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**Sixth Annual University of Notre Dame  
Department of Anthropology**

Undergraduate Research Exposition  
April 20, 2009

As a department our commitment to collaborative learning and “hands-on” engagement results in the annual production of innovative research projects by students in the classroom, the laboratory, and the field. This poster presentation and multi-media reception will highlight the original research work of our undergraduate students and emphasize the diverse and rich academic environment at the University of Notre Dame.

We are pleased that you have joined us to recognize and celebrate our students’ achievements in creating and disseminating knowledge. Thank you for attending this event.

The following **Seniors** will orally present their thesis research in 625 Flanner Hall

**5:00-5:15 pm: Christina Crespo**

*BEST OF BOTH WORLDS: Birthing, Embodiment of Space and Gender Empowerment in Cusco*

International and national efforts to bring health and obstetrical care to women in developing countries have not been consistently successful in lowering maternal mortality rates. Increased accessibility of birthing centers has not resulted in the expected numbers of gestational women birthing in clinics. One of the reasons appears to be that physical accessibility alone is not enough to welcome birthing mothers; cultural and linguistic approachability are equally important. This research explores the dynamics of the incorporation of cultural and ethnomedical beliefs in a biomedical clinical setting. Centro de Salud Belempampa (C.S.B.) is a state-supported health center in Cusco, Peru that is using a culturally and socially sensitive approach to birthing. Since 2005, the Center has offered women the right to use traditional birthing practices including vertical birthing positions. The opportunity to use traditional birthing methods is appealing to indigenous and rural women who

might have given birth at home. As a consequence, the number of births at C.S.B. has increased and rates of maternal mortality have decreased in comparison to local hospitals and other health centers. This project is based on participant observation and unstructured interviews with women, obstetricians and nurses. The project includes a cultural analysis of the non-technological approach in the training doctors and nurses, the dynamics of space and exchange and a sociolinguistic analysis of a televised news report. An objective of the research is to explore how this holistic approach may be a model for other countries to provide more culturally sensitive obstetrics and decrease maternal mortality rates.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Daniel Lende, Dr. Karen Richman*

Funding provided by  
Kellogg Institute for International Studies  
Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)

**5:15-5:30 pm: Mary DeAgostino**

*Women's Sexuality and HIV/AIDS in Arusha,  
Tanzania: The Realities of Education and  
Prevention*

Gender roles and inequalities have been discussed as key factors in sub-Saharan Africa's uniquely high rates of female HIV infection, with the oft implicit assumption that increasing gender equality will alleviate this crisis. Based on field research conducted in Arusha, Tanzania, this paper explores how young Tanzanians' gendered experiences of sexuality affect the impact of HIV prevention programming by limiting discussion of critical topics and Tanzanians' ability to integrate program recommendations into daily life. Ethnographic realities of young women's sexuality in Arusha indicate that the taboo nature of young women's sexuality is disempowering for female sexual decision making. Formal and informal HIV prevention initiatives for women in Tanzania focus on empowerment in educational, political, or economic realms without a direct discussion of sexuality, but examination of Tanzanian descriptions of sexual power and gender roles points to a disconnect between gender equality and female sexual autonomy. While the Tanzanian government and nongovernmental organizations must play a role in addressing the shortcomings of current prevention programs, parents should be especially targeted as HIV educators for young

people as they are ideally placed to speak with their children about sexuality within the context of lived experiences.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Daniel Lende*

Funding provided by

Glynn Family Honors Program

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)

President's Circle

Learning Beyond the Classroom Grant

**5:30-5:45 pm: Jessica Hagemann**

*Postcolonial Crisis: Reclaiming Identity in the Art  
and Literature of Australian Aboriginals' Stolen  
Generations*

This paper explores the function of Australian indigenous art as an incarnation of native identity and history, and by extension, the context through which non-indigenous parties may approach native art. Two competing theorists provide the appropriate framework for discussion: Consuelo Cruz's (Tufts University) model of declarative identity, and Stephen Turner's (University of Auckland, New Zealand) understanding of native sovereignty. Cruz defines declarative identity as the counterpart to collective memory and the "critical juncture" of primordialist and constructivist views of identity. Turner notes the "inadequacy of the rhetoric of globalization . . . to lived local realities," and argues for a grassroots interpretation of identity independent of socio-historical identity politics. Together, the models facilitate an examination of what it means to live a postcolonial existence. For as Aboriginal and Torres Strait artists gain back a voice silenced for so long, they are speaking from and to a world extraordinarily different from that of their ancestors. Even the voice they speak in has changed, as regional dialects die to English, and the only words at an indigenous Australian's disposal are Western. Bark paintings and hand-hewn tools become quaint tourist trade; Western symbols and



figures merge with dot painting and the Dreamtime. Meanwhile, art and poetry tend ever more towards the political, as urban indigenous artists fight both to be understood, and to understand. At this strange intersection, a hybrid form is emerging—not native, not Western; of a people no longer native, and not yet Western. In this paper, I examine two contemporary indigenous artworks and one prose poem that exhibit postcolonial hybridism, including the influences of Christianity, land acquisition, and the English language. Based on my analysis, I then attempt to position modern indigenous identity within the larger Australian national identity.

*Faculty Mentor: Romana Huk*

Funding provided by  
Learning Beyond the Classroom Grant

**5:45-6:00 pm: Kathryn Keegan**

*An assessment of diet and dental health at  
Byzantine St. Stephen's Monastery in Jerusalem*

This study examined the diet and dental health of a monastic community from the Byzantine monastery of St. Stephen's in Jerusalem (5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century C.E) by analyzing dental calculus deposition, interproximal grooving, carious lesion frequency, antemortem tooth loss, and dental microwear. The majority (78.2%) of the teeth demonstrated some degree of calculus deposition. Carious lesion frequency was low (5%) with the first molars showing the highest lesion frequency. Antemortem tooth loss was comparably low (5.85%). There were no incidences of interproximal grooving in the entire collection. Qualitative results of dental microwear analysis of facet nine on twenty right mandibular molars showed a high frequency of shallow scratches, suggesting consumption of softer food products and a lack of dietary grit in the food supply (Teaford and Walker, 1984; Teaford, 1988; Van Valkenburg et al., 1990; Strait, 1993; Crompton et al., 1998; Carnieri and Mallegni, 2003; Mahoney, 2006). The results of both the dental pathology and dental microwear studies fit well with previous bone chemistry studies (Cooper et al., 2005; Gregoricka et al., 2005), supporting the hypothesis that inhabitants of Byzantine St. Stephen's consumed a varied diet consisting of both plant products as well as a large amount of animal

protein. Although these results contradict historical texts which claim Byzantine monks traditionally consumed carbohydrate-rich diets, it is believed the urban location of St. Stephen's monastery near Jerusalem made the inhabitants privy to certain animal and other food products not consumed by most Byzantine monks of the Judean desert.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Susan Guise Sheridan*

Funding provided by

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)  
Glynn Family Honors Program

**6:00-6:15 pm: Brandon Sparks**

*Funerals in Lesotho: HIV/AIDS Affecting Attitudes  
and Ritual Function*

The African country of Lesotho faces a severe HIV/AIDS crisis. With a large portion of the population dying, household structure, economic activity, and cultural rituals like funerals have all been impacted. Previous work has been done on funerals, but not with cultural economics in mind within a rural region so deeply affected by disease. This research focuses on funerals in rural Lesotho, which generally include expenses such as the slaughter of cattle and a large feast. Given the enormous death toll from AIDS, funerals involve an increasingly large part of the domestic economy. An interesting hypothesis emerges from this shift: the burden of funeral costs takes too many resources from needy households, yet funerals function as an indispensable form of food redistribution and social cohesion. Through interviews and participant-observation taken over two summers in the Mokhotlong and surrounding districts of Lesotho while helping the pediatric AIDS organization Touching Tiny Lives, this hypothesis was investigated to discover compelling results. Reasons given for expensive funerals include family competition and tradition, highlighting the social function of funerals. The increasing death rate caused some individuals to question the continued practice of expensive funerals. Instead of

decreasing the costs of funerals, however, many rural villages have started funeral societies that help pay for funerals over an extended period of time. This evidence further supports the cultural necessity of funeral rituals. Action can be taken from the results, as understanding these cultural changes and responses can serve to better direct aid. Monetary and nutritional relief efforts work within cultural practices and patterns, and funerals organize and reveal these patterns.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Daniel Lende*

Funding provided by

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)

Glynn Family Honors Program

Anthropology Department

**6:15-6:30 pm: Sean Mallin**

*Rebuilding "Normal": Violence, Memory, and the  
Future of New Orleans*

Many residents claim that they lost a sense of “normal” when the floods after Hurricane Katrina washed away homes and neighbors, lives and memories. Understanding what is meant by “normal” helps us better grasp the conflicting notions that will define the “new” New Orleans. Through the various representations of what the city was, is, and should be in the discourses on rebuilding, we can see the manifestations of economic disparity and racial anxiety, the tension between the economics of public and private, and the struggle of maintaining tradition in the face of (post)modernity.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Rahul Oka*

Funding provided by  
Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)  
President’s Circle

The following students will present their independent research via posters:

**Marie Bader**

*Control in the Uncontrollable: Wilderness Therapy and At-Risk Teenagers*

Wilderness therapy programs use the beauty, ruggedness, and power of the backcountry to build self-esteem and leadership skills in at-risk youth. During summer 2008, I carried out research with Montana's InnerRoads Wilderness Program, which uses individual and group therapy, group initiatives, and wilderness hard skills to facilitate positive relationships with peers and adults, while simultaneously tackling struggles that have challenged the teens at home. Adaptation to the lack of control over the environment necessitates self-discipline and cooperation, resulting in a more holistically tempered and socially capable individual. Wilderness therapy proved to be especially successful in treating teenagers who have not responded well to traditional therapy.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Daniel Lende*

Funding provided by

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)  
Learning Beyond the Classroom Grant  
President's Circle

**Joella Bitter**

*Contextualizing the 'Informal Economy': Urban Santiago and Rural Uganda*

My project investigates the significance and complexity of the broad use of the term 'informal economy.' Using my own field research, I examine two cases: the urban informal economy of Santiago, Chile, and the informal economy in northern Uganda. Can the same term 'informal economy' effectively be used to describe such a wide range economic practices? I will discuss the conditions that enable, motivate, or oblige participation in informal economies and the similarities and differences that persist between the two cases. A more precise understanding of informal economies, and the range of lived experiences they encompass, is required before we can understand their implications for development.

*Faculty Mentor: Rahul Oka*

Funding provided by  
Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)  
Office of Undergraduate Studies LBC Grant



## **Jillian Brems**

### *Community in Transition: The Evacuation of InisAirc*

In 1960, InisAirc, an isolated island off the coast of Western Ireland, was evacuated by the Irish government. Its 24 residents, the last members of a small fishing and farming community, were relocated to the mainland in the community of Fountain Hill. In the summer 2008, I collected oral histories from people involved and conducted archival research relevant to life on the island, the evacuation, and the specific histories of families affected by this event. The aims of this project not only preserve an essential element of local history, but also inform our understanding of how social processes were affected by internal migration.

Through interviews and archival research in national and regional libraries, I attempted to reconstruct daily life on InisAirc and in the mainland communities. The physical move disrupted the population's social and economic networks, and I wanted to understand the nature and extent of the disruption as well as the ways in which families established new lives for themselves in a new cultural and geographical setting. I was also interested in determining the level of support the people received from governmental, religious or community institutions and how this aide assisted or impeded their transition. Additionally, to provide

comparative data, I explored archival resources related to other Irish islands that were evacuated around the same time as InisAirc.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ian Kuijt, Dr. Deb Rotman*

Funding provided by

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)  
President's Circle

**Molly Chernelich, Jill Schroeder, Emma Czarka**

*Latino Mothers' Perceptions of their Families'  
Health: A South Bend Study*

Hispanics represent the largest minority group in the United States, with 41.3 million living in the country as of July 1, 2004. As this group continues to grow, they face new challenges in their integration to life in this country, particularly with regards to healthcare. Latino children and families face many difficulties surrounding the entire idea of health – the definitions of health and the healing practices used by the Latino population are oftentimes different from those considered the norm in American culture. To determine how Latino women in the South Bend community perceive and treat their children's and husband's health, and what obstacles, if any, the women must confront while working with their children's and husbands' health, we conducted two focus groups and one interview with Latino mothers in South Bend. We found that the women were dissatisfied with the care and information they received when they sought medical care for their children and generally considered

bringing their children to the doctor a waste of time. The women were also very concerned about their husbands' health, yet did not seem to know how to persuade the men in their lives to maintain a healthier lifestyle. Overall, the women seemed well aware of the health issues affecting their families but felt they lacked information or power to treat them effectively. The gap between the women's knowledge of their families' health and their ability to treat it suggests that greater efforts need to be made to educate and inform Hispanic women about available healthcare options and to make them feel welcome in the American healthcare system.

*Faculty Mentor: Vania Smith-Oka*

### **Casey Engelbert**

*Modern Youth Understandings of the Establishment of Puerto Rico as a U.S. Commonwealth in 1952*

For my Oral History Project, I am going to investigate the Puerto Rican perspective on the peculiar historical event of Puerto Rico's establishment as a "Commonwealth" under United States rule in 1952. By interviewing Puerto Ricans studying or residing in the continental United States, I will use first-hand accounts to supplement academic research. In doing so I hope to add texture and greater understanding to a complicated and confusing aspect of Puerto Rican and American history which remains somewhat unresolved into today.

*Faculty Advisor: Dr. Deb Rotman*

**Stephanie Fairhurst, Allison Ciesielski**

*The Hard Truth About Ground Stone Analysis:  
Understanding Subsistence Patterns*

This poster provides an overview of ground stone analysis as a lithic reduction technique. It introduces the basic principles of ground stone technology and analysis, outlines the five different categories of ground stone tools, and specifically drawing special attention to processing tools. The poster explicates how use-wear analysis can provide valuable insight into the use-life, efficiency, intensity of the stone tool as well as distinguish attributes relative to specific activities, environment and gender group affiliations. It illustrates the importance of this analysis by drawing from case studies conducted in the Andes where patterning, and frequency in distribution was used to understand daily economic life.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Ian Kuijt*

## **Laurimar Garcia**

### *Classic Maya Stone Tools: Getting A Little Eccentric*

Much about the Maya is known to researchers, but an area of interest that is still enigmatic is exactly why and how eccentric stone tools were used in rituals and ceremonies. What is undeniable is the remarkable intricacy of these lithic artifacts that are found not only in ceremonial centers but also in homes all across Mesoamerica. This poster will display varied example of eccentrics from Belize and Guatemala as well as address the method in which they were made and the materials that were used. Moreover, the function and use of these eccentrics will be discussed. I will also have on display recreations of these eccentrics to fully convey the complexity of these artifacts.

## **Mark Herrera, Michael Krafft**

### *Soft-Hammer Time*

Soft-hammer percussion is a type of lithic reduction technique that uses a softer striking material, which is usually made of wood, bone, or antler. The elasticity of these materials allows them to absorb some of the blow when a core is struck, allowing for a more controlled flake. Rather than having a pronounced bulb of percussion and following the pattern of a conchoidal fracture, as with hard-

hammer techniques, the flakes produced with soft-hammer have a small lip and are characterized by what is called a bending fracture. The end results are flakes which almost seem to be stripped or scraped off the object undergoing work. This technique is typically used for finer work as the flakes removed are thinner and more delicate than the larger flakes produced by hard-hammer percussion. Soft-hammer reduction can be used for thinning, flattening, and sharpening bifaces.

Our poster project will not only make use of visual aids to demonstrate the unique work that soft-hammer percussion achieves, but it will include examples ranging from the Acheulean bifaces of the Lower Paleolithic to the sacrificial knives of the Mayan Empire dating to A.D. 800-1100.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Ian Kuijt*

## **Janine H. Joly**

### *La Famiglia di Dellatorre: The Immigration and Assimilation of an Italian family in the American Mid-west*

For my oral history poster, I have chosen to research an enigmatic portion of my ancestry: the post-immigration experiences of my maternal grandfather's family. My mother's father, Carl Dellatorre, passed away nearly two years ago at the presumed age of 92. Whether or not this was actually his true age remains in dispute. My mother, the youngest of Carl's three children, did not have access to any legal records regarding my grandfather prior to his service in the Army during WWII—it is possible that he never even had a formal birth certificate. Moreover, some of the information contained in these files does not correspond precisely to that which was found on more recent documents.

Much of the confusion surrounding Carl's early life can be attributed to where he grew up, his family's farm situated outside of a small village near Steubenville, Ohio, and the inefficiency of government arbitration in rural areas during that time, as well as his family's status as immigrants, and in particular his father Michael Dellatorre's traditionalist, and sometimes harsh and impassive approach to parenting which did not leave much room for any unnecessary display of sentimentality.

After serving in WWII, my grandfather left the farm in Ohio to live in Washington, DC with my grandmother Mary Carpinetti, a girl he'd met at a USO dance. Although he was always open with us about his life

before that transition, I never knew many specific details about his family or their origin. Therefore, I have conducted several interviews over the past several weeks with close and distant family members still living in the area whose combined knowledge, though similarly limited to mine, has helped me successfully flesh out the details of my grandfather's family tree, learn additional specifics about his immediate family's way of life on the farm as well as their social interactions with the surrounding community and the nearby town of Steubenville, and traced patterns of association with their extended family network—which consisted of those three of my great-grandfather's siblings who also immigrated to the Ohio area and their families—over time. From this information I developed a clearer understanding of the family's experience as Italian immigrants in Ohio as well as invaluable personal insight into their character and morals as individuals. One of the most fascinating cultural phenomenon which I have chosen to focus on in my poster is the nature of my grandfather and his siblings' education and development as first-generation Americans trying to reconcile the stoical adherence to Old World tradition they learned at home with the more casual, pleasure-driven American youth culture they encountered outside the farm. For example, nearly every member of the family can recall the story of how the my grandfather and a few of his brothers (there were seven boys in his family in all, as well as two girls) would sometimes sneak away from the family home and their father's severe authority late at night to go to the bars and dances in Steubenville. Of course if they were caught the boys knew it meant they'd be whipped, so they had to carefully plan their escapades so that they could go out and enjoy the town and still be home in time to perform



their morning chores so as not to arouse any suspicion—thus they struck a tenuous balance between the values their parents forced on them and the pursuit of bourgeois amusement, one of the many things offered by this society into which their father had willingly moved, but to which he refused to conform.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deb Rotman*

**Emily Lopez, Adriana Sanchez, Jessica Mahon**

*Socio-economic Factors Preventing Availability and Utilization of Mental Health Services Among Latina Population in South Bend, Indiana*

As part of a larger research project ongoing at the Institute for Latino Studies, the underutilization and lack of mental health services among the Latina population in South Bend, Indiana was studied. Specifically, the research focused on gaining insight into the health care providers' perspectives on mental health issues facing the Latina population. The literature suggested that the barriers to obtaining mental health care for Latinas were mostly attributed to socio-cultural factors such as: stigma-related concerns, cultural taboo of voicing problems outside the family, preference for individualized care. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews with local health care providers that work with the Latino population. The interviews gathered information regarding availability and utilization of mental health services

for the Spanish-speaking population. The data suggested that socio-economic factors comprise the predominate barriers to mental health care in South Bend. These factors include: lack of institutional funding to sustain therapists serving the lower-class, lack of Spanish-speaking therapists, inability to afford mental health care coverage, and an inability to obtain health insurance due to illegal immigrant status. This research will be useful to better align the views of the health care providers with the mental health concerns of the Latina population to increase availability and utilization of mental health services.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Vania Smith-Oka*

## **Sean Mallin**

*Rebuilding "Normal": Violence, Memory, and the Future of New Orleans*

Many residents claim that they lost a sense of “normal” when the floods after Hurricane Katrina washed away homes and neighbors, lives and memories. Understanding what is meant by “normal” helps us better grasp the conflicting notions that will define the “new” New Orleans. Through the various representations of what the city was, is, and should be in the discourses on rebuilding, we can see the manifestations of economic disparity and racial anxiety, the tension

between the economics of public and private, and the struggle of maintaining tradition in the face of (post)modernity.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Rahul Oka*

Funding provided by

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)

President's Circle

Balfour Research Grant

### **Casey McNeill**

*"A Lovely People": Place, Kinship, and Gender on Pre-1960 InisAirc, Co. Galway, Ireland*

A multi-faceted research project, my study of the social context of Irish coastal ways of life specifically with regards to gender relations is rooted in an assortment of data collection methods. In conjunction with research conducted while participating in the Summer 2008 Cultural Landscape of the Irish Coast Project, my project incorporates data drawn from oral histories, historical documents, and folklore collections. Focusing upon constructs of place, kinship, and gender, this poster gives a voice to the abandoned yet intriguing island of InisAric Co. Galway, Ireland. Once full of laughter, hospitality, song, and dance, InisAirc stands today a shell of its former, exuberant self. Vacant cottages, crumbling stone

fencing, and potato bed remnants dot the landscape. Evacuation and abandonment may have led to its “death,” but the legacy of InisAirc is so much more than desolation and painful memories; its story is a testament to the traditional coastal island ways of life—simplistic and content—with intense pride in place, kinship, and gender. I aim to contextualize its “death” and unravel coastal island ways of life via the living memory of its residents and their descendants.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deb Rotman, Dr. Ian Kuijt*

Funding provided by

The President’s Circle

Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP)

Mr. Joseph Marranca

ISLA

Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies

Department of Anthropology

## **Casey McNeill**

### *Pressure Flaking*

Pressure flaking, a lithic skill, is used in the terminating phase of stone tool making. If executed properly, this process refines the tool, resulting in perfected shape and sharpness. Our project will include a display of pressure-flaked projectile points demonstrating the range and proficiency of this

skill. Our poster additionally explores the process of pressure flaking through its exploration of the lithic technology of late Stone Age Lesotho. Lesotho has a unique, highly diverse lithic history as evidence of tanged and barbed edges have been found among archaeological assemblage and debitage. We will also recreate portions of several of these intriguing, finely made projectile points for hands-on analysis.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ian Kuijt*

Funding provided by  
Department of Anthropology

### **Danielle Morriss**

*Ranging behavior flexibility in response to habitat disturbance by Milne-Edwards' sifakas (*Propithecus edwardsi*) in Ranomafana National Park, Madagascar*

The links between a species' ranging patterns, resource needs, and the quality of the habitat that it occupies has been well-established in the literature. However, in cases where anthropogenic habitat disturbance has degraded previously suitable habitats, studies have revealed that species specific traits (e.g., niche breadth) play an important role in shaping how a species responds. Using data collected during a long-term study of Milne-Edwards' sifakas, this project examines changes in home range size and daily path length exhibited by a large-bodied lemur species following the

selective logging of their forest. Given that sifakas living in the disturbed area of the forest were known to have adopted a more folivorous diet than their pristine forest counterparts, it was predicted that social groups living in the disturbed forest would have smaller home ranges and exist at higher population densities; a hypothesis that was only partially supported by the data. Furthermore, it was predicted that daily path length would be shorter within the disturbed forest given the higher proportion of leaf material within sifaka diet at this site. Although preliminary analyses appear to support this prediction in general, the relationship is obscured upon the addition of variables such as weather and sifaka food preferences. Ultimately, although it appears that sifakas can (and do) alter their ranging behavior to compensate for habitat changes resulting from disturbance events, such changes should be regarded as transitory and highly context dependant within this species.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Agustin Fuentes,  
Professor Summer Arrigo-Nelson*

Funding provided by  
The Earthwatch Institute  
Fulbright (IIE)  
St. Louis Zoo (FRC)  
National Science Foundation (DDIG)  
Primate Conservation, Inc.  
SBU, CalU, and VT

## **Emily Newport**

### *Institutional Barriers to Providing Latino health services in the South Bend community*

This particular research is focused on the institutions of healthcare serving the Latino population, defined here as the administrative level of hospitals and clinics serving this group. The ultimate goal of this study was to better understand how and why decisions and programs are made regarding healthcare for the Latino population in and around South Bend, IN. We talked with directors and representatives of both hospitals in the South Bend area as well as community leaders and clinic directors in order to gain a better understanding of the overall function and role of institutions in Latino healthcare in the area. In general, we found that there is still a lack of linguistic, geographic and cultural understanding that continues to impede the ability of those at the administrative level to provide the necessary funding and services. Ultimately, many of the programs being created and implemented at this level must be further incorporated at the community-based level in order to better understand and serve the health needs of the Latino population in South Bend and to account for the non-medical aspects of health that continue to act as barriers at the institutional level.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Vania Smith-Oka*

## **Kerry Pecho**

### *Violence and Children at Risk in Puebla, Mexico*

Many non-profit organizations have been greatly concerned with the reality of street children, a situation that afflicts children in countries worldwide. Street children are often perceived by the government as an extremely visible image of poverty that breaks the codes of moral behavior and needs to be concealed. They experience significant marginalization and have few opportunities to successfully reintegrate into their families and their communities. JUCONI, an NGO based in Puebla, Mexico, works with street living, street working, and market working children, acknowledging their situation and their rights as citizens in order to provide them with the means to better participate in society.

Drawing on ethnographic data collected through participant observation and interviews carried out at the JUCONI Center, my research investigates the effectiveness of JUCONI at achieving its goals, the most prominent being the emotional, social, cognitive, and physical development of the children. One of the topics that emerged during my research was the importance of the JUCONI programs' focus on each of these aspects of child development through various activities they complete throughout the day. I chose to compare these institutional activities and goals with those of



the children's parents. Specifically, I investigated whether the parents and children shared JUCONI's goals as well as how effective JUCONI is at accomplishing these goals. Through interviewing the parents I found that while there is a range of perspectives concerning the function of JUCONI in their families' lives, they all felt that JUCONI played an essential role in their children's development and in strengthening their household. Serving as a school, day care, and counseling center, JUCONI is effective at teaching children about their rights, to be understood and protected, while working with entire families on eliminating violence from the home.

*Faculty Mentor: Professor Vania Smith-Oka*

Funding provided by  
Kellogg Institute for International Studies

## **Erin Plate**

### *Answering the Nation's Call: Deployment and the American Military*

For my oral history project, I researched the US military deployment experience in the current conflict in Iraq. My primary focus was the effect of deployments on relationships for service members and their families. My interest in the project largely stems from my background as a military dependant and my future career plans to serve in the Air Force. I believe this topic will give me valuable insight into the unofficial account of the military experience overseas. Additionally, it will provide practical knowledge of the issues military members and their families face without the lens of media distortion. The deployment experience has profoundly affected American society on multiple levels. The all-volunteer military has had to adapt to a high operational tempo beyond what had previously been required. Numerous Reserve and National Guard troops were called up to active service, requiring them to leave their otherwise normal lives to fulfill their military obligation. This alteration has drastically changed how American society perceives itself on an international level and how the view of the military has shifted. I am interested in learning the perspective which the military has of itself and how the current events we read about affect them on a daily basis.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deb Rotman*

## **Kathryn Sabella**

### *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité?: the Lives and Struggles of North African Immigrants Integrating into French Society in Angers, France*

“Liberté, égalité, fraternité”, serves as both a motto for the French Republic and a call for a quality of life that French society esteems to make real in the lives of its citizens. During my nine months of study abroad through the University of Notre Dame, I examined the ways in which this model has been realized in Angers, France and in French society overall. The goal of my research is to analyze the struggles and experiences of migrants originating from an area of North Africa known as Le Maghreb who have come to live in France and start the process of integration into a foreign society. My interviews, photos, and collected articles about migrants are based on my work with both an Angevin immigrant integration organization (A.P.T.I.R.A.) and French citizens of European descent who play a crucial role in migrant acceptance. In addition, I have analyzed the historical background of France’s growing migrant populations and recent political decisions about cultural problems that have developed during the past fifty years between those who are considered to be “French”, and those who are not. The inconsistencies that have developed in French culture regarding national and individual identity serve as the basis for my poster, and through the use

of personal accounts from both migrant and non-migrant persons living in France, I will present an encompassing view of how “liberté”, “égalité”, and “fraternité” may become ideals of the past if changes are not made now for the future of French society. My research has led me to believe that France must face the reality that integration by its standards of republican secularism has been ineffective, and that the definition of what it means to be “French” is under question. It may be time to start a new pathway to migrant acceptance; one that emphasizes multiculturalism and appreciation of differences, rather than forced assimilation and total adoption of the ideals and traditions of the French Republic.

*Faculty Mentor: Maurizio Albahari*

## **Angela Schad**

*Impact of the Second Vatican Council on Religious Elementary School Teachers*

In this oral histories project, I explore the impact of the Second Vatican Council on Catholic elementary school teachers and administrators. In order to accomplish this goal, I interviewed several former teachers and principals, all of whom are either current or former sisters in religious orders. Based on the interviews I conducted, I have found that, while the changes which occurred in the Catholic

school system were fairly similar across the United States, the speed and extent to which these changes were accepted in individual schools varied widely depending on geographic location, religious order, and diocesan preference. As described in the interviews, classroom organization, curriculum, teaching style, school atmosphere, and the religious teachers' dress all underwent transformations in the 1960s and 1970s, changes which were either directly or indirectly influenced by Vatican II or the broader changing social atmosphere of the United States.

The oral histories I have collected further agree that many opportunities for religious sisters in ministries other than education were created as a direct result of Vatican II and the efforts of the Catholic Church to expand its social outreach. As a result of this and as a result of increasing enrollments in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the percentage of teachers in Catholic elementary schools who were members of religious orders decreased. Catholic elementary schools also generally became more receptive of non-Catholic students following Vatican II. However, contrary to many concerns voiced in the years immediately following Vatican II, the reduction in the percentage of religious teachers and increases in non-Catholic students did not have a significant negative impact on the Catholic identity of the schools according to the oral histories I collected.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deb Rotman*

## **Katherine Shakour**

### *Transferring Identities: Ireland to Chicago*

Irish-American identity was rooted in the Irish Catholic identity that transferred to America during migration. For this project, I was most interested in understanding Irish identity during and after the Famine, an event that greatly impacted the lives of Irish Catholics. Identity is “a central component of ideology and a crucial aspect in allowing it to make at least a minimal sense of people’s daily life experience” (Hall 2006 : 141). It is an incorporation of what it meant to be Irish in Ireland and how identity was shaped by emigration to America. This includes the personal perspective, the role of religion, and the importance of politics, particularly Irish nationalism, had on daily life.

## **Katherine Shakour, Mark Quaresima**

### *Bipolar Reduction: Turning big rocks into little rocks*

Bipolar reduction was a technique used throughout human history. It is a highly debated technique as to its predictability. The process involves three stones, the core, the hammerstone, and the anvil. This process results in the fracturing of the core to produce an assemblage of flakes. This process serves two purposes. 1) creation of usable flakes

and 2) reduction of the core to allow for further modification. This technique is employed when an irregular shaped stone is unworkable by other means such as hard hammer percussion, soft hammer percussion, and pressure flaking. We will demonstrate the benefits of bipolar reduction as a valuable skill within the study of lithic technology.

*Faculty Mentor: Ian Kuijt*

## **AZ Tice**

*Education in Lesotho: A Challenge and Instrument of Change*

In the small African country of Lesotho approximately one third of the population is HIV positive; there are over 100,000 'at risk' children in the population, and the Ministry of Education is struggling to keep young people in school. The barriers preventing young Basotho from attending school are culturally complex, and are made more complicated by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Through interviews with students, parents, and grandparents, and with members of the Ministry of Education, I explored the impediments to schooling as well as the innovative techniques the Basotho are employing to solve the problem of low attendance.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Daniel Lende, Dr. Vania Smith-Oka*

Funding provided by  
Department of Anthropology  
Touching Tiny Lives Foundation

**AZ Tice, Analisia Stewart, Vanessa Valdez**

*Traditional Medicine and Healing in  
the Latino Community of South Bend*

Nestled in the middle of a west side neighborhood of South Bend, Indiana, La Casa de Amistad stands as a focal point of education and Latino heritage for the growing Latino Community that engulfs it. The following research was started with the overall goal to help start Las Promotoras. The main purpose of Las Promotoras is to educate women about health and turn them into teachers as well as leaders. In doing so it is important to take into consideration what knowledge the women currently hold, especially that which was brought from their homeland.

In particular we explored the role women hold in making decisions pertaining to health, traditional remedies they use in their households, the relationship they have to biomedicine and doctors, the perception women have of their own health and that of family members, their relationship to traditional healers in the area, and the position of care taking of both children and the elderly in their families. With all these areas in mind we have



considered the women's ages as well as their relationship to their homeland in order to fully understand their knowledge and views pertaining to health.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Vania Smith-Oka*

### **Frank Vento, Collin McCabe**

*Cost-Benefit Analysis of Fluting in Paleoindian Projectile Points*

This study sought to examine the paleoindian production of fluted projectile points. With a success rate hypothesized at around thirty-three percent, fluting projectile points was a risky endeavor even for the most advanced flintknappers. The technological benefits of fluting was analyzed as were the downfalls that eventually led to its phasing out of the archaeological record.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ian Kuijt*

## **Nicole Yamaguchi**

### *Relations Between Mestizo Doctors and Low Income Patients in Cholula, Mexico*

This research is based on a six-week period in a public hospital in Cholula, Mexico. I shadowed and interviewed six physicians both in outpatient and emergency room settings, observing the interactions between mestizo doctors and indigenous low-income patients. The power dynamic between members of both groups was evident through language, ethnicity, class, and gender. The prevalence of sterilizations in the hospital specifically illustrates fears over reproduction among indigenous low-income women in Mexico. These observations are part of a larger dialogue on doctor-patient relations. Hospitals need to implement policy at the local level to empower women about their reproductive bodies and foster culturally sensitive medical care

*Faculty Mentor: Vania Smith-Oka*

## **Robin Y. Yim**

### *An Analysis of Mesa Verde Black on White Bowl Rims from Aztec East 4*

Since the work of Roland Richert (1964), there has been little study done on the sherds found at Aztec East. Apart from how many sherds have been found and the typing of the sherds, there is not much more known from the sherd assemblage. Given a partial, random sampling of the assemblage, I further investigated the sherds (mainly for archival purposes), more specifically I focused on quantifying data from Mesa Verde black on white bowl rim sherds.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Glowacki*

## **Sara Yusko**

### *The Cultural Tradition of Yup'ik Masks*

The tradition of Yup'ik masks is of great importance in understanding Yup'ik culture, due to their significant role. By researching a "Bear Mask" acquired by the Snite Museum of Art at the University of Notre Dame, it is possible to explore how masks defined the Yup'ik people as well as their traditions and customs, by focusing on two

major components of Yup'ik masks: (1) their different classifications and (2) their relative roles in traditional practices. This particular mask seems to combine physical representations of two animals, a seal and a bear, which may have been an extra attempt to reinforce their success in hunting. Research shows that the Yup'ik people felt a strong connection between ritualistic and religious acts, the cycles of nature, and their successes in hunting. Many facets of their way of life can be revealed through the study of their use of masks.

*Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joanne Mack*

Funding provided by  
Snite Museum of Art

### **Jennifer Zabel**

*Moralization of Vectors of Transmission: A Study in Content Analysis of HIV/AIDS in Uganda, South Africa and the United States*

This study focuses on the moralization of vectors of transmission of HIV/AIDS. Vectors of transmission are those agents which further the spread of HIV/AIDS (aka HIV, prostitution etc.) It is a comparative study of American and African policy, focusing specifically on Uganda and South Africa. This study will examine how vectors of transmission of HIV/AIDS become vehicles for ideologies and identity politics, i.e. how they are

moralized. These ideologies which cause the moralization of vectors of transmission vary from country to country and affect the very treatment of HIV/AIDS within each country. Uganda will be examined as a deviation, a success story in HIV/AIDS prevention. South Africa, in contrast, will be examined as the quintessential failure in HIV/AIDS prevention. The United States will be examined as a western example of HIV/AIDS prevention. Information was analyzed from media, such as newspapers, press conferences, music, speeches and governmental briefings, as well as secondary sources, and was analyzed via word composition and thematic composition in three categories: biomedical, cultural and policy. Statistical analysis was conducted using z-test for binomial proportions on each category to determine differences, if any, between the word and thematic content. Conclusions were drawn from this analysis. Moralization occurred through the vehicle of community in Uganda, anti-apartheid/colonialism mindsets in South Africa and through a biomedical war-metaphor in the United States. The effect of the moralization on prevention programs is also briefly explored and how this affects western prevention of HIV/AIDS in third world countries.

*Faculty Advisor: Dr. Daniel Lende*

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