

# ANSO News

For alumni & friends  
of Anthropology & Sociology  
at Williams

**Issue 3, Spring 2000**

## In this issue:

[The boom continues](#)

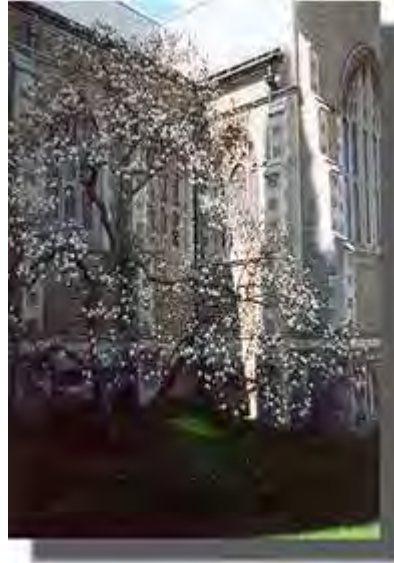
[Student activities](#)

[News from ANSO alums](#)

[Faculty news](#)

[New faculty, 2000-01](#)

[Final view](#)



Thompson Chapel from SE side, with magnolia in bloom.  
Photo: Michael F. Brown

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Major declarations in Anthropology and Sociology continue at a rapid clip, sustaining the growth registered last year. Fourteen members of the Class of 2002 declared majors in Anthropology, while seven declared Sociology majors.

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Peripatetic ANSO alums continue their journeys, and some of them take the rash step of pursuing advanced degrees in Sociology or Anthropology. [\(More\)](#)

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*On Campus*, a Williams publication issued for commencement and alumni reunions, featured a story about Meg Davis, Class of 2000, a sociology major. [\(More\)](#)

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In the fall of 2000, ANSO will welcome two new sociologists to the department. [\(More\)](#)

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The ANSO faculty continues to make news, at Williams and beyond. [\(More\)](#)

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We welcome cards, email, and photographs (digitized, if possible) from ANSO alums. Please remember, though, that all correspondence about changes of address should be directed to the offices of [Williams College](#)



[Alumni Relations.](#) Until next time, happy trails!

Department of Anthropology & Sociology, Stetson Hall, Williams  
College, Williamstown, MA 01267 USA

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News about students majoring in Anthropology and Sociology at Williams.



While vacationing in August, 1999, Prof. Michael Brown came across this photograph of Liz Hoover '01, a double major in Anthropology and Psychology, in the Waterville, Maine, newspaper.

This year's winners of senior prizes were announced at the [annual ANSO spring picnic](#). The Robert Friedrichs prize in Sociology was awarded to Meg E. Davis, whose senior thesis, *Innocent creatures and autonomous beings: The dichotomous images of American children*, earned her departmental honors. The James Orton Prize in Anthropology was awarded to R. Chris Foxwell. Both will receive checks for \$100 thanks to an endowment established by anonymous donors.

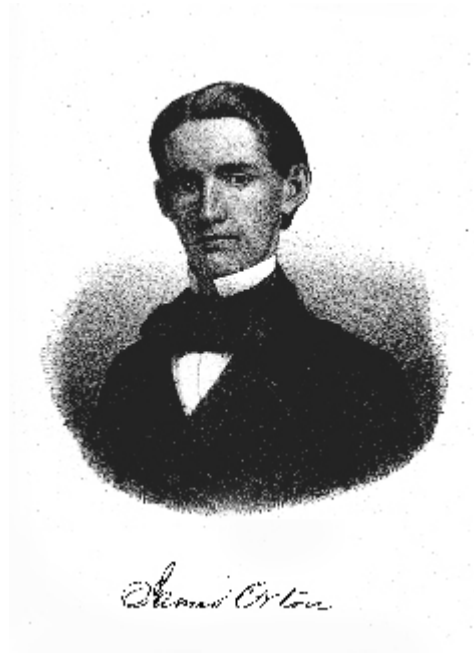


Meg was the [subject of an article in the Commencement/Reunions issue of On Campus](#), a Williams College publication.

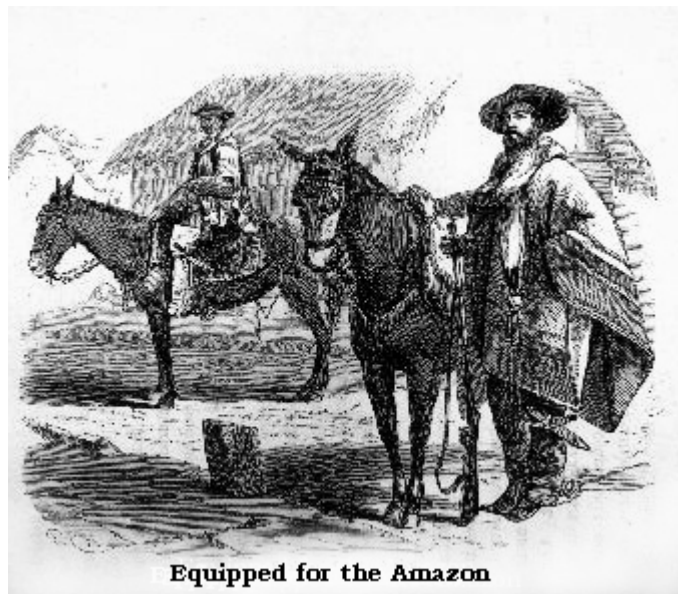
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So who are the people whose names grace the department's two student awards?


As many alumni will know, Robert Friedrichs, now Professor Emeritus of Sociology, was the founding member of the Williams sociology program. He continues to live in Williamstown and to summer on Martha's Vineyard.



James Orton, Class of 1855, was a minister and renowned explorer of western South America. His travels resulted in a best-seller, *The Andes and the Amazon, or Across the Continent of South America* (1870). Orton traveled to South America again in 1877, where he died while crossing Lake Titicaca on route to the city of Puno. We do not encourage our students to follow his example with regard to aquatic travel.



The endowment for both of these awards came from the parents of a Williams graduate who greatly appreciated the teaching of Bob



Friedrichs.

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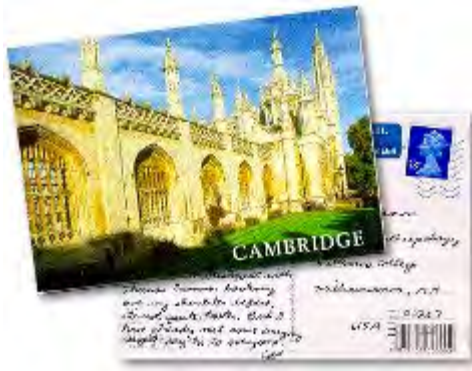
## News from ANSO alums

The Department has just heard from **Emily Williams '99**, who is working for Teach for America in the Mississippi Delta. (Photo below.) "It's been everything I hoped it would be," she reports. "While I do feel prepared by my Soc degree to think and *reflect* on the social phenomena surrounding me, I was not quite prepared to actually DEAL with them--much less TEACH." Emily encourages Williams students interested in working on a thesis or WSP 99 related to the Mississippi Delta to contact her (emilyjwilliams@hotmail.com). "I'd love to host an ambitious young researcher," she says.



While in Michigan to give a lecture at the U of M, **Michael Brown** had the pleasure of meeting **Sallie Han, Williams '92**. She and her husband, **Jason Antrosio '92**, are living in Ann Arbor while she finishes her doctorate in anthropology and Jason, who has just completed his doctorate in anthropology at Johns Hopkins, continues his research and tests the job market. "If you have any students interested in studying U.S. middle class families," Sallie writes in a followup email message, "please let them know that there are a bunch of people here--including me--who are doing just that at the [Center for the Ethnography of Everyday Life](#)."

**Cat Bolten '98**, who studied Anthropology at Cambridge last year, has been accepted to the doctoral program in Anthropology at the University of Michigan. She also managed to earn a place on the British national kickboxing team, where she acquired skills that will serve her well in academic life . . . As if that weren't enough, Cat reports that upon return to the US in September 2000 she managed snag a project consultancy in Kigali to conduct an evaluation of the UNHCR projects on 'co-existence' of former combatants and refugees in Rwanda. Then early next year she will begin three or four months of research in Ivory Coast on the post-conflict needs of women and girls in Sierra Leone, part of a joint project sponsored by the World Food Programme and the World Bank.



**Paul Ham and Matt Libby, both Class of 1997**, stopped by Stetson Hall on their way to meet clients in the North Berkshires, which is having its own Internet boomlet. They have both left their previous jobs to sell software that Paul helped to invent while developing his own web portal, [www.yourcompass.com](http://www.yourcompass.com).

Michael Brown ran into **Leslie Heald '93** in Williamstown last spring. She is finishing her doctorate in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon. She recently married Rene Vellanoweth, an archaeologist.

**Jennifer Patico '94** is wrapping up her doctorate in Anthropology at NYU. At last year's annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Chicago, she presented a paper entitled "Consumption, Comparison, and 'Crisis': Everyday Narratives of Civilization and Progress in Russia." Other anthropologists on or near the job market include **Yuet (Adam) Chau '93**, who has finished his doctorate at Stanford, and **Wendi Haugh '91**, who is writing her dissertation at Penn.

**Cindy McPherson Frantz '91** recently mentioned to Prof. Peter Just that she has accepted a two-year Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at Amherst College after completing her doctorate in Psychology at U Mass. We're glad that Amherst decided to raise its standards so dramatically by hiring Cindy.

**Jane Roper '96** writes to say that she hasn't lost the travel bug despite the demands of her job as an advertising copywriter. When we heard from her, she was just embarking on a three month trip to South America, following in the footsteps of James Orton--but we hope returning safely from Lake Titicaca. (*See Student News for the Orton story.*)

Finally, **Mac Stocco '98**, an Astrophysics major at Williams, contacted Bob Jackall to say that he has been accepted into the doctoral program in Sociology at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

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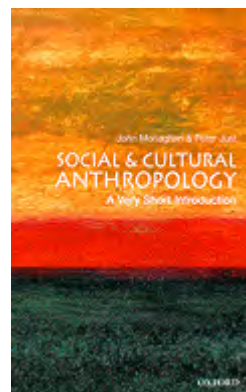




Anthropology & Sociology faculty, 1999-2000. Left to right: Carolyn Hsu, David Edwards, Gilbert Tostevin, Peter Just, Gilliane Monnier, Michael Brown, Robert Jackall. Missing: Jean Bacon.



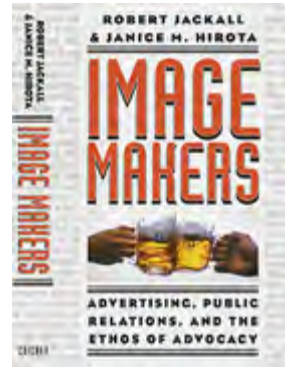
Recent issues of the [\*Williams Record\*](#) have included profiles of various members of the department and their classes. [Bob Jackall's new course on violence](#) was covered in March. [Michael Brown](#) was the subject of a faculty profile in January. Brown (pictured to left engaged in ethnographic observation of the non-participant variety at the Hash Bash, Ann Arbor's notorious annual celebration of altered states) was also mentioned in the The University of Michigan's [\*University Record\*](#) for his contribution to a round-table discussion at the annual meeting of the Society for Ethnobiology in March.



Members of the department continue to be active on the publishing front. Peter Just recently co-authored [\*Social and Cultural Anthropology: A Very Short Introduction\* \(Oxford U Press\)](#) and expects to see *Dou Donggo Justice* in print before year's end.



Bob Jackall and his wife Janice Hirota, an anthropologist, will see [\*Image Makers: Advertising, Public Relations, and the Ethos of Advertising\*](#) (U Chicago Press) in bookstores this summer. Jim Nolan and Dave Edwards are awaiting publication of new books at Princeton University Press and the University of California Press, respectively.



**Counting titles already published or in production, and excluding series editorships, the lifetime publication record of the seven regular members of ANSO now stands at 19 books--remarkable productivity for a liberal-arts college or even for a major research university.**

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Antonia Foias will be excavating in the Peten region of Guatemala during the final semester of her sabbatical leave, Fall 2000. Her [research](#), sponsored by the National Science Foundation, will explore economic relations in the Classic Maya period.

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Jean Bacon continues her applied research in the North Berkshires. Among other projects, she is undertaking, with support from the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, a study of the quality of medical care provided to uninsured patients. She is also studying substance-abuse prevention strategies in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Health.

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Jim Nolan, who returns from his Fulbright year at the University of Loughborough this summer, will spend the fall at the Oakley Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences completing his current project on the drug-court movement in the UK and the US.

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Members of the department are supervising the summer research of several Williams students thanks to a new program funded by the Dean of the Faculty. These projects range from field research on court proceedings in West Africa to a study of anti-gang policing tactics in Worcester, Massachusetts.

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Judith Locke, who has long taught the successful Winter Study Period course Anthropology & Sociology 012 "Children and the Courts," [was recently named an associate justice of the Juvenile Court, Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#). Despite her new responsibilities, she plans to offer the WSP course again in January 2001.

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Carolyn Hsu, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology in 1999-2000, has



accepted a job at Colgate University. Gilbert Tostevin and Gilliane Monnier, both Visiting Assistant Professors of Anthropology, will continue at Williams for an additional year.

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**New Faculty,  
2000-2001**

Gilliane Monnier and Gilbert Tostevin, both of whom were awarded their doctorates this spring, are staying on for a second year as visiting faculty to teach courses in human evolution, prehistory, the dynamics of culture contact, and the study of material culture.



Eileen Crist, currently on the faculty at Virginia Tech, will be joining the department as Assistant Professor of Sociology in September. The author of a recent book exploring the way scientists talk about animals ([\*Images of Animals: Anthropomorphism, Skepticism, and Animal Mind\*](#), Temple University Press, 1999) she brings to the department expertise in the sociology of science, the environmental movement, and social theory. She is a graduate of Haverford College and completed her doctorate at Boston University.

Christian J. Churchill, who was just awarded his doctorate by Brandeis University, will be coming aboard as Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology in the fall semester of the 2000-2001 academic year. He will be offering three courses: ANSO 216 *Community and Society*, SOC 256 *Self and Society*, and SOC 309 *Literature and Society*. He is a graduate of Marlboro College.



## Final View



Temple, Guangzhou, China  
December 1999  
Photo credit: Michael F. Brown

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