As is his wont from time to time, Jim Fisher has been on the move this year. In October he played hooky for a couple of weeks to attend the 40th reunion of the first Peace Corps group to Nepal (actually, it was the 38th, but they call it the 40th on the grounds that that’s close enough for government work). He videotaped interviews with 17 volunteers concerning what difference being in Nepal for two years has made to their lives, and revisited villages to see what difference - if any - their having spent two years there made to Nepal. The results of these interviews, and similar interviews with the remaining members of the group who didn’t get to the reunion, will be the basis for his next book.

During the winter break Jim and Nancy Wilkie led a group of 12 Carleton faculty on a 28 day Asian tour - three weeks in Sri Lanka and one in Cambodia, two small Asian Buddhist countries with a tradition of ancient monumental architecture and current or recent ferocious internecine violence. Jim spent an extra week visiting Laos and Vietnam. In June he’ll spend three weeks in Japan on a similar faculty jaunt. The number of Asian countries Jim has not visited continues to dwindle.

Professor Jerome Levi is on leave for the spring, and although you may see him now and then duck into his office, for the most part he will be busy traveling and writing. In early April he will deliver a guest lecture at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming for their annual Cowboy Songs and Range Ballads Symposium. He has been invited because this year’s theme is “South of the Border” and he’ll speak on “Musical Syncretism, Equestrian Metaphors, and the Politics of Identity in Northern Mexico’s Sierra Tarahumara.” A week later he flies to the Big Apple for a conference of the American Academy of Learned Societies on improving teaching and research among recently-tenured faculty. Back in Northfield, besides working on his Tarahumara monograph, he’ll complete a chapter on the indigenous rights movement in Mexico which compares the situations in Chiapas and Chihuahua for a new book examining relationships between indigenous peoples and contemporary states in Latin America. He’ll also be boning up on Japan, since in June he’ll be traveling there, along with four students, representing the Carleton delegation to Technos International in Tokyo. This will give him an East Asian perspective to complement his Amerindian material for a new course he’s preparing: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Religion and Ecology. In the summer he hopes to get back to Mexico - so by next fall he will be recharged with plenty of new ideas and experiences.

If you see Nancy Wilkie or Jim Fisher walking through campus, be aware that you have just had a brush with stardom. Both professors were asked for their opinions about the destruction of ancient Buddhist statues in Afghanistan. The article was published in USA today.

So/An Seen and Heard
**Faculty Update**

**Pamela Takes a Breather**

Many of you may be wondering about the likes of Carleton’s favorite Africanist. We were able to catch up with Professor Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg just for a brief moment and learn about her current exploits:

“Most recently I’ve been preparing for my mixed-method (qualitative and quantitative) field research in Cameroon (leaving late May). This includes developing and getting feedback on research instruments for a series of social network surveys as well as in-depth interviews on women’s ethnic associations and reproductive health. The research examines associational networks, personal networks, and the exchange of mutual aid and ideas regarding reproductive health care and ‘reproductive security.’ The latter deals with notions of well-being vs. threat regarding both human (physical) and social reproduction, all in the context of ethnic politics. I am attempting to collect data useful for engaging in two sets of theoretical debates, those surrounding the concept of social capital, and those regarding social networks and fertility change. At the University of Pennsylvania, I have launched a colloquium/speaker series on social networks and demography. So far we have had two speakers, Dan Smith (Brown, Anthropology) on kinship networks, patronage, and fertility among the Igbo, and Peter Bearman (Columbia) on adolescent sexual networks in the U.S. I’m also organizing a panel on *Collective Memory and Reproduction* for this year’s anthropology meetings. Finally, I am taking a graduate seminar on social network analysis at the U of MN. I have a midterm and an oral presentation due today, so I’m getting an intense reminder of what it feels like to be a student! I miss all of you.”

All of the Juniors and newly declared majors will have a blast discussing Pamela’s adventures with her next year. Unfortunately, the Seniors will miss her dearly.

**News**

**Recent SO/AN Grad Gets Published**

Listen up Seniors! All of that grueling research and hard work that you did for Senior Comps may pay off after all. Lisa Hiwaseki ’96 is taking her bachelor’s degree from Carleton’s Sociology and Anthropology Department to the next level. After additional research opportunities and numerous rewrites, Lisa was able to expand on her original Senior Comps paper and publish it in the academic journal, *Pacific Affairs*. Her primary focus involves exploring the identity of the indigenous Ainu people of Japan. She examines how ethnic tourism represents this previously invisible minority culture. You can find her article, titled “Ethnic Tourism in Hokkaido and Shaping of Ainu Identity,” in the journal *Pacific Affairs* (Vol. 73 No. 3, Fall 2000). Lisa is currently pursuing her PhD.

**Annual SO/AN Picnic . . . Dionysian Style**

We will all party as Nietzsche would have us on Friday, the 18th of May. This is the big picnic of the year, so show up and schmooze with others in the department, faculty and students alike. Professor Jim Fisher offered his backyard for this bash. Last year was a blast, which means this can only be better. Food and beverages will be provided, but all of those students who are on board will have to send their student ID numbers to Kevin Vlahovich or Peter Zawadski as soon as possible in order to get food. Email the ID numbers to either vlahovik@carleton.edu or zawadskp@carleton.edu. The food selection will include burgers and hot dogs for meat lovers, and veggie burgers and veggie kabobs for the vegetarian option. (Please specify in the email if you want the vegetarian option.) This shindig is always happenin’.
Announcements

T-shirts

We will be having Departmental T-shirts this year. You can guarantee it. The price is ten dollars each. If you want to be stylin’, be sure to shoot a quick email to either Kevin or Peter and specify the size and quantity.

T-shirt Design

Visiting Speakers

After Obeyesekere’s enlightening talk on the history and myth of Buddhism, we ask that you all attend the talks of other visiting speakers who study sociology or anthropology issues. The SOAN department is affiliated with sponsoring speakers through numerous departments at Carleton, including Multicultural Affairs, Latin American Studies, Asian Studies, American Studies, and Religion.

Now Hiring DCCs!

Two new DCC openings will be available come June. Any major who is interested in the position just needs to contact Kevin or Peter. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved in the department, become familiar with the profs, and coordinate some fun stuff. Says Peter: “You don’t even have to fulfill what the last ‘C’ in the job title requires.” And Kevin adds “Sometimes I add just a few extra ‘C’s to make it sound more official. Add enough, and people stop asking questions.”

Photographs

Some majors have yet to give us a picture for the Department’s lounge area. If you did not submit a picture as of yet, you can be assured that your mug shot from the Freshman Zoo Book is up there in place of it. Please give either Kevin or Peter a picture of you in the midst of your field research or on an off-campus studies adventure. The Zoo Book picture stays until we have a picture. Place the picture, along with your name and year, in our mailboxes.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Make Your Mark

We are currently trying to post up a humungous world map in the lounge area of the department. Every major is asked to stick a pin in the area of the world that s/he did extensive studying or field research. The professors will receive a different colored pin for their own location of fieldwork. This map will stay up for years. Eventually, we hope to have it so that a Carleton SO/AN major has, at one time or another, spent a significant amount of time in every country of the world.

Social Hour

Though the Friday social has not yet happened this year, this is not to say it will never occur. A late spring get together is still a possibility, but even more importantly, please encourage a Friday afternoon coffee and pastry hour in the departmental lounge for next year. All majors and faculty are requested to attend and do nothing more than simply get to know each other on a more personal level. Listen up new DCCs, this means you!

CLASSIFIED ADS

SW So/An seeking meaningful longterm relationship with SPSS. When I enter the “Help” menu, I want to feel loved.

Sophomore So/An seeking senior upperclass So/An. Hobbies are fishing, watesports, visiting museums, and breeding chickens for microcredit projects in the third world.

So/An Methods professors seeking majors who will not run to the Art History department when confronted with chi-square tests.

ADVICE

Dear So/An Annie,

I have a problem. I want to be a So/An major, I really do, but this darn stats class gets in the way. Do I really need it for Methods?

-Sadly Unstatistical in Burton

Dear Sadly,

Well, stats certainly would help. A lot of people do take Methods without having sat through stats. You will need it for some assignments and for theory, and knowing how to use SPSS will make things much easier. They will, however, not make you take it if you have not had it by your senior year and still need Methods to graduate. And of course, as with all pre-reqs, most profs never notice you do not have them. So you could slip by, though if found out you might incur the wrath of your prof. And ultimately, isn’t respect the most important thing in life?

Dear So/An Annie,

People have been pressuring me to drink at parties, saying I don’t I am being insensitive to their culture. What should I do?

-Teetotaling Tex

Dear Tex,

This certainly is a tricky one. Cultural insensitivity is a major problem in the modern world, leading to wars, disco, and bad TV sitcoms. If you were in the vast expanses of the Kalahari and the !Kung had brewed up a special batch of mongongo nut liquor, I would say drink it. Evans parties are a different story. First, you are part of the culture, so you can feel free to insult them without being labelled ‘culturally insensitive.’ Second, the alcohol we are talking about is probably Busch Light - so it is safe to say your accusers were not slaving over a cauldron for 3 weeks making the stuff. My advice would be to use your own judgement. I am sure your frat-boy peers would be able to cope if you decided not to imbibe any of their discount-shelf keg beer.