



# Culture Inscribed

The Newsletter of the Department of Anthropology  
California State University - Fresno

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## Anthropologist of the Fortnight

**Margaret Mead (b. Philadelphia , 1901–1978)**

Margaret Mead is the most well known personality in American Anthropology. She earned a doctorate at Columbia, studying with Franz Boas and Ruth Benedict. Her earliest ethnographic work resulted in the best-seller *Coming of Age in Samoa*. Mead was able to illustrate that biologically determined features of human development like adolescence and sexual development were influenced by cultural constraints. Although “cultural relativity” is a commonly understood concept today, her work was the first presentation of such findings to the public. The political impact Mead achieved through her publications, speaking engagements and her 43 years of work at the American Museum of Natural History insured the significance of anthropology while bringing terms like “culture” into the vernacular.

## Quotation of the Fortnight

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.* M. Mead

## AnthroAnnouncements

### Lunch with Ellen Gruenbaum

Ellen Gruenbaum will be the next featured guest in the Henry Madden Library’s brown bag book discussion series, reading from her book, **The Female Circumcision Controversy: An Anthropological Perspective**. The event will be held on Tuesday, March 8, in the Madden Library, room 1209, from 1-1:50.

## International Coffee Hour

This Tuesday (3/1) USU 317 at 2:00pm. Ms. Antonina Trachuk will talk about her homeland Russia, the largest country in the world! Come to hear about Siberia, vodka, communism, Russians and much more!

## -- Anthropology Lecture --

Anthropologist **Sander van der Leeuw** will give a lecture entitled: **“Society, Environment, and the Crisis of the Roman Empire”**.

**LOCATION: Smittcamp facility, CSUF**

**DATE: Monday, February 28**

**TIME: 7:30pm free of charge, open to all**

## Peace Corps Week

The Peace Corps commemorates its 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during **“Peace Corps Week** (Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>-March 6<sup>th</sup>). Returned PC volunteer Jim Mullooly (Mali, ‘89-‘92) will describe life as a volunteer in his classes this week or any other time you would like to meet him. For more info. contact Jim: [jmullooly@csufresno.edu](mailto:jmullooly@csufresno.edu).

## Job/Internship Opportunity

Applied Earthworks Inc., is interested in generating a list of students looking to acquire archaeology field and/or laboratory experience for future projects. We anticipate that there may soon be openings for internships as well as paid positions. Interested students should contact **Lisa Anderson at [lianderson@csufresno.edu](mailto:lianderson@csufresno.edu)**.

## Anthropology Club Minutes

By Crystal Alvarez

The **Vagina Monologues** will be held on February 25-26. The **Anthropology Club** will be in charge of an exhibit on female attire during the performances.

The **AnthroClub’s next meeting** will be held on Thursday, March 3rd at 3:00pm in Peters 390. Non-anthropologists are welcome.

The Anthropology Department’s **Open House** on February 10th was a great success. We saw a lot of new faces and enjoyed some great food. A special thanks goes to all those who took time off from their daily schedules to learn about some interesting things on campus and to meet some new people!

## Contributing Editorial Board

Crystal Alvarez Elizabeth Campos Tara Ders Gilberto Lopez Juanita Rivas Morghan Young  
**Faculty Advisor:** James Mullooly, PhD **Website:** [www.csufresno.edu/Anthropology/newsletter](http://www.csufresno.edu/Anthropology/newsletter)

The **Anthropology Student Association** will be sponsoring a viewing of the film

# "The Gods Must Be Crazy"

**DATE:**  
**Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2005**

**TIME: 3:00pm**  
**LOCATION:**  
**Peters 390**

The event is **free** and open to the public.  
**!!SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED!!**

This is a great opportunity to get some extra credit from your teachers!

**SUMMARY:** A Sho in the Kalahari desert encounters technology for the first time--in the shape of a Coke bottle. He takes it back to his people, and they use it for many tasks. The people start to fight over it, so he decides to return it to the God--where he thinks it came from. Meanwhile, we are introduced to a school teacher assigned to a small village, a despotic revolutionary, and a clumsy biologist. (Summary written by Colin Tinto)

**CRITIQUE:** It seemed simplistic, yet it was so brilliant in its execution that it ranks as one of the more interesting films of the last century. Unique and different, this 1980 film showed a different side of Africa and introduced one of the few genuine characters in the African Bushman. Highly recommended for anyone!