
HPSfAA Newsletter

The High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology

January 2003

Volume 23, Number 1

Estes Park 2003

Retreat Theme:

“Transitions: Realizations and Challenges”

Embracing change is refreshing, yet often feared across a wide spectrum of human populations. Faced with an ever-changing and emerging new world, as anthropologists we must adapt ourselves to new social conditions. The goal of this conference is to explore the positive and negative impacts of our own journeys and transitions. We will confront transitions on personal, social, and professional levels. In facing and understanding our own transitions, we will be better prepared to help others face theirs.

Conference Chairs:

Contact: Eliot Lee at: eliot@anthrotech.com
Phone: (303) 748-5582

Contact: Stacye Jones at: stacyej@aol.com
Phone: (818) 560-7705

Eliot and Stacye have found two students to help plan the 2003 conference. Congratulations to **Lorraine Poulson** of Mesa State College, and **Josh Hunt** of Northern Arizona University for taking advantage of a great opportunity to become involved with the HPSfAA and to ensure that there is appropriate representation of student themes and issues at the conference! The student co-chairs will help with planning sessions (ensure that the conference program encompasses student perspectives and issues); help with logistics (including preparing handouts, advertisements, etc.); help with setting up sessions at the conference; and recruit other students to participate at the conference.

For your convenience, the registration form and paper/panel presentation forms are included in this Newsletter! The forms are also available on the HPSfAA Website: www.hpsfaa.org.

**Don't wait until the last minute! Get your paper and panel proposals in now!
Everything is due by March 15!**

Please return completed form and abstracts to Lorraine Poulson by March 15, 2003

Lorraine Poulson
860 Kennedy Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Phone: 970-248-9333

**You can also email this form and an abstract (MS Word) to Lorraine at the following email address:
lpoulson@mesastate.edu.**

Registration Form
2003 HPSfAA Spring Conference, April 4-6
YMCA Camp of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado

Registration Fees: _____HPSfAA member(s)* at \$35.00 each
_____non-member(s) and guests at \$28.00 each
_____HPSfAA student member(s) at \$25.00 each
_____Total Registration Fees

*** NOTE: If both members of a couple are members, two member registration fees must be paid.**

Room/board weekend packages:

_____single room(s) at \$160.00 _____
_____room(s) for two at \$110.00/person _____
_____room(s) for three at \$90.00/person _____
_____room(s) for six at \$75.00/person _____

Total Room and Board _____

Grand Total (Registration/Room & Board) _____

Name and Address of person ordering the room:

Name(s) of roommates (if applicable):

NOTE: (1) Single night stays are not encouraged; those who choose to do so must pay 65% of above room/board costs. (2) Registrants who do not furnish names of roommates will take potluck assignments

Please send completed form and fee (check made out to HPSfAA) by March 15, 2003 to:
Merun Nasser, Treasurer, 2636 Grapewood Ln., Boulder, CO 80303

**High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology
2003 Spring Conference, April 4-6
YMCA Camp of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado**

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS
“Transitions: Realizations and Challenges”**

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ email _____

Would you like to organize a panel? _____

Panel Title: _____

Who will be on your panel? _____

If not organizing a panel, are you planning to present a paper/discussion, etc? _____
(We'll match your topic with other sessions.)

Paper/Presentation Title _____

What are your areas of interest? _____

What equipment will you need for your presentation? _____

Please return completed form and abstracts to Lorraine Poulson by March 15, 2003

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Phone: 970-248-9333

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lpoulson@mesastate.edu.

Abstracts

Please include a brief summary of your panel/session or individual session. Panel organizer, please include both session abstract and individual paper. Both abstracts need not be too extensive, less than 100 words please.

Panel/Session Title _____

Panel/Session Abstract

Paper/Presentation Title _____

Paper/Presentation Abstract

Abstracts from the Estes Park 2002 Annual Meeting

Anthropology and American Indian Health in the 21st Century at the University of Colorado

Marjorie Bezdek, Division of American Indian and Alaskan Native Research Programs, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

In this presentation, I hope to give an overview of the American Indian and Alaskan Native Mental Health Research Center at the University of Colorado's Health Sciences Center, and how the center can promote American Indian health in the 21st century. In addition, I will also give an account of my role at the center as a nurse anthropologist working on two current projects that are in the data collection stage. These are: Healing of the Spirit, and American Indian Spirituality and Alcohol. The aims of both projects are to determine pathways to alcohol abstinence among a Northern Plains tribe.

Appropriate Science and the Participatory Process

Lenora Bohren, Research Scientist, NCVECS/CSU

Topical soils are very low in fertility. By combining appropriate scientific information with a farmer-back-to-farmer model created by Robert Rhoads, local farmers can enhance their soil quality. The participatory method used to work with indigenous farmers can be modified to enhance indigenous technical knowledge (ITK) with the addition of good, appropriate scientific information.

Working with Tribes of the Sioux Nation

L. Davis Clements, Renewable Products Development Laboratories, Inc.

RPDL has been involved in negotiations with the Oglala, Rosebud and Yankton Sioux Tribes as a vendor of a gasifier waste-to-energy technology for very specific waste management needs. The tribes are under tremendous pressure, internally and externally to handle solid waste in a manner consistent with cultural values and federal mandates, respectively. The Yankton Sioux Nation has refused to use their own landfill as it would not "help Mother Earth." Tribal contacts are very knowledgeable and sophisticated with respect to legal requirements and federal funding opportunities and very cautious in developing new relationships.

The Cultural Implications of Pre-eclampsia

Genevieve Dewey-Hefley, Development Systems/Applications International, Inc.

Most women begin pregnancy ignorant of the risks and associated tests that are performed during pregnancy. Yet one in 10 faces the risk of developing pre-eclampsia, the leading cause of maternal death and premature births. I investigated communication between expectant mothers and their healthcare professionals before, during, and after pre-eclampsia to understand what effect this exchange had on the mother's subsequent views of pregnancy. I also determined what medical professionals understood regarding pre-eclampsia and what they routinely tell patients. Finally, I gathered recommendations from both healthcare professionals and mothers as to what, if anything, could be done to improve the pregnancy experience.

Our Turn to Adapt: Anthropological Responses to Rapid Change in Eastern James Bay, Canada

Kreg Ettenger, Syracuse University; Consultant

Ten years ago, anthropologists working in Cree communities in eastern James Bay focused mainly on issues related to resource development and environmental change. Today, as long-term effects of rapid change in the region are becoming evident, community health and welfare are displacing the environment as the critical issue for the coming decades. This paper asks whether anthropologists are prepared to adapt to this trend, and do so in a way that respects local autonomy and builds community capacity for research and problem-solving.

Working with the Omaha Nation

Emilia González-Clements, Development Systems/Applications International, Inc.

The Omaha Nation held the first public pow wow in the United States. Their motto is "Against the Current," referring to their settlement process along the Missouri River in Nebraska. It is also symbolic of the current activities that Tribal officials and advocates are pursuing. Working first with an Omaha nonprofit to conduct a housing needs assessment/marketing study, DS/AI is now involved with newly-elected Tribal leaders in a strategic planning initiative. DS/AI staff are also collaborating with the Community Response Team working group to write a grant intended to preserve the Omaha language and as a cultural basis for social and health program planning.

Incorporating Socioeconomic Variables into a Conservation Framework: Lessons from the Central Platte Valley of Nebraska

John T. Heaston, The Nature Conservancy

The Central Platte Valley is a contested landscape. Competing definitions of use and value have created a social fabric of entrenchment, mistrust, and disenfranchisement. Endangered species habitat designations in the 1970s have caused battle lines to be drawn resulting in the development of communities of interest, communities of location, and communities of place. As the battle for appropriate use of the river and its adjoining landscapes enters its fourth decade, the players are realizing that issues of content are secondary to issues of process and understanding of the culture of natural resource conflict.

The Nebraska HIV/AIDS RARE Project

Kurt Thomas Mantonya, Development Systems/Applications International, Inc.

Development Systems/Applications International, Inc. recently completed a State of Nebraska and CDC control-funded research project on Latinos and HIV. Rapid Assessment Response and Evaluation (RARE) was utilized for this research. The RARE methodology was modified and adapted to fit a rural Nebraska model. This presentation will focus on those adaptations, present research findings, and discuss the phase II project currently underway using the same model.

The Ecological Role of Shamans in Hunting and Gathering Societies: A Global Perspective

Richard Owens, Development Systems/Applications International, Inc., and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Hunting/gathering societies depend on highly variable protein resources. Careful resource management insures group sustainability and animal availability. Shamans often serve as game masters insuring a harmonious reincarnation cycle between the spirit world and the living world. Various controls such as food taboos, trance, and magic form the basis of the shamans' authority and power to intervene between the group and the spiritual world. Shamans act as information gatherers and processors within hunter-gatherer and horticultural groups that facilitate "risk minimization" in hunting game that inhabit food-scarce resources. Decision making processes vary across regions, in many cases using self-induced or psychotropic-induced trance states. Shamans' roles are described along ecological and cultural adaptation

lines for hunter/gatherers and extensive horticulturalists in tropical, boreal, Kalahari and Pacific Northwest regions.

Strategic Evaluation: Addressing Challenges to Building a Sustainable Enterprise

P.J. Puntenney, Environmental and Human Systems Management

Environmental issues encompass problems from the natural to the human side of the equation. They span a wide range including climate change, endocrine disruptors, quality of water, sustainable communities, monitoring and cleanup, biodiversity, transparency in decision making, and stakeholder dialogues. Our systems of evaluation have shifted over the last decade toward a model of strategic evaluation opening the decision making process and influencing policy through groups such as indigenous peoples, youth, and women.

The Rancher Takes a Husband; Oral Histories of High Plains Farm and Ranch Women

Andrea Smisek, Development Systems/Applications International, Inc., and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln

The roles of women on the farms and ranches of the high plains have been varied, yet have also held constant over the years. In this discussion of daily life and family history, women of high plains share their traditional feminine roles as wives and mothers through their oral histories. They also provide insight as to the management of the ranch, farm, and household during both good and bad times. Discussing how the economy plays a direct role on their personal family roles, these interviews offer an insight into the cultural and sociological roles that women have taken on in order to maintain the livelihoods of their families.

Some Psychological Dimensions of September 11, 2001 and its Aftermath

Howard F. Stein, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

The events of September 11, 2001 resulted not only in immense destruction and loss of life, but in an assault on the American cultural sense of self and group boundaries. The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon are interpreted psychologically with respect to the symbolisms of place, and with respect to the larger cultural sense of place and history among Americans and among those who attacked America, and those who supported the attacks. The attacks

resulted in a sense of violation and humiliation, in the experience of narcissistic injury, and in the effort, through war, to reverse that experience and restore group pride. It is argued that both the attackers (and the larger groups they represent and embody) and the attacked participate in Islamic and American “crisis cults” (Weston La Barre, George Devereux). Through an exploration of the symbolisms of September 11, 2001, the meanings and causes of the attacks, and the response to the attacks, are given preliminary interpretation.

Problems and Prospects for Community Based Research as Applied Anthropology

Ronald J. Stephens, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Community-based research (CBR), which hinges upon input from communities under investigation, not only belongs to the literature in applied anthropology but also expands methodological approaches to solve different kinds of human problems. Because applied anthropology accommodates various types of applications, this presentation argues that CBR is necessary as a research method because it too links knowledge and social practice. Using my field research experience in a black rural township in Lake County, Michigan, I discuss participatory, emancipatory, and collaborative nature of CBR. Furthermore, I outline problems and prospects involved in my work within the Idlewild community, and offer a rationale for CBR as an area of specialization in applied anthropology.

HIV & Latinos in Colorado: Research Results

Stephen Stewart, Latin American Research Service Agency (LARASA)

Research was funded by the Colorado Department of Public Health to provide input into prevention strategies for Colorado’s Latino community. Focus was on MSM and IDU communities in Denver, and on three areas outside Denver: northern Colorado, Pueblo, and the area around Grand Junction. Methodology involved taped in-depth interviews processed using qualitative analysis software.

Anthropology and the Hanford Environmental Dose Reconstruction Project (HEDR)

Deward E. Walker, Jr., University of Colorado, Boulder

In 1987 I was invited to serve as one of eighteen members of an independent Scientific oversight group, the Technical Advisory Committee (TSP), whose function was to direct the

Hanford Environmental Dose Reconstruction Project. Anthropological perspectives, data, and research methods were required by HEDR because Hanford nuclear releases, beginning in 1944, may have impacted tribes of the Columbia Plateau. My paper will describe the history of HEDR and its implementation.

Where the Buffalo Roam: Prairies, People, and Bison

Johna Walker, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York

The resurgence of the American Bison from the brink of extinction is one of the great wildlife conservation stories of the past century. Bison management practices have a direct impact on bison health and nutritional value of bison meat as well as biodiversity of prairie grasslands. How we allow bison to inhabit the land ultimately affects humans and health. This presentation will compare different ownership and management regimes of bison including private herds, public herds, Native American Indian tribally owned herds, and herds managed by The Nature Conservancy. Indigenous people in North America are reestablishing bison on their tribal lands as part of their cultural and spiritual renewal and for the ecological restoration of the land (Inter-Tribal Bison Cooperative (ITBC), Mission Statement). What practices does the ITBC embrace to accomplish these goals?

Organized Session Abstract: “On Behalf of a Sustainable Future: Transforming Knowledge into Action.” Co-Organized by Lenora Bohren and P.J. Puntenney

Rapporteur: Ed Knop (Colorado State University; Consultant)

A broad command of the environmental landscape is increasingly essential to interpreting the human dimensions of a sustainable future. The application of our research and practice to local and global networks has brought into focus changing roles and responsibilities, new forms of communication networks, and essential leadership. In this forum we ask: What is our capacity for continuance to engage others, especially where solutions lie in understanding the interconnectedness of problems and in the negotiations about them? How are we attempting to meet the challenges? Are we successful? In what ways? What could, or should, we do to meet the challenges more successfully?



High Plains Applied Anthropologist

Now Open for Submissions

The *High Plains Applied Anthropologist*, the premier journal of the High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology, addresses issues of cultural change, adaptation to the modern world, and the diverse ways in which humans approach, analyze, and solve problems of cultural change.

The HPAA, now in its 23rd year of continuous publication, is a refereed journal publishing papers in all areas of applied anthropology and from all regions of the globe. Papers by students and practicing anthropologists are especially welcome.

Commentaries, articles, and special issues with guest editors are regularly published. When submitting articles by mail, please send disposable copies (not originals) on 8½ by 11" paper, double-spaced, single-sided, with your name, address, article title, abstract, and any footnotes and references used included, as well as a copy of the article on a 3½" floppy disc or CD formatted for CD-Rom reading. Only articles in Microsoft Word

and Word Perfect word-processing programs are accepted at this time.

Please submit manuscripts to: Editor, P.O. Box 4147, Boulder, CO 80306-4147 or by email to: walkerde@spot.colorado.edu

Further information on manuscript submissions may be obtained from copies of HPAA and from our website at: www.hpsfaa.org

HPAA on the Web

The Fall 2002 (Vol. 22, No. 2) HPAA journal issue is now online. Access the table of contents at: <http://www.hpsfaa.org/bin/secure/showissue.cfm?id=46>

If your membership dues are paid up you should be receiving the hard copy of the journal. If you have not, please contact the Editors at: (303) 492-8984 or: walkerde@spot.colorado.edu

Ghost Ranch 2002

The High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology had its annual retreat at Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, New Mexico, on October 4-6, 2002. The retreat theme was "An Organization and Its Journal." Friday evening featured outstanding presentations by post-internship students who worked with Reed Riner in the Applied Anthropology program at Northern Arizona University. The Saturday morning workshop was facilitated by Deward Walker and

Ken Keller. It featured a lively and soul-searching discussion of the relationship between the *High Plains Applied Anthropologist* and the HPSfAA. Following the workshop there was a brainstorming session facilitated by Eliot Lee on the subject of the 2003 Estes Park annual HPSfAA Conference. On both evenings there was much camaraderie and networking during the retreat's party-time.

Ghost Ranch 2003

Plans are underway for the 2003 HPSfAA retreat at Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, New Mexico, in October. Mark your calendars now for all the fun! There will

be panels, papers, discussions, and wild times for everyone! Perhaps Kurt Mantonya can be talked into organizing another Friday afternoon hike!



HPSfAA Website

www.hpsfaa.org

Online Journal Issues

The Volume 22, Number 2 of the *High Plains Applied Anthropologist* is now online. You can access the table of contents for this issue at:
<http://www.hpsfaa.org/bin/secure/showissue.cfm?id=46>

If you're a paid, **full** member, you should be receiving a hard copy of the journal.

Complete issues of HPAA are available online from Volume 21, Number 1 (Spring 2001) to the present. You must be a paid member and logged into the website to download the articles. Adobe Acrobat reader is required to view all articles. It is available free, online, at: www.adobe.com.

Errors! We Have Errors!

Is your name spelled wrong? Are you not receiving valuable emails or phone calls? Do you keep getting asked about your interest in exoamfowid?

Please log on to the HPSfAA Website at www.hpsfaa.org and check out your listing. If you need assistance logging in, contact Eliot Lee, Webmaster, at: eliot@anthrotech.com. While we try very hard to be precise, errors insist on creeping in. Make sure your information is current (such as address or email changes) so that you can continue to receive publications such as this *Newsletter* and the *High Plains Applied Anthropologist*.

Don't be left out of the loop just because the loop can't find you!

News of the HPSfAA

Executive Committee

Emilia González-Clements, President

Howard Stein, Past President

Clare Boulanger, President-Elect

Becky Mantonya, Secretary

Merun Nasser, Treasurer

*Publications Policy
Committee*
Ken Keller, Chair

*Nominations and
Elections Committee*
Colby Hatfield, Chair

*Chair, Finance
Committee*
L. Davis Clements, Chair

Membership Committee
Clare Boulanger, Chair

Opportunities of Interest to HPSfAA Members

American Anthropological Association Minority Dissertation Fellowship Program.

The fellowship hopes to increase the number of ethnic minorities who complete Ph.D.s in anthropology. All topics are welcome; all minority doctoral students are urged to apply. Requirements: 1) U.S. Citizen; 2) be a member of an under-represented ethnic minority group; 3) enrolled in a full-time program leading to a Ph.D.; 4) admitted to degree candidacy before the dissertation fellowship is awarded; 5) a member of the AAA at least one month prior to submitting application. Stipend:

\$10,000 for one year. **Deadline:** February 15, 2003.
Contact: <http://www.aaanet.org> for more information.

Tenure-Track Position in Applied Anthropology and Ethnic Studies, University of North Texas

UNT seeks an assistant professor in applied anthropology for Spring 2003 or Fall 2003. Applicant will teach undergraduate and graduate courses and serve as the co-director of the Ethnic Studies program. Applicants need expertise in ethnic studies and one or more of the following: identity, migrants, refugees, community studies, border studies, applied anthropology,

socio-cultural anthropology, education, or business anthropology. A strong record of external funding is a plus. **Send** letter, vitae, and three references to: Search Committee, Department of Anthropology, UNT, P. O. Box 310409, Denton, TX, 76203-0409

Qualitative Researchers/Ethnographers for Drug Use and Health Risk Monitoring Study at the Hispanic Health Council, Hartford, CT

Qualifications: Ph.D. or MA in anthropology, public health or related fields; ability to speak Spanish; 1 year + of ethnographic field experience; and good observational and note taking skills. Familiarity with NUD*IST or other software for qualitative data management/analysis is a plus. **Send** CV and cover letter to: Maria Martinez, Hispanic Health Council, 175 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106, Attn: Drug Monitoring study, or contact: Mariam@hispanichealth.com.

Ph.D. student sought for developing agent-based models of land use change in the Brazilian Amazon

Position starts in May or September 2003 joining an ongoing research project developing agent-based models of land use change in the Brazilian Amazon. **For more information** see: <http://www.cipec.org/research/biocomplexity/>. **Contact:** Peter J. Deadman, Associate

Professor, Department of Geography, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, Phone: (519) 888-4567 ext. 2791, Fax: (519) 746-0658

Three Assistant Professorships are open in the Department of Anthropology, University of Florida. **Contact:** <http://web.anthro.ufl.edu/jobs.html>

2 Tenure-track Positions in Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Academic specialization is open, but they are most interested in scholars whose research interests stress a comparative, analytical, and relational framework. The successful candidate(s) should have an interdisciplinary approach and demonstrable knowledge in the following ethnic-specific areas: Chicana/o Studies; and American Indian Studies. Ph.D. or equivalent required by time of appointment. Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply.

Appointments will begin Fall, 2003. **Send** letter of application, CV, sample publications and 3-5 references with address and telephone numbers to: Chair, Search Committee, Department of Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado at Boulder, Ketchum 30, 339 UCB, Boulder, Colorado 80309-0339. Phone: 303/492-8852. Fax: 303/492-7799. E-mail: Ethnic.Studies@colorado.edu or jose.martinez@colorado.edu

Meetings of Interest

**SfAA 2003 Annual Meeting.
Portland, OR, March 19-23, 2003.**

“Building Bridges: Collaborating Beyond Boundaries.” Symposia and sessions on current research and methods, applications of new approaches among applied social sciences, and issues and challenges confronting contemporary society. Program Chair: Professor Sunil Khanna. **Contact:** www.sfaa.net or SfAA, P.O. Box 2436 Oklahoma City, OK 73101, or: Phone: (405)843-5113 Fax: (405)843-8553

**Perspectives on Evil and Human Wickedness,
March 21-26, 2003, Anglo-American College,
Prague.**

Perspectives are sought from anthropology, criminology, cultural studies, legal studies, literature, philosophy, psychology, sociology, and theology as well as the caring professions, the media, prison services, politics,

psychiatry and other areas on themes such as: the concept and language of 'evil' and 'wickedness'; the nature and sources of evil and human wickedness; choice, responsibility, and diminished responsibility; the portrayal of evil and human wickedness in the media and popular culture; terrorism, war, ethnic cleansing; the search for meaning and sense in evil and human wickedness; the nature and tasks of theodicy. **Deadline** for 300 word abstracts is Wednesday 8 January 2003. Full draft papers of accepted abstracts due on 14th February 2003. **Contact:** Dr Rob Fisher, theodacist@wickedness.net or: www.wickedness.net/pehw4.htm

**2003 Georgia Basin/Puget Sound Research
Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, March
31-April 3rd, 2003.**

This conference builds on Puget Sound research conferences and the transboundary work in the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound ecosystem. The conference will

report scientific information from its first five years of activity and set the stage for future collaboration in the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound ecosystem. **Contact:** Pete Dowty at (360) 407-7561 or (800) 54-SOUND (in Washington State) and/or e-mail David Fraser with Environment Canada at David.Fraser@ec.gc.ca

Indigenous Women's Network Presents "Biennial Sustainable Communities Gathering" Honoring the Mothers of Our Nations. Bear Butte, South Dakota. June 5-8, 2003

An indigenous women's gathering for Elders and youth. Critical dialogue, presentations, and workshops on

sovereignty, environmental justice, sustainability, midwifery, traditional medicine, cultural preservation, education, health, alliance building, ceremony, food, laughter, talent show, and more. **Contact:** Annette Looks Twice, 512-258-3880, email: Annette@indigenouswomen.org or Indigenous Women's Network, 13621 FM 2769 Austin, TX 78726, Email: iwn@indigenouswomen.org Fax: 512-258-1858

Inqua Congress, Reno Hilton Resort & Conference Center. July 23-31, 2003.

Contact: www.dri.edu/dees/inqua2003/inqua_home.htm for details.

Things You Want to Know

First Indian in Space Began Journey in Oklahoma (From an Article by Diane Clay, *Daily Oklahoman*)

John Herrington, of Wetumka, will be one of seven men to fly into space aboard the shuttle *Endeavor* for flight STS-113. The men will attach the first truss to the International Space Station, pick up 5 astronauts and Russian scientists, and propel Herrington into history as the first American Indian in space. To honor his Indian ancestry, Herrington plans to take eagle feathers on the mission.

Herrington, 43, is a registered Chickasaw and an active member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, where he often talks to students. Convincing children, especially those with Indian ancestry, that they can succeed despite their background as long as they work hard has become Herrington's second job. He is a sought-after role-model for children, not because he is an astronaut, but because of how he got there.

In 1969 Herrington took his first hour of flight instruction from his father. John then viewed flying as merely a hobby. He liked science and tinkering with things. He was discouraged from a space career when a teacher told him he wasn't smart enough to take algebra. He made it to college but was kicked out for bad grades.

A friend persuaded him to reapply in Colorado. Herrington paid for his tuition at the University of Colorado by shampooing carpets, selling knives, and ushering hockey games. During his senior year he tutored math. One of his students was a former Navy pilot who convinced Herrington he could not only

succeed at getting his degree in applied mathematics, but should become a U.S. Navy pilot.

Herrington graduated from the Navy's Officer Candidate School in 1984 and moved to the test pilot program in 1990 before leaving for the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, where he earned a Master's degree in aeronautical engineering. In 1996 he was one of 2,500 candidates to apply for 35 astronaut spots with NASA.

"Anything's possible," he said. "There is a great amount of responsibility. It can motivate people. They can realize their dreams can come true."

Bellybutton Lint Exposed!

The definitive study on bellybutton lint has received an Ig Nobel prize for dubious contributions to science and cocktail-party conversations. The Ig Nobel Prize, awarded annually at Harvard as a spoof of the Nobel Prize, recognizes achievements that "cannot or should not be reproduced."

Actual Nobel Laureates bestow the awards at a raucous ceremony during which the winners are hailed with cheers and paper airplanes. Winners are selected from thousands of nominations. If a recipient feels insulted by the award, it's withdrawn, said Marc Abrahams, editor of the Cambridge-based *Annals of Improbable Research*, which bestows the award. Most people are pleased with the prize.

“It’s a great honor. It introduces people to the idea that science is fun,” said Karl Kruszelnicki, a University of Sydney researcher who wrote the paper on bellybutton lint. Kruszelnicki, at his own expense, studied bellybutton lint samples sent to him by 5,000 people. He concluded that the lint is a combination of clothing fibers and skin cells that travel to the navel via body hair, “as all roads lead to Rome.” “Your typical generator of bellybutton lint is a slightly overweight, middle-aged male with a hairy abdomen,” Kruszelnicki said.

California Filmmakers Get Nod for New Series

Jed Riffe, Paul Espinosa, Lyn Goldfarb, and Emiko Ormori, won a contract to produce *Beyond the Dream: California and the Rediscovery of America*, a four-hour documentary for prime-time PBS national and international distribution. The series explores the dynamics of culture, identity, and civic engagement in the most multiethnic state in America, California. As America’s cultural center slides westward and minorities become majorities in state after state, life in California offers Americans and international audiences a glimpse of their future. The series examines the last 30 years in California, a pivotal era in the remaking of the nation and its positioning in the global future.

Best known as the producer and director of *Ishi, the Last Yahi* and *Who Owns the Past?*, Riffe is currently working on *Waiting to Inhale: Doctors, Patients and the Law*, a documentary on medical marijuana. Espinosa produced and directed *The U.S. Mexican War* and *The Hunt for Pancho Villa*. Goldfarb recently produced and directed *Rome in the First Century* and is currently

producing *Japan: Memoirs of a Secret Empire*. Emiko Ormori is acclaimed for *Rabbit in the Moon* and *Hot Summer Winds* and her award-winning cinematography.

PBS and the Rockefeller Foundation fund the production and broadcast of the series. **Contact:** Jed Riffs at 510-841-2337.

Are You a Man or a Mouse?

(From a *New York Times* article by Nicholas Wade)

American and Canadian biologists are debating recommending stem cell experiments to create a human-mouse hybrid to test human embryonic stem cells for their usefulness in treating specific diseases. The best way to do that, some biologists argue, is to see how the cells work in a living animal. For ethical reasons, the test cannot be performed in people; hence, mice will be used. Any mice born from the experiment would be chimeras – mice with human cells distributed throughout their bodies. Although the creatures would probably be mice with a few human cells that obey mouse rules, the outcome of such an experiment cannot be predicted. A mouse with a brain made entirely of human cells would probably discomfort many people, as would be a mouse that generated human sperm or eggs. Dr. Irving L. Welshman, an expert on stem cells at Stanford University, said that making mice with human cells could be “an enormously important experiment,” but if conducted carelessly could lead to outcomes that are “too horrible to contemplate.” He gave as an extreme example the possibility that a mouse making human sperm might accidentally be allowed to mate with a mouse that had made its eggs from human cells.

News of Members

On Monday, June 24, 2002, the Colorado Supreme Court, in an unusually lengthy 92-page opinion, entered one of the most important decisions in its history, *Labato v. Taylor* (a/k/a “The Taylor Ranch Case”). This case resolves a 21-year-old land use dispute in the San Luis Valley in Colorado between the descendants of the first families to settle in the Valley (after the indigenous, Native Americans) and wealthy absentee landlords, who only relatively recently acquired land rights in the Valley. This case has important implications for land use throughout the western United States.

The case resolution required an appreciation and understanding of customary Spanish land tenure

practices, international relations and law, and human rights law, as well as property law.

As President and cofounder of the Rocky Mountain Human Rights Law Group, **Dave Stephenson** had submitted an amicus brief in support of the original settlers’ claims. Dave found it heartening that, in the *Labato* decision, the Colorado Supreme Court overturned lower court decisions and ruled in favor of the original settlers. It was especially heartening that the Colorado Supreme Court explicitly followed the reasoning in the several amicus briefs that were submitted on behalf of the settlers, which underscored the need to understand and appreciate international

human rights law and the anthropological and ethnohistoric context of the settlers' claims.

The Commission on Science for the WSSD [World Summit on Sustainable Development] asked **Pam Puntenney** to organize a forum on sci. & ed./capacity building and generate a report that fed into the Global

Forum [Aug. 31] for the Summit. The panel consisted of fairly influential/key people. She proposes to have them write up their talk notes now for the spring issue and put them in the "Notes From the Field" section of the *High Plains Applied Anthropologist*. We look forward to reading the contributions!

From the Indigenous People's Council on Biocolonialism

Judge Gives Kennewick Man to Scientists (From an article by the Associated Press)

On August 30, 2002, a federal judge ordered the U.S. government to let scientists study the bones of Kennewick Man, an ancient skeleton discovered in 1996 on the banks of the Columbia River. The 9,300-year-old bones have been the center of an intense legal battle between scientists who want to study the remains and the federal government which had ruled the bones belong to Northwest tribes who claim the remains as an ancient tribal member and want to bury them.

"Allowing study is fully consistent with applicable statutes and regulations, which are clearly intended to make archaeological information available to the public through scientific research," wrote U.S. Magistrate John Jelderks. Scientists want to study the skeleton for signs of migration to North America apart from the traditional theory of people walking from Asia across a land bridge to North America. But five tribes along the Columbia River are seeking possession of the bones to bury them, and have been backed by the U.S. government.

Scientists claimed that former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt overstepped his authority by ruling the skeleton was culturally affiliated with Northwest tribes. Babbitt argued that the tribes had an oral tradition of history in the general geographic area where the bones were found.

Babbitt acted under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), a law to prevent theft and illegal trafficking of Indian artifacts, protect tribal burial sites, and restore ancestors' remains to tribes. Under the law federal agencies or museums shall return remains or objects to tribes requesting them that can "show cultural affiliation by a preponderance of the evidence based upon geographical, kinship, biological, archaeological,

anthropological, linguistic, folkloric, oral traditional, historical, or other relevant information or expert opinion."

The scientists argued that no group can establish a direct link that extends back 9,000 years by any of those means. "Babbitt said oral tradition trumped everything else," said anthropologist Richard Jantz at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, one of the scientists who sued the government to block the return of the bones to the tribes.

Dana Perino, spokeswoman for the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., said government attorneys would have to review the ruling before they could comment.

Peru Apologizes for Sterilizing Indians (From an article by Owain Johnson, UPI)

Peru's Health Minister, Fernando Carbone, issued a public apology after a report revealed that the Ministry oversaw the forced sterilization of some 200,000 Indians during Alberto Fujimori's presidency. Calls for genocide charges to be filed against Fujimori, who fled to Japan in 2000 and is wanted by Peruvian authorities on charges of treason and illegal enrichment, have been made.

Some 200,000 Peruvians were sterilized without consent or were bribed or threatened. Most sterilizations took place between 1996 and 2000 in rural areas, particularly in the Andean region. Most victims were poor and illiterate women from the Quechua and Aymara ethnic groups.

Several women are believed to have died after the operations which often took place in unhygienic conditions. Only about 45% of operations were carried out under anesthesia. Health authorities provided no aftercare.

There is little doubt that Mr. Fujimori knew about and approved the program. As well as interviewing victims of the program, the commission had access to 56 official documents which, they say, prove the sterilization program was sanctioned by the regime. "In the majority of cases, we can see the clear influence of the presidential office as well as the involvement of senior state officials, including ministers, and regional and general authorities," Carbone said.

Carbone announced legal proceedings against those officials who designed and implemented the "attack on the physical and psychological integrity of these compatriots." The minister said he hoped they would be brought to justice swiftly and would face severe punishment.

The program's focus on impoverished Andean villagers has created severe demographic problems in the region. The shortage of young people could now threaten the future of traditional village life.

Attack of the Killer Lawn Grass!!!

(From an Article by OneWorld.net news)

The International Center for Technology Assessment (CTA), a nonprofit public interest group, filed a formal legal petition asking the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to block the release of the first-ever genetically engineered (GE) plant intended for use by homeowners and property managers. Biotechnology giant Monsanto, and Scotts, the leading lawn and garden product marketer, seek federal approval to market a GE creeping bentgrass, the grass preferred for golf courses and lawns across the country.

The GE grass has been altered to be resistant to Roundup (tm), a Monsanto product, so that users will be able to spray entire lawns, fields, and golf courses without fear of hurting the grass. Large-scale planting of the GE grass would "massively increase the chemical contamination of our neighborhoods, playing fields, and other recreational areas," said CTA Executive Director Andrew Kimbrell. "Their pursuit of biotech profits is putting our children and our communities at risk, and we will use any legal means to prevent this," Kimbrell concluded.

Beyond the increase in chemical pollution, CTA also describes the major "biological pollution" threat presented by the GE grass. Creeping bentgrass itself is broadly recognized as a difficult to control weed. It is a

wind-pollinated species whose pollen blows easily for hundreds of yards and it readily hybridizes with other grasses. The fact that the leading weedkiller Roundup cannot kill the proposed GE variety will significantly increase the effort, cost and environmental damage necessary to get rid of it where it is unwanted. In many natural areas and parks, where nonnative creeping bentgrass already is a serious invader, the herbicide resistant grass could become an almost impossible to eradicate "superweed." The herbicide resistance genes could also "jump" from the bentgrass to other weeds thereby making them dangerous "superweeds." This potential environmental disaster could lead to financial liability problems for Monsanto, Scotts and the retailers and end users of the GE product.

Peter T. Jenkins, CTA's attorney and policy analyst on the petition, stated: "What Monsanto and Scotts are doing to creeping bentgrass will make it a more threatening invasive species for those who don't want it in their lawn or park. Their proposal amounts to genetic assault and battery, recklessness and trespassing."

Citing legal precedents and an array of scientific evidence, CTA's petition argues that USDA officials must not approve release of the GE variety and instead must list it as a noxious weed under the Federal Plant Protection Act. Should the CTA petition be rejected, the organization will file suit in Federal court to halt any approval.

Prior to CTA's formal legal petition a number of groups including the American Society of Landscape Architects (more than 14,000 members nationally); The Nature Conservancy (the largest holder of private land preserves in the world); and the public interest group, the Foundation on Economic Trends wrote letters to USDA requesting a moratorium on the approval and release of the GE grass.

The Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism can be **contacted** at: 48 Railroad Avenue, PO Box 818, Wadsworth, NV 89442, Phone: 001 (775) 835-6932, Fax: 001 (775) 835-6934, or at: www.ipcb.org.



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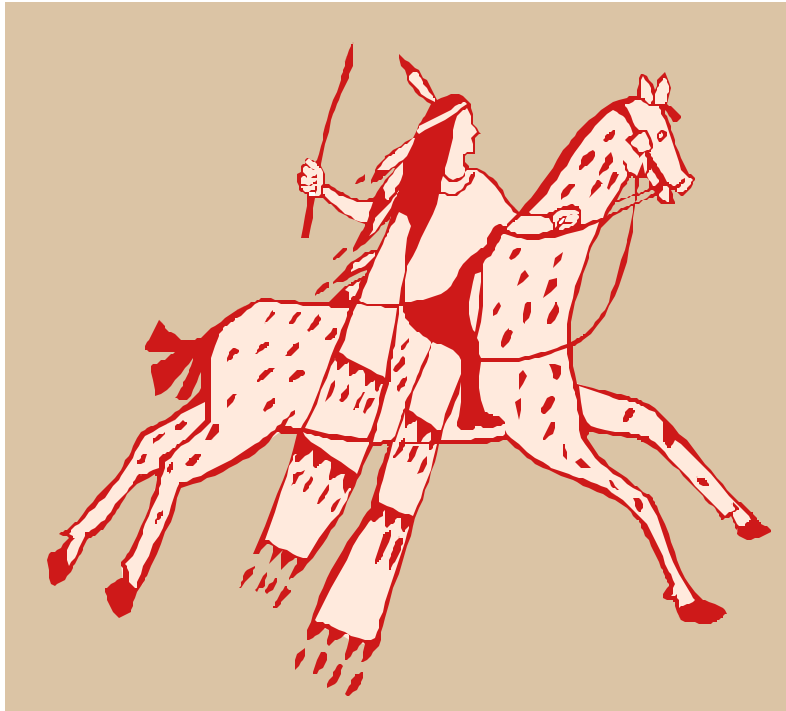
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