



Culture Inscribed

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

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Anthros Closer to Home **Interview with Walter Dodd**

What is your area of expertise?

My specialty is archaeology, and more specifically ethnoarchaeology. I am particularly interested in the spatial organization of activity among small-scale farmers, how their behavior translates into the structure of archaeological sites, and how and why different site-structural patterns have evolved over time.

Describe your current research?

I have recently been analyzing spatial patterning at cerros de trincheras (literally "entrenched or fortified hills"). These terraced hilltop sites in the American Southwest and northern Mexico have generated considerable controversy over whether they are residential sites, fortifications, farming plots, or ceremonial locations.

What is most memorable about this project?

I am bringing a novel ethnoarchaeological perspective to interpreting these sites which will hopefully broaden our understanding of them.

Why are you interested in this topic?

I am always looking for an interesting problem that has a potential solution.

If you could be born into any other culture what would it be?

The Seminole culture of south Florida during the eighteenth or nineteenth century. I cannot imagine a greater challenge than trying to farm the Everglades in the midst of snakes, Spanish moss, gators, snowy egrets, mosquitoes, hurricanes, and hummocks.

Who's your favorite anthropologist?

Lewis Binford, Marvin Harris, or Charles Darwin.

What is your favorite novel?

"An American Tragedy" by Theodore Dreiser. Or "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck.

What advice would you give to anthropology students for entering the work world?

Know the fundamentals. Make learning a lifetime pursuit. Don't be afraid to take chances.

AnthroNews

The AnthroClub Thrives

Our first anthropology club meeting was a big hit. With 15 people in attendance, spirits were high and many great ideas were put forth. **Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 15th in the Hall of Skulls (Peters 393).** Forthcoming business includes: 1) T-Shirt Design selection, 2) selecting a speaker for the annual Distinguished Lecture series, 3) Elections of officers, 4) new business.

AnthroClub Board Elections

Now is a great time to get involved in the AnthroClub. The Board is looking for new officers. Nominations are being accepted for the following positions: **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster and Outreach Liaison.** Some nominations have already been made, others will be allowed until the election on February 15.

Tuesday Night Social Hour

The Tuesday night social hour included over 14 people this week. Anthropology practitioners, students and faculty from Applied Earth Works, Fresno City and Fresno State were in attendance at what is becoming a solid local ritual. Some of us actually closed the Doghouse this week! We meet on the **First Tuesday of every month around 8pm** at the Doghouse Grill (Shaw Ave., across from the Savemart Center). Drinking is NOT a prerequisite. Bring your friends, anthro or otherwise!

To start off the year, the editorial team of Culture Inscribed wanted to share an example of one of the higher achievements of our species.

-- See Darwin Awards on reverse side --

Contributing Editorial Board

Elizabeth Campos Tara Ders Nicole Engle Gilberto Lopez Ashlin Mattos
Faculty Advisor: James Mullooly, PhD **Website:** www.csufresno.edu/Anthropology/newsletter

Internship Opportunities

Elizabeth Campos

Students and Faculty,

I have found that an internship is one of the best ways to explore opportunities for future career plans, even better when the internship is outside of one's society and usual classroom education. I am sure any faculty member will agree that viewing the world from a new angle will influence one's point of view, thus expanding our goals and ideas for future research. The experience of my summer research program in Mexico has encouraged me to seek other internship opportunities. I wrote this message in hopes of encouraging fellow students to apply for internships. I know the application process can be deadly, but I can assure you that in the end it is worth the hard work. One gets the opportunity to meet other individuals and the diversity of their views. Furthermore, exploring one's own views and techniques that aid in making sense of what goes on around us, is incredibly awakening. Ideally, I would argue that taking part in an internship abroad should be a requirement. Since that will probably never happen, I hope to also encourage faculty members to advocate and recommend all of their students to apply for the superb opportunity of an internship. I listed some internships below...Just apply! These are all funded.

NSF-REU Programs

- 1) Feeding the Family in Troubled Times: A Biocultural Study of Patterns of Work, Consumption, and Nutrition at the Household Level in Central Mexico **Deadline:** February 15, 2006 **Dates:** June 3-July 29, 2006 *All Expenses Covered + a Stipend! Application. <http://ns.hampshire.edu/~nsfmexico>
- 2) Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin. 5 weeks of coursework on Analytic Demography, and 5 weeks of research (topic of choice). May 31-August 4, 2006. **Deadline:** 3/1/06. All expenses paid + a \$4,000 stipend. Application (http://www.prc.utexas.edu/training/undergrad/reu_info.html)
- 3) RISE (Research Internship in Science of the Environment) Arkansas State University.

Deadline: March 15, 2006. *All funded + \$4,000 Stipend. Application (www.cas.astate.edu/rise/)

4) Koros Regional Archaeological Project. In Veszto, Hungary. June 24-August 4, 2006. (funded) **Deadline: March 4, 2006** (<http://www.anthro.fsu.edu/research/koros/fieldschool/application.html>)

5) Policy Internships at Georgia State University. May 31-July 18, 2006. **Deadline:** March 10, 2006. *\$3,300 stipend. Application (<http://aysps.su.edu/intern/index.html>)

6) Cultural Anthropology. Applications... (www.unt.edu/anthroplogy/nsf.htm) *Stipend and free room and board.

USDA Program

Foreign Agricultural Services International Internship Program. Only 3 applications have been filed nation wide. Learn about international policy on trade anywhere around the world...**Deadline:** Extended to March 15, 2006 (paid internship) Contact: Lillian Gorman for application, phone- (202) 720- 6506, email- lgorman@ars.usda.gov

THE DARWIN AWARDS

The Darwin Awards salutes the improvement of the human genome by honoring those who remove themselves from it. <http://www.darwinawards.com/>

Darwin Award Auto Blotto

1994 Darwin Award Nominee, Unconfirmed by Darwin. **If only he'd asked...** (7 September 1990, Sydney, Australia) Men seem to have an affinity for large trucks. What else can explain the actions of a 34-year-old thief who decided to take possession of the engine of an old Bedford tip-truck?

The truck was parked outside a glass recycling company in Alexandria. It generally takes three men to lift an engine block of this size, but our enterprising pilferer decided that the best way to remove the engine was from below, rather than the conventional out-the-top-with-a-crane technique.

He crawled under the cab and began to loosen the bolts. Suddenly the engine block broke loose and landed on his face, killing him instantly. Police ascertained that he had at least one accomplice, judging by the pool of vomit found under a nearby bush. An employee discovered his body early the next morning. The manager said that the truck was about to be scrapped. "If he had come and asked me for it, I would have given it to him."