

ANTHROPOLOGY IN THE REAL WORLD

2014 — 3RD ANNUAL ANTHROPOLOGY EXPO



Dr. Duncan Earle teaches at Marymount California University in Palos Verdes / San Pedro, Ca., where he has recently helped to establish a community and international development education and training program. He has been involved in research on the contemporary Maya and their ancestors for more than 35 years. He has also been a vocal advocate for Maya culture, human rights, and political self-determination. He began research with the Kiché Maya of north central Guatemala in the mid-1970s. He was also involved in post-earthquake community development work there. In the early 1980s, his PhD dissertation research (SUNY Albany) focused on migrant Tzotzil Maya communities which settled in the Comitan region of Chiapas, Mexico. He later published a well-received major study of the Zapatista movement and Zapatista native communities in Chiapas. He has continued research with Maya communities in both Chiapas and Guatemala, including ongoing research on modern Quiché religion and shamanism and the ancient Kiché state religion that is the topic of this talk. This research has been informed by his long-term intensive work and study with Maya curanderos. He has also researched trans-border social and economic immigration issues in Texas. He is also currently working on a ground-breaking applied anthropology project for rain forest conservation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where he is putting decades of applied anthropology experience to work. He has said that his research and his advocacy for the communities that he has worked with have responded to a "...life-long calling to aid the least prosperous, especially the rural smallholder and the shantytown migrant, and to help create sustainable livelihoods in balance with nature."

Friday, October 24, 2014

Featuring presentations by students, faculty, alumni and special guests.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Health & Sciences Building—Lecture Hall HS-201

- 12 PM** | **WELCOME | ANTHROPOLOGY IN THE REAL WORLD**
—WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A DEGREE IN ANTHROPOLOGY?
"ANTHROPOLOGY: REAL PEOPLE, REAL CAREERS"—video
- 1 PM** | **PROFESSIONAL ANTHROPOLOGIST GUEST SPEAKERS:**
Peggy Ronning, Curator, Antelope Valley Indian Museum
Barbara Tejada, Archaeologist, California State Parks
Dr. Bruce Love, Anthropologist, Mesoamericanist
- 3 PM** | **ALUMNI STUDENT PANEL Q&A**

Health & Sciences Building—Anthropology Laboratory HS-223

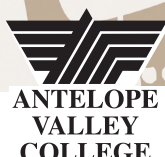
- 6 PM** | **OPEN HOUSE RECEPTION MEET & GREET** (beer, wine, appetizers)

Health & Sciences Building—Lecture Hall HS-201

- 7 PM** | **WELCOME | CURRENT NEWS & THE DNA ANCESTRY KIT RAFFLE**
Dr. Darcy L. Wiewall, Professor of Anthropology/Archaeology
**JAMES J. JOHANNESMEYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
IN ANTHROPOLOGY & ARCHAEOLOGY**
Bridget F. Razo, Executive Director, AVC Foundation
- 7:30 PM** | **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**
Dr. Duncan Earle,
Professor of Anthropology, Marymount California University
"Maya Kiché State Power Expressed in Sacred Landscapes:
Popol Vuh, G'umarcaj, and the Path of Aj Q'ij Initiation"

The sacred geography and rituals of contemporary Kiché Maya shamanism are the subject of this presentation. The talk connects the ancient history of the Kiché Maya state in north central Guatemala, the Kiché sacred narrative of creation—the Popol Vuh—and the interaction of Kiché shamans with the supernatural realm today. The ancient capital of the Kiché state at Utatlan (or G'umarcaj) includes cave shrines located at the city ceremonial center, and other local sacred places recognized by the Kiché. Shamanic Aj Q'ij initiations are held today at these cave shrines, following a ritual path tied into a constellation of local sacred places. Dr. Earle will tell us about the convergence of Kiché political history, origin accounts, local landscape features, and the beliefs and rituals of Kiché shamans. This story underlines the vitality of modern Maya culture and religious belief.

For more information contact the Anthropology Department at (661) 722-6300, ext. 6902
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Upon request three business days before the event, reasonable accommodation will be provided to facilitate the participation of covered individuals with disabilities. Call (661) 722-6360 (voice/relay).