

Texas A&M Anthropologist Makes Headline News



Michael Waters, professor of anthropology and director of the Center for the Study of First Americans, along with researchers from several other universities, have found the oldest archaeological evidence for the human occupation in Texas and

North America at the Debra L. Friedkin site near Austin. Their work has been published in a recent issue of *Science* magazine.

Buried in deposits next to a small spring-fed stream is a record of human occupation spanning the last 15,500 years, which is about 2500 years earlier than previously believed.

For more than 80 years, it has been argued that the Clovis people were the first to enter the Americas. Over the last few decades, there have been several credible sites which date older than Clovis found in North America. However, “what

is special about the Debra L. Friedkin site is that it has the largest number of artifacts dating to the pre-Clovis time period, that these artifacts show an array of different technologies, and that these artifacts date to a very early time,” states Waters.

Working at the site since 2006, Waters and his colleagues have found over 16,000 pre-Clovis artifacts. Several Texas A&M anthropology graduate students have been assisting with this project, including Tom Jennings, Jessi Halligan, and Joshua Keene, who are co-authors on the *Science* article.

HEADLINE NEWS:

- ◆ Congratulations to **Sheela Athreya** and **Suzanne Eckert**. Both have received tenure, and been promoted to Associate Professor.
- ◆ **Cynthia Werner** is the newly appointed Interim Department Head of the Anthropology Department.
- ◆ Special thanks to **Donny Hamilton** for serving as Department Head for four years.

Texas A&M Anthropologist Analyzes White House Honey

Anthropologist Vaughn Bryant, one of the nation’s premier pollen specialists, recently received an interesting assignment. He was asked to analyze the honey produced and served by the White House to determine where the bees are sourcing their pollen.

The existence of White House honey is relatively new. The Obamas added the honeybees to the White House in 2009. White House honey is now served at official

state dinners and samples are often presented as gifts to special dignitaries.

After analyzing the honey, Bryant concluded that the White House honey is classified as a unifloral clover honey but also contains minor amounts of nectar from other nearby sources including dogwoods, honeysuckles, and magnolias. The honey had a low pollen concentration suggesting that the bees were fed sugar-water last winter



when nothing was in flower. The White House said they hoped to send future samples for analysis.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Graduation News</i>	2
<i>Fieldwork Projects</i>	3
<i>Grants and Awards</i>	4-5
<i>Publications</i>	6
<i>Undergraduate Research</i>	5
<i>Alumni News</i>	7
<i>Lectures</i>	8

Ph.D. Dissertation Defenses

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully defended their Ph.D. dissertations:

Katie Custer-Bojakowski, Nautical Archaeology Program, "*Exploration and Empire: Iconographic Evidence of Iberian Ships of Discovery.*" Katie received her degree during the May 2011 graduation ceremony. Committee: Kevin Crisman (Chair), Suzanne Eckert, Donny Hamilton, April Hatfield.

Christopher Sparks, Cultural Anthropology Program, "*Wrestling with Ssirreum: Korean Folk Game vs. Globalization.*"

M.A. Graduates

Congratulations to the following students who received a Non-Thesis M.A. degree in Anthropology during the May 2011 graduation ceremony:

Celia Emmelhainz (Cultural Anthropology Program; Advisor Dr. Cynthia Werner)

Chris defended on April 6th and will receive his degree during the August 2011 graduation ceremony. Committee: Tom Green (Chair), Bruce Dickson, Cynthia Werner, Steve Balfour.

Ashley Smallwood, Archaeology Program, "*Clovis Technology and Settlement in the American Southeast.*" Ashley defended on May 6th, and will receive her degree during the August 2011 graduation ceremony. Committee: Ted Goebel (Chair), Mike Waters, David Carlson, David Smeins.

Nanda Grow (Biological Anthropology Program; Advisor Dr. Sharon Gursky-Doyen)

Ali Krzton (Biological Anthropology Program; Advisor Dr. Sharon Gursky-Doyen)

Dana Pertermann, Prehistoric Archaeology Program, "*Electromagnetism, Site Formation, and Conflict Event Theory at the San Jacinto Battleground and Washington-on-the-Brazos, Texas.*" Dana defended on May 26th and will receive her degree during the August 2011 graduation ceremony. Committee: Bruce Dickson (Chair), Mike Waters, Mark Everett, Robert Warden.

Juliet Brophy, Richa Dhanju, and Eloise Eilert are all scheduled to defend their dissertations this summer.

Catharina Laporte (Cultural Anthropology Program; Advisor Dr. Michael Alvard)

Andrew Laurence (Prehistoric Archaeology Program; Advisor Dr. Vaughn Bryant)

LAURA ARBEITER
 AND KAITLYN STILES

 WERE RECENTLY
 INDUCTED INTO THE
 A&M CHAPTER OF
 PHI BETA KAPPA
 HONOR SOCIETY .
 CONGRATULATIONS

 LAURA AND
 KAITLYN!!!

B.A. Graduates

Congratulations to all of our graduates!! We're going to miss you!!

Laryssa Adame
 Michael Admire
 Laura Arbeiter
 Emily Brents
 Monica Caudillo
 Brooke Chronister
 Samuel Cuellar
 Richard Ferguson
 Angela Gore
 Margaret Graham
 Kristina Henson

Brittany Herr
 Jennifer Heuck
 Jessica Janovich
 Meghan Kraft
 Kamala Lakamsani
 Lisa Lopez
 Yvonne Perez
 Lorne Reiley
 Lizette Rodriguez
 Laura Rogers
 Samantha Russell
 Amy Skrla
 Kaitlyn Stiles
 Lauren Whitehead
 Shannon Yancy



Summer Fieldwork Projects

Dr. Mike Alvard will be doing ethnographic research on the island of Dominica this summer.

Dr. Debbie Carlson and **Dr. Donny Hamilton** will be working at the Kizilburun site in Turkey. In the final field season of this multi-year project, the focus will be on lifting portions of a monumental Roman marble column.

Dr. Fadeke Castor will be conducting ethnographic research on Ifa and Orisha religious communities in Trinidad.

Dr. Filipe Castro (together with NAP graduate students **Kelby Rose, Lindsey Thomas, Dante Bartoli** and **Kota Yamafune**) will be working at Palazzolo dello Stella in Italy, excavating a sewn vessel dated to the 1st century AD. During the summer, Filipe will also spend one week in Zadar and Biograd, Croatia, to assess the possibility of starting an excavation of the Gnalic shipwreck (thought to belong to a Venetian merchantman who got lost on the way to Istanbul in 1583). Finally, Filipe will also spend two weeks in Venice working on a project to design and build a 15th century Venetian gallery.

Dr. Kevin Crisman (together with recent Ph.D. **Katie Custer-Bojakowski** and NAP graduate students **Piotr Bojakowski, Doug Inglis, Michael Gilbert, Danny Scott, Rodrigo Torres, Maureen Merrigan**) will be doing fieldwork on the Warwick Shipwreck Project in Bermuda.

Dr. Darryl DeRuiter will be

conducting fieldwork in South Africa and Tanzania this summer related to his research on hominin evolution.

Dr. Suzanne Eckert will be working at the Mule Creek site in New Mexico in June with **Danny Welch**. In July, Dr. Eckert will be working on a pilot study at Goat Spring Pueblo in New Mexico (with students **Colleen Kennedy, Chris Crews, Tim Desmet, and Danny Welch**).

Dr. Kelly Graf and **Dr. Ted Goebel** will be running a field school in Beringian Archaeology and Paleoecology from July 4 - August 6 in the Nenana Valley of Alaska. Texas A&M students (**John Blong, Anna Sloan, Heather Smith, Angela Younie, Josh Lynch, Angela Gore, Marion Coe, and Ashley Smallwood**) will be participating in the Field School.

Dr. Sharon Gursky-Doyen will be doing field research on the Philippine tarsier in the Philippines.

Dr. Alston Thoms will be doing archaeological fieldwork at the Fort Hood/Paluxy Sands Geophyte Project (with students **Laura Short, Andrew Lawrence, Masahiro Kamiya, Timothy Parrotte**)

Dr. Neha Vora will be starting a new ethnographic research project on global universities this summer and fall in Qatar. She will also be teaching one course at Texas A&M-Qatar this summer.

Dr. Mike Waters will be working at the Debra L. Friedkin site in Texas (with students **Jessi**

Halligan, Justin Holcomb, Tim DeSmet, Sunshine Thomas, Tom Jennings, Jesse Tune, Heather Hatch, and Ashley Smallwood.)

Jianping Yang will be conducting fieldwork in a village near Kayseri, Turkey beginning this summer.

Neil Puckett, Laura White and **Staci Willis** will be working on the Bajo de la Campana Project in Spain this summer.

Chris Cartellone and **Justin Parkoff** will be conducting an archaeological survey off the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis.

Ryan Lee will be conducting research at INA's Bodrum Research Center in Turkey.

Ali Krzton will be conducting research in Sichuan province, China on golden snub-nosed monkeys.

FACULTY AND
STUDENTS FROM
THE DEPARTMENT
OF
ANTHROPOLOGY
WILL BE DOING
RESEARCH IN
OVER A DOZEN
COUNTRIES THIS
SUMMER.



DEBBIE CARLSON EXCAVATING HULL REMAINS UNDER THE DRUM AT THE KIZILBURUN SITE.

Commitment to Diversity

The Department of Anthropology at Texas A&M University is committed to establishing a community that embraces and supports individuals from all racial, ethnic, religious, gender, sexual orientation, class, disability, and nationality groups in their chosen pursuits.

In May, the faculty unanimously approved a statement of support for the GLBT Resource Center on campus.

The Department of Anthropology recently received a Mini-Grant from the NSF ADVANCE program at Texas

A&M. The grant will be used to invite four prominent female anthropologists to Texas A&M University for a panel on "Addressing Climate Issues in Anthropology" and a symposium on "Strategies for Success for Women in Anthropology." These events are tentatively scheduled for March 2012.

On March 24th, Sheela Athreya, Vaughn Bryant, Kevin Crisman, Bruce Dickson, Ted Goebel, Cemal Pulak, Alston Thoms, Neha Vora, Cynthia Werner and Wayne Smith attended a workshop with Mathew Oulett on "New Perspectives: How Our Diver-

sities Intersect with Our Professional and Personal Lives."

On April 5th, Cemal Pulak, Alston Thoms, and Cynthia Werner attended a workshop with Nancy Watson on "Effective Conflict Management."

On April 7th, Sheela Athreya, Darryl DeRuiter, Ted Goebel, Cemal Pulak, Wayne Smith, Alston Thoms, Neha Vora, Shelley Wachsmann, Mike Waters, and Cynthia Werner attended a workshop with Darla Twale on "Faculty Incivility: Awareness and Action."

THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY RECEIVED A MINI-GRANT FROM THE NSF ADVANCE PROGRAM TO ORGANIZE A PANEL AND SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN ANTHROPOLOGY.

Grants and Awards (Faculty)

Three faculty members received awards from the Program to Enhance Scholarly and Creative Activities (PESCA): **Sheela Athreya** for her project "*The Impact of the Toba Super-Eruption on the Late Pleistocene Environment of Western India*"; **Suzanne Eckert** for her project "*Filling In the Gap: The Early Rio Grande Glaze Ware Project at Goat's Sprig, New Mexico*"; and **Neha Vora** for her project "*The Impact of American Universities in Qatar on Citizenship, Belonging, and Identity*."

Sharon Gursky-Doyen received a \$3850 grant from Primate Conservation Inc. for her study of the Philippine tarsier.

Sheela Athreya and **Neha Vora** received \$750 International Conference Travel Support Grant from the College of Liberal Arts for travel to Spain and Singapore respectively.

Fadeke Castor was awarded a \$1500 Stipendiary Fellowship from the Glasscock Center for Humanities Research for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Cemal Pulak was awarded Faculty Development Leave for Fall 2011.

Shelley Wachsmann received a \$7,500 subvention grant from the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) for the publication of his book, *The Gurob Ship-Cart and Its Mediterranean Context*, to be published by Texas A&M University Press in 2012.



DR. SUZANNE ECKERT (FAR RIGHT) WITH COLLEAGUES AT THE MULE CREEK SITE IN NEW MEXICO.

New Courses for Fall 2011

The following new courses will be offered during the Fall 2011 semester:

Anthropology 489 - Studies in African Diaspora: Blackness in Latin America, Dr. Sara Busdiecker, Tuesday/Thursday, 9:35-10:50 am

Anthropology 489 - Studies in Globalization: Global Africana Pop Culture, Dr. Fadeke Castor, Tuesday/Thursday, 11:10 am -12:25 pm

Anthropology 489 - Museum History, Dr. Cory Arcak,

Tuesday/Thursday, 5:30-6:45 pm

Anthropology 689 - Dental Anthropology, Dr. Lori Wright, Wednesdays, 10:20 am - 1:20 pm

Anthropology 689 - Empires and World Systems, Dr. Bruce Dickson, Wednesdays, 10:20 am - 1:20 pm

Anthropology 689 - Quantitative Ethnographic Methods, Dr. Jeff Winking, Wednesdays, 9:10 am - 12:10 pm



ANTH 689 DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY.

TEETH PROVIDE A VALUABLE SOURCE OF EVIDENCE FOR IDENTIFYING AND UNDERSTANDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL, FOSSIL AND FORENSIC REMAINS.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR THESE NEW COURSES OFFERED IN THE FALL.

CONTACT MARCO VALADEZ FOR MORE INFORMATION.

(MLVALADEZ@TAMU.EDU)

Grants and Awards (Students)

Juliet Brophy and Richa Dhanju received 2011 Dissertation Research Awards from the College of Liberal Arts.

John Blong was awarded a \$1,000 grant from the Arctic Institute of North America for archaeological fieldwork in the central Alaska Range.

Lauren Butaric received a \$1,500 Graduate Student Research Award (2nd place) from Texas Academy of Sciences.

Nanda Grow received \$1500 grant from the Explorers Club; \$1500 grant from the American Society of Primatology (Conservation Small Grant Program); AND a \$1000 grant from Primate Conservation Inc. for her dissertation research on pygmy tarsiers.

Alicia Krzton received a \$3450 grant from Primate Conservation Inc. for her dissertation pilot study on Chinese snub nosed monkeys.

Nichole Roatch received a \$2000 grant from Primate Action Fund for a pilot study on how habitat quality shapes the anti-predator behavior of spider monkeys.

Margie Serrato received a \$200 graduate travel grant from the Women's and Gender Studies Program.

Texas A&M Anthropological Society News

The Anthropological Society is a registered student organization at Texas A&M University. The primary objective is to bring together students interested in anthropology. The group organizes guest speakers and museum trips, and provides opportunities to learn about fieldwork and graduate school opportunities. The group is open to undergraduate and graduate students. Members are welcome to

join anytime during the year.

New officers were recently elected for the 2011-12 academic year:

President - Jenny Reibenspies

Vice President - Sarah Baburi

Treasurer - Zunika Brush-Daniel

Historian - Elizabeth Jaroszewski

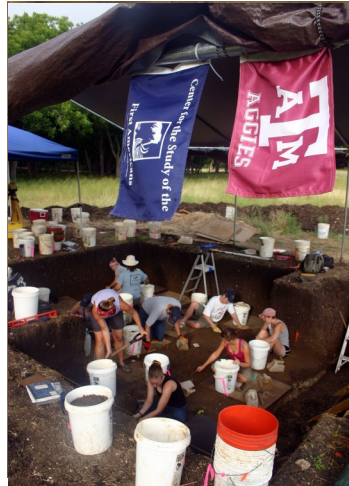
Trip Coordinator - Jack Briggs

Activities scheduled for the Fall include a visit to the King Tut

exhibit in Houston, and volunteer work at the **Hot Rocks Cook Off** in the fall (organized by Dr. Alston Thoms).

Several of the officers are working to put together a new club called the Experimental Archaeology Club. Activities will include creating and testing atlatls, building wikups, and creating earth ovens. Stay tuned for more information!

Recent Publications



FIELDWORK AT THE BUTTERMILK (DEBRA L. FRIEDKIN) SITE IN TEXAS.

Erik Bartelink and Lori Wright (2011) "Differential diagnosis of benign mandibular tumors: two case studies from the Maya Lowland site of Tikal, Guatemala" *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* 21(3): 351-359.

Alexis Catsambis, Ben Ford, and Donny Hamilton, eds.

(2011) *The Oxford Handbook of Maritime Archaeology*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Sandi Copeland, Matt Sponheimer, **Darryl de Ruiter**, et al. (2011) Strontium isotope evidence for landscape use by early hominins. *Nature* 474, 76-78. [CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO AN INTERVIEW](#)

Stephen Peterson and **Vaughn Bryant** (June 2011) "The Study of Pollen and Its Role in the Honey Market" *American Bee Journal*: 591-594.

Margie Serrato (2011) "The U.S. Military: A Site for Exploring Gender, Ethnicity, Sexuality, and Power" *Anthropology News* 52(4): 29.

Neha Vora (2011) "From Golden Frontier to Global City: Shifting Forms of Belonging, "Freedom," and Governance among Indian Busi-

nessmen in Dubai" *American Anthropologist* 113(2): 306-318.

Neha Vora (2011) "Unofficial Citizens: Indian Entrepreneurs and the State-Effect in Dubai, United Arab Emirates" *International Labor and Working Class History* 79(1): 122-139.

Shelley Wachsmann, S. Demesticha, I. Chrysoheri, and K. L. Croff Bell (2011) "Archaeological Discoveries on Eratosthenes Seamount. In New Frontiers in Ocean Exploration: The E/V Nautilus 2010 Field Season" *Oceanography* 24 (1): Supplement: 30.

Shelley Wachsmann (2011) "Deep-Submergence Archaeology." In Catsambis, Ford & Hamilton (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Maritime Archaeology*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp. 202-231.

Undergraduate Research

The Department of Anthropology encourages undergraduate students to get involved with research. Many anthropology majors, for example, work in archaeological and biological anthropology labs and conduct fieldwork with TAMU anthropology professors.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, **Alyssa Barraz, Clint Crabill, Angela Gore, Justin Holcomb, Eugene Sohn, Leanne Sterns, and Tiphane Want** all worked on laboratory and field projects organized by the Center for the Study of the First Americans.

In addition, this summer, **Colleen Kennedy** will be working at an archaeological site in New Mexico with Dr. **Suzanne Eckert**.

Anthropology undergraduates also work on independent research projects, usually through the [Undergraduate Research Scholars or the Honors Research Fellows Programs](#). Additionally, students have opportunities to receive funding from the [Glasscock Center for Humanities Research](#), present their research at [Student Research Week](#), and publish their work in the

journal [Explorations: The Texas A&M Undergraduate Journal](#). Interested undergraduates should ask their professors how to get involved with research.

One example is **Amy Skrla** who completed a senior honors thesis for the Undergraduate Research Scholars program, entitled "Unlocking Ancient Diet: Using Starch Granules in Food Residue From Cooking Ceramics to Analyze Pre-Columbian Era Caddo Diet." **Dr. Alston Thoms** served as her advisor for this project. Amy hopes to publish her thesis in the near future.

UNDERGRADUATE
ANTHROPOLOGY
STUDENTS ARE
ACTIVELY INVOLVED
WITH RESEARCH
PROJECTS - WORKING
WITH FACULTY IN
LABS AND IN THE
FIELD, AND WORKING
ON INDEPENDENT
RESEARCH
PROJECTS.

Alumni News

Jayant Anand (PhD 2007; Cultural Anthropology Program; Advisor Norbert Dannhaeuser) is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Barron County.

Eric Bartelink (PhD 2006; Biological Anthropology Program; Advisor Lori Wright) recently received tenure in the Dept. of Anthropology at California State University-Chico.

Kroum Batchvarov (PhD 2009; Nautical Archaeology Program; Advisor Kevin Crisman) recently accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the Dept. of Anthropology at the University of Connecticut. Kroum has is currently working with the Warship VASA Museum in Stockholm, recording the framing system used in the construction of the VASA.

Sam Cueller (BA 2011) has been accepted into the Nautical Archaeology program at Texas A&M.

Katie Custer-Bojakowski (PhD 2011; Nautical Archaeology Program; Advisor Kevin Crisman) and her husband **Piotr Bojakowski** (Nautical PhD Program) had an eventful spring. She defended her dissertation in January, and then gave birth to her second child (son Michel who joins daughter Zophia). Katie and Piotr are commencing their second year of excavation of the 1619 English galleon WARWICK in Bermuda.

Wendy van Duivenvoorde (PhD 2008; Nautical Archaeology Program; Advisor Kevin

Crisman) is commencing a lectureship in maritime archaeology at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia. She has been working on early Dutch East Indiaman shipwrecks at the Western Australia Maritime Museum in Fremantle.

Ben Ford (PhD 2009; Nautical Archaeology Program; Advisor Kevin Crisman) is in a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the Department of Anthropology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He will be directing a survey this summer to locate three War of 1812 shipwrecks sunk in eastern Lake Ontario.

John Jones (PhD 1991; Archaeology Program; Advisor Vaughn Bryant) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Washington State University.

Lisa Lopez (BA 2011) is planning to move to Germany with her soon-to-be-husband Anthony Lupo and continue her studies there.

Tarah Marks (BA 2011) has been accepted as a graduate student at University College London where she plans to study Neandertals with Dr. James Steele.

Ty Matejowsky (PhD 2001; Cultural Anthropology Program; Advisor Norbert Dannhaeuser) is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Central Florida.

Andrew Scherer (PhD 2004; Biological Anthropology Program; Advisor Lori Wright) recently started a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in

the Department of Anthropology at Brown University. Andy previously held a position as Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Baylor University.

Karl Reinhard (PhD 1988; Archaeology Program; Advisor Vaughn Bryant) is Professor of Forensic Sciences in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska.

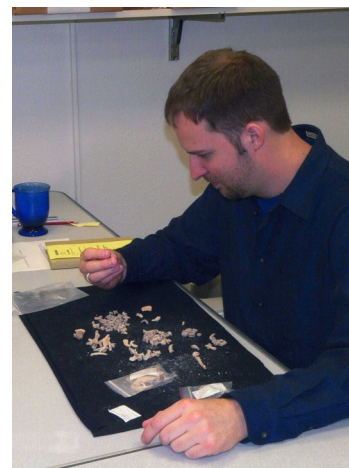
Kristin Sobolik (PhD 1991; Archaeology Program; Advisor Vaughn Bryant) is the Chair of the Department of Anthropology and the Associate Dean for Research and External Affairs in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Maine.

Kaitlyn Stiles (BA 2011) has been accepted as a graduate student at the University of Tennessee where she will specialize in bioarchaeology.

Jason Wiersema (PhD 2006; Biological Anthropology Program; Advisor Lori Wright) works for the Harris County Medical Examiner in Houston.

Donald Wood (MA 1999; Cultural Anthropology Program; Advisor Norbert Dannhaeuser) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medical Information Science at Akita University in Japan.

Cassady Yoder (PhD 2006; Biological Anthropology Program; Advisor Lori Wright) is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Radford University in Virginia.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ERIC BARTELINK FOR RECEIVING TENURE AT CAL STATE-CHICO!

IF YOU RECEIVED
BA, MA, OR PHD
DEGREE FROM THE
ANTHROPOLOGY
DEPARTMENT,
PLEASE SEND US
INFORMATION FOR
THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER.

Lectures and Presentations

The following faculty and students presented papers in Sacramento at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) in April: **John Blong, Dr. Suzanne Eckert, Dr. Ted Goebel, Angela Gore, Dr. Kelly Graf, Jessi Halligan, Tom Jennings, Joshua Keene, Josh Lynch, Ashley Smallwood, Heather Smith, Jesse Tune, Dr. Mike Waters, Angela Younie, Andrew Laurence and Laura Short. Dr. Alston Thoms** (with Ramon Vasquez) was an invited presenter/discussant at the opening session of the SAA meeting on “NAGPRA: Creating the Next Generation of Research Questions and Practices.”

The following faculty and students presented papers at the Annual Conference of the Alaska Anthropological Association in March: **John Blong, Dr. Ted Goebel, Dr. Kelly Graf, Josh Lynch, Holcomb Smith, and Angela Younie.**

The following graduate students presented lectures in the

Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation Brown Bag Lecture Series this spring: **Randall Sasaki, Heather Hatch, Heather Jones, Neil Puckett, Kroum Batchvarov, Catherine Sinchich, Matthew Labbe, Bradley Krueger, and Kelby Rose.**

Dr. Sheela Athreya gave an invited lecture “A Passage Through India: Human Evolution and the Southern Dispersal Out of Africa” for the National Geographic Committee for Research and Exploration in January. In April, Dr. Athreya presented a paper, “Muddles in the Middle: Current Perspectives on Middle Pleistocene Human Evolution” at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA) annual meeting in Minneapolis in April.

Dr. Fadeke Castor presented her paper “Festive Spirits: Centering Orisha in Trinidad and Venezuela.” She also gave an invited performative presentation during the Black Performance Theory confer-

ence at University of California-Santa Barbara in May. **Victoria Springer** presented a poster, “Detecting Admixture in Dental Traits: Implications for the Role of Neandertals in Human Evolution,” at the AAPA conference.

Dr. Shelley Wachsmann presented a paper, “Minoan/Cycladic Ships: An Overview,” in Heidelberg, Germany at a conference organized by the Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Unterwasserarchäologie in February. In April, he gave a keynote lecture on “The Sea of Galilee Boat” and a lecture on “Deep Submergence Archaeology: Fleets of Antiquity” during The Underwater Society of British Columbia’s 25th Annual Conference at Fort Langley National Historic Site in British Columbia. And, in May, he gave an invited lecture on “Deep Submergence Archaeology: The Final Frontier” during the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston.

NEW GRADUATE
STUDENT
ORIENTATION WILL
BE HELD THE WEEK
BEFORE CLASSES
START—TIME AND
DATE TO BE
ANNOUNCED
SOON.

Incoming Graduate Students

The Department of Anthropology welcomes the new cohort of graduate students who will be joining us this coming academic year:

Biological Anthropology Program: Faith Ambrosini (PhD), Kersten Bergstrom (MA), Brittany Staff (PhD), Carla Escabi Ruiz (PhD)*, Joshua Sedowsky (MA)

Cultural Anthropology Program: Jalaledin Afzal (PhD)*, Jessica Dangott (PhD),

Burhan Erdem (PhD), Elizabeth Joyce (MA), In Sung Lee (MA), Jared Miracle (PhD), Evan Stewart (MA), James Stoker (PhD)

Nautical Archaeology Program: Nicholas Budsberg (PhD), Jennifer Carroll (PhD), Sam Cuellar (PhD), Arianna Dimucci (MA), Christopher Dostal (PhD), Joshua Harden (MA), Stephanie Koenig (PhD), Tyler Laughlin (PhD), Megan Lickliter-Mundon (PhD), Zachary Taylor Mason (PhD), Kevin

Melia-Teevin (PhD), David Ruff (MA), William Smith (PhD)*, Ralf Singh-Bischofberger (PhD), Karen Martindale (MA)

Prehistoric Archaeology Program: Chase Beck (PhD), Brendan Fenerty (PhD)*, Angela Gore (PhD), Rebecca Major (PhD), Melissa Mueller (MA), Kayla Schmalte (PhD), Matthew Worrell (MA)

* Deferred one or two semesters

Other Departmental News

Dr. Deborah Carlson was recently elected as the President of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, an international non-profit organization dedicated to the study of shipwrecks.

Dr. Filipe Castro was recently invited to serve on the editorial board of the journal of the San Diego Maritime Museum. He already serves on the advisory team for the museum's San Salvador project (a full scale replica of Cabrillo 1542 ship).

Dr. Darryl DeRuiter, together with his research colleagues, has recently identified at least 6 new australopith skeletons at a new research site of Malapa fossil site in South Africa. These findings will be published in a feature story in *National Geographic* later this summer.

Dr. Darryl DeRuiter was recently elected to the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Sheela Athreya has been appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board from the journal *Human Origins*, and as the Book Review Editor for the journal *Human Biology*.

After completing a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in Dr.

Vaughn Bryant's Palynology Lab, **Dr. Christy Briles** has accepted a position in the School of Geography and Environmental Science at Monash University in Australia.

Dr. Tom Green has established an international Letter of Cooperation with the University of Leon in Spain.

The Nautical Archaeology Program at Texas A&M hosted its annual Shipwreck Weekend event on April 24th. The event is a popular public event featuring lectures on student and faculty research and children's educational activities.

Dr. Wayne Smith has recently signed an agreement with Trigon Armor, a defense contractor, to fund further research that will take place in the APRL lab on armor-piercing, bullet-proof glass.

Dr. Cynthia Werner recently served as a Lecturer on a private jet tour operated by TCS & Starquest Expeditions. The "Ancient Crossroads of Eurasia" program included visits to Finland, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Cy-

prus, Qatar, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Hungary and Romania. She presented the following lectures: "Traders, Travelers and Tourist Along the Ancient Silk Road;" "Understanding the Veil: The Fashion and Politics of Islamic Women's Dress in the Middle East;" "Markets, Gifts and Feasts: A Glimpse at Daily Life in Central Asia;" "The Ghost of Stalin: His Life and Legacy in Georgia;" and "Nationalism and Cultural Politics in Post-Socialist Hungary."

Graduate students **Lauren Butaric** and **Juliet Brophy** discussed strategies for teaching science in grades K-12 and the value of anthropology during the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Teachers Summit in January.

Yerkin Massanov, a PhD student from Kazakh National University spent the spring semester working on research at TAMU under supervision of **Dr. Cynthia Werner**, his international advisor.



DR. CYNTHIA WERNER AT THE BYBLOS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE IN LEBANON.

Recent Publications (Continued)

Shelley Wachsmann (2011) "Tracking Waterways" *DIG Magazine* 13(8): 22-25.

Michael Waters, Steven Forman, **Thomas Jennings**, Lee Nordt, Steven Driese, Joshua Feinberg, **Joshua Keene**, **Jessi Halligan**, Anna Lindquist, James Pierson, Charles Hall-

mark, Michael Collins and **James Wiederhold** (2011) "The Buttermilk Creek Complex and the Origins of Clovis at the Debra L. Friedkin Site, Texas" *Science* 331(6024): 1599-1603.

Winking. J., M. Gurven, H. Kaplan (2011) "The Impacts

of parents and self selection on child survival among the Tsimane of Bolivia" *Current Anthropology* 52(2): 277-284.

Lori Wright (2011) "Bilateral talipes equinovarus from Tikal, Guatemala" *International Journal of Paleopathology* 1(1): 55-62.

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Texas A&M University
College of Liberal Arts
Mailstop 4352
Anthropology Building
College Station, Texas 77843-4352

(979)845-5242 (main office)
(979)845-4070 (fax)

The Department of Anthropology at Texas A&M University offers BA, MA and PhD degrees in Anthropology. The department has 26 faculty members in four different programs: Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology, Nautical Archaeology. The department has over 200 undergraduate majors and over 100 graduate students working on MA and PhD degrees.



WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:

ANTHROPOLOGY.TAMU.EDU

If you have question about the department or information to add to the next newsletter, please contact Cynthia Werner, Interim Department Head of Anthropology (werner@tamu.edu). The next newsletter will be distributed in September 2011.

Gifts to the Anthropology Department

The Department of Anthropology benefits from the generosity of friends, alumni and patrons who share in our commitment to excellence in educating the next generation of anthropologists. Please consider a gift to the Department of Anthropology today. With your support, we will continue to transform the lives of our students. Donations can be made online. [CLICK HERE.](#)

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