

# ANTHRO NEWS

THE 2020-2021 UTSA ANTHRO DEPT'S ROUND-UP REPORT



## UNDERGRAD NEWS

### NEW GRADUATES

This year we had 46 graduating seniors:

**Isabel Ager, Catherine Anderson, Rebecca Barhorst, Aaron Brown, Dawn Caballero, Kyle Curtis, Ryan Divincenzo, Daniel Farias, Elizabeth Flinn, Taylor Gould, Brianna Guerin, Ana Herrera, Fabiola Hernandez, Madison Hinojosa, Riley Jackson, Kara Lazzaretti, Justine Lopez, Seleste Makert, Tyler McCardle, Sharon McHugh Vanessa Medina-Sanchez, Sabrina Mendoza, Darla Messina, Shelby Millard, Matthew Murphee, Daisy Paredes, Kayla Pliant, Kayla Pringle, Emily Pullin, Chazelle Rivera, Emily Rogers, Jacob Sackin, Samantha Samano, Melissa Sandoval, Vanessa Sandoval, Shannon Shackelford, Ariel Seals, Hope Spears, Madeline Streeter, Hannah Sullivan, Isley Sweeney, Kailee Thompson, Mattison Tips, Matthew Trevino, Zoe Williamson, Madison Young.**

### UNDERGRAD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Kristen Alipio** (Junior) received a Natural History Research Experiences, NSF-REU site program internship with the Smithsonian for her project "Relationships Between Dental Pathology and Subsistence Strategies."

**Jason Madden** (Junior) was awarded the Department of Anthropology's Urdaneta Scholarship.

**Adrian Melendez** (Junior) completed the Mellon Humanities Pathways Program with a project that examined the role of forensic anthropology in understanding violence and death in the US-Mexican borderlands.

**Matt Morton** (Junior) was accepted into the Mellon Humanities Pathways Program.

**Charlie Sullivan** (Senior) completed the Mellon Humanities Pathway Program with a project that studied the politics of emergency food provisioning in greater San Antonio.

Additionally, Charlie has started an AmeriCorps VISTA program in Cleveland where they are responsible for developing a community garden program.

## GRAD STUDENT NEWS

### M.A. GRADS

**Emily Glotfelty**, "Variation in food availability and ranging behavior in *Colobus vellerosus* with increasing population density."  
(Faculty Advisor: Eva Wikberg)

**Alesia Hoyle**, "Watery Relations: Assessing Complex Hydrological Systems and Pastoralism in the High Andean Puna of the Bolivian Apolobamba"  
(Faculty Advisor: Rebecca Bria)

**Michael Maddox**, "Hinterland Households at La Milpa Norte Chico, Three Rivers Region, Northwestern Belize."  
(Faculty Advisor: Jason Yaeger)

**Peggy Wall**, "Hunter-Gatherer Mobility at the Chandler Site (41BX708)."  
(Faculty Advisor: Robert J. Hard)

### PH.D. PROPOSAL DEFENSES

**Clinton McKenzie**, "Population as a Barometer of Resilient Responses in Social Ecological Systems San Antonio, TX 1718-1860."  
(Faculty advisor: Robert J. Hard)

**Anna Penna**, "Small but Mighty: Unraveling the Evolution of Convergent Miniaturization within Primates Integrating Phylogenetics and Comparative Genomics."  
(Faculty advisor: Luca Pozzi)

**Shelby Samartino**, "Sexual Behaviors and Vaginal Microbiome Composition in Bonobos (*Pan paniscus*)."  
(Faculty advisors: Eva Wikberg, Thad Bartlett)

### PH.D. DEFENSES

**Rebecca DelliCarpini**, "Feminism in the Forest: Understanding Knowledge Production and the Interplay of Identity Characteristics in Conservation Work at the Centre ValBio Research Station in Ranomafana, Madagascar."  
(Faculty advisor: Jamon Halvaksz)



PhD candidate Anna Penna collecting tissue samples at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History Collection, Washington, D.C. (Photo courtesy of Anna Penna.)

**Nicholas Ellwanger**, "Pressed for Time: Foraging and Social Strategies of Chacma Baboons (*Papio hamadryas ursinus*) in a Seasonal and Anthropogenic Habitat in South Africa."

(Faculty Advisor: Thad Bartlett)

**Rebecca Friedel**, "From Earth and Sky: Human-Plant Relationships in the Ancient Mopan River Valley Socioecological System."

(Faculty Advisor: Jason Yaeger)

**Victoria Ingalls**, "Focal Nodes and Social Memory: Ancient Maya Hinterland Community Organization at San Lorenzo, Belize."

(Faculty Advisor: M. Kathryn Brown)

**Allison Koch Saroni**, "Starfish Encounters: Endangerment Ethnography in Boca del Drago, Panama."

(Faculty advisors: Michael Cepek, Patrick Gallagher)

**Tiffany Lindley**, "Life During Collapse: Sociopolitical and Economic Behaviors of Non-Elite Maya at Floodplain North Settlement Cluster, Belize."

(Faculty advisor: Jason Yaeger)

## ADDITIONAL ACCOLADES

**Grace Bagley** was awarded the Department of Anthropology's Urdaneta scholarship.

**Jeni Brett** received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program award.

(Faculty advisor: Devin Flaherty)

**Michelle Carpenter** won first place (PhD category) for her poster, "Inferring Population Dynamics throughout the Early Agriculture Period from Radiocarbon Dates" at the COLFA Spring Research Conference.



Incoming PhD student Kalei Oliver excavating in the Calléjon de Huaylas Valley, Peru (Photo courtesy of Kalei Oliver.)

**Jeffrey DeMario** was awarded

1. The Department of Anthropology's R.E.W. Adams Scholarship.
2. First place (MA Category) for his poster, "A Petrographic Analysis of Ceramics from the Prehistoric Maya Site of Hun Tun in Northwestern Belize," at the COLFA Spring Research Conference.

**Miguel Duarte**, (incoming PhD student) was awarded a Fulbright Foreign Student Doctoral Program Fellowship.

**Christina Frasier** was awarded:

1. The 2020 San Antonio Glasstire Art Writing Prize.
2. A student Educational Grant funded by the Association for Preservation Technology Texas.

**Emily Glotfelty** received a COLFA Stumberg Summer Research Award.

**Daniel Jimenez** was accepted into the National Science Foundation Cultural Anthropology Methods Program.

**Moureen Kaki** was awarded an Institute for Diversity and Civic Life's Migration Narratives Grant.

**Sara Lucci** received COLFA's Stumberg Summer Research Award.

**Rebecca Morris** was awarded an American Philosophical Society's Lewis and Clark Grant for Exploration and Field Research.

**Anna Penna** was awarded:

1. An NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement grant for her project "Unravelling the evolutionary mechanisms associated with miniaturization." (Faculty advisor: Luca Pozzi)
2. A Smithsonian Predoctoral Fellowship at the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH).
3. A Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB) Graduate Student Research Award.

**Daisy Paredes** (BA 2021, incoming PhD student) received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program award.  
(Faculty advisor: K. Jill Fleuriet).

Daisy also received Honorable Mention in this year's Ford Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Competition.



Incoming MA student Evan Miller at Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado. (Photo courtesy of Evan Miller.)



MA student Desiree Quintanilla outside the Cookhouse at Allison Guard Station in the Malheur National Forest, Oregon. (Photo Courtesy of Desiree Quintanilla)

**Cady Rutherford** was awarded the Department of Anthropology's Fox/Lewis Friends of Anthropology Scholarship.

**Shelby Samartino** was awarded:

1. First place in the Pints and Posters competition (PhD student category) at UTSA Research days.
2. COLFA's Stumberg Summer Research Award.
3. The Ernest and Aimee Bromley Endowed Scholarship (Liberal Arts).

**Christian Sheumaker** was awarded:

1. A Mary Pat and Louis H. Stumberg Endowed Scholarship.
2. A Lambda Alpha Graduate Research Grant.
3. An Alameda/UTSA Endowed Internship Scholarship.

Christian also held several notable internships last year, including with the Institute of Texan Cultures, the National Park Service, and the Bandalier National Monument in Los Alamos, NM.



Left to right: Incoming PhD student Daisy Paredes, Professor K. Jill Fleuriet, and MA student Moureen Kaki at the American Anthropological Association meetings in San Jose, CA. (Photo courtesy of Daisy Paredes.)

**Alexandra Sheldon** won second place (PhD student category) for her poster, "Learning from Captive Gibbons" at the COLFA Spring Research Conference.

**Rey Villanueva** won the President's Distinguished Diversity Award (Student category).

**Alessandra Villareal** was awarded:

1. An NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant for her project "Chronological Development of Complex Community Interactions."  
(Faculty advisor: M. Kathryn Brown.)
2. The Department of Anthropology's Gifford Scholarship.
3. First place (PhD category) for her paper "Middle Pre-Classic Ceramic Distribution in Western Belize: A Comparative Study from Early Xunantunich" at the COLFA Spring Research Conference.

**Bright Yeboah** (incoming PhD student) was awarded a Leaky Foundation Baldwin Fellowship.

## GRAD ALUM NEWS

**Lori Barkwill Love** (PhD 2020) held a post-doc internship at Shumla's Archaeology Chemistry Laboratory, where she will be worked with Dr. Karen Steelman.

Lori also received the UTSA Graduate School's award for Outstanding PhD Dissertation.

**Victoria Ingalls** (PhD 2020) has accepted a full-time position as Staff Archaeologist at Acacia Heritage Consulting.

PhD student Adam Johnson studying javelinas in Texas Hill Country. (Photo courtesy of Adam Johnson.)



**Tiffany Lindley** (PhD 2021) has accepted the position of Archaeologist at the Alamo.

**Martha Lyke** (Ph.D., 2019) was hired as Staff Scientist in the Internal Research Department at the Southwest National Primate Research Center located at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute (San Antonio).

## FACULTY NEWS

**Deborah Moon Wagner** was promoted to Professor of Instruction.

## GRANTS/AWARDS

**Rebecca Bria** won a VPREDKE Transdisciplinary Teams Program (T2) award for her project “Changing Environment in the Glacial Watershed of the Cordillera Blanca, Peru under the Warming Climate: Understanding the shifting local dynamics of water availability, agriculture, and energy production.”

**M. Kathryn Brown** won the Graduate School’s Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award.

**Michael Cepek** won the President’s Distinguished Achievement Award for Community Engagement (Tenure/Tenure Track category) and the President’s Distinguished Achievement Award for Core Curriculum Teaching (Tenure/Tenure Track category)

**K. Jill Fleuret** won the President’s Distinguished Achievement Award for Faculty Mentoring.

**Jamon Halvaksz** won the Graduate School’s Outstanding GAR - PhD award

**Luca Pozzi** was named COLFA Researcher of the Year.

## BOOKS - PUBLISHED & FORTHCOMING



**K. Jill Fleuret's** book, *Rhetoric and Reality on the U.S.-Mexico Border: Place, Politics, Home* was published (Palgrave Macmillan, April 2021).

## OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**M. Kathryn Brown** and **Jason Yaeger** spearheaded a GoFundMe campaign that raised over \$24,000 for food assistance to over 100 families in western Belize whose livelihoods depend on archaeology projects which were cancelled due to Covid-19.

**Michael Cepek**, as President of the Cofán Survival Fund, secured \$75,000 from the Betty Lou Smith Fund for the second year of the Cofán Higher Education Project, an initiative to cover the educational and living expenses of Indigenous Cofán students enrolled in Bachelors' and Masters' programs in Ecuadorian Universities.

Michael also worked with the Raíz Foundation to create the Paul Sorenson Fellowship for Studies of Humanities Work in Ecuador, which will fund the education of a doctoral student in the UTSA Department of Anthropology.

**K. Jill Fleuret** published an op-ed, *The Mischaracterization of the U.S.-Mexico Border* for Palgrave Macmillan's *Social Science Matters*, that aims to raise public awareness of the relevance of social science to address our most pressing societal problems.

**Patrick Gallagher** collaborated with San Pedro conservationist and historian Mito Paz to edit and produce a new book entitled *The History of Tourism in San Pedro, Belize*.

## IN THE NEWS

UTSA and SAMA present first public exhibition of discovered Maya artworks (UTSA Today), featuring the research of **M. Kathryn Brown** and **Jason Yaeger**, and curated by recent UTSA Postdoctoral Fellow **Bernadette Cap** (now a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at SAMA).

Remarkable Recovery: Archaeologists Rescue Maya Vessels Missed by Tomb Looters (Sombrilla Magazine), featuring the research of **M. Kathryn Brown** and **Jason Yaeger**.

Why male baboons benefit from female friends (New York Times), featuring the research of **Fernando Campos**.

Baboons show signs of prolonged stress – and the toll it takes (Nature), featuring the research of **Fernando Campos**.

Professor studies rhetoric and reality at the U.S.-Mexico border (UTSA Today), featuring the research of **K. Jill Fleuriet**.

Inspiring Change through the Wonder of Science (News - Academic Affairs), faculty profile of **Luca Pozzi**.

Where I work: San Antonio Missions National Park, profiling UTSA Anthro alum **Chantelle Ruidant-Hansen** (MA 2019).

Awards won by faculty **Michael Cepek**, **K. Jill Fleuriet** and **Luca Pozzi**, were celebrated across UTSA media, as were the NSF GRFP awards won by PhD student **Jeni Brett** and incoming PhD student **Daisy Paredes** (whose Ford Fellowship Honorable Mention also made UTSA today).

## IN OTHER NEWS...

**David Kemp** donated a collection of art objects that his parents brought back from the Sepik River area in Papua, New Guinea in the mid 1960s. These materials will be displayed in the department and used in the classroom.

**Luca Pozzi**, in his role as Faculty Champion for online learning, was featured in a Quality Matters testimonial.



Associate Professor Jamon Halvaksz (left) with David Kemp upon donation of art objects from Papua New Guinea. (Photo courtesy of Thad Bartlett.)



The collection donated by Mr. Kemp. (Photo courtesy of Thad Bartlett.)

# CENTER FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH (CAR) NEWS AND UPDATES

The Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) continues work throughout South, Central and North Texas. CAR has multiple projects in downtown San Antonio, including recently completed projects at the Alamo under the direction of **Jose Zapata** (UTSA Anthro MA 2002), as well as projects on North St. Mary's overseen by **Peggy Wall** (UTSA Anthro MA 2020), Milam Park directed by **Michelle Carpenter** (UTSA Anthro PhD student), and projects at Lockwood and Dignowity Park directed by **Dr. Lynn Kim** (UTSA Anthro PhD 2020).

CAR recently published archival research related to the Campo Santo and old Catholic Cemetery at Santa Rosa Children's Hospital in the downtown area. An outgrowth of a testing project overseen by CAR Assistant Director **Cynthia Munoz** (UTSA Anthro MA 2004), the archival report, spearheaded by **Clinton McKenzie** (UTSA Anthro PhD student) has an associated website that includes a searchable online data base designed by Dr. Jessica Nowlin (UTSA Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Classics, and CAR GIS Guru). The [web interface](#) allows visitors to search data fields (e.g., name, age at death, death date, causes of death in many cases) for burials from 1744 through 1855.

The Center has recently completed several projects for Joint Base San Antonio/ US Air Force, including site testing at Camp Bullis and Lackland, overseen by **Sarah Wigley** (UTSA Anthro MA 2018), and a survey and evaluation of sites at Laughlin Airforce base near Del Rio, overseen by **Leonard Kemp** (UTSA Anthro MA 2008). CAR has ongoing work for the Texas Military Department at multiple locations, including Camp Maxey (Paris, Texas) and Camp Swift (Bastrop). In addition, this fall CAR will begin a two-year survey and testing project along the Pedernales River at LBJ National Park near Fredericksburg.

CAR continues curatorial work, and is reviving their public and educational outreach efforts with a mix of UTSA student interns and community volunteers. Curation, interns and volunteers are under the direction of Assistant Director Munoz. Incoming UTSA Anthropology PhD student **Mikaela Razo**, in collaboration with UTSA's Dr. Marissa Munoz, Assistant Professor in Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching (COEHD), have redesigned CAR's educational/ community outreach program, Legacy. Two camps are scheduled this summer, to try out the new format which is more closely aligned to current educational standards. Legacy also plans a variety of activities in the coming year.