



Culture Inscribed

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

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-- SPECIAL "DEAD DAYS" ISSUE--



AnthroClub Focus **Another Successful Year** **By Elizabeth Campos**

This academic year has come to its end but the Anthropology Club made great progress during this Spring semester. A few of our great achievements and contributions to the Anthropology Department include: 1) a movie night and discussion designed to shed light on the anthropological significance of the film "The Gods Must Be Crazy" for the many Fresno State students who attended, 2) distinguished lecturer, Professor Peter Nabokov of UCLA delivered an insightful talk on American Indian resistance, 3) a day in the community with Jump Start at Vintage Days focused on raising cultural awareness in children, 4) a women's cultural attire display during the Vagina Monologues performances, 5) a display for the anthropology department in the Social Science building, and of course 6) the many Anthropology Department parties put together by James Mullooly, our Club Advisor. With all this said, it is my pleasure to announce that the Anthropology Club takes pride in making our department a little more visible to the university students. Next year will be even better!

AnthroNews **The 2005 Distinguished Lecturer** **By Gilberto Lopez**

Thursday the 28th of April the Anthropology Club, with the generous support of Associated Students sponsored a lecture by Dr. Peter Nabokov titled "Sanctuaries of the Spirit: Hidden Blueprints of the Reservation Era." There were over eighty students present and a number of faculty members. Dr. Nabokov's lecture described the way Native Americans used architecture to keep their native culture in a time when the US government was attempting to do away with all that was "Indian". The use of round houses became a symbol of the native's culture throughout the US. It was in these houses

that outlawed dances and ceremonies were performed by Indians of the Great Lakes, Northern Plains, Southern Plains and north-central California.

The round houses functioned as a façade which kept "White eyes" off the forbidden ceremonies taking place inside. It was through these ceremonies that Indians were able to pass on tradition to newer generations and prevent the rituals from turning into static folklore. It was because of the round houses that these events were able to take place and are now a symbol of American Indian culture.

In addition to the lecture, Professor Nabokov attended a special reception in his honor and was a visiting lecturer in two anthropology classes on Friday.

AnthroClub News **Meeting Minutes of the Final Meeting** **By Elizabeth Campos, Secretary elect**

Our last meeting for this year consisted of elections for next year's board members, plans for next year's activities, and a fond farewell to those who are graduating and moving on to future paths. All together a WILD PARTY! Shout out to Crystal Alvarez and Morghan Young; for your perseverance and dedication to the club. Best of good fortune and luck as you move on to bigger and better horizons.

Future AnthroClub Plans

- Adopting a primate from the Chaffee Zoo
- Anthropology Introduction during Dog Days
- Visit museums (e.g., the FCC Museum)
- Show Case in Library and Social Science
- Get connected with FCC Anthropologists
- Archaeology Dig Trip with Professor Pryor
- Multiethnic Potluck with faculty and students
- High school recruitment school visits

Congratulations to next year board members:

President- Tara Ders

Vice President – Nicole Engle

Secretary- Elizabeth Campos

Outreach Liaison- Ashlin Mattos

Treasurer and Web Master are Still Open

Anthros Closer to Home

Interview with Gilberto Lopez

1. Who is your favorite anthropologist?

My favorite anthropologist is Don Lenkeit. He was my intro to cultural anthropology professor in Modesto Jr. College. He did a great job in introducing the basics of Anthro and showed how it applies to anything and everything humans do. He was a big factor in me deciding to major in Anthro.

2. Book everyone should skip class to read:

A book I really enjoyed reading is Food of the Gods: The Search for the Original tree of Knowledge; A Radical History of Plants, Drugs, and Human Evolution. By Terence McKenna. This book attempts to show how drugs (psychedelic) might be responsible for the origins of human culture by “opening” our minds and imagination. Another book I really recommend is Think by Simon Blackburn. It is a book that addresses the “big questions of life” in a philosophical context. Questions about God, knowledge, and free will are addressed. This is a great “food for thought” book.

3. Movie everyone should skip class to see:

I am not a big movie person. I am more into documentaries and think HBO has produced some of the better ones I have seen. Regarding movies, most of the one’s on my favorites list have Tom Hanks as the leading actor. I would say anything Tom Hanks does is great because he picks movies that have some sort of powerful message to the viewer.

4. Favorite drink:

Alcoholic: Scotch (12 year old) and pineapple juice, on the rocks. Must be real Scotch!

Non-alcoholic: Ice-cold water or Pepsi.

5. Advice to anthro majors/minors:

Always take time out to look at the big picture when taking any class. Stop and ask yourself what is the goal of this class? How does this subject fit into the “real world”?

6. Advice to faculty:

Always try to apply, in one way or another,

what you learn in class to your life. This makes it a lot easier to comprehend the material.

Do not make the professor-student barrier too thick. I have found I learn more when I see the professor as a person, not some know-it-all.

7. Reason you chose Anthropology:

I always enjoyed social science classes in grade school. It was interesting to me to learn about past civilizations and how they were so different from us. After taking a few anthro and history classes in college, I learned these people were not much different from us. Anthropology attempts to understand what being human is all about. Through this I have realized that many of the differences between groups is only perceived and there are a lot more similarities than differences between social groups.

8. What’s your favorite Anthro class?

I have enjoyed all my anthro classes so far because it is the accumulation of what I have learned that has allowed me to have a more holistic perspective on culture.

9. When will you graduate?

I plan to graduate in three semesters. I need a couple more classes for my dual major (Anthro and CLS) and my minor (Philosophy).

10. What are your plans after graduation?

I would really like to go on to graduate school and achieve at least an MA. If plan A does not happen, I am planning to start some sort of business along with my younger brother.

11. As President of the Anthro Club from Spring 04 to Spring 05, what would you like to see the Anthro Club get involved with in the upcoming school year?

I think it would be a great idea to get more involved with the community; either through community service or joining other organizations in the community. It would also be great to have our organization work with other organizations on campus more frequently.

AnthroGrad News

Morghan Velez Young will be a standard bearer at commencement, which signifies she was a runner up for the Dean’s Medal of Honor. More significantly, Morghan will be starting a PhD in Educational Anthropology at Stanford University next year on a full scholarship. You make us all very proud Morghan!!

THANKS TO THE OUTGOING

Contributing Editorial Board

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Gilberto Lopez Juanita Rivas Morghan Young

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