

## in this issue:

Public Engagement	1
Christmas Quiz	1
Publications	2
New Head of Department	2
Conferences	3
Tuesday Seminars	3
New Department Members	3
Grants	4
Alumni News	4

## Public Engagement

6 first year anthropology students Joana Pereira, Amelia Yates, Maeve Devers, Phoebe Marsh, Rifka Fehr, Olive Howland Milne, Alfred Lewis, Hannah Amey and their lecturer, **Rebecca Prentice** completed a 6-week “fashion fast” from March to April 2019. They committed to wearing only 6 items of clothing for 6 weeks, while reflecting on the relationship between labour, consumption, and the environment in global garment supply chains. As students on the module, ‘Anthropology of Exchange, Money and Markets,’ they took an ‘auto-ethnography’ approach by using their experiences to probe anthropological debates on class, consumption, selfhood, aspiration, cleanliness, global activism, feminist solidarity, and more and blogged about their efforts. They asked their supporters to donate to Labour Behind the Label, a UK-based organisation that pressures companies to take responsibility for workers’ rights throughout the entirety of their supply chains and they raised 694 pounds.



Rebecca and 1st year students



Lyndsay at the workshop in Kenya

In August 2019, **Lyndsay McLean** participated to a three-day interactive workshop organised by the women’s rights organisation, CREAM (Centre for Rights Education and Awareness) in Nairobi, Kenya in order to develop a new programme on the prevention of violence against women. The workshop highlighted the possibility for women to live with dignity, safety and respect.

**Margaret Sleeboom-Faulkner’s** new research paper warned of the downward spiral of international standards caused by the relaxing of regulations for regenerative medicines like stem cell treatments. The story was picked up widely across medical press, reaching a global audience through *Medical Express*, *BioEdge*, *Science Daily* and *Innovation Toronto*.

A workshop organised by **Evan Killick**, SHARE-Amazonica, Intercultural Association of Atalaya and the indigenous university UCSS-NOPOKI in 2017 has been pivotal in the campaign to get Ashéninka language recognised by the Peruvian government on 2 May 2019. Ashéninka children will now be taught and provided with educational materials in their own language. 11,000 people speak Ashéninka in Peru.



## Christmas Quiz

The second of the Anthropology Christmas Quizzes took place on 6 December Friday at Global Studies Resource Centre with the participation of faculty members and 40 undergraduate and postgraduate students. We enjoyed free drinks, pizzas, prizes and a fun social evening.



## Publications

### New Books and Edited Books out in 2019

**Maya Unnithan's** book *Fertility, Health and Reproductive Politics: Re-imagining Rights in India* was published by Routledge in April 2019.

**Nigel Eltringham's** book *Genocide Never Sleeps: Living Law at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda* was published by Cambridge University Press in September 2019.

**Paul Boyce** edited with E. J. Gonzalez-Polledo (Goldsmiths) and Silvia Posocco (Birkbeck) a new volume titled *Queering Knowledge: Analytics, Devices and Investments after Marilyn Strathern* as part of Routledge Series "Theorising Ethnography", published in September 2019.



### New edited journal volumes

**Meike Fechter** and **Anke Schwittay** co-edited the Special Issue of *Third World Quarterly* (Vol 40 (10)) on "Citizen Aid and Everyday Humanitarianism". The collection brings together interdisciplinary research on small-scale, privately funded forms of aid and development under the umbrella term citizen aid and grassroots humanitarianism. The volume engages with historical perspectives on 'demotic humanitarianism', questions of legitimacy and their apparent lack of professionalisation, motivations of their founders, the role of personal connections, as well as the importance of digital media for brokerage and fundraising.

**Peter Luetchford** edited with Giovanni Orlando the new issue of *Research in Economic Anthropology* (Vol. 39) "The Politics and Ethics of the Just Price: Ethnographies of Market Exchange" (Emerald). "The volume is the first systematic attempt to address the ancient debate on just price through the use of qualitative empirical research, particularly ethnography. It comprises a substantial introduction that sets out the terms of the debate, proposing four different approaches to the just price, plus eight case studies based on fieldwork carried out in four different continents (Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America), ranging from topics such as fair trade, human

rights and recycling, to organic agriculture, the rose oil industry, rural and urban marketplaces."

**Magnus Marsden** edited with Till Mostowlansky (Institute of Graduate Studies, Geneva) a Special Issue of the *Journal of Eurasian Studies* (2019, vol. 10). Entitled 'Whither West Asia' the Special Issue brings attention to the historical connections between the societies and cultures of the Middle East and those of Eurasia. It argues that the notion of West Asia is analytically helpful for students of Asia in that challenges the tendency of scholarship to focus on east-west ties and brings into play as well those that connect the region's northern and southern tiers. The Special Issue arises out of a conference held organised by the Sussex Asia Centre in May 2017.

**Magnus Marsden** edited with Madeleine Reeves (University of Manchester) a Special Issue of *Modern Asian Studies* (2019, vol. 53), based on a panel convened by Marsden and Reeves at the Inter-Asian conference held in Seoul in April 2016. The Special Issue explores the role played by 'marginal hubs' in the forging of inter-Asian connectivity and advances the concept of conviviality for understanding the specific types of sociality that emerge in such settings.

## New Head of Department



Having come to the end of his 3-year tenure, Professor Geert de Neve has been replaced as Head of the Anthropology Department by Professor **Jon Mitchell**. Jon Mitchell has worked at Sussex since 1997, having

completed his PhD at the University of Edinburgh. He was an undergraduate at Sussex in the late 1980s. Jon's research has principally involved fieldwork in the Mediterranean island of Malta, looking at politics, religion, and the relationship between the two. His current work tries to understand religious experience from the perspective of embodiment and sensory studies. He currently teaches the third year option The Anthropology of Europe, but has taught a range of different modules, both disciplinary and interdisciplinary, over the years. As well as his role, he takes over Geert's office - C228 - and is keen that all members of the Sussex Anthropology community feel welcome to come and talk to him about, well, whatever they want to.

## Conferences

**Magnus Marsden** and **Saheira Sha** organised a conference in the Chinese city of Yiwu. The conference presented key findings of the ERC project - TRODITIES - of which Marsden is the PI. It was attended by Chinese academics, think tank directors, and leaders in the city of Yiwu, China. This is the third such conference organised by Marsden for the ERC project in China. The focus of this year's event was on the role played by trust and mistrust in the formation of trading networks. Papers presented sought to assess what policy makers in the city could do to further promote the activities of the thousands of international traders - mostly from Africa and Asia - based in Yiwu.

Along with **Marina Marouda** (Sussex) Vera Skrsvkaja (University of Copenhagen) **Magnus Marsden** organised a panel entitled at the Asian Dynamics Conference held in Copenhagen in June 2019. The panel was entitled "In Motion: Discovering and Analysing Inter-Asian Milieu" and was attended by scholars from Cambridge, Copenhagen, Singapore.

**Wendy Ashall** co-hosted the annual conference for the Foundation Year Network, which engaged critically with the "deficit model", the assumption that students lack skills, knowledge or cultural capital while ignoring systemic factors at play. Organised by a local organising committee composed of Foundation practitioners from across the university, the conference was attended by 120 delegates with 42 papers delivered. Charlotte Morris (CHEER) facilitated a thought-provoking workshop with Wendy Garnham (Sussex), *Mind the Gap? Identifying and responding to the mental well-being needs of Foundation Year students*. Wendy Ashall delivered a presentation, Where

is the deficit? based on her doctoral research. A notable theme of the conference was the degree to which Foundation practitioners view students' lived experiences as an asset to draw on, rather than a deficit to be remedied.



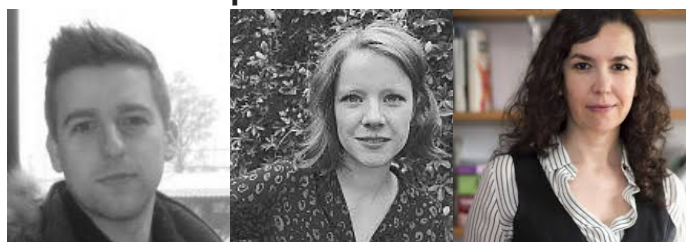
ASA Conference 2019

**Margaret Sleeboom-Faulkner** and **James McMurray** organised and hosted a whole-day panel at the 2019 ASA conference. The panel *Ethics, Power and Consent in Ethnographic Fieldwork*, brought together eleven international researchers to explore if issues of confidentiality and informed consent in ethnographic fieldwork are the same under different constellations of power. Papers included discussions of how ethics apply when working with elites, when working in total institutions such as prisons, and in authoritarian states such as China. Contributing papers are now being gathered for publication in a special issue.

## Tuesday Seminars

Anthropology Tuesday Seminars were co-hosted in Fall 2019 by the Social Science and Ethics Group (Sussex Ethics). The Group is co-directed by **Matthew Doyle**, **James McMurray**, **Santiago Ripoll** and works to develop a platform for the collaborative study of both the social science of ethics and the ethics of social science. Apart from anthropologists working in the field of ethics, the interdisciplinary Seminar Series hosted a philosopher, a primatologist and a neuroscientist.

## New Department members



On 1 September 2019, **Agathe Mora** (PhD. Edinburgh) and **Demet Dinler** (PhD. SOAS) were appointed as fixed term Lecturers in Social Anthropology to teach Human Rights and MA modules in Anthropology respectively. **Benjamin Hunter** (PhD. King's College) was appointed as Lecturer in International Development.



The first Ethics Seminar with James Laidlaw

## Grants

Together with Kate Howland (Sussex Informatics) and Max Martin (Sussex Global Studies), **Filippo Osella** was awarded a UKRI-GCRF Equitable Resilience Programme grant for the two-year research project “Forecasting with fishers: co-producing knowledge for early warning of extreme weather events on the coast of South India”. Bringing together small-scale fishers with weather forecasters and government agencies, the project will devise, test and promote effective means for the co-production and communication of accurate weather forecasts, thus increasing resilience of the fishers amidst a trend of extreme and hazardous weather conditions in a changing climate. This research will be part of a larger effort by the Sussex Sustainability Research Programme (SSRP) to provide science relevant for implementing the SDGs in seventeen low and medium income countries. At the same time, it builds on and contributes to the expertise and scholarship of the Sussex Asia Centre and the School of Global Studies.

**Geert De Neve** and **Grace Carswell** are part of a successful GCRF grant application entitled “Challenging Inequalities: An Indo-European Perspective”. This is a large GCRF grant led by people in Delhi, and involving different European partners. The UK part involves Warwick, LSE and Sussex, and is ESRC funded.

**Alice Wilson** was awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship (2019-2020) for her book project “Defeated Revolutionaries, Lasting Legacies: Dhufar’s Afterlife of Revolution”. Based on ethnographic fieldwork in Oman, the book examines how kinship practices and everyday socialising of some veterans generate ongoing social legacies of Dhufar’s defeated revolution.

## Alumni News

**Grainne Farrell** (MA Human Rights, Sussex) authored a report “Children Stuck in Limbo, Examining the Vulnerability of the Unaccompanied Minors in Northern France” published in September 2019 by Refugee Rights Europe, a charity devoted to policy and advocacy work by facilitating collaboration among grassroots groups. The report is based on Grainne’s master dissertation and includes her accounts from the ground in Calais and Dunkirk. It underlines a case of extreme neglect and failure to fulfil the duty of care towards unaccompanied minors. The report makes recommendations for safe and legal passage ways and calls for a commitment to relocation of children from European locations to the UK.



**Rhys Lewis** (BA Anthropology, Sussex, 2015) was awarded a fellowship by One World Media to produce an ethnographic film “Tixinda: The Purple Snail”. The film tells the story of Mixtec people who live in Oaxaca, Mexico and built a peculiar bond with nature through their traditional use of the ink of a purple sea snail. Mixtec extract the dye from the snail without harming it and apply to threads of yarn to produce fabric. This local tradition and snail’s habitat are currently under threat due to industrial manipulation and touristic development. For the film, which aims to raise awareness about cultural and environmental sustainability, Rhys and his colleagues raised 2,609 pounds via a crowdfunding campaign.

**Soontree Siriintawong** (MA Anthropology, Sussex, 2015), a PhD Candidate in Anthropology at the National University of Singapore, continues to work with Shan migrants living in Thailand. Shan ethnic group has been influenced by the deep political and ethnic conflicts in Burma and fought for autonomy and self-governance since independence from British rule. Soontree’s PhD follows her MA dissertation and examines the multiple survival strategies of these stateless people with special focus on Shan generation who were born and raised in Thai society.

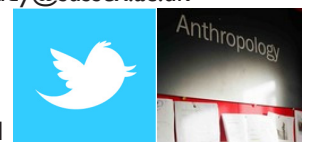
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