MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL ARCHAEOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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Change is the only constant for UMMAA's new director

Top: Director Mike Galaty will guide UMMAA through several moves over the next five years. Here, Galaty stands in front of the Shkodra Plain and Shkodra Lake in Albania: he directed field research in Shkodra from 2010 to 2014.

Contents

The new director of the U-M Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, Michael (Mike) Galaty, moved to Ann Arbor from Mississippi State University in July to take up his post. Although moving is stressful, relocating north in midsummer has its benefits, he says.

"The weather is definitely a lot more pleasant here," he laughs. "At MSU we could always tell the new faculty because they would show up at meetings covered in sweat."

Leaving Bulldog territory for the Wolverine den with his wife Sylvia Deskaj, also an archaeologist, and son Dardan (Danny), 2—son Liam, 13, lives in Mississippi with his mom—is just the first in a series of moves facing Galaty. In his five years as director, he will supervise parts of three UMMAA moves: this year, the ongoing move of the Museum's artifacts to the Research Museums Center; in 2018, a temporary move of Museum faculty, students, and staff to the School of Education; and four years later, a permanent move to the Chemistry Building.

Galaty's plans for the next few years also include changes of other kinds—upgrades of the Museum's web and social media presence, a renewed focus on publications, and increased capacity for archaeological science research. In addition, he'll be writing up fieldwork on a previous project and making plans for a survey project in Kosovo next summer.

A gold mask

Galaty spent two decades in the South, at Millsaps College and Mississippi State University, but he grew up a Packers fan in Green Bay, Wisconsin. His grandfather set him on the path to archaeology by taking the young Michael to see the

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King Tut exhibit at the Field Museum in Chicago.

"I was too short to see into the case, and my grandpa picked me up so I could look in," says Galaty. There was the gold death mask of the young Egyptian pharaoh. Looking at it, the seven-year-old realized he wanted to be an archaeologist.

"That was when I knew," he says. "That stuck with me the rest of my childhood."

As a grad student at the University of Wisconsin, he focused on Greek prehistory and archaeological science. He did his dissertation on the chemical analysis of Mycenaean pottery. After Albania opened its borders in 1991, Galaty was one of the first American archaeologists to start working there.

"It was very much a Third World country in continental Europe," he recalls.

Over the next 20 years, he worked at three sites in Albania—in central Albania at the Greek colony of Apollonia, in the Shala Valley in north Albania, and on the plains near Shkodra Lake, the largest lake in the Balkans. His research in the Shala Valley resulted in a book, *Light and Shadow: Isolation and Interaction in the Shala Valley of Northern Albania*, which won the Society for American Archaeology's Scholarly Book Award in 2014.

During this time, Galaty also worked for five seasons on the Diros Project, near the famous Alepotrypa Cave in Greece.

Next year, he'll begin a project on the Kosovo plateau, an area that has never been intensively surveyed. Through a combination of survey and targeted excavations, he hopes to find out more about the trajectory of social change in the region.

"We will try to get a handle on the chronology," he explains.

He is most interested in periods of late prehistory (Late Neolithic to Iron Age)—a time of rapid change. He expects it will be interesting and enlightening to compare Albania to Kosovo. One thing they didn't find in Albania is evidence for state formation.

"You see the rise of complex societies," Galaty says, "[but] the state never forms in Albania…even though they're in contact with states to the south."

Charting a course

At Mississippi State University, Galaty was head of the anthropology department and director of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology. He led strategic planning processes for both the department and the institute, and he hopes to lead a similar process here.

"This museum has been around for almost 100 years, so there's a lot of history," he says. "The Museum's at a critical moment, where charting a course for the future is necessary. I would hope in the coming months that we will start a strategic planning process. It's also an opportune time to do that because we're moving."

He adds: "We are in very good financial shape. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't be planning for the future."

The legacy

Galaty is well aware of the responsibility that comes with his position at U-M.

"The archaeology program here is a great program," he says. "Michigan has always been at the forefront of archaeological history. My goal as director is to build on that legacy and to bolster that legacy for the next 100 years."

To do this, he must consider the needs of the Museum's various groups, from students to donors to curators, as well as the health of the Museum itself and its place in the community.

"We want to do the best job we can for both our graduate and undergraduate students," he says. "It's a national trend that undergraduate numbers in anthropology are slipping. I would like to see those numbers turn around. I see that as part of our responsibility to the public."

One piece of that puzzle, he knows, is a strong social media presence. "If we don't pop up at the top of the list when someone searches on 'archaeology', then we are losing the battle. Archaeologists can provide much needed historical perspective on important issues of the day, whether the dramatic expansion of social inequalities or climate change—we can say how humans responded to these things in the past and predict how they will respond in the future."

Unfortunately, Galaty says, archaeologists don't often take the time or make the effort to explain and publicize their work.

"U-M needs to take the lead in making the case for archaeology," he says.

He sounds like a Wolverine already.

Mike Galaty with his wife, Sylvia Deskaj, and their son Dardan, atop Prizren Castle in Kosovo during a 2016 visit. Fieldwork in Kosovo will commence in 2018.

Our Undergraduates Go to the Field

Nolan Powers

U-M undergraduate archaeology student Nolan Powers on the coast of Peru near Paracas.

My work in Peru was spent almost exclusively in the lab, analyzing and gaining familiarity with artifacts recovered from Las Huacas. I worked hands-on with ceramics, shells, and weaving tools, but most intensively with textiles. The textiles ranged from small pieces with simple single-warp, single-weft weaving structures to multiple textile fragments sewn together to create possible mummy wraps, to single threads, both Z and S spun. All of these textile terms and structures were unknown to me before my excursion. I was fortunate enough to work with Ph.D. candidate **Jordan Dalton**, both in Peru and during the school year. She helped guide me through any problems I ran into during my time in Peru. Initially, I spent my time in Ann Arbor at the Museum, which gave me the opportunity to focus on a particular area of research. I chose textiles, and with this decision, I began reading about textiles and textile production of the Late Horizon Period (AD 1470–1532).

Working with textiles also meant working with textile instruments found along with the textiles themselves. I cleaned and drew specific spindle whorls that Jordan had picked out for analysis and photography. Spindle whorls are oval objects placed on a spindle to help maintain a consistency of speed while producing textiles. It was impressive to see the detail and individuality of each whorl, while at the same time each was crafted into a near perfect and symmetrical oval. It was important to document and analyze these specific whorls. More than 400 whorls were recovered at the site; they were made from clay, stone, copper, and bone. I also consulted reference books on many other artifacts recovered from the site. This included shells, their anatomical structure, and the location where they may have come from. This offered insight into networks or uses of the shells, food, or decoration. I also viewed and photographed a fishing net that was recovered from Las Huacas. The fishing net was interesting because it was a large and intact piece of thread workings with intricate knots. I reviewed traditional knots used in the area and attempted to replicate the knot to try and decipher the exact type of knot used for the net. These are just a few examples of other artifacts I was able to observe and examine aside from my main objective of textiles.

During my time in Peru, I also visited other sites in the Chincha Valley and surrounding areas. These sites included La Centinela, which had served as an administrative complex for both the Inca and the local Chincha, and Cerro Azul, a site that I had read about before coming to Peru. We were fortunate enough to have a guide and archaeologist named Rodrigo help us through Cerro Azul. The site is right on the ocean and it was another living/ administrative center for coastal people. Both of these sites act as great comparative resources for my understanding of Inca and Chincha culture. Many similar artifacts have been reported on and uncovered at these sites.

I plan to take all the data I got in Chincha from the cloth and textiles and use it to write my senior thesis. The large pieces of fabric offer an interesting view into the past. By focusing exclusively on these fabrics, I believe significant information can be revealed. I am thankful for the Hays Family Endowment and the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology for granting me the funds to explore my academic opportunities. I am very fortunate to have gone on this academic trip, where I learned what it means to live in a place entirely different from my own and meet new people and discover their stories.

Our Undergraduates Go to the Field

Kristin Cimmerer

With support from the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology and the Ford Research Fund for Anthropological Study of Humans & Environment, I was able to spend six weeks abroad this summer doing archaeological field work at Spitzkloof B Rock Shelter in South Africa. The excavation at this site is part of the Adaptations to Marginal Environments in the Middle Stone Age (AMEMSA) project, which is directed by Genevieve Dewar of the University of Toronto and **Brian Stewart** of the University of Michigan. The goal of the project is to understand how early modern humans survived in sometimes inhospitable African environments. For a little over a month, I got to experience a bit of what one of those environments might have been like. A couple days after landing in Cape Town, the field team embarked on an eleven-hour drive north into the Namaqualand region of South Africa. After leaving the Western Cape, the lush Fynbos vegetation quickly gave way to seemingly endless miles of red desert earth. The sun had already set by the time we reached the site, and by the light of a nearly full moon, we quickly set up the tents that would be our homes for the next several weeks.

The road to the Spitzkloof rock shelters (A, B, and C), in the Richtersveld region. AMEMSA has been excavating at Spitzkloof B, the second largest, for the past five years.

Most days we woke up at dawn to the sound of chattering birds and gurgling crows (and sometimes hooting baboons). Mornings in the valley were cool and misty as we ate breakfast in our makeshift kitchen, which was actually Spitzkloof A, the first and largest of the three rock shelters on the site. For nearly a week after we arrived, the entire field team worked together in and around the 2 x 2 m trench. The students cycled through stations where we first learned the basics of archaeological procedures. I observed and assisted experienced excavators dig; I recorded detailed information for their context sheets; I sieved, sorted, and bagged archaeological material; and I learned how to operate the electronic instruments that aided us in the excavation process. When it was finally time to get into the trench ourselves, the directors and team members patiently helped each of us navigate the units we were digging. Throughout the field season, I became more accustomed to sensing changes in the deposit, though that didn't prevent me from worrying that I would blow through ten contexts with a single scrape of my trowel every time. I now have a new appreciation for how slow and meticulous rock shelter archaeology can be. Additionally, Genevieve and Brian helped us to recognize and identify the artifacts we exposed, such as lithic tools and a variety of animal bones, explaining to us the implications of our findings as we went along.

Kristin Cimmerer excavating at Spitzkloof B.

On our days off we finished extra sorting and context sheets and then hiked beyond the valley. To the south were rolling foothills and to the north was a broad plain that swept out as far as the eye could see. You could walk for 20 km (which we did one day) and only find traces of the pastoralists who occasionally brought their herds through. We were hours from the nearest city, removed from the world and its light and noise and our technology. At the end of the day, we gathered around the fire to eat an invariably delicious dinner (not just by desert standards) cooked by volunteers from the field team. Every Sunday, U-M graduate student **Kyra Pazan**, who is an amazing chef in addition to being an excellent archaeologist, prepared a series of handmade pizzas for Pizza Night. As remote as we seemed to be in our corner of the Richtersveld, I ate finer food and shared better company there than at any other time in my life.

Our directors also allowed us the time and freedom to cultivate our own research projects for the papers we wrote at the end of the field season. From the collection and analysis of animal remains found on survey to experiments cooking ostrich eggshell, everyone was able to investigate and pursue an aspect of the field school that interested them. We even got to open our own trenches in the dry river bed below the shelter. I chose to look at the archaeological uses of ochre and delved into questions surrounding our species' behavioral origins. My archaeological interests have further crystallized as a result of my time at Spitzkloof B. I'm more excited about my future as an archaeologist than I have ever been before, and for that I cannot thank the Museum, the Ford Research Fund, and my mentors—Genevieve, Hugo, Brian, and Luca—enough.

Our Undergraduates Go to the Field

Daniel Hansen

I am very grateful to have received an award of $2,000 from the Carl E. Guthe Endowment through the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology to allow me to participate in the Hågerup Bioarchaeology Field School in Denmark this past summer. The program was offered through the Institute for Field Research (IFR) in collaboration with the University of Southern Denmark, Øhavsmuseet, and the University of Toronto.

The field school is responsible for the excavation of the medieval cemetery at the village of Hågerup, about 30 minutes outside of the city of Odense, on the island of Funen. The cemetery and its associated church were used continuously from the 12th century CE until the Protestant reformation of Denmark in 1536. The goal of the field school is to excavate the entire cemetery, providing one of the largest samples for paleodemographic research in Denmark and northern Europe in general. The excavation is projected to continue for many years to come, and I had the unique experience of participating in its first season. Throughout the season, we made Odense our home base. ADBOU, at the University of Southern Denmark, provided our lab and classroom space, as well as some incredible faculty, including George Milner and Jesper Boldsen, to provide insight and instruction.

We began the program with an accelerated course in osteology, at the end of which we were able to identify almost all bones of the human body, as well as estimate sex and age. As part of this instruction, we explored the history of age and sex estimation and the flaws in the modern methods, especially concerning age. Professors Boldsen and Milner lent their insights here, as they are working on developing a radical new method of age estimation. Although I do not intend to pursue a career in bioarchaeology in particular, I feel that this course in osteology has helped prepare me for "on the spot" learning, which any archaeological career requires. I have also been able to employ my knowledge of human anatomy and taphonomy to my own honors thesis research on mortuary practice.

Daniel Hansen at the Hågerup Bioarchaeology Field School in Denmark.

After our week of classroom work, we spent four weeks doing practical laboratory and field work. In the lab, we cleaned the human remains that were brought back from Hågerup and took inventory of the bones. We also scored variables for age, sex, pathology, linear enamel hypoplasia, and other items of research importance and entered them into our database. Field excavation was directed in the Danish tradition, which is considerably different from archaeological experiences I have had in North America. I was drawn to this program because I intend to work in northern Europe on cultures of the Middle Ages, and I wanted experience in a more European tradition. The tempo of excavation was much quicker than I had anticipated, and because archaeological material is so much more common in Denmark than in the U.S., we were under no pressure to save every lithic flake we found. Having experience on both sides of the Atlantic, I am now better able to draw the best practices from each.

I believe this field school has been a pivotal moment for me as an archaeologist. It was my first extended experience abroad, an experience I look forward to enjoying many more times throughout my career. I have also made some great friends in the field, many of whom are peers but some, like the ADBOU faculty, I look up to as academic role models. I look forward to following the research of this project and of all the people I have met during my experience in Denmark. Without the help of this award from the Museum, I would not have been able to do this field school at all, and for that assistance I am extremely grateful.

The Hågerup Cemetery is so dense that graves were often cut into existing burials, resulting in situations like this, with the cranium of one individual in the torso of another.

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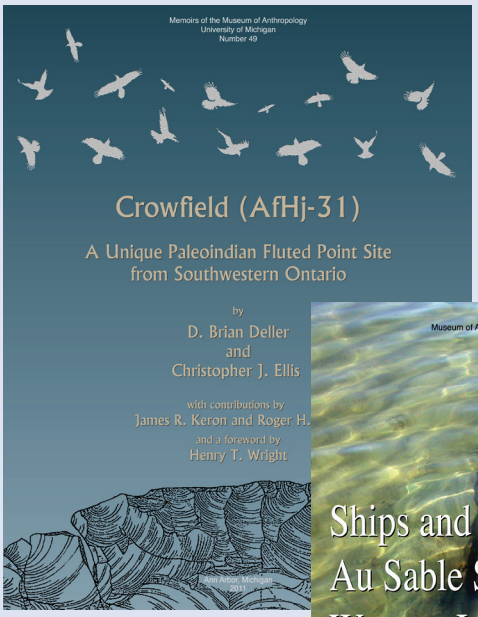

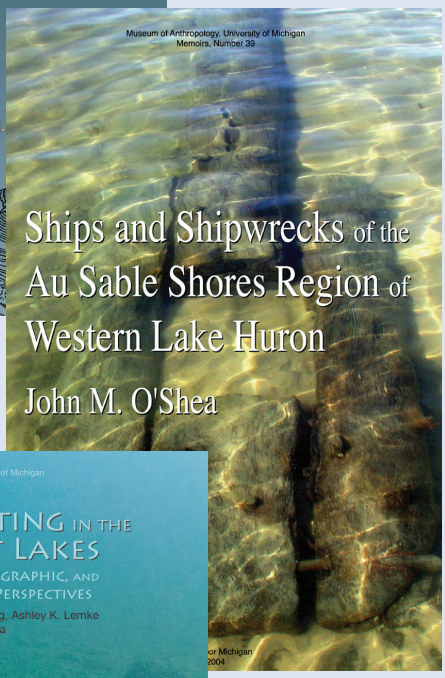

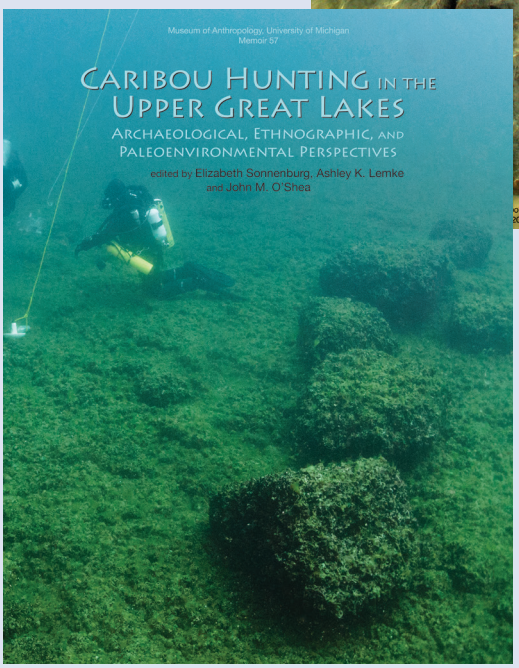

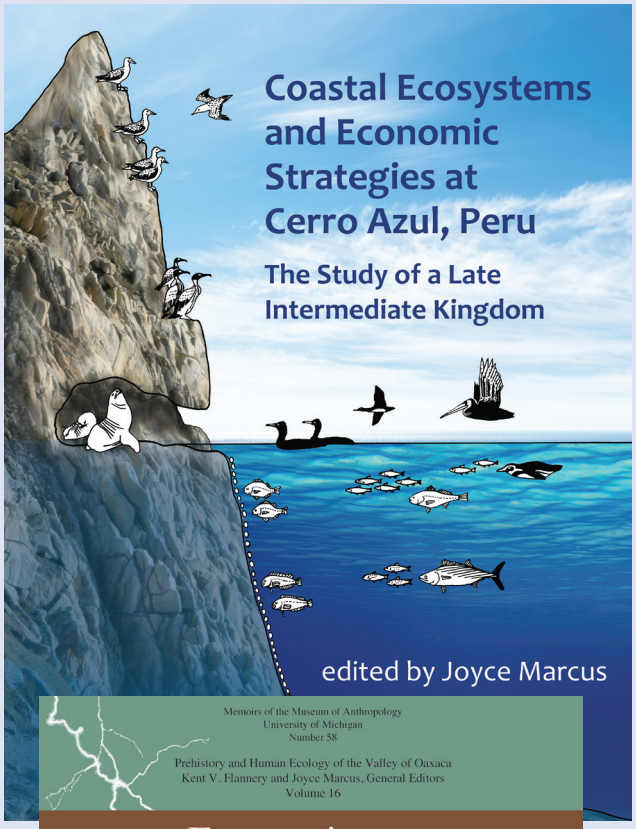

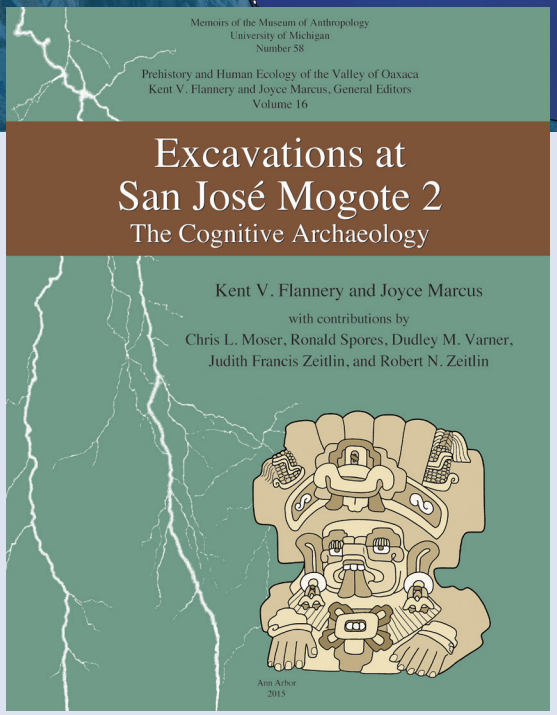

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Graduate Students in the Field

James Munene (right) working on the total station at Mertenhof Rock Shelter, Western Cape, South Africa.

Africa

James Munene, a second-year graduate student, traveled to South Africa and spent two weeks at the University of Cape Town, where he and a research team from the University of Wollongong, Australia made three-dimensional models of chipped stone using a scanning machine. He also joined a four-week-long fieldwork project in Western Cape, where he worked on the Mertenhof Rock Shelter excavation, a cave with Middle and Late Stone Age sequences. Munene carried out extensive surveys for sources of silcrete, one of the raw materials exploited by the site occupants. He also invested three weeks of the summer analyzing lithics at the National Museums of Kenya and visiting several interesting archaeological sites along the Kenyan Rift valley.

Kyra Pazan traveled to South Africa with the AMEMSA (Adaptations to Marginal Environment in the Middle Stone Age) Project to work in Spitzkloof, a valley with a series of rock shelters. She helped excavate the Middle Stone Age layers in Spitzkloof B and conducted surface survey at Spitzkloof D in order to better understand the site, its age, and its potential for excavation.

Right: Kyra Pazan mapping Spitzkloof D rock shelter in South Africa.

Graduate Students in the Field

Europe

In the summer of 2017, graduate student **Györgyi Parditka** visited three European countries to expand her knowledge of Bronze Age societies. First, she worked at the Móra Ferenc Múzeum in Szeged, Hungary, where she examined the collection of the Tápé-Széntéglaégető cemetery: this will form part of her pre-doctoral and doctoral research. In August, she worked in Serbia and Romania with **Amy Nicodemus**, an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse who earned her Ph.D. at U-M. They visited the Kikinda Museum in Serbia, where they collected samples from the Ostojićevo Bronze Age site for absolute dating. This visit provided an opportunity to meet Serbian colleagues and extend their knowledge of the area's archaeology. During the rest of August, Parditka joined the Nicodemus-led survey team in Romania, where she helped collect information on Bronze Age settlement.

First-year graduate student **Iride Tomazic** joins us from Slovenia. She is interested in Late Copper Age/Early Bronze Age mortuary practices in the Balkans. She is focusing on what human bones and burials can tell us about the social organization of these societies. She has worked for CRM companies in Slovenia and the United Kingdom and conducted fieldwork in Austria, Serbia, the Republic of Macedonia, Romania, and Hungary.

Graduate student **Jim Torpy** spent the summer excavating in both Cyprus and Ohio. Working with the Athienou Archaeological Project in Cyprus, he assisted in the running of the field school, instructing undergraduates in the techniques of excavation, and supervising a trench. Finds included many pieces of statuary stretching from the late Iron Age into the Roman period, shedding further light on transitions in ritual practice in the rural sanctuaries of the island's central valley.

Colin Quinn defended his dissertation: "The Crucible of Complexity: Community Organization and Social Change in Bronze Age Transylvania (2700–1320 BC)." Quinn is now an assistant professor at Hamilton College.

Graduate student Györgyi Parditka on a tell in Romania.

Latin America

Graduate student **Chelsea Fisher** reports: "I completed an additional five months of fieldwork for my doctoral dissertation at the site of Tzacauil, Yucatán, Mexico. We now have data from half a dozen Late Formative house groups. We conducted intensive studies of the spaces around and between house groups, documenting activity areas and investigating the land-use practices of early Maya agriculturalists. After I finish fieldwork, I will spend time in Mérida, where I will be doing ethnobotanical analyses on Tzacauil materials, writing, and diving into the historical archives in the city. This work is funded by the National Science Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, and the Fulbright-Hays fellowship of the U.S. Department of Education. I look forward to reuniting with the UMMAA community in February 2018."

First-year graduate student **Jennifer Larios** joins us from Los Angeles, California. She received her B.A. from UCLA, where she first became interested in archaeology. As the daughter of Salvadoran immigrants, archaeology enabled her to learn about the indigenous side of her ancestry. Eventually, she decided to take her interest in archaeology to the field. She has worked in Chincha, Peru, for three seasons. Her time there led her to an interest in household archaeology. She is particularly interested in identifying and exploring socioeconomic variability in domestic areas occupied by commoner populations in the Andes and Mesoamerica. She has also worked in Nicaragua and Mexico.

This summer, graduate student **Lacey Carpenter** worked on the analysis of ceramics from two houses excavated in 2016 as part of

Latin America

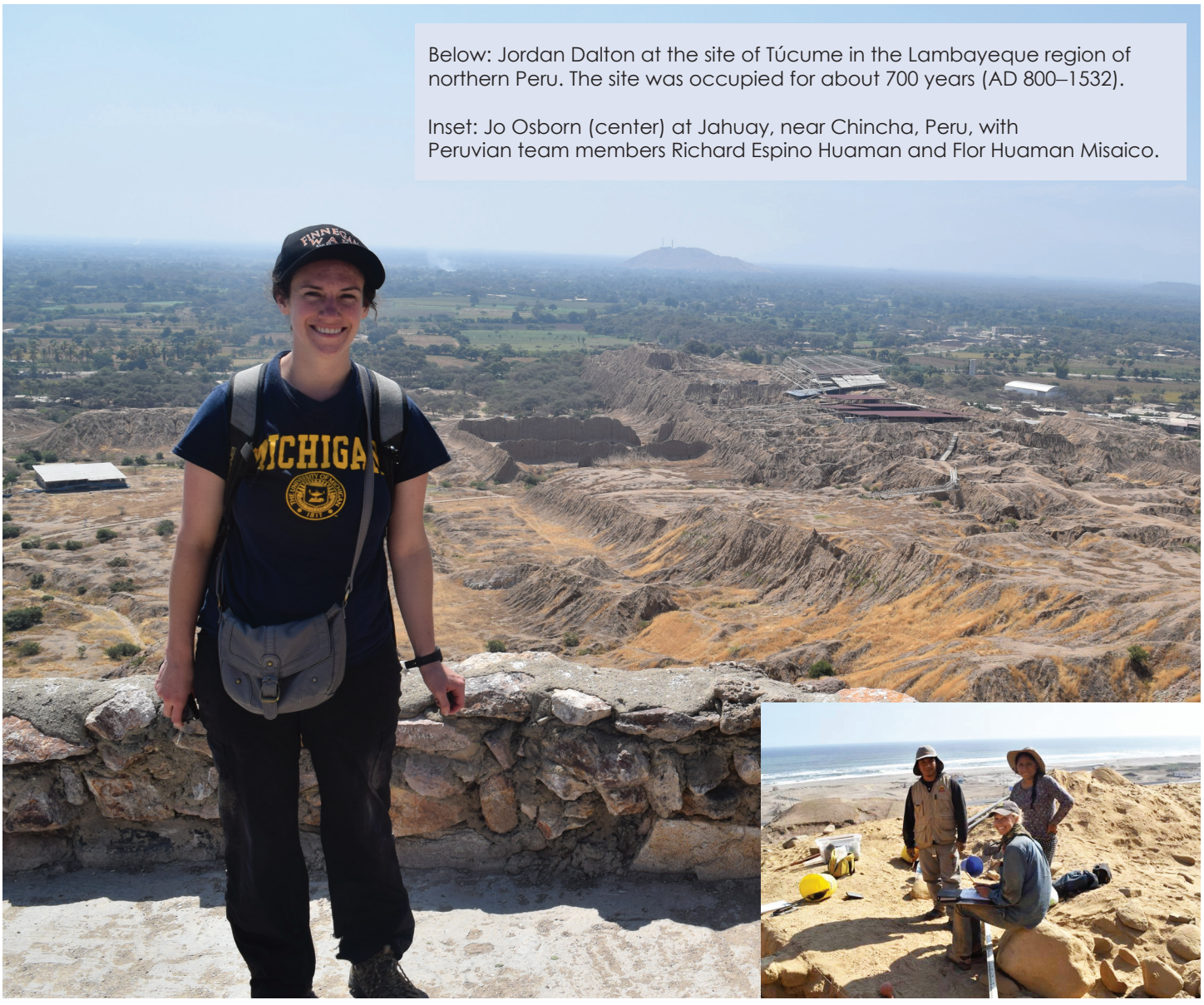
her dissertation research. The materials are from the El Palenque site in San Martín Tilcajete, Oaxaca, Mexico. The site dates to the Late Formative period (300–100 BC), a time of political reorganization and conflict in the Valley of Oaxaca. Carpenter was joined by Arizona State University graduate students Sofía Pacheco-Fores and Jonathan Paige, who conducted analyses of the human remains and stone tools, and by Autumn Melby, an undergraduate from Appalachian State University, who helped with the illustration of ceramic artifacts.

This summer, graduate student **Jordan Dalton** conducted lab analyses on material that she excavated during 2016 at the site of Las Huacas in the Chincha Valley of Peru. Las Huacas is a 105-hectare site occupied before and after Inca expansion (AD 1470–1532). In the lab, Dalton worked with local Peruvian students and two U-M undergraduates, **Anne Sherfield** and **Nolan Powers**. They analyzed ceramics, plant remains, shells, and textiles in order to understand how the site of Las Huacas was affected by Inca expansion. The analyses provided a solid foundation for Dalton's fall 2017 excavation season. Dalton also visited sites on the north coast of Peru, including Chan Chan, Túcume, Chotuna, and the Huacas del Sol y Luna. The trip provided an important comparative framework for her dissertation on the Chincha Valley.

Jo Osborn began her dissertation fieldwork at the site of Jahuay, an Early Horizon (800–200 BC) fishing village near Chincha, Peru. The site is bisected by the Panamerican highway and has been damaged both by looting and by El Niño, but Osborn and her collaborators were pleasantly surprised to find that later occupations, from the Late Intermediate Period (AD 1000–1400) and Late Horizon (AD 1400–1532), protected the underlying Early Horizon materials. Next year she will continue work at Jahuay to further explore Early Horizon subsistence and household organization.

Below: Jordan Dalton at the site of Túcume in the Lambayeque region of northern Peru. The site was occupied for about 700 years (AD 800–1532).

Inset: Jo Osborn (center) at Jahuay, near Chincha, Peru, with Peruvian team members Richard Espino Huaman and Flor Huaman Misaico.



Graduate Students in the Field

Latin America

Second-year graduate student **Lauren Pratt**'s fieldwork took her from the island of Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia to the southern coast of Peru. On Yap, she assisted with survey and excavation investigating the process of human colonization. After crossing the Pacific, she participated in the excavation of Quebrada Jaguay, a Terminal Pleistocene occupation site in Peru.

Lauren Pratt at Quebrada Jaguay in Peru.

North America

Anna Antoniou is continuing her dissertation research on prehistoric Chinookan subsistence in Willapa Bay, Washington. This summer Anna excavated at the Nukaunanlth village site (45PC19), targeting household shell middens. Antoniou was fortunate to work closely with the Shoalwater Bay Tribe on this project. The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is eager to display at their local museum some of the key artifacts recovered from this excavation.

Laura Bossio, a first-year graduate student, spent much of her summer at two sites: the La Prele Mammoth Site near Douglas, Wyoming, with a team led by Dr. Todd Surovell from the University of Wyoming; and the Steel Earthworks Site in Chillicothe, Ohio, with a team led by fourth-year graduate student **Tim Everhart.**

Anna Antoniou at an excavation unit at the Nukaunanlth village site (45PC19), Willapa Bay, Washington.

Above right: Anna's field gear (left to right, from the top): aluminum foil for C^{14} samples, hand salve (for rough trowel hands), Leatherman, metric folding rulers, dust pans, scale/north arrow, measuring tape, exacto knife, camping towel & pillow, hammock, various thermoses, headlamp, unit stakes, aluminum tags, flagging tape, artifact/sample bags, unit twine/string, line levels, plumbobs, pin flags, brushes, tarp, Vitamin C packets, tent, compass, bluetooth speaker, clippers (big), clippers (small), extra rope, waterproof matches, another tent (because I can't decide!), sleeping mat, DSLR camera, caliper, aluminum tube, Sharpies, trowels, handheld GPS, mosquito head net, water purifying tablets, tissues, can opener, hand sanitizer, emergency kit, travel pillow, first aid kit, camping blanket, ethnographies and project reports, dry-bag full of electronics, hiking boots, hip waders. Anna says: "I've yet to master the art of simplified field packing."

Graduate Students in the Field

North America

Ph.D. candidate **Bree Doering** returned to Alaska for three months of excavations at three of her dissertation field sites. Her work yielded thousands of artifacts, including caribou bone, stone tools, and tool production fragments. She also conducted a small-scale excavation with the Bureau of Land Management in the Brooks Range within the traditional caribou-hunting territory of the Nunamiut. Finally, Doering participated in large-scale excavations with Kelly Graf (professor at Texas A&M) and Ben Potter (professor at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks).

Tim Everhart's field season began in Oman with participation in the Ancient Socioecological Systems in Oman project, which seeks to undertand human-environmental interaction in Dhofar. While working to collect paleoecological data and excavating an Iron Age site, he studied a 6000-year history of monument construction in various wadis (dry valleys). During spring and early summer, Everhart continued his work with the Hidden Hopewell Landscapes Project at the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park. He worked on the Hopeton earthwork, where excavation ground-truthed a magnetic anomaly discovered in a landscape-scale magnetic gradient survey. The team discovered that the circular earthwork, which has a diameter of 1000 feet, contained monumental wooden architecture in the form of hundreds of posts

Right: Bree Doering returning from excavations at the Delta Creek site, a deeply stratified multicomponent site in central Alaska. The site is on the bluff behind Bree.

Below: At the Steel Group Earthwork site, Henry Wright collects a flotation sample while graduate student James Torpy examines a piece of fire-cracked rock removed while bisecting a feature.

Graduate Students in the Field

North America

three feet in diameter, encompassing it in its entirety, making it one of the largest wood henges ever discovered. The team also discovered a previously unknown ditch feature running for more than 300 feet. In August, Everhart directed the Woodland Ohio Monumentality Project (WOMP), on which graduate students **Jim Torpy** and **Laura Bossio** also worked. The WOMP project initiated excavation at the Steel Group earthwork for the first time in the site's history. Excavations revealed a variety of features relating to the ceremonial practices of the people who constructed and utilized the site, including a large earth-oven, a clay-lined enclosure ditch, and a wall-trench structure.

Elspeth Geiger split her time between lab work, archival research, and fieldwork. For her August fieldwork, Geiger went to test a potential dissertation site located in northern Michigan. Overlooking Glenn Lake in Michigan's Leelanau County, the Dunn Farm Plateau site is one of a handful of the state's archaeological sites that date to the eighteenth century. Her fieldwork goals were to identify the location of previously excavated units and to determine the state of preservation for the proto-historic component.

Martin Menz excavated several shell ring middens near Tallahassee, Florida, alongside the Southeast Archaeological Center of the National Parks Service. Sites investigated include Byrd Hammock and Old Creek Ring in Wakulla County, both of which have components dating to the Weeden Island I phase, roughly AD 500–800.

First-year graduate student **Brendan Nash** has been analyzing material from the most recent excavations at the Gault site in

Brendan Nash working the screen at a Late Archaic site in central Texas.

Thank you, generous donors!

We hope you enjoy reading about the research done by the students and curators of the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. It is thanks to the support of our very generous donors that the Museum is able to send students on excavation trips around the world. Gifts are critical for our work and our ability to attract the best minds in archaeology, which in turn contributes to our standing as a vital and vibrant museum with a reputation as a leader in our field. Thank you for your support!

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central Texas, focusing on the stratigraphy of the Archaic zones for the site monograph.

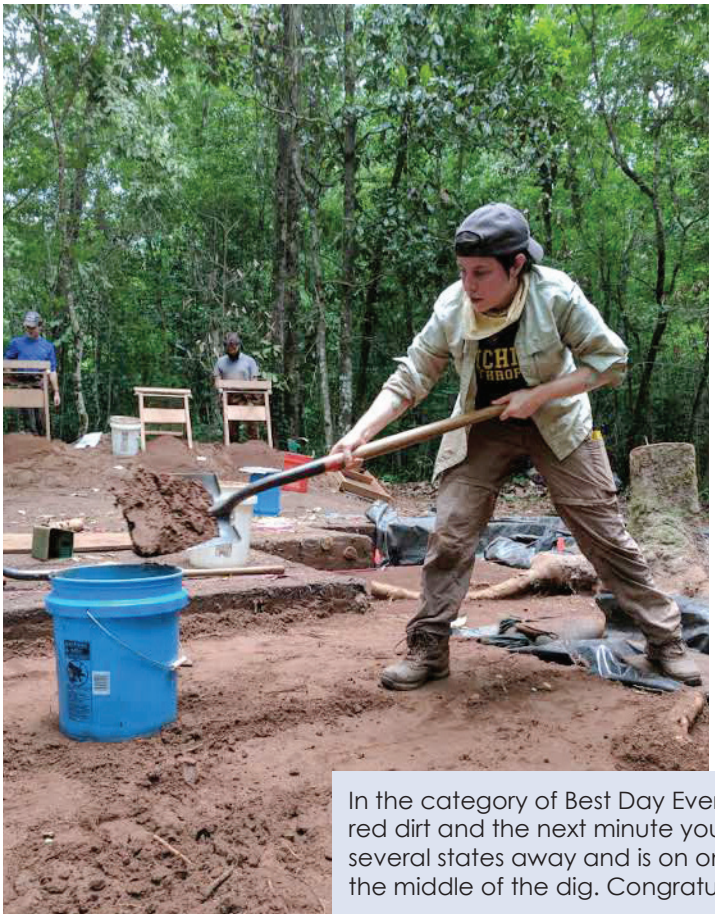
Christina Sampson is writing a dissertation on the organization of a late prehistoric community in the Tampa Bay area of Florida. The Safety Harbor culture has been noted as a time of intensified regional interactions and changing local social institutions, but there have been limited studies of residential contexts. Sampson is analyzing data about food collection, craft production, and the scale and timing of domestic deposits at the Weeden Island site to examine how residents competed and cooperated in daily life.

Kimi Swisher continued working with the University of Georgia at the Mississippian site of Singer-Moye in southwestern Georgia. The Singer-Moye Archaeological Settlement History (SMASH) project and field school is led by Jen Birch and Stefan Brannan of the University of Georgia with the goal of better understanding the occupational history of the site. This season the field school continued the exploration of geophysical anomalies and excavation of a dense midden in what seems to be an elite or ceremonial area dating to approximately AD 1300–1400. During the field season, Swisher was a supervisor for the undergraduate field school students. She will use data collected from excavations to help in her faunal analysis of the midden. She also received a very big surprise while working at the site: her boyfriend, Spencer Moore, flew down to Georgia and came out to the site to propose to her! She said, "Yes!" To learn more about the SMASH project and to see blog posts about the fieldwork, please visit the project's website: https://singermoye.com/.

In Ohio, **Jim Torpy** assisted Ph.D. candidate **Tim Everhart** with the excavation and remote sensing of the Steel Earthwork site as a part of the Woodland Ohio Monumentality Project."

Nick Trudeau continues building relationships with local native Anishinabee communities and their cultural and historic preservation officers. He participated in the Woodland Ohio Monumentality Project, working along with **Tim Everhart** in Ross County, Ohio. He is also working on contact-period societies, particularly the interaction between the French and Iroquois and Potawatomi, combining ethnohistoric and archaeological data.

From May 15 to June 2, **Yuchao Zhao** participated in an archaeological field school in San Marcos, Texas, on the privately owned Way Ranch along the Blanco River. **Ashley Lemke**, who earned her Ph.D. at U-M and now teaches at the University of Texas at Arlington, and Robert Lassen, from Texas State University, led the project. Zhao joined this project as a teaching assistant. Working together with 17 undergraduate students, they completed a ground survey and several shovel tests and opened units in three areas of the site. Preliminary lithic typological analysis indicates that the evidence of hunter-gatherers in this region can be dated to 12,000 years ago. This was Zhao's first time excavating an American prehistoric site and digging a rock shelter. It was also the first time he was a teaching assistant at a field school. This provided him with the valuable experience of teaching and coordinating students in archaeological fieldwork.



In the category of Best Day Ever: One minute you're shoveling red dirt and the next minute your boyfriend has arrived from several states away and is on one knee proposing to you in the middle of the dig. Congratulations, Kimi and Spencer!

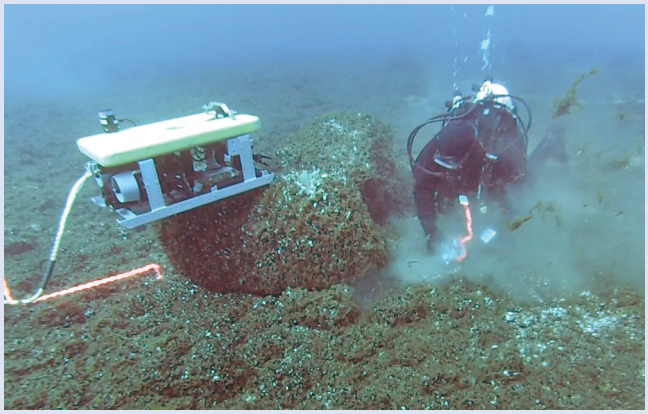
Faculty News

Kent Flannery, curator of Human Ecology and Archaeobiology, reports that one of his long-term projects is nearing completion. He and his Yale colleague, Frank Hole, are pulling together a volume on Cueva Blanca, a cave they excavated in Oaxaca, Mexico. Cueva Blanca was first occupied during the Late Pleistocene (>11,000 BC). It has one living floor from the Early Archaic (calibrated 11,000–9000 BC) and two living floors from the Late Archaic (calibrated 4300–2800 BC). At present, Flannery and Hole are assigning types to the cave's 43 projectile points.

Curator **Raven Garvey** was sad to miss her usual austral summer field season (January-March), but thrilled to welcome a new member of the UMMAA family: Lex Garvey Marshall was born in late May and should be ready to man the backdirt piles when fieldwork resumes in 2018. Meanwhile, Garvey continues lab research, testing, and developing models of technological evolution using Museum collections. She is also working on a book exploring Patagonian prehistory.

Joyce Marcus, curator of Latin America, has been writing up her excavations in Cañete, Peru. Her 2016 book, *Coastal Ecosystems and Economic Strategies at Cerro Azul, Peru*, pulls together all the remarkably well-preserved plant and animal remains from the Late Intermediate sector of Cerro Azul. Marcus and her colleagues discuss how Cerro Azul's occupants collected shellfish, trapped crayfish, and used diverse nets to catch fish; how they dried sardines and anchovies for export; and how they hunted mammals with slings and bolas. The book illustrates the maize, beans, squash, potatoes, cotton, and other plants Cerro Azul received in exchange for dried fish. Other aspects of life at Cerro Azul are described in two articles in *Ñawpa Pacha*. One article, "Studying the Individual in Prehistory: A Tale of Three Women from Cerro Azul, Peru," describes each woman's weaving style. The other, "Barcoding Spindles and Decorating Whorls: How Weavers Marked Their Property at Cerro Azul, Peru," is a study of all the painted and barcoded spindles in each woman's weaving workbasket.

Weaving kit buried with a woman at Cerro Azul, Peru.



John O'Shea, curator of Great Lakes Archaeology, received a major grant from the National Science Foundation for a project involving the digital simulation of Lake Huron as Late Paleoindian hunters would have seen it and comparing present-day Alaskan hunting structures to those from 9,000 years ago.

It's been eight years since O'Shea and his research team discovered the remains of ancient caribou hunting blinds on the bottom of Lake Huron, and they're still exploring the region. In the summer, weather permitting, they use remote underwater vehicles and SCUBA to map the area and find additional structures and artifacts. In 2015, they published a book on their findings: *Caribou Hunting in the Upper Great Lakes: Archaeological, Ethnographic, and Paleoenvironmental Perspectives*.

The innovative use of technology has been a hallmark of this project from the beginning. Now, with the NSF funding, O'Shea will begin a phase of research that promises to take yet another technological leap.

"We've created a virtual world simulation of the Alpena-Amberley Ridge in Lake Huron when it was dry—at the end of the Ice Age," he explains. Bob Reynolds of Wayne State University has developed the software, which will be compatible with a video game platform.

The software is just the first step of the project, though. Once it's ready, the research team will show it to experts.

"We'll bring traditional caribou hunters from Alaska and have them enter this virtual world via augmented reality," says O'Shea. The next step will involve the U-M team traveling to Alaska to view similar hunting structures used by ancient hunters in the Arctic.

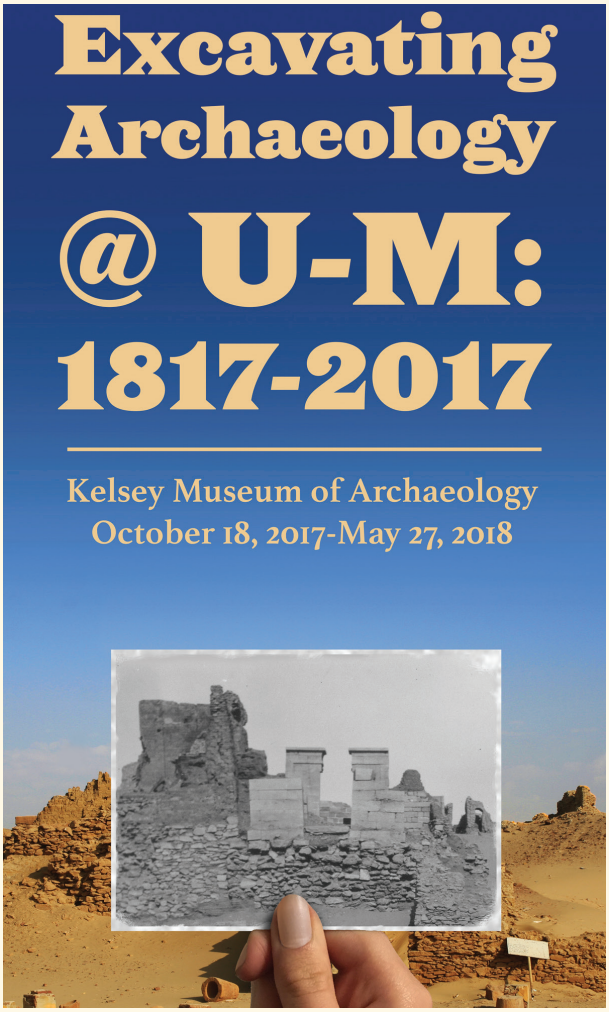
Ultimately, the goal is to better understand how caribou and hunters would have moved through the landscape in the Paleoindian era. This will inform how O'Shea and his team interpret the structures on the bottom of Lake Huron and perhaps guide them to places where other discoveries await.

Curator **Carla Sinopoli**'s archaeological research on Iron Age and Early Historic South India has been on the back burner in 2017 as she juggled multiple projects related to the U-M bicentennial. The University of Michigan Press published the book she co-authored with Kerstin Barndt: *Object Lessons and the Formation of Knowledge: The University of Michigan Museums, Libraries, and Collections, 1817-2017*. She also co-curated, with Terry Wilfong, an exhibit about 200 years of archaeology at U-M. The exhibit runs from October 18, 2017, to May 27, 2018, at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology (poster, right). In addition, she researched and wrote most entries for a web project, 200 Objects in 200 Days, that ran on the UMMAA website from March to October. Each day for 200 days, the Museum posted a news article on an artifact from the collections. See the archived project in Recent News at lsa.umich.edu/ummaa.

Sinopoli is also a member of a Humanities Collaboratory project with colleagues from Asian Languages and Culture, History of Art, and the University Library. They are researching the travels of an eighth-century Korean Buddhist monk named Hyecho. The project will result in an app, book, and website, and an exhibition at the Freer Sackler Museum of the Smithsonian, which opens on December 9. The team will travel to Korea and Japan in November to visit sites and museum collections of artifacts from Hyecho's period.

With U-M alumnus Kostalena Michelaki (now an associate professor at Arizona State University), Sinopoli is working on a long-overdue second edition of her 1991 book, *Approaches to Archaeological Ceramics*.

She plans to return to India in 2018 to conduct additional fieldwork with colleagues Andrew Bauer (Stanford University) and Peter Johansen (McGill) near the ancient site of Maski.



Curator **Brian Stewart**, who works on early human sites in Africa, won a large NSF grant for an excavation at a Middle Stone Age site and a survey aimed at understanding landscape dynamics.

In the mountainous southern African country of Lesotho, there are many sites rich in archaeological material from the Middle Stone Age—roughly 300,000 to 25,000 years ago. Stewart has excavated two such sites, Sehonghong and Melikane, for nearly a decade. With half of the NSF grant, he will excavate a third site at the headwaters of the Orange River: Ha Soloja.

At Ha Soloja, excavations in the 1970s uncovered stone tools dating to 60,000 years ago. The tools—crescent-shaped blades with distinctive backs—closely resemble tools found in Europe. But the European tools date to the Mesolithic: about 8,000 years ago, or more than 50,000 years later than the African tools.

"Ancient Africans were serious innovators," says Stewart. "The deposit at Ha Soloja goes three meters deep. It could be 100,000 or 200,000 years old. So that's attractive, that there could be such antiquity in this highland environment."

With the other half of the grant money, Stewart and his team will do an extensive survey of the area. Their goal is to gather enough archaeological and environmental data to allow them to understand larger patterns of landscape use and climate change.

"We are trying to reconstruct the climate," he explains. "We know people left the rock shelters, sometimes for 10,000 years or more—but why?"

Looking out from one of the many rock shelters surrounding the high Sehlabathebe Basin in the Maloti-Drakensberg Mountains of Lesotho.

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Graduate student Laura Bossio excavates the fill of a 2,000-year-old ditch at Steel Group Earthworks in Ohio.