This year’s message can be uncharacteristically brief, as the vitality and accomplishments of the faculty and our wonderful students are well-described in this year’s newsletter – our most comprehensive yet! Writing as the department’s co-Chairs – each with a six month turn of duty – we simply can’t recall a year in which SOSA has drawn such distinction. We see this especially in terms of the success of our talented prize winning students, but also in terms of faculty productivity.

As if to drive this point home, exciting news about one of our MA candidates came as we were in final edits. Emma Feltes, who graduated this May with an MA in Social Anthropology, is this year’s recipient of the Governor General’s Medal for the Humanities and Social Sciences. Emma rose to the top of this year’s nominees to obtain this faculty-wide distinction in a competition adjudicated by a special interdisciplinary committee of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Her MA thesis, supervised by Dr. Brian Noble, analyzed the “Memorial Sir Wilfred Laurier,” written by the Interior Chiefs in 1910 and commemorated in 2012. To produce the thesis, Emma worked with such eminent First Nations’ leaders as Arthur Manuel, a man who is currently serving as Chair of the Global Caucus of Indigenous Peoples at the UN Permanent Forum in New York. Indeed, news of Emma’s award spread among Indigenous interveners at the May 2012 UN Forum. Congratulations Emma. We are very proud of you and indeed, of all our SOSA graduates, past and present, who are making their impact felt in a broad variety of workplaces and community settings. A selection of alumni reports is included below. We hope to expand upon this section next year…so let us know what you are up to!

One other item we wish to ‘flag’ is a new initiative by SOSA graduate students: the inaugural graduate symposium, planned for September 2012. Based on what we’ve seen so far, we anticipate this will be a regular event on the SOSA calendar. Congratulations to Eric Smith, Brian Campbell and their team for encouraging dialogue in an event that will surely be appreciated by grad students at all stages of their studies. We also want to commend the dynamic and creative team who organized the SOSA Undergraduate Student Society calendar this year. We know how hard our students have to work academically and in paid jobs to support their studies. Anuja Siwakoti, Anthony Clements, Brendan Harvey, Brittany Larsen, Melissa Boulanger and Megan Gehnon – your professors thank you for making the department a more engaging and hospitable place for your fellow undergrads, and indeed for the faculty as well. For those of you who are graduating this year, do please keep in touch with us. I predict your talents will not go unnoticed in your respective career choices.

Lindsay DuBois
(Acting) Chair July –December 2011

Pauline Gardiner Barber
Chair (return sabbatical, January 2012)
**DR. PAULINE GARDINER BARBER**

Dr. Barber was on sabbatical from July to December 2011. Her sabbatical began with an Erasmus Mundus Visiting Scholar award at the University of Leipzig, Germany. There, she worked with graduate students in the Global Studies MA programme and gave several invited talks.

In Fall 2011, she completed EU funded research in Italy with European Filipino migrant organizations. She presented papers at the Canadian Anthropology Society conference and in an executive session on Mobility and Cosmopolitanism at the American Anthropological Association conference in November 2011. Two edited volumes were concluded during the sabbatical leave: *Migration in the 21st Century: Political Economy and Ethnography* (Barber, P.G, and W. Lem eds.) and *Confronting Capital: Critique and Engagement in Anthropology* (Barber, P.G., B. Leach, and W. Lem eds.), both in press with Routledge and scheduled for publication later in 2012.

Pauline returned to her position as Chair in Winter 2012. She visited Manila during the February break to scope out a new research project on Philippine-Canada migration. She gave two papers at the International Studies Association conference in San Diego at the end of term. These papers were based on research which compared immigration pathways into Canada through the Provincial Nominee programmes in Manitoba, BC and Nova Scotia. This is a collaborative project (with Alexandra Dobrowolsky of Saint Mary’s University) funded by SSHRC and the Atlantic Metropolis Centre. SOSA doctoral students Catherine Bryan, Sinziana Chira and Natasha Hanson have also received research support and conference travel for their participation in this project.

**DR. DONALD CLAIRMONT**

Dr. Clairmont, Director of the Atlantic Institute of Criminology, has been recognized with a Research Award by the Canadian Criminal Justice Association (CCJA) for his work on a number of projects: in particular, for his study on Violence and Public Safety in the Halifax Regional Municipality (http://halifax.ca/council/mayor/RoundtableonViolence.html.) This recognition, and the work it celebrates, is only the most recent in his long and truly impressive career which includes path-breaking work on Africville and the Marshall Inquiry. Dr. Clairmont, who retired in 2004, is Professor Emeritus of the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology. He continues his work in public policy research.

**DR. LINDSAY DUBOIS**

Dr. DuBois is developing a new project on Argentina’s Universal Child Benefit program. She has submitted a paper, “The Deserving Poor: Child Recipients of Social Welfare Policy in Post-Neoliberal Argentina,” for a panel on Distribution and Abandonment in Worlds Without Work at the American Anthropological Association conference in November 2012. She was elected to the board of SUNTA (Society for Urban, National and Transnational/Global Anthropology) as a Councillor for 2011 to 2014.

**DR. LIZ FITTING**

Dr. Fitting has been living in Bogotá, Colombia this past year conducting interviews with activists about transgenic free zones, as well as starting preliminary research on urban agriculture in the city. Her book, *The Struggle for Maize: Campesinos, Workers, and Transgenic Corn in the Mexican Countryside*, was published in early 2011. This summer, a Japanese edition of her book is due out along with a Spanish version of her chapter from Gerardo Otero’s book *Food for the Few*. Liz also published an update of the debate over transgenic corn in AAA news (January 6, 2012.) She continues her editorial duties for the Review Section of the *Journal of Peasant Studies*.

**DR. LIESL GAMBOld**

Dr. Gambold attended the American Anthropological Association annual meetings in Montreal, where she presented her work examining the decision by retirees to immigrate to another country. Her presentation was called ‘Fear of the Known: Retirement Abroad as an Aging Strategy.’ She also appeared on the CBC radio broadcast, “Maritime Noon” (see p. 13 for details!)
DEPARTMENT NEWS

DR. JEAN- SÉBASTIEN GUY

In February 2012, Dr. Guy was invited to give a presentation, “Everything you always wanted to know about sex, but were afraid to ask a sociologist,” to the Contemporary Studies Programme Students’ Society at the University of King’s College. He published a chapter, “The name ‘globalization’: observing society observing itself” in Comunicaciones, Semánticas y Redes. Usos y Desviaciones de la Sociología de Niklas Luhmann, a volume edited by Ignacio Farias and Jose Osandón (Mexico, Universidad Iberoamericana.) He published a book review, “Luc Boltanski, On Critique: A Sociology of Emancipation” in the Canadian Journal of Sociology (vol. 36, no. 4.) He currently has two articles – “Why does society describe itself as global?” and “Globalization and the states as code -and criteria” – under review for publication by the journal Cybernetics and Human Knowing and the journal International Political Sociology.

DR. CHRISTOPHER HELLAND

Dr. Helland had a productive sabbatical. His primary fieldwork – which was conducted in Canada, the United States, India, Nepal and Tibet – examined Internet networks and the "wiring" of temples, pilgrimage sites, and sacred places. This research is exploring the impact of the Internet and new media on the religious practices of diaspora communities. Last year, Dr. Helland was invited to participate in three symposiums on Digital Religion (University of California, University of Colorado, Texas A & M) and he presented papers at the International American Academy of Religion conference in San Francisco and at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Dr. Helland recently published two book chapters: “Ritual in Cyberspace” in Heidi Campbell’s (Ed.). Digital Religion. (Routledge: New York) and “Online Religion in Canada: From Hype to Hyperlink” in Lori Beaman’s (Ed.) Religion and Canadian Society: Traditions, Transitions, and Innovations. (Canadian Scholar’s Press: Toronto.) He also continues to be actively engaged in the Religion and Diversity Project through the University of Ottawa and is planning a large-scale analysis of the impact of news media on popular perceptions of religion in Canada.

Left: Dr. Christopher Helland and Dr. Gregory Price Grieve in Lhasa, Tibet

DR. KREGG HETHERINGTON

Dr. Hetherington has had a busy year since the birth of his son last June. He published a monograph, Guerrilla Auditors: The Politics of Transparency in neoliberal Paraguay (Duke University Press, 2011) and a translation of one of his essays as a slim book in Spanish, Privatizando lo Privado: Lotes Precarios y la materialidad de los derechos (RP Ediciones, translation by Marco Castillo.) Kregg has essays published or forthcoming in academic journals Economy and Society (May 2012) and Cultural Anthropology, and an edited volume of the Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology is under consideration for next year. He was invited to present a paper to the UNESCO conference on Ethics and Development in Mexico City last August, and also presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings (November 2011) and the Society for Cultural Anthropology meetings (May 2012).

In two research trips to Paraguay, Dr. Hetherington has continued his work with a group of dedicated Paraguayan and Canadian research assistants on research into Paraguayan government responses to the soy boom. In the coming year, he will take a leave from Dalhousie to teach at Concordia, where he will continue his research and begin work on a new book, The Government of Beans.

Left: Dr. Christopher Helland and Dr. Gregory Price Grieve in Lhasa, Tibet

DAL SOSA ON THE WEB

http://sociologyandsocialanthropology.dal.ca
http://dsu.ca/tiger_society - Dal SOSA Society

Dal SOSA Society on Facebook
dalsosasociety@gmail.com
DEPARTMENT NEWS

FACULTY NEWS

DR. FIONA MARTIN
Over the course of the last year, Dr. Martin has carried out research as a co-investigator for two collaborative projects. The first explores the availability of harm-reduction initiatives in the Atlantic provinces within mainstream services (i.e. emergency rooms and homeless shelters) for people who use illicit drugs. The other involves developing a knowledge synthesis of interventions provided in methadone maintenance treatment programs, which improve the health (social, physical, emotional) of people dependent on opiates and/or help them to remain in treatment. Both projects are currently funded by Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). In addition, Fiona has recently applied to the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation (NSHRF) for funding to support a proposed three-year project exploring the availability and accessibility of methadone maintenance treatment for pregnant women in Nova Scotia, for which she will be the Principal Investigator. Fiona also had the opportunity to travel to Italy in October 2011, to present a paper titled, “Trauma, pleasure and agency: competing conceptual frameworks in research on women drug users” at the Beyond the Buzzword: Problematising ‘drugs’ conference hosted by the journal Contemporary Drug Problems. She was honoured and delighted to receive the SOSA Undergraduate Student Society Teaching Award in March 2012.

DR. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
This academic year was another productive and eventful one for Dr Murphy. He became a proud grandparent to grandson Kian, spent four months nursing a torn ACL (“tennis anyone?”) and taught his usual array of courses and students.

In summer 2011, he was a symposium organizer, participant and facilitator for a national meeting of senior Canadian police, government officials and academics on the economics of public policing (he also wrote the final symposium report.) Spring 2012 saw the publication of his chapter, “Canadian Police and Policing Policy-Post-9/11, “ in a new policy textbook, Canadian Criminal Justice Policy (Oxford University Press). He recently returned from Atlanta, GA where he participated in a joint Canada-US academic symposium: Canadian and U.S. Perspectives on Terrorism, Criminal Enterprises, and Migration. He will be presenting a paper, “Securitized Policing,” at the interdisciplinary symposium Securing Justice: A critical examination of security 10 years after 9/11 at the University of Winnipeg and he will be participating in a follow-up symposium this summer, Sustainability Public Policing in Canada. Recently he was one of two experts in a Globe and Mail moderated online discussion on policing costs and police reform. He looks forward in the coming academic year to teaching and pursuing his research on security policing and models for sustainable public policing.

DR. BRIAN NOBLE
In the 2011/12 academic year, Dr Noble traveled across Eastern Canada making presentations at academic conferences and special advising sessions held by the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission. Of particular note:


“Working together toward shared futures, as Peoples,” research presentation for Jiksitatultikw Listening to Each Other: Developing Mutual Frameworks for Research Design/Methodologies in Aboriginal Communities (AAEDIRP, Atlantic Policy Congress of Chiefs, December 7, 2011, Dalhousie University)


Dr. Noble also organized a visit by Distinguished Philosopher of Science, Professor Isabelle Stengers, as part of “To See Where It Takes Us” conversation series. The keynote lecture, “Cosmopolitics: learning to think with sciences, peoples and natures, can be viewed online at http://videtis.ucis.dal.ca/overflow/ims/Stengers-H.264_LAN_Streaming.mov, or listened to as a podcast at: http://soundcloud.com/situsci/isabelle-stengers.

In Fall 2011, he led an initiative for Dal/King’s to co-host to an envisioned National Institute for Science and Technology Studies, and to join in a Network of Centres of Excellence in STS. Deans from eight faculties, as well as two Dalhousie Vice Presidents and the Vice President of King’s, supported Dalhousie’s submission. A final decision on how Dalhousie will participate in this project is pending. In addition, he has completed the report to the University: “Joining the Conversation: Indigenous Peoples Research Engagement at Dalhousie.”
**DR. ROBIN OAKLEY**

Dr Oakley has a paper in press “The Power and Danger of the Emic: Puram (Urdu) Poetry as a Social Science Radicle”, in *Paths Out of Empire*, (ed. Alex Khasnabish) with Fernwood Press. As primary author along with Suresh Chandrsekaran and Sasikumar Brumot, she co-authored a paper “A Generational Analysis of the Siddha Revitalization in Three South Indian States,” presented September 2011 at the European Association of Anthropologists in Rome, which is also based on her ongoing SSHRC funded project on the Siddha system of medicine. She has continued her collaborations with Anthropologists in South India on forthcoming publications and projects, and worked with graduate students on AYUSH and Tribal health/medicine at several South Indian Universities. Robin is eagerly anticipating introducing undergraduate students to a panoramic sketch of India’s contribution to global economy, culture, science, technology, philosophy, social sciences and society when she teaches Indian society in the fall of 2012. This opportunity reinforces her work of promoting India Studies over the past several years through MOU development funded mainly by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute Program Development Grants and Guest Professor Grants.

**DR. MI PARK**

Conducting her SSHRC-funded research project on the Global Justice Movement, Dr. Park has presented her research findings at various international conferences and workshops in Madrid (June 2011,) The Hague (July 2011,) Vancouver (August 2011,) and Nottingham (December 2011.) She was an invited contributor to an international workshop that examined political tensions within the trade union movements over the issue of free trade. Other contributors to the workshop, which was held at the Centre for the Study of Social and Global Justice at the University of Nottingham, included: Samir Amin, Director, World Forum for Alternatives; John Hilary, Director, War on Want; Bruno Ciccaglione, Coordinator, Seattle to Brussels Network; and Alexandra Strickner, President, ATTAC Austria.

In 2012, she has an article, “Imagining a Just Society,” forthcoming in the *Journal of Critical Sociology* and a book chapter in the *University of Minnesota Press*. A revised version of her Nottingham workshop paper (“The ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement and its Implications for the Global Economy and the International Trade Union Movement”) is currently prepared for a special volume of the journal, *Globalizations*. She will take a leave from Dalhousie to work as a visiting professor in the Institute of Asian Research at the University of British Columbia.

**DR. MARTHA RADICE**

Dr. Radice is continuing work on “Tracing the City: Interventions of Art in Public Space,” a SSHRC-funded research-creation project with Professors Solomon Nagler (Film) and Kim Morgan (Sculpture) at NSCAD University. SOSA students Nethra Sama-rawickrema (MA, SOAN) and Brenden Harvey (current honours and incoming MA, SOAN) are providing invaluable research assistance on the project. Martha and Kim will be presenting papers from the project at the Urban Ambiances conference in Montréal in September 2012.

Martha is also working with PhD candidate Tonya Canning (SOAN) on her Atlantic Metropolis Centre project investigating Halifax Public Libraries’ role in immigrant integration. The project takes a ‘two-way street’ approach, emphasizing the importance of attitudes and adaptation within the library system in facilitating newcomers’ integration in Halifax. They have presented their work at the Metropolis national conference in Toronto, and at Diverse Spaces: Examining identity, community and citizenship within Canadian public culture, a conference at the Frost Centre for Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies, Trent University.
DR. HOWARD RAMOS
Dr. Ramos was on sabbatical during the 2011/2012 academic year. During this time, he published a book, *Seeing Politics Differently*, with Karen Stanbridge of Memorial University. The pair also published a chapter on “Politics and Political Movements” in Sociology, a book by Lorne Tepperman, Patrizia Albanese, and James Curtis. He published another special invited chapter in Suzanne Staggenborg's *Social Movements*. All are published with Oxford University Press.

With Kathleen Rodgers of the University of Ottawa, Howard organized a special workshop on Social Movement Societies this May and together they have a contract to publish a book with UBC press on the same topic. He has also been invited by the editor of the Canadian Review of Sociology to write an invited contribution for the anniversary issue of the journal on ethnic and race relations in Canada.

During his sabbatical, Howard began work with Gerald Gloade and Rebecca Thomas and the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs and Economic Development Officers to build a community-level dataset on economic indicators of its member communities. He delivered two presentations on immigration and temporary foreign workers to the Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services, an NGO based in Halifax. He wrote a policy brief on this topic for the Canadian Centre of Policy Alternatives, Nova Scotia, as well as two op-eds in the Halifax Chronicle Herald on changes in Canadian immigration.

With SOSA and Dalhousie colleagues Howard also worked on the Trudeau Foundation national conference in Halifax during Fall 2011 and contributed to a poll constructed by the foundation and Dalhousie University and conducted by Environics on Canadians' opinions about immigration. The conference and the poll received much national attention.

DR. EMMA WHELAN
Dr. Whelan and her collaborators continue to disseminate the results of their study of the OxyContin crisis in North America. Dr. Whelan co-authored a paper with Dr. Mark Asbridge (Community Health & Epidemiology, Dalhousie,) “The OxyContin Crisis: Problematisation and Responsibilization Strategies in Addiction, Pain, and General Medicine Journals,” which was presented at the Contemporary Drug Problems Conference, Beyond the Buzzword: Problematising ‘Drugs’, in October, 2011 in Prato, Italy. She is writing about her research on the World Health Organization’s International Classification of Diseases.

DR. YOKO YOSHIDA
Dr. Yoshida has been working on two different areas of research: immigrants’ integration and settlement and measures of health inequality.

Her research reports on immigrants’ settlement, submitted to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, examines a methodological framework for investigating family’s role in settlements, especially with respect to the roles of sponsored parents and grandparents. Most recently she has started working on a project to explore innovative methods to capture patterns of immigrant integration that reflect the multi-dimensionality of integration.

In the area of measures of health inequality, she has been collaborating with colleagues at Dalhousie’s Department of Community Health and Epidemiology. This collaborative work examines an overall health inequality indicator that reflects multiple social attributes. She is also currently working on a research contract, on behalf of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Mobilizing Action toward Community Health program, at the University of Wisconsin's Population Health Institute. This project examines the degrees of health disparity in the USA and explores a set of data to produce innovative indicators for health inequality.

Dr. Yoshida was recently been appointed as the Co-Academic-Director of the Atlantic Research Data Centre (ARDC), which offers secure access to confidential survey data from Statistics Canada. The Centre (http://atlanticresearchdatacentre.dal.ca/) offers a number of statistical training courses available to the research communities in Nova Scotia and Atlantic region. In summer 2012, two workshops are scheduled on Research statistical software and Correspondence Analysis. She is very excited about enhancing her methodological tools and hoping to contribute to the research community, where students and researchers with various backgrounds share their expertise.
SOSA SPEAKERS SERIES 2011-12

“Health care restructuring and the HIV experience: Understanding the impact of shifts towards outpatient care in Canada and the United States”
Dr. Denver Lewellen, Fulbright Scholar (Sept 30, 2011)

“Emblematic Events for Protecting Natural Resources: A True Constraint on Protecting Water Resources Over-Exploitation?”
Dr. Tsafrir Gazit (Oct 14, 2011)

“Choosing Canada: International Student-Migrants in the Atlantic Provinces”
Sinziana Chira, PhD candidate (PhD SOCI) (Nov 4, 2011)

“Millionaire Migrants: additional reflections on transnational space”
Dr. David Ley, University of British Columbia (Nov 17, 2011)

“Precarious lives: Asylum seekers and refugees’ experiences of unfree/forced labour”
Dr. Hannah Lewis (Nov 25, 2011)
**Co-Sponsored with the Atlantic Metropolis Centre

“Managing Migration at the Rims of Europe”
Dr. Martin Geiger, University of Osnabrück, Germany (Dec 2, 2011)

“Seeing Red: On Recognition, Reconciliation & Resentment in Indigenous Politics”
Dr. Glen Coulthard, University of British Columbia (January 13, 2012)
**Co-Sponsored with MSVU

“Rethinking Ethnic Boundaries in Contemporary Rwanda”
Dr. Laura Eramian, Dalhousie University (SOSA) (Jan 27, 2012)

“Trees, Families, Classes: Relationality, Knowledge, and Hierarchy in the 11th International Classification of Diseases”
Dr. Emma Whelan, Dalhousie University (SOSA) (Feb 10, 2012)

“Listen to the Money Talk: Knowledge and Meaning in a Community Currency Project”
Tonya Canning, PhD student (PhD SOAN) (Mar 9, 2012)

“Language, Identity and Nation in the Globalized New Economy: Transformations of Francophone Canada”
Dr. Monica Heller, Ontario Institute for Studies of Education & University of Toronto (Mar 16, 2012)
**Co-Sponsored with Atlantic Metropolis Centre

“Human Beings as Property: Practice, Perceptions, and Beliefs: The North American Experience”
Dr. Afua Cooper, James Robinson Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies and the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology (Mar 30, 2012)

Fulbright Chair

As the 2011-2012 Visiting Fulbright Chair in Society and Culture, Dr. Denver Lewellen has had a busy year with his involvement in new research, policy work and giving public and guest lectures at Dalhousie. His article, “Emerging Hybrids: Health Care Policy Research in Canada and the United States” was published in the Spring 2012 issue of the journal Practicing Anthropology. As a member of the HIV and Rehabilitation Policy working group within the School of Health Promotion, he is the coauthor of an upcoming, online policy report, “HIV and Rehabilitation: Bridging policy and practice. An Examination of Policies Related to Access of Rehabilitation in Canada and the United Kingdom.”

Denver is currently conducting a qualitative study of healthcare experiences of persons with HIV in Nova Scotia. This study explores intersections of ongoing provincial changes in the structure of health services with simultaneous shifts in experience for persons with HIV as they begin to receive services from general, non-HIV specific clinics. He has given two public Fulbright lectures at Dalhousie and he was a guest lecturer for courses taught by Drs. Liesl Gambold and Martha Radice. In April 2012, he traveled to the United States to present findings of his new research to the Canadian Studies Program at the University of California, Berkeley. He also presented two papers, fulfilling his responsibilities as Co-Chair of the Canadian Studies section of the Western Social Science Association conference in Houston, TX.

Killam Postdoctoral Scholar


He is currently working as an Assistant Professor for the Department of Sociology, at the Memorial University of Newfoundland.
This year’s MA cohort gave a terrific series of thesis proposal presentations in March 2012:

“Social Workers and the Pharmaceuticalization of Youth in Care”
Sheri Bell

“Going with the Grain: The Significance of ‘Information’ for developers and users of the International Wheat Information System”
Sam Burnett

“Deconstructing Religious (Dis)engagement in Statistics Canada Religiosity Index”
Ashley Doyle

“Independent Perspectives on Art and Copyright in a Digital Age”
Lachlan MacLeod

“Scene and Heard: Everyday Interactions with Urban Music”
Shannon Ramsay

“Educating Children of Immigrants in Halifax: Perspectives of parents and teachers”
Rosi Rodriguez-Franco

“Halifarming: Relations, Ideology and Practice”
Jennifer Seward

“Shaping Sovereignty: Inuit-State Conversations in the Case of Lancaster Sound”
Chloe Westlake

We look forward to hearing about the results of your fascinating research!

Sheri Bell was an invited participant at the Opportunities for New and Emerging Scholars consultation with Yves Joanette, Scientific Director of CIHR’s Institute of Aging, and co-presented two papers at the Canadian Association on Gerontology meetings in Ottawa in October 2011. Sheri also published a peer-reviewed journal article, “Illness Metaphors, Japan’s ‘Gaijin’ Race Philosophy, and the Formation of the Self” in *Studies in Symbolic Interaction*. 2011; 36: 163-194.

Catherine Bryan, who holds a SSHRC doctoral fellowship, returned from parental leave in May 2012. Her son Zev is looking forward to his mother’s fieldwork in the Philippines and Manitoba.

brian Campbell presented papers on his research on flea markets and farmers’ markets at four North American conferences in 2011-12: the Canadian Archaeological Association, the Canadian Association of Social and Cultural Anthropology (CASCA), the American Anthropological Association (AAA), and the Society for Applied Anthropology, Baltimore, March 2012. He also had a paper at the May 2012 CASCA meetings in Edmonton, AB. brian received a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship this year.


Tonya Canning and Sinziana Chira presented their excellent PhD dissertation proposals to the Departmental Colloquium. The title of Tonya’s talk was “‘Listen to the Money Talk’: Knowledge and Meaning in a Community Currency Project.” Sinziana’s talk was entitled “Choosing Canada: International Student Migrants in the Atlantic Provinces.”

Trisha Dempsey received the Irving & Jeanne Glovin Award in the 2012 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Essay Competition for her paper, “The search for a societal catalyst with the capacity to motivate the inclusion of people with cognitive disabilities.” The Award, established by The Oskar Schindler Humanities Foundation, is for a student essay that demonstrates the importance of acceptance and mutual respect of others. Well done, Trisha!
Ashley Doyle will be presenting her research and paper, “Unpacking Statistics Canada’s Religiosity Index: Assessment Tool as Symbolic Boundary,” at the upcoming CSA conference at Wilfred Laurier University and the University of Waterloo.

Susan Haydt published a peer-reviewed journal article based on her work as Research Coordinator for a study of the OxyContin crisis in North America. The paper, co-authored with faculty members Emma Whelan (SOSA) and Mark Asbridge (Community Health & Epidemiology), is called "Representations of OxyContin in North American Newspapers and Medical Journals," Pain Research & Management. 16(4):252-258.

Nethra Samarawickrema presented her paper “The Fort and the screen: Muslim women’s adaptations of postcolonial space in the Galle Fort,” at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Toronto, ON. She presented “Walls, Street Grids, Boundaries: Relations of Difference in Postcolonial Space in a Fort City in Southern Sri Lanka” at the South Asia by the Bay conference at Stanford University, California in May 2012.

Chloe Westlake conducted research at the American Anthropology Association meetings in November 2011 on the various ways in which academics approach research with indigenous communities. She is collaborating with SOSA faculty member Brian Noble and a PhD student from Western University to produce a paper on the results of this research.

Robert Wright was invited to present his paper, “Keeping sane as an African Canadian working in White Institutions: Tips for surviving in hostile environments,” at the Black Law Students Association of Canada Conference in Windsor, Ontario in February 2012. Congratulations are also in order for Robert, who received the Canadian Association of Social Workers’ Distinguished Service Award this year.

Reddisekhara Yalamala presented several papers at four conferences: the European Association for Social Anthropologists; Medical Anthropology Networks; American Anthropological Association; and the Global Health Research Forum. He co-authored a paper with SOSA faculty member Robin Oakley for the Resources, Tribes and State Seminar at Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, India. He published book reviews in the Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford and Dialectical Anthropology and a chapter in an edited volume by Fernwood Press will be published in 2013.

GRADUATES
In October 2011, five of our MA students graduated: Rachel Barken, Colin Christie, Gerald Gloade, Andreas Hoffbauer and Samantha Loppie. Emma Feltes was our MA graduate for May 2012. Congratulations, grads!
HONOURS PROGRAMME 2011-12

Under a helpful guidance of Dr. Liesl Gambold, SOSA Honours students successfully completed their research presentations (April 10th, 2012):

“Affirmative (re)Action: White students’ perspectives on a multicultural Canada”
Sydney Benmore

“Female Athletes Competing Against Stigmas and Stereotypes: The Apologetic Strategy”
Joshua Brisson

“Feeling Like You’re Single: Grief, independence and reunion among wives left behind in Nova Scotia”
Kyle Brown

“Mountain People”: Environmental responsibility, the power of landscape and the weight of history along the margins of preservation
Amy Donovan

“Scotian Talented Tenth: Indigenous African Nova Scotian students’ academic achievement and encouragement”
K-Lee Fraser

“Urban Gardening in Halifax: What is really growing on?”
Brenden Harvey

“A Career on Ice: Athletic Identity and Retirement Transition of former Canadian NHL Players”
James MacKinnon

“School Now, Debt Later: What students put themselves through to put themselves through school”
Ayla-Monic McKay

“Breaking the Silence: Examining the efficacy of social services for abused women in Halifax”
Brittany Parker

“Tapped Out: The social and economic drain after a DUI”
Marie Rozendal

“Making-Up a Face: The exploration of personal identity through drag performance culture”
Morgan Strug

“The New Adult: Negotiations of parent involvement, interdependence, and adult status”
Sarah Wilson

DAL SOSA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SOCIETY

This year, the SOSA society organized a number of successful events which attracted a large number of students (graduate and undergraduate) and SOSA faculty members. In the Fall, we took part in student events during the First Year student Orientation Week and organized coffee night at Coburg Café and a chocolate extravaganza.

In the Winter, we hosted coffee events with a great turnout of graduate students. The annual Wine and Cheese event, along with the presentation of SOSA Teaching Excellence Award, was a huge success.

The society thanks all the professors who have supported our initiatives by providing useful advice and attending our events. Our special thanks goes to Dr. Liesl Gambold, Dr. Christopher Murphy, Dr. Pauline Gardiner Barber and graduate student Sam Burnett who have helped us immensely with society room bookings and events promotion. And thanks to all the students who have participated in the Dal SOSA society events!

This year’s SOSA Society Exec. L-R: Anthony Clements (Secretary and DASSS Rep.), Brittany Larsen (Public Relations Officer), Anuja Siwakoti (President) and Brenden Harvey (Treasurer). Missing from photo: Melissa Boulanger (Vice-President) and Megan Gehnon (DASSS Rep.).

Right: President Anuja Siwakoti presents Dr. Kregg Hetherington with the plaque for “Society Citation for Excellence in Teaching Sociology and Social Anthropology.”
Giving goes a long way. Our alumni are among our most generous supporters. This year, thanks to dollars generated through our annual fund, SOSA was able to provide travel awards for graduate students to present research papers at various academic conferences. Such evidence of academic engagement helps SOSA graduates become more competitive in their applications for further study, funding and employment. Thank you.

Two exceptional undergrads represented the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at November 2011’s Academic All-Canadians luncheon: Joshua Brisson and Sasha Kosanov (profiles at side.)

To qualify as an Academic All-Canadian, a student-athlete must maintain a grade point average of 80 per cent or better over the academic year while also competing in a varsity sport. This means that the talent on display at the event represented some of the university’s highest achievers – and, clearly, some real superstars of time management. (Source: Dal News)

Congratulations to Sasha Kosanov and Joshua Brisson. You continue to make the department very proud.

Joshua is a native of Russell, ON. He is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society and has been named to the Dean’s List twice. Joshua is a member of the cross country team and volunteers with Triathlon Nova Scotia, Catholic Christian Outreach and the Canadian Police College. He has recently been accepted into the SOSA MA programme and plans to pursue a career in social research.

Academic Mentor: Robin Oakley

This is Sasha’s first Academic All-Canadian selection as a BA student completing a double major in Sociology and Sustainability. In 2009, she was also named to the Dean’s List. Sasha is a native of Aurora, ON and a fourth-year member of the volleyball team. In 2011, she volunteered as head coach of the Tigers volleyball club 14-and-under team and assisted with the 17-and-under Aurora Storm volleyball team in 2008.

Academic Mentor: Lindsay DuBois
FASS ESSAY COMPETITION

The Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology was well-represented at this year’s FASS Essay Competition Presentation & Reception with two students picking up top honours. The FASS Essay Competition is a yearly contest offered by the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences. Each year, it receives a number of quality submissions in three categories: the Irving & Jeanne Glovin Award, the Halifax Overseas Club Prize and the Mushkat Memorial Award.

Masters student Trisha Dempsey won the Irving & Jeanne Glovin Award for her piece “The search for a societal catalyst with the capacity to motivate the inclusion of people with cognitive disabilities.” This award, established in 2003 by the Oskar Schindler Humanities Foundation, fosters research into the meaning and underlying principles for “good human conduct.”

In her paper, Trisha takes an applied approach to Canada’s disability rights movement. She examines theory and weighs it against her personal experience as a visitor at L’Arche, a care-giving community. In her words,

“During my first few days at L’Arche, I was acutely aware of my negative perceptions of the community’s residents and no amount of cognitive or emotional reasoning with myself was able to adjust these perceptions. It was only by sharing my life with these individuals and building relationships with them that my perception of them dramatically shifted…In the lived experience of sharing life with a person with a disability we may discover, unwittingly, that the moral self that has been there all along.”

Alison Froese Stoddard, a student in her second year of Sociology & Social Anthropology, is the 2012 winner of the Halifax Overseas League Club Award. Award criteria require students to demonstrate the relationship between a place in the Overseas Dominions and the British Commonwealth. Research papers can be either historical or critical in nature, but they must speak to matters that stimulate the study of, and an interest in, the closer relations of the constituent parts of the British Commonwealth. Froese Stoddard’s paper, “The Birth of Canada’s Multicultural Policy: Plotting the Official Acceptance of Diversity,” casts a historical and critical eye on Trudeau’s 1971 policy. She delves into why it was conceived, how it was implemented and the ways in which it continues to shape Canadian national identity.

She concludes:

“Canadian multicultural policy is far from perfect today, but I strongly believe that the first implementation of this policy in 1971 led to a Canada where cultural pluralism has been established as a national strength. As the forces of globalism influence our immigration policies, we must be alert to our changing diversity and come up with new methods to address these issues as they arise. It is absolutely crucial for Canadians to keep fostering this strength through openness, acceptance of diversity, and continued dialogue.”

The winner of the third award, the Mushkat Memorial Award, is fourth-year IDS and Gender & Women’s Studies student Ana Vidovic. Ana’s paper, “Beyond Tolerance: A Socio-Cultural Critique,” had a strong SOSA theme and was recommended by SOSA professor, Marianne Parsons.

Each prize carries with it a $4,000 prize – a significant amount reflecting the strong substance of the papers which delve into topics of tolerance, good human conduct, and multiculturalism. The best papers often go beyond analysis and provide real world applications for policy, teaching, and global interaction. The prize winners are a credit to our faculty; the prizes themselves represent both a testament to the capability of our students and of the role of the arts and social sciences on the world stage. Full essays and excerpts of the presentation are available online at: www.dal.ca/fass.

Congratulations to all of this year’s winners.
DEPARTMENT NEWS

SOSA IN THE COMMUNITY

SOSA's Musical Anthropologist

When she isn't busy disseminating her knowledge on urban anthropology, Dr. Martha Radice she is making music for people in the community. She plays double bass in the Chebucto Symphony Orchestra, where she played for four concerts between November 2011 and May 2012, featuring works by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Mozart, Bartók and others.

http://chebuctosymphony.ca

The American Anthropological Association
November 2011

There was a strong showing of Dalhousie anthropologists at the meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Montréal in November 2011. Nine faculty members and four graduate students presented their research. Some selected papers presented by SOSA faculty include:

Pauline Gardiner Barber: 'Reconciling Class and Cosmopolitanism In Philippine Mobilities'

Lindsay DuBois: 'The Deserving Poor: Child Recipients of Social Payments In Post-Neoliberal Argentina'

Laura Eramian: 'Political Violence and the Production of Inequality: Secrecy and Concealment in a Small Rwandan Town'

Liz Fitting: "Without Corn There Is No Country": Struggling for Maize Sovereignty in Mexico's Neoliberal Food Regime'

Liesl Gambold: 'Fear of the Known: Retirement Abroad as an Aging Strategy'

Janice Graham: 'Global Vaccine Safety: An STS Engagement in Regulatory Harmonization'

Brian Noble: 'Obliging the Settler and the Expert: The Engaged, Political, Pragmatist Anthropologies of Michael Asch and Isabelle Stengers'

Martha Radice: 'Microcosmopolitanisms At the Urban Scale'
ALUMNI NEWS

Dr. Mary Ellen Macdonald, MA 1995
Social Anthropology

After completing a Bachelor of Arts at McGill University in 1994 (Anthropology and Women’s Studies,) Mary Ellen returned to her hometown of Halifax to pursue graduate level studies in the department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at Dalhousie University. There, under the supervision Dr. Virginia Miller, Dr. Jerome Barkow, and Dr. Tania Li, she developed an interest in Aboriginal health issues in Canada.

Completing her PhD at McGill in 2004, Mary Ellen is currently working at McGill as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Oral Health and Society, Faculty of Dentistry; and Program Head, Pediatric Palliative Care Research at the Montreal Children’s Hospital. She is also affiliated with the Departments of Pediatrics, Oncology, the School of Nursing and Biomedical Ethics Unit, is a core faculty member in the McGill Centre for Medical Education and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Victoria. She chairs the McGill Qualitative Health Research Group. Her main research interests include palliative care/bereavement research, cultural aspects of health and illness with Aboriginal communities in Montreal and Northern Quebec, and medical education research.

When she isn’t at work, Mary Ellen enjoys cooking, gardening, and most recently, tango dancing. She travels to Nova Scotia with frequency in the company of her daughter Jayke, a Nova Scotian at birth and at heart.

Angela Mitchell-Lowery, BA 1999
Sociology & Social Anthropology

Angela Mitchell-Lowery, BA ’99, MBA ’02, melded a passion for healthcare and marketing into a career with Merck Canada, one of Canada’s leading research based pharmaceuticals companies. In her new position as Director of Sales (Western Canada,) Angela oversees a team of medical and sales professionals in the company’s cardio-metabolic franchise.

Angela came to Dalhousie in 1995 while working in healthcare management. She was unsure of where her career or degree would take her, but she enjoyed working in healthcare and knew she was interested in human behaviour and interaction. She found courses within the Department of Sociology & Social Anthropology – including the Sociology of Health and Research Methods – to be both fascinating and applicable to her work.

"Interestingly, I use the knowledge acquired in these courses in my work nearly every day” she says.

After graduating with a BA in 1999, Angela pursued an MBA to advance her healthcare management career. She says her sociology background really helped her in her MBA, particularly those skills related to research and writing.

Since 2001, Angela has taken on progressively more senior roles within Merck, rising from Market Research Specialist to Product Manager for GARDASIL to Business Manager in the Vaccines Business Unit. Most recently, she has taken the helm as Director of Sales (Western Canada,) Primary Care Business Unit, where she leads a team of more than 35 health and sales professionals and manages a multi-million dollar budget.

In an email to FASS alumni officer, Krista Armstrong, she writes,

“When I look back at my career to date, I really credit my Dalhousie BA as being a critical driver of my personal growth and career development. The course content, focus on research and writing and the confidence that I gained as a student gave me the skills and desire to want more. Together with my MBA, I left Dalhousie with the knowledge and skills required to pursue my career in health care management in the pharmaceutical industry.”

Angela and her family are in the process of relocating from Montreal to Vancouver, where she hopes the Pacific Ocean will bring back memories of her home in the Maritimes. When she’s not working, she plays proud football and hockey mom to her nine-year old son, Joshua, and spends time with him, her husband, Paul, and basset hound Reggie.
Alumni News cont’d...

**Ken Sands, MA 2005**  
**Social Anthropology**

Since completing his MA in Social Anthropology under the supervision of Dr. Pauline Gardiner Barber in 2005, Ken has been working at the Michigan Logging Museum. Here, he has helped form a database of libraries and museums in Michigan that house cultural or historical artefacts. He has also researched Michigan immigration history, especially as it pertains to the 19th and early 20th century logging industry. He says he really enjoys working with historical trades and industries, in particular the human aspects of industrial history.

**Barb Stegemann, BA 1991**  
**Sociology**

Barb Stegemann has been named one of the Top 30 Cool & Fabulous Canadian Entrepreneurs by Profit Guide Magazine.

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**NOW IT’S YOUR TURN**

Do you have an interesting story to share? Know of a former classmate who is doing something exciting and newsworthy?

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Please send all comments, suggestions, ideas or inquiries to fassalum@dal.ca

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**SOSA’s newest alums**  
**Graduation Reception - May 22, 2012**

University Medal winner for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Emma Feltes, MA ‘12 with thesis supervisor Dr. Brian Noble

L-R: Morgan Strug, Ayla McKay, Dr. Liesl Gambold, Brittany Parker, Joshua Brisson and Amy Donovan.

Dr. Yoko Yoshida (left) celebrates with All-Canadian athlete Josh Brisson (right) and his parents

Dr Pauline Gardiner Barber addresses the class of 2012
Thanks to all for a wonderful year.