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## **Letter from the President**

Esteemed Members:

Days have grown shorter; trees are losing their leaves; and the annual meeting is just around the corner. This issue of *Second Opinion* contains important meeting information as well as other society news. Rather than to review newsletter contents here, I want to use my “15 minutes” to talk a bit about the shape our communications program has taken, and why. Led now by Board member [Erin Finley](#), with co-chair Megan Carney, our Communications Committee core (including Sean Bruna and Elizabeth [Liz] Lewis) has undertaken some significant remodeling work, mainly with the aim of increasing efficiency by ensuring that each means of communication serves a specific function and reducing unnecessary redundancy.

When I joined the SMA in 1990, we had one organizational communication conduit outside of meetings: the SMA column in *Anthropology News (AN)*. In earlier times we had a newsletter but, to be brief, that turned into *Medical Anthropology Quarterly (MAQ)* in 1983 ([click here](#) for all volumes of both). Subsequently, we came to rely on our 'Section News' column in *AN* to get important information out to members. As a first step in my own SMA service involvement, I volunteered to work as the column's editor starting in 1994.

Our *AN* Section News editor today is [Megan Carney](#) and the column (now mainly distributed digitally versus in print) remains an important medium. Nonetheless, today, rather to take an inward-facing stance, with a focus on society news, the *AN* column faces outward. ***The AN column aims to share the insights of medical anthropology and the vision of the SMA to the broader anthropological community*** (to see the last column, [click here](#)).

This refocusing was due mainly to changes within *AN* that limited our column's space allowance drastically. Thanks to the work of Past President Doug Feldman and founding editor Dinah Winnick, ***Second Opinion now fills the society news-sharing function***; that is, in *Second Opinion* (first published in 2013) you will find reporting on things such as the events and outcomes of our Business Meetings, election results, SMA initiatives, and so forth. (For past volumes and issues, [click here](#). To see a list of past editors, [click here](#).)

But back to the mid-1990s: The Internet had just emerged as a potentially important means of communication. Although some argued that it was "[trendy and oversold](#)," just after the 1995 Annual Meeting, with the Board's blessing, I taught myself some HTML and, with little help from Harvey Smallman and Todd Rae, the SMA website was born.

Described in the April, 1996 issue of *AN* as "an innovative outgrowth of [SMA's] Section News column" the site (which went live on February 28) was intended "to allow SMA members another—and a more extensive—means of communication" than our column alone could provide (p.48). As that quote suggests, concern about communication has been, for SMA, a perennial issue. In any case, beyond increasing our communication means, then as now, ***the website's aim is to promote SMA and provide information about the organization and our SIGs to a public audience***.

Of course, our website's first iteration was as a hand axe to an atl-atl. Information technology was nowhere near as ubiquitous, sophisticated, and simple to use back then as it is today: Eventually, the Internet's static, retrieve-and-read format gave way to the interactivity of Web 2.0, and [our site](#) grew accordingly. Its evolution is ongoing: our current Webmaster, [Sean Bruna](#), will soon oversee a remodel intended to keep the aesthetic side of things current. Now might be a good time to acknowledge Ben McMahan, Betsey Brada, and Lauren Wynne, past staff Webmasters, as well as Ruthbeth Finerman who, like me, undertook the role as a volunteer, in keeping with the remit then held by the *AN* contributing editor.

It might also be time now to say that, as part of the Communication Committee's remodeling initiative, we plan to increase, substantially, the original content that SMA provides via the Web. This will be done in tandem with the roll out of a new MAQ website, which our incoming MAQ editor, Vincanne Adams, will tell you about in early 2017 (we may even receive a sneak peek at the Friday, November 18 SMA Business Meeting in MN). I do not want to give away too much now, but I can say that we are all very excited!

Leaving the future for later, let me get back to the past. SMA was way ahead of other AAA Sections not only in providing a website; we also were among the first to provide a listserv. Getting this service up and running was easier said than done. Early on, the Board realized that hosting a listserv ourselves would not be ideal because, as had occurred with the website, each time the list moderator changed, the listserv would need moving.

In the early 2000s, however, Past President Mark Nichter and Past Webmaster Betsey Brada discovered [H-Net](#), a university-based consortium that could provide a stable infrastructure so long as we did not limit membership and adhered to H-Net standards. So, in 2003—the same year Facebook came online—Betsy and Mark created the [H-MedAnthro](#) listserv. I was its first moderator; today, Hillary Melchiors does the job. SMA is still involved: our Communications Committee Chair does sit on the H-Medanthro steering committee. But H-Medanthro and SMA are otherwise unrelated at this point in time (for more information and a list of past moderators, [click here](#)).

Eventually, H-Net began requiring a password. Interactive discussion was no longer easy. Happily, by this time, AAA had begun offering listserv support; and so, in Spring 2015, under then-President Linda Garro, I began SMA listserv development work with Vernon Horn at the AAA.

In Summer 2015, with Lily Shapiro at the helm as our inaugural moderator, the [SMA listserv](#) was launched. [Stephanie Cruz](#) took over at the beginning of Summer 2016. ***The goal for the [SMA Listserv](#) is to provide a member-to-member forum for communication that will support member networking and mentoring, and facilitate the distribution of time-sensitive announcements.*** SMA members are enrolled automatically, with no password needed.

So far I've mentioned four means of communication: *Second Opinion*, our *AN* column, our website, and the SMA listserv. There is also a [Facebook page](#). SMA even [tweets](#)! ***Through such [social media](#), SMA aims to establish a strong publicly accessible digital presence and a forum through which SMA's growing digital audience and community can engage.*** Our social media communication streams have been run by our *Second Opinion* editor, currently the intrepid [Liz Lewis](#), who actually wears the broader staff title, Digital Communications Manager. As we move forward, we will be seeking volunteers to help manage these and perhaps other new or emerging social media. If you think you might enjoy this kind of service work, please contact [Liz](#) or [Erin](#). As you will learn later in this issue of *Second Opinion*, Liz is soon off for other pastures; the incoming Digital Communications Manager, [Saira Akhtar Mehmood](#), would also be happy to talk to you about how you can pitch in.

**Speaking of staff, now is a good time to** introduce our new Administrative Assistant, [Cassandra Wilson](#). Cassandra is a graduate student in the [Department of Anthropology at San Diego State University](#). She is interested in elective vaccine refusal within minority populations and the knowledge and beliefs held by health care providers themselves. She also is interested in the effects of racism and classism in epidemiology, and the ways in which fear and mistrust within socially marginalized populations alter the outcomes of healthcare programs.

Please join me in welcoming Saira and Cassandra to the fold—and thanking Liz for her great work on SMA's behalf. **Please join me also on Friday, November 18 at the Business/Awards Meeting and Reception, scheduled to take place in the Hilton in Salon A.** I look forward to talking to you all in person there!

Until The Meetings,  
Regards,  
Elisa (EJ) Sobo

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## **SMA at the AAAs**

By [Mary Anglin](#) (University of Kentucky), [Athena McLean](#) (Central Michigan University), and [Cathleen Wilging](#) (PIRE)

The Society for Medical Anthropology Program Committee is delighted to announce an exciting slate of sessions for the upcoming meetings of the American Anthropological Association, to be held in Minneapolis on November 16-20. Our programming includes 17 sessions comprised of individually volunteered abstracts, including a session of 13 posters, five roundtable sessions, and 46 sessions organized by SMA members. The full online program for the Annual Meeting is available [here](#).

A partial list of the vast range of panel topics includes: the contributions and dimensions of "implementation science" within medical anthropology, ethnographies of disability in the Middle East/North Africa, frameworks for understanding end-of-life care, theorization and anthropological investigations of biofinance, ethnographic examinations of chemical exposures in everyday life, investigating moral economies of care, state-making and the politics of health, consideration of the "ends of AIDS," anthropological investigations of syndemics, the performativity of data, and ethical concerns related to research with vulnerable populations.

The roundtable sessions will discuss: a "beginner's guide" to the NIH; refugees, anthropological contributions in studying/responding to the Zika crisis; prisoners, exiles, and violence within the context of contemporary geo-political matters; the application and "hierarchical entanglements" of imaging studies as authoritative biotechnology; and medical anthropology's involvement at local and global levels in addressing contemporary social, political and environmental problems.

With other sections of the AAA, the SMA is co-sponsoring six invited sessions:

- "Health and Human Rights in the U.S.: Violations, Representations, and Action" (Co-sponsor: Society for the Anthropology of North America)
- "Post-Genomic Constitutions: Law, Science and the Politics of Inclusion"(Co-sponsor: Association for Political and Legal Anthropology)
- "Conceiving a Generous Anthropology: Honoring the Work of Rayna Rapp" (Co-sponsor: Association for Feminist Anthropology)
- "Rethinking Gender Normativity, Sexuality, and Morality through Non-Biomedical Epistemologies" (Co-sponsor: Association for Queer Anthropology)
- "Evidence? Accident? Discovery? Psychosis, Moral Subjectivity and Care" (Co-sponsor: Society for Psychological Anthropology)
- "The Queer Space of Disability Infrastructure and Design" (Co-sponsor: Association for Queer Anthropology)

Taken as a whole, the sessions reflect medical anthropology's depth and reach, as well as the value of our subdiscipline for considerations of "Evidence, Accident and Discovery."

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## **Announcement for SMA Sustaining Members**

New this year at the AAA meetings #AAA2016, Sustaining Members of SMA will have the opportunity to pick up Red Ribbons for their badges in recognition of their contribution to the society. If you are a sustaining member, just ask for your ribbon upon registration at the meetings. More will be said about the red ribbons at our Business Meeting Friday night. We look forward to seeing you all there!

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## **AAA Workshop: That Almost Finished Journal Article**

Are you sitting on the third draft of a paper you haven't gotten around to submitting? Stuck changing a conference presentation or dissertation chapter into a publishable article? Avoiding revising an article for resubmission because the reviewers' comments were daunting? Do you have questions about peer review and editorial processes?

This workshop will be help on Thursday, November 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The facilitator will lead you through analyzing components of your draft article, checking that you have: hooked readers at the beginning, balanced the structure of the article, provided signposts and transitions guiding readers through your argument, linked data logically to analysis, written a solid conclusion and accurate abstract, and taken other steps to increase the likelihood that your paper will be accepted for publication. The facilitator demystifies the peer review process, discusses strategies for steady publication, and provides checklists for manuscript preparation.

Bring two double-spaced print copies of a draft manuscript you are planning to submit or resubmit to a journal. The first page should include your current abstract, total word count, name of the journal planned for submission, and maximum words permitted by that journal. Bringing a laptop is also recommended.

For more information, contact [Dr. Jaida Samudra](#), a medical anthropologist with over fifteen years experience editing journal articles and scholarly books in the social sciences.

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## **Society for Medical Anthropology & Society for Psychological Anthropology Joint Speed Mentoring Activity Reception**

By [Juan Luque](#) (Medical University of South Carolina) and [Tawni Tidwell](#) (Emory University)

SMA and SPA members, please mark your calendars for our first speed mentoring event collaboration, to be held at the AAA's on Thursday, November 17 at 7:45 pm.

Both the SMA and SPA are highly committed to faculty-student mentoring. The SPA has sponsored well-

acclaimed lunch mentoring experiences at past AAA meetings, as well as student-faculty workshops in section meetings on topics such as healing, interdisciplinary collaborative research, comparative ethics, publishing, and mixed methods research. The SMA launched its inaugural mentoring program at the AAA meeting in Denver in 2015 and continues to build on that pilot model. As an illustration of the success of the initiative, one mentor wrote, “Fantastic concept for a program and form of service for SMA. I wish it had existed when I was a student. Allows students to develop valuable networks outside their university early on, which is critical for career development.” Some participants suggested refinements to the matching system, circulation of more reminders to recruit students, and a “speed mentoring” event where students could meet a variety of mentors in a relatively short period of time.

Following these suggestions, and in collaboration with SPA, we conceived of the “speed mentoring” event reception to be held at the upcoming AAA Meetings. For this reception we have paired 30-35 senior faculty and practitioners with over 40 graduate students, postdocs, and a few junior faculty to meet for 3-4 brief speed mentoring sessions during the event. We will evaluate the activity with a short post-event survey and a longer survey delivered electronically. We are hopeful that this will be a productive activity and that mentees will schedule phone or digital meetings throughout the year with one of the mentors if they believed that a “match” was made, and such meetings will be productive for their career trajectory.

For more information about the speed mentoring event, please contact [Tawni Tidwell](#).

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## **SMA Board Election Results**

We are pleased to announce the election of five new Executive Board Members: Arachu Castro is our new President Elect, Clara Han is our new Secretary, Carlyn Egesa will fill the student board seat, and Andrea Whittaker and Junko Kitanaka will fill two at-large seats for us. They will be profiled in the next edition of Second Opinion as well as on the SMA Website. Outgoing Board members are Linda Garro, Athena MacLean, James Pfeiffer, Jonathan Stillo, and Janelle Taylor.

SMA extends a hearty thanks to all candidates as well as those whose names are listed. Service is essential to the health of the Society. Nominations will be open soon for the next round of elections and we hope that everyone will consider putting their name into the hat. For more information, please contact [Eileen Moyer](#).

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## **Photo from the Field**





“Shake your shoulders with us,” Cameroonian immigrants dance at a Born House celebration, held in honor of a newborn, fostering belonging to a migrant community, Berlin 2010.

Credit: [Pamela Feldman-Savelsberg](#) (Carleton College).

## **SMA Zika Temporary Interest Group**

By [Juliet Bedford](#) (Anthrologica) and [Kristin Hedges](#) (Grand Valley State University)

The SMA’s Zika Temporary Interest Group (TIG), described in the previous newsletter, continues to be a platform for active discussion and information sharing. There are currently 118 members, and the group’s Facebook page is accessible [here](#).

The response sub-committee surveyed the members and has developed a database of TIG and AAA members who are involved in Zika-related research or whose research may have thematic or regional relevance. Please email [Kristin Hedges](#) for further information.

Although the TIG has focused primarily on Latin America and the Caribbean, with the spread of the epidemic to West Africa and South East Asia the steering committee is particularly interested to recruit new members that have a broader geographical focus. We are trying to keep the database up to date and as relevant as possible, so please complete the [survey](#).

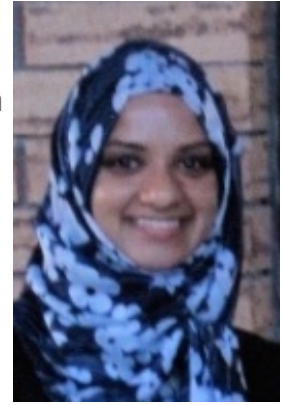
Juliet Bedford from [Anthrologica](#) continues to work closely with the TIG, and has been able to share preliminary findings and key considerations from its members with the broader international response to the Zika epidemic, looking at ways to operationalize recommendations at global, regional, and national levels. For the latest situation report from the WHO please go to this [website](#).

The Zika TIG will hold a [panel](#) at the AAA Annual Meeting on Saturday November 19 from 1:45-3:30 p.m. We would encourage colleagues to attend and participate in the discussions.

We will also be hosting a second webinar in early December. This will be a valuable opportunity for colleagues to share their findings and analysis from recent research, and to discuss how results may be used to shape on-going interventions. The exact date has yet to be finalized, so please check for updates at this [link](#).

## **SMA Welcomes New Digital Communications Manager**

The SMA is excited to announce our new Digital Communications Manager, Saira Mehmood. Sara is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Southern Methodist University. Her research focuses on mental illness, stigma, and disclosure in New Orleans, Louisiana, and examines how individuals diagnosed with a serious mental illness and their caregivers perceive recovery.



The Digital Communications Manager plays a key role in the SMA's communications initiatives, such as by managing all aspects of the SMA's newsletter (Second Opinion) and ensuring that the SMA maintains an active social media presence. Sarah replaces Liz Lewis, who served us meritoriously for the past two years and is excited to begin new professional adventures upon completing her PhD.

Please join us in welcoming Saira!

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## **Snapshots from the Northern Peruvian Andes**

By Kathryn Oths (University of Alabama) and Adam Booher (Digital Development Communications)

The photos derive from a visual component to our ongoing medical anthropological restudy in the northern Peruvian Andes. Extensive ecological, economic, and sociocultural shifts have occurred in the Northern Peruvian Highlands in the past 25 years. We are documenting the changes and continuities in medical beliefs and practices, secular trends in child growth, health outcomes, and healer availability in the hamlet of Chugurpampa.





Neptali, an 89 year old campesino who spent many years of his young adult life working in the Quiruvilca silver mines.





Don Felipe, renowned bonesetter and healer of the hamlet of Chugurpampa, on his burro.



A local girl with her puppy.

*Kathryn Oths is a biocultural medical anthropologist with an area specialization in Latin America. Her work has been conducted using a combination of traditional anthropological methods and quantitative research designs.*

*Adam Booher is a documentary filmmaker who's work has focused on social justice and cultural studies, and has garnered international recognition. After studying both anthropology and filmmaking at The*

## **SIG News**

### **SIG Business Meetings at the AAAs**

Members are encouraged to attend the SIG Business Meetings, which are open to all interested conference attendees. A full list of this year's SIG meetings is available [here](#) or, for your convenience, below:

- Anthropology and Mental Health Interest Group: November 17, 12:15-1:30
- Disability Research Interest Group: November 18, 12:15-1:30
- Complementary and Alternative Medicine and Integrative Medicine: November 18, 12:15-1:30
- Science and Medicine in South Asia: November 18, 12:15-1:30
- AIDS and Anthropology Research Group: November 18, 12:15-1:30
- Dying and Bereavement: November 18, 12:15-1:30
- Medical Anthropology Student Association: November 19, 12:15-1:30
- Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Study Group: November 19, 12:15-1:30
- Science, Technology, and Medicine Interest Group: November 19, 12:15-1:30
- Critical Anthropology of Global Health Study Group: Saturday, November 19, 12:15-1:30
- Zika Temporary Interest Group: Saturday, November 19, 12:15-1:30

### **Medical Anthropology Student Association (MASA)**

MASA invites all students to attend its annual business meeting which will be held at the AAA meetings in Minneapolis, MN (room TBD) on Saturday, November 19, 12:15-1:30 p.m. (Schedule 5-0550).

This will be an informal and friendly meeting of graduate and undergraduate student medical anthropologists. Come and meet the outgoing and incoming SMA student representatives, and hear about ways of getting involved with MASA and opportunities for travel awards, paper prizes, volunteering, and mentoring through SMA and MASA. All are welcome and encouraged to come.

### **Science, Technology, and Medicine (STM) SIG**

**Elections:** We encourage our membership to attend the STM Business meeting on Saturday, November 19 at 12:15 at the AAA 2016 conference. While we will share the agenda closer to the conference on the STM listserv, we will be encouraging people to nominate (either themselves or their colleagues) for the opening position of chair. Being part of and contributing to the STM, Special Interest Group (SIG) of the SMA is a opportunity to stay connected with the larger community and also contribute your service to the larger profession.

**Social Media:** The STM Interest Group would also like to announce the launch of its twitter account @ScienceTechMed. This is part of the groups' initiative to increase participation globally, by engaging on relevant issues throughout the year, which culminates in an annual meeting at the AAAs. STM has also been increasing its STM digital footprint with a Facebook account, which now has a 2060 strong following. We encourage participants to connect via [Facebook](#). For further information, please refer [here](#).

### **Critical Anthropology of Global Health (CAGH) Interest Group**

**End of AIDS:** Richard Parker, Nora Kenworthy, and Matthew Thomann are co-chairing a new Takes a Stand initiative on the "End of AIDS." Our aim is threefold: to bring a critical, anthropological voice to discourses surrounding the "end of AIDS" and declining funding for HIV/AIDS programs; to gather and disseminate key ethnographic evidence relating to the political and social contexts in which policies and discourses are being crafted and carried out; and to increase the voices of anthropologists in key debates surrounding the future of AIDS treatment and prevention programs.

**Take a Stand on Global Health Education:** The CAGH SIG is launching a Take a Stand initiative on global health education. With the exponential growth of university-based global health training programs, critical anthropologists of global health have identified several trends that work against the goal of health equity. This includes the treatment of patients in impoverished settings by visiting students and trainees as a means of gaining clinical experience. For this Take a Stand initiative, we intend to:

- ascertain current norms and guidelines governing the provision of clinical services by unqualified students and trainees
- build a database of anthropological literature that describes this phenomenon and its impacts

- create a policy statement that can be used to support existing efforts to prevent the instrumentalization of vulnerable populations for personal advancement.

**Take a Stand on e/m-health and telemedicine:** We are excited to announce a recent online publication from the Critical Anthropology of Global Health (CAGH) special interest group. The publication is a Takes-a-stand statement on the contribution of anthropology to e/m-health and telemedicine, found [here](#).

## **Death and Bereavement SIG**

At the AAA meetings the Death and Bereavement Special Interest Group of the Society of Medical Anthropology will host a Knowledge Exchange on Wednesday morning from 8:30 to 12:30. We invite students and scholars to meet with researchers in the field. Participants will have an opportunity to meet with many researchers to discuss their work and interests. This SIG has a listserv to provide members with information of conferences and employment opportunities. It also has organized international panels at conferences. Two panels will be held at the AAA conference. At the SFAA/SMA conference an international panel was held as well as a business meeting.

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## **Photo Essay: Open Walls**

By [Ilaria Cover](#) (University Rovira i Virgili)

The following images come from the public psychiatric hospital of Alexandria, Egypt, where I carried out my fieldwork between October 2013 and May 2014.

With the aim of studying the institutional life of a group of Egyptian women, I organized drawing and photo sessions inside the hospital in which patients, staff members and myself worked together to represent graphically their experience of the institution.

With its almost 1000 inhabitants, the Alexandria psychiatric hospital can be defined as a ‘parallel’ or an ‘invisible’ city within the crowded Mediterranean metropolis. The ‘total institution’ walls, however strong, are not impermeable to the wider Egyptian society, a society imbued with numerous expressions of social suffering. On the one hand, these walls confine and isolate patients; on the other, they protect them from the harshness of the outside world. They are, somehow, Open Walls.

In my doctoral dissertation, “Open Walls: the Experience of Psychiatric Institutionalization through Egyptian women drawings,” I have drawn on different metaphors in order to facilitate the transmission of experiential and theoretical meanings to the reader. The cycle of respiration – inhalation and exhalation, interrupted by a phase of apnea – served as an organizing metaphor to describe my experience of the institution, as well as the experience of some women inpatients. Following this metaphor, I invite you to plunge for a quick visual journey across the Alexandria psychiatric hospital.





Fig. 1 Entering the parallel world of the asylum. If you come from the outside, from the world of supposedly “normal” people, you may feel relieved when you get through the hospital main gate. Here you hear no noise, see no garbage, and don’t feel bothered by lewd comments on women. Everything is symmetrical and orderly: straight lines prevail and every building has its assigned function. You think everything is under control. Still, you feel at ease only because you haven’t yet met the inhabitants of this invisible city: you are inside it, but still at its periphery.





Fig. 2: An upside-down world. This photo was taken by a female inpatient during a photography session organized in the hospital garden. The peculiar image composition is not motivated by an artistic choice, but by the unfamiliarity with the digital camera, a tool many patients saw for the first time on that occasion. In the public psychiatry hospital many goods and services essential for a quality care – and for a dignified life – are missing, as mental health sector in Egypt receives a meager investment from the state health expenditure.

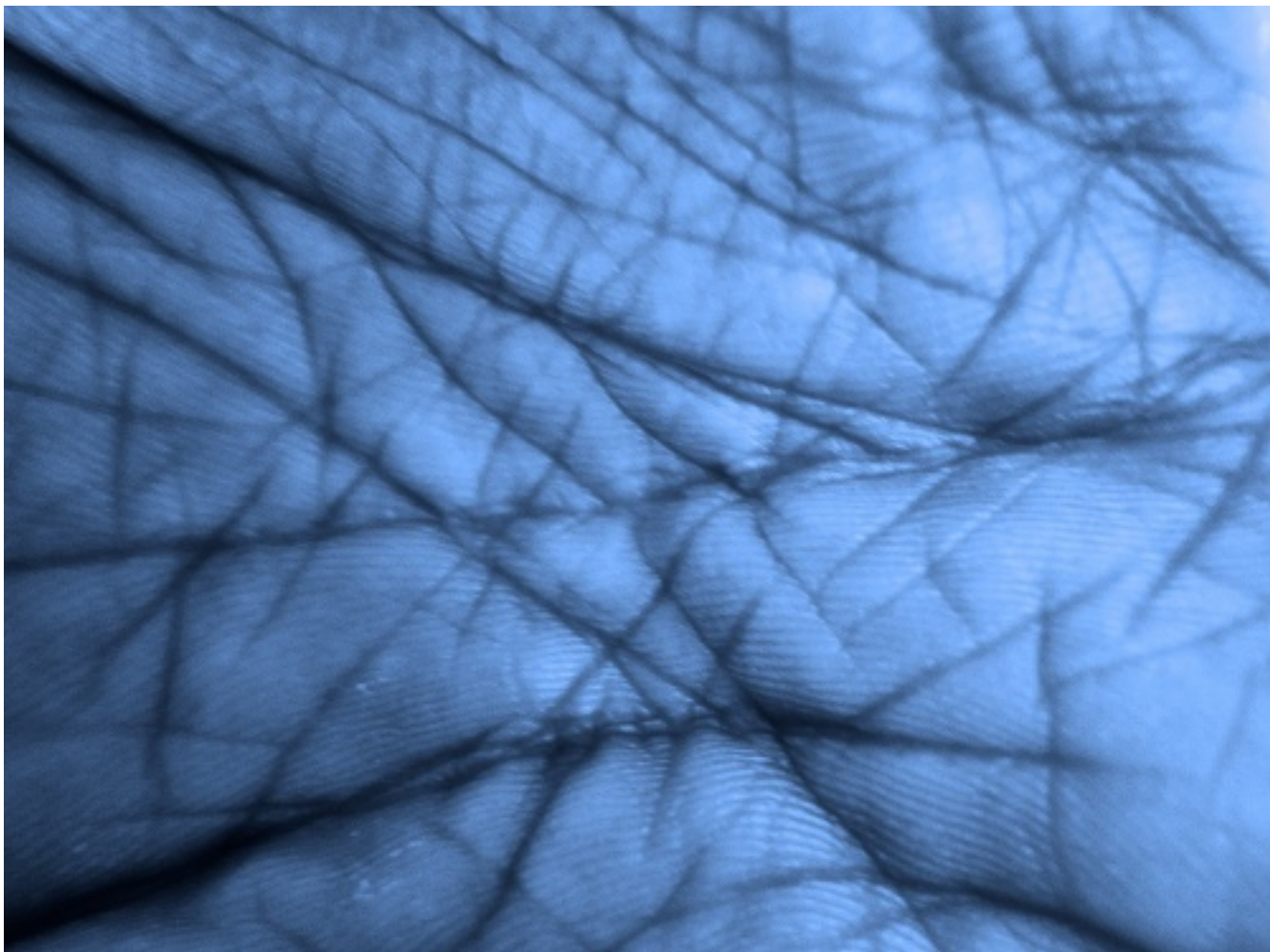


Fig. 3 Nahla's palm, accidental shot. Through a slow but persistent process, institutional logic manages to penetrate

the person, affecting their self-concept and modeling their body. The process of institutionalization, especially in contexts where poverty worsens the already dramatic conditions of a mental hospital, allows for an alarming mimesis between the patients and the space in which they are confined. Nahla has been institutionalized for more than 20 years, receiving no visits from her family. Would a fortune-teller be able to decipher the despair condensed in her intricate palm lines?



Fig. 4 Embodying the institution... but not completely. Water – the institutional logic – covers the greater part of these women's bodies, to the extent that some of them seem to have completely lost their color – their idiosyncrasies. The author of this drawing was Nora, a woman in her thirties who, the harsh conditions she was living in the institution notwithstanding, never lost a creative sense of humour. To a psychologist who asked her if she knew why she was at the hospital and what was the name of her illness, she sarcastically replied: "I don't have a brain, you know, other people think for me and I pay them two million Egyptian pounds for each idea". Sarcasm, together with silence and defiance, are 'strategies of resistance' some patients deploy to question psychiatric discourse and to cope with the roughness of institutional life.





Fig. 5 The hospital as an aquarium: not just a metaphor! In November 2015, when I was about to write the conclusion of my dissertation, heavy rains overwhelmed Alexandria causing, among other damages, the collapse of the precarious sewage and drainage system of its psychiatric hospital. What until that moment had worked for me as a useful metaphor – that of the hospital as an aquarium – became now an alarming reality. Patients had to be evacuated from the ground floor wards because they were completely flooded. Some of them were sent home, while others moved to the first floor wards, which were already crowded. This episode confirmed something that my research inside the hospital made clear from its beginning: disadvantaged sections of the population are the first and preferential victims of that subtle but solid network of forces that is structural violence.

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## **General Announcements**

### **SMA in *Anthropology News***

Opioids: The New/Old Frontier of Addicted Pregnancy, by Kelly Ray Knight, is currently open access in AN's SMA news feature.

### **SMA Website Needs Your Photos**

Members are invited to submit photos from the field for display on the SMA website. Please email high resolution photos to [webmaster@medanthro.net](mailto:webmaster@medanthro.net) and include the following in the body of the email: your name, email, link to your website or social media (optional), photo title, and a 1-3 sentence description of your photo.

### **SMA Service Lists: Is Your Name Spelled Correctly?**

The SMA Board has been working hard to gather historic data regarding Board service, both for elected and certain ex officio members. About six months ago, we put out a call for assistance and many members supplied very helpful information. We need just a little more assistance to wrap up the project.

Our lists have been posted on the SMA Website. Please click into both our [elected](#) and [ex-officio](#) (AN Section News editor, Webmaster, etc.) lists and help us to identify any leftover errors as well as to extend our records further back in time, inasmuch as that will be possible. Note that if the hyperlinks above don't work for you, you can find each list at the bottom of the current board roster [here](#). Please review the lists and check to see if names are accurately spelled, and that years of service are properly represented. If you notice an error or a missing name, please email [Cassandra Wilson](#) immediately.

### **Call for Papers and Posters**

#### **4th Cascadia Seminar in Medical Anthropology**

Ethnographic Adventures in Medical Anthropology

April 21-23, 2017

Western Washington University

Bellingham, WA, USA

Abstract Deadline: November 28, 2016

<http://www.cascadiaseminar.org/>

The Cascadia Seminar is an experiment in creating a new kind of intellectual space for medical anthropology in the "Cascadia" region (i.e., the US Pacific Northwest and British Columbia). The Cascadia Seminar is a small, intimate, high-interest, low-cost weekend conference organized collaboratively by medical anthropologists on faculty at a number of different universities and colleges in the US Pacific Northwest and British Columbia.

The Cascadia Seminar will begin the evening of Friday April 21, 2017 with a keynote address by Amade M'charek, Professor of Anthropology of Science at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam. Four papers will be presented on Saturday April 22nd, and three on Sunday, April 23rd, with no concurrent sessions. Each paper presenter will have forty-five minutes to present a substantial, well worked-out paper, with ample time for lively discussion. All participants are encouraged to attend all papers, and optional no-host meals together will offer additional opportunities for conversation. The WWU Anthropology Department will provide coffee & snacks.

Medical anthropologists (from everywhere) are invited to [submit abstracts for papers](#). Please submit your abstract (350 words maximum) by November 28, 2016. As a way to encourage student-faculty networking, undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit abstracts for posters which will be displayed throughout the weekend and discussed during coffee breaks. Posters are accepted on a rolling basis.

Abstracts will be reviewed by a committee of medical anthropologists on faculty at our various institutions, all of whom also plan to attend. The committee will select seven paper abstracts, seeking papers that



promise to be ethnographically rich and intellectually exciting. Posters will be accepted until space is filled. Decisions will be announced by January 7, 2017.

The registration to the conference is free of charge, though pre-registration is required in order to keep numbers manageable. A limited number of hotel rooms are available at a reduced rate at the Hotel Bellwether and Guesthouse Inn. Please see the accommodations page for details.

### **CFP: Special Issue of *Transgender Studies Quarterly***

This special issue, edited by Eric Plemons and Chris Straayer, will explore the vital and contested place of surgical intervention in the making of trans\* bodies, theories, and space. The full call for papers is available here.

### **Call for Applications:**

The University of California, Irvine, Department of Anthropology invites applications for the M.A. in Social Sciences with a concentration in Medicine, Science, and Technology Studies program. This one-year program uses an interdisciplinary approach to prepare students to respond to the significant and rapidly changing impact of medicine and technology upon societies around the world. Admitted students will have the opportunity to work closely with faculty within the Anthropology Department and from around the University.

To Apply:

Applications will be accepted until March 1, 2017, through the UCI Online Application for Graduate Admissions ([apps.grad.uci.edu/ogsa](http://apps.grad.uci.edu/ogsa)). For more information, please visit <http://www.anthropology.uci.edu/grad/ma/index.php> or contact the program director, Angela Jenks, at [ajenks@uci.edu](mailto:ajenks@uci.edu).

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## **Book Announcements**

Barney, K.F. and Perkinson, M.A., eds. *Occupational Therapy with Aging Adults: Promoting Quality of Life through Collaborative Practice* (Elsevier, 2016)

Brownstein, Janet. *Preterm Birth in the United States: A Sociocultural Approach* (Springer Publications, 2016)

Brunson, Jan. *Planning Families in Nepal: Global and Local Projects of Reproduction* (Rutgers University Press, 2016)

Buchbinder, Mara and Michele Rivkin-Fish, and Rebecca Walker. *Understanding Health Inequalities and Justice: New Conversations Across the Disciplines* (UNC Press, 2016)

Cosminsky, Sheila. *Midwives and Mothers: The Medicalization of Childbirth on a Guatemalan Plantation* (University of Texas Press, 2016)

Deomampo, Daisy. *Transnational Reproduction: Race, Kinship, and Commercial Surrogacy in India* (NYU Press, 2016)

Feldman-Savelsberg, Pamela. *Mothers on the Move: Reproducing Belonging between Africa and Europe* (University of Chicago Press, 2016)

Freidenberg, Judith. *Contemporary Conversations on Immigration in the United States: The View from Prince George's County, Maryland* (Lexington Books, 2016)

Hay-Rollins, Cameron. *Methods that Matter: Integrating Mixed Methods for More Effective Social Science Research* (University of Chicago Press, 2016)

Maes, Kenneth. *The Lives of Community Health Workers: Local Labor and Global Health in Urban Ethiopia* (Routledge, 2016)

Morrissey, Suzanne. *Life Strategies: Motherhood, Poverty, and the WIC Program in Urban America*

(Roman & Littlefield, 2016)

Ostrach, Bayla. *Health Policy in a Time of Crisis: Abortion, Austerity, and Access* (Routledge, 2017)

Singer, Merrill. *A Companion to the Anthropology of Environmental Health* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2016)

Tomori, Cecilia. *Nighttime Breastfeeding: An American Cultural Dilemma* (Berghahn Books, 2016)

Wilkinson, Iain and Arthur Kleinman. *A Passion for Society: How We Think about Human Suffering* (University of California Press, 2016)

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