



Department of

Anthropology **NEWS**

Vol. 4 - Issue No. 9

January 1, 2010

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WELCOME BACK Felice Wyndham and Pat Moore from sabbatical!

WELCOME TO NEW MA STUDENT FARZAD AMOOZEGAR-FASSIE. Farzad's paperwork has finally been approved by FoGs and he comes to us from the Department of Music at UBC.

WELCOME TO VISITING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MARIE-PIERRE BOUSQUET, who is visiting us from the University of Montreal from January 15-January 31, 2010.

WELCOME TO VISITING PHD STUDENT HEATHER HARRICK, who is visiting us from Cornell University this term.

WELCOME TO NICKY LEVELL. Nicky will be teaching ANTH 241(001) and ANTH 341A(002) this term.

WELCOME TO CAMILLA SPELLER. Camilla will be teaching ANTH 326(001) this term.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to David Geary in completing his PhD thesis: "Destination Enlightenment: Buddhism and the Global Bazaar in Bodh Gaya, Bihar"
[Supervisor: John Barker, Committee: Anand Yang, Henry Jackson School of International Studies, Gaston Gordillo]

PUBLICATIONS:

Miller, Bruce

2009 Expert Report to BC Human Rights Tribunal, Pivot and VANDU v. DV BIA et al BCHRT File No. 62281.1. (re: access of Aboriginal homeless to public spaces in Vancouver).

Shelton, Anthony

2009 Interview by Gustaaf Houtman. Negotiating New Visions. Anthropology Today. 25,6: 7-13.

Shelton, Anthony

2009 Interview. A Partnership of Peoples. Frontier 7:5-8.

Shelton, Anthony

2009 Interview. Renegade Museologist. Vancouver Review 23 (Fall): 14-16

PRESENTATIONS:

Barker, John

December 2, 2009 Christian Conversion and the Perception of Time in Melanesia ,American Anthropological Association meetings, Philadelphia.

Green, Denise Nicole

December 4, 2009 Film presented, "Somewhere in Between" (29 minutes), American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Vivaldi, Ana

December 2nd, 2009. Paper presented " Fluidity and Frictions: Theoretical Possibilities of Spatializing Mobility' on the "Theorizing Mobilities" panel, American Anthropological Association. 108th Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

REMINDERS:

Anthropology Colloquia 2009-10, “ Full Cycle: Celebrating 60 Years of Anthropology at UBC”

Millie Creighton (UBC)

Thursday, January 28 , 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, AnSo 134

§ Japan and the Special Olympics and Obama and § : Re-Circulating Minorities, Margins, and Mainstages in Modern Japan

The Winter Olympics—as occurring in Vancouver, Canada in 2010, and the election of Barack Obama—as President of the United States in 2008, reflect globalizing insights on movements surrounding minorities and marginalization in Japan that contest hierarchies of people and of space and place. This talk explores the dynamics involved when Japan, a society where the disabled were once stigmatized and hidden, took the lead in being the first (and still only) country to host the Special Olympic World Winter Games at the same sites as the Olympic and ParaOlympic Games. This highlighted Special Olympics is discussed within the context of the generalized “coming out” movement of people with disabilities in Japan, and in reference to President Obama’s comments on Special Olympics in a US popular culture television interview. The linkage of Obama and the Special Olympics circles back to Japan, through analysis of how, why and to what extent the US Presidential election of Obama (the “Back Horse”) coverage in Japan reflected a momentous change from prior projections of racial hierarchies and previously presented images of Blacks. Contemporary challenges to the marginalization and low-ranking of particular groups of people in Japan are mirrored in challenges to hierarchies of space and place (which operate to marginalize or mainstage the people in them). This is explored through the spotlight on Obama—the place, during the US presidential campaign of Obama—the person, in Japan, Asia, back to the US, then out again to the world. Through the adjoined windows of the Olympics and Obama, the talk brings together diverse contemporary challenges to the rhetoric of homogeneous Japan as a circle of accepted harmony and hierarchy, while it looks at the extent of advancement on similar issues in the West (with an open message for VANOC). The talk is based on the speaker’s involvement as a volunteer during the Special Olympic World Winter Games in Nagano, Japan in 2005 and her research on Obama, Japan in 2009.

§ Indicates to repeat in a circle, like an Olympic ring or wa symbol, from the previous/next §

Hiroshi Aoyagi (Kokushikan University)

Thursday February 11, 11:30 am-1:00 pm, AnSo 134

“Some Thoughts on the Impact of Cool Japan in Southeast Asia”

Student Evaluations for Winter Term 1

Completed forms are **due from faculty to the Graduate Office by January 8, 2010.**

4th Annual Anthropology Film Festival

Call for film submissions: with an anthropological approach to housing, food security, immigrant labour, migration, poverty, environment and labour issues.

Deadline for film submissions: January 21, 2010

For more information, please go to: <http://anthfilm.anth.ubc.ca/events.html>

THANKS:

Thanks to those of you that contributed to the Anthropology Food Drive in December, which was donated to the Vancouver Food Bank. We were able to collect four boxes, with the help of MOA and MOA collected \$270.00 cash as well! WELL DONE MOA!

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY NEWS:

“Celebration of Creativity” – the launch of the ‘new’ MOA!

Saturday, January 23, 10 am to midnight, Sunday, January 24, 10 am to 5 pm, Tuesday, January 26, 7 pm to 9 pm. All events free - all ages welcome!

MOA's \$55.5 million expansion and renewal project is nearly complete! For several years, MOA staff and a host of community partners and talented associates have been working hard to create new and amazing opportunities for visitors to explore different ways of knowing, understanding, and appreciating the world's arts and cultures.

To mark the end of the project and the start of a new era for MOA, we are planning a three-day public festival – “A Celebration of Creativity” – on Saturday, January 23, Sunday, January 24, and the evening of Tuesday, January 26, 2010. Presented with Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad, the event involves MOA's First Nations and other community partners, our very generous funders and sponsors, Museum members, donors, and supporters, as well as dignitaries, artists, and luminaries from the around the world.

We yah hani nah First Nations Dance Festival

Monday, February 1 – Monday, February 8, 2010

Presented with Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad, co-hosted by the Dancers of Damelahamid

The 2010 We yah hani nah Coastal First Nations Dance Festival has an exciting line-up of dance groups from BC, the Yukon, and New Zealand. The festival will reach new communities and audiences in 2010 with performances at the Centennial Theatre in North Vancouver, the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre in Whistler, and the UBC Museum of Anthropology in Vancouver.

Digital Heritage Symposium – Connecting Cultural Content and Experience

Thursday, February 4 & Friday, February 5, 2010

Presented with Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad, co-hosted by MOA and Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN)

A 2-day symposium at the Museum of Anthropology, exploring the interplay between objects and digital media; social media and museums, digital art and its preservation; youth and digital culture; interactivity in museums and galleries (includes mobile technologies and alternative interaction devices to enhance cultural experience, wearable computing, gaming); internet-based cultural heritage applications, including online learning; digital repatriation. For more information, email programs@moa.ubc.ca.