SOAN Pride Worldwide....

To all the lovely people in the SOAN department,

Yet another year has passed us by, with fond memories of what it means to be a SOAN major. For the seniors, this marks the end of one chapter in their lives and the beginning of another. With most of their core classes out of the way, juniors are getting ready to embark on the long adventurous comps process. Twenty-one sophomores have also joined the department – this is the most new majors we’ve had in the last several years and hopefully is a harbinger for more growth to come (We need to multiply! ECON is taking over!).

Well, it has been a great pleasure for us to serve as your DCCs this year and we would like to thank everyone in the department for making SOAN the best major at Carleton! Best of wishes to all the graduating seniors in all that you do – you will all be missed – and good luck to the rising juniors and seniors with your studies. Keep in touch and spread the SOAN Love....

Your friendly DCCs,
Ralph and Eric

New Majors

Twenty-one sophomores declared their intent to major in SOAN this year! Please help us welcome them to the department. They are:

Clara Lehmann       Tobias Damm-Luhr       Alissa LeRoux
Leah Rothstein      Julia Gelatt          Holly magdanz
Victoria Smith      William Graner        Emily Meyer
Christopher Taylor  Maria Grigoryeva      Miranda Roth
Eleanor Villforth   Ryan Johnson          Catherine Larson
Aren Wish           Todd King             Rosalyn Clare
James Chu           Scott Kinney          Britt Kringle

DCC’s and SDA’s

Your DCC’s for next year are:
Class of 2003: Kathy Foody       Greg Faron
Class of 2004: Alissa LeRoux     Victoria Smith

The DCC’s act as liasons between the faculty and the students, plan and organize departmental functions, and publish the departmental newsletter.

Your SDA’s for next year are Kate Kennedy and Matt Loyd. The SDA’s inform students about the major, it’s requirements, and give curricular advice.
Inside Story: COMPS 2002

After a year-long ordeal, the seniors have successfully completed their comprehensive exercises. Each individual spent many sleepless nights working tirelessly and passionately on their topics of choice, and this effort was rewarded with the satisfaction that comes with a job well done. The individual nature of comps sometimes makes it difficult for majors to stay informed of their colleagues’ topics. Although an abstract does not suffice to adequately describe the entirety of content present in each paper, we would like to publish them in order to recognize all the hard work the seniors have invested in their comps and share their accomplishments with the rest of the department.

Marykay Frost
The Contemporary Festive: Finding the Sacred in Techno Music Culture
Using a framework provided by Friedrich Nietzsche in The Birth of Tragedy (1872), my paper examines techno music and the participants in techno music culture, in evaluating the Dionysian characteristics of raves and techno music culture. I also examine the sacred elements of raves specifically, through Emile Durkheim’s framework provided in The Elementary Forms of Religious Life (1912). Raves and the techno music culture are based on strongly Dionysian principles, and in a society of secularism and technological advancement, they are in their nature redefining social relations and social reality for participants in the techno music culture.

Judy Wemhoff
Assimilation and Identity Formation
Among Second-Generation Immigrants in the United States: Classic Era and Today
My paper addresses modern sociological scholarship on immigration in the United States, which asserts that the ‘classic era’ of immigrants assimilated into American society, while the ‘new generation’ of immigrants is failing and will continue to fail to do so. By focusing on the second-generation, considered by ‘straight-line’ assimilation theory to be the crucial generation as far as assimilation goes, this paper provides evidence that the second-generation today is in fact assimilating in much the same way as the second-generation from the classic era did. This conclusion is drawn from a statistical analysis of second-generation immigrant responses to the General Social Survey, as well as from responses to personal interviews of ten second-generation immigrants.

Kate B. Harding
War Tourism: Memory and Authenticity in Vietnam
One of the many legacies of the war in Vietnam has been the proliferation of narratives concerning Vietnam’s 20th century history. Since the 1989 opening of Vietnam’s doors to foreign tourism, these narratives have intersected in increasingly complicated ways. This paper concerns itself with these intersections, exploring the conflicts and manipulations that developed as a result. It examines the politics of memory as manifested through the tourist’s impulse to revisit the past in Vietnam, and extends the analysis further by looking at the commoditization of the war by Vietnam’s new capitalists. Finally, the paper examines how “war tourism” undermines the Vietnamese government’s nationalist efforts to unite a multivocal nation.

Eric Tranby
Visions of Inequality: The Continuing Significance of Race and Class
Social research shows that most Americans attitudes towards social inequality are shaped by the belief that the United States is characterized by equal opportunity for all (Huber and Form 1973). In this study, I examine data from the 2000 General Social Survey, using multinomial logistic methods in order to test the strength of this belief. My results show that while many people do support the “dominant ideology” of equality of opportunity, African Americans and other low status groups present a significant challenge to it. Implications for theory and future research are also considered.
Laura Huebner

Gender, The Subordinate Doxa: Sri Lankan Migrant Housemaids and Family Gender Roles

Using the framework provided by Pierre Bourdieu in *Outline of a Theory of Practice* (1977), my essay examines the ways in which Sri Lankan migrant housemaids acquiesce to patriarchy while subtly manipulating the system to their own advantage. Based on an analysis of Sri Lankan literature and my own field research, three points emerge: 1) Migration provides a socially acceptable escape from dysfunctional and poverty stricken households. 2) The migrants’ wages create material and educational change within the family. 3) Patriarchal power structures are challenged by migrant housemaids new economic “gift”.

Sarah Lisa Park

Queer in Asia America

This research will attempt to answer the following research questions: 1) Do East and Southeast Asian American gays, lesbians, and bisexuals experience cultural barriers to coming out due to different role and obligations of the family in Asian culture? 2) Do East and Southeast Asian Americans not feel open with their sexuality as a result? Are more assimilated families more likely to be tolerant of children coming out? Using data collected from previous research on Asian Americans, as well as my own data I collected from queer East and Southeast Asians over list-servers, many cross-cultural themes of filial piety and traditionalism can be uniquely classified as “Asian ideologies”. These ideologies play an important role when choosing to come out to the public. This study also shows that the difficulty on coming out for East and Southeast Asian Americans is twofold. First, homosexuals and bisexuals must reconcile with their ethnic, indigenous culture, which in most cases insists that homosexuality or bisexuality is wrong and does not exist. Second, they have to grapple with the old values of their homeland, and those of the United States; a place that sends mixed views about whether homosexuality is right or wrong, and a place where Asian American gays, lesbians, and bisexuals are not visible because they are a grossly underrepresented population.

Mollie Charon

Novel Genocide: The Human Genome Project, War, and the Transformation of Nationalism

International collaboration, competition, and coercion, has led to potent arsenals of biological weapons. Biological weapons development, policy, and usage, is analyzed through historical case studies, US congressional hearing transcripts, and biological scientific sources. The use, and threat of use, of biological weapons, has enhanced the power of certain states while restricting individual agency. Genetic weapons, made possible by the Human Genome Project, will represent a culmination of this enhancement of state power and limitation of individual agency within an international arena willing to tolerate genocide. Social, not natural scientific forces, have guided biological research in this military pursuit.

Josh Aaronson

The Fallacy of the Suburbs:
An Examination of Crime Rates in Thirteen Minnesota Counties

Using Uniform Crime Report data from eleven suburban counties and two urban counties, I examine the relationship between suburban design and juvenile delinquency. While conventional delinquency research tends to focus on dilapidated urban cores and minority offenders, my quantitative analysis suggests that the boundaries of juvenile crime are expanding into the middle class urban fringe. I argue that contemporary suburban design fails to consider the importance of informal social interaction, which results in less physical contact and ultimately higher juvenile crime rates.
Ralph I. Hosoki

*Work or Leisure? An Analysis of Shifting Work Aspirations Among Japanese University Students*

This paper examines the work aspirations of contemporary Japanese university students in light of the disproportionately high rates of youth unemployment in Japan. Using modernization theory and Bourdieu’s (1977) concept of *habitus*, I specifically explore the influences of structural and sociocultural factors on the work aspirations and values of 19 students from four Japanese universities. My findings reveal that job-seeking individuals do not always behave rationally in response to dim economic and occupational prospects. In fact, my findings suggest that many Japanese university students react counter-intuitively to the harsh economic conditions.

Viet-Ly Nguyen

*Cultural Representations and Political Destinations: The Struggle of the Shuar in Asociación Santiago*

In the Amazonian region of Ecuador and Peru, the Shuar indigenous group face cultural and political misrepresentations. On a cultural level, they have historically been labeled as Jivaro, a term they oppose, and are often represented as a fierce people who headhunt, a ritual they no longer practice. Through the political organization of the Shuar Federation, they struggle to gain binational recognition. After experiencing negative impacts from the Ecuadorian and Peruvian governments’ long border conflict, the Shuar want to be recognized as a unified nation that include communities on both sides of the border. The mobilization for representation proves to be twofold for the Shuar where cultural and political aspects take on a dual relationship.

Raya Widenjo

*Marketing Newspapers and Negotiating Identity in Berlin*

This paper, like many others in anthropology and sociology today, confronts the meaning and process of forming collective identities. The approach taken here differs somewhat in that it examines how identity is formed with the help of cultural products that are often seen as providing objective accounts of reality—newspaper articles. The main protagonists of the paper are not only members of the society, but also advantaged or disadvantaged members of a capitalistic society. Culture and economy are closely intertwined in Berlin, with publics split between those who believe more or less in the traditional holiness of free markets and those who believe more or less in the holiness of social welfare and class equality. Unlike some other accounts of identity politics, this is not so much about belonging as conviction: differing beliefs about the normative goals of society, and preferences for different narratives that fit these experiences and values for society. The social texts provide a battleground for deciding which values should be embodied in the symbolic landscape of their city. It is about establishing the legitimacy of competing worldviews in a fragmented population. This modern ‘Battle for Berlin’ is played out, mirrored, and reinforced in the symbolic texts of the newspapers.

David Meyer

*From Death to Birth: Rituals Among the White Hmong of Thailand*

This paper uses the work on funeral rituals done by Hertz (1960), Van Gennep (1960), and Leach (1961) as the guide to understanding the funeral ritual among the White Hmong of Thailand. Using ethnographic data, we see clearly that contrary to earlier analyses of Hmong ritual life, the funeral, ancestral, and birth rituals are not distinct events but are in fact interdependent parts of one larger ritual process. Only in this way can we clearly see that anthropological theory accurately describes the ritual process for the Hmong and that this larger ritual clearly embodies the complex world of Hmong cosmology.

The abstracts for the rest of the comps were not available at publication. These comps are:

**Sara Flanter** – One for all: China’s Single-Child Policy

**Katherine Jones-Lippy** – Fair Trade Coffee – A study of Rural Nicaraguan Communities and the International Trading System

**Elizabeth Lewis** – Chaos, Coherence, and the Social Theory of Pitirim Sorokin

**Megan Reynolds** – Life by Design: Theories of Ideology and Utopia in the Arts and Crafts Movement

**Emily Sweitzer** – Doing the Crime, Doing the Time: Societal Responses to Violent Juvenile Crimes
The graduating senior class has always been a diverse bunch, with each individual having different pursuits and interests. This also holds true of our post-graduation plans, with people doing everything from hiking the Appalachian trail to attending graduate school, and doing those things in places from Boston to California and beyond. With that, we thought it might be interesting to give a brief description of what all the seniors are doing after graduation. This is by no means a exhaustive list of what the seniors are doing, and for many, these plans are not concrete and subject to change.

**Emily Sweitzer** – will be attending law school at Northwestern University.

**Raya Widenjora** – has an internship at Government Executive Magazine in DC. After that, she will be taking part in the Bundestag Internship Program in Berlin, Germany, from March 2003 until July 31, 2003.

**Laura Huebner** - will be living in Boston and working on building up a portfolio in order to apply to graduate school in the fine arts.

**Judy Wemhoff** – will be moving up to the Twin Cities and getting a job.

**Sara Flanter** – has a fellowship in DC for 6 months (July to December) for an organization called Population Connection, formerly ZPG (Zero Population Group). It is a small non-profit, NGO that works to educate people about child-bearing choices, population policies, and birth control. The department she will working for is the Field and Outreach department, which deals with the PR of it all.

**Eric Tranby** – will be attending graduate school at the University of Minnesota. He will be working towards his doctorate (scary, isn’t it?) in Sociology. He has accepted a position as a teaching assistant. This summer, he will be doing research work for Ross Macmillan, a professor at the U of M (and incidentally, Annette Nierobisz’s husband).

**Kate Harding** – will be going home to Clinton, New York for the summer where she is hoping to get a job of some sort (she is in the process of trying to be an anthropology research assistant at Colgate). She also hope to exchange English and Vietnamese lessons with some refugees in nearby Utica. After a few months, she is hoping to move to Asia. The most likely candidates are Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, or Mongolia.

**Ralph Hosoki** – will be taking summer session sociology courses at the University of California at Berkeley while preparing for to take GREs. In August, he will also be attending the HPAIR (Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations) conference in Sydney, Australia where university (both undergraduate and graduate) students from all over the world meet to attend workshops and discuss various economic, social, political, and cultural changes currently occurring in Asia. Upon returning to Japan in September, he will be living in downtown Hiroshima and getting a job, while attending night classes at a Japanese institution.

**Sarah Park** – will be attending graduate school at the University of Iowa. She will be working towards a MA degree in Student Development in Postsecondary Education. She has accepted a graduate assistantship in the Tippie College of Business as well.

**Josh Aaronson** – will be living in the Twin Cities and working at the People's Bank in St. Paul. He will work at the bank from August until March and then at the end of March will be hiking the Appalachian Trail until August.

**Mollie Charon** – will be in the DC area for the year, working for the NIH (National Institute of Health) on a research project in one of its laboratories. She also hopes to volunteer for a local organization.

**Marykay Frost** – will either be working as a paralegal for a law firm in Minneapolis (Ingber and Aronson which specializes in immigration law). Or moving out to San Francisco next fall and starting the job search from there.

**Katherine Jones-Lippy** – will be working at an organic farm in Massachusetts.

**Liz Lewis** – will be spending the coming year teaching in the Marshall Islands, a group of 1000+ atolls in the South Pacific. The program is through WorldTeach, a non-profit organization based at Harvard. She’ll probably live in a hut, and may well have neither electricity nor running water!

**Viet-Ly Nguyen** – will either be working with the economic justice organization ACORN, or working as a Program Coordinator for LearningWorks, a summer program for low-income middle school students in Minneapolis.

**Dave Meyer** – will be moving out to DC to continue his lifelong dream of stalking Sara Flanter. He is still looking for a job, but will betaking the LSAT's in June, although he may or may not go to law school.

**Megan Reynolds** – will be going to New York next year and getting a job. She is also planning on going to Ireland the following year to live for sometime.
As SOAN majors, it is especially difficult for many of us to decide what to do after we graduate because of the breadth of our field and the nature of a liberal arts education. Additionally, it can be difficult to find out what previous SOAN graduates are currently doing. Alumni can be one of the best resources for information on life after Carleton, we decided to establish a network in hopes of increasing communication between current students and alumni. Any alumni who are interested in sharing their experiences, job opportunities, and/or contact information, should contact Susan Quay (the department secretary) at squay@carleton.edu or (507) 646-4109. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

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