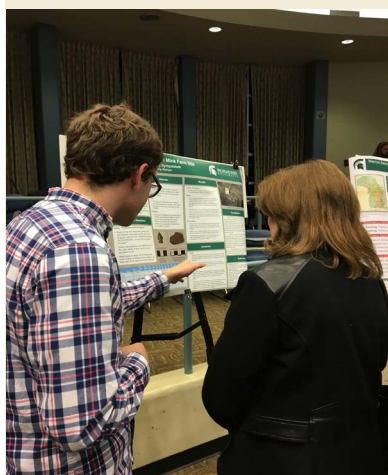


Undergraduate Research Symposium and Showcase



The Department of Anthropology held its First Annual Anthropology Research Symposium and Showcase for Undergraduate Students on Thursday, December 7th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. The idea for this symposium blossomed out of conversations between Dr. Fredy Rodriquez and the department chair, Dr. Jodie O'Gorman, about the need to create an open house for our undergraduate students to show off their hard work and excite other students about research. The two quickly agreed that a research symposium and showcase would be the most beneficial for students as a supportive audience of peers, friends, parents and faculty would provide an opportunity for exchange

Mike Gates explains his research, "Lithic Analysis of the Perrin Mink Farm Site."

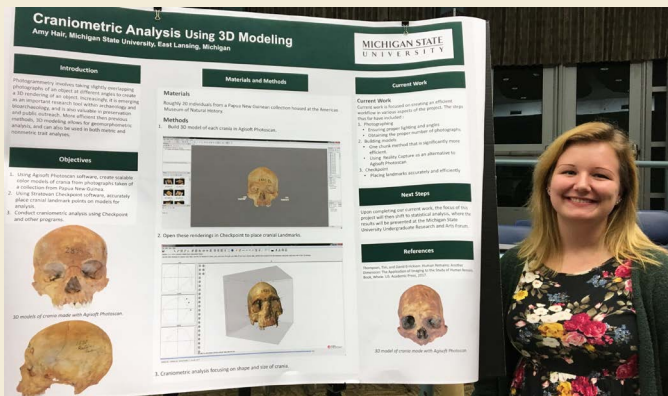


and feedback. Many of the participants then turned their presentations into entries in the larger University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum.

The Anthropology Research Symposium and Showcase offers an opportunity for parents, friends and others to learn more about our undergraduate students' independent

work and collaboration with faculty and graduate students around the university. All anthropology majors, minors and those who had collaborated on anthropological research initiatives with faculty members or independently were invited to participate. The student research projects were displayed in recorded Power Point and poster presentation formats. Dr. Rodriguez and other faculty members mentored students who had never had the occasion to share their research prior to the event. Twenty projects in all were showcased at the 2017 Symposium with research topics ranging from medical anthropology, archaeology, forensic anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, and social media anthropology. Light snacks and coffee were provided, and we are happy to announce that we received close to 120 attendees.

Amy Hair presents her photogrammetry work, "Cranimetric Analysis Using 3D Modeling."



Message from the Chair: Dr. Jodie O’Gorman



This past spring semester in the Department of Anthropology has been a tumultuous time. We’ve celebrated great achievements and made important plans for our future, and at the same time we have been, and continue to be, stunned and outraged by the Nassar scandal. All across campus and in our department,

faculty struggled to cope with the knowledge that the sexual predation that occurred was possible at MSU. Our hearts go out to the young women and their families who came forward and to those who have not yet found their voice. The well-being of our undergraduate and graduate students has been utmost on our minds. Inside and outside of classes, we have been checking in with our students and offering encouragement to come forth with their concerns and needs, but also encouraging them to try to stay the course of their studies. A working group of faculty are turning an anthropological eye toward the MSU community and we anticipate an insightful analysis to share with the world.

We celebrated the amazing career of Dr. Lynne Goldstein in April at her retirement dinner with guests

from across the United States. Symposia were held in her honor at the Midwest Archaeological Conference and Society for American Archaeology annual meetings. A new fellowship fund was initiated in her honor. The Lynne Goldstein Fellowship Fund was established to support Anthropology graduate students with their dissertation research, with preference given to those students who have participated in the Campus Archaeology Program. Contributions to the fund can be made through the department’s giving page <http://anthropology.msu.edu/giving>.

Dr. William Lovis is preparing for retirement as well, and we will celebrate his contributions at his retirement dinner in September. Symposia in his honor were also held at the Midwest Archaeological Conference and the Society for American Archaeology annual meetings. Continuing the tradition of environmental archaeology, the department is proud to announce that we have hired Dr. Kurt Rademaker and he will join us in August. Dr. Rademaker’s primary interests are in hunter-gatherers, settlement of the Americas, lithic technology, geographic information systems, interdisciplinary collaboration and education. He conducts field research in the highlands of the Peruvian Andes.

Our students continue to be a source of pride for the department. Our own Breanna Escamilla was the alumni commencement speaker at the College of Social Science Commencement in May. Be sure to read the story about our College of Social Science Outstanding Senior, Becca Albert, in this issue. And congratulations to all our accomplished undergraduate and advanced degree graduates!

Editors & Contact

Dr. Jodie O’Gorman
Department Chair
ogorman@msu.edu

Nicole A. Raslich
Graduate Student
raslichn@msu.edu

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

Editorial support from the College of Social Science

Email: anthropology@ssc.msu.edu

Featured Graduate Student, Kehli Henry

Kehli Henry, PhD candidate, developed an interest in anthropology early on, deciding to pursue it as her major at Central Michigan University. The nuance of anthropological theory, as well as the attention to cultural factors gave her an appreciation for the complexity within the field. Her previous work with an American Indian tribe allowed her to see the utility of anthropological theory in the issues she dealt with. MSU provided the perfect fit for her graduate studies because of the faculty, and the focus on both medical anthropology and applied work.

Since her undergraduate work, Kehli has been deeply concerned with using an applied and community-based approach to better understand education, drug and alcohol use in American Indian communities, American Indian data sovereignty and data protection, as well as criminal justice and historical trauma. Her dissertation research encompasses many of these topics focusing upon a Midwest American Indian community to document and understand the ways in which the discussions surrounding the “War on Drugs” represent drug and alcohol users, how these representations affect the lives of individual American Indian drug users, and how they affect their community.

While at MSU, Ms. Henry received a University Enrichment Fellowship, giving her the resources to focus on her academic work and research. She also received the Susan Applegate Krouse Graduate Student Fellowship in 2016/17, and a Wenner Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, allowing her to quickly move onto the data analysis phase of her dissertation. Kehli hopes to graduate in the Spring of 2019.

Ms. Henry hopes to offer very applied and practical research, evaluation, and information to the communities she works with, aligning her research with their wants and needs and contributing to the conversation around responsible conduct of research for both partners and participants. She wants to get at the underlying issues surrounding drug and alcohol use and treatment in American Indian communities, to provide information useful to tribal communities in making decisions and to contribute to the destigmatization of drugs and drug users for a more equitable approach to policy and treatment.

Kehli reports that many teachers and mentors,

both inside and outside of the academic world, have contributed to her success. Her husband, parents and grandparents have always been hugely supportive and influential in her approaches to complex issues. Kehli has also been fortunate that

she has had the opportunity to learn from many tribal community members and elders. Her undergraduate advisor at CMU, Dr. Athena McLean had a huge influence in developing her anthropological thinking. Her dissertation committee at MSU has also been very supportive and influential. Dr. Heather Howard, chair of her committee; Dr. Mindy Morgan; Dr. John Norder and Dr. Django Paris have all helped Kehli to improve the ways in which she engages, interacts with, and holds herself accountable to the communities she works with. In addition, the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program and Indigenous Graduate Student Collective (IGSC) have both offered a multitude of opportunities allowing her to grow and learn with other scholars concerned with Indigenous issues and communities.

Kehli gets the most enjoyment out of interacting with American Indian nations/communities in ways that are both useful for them and can inform and develop her own perspectives and understandings. She plans to work directly for American Indian tribes and stay engaged with anthropological scholars and professional organizations after graduation. Outside of her academic research, Kehli is passionate about animals (especially dogs), the performing arts, Major League Soccer, and reading science fiction & fantasy for fun.



PhD Candidate Kehli Henry

Dr. Ethan Watrall Receives Mellon Foundation Grant



Dr. Ethan Watrall

The Department of Anthropology was very pleased to hear that Professor Ethan Watrall, one of the Principal Investigators, was awarded a major grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the project, *Enslaved: People of the Historical Slave Trade*. This project is a collaboration with MATRIX: The Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences, where Dr. Watrall serves as Associate Director, and the Department of History. The \$1.47 million grant is funding the initial 18-month phase of a long-term plan to build and launch an online platform linking and providing access to millions of pieces of data about that transatlantic slave trade drawn from multiple universities, cultural heritage institutions, and scholarly projects.

This online platform will provide unprecedented search and data visualization tools for historians, historical anthropologists, and historical archaeologists interested in the transatlantic slave trade and will be completely open and free to use by scholars and

members of the general public. Dean Rehberger (Director of MATRIX: The Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences; Interim Chair, Sociology ADA Liaison; Associate Professor, Department of History) will lead the project along with Walter Hawthorne (College of Social Science, Associate Dean; Professor, History) and Dr. Ethan Watrall (Assistant Professor, Anthropology; Associate Director, MATRIX).

Dr. Watrall is internationally recognized for his experience and expertise in the domain of digital heritage and archaeology. Most recently, he was Director (with Professor Lynne Goldstein, Anthropology) of the National Endowment for the Humanities funded Institute for Digital Archaeology Method and Practice and Co-Director (with Professor Candace Keller from the Department of Art, Art History, and Design) of the National Endowment for the Humanities funded Digital Archive of Malian Photography. He is Currently Co-Director (with Professor Jon Frey from the Department of Art, Art History, and Design) of the National Endowment for the Humanities funded ARCS: Archaeological Resource Cataloging System. In addition, he directs the Cultural Heritage Informatics Graduate Fellowship Program and the Fieldschool in Digital Heritage (both of which live under the umbrella of the Department of Anthropology's Cultural Heritage Informatics Initiative). The full press release from Michigan State University can be found at <http://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2018/msu-uses-15m-mellon-foundation-grant-to-build-massive-slave-trade-database/>

Graduate Students Recognized by MSU Museum

MSU Museum highlighted two Department of Anthropology students this semester as their "Featured Students." Both Blair Zaid and Grace Krause are PhD. candidates in archaeology.



Blair Zaid, a Ph.D. Candidate in both African American and African Studies (AAAS) and Anthropology, received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State

University.

For the past two years Ms. Zaid managed the volunteers and curation projects for the anthropology and archaeology collections at the MSU Museum under the supervision of Dr. William Lovis. Work with archaeological collections inspires her because it offers an opportunity to learn about a wide breath of Michigan historical and prehistorical topics, something she does not focus on in her own research, while helping students to develop a

...Continued on page 8

Annual Fieldwork Photography Contest Winners



**FIRST PLACE
FISHING INLE LAKE
MYANMAR, 2017
EDWARD GLAZER
GRADUATE STUDENT**

Congratulations Graduates!

**A heartfelt congratulations to all of our May graduates!
You earned it.**

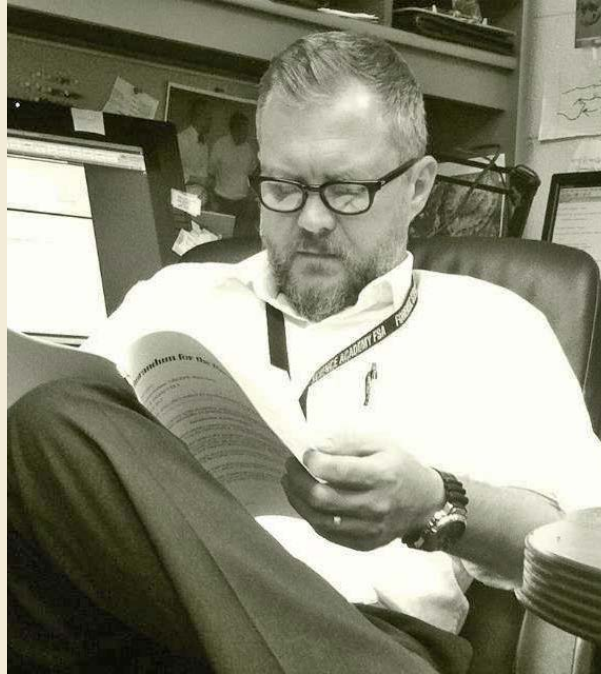
Advanced Degree Ceremony (Left to Right): Seven Mattes, Todd Fenton, Caitlin Vogelsberg, Joe Hefner, Mindy Morgan, Bill Lovis, Kate Frederick, Susan Kooiman, Lynne Goldstein, Nicole Geske, Deon Claiborne (front center)



The College of Social Science also held its first annual PhD Recognition Ceremony for doctoral graduates. In attendance were Nicole Geske, Dr. Lynne Goldstein, Deon Claiborne, Dr. Todd Fenton, and Seven Mattes (not pictured).

Featured Faculty, Dr. Joe Hefner

Dr. Joe Hefner joined the Department of Anthropology in the Fall semester of 2014 as an assistant professor in forensic anthropology. He currently teaches graduate level Human Osteology and Multivariate Statistical Analysis along with undergraduate Introduction to Physical Anthropology, Hominid Fossils and Time, Space and Change. Previously, Dr. Hefner worked as a contract archaeologist throughout the Southeastern United States and then at Mercyhurst College after completing his PhD in 2007 from the University of Florida.



Dr. Joe Hefner

Joe reports stumbling into anthropology inadvertently during his undergraduate studies at Western Carolina University. As a philosophy/art/psychology major, he took an Introduction to Cultural Anthropology course and became hooked, deciding to change his major and declare social/cultural anthropology. Eventually, he found himself enrolled

in archaeological field school and the rest is history as they say. From that moment on, Joe knew he wanted to do something with archaeology for the rest of his life. A few years after this, he discovered forensic anthropology and headed to Florida. As a graduate student, the young Dr. Hefner struggled to understand how forensic anthropologists were estimating ancestry. Prior to his latest research, estimating ancestry was an experience-driven, subjective approach that did not sit well with him. First, Joe felt he was not patient enough to become an expert and second, he believes that subjectivity should have no place in the field of

forensic anthropology.

Dr. Hefner's work investigates cranial morphology (cranial macromorphoscopic traits) as an indicator of geographic origin (i.e., ancestry in forensic anthropology). He examines modern individuals

...Continued on page 9

Photography Contest Winners (Continued)

Thank you to all those who entered. The photos were truly remarkable again this year. Congratulations to all of our winners.

First Place (pictured on page 5)
Fishing Lake Inle
Myanmar, 2017
Edward Glayzer
Graduate Student

Second Place
A Parade in Bagan
Myanmar, 2017
Edward Glayzer
Graduate Student

...Continued on page 12

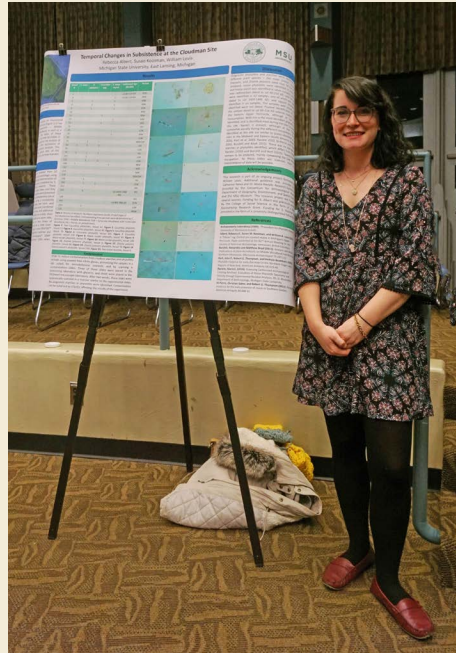


Outstanding Senior, Becca Albert

The Department of Anthropology is pleased to announce Rebecca K. Albert (aka Becca) as our Outstanding Senior in Anthropology for the class of 2018. Each department in the College of Social Science selects one graduating senior who is the first to walk across the stage at graduation and attend the Outstanding Senior Ball held in their honor. Becca was selected based on her GPA, her inclusion in the Honors College, her standing as current President of the Anthropology Club, and her extensive independent research resulting in several professional conference and on-campus presentations, as well as first authorship on a research article in a top peer-reviewed journal.

Ms. Albert credits Dr. Lovis, Dr. Goldstein, and graduate student Susan Kooiman with helping shape her undergraduate experience. Working with Dr. Lovis and Susan allowed her to narrow down her research interests and learn about archaeological sciences. Through Dr. Goldstein and the Campus Archaeology Program, Becca gained the experience necessary for being a well-rounded archaeologist which led to an interest in working in CRM. Becca feels these mentors fostered her success by pushing her to be the best researcher and scientist she could be. Coming from the Honors College, she received a two-year Professorial Assistantship during her freshman year, choosing to work with Dr. William Lovis on the analysis of microscopic plant remains embedded in burned-on foods adhering to the interiors of pottery. Ultimately, this led to an independent research project that interfaced with dissertation work being conducted by Susan Kooiman. Rebecca's research revealed evidence for the earliest use of corn in the northern Great Lakes 2,000 years ago.

Becca presented the results of her work at multiple University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF), at regional professional meetings, and eventually at the national Society for American



Becca Albert presenting her research at the Undergraduate Research Symposium and Showcase

Archaeology Annual Meeting where she won the SAA/Institute for Field Archaeology Best Student Paper Award. Her research, "Earliest Microbotanical Evidence for Maize in the Northern Lake Michigan Basin" was recently published in the leading international refereed archaeology journal, *American Antiquity*, with Becca as lead author. Building on this platform, Becca then proposed comparative research on a second group of ceramics and was awarded a College of Social Science Dean's Assistantship, again teaming up with Susan Kooiman, and again revealing significant microbotanical information about the timing for use of corn, squash, and wild rice in the Straits of Mackinac region. The merging of research on food, laboratory work and being outside, are her favorite things about studying archaeology.

Becca enjoys knitting and crocheting, and also hiking or skiing, depending on the weather. She was excited to finally see the printed version of her article in *American Antiquity*. Becca plans to attend graduate school, complete her PhD and eventually work in academia.

Dr. Lovis gives remarks on Becca Albert's achievements as she receives the Outstanding Senior Award for Anthropology at the Annual Student Achievement Gala of the College of Social Science

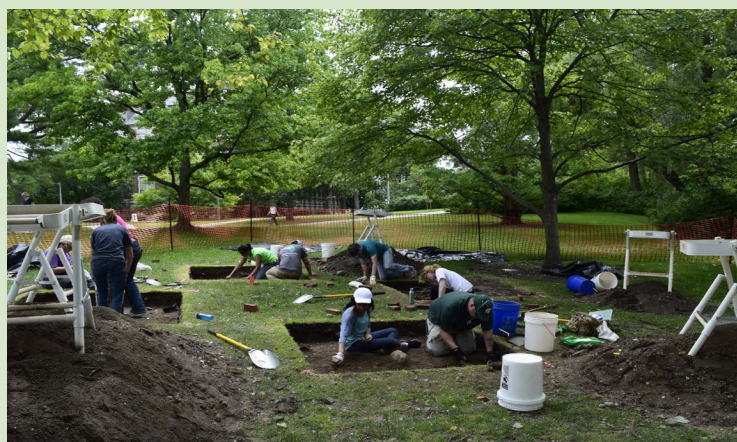


Science and Society at State (S3) Grant Awarded

In January, Dr. Stacey Camp, Dr. Lynne Goldstein (Anthropology), and Dr. Leigh Graves Wolf (College of Education) in conjunction with the Archaeology STEM Camp Pilot Project were awarded a grant from Science and Society at State (S3) that will be used to run a two-day archaeology camp in June of 2018 for 15 International Baccalaureate (IB) high school students on Michigan State University's campus. The International Baccalaureate is a non-profit educational foundation, founded in 1968, that offers internationally respected curricula and programming, representing 90,000 students worldwide.

This pilot project will provide a unique hands-on experiential opportunity for IB students to learn about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and archaeology.

Dr. Stacey Camp (Team Leader), Dr. Lynne Goldstein (Team Member), and Dr. Leigh Wolf (Team Member, College of Education) initiated their collaboration in October of 2017 after Dr. Goldstein was contacted by a local school district with requests to develop a targeted archaeology outreach program. Additionally, university administration expressed support for the development of an ongoing program to connect the MSU Campus Archaeology Program (CAP) to secondary school students. CAP had worked with schools in the past to present workshops and demonstrations, but they wanted to develop an ongoing long-term program to provide both a participatory experience for high school students



and an interdisciplinary research opportunity for the project team members.

While archaeology is not always considered a STEM discipline, archaeologists use principles and approaches from geometry, geography, geology, various physical sciences, botany, and zoology to study the past. Archaeologists also study landscapes, use engineering equipment and GIS, do various kinds of digital work, identify artifacts, plant and animal remains, and study soils.

Science and Society at State (S3), is an interdisciplinary research institution offering financial support for scholarship across disciplines at Michigan State University. Their mission is to promote interdisciplinary research and education that utilizes methods, approaches, and scholarship from STEM, the health sciences, and science studies (studies of science using methods and scholarship from the humanities and/or social sciences).

Graduate Students Recognized (continued)

curiosity for archaeology and human cultures.

Blair's doctoral research is focused on the early Iron Age Bantu speaking people of west Africa, particularly the settlement strategies in the Congo River Basin and broader patterns of prehistoric cultural change in Africa and the African Diaspora. In addition to her research, she enjoys teaching, participating in the MSU Museum's Annual Darwin Discovery Day, and visiting the MSU Museum with her family.

Grace Krause completed her bachelor's degree in anthropology from The University of Chicago. Ms. Krause has been working in museums such as The

Field Museum and The Oriental Institute in Chicago for over a decade. She began volunteering at the MSU Museum in 2011, and then working there in 2012 as the coordinator of the Human Ancestors Program. Grace is also the chair of the Mid-Michigan Graduate Women in Science Mentoring Program. Ms. Kraus plans to complete her Ph.D. in Anthropology during next academic year. Her dissertation looks at foodways in the historical period in New Orleans.



Dr. Joe Hefner (continued)

housed in skeletal collections around the world, collecting data on slight variations in the skull to estimate where these individuals originate from geographically. Because of the nature of estimation and classification in forensic anthropology, Dr. Hefner also works with statistical modeling. Traditionally that has included standard methods like discriminant function analysis, but computing power today has expanded new research horizons. Machine learning models are very popular now and, since he works with categorical data, many of those methods are more appropriate than traditional models that require a normal distribution.

Joe's favorite part of his research is his love for data analysis and coming up with novel approaches to old questions. These reasons are why he is constantly trying to develop better analytical methods for classification analysis. Forensic anthropologists have been using many of the same methods since the fields inception. While these methods have been tested and hold true, Dr. Hefner wants to break out of those familiar paradigms. This means reading a lot

of the literature from numerical ecology and machine learning.

Dr. Hefner enjoys the department and his colleagues. Dr. Hefner also enjoys the relationships he's established with his graduate students, which allow them to work well together and "crank out" solid research. Joe hopes that the approaches he has developed have some staying power within the field and that someday, a young, new scholar will approach him at a conference and make it their goal "to spend their entire career trying to prove me wrong."

Aside from being a prolific publishing scholar and professor, Joe Hefner is also an avid reader and enjoys playing chess whenever he can, generally while also enjoying a nice small-batch bourbon. He has a new book coming out in August of 2018 entitled *Atlas of Human Cranial Macromorphoscopic Traits* from Elsevier, Academic Press. His newest publication, "The Macromorphoscopic Databank" should be out soon in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Dr. Hefner is collaborating on a variety of projects with colleagues the world over and working on tenure.

Rowenn Kalman Receives Gill-Chin Lim Award



Dr. Laurie Medina and Dr. Rowenn Kalman

Our own recent graduate and affiliated faculty member, Dr. Rowenn Kalman was awarded the Gill-Chin Lim Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Global Studies from the MSU International Studies and Programs.

This award, given every academic year,

acknowledges a graduate student for their outstanding doctoral dissertation. The dissertation submitted had to be completed the preceding year of the award and focus on global studies. The award is named after the late Dr. Gill-Chin Lim, MSU Professor of Geography and Urban Planning and Dean of International Studies and Programs. MSU faculty, as well deans, directors, chairpersons, and academic advisors, nominate students from across the university for the Gill-Chin Lim Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Global Studies.

Dr. Rowenn Kalman received her degree this past May of 2017. Her dissertation entitled "‘Conciencia’ for Conservation: Andean Indigeneity, Economic Rationalism, Technical Science and the Production of Diverse Subjectivities through Rural Stewardship in Ancash, Peru" examined the need for a new scholarly approach to subjectivity and environmental governance through the analysis of the broader context of competing discourses and multifaceted identities that lead rural stewards to engage

...Continued on page 10

Around the Department



Congratulations to Marcella Omans for her NSF Graduate Research Fellowship she received for her project entitled “La Mesa Barrio Chino, Tijuana, Mexico: China’s Gateway to Latin America.” Her work focuses on providing insight into how newly arrived Chinese

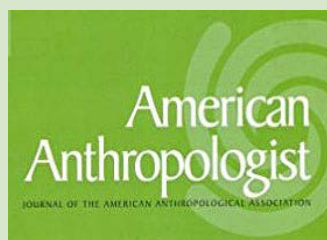
immigrants and business people leverage preexisting Chinese networks to gain economic footholds in Latin America; and on revealing how perceived Chinese identity in Latin America and the mediation of the expectations associated with this have shaped the Sino-Latin American narrative. Through her NSF funding, she plans to conduct multilingual (Spanish and Mandarin Chinese) ethnographic fieldwork in La Mesa Barrio Chino, Tijuana, Mexico to provide an example of the growing Sino-Latin American relationship in a local context. Her work will help inform those who are concerned with the growing relationship between China and Mexico and its potential impacts on the community and the region in areas such as trade, urban planning and development, urban diversity and attracting foreign investment. We wish Ms. Omans safe travels as she begins her dissertation research.

Dr. Joe Hefner was announced as Editor for *Forensic Anthropology*. This is a journal devoted to the

advancement of the science and professional development of the fields of forensic anthropology and forensic archaeology. It primarily focuses on research, technical advancements, population data, and case studies related to the recovery and analysis of human remains in a forensic context. Topics such as forensic osteology, skeletal biology, and modern human skeletal variation are within the scope of Forensic Anthropology. In this first edition, Dr. Hefner and Dr. Todd Fenton have a multi-authored article, “Forensic Fractography of Bone: A New Approach to Skeletal Trauma Analysis.”



Also in the first edition of *Forensic Anthropology*, alumnus Dr. Nicholas V. Passalacqua and Dr. Hefner have a multi-authored article, “Forensic Analysis: A Journal for our Discipline.”



Publication of research in *American Anthropologist* is a noteworthy achievement for anthropologists, and we congratulate Dr. Laurie Kroshus Medina and Dr. Mindy Morgan

for their recent contributions. Dr. Medina published “Governing Through the Market: Neoliberal Environmental Government in Belize” in 2015. Dr. Morgan’s article, “Anthropologists in Unexpected Places: Tracing Anthropological Theory, Practice, and Policy in Indians at Work” appeared in 2017.

Gill-Chin Lim Award (continued)

in diverse, strategic, and sometimes ambivalent ways.

Rowenn received multiple fellowships and recognition during her time as a graduate student in our department including: Foreign Language and Area Studies to learn Quechua, an International Studies Program pre-dissertation research grant, a Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Research Fellowship and GenCen’s Rita Gallin Award for best graduate student paper on

gender.

Dr. Kalman received her award at the awards ceremony on March 29th. Congratulations Dr. Kalman on your outstanding dissertation research and your award.

Social Science Week Premieres



College of Social Science Social Science Week

Michigan State University College of Social Science Week premiered this year as an initiative through the new Dean of the College of Social Science, Dr. Rachael Croson, to “transform our students’ experience.” Its mission was to connect faculty and students with business, community, and alumni leaders. Social Science Week was envisioned as an ideal way to bring executives to the University campus and give them the opportunity to become engaged or re-engage with their college and university communities. This opportunity allows them a spotlight to educate, share, and encourage a promising new generation of Spartan leaders.

Social Science Week gave students an opportunity to meld theory with application. Guest speakers had a chance to share their experiences and present case studies from their companies or their personal experiences as they engaged with students during regular undergraduate social science classes.

Throughout the week, alumni and guest speakers were given the opportunity to highlight their Social Science Week experience at events such as alumni award dinners, scholarship receptions, a Berkey Hall Society pinning, a Woman’s Leadership Institute, Classes Without Quizzes and more.

Dr. Dean Anderson (PhD 1992) and Donald

Weir (MA 1979), both alumni of the Department of Anthropology’s archaeology program, were invited to speak in undergraduate archaeology courses during the Professor for a Day event about how their time at MSU helped them achieve their successful careers and to provide insights into careers in archaeology. Don Weir is the former owner (now retired) of Commonwealth Cultural Heritage Group, a successful cultural resource management firm with multiple offices across the U.S., that has employed many graduates from our program. Dr. Anderson, State Archaeologist for Michigan, said that he was thrilled to have the opportunity to give back to his alma mater and he enjoyed meeting with the students and discussing his time at MSU. The department thanks both alums for their participation in the event and their ongoing support.

Dr. William Lovis and PhD candidates Kate Frederick and Susan Kooiman attend the Endowed Scholarship Luncheon



Commencement Speaker, Breanna Escamilla



Ms. Breanna Escamilla was selected as the MSU College of Social Science Spring 2018 Student Commencement Speaker. Breanna majored in anthropology with a focus on sociocultural studies as well as completing a double minor in Chicano/Latino Studies and African American/African Studies.

During her time at MSU,

she has participated in various civic engagement activities including volunteering at Detroit Public Schools. Ms. Escamilla is a sister in the first Latina based sorority in the country, Lambda Theta Alpha and holds two jobs on campus.

Working with people and woman of color such as herself inspires her to tell her own story and this is ingrained in her love for the social sciences because she feels that every major, minor and specialization is a way to tell someones’ own story. Breanna will attend the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign to pursue her PhD.

Department of Anthropology
Baker Hall, Room 355
655 Auditorium Road
East Lansing, MI 48824

Winners (continued)



Third Place: Reading Aloud in Fon
Benin, 2018
Marcy O'Neil, Faculty

Share Your Updates With Us

Are you a faculty, student, staff member or alumnus of the MSU Department of Anthropology? Contact the department with updates and news you want to share!

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Website: anthropology.msu.edu
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Please consider contributing to our department. Your gift will be used to help undergraduate and graduate students carry out research, present at conferences, and other scholarly activities.

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Click the link, add to cart, determine the amount, and make your donation.