SfAA 2021 Poster Abstracts

AMMONS, Samantha K., BARONE, T. Lynne, RITTER, Beth R., OSBORN, Alan. POWERS, John. ANDERSON, Alecia D., HEGDAHL, Tiffany. KOZIMOR, David. MCNAMARA, Victoria. and THOMPSON, Lauren (UN-Omaha) “Lost & Found, the COVID Edition”: Using the University’s Lost & Found to Document Changes in Campus Daily Life. A campus “lost & found” represents a material “snapshot” of university life manifested through objects. It sheds light on what objects are valued, seasonality, and how place provides context. While a temporal and seasonal rhythm might be anticipated, how do patterns shift during the upheaval of a pandemic? We use a unique dataset of images collected between August 2019 and October 2020 from a university curated Lost and Found website. In our analysis, we explore type of object, date “found,” and its perceived value. Our results reveal a slow “unraveling” of campus life as COVID-19 progressed. 

AULDS, Meredith and VEILE, Amanda (Purdue U) COVID-19 and the Changing Perceptions of Home Birth in the Midwest. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought many changes, one of which is the significant increase in interest in giving birth at home rather than the hospital due to often restrictive hospital policies related to COVID-19. This research consists of interviews with pregnant people, doulas, and midwives who participated in/attended a home birth in the Midwest during the pandemic (March 2020-present), in order to examine the changing perceptions surrounding home birth. Has COVID-19 affected pregnant people’s perceptions of risk? Furthermore, has COVID changed the way that pregnant people and birth workers perceive home birth? This research seeks to answer these questions.

BOUWENS, Rita (MS State U) A Zoological Spectacular: Conservation in an American Zoo. By exhibiting animals, accredited US zoos aim to support wildlife conservation and influence zoogoers to positively impact the environment. Zoos are one of the few places in urban America where spectators can fully experience a plethora of animal species, learn about these animals, and possibly cultivate empathy and compassion for the nonhuman “other.” In this case study of a Midwestern zoo, I examine how zoos may contribute to conservation through the frameworks of biopower, spectacle, and affect and how zoos aim to educate and influence the public and create a conservation-minded community by curating immersive multispecies experiences.

CARRILLO, Mari (Lewis-Clark State Coll) Shifts in Traditional Knowledge and Practices among Sobadores. Western medical systems often fail to recognize cultural healthcare practices within Latinx communities, which limits equitable healthcare access; therefore, extensive networks of traditional healers including sobadores (musculoskeletal healers) persist within these communities to provide cultural healing. This ethnographic research explores knowledge, practices, and shifts related to sobadas (manipulative therapy) described by two sobadoras in Southern Idaho between December 2019 and January 2020. Understanding shifts in sobadas over time, from a healer’s perspective, is imperative for preserving traditional healthcare systems, especially for underserved populations dependent on these systems.

DAVIS, Katy (Priestley Int’l Ctr for Climate, Sustainability Rsch Inst, U Leeds) Forensic Disaster Analysis and the Slow Disaster of Climate Change in the North American Arctic. Forensic Disaster Analysis (FORIN) explores the root causes of the construction of disaster risk. I aim to explore the ways in which a FORIN approach is relevant to understanding the lived experience of social and environmental change in the North American Arctic, where climate change has been described as a “slow-onset disaster.” This is occurring alongside the other “slow violence” of colonisation, with associated marginalisation, histories of forced relocations, sedentarization, residential school attendance and cultural assimilation. I focus on the disaster(s) that manifest as unsafe travel on the land and ice, at the nexus of climate, colonization and health.

DREW, Elaine (UA), HANSON, Bridget (UAA), and HOU, Kevin (UA) Seasonal Affective Disorder and Engagement in Physical Activities among Adults in Alaska. Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a type of depression in which symptoms occur during a particular season. While physical activity has been shown to improve symptoms for depression in general populations, the relationships between physical activity and experiences of seasonality and SAD remain underexplored. We conducted a survey querying sociodemographics, health behaviors, and elements of the Seasonal Pattern Assessment Questionnaire among adult members of a recreational gym located in Fairbanks, Alaska. Our study findings contribute new insights about the relationship between engagement in physical activities and experiences of seasonality among adults living in a northern latitude.

ELLIOTT, Kathryn (MSU-Mankato) Core Diversity Principles Effective in Providing Services across Cultural/Ethnic Differences. In complex societies that are becoming increasingly diverse culturally and ethnically, it is also becoming increasingly important to provide healthcare and community services that incorporate knowledge of how the sociocultural context of individuals’ lives influences the way they perceive and utilize services. Drawing on experience: 1) as an applied medical anthropologist working with an Alzheimer’s diagnostic team; 2) teaching students in applied anthropology and in gerontology how to provide services across sociocultural differences; and 3) long-term research with an adult community center serving diverse populations, this poster will discuss core diversity principles that have been effective in all these endeavors.

FERNANDES, Analie. COURI, Juliana. COX, Kaitlyn. DINH, Rachel. TIBBOT, Teagen. and SMITH-OKA, Vania (U Notre Dame) Mentorship and Medicine: Ethnography among Medical Interns in Mexico. Mentorship plays an influential role in the personal formation of physicians and the development of medical culture. This ethnographic study examined the role of mentorship and relational experiences for Mexican medical interns working in both private and public hospitals. Particular focus is given to the intern-mentor
relationship to examine its influence on knowledge transmission and personal development. Using qualitative analysis of interviews, and thematic word coding, several questions were addressed. These questions include: what role do different types of mentors play in an intern’s learning and growth? How does an intern’s gender affect the quality and experience of mentorship? aferna22@nd.edu

GONZALEZ, Richard (EVMS) Contributing to the Next Generation: The Rise of Anthropology in Medical Education. Medical education is undergoing a paradigm shift; embracing self-directed and life-long learning and an ethic emphasizing community, diversity, cross-cultural awareness, cultural humility, and empathy. Updates to accreditation standards and curricular changes among new and established medical schools have paved the way for a new generation of physicians. Anthropology needs to lead this transformation to facilitate the development of clinical skills that consider the entirety of human existence as part of the care process. Therefore, anthropology programs should increase their involvement in premedical education, promote medical education as a career option, and increase involvement in medical school administrative and curricular development. GonzalRA@evms.edu

HERRERA, Victor. FRANCK, Brittany. PILLI, Leslie. CARDENAS, Gabriel. and DOSS, Jennie (U Arizona) Adaptation in the Time of COVID: A Look at Behavioral Responses of University Students to COVID-19. Our research explores how University of Arizona students are responding to COVID-19 risk and the factors that influence their responses. This poster describes how we are adapting to research in a pandemic using hybrid ethnography, including virtual interviews and focus groups, studying social media as a field site, and campus and community observations. As the pandemic unfolds, we are tracking students’ situated experiences of an ever-changing environment. We aim to understand how their perceptions and behaviors are informed by understandings of risk and trust. Ultimately, we hope to contribute to conversations about students’ responses to the COVID pandemic. vherrera1@email.arizona.edu

HUDGINS, Erin (Baylor U) A Comparative Study of Farming Communities’ Responses to Climate Change Based on Differing Worldviews of Amish, Mennonite, and Maya Farmers. Agriculture as a means of livelihood is particularly prone to the detrimental effects of climate change. This challenge holds true in the western interior of Belize, where reduced reliability of rainfall, increasing temperatures, and prolonged, extreme weather patterns strain rural livelihoods and nation-wide economic outcomes. Little research has documented how these volatile conditions affect individual and community perceptions of climate change, nor how they may contribute to their responses to climate shocks. This poster offers a comparison of the religious beliefs, worldviews, and value systems of Mennonite, Amish, and Maya farmers in rural Belize, and whether these respectively influence their cultivation responses to climate challenges.

HUFF, Ashley and WARNER, Faith (Bloomsburg U Penn) Why Anthropology?: An Ethnography of Anthropology Majors. Through ethnographic research, including cyber-surveying, video interviewing, and participant observation, I am investigating why undergraduate students today, choose anthropology as their major. Through an attempted total sample of all enrolled undergraduate Anthropology majors in the United States, I am exploring how, why, and when undergraduates declare Anthropology as their major. I ask if there are social and educational experiences, personality traits, and aspects of identity that attract students to Anthropology, with the hopes of better understanding our shared academic community and developing a student profile that can help departments identify and recruit new students. ashleyhuff40@gmail.com

KAPPELMAN, Katherine and HAY, Bryant (Boise State U) Inductive Qualitative Social Science Research as a Necessary Element of Data Science. Data science (DS) applies exploratory mathematics to “big data” in order to aid understanding of large scale phenomena. Sometimes characterized as artificial intelligence, DS can appear to replace human analytic ability. However, data science often requires qualitative researchers to help improve reliability of inferences. We describe applied ethnographic work undertaken by Anthropology graduate and undergraduate students and a Sociologist to span gaps in data science, and project how products of applied ethnography can be used by data scientists to refine and improve the efficacy of their work in criminal investigations arising from the Panama Papers.

LILLYWHITE, Aspen and WOLBRING, Gregor (U Calgary) Knowledge Production of Undergraduate Disabled Students: Perspectives of Undergraduate and Graduate Disabled Students. Knowledge influences policy development, and policies impact disabled people. However, knowledge is missing around the lived experiences of disabled people. The numbers of disabled academics are low in many countries, including Canada. We performed ten semi-structured interviews of undergraduate and graduate disabled students to understand the reality of undergraduate disabled students as knowledge producers. Participants were not exposed to and supported in the identity of being a researcher as an undergraduate student. Exposing disabled students at the undergraduate and high school level to the research identity may increase the numbers of undergraduate disabled researchers and academics. aspen.lillywhite1@ucalgary.ca

LOPEZ, Diana. TALHAM, Charlotte. VILLALOBOS, Kevin. MONTIEL ISHINO, Francisco A. and WILLIAMS, Faustine (NIH/NIMHD) A Dynamic Disaster Mental Health Framework to Understand Collective Action During the COVID-19 Pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected behavioral factors like social affairs, movement, sleep, media consumption, substance use, and coping mechanisms impacting mental health (e.g., depression, anxiety, etc.). The current sociopolitical climate has created a situation in which collective action can impact mental health outcomes. Our conceptual framework will explore how participation, engagement, and exposure to collective action can affect behavioral and/or mental health outcomes. COVID-19 behavioral data are currently being
LÓPEZ, Kayla (Purdue U) *Items of Cultural Significance for Puerto Ricans Living in the Mainland United States.* This interdisciplinary research project represents my education in Purdue’s Anthropology and Art/Design departments. As a dual-discipline undergraduate student, I work at where these fields intersect. For my senior exhibition, the goal was to document items of cultural significance for Puerto Ricans living in the mainland United States and develop an approach for continuing this research. I examined how Puerto Rican culture is reflected in the items people living in the mainland United States find culturally important. It resulted in a series of six portraits where each participant posed with an object they found most culturally significant and expresses their perspective. lopez337@purdue.edu

MALLICK, Kamini (Boston U) *Bonded in Crisis: Understanding Youth Activism in Climate Change.* My yearlong ethnographic study of high-school student climate activists in Boston seeks to fill gaps in research literature at the intersection of activism, mental health, and youth development. I examine these students’ perceptions of climate change, its impact on their wellbeing, and the role of environmental activism in their lives. Youth activists juggle competing threats to mortality: COVID-19, racial injustice, and climate change. I argue that participation in youth-led climate groups helps to mitigate the worries associated with these threats through both cultivation of capital and development of agency, leading to an expanded concept of wellbeing. kmallick@bu.edu

MCMAHAN, Ben, AUSTIN, Diane, and HOFSTADTER, Sarah (U Arizona, BARA) *Extending Conversations about Research Strategies and Results: An Interactive Poster About More Than Two Decades of BARA Research in the U.S. Gulf Coast.* Based on 22 years of applied research for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management on the impacts of the offshore oil and gas industry on communities along the Gulf of Mexico, this interactive poster examines both occasional and ongoing issues of relevance and explores strategies for building knowledge across sequential, short-term (3-5 year) studies designed to respond to agency needs. Strategies include team research, short- and long-term community collaborations, and comparative and multi-sited research. Come join us and participate via the various links, interactive graphics, and discussion forums as we explore how online-virtual poster sessions can extend conversations about research. bmcmahan@arizona.edu

MOELLER, Madeline, PILLI, Leslie, and DRIESEN, Ramon (U Arizona) *A Collaboration with the Sonora Environmental Research Institute (SERI) to Measure Perceived Household Comfort and Determine Feasibility of Implementing a Solar Mini Split Installation Loan Program.* Tucson Arizona is one of the fastest warming cities in the United States. Low income residents who lack central AC are more affected by these trends than those with central heating/cooling units. This project explores the feasibility of small scale solar mini-splits through the lived experiences of a cohort of households using fieldnotes, interviews, household temperature sensors, thermal comfort surveys, energy bills, and weather data. This poster demonstrates the relationships between these lived experiences and data that encapsulates their experiences. Our goal is to provide perspectives on experiences of households facing the challenge of rising temperatures in the Southwest.

MORENO, Ashley (Bloomsburg U) *Rwandan and Tanzanian Nurses and Midwives in Situations of Scarcity and Shortage.* Infant mortality continues to exhibit dangerously high rates in impoverished countries worldwide. Nurses and midwives work tirelessly to provide for mothers and newborns, yet face hardships outside their control, such as understaffed facilities and lack of supplies. This ethnographic research involves interviewing nurses and midwives on maternal and infant care in Tanzania and Rwanda to better understand how they respond to challenges in the delivery of healthcare in rural areas, how they impact their ability to administer nursing care, and the development of strategies to overcome scarcity and shortage in nursing practice. asm65770@huskies.bloomu.edu

MOSURSKA, Anuszka, FORD, James, and SALLU, Susannah (U Leeds) *Representations of Indigenous Peoples in Disasters in the Global Elite News Media.* This research is concerned with how disasters and Indigenous peoples are discursively constructed in the elite news media. We conducted a critical discourse analysis, finding that disasters were constructed as physical phenomena, depoliticizing them. Discourses around Indigenous peoples were more nuanced: sometimes their agency was highlighted, whilst something they were framed as vulnerable and passive. Many articles reduced Indigenous interests to those about the environment, depoliticizing Indigeneity. Overall, articles adhered to neoliberal discourses, for instance by really emphasising the importance of participation without consideration of the politics entailed. ss18arm@leeds.ac.uk

ORZOLEK, Julia (Bloomsburg U-Penn) *The Impact of the “Jaws Effect,” Education, and Experience on Shark Conservation.* Contrary to popular belief, shark populations are being systematically depleted worldwide through fishing. Despite their consistent drop in number, conservation efforts are often impeded by people’s fears. The declining shark population is concerning because sharks are apex predators. The absence of sharks could negatively impact every other aspect of their ecosystem. Through surveying, interviewing, and participant observation, this ethnographic research focuses on individuals who are advocates for shark conservation to better understand how education and experience transformed their views on sharks from fear to fascination, and even to activism on behalf of sharks. jro60930@huskies.bloomu.edu

collected and will be presented in our conceptual framework of collective action. Our purpose is to better inform and tailor public health and social justice interventions through mixed-methods research designs. diana.lopez@nih.gov
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PIEPER, Jack (CSBSJU) Queer Theory, the Climate Justice Movement, and the United Nations. Queer theory centers intersectionality and the fluidity of gender and sexual identities in academic and activist dimensions. Currently, the climate justice movement and the United Nations (UN) represent a heteronormative system that is prevalent in today’s public discourse and society. Based on observational research and interviews conducted at the 25th Conference of the Parties (COP) in Madrid, Spain, I examine how queer theory could offer solutions and perspective to the climate justice movement and the United Nations. To fully achieve climate justice and be representative of all backgrounds and identities at the UNFCCC COP and within the climate justice movement, queer theory must be applied. jpieper001@csbsju.edu

PREDDY, Miranda (UNCG Recipe for Success) and MURPHY, Arthur (Program Director) Remodeling Pathways of Community Nutrition and Wellbeing: A Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Education Program (SNAP-Ed) Partnership with Collaborative Cottage Grove. This paper documents the collaboration between Recipe for Success (RFS) and Collaborative Cottage Grove. Located in historically marginalized east Greensboro, NC. The Collaborative has revolutionized local community health development by aligning the self-identified needs of Cottage Grove residents and its partners (Greensboro Housing Coalition, Mustard Seed Community Healthcare and RFS) intervention strategies. The Recipe for Success 16-week cooking class complemented Cottage Grove’s existing Diabetes Prevention Program. The results were a 60% increase in vegetable consumption and 80% increase in physical activity. mrpreddy@uncg.edu

RADCLIFFE, Olivia (U Alabama) The Ones Left Behind: The Social Determinants of Health of an Aging Population in the Northern Peruvian Highlands. Population shifts due to outmigration have left the Andean hamlet of Chugurpampa, Peru, with fewer working-age members in the community than in the past. The consequences of ongoing migration as it affects the well-being of its senior members is examined in terms of local physical, social, and economic resources, along with social network size and support. Mixed methods are used to assess psychological suffering of participants relative to the support provided by their family members, both present and out-migrated. Further analysis details the relationship between health and its social determinants for residents who remain in this area. obradcliffe@crimson.ua.edu

RHUE, Steven (Ohio State U) Water (In)security: The Absence of Children’s Voices. Water permeates nearly every aspect of human and societal health and well-being. It is a biological necessity and guaranteed human right, whose provision is defined by socio-political ideologies, development, local ecology, and socio-economic inequality. Glaring disparities exist regarding access to safe and sufficient water, leaving children particularly vulnerable. Their voices on the matter are largely absent as children’s needs, realities and autonomy are often subsumed under those of their adult caretakers. These issues are addressed in a review of our understanding of children’s water (in)security and a discussion of anthropology’s role in furthering children’s right to water. rhue.3@osu.edu

SCHALGE, Susan, ANTON, Alexander, and WHITNEY, Dawn (NMSU Mankato) “Are you first-gen? So am I!” First-generation college students make up an increasingly important population at US universities. First-generation status may mean students feel out of place, take longer to graduate, and are at higher risk of dropping out. We are attempting to better understand the unique stressors and successes of first generation students locally and seek to develop programs to improve students’ university experiences. Through a text analysis of Minnesota State University, Mankato first-generation students’ stories, we can compare their concerns to national research. Our research will help to guide future programming to be more relevant and better able meet our student’s specific needs. susan.schalge@mnsu.edu

SCHILLER, Anne (GMU) Voluntary Associations and Network Building among American, British, and Scandinavian Migrants in Puglia, Italy. Italy’s overall population has declined, however the number of resident foreigners is increasing. Among them are expatriates – sometimes known as lifestyle migrants or vanguards of the global citizenry. These individuals, who resist simplistic characterizations, already number in the hundreds of thousands. The national government seeks to attract even more of them with tax incentives and offers of one-euro homes. This presentation explores how expatriates in one remote Southern Italian province establish social networks through participation in voluntary associations. It examines the generation of social capital within these groups and how they may contribute to the success of migration experiences.

SHINMOTO, Mariko (Hiroshima U) Education of Menstrual Hygiene Management and Practice among Schoolgirls in Papua New Guinea. In recent years, the need for menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in developing countries has been advocated by international development agencies and governments. Anthropological studies in Papua New Guinea have reported taboos and avoidance of menstruation. In Papua New Guinea, policies related to MHM have been announced. This presentation clarifies which type of menstrual education is provided and how girls deal with menstruation, based on the results of a survey conducted at a rural primary school in East Sepik Province. Then, I will clarify important considerations for the development of MHM policies and projects in Papua New Guinea. mariko19@hiroshima-u.ac.jp

TOLBERT, Mason, ZAahir, Ember, MITCHEL, Andrew, and COHEN, Jeffrey H. (Ohio State U) Chapulineras in the Oaxaca’s Marketplace: Photographs and the Representation of Indigeneity through Time. Our poster uses images of market women in Oaxaca, Mexico to explore how poverty is naturalized and becomes representative of indigeneity. Our analysis focuses on chapulineras, women who sell tossed grasshoppers and their “uniform” a shirt and skirt or dress under an apron. While colors and patterns printed on the
cloth varies from woman to woman, the garments worn are surprising in their consistency over time. Importantly, their clothes have become a label of indigeneity. We argue that “reading” the uniform naturalize poverty and naturalizes poverty as a symbol of tradition and indigeneity ignoring the marginality of indigenous Mexicans. tolbert.85@buckeyemail.osu.edu

VARIN, Eric (UNCG) Video Gaming and Mental Wellbeing. Video gaming has garnered as many players as it does critics, with stereotypes of gamers as ill-adjusted and unhealthy. Our results indicate a strong but complex relationship between gaming and identity and well-being. This paper is focused on the ways gaming connects people to others, how culture manifests within gaming communities, and how these relationships, both with the game and the people one plays with, affect a person’s mental well-being. Interview results revealed the relevance gaming has to one’s identity as well as short-term and long-term effects on player mental states. However, the term “gamer” was largely rejected, complicating our understanding of the gaming community. Ejvarin@uncg.edu

WITMER, Katherine (Christopher Newport U) Homelessness and the Hostile Environment. This exploratory study attempts to ask: What are the perceptions of those who offer aid to the homeless in Newport News regarding their treatment? In this article I examine the perceptions and feelings of people who offer aid to the homeless out of a sample of approximately ten people interviewed over videoconferencing software. Discursive scripts held by the general public greatly affect the treatment of individuals experiencing homelessness and in some cases can affect their experiences within the aid community as well. This study finds that aid workers are both aware of and sometimes affected by discursive scripts surrounding homelessness. witmerkatherine@gmail.com

YOURISH, Emily and MORRISON, Penelope (PSU) Barriers to Follow Up Care for Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence and Opioid Misuse. The intersection between intimate partner violence and opioid misuse in women can result in barriers to care (e.g. failure to follow up after receiving initial clinical care). We conducted 43 semi-structured interviews with providers of IPV services to better understand and address the barriers and facilitators of women using supportive services for OUD and IPV. Our preliminary findings indicate that patients’ use of follow-up care is dependent on perceived ability, partners’ controlling behavior, patient-provider relationship, and lack of continuity of care. This study is significant for understanding ways to improve services for women experiencing IPV/OUD and continuity of care. eey5033@psu.edu

ZAAHIR, Ember, TOLBERT, Mason, MITCHEL, Andrew, and COHEN, Jeffrey H. (Ohio State U) Misrepresenting Indigenous Women: Symbols and Meaning in Oaxacan Restaurants and Their Menus. Restaurants in Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, can be grouped into one of three categories: family, tourist or fine-dining establishment. Family restaurants present food as cheap, delicious and satisfying; tourist restaurants highlight tradition, while fine-dining restaurants celebrate elegance. Comparing the menus and media associated with these restaurants, we explore how indigenous Oaxacans are reimagined and deployed to make claims about the quality and authenticity of the food. Our poster summarizes our findings and the ways in which the representation of traditional foods and indigenous life in Oaxaca may build clientele yet misrepresent the complex socio-economic challenges and marginalization that faces indigenous women in the state. zaahir.3@buckeyemail.osu.edu