As we close the academic year, we look back and see a time of highs and lows. The loss of Dr. Robert Rhoades, Distinguished Research Professor, former Department Head, colleague and mentor has brought great sadness to those of us within the department and to collaborators and researchers throughout the world. He will live on through the memorial he and his wife, Professor Virginia Nazarea, established to fund pre-dissertation research for students to visit the sites of their projected field work.

Dr. David Hally, after 43 years of serving both the department and Southeastern archaeology, retired on June 1. He continues to work with his Ph.D. students on their progress, as well as pursue his nationally known research on post-A.D. 1000 Mississippian culture of Southeastern U.S. Dr. Hally will also be spending more time with his family; his daughter, Leslye Queen, says the she has a to-do list “a mile long.”

The year’s highlights have been exciting indeed. Our students excel beyond Baldwin Hall’s classrooms. This year, we were delighted to count Tracey Yang, a national Truman Scholarship winner, and Ashley Bozarth, a First Honor Graduate (4.0 GPA throughout her university career) among our undergraduate successes. Among the 36 students who received their A.B. degrees this year, we are proud to recognize twelve cum laude, five summa cum laude, and one magna cum laude honor graduates. The Department of Anthropology was the only UGA Foundation granted two graduate students these exceedingly competitive Graduate Research Fellowships. Carla Hadden, an archaeologist, and Joe Lanning, a cultural anthropologist, will receive $30,000 per year for the next three years. Also this year, six students completed their Ph.D.s and are launching their careers in universities throughout the country: Sarah Hitchner, Jen Shaffer, Shiloh Moates, Eial Dujovny, Rebecca Witter, and Jim Veteto. We are proud and look forward to a great year. Please check our Web site, anthropology.uga.edu, for upcoming events.

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Tracy Yang, a rising senior anthropology major and Honors student from Macon, has been awarded a Harry S. Truman Scholarship, a national award recognizing outstanding juniors who are planning careers in government or other public service. Each scholarship provides up to $30,000 for graduate study. Recipients display outstanding leadership potential and communication skills. The 60 Scholars for 2010 were chosen from among 576 candidates nominated by 245 colleges and universities.

Tracy is involved in many campus organizations and community activities. In her anthropology coursework, she’s explored her interests in health disparities and improving public health with Dr. Susan Tanner. Tracy will continue to work on such issues in graduate school. She hopes to earn M.P.H. and M.D. degrees, which she plans to use in a career as a physician policymaker or a health program administrator.

The Graduate School has awarded its Outstanding Mentoring Award to Dr. Bram Tucker. This award is student-driven, and attests to the great success of his students in discovering research opportunities and attaining external funding through his guidance. Dr. Tucker’s students have won many major awards, including three NSF Graduate Research Fellowships, a Fulbright, and several NSF Dissertation Awards, among others. The graduate students who nominated him for the mentoring award emphasized the quality of his teaching research concepts, which prepare them for fieldwork and grantwriting, as well as his willingness to share his own research as a stepping stone for his students to move forward with their own proposals. Dr. Tucker studies economic, ecological, and evolutionary aspects of subsistence decision-making among rural populations of foragers and farmers, focusing his research in Madagascar; a number of his students also conduct research there.

Ben Steere was one of just 15 University of Georgia teaching assistants who were invited to join the Future Faculty Program for the 2010-2011 academic year. This program is sponsored by the Dean of the Graduate School and coordinated by the Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Georgia. Participants in this program are experienced teaching assistants who have been recognized at the institutional level for their outstanding teaching and are preparing for careers in higher education. The purpose of the program is to provide preparation for future faculty roles, to develop instruction strategies and to increase departmental peer mentoring. Each year, ten to 15 TAs are selected from a variety of disciplines as program participants. These TAs engage in a year-long mentoring experience that includes group discussions on teaching, individual mentoring by faculty members, and mentoring by and for TA peers.

Senior Ashley Bozarth, a double major in both anthropology and French, was selected to receive the Department Head’s Award, which recognizes graduating seniors for outstanding accomplishments in the classroom, research or service. Dr. Stephen Kowalewski, who nominated Ashley, lauded her for having met all three criteria, including producing “publishable quality” research. Ashley graduated this spring as a First Honor Graduate, meaning that she maintained a 4.0 grade-point average throughout her time at UGA; only 16 of 4,000 graduates in spring 2010 accomplished this feat.
Joe Lanning has won the Royal Anthropological Institutes’s “Meaning of Water” International Photography Competition. The photograph of children and an uncompleted irrigation scheme in Malawi is titled “Running Water” and it placed first in the Management and Access category. The photograph (and two other entries by Joe that were voted as finalists) was published on the Discover Anthropology website with accompanying text (www.discoveranthropology.org.uk) and was displayed at the British Museum’s Education Clore Centre as part of London Anthropology Day, held this year on July 8.
The National Science Foundation has singled out the research of two UGA Department of Anthropology students as worthy of investing in over a three-year period. Joe Lanning, a first-year cultural anthropologist, and Carla Haddon, a first-year archaeologist, have been awarded NSF Graduate Research Fellowships. The Graduate Research Fellowship Program annually awards fellowships to “graduate students in science and engineering who exhibit the potential to make significant contributions and innovations in research and teaching.” The award is for $30,000 per year for three years. The selection process for this nationwide program is exceedingly competitive. For 2010, the GRFP awarded 2000 awards. Of these, 24 went to students in the field of cultural anthropology, and just 21 were awarded in archaeology. The University of Georgia had eight winners among scientific disciplines; only the Department of Anthropology was awarded more than one.

Joe Lanning studied and worked in Malawi as both a Peace Corps volunteer and with the University of Rochester for ten years before coming to UGA. His research, “Water as the Commons: Livelihoods, Irrigation and Technology in Rural Malawi,” continues his involvement with the African nation. Joe plans to comparatively examine how households that use common agricultural property adjust livelihood strategies as a reaction to new irrigation technology introduced by international development agencies. Joe’s major professor is Dr. Bram Tucker and he is a member of the Behavioral Ecology and Economic Decisions Laboratory.

Carla Haddon is a native of Florida; her background includes studies of both anthropology and zoology. The convergence of these interests has led her to pursue a career that includes examining the long-term effects and sustainability of invertebrate resource use when accompanied by human site habitation and exploitation. She’s designed a research project that incorporates her experience with coastal archaeology. Carla will be researching the effects of hurricanes on settlement patterns and site abandonment on the Gulf Coast during the Woodland period, which is a term encompassing pre-Columbian cultures from 1000 BCE to 1000 CE in eastern North America. Dr. Elizabeth Reitz is Carla’s major professor, and Carla is a member of the Zooarchaeology Laboratory.

This academic year has been both productive and exciting for Assistant Professor Julie Velásquez Runk. She has been awarded significant funding to extend her explorations of the history and culture of eastern Panama into language preservation through the Documenting Endangered Languages program, a partnership between the National Science Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. This program supports projects to develop and advance knowledge concerning endangered human languages. Made urgent by the imminent death of an estimated half of the 6000-7000 currently used human languages, this effort aims also to exploit advances in information technology. Dr. Velásquez Runk’s project will document the language of the Wounaan, an indigenous people who inhabit eastern Panama and northwestern Colombia. She has worked with the Wounaan for 13 years and will collaborate with researchers from other U.S. universities. Among these, the team has collected sixty years of recorded myths and legends from Colombia and Panama from which to work. The Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) will participate in the partnership as a research host, a non-funding role.

Dr. Velásquez Runk is also Principal Investigator on a 2010 Science and Technological Advancement Grant awarded by the Secretaría Nacional de Ciencia, Tecnología, e Innovación (SENACYT), Panamá. She will use this $14,500 grant to develop, with anthropologists Monica Martínez and Blas Quintero, a bibliographic index on indigenous peoples of Panama to be hosted on the National Library’s website. The grant also funds a formal book launch of the print version.
Graduate Student Matt McDaniel has received the Department of Anthropology Janis Faith Steingruber Student Travel Award for 2010. This award is presented in memory of Ms. Steingruber, whose life and travels, although she pursued a career in library science, were informed by her undergraduate anthropology studies and field work. Matt is using this travel funding to investigate potential field sites in Panama with his major professor, Dr. Julie Velásquez Runk, and to meet university, political and non-governmental organization officials who can assist him with his dissertation research. His field work will compare land tenure regimes among black and indigenous groups in Panama and Colombia.

Dr. Julie Velásquez Runk has been made a 2010-2012 Lilly Teaching Fellow, admitting her to a competitive university-wide program focused on the scholarship of teaching. The UGA Lilly Teaching Fellows Program supports faculty members in developing effective teaching skills and balancing teaching with research and service, among related issues. Dr. Velásquez Runk is particularly interested in learning how to engage undergraduates in large introductory classes and how to best assist graduate students overwhelmed with heavy reading loads.

In July, Ph.D. student Victoria Ramenzoni began a one-year fellowship through the Georgia Oceans and Health Initiative, sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The GOIH grant awards her stipend and travel expenses of over $20,000. Also this July, Victoria attended the Summer Institute on Bounded Rationality, at the prestigious Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin, Germany. Her research concerns subsistence decision-making in fishing communities, where climate and forecasting are factors.

Undergraduate Gianna Gandossi and graduate student Joe Lanning were selected to receive the department’s Melissa Hague Field Study award this year. This award was established in 1994 to honor Melissa Hague, an undergraduate anthropology major who died before she was able to realize her dream of doing field work. With her award, Gianna will attend the Czech American Field School program through the College of DuPage in Illinois, a bioarchaeological field school excavating the Great Moravian state that existed between the ninth to the early tenth century. Joe Lanning, a graduate student whose major professor is Dr. Bram Tucker, will continue his long-term environmental research and conservation efforts in Malawi. Joe is working with international organizations to ensure equitable and safe water access in rural areas.

Charlotte Byram, Trang Kieu-Thi Le, and Tyler Stumpf are this year’s Hague Scholars. Charlotte is a rising junior, and Trang and Tyler will be seniors this year. This scholarship was created in remembrance of Melissa Hague, an anthropology major who died before graduating. Each winner, determined by grade point average and other factors, receives $1,000 toward university tuition and expenses.

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Dr. Pete Brosius initiates another group of students into the Fijian custom of drinking a beverage made from kava root. Kava is of the same genus as black pepper, and the drink made from the root is a mellow relaxant used in both social and ritual gatherings. This student’s trepidation may have something to do with the fact that he’s been cheerfully informed that what he’s about to gulp tastes like muddy dishwater and will numb his tongue, too. What to do when the kava comes your way? Clap once, say “Bula!” and down the proffered shell-full in one gulp, then clap three times.

The 2010 summer Archaeology Field School was a great success. During this intensive eight-week field course, students conducted mapping, survey, and excavations at an important multi-component site on the banks of the Savannah River in eastern Screven County, Georgia. The crew documented evidence of intermittent human occupation at the site ranging from 8,000 years ago to the mid-20th Century. The crew’s efforts also saved critical information on the construction and use of a small Mississippian period (~A.D. 1400) mound that is currently being destroyed by river bank erosion. The field school ended with a brief trip to the recently acquired Singer-Moye mound site in Stewart County, Georgia. The course was directed by Dr. Jared Wood, with assistance by Ben Steere and Pamella Hansford. Field school students included Ashley Benson, Thompson Brock, Amanda Dykes, KC Graham, Amber Knowles, Katie Kraft, Cara Sipprelle, Jared Rogers-Martin, and Tyler Stumpf.

A Day in the Field: an Anthropology Field Methods Expo

Representing the zooarchaeology lab, Carol Colannino-Meeks and Sarah Bergh share a tent with archaeology lab members Ben Steere and Stefan Brannen. Both labs display interesting artifacts and research, but Ben is captivated by the articulated vulture skeleton that frequents the zooarchaeology lab, and attempts to sway its loyalties to archaeology.

Graduate students and faculty presented demonstrations and activities in cultural, biological and physical anthropology and archaeology and zooarchaeology in the Baldwin Hall parking lot on Saturday, April 10. This event was sponsored by AGSO, the Anthropology Society, and the Department of Anthropology, and was coordinated by graduate student Sakura Evans.
The Department of Anthropology mourns the loss of Distinguished Research Professor Robert Rhoades, Ph.D., who died March 24, 2010. He is widely considered a founder of agricultural anthropology. For over thirty years, Dr. Rhoades shaped a career in both academic and applied anthropology, creatively denying some traditional boundaries as he set toward “an engaged and useful anthropology for the 21st century.”

Through work with the International Potato Center, and with the Consultative Group for International Agriculture Research, Dr. Rhoades helped initiate interdisciplinary and participatory approaches to agricultural and natural resource management. In 1982, he wrote a seminal paper with Robert Booth outlining the “farmer-back-to-farmer” model in which they argued that the solution to farm-level technological problems must begin and end with the farmer. Rhoades and Booth based their model on team experience in generating small-scale storage systems that were adopted by thousands of farmers in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This now-classic model is the backbone of most applied research and development efforts.

Dr. Rhoades came to UGA in 1991 as Department Head, and over the next five years the department attained a new visibility, as he implemented new graduate and undergraduate programs, added faculty, established new laboratories and increased external funding by ten times its previous level, while his own research programs brought in close to three million dollars.

In 1994 Dr. Rhoades was appointed to the National Genetic Resources Council, an advisory group to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture regarding the nation’s plant genetic resources. By this time, Dr. Rhoades was an internationally recognized advocate of the preservation of landrace varieties and cultivation methods.

Dr. Rhoades brought together several strands of his life as he promoted local varieties. Born on the family farm in Cotton County, Oklahoma, Dr. Rhoades founded and directed Agrarian Connections (AC), an organization whose goal is restoring rural landscapes and lifeways. He purchased a 312-acre degraded cotton farm in Oglethorpe County, the restoration of which serves as a laboratory for his students. The farm also serves as a setting for vintage log buildings and an environment for heirloom livestock and plants, as well as growing space used by the Southern Seed Legacy (SSL), a network created by Dr. Rhoades and his wife, Virginia Nazarea, also a professor in the UGA anthropology department. This network of Southern gardeners, farmers and seed savers preserves and exchanges native plants, both ornamental and edible. Along with the genetic material of these landrace, graduate students collect from donors the cultivation techniques and personal recollections associated with each contribution, a process Dr. Nazarea calls “memory banking,” and that accords with the farmer-back-to-farmer model.

Even after he became ill with pancreatic cancer, Dr. Rhoades continued to teach from his home and to advise his eight graduate students, often from the hospital. “Bob Rhoades signed off on my dissertation from his hospital bed and I will never be able to repay him for it,” says recent Ph.D. Jim Veteto. Hospitalized throughout the last month of his life, he was surrounded nonetheless by many students, colleagues and friends who came to be with him and support his family. At the time of his death, Dr. Rhoades had active research programs and projects spanning many countries and ethnic groups, including work in Peru, Ecuador, Nepal and the United States, and served on the boards of several international research organizations. Throughout this research, Dr. Rhoades worked with indigenous groups to understand underlying sociocultural and demographic pressures influencing people’s decision-making toward the environment and agriculture. He made his work accessible to lay readers through his writing for magazines; one National Geographic article on the world food supply and biodiversity brought him the National Science Writers Award.

On March 26, a transition rites ceremony for Robert Rhoades was held at the State Botanical Garden’s Day Chapel. The simplicity of the high-ceilinged light-flooded space built from native woods was in keeping with his ideals of embracing the natural world. As students, colleagues and friends walked in, they saw Dr. Rhoades’ trademark hats displayed, and smiled. His casket was draped with the flags of the many people with whom he’d invested his life: Ecuador, Peru, Nepal, the Philippines. Following the service Dr. Rhoades’ wife Virginia, son Tristan and daughters, Natasha and Dani, invited those present to join them at Oconee Hill Cemetery for the interment, then to the cemetery’s Sexton House for a luncheon.

The Department of Anthropology will honor the life and work of Dr. Robert Rhoades in a memorial service open to anyone who wishes to celebrate his time with us, at 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 1 at the University Chapel. We welcome contributions of photographs or memories, and tributes that will be included in our recognition of the impact he made upon so many of our lives.
Farewell But Not Goodbye

Our annual Recognition Gathering and Reception this April was the perfect time to gather students, alumni, colleagues and former faculty members to honor Professor David Hally on his retirement—after 43 years—from the Department of Anthropology in June. Archaeologists from throughout the country contributed words of praise for Dr. Hally and the lasting importance of his research covering every aspect of Mississippian political and social life, as well as stories about working with him as student or colleague. However, the words that most moved the large crowd present in Baldwin Hall, to both laughter and a few sniffles, came from Dr. Hally. He ruefully considered the many congratulations sent his way, noting “You spend your whole career, so much of your life, climbing, climbing, climbing to get to where you are, then you’re there. You retire and it’s straight down. What’s to congratulate?” After sharing reflections upon and memories of his years of research, teaching, archaeological field work and writing, he concluded his remarks with a graceful gesture. Long past the time when PowerPoint swallowed up traditional classroom sounds—the rasp of chalk on a board, the whisk of a transparency on glass and the hum of a slide projector—these sounds lived on in Dr. Hally’s rooms. Before he took his seat, Dr. Hally walked to LaBau Bryan, the longest-serving staff member, and turned in the projector clicker. LaBau wasn’t the only one with a lump in her throat. On these pages, we feature tributes and stories by those who have known Dr. Hally and his work throughout the years. Many of these pieces are extracts from longer contributions which have been collected and given to Dr. Hally, his family and his colleagues.

Dr. Stephen Kowalewski, Professor
Department of Anthropology, UGA

David Hally enjoys the highest respect among his peers in North American archaeology for his seminal research on Native American societies. Few scholars have made so many important contributions at so many scales of phenomena. The significance of Hally’s research transcends Southeastern archaeology. His capstone book, King: The Social Archaeology of a Late Mississippian Town in Northwestern Georgia, is a grand and awesome monument of archaeological science. Throughout the time when David Hally has been publishing wonderful insights and discoveries, he has rendered the longest and most distinguished record of service to the department, selflessly giving to his own and to other students, as graduate coordinator, undergraduate coordinator, major professor, teacher, advisor, mentor, and wonderful colleague.

Dr. Adam King, Research Associate Professor
S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

“When I was his graduate assistant, while working at the Leake Site near Cartersville I tried to play a joke on Dave. While he was sleeping, I and some accomplices took the blue Toyota Land Cruiser to get a paint job. A toothy shark mouth—made famous by WWII fighter pilots—chomped on each front quarter panel. It was an all night affair that involved some beer… When Dave came out, we the guilty waited with great anticipation to see his reaction. He glanced at the truck, did a double take, said nothing and pushed on with the day ahead. He never said anything about that paint job, either that summer or to this day. We never tried anything like that again.”

Dr. Maureen Meyers,
University of Kentucky. Former graduate student of Dr. Hally’s

Dave is an incredible teacher. To me, the mark of a good teacher is this abiding and sustaining interest, this thirst for knowledge. It is what keeps students interested in the topic, something I try to remember as I teach. Dave is a great mentor in all respects. I was struck when as a student he would take the time to ask how things were going, to let me know that grad school was difficult, as was marriage, another odyssey I had just embarked upon… His support was invaluable. Many others, will, again and again, honor his research, so I want to recognize the many other facets that Dave Hally brought to the UGA Anthropology department, and the greater archaeology world, because without these qualities we would all be much poorer.
Dr. Hally, continued

Dr. Jared Wood, RPA
Manager, UGA Laboratory of Archaeology

David Hally is committed to his profession, to his research, and to his students. His contributions to the field of southeastern archaeology are commendable, his work remains extremely relevant, and he has not yet thrown in the towel. He was always gracious with his time and effort in helping me. He truly helped me get to where I am today and I am extremely grateful.

There is a “Field Dave” in addition to the “Classroom Dave,” and he still has that spark. Rest assured that he smiles with shovel or trowel in hand, can move truckloads of dirt, can sift for artifacts for hours on end, and is physically fit enough to embarrass us “young” folks. It takes someone with enthusiasm and dedication to remain this way through decades of service and the rigors of academia.

Dr. John Chamblee
Information Manager, Coweeta LTER

Like many undergraduate students, my first introduction to Dr. David Hally was through his Introduction to Archaeology course. Near the end of the class, Dave (Dr. Hally to us) switched from talking about the nuts and bolts of archaeological practice to discussing how archaeology is used to understand people -- to do anthropology. That “bottom-up” format followed the textbook, but, during that lecture, I came to a surprising realization. Nearly the entire course, including that lecture, had been taught using examples from past experiences. From excavation basics, to water screening, to stratified sampling, to artifact classification and regional analysis -- all of the in-class examples were cases in which Dr. Hally seemed to have been involved! Sixteen years have passed since I completed that course and a dozen years have passed since Dave supervised my salvage and publication of the Plant Hammond Mound excavation records. But after all that time, I am still in awe of the knowledge and experience Dave has at his disposal, not to mention his attention to detail and commitment to robust archaeological analysis. I’m also grateful to have gotten to know a good and honorable man.

Dr. Tom Foster, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Director, Antonio J. Waring Archaeological Laboratory, U. of West Georgia. Former undergraduate student of Dr. Hally’s

For almost twenty years, he has been a mentor, a colleague, and a tremendous impact on my career. From the days of my being a pestering undergraduate, Dave supported my research. There was one time that he had to remind me that he had OTHER students that he had to help also. He supported my application to graduate school and then my many applications for jobs over the years. From Dave, I learned about field archaeology and empirical research. He was always gracious with his time and effort in helping me. He truly helped me get to where I am today and I am extremely grateful.

Dr. David Hally on the Salinas River, Mexico, 1962

Jennifer Messer, Development Director, Social Sciences, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the Anthropology department and encourage all of you who have not made a gift yet to please do so! Your role as an alum and friend of Anthropology is crucial towards assisting the department in a variety of ways. Your gift, at any level, supports opportunities for students and faculty including lectures, visiting scholars, as well as our alumni outreach, and many other programs. The majority of support for these endeavors comes from private support.

Dr. David Hally on the Salinas River, Mexico, 1962

If you have not done so, please make your annual gift to the Anthropology Department’s fund. Your gift will
• provide needed funding for lectures and other departmental programs;
• assist students and faculty with funds for travel for research;
• allow us the flexibility we need to react to significant state budget cuts

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to help the department. Please contact me at 542-0068 or at jlmesser@uga.edu if you have any questions regarding making your gift.
BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS


ARTICLES PUBLISHED


CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS


Williams, Mark, and M. Jared Wood. 2010. Geochemical Analysis of the Copeland Site (9GE18), Greene County, Georgia. Paper presented at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Georgia Academy of Science, Columbus, Georgia.


Colaninno, Carol A. 2010. “Evidence for Year-round Occupation at Late Archaic Shell Rings of the Georgia Coast: Data from Oxygen Isotopic Profiles and Seasonally Sensitive Vertebrate Fauna.” Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis, Missouri.


