## ABSTRACTS OF THE SAA 81<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

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#### SYMPOSIUM ABSTRACTS

## [1] Forum · PRESIDENT'S FORUM: CLIMATE CHANGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeologists know that climate change has affected human history in the past and that increased climate variability and sea level rise is affecting people and archaeological sites now. In this forum, climate scientists and archaeologists examine climate change from several perspectives. Speakers will survey models from climate science; past climate change effects on human societies; archaeological remains as proxy climate records; climate change and plant domestication; archaeological heritage management in times of climate change.

#### [2] Symposium · FORAGERS IN MIDDLE ATLANTIC PREHISTORY

The Middle Atlantic has one of the most fertile and complicated archaeological records of human foraging societies in the United States and is arguably in a position to contribute more globally to studies of foraging culture. Yet archaeologists in the region tend to reference external forager models that do not fit the circumstances of a region so ecologically and culturally diverse. This may be due to a dearth of what has historically been recognized as prerequisite: a strong ethnographic record, well-preserved features, and perishables, as well as the complex ecological zonation of the Middle Atlantic region. Nonetheless, there is a sustained history of research into foraging lifeways throughout the region that ranges from detailed synchronic site analysis to broad-scale environmental reconstructions and settlement pattern and landscape studies. This session proposes a regionally-informed frame of reference for studying foragers in prehistory. It emphasizes the unique, problem-focused approach of Middle Atlantic archaeologists to the study of foragers and highlights the wide range of evidence and approaches that regional archaeologists foraw upon to address their questions.

## [3] General Session · CONTACT, COLONIAL AND CONTEMPORARY CARIBBEAN ARCHAEOLOGY

## [4] Symposium · COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES IN THE PRACTICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

#### (SPONSORED BY DIGITAL DATA INTEREST GROUP)

Computational techniques including visibility and least-cost path analyses and agent-based modelling have rapidly grown in archaeological research. While fruitful, this research focuses on a narrow range of themes, overlooking variability in the practice of archaeology. Archaeologists are aware of variation in archaeological investigations in patterns that are seen on local and national scales, yet we have only a partial understanding of how and why these patterns evolved through time. This situation has obscured the impact of such variability on our understanding of the past. While current efforts including the building of cyber-infrastructures acknowledge variability in sources of geographically-referenced information, they underestimate the social context of archaeologists and archaeological teams that carried out field investigations, what were their aims, and which methods and tools and they employ? Where and when did field studies take place and what weight was attached to these places of interest? To begin addressing these questions, this session calls for computational research broadly defined, on social dimensions of the practice of archaeology in any local, national, and regional context, covering any period of time.

#### [5] Forum · ARCHAEOLOGIES OF INCLUSION: TOWARDS A POLITICS OF ENGAGEMENT

#### (SPONSORED BY QUEER ARCHAEOLOGY INTEREST GROUP)

Racism, classism, homophobia, and similar "isms" continue to operate in archaeology, excluding not only people but the ideas, methods, and interpretations that comprise our discipline. This process reifies/even lauds the image (and practices) of an archaeology that is primarily white, heterosexual, upper-class, and male. Despite repeated calls from individuals, communities, and broader publics, archaeology continues to struggle to achieve what Anna Agbe-Davies (2010) calls "inclusive archaeology"— an archaeology that enables engagement with a diverse set of people and theoretical and social issues. Why have these calls not been embraced by archaeologits/archaeology more broadly? How are these 'isms' perpetuated systematically? Why do these calls for inclusion feel even more urgent in today's political and social climate? If we are to remain relevant as a discipline, then it falls upon us to embrace the radical dismantling of these oppressive systems to empower more voices in archaeology. This forum seeks to bring these conversations to the forefront and explore the ways to break down these structures, both past and present, as well as engage with broader publics. Participants will discuss successful inclusive efforts, barriers to inclusion, and posit ways to move archaeology toward a more engaged, inclusive community.

#### [6] Poster Session · SOUTHEAST

#### [7] Poster Session · ARCHEOLOGY OF THE SOUTHEAST I

#### [8] Poster Session · ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE SOUTHEAST II

## Lawrence, Ken (SWCA-Texas State University) and Jon Lohse (Coastal Environments, Inc)

# [55] Soil, Climate, and Culture Records on the Southern Great Plains

This paper compares radiocarbon chronologies for climatic and cultural changes in Texas and the Southern Plains region utilizing multiple sources. A radiocarbon baseline (>100) from select river basins across Texas helps reconstruct the alluvial histories of these catchments. This baseline establishes a framework for understanding aspects of climate change, as alluviation provides a proxy for general cycles of precipitation and aridity.

Next, the alluvial-climatic records are supplemented by a dataset of 69 XAD purified AMS-dated bison remains from archaeological contexts in Texas and Oklahoma. This dataset also provides delta 15 N and delta 13 C data that allow direct examination of climatic variability (temperature and precipitation) during sharply defined periods of bison presence.

Finally, these climatic trends are compared against three different radiocarbon-based studies of culture change. First, we evaluate (>400) 14C dates from Ft. Hood, Texas. Second, the bison dataset provides a record of cultural change, since samples represent the presence and exploitation of that resource. Third, an earlier study evaluated hundreds of radiocarbon dates and their association with certain key diagnostic point types across Texas. All radiocarbon assays have been recalibrated using the INTCAL09 curve in order to provide a consistent chronological framework.

Lawrence, Michael [120] see Cartagena, Nicaela

## Lawres, Nathan (University of Florida - Department of Anthropology) and Matthew Colvin (University of Georgia - Department of Anthropology)

# [246] Gathering Relations in an Aqueous World: Monumentality, Ontology, and the Belle Glade Landscape

Recent research on precontact South Florida has reinforced the notion that the peoples dwelling in the region inhabited a past material world much different from our own and from neighboring areas. In particular, the hydrologic characteristics of a subtropical landscape centered on the Lake Okeechobee Basin are one of the central features of both the epistemology and ontology reflected in the earliest monumental architecture in the region. Yet these worldviews and worlds were not static entities; rather, much like the rising, falling, and continual flowing of their aqueous world, these ontologies were also in motion, gradually expanding in inclusivity. This research suggests that the monumental architecture of the region is a concretization of an ontology. However, both the monumental practices and the ontology it reflects underwent transformations tied to the experiencing of a landscape undergoing its own transformations. Yet, within these transformations are visible continuities that reference the past through citational practice.

# Lazzari, Marisa, Lucas Pereyra Domingorena (CONICET-Museo Etnografico), Maria Cristina Scattolin (CONICET-Museo Etnografico), Wesley Stoner (University of Arkansas) and Michael Glascock (University of Missouri)

# [57] Social Interaction and Communities of Practice in Formative Period NW Argentina: A Multi-Analytical Study of Ceramics

South-central Andean scholarship has extensively discussed a variety of circulation and exchange practices, with particular emphasis on llama caravan long-distance trade. In NW Argentina, traditional approaches proposed that regional interaction was an increasingly centralized process, based on typological similarities observed in a variety of materials across the region. While material culture styles and traits were undoubtedly shared, the unexamined focus on similarities leaves the mechanisms, direction, and intensity of interaction to speculation. Provenance analyses can shed new light on these ancient relationships, yet focusing on single analytical techniques obscures the nuances of early interaction.

To further contribute to the detection of the intricate relationships supporting ancient networks, we implemented a multi-analytical approach to different classes of artefacts. We focus here on the results of the analysis of 542 pottery sherds from first millennium A.D. sites, as well as clay samples, obtained through petrography, NAA, and targeted LA-ICP-MS.

The results provide a platform to examine close intercommunity links rooted on common craft practices rather than solely on stylistic reconstructions, and to explore the ancient circulation of goods, skills, and people without assuming the capacity of early elites to manipulate and capitalize on such networks.

# Lea, Trevor (New Mexico State University), Danielle Soza (New Mexico State University), Candice Disque (New Mexico State University) and Kevin Conti (New Mexico State University)

# [67] Modernizing Empirical Data in Alkali Ridge, Southeastern Utah

The Alkali Ridge Project conducted by New Mexico State University is a data modernization project geared towards updating maps and providing artifact analysis around the Ten Acres community in the National Historic Landmark Southern District in southeastern Utah. Though much work in this area has been done by our predecessors, additional data is necessary to better understand the community organization. The 2015 field season allowed us to survey four sites, including the Ten Acres site (42SA15206) excavated by Alfred Kidder in 1908, a previously unmapped tower complex site (42SA4998), and two other small satellite sites. As a result of our survey at those four sites, we were able to recognize architectural similarities among them and clearly identified the Ten Acres site, which had multiple story structures and more than 40 kivas, as a community center. Further, there are a great number of medium and small satellite sites surrounding Ten Acres in addition to the ones surveyed. In this poster, we will tackle three major questions: 1) What was the role of the Ten Acres site? 2) Were other satellite sites occupied at the same time? and 3) How did these other sites interact with the Ten Acres community?

Leach, Melinda [37] see Scharf, Elizabeth

### Leach, Melinda (University of North Dakota), Elizabeth Scharf (University of North Dakota) and Ann Reed (Iowa State University)

## [37] Capstones and Competency across the Anthropology Major: Assessment of Student Learning with an Archaeological Case Study

In this poster, we examine ways in which an archaeological case study can usefully serve multiple purposes in the assessment of undergraduate student learning. In the context of our senior capstone course, we have developed a three-tiered assessment plan for examining effective learning outcomes at the course, program and general education ("Essential Studies") levels. The assignment, based on real events and surrounding controversy, asks our capstone students to reflect deeply on ethical issues, community engagement, diversity of perspectives, policy implementation, historic preservation, and archaeological responsibility. Using both direct and indirect assessment tools, we are able to address the following Anthropology program and general education learning goals: awareness of global diversity, holistic and critical thinking about local and global problems, anthropological research design, understanding sources of cultural variation, communication about anthropological theory, and ethics. Data from four years of capstone assessment will be summarized and graphically presented.

### Leach, Peter (Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut)