

THE KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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*The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, Ann Arbor*

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Edited by Leslie Schramer

On the cover:

Conservator Carrie Roberts examines Terenouthis stela KM 21114 with portable optical microscopy. September 9, 2021. Photo by Suzanne Davis.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are courtesy of Michigan Photography.  
With special thanks to Randal Stegmeyer and Austin Thomason.

# The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology

## Vision

The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology creates knowledge, explores the past, and educates for the future.

## Mission

The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology advances understanding and appreciation of the ancient Mediterranean world through our collections, research, exhibitions, and fieldwork.

## Values

**STEWARDSHIP** | preserving collections and information for future generations in a sustainable way

**RESEARCH** | advancing knowledge through scholarly inquiry and informed interpretation

**EDUCATION** | inspiring life-long learning through direct experience of the past

**DISCOVERY** | exploring new approaches to antiquity

**CREATIVITY** | fostering innovative collaboration and presentation

**RESPECT** | finding strength in collaboration by valuing each other's expertise and diverse perspectives

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# Director's Report

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Nicola Terrenato

Last year's report opened with the remark that 2020 had been a very unusual year for the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, and closed with the hope that 2021 would mark a return to normality. As we all know, this happened only in part. For most of the year, visitors could only enter the galleries in small contingents, large meetings were impossible, and Zoom was still our primary mode of internal communication. Things kept improving, however, and progressively restrictions could be lifted for staff and visitors, to the point where, by late 2021, we saw larger groups of visitors in the galleries, as well as each other's unmasked faces. Despite the challenges, thanks to the persistence and resourcefulness of the Kelsey staff, it has been another important and productive year for our beloved institution. We continued to capitalize on the increased online presence to further our outreach and our educational mission, we continued to reflect internally on issues of inclusivity and equality, and we carried out important work on the permanent displays, among other things.

The Kelsey DEI committee, first instituted in 2020, continued its work under the leadership of Alex Zwinak, Mallory Genauer, and Mallory Bower. Its mission was redefined and broadened so that it is now called IDEA (Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility). In the new form, it carried out substantial work on a number of fronts. The Committee and the Subcommittees have arrived at a draft of an IDEA statement and a Land Acknowledgement. The IDEA statement has been submitted to LSA for review and the Land Acknowledgement will be revisited after the university's Indigenous Alliance Group has finalized its statement and the process for units to adopt unit-specific content. We will also be transitioning our DEI liaisons and moving from a committee platform to a full Kelsey community approach. In this vision, IDEA will be integrated into strategic planning and be part of every aspect of museum work. We never lose sight of the fact that the history of Classical

archaeology, and of the Kelsey Museum, is intertwined with colonialism; this ideology has left its imprint on the very nature of our discipline. From object labels to entire galleries, there is work to do to bring archaeological museums into the twenty-first century.

On the internal front, the Kelsey conducted a climate survey this year which saw very high participation by staff, graduate students, and faculty. We partnered with the ADVANCE Program on campus ([advance.umich.edu](https://advance.umich.edu)) which has been advocating for equality and workplace climate improvement for over twenty years. This has allowed us to gather essential data on potential issues that will inform our future actions. We will be reviewing the results in the course of 2022, with the help of resources made available to us by LSA. What we have learned in this way will be integrated into the ongoing Kelsey strategic planning. We are in a new cycle that involved the entire Kelsey community, and is aimed at identifying priorities and mapping out our work for the next few years. We conducted two virtual retreats that gave us the time and the space for a comprehensive reconsideration of the challenges ahead of us.

The relaxation of restrictions meant that proper attention could finally be paid to the temporary exhibition featuring the work of University of Michigan Library photographer Randal Stegmeyer, who has long served as photographer of choice for the Kelsey. This important show was finally accessible to the public for about a year in the course of 2021, and it was very much appreciated by the whole community. It was de-installed on January 3, 2022. Another important venue for exhibition work is represented by the Kelsey in Focus case. Rotating exhibitions of significant objects will showcase ongoing research on specific objects and on fieldwork results. Space will be given also to student projects, the Kelsey Prize winners, and other institutional initiatives.

Particular attention is being paid to the permanent galleries, which were installed thirteen years

ago, after the new Upjohn Wing was built. A new large monitor has been installed in the lobby, displaying a map of the archaeological regions represented in the museum (with the excavated sites), as well as news and updates about events and exhibits. The graphic style of the text panels in the cases has been standardized, introducing a visual language for the various periods and thematic summaries, accessible to our younger visitors.

Work is also beginning on the installation of a new gallery, dedicated to the Byzantine and Islamic periods, building on the temporary exhibitions on those subjects in recent years, such as *Pearls of Wisdom* (2014). Expanding the permanent collection on display to these later periods broadens the chronological reach of the museum by many centuries. It also erodes the artificial boundary between the classical period and those that followed it, which is another relic of an old-fashioned (and ultimately colonialist) vision of the human past. The advisory committee appointed last year for the new gallery (including prominent scholars on the U-M and NYU faculty, as well as the director of the Arab-American Museum in Dearborn) has played an important role in steering the course for this important new exhibit. A working group of Kelsey curators and staff, tasked with designing and implementing the new display, has been meeting regularly, under the leadership of former director Terry Wilfong. We have also welcomed History of Art Professor Paroma Chatterjee as a Visiting Curator for the academic year 2021–22. Paroma is a specialist in Byzantine art and material culture who is providing crucial expertise for the new gallery. Plans, object lists, and display designs are coming together; we will transition to the fundraising phase of the project very soon.

Connected with the work on the new Byzantine and Islamic gallery is a reconsideration of the Roman displays which are on the second floor, adjacent to where the new gallery should be located. There is an opportunity to redesign and upgrade some of the materials there. A working group led by Roman curator Nicola Barham has been exploring exciting new possibilities, such as the use of projection to give

a sense of the vivid color that originally decorated ancient reliefs. At the end of this comprehensive revision, the entire floor would appear new and much richer to the Kelsey visitor.

Work on the collection and on the archives has continued to be intense. Recent hire, numismatics curator Irene Soto Marín, helped by staff and graduate students, continued her cataloging work on the extensive coin collection at the Kelsey. Thanks to a new, professional-grade, German-made photo stand, over a thousand coins have been documented in great digital detail and according to the most modern standards. This ongoing work is a very important step toward having a complete and exhaustive record of the entire collection. A dedicated online numismatic archive is being prepared in collaboration with the digital librarians at the University of Michigan.

This year also saw the retirement of a longtime member of the Kelsey team. Lisa Rozek was the Kelsey Museum administrative specialist for many years and was a great facilitator and administrator for our institution. She will be missed. We hope that Lisa will get some well-earned rest and we are sure she will remain an active member of our community.

As it is clear from all that I have covered, work at the Kelsey has made major progress, despite the limitations to both lab and fieldwork imposed by the pandemic. All the achievements contained in this report are a testament to the resilience and creativity of the Kelsey community. I could not be prouder of their efforts. I look forward to seeing you all in person in our galleries, and at our programs and events.



# Museum



## Exhibitions & Installations

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### **Randal Stegmeyer: Exposing the Past**

*Scheduled dates: May 1, 2020–January 3, 2021*

*Opening of online exhibition: May 1, 2020*

*Rescheduled in-person opening (U-M affiliates only):  
October 20, 2020. Closing date: January 2, 2022.*

*Curated by Randal Stegmeyer and Terry Wilfong*

University of Michigan Library photographer Randal Stegmeyer has long served as photographer of choice for the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. Randal's images feature prominently in our publications, electronic media, and promotional material and have come to shape how our artifacts are seen by scholars, students, and a wider public. On the occasion of Randal's retirement, we present an overview of his career in photography, surveying his images of Kelsey Museum artifacts, his work for other U-M and Michigan cultural institutions, as well as his wide-ranging personal projects



#### **ONLINE**

Access current and past Kelsey exhibitions at

[lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/exhibitions](https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/exhibitions)

#### KELSEY IN FOCUS 5

##### **Late Antique Textiles**

*Installation postponed to early 2022 due to the pandemic*

*Curated by Nicola Barham*

#### JACKIER PRIZE COMPETITION

##### **2020 Display Case**

*Scheduled: March 25–May 31, 2020*

*De-installation postponed to early 2022 due to the pandemic*

*Curated by Rachel Heibel, Estrella Salgado, Anna Southon, Victoria Thede, and Jaymes Walker*

In light of the reduced visitor traffic in our galleries in 2021, the decision was made to keep the 2020 Jackier display case installed through December. This allowed our audiences more time to see the display, and gave us the time to rethink the yearly competition. The

Jackier Prize has been re-imagined as the Kelsey Prize for Excellence in Archaeological Research and Interpretation; see the Education report for further details.

#### ONLINE

Learn more about the Kelsey Prize for Excellence in Archaeological Research and Interpretation.

[myumi.ch/GkDIZ](https://myumi.ch/GkDIZ)



The 2020 Jackier Prize Competition display remained on view through the duration of 2021. Photo by Eric Campbell.

# Public Programs

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## Exhibition-Related

### Randal Stegmeyer: Exposing the Past

There were no public programs for our special exhibition, *Randal Stegmeyer: Exposing the Past*.

## Other

### Family Week | Self Care: Health & Wellness in the Ancient World

*Virtual, Sunday, March 28–Saturday, April 3*

During the pandemic we have heard a lot about “self-care,” but what exactly does that mean? At the most basic level, it is how we take care of ourselves. The food we eat, the exercise we do to stay healthy, and the medicine we take when we get sick. However, self-care is more than that. It includes all the things we do to stay happy and healthy. That could be taking a walk or a run outside, or doing some arts and crafts. Maybe it’s playing a favorite sport with friends, or trying a new recipe.

We kicked off Family Week with a kid-friendly virtual tour that explored how people in the ancient Mediterranean and Mesopotamia took care of their bodies and minds, and introduced some of the activities for the week. Activities were grouped in categories. “Ancient Wellness” included making a DIY mosaic, making nut flour, and cooking along with Mallory Genauer as she re-created a 2,000-year-old Roman dessert recipe in her Pear Patina Cook-Along video. For “Ancient Medicine,” participants were asked to create their own protective amulets and votive offerings out of salt dough. The Kelsey Olympics fell under the header of “Ancient Sports and Games.” For five days, participants competed in various competitions: foot races, jumping contests, dramatic competitions, Frisbee throws, and chariot races. We even provided instructions to make paper laurel wreaths that could be used to crown the victors.

See the Education report for more information and photos from this year’s Family Week.

#### ONLINE

Access all the Family Week activities and other digital content at the Kelsey@Home page:

[myumi.ch/Ww5MM](https://myumi.ch/Ww5MM)



## Lectures

### Field Archaeology Series on Thursday (FAST)

- “At the Origins of Roman Urbanism: The Gabii Project,” Nicola Terrenato, University of Michigan (Feb 18, via Zoom. Recruitment FA2021 Lecture)
- “Engraving One’s Name in the Wadi Hammamat Quarries: From Spatial Dynamics to Visual Discourses,” Vincent Morel, University of Geneva (Mar 18, via Zoom)
- “The Archaeology of Western Anatolia, ca. 1200–133 BCE,” Christopher Ratté, University of Michigan (Sep 30, hybrid in-person and virtual)
- “The Greek Colonization of Southern Italy: A Multi-Scalar Approach to Cultural Encounters,” Giulia Saltini Semerari, U-M Museum of Anthropological Archaeology (Oct 28, hybrid in-person and virtual)
- “Living around a Byzantine Capital: Ravenna and Its Hinterland after the End of the Roman Period; Landscape, Settlements, and Environment,” Marco Cavalazzi, University of Bologna (Dec 2, hybrid in-person and virtual)

### Virtual Flash Talks

- “Ancient Africa in the Time of Black Lives Matter: Writing a New Archaeology of Kush,” Geoff Emberling, University of Michigan (Feb 5)
- “The Numismatic Collection at the Kelsey: History and Highlights,” Irene Soto Marín, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology (Mar 5)
- “‘Be of Good Cheer’: The Colorful Grave Markers of Ancient Terenouthis,” Carrie Roberts and Suzanne Davis, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology (Apr 2)
- “Fragmentation and Fragility at the Origins of Rome (and Other Iron Age Italian States),” Nic Terrenato, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology (May 7)
- “What is Kawara and Why Was It Important in Human Subsistence in Ancient Egypt?,” Richard Redding, University of Michigan (Jun 4)
- “‘That nothing be lost to the Most Sacred Treasury’: Motivating the State in Roman Egypt,” Brendan Haug, U-M Papyrology Collection (Aug 6)
- “The Bouleuterion at Notion,” Christopher Ratté, University of Michigan (Sep 10)

- “Once Upon a Time, There Was a River: The Environmental History of the Tiber Valley before Rome, from the Neolithic to the Iron Age,” Laura Motta, University of Michigan (Oct 1)
- “Live from Giza! Life in the Field,” Richard Redding, University of Michigan (Nov 5)
- “Archaeology with the Department of Defense,” Arianna Zapelloni Pavia (Dec 3)

### Michigan Archaeological Society (MAS)

- “Underwater Carcass Storage: Evidence for the Role of Proboscideans in Subsistence Practices of Pleistocene Humans,” Daniel Fisher, U-M Museum of Paleontology (Jan 21, via Zoom)
- “50 Years of Archaeology at Chippewa Nature Center,” Scott Beld, U-M Museum of Paleontology (Mar 18, via Zoom)
- “The Prehistory of Jackson County, Michigan,” Dan Wymer, Michigan Archaeological Society (Apr 15, via Zoom)
- “How to Find a Lost French Fort (And What to Do with It Once You Do),” Michael S. Nassaney, Western Michigan University (May 20, via Zoom)

### Other

- “The Social Life of Roman Soldiers: The Role of Wives, Children, and Families in Roman Military Communities,” Elizabeth M. Greene, University of Western Ontario (AIA Lecture, Feb 4, Zoom webinar)
- “Who Were Ancient Greek Sculptors in Clay? Insights from Their Fingerprints,” Julie Hruby, Dartmouth College (AIA Lecture, Mar 25, Zoom webinar)
- “Rediscovering Napata—Capital City of Ancient Kush,” Geoff Emberling, University of Michigan (AIA Lecture, Apr 21, Zoom webinar)
- “The Rise and Fall of Napata, an Ancient City along the Nile,” Geoff Emberling, University of Michigan (May 14, via Zoom)
- “The Lost Valley of the Crescent Moon: Thirty Years of Research in Petra, Jordan,” Thomas Paradise, University of Arkansas (Sep 16, Zoom webinar)

# Comings & Goings

- January 29: Custodian Charlie Brown retires
- February 1: Costodian Mark Harvey begins
- May 12: Security Officer Mallory Wolfgram leaves to take up a position at Emerald City Designs
- August 2: Mallory Bower starts as Executive Assistant and Social Media Coordinator
- September 1: Jan Victor Alfaro and John Morrison begin as Security Officers
- September 17: Administrative Specialist Lisa Rozek retires
- October 28: Security Officer Joseph Clark assigned to the Kelsey
- November 5: Security Officer Jan Victor Alfaro transferred to UMMNH
- December 20: Security Officer Jake Bennett leaves the Kelsey Museum for a position as a Federal Reserve Officer for the Federal Reserve Bank in Detroit

## Total Visitors Served

### Museum Visitors

January.....	123
February.....	229
March .....	55
April.....	104
May .....	37
June.....	304
July.....	641
August .....	1,182
September .....	1,098
October.....	1,340
November.....	1,434
December .....	973
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>7,520</b>

### Visitors on Guided Tours

No guided tours were offered in 2021.



## Happenings

### Laura Motta Receives AIA-NEH Grant

In January, Kelsey Research Specialist Laura Motta (with co-PI V. Moses of the University of Arizona) was awarded an AIA-NEH Grant for Archaeological Research to support her project, “Herding, Husbandry and the City: Stable Isotope Analysis of Gabii’s Animals.” The research proposal was submitted with Vicki Moses of the University of Arkansas (co-PI) and developed with the help of IPCAA PhD candidate Sheira Cohen.

The AIA-NEH grant funds isotope analysis to investigate livestock diet, seasonality, and mobility patterns at the site of Gabii over a 500-year period, during which it transformed from a small village in the eighth century BCE to a bustling city in the mid-Republican period. Results will allow the researchers to track the otherwise invisible choices that producers made around animal management and pastoral mobility, and to assess the extent to which urbanization affected these choices. The data offered by isotope analysis offers a unique opportunity to reassess our understanding of Gabii as an economic center.

### Janet Richards Awarded Grant from the Shelby White and Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications

Janet Richards has been awarded a grant from the Shelby White and Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications in support of her Weni book project. Awarded in March 2021, the grant began in July and supports this collaborative effort over the next three years.

### Giving Bluesday

More than 10,000 donors supported the University of Michigan’s seventh Giving Bluesday, a 24-hour celebration of giving that was held on March 10. Those who

gave contributed more than \$4.6 million in gifts of all sizes to causes of their choice across the Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint campuses and Michigan Medicine.

The staff, curators, and researchers at the Kelsey Museum extend our sincere appreciation to the donors who contributed \$1,275 in support of our exhibition-related activities, behind-the-scenes programs, research, and conservation. Thank you for your generous support.

### The Kelsey Participates in LSA Humanities Poetry Blast

In April, the Kelsey Museum joined with other U-M and Ann Arbor cultural institutions to celebrate National Poetry Month. The month-long event, called



**Figure 1.** Two poetry panels on the Kelsey’s connector windows as part of LSA Humanities Poetry Blast. Photo by Eric Campbell.

Poetry Blast, was spearheaded by U-M's Institute of the Humanities and sought to highlight poetry's important place in our lives and to recognize how it can console and inspire us.

Over 30 "pop-up" poems dotted the landscape of Central Campus, including at the Kelsey. The connector windows between the Upjohn Wing and Newberry Hall displayed four poems from the ancient world, one each from the civilizations of Greece, Rome, Egypt, and Mesopotamia: Sappho's *Ode to Aphrodite*, Catullus' *The Vigil of Venus*, *Harper's Song for Inherkhawy* from Inherkhawy's tomb at Deir el-Medina, and "The Death of Enkidu," from the *Epic of Gilgamesh*.

The poems were taken down at the beginning of May, but PDFs of the panels are available to view on the Kelsey Museum website ([myumi.ch/DEZVd](http://myumi.ch/DEZVd)).

### **Nadhira Hill Awarded Public Scholarship Award**

In August, IPCAA student Nadhira Hill received the Public Scholarship Award from the Women's Classical Caucus ([wccclassics.org](http://wccclassics.org)) for her blog, *Notes from the Apotheke*. The citation reads as follows: "In the few months since Nadhira Hill started her blog, *Notes from the Apotheke*, she has curated invaluable resources for BIPOC in Classics, ancient history, and archaeology. Her blog posts bring people of all backgrounds together by providing professional development advice in an accessible way, by engaging in dialogues on the state of the field, and by highlighting BIPOC scholars in ancient studies from different backgrounds and career stages."

Read and subscribe to Nadhira's blog at [notesfromtheapotheke.com](http://notesfromtheapotheke.com)

### **Caitlin Clerkin Begins Curatorial Fellowship at Harvard Art Museums**

In September, IPCAA doctoral candidate Caitlin Clerkin began a two-year position as the Frederick Randolph Grace Curatorial Fellow in Ancient Art at the Harvard Art Museums in Cambridge,

Massachusetts. Working in the Division of Asian and Mediterranean Art, she is participating in a range of curatorial activities, including object-based research, exhibitions, and gallery/object teaching with the Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and ancient Middle Eastern collections.

### **The Kelsey Joins Museums for All**

In October, the Kelsey joined with hundreds of museums across the country in Museums for All, ([museums4all.org](http://museums4all.org)) an access program that focuses on removing the barriers to visiting museums and cultural centers and encouraging individuals of all backgrounds to build lifelong museum habits.

Admission to the Kelsey is always free, but we have developed special Museums for All programming as well as goodie bags for participants to take home. We will also offer program participants a discount in our gift shop when it reopens.



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Benefactor	3	\$3,000
Patron	4	\$2,000
Sponsor	16	\$4,250
Contributor	25	\$2,600
Household	27	\$1,420
Individual	30	\$960
<b>Totals</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>\$14,230</b>

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Mrs. Sharon W. Roberts  
Ms. Ashley E. Tan  
Ms. Patricia J. Tompkins  
Dr. Paolo Visoná & Dr. Monica B. Visoná  
Mr. Jim R. Wegner & Mrs. Diana M. Wegner

#### Kelsey Public Programs

Anonymous donors  
Ms. Jean Mervis

#### Kelsey Museum Publications

Anonymous donors

#### The Abydos Middle Cemetery Project

Dr. Marjorie M. Fisher

#### Research in Nubia Fund

Mr. Lawrence J. Bernstein & Ms. Julie Bernstein  
Ms. Kathleen Picken

#### Notion Fieldwork Project

The Merops Foundation

#### Faculty Support in Nubia Fund

Ms. Kathleen Picken

#### Kelsey Museum Holiday Staff Support

Anonymous

#### Research Projects

Ms. Kathleen Picken  
Ms. Mary G. Shea

#### Research in Ancient Kush Fund

Mr. Roger W. Cogswell & Mrs. Ann M. Cogswell

#### Clark Hopkins Kelsey Museum Fund

Dr. Cyrus C. Hopkins & Ms. Betty B. Blume

## Docents & Volunteers

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### Docents

Krista Albertins  
Kelly Anderson  
Kathy Bowdler  
Ann Cassidy  
Juanita Garland  
Mary Lou Gillard  
Kathleen Gunderson  
Ann Hayden  
David Horrocks  
Linda Kimmel  
William Kryska  
Marian Laughlin  
Robin Little  
Cecilia Mercante  
Carolyn Nouhan  
Margaret Schmid  
Dorothy Sims  
Mary Ann Smith

Silva Stewart  
Ann van Rosevelt  
Anna (Mieke) van Rosevelt  
Luwei Wang

### Volunteers

None in 2021

## Interns

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### Interns

Krista Albertins (Education)  
Juliet Christin (Bioarch Lab)  
Joey Frankl (Publications)  
Laura Sofia Hernandez Gonzalez (Education)  
Katie Kim (Registry)  
Chesney Lambert (Registry)  
Kate McFarlin (Conservation)  
Annelise Perry (Education)  
Hope Showalter (Registry)



## Administration

Mallory Bower, Executive Assistant & Social Media Coordinator

Dawn Johnson, Associate Director & Chief Administrator

Lisa Rozek, Administrative Specialist

Lorene Sterner, Gifts Manager & Graphic Artist

Alex Zwinak, Graduate Program Coordinator

This past year has again presented unique challenges for operations, but also wonderful opportunities to move important projects forward, embark on new initiatives, and engage with new audiences and partners. The Administrative Department manages many of the behind-the-scenes aspects of the Kelsey, ensuring that the resources are in place for our community to benefit from seamless workflow processes and work productively in a safe, comfortable environment (whether on-site or remote). The administrative staff has done an exemplary job of triaging our community's needs during this past year, supporting both the Kelsey and IPCAA programs in the areas of finance, human resources, administrative support and supplies, computer support, and facility management. In addition to the staff listed above, we are very thankful for the comprehensive support of DPSS security personnel, U-M custodial staff, and our LSA partners in finance, human resources, and facilities.

### Staff Updates

In 2021 we saw two colleagues retire and welcomed some new ones. At the end of January, our custodian, Charlie Brown, retired. Charlie worked for the

University of Michigan for over 13 years and was a remarkable employee. He ensured that the Kelsey was a clean environment to work in, and rose to the challenge of maintaining all the essential protocols for sanitation that have been imperative during the pandemic. We were fortunate that Mark Harvey, who had previously worked at the Kelsey, was willing to transfer back to us from the Ford Library. Mark has ensured a seamless transition and has maintained the rigorous cleaning schedule necessary to ensure a healthy and safe environment in these challenging times. Mark is a pleasure to work with and his

### ONLINE

Read "Charlie Brown Lives!," a 2017 *Motortrend* feature about our very own Charlie and his '76 Cobra II Mustang.

[www.motortrend.com/features/1710-charlie-brown-lives-drives-an-11-second-street-cobra-ii-mustang](http://www.motortrend.com/features/1710-charlie-brown-lives-drives-an-11-second-street-cobra-ii-mustang)



Figure 1. Lisa Rozek in the Kelsey gift shop.



**Figure 2.** Mallory Bower, the Kelsey's new executive assistant and social media coordinator.



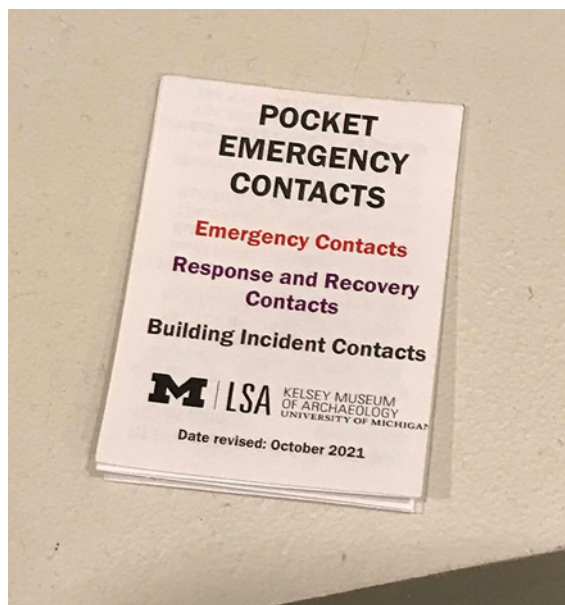
**Figure 3.** Mallory Bower photographing objects in the galleries for social media. Photo by Dawn Johnson.

proactive and insightful approaches to processes are greatly appreciated.

On September 17, Lisa Rozek, Kelsey administrative specialist, retired after 23 years with the University of Michigan (six of those at the Kelsey Museum) (fig. 1). Lisa provided support in areas of finance and human resources, as well as management of the administrative office and the gift shop. We wish her well and hope that she is enjoying her retirement.

On August 2, the Kelsey welcomed Mallory Bower as the executive assistant and social media coordinator (fig. 2). Mallory has done an exceptional job of quickly identifying efficient processes in the administrative office, and has also been able to direct significant focus to the Kelsey's social media platforms (fig. 3). She has benefited from the strong foundation and processes established by Kelsey Community and Youth Educator Mallory Genauer, and has been able to move new social media initiatives forward with the greater allocation of time that her position affords this role. Mallory has also taken the lead on the digitization of personnel records and has facilitated updates to our Pocket Emergency Contacts guide as part of our annual Emergency Operations Plan review (fig. 4). In 2022 Mallory will be working with Mallory Genauer on the Kelsey's DEIA initiatives (diversity, equity,

inclusion, accessibility) and developing a formal social media policy and plan.



**Figure 4.** The 2021 iteration of the Kelsey Museum Pocket Emergency Contacts guide. Photo by Dawn Johnson.

We also had a transition with our business analyst, Sherri Craft. Sherri has taken on other units and her responsibilities with the Kelsey have shifted to Nicole Wolfe. Sherri provided great clarity and support with financial operations and while we will miss working with her, we are enjoying our new colleague, Nicole. Sherri continues to support Nicole as needed with the significant institutional history that she has of the Kelsey, and we are also extremely fortunate to have the consistent support of Dan Green and Alex Wilkerson in the MLB business office. Dan and Alex continue to provide invaluable support to all financial aspects of the Kelsey as well as with our faculty with account management and fieldwork excavations.

In addition to the multitude of responsibilities shouldered by Lorene Sterner and Alex Zwinak, they provide consistent customer-focused support for the administrative needs of the Kelsey and accessibility to essential resources. Lorene's expertise in the area of graphic design supports various faculty research projects (read about Lorene's graphic design work for the Tel Kedesh project in the Individual Reports section, below), and her oversight of our gift process ensures that timely communication with our donors is maintained. Her attention to our membership and the donors that support so many of the Kelsey's programs is an important aspect of our continued sustainability.

Alex's oversight of the IPCAA graduate program and its multiple facets continued to adapt with our changing environment. This year he successfully managed the first remote recruitment weekend (which garnered three student acceptances), the IPCAA on-site access schedule, and the early planning for an in-person recruitment in February of 2022. In addition, Alex facilitated the ongoing DEI initiatives for the Kelsey, supporting three subcommittees and the production of a draft of a DEI acknowledgment and commitment statement (more on this in the DEI overview section). He also completed computer upgrades for the unit and, working closely with the business office and dig director Geoff Emberling, coordinated the details of the January–February 2022 archaeological field season in Sudan.

## Operations

The Kelsey operations over the past year, while in some ways less restrictive, still required adaptability, careful planning, and oversight. At the start of the year, the galleries were still open only to University of Michigan visitors. Revised plans to include our members, docents, and the public remained on hold through the winter semester with concerns about increasing density on the campus. During this period, we continued to use the Eventbrite scheduling system to manage capacity in the galleries. The Kelsey staff and students worked primarily offsite with access schedules to accommodate essential on-site work. On August 10, the Kelsey was given the approval to open the galleries to all audiences without the use of a scheduling system. We were thrilled to be able to welcome our docents, members, and the public audiences that had been unable to visit for so long. Our special exhibition, *Randal Stegmeyer: Exposing the Past*, finally realized broader engagement from visitors. We maintained the Newberry entrance on State Street as a staff and student entrance, with all museum visitors entering on Maynard. We also developed a policy with LSA and the Provost's support to ensure that the Kelsey volunteers were in compliance with the same COVID vaccination protocols that were in place for U-M staff and students. The Kelsey gift shop has remained closed through December 2021, but we are hoping that it will open in the upcoming year. Our attendance in the second half of the year reflects the increase in visitation once we were again open to all audiences.

Our staff returned to an on-site schedule in July with flexible work schedules in place to accommodate "deep work" that could be done remotely, and the IPCAA students began to return in August. We have been able to return to a greater on-site presence in the second half of the year and we are planning to schedule University classes and some of the other in-person programs again in the winter semester.

Despite the challenges that we continued to encounter with the pandemic, we were able to embark on several new initiatives and complete some facility projects that will greatly impact operations and



Figure 5. The Kelsey Museum joined Museums for All in October.

programmatic outcomes. The University of Michigan Museum of Natural History presented an opportunity to join the Museums for All program as part of a U-M collaborative effort to increase audience access. Museums for All provides admission and programming for individuals who participate in food-support programs (fig. 5). Collaborating with UMMNH, UMMA, and the Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum, we have developed collateral and resource materials with plans for the coming year to increase program visibility and program planning with our cultural institutional partners. The Kelsey Education Department, our editor, and our assistant exhibition coordinator have done a tremendous job implementing this program. We also launched an internal climate survey with ADVANCE to solicit staff and student responses to the Kelsey environment. We are looking forward to summary reports from ADVANCE in early 2022 and will integrate the responses into our strategic planning process. Finally, we have been approved as a site for Rackham's Fellowship Internship Program and we will be hosting our first intern in the winter of 2022.

#### ONLINE

Learn more about Museums for All at their website.

[museums4all.org](https://museums4all.org)

## Facilities

In addition to these programmatic areas, a number of important facility projects were completed. LSA supported a multi-month project to upgrade and move the Kelsey's transfer switch (data and phone lines) from the Newberry building to a more appropriate location in the Upjohn building. This was a labor-intensive project with substantial cost, and we greatly appreciate the support of LSA, IT, and all the participants that facilitated this project. We also entered the second phase of our Wi-Fi upgrade; this will be complete in January 2022 and will enable increased Wi-Fi capabilities (fig. 6). With the Building Endowment's support, we added additional cameras to collection areas and upgraded our access system. They also provided funds for us to begin the refinishing and staining of the Upjohn entry doors. While the foundation project for the Newberry has been delayed, we are hoping it will be scheduled for the upcoming year.

The dedication and hard work of our community made it possible for the Kelsey to continue to support its mission this past year.



Figure 6. One of the new Wi-Fi units in the administrative area of Newberry Hall. Photo by Dawn Johnson.





The pause had also positive effects: it afforded extra time that we dedicated to the planning of future projects. Our proposal for the study of Karanis collections submitted to the very competitive iBOF (Interuniversity Special Research Funding Program) grant was selected as a finalist. Excited by the results, and building on the successful collaboration with P. Erdkamp at Vrije Universiteit Brussel, we submitted a grant application for the second cycle of the Excellence of Science funding program sponsored by the Belgian government. The first semester was busy writing the new project proposal and putting together a team of experts from diverse fields—art history, papyrology, biochemistry, and microbiology—to complement Laura and Richard’s expertise. The selection process included several assessment steps that lasted the whole of 2021.



**Figure 3.** UROP students at work in the Bioarchaeology Lab. Photo by Laura Motta.



**Figure 4.** U-M student Juliet Christin consults with early millet specialist Dr. Rory Walsh of the Center for Korean Studies and U-M, October 2021. Photo by Laura Motta.

Richard had his first field season since the onset of the COVID epidemic ended his 2020 season (see Richard Redding’s individual report in the 2020 Kelsey annual report). In October and November, Richard worked on the Giza Plateau at the Menkaure Valley Temple. The temple was first excavated by George Reisner between 1908 and 1910. When Reisner dug in the middle section of the temple, which was a courtyard filled with small residential structures, he threw the back-dirt into the western third of the temple. This back-dirt was filled with material culture that Reisner did not collect. Even though it is disturbed, this material culture is providing insights into the economy of the residents of the courtyard of the temple.

Laura had the opportunity to go to the field during the summer and was eager to start her new project for a Sr isotope values baseline map of Central Italy. While in Rome she also spent two weeks doing a second round of sampling on the Forum Boarium cores.



The fall semester brought great excitement to the Bioarchaeology Lab. Density restrictions were lifted and we could accept new students to work in the lab (fig. 3). This was the perfect time to rebuild our team after an 18-month gap. Juliet Kristin was eventually able to come back to work on her honors thesis, just in time to conclude her taxonomic analysis of millets. With the help of Dr. Rory Walsh (Center for Korean Studies and U-M), one of the world experts in early millet (fig. 4), Juliet was able to discriminate the Italian millet (*Setaria italica*) from the broom-corn millet (*Panicum miliaceum*) in Iron Age Italian contexts. We were extremely delighted to welcome new undergraduate students Antonina Killian and Ansley Wunderlich. The two sophomores participate in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) project “Supplying Early Cities” and worked on a subset of archaeobotanical samples from Gabii to investigate changes in crop production and farming practices. The lab again resonated with lively discussions and exclamations of surprise for an unexpected find.

#### ONLINE

Learn more about the Bioarchaeology Lab at the Kelsey Museum:

[myumi.ch/XVV2r](https://myumi.ch/XVV2r)

## Lab Members 2021

### Staff

- Richard Redding
- Laura Motta

### Graduate Students

- Bailey Franzoi
- Lauren Oberlin

### Undergraduate Interns

- Juliet Christin

### Volunteers

- None

## Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)

- Antonina Killian
- Ansley Wunderlich

## Visiting Researchers

- Dr. Rory Walsh, Center for Korean Studies, University of Michigan

## Projects

- Animal and botanical remains from Karanis
- Gabii Project
- Early Rome farming systems and landscape modifications
- Demirköy animal resources exploitation
- Wood charcoal C isotopes as a climatic proxy

## Classes

- CLARCH 480 “Plants in Archaeology” (Winter 2021, remote)

## Conservation

Suzanne Davis, Associate Curator of Conservation  
Caroline Roberts, Conservator

Twenty twenty-one was the year when we were going to GET THINGS RIGHT. Vaccinations! Masks! Being back on campus! We were ready to see the back of 2020, and it was going to be great. In the Conservation Department, we returned to working in the laboratory together—as in, *at the same time*—for the first time in more than 18 months, and coming back to shared, on-site work with each other and our

Kelsey colleagues was energizing and inspiring. At the same time, some aspects of 2021 were notably weird.

Let's talk, for example, about the sudden explosion of virtual conferences. In 2020, these were a welcome novelty. In 2021, between the two of us, we attended seven of these strange meetings and gave papers and/or moderated discussions at four. Although it was great to be able to present and



**Figure 1.** Conservator Carrie Roberts examines Terenouthis stela with portable optical microscopy. September 2021. Photo by Suzanne Davis.



**Figure 2.** Portable X-ray fluorescence unit, set up and ready to study pigments and ground layers on an inscription from Karanis. Photo by Carrie Roberts.

discuss our research with colleagues located all over the world, we've learned that Zoom meetings of any description are exhausting, and the hours required for virtual conferences magnify the fatigue factor significantly. We are therefore especially proud of our well-received, co-authored paper, "Recapturing Ancient Identities: Challenges and Discoveries from the Multispectral Imaging of Roman Egyptian Stelae at the Kelsey Museum," delivered by Carrie for the 2021 virtual annual meeting of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC).

This paper was the first, early dissemination of work we're conducting for a Research and Development grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This project focuses on ancient color in the Kelsey's collection, with a special emphasis on Roman Egyptian objects. We began gathering and analyzing data in June, using techniques that include multispectral imaging and X-ray fluorescence, as well as digital, stereo, and polarized light microscopy. By the end of the year, we had investigated a selection of 75 Karanis and Terenouthis artifacts—objects like painted limestone grave markers, wall paintings

**Figure 3.** Conservator Suzanne Davis prepares to use multispectral imaging (MSI) to investigate dyes on an ancient textile; lens filters for use on the MSI camera are arrayed in order of use along the table in the left foreground. Photo by Carrie Roberts.



fragments, colorful textiles, and more. Our findings to date align with much of what has been reported for Roman-Egyptian objects in other collections but, because our project is significantly larger than previous studies, it is contributing a substantial and important dataset. We have also made a few surprising discoveries, such as trace elements (chromium in green earth pigments and bromine on wood objects), colorful ancient fingerprints, and images and inscriptions invisible to the naked eye.

We have multiple collaborators on this project, but we are especially pleased about the participation of two graduate students: IPCAA student Laurel Fricker, who has been focusing on terracotta figurines; and our first ever “remote” summer intern, Kate McFarlin, who is studying archaeological conservation at The State University of New York College at Buffalo and who assisted with literature review for the textile-focused part of the project. Like virtual conferences, remote internships seem strange to us, especially in a hands-on discipline like conservation,



yet this was a notably weird aspect of 2021 that was also very cool.

We have been sharing information about this research project publicly in various venues; we gave a Kelsey Museum virtual Flash Talk, and Carrie—who leads this project—presented a docent talk as well as a University of Michigan Museum Studies Roundtable discussion. We plan to do more in the coming year, so please stay tuned!

On the topic of sharing information, in March we published a multi-year study focused on the heat tolerance of adhesives used with archaeological materials. This paper, “Paraloid B-72/B-48N 1:1 as an Adhesive for Use in Hot Climates: Literature Review, Laboratory Testing, and Observational Field Study,” was co-authored with our colleague Andy Poli in U-M’s Department of Mechanical Engineering and appeared in the journal *Studies in Conservation*. Although glue might not seem an exciting topic to non-conservators, some of the most commonly used and best-regarded adhesives for use in conservation are now failing in field settings because they can no longer stand up to the rising temperatures on our increasingly hot planet. Our study reviewed current research, reported our own findings, and suggested targets for future work, and it has generated interest

from conservators working as far away as Brazil and China.

Carrie also contributed to an article that will feature in the next volume of the *Detroit Institute of Arts Bulletin*, “Deconstructing an Ancient Mummy Portrait,” along with DIA colleagues Christina Bisulca, Aaron Steele, and Ellen Hanspach-Bernal. In addition, she is serving as the guest editor for a special issue of the *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation* (JAIC). This issue, titled “Practical Approaches to Technical Research,” seeks contributions from conservators and other scholars conducting scientific research in accessible ways and in under-resourced settings. The topic has proved incredibly popular; Carrie recently completed initial review of more than 60 abstract submissions for the project.

As 2021 drew to a close, we were excited to once again be preparing objects for use in the classroom and galleries. Carrie began work on a numismatic teaching collection in collaboration with Kelsey curator Irene Soto Marín, and Suzanne completed a review of textiles for exhibition in a new edition of the Kelsey in Focus case curated by Nicola Barham. We look forward to many such satisfying collaborations in 2022, since we now know—whether remote, in-person, or hybrid—we can make it work.

## Education

Cathy Person, Director of Education  
Mallory Genauer, Community and Youth Educator

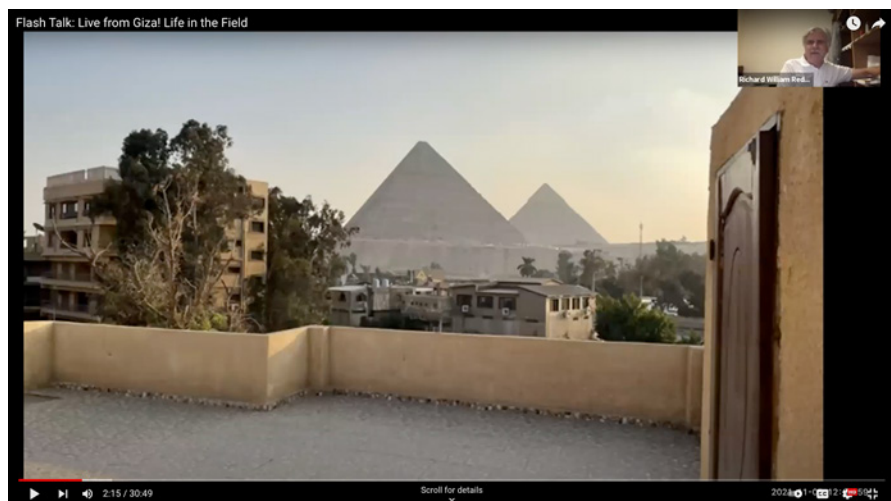
The end of the year is always a time of reflection for the Education Department. Usually, we are crunching attendance numbers and looking back on the different programs we held throughout the year. This year is no different; however, we are looking back through a very different lens. Twenty twenty-one was another year of change and adaptation in how we present education programming at the Kelsey. While the museum opened its doors with diminished capacity beginning in October 2020, on-site programming was postponed due to concerns for the safety of our visitors, staff, volunteers, and students. What began as a small menu of virtual programs in 2020 expanded in 2021 to bimonthly virtual Saturday Samplers, monthly Flash Talks, countless virtual visits with university classes, Family Week programming, and the introduction of many digital resources for teachers and parents.

### Public Programs

Diving into the world of virtual programming, we held 25 virtual Saturday Samplers with topics that included writing in Mesopotamia, goddesses of the Kelsey, an archival look at some of the Kelsey's historic excavations, and even a farm-to-table story of Imperial Rome. The virtual programs have reached an international audience with visitors attending tours from the United Kingdom, Italy, Malta, Greece, Egypt, China, and Pakistan. In 2022 we plan on continuing to offer virtual Saturday Samplers while adding in-person tours so as to continue serving these new audiences.

New this year was the introduction of Kelsey Museum Flash Talks. These 15-minute Zoom presentations from Kelsey Museum curators, research associates, and U-M colleagues, followed by 15 minutes of Q&A, have allowed the general public to learn more about the current work being done in the Kelsey and associate departments. Some of the topics presented in 2021 include "Ancient Africa in the Time of Black Lives Matter: Writing a New Archaeology of Kush"

**Figure 1.** Screenshot of Richard Redding's Flash Talk, "Live from Giza! Life in the Field," which he presented from Egypt on November 5, 2021.





(Geoff Emberling), “Motivating the State in Roman Egypt” (Brendan Haug), and even a session called “Live from Giza! Life in the Field” (Richard Redding) (fig. 1).

Our Field Archaeology Series on Thursdays (FAST) went to a hybrid structure for the 2021–22 academic year, offering in-person attendance in the Classics Library as well as streaming live via Zoom. Lectures included guests from the University of Geneva, University of Bologna, and speakers from the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology.

### Digital Outreach

With the pandemic entering its second year, the Education Department continued to focus on expanding the digital resources available to the general public and teachers. New resources were added to the Kelsey@Home webpage and we expanded our YouTube channel offerings.

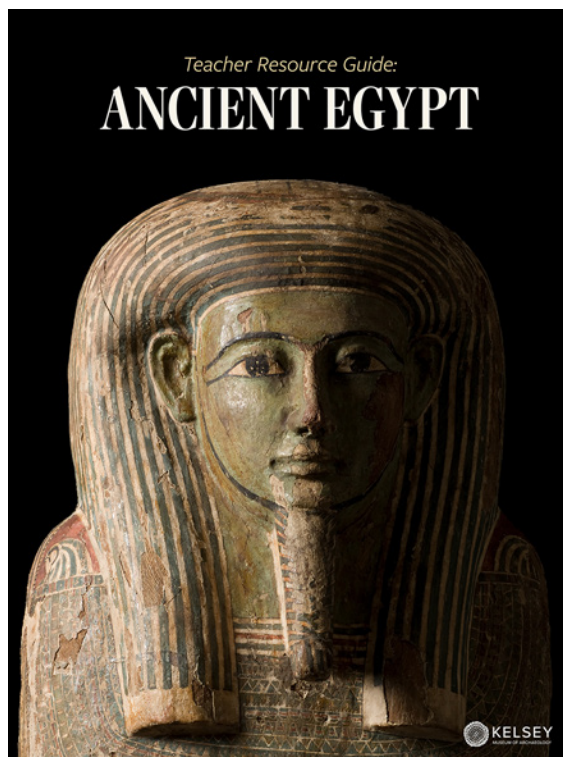
Kelsey FAST lectures continued to be posted to our YouTube channel with the addition of the new Flash Talks. We also introduced a new series of bimonthly videos called Artifact Explorations. These 3–7-minute videos address an archaeological topic or type of artifact. In a year when we were limited in our in-person interactions, our YouTube channel and Kelsey@Home digital resources pages allowed nearly 2,000 people to interact with the Kelsey collections, researchers, and staff.

Our Education staff also spent the year developing the first of four planned teacher resource guides that utilize the Kelsey collections and research. These guides are intended to supplement the currently available social studies curriculum. The Michigan state curriculum asks students to “think like a historian”

#### ONLINE

View recorded Kelsey lectures on our YouTube channel:

[myumi.ch/lxARQ](https://myumi.ch/lxARQ)



**Figure 2.** The cover of the Kelsey’s first Teacher Resource Guide, available for free download on the Kelsey website. [myumi.ch/XVGer](https://myumi.ch/XVGer)

as they learn about the ancient world. The Kelsey resource guides provide expanded background materials, object photos, and suggested classroom and take-home activities, all while asking students to “think like an archaeologist.” While designed to address the content standards for seventh grade in Michigan, these guides can be used by any educator who is teaching the ancient world.

The planned guides cover the ancient civilizations of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, the Roman Empire. The Egypt guide is now available to download for free from the Kelsey website (fig. 2).

### Family Day

2021 saw another virtual Family Week experience. This spring we focused on the theme of Self-Care:



**Figure 3.** This year's virtual Family Day, Health & Wellness in the Ancient World, took place in March and April. Design by Eric Campbell.

Health and Wellness in the Ancient World. We kicked off the week with a virtual tour given by Kelsey docent, intern, and SAG board president Krista Albertins, which introduced visitors to the different aspects of self-care in the ancient world, including cooking, medicine, and sports and games. We created downloadable resources suitable for young audiences, including coloring pages, anatomical votive and amulet-making activities, and a tutorial for making nut flour. Our audiences were also invited to participate in the #kelseyolympics on our social media platforms. Each day of the week, a new event took place. We invited our audiences to hold foot races, practice throwing the discus (i.e., Frisbee), attempt the long jump, host a dramatic contest, and even hold chariot (scooter) races (fig. 3). We even provided

instructions to make a DIY laurel wreath so victors could crown themselves Olympians.

In October, in celebration of International Archaeology Day, we held a special family-friendly virtual tour asking the question, What is archaeology? We also hosted our second cooking demonstration. The “Scribal Snacks” cook-along video discusses the writing systems of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, then guides viewers in the creation of sugar cookie ushabtis and cuneiform “lentils” (student exercise tablets) (fig. 4). A downloadable PDF alphabet conversion chart helps participants write their names or initials on their snacks in hieroglyphs and cuneiform. The video is available to view on the Kelsey YouTube channel: [youtu.be/cIXtedNo92Q](https://youtu.be/cIXtedNo92Q).

#### ONLINE

Visit the Kelsey@Home page at [myumi.ch/Ww5MM](https://myumi.ch/Ww5MM)

#### Docent Program

With the introduction of virtual Saturday Samplers, our docents jumped headfirst into the waters of the digital world. Docents served more than 75 hours in



**Figure 4.** The “Scribal Snacks” cook-along guided participants in making yummy edible ushabtis and cuneiform tablets. Photos by Mallory Genauer.

2021 with Saturday Sampler tours and AskMe sessions in our galleries.

Kelsey docents attend bi-monthly continuing education classes, and this year we welcomed some wonderful guest speakers from the faculty of U-M and other institutions. Speakers from the Corning Museum of Glass and Southern Methodist University guided us on explorations of the world of ancient glass and feminine figurines from Seleucia-on-the-Tigris. We also addressed topics including Jews in Roman Palestine, religion in ancient Mesopotamia, and a got a glimpse of Conservation’s current survey of ancient color in the Kelsey’s stone collection. Our docents also continued to hone their museum education practice by learning new ways to engage with visitors online.

### University Tour Training

In March and April we offered training in leading university tours to interested docents. Docents have been leading university tours for several years, but training for it has always been done one on one as needed. This year marks the first formalized training for such tours. Tours for university courses include information and interpretation about the objects on display, but are also meant to foster deeper discussions around the key themes of the courses. Tour

training focuses mainly on facilitating conversations about complex topics such as the colonialist origins of archaeology and North American museums, the problems and ethics of collecting artifacts, and diversity and identity in the ancient world. We plan to resume tours for university courses in early 2022 and are excited for more of our docents to share their passion and knowledge with these audiences.

### Teaching Remotely

With limited access to the galleries in the winter, spring, and summer terms, our university tour program remained virtual. On August 10, 2021, we reopened without restrictions to all visitors. This allowed us to prepare for in-person visits again in fall 2021. However, as a precaution to protect staff, volunteers, and students, we did not provide any guided tours in fall 2021. Instead, we provided worksheets and scripted tour sheets for professors to use to lead their students through the galleries. We also continued to provide virtual tours. The Education Department was able to offer 34 virtual university tours of the Kelsey Museum using Zoom and PowerPoint. We also provided resources for 68 in-person visits in fall 2021. We plan to resume in-person tours in early 2022, but we will continue to offer the virtual tour program for those who are interested. The virtual format has greatly increased our accessibility and allowed us to reach classes in U-M departments and at other universities and colleges that are not physically able to visit.

We have also heard that university courses have made use of the Kelsey Museum’s online resources. Professor Diana Ng at U-M Dearborn had her students watch several of our Artifact Exploration videos for her HIST 101 course this fall. The Education staff also recorded an additional video just for this course.

### Internship Program

In 2021 the Kelsey Education Department hosted three interns who worked on projects in family programs, teacher resources, and gallery accessibility.

Working with the Education team, interns gained experience in all aspects of museum education, including program development, marketing strategies, writing in museums, and program evaluation.

### **Laura Sofia Hernandez Gonzalez**

#### *Project: Bilingual Gallery Guide to Daily Life*

In August of 2020, Laura Sofia joined our Education team to develop and write a gallery guide to the Kelsey Museum that would be available in both English and Spanish. Her work on this project continued throughout 2021. Working remotely from her home in Puerto Rico, Laura Sofia studied diligently with our collections and exhibitions, learned about museum writing and education practices, consulted with our curators and staff, and conducted detailed research into the many cultures represented at the Kelsey. The result is an accessible and engaging gallery guidebook to the Kelsey Museum available in both English and Spanish languages. Both versions of the gallery guide will be downloadable for free from our website later in 2022. In the future, we plan to translate it into other languages. Laura Sofia is currently applying for graduate programs in archaeology with a focus on Hellenistic and Roman Egypt. We wish her the best of luck!

### **Krista Albertins**

#### *Project: Family Week: Health & Wellness in the Ancient World*

Krista Albertins, a U-M senior studying history and political science, joined Community and Youth Educator Mallory Genauer in the development of the Kelsey's second virtual Family Week. Tackling a popular theme throughout the pandemic, Family Week focused on self-care in the ancient world. Krista took the lead on developing the theme, marketing, kickoff tour, and activities. The activities focused on the ways that the people of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome took care of their physical and mental well-being. Materials were made available for download including ancient recipes, coloring pages, DIY amulets and votives, and we even made a fun cook-along video with a step-by-step guide

for making the ancient Roman recipe for pear patina. Through this internship, Krista was able to see the entire process that museum educators go through when planning a large-scale family event.

### **Annelise Perry**

#### *Project: Activities for Ancient Egypt Teacher Resource Guide*

As part of a year-long project to develop a teacher resource curriculum guide, intern Annelise Perry took on the task of creating classroom activities and projects that teachers could use as a complement to the new curriculum. Annelise worked with Mallory Genauer to design eight activities focused on ancient Egypt that addressed topics in Egyptian geography, history, government, religion, and art (fig. 5). The work Annelise has done is part of the Ancient Egypt



**Figure 5.** Before and after images of the fruit mummification activity from the Ancient Egypt Teacher Resource Guide. Photos by Mallory Genauer.



Teacher Resource Guide that is now available for download from the Kelsey's website (see p. 25).

### **Kelsey Museum Student Advisory Group (SAG)**

In fall 2019 we recruited a group of six undergraduate students to serve in the first Kelsey Museum Student Advisory Group. The main goal of this group is to promote the Kelsey Museum among their fellow U-M students outside of the formal classroom environment.

This past year saw many changes in the SAG group. We adopted a formal board structure and the members continued to work on the group constitution. The group began the year by tabling at the campus FestiFall, growing the group's membership to 65 students, up from 26 the previous year. The SAG held an in-person Halloween event where Kelsey docent and SAG board president Krista Albertins gave

a virtual tour of the magical objects in the museum and members created their own mythical monsters.

The SAG members also volunteered at several events on campus this year including Artscapade at UMMA, which saw more than 800 undergraduate students, and running a Myths and Monsters activity for the University's K-Grams program. K-grams is a mentoring and learning program that pairs up college and elementary school students bringing people together from all facets of the University of Michigan campus and the local community (fig. 6).

The SAG has several events planned for spring 2022 as outdoor activities become more practical.

### **The Kelsey Prize for Excellence in Archaeological Research and Interpretation**

During our closure, we took time to develop a new undergraduate competition that was more accessible



**Figure 6.** SAG members posing in front of the Kelsey's Herakles cutout during Artscapade in August. Photo by Mallory Genauer.



to students across all three U-M campuses. In August 2021 we launched the new Kelsey Prize for Excellence in Archaeological Research and Interpretation. This prize is open to all U-M undergraduate students and to all types of projects, from works of art to online exhibitions to traditional essays. The projects need to focus on one or more objects from the Kelsey Museum's collections and present well-researched and thoughtful interpretations. Students have until January 24, 2022, to submit their projects, with winners announced in February. More information about this annual competition is available on our website, [myumi.ch/GkDIZ](https://myumi.ch/GkDIZ).

### Digital Study of Kelsey Objects (DiSKO)

The DiSKO project remained on hold throughout 2021. Staff access to the museum and its collections

was restricted until July 2021. We further were not able to hire student employees to work on the project in 2021. Our plan is to resume this important work in summer 2022. We hope to have a test version of this resource by fall 2022 to share with faculty and students. We also plan to continue the work of creating materials for this resource in fall 2022.

### Education by the Numbers

K-12 Programs	145
Community Programs	1,101
University Audiences	2,345
Digital Interactions	1,991
<b>Total Served</b>	<b>5,582</b>

## Exhibitions

Scott Meier, Museum Exhibition Coordinator  
Eric Campbell, Assistant Exhibition Designer

### Permanent Galleries

The Kelsey's special exhibition schedule was again suspended in 2021 so that the Exhibitions Department might focus its time and efforts on phase one of a multi-year project to re-imagine and renovate the permanent galleries. The largest project in phase one was the replacement of some worn and faded didactic panels within the exhibit cases. The goal was to redesign the panels with a new overall layout, color, and font. Unfortunately, this project has taken longer than anticipated; as of year-end, the panels are almost ready for production. It is anticipated that they will be installed throughout the coming year.

Since the Upjohn galleries opened in 2009, there have been repeated requests for a large map showing the locations of our different dig sites and where our collections have come from. We finally have one! Earlier this year, a 70-inch monitor with an animated map was installed at the museum's entrance. The monitor, which also displays news items

and upcoming events, introduces new visitors to the Kelsey and its collections (fig. 1). We also completed the design and installation of a long-awaited acknowledgment panel at the museum's entrance honoring Mary Upjohn Meader and Edwin E. Meader, whose generous gift funded the construction of the Kelsey's Upjohn Exhibit Wing (fig. 2).

This year the Kelsey also embarked on an exciting new journey to add an Islamic/Byzantine gallery to the museum. We are a long way from the gallery opening, but we have made progress defining the desired visitor



**Figure 1.** The new monitor in the Upjohn foyer displays a map of the Mediterranean region and upcoming events. Photo by Eric Campbell.



**Figure 2.** The Mary Upjohn Meader and Edwin E. Meader acknowledgment panel, installed in April. Photo by Scott Meier.

experience and have looked at various gallery design alternatives.

### Special Exhibitions

*Randal Stegmeyer: Exposing the Past* remained on view throughout 2021. This extended run gave museum visitors more time to enjoy this unique exhibition.

### Mini Exhibitions

2020's Eleanor and Lawrence Jackier Prize in Archaeology display remained on view throughout 2021. De-installation is scheduled for early 2022.



## Publications

Leslie Schramer, Editor

This is my fourth full year as the Kelsey Museum editor. I spent the first half of the year working remotely; much to my relief, I was able to return to the office in July. As usual, I divided my time between laying out and editing books, producing the Kelsey newsletters, maintaining the Kelsey website and blogs, and reviewing text for exhibitions as well as educational and promotional materials.

### Books

For the second year in a row, the Kelsey annual report was produced as an online-only publication in order to help the Kelsey reduce operating costs during this seemingly endless pandemic. The report went up online in May and I am happy to relate that it has been downloaded 82 times.

We did resume printing the Kelsey newsletters. The spring issue was not mailed but was distributed in-house to staff and museum visitors. The fall issue was mailed out to our membership, and I hope they were as glad as I was to see it in their mailboxes once more.

Progress on *Roman Decorative Stone Collections* was slow this year. The logistics of working on a complex book with the three authors who all live in different cities and are very busy with a number of professional and personal projects are complicated. Nevertheless, we are making progress. I expect to be finished in spring.

Happily, Christiane Gruber and Michelle Al-Ferzly's *City in the Desert, Revisited* was published in October—only a year behind schedule (figs. 1 and 2). It is a lovely little book, if I do say so myself. It is



**Figure 1.** Editor Leslie Schramer unboxing the newly published *City in the Desert, Revisited*. Photo by Mallory Bower.

### ONLINE

Download *City in the Desert, Revisited*:

[lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/publications](https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/publications)



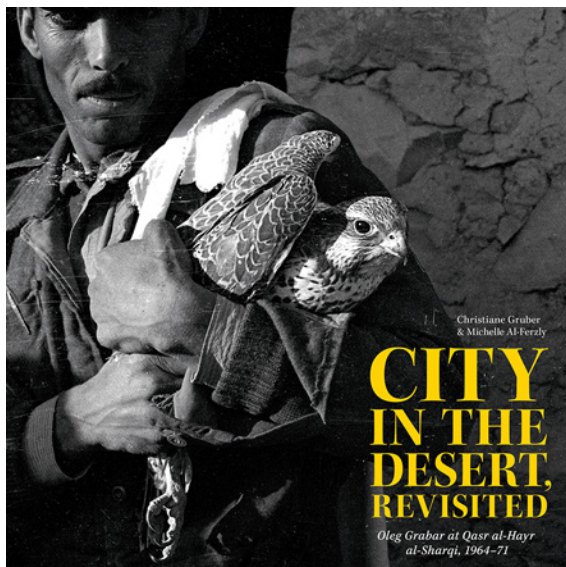


Figure 2. *City in the Desert, Revisited* was published in October 2021.

available to purchase through our distributor, ISD, and can also be downloaded for free from our website; as of writing, it has already been downloaded 61 times. Work on the second edition of *Preserving Eternity*, Janet Richards and Terry Wilfong's popular catalogue of Egyptian funerary artifacts in the Kelsey Museum, is still on hold.

## Website and Blogs

There's no real news regarding the website and blogs. I continue to comb the website for typos and outdated information, and I am on a campaign to update the photos. If you see any outdated material on the site, please do let me know. Sebastián is taking a little break from the "From the Archives" blog roll, but hopefully it will return soon.

## Summer Intern

I had the extreme good fortune to have an intern this summer. IPCAA student Joey Frankl approached me early in the year and said he would be applying for a

Rackham internship grant and asked if I had need of any help in the publications office. I jumped at the opportunity, but then had to think about what sort of work I could have him do since at that time we were all still remote.

In the end we settled on two types of work. I emailed him a variety of materials to proofread and edit, and he worked on them as his schedule allowed. This was very helpful to me, but I was sorry that the situation didn't allow me to help him with any editorial or publishing questions that came up as he worked.

The larger task was researching digital publishing possibilities for Kelsey publications, a whole world of opportunity that I feel the Kelsey could wade into but that I know very little about. Joey designed his plan of attack and moved forward with very little guidance from me, though I did receive periodic updates. The end result is a fascinating report that details how the Kelsey community (a sampling of staff, curators, students, members, and volunteers) feels about digital publishing and suggestions for ways that the Kelsey might enter these waters, given our very real staffing and budget restrictions. I'm excited to move forward with this new initiative, and thank Joey for his excellent work this summer. On a related note, Joey will be interning with the University of Michigan Press next year (winter term), so I will continue to check in with him for the latest in advances in the publishing world.

## Sales

ISD continues to represent the Kelsey for its book distribution. We hope to be able to sell our books in the Kelsey gift shop again soon, but until then, all orders for Kelsey publications should be addressed to:

ISD  
70 Enterprise Drive, Suite 2  
Bristol, CT 06010  
Tel: (860) 584-6546  
orders@isdistribution.com  
isdistribution.com

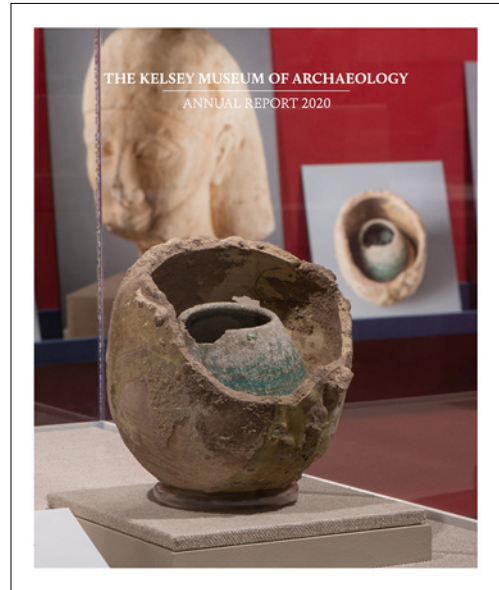


## Volumes Published

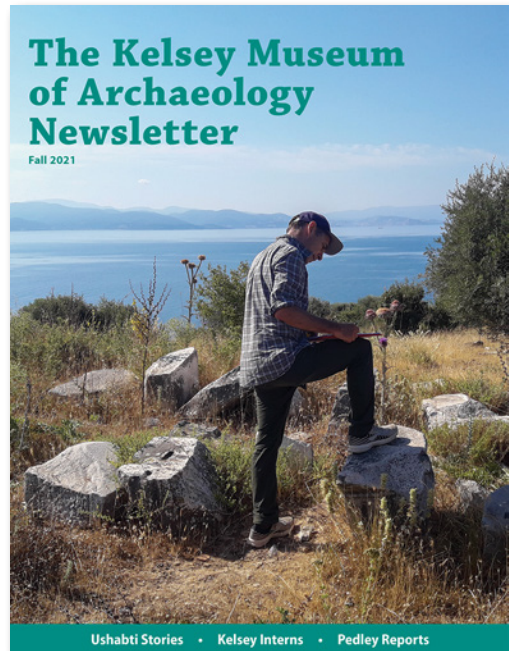
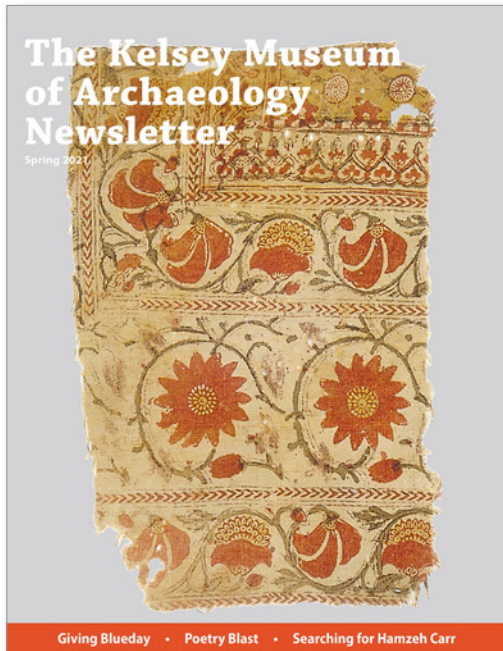
- *Kelsey Museum Annual Report for 2020*
- *Kelsey Museum of Archaeology Newsletter* (biannual, April and October)
- *City in the Desert, Revisited: Oleg Grabar at Qasr al-Hayr al-Sharqi, 1964–71*, By Christiane Gruber and Michelle Al-Ferzly

## Volumes in Preparation

- *Preserving Eternity: Modern Goals, Ancient Intentions* (2nd, updated edition), by Janet Richards and Terry G. Wilfong
- *Roman Decorative Stone Collections in the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology*, by J. Clayton Fant, Leah E. Long, and Lynley McAlpine
- *Kelsey Museum Annual Report for 2021*



Cover of the 2020 annual report.



The covers of the 2021 Kelsey Museum newsletters.

# Website Statistics

## General

- Overall number of sessions (visits): 38,214
- Geography: visitors from 127 countries, using 120 languages; visitors from all US states; 10,374 sessions (27.15% of all visits) from Ann Arbor
- Devices used: desktop/laptop 54.32%, phone 43.6%, tablet 2.09%
- Most visited sections of the website: Visit, Reopening Details, Exhibitions (including Online Exhibitions), Collections, About Us, Search Collections

## Most Visited Online Exhibitions

- *Death Dogs*: 11,309 visits
- *Ancient Color*: 5,625 visits
- *The Art and Science of Healing*: 4,303 visits
- *Rocks, Paper, Memory*: 3,316 visits
- *Less Than Perfect*: 3,013 visits

## Top Downloads

- *Discovery* portfolio: 149
- Spring 2021 newsletter: 87
- Kelsey Museum annual report for 2020: 82
- *City in the Desert, Revisited*: 61

## Social Media

Facebook followers	3,622
Instagram followers	2,048
Twitter followers	13,961
Kelsey Blog followers	54
Social Lives of Coins followers	33

\* As was the case last year, the *Death Dogs* online exhibition has by far the highest number of visits, but its bounce rate (the percentage of visitors who navigated away after viewing only one page) is also very high—almost 80%. This probably means that many people came to this site unintentionally and immediately left.

## Registry

Sebastián Encina, Collections Manager  
Michelle Fontenot, Collections Manager

The Kelsey Registry kept busy in 2021 despite the continued pandemic restrictions. We began returning more frequently to the museum, getting the opportunity to work with collections. Whether we were in the office or working remotely, we managed to remain focused on making the collections available and accessible.

The Registry had our usual staff, Michelle Fontenot and Sebastián Encina. We were joined

by interns Chesney Lambert, Katie Kim, and Hope Showalter, who all had a hand in the Qasr al-Hayr/Kelsey archives digitization project. As a team, we updated the database to make room for archival records, and worked with U-M Library to ensure success for the Kelsey's digitized archives project. We are planning to begin scanning files early in 2022. Files will be available to the public by the end of 2022.



Figure 1. A view into the Kelsey Registry Department. Photo by HBRA / Mark Ballogg.

Though access to Registry and collections is still limited, we did our best to accommodate research and ongoing collections work. Internally, we hosted a number of Kelsey staff working on various projects, including studies into ancient colors, numismatics, and Seleucia. We were able to host one external researcher, as former Kelsey curator John Humphrey visited the Kelsey in order to work with the Carthage archives. It was a pleasure hosting Dr. Humphrey again after so many years.

As we make plans for 2022, we continue to look for ways to make the collections more accessible. We will host hybrid internships (mix of in-person and virtual) and continue to work with researchers. We hope to restart our practice of class use of artifacts, and look for other ways to engage with our community.

## Exhibitions

- *Randal Stegmeyer: Exposing the Past*

## Loans

### Incoming

- Bentley Historical Library

### Outgoing

- University of Michigan Museum of Art

## Donations

Alexandra Connor, archival materials

## Visiting Researchers

- John Humphrey (Carthage)
- Irene Soto Marin (numismatics)
- Carrie Roberts (Conservation stone survey)
- Suzanne Davis (Conservation stone survey)
- James Prosser (coin project)
- Joey Frankl (coin project)
- Caitlyn Clerkin (dissertation)
- Liv Yarrow (numismatic consultation)

## Classes

- History of Art
  - 689.004 Special Topics in History of Art, Ancient Roman Painting: Image and Abstraction (Nicola Barham)

## Volunteers and Interns

Katie Kim (intern)

Chesney Lambert (intern)

Hope Showalter (intern)

## Projects

Kelsey archives digitization project

Coin project

## Image Use Requests

25

## ONLINE

Peruse the Kelsey's artifact and archival holdings:

[lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/collections](https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/collections)



# Research



Inscribed block from the Temple of Athena at Notion, probably the base of a statue set up in front of the temple. The inscription records benefactions made by a local priestess of Athena. The letter forms suggest a date in the Augustan period (late first century BCE–early first century CE). Christopher Ratté reexamined the block during the brief, one-person field season at Notion in June of 2021. Photo by Chris Ratté.



# The Abydos Middle Cemetery Project, Egypt

Janet Richards, Director  
Suzanne L. Davis, Associate Director

Onsite fieldwork at Abydos remained impossible in 2021 due to the COVID pandemic. Our team nevertheless made significant advances in a number of key areas. First, our proposal to the Shelby White and Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications was successful! The generous funds from this three-year grant will enable our team to produce a two-volume, multi-author book focused on Weni, his community over time, and Abydos itself. We are especially excited about this project because these volumes will link stories of ancient Abydos to contemporary life in and around this important ancient site. A planned Ann Arbor “study season” of grant participants had to be deferred from August 2021 given continuing COVID restrictions, but will take place 24 April–4 May 2022.

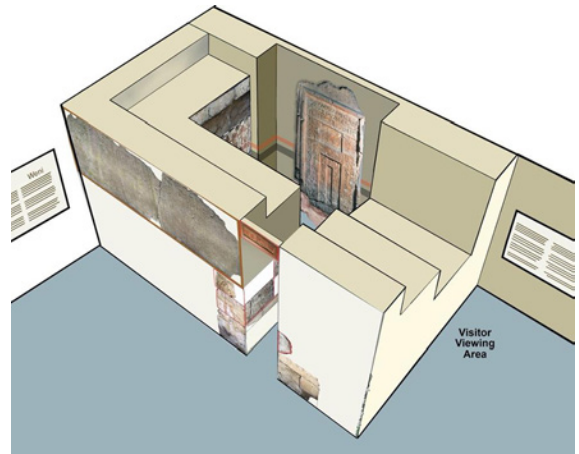
We are also pleased to announce that the Permanent Committee and the Museum Sector of Egypt’s Ministry of Antiquities and Tourism (MoTA) approved our proposal to create a Weni exhibition

at the Sohag National Museum, where our team will work in partnership with the Museum’s curators (figs. 1–6). We hope to begin this collaboration with our MoTA colleagues in Egypt in the fall of 2022. Throughout 2021, we focused on reviewing our exhibition checklist, confirming the locations of all the objects in various collections in Egypt, planning for conservation, and refining the design of the in-gallery display. The exhibition will be funded with the generous support of our Antiquities Endowment Grant from the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), which has been on hold during the pandemic. We are excited to finally begin this work!

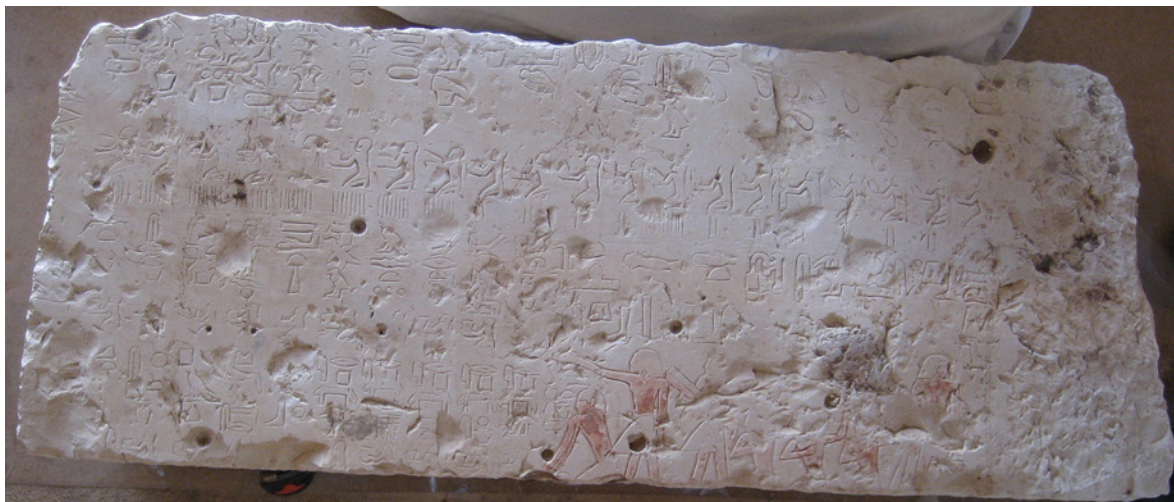
In November 2021, director Janet Richards and senior AMC Project team members Mohamed Abuel Yazid, Ayman Damarany, and Mohamed Naguib Reda delivered a lecture entitled “What Makes a Saint?” at ARCE’s international conference, Exalted Spirits: The Veneration of the Dead in Egypt through the Ages.



**Figure 1.** View toward the north wall of Weni’s east chapel after excavation in 1999. Photo by K. D. Turner.



**Figure 2.** Chapel reconstruction planned for the Weni exhibition at the Sohag National Museum. Graphic by N. Warner.



**Figure 3.** Limestone block showing funerary rituals for Weni, originally from the north wall of his chapel. Photo by Suzanne Davis for the Abydos Middle Cemetery Project.



**Figure 4.** Suzanne Davis, Hamada Sadek, and Eman Zidan treating an exhibition object, a limestone pillar inscribed for Weni. Photo by A. Damarany.



**Figure 5.** Janet Richards checking inscription on granite Weni statue. Photo by A. Damarany.

This paper gave us the opportunity to highlight not only our research on why Idi became a saint and how local communities engaged with him over time, but also to explore the principles and practice of this ancient Egyptian's veneration cult in parallel with that of a prominent early modern Muslim saint at Abydos,

Sheikh Mohamed el Haddary, located two and a half kilometers away from Idi's cult place and more than four thousand years later in time (figs. 7–9).

As always, we are planning for our next field season. Our plans for fall 2022 are not final at the time of this writing, but we hope to conduct a full-scale





**Figure 6.** Three views of the granite Weni statue for Sohag display. The inscription on this statue omits Weni's title "the Elder," thus dating it to the early phase of his career. Excavated by Auguste Mariette from Weni's chapel in 1860. Photos by A. Damarany.



**Figure 7.** Satellite view of Abydos showing the location of the ancient saint shrine of Idi and the early modern shrine of the Muslim saint Sheikh Mohamed el Haddary. Graphic by A. Damarany.



**Figure 8.** View up the shaded slope leading to Sheikh Mohamed el Haddary's courtyard and tomb. In common with ancient Egyptian saint cult installations, the outer courtyard includes an area for visitors to sit and drink water. Photo by A. Damarany.

**Figure 9.** Entrance to Sheikh Mohamed el Haddary's tomb, with visitors' prayers and dedications. Photo by A. Damarany.





2022 field season from approximately September to early November, with the dual goals of initiating the process of the exhibition discussed above, and excavation and conservation at the Weni and Idi complexes. The excavations will complete our understanding of Weni's entire complex and help us to understand the nature and profile of community engagement with the saint in the symbolically charged area to the east of Idi's saint cult building.

To support continued work at the site, we submitted a large research proposal to the National Science Foundation in December 2021. NSF's archaeology grants are extremely competitive! Our fingers are crossed for success, of course, but the process of creating the proposal was also useful in and of itself. It will help us structure our fieldwork going forward, regardless of whether the NSF chooses to fund the work.

As in 2020, our team stayed in touch remotely: meeting by Zoom, talking and texting on the phone, collaboratively writing in Google Docs, participating in a proposal to the World Monuments Fund to place Abydos on the WMF Monuments Watch List (granted in 2022!), and even guest-lecturing for each other's classes remotely. Flowing from these conversations, team members Mohamed Abuel Yazid, Ayman Damarany, Mohamed Naguib Reda (who is now MoTA Director of El Balyana and Abydos), and Abydos colleague Hazem Saleh recently gave a fantastic panel to Janet Richards' Egyptian Archaeology class on MoTA's priorities for site management and cultural heritage projects at Abydos, discussing with her students also their own professional paths and fieldwork experiences.

We very much hope to be back in the field together in 2022. In the meantime, we are proud of our 2021 publications, listed below.

## Publications

### Published

- Suzanne L. Davis, Hamada Sadek, Claudia G. Chemello, Gregory D. Smith, Pamela B. Hatchfield, Robert A. Blanchette, Ahmed Abdel-Azeem, and Janet Richards. "Conservation of Severely Deteriorated, Dry Painted Wood: A Case Study from Abydos, Egypt." *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation* (October 2021): 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01971360.2021.1951551>.
- Janet Richards and Heather Tunmore. "At the Door of Weni the Elder's Tomb: Life Histories and Ritual Transformations." In *Guardian of Ancient Egypt: Essays in Honor of Zahi Hawass*, edited by Janice Kamrin, Mohamed Megahed, Selima Ikram, Miroslav Bárta, and Mark Lehner, pp. 1337–58. Prague: Czech Institute of Egyptology, Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague, 2021.

### In Press/In Preparation

- Knoblauch, Christian. "Memphis in Abydos? Elite Funerals at Abydos in the Late Old Kingdom." In *Beyond Memphis*, edited by M. De Meyer and E. Lange. Leuven: Peeters.
- Richards, Janet, Ayman Damarany, Suzanne L. Davis, Salima Ikram, Christian Knoblauch, Peter Lacovara, Franck Monnier, Mohamed Naguib Reda, Hamada Sadek, Heather Tunmore, Korri Turner, and Mohamed Abuel Yazid. *Biographies of Person and Place: The Tomb Complex of Weni the Elder at Abydos*, volumes I and II. In preparation for submission to Kelsey Museum Studies series of University of Michigan Press.



# Jebel Barkal and El-Kurru, Sudan

Geoff Emberling, Co-Director

The Kelsey's two projects in Sudan are located close to each other in the northern part of the country along the Nile River. Jebel Barkal, ancient Napata, was the southernmost outpost of the Egyptian empire of the New Kingdom (ca. 1500–1100 BCE) and was a capital city and temple center of ancient Kush during the Napatan and Meroitic periods (ca. 850 BCE–300 CE). El-Kurru was a royal pyramid cemetery for kings and queens of Kush (most tombs ca. 900–650 BCE).

The Kelsey team excavated at El-Kurru from 2013 to 2017 (see summary in last year's annual report). Since then, we have been working with the local community in El-Kurru to develop a community heritage center at the same time that we have moved the focus of our archaeological field research to Jebel Barkal.

## Jebel Barkal

Our work on Jebel Barkal in 2021 was seriously constrained by the COVID-19 pandemic. We were not able to have a field season and the work of many of our team was restricted by the closing of libraries and lab spaces, so even our publication work was delayed

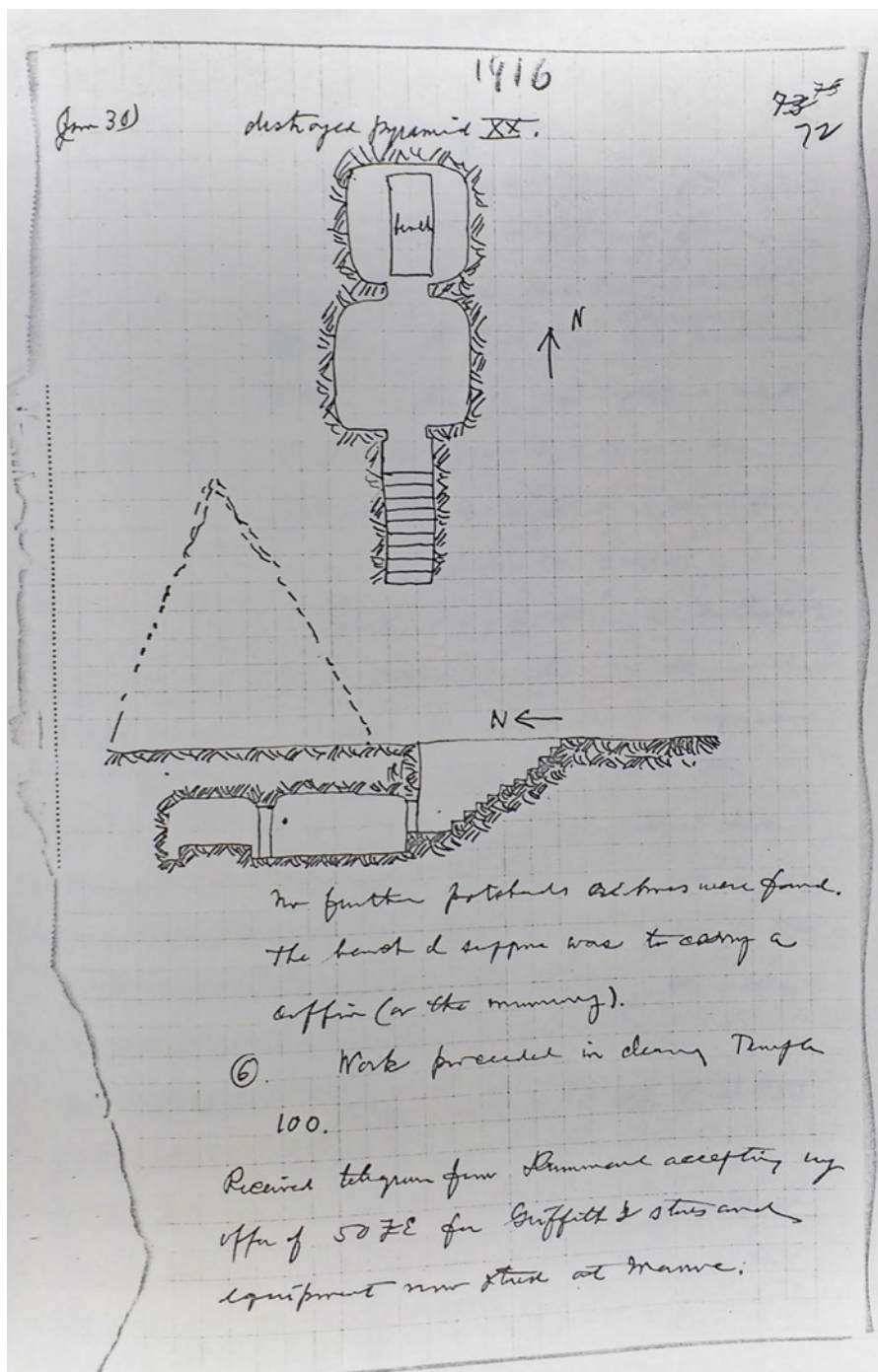
(fig. 1). We did launch a website for Jebel Barkal ([sites.lsa.umich.edu/jbap](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/jbap)) with the help of Adia Archer, a first-year student who worked with us through the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP). We also had help from U-M staff members Diana Perpich (U-M Library) and Jessica Wolking (LSA Technology Services). We have been posting blog entries on the site and you can sign up to be notified when new entries appear, for the latest news about the project.

We have also continued a longer-running project working on the field diaries of George Reisner, the American archaeologist who first worked at Barkal and Kurru from 1916 to 1920 (fig. 2). Reisner's diary entries are incredibly rich and interesting and are important for our team to have in mind as we return to conservation work in the areas that he had excavated. Reisner himself published only preliminary reports and his assistant in the field and later curator in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), Dows Dunham, published summaries of the fieldwork that are useful but not comprehensive. There are many observations in the diaries that remain unpublished.

These diaries are held today by the MFA, which has generously allowed us to scan them, and we



Figure 1. Panorama of Jebel Barkal, 2018. Photo by Gregory Tucker.



**Figure 2.** Page from George Reisner's 1916 field diary describing the excavation of a pyramid at Jebel Barkal. Copyright Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.



**Figure 3.** The title image for the Humanities Collaboratory project “Narrating Nubia: The Social Lives of Heritage” juxtaposes filming of a performance of Nubian music in Egypt with a visit by a group of Sudanese men to El-Kurru. Photos by Yasmin Moll and Geoff Emberling.

have been working to make the information more readily accessible over the past few years with the help of a number of people. In the winter semester of 2021, we completed the process of transcribing the handwritten diary entries with the help of Nami Kaneko (UROP). Over the summer of 2021, we began working with Joe Bauer and Matt Carruthers (U-M Library) to present the material using Omeka, which is an open-source system for managing archival collections online (and thanks to Eryn Kropf, also in the U-M Library, for connecting us to Joe). During that time, Annissa Malvoisin (graduate student at the University of Toronto) began working on coding the diary pages for Omeka, thanks to a grant from the American Society for Overseas Research (ASOR). And during the fall, Izzy Tosterud and Weirui Wang

have continued to work on coding through the UROP program.

During the fall, much of our time was taken up with trying to plan a field season at Barkal for winter 2021. In the end, we were able to have a season, so all the planning was worthwhile.

#### ONLINE

Jebel Barkal Archaeological Project website:

[sites.lsa.umich.edu/jbap](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/jbap)

**Figure 4.** Musicians and dancers from El-Kurru performing on a sandbank in the Nile River in 2019. Photo by Awad el-Kerim Mirghani.

To see the winning photos from the 2017, 2018, and 2019 El-Kurru photo contests, go to [sites.lsa.umich.edu/nubia/media/el-kurru-photo-contests](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/nubia/media/el-kurru-photo-contests).



## El-Kurru

Our work at El-Kurru has focused on making plans to renovate a house in the village for use as a community heritage center and developing exhibits and programs for the center. During 2021, all this planning work was funded by the University of Michigan's Humanities Collaboratory as part of a project called Narrating Nubia: The Social Lives of Heritage ([sites.lsa.umich.edu/nubia](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/nubia)). This larger project aims to explore ways of decolonizing fieldwork practices in cultural anthropology and archaeology with a specific focus on the region of Nubia, ancient and modern, in southern Egypt and northern Sudan. It turns out that the idea of "collaboration" encompasses much of the possibility but also the challenges of changing the way that we think about fieldwork and research (fig. 3).

The Collaboratory Project, directed by Yasmin Moll (Anthropology), has four components. Yasmin's project focuses on contemporary Nubians in Egypt and their connections to their homeland, which was flooded by the construction of the Aswan High Dam in the 1960s. She and her team, led by undergraduate student Karson Schenk (Stamps School, U-M), have made a gorgeous and moving short animated film about the loss of the land of Nubia. Our colleague Amal Hassan Fadlalla (Women's Studies/

Afroamerican and African Studies/Anthropology) is interviewing Sudanese activists, artists, and scholars about post-revolutionary Sudan. Michael Fahy (School of Education) has worked with a team to develop "Nubian Odyssey," which is an online platform for teaching Middle School children about Nubia through personal connection to stories about living there. In addition, Evyn Kropf (U-M Library) has made a list of resources on Nubia that is now on the project website ([sites.lsa.umich.edu/nubia/resources](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/nubia/resources)).

The El-Kurru group has worked closely with friends, colleagues, and community members in Sudan to develop interpretations of the archaeological site and also of the local community to be presented in the new heritage center. In particular, we have worked with Anwar Mahjoub in El-Kurru village and Sami Elamin, who has been our "inspector" from NCAM (and also our good friend!). The Collaboratory project launched officially in January 2021, and we have focused our energy on six separate projects:

### ONLINE

International Kurru Archaeological Project website:

[ikap.us](https://ikap.us)



1. A walking tour of the archaeological site.
2. Worksheets and teacher training materials to encourage visits from local schools to the site.
3. An exhibit in the heritage center on the archaeology of El-Kurru, focusing on aspects of the site that are not currently visible there (including objects excavated by Reisner in 1918–19).
4. An exhibit of local culture in the heritage center, which will prominently feature photographs taken by community members along with their statements about why the photographs were important to them (fig. 4).
5. A short film, made by a Sudanese documentary filmmaker, about the community of El-Kurru and the place of archaeology and heritage in it. It took many interviews for us to find the right person, but we were very happy ultimately to agree to work with Alyaa Sirelkhatim and her team.
6. A book for children. This was a request to us from the community and we have spent much of the year casting around for ideas. A number of archaeological projects in Sudan have written children's books in recent years, and a part of

our work has been to read and discuss these in order to help figure out what a book of ours could add. We have been very happy in our discussions to have located a very talented young Sudanese-American artist, Hatim-Arbaab Eujayl, who is a Nubian activist and who has also written and illustrated his own children's book (*The Miracle of Amanirenas*: [taraspress.com/product-page/the-miracle-of-amanirenas](https://taraspress.com/product-page/the-miracle-of-amanirenas)).

In the fall, we received a grant from the J.M. Kaplan Fund to support the physical renovation of a house in the village for use as a heritage center. Our two project architects Ignació Forcadell Utrilla ("Nacho") and Nadejda Reshetnikova ("Nadia") went to El-Kurru to begin making plans for the renovation of the center (fig. 5).

We have also begun work on the final report of our El-Kurru excavations, particularly our work on the medieval Christian town. It is a challenge organizing the international team to sustain momentum on this publication project, but we are starting to move ahead.



**Figure 5.** Sketch of renovation plan for Community Heritage Center in El-Kurru. 2021 drawing by Ignació Forcadell Utrilla.

## Plans for the Coming Year

I am writing this report in March 2022, and I know already that we will have a great deal to present for next year's annual report, because we have just returned from an active and successful field season. Our basic plans for 2022 have been to resume excavation at Jebel Barkal, to launch our conservation project of temples at Jebel Barkal (supported by a 4-year grant from the US State Department through its Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation), and to finish work on the Community Heritage Center in El-Kurru—both physical renovation of the building and development of exhibits, programs, and an organizational structure.

## Project Participants, 2021

### Jebel Barkal

- Geoff Emberling, co-director (Kelsey Museum, University of Michigan)
- Adia Archer (UROP, University of Michigan)
- Nami Kaneko (UROP, University of Michigan)
- Annissa Malvoisin (University of Toronto / Brooklyn Museum)
- Izzy Tosterud (UROP, University of Michigan)
- Weirui Wang (UROP, University of Michigan)

## El-Kurru (Humanities Collaboratory) Project

- Shannon Burton (Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan)
- Suzanne Davis (Kelsey Museum, University of Michigan)
- Sami Elamin, inspector (National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, Sudan)
- José Ignacio Forcadell Utrilla (“Nacho”), architect
- Bailey Franzoi (IPCAA, University of Michigan)
- Heidi Hilliker (Middle East Studies, University of Michigan)
- Shannon Ness (IPCAA, University of Michigan)
- Anwar Mahjoub (community member, El-Kurru village)
- Nadejda Reshetnikova (“Nadia”), architect

## Support

In addition to the University of Michigan Humanities Collaboratory, our pandemic-bound work for our Sudan projects in 2021 was supported by generous donations from Kitty Picken and from Roger and Ann Cogswell.

## Gabii, Italy

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Nicola Terrenato, Director

In 2021, the Gabii Project carried out the cleaning and recording of a limited area in the Archaeological Park of Gabii. The investigation, carried out with the endorsement of the Archaeological Superintendency of Rome (SS-ABAP-Roma) focused on the cleaning and topographical recording of two narrow strips of topsoil around an area already excavated by the state archaeological service in the late 1990s in the so-called Area Urbana. The ultimate goal was to collect useful data that would guide the planning of a full-fledged excavation season of the area in 2022.

More specifically, the investigation targeted the only exposed portion of the city block located at the intersection of the two major thoroughfares of the urban grid, the Via Gabina and the Via Prenestina. This area, measuring approximately 18 × 20 m, was selected in order to gain a better understanding of the type of built-up features associated with an open space extending to the south of the intersection, and to assess the state of preservation of the archaeological deposits. The preliminary work exposed the crests of substantial walls, potentially very well preserved in their elevation. This can be inferred from the above-mentioned remains, visible in the previously excavated sector.

Notwithstanding the limited extent of the trenches, the 2021 fieldwork revealed new interesting topographic evidence on the phases of urban development of Gabii between the Republican and Imperial ages. One of the highlights is a large building that features tantalizing ashlar architectural remains directly below more substantial concrete structures dating to the 2nd–3rd centuries CE. The original

walls probably belonged to a relevant, possibly public, building that lined the west side of the plaza. Not by chance, this hitherto unknown complex was located right across from another Mid-Republican civic building, the so-called Area F Building, which was fully excavated by the Gabii Project in the 2012–2016 seasons. If this hypothesis is confirmed by future investigations, one of the major foci of the central monumental area of Gabii will finally be mapped. This discovery will have a significant impact on our knowledge of not only the urban history of Gabii but also of Roman Republican architecture more broadly.

In parallel with active fieldwork, staff members were also involved in the first steps of a multi-year program of study of ceramic finds and digitization of archival materials from the 1990s excavations, thanks to a memorandum of understanding between the Superintendency of Rome and the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. These activities will continue in 2022 and will be integrated with the new data yielded from the field.

### ONLINE

Gabii Project website:

[sites.lsa.umich.edu/gabiiproject](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/gabiiproject)

# Olynthos, Greece

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Bettina Tsigarida, Zosia Archibald, and Lisa Nevett, Directors,  
with David Stone, Director of Field Survey

## The Olynthos Project 2021

Olynthos is a northern Greek city which was occupied between the seventh and fourth centuries BCE. The Olynthos Project (a collaboration between the Greek Archaeological Service, the University of Michigan, and the University of Liverpool, under the auspices of the British School at Athens) was in the field between 2014 and 2019 in order to understand the history and topography of the settlement along with the domestic organization of its ordinary households. Four study seasons are planned in which the team will look in detail at the artifacts (mostly ceramics) that were recovered during excavation and field survey and are now stored at the site. Such material provides a key to understanding the chronological development of Olynthos as well as the distribution of different activities across its neighborhoods and individual buildings. The ceramics also provide a means to associate or differentiate between our numerous excavated deposits. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, it has proved impossible to assemble team members at Olynthos either in 2020 or in 2021, due to safety concerns as well as travel and financial restrictions. Nevertheless, some progress has been made toward final publication: in spring 2021, a detailed proposal for a three-volume final report was submitted to the Kelsey Museum Publications Committee for

consideration for one of the Museum's publication series. In summer of 2021, two team members were able to open the store-room at Olynthos and to ship scientific samples recovered during excavation in 2019 (archaeobotanical material, charcoal, soils, and organic residue samples) to collaborating laboratories in Cyprus, Britain, and Spain for analysis. In addition, team member Mara Schumacher, based at the University of Newcastle (UK), was able to prepare and analyze a set of micromorphology slides excavated from house B ix 6, which form the basis of her doctoral dissertation to be submitted in summer 2022.

In 2021 the following publications appeared which discuss material from the Olynthos Project:

- Lisa Nevett, "The Complicated Problem of Seasonality at Classical Olynthos, Greece," in *The Archaeology of Seasonality*, edited by A. Lichtenberger and R. Raja, 381–92. Turnhout, Brepols, 2021.
- Ελισάβετ Μπεττίνα Τσιγαρίδα, Lisa Nevett, Zosia Archibald and David Stone, 'Αρχαιολογική έρευνα στην αρχαία Όλυνθο, 2015.' ('Archaeological investigation at ancient Olynthos, 2015.') *Το Αρχαιολογικό Έργο στη Μακεδονία και στη Θράκη* (Archaeological Work in Macedonia and Thrace) 29, 367–74.

## ONLINE

Visit the Olynthos Project website:

[sites.lsa.umich.edu/olynthos-project](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/olynthos-project)



## Individual Reports

### Nicola Barham

#### Assistant Curator of Ancient Art

I spent the winter, spring, and summer on leave on a Getty/ACLS Fellowship, working on my book project on the migration of Syrian populations within the wider Roman Empire. I presented my research on the remarkable portrait of a Romano-Syrian soldier based in Pannonia (modern Hungary) and his breastfeeding wife at the summer symposium of the American Council of Learned Societies held at the Getty Research Institute in July. My article “Theorizing Image and Abstraction in Ancient Rome: The Case of the Villa Farnesina” also appeared in the international journal *Art History* (44.1) at the beginning of the year. I have recently submitted another article on the aesthetic strategies of Palmyrene funerary reliefs to the Yale Classical Studies series. This includes close visual analysis of the Palmyrene portrait of a woman housed in the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology’s own collection. I presented this research to the Kelsey Museum docents in December.



**Figure 1.** IPCAA student Melissa Gryan reclines Roman-style in the Villa of the Mysteries room at the Kelsey Museum as Nicola Barham (at left, pointing) lectures. Photo by Sam Ross (IPCAA).

In the fall semester, I taught a graduate class on Roman Painting, including student visits to view objects held in storage in the Kelsey Museum, and to discuss how the wall painting of the Villa of the Mysteries in the Barosso Room in our galleries would have appeared differently if originally admired by viewers reclining on a Roman dining couch (fig. 1). I also took the group to the planetarium of the Museum of Natural History, where the students examined Roman painted ceilings projected onto the planetarium dome! (fig. 2)



**Figure 2.** Professor Nicola Barham discussing the Eagle Room of the *Domus Aurea* projected on the UMMNH Planetarium dome. Photo by Leslie Schramer.

I have collaborated closely with colleagues in major US museums this year in the study of ancient jewelry. I also worked in the fall to prepare a Kelsey in Focus case presenting the playful iconography of three textile fragments in the Kelsey Museum.

### **Suzanne Davis** Curator of Conservation

It's my great pleasure to share many of my research and writing projects with fellow Kelsey Museum conservator Carrie Roberts, and you can read about a few of those in the Conservation Department's report on page 20. As part of another research group, I was the lead author of a large study discussing the scientific investigation and conservation of wood statues excavated at the Abydos Middle Cemetery (fig. 3). This paper, published in October in the *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, was enjoyable to write because of the highly collaborative nature of the interdisciplinary team; among the authors were Kelsey curator Janet Richards and Claudia Chemello, our much-loved conservation colleague at the Kelsey from 2006 until 2013.

In November, I authored a personal essay for the book *Being Human during COVID* (open-access publication at [myumi.ch/9P6p9](https://myumi.ch/9P6p9)). Part of the High Stakes Humanities series organized by the U-M Humanities Collaboratory, the book (edited by Kristin Hass) chronicles the first year of the pandemic through the responses of a variety of humanities scholars at U-M. My essay explores grief and coping through relationships with objects. As someone who normally writes science and science-adjacent papers, this essay felt like a stretch, and I'm grateful for advice and input from Kelsey colleagues Carrie Roberts and Terry Wilfong.

In March, I was invited to speak at the U-M International Institute's Collaborative Conference, Arts of Devotion. This symposium explored contemporary and traditional devotional art forms and featured scholars from around the world. I spoke about graffiti as social devotion in ancient Sudan, with a focus on graffiti from the site of El-Kurru. At around



**Figure 3.** Wood statue from the third millennium BCE during reconstruction at the Abydos Middle Cemetery. Photo by Suzanne Davis.

the same time, Geoff Emberling and I co-authored a successful grant application to the J.M. Kaplan Fund for site preservation and community engagement at El-Kurru.

On the professional development and service front, I took advantage of extra time at home in the winter of 2021 to take a series of classes in leadership and management through Michigan Online and the U-M Ross School of Business.

In November, I completed six years of service as co-chair (with Glenn Corbett) of the cultural heritage management sessions at the annual conference of the American Schools of Overseas Research. As this commitment was ending, I was invited to serve on the board of the United States Committee of the Blue Shield, a non-governmental organization dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage during armed conflict (my term begins in the summer of 2022).

Meanwhile, in May, I completed four years of service as vice president and annual meeting program chair for the American Institute for Conservation,

before transitioning to the role of president in June. The annual meeting in May was held virtually, with more than 1,900 attendees! As president of AIC, I'm involved in several special projects: a national search for a new executive director, since our ED of 17 years is retiring at the end of December; an NEH-funded initiative to examine the future of conservation in the U.S.; the creation of a board diversity plan; and a community-engaged strategic planning process.

### Geoff Emberling Research Scientist

I felt very busy during 2021, but somehow the list of tangible things that I completed is not very long.

I did submit a long chapter on the Napatan period in Kush (900–300 BCE) for a volume of the new Oxford History of the Ancient Near East that was satisfying and challenging to write. This follows a chapter for the same publication on an earlier period of Kush—the Kerma period (2400–1500 BCE)—that I co-authored with art historian and archaeologist Elizabeth Minor and that should appear in print soon.

A chapter on “The Sudan National Museum and National Heritage in Sudan” that I co-wrote with the former Director-General of Antiquities and Museums in Sudan, Abdelrahman Ali, appeared in the book *National Museums in Africa: Identity, History, and Politics*, edited by Raymond Silverman, George Abungu, and Peter Probst (Routledge, 2021; [doi.org/10.4324/9781003013693](https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003013693)).

I gave lectures through the University of Cambridge, the Kelsey Museum (a “flash talk”), and for MLK Day, through the Center for Middle East and North African Studies and the Global Islamic Studies Center at U-M. I also co-organized and co-chaired (with Brenda Baker of Arizona State University) a really stimulating workshop session for the American Society of Overseas Research (ASOR), both online and in-person in Chicago, on “Colonial and anticolonial perspectives on ancient societies of northeast Africa.”

I also contributed to the flood of media that threatens every day to overwhelm us all. I was the scholarly part of a TED-Ed team that produced a



Figure 4. Still from the TED-Ed animated short “What Happened to the Lost Kingdom of Kush?”

short animated film, “What Happened to the Lost Kingdom of Kush?” ([ted.com/talks](https://ted.com/talks); fig. 4), that had an astonishing 500,000 views within the first week of launch. When I looked at the comments on this video where it was posted on YouTube, I learned that a very substantial part of the audience was drawn to watch because, as it turns out, “Kush” is not only the name of an important ancient culture, but also a very popular variety of cannabis. I also was interviewed for an episode of the podcast *Tides of History* that focused on Kush ([wonderly.com/shows/tides-of-history](https://wonderly.com/shows/tides-of-history)) and appeared in a National Geographic documentary entitled *Flooded Tombs of the Nile*.

### Laura Motta Research Specialist

Despite the gloom and the disruptions, 2021 was a particularly productive and fruitful year for me as I was able to make good progress in many of my long-term projects. Lab closures made it more difficult to produce new data but afforded more time to elaborate on previous research. Even more impactful was the possibility to do different fieldwork since the Gabii field school was not taking place.

The beginning of the year brought the good news that, together with Vicki Moses (co-PI, University of Arizona), I was awarded an AIA-NEH Grant for Archaeological Research for the project, Herding, Husbandry and the City: Stable Isotope Analysis of



Gabii's Animals (see *Happenings*, p. 9). The grant will cover the cost of oxygen, strontium, carbon, and nitrogen isotope analysis to explore animal management and the seasonal movement of herds.

This is part of my broader project, *Social Transformations and the Political Economy of Food Production in Early Cities*, where I explore the socio-economic developments in western central Italy during the first millennium BCE in relation to demographic growth, intensification of production, and the reorganization of farming practices to support and feed an increasing and more specialized urban population. Under my supervision, F. Gaveriaux (PhD candidate, La Sapienza University of Rome) completed the taxonomic analysis of the archaeobotanical material from early Rome and contemporary contexts from the Etruscan settlement of Tarquinia. The last, long-awaited results of the isotope analysis on the staple crops came in as well. This was a huge accomplishment considering that the mass spectrometry lab in Rome was closed for most of the time. We have now an amazing sequence of isotopic data from the tenth to the fifth century BCE, obtained from more than 400 seeds and three sites, Rome, Tarquinia, and Gabii. These important new results will be presented in three articles, one already submitted to the journal *Environmental Archaeology* and two in the draft stage.

At the same time, we did a pilot study for my parallel project, *Environment, Climate, and Agriculture*, in which we are developing, in collaboration with P. Reimer at Queen's University Belfast, a new methodology for carbon isotope analysis on wood charcoal that will allow the use of material not found in primary deposit. The first results look promising and we hope that with more samples we will be able to identify rapid and short-term environmental changes and climatic oscillations.

Over the summer, my fieldwork season started with the Italian Isotope and Mobility Project (IIMP). An initial and key component of the project is the creation of a baseline map of the strontium isoscape of central Italy to be used as a reference to compare with the isotopic values in ancient remains. This

regional map will provide us with a better understanding of resource management and will allow the tracking of human, animal, and plant movement and exchange networks in the landscape. Therefore, in June, IPCAA student Sheira Cohen and I sampled modern vegetation across the different geological units—limestone mountains, volcanic flows, and alluvial plains—that comprise the large area between Rome and the Apennine Mountains. (see Sheira's report in the Fall 2021 issue of the *Kelsey Newsletter*; [myumi.ch/AwdZx](https://myumi.ch/AwdZx)). We discovered so many unexpected



**Figure 5.** Laura Motta investigating the sources of the Tiber River. July 6, 2021.



**Figure 6.** Highland pastures of central Italy with Gran Sasso in the background. August 1, 2021. Photo by Laura Motta.



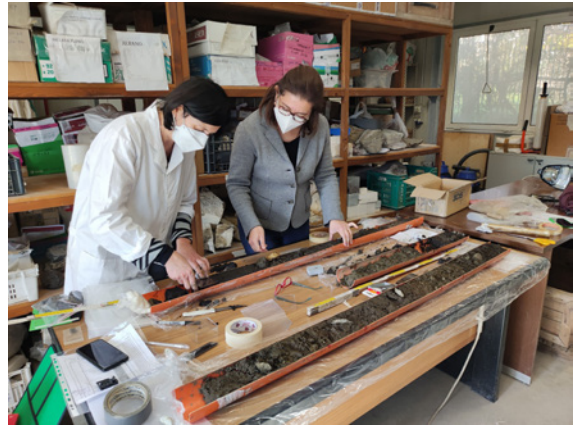
and stunning places that I decided to do my vacations traveling along the Tiber River, from its sources, in the Apennines between Florence and Forlì (fig. 5), to the delta, to get a better understanding of the river's system, its seasonal regime, and the local pastoral economy. My trip included also an amazing detour in the highland pastures of the Gran Sasso Mountain (fig. 6).

The second part of the fieldwork season was dedicated to the Forum Boarium coring survey and the geoarchaeology of the Tiber Valley, a project run in collaboration with the University of St Andrews and the National Institute for Geophysics and Volcanology in Rome. We have been working hard with the data analysis for the publication of two articles on the 2019 cores. This review revealed some issues and inconsistencies that necessitated further sampling. With the help of two undergraduates from La Sapienza, I also collected micromorphology samples to investigate the formation process of the Tiber island. In addition, I worked on a third paper, submitted in September, where we present the alluvial sequence of the Vallis Murcia, a tributary of the Tiber River.

While the research on Karanis botanicals for the Rethinking Roman Nutrition project was halted by the complete shutdown of the lab in Brussels, as was the research in the archives at the Kelsey conducted by Shannon Burton under my supervision, I worked with my colleagues at Vrije Universiteit Brussel to write a big, collaborative grant application for the Excellence of Science program (see Bioarchaeology Lab report, p. 19). After several selection steps, we are delighted to report that we have been nominated among the finalists.

The fall saw the publication of two chapters for the long-delayed second volume of the Gabii Project, the revision for publication of the strontium isotope data from the necropolis at Osteria dell'Osa, and the draft of four other manuscripts.

I have been busy mentoring and training two new students in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP; see Bioarchaeology Lab report) who are participating in the project Supplying Early Cities: Agriculture and Archaeobotany at Gabii. They focus



**Figure 7.** AMUSED Project. Laura Motta and Alessandra Smedile (INGV) sampling cores from Lake Castiglione. December 15, 2021. Photo by Patrizia Macri' (INGV).

on a subset of archaeobotanical samples to investigate changes in crop production at Gabii in the formative period in which the settlement transitioned from discrete clusters of huts at the beginning of the Iron Age to a budding city just a few centuries later.

In December, while in Italy for family reasons, I had the unexpected opportunity to sample two new cores. One was drilled in the Campus Martius and nicely complements the Forum Boarium dataset. The second core is from Lake Castiglione near Gabii. This is a new collaboration with the AMUSED Project, a multidisciplinary study of past climate changes from continental and marine archives in the Mediterranean region funded by the Italian National Institute for Geophysics and Volcanology (fig. 7).

Other research activities during 2021 included two public lectures, at the Society for Classical Studies-Archaeological Institute of America Joint Colloquium and at the meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, and a collaborative poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society of American Archaeology.

Publications in preparation:

- Laura Motta and J. Gleason. "Sourcing Seeds: The Potential of Sr Isotope Analysis on Charred

Archeobotanical Macroremains,” to be submitted to *Rapid Communication in Mass Spectrometry*.

- F. Gavériaux, Laura Motta, F. Quondam, M. Brilli, and L. Sadori. “Growing Rome. Crops and Isotopes from Iron Age Palatine,” to be submitted to *PLOSOne*.
- K. Killgrove, Laura Motta, A. Acosta, I. Cangemi, and A. De Santis. “Residency and Mobility in Iron Age Latium: Strontium Isotope Analysis of Human Enamel from Osteria dell’Osa,” to be submitted to the *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*.
- Laura Motta, F. Heinrich, S. Burton, I. Soto, and P. Erdkamp. “Karanis and the Environmental Degradation of the Fayum: A New Chronology,” to be submitted to *Antiquity*.

#### Publications submitted:

- F. Gavériaux, Laura Motta, P. Bailey, M. Brilli, and Laura Sadori. “Crop Husbandry at Gabii during the Iron Age and Archaic Period: The Archaeobotanical and Stable Isotope Evidence,” *Environmental Archaeology*, under review.
- Fabrizio Marra, Laura Motta, and M. Buonfiglio. “Holocene Aggradation History of the Murcia Alluvial Valley: Insights on Early Rome Paleoenvironmental Evolution,” *Holocene*.

#### Published in 2021:

- Andrea L. Brock, Laura Motta, and Nicola Terrenato. “On the Banks of the Tiber: Opportunity and Transformation in Early Rome.” *The Journal of Roman Studies* 111 (November 2021): 1–30. [doi.org/10.1017/S0075435821000344](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0075435821000344).
- Fabrizio Marra, Andrea L. Brock, Fabio Florindo, Paolo Macrì, Laura Motta, Cristiano Nicosia, and Nicola Terrenato. “Tectonics and Fluvial Dynamism Affecting the Tiber River in Prehistoric Rome.” *International Journal of Earth Sciences* 111, no. 1 (February 1, 2022): 359–78. [doi.org/10.1007/s00531-021-02118-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00531-021-02118-5).
- Laura Motta. “Ecofacts: The Approach,” in *A Cemetery and a Quarry from Imperial Gabii*, edited by Laura M. Banducci and Anna Gallone. Ann

Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2021.

[doi-org.proxy.lib.umich.edu/10.3998/mpub.11885571](https://doi-org.proxy.lib.umich.edu/10.3998/mpub.11885571).

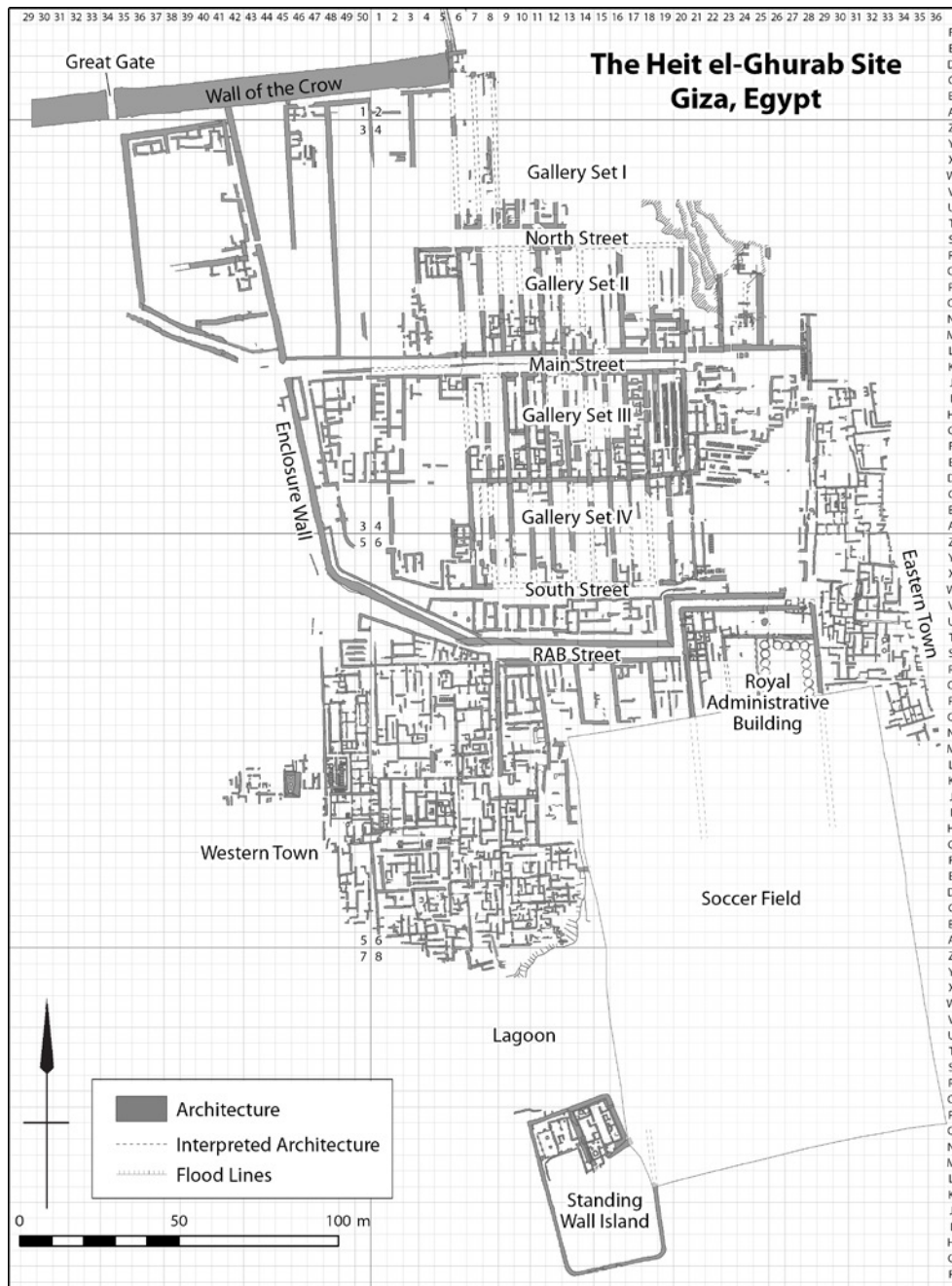
- Laura Motta, Nicholas Cullen, and Sabrina Ross. “The Plant Remains,” in *A Cemetery and a Quarry from Imperial Gabii*, edited by Laura M. Banducci and Anna Gallone. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2021. [doi-org.proxy.lib.umich.edu/10.3998/mpub.11885571](https://doi-org.proxy.lib.umich.edu/10.3998/mpub.11885571).
- J. Troy Samuels, Sheira Cohen, Tyler Johnson, Victoria Moses, Matthew Naglak, Rachel Opitz, Laura M. Banducci, et al. “Reimagining Urban Success: Rhythms of Activity at Gabii, 800 BC–AD 600.” *Antiquity*, October 6, 2021, 1–20. [doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2021.154](https://doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2021.154).
- J. Troy Samuels, Matthew Naglak, Rachel Opitz, J. Marilyn Evans, Andrew C. Johnston, Parrish Wright, Alexandra Creola, et al. “A Changing Cityscape in Central Italy: The Gabii Project Excavations, 2012–2018.” *Journal of Field Archaeology* 46, no. 3 (April 3, 2021): 132–52. [doi.org/10.1080/00934690.2021.1877958](https://doi.org/10.1080/00934690.2021.1877958).

## Richard Redding

### Associate Research Scientist

With COVID waning in 2021, I finally got back in the field at Giza, Egypt. I spent October and November at Giza working on faunal material from the Menkaure Valley Temple. During this work in the laboratory, I was training an Egyptian student, Mona Hares, for the Ministry of Antiquity and Tourism (MoTA). I was also involved in excavations on a new area at our main site, the Worker’s Town, or Heit el-Ghurab. Since our work began at Giza in 1989, an area of the site has been off-limits to excavation because it was a soccer field for local youth (see fig. 8). In August 2021, the soccer field was handed back to the MoTA and we were able to start work clearing it. We also put in three sondages to explore what lies below. It appears that the central area of the soccer field was a harbor that was surrounded by buildings. We hope to start exploring these buildings in 2022.

In the Bioarchaeology Lab (see separate report), I continued work on the fauna from the Epipaleolithic



**Figure 8.** The Heit el-Ghurab site. The soccer field covered a substantial portion of the site that we believe may have been a palace adjacent to or part of the Royal Administration Building.

site of Dermikoy in southeastern Turkey. I also have been working on faunal material from Geoff Emberling's excavation at Jebel Barkal in Sudan.

## Margaret Root

### Curator Emerita

The following articles appeared in print this year:

- M. C. Root, "Alexander - Persepolis - Ashoka: Inside Wheeler's Mind-World," in *Achemenet. Vingt ans après. Hommage à Pierre Briant*, edited by D. Agut-Labordère, R. Bouchardat, F. Joannès, A. Kuhrt, and M. W. Stolper, 351–63. Persika 21. Leuven: Peeters, 2021.
- M. C. Root, "Kunst und Rhetorik eines Imperiums: Königsdarstellungen im Achämenidenreich / Representations of Achaemenid Kings," in *Die Perser – Am Hof der Großkönig / The Persians – At the Court of the Great Kings*, edited by S. Hockmann, C. Lichter, and J. Linke, 20–26. Karlsruhe: Badische Landsmuseum, 2021.
- M. C. Root, "Abrocomes," "Artanes," "Artystone," "Hyperanthes," "Parmys," "Phaedyme," and "Phratagune," in *The Herodotus Encyclopedia*, edited by C. A. Baron. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell, 2021.
- M. C. Root, "History of Scholarship in North America," chapter 107 in *Blackwells Companion to the Study of the Persian Empire*, edited by B. Jacobs and R. Rollinger. Chichester: Wiley & Sons.
- M. C. Root, "Statuary and Relief," chapter 94 in *Blackwells Companion to the Study of the Persian Empire*, edited by B. Jacobs and R. Rollinger. Chichester: Wiley & Sons.
- M. C. Root, "Imperial Social Economies: The Royal Wife Irtašduna and Her Seal (PFS 38)," in *Iran and Its Histories: From the Beginnings through the Achaemenid Empire*, edited by R. Rollinger and T. Daryaee, 189–237. Classica et Orientalia. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2021.
- M. C. Root, "Visual Arts of Collective Imperial Identity—From Persepolis to the Mediterranean," in *The Classical World in Context:*

*Persia*, edited by T. Potts and J. Spier, 41–49. Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum.

## Irene Soto Marín

### Assistant Curator of Numismatics

The following appeared in print this year:

- Irene Soto Marín, "The *Anabolikon* Tax and the Study of the Linen Industry in Roman Egypt," in *Ancient Taxation: The Mechanics of Extraction in Comparative Perspective*, edited by Jonathan Valk and Irene Soto Marín. ISAW/NYU Press, 2021.
- Roger Bagnall, Gilles Bransbourg, and Irene Soto Marín, "State Collection of Bronze in Early Fourth-Century Egypt." *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 220 (2021).

[nyupress.org/9781479806195/ancient-taxation](https://nyupress.org/9781479806195/ancient-taxation)

Papers presented, 2021:

- "Emporium Aegyptium: Egypt As a Global Marketplace." Panel: Merchants and Markets in Late Antiquity, Society for Classical Studies and Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting (Online), Chicago, January.
- "Roman Egypt and Its Coinage." American Research Center in Egypt-Missouri Chapter, February 20.
- "The Question of Gold in Fourth-Century Egypt." American Numismatic Society's Money Talks Lecture Series, February 27.
- "An Anthropogenic Disaster? Cash Crops and Desertification in Roman Egyptian Oases." University of Chicago, Ancient Societies Workshop: Disaster in the Ancient World, May 11.
- "The Global Nature of the Egyptian Monetary System." Toronto Classics Seminar, October 1.

Public outreach, 2021:

- Interviewed for "Should You Drop Everything and Hunt for Treasure in Europe?" by Candida Moss for *The Daily Beast*. January 18, 2021. [thedailybeast.com/should-you-drop-everything-and-hunt-for-treasure-in-europe](https://thedailybeast.com/should-you-drop-everything-and-hunt-for-treasure-in-europe)



- Guest appearance on the American Numismatic Society's podcast, *The Planchet*, "A Conversation with Irene Soto Marín." January 22, 2021.  
[numismatics.org/planchet/02-01](https://numismatics.org/planchet/02-01)
- "Breaking the Mold: Quasi-Official Coinage in Roman Egypt with Irene Soto Marín," guest appearance on *Peopling the Past* podcast. July 20, 2021.  
[peoplingthepast.com/2021/07/20/podcast-season-2-episode-8-breaking-the-mold-quasi-official-coinage-in-roman-egypt-with-irene-soto-marin](https://peoplingthepast.com/2021/07/20/podcast-season-2-episode-8-breaking-the-mold-quasi-official-coinage-in-roman-egypt-with-irene-soto-marin)

## Lorene Sterner

### Graphic Artist and Gifts Manager

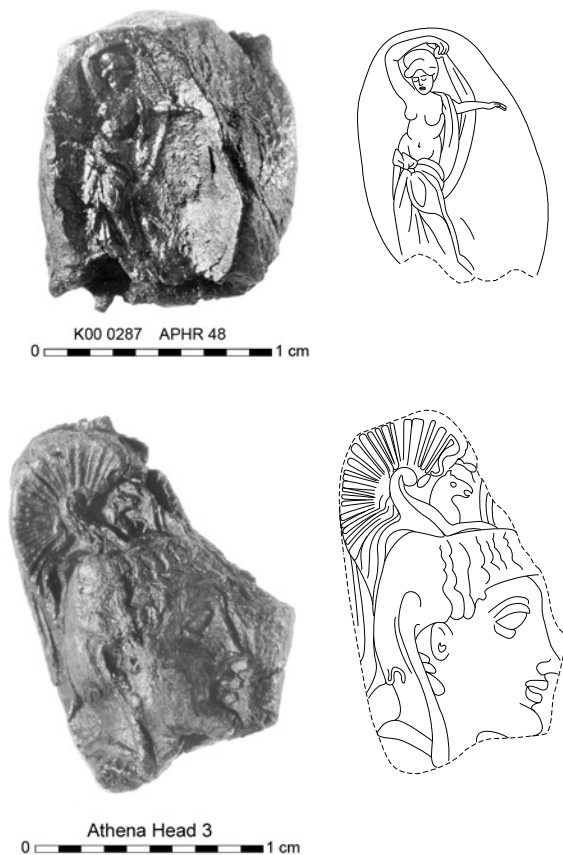
In 1997, Dr. Sharon Herbert (University of Michigan) and Dr. Andrea Berlin (University of Minnesota) began surveying and excavating Tel Kedesh, Israel, south of Qiryat Shimona. A detailed description of the site and their work can be found online at [lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/research/current-field-projects/tel-kedesh--israel.html](https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/research/current-field-projects/tel-kedesh--israel.html).

Within the imposing administrative complex excavated at Kedesh, over 2,000 seal impressions were found within two small storage rooms (fig. 9). Seal impressions were used in antiquity to authenticate important records. A clay pellet was affixed onto a rolled-up papyrus document with string, smoothed, and then the clay would be impressed with a carved stamp or seal. A document with an unbroken seal and string was indubitably genuine. This practice was probably reserved for official records such as land sales, contracts, legal judgments, and tax payments, similar to how notary seals are used today.

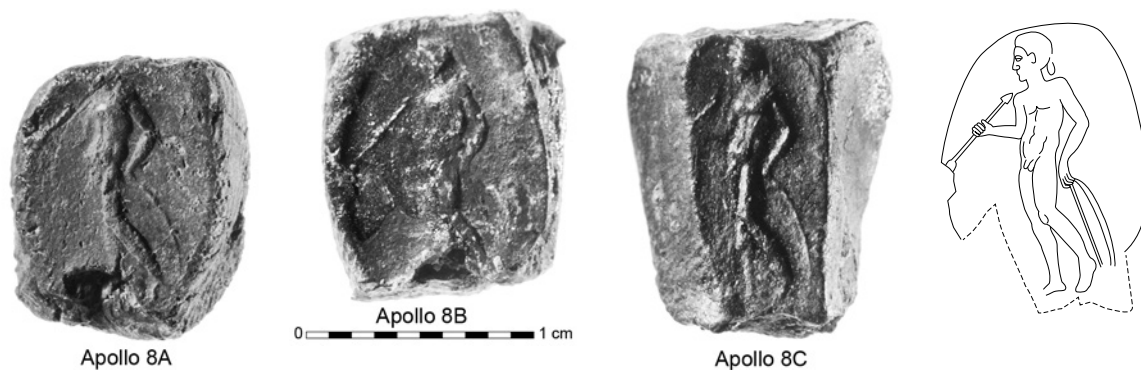
None of the original papyrus documents survived the burning and destruction of the administrative building around 150 BCE. However, the fire baked the impressed mud pellets and preserved them. In addition to its architecture and size, the presence of this large repository of official documents strengthens the argument that the excavated building at Kedesh functioned as a regional administrative center.

A full analysis of the architecture and stratigraphy, the ceramic wares, and small finds from Tel

Kedesh will appear in volumes III–V. The final edits to the first two volumes, *Hellenistic Archives* and *Seal Impressions from Kedesh*, are almost completed. Since the first survey season at Kedesh in 1997, I have been working with Dr. Herbert on scanning and organizing the thousands of pages of documents, drawings, and photos from the excavation so they can be used by the excavation's specialists and co-authors. During the past five years I have been preparing the photos for publication and have created the drawings, charts, and maps for these first two books.



**Figure 9.** Seal impressions from Kedesh, Israel, as they will be published. Top: a semi-draped standing Aphrodite (APHR 48); bottom: Athena head with griffin helmet (ATH 3).



**Figure 10.** Three impressions made from a single seal (AP 8A, B, and C) were used to reconstruct the original seal image, a standing Apollo in the “quiet” archer pose, seen at right in the composite drawing (AP 8A–C).

Volume I reviews the Kedesh archive in the context of other excavated archives of the Hellenistic era. Dr. Herbert has analyzed what the distribution, size, location, and other characteristics of these tiny artifacts reveal about their original use and users.

The second volume, in which these images will appear, is a catalogue of the 1,295 identifiable individual seal types found at Kedesh. The subject matter and style of the original seals varied widely, a revealing glimpse of the cultural, political, and religious preferences of the people who lived in and around Kedesh. Examples of a naturalistic semi-draped standing Aphrodite (APHR 48) and an Athena head with griffin helmet (ATH 3) are shown as they will be published.

Each seal type is illustrated with a photograph. Over 500 seal types include a drawing as well. Where multiple impressions stamped from the same seal have been found, I have drawn composites to reconstruct the original seal image (see fig. 10, photos of AP 8A–C, a standing Apollo in the “quiet” archer pose, and its composite drawing, AP 8A–C). The clay sealings found at Kedesh are quite small, often less than an inch long. They are being published three times life-size in order to allow readers to appreciate their complexity and quality.

## David Stone

### Research Scientist & Research Specialist

In 2021 the fortunate ability to be vaccinated and to travel permitted me to conduct a little bit of new fieldwork. I helped organize a geophysical survey that explored areas within the walls of the Classical period at Pella (Greece), along with Lisa Nevett (Michigan), Bettina Tsigarida and Stratos Nanoglou of the Pella Ephorate, and Nikos Papadopoulos (Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas) (fig. 11). Pella was the capital of ancient Macedon from the fourth to second centuries BCE. The city expanded significantly at this time, and its much more extensive Hellenistic phase is some five times larger than the Classical city. Our exploration investigates the rise of the city from its poorly known origins until it became a capital. We hope that we have identified some promising areas for further study in 2022. Stay tuned.

While at Pella I spent some time examining the pottery from the survey that I have conducted with the Pella Ephorate from 2017 to 2019. It was nice to see how well defined the city’s boundaries are from the analysis of both the ceramics and the geophysical results.

Several new discoveries have taken place at the site of Leptiminos since I worked there as part of a Michigan team during most of the 1990s. One of the most exciting is a new cemetery with 17 tombs dating

from approximately 350–250 BCE. The excavations there have now been published, and I was pleased to spend time this year thinking about what they have added to our knowledge of the origins of the city. It seems, to me anyway, that we now have a better sense that the first inhabitants were derived from local populations of the site, as opposed to our initial impression in the 1990s, when we thought of them as “Carthaginian” or “Punic.” This information led me to write a couple of contributions to a forthcoming volume on the city.

Closer to home, I want to end by saying how enjoyable it was to teach in person at the University of Michigan in fall 2021. It was especially a pleasure to see how happy Michigan undergraduates were to be back in the classroom after more than a year on Zoom.

I submitted the following articles in 2021:

- D.L. Stone. “Leptiminius before Rome: Constructing Identity in the First Millennium BC,” in *Leptiminius (Lamta) Report No. 5. Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series*.
- D.L. Stone. “Reconsidering Prehistory at Leptiminius,” in *Leptiminius (Lamta) Report No. 5. Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series*.



**Figure 11.** Dr. Nikos Papadopoulos of the Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas, performs ground-penetrating radar survey at Pella (Greece) in July 2022. Photo by David Stone.

- D.L. Stone. “The Ports of Mauretania Caesariensis,” in *Entre Mares International Congress: Location, Infrastructure and Organisation of Roman Ports*. Archivo Español de Arqueología.

The following articles appeared in print this year:

- D.L. Stone. “A Letter from the Book Review Editor,” *American Journal of Archaeology* 125.1 (2021): 1.
- E. Tsigarida, L. Nevett, Z. Archibald, and D.L. Stone. “Αρχαιολογική έρευνα στην αρχαία Ολυνθο, 2015,” *Το Αρχαιολογικό Έργο στη Μακεδονία και στη Θράκη* 29. Thessaloniki, Ministry of Culture and Sport, 2021, 367–74.

## Terry G. Wilfong

### Curator of Graeco-Roman Egyptian Collections

I began the year 2021 still on sabbatical, dealing with two in-press articles for volumes in honor of colleagues and mentors. The processes of publication are very different from the processes of writing, so—having gotten the manuscripts into their respective editors, I had to then deal with queries and edits to get these pieces to their final published form. When I mentioned these articles in the last Annual Report, the volumes they were to appear in were still secrets from their proposed honorees, but I can now reveal them. The first, my article on a Ramesside ushabti figure found in a late Roman context at Karanis (fig. ??), was for a volume of studies in honor of Emily Teeter, my longtime mentor, colleague, and friend who was, for many years, the curator at the Oriental Institute Museum who supervised my first exhibition there. I got to see Emily’s surprised reaction to the volume in a live broadcast of the annual CIPEG meeting at which the volume was presented to her. (I’m working on a version of this article for the Kelsey Museum Newsletter.) The other article, on the Buchis bull cult of Armant, was for a volume to honor my teacher Robert Ritner, who first taught me Coptic at the Oriental Institute and for whom I had written, back in 1989, a seminar paper on this very subject. Sadly, Robert died over the summer, before

the volume was published (although he did get to see our contributions), so the book will be a memorial volume, a tribute to this amazing teacher and scholar.

As for larger projects, I continued to work on my long-in-progress book project, “Egyptian Anxieties,” trying to do what I could while still being unable to take crucial research trips that would bring the project closer to completion. But this situation may have been something of a blessing in disguise, as it led me to look critically at how I had been planning this book and make some structural improvements, breaking up the long chapters I had envisioned into shorter chapters that will (I hope) make the resulting book more readable. I also found ways to relate parts of the book more closely to ongoing Kelsey research, and began exploring possibilities to turn at least part of it into a Kelsey Museum exhibition eventually, one that would (contrary to my usual practice) involve significant loans from other museums.

And of course, I have continued to work on researching Hamzeh Carr, mysterious artist of the Karanis mural facsimiles. I gave a brief survey of some of this research in the Kelsey Museum Spring 2021 Newsletter. As is the way of such things, not long after I submitted my manuscript I made a quick succession of new discoveries that, in the end, I decided to leave out of the Newsletter article. Knowledge of Hamzeh Carr’s last known address (in the British seaside town of Hove), allowed me, with the help of my former assistant Andrew Ferrara, to use the various public record systems in the UK to discover Hamzeh Carr’s legal name, date and place of birth, and a few other records that filled in a number of crucial details. It was gratifying to find that these discoveries confirmed some assumptions I had made about Hamzeh Carr, but they also upended others, and I am still making sense of what I have found out. Even more exciting was the discovery of a very brief interview with Hamzeh Carr from 1926 and a self-portrait sketch from around the same time. Suddenly, being able to read Hamzeh Carr’s own words and see him as he wanted to be seen somehow made Hamzeh Carr, and the wider project, more real for me. I’m still waiting for the opportunity to pursue some archival research

Figure ?? . Faience ushabti figure of Pahemnetjer, ca. 1275 BCE; originally buried at Saqqara, but discovered by the University of Michigan Expedition in a late Roman street context at Karanis in 1928, KM 24263.



for Hamzeh Carr and, in the meantime, trying to figure out how to translate all that I am finding into an exhibition.

Coming back to in-person teaching for fall term was made easier by a truly outstanding group of students in my introductory Coptic language course. Although this first term of Coptic is primarily about the acquisition of vocabulary and grammar, we were able to have wider discussions about the Coptic literature we are planning to read in the coming term. The students have considerable interest in a class project that I have been saving for the right group—a new translation of the Coptic Life of Hilaria. The (fictional) daughter of Byzantine emperor Zeno, Hilaria disguised herself as a man and went to Egypt to become a monk. Accounts of women who disguised themselves as men for religious purposes are not



uncommon in the literature of Byzantine Christianity, but Hilaria's story is different—the text describes a physical transformation that suggests that the story could be read as a narrative of gender transition. Our class project will also involve collating the published text with photographs of the original manuscript, in part to check the accuracy of the published edition, particularly with regard to the pronouns used in reference to Hilaria. This project is, of course, in aid of my wider “Transgender in ancient Egypt” project, with Hilaria as the final case study in a survey of possible transgender and non-binary individuals across ancient Egyptian history (students’ work on Hilaria, of course, will be given full credit in any publication).

At the Kelsey Museum, I have begun working as the curatorial liaison for a proposed Byzantine and Islamic gallery. The original plans for the Upjohn Exhibit Wing included a space to display artifacts from Byzantine and Islamic cultures that are an important part of the museum’s collections, but

this ultimately had to be abandoned due to a lack of funds. Although museum artifacts from Byzantine and Islamic cultures have featured in a number of temporary exhibitions (*Vaults of Heaven* and *Pearls of Wisdom* being the most recent), we have long wanted to showcase this material—including excavated artifacts and archival photographs—in our permanent galleries. To this end, the Kelsey Museum is developing a proposal for which we will ask for approval from the University to seek funding, and I will be working with Paroma Chatterjee and Christy Gruber (and others) to identify artifacts, themes, and ideas for the proposed gallery, as well as provide support and guidance from a long-term Kelsey curator. This may seem a bit far afield for me, given my usual work at the Kelsey Museum, but I actually started out working on archaeological and textual evidence from an abandoned village that spanned Byzantine and Islamic rule in Egypt, and I am looking forward to getting back to the material cultures of those times.

## 2021 Kelsey Staff

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Jan Victor Alfaro, *Security Officer (from September 1 until November 5)*  
Nicola Barham, *Assistant Curator of Ancient Art*  
Jake Bennett, *Security Officer (until December 20)*  
Mallory Bower, *Executive Assistant and Social Media Coordinator (from August 2)*  
Charlie Brown, *Custodian (until January 29)*  
Eric Campbell, *Assistant Exhibition Designer*  
Joseph Clark, *Security Officer (from October 28)*  
Suzanne Davis, *Curator of Conservation*  
Geoff Emberling, *Research Scientist*  
Sebastián Encina, *Collections Manager*  
Michelle Fontenot, *Collections Manager*  
Elaine K. Gazda, *Curator Emerita*  
Mallory Genauer, *Community and Youth Educator*  
Mark Harvey, *Custodian (from February 1)*  
Dawn Johnson, *Associate Director, Chief Administrator*  
Patrick Lindberg, *Security Sergeant*  
Scott Meier, *Museum Exhibition Coordinator*  
John Morrison, *Security Officer (from September 1)*  
Laura Motta, *Research Specialist*  
Catherine Person, *Director of Education*  
Richard Redding, *Research Scientist*  
Janet Richards, *Curator of Dynastic Egypt Collections*  
Caroline Roberts, *Conservator*  
Margaret Cool Root, *Curator Emerita*  
Lisa Rozek, *Administrative Specialist (until September 17)*  
Nicholas Roush, *Security Officer*  
Leslie Schramer, *Editor*  
Irene Soto Marín, *Assistant Curator*  
Matthew Spunar, *Security Officer*  
Lorene Sterner, *Graphic Artist, Gifts Manager*  
David Stone, *Research Scientist, Research Specialist*  
Lauren E. Talalay, *Curator Emerita*  
Nicola Terrenato, *Director and Curator for the Archaeology of the Italian Peninsula*  
Terry G. Wilfong, *Curator of Graeco-Roman Egyptian Collections*  
John Williams, *Security Supervisor*  
Mallory Wolfgram, *Security Officer (until May 12)*  
Alex Zwinak, *Graduate Program Coordinator*

## 2021 IPCAA Students

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Lauren Alberti	Tyler Johnson
Leah Bernardo-Ciddio	Michael Koletsos
Andrew Cabaniss	Ginevra Miglierina
Caitlin Clerkin	Alex Moskowitz
Sheira Cohen	Theo Nash
Alexandra Creola	Caroline Nemechek
Andrew Crocker	Shannon Ness
Christina DiFabio	Lauren Oberlin
Amelia Eichengreen	Zoe Ortiz
Caroline Everts	James Prosser
Joseph Frankl	Alison Rittershaus
Bailey Franzoi	D. Buck Roberson
Laurel Fricker	Sam Ross
Machal Gradoz	Abigail Staub
Melissa Gryan	Gregory Tucker (defended July 30)
Nadhira Hill	



Terenouthis stela KM 21114. Photo by Kelsey Conservation.

**ONLINE**

The faculty, staff, and students of the Kelsey Museum thank you for your continued support.

[lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/give-join](https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/give-join)

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