



Doctoral Student Research

The Museum of Anthropology is both the physical and the emotional home of doctoral students in anthropological archaeology at the University of Michigan. While gaining training in the four traditional subdisciplines as part of the Department of Anthropology, archaeology graduate students' professional and social lives continue to be based in the Museum, as they have been for more than 80 years. That is, when they are not in the field. But often they are in the field—spread across the globe, directing and participating in major archaeological projects. Here, we highlight the work of just a few of our current doctoral students.



Elizabeth Bridges is directing a regional survey project at the sites of Keladi and Ikkeri in southern India. These two cities were the successive capitals of a state that was, for part of its history, tributary to the fourteenth-through sixteenth-century Vijayanagara empire. Although the Vijayanagara capital has been well studied (by Curator **Carla M. Sinopoli**, among others), Liz' work is the first archaeological project to systematically examine a peripheral area

of the empire. The Keladi-Ikkeri polity is especially appropriate for her interests in imperial structures and imperial authority since it was a powerful tributary state in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, which became autonomous as the empire began its decline after AD 1565. Through systematic survey and archival research on the two successive capitals of this small polity, Liz is documenting the nature of relations with the imperial center and how these changed

over time. Liz has completed one season of survey—which has revealed rich evidence on administrative, sacred, defensive, and domestic architecture and remains—and is returning to India in January for her second field season. Liz' work is supported by a junior fellowship from the American Institute of Indian Studies, and the Ranvir and Ardash Trehan gift for South Asian Archaeology to the Center for South Asian Studies.

(continued on page 10)

Letter from the Director

In 2008, the Ruthven Museums Building celebrates its 80th anniversary. The Museum of Anthropology predates our main home by six years, having been formally created in 1922 (with the Anthropology Department created a few years later). We began with four divisions—the Great Lakes, the Orient (since renamed Asian Division), Archaeology, and Ethnology (including the Ethnobotanical Library). Over the decades, we have grown into twelve research divisions (North America, Europe, Near East, Latin America, and, most recently, Africa, plus the Human Osteology, Archaeozoology, and Analytical Laboratories), and are now distributed across five separate buildings. Our collections number nearly four million objects with more than 60,000 photographic images and we are working hard to integrate these into digital databases to increase their accessibility to scholars and the public. The Museum has been a major center of archaeological research and teaching since its inception, with tremendous impact on the discipline of anthropological archaeology.

Our commitment to excellence, fostered in those early years by W.B. Hinsdale, Carl Guthe, and James Griffin, continues today. Long strong in graduate student training, over the last few decades the Museum has enhanced its commitment to undergraduate education through field schools and participation in the University's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP). The Museum is also increasingly engaged with teaching and collection units across the University. This semester, our collections have been important components of courses in Anthropology, Asian Languages and Culture, Art History, and the School of Art and Design; we have recently or are currently developing exhibits with the Museum of Art, Institute for the Humanities, Exhibit Museum of Natural History, and Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments. As I write this, I have just returned from my first meeting as a member of the Public Goods Council, a group appointed by the Provost that represents campus units responsible for important cultural resources that work together to promote collaborations to enrich the educational and cultural experience on campus and in the community.

In this newsletter, we highlight a subset of our recent activities and accomplishments—including curatorial research, undergraduate field experiences, and collections and exhibits. We focus particularly on our doctoral students in anthropological archaeology, who for so long have been at the heart, and comprise the future, of our mission. Thanks to all of you who have supported them over the years through your contributions to our fellowship funds. This year, we call your attention to a wonderful new opportunity to continue that support through a donation to the Museum of Anthropology President's Challenge for Graduate Support (see p. 10). Your gifts will be matched by a 50% match from University President Mary Sue Coleman and will help to assure the vibrancy of graduate training in anthropological archaeology at UM for the next 80 years.

Carla M. Sinopoli
November 16, 2007

Congratulations to Donna Steiner, who worked her last day at the Museum on October 31, 2007. Donna's Halloween costume of sunglasses, straw hat, and shorts gave us clues to her retirement plans to winter in Arizona and return to Michigan after the snow thaws. In her position at the main office's front desk, Donna has been the face and heart of the Museum for eleven and a half years, and we will miss her greatly. All best wishes to Donna and husband Dwight for a happy and healthy retirement.

Owed to Donna

*Running an office by day,
Can leave one flattened and gray,
No one will ask
If there's joy in the task,
And it's never what you'd call play.*

*If no one could say it was fun,
Yet the task was efficiently done;
And no one was finer
Than our Donna Steiner
As she kept our Museum in the run.*

*So we celebrate all of those years,
As you leave to the sound of our cheers;
So a salute to you,
And best wishes too
For a life-changing shifting of gears.*

Museum of Anthropology
Curators, Staff, and Students



Donna Steiner

Thanks

to Wes Cowan of
Cowan's Auctions, Inc.,
for his generous donation
to the Museum for the
printing and distribution of
this newsletter.



Curators

Museum of Anthropology Curator and Anthropology Professor Charles Loring Brace will be retiring in June 2008 after 40 years of service to the University of Michigan. Through both his research and teaching, Loring has had an enormous influence on the field of Biological Anthropology. His many contributions were recently acknowledged by his much-deserved receipt of the Charles Darwin Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, awarded in 2006. Loring gives credit for many of his accomplishments to his wife Mimi—his collaborator, editor, and inspiration. Sadly, Mimi passed away in August of 2005.

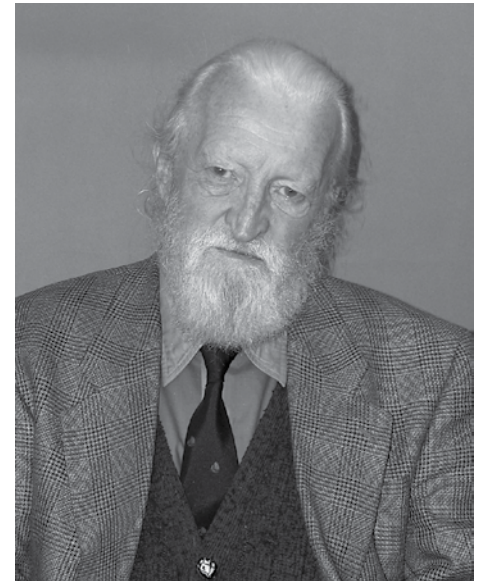
In his undergraduate courses on human evolution, race, and the history of biological anthropology, among others, Loring introduced many thousands of students to the complexities and richness of the subdiscipline. At the graduate level, Loring supervised some 20 doctoral dissertations and served on numerous graduate committees.

Throughout his distinguished career, Loring Brace has been a consistent advocate of the application of a Darwinian perspective to major questions in biological anthropology, a perspective he presented in more than 190 academic publications, as well as through public engagements in popular media (*Scientific American Natural History*, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, *The New York Times*) and in public debates with proponents of creationism and intelligent design. Early in his career, Loring's "single-species hypothesis"

focused attention on the number of species of early humans in the fossil record, an argument that lives on in the form of the multiregional hypothesis of modern human origins. He pioneered the use of quantitative metric data to investigate human evolutionary relationships. And, with the help of his many colleagues, Loring will continue to expand his database—the largest of its kind—on the evolution of hominid teeth.

Loring has also been a strong and important voice in critiquing and challenging simplistic biological perspectives on race, most recently in his 2005 book, *Race is a Four-Letter Word* (Oxford University Press). Currently, Loring is continuing to research the spread of the Neolithic, seeking to deepen understanding on the movement of the Neolithic from the Near East westward into the circum-Mediterranean areas and Europe, and the relationship between the Neolithic and the Mesolithic people that preceded them. Loring is also finalizing his report on the Kennewick skeleton, and is revising his classic book *The Stages of Human Evolution*.

We thank Loring for his many contributions to the Museum of Anthropology—and, along with recognizing his tremendous intellectual accomplishments, also gratefully acknowledge his gentility and charm in his interactions with colleagues, students, and all in our Museum community. We look forward to his continued presence and contributions, and, of course, we also look forward to enjoying more of his sly limericks and poems.



C. Loring Brace

Loring's retirement will be celebrated by the Museum and Department of Anthropology with a lecture by Professor Dean Falk (Florida State University) and a dinner on April 18, 2008. For more information, contact Carla Sinopoli (sinopoli@umich.edu) or John Mitani (mitani@umich.edu).

Curator Research and Activities

C. Loring Brace participated in "Conversations in Science and Society: Intelligent Design and Organic Evolution," a public debate with Michael Behe, at the Cranbrook Institute of Science in summer of 2007. Need we say who was more persuasive? Loring also hosted visiting Turkish scholar Serpil Eroglu from Mustafa Kemal Universitesi who is working on human craniofacial material of ancient Anatolian populations.

Kent Flannery was awarded the **Henry Russell Lectureship**, one of the University's highest honors for a senior member of its active faculty. This award acknowledges a scholar's exceptional achievements in research, scholarship and/or creative endeavors, and an outstanding record of teaching, mentoring, and service.

Augustin Holl returned to Senegal in the summer of 2007 for another season of the Sine Ngayene Archaeological Project, and published eleven articles on work in Africa and the African Burial Ground Project in NY in 2006–2007. In April 2007, Augustin delivered the Distinguished Lecture in African Archaeology at the University of Florida.

John O'Shea continued his NSF-funded excavations at the Bronze Age tell of Pecica San-

tul Mare in Romania. John also continues the Archaeological Survey and Mapping of the Au Sable Shores region of Lake Huron, Michigan.

Joyce Marcus was awarded the University's **Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award** in March 2007. She continues her service as Chair of Anthropology in the National Academy of Sciences, and Head of Social Sciences in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Joyce also continues prodigious publishing on a broad range of topics in Latin American archaeology with numerous articles and the book *Agricultural Strategies*, co-edited with Chip Stanish (Cotsen Institute, UCLA).

Carla Sinopoli attended the Chinese Trade Ceramics in Southeast Asia conference in Singapore in March 2007 and is traveling to Pune, India, in December to participate in a conference honoring the centenary of the birth of H.D. Sankalia, India's most important twentieth-century archaeologist. With collaborator Kathy Morrison (U-Chicago), Carla published volume one of the Vijayanagara Metropolitan Survey report through the Museum.

John Speth was appointed a corresponding member of the La Jolla Initiative for Explaining

Human Origins and has published eight articles. He recently returned from the Climate and Humans: Depicting Environmental Scenarios for Human Evolutionary Changes conference in Murcia, Spain, sponsored by the Seneca Foundation, where he gave two talks, "Decline of Large Mammals in the Levantine Late Middle Paleolithic: Climatic Change or Overhunting?" and "European Neanderthals: The Diet Problem."

Bob Whallon continued his Leakey Foundation-supported excavations at the Middle Paleolithic site of Crvena Stijena in Montenegro, and is working on preparing the first preliminary report. Bob serves as a member of the Executive Committee and Permanent Council of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences.

Henry Wright was named the **Albert C. Spaulding Distinguished University Professor** in spring of 2007, and will be delivering his inaugural lecture in winter 2008. Henry conducted field research in Syria, Madagascar, Michigan, China, and Mongolia this year. His volume on his Madagascar survey work is in press in the Museum's publication series and should appear soon.

UMMA Archaeological Field Schools

The Museum sponsored three archaeological field schools in the summer of 2007, involving 26 undergraduates and 5 graduate students in field projects in Arizona, Michigan, and Senegal.



Participants in SNAP.

In Senegal, 2007 marked the seventh consecutive field season of a long-term investigation of the Senegambian “megalithic phenomenon” by the Sine Ngayene Archaeological Project (SNAP) directed by UMMA Curator **Augustin Holl** and Senegalese archaeologist Hamady Bocoum. During the 2007 spring field season, Dr. Holl was joined by UM undergraduates **Avani Naik, Wendy Wong, Laura Misumi, Brennan Quenneville, Shaeli Bowers, and Katherine Carlton**; graduate students **Amanda Logan** and **Cameron Gokee**; and doctoral student Abdoulaye Kane from the Université de Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar). Project members resided at the UM field station in the village of Ngayene-Sabakh.

Nearly 2000 Senegambian megalithic sites comprise an archaeological phenomenon that extends over a considerable area of central Senegal and the Gambia. Dating from 200 BC to AD 1500, these sites include circular burial monuments built of upright stones in addition to earthen tumuli and smaller stone circles. The megalithic tombs document a wide array of mortuary treatments; iron spears and copper jewelry accompanied many of the deceased into the grave. While amateur and professional excavations date back at least a century, SNAP is the first archaeology program to use rigorous field methods to answer anthropological questions about the prehistoric human societies who buried their dead in these formidable megalithic cemeteries.

In 2007, the team completed excavations at the site of Ngayene II and began work at Santhiou Ngayene. These sites represent the second and third “tiers” in a hierarchy of mortuary sites and will ultimately shed light on the ritualized burial practices and social organization of late prehistoric people. SNAP enables students to learn basic archaeological techniques of survey, excavation, and analysis of ceramic pottery, metal tools, and human remains. Students also learn about Senegalese culture and visit other megalithic sites and cultural landmarks.

Our Michigan field school returned to the UM Biological Station (UMBS) at Douglas Lake, under the direction of UMMA Research Scientist **Meghan Howey**. The project explores Native American occupation in this inland lake landscape in the period preceding European contact.

In 2006, excavations at a Late Prehistoric habitation site revealed the remains of several large burnt posts, indicating a substantial structure. In 2007, field school students **Ruth MacNeille, Darren Poltorak, Chris Jackson, Elinor Israel**, and Jessica Larkins (Central Michigan University) and graduate student **Bethany Dykstra** (UM 2006, now a graduate student at Florida State University) expanded the excavations to identify the plan of this structure. The structure’s edge has yet to be reached, but work uncovered several hearths and a cache of raw clay and tools that indicate pottery making was conducted on site. Various possibilities of the site’s role are emerging. It may have been a year-round Late Prehistoric habitation site with a large multifamily residence, or the unusual nature of the structure may suggest a non-domestic ritual function. Further work is necessary to clarify the exact role of this tantalizing and exciting site.

In addition to learning standard field and laboratory methods, students hosted and gave tours of the excavations to local fifth graders and to undergraduate advisors from the UM College of LSA. The Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Protection and Repatriation Alliance held its annual meeting at UMBS and visited our excavations, giving tribal representatives and students the chance to learn more about the relationships between Native Americans and archaeologists. All in all, it was a great season—the finds from the site call for further exploration and understanding.

In Arizona, the Homol’ovi Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (HUROP) directed by UMMA Research Scientist **Lisa Young** had its second field season. This project, funded by the National Science Foundation’s Research Experience for Undergraduates Program and UM, integrates fieldwork, lab experiences, and public outreach. During summer 2007, fifteen undergraduate students from all over the U.S. participated in the excavations at Creswell Pueblo, a site located within the Homol’ovi Ruins State Park and owned by the Archaeological Conservancy. UM students included undergraduates **Leah Collins, Annelise Doll, Danielle Forsyth, Stephanie Owens, and Joseph Ramirez**; lab director **Claire Barker** (a graduate of the 2006 field school); and doctoral students **Matt Gallon, Khori Newlander, and Uthara Suvrathan**. UM Professor **Ray Silverman** (Museum Studies) serves as a faculty mentor to the project.

Creswell is the first pueblo built in the Homol’ovi area and dates to the early thirteenth century AD. Research at this site is providing important insights into variation and change in community organization at Homol’ovi, an area best known for its later ancestral Hopi villages. Public outreach is an important part of the HUROP project, and field school students contributed to a variety of public outreach projects including an online journal (www.hurop.wordpress.com).

Research on HUROP materials continues as UM undergraduates **Claire Barker, Zach Bennett, Nikole Bork, Annelise Doll, Leah Collins, Lara Gishleni, Nick Taylor, Katherine Carleton, and Ben Shepard** work in the North American Archaeology division to analyze the ceramic, lithic, and faunal materials from this site.



HUROP Team.

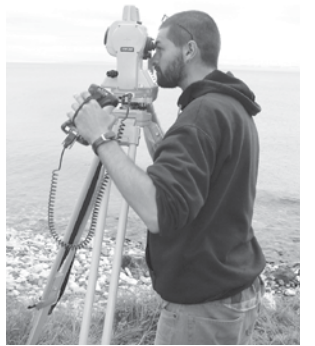
Undergraduate Portraits

Digging in Siberia — by Ben Shepard

With support from the Carl E. Guthe Fund, in summer 2007 I traveled to Lake Baikal in southeastern Siberia to join in the excavations of the Baikal Archaeology Project directed by Dr. Andrej Weber of the University of Alberta. The project seeks to understand trends and changes in the lifeways of the hunter-gatherers who lived in the Baikal region during the early Bronze Age period, from c. 9000–3000 years ago. Using a variety of methods, including studies of prehistoric subsistence, ritual conceptions of space, genetics, mobility, health, environment, technology, and studies of contemporary and historic cold-climate hunter-gatherer groups, the Baikal Project seems well poised to continue to make headway in the study of prehistoric hunter-gatherers and their adaptations to extreme conditions.

I was excited to participate in the expedition to Sanga Zaba II, a habitation site that was occupied since the Early Neolithic period. Over six weeks, my archaeological skill set improved dramatically; I became more proficient with the use of a Brunton compass, total station, and mapping software, and developed an understanding of how archaeological excavations are planned. Because our team was made up of international students and staff, I was able to see firsthand a range of approaches that archaeologists take to fieldwork and analysis.

I was confident about working as an archaeologist as I left for Russia last June; it was camp-life I felt unsure about. The half hour I spent inside my tent after I bought it was the only time I had ever been “camping” before, and now I was about to spend two months living in it in Siberia, a place known for being desolate and remote. I was terrified! But my terror vanished as soon as I laid eyes on the lake. When I think back to our late-night card games and the beautiful Lake Baikal sunsets, I realize that aside from taking part in a great project, I was able to travel to a beautiful, exciting place with a group of warm, interesting people. Who could ask for more?



Lost City of the Pyramid Builders: Research Experience in Egypt — by Kelly Wilcox

Assisted by funding from the UMMA Richard I. Ford Endowment Fund, I carried out a research project aimed to provide insight into the socioeconomic infrastructure of the Egyptian Old Kingdom. In May and June 2007, I joined UMMA Curator **Richard Redding** and the Giza Plateau Mapping Project Team. My contributions to this project entailed the fauna analysis of one functionally discrete area within the site known as East of the Galleries, or EOG.

I arrived in Giza on May 4 and began work the following day. Project participants all lived together just five minutes away from the work site. A typical day began with my alarm coaxing me up at 5:40, and by 7:00, everyone was shuttled to the mudbrick storehouse, which stood in the desert plateau near the Great Pyramids of Kahfre, Kufu, and Menkaure. Here, members began analyzing and recording material previously excavated.

The fauna material was organized into different bags labeled with the site, year, block, bag number, and feature number. Once the bone was washed and dried, I sorted and identified all specimens to the lowest taxonomic level, weighed each element or fragment, and measured length, breadth, and depth. I documented the presence or absence of bone fusion, as well as tooth eruption and wear, as an indication of age. I also noted the sex of the animal, and evidence of burning, butchering, and carnivore or rodent gnawing. All data were entered into a computerized database and are currently being assessed by the project’s Geographic Mapping Systems team. My analysis of the data compares the patterns established for the various areas of the site—the Barracks, the Gate Houses, the Eastern Town, the Royal Administration Building, and the Western Town—to the pattern for the EOG. My goal is to construct an explanation for the EOG. What activities occurred there, and how did it fit into the site? Then, I will develop predictions to be tested with other data sets (e.g., architecture, pottery, lithics, flora) and in future work with faunal remains from new excavations.

My experience through this internship has been truly unique and has prepared me for many avenues in my academic career. It has inspired me to continue research abroad and to seek out new challenges in studying cultural evolution.



If you would like to learn more about how to support undergraduate research, please visit <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umma/support/> or contact Carla M. Sinopoli at sinopoli@umich.edu

Undergraduate Student Support

Undergraduate field experiences are made possible with financial support from the Museum’s undergraduate research endowments. *Thanks to your generous donations, in 2007 we were able to provide funds to eleven UM undergraduates.*

HUROP participants Annelise Doll and Danielle Forsyth received support from the **Christy Cogan Memorial Scholarship** and Joseph Ramirez was awarded funds from the **Marlon Foundation Fund for Undergraduate Research**. Awards from the **James B. Griffin Undergraduate Research Fund** helped Shaeli Bowers, Katherine Carlton, and Wendy Wong travel to Senegal, while SNAP participants Brennan Quenneville and Laura Misumi received assistance from the **Carl E. Guthe Undergraduate Endowment**. Ben Shepard used his **Guthe Fund** award to travel to Lake Baikal. A gift from **Richard I. Ford Endowment** helped to support Kelly Wilcox’ work at the Giza pyramids, and Maia Dedrick, a triple major in anthropology, classical studies, and music, received support from the **Hays Family Endowment for Undergraduate Research** for research at the Mayan site of La Milpa in Belize.

Snapshots from the field...



Doctoral student **Amy Nicodemus** excavated two Bronze Age sites, the Pecica "Șanțul Mare" tell in Romania (with Curator **John O'Shea**) and Tarhos 26, a small settlement in Hungary (with doctoral student **Paul Duffy**). As part of ongoing research into Bronze Age economies of the Carpathian Basin, she analyzed the fauna from these sites and Sarkad-Peckes, a contemporary Hungarian tell. Additionally, she presented at the annual Hungarian Zooarchaeological Conference and continued to procure modern faunal specimens to build an Eastern European comparative collection.



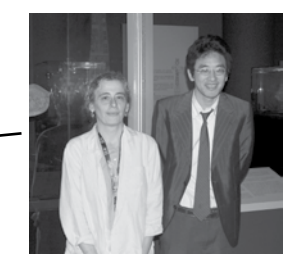
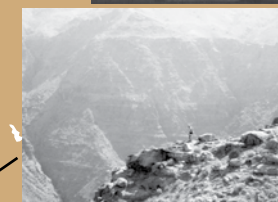
Paul Duffy in Hungary.



Henry Wright joined UM PhD **Bill Honeychurch** and Joshua Wright in the Baga Gazaryn Chuluu Archaeological Survey Project in Mandelgov, Mongolia.



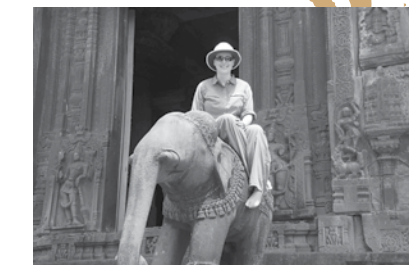
Doctoral student **Matthew Kroot**, with co-director Chantel White of Boston University, traveled to Jordan to conduct the first season of the Asal-Dhra Archaeological Project. The project combines landscape survey and excavation at the Prepottery Neolithic A (PPNA) site of Jebel er-Seis to explore the ways in which various sites were interdependent. ADAP identified ten new prehistoric sites, nine water sources, ten flint sources, nine disused check dams, and three disused stone structures. Both PPNA and Chalcolithic remains were identified.



Carla Sinopoli and **Li Min** at the symposium for Chinese Trade Ceramics in Southeast Asia, March 2007, Singapore.



Li Min received a graduate fellowship in the Institute for the Humanities. In a spring research trip to Southeast Asia, he visited important shipwrecks from Indonesia as well as major sites for the spice trade. After one month of lab work in China for dissertation research, he taught a summer class on archaeology of trade ceramics in early global trade, inspired by and designed around the UMMA's Guthe collection.



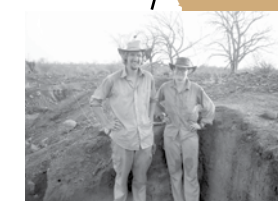
Elizabeth Bridges completed the first of two seasons of dissertation fieldwork on the Keladi-Ikkeri Nayaka Zone Survey in Karnataka, India. This project investigates the composition and evolution of a regional polity under the Vijayanagara Empire, and builds on extensive survey by Curator **Carla M. Sinopoli** and Kathleen Morrison (U Chicago) in the Vijayanagara Metropolitan Region. (see page 1)



Richard Redding descending into a tomb shaft on the Giza Plateau, where he is documenting the communities associated with construction of the Great Pyramids.



Doctoral student **Emily Holt** spent the 2007 season working at Nuraghe Nuracale, a Late Bronze Age site in Central Sardinia. In addition to the huge stone towers on which she is standing, the site included circular stone huts and a monumental tomb a hundred yards away. Emily is currently applying for funding to return to Sardinia and run an excavation at the nearby Bronze Age site of Siddi Plateau.



Cameron Gokee and **Amanda Logan** in the central Falémé Valley in eastern Senegal. (see page 10)



Doctoral student **Howard Tsai** excavated the site of Las Varas in the Jequetepeque Valley, Peru. The Las Varas site dates from the Late Intermediate Period between the eleventh to fourteenth centuries. Howard excavated several tombs, plazas, platforms, and houses, including a house with deep cultural deposits that will give us the first Coastal Cajamarca ceramic sequence.



Undergraduate **Maia Dedrick** participated in the Programme for Belize, a non-profit organization that promotes the conservation and study of Belize's natural heritage, including archaeological sites. In a project directed by Dr. Fred Valdez of the University of Texas at Austin, Maia worked to gather archaeological data from across the region to create an integrated view of the development of Mayan civilization in the region up to its collapse.



Lisa Young and **Katie Carlton** excavating Creswell Pueblo at Homol'ovi Ruins State Park, Arizona. (see page 4)



Jeffrey Parsons and colleagues from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Xochimilco, visiting chinampas in the Southern Valley of Mexico.

Collections: Rehousing the Tapa Cloth Collection

In March 2007, Conservator Alex Allardt came to Ann Arbor for two weeks to work on repairing, cleaning, and rehousing our tapa cloth collection. Alex had first come to our Museum in 2006 to conduct a conservation assessment survey and to help identify some of the most critical conservation needs of the Museum's vast collections. With support from the College, we were able to bring her back this year to work on two of those collections—the Pacific tapa cloths and the infamous “Soper frauds,” a set of “ancient” engraved clay tablets and figurines that were manufactured and planted in archaeological sites in southeastern Michigan in the early 1900s.



Conservator Alex Allardt working on tapa cloth.

Made from the inner bark of a mulberry tree, tapa was widely used throughout the Pacific for everyday dress, royal ceremonial dress, burial dressing, formal gift exchanges and presentations, architectural dividers, bed covers, and many other functions. Tapa cloth continues to be made today both for ceremonial purposes and as objects for sale. Our collections include twenty-nine pieces of flat tapa textiles as well as an unusual sewn mission-style dress made from tapa. These objects came to us from several donors; the majority date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a period when tapa was being transformed from a daily necessity to a collectable commodity. Tapes in our collections were made and acquired in American Samoa, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, French Polynesia, Melanania, and Hawaii. The cloths range from very finely made tapa (exceptionally thin and pliable) to thicker, coarser tapa made more for visitors to the islands. Two of the smaller pieces in our collection were of undetermined origin. However, after examining the tapa with a light paddle and with the expertise of Alex, we were able to determine that they were most likely made in Hawaii. When light was passed through the cloth, a distinctive diamond with a central dot pattern was revealed; this is a common design of Hawaiian tapa beaters and is not generally found on other islands.

During the project, Ms. Allardt and Collections Manager **Karen O'Brien** worked on twenty-six tapa bark cloth objects in the collection, assisted by two graduate students, four undergraduates, and one community volunteer. Alex closely inspected each item for damage and conservation needs and, with Karen, trained students in the fundamentals of tapa conservation. These included



Kevin Blas vacuuming the tapa cloth.



Mission-style dress made from tapa cloth, 1890s.

such tasks as picking insect carcasses from the surface of the cloths, steaming out creases caused by storage, removing masking tape left from earlier “repairs,” and helping to mend or stabilize some of the more severe tears and holes in the cloth. Each step was scrupulously documented and photographed. Once assessed and treated, the fragile textiles were rehousing in a new hanging storage unit, constructed for us by the Plant Department of the University and located in our temperature- and humidity-controlled collection storage area. Larger cloths were rolled onto acid free tubes with unbuffered tissue paper. New labels, with the catalog number and a small picture of the tapa for easy identification, were attached to the outside.

The most interesting tapa worked on was an 1890s missionary-style dress (see above), given to the museum in the early 1900s by Mr. P.D. Woodruff. This is a remarkable object of colonial encounters—made of very fine and high quality painted tapa and hand-sewn into a “modest” garment that befitted the Victorian Christian woman. Stored tightly folded and bound with string for more than ninety years, we carefully unfolded the garment and spread it on a work table. The bottom part of the dress had severe loss and damage, although the rest was in remarkably good shape. We repaired the damaged portions using Japanese mulberry paper and wheat starch paste; the sleeves and ruffled collar were washed in a bath of distilled water and repaired. Finally, this extraordinary garment was hung on a specially constructed foam hanger and the arms and body were stuffed to give it some shape. We do not know much about the story of this dress, or if there are similar textiles in other museums' collections, but like many objects in our collections, it tells a remarkable story of human creativity during a period of major cultural change. If any of you can tell us more, we would love to hear from you.

Overall, the tapa conservation project was an enormous success, and we look forward to undertaking future conservation efforts to protect and preserve our important ethnographic and archaeological collections.

New Collections

In 2007, the Museum accessioned 23 new collections including materials from our archaeological field school projects in Senegal and northern Michigan. Several smaller collections have also been donated by the Michigan Archaeological Society from field work conducted in Dexter, Michigan.

The collection of the Zooarchaeology Laboratory has grown thanks to the purchases of skeletal materials by **Richard Redding** and a donation from the Bird Division of the Museum of Zoology. New comparative specimens include a lion, pigeon, and white-tailed deer.

Two new collections have also come into the Latin American Archaeology Division. Carl J. Wendt, Professor of Anthropology at California State University at Fullerton, has donated a type collection of diagnostic pottery, dating from 1500–900 BC, from his excavations at the Olmec site of El Remolino, Mexico. Wendt's collection is especially significant because every object is identified by type and provenience, as defined by the excavator. Our receipt of this type collection, arranged by Curator **Joyce Marcus**, was authorized by the Mexican government. Other materials coming into the Latin American collections include ceramics and other objects from Mesoamerica and South America collected by the late Rev. Francis X. Grollig, a Jesuit priest and anthropologist. Rev. Grollig, first hired as a history professor at Loyola University in Chicago, eventually became the first chair of Loyola's Department of Anthropology; he later served as director of the Latin American Studies Program. He traveled and studied widely in Mexico, Guatemala and Peru. The materials in his personal collections came from many important sites including Teotihuacan, Monte Alban, and Tiwanaku.

The Asian Archaeology Division received two important collections. Mr. George Lauff has donated three Himalayan Thang-ka paintings and several small Himalayan bronze artifacts that were originally part of the collection of Dr. Walter Koelz. This donation, Mr. Lauff's second gift to the Museum, is a wonderful addition to our important Koelz Collection of South Asian textiles and sacred and utilitarian objects. Curator **Carla M. Sinopoli**



New in 2007 from Museum of Anthropology Publications

The Vijayanagara Metropolitan Survey: Volume 1
(Memoir 41)
by Carla M. Sinopoli and Kathleen D. Morrison

Excavations at Cerro Tilcajete: A Monte Alban II Administrative Center in the Valley of Oaxaca
(Memoir 42)
by Christina Elson

has recently received an award from The Shelly and Donald Rubin Foundation to assist in documenting the Koelz Collection. A second important Asian collection was donated by Dr. Sarah Bekker of Arlington, VA. The Bekker collection consists of more than 100 Asian ceramic vessels and figurines acquired while Dr. Bekker and her husband resided in Thailand and Burma in the 1950s and 1960s. The majority of these well-documented objects are Thai, and date from the tenth century AD until the present. The collection thus provides a strong complement to the Asian Division's world-class collections of Asian trade ceramics.



The Ethnography and Material Culture Collections received a wonderful donation of twentieth-century Southwestern pottery from Dr. Mark Warner. The collection was brought together by his grandfather Chaplain Mark T. Warner and his parents Jane and Robert Warner. Dr. Robert Warner, former head of the University of Michigan Bentley Historical Library, was appointed as the sixth Archivist of the United States by President Jimmy Carter. The 25 ceramic vessels in the Warner Collection date from the 1930s through the 1990s, and include vessels from Acoma, San Juan, San Ildefonso, Picuris, Santa Clara, and Jemez Pueblos of New Mexico. Among the artists represented are Marie Martinez (San Ildefonso) and Helen Naha (Feather Woman). The Museum will be collaborating with the Bentley Historical Library to develop a digital exhibit of our respective Warner Collection materials.



New Exhibits

New in the Exhibit Museum is “Men of Metal: Ancient African Metallurgy,” a display chronicling the labor- and resource-intensive metalworking process. African iron metallurgies date back to 4000 years ago in the south Tenere in Niger, and 3000 years ago in the great lakes region of east Africa. This display, featuring artifacts from Africa, including iron spears and jewelry, was curated by **Augustin Holl**, Curator of West African archaeology.

The exhibit “Tigers to Butterflies: Chinese Children's Clothing 1880s–1930s,” curated by **Carla M. Sinopoli** and undergraduate **Saige Jedele**, opens in the Exhibit Museum on January 14, 2008. This exhibit features late nineteenth- to twentieth-century children's garments from the Museum of Anthropology's extensive collections of Asian textiles. Objects in the exhibit derive from the Ellen Laing Collection donated in 2005, and the F.W. Stevenson Collection from 1926. These elaborate garments were both beautiful and functional. Many are decorated with representations of fierce protective animals such as tigers, or with auspicious symbols such as lotus flowers or butterflies, embroidered or appliquéd onto hats, shoes, and jackets, to shield children from harm and to ensure a happy life.



Doctoral Student Research cont.

Following their participation in the Senegal fieldschool (see page 4), **Cameron Gokee** and **Amanda Logan** led a brief exploratory program of survey and excavation in the central Falémé Valley in eastern Senegal. The Falémé is a seasonal tributary of the Senegal River with archaeological remains dating from the Middle Stone Age to the historic era. In anticipation of Cameron's dissertation fieldwork, surface remains from sites occupied over the past four millennia were collected and a test unit was excavated at a small settlement site. Preliminary survey in the area around the modern village of Sansandé documented a variety of site types ranging from deflated scatters of quartz and flint tools and debitage to low mound clusters littered with rouletted ceramic sherds and iron tools. One of these latter sites, Pathé Djimba, was probed with a 2 x 3 m unit to determine the stratigraphic integrity of the deposits. The cut revealed at least four stratigraphic levels extending to a depth of at least 1.4 m with well-preserved cultural remains. Faunal remains from terrestrial and riverine mammals and reptiles were abundant in the upper two strata. Flotation samples were obtained from each layer to establish botanical preservation and species representation. An ashy lens at a depth of 60 cm yielded charcoal samples that have been submitted for radiocarbon dating at the Institute Fondumantel d'Afrique Noire in Dakar. The ceramic assemblage is dominated by twine and carved roulette decoration, often with multiple motifs on the same sherd. One deeply channeled rim is reminiscent of a style found at late prehistoric sites from complex polities in the Middle Senegal Valley some 300–400 km downstream. These results are promising and Cameron plans to conduct further excavations at the site in winter 2008, supported by a Fulbright Fellowship. Senegalese archaeologists Abdoulaye Kane, Mathar Ndiaye, and Tamsir "Commandant" Maiga and UMMA Curator **Augustin Holl** provided invaluable support in the field. Financial support for the project was provided by the Museum of Anthropology and the International Institute Experiential Learning Fund.



Amanda Logan doing flotation along the Falémé River.

Doctoral candidate **Allison R. Davis** has recently returned from nearly a year in Cusco, Peru, where she directed excavations at the archaeological site of Yuthu. Professor R. Alan Covey (UM PhD 2003, now at Southern Methodist University) first introduced Allison to the archaeology of Cusco by inviting her to participate in the Xaquixaguana Plain Archaeological Survey. For two seasons in 2004–2005, Allison (and UM student **Véronique Bèlisle**) directed a survey crew of Peruvian and American archaeologists in the systematic identification of prehispanic sites ranging from the camps of the earliest nomadic hunter-gatherers to a massive complex of storage buildings dedicated to the service of the Inka emperor. Through this experience, Allison became particularly interested in the earliest agricultural villages in the area. As part of the Xaquixaguana project, she directed the first excavations at two Formative period villages (600 BC–AD 200) located near Lake Huaypo. Based on these pilot studies, Allison selected Yuthu, a small agricultural village, as the focus of her dissertation research. Working with Peruvian colleagues and American students including UM student **Whitney Mihel**, excavations revealed the complex history and spatial organization of the community. Initially a locus of early, small-scale residential activities, later residents of Yuthu constructed a large platform and ceremonial structure for ritual activities. For some time, people continued to live at Yuthu and periodically remodel the ceremonial structure before the site was abandoned and used for human burials. Allison will use the data from these excavations to understand the nature of Formative social, economic, and ritual life. She is especially interested in long-distance interactions and the degree to which early villages in the Andes relied on resources from distant places to provision domestic and ritual activities. Allison's research was funded by Fulbright IIE, Rackham Graduate School, the Department of Anthropology, and the Museum of Anthropology's Griffin Scholarship Fund.



Allison Davis screening.

Help Support Our Graduate Students

UM President Mary Sue Coleman has created a new gift challenge program to enhance support for graduate students as a concluding phase of the current Michigan Difference Campaign. Every \$2 contributed for graduate support will be matched by \$1 from the President's Challenge Fund. This will apply to gifts to existing named endowments or expendable accounts, as well as to gifts that the donor requests be directed to the **Museum of Anthropology President's Challenge for Graduate Support Fund**. In order to establish a quasi-endowment income-generating fund, cumulative donations to the President's Challenge fund must reach \$10,000; to establish a new named endowment for graduate student support, a minimum gift or pledge of \$50K is needed. You may designate your gift either as endowed or expendable; undesignated gifts are considered expendable under University guidelines. If your gift is designated for endowment, distributions from the Fund shall be made in accordance with the University's then existing endowment distribution policy. If the University's endowment minimum is not met for the Museum's graduate support fellowship endowment (that is \$10,000), all gifts will be used on an expendable basis for graduate support within the Department.

The Challenge began on September 1, 2007, and will continue until either \$40 million is committed in gifts or the Michigan Difference Campaign ends on December 31, 2008, whichever comes first. Donors can extend their gifts over a period of 5 years, and it will all be matched as long as the pledge with first payment is received within the designated time frame of the Challenge. For this challenge, corporate matches for an employee's gift are eligible for a match if the money comes in within the designated time frame of the Challenge. Hence, donors are encouraged to make their gifts as soon as possible. Please also note the advice on the deadline for tax deductions for charitable gifts in this tax year on the enclosed gift fund card.

Please consider making a generous gift to this new fund to support graduate student research in anthropological archaeology. You may use the enclosed card or visit <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umma/support/>.

Graduate Student Successes

Congratulations to the following anthropological archaeology graduates who began tenure track jobs in anthropology in fall 2007!

Zoe Crossland, Columbia University
William Honeychurch, Yale University
Meghan Howey, University of New Hampshire
Despina Margomenou, Georgia State University
Eugene Morin, Trent University
Jason Sherman, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Aaron Stutz, Oxford College of Emory Univ. (Atlanta)
Laura Villamil, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Welcomes

Luce/ACLS Scholars

The Museum is delighted to be hosting two distinguished Chinese archaeologists in 2007–2008, both funded by the Luce Foundation/American Council of Learned Societies Initiative for the Study of Ancient East Asia. **Dr. Fang Hui**, Deputy Director and Professor at the Center for East Asian Archaeology of Shandong University, will be pursuing characterization and other research on ceramics from his ongoing excavations at the Shang urban center of Daxingzhuang. **Dr. Xiaolin Ma** of the Henan Institute of Archaeology is one of China's leading zooarchaeologists. Dr. Ma will work on zooarchaeological materials from the Huizui site in the Yi-Lou region of Henan, with curators Richard Redding and Kent Flannery, and will take advantage of the rich comparative collections of the Museum of Zoology.



Fang Hui (right) looking at probing sample.

Dr. Laura Motta (PhD, University College London) has joined the Museum this year as a Research Associate. Dr. Motta is an archaeobotanist who uses botanical evidence to explore state emergence and state economies in the vicinity of Rome during the Italian Iron Age (first millennium BCE). Dr. Motta will be offering a hands-on course in archaeobotanical techniques to undergraduate and graduate students in winter 2008.



Laura Motta



Judy Hartsuff

We welcome **Judy Hartsuff** to the Museum Staff. Judy joined us this month to replace Donna Steiner (see p. 2) in the front office. Judy comes with many years of experience in the private sector, and enormous skills in office management, computer databases, and accounting. We are delighted to welcome her to our Museum community. Stop by and see hello when you are next in the area.

WE THANK OUR 2006-2007 DONORS

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For information on giving opportunities and development priorities of the Museum of Anthropology please contact *Carla M. Sinopoli* (sinopoli@umich.edu) or visit <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umma/support/>

Special acknowledgment to the **Margaret B. Matson Trust** for a very generous gift to the Griffin Scholarship Fund and Guthe Undergraduate Endowment. Fred Matson earned his MA in anthropology at Michigan in 1936 and his PhD in 1939, and went on to a long and distinguished career in anthropology. This bequest is an apt tribute to his long and productive life—and we are most grateful.



In 2008, the Museum will celebrate its 80th anniversary in the Ruthven Building, shown here in 1928.

**The University of Michigan
Museum of Anthropology**

4013 Museums Bldg
1109 Geddes Avenue
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