

MIZZOU

Department of Anthropology
Newsletter Update | April 2020



COVID Tiger

Welcome to the first edition of the new series of Wa-jée-pa-na, the Anthropology Department Newsletter. This issue introduces our new format, which will regularly consist of a list of upcoming events and a profile of a faculty or staff member, grad student, emeritus professor, or alumnus. In this Newsletter we introduce to you Sean Prall, our newest faculty member. We plan to send this new Newsletter out three or four times a year.

As you can imagine, the department has been turned upside-down by the COVID-19 pandemic. Classes still meet regularly, faculty have the usual bi-weekly faculty meetings, and we even had a faculty happy hour, but all are held remotely!

Given my expertise in infectious diseases, I have been very busy, with my main focus on developing a project to better predict how pandemics now and in the future may impact different parts of Missouri, especially rural areas. You can also see an interview I did with Dean Pat Okker at <https://coas.missouri.edu/?q=covid-19>

**Welcome from the
Department Chair,
Lisa Sattenspiel**



Faculty Spotlight



Sean Prall is a cultural anthropologist and the most recent addition to the faculty. He joined the department in August 2019.

Prall completed his PhD at Indiana University in 2014 followed by a postdoctoral position at the UCLA Center for Behavior, Evolution, and Culture.

Since 2016 Prall has been working with the Himba, semi-nomadic pastoralists in northern Namibia, on a longitudinal project focused on health and reproduction.

Next semester Prall will be teaching:

- ANTHRO 2580: Evolution of Human Sexuality
- ANTHRO 4580: Evolutionary Medicine

You can read more about Prall on his website: <https://sprall.github.io/>

Department Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

All is well in the department, but in-person courses and associated operations have been transitioned online, following university guidelines. If you would like to reach anyone in the department please email them directly or use the department email listed below to be directed accordingly.

Upcoming Events

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, plans for all fall events are on hold at present. If possible, the events listed below will be scheduled. Details will follow when available.

- TBA – Gavan Lecture to be delivered by Thomas Wynn, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs
- TBA – Napoleon Chagnon Memorial Celebration

Giving to the Department

Please support the initiatives of the department. Among the activities your donations support are degree-related fieldwork and travel of students, and department lectures and other events. You can find out more about these at: <http://anthropology.missouri.edu/giving>