

Curriculum Vitae

Alex Golub

Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Hawai'i Mānoa

2424 Maile Way, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822-2223

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Education

2006 Ph.D. Anthropology, University of Chicago, Chicago IL

1997 M.A. Anthropology, University of Chicago, Chicago IL

1995 B.A. Anthropology Reed College, Portland, OR

Interests

Papua New Guinea, Melanesia and the Pacific; History of Anthropology; Anthropology of Mining and Political Anthropology; Virtual worlds and online culture; Public Anthropology and Open Access;

Research Experience and Time in Field Sites

Papua New Guinea

2024	Two weeks, Port Moresby
2018	One month visit, Porgera
2016	One month visit, Porgera
2010	Two months fieldwork, Port Moresby, research on executives and culture
2009	Two months fieldwork, Port Moresby pilot project, executives and culture
2007	One month visit in Port Moresby, Madang, Porgera on mining
1999-2001	Twenty-two months fieldwork in Porgera Valley and Port Moresby on mining
1998	Two months fieldwork in Porgera Valley on mining

World Of Warcraft

2008-2009 World of Warcraft, on community and teamwork in World of Warcraft

Academic Positions

Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales

Visiting Researcher Summer 2008

Visiting Researcher Summer 2025

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Department of Anthropology

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anthropology 2005-2006

Assistant Professor 2006-2012

Associate Professor 2013-

Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Anthropology 2014-2017

Graduate Advisor, Department of Anthropology, 2022-2023

Other Affiliations

Affiliate, Center for Biocultural Sustainability, 2011-

Affiliate, Center for Pacific Islands Studies, 2010-

Member, Honors Program 2016-2017

Hawai'i Pacific University

Adjunct Professor of Anthropology 2004-2006

University of Chicago

Star Lecturer in Anthropology 2002

Professional Membership

Member, American Anthropological Association

Member, Association of Internet Researchers

Past Chair and Fellow, Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania

Fellow, Society for Applied Anthropology

Member, Pacific History Association

Awards

2015. Executive Award, American Anthropological Association, for blog sagaveminds.org

2015. Book Prize, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (section of the American Anthropological Association) for *Leviathans at the Gold Mine*.

Publications Since Hire (August 2006)

Books of Original Scholarship

Under Contract. *Epic: An Anthropologist in the World of Warcraft*. University of Chicago Press.

2014. *Leviathans at the Gold Mine: Creating Indigenous and Corporate Actors in Papua New Guinea*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press.

Edited Volumes

2024. Golub, Alex and Courtney Handman. Rethinking Decolonisation in Papua New Guinea. Special issue of *Oceania*.

2020. Golub, Alex and Lise Dobrin. The Legacy of Bernard Narokobi and the Melanesian Way. Special issue of *The Journal of Pacific History* 55(2). <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cjph20/55/2?nav=tocList>

2018. The Politics of Order in Contemporary Papua New Guinea. Special Issue of *Anthropological Forum* 28(4). <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/canf20/28/4?nav=tocList>

2016. Golub, Alex, John Kelly, Daniel Rosenblatt. *A Practice of Anthropology: Essays In Honor of Marshall Sahlins*. McGill-Queens Press.

Chapters in books

2021. 'Restraint without Control': Law and Order in Porgera and Enga Province, 1950-2015. In *The Absent Presence of the State in Large-Scale Resource Extraction Projects*. Edited by Nicholas Bainton and Emilia E. Skrzypek. <http://doi.org/10.22459/AP2021>

2018. From Allegiance to Connection: Structural Injustice, Scholarly Norms, and the Anthropological Ethics of Mining Encounters. In *Mining Encounters: Extractive Industries in an Overheated World*. Edited by Robert Pijpers and Thomas Hylland Eriksen.

2016a. Introduction: A Practice of Anthropology -- The Work of Marshall Sahlins, So Far. In *A Practice of Anthropology: The Thought and Influence of Marshall Sahlins*. Edited by Alex Golub, Daniel Rosenblatt, and John Kelly. pp. 3-39. Montreal: McGill-Queens Press. (With Daniel Rosenblatt and John Kelly)

2016b. How Mana Left the Pacific and Became a Video Game Mechanic. In *New Mana: Transformations of a Classic Concept in Pacific Languages and Cultures*. pp. 309-347. Canberra: ANU Press. (With Jon Peterson)

2015. Anthropological Publics and Their Onlookers: The Dynamics of Multiple Audiences in the Blog [Sagaveminds.org](http://sagaveminds.org). In *Media, Anthropology, and Public Engagement*. Edited by Sarah Pink and Simone Abram. pp. 182-197. New York: Berghahn. (With Kerim Friedman)

2007a. From Agency to Agents: Forging Landowner Identities in Porgera. In *Customary Land Tenure and Registration in Australia and Papua New Guinea: Anthropological Perspectives*. Edited by James Weiner and Kate Glaskin. pp. 73-96. Canberra: ANU Press.

2007b. De La Visibilité Et De La « Faisabilité »: Vers Une Anthropologie De L'état Et De La Société Dans L'industrie Minière En Papouasie-Nouvelle-Guinée. In *A L'épreuve Du Capitalism: Dynamiques Economiques Dans Le Pacifique*. Edited by Christine Dummer and Marie Salaun. pp. 177-198. Paris: L'Harmattan.

Articles in international or national refereed journals

2025. Afterword. *Journal of Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 20(1):37-40.
- 2024b. Introduction to Special Issue 'Rethinking Decolonisation in Papua New Guinea'. *Oceania* 94(2):44-54.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ocea.5408>
- 2024a. 'Never a Colony'? Rethinking the Colonisation of Enga Province, Papua New Guinea. *Oceania* 94(2):103-117.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ocea.5404>
2023. Four Challenges from Anthropology's Current Meta. *American Ethnologist*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/amet.13237>
- 2020a. Golub, Alex and Lise Dobrin. The Legacy of Bernard Narokobi and the Melanesian Way. *The Journal of Pacific History* 55(2): 149-164.
- 2020b. Legislating the Melanesian Way: Bernard Narokobi and the Law Reform Commission of Papua New Guinea. *The Journal of Pacific History* 55(2): 255-273.
- 2018a. Welcoming the New Amateurs: A Future (and Past) for Non-Academic Anthropologists. *Commoning Anthropology* 1(1):32-44. <https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/ce/article/view/5204>
- 2018b. Introduction: The Politics of Order in Contemporary Papua New Guinea. *Anthropological Forum* 28(4):331-341.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00664677.2018.1545108>
2014. The Anthropology of Virtual Worlds: World of Warcraft. *Reviews in Anthropology* 43(2): 135-149.
2013. Golub, Alex and Mooweon Rhee. Traction: The Role of Executives in Localising Global Mining and Petroleum Industries in Papua New Guinea. *Paideuma* 59:215-236.
- 2010a. Being in the World (Of Warcraft): Raiding, Realism, and Knowledge Production in a Massively Multiplayer Online Game. *Anthropological Quarterly* 83:17-45.
- 2008a. Coleman, E G, and A Golub. Hacker Practice: Moral Genres and the Cultural Articulation of Liberalism. *Anthropological Theory* 8:255-277.
- 2008b. Golub, A, and K Lingley. "Just Like the Qing Empire": Internet Addiction, MMOGs, and Moral Crisis in Contemporary China. *Games and Culture* 3:59-76.
- 2008c. Kelty, C M, M M J Fischer, A Golub, J B Jackson, K Christen, M F Brown, and T Boellstorff. Anthropology Of/In Circulation: The Future of Open Access and Scholarly Societies." *Cultural Anthropology* 23:559-558.
- 2007c. Ironies of Organization: Landowners, Land Registration, and Papua New Guinea's Mining and Petroleum Industry. *Human Organization* 66:38-48.
2006. Who Is The "Original Affluent Society"? Ipili" Predatory Expansion" and the Porgera Gold Mine, Papua New Guinea. *Contemporary Pacific* 18:265-292.
2004. Copyright and Taboo. *Anthropological Quarterly* 77(3): 521-530.

Book Reviews

2023. Review of Sergei Kan, *A Maverick Boasian: The Life and Work of Alexander A. Goldenweiser*. *Journal of Folklore Research Reviews*. <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/jfr/article/view/37048/39637>
2023. Review of Bruce L. Ottley, David Weisbrot, and Jean G. Zorn, *Making Law in Papua New Guinea: The Colonial Origins of a Postcolonial Legal System*. *Journal of Pacific History*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00223344.2023.2179993>
2022. Review of Emanuelle Loyer, *Claude Lévi-Strauss: A Biography*. *History of Anthropology Review*.
<https://histanthro.org/reviews/levi-strauss-a-biography/#more-9142>
2020. Review of David Varel, *The Lost Black Scholar: Resurrecting Allison Davis in American Social Thought*. *History of Anthropology Review*. <http://histanthro.org/reviews/the-lost-black-scholar/>
- 2018a. Review of Laura Nader, *Contrarian Anthropology: The Unwritten Rules of Academia*. *Anthropological Forum*
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00664677.2019.1569803>

- 2018b. Review of Ian Brown. *The School of Oriental and African Studies: Imperial Training and the Expansion of Learning*. 346 pp., 27 b/w illus., bibl., index. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016.
<http://histanthro.org/reviews/the-school-of-oriental-and-african-studies/>
- 2018c. Review of *Becoming Landowners: Entanglements of Custom and Modernity in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste* by Victoria Stead. *Pacific Affairs* 91(2):433-434.
<https://pacificaffairs.ubc.ca/book-reviews/becoming-landowners-entanglements-of-custom-and-modernity-in-papua-new-guinea-and-timor-leste-by-victoria-c-stead/>
- 2016a. Review of *In Defense of Anthropology* by Herbert Lewis. *History of Anthropology Review*.
<http://histanthro.org/in-defense-of-anthropology/#more-934>
- 2016b. Review of *Travels with Frances Densmore* edited by Jensen and Petterson. *Museum Anthropology Review* 10(2):150-151.
2015. Review of *Alchemy in the Rain Forest: Politics, Ecology, and Resilience in a New Guinea Mining Area* by Jerry Jacka. *Anthropology Book Forum*.
<http://www.anthropology-news.org/?book-review=outside-the-benefit-zone-inside-the-impact-zone-jerry-jacka-on-mining-and-social-change-in-porgera-papua-new-guinea>
- 2015a. Review of *Enacting the Corporation* by Marina Welker. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 22(1):223-224.
- 2015b. Review of *Pacific Futures: Projects, Politics and Interests* edited by Will Rollason. *Asian Anthropology* 14(2): 201-202.
- 2015c. Review of *The Death of the Big Men and the Rise of the Big Shots: Custom and Conflict in East New Britain* by Keir Martin. *Anthropological Forum* 25(1): 93-94.
- 2015d. Review of *An Anthropologist's Arrival: A Memoir* by Ruth Underhill. *Museum Anthropology Review* 9(2): 32-34.
- 2015e. Review of *Mining Capitalism: The Relationship between Corporations and Their Critics*. *American Ethnologist* 42(3): 545-546.
- 2015f. Review of *Legacies of a Hawaiian Generation: From Territorial Subject to American Citizen* by Judith Schachter. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint* 56(1): 184-185.
- 2015g. Review of *Threat Talk: The Comparative Politics of Internet Addiction* by Mary Manjikian and *People's Pornography: Sex and Surveillance on the Chinese Internet* by Katrien Jacobs. *China Review International*.
- 2014a. Review of *Digital Anthropology* edited by H.A. Horst and D. Miller. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 25(2):263-264.
- 2014b. Review of *A Faraway, Familiar Place: An Anthropologist Returns to Papua New Guinea* by Michael French Smith. *Bulletin of the Pacific Circle* 32: 24-25.
2012. Review of *Lihir Destiny: Cultural Responses to Mining in Melanesia* By Nicholas Bainton. *Contemporary Pacific* 24(2):463-464.
- 2011a. Review of *After The Cult: Perceptions of Self and Other in West New Britain* by Holger Jebens. *American Anthropologist* 113(3):5220523.
- 2011b. Review of *From Land to Mouth: The Agricultural "Economy" of the Wola of the New Guinea Highlands* by Paul Sillitoe. *Pacific Affairs* 84(4):825-826.
- 2011c. Review of *The Trashing of Margaret Mead: Anatomy of an Anthropological Controversy* by Paul Shankman. *Anthropological Forum* 21(1):88-89.
- 2011d. Review of *Margaret Mead: The Making of an American Icon* by Nancy Lutkehaus. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 22(1):137-139.
- 2010b. Review of *The Collectors of Lost Souls: Turning Kuru Scientists into Whitemen*, by Warwick Anderson. *Bulletin of the Pacific Circle* 24:17-18.
- 2010c. Review of *Society of Others: Kinship and Mourning in a West Papuan Place*, by Rupert Stasch. *Paideuma* 56:281-282.

- 2010d. Review of Creative Spirits: Bark Painting in the Washkuk Hills of North New Guinea by Ross Bowden. *Museum Anthropology* 33:85-86.
- 2009a. Review of Reverse Anthropology: Indigenous Analysis of Social and Environmental Relations in New Guinea by Stuart Kirsch. *PoLAR* 32:321-323
- 2009b. Review of Grass Clearing Man: A factional ethnography of life in the New Guinea highlands by Paul Sillitoe. *Bulletin of the Pacific Circle* 23:15-17.
- 2009c. Review of Fracturing Resemblances: Identity and Mimetic Conflict in Melanesia and the West by Simon Harrison. *American Ethnologist* 36:420-421.
- 2008e. Review of Telling Pacific Lives: Prisms of Process edited by Brij Lal and Vicki Luker. *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* 10:162-163.
- 2007e. Review of Conservation Is Our Government Now: The Politics of Ecology in Papua New Guinea by Paige West. *The Contemporary Pacific* 19: 626-628.

Peer Reviewed Scholarly Products

2021. Golub, Alex and Martha Macintyre. "Encountering Anthropology: An Interview with Martha Macintyre". In *Unequal Lives: Gender, Race, and Class in the Western Pacific*. Edited by Nicholas Bainton, Debra McDougall, Kalissa Alexeyoff, and John Cox. Pp. 471-501. Canberra: ANU Press.
<https://press.anu.edu.au/publications/series/pacific/unequal-lives>
Edited excerpts of an oral history of anthropologist Martha Macintyre drawn from ~8 hours of interviews across multiple sessions.
2020. Golub, Alex, Gregory Bablis and Edward P. Wolfers. "Bibliography of the Works of Bernard Narokobi". *The Journal of Pacific History* 55(2):304-309.
A scholarly bibliography of the Papua New Guinean lawyer and philosopher Bernard Narokobi.
2019. "Mining". *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. <http://www.anthroencyclopedia.com/entry/mining>
A 4,000 word review of the literature with 118 citations. Open access.
2014. "Marshall Sahlins". *Oxford Bibliographies Online*.
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199766567/obo-9780199766567-0076.xml>
A select bibliography of the work of Marshall Sahlins, including his influences and scholarship influenced by him. Over 100 items are included, and each item and each section of the bibliography is annotated. Total word length is 8,300 words.

Non-Peer Reviewed Scholarly Products (Since 2012-2013)

- History of Anthropology Timeline. <https://alex.golub.name/timeline/>
- Savage Minds Occasional Paper Series. <https://savageminds.org/category/smops/>

Non-Peer Reviewed Short Communications and Other Publications

2023. "Invidious Comparison". *History of Anthropology Review*. <https://histanthro.org/reviews/invidious-comparison/>
2022. "Historical anthropology from a 'freezing January' in 1990 to the present". *Suomen Anthropologi* 46(2):59-65.
<https://doi.org/10.30676/jfas.v46i2.116021>
- 2021a. "In Memoriam: Marshall Sahlins and the Pacific". *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 32(2): 87-91.
- 2021b. "In Memoriam: Marshall Sahlins (1930-2021)". *Journal de le Société des Océanistes* 152:183-185.
<https://doi.org/10.4000/jso.13034>
- 2021c. "Marshall Sahlins, a legacy of connections". *AJEC Blog* 16 April.
<https://ajecblog.berghahnjournals.com/marshall-sahlins-a-legacy-of-connections/>
- 2020a. Jaimie Pearl Bloom (James F. Weiner) (1950-2020). *American Anthropologist*
<https://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/aman.13525>

- 2020b. "Leviathan" In *Anthropocene Unseen: A Lexicon*, ed. Cymene Howe and Anand Pandian, pp. 255-260. punctum books: Earth, Milky way [sic].
2019. Video Game Streams Are Creating New Forms of Community: Khasino, a Marvel Strike Force streamer on Twitch, makes his living playing video games for an audience.
<https://daily.jstor.org/video-game-streams-are-creating-new-forms-of-community/>
2018. Paper Worlds. In *Extraction/Empire*, ed. Pierre Boulanger, 58-85. Boston: MIT Press.
2018. Preface. In *Honey and Poi: The Origins and Development of Congregation Sof Ma'arav in Honolulu Hawai'i*. Xlibris Press. <https://www.xlibris.com/Bookstore/BookDetail.aspx?BookId=SKU-001206760>
2018. Marshall Sahlins. International Encyclopedia of Anthropology.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781118924396.wbiea1958>
2018. Comment on Paul Shankman "The Public Anthropology of Margaret Mead". *Current Anthropology* 59(1).
2017. [Ben Finney: Anthropologist and Voyager \(obituary\)](#), *Journal of Pacific History* 52(4): 524-529.
2016. [Crisis and Identity in Contemporary Papua New Guinea](#). Cultural Anthropology website.
2016. [Leviathans](#). Cultural Anthropology website.
2014. [Professor as Personal Trainer. Inside Higher Ed](#). 1 July 2014. 1,995 unique page views as of 15 July 2015.
2014. Review Essay: The Bishop Museum's Renovation of a Permanent Exhibit. *Museum Anthropology Review* 8(1): 55-59
2014. Comment on Douglas Rogers "Petrobarter Oil, Inequality, and the Political Imagination in and after the Cold War". *Current Anthropology* 55(2): 143-144.
2013. [Anthropology. Footnoted](#). The Appendix 1(2): 142-147. 5,453 unique page views as on 15 July 2015.
2013. [The History of Mana: How an Austronesian Concept Became a Video Game Mechanic](#). The Appendix 2(2): 27-37. 67,306 unique page views as of 15 July 2015.
- Translated as: q
2008. Three Years of Savage Minds. *Anthropology News*. March:22.

Grant Proposals

2023. "Biography of Marshall Sahlins". Post-PhD Research Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation. \$18,136. Funded.
2023. "Biography of Marshall Sahlins". Bordin/Gillette Fellowship, University of Michigan. \$2,000. Funded.
2023. "Biography of Marshall Sahlins". Platzman Fellowship, University of Chicago. \$3,460. Submitted but not funded..
2009. "The Digital Mediation of Human Capability: Exploring the Relationship Between Virtue and Technology in Modern Society". 2009. New Science of Virtue Project, University of Chicago. \$255,000. Co-PI (with Gabriella Coleman, NYU), James Grimmelman, Kiri Miller, Bonnie Nardi, Helen Nissenbaum. Submitted but not approved.
2009. "Making the Ipili Feasible: Imagining Local and Global Actors at the Porgera Gold Mine, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea". 2009 (resubmission of 2007). Wenner-Gren Carly Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship. \$40,000. PI. Submitted but not approved.
2008. "A Mixed-Methods Study of Business Inner-Circles in Papua New Guinea". 2008. CIBER research project. \$7,000. Co-PI (with Moowoon Rhee, Business School, UH Manoa). Funded.
2007. "Making the Ipili Feasible: Imagining Local and Global Actors at the Porgera Gold Mine, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea". 2007. Wenner-Gren Carly Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship. \$40,000. PI. Submitted but not approved.
2006. "Policy Elites in Papua New Guinea: Mapping the Articulation Between the Local and Global". 2006. University of Hawaii University Research Council Research Relations Fund. \$6,000. PI. Funded.

Invited Professional Lecture

2025. The myth of the Sahlins-Obeyesekere debate. Groupe d'études sur les historiographies modernes EHESS, Paris. 27 May.
2025. The historical roots of disorder in Papua New Guinea. Centre CREDO, Marseille. 16 May.

2025. From Moala to Mānoa by way of the Marais: Paris and the Pacific in the Thought of Marshall Sahlins. Séminaire de formation à la recherche dans l'aire océanienne, EHESS. 28 May.
2025. Great anthropologists who fought Fascism. Colloquium of the Department of Anthropology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. 17 April. [10.13140/RG.2.2.30309.92640](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.30309.92640)
2024. Anthropologie politique de l'industrie minière en Papouasie-Nouvelle-Guinée et au-delà. 10 May. Pasifika : des îles dans la mondialisation seminar. Online seminar. <https://vimeo.com/944963058>
- 2019b. Breaking Boundaries in the History of Anthropology: Construing New Paths for a Decolonized Future. Keynote speaker. Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa New Zealand. 29 November. Hamilton, Aotearoa/New Zealand.
2019. Skype with class 'Melanesian Anthropology'. 5 November. University of British Columbia.
2018. Introduction to the Country of Papua New Guinea. 28 September. Mid-Pacific School.
2018. Shaloha!: The Jews of Hawai'i. East-West Center Arts Program Illustrated Talk. 15 July. <https://vimeo.com/280648097>
2017. Introduction to the Country of Papua New Guinea. 4 October. Mid-Pacific School.
2017. Running a Discussion Class. Center for Teaching Excellence Summer Teaching Institute. 12 July. University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
2015. Culture and Linguistic Anthropology. Topics in Biocultural Diversity and Conservation (IS 750) guest lecture, 28 September. University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
2015. The Point of College. College of Social Sciences Freshman Orientation Meeting. 20 August. University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
2014. Cause and Effect: Who is Responsible for Social Disorder in Porgera? 9 October. Annual Gehman Lecture, University of Western Ontario.
2014. Wikipedia in The Context of A Liberal Arts Education. Center for Teaching Excellence Event "How to Use Wikipedia and Other Forbidden Resources in the Classroom". 3 April. University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
2013. The Melbourne Teaching Method. 12 November. Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
2012. The State of Open Access In Anthropology. Recent Developments In Access To Research, Panel Discussant. Columbia University Scholarly Communication Program, New York, 16 February.
2011. Methods of Evaluating Rarity and Risk in Biocultural Contexts. Topics in Biocultural Diversity and Conservation (IS 750) guest lecture, 31 August.
2011. Anthropological Concepts of 'Culture' and 'Cultural Sustainability'. Topics in Biocultural Diversity and Conservation (IS 750) guest lecture, 12 October.
2010. My Warcraft Research. Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Anth 152) guest lecture, 30 March.
2010. Federal Funding and Elite Interviewing in Papua New Guinea's Business Community. Post-fieldwork Presentation Series, Department of Anthropology, 30 October.
2009. Background to Indigenous Issues. Public Administration Core Course (PUBA 600), Hawaiian Perspectives Module, 3 December.
2009. Effective Grading and Feedback on Students' Oral Assignments. Workshop, Center for Teaching Excellence, UH Manoa, 26 February.
2008. Sporting with Leviathan: Imagining Collective Subjectivities from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Latour. Public Administration Program Brown Bag Speaker Series, 4 April.
2008. Sporting with Leviathans: Making Feasible Actors at the Porgera Gold Mine. Anthropology Department Colloquium Series, 4 September.
2008. What I Know About Indigenous People. Public Administration Core Course (PUBA 600), Hawaiian Perspectives Module, 4 December.

2008. Portrayals of Porgera in the Davis's "Mountain of Gold: The People of Porgera". Pacific Island Cultures (ANTH 350), Department of Anthropology, 23 October.

Invited Conference Presentations

2023. The Anthropologist as Stranger-King? Marshall Sahlins in International Networks of Pacific Ethnology, 1950-2000. 1 November. Pacific History Association Meeting, Warrnambool, Victoria.
2022. Marshall's Career Works to *Culture and Practical Reason*. 4 April. Marshall Sahlins Memorial Symposium, University of Chicago. <https://anthropology.uchicago.edu/content/marshall-sahlins-symposium>
2022. Never a Colony. 28 January. Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.
2021. Whose 'Failed State'? Connecting Contemporary Law and Order Issues in Enga Province To Its Colonial Past. 18 November. Pacific History Association. Virtual conference.
2021. Whose 'Failed State'? Connecting Contemporary Law and Order Issues in Enga Province To Its Colonial Past. 28 January. Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania Annual Meeting, virtual conference.
- 2019a. The Opposite of Transparency is Mediation, Not Opacity. 'Transparency' Writing Workshop. 31 May. Geneva, Switzerland.
2019. Was Enga "Pacified"? Law, Order, and Extraction in Enga Province, 1952-2015. 22 November. Joint meeting of American Anthropological Association and Canadian Anthropological Society, Vancouver, Canada.
2018. Mine As Filter: Ideologies of Place and the Development of People at the Porgera Gold Mine, Papua New Guinea. 8 December. European Society for Oceanists Meetings, Cambridge, UK.
2018. "There Is No Such Tribe As Bougainville": Bernard Narokobi and the Limits of Decolonization in Bougainville. 4 December. Pacific History Association Meetings, Cambridge, UK.
2018. Roundtable Session: Medical Anthropology in a Digital Age. 16 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, San Jose, CA.
2018. Inheriting the Inheritor: Marcel Mauss's *The Gift* and the Pacific. 9 November. Oceania Ensemble Conference, Honolulu, HI.
2017. Feeling Powerful and Being Powerful: Exposure to Risk and the Non-Sovereign Self in World of Warcraft. 21 March. American Ethnological Society Annual Meetings, Stanford, CA.
2017. The Pacification of Porgera: Order Making Projects at Porgera and in Papua New Guinea Since 2002. 13 December. "Shifting States" joint meeting of AAS, ASA, and ASAANZ. Adelaide, Australia.
2017. Migration, Mining, and Customary Land at the Porgera Gold Mine. 13 October. West Maui Conference on Pacific Peoples and Their Environments. Lahaina, HI.
2016. Roundtable Session: Anthropology and the Public: A Wenner-Gren 75th Anniversary Panel. 18 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Minneapolis, MN.
2016. Bernard Narokobi, The Melanesian Way, and The Law Reform Commission of Papua New Guinea. 20 May. Pacific History Association Biannual Meeting, Hagatna, Guam.
2015. What We Owe to Others: The Ethics of Life and Research In These Islands. 13 November. Oceania Ensemble Conference, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI.
2015. Cause and Effect: Responsibility, Causality, and Social Disorder at the Porgera Gold Mine. 27 April 2015. Mining Encounters conference, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway.
2015. "The Shooting Fields of Porgera": Anti-mine Activism Goes Online (Working Paper). 5 February. Association for the Social Anthropology Meetings, Santa Fe, NM.
2015. Roundtable Session: First Annual AAA Virtual Conference: Familiar/Strange in the Digital Landscape. 19 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver, CO.
2015. Answerability, Acknowledgement, and the Unknowable: Anthropological Entanglements with the Mining Industry in the Work of Dan Jorgensen. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver, CO.

2014. Recovering the Melanesian Way: Documenting Bernard Narokobi and the Near-Past of Papua New Guinea's Cultural Nationalism. 3 December. Pacific History Association, Taipei, Taiwan.
2014. Who is Responsible for Social Disorder at the Porgera Gold Mine, Papua New Guinea? 16 August. Competing Responsibilities: The Politics and Ethics of Responsibility in Everyday Life. Victoria University, Wellington.
2014. Recovering the Melanesian Way: Documenting Bernard Narokobi and the Near-Past of Papua New Guinea's Cultural Nationalism. 3 December. Pacific History Association, Taipei, Taiwan.
2014. Soulbound: The Other of Payment in Our Most Recently Past Future. 28 September. Digital Cash Conference, University of California at Los Angeles.
2013. "I Need More Mana": How an Austronesian Concept Became a Video Game Mechanic. 20 September. New Mana Conference, Australian National University. (With Jon Peterson).
2013. Natural Experiments in History: Jared Diamond's Comparative, Anthropological Project. 21 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 Traction: The Role of Executives in Localizing The Global Mining and Petroleum Industries in Papua New Guinea. Department of Anthropology, University of Hawaii at Manoa Colloquium Series. 13 September, Honolulu, Hawaii.
- 2012 Who Are 'the Grassroots'? Perceptions of 'The Village' in Two Generations of Port Moresby Businessmen. Conference 'Negotiating Identity and Language in Urban Melanesia'. 7 August 2012, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
- 2012 Traction: The Role of Executives in Localizing The Global Mining and Petroleum Industries in Papua New Guinea. Department of Anthropology, University of Sydney. 3 August, Sydney, Australia
- 2011 Feeling Powerful and Being Powerful: Showing Masculine Competence in World of Warcraft. American Society for Theatre Research Annual Meetings. 19 November, Montreal Canada.
- 2011 The Structural Transformation of Anthropology's Public Sphere: Lessons from a Decade of Anthropology Blogging. American Anthropological Association Meetings. 20 November, Montreal, Canada.
- 2010 National Anthropology Student Association Mentorship Workshop: Writing Curriculum Vitae for the Academic Job Market. American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, 19 November, New Orleans Louisiana.
- 2010 "Everything is Backwards Now": What Avatar Doesn't Tell Us About Resource Politics" American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings. 17 November, New Orleans Louisiana.
- 2008 Raiding, Its Projects, and Its Publics, or, Where is the World of Warcraft? American Anthropological Association Meetings. San Francisco, California.
- 2008 Why There Are No Indigenous People In Papua New Guinea. Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania Meetings, Canberra Australia.
- 2008 Everyone Has A Garden: Relations to Land Among Papua New Guinea Elites. European Society for the Oceanists Biennial Meeting, Verona, Italy
- 2007 Being in the World (of Warcraft): Raiding, Care, and Digital Subjectivity. American Anthropological Association Meetings, 1 December, Washington DC
- 2007 "This Mine Is Going To Close!": Mining Elites in Dialogue With A Local Other. Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania Meetings, Charlottesville, Virginia.
- 2006 Towards an Anthropology of Worlds of Warcraft in China. American Anthropological Association Meetings, San Jose CA, 15 November.

Conference Sessions and Symposia Organized (Since 2012-2013)

2022. Rethinking Decolonization in Papua New Guinea. 28 January. Annual Meeting of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania, Portland, Oregon.
2021. Re-Thinking Decolonisation in Papua New Guinea. 18 November. Pacific History Association Conference, Virtual Meeting.

- 2021. Rethinking Decolonization in Papua New Guinea. 28 January. Annual Meeting of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania, Virtual Meeting.
- 2020. Porgera Wither and Whence? 30 Years of the Porgera Gold Mine. 25 January. Annual Meeting of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania. Hilo, HI.
- 2019. Rethinking Colonization in New Guinea. 22 November. Joint meeting of American Anthropological Association and Canadian Anthropological Society, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2018. Decolonization in Melanesia. 4 December. Pacific History Association Meeting, Cambridge, UK.
- 2018. Resource Extraction and Dealing with Inequality in the Pacific. 8 December. European Society for Oceanists Meeting, Cambridge, UK.
- 2018. Extraction and the Unexpected: Adaptation and Resilience in Response to Resource Development and Extractive Industry. 17 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, San Jose, CA.
- 2017. Exposure and the Non-Sovereign Self in Contemporary Digital Genres. 21 March. American Ethnological Society Annual Conference, Stanford, CA.
- 2016. How Resources Become Evident: A New Anthropology of Resources and Politics. 19 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2016. History, Independence, and the Recent Past in Papua New Guinea. 20 November. Pacific History Association Biannual Meeting, Hagatna, Guam (with Jonathan Ritchie).
- 2015. Order in Melanesia (Working Session). 6 February. Association for the Social Anthropology Meetings, Santa Fe, NM.
- 2015. The Internet and Anthropology: Ten Years of Savage Minds. 21 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver, CO.
- 2014. Order in Melanesia (Informal Session). February. Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania. Kona, HI.
- 2013. Margaret Mead and Jared Diamond: Past Publics, Current Engagements. 21 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Chicago, IL. (With Paul Shankman)
- 2010. Resources, Individualism, and Neoliberalism in Melanesia. European Society for Oceanists. 5 July, St. Andrews, Scotland (with Nick Bainton)
- 2008. Architecting Contingency: Knowledge, Power, and Chance in Virtual Worlds. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. 23 November, San Francisco California (with Thomas Malaby).
- 2006. Is There a New New Melanesian Ethnography? Annual Meeting of the Association for the Social Anthropology of Oceania. 7-11 February, San Diego, California.

Discussant at Panel

- 2019. Warm Words in a Cold Climate: Curiosity and Cooperation in Cold-War Anthropology. 20 November. Joint meeting of American Anthropological Association and Canadian Anthropological Society, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2016. Evidence, Legitimacy, and Inequality in Indigenous Rights Spokespersonship. 17 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2015. The Internet and Anthropology: Ten Years of Savage Minds. 21 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver, CO.
- 2013. Real, Urban, and Indigenous -- Ethnographic Approaches to Authenticity. Organized by Daniel Rosenblatt and Natacha Gagné. 20 November. American Anthropological Association Meetings, Chicago, IL.

Ongoing Public Anthropology Presence on Social Media

2017-. [Highly Accurate Pictures of Anthropologists](#)

A Tumblr which posts accurate, well-sourced, high-quality pictures of anthropologists.

2017-2018. [Ask a Professor Column, JSTOR Daily](#). <https://daily.jstor.org/tag/ask-a-professor/>

A short monthly column highlighting professors whose work has been published in JSTOR.

2017-2018. Anthrodendum.org

In 2017 the members of the Savageminds collective decided to change the name of our blog to make it less offensive to people who have been called savage. The new name of the site is anthrodendum.org

2005-2017. Savageminds.org

Savageminds was the oldest and largest anthropology blog on the Internet. Savage Minds was founded in 2005. In 2006 Nature ranked Savage Minds 17th out of the 50 top science blogs across all scientific disciplines. In 2010, American Anthropologist called Savage Minds “the central online site of the North American anthropological community” whose “value is found in the quality of the posts by the site’s central contributors, a cadre of bright, engaged, young anthropology professors.” In 2014 the National Anthropological Archives at the Smithsonian agreed to include our blog in its collections. In 2015 the blog won the Executive Award of the American Anthropological Association for ten years of writing.

2019-. Podcast Host on New Books Network

<https://newbooksnetwork.com/hosts/profile/d6f391d6-3561-4e7d-9961-bc5b85d1c99b>

Currently over a dozen episodes of roughly one hour each.

Scholarly Service

2021-. Member of Board, Pacific Affairs

2019-. Program Coordinator, Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania

2017-2021. Member of Board, Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania

2020-2021 Outgoing Chair

2019-2020 Chairman of The Board

2017-2018 Board Member

2018-. Member of Editorial Board, Commoning Ethnography

2017-2019. Grant Review for Anonymous Funding Organization.

2017-. Member of Editorial Board, Cultural Anthropology

2017-. Member of Advisory Board, Public Anthropology

2017-. Member of Advisory Board, Commoning Ethnography

2016-2017. Member of Editorial Board, Mānoa Horizons

2014-2018. Associate Editor, HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory

2014. Member of Panel, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program

2014. Single Grant Review, Swiss National Science Foundation

2012. Single Grant Review, National Science Foundation

2011. Member of Panel, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend Program

2011. Single Grant Review, Research Grants Council of Hong Kong

2010-. Member of Pacific Island Monographs Series Editorial Board, University of Hawaii Press

Peer Review of Articles

American Anthropologist, American Ethnologist, Anthropological Forum, Anthropological Quarterly, Anthropological Theory, Contemporary Pacific, Cultural Anthropology, Current Anthropology, Electronic Journal of Communications, Environment and Society, Ethos, Ethnos, Exchanges: The Warwick Research Journal, The Extractive Industries and Society, First Monday, Future Internet, Games and Culture, Global Media and China, History and Anthropology, Information System Journal, HAU, Journal of Material Culture, Journal of Pacific History, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, Journal de la Société des Océanistes; Learning, Media, and Society; Mānoa Horizons; Mind, Culture, Activity; Oceania, Pacific Affairs, Paideuma, PLOS One, Postcolonial Studies, Public Anthropologist, Social Analysis, Suomen Antropologi, Theory Culture and Society..

Peer Review of Book Manuscripts

ANU Press, Berg, Berghahn, Cornell, Palgrave, Princeton University Press, Routledge, University of Hawai'i Press, University of Toronto Press, University of Washington Press.

Peer Review of Book Proposals

Anthem Press, Duke University Press, Princeton University Press, University of Chicago Press.

Peer Review of Journalism and Short Communications

Asian Economic Forum, The New Yorker

Interviews and Quoted in the press

2024. [De l'océan Pacifique aux jeux vidéo : comment le « mana » est devenu une magie numérique](#). September 2025 (quoted).
2024. [No evidence to support Biden's suggestion that his uncle was eaten by cannibals](#). 19 April 2024. Verifythis.com (quoted).
2024. [Was Joe Biden's uncle eaten by cannibals after World War II crash? Experts say it's highly unlikely](#). 18 April 2024. Politifact (quoted).
2023. [Discord + War Thunder: The NatSec risks that blindsided America](#). 18 April 2023. Politico Digital Future Newsletter (interview).
2018. [The Mysterious Mana of Speaking: The Austronesian concept of "mana" helps us understand that behind the monolithic "magic" of modern power and authority, there is a fragile human dimension](#). (cited)
2018. "Zivilisation? Nein, danke." Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung. 6 May 2018 p. 64-56. (quoted)
2018. [Why Are Video Games So Great?](#) (quoted)
2018. [The reckoning](#). (quoted)
2017. [British explorer criticised over attempts to emulate explorers](#). (radio interview)
2017. [For Many Local Grads, Staying in Costly Hawaii Is Worth The Struggle](#). (interviewed but not quoted)
2015. [Should Society Start Contacting the Amazon's Uncontacted Tribes?](#) (interviewed but not quoted)
2014. [World 101x: Full interview with Alex Golub](#). (video interview)
2014. [Anthropology: The Sad Truth About Uncontacted Tribes](#) (quoted)
2014. [Mining in the Pacific: Lessons from the Porgera Gold Mine with Alex Golub](#). (video interview)
2013. [A radical anthropologist finds himself in academics 'exile'](#). (quoted)

Teaching at UH Mānoa (recent)

ANTH 152 Culture and Humanity: , Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2015

ANTH 300 Contemporary Social Issues: Fall 2013

ANTH 350 Pacific Island Culture: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Fall 2020

ANTH 399 Directed Reading and Research: Spring 2022

ANTH 417 Political Anthropology: Fall 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2015

ANTH 490 History of Anthropology: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2017

ANTH 601 Ethnology: Fall 2021, Fall 2019, Fall 2015, Fall 2017

ANTH 602 Linguistics Anthropology: Fall 2014

ANTH 699 Directed Reading and Research: Spring 2020

ANTH 710 Seminar in Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology: Fall 2013

HON 101 Introduction to Research and Creative Work at Mānoa: Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016

HON 291S Sophomore Seminar (Social Sciences): Spring 2017

Chair of Graduate Committees in Anthropology

Rosenbaum, Isaac (in progress, MA)

Alana, Pa'a (in progress, MA)

Harris, Lindsey (MA)

Lai, Yi-Yu (Ph.D. in progress)

Murphy, Devin (MA)

Kapisa, Novena (in progress, MA)

Ng, Siobhan (in progress, MA)

Page, Richard (MA, Ph.D.)

Rosenbaum, Isaac (in progress, MA)

Wu, Ming-Jen (MA, Ph.D.)

Yi, Ma (MA, Ph.D.)

Member of Graduate Committees in Anthropology

Aoina, Eliah (MA)

Clyde, Deirdre (in progress, Ph.D.)

Flanagan, Brendan (MA, in progress Ph.D.)

Galipeau, Brendan (Ph.D.)

Gwerder, Benjamin (MA)

Intarat, Phianphachong (MA)

Luthy, Tamara (Ph.D.)

Nago, Asami (Ph.D.)

Sang, Stephanie (MA)

Van Ommen, Mattias (Ph.D.)

Member of Graduate Committees in Other Departments

Barlow, Russell (Linguistics, Ph.D.)

Bond, Matthew (Botany, Ph.D.)

Hafford, James (Linguistics, Ph.D.)

Pick, Andrew (Linguistics, Ph.D.)

Sato, Hiroko (Linguistics, Ph.D.)

Member of External Review Boards

External Reviewer, Olin College Honors Thesis

External Reviewer, ANU Ph.D. Theses

External Reviewer, Curtin Ph.D. Thesis

External Reviewer, Sydney University Ph.D. Thesis

External Reviewer, Deakin Ph.D. Thesis

