

Anthro News

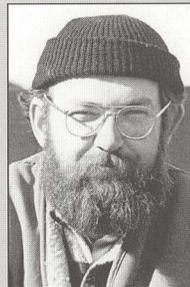
WINTER 2005
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Inside

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Department Builds Disciplinary Leaders

After completing their master's degrees in 1969, Judy Bense (M.A. Florida State University) and Ken Ames (M.A. University of New Mexico) began pursuing doctoral degrees at the Department of Anthropology, Washington State University. Both WSU alumni are active researchers and advocates for anthropology and archaeology. Coincidentally, both are currently sitting presidents of the two largest professional archaeological organizations in the United States. Judy Bense began serving her term as president of the Society for Historical Archaeology in 2005 and Ken Ames serves as president of the Society for American Archaeology until 2007.



Ken Ames

Kenneth M. Ames is professor and department chair of anthropology at Portland State University. He received a bachelor's degree in anthropology from George Washington University in 1967, a master's degree in anthropology from the University of New Mexico in 1969, and his doctorate in anthropology from Washington State University in 1976. Ames has conducted archaeological field research in western North American since 1968, and along the Lower Columbia River since 1984. He is senior author, with Herbert Maschner, of the book *Peoples of the Northwest Coast, Their Archaeology and Prehistory*, published by Thames and Hudson, London, in 1999. He has also recently published a major monograph: *The North Coast Prehistory Project Excavations in Prince Rupert Harbour, British Columbia: The Artifacts* (British Archaeological Reports International Series No. 1342, Oxford). Additionally, he has authored numerous articles and book chapters on the archaeology of western North America and on complex hunter-gatherers and other topics. He has published in such journals as *American Antiquity*, *Antiquity*, *Journal of Field Archaeology*, *Annual Reviews of Anthropology*, *Arctic Anthropology*, *North American Archaeology*, *Evolutionary Anthropology*, and *American Anthropologist*.

Ames' recent field research has focused on the Cathlapotle Town site, the location of a Chinookan town visited and described by Lewis and Clark on their return trip in March 1806. The project began in 1991 and is ongoing. It is a joint project among Portland State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Chinook Tribe. Field research has located the remains of six very large plank houses; two of these are the subject of extensive excavations. The site is extraordinarily rich, and provides detailed insight into Chinookan life, economy, and social organization before and during the early stages of the fur trade.



Judy Bense

Judith A. Bense is professor and chair of anthropology at the University of West Florida. She received bachelor's and master's degrees in anthropology from Florida State University in 1967 and 1969 respectively. She was awarded a doctorate in anthropology from Washington State University in 1972. After completing her dissertation on prehistoric materials from the lower Snake River in Washington, Bense began archaeological research in Florida. She has written or edited four books dealing

Continued on page 3



From the Chair's Desk

By William Andrews, Jr.

I begin my sixth year as department chair by thanking Tim Kohler for taking such good care of the department in my absence last year. He is away this semester (fall 2005) but will return next spring to begin a term as graduate coordinator for the archaeology section of our program. Bob Ackerman is also on professional leave this semester and will return in the spring, when John Bodley takes professional leave for one semester.

Last year we featured several new faculty members in the newsletter. This year the trend continues. Our Faculty Features section highlights Robert and Marsha Quinlan. They both work in the Caribbean region as biocultural and medical anthropologists. Welcome to Pullman Rob and Marsha!

Last spring Professor L. Luca Cavalli-Sforza was scheduled to visit the WSU campus as the Philip C. Holland Lecturer, but was unable to attend due to illness. However, he has recovered and presented the Provost's Philip C. Holland Lecture in August 2005. His public lecture, entitled *Understanding Human Genetic Diversity by Studying Its History*, dealt with his long-time research on human races. Thanks again to Linda Stone (anthropology) and Paul Lurquin (School of Molecular Biosciences) for suggesting Professor Cavalli-Sforza and escorting him during his stay.

Also this year we rescheduled the William D. Lipe Visiting Scholar in Archaeological Method and Theory colloquium from spring semester to fall semester to coincide with the teaching of our graduate seminar in archaeological method and theory. This year Dr. Patty Jo Watson was our visiting scholar. She is the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished Professor Emerita of Anthropology, Arts, and Sciences from Washington University, St. Louis. Her public lecture (October 2005) reviewed several decades of research doing cave archaeology in the midwestern United States.

The Anthropology Department began offering graduate degrees more than 45 years ago and over the past half century we have produced many leaders in anthropology and non-anthropology related fields. This issue of the newsletter begins a new section of alumni profiles, and we dedicate our cover story to two WSU anthropology alumni (Judy Bense and Ken Ames) that are currently sitting presidents of professional societies. We would greatly appreciate any news or updates you wish to share with current or past anthropology friends. To share your news, send us a note at anth@wsu.edu.

Department Welcomes New Faculty

Rob Quinlan

(Ph.D. 2000, University of Missouri; B.A. 1992, anthropology and biology, University of Memphis)

I call myself a biocultural anthropologist. I have broad interests in evolutionary anthropology. My research focuses on human life history variation, especially environmental influences (and genetic constraints) on reproductive strategies. My work is developing at the intersection of human evolutionary ecology and ethnography. These interests have led me to study relations among family environment, kinship, mating, parenting, health, and demography in a subsistence-based community in rural Dominica, where I have worked since 1993. I also have interests in psychosocial stress and child development.

My most recent study explores a kind of dialogue between quantitative analysis and qualitative ethnography. Findings suggest that parental investment decisions are influenced by gender differences in "extrinsic" environmental risks that are common in the Caribbean and other developing areas of the world. For example, boys' opportunities (migration and education) and undesirable outcomes (poverty and alcoholism) are not associated with the parental investment they receive, but girls' opportunities and hazards are. Relations between gender differences in socioenvironmental risk and daughter-biased parental care may form the groundwork for a "matrifocal" cultural complex.

In related research, Marsha Quinlan and I are developing a project concerning the evolution, epidemiology, and ethnography of alcoholism in rural Dominica where the prevalence of alcoholism is exceptionally high. Our initial findings show that patterns of alcoholism are quite different from those documented in the United States and other developed countries. Other recent results show that alcoholism, which is genetically heritable, may be maintained in a population as a by-product of adaptive personality traits.

I have been involved in other collaborative research in medical anthropology and human biology. I have ongoing involvement in research on medical ethnobotany and ethnomedicine in Dominica. And I was a postdoc (2000-02) on a NIH study of lifestyle, stress hormones, and blood pressure among Filipino immigrants in Hawaii.

I look forward to working with students on field studies of sibling competition, "helpers-at-the-nest," parental care, gender antagonism, kin altruism, time allocation, cultural transmission, cooperation, and collective action. There is much work to be done using field experiments, behavior sampling, health assessment, qualitative ethnography, etc. I have Dominica fieldtrips planned for December/January 2005-06 and summer 2006. Feel free to stop by my office in College Hall, room 372.

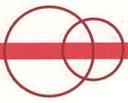
Representative publications:

- Quinlan, R., Quinlan, M. & Flinn, M. (2005) Local Resource Enhancement & Sex-biased Breast-feeding in a Caribbean Community. *Current Anthropology*. 46(3):471-480.
- Quinlan, R. & Flinn, M. (2005) Kinship, Sex & Fitness in a Caribbean Community. *Human Nature*. 16(1):32-57.
- Quinlan, R. (2005) Kinship, Gender & Migration from a Rural Caribbean Community. *Migration Letters*. 2(1):2-12.
- Quinlan, R. (2003) Father-Absence, Parental Care & Female Reproductive Development. *Evolution & Human Behavior*. 24(6): 376-390.

Marsha Quinlan

(Ph.D. 2000, University of Missouri; M.A. 1993, Applied Medical Anthropology University of Memphis; B.A. 1987, Spanish and International Studies, American University)

I'm a medical anthropologist concentrating in family health, ethnomedicine, and ethnobotany. My research involves the cultural context of medical knowledge and practice. I focus on the ways emic notions of health and illness correspond to etic diseases, treatments,



New Faculty...Continued

health, and health-care seeking. One of my research foci is the use and knowledge of medicinal plants. I am particularly interested in anthropological methodology. I am also interested in applied medical anthropology, biocultural public health, maternal and child health, home-based health care, and psychological anthropology.

I have worked in a rural village in the Commonwealth of Dominica (Lesser Antilles) since 1993 and I look forward to future collaboration with students on projects there.

I'm also familiar with applied research within the United States. Last year, I began a joint research project (with a nutritionist and a neonatologist) examining ethnicity and acceptability of using human milk banks. This is important work because nourishment with breastmilk increases the survival of special-needs infants (i.e., premature infants and those with severe medical conditions). My other applied U.S. research included an ethnographic evaluation of a Memphis mental health service facility, public health research of cultural factors related to obesity among Missouri women, and work with the Hawaii Department of Education in which I mediated between faculty, administrators, the state family court system, and at-risk students (mostly native Hawaiians and Pacific immigrants) in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

Representative publications:

- Quinlan, M. (2004) *From the Bush: The Front Line of Health Care in a Caribbean Village. Case Studies in Cultural Anthropology Series*, George Spindler, Series Ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- Quinlan, M. (2005) Considerations for Collecting Free-lists in the Field: Examples from Ethnobotany. *Field Methods*.
- Quinlan, M. & Quinlan, R. (2005) Balancing the System: Humoral Medicine and Food in the Commonwealth of Dominica. In *Eating and Healing: Exploration of Wild and Domesticated Plants and Animals as Food and Medicine*, A. Pieroni and L. Price, Eds. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press.
- Quinlan, M., Quinlan, R. & Nolan, J. (2002) Ethnophysiology and Botanical Treatments of Intestinal Worms in Dominica, West Indies. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 80 (1): 75-83.



Marsha and Rob Quinlan

Disciplinary Leaders...Continued from page 1

with historic and prehistoric archaeology of Florida and the southeastern United States. Her most recent book, *Presidios of the Spanish Borderlands*, was published by *Historical Archaeology*, 2004 (entire volume). In 2003 *Presidio Santa María de Galve (1698-1719): Struggle for Survival on the Spanish Frontier* was published by the University of Florida Press. Also from the University of Florida Press was her volume *Archaeology of Colonial Pensacola 1750-1921* (1999). In 1994 Academic Press released her book *Archaeology of the Southeastern United States: Paleindian to World War II*. In addition to these books Bense has written numerous book chapters and articles in professional

journals dealing with prehistoric and colonial archaeology of the southeast.

Bense is currently active in bringing archaeology to the public. She designed and developed the University of West Florida Public Archaeology Network. This was established by the Florida legislature in 2004. She also developed the "Colonial Archaeological Trail" in historic downtown Pensacola. Bense was recently appointed by Governor Bush to represent Florida at the Cultural and Heritage Tourism Summit, and she was appointed by the White House to the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training Board. She is currently chair of the Florida Historical Commission.



Graduate Student News

The following represent only a portion of master's thesis and doctoral dissertation topics currently under research within the WSU anthropology department. The list reflects the diversity of research programs offered by the department.

Rhiannon Held is studying the archaeological textiles of the Columbia Plateau, including basketry, cordage, and mats found in dry preservation conditions. She hopes to determine which characteristics vary in ways that would allow partial archaeological specimens to be used in the same way complete ethnographic ones have been used in other areas of the world to help differentiate ethnic groups.

Neal Endacott's main research interests are zooarchaeology, and the archaeology and paleoenvironments of arctic and western North America. His dissertation research focus is on using faunal remains from Lime Hills Cave in southwest Alaska to interpret paleoenvironmental conditions.

Kerensa Allison is a third year doctoral student in cultural anthropology. She has a bachelor of science in environmental biology and a master's of science in biology (emphasis in plant ecology and natural resource management). Her current research is in the lowland tropics of Ecuador where she is studying women's traditional manioc gardens and Quichua. The working title of her research is "Manioc Mothers: Gender, Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Con-

servation Efforts among the Napo Runa of the Ecuadorian Amazon." Allison's research interests include traditional horticulture, gender, sustainable resource management practices, conservation, traditional ecological knowledge, and tropical biology. Two theoretical areas, power and scale and feminist political ecology, shape her research methodology and analysis.

Jason Fancher is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology. His graduate research has emphasized zooarchaeology (the analysis of animal bones from archaeological sites), with his master's thesis focusing on the Minard shell midden of Washington's southern coast. His doctoral dissertation is an analysis of small mammal bones produced by contemporary Bofi and Aka foragers of the Central African Republic. Specifically, he is examining the way that taphonomic expectations derived from foraging theory and tested on large prey apply to analyses of smaller fauna.

Xianghong Feng is a third year doctoral student in cultural anthropology with research interests in Chinese minorities, rural development, and contemporary issues. She received a bachelor's degree in journalism in 2000 and a master's degree in folklore in 2003 at Central University for Nationalities, Beijing, P. R. China. Her recent research is evaluating the ecological and socio-cultural impacts of ethno-tourism development in Hunan Province, China.

Colin Patrick Quinn earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of Notre Dame in 2004. His research interests include

lithic analysis, experimental replication, bead production, human osteology, technological organization, craft specialization, and the forager-farmer transition. His current research is focused on examining the lithic assemblage associated with bead production at the Pre-Pottery Neolithic A (10,200-9,700 B.P.) site of Dhra', Jordan, to assess tool curation, artifact life-histories, typological functionality, and the origins of craft specialization.

Benedict J. Colombi is a doctoral candidate in cultural anthropology. His dissertation research is theoretically focused on socioeconomic growth, culture scale, and social power and measures the extent to which elite-directed pro-growth policies and large dams on the lower Snake River watershed concentrate power and generate negative costs.

Aaron Wright received his bachelor's degree in anthropology with minors in Spanish and folklore from Ohio State University in 1999. He joined the WSU graduate student body in 2004 after working for five years as a contract field archaeologist. Aaron's current research involves the paleoclimatic reconstruction of the northern San Juan Basin from AD 600-1300. The current scope of this reconstruction involves the use of a high alpine pollen record from the La Plata Mountains in southwest Colorado to delimit temperature fluctuations that potentially influenced the agricultural productivity of regional communities.



Museum notes

Our ethnographic collections grew in small but very significant ways this last year. We were extraordinarily pleased when we were contacted by Dorothy Jean Ray, widow of Dr. Vern Ray, in the spring of 2005 about accepting several items that were given to Dr. Ray by members of the Cowlitz Tribe in gratitude for work he did for them. The gifts include a beautiful button blanket. Lillian and Bob Ackerman and Mary Collins spent a delightful day with Dorothy Jean in her Port Townsend home. At that time Lillian discussed the possibility of organizing a symposia to honor Vern Ray's contributions to Plateau ethnography for the 2007 Northwest Anthropology Meetings to be held on the Pullman campus (see related story on page 8).

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Faculty News

Melissa Goodman Elgar's research took her to southern climes in both the Southwestern United States and South America this summer. In the Southwest, she sampled arroyos for environmental data at Cox Ranch and also visited Crow Canyon, Colorado, to discuss possible geoarchaeological investigation to compliment their ongoing research program. A WSU New Faculty Seed Grant allowed her to travel to Peru with WSU student Karry Blake to conduct reconnaissance in the central Andean highlands surrounding the city of Cajamarca. This research aims to address the role of food production in the development and maintenance of cultural identity in prehispanic Cajamarca. The area is unusual in that regional traditions remained strong despite incorporation in successive expansive states. Before returning home, she joined WSU student Marcia Peterson in Bolivia to continue geoarchaeological investigations of the Taraco Peninsula by Lake Titicaca.

John Jones' research into the origins of New World agriculture took him into the field several times this year. In January, he, along with graduate student Karry Blake, traveled to Chiapas to participate in NSF funded sediment coring along the coast of Chiapas. In July, he traveled to coastal Ecuador to collect cores and sediments from major drainages near significant archaeological sites, including the Valdivia area and the Santa Elena Peninsula. This project was also funded through NSF. In August, he met with Dr. Tim Kohler and graduate student Aaron Wright to core a high meadow bog in the La Plata Mountains of southwestern Colorado. His travels also took him to Monticello in Virginia, where he continued his research into Thomas Jefferson's farming practices, and to participate in the University of Virginia's field school.

Professor emeritus **Bill Lipe** will receive the 2006 Conservation and Heritage Management Award from the Archaeological Institute of America at its annual meeting in Montreal in January. Lipe will share the award with Charles R. McGimsey and Hester Davis of the University of

Arkansas. The Archaeological Institute, which publishes the popular magazine *Archaeology* as well as the *American Journal of Archaeology*, has nearly 9,000 members in 102 local chapters across North America.

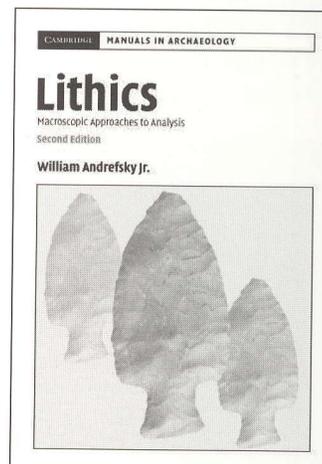
Last semester Professor **Jeannette Mageo** carried on as series head of the ASAO monograph series with University of Pennsylvania Press, reviewing two submissions for possible publication. Professors Mageo and Linda Stone published a major article entitled "Screen Images in Science and Social Science," in *Studies in Gender and Sexuality* 6(1):77-104. Professor Mageo also carried forward her dream project with WSU undergraduates. She investigates culture change through dreams and has enlisted undergraduate students from her course "The Self and Culture" in this work. Professor Mageo also completed a new article on art as historical commentary in colonial and postcolonial societies.

Professor **Tim Kohler** completed a one-year term as acting chair of the department last year and is currently on a one-semester sabbatical, working on beginning the final reports for an NSF Biocomplexity grant on modeling settlement systems in prehispanic southwest Colorado. His recent publications include an article with George Gumerman and Robert Reynolds on the uses of agent-based modeling in archaeology in the July 2005 issue of *Scientific American*, and an article with anthropology graduate students C. David Johnson and Jason Cowan on modeling wood use in southwestern Colorado in a spring 2005 issue of the *American Anthropologist*.

Professor **Andrew Duff** has been working with eleventh- and twelfth-century settlements in the area south of Zuni, New Mexico, with the WSU archaeological field school for the last three summers, attempting to better understand how power and resources were distributed within and between local communities. He has prioritized investigation of organization within a single community that features Chaco-style public architecture, though he is also exploring the nature of the relationship, if any, residents

had with Chaco Canyon, a distant ritual or political center. Last summer, with funding from the National Science Foundation and the National Geographic Society, this work was expanded to include neighboring communities and an extensive ceramic compositional analysis in an effort to develop data useful for documenting the nature and relative importance of local and regional connections during this critical period.

Professor **Bill Andrefsky** returned as department chair after spending the past year on professional leave. During the leave period he was able to produce a second edition of his Cambridge University Press book, *Lithics*, which should be available to the public in December 2005. With a small survey and testing grant from the Bureau of Land Management he was able to take three graduate students down to the Owyhee River Canyon, Oregon, in search of tool stone sources and to find an intact late-period occupation. A late Archaic occupation was discovered on the last day of field testing and will be the focus of field school investigations next summer. He also began a new series of laboratory experiments dealing with stone tool retouch and technological organization. The results of initial experiments were presented at the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference and at the Society for American Archaeology Annual meetings last spring, and have been submitted for publication.





Alumni News

Dale R. Croes, Ph.D., 1977

Dale R. Croes received his bachelor's in anthropology from the University of Washington and his master's and doctorate in anthropology at Washington State University. He served as director of the Washington Archaeological Research Center at WSU from 1980 through 1987. From 1987-1989 he served as conference coordinator for the Circum-Pacific Prehistory Conference held at the Seattle Center as part of the Washington State Centennial Celebration (co-chaired by Jean Gardner and Ralph Munro). Approximately 800 participants attended and heard presentations from 150 archaeologists and Native Peoples discussing their one million years of human heritage throughout the Pacific Basin as we celebrated

100 years of statehood. His research focus has been on Northwest Coast wet (waterlogged) archaeological sites, and especially the analysis and comparison of prehistoric basketry and cordage artifacts from these sites. He did his doctoral dissertation research on basketry and cordage artifacts from the Ozette Village wet site, conducted postdoctoral research by directing and publishing (WSU Press) the research at the 3,000-year-old Hoko River wet site, and is currently co-directing excavations of the Qwu?gwes wet site on Ralph Munro's beautiful property on Mud Bay, southern Puget Sound, with Rhonda Foster, director, Cultural Resource Department and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Squaxin Island Tribe. In April 2003 the Wetland Archaeology Research Project (WARP) from Exeter England



held their 10th international conference at South Puget Sound Community College to view the well preserved basketry, net, and fish traps being excavated at Mud Bay. Dr. Croes is currently head of the Department of Anthropology at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia, Washington.

Matthew J. Root, Ph.D., 1992

After graduating, I didn't go far. I began work at the Center for Northwest Anthropology at WSU, where I was co-principal investigator (with Bill Andrefsky) on the Lake Ilo Archaeological Project in North Dakota. From 1992-1997, we excavated almost 500 square meters of a large, Folsom lithic workshop and camp site, and analyzed hundreds of thousands of Folsom artifacts. In 1997 and 1998, I was visiting assistant professor at Kansas State University. I returned to WSU in 1998 and 1999, where I finished work on the Lake Ilo Project and taught for one semester. In 2000, we published our Lake Ilo findings in a monograph titled *The Archaeology of the Bobtail Wolf Site* (WSU

Press). I also finished writing several chapters with Tim Kohler, recently published in his *Archaeology of Bandler National Monument* volume (UNM Press, 2004).

I finally left WSU (though I maintain adjunct faculty status) and am now president of Rain Shadow Research Inc. in Pullman. We recently completed large projects along the Snake River in Hells Canyon and in the Okanogan Highlands, and continue to work on many projects across the Inland Northwest. I maintain my research interest in early Paleoindian adaptations, and we have cooperative projects with the Museum of the Rockies and the Corps of Engineers investigating Paleoindian settlement and mobility on the Northwestern Plains.

I live in Pullman with my wife, Sarah Moore, and our son, Jameson (now 20!). Sarah returned to school for a second degree, and obtained a bachelor of science in horticulture from WSU. She continues to do scientific illustration and archaeological field work, but also runs a landscaping business that specializes in ornamental plantings. Jameson is a junior in mechanical engineering at WSU, where he attends on an academic scholarship. It seems that every time one of us leaves WSU, another arrives.



Recent Graduates

M.A.s and Ph.D.s for 2005

Herrygers, Christa M., 2005, M.A. Chair: John H. Bodley

Structural Violence, Health and the Chad/Cameroon Oil Pipeline

Kimball, Vaughn R., 2005, M.A., Chair: Karen D. Lupo

Variability in Late Prehistoric Prey-Use Strategies of the Southeastern Columbia Plateau: A Test Using the Harder Site Faunal Assemblage

Meehan, Courtney Lynne, May 2005, Ph.D., Chair: Barry S. Hewlett

Multiple Caregiving and its Effect on Maternal Behavior Among the Aka Foragers and the Ngandu Farmers of Central Africa

Nicholson, Christopher Mark, May 2005, M.A., Chair: Karen D. Lupo

Small-Game Utilization Among the Aché of Eastern Paraguay: A Study of Taphonomy in Ethnoarchaeology

Robinson, Hugh Lobdell, May 2005, M.A., Chair: Andrew I. Duff

Feasting, Exterior Bowl Decoration, and Public Space in the Northern San Juan, A.D. 1240-1300

Tuttle, Tiffany L., May 2005, M.A., Chair: Nancy P. McKee

Old Designs for Young People: Art, Innovation and Cultural Continuity in Kyrgyzstan

Wilmerding, Mary Elizabeth Gesek, May 2005, Ph.D., Chair: Robert E. Ackerman

The Culture Sequence at the Nunik Site, Chernabura Island, Alaska



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* Deceased

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Lectures and Conferences

Professor Patty Jo Watson was named the William D. Lipe Visiting Scholar in Archaeological Method and Theory. She is currently the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished Professor Emerita of Anthropology, Arts and Sciences, from Washington University, St. Louis.



Professor Watson received her doctorate in 1959 from the University of Chicago. In 1962 she became an instructor at the University of Michigan and moved to Washington University, St. Louis in 1968 where she remained until retirement in 2004. She has written or edited over a dozen books dealing with the archaeology of the midwestern United States, the American southwest, and the ancient Near East. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and she has won medals and awards from the Society for American Archaeology, American Anthropological Association, Archaeological Institute of America, Southeastern Archaeological Conference, American Philosophical Society, National Speleological Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The contributions of Professor Watson have been instrumental and paramount in shaping the discipline and direction of archaeology as we know it today. Among

her many accomplishments, she is recognized as a pioneer in the field of ethnoarchaeology. Her research in prehistoric food production led her to work with indigenous peoples in Iran, Iraq, and Turkey. Dr. Watson was also one of the pioneers of interdisciplinary research in

archaeology. She was honored with the Fryxell Medal for Interdisciplinary Research by the Society for American Archaeology. The Fryxell Medal was named after our own Rowland Fryxell, a geoarchaeologist in the Department of Anthropology at WSU. Pat Watson was also a leader in breaking the gender gap in archaeology. She began doing archaeological fieldwork in the 1950s, when archaeology was considered a "man's" profession. Professor Watson was among the first to bring scientific approaches to the field of archaeology. Her 1971 book, *Explanation in Archaeology: An Explicitly Scientific Approach*, swept through the discipline in the 1970s. It introduced alien concepts such as hypothesis testing, phased research designs, and data sampling strategies.

Professor Watson spent October 12-14 in Pullman meeting with and collaborating with anthropology graduate students. Her public talk on Cave Archaeology in North America was presented on October 14.

Northwest Anthropology Conference set for 2007

No one can quite recall when the WSU Anthropology Department last hosted the Northwest Anthropology Conference but we all agree it has been much too long. We have therefore committed to hosting this premier regional event in the spring of 2007. Although the exact dates have not yet been determined, they will coincide with WSU's spring break during the week of March 12-16. The conference will be something of a challenge as the student union (the CUB) will be closed to undergo renovation. The planning committee of faculty and graduate students will come up with a set of creative solutions and we hope to make the event a successful one. We hope this will be a special opportunity for the many WSU anthropology alumni to return to the department to meet the many new faculty and reminisce about student days in Pullman.



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