

# Human Ethology Bulletin

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## *Joie de Vivre in Montreal!*



Old Montreal was the site of the 16th Biennial Conference of the **International Society for Human Ethology** from August 7 through Saturday, August 10. The city lived up to its reputation as one of North America's most beautiful and entertaining cities, renowned for its gourmet dining and bustling nightlife. Members were treated to four excellent plenary addresses that provided much food for thought, as well as four sumptuous luncheons served at the Hotel de Gouverneur, topped off with a Saturday evening banquet at the historic Pierre du Calvet in the heart of the old port, pictured above.

The ISHE conference program included plenary speakers Filippo Aurelli, Barry Bogin, Sarah Hrdy, and Carol van Schaik, as well as symposia, papers, and posters addressing numerous topics within the general domain of Human Ethology. Despite sessions that extended into the evening hours, the talks were all well attended by about 80-100 members. See pages inside for more details and conference photos.

### BALLOT FOR OFFICER ELECTIONS

#### VICE-PRESIDENT / PRESIDENT ELECT

\_\_\_ Glenn Weisfeld

\_\_\_ Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

\_\_\_ Astrid Juette

\_\_\_ Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

Send ballot by mail or e-mail to:

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## Society News

**I. Minutes of the ISHE Board Meeting**

Submitted by ISHE Secretary Frank Salter

Gouverneur Hotel, Montreal, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2002

**A. Present**

PLF Peter LaFreniere (Bulletin editor and acting Chair, in place of Linda Mealey)

LeC Dori LeCroy (Treasurer)

AJ Astrid Juette (Membership)

KG Karl Grammer (Web master)

FS Frank Salter (Secretary)

**Finances**

LeC Reported that Linda Mealey had identified a new problem in the ongoing proceedings to make ISHE a tax exempt foundation.

PLF The conference has been managed frugally, attendance is good, and ISHE will break even.

LeC Presented financial statements for 2001 and January-June 2002.

Main points:

**1. Balance as at June 2002: \$13,277.28**

About \$5,000 is still to be deducted in meeting costs.

AJ Reported the European account balance at €1,946. She raised the question of whether the European bank account should be closed.

FS Suggested that the account might come in useful for paying local costs and diversifying funds between currencies and economies.

KG Reported the need for a new web server. New University of Vienna rules governing server use are pending. Presently ISHE owns the following web addresses:

[www.Humanethology.com](http://www.Humanethology.com)

[www.Humanethology.org](http://www.Humanethology.org)

These addresses belong to Alexandra Gospach in Mains, Germany.

Grammer is planning to rent ISHE.org and ISHE.net, at a cost of \$20 per annum.

A new server with software will cost \$5,000. It's most cost-effective to keep updating software at recommended intervals.

KG had been planning to cover these expenses, but if ISHE receives substantial funds he would like the Society to pay.

PLF The Aldis bequest should come in less than three months, in time to pay for a new server. But difficult to predict.

PLF Asked LeC to report the activities of ISHE's accountant.

LeC The accountant is Rick Brandwein of New York. Not much work needed until ISHE begins receiving more than \$25,000 gross revenue. Then IRS rules require formal accounting.

#### B. *Bylaw amendments*

PL Bylaw amendments should be discussed to prepare for his briefing of members at the opening luncheon.

PL then opened discussion on each of the proposed amendments.

#### C. *Article 3 on membership provisions*

PL Is membership sensitive to cost of dues? Is there a need to lower dues?  
General discussion agreed to provide members the option of a five-year membership bill at \$150 for 5 years.

FS and KG Expressed concern with 'stacking' (collusive signing up of new members to take over a meeting) of the Society by groups wishing to control its funds.

PLF Preventative tactics could include:

(1) Rule requiring prospective members to be nominated by one or two current members by letter.

(2) Rule disallowing new members to vote for the first year after joining.

LeC Concurred, but recommended that the application forms should carry this information.

The board preferred tactic (2) with LeC's provision.

**D. *Newly proposed Article 16 (provision for a new Board of Trustees as the Society's governing body, to consist of the board plus past presidents. The board would be enlarged by an appointed accountant and archivist.)***

Those present expressed much concern with this proposal. PLF disagreed with the archivist and accountant being on the board, let alone the Council. The new body would have too much power, such that it overshadowed the board.

FS Suggested that the Board of Trustees should act as a senate, with veto powers only, not the power to initiate policy. General support for this proposal was expressed.

The board agreed not to hold a vote on Article 16 but instead open the subject for discussion. As it stands, the concensus was that the proposal is premature and contingent on the Aldis bequest.

#### E. *President Linda Mealey's illness*

Because of the unknown dimensions of Linda's illness, it was decided to appoint a working committee to co-manage the final stages of the Aldis bequest with Linda, consisting of Dori LeCroy, Nancy Segal (should Linda be unavailable) and Peter LaFreniere.

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#### a) *Minutes of Opening Luncheon,*

Peter LaFreniere opened the ISHE Montreal meeting. He informed members of the presence of a Belgian student TV crew.

Daniel Berskowitz, the leader of the three-person team, explained his research objectives and methods. Interest lies only in the informal debates between scientists, mainly over coffee between panels.

Frank Salter added that members should feel relaxed about refusing permission for the students to film.

LaFreniere discussed the bequest and by law amendments briefly, noting that Article 16 would not be voted on at this meeting.

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#### Minutes of ISHE Open Business Meeting 10 August 2002, 17 hrs.

Present: 19 members plus 6 board members  
Peter LaFreniere (Bulletin editor and acting Chair)

Dori LeCroy (Treasurer)

Astrid Juette (Membership)

Karl Grammer (Web Master)

Frank Salter (Secretary)

Johan van der Dennen (Vice President)

Officers presented their reports.

#### F. *Highlights and questions from the floor*

Grammer reported that the website received about 1,000 visits per day, with the main search terms being 'human ethology', 'sex', 'Konrad Lorenz', and 'Eibl-Eibesfeldt'.

Q. from Allen Kugel: Could website links of prospective members be elicited on membership application and renewal forms?

Van der Dennen reported progress in organizing the next meeting. The two candidate cities are Groenigen in the Netherlands and Ghent in Belgium. The latter offers Medieval architecture and a local organizer, Chris Dupont. Ghent is therefore preferable.

Wulf Schiefenhoewel suggested Groenigen, the advantage being a local ethology group of about 70 students. LaFreniere argued for Ghent, mainly

because of local organizer and easy access by attendees.

Van der Dennen: The prospective date is August 2004. HBES meets mid-July in Berlin, and the Behavioral Genetics Society meets in mid July. The meeting agreed to leave the decision of site to the board. A straw vote went 12 to 6 in favour of Ghent.

LaFreniere asked members to think about possible locations for the 2006 meeting.

#### G. *Bylaw amendments*

LaFreniere announced that due to the delay in receiving the Aldis bequest, all votes taken at the meeting involving expenditures were necessarily conditional on completion of the bequest process.

Article 1 Voting was suspended for technical reasons.

Article 3 Motion carried 10:0

Article 5 Motion carried 15:0

Section 5(4) LaFreniere proposed suspending the vote pending vote on terms (3 or 4 years).

Allen Kugel suggested from the floor that terms for office bearers be staggered.

LaFreniere moved that the term of office for board members be raised from 3 to 4 years. The aim is to increase the stability of ISHE administration.

Carried 16:0

LaFreniere raised matter of succession rule. Voting was postponed to a future postal vote.

Section 6(4) Vice-president amendment.

Carried 14:0

Section 6(5) Bulletin editor compensation.

Carried 12:0

Amendments to sections 6 sections 6, 7, 8, 10  
Carried unanimously.

Article 6(11), regarding the creation of a position for an information officer.

Salter proposed that this not be a voting member of the board. Moved that the information officer be appointed and be a non-voting board member.

Carried 11:3

LaFreniere moved the main amendment for the creation of the position of Information Officer.

Carried 16:0

Article 16, regarding the establishment of a Board of Trustees.

Grammer explained that he and Linda Mealey had originated the idea.

LaFreniere itemized reasons not to vote at present for the amendment:

1. The idea is too fresh.
2. The proposed Board would have 13 members, too many.
3. The proposal is for all travel and associated costs of Trustees to be paid by ISHE, too expensive.

LaFreniere recommended Salter's counter-proposal, to make the board of trustees having the powers of a senate, separating its function from the executive role of the board. The idea of including past presidents is prudent, because they have a record of informed support for ISHE.

John Richer, from floor, recommended that expenses not be mentioned in the Society's Constitution. Trustees' role should be to protect the goals of the Society, i.e. oversight, especially financial.

LaFreniere noted that ISHE is subject to IRS constraints.

Salter raised idea of limiting Tustee powers to that of veto.

John Richer reported that in the UK trustees can take over the running of a society in response to ill-management. There should be outside members too, e.g. an accountant and dignitaries.

Allen Kugel suggested establishing a separate endowment trust to protect ISHE funds from litigation.

#### H. *How to spend the Aldis bequest*

Ideas received by LaFreniere for which members expressed their general agreement are:

Assisting student and new faculty research  
Improving the Bulletin

Kim Oller recommended keeping the goals simple, and getting good legal advice.

Salter estimated the annual usable revenue from \$1 million to be about \$20,000 if the capital is to be preserved after inflation. Grammer disagreed, giving an estimate of \$50,000. Kugel stated that risk-free interest over inflation is about one percent, or \$10,000.

LaFreniere stated that these issues would be resolved in the next months, and thanked members for their ideas.

Bill Charlesworth asked that a letter be sent to Linda Mealey thanking her for the work put into her presidential duties, including the legal details of the Aldis bequest.

Meeting adjourned at 18:30.

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### *New Investigator Award*

Because of the high quality of the presentations this year, the task of selecting only one recipient was difficult. After careful deliberation we chose **Maryanne Fisher** and **Martin Voracek** who collaborated on the paper titled "An evolutionary investigation of the influence of menstrual phase on facial attractiveness judgements". The first author will receive a complimentary 3-year ISHE membership and Bulletin subscription and free registration for ISHE conference 2004.

Honorable mention goes to other excellent presentations:

**Holly Nelson** for "Friends or lovers? Form and frequency of mutual grooming.

**Tiffany Czilli, et al.** for "Recognition of parents, children, and siblings by olfaction."

## Job Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY  
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL  
SCIENCES

Biopsychology  
Tenure-Track

### POSITION

Teach upper-division lecture and laboratory courses in biopsychology. Additional upper division teaching responsibilities may include courses in psychopharmacology, health psychology as well as other lower-division courses such as research methods, statistics or introductory psychology. Supervise students in research activities including undergraduate projects and masters, theses. Engage in scholarly activity leading to publication. Participate in service to department, university, and community.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Ph.D. (by time of appointment) in Psychology with a specialization in Biopsychology is required. Applicants must have and present evidence of:

Effective teaching at the college level, and a strong commitment to excellence in teaching.

Scholarship leading to publication and a commitment to developing a strong research program that involves both undergraduate and graduate students.

Potential for service to department, university, and community.

Expertise/experience developing computer technology and implementing it in the classroom is highly desirable.

### SALARY AND RANK

The position will be at the rank of Assistant Professor (tenure-track). Salary commensurate to rank, experience, and qualifications. Periodic salary adjustments are enacted by the state legislature. An excellent comprehensive benefits package is available.

### APPOINTMENT DATE

August 22, 2003

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Submit a letter of application responsive to the qualifications, a curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, reprints and preprints of publications and presentations, and a teaching portfolio including teaching statement, course syllabi, and teaching evaluation summaries.

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

Complete applications received by December 14, 2002, will receive full consideration. Applications, required documentation, and/or requests for information should be addressed to:

### Search Committee

Department of Psychology, PO Box 6846  
California State University, Fullerton  
Fullerton, CA 92834-6846

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Visit the department Web site at  
<http://psych.fullerton.edu>  
<http://psych.fullerton.edu/search2002.html>

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## THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MOSCOW SUMMER SCHOOL

By Frank Salter

The second Moscow Summer School on Evolution, Behavior, and Society was held from 1<sup>st</sup>—6<sup>th</sup> July, 2002 in a biological-sciences centre run by the Russian Academy of Sciences in the township of Pushchino, about 70 miles southwest of Moscow. An international team of lecturers (see list) presented their research to about 100 students from as far away as the Siberian capital Novosibirsk, Pec in Hungary and Prague. Young researchers also presented their findings.

Chief local organizer Prof. Marina Butovskaya is an ISHE member, ably assisted by Dr. Lila Veselovskay and a team of technically dynamic students. ISHE

Secretary Frank Salter was the overseas organizer. Participating organizations included ISHE, the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology in the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Center of Cultural Anthropology in the Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow, the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Urban Ethology, Vienna, and the Schiefenhoewel Research Group on Human Ethology and the Ethological Film Archive in the Max Planck Society, Andechs, Germany.

The School is ethologically inspired. The 2002 event featured many presentations on primatology, including by Frans de Waal, Jan van Hooff, ISHE member Bill McGrew, and Linda Marchant. Direct human ethology themes were presented by ISHE members such as Glenn Weisfeld (1. adolescence; 2. laughter) and Frank Salter (ethnic conflict). The big tent of ethology is large enough to encompass all biological approaches to the study of behavior, and the 2002 School hosted HBES president Bill Irons lecturing on religion, anthropological geneticist Henry Harpending on population behavioural differences, experimental psychologist Siegfried Frey on nonverbal communication, Johanna Forster on evolutionary pedagogy, Pierre van den Berghe on ethnic nepotism, and Arcady Putilov on chronobiology and evolutionary psychology of seasonal depression.

A valuable feature of the School includes the extended time allowed each lecturer, who were able to provide disciplinary background as well as their latest findings. Frequent informal contacts allow students of all grades to interact with professors, and this year several international collaborations were initiated between Eastern European students and Western researchers. Students and professors intensified their informal contacts in the convivial atmosphere of the final banquet, where memetic contagion was interspersed by mass ritualized ambivalence in the form of rhythmical approach and withdrawal synchronized with loud music.

The next School is planned for 2003 or 2004, depending on funding.

#### Lecturers by nationality and discipline:

- I. *Russia***  
 Marina Butovskaya  
 (ethology / anthropology-  
 Moscow)  
 Maria V. Kozlovskaya  
 (physical  
 anthropology—Moscow)  
 Arcady Putilov  
 (chronobiology—Novosibirsk)  
 Zhanna Reznikova  
 (entomology—Novosibirsk)  
 Valerie Tishkov (cultural  
 anthropology—Moscow)
- J. *Netherlands***  
 Jan van Hooff (primatology)  
 Frans de Waal (also works in  
 USA) (primatology)
- K. *France***  
 Odile Petit (primatology)
- L. *Germany***  
 Johanna Forster (ethological  
 pedagogy)  
 Siegfried Frey (experimental  
 psychology)  
 Frank Salter (political  
 ethology)
- M. *USA***  
 Henry Harpending  
 (anthropological genetics)  
 Bill Irons (HBES president)  
 (evolutionary anthropology)  
 Linda Marchant (evolutionary  
 anthropology)  
 Bill McGrew (evolutionary  
 anthropology)  
 Pierre van den Berghe  
 (anthropology / sociology)  
 Glen Weisfeld (developmental  
 psychology)
- N. *India***  
 Mewa Singh (primatology)

## FILM REVIEW

### *THE DAWN OF MAN*

Read no further. Turn on your computer. Go immediately to the web address {<http://tlc.discovery.com/tlcpages/dawn/dawn.html>}, and just order a copy of this superb BBC production from The Learning Channel/Discovery. Then go to Amazon.com and order the lovely companion book, *Dawn of Man: The Story of Human Evolution*, by Robin McKie, London, Dorling Kindersley Publishing, 2000 [ISBN: 0-7894-6262-1].

This is educational television at its best, a seminar on human origins and evolution by luminaries past and present. All the university debates about core curricula and course requirements fade when one imagines every student who enters a university assigned to watch this as a required passage to true education. This subject should be THE cannon of higher education. We would of course then have to be prepared. Anthropology, archaeology, psychology and the sciences related to human origins would be swamped with eager students.

The first segment is titled "First Born." "A flawless and innocent child had a very bad day." Philip Tobias opens with the history of Raymond Dart's discovery of the Taung child. "We can't understand who we are unless we understand human evolution." Leslie Aiello then gives a nice demonstration of the comparisons between a chimpanzee and a human with skeletons in front of her.

"Our earliest forebears were probably African wrote Charles Darwin in 1871." With that said, with Darwin's photo, evolution is placed by the directors front and center in their story.

"The Rosetta Stone of human origins," says Tobias of the Taung child, and he describes the container with the skull of the child as the box holding South Africa's crown jewels. To see the brain case of the Taung child in Tobias's hands, with the traces of its arteries and sulci, is heartstopping. And, he adds, "there is not another find that has made more of an impact on

man's understanding of his origins, his quest for his roots."

Tobias shows the subtle features that Dart noticed in the Taung child, for example a difference in canine teeth, "the sign of a creature in the midst of change. A creature which two and a half million years ago had taken a decisive step in human direction."

There is old film of Raymond Dart explaining his killer ape hypothesis and how he thought he had solved the mystery of the head injuries of fossil skulls. Bob Brame of the Transvold Museum demonstrates with a skullcap how he concluded Dart's theory about the killer ape was wrong. The remains of skulls with injuries suggest frequent non-human predation. He places the incisors of an ancient predator neatly into the wounds in the skull.

Bernard Wood lays out Lucy's skeleton and discusses it. How one could not feel awe, wonder, and excitement at the outset is beyond comprehension. But, perhaps the producers feared the audience would not have such a reaction. The dramatizations and music are overdone at moments throughout the series, and some may find it annoying. My hypothesis is that the producers wanted to make sure that the genuine drama of human evolution, and the discoveries which detail it, were not lost on the audience. They need not have worried and might have avoided a little orchestral overkill.

Leslie Aiello shows the skulls of the various Australopithicines and the differences between them. Ron Clark, the Director of the Sterkfontein excavation, then gives a guided tour of several imbedded fossils. A demonstration of the brain casts made from Australopithicine skulls supports the conclusion that we arose from the gracile branch.

Thomas Loy explains how he discovered blood, hair and meat tissue in stones found near Australopithicine sites, which suggest they were eating meat. And, Robert Blumenschine shows why the cut marks on animal bones were not just predators but humans removing the flesh. These fossilized bones suggest that the graciles were using stones as tools to extract marrow and meat.



The second segment is entitled "Body Human," and opens with Richard Leakey. He describes a flight from Kenya north to Ethiopia in which he took a different route, and this ultimately led to the accidental discovery of the boy at Turkana. "What we were flying over was not volcanic as we had always assumed, but sedimentary exposures. When you find sediments you usually find fossils." He realized that they had been flying over what was once a great ancient river.

Kamoya Kimeu, Leakey's legendary fossil hunter, tells how he caught a glimpse (what skill) of a fragment, which then began the painstaking discovery and assembly of the Homo erectus skeleton of a teenage boy, 1.8 million years old. Films taken at the time show Alan Walker placing the face bones together. In Alan Walker's interview for the series, he uses his own head and skull as a comparison with a Homo erectus skull to demonstrate the small amount of frontal lobe area in that species. Demonstrating with a thighbone, Alan Walker explains how the area of muscle insertion led to the conclusion that this was no ordinary 12-year-old, but a boy who had strengths beyond any modern athlete.

A dramatization and Ann McLaron's demonstration through the fossil's x-rays leads to the diagnosis of the Turkana boy's death by septicemia and drowning, with the sepsis originating in a periodontal infection. Marvelous detective work.

The Homo erectus vertebrae around the area of the brain stem controlling the larynx and breathing is much smaller than the similar level in modern Homo sapiens. Walker points this out and argues that the less flexible and sophisticated means of breathing control meant that Homo erectus did not have the vocabulary of modern humans and probably only spoke as well as a chimp. "The fossil evidence is that the boy couldn't speak. An adult human with the brain of a one year old baby."

Leslie Aiello reappears and leads the viewer into a cave in Italy, and we are introduced to Altamura man, Homo heidelbergensis. A dramatization and discussion of their lives follow.

In a switch from bones to stones, countless shards of flint in Boxgrove, England were meticulously put together into the large stone from which they came. The remaining gap was in the shape of a hand ax. Animal bones at the site are examined microscopically. The hominid cut marks antedate marks from predators, indicating that hominids killed the animals, and the bones were later scavenged. This is one more demonstration of ingenious and effective detective work which illuminates our past.

Steve Mithen holds the largest hand ax ever found and discusses how it possibly represents that Homo heidelbergensis produced hand axes for a new purpose, to impress, which meant to try to change other people's minds.

Leslie Aiello explains how the eruption of the first molar tooth marks the end of childhood dependency and is correlated with brain size. For example, in a chimpanzee it erupts at age three years, which marks the end of infant dependency. In Homo heidelbergensis it was between the ages of five and six. She explains this as a sign of an emerging long juvenile period. Homo heidelbergensis had to care for children longer than any prior species. Again, a marvelous subtle observation leads to a window on one of the significant changes in our life history.

Mark Roberts points out through microscopic analysis of deer bones how they probably butchered meat at the kill site and then brought meat back to small social groups. "Alta Mura man had others who needed him."

The third episode is spellbinding. We are its subject, the rise of Homo sapiens. Hillary Deacon opens this segment with the finds at the Klasies River Valley: skulls without brow ridges, mandibles with chins - certain marks of modern Homo sapiens.

Before the entire story from South Africa comes forth we take a detour with Chris Stringer as he reviews the research that ultimately led to his out-of-Africa hypothesis. It began not with us, but with his search through the museums of Europe and comparisons of Neanderthal skulls. His discovery that the Neanderthals were getting more different from modern humans over time than more alike,

questioned the old assumption that modern humans arose from the Neanderthals. When he reached the end of his studies he was in Paris and looked at a skull from Morocco that had previously been thought to be an African Neanderthal and realized that it was different. This was the skull that made him think that all modern humans arose in Africa.

"The peoples of the Klasies River Valley had done something no ape had done – integrated tool use, intelligence, and communication. Their culture's shining moment may have been when they decided to harvest the seas. We became observant and reflective." Using particular seashells at the site researchers were able to date human fossils to 120 thousand years ago. The science strikes one as astounding. From the knowledge that the temperature of the water influences the formation of the seashell, they could tell that these seashells were from the last interglacial period.

Sarah Tishkoff explains that the greater genetic diversity in Africa relative to Europe or Asia adds weight to the origin of modern *Homo sapiens* in Africa.

"A layer cake of culture" describes the findings of Christopher Henshilwood, of the Blombos Cave Project in the South African cave 100 miles west of the Klasies River Valley. Seeming to be a man of destiny, Henshilwood has been exploring the caves since he was age five. He spearheads a group that claims fully modern man arose not in Europe, but in Africa. The finely worked artifacts suggested to Henshilwood that here was modern thought. "You knew what you wanted, you went to the source and got it, sometimes 20 miles away, and then worked it to near perfection." Awls for piercing leather were found, which suggests making clothes. Tools of this sophistication and complexity had only been found previously in Europe, and dated to only 50 thousand years. These people "invented and adapted a wide range of tools to exploit a very rich environment. Tools made with careful intent applied to specific and difficult tasks. This was technology."

Henshilwood believes that collecting shellfish indicates they could think about the world in a new way, cognitive planning not yet seen until this. Collecting shellfish to use as bait

for fish must have required complex cognitive capacities. Even knowing that fish were a potential food source shows to him a new capacity. Their hypothesis is that fishing indicates cooperation and a mental template that would require thinking about what you were going to do, what tools you were going to need, and how you were going to lure the fish in. The deposits of those activities are found in the Blombos Cave. This is the essence of modern mature thinking – deferred gratification. "Give them a fish and someone has a meal. Teach them to fish and they eat for life and so does their tribe."

Their discovery of carefully stored red ochre at the 100,000-year levels in the caves, the same kind of red ochre used today, is for them an example of symbolic behavior, something only modern humans do. He believes the people in those caves used it to decorate themselves, as well as some of the tools and artifacts in which ochre has been found imbedded. A diamond mesh pattern on one piece of ochre indicated deliberation, which Henshilwood thinks is a symbol of higher cognitive abilities.

"It is impossible to overestimate the arrival of art and decoration as a measure of humanity. . . . Representing the world in art was a way of colonizing the world. To paint it you have to see it." The people who lived along the African coast were far more sophisticated than earlier members of the human family were. "They fished, they cooked their foods on hearths, they decorated themselves. They thought in a symbolic way. They were fully modern humans. They were us."

The further episodes explore Neanderthals, their rise and disappearance, and the move of humans to Europe. My hope is that this review makes you as eager to see the final episodes as the first ones. The recent discovery in Chad by a French team of "Tousai," a 7 million-year-old ancestor, and the new *Homo erectus* skull in Dmasi, Georgia, will change only a few of the hypotheses in this series. But, that hardly diminishes the power of these scholars' interviews and the show's wealth of ideas, drama and sheer beauty.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### *Ancient Encounters: Kennewick Man and the First Americans*

By James C. Chatters. 2001. New York: Simon & Schuster, 303 pp. ISBN: 0-684-85936-X. US\$26 (hdbk).

Reviewed by W. C. McGrew, Depts. of Anthropology & Zoology, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056, USA.  
E-mail: mcgrewwc@muohio.edu

Nutcracker Man. Lucy. Iceman (Oetzi). Piltdown. What do these have in common? All are single specimens of earlier hominids, and all were controversial, albeit for very different reasons. (Well, Piltdown was a hoax, but for 50 years, he ruled the field of human origins!) Now comes another unique individual with a memorable name, Kennewick Man (KM).

He was found by accident on 28 July, 1996, eroded out from the banks of the Columbia River in southern Washington State, in the Pacific Northwest of the USA. His virtually complete skeleton was that of a banged-up middle-aged man, but what made him notable was his age, later established by radio-carbon dating to be more than 9000 years. Thus, according to James Chatters, archaeologist and paleoecologist, he is one of a select group of only 39 individuals in all of North America that date to this antiquity.

However, what made KM controversial is his anatomy. From first glance at his skull, he seemed to look different, that is, unlike the local Native Americans who inhabit the region today. The extent to which he is different or not led to bitter dispute, which six years later, remains unresolved. The book documents the quarrels, from the point of view of the first scientist to see KM, after his recovery and before he was sequestered.

Roughly, the two extreme positions are these: One side argues that KM is an ancestor of the indigenous Indians, most likely the Umatilla

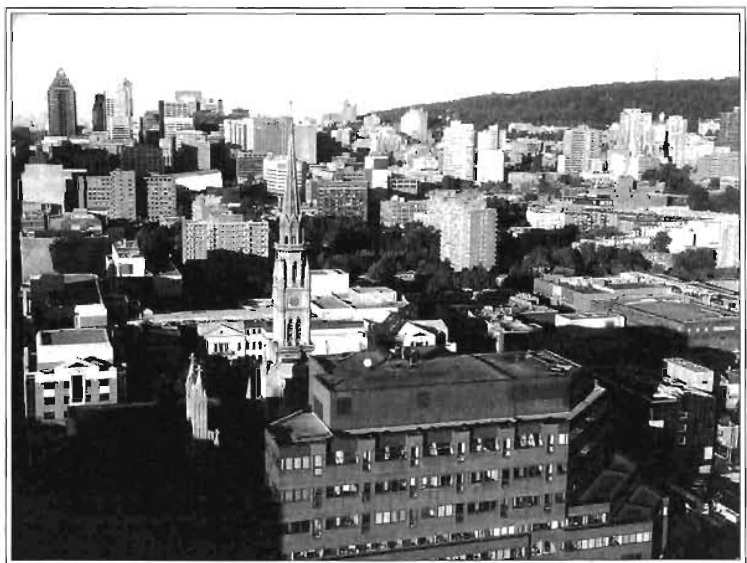
tribe of central Washington. As such, he falls under federal legislation, precisely NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 1990), passed to redress past wrongs against Native Americans. It requires that ancestral remains and grave goods be returned to tribes, who usually re-bury them.

The other side argues that KM does not fall under NAGPRA, for he is too old for any ancestral connection to be established, especially in the absence of any cultural accessories. (There was no evidence of a grave, hence no accompanying artifacts. The sole artifact in KM's case is a stone spear point imbedded in his hip, and it is not specifically diagnostic.) If KM is not subject to NAGPRA, then he is fair game to be studied by paleontologists, like any other specimen from prehistory.

On these grounds alone, KM might have remained a local dispute, but the implications proved to be far greater. If KM is not ancestral, then he presents challenges. He challenges the received wisdom of anthropology's account of the peopling of the Americas, by a wave of Siberians who crossed the Bering Straits land bridge, then quickly spread out to occupy an empty hemisphere. He challenges the prevailing historical position that indigenous peoples of the Americas are descendants of these Siberians (especially if they completely eradicated their predecessors). He challenges the political position that follows from the above, that legal priority to the Americas is secure to present-day Native Americans, by rights of inheritance from their ancestors, who claimed first ownership. No wonder there has been controversy!

The first 100 pages chronicle the battles, as the story of the discovery spreads, like ripples, all the way to Washington, DC. Chatters is one of a small group of academics, mostly specialists in archaeology and physical anthropology, who seek to study KM scientifically. They have some allies, mostly elected government officials from Washington State. Against them is a strange alliance of Native American groups and appointed officials from the federal government, notably the Corps of Engineers. (The Corps claimed jurisdiction to KM, as he was found on

(Continued on p. 14.)



**Montreal ISHE Conference 2002:** top: (a) Conference presentations were well attended as usual; (b) Listening styles of Frank Salter, Carol and Glenn Weisfeld; (c) View of Montreal from the Conference Hotel; (d) above: Strolling Old Quebec. Photos by LaFreniere



Many ISHE members toured Quebec City following the conference. top row, l to r: (a) Quebec and Canadian Flags at the Hotel Frontenac; (b) Whale watchers, Astrid Juette, Bill Charlesworth, Bennie and Karl Grammer, at the Hotel Tadoussac; (c) Church steeple over Old Quebec. Photos by LaFreniere.



**Moscow Summer School:** left top: (d) Prof. Arcady Putilov and his contingent of students from Novosibirsk State University; bottom: (e) Closing Banquet: L to R: Glenn and Carol Weisfeld, Linda Marchant, Bill McGrew, Bill Irons, Mewa Singh, Ruslan Butovsky, Marina Butovskaya, Frank Salter, Pierre van den Berghe, and Johanna Forster. Photos courtesy of Frank Salter.



federal land, and most of the key decisions, e.g., destruction of the discovery site were made by Corps officials.) Each side enlists allies from further afield, and sometimes these confirm the old adage, "With friends like these, who needs enemies?" For example, Science broke the news of ongoing DNA analysis, thus allowing the opposition to stop it before completion.

The remaining 160 pages of text summarize the state of knowledge regarding the settlement of the Americas in terms of who, when, where, and how. These go far beyond KM, and invoke findings from paleopathology to molecular genetics. Chatters favors immigration by Asians whose ultimate origins could have been southern China (as with Polynesians) or further west, in Eurasia. He envisions several waves of emigrants from much further back than the standard cut-off date for Clovis culture, at about 13,500 years ago. He advocates colonization by the Pacific Rim route whereby immigrants arrived by following the coastline, using boats.

Five chapters present the evidence, with his tentative overall conclusion that the Paleo-Americans (first arrivals, before the Paleo-Indians) were not the ancestors of present-day tribes.

Technically, the book is written in a lively, first-person style, with no parenthetical citations. Instead, there are 17 pages of endnotes, containing references, linked by page numbers to the text. There is a useful 15-page index. Finally, there are 24 glossy black and white plates.

What of KM today? As of September, 2000, when Chatters put his book to bed, the US Dept. of the Interior had awarded custody to the local Native Americans, but delivery was delayed by ongoing legal battles. These continue as of the writing of this review (March, 2002). It may be some time yet before Kennewick Man rests in peace, whether on museum shelf or in a ceremonial grave.

## *Taboo: Why Black Athletes Dominate Sports and Why We're Afraid to Talk About It*

by **Jon Entine**. Public Affairs, 250 West 57th St. Suite 1321, N.Y., NY. 2000. ISBN: 1-891620-398. 385pp. US\$25. [Also available in paperback].

**Reviewed by Linda Mealey**, Psychology Department, College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN, 56374 USA

I bought this book when I saw a review of it in *Scientific American* (DiPietro, 2000). When I got it I put it on my "must read" pile, but I only got around to reading it recently, after the author asked me to review it for the *Human Ethology Bulletin*. I must admit that I don't think I would have finished the book if I hadn't made that promise. Why? Not because it is poorly written or uninteresting, but because it spends far too many pages on the second question of the subtitle and far too few on the first. I was hoping to read new scientific findings about race differences in genetics and physiology as related to sports; instead, I read a great deal about the history of sports and about racism in sports, as well as many anecdotes, case histories, and opinions of athletes and trainers.

To the extent that athletic performance is actually addressed, *Taboo* basically offers a documentation of facts rather than an explanation of those facts, and it is only a narrow range of possible facts that are explored. Specifically, Entine documents the well-known phenomena that blacks from a small area in West Africa are better at sprinting than most people, and that blacks from a small area of East Africa are better at marathons than most people. Thus, not only does the "sports" part of the title basically mean "running" (basketball, baseball, football and boxing are covered, but not swimming, cycling, skiing, gymnastics, archery, weight-lifting or most other sports of the world), but the "blacks" part of the title basically refers to these two relatively small groups of people and their kin.

Basically, *Taboo* is a print version of the research behind the television documentary

"Black Athletes: Fact & Fiction" that Entine produced with Tom Brokaw in 1989. Although there are some updated quotes, statistics, and even a chapter specifically on women athletes, most of the science in the book is old and most of the book isn't science.

So why has Taboo received so much attention and acclaim? (Besides the Scientific American review, the publisher's web-page excerpts quotes from over 50 published reviews, including positive comments from some of my favorite anthropologists: Vince Sarich, Barry Bogin, and Henry Harpending.) I think it is because Taboo is seen by many as a counter-point to John Hoberman's 1997 book *Darwin's Athletes: How Sport Has Damaged Black America and Preserved the Myth of Race*. Hoberman's thesis "that excellence in sport is generally seen as an alternative to excellence in other arenas and therefore, that black achievement in sport perpetuates discrimination against (and even by) blacks" may be quite true, but his insistence on the Boas-Mead-Lewontin argument that race is "only" a social construction alienated as many readers as it served. I suspect that the reason Entine resurrected his notes and morphed his documentary into a book at the particular time that he did was because he felt a need to demythify the myth of "the myth of race".

All in all, while I enjoyed reading about the history of sports, I was disappointed by the narrowness of the scientific questions Entine asked and by the lack of new material to answer them. This reflects a pattern that long-time readers of the *Human Ethology Bulletin* may have noticed if they have read my other book reviews: I tend to like books by scientists much more than I like books by science-writers. So, if you are looking for an interesting history of race in sports, pick up this book; if you are interested in the scientific interface of research on race with research on athletics, well, you'll have to wait.

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Hoberman, J. (1997). *Darwin's athletes: How sport has damaged Black America and preserved the myth of race*. Houghton Mifflin.

## *Physiognomy and the Meaning of Expression in Nineteenth-Century Culture*

by L. Hartley. Cambridge University Press, Berkeley, CA, U.S.A., 2001, 242p. ISBN 0521-79272-X [hdbk; \$54.95].

Reviewed by Thomas R. Alley, Department of Psychology, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634-1355, USA.

Physiognomy, the practice of judging character and other internal properties by observation of external (mainly facial) appearances, has a long and checkered history. This book covers the changing understandings of expression, primarily the expression of the emotions, and principally via the face, from the English publication of Lavater's *Essays on Physiognomy* (1789) to the publication of Francis Galton's *Hereditary Genius* (1892) (p.3). This period represents the heyday of open discussion of this practice, and of physiognomy as an explicit source knowledge about human nature.

Often viewed as an outdated precursor to scientific psychology (and it's presented as such in this book), physiognomy has continued to attract the attention of scholars. Indeed, recent years have seen a resurgence of interest in physiognomy, now usually referred to as "facial stereotyping" (cf. Zebrowitz, 1997). This is perhaps most obvious in contemporary investigations of criminal appearance (Rowe, 2002), and in some studies of responses to physical attractiveness.

While theories and writings on physiognomy have often contained dubious ideas and claims, humans do react to the outward appearance of others and need no special training to do so. More importantly, there is a fair degree of consistency in the responses to specific variation in physical appearance (Alley, 1988; Zebrowitz, 1997). The practice of physiognomy, as distinguished from theories and writings on it, no doubt has an ancient, pre-linguistic history and will continue to influence human social interactions in the foreseeable future. This means that it should be subject to careful scientific study even if the

judgments made on the basis of physical appearance are largely invalid.

This book has two primary reasons for being of interest to ethologists. First, there is considerable discussion of Darwin, Charles Bell, and Galton. Second, social interactions continue to be significantly influenced by physical appearance, and the beliefs about physiognomy from over 200 years ago are still able to provide ideas for research; and there is an obvious need for more research on this practice (Alley, 1988). In addition, the book reveals some remarkable early versions of views now current in ethology and evolutionary psychology. These include the idea that beauty signals health, intelligence or other aspects of fitness (see Chap. 4).

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an attachment in order to maintain formatting. If e-mail is impossible, hard copies will be accepted, as long as they are accompanied by the same text on diskette (preferably in Microsoft Word version 6.0 or earlier). Shorter reviews are desirable (less than 1000 words). **Please include complete references for all publications cited.** For book reviews, please include publisher's mailing address and the price of hardback and paperback editions. Submissions are usually reviewed only by the editorial staff. However, some submissions are rejected. Political censorship is avoided, so as to foster free and creative exchange of ideas among scholars. The fact that material appears in the bulletin never implies the truth of those ideas, ISHE's endorsement of them, or support for any of them.

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## New Books

- Bekoff, M., Allen, C., & Burghardt, G.M. (eds.) (2002). The cognitive animal: Empirical and theoretical perspectives on animal cognition. MIT Press, 482p. ISBN 0-262-52322-1.
- Bjorklund, D. F., & Pellegrini, A. D. (2002). The origins of human nature: Evolutionary and developmental psychology. Wash., DC: APA, 444p. ISBN 1-55798-878-1.
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- Dautenhahn, K., & Nehaviv, C. L. (eds.) (2002). Imitation in Animals and Artifacts. MIT Press, 607p. ISBN 0262-042037.
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# Current Literature

Compiled by Johan van der Dennen

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