments on the universality of feeding children around the world, showing that this process of transmitting culture to offspring takes on a similar character cross-culturally.

### Charles Griggs

#### Muddled Meanings: Abstractions of Spiritual Reclamation as seen in the Works of Jean-Michel Basquiat

My research explores the intersections between consumerism, consumption, the leisure class, and Black Art. I investigate how the white leisure class entertains Jean-Michel Basquiat's work in order to more clearly understand the formation of taste. Through this foray, I examine how black art, the black artist, and the black body are objects of desire



in certain artistic spaces. I analyze how these subjects are members of communities that were historically denied access to the stages in which many black artists are centered. Through my research I am allowed to see how some aspects of the American black experience become abstracted and used to reinforce good taste. I utilize Max Weber's concept of "anomie" to analyze how Basquiat becomes alienated both from himself as a black man and his work in order to be transformed into a spectacle for consumption. This framework allows me to test how the black artist and black art become totems of desire for the white leisure class. I mainly used document analysis of Basquiat's artwork and participant observation in museum exhibits to collect data.



**Emily Hewitt**

### **A Comparison of Maya Architectural Forms at the Archaeological Site of Cuello, Belize**

Cuello, a Maya site in Northern Belize, has two phases of habitation: one center dating from the latter parts of the Preclassic (1500 BC - 250 AD) and one from the Classic (250 -850 AD). The Preclassic center was excavated extensively through the 1970s and 1980s, but the Classic center has remained relatively untouched. The Classic center's acropolis is atypical in structure, because it consists of two stylistically different plazas. The reason for the



difference in this style may be the influence of more powerful sites nearby, and the citizens of Cuello wanting to mimic the style in vogue. The sites that would have influenced architectural style at Cuello are Caracol, Naranjo, and Xunantunich, based on their geographical location. The late component of the site is currently believed to date to the Early Classic (250 - 600 AD), based on an assertion made by Norman Hammond, who excavated the Preclassic phase of the site. Based on the period in which surrounding sites were at their peaks, and the parallels in Cuello's architecture, it seems more likely that Cuello dates from the Late Classic period (600 - 850 AD). Using original research conducted on site in January 2015, and an analysis of maps and literature, this essay explores the reasons for the difference in structure between the two plazas and proposes a Late Classic date for the site.

**Emma Homans**

### **#Food: What Food Photos on Instagram Express about Female Identity and Environmental Consciousness**



This project seeks to understand how female students at Middlebury College interpret Instagram posts about food in relation to gender and environmental consciousness. Food has long been a focus of anthropological study, and with the growth of social media, food can be used to express elements of identity in ways beyond the act of eating itself. In particular, this project aims to expand upon previous literature by looking at cultural constructions of food in its relationship with gender and environmental consciousness. It does so by looking at associations surrounding interpretations of gender, environmental consciousness, and the relation between the two in food posts on Instagram. Instagram photos posted by Middlebury College females were collected and a representative sample was chosen for a pile sort activity. Nine female participants were asked to sort the 22 posts three times: according to their own criteria, by the degree of environmental consciousness expressed, and by the most likely gender of the poster. Participants were then asked to explain their reasoning. Both the sorting results and explanations were analyzed for common themes. Overall, the results found strong associations between certain foods, specific genders, and specific degrees of environmental consciousness. Most significantly, participants associated posts of meat, pre-prepared foods, and large quantities of food with males and a low degree of environmental consciousness; in contrast, participants associated homemade foods, meals without meat, and "healthy" foods with females and a high degree of environmental consciousness. These findings, if continued with future research studies of both men and women's interpretations, may have implications for environmental messaging as well as the local foods movement.

**Durga Jayaraman**

### **Aliens at Home: Narratives of International Students Attending an Elite Liberal Arts College in the United States**



This senior work examines the international student transition into an American liberal arts college environment. Literature shows that international students often feel alienated at U.S. colleges as a result of homesickness, discrimination, language barriers, and a lack of social support. Most past research has been conducted on larger state university campuses. This study investigates the specific ways alienation factors affect foreign students on a small, non-diverse campus in a rural area. While

Middlebury often emphasizes its commitment to an international education, it institutionally alienates international students through orientation processes and teaching methods. Students often face discrimination from their peers and feel uncomfortable with the social culture. The notion of ‘otherness’ lies at the heart of this study. While international students come from countries with differing national ideals and potentially conflicting political aims, they come together to form the larger identity group of ‘international students.’ Despite being very different from one another, the sense of otherness felt due to being foreign in a sea of Americans bonds international students together. This work understands and analyzes the specific ways in which international students are alienated at Middlebury, and what measures they take to survive and succeed.

**Charlie Kies**

### **SubTotal Institutions: Base + Web**

The term “subtotal institution” may seem oxymoronic and reductionist. It has, in most cases, become more accurate than its parent term, Erving Goffman’s “total institution,” in describing places where so-called ‘inmates’ choose to reside for a substantial period of time. Throughout American society, total institutions are being reincarnated as subtotal, adapting to the present impossibility of geographic isolation and the movement among the general public for increased “openness” across the board. However, the theoretical framework with which we understand totalizing institutions has not caught up with our present reality. The new framework I propose uses sociological theory and two guidelines for active engagement – one theoretical and the other conceptual and tactile – to foster a more accurate, clearheaded engagement with a fairly new and increasingly common totalizing phenomenon.

**Diana Luna**

### **Voices from the Margins: Revisiting the Narratives of Undocumented Immigrant Youth within the Immigrant Rights Movement**



The contemporary immigration debate in the United States can be understood, in part, as a discursive struggle. At stake in this struggle is the framing of the issue of undocumented immigration. In recent years, actors within the immigrant rights movement have greatly transformed the conversation about undocumented immigration and have helped garner the support of broad segments of the American public through their deployment of narratives. The perspectives of

the undocumented youth known as DREAMers and of professionalized immigrant rights organizations have largely dominated the conversation about immigrant rights on the national stage. However, the perspectives of emerging undocumented actors, such as the new generation of pro-immigrant activists who operate mainly within their local communities, have only been marginally considered. Through intensive analysis of interviews, this thesis explores how undocumented Latino immigrant youth organizers in certain localities in eastern Pennsylvania think about their undocumented experiences and how they are framing the issue of unauthorized immigration through their narratives. In doing so, it provides insight into the various considerations that inform the discourses of these undocumented organizers. It also critically engages with the critique made by many scholars that the discourses of undocumented immigrant youth are emblematic of a neoliberal discourse on rights and citizenship. In contrast to this view, this thesis argues that the narratives of the undocumented youth featured in this project seek to illuminate the broader sociohistorical processes that give way to an undocumented status in the first place, as well as the structural conditions – notably, structural racism – that shape life for undocumented Latino immigrants in the United States.

*Diana was the 2016 winner of the Lank Prize in Sociology and Anthropology.*

**Sophia Miller**

### **Craft Beer, Local Cheese, and Opiates: The Role of Vermont’s ‘Idyllic’ Landscape in Media Representations of a Heroin Panic**

During America’s first heroin panic, opiate addiction was understood as an urban problem; currently this country is experiencing a second heroin panic with a distinctly rural face. Drawing upon moral panic theory and sociological literature on drug scares, this senior work examines media representations of Vermont’s heroin ‘crisis,’ exploring how the notion of Vermont as ‘rural idyllic’ is used to define heroin as a social problem. In an analysis of *New York Times* articles and associated reader comments, I follow three questions: (1) How does the perception of Vermont as a ‘rural idyll’ structure the heroin panic? (2) How are race and class negotiated through the rhetoric of the rural idyll in media representations of the heroin crisis? (3) In what ways does the interactive nature of online media perpetuate the hegemonic narrative of this drug panic? Are there opportunities for alternative narratives? Overall, I find that the rural idyll is a symbolic middle-class landscape of consumption, authentic production, and purity, against which the heroin addict is constructed as a problematic consumer, unproductive citizen, and contaminant, ultimately becoming a scapegoat for





social ills considered anti-idyllic. While in many cases reader participation reinforces these dominant constructions of heroin use and addiction, I contend that the comments section of these articles also provides an interactive site through which participants demonstrate resistance, offer alternative narratives, and give voice to the subjects that are castigated in Vermont's drug panic. With this finding, I complicate the traditional understanding of drug scares as hegemonic, presenting ways in which new media can be used to destabilize dominant frameworks for defining drug use and the addict.

**Kristina Pallová**

### **Negotiating Role as Linking Social Actors: NGO Action to Redress Roma Exclusion from the Czech Education System**



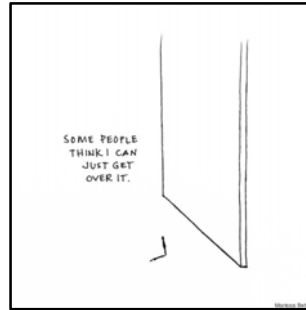
This study examines the role of NGOs as linking social actors to redress Roma exclusion from the Czech education system. Roma children are often placed in substandard schools or classes that follow substandard curricula, which amounts to direct discrimination. While overt forms of segregation result from exclusionary policies, issues of underachievement and early dropout stem from structural and institutional forms of discrimination. Through in-depth interviews with NGO representatives, I provide an important insight into how NGOs strategize using different forms of capital to help overcome these barriers and help integrate Roma students into mainstream education. Drawing of social field theory and social capital theory, this investigation elucidates how horizontal patterns of solidarity and trustworthiness interact with vertical dimensions of inequality and difference. I find that although NGOs tend to succeed at integrating individuals at the grassroots level of cultural assimilation model, the increase in diversity and intermingling of Roma students with majority population leads to an increase in bonding social capital and inward looking social networks. The findings about the victories and pitfalls of NGO efforts contribute to a deeper understanding into how integration can be managed at micro and macro levels in the Czech Republic.

**Hannah Quinn**

### **White Women and Stigma Management on Middlebury's Campus: The Construction of New Identities**

Many young adults resist seeking help and treatment for

their mental illness because they feel a pressure to hide their stigmatized identity. This paper explores stigmatized identities of students at Middlebury College, a small, liberal arts college in rural Vermont. Previous research has approached this topic



from a psychological perspective at large universities, whereas this research will look through a purely sociological lens using narratives to understand how students construct their stigmatized self. This study uses a modified grounded theory method, which includes interviews and a three-stage coding process of analysis.

The research found that while all types of students at Middlebury College experience mental health issues, for white women, their mental illness becomes their primary identity. White women try to re-conceptualize their condition into a positive self-image in an attempt to construct an identity that is accepted by the community. Implications for future institutional policy change at the institutional level will be discussed.

**Jena Ritchey**

### **Different Rules, Same Game: A Comparative Study of First-Generation Students' Academic Experiences at an Elite Private College**

This senior project examines the experience of eight first-generation college students: four who attended private prep high schools and four who attended public high schools. By comparing these students' experiences, I found that students' educational backgrounds have a larger influence than their family background on how they



navigated academic work at an elite liberal arts college. Because of prep school students' previous experiences in elite educational settings, they felt prepared for, and confident about, entering college. Their preparation and confidence allowed them to feel in control of their academic work, and their previous acclimation to busy schedules meant that they felt comfortable prioritizing extracurricular involvement and taking on extra academic challenges. By way of contrast, public school students were accustomed to learning environments that taught them to obey explicit directions and memorize for tests; therefore, coming to college, these students had to adapt to a different educational paradigm. Public school students often felt exhausted after completing all of their academic work and overwhelmed by the environment of a residential college. In order to cope with the many new expectations, public school students often engaged less in extracurricular activities. My research indicates first, that secondary educational institutions play a critical role in students' acquisition of cultural capital, and second, that public school students who lack elite cultural and academic capital experience a prolonged transition period upon entering an elite private college.

*Jena was the 2016 winner of an Award in Critical Sociology and Anthropology, in honor of Prof. Peggy Nelson.*

**Debanjan Roychoudhury**

**Ethnic at Home, Policed in the Streets: Experiences of Policing and Racial Identity Among First- and Second-Generation U.S. Immigrant Men of Color**

The purpose of this research is to gain a better understanding of the experiences of policing among young men of color. Currently, our nation is experiencing growing tension in regards to police-community relations. Political, academic, and cultural dialogues have emerged around police killings of unarmed civilians, the use of racial profiling in relation to stop-and-frisk policies and punitive practices targeting perceived immigrants. Current social science research uses racial categories to describe respondents, but rarely has the nuanced identities of immigrant men of color, who bear both ethnic and racial identities been explored, specifically as it relates to policing. My project utilizes data collected from eight interviews with self-identified first- and second-generation immigrant men of color at Middlebury College to explore the following questions: (1) How does policing function as a site of racial formation? (2) How do recent immigrants perceive the place of policing and surveillance in their lives? (3) How do interactions with authority across various contexts affect the way recent immigrants adopt a national identity? I conclude that recent immigrant men of color interpret their treatment by police as being different than the treatment received by their white counterparts even if they do not interpret incidents as being explicitly discriminatory, that perceptions of authority transcend national borders, and that respondents feel the need to perform respectability and politeness or otherwise avoid interactions with law enforcement altogether.

**Tara Seibold**

**Disaster and the Savior-Complex: Media Narratives of the 2015 Nepal Earthquakes**



This thesis examines the portrayal of natural disasters in the American mainstream media, focusing on the 2015 Nepal earthquakes, drawing on mainstream media coverage of the earthquakes, development theory and disaster anthropology. It looks at what constitutes a disaster both from an

anthropological perspective and also in the mainstream media, using the 2015 earthquakes in Nepal as the lens through which to examine these issues. I present and examine three discursive frameworks necessary for understanding the coverage of the Nepal earthquakes, showing that these frameworks are not narratives but rather provide and construct the discursive space in which the media narratives of disasters occur. The frameworks I identify are disaster-as-event, Nepal-as-Orient, and personal resilience. This thesis also looks at the specific disaster narratives that inhabit those discursive spaces. The narratives addressed here are narratives of lack, blame, technology, and expert knowledge, which I identified in mainstream media coverage of the Nepal earthquakes. I both analyze and examine the underlying meanings and structure of these narratives, presenting the concept of an *ur-narrative*. I also show how these narratives work together to support ideas of Western superiority. In addition, I discuss the moral concerns of disaster research and the theoretical and practical relevance of this thesis, as well as outline areas for future research.

**Lee Schlenker**

**A Spatial Politics of Public Space: Four Ethnographies in Havana**

This capstone project analyzes how social behavior in and affiliations to historically-coded public spaces in Havana, Cuba reflect and fuel citizens' shifting relationships to the Cuban Revolution and its concomitant spatial ideologies. Through an ethnography of four public spaces – each designed in and presently understood through a distinct architectural-historical era – I investigate not only how such spaces have been imagined and used by individuals and the state, but how their creative, personal or political re-imaginings elucidate evolving engagements with the Revolution's socio-spatial praxis. Drawing on urban studies scholarship that probes the political significance and sociocultural meanings of Latin American public spaces, I present stories and images that exhibit *habaneros'* spatial imaginations, expressions and resistances. This inversion of academic, official and professional representations of Havana's public spaces will, in turn, facilitate commentary on a range of polemical issues in contemporary Cuban life, such as religion, popular culture, revolutionary ideology and urban development. Through semi-structured interviews, direct and participant observation, architectural and urban analysis, and historical inquiry, I





illustrate how creative, resistant and transformative usages and re-appropriations of Havana's public spaces are not only implicit political statements, but also useful social texts that both constitute popular urban histories of Havana's present-past and spatialize the most pressing ideological struggles in Cuban society today.

**Jamie Soroka**

### **Satire Day Night Live: Gender Representation on Satirical Television Programs**

This thesis examines the use of satire as a means of shedding light on widely circulated social commentary, specifically on the issue of media representation of the female body. By examining the use of satire as a form of comedy, and applying the usage to a specific topic, I explain why popular television programs flourish with the use of satire. Focusing specifically on the television comedy *Saturday Night Live*, I examine five specific sketches where the program uses satire to highlight and ridicule widely acknowledged media representations of the female body. With these five sketches I break down exactly what occurs on the screen and why it is relevant to the topic at hand. I then use specific instances from the sketch to further examine how the writers of *Saturday Night Live* use satire to expose their problem with the wider rhetoric on the



female body. Because of its popularity and trustworthiness as a television program, I find that satire presented on *Saturday Night Live* reaches a wide audience generally agreeing with the comedic representation presented on screen.

## **Faculty Publications, 2015-2016**

**Svea Closser**



2016 *Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., with Peter Brown (eds.). Walnut Creek, CA: Routledge.

2016 "Medical Anthropology: An Introduction," with Peter Brown, in *Understanding and Applying Medical*

*Anthropology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., P. Brown and S. Closser, eds., pp. 13-24. Walnut Creek, CA: Routledge.

2016 "The Polio Eradication Initiative in Pakistan: Anthropological Perspectives on Why the World's

Largest Global Health Program May Fail," *Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., P. Brown and S. Closser, eds., pp. 428-435. Walnut Creek, CA: Routledge.

2016 "Polio Eradication and Health Systems in Karachi: Vaccine Refusals in Context," with Rashid Jooma, Emma Varley, **Naina Qayyum '15**, **Sonia Rodrigues '15**, **Akasha Sarwar '16**, and Patricia Omidian, *Global Health Communication* 1(1): 32-40. Open access: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23762004.2016.1178563>

2016 "A New Reflexivity: Why Anthropology Matters in Contemporary Health Research and Practice, and How to Make It Matter More," with Erin Finley, *American Anthropologist* 118(2): 385-390.

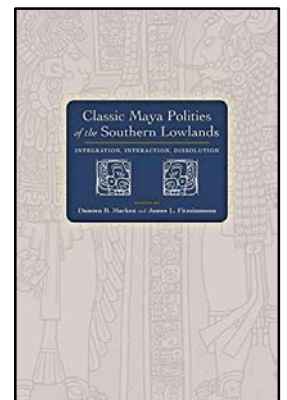
2015 "A Women's Development Army: Narratives of Community Health Worker Investment and Empowerment in Rural Ethiopia," with Kenneth Maes, **Ethan Vorel '14.5**, and Yihenew Tesfaye, *Studies in Comparative International Development* 50: 455-478.

2015 "Pakistan's Lady Health Worker Labor Movement and the Moral Economy of Heroism," *Annals of Anthropological Practice* 39(1): 16-28.

2015 "Using Community Health Workers: Discipline and Hierarchy in Ethiopia's Women's Development Army," with Kenneth Maes, **Ethan Vorel '14.5**, and Yihenew Tesfaye, *Annals of Anthropological Practice* 39(1): 42-57.

**James Fitzsimmons**

2016 *Maya Politics of the Southern Lowland*, with Damien Marken (eds.). Boulder: University of Colorado Press.



**Chong-suk Han**

2016 "From 'little brown brothers' to 'ersatz Asian wives': Constructing Asian male bodies," in *Body Aesthetics*, Sherri Irvin, ed., pp. 60-80. London: Oxford University Press.

2015 "No brokeback for black men: Pathologizing black male (homo)sexuality through down low discourse," *Social Identities* 21(3): 228-243.

**Jamie McCallum**

2016 "Where Have All the Strikers Gone?" *In These Times*. July 5. (video) [http://inthesetimes.com/working/entry/19254/where\\_have](http://inthesetimes.com/working/entry/19254/where_have)

## all the strikers gone

2016 "The Right Place for the Left? The World Social Forum in Montreal," with Sarah Stroup, *Washington Post* 8/18/2016.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/08/18/the-world-social-forum-aka-the-anti-davos-just-concluded-heres-what-happened/>

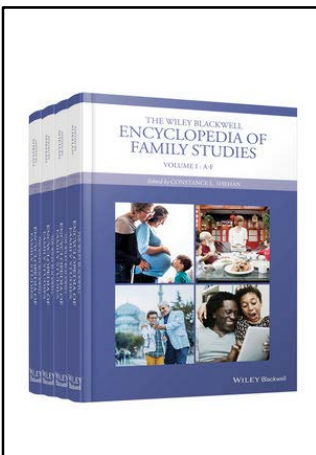


Wildlife spotting at the World Social Forum (left to right): Dan Adamek, Eleanor Eagan, Nina Sweeney, climate justice warrior bear, Prof. Sarah Stroup, Jamie, Kate McCreary

2016 "Digging Into the Meaning of Work (With Real Shovels)," *Yes Magazine*. April 1. (video) <http://www.yesmagazine.org/people-power/digging-into-the-meaning-of-work-real-shovels-04012016>

### **Peggy Nelson**

2016 "Acceptance and Disclosure: Comparing Genetic Symmetry and Genetic Asymmetry in Heterosexual Couples," with Rosanna Hertz, *Facts, View and Vision in ObGyn* 8(1): 11-22.



2016 "Donors and Donor Siblings," with Rosanna Hertz, in *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies*, Constance S. Sheehan, ed., pp. 587-591. Chichester, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.

2016 "Fictive Kin," in *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies*, Constance S. Sheehan, ed., pp. 851-854.

Chichester, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.

2016 "Donor Sibling Networks as a Vehicle for Expanding Kinship: A Replication and Extension," with Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer, *Journal of Family Issues* <http://jfi.sagepub.com/content/early/2016/02/23/0192513X16631018.abstract>.

2015 "Gendering Gametes: The Unequal Contributions of Sperm and Egg Donors," with Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer, *Social Science and Medicine* 147: 10-19.

2015 "Gamete Donor Anonymity and Limits on Numbers of Offspring: The Views of Three Stakeholders," with Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer, *Journal of Law and the Biosciences* 3: 39-67.

2015 "Sperm Donors Describe the Experience of Contact with their Donor-conceived Offspring," with Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer, *Facts, View and Vision in ObGyn* 7(2): 91-100.

### **Marybeth Nevins**



Marybeth in the Forest History Society archives in Durham, NC. Left to right: Eben Lehman, Director of Library and Archives, Marybeth, and James Lewis, FHS historian.

2015 "'Grow with That, Walk with That': Hymes, Dialogicality and Text Collections," in *The Legacy of Dell Hymes: Ethnopoetics, Narrative Inequality and Voice*, Paul Kroskrity and Anthony Webster, eds., pp. 71-107. Bloomington, IN: University of Indiana Press.

### **Linus Owens**

2016 "Amsterdam Squatters: The Right to the City Meets a Politics of Mobility," in *A European Youth in Revolt*, K. Andreson and B. van der Steen, eds., pp. 53-66. Palgrave: London.

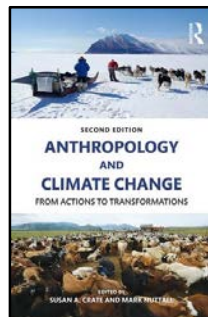
2015 "Neoliberalism: Persistence and Resistance," *Journal of Urban Cultural Studies* 2(1): 187-196.

### **Ellen Oxfeld**

2015 "Moral Discourse, Moral Practice, and the Rural Family in Modern China," in *Modern Chinese Religion II: 1850-Present*, Vincent Goossaert, Jan Kiely and John Lagerwey, eds., pp. 401-432. Leiden: Brill.

### **Michael Sheridan**

2016 "Boundary Plants and the Social Production of Space in Agrarian Societies," *Environment and Society* 7:29-49.



2016 "The Politics of Rain: Tanzanian Farmers' Discourse on Climate and Political Disorder," in *Anthropology and Climate Change: From Actions to Transformations*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Susan Crate and Mark Nuttall, eds., pp. 228-240. Walnut Creek, CA: Routledge.



2016 “Cultural Capital and Structural Power in African Landscapes: The Social Dynamics of Sacred Groves,” in *Cultural Landscape Heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa*, John Beardsley, ed., pp. 237-261. Washington, DC: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library, Landscape Studies Program.

#### David Stoll

2015 “Children on the Border – Could Migration be the Problem, not the Solution?” *Anthropology Now* <http://anthronow.com/online-articles/children-on-the-border>.

#### Baishakhi Taylor

2016 “Substance Use Outcomes of an Integrated HIV-Substance Use Treatment Model Implemented by Social Workers and HIV Medical Providers,” with R. J. Proeschold-Bell, B. Reif, J. Yao, and E. Byrd, *Health and Social Work* 41(1): e1-e10.

#### Diego Thompson

2015 “Community Adaptations to Environmental Challenges under Decentralized Governance in Southwestern Uruguay,” *Journal of Rural Studies* 43: 71-82.

### Alumni News

**Rod Abhari '15** has finished his Fulbright in Swaziland and is starting a masters program at the University of Maastricht in Science and Technology Studies.

Good news from **Sara Arno '15**: this fall she will begin a three-year masters of fine arts program in Photo, Video and Related Media at the School of Visual Arts in NYC. Her interest is in using her work in this program to further a career in journalism and environmental education.

**Lydia Beaudrot '05** was back at Midd in the fall of 2015 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Environmental Studies program. She is starting a postdoc at the Conservation International headquarters in DC. She will be analyzing data from sites throughout the tropics to understanding how climate change will affect plant and animal communities.

**Maddy Berkman '15** is starting a masters program in Social Work at Columbia University's School of Social Work.



**Rowan Braybrook '09.5** is living in the DC area. She is currently working as the Senior Manager for Sustainable Development Policy at Conservation International and

recently completed her M.A. in Public Management and Environmental Policy at Johns Hopkins University.

**Lila Buckley-Lim '04** has recently been working in Uganda for an International Institute for Environment and Development project.

**Elissa Bullion '10** is focusing on Central Asian archaeology for her PhD at Washington University, although it looks like her dissertation site will be in Uzbekistan, not Mongolia.

**Kenzie Chin '10** is teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Manhattan. She finished her masters degree in Special Ed last year, and she says, “We integrate lots of SOAN in our third grade curriculum and do lots of conceptual work in our social studies themes of identity (who are we, what makes us who we are, and how do others know who we are) and movement (why do people move from one place to another, how does movement affect identity, how does where we live affect how we live)! Having a background in SOAN has been immensely helpful in answering these big questions and in breaking them down in a way that is digestible to little minds.”

**Charlotte Fairless '16** is starting a MFA program in



Textile Design at the top school in the field, the Rhode Island School of Design.

**Vincent Jones '12** has finished a masters program in Sociology and Education at Columbia University, and is starting a Columbia PhD program in Public Health and Applied Statistics.

**Anj Petto '72** reports, “this old bum of an alum was awarded the 2015 Evolution Education Award by the National Association of Biology Teachers.” He also received the “Friend of Darwin” award from the National Center for Science Education. He is now a Distinguished Lecturer in Anatomy and Physiology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

**Debanjan Roychoudhury '16** is heading to UCLA for a PhD program in Sociology.

**Molly Skye Shane '14** has been trekking through Central America and is now heading to Monterey to start the MIIS masters program in International Environmental Policy.



**Kristian Shaw '11** is starting a master's program at Emerson College in Communication Disorders. She's going to be a specialist in speech language pathology. She says, "I am excited about the prospect of working with young children, particularly

those in need of early intervention services and infants with swallowing disorders."

**Isabella Tudisco-Sadacca '14** is doing a masters in Paris at Sciences-Po. She is comparing the development and status of Hip Hop (particularly dance, but the 'culture' in general) in the US and France as a reflection of social integration and resistance in each country.

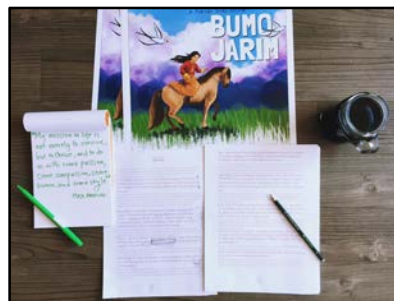
**Tamara Vatnick '07** is finishing up a masters degree in Public Policy in DC with a focus on the urban sociology of transportation, and says "The more time I spend away from Middlebury, the more I realize what a stodgy institution it was, and the more I appreciate

our little band of radicals that is the SOAN department. Keep shaking things

up!" For an example of Tamara shaking up the DC city government, see <http://ohr.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ohr/publication/attachments/LGBTQ%20Affairs%20One%20Page%20Diversity%20in%20the%20Workplace%20final%20version.pdf>

**Grace Wildermuth '14** is loving grad school at Penn State and is likely to stay there for her PhD. She's following her senior thesis topic to become a specialist in the social aspects of natural gas fracking. She says that a lot of her grad school readings are familiar to her because of Soc Theory and Human Ecology.

**Tschering Yudon '13** has published a beautiful children's book about Bhutan, *Bumo Jarim*. See <http://www.shingira.org/> for details.



## Future Issues

As always, please send us more newsletter material at [msherida@middlebury.edu](mailto:msherida@middlebury.edu)! We love to hear from you. And as you may have noticed, we really like photos of rites of passage. Send us stuff!

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Thanks for building the SOAN Department, Peggy. We'll miss you.

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Page 3 - Linus and Halloween Hello Kitty photo by Helena Thevenot, Yasmine Gilbert '17 in Ethiopia courtesy of Svea Closser, Magic Wok menu from <https://www.yelp.com/biz/magic-wok-middlebury>  
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Page 5 - Book cover courtesy of Marybeth Nevins, cartoon of squatting researchers taking a break by sitting and lounging by Fly, DNC photo from <http://digital.vpr.net/post/analysis-vpr-reporters-reflect-week-dnc-stream/0>  
Page 6 - Mari's son pops the question courtesy of Mari Price, US-Mexico border photo from <http://www.hispanicmpr.com/2008/02/26/arizona-mexico-border-virtual-fence-project-advances/>, The US side is on the left.  
Page 7 - Gender rights rally in India from [http://www.sbs.com.au/news/sites/sbs.com.au/news/files/styles/full/public/Hijras\\_140403\\_AAP.JPG?tok=BjB84d9&mtime=1396399239](http://www.sbs.com.au/news/sites/sbs.com.au/news/files/styles/full/public/Hijras_140403_AAP.JPG?tok=BjB84d9&mtime=1396399239), Milk with Dignity image from <http://www.ciw-online.org/blog/2015/05/milk-dignity-action/>, Graterford Prison from <https://www.libertyministries.us/Images/stock-photo-SCI-Graterford.jpg>  
Page 8 - Rebecca in Crete courtesy of Rebecca Tiger, urban sociology cityscape from <https://langbansociology.wordpress.com/assignments/>, permaculture garden design from [https://annaspideel.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/239searst\\_siteplan.jpg](https://annaspideel.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/239searst_siteplan.jpg)  
Page 9 - Trinidad carnival costume on the beach from <https://www.pinterest.com/debramccray/trinidad-carnival/>, Cameroonian women marching for equal rights from Anna Chamby  
Page 10 - Careers for women cartoon from <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/503347695823369921/>, Basquiat in his studio, New York, 1987 from <http://www.basquiat.com/artist.htm>  
Page 11 - Cuello, Belize, from <https://theyoungarchaeologist.com/2015/05/15/what-is-ridge-and-furrow-roman-eagle-statue-london-cuello-archaeological-site-belize/>, Flags on Davis Library from [http://www.middlebury.edu/giving/priorities/financial\\_aid/International\\_fin\\_aid](http://www.middlebury.edu/giving/priorities/financial_aid/International_fin_aid)  
Page 12 - undocumented immigrant rally from <http://www.chicago-bureau.org/undocumented-youth-struggle-with-anxiety-depression/>, Maple syrup - heroin bottle from <https://fromdopetohope.wordpress.com/>, Originally published in *Rolling Stone*, evoking a lot of controversy, esp. from the Vermont maple syrup industry.  
Page 13 - Roma children at a segregated school in the Czech Republic from <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2015/04/roma-kids-don-fit-czech-schools-150423120025526.html>, mental health cartoon from [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/06/18/project-1-in-4-illustrations-mental-health-stigma\\_n\\_7598556.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/06/18/project-1-in-4-illustrations-mental-health-stigma_n_7598556.html), first-gen student logo from <http://www.americaspromise.org/news/im-first-new-resource-first-generation-college-students>  
Page 14 - an Indian shopkeeper reading a newspaper about the Nepal earthquake from <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-32579561>, Plaza Vieja, Old Havana, Cuba from [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plaza\\_Vieja,\\_Havana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plaza_Vieja,_Havana)  
Page 15 - Tina Fey and Amy Pohler from <https://medium.com/@anthonybertaux/being-funny-in-a-male-world-f13550e06e7a#tmyruony>, *Understanding and Applying Medical Anthropology* cover courtesy of Svea Closser, *Maya Politics of the Southern Lowland* cover courtesy of James Fitzsimmons,  
Page 16 - socially conscious polar bear courtesy of Jamie McCallum, *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies* cover from <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470658452.html>, Marybeth at the FHS courtesy of Marybeth Nevins, *Anthropology and Climate Change: From Actions to Transformations* cover from <https://www.routledge.com/Anthropology-and-Climate-Change-From-Actions-to-Transformations-2nd-Edition/Crate-Nuttall/p/book/9781629580012>  
Page 17 - Rowan Braybrook photo shamelessly copied from her Facebook page, RISD art museum from <http://www.deltaskymag.com/Destinations/Providence/Bucket-List/Museum-of-Art--Rhode-Island-School-of-Design.aspx>  
Page 18 - Kristian Shaw photo thanks to Kristian; diversity in the DC workplace from <http://ohr.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ohr/publication/attachments/LGBTQ%20Affairs%20One%20Page%20Diversity%20in%20the%20Workplace%20final%20version.pdf>, *Bumo Jarim* book production from <https://www.facebook.com/shingira.org>, Peggy Nelson photo © Rocket