

Cornell University Department of Anthropology

Fall 2015 News and Notes



A Note from the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends:

We hope that this, our Fall 2015 edition of Anthropology News & Notes, finds you well. Here we are proud to share some of the recent awards and accomplishments of our students and faculty that make Cornell one of the most distinguished communities of anthropologists in the world.

Sadly, this newsletter comes just as our department has again been shrouded in grief. Terence Turner, Visiting Professor of Anthropology at Cornell and Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, passed away on November 7. Terry was a truly eminent anthropologist and one of the most insightful thinkers of his generation. Known best for his ethnographic and activist work with the Kayapo communities of central Brazil, Terry's contributions to anthropology were breathtaking in their scope and inspiring in the new vistas that they opened for analysis. His work addressed topics from social organization and kinship, to myth, ritual, and history, from the construction of personhood to the ontology and epistemology of representation, from political organization and mobilization, to values, and inter-ethnic relations. Few anthropologists have had more impact on more domains of our discipline than Terry.

This December, Instituto Raoni, a Kayapo community organization with which Terry worked, is to be awarded the Equator Prize in recognition of their outstanding efforts to fight deforestation of the Amazon and its impact on indigenous communities in the rainforest (see below). Their efforts in this fight are one of Terry's most powerful legacies.

We will be in touch as arrangements are made to honor Terry's life and remember his contributions to anthropology. Our thoughts are with his family, friends, colleagues, and collaborators in Ithaca, Brazil and around the globe.

Very best wishes,
Adam T. Smith, Chair
Department of Anthropology
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Terence Turner (1935-2015)

photo by Jason Koski, Cornell University Communications

The Department of Anthropology in the News

[Hirokazu Miyazaki named next director of Einaudi Center](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Elementary school students dig archaeology](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Undergrad researches the desecration of cultures](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Anniversaries of Zimmerman Verdict and Michael Brown's Death Recall Suffering and Resilience that Spans the U.S. and Canada](#) *Huffington Post*, Professor LaBennett is field member in Anthropology.

[Yiddish Theater Festival offers humor, pathos, meaning](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Hidden Cornell treasures to be digitized](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Much of Ithaca built on top of Indian burial grounds.Cornell prof finds](#) *Ithaca Voice*

[Symposium to examine prisoners' human rights](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Local Native Indian history buried in obscurity](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[CUEvent Planned to Discuss Prisoners' Human Rights](#) *IthacaTimes*

[An Oral History of Langtang, the Valley Destroyed by theNepal Earthquake](#) *Outside*

[Excited About The Pope's Visit? Read 'Laudato Si'](#) *NPR*

[Atkinson Forum to explore vibrant Mexican 'son' music](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Langtang](#) *Cultural Anthropology*

[Tamsaling and the Toll of the Gorkha Earthquake](#) *Cultural Anthropology*

[Cornell launches 'genocide archive,' chroniclingHolocaust, massacres](#) *Ithaca Voice*

[MacArthur“Genius” award winner to give talk at Cornell](#) *IthacaVoice*

[Growing global: Cornell continues to expand opportunitiesfor meaningful international experiences](#) *Ezra Magazine*

[Two talks look at international partnerships](#) *Cornell Chronicle*

[Anthropology professor receives Boyer Prize](#) *College of Arts & Sciences Website*

[Arthur P. Wolf dies at 83](#) Wolf was a Cornell Anthropology PhD and Assistant Professor.

An Update From Nepal

Anthropology Professor Kathryn March has been in Nepal for several weeks working with villagers and facilitating community discussions about designs, funding, and the need for earthquake-resistant construction training. The earthquake-resistant construction training program will be held November 17-23, 2015. Learn more by visiting "[Friends of Phyu khri Ridge Reconstruction](#)" page on Facebook.



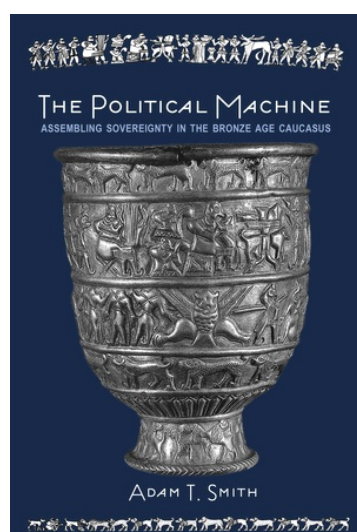
The Minton Anthropology Lecture: Renewing a Tradition

This fall the department renewed our tradition of hosting an event at the Cornell Club in Manhattan that brings faculty research to alumni in New York City. Made possible through the generosity and energy of Alison Minton '88, approximately 50 guests attended Professor Jonathan Boyarin's talk entitled "Anthropology in the Neighborhood: Studying Jews on the Lower East Side". We look forward our next Minton lecture next fall. Stay tuned to the spring Anthropology News & Notes for details.



Our thanks to Alison Minton for her support of this very special event.

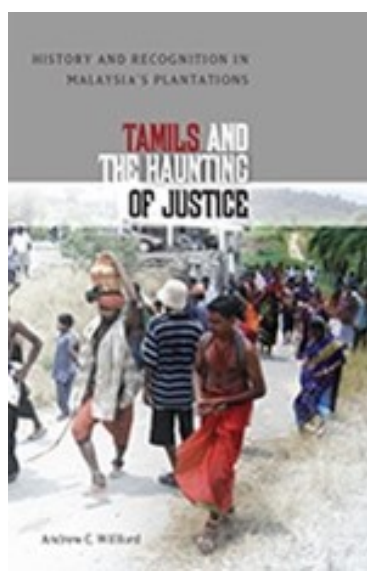
New Books from Anthropology Faculty



The Political Machine: Assembling Sovereignty in the Bronze Age Caucasus by [Adam T. Smith](#)

"This provocative and timely book identifies three main phases in the development of 'sovereign assemblage' and provides a compelling account of social change in Caucasian societies between the fourth millennium and the Iron Age. Peppared with erudite case studies, this original and important book will be widely read and used by archaeologists, anthropologists, and art historians."

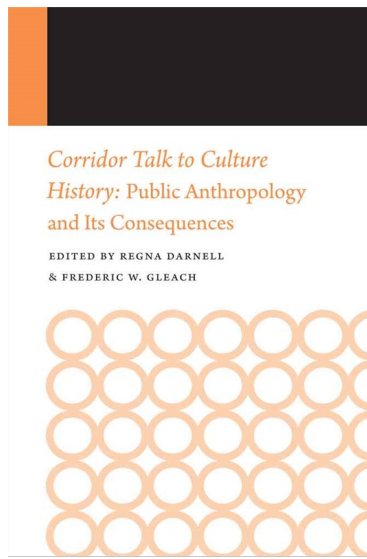
--David Wengrow, University College London



Tamils and the Haunting of Justice: History and Recognition in Malaysia's Plantations by [Andrew Willford](#)

Based on seventeen months of ethnographic fieldwork, this compelling book is about much more than the fast-approaching end to a way of life. *Tamils and the Haunting of Justice*, by Cornell University Professor of Anthropology Andrew Willford, addresses critical issues in the study of race and ethnicity.

<http://www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/p-9230-9780824838942.aspx>



Corridor Talk to Culture History: Public Anthropology and Its Consequences

Edited by Regna Darnell and [Frederic W. Gleach](#)

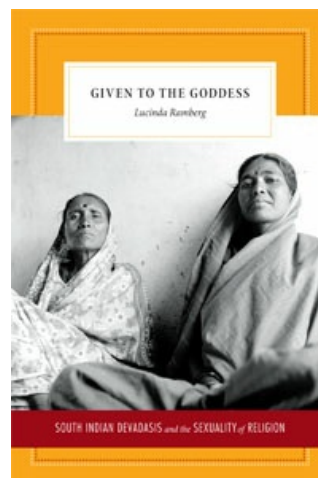
"This volume is part of an excellent series on the history of anthropology. There is no current series like it, and the editors are among the best scholars in this field."

—Paul Shankman, author of *The Trashing of Margaret Mead: Anatomy of an Anthropological Controversy*

<http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Corridor-Talk-to-Culture-History,676389.aspx>

Awards and Accolades

Professor Lucinda Ramberg's Award-Winning Book



Professor [Lucinda Ramberg's](#) book, *Given to the Goddess: South Indian Devadasis and the Sexuality of Religion*, was selected as the winner of the Clifford Geertz Prize in the anthropology of religion; The Rosaldo Prize; and The Ruth Benedict Book Prize.

[An article highlighting these awards](#)

[An extract of this book](#)

Professor Sangren Receives Boyer Award



The Society for Psychological Anthropology selected Professor [Steven Sangren](#) for this year's Boyer Prize for Contributions to Psychoanalytic Anthropology. The selection committee awarded this prize based on his paper, "The Chinese family as instituted fantasy: or, rescuing kinship imaginaries from the 'symbolic'".

Instituto Raoni Awarded 2015 Equator Prize

The United Nations Development Committee has announced that Instituto Raoni, the organizational face of Brazil's Kayapo people, is one of 20 community organizations to win the [2015 Equator Prize](#).

Cornell University Anthropology Professor Terence Turner has worked closely with Instituto Raoni and has done ethnographic and activist work with Kayapo communities since 1962.

The Equator Prize showcases outstanding local and indigenous community efforts to reduce poverty, protect nature, and strengthen resilience in the face of climate change.

Instituto Raoni is a Brazilian indigenous group that is leading the fight against unfettered deforestation of the Amazon and using an innovative media strategy to document illegal logging in their territory and increase accountability in the remotest parts of the Amazon rainforest.

Equator Prize Winners will be honored at an award ceremony in December in Paris, France at the UN Climate Change Conference.

Graduate Student Monica Salas Landa Awarded Roseberry Nash Prize

The Roseberry Nash Paper Prize Committee of the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology selected Monica Salas Landa's paper, "Modernist Ruins, Fragmented Debris: The Unmaking Of Monumentality in the Northern Lowlands of Veracruz, Mexico," as the winner.

The Committee noted that Landa's paper constitutes a critical and innovative piece of research that will contribute to Latin American and Caribbean anthropology. Congratulations, Monica.

The Roseberry Nash Student Paper Contest honors the work of two distinguished anthropologists, June Nash and the late William Roseberry, for their multiple contributions to the anthropological understanding of Latin America.

Fall 2015 Events

9/11 Frank Salomon (University of Wisconsin-Madison) "Loving the Khipus to Death: Ethnography and Conservation in the Sierra de Lima, 1994-2012"

9/18 Michael Herzfeld (Harvard University) "Did the Galactic Polity Ever Stop Pulsating? Reflections on Egalitarianism and Authoritarianism in Bangkok"

9/25 Erica Bornstein (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) and Miriam Ticktin (The New School for Social Research) "Politics of Care, After Sovereignty: What Makes Humanitarianism Good to Think With?"

10/16, Les Field (University of New Mexico) "The State's Own Anthropology: Colonialism, Typology, and Governmentality in Palestine and California"

10/23, Dr. Esra Özyürek (University of London) "Fear Rather Than Remorse: Emotional Performance of Citizenship and Turkish- and Arab-German Engagements with the Holocaust"

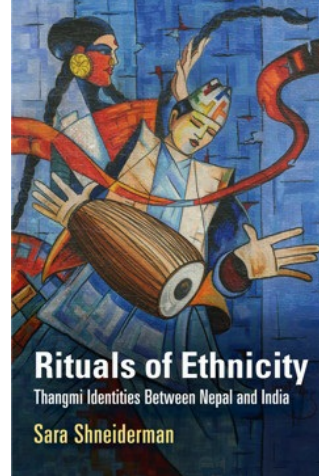
10/30, Ruth Behar (University of Michigan) "My Jewish Journeys in Spain, Cuba, and Academia"

11/6 Chad Uran (White Earth Anishinaabe; Visiting Postdoctoral Associate, Cornell University) "The Opposite of Sacred is Prosaic, Not Profane: Language Ideology and Ojibwe Language Revitalization"

Notable Events in Spring 2016

The Society for Cultural Anthropology is hosting their Biennial Meeting at Cornell University May 13-14, 2016. The Conference Theme is Collaboration. Collaboration has become an important key word in the world and an important methodological and ethical concern in anthropology. The conference seeks to explore and critically examine the further potential as well as the limits of collaboration. Additional details can be found at <http://www.culanth.org/fieldsights/744-cfp-collaboration-the-biennial-meeting-of-the-society-for-cultural-anthropology>

Alumni News



Congratulations Cornell Anthropology alumnus Matthew Erie. Erie accepted the position of Associate Professor of Modern Chinese Studies at the University of Oxford.

Erie is a sociocultural anthropologist (Ph.D. Cornell University 2013) and a comparativist lawyer (J.D. University of Pennsylvania, LL.M. Tsinghua University) who studies Chinese law and society.

Congratulations Cornell Anthropology alumna Sara Shneiderman on the release of her new book [Rituals of Ethnicity: Thangmi Identities Between Nepal and India](#).

Shneiderman is an Assistant Professor in Anthropology and the Institute of Asian Research at the University of British Columbia.

New Website Coming Soon: <http://anthropology.cornell.edu/>

