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# Anthropology in the Real World: Communities & Transformations

Paul Bryant

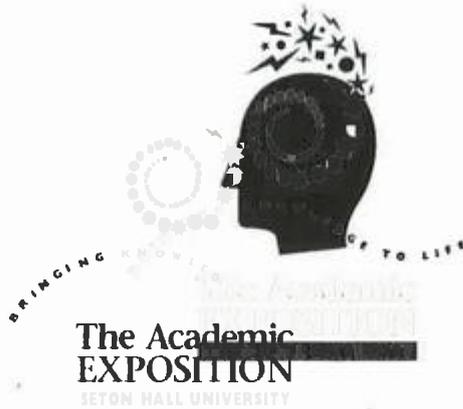
Meagan Quinn

Alyshia Galvez Dr.

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as part of the 2005 Petersheim Academic Exposition,  
the Department of Sociology & Anthropology invite you to  
an innovative student & faculty panel

## **Anthropology in the Real World: Communities & Transformations**

*Humility, Character and Rewards: Sacramental Confessions of College Students*

Paul Bryant  
Student Presenter

*Exploring America's Kin and Marriage Relations*

Meagan Quinn  
Student Presenter

*Notes and commentary*

Dr. Alyshia Galvez  
Faculty Discussant

Faculty sponsors: Drs. Cherubim Quizon & Peter Savastano

**April 5 Tuesday 1-2:15 pm**  
**Corrigan Hall 79**

For panel & paper abstracts, see overleaf.

## **Anthropology in the Real World: Communities & Transformations**

the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual student & faculty panel on  
Anthropology in the Real World  
at the Petersheim Academic Exposition  
Seton Hall University

Panel abstract: What ideas and behaviors bring communities together? What social formations transform relations within communities? Using an anthropological perspective, two student papers will examine, on one hand, ritual behavior among peers within the Seton Hall community (Bryant) and on the other, the gay marriage debate from the perspective of American kinship studies in the last hundred years (Quinn). Based on prior research in Field Methods and Independent Study, these papers seek to explore the question of cultural continuity and change through an engagement with local and multi-site ethnographies. Rounding out the panel, a faculty discussant (Galvez) will provide a scholarly commentary on the papers, their connections with broader issues and future directions.

Faculty sponsors: Cherubim Quizon, Peter Savastano

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### **Paper 1: Project Abstract**

**Paul Bryant**

My research project, Humility, Character and Rewards: Sacramental Confessions of College Students concerns itself with the process of sacramental confessions within the Catholic Church from a Seton Hall University student's perspective. Data was gathered through periodic formal interviews from four informants over a two and a half month period. Three of the informants were fellow Seton Hall University students chosen through snowball sampling and one informant was a priest-in-residence on the South Orange campus. The research focuses on a three stage experience to sacramental confessions with a before, during and after and the role the priest plays in this experience. Special consideration is also given to the trait of humility as a theme that underlined the whole process and became a driving force in the student's actions.

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### **Paper 2: Project Abstract**

**Meagan Quinn**

#### **Exploring America's Kin and Marriage Relations**

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the shifts, which occurred in the American family through the current century. I explain the history of kinship studies in anthropology, the creation of the "homosexual," gay perspectives on kinship and marriage, the political problems concerning gay marriage, and the perspective of anthropologists on these topics. I will also comment on the increasing number of gay families in America and the political agenda and the legitimization of such relations.



**The Academic  
EXPOSITION**