

# Anthropology Grinnell College



Fall '18



Goodnow Hall on a nice fall day.

**Vicki Bentley-Condit**  
Professor, Chair

**Jon Andelson**  
Professor

**Douglas Caulkins**  
Professor Emeritus

**Xavier Escandell**  
Associate Professor

**Brigitte French**  
Professor

**Katya Gibel Mevorach**  
Professor

**Cynthia Hansen**  
Assistant Professor

**Kathryn Kamp**  
Professor

**Tess Kulstad**  
Assistant Professor

**Monty Roper**  
Associate Professor

**Maria Tapias**  
Professor, Associate  
Dean

**John Whittaker**  
Professor

**Marna Montgomery**  
Academic Support

Anthropology  
Department  
Grinnell College  
Grinnell IA 50112  
Tel: 641-269-4343  
anthropology@grinnell.edu

## Student News

**Anais Levin '19** This Summer, I used the Emeritus fund award to continue my research with the Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance project. I worked in the Settlement of Lower Dover, where excavations are being conducted in order to understand how the settlement changed with the rise of the polity of Lower Dover. While the polity rose on the Late Classic Period (500-800 AD), the settlement, where most of the population lived, had been present since the Pre-Classic Period (200 BC- 150 AD) and remained populated to the Post Classic (900-1200 AD). For the past three years, I have participated in the excavation of households from the three different neighborhoods of the settlement, which allows us to make a comparison between the time periods, and draw conclusions about the political and economic organization of the site.

In the month I spent there, I was able to lead an excavation unit, supervise and teach new students, and finish the analysis of the lithic materials we found this summer. This semester, I am writing my senior thesis based on the results of the lithic analysis I conducted, and I will be presenting these results at the SAA conference in the spring. The Emeritus Fund has allowed me



to conduct this research for the past three summers, and I am extremely grateful for the support the fund and the Anthropology department have offered.

A biface that was found with a burial during this year's excavations.

**Kaitie Hess '19** spent the past summer conducting research on how one of the Costa Rica's longest running agricultural cooperatives makes decisions about land use and how cooperative values come into tension with the broader economic and political demands of the palm industry. This was the first part of my two-part senior thesis. During the summer, I mainly focused on mapping different potential streams of influence for Coopesilencio, whether that be an actor, policy, or economic force. I also went to Costa Rica for two weeks, where I conducted interviews with community members, cooperative members, and institutional actors to determine the local cooperative ideology and attitude towards certain decisions. Right now, I am using this data to better analyze cooperative decision making on the local level.

## Student News

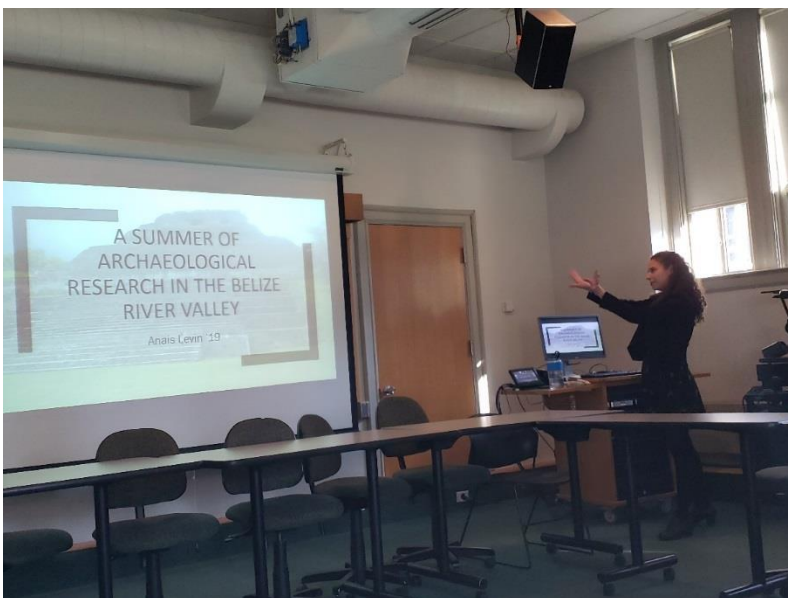
**Anna Brew '21**-went on an Archaeological dig this past summer in Pompeii. I went with a group of graduate students from Cornell University to the Site of Regina Carolina in the Pompeii Archaeological Park. We were starting a three year excavation of what we think was a garden in ancient times. We came upon an ancient layer and they will continue to dig for the next two years!

The photos are some pictures of the dig site and of me sieving and cleaning pottery!



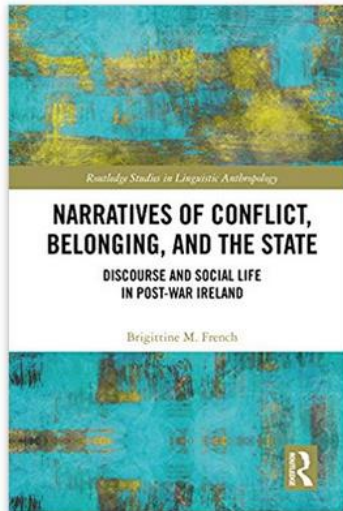
## Student News

**Alfredo Villalobos-Perez-'19** This summer I had the opportunity to plan and implement *Club Salud: A Summer Wellness & Childhood Obesity Prevention Program* in Immokalee Florida. After realizing last summer (2017) that I'm not meant for a lab or its environment, I wanted to try something with more human interaction. So during my break this past December I proposed a "project" to the OnebyOne Leadership Foundation (nonprofit), the Florida State University College of Medicine Center for Child Stress & Health in Immokalee, and the University of Florida/IFAS Family Nutrition Program. After much time and many people, everything turned out better than expected. Childhood obesity has increased substantially throughout the U.S., with Latino children amongst those at greatest risk. Latino children from farm-working and migrant families are at an even greater risk for overweight/obesity than their Latino Peers. Given this disparity, the associated health consequences of overweight, and the cost associated with childhood obesity, *Club Salud: A Summer Wellness & Childhood Obesity Prevention Program*, was implemented and evaluated. Given the limited attention given to childhood obesity among Latino children from migrant farm-working families, Club Salud was implemented in a small rural farm-working community in Southwest Florida. The program was held at a public park, twice weekly across seven weeks for a total of 13 sessions. The program consisted of behavior modification and making physical fitness enjoyable. This poster will present findings from an evaluation of Club Salud. The primary outcome measure was body mass index percentile (BMI %). At baseline and at 7 weeks, program staff measured children's heights/weights; parents completed surveys at baseline. Outcome data were collected on a total of 20 children (9-15 years) and their parents. The mean age was 11 years-old and the mean BMI percentile was 95.4%. Mean number of sessions attended was 7.3, with 70% of participants completing 7 or more sessions. Although not statistically significant, children experienced improved behavior outcomes: increased physical activity levels and decreased weekday screen time. Mean BMI % score also improved, with a 2.86% drop from baseline to end ( $p = .733$ ). Though Club Salud was limited by the small number of participants and no control group, preliminary results indicate that the program was able to yield initial improvements in physical and behavioral health. Increasing physical activity, reducing sedentary behaviors, and fostering goal setting are at the center of expert recommendations and were cornerstones of the Club Salud program. Therefore, future research should address the generalizability of programs like Club Salud and whether this intervention can be adapted over longer periods of time and to different demographics.



Annie Levin gives her presentation about her summer research.

## Faculty News



Professor Brigitte French has a book *Narratives of Conflict, Belonging, and the State Discourse and Social Life in Post-War Ireland* published by Routledge, 2018.

[Book link](#)

French presents  
at her book  
reading.



Professor French's new book examines the transformation and persistence of conflict and violence after war in post-colonial peace time democracies through a linguistic anthropological analysis and historical ethnography of the County Clare region in the Irish Free State (1922-1937). Faculty and students gathered in the Falconer Gallery on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 to hear French discuss the project and listen to responses to the research from a transdisciplinary panel that included: Professor and Senior Associate Dean Maria Tapias, Assistant Vice President and Professor Shuchi Kapila, and Associate Professor Carolyn Lewis. The Anthropology Department, the Peace and Conflict Studies Program, and the Dean's Office generously supported this event.

Katya Gibel Mevorach accepted invitation to join the *International Academic Board of Advisors, The Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP)*, a **global** interdisciplinary research **center** that is dedicated to the academic **study of antisemitism**.

### Jon Andelson '70

We are stardust,  
Billion year old carbon,  
We are golden,  
Caught in the devil's bargain  
And we've got to get ourselves  
Back to the garden.

What garden, Joni? How do we get there? And what bargain? (Does it have something to do with Joshua Green's new book? [I'd say: in part it does]) Is it good to be golden? That is the usual connotation, but in this case perhaps it has to do with the devil's bargain, like Faust's. The poem's message rings true to my ears. The questions it raises in my mind are profound and expansive, and to me therefore acutely anthropological. For years I have tried to convey in my teaching that anthropology takes the broadest perspective on the human condition of any discipline.

Consequently, anthropology can bring a lot of evidence to bear on the topic that the poem addresses in metaphor.

## Faculty News

This isn't the place (and there isn't the space) to rehearse my answers to those questions, but I do want to say a few words about something I'm heavily involved in at the College that bears on them. The poem says "back to the garden," and I suppose many will think of the Garden of Eden – before agriculture, before states, before the industrial age and capitalism. Put those four things together and what do you get? State-manipulated industrial agriculture, with all of its small farm eradicating technology, death-dealing synthetic chemicals, carbon-releasing fossil fuels, CAFOs, and underpaid and

overworked laborers in, for example, the meat-packing industry and the fruit and vegetable-growing industry.<sup>(1)</sup> It epitomizes our breach with nature, and also the turn to a socially unsustainable farming and food system. I explore all of this with students in my course ANT 252 Culture & Agriculture. What is to be done? There's a great deal that *needs* to be done, but the final sentence of Voltaire's *Candide* provides one actionable suggestion: " 'Tis well said," replied Candide, "but we must cultivate our gardens." So in 1999, I and a few others created the Grinnell College Garden. Every summer since then we have hired college students to maintain the garden as an exercise in cultivating a little hand knowledge to go along with all the head knowledge Grinnell encourages. Last year, we had to relocate the garden. The new location, behind Pine Tree House on East Street (currently known as Food House), presented us with the opportunity to expand and improve it. We built 22 raised beds with donated lumber, filled them with donated compost, installed a drip irrigation system (we had to purchase that), constructed a hoop house from a donated frame – all this with mostly volunteer labor. We got free seeds and starts from Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa (and from some local farmers as well), and we were underway.

In our first season we raised about 30 varieties of vegetables and harvested about 1,000 pounds of produce, most of which went to the College Dining Services and the rest to MICA (the Mid-Iowa Community Action office, which operates a food pantry). In this, our second, season we have already harvested over 500 pounds of produce, with perhaps another two months in the growing season (and using the hoop house as a season extender). We're especially pleased that Dining Services has complimented our produce as far superior to what they purchase from SYSCO. And they have a sign at the entrance that indicates what vegetables students encounter in the D-Hall come from the College Garden. It isn't the Garden of Eden, but let it be a small step and an example for others toward reclaiming our food system from the industrial model.

Jonathan Andelson, '70

Rosenfield Professor of Social Science (Anthropology)

(1) What kind of teacher would I be if I failed to provide a few references?

Peggy Barlett ('69, anthropology major) *American Dreams, Rural Realities: Family Farms in Crisis* (University of North Carolina Press, 1993)

Deborah Fink (formerly of Grinnell's Anthropology Department), *Cutting Into the Meat-Packing Line: Workers and Change in the Rural Midwest* (University of North Carolina Press, 1998)

Seth Holmes, *Fresh Fruits, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farm Workers in the United States* (University of California Press, 2013)

Brandi Janssen ('98, anthropology major) *Making Local Food Work: The Challenges and Opportunities of Today's Small Farmers* (University of Iowa Press, 2017)

## Faculty News

successional planting of carrots at the Garden



part of a harvest, summer 2018 from the Grinnell College Garden

raising artichokes in the Garden



## Alumni news

**Lauren Knapp '06** will be participating in the upcoming *Artists as Activists: Creatively Driving Change Symposium* at Grinnell College on 9/20/18 and 9/21/18.

They will be showing and discussing two of her short documentaries ([Lockdown](#) and [The Sandman](#)) at 7:00 pm on Thursday, 9/20 and would love for you to join.

**Emily Ricker '18** has just won the Best Undergraduate Paper Award from the Society for Linguistic Anthropology of the American Anthropological Association! Her paper, "Discourse, Power, and the Rape Trail: An Analysis of the People v Turner," was a direct product of her MAP/Senior thesis and has been recommended for peer-review in the JLA. Abstract from Emily's paper: People v. Turner garnered wide public attention when it first came to light in the spring of 2016. To this day, the judge's decision to sentence Brock Turner to six months in county jail, after he was found guilty on all three felony counts for which he was tried, engenders debate and controversy in the public sphere. I argue that through this case, we see how the language of sexual violence trials roots itself in—and builds upon—broader histories of discourse about sexual violence. My analytical work centers around the legal documents released by Santa Clara Superior Court following this trial. In particular, I analyze the motions in limine, which reveal the prosecution's strategic entextualization of feminist discourses about rape trials, as well as the text of Judge Persky's sentencing decision, through which we can see his strategic decontextualization and redeployment of the survivor's words in order to grant Turner a lenient sentence. I apply methods of discourse analysis established by previous scholars (Conley and O'Barr 2005; Duranti 2009; Johnstone 2002) to this body of data, coding for entextualization and tracing a path back to the texts and discourses being invoked. Ultimately, I mobilize this data within my theoretical framework to illustrate the many effects of entextualization in the context of sexual violence trials: the implications it has for survivor agency and language use, the ways it positions survivors in relation to the state and its institutions, and the legal precedent it sets for future trials of the same nature.

Congratulations Emily on this most impressive accomplishment!

## Lisa Bedinger '90

On July 17 - 22, 2018 I will be competing with my dragonboat team in the Club Crew World Championships in Szeged, Hungary. My club is called Dragonheart VT and I'm coaching our Premier Women's team, Fire, and paddling on our Senior B Women's Team, the GMGs, and our Senior B Mixed Team, 50 Force. I never thought I'd be coaching and competing on the world level in any sport at this point in my life, so this is pretty wild! I really enjoy having a reason to exercise and a group of friends to do it with.

Also, I am the Director of the South Burlington Community Justice Center (CJC), which is one of 20 CJs in Vermont. We're the only state (that I know of) that has restorative justice options as part of the criminal justice system statewide. (We are employees of our local police department and they and other refer cases to us.) Here's link to our website to learn more - <https://www.sburl.com/cjc>. I love my work & use my anthropology and social justice lenses every day.

**Roger Sayre '81** is now among the world's finest senior distance runners. This story can be found in the [Grinnell Magazine](#) .



## Alumni news



### **Kirsten Pogue-Cely '90**

A little update - I am a professor at San Diego Mesa College in San Diego. I am a Counselor and teach college success courses to first year students as well as career development courses. We are a community college, but many of my students transfer to schools like UCLA, UC Berkeley, Stanford, Wesleyan, SDSU, etc. It is a great place to work and I really enjoy my students and my career. I am sure that the Anthropology Department at Mesa loves me because I recommend anthro courses to all of the students that I see in the Counseling Office. I met my husband in the Galapagos in Ecuador (he was a naturalist there and lived there for 6 years) and we just had our 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We have 2 kids (12 and 15) and like to travel with them. My husband's entire family is in Quito, EC, so we go to South America quite often. I attached a photo of us 2 years ago at Christmas time in Peru. We had a great time in the sacred valley and have friends in Lima, so I can't wait to go back again.

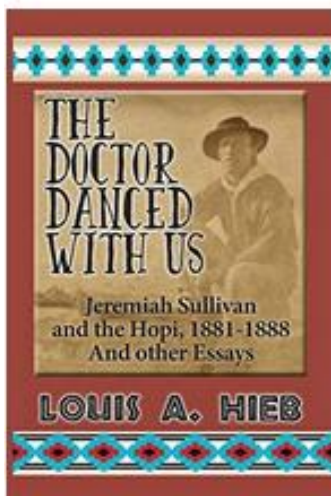
**Maddie Gardner '12** currently lives in Washington DC and work at the Learning Policy Institute, an education policy think tank. I primarily spend my time conducting qualitative research-- mostly case studies-- on publicly-funded early childhood interventions. I mentioned this to Professor Andelson in a recent note, too, but want to say how often I feel gratitude for my Grinnell education; it was excellent preparation for my current line of work!

I also (of course) often consider going back to school. I finished a master's degree at Stanford a few years ago, but am beginning to think that social science research may be something of a vocation for me, so may well throw my name in the ring for a few doctoral programs this fall.

On a more personal note, I recently married another Grinnellian, **Michael Goldfien '12**. He's currently a doctoral student in Poli Sci at Yale (he was a Wayne Moyer advisee), so as you might imagine, we spend lots of time on the Amtrak.

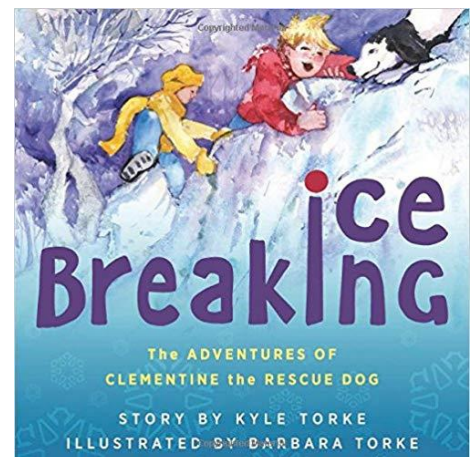
## Alumni news

**Sophie Neems '16** and **Nate Crail '19** were co-authors with Professor Jon Andelson on a conference paper, "Presentation of Self to Tourists in the Contemporary Amana and (Kalona) Amish Communities," presented at the Communal Studies Association's annual conference, held at Bishop Hill, Illinois, October 4-6, 2018. The CSA's annual conference is always held at the site of an historic or current intentional community. Bishop Hill was a Swedish Pietist communal society in the middle of the nineteenth century, and one of the first significant sites of Swedish immigration in the mid-nineteenth century. Bishop Hill also has the dubious distinction, in the annals of intentional communities, that its charismatic leader, Eric Jansson, was assassinated by a disgruntled former member. The conference paper by Andelson, Crail, and Neems was a comparison of the tourist signage and tourist advertisements in Amana and Kalona. Amana is an historic intentional community that was organized communally (that is, without private property) from 1843 to 1932. Since its reorganization in 1932 as a privately-held joint-stock corporation, Amana has increasingly played host to tourists. In the last decade, as many as 800,000 tourists a year visit the Amanas, generating revenue estimated at \$42 million annually. The town of Kalona, 30 miles southeast of Amana, is located in the heart of one of Iowa's Amish settlements. The Amish are a contemporary intentional community that dates back to the late 17th century. Kalona merchants (most of whom are not Amish, but rather Mennonites or "English") often sell products with an Amish connection, and also advertise their businesses using Amish motifs, such as horse-and-buggies and images of bonneted Amish women. Neems photographed a total of over 500 tourist signs in the two communities, and Crail coded and analyzed the signs. A third student, **Tommy O'Donnell '20** (not an anthropology major), coded advertisements in tourist publications. Using Erving Goffman's classic ideas about "the presentation of self," the four analyzed the iconography, wording, fonts, and colors used in the signs and ads to draw tourists. Larger questions about authenticity, capitalism, and presentation of self versus other arose out of the study.

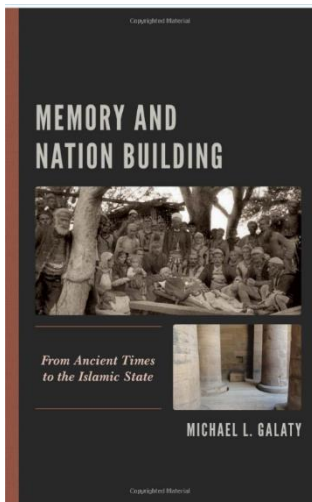


**Louis Hieb '61** presents the story of Jeremiah Sullivan, M.D. in *The Doctor Who Danced with Us: Jeremiah Sullivan and the Hopi, 1881-1888* Rio Grande Books, 2018. Sullivan lived on the Hopi First Mesa practicing medicine, participating in the social and ceremonial life of the community, and recoding songs and narratives. He was soon dismissed as agency physician, arrested, threatened with expulsion by military force, blacklisted from employment by the commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Smithsonian Institution, and all but forgotten in the history of anthropology.

**Kyle Torke '88** has published his first children's book. *Ice Breaking: The Adventures of Clementine the Rescue Dog*. Loving Healing Press, 2018



## Alumni news



### **Michael Galaty '91** Memory and Nation Building from Ancient Times to the Islamic State

Addresses the complex topic of collective memory, first described by sociologist Maurice Halbwachs in the first half of the 20th century. Author Michael Galaty argues that the first states appropriated traditional collective memory systems in order to form. With this in mind, he compares three Mediterranean societies – Egypt, Greece, and Albania – each of which experienced very different trajectories of state formation.

**Alice Elizabeth Rogoff's '71** story “Brooklyn, San Francisco” was published in the anthology Giving Voice by the LaborFest Writers Group, while her story “Out in the Excelsior” appeared in the Your Golden Sun Still Shines anthology by Manic D Press. Her story “Sixty-five Steps” was published in the online magazine Caveat Lector in the spring. She was a finalist in Jewish Currents magazine’s Dora and Alexander Raynes Poetry Competition with her poem “Grandma’s Sabbath”.

**Jenny Blanchard '02** Things are going well here. I am still the archaeologist/cultural resource manager for the BLM in Anchorage. Lots of work to do - tons of Section 106 and NEPA, and tons of outreach, which isn't required like the other stuff but I care a lot about it. This weekend is the first year the BLM is hosting Anchorage's International Archaeology Day event, so I've been busy organizing. I'm still chair of the Alaska Anthropological Association Public Education Group, which supports a lot of outreach work in the state. Last year we did a day long archaeology class with students at the Anchorage youth detention facility, which was really great, and we hope to do another class this winter. I'm also trying to chip away at some Section 110 work for the Iditarod National Historic Trail - I had an intern working on determinations of eligibility, and another working on a report to support a National Register nomination.

## Campus News



Construction of the HSSC building. You can see a few of the South building windows of where the Anthropology faculty will have offices.

### **Farewell to Goodnow**

John Whittaker

Most of my academic career has been spent in Goodnow Hall, and it is with sorrow that I move with the rest of Anthro and many other departments into the new MegaUrbanGrinnellStateUniversity Building, more officially referred to as the HSSC, or Humongous Standardized School Complex. Anthropology will get good spaces and higher visibility there, in particular nice lab and better teaching rooms, but I still regret that the college is moving from small intimate departmental homes to giant conglomerate institutional buildings. And Goodnow is the finest and most attractive piece of architecture on campus. Nothing we build now compares, or will last 133 years.

Goodnow Hall was built in 1885 following the destruction of the campus by the 1882 tornado. E. A. Goodnow, a wealthy industrialist who liked to support co-educational institutions, donated \$10,000, which was enough for a fine building in those days. Goodnow was built to be the college library with nice woodwork, grand spaces in a small building, and a tower for a telescope observatory. In 1905, a new building, Carnegie Hall, replaced Goodnow as the college library, and Goodnow was remodeled for some of the science departments. When the new Science building was constructed in the 1960s, Goodnow went on to other uses, including housing the Psychology Department. The College, not as wealthy in those days and consistently uninterested in preserving its architectural heritage, allowed Goodnow to deteriorate until the fire department declared it unsafe for classes. Relics of all these eras can be found in the display cases in the lobby and elsewhere in the building.

At that point Anthropology stepped in. Our founders, Ralph Luebben and Ron Kurtz, with Doug Caulkins and Jon Andelson, and recently hired Kathy Kamp and John Whittaker, were housed in a small house at 1217 Park Street. We gave then-President Pamela Ferguson, a tall woman, a claustrophobic tour of our cramped

## Campus News

quarters and pleaded to have Goodnow renovated for us. Prof Luebben drew up some plans, and Prof Kurtz lobbied the administration, and the authorities eventually decided that this

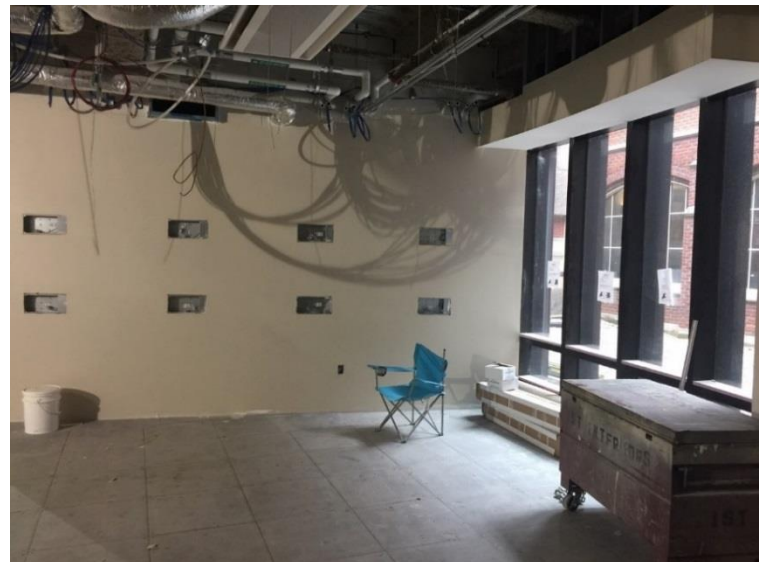
was a reasonable use for the old building, and with the College's sesquicentennial coming up, Goodnow should be properly remodeled to represent the institution's history, along with Mears the last remnants of our handsome 19<sup>th</sup> century campus.

Anthropology moved in in 1995, and Goodnow Hall has been a good and distinctive home ever since. Various alumni donated appropriate carpet and light fixtures, objects in display cases and on the walls came from alumni, faculty, students, departmental collections, and the College's art museum. The front of the building retains its original woodwork and stained glass, and in the back classroom, faint graffiti are still visible on the wooden pillars, carved on the side invisible to the instructor in a former configuration of that space. The lobby has seen generations of departmental potlucks and class photographs. On the front lawn we hold departmental potlucks, build Bronze Age timber monuments, and assemble for Friday flintknapping and spoon-carving sessions. Many alumni now teaching somewhere else were set on their paths in Goodnow. Like many of my colleagues, I have spent an uncalculated but doubtless shocking number of my life's hours in this building, and I hope the College respects it, whatever its next use will be. A campus building is not just bricks and mortar, but a place in the hearts of many people.



Jarren Santos '17, LaAnna Farnelli, Anshul "A.T" Tambay, Xavier Escandell, Sean Forman '94 took a tour of the new building.

Digital wall in the new DASIL space (Data Analysis and Social Inquiry Lab)



# Donors

William Eichmann '97

Willa Akey '15

Jonathan Cox '86

Brien Martin

Steven Hingtgen '88

Mona Ghadiri '11

Thomas C Nelson '91

Davydd Greenwood '64

Toby Cain '12

**THANK YOU!**