The Emic
Winter 2010

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Note to our SoAn Alumni

Students outside the Museum of Anthropology on the SOAN Dept.’s Guatemala Program
Words of Wisdom:
Your 2009-2010 DCCs

It’s that time of the term again! Hopefully, your winter terms are going well. This term we are excited to be joined by our third DCC member, Shakita Thomas, who is currently a junior. This Emic issue is packed with great department information, a remembrance of the great Lévi-Strauss, more bios from the SOAN depths, and even a fun game. We hope you enjoyed last term’s Emic and look forward to providing you with the Emic again this term. As always, let us know if you have any ideas about the department, the Emic or things you want to see next term!

Yana (antonioy)

Catie (gardneca) & Shakita (thomassh)

Did you figure out last term’s puzzler?
The boy on the cover was department professor Jay Levi as a child.
New Classes for Spring 2010:
Get Ready and Get Excited!

SOAN 285: The Ethics of Civic Engagement

In this course, students will discuss the ethical questions that arise when they engage with others in research, service, organizing, or policy work. Students will read and talk about the meanings and forms of civic engagement and use these readings to reflect upon their own research or service projects, or to reflect upon the college’s role in Haiti or Faribault, two areas where college members are actively engaged. Gaining insights from sociological and practice based readings, we will examine different perspectives on the ways that power and privilege relate to civic engagement. 3; S/CR/NC, Does not fulfill a distribution requirement

Spring — A. Falcon, C. Fure-Slocum

SOAN 308: Working Across the Life Course

This course explores the meaning, experiences, and challenges of work at four stages: adolescence, young adulthood, mid-life, and the senior years. At each stage we examine key questions that sociologists who study work and occupations ask. For example, how does paid employment in the teenage years affect schoolwork and adolescent well-being? Do the occupational aspirations of today’s college students match up with the job structure of the contemporary labor market? What types of challenges arise in balancing work and family? We develop answers to these questions by reading sociological theory and research, and by analyzing data. The course will also have an experiential component.

Prerequisites: Mathematics 115 or 215 or Sociology and Anthropology 240. 6, SS.

Spring — A. Nierobisz

SOAN 210: Introduction to Demographic Methods

Demography is the study of human populations. The field of demography has two branches: formal demography and population studies. In formal demography, quantitative data and techniques are used to calculate demographic measures such as population size, age structure, fertility rates, life expectancies and migration levels. In population studies, these demographic measures are set within a broader societal context. Students in this course will receive grounding in formal demography not population studies. Topics include measuring fertility, mortality, migration and marriage and life tables. This course requires intensive work in small groups. Prerequisite: Mathematics 115 or 215. 6, SS.

Spring — P. Brandon

SOAN 251: Transnational Migration and Diasporic Communities

An interdisciplinary approach to the study of transnational migration and global diasporas. Instructor introduces theoretical perspectives on contemporary migration, transnational linkages, and imaginative connections maintained by globally dispersed peoples. Instructor and guest experts present model case studies. Students research and present additional case studies. 6, SS, RAD.

Spring — V. Dusenberg
Who’s That Person Next to Me?
SOAN Major Highlights

Name: Jojo Basu, Class Year: 2011

Favorite Course/Why?: Intro to Stats; realized that math can be applicable!

Study Abroad? Where? What?: Madrid, Spanish fluency, will be going to Guatemala, live in the rainforest

What I Did This Summer: Worked at the American Cancer Society in Madison, played frisbee, did research for Mellon Fellowship

If I could be an animal, I’d be a dog because I love people.
Interesting Fact: Kurchi is a jasmine-like flower in Kolkata, India; the bark of the plant is a remedy for dysentery/diarrhea. My nickname is "Jojo" because my dad loves Joe Montana of the San Francisco 49ers. I would have been "Monty" if I was a boy.

Name: Kelly Thomas, Class Year: 2011

Favorite Course/Why?: It’s a toss up between Peter Brandon’s Social Welfare and Nader Saiedi’s Sociological Thought and Theory. Social Welfare was great because it made us question our preconceived notions and helped us look at the world in a different way. Sociological Thought and Theory is great because I learn so much every single day. I went into it thinking that I wouldn’t like the course, but that I needed it to graduate, and now it’s one of the best classes I’ve ever taken, and I look forward to learning in it every day.

Study Abroad? Where? What?: No, not yet

What I Did This Summer: I stayed in Northfield and worked in the OCS office and for Human Resources and I gardened for Dacie Moses. And I slept. I slept a lot. I figured I could stock pile sleep from this summer for the school year.

If I could be an animal, I’d be a squirrel because who doesn’t want to have a huge bushy tail? Also, I would be ridiculously adorable and I’d be able to climb trees.
Interesting Fact: I’ve been described as both a human teddy bear and a very huggable person. I also enjoy completely destroying people in rugby.
In and Out of the Classroom: Professors of the SOAN Department

Name: Annette Nierobisz, Associate Professor of Sociology
Free Time: Annette enjoys yoga, playing scrabble, walks in the arb.
Current and Future Plans: Currently, Annette is teaching intro to sociology. She is looking forward to her course next spring entitled, “Working Over the Life Course.” Her next big project might be writing a book on the Canadian Human Rights Commission, applying the “Sociological Imagination” to the commission. Annette’s focus will be on how the Canadian Human Rights Commission emerged, what social conditions contributed to the development, and how society has been shaped by the commission. Overall, Annette is astounded to be working in the SoAn department with such great faculty and students.

Name: Van Dusenbery, Visiting Professor of Anthropology
Free Time: Enjoys watching soccer (especially the Carleton women’s team, on which his daughter, Maya, played during her four years at Carleton)
Current and Future Plans: Van is in the process of reworking his courses including next term’s “Transnational Migration and Diasporic Communities” He will co-direct a faculty research seminar next year on globalization. His next project might look at late 20th century multiculturalist regimes in Canada, Singapore, and Australia as experienced by Sikhs in those countries. Van Dusenbery is excited to be back at Carleton teaching in the SoAn department.

Name: Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg, Professor of Anthropology and Chair of Sociology and Anthropology
Free Time: Hiking, playing/listening to classical music, reading aloud
Current and Future Plans: Next year, Pamela will be on sabbatical in Berlin investigating childbearing and the challenges of belonging among West African migrants to Europe—where several thousand Cameroonian live. Many of the same ethnic and political divisions among rural to urban migrants in Cameroon get replicated in the transnational community. Childbearing remains key to women’s gender and kinship identities; but giving birth can expose migrants to unwanted contact with authorities/deportation. Pamela hopes to broaden our understanding of immigration and healthcare reform, leading to a new course on migration and health for Carleton’s growing “health cluster.”
Remembering Lévi-Strauss
(1908-2009)

In commemoration of Claude Lévi-Strauss, the Humanities Center held a round table on January 13, 2010. Two of our SoAn Faculty members, Jay Levi and Van Dusenbery, spoke.

One of our fellow SoAn majors attended and provided his thoughts on this wonderful event.

I recently attended the roundtable discussion of Claude Lévi-Strauss and his academic legacy. Besides providing a feast of theoretical food for thought, I was struck while listening to the speakers from the Spanish, Francophone Studies, and Sociology/Anthropology departments by how varied and multifaceted Dr. Lévi-Strauss and his influences were. Dr. Lévi-Strauss epitomized the understanding of the anthropologist/sociologist as an interdisciplinary maestro who could utilize each of the tools gifted by geology or linguistics, and then in turn, dissect, analyze, and frame human relations with their environment and their relations with each other. Lévi-Strauss’ structuralism, or as he would say “way of looking at things,” also visibly applies to multiple disciplines. In total, the roundtable reminded me why I chose SoAn as a major—the incredible flexibility and breadth of study, which covers the limitless entirety of humanity in all its complex beauty.

Jonathan Jenkins 11’
Where Are They Now?
Alums from SOAN’s Past

“What do you do with a SOAN degree from Carleton? Why, sell condoms, of course! My SOAN degree brought me into the world of international development where I have worked in the area of social marketing and reproductive health for DKT International. For the last 14 years, I’ve lived in Ethiopia, Indonesia and now Turkey, marketing ‘changed behavior’ and selling condoms and other contraceptives. The skills developed with my SOAN major are perfect for my job since I have to analyze and understand human behavior in order to change it. I am now in Istanbul with my wife (Elzsa) and 5 year old son (Hudson).”

Cheers,
Chris Purdy

Thanks for this. My husband, John, and I are the only “wazungu”, or foreigners, and we have been in Congo for over 25 years. During the first two years we were joined by one other “muzungu”, Ashley, whose write-up is below (website). We have worked with each of the top staff on other field projects before this one. Some tally over a decade of collaboration. Together, we make a great team not only because of field knowledge and observation skills, but also in diplomacy, negotiation and conflict resolution and prevention. The Congo is second home since 1974 when I came as Peace Corps teacher to what was then Zaire. It was here that John and I decided to marry, and it was here that two of our three daughters were born. We finished our educations — John with a doctorate in wildlife ecology and mine in plant ecology — then back to Congo and full-time working with Congolese for conservation of their last wildlife-rich forests.

Terese (class 73) and I remain based in DR Congo, developing community based approaches to protected area management. Check our web site, www.bonoboincongo.com for update on our projects, and photos too. I think this might be an interesting topic for Carleton students...Are any alum or faculty interested in this issue?

Thanks and best wishes,
John and Terese Hart

For more alumni blurbs, visit http://apps.carleton.edu/curricular/soan/
SOAN Fun and Games!

Find the following terms covering the Carleton SOAN department. After searching, can you match each professor with the correct emphasis of study?

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F W N O R F R S R F K L U G J N T R R A
E E D V Y H P A R G O M E D S G I H H S
L R H T P N S O C I O L O G Y V P D D D
D T J U J F A L C O N N A G E L O T T A
M T G P O X L A G H E S U L N T Y N N S
A Y K H R P F W I D E I A S I T T D
N U J I G B N O D N A R B T U D B W W A
S I C L A L I E T H N O G R A P H Y Y S
A O G O N O I T A Z I L A B O L G G G D
V P H S I U O L E I G H T O N S G I I H
E K H O Z D O Y G O L O N I M I R C C D
L H J P I G E J B H T H E A L T H H F
B G G H N P G E L L I V O C V I A K K G
E F U Y G M V C L M S I N I M E F Q Q D
R D Y Z Z S I B O R E I N S B S I C C F
G S O Q C M A N T H R O P O L O G Y Y H
A M P S R G H K L Y U K U K K R W O O J
H D U S E N B E R Y G H B A N W M U K M
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Anthropology
Brandon
Coville
Criminology
Demography
Dusenberg
Ethnography
Falcon
Feldman Savelberg
Feminism
Health

Leighton
Levi
Nagel
Nieobisz
Saedi
Sehgal
Sociology
Organizing
Philosophy
Globalization
Becoming Real Researchers:
SOAN Senior Thesis Topics of 2010

The SOAN seniors have been busily working on their comps projects this term, be it studying for test or writing their theses. Please be sure to support them and come to the senior comps talks after midterm break Spring 2010!

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<th>Student</th>
<th>Thesis Topic</th>
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<td>&quot;Skeptical Discourse On Japan's New Lay Judge System: A Cultural Critique&quot;</td>
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<td>Michael Stevens</td>
<td>Perceptions and Representations of Male Prison Sexuality</td>
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<td>Anh Nguyen</td>
<td>Civil Society Discourses in Vietnam</td>
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<td>Kat Moriss</td>
<td>Lesbian Motherhood and the &quot;Presentation of We&quot;</td>
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<td>Lina Walkinshaw</td>
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<td>H1N1 in the Carleton Community: Blame, Morality, and Joking on Campus</td>
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<td>Yana Emeni Antonio</td>
<td>The Role of Religiosity and Race on Marriage Dissolution in the United States</td>
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<td>Anne O’Gara</td>
<td>The Impact of Union Dissolution on Children</td>
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<td>Melissa Abecasis</td>
<td>The Effects of Capital on Teenage Birth Rates among Hispanic Girls in Minnesota</td>
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<td>Catherine Gardner</td>
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<td>Becca Dougherty</td>
<td>Reproductive Tourism and Commercial Surrogacy in India</td>
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<td>Martta Sareva</td>
<td>Gendered Educational Experiences of Mexican Immigrant Youth in Northfield, MN</td>
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<td>Robert Stephens</td>
<td>&quot;Plan 5000&quot; of Santa Cruz, Bolivia</td>
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<td>‘Fuertes y Adelante’: Music and National Crisis in 1970’s Chile</td>
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<td>Anne Triest</td>
<td>The Way that Can Be Told: Examining Popular Western Books on Daoism</td>
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Exam

Tenzin Noryang
Blake Hansen
New Events

Convocation: Kevin Clements

Kevin Clements is the Foundation Chair of Peace and Conflict Studies and Director of the New Zealand Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Otago in New Zealand, and Secretary General of the International Peace Research Association. Date: Friday, May 14th, 2010.

Time: 10:50 am,
Duration: 1 hour
Location: Skinner Memorial Chapel
Sponsored by: College Relations
Contact: Kerry Raads, College Relations, x4308

Carleton OCS Program in Australia: Comparative Welfare

APPLICATION DUE!!!!
Date: Friday, April 16th, 2010
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Olin 115
Sponsored by: Off Campus Studies Office
Contact: Leslie A. Vanderwood x4352

Summer Fun and Beyond:
Great Opportunities

- Multicultural Alumni Network (MCAN) Scholars Program—(up to $4000)
  Deadline: April 5, 2010
  *Freshman, Sophomore, Juniors Only

- Social Justice Internships—(up to $3000)
  Deadline: March 15, 2010
  *All Class Years Accepted

- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF)—(varies)
  Deadline: March 29, 2010
  *For Sophomores and Juniors

- Admission Possible: will be selecting more than 50 new AmeriCorps and VISTA members to start in the fall in both the Twin Cities and Milwaukee. Priority Application deadline is 2/11/2010; Final Application Deadline is 3/8/2010. See http://www.admissionpossible.org/AmeriCorps.html.
Summer Fun and Beyond:
Great Opportunities CONTINUED...

- Year-Long NGO Opportunity in Mali: Project Muso Ladamunen is based in Yirimadjo, Mali. Looking for 3-4 American volunteers to spend a year in Mali, providing technical assistance and field support. The program targets cycles of poverty and disease through health care delivery, participatory education, community organizing, and microenterprise. Applications are due 2/1/10 and can be obtained by emailing Cailey Gibson '07, PML Microfinance Technical Support Officer, at cgibson@projectmuso.org. See www.projectmuso.org.

- Breakthrough Saint Paul Teaching Internship: Breakthrough Saint Paul is looking for a diverse group of college undergraduates to teach at a summer enrichment program for motivated middle school students. Program runs from June 14 through August 13, 2010; this is a paid internship. Contact Jennifer Otemba, jotemba@breakthroughsaaintpaul.org, with questions. Application deadline is 3/1. Visit www.breakthroughsaaintpaul.org.

- Heritage Ethnography Field School: Mexico OSEA offers a unique opportunity for your students to gain hands-on, on-site experience and training in anthropology. The 7-week program is conducted at Chichén Itzá, Yucatán, México, in the early summer and offers 8 credits in Anthropology. The Field School is open to undergraduates in any major and graduate students working in cultural focused social science or humanities. http://www.osea-cite.org/program/heritage.php

- New Master of Development Practice program at the University of Minnesota. This multidisciplinary program is specifically designed for students interested in pursuing careers in international development. Offered in partnership with the University’s Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change, the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, and five other academic units on campus, the program includes broad exposure to the most important sectors in development work: agriculture, education, public health, environmental management, policy analysis, and capacity building. The fast-growing field of international development involves professionals working in a wide range of disciplines in nearly every country in the world on issues as diverse as poverty alleviation, public health, effective governance, agricultural sustainability, and economic growth. http://www.hhh.umn.edu/admissions/Deadlines.html

- Summer Internships at The Lakota People’s Law Project. From Carleton ALUM Nora Mahlberg: http://lakotapeopleslawproject.org/resources/jobs-internships/

- AmeriCorps VISTA at the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota: From Carleton alum, Terin Mayer: "We’ll be looking for Spanish, Somali, and Hmong Speakers to act as Research Interns in a community-based research project funded by the U of M’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs. The project’s aim is to study the way legal outlets translate into other quality of life improvements. I’m attaching a position description to this email. While we would require the intern spend some time in our St. Paul office, there is translation, transcription and data analysis work that can be done off-site. We’ll be looking for interns to be trained sometime between February 8th and 19th.” Application Deadline: open until filled. How to apply: Send resume and cover letter to ILCM Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@ilcm.org. For more information about position duties and requirements, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota, 450 N Syndicate St, Suite 175, St Paul, MN 55104, (651) 641-1011.
Great Ideas? Even Better Experiences?
Just Want A Place To Be Heard?
Let Us Know!

The Emic is always looking for new ideas to include in our future issues. Have something you want to know more about? Always wanted a sociological or anthropological advice column? Seen a great documentary lately? Create a comic strip about the department’s professors and want to show it off (really though, if you have done this, PLEASE send it in!) Drop by the office with your contributions or suggestions on how we can make this an even greater publication next term!

We’d also love to hear about any events you’d like to see planned for the department, so keep those ideas flowing!

Note to our SoAn Alumni

We would like to say THANK YOU to all of the SoAn alums who sent in their bio. This was a wonderful addition to the Emic. We are so eager to find out what you are doing with a Carleton Sociology/Anthropology degree.

Keep them coming to
emusican@carleton.edu!!!!!!!

Additionally, if you would like to share new internships, summer/winter break opportunities or events with current SoAn students, let us know.
Roger LaRaus

After graduation I became a corporate executive in Chicago to be close to my Carleton classmate, Lynda Levin. Mission accomplished, Married in 62! One of our sons, David, also a Carleton grad, is Assistant Attorney General. My Anthropology & Sociology major at Carleton has been of fantastic value in seeing the WHOLE in my work with governments, corporations and schools around the world. On our honeymoon I told Lynda I wanted to go into education, and she was supportive. My business colleagues said I’d be “poor but happy”. I’ve been very happy and not poor, due to my Carleton focus on changing CULTURE. Taxpayers, parents, administrators kept insisting I was “talented” even though all I was doing was teaching people “concept development-learning by doing (see Aristotle). So now I call it brain based “Pattern Recognition” as I teach “Creating MEANINGFUL Learning with Increasingly DIVERSE Student Bodies”. Tom Broker has called me “Bizarre but effective”, but it’s still cultural change, as I learned it at Carleton and Northwestern. I’m in my 46th year in the classroom and loving it.

I was on the Today Show and NBC national news reporting on my staff development work in schools. Two days of filming on site for 5 minutes of TV news. I learned how to explain and expound in quotable bits!

Michael C. Robbins

After leaving Carleton in 1962 I attended graduate school in anthropology and African studies at Boston University for a couple of years. I had previously spent a year in Tanzania (at that time Tanganyika) between my sophomore and junior years, and this, plus the great tutelage I received from Frank Miller and Russ Langworthy at Carleton, sparked my enthusiasm for African anthropology. From Boston University I went on to the University of Minnesota and completed a Ph.D. in Anthropology in 1966. My first teaching post was at Penn State University where I stayed for two years. From there I transferred to the University of Missouri where I taught for 35 years until my retirement in 2003. In the 1960’s and 70’s I conducted various periods of field work in Uganda with several graduate students. Since then I have done field research on the Gulf Coast of Alabama among fishermen as well as in rural Missouri on the topic of natural resource procurement. My retirement has been filled with part-time summer and online teaching.

I’m also finishing up a cultural anthropology textbook with a colleague from the University of Arkansas. If I get it done in time I hope to pursue my current passion - learning Russian (my grandmother was Russian) and take some courses at the University in the fall. I credit my Carleton liberal arts education with the inspiration and confidence it has given me to pursue an array of life-long interests, especially literature, art and mathematics.
Cathy Cade

I'm a SoAn alumni graduating in 1963. What can you tell me? One of my earliest memories of the Carleton Sociology Department is of being a few months into my freshman fall term in 1959, at a party at sociology professors Dr. Kolb or Dr. Langworthy's house. Dr. Langworthy turned to someone and said, "This is Cathy Cade. She's a feminist." I said, "What's a feminist?" I'd never heard the word. It didn't take too long to realize that my mother had raised me with many feminist values, but the word "feminist" wasn't heard much for many years.

One of the most important things that happened for me as a result of being at Carleton was the spring of 1962 getting to go on an exchange program to Spellman College, a Black women's college in Atlanta. It was the beginning of my nine years participation in the Southern Freedom Movement. (Visit www.crmvet.org; "Stories"; Cathy Cade for stories about my time in Albany, Ga. and maybe later this year about Spellman.)

I remember an anthropology professor congratulating me on my decisions to go to Spellman saying, "I'm glad you didn't let being at Carleton get in the way of your getting an education." (Some at Carleton thought that Spellman wasn't a "good enough" college.) Being part of a Black community and having real life experience greatly supported my intellectual development. I came back to Carleton and got much better grades.

I went on to get a Ph.D. in Sociology at Tulane with a dissertation based on 70 interviews in the Black community of Canton, Mississippi. The dissertation was about who in the community favored conflict vs. consensus means of social change. The dissertation had to be quantitative data, oral histories were not allowed. But I put in a huge appendix of the stories I was told. I consider this the most important part of the work.

By the early 1970s I was living in the Bay Area, active in the Women's Liberation and Lesbian Feminists Movements and documenting them as a photographer, which I've continued in some form till this day.

In 2002 I started a personal history business recording the life stories of mostly LGBT and union activists, and Unitarians. (Visit www.CathyCade.com)

I'm currently working on archiving my photography and personal collection. I am pleased to remember my connections to the Carleton Sociology/Anthropology departments. I use the concepts of class, race, gender, and disability daily. And more and more I think in terms of history. Cathy Cade February 1, 2010 Anniversary of the Black Student Sit-in Movement in Greensboro, North Carolina, which led to the formation of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).
Jim Loewen

Jim Loewen is a sociologist who spent two years at the Smithsonian surveying twelve leading high school textbooks of American history only to find an embarrassing blend of bland optimism, blind nationalism, and plain misinformation, weighing in at an average of 888 pages and almost five pounds. A best-selling author who wrote *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your High School History Textbook Got Wrong* and *Lies Across America: What Our Historic Sites Get Wrong*. A researcher who discovered that many, and in many states most communities were "Sundown Towns" that kept out blacks (and sometimes other groups) for decades. (Some still do.) An educator who attended Carleton College, holds the Ph.D. in sociology from Harvard University, and taught race relations for twenty years at the University of Vermont.

For more information about Jim and his work, visit http://sundown.afro.illinois.edu/

Jonathan Ice

What’s happened to me since I got my soc-anthro degree from Carleton? I think it’s a classic story of the value of a liberal arts education, but certainly not the straight-arrow career path that the vocational counselors would advocate.

I graduated from Carleton in 1972, and that fall I entered into service to my country as a VISTA volunteer and was assigned to Cleveland, Ohio, where I spent 15 months, mostly working in child care centers. Although I very much enjoyed my sojourn in Cleveland (several friends I gained there remain friends today, and my avocation of choral singing began there with Cleveland Orchestra Chorus), I yearned to return to the upper Midwest, so I next landed in Faribault, MN, in 1974, working in that town’s first day care center. In 1975 I moved to Minneapolis, returning to school at the University of Minnesota, completing their early childhood education certification program in a year. In 1976 I took a position at a day care in north Minneapolis that turned out very poorly, and I left the field. Next I found employment as a receiving clerk at Schmitt Music Co, and did that for 2½ years before that soured and I left. After a year
and a half managing a senior citizen congregate meals site in northeast Minneapolis I took off for Holden Village, a wonderful Christian retreat center in the Cascade Mountains of central Washington that is lousy with Oles, where I had a wonderful 7 months on volunteer staff.

Are you sensing a lack of direction in my career path? My typical late-'60's lack of financial ambition and unrealistic expectations that my employers always would be delighted with everything that I did, made my short job tenure and poverty almost a certainty. Add to that that I have been legally blind my whole life – but didn't know it till my sophomore year at Carleton! – and that blind folks generally have to struggle to find and keep employment commensurate with their skills, it is no surprise that I still was casting about for some kind of career direction.

After taking some psychological and vocational interest inventories through Minnesota State Services for the Blind, many possible careers were raised as possibilities, and the one that seemed most attractive to me was physical therapy. I returned to the U of MN to take all those pre-med type science courses that I had avoided at Carleton, and found that I liked them and did very well. In the process I got enough credits to be the equivalent of a second Bachelor's degree. In 1985 I was accepted into 4 of the 6 physical therapy programs to which I had applied, and I accepted the offer from the one Masters degree program among them, at Columbia University. So it was off to New York City and the worst culture shock I ever have experienced. I survived the first year of academic work, but when I got into my first extended clinical affiliation, it became clear that my clinical skills were not up to par, and I failed the affiliation. There were many factors that contributed to my clinical inadequacies, but one major factor was that I still was not dealing with my blindness, but rather trying to do everything visually. Columbia devised a plan of remediation that offered no flexibility and no margin for error, and I concluded that further pursuit of that program was doomed to failure. I was at the lowest point of my life, as the goal I had been seeking for 4 years now was unattainable.

While recovering from that disappointment, I took a part-time job selling baked goods over the counter at Gelpe’s Old World Bakery, a fine kosher establishment in Minneapolis, where most employees were Gentile and over-qualified for their jobs, and about half were gay or lesbian. I worked there for 6 years and learned that if I had a run-in with my supervisor it wasn’t the end of the world – that they also had bad days, and that if I continued to do my job well I wouldn’t lose my job. About 4 years in, I even won an award for quality customer service. Alas, in my final year there a change in management changed Gelpe’s from being a very congenial place to work to one fraught with internal bickering, and I began looking for ways out.

It was about this time that there was a change in management at State Services for the Blind – a change that I saw as being in a positive direction. For quite some time I had nursed occasional ideas of working in the field of blindness rehabilitation, but had shied away from doing anything there because I saw the rehab system often being more the problem than the solution. With more enlightened people now at the top, I arranged an informational interview with the new agency director. He was delighted I was interested, and gave me advice on two things that would set me up well for a career in vocational rehab (VR): get my first "adjustment to blindness" training, and get a Master's degree in VR. I took his advice and spent 9 months in training in travel with the white cane, using talking computers, and learning braille, at BLIND, Inc., a training center in Minneapolis. Then I began the 2-year Master's VR program at Mankato State University. I sailed through the first (academic) year, and then got a full-ride scholarship to attend a summer program that had an emphasis on blindness (Mankato's program was generalized to all disabilities) at Mississippi State University. I did that program's 3-week internship in Des Moines, IA, at the Iowa Department for the Blind,
and then began my internship for the Mankato program at MN State Services for the Blind's Rochester district office.

About 2 months into what was to be a 6-month internship, I received calls from several people I had come to know during my Iowa internship, saying they had openings for rehab counselors at the Iowa agency. Would I like to apply? I had nothing to lose, so I did, and was hired on the spot. Thus I got to finish my internship on the job at one of the premier agencies for the blind in the nation. I began employment at the Iowa Department for the Blind in late 1995, and have worked there ever since. I was a rehab counselor (main responsibility: get blind clients into decent jobs) for 4 years, and then slid over to a position as a rehab teacher, where I serve a predominantly senior clientele, teaching blindness skills and counseling people toward more positive attitudes toward blindness.

My wife (I got married at age 38 in 1989) says all that meandering path to my current career seems to have had a purpose. My previous jobs gave me exposure to the young, old, and everyone in between. I have lived in ten states and been exposed to diverse populations, and my sociology background helped me understand this diversity. On an experiential level I knew the dynamics, good and bad, of entry-level jobs, and had learned from painful experience some of the strategies and games that must be played to stay employed, as well as experiencing subtle and blatant discrimination related to my disability. The medical background has served me greatly with understanding people's ailments and the arcane terminology related to them, which allows me to explain this to them in layperson's words. The blindness training provides me with real-life experience in techniques that allow people to cope successfully with blindness, and I not only can tell them about these techniques, but also demonstrate them. And behind this all is the liberal arts background that gives me a broad base of knowledge, which can be applied flexibly to new situations. The Carleton experience gave me valuable training in such flexibility.

Have I used my soc-anthro degree? In one sense it prepares one for nothing in particular, but it has provided me with great insight into the dynamics of life in general, and an appreciation of the many ways and directions that people can come from to arrive at the same goal. I have added new concrete skills since graduating, but liberal arts education inspired me to look at education as a life-long thing. I still have that lens through which I view the happenings of life, and I think it has been ideal for approaching that life with anticipation, joy, and confidence.
Edward B Liebow

Edward B Liebow directs the Seattle office of the Centers for Public Health Research and Evaluation, a division of the non-profit Battelle Memorial Institute’s Health and Life Sciences global research unit, where he has worked since 1986. In that same year he received an affiliate appointment in Anthropology at the University of Washington (Seattle). Since 2003, Ed has also been a visiting professor of Applied Anthropology and Comparative Economics at Università Carlo Cattaneo (Castellanza, VA, Italy), and a Senior Fellow of the Fulbright Commission. As a medical anthropologist, Ed’s research focuses on medical epistemology: how different cultures construct credible evidence of health hazards, risks, and effective diagnosis and treatment modalities. Research settings have ranged from the frontier outback of Australia where the British tested nuclear weapons in the 1950s and 1960s to communities throughout North America, and among healthcare facilities including community clinics and clinical laboratories.

His work on cross-cultural variations in perceptions of health risks have included such sources of risk as environmental exposures to ionizing radiation and industrial contamination, sexually transmitted diseases, bioterrorism threats, and the genetic condition that leads to Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. He is currently working with the Centers for Disease Control to develop an evidence-based approach to improving the practice of laboratory medicine. He has further applied his ethnographic skills to community development efforts in the context of U.S. welfare reform and to the resolution of environmental management controversies involving tribal fishing rights. Ed is Treasurer and a member of the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association. He earned his BA in Sociology/Anthropology from Carleton (1975), and his MA (1978) and PhD (1986) in Cultural Anthropology from Arizona State University. Ed’s wife Erin Younger is an anthropologist and associate director of the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture at the University of Washington. Their daughter Nabina Liebow is in the Carleton class of 2011.

Veronica Obodo-Eckblad

I’m alive and well and living in California with my husband of 23yrs and two children. My husband is a native Minnesotan and is a Lutheran pastor. Our daughter Ariel, is soon to be 22 and will be graduating from Spelman College next May. She hopes to be at Yale or Harvard Law School, after a year of studying at Oxford or Mumbai. Our son Isaiah, is a strong-willed, independent 7 year old who is into soccer, baseball and all things gross. I am a family physician at Kaiser Permanente since 2005. I am planning a medical mission trip to Nigeria in 2011 with the hopes of establishing a non-profit clinic to serve the rural poor. If you are a physician, PA, RN, LVN or pharmacist and are interested in global medical volunteer work, we welcome you to join us. A shout out to Prof Bev Lawaugie (Nagel), and Prof Jim Fisher who just retired. I hope you are all well and flourishing.
Daniel Bass

Since graduating from Carleton in 1995, I got an MA in South Asian Studies in 1998 and then a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Michigan in 2004. Since then, I taught at various institutions but since 2008 have been an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Religious Studies at Lynn University in Boca Raton, FL. More info about me, my teaching, and a link to my CV is at: http://www.lynn.edu/about-lynn/campus-directory/DBass

Jolene Beitz

My name is Jolene Beitz and I graduated from Carleton with a BA in SOAN in 1996. After getting my MPH and working for 8 years in international public health, I went back to get a master’s in nursing. I will be starting a new job as a Family Nurse Practitioner at a migrant farm worker’s clinic in Eastern WA.

Mario Small

I just published a new book, Unanticipated Gains: Origins of Network Inequality in Everyday Life, with Oxford University Press. These days I’m Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago. I’m studying networks, violence, urban organizations, and case study methods.

Neena Mahadev

I’m doing my dissertation research in Sri Lanka now.
**Class of '03**

**Anna Laube**

I'm studying meditation (www.dhamma.org) and playing music full time (www.annalaube.com). This leads to a life of roaming, mostly from California to Wisconsin and back again. I'm trying out Texas in the new year. Life is full of interesting twists and turns and I love getting to see my Carleton friends along the way! I hope all my fellow SOAN colleagues are doing well.

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**Class of '04**

**Chris Taylor**

I have started at Boston University's department of anthropology pursuing my PhD in the study of Persian cultures of Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan. I intend to research values of altruism in local gift-giving, national social welfare, and international humanitarian aid with fieldwork beginning in 2011. Previously, I worked for the Academy for Educational Development in DC and have lived and worked in Afghanistan for two years. Thanks.

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**Class of '06**

**Britt Kringle**

I recently completed a clerkship with the Ramsey County Attorney's Office, graduated from William Mitchell College of Law, passed the Minnesota bar exam and am (thankfully) working as a graduate fellow for the Public Health Law Center in St. Paul. The Center is a public health non-profit providing legal technical assistance and policy work on tobacco control, obesity prevention and other issues in public health.

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**Walker DePuy**

I'm a 2006 Carleton alum who recently started a Master's degree program in Environmental Justice at the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment. I'm hoping to do ethnographic thesis work in the Laikipia district of Kenya recording oral histories and human-wildlife interactions in the hope of providing sociocultural context for the development of effective strategies to boost livelihood adaptive capacity, reduce human-wildlife conflicts, and promote sustainable land conservation. I'm currently reveling in Ann Arbor's transition to winter from fall and am excited for the myriad challenges ahead.
Betsy Sylvester

After graduating from Carleton in 2006, I spent a summer in Honduras, then started to work for Management Sciences for Health (MSH). MSH is a non-profit that works in international public health management. I’ve enjoyed the opportunities I’ve had to travel to Honduras, Peru, Nigeria, and Malawi. This summer I’ll start a new adventure as I marry a fellow Carl and start my graduate studies at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business.

Phil Chan

Since graduating in 2006, I moved to New York City and currently dance for Salvatore LaRussa Dance Theater, writer as a critic for Dance Europe and Dancer magazine, and started my own management firm for principal ballet dancers. I have two cats, Pinot and Widget, with my partner Josh, who is a writer. Life is good.

Hope Lyon

I’m in Austin, TX working at Caritas through AmeriCorps. I’m a case manager for individuals and families facing homelessness. I work with three programs: permanent supportive housing for adults with disabilities, transitional housing for individuals in recovery, and rapid rehousing for recently homeless families.

Thank You!

We would like to say THANK YOU to all of the SoAn alums who sent in blurbs. This was a wonderful addition to the Emic. We are so eager to find out what you are doing with a Carleton Sociology/Anthropology degree. Please keep the updates coming to emusican@carleton.edu

Additionally, if you would like to share new internships, summer/winter break opportunities or events with current SoAn students, let us know.

Sociology/Anthropology Department, Winter 2010