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Department of Anthropology, University of Alabama, <http://www.anthropology.ua.edu>

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Memory in Fragments

REASSEMBLING JEWISH LIFE IN POLAND

By Marysia Galbraith



My grandmother's family (in about 1918).

My research on Jewish heritage asks: what can be done with the fragments of Jewish culture that remain in Poland, sometimes hidden and sometimes in plain sight? And what value does such memory work have? I explore these questions on two levels: the social level where I focus on what is actually being done with physical traces of Jewish culture in the absence of living Jewish communities, and on the personal level via the archaeology of my own hidden Jewish ancestry. These fragments can reveal something about the past, even if it is just in an incomplete and shattered form. And they can point toward the future—the possibilities that might emerge out of traces of memory.



Pool in the ground of Jewish cemetery. Most gravestones were destroyed by Nazis, and then the pool was built during the Communist period.

For 1000 years, until World War II, Jewish culture flourished in the Polish lands, increasing to 10% of the population of the country (3 million people). Most were murdered in the Holocaust, and even the 300,000 who survived faced prejudice and persecution after the war. By 1968, nearly no Jews remained in Poland, and in the oppressive environment imposed by communist leadership, there was very little space to even talk about Jews, leaving the physical traces of their culture to be forgotten and destroyed.



The opening of the commemorative rock garden (lapidarium) for recovered fragments of Jewish gravestones, December 2014.

I was fortunate to receive a sabbatical leave and a Fulbright Research Fellowship to spend the 2014-2015 academic year in Poland seeking out the fragments of Jewish life that still remain. I was affiliated with the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, where I taught one class per semester and participated in the Institute's academic life. I travelled throughout Poland and beyond, visiting archives, conducting interviews and acting as a participant-observer at festivals, commemorations, and sites associated with Jewish communities and their brutal destruction. I also gave 10 guest lectures and conference presentations, half of which were in Polish (a real accomplishment for me—Polish is a challenging language).

Over the year, I documented profound contrasts between places characterized by what Iwona Irwin-Zarecka calls the “absence of memory” and others dominated by an exuberant revival of interest in Jewish culture. These contrasting and often competing orientations are exemplified by one site in which a swimming pool was dug into the Jewish cemetery leaving no visible trace of its former use, and another in which the fragments of headstones were recovered and returned to the town’s physical and contemplative space in a commemorative stone garden. I witnessed the profound efforts many Poles, most of whom are not Jewish, have made to discover, uncover, celebrate, and reanimate the fragments of once thriving Jewish communities. These efforts hint at the possibility of redefining the often contentious relations between Poles and Jews and offer a pathway toward reconciliation.

My more personal journey has led me to archival records of my ancestors, but more importantly to my living relatives, descendants of my grandmother’s siblings, and the possibility of another level of reconciliation. Significantly, I have no relatives left in Poland itself. I can’t even visit my family’s graves, or look at the houses where they used to live or the places where they used to worship. Nearly everything was destroyed. But I have reunited branches of the family that were lost to each other when my grandmother converted to Catholicism, and then were further dispersed in the US, Israel, and elsewhere after evading death in World War II.

This is not easy research because I am perpetually confronted with unimaginable acts of destruction and mass murder. What used to be will never return; there are no more Jews in most communities in Poland. And yet finally, 70 years after the worst offenses were committed, new life is emerging out of the ashes. I have been documenting this process of reassembly of the fragments of Jewish life in Poland.

Find out more about my research on my blog Uncovering Jewish Heritage (uncoveringjewishheritage.wordpress.com) and in a video of a lecture I gave in September 2015: “Memory in Fragments: Reassembling Jewish Life in Poland” (<https://vimeo.com/146044703>).

In Memoriam: John Cottier & Ruby Howard

It is with much sadness that, along with sharing the accomplishments of our department over the past months, we say goodbye to friends. In June 2015, we received news that Dr. John Cottier had passed away. In addition to being a wonderful person and a fine archaeologist, he was a good friend to all of us in Alabama and a regular at the DeJarnette barbecue. He established the Auburn Archaeology Lab and provided the initial training for many students who made their way to UA. He was in fact a student of David DeJarnette’s, having received his M.A. with us in 1970. Our condolences to his family, students, colleagues, and friends.

In December, we were also saddened to lose Ruby Howard, a dear friend and our department’s longtime Graduate Secretary and receptionist. Several of our faculty and students who knew her shared their remembrances:



Ruby Howard, 2000 (Courtesy Ian W. Brown Collection).

Ruby Howard was a facilitator and an enabler. And I mean that in a good sense. Ruby made things happen. She made things easy. Long before arriving on campus in 1991, to assume my new job as Associate Professor, Ruby was in contact with me. She was a fountain of information on all that was Tuscaloosa and UA. She conjured up places to live, eating venues, and things to do when once my family arrived. She knew we had two small children, so words of wisdom were offered on schools, churches, doctors, dentists—you name it! Ruby Howard was my own personal travel agent it seemed. I really wasn’t used to so much attention from a stranger, but it was hard to resist Ruby’s helping hand. My family couldn’t accompany me in the bleak winter of 1991, so I really didn’t need a house. “Not to worry,” said Ruby, “I’ve secured for you a place in Ed Williams’ remodeled basement, just a few minutes walk from the department.” Okay, I needed to be careful in voicing issues, because no matter what I said, every need announced, any question asked, and Ruby was immediately there with supplies or answers. I initially thought that I must be a very special person in Ruby’s eyes, but later learned that this was the way she was with everyone. For Ruby Howard everyone was indeed a special person, and because of that she made our department a warm and inviting place for any and all who walked in the door. I can still see her smiling face as she said “Good morning” each day. Never angry, never sad, always glowing, always ready to pick up the phone and find the solution from her myriad of contacts on campus. That was Ruby Howard. It took a long time following her retirement for all of us in the Department of Anthropology to come to terms with her absence. That she was no longer with the University was impossible. How ever could we survive without Ruby? But she did leave our world, and now she is no longer with The World, but, with that said, the world is a far better place for Ruby having been a part of it. She will always be missed and she will always be with us.

—Ian W. Brown, Professor and Chair

Ruby Howard was a truly exceptional person. Although she only worked 20 hours a week, she did more than most full-time employees and always did it with a smile and a kind word. She was unfailingly

pleasant, never seemed to be sad (if she was, she never let on) and always did whatever she could to help everyone she encountered. Student, professor, book salesperson, janitor—I anyone who came through the door would benefit from her presence. During my years as Chairperson, she did everything she could to help Sue and me adjust to the University and to Tuscaloosa. She located the house we rented in Northport when we first arrived in 1986, as well as the one we later purchased, without us asking. She even helped us convince Mrs. T., the elderly widow from whom we bought our house, that we were “worthy” of it. Another notable trait was her devotion to her family. A widow with two small children, Ruby made certain they grew up to be well educated and respectable adults. She spoke with them often on the office telephone, and you could always know who she was talking to by the stern note in her voice. She was extremely knowledgeable about all aspects of Tuscaloosa and its people and willing to share what she knew with newcomers. As an outsider, I could never have navigated the town and campus as well as I did in my first years without her. She was a true Southern Lady in the very best sense of the term and is missed by all who had the good fortune to know her.

—Richard Diehl, Professor Emeritus

For those who didn't have the pleasure of knowing Ms. Ruby, you lost out on something truly special. She was one of the finest ladies I've ever known. I still recall the first time I met Ms. Ruby in the departmental office. She already knew I was from Mississippi, and made sure to inform me about the other graduate students who hailed from the Magnolia State. It was a delight to her that there were a passel of southerners in my cohort, for the simple reason that she was happy that we had a chance to further our education and show the world that our geography had nothing to do with our potential. No matter where you were from though, she cared, with all her being. Her jacket was red, her lips were red, her necklace was big, and her heart was huge.

As a graduate student, I could always rely on Ms. Ruby giving encouragement during the desperate hours, and she ALWAYS helped to get students through university bureaucracy and hurdles. Ms. Ruby unfailingly put the students at the top of her concerns. She would make the call that needed to be made to someone, somewhere on campus to get things dealt with for me, and anyone else who needed help. She never failed to give a smile when you saw her, and a hug when needed. Ms. Ruby was as important for my successfully getting through UA as my professors. When we finished our M.A. degrees, she was genuinely proud of all of us (even the Yankees), and it was obvious she was a little sad to see us go. We were her birds leaving the nest. This is heartbreaking for me. She will always be sorely missed. Rest in Peace Ms. Ruby: you were a Real Southern Lady.

—Virgil Roy “Duke” Beasley, III, Cultural Resources Investigator, University of Alabama Museums, Office of Archaeological Research

For more remembrances of Ruby, please visit our blog site at <http://anthropology.ua.edu/blogs/blog/2016/01/25/in-memorium-john-cottier-ruby-howard/>.

10 Things You May Not Know About Dr. Murphy



Dr. Murphy & longtime collaborator, Dr. Juan Carlos González Faraco

We are all chagrined by the retirement of Dr. Michael Murphy. Dr. Murphy, who is now Professor Emeritus as of the end of the fall 2015 semester, leaves an indelible stamp on our department. As professor and chair, Michael Murphy provided a firm and friendly rudder in guiding the development of the Anthropology Department over many years. We will write a more in depth piece next issue on Michael's career and legacy and share photos from his January retirement party. Before he could completely leave the world of academic service, behind, we thought we should grab him in parting for a “10 Things You May Not Know” column for the newsletter he edited the first issue of in 2003. Michael regaled us all with many fascinating stories over the years, so coming up with things we might not know was challenging for him.

1. “I spent a lot of time as a child in the southern Sierra Nevada mountains and the Mohave desert. My most vivid childhood recollection is of being ‘chased’ by a snake on my grandfather's ranch. It was probably a red racer (*Coluber constrictor*) and, more than 60 years later, it still visits me occasionally in dreams.
2. My first paid job for corporate America was working in a California grape packing shed between Bakersfield and Delano when I was fifteen and sixteen. An early eye-opener about our economic system, my understanding of the experience was enhanced a year later when César Chavez's United Farm Workers movement gradually worked its way south to the vineyards surrounding my former place of employment.
3. The first anthropology book I ever read was A.L. Kroeber's *Handbook of the Indians of California*. For some long-forgotten reason, the Baker Street Library would not allow a 12-year-old to check it out, so I had to read it, bit by bit, *in situ*.

4. My first course in cultural anthropology at UCSB was taught by the great archaeologist, Jim Deetz. My first course in archaeology was conducted by Chris Peebles of Moundville fame when he was a grad student.
5. While a grad student at UCSD in the 1970s, for five years I lived with an extraordinary ensemble of students and others in "Seacliff," the third oldest dwelling in La Jolla: solid redwood interior walls, magnificent views of the ocean located across the street, \$50 per month.
6. For over 30 years I have collaborated with my great friend **Juan Carlos Gonzalez Faraco** on work in southern Spain. As far as I can tell, this by far is the longest international collaboration between ethnographers of Spain. Our very first publication was co-authored with **Jim Bindon** and our most recent work together is as co-authors on a paper with **Bill Dressler**.
7. I attended what was billed in Santa Barbara as Santana's "first concert outside of the San Francisco Bay Area."
8. Both long-time department member, Allen Maxwell, and I were quite independently admonished by Margaret Mead for not having pen and notebook on our persons at all times. I wonder how many others got chewed out by Maggie for the same reason.
9. My beard was once bright red.
10. Most of you who know me, know that I definitely 'married up.' You just don't know how VERY high up I married! Thanks, Milady!

Grants & Awards



3MT winners with Dean Francko, including Courtney Andrews (courtesy Graduate School).

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Doctoral student **7ci flbYn5bXfYk** placed fourth in the 3rd annual Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) competition. The Alabama Center for Public Television is working on stories about the finalists and the 3MT, which should air in the spring.

The College of Arts & Sciences selected **Johnna Dominguez** (MA, 2015) thesis entitled "Nice Ink, Man': A Biocultural, Mixed Methods Approach to Tattooing as Costly Honest Signaling among Southern Women" for the 2015 Outstanding Thesis Award and **Paul Eubanks'** dissertation "Salt Production in the Southeastern Caddo Homeland" for Outstanding Dissertation Research Award. They will be recognized at Honors Day in the spring. Congratulations to

Johnna, Paul, and their advisers, Drs. **Chris Lynn** and **Ian Brown**, respectively.

The College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Creativity and Research Academy (UCRA) awarded \$500 to undergraduates **Ashley Daugherty**, **Nick Roy**, and **Caitlyn Walker** (Dr. **Chris Lynn**, adviser) toward travel expenses to present "Sexual Fluidity Positively Influences Group-Oriented Prosocial Behavior" at the American Association for Physical Anthropology conference in Atlanta, GA this spring.



Dr. John Blitz presents Paul Eubanks with Panamerican Award.

At the 2015 holiday party, **Paul Eubanks** was awarded the Panamerican Award for Scholarly Excellence in Archaeology, while **Jessica Kowalski** was presented with the Richard Krauss Award for Teaching, Research, and Service by a Graduate Student in Anthropology.

Thanks to support from the Graduate School, a number of our students received funds for fall research or conference travel. They are: **Martina Thomas** (\$300), **Paul Eubanks** (\$300+\$300 supplement as a graduate ambassador), **Mirjam Holleman** (\$300), **Clay Nelson** (\$200), and **Rachel Briggs** (\$200). Each of these students also has received \$100 from the Anthropology Department to give presentations at Southeastern Archaeology Conference, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, and elsewhere.

Faculty

Dr. **Jo Weaver** received an NSF Senior Award for her work on food insecurity and mental health in Brazil. This is a collaborative 3-site project with her colleagues at Emory and Duke who work in Ethiopia and Haiti, respectively. It consists of two separate grant submissions, one from UA with Jo as the PI, and one from Emory with her colleague as the PI. The grant supports 3 phases of research scheduled to span 3 years in each site.

Congratulations to Dr. **Jason DeCaro** (and Psychology collaborator Dr. Ansley Gilpin) on the receiving of a major grant from the Imagination Institute. Imagination Institute "grants are aimed at the development of better ways of assessing and promoting imagination and creativity," according to the Penn News press release. Drs. DeCaro and Gilpin "will receive \$199,940 to advance the measurement and improvement of fantasy orientation and imaginative play in children. They aim to answer two important questions to propel research in childhood imagination: How is children's imagination best defined and measured? and can imagination be stimulated to enhance children's development?"

Dr. **David Meek** is the recipient of a \$1,000 travel award. By virtue of this award, The Academic Conference and Presentation Committee recognizes his participation in The 6th International Conference of the Network of School Gardens, which “will support the dissemination of community engagement research and scholarship and provide relevant training opportunities.”

Eubanks, Malischke, & James Defend Dissertations!

Doctoral Students

We are pleased with the success of all our students, but the defense of a doctoral dissertation is a special achievement. This past fall, **Jenna James** successfully defended her dissertation, "Social Houses at Carson Mounds, 22-CO-518 as Evidenced by Dental Morphological Analysis," on August 14. **LisaMarie Malischke** successfully defended her dissertation, "The Heterogeneity of Early French and Native Forts and Settlements: A Comparison to Fort St. Pierre (A.D. 1719-1729) in French Colonial Louisiane," on August 28. **Paul Eubanks** successfully defended his dissertation, "Salt Production in the Southeastern Caddo Homeland," on November 17. Jenna and LisaMarie also received their doctorates at the graduation ceremony in December. Congratulations, Drs. James and Malischke and soon-to-be Dr. Eubanks!



LisaMarie Malischke and Jenna James in the Crisp Arena preparing for the hooding exercise (Courtesy I. Brown).

We admitted six doctoral students in the fall, including **Adrienne Bryan** (MA, UCLA), **Lessye DeAoss** (MA, UA), **Kareen Hawsey** (MA, UA), **Jenna Hurtabise** (MA, LSU), **Avery McNeece** (MA, Mississippi State), and **Camille Morgan**.

Alumni Updates

Several master's students graduated in the summer 2015, including **Lessye DeAoss**, **Johnna Dominguez**, **Kareen Hawsey**, and **Kelsey Herndon**. Congratulations to them!

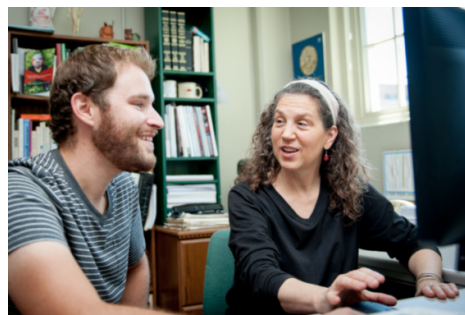
Subsequently, we welcomed a new class, including **Anna Bianchi** (BA, Birmingham Southern), **Diana Simpson** (BA, Wake Forest), **Juliann Friel** (BA, UA), **Jake Aronoff** (BA, Central Michigan), **David Scott** (BA, UA), **Larry Monocello** (BA, Case Western Reserve), and **Robert Templin** (BA, U of Pittsburgh).

Undergraduates

Several undergraduate majors graduated in the summer and fall as well, including **Laken Romine**, **Isabelle Andrade**, **Justin Beams**, **Megan Crawford**, **Michael Krause**, **Anne Lewis**, and **Lauren Nolan**. Congratulations to those students—we wish them luck whatever their futures hold and hope they stay in touch!

Alumni Updates

In 2015, Dr. **Meredith Jackson-de Graffenried** (PhD, 2009) became Country Director of Helen Keller International (HKI) for Bangladesh.



Max Stein, a UA doctoral student working in Peru, sits with Ujlgcf8f" Chg'lb\Y'campus office (Bryan Hester).

Dr. **Charlan Kroelinger** (MA, 1997), Team Leader for the Maternal and child Health Epidemiology Program at the CDC, was recognized with a Superior Leadership Award by the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Director. “She has strengthened and expanded the program through innovative staff assignments in 13 states, mentored young professionals who will carry the field into the future, and developed new tools to better understand and communicate the importance of improving quality of care to women and their infants.”



Michelle Satcher (MA, 2009) stopped by for a visit with her recent news.

?Ygm<YfbXcb (MA, 2015) has been awarded a 2016 DEVELOP Program internship by NASA. They work on remote ecological forecasting and related projects.

Daniel R. Turner (BA, 2010) has been admitted to the PhD program in archaeology at Leiden University, Netherlands. He will be joining an archaeological project focused on the monumental architecture of Mycenaean Greece.

We're very proud of our alumni and their successes! If you know of any other alumni updates, please let us know.

Lectures & Workshops



Dr. Abrams meets Dr. Jim Bindon, who helped develop our Biocultural Medical program.

In the fall, we hosted several in-house lectures and workshops and were graced by talks from a few visiting scholars. On October 8, we were able to take advantage of a visit to Tuscaloosa by Dr. Natilee A. McGruder, Director of the River Region Food Policy Council (RRFPC), who graced us with an Extemporaneous Talk called “The Local Food System: Getting to Know Your Neighbor.” On November 6, we inaugurated our new “Biocultural Anthropology and Health Lecture Series” with a talk by UAB Professor of Philosophy Marshall Abrams entitled “Modeling the Development of Sustainable Rice Production and Religious Practice in Bali.”

Several speakers participated in the *FABBL* (Friday Anthropology Brown Bag Lunch) series, hosted by the Anthropology Club. On September 25, doctoral candidate **Lynn Funkhouser** presented “The Mexican Soldiers of Greenwood Island, Mississippi.” On October 9, doctoral student **Courtney Andrews** presented “Finding Culture in Acculturation: Does Cultural Consonance Mediate the Relationship between Acculturative Stress and Health Outcomes among Mexican Immigrants?” On October 23, doctoral candidate **Rachel Briggs** presented “Public Archaeology in Western North Carolina: Recent Excavations at Spanish Fort San Juan de Joara.” On November 6, doctoral candidate **Daniel LaDú** presented “Interaction Spheres and ‘Circle-Maps’: Considering the Role that Extra-Regional Exchange Plays in the Process of Culture Change.”

On December 4, Dr. **David Meek** was kind enough to give a workshop on spatial ethnographic research design.

Finally, the Department of Anthropology is affiliated with the Alabama Lectures on Life's Evolution (ALLELE) speaker series, which hosted four lectures in the fall. On September 28, ALLELE co-hosted a talk by science personality Bill Nye the Science Guy called “The Importance of Teaching Evolution.” This was the biggest ALLELE talk to date, with thousands of people turning out for three successive giveaways for roughly 5,000 tickets. Dr. Lynn wrote a summary of the event for the EvoS Consortium (<http://evostudies.org/2015/10/how-exactly-is->

[evolution-a-crosscutting-concept-enter-bill-nye-the-science-guy/](http://evostudies.org/2015/10/how-exactly-is-evolution-a-crosscutting-concept-enter-bill-nye-the-science-guy/)). Geologist Linda Ivany (Syracuse University) gave a talk on October 15 called “The Pace of Life—The (Often) Missing Element in Studies of Evolution Using Fossils.” On November 12, historian Ron Numbers (University of Wisconsin-Madison) gave a talk called “Baptizing Dinosaurs: How Once-Suspect Evidence of Evolution Came to Support the Biblical Narrative.” And on December 3, evolutionary psychologist Rebecca Burch (SUNY Oswego) gave a lecture rescheduled from the spring entitled “Semen Chemistry: Implications, Innovations, and Controversy.”



The line for Bill Nye tickets, day 1.

Our students and faculty also gave talks around the University. Dr. **Marysia Galbraith** gave a talk about her experience in Poznan, Poland for the Fulbright Scholar Program on September 3 entitled “Memory in Fragments: Reassembling Jewish Life in Poland.” On December 4, undergraduate **Lauren Pratt** presented “Status and Stature in Two Prehistoric Burial Populations” in the Computer-Based Honors Program (faculty advisors, Drs. **Blitz** and **Jacobi**).

Faculty Research Updates

Elliot Blair has continued his research constructing social network visualizations of aggregated mission communities in 17th-century La Florida. He has also continued working on two collaborative projects using compositional analyses to examine the sourcing and circulation of glass beads in the 16th to 18th century Southeast.

John Blitz published a study of the relationship between skeuomorphs and technological change with evidence from archaeology, ethnography, and psychology. What is a skeuomorph? Look it up! Dr. Blitz co-authored a preliminary report with graduate students **Jessica Kowalski** and **Grace Riehm** on the results of the undergraduate field school investigation of Mounds A and B at Moundville Archaeological Park. The goal of the project was to date the final construction stages of the two mounds. Preliminary results suggest that Mound A construction ended by A.D. 1350, but evidence from Mound B was inconclusive.

Ian W. Brown has been preparing for an archaeological investigation at the site of Vergina (burial place of Phillip II of Macedonia) in Greece. He is the new editor of *Teocontli*, a journal that has been going since 1926 that provides a unique perspective to the history of archaeology through the use of autobiography. Dr. Brown published one book on the archaeology of coastal Louisiana and a couple of book chapters, one dealing with Plaquemine culture pottery from the Anna site in Mississippi and another on the Mangum site, a late prehistoric site in Mississippi and, with **Paul**

Eubanks, published an article in the *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology* about the archaeology of salt in eastern North America. Dr. Brown has also been working on a longtime study of the connections between prehistoric Indian mounds and historic cemeteries.



Dr. Elliot Blair & spouse Rachel Cajigas at our annual holiday party.

Jason DeCaro advanced two ongoing research projects, regarding the effects of food security and maternal mental health on child outcomes in Mwanza, Tanzania, and the psychobiology of school adjustment in West and Central Alabama. For the first of these projects, funded by the University of Alabama Research Grants Committee, he spent a month and a half in Tanzania collecting interview data regarding childcare practices and the social settings in which children develop – a follow-up on previous work where he and collaborators found subtle biological impacts of maternal depression. For the second of these projects, funded by the Department of Health and Human Services and done in collaboration with three psychology faculty, his team measured physiological stress responses in over 300 children attending Head Start programs to see how individual differences in the stress response relate to social and emotional learning during the transition into kindergarten.



Drs. Steve Kosiba and Bill Dressler.

Bill Dressler is continuing work on his National Science Foundation-funded research on gene-environment interactions and depression in Brazil. Currently he is in the process of writing manuscripts for publication based on those data, two of which have been submitted (one to the *American Journal of Human Biology* and one to the *Journal of Anthropological Research*; one paper based on the research was published in *Field Methods* in January of 2015).

Marysia Galbraith developed a new research project “Memory in Fragments: Reassembling Jewish Life in Poland,” which explores the resurgence of interest in Jewish culture in Poland and, in particular, local-level projects that preserve and commemorate tangible and intangible heritage even in the absence of Jews. She spent the 2014-2015 academic year in Poznan, Poland, funded by a sabbatical leave, Fulbright Fellowship, and UA’s Research Grants Committee Award. She will return to Poland in summer 2016 to continue research.

Keith Jacobi continued his bioarchaeological research of warfare and violence in the prehistoric Southeastern US in general and northern Alabama in particular. He is also assessing the reliability of cadaver dogs for a forthcoming article.



Drs. John Blitz and Lisa LeCount (with Dr. Jason DeCaro filling his plate).

Lisa LeCount directed the Actuncan Archaeological Project in Belize Central America for the seventh year from May 19 until July 19, 2015. Research focused on the site’s E-group, a type of mound complex known to be the earliest public architecture on many ancient Maya sites. Goals of the excavations were to determine the types of activities performed on the mounds and the date of construction episodes. The work was funded by the National Geographic Society: Committee for Research and Exploration (CRE 9658-15) and UA’s College Academy for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity.

Chris Lynn continued data collection for a study of fireside relaxation, began new data collection and analysis for the tattooing and immune response study, started a new study of the influence a career in anthropology has on family life, and initiated a collaboration to investigate the relationship between psychological absorption and the genetic polymorphism COMT.

Steve Kosiba continued his research on the religious and ritual practices that constituted Inca authority in the capital of their empire (Cuzco, Peru). He is preparing a manuscript on how the construction of the Inca temple at Huanacauri manifested Inca notions of time and divine rulership (for *Latin American Antiquity*). Dr. Kosiba recently submitted a co-authored article (with Andrew Bauer, Stanford University) to the *Journal of Social Archaeology* and two grant proposals (National Geographic Society and National Science Foundation) for archaeological and historical research at Rumiqolqa, a quarry and colony where the Inca and Spanish Empire forcibly relocated hundreds of workers to cut stone for the construction of the city of Cuzco.

David Meek is currently developing several new research projects. The first is a geostatistical analysis of rural school closings in Brazil. This study seeks to assess whether race and the development of agroindustrial capital are factors behind

the massive wave of school closures. The second is a study of learning in transnational social movement exchanges. This project explores how social movement activists learn through becoming embedded in communities of practice.



Drs. Sonya Pritzer and David Meek.

Kathy Oths continues to work up her new data on treatment choice from her restudy of the northern Peruvian Andes hamlet of Chugurpampa, where she worked over 25 years ago. Topics include changes and continuities in medical beliefs and practices, secular trends in child growth, and the demographic transition, all in the context of modernization and climate change. She has been aided in her analyses by three incredible Emerging Scholars, Hannah Smith, Rachel Madey, and Fatima Becerra. She has also finished two ethnographic films on a highland *huesero* (bonesetter) this past fall, in collaboration with Adam Booher.

Sonya Pritzker joined the faculty of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama in August 2015. She has continued to publish on the translation of Chinese medicine in various venues, including the Routledge Handbook of Chinese Translation and the Routledge Handbook of Chinese Medicine. Her recent research has been focused on an ongoing project examining the development of integrative psychologically oriented Chinese medicine (IPOCM) in China, funded by the Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. This research documents, through close ethnographic study of everyday clinical encounters, the emergence of IPOCM through interactive practice in various clinical settings.

Lesley Jo Weaver returned to rural Brazil for the 2015 field season, where she conducted preliminary research on eating habits, common recipes, and prestige and non-prestige foods in the community. This research was supported by a grant from UA's Research Grants Committee. Future phases of the work, which will also include research sites in Haiti and Ethiopia, will be funded by a National Science Foundation senior award.

Conferences, Panels, & Invited Talks

Invited Lectures

Several of our faculty were invited to give lectures around the country this past fall. Dr. **Lesley Jo Weaver** flew to Arizona State University on October 23 to give a talk for their School of Human Evolution and Social change entitled "Chronic Diseases in India: A Biocultural Approach" and another for Smith College's South Asian Studies Concentration

(Connecticut) entitled "Studying Illness in India: The Case of Type 2 Diabetes and Mental Health."

Dr. **Marysia Galbraith** was invited to give a guest lecture at UA called "Memory in Fragments: Reassembling Jewish Life in Poland" and to provide information about Fulbright opportunities for students and faculty on September 3. She gave a version of this lecture called "The Holocaust in Historical Perspective" on October 15 for Dr. Steve Jacobs' Religious Studies class (REL 223).



Drs. Jo Weaver and Kathy Oths at holiday party.

Dr. **Jason DeCaro** was invited to give a lecture as part of the William W. Winternitz Conference for the College of Community Health Science at UA in September entitled "Culture gets under the skin: The implications of everyday experience for human biology and health." Dr. **Sonya Pritzker** was also invited to give a Winternitz Lecture (December 1) entitled "Conducting Research in Integrative Medicine."

Dr. **Kathy Oths** was invited to give a lecture for the UAB Honors Program on September 28 entitled "Farmers Markets and Foodies: Conflict, Change, and Resolution in Tuscaloosa, Alabama."

Dr. **Lisa LeCount** was invited to give a Spark Talk for the Gulf Coast Exploreum on November 5th entitled "Like Water for Chocolate: The Importance of Ka'Kaw in Domestic and Political Rituals among the Ancient Maya of Central America."

Conference Panels and Presentations

Our students and faculty are always well-represented at conferences, both in terms of session organizing and presenting, and this past fall was no exception.

American Anthropological Association (AAA), 114th Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 17-22

DeCaro & **JA**. "What Constitutes a 'Constitution?' Biological Sensitivity, Canalization, and the Biocultural Substrates of Differential Resilience" in the symposium, Stress and Health from Genes to Culture: Genetic, Epigenetic, Developmental and Biocultural Interactions.

Dressler & **WW**, and **JA DeCaro**. Organized symposium Stress and Health from Genes to Culture: Genetic, Epigenetic, Developmental and Biocultural Interactions.



OAR Deputy Director Eugene Futato, Dr. Ian Brown, and doctoral candidate Erik Porth.

Dressler, ZWW. "Culture as a Mediator of Gene-Environment Interaction" in the symposium, Stress and Health from Genes to Culture: Genetic, Epigenetic, Developmental and Biocultural Interactions.

Kosiba, S. "Animism and Authority in the Indigenous Americas" in the symposium, Sacred Matter: Animism and Authority in the Indigenous Americas.

LeCount, LJ, J Yaeger, B Cap, and **B Simova** (MA, 2013). "Tangled Web: Classic-period Political Pragmatics on Naranjo's Eastern Frontier in the Mopan River Valley" in the symposium, Beyond the Familiar: Towards a Pragmatic Model for Classic Maya Political Organization.

Lynn, CD, and M Howells. "Anthropologists, Kids, and Careers: When Family is Strange and the Field Familiar" in the symposium, Hidden Motivations and Glossed Justifications: Problems and Priorities in Biocultural Field Research.

Meek, D. Organized symposium Educating for Food Sovereignty (two sessions; invited by the Culture & Agriculture section).

Oths, KS, & HN Smith (BA current). "Ecological, Social, and Cultural Contributions to Rapid Secular Change in Child Growth in Andean Peru."

Pritzker, S. "Making the Strange Familiar and the Familiar Strange: Reinventing Classical Theories of Chinese Medical Psychology in Contemporary Beijing" in the symposium, Making Strange Traditions Familiar in Conventional and Complementary Therapeutic Settings.

Pritzker, S. Organized symposium Making Strange Traditions Familiar in Conventional and Complementary Therapeutic Settings.

Pritzker, S. Organized open business meeting, Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) and Integrative Medicine (IM) Group.

Thomas, M (PhD current). "The Social Ecology of HIV Risk among Southern African American Female Youth" in the symposium Anthropology and HIV/AIDS: Has the Strange Become Too Familiar?

Weaver, LJ. "Raced Encounters in Fieldwork: Reflections and Questions" in the symposium, Hidden Motivations and Glossed Justifications: Problems and Priorities in Biocultural Field Research.

Weaver, LJ, and **CD Lynn.** Organized symposium Hidden Motivations and Glossed Justifications: Problems and Priorities in Biocultural Field Research (Invited session

sponsored by the Biological Anthropology Section and the General Anthropology Division).

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12-14**

Boxmeyer C, A Gilpin, JA **DeCaro**, J Lochman, Q Mitchell. "Power PATH: Integrated Two-Generation Social Emotional Intervention for Head Start Preschoolers and their Parents."

Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP), 7th Annual Meeting, Greenville, SC, September 24-27

Galbraith, M. "Do Not Open: Heritage in Embodied Silences."



Graduate students Kareen Hawsey, Edward Quinn, Tina Thomas, and Lessye Demoss.

Belize Archaeology and Anthropology Symposium (BAAS), 13th Annual Conference, San Ignacio, Belize, June 29-July 3

LeCount, LJ. "Founding Families, Collective Action and Urban Settlement Patterns at Actuncan, Belize."

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Nancarrow A, A Gilpin, C Boxmeyer, **JADECaro**, J Lochman. "Roles of Self-Regulation and Familial Economic Stress on Head Start School Readiness."

Thibodeau RB, MM Brown, AT Gilpin, C Boxmeyer, **JA DeCaro**, J Lochman. "Relations between Executive Functions in Childhood across Multiple Informants."

Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA), 75th Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, March 24-28

Oths, KS, & HN Smith (BA current). "Rapid Ecological, Social, and Cultural Change in the Northern Peruvian Andes and its Effects on Child Growth."

Society for Psychological Anthropology (SPA), Biennial Meeting, Boston, MA, April 9-12

DeCaro JA. "Enculturing the Brain: Toward a Neuroanthropology of Childhood."



Doctoral students Clay Nelson (left) and Ashley Stewart (right) with Dr. Cam Lacquement.

Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC), 72nd Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN, November 20

De Vore, W (Lecturer), and **K Jacobi**. "Facial Mutilations Associated with Scalpings from the Middle Tennessee River Valley" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Eubank, P (PhD current). "Salt Production in the Southeastern Caddo Homeland."

Funkhouser, JL (PhD current). "Preliminary Investigations of an Early Moundville Cemetery" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Gordon, F and **W De Vore** (Lecturer). "Surviving Childhood: Evidence of Violence in Children from the Middle Tennessee River Valley" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Hawsey, K (PhD current). "White Oak Creek Archaeology in Dallas County, Alabama."

Ide, J (Moundville). "Juvenile Identities, Communal Burials, and their Cultural Implications" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Morgan, C (PhD current). "Sticks and Stones May Break My Bones, but Warfare Really Hurts Me" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Nelson, TC (PhD current). "Debates on Group Identity: Revisiting the McKee Island Phase in Guntersville Basin, Alabama" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Stewart, A (PhD current). "Does Infection in Life Trump Treatment in Death? Burial Differences and Treponemal Infection" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities."

Thompson, B (MA, 2009). "Bioarchaeological Analysis of Prehistoric Skeletal Populations from the Middle Tennessee River Valley in North Alabama" in the symposium, Middle Tennessee Valley Excavations Revisited: Bioarchaeological Research on Personal and Communal Identities.

Thompson, VD, AD Roberts Thompson, J Speakman, **EH Blair**, and A Hunt. "All that Glitters Is Not Gold: pXRF Analysis of Gilded Beads from Spanish Period Sites in the Southeast."

Anthros in the News

In June, Dr. **Kathy Oths** was featured in *UA's Research Magazine* in "Who Will Heal?"

Climate Change Disrupts Ancient Medical Tradition in Andes" (<http://research.ua.edu/2015/06/who-will-heal-climate-change-disrupts-ancient-medical-tradition-in-andes/>). In December, Dr. **Virgil Beasley** (lecturer; MA, 1997) and **Matt Gage** (Director OAR; MA, 2000) were featured in an article entitled "Using the Future to Understand the Past" (<http://research.ua.edu/2015/12/using-the-future-to-understand-the-past/>).



Kelsey Herndon (MA, 2015) teaches Tuscaloosa Magnet School Elementary kids as part of our department's "Anthropology is Elemental" outreach program.

In the July *UA News* (<http://uanews.ua.edu/2015/07/ua-researchers-to-explore-imaginative-play-links-to-cognitive-development/>) and August 2015 *Desktop News* (<http://www.as.ua.edu/2015/08/11/does-imaginative-play-influence-cognition/>) from the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. **Jason's DeCaro's** grant from the Imagination Institute and collaboration with Dr. Ansley Gilpin (Psychology) on their project was featured.

Our departmental elementary and middle school outreach program, rechristened "Anthropology is Elemental," is pictured among the College of Arts & Sciences' "Outreach and Economic Development Programs" (http://www.as.ua.edu/about_as/outreach-economic-development-and-entrepreneurship-programs-2/).

Dr. **Chris Lynn** was mentioned among faculty selected for the 2016 Alabama-Greece Partnership (<http://www.as.ua.edu/2015/11/16/faculty-selected-for-2016-alabama-greece-partnership/>). Dr. Lynn was also mentioned in *UA News* in conjunction with ALLELE series talks by evolutionary psychologist Dr. Rebecca Burch (<http://uanews.ua.edu/2015/12/scientist-to-discuss-reproductive-chemistry-in-uas-allele-lecture-series/>), paleontologist Dr. Linda Ivany (<http://uanews.ua.edu/2015/10/paleontologist-to-discuss-skeletons-use-in-reconstructing-ecosystems-at-ua/>), and historian Dr. Ron Numbers (<http://uanews.ua.edu/2015/11/historian-to-present-lecture-on-christianity-and-dinosaurs-at-ua/>).

Department Publications

Blair, EH. Glass Beads and Global Itineraries. In *Things in Motion: Object Itineraries in Archaeological Practice*, edited by R Joyce and S Gillespie, pp. 81-99. School for Advanced Research Press, Santa Fe.

Blitz, JH, and **LE Downs***, eds. *Graveline: A Late Woodland Platform Mound on the Mississippi Gulf Coast*. Archaeological

Report No. 34. Jackson, MS: Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

Brown, IW. Plaquemine Culture Pottery from the Great Ravine at the Anna Site (22AD500), Adams County, Mississippi. In *Exploring Southeastern Archaeology*, edited by P Galloway and E Peacock. Oxford, MS: University Press of Mississippi.

Burns, R, and **D Meek.** The Politics of Knowledge Production in the Geoweb. *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*, 14(3):786-790.



Dr. Chris Lynn (in ironic costume to emcee Department Potlatch in August) with son Jagger.

DeCaro, J. Beyond Catecholamines: Measuring Autonomic Responses to Psychosocial Context. *American Journal of Human Biology*. Epub ahead of print, [doi/10.1002/ajhb.22815/](https://doi.org/10.1002/ajhb.22815).

DeCaro, J, M Manyama, and W Wilson. Household-level Predictors of Maternal Mental Health and Systemic Inflammation among Infants in Mwanza, Tanzania. *American Journal of Human Biology* Epub ahead of print, [doi/10.1002/ajhb.22807/](https://doi.org/10.1002/ajhb.22807/).

Eubanks, P, and IW Brown. Certain Trends in Eastern Woodlands Salt Production Technology. *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology*, 40(3):231–256.

James, HR*, Y Manresa*, RL Metts*, CD Lynn, and B Brinkman. The Effects of Performance-Based Education on Evolutionary Attitudes and Literacy. *EvoS Journal: The Journal of Evolutionary Studies Consortium* 71:44-56.

Lynn, CD. Family Diversity. *Anthropology News* (online), <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2015/10/28/family-diversity/>.

Lynn, CD. Cheap Thrills and Elementary Anthropology. *Anthropology News* 56 (9-10):29.

Meek, D. Taking Research with its Roots: Restructuring Schools in the Brazilian Landless Workers' Movement upon the Principles of a Political Ecology of Education. *Journal of Political Ecology* 22: 410-428.

Meek, D, and R Tarlau. Critical Food Systems Education and the Question of Race. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. Advance online publication, <http://dx.doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2015.054.021>.



Master's students April Boatwright, Allyson Harrison, and Cassie Medeiros at holiday party.

Murphy, MD, and JC Gonzalez Faraco. El Rocio del Baron de Davillier y Gustave Dore. *Exvoto* 5 (4): 161-182.

Panakhyo, M* and K Jacobi. Limited Circumstances: Creating a Better Understanding of Prehistoric Peoples through the Reanalysis of Collections of Commingled Human Remains. In *Theoretical Approaches to Analysis and Interpretation of Commingled Human Remains*, edited by A Osterholtz, pp. 75-96. Springer, New York.

Simova, B*, DW Mixer, and LJ LeCount. The Social Lives of Structures: Ritual Resignification of the Cultural Landscape at Actuncan, Belize. *Research Reports in Belizean Archaeology* 12:193-204.

Weaver, LJ, SV Madhu. Type 2 Diabetes and Anxiety Symptoms among Women in New Delhi, India. *American Journal of Public Health*, 105(11):2335-2340.

Weaver, LJ. Challenges of Mixed Methods Research. *Anthropology News* 56 (7-8):14.

Weaver, LJ. Talking about Race with “White Person Bias.” *Anthropology News* (online), <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2015/10/15/talking-about-race-with-white-person-bias/>.

*UA graduate or former student.

Opportunities for Giving

We are grateful to the many former students, colleagues, and other donors who made possible the establishment of our newest scholarship opportunity for our students, named for **Jim Knight**. According to the resolution, they “contributed \$13,687.36 to The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama to honor Dr. Knight and to promote the education of students in the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Alabama.” This was matched by \$12,500 in Capstone Foundation funds as directed by the College of Arts and Sciences to be used for the same purpose.



UA's Anthropology family, December 2015.

To ensure the continuity of this and other efforts to fund our students and programs, we humbly welcome tax-free donations toward the Vernon J. Knight Endowed Scholarship or any of the following initiatives:

The Allen R. Maxwell Endowed Anthropology Scholarship is awarded to support graduate student research in the areas of ethnography or linguistic anthropology. Established through a bequest from Dr. Maxwell's estate, it is our first award specifically dedicated to cultural anthropology.

The Anthropology Club Fund supports the activities of the Anthropology Club, which includes camping trips, workshops, and guest speakers each semester. The opportunity to participate in Club activities is critical in fostering the ethic of collegiality and professionalism so important to our Department.

The Anthropology Field School Gift Fund helps support our undergraduate field school in archaeology. Our field school receives no budget from the University and depends heavily on these gifts for supplies and operating expenses. Our annual field school for undergraduates dates back to 1956, and, traditionally, it is among the most memorable of experiences for our alumni.

The Anthropology Lectureship Fund supports distinguished guest speakers from outside the University. We try to have at least four guest speakers per year. These speakers greatly enrich our undergraduate and graduate programs by exposing our students to prominent ideas by the leading lights in our discipline.

The C. Earle Smith Award is given for academic excellence at the undergraduate level in anthropology. The annual award goes to the graduate senior in anthropology having the highest overall grade point average. Names of former "Smitty" Award winners are prominently displayed on a plaque in the Department.

The David and Elizabeth DeJarnette Endowed Scholarship in Anthropology is awarded to support graduate student research on Southeast U.S. (especially), Moundville, or Latin American-related topics. Each spring, the award is made during the popular DeJarnette BBQ, held at Moundville Archaeological Park on the Saturday of Honors Week. Since it was founded in 1993 by Sarah and James Caldwell, the endowment has steadily grown.

The Evolution Education Fund (EEF) supports evolution education activities organized by and in conjunction with the University of Alabama. EEF supports evolution education broadly construed and across academic and professional disciplines. Funded activities include the Alabama Lectures on Life's Evolution (ALLELE, <http://evolution.as.ua.edu/>), organized and hosted by the Evolution Working Group; Darwin Day activities hosted by the Evolutionary Studies (EvoS) minor and Club, which are housed in the Department of Anthropology (<http://evolutionarystudies.as.ua.edu/>); *Speaking Evolution* TV series and teacher resource site (<http://www.speakingevolution.org/>); and other evolution education-related programs and opportunities.

The Hughes Prize recognizes undergraduates who have captured the imagination of the faculty by potential,

intransigence, inventiveness, perserverance, insight, or a combination of those traits.

The Panamerican Consultants, Inc. Award (formerly The Bob Work Award) is a graduate student paper competition with a monetary prize. Archaeology graduate students submit papers for review by faculty, and the winner receives recognition at our annual Holiday party.

The Richard A. Krause Award is given for academic excellence at the graduate level in anthropology. The recipient of this annual award is chosen by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Department based on scholarship and service. It is our "Oscar."

The Vernon James Knight Endowed Scholarship in Anthropology will be awarded to students enrolled in the Anthropology graduate program who are conducting research on the anthropology of art and design, with a preference for iconography projects. Secondary consideration is given to undergraduate majors with the same research interests.

Checks directed to any of these initiatives should be made out to the UA College of Arts and Sciences and mailed to the Department at the address below. If you would like to discuss a contribution, please contact Department Chair Ian Brown (ibrown@ua.edu) or College of Arts & Sciences Director of Development Kathy Yarbrough (kathy.yarbrough@ua.edu).

Stay in Touch!

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