

## Editor's Introduction to Issue #15

*Colin Thor West*

This volume of the *Arizona Anthropologist* is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Carol Kramer who passed away last year. Dr. Kramer was a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology and will be sorely missed by her students, friends, and colleagues. I never had the pleasure of meeting or knowing Dr. Kramer but the conversations I have had with those who did leads me to believe that she was a wonderful professor and person. We, the staff of the *Arizona Anthropologist*, deeply appreciate the dedication written by Beth Grindell, which is included in our volume.

The *Arizona Anthropologist* has emerged from its two-year hiatus with some changes in staff, a slightly different look, and a somewhat enlarged author pool. In light of these changes, we feel that we are once again producing the best student-run, student-written, and student-produced anthropology journal in the country! We hope you enjoy the articles presented here as much as we enjoyed soliciting, editing, reviewing, and producing them.

Of the changes mentioned above, the first you may notice is the editorship. I, Colin Thor West, have become the new Editor-in-Chief of our publication and took over this position from John Murphy who had been the Editor of the *Arizona Anthropologist* for several years and several volumes. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank him for facilitating a smooth transition and setting a standard and a precedent for excellence. John, I hope you're proud of what we've done!

If you are an avid reader of the *Arizona Anthropologist* and wait with bated breath for each new volume that manages to come out every year or so, you may notice that there are slight

changes in the formatting. This is due to the hard work and careful eye of Barbara Wolf who is our Production Editor. Her expertise and experience in the publishing field has given the *Arizona Anthropologist* a more professional look and we thank her for this attention to detail.

We have also incorporated the Four Fields logo of the Department of Anthropology. Dr. John Olsen, Department Chair, managed to help us with financial support through the department and permitted us to use the logo on our cover. We see this sharing of symbols and gifts as an indication of the strong support we receive as graduate students in the Department. As such, we reciprocally offer our gift -- this volume -- to the faculty, staff, and particularly John, in recognition of these ties of collegiality, friendship, and reciprocity that bind us as a department.

Another change you may notice is the fact that we have an article from a student outside our department and outside the University of Arizona. Michael Reed Coughlan is a graduate student in the Anthropology Department at Northern Arizona University (NAU). His excellent article on the controversies surrounding large diameter trees is a welcome and timely addition to our volume in light of the huge fire seasons here in Arizona these last two summers. We see the *Arizona Anthropologist* as a journal for all students of anthropology in Arizona and we will continue to solicit high caliber work from our graduate student colleagues at NAU, ASU, and other institutions within the state.

Two of the other authors, Derek Honeyman and Alex Carroll, are advanced graduate students in the UofA Department of Anthropology. Their articles were submitted to the *Arizona Anthropologist* as manuscripts and have undergone peer review by other graduate students in our department. We thank Derek and Alex for persevering with revisions and for being patient with our slow pace of production. These two largely ethnohistorical pieces on native North Americans

demonstrate not only keenly insightful scholarship but also unique perspectives on the use of documentary and geographic texts.

Karen Coelho's case study of welfare reform in Tucson comes to us a Dozier award-winning paper. Every year, the UofA Department of Anthropology awards the Dozier Prize to the best paper written by a graduate student in the department. Karen's paper received this award in 1999 and we feature it here in a slightly revised version. Dozier award papers are featured in the *Arizona Anthropologist* without undergoing peer review and are normally printed "as is." Due to the long length of Karen's original paper, she has graciously and masterfully condensed her work so that it could appear here in this volume. We thank Karen for doing so in the midst of her dissertation fieldwork in India.

This volume is the result of hard work and dedication by the *Arizona Anthropologist* staff, its contributing authors, and the reviewers who read and commented on submitted manuscripts. As Editor-in-Chief, I would like to thank these other staff members—Barbara Wolf, Matt Iles, Kay McElveen, Allison Davis, Amy Margaris, and our faculty Advisor Dr. Trudy Griffin-Pierce—for their efforts. I would also like to acknowledge our collective gratitude to the anonymous reviewers who helped shape these submissions into fine published works for an outstanding volume of our *Arizona Anthropologist*.

Warmly,

*Colin Thor West*  
Editor-in-Chief