

# Anthropology Grinnell College



Spring '20



## Anthropology Seniors 2020

**Front row (left to right):** Prof Josh Marshak, Isaac Ferber, Jiaqi Dai, Madeleine Vessely, Evelyn Berryhill, Tin Tran, Prof John Whittaker, Prof Vicki Bentley-Condit, Prof Xavier Escandell, Prof Monty Roper

**Back row:** LaAnna Farnelli, Prof Jon Andelson, Leo Ewing, Nick Alex, Ethan Huelskamp

**Missing:** Ilana Luther, Prof Brigittine French, Prof Katya Gibel Mevorach, Prof Cynthia Hansen, Prof Kathy Kamp, Prof Nikolas Sweet, Prof Maria Tapias

**Monty Roper**  
Associate Professor, Chair

**Vicki Bentley-Condit**  
Professor

**Jon Andelson**  
Professor

**Douglas Caulkins**  
Professor Emeritus

**Xavier Escandell**  
Associate Professor

**Brigittine French**  
Professor

**Katya Gibel Mevorach**  
Professor

**Cynthia Hansen**  
Associate Professor

**Kathryn Kamp**  
Professor

**Tess Kulstad**  
Assistant Professor

**Josh Marshack**  
Assistant Professor

**Nikolas Sweet**  
Instructor

**Maria Tapias**  
Professor, Associate Dean

**John Whittaker**  
Professor  
Anthropology Department  
Grinnell College  
Grinnell IA 50112



## **Statement by the Faculty of the Department of Anthropology**

### **In Solidarity with the Black Lives Matter Movement**

The Faculty of the Department of Anthropology at Grinnell College share in the outrage over the killing of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and so many other Black and Brown people. We vehemently affirm that Black Lives Matter and support the Black Lives Matter movement.

We affirm that, in spite of the fact that race and racial hierarchies are a biological myth, as a social construct race categories have held – and continue to hold – enormous power in our society. White supremacist and other racist views are deeply embedded in our society and the institutions we have created, including but not limited to our criminal justice system. Our institutions have functioned to systematically disadvantage and oppress those identified as Black, Brown and Indigenous, decreasing access to education, health, and wealth while simultaneously increasing surveillance, arrests, incarceration and state sanctioned physical and structural violence.

We recognize that it is not enough to affirm that Black Lives Matter. We bear responsibility as individuals, as an institution, and as a discipline. We accept that our everyday choices and interactions, the policies and practices of Grinnell College, and the discipline of anthropology have been and continue to be implicated in systematic racism.

We call on our leaders in institutions across the country to implement anti-racist policies and dismantle these systems of oppression. We commit to working with the college administration, faculty, staff, and students to further this process at Grinnell.

We further commit to work harder to support and promote anti-racism and dismantle white supremacy in our own department through a close examination of our own syllabi and curriculum. This includes:

- o Decolonizing our syllabi and providing greater representation of Black, Brown and Indigenous scholars.

- o Ensuring that our curriculum teaches students to recognize and understand underlying aspects of systematic racism, as well as preparing them to engage in individual and collective action to help create a more just society. This includes teaching on:

- The lack of a scientific basis for race.
- How race evolved as a social construction.
- Multiple ways in which power, hierarchy, and identity shape social interactions and its implications for human lives.
- An appreciation for cultural diversity.
- How social change comes about and how anthropology can contribute to exposing inequality and injustice and bringing about change.

## Alumni News

### Melinda Lopes & Kevin Rhodes

*By Anna Gjoleka '21 and Edited by John Whittaker*



Melinda Lopes and Kevin Rhodes, Anthropology majors from the class of 1985, have just made a generous donation to the college in support of the Lopes/Rhodes Dirty Teaching Lab, HSSC S 1535. Lopes and Rhodes met for the first time in 1984, at the Anthropology Department's summer field school near Flagstaff, Arizona, which was led by Professors Kamp and Whittaker. Throughout their years in Grinnell the two of

them took many archaeology courses, but in the end, they both ended up pursuing career paths that removed them from the field. Nevertheless, their love of archaeology remained.

After Grinnell, Lopes got a certificate from the Institute for Employee Benefits Training in Philadelphia, in 1986 and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago in Managerial and Organizational Behavior in 2002. She is currently working in administration, but continues to be open about her interest in archaeology.

Rhodes on the other hand is a registered patent attorney, who received his J.D., magna cum laude, from Northwestern University. He is now the Vice President and the Chief Intellectual Property Counsel of 3M Company, and the President and Chief Intellectual Property Counsel of 3M Innovative Properties Company in St. Paul, Minnesota. Like Mindy, Kevin too continues to enjoy archaeology even though he does not practice it anymore.

Their love of archaeology is what led the couple to make this very generous donation, as they are pleased to support the lab where Anthropology students and faculty do the "dirty work" of cleaning and processing bones, artifacts and other specimens. The experimental pottery kiln, flintknapping tools and materials, and parts of the faunal and other collections are also housed here. This gift honors their Grinnell experience, and their daughter Emily Lopes Rhodes '19.



**Dylan Fisher '14** announced the publication of his first book, *The Loneliest Band in France*. [Texas Review Press](#) released it in February 2020. The book is the winner of the 2019 Clay Reynolds Novella Prize.

**Michael Galaty '91** won the [Skendi Prize from the Society for Albanian Studies](#) with the publication of his book, *Memory and Nation Building: From Ancient Times to the Islamic State*.

**Linden Daniel Galloway '17** graduated with his Master of Science in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign in May of 2020. He hopes to find a job as a children's librarian soon. Many of you knew him as a different name at Grinnell, and he is proud to say he has been out as a transgender man for nearly 3 years.

**Bill Green '74** retired on 12/31/18 as the James E. Lockwood Jr. Director of the Logan Museum of Anthropology at Beloit College. Bill also was an adjunct faculty member in anthropology and museum studies at Beloit and chaired the museum studies program for 15 of his 17+ years at Beloit. In addition to now being Emeritus Director at the Logan, he is also an adjunct research associate with the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa. "I'm now traveling a lot with my wife Linda Forman and publishing some old projects (<https://beloit.academia.edu/WilliamGreen>). In 2019, the Wisconsin Archeological Society honored me with its Increase A. Lapham Research Medal, an award inaugurated in 1926 that 'recognizes significant contributions to Wisconsin archaeology and anthropology.' I'm only the second person to have been awarded both the Lapham Medal and the Iowa Archeological Society's Keyes-Orr Award (2002), a recognition for 'outstanding service to the Iowa Archeological Society and in the research, reporting, and preservation of Iowa's prehistoric and historic heritage'."

**Elise Hadden Hall '14** and her husband, Zach Hall, welcomed their first child, Atlas Fury Hall, on April 19, 2019.

**Laurie Kauffman '99** works in the biology department at Oklahoma City University where she was recently promoted to full professor. Her favorite parts of the job are mentoring undergraduates in research and leading study abroad trips to Costa Rica. Kauffman has been collaborating with undergraduates on three main projects: orangutan behavior at the OKC Zoo, enclosure usage in long-tailed macaques at the Oklahoma Primate Sanctuary, and enclosure and substrate use in river otters, also at the OKC Zoo. Professor Kauffman stated, "Being an anthropology major at Grinnell was one of the most formative experiences of my life."



## Meeting the SFS (Senior Faculty Staff)

*By Anna Gjoleka '21*

### Professor Bentley-Condit:



Professor Bentley-Condit started working in Grinnell in 1995; she was the first biological anthropologist to be added to the faculty of the Anthropology Department. Many things have changed in Grinnell since then, both in the physical campus and in the Grinnell community as a whole. When she came to Grinnell, there was no internet database which mentioned the Grinnell faculty and their accomplishments, so she had to go to the AAA Guide to Departments in the library which had a few lines on each

professor and the books they had written. Over the years, she has taught all of the core classes for biological anthropology, which will be now taught by Professor Marshack. Professor Bentley-Condit will miss all of those classes, including her Mothers and Infants class, stating “I’ll miss that, it makes me a little sad, but this is just the next phase. “

Beginning January 1, 2020, Professor Bentley-Condit entered SFS status. SFS stands for Senior Faculty Status and is valid for up to 5 years. It is up to the individual faculty member whether, or when, they begin SFS. Many of them, like Professor Bentley-Condit, do but some do not. SFS is a kind of step-down program before retirement. This status allows each faculty member to essentially work half-time, instead of full time, and each faculty member makes a personalized arrangement with the Dean when they are proposing to go to SFS as to what they will do during that time. For example, they determine how much of their time they will be dedicating to research vs. teaching, all within this half-time parameter. For her SFS, Professor Bentley-Condit decided to dedicate her teaching to the Grinnell-in-Washington program.

The Grinnell in Washington program has been on hiatus for around 3 years, partly due to the difficulties of recruiting Grinnell faculty members who were interested in leading the program. Throughout these last few years, the Grinnell faculty and administration discussed the program as a whole and determined to reinstate it. Professor Bentley-Condit offered to go to Washington, D.C. and lead



the program for the next 3-5 years. Professor Bentley-Condit is excited to lead the program and she is looking forward to seeing how the changes Grinnell has made to the program will positively affect the students.

Professor Bentley-Condit has led the program twice in the past, in the Fall of 2014 and the Fall of 2005. Both of those times, she states, it was a tremendous amount of work as “you didn’t have anyone there to help you”. However, in the new iteration of the program, Grinnell will be working with American University which already has a Washington semester program and whose services the Grinnell faculty and students will be able to utilize. Professor Bentley-Condit is enthusiastic about the opportunities that will be opening up for Grinnell students. While the program has always been internship based, now students will have many more options from which to choose. Furthermore, there are many Grinnell alums in the DC area who are very invested in both this program and Grinnell students; they want to get involved and help the students. Professor Bentley-Condit believes that this is an amazing opportunity for students “to get a foot in the door and try something out.” She also thinks that this is a great way for her to contribute to the Grinnell community as part of her SFS, since she has the ability to move there and give the program continuity.

Professor Bentley-Condit is also excited to move near the D.C. area since she will be closer to her daughter and her family. She says that she will miss the campus, the students and her colleagues who have been there for her throughout all these years. She will miss dropping by Professor Kamp’s office every time she was headed to her office upstairs and Professor Kamp had her door open, she will miss talking with Professor French who had a neighboring office to hers since 2003, and other small things that she will not have access to while she lives in D.C. Nevertheless, Professor Bentley-Condit likes to think that “we all have different phases to our lives and our careers and this is my next phase.”



## Professor Andelson:



Professor Jon Andelson's career in Anthropology started right here in Grinnell College. He first came to Grinnell as a student in the fall of 1966 and became interested in anthropology through a professor he had in his very first semester. His first anthropology course hooked him, so he decided to take a second anthropology course the next semester, and that hooked him even more. During his first year there was a joint Anthropology and Sociology Department, but in his second year the department split into separate Anthropology and Sociology Departments, and he was able to declare his major in the new anthropology department.

Also that year, Ralph Luebben (the first chair of the anthropology department in Grinnell) started a summer archaeological field school. The first summer the school was in Chihuahua, Mexico, and Professor Andelson attended it. The following summer, he volunteered on an archaeological dig in British Columbia, Canada. At that point he was thinking that maybe he would become an archaeologist. However, in the summer after he graduated from Grinnell he participated in a National Science Foundation funded field school in ethnographic research that was based in Saint George, Utah. After a week of orientation and lectures about how to do ethnographic research, all the participants spread out to little towns in southern Utah to actually do a research project of their own. Professor Andelson studied the farming history of a Mormon community near Zion National Park. This is when Professor Andelson started getting more interested in cultural anthropology, which is what he teaches today.

He entered the PhD program in anthropology at the University of Michigan in the fall of 1970, eventually focusing his dissertation research on the Amana Colonies, which are around 50 miles east of Grinnell, and this played an important role as to why he returned to Grinnell to teach in 1974. Professor Andelson's motivations for returning to Grinnell were in part because he already knew the school and the people, so teaching would not be as intimidating, but at the same time Grinnell was close to Amana and therefore he could continue to do research for his PhD dissertation.



He recalls that a lot of things have changed on campus since his student years, and in fact a lot of things changed while he was still a student. During his first two years as a student all the men lived on North Campus and all the women lived on South Campus. Furthermore, they had separate dining halls, one in Cowles (where the men ate) and another in Main (where the women ate), although you could get an invitation to go to the other one. At dinner time students had an option to eat a served meal at 5:30 or a cafeteria-style meal at 6:30. At the served dinner the men were required to wear a coat and tie. The tables had table cloths, and when the students sat down waiters would bring them the food. Similar rules applied for the women as well.

Another feature of life during Andelson's first two student years was that the men tended to stay in the same dormitory for four years, whereas the women tended to move around. This gave the men's dormitories something of a fraternity-like character. Each freshman (or "prep," as they were called) had to be initiated in their dorm. Each dorm had its own ritual for the initiation process. Nevertheless, this all changed after Professor Andelson's second year of college when the women's and men's dorms were integrated. This is when student life in Grinnell started taking the shape students recognize today. In fact, according to Professor Andelson "since then there has not been a huge change in the general way of life of students."

Professor Andelson also states that today "the college is richer, there are more opportunities for students, there are more kinds of support for students, like the Writing Lab, Reading Lab, and Math Lab, as well as the CLS, all of that is new." He believes that Grinnell has taken a lot of important steps in providing its students with support resources to help them optimize their educational experience. However, the size of the student body has increased and so has the faculty.

Professor Andelson has a lot of great memories of his many years at the college, both as a student and as a professor. Even though there are moments when he misses his old colleagues or the old Forum, where he spent some of his best times as a student and faculty member, he is excited for what is yet to come, and he looks forward to creating even more memories in Grinnell before he fully retires in five years.





**Central States Anthropological Society Annual Conference  
University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, Missouri  
March 25-28**

**[Although this meeting did not take place as scheduled, the papers by Monty Roper's group were all accepted and show some of the kinds of research Grinnellians are doing.]**

**Panel Session: Case Studies in Undergraduate Applied Community Research  
Session Chair/Organizer: J. Montgomery (Monty) Roper**

The papers in this session seek to celebrate and reinforce the value of anthropology in policy making by presenting a set of case studies in community collaborative research performed in the city of Grinnell, Iowa. The papers were prepared as part of an undergraduate course, *Research for Community Development*. The course is designed as a practicum and serves to teach students research ethics and methodology by conducting needs assessments and program evaluations in collaboration with community partners. The goals of the course include learning anthropological methods through practice, gaining a greater appreciation for the fields of applied and practicing anthropology, and learning about our local community. Students spend a semester preparing and carrying out their research and then present publicly to community partners as well as submitting a research report to them. This year's papers include the following. Monty Roper briefly presents on the structure and goals of the course and its impacts on students and community partners. Esme Rummelhart reports on a healthy living community needs assessment for the non-profit Imagine Grinnell. Maya Adachi reports on a wellness needs assessment done in collaboration with the senior-living facility Mayflower Community. Leo Ewing's project provides a follow-up to Maya's, focusing on the Mayflower Community's spiritual needs. Andrew George presents a market study for LINK Grinnell on how to best get the word out on the new after-school program. Finally, Marguerite Devine-Mraz shares a program evaluation of Grinnell Heritage Farm's summer "HaPIZZAness" event.



**Paper 1. The Pedagogy and Impacts of  
an Applied Methods Course**

*Monty Roper*

[roperjm@grinnell.edu](mailto:roperjm@grinnell.edu)

**Paper 2. A Community Needs Assessment for Imagine Grinnell**

*Esmé Rummelhart and Esmé Kayim-  
Yanko*

[rummelha@grinnell.edu](mailto:rummelha@grinnell.edu)

**Paper 3. Mayflower Community  
Wellness Needs**

*Maya Adachi & Henry Brannan*

[adachima@grinnell.edu](mailto:adachima@grinnell.edu)

**Paper 4. Mayflower Community  
Spiritual Needs Assessment**

*Leopold Ewing & Ruby Romero*

[ewingleo@grinnell.edu](mailto:ewingleo@grinnell.edu)

**Paper 5. LINK Grinnell Afterschool Program Marketing Study**

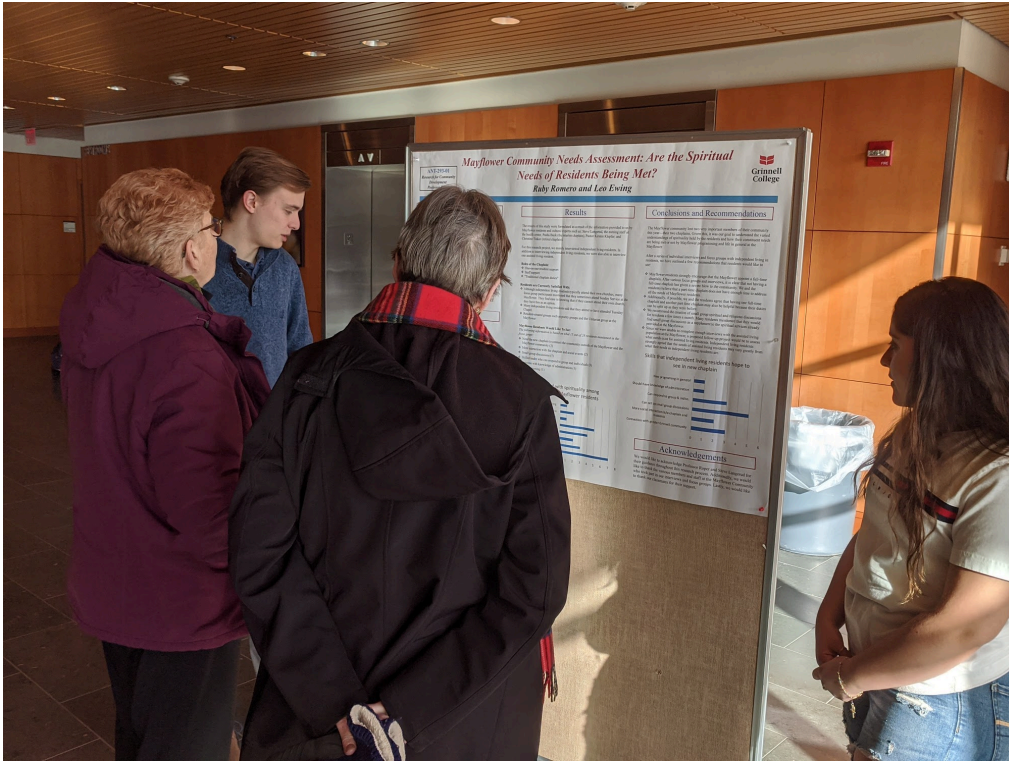
*Andrew George & Miho Tatsuki*

[georgean@grinnell.edu](mailto:georgean@grinnell.edu)

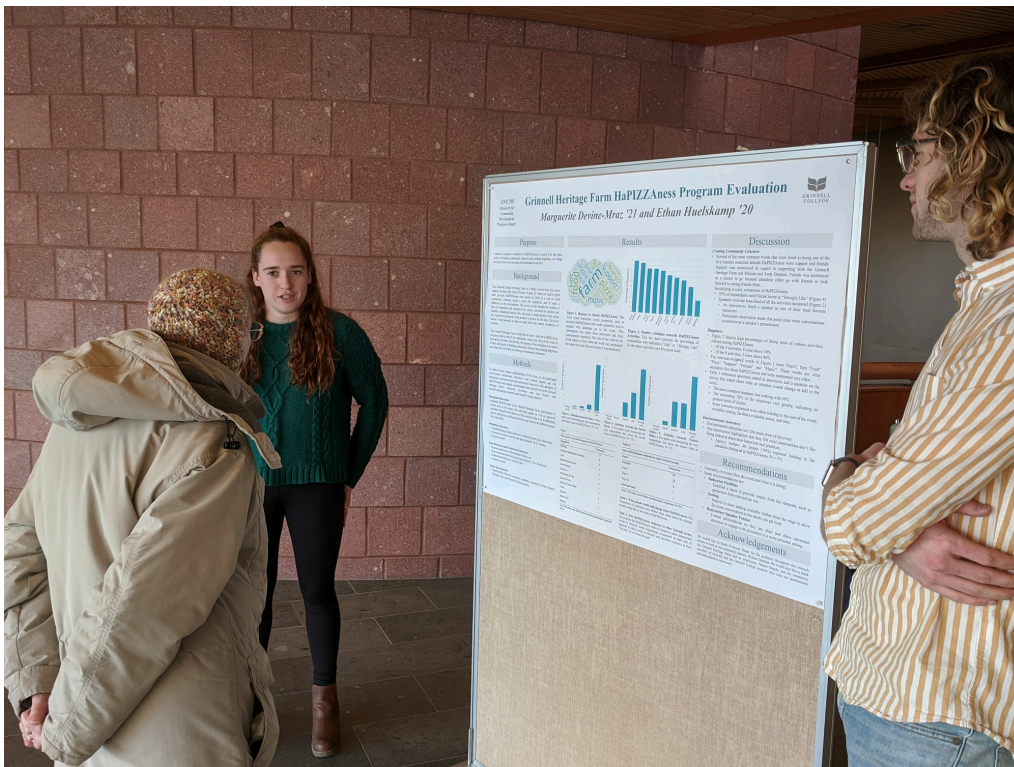
**Paper 6. Grinnell Heritage Farm HaPIZZAness Program Evaluation**

*Marguerite Devine-Mraz and Ethan Huelskamp*

[devinemr@grinnell.edu](mailto:devinemr@grinnell.edu)



(Above) Poster Presentation from Ruby and Leo to the executive director and members of leadership team for the Mayflower (Below) Marguerite and Ethan are presenting their poster on the Grinnell Heritage Farm HaPIZZAness Program



## Life During COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of us in ways that we did not think were possible. Grinnell College, like other colleges and universities around the globe, had to shut down due to the rapidly increasing rates of infection in the country. This caused a lot of distress for the students and faculty, as most students were forced out of their dorms while the faculty had to rethink their course material for the second half of the semester. Classes became online and everyone had to adapt to a new method of attending and participating in classes, attending office hours, and working remotely when possible. Nevertheless, the negative and stressful environment created in the final week before Spring Break did not discourage anyone. Students, faculty, and staff all continued to do their best to keep the Grinnell community united so that we could all face these difficult times together.

Below are some of the thoughts from anthropology majors about how they are spending their time at home, the difficulties of their transition into a new method of learning, and their general thoughts about this uncertain time we are living in.



My parents and I live in Grinnell, so ever since the COVID-19 outbreak started, my father and I have been turning unused lawn space into local foods in Grinnell. We are now working with 4 garden plots and about 1 acre of total space and looking to expand and involve more Grinnell students who are here over the summer. Seeing seeds sprout, burst into beautiful bloom, and produce an abundance of delicious and nutritious food has been my favorite activity since childhood, and one that I would like to share with as many people as possible. Recently, the sun on my skin has felt like photosynthesis happening and leading to my own growth as a person. I think the COVID-19 crisis has exposed many gaping problems within the systems we as consumers in American society rely on, and I believe that growing food in

our own lawns is the most revolutionary act to dismantle the exploitative institutions of our society. It is futile to protest a system that we rely on, so the first step of any effective revolution is self-reliance! Luckily, gardening is enriching for the body, mind, and soul, AND a top-notch social-distancing activity. Please reach out to me if you'd like to talk gardening or food systems!

- **Tommy Hexter '21**



I have been taking a ton of photos around the house and surrounding neighborhood, mostly of wildlife. This is an image of a goldfinch perched on an oak tree. The branches happened to line up so that the bird is in a little box. It's indicative of how the last two months have felt.

there'll probably be some scarring.

My situation is comparably better than a lot of people. I'm at home with family, we're able to safely isolate, and by sheer coincidence we'd stocked up on toilet paper right before everything fell apart. As for leaving Grinnell in such a rush, the overwhelming feeling is sadness. I feel like I've spent four years putting together the ingredients for a lavish cake only to find out the oven is broken. I haven't been able to think about everything I've missed because all it does is bring me down. As for online classes/finals, it just doesn't feel right. It's like I'm crossing the finish line ribbon by falling on my face. Yes, I got to the end, but

- **Isaac Ferber '20**



managed to return home before the borders closed definitively. Once at home, I

Leaving Grinnell hastily really upset me since I could see the stress and the worry that consumed everyone around me. I believe it was one of the worst moments of confusion and uncertainty that I have ever experienced. Furthermore, since I intended to return to Greece, where I live, I was constantly stressed about whether I was going to find available plane tickets at such short notice. Luckily, I

was limited in the things that I could do due to the rather strict quarantine laws placed by the government. It took me a while to adapt to the online courses provided during the second half of the semester since I did not have a very good internet connection. Furthermore, I was also faced with the challenge of the 8-hour time difference between Grinnell and Thessaloniki, which meant that I had to convert the due dates of all my assignments. Nevertheless, I managed to catch up with everything rather quickly, and I was also lucky that I had professors that were willing to help me adapt and were understanding of my conditions. The time in quarantine also allowed me to spend more time with my family and do some piano playing.

- **Anna Gjoleka '21**



Anthropology major **Ruby Romero '21** and colleagues at UCLA's School of Medicine have just published an article:

Ruby Romero, Karen Miotto, Alejandra Casillas, and Jesse Sanford 2020

"Understanding the Experiences of First-Generation Medical Students: Implications for a Diverse Physician Workforce" *Academic Psychiatry*

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40596-020-01235-8>

Senior thesis, **Nicholas Alex '20** "The Impacts of Contemporary Iowa Agricultural Practices on the Environment."

### 2019-2020 Arelsky Winners

**Rachel M. Asrelsky '89 Memorial Prize in Anthropology.** The Rachel Asrelsky Anthropology Paper Prize is given annually for outstanding papers written for an anthropology class. It honors the memory of Rachael Asrelsky '89, who died in the Lockerbie terrorist bombing while returning from an off-campus program, and all the students dear to us. This year we recognize:

- **Tommy Hexter '21**, for his paper "The Holy Ghost People – Mapping Culture: An Application of 4 Anthropological Theories to One Social Group"

- **Gabe Ferguson '23**, for his paper "Tree-Huggers and Strangler Figs: Narratives of Eco-tourism and Community in Monteverde"

## 2019-2020 Luebben Prize Winners

**Ralph A. Luebben Anthropology Prize.** Archaeologist, anthropologist, teacher, scholar — Ralph A. Luebben was the first full-time professor of anthropology at Grinnell College, the first tenured anthropologist on the faculty, the first chair of an autonomous department of anthropology, and the founder of the department's summer archaeological field school, digging in the SW and Mexico. Ralph Luebben's affiliation with Grinnell began in 1957 and he retired from teaching in 1983–84. In honor of Ralph Luebben's many contributions to the department, the Department of Anthropology solicited funds from colleagues and former students and established an endowment fund for the Luebben Prize. Ralph passed away October 19, 2009.

The Ralph Luebben Award in Anthropology is awarded annually to the graduating senior or seniors who best exemplify the ideal Anthropology student, including meritorious scholarly work, breadth in the discipline, contributions to the department, field experience, and an anthropological viewpoint on life.

This year's Luebben Prize winners are:

- Jiaqi Dai '20
- LaAnna G. Farnelli '20
- Tin N. Tran '20

### *2019-2020 Honors*

*Evelyn A. Berryhill  
Jiaqi Dai  
LaAnna G. Farnelli  
Ethan V. Huelskamp  
Iliana S. Luther  
Tin N. Tran  
Madeleine B. Vessely*

## New Anthropology Fund!

**This year, we are fortunate to celebrate a new end of the year award: the Paul Simmons '79 and Michele Clark International Research and Learning Fund.**

**Paul Simmons '79 and Michele Clark** believe that the study of anthropology is critical to further understanding of the archeological, biological, cultural, and linguistic evidence about the forces that shape human development and behavior as well as our past, current, and future social order and communities. Through this fund, they want to help provide students with life-changing global exposure and equip them with the research, critical thinking, information literacy, data analysis, and problem-solving skills that the world needs today and that the future demands.

This year, funds will support **LaAnna Farnelli '20**, who will be working with Professor Kulstad to finalize research on the impact of the 2010 Haiti earthquake and cholera epidemic on transborder fosterage arrangements along the Haiti-Dominican border, preparing an article for publication.



Study in the Anthro Commons



## **Adaptations** *By John Whittaker, Prof.*

Before Spring Break and the advent of Viraltime, the Anthropology Department was adapting pleasantly to our new home in HSSC. Although the HSSC is in most ways a fine building, and I think I speak for all of Anthro in saying we are generally happy there, a number of irritating stupidities in design manifest themselves every day. It probably does little practical good to point them out, but as scholars we like to believe in the activating power of words, and the soothing effects of self-reflection.



The guiding principle responsible for some strange decisions in HSSC seems to be the desire to have everything the most 'up-to-date' and as glitzy as possible. One of the worst results is the lighting system, on which I daily spend a kilocalorie of muttered cursing. The simple flip switches that have served the world for decades because they are cheap and work well were not good enough for our 'green' architects. Lights in HSSC halls go off automatically to save electricity, and turn on with motion sensors when you walk in. So far so good, and this reduces mistaken nerf-gun attacks by zombie-hunting students. But automatic switches are a poor application for faculty offices. If you sit working at your desk for 15 minutes, as we tend to do many times in a day, or doze off, as we hope not to do, your office lights go off. This is not great during the day, and disconcerting at night. In some offices, if you roll your chair back, or flail your arms around, the motion sensors deign to illuminate you again, but that doesn't work in all offices. The classroom switches are a mind-boggling mess of inconsistency. In some, it takes one poke on the little bar to turn the lights on or off, in others, you need to poke it twice. Some have dimmer features, or several different areas of a room's lighting are controlled by different blocks of a subdivided bar. Classroom lights do not go off by themselves, which of course is nice when you are trying to teach. But the system actually wastes electricity, because having been trained that lights will take care of themselves, even fewer people now turn off classroom lights when they leave than in the dark ages of toggle switches. How much did these

fancy-pantsy switches cost? A toggle switch costs about 3 bucks at Lowes; commercial versions of the junk we got cost \$20 to \$30. Perhaps it would be better to trust people to manage their lighting themselves instead of forcing on us a technological 'fix' that certainly doesn't save initial costs and probably doesn't really achieve our goal of reducing electric consumption. There used to be a class in Technology Studies on assessing the social and technological effects of technological change, frequently taught by Doug Caulkins from our department. Hmmmm...

Next semester we hope to be allowed back into our home, and for our next installment of Whinges With Whittaker, we will explore why advances in our heating and cooling technology require that I wear a sweater all the time in HSSC, and why the secretarial staff needs umbrellas over their desks.

## New Anthropology Tuesday Seminars! By Anna Gjoleka '21

This year for the first time the Anthropology Department introduced bi-weekly anthropology seminars where students and faculty can present their projects, research, and other achievements for the rest of the department. Before we all had to leave campus, these seminars were taking place every second Tuesday at noon, with

lunch served for everyone. We intend to resume as possible next year. This is a great opportunity for students and faculty to learn about what their friends and colleagues have worked on throughout the summer and previous semesters. It is also a great opportunity for students considering majors in anthropology to discover what the field is about, and what kinds of avenues it opens up for their future if they choose to pursue it further.

**Anthro Tuesday Seminar**

***Growing Green in Grinnell:  
Building a Robust Local Foods System  
for Our Community***

**Tuesday Feb 4 | HSSC\*s1330  
11:50 am - 12:45 pm**

Tommy Hexter and Tommy O'Donnell will report on their summer Anthropology MAP projects, "Growing Local Foods Consumption at Grinnell College," and "Evaluating the Efficacy of Local Food Assistance Programs in Grinnell."

The anthropology department will share information with students on how to pursue Senior Theses and MAPs, and the relevant deadlines.

Lunch will be available beginning at 11:50.  
Talks will begin promptly at noon





The first Anthropology Tuesday seminar was hosted on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in HSSC S1330. The seminar was dedicated to “Growing Green in Grinnell” and the students presenting were Tommy Hexter ’21 and Tommy O’Donnell ’20. Hexter and O’Donnell presented the Summer MAP projects they had conducted on growing local foods in Grinnell and the efficiency of local food assistance in Grinnell respectively. The seminar also had a section dedicated to important information about pursuing Senior Theses and MAPs, along with the relevant due dates.

The second seminar was hosted on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This seminar was dedicated to the Anthropology Department’s summer funding opportunities for students. LaAnna Farnelli ’20 spoke about her internship at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, whereas Cloe Wray ’21 discussed her preliminary research into the 1886 murder of six-year old Henry, focusing on genealogy, race, and place.

Unfortunately, these seminars were cut short by the COVID-19 out-break, which forced the college to close the campus for the protection of its students, faculty, and staff. Nonetheless, students and faculty are still continuing to do their research and long-term projects virtually. This means that when things become normal again, and they will, there will be even more exciting things to discuss in the Tuesday seminars. We hope they will become a long living departmental tradition.

#### **Donors:**

**Toby R. Cain ‘12**

**Lara E. Szent-Gyorgyi ‘89**

**Melinda Lopes ‘85 & Kevin Rhodes ‘85**



**Thank You!**

A decorative scroll graphic with a blue outline and rounded corners. The scroll is unrolled in the middle, and the text "Thank You!" is written in a large, bold, black serif font across the center of the scroll.



Class in Museum Design taught by Kathy Kamp and Leslie Wright, preparing new exhibits for HSSC.

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