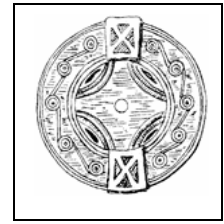




# Culture Inscribed



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

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--Anthro Day Spring 2007--

## Species of the Fortnight

*Homo habilis*

By: Robin Trayler

*Homo habilis* is the earliest species classified in the genus *Homo*, to appear in the fossil record. *H. habilis* is thought to have descended from an australopithecine hominid and retains ape like characteristics such as disproportionately long arms and a cranial capacity



slightly less than half that than a modern human. However, *H. habilis* was not just another bipedal ape. They earned their place on the human family tree due to the fact that *H. habilis* skeletons are often found associated with stone tools. They are credited with being the first species to master the Olduvan tool industry.

## AnthroClub News

By Elizabeth Govan

This semester seems to be all about Anthro Day. To begin with, March 8th we'll be welcoming **Patricia Hammer, PhD** from the Center for Social Well Being in Peru (see page 2). The day will begin with her paying a visit to Dr. Mullooly's Anth 2 class at 12:30 (all are welcome). Following that, there will be a reception from 3-5, and then she will give a lecture from 7-9. All events will have the brand new Anthro Club t-shirts available for purchase, along with a few left over from last year. At each event, one-of-a-kind Peruvian market items will be available for purchase to support development efforts in Peru.

April 9th we are also excited to have Ron Marchese PhD of the University of Minnesota at Duluth, a professor of both **ancient history and archeology**.

The last club meeting was the best turn out we've had so far for a club meeting. Thank you all for coming. Hope to see everyone at our **next club meeting. Tues. Mar. 6th at 3:15!**

## Field School Opportunity

[Note: Three Fresno State students attended this field school last year and the school's director, **Patricia Hammer, PhD** will be our distinguished guest on March 8<sup>th</sup>.]

## Action Research in the Andes 2007

The Center for Social Well Being is now in its 6th year offering our 3 week training program with courses in ethnographic field methods and languages (Spanish and Quechua) in the Peruvian Andes. Students are housed at the center's rural base, an adobe lodge on an environmentally-focused ranch in the Cordillera Blanca mountain range of the Callejón de Huaylas, 7 hours northeast of Lima.

Coursework provides in-depth orientation to theory and practice in anthropological investigation that emphasizes methods in Participatory Action Research and Andean Ethnography centered on themes of Health, Ecology and Community Organization. Students have the opportunity to actively engage in ongoing investigations in local agricultural communities to develop effective field research techniques, and to acquire language skills. In addition, the program provides excursions to museums, archaeological sites, glacial lakes and handicraft centers; optional recreational activities include hiking, mountain biking, rafting, kayaking, rock climbing, trekking, etc.

**Total cost is \$2,100 US dollars.** This includes all in-country travel, food and accommodations at the rural center, and course materials. The program is under the direction of Applied Medical Anthropologist, **Patricia J. Hammer, Ph.D.**, and Ecologist, Flor de María Barreto Tosi. <http://www.socialwellbeing.org/>

### Program dates:

Session I June 6th through June 26th

Session II August 1st through August 21<sup>st</sup>

## Fresno County Archaeological Society News:

**Dr. Kim Shelton**, (UC Berkeley) will give a talk on early Greece titled, "**Nemea and the pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Zeus**"

WHEN: March 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

WHERE: Alice Peters Auditorium, University Business Center, Fresno State. FREE ADMISSION

## Contributing Editorial Board

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## ***ANTHROPOLOGY DAY: MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2007 CSU-FRESNO***

### **Participatory Action Research: Methods to motivate social change through community capacity building**

**By**  
**Patricia J. Hammer, Ph.D.**  
**Director, Center for Social Well Being**

This lecture presents the processual efforts over the last 30 years in the development and application of Community Participatory Action approaches in social science and health fields with particular emphasis on the increasing concern for ethical and inclusive research. Origins of the methodology rooted in the social psychology of group dynamics, adult education theories of critical consciousness and praxis, as well the insistence on the ethical responsibility of researchers in roles of facilitators (rather than experts), continue to anchor the fundamental principles of the approach today.

The methodological relevance for Anthropology is evident by the value and respect for diverse kinds of knowledge and just research ethics that lay the foundations for creating innovative exploratory contexts that stimulate consciousness-raising and motivate effective actions. Examples of Participatory Action Research implementation in Quechua and Aymara-speaking communities of Peru and Bolivia will illustrate how such approaches may be adapted to ensure cultural appropriateness with regard to internal power relations and broaching sensitive issues (such as sexuality, undesired pregnancy, etc.), as well as confronting exclusionary practices of ethnic, class and gender discrimination. A detailed step-by-step explanation of a specific needs assessment instrument (the *autodiagnóstico*), composed of a range and variety of methods, exercises and techniques will be presented. Specific results generated, as well as the wider implications of community capacity building and empowerment are laid out for critique and debate.

Finally, as a means to draw together the weave of theory and practice, the challenges, breakthroughs and potential future directions for university teaching of Participatory Action Research, both in classroom settings, as well as in actual field communities, will be addressed. Presenter, Dr. Patricia Hammer, seeks to stimulate the exchange of ideas and experiences of colloquia participants through reflection, critical analysis, discussion and debate to enhance our comprehension of the potential of community participatory methodology to engage transformative social processes aimed to promote a more equitable, just and humanitarian society at local and global levels of human interaction.