



Anthropology News

September 2020

WELCOME BACK!

As we begin a new fall semester in the context of a global pandemic, hybrid classes, and teaching & learning from everywhere, there is nonetheless exciting news of ongoing projects and accomplishments among our Anthropology majors, graduate students, undergraduate majors, faculty and alumni.



Graduate Student, **Emily Williamson's** illustration was selected for inclusion in the Royal Anthropological Institute's "Illustrating Anthropology" exhibition. Her drawings are featured in this month's newsletter.



Grad News & Achievements

Two AN graduate students successfully defended PhD dissertations this summer.

- Sociocultural grad **Annika Schmeding**, PhD dissertation title: "Sufis in Afghanistan: Religious Authority and Succession in an Insecure Age"
- Sociocultural grad **Jeffrey Bristol**, PhD dissertation title: "Sharia, the American Way"

Grad Awards & Grants

·Five AN grads have received Cora du Bois dissertation writing grants: **Andrea Blackburn, Mehrdad Babadi, Laura Ann Chang Tourtellotte, Amy Scott & Kathleen Forste.**

·**Leyla Jafarova** received an AES Small Grant for ethnographic research in Azerbaijan.

·**Laura Brubaker-Wittman** (bioanth 2nd yr) was one of six BU WGS Summer Fellows.

·**Ziqi Xiewas** awarded a SPA Lemelson grant for her research in China.

·**Jacob Tischers** awarded a Lo Chia-luen International Sinology Scholarship.

·**Hafsa Arain & Jessica Garber** both received Laura Bassi editorial scholarships.

Grad Publications

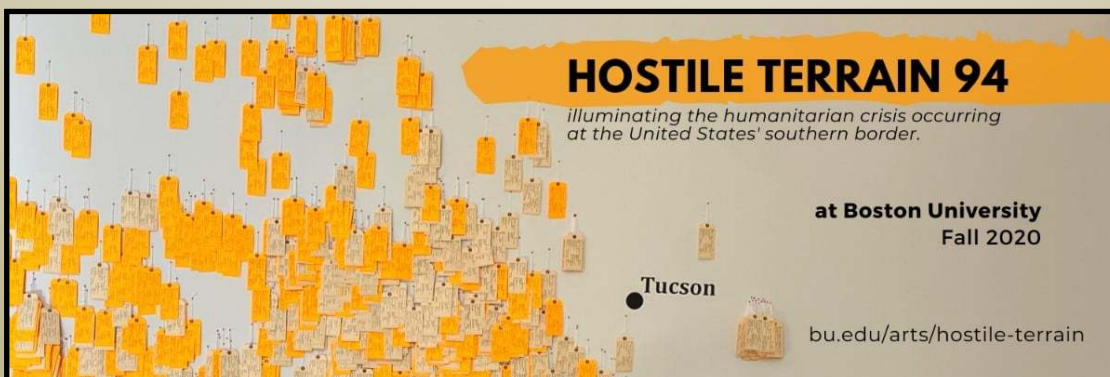
- **Calynn Dowler** 2020. "Water and Human-Nonhuman Agency in India's Sundarbans" IIAS Newsletter.



Faculty News & Achievements

Following on a successful summer book club led by **Kimberly Arkin** on apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic accounts of the contemporary world, the department has two exciting migration-related Emerging Scholars Programs taking off this fall.

- **Ayse Parla** "Migration Matters: Ethnicity, Race, Labor & Politics across Borders"
- **David Carballo** "Hostile Terrain 94 Installation" illuminating the humanitarian crisis occurring at the United States' southern border.



Books, Publications & Awards

- Carballo, David M.** 2020. *Collision of Worlds: A Deep History of the Fall of Aztec Mexico and the Forging of New Spain*. Oxford University Press, New York.
- Hirth, Kenneth G., **David M. Carballo**, and Barbara Arroyo (eds.) 2020 *Teotihuacan: The World Beyond the City*. Dumbarton Oaks and Trustees of Harvard University, Washington, D.C.
- Scaramelli, Caterina.** 2021. *How to Make a Wetland: Water and Moral Ecology in Turkey*. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA. [To appear, March]
- Korom, Frank J.** and Lowthorp, L. K. 2019. *South Asian Folklore in Transition: Crafting New Horizons*. New York: Routledge. [New paperback edition]
- Schmitt, Christopher.** 2020. "Hidden from History, Searching for a Future: A Commentary on the Unverified Homosexual Tendencies of Biological Anthropologists." *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 00(0): 1-3.
- Davidson, Joanna.** 2020. "The Problem of Widows." *American Ethnologist*, 47(1): 43-57.
- Weller, Robert P.** 2020. "Respecting Silence: Longing, Rhythm, and Chinese Temples in an Age of Bulldozers." *History and Anthropology*, June, vol 10: 1-17.
- Robert W. Hefner.** 2020. "Whatever Happened to Civil Islam? Islam and Democratization in Indonesia 20 years on" *Asian Studies Review*. 43(3): 375-396.
- DiGiorgio, Andrea L.**, Upton, E. M., Susanto, T. W. and **Cheryl Knott.** 2020. "Wild Bornean Orangutan Feeding Rates and the Marginal Value Theorem." *American Journal of Primatology*. Aug 5:e23183.

Grants & Productions

- Merav Shohet** and Insa Schmidt (BMC) received an SSRC Rapid-Response Grant on Covid-19 and the Social Sciences, "Stigma Syndemics and End-Stage Kidney Disease in Disenfranchised Urban Communities Fighting COVID-19."



• **David Carballo** was interviewed by David Frum in the Atlantic on his new book, *Collision of Worlds*.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/08/david-carballo-archaeology-and-mesoamerica/614815/>

Alumni News

• **Sarah Tobin** (BU PhD 2011) was promoted to Research Professor at the Chr. Michelsen Institute in Bergen, Norway.

Last but certainly not least, we have two new additions to the BU Anthropology community!

- Grad **Calynn Dowler** & her husband welcomed a daughter, Louisa Maren into the world on July 27, 2020.
- Alumna **Carol Ferrara** gave birth to a son, Abriel JF Ferrara Derri on July 21, 2020.

More news? Did we fail you include your achievements? Did we get something wrong? Please let me smhefner@bu.edu or Veronica vclittle@bu.edu and we will be happy to publish in a future newsletter!