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## **EDUCATION**

- University of New Mexico (UNM), Department of Anthropology, Human Evolutionary and Behavior Science Program, Ph.D., December 2004
- University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), Department of Sociology and Anthropology, M.A., August 2000
- University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), Department of Sociology and Anthropology, B.A., August 1998, graduated cum laude

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Human evolution, human lifespan, medical anthropology & evolution of human sleep patterns, ecology of social dynamics, characteristics of social networks, coalitions and partnerships, life-history characteristics of resource competition and social aggression, sex differences in grouping behaviors, non-human primate social comparisons, socio-ecological factors affecting reproductive decisions, and health and reproductive outcomes resulting from human behavioral variation.

## **POSITIONS HELD**

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Department of Social Sciences, California Polytechnic State University Fall 2005-Present
- Adjunct Assistant Professor, Human Evolutionary and Behavior Science Program, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. Spring 2005.
- Adjunct Lecturer SIPI (Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute). Fall 2004.
- Graduate Teaching Instructor, Human Evolutionary and Behavior Science Program, University of New Mexico Fall 2003-Fall 2004
- Graduate Teaching Instructor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology. University of Texas Arlington. Fall 1999 and Spring 2000

## **TEACHING**

- Ant 330: Indigenous South Americans: Winter 2010
- Ant 201: Cultural Anthropology. Spring 2008, Fall 2009, Summer 2010
- Ant 345 : Human Behavioral Ecology. Winter, Summer & Fall 07, Spring & Summer 2008, Spring & Fall 2009, Spring, Summer & Fall 2010

- Ant 360: Human Cultural Adaptations. Fall 2005, Spring, Summer & Fall 2006, Golden Bear Spring 2006, Winter, Spring, Summer, & Fall 2007, Continuing Education Winter 2008
- Ant 250: Biological Anthropology. Fall 2006, Summer 2006, Golden Bear Spring 2006, Winter 2006, Winter, Summer, Fall 2007, Winter, Summer, Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Winter, & Spring 2010
- Ant 160: Human Life History: An Introduction to Human Evolutionary Ecology in Anthropology. UNM. Spring 2005, Fall 2004, Spring 2004
- Ant 462/567: Human Behavioral Ecology. Graduate course. UNM. Spring 2005
- Ant 101: Introduction to Anthropology. SIPI (Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute). Fall 2004.
- Ant 101: Introduction to Anthropology. UNM. Summer 2004
- Ant 364: Female Competition and Cooperation. UNM. Fall 2003
- Ant 101: Introduction to Anthropology. University of Texas, Arlington. Fall 1999 and Spring 2000

### **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

- Designed lectures and taught Ant 201 Cultural Anthropology Spr 2008
- Proposed Ant 455 Research Design and Methods for 2009-2011 curriculum cycle (accepted)
- Proposed, designed and taught Ant 345 Human Behavioral Ecology (D5)
- Proposed and designed Ant 330 Indigenous South Americans (D5)
- Designed lectures and taught Ant 250 Biological Anthropology
- Co-wrote curriculum package for new proposed major in Anthropology-Geography from 2006 to 2009

### **ADVISING**

#### *Senior projects:*

- Melaha Berejfoorosh. "How genetics informs animal rights" 2006
- Lynzi Johnson. "Social impacts of box chains on communities" 2006
- Melissa Phillips. "Independent living resource guide for emancipated foster youth in SLO county" 2006
- Lindsey Bolton. "Social Sciences diversity festival of films" 2007
- Molly Pendley and Ashley Faulkerson. "California migrant farmworkers diversity awareness project" 2007
- Meghan Crawley. "Demographics of violent behavior in music subculture" 2007
- Piper Dwight. "Cultural curriculum development for Atascadero zoo summer education program" 2007
- Julie Buchmiller. "The habitat and biology of *Cercopithecus neglectus* for the Atascadero zoo" 2007
- Katrina Mortell. "Effectiveness evaluation of UN peacekeeping in Darfur" 2007
- Chelsea Cleveland. "Comparative analysis of two competing ecologies: indoors vs. outdoor effects on children's fitness outcomes" 2007
- Cassandra Murphy and Lia Guest "Diversity awareness educators workshop" 2007-08
- Cynthia Marquez. "Sexual selection for neotany: are submissive women more attractive?" 2007-08
- Rikki Murphy. "San Luis Obispo County Firefighters, sleep and health outcomes." 2008
- Alissa Miller. "Firefighters, reproductive ecology and sleep." 2008
- Anna Fraboni. "Time allocation analysis of Atascadero Zoo primates." 2008
- Lauren Jeter. Graduate Committee, Ag. Business. "Measuring the social capital of variation in wine closure methods." 2006-present
- Gina D'Tommaso. "Behavioral ecology and determinants of divorce." 2009
- Lauren T. Chester. "Cross-cultural perspectives in birthing practices." 2009
- Kymberly Riner. "Socialization of Special Needs Adolescents." 2009

- Alyssa Fantin, Wendy Kastner, Sonja Pearson, Dana Clark. "The Migrant Project." 2009-2010
- Emma Scott. "The nature of myths." 2009-2010

*Academic advising:*

- Human ecology concentration advisor 2007-present
- Social Sciences advisor (last names S-Z)

*Graduate School Advising:*

- Anthropology graduate school advising

**AWARDS AND GRANTS**

- SFSG release time for grant writing of Firefighter project. Status: not funded 2009-2010
- Provost's Extra Mural Funding Initiative "Sleep, health, risk and stress: The behavioral endocrinology of San Luis Obispo County Firefighters," \$8,559, 2008
- California State Faculty Support Grant for data analysis and publishing of data from the project "The social dynamics of Tsimane women" –release time and student assistant funds, 2008
- Presidents Diversity Award on behalf of the Social Sciences Department \$1000, 2006
- NSF Graduate Supplement Support for Research \$5,000, 2003
- Latin American and Iberian Institute \$2,500 stipend, Fall 2002
- LAII FLAS \$11,000 stipend plus tuition, 2002
- LAII FRG \$1,550, 2002
- LAII FRG \$1,250, 2003
- NSF Graduate Supplement Support for Research \$5,000, 2002
- UNM Anthropology Dept Tuition Award, Fall 2002
- Graduate cum laude, 1998
- Outstanding Achievement in Archaeology, UTA, 1997
- Outstanding Achievement in Biological Anthropology, UTA, 1996

**FIELD WORK AND RESEARCH PROJECTS**

- Fieldwork, SLO County Firefighters research project: "Sleep, health, risk and stress: The behavioral endocrinology of San Luis Obispo County Firefighters" Feb 2008-present
  - Topics investigated: Risk inclination, stress evaluation, quality and quantity of sleep and its affects on health and reproductive outcomes
- Fieldwork, Tsimane Summer 2007 in lowland, Bolivia,
  - Topics investigated: behavior, health, & reproductive ecology of Tsimane villages
- Doctoral Dissertation Fieldwork among Tsimane Indians, 2002-2003 in lowland, Bolivia.
  - Topics investigated: Female social dynamics, resource competition, social networking, cooperation, friendship, grouping behaviors, and reproductive and health outcomes of social interactions."
  - One year (2001-2002) preparation and grant writing (awarded Latin American Iberian Institute FLAS fellowship)
  - One year field research from 2002-2003 in the Department of the Beni Reserve of the Tsimane Indians
  - Interdisciplinary work between anthropologists and doctors of Bolivia, UNM, and UCSB to study the interactions of health, ecology and behavior of the Tsimane

- Co-directed psychology/anthropology undergraduate student research project with Steve Gangestad and Jeff Winking at UNM entitled “Mate Competition in the Medium of Consumerist Behavior”
  - Trained students in data collection, coding and analysis
- Master’s Thesis Fieldwork Summer 1999, among Aymara and Quechua women
  - Topics reproductive ecology with a focus on use of herbal anti-fertility medicines and associated behaviors among urban poor
- Short field study to Chimaltenango, Guatemala, , March 1999
  - Investigate components of effective rural indigenous women’s health care with focus on community health clinic services
- Spanish field school, Zacatecas and Cuernavaca Mexico, , summer 1998
  - Spanish language/culture immersion
- Archaeology, Village Creek field site, Texas. Summer 1997; excavation
- Archaeology, Village Creek Lab Assistant, recording and typing artifacts. 1997-1998

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### *Conference Presentations:*

- 2009 Human Behavior and Evolution Society conference, CSUFullerton
  1. Miller, A., Rucas, S., Muehlenbein, M. Risky Behavior and Sleep among Firefighters
  2. Rucas, S., Gurven, M., Kaplan, H., Winking, J. Do Friends Enhance Fitness? Reproductive outcomes of social networking among Tsimane women.
- 2008 American Anthropological Association conference (EAS section), San Francisco, CA
  1. Murphy, R., Rucas, S., Miller, A., Roa, A., Muehlenbein, M. The effects of sleep quality on health outcomes among firefighters.
  2. Rucas, S., Miller, A., Murphy, R., Roa, A., Muehlenbein, M. The relationship of REM sleep and ecological risk among firefighters.
  3. Miller, A., Rucas, S., Murphy, R., Roa, A., Muehlenbein, M. Sleep, risk and reproduction: The behavioral ecology of firefighters.
  4. Marquez, C., Rucas, S. Sexual selection theory and the attractiveness of submissive behaviors in women.
- 2008 European Human Behavior and Evolution Society conference, Montpellier, France Apr 2, 2008
  1. Rucas, S., Gurven, M., Kaplan, H., Winking, J. Friends, status, and reproductive ecology among Tsimane women of Bolivia
  2. Marquez, C. Rucas, S. “Sexual selection for neotany: are submissive women more attractive?”
- 2007, May 21. Invited Lecture for UCLA Center for Behavior, Evolution and Culture (BEC)
  - Allies and Rivals: The Complex world of women’s social dynamics among the Tsimane of Bolivia
- 2006 American Anthropological Association conference, San Francisco, CA
  1. Rucas, S., Gurven, M., Kaplan, H. 2006. “Social network composition: Evolutionary analysis of women’s helpers across the lifecourse in small-scale Tsimane communities”
  2. Marquez, C., Rucas, S. 2006. “The effects of friendship status on perceived attractiveness: A study among the Tsimane women of Bolivia”
- 2004 Evolutionary Anthropological Society of AAA, Stanford University, November 19, 2004
  - Rucas, S. Conflict, Resource Competition and Networking among Tsimane Women.
- 2004 Human Behavior and Evolution Society conference, Berlin.
  - Rucas, S. Life history changes in resource competition among Tsimane Women and Girls
- 2002 Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, June 22, 2002, Rutgers, NJ

- Rucas S, Winking J, and Gangestad S. 2002. Female Intrasexual Competition in the Medium of Consumerist Behavior
- 2001 Society for Applied Anthropology conference, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.
  - Rucas, Stacey and Gurven, Michael. Does paternal investment influence male and female family size preferences?
- 2000 Society for Applied Anthropology conference, San Francisco
  - Women's Medicine: a female reproductive strategy in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

#### *Other Conferences Attended:*

- Spring 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2005 Anthropology Graduate Student Union Symposium, UNM
- Fall 2001 (UCLA) & Spring 2002 (UCSB): Evolution, Mind and Behavior Conference Series
- Spring 2004 invited monthly seminars of the Human Evolutionary and Behavior Science Program at the UNM Hibben Center
- 3-UC Behavior Science Workshop, May 2007, Mar 2008, and Mar 2009

## **PAPERS**

### *Working Papers in Progress:*

- Rucas, S., M. Gurven H. Kaplan, J. Winking. *Friends Enhance Fitness: An ecological analysis of friends, cooperators and enemies among Tsimane women.* In prep.
- Rucas, S. Miller, A., Roa, A., Murphy, R, Muehlenbein, M. *The Behavioral Ecology of San Luis Obispo County Firefighters: Sleep variation and behavioral outcomes.* In prep
- Rucas, S., M. Gurven, H. Kaplan, J. Winking. *Female-Female competition for reproductively limiting resources within women's social networks: A case study of the life-history of Tsimane Women.* In prep.

### *Forthcoming:*

- Rucas, S., M. Gurven H. Kaplan, J. Winking. 2010. The Social Strategy Game: Resource competition within female social networks among small-scale forager-horticulturalists. *Human Nature* 21:1. 1-18.

### *Published:*

- Rucas, S., M. Gurven, H. Kaplan, J. Winking, S. Gangestad and M. Crespo. Female Intrasexual Competition and Reputational Effects on Attractiveness Among the Tsimane of Bolivia. *Evolution and Human Behavior.* Jan 2006, Vol. 21: 1
- Winking, J.,H. Kaplan, M. Gurven, S. Rucas. 2007. Why do men marry and why do they stray. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences.* 274. 1643-1649.
- Rucas, S. 2007. Book Review for the *Journal of Anthropological Research* (vol. 63; pgs 129-130) on "Witchcraft, Sorcery, Rumors, and Gossip," by Pamela Stewart and Andrew Strathern, 2004.

### *Dissertation/Thesis:*

- Rucas, S. Female Intrasexual Social Behaviors Among the Tsimane of Bolivia. 2004. Ph.D. Dissertation, UNM.
- Women's Medicine: a gender specific reproductive success strategy in Cochabamba, Bolivia. 2000. Masters Thesis. UTA, Arlington.

## **SERVICE**

### *IEP Faculty Support:*

- IEP interview committee for student applications to Study Abroad in 2009
- TSGB interview committee for 2009 faculty to South America.

- Spring 2008 Cal Poly at Sea faculty on the Training Ship Golden Bear (TSGB) with Cal-Maritime to South Pacific
- Spring 2006 Cal Poly at Sea faculty on the Training Ship Golden Bear (TSGB) with Cal-Maritime to South America
- Organized and Officiated Graduation Ceremonies for Cal Poly at Sea Students on TSGB, Spring 2006
- Participated in IEP Study Abroad Fair 2006 and 2007 and 2009

*Professional:*

- Chaired Session: *Friendships and Social Networks* at annual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, CSUFullerton, June 2009
- Ad-hoc reviewer for journal of *Evolution and Human Behavior*
- Ad-hoc reviewer for journal of *Evolutionary Psychology*
- Organizing committee for Evolutionary Behavior Sciences Workshop for faculty and graduate students across five campuses at Cal Poly May 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and May 14-16<sup>th</sup>, 2008, March 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2009, and May 1<sup>st</sup> 2010..
- Rucas, S. and N. Hess. Organized panel and chaired session on “Female Competition” during July 2004 Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Berlin.
- Memberships: Society for Applied Anthropology, Evolutionary Anthropological Society, American Anthropological Association, and Human Behavior and Evolution Society

*Committees:*

- Cal Poly Academic Senator. Term 2009-2011
- CLA-CENG forging interdisciplinary relationships task force 2008-present
- Latin American Studies Committee 2006-present
- Social Sciences Department CBF committee 2006-2009
- EEF for Social Work new hire search committee 2006-2007
- EEF and member for Anthropology new hire search committee 2007-2008
- Anthropology-Geography major curriculum committee 2006-2009
- Women’s Studies Cal Poly Affiliate Faculty 2005-present
- Advisor for Social Sciences Club 2007-2009
- Social Sciences Department Budget Committee 2007-2008
- UNM SRAC grant reviewing committee in 2001

*Misc:*

- Co-organizing Migrant Farm Worker’s Diversity Month campus project with College of Ag Oct –Nov 2009
- Facilitator for ASI leadership forum on diversity awareness training Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 2008
- Participated in Culture Fest with Social Sciences Club Oct 25<sup>th</sup>; Club won 1<sup>st</sup> prize for booth 2008
- Social Sciences Club web-design and maintenance 2007-2008
- Organized CLA speaker, Hillard Kaplan’s talk “Why Do We Grow Old and Die?”
- Faculty TEA at Cerro Vista: committee panel to field student questions
- Internship contact and coordinator for Atascadero zoo

*Community:*

- Co-organizer for Migrant Farm Worker’s Diversity Project. Fall 2006-present at SLO Arts Center in Mission Plaza
- Invited lecture for SLO County Firefighters Captains on “Sleep and Health” Oct 15<sup>th</sup>
- Organized Raffle to raise funds to benefit Talley Fund for Vineyard and Farm Workers

## **TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Attended Educators and Professional Development Workshop on *Migrant Issues in Contemporary California* at Cal Poly on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>
- Facilitator for CTL training seminar on *Talking About Diversity in the Classroom*, Dec 5, 2008
- Attended Diversity Awareness Workshop for Educators Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- Attended Educators and Professional Development Workshop “*Facing History and Ourselves, the Migrant Project*” November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- Attended 3-UC Evolutionary Behavior Science Workshop Mar 14-16<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- Attended 3-UC Evolutionary Behavior Science Workshop May 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- WebCT training course. UNM Instructor Support WebCT training center. Spring 2004
- CTL: Winged Workshop: Fostering Critical Thinking in Your Classes. Tue, Jan 10, 2006
- CTL: Newer Faculty Learning Community Meeting: Successful Strategies of Professional Development Plan. Thu Jan 12, 2006.
- Blackboard Training. Posting course materials, programming quizzes, assignments and online exams. Fall 2005
- Equal Equity Facilitator Training October 31, 2006
- Center for Teaching and Learning: Newer Faculty Learning, Personnel Action File
- Center for Teaching and Learning: Attended Grants Writing Meeting, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11-1230

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Languages: Spanish; level: advanced, Tsimane; level: intermediate
- Computer skills: PowerPoint, Word, Excel, FrontPage, GroupWise, Access, SPSS 12, SAS, WebCT, Blackboard, Dreamweaver
- Areas traveled: Guatemala, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Mexico, Caribbean, Germany, England, Netherlands, Thailand, Canada, Italy, Croatia, Chile, Peru, Tahiti, New Caledonia, and Tonga.

## REFERENCES

**Hillard Kaplan**, Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
Human Evolutionary and Behavior Science  
University of New Mexico  
505-277-1541  
[hkaplan@unm.edu](mailto:hkaplan@unm.edu)

**Michael Gurven**, Associate Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
Evolution, Mind and Behavior Program  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
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**Randy Thornhill**, Distinguished Professor  
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**Steve Gangestad**, Distinguished Professor  
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