Welcome back! We hope that everyone's break went well. Just a reminder: if you have contributions to the newsletter, or suggestions for improving it, do not hesitate to contact Prof. Fisher.

Undergraduate Anthropology Conference

The University of Minnesota Anthropology club is sponsoring its 17th annual Undergraduate Anthropology Conference on May 12-14, 1995 at the University's Forestry Station in Lake Itasca State Park. The topic of the conference is applied anthropology and the archaeology of Meso-America. Ph.D. candidate Rodrigo Liendo of the U. of Pittsburgh will be speaking about his fieldwork and other topics of interest in archaeology. Ken Erickson, Neil Toshima, and Cathleen Crown will be discussing career opportunities for anthropologists in business, government, the non-profit sector, and community organization. Students who attend are strongly encouraged to present a paper on a topic of personal interest—presentation topics are not limited to the conference theme. The conference provides an excellent opportunity to meet and visit with other anthropologists.

Registration forms can be picked up from the main table in the Soc/Anthro lounge. The registration deadline is April 14, cost of attending is $60, which the Department will cover if you present a paper. Transportation from the University to the conference site is provided, and our Department will get you to the University.

Student Paper Competition

The Minnesota Gerontological Society is looking for original, high-quality papers that contribute to the field of gerontology. Papers should not exceed twenty double-spaced pages in length and must be received by July 1, 1995. A cash award of $250 and one year's free student membership to MGS will be presented to the winner. In addition, the abstract from the paper will be published in Minnesota Gerontologist. See the bulletin board for further information.
Faculty News:

Prof. Saiedi reports on his sabbatical: For about two months Bita and I visited the Middle East and Central Asia, where we experienced three distinct cultures which share some common problems and many different approaches to them.

Following my last year's visit to the United Arab Emirates we spent some time in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, followed by a trip to Qatar. Among other questions, my main research concern in this part of the world continues to be the dynamics of stratification on the basis of citizenship status.

Our trip became much more exciting when we arrived in Uzbekistan, a part of the former Soviet Union. I was trying to get a sense of culture and economy, politics and society, in the transitional crisis of a post-communist state. The effects of communist domination are visible in every aspect of life. It is a backward society afflicted with many problems and confused in its identity. Lofty symbols of socialism have no reality in the actual life of people and their institutions.

Finally we spent a few days in Istanbul, Turkey. It was our favorite city, a mixture of West and East, full of charm and contradictions.

Prof. Fisher went to Washington in February to sit on a panel selecting graduate students who want to study exotic languages under the National Security Education Program. It was an exercise in futility since hovering over the intense, fascinating process was the realization that the Republican-dominated Congress will almost certainly cancel the funding which had been approved last year.

Prof. Levi will attend a meeting of the Society for Economic Anthropology in Santa Fe in April. The theme is "Rethinking Commodities".

During winter Prof. Wilkie chaired the Admissions Committee of the Program in Interdisciplinary Archaeological Studies at the University of Minnesota. She was also elected first vice-president of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Welcome Back: to returning students Chris Quimby, Thanh Hoang, and Celeste Benson.

Bon Voyage: to departing students Dava Hester, Peter Goss, Brian Clark, and Amy Potter.
Winter Term Happenings

The winter term pizza night was a success and we enjoyed listening to Nancy Wilkie's presentation on ethical dilemmas in archaeology. Professor Melford Spiro gave a talk on "Narcissus in Asia: Relativism and the Self". Bart Dean spoke on his recent research in the lowland Amazonian region of Peru. Last but not least, our own Mario Small spoke on his research last summer on urban violence.

Spring Term Forecast

May 9, Lila Abu-Lughod '75, Professor of Anthropology at New York University, will visit Carleton and give a talk, probably about Egyptian television. Nader Saiedi will talk about his recent trip to Central Asia at our Spring pizza night.

Spring Picnic

Once the sophomores have declared, it will once again be time for the department to get together and bond. Renew old acquaintances from theory! Speak with Pamela's husband! Drink wine (if you're old enough, that is).

DCC

The two new junior members of the DCC (Departmental Curriculum Committee) are Mario Small and Danielle Logan. Speak to them, or retiring members Katy Graves or Alexis Watts, if you have ideas about curriculum, socializing, how to better exhibit things in the lounge, etc.

Information Highway

Our departmental home pages are not all that exciting. Along with a few spelling errors, the only information they contain are brief descriptions of the faculty. To spice things up, it would be nice to list connections with other servers of interest to sociologists and anthropologists. Point, click, and voila! You're viewing the excavation records for a dig in Morocco. If you would like to help liven up the home pages, you do not have to know everything or even anything about the internet or computing. Our computer service-person is more than happy to help us create a spiffy home page. If you would like to be in charge of this project or if you want to submit a suggestion for a good server or whatever, e-mail JFISHER. Under the subject heading, type "home pages".
Just a Reminder

The department receives many postings about graduate programs, conferences, and paper competitions. The next time you’re free, wander up to the lounge and scope out the board.

Crafts and Craftiness

Harvard Professor of Anthropology Dr. Michael Herzfeld will come to Carleton on Thursday March 30th. His presentation, entitled "The Cultivation of Cunning: Crafts and Craftiness in a Cretan Town", will be given in Willis 211 at 4:30, followed by a reception afterwards upstairs in the Soc/Anthro lounge. Dr. Herzfeld is editor of American Ethnologist and has done extensive fieldwork in Greece. He is free to meet with students from 1:30 to 2:30 (on Thursday) in Sevy Faculty Lounge and will be dine with any interested students at noon in Sevy Tea Room. If you would like more time with Prof. Herzfeld, please contact Danielle Logan (x4866).

is now a sign-up sheet inside the front cover. So while you wait for a professor to return, open it up, take a look, and pick your poison. The first film of the term, Anthropologists at Work, a new film on all the jobs in government, business, and other non-academic fields for anthropologists, will be shown at 10:00 p.m. on Thursday April 6th in Scoville 102. Maybe someone could bring popcorn...

Attention Seniors!

If you aren't already aware of this fact, you will be unpleasantly surprised to learn that the abstract for your comps is due today (3/28). Remember that the final edition of your comps is due Friday, April 7th. As you are all doubtless in the final throes of composition, perhaps now is the time to announce that if you're having trouble wrapping it up, the Chair has a general, all-purpose conclusion that he's willing to make available for a consideration.

Movie Night

The ethnographic film list is now housed in a blue folder in the lounge. Several titles have been added to the list and there