



DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME

A group of dental anthropologists went out for dinner together last year at the Knoxville meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Those present were R. Isler, D. Patterson, D. Swindler, M.F. Eriksen, M. Kelley, R. Koritzer, S. Neiburger, S.R. Loth, P. Miller-Shaivitz, M.Y. Iscan, and R.L. Costa. This very informal meeting suggested to those present that there was, perhaps, enough interest in dental anthropology to start a Dental Anthropology Group. By using informal survey techniques, such as head-scratching and the "Old Boy Network," more than 160 anthropologists and dentists with an interest in dental anthropology have been identified. With this much potential interest, a few of the original conspirators have made plans to formalize the organization of the Dental Anthropology Group (DAG).

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

There will be a more formal organizational meeting at this year's A.A.P.A. meeting in Albuquerque. The meeting will be held on Friday, April 11th, 5:30 to 6:30 P.M. in the Lisbon Room of the Hilton hotel. In addition, there will be a DAG information table located at the A.A.P.A. registration area. You can also obtain information from any of the interim officers of the organization, listed below. At the meeting we will discuss organizational details, elect officers, discuss plans and generally meet each other.

DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

Yasar Iscan and Bob Isler have organized a dental anthropology symposium to help kick off the Dental Anthropology Group. This symposium is part of the regular A.A.P.A. meetings and will be held in the Lisbon Room on Friday, April 11th, as an afternoon session from 2:00 to 4:30 P.M. Papers will cover various aspects of dental anthropology from dental microwear to enamel hypoplasia. Eight papers and a discussion are planned. For more details, consult p. 158 of the meeting issue of the A.J.P.A.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON DENTAL MORPHOLOGY

For those people with an interest in dental morphology, and the desire (and capital) to see Paris, there will be an International Symposium on Dental Morphology in Paris, France, May 20 - 25 of this year. For more information, contact:

Dr. D.E. Russel
8 rue Buffon
75005 Paris
France.

INTERIM OFFICERS

An organization in its infancy depends on the hard work of a few individuals who want to see that organization get off the ground and flourish. These are the people who have arranged the symposium at this A.A.P.A. meeting, the organizational meeting of the DAG, and this newsletter. In order to make the organization work, even a little bit, a few of these people have volunteered to be interim officers. They are:

President:	M. Yasar Iscan
Treasurer:	Robert Isler
Secretary:	Patricia Miller-Shaivitz
Data Manager:	David K. Patterson
DAN Editor:	Raymond L. Costa.

These offices and officers will try to pass the ballot test at the organizational meeting. Please be there.

DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY SURVEY

The list of interim officers includes a "Data Manager," which is an unusual office for an organization. There are a number of reasons for having such an office. The first, and perhaps most important of these, is that the organization needs to know something about its prospective members. Dave Patterson has drawn up a survey form which asks for information about members interests, the future structure of the DAG, what other organizations the prospective member belongs to, and comments. These forms are available along with this issue of DAN, or at the DAG information desk at the A.A.P.A. meeting. Once Dave has a reasonable sample of survey forms, he has volunteered to run through the statistics and tell us something about the interests of the group. From this information we will be more able to serve the interests of the dental anthropology community. Once the DAG is up and running, Dave will keep the membership list up to date and produce mailing labels for each issue of the DAN.

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE FILL OUT A SURVEY FORM and make sure that it is returned to the DAG, preferably directly to Dave Patterson.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Perhaps the preliminary issue of a newsletter is not the

best place to set editorial policy, so the following can be considered "preliminary policy," subject to change at the organizational meeting. The Dental Anthropology Newsletter (DAN) will appear three times per year, or until demand forces an increase. The DAN will be included with membership to the Dental Anthropology Group. Provisionally, the dues are set at \$10 per year (see application form, below).

The contents of the newsletter will include news of the Dental Anthropology Group. A second category will be news of DAG members. A proposed third category might be a question and answer/advice column. If people have questions, comments or advice about topics in dental anthropology, they can be considered for inclusion in the newsletter. Advice to others will also be considered, if it is relevant to the subject of dental anthropology. Lastly, short articles will appear in the DAN if appropriate. It is realized that scholarly treatises should be published in the proper journals, but there exists a need for a place to print short articles and notes. Hopefully DAN will provide such a place. Any article will be considered for inclusion in the DAN, as long as A) the content concerns dental anthropology, and B) it is written in grammatical English.

Any publication, especially a newsletter, needs the participation of its readers in order to survive and grow. Please help by submitting articles and information to the interim Editor, at this address:

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY GROUP

Name: _____

Address: _____

Specialty: _____

Dues are \$10.00 per year, and include the DAN.
Please send this application and dues to:

Dr. Robert Isler, D.D.S.
Treasurer, Dental Anthropology Group
Department of Anthropology
Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton, Fl. 33431-0991