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FAREWELL ISAAC

Isaac Shapiro ’16 has been an editor of The Emic for the past two years. In just a few weeks he will be graduating and moving to San Francisco to begin adulthood. His favorite memory while working on The Emic was when he became locked in the Scoville storage room while trying to pick up old copies of The Emic. While Isaac is a History major by trade, his heart rests in the SoAn department. The SoAn department would like to extend its gratitude for Isaac’s hard work and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

The Emic is published each term by Carleton's Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

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If you have questions, comments, or things you would like to submit for future editions of The Emic, please contact Mary at mdrew@carleton.edu.
The Society for Applied Anthropology hosted their annual conference the last week of March 2016 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Unlike other anthropological conferences (as far as my limited experience tells me), the Society for Applied Anthropology focuses strongly on the role of social research in solving contemporary social, environmental, and humanitarian problems. With the support of Professor Constanza Ocampo-Raeder, I submitted an abstract and presented at this conference, along with Nathan Edwards, Stu Lourey, Victoria Rachmaninoff, and Luisa Rodriguez. The five of us used the conference as an opportunity to present and showcase our COMPS research, and also to observe the work of other scholars that spanned a wide range of interests.

At the conference, I attended a number of panel presentations, related to diverse topics such as resource extraction, immigration, international development, and adolescence among Guatemalan youth. As a group, we also had the pleasure of watching Stu Lourey present his COMPS on a panel related to topics of genocide.

Finally, Nate, Victoria, Luisa, and I presented our own COMPS at the student poster session. In speaking to other scholars about my own work, I enjoyed seeing my own COMPS (on wolves and ranchers in Montana) fit within other academic conversations about hunting, conservation, sense of place, and the West.

Ultimately, the conference was an excellent opportunity to understand how scholars use conferences to network and construct academic conversations. In addition to learning from the conference, we all enjoyed Vancouver itself immensely. Speaking on behalf of our entire group, I would like to thank the SOAN Department, CSA, Alumni Relations, the Dean’s Office, and the Parents’ Fund. Finally, we’d like to thank Professor Constanza Ocampo-Raeder for working so hard to provide this wonderful opportunity to her students!
The DCC is a group of students that facilitate communication between faculty and students (both majors and non-majors) about curricular issues. They also write the content for our department newsletters. Don’t hesitate to contact them with questions or concerns. Join us in welcoming the new member of the DCC for the 2016-17 school year.
Alumni News

Seth McGovern '08: On February 13th, 2016 Seth McGovern '08 married Serena in Bend, Oregon. Attendees included Peter Varnum '08 and Mindy McGovern '82. Congratulations, Seth!

Alex Gallin-Parisi '03: "I am living in San Antonio, TX with my husband Dave and our two sweet, hilarious, and strong daughters, Zelda (age 3) and Gertrude (born November 2015). I am a tenure-track social science librarian at Trinity University, where I also teach a course called Academic Success for Student-Athletes for first-year football players. My most recent publication, "The Joy of Combining Librarianship and Motherhood," was published in Fall 2015 in the Journal of Academic Librarianship. My interest in researching work/employment, motherhood, gender, and power was definitely inspired by classes with Jay Levi, Annette Nierobisz, and Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg, so here is a shout out of all of them! If you have questions about librarianship, moving to Texas, or pumping breastmilk at work, drop me a line."

Seth McGovern
'08

Alex Gallin-Parisi
'03
Kudos

Presented "Space Travel and Time Machines among the Highland Maya: Ancient Cosmology in Modern Towns" at the Maya Society of Minnesota meeting on April 15 in St. Paul.

Abstract: Dr. Levi presented his research on the role of ancient Maya cosmology in contemporary society. Combining ethnographic data collected during fieldwork on the Harvard Chiapas Project in the late 1970s with more recent information gathered since 2006 as director of Carleton College's off-campus study program in Guatemala, this presentation examined how ancient Maya cosmology—in particular the 360 day solar calendar, the 260 day ritual calendar, the synchronization of both calendars in a 52 year cycle, and the belief that all time and space comprise dual aspects of a single continuum—is reflected in the oral narratives, expressive culture, and built environments of modern Maya towns in the highlands, specifically in Guatemala and Chiapas, Mexico. He explored the relationship between myth and history, symbol and reality, suggesting that certain myths and metaphors among contemporary Maya offer an important moral allegory: namely, the ambitions and failings of the ancient Maya past communicate an important message regarding the potential shape of our future.

Presented, “How to Cook a Cat: Culinary Privileging, Nation Building and a Contested Afro-Peruvian Eating Tradition” as the 2016 Spring Grimke Lecture.

Abstract: Food movements around the world promise a new way to engage in more sustainable and ethical lives. Peru has embraced this vision with such enthusiasm that their identity as a nation seems to be fervently articulated around food. Participation in the movement is high and appears to include all socio-economic sectors and ethnic diversity, even the Afro-Peruvian population which continues to be heavily marginalized by mainstream national discourses. The architects of the movement attribute this overwhelming participation to the fact that food intrinsically represents and links everyone since Peruvian food, as the Peruvian people are constituted from the same process: fusion.

In theory this means that all food traditions are being embraced equally, but in practice there is an active selection of appropriate and inappropriate Peruvian foods, and as I argue, a selective and judgmental process that eventually targets people too. This lecture will discuss why certain Peruvian dishes are actively promoted yet others, like those that incorporate cats, are banned and disparaged and what this all means to the people who consume these cuisines.
Kudos Continued

Lots of great stuff happening around the department eh?

Hannah was awarded the Presidents’ Student Leadership Award by the Minnesota Campus Compact.

This award is for an individual student or a student organization that models a deep commitment to civic responsibility and leadership, evidenced by initiative, innovative, and collaborative approaches to addressing public issues, effective community building, and integration of civic engagement into the college experience.

Professor Feldman-Savelsberg was awarded the Presidents’ Civic Engagement Steward Award.

Professor Pamela Feldman - Savelsberg

This award is for a member of the faculty, administration, or staff or for a group (e.g., advisory committee, task force, project team) that has significantly advanced their campus’ distinctive civic mission by forming strong partnerships, supporting others’ civic engagement, and working to institutionalize a culture and practice of engagement.
Fresh Faces

Visiting Professor, Monica Liu, took the time to share a bit about herself and her research.

What made you decide to come work at Carleton?

I graduated in the middle of the year and noticed the ad for this job right around that time. The job description asked for someone working on gender/sexuality, race/ethnicity, and Asia. I thought it looked like the perfect match for me. Moreover, having attended a large state university for both undergraduate and graduate school, I was curious to try out the liberal arts environment.

What is your specific field of study?

Gender, Immigration, Globalization, and Contemporary China

What classes are you teaching?


What have been your first impressions of Carleton?

I arrived at the end of December. After hearing all about the snow, I was surprised at how warm it was! I thought the campus looked quaint and beautiful.

What has been the best part of your experience thus far at Carleton?

Definitely the students. They are a highly self-motivated, creative, talented group and they have brought so many new perspectives into my classroom.

If you were to create the perfect “Monica Liu” class, what would it look like?

My goal as a sociology instructor is to help students think critically about the textbook theories we learn in an "up-close and personal" kind of way. I encourage students to apply the course concepts to their daily lives and construction their own "sociological autobiography." Ideally, students should be able to answer questions such as who am I, where do I come from, and what factors have made me the person I am today through a sociological lens.
SOAN 233 at Chino Latino

SOAN 233: The Anthropology of Food, took a trip up to Uptown, Minneapolis to have an ethnographic eating experience at Chino Latino. Apart from providing scathing commentary on the various cultural representations across the restaurant, the class enjoyed a full meal of delicious food!

Photos by Professor Constanza Ocampo-Raeder