

ANTHROPOLOGY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2018



**Welcome back from
the UBC Department
of Anthropology**

**Announcements &
Events**

p. 2-11

**Awards,
Publications &
Presentations**

p. 12-14



A Message from **Dr. Michael Blake**:

I am thrilled to welcome you all to our amazing department for the 2018/19 academic year—especially our returning and new undergraduate students and all of our graduate students. In particular, I want to recognize our wonderful staff, without whom our entire operation would come to a screeching halt.

I'm pleased to congratulate our two newly-minted Associate Professors: Carole Blackburn and Darlene Weston who learned of their promotions this summer, and to welcome Assistant Professor Camilla Speller to our ranks. Having lured her back to Canada from her post at the University of York in the UK, Camilla brings to us a wealth of knowledge and expertise in archaeology and especially biomolecular approaches to tracing ancient foodways and environmental interactions.

I invite any and all members of our community to contact me with ideas, questions, concerns—or just drop by to visit—during the coming months. Best wishes for a great 2018/19!

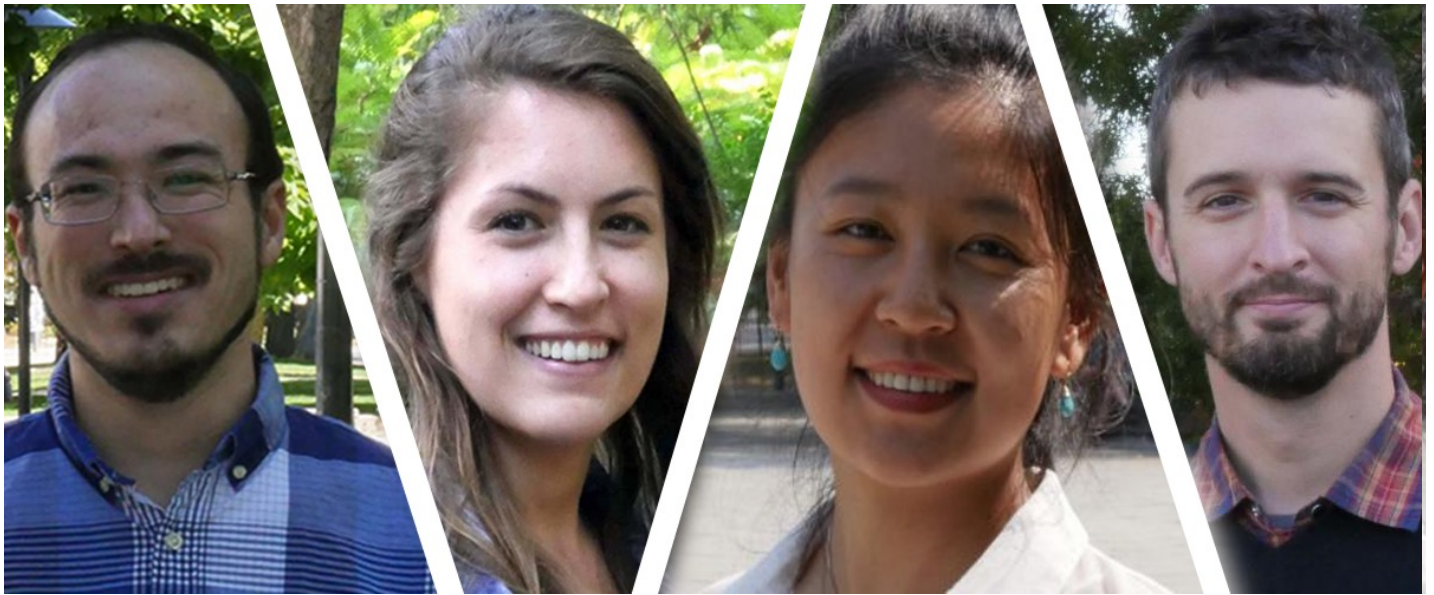


Announcing

our new Director at the Lab of Archaeology, **David Pokotylo**
and the new Archaeological Curatorial Research Assistant, **Erina Perez**



Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Public Scholars Initiative awardees



Evan Koike

A generation ago, families' needs were secondary to workplace demands for Japanese men who aspired to the "corporate warrior" ideal. Today, nonprofit organizations in Japan are working to change the idea that housework and raising children are a mother's responsibility.

Emily Amburgey

As part of my doctoral research, I look at how contemporary forms of labour migration in Mustang, Nepal, transform local livelihoods in relation to class, gender, political subjectivity, and ecology.

Yujie Ji

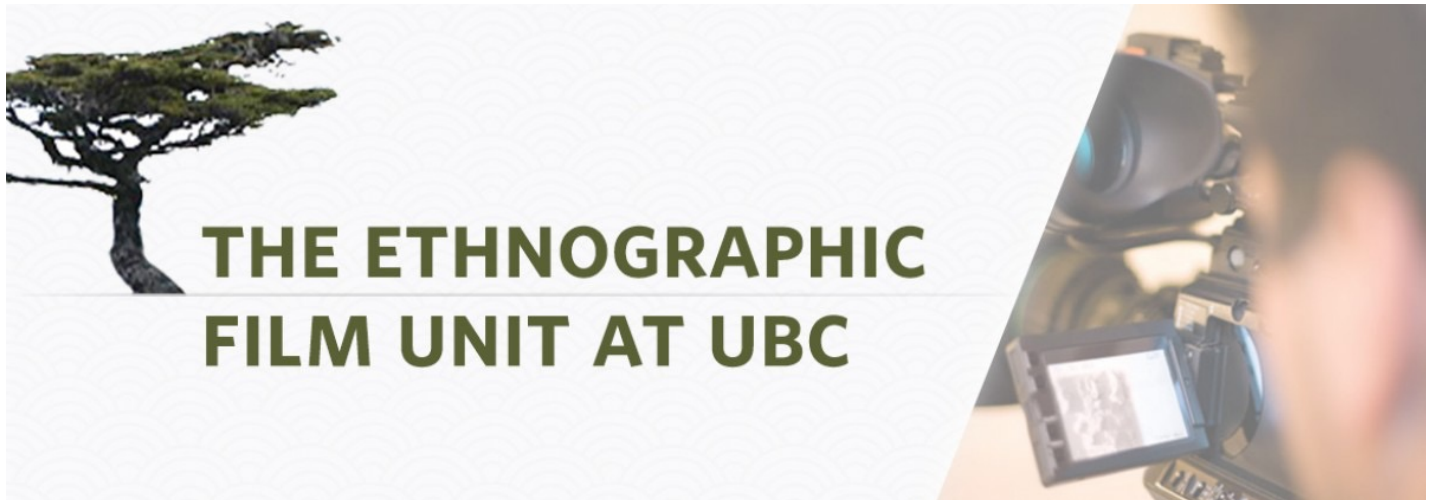
I aim to document and preserve Chone Tibetans' most important form of oral literature, Shadpa, practiced and performed in Kanlho Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Gansu Province, China.

Eric Simons

I work with an Indigenous community on whose territory an Indian Residential School operated. We work together to develop comprehensive knowledge of school burials on their land—knowledge that supports their process of community healing.

Applications are open for the **Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellowships**

The UBC Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are provided annually from the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Fund for Advanced Studies and are available for most fields of research. Applications are open until October 15, and potential applicants should send their application to: anth.head@ubc.ca



Great news for the Department & The Ethnographic Film Unit at UBC. Plans are underway for a new, purpose-built lab for the Film Unit which will release the unit's current space for student study space.

Read more about this online: <http://tiny.cc/ANTHFilmUnit>

SSHRC Partnership Development Grant supports research collaborations in Nepal

As part of the SSHRC Partnership Development Grant, “Expertise, Labour and Mobility in Nepal’s Post-Conflict, Post-Disaster Reconstruction”, **Sara Shneiderman** coordinated a month of research partnership activities in Nepal in July-August, 2018 whose over 20 participants from Canada, Nepal, Denmark and the US included UBC Anthropology PhD student **Emily Amburgey**, undergraduate honours student **James Binks**, and UBC Educational Studies PhD candidate **Omer Aijazi**, as well as UBC faculty **Philippe Le Billon** from Geography/SPPGA and **Katherine Hacker** from AHVA.

All partnership members participated in a two-day workshop on July 23-24, which included half a day of discussions with members of the related project “After the Earth’s Violent Sway: tangible and intangible legacies of a natural disaster” led by **Michael Hutt** from SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) at the University of London. Then ten members of the partnership team presented in a double panel, “Re/Construction: Expertise, Politics, and Materiality in Nepal’s Ongoing Transformation” at the Annual Kathmandu Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya held from July 25-27.

After the conference concluded, partnership members visited two of the project’s research sites outside of Kathmandu, in Bhaktapur and Sindhupalchok districts. Several partnership members including Shneiderman and Aijazi also gave presentations in the Social Science Baha Research Seminar Series throughout the summer. See <https://elmnr.arts.ubc.ca/news> for further details.



Secwepemc People, Land and Laws at Pípsell:

Uncovering and reclaiming connections
to place and knowledge

October 4 • 11:30-1:00 • AnSo 134



Marianne Ignace

Professor of Linguistics and First Nations Studies, SFU



Chief Ronald E. Ignace

Adjunct Professor, Sociology and Anthropology, SFU

**How do Secwepemc narratives
connect people to place, ancestral
laws, and land rights?**

More-than-Human Democracy:

On the Political Lives of Cows,
Rivers, Mountains, and Gods in
India's Central Himalaya

November 1 • 11:30-1:00 • AnSo 134



Radhika Govindrajan

Assistant Professor of Anthropology
University of Washington

This talk examines the ways in which nonhumans - mountains, rivers, cows, and gods - are drawn into politics as intentional, subjective actors in India. Through an examination of the inclusions and exclusions at the heart of this process, it probes the possibilities and limits of more-than-human democratic politics.

This event is sponsored by CISAR, the Department of Anthropology and the UBC Himalaya Program, with special support from the Cascadia Engagement Fund Research Mobility Award, "Connecting South Asian and Himalayan Research Communities Across Cascadia"

The Monkey as Mirror

November 22 • 11:30-1:00 • AnSo 134



Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney

Vilas Professor of Anthropology
University of Washington - Madison

As shown in the recent excitement about the “ontological turn,” the nature/culture theme has been a perennial concern in anthropology. Using some images of the monkey and the monkey performance in Japan, this talk introduces the historical changes in the meanings assigned to the monkey which occupies the pivotal space between nature (deities, animals) and culture (humans), with a special emphasis on their uses in socio-political spaces.

Documentary as Present/Presence:

Crises, community, and human-damaged landscapes

November 29 • 11:30-1:00 • AnSo 134



Shannon Walsh

Assistant Professor of Film Production
University of British Columbia

What does it mean to create work that captures the present, rather than a focus on a nostalgic past or a cruel optimism about the future? How is documentary an entry point into ways of seeing the moment we are in and ways of moving through crises together? Speaking about her current feature documentary "Illusions of Control", Dr. Walsh will discuss the evolution of her methods of storytelling in an age of ecological uncertainty.

Online now: read our Q&A with Camilla Speller



I'm delighted to be at UBC, and really appreciate the Department's warm welcome. I'm an archaeological scientist at heart, and my research explores how humans have shaped their physical world, from broad-scale impacts on ancient ecosystems to the micro-environment of the human body, primarily using biomolecular approaches.



My teaching style is centred around encouraging critical thinking and getting students to evaluate information both within and outside the classroom. Learning is engaging with a dynamic subject, as well as grappling with public information often in flux. I like to encourage students to be aware of these shifting critical responses to their world, and be an active part of that response.

Read the whole Q&A on our website:
<http://tiny.cc/ANTHCamillaSpeller>

GREEN COLLEGE INTERDISCIPLINARY SERIES **TRANSFORMING SILENCE** THE CREATIVE POWER OF QUIET

People around the world cultivate silence as a source of ingenuity, equanimity and creative transformation. This series offers an expansive perspective that differs from the current scholarly focus on oppressive and destructive silences. Our speakers will consider the role of silence in various cultural contexts, including Coast Salish healing practices, acoustic ecology and rainforest conservation, Buddhist meditation, eighteenth-century French pantomime, and temple rites that respond to current rapid urbanization in China. A film screening and director's discussion of *In Pursuit of Silence* (2017) will highlight the history of humanity's attraction to aural minimalism and the contemporary worldwide dilemma of noise pollution. Together our speakers will explore how varieties of sociocultural silence act as fruitful catalysts for renewal and reconfiguration of aesthetic, experiential and intellectual worlds.

ALL TALKS ARE AT GREEN COLLEGE IN THE COACH HOUSE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT CHARGE

TERM I

SILENCE IN INDIGENOUS WAYS OF KNOWING AND DOING

Elder Roberta Price, Family Practice, UBC
Wednesday, September 26, 2018, 5:00 pm

Recalling how she listened to the Elders of her childhood, Elder Roberta Price is astonished to find that she herself is now called to offer wisdom in the same way. In this inaugural talk of the *Transforming Silence* speakers' series, Elder Roberta Price will describe the importance of silence in Coast Salish communities. She will draw on her years working in Indigenous health initiatives to convey the healing effects of silent presence among those who have experienced trauma and illness, and how silence invites the ancestors to act as benevolent sources of well-being, knowledge and interconnectedness across the realms.

THE DIMENSIONS OF SILENCE IN BUDDHISM

Susan Gillis Chapman, Psychologist and Teacher of Buddhist Practice
Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 5:00 pm

What is silence? Is it merely the absence of sound, or can silence be a gateway into more subtle forms of communication with ourselves, our world and each other? In this lecture, we explore progressive dimensions of silence, ranging from punctuations in everyday conversation to profound insight into the nature of our own minds. Susan Gillis Chapman will draw from her personal experiences of being in total silence for many months of group meditation retreat, as well as from her work as a contemplative relationship therapist and communication trainer. She will point to the difference between positive interruptions, gaps of silence that restore authenticity and negative silencing, suppressing our own or another person's truth.

FILM SCREENING: *IN PURSUIT OF SILENCE*

Patrick Shen, filmmaker; **Cassidy Hall**, author
Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 4:30 pm

In Pursuit of Silence (2017) is a meditative exploration of silence and the impact of noise on our lives. The film takes the audience on an immersive cinematic journey around the globe—from a traditional tea ceremony in Kyoto, to the streets of Mumbai, the loudest city on the planet—and inspires viewers to both experience silence and celebrate the wonders of our world. The film's Director and Co-Producer will lead a Question and Answer session following the screening.

Patrick Shen is a filmmaker and the founder of Transcendental Media. His films have received 24 awards and 11 nominations, and have been featured on the TED blog, CNN, in *The Huffington Post*, *NY Times*, *LA Times*, *Boston Globe*, and the *Washington Post*. In 2009, Patrick was the recipient of the Emerging Cinematic Vision Award from Camden International Film Festival and since 2005 he has presented his work at hundreds of film festivals, cinemas, museums and major academic institutions all over the globe.

Cassidy Hall is an author, photographer, filmmaker, podcaster and trained counselor. Cassidy's writing has been published in the *Convivium Journal*, *The Thomas Merton Seasonal*, and has been featured in *The Huffington Post*, *Patheos* and the *National Catholic Reporter*. Her pilgrimage of life has continued with visits to other sacred spaces, monasteries, various contemplative locations, and the infinite interior spaciousness within. This ongoing pilgrimage has informed her writing, art, her personal life and her way of being.

Those attending talks at Green College are warmly invited to come to dinner.

For information on making dinner reservations, see www.greencollege.ubc.ca/how-attend-dinner

Bill McKellin has received project development grants from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and the Kids Brain Health Network for developing an implementation model to support quality physical activity programs for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities across BC. This project will use experience from 80+ existing programs.

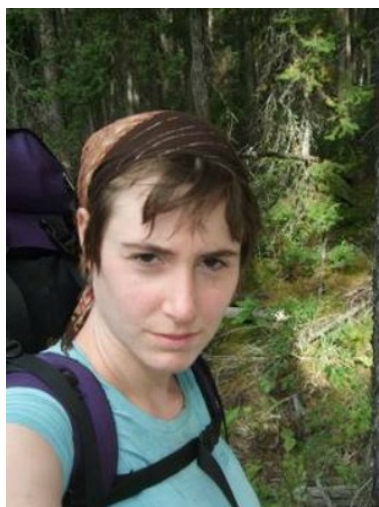
Partners in this grant are **Lois McNary** (Special Olympics BC) and **Jean-Paul Collet** (UBC Pediatrics). **Matt Herman** (BC Ministry of Health) is the executive sponsor for the project.



Congratulations to the following students who received Dissertation Write-Up Grants:



Daniel Manson



Lauren Harding



Evan Koike

Awards & Grants

Emily Jean Leischner

Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Canadian Anthropology Society, 2018.

Christopher Smith

Tina and Morris Wagner Foundation Fellowship, September 2018.

Publications

Millie Creighton

2018. "Nikkei Latin America." *Revista: Harvard Review of Latin America*. Volume XVIII (1): Fall. <https://revista.drclas.harvard.edu/book/nikkei-latin-america>.

2018. "Casca-Cuba and Comparing Japanese Art Places with Fusterlandia as a Cuban Art Space." *CASCA Culture Blog (12): Special – Stories from Cuba / Échos de Cuba / Historias de Cuba*. <https://cascacultureblog.wordpress.com/2018/08/17/casca-cuba-and-comparing-japanese-art-places-with-fusterlandia-as-a-cuban-art-place/>

2018. "2018 CASCA (Canadian Anthropology Society) Annual Conference, May 16-20, 2018" [highlights on Japan]. *Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC): Spring 2018 Newsletter*. http://buna.yorku.ca/jsac/newsletter/jsac_newsletter_spring_2018.pdf

Ezra Greene

2018. "Dissent in Zion: Outsider Practices in Utah." *New Proposals: Journal of Marxism and Interdisciplinary Inquiry* 9(2): 66-76.

Emily Jean Leischner

2018. "Review of The Language of Family: Stories of Bonds and Belonging by Michelle van der Merwe." *BC Studies* 198: Summer 2018. <http://www.bcstudies.com/?q=book-reviews/language-family-stories-bonds-and-belonging>

Sabina Magliocco

2018. "Introduction: Folklore and the Animal Turn." *Journal of Folklore Research* 55(2): 1-7.

2018. "Beyond the Rainbow Bridge: Vernacular Ontologies of Animal Afterlives." *Journal of Folklore Research* 55(2): 39-67.

Bruce Granville Miller

2018. "Relocating the 'peripheral' in Anthropology: Exchanging glances on indigenous social problems in Brazil and Canada." *A View of Anthropology from the Canadian Semi-Periphery, Interfaces Brasil/Canadá* 18(2): 14-31.

David Pokotylo

2018. "Online Public Opinion and Archaeological Heritage Conservation: Case Study from Western Canada." *Relevance and Application of Heritage in Contemporary Society*, edited by Pei Lin Yu, George Smith and Chen Shen, 21-34. New York: Routledge.

Sara Shneiderman

2018. "Temple Building in Secularising Nepal: Materializing Religion and Ethnicity in a State of Transformation." *Tolerance, Secularization, and Democratic Politics in South Asia*, edited by Humeira Iqtidar and Tanika Sarkar, 75-107. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Presentations

Millie Creighton

"Japan and Nigeria's Abuja Project: Envisioning a New African Identity and Global City via Tange Kenzo as an Architectural Visionary", presented at the Africa-Asia: A New Axis of Knowledge 2, international conference, September 20, 2018, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Emily Jean Leischner

"Interrogating Discourses of Invisibility: Insights from Creating a Nuxalk Digital Archive of Museum Belongings", paper presented as part of the panel Seeing Past the Settler Gaze: Objects and Objectivity in the Post-Colonial Archive, Royal Anthropological Institute Conference: Art, Materiality and Representation, June 1-3, 2018, British Museum, UK.

Sara Shneiderman

Roundtable presenter in, “Conducting Field Research: Strategies & Perspectives” for the UBC Migration Cluster Summer School in Migration Research Methods, June 20, 2018, UBC.

“Reconstructing Nepal: Religiosity, Kinship and Infrastructure After the 2015 Earthquakes”, Department of Development Studies, July 9, 2018, Kathmandu University.

“Reconstructing Nepal: Religiosity, Kinship and Infrastructure After the 2015 Earthquakes”, Social Science Baha Research Seminar Series, July 13, 2018.

Roundtable presenter in, “Collaborative Research Projects in the Wake of the 2015 Earthquakes”, Annual Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya, July 26, 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal.

“Expertise, Labour and Mobility in Nepal’s Post-Conflict, Post-Disaster Reconstruction” on the double panel Re/Construction: Expertise, Politics, and Materiality in Nepal’s Ongoing Transformation, Annual Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya, July 27, 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Christopher Smith

“Due North: Intercultural Collaboration, Agency, and the Emergence of Contemporary Alaska Native Art 1960-2018” presented for New Perspectives in Native American Art History and Museum Studies, September 2018, University of Oklahoma.

ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Website: <http://anth.ubc.ca>

Email Addresses:

Anth.Dept@ubc.ca

Anth.Grad@ubc.ca

Anth.Ugrad@ubc.ca



UBC Anthropology Department



@UBCAnth



UBC Anthropology Department

The Department of Anthropology and the University of British Columbia are located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people.

Anthropology News is published monthly.

Please send future contributions to: anth.web@ubc.ca

The material in this bulletin was contributed by the Faculty, Students, Emeriti, Postdocs, Visitors and Staff at the Department of Anthropology, UBC.

Concept, editor, production and design details:

B. Chase

Faculty Advisor:

M. Turin

Department of Anthropology

Faculty of Arts

6303 N.W. Marine Drive

Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

Main Office:

Tel: 604-822-2878

Fax: 604-822-6161