

# the collage

FALL 2008

Kutztown University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Newsletter

## Faculty highlight



**D**r. James Delle, chair of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, is currently an associate professor of anthropology at Kutztown University. Prior to his coming to Kutztown in 2002, he held positions teaching archaeology at the University of Massachusetts, New York University, and Franklin and Marshall College. He has led archaeological excavations on historic period sites in New York, Pennsylvania, the Republic of Ireland, and Jamaica. He holds degrees from Holy Cross College (B.A. in history), the College of William and Mary (M.A. in anthropology), and the University of Massachusetts (Ph.D. in anthropology).

Dr. Delle has presented lectures on his work at Columbia University, Temple University, Syracuse University, the University of Maryland, the University of Tennessee, the College of William and Mary, and the University of Connecticut. He has present-

ed the results of his research at 53 international, national, and regional conferences. He is the author of 23 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and has published

two books. He has served as the editor of the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* since 2001, and has provided peer review comments on manuscripts to the top journals in his field, including *American Anthropologist*, *Current Anthropology*, *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, *Ethnohistory*, *Historical Archaeology*, and the *Journal of Social Archaeology*.

Since completing his dissertation work in 1996, Dr. Delle has been awarded \$237,000 in external grants from the American Council of Learned Societies, the Earthwatch Foundation, the Keck Foundation, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. He has successfully applied for professional development funds from Kutztown University and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

Since 2004, Dr. Delle has served as president of the Pennsylvania Archaeological Research Center, a non-profit organization that provides at-cost archaeological consulting services to non-profit organizations in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. A

project he co-directed at the Thaddeus Stevens House excavations in Lancaster was awarded the 2005 Preservation Pennsylvania Award for Archaeology, and he was the co-recipient of the 2004 Heisey Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service, awarded by the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County. He served as a Pennsylvania Humanities Council Commonwealth Speaker in 2004 and 2005.

Since coming to Kutztown, Dr. Delle has served as an officer on the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Curriculum Committee, and is currently a member of the University Promotions Committee and an at-large representative to the University Senate. He has also served on the CLAS Laboratory Safety Committee and the Chambliss Academic Achievement Awards Committee.

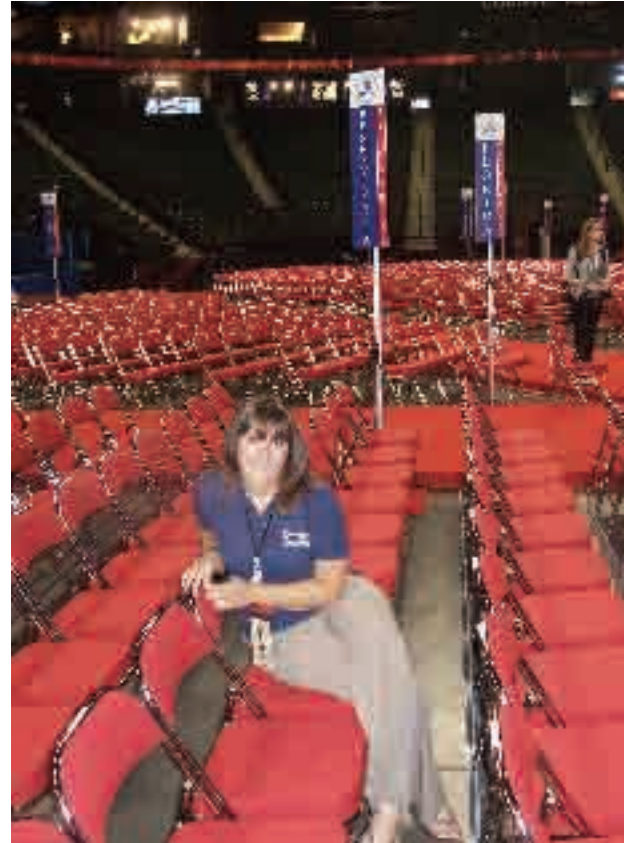
Focusing his work on experiential learning, Dr. Delle has directed student-run excavations at the Fort Augusta site in Northumberland County, the Thaddeus Stevens site in Lancaster County, the William Parker/Christiana Riot site in Lancaster County, and the Rose Hill slave quarters site in Geneva, N.Y. His most recent accomplishment was the installation of a student-designed museum exhibition on local native cultures. "Lenape: The Original People" that ran at the Reading Public Museum from May through September 2008, is currently installed in the Department of Anthropology/Sociology museum on the fourth floor of Old Main, and will run at the Kutztown Area Historical Society from November 2008 through April 2009. ■

# Student highlight

Senior political science majors Jessica Moyer, Erika Reinhard, and Krista VanGaasbeck had the opportunity to attend the Democratic and Republican national conventions this summer as part of The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars program “Campaign 2008: The Presidential Academic Seminar Series.” In the middle of a historic presidential election, this opportunity was truly one these KU students will never forget. Jessica Moyer and Erika Reinhard attended the Democratic National Convention (DNC) in Denver, Colo., while Krista VanGaasbeck attended the Republican National Convention (RNC) in St. Paul, Minn.

The program allowed each student to participate in field work leading up to the conventions. All three students were placed in fieldwork positions with the media. Moyer was placed in a fieldwork position with CNN, and Reinhard worked with New York News 1 at the DNC. At the RNC, VanGaasbeck was chosen for an interview by the BBC and the show was aired the following day. Along with the fieldwork experience, each student was thrilled with the opportunity to experience the conventions “up close and personal.”

At the RNC, VanGaasbeck witnessed many popular political figures speak including Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney, Mike Huckabee, and Tim Pawlenti. She had the opportunity to meet former Governor Pataki of New York, Cowboy Troy, Sway from MTV, John Rich, and Jon Voight among many others. Of course, having the opportunity to observe presidential nominee John McCain and to hear Vice Presidential nominee Sarah Palin speak were also significant moments of the convention. When talking about her experience VanGaasbeck used the phrase: “words cannot describe,” and says that “the experience was great.” During her trip, she also had the chance to express her views on youth voters and learn more ways to get America’s youth involved. Having participated in this historic convention, VanGaasbeck intends to increase her role and party support.



**Krista VanGaasbeck** sitting in the Pennsylvania section of the Delegates chairs at the Republican National Convention.



**Jessica Moyer and Erika Reinhard** at Regis University prior to the Democrat National Convention.

The DNC provided opportunities and incredible experiences for Moyer and Reinhard. The energy of Denver, Colo. during the week leading up to the convention was exciting, said Moyer; noting that it was refreshing to see so many people interested in politics and aware of the significance of this election. Moyer and Reinhard both felt that one of the best parts of the DNC was watching Barack Obama accept the Democratic nomination for the presidency. Reinhard said: “Invesco Field pulsed with electricity as Obama gave his historic speech. It was surreal.” As well as witnessing Obama’s acceptance speech, Moyer watched Hillary Clinton give her speech. She described Clinton’s speech as: “one of the most powerful and unifying speeches I have ever heard.” Whether it was the DNC or the RNC, Moyer, Reinhard, and VanGaasbeck were part of history, and all had unforgettable educational experiences. ■

## NEW COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES FACULTY

**Joleen Loucks, Department of Anthropology and Sociology**, Dr. Loucks is a Ph.D. candidate at the State University of New York at Albany. She holds her M.A. from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Her research interests include focus on families, especially divorce and intergenerational relationships.

**Karen Guzzo, Department of Anthropology and Sociology**, Dr. Guzzo is a social demographer and family sociologist who studies trends in family formation and child-bearing behaviors. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

**Angelika Antoni, Department of Biological Sciences**, Dr. Antoni received her Ph.D. from the University of Montana. Her publications and research interests range from mutagenesis and DNA repair to the genetic basis for autoimmune disease.

**Gregory P. Setliff, Department of Biological Sciences**, Dr. Setliff received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He studies the taxonomy, systematics, and ecology of weevils from the Indo-Australian region. He has worked extensively in Papua, New Guinea, where his research focused on biotic inventories, rearing studies, and beetle ecology.

**Dale Parson, Department of Computer Science**, Dr. Parson received his Ph.D. from Lehigh University. His research interests include real-time computer pattern recognition and improvisation of music, computer enhancement of other performance arts, software tools, and embedded systems.

**Gregory Schaper, Department of Computer Science**, Dr. Schaper received his Ph.D. from the University of Central Florida. His research interests include the design and evolution in curriculum, robotics, and graph theory.

**Yong Zhang, Department of Computer Science**, Dr. Zhang received his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. His interests include computation complexity theory and quantum computation.

**AnnMarie Cordner, Department of Criminal Justice**, Dr. Cordner received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. Her research interests include: criminal justice planning; research methods and statistics; hate crimes; victimization studies; race, gender and criminal justice; theories of crime and delinquency; capital punishment; and homeland security.

**Jonathan Kremser, Department of Criminal Justice**, Jon Kremser received his master's degree in criminology from the University of Ottawa. His research interests include juvenile delinquency, juvenile justice, theories of crime and delinquency, and school crime and violence.

**Cara L. Schollenberger, Department of Electronic Media**, Cara Schollenberger received her M.S. from Kutztown University. She is a specialist in designing e-learning environments and coursework, with emphasis on new media applications.

**Anne DeLong, Department of English**, Dr. DeLong's research interests include 19th

century British literature, antebellum American literature, contemporary American and multicultural literature. She received her Ph.D. from Lehigh University.

**Stephanie T. Hundt, Department of English**, Dr. Hundt received her Ph.D. from Lehigh University. Her research interests are in 20th Century American literature, African American literature, film and popular culture, and Native American literature.

**James Rasmussen, Department of Geography**, James Rasmussen received his M.S. from Montanta State University and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Florida. His research interests involve the analysis of environmental system responses to natural and human-induced change, and spatio-temporal variations in these responses.

**John D. Frye, Department of Geography**, John D. Frye's research interests include the application of new remote sensing techniques (such as the soil moisture content determination capabilities of the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission satellite platform), radar, and GIS to the study of land-surface-atmosphere interactions. He received his M.S. from Ball State University and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Georgia.

**Aida Diaz de Leon, Department of Modern Language Studies**, Dr. Diaz de Leon received her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. Her research interests include Latin American autobiography, film, culture studies, and narratives.

## PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

**Dr. Gary Cordner, Criminal Justice Department**, The book, "Police & Society," 4th edition, Oxford University Press, co-authored by Dr. Gary Cordner, Criminal Justice Department, in July 2008.

**Lisa Frye, Department of Computer Science**, co-authored a book chapter, "Topology Management for Wireless Sensor Network," in "Handbook of Wireless Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks," with L. Cheng; Springer, London, edited by Sudip Misra, Isaac Woungang, and Subhas C. Misra, 2008.

**Lyn Phy, Department of Mathematics**, published "Using Technology to Promote Mathematical Discourse Concerning Women in Mathematics," in *Mathematics Teacher*, vol. 101, no. 8, pp. 582-585, April 2008.

**Dr. Yong-Sang Shim** co-authored "Constructing Cost-effective Anomaly Detection Systems for User Identification," which was accepted for the proceedings of WCECS In-

ternational Conference on Computer Science and Applications, San Francisco, October 2008.

**Dr. Kim Shively, Department of Anthropology/Sociology**, in the summer of 2008, published: "Taming Islam: Studying Religion in Secular Turkey," in *Anthropological Quarterly*.

**Dr. Dawn Slack, Department of Modern Language Studies**, in May of 2008, published "An Exploration of Uncanny Connections Through Pat Mora's "The House Of Houses;" in *Hispanic Journal*, vol. 28, no. 2 pp. 133-144, 2007.

**Dr. Todd J. Underwood, Department of Biology**, with S. G. Sealy, published the article "UV reflectance of eggs of brown-headed cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*) and acceptor and rejecter hosts" in the *Journal of Ornithology*, vol. 149, pp.313-321, 2008. ■

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

**Dr. Nancy M. Butler, Department of Biology**, and undergraduate students A.G. Saville-Andree, E. M. Goodman, K. P. Shappell III, D. R. Thomas, and J.W. Ambler, presented "Intra- and Interannual Variation in Composition of Coastal Zooplankton of Chincoteague, Va." at the Meeting of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, St. John's Newfoundland, Canada, July 2008.

**Dr. Nancy M. Butler, Department of Biology**, W. L. Ryan, and undergraduate student D. R. Thomas, presented "Zooplankton Responses to Hydrostatic Pressure Changes" at the Meeting of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, St. John's Newfoundland, Canada, July 2008.

**Dr. Gary Cordner, Department of Criminal Justice**, made the keynote presentation "Progress in Policing" at the Northeastern Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences annual conference in Bristol, Rhode Island, June 2008.

**Carolina Moctezuma**, Department of Modern Language Studies, Dr. Moctezuma received her Ph.D. from Texas Tech University. Her research interests are in contemporary Latin American literature, with an emphasis on emerging literary groups and trends, particularly the Mexican literary group known as "Crack."

**Deborah Mandel**, Department of Nursing, Deborah Mandel received her M.S. from the University of Pennsylvania, and she is a Ph.D. candidate at Rutgers University. Her research interests are in women's health across the life span.

**Donna Sabella**, Department of Nursing, Dr. Sabella received her M.S. from Widener University, and she is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pennsylvania. Her areas of interest include the mental health of women and marginalized populations, psychiatric nursing, and language and communication.

**M. Ashraf Adeel**, Department of Philosophy, Dr. Adeel received his Ph.D. from the University of Hawaii. Dr. Adeel's research interests include the problems of underdetermination and alternative conceptual schemes in philosophies of language and science, pluralism as well as the nature of faith and fundamentalisms in philosophy of religion, universalistic ethics and modernity in Islamic philosophy and religion, and the issues pertaining to the nature of evidence and knowledge in epistemology.

**Kunal Das**, Department of Physical Sciences, Dr. Das received his Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Das's primary research interest is in nanoscale physics, spanning the fields of ultracold atoms, and mesoscopic condensed matter physics. His current work is on the coherent transport properties of electrons and atoms.

**Steve Howell**, Department of Psychology, Dr. Howell received his Ph.D. from McMaster University. Dr. Howell's research interests include neural network modeling of cognition, semantic representations in language and memory, cognitive neuroscience, personality representation, and representations of decision-making.

**Jason Lanter**, Department of Psychology, Dr. Lanter received his Ph.D. from Miami University. His research interests include the psychology of men and masculinity, social roles for men and women, and the attitudes and behaviors of sports fans.

**Edward Hanna**, Department of Social Work, Dr. Hanna received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. His research interests are in the area of theory development for practice with families.

**Kimiko Tanaka**, Department of Social Work, Dr. Tanaka received her Ph.D. from Columbia University. Her research interests are in mental health (psychiatric rehabilitation and families coping with serious mental illness – particularly resilience and support).

## CLAS Offers First Chinese Course

The Department of Modern Languages offered the first introductory course in Mandarin Chinese during the Fall 2008 semester. Professor Xiaomei Niu (pictured below) teaches two sections of Chinese. The course covers language pronunciation, basic grammar, and Chinese simplified character writing system. Additionally, basic aspects of Chinese culture are also presented as a cultural enrichment part of the course.



## ATIONS

**Dr. Diane Johnson**, Department of Anthropology/Sociology, presented two papers: "Community for Doing" and "An Instrument Anyone Can Play" at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Boston, Mass., August 2008.

**Dr. Cristen L. Rosch**, Department of Biology, and undergraduate student Jennifer Nagle, presented "A Potential Link Between Fetal Exposure to the Pesticide Deet and Birth Defects" at the Society for Developmental Biology 67th Annual Meeting, University of Pennsylvania, July 2008.

**Dr. Christopher F. Sacchi and Dr. Anne E. K. Zayaitz**, Department of Biology, presented "Cross-disciplinary study of plant-microbe interaction in the undergraduate curriculum: Class-based research on soybean and the bacterial mutualist, Rhizobium" at the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, Wis., August 6, 2008.

**Randy Schaeffer**, Department of Mathematics, was invited to present the closing address at the Math and Technology Conference for Secondary Teachers Grades 6-12 at West Chester, July 2008. The title of the address was "Teaching Mathematics in the 21st Century."

**Dr. Kim Shively**, Department of Anthropology/Sociology, June 20, 2008, presented "Violence Against Women: Cross-Cultural Considerations" at the annual meetings of the National Women's Studies Association in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Dr. Daniel Spiegel**, Department of Computer Science, presented Teaching Template Classes with All the Advantages, at the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges 2008. Northeastern Region, Staten Island, N.Y., April 2008.

**Dr. Joo Tan**, Department of Computer Science, presented "An Evaluation of Tools Supporting Enhanced Student Collabora-

tion," Frontiers in Education International Conference, October 2008, Saratoga Spring, N.Y. ■

## ACTIVITIES OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Lisa Frye**, Department of Computer Science, received Pennsylvania Infrastructure Technology Alliance grant for "Network Management for Heterogeneous Networks," 2008-2009. ■

## English Professor Named Berks County Poet Laureate



**H**eather Harrison Thomas, an associate professor of English at Kutztown University, was named the third Berks County poet laureate. Thomas, a Berks County native who lives in Muhlenberg Township, was selected from 25 poets who submitted their original works. A Reading Area

Community College panel read the entries and made preliminary selections. The final choice was left to nationally known poet Paul Martin of Allentown.

The concept of a Berks County poet laureate began in 1996 as part of the 25th anniversary celebration of RACC. It is an honorary designation, granted periodically for no set term, with no specific requirements. In the past, Berks poet laureates have been asked to read at public events, especially during the literary festival.

Thomas said she began writing poetry as a way to discover her inner self, and now writes to connect with others and the world. She is the author of seven books of poetry, including "Blue Ruby," "Practicing Amnesia," and "Resurrection Papers." Thomas' poems have been published in eight anthologies, including "Commonwealth: Contemporary Poets on Pennsylvania," and in two tsunami-themed books that raised funds for disaster relief.

## Women In Science Project

**A**lthough women constitute 59 percent of the Kutztown University student body, only 35 percent of physical science students are women. Dr. Kurt Frieauf, professor of geology, is spearheading the Women in Science Project promoting women in science by establishing mentoring programs that connect high school students with college science majors, and college students with professional women scientists. The program provides highly visible examples of successful women scientists, creates a forum in which women can discuss gender-specific career issues in science, and develops a supportive network. The first speaker for the "Setting an Example" speaker series was Adrienne Oakley, a marine geophysicist from the University of Hawaii, who spoke with students and faculty on Sept. 9 about her research studying geology in the Mariana Trench. ■



## Dean's Corner ... Dr. Bashar Hanna

**I**n August, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) welcomed 482 new freshmen to campus. The Class of 2012 is acclimating nicely to campus and we are excited about the talents, questions, and energy they bring to KU.

Associate Dean Zayaitz and I meet with a subset of CLAS Class of 2012 each week for Dinner with the Deans. Besides getting to meet the newest members of our CLAS family; we chat with them about the transition to college life, and we encourage them to understand that "keeping their eye" on the prize (their college degree in four years) is important and attainable.

The Class of 2012 was asked to read "The Last Lecture," by Randy Pausch, over the summer. The freshmen were challenged to take the messages highlighted in the book and apply them to their own lives. If you haven't read this book, I recommend it. It may help you to remember how to tackle a brick wall or two.

This semester, we also welcomed 24 new faculty to the college. A short biography of each new colleague is included in this edition of the Collage. These teaching scholars came to Kutztown with impressive backgrounds and are excited to be educating and working with KU students.



Please join me in welcoming the Class of 2012 and our new faculty to Kutztown.



# Open House

**A** Science/Technology/Math Open House was held on Saturday, October 25 for prospective students interested in majoring in the following areas of study: biology, biochemistry, chemistry, computer science, environmental science, geography, geology, marine science, mathematics, medical technology, and physics.

During the course of the day, students had the opportunity to talk to and have lunch with professors, current students, and alumni; learn about research and other experiential learning opportunities; tour the campus; and talk to admissions, housing and financial aid representatives.

Another Open House is scheduled for the spring. If you know of a high school student interested in pursuing a career in the sciences, math, or technology, please call 610-683-4305 for more information. ■

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Kutztown, PA  
Permit No. 35

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
15200 Kutztown Rd.  
Kutztown, PA 19530-0730

