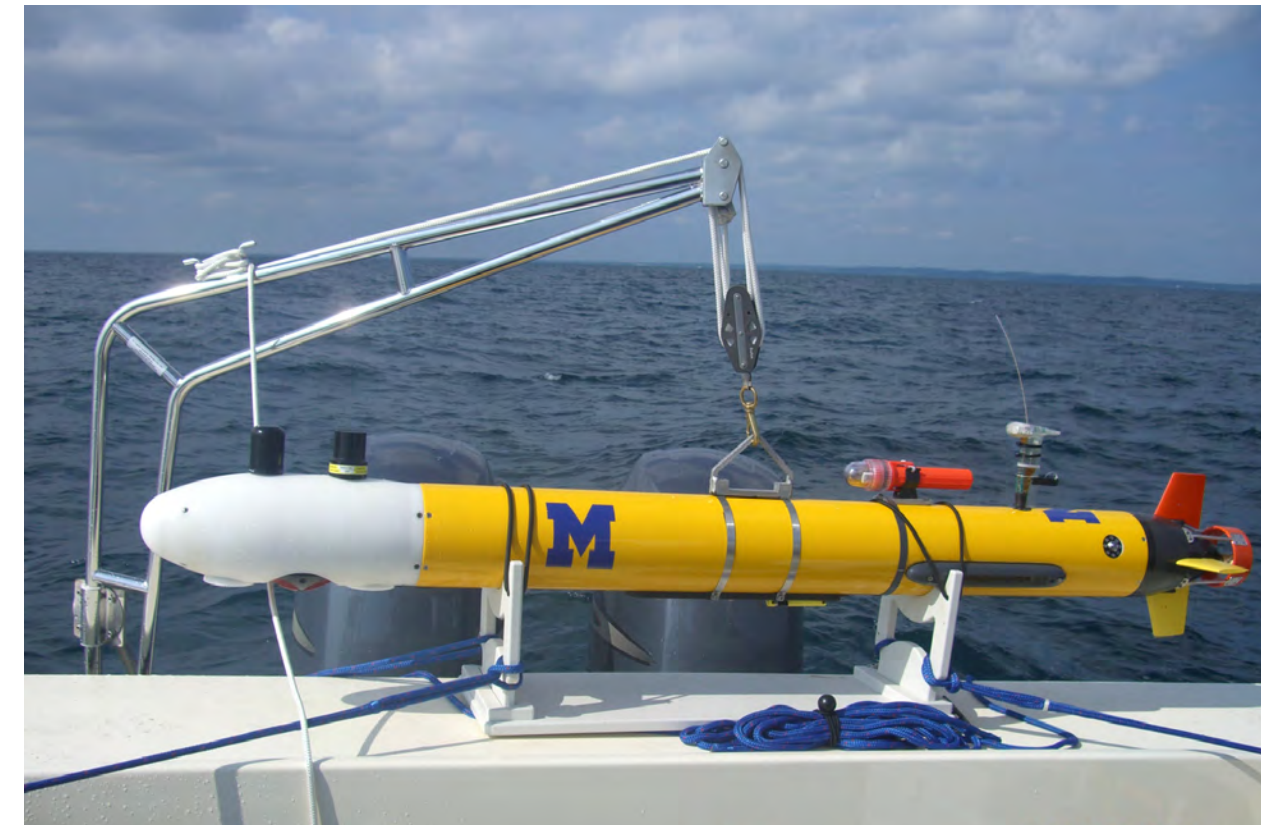
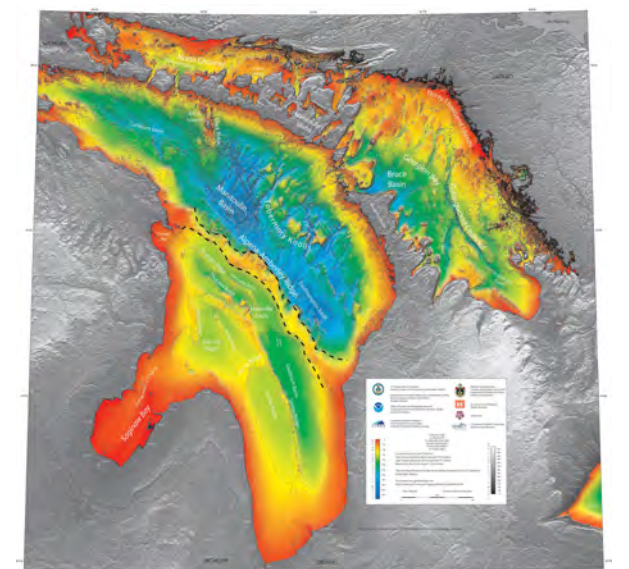




Underwater Archaeology in the Great Lakes



Below the sparkling water of Lake Huron, far below the University of Michigan survey vessel *Blue Traveler*, lies the Alpena-Amberley ridge, a feature that stretches from today's Presque Isle, Michigan, area to Ontario's Point Clark. Sophisticated surface-towed side scan sonar and remote-operated vehicles (ROVs), equipped with video cameras, are launched, and the ridge begins to yield intriguing evidence of early hunters—the first confirmation of human activity found beneath the Great Lakes—and raises the exciting possibility of discovering intact settlements and ancient landscapes preserved in the frigid lake.



Modern Lake Huron covers archaeological sites from the terminal Paleoindian and Archaic periods associated with the Lake Stanley low water stage (10,000–7,500 BP). The Museum of Anthropology's Dr. John O'Shea, with Professor Guy Meadows (Director of the U-M Marine Hydrodynamics Labs), Professor Bob Reynolds (Wayne State University), and Assistant Professor Ryan Eustice (Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering), first used bathymetry (above) and 3-D surface

Letter from the Director



This year's newsletter contains a lot of good news about the Museum. Most important is the imminent arrival of our newest curator, **Robin Beck** (see page 3), who will join us this January as Assistant Curator of Eastern North American Archaeology, and Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology. Rob's arrival adds a talented teacher and researcher to our Museum community and a renewed attention to our important Eastern North American archaeological collections. We also welcome (page 10) a new staff member, **Jamie Merkel**, who will oversee our NSF-funded three-year project to rehouse the ethnobotanical collections in new archival storage and make the collections more accessible both physically and virtually. The Museum has mounted a major new exhibition highlighting our research and collections (page 9) in the Exhibit Museum of Natural History, and is a key participant in the LSA 2009–2010 Theme Year "Meaningful Objects: Museums in the Academy," celebrating the important contributions of U-M museums. Our graduate student community is dynamic and creative—maintaining old traditions and creating new ones. The photos on the rear of the newsletter were taken at the student-run "Curators Ball" in Spring 2009, celebrating the 30th year since the first ball was conceived, and this fall, our students, working with students in the Interdisciplinary Program in Classical Art and Archaeology (IPCAA), organized the first graduate student conference on Material Culture and Archaeology.

Now for the bad news. Not surprisingly, this is our grim Michigan economy and the toll that it continues to take on the state and university. We are now working to figure out how to trim our very trim operating budget by an additional six percent over the next three years. This may not seem onerous compared to recent news from other universities, but we are now entering our 8th year of recession and budget trimming, and all the easy cuts have been made. It is increasingly difficult to identify areas to trim that won't severely hurt our graduate students (our mandated cut is the equivalent of three GSRA positions), our important publications program, or other essential museum activities. We will certainly be leaner at the end of this period, but with your support and the talents of our curators, staff, and, especially, students, I am confident the Museum of Anthropology will continue to thrive.

Carla M. Sinopoli
November 5, 2009

Staff Spotlight

With over 3 million objects in the Museum collections, it's essential that every item is properly stored, cared for, and organized for ready retrieval. **Karen O'Brien**—our indispensable Collections Manager—efficiently, creatively, and adeptly oversees this critical task. She also ensures that new acquisitions are properly managed; she works with curators, faculty members, and graduate student instructors to use the collections for teaching; and she arranges loans of collections to researchers in other institutions. Education is a major component of her job, as she trains students and volunteers in collection management activities, teaching them to correctly catalog, handle, clean, and inventory objects. Karen was instrumental in the creation of the comprehensive UMMA Artifact and Digital Image Databases, as well as several virtual exhibits, accessible on the Museum website (which she also helped develop and still maintains).

Karen also seeks funding to properly store and preserve the collections, and has worked to bring grants from the National Endowment for Humanities, Institute for Museum and Library Services, the Museum Loan Network, and our recently received three-year grant from the National Science Foundation to rehouse the Ethnobotanical Collections to the Museum.

In addition to these invaluable accomplishments, Karen helps organize lectures (see page 9), is Publications chair of the Midwest Registrars Committee, and is on the organizing committee for the International Registrars Symposium. And, amazingly, she still has time to play basketball!

In sum, if we need to know where anything is—be it artifact, lab report, or photograph—we ask Karen!



We are delighted to welcome Dr. Robin A. Beck, who in January 2010 will join the Museum of Anthropology as Assistant Curator and the Department of Anthropology as Assistant Professor. After earning his PhD at Northwestern University in 2004, Dr. Beck held academic positions at Southern Illinois University and Northwestern University, and, currently, is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma.

Rob's archaeological research focuses on social change among horticultural societies of the New World. His research spans from the study of the foundations of inequality, which he examined in his doctoral work in the Bolivian Andes and in his M.A. work on the Mississippian frontier of the Upper Catawba Valley (W. North Carolina), to his current project examining the cultural transformations that followed European contact in the Southeastern United States.

Since 2001, he has co-directed the *Exploring Joara Archaeological Project* in North Carolina with David Moore (Warren Wilson College) and Christopher Rodning (Tulane University) in the Upper Catawba Valley of North Carolina. The central town in this area, the Berry Site, was one of the largest native towns in western North Carolina during the sixteenth century and was the native town of Joara, visited by the Hernando De Soto and Juan Pardo expeditions in the mid-sixteenth century. Dr. Beck and his colleagues first identified Spanish artifacts at the site in 1994 and since then have located Fort San Juan, built by Juan Pardo in 1567. The fort was destroyed by Native communities in 1568, thus ending Spanish colonization in the eastern North American interior. The team's excavation of the fort's structures have provided rare insights into a brief "event" in the long history of the Upper Catawba Valley. Rob recently organized a Research Team Short Seminar on the Berry Site at the School of Advanced Research in Santa Fe. Rob's future research in the area will continue to add temporal and theoretical depth to our understandings of the archaeology and history of the Southeastern United States, moving both backward and forward in time.

Rob has published widely on his research, in his edited book *The Durable House: House Society Models in Archaeology* (2007, SIU Press, Carbondale), and in articles in the journals *Ethnohistory*, *Current Anthropology*, *American Antiquity*, and *Southeastern Archaeology*, among others.

Along with working with U-M undergraduate and graduate students and continuing his research in the Upper Catawba Valley, Rob is looking forward to working with the rich Eastern North American archaeology collections in the Museum's North America division, and to making these important collections more accessible to students and the larger scholarly community.

We look forward to welcoming Rob, Laoma, and Soledad Beck to the U-M Museum community.



Curator Notes and News

Joyce Marcus published *The Ancient City: New Perspectives on Urbanism in the Old and New World* (with Jeremy A. Sabloff) (funded by the National Academy of Sciences; published by School for Advanced Research Press), and *Andean Civilization* (with Patrick Ryan Williams) (Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA).

John O'Shea continued his underwater archaeology projects in Lake Huron (see page 1), as well as his excavations of the Bronze Age tell of Pecica Șanțul Mare in the Carpathian Basin of Romania.

Jeffrey Parsons, Curator Emeritus, published *Prehispanic Settlement Patterns in the Northwestern Valley of Mexico: The Zumpango Region* (see page 11), and "Reflections on My Life in Archaeology" (*Ancient Mesoamerica* 20[2009]:3–14). Jeff participated in a symposium, focused on the conservation of archaeological resources in Mexico, at the meeting of the Congreso Internacional de Americanistas held in Mexico City. He also gave three lectures to the Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia, as well as a keynote lecture, "Caminando con Bill a lo largo de los decadas, 1961-2008," at a memorial for the late William T. Sanders.

Carla Sinopoli returned to South India in June 2009 to continue work on materials from her ongoing excavations at the Late Prehistoric settlement of Kadebakele. In October 2009, she delivered the keynote lecture, "The local and the global: Exploring deep South Asian histories through a fine lens" at the 38th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin.

John Speth, together with **Karen O'Brien**, UMMA's collections manager, and recent U-M Anthropology PhD **Jamie Clark** (now at SMU), completed the detailed analysis of the skeletal remains from the Henderson Site and Bloom Mound, two late prehistoric villages in southeastern New Mexico. They also finished cataloging and boxing up the many thousands of artifacts, animal bones, and botanical materials from the previous excavations at Bloom Mound. Analysis of the new collections from this past summer's fieldschool at Bloom has progressed rapidly this fall thanks to the efforts of graduate student **Lars Anderson** and undergraduates **Marissa Spytzman**, **Caroline Braden**, and **Katie Lacy**. By January 2010, the artifacts and fauna will be coded and digitized, and much of the cat-

aloging completed. With graduate student **Khori Newlander** and undergraduate Honors student **Erin Gager**, John also undertook an interesting ultraviolet fluorescence (UVF) study of the flint artifacts from the Roswell sites, finding that they could use the differential UVF responses of debitage and projectile points to determine where in the Southern Plains the Roswell villagers were doing most of their bison hunting, and the degree to which villager access to Southern Plains herds was curtailed as intergroup competition and conflict escalated during the early part of the 15th century. John also oversaw the preparation of a temporary exhibit on Plains-Pueblo trade for the Exhibit Museum of Natural History. The exhibit, based largely on John's field work in southeastern NM, is now on display at the Hubbard Museum of the American West in Ruidoso Downs, NM.

Henry Wright continues to work on the issues of developing civilizations in the Middle East, Madagascar, China, and elsewhere. In July, he taught for the Santa Fe Institute at a workshop in Beijing on approaches to complex urban systems, and participated in two archaeological programs: a visit to the steppes of Inner Mongolia

(continued on page 8)

The Museum sponsored two archaeological field schools in the summer of 2009, involving undergraduate and graduate students in field projects in Michigan and New Mexico.



Archaeology drew together a great group of students and specialists to beautiful, if sometimes unforgiving, northern Michigan. For the fourth consecutive summer, archaeology was part of the U-M Biological Station's summer research program. Field school students worked beside an NSF-funded research crew that included graduate students from U-M, Michigan State, and Wayne State, and undergraduates from U-M, University of New Hampshire, and University of Delaware. Research focused on contextualizing the abundant clusters of cache (storage) pits spread across the inland lake landscape surrounding Douglas and Burt Lakes. Previous seasons had located habitation remains on low terraces nearby cache pit clusters; this summer our group excavated more than 1800 shovel test pits in similar contexts to try to locate additional habitation sites. We also expanded excavations at a Late Prehistoric site on Burt Lake where we found evidence of a dense midden. Our excavations of a number of cache pits revealed that they were larger and more complicated than we expected and our research revealed evidence for buried pits with evidence of structures built on top of them—another new and surprising contribution to Michigan archaeology.

by Meghan Howey
(Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire;
UMMA Adjunct Assistant Research Scientist)

Collaboration Reveals Unmarked Native American Graves

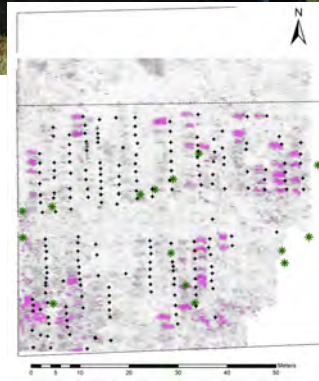
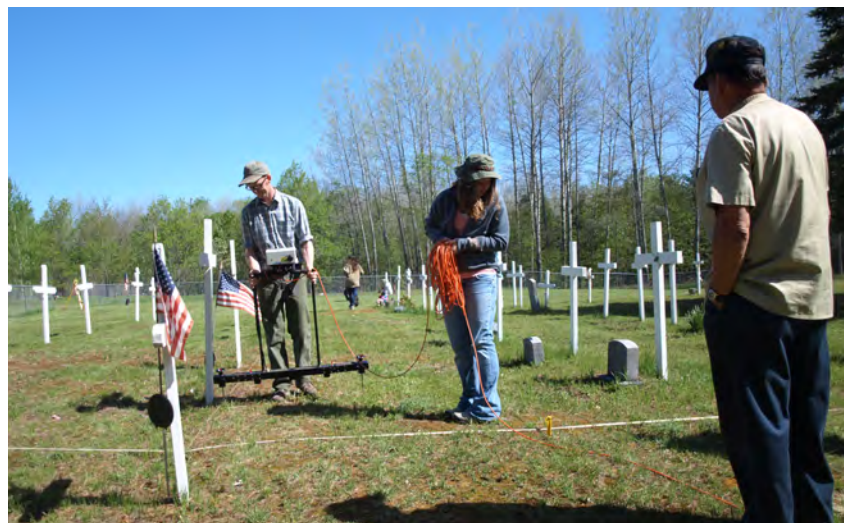
This summer, Dr. Tim Horsley and Dr. Meghan Howey worked with the Burt Lake (Cheboiganing) Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to relocate unmarked graves in one of their historic cemeteries. Following their forced removal from Indian Point in 1900 (see <http://www.burtlakeband.org>), the Band moved to a new settlement along Indian Road (Cheboygan Co.) where they established a new church and community cemetery in 1909. Graves in this active cemetery are marked by wooden crosses, some of which appeared to have become lost over time. During this year's archaeological field school at the nearby U-M Biological Station, it was decided to try and relocate these lost burials using modern non-destructive geophysical techniques.

Aided by field school students and Band members, Tim—an experienced archaeological geophysicist—employed ground-penetrating radar (GPR) and earth resistance methods to detect anomalies associated with graves. These techniques have had little application in Michigan to date, so this presented an exciting opportunity to test out their effectiveness in this region.

As the accompanying figure shows, the surveys were very successful and reveal the neat rows of individual burials. Comparison of the results with the locations of grave markers has allowed some 24 unmarked burials to be identified, including those of five possible infants based on their smaller size. New markers were set in place to indicate the locations of these unmarked graves for the Band to commemorate in the future.

This event has strengthened a budding collaboration with the Band, one where archaeology exchanges with, listens to, and gives back meaningful information to the community. The work also demonstrates the potential both for locating historic graves and for other archaeological applications in Michigan.

This survey was made possible due to the openness of the Burt Lake Band, and Band member Kay Touhy was instrumental in this collaboration between the tribe and archaeologists. Tim Horsley is a UMMA Assistant Research Scientist and Meghan Howey is an Assistant Professor in Archaeology, University of New Hampshire, and a UMMA Adjunct Assistant Research Scientist. The work was conducted as part of the UMMA Field School and the NSF-funded Cultural Landscapes of Douglas Lake Archaeological Research team led by Dr. Howey.



During June and July, 2009, under the direction of Curator John Speth and with the able assistance of two anthropology graduate students, Ashley Lemke and Ashley Schubert, the Museum of Anthropology ran an archaeological fieldschool in southeastern New Mexico. There were seven participants in the program: five U-M undergraduates (Anna Mickols, Elizabeth Thom, Kayla Waldron, Abby Work, Rachel Yung), one MSU undergraduate, and an MA student from Silpakorn University, Thailand. Our excavations were at Bloom Mound, a 14th- and early 15th-century mud-walled village in the Pecos Valley. We did lab work in the evenings, and on weekends explored other archaeological ruins and parks in the region.

Speth's research at Bloom (and the nearby Henderson Site, the focus of UMMA fieldwork between 1994 and 1997) investigates the emergence of economic ties between nomadic Southern Plains buffalo hunters and Southwestern Pueblo farmers. At the Henderson Site, two occupation phases were recognized: Early Phase (AD 1275–1325), and Late Phase (AD 1325–1380). The occupation of Bloom picked up where Henderson's left off, about AD 1380, and continued into the early 1400s.

The Roswell sites document a dramatic increase in exchange with the Puebloan world to the west. The Henderson villagers traded bison meat and hides, which they themselves procured by undertaking long-distance hunting expeditions into the Southern Plains, for Pueblo pottery and turquoise, and probably also blankets and maize.

Information gathered by local amateurs who dug at Bloom in the 1930s, augmented by UMMA's recent excavations, underscores Bloom's role as a trading center of some affluence. Bloom yielded many more artifacts coming from distant sources than Henderson did, including ceramics imported from hundreds of miles away, as well as turquoise, obsidian, and Mexican copper bells. However, a dramatic falloff in bison remains at Bloom, despite abundant evidence that the community remained thoroughly engaged in long-distance exchange with the Puebloan world, seems to suggest that Bloom's inhabitants had shifted their role in the exchange system from hunters to middlemen.

Competition with other groups hunting in the Southern Plains led to tensions between hunters and farmers that erupted in the mid-1400s into deadly conflict. The amateurs who dug at Bloom in the 1930s found dozens of unburied, burned human skeletons; Michigan's excavations revealed further evidence of violence, all directed at "non-combatants," that is, children, young adult women, and elderly men. The violence was not mere raiding; this was warfare with the intent of annihilating the inhabitants. Soon thereafter, Bloom was abandoned and the Pecos Valley remained uninhabited by village-based farming peoples into the early historic period, when the first Spaniards entered the region.



Undergraduate Honors Students

In 2009, four U-M anthropology students completed their honors theses:

Maia Dedrick: *Agricultural Production at a Late Classic Maya Household: Off-Mound Excavations at Medicinal Trail, Belize* (Thesis advisor: Joyce Marcus); co-winner of the Sidney Fine teaching award in the Goldstein Honors prizes

Danielle Forsyth: *Exploring the Political Organization of Kofun Period Japan* (Thesis advisor: Carla Sinopoli)

Valerie Grabski: *Regional Relations in the Near East During the Third Millennium: As Seen Through Lapis Lazuli and the Vessels of the Série Ancienne* (Thesis advisor: Henry Wright)

Dylan Imre: *A Hive of Complexities: The Unification and Analysis of Postclassic Maya Beekeeping: Production, Practices, and Religious Relations* (Thesis advisor: Joyce Marcus)

Undergraduate Student Support

Lisa Young organized a poster session for the 2009 Society of American Archaeology meetings, entitled Sharing Archaeology with the Public: Examples from the Homol'ovi Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. This session was sponsored by the SAA Public Education committee. Three recently graduated U-M students (**Claire Barker, Danielle Forsyth, Stephanie Owens**) who had worked with Lisa in the field contributed posters to this session.



Undergraduate field experiences are made possible with financial support from the Museum's undergraduate research endowments. *Thanks to your generous donations, in 2009 we were able to provide funds to three U-M undergraduates.*

Elizabeth Thom received support from the **Christy E. Cogan Memorial Fund** to participate in the U-M Bloom Mound Field School with John Speth. **Abigail Work** used support from the **James B. Griffin Undergraduate Research Fund** to participate in the U-M Bloom Mound Field School with John Speth. **Sarah Oas** received assistance from the **Carl E. Guthe Undergraduate Research Fund** to participate in research in Romania with John O'Shea and in Italy with Laura Motta.

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

Snapshots from the field...

Doctoral student **Alice Wright** worked in Pisgah National Forest in western North Carolina on a salvage excavation of a looted rock shelter with occupation from the Middle Archaic through proto-historic periods. She will return next summer to conduct pilot dissertation research on Middle Woodland homesteads and local and regional exchange.



Curator **John O'Shea** continued his NSF-funded research under Lake Huron, where he is working to document late Pleistocene and early Holocene landforms and sites associated with ancient caribou hunting. (See article on page 1.)



The crew of the University of Michigan Biological Station field school. (See page 4.)

Doctoral student **Colin Quinn's** recent research has centered on Bronze Age lifeways in Ireland. This summer, he went to Dublin to study museum collections from the Mound of the Hostages at Tara (Co. Meath), and then headed west to County Galway to lead an excavation team investigating potential Bronze Age houses on the island of Inis Airc.



Doctoral student **Emily Holt** spent the past year on a Fulbright fellowship in the Medio Campidano region of Sardinia. Data from her excavations at two Middle Bronze Age sites will be used to study the development of social complexity on the island.



Research Scientist and archaeological geophysicist **Dr. Tim Horsley** joined the Harvard University field project in Sichuan Province, China, to conduct geophysical surveys to locate and map buried sites. Tim also worked in Maryland, Michigan, and Indiana this year.



Lisa Young returned to northeastern Arizona with four U-M undergraduates, to participate in the annual open house at Homol'ovi Ruins State Park. Lisa and her team completed an experimental archaeology project begun in 2008 by excavating the corn roasting pit the team built and used last year.



Curator **John Speth** and doctoral students **Ashley Lemke** and **Ashley Schupert** were joined by eight U-M undergraduates in a field school at Bloom Mound in southeastern New Mexico. Their research explores the changing role of the village in Plains-Pueblo interactions ca. AD 1275-1450.



Doctoral student **Ashley Lemke** again joined a team from Mercyhurst College, Univ. of Texas, and Harvard University on an NOAA-funded underwater project in the Gulf of Mexico that is trying to locate Paleoindian-age landforms and archaeological sites.



Cameron Gokee recently completed a second season of dissertation fieldwork at the Iron Age site of Diouboye in eastern Senegal. His research examines village-level socioeconomic organization and cultural practices along an important trade route.



Doctoral student **Anne Compton** was in Techiman, Ghana, this summer directing survey and excavation for the Nkwantanso Cultural Center and gathering data for her predoctoral research paper.



Doctoral students **Amanda Logan** and **Andrew Gurstelle** joined Dr. Ann Stahl's (Univ. of Victoria) project in Banda, Ghana, excavating households that span the Niger to Atlantic trade phases. Amanda remained in Banda through the fall to conduct ethnographic research on food change.



Michelle Adonian

Curator **Henry Wright** spent part of fall 2009 in Madagascar continuing his archaeological survey work and research on early state formation.

Curator **John O'Shea** and doctoral student **Amy Nicodemus** returned to the Carpathian Basin of Romania to continue their excavations at the Bronze Age tell of Pecica Șanțul Mare, Romania. Also on the crew were UM students **Katy Lacy**, **Ashley Lemke**, **Sarah Oas**, and **Heather Rejto**.



Research affiliate and paleoethnobotanist **Laura Motta** explored food production and redistribution in Iron Age Italy during the early days of the region's first cities, as a member of the Kelsey Museum excavation project at the Archaic city of Gabii near Rome.



Curator **Carla Sinopoli** returned to South India to analyze ceramics from her project's excavations at the Iron Age settlement of Kadabakele.



Elizabeth Bridges completed her dissertation fieldwork at the 14th-17th c. urban settlements of Keladi and Ikkeri in southern India. Her research will contribute to understanding regional settlement and political dynamics during and following the collapse of the Vijayanagara empire.



Ji Rachel Lee divided the summer between China and South Korea. In China, she participated in two separate projects. The first, led by alumni **Alice Yao**, continued researching the Bronze Age Dian polity near Lake Dian. The second was an exploratory survey led by alumni **Min Li**, in Qufu. In South Korea, she researched a Neolithic community in Jinju.



Matthew Gallon is conducting his dissertation fieldwork at the first millennium CE town of Kamphaeng Saen, central Thailand. This spring, he and a team of Thai graduate students and local residents conducted survey and auger coring at the site. He will begin excavating in November 2009.

Graduate Student Support

The James B. Griffin Scholarship Fund

Created by the Museum's curators in 1975 on the occasion of James B. Griffin's retirement from the University of Michigan, the James B. Griffin Scholarship Fund has provided small grants to **85 doctoral students** in anthropological archaeology to support their dissertation fieldwork and related analyses. The first Griffin Scholarship award was given to Mary Hodge in April 1980 for her doctoral research on the Aztec empire; the most recent award went to Cameron Gokee for his work in West Africa (see below). Over the years, and thanks to donations from more than 100 individuals, many of them Griffin Scholarship awardees themselves, we have been able to increase the award amount from \$500 to \$2500.

Over the last year, the fieldwork of three doctoral students was partially supported by Griffin Scholarship funds:

Cameron Gokee used the Griffin Scholarship Fund to support his excavations at the middle Iron Age site (CE 500–1000) of Dioubouye on the Falémé River in eastern Senegal. Cameron's work, also supported by the Rackham Graduate School and the Fulbright Foundation, examines social and economic practices at a village site located near important gold sources during the period of expanding West African trade networks and state formation.

Uthara Suvrathan used support from the Griffin Fund and the Trehan Gift for South Asian Archaeology to conduct a preliminary season of archaeological survey around the early historic urban center of Banavasi (ca. 100 BCE–CE 6000) in Karnataka, India. Her research explores shifting settlement forms, elite strategies, and economic interactions as the city shifted in and out of positions of political centrality in the region—from a political capital to a periphery of more distant states and empires. Uthara is currently preparing grant proposals and plans to return to India this winter to complete her fieldwork.

Matthew Gallon spent the winter of 2009 directing his first season of archaeological fieldwork at the first millennium CE town of Kamphaeng Saen, in the western Chao Praya River Valley of Central Thailand. Kamphaeng Saen, a 52-hectare settlement surrounded by a moat and earthen rampart, lay between two possible capitals of one of Thailand's first kingdoms: the 7th–10th century CE Dvāravatī state. Matt's research explores changes in the organization and functions of the town in the context of larger processes of state formation. The results of Matt's Griffin Funded mapping and testing provided important background information to guide his current excavations at the site, funded by the National Science Foundation and a Luce Foundation/ACLS Fellowship for Southeast and East Asian Archaeology.

Other Griffin Scholarship Fund awardees currently in the field or completing their dissertations include **Veronique Belisle**, **Howard Tsai**, and **Allison Davis** (Peru); **Khori Newlander** (North America); **Paul Duffy** (Hungary); **Daphne Gallagher** (Burkina Faso); **Amanda Logan** (Ghana); and **Elizabeth Bridges** and **Hemanth Kadambi** (India).

In the face of increasing research costs and declining University resources, the Griffin Scholarship Fund remains an invaluable source for supporting our students. Please consider making an additional gift to keep this resource available for future generations of U-M graduate students.

Curator Notes and News cont.

to look over later historic sites recorded during the University of Pittsburgh's collaborative Chifeng Regional Survey under Dick Drennan, and to help with the analysis of later ceramics; and the analysis of ceramics and site records from the 1999–2005 Yi-Luo survey in the heartland of North Chinese state formation around the early capital of Erlitou. During the fall, Henry was in Madagascar working on two field projects, both involving the training of Malagasy students. The major effort was the "Estuary Project" of Robert Dewar and Chantal Radimilahy, funded by the British Institute in Eastern Africa. They finished their last major season around the old and modern port of Vohémar in the far northeast, complet-

ing stratigraphic excavations necessary for the local chronology and completing their regional survey. They found more evidence of early foragers and evidence of a 15th–16th c. port deeply buried under the modern port of Vohémar, and enjoyed much good seafood. With his long-standing colleague Ramilison, Henry also conducted a brief but intense survey effort in the Central Highlands near the modern capital Antananarivo, where they are documenting a war, not mentioned in the historical traditions, between nascent 18th-century proto-states. Henry's next monograph on Iran's Deh Luran Plain is in press in the Museum's publication series and should appear in early 2010.

Graduate Student Achievements

Doctoral Defenses

Jamie Clark defended her dissertation "Testing Models on the Emergence and Nature of Modern Human Behavior: Middle Stone Age Fauna from Sibudu Cave, South Africa" in January 2009. Jamie is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Southern Methodist University.

William Griffin defended his thesis "The Matitanana Archaeological Project: Culture History and Social Complexity in the Seven Rivers Region of Southeastern Madagascar" in May 2009. Will is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at St. Charles Community College.

Grant Accomplishments

Khori Newlander and **Matthew Gallon** received NSF doctoral dissertation improvement grants; Matt also received a grant from the ACLS/Luce Foundation.

Matthew Kroot was awarded grants from the Wenner Gren Foundation and from ACOR-CAORC to conduct doctoral research in Jordan. **Amy Nicodemus** and **Colin Quinn** received an award from the Museum's **Linda Britton and John R. Halsey Fund for Great Lakes Archaeology**. **Hemanth Kadambi**, **Elizabeth Bridges**, and **Uthara Suvrathan** received support from the International Institute's Trehan Fund for South Asian Archaeology. **Veronique Belisle** has been awarded a Rackham Dissertation Fellowship for 2009–2010.



In 2009–2010, the U-M College of Literature, Science and the Arts Theme Year "Meaningful Objects: Museums in the Academy"

celebrates university museums as sites of critical reflection, knowledge production, cultural engagement, teaching and learning, and personal fulfillment. Numerous special exhibits, lectures, classes, "behind-the-scenes" tours, films, workshops, and other events are taking place throughout the year. Museum of Anthropology Director **Carla Sinopoli** is coordinating the campus-wide theme year and our museum is involved in many theme year events. Our curators, research, and collections are featured in two new exhibitions in the Exhibit Museum of Natural History: "Archaeology!" (see below) and "Collecting for Science," an exhibit highlighting the scholarly contributions of the four LSA research museums (Anthropology, Herbarium, Paleontology, Zoology). We are also hosting behind-the-scenes open houses and Collections Manager **Karen O'Brien** is working with Todd Gerring (Kelsey Museum) to coordinate the "Day at the Museum" lecture series for winter 2010, which features museum careers and museum professionals from around the campus. Curator **John Speth** presented a Saturday Morning Physics Lecture on big game hunting in human evolution to an audience of several hundred on October 24, and Carla Sinopoli and Research Scientist **Lisa Young** presented a workshop sponsored by the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching on "Teaching In, With and About Museums" to a packed room of more than 60 attendees.

Throughout the year, other speakers and events will highlight the contributions, complexities, and challenges faced by university



Curator Richard Redding helps a young visitor identify a fox bone at the October 10 behind-the-scenes day.

museums in the 21st century. For our museum, most of which lies behind closed doors posted with a sign that reads "Research Wing Not Open to the Public," the theme year provides a wonderful opportunity to introduce ourselves to the public and inform our larger University community about what we do and why we matter.

For a wonderful interactive map of our curators in the field and complete information about all theme year events, please visit:

<http://lsa.umich.edu/museumstheme/>

Archaeology! Current Research in the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology

This new exhibition, a collaboration of the Exhibit Museum of Natural History and Museum of Anthropology, presents ongoing research by UMMA archaeologists in displays that examine both the kinds of questions that contemporary archaeologists ask about the past and the techniques that they use to answer them. Museum research and collections are highlighted in each of the exhibition's five sections: Doing Archaeology; Tools of the Trade; High Tech Archaeology; Archaeology all Around Us; Objects and What They Tell Us; and Archaeology and You. The exhibition was designed to be easily updated and modified and modules will change periodically. Please stop by and view it in the fourth floor gallery in the Ruthven Museums building the next time you are in Ann Arbor.



Collections

This year the Museum was awarded a three-year National Science Foundation Biological Research Collections grant to upgrade storage cabinets and rehouse the collections in the Ethnobotanical Laboratory. Started in 1929, with the hiring of Dr. Melvin Gilmore, the laboratory is the oldest continuously operating ethnobotanical laboratory in the U.S. At the time of its founding, the Lab was unique in its emphasis on identification of archaeological plant remains, and it continues today in this long tradition. In 1945, Volney Jones took over the reins of the Laboratory, bringing a unique perspective to the emerging field of ethnobotany. He was particularly notable for his pioneering work in paleoethnobotany, and began the Laboratory's important commitment to pedagogy. With his retirement in 1969, U-M PhD Richard I. Ford was brought back to run the Laboratory until his retirement in 2007. Numerous scholars were trained in paleoethnobotanical analysis under Ford.

The upgrades to the Laboratory include the purchasing of seventeen archival cabinets for the comparative and archaeological specimens and six new herbarium cabinets. Collection specimens will be rehoused in new clearly labeled boxes and the inventory of

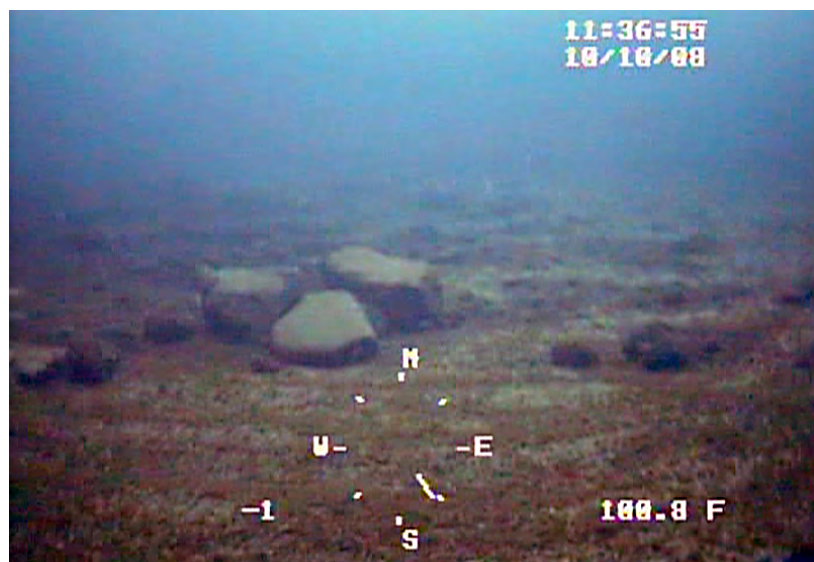
the collections (started several years ago) will continue. As part of the project, we are digitizing the Ethnobotanical Laboratory Reports and inventorying the Gilmore/Jones/Ford library to make materials more accessible to students and scholars. We plan on making all this material available on the website by the end of the project in 2012.

We are delighted to announce a new staff member to the Museum! **Jamie Merkel**, who started work on November 2, was hired to oversee all aspects of this three-year project. Jamie comes to us from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with a degree in Anthropology and Museum Studies from UW-Milwaukee. She has held prior positions at the Milwaukee Public Museum, where she worked on ethnobotanical collections, and at the Art Museum at Beloit College. Please join us in welcoming her to the Museum Community!



Underwater Archaeology cont.

modeling to reconstruct the Lake Stanley causeway as it would have appeared as a dry land corridor, and to determine where to focus their underwater survey. Initial sonar and ROV examination located ancient landforms and rock outcrops—and several potential hunting structures. A 350-meter-long feature snakes along the ridge, a close match for ethnographically known caribou drive lanes in the arctic. Like typical caribou lanes, this construction takes advantage of natural features, modified by the addition of small boulders to fill in gaps and better define the run and by a series of cairns that serve to guide the caribou into the lane. Close by lies a potential hunting pit or blind (pictured here), constructed of three large boulders, with a modified interior.



Research on the Paleoindian and early Archaic periods has been sparse, but high-tech underwater archaeology holds great promise for discovering and examining sites and artifacts from these periods, elucidating the shift from Paleoindian to Archaic. The location and elevation of ancient shorelines may be determined, and bedrock outcrops examined for human exploitation. The preservation of organic material—faunal and floral remains—in Lake Huron's icy water would be particularly invaluable, as such materials are rarely preserved in land contexts. And so the *S/V Blue Traveler*, with its state-of-the-art equipment, continues to ply the lake, enabling John and his team to discover yet more of the ancient landscape that lies below.

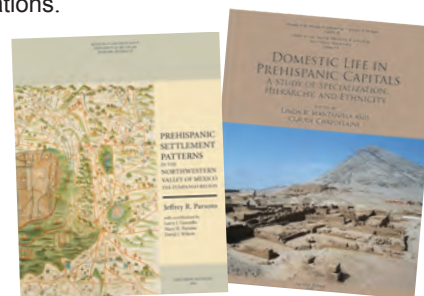
Possible low-walled dwellings or tent rings and other hunting features are also discernible, along with chert outcrops that may yield quarry sites.

Research continued this past summer: the first dive operations were conducted on the ridge, confirming the presence of extensive chert layers within the large rock outcrops. In addition, under the direction of Dr. Eustice, the first experiments using a remote underwater vehicle (AUV) to provide close-in acoustic and visual mapping of features were conducted. UMMA grad students **Eric Rupley** and **Paul Duffy** participated in the survey efforts. In the spring, **Ashley Lemke** will join Eric to participate in the next round of dive operations.

New from UMMA Publications

The Museum of Anthropology Publications program is actively seeking manuscript submissions and queries from authors. Complementing our research foci, the Museum publishes data-rich archaeological and ethnographic monographs in North American, Latin American, Near Eastern, European, African (especially Madagascar), and Asian archaeology and ethnology. Manuscripts are peer-reviewed by a Publications Committee made up of several curators and by the editor. The committee selects manuscripts based on quality of scholarship and writing. Please contact the editor Jill Rheinheimer (jrhein@umich.edu) for additional information or to submit your prospectus or manuscript.

To order publications, see www.lsa.umich.edu/umma/publications.



Memoir 45
Prehispanic Settlement Patterns in the Northwestern Valley of Mexico: The Zumpango Region
by Jeffrey R. Parsons

Memoir 46
Domestic Life in Prehispanic Capitals: A Study of Specialization, Hierarchy, and Ethnicity
edited by Linda R. Manzanilla and Claude Chapdelaine

Visitors

This fall, the Museum welcomes **Dr. Grace Barretto-Tesoro** (PhD 2007, University of Cambridge), Associate Professor of Archaeology at the University of the Philippines. Grace is in Michigan as an ACLS/Luce Fellow in the Archaeology of Ancient Southeast and East Asia, and with photographer Archie Tesoro, is spending four months in Ann Arbor documenting and researching the earthenware ceramics and other materials in the Museum's Philippine Expedition (Guthe) Collection. Grace's research interests include mortuary analysis, ceramic analysis, and identity and status in Philippine prehistory.



William Rendu



Grace Barretto-Tesoro

The Museum also welcomes **Dr. William Rendu** from the University of Bourdeaux. Dr. Rendu is a specialist in archaeology of the Middle Paleolithic, with interests in hunter-gather mobility, seasonality, and zooarchaeology. Will spent spring 2009 in Ann Arbor before returning to France to direct excavations at the important Mousterian site of Chappelle-Aux-Saints. He will be returning to U-M when winter sets in to continue his collaborative research with John Speth on seasonality and subsistence in the Middle Paleolithic Kebara Cave site in Israel.

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

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



Curator's Ball 2009: With the theme "1979" UMMA celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Curator's Ball in April 2009.

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