

## **Cover Image: Centennial Connections Project**

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“The past,’ he thought, ‘is linked with the present by an unbroken chain of events flowing one out of another.’ And it seemed to him that he had just seen both ends of that chain; that when he touched one end the other quivered.” — Anton Chekhov, *The Witch and Other Stories*

As we celebrate 100 years, and look ahead, we can’t help but wonder at our ties and debts to the past. My journey as a graduate student began when my undergraduate advisor, an Arizona Anthropology alum, talked about her experiences at the UA. My first field school was led by another Arizona alumni from Illinois. Those interactions, among others, brought me to the University of Arizona, and my story is not unique—Arizona Anthropology is a large network of people forged and linked in the heat of the Arizona sun and maintained through a dedication to community, quality, and curiosity.

The Centennial Connections Project (CCP) was a small side project of the School of Anthropology Centennial Celebration, consisting of a website, surveys, and graphs. The goal was simple: to create a network of the graduate alumni, connecting them to their commit-

tee members, students, and mentors. Network models and surveys are, by their nature, imperfect and incomplete tools for understanding human experiences, and the CCP surveys and graphs were no different, skimming the surface in an attempt to visualize some of the broader patterns at the expense of other detail.

The cover image is a visualization based on 338 responses from the online survey. Of surveys sent, 40% of alumni who received the survey responded, and 11% of total MA/PhD alumni have responded. Respondents were asked to report their committee members, mentors, and students for whom they served on committees. Surveys were sent electronically, and the connections represented on the graph are based on the personal networks of living alumni and faculty with internet access. The cover image was created using the Gephi visual-

ization platform. Node size is based on the number of incoming and outgoing connections and nodes include current and past faculty, graduate students, and graduate alumni. The network visualization has 2,225 individuals and a total of 3,090 connections. Each color signifies a different subfield: green represents applied anthropology, red is archaeology; blue is sociocultural anthropology; pink is linguistic anthropology, orange is conservation and mu-

seum anthropology, yellow is biological anthropology; sea green is forensic anthropology; and white represents other non-anthropological fields and careers. Fifty-two percent of respondents' identified subfield was archaeology, followed by 26% sociocultural anthropology, and under 7% for all other subfields. For more information and graphics from the CCP, please visit the project website at <http://connections.anthropology.arizona.edu/>.