

EAA – European Anthropological Association

NEWSLETTER

No. 3 December 2017

Editorial

Words from the President

Dear Colleagues

One of the aims of the EAA Board and Council was to reinstate the summer school in non-Congress years. I am very pleased to report that Professor Maria Kaczmarek organised a very successful summer school in Poznań, Poland, entitled 'Human Growth and Nutrition and their Applications to Health' in July 2017. The summer school was a joint venture between the EAA and the Faculty of Biology, Adam Mickiewicz University. The programme of this 10 day summer school was taught by Professor Barry Bogin, Professor Noël Cameron, Professor Nick Mascie-Taylor and Dr Ines Varela-Silva. In total there were 18 participants, 8 from Poland, 4 from Turkey, 3 from Hungary, and one each from Bulgaria, Italy and Russia. The course covered the biology of growth, human life history evolution, evolution of human nutrition, nutritional and epidemiologic transition, growth and health in transitional economies, developmental origins of health and disease, human growth as an indicator of social and economic change, intergenerational effects in biocultural perspective and data handling and biostatistics using SPSS.

Please remember that as of this year EAA fees are paid every 2 years and the fee for 2017 and 2018 is 20 Euros for ordinary members and 10 Euros for student members. Honorary members will pay no fee. The deadline for payment of the fee is by December 31st, 2017. In addition, from 2018 the new EAA Council will be elected in April, followed by elections to the new EAA Board in May and both new EAA Council and Board will start on 1 July. The

aim is to have both the EAA Board and Council in place before the EAA Congress in Odense.

From 22nd to 25th August next year the 21st EAA Congress will be held in Odense, Denmark under the auspices of Professor Jesper Boldsen. The main themes will be population ageing – causes and consequences, population history, aDNA, forensic anthropology, child growth and development and diseases in the past. Deadlines for early registration, accommodation, social events and travel to Odense are already up on the EAA website. Students can apply for a pre-congress award (of 500 Euros) by submitting a paper (maximum length 2000 words) by March 2018 (details are on the EAA website). There will be up to five EAA pre-congress awards in 2018. A Competition Committee will be formed made up of Board members. Board members will not be allowed to evaluate applications from their own country. The names of the awardees will be announced on the EAA website. I very much look forward to seeing you in Odense, enjoying the hospitality of our Danish colleagues.

This will be the last time I will write as President as I complete my 4 years in office in 2018. I would like to thank the EAA Council and Board for their support and in particular the General Secretary, Dr Annamária Zsákai and General Treasurer, Professor Pilar Montero for their dedication and hard work looking after EAA matters and to Professor Noël Cameron and Dr Rachel Deevey for producing the Newsletter.

Professor Nick Mascie-Taylor

November 2017

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EAA News

Minutes

EAA Board Meeting Poznań, Poland, 21st July 2017

Present: Professor Nick Mascie-Taylor (President), Professor Maria Kaczmarek (Vice President), Professor Jesper Boldsen (Vice President), Professor Michael Hermanussen (Vice President), Dr. Annamária Zsákai (Secretary-General).
The President warmly welcomed the Board members for attending and thanked Professor Kaczmarek for hosting the meeting.

1. Apologies were received from: Prof. Noel Cameron (Adjunct Secretary), Prof. Pilar Montero

(General Treasurer), Prof. Esther Rebato (Adjunct Treasurer)

2. Minutes of the Council meeting of 2016
They were noted and approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes which are not part of the agenda
No additional items were suggested.

4. Report of the President
Professor Mascie-Taylor reported that together with Professor Cameron and Professor Hermanussen they reviewed the EAA Statutes

and ordinances in Cambridge in October 2016 and made changes in line with the comments made at the General Assembly in Zagreb. Their suggestions and comments were discussed later during the Board meeting. He also visited Budapest in May 2017 and held meetings with the General-Secretary to prepare for the Board meeting in Poznań. They discussed the details of the student awards of the Association. He gave lectures on biostatistics at the EAA Summer School in July 2107 (Poznań, Poland).

5. Report of the General-Secretary

Annamária Zsákai reported her administrative work as General-Secretary of the Association. The General Secretary reported that due to the EAA Summer School 2017 several new student members joined the Association at the beginning of 2017. She also reported that the members had problems with the new EAA membership fees, since the website contained contradictory information on the fees as the General Assembly in Zagreb had decided to simplify payments covering a 2 year period and the same fee for all ordinary members and a lower fee for all student members.

6. Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer sent a report which stated that the EAA funds are in a good position (over 44,000 Euros) and that Professor Pia Bennike was standing down as the local treasurer for Denmark. The Board warmly thanked Professor Bennike for her contributions to the EAA. Professors Boldsen and Hermanussen proposed that there should be local treasurer covering both Denmark and Germany and Professor Boldsen offered to assist in appointing the person.

7. Report on the Newsletter

The Editor requested feedback from the members about the proposed new logo and reported that the next newsletter was planned for November 2017.

8. Report on the Website

The website manager, Annamária Zsákai reported that she still receives very little information from the members. The website is regularly updated by her.

9. EAA Statutes and Regulations

The President reported the changed parts of the EAA Statutes and Regulations (accepted by the General Assembly during the Zagreb Congress in 2016) and the corrections suggested by the review board (Professors Mascie-Taylor, Cameron and Hermanussen) in October 2016. All of these changes were ratified by the Board during the meeting. The main changes were: the dates of elections to Council and Board take place earlier in the year and the new Council and Board take up their duties on July 1st of the year of the Congress, (b) the membership fees for 2 years must be paid by December 31st of the year preceding the Congress, (c) the fees are standardised at 20 Euros for the 2 years for ordinary members and 10 Euros for student members and (d) the President could only serve for a maximum of 2 terms, i.e. 4 years. The Board asked the website manager to publish the ratified statutes and regulations on the website.

10. Progress report on the congress in Odense, Denmark 2018

Professor Boldsen reported the most important information on the EAA Congress 2018 (Odense, Denmark, 22.08.2018 – 25.08.2018). He reported that the registration fees would be more expensive than expected in 2016 due to new regulations which required paying VAT. He reported the expected registration fees (the regular EAA members would get 60 Euros reduction, while for EEA student members the reduction would be 30 Euros reduction with the aim of encouraging the new membership). Professor Boldsen reported that they could offer cheaper accommodation for student members (50-60 Euro/night). The congress organisers will accept proposals for symposia held during the congress (with min. 6 lectures). The possibility of publishing papers presented in the congress was also discussed but no concrete decisions made. He also reported that the website of the congress is available and the registration would be open from November 2017. More information on the congress is available at EAA2018.com.

11. Future Congresses

The 2020 Congress will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania. The President offered to visit Professor Janina

Tutkuvienė to discuss the congress, if required. There was a discussion about the 2022 congress venue and the President agreed to contact EAA Board and Council members about this item.

12. Changes to pre-congress student awards

The President reported the following proposed changes in the EAA pre-congress student awards: students have to submit a paper (maximum length 2000 words) as the application for an award instead of an abstract of 500 words. The deadline for submission of the paper would be 1st March to allow for early-bird EAA congress registration. The Board accepted the proposed changes.

13. Flexibility in number of pre-congress awards and poster presentation awards

The Board agreed to the President's proposal for announcing more than 3 poster presentation awards if (1) less than 5 pre-congress awards were given and (2) more than 3 very good poster presentations were presented during the congress. The Board proposed to award the student awards only in the General Assembly (only after the presented oral or poster presentations). The Board accepted the proposed change that the applicants have to be students at the time of application submission in the case of both student award applications. Post-doc applications will be accepted as well for the student awards (the admissible beginning time of post-doc status should be specified, i.e. January 2017 in the case of the 2018 Congress).

14. Any other business

The President warmly thanked Professor Kaczmarek for organizing the EAA Summer School 2017. Professor Kaczmarek provided details of the summer school (number and countries of participants, structure of the lectures and courses, budget; the financial report on the summer school will be sent to the Board in July 2017). Professor Boldsen reported that he would like to organise the next EAA Summer School in Odense, Denmark in 2019 on the topic of paleoanthropology. Professor Kaczmarek mentioned that she might organize another Poznań summer school in the future, because the Dean of the Faculty in her university found this

summer school very successful and encouraged her to organise a similar school. Professor Hermanussen reported that he also organized a summer school in Potsdam, Germany in July 2017. He plans to organise a summer school in 2018 as well. The necessity of the local treasurers system was emphasised during the Board meeting, since the local treasurers' work is very useful in collecting the membership fees and informing the members about the EAA issues.

Reports

Report on the Summer School of Biological Anthropology Poznań, Poland, July 2017



In July this year, in an enchanting Poznań (Poland), the Summer School of Biological Anthropology (SSBA2017) took place. It was the second time in the history of the European Anthropological Association that young people from all over Europe spent part of their summer holidays working intensively. The aim of the course was to learn more about the intricate relationships between nutrition, physical growth and health. Young researchers could also gain insight into nutrition-related health problems, evolutionary and developmental origins of disease, and acquire new skills in solving analytical problems associated with the

assessment of health in the community. The SSBA2017 was organised jointly by the European Anthropological Association and the Faculty of Biology, Adam Mickiewicz University (AMU) in Poznań, Poland. Professor Maria Kaczmarek from the Institute of Anthropology AMU was responsible for the organisational part of the meeting and became a School Leader. This ten-day course was held in the Collegium Biologicum, AMU, Poznań, July 12 to 22. Of 22 registered participants, 18 attended the course. They came from different European countries: Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia, Turkey and represented graduate, doctoral and early postdoctoral levels. Professor Barry Bogin, Professor Noël Cameron and Dr. Ines Varela-Silva gave extremely interesting lectures on patterns of human growth, evolution of human nutrition, human life history theory, developmental origins of health and the recognition of critical periods in human growth, growth as an indicator of social and economic change, nutritional and epidemiological transition, growth and health in transitional economies as well as intergenerational effects on health and disease from a biocultural perspective. Participation in these lectures allowed the young scientists to significantly broaden their knowledge of the topics discussed. But first of all, the attitude of lecturers and their willingness to explain the intricacies of the subjects, forced participants to take up heated discussions that took place during the classes. Professor C.G. Nicholas Mascie-Taylor taught intensive biostatistics, a useful tool in epidemiology. This direct contact with world-famous professionals in the field of human biology was extremely stimulating and valuable for young researchers; it was a great opportunity for them to learn from the best. On Sunday 16th, participants could enjoy a half-day cultural programme during which they could visit historical places and learn about the history of the state of Poland and the city of Poznań. They could also taste local cuisine specialities like dumplings. Participants went home after receiving 3 ECTS school completion certificates but it is hoped that the SSBA2017 network will survive for much longer supporting the European Anthropological Association activities.

Here is what some SSBA participants said about the course:

1. "I greatly enjoyed time spent at SSBA. It was an intensive course with inspiring and intellectually stimulating lectures and discussions. It was also great to meet young scholars from all over Europe. We had a lot of fun!"



Marina Vergeles, Russia

2. "Participation in SSBA 2017 was a great chance to learn new skills from the best anthropologists. Furthermore, I met young researchers from all over Europe. Contact with my PhD candidate peers was very productive and fun as well. I really expanded my knowledge and horizons thanks to Summer School in Biological Anthropology!"



Andrzej Dubrowski, Poland

3. "I greatly enjoyed the experience of the SSBA summer School. I've not only learned new and important information on a lot of different subjects, but I've also had the opportunity to meet a lot of researchers from different countries and their original approach and contribution to the research in biological anthropology. Thanks to this experience I've gained new knowledge and ideas useful for my own research. The course on statistic was particularly useful for me and it was really enjoyable. I want to thank all the

professors for this wonderful opportunity."



Nicoletta Zedda, Italy

Magdalena Durda-Masny
Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland
Participant of the SSBA2017

Report on the XIV International Congress of Auxology Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1-3 November 2017

XIV International Congress of Auxology was held on 1-3 November 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the auspices of two societies, the International Association for the Study of Human Growth and Clinical Auxology (ISGA) and Sociedad Argentina de Pediatría (SAP). The president of the congress was Professor Horacio Lejarraga from Universidad de Buenos Aires. The theme of the meeting was 'For a healthy growth in a better world' and its objectives were to update and disseminate the latest research on human growth and clinical Auxology, providing an adequate setting for interdisciplinary discussion and stimulating and motivating young scientists in the study of human growth and clinical Auxology. The scientific program included such topics as impact of environment pollutants on child growth, mathematical handling of growth data, growth charts and growth models for paediatrics and epidemiology, growth in Latin American countries, growth in early years, idiopathic short stature, growth problems in paediatric practice, growth in rare diseases, therapeutic targets in skeletal disorders, assessment of biological age and maturity, the first 1,000 days of life, growth and development

as a positive health indicator, obesity, therapeutic uses of growth hormones and growth in different population groups. The congress began with an interesting 'Tanner lecture' given by Prof. Lawrence Schell from the University at Albany, US. The topic of his presentation was "Impact of environment pollutants on child growth". Very inspiring lectures were given also by other invited keynote speakers: Prof. Timothy Cole, Dr Karen Heath, Prof. Noël Cameron and Dr Mathieu Roelants. During the 3 days of the meeting, participants reported results of their studies in 44 oral and 35 digital poster presentations. The best conclusion for the presentations would be the words of James M. Tanner: 'Human growth is the discipline where physiology, psychology and sociology meet', cited by prof. Horacio Lejarraga during the meeting. The congress was a great occasion for anthropologists, pediatricians and other professionals from all over the world interested in human growth to exchange their scientific experiences. At the end of the meeting Dr Sasa Missoni invited the participants to Croatia, where the next congress of ISGA will be held in 2020.

Dear Professor Horacio Lejarraga, on behalf of all the congress participants, I would like to express sincere thanks for the very successful and stimulating meeting and the memorable, friendly atmosphere of the congress!

Tomasz Hanć

**Department of Human Biological Development,
Institute of Anthropology,
Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland**

Meetings 2018

21st Congress of the EAA 2018



22-25 August 2018, University of Southern Denmark, Odense and the ABDON (Unit of Anthropology at the Dept of Forensic Medicine)

Full details can be found here:

www.eaa2018.com

Registration is now open

Important dates:

Early bird registration available until 30 April 2018

Normal registration rate from 1 May 2018

Call for papers open from 1 December 2017 – 30 April 2018

2018 Congress of the Société d'Anthropologie de Paris

This congress will take place from 24-26th January 2018 in Poitiers. Please see the website www.sapweb.fr for further information about this congress or about the society. There are two themes to the congress which are briefly summarised below:

Thématique 1 : De Cro-Magnon à aujourd'hui : peuplements, dynamique des populations, interactions Homme-milieu

La découverte de Cro-Magnon il y a 150 ans a conduit à drastiquement réviser la position de l'Homme au sein du Vivant, ouvrant la voie aux recherches sur l'histoire des peuplements et la dynamique des populations. Cette session s'attachera à aborder, en priorité à travers la diversité biologique - de l'ADN aux phénotypes - des populations anciennes et actuelles (de 200 000 à aujourd'hui) les questions sur les peuplements, la continuité/discontinuité des populations, et les interactions Homme-Milieu

Mots-clés : micro-évolution, peuplement, dynamique des populations, (paléo)environnement, (paléo)génomique, modélisation, morphotype-phénotype

Thématique 2 : La variabilité morphologique en paléanthropologie : de nouvelles approches, de nouveaux enjeux ?

La Paléanthropologie, de l'étude des premiers témoignages de la lignée humaine à l'étude de l'espèce *Homo sapiens*, est une discipline multi-sources, se nourrissant des développements d'autres disciplines telles que la paléontologie sensu lato, la primatologie, la paléopathologie, l'auxologie, la biomécanique etc.

Or, malgré un registre fossile croissant et des méthodologies sans cesse renouvelées et/ou en développement, nos questionnements fondamentaux portant sur la taxinomie et la phylogénie, mais également sur les comportements des Hominini anciens, se heurtent aux difficultés d'interprétation de la variabilité morphologique des restes fossiles. Dans

une large perspective et en tenant compte des dernières avancées de la recherche, la présente thématique vise à explorer :

les sources potentielles de cette variabilité morphologique : phylogénétique, ontogénétique ou développementale, comportementale, écologique, voire plus globalement environnementale,

les moyens mis en œuvre pour caractériser cette variabilité : méthodologies et concepts (e.g. intégration morphologique)

de nouvelles hypothèses évolutives liées à une meilleure appréciation de cette variabilité et leurs enjeux.

Mots-clés : Hominini fossiles, Primates, modèles mammaliens, taxinomie, phylogénie, paléobiologie, dimorphisme sexuel

Theme 1: From Cro-Magnon to the present day: peopling, population dynamics, human-environment interactions

The discovery of Cro-Magnon 150 years ago has led to significant revision of the position of Man among the Living, opening the way to research on population history and population dynamics. This session, mainly through biological diversity – ranging from DNA to phenotypes –, will focus on ancient and current populations (from 200 000 years to today), interrogations on peopling, continuity/discontinuity of populations, and human-environment interactions.

Keywords: micro-evolution, population dynamics, (paleo)environment, (paleo)genomics, modelling, morphotype-phenotype

Theme 2: Morphological variability in paleoanthropology: new approaches, new issues?

From the study of the first representatives of the human lineage to the study of the species *Homo sapiens*, paleoanthropology is a multisource field fueled by the development of other disciplines such as paleontology sensu lato, primatology, paleopathology, ontogeny, biomechanics, etc.

However, despite a growing fossil record and constantly developing and/or renewed methodologies, our fundamental questions concerning taxonomy, phylogeny, and

behaviours of extinct Hominini are confronted with the difficulties in the interpretation of the morphological variability of their fossilized remains. From a broad perspective and considering the recent advances of research in this field, this theme aims to explore:

1. the potential sources of this morphological variability: phylogenetic, ontogenetic or developmental, behavioural, ecological or more generally, environmental;
2. the means used to characterise this variability: methodologies and concepts (e.g. morphological integration)
3. new evolutionary hypotheses built on a better appreciation of this variability and their significance

Key-words: fossil Hominini, Primates, mammalian models, taxonomy, phylogeny, paleobiology, sexual dimorphism, growth

[UISPP Congress, 4-9 June, Paris 2018](#)

Organised by the Biological Anthropology UISPP Commission:

'Through time, space and species: implication of new discoveries, technological developments and data diffusion improvement in Biological Anthropology'

This session aims to divulgate new discoveries, discuss new theories and share innovative methodologies correlated with the study of human extinct and extant populations in biological and evolutionary perspectives. The session proposes to embrace a large spectrum of specialities correlated with the biological anthropology field of research, in terms of chronology, geography and phylogeny.

The study of the biological aspect of ancient populations is constantly in modernisation and

implementation, through the improvement, application or adaptation of methodologies/instrumentations/techniques and most of all by the discovery of new fossils. It is no coincidence that, in recent decades, technological advances in biological anthropology have allowed us to clear (a little more) some aspects of human evolution and migration.

The purpose of mixing different anthropological fields of research is to stimulate debates and inputs about different approaches and methodologies.

In this context, we highly encourage graduate students and junior researchers to present their current research in order to update the community of anthropologists about what is going on in the anthropological sciences.

Additionally, the interdisciplinarity and transcontinental aspects, as the base of the session, will encourage discussion between researchers from different institutions/specialities/continents.

Please refer to the UISPP congress website for further information:

<https://uispp2018.sciencesconf.org/>

Announcements

JUBILEE CONGRATULATIONS

70th Birthday salutation to Prof. Éva Bodzsár

Professor Éva Bodzsár (Department of Biological Anthropology, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary) was elected an Honorary Member of the European Anthropological Association (EAA) in 2012. The nomination for the honorary lifelong membership of the EAA was fully supported by the EAA Council and the Board. Let us briefly summarise the main EAA activities that justified her Honorary Membership:

Professor Éva Bodzsár has been a member of the EAA since 1984, she was elected a member of the EAA Council as well as the EAA Board in 1998 (she served as a member of the EAA Council until 2012). As the Vice-President of the EAA she undertook the editorial work of the EAA Newsletter between 1998 and 2010. All of the EAA members remember the very high quality and the richness of the information contained in the Newsletters she edited. She co-edited the EAA Biennial Books series, with the introductory volume of the series (Secular Growth Changes in Europe), and altogether 7 volumes were published between 1998 and 2010. Members of the EAA and other invited authors from Europe and elsewhere, with well-known expertise in Biological Anthropology, contributed to the volumes covering a very wide scope in anthropology. We all have these EAA books on our shelves, since the EAA members received them with the regular Newsletter as part of their EAA membership.

Professor Éva Bodzsár organised the 15th International Congress of our Association in Budapest in 2006. More than 250 participants came to the Budapest congress both from Europe and elsewhere and many students participated in the congress owing to her ability

to raise funds for them. She always helped the EAA congresses with her active participation by giving lectures on her new research results in the plenary sections and in the auxological sections, by serving as chairperson in the auxological sections, by jurying student poster and oral presentations in the student award competitions, by recruiting participants to the proposed sections as section organiser or as the member of the organising committees, and last but not least by supporting and helping her numerous students to get financial support to enable them to participate in the EAA congresses and give presentations on their own research findings.

Beside her EAA activities, her teaching and research activities have also been outstanding in Europe. Her students' work in anthropology and her publications tell everything about her enormous work in the field of biological anthropology.

In the name of the EAA membership, the EAA Board would like to raise a toast for our dear friend and colleague, Professor Éva Bodzsár on her 70th birthday. Congratulations and we wish her all good health!

Board of the European Anthropological Association

**70th Birthday salutation to Prof. Daniela
Siváková**

Colleagues from Department of Anthropology

Faculty of Natural Sciences

Comenius University in Bratislava

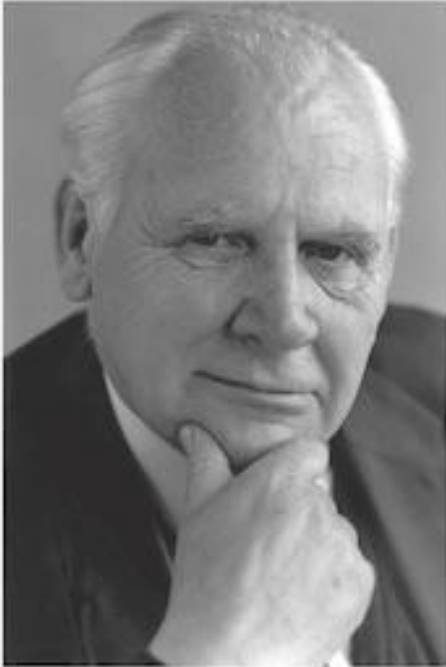
Slovakia



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to professor RNDr. Daniela Siváková, PhD., who celebrated a life jubilee this year. Her entire life has been intensively connected to anthropology development in Slovakia. Her enthusiasm, motivation and immense knowledge significantly and expertly contributed to sustainability of this specialisation. Her first scientific analyses were focused on dermatoglyphics and human genetics. Later she intensively studied interpopulation variability of Slovak minorities focused on serum proteins, biochemistry, DNA variability and health. She was pioneer in implementation of several methods and she enriched the study program of Anthropology with specific subjects. During her scientific career, professor Siváková has been actively involved in building awareness of Slovak anthropology abroad, not only by presenting the results of anthropological research at the international conferences but also by cooperating with foreign universities. She has been a member of several international organisations and editor of journals.

Nowadays she has decided to retire. Thus we wish to professor Siváková not only Happy Birthday but also a retirement full of joy, wonder, contentment and health.

Obituaries



Geoffrey A. Harrison

Professor Geoffrey Ainsworth Harrison

June 8, 1927 – September 14, 2017

Geoffrey was born in Teddington, Middlesex, England and read Natural Sciences at Cambridge (Trinity) where he obtained a 1st class degree. He then moved to Oxford where he worked under the supervision of Joe Weiner in the Department of Anatomy. His DPhil was on adaptation of inbred and hybrid mice to hot environments.

His first academic position was as a Lecturer at Liverpool University and he went on to become a lifelong supporter of Liverpool Football Club. At Liverpool, he studied skin pigmentation. Liverpool was a major UK port and had particularly large volume trade with West Africa. This led to many of the West African seamen settling in the city and marrying white women. Their children were genuine F1 hybrids. Sufficient time had elapsed for some of these to have married producing

children who were F2 hybrids. Using a reflectance spectrophotometer Geoffrey was able to accurately measure skin pigmentation of F1 and F2 hybrids and concluded that much of the variation in skin colour could be explained by 2 or 3 major genes.

In 1963 Geoffrey returned to Oxford as Reader in Physical Anthropology and remained at Oxford for the rest of his academic career, rising to Professor in 1976. While at Oxford he promoted the Human Sciences degree, and established the Diploma in Human Biology, the Department of Biological Anthropology (later the Institute of Biological Anthropology) and the MSc in Human Biology.

Geoffrey's research explored a variety of problems central to biological anthropology including variation, adaptation, fitness and evolution – always focussed on living populations, with strong analytical and statistical research designs. His fieldwork was carried out in the UK and worldwide for example in Namibia, Ethiopia, Brazil, Papua New Guinea and in Australia. He commented that fieldwork was often far from easy, needed careful planning and required a capacity to handle considerable physical, if not social, privation. He said that he learnt most of the things one should not do from his first overseas expedition to Namibia when everything that could go wrong did go wrong! The initial plan was to document the genetic characteristics of the various populations of the Kalahari. However, on arrival, they learnt that there had been an outbreak of bubonic plague – and there were claims that there was an antigen overlap between the plague bacillus and ABH blood group substances. To quote Geoffrey 'we thought we had been offered a heaven-sent opportunity to test for natural selection'. So, they started collecting hundreds of blood samples from infected areas – most of the samples spoiled because they were not properly equipped to

refrigerate such large numbers. However, even if refrigeration had been available a simple calculation would have shown that thousands of samples would have been required to show a departure from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium. Geoffrey concluded 'don't change the objectives of the expedition in the field – chronic discomfort and adversity are not good companions for clear thinking!'

Some of Geoffrey's most significant contributions were from research in his own neighbourhood – the Otmoor region of Oxfordshire. Here he worked with 400-year old parish records to establish extensive genealogies, patterns of exogamy and other evolutionary processes. Later work included collection of blood samples for genetic analysis of living residents and the study of lifestyle influences on health status, sleep patterns and stress indicators. This was a pioneering study that others followed, and Geoffrey's research on stress indicators carved out a whole new area of continuing exploration in biological anthropology.

After retiring in 1994 Geoffrey continued to teach for another 13 years or so. On his 80th birthday he taught his last seminar to a group of Oxford University students, took his motor cycle and cruised around Oxford streets for a couple of hours and very early that morning he took his XK140 Jaguar out to some countryside back roads and drove it at more than 100 miles/hour (about 160 kilometres/hour)! After this adventure, he took the Jaguar to the dealership and instructed the manager to sell it!

Besides his Oxford chair Geoff was also a visiting Professor at Harvard University and at the Australian National University. He was a member of many learned societies and took senior roles including President of the RAI, Chair of the SSHB, Chair of the Biosocial Society and was the Founding Chair of the Parkes Foundation. He was also an Editor of the Annals of Human Biology for many years and authored or edited numerous books including Human Biology, Man in urban environments and the Human Biology of the English village.

Geoffrey received many honours and awards. He held honorary degrees from Adelaide and Durham Universities, the Huxley Memorial Medal and Lecture from the RAI and the Franz Boas Distinguished Achievement Award from the Human Biology Association, USA. Geoffrey's long and prosperous career set the directions of Biological Anthropology research in the UK and elsewhere for many years.

Professors Mike Little and Nick Mascie-Taylor



Professor Roland Hauspie

April 8, 1948 – April 25, 2017

Professor Roland Hauspie, former co-editor of the Annals of Human Biology, died on April 25th 2017, shortly after his 69th birthday. He was a highly regarded human biologist, specialised in the field of human growth and development, and a prominent figure among physical anthropologists throughout his career. His contribution to science covers the study of methods for modelling individual growth curves, applied mathematical analysis of growth, and the analysis of (mixed) longitudinal data, all of which were efficiently combined to study genetic variation in growth, and environmental and social factors. He assumed an active role in the scientific

community as a researcher, teacher, book editor, and active member of several scientific associations.

In the decades following the end of WWII the science of Auxology – the study of human growth and development – reached unprecedented breadth and depth. The breadth was supplied by the post-war desire to ensure an improvement in child health on a global scale, the initiation of studies of human growth in many developed countries, and the acceptance by the World Health Organisation that growth in height and weight were among the best indicators of child health in both developed and developing countries. The depth was supplied by the emergence of a cadre of paediatricians, human biologists and anthropologists, primarily from Europe and North America, who were responsible for the setting up and running of growth studies and who, through their attention to experimental design, method, logistics and data analysis, developed the science of Auxology to international scientific standards. The leading figures in this unofficial club included Frank Falkner, Alex Roche, Darrel Bock, Francis Johnston, and Bob Malina from North America; Jim Tanner, Reg Whitehouse, Bill Marshall, Harvey Goldstein, Michael Healy (all UK), Charles Susanne, Marcel Graffar (Belgium), Peta Karlberg (Sweden), Andrea Prader, Theo Gasser, David Thissen, Luciano Molinari (Switzerland), Zev Laron (Israel), Birte Prah-Andersen, Maggie Roede, Hans van Wieringen (The Netherlands), and Olga Neyzi (Turkey). This group met every two years at the Centre International de l'Enfance in Paris to discuss their findings and share the advances in the field. The audience for these meetings were the young researchers and graduate students who were to form the second generation of Auxologists.

Roland Hauspie was to become a distinguished member of that second generation of modern Auxologists, trained not just in the collection of research quality data but in the importance of appropriate data analysis. His cohort of the same or similar ages included Noël Cameron and Mike Preece in the UK, and Linda Adair, Cameron Chumlea, John Himes, Michelle Lampl, Laurence

Schell and Babette Zemel in the USA, Johan Karlberg and John Taranger from Sweden,. What this class had in common, in addition to tuition from an exceptional generation of Human Biologists, Anthropologists and Paediatricians who developed Auxology after WWII, was their ability to exploit the newly available computing power to analyse growth data, in a fraction of the time it had taken their predecessors, using sophisticated analytical procedures. What they were also able to exploit was their ability to meet and interact/network to a previously unknown degree because of the proliferation of accessible journals to publish their work and the availability of the internet and email from the 1980s onwards.

Roland Hauspie was born on April 8th, 1948 in Poperinghe, and grew up in the area commonly known as Flanders Fields. After secondary school, he studied Biology at the Free University of Brussels, at that time a francophone university – “Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)” – with some curricula in Dutch, but was among the first students to graduate from the newly formed Flemish (i.e. Dutch speaking) “Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)” in 1970. After graduation, he became assistant at the department of Biology of the VUB. He was first attached to the division of marine biology – briefly, but already with an output of two peer reviewed papers on the autecology of harpacticoids – before he switched to human biology and joined the laboratory of Anthropogenetics which had been founded not long before by Charles Susanne. Upon completion of his doctoral degree he would remain attached to the laboratory of Anthropogenetics (VUB) for his entire career, initially as a Research Associate of the National Fund for Scientific Research – Flanders (FWO), and eventually as a professor from 2000 until his retirement in 2013. Although a tenured position as a FWO Research Associate allowed him to focus on research, he also engaged in the teaching of functional anatomy, human biology and biometrics for both graduate and undergraduate students. After his appointment as a professor, he was also responsible for introducing Biology and Bioengineering majors to the basics of general Biology. Apart from these formal teaching assignments he was regularly visited by

postgraduate students and colleagues for help with their analysis of data on human growth.

For his doctoral research, Roland studied growth and development in children with asthma who were in residential care in a former sanatorium on the Belgian Coast. Fully exploiting the mixed longitudinal nature of the data, he demonstrated that growth in these children is delayed rather than impaired by analysing the timing of the pubertal growth spurt, later complemented with data on the development of secondary sex characteristics and skeletal maturation (Hauspie et al., 1977). For those familiar with his later work, it may come as a surprise that mathematical growth models, which would become his signature research method during the decades to follow, were notably absent. His interest in mathematical models for individual growth nevertheless originated from this early experience with longitudinal data, which relied on graphical methods to identify biologically meaningful landmarks on the growth curve, and linear interpolation to deal with missing observations or deviations from scheduled measurement dates. A study of mathematical models for longitudinal growth was thus among the first projects he worked on after completion of his PhD.

In 1978 he was awarded a NATO-Research Fellowship which allowed him to spend a year working in Jim Tanner's Department of Growth and Development at London University's Institute of Child Health. His sojourn coincided with two fortuitous events; firstly the Preece-Baines methods for modelling human growth had just been published and needed to be programmed for application to longitudinal datasets. Secondly, the hand-written records of a longitudinal growth study of excellent quality carried out in West Bengal had just become available for analysis. This mountain of data, as it was literally described by Tanner (Foreword by J. Tanner in Dasgupta and Hauspie, 2001), meticulously collected by the Indian anthropologist S.R. Das in two Bengali villages over a period of 14 years, benefited largely from the systematic and methodological approach by Roland. His scientific expertise in not only understanding the pattern of human growth and the complexities and challenges of

longitudinal data, but also in appreciating and applying the computer programming required to interpret these data, was used to full advantage to generate the growth curves of this Indian cohort (Hauspie et al, 1980). This analysis and application formed the basis for a variety of other analyses of (mixed) longitudinal growth data and Roland was widely recognised for his rapidly developing expertise in growth data modelling. This expertise was eventually to find expression 20 years later when Roland Hauspie, Noël Cameron and Luciano Molinari edited the 2004 publication of *Methods in Human Growth Research* by Cambridge University Press.

In the years to follow, Roland would publish several comparative studies of mathematical models, mostly based on data from the Belgian Growth Study of the Normal Child, started by Marcel Graffar as part of a series of longitudinal growth surveys coordinated by the Centre International de l'Enfance in Paris. Once familiar with the possibilities and limitations of these models and their potential to approximate adolescent growth, he used this knowledge to derive standards for distance and velocity in the Belgian population, and published these together with Alex Wachholder (Hauspie and Wachholder, 1986). The standards were essentially cross sectional and descriptive of the whole sample, but supplemented with typical patterns of individual growth in early, average and late maturing children, after the fashion of Tanner and Whitehouse from 20 years earlier, but using Preece-Baines function parameters of the individual fitted growth curves. These curves were complemented with contemporary data on weight collected by Martine Vercauteren in Brussels to produce growth charts that have been in use for more than 20 years in Belgium.

Fitting a nonlinear model to longitudinal data requires today no more than a few lines of code and a computer at your desk. In the late seventies this was by no means a trivial task. He learned programming with the Fortran language in order to prepare and manipulate the data, use an appropriate algorithm to fit the nonlinear curve, generate graphs, and calculate goodness of fit measures in a single run. Non convergence

due to an unstable algorithm or bad choice of starting values resulted in booking a new time slot at the computing centre during the days or weeks to come. No wonder he carefully documented the whole process, and always advised on the choice of appropriate starting values and age ranges to include in the analysis. He also found that goodness of fit statistics are adequate but not sufficient to assess the curve fit, and good practice includes a visual inspection in order to detect spurious results. Finally, he was well aware of both the possibilities and limitations of mathematical models, and thought that fitting such models to individual growth data should not be a black box procedure, where a researcher might be unaware of biased outcomes. To this effect Roland published several papers and chapters on mathematical models for individual growth, extending his original comparative study to include new published models, notably those by Darrell Bock and Pierre Jolicoeur and colleagues. The chapter on parametric models for postnatal growth he wrote with Luciano Molinari in his co-edited book on *Methods in Human Growth Research* (Hauspie, Cameron & Molinari, 2004) provides a good summary of this work, and includes many references to his and other's finding on the topic.

By virtue of this expertise, he would also become associated with other longitudinal growth studies, of which those from the Polish cities of Lublin (Hanna Chrzastek-Spruch) and Wroclav (Tadeusz Bielicki) are probably best known. Other longitudinal series include those in Japanese adolescent girls (Kumi Ashisawa) and high school athletes (Koichi Nariyama), African infants (Hélène Pagezy), Guatemalan schoolchildren (Barry Bogin), French adolescent girls (Aude Brus), fetal growth (Françoise Dumoulin) and Flemish infants (Mathieu Roelants). He also applied mathematical modelling to study growth in children with endocrine disorders, notably rickets (Robert Steendijk), congenital adrenal hyperplasia (G. Hargitai), Turner syndrome (Horacio Lejarraga), and growth hormone deficiency (David Martin and Michael Ranke), and in Hungarian children with asthma (with Gyula Gyenis). Further work followed also on sibling correlations in growth (Ester Rebato, Itziar

Salces); growth in Polish (Bergman) and Belgian twins (Elisabeth Defrise-Gussenhovenb), skeletal maturity, tempo of growth and final height (Tadeusz Bielicki, Charles Susanne), body proportions (Slamowir Koziel), dimensions of the skull (Charles Susanne, Gertrud Hauser), genetic variation (Gregory Livshits), and growth and development in relation to exposure to lead (Marie-Christine Lauwers), high altitude (with Mailik), nutritional factors (Charles Susanne, Martine Vercauteren, Yvan Lepage), and the social environment in Jena (Katrin Kromeyer-Hauschild, and Ankara (Timur Gultekin). A considerable part of this research, and in particular their implications for the biology of growth, is summarised in his chapter on adolescent growth in the volume *Human Growth and Development* (Hauspie and Roelants, 2012).

Although he may be best known for his applied work on growth based on longitudinal data, Roland also published several papers on secular trends (with Martine Vercauteren, Charles Susanne and others), and would also become involved in several predominantly cross-sectional growth reference surveys, notably in Brussels (Martine Vercauteren), Sweden (Gunilla Lindgren), Hungary (Annamaria Zakai), Norway (Pétur Juliusson), Algeria (Nora Bahchachi), Ecuador (Claude Monnier and Yvan Lepage), Columbia (Marie-Jose Ireton) and was the driving force and main promotor of the Flemish growth survey in Belgium (with Mathieu Roelants and Karel Hoppenbrouwers).

We are well aware that this is an incomplete overview of his contributions to the field of growth and development, and could only mention a few of the colleagues with whom he collaborated. It should however be clear that such collaborations extended far beyond borders, whether these were geographical, disciplinary or linguistic. This is in part attributable to his active membership of several international scientific societies, notably, the European Anthropology Association (secretary-general from 1993 – 1998, vice-president 1998-2012), the International Society for the Study of Human Growth and Clinical Auxology (board member 1997-2009), The Groupement d'Anthropologistes de Langue

Française (board member 1997-2009), the Society for the Study of Human Biology (editor of the *Annals of Human Biology* 1995-2005), and was secretary-general of the 3rd Auxology congress (Brussels, 1982; Borms et al. 1984) and of the 10th EAA congress (Brussels, 1996). He served as an editorial board member for several journals, and was – in addition to the aforementioned published volumes – co-editor of *Essays on Auxology* (Hauspie R, Lindgren G, Falkner F, 1995), a volume – presented to Jim Tanner upon his retirement – with an author list described as the Who's Who of auxology in the 20th century. These activities along with his research put Roland in the centre of the multidisciplinary science that is auxology. A position we believe to be justified.

Those who were fortunate to have known Roland Hauspie as a teacher, colleague and friend have been left with the experience of a fierce intellect, a great enthusiasm and capacity for pursuing research, and also of a humble man with a seemingly perpetually smiling countenance. Roland Hauspie's gift to Auxology is not simply to be found in his writings but also in the attitude to his science that he passed on to his colleagues and pupils. We will miss him but our scientific lives are richer for having known him.

Roland is survived by his wife Chris, his two daughters and five grandchildren.

Mathieu Roelants (Brussels)

Noël Cameron (Loughborough)

This obituary has been published in the Annals of Human Biology (vol 44/8, 2017)



Dr Pia Bennike

1946-2017

Denmark did not have university degrees in Physical or Biological Anthropology, so Pia more or less decided to make her own degree: She enrolled in the Social Anthropology programme, but probably surprised some of the faculty by insisting on writing her thesis on bones, in this case on skeletons found at an early settlement church on the Faroese Islands, where she also participated in the excavations. She graduated in 1979, and then pursued research focusing on paleopathology, which in 1984 resulted in the award of her PhD degree with her landmark publication: *Paleopathology of Danish skeletons*, thereby continuing and further establishing the long Danish tradition of studying disease in archaeological skeletons.

For many years Pia was affiliated with the Laboratory of Biological Anthropology at the Faculty of Health at the University of Copenhagen, both by securing numerous grants and performing skeletal analyses and research for Danish archaeological museums, alongside functioning as a lecturer for the Department of Archaeology at same university. Pia was also

called upon to be a consulting curator at the university's Medical Museum, where she with relish curated the spectacular collection of skeletons and bones from Danish leproseria excavated by Møller-Christensen. She immediately recognised their educational potential, and for many years organised postgraduate courses in Paleopathology, using not least these assemblages as a base. The 'Yellow House' in the back garden of the Medical History Museum also served as a splendid home for a European project Pia helped secure on childrens' skeletons from the iconic medieval sites of Næstved and Æbelholt.

Pia had a long history of serving offices in the European Association of Anthropologists. She served as vice-president for the association in several periods and from 2000-2004 she was the effective and well respected president of EAA. Pia was also very proud to be elected President of the PPA, and she served in this role from 2007-2009. For her, this really marked a high point in her career, and she was energetic in dealing with the many issues of the day, not least the first steps in creating the International Journal of Paleopathology.

Pia had a real knack for organising meetings. She organised the EEA meeting in Copenhagen in 1994, and then the European PPA in 2008. Both meetings were very successful, not just academically, but certainly also because Pia was a fantastic host and had planned fun excursions, festive dinners and happy get-togethers (e.g., Pia's husband, Svend, making pancakes at the latter meeting's get-together).

Just as Pia was a delightful and engaging host for meetings and guest researchers, so in the same vein Pia was an engaging and colorful teacher. This was arguably also what she loved doing best: teaching students about Biological Anthropology and Paleopathology. She has taught a course on these subjects for nearly her entire career, right up to the summer of 2017. Needless to say, this was one of the most popular courses, and probably attended by nearly all the Copenhagen archaeology students over the last 30 years. Her eagerness to show and tell about diseases in earlier times is also reflected in several books on the subject, not least her co-editorship of the first Scandinavian textbook on Human Osteology and Biological Anthropology (and authorship of that book's chapter on, obviously, paleopathology). In 2015, to crown her lifetime achievements, Pia was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Lund.

Pia did much to alert the Danish archaeologists, and indeed the Danish public, to the importance and the benefits of studying skeletons of past populations, and she certainly did much to alert our international scientific community to Danish paleopathology and biological anthropology. Not least for these efforts will she always be well remembered. The discipline lost an inspiring colleague, and many of us a wonderful friend.

Professor Niels Lynnerup (Copenhagen University)

Professor Jesper L. Bolden (University of Southern Denmark)

Wishing all EEA members a happy holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year