

COUNCIL ON ANTHROPOLOGY AND REPRODUCTION

FALL 2011

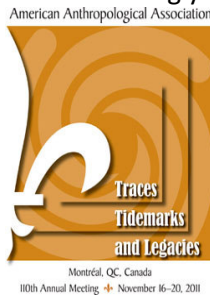
Volume 18, Issue 2

Mark your calendars!

The CAR Open Business Meeting will take place at the upcoming AAA conference, on Saturday, November 19th, from 12:15-13:30 in the Montreal Convention Center 512E.

The CAR Mentoring Session at this year's AAA conference will be on Wednesday, November 16th, from 12 to 2pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!



<http://sites.google.com/site/anthrorepro/>

CAR Committee Members 2011-2012

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Paper Prize	Crystal Patil (Chair); Robbie Davis-Floyd; Catherine Maternowska; Jill Fleuriet; Rachel Chapman
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Newsletter	Diana Santana; Nicole Gallicchio
Listserv	Lara Braff
Website	Sarah Orndorff (present); Jan Brunson (incoming)

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Member Updates

Jan Brunson: I joined the faculty this fall at the University of Hawai'i Manoa as Assistant Professor of Anthropology. I welcome applications from prospective Master's or Ph.D. students interested in the politics of reproduction, family planning, and maternal health.



Joanna Mishtal: After carrying out research on reproductive rights and policies in Poland 2000-2007, Joanna decided to launch a new project in Ireland and at the EU with preliminary studies in summers of 2009 and 2010. After her Polish research, Ireland made sense as a parallel site with severe reproductive rights restrictions and a prominent role of the Catholic church, but different political and religious histories and trajectories. The new project is tentatively titled, "Bioethics in Ireland and in the European Union: Supranational Governance, State Sovereignty, and the Politics of Reproduction." Joanna's preliminary findings from research with doctors in the Irish medical community show that the Catholic governance of reproductive bioethics is being contested by increasing forms of ambivalence toward the church and a growing secularizing trend within the community of gynecologists and ob/gyns. But the prevalent politics of silence create reluctance among most healthcare providers and politicians to engage in an open discourse about reproductive healthcare needs of Irish women.

In addition to her work in Ireland and at the EU, Joanna was awarded the Wenner-Gren Foundation Hunt Fellowship to complete the book manuscript based on her research in Poland titled, "Contradictions of Democratization: Reproductive Rights and the Politics of Morality in Poland." This is a historical, theoretical, and ethnographic study of the intersections of politics, gender, and religion based on 21 months of fieldwork in Kraków, Gdańsk, and Warsaw, 2000-2007. Joanna's work explores the postsocialist democratization process and the contentiousness of reproductive politics that emerged since the 1989 fall of state socialism.

Linda Layne: I am spending this year on sabbatical at Cambridge's Centre for Family Research starting a comparative study of single mothers by choice in the US and UK. The Centre is doing research on topics that will be of interest to many CAR members. One of their key research areas is non-traditional families. Anyone working with donor gametes, lesbian or gay parents, single mothers by choice will find a wealth of first-rate scholarship here. Much of the work has a child development focus, i.e., the reason we can say "The Kids are Alright" with confidence is because of studies this center conducted. They are also doing great work from other disciplinary and methodological perspectives including historical, bioethical, and anthropological.



Current research projects on 'new families' are:

- *Adolescents conceived by donor insemination
- *Young adults raised from infancy in lesbian mother families
- *Parent-child relationships and the psychological development of the child
- *Bioethics, Assisted Reproduction and Emerging Family Forms
- *Parenting and the Psychological Development of Adoptive Children Raised in Gay Father Families

Another research area is *Genetics, Health and Families* and this group has two projects likely to interest CAR members: Prenatal Diagnosis in the UK, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic, Sweden and Greece, and a questionnaire study of parental attitudes and beliefs about post-mortem examination in miscarriage, stillbirth, and termination for fetal abnormality. You can get more information on the centre at: <http://www.cfr.cam.ac.uk/research/esd.php>



Cynthia Gabriel: Dear CAR colleagues, I am proud to announce that my baby of many-years-gestation is published and in the world! "Natural Hospital Birth: The Best of Both Worlds" is a guide for the laywoman (not an academic book) who is hoping for natural birth inside a hospital. This book came about because of my dissertation research at a Russian birth hospital in 2000, where I watched 65 natural hospital births take place in a row (with only one exception). Woman after woman labored under her own power. Sixty-four out of sixty-five Russian women used neither pharmaceutical pain relief nor oxytocin drugs to stimulate labor. While c-sections did occur during my time at the birth

hospital, only one was for "failure to progress." All other c-sections on my shifts were planned in advance. I also listened to dozens of conversations between Russian health care providers and new mothers about herbal remedies for various ailments, from mastitis to itching to increasing milk supply. Because our birth hospital was well-equipped with up-to-date technologies and medicines, I knew that it was not lack of antibiotics or the absence of a sterile operating room that guided the natural-leaning decisions of the Russian doctors and akusherki (roughly, midwives). Instead, I realized that hospital professionals and birthing women shared a culture of understanding about birth. This culture is changing in the direction of more medicalization, but at the time I worked in Russia, natural hospital birth was the norm.

When I returned to the States, I was stunned to realize what an unusual experience this was for an American birth researcher. I do not think there is a hospital in the United States at which this experience could be repeated today. As an anthropologist, I was able to see the American war that takes place between hospital and homebirth advocates as a cultural phenomenon. Russia taught me that the hospital setting is not responsible, in and of itself, for the medicalization of birth. I decided to turn my anthropological gaze at American birth. I interviewed over 200 women who have had natural hospital births and I worked as a doula inside hospitals. I have tried to write with a "culture broker" philosophy, demystifying the particular culture that is an American hospital for pregnant women. "Natural Hospital Birth" is the result. It is published by Harvard Common Press and available at all the usual bookstores and websites, but you can get an autographed copy directly from me at cynthia@togrow.org.

Christine Morton: I'm pleased to announce the release of the report: The California Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review (CA-PAMR): Report from 2002 and 2003 Maternal Death Reviews. A link to this report can be found at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/CaliforniaPregnancy-AssociatedMortalityReview.aspx>. There have been quite a few media stories on this report; one of the best so far is from Mother Jones: <http://motherjones.com/blue-marble/2011/04/new-study-shows-more-pregnant-women-dying>. And this one was pretty good too: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/2011/04/report-african-american-women-at-higher-risk-for-maternal-death-in-calif.html>



There is less in the news stories about what is being done to address the issues identified in the report, but that is the focus of CMQCC - the organization I work for - and the data from this report is helping us to identify future areas where improvements can be made, mostly at the hospital/clinical education level. We have written toolkits on obstetric hemorrhage (a leading and preventable cause of death), elective deliveries less than 39 weeks' gestation and will be working on toolkits on preeclampsia and venous thrombo-embolic disease in the coming year. If anyone is working on racial/ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes, I'd love to hear from you! Christine Morton (cmorton@stanford.edu) Research Sociologist, California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative.

A Transnational Alliance in the Argentine Campaign For Legal, Safe, and Free Abortion

By Lynn M. Morgan and Mónica Tarducci

Dateline Buenos Aires, 3 June 2011

Mónica Tarducci, an Argentine feminist and member of the Argentine Collective of Feminist Anthropologists, invited CAR member Lynn M. Morgan to speak in Buenos Aires as part of the observance of May 28, International Day of Action for Women's Health. Morgan's talk, titled *"From reproductive rights to reproductive justice: An anthropological vision,"* was delivered in Spanish to honor the many Argentine feminist anthropologists who are actively involved (along with 250 other organizations) in the National Campaign for Legal, Safe, and Free Abortion (Campaña Nacional por el Aborto Legal, Seguro y Gratuito, hereafter Campaña). In a gesture of transnational solidarity, Morgan conveyed greetings to the audience from Virginia Dominguez, President of the American Anthropological Association, Dorothy Hodgson, President of the Association of Feminist Anthropologists, and Vania Smith-Oka, President of the Council on Anthropology and Reproduction.



The support of North Americans means a great deal to the Argentine feminist anthropologists working to achieve sexual and reproductive rights for all people. Abortion has long been illegal in Argentina, except in rare instances when the woman's life or health are at risk or when pregnancy results from the rape of a woman defined as an "idiot" or "demented." Despite its illegality, though, Argentina has one of the world's highest abortion ratios. As a result, maternal mortality ratios are unnecessarily high, as clandestine abortion places women's health and lives at risk.

The movement to legalize abortion in Argentina has been gaining momentum as part of an ongoing social mobilization around human rights. Argentina is internationally known for its human rights achievements, thanks in large part to the courageous Madres de la Plaza de Mayo who protested the disappearance of their children during and since the last military dictatorship (1976-1983). The Campaña has adopted the Madres' trademark kerchief as its symbol—in green rather than white—to emphasize the fact that "women's rights are human rights." Argentina has inspired North American human rights advocates in more ways than one. In 2010, Argentina became the first Latin American country to legalize gay and lesbian marriage. Argentine feminists were vocal supporters of marriage equality; equal marriage advocates are now vocally supporting the legalization of abortion.

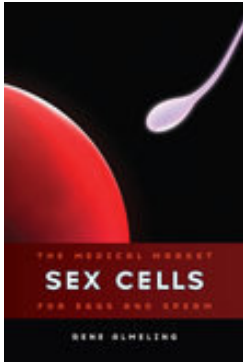
The initiative to legalize abortion is now gaining support in the Argentine Congress. In 2007, the Campaña presented a bill to the Chamber of Deputies (the lower house of the Argentine Congress) to legalize the voluntary termination of pregnancy during the first trimester. That bill never made it to the floor. In March 2010, the Campaña introduced another bill, this time with the sponsorship of 33 more deputies and almost all political parties, that would legalize abortion during the first 12 weeks of gestation and require public health facilities to provide the service free of charge. A floor debate is scheduled for July 2011. No matter what the outcome of this legislative cycle, the Campaña intends to keep up the pressure.

As Argentine and North American feminist anthropologists, we are proud to participate in this transnational alliance to support sexual and reproductive rights as basic rights of all people, through the guarantee of universal access to public health services and education that supports these rights. We invite all interested anthropologists to attend the X Congreso Argentino de Antropología Social, in Buenos Aires from Nov 29-Dec 2, 2011. For further information, contact xcaas.difusion@gmail.com.

Mónica Tarducci (latardu@gmail.com) teaches Anthropology in the Facultad de Filosofía y Letras at the University of Buenos Aires. Lynn M. Morgan (lmorgan@mtholyoke.edu) teaches Anthropology at Mount Holyoke College. To learn more about the Argentine Campaña por el Derecho al Aborto Legal, Seguro y Gratuito, visit <http://www.abortolegal.com.ar/> or visit us on Facebook. For coverage of Morgan's talk, see <http://www.pagina12.com.ar/diario/sociedad/3-169549-2011-06-06.html>.

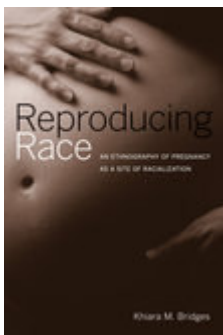
New Books

Almeling, Rene (2011). *Sex Cells: The Medical Market for Eggs and Sperm*. Berkeley: University of California Press.



[From University of California Press:](#) Unimaginable until the twentieth century, the clinical practice of transferring eggs and sperm from body to body is now the basis of a bustling market. In *Sex Cells*, Rene Almeling provides an inside look at how egg agencies and sperm banks do business. Although both men and women are usually drawn to donation for financial reasons, Almeling finds that clinics encourage sperm donors to think of the payments as remuneration for an easy "job." Women receive more money but are urged to regard egg donation in feminine terms, as the ultimate "gift" from one woman to another. *Sex Cells* shows how the gendered framing of paid donation, as either a job or a gift, not only influences the structure of the market, but also profoundly affects the individuals whose genetic material is being purchased.

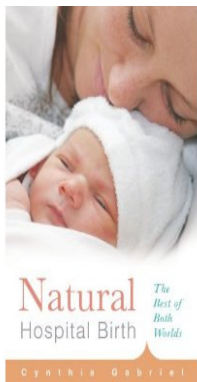
Bridges, Khiara (2011). *Reproducing Race: An Ethnography of Pregnancy as a Site of Racialization*. Berkeley: University of California Press.



[From University of California Press:](#) *Reproducing Race*, an ethnography of pregnancy and birth at a large New York City public hospital, explores the role of race in the medical setting. Khiara M. Bridges investigates how race—commonly seen as biological in the medical world—is socially constructed among women dependent on the public healthcare system for prenatal care and childbirth. Bridges argues that race carries powerful material consequences for these women even when it is not explicitly named, showing how they are marginalized by the practices and assumptions of the clinic staff. Deftly weaving ethnographic evidence into broader discussions of Medicaid and racial disparities in infant and maternal mortality, Bridges shines new light on the politics of healthcare for the poor, demonstrating how the “medicalization” of social problems

reproduces racial stereotypes and governs the bodies of poor women of color.

Gabriel, Cynthia (2011). *Natural hospital birth: The best of both worlds*. Boston: Harvard Common Press.



[From Harvard Common Press:](#) These days, many mothers-to-be find themselves torn between the desire for a natural childbirth with minimal medical intervention and the peace of mind offered by instant access to life-saving technology that only a hospital can provide. In *Natural Hospital Birth*, doula Cynthia Gabriel asserts that there is no good reason that women in North America should not be able to have both. She shows expectant mothers what they can do to avoid unnecessary medical interventions and how to take initiative and consciously prepare for the kind of birth they want to have. Also included are inspiring stories from other women who know firsthand that natural birth in the hospital is possible. With this book, mothers-to-be will be equipped with the knowledge they need to ensure a satisfying hospital birth that they will look back on with peace and joy.

Member Publications

Brunson, Jan. Guest Editor for Practicing Anthropology, Volume 33 Issue 3: Anthropological encounters with intimate partner violence: Reflections on our roles in advocating for a safer world.

<http://sfaa.metapress.com/openurl.asp?genre=issue&issn=0888-4552&volume=33&issue=3>

Ivry Tsipy, Teman Elly and Frumkin Ayala (2011). "God-Sent Ordeals and their Discontents: Haredi Ultra-orthodox Jewish Women Negotiate Prenatal Testing". Social Science and Medicine 72:1527-1533.

MacDonald, ME (2011). The cultural evolution of natural birth. The Lancet. Volume 378 (July 30): 394-395. (See the article in its entirety in this issue of the newsletter, or just click here for the electronic version:

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2811%2961200-2/fulltext>

Teman Elly, Ivry Tsipy, Barbara A. Bernhardt 2011 "Pregnancy as a Proclamation of Faith: Orthodox Jewish Women Navigating the Uncertainty of Pregnancy and Prenatal Diagnosis" American Journal of Medical Genetics part A 155: 69-80.

Van Hollen, Celia (2011). "Breast or Bottle? HIV-Positive Women's Responses to Global Health Policy on Infant Feeding in India." Forthcoming (December), In: Medical Anthropology Quarterly, 25(4).

Wan, M., Colfer, C.J.P., and Powell, B. (2011). Forests, women and health: opportunities and challenges for conservation. International Forestry Review, Vol.13(3).

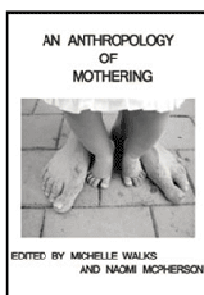
Walks, Michelle & Naomi McPherson, Eds. (2011). An Anthropology of Mothering. Toronto, Ontario: Demeter Press.

20% preorder discount!

fall 2011

An Anthropology of Mothering

edited by Michelle Walks and Naomi McPherson



In anthropology, cross-cultural research is fundamental. In relation to "mothering," cross-cultural research becomes enlightening, not only to understand the practices of so-called Others, but also to understand ourselves. The Anthropology of Mothering has developed fairly unstinted until the last couple of years, when an increase of research, attention, and respect has suddenly appeared. Geographically, this anthology focuses on places and populations from Canada, the United States, Central and South America, the South Pacific, Australia, Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Europe. The experiences and ideas represented within this volume are much more than geographically diverse, as indigenous and immigrant, rural and urban, religious and secular populations are represented, as well as non-represented as primary and homed mothering. Through the consideration of the experiences of grandmothers, au pairs, biological and adoptive mothers, mothers of soldiers, mothers of children with autism, mothers in the correctional system, among others, it becomes clear that human mothering is neither practiced nor experienced the same way over – indeed, even a single definition of what "mothering" is cannot be formed by the contributors of this anthology. Instead, while ideas of "good" mothering exist in every culture, the effects of colonialism and migration, as well as different understandings of a "d" relationship to food, religion, and government play prominent among many other factors, including age, relationship status, and sexuality of mothers themselves, to affect what is understood as "good" versus "bad" mothering.

Michelle Walks, a PhD student at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, is passionate about queer issues, reproductive health, mothering, and feminist anthropology. Her work has been published in the *Journal of the Association for Research on Mothering* (now the *Journal of the Motherhood Initiative*), and *Canadian Women Studies*.

Naomi McPherson is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, in Kelowna, BC. Naomi is an ethnologist scholar, with extensive fieldwork experience in New Britain (Papua New Guinea), the author of *In Colonial New Guinea: Anthropological Perspectives*, and is also the new Editor-in-Chief of *Anthropologica*.

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Call For Papers/Submissions



The Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, will host its seventh annual History of Women's Health Conference on Wednesday, April 18, 2011. We invite interested persons to send a one to two page proposal or abstract of your topic by Friday, November 4, 2011 for consideration. The History of Women's Health Conference focuses on women's health issues from the late 18th century to the present. This conference encourages interdisciplinary work. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, obstetric and gynecology

issues (fertility, infertility, birth control methods, menopause), adolescence (health, cultural influences, body image, puberty, eating disorders), mental health topics, geriatric concerns, overall women's health, access to health care, minority health, nursing, midwifery, female healers, and more. The History of Women's Health Conference began in 2006 as part of the Pennsylvania Hospital's celebration of co-founder Benjamin Franklin's tercentenary. Each year since, scholars from the humanities and health care professionals gather to discuss the past, present, and future state of women's health. The conference is jointly sponsored by the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department and the Pennsylvania Hospital Historic Collection. For more information please visit our web site at <http://pennhealth.com/pahosp/>. For more on our collections or the history of Pennsylvania Hospital, please visit <http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/paharc/>.

Please e-mail your one to two page proposals to: Stacey C Peeples, Curator-Lead Archivist, Pennsylvania Hospital, peepless@pahosp.com. Please call (215-829-5434) or e-mail with any questions or for more information.



[TRIVIA](#) is pleased to announce a call for submissions for our inaugural issue under the editorial leadership of Monica Casper and Julie Amparano. The theme is Southwestern Voices, reflecting TRIVIA's new geographic home in Arizona and the diverse, multi-ethnic perspectives of our Editorial Collective and Advisory Board. Submissions are welcome in all genres (e.g., nonfiction, fiction, poetry) and we are also accepting original art, photography, and other visual media. Click the submissions link for details. The deadline for this issue is November 30, 2011 for an anticipated publication date of April 1, 2012.

In profiling Southwestern Voices, we are most obviously interested in feminist words and images originating from the Southwestern region of the United States or Northwestern Mexico. But we also invite feminist perspectives and voices from anywhere in the world focused on issues germane to this region, including but not limited to the following:

- the U.S./Mexico border
- surveillance and punishment
- immigration and migration
- environmental issues, especially water and land use
- animal rights and human/animal relationships
- race and ethnicity
- the collapse of public infrastructure
- historical and contemporary perspectives on the West
- Southwestern women past, present, and future
- desert iconography
- urban ecologies and landscapes (e.g., Phoenix, Las Vegas, Santa Fe)
- Southwest artists and writers
- Chicana/Latina identities and communities
- Native American identities and communities
- border crossings of all kinds
- the drug trade, narco-trafficking, illicit drug use
- Southwestern sexualities
- indigeneity and indigenous women
- militarization in/of the Southwest

The blog "[AccessDenied: A Conversation on Unauthorized Im/migration and Health](#)" is seeking contributions from medical anthropologists and scholars in related fields.

At AccessDenied, medical anthropologists host a lively conversation among researchers, activists, policymakers, and others about the complex and contentious global issue of unauthorized im/migration and health. We approach the matter comparatively, with attention to power, cultural context, and historical depth. Through empirically grounded, critical engagement, we aim to rethink current debates and inform public discussion and policy about unauthorized im/migration, sociopolitical inequalities, and the right to health care. We are eager to expand our readership and community of dialogue.

Potential contributors are invited to contact us directly with ideas for brief essays or commentaries (600–800 words) that draw upon ethnographic fieldwork and/or anthropological insights to consider independent research findings or current events. We particularly welcome contributions from scholars outside of the United States and from graduate students. Inquiries and submissions should be accompanied by a short bio and sent to contactaccessdenied@gmail.com. All contributions are internally reviewed by the [blog team](#). Interested individuals are also invited to subscribe for updates, consult the site's [Working Bibliography](#), and help us keep this valuable resource useful and up to date by suggesting additional references.

Special Issue of *Policy and Society*- "*Practice as Story: The Policy Stories that People Tell*"

Deadlines:

- Initial submission of abstracts between 300 to 500 words: **Nov. 15, 2011**
- Submission of articles between 6,000 and 8,000 words: **Feb. 15, 2012**
- Anticipated publication of Special Issue: **Sept. 2012**

We are inviting contributions from critical social scientists for an issue devoted to exploring the social organization of people's day-to-day activities and practices as these are shaped by social and public policy. Articles must discuss results of empirical research. Interdisciplinary researchers working in/with critical policy studies, geography, health, institutional ethnography, interpretive policy analysis, narrative-centered and critical qualitative approaches, social policy, and socio-legal studies are encouraged to submit an article.

Starting in people's experience of living and engaging with the activities stemming from and regulated by public policy challenges conventional ways of understanding how social and public policy affects us. Often unaccounted for in official accounts of how public policy functions is a world of activities in which people must engage to come into line with policy. This approach holds the promise of offering contextualized understandings from the standpoint of people at whom policy is directed (and possibly those people whose labor makes, upholds, and enforces policy). It also can inform about mischaracterizations about how policy is said to function, and because of this, such an approach can be the basis for working to correct problems people experience in relation to policy. This sort of social inquiry focuses analytic attention on people's effortful action; humanizing knowledge and 'evidence'; filling out the picture about how things happen in the materialism of people's lives as organized by public policy.

All articles will be peer-reviewed. Authors should prepare articles in APA format. This Special Issue will be composed of 6-8 articles. Questions can be directed to Laura Bisailon at lbisa082@uOttawa.ca. More information available at <http://www.policyandsociety.org/>

Position Announcements

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY: The Women's and Gender Studies Program invites applications for a tenure track position at the rank of Assistant Professor beginning August 2012. The successful candidate will teach a 3/3 load that includes courses such as Intro to Women's and Gender Studies, Feminist/Gender Theory, and the Senior Capstone, as well as courses in her/his area of interest. Required qualifications: PhD in Women's/Gender Studies, or graduate certificate, or evidence of exceptional experience, if PhD is in another discipline; Earned Ph.D. by 8/1/12; evidence of superior teaching; record of sustained scholarly engagement in the field of Women's and Gender Studies, with particular consideration given to candidates with expertise in gender or sexuality studies. For application requirements and additional information, please go to www.gonzaga.edu/employment.

VIRGINIA TECH: The Women's and Gender Studies Program (an interdisciplinary program housed in the Department of Sociology) at Virginia Tech invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track position, beginning August 2012. We seek an Assistant Professor at an advanced level with an emphasis in Gender, Bodies & Technology. The candidate will help build this unique initiative and increase the visibility of the nexus of interdisciplinary expertise for which WGS at Virginia Tech is nationally known. Courses to teach include gender and science, gender and biology, and others. Specific areas of research are open, but we look for a scholar and teacher who uses feminist approaches to embodiment and technology; an expertise in sexuality is a plus. The candidate must have a strong record of scholarship and teaching excellence, and an interest in administering programs. A Ph.D. in Women's and Gender Studies, Science and Technology Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, or another interdisciplinary degree is required and must be in hand at the time of appointment. For application requirements and additional information, please contact Professor Katrina Powell, Director of the WGS Program, kmpowell@vt.edu or see www.wgs.clahs.vt.edu and www.cpe.vt.edu/gbt/.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY: The Women's Studies Program invites applications for the position of Director, effective July 1, 2012. We seek a visionary leader who will be able to move the program to the next level. Purdue University is a public, research intensive, land-grant university of about 40,000 students, located in a community of 167,000 people, midway between Chicago and Indianapolis. The appointment is 100% in Women's Studies with a tenure home in one of the academic departments of the College of Liberal Arts. The successful candidate must be qualified for appointment with tenure and full professor rank in one of the following: Anthropology, English, Communication, Foreign Languages and Literatures, History, Political Science, Philosophy, Sociology, or Visual and Performing Arts. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of approach to leadership and administration, and contact information for four references by December 1, 2011 to: Professor Ellen Gruenbaum, Chair, Women's Studies Director Search Committee, c/o Ms. Julie Knoeller, juliek@purdue.edu.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY: The Department of Anthropology and the Health: Science, Society and Policy (HSSP) Program invite applications for a two-year, non-renewable Florence Levy Kay Postdoctoral Fellowship in medical anthropology beginning Fall 2012. We seek a scholar who examines health, illness, medicine and/or healing processes from an anthropological perspective, preferably with a research focus outside of the United States. Ph.D. must be in hand by commencement of fellowship and preferably received within the past six years. The Fellow, who will be appointed as a faculty member at the rank of lecturer, will teach one course per semester, receive a salary for 2012-2013 of \$55,903 (plus benefits), with moving expenses (around \$1,500), and a research fund of up to \$4,000 per year. The Fellow will contribute to the vibrant intellectual communities of Anthropology and HSSP; interdisciplinary connections and mentoring are available and encouraged. Send, preferably by email, letter of interest, CV, brief description of research project, short writing sample, teaching dossier, and three letters of recommendation to: Laurel Carpenter, Kay Fellow Search Committee, M.S. 006, Brandeis University, Waltham MA 02454-9110, lcarpent@brandeis.edu. Substantive questions may also be

directed to Professor Sarah Lamb, Kay Fellow Search Committee Chair, lamb@brandeis.edu. Brandeis University is an equal opportunity employer, committed to building a culturally diverse intellectual community, and strongly encourages applications from women and minority candidates. First consideration will be given to candidates who apply by December 1, 2011.

RICE UNIVERSITY: The Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality announces two postdoctoral fellowships in the humanities or social sciences for scholars pursuing research and publication projects that focus on gender and health; gender and urban studies; women in the global economy; sex, race, and nation; or sexuality studies. The Center is particularly interested in applicants who demonstrate a record of innovative teaching and the potential to make a contribution to the Center's program in engaged feminist research. Ph.D. is required prior to appointment. Each fellowship has a term of two years beginning in August 2012. Recipients will teach two courses in women's/gender/sexuality studies per year and will play an active role in the intellectual life of the Center. Rice will provide an annual salary of \$40,000 plus benefits. Rice University is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Please send letter of interest, curriculum vita, dossier with a minimum of three references, and a writing sample (about 25 pages), plus a sample syllabus (including a detailed course outline and recommended reading list) for the course SWGS 101 "Introduction to the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality." This course surveys issues in the study of gender, such as women's social, political, and legal status in the US and globally; feminist perspectives on the body, sexuality, race, globalization, labor, and culture; and the implications of these perspectives for social and critical theory. In addition, the course introduces the concept of engaged research and the public service components of feminist activity.

Send materials to Postdoctoral Search Committee, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality MS-38, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892. Postmark deadline for applications is Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY: The Women's and Gender Studies Department, in collaboration with the Institute for Research on Women (IRW) at Rutgers University, is pleased to announce a two-year postdoctoral fellowship supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The selected fellow will receive a stipend of \$51,500 each year as well as an annual research allocation of \$2,000 and Rutgers University health benefits. The fellow will pursue research and teach three courses in the Women's and Gender Studies Department during the two-year term of her/his appointment. The fellow also will participate in seminars and other activities organized by the IRW. The Women's and Gender Studies Department has particular interest in scholars of U.S. Latina and Latin American Feminism, Asian American Feminist Studies, and African Feminism, especially those working on critical sexualities, but welcomes applications from all scholars who feel that their work would benefit from affiliation with our department and with the IRW. For additional information, please see: <https://secure.sas.rutgers.edu/apps/facsearch/> (search for listing under "Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship" for each participating department). Applications must be received by Friday, January 6, 2012. Candidates must have received the Ph.D. after August 31, 2007; applicants must have finished all requirements for the Ph.D. by July 1, 2012. Rutgers University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The institution values diversity in its faculty, staff, and students and especially encourages applications from women and underrepresented minorities.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST: Tenure Track Assistant Professor Position in Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies. Searching for scholar whose work focuses on African American Women. Ph.D., scholarly credentials, and some teaching experience in Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies required, Ph.D. by 9/1/12 strongly preferred, but ABD will be considered. Duties include: one required course and one elective course each semester, including large general education introductory course; undergraduate and graduate student

advising; departmental and university wide service. Applicants must submit a letter of application, CV, sample publications and relevant syllabi, and three letters of recommendations. Please state whether you will be attending the NWSA annual conference. Priority deadline is October 31, 2011. Applications will be reviewed until position is filled. Electronic applications can be sent to womens-studies@wost.umass.edu (please put "Search R40857" in subject line). Send paper applications to: Chair of Search R40857, Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies Program, Bartlett 208, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. UMass/Amherst is a member of the Five College Consortium, along with Amherst, Smith, Hampshire and Mt. Holyoke Colleges. The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Members of minority groups are encouraged to apply.

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY is hiring a tenure-track sociocultural anthropologist for 2012, with a secondary appt in the Center for Intercultural Studies. The sub-areas are open, but the Department and Center have research interests in intercultural studies, health/medicine, urban, immigration, and environment. Here is the ad on the AAA website: <http://careercenter.aaanet.org/jobs#/detail/4484400> and on the Human Resources page at SLU: http://www.slu.edu/jobs/faculty_job_details.php?i=10985&d=10985jd. Katherine MacKinnon will be interviewing folks at the AAA meeting in Montreal next month ...

Award and Prize Announcements

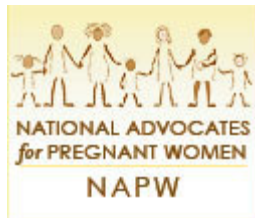
The Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (SLACA) announces its Whiteford Graduate Student Award in Applied Anthropology in honor of Michael B. Whiteford and Scott Whiteford. The award is intended to help two students attend a professional anthropological conference (American Anthropological Association, Society for Economic Anthropology, Society for Applied Anthropology, Society for Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology).

The prize consists of US \$200 for a student registered in a graduate program in the USA or Canada, and US \$300 for a student registered in a graduate program in Latin American or the Caribbean. We encourage anthropology departments to support students entering the competition by providing additional conference travel funds.

Papers submitted to the award's committee are limited to a maximum length of six thousand words, including bibliography. Papers can be from any subfield of anthropology, but they must have an applied component. Papers must be based on field research carried out in Latin America and the Caribbean or among first-generation migrants from these areas to other countries. The papers can be written in English, Spanish, French or Portuguese and must have been or will be submitted to a professional anthropological meeting (AAA 2011, SfAA 2012, SEA 2012). Awardees must demonstrate formal registration to a professional anthropological society meeting, acceptance of the paper, and travel receipts indicating attendance. The student must be a member of SLACA. Deadline for receiving papers: November 1, 2011. Please address queries and send papers to Walter E. Little at: wlittle@albany.edu

Our friends at the National Association for Pregnant Women drew our attention to this contribution to NAPW's [blog](#) by CAR's own Linda Layne:

Miscarriage and Emergency Care



A [recent post](#) on RH Reality Check highlights what cuts to medicaid funding may look like, particularly for pregnant patients. In an effort to cut Medicaid costs, Washington State is limiting "non-emergent" emergency room visits. Included in the list of "non-emergent" conditions is miscarriage, sending the message that a potentially life-threatening condition (which many women experience several times) is not an emergency. Lynn Paltrow and Linda Layne, author of *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of Pregnancy Loss in America*, discuss the broader implications of medicalizing

miscarriage.

Lynn Paltrow: "To add to the discussion -- I wonder what Linda Layne would say? Too often women are left totally unprepared and unsupported when they experience miscarriages. In many cases the only support or advice is to go to an emergency room when that may actually be unnecessary and unhelpful. Clearly limiting access to emergency rooms is not the answer but I urge people to read this discussion of Linda's work."

Linda Layne: "Emergency rooms are horrible places to have a miscarriage. (The first of my 5 miscarriages was in an ER). In the vast majority of cases, miscarriages are non-emergencies. ER staff will assuredly be busy with other cases that are more important in terms of being life-threatening. This is absolutely the wrong environment for women to receive the kind of care and concern they need during a loss. What is needed is loving, hands-on, experienced care, preferably at home.

The home birth movement provides a valuable example for improving the experience of women who lose their pregnancies through miscarriage or stillbirth. (See my articles: "A Women's Health Model for Pregnancy Loss': A Call for a New Standard of Care" *Feminist Studies* 2006 32(3)573-600; "Designing a Woman-Centered Health Care Approach to Pregnancy Loss: Lessons from Feminist Models of Childbirth" In *Reproductive Disruptions: Gender, Technology*, Ed. Marcia Inhorn. 2007 Pp. 79-97. Oxford: Berghahn Books.)

Women need to be told BEFORE a loss occurs how frequent losses are (15-20% of all pregnancies), what it will feel like physically, what to do to be prepared for one (disposable bed liners and paper towels are helpful). I recommend a loss plan, comparable to a birth plan. Where will you be most comfortable? in bed, in the shower? What would help with the pain? Pain killers, massage, cups of tea? Who would you like to be there with you? a trained doula? best friend? What will help most with the emotional hurt? Having those you love with you? Low lights, your favorite music, a plan for commemorating your loss?

Yes, miscarriages can sometimes be dangerous. They almost always involve lots of blood, but there are simple guidelines about under what circumstances women actually need medical attention.

Yes, it is horrible that we don't have a universal health service that would give everyone wonderful care (like I am enjoying this year in the UK). But in the case of miscarriage, less is more. Medicalizing miscarriage is not in women's best interest.

Let us take these proposed cuts as an opportunity to improve the care of the nearly 1 million American women who suffer miscarriage and stillbirth each year, by giving them the social and physical care they need and deserve during these very physically painful and heartbreaking events."

Notes from the Field

Queering Loss: Taking Some of My Own Pedagogical Advice Into the Field



As I remind my students on the first day of my courses, feminist pedagogy encourages us to “theorize our personal experiences.” I continue, “Feeling confusion or discomfort can actually be good signs in this course.”

When I became pregnant myself, I actively ignored this advice. In fact, I made a conscious effort NOT to theorize my experience, and put off buying new academic books on reproduction (belated apologies to many of my colleagues) so that I could enjoy my experience of being like every other “normal” pregnant mom, unfettered by scholarly demands to think analytically about my experience.

When I suffered a miscarriage well into my second trimester, however, I found myself clamoring for resources, yet few were available that addressed the experience of my female partner and I as we worked through our grief. As Linda Layne (2003) noted in her groundbreaking ethnographic study, *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of Pregnancy Loss in America*, loss is frequently shrouded in cultural silence. And as queer parents, our experience was also veiled in what Elizabeth Peel and Ruth Cain (in press) have termed “deafening heteronormativity.” All of the support resources we were offered assumed a married, heterosexual couple. When I spoke with gay male friends, who had had the heartbreaking experience of losing the child they planned to adopt after bonding with him for 10 days before his birthmother chose to reclaim him, I began to consider how queer people’s grief was frequently amplified by this deafening heteronormativity—not only by the lack of resources available that recognize our families, but also through the ways in which our grief is often intertwined with aspects of homophobia. For instance, several of the parents I have talked with

about failed adoptions have explained that the birthmother’s decision to “reclaim” the child was influenced by her family’s discomfort with the prospect of gay parents raising the child. This complicates the popular “reassurance” narratives adoption agencies often put forth to prospective clients, of bioparents who want their children to have the presumed affluence associated (particularly) with gay male adoptive parents.

Although my project is still in its early stages, my initial interviews with lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer (LGBTQ) people about their experiences of pregnancy and adoption loss have made it clear that there are many similarities in the experiences of all grieving parents, yet they also reveal that queer experiences of loss are often intensified by homophobia and heterosexist assumptions about reproduction. Homophobic treatment by healthcare practitioners, as well as family and coworkers, are experienced by many queer parents, whether outright—several participants have shared stories of partners being forced to wait outside while they were given the news of a loss, and one had to make burial arrangements alone for a stillborn child—or through more subtle means, such as support resources that only picture and discuss heterosexual families. Even for those who did not feel that they experienced homophobia during their loss, their fear of homophobia frequently kept them from accessing resources like local loss support groups, which have proved so helpful to many heterosexual couples (see Layne 2003). Further, the experiences of queer parents who are not biologically related to their child(ren), what many researchers have begun to refer to as “social mothers” (as opposed to biological or gestational mothers), has received very little attention, and there is a similar lack of scholarly attention to the reproductive experiences of gay men and transpeople (a notable exception is Ellen Lewin’s 2009 *Gay Fatherhood: Narratives of Family and Citizenship in America*).

My own experience of loss drew my attention,

quite sharply, to the paucity of resources available for queer parents, as well as the complex ways that homophobia and heteronormativity impact reproductive experience. As a feminist anthropologist who believes strongly in the power of anthropological research to contribute to activist aims and make public impact, “theorizing my own experience” (and contextualizing it in the experiences of others) has offered an opportunity to do the kind of analytical and engaged work I so often advocate in the classroom. It is my hope that this project will contribute not only to scholarly literature on reproduction, but also to resources that can be made available for LGBTQ parents in the future. This project is ongoing, and I would welcome anyone who is interested to contact me at ccraven@wooster.edu.

Author Bio:

Christa Craven is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at The College of Wooster. She is the author of *Pushing for Midwives: Homebirth Mothers and the Reproductive Rights Movement* (Temple University Press, 2010) and is former co-chair of the Society of Lesbian and Gay Anthropologists.

Special thanks to Ellen Lewin, Mary Gray, Dána-Ain Davis & Elizabeth Chin for their support and insights on this project. And thank you to Nicole Gallicchio and Diana Santana for the opportunity to write about it in its early stages.

And thanks to you Christa. Please contact Nicolle or Diana if you’d like to contribute your own Notes from the Field, or if you have another idea for a Newsletter submission.

Works Cited:

- Layne, Linda. 2003. *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of Pregnancy Loss in America*. New York: Routledge.
- Lewin, Ellen. 2009. *Gay Fatherhood: Narratives of Family and Citizenship in America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Peel, Elizabeth & Cain, Ruth (in press, 2012) “Silent Miscarriage and Deafening Heteronormativity: An Experiential and Critical Feminist Account.” *Understanding Reproductive Loss: International Perspectives on Life, Death and Fertility*. Eds. S. Earle, C. Komaromy & L. L. Layne (Eds.). Farnham: Ashgate.



Books & Babies
COMMUNICATING REPRODUCTION

7 July-23 December 2011
Monday-Friday 09.00-18.00
Saturday 09.00-16.30, Sunday closed
Admission Free

“**Books and Babies**” traces the interactions between communication media and ideas about reproduction, from ancient fertility figures and medieval manuscripts to the birth of Louise Brown following in vitro fertilization in 1978.

The exhibition opens with a chronological story of the books and other objects that have been central to communicating reproduction from ancient times to the present day. We move from theories of human generation to the modern dilemmas of reproductive choice and population control, and from handwritten documents to digital media. Other elements pursue particular themes: communication in reproductive research, the long life of a single advice manual (/Aristotle's Masterpiece/), the evolutionary epic of the 'Ascent of Man', 'Extraordinary Births' as news, and the rise of 'Population Arithmetick'.

For a taster: <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/exhibitions/Babies/>.

Upcoming Events of Interest

October 19-22, 2011

Transcultural Nursing Society 37th Annual Conference

Location: Las Vegas, NV, United States

Website: <http://www.tcns.org/>

October 22 - 24, 2011

North American Forum on Family Planning

Location: Washington, DC

Website: <http://www.societyfp.org/events/conference.asp>

October 28 - 29, 2011

Advances in Fetal Imaging, the Optimal Combination of Medical Technologies

Location: Paris, France

Website: www.ultrasound2011.org

October 29 - 30, 2011

Future Of Contraception Initiative

Location: Seattle, Washington

Website: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwconf/foci/index.php>

October 29 – November 2, 2011

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Exposition

Location: Washington, DC

Website: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>

November 3 - 5, 2011

Contraceptive Technology Quest for Excellence

Location: Atlanta, GA

Website: <http://www.contemporaryforums.com/Live-CE-Conferences/Contraceptive-Technology-Quest-For-Excellence/>

November 8 - 11, 2011

10th World Congress of Perinatal Medicine

Location: Punta Del Este, Uruguay

Website: <http://www.10wcpm.info/>

November 11 - 17, 2011

The 14th World Congress on Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility

Location: Paris, France

Website: <http://www.congressmed.com/cogi/>

November 16-20, 2011

110th Annual Meeting of the American

Anthropological Association

Location: Montreal, Canada

Website: <http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/>

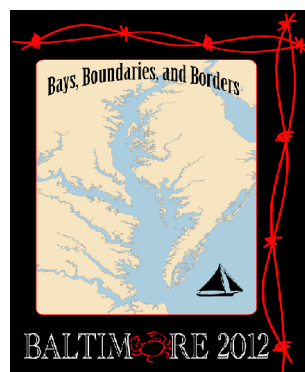
February 23-26, 2012

Sociology of Reproduction (mini-conference as part of the ESS Annual Meeting)

Location: New York, NY

Website:

http://essnet.org/AnnualMeeting_Call.aspx



The Society for Medical Anthropology will once again share meeting dates with the Society for Applied Anthropology, this time in **Baltimore, in March 2012**. There's still time to organize and propose panels, symposia, and volunteered papers for inclusion in the joint program: The deadline for submission is October 15, and all submissions can be done online, using the SfAA website: <http://www.sfaa.net/sfaa2012.html>.

AAA Sessions of Interest

Sessions of potential interest to CAR members at the upcoming AAA meetings (please note that these sessions were posted in the preliminary program, so make sure to check [here](#) before you firm up your official conference calendar!)

Wednesday, November 16, 2011: 16:00-17:45: TRACING REPRODUCTIVE DEBRIS: CONCEPTUALIZING THE 'FALLOUTS' OF REPRODUCTIVE ACTIONS AND DECISIONS

Wednesday, November 16, 2011: 20:00-21:45: MORAL ECONOMIES OF CARE: LEGACIES OF DIFFERENCE, INEQUALITY AND TRANSFORMATION IN 21st CENTURY CAREGIVING

Thursday, November 17, 2011: 13:45-17:30: FEMINISM AND REPRODUCTION: TRACES, TIDEMARKS AND LEGACIES

Friday, November 18, 2011: 08:00-11:45: MATERNAL TIDEMARKS: TRACING THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF MOTHERING

Friday, November 18, 2011: 08:00-09:45: KINSHIP TOURISM: FERTILITY, ADOPTION AND "VISITING" FAMILY

Friday, November 18, 2011: 08:00-11:45: TRACING PATHWAYS OF KINSHIP IN ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (ARTS) AND ADOPTION

Friday, November 18, 2011: 13:45-17:30: TRACING REPRODUCTIVE AND CONTRACEPTIVE RELATIONS: REPRODUCTIVE POLITICS, TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS AND LEGACIES OF GLOBALIZATION

Saturday, November 19, 2011: 13:45-15:30: BEFORE THE BABY COMES: DIETARY PROVISIONING DURING PREGNANCY

Saturday, November 19, 2011: 16:00-17:45: CONTESTED IDEOLOGIES: BIRTHING AND BEYOND

Individual papers of interest

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

15:15: Developing Destinies: Changes and Continuities In Learning of a Guatemalan Mayan Midwife and Town
Barbara Rogoff (University of California, Santa Cruz)

14:15: Remaking Time to Keep the Baby: Everyday Memory, Objects, and Bioscience In the Lives of US Inner-City Pregnant Addict Mothers
Kelly R Knight PhD (UCSF)

18:45: Are "We" Pregnant?: A Phenomenological Approach to Investigating the Lived Pregnancy Experience Through Discourse and Practice
Christine Kirby (Northern Arizona University)

20:15: Where Nurses Yell and Patients Lie: Care-Seeking and Care-Giving In Primary Maternity and Infant Care In a South African Township
Sarah E Rubin (Case Western Reserve U)

20:30: Birthing Along the Passages: How Medical/Non-Medical Spaces Are Created In An Obstetrics Ward In Mexico
Vania Smith-Oka (University of Notre Dame)

Thursday, November 17, 2011

08:00: The New Arab Man: Emergent Masculinities and Assisted Reproduction In the Middle East Marcia C Inhorn (Yale University and Yale University)

08:15: Investments In the Future: Kinship, Nation, and Assisted Reproduction Venetia I Kantsa (University of the Aegean)

08:30: Circulation and Commodification of Sperm: How to Ensure the Reproduction of the Individual and the Species In the Era of Globalization Vincent Couture (Université de Sherbrooke)

15:45: Breastfeeding Wars: Feminism and the Anthropology of Breastfeeding Cecilia Tomori (University of Michigan)

16:15: Tracing the Virus – Disrupted Reproduction Among Elite Women In Botswana Astrid Bochow (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology)

08:45: Transmitting HIV: Understandings of Postnatal HIV Transmission and Breastfeeding Recommendations In Malawi Kimberly Rovin (Michigan State University)

Friday, November 18, 2011

10:15: Laboring Humans: Giving Birth to Large-Brained, Large, Helpless Babies Karen Rosenberg (University of Delaware)

10:30: Postpartum Depression In Evolutionary Perspective: A Consequence of Reduction In Social Support? Barbara A Piperata (Ohio State University)

14:15: The Normalization of HIV Testing During Pregnancy Arachu Castro (Harvard Medical School)

Saturday, November 19, 2011:

08:00: (un)Silent Witness: Doula Tales of Reproductive Violence Aminata Maraesa (New York University)

11:45: Health Workers Responses to Changes In Practice: Obstetric Audits In West African District Hospitals Isabelle Lange (Independent)

15:00: Breastfeeding Advocacy As Food Activism Penny Van Esterik (York University)

14:45: Full-Term Breastfeeding: Nature, Morality and Feminism In London and Paris Charlotte R Faircloth (University of Kent)

17:00: Re/Producing Mexico: National Legacies and Futures In Assisted Reproduction Lara R Braff (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO)

Sunday, November 20, 2011:

11:00: The Physiology of Private Care: Assisted Reproduction In Ecuador, Elizabeth F. S. Roberts (University of Michigan)

13:15: Reproduction of Social Persons: Reconstructions of the Indigenous Self Megan B McCullough (Brandeis University)

*This list is by no means comprehensive-
if you're on a panel that was not mentioned here, please let the CARlist know!*



CAR News

Just a few friendly reminders for the CAR membership from the CAR listserv moderator:

When you reply directly to a post, it is automatically addressed to the entire group. If you want to send a personal message to the author of the post, please make sure to edit the "to" address so it is addressed to her, not to the entire CAR list. Personal messages will not be posted.

Also, a reminder about how to post:

1. (*Preferred method). To submit a post directly to the group: visit the CAR list homepage and click the + new post button in the colored Discussions bar on the right side of the page. To reply to an existing topic, click Reply near the bottom of the posting (if you want your reply to be seen by the entire group).

OR

2. (Less ideal method). To submit a new post via email: send an email to anthrorepro@gmail.com. The subject line of the email will be the title of the post, and the body of the email will be the content of the post.

Messages are typically posted within a day or two.

Lastly, please delete the old CAR listserv address (@uchicago.edu) from your address books, as it no longer exists.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the listserv moderator, Lara Braff (lbraff@uchicago.edu).

COUNCIL ON ANTHROPOLOGY AND REPRODUCTION

FALL 2011

Volume 18, Issue 2

Diana Santana & Nicole Gallicchio, Co-Editors

<http://sites.google.com/site/anthrorepro/>