



The Editorial Board of
Anthropology Now--

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announces the inaugural issue of a new journal in cultural anthropology

The founding editors of *Anthropology Now* announced today the forthcoming publication of three inaugural issues in 2009, in collaboration with Paradigm Publishers. The first issue will be printed early, in time for the 2008 American Anthropological Meetings.

Anthropology Now offers the best of new and innovative research by anthropologists in a venue that combines the literary and visual qualities of a magazine. The publication makes anthropological research available to a wide readership, including students, educated lay readers, and scholars in other disciplines. It will be a vital publication for university and departmental libraries for use in teaching, research, and student papers.

Anthropology Now will provide insights into cultural processes in different parts of the world. It will shed light on everyday practices -- such as how and why people eat, sleep, raise children, work, or treat illness the way they do -- and complex and far-reaching practices -- such as how and why multi-national corporations, government agencies or NGOs promote the policies and programs they do.

Anthropology Now will also look at the role of the discipline of anthropology in popular culture. How has the public image of the anthropologist changed since Margaret Mead became a folk hero? How has the concept of "culture" been taken up for different purposes all over the world -- sometimes regarded positively as a marker of a people's essential nature or identity, sometimes seen negatively as a barrier or source of oppression. In these translations, the actual ways anthropologists carry out their research, and the unique insights ethnographic fieldwork can produce, have sometimes escaped notice. *Anthropology Now* will give a powerful sense of the many ways anthropologists do fieldwork, with all its accompanying frustrations, dangers, fears and rewards.

One of the founders, Susan Harding of the University of California, Santa Cruz, said that "*Anthropology Now* will engage a wide range of audiences in 21st Century anthropological conversations, much as Margaret Mead engaged them in her generation's anthropology."

The publication's originator, Emily Martin of New York University, added "*Anthropology Now* will be an essential resource for today's students, who long to understand contemporary issues through the unusual insights anthropology can provide."

General Editor, Katherine McCaffrey announced several of the forthcoming articles from the first two issues:

Are Women Evolutionary Sex Objects? : Why Women Have Breasts, by Fran Mascia-Lees (Rutgers University).

Becoming Monsters in Iraq, by Matthew Gutmann (Brown University) and Catherine Lutz (Brown University).

All-You-Can-Eat Buffets and Chicken With Broccoli To Go, by Kenneth Guest (Baruch College)

Margaret Mead: Public Anthropologist, by Nancy Lutkehaus (University of Southern California)

Women's Autonomy Combats AIDS in the Kalahari, by Ida Susser (City University of New York) and Richard Lee (University of Toronto)

Can Anthropology Ever be Innocent? by Gerald Sider (City University of New York)

Photo/Art Essay

“Human Terrain: Hearts and Minds, Bullets and Bodies,” by Will Thomson (NYU)

Anthropologies

“Anthropologie Now”, by Scott Webel (University of Texas) and Kathleen Stewart (University of Texas) (Photo Essay)

Fieldnote

“Anthro Mom: Obama's Mother the Anthropologist”

Stories from the Field

“A Death in a Family” by Emily Yates-Doerr

Uncommon Sense

“M is For My Nightmares,” by Hugh Raffles (New School) (an excerpt from a forthcoming book *The Illustrated Insectopedia*).

Creative Writing

“SoCal Local” by Christine Gailey (University of California, Riverside).

The full text of many of these articles can be viewed now at <http://www.anthronow.com>

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“*Anthropology Now* offers a critical perspective on contemporary common sense that is available nowhere else. And because the unexamined assumptions of common sense are central to today's profound cultural changes -- a liberal education can now be described as a "skill," for example--anthropological critics are more necessary than ever.”

--Richard Handler, Professor and Dean, University of Virginia

“The field of anthropology has changed tremendously since the days of Margaret Mead. Yet the general public often knows little about the fascinating and socially valuable research conducted by contemporary anthropologists. *Anthropology Now* will bring some of this often surprising and always illuminating work out into the public domain.”

--Sherry Ortner, Professor, UCLA

Writers for *Anthropology Now* explore topics uncomfortable to many (especially the most powerful) in the U.S.: the lived effects of war and social and economic inequities, for example. This is a useful project, joining vital conversations beyond disciplinary and national boundaries.

--Ann Kingsolver, Professor, University of South Carolina

At its best, anthropology has the potential to offer unique insights into contemporary human problems through its historical and comparative perspective. *Anthropology Now* brings that lens to the public arena.

-- Leith Mullings, Professor, CUNY