

Curriculum Vitae
JAMES HOWE
September 2009

EDUCATION

INSTITUTION	DEGREE	DATE
University of Pennsylvania	Ph. D.	1974
Oxford University: Lincoln College & Institute of Social Anthropology	Diploma (masters) in Social Anthropology	1967
Harvard University	AB Magna Cum Laude in Anthropology	1966

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

1990-present	Professor, Anthropology Program, MIT
1978-1990	Associate Professor, Anthropology Program, MIT
1974-1978	Assistant Professor, Anthropology Program, MIT
1973	Instructor, Anthropology Program, MIT
1972-1973	Visiting Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Temple University

OTHER POSITIONS

RESIDENCIES

1989-1990	Oxford University: Senior Associate Member, St. Antony's College; Visiting Scholar, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Visiting Scholar, Latin American Center.
1984-1985	Resident Fellow, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, (Latin American Program) Smithsonian Institution

RESEARCH POSITIONS

1985-2005	Research Associate, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama
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EDITORIAL POSITIONS

1985-1989	Contributing Editor, Handbook of Latin American Studies (Hispanic Division, Library of Congress)
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BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

2003-present	Board of Directors and Program Council Committee, Cultural Survival
2000-present	Trustee, Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth, Massachusetts
1998-2001	President, Eagle Light Caretakers, Hancock County, Maine

CONSULTANCIES

1995-present	Koskun Kalu, Congreso de la Cultura Kuna, Panama
1992-1997	Fowler Museum of Cultural History, UCLA
1998	Human Relations Area Files
1990-1992	"Before Columbus" (television mini-series), Central ITV, London
1988	New England Aquarium
1986-1987	"First Time" (public radio series), Interlock Media, Cambridge MA
1985-1986	National Geographic Society
1981, 1987,	Smithsonian Institution
1997	
1978-1979	USAID

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Wenner-Gren Foundation, grant in support of historical research on native scribes and ethnography	2002
Whiting Foundation (Boston MA), and Plumsock Mesoamerica Foundation (Antigua, Guatemala) grants in support of project to microfilm archive of Kuna Indians, Kuna Yala, Panama	1994-1995, 1997
Plumsock Mesoamerica Foundation, grant for microfilm project	1993
National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship	1984-1985
Woodrow Wilson Center, Smithsonian Institution, resident fellowship	1984
National Endowment for the Humanities, grant (to the University of Texas Press) in support of publication of monograph by James Howe	1984
Social Science Research Council advanced research grant	1977-1978
National Endowment for the Humanities summer stipend	1975
National Institute of Mental Health research fellowship and field expenses grant	1969-1972
National Defense Education Act Title IV graduate fellowship	1967-1969

COURSES TAUGHT

Current Courses

The Supernatural in Music, Literature, and Culture
Myth, Ritual & Symbolism
Photography and Truth

Other Courses

Social Theory and Analysis
Conquest of America
Witchcraft, Magic & the Spirit World
Tutorial in Ethnography
Introduction to Anthropology
Religious Movements
Political Anthropology
Issues and Ideas in Anthropology
Seminar in Mythology

UNIVERSITY SERVICE*

Head, MIT Anthropology Program	1981-1984, 1987-1989, 1993-1994, 1995-1998, 1999-2000, 2003, 2008, 2009
Steering Committee, Admissions Committee, Program in Science, Technology & Society	1989-1999
Humanities Distribution Committee	c. 1987-1993

* long-term commitments only

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Anthropological Association
American Ethnological Society
Latin American Studies Association
Latin American Anthropology Group
American Society for Ethnology

LANGUAGES

Kuna (fluent), Spanish (serviceable), French (rusty), Latin (rusted out)

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- 2009 *Chiefs, Scribes, and Ethnographers: Kuna Culture from Inside and Out*
University of Texas Press.
- 2004 *Un pueblo que no se arrodillaba: Panama, los Estados Unidos, y los
kunas de San Blas.* Guatemala: CIRMA & Plumstock Mesoamerican
Studies. (translation of Howe 1998)
- 1998 *A People Who Would Not Kneel: Panama, the United States, and the
San Blas Kuna.* Smithsonian Institution Press.
- 1986 *The Kuna Gathering: Contemporary Village Politics in Panama.* Austin:
University of Texas Press, ILAS Latin American Monograph Series
no.67 (Second edition, 2002, Tucson, AZ: Fenestra Books.)
- 1980a (with David Maybury-Lewis) *The Indian Peoples of Paraguay: Their
Plight and Their Prospects.* Cambridge: Cultural Survival Special Report
no.2
- 1980b (chief editor and organizer, with Joel Sherzer and Mac Chapin) *Cantos y
oraciones del congreso kuna.* Panamá: Editorial Universitaria (the
National University Press)
- 1976 (editor, with Philip Young) *Ritual and Symbolism in Native Central
America,* University of Oregon Anthropological Papers, no.9

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2008 "Argument is Argument: An Essay on Conceptual Metaphor and Verbal
Dispute." *Metaphor and Symbol* 23:1-23
- 2003 "The Kuna" In *Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender*, Carol Ember, ed.
Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.
- 2002 "The Kuna of Panama: Continuing Threats to Land and Autonomy." In
The Politics of Ethnicity: Indigenous Peoples in Latin American Studies,
David Maybury-Lewis, ed. Harvard University: David Rockefeller
Center Series on Latin American Studies,, pp.81-106
- 2001 "The Kuna of Panama," in *Endangered Peoples of Latin America:
Struggles to Survive and Thrive*, Westport CT: Greenwood Press,
pp.137-152
- 1997 In *The Art of Being Kuna*, Mari Lyn Salvador, editor. Los Angeles:
Fowler Museum of Cultural History, three articles: "Introduction: Artful
Lives, the Kuna of Panama" (with Mari Lyn Salvador), pp.29-51; "The

- Kuna and the World: Five Centuries of Struggle, pp.85-101"; "The Gathering House: Heart of a Kuna Community, pp.137-145;"and "The Kuna Portray Their Own History" (photo essay); and untitled (photo essay on puberty ceremonies).
- 1996 "Star Girls and Star Man: A Comparative Analysis of Paired Kuna Myths." *Journal of Latin American Lore* 17:225-266.
- 1995 "La lucha por la tierra en la Costa de San Blas (Panamá), 1900-1930. *Mesoamérica* 29: 57-76.
- 1995 (with Jesús Alemancia, Cebaldo de León, Carlos López, Jimmy Solís, and Samuel Morris) "Sounds Heard in the Distance: Poetry and Metaphor in the Kuna Struggle for Autonomy," *Latin American Indian Literatures Journal* 10:1-21.
- 1992 "Protestants, Catholics, and Gentiles: The Articulation of Missionary and Indigenous Culture on the San Blas Coast of Panama," *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford* XXIII:2, Special Issue on Missionaries.
- 1991 "An Ideological Triangle: The Struggle over San Blas Kuna Culture, 1915-1925." in *Nation-States and Indians in Latin America*, Greg Urban and Joel Sherzer, eds., University of Texas Press, pp.19-52.
- 1990 "Mission Rivalry and Conflict in San Blas, Panama," in *Class, Politics, and Popular Religion in Mexico and Central America*, Lynn Stephen & James Dow, editors. Society for Latin American Anthropology Publication Series, pp. 143-166.
- 1986 (with Joel Sherzer) "Friend Hairyfish and Friend Rattlesnake, or Dealing with Anthropologists through Humor". *Man* 21: 680-696.
- 1986 "Native Rebellion and U.S. Intervention in Central America: The Implications of the Kuna Case for the Miskito." *Cultural Survival Quarterly* 10(1): 59-65.
- 1985 "Marriage and Domestic Organization among the San Blas Cuna," in *The Botany and Natural History of Panama*, W.G. D'Arcy and Mireya Correa A., eds. St. Louis: Missouri Botanical Garden. pp.317-331.
- 1981a "Fox Hunting as Ritual." *American Ethnologist* 8(2): 278-300.
- 1981b (with Lawrence Hirschfeld) "The Star Girls' Descent: A Myth about Men, Women, Matrilocality, and Singing." *Journal of American Folklore* 94(373): 292-322.
- 1979 "The Effects of Writing on the Cuna Political System." *Ethnology* 18(1):1-16. Reprinted in *Anthropological Approaches to Political Behavior*, Frank McGlynn & Arthur Tuden, eds., University of Pittsburgh Press.
- 1978 "Una guía a la literatura oral del congreso cuna," introduction to Howe, Sherzer and Chapin 1980, above, pp.6-31.

- 1978 "How the Cuna Keep Their Chiefs in Line." *Man* 13(4):537-53
- 1977 "Algunos problemas no resueltos de la etnohistoria del este de Panamá." *Revista Panameña de Antropología* 2(2):30-47.
- 1977 "Carrying the Village: Cuna Political Metaphors," in *The Social Use of Metaphor*, J. David Sapir and J. Christopher Crocker, eds. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. pp.132-63.
- 1976 "Smoking out the Spirits: A Cuna Exorcism," in Young & Howe 1976, above, pp.67-76.
- 1976 "Communal Land Tenure and the Origin of Descent Groups among the San Blas Cuna," in *Frontier Adaptations in Lower Central America*, Mary Helms and Franklin Loveland, eds. Philadelphia: ISHI, pp.151-63.
- 1975 (with Joel Sherzer) "Take and Tell: A Practical Classification from the San Blas Cuna." *American Ethnologist* 2(3):435-460.

BOOK REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

- 2004 review of Ignacio Gallup-Díaz, *Door of the Seas and Key to the Universe: Indian Politics and Imperial Rivalry in the Darién, 1640-1750*. *Ethnohistory* 51(4):846-848.
- 2004 review of Gloria Rudolf, *Panama's Poor: Victims, Agents and Historymakers*, *Hispanic American Historical Review* 84(1): 168-169.
- 1991 (with Paul Sullivan) *Middle American Ethnology*, *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, volume 51, pp.85-96.
- 1989a (with Paul Sullivan) *Middle American Ethnology*, *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, volume 49, pp.75-92.
- 1989b review of Robert Borofsky, *Making History*. *Book Review Forum*, *Pacific Studies*.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 1995 "Foreward" in Jorge Ventocilla, Heraclio Herrera, and Valerio Nuñez, *Plants and Animals in the Life of the Kuna*. University of Texas Press, ix-xi.
- 1987 (translator) "Land Loss and Ethnic Conflict: A Speech by a Colombian Kuna Leader" *Cultural Survival Quarterly* 11(1):85.
- 1986 "Kuna Yala: Démocratie et autonomie limitées." *Ethnies* 4-5: 41-42.
- 1982 (contributing author and editor, collective authorship), *El Salvador, Background to the Crisis*. Cambridge MA: Central America Information Office.
- 1982 "Kindling Self determination among the Kuna." *Cultural Survival*

- Quarterly 6(3):15-17.
- 1981 "Dashed Hopes in Paraguay." Cultural Survival Newsletter 5(1):8-11.
- 1978a "92 Mythical Populations: A Reply to Divale et al." American Anthropologist 8 80(3):671-673.
- 1978b (with Lawrence Hirschfeld and Bruce Levin) "Warfare, Infanticide, and Statistical Inference: A Comment on Divale and Harris." American Anthropologist 80(1):110-115.
- 1976 8 short articles in: Encyclopedia of Anthropology, David E. Hunter and Phillip Whitten, eds. New York: Harper & Row.

AUDIO AND VISUAL MEDIA PRODUCTIONS

MUSEUM EXHIBITS

- 1997-2002 The Art of Being Kuna, Marilyn Salvador, curator. James Howe, principal consultant & translator, contributor of several dozen photographs. UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, Los Angeles (1997); National Museum of the American Indian, New York City (1999); Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago (2000), Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Albuquerque (2002).

PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS AND PHOTO ESSAYS

- 1997 The Art of Being Kuna, Marilyn Salvador (companion volume to exhibit listed above, not a catalogue). Two photo essays: "The Kuna Portray Their Own Revolutionary History," pp.147-149; untitled, on puberty ceremonies, pp.286-291. Total of 61 photographs.
- 1984 Grassroots Development, 8(2):28-30, nine photographs.

OTHER

- 1995- Director, Proyecto Garda Sabgued, in conjunction with the Congreso General de la Cultura Kuna (microfilming tribal archives)
contributor to Electronic Archive of Latin American Indigenous Languages, University of Texas.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- n.d. *A Girl Comes of Age, A Village Celebrates* [a photographic ethnography]

projected completion of first draft, December 2009

- n.d. (with Bernal Castillo), "Voting for Autonomy and Reconciliation: The Kuna in Party Politics, 1928-1953."
- n.d. primary consultant to project to publish the diary of voyage to Sweden by a native scribe