

Editors' Note

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The papers collected for this issue of the *Arizona Anthropologist* bring to light a subject that affects everyone: death. In the fall of 2014, the conference, "Discourses on Death: Conceptualizing Grief, Loss, and Transformative Interaction" was organized by two graduate students from the School of Anthropology, Amanda Bailey¹ and Keri Miller. The conference was inspired by rising cultural and social importance of the annual All Soul's Procession in Tucson, Arizona, commemorating the Hispanic festival of *Día de los Muertos*, but bearing a particularly local flavor. The idea was that this festival opens the doorway for the consideration of anthropological explorations of death and society. In that grain, this issue of the *Arizona Anthropologist* collects presentations from the original conference along with other submissions inspired by the conference goals. All of the contributions here explore death through cultural, linguistic and archaeological lenses. Death here is broadly conceived as bodily death, social death, and both aspects' social and cultural ripples that catalyze and transform human social life.

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¹ Amanda has since transferred to University of California Los Angeles