



## Dr. Laura DeLind Awarded Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Laura DeLind has been awarded the prestigious “Richard P. Haynes Distinguished Lifetime Achievement in Agriculture, Food and Human Values Award” at the June 2014 Agriculture Food and Human Values Society (AFHVS) Conference. The honor recognizes a member of the society who has made outstanding contributions in recognizing the goals and values of the association over the course of their career through research, teaching, outreach and public service. Her colleagues note:

[Laura is] “one of the matriarchs and innovators of sustainable food and agriculture in the United States.”...“What I find so impressive is that Laura embodies the sciences, the humanities, and service in her work and her life. She is an anthropologist, an artist, and an activist. She is therefore, not surprisingly, a keen observer of the world around her – both nature and people.” ...“Laura’s solidly principled commitment to full community involvement

exemplifies a life’s work as a true scholar-practitioner who has made so many outstanding contributions and continues to make contributions to the goals and vision of the AFHVS.”

Dr. DeLind has served on the AFHVS Council, was elected president in 1998, served as editor-in-chief of the society’s journal from 2004 to 2006, and has been instrumental in moving the society from Gainesville, FL to MSU.

Dr. DeLind began her graduate work in anthropology at MSU in 1969 under the mentorship of Dr. Joseph Spielberg. Through a research assistantship in the mid-70’s she interviewed family farmers and “hobby” farmers and found that she admired their determination

and ingenuity. When the farm crisis of the 80s hit, she took issue with claims that blamed small farmers for their troubles and labeled them “poor managers.” This prompted her to study the economic and political structure of the agri-food system, in order to better



## Message from the Acting Chair: Dr. Laurie Medina

Greetings! I am serving as Acting Chair this year, while Jodie O’Gorman is on sabbatical.

This newsletter presents just a sampling of the achievements of department faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, and alums – awards won, films debuted, research funded, books published. We hope you will share news of your achievements with us for posting to our webpage or inclusion in future newsletters.

I want to share with you the outcome of the department’s recent self-study and external review. In the course of this review, department faculty identified five thematic areas that represent our current collective strengths, reflecting significant intersections in our varied research trajectories.

- Anthropology and Environment focuses on interrelationships among cultural, political, economic and natural systems using archaeology, socio-cultural, and biological data to address human perceptions of, interactions with, and management/modification of the environment, especially as these processes intersect with social inequalities.

- Medicine, Health and the Human Condition critically examines factors affecting human health and development, and the ways health may be challenged or maintained. Faculty analyze socio-economic contexts, developments in science and technology, biological responses to environmental change, and diverse beliefs and traditions, in order to better

understand the conceptual, structural and practical contexts of human health.

- Cultural Heritage and the Politics of Representation engages culture and identity as objects and sites of political contestation. Faculty from all subfields explore the inter-related areas of cultural heritage preservation and management, knowledge production and identity, and the politics of cultural heritage.

- Forensic Anthropology at MSU is a practice-oriented program recognized as one of the top programs of its kind in the country.

- Finally, a concern for Human Rights cuts across the four other themes. Department faculty pursue research on human rights and transitional justice in the aftermath of mass state violence, on indigenous rights to lands and territories, on indigenous and minority rights to culture and language, on water and development as human rights, and on unequal access to or protection of health as a human rights issue.

Alums will recognize continuities in these themes with earlier configurations; current students will recognize how their courses reflect these strengths. While our focus on environment, health, and forensics articulates with key College and University priorities, our emphasis on human rights and cultural heritage offer contributions to scholarship and practice at MSU that are unique to Anthropology.

## Photography

**Featured Cover Photo:** Taken by Graduate Student Eddie Glayzer of the local transportation in the Tibetan Autonomous Region of China. This photo was taken during his cycling trip across Asia in 2010.

For more information, please visit:  
[crazyguyonabike.com/doc/thecyclingvagabond](http://crazyguyonabike.com/doc/thecyclingvagabond)

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Editorial support from the College of Social Science

Success stories in anthropology come via many different paths. Whether anthropology informs your career, or you are a practicing anthropologist inside or outside the academy, we want to hear from you.

Email: [anthropology@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:anthropology@ssc.msu.edu)

## Dr. Watrall and Dr. Goldstein: Receive NEH Grant

The Department of Anthropology is very pleased to announce that, in collaboration with MATRIX: The Center for Digital Humanities & Social Sciences, Drs Ethan Watrall and Lynne Goldstein have received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to organize an Institute on Digital Archaeology Method & Practice.

The institute will bring 20 participants to the campus of Michigan State University for two 6-day sessions in 2015 and 2016. The ultimate goal of the institute is to build capacity among private sector, public sector, student, and academic archaeologists – especially in areas that fall outside “traditional” digital archaeological practice. The institute also hopes to build the foundation for a networked and intellectually unified community of practice for digital archaeology.

In order to accomplish the goals of the institute, attendance will be open to public sector archaeologists, private sector archaeologists, students, museum archaeologists, and academic archaeologists from both the anthropological and humanist archaeological communities. Sessions will be delivered by a wide variety of internationally regarded experts from the world of classics and ancient history, archaeology,

the digital humanities, museums, and web mapping. The institute is organized along several themes: Field Methods, Data & Linked Data, Geospatial, Scholarly Publication & Communication, Public Outreach & Engagement, and Project Development & Management. While the institute will include sessions on a wide variety of topics, its organizational focus is on a digital project which attendees will be challenged to envision, design, develop, and launch over the course of the institute, with the bulk of the work happening between the two week-long meetings.

In addition, Dr. Watrall and Dr. Jon Frey have received a grant to improve the Archaeological Resources Cataloging System, which is an open-source application designed to introduce many of the advantages of traditional archival research into electronic form. This provides an alternative for archaeological projects that lack a staff of dedicated archivists and encourages collaboration among scholars as well as public interest in a project's ongoing research. The grant allows the team to address several software, design, and sustainability issues, including improved software, interoperability, and community adoption and use.

## Dr. DeLind Award, continued

understand the inequities and paradoxes inherent in industrial agriculture and international trade policies. As an advocate of place-based and democratized food systems, Dr. DeLind initiated several direct farmer-eater projects, which included the CSA: Growing In Place Community Farm. She has worked with Lansing's Allen Neighborhood Center as a food system advisor, helping them establish the Allen Street Farmers Market and urban food programs.

In 2010, Dr. DeLind co-founded The Lansing Urban Farm Project, a 501c3 dedicated to raising fresh produce for urban residents and using food as a vehicle for neighborhood empowerment. Urbandale Farm, which she continues to co-direct, has a live-in farm manager, an apprenticeship program for unemployed and underemployed adults, a veggie wagon for shut-ins, a hoop house for year-round production, and several farmers markets each week. Over the years

many ANP and RCAH students have worked on the farm and engaged with the neighborhood. While at MSU Dr. DeLind served as the co-director of the Michigan Cultural Resources Project from 1980-1982 and was the undergraduate advisor for Anthropology until 2013. In 2007, she joined the faculty of the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities and taught courses in civic engagement and urban agriculture, along with creative workshops that combined the arts and the social sciences.

Urbandale Farm is currently looking for fall interns in case anyone is interested.

For more information on Urbandale Farm please visit [lansingurbanfarmproject.wordpress.com](http://lansingurbanfarmproject.wordpress.com)



## Featured Faculty Member: Dr. Gabriel Wrobel

Dr. Gabriel Wrobel began his undergraduate career at Emory University as a Pre-Med student with a strong background in biology. He quickly realized that this wasn't the right path for him- he wanted a career that included travel to exotic places and immersion in unfamiliar cultures. Through a mentor at Emory, Dr. George Armelagos, he cultivated his interests in science and travel into a passion for bioarchaeology, and travels to Mexico and Belize helped to solidify his regional interest in the Maya. Dr. Wrobel completed his PhD under the guidance of Dr. Della Cook and Dr. Ann Pyburn at Indiana University, and his dissertation examined epigenetic traits in the dentition of the Maya. From 2004 to 2011, he was part of the faculty of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Mississippi.

In 2005, Dr. Wrobel began his field school as part of the Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance Project, which for several years he co-directed with Dr. Jaime Awe, the director of Archaeology for Belize. Here he had the opportunity to lead a field school at a rock shelter he had visited as an undergraduate. Four years later, Dr. Wrobel struck out on his own and launched the Central Belize Archaeology Survey (CBAS), where he has continued to direct investigations focused on a variety of cave, rockshelter and civic-ceremonial sites.

In 2012, Dr. Wrobel joined the faculty in the MSU Department of Anthropology, and in 2013 he directed his first MSU-based field school. It was a great success and included 20 students, and the upcoming 2015 field school program is currently accepting applications. The project area covers a good portion of two different river valleys and Dr. Wrobel hopes to conduct a Lidar survey of the region to determine connections between the known archaeological sites and discover new locations for investigations. In particular, Dr. Wrobel is interested in using this region to address questions of

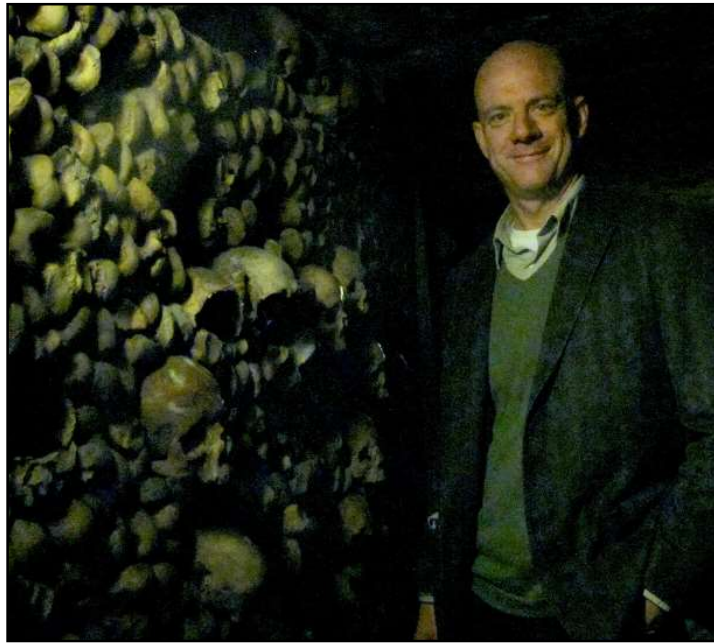
how local groups were using rock shelter and cave mortuary sites as a way to demarcate boundaries and negotiate political power.

Since joining the MSU Department of Anthropology, Dr. Wrobel has been working to establish a strong bioarchaeology program on campus. He launched the MSU Bioarchaeology Lab to curate and study several skeletal collections, including ones from his own work in Belize. In the lab, undergraduate and graduate students get

first-hand experience conducting research on human remains, which teaches them important analytical skills and enables them to produce real shareable results. In 2014, Dr. Wrobel organized a session for the Chacmool Conference and secured funding for six MSU undergraduate students to present their original research.

Since Dr. Wrobel has come to MSU, he has played an active role in

helping students to develop their skills and learn to conduct original research projects. He continually involves new undergraduate and graduate volunteers in his research and is always happy to put someone to work in the lab. The field school allows his students to test their craft first-hand and perfect their excavation methods. In the future, Dr. Wrobel hopes to lure alumni to Belize to directly observe some of the dynamic research in which MSU undergraduates in Anthropology are actively engaged. Beyond the field and lab, Dr. Wrobel's recent publications include an edited volume titled "The Bioarchaeology of Space and Place: Ideology, Power, and Meaning in Maya Mortuary Contexts", which investigates variation in social identity found among the Ancient Maya, and an article presenting a unique case of scurvy among the Maya in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.



# New Faculty

The department is delighted to welcome two new faculty members this fall! Dr. Joe Hefner's research and teaching will enhance our program in Forensic Anthropology. Dr. Lucero Radonic's position is part of the university's Water Initiative, which involved some 18 new water-related hires across 4 colleges; Dr. Radonic's research and teaching will strengthen our focus on the environment and human rights.



## Dr. Joseph Hefner

Dr. Hefner became captivated in Anthropology as an undergraduate at Western Carolina University; during his senior year he became increasingly interested in human skeletal remains. Following graduation, he worked as a contract archaeologist throughout the Southeastern United States and then conducted research at Mercyhurst College with Dr. Dennis Dirkmaat. He earned his PhD from the University of Florida in 2007; his dissertation used statistical methods to determine human ancestry using cranial nonmetric trait variation.

As part of MSU's faculty, Dr. Hefner will continue his research and teach courses in forensic and physical anthropology and quantitative methods. He is passionate about working with students in the lab to help them develop a toolkit for analyzing and interpreting human remains. He will continue to examine modern morphoscopic variation and how this can be used to estimate ancestry in a forensic setting. An important aspect of this research is the use of quantitative methods. Dr. Hefner sees this as the fun aspect of his work- taking big data and boiling it down into interpretations that can be shared with others.



## Dr. Lucero Radonic

Dr. Radonic's first interest as an undergraduate was in how people manage their environment. After completing a degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of Texas at El Paso, she realized that to address questions about environmental management, perception, and valuation she needed a different toolbox. That is how she arrived at Anthropology. She got her PhD at the University of Arizona in Cultural Anthropology. Her dissertation research focused on indigenous rights claims to urban resources and the urbanization of nature, its history and politics, in Northwestern Mexico.

At MSU, Dr. Radonic will continue her work in Northwest Mexico and the U.S. Southwest, building on her dissertation research to investigate how government controlled resources like water intersect with indigenous identity politics. In addition to this, she plans to create an urban political ecology lab to train students to conduct ethnographic and environmental studies of the broader Lansing area. Her aim is to provide students an opportunity to use their town as a living lab.

## Featured Retired Faculty: Dr. Kenneth Lewis

Dr. Kenneth Lewis became interested in Egypt and ancient civilizations as a boy, so archaeology came as a natural choice. As an undergraduate at the University of Florida, he majored in Anthropology, coming to appreciate its engagement with a wide range of human behavior past and present. Since then, he has always taken a strong holistic approach, viewing material as the remnants of past behavior of the people who made them and used them. He became interested in Historical Archaeology, because the availability of information about the past, such as texts and maps, enables the evaluation of behavior in ways that cannot be done for prehistory.

Following his undergraduate degree, Dr. Lewis also completed his Masters degree at the University of Florida. His thesis examined a trading post site on the St. John's River and investigated the acculturation of Native peoples through the material remains found there. From 1969 to 1970, his formal education paused when he was drafted and served in the U. S Army. Nevertheless, he maintains that this period gave him time to do a lot of reading.

In 1971, Dr. Lewis began his PhD studies at the University of Oklahoma, where he was introduced to the methods and approach of the processual school. His dissertation, completed in 1975, developed a model designed to explore the nature of colonization in eastern Virginia using documentary and archaeological sources of data. This work served as a basis for his future examination of frontier colonization in the Southeastern and Midwestern United States. A year before finishing his degree, he accepted a position at the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. His work there involved archaeological investigations at historic sites in all parts of the state, which led to his first book on the process of agricultural colonization in comparative context.

While at the Institute he began his work on Camden, a frontier town settled during the expansion of British colonization into the interior in the 18th century. He

completed a number of projects at Camden in the 1970s, conducted a field school in 1981, and led three field seasons in the 1990s. This work gave him a fuller understanding of the process of frontier colonization and the town's role in the settlement of South Carolina. Results of 25 years of work appeared in his integrated volume on the archaeology of Camden, published in 2006.

MSU offered Dr. Lewis a faculty position in 1984, and he has been here ever since. While he continued his research into South Carolina as a frontier area, he also conducted a study of settlement in southern lower Michigan. Employing documentary texts and maps from the 18th and 19th century, he examined

colonization here in a regional context to assess how agricultural expansion was influenced by factors specific to the time and place of the state's settlement. The results of this study, published in 2002, led to his recent involvement in a Michigan Department of Transportation project aimed at assessing the significance of rural archaeological sites in light of regional variation.

Dr. Lewis has frequently involved his MSU students in his archaeological projects, including his work at Camden in 1996-1998 and in 2005 as part of the MSU Sesquicentennial excavation of Saints' Rest, the first dorm on campus. In 2010 he co-edited a volume highlighting the archaeological investigation of academic institutions with his former student Dr. Russell Skowronek.

Dr. Lewis is retiring from the department after three decades. He continues to work in the archaeology of South Carolina. His current manuscript, in press, examines the role of individual agency in shaping the process of frontier settlement and economic and social transition in that region. He contends, "Imagination is important to archaeology: it's easy to follow examples of other people, but with so many questions to ask that other people haven't, it's a still a wide open field in many ways."





# Alumnus Wins Prestigious Teaching Award: Dr. Russell Skowronek

Dr. Russell Skowronek has had a fascination with the past since he was a child in New York City. During this early period of his life, he was awed by museums, National Geographic magazine, and family vacations to national parks and archaeological sites. In high school, he took part in the field-school excavation of a Mississippian temple town in the Illinois River valley, and the following year he participated in an excavation of a French colonial fort on the Mississippi in Illinois.

Dr. Skowronek completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Illinois, where he loved the ability to touch and recognize the past from "the detritus of everyday life". The engaging manner in which his professors taught these classes left him feeling as if he were walking on air and inspired him when he began to teach during his Masters program. He received his MA in anthropology and history at Florida State University in Tallahassee, where he became involved in underwater archaeology and developed an interest in historic Spanish colonial sites, which became the focus of his career.

He began PhD study at Michigan State University in 1983. During this time here, he was inspired by professors Bill Lovis, Larry Robbins, Chuck Cleland, Moreau Maxwell and many others. But his approach towards the past and his research were most influenced by his advisor, Dr. Ken Lewis. Dr. Skowronek's view of the past was shaped by Dr. Lewis' emphasis on looking at not just one archaeological site, but rather considering a series of sites and how they were influenced by broader local and global processes.

During his graduate studies, he was awarded the Ron Hart Outstanding Teaching Award and the Moreau S. Maxwell Scholar Award. As he wrote his dissertation and after he completed his PhD in 1989, Dr. Skowronek

taught at numerous schools around the Midwest, including Purdue University, Fort Wayne, Central Michigan University, University of Michigan, and University of Michigan-Flint. In 1991, Dr. Skowronek received a tenure-track position at Santa Clara University in the Anthropology Department. Over his 18-year career there, he engaged students in archaeological research and published with many

of them. In 2002, Dr. Skowronek received the Brutocao Award for Teaching Innovation and in 2009 he was honored with the Joseph Bayma S.J. Scholarship Award.

In 2009, Dr. Skowronek accepted a position at the University of Texas Pan American in the History and Anthropology Programs, and, at present, he is a tenured professor at this institution. He was hired to help the university create the Community Historical Archaeology Project with Schools (CHAPS) Program, which teaches archaeological, ethnological, biological, and geological methods to students from kindergarten through undergraduate and graduate levels. The CHAPS Program works with the local community of Edinburg to conduct archaeological surveys and excavations of prehistoric sites, take oral histories from the families living in this area, and improve the historical record of

this town.

In recognition of his excellence in teaching, Dr. Skowronek was awarded the prestigious The University of Texas System Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award in recognition of his excellence in teaching. He continues to educate and work at University of Texas, and wants to continue to expand the CHAPS program.



# Dr. Barbara Rylko-Bauer: Documents Holocaust Experience

Dr. Barbara Rylko-Bauer, adjunct associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, recently completed a fourteen-year project that resulted in a book: *A Polish Doctor in the Nazi Camps: My Mother's Memories of Imprisonment, Immigration, and a Life Remade* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2014). This "intimate ethnography" interweaves personal family narrative with historical context to present the century-long life story of her mother, Jadwiga Lenartowicz Rylko, a young Catholic physician in Poland when WWII broke out. She was arrested for political reasons in 1944 and spent 15 months in three concentration camps and on a 42-day death march. Much of this time, Jadwiga worked as a prisoner-doctor in two Jewish slave labor camps. The last third of the book, titled "surviving survival," examines the consequences of such experiences and how Jadwiga remade her life, first as a refugee doctor and later as an immigrant to the US, where she was unable to get licensure and instead worked as a nurse's aide at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Dr. Rylko-Bauer's undergraduate training was in microbiology. After working in immunology research at the Universities of Michigan and Kentucky, she decided to pursue her growing interest in women's issues. While exploring directions for graduate studies, she took an introductory course in anthropology with Dr. Susan Abbott. She was so impressed by the uniqueness and value of anthropology's holistic and emic perspectives that she enrolled in graduate studies at the University of Kentucky, earning a Master's and Ph.D. in applied and medical anthropology.

During her graduate training, Dr. Rylko-Bauer moved to Grand Rapids in 1980 and a year later began conducting dissertation research on freestanding walk-in medical centers and the changes they heralded in U.S. health care delivery. The MSU department of anthropology was an important "second academic home" during these years. After receiving her Ph.D.

in 1985, Barbara taught occasional courses in the department, served on doctoral committees, and did collaborative research with Dr. Ann Millard. With Dr. Millard's encouragement, Dr. Rylko-Bauer became Medical Anthropology Quarterly book review editor, a position she held for six years.

Barbara's early research interests focused on applied anthropology, medical education, women's reproductive health, and access to health care in the U.S. In more recent years, she has incorporated

political economy and social justice perspectives on issues concerning U.S. health care inequalities, global health, and the intersection of health and violence, as evidenced in her work, *Global Health in Times of Violence*. Barbara serves on the Society for Applied Anthropology's Oral History Committee and is corresponding editor and incoming chair of the American Anthropological Association's Committee for Practicing, Applied, and Public Interest Anthropology.

Barbara currently lives in Grand Rapids and has developed a unique and independent career path. Collaborating with various colleagues, she has published on a number of topics, including critiques of U.S. market-based medicine and recent health care reforms, assessment of the central importance of applied anthropology to the broader discipline, an overview of medical anthropology's engagement with war and political violence, and the intersection of history and memory in writing narratives of the past. Her current research and writings continue in this vein, with a chapter on structural violence in the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Poverty and Society*, and research on the role of prisoner-doctors in Nazi concentration camps.

Dr. Rylko-Bauer's book, *A Polish Doctor in the Nazi Camps: My Mother's Memories of Imprisonment, Immigration, and a Life Remade*, is described in more detail on the website, <http://www.rylkobauer.com>.





## Update from the field: Adrienne Daggett and Ian Harrison

Adrienne Daggett, an Anthropology PhD candidate and Ian Harrison, an Anthropology undergraduate major, have been working on ceramic analysis at the National Museum in Gaborone, Botswana since early September. While this is the latest of several research trips to Botswana for Adrienne, this is the first opportunity for Ian to conduct formal academic research abroad. As a student in the anthropology department, this trip to Africa has enabled him to gain research experience using multiple ceramic assemblages from throughout the Sowa Pan region of eastern Botswana; it has also immersed him in an African context alongside several other local and international academic teams doing archaeological research at the National Museum.

The site under analysis by Adrienne and Ian is Thaba Di Masego, one of several late first-millennium AD sites located on the Mosu Escarpment in northeastern Botswana, which form a settlement complex that is only beginning to be understood. The site is one of only a small handful so far excavated in the Mosu Escarpment cluster and even across the entire Makgadikgadi Pan region. The unusually high carrying capacity of the region, coupled with its dense archaeological record, make it a high-potential research target for understanding how Early Iron Age lifeways developed outside of the “core” of settlement further to the east in southern Africa.

This area can enrich our understanding of Early Iron Age settlement and trade networks, enabling comparative analysis of how Botswana’s Iron Age processes and cultural material differed from (and were similar to) those of other areas within southern Africa, and how landscape and environmental resources shape or are shaped by cultural process. Adrienne’s dissertation examines the subsistence data from Thaba Di Masego – its faunal, botanical, and technological artifacts – in spatial and taphonomic contexts in order to shed light on the interplay among environment, cultural traditions, and behavioral innovation in the Early Iron Age of southern Africa.

The analysis comprised the identification of ceramic types from the archaeological site in northeastern Botswana that Adrienne and her crew excavated in 2012, with the support of a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.



While in Botswana this fall, Adrienne and Ian have recorded several pieces of information for each decorated ceramic sherd in this assemblage in order to identify the types or the specific cultural horizon from which the sherds come. Identification of ceramic types provides critical information for understanding the use history of the archaeological site. It also provides a temporal framework by which to interpret the broader social and economic behaviors represented by the archaeological remains.

Ian’s role in this analysis was to code the decorated ceramic artifacts according to their decorative and morphological attributes, which include decoration motif and placement, profile shape, and rim shape. He worked with Tsholo Selepeng, a graduate of the University of Botswana archaeology department, on this aspect of the project. Ian’s participation in this trip was enabled by funding provided by the Department of Anthropology, the College of Social Science, the Honors College, and the Provost’s Office for Undergraduate Research.

Since completing the analysis, they have had the opportunity to travel around Botswana for a short time to enjoy its incredibly rich cultural and natural resources, including visits to a few Iron Age sites.

# Graduate Students of Anthropology Awards

The Graduate Students of Anthropology are proud to announce the winners of the annual association awards. The 2014 Graduate Students in Anthropology Peer Award has been awarded to Kate Frederick for her superior involvement in the GSA and other department related activities. She has made significant contributions beyond the call of duty to the GSA, has promoted the goals of the department by encouraging teamwork and collaboration, and is truly deserving of this recognition.

The GSA would also like to acknowledge other nominees for the award, including Susan Kooiman, Katy Meyers and Nikki Silva.

The 2014 Jacob J. Climo Excellence in Mentorship Award has been bestowed upon Dr. William Lovis for his distinction in mentorship not only of students whose committees he chairs, but also of other graduate students in the department. In giving this award the Graduate Students of Anthropology recognize

outstanding mentors and remember one such person, Dr. Jacob Climo. Dr. Climo's contagious enthusiasm for learning and broad range of interests in anthropology, combined with this intellectual generosity and genuine interest in student's work, made him an exceptional mentor.

We would like to acknowledge the fellow nominees for the Jacob J. Climo Award, including Dr. Lynne Goldstein, Dr. Heather Howard, Dr. Linda Hunt, Dr. Mindy Morgan and Dr. Jodie O'Gorman. By being nominated, they have been recognized by graduate students for exhibiting the traits described above.

Award recipients' names will be engraved on plaques located in the Department of Anthropology Office in Baker Hall. Thank you to everyone who made nominations and voted for these awards and to all the nominees.

## Graduate Student Grants and Fellowships

**Ashley Kendall** was awarded a Smithsonian CIC Fellowship to support a year of research in residence at Smithsonian Institution facilities. The fellowship funds will be used to support the data collection phase of her dissertation research from October 2014 until October 2015. Ashley aims to accomplish a geographic and temporally expansive analysis and visualization of violence using a large dataset of Arikara-related skeletal materials inventoried at the Smithsonian Institution. Primarily, her work will assess whether or not the standardized data sets recorded at the Smithsonian are useable to investigate traumatic injury in the bioarchaeological record. Because the physical collections and the repatriation laboratory are located at the Museum Center in Suitland, Maryland, this is where she will conduct the bulk of her research.

**Julie Fleischman** was awarded a summer Foreign Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) fellowship to learn Khmer (Cambodian) and the MSU Walker Hill International Award. The FLAS Fellowship awarded by MSU's Asian Studies Center, allowed Julie to travel

to Phnom Penh and spend six weeks learning Khmer at the Center for Khmer Studies. The Walker Hill provided funding for international travel and allowed her to spend an additional week in the country to conduct a small pilot study on the human remains at The Cheoung Ek Genocidal Center.

**Katy Meyers** was awarded the Medieval Academy of American Charles T. Wood Dissertation Grant for her research on Anglo-Saxon England. The grant allowed her to conduct archival research on cemeteries in England during Summer 2014. This data is critical to the analysis stage of her dissertation. Katy's thesis examines the relationship between cremation and inhumation burials throughout England from the mid-5th to early 7th centuries. While mortuary practices in this period have been studied since the 17th century, to date there is no thorough examination of what co-occurrence of cremation and inhumation in these cemeteries indicates.



## Student Film by Syazana Amirulmokminin

Just a year ago, Syazana Amirulmokminin added a major in film production to her major in Anthropology. The next semester, she created a short documentary that supplemented her research in ANP 429: Ethnographic Field Methods. It turned out that film production and anthropology worked well together.

Finding a research topic for her ethnographic project was easy enough. Syazana's lifelong interests in race and identity led her to focus her research project on the subject of biculturalism in first generation American students at MSU. As an Asian-American immigrant herself, she wanted to understand how other first generation students on campus construct their racial identities in the United States. How do they adapt their identities to different cultures both at home and in other parts of their lives? Do they have to sacrifice certain aspects of their identities in different situations? Ultimately, what does it mean to be an "American?"

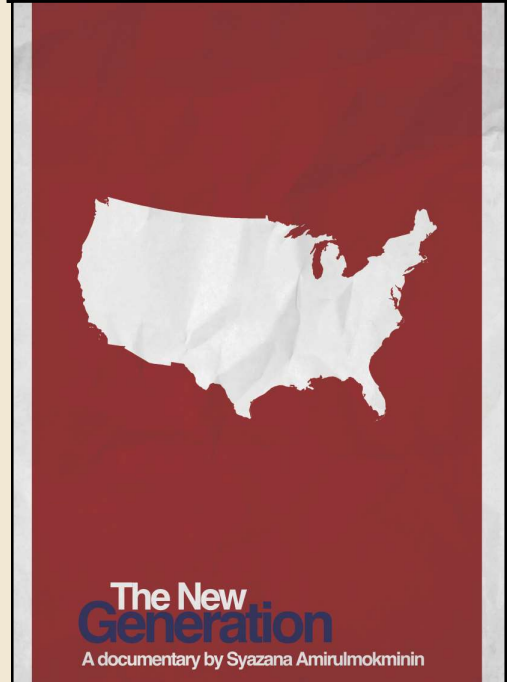
Armed with the knowledge gained in one proper film production course and a summer session of a flyby introduction to audio and video production, Syazana decided that a 4-5 minute

documentary would be a perfect accompaniment to her ethnographic project, particularly because her

research participants would be able to explain their thoughts and ideas in their own words. Armed with her DSLR, an audio recorder and lavalier mic, her mother's tripod, and a reflector made out of aluminum foil taped to a poster board, she set out to film her documentary by herself.

After submitting her completed work to several film festivals, The New Generation has been selected to screen at three festivals. At the Made-in-Michigan Film Festival in Frankenmuth, Syazana's film was screened on October 4th. The New Generation was also screened on the weekend of November 1st in the East Lansing Film Festival's Lake Michigan Film Competition. The film will be shown at the Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival on November 22nd, as well.

Each of these film festivals offers a different perspective and provides a unique environment for screening the film. As a young filmmaker, Syazana is thrilled to have her documentary screen in the first film festivals of her career.



## Undergraduate Anthropology Club Update

This year, the Undergraduate Anthropology Club is focusing on growing the membership of the group. During the Fall semester, they will sponsor talks from several faculty members, including new forensic anthropologist Dr. Joe Hefner, as well as its annual Graduate Student panel. New this year is an alumni panel and reception hosted by the Department. This event will give current undergraduates the opportunity

to learn about the career paths forged by several alumni. The club is also hosting coffee hours every other week to provide an opportunity for Anthropology majors to socialize with one another. The club plans to return to the Field Museum in Chicago in the spring, and members will attend several professional conferences this year including the AAAs, AAFS, and the SAAs.

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East Lansing, MI 48824

## Save the Date!

### AAA MSU Alumni Gathering

During the 2014 meeting of the American Anthropological Association, the MSU Department of Anthropology will host a reunion and gathering for alumni, current students, faculty, and friends of the department.

Thursday, December 4, 2014  
8:30 PM-10:30 PM

Delaware Suite B  
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  
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