

## Laura Motta

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Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan  
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### CURRENT POSITION:

- 2022- Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies
- 2025- Assistant Curator, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology

### EDUCATION:

- 2011 University of Cambridge, PhD in Archaeology. Dissertation title: "The seed of the Roman State. Archaeobotanical assemblages from Archaic Rome".
- 1998 University of Cambridge, Certificate of Post-Graduate Studies in Environmental Archaeology.
- 1994 University of Pisa, Laurea in Roman Archaeology. Thesis title: "Il sito tardo antico di San Mario. Ricostruzione ambientale e quadro archeologico".

### PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

- 2022-2024 Assistant Professor, Program in the Environment (PitE), University of Michigan.
- 2016-2022 Research Specialist Intermediate, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan.
- 2010-2022 Lecturer I and II, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan.
- 2018 and 2019 Department of Environmental Biology, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Visiting Professor, Guest Instructor, December 5-22 and 4-20.
- 2017 and 2018 Rome Summer Program Director, CGIS, University of Michigan.
- 2016 Lecturer I, Program in the Environment, University of Michigan.
- 2012-2015 Assistant Research Scientist, Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, University of Michigan.
- 2008-2014, 2017 Lecturer I, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- 2007-2012 Research Investigator, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology and Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, University of Michigan.
- 2002-2007 Research Associate, Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 1997-2001 Lecturer, Department of Archaeology, University of Siena.
- 2000 Lecturer, Monte Amiata Technical College in Cultural Resource Management.

### LAB POSITIONS:

- 2024 Director, CERES Lab: Culture and Environment archaeological RESearch, University of Michigan,
- 2023- Director, Archaeobiology Lab, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan.

2016-2023 Co-director for Archaeobotany, Archaeobiology Lab, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. University of Michigan,  
 2007-2015 Research Investigator, Ethnobotany Range, Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, University Michigan.  
 1997-2001 Manager of the Environmental Archaeology lab, University of Siena.  
 1995-1997 Manager of the Environmental Archaeology lab, Department of Classical Studies, University of Rome “La Sapienza”.

### **GRANTS:**

ESSELUNGA “Vigna Murata Project” (2024-2026), PI, award amount \$88,000.  
 UM Bioscience Initiative (2023). “WET wetlands for carbon sinks”, CoPI, award amount \$450,000. Declined.  
 EOS (Excellence of Science) (2022-2026). “AGROS. Agriculture, diet, and nutrition in Greco-Roman Egypt” PI, award amount Euros 3,730,865. Project spokes-person P. Erdkamp, VUB.  
 LOEB Foundation (2023-2024). “Geoarcheology of the Roman Forum”, CoPI, award amount \$27,224.  
 AIA-NEH Grant for Archaeological Research (2021-23). “Herding, Husbandry and the City: Stable Isotope Analysis of Gabii’s animals”, PI, award amount \$10,805.  
 LOEB Foundation (2019-2020). “Geoarcheology of the Tiber valley”, CoPI, award amount \$28,000.  
 FWO (Flemish Scientific Council) (2018-2021). “Rethinking Roman Nutrition. Nutritional biochemistry and stable isotope chemistry of cereals and pulses from Roman Egypt”. CoPI. Award amount Euro 310,000.  
 Gerda Henkel Foundation (2018-2019). “Geoarcheology of the Tiber valley”, CoPI, award amount \$12,650.  
 UM Humanities Collaboratory Proposal Development Grant (2016). “Karanis: a holistic approach to an ancient village”. Participating Investigator.  
 NSF award #1264315 (2013-2016). “Paths to Bronze Age Complexity: Tracking the Rise of Pecica Santul Mare”, Participating Investigator. Award amount 377,920.00.  
 NSF award #1259122 (2013-2014). “State Formation and Urbanization in EIA Rome: Investigating the Role of the Exchange and Human-Environment Interactions”, CoPI, award amount 244,000.  
 St John’s College, Cambridge. Research Support Grant (1999 and 2000).  
 Earthwatch Institute Grant (1994-1996). “Etruscan Farms Project”, CoPI, award amount \$65,000.

### **AWARDS and SCHOLARSHIPS:**

BriAS - Brussels Institute for Advanced Studies, invited Residential Fellowship (Spring 2023)  
 Honored Instructor Award, Michigan Housing (2023)  
 SUCCEED Faculty Award, University of Michigan (2023).  
 LSA SRP Award “Mapping the bioavailable Sr and O iso-scape of Central Italy” (2023).  
 Abrams Sustainability funds, University of Michigan (2015 and 2016).  
 Lecturers’ Professional Development Fund, University of Michigan (2016).

Outstanding Research Mentor Certificate, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan (2012).

Benefactors' Scholar, St John's College, Cambridge (1999-2001).

AHRB, British Academy, doctoral studentship in the Humanities (1999-2001).

European Student Bursary, European Trust (1997-1998).

Molly Aylwin Cotton Foundation pre-doctoral Research Scholarship "Daniela Fusaro", British School at Rome. Research project: "Volterra e il suo territorio nella tarda antichità. Un tentativo di storia ambientale" (1995-96).

## **PUBLICATIONS** (numbered for reference in the research statement):

### **Book:**

L. Motta, N. Terrenato eds., *Archaic fora and public open spaces in Central Italy*. CUP, book proposal under review.

### **Manuscripts accepted, under review, and in progress:**

- 32) A. Brock, F. Marra, L. Motta, C. Nicosia, N. Terrenato, "Natural and anthropic influences on the transformation of the landscape in Archaic Rome". *Journal of Archaeological Sciences: Reports*, Accepted.
- 33) A. Brock, L. Motta, N. Terrenato, "The origin of the Tiber Island in Rome". *Journal of Roman Studies*, under review.
- 34) N. Terrenato, L. Motta, A. Brock, "The Roman Forum and the origins of public spaces in Central Italy". Manuscript completed, to be submitted to *American Journal of Archaeology*.
- 35) L. Motta, C. Esposito, I. Cangemi, ...et al "Exploring Human Mobility on the eve of State Formation through 87Sr/86Sr Isotope and Amelogenin Analyses: The Case Study of the Proto-Etruscan Site of Veii." Final draft, to be submitted to *PlosOne*.
- 36) K. Killgrove, L. Motta, A. Acosta, I. Cangemi, A. De Santis, "Residency and Mobility in Iron Age Latium: Strontium Isotope Analysis of Human Enamel from Osteria dell'Osa" Final draft, to be submitted to *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*.
- 37) F. Gavériaux, L. Motta, M. Brilli, F. Quondam, C. Vignola, L. Sadori, "The environmental setting of agricultural practices in Early Rome: the contribution of carbon and nitrogen stable isotope analysis" in progress, to be submitted to *I-Science*
- 38) F. Gavériaux, L. Motta, F. Quondam, L. Sadori, "Growing Rome. Crops from Iron Age Palatine" in progress, to be submitted to *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*.
- 39) L. Motta, J. Gleason, "Sourcing Seeds: the potential of Sr isotope analysis on charred archeobotanical macroremains" to be submitted to *Rapid Communication in Mass Spectrometry*.

### **Journal articles and book chapters**

- 31) K. Killgrove, J. Klunk, A. Acosta, M. Tapson, M. Mogetta, A. Gallone, M. Evans, L. Motta, S. Cohen, V.C. Moses, N. Terrenato, 2024 "Mitochondrial DNA evidence for community building and population dynamics at a multi-phase Roman site (Gabii, Italy, 8th c. BC–2nd c. AD)". *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 37 (2).

- 30) L. Motta, T. Johnson, S. Burton, P. Reimer, P. Erdkamp, F. Heinrich, 2024 “Re-dating Roman Karanis, Egypt: radiocarbon evidence for prolonged occupation until the seventh century AD.” *Antiquity*, 98, 954-972. <https://doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2024.69>.
- 29) G. Bagnasco, M. Marzullo, C. Cattaneo, ... , L. Motta, et al., 2024 "Bioarchaeology aids the cultural understanding of six characters in search of their agency (Tarquinia, ninth – seventh century BC, Central Italy)". *Scientific Reports*, 14, 11895. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-024-61052-z>
- 28) F. Gavériaux, L. Motta, P. Bailey, M. Brilli, L. Sadori, 2022 “Crop husbandry at Gabii during the Iron Age and Archaic period: the archaeobotanical and stable isotope evidence” *Environmental Archaeology*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14614103.2022.2101281>
- 27) F. Marra, M. Buonfiglio, L. Motta, 2022 “Holocene aggradation history of the Murcia alluvial valley: insights on Early Rome paleoenvironmental evolution” *Quaternary International*, 628, 44-53. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2022.04.013>
- 26) L. Motta, 2021 “Ecofacts: The Approach” in A. Gallone, L. Banducci eds., *A Cemetery and a Quarry from Imperial Gabii*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. <https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.11885571>
- 25) L. Motta, N. Cullen, S. Ross, 2021 "The plant remains" in A. Gallone, L. Banducci eds., *A Cemetery and a Quarry from Imperial Gabii*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. <https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.11885571>
- 24) F. Marra, A Brock, F. Florindo, P. Macri', L. Motta, C. Nicosia, N.Terrenato, 2021, “Tectonics and Fluvial Dynamism affecting the Tiber River in Prehistoric Rome” *Int J Earth Sci (Geol Rundsch)* 111, 359–378. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00531-021-02118-5>
- 23) T. Samuels, S. Cohen, T. Johnson, V. Moses, M. Naglak, R. Opitz, L. Banducci, M. D’Acri, L. Motta, A. Rittershaus, E. Stewart, 2021 “Reimagining Urban Success: Rhythms of activity at Gabii, Italy, 800 BC – AD 600” *Antiquity*, 96 (385), 103-122. <https://www.doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2021.154>
- 22) A. Brock, L. Motta, N. Terrenato, 2021 “On the banks of the Tiber: Opportunity and Transformation in Early Rome” *Journal of Roman Studies*, 111, 1-30. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0075435821000344>
- 21) T. Samuels, Naglak M., Opitz R., Evans J. M., Johnston A. C., Wright P., Creola A., Prosser J., Zapelloni-Pavia A., Farr J., Harder M., Banducci L., D’Acri M., Tuttle D., Ion S., Ness S., Beydler K., Cohen S., Moses V., Motta L., Mogetta M., A. Gallone, 2021 “Archaeological Research at Gabii, Italy: The Gabii Project Excavations, 2012–2018” *Journal of Field Archaeology*, 46(3), 132-152. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00934690.2021.1877958>.
- 20) S. Stoddart, A. Palmisano, D. Redhouse, G. Barker, G. di Paola, L. Motta, T. Rasmussen, T. Samuels, R. Witcher, 2020, “Patterns of Etruscan Urbanism” *Frontiers in Digital Humanities* 7. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fdigh.2020.00001>.
- 19) L. Motta, K. Beydler, 2020, “Iron Age Italy” in D. Hollander, T. Howe, eds., *Companion to Ancient Agriculture*, Wiley Blackwell, 399-415. <https://doi-org/10.1002/9781118970959.ch19>
- 18) L. Motta, D. Fico, F. Alhaique, G.E. De Benedetto, 2020, “Offerings and rituals at the grave: insights from the macro- and micro-organic evidence” In M. Mogetta, ed., *Elite Infant Burial Practices and Urbanization Processes at Gabii, Italy: The Area D Tombs and their content*, *JRS Supplementary Series* 108, 115-124.

- 17) A. Guidi, L. Motta, F. Nomi, 2019, “Livelli di abitato dell’eta’ del bronzo medio iniziale a Colle Rotondo (Anzio, RM)” In A. Russo, G. Ghini, Z. Mari eds., *Lazio e Sabina 12. Atti del XII Incontro di Studi*, Rome, Quasar, 301-305.
- 16) M. Evans, T. Samuel, L. Motta, M. Naglak, M. D’Acri, 2019, “An Iron Age Settlement at Gabii: Interim Report of the Gabii Project Excavations in Area D, 2012-2015” *Journal of Etruscan Studies* 70(4), 1-33. <https://doi.org/10.1515/etst-2018-0029>
- 15) F. Marra, L. Motta, A Brock, F. Florindo, L.Sadori, N.Terrenato, 2018, “Rome in its settings. Post-glacial aggradation history of the Tiber River alluvial deposits and tectonic origin of the Tiberina Island” *PLoS ONE* 13(3): e0194838. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194838> .
- 14) L. Motta, 2016, “Archaeobiology at Gabii: sampling and recovery strategies in an urban context”, In Opitz, R. S., Mogetta, M. and Terrenato, N. eds., *A Mid-Republican House from Gabii*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- 13) A. Nicodemus, L. Motta, J. O’Shea, 2015, “Archaeological Investigations at Pecica Șanțul Mare 2013-2014”. *Ziridava. Studia Archaeologica*, 29, 105-118.
- 12) J. O’Shea, A. Barker, L. Motta, A. Szentmiklosi, 2012, “Archaeological Investigations at Pecica “Șanțul Mare” 2006 – 2009”, *Analele Banatului*, XIX, 67-78.
- 11) L. Motta, 2011 “Seeds and the City. Archaeobotany and state formation in early Rome”, in N. Terrenato, D.C. Haggis, eds., *State Formation in Italy and Greece: Questioning the Neoevolutionist Paradigm*, Oxford, Oxbow, 245-255.
- 10) L. Motta, N. Terrenato, 2006, “The origins of the state *par excellence*. Power and society in Iron Age Rome”, in C. C. Haselgrove, ed., *Celtes et Gaulois, l’Archéologie face à l’Histoire, 4: les mutations de la fin de l’âge du Fer*, Glux-en-Glenne, Bibracte, 225-234.
- 9) N. Terrenato, L. Motta, 2006, “Uno stato debole? Alcune riflessioni su potere pubblico e potere privato in Roma arcaica”, in *Studi di protostoria in onore di Renato Peroni*, Florence, Insegna del Giglio, 764-768.
- 8) L. Motta, 2002, "Planting the seed of Rome", *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*, 11, 71-78. <https://doi-org/10.1007/s003340200008>
- 7) L. Motta, 2000, “La Val di Cecina: il quadro ambientale”, in E. Regoli, N. Terrenato, eds., *Guida al Museo Archeologico di Rosignano Marittimo. Paesaggi e insediamenti in Val di Cecina*, Siena, Nuova Immagine, 12-23.
- 6) L. Motta, 2000, “La Fattoria di San Mario: lo scavo”, in E. Regoli, N. Terrenato, eds., *Guida al Museo Archeologico di Rosignano Marittimo. Paesaggi e insediamenti in Val di Cecina*, Siena, Nuova Immagine, 132-133.
- 5) L. Motta, 2000, “La Fattoria di San Mario: l’ambiente”, in E. Regoli, N. Terrenato, eds., *Guida al Museo Archeologico di Rosignano Marittimo. Paesaggi e insediamenti in Val di Cecina*, Siena, Nuova Immagine, 134-135.
- 4) L. Motta, 2000, “I reperti ambientali”, in M. Munzi, N. Terrenato, eds., *Volterra. Il teatro e le terme*, Florence, Insegna del Giglio, 185-186.
- 3) P. Brocato, L. Motta, 2000, “Area I”, in M. Munzi, N. Terrenato, eds., *Volterra. Il teatro e le terme*, Florence, Insegna del Giglio, 139-143.
- 2) L. Motta, 1997, “I paesaggi di Volterra nel tardoantico”, *Archeologia Medievale*, 24, 245-268.

- 1) L. Motta, L. Camin, N. Terrenato, 1993, “Un sito rurale nel territorio di Volterra”, *Bollettino di Archeologia*, 22-24, 109-116.

### **Dictionary Entries:**

- L. Motta, 2000, “Archeologia ambientale” in R. Francovich, D. Manacorda, eds., *Dizionario di Archeologia*, Rome, Laterza, 3-4.
- L. Motta, 2000, “Archeobotanica” in R. Francovich, D. Manacorda, eds., *Dizionario di Archeologia*, Rome, Laterza, 14-18.
- L. Motta, 2000, “Bioarcheologia” in R. Francovich, D. Manacorda, eds., *Dizionario di Archeologia*, Rome, Laterza, 44-46.

### **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION and \*INVITED TALKS:**

- \*Stanford Archaeology Center, “The potential of legacy collections: revisiting Karanis material at the Kelsey Museum”, invited paper (2025).
- \*AIA Organized Colloquium *New Research on the Capitoline Hill in Rome: Topography and History in Diachronic Perspective*, Philadelphia. “The Capitoline Hill and the Forum Boarium in the Bronze Age” (2025), withdrawn.
- \*EAA Organized Session, *Mobility and Territoriality in Pre-Roman Italy: Routes, Objects, Ideas*. “Staple resources mobilization and exchange at the urban transition in Central Italy (8th-6th c. BCE). The isotopic evidence from Gabii.” (2024).
- \*EAA Round Table *Path to New Horizons or Handmaiden to History? Isotopic Studies across the Prehistoric-Historic divide*. Panelist, (2024).
- EAA, Rome, “Sampling urban sites for archaeobotany: Insights from Tarquinia” F. Schmidt et al. (2024)
- \**Gli scavi sul Quirinale, spunti di riflessione*, Symposium, Rome. “Indagini di Archeologia Ambientale”, (2024).
- SAA Symposium *Advances in macrobotanical and microbotanical archaeobotany*, “New Frontiers in Ancient Diet and Nutrition: Developing Innovative Methods for Quantitative Compositional Analysis of Desiccated Archaeobotanical Remains” (2024).
- AIA Chicago, “Dating Roman Karanis” with F. Heinrich and T. Johnson, (2024).
- Namur Research Institute for Life Sciences (Narilis), UNamur, Belgium. Gontran Sonet, et al “Recovery, authentication and analysis of ancient DNA at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences” invited paper, (2023).
- The origins of the Forum and the Basilica Conference*, University of Notre Dame-Rome Global Gateway, Rome. Invited paper “Gravel beds and the origin of open public spaces in Archaic Rome”, (2023).
- BrIAS workshp, VUB-ULB, Brussels, *Agriculture, Climate, and Society in Italy 2000 BCE – 1000 CE*, organizer. “Disentangling Agriculture, Climate, and Society in Central Italy during the first half of the first millennium BCE”.
- BrIAS seminar series, VUB-ULB, Brussels. “Food systems in early cities: a sustainability issue?” (2023)

- SAA Symposium *Domestication, Exploitation, and Reverence: Studies in Zooarchaeology*, Portland. “Animal economy and the emergence of urbanism in Central Italy during the Iron Age and Archaic Period” with V. Moses, (2023).
- FAST lecture, University of Michigan. "The River and the Rock. Early Rome environmental settings" (2023).
- AIA New Orleans, “Herding, Husbandry and the City: Stable Isotope Analysis of Gabii’s Animals” with V. Moses, (2023)
- IWGP, Budapest, invited paper, “Reconstructing agricultural practices in Central Tyrrhenian Italy from 10<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE: the contribution of stable isotopes and archaeobotany”, with F. Gaveriaux and L. Sadori, (2022).
- SAA Meeting, Chicago, “Bronze Age evidence of millet cultivation in the Carpathian Mountains”, organized poster session, (2022).
- EAA organized session *Systemic approaches to agricultural and land use in prehistoric Societies*, invited paper “Iron Age and Archaic agriculture in central Italy: integrating archaeobotany, zooarchaeology and stable isotopes analysis”, with F. Gaveriaux and V. Moses, (2021).
- Societa’ Botanica Italiana *Beech and stone Pine, the Italian landscape modelled by valuable ritual trees*, Masi, Alessia; Gaveriaux, Fanny; Masci, Lucrezia; Mariotti Lippi, Marta; Moricca, Claudia; Motta, Laura; Palli, Jordan; Vignola, Cristiano; Sadori, Laura. (2021).
- SAA Meeting, organized poster session, “The Consequences of Cultural Encounters on Late Bronze Age Transylvania Cuisine and Subsistence Economies”, L. Dorr, C. Quinn, H. Ciugudean, L. Motta and L. Carpenter, (2021).
- SCS-AIA Joint Colloquium, *Between Myth and Materiality: The Origins of Rome, 800 - 500 BCE*, invited paper “Feeding the Nascent City: Archaeobotanical and Zooarchaeological Evidence from Early Rome”, with V. Moses and K. Beydler. (2021).
- ACC meeting *Diagnostica nei Beni Culturali*, Milano, IT, “Stable isotope analysis on charred carpological material and its interpretation to identify agricultural practices in Central Italy” with F. Gaveriaux and M. Brilli. (2020).
- Tarquinia Interdisciplinary Seminar*, invited speaker, “the Archaeobotanical and isotopic data” with F. Gaveriaux (2020).
- Gabii on-line seminar series*, invited speaker, “Not Just Diet”, with F. Gaveriaux (2020).
- SAA Meeting, Austin, “Urbanization, Intensification and Stable Isotope Analysis: discriminating agricultural practices and climatic instability in Central Italy during the early first millennium BCE” with F. Gaveriaux. (2020)- cancelled.
- Against the Grain: Transversal and Small Scale Connectivity in the Ancient Western Mediterranean*, Workshop, University of Michigan, discussant. (2020)
- AIA Organized Session, *Food and agricultural practices in the Roman Provinces*, Washington DC, invited paper “Rethinking Diet and Nutrition in Roman Egypt: an interdisciplinary approach”, F. Heinrich, L. Motta, P. Erdkamp. (2020).
- AIA Organized Colloquium *Gabii Project Excavations 2009-2019*, Washington DC “Fodder for Thought: Botanical Remains from Republican Gabii”, with K. Beydler. (2020).
- AIA Washington DC, “Reconstructing agricultural systems at Gabii: economic strategies and environmental indicators” with F. Gaveriaux, L. Sadori, M. Brilli. (2020)
- Feeding Communities Workshop*, Cambridge, UK. Invited speaker, “Feeding early Rome and its neighbors” with V. Moses. (2019).

- XXVIII Congress of Analytical Chemistry Division, Bari, “Knowledge of Offerings and Rituals in the infant burials through an integrated approach”, D. Fico, A. Pennetta, L. Motta et al. (2019).
- INQUA 20th Congress, Dublin, “Mid-Holocene vegetal landscape evolution in the center of Rome” L. Sadori, L. Motta et al. (2019).
- 18th Symposium of the International Work Group for Palaeoethnobotany, Lecce, “Bronze Age evidence of fox tail millet in the Carpathian Mountains”, poster with C. Quinn. (2019).
- Environments and Adaptation in Ancient China*. Symposium, University of Michigan, Discussant. (2019).
- Margins of the Mediterranean*, Mediterranean Seminar Series Fall 2018. Round table “Borders, Boundary and Limits in the Mediterranean”, University of Michigan, invited speaker. (2018).
- 5th Annual Fast Food for Thought*, University of Michigan. Invited speaker “Of Wine, Rice and Ancient Cities”. (2018).
- EAA organized session *Isotopic provenancing in archaeology: what does local/non-local really mean?* Maastricht. Invited paper “Locals and Non-Locals. Plants, Animals, People in Iron Age Central Italy” (2017).
- SAA Meeting, Vancouver, “Eating like a bird. Millet in Iron Age and Archaic Italy”. (2017).
- 17th Symposium of the International Work Group for Palaeoethnobotany, Paris. “The Seeds of Power: Cereal Crops and Exchange Networks”, invited paper. (2016).
- SAA Meeting, Orlando, “Cultural Choices and Exchange Networks: Cereals in Iron Age and Archaic Italy.” (2016).
- University of Michigan, “Sourcing Seeds”. UMMA Brown Bag Lecture Series, (2016).
- Advances in Eastern European Prehistory*, Symposium, invited paper “Pecica-Şanţul Mare in a Regional Context: Crops and Storage Practices along the Mureş and Beyond”, University of Michigan. (2016).
- 12mo Incontro di Studi Lazio e Sabina, Rome, “L’abitato dell’eta’ del Bronzo Iniziale a Colle Rotondo (Anzio, RM)” poster with A. Guidi and F. Nomi. (2015).
- SAA Organized Poster Session, San Francisco. “Analysis of Plant remains from the Bronze Age site of Pecica Santul Mare, Romania”, poster with L. Jessmore. (2015).
- AIA Organized Colloquium, *Exploring the development of food and food-ways in ancient Italy*, New Orleans. Invited paper “Plant Staples in Iron Age and Archaic Central Italy”, (2015).
- FAST Lecture, University of Michigan, “Cultural Choices and Exchange Networks: Cereals in Iron Age and Archaic Italy”, (2015).
- EAA Organized Session, *Into the wild: The exploitation of wild species and environments*, Istanbul. Invited paper “Invasive species or Innovative agricultural strategy: The presence and use of *Chenopodium album* L. (Fat Hen) in the Eurasian Bronze and Iron Ages” with R. Hughes, (2014).
- AIA-APA Joint Panel, *Peasants in Mediterranean Landscapes*, Philadelphia. Invited paper “Not your run of the mill cereal farmer”, (2012).
- University of Michigan, Museum of Anthropology. “The Archaeobotany of State Formation in Archaic Rome”, (2007).
- University of Cincinnati, Department of Classics. “Archaeobotany in Central Italy”, (2006).
- University of North Carolina. Research Laboratories of Archaeology. Archaeology Program Colloquium. “Current Trends in the Archaeology of Iron Age Rome”, (2005).



- Les mutations de la fin de l'age du Fer*, Round Table, invited paper, “The origins of the state *par excellence*. Power and Society in Iron Age Rome”. Cambridge, (2005).
- AIA, San Francisco, “Etruscan and Roman Farmers in Northern Etruria. The site at San Mario and the Cecina Valley Survey, Italy”, (2004).
- University of North Carolina, Colloquium, *State formation in Mediterranean and beyond*. Invited paper “The origins of Rome: an archaeobotanical approach”, (2003).
- Columbia University, Center for the Ancient Mediterranean Colloquium, *The Roman State from the Etruscan Kings to the Plebeian Consuls*, “The origins of Rome: an archaeobotanical approach”, poster presentation, (2002).
- SAA, Denver, “Planting the seed of Rome”, poster presentation, (2002).
- 12th Symposium of the International Work Group for Palaeoethnobotany, Sheffield, “Planting the seed of Rome”, (2001).
- University of Cambridge, Department of Archaeology Brownbag talk, “Recent trends in state formation studies in Italian archaeology”, (2000).
- SAA, Philadelphia, “The Charred Seed and the Marble Apple. Archaeobotany in Classical Archaeology”, (2000).
- EAA, Ravenna, “Perspectives on environmental archaeology in Italian Classical studies”, (1997).
- M. A. Cotton Lecture, British School at Rome, “Volterra e il suo territorio nella tarda antichità. Un tentativo di storia ambientale”, (1996).
- Earthwatch Annual PI Conference, Boston, “Excavations at San Mario, Italy”, poster presentation, (1996).

## **CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

- AGROS. Agriculture, diet, and malnutrition in Greco-Roman Egypt, PI. Reassessing ancient sustenance, food processing and malnutrition. In collaboration with Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Université de Namur, KU Leuven, Université de Liège.
- Vigna Murata Project, PI. Investigation of an Early Republican family burial. In collaboration with SSABAP-Rome and University of N. Carolina-Chapel Hill.
- Karanis Archives at the Kelsey, PI. Reassessment of the archival material and chronological determination of legacy data from the Greco-Roman settlement of Karanis for the digital 3D publication of a neighbourhood.
- IIMP- Italian Isotope and Mobility Project, PI. Strontium isoscape of Central Tyrrhenian Italy to track human, animal, and plant movement and exchange networks. In collaboration with University of Arizona and the department of Earth Sciences, University of Michigan.
- Environment, Climate, and Agriculture, PI. Detecting intensification in Central Italy during the first millennium BCE through the C/N isotopic record. In collaboration with La Sapienza University of Rome, Queen University Belfast, CNR-Rome.
- Social transformations and the political economy of food production in early cities, PI. In collaboration with three important long-term excavation projects: Gabii, University of Michigan; Tarquinia, University of Cambridge and Università Statale di Milano; Rome-Palatine, La Sapienza University of Rome.
- Forum Boarium Coring survey and the geoarchaeology of the Tiber Valley, co-PI Ancient Rome urbanization and its impact on the environment. In collaboration with University of St Andrews, National Institute for geophysics and Volcanology -Rome.

**FIELDWORK:**

Director, Empty-Scape Project, (2025)

Principal Investigator, excavation and biochemical analysis of the Vigna Murata chamber tomb.  
(2024-present)

Director, isotopes baseline of Central Italy, University of Michigan (2020-present)

Co-Director, excavation of waterlogged deposits and mechanized coring survey at S. Omobono,  
Rome, University of Michigan (2013-2021).

Director for Environmental Archaeology. Gabii Project, University of Michigan (2009-present).

Field director. Excavation at the Auditorium site, Rome. Cooperativa ASTRA (1996-1997).

Principal Investigator and Field director. Excavation at S. Mario (Pisa), University of Pisa and  
University of Rome "La Sapienza" (1992-1996).

Co-Principal Investigator. Val di Cecina Field Survey, University of Pisa and University of  
Rome "La Sapienza" (1990-2000).

Trench Supervisor. Excavation at the Northern Slope of the Palatine, Rome, University of Rome  
"La Sapienza". (1989-1992).

**Field Lab Director/ Environmental Archaeology consultant at the following sites:**

Notion, Turkey, University of Michigan (2024); Segesta, Italy, University of Arizona, (2024);  
EIG-Quirinale, Italy, NYU, (2022-present); Tarquinia, Italy, University of Cambridge and  
Universita' Statale di Milano (2019-present); Colle Rotondo, Italy, University of Rome 2 (2011-  
2014); Sant'Omobono, Rome, Italy, University of Michigan (2010-present); Gabii, Italy,  
University of Michigan (2009-present); Pecica - Santul Mare, Romania, University of Michigan  
(2009-2015); Sangro Valley, Italy, University of Oxford and Oberlin College (2012);  
Donoratico, Italy, University of North Carolina (2001-2006); Forum of Trajan, Rome (1999);  
Santa Maria della Scala, Siena, Italy, University of Siena (1998); Cosa, Italy, American  
Academy in Rome (1997); Auditorium, Rome, Comune di Roma (1996-97); Porticus Minucia,  
Rome, University of Siena (1996); Northern Slope of the Palatine, Rome, University of Rome  
"La Sapienza" (1992-1999); Roman Villas at S. Pietro, Tolve and S. Gilio, Oppido, Italy,  
University of Pisa (1992-1996).

**RESEARCH SUPERVISION:****Graduate Dissertations:**

Ivan Cangemi, Dissertation Committee Member, IPCAA, University of Michigan 2016.

Katherine Beydler, Master Thesis Advisor, IPCAA, University of Michigan 2017.

Andrea Brock, Dissertation Committee Member, IPCAA, University of Michigan 2017.

Nadhira Hill, Prelims Committee Member, IPCAA, University of Michigan 2018-19.

Frits B. Heinrich, Dissertation Jury, Vrije Universiteit Brussel 2019.

J. Troy Samuels, Dissertation Committee Member, IPCAA, University of Michigan 2019.

Phyllida Bailey, Master thesis Co-Chair, University of Evora, 2019.

Victoria Moses, Dissertation Committee Member, University of Arizona 2020.

Katherine Beydler, Dissertation Co-chair, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan 2020.

Claudia Moricca, Dissertation External Reviewer, Department of Earth Science, University of Rome “La Sapienza” 2021

Fanny Gaveriaux, Dissertation Co-Chair, Dipartimento Biologia Ambientale, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, 2022.

Sheira Cohen, Dissertation Committee Member, IPCAA, University of Michigan, 2023.

Lauren Oberlin, Prelims Committee Member (2021); Dissertation Co-chair, IPCAA, University of Michigan, (withdrawn).

Bailey Franzoi, Dissertation Co-chair, IPAMAA, University of Michigan, expected 2026.

Matthew Brown, Dissertation Committee Member, UMMAA, University of Michigan, expected 2026.

Jhon Quinone, Dissertation Committee Member, UMMAA, University of Michigan, expected 2026.

### **Undergraduate Theses:**

J. Christin (Classical Archaeology), University of Michigan, 2022. S. Russell (Classics), Oberlin College, 2017. N. Cullen (Classical Archaeology), University of Michigan, 2016. L. Jessmore (Anthropology), University of Michigan, 2016. L. Kreinbrink (Anthropology), University of Michigan, 2013. V. Moses, University of Michigan (Anthropology), 2012. S. Oas (Anthropology), University of Michigan, 2010. M. Rosaria Borzetti (Archaeology) University of Siena, 2001. M. Valdambrini (Archaeology), University of Siena, 2000. G. Naldi (Archaeology), University of Siena, 2000.

### **Lab Training and Research Supervision:**

UM undergraduate students: Stephanie Berger, Rebecca Bonner, Amber Ashwanden, Clara Reini, Meghana Kulkarni, Nina Barraco, Kush Sharma, Kelly Gillikin, Victoria Moses, Lauren Plawecki, Laura Jessmore, Eli Sterngrass, Mary Snyder, Emily Thibeu, James Reslier-Wells, Shobhana Panuganti, Karissa Knapp, Nicholas Cullen, Daniel Agudelo, Ryan Waddell, Kayla Pio, Erika Canavan, Scott Isham, Emily Hyde, Stephanie Harrell, Sabrina Ross, Kristin Cimmerer, Shannon Burton, Kennedy Johnson, Juliet Christin, Chase Dauthrich, Antonina Kilian, Ansley Wunderlich, Alexandra Cumming-Fishell, Yitzchak Zolty, Ben Thomas, Sarah Saaidi, Thea Bilich, William Harrison, Grace Zube, Linzie Goodnight, Emma Nelson, Janet Larios, Alyssa Wakefield, Hannah Magnus (MSU).

Graduate students: Angela Commito, Jessie Lipkowitz, Paolo Maranzana, Troy Samuels, Amber Ashwanden, Samantha Lash, Ryan Hughes, Ivan Cangemi, Katherine Beydler, Victoria Moses, Elspeth Geiger, Fanny Gaveriaux, Sheira Cohen, Bailey Franzoi, Lauren Oberlin, Matthew Brown, Tyler Johnson, Ashton Rogers, Gabe Key, Jhon Quinone, Julian Thibeu.

Postdoctoral researchers: Frits Heinrich (2020-2022); Fanny Gaveriaux (2022); Tyler Johnson (2023-2026)

**TEACHING:**

Department of Classical Studies: Environmental Archaeology; Food in the Ancient World; Introduction to Field Archaeology; Introduction to Roman Archaeology; Ancient cities; Plants in Archaeology; First Year Seminar topics: Representation of food in Antiquity; Roman Nutrition; The building blocks of Urban Life; Climate, Catastrophe and Culture. The environmental history of Rome.

Program in the Environment: The Anthropology of Food and Eating; Food Globalization: Past Stories, Modern Issues; Sustainability and resource management in the Ancient World; Environmental Archaeology.

Department of Anthropology: Early Civilizations; The Anthropology of Food and Eating; Palaeoethnobotany.

In Italian: Environmental Archaeology, Quantitative Methods in Archaeology.

**ACADEMIC SERVICE:**

AIA, VP, Ann Arbor Chapter (2022-present)

**Reviewing and refereeing:**

Reviewer of manuscripts submitted for publication: *Geological Society of America Books*; *McDonald Institute Monographs*; *Brepols- New Approaches to Archaeology*; *BAR*; *American Journal of Archaeology*; *Food and History*; *Journal of Roman Archaeology*; *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*; *Journal of Archaeological Sciences*; *Routledge Books*; *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*; *FOLD&R*; *IScience*.

Reviewer for NSF grant proposals and APS-Franklin Research grants.

**Departmental Service:**

Instructional field trip and collaborative minicourse “Bath, Boudicca, and Beyond!” (2025)

Executive Committee, Department of Classical Studies (2019-20; 2022-23; 2024-25).

Archaeology Advisor, Department of Classical Studies (2013-15; 2018-21; 2022-2024).

Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Department of Classical Studies (2010-11; 2013-15; 2018-21; 2022-2024).

Lecturer I Major Review Committee, Department of Classical Studies (2019-2020).

Department of Classical Studies “Latin Day” presenter, (2016-2018; 2020-cancelled; 2022; 2024).

IPCAA probation Committee (2023).

IPCAA Graduate Admissions Committee (2023).

Core Faculty, IPCAA/PAMAA (2022-present).

Executive Committee, IPCAA/IPAMAA (2022-present)

PitE Curriculum review. Humanities and Social Science working group; Food Curriculum working group; Environment and Sustainability minors working group (2023-24).

**Kelsey Museum Service**

Kelsey Museum strategic planning. “Leverage Research”; “Capacity and Operation”; and “Reparative Collaboration” working groups (2024-25).

Promotion Review Committee, Geoff Emberling (2024, not completed)  
 Promotion Review Committee, Suzanne Davis (2023).  
 Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, Docent Lecture, "Plant remains in Archaeology" (2016)

### **University Service:**

IMP, Academic sponsor for Julia Page's Individual Major Program on Food Studies (2014).  
 Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Summer Fellowship Program, Humanities and Social Sciences selection committee, (2013 and 214).  
 Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Research Sponsor (two running projects), Museum of Archaeological Anthropology, (2010-2016).  
 Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Symposium, Humanities and Social Sciences Judge for the Blue Ribbon Competition, (2010-2017).  
 "Behind the Scene Day" Lab Presenter, Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, (2009- 2015).

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

Promoting Yourself via Building Academic Community- workshop, Advance 2024  
 FAO-INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP. Re-imagining agrifood system transformations: Enlarging and enriching time horizons Brussels April 2023  
 Advance NSF CAREER grant workshop (2023)  
 CRLT consultation for C1CIV120 and CLARCH 323 (Fall 2022).  
 LSA Teaching Academy (2022-23).  
 Writing a Competitive Research Grant Proposal LSA advance, (September 2022).  
 Hybrid Instruction Training Series, seminar and in class training (Aug 2020).  
 Advisor training, LSA Newnan Advising Center (2018).  
 Now That I Have It, What Grade Should I Give It? Evaluating Student Writing, Workshop, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan, (Jan 2017).  
 Abrams Sustainability Seminar, University of Michigan (May 2016 and May 2015).  
 Teaching Skills: Preventing and Addressing Incivility in the Classroom. LSA Workshop, University of Michigan, (Nov 2014).  
 Teaching in a "Flipped Classroom" – A Four-Session Learning Community, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan, (Oct- Dec 2014).

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

*Women in Italian Research* invited speaker event organized by the Italian Embassy in the USA  
*"The Kelsey Museum Botanical Collections from Karanis: Challenges and Opportunities for Dating Legacy Material with Radiocarbon Analysis"* Flash talks, Kelsey Museum (March 2024).

Rocca Cencia Middle School (Rome suburbs). Organizer of the Summer FabLab " Veni, Vidi, Gabii" in collaboration with the instructors and SBAAR (Summer 2023).

"*Cibus Nostrum*", Roman banquet (150 guests) with public lecture, organized for the Detroit Month of Design, sponsored by the Italian Consulate. (Sept 2023)

*Looking for Ancient Grains*, podcast hosted by Diellecast, (Nov 2022)  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/diellecast/id1556787708?i=1000589655571>)

Rocca Cencia School, Rome, (June 2022)

"Ugly Object Blog" Kelsey Museum (May 22 post).

TikTok video (LSA-Kelsey)

<https://www.tiktok.com/@umichigannews/video/7133682037487177006>

"Ancient Grains" UofM Facebook page, (May 2022)

<https://www.facebook.com/UniversityOfMichigan/videos/792225078406493/>

*Cities, Crops and Chemistry*. Flash talks, Kelsey Museum (March 2022).

*Ancient Grains*, University of Michigan Newsletter <https://news.umich.edu/ancient-grains-grant-will-help-u-m-researchers-rethink-roman-diets/>

*STEM for the Human Past*. Afrofuturism: Reimagining STEM, Imhotep Institute Carter School, Philadelphia. (March 2022).

*Once Upon a Time, There Was a River: The Environmental History of the Tiber Valley before Rome, from the Neolithic to the Iron Age*. Flash talks, Kelsey Museum (Oct. 2021).

*When in Rome*, LSA Magazine <https://lsa.umich.edu/lsa/news-events/all-news/search-news/when-in-rome.html> (2019).

*The Roots of Italian Taste: revisiting 7000 years of culinary traditions*. Caffè-Cultura event, sponsored by Dante Alighieri Society and Consolato d'Italia, Detroit (Apr 2017).

*The Roots of Italian Taste: revisiting 7000 years of culinary traditions*, lecture, Eataly-Chicago, sponsored by Istituto Italiano di Cultura and Consolato Generale D'Italia, Chicago (Nov 2016).

*The Roots of Italian Taste: revisiting 7000 years of culinary traditions* lecture, Wayne State University, sponsored by Dante Alighieri Society and Consolato d'Italia, Detroit (Nov 2016).

*Food meets Archaeology*, guided tour of the Kelsey Museum and Roman Banquet. Organized by Dante Alighieri Society, Michigan Chapter (2015 and 2016).