

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION****PAUL HENRY GEBHARD****(July 3, 1917 - July 9, 2015)**

Paul Gebhard was born in Rocky Ford, Colorado. One source suggested that Paul's mother was from the East, and when she married, she arrived in Colorado on a stage coach. Remarkably, she lived to see a man walk on the moon. Paul traded in his Western boots for more typical New England footwear when he embarked on his post-secondary academic journey at Harvard University.

He earned an undergraduate degree (BS, *cum laude*) as well as Masters (MA, Anthropology) and doctoral (PhD, Anthropology) degrees at Harvard. Paul studied under E.A. Hooton, who could be considered an 'academic father' of physical anthropologists. Indeed, a preponderance of practicing physical anthropologists in North America can trace their academic lineage back to Hooton. While at Harvard, Paul participated in archaeological fieldwork in several areas of the US including the Southwest, Plains, Mississippi, and Alaska. In the latter locale he joined a team headed by Aleš Hrdlička, the founder of the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* and a renowned museum-based scientist at the Smithsonian Institution. Prior to completing his graduate program Paul became a Psychiatric Research Associate at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Before being awarded his PhD in 1946, Paul moved from Boston to Bloomington, where his initial academic appointment was as Research Associate at the Institute for Sex Research, Indiana University. For the next decade, he served in this capacity until he was appointed the Institute's Director in 1956 and remained in that office until his retirement in 1982. He was, of course, engaged in a dual appointment throughout nearly all of his tenure at IUB, since he was a founding member of the Department of Anthropology in 1947 when it was formally established. His enduring IU connection was briefly separated only when he accepted a Visiting

Professor appointment at the University of Hamburg, Germany in 1966. He retired from the Anthropology Department in 1986.

On one occasion Paul had an opportunity to explore the earliest beginnings of anthropology at Indiana University, which he traces toward the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. He discovered that Ulysses Weatherly offered courses having anthropological content within the Department of Economics and Social Science. He noted that by the 1940s, Eli Lilly, a dedicated amateur archaeologist, probably provided critical funding to hire a trio of faculty; an archaeologist, Glenn A. Black, a physical anthropologist, Georg K. Neumann, and a linguistic anthropologist, Charles "Carl" Voegelin, and each received appointments to already existing departments. With this nucleus provided by Lilly, and as Paul surmises, also with strong support from Stith Thompson (a renowned folklorist) and Herman B. Wells (then President), a successful recommendation was made to the University Trustees, and the Department of Anthropology was officially established on July 1, 1947. (As a side note, this date is far better remembered as the day an alien spacecraft crashed near Roswell, NM.)

Paul became an integral part of this history in that year when he joined the other three founding faculty whose lines were shifted to the newly formed department. His dedication to the department persisted over the decades even in the face of his principal duties as Director of the Kinsey Institute. For instance, he was called upon to serve as acting chair of the department regularly during summer sessions. Beyond this kind of service, Paul should be recognized for his strong encouragement of diversity within the department as it went through a major expansion over the years. Of course, he also devoted crucial time toward student development. He carried out a limited teaching program due to his directorship appointment, but he did offer a workshop on human sexuality. He was a member of the Bloomington Student Affairs Committee. His interest in North and South American archaeology continued in terms of graduate student advising and mentoring. He directed three Masters level theses, two of which progressed to doctoral dissertations under Paul's supervision, to go along with chairing the research committee of a third PhD awardee.

As might be expected, given the high profile status of the Institute for Sex Research, Paul was called upon to carry a substantial administrative load not only in terms of its highly active research, collecting, and academic endeavors on campus but also by its, not always welcomed, prominent place in the public eye. Paul was a co-author of the Institute's second major tome, *Sexual Behavior of the Human Female*, that was based upon extensive interviews and served as no less an awakening regarding human sexuality than that experienced several years earlier with the similarly titled publication on males.

Numerous publications were to follow. To single out one, Paul, along with his colleague Alan Johnson, in 1979 published *The Kinsey Data: Marginal Tabulations of the 1938-1963 Interviews Conducted by the Institute for Sex Research*. This provided a compilation of original data from which new analyses could and have been carried out. Needless to say, a publication of this sort speaks volumes with respect to scientific sharing and advancement.

With Paul at the helm, the Institute continued to be a leader into the research areas of homosexuality and erotica, as well other topics that helped to more clearly define and hopefully to better understand human sexuality. There was a brief period of time when objections were raised concerning erotic art and certain pieces were banned from being shipped via the USPS. That matter was resolved and today the erotic art collection at the Institute remains a valuable resource for viewing sexuality in this form across the worldwide spectrum of human cultural expression.

It is important to note that Paul considered his professional activities at the Institute to be directly within an anthropological framework. He said he was doing anthropology, just not among a foreign culture. Indeed, there are certain parallels to be drawn between ethnographic fieldwork and personal interviews conducted by the Institute staff. Unfortunately, during the Sen. McCarthy era sex research somehow got lumped into a communistic threat, and a major source for funding of the Institute was likely cut off as a result. Fortunately, book royalties sustained and cooler heads prevailed so that the Institute could continue its mission, not the least of which Paul considered to be the Institute's role as a catalyst for initiating new directions and insightful research into our sexual nature. It should be noted that research at the Institute

for Sex Research, originated by Alfred Kinsey and further developed by Gebhard, spanned the social sciences, notably sociology, anthropology, history, and psychology. There were even some early efforts into defining physiological aspects of sexual activity, research that anticipated the extensive investigation of Masters and Johnson.

One of Paul's lesser known accomplishments was his participation in the very early stages of the Human Subjects Committee. He was a member, if not the Chair, of the Bloomington Campus Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects in 1972 according to a document from the IU Archives. Another archival document is unequivocal in stating that he chaired the Committee by 1975, and his service continued into the mid-1980s. Among those researchers whose protocols came before the HSC for review, many regarded Paul as the cool head, advocating a reasoned approach in the sometimes contentious circumstances of ensuring the safety of human subjects in the research with the practical and ethical requirements such as obtaining informed consent. Undoubtedly, his broad background in anthropology served him well in this endeavor. In the forty-three years subsequent to Paul's early work on the HSC, the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has grown prodigiously in staff and responsibilities while maintaining the same mission: the protection of human subjects in scientific research.

Following his retirement Paul lived out his very nearly completed centenarian life within a veritable natural habitat in Brown County that was surrounded by a dense forest, with a small lake in the valley below his home (that served as a skating rink during the winter), and abundant sights and sounds of wildlife. Inside his home, as a touch of class and function, Paul installed a wrought iron spiral staircase that led to the upper story. While he was active in academia he generously shared these accommodations with faculty families and friends, most memorably in hosting departmental parties for all to enjoy. Beyond his highly successful career, and beyond the public notice he had achieved (not many university scholars have their professional lives played out in a movie), Paul forever remained a humble, gracious, and cherished colleague.

Paul is survived by his son, two daughters, four grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and two stepsons.

We request that this memorial resolution be presented in the Bloomington Faculty Council and be preserved within its archives. We also ask that copies of the resolution be sent to Professor Gebhard's family, to the Department of Anthropology, and to The Kinsey Institute.

Robert J. Meier  
Chancellor's Professor Emeritus  
Department of Anthropology

Paul L. Jamison  
Professor Emeritus  
Department of Anthropology