

Biography

Michelle Yvonne Merrill was born in San Jose, California on February 14, 1970. She married Erik S. Peterson in 1991. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, with College Honors and Honors in the Major, from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1994, and was awarded membership in Phi Beta Kappa. She had earlier completed an Associate of Arts degree at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California in 1990, and was awarded permanent membership in the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society.

PUBLICATIONS:

- van Schaik, C. P., M. Ancrenaz, G. Borgen, B. Galdikas, C.D. Knott, I. Singleton, A. Suzuki, S. Utami, M. Merrill. 2003. Orangutan cultures and the evolution of material culture. *Science* 299(1): 102-105.
- Merrill, M. Y. 2002. Investigating Orangutan Cultures. *Anthropology News*. 43: 14.
- Merrill, M. Y. 2002. A report from the Orangutans Compared 2002 workshop. *AnthroQuest*. 14: 10.
- van Schaik, C.P., Deaner, R.O., Merrill, M.Y. 1999. The conditions for tool use in primates: implications for the evolution of material culture. *Journal of Human Evolution* 36(6): 719-741.
- White, F.J., Wood K.D. and Merrill M.Y. 1998. Comment on C. Stanford (1998) "The social behavior of chimpanzees and bonobos: Empirical evidence and shifting assumptions." *Current Anthropology* 39(4): 414-415.
- Merrill, M.Y. 1998. Investigating the Primate Intellect (review of *Primate Cognition*, Tomasello and Call, 1997). *BioScience* 48(11): 954-956.

PUBLICATIONS: (continued)

Merrill, M.Y. 1998. Beautiful bonobos (review of *Bonobo: The Forgotten Ape*. de Waal, 1997). *BioScience* 48(3): 45-48.

Digby, L., Merrill, M.Y. and Davis, E.T. 1997. Infanticide by female mammals. Part I: Primates. (abstract) *American Journal of Primatology*, 42(2): 105

Merrill, M.Y. and White, F.J. 1996. Functions of vocalizations in male and female wild pygmy chimpanzees. (abstract) *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, Supplement 22: 166.

HONOR SOCIETIES AND AWARDS:

- Duke University Center for Teaching and Learning Graduate Student Fellow 1997-1998
- Duke University Center for International Studies Graduate Award for International Research 1996
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship: Honorable Mention 1995

