This year, the Anthropology Department awarded forty-one Bachelor of Arts degrees in Anthropology, one Bachelor of Arts degree in Biological Anthropology, and one Bachelor of Science degree in Anthropology. We awarded five Master of Arts degrees, four of which took the joint degree with Women’s Studies, and two Doctorates. Professor Hunt gave the speech at our department’s commencement ceremony and retired to the rank of Professor Emeritus. Read on to find out what the faculty, students, and alumni of the Anthropology Department have been doing this past year.

Professor Hunt’s Commencement Speech for the Anthropology Department mini-ceremony:

LIVING A USEFUL LIFE

Today is the last formal activity of my professorial life, and it is with some sadness that I recognize that my formal teaching career is over. I have been blessed with my working life - I have done what I love doing. The number of mornings that I rose with dread for the tasks of the day were very few.

You are, most of you, moved to help other people. I want to ruminate, for a moment, on the various ways that can be accomplished. But first an introduction to three concepts you have met before, but may not have thought about very deeply.

Developmental Cycles

We are alive, we are mammals, we are primates, we are Homo sapiens. Among other universal features of our biogram is that we are born almost completely helpless. We then go through a developmental cycle. We are born with very few of the skills we need to survive and prosper, and we must acquire those skills in a number of ways: by imitating others, by rejecting others, by being taught, by being punished, by being rewarded. Without learning all of these skills, and without practicing them regularly, we do not become social human beings.

Social Existence

No human can exist alone. We are dependent upon others, and they upon us, for
the entirety of our lives. We must therefore be socialized into a reasonable fit with those around us. Most of you students have been conscious of trying to be different, and to NOT achieve a reasonable fit with some of those around you, including of course me. But virtually every example of your resistance has been patterned by our society. You must be a part of it before you can claim to not be a part of it, and even such claims make you a part of it. I recognize that this will not be good news for some of you, but that is your problem, not mine.

Division of Labor

All mammals living in social groups have a division of labor. Organisms are different ages have different jobs to do. Our nation contains a vast number of full time economic, political and religious specialists who work at their jobs full-time. It is inconceivable that most of you could have stepped into one of my classes and taken over from me. Nor could I do that with your jobs. A vast amount of learning is necessary to be an effective specialist. We know that it is part of the very foundation of a civilization that there be such differentiation into specialists.

Given then that we have developmental cycles, a social life, and a division of labor, how do these relate to living a useful life?

Given that we are social beings of necessity, it means learning from, and cooperating with, others. Given that we live developmentally, it means that we both learn from others, and teach others. Given that we live in a civilization, which by definition has a high degree of division of labor, it means that there are many forms of vocational activity which are necessary to the social whole.

Some of you have had thoughts that the most useful life you could live would be to relieve the suffering of others. I agree that this is a useful way to live. What I want to argue is that there are many other useful ways to live. Take me, for example. In my work I do not directly relieve suffering. Some of you may have perceived me as causing suffering - I have never been a soft grader.

There is no doubt that there is much suffering in the world, and it seems likely to be the case that the general welfare would be well served by reducing that suffering.

But look at the picture I have sketched of civilization - with social beings, developmental cycle, and division of labor. There is much to be done in a civilization simply to keep it going - natural resources must be acquired, technology invented and applied, work done, products made, complex distributions accomplished, and the next day it must be done all over again. The social fabric must be maintained, and people must be helped through the developmental cycle. I argue that it is crucial to our lives that many people devote considerable intelligence, energy, skill, and persistence to teaching others. Do not think that this teaching, and learning, occurs only in school. It is happening all the time, in every circumstance. I claim it is a moral duty to both teach and learn for the entirety of one’s life. I claim it is equally valuable with relieving suffering.

How then can one live a useful life? There are many ways. If your deepest passion is to get rich, then so be it. But if your passion is to live a useful life, then know that some of us think that every job is valuable, that every job gives one opportunities to teach and to learn, and that to help others to learn is more necessary to social life than relieving suffering.

It has been a wonderful 38 years of teaching, 33 of them here. I do not regret any of it, and I am proud to have been recognized with the Louis Dembitz Brandeis Prize for Excellence in Teaching. I will miss this engagement, this process, this growth, I will miss it very much.

But as I graduate from active faculty life to my permanent sabbatical, you are coming into full flower. I urge you to find the niche in our division of labor that permits you to use your best instincts, your best talents, to grow yourself and to grow others. May you be able to say 50 years from now, as I do today, that you loved getting up and going to work, and the miracle was that they paid you for doing so.
Letter from the Chair

We are experiencing an exciting transitional period in the life of the department, with the retirement of senior faculty and the arrival of new junior faculty. My thanks go to all who participated in the time-consuming job searches last year, which resulted in the hiring of Dr. Elizabeth Ferry in economic anthropology and Dr. Ellen Schattschneider in the anthropology of religion. Dr. Ferry comes to Brandeis from CUNY-Queens, and will contribute courses to the program in Latin American Studies; Dr. Schattschneider comes to us from Emory, and will contribute courses to the Program in Religious Studies as well as Far Eastern Studies. Two Lecturers will be teaching in the department in the spring semester 2003: Dr. Mark Auslander will teach “Tradition and Experience in Sub-Saharan Africa,” and Dr. Susan Kahn will teach a new course, “Peoples and Societies of the Middle East.” Dr. Dominique Simon, who did fieldwork in Africa and now works in the field of public health, has joined the department as a new Research Associate. I hope everyone will do everything possible to welcome these new colleagues to our anthropology community.

The department has been fortunate to have several Mellon Postdoctoral Fellows in recent years. We say farewell to Dr. Kim Gutschow, a Mellon in anthropology and religious studies, who has taken a position at Wesleyan University. Dr. Andrew Cohen, a Mellon in anthropology and NEJS, continues his appointment this year. Dr. Ann Spinney, who has been a Lecturer and a Consilience Fellow in recent years, has taken a position in musicology at Boston College, and so she will continue to be our neighbor. We also send our best wishes to Karla Davis-Salazar, who has moved with her archaeologist husband to Arizona, where she is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the University of Arizona. Two of our advanced graduate students have now departed, having completed their doctoral degrees; we congratulate Dr. Kim Shively and Dr. Nitish Jha.
Luckily, transitions are balanced with continuities. Two of our junior faculty, Jeff Blomster and Janet McIntosh, have been reappointed and will continue teaching a full load this year. Our emeriti faculty continue to be active both as scholars and as colleagues; indeed, the emeriti office on the hallway is getting crowded, with David Kaplan, Benson Saler, Bob Hunt, and Charlie Ziegler; Bob Zeitlin can be found next year continuing his research in his regular office. In September we welcome back Javier Urcid, who was on leave this past year thanks to a combination of prestigious fellowships; as a “reward” for his year off, he will take over the task of Graduate Advisor and will also join the advisory committee on Non-Western and Comparative Studies.

Our faculty continue to be recognized for their teaching and scholarship within the university and in the discipline at large. At the end of last year Bob Hunt was awarded the 2002 Louis Dembitz Brandeis Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Javier Urcid’s book *Zapotec Hieroglyphic Writing* appeared this past fall and has already received rave reviews. Dave Jacobson and Sarah Lamb have both been awarded well-deserved sabbatical leaves for the spring semester 2003.

As always, I extend a special welcome to our current students, recent graduates and friends to attend as many departmental functions as possible. Let me mention specifically just two upcoming events in the fall. On Saturday, September 14, we will have our annual fall picnic at my house in Stow, from 2-6 p.m. And on November 19 we will meet for the first annual “Saler Lecture” on the anthropology of religion, given this year by Professor Robert Segal at 4:30 p.m. Check our website for details of these and other events.

Richard J. Parmentier  
Professor and Chair

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**Upcoming Events!**

*Extracurricular Departmental Events for Graduate Students and Teaching Fellows*

**Thursday, August 29**

First day of classes

The “Welcome Back” ceremony for the Anthropology Department  
Time: 3:00  
Place: Helen S. Slosberg Oceanic Art Gallery (in Schwartz).  
All faculty, research associates, and new and returning graduate students are encouraged to come!
Saturday, September 14

The Departmental Picnic - All are invited to attend!
Time: 2:00 to 6:00.
Place: Professor Parmentier’s home, 63 Gleasondale Rd., Stow, MA.
Please see Kaitrin McDonagh, our departmental administrator, for directions or to organize carpools.

Thursday, September 26

Our first colloquium of the year!
Time: 3:00
Place: Schwartz 2
“Fighting the Underworld: Pentecostal Youth and Spiritual Warfare in Post-Conflict Sierra Leone”
by Dr. Rosalind H. Shaw
Department of Anthropology
Tufts University

Tuesday, November 19

The first Saler Lecture, with speaker Robert Segal
Time: 4:30
Place: Alumnae Lounge, Usdan
“The Indispensability of the Comparative Method in Contemporary Religious Studies”
It will be followed by a reception in Helen S. Slosberg Oceanic Art Gallery (in Schwartz).
This event is being co-sponsored with the Program in Religious Studies.

New Faculty

We welcome three new members of the faculty to our department this year!

Mark Auslander has been appointed Lecturer in Anthropology for Spring Semester, 2003. Dr. Auslander will teach one class on the cultures of sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Auslander is currently Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Emory University (Oxford College). He received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and carried out ethnographic research in eastern Zambia, focusing on cosmology and agricultural change. Dr. Auslander also conducts research on family history and ritual performance in African-American communities in Georgia.

Elizabeth Ferry joins the department this fall as Assistant Professor of Anthropology. Dr. Ferry received the Ph.D. in Anthropology from Johns Hopkins University, and taught previously at Queens College, CUNY and the University of Michigan. With support from the Latin American Studies Program at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Ferry carried out ethnographic research in Guanajuato, Mexico, on a silver mining cooperative. Her dissertation, now being revised for
publication as a book, examines global shifts in the organization of labor, production, and consumption, including debates over the “inalienability” of silver. In her first year at Brandeis, she will teach courses on food production, economic anthropology, and a new course on the political economy of Mexico.

Ellen Schattschneider joins the department this fall as Assistant Professor of Anthropology. After graduate studies in anthropology at the University of Chicago, Dr. Schattschneider carried out ethnographic fieldwork on ritual and gender on the Tsugaru peninsula, in northern Japan. Dr. Schattschneider taught previously at Haverford College and at Emory University. With support from the Social Science Research Council she returned to Japan this past summer to continue her research on “bride doll” marriage. This year she will also be a Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard University. Her first book, *Immortal Wishes: Labor and Transcendence on a Japanese Sacred Mountain*, is forthcoming from Duke University Press. In her first year at Brandeis she will teach courses on world religions, mythology and ritual, religious studies, and a new course on gender, culture, and power in East Asia.

**An Interview with Professor McIntosh**

What did you do before coming to Brandeis?

I finished my doctoral coursework at the University of Michigan, and then spent a year on the coast of Kenya doing my fieldwork, returning in the summer of 1999. I decided that I wanted to teach while I was writing my dissertation because I felt more useful and connected with others while teaching – teaching felt like real work.

I was accepted at the Harvard Expository Writing Program, which is a program that teaches mandatory writing courses to Harvard undergraduates. I was very glad to be accepted because they allow you to design your own courses. (If I had remained at the University of Michigan I would have had to take a position as a T.A. for someone else’s course.) At Harvard I taught a class on ritual, and learned a lot about ritual theory in the process. For the final paper, I asked students to write a ritual analysis on something that isn’t usually considered ritual, and guess what? You can find ritual just about everywhere you look.

I also wrote some chapters for edited book volumes and worked on my dissertation. I did
one other “teaching gig,” this one at the Anthropology Department of MIT, teaching a course on the “Anthropology of War and Peace.” This class was exciting and interesting for several reasons. Most of the students were initially interested in war for the war technology, and it was fascinating to try to interest students in the meanings and cultural value systems of war. We explored the ways people conceptualize their enemies and ways in which war is shaped by cultural priorities, as well as issues of ethnic conflict.

What have your main research projects been so far?

My dissertation work in a nutshell – I’ve been looking at ethnic relations on the coast of Kenya and how power differentials between different groups get played out in the way those groups both conceptualize and use each other’s religions and languages. Along the way all sorts of other things come up when you do research. I’ve written about the relationship between cognition and “power,” and also on how to interpret oppositional rituals (such as carnivals) in which social roles are completely turned around. The latter article focuses on funeral rituals among the Giriama, in which women, who are normally supposed to be sexually reserved, are allowed to sing and enact all sorts of sexually explicit material.

How did you decide on these projects?

I guess I have always been interested in how people give meaning to their world and each other, especially as so much conflict arises when the latter goes awry. I have also long been interested in certain big questions – such as how people in one culture can believe things that seem so implausible to people in another. And I have a background in cognitive science and philosophy of mind and language, which is rather unusual for an anthropologist. So I have an interest in how the macro-level socio-cultural questions asked by anthropologists relate to the micro-level questions asked by psychologists and linguists.

These general interests were given shape when I went to the field, because certain things jumped out at me. It became obvious that I would have to write about religion and language to write about how Swahili and Giriama on the coast of Kenya conceptualize each other.

Also, local events influence what you end up writing about. Before I started my dissertation I wrote a book chapter about some local Europeans who wanted to celebrate the five hundredth anniversary of the arrival of Vasco de Gama in East Africa, and how local Muslims took offense since they see him as an enemy of Islam. These events had everything to do with what’s going on in the world today.

What was fieldwork like? Do you have any particular field experiences that you remember
fondly – or the opposite? Did anything happen which you felt was particularly enlightening or interesting?

Two things come to mind. One is that I went to the field as an agnostic and hired a brilliant Giriama research assistant who was a fervent believer in traditional Giriama religion. He wanted to start a revival movement because he saw that the Giriama religion was being crowded out by Christianity and Islam. The long and the short of it is that after working for me for six months, he lost his faith, and it clearly had something to do with exposure to my epistemology as we worked together. Nowadays, anthropologists are trained to think about the power dynamics of our relationship with informants, but I still did not expect to change someone’s life trajectory so completely. It was interesting and also somewhat sad.

The other thing is the really painful sense of being pulled in many different directions. I was working with two groups – Giriama and Swahili, who can be fairly hostile towards each other. I lived halfway between them, next to some Christian missionaries who were constantly trying to convert me, while my Muslim Swahili friends were also trying to do the same. There was also a group of European expatriates who were always trying to get me to “loosen up” and be less serious, usually by offering me martinis. Everyone wanted me on their side and I stood there apart from all of them.

I guess these stories are both kind of downers. It’s true that fieldwork is one of the most challenging things you can do. It’s immensely rewarding, but it can be lonely and awkward as well.

What will you be teaching here?

In the fall, I’ll be teaching Modes of Thought, which will deal with some old debates in Anthropology, such as the differences and similarities among magic, science, and religion. We’re also going to look at the issue of whether literacy makes people think differently, and then – I’m very excited about this – at what can happen when two very different modes of thought, that of the colonizer and that of the colonized, encounter each other. We will also explore whether there is such a thing as a “modern” or “postmodern” mode of thought. I will also be teaching Language in American Life, which examines both language as a medium that constructs social worlds, and languages as they are related to diversity and social stratification.

In the Spring, I’ll be teaching Psychological Anthropology, which covers both the history of psychological anthropology from the culture and personality school onward, and the issues in psychological anthropology today. I will also be teaching Communication and Media, which I’m very excited about, examining communication codes and the cultural impact of revolutions in technology, such as printing, television, and computer networks.

What projects are you doing now or thinking about for the future?

Right now I’m transforming portions of my dissertation into articles.
New Graduate Students

The Anthropology Department welcomes the following new students into our graduate program:

Haley Colazzo was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology. She took her B.A. in history and sociology from Columbia University in 2000, and is interested in gender, the family, youth subcultures, and deviance. Her senior thesis focused on the psychological and social
effects of transracial adoption on African American children.

Laura John was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology. She took her B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania in 2001, and is interested in semiotics, the American Southwest, and archaeological theory, including issues of feminism, indigenous empowerment, and historical research. Her senior thesis studied style revitalizations in historic Pueblo ceramics.

Kimberley Long was admitted into the Ph.D. program in Anthropology and the M.A. program in Women’s Studies. She took her B.A. in Women’s Studies from the University of California at Irvine, and also did post-graduate study at the University of California at San Diego. Her interests include immigration and gender, gender and violence, gender and public policy, gender and addictions, Lebanese state formation and religion, Lebanese women, war, and work, and Muslim women. She is currently interning at Saddleback Community Outreach as a case manager assisting homeless families.

Anil Pillay was admitted into the M.A. program in Anthropology. He took his B.A. in South Asian Studies from Hampshire College and did post-graduate work at Harvard University Extension and Georgetown University. His senior thesis was an analysis of the Bhagavad Gita and his interests include medical anthropology and Kalaripayat, an indigenous martial, medical, and spiritual tradition in Kerala, India.

Anthropology Degree and Prize Recipients of 2002

Doctor of Philosophy Degrees
Nitish Jha successfully defended his dissertation entitled “The Bifurcate Subak: The Social Organization of a Balinese Irrigation Community” on December 7, 2001. His dissertation committee was chaired by Robert C. Hunt, and included David E. Jacobson and David Kaplan, of our Anthropology Department, George N. Appell, and David W. Guillet, of the Anthropology Department of Catholic University. He received the degree of Doctor on Philosophy in Anthropology in May of 2002.

Kim Shively successfully defended her dissertation entitled “Body and Nation: The Female Body, Religious Radicalism, and Nationalist Ideology in Modern Turkey” on June 8, 2001. Her dissertation committee was chaired by Richard J. Parmentier, and included Sarah Lamb of our Anthropology Department, and Carol L. Delaney, of the Social and Cultural Anthropology Department of Stanford University. She received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology in February of 2002.

Master of Arts Degrees
Donald L. Booth, Anthropology
Jodi D. DiProfio, Anthropology and Women’s Studies
Leslie Anne Powell, Anthropology and Women’s Studies
Sara Anne Withers, Anthropology and Women’s Studies
Melissa-Ann Yeager, Anthropology and Women’s Studies

Combined Bachelor of Arts and Masters of
Arts Degrees
Erin B. Waxenbaum, Anthropology

Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Anthropology
Kristin M. Albrecht
Matthew James Allen, with an additional major in Sociology
Amanda D. Atkinson
Rachel Barckhaus, Magna Cum Laude, with honors in History
Jonathan Ben-Ami
A. Douglas Cairo, with an additional major in Computer Science
Maura E. Collins, Magna Cum Laude, with an additional major in Art History, recipient of the Rosalind W. Levine Prize in Fine Arts, and completion of the Latin American Studies Program
Cara M. Constantino, Cum Laude
Brandi Lee Dennell, with high honors in Anthropology and completion of the Women’s Studies Program
Tina L. Digiampietro
Elizabeth M. Donohue, Cum Laude, with honors in Fine Arts
Brenton Mark Easter, with an additional major in Politics
Elise Kristina Fregosi
Elizabeth Anne George
Rebecca A. Goldman, with high honors in Anthropology, with an additional major in Politics
Naomi Ruth Goodman, Magna Cum Laude, with an additional major in History
Carla J. Hostetter, with additional majors in Art History and Sociology
Belinda S. Jacobus, Cum Laude, with high honors in Psychology
Shira Ryal Kafer, Cum Laude
Sarah F. Katel, Cum Laude, with completion of the Latin American Studies Program, and recipient of the Jane’s Essay Prize in Latin American Studies
Lisa M. Katzlin, with an additional major in Sociology
Ian S. Krauter, Cum Laude, with an additional major in Linguistics and Cognitive Science

Magna Cum Laude, with honors in History
Jonathan Ben-Ami
A. Douglas Cairo, with an additional major in Computer Science
Maura E. Collins, Magna Cum Laude, with an additional major in Art History, recipient of the Rosalind W. Levine Prize in Fine Arts, and completion of the Latin American Studies Program
Cara M. Constantino, Cum Laude
Brandi Lee Dennell, with high honors in Anthropology and completion of the Women’s Studies Program
Tina L. Digiampietro
Elizabeth M. Donohue, Cum Laude, with honors in Fine Arts
Brenton Mark Easter, with an additional major in Politics
Elise Kristina Fregosi
Elizabeth Anne George
Rebecca A. Goldman, with high honors in Anthropology, with an additional major in Politics
Naomi Ruth Goodman, Magna Cum Laude, with an additional major in History
Carla J. Hostetter, with additional majors in Art History and Sociology
Belinda S. Jacobus, Cum Laude, with high honors in Psychology
Shira Ryal Kafer, Cum Laude
Sarah F. Katel, Cum Laude, with completion of the Latin American Studies Program, and recipient of the Jane’s Essay Prize in Latin American Studies
Lisa M. Katzlin, with an additional major in Sociology
Ian S. Krauter, Cum Laude, with an additional major in Linguistics and Cognitive Science

Bachelor of Science Degrees in Anthropology
Jessica Michele Magid, with completion of the Latin American Studies Program
Daphne Malthowitz
Bonnie L. Matross, with an additional major in Psychology
Edith M. Meyerson, with an additional major in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
Micha Z. Negut
Kaitlin O. Nichols, with an additional major in Sociology, and recipient of the David Alexander ’79 Memorial Award for Social Consciousness and Activism
Abbas Javaid Qureshi, recipient of the Jacob and Bella Thurman Award for Social Citizenship
Miguel Ariel Roca, with an additional major in African American Studies
Joshua M. Romond, with honors in Anthropology
Ronit D. Schlein
Avital Noa Schwartz, Cum Laude
Jarrah Kimberly Schwartz, with an additional major in Psychology
Emily J. Sessions, Cum Laude, with high honors in Anthropology, and an additional major in Psychology
Daniel Adam Tilton
Jomar Demetres White
Kevin M. Wyrsch
Margalit Younger
Abigail D. Zeveloff, Magna Cum Laude, with highest honors in Anthropology, recipient of the Betty and Harry S. Shapiro Endowed Award in Anthropology

Bachelor of Science Degrees in Anthropology
Chalice M.R. Santorelli, with an additional major in Biology

Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Biological Anthropology
Interview with Professor Hunt

What did you enjoy most while teaching at Brandeis?

What I have enjoyed about teaching is the performance aspect of it – several performances a week in front of a live audience – it’s been wonderful. The magic that happens when a disconnected group of students – disconnected from each other, the professor, and the subject – comes together as a working group illustrates that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Another, secondary, thing is the naive penetrating question that opens up whole new areas of the subject. You don’t know that one of those is going to be asked unless you give students lots of chances to talk and listen to them when they do.

What did you enjoy least while teaching at Brandeis?

Teaching here is actually pretty good. Students who whine about grades – especially those who present a labor-value theory reason for why the grade should be higher.

Do you think your experiences of fieldwork have changed over time? In what ways has “the field” changed since you entered Anthropology?

Extended fieldwork has been the gold standard from the time I entered the field in the mid-fifties, but the reality is that there are dozens of different ways fieldwork has been done. There are variations by length of time in the field, control of the language used

Professor Hunt and well-wishers at his farewell party. Photo courtesy of Professor David Jacobson.
in the field, and the problem orientation of the fieldwork itself. You can go back to the twenties and find the same variation and it’s still true today.

Several very notable anthropologists, such as Sahlins, Murdock, and even Ellman Service were not known for their fieldwork – as opposed to Evans-Pritchard or Leach. So

the professional presentation of self can be roughly divided into field reports, systematic comparative studies, and what we might call general works. Take Linton’s The Study of Man – his fieldwork was minor, but his book is anything but. Murdock never did fieldwork, but his work was very impressive. The relationship of the field assignment to the subsequent work is very variable, and this variability in the relationship goes back to the very beginning.

If you’re going to make your mark, it seems to me that you have to do one of the three – field reports, comparative studies, or general theoretical work. Call these ideal types – such as field reports as in Witchcraft, Oracles, and Magic Among the Azande, and systematic comparative studies as in Murdock’s Social Structure – and the difference is in whether one is illustrating or demonstrating one’s point.

Service in A Century of Controversy, which examined kinship studies from 1861-1961, found that there were two dimensions, the “scientific,” and the “humanistic” styles, which went right back to the beginning. In the book, Service recalls talking to Benedict, who was aware of the scientific style of kinship studies, but who simply wasn’t interested in it. We have these enduring approaches, and whether science is in the ascendancy or whether the humanistic approach is, is a matter of fashion. Service says the two styles go back to 1861 and I think he’s right about that.

It would therefore be false to talk about a paradigm shift since the two styles were there right from the beginning; the only thing that shifts is their relative attraction.

It would be tempting to say that since I came into the field there has been a shift from science to interpretation but there has only been a shift in attractiveness. There is a considerable amount of heterogeneity in what can be done in the field.

One thing that does change for sure is what is currently attractive. Let me give you an example. When I entered the field the Culture and Personality school was very strong, and my first few publications were in psychological anthropology. Earl Count, Kroeber, and Sherry Wachburn shifted their interests. It was appropriate to work in a field for a while and then shift – no one saw it as a betrayal!

But I don’t know why the field as a whole shifted away from Culture and Person-
ality studies. Soon after I shifted interests, the whole question became anathema. I haven’t a clue as to why those questions were interesting, and then not interesting.

Personally, one also wants to be able to say why an individual shifts interests – and I will save my insights for my autobiography. But I think that if you interviewed all the people who left the Culture and Personality school, you would find no uniformity at all in their reasons for why they left. The reasons of the individuals probably would not account for the great anthropology-wide shift away from that line of study.

I have been involved in a number of group shifts like that one. Culture and Personality, ethnoscience – both still exist, but by and large the first adopters dropped out. In many cases, the first adopters weren’t very good at the study; however, those who stuck with these studies, such as D’Andrade and Berlin, do excellent and lasting work as a continuation of what other people started. Now, of course, they are a small group of specialists mainly communicating with each other – few people read their work and they don’t communicate much to the general profession.

How you think fieldwork research and library research relate to one another? How have they done so for you?

I’m going to complicate your categories. First, there is field research, which is dealing with people and institutions in situ. From my point of view, that’s trying to get the local reality right. But talking to people is not the only way to get at the local reality. There are a variety of field reports, articles, newspaper, and archival materials that you can read to get it. There is also a local reality that is diachronic, and to get that you need access to archives and local libraries.

In my view, the comparative advantage of anthropology is that we have a better handle on local reality than any other discipline. I think I don’t accept a division between library research and fieldwork, or between paper and people. I would rather speak about finding the local reality, documenting it, and recording it. You can talk to people, go to local archives, library materials, previous research – all of this needs to be taken into account.

The enterprise of anthropology is to get that local reality right and then to go and do other things with multiple sets of local realities. One of the things which one can do is a regional synthesis – putting together a picture, both diachronic and synchronic, of how several local realities fit together. Another approach is systematic comparison – which can almost never be based on the fieldwork of one person alone. The third project is human nature.

What projects are you working on currently or thinking about for the future?

Project one is the book Apples and Oranges on comparative epistemology, which is nearly finished. Project two is a two-article series on primitive money. Project three is my transfer project, which is to look at those kinds of allocation events which are not exchanges but transfers. I want to do chapters on foundations, theft, charity, and gifts. Project four is an article proposing a foraging revolution comparable to the neo-
Jeffrey P. Blomster, in addition to teaching and advising students in the Anthropology Department, has also published “Etlatongo,” in Archaeology of Ancient Mexico and Central America: An Encyclopedia, edited by Susan T. Evans and David L. Webster (New York: Garland Publishing), and “Exploraciones arqueológicas en Etlatongo, Oaxaca, Mexico,” in Notas Mesoamericanas (15, in press). He has an article under peer review for the journal Ancient Mesoamerica entitled “What and Where is Olmec Style: Regional Perspectives on Hollow Figurines.” Professor Blomster also presented a paper entitled “Transformation and Syncretism: Native Art and Culture under Spanish Influence” as an invited lecturer at the Allentown Art Museum (Allentown, Pennsylvania, March), as well as “What Lies Beneath: Prehistory in Historic Contexts” with K. Presler at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, April 2001), and “Obsidian Exchange in Formative Period Oaxaca: A View from the Mizteca Alta,” with M. Glascock at the 67th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (Denver, March 2002). Professor Blomster was recently quoted at length in a United Press International article on the origins of chocolate usage among the Maya. He is currently working on a draft of a book on his Oaxaca research.

Kim Gutschow has left us in order to accept a position in the Department of Religion at Wesleyan University. We wish her well!

Robert C. Hunt, in addition to teaching and advising students in the Department, has published several articles, including “Household Management: Accounting and Planning” in the Society for Economic Anthropology Newsletter (21: 2, essay for a column entitled “Unsolved Problems in Economic Anthropology”); “Irrigation: Management and ‘Reform,” in the International Journal of Water (1), “Economic Transfers and Exchanges: Concepts for Describing Allocations,” in Jean Esminger’s Theory in Economic Anthropology (Walnut Creek, Ca: Alta Mira Press), and “Irrigated Agriculture,” for Oxford Economic History (Oxford University Press, forthcoming). Professor Hunt has also served as the Head of the Graduate Program and on the Search Committees that hired professor Schattschneider and Professor Ferry, as well as as the Chair of the International Studies Abroad Committee. This year, he gave a paper at the 150th year Jubileum of Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land-, en Volkenkunde at Leiden, entitled “Locally Controlled Irrigation Systems: Principles and Practices” (this paper has been accepted for publication), as well as a workshop at Brandeis on “Writing Grant Proposals” (GSAS, March 1, 2002) and a talk at the Scholars Dinner on “Hunt at the Bridge” (March 25, 2002). He is the founder and editor of a column for the Society for Economic Anthropology Newsletter, “Unsolved Problems in Economic Anthropology: Theoretical, Conceptual, Empirical, as well as serving on the editorial board of the Society for Economic Anthropology and reading manuscripts for Routledge Publishers. His current work involves preparing
his book, *Apples and Oranges* for submission to Alta Mira Press, and preparing a paper on the possibility of a foraging revolution analogous to the agricultural, urban, and industrial revolutions for the Ninth Conference on Hunter and Gatherer Societies (scheduled for September of 2002), as well as a new project synthesizing anthropological views of primitive money. Professor Hunt advanced to the title of Professor Emeritus at the end of the 2001-2002 year, and we wish him a wonderful retirement, and hope that we will continue to see him from time to time!

**David Jacobson**, in addition to teaching and advising students in the Department this year, has served on many committees, including the Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, the Faculty Committee on Information Technology, the Faculty Committee on Intellectual Property Policy, the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Senate Committee on Course Evaluations, the Internet Studies Steering Committee, and the Writing Intensive Committee. He also served as the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Virtual Environments* (http://www.brandeis.edu/pubs/jove), and as a manuscript referee for the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Social Science and Medicine, American Anthropologist, American Ethnologist, Qualitative Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Journal of Online Behavior*, and the *Journal of Virtual Environments*. Professor Jacobson presented his paper “Engagement in Virtual Worlds” at the Boston CyberPsychology Seminar (May 16, 2001), and his paper “The Fifth Element of the Internet Marketing Mix: Online Community” in the McCallum Graduate School of Business, Bentley College Consumers and Technology Research Center Spring 2002 Seminar Series (April 18, 2002). He published “Presence Revisited: Imagination, Competence, and Activity in Text-Based Virtual Environments,” in *CyberPsychology and Behavior* (4:6), and “On Theorizing Presence” in the *Journal of Virtual Environments* (6:1).

**Sarah Lamb**, while teaching and doing general advising for students this year, also served as the liaison for the Joint M.A. in Anthropology and Women’s Studies, and the Undergraduate Advising Head, as she has in past years. She has also served on a number of other boards and committees at Brandeis, including the Search Committee which hired professors Schattschneider and Ferry, the University Curriculum Committee, the Premedical Advisory Board, the Faculty Morale Committee, the Health and Society Program Committee, the Women’s Studies Faculty Executive Committee, the Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, and a search committee for a postdoctoral fellow in Islamic Studies. She was also a member of the Hewlett Interdisciplinary Seminar in Women’s Studies and served as a Schiff Undergraduate Fellows Program Faculty Mentor. Professor Lamb gave the following papers this past year: “Imagining ‘India’ and ‘America’ Through Modalities of Old Age,” at a panel on “Global Ages: Childhood, Youth, and Old Age in the Time of Global Flows,” at the *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* (Washington D.C., November 2001); “Representing ‘Other’ Worlds: Stories from Suburban America and Village Bengal,” at the *Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting* (Washington D.C., April 2002), and “We’re All Babysitters and Cooks: Gender, Generation, and the Globalization of Work in South Asian American Transnational Families,” invited paper at the *Conference on Gender and Globalization* (Anthropology Department, Syracuse University, April 2002). Professor Lamb has
published *Everyday Life in South Asia*, edited with Diane P. Mines (Bloomington, Indiana University Press: 2002), which includes her article “Love and Aging in Bengali Families.” She has also published “Generation in Anthropology” in the *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*. Professor Lamb also serves as a manuscript reviewer for *American Ethnologist, American Anthropologist, Medical Anthropology Quarterly, Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology,* and *Sociology of Health and Illness,* and as a Grant Application Reviewer for the Social Science Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship. She is currently working on two major projects. One is a book on the ways South Asian American Transnational families experience aging. She is also conducting background research for her next major fieldwork project on single women in India, presently concentrating on historical and archival work and the life stories of single women previously collected in 1989-1990 and 1985-1986. This project uses the narratives and experiences of single women in North India (including never-married, widowed, and divorced women, women living in same-sex relationships, prostitutes, and professionals) to challenge and extend prevailing notions of women in India as defined predominantly through marriage, and to examine the interplay between agency and constraint, individual lived experience and broader structural forces in particular people’s lives.


**Richard J. Parmentier**, in addition to teaching and advising students in the department this year, also served as the Chair of the Anthropology Department. The responsibilities of this position included chairing two search committees for tenure-track positions in Anthropology (which positions were awarded to incoming professors Schattschneider and Ferry), and chairing a search committee for a three-year position in archaeological anthropology (ongoing). In addition to these duties, professor Parmentier has published “Money Walks, People Talk: Systemic and Transactional Dimensions of Palauan Exchange,” in *L’Homme* 162 (2002), a review of Benjamin Lee’s *Talking Heads: Language,*

Javier Urcid was awarded the Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship for the academic year of 2001-2002, and subsequently spent the year working on his own projects. Professor Urcid published his book Zapotec Hieroglyphic Writing, number 34 in the series Studies in Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology (Dumbarton Oaks, Washington D.C.: 2001), as well as several papers appearing as edited chapters in books: “La Conquista por el Señor I Muerte: Inscripción Zapoteca en un Cilindro Cerámico” in Ma. de los Angeles Romero Frizzi’s De la Pintura a la Escritura: Oaxaca del siglo VII al XX (Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia y Centro de Investigaciones u Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social, Mexico: in press); “Sacred Caves and Migration Legends as Allegories for Postclassic Alliance and Exchange Networks,” with Dr. John Pohl, in Pilgrimage and the Ritual Landscape in Pre-Columbian America (Dumbarton Oaks Symposium: 2002 expected); “Lecciones de una Urna Nuiñe” in Patricia Plunket’s Mesoamerican Studies: Festuchft in Honor of John Paddock (Universidad de las Américas, Puebla: in press); and “La Faz Oculta de una Misteriosa Máscara de Piedra,” in Memoria de la Segunda Mesa Redonda de Monte Albán (Sociedad u Patrimonio Arqueológico en el Valle de Oaxaco, Nelly M. Robles García, ed.) (Conaculta/INAH, Mexico City: in press). He has also published “Carved Monuments and Calendrical Names: The Rulers of Rio Viejo, Oaxaca,” in Ancient Mesoamerica 12 (2001), and “The Olmec Legacy: Cultural Continuity on Mexico’s Southern Gulf Coast,” with Thomas W. Killion in the Journal of Field Archaeology (in press). Professor Urcid also presented his paper, “Settlement and Monumental Architecture on Classic Period Southern Veracruz,” co-authored with Elba Domínguez and Thomas Killion, at the 66th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeologists (New Orleans, April 2001), and made his presentation “Silent Voices on Tumbled Megaliths” to the Woodrow Wilson Center (Princeton, October 2001). Other lectures and papers which he has presented include “The Archaeology of Aztec Human Sacrifice” as an invited lecture in the Social Sciences Colloquia of Bennington College (Vermont, October 2001), “Writing and Society on the Mixteca de la Costa (300-900 A.D.),” a paper presented to the 9th Mixtec Gateway Conference (Las Vegas, March 2002), and “Scribal Traditions and Interrogational Interactions: A View from Coastal Oaxaca and Guerrero,” a paper presented to the
Alumni News

**Amanda Finegold** is about to graduate from Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and will be relocating to Philadelphia to start a residency in Family Practice at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.


**Andy Jocuns** is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Sociolinguistics at Georgetown University, and hopes to achieve A.B.D. status in the Fall of this year. He will be pursuing his research on the discursive construction of specialized knowledge, focusing on how a non-western form of music — Balinese Gamelan — is taught in several contexts. If anyone is interested in corresponding with him, he can be reached at jocunsa@georgetown.edu or at http://www.georgetown.edu/users/jocunsa/.

**Bernice J. Koplin** (M.A. ’70) is a partner in the law firm of Schachtel, Gerstley, Levine & Koplin, in Philadelphia, PA and Haddonfield, NJ and concentrates her practice in tax, estates and trust, and small business matters and related litigation. After Brandeis, she graduated from Temple University Law School, where she served as Associate Research Editor of its law review, and from which she also earned an LLM in Taxation and an LLM in Trial Advocacy. She served as a law clerk to Judge Judith J. Jamison of the Orphans’ Court Division of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, and as a judicial intern to Judge Max Rosenn of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She has published numerous articles and lectured on a variety of tax and estate issues, is an active member of the boards of several local charitable organizations, including as Chair of the Central Committee of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Chair of Planned Giving for American Technion Society, as a member of the Planned Giving Committee of The Curtis Institute of Music, and had served on the steering committee of the Philadelphia chapter of the Brandeis Alumni Association. She continues her concern with the socio-economic position of women, which was the focus of her field work in Antigua and master’s thesis at Brandeis.


**Jamie Wallace** is working on his Master’s
Katerina Ailova’s specialist essay titled “Creating and Consuming Meaning: Ideologies in Advertising and in Social Response” has been accepted by her committee. She is now applying for funding for her fieldwork in the Czech Republic that will focus on how advertising contributes to cultural change by providing a new symbolic and ideological environment. The post-communist social environment is undergoing profound changes in terms of rapid social stratification and influences of global media, which also produces sites of cultural resistance.

Ryan Arp spent the first part of his summer performing ceramic analysis in Oaxaca, Mexico under funding from the Jane’s Travel Grant. He also taught a course titled Modeling the Past: GIS and Archaeology for the Brandeis Summer Odyssey Program. The course focused on prehistoric archaeological sites in the Charles River Watershed of Massachusetts. He spent part of August attending a seminar on spatial analysis at UC Santa Barbara under a fellowship from the Center for Spatially Integrated Social Sciences.

Jessica Basile will be taking a leave of absence over the year 2002-2003. She writes: I am working several different jobs at this point, adding up to full-time hours. Living in Boston is expensive for two graduate students and a toddler! I’m looking forward to getting back into my own research next year.

Keridwen Luis passed her Comprehensive Exams in the Spring of 2002, and will be spending the upcoming academic year working on her specialist essay and seeking funding for her dissertation research. Over the summer, she has been working on learning photography and putting this newsletter together. She hopes to be ABD and getting ready for the field by this time next year.

Mark Seifert reports that his specialist essay is in its last stages, and that he hopes to take the language exam and become ABD in early Fall. He returned from his fifth trip to his fieldsite in Panama in June, and is planning one more trip this winter. His dissertation study involves understanding the influence of tourism, development and the influx of cash for rural (mostly native) Panamanians along the Caribbean (Mosquito) Coast. In September, he is planning to attend the CHAGS (Conference on Hunter and
Brandeis University Anthropology Department Newsletter
Open me up to find out what's been going on this past year!