

ALUMNI

Brook Blades (Ph.D., 1997)

Brooke Blades is currently an archaeologist with an environmental consulting firm in the Philadelphia area. During the past year, he participated in a NAGPRA-related analysis of an extensive archaeological collection from Barrow, Alaska, dating from ca. 500 A.D. to the early twentieth century. The collection was excavated in the early 1950s by a Harvard graduate student but was never published and remains relatively unknown. Since the collection was excavated from permafrost contexts, the organic preservation of wood, antler, ivory, and mammal hide is exceptional. The North Slope coastal groups are particularly interesting as highly specialized and rather sedentary hunters with correspondingly specialized material culture. The Paleolithic does seem rather far away in the eastern United States at times. Brooke has been editing a collection of papers with Brian Adams from the University of Illinois on lithic raw material procurement and utilization from the Early Paleolithic to the early Holocene. The volume will be published by Blackwell Publishing later this year or early in 2008. He sends his best wishes to his graduate professors (Terry, Randy, Cliff) and fellow graduate students.

Wendy Dirks (Ph.D., 2001)

This has been a busy and productive year for Wendy Dirks, with a new husband, new job, and new country. In May 2006, she moved to England with her two cats and married long-time colleague Don Reid at Langley Castle. In March 2007, she joined the faculty of Newcastle University's School of Dental Sciences as a Lecturer in Oral Biology. She has two papers in press, "Life history theory and dental development in four species of catarrhine primates," in the *Journal of Human Evolution* (with co-author Jacqui Bowman), and "An anachronistic mammalian fauna from the Late Paleocene of Southwestern Wyoming," in *Geologica Acta* with co-author Bob Anemone. They will continue their paleontological fieldwork in the Great Divide Basin this summer.

Giselle Garcia (M.A., Skeletal Biology, 2006)

As of last November, Giselle has been working at the American Museum of Natural History as the new Collections Manager in Biological Anthropology. She is currently in the process of databasing the human skeletal collection for her department's new online database, which will help facilitate researcher inquiries and requests. This is a formidable task that will most likely take at least another year. She and her colleague William Harcourt-Smith are also in the process of preparing her thesis for possible publication in a scientific journal.

Laura Gaydosh (M.A., Skeletal Biology, 2007)

Laura Gaydosh completed a fellowship in forensic biology with the Virginia Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine and has since been employed in the Biology/DNA section of the Virginia Department of Forensic Science as a forensic scientist. She now spends her days examining evidence, conducting presumptive testing for the presence of blood and other body fluids, completing laboratory analysis (DNA typing) of biological evidence, preparing reports and testifying in court, as needed.

Becky Dudzik Ham (Ph.D., 2001)

Becky Ham is currently a freelance science writer in Tucson, Arizona. She writes regularly for newspapers and magazines and is on staff with the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Health Behavior News Service. Her latest project is working on exhibit text and research for The University of Arizona Science Center and a Tucson community project called "Got Science To Go!" Her first textbook, "The Periodic Table," will be published by Chelsea House in fall 2007.

Eugene Harris (Ph.D., 1997)

Eugene continues to teach in the Biology Department at Queensborough Community College, CUNY. His current projects involve studying the phylogeography of brown howler monkey populations in the Atlantic Coastal Forest in Brasil. He is also involved in studies pertaining to the genetic signature of natural selection in the human and primate genome. One project, in collaboration with researchers at the University of Sao Paulo, will investigate possible adaptive mutations in the Duffy gene in primates -- the form of the gene in some African populations that offers complete resistance to Vivax malaria.

Mark Ingram (Ph.D., 1996)

Mark is currently an Associate Professor of French at Goucher College, where he teaches all levels of French as well as an anthropology course on contemporary Europe. This year he stepped down as program chair of the Society for the Anthropology of Europe. Also this year, he and a theatre colleague created a study-abroad program centered on language, performance, and theatre as a window into French society. A playwright friend of NYU alum David Beriss helped him greatly in Paris, as did Beth Epstein of NYU in France. He will return to Paris and Marseille this fall to conduct sabbatical research on cultural policy and the contemporary French theatre. Recently, the oldest of his three children began the college search process--help!

Kathe Managan (Ph.D., 2004)

Kathe Managan completed a Mellon Fellowship at the University of Michigan and is preparing to begin a tenure-track position in linguistic anthropology at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. In summers 2006 and 2007, she conducted linguistic and archival research in Guadeloupe, which allowed her to observe the emergence of poetry slams on the island. She has also been working collaboratively with a Guadeloupean scholar, serving as a consultant on a study of the Kreyol of Guadeloupean youth conducted by the Bettino Lara library. She currently has two writings under review, one which examines Kreyol orthographic choice and another which discusses commemorations of Abolition in Guadeloupe. Details to follow in next year's newsletter installment!

Tim Pilbrow (Ph.D., 2001)

Tim Pilbrow recently began a new position as Senior Research Anthropologist with Native Title Services

Victoria in Melbourne, Australia. Tim and family recently returned to Australia after several years of post-doctoral teaching positions in the U.S. Having hitherto focused on national identity discourses in the Balkans, Tim looks forward to the challenge of applied ethnographic work in the highly politicized context of Australian Aboriginal land title claims.

Susie Rosenbaum (Ph.D., 2007)

Susie Rosenbaum spent the year at the University of Toronto as a postdoctoral fellow, participating in a Mellow Sawyer Seminar, "Globalizing the Americas." She has recently returned to New York City, where she will be a visiting assistant professor at Columbia University's Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. She will travel to L.A. this summer to conduct some follow-up fieldwork.

Karen Wehner (Ph.D., 2007)

Karen Wehner just got a post-doctoral position in a very exciting project in London, with dual appointments at Queen Mary, University of London, and the Museum of London Archaeological Service. The project is the first of its kind and funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. Her team will be looking at the material history of Victorian London, comparing archaeological and historical records of three distinct London neighborhoods: upper-class Westminster, middle-class Sydenham, and poor Limehouse.

Jessica Winegar (Ph.D. 2003)

Jessica has won the 2007 Albert Hourani Award for Best Book in Middle East Studies, awarded by the Middle East Studies Association, for her Creative Reckonings: The Politics of Art and Culture in Contemporary Egypt.