



# Anthropology News

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Spring 2015

## Six Years Strong: The Texas A&M Anthropology Conference Remains a Hit!

By *Elanor Sonderman*

Photos by *Wayne Smith and Danielle Huerta*

The sixth annual Department of Anthropology Conference, held on Friday, April 3, 2015 was a huge success. This year, the nearly 30 poster and paper presentations came from a mix of faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students. The diversity of our discipline was excellently showcased by these presentations, from analyses of horticulturalists in Nicaragua to infrared methodologies in archaeology to tarsier adaptations. The conference

gave faculty and students an excellent opportunity to present and discuss their current and future research.

There were three sessions throughout the day, each featuring a mix of students and faculty from the various sub-disciplines of anthropology. Jeff Winking chaired and presented in our first session, discussing his research on the Miskito, a horticulturalist group in Nicaragua. We also heard from

### HEADLINE NEWS:

- *Congratulations to Dr. Kevin Crisman, who has been promoted to the rank of Professor of Anthropology!*
- *Dr. Kelly Graf was selected as the College of Liberal Art's Montague-Center for Teaching Excellence Scholar for 2015-16!*
- *Marco Valadez was selected as a recipient of the 2015 President's Award for Academic Advising!*
- *Susannah Barr was awarded the 2015 Outstanding Undergraduate Research Scholars Thesis Award in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences!*
- *Laura White received the Distinguished Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Research from Texas A&M University's Association of Former Students!*



*Dr. Michael Alvard presents his research at the Texas A&M Anthropology Conference.*

### ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Shipwreck Weekend</i>	4
<i>Collections Spotlight</i>	6
<i>New Faculty Hires</i>	7
<i>Faculty &amp; Student Projects</i>	8-11
<i>Honors &amp; Awards</i>	12-15
<i>Publications and News</i>	16-17
<i>Fall Course Offerings</i>	18-19



*Katie Bailey presents her poster to the Anthropology Conference Judging team.*

“Patterns and Efficacy of Teaching Concepts of Race in Anthropology: Preliminary Findings” and a graduate winner: Jenna Kurten for her project “Below Replacement Fertility & Early Life Experience in the United States”.

Last year, conference organizers included the opportunity for students working in our various department labs to design interactive tables and displays to showcase the research and projects happening in the lab. This year, we kept with that new tradition and again saw excellent demonstrations from the Pollen Lab, explaining how to identify pollen types and the CSFA’s vast collection of lithic casts. We also included a table featuring the variety of artifacts housed in the

graduate students Mara Deckinga and Angelina Perotti and undergraduate Susie Barr. The second session, chaired by Sharon Gursky and featuring her research on tarsier adaptations included presentations from Michael Alvard, Crystal Dozier, Sam Cuellar, Annie Melton and Jesse Tune. The final session, chaired by co-organizer Katie Bailey included presentations from Tony Taylor, Shuru Zhong, Elanor Sonderman and a second presentation from Crystal Dozier.

poster session was judged by David Carlson, Cynthia Werner and Filipe Castro. The judges selected one undergraduate winner: Marisol Moreno, for her research with Crystal Dozier on

The poster session topics were just as diverse as the papers. We had an excellent turnout from undergraduates including Annie Melton, Marisol Moreno, Astrid Corpus, Aislinn Adolph and Jacob Frisbee as well as graduate students Katie Bailey, Jenna Kurten, and Jess Raterman. The



*Analise Hollingshead, showcasing 3D scanning technology on projectile points.*





department's Anthropology Research Collections and an experimental archaeology demonstration grinding corn using stone manos and metates.

The turnout at the conference was great this year, with about 50 attendees between students, faculty, friends and family. It was wonderful to, once again, see discussion and collaboration between members of the sub-disciplines. This conference was designed to encourage this collaboration and provide a safe and nurturing environment to present and share research – it was really rewarding to see this mission fulfilled again this year.

Huge thanks to the many people who made this conference possible. First, to my co-sponsor, Katie Bailey, without whom I could not have gotten through the planning and execution of the conference, our team of volunteers from the Texas A&M Anthropological Society, and, of course, all of the presenters. Second, to faculty members for their enduring support and participation in the conference particularly our faculty session chairs and judges: Sharon Gursky, Jeff Winking, Filipe Castro, David Carlson and Cynthia Werner. Special thanks to Cindy Hurt and Rebekah Luza for going to bat for us in a pinch. Finally, many thanks to our sponsors: Pearson Publishing who provided breakfast and a book fair, W.W.

Norton Publishing and TAMU Press who both donated books, PaleoTech Concepts which donated calipers and t-shirts, and Occoquan Paleotechincs, which donated several fantastic lithic casts.

It was another great conference, come see us again next year!



*Crystal Dozier, demonstrating mano and metate use through experimental grinding of corn.*



*Dr. Michael Waters, explaining the origins of specimens in the Archaeology Cast Collection to a conference goer.*



# Nautical Archaeology Program Hosts the 16th Annual Shipwreck Weekend

By Carolyn Kennedy

This year's annual Shipwreck Weekend was organized by Carolyn Kennedy and Rudi Vanzin, with plenty of help from the NAP graduate students, faculty and department administration. The event was held on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and consisted of morning talks and an afternoon open house. The lectures ran from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Scoates Auditorium. Breakfast and coffee were served.

The first guest speaker in the morning was Dr. Wendy van Duivenvoorde, PhD alum of the NAP at TAMU. Van Duivenvoorde is a lecturer in maritime archaeology at Flinders University and deputy director of the Australian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres. She is affiliated faculty with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M University.

Dr. van Duivenvoorde's recent publication, *Dutch East India Company Shipbuilding*, is the result of a five-year study aimed at reconstructing the hull of *Batavia*, the only excavated remains of an early seventeenth-century Indiaman. *Batavia* was raised and conserved in a way that permits detailed examination, using data retrieved from the archaeological remains, interpreted in the light of company archives, ship journals, and Dutch texts on shipbuilding of this period.



Art Cohn presenting at Shipwreck Weekend.

Lake Champlain. Throughout his career at Lake Champlain, one major goal has been to manage the invasive species, including zebra mussels and quagga mussels, that have recently begun to compromise the integrity of the over 300 shipwrecks in Lake Champlain.

After a complete sonar sweep of the lake, one perfectly preserved shipwreck was discovered resting in very deep water. Upon closer investigation, the wreck was determined to be *Spitfire*, Benedict Arnold's long-lost gunboat from the Revolutionary War. *Spitfire* has been excellently preserved by the cold, fresh waters of Lake Champlain, and until recently has been well-protected from dangers like treasure hunters, currents, ice, boats and invasive species due to its significant depth.

The keynote speaker, Arthur B. Cohn, is an affiliated scholar of Texas A&M University's nautical archaeology program, and the co-founder of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Cohn has worked for decades on preserving the cultural heritage and shipwrecks of



Dr. Wendy Van Duivenvoorde presenting her research.



Unfortunately, with the recent invasion of quagga mussels to the waters of Lake Champlain, *SpitFire* is now at risk of being compromised by these foreign pests. Knowing time is now limited, Cohn has opened a dialogue on possible preservation and conservation plans for this incredible monument of historical and cultural heritage.

The lectures drew a crowd of over 50 undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty and emeritus professors. As Cohn pointed out, attendees were honored to be in the presence of two legends of the nautical world. Roger C. Taylor, longtime captain and former editor-in-chief of the Naval Institute Press and the founder of International Marine Publishing, came all the way from Maine to hear Cohn and partake in the Shipwreck Weekend festivities. And, of course, professor emeritus and founder of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology and the nautical archaeology pro-

gram at Texas A&M University, George Bass, attended the talks. As always, Bass was interested in keeping up with the graduate students and ongoing projects, and to support the program that he created.

After the lectures, the open house drew the listeners next door to the anthropology building where they were welcomed to tour all of the NAP's working laboratories. The New World Lab, Old World Lab, Ship Lab, Wilder 3-D Imaging Lab, Conservation Lab and INA headquarters all had displays set up for visitors to experience, and students on hand to answer questions and interpret the displays. A family room where fun activities for kids, like digging for artifacts in sand underwater, building aluminum foil boats, face painting and coloring, was held in a large classroom.



*Ann Bass, George Bass, and Art Cohn.*

example of how ancient mariners were able to control sail area. The Maritime Studies Program from TAMU Galveston teamed up with NAP and set up a display of nineteenth-century maritime tools. Visitors were given a behind-the-scenes look at the many past and ongoing projects, while students and faculty alike explained and described their field research, their theses and dissertation projects, and nautical archaeology in general. Visitor reviews were nothing but positive, and if anything the interaction with the public reminded students and faculty how important and beneficial it is to share our research with everyone.

The nautical archaeology program is proud to report the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Shipwreck Weekend was a great success, and the nautical archaeology program looks forward to expanding and improving



*Kevin Crisman, Kathleen Carney, Roger Taylor, Art Cohn, and Carolyn Kennedy.*



## Spotlight on the Anthropological Research Collections

By *Elanor Sonderman and Tim de Smet*

The Anthropology Research Collections are settling in nicely to their new home in the Reed McDonald Building (Rooms 214, 215, and 229). Throughout the spring semester, Interim Curator Tim de Smet has been spearheading a number of projects, including continuing to update conditions in the lab, working on grant applications for new cabinets, digitizing records and building exhibits. In addition, several research projects are underway using ARC materials. For example, Casey Wayne Higgs has been working on a conservation project of sandals from Hinds Cave for Dr. Hamilton's Conservation II course, and Crystal Dozier has been conducting experimental archaeological studies using unprovenienced groundstone technology from Young County, Texas.

Assistant Curator Elanor Sonderman, with the help of undergraduate volunteers Eleanor Kolb and Jordan Pearre, has been working to bolster awareness of ARC

through promotion of the collections at the 6th Annual Anthropology Department Conference and through the construction of several exhibits. The first exhibit, to be installed over the summer, will feature an impressive private collection from South Texas that was donated to the Department by the Corbett Family in 2011. ARC staff hopes to continue this momentum to prepare additional, temporary exhibits, which will be displayed and changed each semester. Upcoming exhibits will include artifacts from Fort Brown, Hinds Cave, Nahr Ibrahim, and other sites.

*Be sure to check our new page on the Department website for more information about the collections! <http://anthropology.tamu.edu/html/curation-facility.html>*



*A sample of the artifacts housed at TAMU ARC*



# Anthropology Department Welcomes New Faculty Members!

By Morgan Smith

## New Hire in Ancient Genetics: Dr. Anna Linderholm

Dr. Linderholm has been hired for a new tenure-track Assistant Professor position focusing on Ancient Genetics. She received her PhD from Stockholm University, and is currently a post-doctoral research assistant within the school of archaeology at Oxford University. Dr. Linderholm has an extensive background in archaeology and molecular biology, having combined laboratory analyses of stable isotopes and ancient DNA with field excavations. Dr. Linderholm uses ancient and modern DNA (extracted from

human and animal subjects) to address archaeological questions about human migration and dispersals. Dr. Linderholm has worked with research institutions in Sweden, Germany, Spain, Denmark, Ireland, Vietnam, Portugal, Russia, the UK, and the US. Her future research will examine the impact of climate change on the human genome and the implications for archaeology. Dr. Linderholm will be introducing new classes to the curriculum, such as genetic anthropology, and the archaeology of Europe.



## New Hire in Medical Anthropology: Dr. Allison Hopkins

Dr. Hopkins has been hired for a new tenure-track Assistant Professor position in Medical Anthropology. She received her PhD from the University of Florida, and is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Arizona in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. Dr. Hopkins' research examines the intersections of health, diet and globalization. Her earliest research examines how modernization influences the transmission of cultural knowledge about herbal medicine among Yucatec Maya. One of her current projects at Arizona examines how the foods con-

sumed during pregnancy can help explain the "Hispanic Health Paradox," an epidemiological finding that health outcomes tend to be better among Latino populations, even when controlling for poverty and education. Another project focuses on the medicinal benefits of Jamaica, a tea made out of Hibiscus flowers that is commonly consumed in Mexico. Dr. Hopkins has taught a number of courses at Arizona and other institutions. She plans to introduce new courses at Texas A&M that will contribute to existing curriculum in cultural anthropology and medical anthropology.





Overview of the site, looking from south to north. The ship is 50 m from land; the excavation team is staying in a house on the coast, diving from land and using water dredges powered from a nearby pier. (photo: E. Šilić).



## Texas A&M Nautical Archaeology Excavation Underway in Croatia Trstenik 2015 - Bay of Kastela Roman Ship Excavation

By Dave Ruff

Dave Ruff, Arianna DiMucci, and Nick Budsberg are part of an international team performing fieldwork near Split, Croatia, excavating a Roman ship in the Bay of Kastela. The ship was filled with rocks and intentionally scuttled in approximately 200 CE to strengthen a sea wall of a Roman villa near the ancient city of Salona, the capital of the Roman province of Dalmatia. Dave, the

2015 recipient of the Claude Duthuit Archaeology Grant from the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, will be writing up the study of the ship's hull for his PhD dissertation. Dave is co-director of the excavation with Dr. Irena Radic-Rossi of the University of Zadar, Croatia. The excavation commenced on April 13<sup>th</sup>, and will conclude in May. In addition to three Texas A&M colleagues, exca-

vation participants include a US student studying archaeology at the University of Leicester, UK, a Turkish student studying archaeology at Oxford, and University of Zadar students of maritime archaeology.



The hull remains (from south to north). The ship is very sturdily built, distributing 69 frames over approximately 14 m length; some frames are so close together that it is difficult to insert a hand between them. (photo: E. Šilić)



The team. From left to right: Nick Budsberg, Luka Golubovic, Jelena Glamac, Sasa Koren, Matko Cvrljak, Dr. Irena Radic-Rossi, Ervin Silic (drone pilot), Sofia Blanchard, Petra Masce, Dave Ruff, Gita the dog, Arianna DiMucci, Derik Durbin, Sebastian Govorcin. (photo: E. Šilić)



# Anthropology Students Perform XRF Analysis on Rock Art in Big Bend Ranch State Park

By Morgan Smith

In March of 2015, graduate students Chris Dostal and Morgan Smith travelled down to Big Bend Ranch State Park in west Texas to conduct Portable X-Ray Fluorescence (pXRF) analysis as part of a contract with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. pXRF uses concentrated x-rays to determine elemental signatures of the material being analyzed. Together with Michael Strutt of TPWD, Chris and Morgan performed the first XRF based rock art analysis in this region. The park requested that two specific areas be tested. The first was the date

“1710” painted with in a rock shelter in a remote section of the park. Whether or not the date is authentic, and is of Spanish or Native American origin is unknown. If the date is genuine, it would represent a very early historic presence in the area. The second area was a large cliff side covered in pictographs spanning the periods of the Archaic to the Historic, with numerous styles and figures represented. Analysis of the XRF results are underway. Sev-



eral of the pictographs exhibited chemical signatures indicative of iron, calcium, magnesium, and organic based pigments. Further analysis concerning the nature of the pigments is underway by Chris and Morgan, who hope to publish the results and methods of this analysis.

# Department Holds Workshop on Sexual Harassment in Academia

By Dr. Lori Wright and Katie Bailey

Sexual harassment in academia, during scientific fieldwork and on college campuses has been in the news frequently over the last year. The department had planned to host Dr. Kate Clancy, lead author of a 2014 study examining harassment during anthropological fieldwork. Unfortunately, her flight was cancelled due to winter weather, and the event was rescheduled for September 28, 2015. In relation to the planned event, the Department of Anthropology sought to understand the current climate within the department through a short online survey about the experiences of department members. The survey was open to undergraduate, graduate, faculty, and staff, and we received upwards of 100 responses.

Dr. Wright presented the findings during a brown bag workshop on

April 13. In brief, the survey found that although most of us believe we know what constitutes sexual harassment and assault, some confuse the two issues. Assault involves nonconsensual physical contact, and is a form of harassment. Our survey did not address assault within our small community due to concerns about privacy. However, survey results indicate that most members of the department have either witnessed or experienced behaviors that can be considered harassment. Although the legal/institutional definition of harassment requires repeated events of obnoxious behavior that produce a hostile climate, individual acts contribute to such a pattern. Our findings suggest that behavior in the department is in line with the results of other recent academic surveys and

could stand some improvement. More optimistically, students participating in field projects sponsored by the department report little harassment. The data allowed for an enlightening discussion on sexual harassment and department climate. As a result, the department held the first annual pre-fieldwork training workshop for students scheduled to participate in TAMU field schools this summer.

*If you have additional suggestions for improving department climate, please share them with Dr. Wright (lwright@tamu.edu), Chair of the department's Climate and Inclusion Committee. For further information and assistance, visit the university's Student Life web site: <http://studentlife.tamu.edu/sas.svp>.*





## Short Course on Wooden Shipbuilding Technology Offered in Spain

By Dr. Filipe Castro

The Department of Anthropology is a partner in a Marie Curie EU grant titled “Forest Resources for Iberian Empires: Ecology and Globalization in the Age of Discovery (ForSEADiscovery).” The project has three goals. First, the ForSEADiscovery team uses a variety of methodological approaches to better understand the role of Iberian forest resources in the bigger picture of the Atlantic expansion. Second, the project seeks to provide selected trainees with specialized workshops in skills that can be applied to future careers in academia or the private sector. Third, the project aims to advance the disciplines involved, through the

integration of research tools, the development of reference datasets, and the publication of new discoveries.

In this context, last January Dr. Filipe Castro organized and gave a four-day introductory course on the history of wooden shipbuilding, including treatises and books on shipbuilding, to the ForSEADiscovery fellows at the Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Consejo Superior de Investigación Científicas (CSIC), in Madrid, Spain. The course



provided an introduction to the conception, construction, and operation of oceangoing ships in the 15th through 17th century Iberian Peninsula.

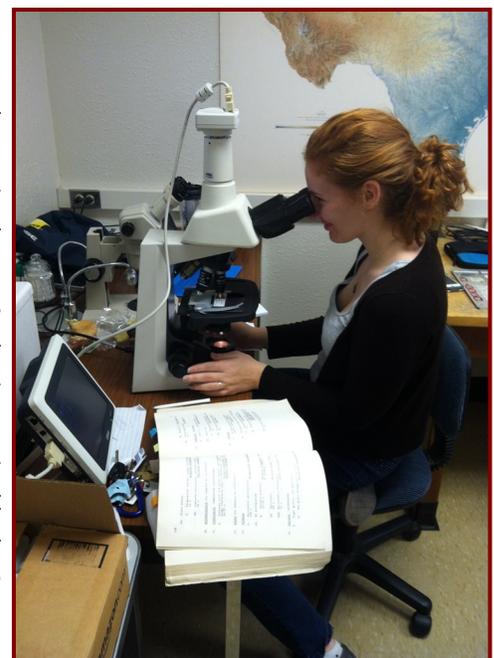
For more information about the program, see: <http://forseadiscovery.eu>

## Course Spotlight: Paleoethnobotany

By Morgan Smith

This spring, eight anthropology graduate students enrolled in Paleoethnobotany with Dr. Vaughn Bryant. Paleoethnobotany examines the cultural use of plants, an often overlooked yet highly informative portion of the archaeological record. Students within the class gained experience in pollen, starch, and phytolith identification, coprolite analysis and charred wood identification. Students learned the methods used in each form of analysis, and read articles concerning the

history and science behind cultural plant use. The class concluded with independent research papers that allowed students to apply newly learned techniques to a project of interest. These projects resulted in a palynological reconstruction of the Great Basin paleoenvironment, the discovery of a rattlesnake fang within prehistoric human feces, the development of a key for charcoal identification in Texas, insights into the coprolite data from Paisley Caves, Oregon, and more!





## Dr. Michael Waters Investigates Paleoclimate at Hall's Cave

In late April, Dr. Michael Waters (together with colleague Dr. Tom Stafford of Aarhus University) conducted research at Hall's Cave. The Texas hill country site consists of a relatively small sinkhole that gives way to an immense cavern. A pit from a previous archaeological study extends several meters down to sediments over 16,000 years old. The cave is extremely unique in that the sedimentation in the

appears to have been extremely constant throughout time. This feature makes it an ideal site to test the hypothesis that nanodiamonds can be used to identify terminal Pleistocene sediments. Nanodiamonds are believed to be an indicator of a cosmic impact that occurred approximately 13,000 years ago. Dr. Waters and Dr. Stafford are testing this hypothesis by sampling sediments from

approximately 15,000-11,000 years ago to determine whether or not the presence of nanodiamonds is specific to certain aged sediments or if they appear throughout the sequence. They collected over 100 radiocarbon dates from Hall's Cave. They are currently analyzing the data in order to develop a detailed paleo-environmental reconstruction for central Texas.



*Dr. Michael Waters, inside Hall's Cave at the edge of the profile pit.*

## Dr. Shelley Wachsmann Presents Initial Results from the Ioppa Maritima Project

In early May, Dr. Wachsmann gave a presentation on the Ioppa Maritima Project as part of the Glasscock Center for Humanities Research's Colloquium Series. Dr. Wachsmann is a lead investigator of this project that seeks to relocate the ancient harbor of Jaffa in Israel. During the lecture, he explained how the 2014 field season combined terrestrial and underwater archaeology. The terrestrial component used a variety of methods, including ground-penetrating radar, to locate anomalies that may be harbor structures or shipwrecks, and to

determine the extent of water in the past. The underwater portion of the project included a survey of the area believed to be the ancient shipping corridor of the coast of present day Israel. Armed with the location of 22 potential targets identified by previous researchers, Dr. Wachsmann and colleagues investigated 14 targets with an underwater remotely-operated vehicle (ROV). They discovered four shipwrecks, including three modern ships and one 20th century warship. Keep an eye out for future updates on the Ioppa Maritima Project!



*The gateway of Ramses II at Jaffa.*



# Congratulations to our New Graduates!

## **BA Graduates**

Kerri Allred	Julie Crisafulli	April Martin
Ashleigh Andrews	Monica Dominguez	Grecia Martinez
Meighan Arce	Chance Garner	Evan Merritt
Jacob Avellanet	Andrew Gotcher	Hailey Mittleman
Susannah Barr	Hilario Hinojosa	Jessica Montgomery
Anthony Bauml	Danielle Huerta	Marisol Moreno
Savannah Blanton	Elanor Kolb	Clayton Nichols
Claire Casey	Ryan Kough	William Shaw
Emilie Condon-Heck	Kathran Lee	Fiona Taylor
Renee Costello	Christian Limas	Meghan Watt

## **MA Graduates**

Nina Chick  
 Samuel Cuellar  
 Nathan Gallagher  
 Karen Martindale  
 Amanda Vance  
 Rudi Vanzin



## **PhD Graduates**



**Dr. Chris Cartellone**  
**Chair: Filipe Castro**

Dissertation Title: H.M.S Solebay and Maritime Archaeological Heritage Preservation in Nevis, West Indies



**Dr. Peter Fix**  
**Chair: Wayne Smith**

Dissertation Title: Archaeological Watercraft: A Review and Critical Analysis of the Practice



**Dr. Rodrigo Torres**  
**Chair: Filipe Castro**

Dissertation Title: The Archaeology of Shore Stranded Shipwrecks of Southern Brazil





## Recent Honors and Grants

**Susannah Barr** (BA 2015) completed an honors thesis entitled “Rural Inequality and Nutrition: An Analysis of Three Rural Communities in the Dominican Republic” under the supervision of Dr. Cynthia Werner. Susie’s thesis was awarded the Outstanding Thesis in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences category (out of 34 theses).

**Tim Campbell** received the Milo E. Carlson Dissertation Award in Biological Anthropology to support his dissertation research project in South Africa. This is a \$5,000 award.

**Emilie Condon-Heck** (BA 2015) completed an undergraduate honors thesis entitled “Tierra Del Fuegians: Comparative Study of Frontal Bone Morphology,” under Dr. Sheela Athreya’s supervision. Emilie also completed Foundation Honors and University Honors at Texas A&M.

**Renee E. Costello** (BA 2015) completed an undergraduate honors thesis entitled “The Biography of the Snow Jeanie: A Merchant Vessel in the Pre-Revolution Tobacco Trade.”

**Lori Fields, Staci Willis and Angela Younie** all received Summertime Advancement and Research awards for dissertation writing. Lori Fields also received a \$10,000 fellowship from the Navajo Nation for graduate studies.

**Dr. Ted Goebel** received a \$25,000 grant from the Elfrieda Frank Foundation for excavations in Alaska.

**Dr. Kelly Graf** was selected as the College of Liberal Arts’ Montague-Center for Teaching Excellence Scholar for 2015-16. This award comes with \$6,500 for course development. She also received a

\$25,000 grant from the Elfrieda Frank Foundation for survey and testing late Pleistocene sites in the Nenana valley of central Alaska this summer.



*Provost Karan Watson presenting Marco Valadez, Anthropology Department Academic Advisor, with the President’s Award for Academic Advising.*

**Shannon Hodges** received an L.T. Jordan Fellowship for \$2,000, a Sigma Xi Grant in Aid of Research for \$400, a Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund Grant for \$5,000, an Explorers Club Exploration Fund Grant for \$1,100, and an International Primatological Society Grant for \$1,500, all to further her studies on Titi Monkeys.

**Jessica Raterman** was awarded a NSF Research Experience for Graduates grant to support fieldwork this summer with Dr. Mike Alvard’s pro-

ject, “Identifying Foraging Behavior among Fishers in the Commonwealth of Dominica.” Jessica also won First Place among Graduate Researchers at Student- Research Week 2015 in the Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Business, Education, Political Science, and Economics subject area. The poster is titled: “A Naturalist Study of Norm Conformity and Enforcement.”

**Dr. Wayne Smith** recently received an Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture Research Award and his project was showcased at IDHMC’s Visualization Showcase in April. Dr. Smith also received a High Impact Instructional Innovation Grant to conduct a week long summer program to allow researchers to use the Wilder 3D Imaging Lab’s amazing resources under his direction and guidance.

**Willa Trask** received a \$15,000 Dissertation Fellowship Award from the TAMU Office of Graduate and Professional Studies to further her work on the skeletons of the Tipu population in Belize.

**Marco Valadez** was recently selected as one of five recipients for the Texas A&M President’s Award for Academic Advising this year.

**Dr. Michael Waters and Morgan Smith** received a \$25,000 grant from the Elfrieda Frank Foundation for research at the Ryan-Harley site, a submerged Paleoindian site in Florida.

**Laura White** received the Distinguished Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Research from Texas A&M University’s Association of Former Students.



## Anthropology Majors Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Founded in 1776, Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest honor society for the liberal arts and sciences, with 283 active chapters in the United States. It is widely regarded as the most prestigious honor society in the country. Each year, Phi Beta Kappa invites the most outstanding students of arts and sciences to join the society. Typically, students are in the top 10% of their graduating class. This year, eight anthropology majors have been inducted into the organization.

Congratulations are in order for:

- Kerri Leigh Allred
- Meighan Arianna Arce
- Susannah Renee Barr
- Emilie Fee Condon-Heck
- Julie Ann Crisafulli
- Eleanor Carlyle Kolb
- William Wright Shaw
- Meghan Elise Watt



## Anthropology Graduate Students Receive Professional Development Awards

Each Spring, the College of Liberal Arts provides awards for PhD students to acquire skills and training that cannot be pursued at Texas A&M. This year, ten PhD students from the Anthropology Department received funding for a variety of projects. Award amounts range from \$2,000-\$5,000.

**Katie Bailey** received funds to take an Introduction to Geometric Morphometrics course in Spain to further her research on Douc Langer scapulae morphology.

**Rachael Bible** received funds for a one-on-one workshop I took in September to study ecological niche modeling methods as they apply to anthropological questions with Dr. William Banks at the University of Bordeaux, France.

**Kersten Bergstrom** received funds to participate in a four-week intensive Swahili language program at the ELCT Language and Orientation School located in Morogoro, Tanzania.

**Nicholas Budsberg** received funds to complete an intensive Spanish language course.

**Chris Cartellone** received funds to take a Professional Association of Dive Instructors course in the Florida Keys.

**Megan Lickliter-Mundon** received funds to complete a course concerning ROV methodology for Digital Modelling.

**Patricia Schwindinger** received funds to attend an Early Modern Dutch Reading Skills Program.

**Elanor Sonderman** received funds to complete an online collections course through Johns Hopkins University.

**Rodrigo Torres** received funds to take a Professional Association of Dive Instructors course in the Florida Keys.

**Casey Wayne Riggs** received funds to attend an intensive Spanish language course in Oaxaca, Mexico.





# Anthropology Majors Receive Departmental Prizes and Awards

Each year, the Department of Anthropology awards several different prizes to undergraduates.

## **Annie Melton - Recipient of the Department of Anthropology Undergraduate Research Prize (2015)**

This prize is awarded annually to an anthropology major for having the best poster presentation at Texas A&M University's Student Research Week. Annie received this award for her project, "Pieces to a Puzzle: Conducting a Lithic Refit Analysis to Evaluate Stratigraphic and Lithic Components of the Owl Ridge Site, Central Alaska."



*Annie Melton presenting her poster at Student Research Week.*

## **Marisol Moreno - Recipient of the Department of Anthropology Annual Conference Undergraduate Poster Prize (2015)**

This prize is awarded annually to an anthropology major for having the best poster presentation at the Anthropology Conference. Marisol Moreno received this award for her poster entitled, "Patterns and Efficacy of Teaching Concepts of Race in Anthropology: Preliminary Results." This poster was co-authored with **Crystal Dozier**, a PhD student within the Anthropology department at TAMU.

## **Department of Anthropology Undergraduate Research Awards.**

Each year, the Undergraduate Committee selects a small number of students to receive a research award in support of research. The following six anthropology majors were selected for this \$1,000 award this spring:

### **McKenzie Alford**

McKenzie will be using the undergraduate research award to attend the 2015 archaeological field school in Alaska. (Advisor: Kelly Graf)

### **Taylor Ehlers**

Taylor will be using the undergraduate research award to attend the Nautical Archaeology field school in Lake Champlain, Vermont. (Advisor: Kevin Crisman)

### **Analise Hollingshead**

Analise will be using the undergraduate research award for her trip to Virginia to participate in the Mount Vernon Archaeological Field School. (Advisor: Wayne Smith)

### **Megan Martinez**

Megan will use the undergraduate research award to attend the Central Belize Archaeological Survey Field School. (Advisor: Filipe Castro)

### **Annie Melton**

Annie was awarded the undergraduate research award to attend the 2015 excavation of McDonald Creek in Beringia (Advisor: Kelly Graf)

### **Amber Passen**

Amber will be using the undergraduate research award to attend to the Nautical Archaeology field school in Lake Champlain, Vermont. (Advisor: Kevin Crisman)

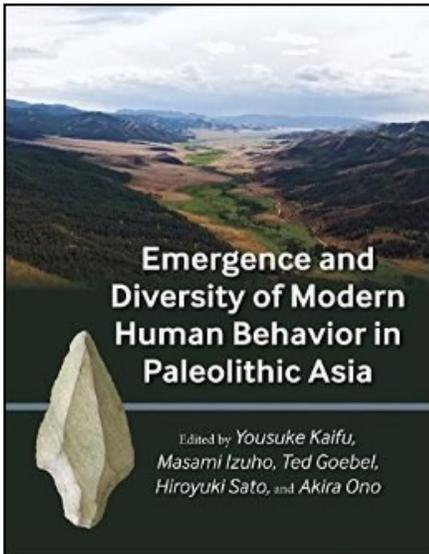




## Faculty and Student Publications

**Claire Casey**, a graduating senior double major in Anthropology and English, published an article in *Explorations*, the TAMU undergraduate honors program journal. Her article, "Journey to the East: Understanding a Chinese Classic as an American," focuses on Sun Wukong (the Monkey King) a Chinese folk hero.

**Crystal Dozier's** paper, "Finding Children Without Toys: The Archaeology of Children and Shabbona Grove, Illinois," was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Childhood in the Past*.



**Dr. Ted Goebel** co-edited the book *Emergence and Diversity of Modern Human Behavior in Asia* with his colleagues from Japan Kaifu Yousuke, Masami Izuho, Hiroyuki Sato, and Akira Ono. The book includes 35 chapters that review current evidence for the origins and spread of *Homo sapiens* across Asia during the late Pleisto-

cene. The book, published by Texas A&M University Press in January 2015, includes research conducted by Texas A&M faculty, **Drs. Sheela Athreya and Kelly Graf**.

**Drs. Kelly Graf and Ted Goebel** published an article in Russian: Paleolit Bostochnoi Beringin, Alias-ka i lukon. (The Paleolithic of Eastern Beringia, Alaska and Yukon). The article is in a Russian Geographical Society book titled: *Pervonachal'noe Zaselenie Arkiti Chelovekom v Ysloviakh Meniaiusheisia Prirodnoi Sredy* (Initial Human Colonization of the Arctic in Changing Paleoenvironments).

**Dr. Sharon Gursky** published an article titled "Ultrasonic Vocalizations by the Spectral Tarsier, *Tarsius spectrum*" in the journal *Folia Primatologica*.

**John Littlefield** authored the feature article in South Carolina Historical Magazine entitled "Rediscovering the Civil War Era Semi-submersible CSS David: Going Beyond the Official Navy Records."

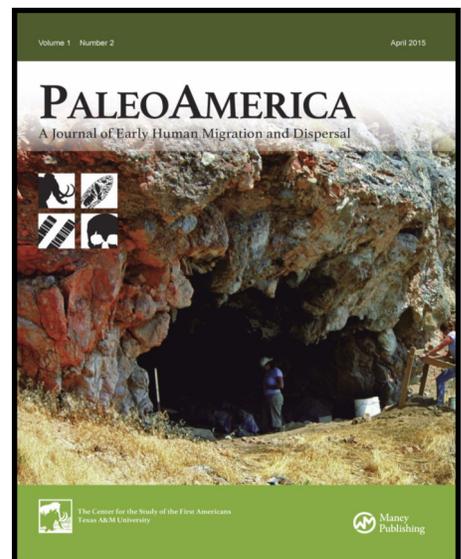
**Dr. Mike Waters** published an article with colleagues entitled "Late Pleistocene horse and camel hunting at the southern margin of the ice-free corridor: Reassessing the age of Wally's Beach, Canada" in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

**Dr. Cynthia Werner** published a paper, entitled "The Unequal Burdens of Repatriation: A Gendered Analysis of the Transnational Mi-

gration of Mongolia's Kazakh Population" in *American Anthropologist*.

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**The Center for the Study of the First Americans** launched a new journal *PaleoAmerica* in January, replacing *Current Research in the Pleistocene*. Dr. Ted Goebel is the Editor-in-Chief of the journal. *PaleoAmerica* is a peer-reviewed journal that is published four times a year, both electronically and in print, through a publishing partnership with Maney Publishing in the United Kingdom. The first two issues have already been published, and the third issue is currently in press. The journal is off to a great start: during the first two months of availability on line, articles in issue 1 were downloaded more than 6000 time.





## Other Departmental News

**Sarah Baburi** (BA 2012) will be starting the MA in Anthropology program at George Washington University this fall, with a concentration in Museum Training.

**Dr. Lilia Campana** (PhD 2014) was recently hired as an Instructional Assistant Professor at the Department of Visualization, Texas A&M, teaching Art History survey courses, as well as her own course "Visual and Material Culture of the Mediterranean, 1300-1700."

**Claire Casey**, a graduating senior double major in Anthropology and English, was accepted to Western Kentucky University's Folk Studies Program where she has been awarded an assistantship to pursue a Masters degree.

**Dr. Kevin Crisman** has been promoted to full professor, effective September 1st, 2015.

**Nathan Gallagher** (MA 2015) has been selected for a 18-month predoctoral training fellowship in the digital humanities at the University of Groningen (in Holland). This program is part of the forSeadiscovery project described on page 10.

**Drs. Kelly Graf** and **Ted Goebel** will be co-instructing the Alaska archaeology field school again during the upcoming summer. The plan is to introduce field-school students to periglacial geology and vegetation history, site survey and recording, archaeological testing, mapping, and excavation. The site of the field school will again be in

the vicinity of Healy, Alaska, but students will also spend two weeks in a real backcountry experience (accessible only by helicopter) excavating a newly discovered archaeological site dating to the late Pleistocene, McDonald Creek.

**Lauren Miller Griffith** (BA 2004) recently published a book entitled *"In Search of Legitimacy: How Outsiders Become Part of the Afro-Brazilian Capoeira Tradition"* with Berghahn Books. Lauren completed her PhD in Anthropology at Indiana University in 2011, and is currently employed as an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Hanover College.

**Danielle Huerta** (BA 2015) received a full funding package for the PhD program in Anthropology at UC-Santa Cruz this fall.

**Brett Lowry Furth** (ABD) defended his dissertation "Gimme That Real Old Time Religion: Re-embedding White Identities Through Ethnic Neo-Pagan Reconfigurations of European Heritage in Texas" on May 29th. Brett will continue to teach cultural anthropology courses as an adjunct professor at Houston Community College and Texas A&M Galveston.

**Ali Mendha** (BA 2014) will be starting the MS program in Human Resource Management at the Mays Business School.

**Jared Miracle** (PhD 2014) has recently signed a book contract with

McFarland and Company to publish a revised version of his dissertation.

**Nick Mizer** recently became the Co-Chair of the Game Studies Section of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association.

**Melissa Mueller** defended her thesis entitled "Taphonomy and Zooarchaeology of Faunal Assemblages from Archaeological Sites along the Upper Susitna River, Alaska" on April 29th, and is scheduled to graduate in August. She plans to pursue a career in cultural resource management.

**Heather Smith** (ABD) defended her dissertation titled "Paleoindian Technology in Beringia: A Technological and Morphological Analysis of the Northern Fluted Point Complex" on May 11th, and is scheduled to graduate in August.

**Jesse Tune** (ABD) received a job as a lecturer in the Anthropology Department at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. Jesse defended his dissertation entitled "Settling in to the Younger Dryas: Human Behavioral Adaptations During the Pleistocene/Holocene Transition in the Midsouth United States" on April 21st, and is scheduled to graduate in August.

**Staci Willis** (ABD) received a position as a lecturer at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas. She plans to graduate in December 2015.



## 2015 Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

Number	Course Title	Instructor	Time
ANTH 201	Introduction to Anthropology	Multiple Instructors	Multiple Sections
ANTH 202	Introduction to Archaeology	Alston Thoms	TR 12:45-2:00
ANTH 204	Peoples and Cultures of the Ancient World	Multiple Instructors	Multiple Sections
ANTH 205	Peoples and Cultures of the World	Multiple Instructors	Multiple Sections
ANTH 210	Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology	Jeff Winking	TR 11:10-12:25
ANTH 225	Introduction to Biological Anthropology	Darryl de Ruiter	TR 2:20-3:35
ANTH 226	Introduction to Biological Anthropology, Lab	Multiple Instructors	Multiple Sections
ANTH 229	Introduction to Folklore	Thomas Green	TR 9:35-10:50
ANTH 300	Cultural Change and Development	Darrell Lynch	MWF 12:40-1:30
ANTH 302	Archaeology of North America	Kelly Graf	TR 3:55-5:10
ANTH 305	Fundamentals of Anthropological Writing	TDB	M 1:50-2:40
ANTH 313	Historical Archaeology	Donny Hamilton	TR 9:35-10:50
ANTH 316	Nautical Archaeology	Multiple Instructors	Multiple Sections
ANTH 324	Music in World Cultures	Multiple Instructors	Multiple Sections
ANTH 340	Folklore and the Supernatural	Thomas Green	TR 8:00-9:15
ANTH 353	The Archaeology of Ancient Greece	Deborah Carlson	TR 2:20-3:35
ANTH 412	Archaeological Theory	Ted Goebel	TR 12:45-2:00
ANTH 418	Seafaring in the Mediterranean during the early Christian Era	Filipe Castro	TR 11:10-12:25
ANTH 425	Human Osteology	Lori Wright	MW 3:45-5:00
ANTH 434	Human Evolutionary Ecology II: Reproduction and Parenting	Jeff Winking	TR 12:45-2:00
ANTH 445	Studies in African Diaspora	Nicole Castor	TR 9:35-10:50
ANTH 454/654	Archaeological Photography	Wayne Smith	M 9:00-12:00
ANTH 489/609	Culture and Evolution	Michael Alvard	TR 2:20-3:35
ANTH 603	Seafaring Life and Maritime Communities	Kevin Crisman	W 1:00-4:00
ANTH 605	Conservation of Archaeological Resources I	Donny Hamilton	TR 2:00-5:00
ANTH 611	Nautical Archaeology	Cemal Pulak	M 9:00-12:00
ANTH 615	History of Ship Building Technology	Cemal Pulak	W 9:00-12:00
ANTH 622	Folklore Forms and Methods	TBA	TBA
ANTH 625	Zooarchaeology	Darryl De Ruiter	TR 12:45-2:00
ANTH 638	Anthropology Proposal Writing	Lori Wright	W 10:20-1:20
ANTH 642	Research Design in Anthropology	David Carlson	TR 2:20-3:35
ANTH 652	First Americans Archaeology	Michael Waters	W 1:15-4:15
ANTH 653	Hunter Gatherer Archaeology	Alston Thoms	TR 9:35-10:50





## Featured Anthropology Courses for Fall 2015



### **ANTH 489: Culture and Evolution**

TR 2:20-3:35, Instructor Michael Alvard, 3 credits

Examine humanity's watershed adaptation scientifically! Topics addressed in this course include: How does cultural transmission impact variation in the distribution of traits over space and time? Is culture adaptive? Can culture be maladaptive? How do cultural and genetic transmission differ? Does it matter? Why did cultural abilities evolve? Join in to find out!

### **ANTH 412 (W): Archaeological Theory**

TR 12:45-2:00, Instructor Ted Goebel, 3 credits

Enroll to discuss the history of scientific archaeological exploration, including major theoretical paradigms and movements in archaeological theory, current trends in archaeology, and intellectual developments from other disciplines that influenced archaeological thought.

### **ANTH 418: Romans, Arabs, and Vikings- Seafaring in the Mediterranean during the early Christian Era**

TR 11:10-12:25, Instructor Felipe Castro, 3 credits

Take part in an examination of seafaring, maritime commerce, naval affairs, and shipbuilding in the Mediterranean from the late Roman Period until the fall of Constantinople in 1453!



### **ANTH 425: Human Osteology**

MW 3:45-5:00, Instructor Lori Wright, 3 credits

Want to have the ultimate conversation topic? Explore the concepts and methods used by anthropologists to identify, describe, and analyze human skeletal remains from forensic and archaeological contexts!



### **ANTH 434 (W): Human Evolutionary Ecology II: Reproduction and Parenting**

TR 12:45-2:00, Instructor Jeff Winking, 3 credits

Gain a new appreciation for mom and dad! Taught from an evolutionary ecology perspective, gain new insights on family-formation patterns, sexuality, reproduction, and parenting of humans throughout the life course and across different cultures; part of a Human Evolutionary Ecology series along with ANTH 424.

### **ANTH 445: Studies in African Diaspora: Afro-Atlantic Religions (W)**

TR 9:35-10:50, Instructor Nicole Castor, 3 credits

In this writing intensive exploration of African religions in the Americas we will read ethnographies to examine how people use possession, sacrifice, divination and other modes of religious expression to inform meaning and identity in their lives with close attention to: Santeria in Cuba, Orisha/Ifá in Trinidad, Candomble in Brazil, and Vodoun in Haiti.



### **ANTH 454: Archaeological Photography**

M 9:00-12:00, Instructor Wayne Smith, 3 credits

How to better use cameras in the process of reporting archaeological sites and material culture by exploring old and new photographic technologies.



## Department of Anthropology

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*The Department of Anthropology at Texas A&M University offers BA, MA, MS, and PhD degrees in Anthropology. The department has 23 faculty members in four different programs—Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology, and Nautical Archaeology. The department has over 200 undergraduate majors and 90 graduate students.*

### WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:

[ANTHROPOLOGY.TAMU.EDU](http://ANTHROPOLOGY.TAMU.EDU)

*For questions about the department, please contact our Department Head, **Dr. Cynthia Werner** ([werner@tamu.edu](mailto:werner@tamu.edu)).*

*If you have information for upcoming issues of our newsletter, please contact **Morgan Smith** ([mfsmith1964@tamu.edu](mailto:mfsmith1964@tamu.edu)).*



## Gifts to the Department of Anthropology



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Tax-deductible contributions to the “Department of Anthropology Excellence Fund” are used to support recurrent research-related experiences, including undergraduate research, graduate student research and conference travel, the department’s lecture series, faculty conference travel, and other things that contribute to the scholarly mission of the department.