Research Confirms Darwin was Right!

Introducing Our Newest Assistant Professor

In 2010, a team of researchers hailing from Africa, Europe, Australia, and the United States discovered skeletal remains in a cave located approximately 30 miles from Johannesburg. The team named this new species *Australopithecus sediba*, showing that it is an intermediary form sharing both ape-like and *Homo*-like characteristics that are also seen in *Australopithecus* and modern humans. One of the team leaders is Dr. Darryl de Ruiter, associate professor in our department. Since this initial discovery, de Ruiter and his colleagues have recovered new remains that continue to support their claim that *Au. sediba* shares characteristics with both apes and humans.

Dr. de Ruiter co-authored a set of four of six papers about *Au. sediba* which were featured in an April issue of the journal *Science*.

(continued on p. 4)

This spring, the Department of Anthropology hired Dr. Kelly Graf to fill a new position specializing in First Americans archaeology. Graf will start this position in the fall. After completing her MA in Anthropology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2001, Graf received her PhD in Anthropology from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2008. She has been affiliated with the Center for the Study of the First Americans at Texas A&M University since 2007, and most recently, has been employed as a Research Assistant Professor in the department.

To learn about her journey to our department, graduate student Jessica Dangott met with Dr. Graf to discuss her research and teaching interests.

**JD:** What was your dissertation topic?

**KG:** My dissertation focused on how to use land use patterns differently before, during, and after the last glacial cycle.

(continued on p. 3)
How the Study of a New Fishing Technology Can Shed Light on Human Behavior

Beginning in 2007, Dr. Mike Alvard has been conducting research in Dominica, an island nation in the Lesser Antilles of the Caribbean Sea that has acquired the nickname “Nature Isle of the Caribbean” for its natural beauty. Alvard’s project, specifically, is based at artisanal (small-scale) fisheries in landing ports such as San Sauveur, Dominica.

Fish aggregating devices (FADs) are a type of fishing technology that has been spreading to many of the major fish landing sites on Dominica. A FAD can be described as simple, human-made structures designed to float in the ocean in order to attract and facilitate catching fish.

The expansion of FADs are associated with a common pool resource dilemma (CPR) that is at the heart of Dr. Alvard’s research. Free-riders, or “pirates” as termed in local vernacular, are constant intruders of the FAD technology because the FADs are placed out in the open water. Since the introduction of FAD technology in 1999, bouts of piracy have become more localized and subtle. Although the design of FAD technology contributes to piracy, this type of fishing technology continues to develop not only in terms of design, but also in cooperation with fellow fishermen.

Alvard’s research examines whether artisanal fishermen in Dominica are developing “simple institutional norms” to modify the incentive structure of pirating relative to FAD fishing. More generally, Alvard is integrating aspects of evolutionary theory, game theory, and common pool resource theory in order to address theoretical issues concerned with the nature of human sociality. A major goal of this project is to explore how fishermen communicate and “achieve the level of cooperation that they do in spite of a context that structurally favors free riding.”

Alvard has also made other observations about the use of FADs in Dominica. For example, he has documented that yellowfin tuna and blue marlin—two fish species that were difficult to find in the past—are now more easily targeted through the use of these fish aggregating devices. He also notes that artisanal fisheries have had a rather significant impact on poverty reduction and food security in this region of the Caribbean.

As this project continues, Alvard hopes to contribute to the Dominica Fisheries Division’s goal to further develop sound FAD policy and practices. Alvard’s ultimate goal is to help this Division create a national FAD Fishery Management Plan with an objective to maintain efficient and sustainable use of FADs and accompanying pelagic resources.

Alvard’s research is currently supported by grants from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and the National Science Foundation.
Ultimately, my goal was to understand land in the Late Pleistocene in Siberia, and to understand the source population for the first Americans.

JD: How did you first become interested in this topic?

KG: As an undergraduate student, I became interested in the problem of the peopling of the New World. It seemed to me that the best way to understand where the first Americans came from would be to study the Upper Paleolithic in Siberia. While getting my MA degree and essentially gathering the "tools" needed for doing my own research, my research interests, methods and theoretical framework developed, becoming much more sophisticated and that lead me to develop my dissertation project.

JD: What is the focus of your current research project?

My current research program is multifaceted so that I am still developing projects in Siberia, but over the past 5 years, I have undertaken several research projects in central Alaska. These have mainly been focused on better understanding site formation at terminal Pleistocene sites, clearing up problems with the existing record. In doing this, I have been able to take several students to the field with me.

JD: What courses do you plan to teach?

KG: In the fall, I will be teaching ANTH 202: Intro to Archaeology. And, in the future, I’ll be developing a couple of new courses including Environmental Archaeology, Arctic and Subarctic Culture, and World Pre-history.

JD: I know you’re one of the instructors for an archaeological field school this summer. Will you continue to take students to the field in the future?

Absolutely. I am trying to develop a research and education exchange with colleagues in Russia. My next major project will be based in Sakhalin and I’m very hopeful that this project will generate both undergraduate and graduate student fieldwork and research opportunities.

JD: Other than the field school experience, do you have undergraduate and graduate students working on your projects?

Yes. Right now Angela Gore is using data we collected from the Owl Ridge project (in which I am lead PI) for her MA paper. Julie Crisafulli (undergraduate in Anthropology) is helping me collect sedimentological data on a sediment column I collected at Bonneville Estates Rockshelter. She will be presenting this data at the Paleoamerican Odyssey Conference the CSFA is hosting in the fall. In addition to field schools, over the past four years since summer 2009, I have taken four undergraduate students and 10 graduate students in the field.

JD: Do you have any specific goals or projects in your new position?

KG: I hope to continue doing research, developing interesting courses, and providing opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students in the classroom and in the field. Also, within the next 5 years, I’d like to collaborate with Alexander Vasilevski and develop a sort of exchange program for field schools both here and in Russia.

JD: Do you have any personal interests or hobbies that many of us in the department may not know about you?

KG: I love fly fishing, backpacking, gardening, and baseball. I’m also really interested in Mediterranean travel and cooking, and recently I’ve started reading about specific battles during the Civil War.

Thank you to Dr. Kelly Graf for sharing her story with me—research, hobbies, and all!
A paper he co-authored with fellow TAMU Associate Professor Thom Dewitt from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries sciences, former Anthropology student Dr. Juliet Brophy, and current PhD student Keely Carlson, focuses on mandibular remains of *Australopithecus sediba*. By using morphometrics, a method that produces 3D mathematical models of the jawbone remains they recovered, de Ruiter and his colleagues are able to confirm that *Au. sediba* is, indeed, a new species. This species shares characters with other Australopiths, but it also differs from them in several measures, and where it differs from the Australopiths, it appears most similar to early *Homo*.

Dr. de Ruiter also contributed to a paper that concentrates on the upper limb of *Au. sediba*. In this paper, the team demonstrates that *Au. sediba* had long, ape-like arms adapted for climbing in trees in addition to long, human-like thumbs. The third paper co-authored by Dr. de Ruiter focuses on the lower thorax, which is superiorly tapered for locomotion in trees, and inferiorly narrowed as in humans, refining their ability to walk bipedally in a manner more similar to humans than any other Australopith. This change came at a price though, as it initially limited their ability to engage in heavy breathing during fast walking or running. Dr. de Ruiter's fourth paper centers on the dental morphology of *Australopithecus sediba*. By examining the teeth with ASUDAS characteristics (Arizona State University Dental Anthropology System), it was found that *Au. sediba*, again, is most similar to humans out of all australopithecines.

Ultimately, all of these findings point to one basic conclusion—Darwin was right! Darwin introduced the theory that human evolution could be traced back to Africa, and the research of Dr. de Ruiter and his colleagues provides strong support for this theory. Their findings also provide further evidence for their contention that *Australopithecus sediba* demonstrates an transitional form that is unique in size, shape, and pattern of growth, sharing characteristics with both *Homo erectus* and older australopithecines. All in all, this is what Darwin predicted would be found.

To read this series of papers published in *Science*, please follow [http://www.sciencemag.org/site/extra/sediba/index.xhtml](http://www.sciencemag.org/site/extra/sediba/index.xhtml) for open access to all of the articles.
Anthropology Building Renovations

By Dr. Cynthia Werner

For the past year, the Anthropology Building has been in a constant state of flux due to a major renovation project to replace the outdated Heating, Venting and Cooling (HVAC) system. After waiting for over a decade, the department finally moved up the list of deferred maintenance projects on campus. And, last April, the university extended a contract to Dudley Construction Company to install a new HVAC System. Simultaneously, the university contracted Daily Electric to install a new electrical system.

At first, it seemed like the project might cause a few minor disruptions to our work, as we were asked to pack up things that might be damaged as workers removed ceiling tiles to install new AC ducts. By mid-summer, however, the project transformed from a minor disruption to a major ordeal, as the contractors gained a better sense of what it was going to take to install the new system in our building, and the university acknowledged that this would be a convenient time to replace all of the floors in the building (including some that were damaged by a “waterfall-like” flood that occurred during the initial stages of the project). At this point, it became clear that EVERYTHING in the building would need to be removed, and EVERYBODY in the building would need to be relocated to a

Above: Faculty and students in the department spent several weeks packing over the summer break.

Right: Numerous boxes were moved to temporary locations around campus.
We developed a schedule of staggered moves, which meant that certain sections of the building would remain open at all times. As the picture below illustrates, we needed a lot of boxes to move all of our things.

The first set of moves happened in June. Over the summer, most of the ceiling tiles were removed from the building to allow workers to access the ceiling spaces. The second set of moves took place in August just before the Fall semester started. Faculty and staff in the East Wing of the building were relocated to Bolton Hall, and graduate students were relocated to the Reed McDonald Building. Classrooms and labs in the building remained open throughout the fall, but they all closed down over the winter break when the central and western wings of the building were vacated to allow for the renovation project to continue in these areas. The third set of moves took place over the winter break. At this time, some faculty returned to the Anthropology Building, while others moved to new office and lab locations. A few faculty, like Cemal Pulak, continued to work in their office until the last set of boxes were moved to a new location! During the spring semester, anthropology faculty were working out of seven different building locations, including the Anthropology Building, Bolton Hall, Reed McDonald Building, Read Building, and the Houston Building. The fourth and final set of moves is scheduled for July and August of this year, after the renovation project is finished.

This has been a long and stressful period for everybody in the department. But, throughout the process, there have been a few high moments. In the fall, it was fun to watch the brand new floors being installed in the east wing of the building. And, then over the winter break, it was exciting to watch three new air-conditioning units arrive on large trucks, and then get hoisted up to the top of the building. For those of us who
In our busy academic lives, it’s easy to become focused on our own work, to the point of overlooking the amazing research that our colleagues produce.

The Fourth Annual Anthropology Conference, held in Evans Library Annex on the 19th April 2013, set out to change that by providing a constructive environment for department members to present their work. A conference such as this creates a forum for dialogue and interaction, and an opportunity to appreciate the breadth and diversity of research that is profoundly anthropological. The conference comprised eighteen excellent paper and poster presentations, and highlighted the fascinating academic endeavors in our department and potential for synergistic collaboration between subfields.

The day kicked off with coffee and an opening address by department head Cynthia Werner, noting that it had been way too long since our last “annual” department conference back in 2010 --- which originally started as an annual graduate student conference.

This year the concept was expanded to include faculty and undergraduate presentations, and information tables that included a mix of Texas A&M resources and external vendors.

Each of the department programs were well represented. Presentations ranged
Anthropology Conference—cont’d.

from the field stories of a secret agent, collusion with fishing pirates on the high seas in the Caribbean, the rise of the Inca state, coring samples to decipher firing cycles in the Trans-Pecos, speculations on exclusive homosexuality in humans, mapping modernity in a Brazilian port city, genetic analysis supporting modern human distribution out of India, dictator games at bus stops in Las Vegas, to the analysis of bilge mud from ancient shipwrecks. There was something of interest for everyone, as evidenced by the lively question and answer periods following each presentation.

We were particularly impressed by the insightful questions and the responses from both audience and presenters: you could see a collaborative dialogue emerging from the exchange of ideas -- prompting people to think of their research in a different way. Clearly evidenced within these dialogues was the vast array of resources and diversity of knowledge in existence within our department. This is what good interactions look like. This is why it is important for the department, and all its members, to create and support these types of events. We need to be aware of and support the work that our colleagues do, in the best spirit of holism.

A fierce but friendly battle was fought in the poster competition. After a serious consideration, judges Sheela Athreya, Filipe Castro and David Carlson, announced that Jack A. Biggs (a senior anthropology major) was the winner. His poster was entitled “Mortuary Correlates of Maya Cranial Shaping in the Pasión Region”. Jack was very happy to receive his prize: a pair of engineered spreading calipers kindly donated by Paleo-Tech Concepts.

Many thanks to the people and sponsors who helped make the conference a success. Firstly, the amazing volunteers and coordinators: Susie Barr, Kersten Bergstom, Sarah Brown, Hao-Yu Cho, Roxana Gutierrez, Althea Han, Jacqueline Harman, Annie Melton, Hailey Mittleman, Steven Richards, Will Shaw, Gessner Soto, Sunshine Thomas and Amanda Whiteside.

Also, many thanks to the staff and faculty of the Anthropology Department for their enduring support. Lastly special thanks to Linda Bair and her team at TAMU Library Media and Reserves, John Paul Fullerton and Stephen Bales of TAMU Libraries, Aline Lovings of TAMU IRB, Wendy Arant-Kaspar of TAMU GIS & Mapping, Brittany Rutkowski of Pearson, Colea Podoloff of McGraw-Hill, Jim Kondrat of Paleo-Tech Concepts, W.W. Norton Booksellers, and MaxQDA.

View the conference proceedings!
Shipwreck Weekend!

By Chris Dostal

Staci Willis kicked off the night with a talk about the excavation of the Godavaya Shipwreck in Sri Lanka, the oldest known shipwreck in the Indian Ocean. Graduate student Rodrigo Torres followed, talking about his work exploring the colonial shipwrecks of Brazil, after which Dr. Shelley Wachsmann spoke about the Gurob Ship-Cart Model, the subject of his recently published book.

After the talks, there was a reception and a poster session, where students showcased their research projects while everyone enjoyed light refreshments and snacks. The night culminated with a talk by this year’s keynote speaker, Dr. Ben Ford, a faculty member of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a former student of the nautical archaeology program. Dr. Ford spoke about his ongoing search for the lost warships of the War of 1812 in the Great Lakes region of the US and Canada.

The event was a tremendous success, with standing room only and over 80 attendees. The planning committee is grateful to the University, the Department of Anthropology, the Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation, and the Institute of Nautical Archaeology for their support. Next year, Shipwreck Weekend will return to a two day event, again split between a day of talks and a family friendly open house.
Recent Guest Speakers in the Department

The Department of Anthropology hosted two events this spring to explore the professional and personal lives of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The first set of lectures were presented jointly by Heide Kelley & Ken Betsalel from University of North Carolina-Ashville. Exploring the issue of disability, Kelley and Betsalel presented one lecture entitled "Disability as Difference" and another lecture entitled "Minds Fire: Travel in Stroke Country." The Diversity Lecture Series continued with the visit of Dr. Ellen Lewin, a cultural anthropologist from the University of Iowa who writes about LGBTQ issues, including lesbian mothers and same-sex marriage. Dr. Lewin also presented two lectures: "Don't Try This at Home: Notes from an Unconventional Career" and "From Homosexual to Queer to Normative: A Story of LGBTQ Anthropology." These lectures were generously supported by an IIDEA grant from the College of Liberal Arts to support diversity-related activities in the college.

CSFA & Department of Anthropology Guest Lecture

Dr. Alexander Vasilevski from Sakhalin State University, Russia visited campus for one week in April. Alexander is the Vice Rector for Research at the university, and a Paleolithic archaeologist who spent several years excavating sites on Sakhalin Island, the Kurils, and Hokkaido in the Russian Far East/Japan. During his time visiting our department, Alexander presented two lectures—“First Peopling of Island Northeast Asia” and “Current Conditions of Archaeological Research on Sakhalin and Kuril Islands.” He also met with faculty and graduate students, and attended a special reception.
Graduate Student Summer Fieldwork Plans

**Katie Bailey** will be traveling to Vietnam to study Vietnamese and to conduct preliminary research on the grey-shanked douc langur in the Ngoc Linh Nature Preserve.

**Chris Dostal** will travel to Croatia to work on the Gnalic project with Dr. Filipe Castro.

**Lori Fields** will be traveling to the Philippines to conduct preliminary research on indigenous knowledge and perceptions of tarsiers and macaques.

**Angela Younie** will return to Alaska to conduct further dissertation fieldwork at the Linda’s Point site.

**Angela Gore** will be traveling to Alaska to participate at two different CSFA-sponsored archaeological sites.

**Megan Greenfelder** will be working at the Motul de San Jose Archaeological Project (Peten, Guatemala) as the project osteologist.

**Kristin Hoffmeister** will be working at the Uxbenka site in South Belize and also at La Milpa.

**Joshua Keene** will be traveling to Idaho to work on the Pioneer Site archaeological excavation with the Idaho National Laboratory, and to conduct museum-based dissertation research at the Idaho Museum of Natural History.

**Ali Krzton** will be going to Baihe Nature Reserve, China to begin her dissertation research on social cohesion between golden snub-nosed monkey groups.

**Anne Arundel Locker-Thaddeus** will be starting the first phase of her dissertation fieldwork in Edinburg, Texas, a longitudinal study of cultural changes. She will be collecting stories about the legendary figure of La Llorona.

**Angie Perrotti** will be on staff at the field school project called Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance Project, which is based out of San Ignacio, Belize.

**Neil Puckett, Sunshine Thomas, and Rodrigo Torres** will be traveling to Florida to assist with the Page-Ladson archaeological excavation, under the direction of TAMU graduate Jessi Halligan.

**Kelby Rose** will be an intern at Mystic Seaport in Mystic, CT, the nation's premier maritime museum.

**Willa Trask** will be the project osteologist at the Uxbenka site in South Belize. She will also be taking a Spanish language school in Peru, and participating on an archaeology project while there.

**John Littlefield** will join a small international crew aboard the research vessel Virazon for a 6-8 week survey of the waters around ancient Troy.
Congratulations to Our Scholarship and Award Winners!

Undergraduate Scholarships

Susannah Barr will be doing an independent research project in the Dominican Republic. She will assist in conducting research on family health care practices in relation to measurable growth in children from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds.

Crystal Gonzales, Ali Mendha, and Alexander Yarnell received scholarships to attend the Texas A&M University and Archaeology Southwest Field School this summer.

Jude Magaro will be participating at the Laetoli Field School this summer in Tanzania, operated by the University of Colorado, Denver.

Judith Melton will be participating at the Beringian Archaeology Field School in Tanana Valley, Alaska. This will be her first experience at an archaeological field school.

Student Research Awards

Undergraduate student Elizabeth Jaroszewski won a Student Research Award for her project entitled, “Ceramic Analysis of Southeastern Idaho Plain Ware from the Pioneer Site, Northeastern Snake River Plain” Elizabeth also presented her research at the Society for American Archaeology conference this past month in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Graduate student Melissa Mueller won a Student Research Award for her project entitled, “Zooarchaeological Analysis from the Sustina River Basin, Alaska” Melissa also presented her research at the 40th Annual Alaska Anthropological Association Conference in Anchorage, Alaska this past March.

Summer Field Schools Offered by the TAMU Department of Anthropology

Summer Field School in Beringian Archaeology

*TAMU Faculty: Drs. Kelly Graf and Ted Goebel*

This field school will focus on the archaeological and paleoecological records of late Pleistocene-early Holocene interior Alaska. Using the beautiful northern foothills of the Alaska Range as an outdoor laboratory, students will explore the landscapes traversed by the earliest peoples of Beringia. Students will learn about the prehistoric environments of the region by identifying glacial and periglacial landforms and mapping thick loess profiles. Students will learn about past human behavior by surveying for and testing archaeological sites at Blair Lakes in the Tanana Flats and excavating the multicomponent archaeological site of Linda’s Point at Healy Lake.

Archaeology Southwest Field School

*TAMU Faculty: Dr. Suzanne Eckert*

Situated in the Magdalena Mountains overlooking the Rio Grande Valley, this village was occupied for almost 400 years. Over the course of its occupancy, residents of this village witnessed the introduction of new religious practices, the production of unique polychrome pottery, extensive migrations, the incursion of the Spanish, and the Pueblo Revolt. Come join us for 5 weeks, and help explore a fascinating period in New Mexico’s history. Participants will learn excavation and survey techniques, basic laboratory analysis, attend lectures by regional and methodological experts, and network with other archaeology students and professionals.
**Recent Publications**


**Nathan Holton, Todd Yokley and Lauren Butaric (2013):** The Morphological Interaction Between the Nasal Cavity and Maxillary Sinuses in Living Humans. The Anatomical Record, DOI: 10.1002/ar.22655


**Shelley Wachsmann’s Latest Book**


Wachsmann’s book offers a variety of insights and a wide range of evidence for connections between ancient Mediterranean peoples and traditions, and serves as a valuable asset for those interested in complex cultural changes in the eastern Mediterranean from the end of the Bronze Age to the beginning of the Iron Age.

Accompanying this book is an interactive series of 3D models that allow viewers to examine the Gurob Ship-Cart model in its present state as well as in various hypothetical reconstructions. Feel free to view the interactive online Digital Supplement!

Click on the image to view the full book cover!
Recent Grants and Awards

Myeshia Babers received a Thesis Fellowship Award from the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. She will use this award to support her project called “Masculinity Among Urban Black Cowboys in Texas.”


John Blong received a grant from Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research Program for $990.

John Blong, Keely Carlson, and Kelby Rose each received a College of Liberal Arts Vision 2020 Dissertation Enhancement Award for $5,000.

Nanda Grow and Willa Trask each won the William S. Pollitzer Student Award, a competitive essay competition held by the American Academy of Physical Anthropologists.

Dr. Sharon Gursky-Doyen received a $4,900 grant from Conservation International Primate Action Fund to study ultrasonic vocalizations in spectral tarsiers.

Kelby Rose was awarded the 2013 Fasken Graduate Student Teaching Award.

Staci Willis was awarded the Melbern G. Glasscock Center's Brown-Kruse Fellowship for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Laura White recently received the Women Diver's Hall of Fame Cecelia Connelly Memorial Scholarship in Underwater Archaeology.

Nine Anthropology graduate students recently received Professional Development Grants from the College of Liberal Arts: Katie Bailey, Keely Carlson, Tim De Smet, Ali Krzton, Lori Fields, Kelby Rose, Brittany Staff, Willa Trask, and Laura White.

Alicia Krzton will be a U.S. Fulbright Scholar for 2013-2014. She will be conducting a project entitled “Social Cohesion in the Golden Snub-Nosed Monkey.” She also received grants this year from Conservation International Primate Action Fund, Primate Conservation Inc., and the International Society of Primatolo-

Congrats and Thank You to our Anthropology Super Staff!

This semester, Cindy Hurt and Rebekah Luza received a 2012-13 President’s Meritorious Service Award (PMSA). Cindy and Rebekah were the only TAMU employees to receive a team award this year, which is an outstanding achievement!

The President's Meritorious Service Awards began in almost thirty years ago in 1986. This year, these awards were presented to recognize 15 outstanding staff employees and to our outstanding Anthropology Super Staff for their meritorious service to the university. Nominations were reviewed and recipients were selected by an anonymous committee appointed by the President.

The awards were presented at a special award ceremony held at Rudder Auditorium on February 27, 2013. Our Anthropology Super Staff was recognized with individual framed certificates of recognition, as well as a plaque for departmental display.

CONGRATULATIONS to both of you, Cindy and Rebekah, and a huge THANK YOU for your dedication and countless contributions to our department and the university!
Other Department News

Dr. Vaughn Bryant was recently part of a discussion on the BBC program "The Why Factor" about why humans kiss. To listen to the 18 minute conversation, drawing from anthropology, psychology, and biochemistry, and history, click HERE.

Lauren Butaric’s recently co-authored paper, "The Morphological Interaction Between the Nasal Cavity and Maxillary Sinuses in Living Humans," has been getting some much deserved press in Science Daily and on CNNHealth. Check it out at Science Daily HERE!

Dr. Filipe Castro was recently elected to the Faculty Senate at Texas A&M, joining Dr. Darryl de Ruiter who is already serving on the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Darryl de Ruiter was the College of Liberal Arts Fallon-Marshall Lecturer this past March, discussing his team’s discovery of Australopithecus sediba, the likely fossil ancestor of the genus Homo.

Dr. Sharon Gursky-Doyen’s paper, “Primate communication in the pure ultrasound,” was recently included in the Biology Letters most downloaded and cited articles from 2012. This paper was one of the top ten download articles.

Former Anthropology major Nathanael Hill is in the process of starting an online community for language learners called Fluentli. This program will create a corpus of living, spoken language that is accessible to everyone, and aims to be used to research how language evolves over time. Fluentli will be open for testing in a few weeks.

John Littlefield was recently accepted to the Register of Professional Archaeologists (R.P.A.), and earned the Marine Artifact Conservation certification from TAMU. He is also the first recipient of the "Erkut Arcak Graduate Fellowship" for the 2013-14 academic year.

Brett Lowry recently presented his work-in-progress as part of the Glasscock Center’s Graduate Colloquium Series.

Anthropology major Marisol Moreno and MA student Kaeligh MacDonald for winning a Public Anthropology Award for their top-graded Op-Ed pieces as part of a community action assignment for ANTH 430/641 (Applied Anthropology).

Casey Wayne Riggs was the keynote speaker at the Fort Stockton Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet in Pecos County, Texas this past February, where he spoke about the archaeology of that area.

Zac Selden is part of a group at the Gregg County Historical Museum working to sort and catalog artifacts that date back to 1700 A.D. Their work was featured in several newspapers, including the Houston Chronicle. Read the full story HERE.

Drs. Mike Waters, Ted Goebel, and Jessi Halligan were featured in a cover story in the February issue of Smithsonian Magazine about their findings that humans came to the Americas much earlier than previously thought.

Laura White recently presented at two international conferences, one of which was the International Symposium on Boat and Ship Archaeology.

CONGRATULATIONS to some of our graduate students and their partners who have recently welcomed their sons and daughters into their families!

Phil Johnson’s new son Alexander Thomas Johnson-Breazele.

Tyler Laughlin’s new daughter Samantha Mae.

Brett Lowry’s new daughter Hope.

Kevin Pepper’s new daughter Penelope.

Brandie Massengale’s new son Rory Terran Yale.

Jessi Halligan (PhD 2012) will be starting next semester as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Archaeology at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse.
Congratulations to our PhD Graduates!

December 2012

**George Schwarz:** “The Passenger Steamboat Phoenix: An Archaeological Study of Early Steam Propulsion in North America”  
*Advisor: Kevin Crisman*

George is now employed as a Marine Archaeologist and Conservator with Geoscience Earth and Marine Services in Houston.

**Andy Laurence:** “Trials and Tribulations of Ancient Starch Research: An Investigation of Contamination and Earth Ovens at Fort Hood, Texas”  
*Co-Advisors: Vaughn Bryant and Alston Thoms*

Andy, currently an intern for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), plans to continue working full-time with the agency in facilitating and enforcing lawful international trade and travel.

May 2013

**Lauren Butaric:** “Biogeographic patterns of maxillary sinus variation among Homo sapiens: Environmental adaptation or architectural by-product?”  
*Advisor: Sheela Athreya*

**Rebecca Ingram:** “An Analysis of Reconstruction of a Seventh-Century A.D. Shipwreck Excavated at the Byzantine Harbor at Yenikapi in Istanbul, Turkey”  
*Advisor: Cemal Pulak*

**Margie Serrato:** “Fighting with Gender: Understanding the Contemporary Combat Experiences of Servicewomen and Servicemen in the United States Military”  
*Advisor: Cynthia Werner*

Margie is an Associate Lecturer in Anthropology at Deakin University in Australia.

**Christine Jones:** “Hunter Gatherers of the Central Gulf Coastal Plain and the Lower Pecos Region of Texas: Interpreting Patterns of Health and Variability”  
*Advisor: Lori Wright*

**Victoria Springer:** “Late Pleistocene Neandertal-Early Modern Human Population Dynamics: The Dental Evidence”  
*Advisor: Sheela Athreya*
Congratulations to our MA Graduates!

December 2012

Claire Collins: Amphora Graffiti from the Byzantine Shipwreck at Novy Svet, Crimea  
Advisor: Debbie Carlson
Beginning in Fall 2013, Claire will be attending law school.

Hyun Ae Lim: Non-thesis option  
Advisor: Norbert Dannhauser

John Littlefield: “The Hull Remains of the Late Hellenistic Shipwreck at Kizilburun, Turkey”  
Advisor: Debbie Carlson
John is continuing on in the PhD program here at TAMU.

Justin Parkoff: “The Acropolis at Babylon: A Reconstruction during the Late 6th Century B.C.”  
Advisor: Donny Hamilton
Justin is continuing on in the PhD program here at TAMU.

Advisor: Shelley Wachsmann
Neil is continuing on in the PhD program here at TAMU.

Kim Rash: “Reconstructing the Assemblage of Iron Artifacts from the Late Hellenistic Shipwreck at Kizilburun, Turkey”  
Advisor: Debbie Carlson
Kim was hired as a conservator with the Queen Anne's Revenge Conservation Laboratory operated by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources in Greenville, North Carolina, on the campus of East Carolina University.

May 2013

Bryana DuBard: “The Key to all the Indies: Defense of the Isthmus of Panama”  
Advisor: Filipe Castro

Some of our graduates during Commencement in May 2013.
Congratulations to our BA Graduates!

December 2012
Baker, Alexandria Grace
Ebner, Alexandra Paige
Funke, William Hemann
Gonzales, Eleanor Claire
Hansen, Sydney Rae
House, Barrett Howard
Legan, Jennifer Elaine
Loera, Lilia
Potter, William Michael
Reibenspies, Jennifer Marie
Rivera, Stephanie Katerina
Rowden, Christopher Bryce
Smithwick, Journey

May 2013
Almond, Sarah E
Bell, Elizabeth Grace
Biggs, Jack
Brown, Sarah Lindsey
Ceenas, Jeena Marie
Cline, Robin Caitlin
Eby, Ray Thomas
Estrada, Nerida
FIGUEROA, Jessica Isabella
Fry, Bobbie Lee
Green, Christine Leighann
Hoff, Aaron Gregory
Jaroszewski, Elizabeth

Johnson, India Sutton
Johnson, Rebecca Knowles
King, Shay Lynn
Kusnierz, Nicole Elizabeth
Lang, Ashley Brooke
Mize, Sarah Katherine
Morin, Stephen A
Odom, Kayla Janell
Pack, Alan Joseph
Peña, Amanda

Rhoades, Taylor Katherine
Robbins, Lora Marie
Saldana, Laura
Silber, Katherine Allen
Soto, Gessner Antonio
Stanley, Jessica Nicole
Tee, John Nicholas
Thurman, Kelly Ann
Williams, Inesha Janae
Zerbe, James Garrett

Plans for After Graduation

Jack Biggs will be attending Michigan State University to earn a PhD and to study physical anthropology and bioarchaeology. He plans to begin in Fall 2014.

Sarah Brown will be attending the University of Edinburgh to earn a MS in human osteoarchaeology beginning this September.

Elizabeth Jaroszewski has been accepted to the PhD program in Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma.

Jenny Reibenspies was recently was hired as a Library Specialist 1 at Cushings Memorial Library.

Gessner Soto will be teaching Physics at Davis High School in Houston.

Kelly Thurman will be attending nursing school at TAMU in Corpus Christi.

John Welkener will be starting and running his own painting business in the Dallas area. His BA in Anthropology will help him to approach people he encounters more holistically and with less ethnocentric bias. He says, “I am able to gain a deeper than my own, but is no less valuable than mine.”

Inesha Williams will be participating in the Etruria Nova Onlus Archaeological Field School in Policastro Bussentino, Campania, Italy.
New Courses for Fall 2013

ANTH 439/639: Gender, Ethnicity, and Class in Archaeological Research (Dr. Suzanne Eckert)

The archaeological record is extraordinarily rich and varied, and yet for most of its history as a field of study, archaeology has failed to recognize gender, ethnicity, or class as viable research topics. This course examines archaeological research on these social groups over the past two decades. We will explore the ways in which a consciousness of gender, ethnicity and class can offer a more in-depth understanding of the archaeological record and how the study of such social groups challenges traditional archaeological culture histories as well as impacts method and theory.

ANTH 440: Studies in Globalization (Dr. Nicole Fadeke Castor)

Studies in Globalization: Africana Popular Culture” (ANTH 440/AFST 326/FILM 489) will examine a wide range of subjects (such as hip hop, Carnival and film) using a wide range of critical approaches (such as critical theory, gender studies, postcolonial theory and cultural studies) in a variety of international locations (Ghana, Cuba, Trinidad and Brazil) to better understand the circulation, production, and consumption of popular culture around the globe. The primary objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to critically analyze these various forms of global popular culture in the African Diaspora and understand them within a broader social context. Although this course will draw on our familiarity with popular culture, we will approach the subject from a scholarly perspective to learn how popular culture, in all its various forms, not only reflects the world around us but also how it influences the way we perceive the world.

ANTH 489/689: Economic Anthropology (Dr. Travis Du Bry)

This course provides a general introduction to the basic concepts and theories in the field of economic anthropology. We will explore different systems of production, exchange and consumption in both local and global contexts. We will employ a comparative approach to economic life in both developed and developing societies, and through time. Several topics are explored, including theoretical approaches in economic anthropology (formalism, substantivism, political economy and cultural economics); forms of exchange (reciprocity, redistribution and market exchange); and meanings attributed to money, commodities, and the market.

ANTH 689: Quantitative Ethnographic Methods (Dr. Jeff Winking)

While most research conducted by cultural anthropologists tends to rely on qualitative investigations of cultural and behavioral phenomena, many anthropologists (and other social scientists) include structured, quantitative ethnographic field methods in their research that allow for a more comparable, refutable and formalized process of hypothesis construction and testing. While there are clearly benefits to this approach, there are also many challenges that accompany the imposing of structure and quantification to complex and nuanced cultural patterns. In this course, we will cover some of the quantitative ethnographic field methods that are commonly employed to formally test anthropological hypotheses. The final for the class will consist of an in-depth ethnographic exploration of Aggie culture and spirit that will involve various data collection techniques conducted by the entire class.
## Fall 2013 Undergraduate and Graduate Courses in Anthropology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Bldg/Room</th>
<th>Days/Times</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Introduction to Anthropology</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Multiple sections</td>
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<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>Introduction to Archaeology</td>
<td>HECC 108</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
<td>Kelly Graf</td>
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<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Peoples and Cultures of the World</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple sections</td>
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<tr>
<td>210</td>
<td>Social and Cultural Anthropology</td>
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<td>Multiple sections</td>
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<tr>
<td>225</td>
<td>Introduction to Biological Anthropology</td>
<td>ANTH 300</td>
<td>TR 12:45-2:00</td>
<td>Sheela Athreya</td>
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<tr>
<td>229</td>
<td>Introduction to Folklore</td>
<td>ZACH 227A</td>
<td>NWF 11:30-12:20</td>
<td>Tom Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>303</td>
<td>Archaeology of the American Southwest</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>TR 2:20-3:35</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Anthropological Writing</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>M 1:50-2:40</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>312</td>
<td>Fossil Evidence of Human Evolution</td>
<td>ARCA 323</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
<td>Darryl de Ruiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>313</td>
<td>Historical Archaeology</td>
<td>ANTH 130</td>
<td>MW 9:00-10:15</td>
<td>Donny Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>314</td>
<td>Agrarian Peasant Societies</td>
<td>PETR 104</td>
<td>MW 11:30-12:20</td>
<td>Norbert Dannhaeuser</td>
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<tr>
<td>316</td>
<td>Nautical Archaeology</td>
<td>HECC 209</td>
<td>TR 12:45-2:00</td>
<td>Wayne Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>324</td>
<td>Music in World Cultures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>340</td>
<td>Folklore and the Supernatural</td>
<td>PETR 104</td>
<td>MW 12:40-1:30</td>
<td>Tom Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>354</td>
<td>Archaeology of Ancient Italy</td>
<td>BLOC 113</td>
<td>TR 9:35-10:50</td>
<td>Debbie Carlson</td>
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<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>Anthropology of Religion</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>W 10:20-1:20</td>
<td>Bruce Dickson</td>
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<tr>
<td>415</td>
<td>Anthropological Writing</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>MWF 9:10-10:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>423</td>
<td>Bioarchaeology</td>
<td>ANTH 300</td>
<td>MW 10:20-11:35</td>
<td>Lori Wright</td>
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<td>425</td>
<td>Human Osteology</td>
<td>ANTH 300A</td>
<td>MW 3:45-5:00</td>
<td>Lori Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>439</td>
<td>Gender, Ethnicity and Class in Archaeological Research</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
<td>Suzanne Eckert</td>
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<tr>
<td>444</td>
<td>Classical Archaeology</td>
<td>ANTH 130</td>
<td>TR 9:35-10:50</td>
<td>Debbie Carlson</td>
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<tr>
<td>447</td>
<td>Lithic Artifact Analysis</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>TR 9:35-10:50</td>
<td>Ted Goebel</td>
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<tr>
<td>484</td>
<td>Anthropology Internship</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>David Carlson</td>
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<tr>
<td>601</td>
<td>Biological Anthropology</td>
<td>ANTH 300B</td>
<td>TR 3:35-5:10</td>
<td>Darryl de Ruiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>603</td>
<td>Seafaring Life and Maritime Communities</td>
<td>ANTH 130</td>
<td>F 9:10-12:10</td>
<td>Kevin Crisman</td>
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<tr>
<td>604</td>
<td>Cultural Method and Theory</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>F 2:00-5:00</td>
<td>Norbert Dannhaeuser</td>
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<tr>
<td>605</td>
<td>Conservation of Archaeological Resources I</td>
<td>ANTH 101</td>
<td>T 2:00-5:00</td>
<td>Donny Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>611</td>
<td>Nautical Archaeology</td>
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<td>TR 12:45-2:00</td>
<td>Cemal Pulak</td>
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<tr>
<td>615</td>
<td>History of Shipbuilding Technology</td>
<td>ANTH 130</td>
<td>W 2:00-5:00</td>
<td>Cemal Pulak</td>
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<tr>
<td>616</td>
<td>Research and Reconstruction of Ships</td>
<td>ANTH 105</td>
<td>W 9:10-12:10</td>
<td>Filipe Castro</td>
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<tr>
<td>624</td>
<td>Georarchaeology</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>W 1:50-4:50</td>
<td>Mike Waters</td>
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<td>Primate Behavioral Ecology</td>
<td>ANTH 300B</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
<td>Sharon Gursky-Doyen</td>
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<tr>
<td>639</td>
<td>Gender, Ethnicity and Class in Archaeological Research</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
<td>Suzanne Eckert</td>
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<tr>
<td>640</td>
<td>Anthropological Ethics and Professionalism</td>
<td>ANTH 130</td>
<td>W 10:30-1:30</td>
<td>Cynthia Werner</td>
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<tr>
<td>642</td>
<td>Research Design in Anthropology</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>TR 12:45-2:00</td>
<td>David Carlson</td>
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<tr>
<td>644</td>
<td>Classical Archaeology</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TR 9:35-10:50</td>
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<td>Ted Goebel</td>
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<tr>
<td>654</td>
<td>Archaeological Photography</td>
<td>ANTH 108</td>
<td>W 9:10-12:10</td>
<td>Wayne Smith</td>
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<td>689/489</td>
<td>Economic Anthropology</td>
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<td>F 12:40-3:40</td>
<td>Travis Du Bry</td>
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<tr>
<td>689</td>
<td>SPTP in Quantitative Ethnographic Methods</td>
<td>ANTH 214</td>
<td>M 10:20-1:20</td>
<td>Jeff Winking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Department of Anthropology benefits from the generosity of friends, alumni, and patrons who share in our commitment to excellence in educating the next generation of anthropologists. Please consider a gift to the Department of Anthropology today. With your support, we will continue to transform the lives of our students. Donations can be made online.

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

For questions about the department, please contact our Department Head, Dr. Cynthia Werner (werner@tamu.edu).

Thank you to Chris Dostal, Catharina Laporte, Dr. Travis Du Bry, and Dr. Cynthia Werner for contributing to parts of this newsletter issue! Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

If you have information for upcoming issues of our newsletter, please contact Jessica Dangott (jldangott@neo.tamu.edu).