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Cover Photo Credit:
Dr. Margaret Beck,
watercolor paints
made from collected
earth materials
As is tradition in our Department, the DEO prepares a statement at the end of each academic year highlighting the successes and important milestones of Department members. Although all our lives and work, even our sense of time itself, have been transformed in profound and varied ways during this pandemic, there was much to celebrate:

- Prof. Margaret Beck was promoted to Full Professor.
- Professor Robert Franciscus was the recipient of a 2021-2022 Collegiate Teaching Award.
- Prof. James Enloe and Prof. Scott Schnell retired, and we were able to celebrate their careers in May 2022. Both will continue as Emeritus Professors.
- The Department was able to (finally) mark the retirement of Prof. Russell Ciochon in December 2021.
- Prof. Drew Kitchen was awarded a 3-year NSF grant with CoPI Prof. Andrew Forbes (Biology, UI).
- Prof. Laura Graham and a team of U.S. and Brazil-based scholars received a 3-year NSF collaborative research award.
- Prof. John Doershuk and the OSA were co-awarded an OVPR Community Engaged Scholar Grant with the Department of Anthropology, Elgin Historical Society, and Meskwaki Nation to build community capacity for documenting vanishing local archaeology.
- Prof. Matt Hill offered a new archaeological field school in western Kansas in summer 2022.
- Four of our graduate students were awarded their PhDs: Dr. Elizabeth Handschy, Dr. Noah Johnson, Dr. Jeongeun Lee, and Dr. Natalie Luna-Renek. Noah will be returning to the Department as a Visiting Assistant Professor during 2022-2023.
- Graduate students Derick Juptner and

* Last year, we did not have a Department Newsletter given the challenges of the year, but I prepared a letter that summarized the accomplishments of the students and faculty during the 2020-2021 academic year (https://anthropology.uiowa.edu/alumni). In this year’s Newsletter, being coordinated by Scott Olson, you will have the chance to read about the activities of the department from the past 2 years.
Justin Soares completed their MA degree.

- Eight Anthropology majors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa: Michael Campbell, Keaton Scandrett, Amy Zine, Tong Ding, Ella Lowry, Nicholas Mueller, and Elizabeth Shockley. This may be the largest number of students awarded in one year in our department.

- Dr. Erica Prussing organized a hugely successful visit of Santiago X, a Chicago-based Indigenous futurist, architect, artist, and Ida Beam Visiting scholar.

- The Department established 3 new scholarships, which were made possible thanks to donations from alumni and friends to the Anthropology Gift Fund. Acacia Roberts was the first awardee of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize. Majors Ausi Slaybaugh and Stephanie Cook were awarded the Undergraduate Scholarships for Experiential Learning, which they used to participate in Prof. Matt Hill's summer field school. Jasmin Msuya and Corinne Watts were awarded this year's Graduate Student Career Development Scholarships.

- Graduate student Ariane Thomas was awarded a Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant.

- Graduate student Victoria Priola was awarded a T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship.

- Three graduate students - Jasmin Msuya, Andrés Restrepo Sánchez, and Corinne Watts - each received a Stanley Award for International Research.

- Graduate student Sophie Churchill was a recipient of the Graduate Student Research Fellowship from the UI Center for Asian and Pacific Studies and a Student Impact Grant from the UI Center for Advancement (UICA) to support her fieldwork.

- Graduate student Ebenezer Olamiposi Adeyemi was awarded a Research Grant for the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and was featured in the UI Office of the Vice President for Research's 2022 "Dare to Discover" campaign.

- Four graduate students will be joining the Department in the fall: Mackenzie Cross, Binit Gurung, Danielle Johnsen, and Tristan Szymanski.

- Twenty-six students graduated with their BA/BS in Anthropology, and 19 students graduated with minors in Anthropology.

- Anthropology major Siau-Tong Ding was recognized with an Academic/Scholar Achievement Award at the International Student Graduation Event. This year we also had to say our goodbyes to:

  - Prof. Heidi Lung, who accepted the position of Associate Professor and Director of the Museum Studies Graduate Program at Western Illinois University Quad Cities.
  - Prof. Emily Wentzell, who decided to take her career in a new direction.

In closing, I want to give special thanks to members of the Departmental Executive Committee, who have been critical to the smooth functioning of our Department: Sarah Horgen (Departmental Administrator), Shari Knight (Administrative Services Coordinator), Matt Hill (Director of Graduate Studies), Ted Powers (Director of Undergraduate Studies), and Elana Buch (Curriculum Coordinator).

After 4 years of serving as DGS, Matt Hill will be passing the DGS baton on to Margaret Beck. I am extremely grateful to Matt for his energetic work and steadfast support of our graduate students. I will be on research leave in the fall of 2022, and Bob Franciscus will serve as interim DEO.

Prof. Katina Lillios (katina-lillios@uiowa.edu) is an anthropological archaeologist who studies people who lived on the Iberian peninsula from the Neolithic through the Bronze Age, and serves as Anthropology Department Executive Officer (DEO). During her Fall 2022 research leave, Prof. Bob Franciscus will serve as interim DEO.
Acacia Roberts, College of Law

The Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize supported me in my efforts to pursue my J.D. here at the University of Iowa College of Law. During my time here I have been fortunate to pursue research related to Native American issues under two prominent Native scholars and professors within our community at the University of Iowa, in the areas of tribal enrollment and Meskwaki criminal jurisdiction. This semester, I am conducting research as part of a course in Federal Indian Law. The specific issue I am researching is the special criminal jurisdiction conferred on tribal governments through the most recent version of VAWA. The Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize provided some support for me to be able to pursue these studies, as well as participate in the campus-wide event in which a Navajo scholar and professor at UNM came to our school, during my tenure as Co-President of the Native American Law Students Association. I greatly appreciate the support from the Department of Anthropology during my various projects bringing awareness to Native American issues and scholars while I am here at the University of Iowa.

Acacia Roberts is a 2L at the University of Iowa College of Law. She completed a BA in Linguistics and French at UI in 2014. In addition to her research interests in critical race theory and Native American culture and identity, she has worked with high school and college students at an NGO in Rabat, Morocco, and has contributed her legal expertise to the State Public Defender of Polk County in Des Moines, Iowa.

Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning

Ausi Slaybaugh ‘25

Dr. Hill's field school was a great experience, even though archaeology is not my area of interest I gained a lot of knowledge in excavation and how to set up a site. I feel like there are many similarities between an archeological site and a crime scene as far as how things are gridded out and the cataloging of locations so these are skills that may one day help me if I'm able to be successful in finding a career in forensics or crime scene investigation. I was also able to gain some good insights from Dr. Hill and graduate assistants at the field school on what to expect when applying to grad schools. As a non-traditional student with a 7-year-old son, I wasn't sure I'd be able to afford field school on top of having to take the time off work to attend, so I am all around very grateful for the scholarship I received and the opportunity to attend the field school in Kansas.

Ausi Slaybaugh is an undergraduate anthropology and integrative biology double major and criminal justice and latin minor at the University of Iowa. Before transferring to UI, she studied criminal justice at Kirkwood Community College. Her research interests are in biological anthropology, and she plans on pursuing a career in forensics.
Through Anthropology at Iowa I have been thrilled to be a part of a community that has the same questions as I do. Since I was a small girl, I have always been fascinated by evolution, and eventually, genetics. I remember walking through the Chicago Field Museum, staring face to face with *Australopithecus afarensis* and wondering how we as humans evolved into a species that has museums, music, and technology. With the Scholarship for Experiential Learning, I was able to attend the Kansas Field School with Dr. Matthew Hill this summer. There I learned for the first time how to map, survey, and date an archaeological site. The Field School experience paved the way for the beginning of my path as an anthropologist, where before I only learned through lectures and textbooks. For the future, I hope to connect what I have learned in anthropology with genetics research in the biology department, and explore opportunities for more anthropological genetics research at other institutions like the Field Museum in Chicago. I also look forward to getting exposure to the medical side of genetics and will be working with genetic counselors at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics over the summer.

*Stephanie Cook is a junior undergraduate anthropology major at the University of Iowa. Her interests include biological anthropology and archaeology with a focus on genetics.*

### Graduate Career Development Scholarships

The Department of Anthropology provides scholarships to graduate students from the department Gift Fund for developing skills important to their careers, including writing and training workshops, language tutoring and development, and conference travel. This year’s recipients include:

**Jasmin Msuya, PhD Student**

*Jasmin Msuya is a PhD Student in anthropology at the University of Iowa. Her research interests include language ideologies, language and identity, and educational language policy and minority languages in Tanzania.*

**Corinne Watts, PhD Student**

*Corinne Watts is a PhD Student in anthropology at the University of Iowa, under the advisement of Prof. Katina Lillios. Her work explores connections between landscape archaeology, environmental engagement, and materiality in prehistoric Atlantic Europe.*
When I started at the University of Iowa in fall of 2019 I was declared a pre-medicine major. I struggled to enjoy the study of science and always preferred history electives. When I decided to change my major I had to choose between history and anthropology.

I ultimately chose anthropology because I wanted to study archaeology, which gave me a hands-on approach to history. The anthropology department at the University of Iowa has given me opportunities to participate in several different kinds of archaeological research. Over the last few years I have taken archaeological field schools and in which I was able to find Native American artifacts. I was fortunate enough to take a flint knapping class with Dr. Enloe before he retired and I was able to learn how arrowheads and other stone tools were made.

Lastly, I worked with Katina Lillios on research involving slate burial plaques found across Portugal. Through this research I have had to learn to use programs such as TPSDig, MorphoJ and Past. Once the research was complete I had the opportunity to present a poster at the Society for American Archaeology conference in Chicago in March of 2022.

Participating in Dr. Lillios’ research has taught me to broaden my academic horizons and adapt to the new techniques and software being used by archaeologists today. These valuable experiences will help me excel in future careers where I will be asked to learn skills. In the future I will look for careers that allow me to further my study of anthropology but also incorporate the use of modern software. Through this research and my time at the University of Iowa I have found a love for experimental archaeology.

Rebecca Gallagher is a senior anthropology major at the University of Iowa.
Along with the School of Art and Art History and the Native American and Indigenous Studies Program, the Department of Anthropology was excited to welcome Santiago X for a virtual campus visit on November 2nd and 3rd, 2021. After a moderated discussion of *indigenous futurism* and his groundbreaking work, the artist also conducted class visits and small group meetings with faculty and graduate students across departments.
I’ve been asked to make a few comments on the occasion of my retirement from the University of Iowa after twenty-nine years as a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology. I never really expected to be here this long—long enough, in fact, that the children of former students—now fully grown—began showing up on my class rosters. This, to me, posed a shocking reality somewhat akin to becoming a grandparent. I took it as yet another sign that I’d come full circle, and that it was time to be moving on to other endeavors.

From the outside I may appear to be a normal person, but in my own mind I’ve always known that I’m an oddball—someone who just doesn’t seem to fit in anywhere. But then there are lots of oddballs in Anthropology—searching, perhaps, for kindred spirits in other places and other time periods, or seeking affirmation in theoretical concepts like Victor Turner’s ‘liminality’ or Mary Douglas’s ‘categorical anomalies.’ Being an oddball may even have its advantages in terms of doing fieldwork—if you feel, at times, like a stranger in your own land then it poses no particular hardship to be a stranger in someone else’s.

After all these years, I remain a firm believer in Anthropology’s basic tenets, and our insistence on the centrality of fieldwork is perhaps first among them. Not only does it...
recognize how much we have to learn from the experiences and perspectives of other people, but it also keeps us humble by acknowledging our dependence on their cooperation and good will. Other defining principles include the value of qualitative data, the use of cultural relativism as an antidote to ethnocentric tendencies, the recognition that ‘race,’ ‘gender,’ ‘nature,’ etc. are cultural constructs and therefore highly malleable, and the simple awareness that the various components of a culture—economics, politics, social relations, religion, etc.—are interrelated.

Despite our commitment to a “holistic, integrative approach,” however, we anthropologists have not been particularly good at integrating theory. Theoretical debates often devolve into two opposing camps, and participants—even innocent bystanders—are expected to side with one or the other. Such debates are often long-standing, or else reappear from time to time under slightly different guises. Any particular side is likely to be associated with an epitomizing theorist, who thus becomes a kind of icon for a certain school of thought.

Part of the problem is that we no longer read the earlier theorists in their original texts, but rather rely on others to summarize—and thereby simplify—their thinking for us. For several years I used a theory textbook that described Max Weber as having “turned Marx on his head,” implying that Weber sought to reverse Marx’s historical materialism by positing that ideas and social relationships determined economic development, not the other way around. A look at Weber’s original argument, however, reveals that this was decidedly not his intention; he was merely pointing to the ongoing interplay between economics and ideology, in the sense that neither could be properly understood without reference to the other. But don’t take my word for it.

Equally risky is the tendency to dismiss anything written prior to a certain point in time as being hopelessly outdated, and therefore irrelevant. This may not only result in overlooking a useful theoretical contribution, but also in subsequent instances of “reinventing the wheel.” Anthony F. C. Wallace first published his “revitalization movement” article in 1956—who in our current day and age would bother with such an antiquated model?! Yet I know of no better theoretical framework for understanding the rise of the all-too-present MAGA movement.

And with that I hereby assume the status of an old curmudgeon, so, you see, you are getting rid of me just in time. I would like to close with a few expressions of gratitude. I am grateful to the discipline of Anthropology for giving me my vocation—and for me it has truly been a calling. I thank the University of Iowa for paying me all these years to do what I dearly love. I thank my colleagues for tolerating the fact that I was such an oddball. I thank the many wonderful and fascinating people I met through fieldwork who were kind enough to support my efforts and share their lives with me. Most of all I thank the students, who were always my inspiration. I read somewhere that Stan Laurel, of the famous comedy duo Laurel and Hardy, continued writing routines for the two of them long after Hardy had died. Likewise, I suspect that even in retirement I will still be clipping articles and gathering materials for presenting to students in class. My interactions with you have greatly enhanced my own knowledge and understanding of the world and its inhabitants, and it has been my great honor to serve as your professor (though I will not miss grading papers).

Not only does [fieldwork] recognize how much we have to learn from the experiences and perspectives of other people, but it also keeps us humble by acknowledging our dependence on their cooperation and good will.

Prof. Scott Schnell (scott-schnell@uiowa.edu) is Associate Professor Emeritus in Anthropology at UI. His work, based in central Japan, focuses on the conceptual aspects of human interaction with the local landscape. He is retiring after twenty-nine years on the UI faculty.
I'm beginning the second and final year of my phased retirement, which means I'll be teaching this fall semester. After years of teaching primarily the introductory archaeology class to masses of students, I am winding my teaching down with small classes on subjects that will not be offered by anyone else in the department. A small class on lithic technology will be our excuse for breaking a lot of rocks in my lab, learning flint knapping and analytical techniques for making sense of stone tools and debris. My other class will be Literature and Anthropology, where a mix of English, Creative Writing and Anthropology undergraduates will read the Cave Man novels and watch a number of films about what it means to be human. And, yes, Michèle found me a copy of The Flintstones.

While I was initially concentrated on my ability to do research at an R1 university, I soon learned the joys of teaching and mentoring students. I will miss teaching field school. This intimate and intense interaction with undergraduate and grad students has been very rewarding in their and my careers.

This article was written in 2021 for the previous year’s AnthrObserver. Due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19, no issue was released for the 2020–2021.
We did ten years at Verberie, a late Upper Paleolithic open-air site in France, including Clare Tolmie (PhD 2013), Margaret Bradford (2001), Jason Thompson (2011), Cerisa Reynolds (2012) and Meredith Wismer (2018). Our next field school was seven years at Woodpecker Cave, a Late Woodland rock shelter up at the Coralville Reservoir, with Teddy Marks (2018), James McGrath (2020) and Jeremy Skeens (MA 2019). In between, I took Alex Woods (2011) to Pincevent, my Upper Paleolithic dissertation site in France, and several years at the Grotte du Bison, a Middle Paleolithic cave in France (Shout out to Clare, who discovered our Neanderthal maxilla) but also including Cerisa, Meredith and ICRU Neal Macdonald. Woodpecker and Bison were also opportunities for me to mentor quite a few Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates, who received stipends to perform their own research projects, primarily for BA Honors theses. That group includes Neal Macdonald, Tyler Buck, Ryan this, Jake Foubert, Bekah Truhan, Cameron Moeller, Elise Heitmann, Kathryn Kuennan, Arthur Wold and Zachary Dierks. Undergraduates Deidre Funk, Luke Stroth and Ian Dunshee also did senior honors theses on Woodpecker material. I think I launched several fruitful archaeological careers and I am proud of all of them. I managed to go on field seasons in the Namib Desert with Teddy and James, my last two PhDs, but somehow scheduling conflicts deprive me of a field season with Grant McCall (2006). Life in the field has resulted in deep lifetime friendships and has been the most satisfying part of my career.

I still have things to finish up. I am well into a French language chapter on the Verberie fauna, and I will be working in the coming year on a monograph on the Woodpecker Cave excavations, with lots of undergraduate and graduate co-authors. After that, I’ll go play with my toys.

My thanks to all my students, colleagues and friends who have accompanied me on this journey and adventure.

Undergraduate students work under the supervision of Prof. Enloe at the Woodpecker Field School, 2018. Photo courtesy of Prof. Enloe.
Navigating the transition of high school to whatever is next is complicated for any young person, but that transition can be even more difficult for elite high school athletes. A typical student may need to weigh the pressures of cultural norms around education and employment, navigate complex and shifting institutions of higher education, and shape their own emerging and independent sense of self. High school and college athletes add more issues to this difficult mix, such as finding athletic and financial success in the big businesses of college and professional sports and managing the long-term health and performance capabilities of their bodies.

Since graduating with a PhD in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Iowa, I have worked in Academic Support Services for middle school, high school, and college athletes, with a focus in supporting athletes who go onto compete at Division 1, semi-professional, or professional levels. While my employers look at my experience and see my knowledge and expertise in preparing and supporting students in college classes, I use many aspects of my education in anthropology in my career.

The ways anthropology teaches holistic approaches and thinking has helped me identify hidden stressors that complicate the life of young athletes at multiple levels. For example, the American values of amateurism in sports put up against the pressure of college athletic departments to make money sends conflicting messages to young athletes about what success is and how to achieve it.

For better or worse, US professional sports and the NCAA operate very differently today than they did 10 years ago and 10 years from now maybe once again unrecognizable. My background in anthropology helps me feel confident that I can support my students in a holistic and multifaceted way.

Dr. Elizabeth Handschy works with student athletes who go on to compete in college at the Division I level, and at semi-professional and professional levels. Dr. Handschy graduated the PhD program in 2020. She lives with her partner and two cats in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
The Department of Anthropology is pleased to announce the conferral of eight graduate degrees in 2021 and 2022. Congratulations to our graduates!

**Master of Arts (MA)**

Ebenezer Adeyemi (Spring 2021, Cultural Anthropology)

Derick Juptner (Spring 2022, Archaeology)

Justin Soares (Spring 2022, Archaeology)

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

Elizabeth Handschy (Fall 2021, Cultural Anthropology)

Dissertation Title: “Queers in the Front:” The Ethics and Affects of Queer-Led Social Justice

Jeongeun Lee (Fall 2021, Cultural Anthropology)

Dissertation Title: Becoming South Korean Mothers: When Defection Meets Motherhood

Noah Johnson (Spring 2022, Cultural Anthropology)

Dissertation Title: Striking Distance: Karate as Global Assemblage and Transnational Cultural Practice

Natalie Luna-Renek (Spring 2022, Cultural Anthropology)

Dissertation Title: “Our Sense of the Beautiful That Has Dwindled:” Reconsidering (Not Forgiving) E.B. Tylor

Kerri Lorigan (Summer 2022, Archaeology)

Dissertation Title: Analyzing Lived Experience from the Streets of Roman Egypt: A Historical Archaeological Approach to Settlement Sociology

Support the work of our Graduate Students through a Gift to Anthropology!

http://www.givetoiowa.org/anthropology
Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the UI Anthropology faculty and graduate students have remained engaged in their research activities, producing important and exciting new work. Check out some of the latest publications coming out of the Anthropology Department at UI!

Graduate Student Publications


Faculty Publications—2022


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Ebenezer Adeyemi

Ebenezer Olamiposi Adeyemi is a fourth-year PhD student working with Dr. Theodore Powers. Ebenezer holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and a Master’s degree in Peace and Conflict Studies—both from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. Ebenezer also received a Master’s degree in anthropology from the University of Iowa in May 2021. Ebenezer’s broad research interests center around medical anthropology, infrastructure, the intersection of urban landscape and public health, African studies, and survival strategies in marginalized urban communities. For his ongoing doctoral research, Ebenezer is exploring strategies that residents of Makoko, a large informal settlement in Lagos State, Nigeria, use to access healthcare to treat malaria, the most prominent health issue in their community.

Ebenezer has received several awards to support his doctoral research. These include the Iowa Recruitment Fellowship, the Stanley Award for International Research, and Research Grants for the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. In January 2022, Ebenezer was recognized as an outstanding researcher in the 2022 series of the Dare to Discover Banner Campaign sponsored by the UI Office of the Vice President for Research. His Research has also been featured in the Graduate College newsletter, the Daily Iowan, and the Englert Theater’s Best Show Ever.

Brittany Anderson

Brittany Anderson is a PhD candidate in cultural anthropology, jointly advised by Dr. Elana Buch and Dr. Ted Powers. Brittany received her BA in Anthropology and Biology from Luther College in 2012 and her MA in Anthropology from the University of Iowa in 2016. She is currently conducting fieldwork with housekeeping and laundry staff in long-term care facilities in the Midwest United States. Her research is focused on the relationships between policy, care work, and moralities of labor in the context of an ongoing epidemic. Brittany received funding from The Constance Swank Fund for Aging Research and a Graduate College Summer Fellowship.
Kyle Bikowski

Kyle Bikowski is a PhD student in sociocultural anthropology under the joint advisement of Dr. Laura Graham and Dr. Brady G’Sell. Broadly, his research interests involve the intersections of gender (particularly masculinity), sexuality, and race in geek culture. For his dissertation project, he incorporates digital research on social media and face-to-face research in Mexico to examine how Mexican Gaymers form and perform digitally mediated identities in the offline world. His research focuses on the ways that Mexican Gaymers employ elements of gaming and sexuality related language, memes, and cosplay, among other practices, to form communities based around their sexual and gender identities and video gaming hobby while interrogating long held assumptions in the field about the effect globalized media has on “global” sexual identities, relationships with heterosexual gamers, and the types of games that facilitate identity work.

Sophie Churchill

Sophie has finished her first year of the Anthropology PhD program at Iowa under the supervision of Prof. Cynthia Chou. Her research project is an ethnography of food nationalism in Singapore. She will be collecting data from hawker centres, cookbooks, and media to map how the young nation uses food to form a collective identity. She conducted preliminary fieldwork over the summer with funding from The Center for Asian Pacific Studies, The University of Iowa Center for Advancement, and the Anthropology Department.

Noah Johnson

This last spring, Noah successfully defended his dissertation, “Striking Distance: Karate as a Global Assemblage and Transnational Cultural Practice,” with the support and assistance of his family and all the members of the department over the years—with special mention warranted for his advisor, Scott Schnell, and his committee (including department members Erica Prussing, Meena Khandelwal, and Michael Chibnik).

Going forward, Noah will continue to investigate cultural globalization through the practice of karate in the United States and beyond and will follow up on the idea of leisure activities as cultural adaptation to the challenges and stressors of everyday life in our contemporary society—self-defense against modernity—which he has encountered numerous times in his work with karate practitioners.

In the coming year, Noah will be transitioning from graduate student to joining the faculty at the University of Iowa as a Visiting Assistant Professor to teach Cultural Anthropology, Native Peoples of North America, and Human Impacts on the Environment.
Derick Juptner

Derick Juptner is an archaeology graduate student advised by Dr. Matt Hill. He received his bachelors in anthropology at Texas A&M University (’19) and his Masters in Anthropology at Iowa (’22). His research focuses on the environmental archaeology of Indigenous groups on the Great Plains during the contact period. His studies involve questions about understanding the subsistence patterns, environmental interactions, and the extent of peri-colonial impacts on Plains people over the past 1000 years.

Steven Keehner

Steven Keehner is an archaeology PhD candidate. He earned his BGS and MA degrees at the University of Kansas. Steven also has over 10 years of experience in archaeological administration and museum collections management. For his dissertation, Steven is analyzing Woodland period (2500-1000 BP) pottery technology recovered from several sites located in the eastern Central Plains. His research focuses on obtaining reliable radiocarbon dates from charred-food residues directly associated with various pottery vessels to identify whether potters were replicating and/or exchanging uniform vessel types throughout the region. By establishing a better understanding of when potters made certain types of vessels in the region, Steven aims to address the pathways and extent to which potters participated in information exchange and social signaling that was part of a broader pattern of Hopewell cultural emergence during the Woodland period in eastern North America.

Caleb Klipowicz

Caleb Klipowicz is a rising sixth year PhD Candidate studying the intersections of US colonialism, public health, and activist efforts among Marshall Islanders. This past year, Caleb secured research grant support from the Minority Health International Research Training (MHIRT) program at Rhodes College to continue to conduct multi-sited, ethnographic research with Marshallese communities in diaspora across the US. In gaps between COVID waves, Caleb was able to visit Hawaii, Oregon, and Arkansas, collecting over 30 interviews along the way. Caleb is now in the process of analyzing this ethnographic data alongside other archival and media-based artifacts as he begins dissertation writing. In the fall, Caleb is also expanding his teaching experiences by TAing for the International Studies program.
Addison is a PhD candidate specializing in Historical Archaeology. He graduated summa cum laude from Miami University in 2010, with a BA in History and a minor in Anthropology, and completed his MA in Anthropology at Northwestern University in 2012. Addison has conducted fieldwork in the Caribbean and has also worked in cultural resource management in the U.S. He is interested in the archaeology and ethnohistory of the American Midwest, particularly in the lived experiences of Native people during the era of Indian Removal. In 2016, Addison was awarded the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to support his graduate studies.

Max Lieberman

Max Lieberman is a PhD student in cultural anthropology advised by Dr. Scott Schnell. He graduated with a BA in English literature and minor in anthropology from Pennsylvania State University in 2011. His research focuses on the relationships between people and wildlife, specifically concerning the bison herds of Yellowstone National Park.

Logan Moore

Logan is a biological anthropology doctoral student advised by Dr. Robert Franciscus. Logan received a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology from Illinois State University in 2018. Additionally, since entering the program, Logan earned his MA from the University of Iowa in 2020.

Logan has been investigating the evolution of the human thorax, which has been historically understudied when compared to other regions of the body. He focuses on the shape differences between modern and archaic human ribcages and the degradation of the articular facets of ribs. An understanding of the degree to which the ribcage in our evolutionary predecessors may have changed in form, and under what selective behavioral pressures, if any, has only recently come into focus. In the last academic year, Logan wrote and defended his prospectus as well as his comprehensive exams. Following a successful defense, he was promoted to candidacy status and is entering his fifth year.
Dr. Handschy, a recent graduate in cultural anthropology at UI, accompanies Scott Olson, a PhD candidate in cultural anthropology working with Dr. Elana Buch. After returning from his fieldwork in 2019, he is currently working on completing his dissertation on solidarity, conflict, and collective memory in LGBT and queer organizations in Berlin, Germany. He was excited to present his research at the German Studies Association meetings in Houston, Texas this year, and is looking forward to completing his dissertation next year with the generous support of a Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

When not working on completing his dissertation, he teaches German as a second language and spoils his beagle, Claus.

Victoria Priola

Victoria is a PhD Candidate advised by Dr. Katina Lillios. Her research explores prehistoric textile production practices in southern Iberia during the Copper and Early Bronze Ages through the study of ceramic textile tools including loom weights and spindle whorls. In addition to the study of these archaeological materials, her research includes experimental weaving with replica loom weights. This year Victoria received a T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship to fund her summer research at the CSIC: Instituto de Historia in Madrid, Spain and the Complexo Arqueológico dos Perdigões in Reguengos de Monsaraz, Portugal.

Corinne Watts

Corinne is an archaeology graduate student advised by Dr. Katina Lillios. Her research focuses on the provenance of lithic materials during the later prehistoric in central Iberia, examining how ground stone tools made from unique materials were sourced, used, and deposited in the Madrid region of Spain. This year Corinne received a Stanley Fellowship for International Research and a Graduate Student Senate Grant to fund her summer research at the Museo Arqueológico Regional de la Comunidad de Madrid in Alcalá de Henares, and the Museo de San Isidro in Madrid.
Ariane Thomas

Ariane Thomas continued to work on her dissertation research, which investigates how European colonization of the Americas impacted the demography of dogs. In collaboration with colleagues at Jamestown Rediscovery and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, she extracted DNA from dog bones from Jamestown Colony dated between 1607 – 1629 AD. The results of this work demonstrated that some of the dogs at Jamestown had ancestry indigenous to the Americas. Ariane presented the results of this work at the 2022 annual meetings for the American Association of Biological Anthropologists and the Society for American Archaeology. Her project generated local interest leading to news articles published in the Iowa City Press-Citizen and Science magazine. Ariane has been awarded five external research grants for her project including a Dissertation Fieldwork Grant by the Wenner-Gren Foundation. She has also been awarded a few internal grants: two for research and two for travel support to conferences. These funds will be used to sequence addition dog samples from Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and other early colonial sites in Virginia.

Andrés Restrepo Sánchez

Andrés Restrepo is an international student from Colombia starting the second year of the program and completing the requirements for earning a GWSS certificate. He has a BS in Nursing, and a master's in Cultural Studies from his home country. Following the sociocultural path, he researches obstetric violence in sex workers in Medellín, Colombia. Through ethnographic theory and methods, Andrés wants to understand better how sex workers experience violence within obstetric health and its relation to the violent dynamics of the city where they live to advocate for better practices of humanized care. To develop this research, Andrés is working with an activist organization in Medellín called "Putamente Poderosas," which accompanies, protects, and assists migrant women and sex workers in the city.
Margaret Beck

Margaret Beck uses her interest in earth materials to study how people make things they need from what is immediately available. Recent examples include ceramic pots in 18th century Pawnee communities, mud hearths in rural Rajasthan, India, and red paint throughout the Indigenous US Plains and Midwest. She is creating an archive of natural pigments (ochre) collected from sediment and sedimentary rock in Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma for comparison with paints from the archaeological record.

Elana Buch

Dr. Buch studies the intersections of aging, care, and social change. Two new projects examine these intersections at different scales. The first, with Julia Kowalski, articulates a comparative anthropological theory of care that considers care alongside diverse global practices of interdependence. The second, Unsettling the Prairie: Living Long Lives in an Extinction Economy, is new ethnographic work that asks what rural older Iowans seek to hold on to and pass down generationally as longstanding practices of care for kin, animals, communities, and landscapes are destabilized by industrial agriculture and financialized capitalism. Her advisees Andrés Restrepo Sánchez, Brittany Anderson, and Scott Olson have received recognition for their tremendous success in completing their respective projects and working towards their degrees.
Cynthia Chou

Amongst the latest publications by cultural anthropologist Cynthia Chou is her co-edited volume with archaeologist Susanne Kerner entitled *Food, Social Change and Identity*. The volume explores such questions as what kinds of changes in food and foodways are happening and what triggers these changes? Food studies PhD student Sophie Churchill is working on her gastronationalism in Singapore research project with Chou. As cross-border travel restrictions ease for the fully vaccinated against COVID, Chou resumed fieldwork in Southeast Asia in the summer of 2022 for her project with medical practitioners at the National University of Singapore on breast cancer meanings among women in Asia. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in many Asian countries. Yet, many women are dying of the disease due to late presentation. This collaborative project examines the challenges experienced by women in Asia that often lead to delayed presentation and treatment of the disease. Plans are also underway for Chou to resume her fieldwork among the Orang Suku Laut or sea nomads in Indonesia. Meanwhile, she is co-editing a volume on the sea nomads in Southeast Asia. She is also serving as the University of Iowa’s Director of the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies.

Laura Graham

Laura R. Graham and a team of and Brazil-based scholars received a 3-year NSF collaborative research award to study the afterlives of digital scientific objects produced through scholarly research carried out among the A’uwẽ-Xavante, an Indigenous people of central Brazil. Working as part of an Indigenous and non-Indigenous team, Graham and others will develop an online archive that returns digital copies of researcher-produced content to the communities they document. The digital repository will be grounded in Native knowledge-sharing practices and governed by an Indigenous Oversight Committee. The project seeks to establish and test a methodology for collaborative, community-based work to document and understand subjects’ experience of scientific research and the afterlives of scientific objects produced. It also investigates digital returns of scientific materials as a means for reparative justice and a concrete way to support community-defined research futures. Graham’s extensive collection of audio materials, recorded during over 40-years of original field research, will be a big part of the digital archive. The digital archive will be used in local schools for education and in cultural revitalization efforts. Other collaborators in the project are Rosanna Dent, Federated History Department, New Jersey Institute of Technology; Lori M. Jahnke, Robert W. Woodruff Library and Department of Anthropology, Emory University; James R. Welch, Department of Health and Human Ecology, National School of Public Health, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and collaborating A’uwẽ-Xavante Aldeias/Communities of Pimentel Barbosa, Etênhiritipá, Paraíso, Santa Vitoria and Wederã.
John Doershuk, State Archaeologist and adjunct associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, organized and taught a summer archaeological field school in 2021. As in previous years, the course was based at Iowa Lakeside Lab, a facility in northwest Iowa which is part of the Iowa Regent’s University system (as is UI). Participants earned four semester hours of credit and paid tuition at the in-state rate. The class returned to site 13DK143, a Prairie Lakes Woodland site, to continue collecting contextual data on the relationship of Fox Lake and Lake Benton ceramic wares. UI, ISU, and UNI students participated (see photo). Doershuk will be returning to Lakeside in summer 2022 with a new cohort of students to begin archaeological investigations at the Abbie Gardner Sharp Historic Site (13DK9). Doershuk organized a 13-paper and two-discussant symposium for the 2022 Society for American Archaeology annual meeting (Chicago) on recent grant-funded research at 13PM7, a Mill Creek village site on the Big Sioux River. Anthropology graduate student Faith Wilfong and undergraduate student Tayla Bahr both assisted with 13PM7 lab analyses. Doershuk also presented at the SAA in an invited symposium on 13CD15 and 13CD244, the Rummells and Maske sites, respectively, both Clovis-era deposits. Spring semester 2021 Doershuk taught the online course “CRM Archaeology: Practice and Practicalities” and Fall 2021 he taught the online course “Archaeology of the American Midcontinent.” Please remember all students (and faculty!) with archaeological interests are cordially invited to visit the UI Office of the State Archaeologist facility (700 Clinton Street Building) and avail themselves of the collections, archives, Brown Bag presentations, and personnel to enhance their UI learning and research experiences!
2020-2021 was an extremely challenging year. Beyond the widespread travails of Covid-19 affecting everyone, Bob’s bioanthropology and paleoanthropology lab space suffered a severe flooding event during the winter break emanating from the floor above it which required extensive repair work persisting for much of the spring 2021 semester. With the lab back to full working order, Bob hosted and mentored two undergraduate students during the summer months supported by an NSF-REU grant through the UI Biology department that engaged undergraduates in interdisciplinary evolutionary science across the UI campus from a national pool of exceptional students. Saron Akalu (Department of Integrative Biology, UC-Berkeley) worked with Bob to collect and compare extant human cranial and postcranial skeletal robusticity measures in order to test behavioral and androgenic models for the global spread of modern humans after 80,000 years ago. Anna Brant (Biological Sciences Department, Ohio University, Athens) worked with Bob and his colleagues in UIHC CT-imaging labs to compare internal brain sizes of tame-selected foxes from the Siberian fox-farm to those from wild and aggressive-selected strains in the large aggregate sample of Siberian fox skeletal remains housed in Bob’s lab. The results from each of the summer studies are now being worked up for publication. In addition to working diligently on his own doctoral thesis work, Bob’s advisee, Logan Moore, was instrumental in helping to get the lab back up to running speed and in assisting both of the REU summer projects. The 2020-2021 year also marked Bob’s last year of a 3-year stint serving on the CLAS Faculty Professional Development Awards selection committee—a time-intensive, but crucial collegiate service contribution.
Brady G’Sell

Brady G’Sell is in the process of writing up a book on her research on South African poor women’s efforts to garner resources for themselves and their children between 1960 and 2014. During this period, the availability of both marriage and waged work declined dramatically, rendering social reproduction and political recognition quite tenuous. Using archival and ethnographic research on family life and welfare provision, She tracked the livelihood strategies of poor mothers living in a multiracial inner-city neighborhood in the apartheid and democratic eras. Her work reveals that women responded to men’s declining ability to earn a family wage and to formalize marriage relationships by cultivating new relations of obligation and dependency. G’Sell shows how women built resource networks across families, friends, and communities that outlined alternative conditions of debt and duty not grounded in either a marital contract or relations of affinity. In the process, she argues, women not only responded to, but actively constructed the gendered and racial economy of the country and forged new relations between men and women, persons and communities, citizens and the state.

Matthew Hill

In the last year Matt continued to focus on his three main research interests: the earliest big game hunters of the Americas, the appearance of Dene populations on the High Plains of North America, and the use of wood resources in Rajasthan and Odisha, India. He was also very fortunate to work with some great undergraduate and graduate students this summer as part of the Department of Anthropology Summer Field School in Western Kansas.

Meena Khandelwal

Meena Khandelwal is collaborating with several colleagues, including Matt Hill and Margaret Beck, on a project to understand the complex nexus linking cooking technologies, forests, and gender in southern Rajasthan, India. Following three weeks of field research in July 2018, she returned to India for research with Matt Hill and UI Anthropology alum Misha Quill in July 2019, then with Margaret Beck in January 2020. In 2019 and 2020, the group added a new field site in Odisha on the western side of India – to compare it with Rajasthan. The material collected during these three trips to India is the basis for a paper she is writing with Hill, Beck and one of our Indian collaborators Sanoop Valappanandi on the gender of fuelwood use and exchange. Khandelwal is also writing a monograph titled Demons of the Hearth: Feminist Fieldnotes on India’s Cookstove Campaigns. She continues to give public presentations on this project. Khandelwal has also re-designed the big ideas course she co-taught with Matt Hill for four years (2014-2017) and taught this course, Environmental Politics in India, for the first time in Spring 2020.
Drew Kitchen is an anthropological geneticist with interests in human population history and the origins of human infectious disease. He uses an evolutionary perspective to investigate the processes that have produced observed, modern distributions of human genetic and pathogen/parasite diversity. Dr. Kitchen primarily employs computational methods (e.g., phylogenetics, population genetics, and simulation) to the analysis of novel and publicly available genetic and cultural data. Prof. Kitchen’s current research projects involve: 1) identifying major historical events / determinants of Native American diversity, focusing on the original peopling event ~15 KYA and the post-Columbian population crash; 2) investigating the effect of human demographic history on the evolution of human pathogens and parasites, including the effect of agricultural lifestyles on the human microbiome; 3) understanding the molecular evolution and macro-evolutionary processes affecting pathogen genetic diversity; and 4) applying evolutionary principles to infer the complex history of human cultural diversity, especially regarding language phylogenies.

Theodore Powers

Over the 2021-22 academic years, Dr. Theodore Powers continued to expand his research on infectious disease and inequality in South Africa and beyond. He co-edited a special issue on the social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic entitled “Pathogenic Politics: Life, Death, and Social Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic” in the peer-reviewed open-access journal Open Anthropological Research. The special issue included research on the pandemic from Southeast Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the United States, to which Powers contributed a single-authored paper and a co-authored introduction.

In addition, Dr. Powers has overseen the forthcoming publication of a special collection focused on the anthropological analysis of policy in Africa. Entitled “On Policy and Power in Post-Colonial Africa” in the Journal of Contemporary African Studies. Gathering perspectives from Anglophone and Lusophone African societies across Central and Southern Africa, this collection will contribute to ongoing debates on how to analyze historical continuity and disjuncture in post-colonial African societies. Dr. Powers contributed single-authored paper and an introduction to this collection, both of which were peer-reviewed.

Finally, Dr. Powers published a review of the anthropological literature on austerity in the Third Edition of A Handbook of Economic Anthropology in 2022.
Katina Lillios
Katina published an article “Alterity and mobility in Iberian late prehistoric archaeology” in the Annual Review of Anthropology, and a chapter on Iberian Neolithic idols for the exhibition catalogue Ídolos. Miradas milenarias (Museo Arqueológico Regional de Madrid). She also co-edited a Festschrift (The Matter of Prehistory) in honor of Antonio Gilman. Katina began two new projects. For the first, she surveyed evidence for Islamic uses of ancient megalithic monuments in Iberia, and received an IP Research Grant to travel to Portugal in summer 2021 to consult archives and visit sites. The results of this project will be published in the Journal of Islamic Archaeology. While in Portugal, she traveled with graduate students Corinne Watts and Justin Soares to see sites and meet with archaeological colleagues. The second one extends her longstanding investigations of the Neolithic stone plaques of Iberia. She collaborated with undergraduate Rebecca Gallagher and graduate student Logan Moore using 2D morphometrics on experimentally produced and archaeological plaques to discern formal patterning that might relate to their production, and presented a poster at the 2022 SAA meeting. In May 2022, Katina and Rui Gomes Coelho (Durham University) co-organized the virtual roundtable: Iberian Archaeology in the World: For Whom, For What? Katina is looking forward to her research leave in fall 2022 to continue work on these projects.
Heidi Lung, Associate Professor of Instruction continued to lead the museum studies certificate program which grew to include over one hundred students during the 2021-2022 academic year. In May the program celebrated twenty-nine graduates.

Lung continues to serve as President of the Board of Directors for the Iowa Museum Association, the state-wide organization for museum professionals. In the fall of 2021, she facilitated the IMA’s Career Conversations and Emerging Museum Professional online event held on October 3. This event was the first of the IMA’s three-day “Museums Matter” virtual conference with over 125 UIowa students in attendance. During the conference Julia Prime, a 2021 graduate of the museum studies program, presented her 2021 ICRU research, Museums and Virtual Internships: How Museums Have Responded to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The presentation included valuable findings for museums seeking to create high impact virtual internships.

Lung announced her leave at the end of the semester to assume the role of Associate Professor and Museum Studies Graduate Program Director at Western Illinois University—Quad Cities.

**Update on the Museum Studies Program from Prof. Lung:**

Twenty-nine (29) students graduated during the fall, spring, and summer of the 2021-22 academic year. Several of the graduates have notable professional and academic plans moving forward.

- **Sarah Dodd** will pursue graduate studies in Library Sciences at the University of Iowa.
- **Norma J Follower** will work as a docent at Siouxland Heritage Museums’ Pettigrew Home and Museum, where she currently works in the Irene C. Hall collections department.
- **Samantha Heuthorst** will work as a CASE fundraising intern for the summer.
- **Lauren Johnson** will start in a new museum position at the Salisbury House in Des Moines, Iowa.
- **Melody Klaffke** started a new position as a full-time educator at the Please Touch Museum in Pittsburg, PA.
- **Claudia Knopp** will work digitizing photo collections and documenting local history at the San Bernardino County Museum.
- **Michelle Rosenburrough** will provide leadership as Director of the Marshalltown Historical Society and Museum.
- **Keaton Scandrett** will attend graduate school at University of York in York, England for an MA in Art History for stained glass conservation of English Gothic cathedrals.
- **Meghan Schilla** will work for the Office of State Archeology and will apply to graduate school.
- **Buster Sullivan** will continue working at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art.
- **Thalia Sutton** starts a new role as Assistant Director of the National Pearl Button Museum in Muscatine, Iowa.
Erica Prussing

Erica continues to work on a transnational ethnographic study with researchers who leverage the quantitative credibility of epidemiological data, in order to help advocate for Indigenous health equity. She traces the moral claims made in a political conflict over health and ‘race’ that she learned about during this project from Māori colleagues in Aotearoa New Zealand, in a chapter recently published by Manchester University Press (part of an edited volume in honor of her dissertation advisor, the British political anthropologist F.G. Bailey). A new article about rethinking quantification, also based on this project, is forthcoming in American Anthropologist in late 2022 or early 2023. Erica’s second book is also now under full contract with Johns Hopkins University Press, and is tentatively entitled Data for Action: Epidemiology, Indigenous Advocacy and Science in the 21st Century. Erica continues to teach undergraduate courses in cultural anthropology, medical anthropology, Indigenous studies, science studies, feminist anthropology and public health. She is inspired by how many students recognize the value of anthropological perspectives in a challenging and changing world, and especially enjoys helping graduate students to successfully develop as researchers and professionals.

Glenn Storey

Glenn Storey’s primer, The Archaeology of Ancient Cities, was published by Eliot Werner Press in 2020, part of the Fundamentals of Archaeology series from that publisher. The pandemic caused a hiatus in field school work at Gangivecchio, Sicily, but application for an excavation permit has been sent to the Palermo Archaeological Superintendency. Storey is currently involved in a volume on Pre-Modern Economies generated by a Wenner-Gren workshop in Dragoon, Arizona directed by Timothy Earle and Kenneth Hirth, with Storey the lead author on the Economics of Labor. Storey also has a chapter on Societal Collapse in a volume on Social Change from a 2022 SAA session, directed by Justine M. Shaw and Jordi A. Rivera Prince.

A Note from the Editor

I would like to first and foremost thank Sarah Horgen and Shari Knight for the invaluable support in pulling this issue of AnthrObserver together. I would also like to thank the generous contributions of the students and faculty who contributed feature articles, and the Anthropology Department for their years of support, and for the opportunity to edit AnthrObserver.

Cheers,
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