

SFU's School for International Studies, Centre for Forensic Research and Department of Archeology present a panel discussion:

Mass Graves and Missing Persons: Reflections on Forensic Practice and Social Reconstruction in Postwar Bosnia and Herzegovina

A panel of experts who were actively involved in the criminal, forensic, and humanitarian response to the war in the former Yugoslavia will provide personal accounts of their research and experiences in the efforts to locate, identify, and return bodies from Srebrenica.

Friday, November 21, 2008

SFU Burnaby Room ASSC 1-9152

2:00-3:30pm



(Srebrenica-Potočari Memorial Centre, July 11, 2007)

Sarah E. Wagner, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

A social anthropologist, Dr. Wagner is the author of *To Know Where He Lies: DNA Technology and the Search for Srebrenica's Missing* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008). This ethnographic study provides a powerful account of the innovative genetic technology developed to identify the eight thousand Bosnian Muslim (Bosniak) men and boys found in the mass graves of Srebrenica and elsewhere, demonstrating how memory, imagination, and science come together to recover identities lost to genocide.

Mark Skinner, Co-director of the Centre for Forensic Research, Professor of Archeology, SFU

Dr. Skinner has assisted Canadian death investigation agencies (police, Coroner) with the field recovery and study of (semi)skeletonized human remains from crime and non-crime contexts since 1976. In the last six years he has investigated more than a thousand sets of remains from mass graves in Afghanistan, Bosnia, East Timor and Serbia on behalf of the UN High Commission for Human Rights, Physicians for Human Rights and the International Commission on Missing Persons. In 2002 he received the Bora Laskin National Fellowship in Human Rights Research to analyse current protocols for the exhumation of mass graves. In 2004-2005, Dr. Skinner was the Director of Forensic Sciences for the International Commission on Missing Persons (Sarajevo).

Derek Congram, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Archeology, SFU

Mr. Congram has conducted exhumations in Bosnia, Kosovo and Croatia for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), as well as in Iraq and Latin America. He is currently working on a Ph.D. dissertation, which will develop a predictive model of clandestine grave locations of disappeared persons from the Spanish Civil War.