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Letter from the editor

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I present to you the volume before you in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Lambda Alpha National Anthropology Honor Society, its Chapters, officers, and membership. Volume 48 is a tribute to Lowell D. Holmes, founder of the Journal and co-founder of our society, and to all the student contributors, including those who contributed manuscripts and those who worked on the production of the Journal itself.

The articles of the volume before you are comprised of six manuscripts, beginning with a paper explores the uniqueness of “death culture” and its manifestation among immigrant populations in southern Appalachia (Annis). In “Too Black too Belong”, Rose Arroyo writes about the loss “indigenous identity” and social disruption related to destructive long-term effects of colonization, including, but not limited to, on human rights in the Dominican Republic. Next, Mauersberg offers a postmodern perspective on culture and identity, globalization specifically in relation indigenous movements in Bolivia. Her discussion reveals both the complexity of the cause and of possible address.

A contribution by Sarah Price revisits a continuing discussion about early migration(s) to and peopling of the Americas. Her article she reports on both quantitative and qualitative osteological data gathered from archaeological contexts as she explores potential measures of diversity, relative relatedness and origins.

The following manuscript addresses aspects of human activity, corresponding technological developments and environmental impacts, climate change and subsequent consequences, particularly in relation to language (Schlobohm). She makes a case for the endangerment of language itself and the impact that the latter can impose on the human existence. On a very different note, a submission titled “Tibetan Monastic Education” (Schmitt) offers a perspective on education and learning in the context of cultural frameworks complemented by an assessment of alternatives to education as a way of life. The closing manuscript (Capel) addresses the complexity of how human societies representative of different sociocultural contexts), perceive of non-human primates (ethnoprimateology).

The annual Lambda Alpha Student symposium is now in its 20th years. Presenters and attendees came from different parts of the U.S. The day-long event 14 undergraduate and graduate student research podium presentations archaeological, biological, and cultural anthropology.

I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to Gracie Tolley for her work as student editor, to Rachel Wendt, Claire Weatherall, Gracie Tolley, and Caylin Trevaskiss, all of whom served as officers of Lambda Alpha, and who collaborated with me on the organization and successful completion of the Annual Lambda Alpha Student Symposium held at Wichita State University. Finally, I wish to thank the authors and contributors to the journal.

Sincerely,
Peer H. Moore-Jansen
Editor-in-Chief

