Linda Marie Fritschner Award Winner: Michael Petty

The Linda Marie Fritschner Award recognizes student excellence in research or a creative activity. Family, friends, and colleagues of Dr. Fritschner contributed to this fund in order to recognize the many contributions that Dr. Fritschner made to our department and campus.

Michael Petty won this year’s award for his essay, *An Unusual Saturday Evening*, conceived and completed for Dr. Avery Tompkins’ course in contemporary sociological theory: *The Politics of Identity*.

Petty explains complex theoretical concepts through a creative narrative that includes conversation between a grandfather and his granddaughter about identity politics.

Petty wants to be a professor and this project brought attention to the creative need for teaching difficult concepts. In applying for the award, Petty states, “I believe as a teacher it is of paramount importance that knowledge be accessible to all who desire to have it.”

Public Archaeology Field School 2012

Professors Josh Wells and Jay VanderVeen led another successful summer archaeology field school for an eager group of Anthropology students this past summer.

Session I was held at the historic 1848 Beardsley House in Elkhart, Indiana, as part of the Ruthmere cultural and historical museum campus. The Beardsley House was home to Elkhart, Indiana’s founding family, and today is a working museum and archaeological site.

Session II was held at the Bailly Homestead, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, in cooperation with Dr. Mark Schurr of Notre Dame and the National Park Service. A fur trading post founded in 1822, it is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Field School appeared on local news networks. Video coverage from the Beardsley House can be seen on WSBT, “Dig it! IUSB students unearth clues to Elkhart’s start via urban archaeology”
Visiting Faculty: Alicia McGill

Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Alicia McGill, PhD, earned her BA in Archaeology from Bryn Mawr College and her MA and PhD in Anthropology from Indiana University.

McGill has a background in education, cultural anthropology, and archaeology and decided to research education practices because she enjoys working with living people. Her interest is in how people think about history and heritage and their role in learning. In her research within schools, she has found that there is an issue with how diversity is presented not only in the classroom, but also in museums.

McGill has an interactive approach to teaching and her courses incorporate thematic learning and application. This fall McGill taught the Anthropology course: Peoples and Cultures of Latin America and used the film Like Water for Chocolate to highlight the importance of food in Latin American cultures and also to address social issues surrounding the role of women in Latin American countries.

In Spring 2013 McGill will teach A385 Youth in Global Contexts. This course focuses on perspectives on youth, representations of youth throughout the world, and research about youth development and experiences. McGill states, “The reality is that the youth are creating culture all the time.”

The literature and topics discussed in class will be informed by a variety of academic disciplines: anthropology, sociology, education, psychology, law, as well as media and consumer studies.

Some examples of course themes are: the history of research on youth, ethical issues involved in youth-based research, class, race, ethnicity, education, gender, and globalization.

The course will include an interactive, service-learning component with a youth-based organization or project in the Michiana area. The service-learning project will require 15 hours of involvement outside of the classroom and is the key to understanding some of the issues that will be discussed in class.

Any further questions about the course or to suggest any local youth organizations for the service learning, contact Professor Alicia McGill aebbitt@indiana.edu

“The reality is that the youth are creating culture all the time.”

The Internship Program in Sociology and Anthropology

The Internship Program in Sociology and Anthropology is designed for students who want to integrate the academic and theoretical dimensions of their education within the context of a work setting.

Through the internship program, students gain practical experience related to future employment and they benefit from discussions of professional issues that are not usually covered in the classroom.

For more information on the Field Experience in Sociology (SOC S494) or the Field Study in Anthropology (ANTH A496) offered in the spring, contact Professor Gail McGuire gmcguire@iusb.edu and visit the department website https://www.iusb.edu/sociology-anth/students/internships.php
IU South Bend Sociology Club
Public Sociology

As part of their mission of Public Sociology, the Sociology Club has been collecting donations of toiletries such as toilet paper, tooth brushes, etc. for local not-for-profits.

According to the club, many area organizations hold food drives and receive many food donations from the community, but do not receive basic toiletries that their clients also desperately need.

The Sociology Club will continue with this project by tabling in front of DW 1001 the first full week of November, the 5th - 8th, and encourages those in the area to donate these much-needed items.

If you prefer, you can donate money and the club will purchase toiletry items for donations. Please help the community however you can! If you have any questions, concerns or would like to make a donation, please contact the Sociology Club president, Nikki Caudill nidcaudi@umail.iu.edu or by phone at 574-249-0980.

Upcoming Club Event:
Peer Review Study Session
Late Nov/Early Dec

Like the IU-South Bend Sociology Club on Facebook or email Nikki Caudill, club president, to find out how to get more involved with the club nidcaudi@umail.iu.edu

“The surrounding community is in desperate need for toiletry items.”
The Graduate School Experience
Graduate Spotlight: Rebecca Gibson

Rebecca Gibson (B.A. ’11) is currently enrolled in a joint master’s program in Women’s and Gender Studies and Anthropology at Brandeis University in Massachusetts.

During her time at IU, the former Anthropology Club president participated in a range of opportunities and activities on campus, including the Summer Archaeology Field School.

Gibson recalls her transition from undergraduate to graduate student as being a “disorientating experience” where she had to reinvent herself. Her first day of reading included two articles totaling 150 pages.

“They don’t expect you to read everything, but they do expect you to know everything,” says Gibson.

Gibson read diligently as an undergraduate, absorbing every word of required readings, and now was floundering with readings and even forgot how to write. Concerned with the sudden onset of aphasia, Gibson met with her advisor and learned this was normal.

Seeking mentorship is nothing new to Gibson; at IU she developed strong relationships with professors in the Anthropology Department and continues to seek their advice. When Gibson took a position as an adjunct instructor at Wheelock Community College, she consulted her mentors for teaching materials and advice.

Currently in her third semester at Brandeis, Gibson excitedly shares her research on Victorian corsetry. With an interest in osteology, her current research looks at rib-bone damage in Victorian corsetry and issues of class and power during the Victorian era.

A challenge Gibson has faced is the scarcity of research and evidence on her topic. Gibson points out that her research is innovative but requires more work. To find evidence, she has travelled to museums and cemeteries in Europe and will return there this December.

In addition to research on Victorian corsetry, she is independently writing a call to action piece on the need for an osteological database. Her love of bones has her looking at PhD programs in Bioanthropology as her next destination in academia.

Graduate school is not all about research, or is it? Gibson says that graduate students at Brandeis are supportive of one another even though out of 18 students in her cohort, only 2 will be accepted as PhD candidates. The students go out for social nights; but, with only two night routes on the commuter rail running at 8:45 and 11:10, Gibson admits she is usually on the earlier route. Transportation and housing are two things Gibson wishes she had asked current graduate students about before entering the program.

Overall, the life of a graduate student is tiring; but, if you love your research, it will be a rich and rewarding experience.

Upcoming Conferences

Presenting at conferences helps you develop critical communication skills that you will use in both academia and applied fields.

North Central Student Sociolo-
gy Conference (NCSSC): April 4-7, 2013, Indianapolis, Indiana.

*Deadline to submit abstracts Monday, January 7th, 2013

The NCSSC gives undergraduate students the opportunity to present their research and to receive feedback from other students, professors, and professional sociologists.

Students also have the opportunity to attend the many research and teaching sessions that are part of the NCSA’s annual conference.

Submissions should be emailed to Gail McGuire at gmcguire@iusb.edu

Central States Anthropological Society conference: April 4-6, 2013, St. Louis, Missouri.

*Deadline to submit abstracts Friday, December 7, 2012.

Details available on the website www.aanet.org

Make an appointment with your advisor and visit the department website for advice on presenting at conferences. http://socanth.iusb.edu
In order to highlight cultural practices that surround the autumn season, the Anthropology Club invited club members to carve pumpkins using stone tools in celebration of Halloween.

The event was co-sponsored by the Spanish Club, who provided materials to decorate ofrendas that honor the memory of the deceased in celebration of the Day of the Dead.

Information was provided about the unique histories and social meanings for both holidays.

Upcoming Club Events:
Grad School Night
CV Workshop

End of the World Party (Dec)
For more information about the club and upcoming events, contact Sarah Nixon, Club President snixon@iusb.edu

Join the IUSB Anthropology Club group on Facebook
Or follow them on Twitter @IUSB/Anthro

Overseas Study: Costa Rica Spring Break 2013

This spring break program offers 10 days studying culture, society, and environment in Costa Rica, including home stays with families in Nicoya. This 3-credit course includes coursework before and after the trip in an online format.

The partner institution is Academia de Español Nicoya. In 2013, as part of our Spanish language program, students will visit Monteverde Cloud Forest on an overnight tour with an optional zip line tour through the cloud forest.

Other exciting activities as you travel through the beautiful countryside include a boat trip through Palo Verde National Park and a visit to the Guaitil Pottery Village.

For more information, visit the Office of International Programs https://www.iusb.edu/intl-programs/overseas-study-programs.php and contact Professor Scott Sernau, ssernau@iusb.edu

Deadline to apply is November 30, 2012.
The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Indiana University South Bend is dedicated to offering students opportunities to get real world experiences. We encourage students to get outside of the classroom and engage in:

- Study Abroad in Mexico or Costa Rica
- Completing an internship with local agencies
- Conducting archaeological research
- Presenting independent research at regional or national conferences
- Publishing research in undergraduate journals

**Our Mission:**
The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Indiana University South Bend is dedicated to fostering a critical understanding of social and cultural diversity and of the social bases of the human condition. As a faculty we are committed to excellence in teaching, scholarly activity, and service. With a strong liberal arts education, our students are prepared to be active contributors to their communities and to live fruitful lives as informed citizens of a global society. Through their training in theoretical analysis and research methods, our students have a solid basis for pursuing careers in law, social work, business, public administration, public health, cultural resources, library science, and many other human services professions. They also are well equipped to pursue graduate study in sociology and anthropology in order to go on to careers in teaching, administration, and research.

---

### Applying for Financial Aid, Scholarships, and Awards

**Financial Aid:**

FAFSA needs to be renewed annually before March 10. Visit the IU South Bend Office of Financial Aid for a detailed description of how to apply [https://www.iusb.edu/finaid/how_to_apply.php](https://www.iusb.edu/finaid/how_to_apply.php)

**Study Abroad Fund:** Application Deadline: Feb. 2nd for the Costa Rica Overseas Spring Break trip.

**Indian University Scholarships:**

Visit the Online Scholarship Application with access to over 200 IU scholarships [https://www.iusb.edu/scholarships/OSA.php](https://www.iusb.edu/scholarships/OSA.php)

**Overseas Study Scholarships:**

Visit the International Programs website for overseas study scholarships: [https://www.iusb.edu/intl-programs/scholarships-and-aid.php](https://www.iusb.edu/intl-programs/scholarships-and-aid.php)

Most applications for campus scholarships and awards are not due until spring; but, essays could be drafted over holiday break.

**Departmental Scholarships and Awards:**

Visit the Scholarships/Awards section for students on the department website [http://socanth.iusb.edu](http://socanth.iusb.edu) to find scholarships that are offered in our department.

It is recommended that students work closely with their advisor to search for scholarships and awards for which they may qualify.