



# THE ARGONAUT

*Newsletter of the Anthropology Program at North Dakota State University [Premiere Issue]*

## NDSU Now Has Masters Degree in Anthropology

In the Fall of 2008, the North Dakota State Board of Education approved an Anthropology Master's degree at North Dakota State University. Previous to this time, graduate students who focused on Anthropology at NDSU received a Master's degree in "Social Science." Now this has changed and many faculty members and graduate students applaud the new Anthropology degree program and accompanying name change.

The change came about when the NDSU Anthropology Committee, chaired by Dr. Timothy J. Kloberdanz, worked on a lengthy name-change document (totaling approximately 140 pages) and submitted it for consideration and administrative action in February 2008. Other members of the committee included Dr. Jeffrey T. Clark, Dr. Heather Gill-Robinson, and Dr. Joy Sather-Wagstaff.

A number of NDSU colleagues and Anthropology graduate students also contributed to the extensive name-change documentation and wrote letters of support. These individuals included Dr. Thomas J. Riley (College Dean), Dr. Daniel J. Klenow (Department Chair), Dr. Timothy Bratton (a professor at Jamestown College), Emily Hagemeister, James E. Landrum III, Lacey L. Lockett, Jessica Rau, and Kristi Stahl.

The Anthropology Master's degree already is in effect. For the first time in NDSU history, graduate students now are able to pursue a Master of Arts or Master of Science degree in Anthropology. Graduate students should discuss both degree options (M.A. or M.S.) with their Anthropology advisors.

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**Argonaut:** (1) an adventurer engaged in a quest; (2) in Greek mythology, one who sailed with Jason on the ship "Argo" to find the Golden Fleece; and (3) a term used by Bronislaw Malinowski in his 1922 ethnographic classic *Argonauts of the Western Pacific*.

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### Minard Hall on the NDSU Campus

The main office of the Sociology, Anthropology, and Emergency Management Department is on the top (fourth) floor.





## NDSU Anthropology Club Update

The NDSU Anthropology Club is a student led organization that promotes and celebrates human diversity. The club hosts an annual tour of the “haunted” spots on the NDSU campus around Halloween and lectures by professors. They are also in the process of starting an anthropology conference on campus.

Recently, some members of the Anthropology Club met in Watertown, South Dakota to view the exhibit “Body Human”. Club members felt a range of emotions view-

ing actual human bodies. This visit led to deep discussions about the ethics of displaying preserved human bodies. The bodies on display were not all donated to science. Some of the bodies were purchased from morgues because they were left unclaimed by family or friends.

The exhibit was on display at the Goss Opera House, which was under construction at the time of the club’s visit. The experience left members feeling that it was inappropriate and offensive to display actual

human bodies in a venue that was full of construction dust and noise.

The NDSU Anthropology Club also holds regular meetings. These meetings range from viewing movies to holding discussions. All Anthropology majors and minors are encouraged to attend. Please e-mail the club’s president at [Jessica.J.Deckert.1@ndsu.edu](mailto:Jessica.J.Deckert.1@ndsu.edu) for further information.



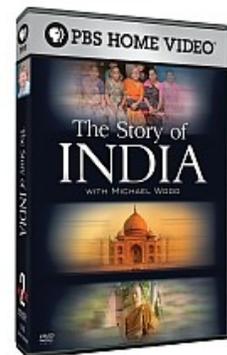
Members of the NDSU Anthropology Club at the Goss Opera House in Watertown, SD at the “Body Human” exhibit, October 2008.

*“Never believe that a few caring people can’t change the world. For, indeed, that’s all who ever have.”*  
Quote by Margaret Mead

## What to Watch

In January 2009, PBS aired a six-part series called “The Story of India” that demonstrates the holistic perspective that anthropology tries to achieve. Using linguistics and archaeological records, new advances in genetics and cultural aspects such as religion, the makers of this series try to unravel the complex mystery that is India. Each one hour segment of the series covers an aspect of Indian life. Part one does the best job of using holistic analysis techniques, but the whole series is an excellent introduction to India. Other topics include

the great religions, the trade routes to and through the area and the rise and fall of many mighty empires like the Harappan, Persian, Delhi and Moghul. Finally, part six tells the story of the independence movement of the mid-20th Century from the British Empire. For all of the harm Great Britain did in India, it has one unquestionable legacy, it united India. The series also highlights the bright future ahead for India in the entertainment and software production markets. The DVD is available for purchase at [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org).





# Meet the NDSU Anthropologists

## Dr. Jeffrey T. Clark

Dr. Jeffrey T. Clark has been at NDSU since 1983. He is a Professor of Anthropology who specializes in archaeology. He received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, and his Master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois. His research interests are in computer applications for human heritage and paleo-environmental studies, with regional emphases in Oceania and North America. Dr. Clark is Director of the Archaeology Technologies Laboratory (ATL) and the Archaeology Materials Laboratory (AML) at NDSU. The ATL has conducted a range of projects funded through grants and contracts,

including the use of laser scanners for 3D modeling, digital databases for anthropology, and virtual reality worlds for education. His field research has been primarily in Polynesia, and he plans to return to the Samoan archipelago in the near future for additional excavations. Dr. Clark is on sabbatical for the 2008-2009 academic year. During the fall semester he used his time off to travel to Spain, Cyprus, Egypt, and Jordan, attending conferences, meeting with colleagues, developing future research projects, and visiting archaeological sites.



## Dr. Heather C. Gill-Robinson

Dr. Heather Gill-Robinson is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology, specializing in biological anthropology. Dr Gill-Robinson's major area of research is mummies found in peat bogs in northern Europe. *National Geographic* featured Dr. Gill-Robinson in a television special about bog mummies in 2008. Dr. Gill-Robinson spends much of her break time in Europe working with mummies. In January 2009, Dr. Gill-Robinson presented a lecture "Evidence Based Transdisciplinary Mummy

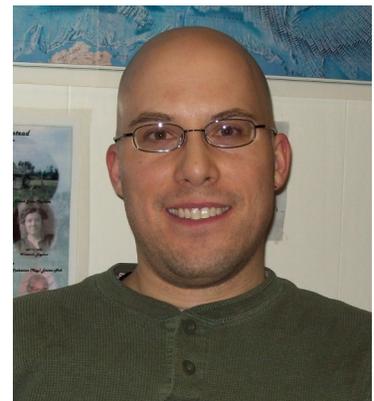
Studies for Research and Education: Mummies in the Museum, Laboratory, Classroom and Communities" for the Sociology, Anthropology and Emergency Management department colloquium series. She also teaches human osteology, forensics and human origins at NDSU. Currently, Dr. Gill-Robinson is teaching *Introduction to Anthropology, Forensic Studies*, and she is supervising multiple students involved in independent studies.



## Travis M. Kitch

Mr. Travis Kitch has held the position of Lecturer in Anthropology at NDSU since 2003. He also teaches in the Minnesota State Community and Technical College system in surrounding communities. Mr. Kitch received a Bachelor's degree in Education from Minot State University in 1996. He then pursued a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology at Moorhead State University in 1999 and later re-

ceived his Masters degree in Social Science with an emphasis in Anthropology from North Dakota State University in 2002. Mr. Kitch's main interest is archaeology. He has worked in Jamestown, North Dakota at the excavation site of Fort Seward. The fort was in use from 1872 to 1876 and has yielded some very interesting finds. Mr. Kitch is teaching two sections of *Introduction to Anthropology* this semester.



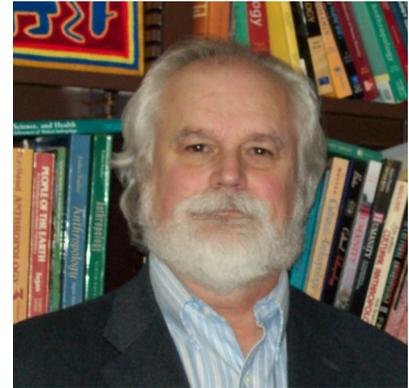


# Meet the NDSU Anthropologists (continued)

## Dr. Timothy J. Kloberdanz

Dr. Timothy J. Kloberdanz is an Associate Professor of Anthropology who specializes in Cultural Anthropology, Expressive Culture, and Anthropological Theory. He received his B.A. from the University of Colorado, his Masters from Colorado State University, and his PhD from Indiana University. He first came to NDSU in Fall 1976. Dr. Kloberdanz is an internationally-recognized expert on the Germans from Russia (*Russlanddeutschen*). He has worked on four books and several prize-

winning television documentaries. Dr. Kloberdanz also has received a number of awards, including the North Dakota Governor's Award (2001), the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences "Outstanding Teacher Award" (2003), and most recently he was named an Honorary Member of the Golden Key International Honour Society at NDSU (2008). Dr. Kloberdanz currently serves as the Anthropology Committee Chair for the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Emergency Management.



## Dr. Thomas J. Riley

Dr. Tom Riley is the Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Science at NDSU and has held that position since 1996. Dr. Riley began his academic career at Boston College with a degree in English Literature. While on an archaeological dig in the Hebrides of Scotland, he found that anthropology, archaeology especially, was his true calling. After graduate work at the University of Nebraska, he completed his Master's degree and Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii. He focused on prehistoric agriculture of Halawa Valley on Molokai. His research has taken

him to Polynesia and Micronesia, as well as Scotland and England. He has studied the prehistoric agriculture of Mississippian peoples from Wisconsin to Mississippi, and excavated sites in the Marshall Islands and American Samoa. He also has worked at Fort Seward in Jamestown, ND. Dr. Riley has taught anthropology courses at NDSU, mostly seminars and also an introductory course. But his duties as College Dean keep him very busy. He does still give lectures and he was named the "JoAnn Van Tilberg Lecturer in Oceanic Prehistory" in 2007-2008 by the Archaeology Institute of America.



## Dr. Joy M. Sather-Wagstaff

Dr. Joy Sather-Wagstaff is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology. She began her career in anthropology after working in the business and music industries for a decade. Dr. Sather-Wagstaff received her Bachelors Degrees in Anthropology and Gender Studies from the University of Utah in 2000. She completed her Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2007. Some of Dr. Sather-Wagstaff's research interests are memorial sites, tourism, museum studies, expressive culture, space and place, contem-

porary material and digital culture. She has done extensive research at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and at the site of the former World Trade Center towers. This semester Dr. Sather-Wagstaff is teaching *Cultural Anthropology* and *Death and Dying*. In May 2009, she will begin research at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), doing initial program evaluation for the Memory to Action exhibit with USHMM colleague Dr. Rebekah Sobel.





# Jobs and Opportunities

## 2009 Fort Union Fellowship

**Friends of Fort Union Trading Post**

15550 Hwy 1804

Williston, North Dakota 58801

### Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site

The Friends of Fort Union Trading Post and the National Park Service announce a \$1000 Fort Union Fellowship for 2009. This annual fellowship is intended to support a qualified researcher wishing to explore and produce an article or monograph on an aspect of Fort Union trading post history, broadly defined. The fellowship is open to all applicants.

Recipient of the award must be in residence at Fort Union, North Dakota, for a minimum of one week in 2009, preferably during the summer. A brief, written report on research completed must be received within two weeks of departure, the recipient forecasting the tended publication expected from his research.

Criteria for selection include: 1. suitability of the Fort Union library, archival, or museum collections to the proposed research; 2. applicant's experience and training; 3. potential for the project to make a significant contribution to scholarship on Fort Union; 4. potential for the project to result in an article or book publication.

Applicants need not be professional historians or archaeologists, but must evidence experience as well as ability in historical research. Evaluation of applications will weigh academic training, previous publications, and the extent to which the recipient will examine new topics or offer new interpretations.

Applicants should submit a project proposal not exceeding four double-spaced pages, referencing applicability of the Fort Union Trading Post collections. Included should be a resume listing previous publications, if any; and the names, affiliations, and telephone numbers of three references capable of commenting on the applicant's research skills and experiences.

Applications must be postmarked no later than February 28, 2009, and be sent to the Fort Union Fellowship Committee, Fort Union Trading Post NHS, 15550 HWY 1804, Williston, North Dakota 58801. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Randy Kane, Chair, Fort Union Fellowship Committee, at the above address or by telephone (701) 572-9083.

Announcement of the award will be made no later than March 31, 2009.

*Our thanks to NDSU Anthropology Alumnus Loren Yellow Bird Sr., for the above information.*



## Internship Opportunity

The Dickinson Museum Center in Dickinson, ND will have two paid internships available for the summer of 2009. Each internship will pay \$10 per hour, for 20 hours a week, for a 14 week period (schedule is negotiable). One internship is for educational programming in museums. The other is for an historic preservation intern. There is the possibility for one person to fill both positions. For more information call Danielle Stuckle at 701-456-6225 or e-mail [info@dickinsonmuseumcenter.org](mailto:info@dickinsonmuseumcenter.org).



