



NAPA

National Association for the Practice of Anthropology

e-Newsletter | November/December 2009

On Mary's Mind

It's a great time to be a practicing anthropologist. The opportunities for us to contribute to the significant changes occurring in the US and around the world have never been greater. As we approach the AAA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, it's time for all of us to think of where NAPA has been, where we want to go in the coming year and how we can begin to prepare for it. I really hope that you will join us for all of the things that NAPA will be doing in Philadelphia.

NAPA has moved forward with some of the things that are part of the NAPA Strategic Plan completed last year. One of the first things we have addressed is the lack of guidance for anthropologists who wish to build careers in practice—either at the entry level or at mid-career. During 2009, Tom Greaves assembled a Task Force on Mentoring to help improve services to anthropologists seeking to enter practice. The Mentoring Task Force will tell us about what it has found at the NAPA Governing Council meeting on December 3 and the NAPA Annual Business meeting on December 4.

The **development of an ethics code** for the future is a critically important issue for NAPA and for practitioners generally. At the 2009 AAA Business meeting, the AAA Ethics Committee will present the results of the comprehensive review of the Code of Ethics.

I cannot over-emphasize the importance of a big practitioner presence at this meeting on Thursday, December 3 at 6:30pm (Program # 1-182). The position taken by the Association is crucial to the future of practitioners within AAA.

As we look to the next year, there are many opportunities for you to be part of NAPA as we try to build action and advocacy for practitioners. For example, right now, NAPA isn't well connected to practitioners in other AAA sections or even in all areas of anthropological practice. We want to reach out to practitioners who aren't yet part of our membership so that we can strengthen the position of practice within and beyond anthropology. Planning this kind of outreach must be at the center of someone's screen. I have been trying to recruit a NAPA member to act as a Liaison Coordinator, working with me and the Governing Council to develop and implement a plan to build relationships with practitioners in other parts of anthropology. I haven't yet found such a person. Interested? Let me know.

We also don't know enough about who practitioners are, where they work, and what their jobs are like. When I first became involved with NAPA, I thought that surely this information must be available somewhere. But no one has compiled it. If you are thinking of becoming involved with NAPA, this is a good way to get smart about what practicing anthropology looks like.

So come join us in Philadelphia. Events are listed in this newsletter. **You are welcome at these events whether you are a member of NAPA or not.** See you all soon.

Sincerely,
Mary Odell Butler, NAPA President

In This Issue

- 1 On Mary's Mind
Mary Odell Butler
- 2 Challenges of Multiple Roles in Fieldwork
Laura Corrunker
- 3 NAPA Sessions at the 2009 AAA
- 4 NAPA Meetings at the 2009 AAA
NAPA Needs You!
- 5 Anthropology News CFP
NSF IGERT Fellowship
- 6 OSEA Job Opportunity
OSEA Field School

Challenges of Multiple Roles in Fieldwork: Studying Immigration Policy in Practice

Laura Corrunker, PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Wayne State University

A rapidly growing and particularly significant area of research in applied or practicing anthropology centers on immigration and immigrant communities. In fact, the recent *NAPA Bulletin* (2009) entitled "Invisible Anthropologists: Engaged Anthropology in Immigrant Communities" is devoted entirely to anthropologists actively working in immigrant communities who describe their multiple roles as researcher, advocate, mediator, and change agent. While some of the motivations underlying the surge in anthropological research of immigrant communities in the U.S. are based upon concern over violations of human rights, as well as the dehumanization, objectification, marginalization, exploitation, and criminalization of immigrants, other topics such as identity, belonging, citizenship, nationalism, transnationalism, neoliberalism, and globalization illustrate the theoretical lure of the topic as well. Moreover, there is a growing body of ethnographies that detail the complex lives of immigrants describing everything from their migration stories, to their daily experiences and practices including work, education, family, and politics.

In beginning my dissertation research in the Detroit area on the criminalization of immigration in the context of Mexico-U.S. migration, I too have negotiated some of the multiple roles described in the *NAPA Bulletin* mentioned above. For example, in Fall 2008, I attended weekly pickets for immigrant rights in Southwest Detroit, a region with a large population of migrants from Mexico, as well as Central and South America. Additionally, I have participated in other events for immigrant rights and/or immigration reform, as well as volunteered with a local non-profit organization teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to Spanish speakers in the Southwest Detroit area. This involvement started with a dual purpose: One, as an advocate and someone who is passionate about immigration reform; and two, as a student with the goal of researching the subject, and gaining entrance into and acceptance within the community. As I have and continue to explain my intent and research interests to community members, activists, and potential participants, I contemplate what impression my different roles might give to possible informants. For instance, do they think my involvement and participation as an advocate is solely to gain access? Are there concerns regarding what my true intentions are, and what I may do with the data I collect? While many anthropologists encounter skepticism about why they are working in a particular setting, what they are doing, and how they are going to portray the subjects of their research, anthropologists who are researching immigrant communities that have long been exploited have to be especially cognizant of and cautious with the multiple roles they play.

Adding one more level of complexity and sensitivity to my situation are the observations I have been conducting at the Immigration Court in Detroit. Since I am examining how immigration policy is experienced and interpreted at the local level, a portion of my research consists of conducting observations of immigration proceedings. Thus, in addition to the challenge of being an outsider and a researcher who wants to be viewed as an activist and advocate for immigration reform, it is possible that some of my future participants will have seen me in the courtroom setting, or heard about my presence there. While I am far from an agent of the Court, I have to be aware that my presence in that setting may be interpreted as such. However, in order to become a policy expert with the potential to initiate change, it is necessary to not only study the experiences and interpretations of those who are the targets of immigration policy at the ground level, but also to gain a better understanding of the practices of the government as they enforce and implement the policy.

NAPA's e-Newsletter is edited by Elizabeth Nanas. Ideas & submissions may be addressed to her at:
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Preliminary findings from the dissertation research described above will be presented at the AAA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia:

Session Title: Anthropology of Democracy and Public Participation

Session Date/Time: Saturday, December 5th 2009, 1:45-3:30

Program Number: 3-111

Presentation Title: "Experiences and Practices Related to the Criminalization of Immigration in the Context of Mexico-U.S. Migration"

Presentation Time: 2:30

Search the 2009 AAA Annual Meeting Program at:

<http://www.aaanet.org/mtgs/search/>

NAPA Invited Sessions at 2009 AAA meeting and two Roundtables

Type	Title	Day/Time	Program #
Invited Session: Jointly-sponsored NAPA and Society for Medical Anthropology	<i>The "Lived Experience" of health research ethics: Translating guidelines into practice</i>	Thu., 12/3 10:15 AM	1-061
Invited Session	<i>Practicing anthropology in the shelves: Designing academic libraries via ethnography</i>	Fri., 12/4 4:00-5:45 PM	2-171
Invited Roundtable Session	<i>Innovation and the anthropology of the future</i>	Sat., 12/5 8:00 AM	3-048
Invited Session: Jointly-sponsored NAPA and Central States Anthropological Society	<i>The End/s of an Era in Detroit: Refiguring anthropological research and training in a 21st century post industrial urban context</i>	Sat., 12/5 10:15 AM	3-073
Invited Session	<i>Staying relevant: Communicating skills using anthropology in today's economic climate</i>	Sat., 12/5 4:00 PM	3-167

NAPA Sessions

Title	Day/Time	Program #
<i>Consuming value</i>	Wed., 12/2 2:00 PM	0-043
<i>How anthropology can help end healthcare as we know it: Practicing anthropology in (and on) the medical system</i>	Wed., 12/2 6:00 PM	0-118A
<i>Ethnographic research and partnerships in developing human subject protections in transnational settings</i>	Wed., 12/2 8:00 PM	0-150
<i>Making cognitive approaches in environmental anthropology count: Bridging findings to policy</i>	Sat., 12/5 1:45 PM	3-144A
<i>Ecosystem-based planning: From theory to practice</i>	Sun., 8:00-11:45 AM	4-041
<i>Local and global topics in anthropological practice</i>	Sun., 12/6 10:15 AM	4-068

NAPA-recommended Posters in 2009 program under the name *Practice Matters*:

- *The "End(s)" of anthropological research: Coming to terms with the death of a research community*
- *The application of Aztec dance: The means to cultural identity, community, and self improvement*
- *Mobilizing and engaging stakeholders in NJDOT project areas*
- *The Cambridge Oral Literature Project - Funding to record the voices of vanishing worlds*

NAPA-recommended individual papers in a single session entitled *Local and Global Topics in Anthropological Practice*:

- *Protecting the subject: Ethical obligations in tracking runaway and homeless youth*
- *Developing culturally relevant mental health projects in Afghanistan*
- *Negotiating work and family: Preliminary results from a community-based needs assessment among Hispanic migrants in rural Mississippi*
- *Women, men, children and livestock: Partnerships and gendered negotiations in the Ful'be enterprise*
- *The use of ethnographic methods in program evaluation: How to get at the value added The "Field" as a professional home*

**Don't miss WAPA's 2009 Praxis Award Ceremony and Reception
on December 4, 7:30pm in Room 407.
We look forward to seeing you there after the NAPA Business Meeting!**

Schedule for NAPA and NAPA-related Events

Thursday, December 3

- NAPA Governing Council Meeting. Mezzanine II, Courtyard Marriott. 2-6 pm. Snacks and coffee. *You should eat lunch.*
- AAA Business Meeting, Grand Ballroom, Salon H, Philadelphia Marriott. 6:30-7:30.

Friday, December 4

- LPO Leaders Gathering, Grand Ballroom, Salon I, Philadelphia Marriott. 12:15 – 1:30
- NAPA Members Speak Out, Room 409, Philadelphia Marriott. 12:15-1:30
- NAPA Business Meeting, Room 407, Philadelphia Marriott, 6:15-7:30

Saturday, December 5

- NAPA Stay Connected, Independence Ballroom II, Philadelphia Marriott, 12:15-1:30
- CoPapia Forum. Advancing Practicing Anthropology: A Forum on Creating Spaces and Places for Practitioners in the AAA. Room 305, Philadelphia Marriott, 1:45-5:30.

NAPA Needs Your Involvement!



Do you have ideas to build on the success of our mentoring program? Please join our **Task Force on Mentoring** by contacting the Chair of NAPA's Mentoring Committee, Tom Greaves, at greaves@bucknell.edu or NAPA President, Mary Odell Butler, at: maryobutler@verizon.net.

The NAPA section of the AAA needs to expand our membership in order to receive additional invited sessions at the AAA meetings. To help us develop recommendations and actions for the **Membership Committee**, contact NAPA's Membership Committee Chair, Micki Iris, at: miris@northwestern.edu.

We need your involvement to grow NAPA and to ensure that we will develop future leaders and visionaries to champion the practice of anthropology.

We also need your contributions to develop this **Newsletter**. Do you have a story or an idea to share with us that will help your colleagues in their practice? Have you read a book, subscribed to a journal or magazine, or used a product that has enhanced your work? Do you know about a conference or an event that we should publicize? Let us know what you'd like to see here by sending Elizabeth Nanas an email at: enanas@wayne.edu.

Anthropology News Journalism CFP: Submit Your 300-Word Article Proposal by Dec 18

Anthropology has long had a complex relationship with news media. In many ways, increasing collaboration between anthropologists and print, broadcast or online journalists offers great potential for making our research more accessible and theoretical perspectives more mainstream, in addition to boosting public understanding of and engagement with anthropological research findings. However, journalistic anthropology and anthropological journalism also pose several key challenges for practitioners in both fields. Among these challenges are the often-cited, but rarely critically engaged, difficulties in balancing the goals, priorities, timelines and communications styles of journalism and anthropology. Less frequently examined, though also important, are the distinct methodological, ethical, theoretical and expository traditions of both fields, which necessarily encounter one another in collaborative work.

With these concerns in mind, we invite submissions for an April 2010 Anthropology News issue on anthropology and journalism. We welcome proposals for In Focus commentaries, Teaching Strategies pieces, Field Notes articles, photo essays, news stories and interviews that address the relationship between anthropology and journalism in a variety of ways. For example, why are some anthropological fields (such as archaeology) more frequently included in news media than others? Is it an issue of public interest, awareness or accessibility? How might one relate the investigative methods of anthropologists and journalists? What strategies have anthropologists successfully adopted in pursuing work in print, radio, television and digital news media? Will the increasing popularity of applied anthropology impact our relationship with journalism? Proposals on additional topics are welcome from anthropologists, journalists, publishers, producers and others engaged in these fields.

Guidelines:

To participate, email a 300-word abstract and 50-100-word author biosketch to Anthropology News editor Dinah Winnick at dwinnick@aaanet.org. Proposals for photo essays should also include five high resolution photographs (submitted as tiffs or jpgs), each with a caption and credit. Selected authors will be asked to submit commentaries of 1000-1400 words or shorter pieces for other article types in early February.

Proposal submission deadline: December 18, 2009

Early submissions are encouraged.

IGERT Fellowship at Southern Illinois University

Apply online to be an IGERT Fellow at www.igert.siuc.edu

The Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program on Watershed Science and Policy is supported by the National Science Foundation. This program has been developed to meet the challenges of educating U.S. Ph.D. scientists and engineers who will pursue careers in research and education, with the interdisciplinary backgrounds, deep knowledge in chosen disciplines, and technical, professional, and personal skills to become, in their own careers, leaders and creative agents for change.

Each year six IGERT Fellows will form a diverse, multi-disciplinary, multi-skill cadre focused on the Middle Mississippi, Atchafalaya (Louisiana), or Tisza (southeast Europe river basin), while also pursuing cutting-edge individual dissertation research.

IGERT Fellowships will provide:

- ❖ \$30,000 per year stipends from the National Science Foundation for the first two years of doctoral study.
- ❖ \$10,500/year fellowship cost-of-education allowance.
- ❖ Multidisciplinary, team-based training in watershed science and policy.
- ❖ Graduate education that crosses traditional boundaries between science and policy.
- ❖ Real world preparation for team based critical thinking and problem solving challenges.
- ❖ Application of scientific knowledge within a policy and management context.

The Open School of Ethnography and Anthropology Announcements & Opportunities

OSEA Job Announcement: Program Assistant for 2010 Summer Field School

For details, see: http://www.osea-cite.org/history/program_assistant_2010-job_announcement.php

OSEA Seeks 1 or 2 Program Assistants for 2010 Summer Field School. The number of assistants hired will depend upon final program enrollment and qualifications/experiences of applicants. We seek a highly motivated, mature, professional, with developed qualifications and/or experience in both office/clerical management and academic teaching/research. Work schedule includes pre-program activities during April and May, the program per se, and post program activities. The person must also have a flexible yet well defined personality that can adapt to different kinds of social contexts, cultural norms, personalities, and contingencies.

The selected person(s) fulfills one or more roles simultaneously: (A) Teaching and Research Assistant. (B) Instructor, if possible and according to expertise in areas such as conversational Spanish, ethnography, anthropology, or related cultural studies fields. (C) Student Liaison and Supervisor of Student Activities. (D) Financial/Program Administrator.

While the position is seasonal, there is the option for continued part-time work during the academic year 2010-11 and renewal of position for 2011.

Persons who are attending the AAA Meetings in Philadelphia are encouraged to set up an interview with the Director. Applications can be submitted any time from posting until the position is filled or no later than December 15. Submit your materials directly to Quetzil Castañeda, OSEA, 2244 Martha Street, Bloomington, IN 47408.

OSEA Heritage Ethnography Field School

Program Location, Research Sites, Social Contexts

OSEA is located in the Maya community of Pisté, Yucatán, México. Pisté is a small yet cosmopolitan town of approximately 5,000 persons that forms the central hub and service center of the tourism economy of the nearby archaeological ruins and tourism destination of Chichén Itzá. There are more than a half dozen smaller towns and villages – including Yaxuna, Xocempich, Xkalacoop, Yokdzonot, Popolá – that form the socioeconomic and political periphery of Pisté-Chichén. OSEA field school participants will have homestays in the community of Pisté and conduct a field project in Pisté or one of the Maya communities of this periphery.

The community of Pisté is home to two private and one government medical clinics. OSEA students have access, if needed, to the ambulance service stationed at Chichén Itzá for tourists. Major hospitals are located 40 minutes away in the city of Valladolid or 1.5 hours away in the capital city of Mérida, Yucatán.

Pisté has been a tourism destination for nearly a hundred years and has developed a community culture that is open to and safe for foreigners. Social life is primarily dedicated to family, sports, and religion. Maya communities are primarily Catholic or one of several different Protestant churches. There is no prominent nightlife typical of cities or beach destinations. Pisté and Chichén are designated stops on the major travel routes of the region and bus transportation between Pisté/Chichén, Mérida, Cancun, and the Maya Riviera is frequently scheduled on a daily basis.

OSEA facilities in Pisté include: small library focusing on the anthropology of Yucatan and ethnographic methods; computer lab where students with laptops can access the internet and printing services or use an OSEA computer for word processing; seminar rooms for classroom or other group activities; temporary accommodations for guest lecturers.

For details, see: <http://www.osea-cite.org>