



ASU Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Upcoming faculty publications
- Student conference abstracts
- Upcoming thesis abstract

Museum Studies Job Search

This past semester ASU members had the privilege of participating in the Anthropology Department's search for a new Museum Studies hire. With our participation, we were able to witness first hand what it takes to find oneself a position in academia. In addition to attending the four job talks held on campus, interested ASU members had the opportunity to meet personally with the candidates and judge for themselves how the candidate would fit in our department. On behalf of ASU, I would like to thank not only the members of the Museum Studies Hiring Committee, but the entire faculty for listening to student opinions and taking our perspectives to heart. Additional thanks are due to the ASU Hiring Committee, who did a wonderful job of organizing and planning events with the candidates. Specifically, ASU Vice President Alexis Jordan went above and beyond in helping to make the search as professional as possible. We all look forward to working with the new hire next year and in years to come.

-Kevin Garstki

ASU Elections

For the first time in two years, there will be new blood in the ASU executive committee for the upcoming year. Each of the elected positions have been filled by new bodies. Beginning next year, the ASU officers will be:

- President: Kevin Garstki
- Vice-President: Lara Ghisleni
- Secretary: Adrienne Frie
- Treasurer: Lindsay Robinson
- Faculty-Representative: Rachel McTavish

We look forward to continuing the great work accomplished in years past, and hope to provide the undergraduate and graduate students in the department with the additional resources to succeed in the field of anthropology.

-Kevin Garstki

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Field Notes: A

Colligate Journal of Anthropology

is now available on the ASU website!



ASU Newsletter

New and Upcoming Faculty Publications

Dr. Paul Brodwin

Everyday Ethics: Voices from the Front Line of Community Psychiatry

(University of California Press, to appear in late 2012)

This book explores the ethical subjectivity of psychiatrists and social workers in a little known corner of the American health care system. Brodwin spent two years in a community outreach team that tries to safeguard the lives of people with severe mental illness. The pace of work is rushed in this setting, the resources are inadequate, and the possibility of failure ever-present. The book provides an ethnographic account of the routine frustrations and extraordinary crises of work. It explores how professionals grapple with their obligation to the most vulnerable and disenfranchised members of our society. Clinicians pose this question not in the abstract, but while trying to meet the demands of the day. The argument of the book unfolds through close accounts of face-to-face exchanges in a client's home and debates at staff meetings. In the middle of their routines, front-line staff veer off into spontaneous commentaries about coercion, rights, and the legitimacy of forced treatment. They draw a line between justifiable and excessive control of the people they are trying to help. They debate who actually deserves services, and who should be shunted aside in an underfunded system. They criticize some of their own therapeutic practices as brutal and inhumane. Such everyday ethics expose the moral burden of care as well as the distance between formal bioethics and the embodied dilemmas at the front line of practice.

Dr. Tracey Heatherington
Environmental Anthropology

In Oxford Bibliographies Online: Anthropology. John L. Jackson, ed. 2012. Oxford University Press.

<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199766567/obo-9780199766567-0041.xml>

Oxford Bibliographies offers authoritative research guides combining the features of an annotated bibliography and a high-level encyclopedia.



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New and Upcoming Faculty Publications

Tracey Heatherington

Concepts of Nature

In *Encyclopedia of Global Studies*, Helmut Anheier and Mark Juergensmeyer, eds. 2012. Sage Publishers. <http://www.sagepub.com/books/Book230735>

The *Encyclopedia of Global Studies* is a reference work for the emerging field of global studies. It covers both transnational topics and intellectual approaches to the study of global themes.

Tracey Heatherington

Environmentality: EIONET and the New Landscapes of Europe

Forthcoming in *Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol. 85, No. 2, p. 555–578

Schemes for biodiversity protection were instrumental to building the legitimacy of post-national cooperation during the early phases of European integration. Today, Europe's regime of environmental security suggests new dimensions of territoriality manifest in the adoption of information and communication technologies. This paper explores some changing paradigms for ecodevelopment in Sardinia, Italy and the European Union, to consider the political stakes and human dimensions inherent in the creation of databases such as the European Information and Observation Network. It critically expands the concept of "environmentality" (Agrawal 2005) in light of insights recognizing the multiscalar dimensions of governance in the global, digital age.

Tracey Heatherington

Remodeling the Fortress of Conservation?

Living Landscapes and the New Technologies of Environmental Governance

Forthcoming in *Anthropological Forum*

An engaged anthropology of the environment should critically assess how emerging strategies for generating potent expert knowledge about nature and the environment also influence issues of inclusion and exclusion. This essay reflects on paradigm shifts in environmental conservation, to examine elements of the "fortress conservation" model that still persist in the context of more participatory approaches, particularly through the exclusion of indigenous paradigms for managing ecological relations. Presenting a case study from an Italian island, it considers how initiatives for the protection of natural landscapes and biodiversity might be reconfigured in practice by the implementation of new information and communication systems, and what this implies for the role autochthonous visions of landscape in environmental governance.



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New and Upcoming Faculty Publications

Dr. Bettina Arnold

Gender, Temporalities, and Periodization in Early Iron Age West-Central Europe

(In *Social Science History* Vol. 36 No. 1 Spring 2012)

Archaeological chronologies tend to conflate temporalities from all cultural contexts in a region without consideration for the different depositional trajectories and life histories of the objects that serve as the basis of those chronologies. Social variables, such as gender, age, status, and individual mobility, act on artifacts in ways that must be identified and differentiated in order for seriations derived from one context to be applicable in another. This article presents evidence from early Iron Age contexts in Southwest Germany to illustrate this phenomenon and discuss its ramifications from the perspective of a case study focusing on the mortuary landscape of the Heuneburg hillfort on the Danube River. Gender in particular is strongly marked in this society and can be shown to affect the depositional tempo of certain artifact categories, which have different social lives and depositional fates depending on context. Artifact assemblages vary not only in terms of archaeological context and temporality but also are impacted by the social personae of the human agents responsible for, or associated with, their deposition.

Dr. Bettina Arnold

The Vix Princess Redux: A Retrospective on European Iron Age Gender and Mortuary Studies

(In *La Arqueología funeraria desde una perspectiva de género*. Lourdes Prados Torreira ed. 2012)

The 1989 Chacmool Conference on the Archaeology of Gender resulted in a groundbreaking volume with the same title, one of the first attempts to present the work of scholars interested in the archaeology of gender in a single publication. I published a critique of the state of Iron Age gender studies in west-central Europe (Arnold, 1991) in that volume, focusing particularly on the elite burial of the so-called Vix “princess” and its androcentric interpretation as a “transvestite male priest.” Revisiting the topic of the archaeology of gender in Iron Age Europe after two decades suggests that significant progress has been made since 1989. An overview of recent approaches to Iron Age gender archaeology in the context of mortuary analysis is presented, including a discussion of more recent work on the Vix burial itself (Knüsel, 2002; Rolley, 2003).



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Upcoming Master's Thesis

Andrea Wawrzyniak

An ethnic museum most often serves as a central community gathering place as well as a cultural materials depository for the ethnic group which it represents. In these roles, the museum acts as a nexus for that culture. The Polish Museum of America (PMA), located in what was once the Polish Downtown of Chicago, would seem to be ideally set up as a nexus of the Polish community (referred to as Polonia). However, defining Polonia may be difficult as questions of where its borders lie and who does and does not belong arise, thus complicating the PMA's ability to connect to the community. After completing a summer-long internship and field work at the museum, the author gained knowledge about the Polish community as well as the museum's connection to it. By evaluating the PMA collections, exhibitions, and communication modes, the museum visitor's reaction toward and interpretation of the materials and information presented can be analyzed. It is these visitor interpretations of that cultural information that define whether a museum, in particular the PMA, is successful in exhibiting ideas, categories, and concepts to visitors, and if they are successful, whether this then makes the museum a nexus of that ethnic community. In conclusion, this study found that the PMA is a critical component to the community it serves because the knowledge retained and conveyed are key to visitor appreciation.

Spring Conference Abstracts

William Balco

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Social Entanglement and Mixed-Style Artifacts in Western Sicily

The theory of cultural hybridity has frequently been applied to studies of the relationships between colonizer and colonized in the western Mediterranean, using material culture to differentiate between indigenous, foreign, and hybrid cultural practices. Unlike other material culture studies which have examined social changes within polarized colonial entanglements, this paper examines the development of hybrid cultures resulting from prolonged indigenous interaction with both Phoenicians and Greeks in Iron Age western Sicily. Employing the theory of cultural hybridity, a model of cultural interaction is presented, accounting for changes in 7th to 4th century BC Elymian ceramic assemblages, social dynamics, and economy.



ASU Newsletter

Spring Conference Abstracts Cont.

Brook Drew

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Individual Skeletal Identification: A Comprehensive Analysis of the Milwaukee County Institution Grounds Cemetery, Wauwatosa, WI

In 1991 and 1992, 1,649 burials were excavated from the unmarked Milwaukee County Institution Grounds (MCIG) cemetery. The remains and associated artifacts are presently curated within the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee Department of Anthropology. This author is attempting to incorporate historical documentation such as a register of burials, coroner's inquests, and death certificates with spatial archaeological data, grave goods, and osteological demography in an attempt to facilitate identification of individuals. More specifically, an integrated document database will be utilized in conjunction with ArcGIS and digitized osteological assessments such as sex, age, pathologies, and trauma to assign probable identifications.

Lara Ghisleni

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Movements About the Landscape in Late Iron Age and Early Roman Dorset, South-west England

Recent settlement and mortuary analysis of the Late Iron Age (c.100 BC—AD 43) and Early Roman period (c.AD 43—AD 150) in Dorset, south-west England, has suggested that the Roman arrival prompted changes in gender- and age-related roles and opportunities. Settlement plans and aerial photographs reveal a reorganization of farmsteads, ditch systems and other communication networks after the Roman conquest. This research, still in its preliminary stages, will investigate how within- and between-settlement mobility about the Dorset landscape as well as the temporal coordination of such movements could have constituted social persons on the basis of gender and age.

Michael Kolb (Strata Morph Geoexploration, Inc), Elissa Hulit and John Richards

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Transforming the Mississippian Landscape: A Buried Earthen Structure at the Aztalan Site

Removal of backfill from a 1950s-era excavation exposed a 3.7 m long x 2.4 m deep profile in the bank of a ravine adjacent to the Crawfish River. Colluvium containing aboriginal debris dating to the Mississippian settlement of Aztalan overlays a deposit of aboriginal fill. The filling episode appears to be an attempt to construct a level platform-and-post structure in an attempt to enclose the water of the Crawfish River within the palisade. Additional geomorphic testing in adjacent riverbank areas suggests that the riverbank portion of the site harbors undisturbed deposits that record the history of land-use at the site.



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Spring Conference Abstracts Cont.

Derik Irelan

*Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference
Geographical and Cultural Setting of the Stone Street Site*

This paper situates the Stone Street site within a changing geographic landscape in which fluvial patterns and considerations of cultural-historical events help to reconstruct the neighborhood and its environment leading up to the discovery and partial destruction of this previously undocumented Late Woodland cemetery site in a downtown urban setting. The potential for other archaeological sites in the Carriagetown district of Flint, MI has implications for cultural resource planning and policy.

Robert Jeske and Richard Edwards IV

*Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference
Differential Land Use Patterns in the Rock River Watershed: Horicon Marsh versus Lake Koshkonong*

Horicon Marsh and Lake Koshkonong are two very large and rich wetland environments in the Rock River drainage of Southeastern Wisconsin. Separated by 70 km, site distribution data indicate similar land use patterns in early time periods, but differential land use patterns in the late prehistoric period. Differential histories of landscape use by prehistoric occupants of the two regions is documented and explained using environmental productivity and historical contingency models.

Katy J. Mollerud

*Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference
Keeping Up with the Jones?: A Comparison of Cambria Phase Pottery from the Owen D. Jones (21Be5) and Price (21Be36) Sites*

The Cambria phase (A.D. 1000-1200) is an archaeological phenomenon centered on a small portion of the Minnesota River in south-central Minnesota. Currently, the Cambria phase is classified as part of the Middle Missouri Tradition, although previous typological analyses have identified a blending of ceramic characteristics from several different late prehistoric cultural traditions, including Plains Village, Mississippian and Woodland. This paper couples attribute and compositional analyses from two understudied Cambria phase sites, Owen D. Jones (21Be5) and Price (21Be36), to better understand the variation within the ceramic assemblage, and how the sites fit into the cultural matrix of the region.



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Spring Conference Abstracts Cont.

Thomas Zych

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Co-opting Space and Constructing Memories: An Analysis of the Northeast Mound at the Aztalan Site in Jefferson County, Wisconsin

In the Middle Mississippian world, construction of pyramidal mounds at hinterland sites both creates and links social memories to a distant place. At the Aztalan site in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, that distant place is the prehistoric city of Cahokia, near modern day St. Louis. This paper details the extant records and materials from Joan Freeman's 1964-1968 Wisconsin Historical Society excavations of the northeast platform mound at Aztalan. The construction of this monument is viewed as an act of co-opting existing space in an effort to create new narratives connected to a larger Mississippian worldview.

Jennifer Picard

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Excavations in Aztalan's Riverbank Midden: A Record of Material Culture

Excavation of a 3-m-X-2-m trench through the riverbank midden at Aztalan has provided new stratigraphic information about the site. In particular, Feature 8, a deposit of ash and burned earth within the midden has yielded a dense cultural assemblage including lithic debris, shell-tempered pottery, bone, and shell. This feature also contains a relatively high frequency of cut copper pieces. Although copper has been recovered from earlier excavations at Aztalan, precise provenience and contextual data related to use and discard of this material is often lacking. Analysis of the Feature 8 assemblage may help to resolve some of these issues.

Lindsay Robinson and Laura Villamil

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Investigation of Ceramic Deposits in Relation to Architectural Features at Margarita, Quintana Roo, Mexico

Margarita is a Classic period Maya center located in south-central Quintana Roo, Mexico. Excavations in 2000 exposed a pattern of dense ceramic deposits in patios and plazas that appear to be contemporaneous with the architectural remains of a widespread reoccupation of the site during the Terminal Classic period. With the utilization of Geographical Information Systems (GIS), the geostatistical relationships between these ceramic deposits and architectural features are examined. This analysis contributes to the understanding of the primary use of these ceramic deposits and further illuminates the ways in which the built environment was manipulated during the reoccupation of the site.



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Seth Schneider and Jessica R. Miller (Illinois State University)

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

Cultural Interaction in the Western Great Lakes: A Compositional Analysis of Oneota Pottery in Wisconsin and Michigan

Pottery dating between A.D. 1200-1400 from 12 Oneota sites in Wisconsin and Michigan are compared to detect cultural interaction among Oneota localities in the Western Great Lakes Region. A model of interaction proposes that Oneota groups living in Illinois and Wisconsin influenced the shift in pottery production of groups living Southwestern Michigan. Ceramic petrography and chemical compositional analysis using energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence (ED-XRF) techniques are used to demonstrate variations in paste composition between sites. The movement of people, pottery, and ideas between two regions in the Western Great Lakes separated by approximately 600 km is clarified.

Megan Sharpless, Lisa M. Zimmerman and Robert A. Birmingham (University of Wisconsin- Waukesha)

Society of American Archaeology Annual Conference

History and Prehistory at the Aztalan Site: Excavation of an Early 20th Century Rock Feature

Excavations in a ravine eroding into the Crawfish River in the northeast corner of the Aztalan site, exposed a concentration of large rocks (Feature 1) arranged in a rough arc. The feature appears to be related to Euroamerican activities as early 20th Century items including glass bottles, flat glass, and metal fragments were found throughout the rock matrix. However, similar aboriginal rock features were reported in this part of the site by Barrett during his 1919-1920 work at Aztalan, suggesting that Feature 1 may be the disturbed remnants of an aboriginal rock structure dismantled and used as a trash dump.



ASU Newsletter

Spring Conference Abstracts Cont.

Kevin Garstki

Theoretical Archaeology Group Annual Conference

The Practice of Power: Reassessing the Irish Late Bronze and Iron Ages

The period immediately following the introduction of iron into Ireland (ca. 700-600 BC) is characterized by a dearth of archaeological evidence and has been referred to as the “Dark Ages” of Irish prehistory. While people are no longer considered “missing” from the archaeological record of the Early Iron Age, significant changes occurred during the Late Bronze Age-Iron Age transition that have yet to be satisfactorily addressed. In an effort to more adequately address the social condition of the Late Bronze Age, and the subsequent changes to that structure, I propose that we must explicitly identify how power is being accumulated and maintained in the Late Bronze Age and how those processes were being altered in the Early Iron Age. With a deeper interrogation of structures of power it should be possible to move beyond a superficial interpretation of the changes exhibited in the Late Bronze to Iron Age transition. This paper proposes that power should be conceived of as a component of practiced social relationships, where an individual’s historically constituted position increases the likelihood of successfully performing any specific social action. In this framework, the group whose prestige and status were intimately tied to bronze production in the Late Bronze Age was maintained through recurrent successful action, including the ritual deposition of bronze objects in votive contexts. I propose that the introduction of iron transformed actions centered on bronze production, which no longer provided a productive avenue for maintaining social position. The archaeologically visible expressions of power that had dominated in the Late Bronze Age were no longer viable for negotiating social relationships in the Early Iron Age, leading to an apparent “Dark Age” in the archaeological record.

Adrienne Frie

Theoretical Archaeology Group Annual Conference

Valued Materials: moving beyond economic theories of value in Western Hallstatt Europe

Archaeological interpretations of human-material interaction consistently rely on overly functional and modernist conceptions of value. However there is a different way to engage with materials – the analysis of object trajectories of assemblages of material. This is not a processual analysis of movement across the landscape, but a discussion of materials as loci for culturally ascribed value, which can be traced through the examination of an object’s trajectory. This highlights the cultural directionality of this motion: how the force of cultural behaviors, values and social practices compelled the valuation of objects. In the case of the Western Hallstatt Culture of Iron Age Europe, amber and coral were exotic



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imports, used and reused over time for elaborate bodily adornment, presentations of affluence, but also ritual consumption. These were highly mobile materials that were brought into the Hallstatt sphere, circulated within it, and imbued with multiple cultural meanings. An examination of the trajectories of coral and amber reveals the cultural logics that moved these materials throughout the Hallstatt region and dictated the terms of their valuation. These materials were not solely expressions of elite wealth; rather I will demonstrate that there were multiple aspects of value, both physical and ideological, that were all co-constituted. In addition, the distinct values conferred upon the same material may have been given preference at certain points in their social lives, which may also be traced archaeologically.

The UWM Anthropology Student Union (ASU) is a student-run, non-profit organization designed to serve the needs and interests of undergraduate and graduate students. Membership is open to all registered University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee students and alumni. All ASU meetings, whether regularly Scheduled, Executive Board, or committee, are open to attendance by any-one. General meetings are held monthly during the academic year. Meeting announcements will be distributed via email in a timely manner prior to each meeting or posted on the ASU bulletin board near Sabin G90.

2011-2012 ASU Officers

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Check ASU out on the web:

<http://www4.uwm.edu/StudentOrg/asu/>