

2022 | 2023

# AnthrObserver

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*Katina visiting the Schloss (castle) at the University of Tübingen, Germany, in summer 2023, where she gave a lecture and attended a conference.*

# A Note from the DEO

by Prof. Katina Lillios

This past academic year saw the Department return to more normal, pre-Covid patterns. Classes were back in person, as were faculty meetings and colloquia. Faculty and graduate students were able to travel to do their fieldwork and attend conferences again, and continue to publish and be recognized for their research in the media and in invitations to give lectures. The Department welcomed a new Academic Advisor - Ben Landsee. Some of the important milestones and successes this year for our faculty and students include:

- Prof. Brady G'sell was awarded an AAUW Postdoctoral Research Leave Fellowship for 2023-2024. She was also the recipient of a 2022-2023 Collegiate Teaching Award.
- Prof. Laura Graham was the co-author of a project that was awarded a Wenner-Gren Foundation Conference Grant.
- Prof. Lara Noldner was promoted to Adjunct Associate Professor.
- Prof. Margaret Beck was awarded an

Arts & Humanities Initiative Standard Grant.

- Prof. Noah Johnson (PhD 2022), who was a Visiting Assistant Professor for the department this year, will be a Visiting Assistant Professor in Anthropology at Cornell College beginning in fall 2023.
- Graduate student Ebenezer Olamiposi Adeyemi was awarded a Wenner-Gren Research Grant.
- Two of our graduate students were awarded their PhDs: Drs. Addison Kimmel and Scott Olson.
- Graduate student Victoria Priola was honored with a 2023 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award. She was also awarded an Archaeological Institute of America Archaeology of Portugal Research Grant.
- Graduate student Corinne Watts was awarded a T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship.
- Graduate student Brittany Anderson was featured in the "Dare to Discover"

campaign showcasing researchers, scholars, and creators from across the University of Iowa.

- Graduate students Jasmin Msuya and Andrés Restrepo Sánchez completed their MA degrees.

- In spring 2023, the Department hosted doctoral student Anna Zabicka from the University of Vienna who was here with a Marietta-Blau grant under the advisement of Prof. Elana Buch.

- Lucas Howser will be joining the Department in the fall as a new graduate student.

- Eight Anthropology majors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa: Grace Heiden, Bethy Hernandez, Brettin Linder, Mia Harbort, Annika Heiling, Holly Smith, Gabriella Snyder, and Amelia Spreitzer.

- Anthropology major Lizzie Shockley was the winner of a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Award to Mexico.

- The Department awarded the Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize to Abigail Buffalo. Experiential Learning Scholarships were awarded to Claire Stucky, Molly Edwards, Gwendolyn Hanson, Annabel Hendrickson, and Bethy Hernandez.

- Twenty-seven students graduated with their BA/BS in Anthropology, and nine graduated with minors.

One very exciting development this year was an increase in donations to the Department, which has made it possible to offer more scholarships to our students that provide them valuable experience and encourage their academic growth. I am grateful to all those friends of the department who support our students in this way.

This year we had to say goodbye to Prof. Laura Graham, who retired. The numerous retirements of the past few

years that have not been replaced have created a significant strain on the ability of the department to offer the 4-field curriculum it is known for as well as to contribute to other areas of the university and department with respect to service and advising. These challenges are part of a nationwide trend of shrinking budgets in public universities, demographic shifts in Iowa, and a decrease in the number of Anthropology majors. All the faculty have worked hard and closely with CLAS deans to plan for the coming years and are committed to ensuring that Anthropology remains a relevant discipline by offering unique insights into the human condition in the past and present and knowledge to prepare for the future.

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), Margaret Beck (Director of Graduate Studies), Ted Powers (Director of Undergraduate Studies), and Elana Buch (Curriculum Coordinator). Sarah Horgen managed our social media pages (Facebook and Instagram), which are important bridges to our alumni and friends. After four years of serving as Curriculum Coordinator, Elana Buch will be passing on the baton to Drew Kitchen. Drew will also be taking on the responsibilities of the DUS, as Ted Powers will stepping down from that position after three years. I am extremely grateful to both Elana and Ted for their excellent guidance and work. Finally, I wish to thank Bob Franciscus for serving as Interim DEO in fall 2022.

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*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 served as interim DEO.*

# Anthropology Gift Fund

## Native American & Indigenous Prize

### Abigail Buffalo, '23

Receiving the Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize will help support me while studying at the University of Iowa. I am currently majoring in Health Studies with an interest in nursing and minoring in American Sign Language. With my passion for supporting Native communities and the healthcare field, my future career goal is to become a traveling nurse that helps different tribes across the entire nation. For the past three years, I have had the opportunity to have an internship with the Native Center for Behavioral Health, which is a research center that is committed to developing programs to support the behavioral health workforce in Native American and Alaska Native communities across the country. The Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize will also allow me to continue to participate in student organizations here on campus. This past year I served as President for the Native American Student Association and am grateful I get the opportunity to do so again this year. Having these experiences has allowed me to not only learn more about my own Meskwaki culture, but also about others and theirs.

## Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning

### Gwendolyn Hanson '25

Anthropology at Iowa has allowed me to explore my passions and feed my curiosity around biological anthropology and human osteology. With the Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning, I was able to travel to rural Transylvania this summer and explore osteological markers in a bioarchaeological population. While in Romania, I learned about adult osteology, pathology, and how to conduct research ethically with human remains. The research project I conducted has led to a greater exploration of ancient genealogy and I am eagerly awaiting DNA and radiocarbon results from my skeletal samples. This experience was absolutely invaluable and life changing, allowing me to solidify my passion for this field. The knowledge I acquired through this program has prepared me for future research, where I plan on finding a mathematical way to estimate biological sex through specific pelvic traits. I'm incredibly grateful for the support from the Department of Anthropology that led to this fantastic experience.

Support the work of our Graduate and Undergraduate students through a



# Scholarships & Prizes

## Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning

### Annabel Hendrickson '25

Thanks to the Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning, I was able to attend a four week field school in Romania at the site of an ancient Roman villa. Having only had experience with American archaeology practices before, it was interesting to compare how excavation was conducted in Europe with what I've learned from my classes at Iowa. In addition to the excavation, I gained experience in the lab with washing, photographing, and analyzing artifacts of various materials. The hands-on experience in excavation techniques and lab work will aid me greatly as I pursue Cultural Resource Management in the future. Outside the realm of archaeology, the scholarship also allowed me to travel internationally for the first time, giving me the invaluable opportunity to experience a new culture and interact with people from around the world. Now that I'm back home at the University of Iowa, I hope to continue studying anthropology with a focus on archaeology and cultural resource management.

### Bethy Hernandez '24

The University of Iowa Department of Anthropology has provided me with many opportunities in both the classroom and in the field. I have been fortunate to be involved with the Pentacrest Museums, research opportunities, and a Field School as a result of all the guidance and support that I have received from the department. With the Scholarship for Experiential Learning, I was able to attend the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory Archaeology Field School with Dr. John Doershuk at the Abbie Gardner Sharp Site. During this four-week class, I learned for the first time how to map, excavate, and record artifacts at an archeological site. In addition, I gained a fuller understanding of Iowa's pre-contact cultures as well as post-contact history. The Field School experience provided me with the hands-on knowledge I needed to begin my path as an archaeologist, whereas before I had only learned about the discipline through lectures and textbooks. In the future, I hope to pursue a career as an archaeologist or in museum collection management.

### Molly Edwards '24

Molly used the Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning to support her participation in the "City of Athens: Bronze Age to Roman World" program led by Dr. Deb Trusty. This program was a two-part program, consisting of an on-campus seminar during the Spring 2023 semester and a three-week tour of Athens during Summer 2023.

# Scholarships & Prizes

## Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning

### Claire Stucky '23

Through my undergraduate degree and the associating hospital system, UIHC, I was able to explore my passion for healthcare and medicine while also learning about anthropological research methods and ethnographic work. In January 2021, I began working with Dr. Cifra, a provider in the ICU at the Stead Family Children's Hospital, on a project surrounding what patients and families experience during interfacility transfer to the pediatric ICU. We conducted surveys of parents whose children were emergently transferred from an outside hospital to the PICU of the children's hospital. We are currently conducting participant interviews, and it has been so rewarding to hear from families about their experiences being transferred, and how scary or overwhelming it was for these families. In the end, we hope to learn more about the ways that emergent transfers can be improved to be less traumatic and improve communication between providers and families during the transfer process.

I will be using the Undergraduate Scholarship for Experiential Learning to travel to Washington, DC in October to present my findings at the American Academy of Pediatrics Experience. The AAP Experience is a national conference centered on research and medicine where scholars, researchers, and doctors convene to present their findings. I am excited to share my knowledge about these experiences because it is something that has not been explored in the medical field, yet heavily impacts these families who go through an emergent transfer. At this conference, I will gain feedback from peers and mentors and will hopefully be able to expand this project to other hospitals to gather more data and learn more about what can be improved during the transfer process. I am looking forward to expanding my knowledge of pediatric medicine and my research, and would not have been able to achieve this work without the support of my mentor, Dr. Cifra, and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Iowa!

## June Helm Graduate Summer Research Scholarships

The Department of Anthropology provides scholarships to graduate students to conduct summer research. This year's recipients include:

**Kyle Bikowski, Binit Gurung, Victoria Priola, and Corinne Watts**



Surface Excavations at the site of main focus (14SC409) in the Scott County State Park, Kansas

# Scott County Field School

by Derick Juptner

Last summer, The Iowa Anthropology Department held a field school outside of the State of Iowa for the first time in nearly 20 years at Scott County State Park in Scott County, western Kansas. The project was directed by Dr. Matthew E. Hill, Jr, with graduate students Derick Juptner and Victoria Priola serving as teaching assistants. Our aims were to continue to work on a site just outside the park (14SC409) where Dr. Hill and Dr. Margaret E. Beck have carried out previous excavations and perform additional surveys of some smaller sites within the park (14SC05; 14SC106).

The field school immersed many students in their first experience with fieldwork in archaeology. Students received firsthand experience performing pedestrian surveys and digging shovel test pits. At the site of main focus (14SC409), several square meter units were excavated in the areas

where the most surface artifacts were recovered. Our excavations found evidence for the occupation of 14SC409 consistent with ancestral Ndee (Apache) people and lifeways around the beginning of the 18th century. This included the recovery of chipped stone tools, discarded bison bone fragments, and Ndee style pottery fragments.

The students at the 2022 Iowa Department of Anthropology field school in Scott County received first-hand experience in life as an archaeologist in the field as well as hands-on training in field archaeology methodology. As of the time of writing, another field school is being planned by Dr. Matthew E. Hill, Jr. for next summer, giving another opportunity for undergraduates at Iowa interested in Archaeology to get involved!

*Derick Juptner is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Iowa under the advisement of Prof. Matt Hill.*



# Events and Community

## Anthropology partnered with Doershuk and OSA on OVPR Community Engaged Scholars

by Shirley Schermer

Over the last year, the Department of Anthropology partnered with John Doershuk and The Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) on an almost \$50,000 Iowa Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) Community Engaged Scholars Project. This project involved partnerships with the Meskwaki Nation and the Elgin Iowa Historical Society, as well as participation by Ho-Chunk Nation artists.

Four undergraduate Anthropology majors from the University of Iowa were employed via the grant, and they participated in four public events in Elgin in July and October 2022, and March and April 2023. They also joined OSA staff on a visit with Tribal Historian Johnathan



Artifacts from the identification Table at the Turkey River Archaeo-Blitz, April 2023.



A display from the Turkey River Archaeo-Blitz and Celebration of Native American Culture, April 2023.

Buffalo at the Meskwaki Cultural Center in Tama, Iowa, to learn about Meskwaki history and modern tribal programs and activities.

The April Turkey River Archaeo-Blitz was attended by approximately 300 participants, and culminated in the Celebration of Native American Culture, a cultural and historical celebration in Elgin, Iowa.

We've gotten positive feedback from both the Meskwaki and Ho-Chunk, the Elgin Iowa Historical Society (EHS) raised over 2,000 dollars and have saturated the region with awareness of their project and building rehab plans and needs, and the OSA recorded a significant number of previously undocumented sites. This number will grow in coming years as a result of the connections forged through the grant activities!

Shirley Schermer founded the UI Office of the State Archaeologist Burials Program and has an honorary University of Iowa Doctorate of Science.



# Highlights 2022-2023

The department hosted and co-hosted a number of colloquia and speakers both in-person and online. Here are a few highlights from this year!

Reversing the Anthropologist's role: The Ethnographer as research subject. Presented by Historian Rosanna Dent from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and Professor Laura Graham.

Photo (Right): Lincon Dure'we Xavante, 2019, provided by Prof. Laura Graham.



Encounters with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Critique and Application. Presented by Luzilda Arciniega, PhD, Director of Diversity Strategies & Implementation, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, and co-founder of Willing Observers LLC.

Photo (Left): Dr. Luzilda Arciniega.

Tailor Made in India. Presented by Dr. Alisa Weinstein, Youth Programs Coordinator for the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa.

Photo (Right): Dr. Alisa Weinstein with a tailor in Jaipur, Rajasthan,. Photo by Mark Nixon.



# Geoarchaeology and Sample Collection in the Sistema Central

*Corinne collecting geoarchaeological samples in the Sistema Central Mountains with undergraduate student Celeste Pérez Fernández, Spain. Photo courtesy of Corinne Watts*



**by Corinne Watts**

The intersections of geology and archaeology inform significant portions of how the latter understands past communities' interactions with and utilization of their environments. While my research focuses on how this intersection informs our understanding of Iberian stone tools, my work in the field this summer allowed me to think more carefully through the connections between these two fields.

This summer, I spent six weeks locating outcrops of fibrolite (see cover), an aluminum silicate mineral that Neolithic

and Chalcolithic communities used to create ground stone tools. These colorful and highly polished artifacts likely originated from the Sistema Central, a series of mountains north of Madrid, Spain. This long-held assumption was the basis for an extensive program of sample collection I undertook in May and June of this year in six municipalities throughout the Sistema Central. My time in the field allowed for grounded reflections on the geology and archaeology of the region, as well as how prehistoric communities might have navigated this landscape. During this time I also had the fantastic



opportunity of working with Celeste Pérez Fernández, an undergraduate student from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid who acted as a my field assistant for several weeks of geoarchaeological sample collection.

During our time in the field, we hiked several dozen miles, tracing many of the mountains of the Sistema Central, looking for outcrops of fibrolite, and conducting cursory geological surveys of the region. This time not only allowed us to collect a multitude of samples, which will be used for a combination of geochemical analysis and experimental archaeology but also allowed me the chance to work closely with someone entirely new to geoarchaeology, giving me a chance to demonstrate geological sampling methods and reviewing the geology and archaeology of the region. As I reflect on these conversations, one important point was the connection between the interdisciplinary approaches required by a geological-archaeological project and the holistic foundations of anthropological archaeology. Both introduce multiple ways of thinking about the past, and provide a flexibility in how we consider connections between human communities and their environments.

For this project, not only am I interested in the ways the Neolithic and Copper Age central Iberian communities used ground

stone tools and the roles these might have played in the larger scale changes that occurred during late Prehistory- but also the role the environment played in both the collection and use of these materials. Due to the relative rarity of fibrolite, my field assistant and I spent whole afternoons discussing the specific conditions required to create this mineral and the subsequent geological forces required for outcrops to become accessible at the surface.



*Sample of Fibrolite rock, courtesy of Corinne Watts.*

To this end, anthropological archaeology allows us to think more effectively about the multitude of factors at play with any archaeological context, site, or material culture. Our extended forays into the mountains, which could take multiple hours during periods of intense heat, brought questions about the effort, value, and access to these materials to the forefront of my mind.

Thankfully, my field assistant and I had access to clothing, gear, and other amenities unavailable to prehistoric Iberians - something we were always thankful for at the end of each hike! However, moving through these areas was more than just a procedure for collection. It led to insights into how prehistoric communities may have approached the collection of this relatively rare material.



*Dr. Steve Tulley in a market in Oaxaca, Mexico circa 1998.  
Photo courtesy of Dr. Mike Chibnik.*

# In Remembrance: Dr. Steve Tulley

by Dr. Mike Chibnik

Stephen Tulley, who received a PhD from our department in 2007, died in California last April. Although Steve did not pursue a career in anthropology, his doctoral dissertation about the economics and cultural meanings of chocolate-based products in Oaxaca, Mexico is a significant contribution to the ethnography of the region. I was Steve's doctoral adviser and conducted fieldwork in Oaxaca in the late 1990s during some of the time he was doing research for his thesis.

Being a southern Californian was an essential part of Steve's identity. His father was a dean at Pasadena City College, where Steve studied for two years prior to finishing at UCLA as an anthropology major. He worked for several years as a restaurant manager after graduation, developing a lifelong interest in food. Steve then entered the graduate anthropology program at the California State University, Northridge, writing an M.A. thesis about rotating credit associations that he had learned

about from Latinx employees at the restaurant. Along the way, he became fluent in Spanish.

Steve's selection of where to apply for doctoral training exemplified the systematic way he liked to do things. He chose only those departments that had at least two economic anthropologists who were young enough that they would not retire in the near future. His letters of recommendations were remarkably strong and I was pleased when he decided to enroll here and chose me as his adviser. Steve did outstanding course work and was greatly respected for his deep knowledge of ethnographic methods. He participated extensively in graduate student activities and won the June Helm award for 1999-2000 for such service.

In 1997 Steve spent a summer in Oaxaca trying to figure out a topic for his doctoral research. He had trouble making up his mind and spent most of his time making a useful elaborate map of the enormous,



labyrinthic Abastos market in the city. Knowing Steve's interest in food and economics, I suggested that he study the commodity chains associated with the diverse cacao-based foods consumed and sold in Oaxaca. After deciding to pursue this topic, Steve wrote successful grant proposals for Fulbright, Wenner-Gren, and the National Science Foundation (NSF). He was offered so much funding that he was forced to turn down the money from NSF.

After returning to Iowa after fieldwork, Steve found himself unable to work on his thesis and decided to move back to Pasadena. There he found work as an extra in Hollywood, appearing in the background in many films and television

shows. Although Steve did not try to obtain an anthropology-related position, he eventually wrote a fine thesis, examining both the economic and cultural significance of chocolate in Oaxaca. As with much of Steve's work, the thesis included the ingenious use of quantitative methods.

Steve had many interests outside of anthropology. He was an excellent cook, drove classic cars, enjoyed hiking, and avidly read the Economist and listened to the BBC. Steve knew that many of the men in his family had died of heart trouble before the age of 60. Unfortunately, he was not an exception.

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*Prof. Mike Chibnik is a Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Iowa.*

# In Remembrance: Dr. Susan Garzon

by Brittany Anderson

Dr. Susan Tharp Garzon passed away after a long battle with cancer in May of this year. She received a Ph.D. in Linguistic Anthropology in 1991 under the advisement of Nora England here in the department. She conducted her field research in Guatemala examining language variation and viability in bilingual Mayan communities, a relationship that continued on in her career.

She went on to have an academic career at Oklahoma State University, co-authored *The Life of Our Language: Kaqchikel May Maintenance, Shift, and Revitalization*, and



was active in assisting indigenous tribes with language preservation.

Her friends speak of her kind heart and active life, including participation in a local book club, hosting a meditation group, and participation in the League of Women Voters. In her retirement, she published two additional books, *Reading the*

*Knots and Unraveling the Threads*, a duology of historical fiction novels based on the 1954 coup in Guatemala.

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*Brittany Anderson is a PhD candidate and the editor of this newsletter. All information sourced from obituaries.*

# Reading List

Check out some of the latest publications coming out of the Anthropology Department at UI!

## Faculty Publications–2022-2023

- Trabert, Sarah, **Hill, Matthew E. and Beck, Margaret E.** 2023. "Movement or Diaspora? Understanding a Multigenerational Puebloan and Ndee Community on the Central Great Plains." *Open Archaeology* 9:20220288. <https://doi.org/10.1515/opar-2022-0288>
- Beck, Margaret,** Brandi L. MacDonald, Jeffrey R. Ferguson, & Mary J. Adair. 2022. "Red Pigment in the Central Plains: A Pawnee Case at Kitkahahki Town." *Plains Anthropologist* 67:405-430.
- Lillios, Katina.** 2022. "The Islamic Lives of Iberian Megaliths." *Journal of Islamic Archaeology* 9(1):105-120.
- Powers, Theodore.** 2022. "Austerity." In *A Handbook of Economic Anthropology*, Third Edition. Edited by James Carrier, pp.461-472. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Powers, Theodore.** 2022. "Uncertain Horizons: COVID-19, Debt, and the Future of Public Health in Africa." *Africa: Year in Review 2021*. Washington: Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars.
- Hong, Insu, Bradley Wilson, Thomson Gross, Jamison Conley, and **Theodore Powers.** 2022. "Challenging terrains: socio-spatial analysis of Primary Health Care Access Disparities in West Virginia." *Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*: 1-21.
- Prussing, Erica.** 2023. "Ethnography and quantification: insights from epidemiology for Indigenous health equity." *American Anthropologist* 125(1):36-48.



## Graduate Student Publications

**Bikowski, Kyle.** 2023. "There's Power in the Y': How Gaymers Manage Imbricated Stigma through an Equipollent Identity", *QED: A Journal in GLBTQ Worldmaking* 10, no.1:25-48. ISSN 2327-1574.

**Kimmel, Addison P.,** Steven A. Katz, Marcus Lewis, and Elizabeth Wilk. 2023. "Working with Indigenous Site Monitors and Tribal IRBs: Practical Approaches to the Challenges of Collaborative Archaeology." *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 11(2):224-231.

**Priola, Victoria.** 2023. "Experimental Weaving and Twining with Ceramic Crescents from the Late Neolithic and Chalcoithic in Southwestern Iberia" *EXARC Journal* Issue 2023/1. <https://exarc.net/issue-2023-1/at/weaving-twining-crescents>

# Graduations

The Department of Anthropology is pleased to announce the conferral of four graduate degrees in 2022-23. Congratulations to our graduates!

## Master of Arts (MA)

Andres Restrepo Sanchez (Spring 2023, Cultural Anthropology)

Jasmin Msuya (Spring 2023, Linguistic Anthropology)

## Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Addison Kimmel (Spring 2023, Archaeology)

Dissertation Title: *"If We Should Fail...We Will Not Even Have a Place to Live': Resistance, Survivance, and the Serious Games of Avoiding Removal in a Rock River Ho-Chunk Community, 1815-1838*

Scott Olson (Summer 2023, Cultural Anthropology)

Dissertation Title: *"What's Next:" Queer Past and Futures at Stonewall's Fiftieth in Berlin*

# Grad Student Updates



Ebenezer Adeyemi poses for a photograph.

## Ebenezer Adeyemi

Ebenezer Olamiposi Adeyemi is PhD candidate under the advisement of Dr. Ted Powers. Ebenezer holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and a Master of Arts (MA) degree in Peace and Conflict Studies—both from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. Ebenezer also received an MA degree in anthropology from the University of Iowa in May 2021. His 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. Ebenezer is currently undertaking his long-term dissertation fieldwork in Nigeria, where he is studying strategies that residents of Makoko, a government-marginalized informal settlement in Lagos State, Nigeria, use to access healthcare to treat malaria, the most prominent health issue in their community. Ebenezer was recently awarded a doctoral dissertation fieldwork grant by the Wenner-Grenn Foundation to support his ongoing dissertation research.

## 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 2016 and her MA in Anthropology from the University of Iowa in 2018. She is currently working on her dissertation on 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 third-year Ph.D. candidate in sociocultural anthropology under the joint advisement of Dr. Laura Graham and Dr. Brady G'Sell. Kyle successfully completed his doctoral examinations and advanced to candidacy this past Fall and recently had his second article "There's Power in that Y: How Gaymers Manage Imbricated Stigma through an Equipollent Identity" accepted by QED: A Journal in Queer Worldmaking. Broadly, his research interests involve global movements of "geek" culture as they interact with gender (particularly queer masculinities), nationality, and race. 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. Most importantly, his work is contributing to a growing field in queer studies which focuses on themes of joyful queer experiences, rather than narratives of oppression and victimhood.



Mackenzie Cross sits on a bench during a snowy wilderness walk.

## Mackenzie Cross

Mack Cross is a biological anthropology graduate student advised by Dr. Drew Kitchen. She received a B.S. in Anthropology from the University of Iowa in 2020 and returned to the program as a graduate student in 2022. Her research explores the evolution of the primate diet and nervous system through computational methods. Currently, Mack is building upon her undergraduate research which examines the TAS1R1 and TAS1R3 genes. These genes encode the umami taste receptor, which is one of the taste receptors responsible for the "savory" or "umami" flavor that is perceived when humans eat meat. Mack uses gene selection analyses to evaluate the relative importance of these genes in humans compared to other primates. This work contributes to a broader discussion of the evolution of the human diet and, specifically, aims to clarify the role of meat in supporting the increasing energetic demands of the brain during human brain evolution. She intends to expand these analyses to other genes involved in meat digestion, as well as genes involved in lipid perception and digestion. Additionally, Mack is planning a science engagement workshop series in her hometown for the 2023-2024 academic year to increase rural student access to science.

## Binit Gurung

Binit Gurung is an Indigenous scholar from the Northeast of India. He's starting his second year and completing the required GWSS certificate course criteria. Prior to enrolling at U Iowa, Binit received his Masters in Sociology from Ambedkar University Delhi and an MPhil in Sociology from the Delhi School of Economics. Following the sociocultural path, his research interest is centered around feminist anthropology, queer theory, migration, urban space, caste, race, and Indigenous studies in India. His project seeks to delve into the intertwined relationships between racialization, urban spatialization, and the formation of Northeastern identity within the context of a cosmopolitan Delhi. It highlights the growing forms of racialization in the Global South, which are often overlooked in the existing theories of "race" in the Global North. His project will represent a facet of "new racism" that is emerging in this context. By focusing on the Northeastern people's experiences in the metropolis, his studies aim to unravel the nuances of racialization and space and how they contribute to making and perpetuating their distinct identity within the city. Binit has actively been involved in Northeastern student politics and activism in New Delhi, India.



Binit Gurung posing for a photo.



## Danielle Johnsen

Dani Johnsen is going into her second year as a graduate student in Andrew Kitchen's biological anthropology lab. She graduated with a BA from the University of Dubuque. She studies autistic behaviors and mirror neurons in social primate genetics.

## Derick Juptner

Derick Juptner is a Ph.D. student in archaeology advised by Dr. Matt Hill. Derick received his BA in Anthropology from Texas A&M University in 2019 and his MA in Anthropology from the University of Iowa in 2022. His research focuses on the environmental archaeology of Indigenous groups on the Great Plains. His research interests involve questions about understanding the mobility, subsistence patterns, environmental interactions, and the extent of peri-colonial impacts on plains people over the past 1,000 years. Derick received funding this year from the Graduate College Iowa Recruitment Fellowship.



Derick at the Smithsonian Anthropology Collections in Suitland, Maryland.



## Steven Keehner

Steven Keehner is an archaeology PhD candidate. He earned his Bachelors of General Studies (BGS) and MA degrees at the University of Kansas. Steven also has over ten 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 seventh year PhD Candidate studying the intersections of US colonialism, public health, and activist efforts among Marshall Islanders. This past year, Caleb continued analyzing the ethnographic data he collected last year, which is the basis of his on-going dissertation project with Marshallese communities in diaspora across the US. In February, with funding from the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies (CAPS) and the UI Student Impact Grant, Caleb was able to revisit the island of Hawai'i to attend the annual conference of the Association of Anthropologist of Oceania where he presented initial dissertation findings and networked with other researchers working with Pacific Islanders around the world. This year also gave Caleb additional experiences in teaching, as he helped re-design and TA a course in International Studies as well as plan his own version of The Anthropology of Contemporary World Problems this summer. Outside of the classroom, Caleb also participated in several student panels, including moderating a webinar about studying abroad in Asia with CAPS. Next year, Caleb plans to finish writing his dissertation and defense, with hopes of graduating May 2024.



Caleb conducting his field research for his dissertation in the Marshall Islands.

## Max Lieberman

Max Lieberman is a PhD candidate in cultural anthropology advised by Dr. Scott Schnell. He is currently writing his dissertation, which focuses on the relationships between people and wildlife, and conflicts in wildlife conservation efforts. Max is also a member of a social science research team at the Carver College of Medicine, headed by pediatric surgeon Dr. Erica Carlisle. The research team's most recent publication, "Evaluation of a novel question prompt list in pediatric surgical oncology," was just accepted for publication in the *Journal of Surgical Research*.

## Logan Moore

Logan is biological anthropology PhD Candidate 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 M.A. from the University of Iowa in 2020 and was promoted to candidacy status in 2022.

For his doctoral dissertation work, Logan has been investigating the evolution of the human thorax, an area that has been historically understudied when compared to other regions of the body. His work focuses on the shape differences between modern and archaic human ribcages. An understanding of the degree to which the ribcage in our evolutionary predecessors may have changed in form, and under what selective behavioral pressures this could have occurred has only recently come into focus in terms of sufficient detail and adequate analytical approaches to make real headway. In the last academic year, Logan has continued to work on his doctoral work by overcoming methodological hurdles and working with other researchers at the University of Iowa to generate and analyze his data.



## Jasmin Msuya

Jasmin Msuya graduated with a Master's degree in Linguistic Anthropology in the Spring of 2023 under the auspices of Dr. Laura Graham. Before her master's degree in Anthropology, she completed her Bachelor of Arts with Education (Linguistics and Literature) in 2018 at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. Her research interests include Language Ideologies and Educational Language Policy in Tanzania. She has won several awards, including the Stanley Award for International Research in 2022, a June Helm Scholarship in 2021, and a Fulbright Scholarship in 2019. As part of her academic journey, she will continue with a Ph.D. program in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education at the University of Iowa starting in Fall 2023.

Jasmin posing for a photo.



## Scott Olson

Scott Olson recently completed his PhD under the supervision of Dr. Elana Buch. His dissertation, “What’s Next:’ Queer Past and Futures at Stonewall’s Fiftieth in Berlin” explores narratives of the past and predictions for the future of a global LGBTQ movement, and how they shape queer activism on a local level in Berlin. He is looking forward to publishing parts of this work in the coming year. Having now written a dissertation about it, Scott is excited to discover “What’s Next” for himself.

## Victoria Priola

Victoria is a Ph.D. Candidate in archaeology advised by Dr. Katina Lillios. Her dissertation project explores prehistoric textile production practices and regional interactions in southwestern Iberia during the Late Neolithic, Copper Age, and Early Bronze Age (3,500 - 2,000 BCE). Her research focuses on the study of ceramic loom weights from two notable sites in the region, Perdigões (Alentejo, Portugal) and Valencina de la Concepción (Andalucía, Spain), and is informed by experimental weaving that she conducts with replica loom weights. This year Victoria received the Archaeological Institute of America: Archaeology of Portugal Fellowship to support her study of the Perdigões loom weights.

## Andrés Restrepo Sánchez

Andrés Restrepo Sánchez is starting his third year in the program after earning the MA in Anthropology in Spring 2023. He has a BS in Nursing and a MA in Cultural Studies from Colombia. Under the advice of Dr. Elana D. Buch, Andrés is conducting ethnographic research in Medellín, Colombia, to understand the experiences of obstetric violence in institutional settings and its relation to the history of violence in the city. During the Summer of 2023, he traveled to Medellín to develop archival research, worked on some articles for publication, and prepared for the prospectus and comprehensive exams.



Andrés at the Medellín's Historical Archive, June 2023

## Tristan Szymanski

Tristan's first year in the Anthropology graduate program has been very engaging and successful. He has been learning and exploring the ways in which genetic data can be used to make inferences about population movement. Dr. Kitchen's classes have given him a strong statistical background as well as experience with the literature of human genetics as it relates to past populations interactions with one another and genetic health.

## Ariane Thomas

Ariane Thomas expanded her dissertation research in the past year, which explores how dog biology can be used to infer past human behavior. She presented on body size variation of archaeological dogs in the Plains and Midwest across time to the 2022 Plains Anthropological Conference and the Spring 2023 Iowa Archeological Society meeting. Her analysis showed evidence that dog body size is influenced by human cultural association and that Oneota dogs from Iowa, especially from Blood Run (13L02), are larger than all the dogs collected in her study. She plans to compare these results with her recent measurements taken from dogs found in early colonial sites in the Americas. Ariane was recently awarded a Small Grant for the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences that covered strontium extractions of Jamestown dogs. With the help of Anna Waterman, a University of Iowa Department of Anthropology alumnus, she will use strontium isotope ratios to further explore the migration history of dogs at Jamestown. She will also continue her genetic work with Jamestown Rediscovery and the Malhi Molecular Anthropology Laboratory at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign this summer. She plans to sequence DNA from dog bones recovered from multiple colonial European sites like Jamestown, Colonial Williamsburg, Kingsmill Plantation, Fort Scott, Lincoln's home, and Bent's Old Fort supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation. Ariane is grateful for the CLAS Dissertation Writing Fellowship that will support her while she writes her dissertation and prepares for her defense.



Ariane working in the lab on her dissertation research.

## Corinne Watts


Corinne is an archaeology PhD candidate advised by Dr. Katina Lillios. Her research focuses on the provenance of lithic materials during the Neolithic and Chalcolithic 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 successfully defended her prospectus and was promoted to candidacy. She presented her preliminary research findings of her dissertation research at the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. Following a successful field season last summer, Corinne returned to the Madrid area in May to complete geoarchaeological field work in the Somosierra Mountain region and archival research at the Museo Arqueológico Regional de la Comunidad de Madrid in Alcalá de Henares. Her work this summer was generously supported by the T. Anne Cleary International Research Fellowship and the Department's Summer Research Funding.



# Faculty Updates

## Margaret Beck

Margaret Beck is continuing her work with natural pigments in the Great Plains and Midwest, using chemical and mineralogical analyses to distinguish pigments used by different groups and investigate possible geological sources (e.g., Beck et al. 2022). Current projects include identifying pigments used for slips by potters at Cahokia and elsewhere in the Middle Mississippi valley, in collaboration with Glen Freimuth (Illinois State Museum) and Brandi MacDonald (University of Missouri Research Reactor). We initially assumed that Middle Mississippi potters used shale for their slips, based on the ethnographic record of Indigenous potters in North America and the abundance of sedimentary rocks in the Middle Mississippi Valley. Instead they used pigments from hydrothermal deposits—minerals precipitated from hot water circulating in the Earth’s crust. Such deposits only occur at some distance from the Middle Mississippi River Valley, with the closest sources in Missouri’s Ozark Highlands. This project helps to reconstruct nonindustrial technologies, including resource knowledge once important for craftspeople in the Indigenous Midwest. It should also yield information about the broader social and economic contexts in which Mississippian potters lived and worked.



*Prof. Beck looking for ceramic slip materials in southern Illinois.*

## Elana Buch

The highlight of my year has been working with four brilliant graduate students studying care, reproduction, and generation. Andrés Restrepo Sanchez completed his M.A. in anthropology, submitted several journal manuscripts for review and is preparing for his comprehensive exams focused on obstetric violence in Medellín, Colombia. Brittany Anderson completed fieldwork and has begun writing her dissertation focused on the experiences of housekeepers and laundry staff in two Midwestern elder care communities during and since the emergency phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. In June, Scott Olson defended his brilliant dissertation “What’s Next: Queer Pasts and Futures at Stonewall’s Fiftieth in Berlin.” Over the spring term, I also had the pleasure of mentoring Anna Žabicka, a visiting doctoral candidate from University of Vienna, who is writing her dissertation on the role of aging and elder care in rural Lativa. My thinking on care, generation, and reproduction has benefited deeply from the collective energy and conversations with this group.

My own research continues to focus on the intersections of care, aging and social change. In the fall, I was honored to act as a discussant for the esteemed Louis Henry Morgan lecture hosted by The University of Rochester and delivered by Dr. Sarah Lamb on the topic of Successful Aging. In addition, my colleague Julia Kowalski and I are revising our article manuscript theorizing the concept of care in comparative analysis, and I am developing new ethnographic research focused on diverse multigenerational households in the United States.

Anthropological imagination, knowledge, and skills remain essential to addressing the complex challenges facing our world. As the department’s curriculum coordinator, I spearheaded a redesign of the department’s undergraduate curriculum foregrounding these strengths as we adjust to the broader challenges facing higher education. Building on internationalization efforts across the department, I am working with a team (faculty Brady G’Sell and Erica Prussing, and graduate students Andrés Restrepo Sanchez and Osamamen Oba Eduviere) to revise our graduate ethnographic methods course to become a graduate humanities lab. Funded through the Obermann Center’s Humanities for the Public Good program, the “Ethnography as Social Justice Lab” will train graduate students to use ethnographic methods through a collaborative project focused on understanding and improving the experiences of international graduate students on our campus.

## 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 human-dog relationship in colonial Virginia. He was also very fortunate to work with undergraduate and graduate students this summer in Western Kansas.



## Cynthia Chou

With the easing of COVID travel restrictions in Southeast Asia, Cynthia Chou resumed her fieldwork in the region. Together with her research collaborators in Singapore for her project on breast cancer meanings among Asian women, they published an article on the “Multi-level Determinants of Breast Cancer Screening among Malay-Muslim Women in Singapore: A Sequential Mixed-Methods Study” in BioMed Central. The past year also saw her with a busy schedule for her research project on the sea nomads in Indonesia. Several international invitations were received to give talks about the sea nomads. Among these were delivering a talk to architects in Malaysia about “The Boathouse of Sea Nomads” and a lecture about “The Orang Suku Laut: An Oceanic World” to the Indonesian Heritage Society based in Jakarta, Indonesia. Two publications appeared for her ongoing work amongst the sea nomads in the past year. She also began a new project with anthropologists from the French National Centre for Scientific Research to co-edit a volume on the cultural continuity within the Austronesian People of the Sea. Meanwhile, she has begun a second term to serve as Director of the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies. She is now working on bringing in yet another exciting program for the year on developments in the Asia-Pacific realm.

## Brady G'Sell

This has been a year of finalizing longstanding projects and beginning new ones for Dr. G'Sell. Her book, provisionally titled “Relational Citizenship: Kinship, Race, and Political Belonging in South Africa” is under contract with Stanford University Press, due out summer 2024. The book covers research G'Sell has done for the last decade to better understand South African women's efforts to support their families amidst widespread unemployment. During her research leave this fall, she was able to return to South Africa (the first time since the pandemic) to present the book to those whose experiences it portrays. While there, G'Sell also began a new research project to compare the migration experience of Africans from the rest of the continent who relocate to South Africa with the experiences of Africans who relocate to Iowa. Together with Amy Weisman from the Center for Human Rights, she won a Jumpstarting Tomorrow grant to fund an initial phase of this project. G'Sell also celebrated the launch of a new feminist anthropology edited volume in which she has a chapter. Entitled “Opting Out: Women Messing with Marriage Around the World,” the book explores the women's global movement towards singleness. It is currently available from Rutgers University Press.

## John Doershuk

John Doershuk, State Archaeologist and adjunct associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, once again organized and taught a summer archaeological field school in 2022. As in previous years, the course was based at the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, 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 2022 excavation was undertaken at 13DK9, the Abbie Gardner Sharp Historic Cabin, owned by the State Historical Society of Iowa as one of seven state-owned historic sites that were of particular significance in Iowa history. Site

13DK9, on the shores of West Okoboji Lake, was the location where the infamous conflict began between Inkpaduta's Wahpeton band Dakota and the six white families that settled in the area in 1857. UI, ISU, and UNI students participated (see photo) and UI Anthropology major Annabel Henderson was awarded an ICRU (Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates) grant under Doershuk's mentorship for the academic year to pursue follow-up lab analyses of portions of the 13DK9 assemblage. Doershuk will be returning to Lakeside in summer 2023 with a new cohort of students to continue investigations at 13DK9. During the academic year, four Anthropology students, Gabriella Snyder, Sarah Vaughn, Molly Edwards, and Samantha Cooling assisted an OSA team led by Doershuk and OSA Director of Strategic Initiatives Elizabeth Reetz to complete a \$50,000 UI-funded Community-engaged Scholars grant, partnering with the Meskwaki Nation and the Elgin Historical Society. The team collaborated to host four public events in Elgin that formed the core of the grant activities (July and October 2022, March and April 2023); the students also joined OSA staff on a visit with Tribal Historian Johnathan Buffalo at the Meskwaki Cultural Center, Tama, Iowa to learn about Meskwaki history and modern tribal programs and activities. Approximately 300 participants were involved in the grant's April 2023 culminating cultural and historical celebration event in Elgin. The grant resulted in copious positive feedback from the Meskwaki, the EHS folks raised over \$4,500 and have saturated the region with awareness of their Tribes of the Turkey River project, and OSA recorded a significant number of previously undocumented sites (and this number will grow in coming years as a result of the connections forged thru the grant activities). Please remember 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, and personnel to enhance their UI learning and research experiences!



*Lakeside Lab students (L-R) Maverick Meimann (UI), Brenden Patterson (ISU), and Adam Frasher (UNI) at 13DK9, summer 2022.*



# Bob Franciscus



*Bob and Associate Dean Lang during the October 22, 2023 CLAS annual faculty meeting held in the Old Capital Senate Chambers to recognize faculty achievements. Bob was one of six faculty members to receive a 2022 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences teaching award.*



*Bob and John Willman working in Bob's lab during Dr. Willman's visit in February 2022 as part of their work on the dental and craniofacial remains of the Siberian fox-farm collection housed in Bob's lab.*



*Bob and Hannah Johnson celebrating her UI graduation.*

Bob served as interim departmental chair during the fall 2022 semester, which turned out to be an extremely busy administrative period with several CLAS initiatives and departmental reporting mandates. In other updates, Bob was among those honored this past fall for receiving a 2022 Collegiate Teaching Award. This past February, Bob was also pleased to have Dr. John Willman back for another research visit to his lab from his current position at the CIAS Research Centre for Anthropology and Health in the Department of Life Sciences, at the University of Coimbra, Portugal. Bob supervised John's UI undergraduate honors thesis back in 2009, and John went on to obtain his Ph.D. degree in Anthropology at Washington University, St. Louis in 2016. Dr. Willman is part of an international collaborative team working with Bob that is using the Siberian fox-farm experiment skeletal data study to inform both the general idea of "domestication syndrome," as well as its specific application as a biocultural model to better understand Later Pleistocene hominin evolution. Closely related to the Siberian fox study, Bob and a small group of his current students have continued to collect and compare extant human cranial and postcranial skeletal robusticity measures over the past year in order to test behavioral and androgenic models for the global spread of modern humans after 80,000 years ago. One of the student collaborators on this project, Hannah Johnson, who just graduated with a B.S. in Anthropology will be starting her graduate program in biological anthropology at LSU in the coming fall semester where she will continue to focus on aspects of human/hominin skeletal biology. Finally, Bob had the pleasure of serving on the 'Jury de thèse' for Laura Maréchal's Ph.D. Thesis: "Variation, Adaptation and Evolution of the Nasal Cavity and the Nasal Airway" which was successfully defended in the Laboratoire De la Préhistoire à l'Actuel: Culture, Environnement et Anthropologie, Université de Bordeaux, France.

## Meena Khandelwal

Meena Khandelwal is completing her monograph *Cookstove Chronicles*, which is a study of India's traditional mud stove, women who use it, and those trying to improve or replace it. This research is based on several years of multidisciplinary collaboration with colleagues on campus, including Matthew E. Hill and Margaret Beck. Meena's co-authored essay "The Gender of Fuelwood: Headloads and Truckloads in India" appeared in *Journal of South Asian Development* in 2022, and she is currently completing a paper on technological masculinity and the modernization of kitchens in India. During the 2022-23 academic year, Meena served as Director of the South Asian Studies Program. She has not been able to travel to India since the pandemic and hopes to go this winter!



## Katina Lillios

This year, Katina published "The Islamic lives of Iberian megaliths" in the *Journal of Islamic Archaeology*. In the fall, while on leave, she continued her study of Islamic-period uses of Iberian megaliths and developed new collaborative projects on the engraved Neolithic plaques. She spent a month in New Haven working in Yale's Sterling Memorial Library, her old graduate school haunt, and gave lectures at Yale, Boston University, and Brown. During the summer of 2022, she traveled to Brittany to experience some of its famous megalithic sites in their stunning settings and to England to see the Stonehenge exhibition at the British Museum.

Katina checking out a Neolithic standing stone on the Breton coast.

The academic year was productive and exciting for the Evolutionary Anthropology group. Three graduate students joined the group this year: Mackenzie Cross (B.A./B.S., University of Iowa, 2020), Danielle Johnsen (B.A., University of Dubuque, 2022), and Tristan Szymanski (B.A., Western Kentucky, 2021). All three had a successful year, and we have high expectations for their future research projects.

Doctoral candidate Ariane Thomas (B.A., Central Connecticut State 2012; M.A., University of Montana, 2016) has been incredibly successful winning funding, having gathered > \$30,000, including a Wenner-Gren Doctoral Dissertation grant to support her work using ancient DNA to investigate the cultural roles of dogs in North America prior to and during European contact. Ariane's research into archaeological dogs from the Jamestown Colony has received positive write-ups in SCIENCE, the Washington Post, and USA Today, well as the Daily Iowan and Iowa City Press-Citizen. In addition to the Jamestown project, Ariane is busy writing up her dissertation chapters as manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals. She won a CLAS Dissertation Writing fellowship to support this work, and anticipates defending her dissertation and graduating with her Ph.D. in the 2023-2024 academic year.

The group was further strengthened by the contributions of undergraduate and high school students. Amy Zine (Anthropology, University of Iowa, 2023) continued her work on the origins of SARS-CoV-2 Gamma variant viruses from Purdue University and was funded during Summer 2022 by an NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates. Amy's work resulted in co-authorship of a paper published in Spring 2022 in Open Forum Infectious Disease. Amy continued to work on another SARS-CoV-2 project focused on the global phylogeography of Gamma variant; this ongoing project is also supported by undergraduates Thomas Kaldahl (Summer 2022, 2023; Rice University), Seren Castellano (Spring 2023; University of Iowa), and Merritt Polomsky-Thalacker (Spring 2023; University of Iowa) and high school students Zsigi Ford (WLC Summer Intern 2022, 2023), Samantha Wu (SSTP Summer Intern 2022), and Chloe Yan (SSTP Summer Intern 2022). This summer (2023), our investigation of polyomavirus evolutionary rates received critical contributions from Prithivi Krishnamoorthy (Ohio State University), who was supported by an NSF REU award, and Chelsea Bouslog (University of Iowa), and is nearing completion. Meanwhile, undergraduate Gabriella Snyder (University of Iowa, Fall 2022-Summer 2023) continues her promising investigations into potential links between genetic variation and primate behavioral differences in collaboration with Ariane Thomas.

Work continues on our collaborative investigation of "lost crops" funded by a large NSF Senior Award to myself, Andrew Forbes (University of Iowa, Biology), and Natalie Mueller (Washington University, Anthropology). Biology graduate students Wren Renquist (M.S., University of Iowa, 2023) and Alaine Hippee (Ph.D., University of Iowa, 2023) completed large-scale collections of parasitic insects from plants hypothesized to have been domesticated and cultivated by Native Americans prior to European colonization. They have sequenced DNA from these insects, and we are now in the process of assessing whether their genomes encode information about a shared history of cultivation and expansion with their host plants. Wren and Alaine have since graduated, and as they performed so valiantly driving the project forward, we are once again on the look-out for talented students to continue their great work.



## Theodore Powers

During the 2022/23 academic year, I continued to expand my research program while also maintaining a high level of service to the department and discipline. Relative to research, I was invited to contribute a chapter to the third edition of *A Handbook of Economic Anthropology* entitled “Austerity”, which was published in 2022. Also in 2022, I was invited to contribute an article to the *Africa: Year in Review* published by the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars. This paper focused on the necessity of expanding comprehensive primary care capacity across the African continent as a bulwark against emerging infectious disease outbreaks. I also contributed to a multi-authored paper that analyzed disparities in primary health care access in West Virginia, which was published in *Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*. Finally, I contributed a co-authored paper to a special issue focused on the impact of COVID-19 in Southern Africa, which is forthcoming in *Anthropology Southern Africa* in 2023. Relative to service, I continued to serve within the American Anthropological Association as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association for the Anthropology of Policy. In 2022/23 I also completed a three-year stint as the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the department, while also serving the Museum Studies Coordinator. Across the university, I continue to serve as a member of the UI Fulbright program, as a program committee member of the Iowa City Foreign Relations Council, and as an executive board member of the Iowa Global Health Network.

## Erica Prussing

This year Erica is pleased to be finishing out one major research project and developing the next. Over the past decade Erica’s research energies have focused on better understanding the skills and sensibilities of epidemiologists who take a decolonizing approach to their statistical work about Indigenous population health. Her latest publication from this work was published in *American Anthropologist* earlier this year. Her second book is also based on this project and will soon be published with Johns Hopkins University Press. This summer and fall Erica is developing grants to support a new project that examines how additional quantitative researchers weave pro-equity, anti-racist and other critical perspectives into their work, in ways that add to anthropology’s ongoing conversations around integrating ‘humanistic’ with ‘scientific’ approaches. On the teaching front, Erica is pleased to be working with Elana Buch, Brady G’Sell, and other cultural and linguistic anthropology faculty on re-envisioning the department’s graduate seminar in “Ethnographic Field Methods” around a central and community-engaged project, with support from the Obermann Center.

## Glenn Storey

Glenn Storey presented a poster at the 2023 Society for American Archaeology meetings comparing Roman and Teotihuacano apartments which are notably similar in size, although in different construction configurations. He also completed drafts of one lead author chapter (the Economics of Labor) and three secondary author chapters (Self-Sufficiency, Resource Mobilization, and Urban Economies) in a book on Pre-Modern Economies for Cambridge University Press, edited by Tim Earle and Ken Hirth. Glenn has also been asked to contribute a Cambridge Elements series book on Ancient Urban Economies. He is currently working on the introductory material for that book. Glenn is also co-editor for Adjunct Classics Professor Peter Green's translation and commentary of Herodotus for U of California Press. Herodotus' Histories, meaning "researches," or "enquiries," is full of ethnographic observations, some made visiting other cultures, making Herodotus the "Father of Anthropology." Glenn and his Sicilian colleagues are completing the artifact summary of work at Gangivecchio, and samples from a burial there will be analyzed in Leipzig as part of an ancient DNA project looking for traces of the bubonic plague that struck the Roman Empire in the Plague of Justinian (541 BCE). They hope to recommence excavation at Gangivecchio after the COVID-19 Pandemic hiatus and take U of I students there on another field school soon.

## A Note from the Editor

I would like to first and foremost thank all of the students and faculty for their generous contributions to this year's AnthrObserver. I would also like to extend thanks to Sarah Horgen and Shari Knight for their unending patience, hard work, and dedication to the department.

I take full credit for any mistakes or omissions in this year's 2022-2023 newsletter.

Cheers,  
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