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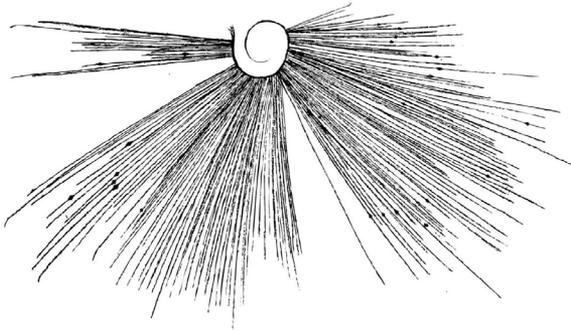
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## Editor's Introduction To Issue #23

*Kathryn MacFarland*

This year was exciting for the staff and the advancement of this journal. We had two simple goals this year: 1) begin the process of shifting toward Open Access, and 2) figure out how to make this journal resonate with its target audience, students of Anthropology regardless of the degree that they hold. Both goals were met. The shift to Open Access has officially begun, with many thanks to the advice of Barbara Mills, former Director of the School of Anthropology; the endless patience of Dan Lee, Director of the Office of Copyright Management & Scholarly Communication for the University of Arizona Library; the unquestioning support of David Raichlen our faculty advisor; the Assistant Editors Leslie Aragon, Maisa Taha, Samantha Grace, and Layout Editor Gabriella Soto. It has not been easy to navigate the University's newest journal hosting software, but the new journal page<sup>1</sup> looks great and will soon be the new repository for all issues, beginning with Issue #1, published in 1944, and featuring the newest issue, #23. The journal will still be hard-copy printed as long as there are funds to continue.

The second goal arises out of a realization amongst the editorial board that *Arizona Anthropologist* is a special publication that should not feel completely bound to the traditional publishing paradigm. Of course, there is no point in "re-inventing the wheel" per se, but sometimes the bounds of a discipline require a push. To this end, the Editorial Board has been planning a Paper Contest, open only to students, that asks authors to think about how Anthropological inquiry and research has been portrayed as well as how it can be useful in popular culture. For example, early science fiction writing has a firm foundation in creating sce-

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<sup>1</sup> The journal repository website will be available at <https://journals.uair.arizona.edu/index.php/arizanthro>

narios in which particular cultural rules are defined, and characters are inserted into this world and will react to those rules. Is this concept so different from agent-based modeling in archaeological research? We can even look to some of these books, and short stories, and analyze the political statements that the author was making and see just how predictive this model was in their discussions of the future. This is the type of inquiry we will be asking our fellow students to explore in the coming year. We look forward to some fascinating and thought-provoking papers.

The substance of Issue #23 represents scholarship of which I am extremely proud. Our featured article is by Brenda Garcia, a new graduate student at the University of Illinois. Garcia's article in this issue of the journal is the result of her undergraduate thesis work at the University of Lethbridge, Canada. The paper, "Sharing the 'Truth' About Cartel Violence on the United States Borderlands," is a thoughtful discussion of the way fear is used by drug cartels, the Mexican and United States Governments on both the federal and local levels to engender violence and assert power in the community of Eagle Pass, Texas. Garcia analyzes recruitment protocols for the United States Border Patrol, the impact of The Merida Initiative and Operation Fast and Furious, and incorporates participant observation in this remarkable discussion of what a person who lives in the border region of Eagle Pass, Texas experiences in everyday life. We are very proud to bring the work of this exciting, young researcher to our readers.

Book reviews are an essential component of the scholarly publishing process. This year we have three reviews by graduate students within the School of Anthropology, University of Arizona to share with you. Julie Armin, a Ph.D. Candidate in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, reviews Thomas Sheridan's *Arizona, A History*. Armin compares this new edition of this book with the original, noting how Sheridan incorporates significant actions of recent years into his narrative of Arizona history. Melanie Medeiros, also a Ph.D. Candidate in Socio-Cultural and Medical Anthropology, reviews *Gender Equity in Health: The Shifting Frontiers of Evidence and Action*, by Gita Sen and Piroska Östlin.

Medeiros utilizes her expertise in the field of Medical Anthropology to not only contextualize this work for a non-specialist audience, but also illustrates how this volume is a comprehensive introduction to the ways in which inequality and inequity within public health are based in gender, race, ethnicity, caste, and class. Marijke Stoll, a Ph.D. Candidate in Archaeology, reviews a volume, *Religious Transformation in the Late Pre-Hispanic Pueblo World*, edited by Donna M. Glowaki and Scott Van Keuren. Stoll describes the importance of this book to archaeological research, in which the authors revisit the material signatures of religion in the Pre-Hispanic American Southwest. While ritual and religion have been researched and theorized in archaeological research, Stoll thinks that this book offers a new perspective by discussing religion and ritual as a differentiated aspect of culture in which local meanings are extremely important to parse from region wide “cult” practices.

This issue of *Arizona Anthropologist* is the product of a collaborative effort. I would like to thank the staff, the School of Anthropology, the authors, the anonymous reviewers, and our supporters within and without the University of Arizona for their work, effort, and patience. As always, Dr. John Olsen has always been an ally of the journal and I would like to thank him for his invaluable assistance. Dr. Barbara Mills, the former Director of the School of Anthropology, Dr. Diane Austin, the current Director of the School of Anthropology, and the School’s administrative staff have given much-appreciated assistance and support. Finally, I would like to especially thank the contributions of our staff: The Assistant Editors: Leslie Aragon (Archaeology), Maisa Taha (Linguistic Anthropology), Samantha Grace (Socio-Cultural Anthropology); Layout Editor: Gabriella Soto; Treasurer: Jonna Knapenberger; Secretary: Karen Kahn; Webmaster: Dana Osborne; Selling and Promotion Committee: Emilio Rodriguez-Alvarez and Sydney Tuller; Paper Contest Committee Chair: Danielle Phelps; and Dr. David Raichlen, our faculty advisor.

Every year, the staff of *Arizona Anthropologist* works to build on the firm foundation of excellence that has typified this journal from its beginning in 1944. This journal is a forum for students to enter the world of publishing, in all capacities. *Arizona Anthropologist* serves as an important bridge within the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona for instilling the ethic of publishing research, participating in the peer-review process, reflecting on what it means to

conduct anthropological fieldwork, and contributing to the field by completing book reviews. In addition to these aspects of publishing, students are afforded an opportunity to participate in the editorial and promotional aspect of publishing- making decisions most do not even consider until they are well into their careers. I am very proud to have been a part of this editorial board for five years. My four years as Layout Editor challenged me as a graphic designer; this year as Editor has challenged my editorial and, especially, organizational skills. Thank you to all those who have been involved with *Arizona Anthropologist* over the years, every one of you (you know who you are!) have made this a wonderful experience and helped me learn lessons that I will take with me into my professional life.

