



Department
of Anthropology

Anthropology Newsletter

Fall 2015 - Spring 2016 • Vol. 16

Transforming Lives Through Discovery!

Welcome

The Anthropology students and alumni profiled here are just a few of those who have received funding and recognition for their research.

Thanks to new funding from the College of Arts and Sciences, contributions from alumni and friends to the Dean's Fund for Excellence and the "Friends of Anthropology", we offer grants of up to \$500 for graduate research.

We have funded students working both internationally and locally, on projects as diverse as primate behavior, stewardship of archaeological resources, human responses to environmental change, Native American art and material culture, and medical anthropology. We invite you to share in our Department's success and our students' accomplishments. Your support matters!

Rani T. Alexander
Department Head

Archaeology Field School at Twin Pines 2015

During the summer of 2015, students in the department of Anthropology participated in an exciting six-week archaeological field school in the Gila National Forest. Under the direction of Dr. Fumi Arakawa, NMSU professor and director of the University Museum, 16 undergraduate and 5 graduate students excavated the Twin Pines Village.

This is an important Classic Mimbres Phase Site (A.D. 1000-1130) located south of Wall Lake. The field school operated in collaboration with U.S. Forest Service archaeologists Wendy Sutton and Chris Adams. Students participated in all phases of archaeological fieldwork, including site survey, excavation mapping and in-field analysis. "They also had the opportunity to learn about stewardship of archaeological resources, cultural heritage management, and best practices for collaborative archaeological investigation," said Dr. Alexander, head of NMSU's Department of Anthropology.



2015 NMSU archaeology field school at Twin Pines

"The project consists of an intensive excavation of a Classic Mimbres site which extends well back to the Pithouse period," said Trevor Lea, one of four crew chiefs on the project. "The occupation of the site could very well extend 900-1000 years. The excavations focused on the Classic Mimbres Phase. The pueblo consists of three separate sets of structures. This was the first time a professional had done any type of excavation on the site." Trevor explained that "Mimbres archaeology is very challenging due to looting activity. Making sense of what others have destroyed before you is the biggest challenge, however our team overcame the challenges and we learned a great deal this summer."

"There was never a dull moment," said Candice Disque, the Field School Graduate Assistant and crew chief. "I truly enjoyed every day and everything, even the hard work. There was bonding and camaraderie between people who had just met, and we all walked away friends. I guess you can say that the entirety of the field school was my best experience!"

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2015-16 Graduates

B.A. in Anthropology

Justin Aguilar
Erin Brooks
Lacey Cantin
Vanessa Carrillo
Erin Castleberry
Elizabeth Chase
Gray Gass
Marquette Gass
Robert Getkin
Katie Jackson
Ashley Mattingly
Thomas Miller
Sydney Nichols
Anne Nystrom
Adelina Perraglio
Antoinette Reyes
Erik Shultz
Danielle Soza
Angela Stevenson
Jared Van Natta
Rose Vidal

M.A. in Anthropology

Amanda Alvey
Kevin Conti
Kristin Corl
Marisol Diaz
Norma Hartell
James Hill
Wayne Lee
Kate Moore
Molly Murphy
Dylan Person
Donica Spence
Megan Stamey McAlvain
Sarah Standley
Rose Stoffers
Robin Wineinger
Jennifer Wiskowski



Summer 2016, Dr. Fumi Arakawa and students are in the field at South Diamond Creek in the Gila Wilderness. This collaborative project with Wendy Sutton and Chris Adams of the Gila National Forest runs through June 10th.

Twin Pines Field School, Continued

Candice spoke of the benefits she received from attending the Twin Pines field school, stating “this field school provided me with hands-on experience regarding Southwest prehistoric culture, something I hadn’t previously had being from New England. Field school is a requirement for any archaeology major, and the valuable skill set learned will assist in obtaining a job after graduation, as well as help one get into a Ph.D. or Masters program.”

Trevor and Candice both agreed that attending this field school had a profound impact on their personal and professional lives. Not only have they earned academic credits for their participation in the field school, they also earned hands-on professional experience from the project. Candice added, “I believe that anyone interested in anthropology should attend a field school because it’s not just about digging in the dirt (though it is fun!). It’s about scientific method. It’s about observing and interpreting the past materials of a still present culture, and it’s about sharing knowledge with your peers.”



Trevor Lea with fellow student, Lacey Arvizu at Twin Pines summer field school

We are looking forward to another successful field school during the summer of 2016. The 2016 field school will be directed by archaeology professor Dr. William H. Walker at the site of Cottonwood Springs Pueblo.

Dr. Fumi Arakawa 2015-2016 Awards

Dr. Fumi Arakawa has received University recognition for his efforts this year. He is the honorable recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in Teaching award, as well as a Travel Award, for the NMSU College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Arakawa is also the recipient of the NMSU Employee Council's Caring Community award. The Council awarded the first-ever Caring Community Distinguished Student Support Award to recognize individuals who provide extraordinary support to students. The award was to honor NMSU employees who have created and implemented novel ways to assist students, for example through a new process or procedure; provided assistance to students above and beyond their daily, routine duties; and impacted students' education or lives in unique ways. Dr. Arakawa was nominated by student Keighley Hastings for his work with the Twin Pines archaeology lab, which is open for all student participation (see p. 10 for more on the Twin Pines collection). View a video on Dr. Arakawa's accomplishments at <https://vimeo.com/album/3903377/video/163482134>.



Dr. Arakawa directing the Twin Pines field school

2015-2016 Conference Calendar

Faculty and students made numerous professional research presentations at local, regional, national, and international conferences over the 2015-2016 academic year.

School of Advanced Research, Advanced Seminar "Transformations in Social Citizenship: Stratification, Risk, and Responsibility in Health Care Reform," October 5-9, 2015, Santa Fe.

Mary Alice Scott: Increasing Access, Increasing Responsibility: Activating the Newly Insured

Jornada Mogollon Conference, October 9-10, 2015, El Paso Museum of Archaeology

William H. Walker: The Cottonwood Spring Community as an Internal Pueblo Frontier

Steven Needle: The Sandal Canyon Cave Collection

J. Dylan Clark: Purifying Flame or Fond Farewell?

David M. Rachal and Judy Berryman: Late Holocene Environmental Change and the Abandonment of Three Rivers Ruin (LA 1231), New Mexico.

Judy Berryman: Archaeological Site Testing Within the Otero Maneuver Range (White Sands Missile Range) - Identifying Intact Prehistoric Habitation in a Dune Environment

Kristin Corl: Hunting Strategies at Cottonwood Spring Pueblo: Stable Carbon Isotopes

American Indigenous Research Association Conference, October 22-24, Pablo, Montana

Don Pepion: Roundtable Discussion, Decolonization Theory and Methodologies for Indigenous Researchers

(Continued p. 4)

Anthropology Students Study Abroad

For students, especially those with an anthropology major, studying abroad is a wonderful opportunity to gain a new perspective on other cultures often studied in class. Studying abroad for a semester provides students with an opportunity to earn academic credits while also taking their studies beyond the classroom. Whether it's an intensive language training course, an archeological field school, or course work exclusive to another country, international studies provides students with a chance to work in an exciting and new environment. Students who study abroad have the chance to learn about the diverse values, cultures and languages of people from around the world. Last year a number of Anthropology undergraduate and graduate students spent a semester or more studying abroad in Japan, Argentina, Costa Rica, Mexico, Colombia, Vietnam, and South Korea.

Alma Chavez went to the Universidad de Belgrano for an academic year. "I had the opportunity to experience a different way of teaching and studying as well as to get involved in another culture," said Alma. She lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina for one year and seized the opportunity to travel around several South American countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay. "Even though I grew up in Mexico, my whole life I have been exposed to different cultures, I really love that I got involved in the Argentine culture as well as the Peruvian and Brazilian." Along with earning academic credits, Alma learned how to dance tango and speak a different dialect of Spanish. For Alma, the most challenging part of her year in Argentina was missing her family and friends back home. "It is really hard to go away for a long time, but I overcame this challenge with my best attitude."



Alma Chavez in Argentina

Another undergraduate student, Brady Hanson attended Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Japan. One of the rewarding parts of studying abroad for Brady was visiting



Brady Hanson (left) studied abroad in Japan

his host-family in Kochi. "I feel immensely lucky to have such wonderful people in my life," said Brady. "When we first met we could barely communicate, but thanks to their patience and continual communication, we can speak with much more ease. It is because of them that I continue to build my Japanese skills. They don't treat me like a foreigner, but rather a part of their own family."

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Southwestern Association of Biological Anthropologists (SWABA), October 23-24, 2015, Albuquerque

Brenda Benefit, Lauren Gonzales, Fred Spoor, and Monte McCrossin: What the Endocast of the Middle Miocene Monkey *Victoriapithecus* Tells Us about Differences between Old World Monkey and Ape Brain Evolution

Erica Davis, Brenda Benefit and Monte McCrossin: Canine Sexual Dimorphism in "*Micropithecus*" leakeyiform from Maboko Island, Kenya and Other African Miocene Small-Bodied Non-Cercopithecoid Catarrhines

Sara Blahut: Bilateral asymmetries of the human clavicle as an indicator of handedness

Monte McCrossin and Brenda Benefit: Reconstructing the paleoenvironmental context of African great Ape and Old World monkey origins based on remains of reptiles and birds from the middle Miocene of Maboko Island, Kenya

Fiona McCrossin and Brenda Benefit: Female reproductive status and paternal care of offspring significantly influence rates of affiliative interactions in an adult siamang (*Symphalangus syndactylus*) pair at the El Paso Zoo

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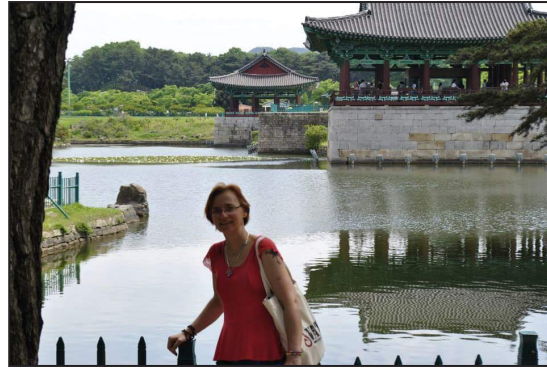
Dylan Person, Dr. Bill Walker and Dr. Rani Alexander at the spring 2016 Anthropology graduation celebration

Study Abroad, Continued

Brady describes his surreal experience in Japan, "there is nothing that can compare to eating eggplant flavored ice cream with loved ones and just staring at the miles of rice fields and greenhouses as the crisp sea breeze blows by."

Rose Vidal another undergraduate student studied at Korea University-Sejong Campus that is 75 miles south of Seoul. Rose had an interesting answer to the question people often asked her, why she came to Sejong? His first answer was Kimchi. However, the real reason for Rose to study at Sejong was to learn the history and culture of that great country.

"The best experience that I had was traveling to see all of the UNESCO sites that this country has to offer," said Rose talking about her time in Korea. She also had a majestic experience after an arduous 825-meter trek up to the top of the mountain to



Rose Vidal in Sejong, South Korea



One of Brady's unique cultural experiences while in Japan

see the Gatbawi Buddha statue in Daegu. "I got to see people so dedicated in going to see this statue that they were crawling up the mountain," said Rose. "I almost did that myself." Rose considers her visit to beach on Wolmido Island where the US Military entered the Korean War as a life changing experience.

For Rose, the most challenging experience was being called a foreigner. As she stated, "being an Anthropology student, I see that we are students of the world." Also not being able to speak the language initially was a challenge, but she did manage.

During her time in Sejong she applied for many jobs, and explored graduate school options to continue her education. In the end, because of her perseverance and constant effort, Rose landed her dream job teaching English at a UNESCO site an hour west of Seoul.



114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 18-22, 2015, Denver

Leadership:

Rani Alexander: Nominations Committee Member, Archaeology Seat

Lois Stanford: AAA Task Force On World Food Problems: Reports on New Advances in Food Security, Safety and Sustainability

The Culture and Agriculture Board and Business meeting

The Internationalization of the SfAA Task Force for the Society for Applied Anthropology, committee meeting

Wenda Trevathan: editorial board member American Anthropologist

Sessions, Papers, and Posters:

Kelly Jenks: Roundtable Discussion, NAGPRA +25: Where Do We Stand, and Where Are We Going? Parts 1 and 2. Co-Organizer and Co-Chair with Kathleen Fine-Dare

Mary Alice Scott: Symposium, Learning Culture in the Clinic: Ethnographic Explorations in American Medicine (organizer and chair).

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For more information on La Semilla Food Center:
www.lasemillafoodcenter.org

For volunteer positions:
<https://foodcorps.org/become-a-service-member>

Find food jobs on the Com Food Jobs listserv:
elist.tufts.edu/www/subscribe/comfoodjobs

Dr. Lois Stanford 2015-2016 Awards

Dr. Stanford was recognized this year for her work with La Semilla Food Center, receiving the NMSU 2016 Community Engagement Faculty Award and the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Faculty Outreach Award.

The following link is to a video recognizing Stanford's achievements with La Semilla <https://vimeo.com/163481909?ref=fb-share&1>



Erin Castleberry and Dr. Lois Stanford

Undergraduate Recognition

The NMSU Anthropology department supports opportunities for outstanding undergraduates to gain hands-on education and experience in teaching and research, working directly with professors. These programs include the **Peer Learning Assistant** (PLA) program and the **Discovery Scholars** program. Through these programs, our undergraduates are reshaping the teaching, research, and outreach activities of the Department.

Peer Learning Assistant Program

Anthropology undergraduates who have served as Peer Learning Assistants positions in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 are Katie Jackson, Danielle Soza, Erin Castleberry, and Kailey Martinez. Supported by the President's Performance Fund, the Peer Learning Assistant program "provides an opportunity to develop teaching skills before completing the undergraduate program," said Dr. Stanford. "When our PLAs apply to graduate programs in anthropology, they can indicate that they already have teaching experience, something that helps them in securing graduate assistantships."



PLA Katie Jackson and Dr. Mary Alice Scott at the spring graduation celebration

Erin Castleberry, an undergraduate senior in Anthropology, has been working as a PLA since Spring 2015. Castleberry has been assisting Dr. Stanford to teach ANTH 301 Cultural Anthropology. "The Peer Learning Assistant Program has not only allowed me to assist my fellow classmates, but also let me peek behind the curtain and understand how much work professors do that students almost never see," said Erin. "I believe that being a PLA will strengthen my academic resume and possibly lead to being a Graduate Assistant in the future." Erin provided encouraging advice for students who are interested in becoming a PLA, "I highly recommend speaking to the professor(s) that you would like to work with, the worst thing they can say is no."

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114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association Continued

Megan Stamey McAlvain, Jared Blake Van Natta, and Cortney Platero: Learning Culture in Residency: Training of Family Medicine Physicians in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

Mary Alice Scott and John Andazola: The Anthropologist in the Clinic: Reconceptualizing Integrated Health Care

Lois Stanford: Symposium, Critical Perspectives on Food Sovereignty, Food Justice, And Food Citizenship (co-organizer and co-chair with Teresa Mares)

Lois Stanford: From Food Security to Food Justice: Reflection, Debate, and Practice in US-Mexico Border Colonias

Wenda Trevathan: Roundtable Discussion: Biocultural Perspectives on Normal Physiologic Birth

Erin Coward: Cranial Deformation in Romania

Jacquelyn Heuer: Storytelling through Recipes: Utilizing Oral Histories to Understand Multigenerational Perceptions of Traditional and Healthy Foods

Katherine Scot Jackson and Kathryn Raye Holmes: Vampire Burials in Poland

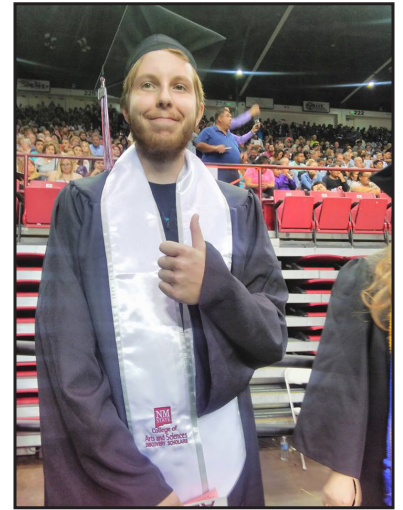
Karmon Jae Kuhn: Maternity Care Student Impressions and Relationships in El Paso

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Discovery Scholars Program

The Anthropology undergraduates who participated in the Discovery Scholars program for the 2015-2016 academic year are Jared Van Natta, Lynn Koppner, and Marquette Gass. Dr. Lois Stanford, professor and Graduate Coordinator of the Anthropology department, explains "the Discovery Scholars Program is designed to offer a research opportunity for advanced undergraduates." Stanford believes "this provides an opportunity for undergraduates to develop their research skills, participate in an on-going project, and be mentored in the field."

"I felt honored just being offered an opportunity to be a part of the Discovery Scholars Program," said Marquette of her experience as a Discovery Scholar. "As a non-traditional student, I simply did not have many scholarship opportunities available to me. Now I am getting the experience I want and need."



Discovery Scholar, Jared Van Natta graduated this spring 2016 with a BA in Anthropology



Dr. Mary Alice Scott and Marquette Gass working on the Discovery Scholars project "Learning Culture in Medical Residency"

As part of the Discovery Scholars Program, Marquette has been working with Dr. Mary Alice Scott on the research project "Learning Culture in Medical Residency." Marquette believes this opportunity has provided knowledge and skills that will be valuable when she begins her own research in graduate school. As an undergraduate researcher, Marquette presented her results at several professional conferences.

The Cheryl L. Wase Memorial Scholarship

The Anthropology department is proud to announce that the Cheryl L. Wase Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to three NMSU anthropology undergraduates, Kayla Brown, Keighley Hastings and Kailey Martinez, who received the award for their exceptional promise in academic and professional development in archaeology. The statewide competitive award was presented by the Society for American Archaeology to four female undergraduates who are New Mexico residents pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology with a focus in archaeology. The scholarship is named after the late archaeologist Cheryl Wase, whose impactful career was centered in the high desert of New Mexico.



Kailey Martinez, recipient of the Wase Scholarship, during the 2015 NMSU summer field school at Twin Pines.

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Annual Meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, January 6-9, 2016, Washington, D.C.

Scott Hays Strom: Using Formation Process Models of Educational Institutions at Lake Valley Mining District, New Mexico, to Create Public Archaeology Programs

76th Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, March 29-April 2, 2016, Vancouver, Canada.

Mary Alice Scott, Megan Stamey McAlvain, and John Andazola: Going Upstream: Medical Anthropology and Health System Innovation

Megan Stamey McAlvain Quality of Life: A Qualitative Examination of Residents' Training in Older Adult End of Life Care

Lois Stanford: Roundtable Participant, Rural Livelihoods and Food Security: Ground-Truthing Global Progress, Part III

Lois Stanford: Session Chair and Discussant, Critical Perspectives on Food Sovereignty, Food Justice, and Food Citizenship

Lois Stanford: Grounding Food Security Research in US-Mexico Border Colonias: The Dynamics of Household Challenges and Strategies, 1970-2015

81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, April 6-10, 2016, Orlando

Leadership:

Rani Alexander: Cheryl L. Wase Memorial Scholarship Committee Award Committee for Excellence in Latin American and Caribbean Archaeology

Advisor to the Committee on the Americas

Fumi Arakawa: Cheryl L. Wase Memorial Scholarship Committee

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Wase Scholarship, Continued



Wase Scholarship recipients: Kayla Brown, Keighley Hastings and Kailey Martinez

Recipient Kailey Martinez says "Being awarded out of such a strong candidate pool has reassured me that all of the classes, volunteer work and field schools are paying off and helping me to build a strong foundation for my future career." Martinez will spend the first part of the summer working on an archaeological project at South Diamond Creek in the Gila National Forest.

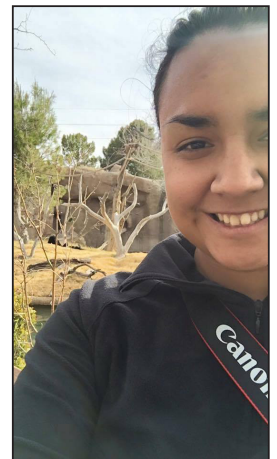
For recipients Brown and Hastings, this award will allow them to attend the NMSU Archaeological Field School at Cottonwood Springs Pueblo during the summer of 2016.

Undergraduate Spotlight: Jacqueline Longhurst

Since December 2015, Anthropology undergraduate Jacqueline Longhurst has been assisting Dr. Brenda Benefit with her research on Siamang ape behavior at the El Paso Zoo. Dr. Benefit is a biological anthropology professor at NMSU, whose research focuses on the evolutionary history of Old World monkeys and apes. Jacqui first became interested in non-human primate studies when she took Dr. Benefit's course on Humans Place in Nature. "Dr. Benefit's love for non-human primates really inspired me," expressed Jacqui. "So when she sent out a message looking for a volunteer to help with her research, I jumped on it!"

Through the spring semester of her senior year, Jacqui has been visiting the El Paso Zoo every weekend to observe and collect data on the zoo's Siamang apes. "To collect data I use a camera and a camcorder. After I get home, I upload my data to a hard drive and begin recording the data on Excel," says Jacqui of her methods. She explains that while recording data on the Siamangs, she also pays close attention to their behavior. Particularly of interest is who the apes approach, where they defecate, grooming patterns, and also play.

Since becoming involved in this unique research project, Jacqui has enjoyed every moment of it. "I love going to the zoo to watch the Siamangs" she says. Jacqui plans to graduate in December 2017 with her Bachelors in Anthropology. Upon graduation she will be pursuing a future in this fascinating field, and plans to further her education with a Masters in Primatology.



Jacqui Longhurst's "selfie" at the El Paso Zoo

*81st Annual Meeting of
the Society for American
Archaeology Continued*

Papers and Posters:

Rani Alexander and Héctor Hernández Álvarez: Household Ecology and the Legacy of the Secondary Products Revolution in Yucatán

Fumiyasu Arakawa, Garrett Leitermann, Kailey Martinez and Austin Schwartz: Poster, Hands-on Experience: NMSU Summer Fieldschool at Twin Pines Village in the Gila National Forest 2015

Candice Disque: Social Organization within a Tower Complex in Southeast Utah: A Landscape Approach – Modernizing Empirical Data in Alkali Ridge, Southeastern Utah

Garrett Leitermann: Improving Public Archaeology through Educational Psychology and Pedagogy

William Walker and Chadwick K. Burt: Pottery Agents: A Case Study of Nonhuman Beings from the American Southwest

*85th Annual Meeting of the
American Association of
Physical Anthropologists, April
13-16, 2016, Atlanta*

B. Benefit, M. McCrossin, and E. Davis: Canine sexual dimorphism in "Micropithecus" leakeyiform from Maboko Island, Kenya and other African Miocene small-bodied non-cercopithecoid catarrhines.

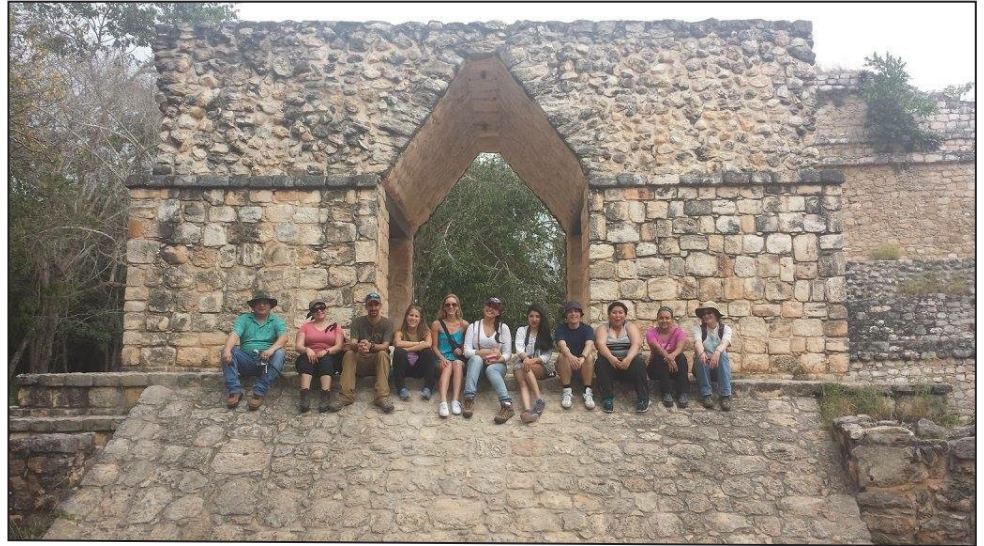
M. McCrossin and B. Benefit: Avifaunal contributions to the paleoenvironment of Kenyapithecus, Victoriapithecus, and other middle Miocene primates from Maboko Island, Kenya.

I.Nengo, B. Benefit, I. Arney, M. McCrossin, T. Rae, and E. Miller: A large-bodied ape canine from middle Miocene Napudet deposits in the Turkana Basin, Kenya.

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"Spring Break in Ruins" NMSU Explores Yucatan

Over NMSU's Spring Break, Dr. Rani Alexander and students in ANTH 312/517, "The Ancient Maya: The Archaeology of Sustainability," spent their break exploring Maya archaeology, history, and anthropology in Yucatan, Mexico. The ten students who participated in this Faculty Led International Program (FLIP) called the trip their "Spring Break in Ruins!"



Participants of the FLIP course to Yucatan visiting the ancient Maya ruins at Ek Balam



Students tried traditional Yucatecan dishes

In between climbing Maya pyramids, swimming in ancient cenotes, and adventuring through active archaeological sites, students indulged in the colorful flavors of traditional Yucatecan food.

Throughout the ten-day trip, students were presented with experiences to explore cultural and archaeological sites firsthand, as well as visit the various museums and research labs at the Facultad de Ciencias Antropológicas, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán.



Students climbing The Great Pyramid at Uxmal

Even more uplifting for the students, was having the lead site directors as guides to explain their sites, projects, and findings. In turn, this trip has opened the possibility of new research collaboration opportunities for those NMSU students interested in cultural anthropology and archaeology.

*NMSU Graduate Council,
Graduate Research and Arts
Symposium (GRAS), April 15,
2016*

Jacquelyn Heuer: Poster, "Good to Eat:" Combining Anthropology and Public Health to Assess Multi-Generational Perceptions of Traditional Foodways

Hailey Jung: Co-Creative Processes of Indigenous Representation within Museums

Garrett Leitermann: Using Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy to Study Cultural Interaction and identity within the Mimbres Gila Forks Region

Robbie Murie: Examining Evidence of Obsidian Exchange Systems through Analysis of Ritualized Projectile Points

Cortney J. Platero: The Importance of Oral Traditions with Traditional Cultural Properties

Megan Stamey McAlvain: Fighting for Quality of Life

*NMSU Honor's College,
Undergraduate Research and
Creative Arts Symposium
(URCAS), April 29, 2016*

Jared Van Natta: The Culture of Medicine: Hidden Curriculum and its Effect on Patient Safety

*IWOK (Indigenous Ways of
Knowing): Indigenous Healing
and Botanical Medicine
Conference and Workshops, 7th
Generation: Decolonizing Our
Lives, May 5, 2016, New Mexico
State University*

Don Pepion: Panel Discussion on Healing and Being Well

Graduate Spotlight: Sara Blahut

Sara Blahut is a second year M.A. student in Biological Anthropology focusing on Human Osteology. She received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology with an anthropology minor from Washington State University. She also received a Certificate of Applied Forensic Anthropology from the University of Hawaii-West Oahu.



M.A. Graduate Student, Sara Blahut

Her research interest lies in human skeletal variation. For her master's thesis, Sara is conducting research on the implications of bilateral asymmetry of human clavicle in an attempt to answer two primary research questions: Is the degree of asymmetry large enough to identify lateralized mechanical loading patterns? And conversely, is it small enough that clavicles from a single individual can be correctly identified as a pair?

Sara was awarded a Graduate Research Award from the Department of

Anthropology for conducting her research. With this aid, Sara traveled to the University of Tennessee last summer to study the Bass Donated Skeletal Collection to collect data for her thesis. She looked at over 200 individuals of known handedness, collecting both metric and non-metric data.

In addition, with the travel assistance from Aggies Go Global, Sara traveled to Belize and attended a bioarchaeology field school with the Maya Research Program. In Belize, she participated in both the excavation of a Maya city as well as lab work analyzing the human remains recovered from the site. She feels attending field school in Belize was an excellent opportunity for her as she had the opportunity to learn about another culture and to be so intimately involved in attempting to tell their story, stating, "It was excellent to practice my osteological skills, to build biological profiles of the individuals (age, sex, evidence of trauma or pathology)." Sara also observed that the Maya have many interesting cultural modifications such as shaping of the cranium, and carving and inlaying their teeth with jade, which was a new experience for her.

Following graduation in May 2016, Blahut hopes to work as an osteologist with her acquired skills from the NMSU anthropology program. She is especially interested in the forensic application of her skills and would like to assist in identifying victims of human right violations. She also believes that her skills will be beneficial in cultural resource management and museum contexts in ensuring proper treatment of human remains be it collection, curation, or repatriation.



Students visiting an archaeology lab during the "Spring Break in Ruins"

2015-2016 Awards

Faculty and Staff:

Fumi Arakawa – College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Achievement in Teaching Award

College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award

NMSU Caring Community Award

Barbara Burrell – 2015 Stephen W. and Robert E. Roberts Memorial Staff Award

Dept. of Anthropology – College of Arts and Sciences Departmental Diversity Award

Monte McCrossin – College of Arts and Sciences 15-year Service Award

Don Pepion – College of Arts and Sciences 15-year Service Award

Mary Alice Scott – Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award

Lois Stanford – NMSU 2016 Community Engagement Faculty Award

College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Achievement in Outreach Award



Trevor Lea with corrugated jar, during the June 2016 project salvaging the South Diamond Creek Pueblo in the Gila Wilderness.

Graduate Spotlight: Garrett Leitemann

Twin Pines Archaeological Collection and Public Outreach

During his second year as an Anthropology graduate student, Garrett Leitemann has quite literally had his hands full with archaeology. Last summer he participated in NMSU's archaeology field school at the Twin Pines village, directed by archaeology professor Dr. Fumi Arakawa (see article on page 1).

At the start of the summer field school, Garrett was awarded a Southwest Border Cultures Institute grant for public outreach. Garrett has been managing the Twin Pines collection in the University Museum. This collection is the artifact assemblage from the 2015 field school excavations at Twin Pines, a Mimbres Classic period site located in the Gila Forks region of the Gila National Forest.

Garrett has also been responsible for the overall organization and cataloguing of the Twin Pines collection. Cataloguing and analysis have been completed with the help of dedicated volunteers in the artifact analysis laboratory, located on the second floor of the University Museum. Meeting twice a week over the past year, this has been an open lab for all students and members of the public to partake in a unique, hands-on archaeological opportunity.

When asked about the benefits of public outreach to the overall project, Garrett explains



Garrett and Dr. Arakawa at Twin Pines

that "opening up the Twin Pines lab to the public has allowed us to fulfill our goal of disseminating or making the products of our research available to the wider public, which in turn is really the goal of archaeology." He believes this approach to archaeological analysis "better serves our commitment to the public and to public education, allowing students and stakeholders to know and be a part of the projects on campus." Garrett explains the accessibility to the collection has allowed all students, regardless of their experience, to learn basic techniques in artifact analysis, lab methods, and procedures.

Of course with inexperienced volunteers performing analysis and cataloguing, one may wonder if there were any consequential issues that resulted from this "open lab" approach. Garrett, however, reassures that there were only "a few minor issues, all of which could be easily corrected." He explains, "Sometimes we encountered issues with inconsistency in labeling items and also with discerning ceramic types, but all work is checked over in the cataloguing process to ensure accuracy."



Garrett Leitemann at Twin Pines

Student Awards:

Archaeological Society of New Mexico Scholarship:

Trevor Lea
Robert Murie

Cheryl L. Wase Memorial Scholarship for the Study of Archaeology, Society for American Archaeology:

Kayla Brown
Keighley Hastings
Kailey Martinez

College of Arts and Sciences Discovery Scholars:

Marquette Gass
Jared Van Natta
Lynn Koppner

College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Travel Awards:

Jacquelyn Heuer
Karmon Kuhn
Garrett Leitemann

Department of Anthropology General Scholarship Fund (book scholarships):

Jordan Albidez
Alma Chavez
Kirsten Clegg
Jacqueline Longhurst
Anne Nystrom

Department of Anthropology, Graduate Research Awards

Janine Boyers
Matthew DeFreese
Brittany Fisher
Hailey Jung
Thea Stehlik-Barry

Charles M. Gunn and Barbara L. Parker Memorial Scholarship for Archaeology:

Matthew DeFreese
Thea Stehlik-Barry

Charles Willoughby Scholarship for Research in Latin America, Nason House:

Janine Boyers

Indigenous Nations for Community Action Scholarships (INCA):

Savannah Lee
Carma Nez
Thor Peterson

(Continued p. 12)

Graduate Spotlight, Continued

Garrett Leitemann and the Twin Pines Archaeological Collection

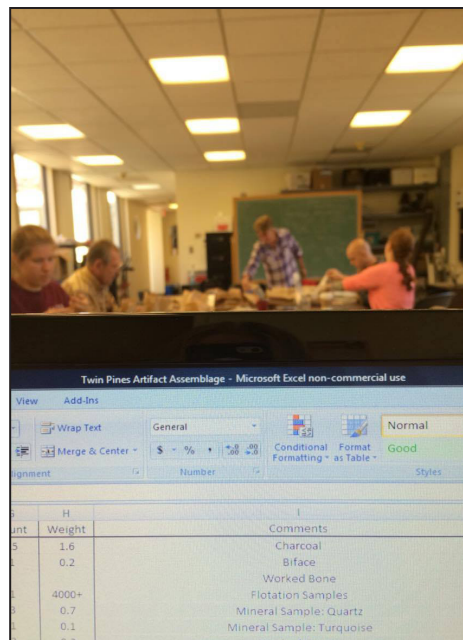
When asked what has been most enjoyable about this collaborative archaeology project between the University Museum and the public, Garrett answered from a teaching perspective. He believes “the most rewarding part of it all has been being able to help and to teach, whether students or public, about the Twin Pines collection and seeing how interested these individuals are in learning about archaeology and Twin Pines.” This massive collection contains over 43,000 total items, approximately 32,000 are ceramic sherds and about 10,000 pieces are lithic material.

For Garrett, the most interesting pieces of the collection are the ceramics, including a large proportion of nonlocal trade wares. Although it is extremely rare to uncover a vessel completely intact, the analysis has revealed that there are two fragmented vessels that could possibly be refitted into whole vessels.

Regarding the goals for the collection, Garrett explains how he and Anthropology graduate student, Kate Gomolak, “have been developing a database for the collection from which future researchers can benefit.” Garrett has already been able to assist students that are using the Twin Pines collection for thesis or class research, providing them with the information and materials necessary to begin their analysis.



At the lab volunteers sorted, identified and bagged the Twin Pines archaeological collection



Twin Pines Lab and Database

He describes how his own graduate research is also tied to the Twin Pines collection. “The goal of my research is to source ceramics from the Twin Pines collection in order to interpret the wide variability in these ceramic assemblages.” He is using Laser Induced Breakdown Spectrometry (LIBS), a lab technique that allows for the sourcing of samples of ceramics and look at the overall composition of a sample. From this, he can use compositional analysis to compare samples to see similarities, then try to decipher if they are from the same source. Upon completing his thesis research on the Twin Pines Mimbres pottery, Garrett plans to graduate in the fall of 2016 with an M.A. in Anthropology and both the Museum Studies and Cultural Resources Management (CRM) graduate certificates.



Dr. Arakawa and archaeology grad student Tara del Fierro analyzing lithic remains

Student Awards:

George Lea Founder's Scholarship, Public Lands Foundation:

Morgan Cardiel

NMSU Graduate School:

Tara delFierro – Outstanding Graduate Assistantship Award

Brittany Fisher –Outstanding Graduate Assistantship Award

Robert Murie – Merit Enhancement Award

Marquette Gass – Graduate Assistantship Tuition Fellowship and NMHED Fellowship

Enas Khaleq – Graduate Assistantship Tuition Fellowship and Diversity Fellowship

Kayla Myers – Graduate Assistantship Tuition Fellowship

NMSU Peer Learning Assistants:

Erin Castleberry
Katie Jackson
Kailey Martinez
Danielle Soza

Southwest Border Cultures Institute:

Alyssa Davis (with Anna Strankman)
Brittany Fisher
Hailey Jung (with Anna Strankman)
Trevor Lea
Judy Marquez
Valerie Simone

Welker Scholarship, Maya Research Program, Belize:

Alyssa Davis

Mary Alice Scott, Recipient of the Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award

Dr. Mary Alice Scott, medical anthropologist and assistant professor, received the Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award during NMSU's 2015 Fall Convocation ceremony. Named for Patricia Christmore, former accounting department head, the annual award recognizes and rewards superb junior tenure-track faculty members for excellence in teaching.



Dr. Scott has involved a team of students in her current research project, Learning Culture in the Southern New Mexico Family Medical Residency Program. As a part of the project, students have been trained to collect data through interviews and observation both in the clinic and in the hospital. They also analyze data that they have

collected for the project, and are working with a qualitative software analysis program called Nvivo to organize their analysis. Some members of the team are working toward publication of the data collected from the research project.

"I love teaching and mentoring students, both in the classroom and on my research teams. I always learn from students, and I enjoy supporting their development as critical thinkers and researchers," said Dr. Scott. "Receiving the Christmore award and joining the group of incredible faculty who have received the award in the past is the highlight of my career thus far. I know that students were involved in writing my nomination for the award, and I am grateful to them for giving me the opportunity to be a teacher and mentor."

In the future, Dr. Scott wants to continue with the project and collaborate with community health care agencies to broaden the impact of this specific project. "I think there is a lot of potential for a strong partnership between NMSU and the residency program," said Dr. Scott. "This partnership will improve health outcomes in our community, and I look forward to helping develop that partnership."

Since she joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 2011, Dr. Scott says the Anthropology Department has been very supportive of her work. "They have helped me write internal grants to fund my research, have supported my application for a course release to write a book based on my dissertation research, and have generally been helpful in advising me on teaching, research, and service."



Dr. Scott (center) receiving her award

Department of Anthropology Faculty

Archaeology

Rani T. Alexander,
Department Head
Fumi Arakawa,
Director of the
University Museum
Kelly Jenks
William Walker

Biological Anthropology

Brenda Benefit
Monte McCrossin

Cultural Anthropology

Miriam Chaiken
W. Thomas Conelly
Don Pepion
Scott Rushforth
Mary Alice Scott
M. Lois Stanford

Emeritus

Christine Eber
Beth O'Leary
Edward Staski
Wenda Trevathan

Staff

Barbara Burrell
Department
Administrator
Anna Strankman
Museum Curator



Archaeology graduate students celebrating Archaeology Day at the Branigan Cultural Center

New Faculty: Dr. Kelly Jenks



Dr. Kelly Jenks is the newest assistant professor in the Anthropology Department, specializing in the historical archaeology and late prehistory of the American Southwest and Southern Plains. She earned her bachelor's degree from Cornell University, and her master's and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in 2011.

Before joining the NMSU faculty in the Fall of 2015, Dr. Jenks was an assistant professor in anthropology department at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, for four years. Although Dr. Jenks enjoyed her earlier

position in Fort Lewis, she is delighted to become a part of the Anthropology Department at NMSU.

"New Mexico is home to me," said Dr. Jenks. "It's my favorite place to work, it's my favorite place to live, and I've missed it these past few years. I'm excited to be back, and I'm looking forward to working with students and community members on projects that I am passionate about, and that I think are important for the people living in this region."

Dr. Jenks' current research focuses on the creation of group identities (especially Hispanic identity) in New Mexico during the historic period, and also on the role that trade plays in shaping these identities. "Over the next five years, we will be working with the Bureau of Land Management to develop and complete archaeological research projects on sections of the Camino Real in Doña Ana, Sierra, and Socorro counties," said Dr. Jenks of her future plans. "Much of the background research, fieldwork, and data processing will be performed by students in the CRM II class, and graduate research assistants will help write the reports. There should be many opportunities for graduate and undergraduate student research projects, public education activities, and collaboration with other agencies, organizations, and departments."

Dr. Jenks taught courses on Historical Archaeology and Cultural Resource Management over the Fall 2015 semester, and Introduction to Archaeology and Cultural Resource Management II during the Spring 2016 semester.



Dr. Jenks and the CRM II graduate students working on the Camino Real

The University Museum is located in Kent Hall on University Ave.



All exhibits are free and open to the public.

Museum Hours are
Tues-Sat 12-4pm.

Permanent Exhibit: "Pottery from the Americas"



Cultural Anthropology graduate student, Hailey Jung will be undertaking a renovation to the museum's unique and comprehensive collection of prehistoric and historical pottery. This collection includes almost 600 pottery vessels that reflect the vibrant artistry and beauty of Southwestern and Mesoamerican ceramics. Through the support of an Southwest Border Cultures Institute grant, Hailey will research these vessels and their source communities beginning summer of 2016.

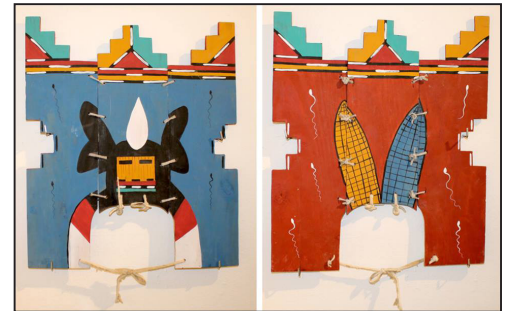
The University Museum Exhibitions

Over the past year, the University Museum has been a center for cultural celebration. In between two new exhibit openings, a steady stream of lively activities, guest speakers, and events has filled the calendar. The Fall 2015 semester witnessed the opening of the exhibit *Spirit Seeds: Celebrating Native American Beadwork*, led by the University Museum's Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Anna Marie Strankman. This exhibition displayed a vast array of unique beaded materials, including prehistoric and contemporary objects from the museum's permanent collection that had never before been exhibited to the public. The dazzling exhibit of beaded treasures emphasized the history of Native American beadwork in the greater Southwest and the continued significance of this cultural tradition for contemporary artists today.



Itaa Katsi: Our Life

As of April 7th, the vibrant beadwork was replaced with an equally captivating display of Hopi artwork. The exhibition *Itaa Katsi: Our Life*, is curated by Michelle Lanteri, M.A. Art History candidate, with Spencer Nutima, Lead Advisor, and Anna Marie Strankman, Curator of Collections and Exhibits.



One of the most important aspects of this exhibit lies behind the scenes. Nearly all aspects of the exhibit design and curation represent collaborations with Native Hopi artists, including display techniques, methods of presentation, storage, and the best ways to share Native American information with public viewers. Michelle Lanteri explained how their curatorial team worked directly with Hopi artists to ask questions and learn about the pieces, which enabled a deeper interpretation of the works. Recognizing the importance of Hopi language, the exhibit also incorporates as much of the native language as possible.



Informative narratives guide viewers through displays of artwork covered in vibrant symbols and motifs, portraying themes such as migration, gratitude for sustenance, social dances, spirits of Hopi ancestors (katsinam), the community ceremonial cycle, and the six directions (north/south, east/west, above/below).

(Continued on p. 15)



Spencer Nutima (Hopi, Old Oraibi) Salako Taka and Salako Mana, 2016. Cottonwood root, paint, feathers. Collection of the NMSU University Museum

Edward Curtis Photography, in collaboration with students of NMSU American Indian Program



Edward Curtis, Taos children, ca. 1905, LC-USZ62-112230.

In conjunction with the 2015 American Indian Week, an exhibit of selected Edward Curtis photos are displayed alongside written responses from students affiliated with the NMSU American Indian Program.

Itaa Katsi: Our Life, continued

Michelle Lanteri has developed this exhibit as part of her research internship to complete the Museum Studies Graduate Certificate. Lanteri explains, "In this exhibition, we are showing the continuum and diversity of Hopi artworks, in examples mainly from the mid-to-late twentieth century to the present. While the objects reveal changes in materials and styles, the constant is the artists' employment of visual motifs that reflect places of home: the Hopi villages on First, Second, and Third Mesas in northeastern Arizona."

The Hopi exhibition consists of 80 pieces from the permanent collection, as well as new acquisitions from esteemed Hopi artists, including Spencer Nutima (Hopi, Old Oraibi), Linda Lomahaftewa (Hopi (Shungopavi)-Choctaw), Ramson Lomatewama (Hopi, Hotevilla), and Jessica Lomatewama (Hopi, Hotevilla).

The Songs Endure, They Carry the Stories: Music and Dance of the Native Southwest

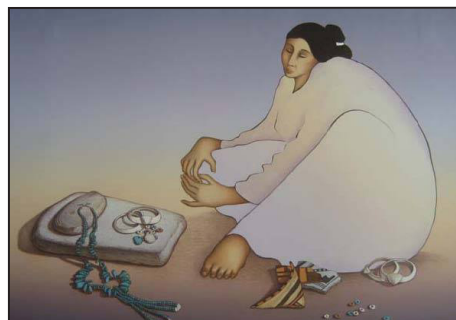
Music, dance, and ceremony remain essential to the complex and dynamic cultural life of the Native Southwest. This exhibition celebrates the instruments and regalia used in ongoing music and dance traditions among the Apache, Pueblo, Hopi, Navajo, Yoeme (Yaqui) and Raramuri (Tarahumara) people.



Audio and visual elements accompany the over 70 historic and contemporary treasures from the University Museum collection. "The Songs Endure, They Carry the Stories: Music and Dance of the Native Southwest" is funded by a grant from the Southwest and Border Cultures Institute of NMSU received by Anthropology graduate student Erica Davis.



Harmonious Beauty: Through the Eyes of Diné Artists



Trading Woman, 1985. R.C. Gorman. Lithograph, Edition 87/200. University Museum 2014.44.01

This exhibition includes works by renowned artists including R.C. Gorman, Gerald Nailor, and Harrison Begay. These pieces from the permanent collection will be on display to the public for the first time. They provide a unique opportunity to look into the world of the Diné (Navajo), as seen and created by Diné artists.

The creative works in this exhibit exemplify *hozho*, which embodies the Diné philosophy of striving to achieve balance and retain harmony, beauty and order in life.

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Dept. Head, Dr. Rani Alexander

2015-16 Newsletter editors:
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Drs. Judy and Stan Berryman. Thank you for all that you do!

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