Natasha Brie Beranek, Ph.D

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Education

University College London, London, UK PhD in Social Anthropology,

September 2011

Thesis: "With Us Roma": The Narrative Engagement and Social Knowledge of Two Czech Romani Women

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, GPA 3.8 August 2005

B.S. in Russian and East European Studies, (High Distinction)

B.S. in Biological Anthropology, minor Vertebrate Paleontology, (Highest Distinction)

Honors Thesis: The analysis of the dental microwear of Ectocion osbornianus and *Ectocion parvus*, and the inference of their paleo-dietary behaviors

Relevant Coursework and Training

Statistics for Anthropologists Lab Osteology SPSS statistical analysis

Technical Biological Anthropology Qualitative research methods Paleobiology

Research Experience:

Social Anthropology

Doctoral Researcher, University College of London and Broumov, Czech Republic, Dec. 2006-August 2009.

Curriculum Vitae Natasha B. Beranek, 2

 Performed independent fieldwork in Broumov by participating in the lives of two Romani women to collect their life histories using ethnographic techniques of observation (e.g. semi-structured interviews, focus groups).

 Generated life histories through qualitative analysis of information focusing on themes of childhood, school years, marriage, children, motherhood, pregnancy, communism and post-communism, Czech vs. Romani society.

Research Assistant, League of Human Rights (Liga lidských práv), June 2005 - August 2005.

- Researched LHR legal work programs to determine the best procedures for working with Romani women in the Czech Republic.
- Accompanied League representatives on rounds to Romani families and administered questionnaires to analyze the effectiveness of LHR work in the Romani population.

Biological Anthropology/Paleontology

Undergraduate Researcher, University of Michigan, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Fall 2004-Winter 2005.

Analysis of the dental microwear of the mammalian condylarth *Ectocion osbornianus* and *Ectocion parvus*, and the inference of its paleo-dietary behaviors.

Research Intern, LSA Paleontology Museum, September 2001 - July 2006.

 Prepared, organized, and cataloged fossil material from Tiffanian, Clarkforkian and Wasatchian, Wyoming. Created molds and casts of fossil primates for the analysis of dental microwear in living and extinct squirrel species.

Research Assistant, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), University of Michigan, 2001-2003.

• Studied the fauna of the Eocene of Balouchistan, Pakistan and prepared and cataloged fossil material from the Wasatchian (Wyoming).

Independent Researcher, University of California, Berkeley, Department of Integrative Biology, May 2004-August 2004.

 Analysis of dental micro wear in extant dasyurid and didelphid marsupials, and the Late Cretaceous metatherian *Didelphodon vorax*

Independent Researcher, Research Opportunity Program (SROP) at University of California, Berkeley, Department of Integrative Biology, May 2003-August 2003

 Analysis of dental microwear in extant dasyurid and didelphid marsupials, and the Late Cretaceous metatherian *Didelphodon vorax*

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Research Assistant, Museum of Paleontology, The University of Michigan, September 2001 - July 2006.

- Assisted the Director of collections by making molds and casts of fossil primates, rodents and living squirrels.
- Performed microscopic analysis of dental wear and prepared slides for microscopes as part of a larger study on whale evolution.

Professional Experience

Exam Monitor, University College of London, Department of Anthropology London, May 2010.

 Distributed exam materials, collected exams and answered any questions for masters students in Material Culture and Anthropological Theory classes

Conversation Partner, Michigan Language Center (volunteer)

 Set up and participated in exercises with individuals learning English as a second language

Administrative Assistant, Division of Research Development and Administration, The University of Michigan, Sept. 2005 - July 2006.

- Data entry, processed grant applications, prepared FedEx, filing, correspondence for application
- Sent mailings and maintained grant applications database for two Directors of funding and NIH grants

Teaching Assistant, University of Michigan Family Housing Center (volunteer)

 Assisted individuals learning English as a second language through the use of classroom activities

Awards and Distinctions

Graduate School Research Projects Fund, Spring 2007 (£889)

Overseas Research Scholarship and Graduate School Research Scholarship, University College London, Spring 2006 (Full tuition at overseas rate, plus £14,500/year for three consecutive years)

FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) Award for Romani language, University of Texas at Austin (Winter 2006) (declined)

Alfred G. Meyer Essay Prize, Distinguished Undergraduate Research Paper in Russian and East European Studies, University of Michigan, Spring 2005

Research, Internship, Fellowship Award, Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, University of Michigan, Spring 2005

Herbert E. Boyton Scholarship, University of Michigan: Summer 2004 (\$6,000)

Undergraduate Research Grant, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, April 2004 (\$1,175)

Service Award, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan 2003-2004

Literature Science and Arts Scholarship, University of Michigan: Summer 2003 (\$5,111)

Elizabeth van den Bosch Scholarship, University of Michigan: Spring 2003 (\$2,000)

James B. Angell Scholar (Straight 'A' for two terms): Fall 2002-Winter 2003, Winter 2005-Spring 2005

University Honors: Fall 2001; Winter, Fall 2002; Winter, Fall 2003; Winter, Spring 2004

Conferences

Central European University, Marie Curie Social Anthropology Closing Conference on *Emerging Social Structures and New Anthropologies*. June 2010. Participated as fully funded external student.

Seminars/Training

Central European University Summer Program, March 2009. Course: *Multi-Disciplinary and Cross-National Approaches to Romany Studies: A Model for Europe.* 1-week visit held at St. Andrews University, Scotland Participation as student, fully funded by European Union.

Central European University Summer Program, July 2008. Course: *Multi-Disciplinary* and Cross-National Approaches to Romany Studies: A Model for Europe. 2-week class in Cluj-Napoca, Romania). Participation as student, fully funded by European Union.

Central European University Summer Program, July 2007. Course: *Multi-Disciplinary and Cross-National Approaches to Romany Studies: A Model for Europe*. 3-week class in Budapest, Hungary. Participation as student, fully funded by European Union.

Member, The European Academic Network on Romani Studies (application in progress)

Member, Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, 2003 – 2005

Appointed Chair of Membership Development, Phi Sigma Pi Honors Fraternity, University of Michigan, 2002 – 2004

Secretary, Anthropology Club, University of Michigan, 2002 – 2004

Elected President, Anthropology Club, University of Michigan, 2002 – 2004

Member, National Collegiate Scholars, 2002 – 2005

Publications

(Will be available electronically via University College London's library services in 2012)

Beranek, N. 2011. "With Us Roma": The Narrative Engagement and Social Knowledge of Two Czech Romani Women.

(*In development*)

Beranek, N. "Biased Media Representations of Roma in the Czech Republic." In G. Picker and Z. Plainer (Eds.) _____. Cluj-Napoca: ISPMN Publishing & Kriterion.

(Co-author)

Badgley, C. et al. 2005. "Microwear Analysis of Squirrel Teeth." *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* Vol.25, Supplement to No.3. 7 September 2005

References

Dr. Paloma Gay y Blasco Senior Lecturer of Social Anthropology University of St. Andrews Department of Social Anthropology North Street St Andrews, Fife, Scotland KY16 9AL

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Dr. Will Guy Research Fellow

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Gwendolyn Albert

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Dr. Gregory P. Wilson

Assistant Professor of Biology and Adjunct Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology

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Director, Division of Fossil Primates

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