This year, the Brandeis Anthropology Department awarded twenty-eight B.A. degrees, six Master’s degrees, and two Doctor of Philosophy degrees; Adrianne Dana and Professor Hunt gave speeches at the commencement; and Professor Zeitlin retired to the rank of Professor Emeritus. Read on to find out what the Department, our professors, our alumni, and our students have been doing this past year!

Adrianne Dana’s Graduation Speech at the Anthropology Department Commencement

This program has been much more than a route to earning a Ph.D. It’s been an amazing eight-year journey, and intense and giddy roller coaster ride of ups and downs. But mostly, the Anthropology department has been a kind of intellectual haven that has given a special meaning and purpose to my life.

I came to this University as a mature student with a 25-year hiatus since my Master’s degree, and as a recent inductee into the demanding world of single parenthood. I was, as Rick has reminded me, a “dark horse” striving to prove myself and stay afloat among a coterie of ambitious and able Ph.D. students. One of my earliest and most poignant memories of Brandeis occurred just before the start of my first year. I remember sitting in Carolyn Locke’s office (the former Dean of the Graduate School), and getting very emotional about my pending divorce, financial uncertainties, and academic insecurities. The Dean listened patiently as I vented and then proceeded to hand me a University check for one thousand dollars. I remember her saying, “This is a symbol of the University’s confidence in your ability to finish your Ph.D.” I will never forget that generous gesture. It is my hope that next year I will be in a position to pass on that one thousand dollars to another woman in our department faced with similar difficult life circumstances and in need of an act of faith.

Recently, my brother sent me a letter that he had discovered buried in the drawer of an old desk at my mother’s home in New Jersey. Written in 1969 at the beginning of my freshman year at college, it was peppered with the political and social rhetoric of the time – my role as a moratorium organizer, the activities of the Chicago Seven, the upcoming march of Washington, DC, and my enthusiasm for the release of
a new Beatles album called “Abbey Road.” But I was particularly astonished when I read the following words that I had no recollection of writing. I wrote:

I’m really sure about my career now. It has to be sociocultural anthropology. To be anything else would be going against fate or denying the purpose for which I was created. I just have to get out in the world and prove my worth. My goal is to represent the poor and the weak for whom I have always felt such a strong affinity.

More than thirty years have passing since proclaiming my desire to become an anthropologist. Today, I am an anthropologist, hopefully, giving voice to the disenfranchised and marginalized with the ultimate goal of representing human variation in some of its most complex and perplexing forms. In spite of all the rich personal and professional experiences I’ve accumulated over the years, sometimes it seems that life is a lot like dancing in place – full of frenetic gesticulations with only the illusion of profession and change. Rather than ‘finding myself,’ my years at Brandeis have enabled me to ‘return to myself’ through an incredible process of personal re-discovery. And for that, I want to express my deepest gratitude. Thank you.
we welcomed Kaitrin McDonagh, who took over the office this past fall. And starting in the fall, Jessica Basile will be working in the office for two days a week.

Perhaps the most significant news to mention is the Dean of Arts and Sciences’ approval this past spring of a long-range hiring plan to replace departed and retiring faculty with Assistant Professors with tenure-track appointments. In the coming year the department will carry out national searches to hire Assistant Professors in the anthropology of religion (replacing Benson Saler) and in economic anthropology (replacing Bob Hunt). And then in two years we will do a search for an Assistant Professor in linguistic and cognitive anthropology (replacing Judy Irvine).

For the past few years it has been fun for everyone in the Brandeis anthropology family to get together for a picnic, which will be held again at my house in Stow on September 8, from 2-6 p.m. I hope to see all our old friends and to welcome new ones then.

Richard J. Parmentier  
Professor and Chair

---

The Exception Proves the Rule:  
Mini-Commencement Speech for the Brandeis Department of Anthropology  
May 2001  
by Robert C. Hunt

You are about to leave this campus and for some of you formal classroom work is over. But your education and your learning are far from over. We have encouraged you to observe, to think, to find out, and to communicate orally and in writing. We are done with setting you tasks. You move on to other tasks, and other task-setters.

The attitudes and skills that we have emphasized will, hopefully, stay with you for the rest of your life. Sometimes digging into, and thinking about, things is not only fun, it may lead to surprising insights.

Our lives are such that we often hear stock phrases. Some occur often - that is a chicken and egg problem, you can’t compare those, they are apples and oranges. Reflection on these often turns up surprises.

My example for the day is “The Exception Proves the Rule.” At first this seems a bit of nonsense. How can an exception prove a rule? But there is something to it. We need to examine the three major terms - rule, exception, and prove. Rule has at least two major meanings - there are on the one hand the formal rules of a game or procedure, and there are on the other hand the regularities which can be inferred from predictable behavior.

Much about our social life is predictable. Some of that order can be accounted for by formal rules (stop your car at a red light, turn in your exam at the end of the exam block, do not hit your brother when I am looking). The formal rules are usually in awareness, and some people at least can quote them.
But most of the predictability is not accounted for by formal rules. I am speaking American English to you, which is predictable, and not because there is a formal rule that I do so. Rather it is our regular social practice, so we infer a rule - English is the language of most discourse in this University. There is a vast amount of our behavior which is predictable, follows these inferred rules, and which is out of awareness for most people most of the time. It is learned behavior, and it is more rather than less coordinated with the learned behavior of the people we live with an interact with. My major points are that it is deeply structured, and out of awareness.

What are exceptions? There are formal rules which exceptions - think of the plural form of ox, or mouse, for example. More interesting are the exceptions to the inferred rules. The French are famous for being dismissive to those (especially Americans) who do not speak French perfectly. We lived in a friend’s apartment in Paris for a couple of weeks and my spoken French was terrible at the time. I was treated as if I did not exist in most retail settings and I concluded it was the famous French contempt for those who do not control the French language.

I went to a neighborhood boulangerie for bread every morning. Early one morning at rush hour there was a long line and the customer at the counter was taking all day to select, to find money, to put the change away. Everybody was impatient but nobody was showing it. The young salesclerk and I made eye contact over the head of the dilatory customer in front of me, and some instinct made me mouth “bonjour mademoiselle” to her, which she reciprocated, equally without sound. When I finally got to the counter was as affable and helpful as could be.

What I had stumbled into was the French system of polite greeting and leavetaking. They always say bonjour when meeting, even the driver of a municipal bus in Montpellier. And when taking leave au revoir is always said. There is much more to it than that, of course, but this was a start. To the Parisian, we Americans enter a shop and do not greet the staff, and we leave without saying goodbye. We are barbarians, persons of no culture, no civilization, because we are so rude. Therefore we are ignored and dismissed.

Is there a formal rule in France about greeting? Not that I could find. Do virtually all French perform according to the French rules of politeness in greeting and leaving? Yes. Are the French aware of these performances? Most are not. They just do it. Are Americans aware of the inferred rules for politeness? We Americans are not aware of the American rules, nor of the French rules.

Now, to prove. There are multiple senses of this word as well. We all remember having to do proofs in plane geometry, and we may be challenged to “prove it” from time to time. Prove means to establish the truth of something, usually a statement you start with (such as a hypothesis). What the exception does for rule, I suggest, is to make one suddenly aware of the inferred rule by bringing it into awareness.

What this phrase - the exception proves the rule - leads us to is the vast amount of orderly behavior which is out of awareness. It alerts us to regularities that we perform but are not aware of. It is a lesson for all of us, especially as globalization proceeds at its rapid pace. We will all be faced with increasing amounts of inter-cultural contact. It helps if one can become aware of the rule. Pay attention to the exceptions - observe, investigate, think, learn.
Universities grow knowledge. But Universities grow people as well. We encourage students to grow, and we encourage the faculty to grow. A University is committed to embracing observing, thinking, finding out - in a word, learning. We certainly include all of you in this embrace. We faculty have spent our lives growing (and not just in diameter – a problem you will have to contend with in your own lives). We hope that you embrace it not just while you are here, but for the rest of your lives. As you expand your exploration of the world and of yourselves, do it vigorously, fearlessly, intelligently, and send us a postcard to tell us how you are doing. Good luck.

Departmental Events
Extracurricular Departmental Events for Graduate Students and Teaching Fellows

Tuesday, August 28, 2001
   GSAS – Orientation for New Graduate Students
   Time:  1:30 PM
   Place: Golding 110

Wednesday, August 29, 2001
   GSAS – Orientation for New Teaching Fellows
   Time:  9:00 AM to 12:20 PM
   Place: Golding 110

   Department of Anthropology Introduction for Teaching Fellows
   Time:  1:30 to 3:00 PM
   Place: Lounge in Anthropology Department

   Department of Anthropology Orientation for New Students
   Time:  3:00 to 4:00 PM
   Place: Lounge in Anthropology Department

Thursday, August 30, 2001

   First Day of Classes!

   Reception for all Faculty and Graduate Students
   Time:  3:00 to 5:00 PM
   Place: Helen S. Slosberg Oceanic Art Gallery

Friday, August 31, 2001

   Classes Meet.

Saturday, September 8, 2001

   Departmental Picnic – All Welcome!
   Time:  2:00 to 6:00 PM
   Place: Professor Parmentier’s home, Stowe, MA
New Faculty
in the Anthropology Department

Jeffrey P. Blomster. Originally from Pennsylvania, I received my undergraduate degree from Washington & Lee University, a small college in southwestern Virginia. I received my M.Phil. and Ph.D. from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. My dissertation fieldwork was conducted in the Mixteca Alta, a mountainous region of the modern state of Oaxaca, Mexico. With this fieldwork, I attempted to look at issues of early social complexity and interregional interaction in an area that had largely been “written off” in terms of early complex developments. I am interested in the whole scope of activity in Mesoamerica, particularly Oaxaca, where there are fascinating achievements in many cultural realms from the Formative period (around 1000 B.C.) to contemporary village life. The excavations I directed yielded great quantities of ceramics, which I am trying to analyze in order to explore the issues of early social complexity and interaction. In addition to more traditional analysis – much of which remains to be completed! – I have also subjected some of the ceramic samples to neutron activation analysis. I eagerly seek student involvement in this research, and look forward to exchanging ideas with any interested parties. Having just recently finished graduate school, I hope students will come to me for advice on whatever related issues that concern them.

Since receiving my degree I have been teaching as an adjunct instructor at Muhlenberg College, and have also taken the opportunity to become involved in local contract archaeology. I have taught courses ranging from Human Evolution to Prehispanic Art, and have found enjoyable aspects to all of these experiences. In addition to traditional anthropological topics, I am extremely interested in blues music, and at some point would like to develop a course that examines this as both tradition and cultural transformation.

Andrew Cohen has a B.A. in Classical Studies from Tulane University and an M.A. in Classical Archaeology from Bryn Mawr College. He will receive his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Archaeology from Bryn Mawr College. Professor Cohen’s academic interests include the ancient Near East, the archaeology of religion and ritual, and problems of classification.

Karla Davis-Salazar received her training in anthropology and archaeology at Northern Illinois University and Harvard University, where she earned her doctorate in 2001. During her education she received numerous fellowships, including the Mellon Foundation Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, the Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowships for Minorities, and the Dumbarton Oaks Junior Fellowship in Pre-Columbian Studies. Her principal archaeological research takes place at Copan (Honduras), where she has worked since 1992. During her year at Brandeis she will be teaching four courses, including Engendering Archaeology and a new course on Archaeological Analysis. Her dissertation (under the direction of Professor William L. Fash) “Society, Ideology, and Power: The Politics of Classic Maya Water Management” argues that water management and associated rituals and symbolism were critical elements in the materialization and negotiation of political ideologies at Copan.

Janet S. McIntosh. After completing my Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, I will join Brandeis’ anthropology faculty in 2001-2 to teach classes in psychological and linguistic anthropology. My research is based on the relationship between two ethnic groups in Kenya, Swahili and Giriama, with a focus on how their inequality is played out in the domains of religious belief and practice, language ideology, and cognition. I am particularly interested in applying methods and theories from linguistic and psychological anthropology to broad questions of power. I have taught anthropology and writing classes at the University of Michigan, Harvard, and MIT, and I very much look forward to working closely with Brandeis’ undergraduate and graduate students.
G. L. Mazard Wallace. As an anthropologist I have largely concerned myself with the malleability of embodied subjectivities amid constructions of alterity. The appropriation of tropes of normality by marginalized populations offers an interesting opportunity to examine the modes through with human agency is expressed, distorted, and commodified.

My research has considered the implications of such an analysis among Deaf populations in the U.S. and Europe. I have also engaged in research amid African Diaspora populations in Europe and the U.S. to examine how conceptualizations of “Blackness” serve to function as legitimizations of hegemonic relations in popular discourse.

Finally, as a native of Kansas I am sworn to purge the Northeast of its equally hegemonic considerations of the Midwest as either the nether-regions of civilization or the flat, morally-earnest expanse that one must traverse to get to the hedonism of the West Coast.

2000-2001 Colloquia

This year the Brandeis Anthropology Department was proud to host the following colloquia:

“Aging Across Multiple Worlds: South Asian Indians in/and North America,” by Sarah Lamb, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Brandeis University. (September 21, 2000)

“Participatory Music as a Separate Art: Cases from Peru, Zimbabwe, and the United States,” by Thomas Turino of the Departments of Anthropology and Music at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. (October 19, 2000)

“Culture, Power, and Sexuality: Rethinking the Critical Issues for Today,” by Gilbert Herdt, Director and Professor of the Human Sexuality Studies Program at San Francisco State University. (October 30, 2000)

“Learning Modernity? Education and Pain in India,” by Nita Kumar, Madeleine Haas Russell Visiting Professor of Non-Western and Comparative Studies at Brandeis University. (February 15, 2001)

“Using the Past: From Rio Amarillo to Gladiator and Back Again,” by William A. Saturno. (March 22, 2001)

“Architecture of Power: Classic Period Settlement and Political Organization on Mexico’s Southern Gulf Coast,” by Thomas W. Killion, Archaeologist with the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution. (March 26, 2001)

“God Gave Arabic to the Arabs,” by Janet McIntosh, Researcher and Preceptor at Harvard University. (March 29, 2001)

“Waterholes and Waterlilies: Political and Ritual Dimensions of Classic Maya Community Organization at Copan, Honduras,” by Karla Davis-Salazar. (April 5, 2001)

“Social Complexity and Interregional Interaction in Early Formative Oaxaca, Mexico,” by Jeffrey P. Blomster, Adjunct Professor at Muhlenberg College. (April 17, 2001)
Interview with Jefferey P. Blomster

Visiting Lecturer in Archaeology

What made you decide to apply for a position at Brandeis?

Brandeis has an excellent anthropology and archaeology department. Also, there are other people interested in my area, Oaxaca, Mexico: Professor Zeitlin and Professor Urcid have both done work there, and it’s quite unusual to be in a department with other people who work in the same small area of Mexico that you do. It’s very exciting and I look forward to working with them.

I’m one of the one-year replacements for the archaeology program, since Dr. Zeitlin and Dr. Urcid will be gone for the year. They’ll not be teaching, of course, but they’ll be around, and I think it will be very exciting to be working in the same department with them.

Where did you get your degree, and where were you teaching before?

I got my undergraduate degree at a small school in Virginia called Washington and Lee. I really enjoyed my time there - they had a great relationship between teachers and students, and I got a lot of first-hand experience with archaeological work.

I received my Ph.D from Yale University. I understand that there are quite a few people in the department at the Brandeis who also got their degrees at Yale.

Since receiving my Ph.D. I have been teaching at a small school in PA called Muhlemberg. I have been teaching there for about 2 years as an adjunct professor, teaching a couple of courses a semester. Teaching at a small school was a good experience for me as there were lots of opportunities to teach things I wouldn’t have imagined myself teaching— such as Pre-Columbian Art History. I was teaching that the same semester I was teaching Human Evolution, and the contrast was interesting. That’s what’s so nice about small colleges like that—you get to branch out and do different things. Brandeis is a nice size, a good compromise between a small school and a large university.

What will you be teaching for us this year?

In the Fall, I’ll be teaching Human Evolution again, this time the way Brandeis does it. I will also be teaching a seminar currently called Archaeological Topics and Issues (I keep changing the title). I’m planning to explore theoretical issues and current trends in archaeology in this class. Archaeology has a lot of rich theory, although people who aren’t archaeologists often don’t expect that, and the class is designed to explore some of the many aspects of that theory. One of my interests in theory is the archaeology of communities, and I’ve located some really interesting texts on the subject which I’m looking forward to working with in class. We will also be looking at many other theoretical issues, such as Marxist theory in archaeology and gender in archaeology. However, I believe my colleague will be teaching a course on gender in archaeology in the spring, so I will probably not feature that too heavily in class. It’s really interesting to dust off all the old theory and work with it again while preparing this class.

In the Spring, I’ll be teaching Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica, a topic which I have a lot of
interest in, and Human Origins. Human Origins is basically a crash course in world prehistory - a really staggering amount of information in one semester.

*What are your particular interests in archaeology?*

The rise of early complex society in Mesoamerica is my main interest. I am also really interested in inter-regional interactions and especially interested in connections between the two, as inter-regional interaction is often connected with the rise of complex societies.

I also have a strong interest in archaeological approaches to religion and ritual, and I would very much like to teach a course someday on this topic.

*Do you have any projects going on right now or planned for the future that you’d like to talk about?*

Right now, I’m in the process of analyzing ceramics from Oaxaca.

In the summer of 2002, I’m planning to do a fieldwork trip to Oaxaca to do some more ceramic analysis. I’m hoping to find some Brandeis students who are interested in ceramic analysis, so I can bring them with me as research assistants. Analyzing ceramics is an interesting skill, so it’s possible that some archaeology students or anthropology students interested in Mexico would be willing to come along and learn this skill and have an opportunity to work in the field. I hope that some do!

I am also planning another season of fieldwork at this time.

*Students interested in going to Mexico to work with Dr. Blomster on ceramic analysis should contact him as he is actively looking for field assistants for this venture.*
New Graduate Students

The Anthropology Department is happy to welcome the following new graduate students into the program:

Paul Cohen was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology. He took his BA degree in Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts, Boston in 2001, and is interested in anthropological approaches to the study of transportation systems.

Jodi DiProfo was admitted into the joint Master’s Program in Anthropology and Women’s Studies. She took her BA in Anthropology from Assumption College in 2000, and also studied at Atlantic Union College. Her concentration is gender and health in Southeast Asia.

Debra Goldman was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology. She took her BA in Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley in 2000, and her MA in Intercultural Relations from The School for International Training in 2001. She has also studied at Santa Monica College. She spent the summer teaching at the Dolma Ling Nunnery in Dharamala, India, and is interested in the social roles of women in Tibet.

Katherine Martineau was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology. She took her BA in Religious Studies from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1999. She has been studying Orissa dance in Bhubaneswar, India, and is interested in how Orissa dance, as an activity of women and girls, works as a form of non-verbal expression which reproduces and resists cultural and social norms.

Leslie Powell was admitted into the joint Master’s Program in Anthropology and Women’s Studies. She took her BA in Anthropology at Vanderbilt University in 1999, and is interested in gender constructs in our culture and cross-culturally.

Keri Stevenson was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology. She took her BA in Anthropology at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, in 2001. Her interests lie in the study of modern society, including race, racism, religion, industrialization, and globalization.

Erin Waxenbaum was admitted into the four-year joint BA/MA program. She is currently an undergraduate at Brandeis University.

We look forward to welcoming all these new students to the Anthropology program this fall!
Tibetan Buddhist Nuns Visit Brandeis

A delegation of Tibetan Buddhist Nuns from Kyirong Nunnery in Kathmandu, Nepal came to the Brandeis campus on April 24th and 25th, 2001. The Program in Religious Studies, the Peace and Conflict Studies Program, the Dean’s Office, the Department of Anthropology, and the Women’s Studies Program all co-sponsored this exciting event.

Although Buddhism is often represented by Westerners as a religion in which gender is not an issue, this image of Buddhism is false, according to Kim Gustshow of our Anthropology and Religious Studies Departments. She has spent eleven years doing ethnography among the nuns of Zangskar, a former Buddhist kingdom in the Himalayan region, and her special study is of gender issues in the Buddhist religion, particularly as they apply to the nuns.

However, the nuns of Kyirong Nunnery are opening up possibilities for women in Buddhism. In 1998, nuns from this nunnery created sand mandalas at Trinity University and at Brandeis in honor of the visit of the Dalai Lama, engaging in a ritual activity and art form previously practiced only by monks and becoming the first women to create a sand mandala outside of Nepal. The Kyirong nunnery is making history as one of the first Buddhist nunneries to allow nuns to learn sacred arts such as mandala making, Thangka painting, fire sacrifices, and ritual dancing.

This year, (April 24, 2001) the nuns from the Kyirong community spoke on “Gender, Resistance, and Ritual Practice,” discussing how their nunnery came to be one of the first to teach women ritual arts. They also attended a film screening of “Satya, A Prayer for the Enemy,” and discussed women and resistance in Tibet and the politics of Tibetan culture in exile (April 25, 2001).

The nuns of Kyirong Nunnery, with several Brandeis students and Professor Gutschow. Photo courtesy of Professor Gutschow.
Anthropology Graduates of 2001

Doctor of Philosophy Degrees:

Martha J. Denney successfully defended her dissertation entitled “A Cross-Cultural Semiotics of Music” on Thursday, October 19, 2000. Her examination committee included Richard Parmentier and Ann Spinney of Brandeis University, and Thomas Turino of the Departments of Anthropology and Music at the University of Illinois. She received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology in May.

Adrienne Dana-Tabet successfully defended her dissertation entitled “Wet Tea Bags and Astral Projections: (Dis)Embodying the Transgender Experience,” on Monday, October 20, 2000. Her examination committee included Sarah Lamb and Richard Parmentier of Brandeis University, and Gilbert Herdt, director and professor of the Human Sexuality Studies Program at San Francisco State University. She received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology in May.

Master of Arts Degrees:

Mollie Callahan, Anthropology
Thomas Edward Gonter, Anthropology
Samia Huq, Anthropology
Sylvia Janet Martin, Anthropology and Women’s Studies
Elisa Ravella, Anthropology
Ellen Beth Rovner, Anthropology and Women’s Studies

Bachelor of Arts Degrees:

Amanda P. Atwill
Michele Belounge, with an additional concentration in Psychology
Ariel Bornstein
Phakdey Chea, with honors in Anthropology
Lisa Brooke Cohen
Elisa K. Fregosi

Jaclyn M. Gillette
Joshua M. Glaser, with honors in Fine Arts
Morgan B. Grant, Cum Laude
Tamara E. Grimm, Cum Laude, with high honors in Anthropology, with an additional concentration in Sociology, recipient of the Richard Saber Undergraduate Grant in Women’s Studies
Jocelyn E. Hudson, Summa Cum Laude, with high honors in Anthropology, recipient of the Betty and Harry S. Shapiro Endowed Award in Anthropology for an outstanding senior on Anthropology.
Cara A. Lemon, Magna Cum Laude
Ying Ying Ma, with an additional concentration in Politics
Gabriel C. Marlow
Daphne Mathiowitz
Mical An Natoniewski, with high honors in Anthropology, and with an additional concentration in Psychology
Julia H. Olszewski, Cum Laude, recipient of the Rachel Carson Award for Environmental Citizenship
Stephen J. Pickman, with high honors in Anthropology
Melanie H. Richard
Jesse B. Richman, with an additional concentration in Sociology, recipient of the Student Life Award
Zeynep Saltuk
Gail Meredith Silverman
Rebecca K. Smerling
Stacey Elizabeth Snow, with honors in Anthropology
Julia B. Toub, Cum Laude, with an additional concentration in Biology
Rodrigo A. Vasquez
Jamie Beth Wallace, with an additional concentration in Sociology
Natalia A. Zubko, Magna Cum Laude, with an additional concentration in Fine Arts, recipient of the Morris Sepinuck Sportsmanship Award
Kim Gutschow has been involved teaching World Religions as well as the first ever course with an REL designation at Brandeis, Approaches to Religious Studies (Rel 107), which is the core course in the created Program in Religious Studies. The new program in religious studies is just getting off the ground, thanks to years of work on behalf of many faculty across several disciplines at Brandeis, including the current head of the program, Ed Kaplan, from the Dept. of Romance and Comparative Literature. The first seniors to graduate from the program were lively and vocal participants in numerous debates that galvanized Gutschow’s religious studies class this spring. For many, the highlight of the class was a visit of five elderly Buddhist nuns from Nepal, who took part in a discussion with a Boston Globe reporter, numerous students, and Brandeis faculty. This past summer, Gutschow went to the field to finish up a research project funded by the Wenner Gren Foundation, entitled “Webs of Water to Last a Millennium: Community Based Irrigation in Northwest India.” The project examined the management of systems which allocate water, a key resource in the Himalayan desert regions of Zangskar and Ladakh. It basically considered how people have managed to successfully share and distribute this resource over time, with a high degree of consensus and relatively little conflict, despite the increasing pressures of population, modernization, and intensified use. Professor Gutschow has published to following works this past year: “The Women Who Refuse to be Exchanged: Nuns in Zangskar, Northwest India,” in Elisa Sobo and Sandra Bell, eds, Celibacy, Culture, and Society: The Anthropology of Sexual Abstinence (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press: 2001), “Dry Winters - Dry Summers: Water Shortages in Zangskar,” in Ladakh Studies Newsletter No. 15 (2001), “Novice Ordination for Nuns: The Rhetoric and Reality of Female Monasticism in Northwest India,” in Ellison Findly, ed, Women’s Buddhism Women: Tradition, Revision, Renewal (Boston: Wisdom Books: 2000), and “Yeshe’s Tibetan Pilgrimage and the Founding of a Himalayan Nunnery,” in Karma Leksh Tsomo, ed, Innovative Buddhist Women: Swimming Against the Stream (London: Curzon Press: 2000).

Littlefield Publishers, forthcoming). He also gave a seminar presentation on “Famine” for the Humanities Seminar on campus, and served as the head of our Graduate Program in Anthropology, the Chair of the Social Science Council, and the Chair of the International Studies Abroad Committee. Professor Hunt also gave a Shiff Fellows presentation on graduate school in November of 2000 and a workshop on writing grant proposals for the Graduate School in February of 2001. He presented a paper on “Locally Controlled Irrigation Systems: Principles and Practices,” for the 150th-year Jubelium of Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal—, Land—, en Volkendunde, Leiden. He also serves as a referee for the National Science Foundation, Human Ecology, and Current Anthropology. His current major project is his book Apples and Oranges.

David Jacobson, in addition to teaching and advising, implemented a new course last year, Virtual Communities. Professor Jacobson also helped create Computer Science 33b, a foundational course for the newly established program in Internet Studies. He published (with Joan Liem and Robert Weiss) “Parenting from Separate Households: A Cultural Perspective,” in Linda Stone’s New Directions in Anthropological Kinship (Rowman and Littlefield: 2001). He has also submitted “Presence Revisited: Imagination and Activity in Text-Based Virtual Worlds” to Cyberpsychology and Behavior. Professor Jacobson has served on a number of University committees, including the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Senate Council, the Faculty Committee on Information Technology, the Faculty Intellectual Property Policy Committee, the Internet Studies Planning Committee, the Writing Intensive Committee, and the Faculty Senate Committee on Course Evaluations, for which he served as chair. Professor Jacobson had the opportunity to present his paper “Presence in Cyberspace: Immersion in Text-Based Virtual Worlds,” at Internet Research 1.0: The State of the Discipline (First Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers) on September 14, 2000, also serving as the invited discussant on the panel “Mis-Using Computers in the Information Age,” at the Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, on March 2, 2001. He has also been an editor for two online journals, the Journal of Online Behavior, and the Journal of Virtual Environments, as well as serving as a reviewer for American Ethnologist. Professor Jacobson is currently continuing his research on social interaction and social relations in cyberspace, preparing a paper on “Cities and Cyberspace: Models of Offline and Online Social Organization.”

Susan Kahn has recently published Reproducing Jews: A Cultural Account of Assisted Conception in Israel, an ethnographic study of the social uses and cultural meanings of the new reproductive technologies in Israel, which won a National Jewish Book Award in 2000.


Professor Lamb has two major projects at the moment: *Everyday Life in South Asia*, a volume which she is co-editing with Diane Mines of Appalachian State University; and *Aging Across Multiple Worlds: South Asian Indians in/and North America*, a book which she has been working on over the past summer. She also gave a colloquia of that title for the department in September of 2000.

**Richard J. Parmentier** will be serving as the Chair of the Anthropology Department once again this upcoming year. This past year he has been very busy indeed. In the summer of 2000, he taught two summer courses, and worked with Javier Urcid on the Hewlitt Foundation Grant for Strengthening Interdisciplinary Connections at Brandeis (which grant was received for the summer of 2001). In the early fall, he was involved in making arrangements for our three new members of the department as of last year (Professors Kumar, Gutschow, and Fenigsen), conducted a search for our new Academic Administrator, and then worked to train Kaitrin McDonagh in her new position. In the fall semester, he produced a comprehensive review of the anthropology curriculum as part of the new long-range planning process of the Dean, and initiated, organized, and chaired the symposium “A Celebration of Religious Studies,” (held March 11, 2001), which combined the resources of the new Program in Religious Studies, the Department of Anthropology, and Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. He has also served on two ad hoc committees and has been involved in six job searches for the department, and is currently working with the Linguistics Program to plan the curriculum and hiring the area of language, as well as teaching and advising in the Anthropology Department. Despite all this, he published three articles this past year: a review of Steven Roger Fischer’s *Rongorongo: The Easter Island Script* in *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 8:2, a review of Catherine Bell’s *Ritual: Perspectives and Dimensions* in *History of Religions* 26:4, and a review of Nicholas B. Dirks, ed. *In Near Ruins: Cultural Theory at the End of the Century*, in *American Ethnologist* 26:4. Several other articles were accepted for publication, including “Money Walks, People Talk: Systemic and Transactional Dimensions of Palauan Exchange,” in *L’Homme* (Paris), a review of Benjamin Lee’s *Talking Heads, Language, Metalanguage, and the Semiotics of Subjectivity*, in *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, a review of Roy Rappaport’s *Ritual and Religion in the Making of Humanity*, in *History of Religions*, a review of Elizabeth Keating’s *Power Sharing: Language, Rank, Gender, and Social Space in Pohnpei, Micronesia*, in *Anthropological Linguistics*, and a book note for Gunter Senft’s *Classificatory Particles in Kilivila*, in *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*. He is also currently working on “Semiotics for the New Millennium,” an article which is to appear in *Semiotica*, an article titled “Exceptions, Anomalies, and Visions,” and an article on “Micronesian Religion,” which is to appear in *Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart* (Mohn Siebeck).
Ann Morrison Spinney taught a wonderful course this year on Nonwestern Musical Traditions, which included interactive performances by the Boston Village Gamelan and the African Drum Group on campus. She also incorporated interactive web pages utilizing music and video clips and musical scores into the class materials. Professor Spinney also directed a private readings course in Native North American Ethnography for a Brandeis graduate student. She taught a proseminar in Ethnomusicology for Dartmouth college in the Spring quarter of 2000, as well as presenting a talk to the Native American Studies Department there titled “Between Music and Tradition: Ethnomusicological Perspectives on Passamaquoddy Songs.” She has also been attending cultural events in the Wabenaki communities and rehearsing, studying, and performing with the Boston Village Gamelan.

Javier Urcid will be taking this upcoming academic year as a sabbatical to work on his own projects, having received both the Bernstein Fellowship and the Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship.

Robert N. Zeitlin has completed his career of teaching at Brandeis, and is now a Professor Emeritus. His publications this year include “On Oaxaca Coast Archaeology: Setting the Record Straight,” in Current Anthropology 41(4):623-25 (second author, with Arthur A. Joyce, Judith Francis Zeitlin, and Javier Urcid), “The Paleoindian and Archaic Cultures of Mesoamerica” in The Cambridge History of the Native Peoples of the Americas, Vol II, Mesoamerica, part 1 (first author with J. F. Zeitlin, volume edited by R.E.W. Adams and M.J. MacLeod. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England), and “Oaxaca and Tehuantepec Region” and “Laguna Zope,” both in The Archaeology of Ancient Mexico and Central America: An Encyclopedia (edited by S.T. Evans and D.L. Webster, Garland Publishing, New York). His other articles accepted for publication include “The Isthmus of Tehuantepec” and “Zapotec: Prehispanic and Colonial Periods,” for The Oxford Encyclopedia of Mesoamerican Cultures (Oxford University Press, New York); “A Peripheral Perspective on the Applicability of World System Theory to the Analysis of Pre Columbian Political Economy” in The Foundations of Power in Prehispanic Oaxaca (A.A. Joyce and H. Orr, eds., University of Oklahoma Press); and “Pre Columbian Anthropomorphic Figurines from the Pacific Coastal Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Mexico,” in Anthropomorphic Figurines from the New World (T. Stocker, ed., Research Press, Provo, Utah). In addition to teaching and advising at Brandeis, Professor Zeitlin has also been serving as the Principal Investigator and Project Director for the “Archaeology of Tehuantepec” project, and is currently working on a number of articles resulting from this research. He has also served as the director of the Digging for Culture program, a Brandeis archaeology outreach program for elementary school students and teachers, and as a grant reviewer for the Canada Council, the Center for Field Research, the National Geographic Society, the National Science Foundation, and the Wenner Gren Foundation. Professor Zeitlin has also served as a manuscript reviewer for American Anthropologist, American Antiquity, Current Anthropology, Journal of Archaeological Science, Journal of Field Archaeology, Journal of Latin American Anthropology, Latin American Antiquity, and Science. He presented his invited paper “The Limits of Empire: Monte Albán Imperialism and the Pacific Coast” (with A.A. Joyce) at the symposium New Perspectives on Mesoamerican Imperialism: Views from the Periphery, at the 65th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (April 2000). He is also working on two books, The Rise of Mesoamerican Civilization and An Introduction to the Methods of Archaeology, in addition to a number of articles. We wish Professor Zeitlin a wonderful retirement and hope that we will continue to see him on campus from time to time!
Alumni News

**Patric V. Giesler** completed his second year at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota, teaching six courses, including two new ones. One of them, *Lives in Anthropological Perspective*, benefited from the delightful suggestions of Brandeis Ph.D. Eileen Quinn, who hopes to teach a similar course in her new position. The other, was a special required “first-term” seminar for incoming freshmen that aims to develop their writing, speaking, and analytical skills. The specific subject matter varies with the professor (across the 40 sections of the seminar offered), but should be of special interest to the professor, outside of her or his usual teaching, and strongly motivate students to develop their basic academic skills. Patric chose *Exceptional Human Experiences* for his seminar topic, and it went very well. Patric also led a workshop at a Gustavus-sponsored conference by the Pan-Afrikan Student Organization on *African Religions in the New World: Santeria, Vodun, and Candomble*; served as an expert consultant on a criminal case in Florida involving priests of the Afro-Cuban Palo-Mayombe; reviewed Susan Greenwood’s *Magic, Witchcraft and the Otherworld: An Anthropology for the American Ethnologist* (in press): and began work on an anthology about backlander messianic movements in Northeast Brazil involving human sacrifice, including two that he researched directly.

**Adrienne Dana** successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation (“Wet Tea Bags and Astral Projections: (Dis)Embodying the Transgender Experience”) in October of 2000 and received her Ph.D. in May. She is now a research associate with the Brandeis Anthropology Department.

Alumni, please send your e-mail address & other most recent contact information to the new Academic Administrator, Kaitrin McDonagh so the Department can keep in touch with you. E-mail: katemcd@brandeis.edu. We’d love to hear from you!
Student News

Jessica Basile has primarily spent the last year being a mother. What a wonderful and challenging job! And I had thought graduate school was difficult! During the spring semester, I finally got a little more time to devote to my own studies, and have been searching for funding and writing grants for my dissertation research. I plan on beginning fieldwork late winter, 2002.

Silvia Grigolini: I have spent this past school year mainly working on my specialist essay, which I recently finally turned in to my committee. I am now working on a few revisions, but I hope to be completely finished by the end of the summer. In the Spring, I have also received a couple of campus travel grants - the GSAS Sachar grant and a very small Louis, Frances, and Jeffrey Sachar grant - thanks to which I will be able to conduct a three-month research trip to Oaxaca, Mexico this fall (my second research trip). I have also started drafting proposals for national grants to support my future trips. In addition, during the summer, I have been working as a research assistant for Ricardo Godoy (and with the collaboration of Professor Hunt) on a NSF-sponsored project on longitudinal studies across disciplines. I will be back from the field in December, and I will spend the spring semester at Brandeis.


Kerey Luis spent the summer working on two articles, which she hopes to submit for publication in the Fall, on the theory of intentionally changing culture in community, and on haunted objects in American folklore. She is also working for Professor Parmentier as a general research assistant and the producer of this newsletter. She plans to take her Comprehensive Exams and her Language Translation Exam this upcoming school year, as well as beginning research on grant possibilities and fieldwork sites for her dissertation research, which she hopes to begin in early 2003.

Marc Paiva and his wife Kim are the proud parents of a baby boy, Joseph Philipp, born on March 3rd, 2001. Joseph was 7 lbs, 3 oz. and 21 inches long. He joins his very proud older sister Catharine (who will be six in August) in the Paiva family circle.

Kim Shively completed and successfully defended her dissertation, “Body and Nation: The Female Body, Religious Radicalism and Nationalist Discourse in Modern Turkey.” This past year she participated in an ethnographic research project for ContextResearch.com, and she has been adjunct teaching anthropology courses at colleges in New Jersey. She will continue teaching next year as she looks for a permanent position, hopefully at an institution of higher learning. She is also contracted to contribute an article on Morocco for an edited general curriculum volume entitled Women’s Issues in the Middle East.