Culture Inscribed

The Newsletter of the Department of Anthropology California State University - Fresno



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Anthropologist of the Fortnight By Tiana Kuntz Henry Lewis Morgan (1818-1881)

Lewis Henry Morgan, who began his career as a lawyer, later became a writer and anthropologist. In 1840 he received his law degree from Union College and though he was successful in his career, his focus turned towards the politics of ancient Athens and Rome, and local Native Americans, the Iroquois. Morgan helped to form the Grand Order of the Iroquois and in doing so, was adopted by the tribe.

His work on the Iroquois is one of the earliest examples of American ethnography. Morgan hoped that through kinship he would be able to find the key to social evolution. He is best known for his work. Ancient Society, published in 1877 in which he outlined three stages of human cultural development. He believed that these stages, savagery, barbarism, and civilization, were inevitable for all human societies. The first two stages were further divided into three sub-stages creating a total of seven stages of human cultural development. This theory in which all humans followed this same line of progress became known as a unilineal evolutionism.

Tuesday Night Social Hour "AnthroNight"

This year has been very successful in the gathering of anthropological minds. We would like to continue this "intellectual conviviality" throughout the summer. In keeping with the new tradition, we will be gathering on every first Tuesday of each month during these next few hot summer nights. Our next social night will be held **Tuesday**, **June 6th around 7pm-10pm** at the John's New England Pizza, SE corner of Shaw and Woodrow (near Starbucks). Come alone, or bring a friend. Drinking is optional. Check out our last one:

www.csufresno.edu/Anthropology/events/tuesdaysocials.html

AnthroClub Focus "Another Successful Year" By Robert Stitt

This academic year has come to its end but we have laid a good foundation for growth is Fresno anthropology. The AnthroClub would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this semester's successful activities and to Jim Mullooly for his insight and great advising. We would also like to thank the Anthropology department and Associated Students for donating some of the proceeds to help support the AnthroClub. I want to thank all of the board members of the AnthroClub who have given a huge amount of time and effort to making this semester very successful.

Thanks to the hard work of the AnthroClub and supporters, we have helped raise \$635 towards the Mayaworks disaster relief. All proceeds were much appreciated and we hope to continue this or other such ventures next year.

Anthropology T-shirts are still on sale and if you would like one, please fell free to e-mail Jim Mullooly. Mediums are going fast, so it is first come, first serve. Our hope is that we will raise enough money to be able to keep a running supply of the shirts for the years to come. T-shirts are running \$15 for student and \$20 for faculty and staff. Contributions are welcome!!

Congratulations to next year's board members:

President: Nicole Engle
Vice President: Jenny Morgan
Secretary: Sarah
Treasurer: Christina Barker
Other positions still open!

We will see you all next semester!

Contributing Editorial Board

Rebecca Allen Ann Spagna Amber Calvert Elizabeth Campos Nicole Engle **Editor in Chief:** Robert Stitt

Faculty Advisor: James Mullooly, PhD Website: www.csufresno.edu/Anthropology/newsletter

AnthroGeek By Jim Mullooly



Student: Isn't it interesting that Ernst Mayr and Sewall Wright, two of the greatest Darwinians of our times, both published significant work into their late 90s, long after most members of our species are dead? Can evolutionary theory account for this? Is this proof of the Gaia hypothesis? Is Darwin's spirit somehow involved?

AnthroGeek: Let me remind you of two important statements made by Ernst Mayr: "Life is simply the reification of the process of living" and, "Our understanding of the world is achieved more effectively by conceptual improvements than by discovery of new facts." If these don't help, take Physical Anthropology ASAP!

AnthroGrad News

A semester is gone and so will a few students. We wish you all the best in your upcoming journeys into the world of anthropology or social sciences. Some will go on to the PhD while others will be taking some needed time off. Whatever paths you have chosen, CSUF and the Anthropology department wish the following all the very best:

Amber Calvert
Elizabeth Campos
Tara Ders
Jill Hufft
Ann Spagna
Robert Stitt
Anne Visser

Congratulations to **Anne Visser** for receiving the Dean' Medal of Academic Excellence in the College of Social Sciences.

AnthroNews The 2006 Distinguished Lecturer By Robert Stitt

On Tuesday the 27th of May, the Anthropology Club with the generous support of Associated Students sponsored a lecture by Lucia C. Cargill, RN, Ph.D., and President/Executive Director of The American Overseas Medical Aid Association.

Before and after the lecture, Dr. Cargill attended a few of the classes and gave some of the students an overview of her work oversees. Dr. Cargill talked in one of Professor Ellen Gruenbaum's classes in the morning and Professor Penny Verin-Shapiro's classes the following morning. For those of you that attended the classes, we hope that it was an educational experience.

That evening, Dr. Cargill gave a lecture on the Indonesian Tsunami, and the impact it had on the region. She talked about the struggle, aftermath and later success to gain control over the disaster and the effects it had on the people. We saw the courage and strength of the Indonesian people and the power of coming together to help each other in a trying time.

We were taken through the aftermath of the Tsunami with pictures that helped illustrate the reality and devastation it had on people and the hope evident in the faces of those who would accept defeat.

Dr. Cargill took us through her own struggles to help the Indonesian people rebuild a stable community. With her work and with the help and leadership of the American Overseas Medical Aid Association, we have seen how it has resulted in changing the lives of thousands of Indonesians and of Indonesian survivors stuck in "internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.

The evening lecture was a great success and we had over 80 people attend. We would like to thank all that attended and hope that you enjoyed the lecture. We are grateful to Dr. Cargill for describing the work that the American Oversees Medical Aid is doing for communities all over the world. We would also like to thank the AnthroClub and Associated Students for yet another successful lecturer and hope that we will have the opportunity to have more guest lecturers in the future.