



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE D'ANTHROPOLOGIE PHYSIQUE

Newsletter



Message from the President

Dr. Tina Moffat, Department of Anthropology, McMaster University

I think spring has finally sprung, and I'm sure we are all looking forward to a summer of research, field work, and hopefully some R & R!

Those of you who were at the business meeting in Victoria will know we had a good discussion about a wide range of issues pertaining to CAPA moving forward after 40 years and thinking about new ways to serve our members. One of the outcomes of the meeting was an initiative spearheaded by our student representative, Amy Scott, to run a **CAPA student meet, greet and information lunch at the upcoming meeting in Toronto**. It will take place on the Friday of the CAPA meeting. Amy Scott mentions it in her student representative message (below) and there will be more details forthcoming.

We also decided to form a sub-committee to address **Tri-council (and other) funding opportunities and challenges**. We had a number of enthusiastic members volunteer to join that

committee, but if there are others who did not attend the business meeting, who would like to join the committee now, please contact me.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the **next annual CAPA meeting in Toronto at the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (UTSC), October 17-20, 2013**. Please note that the Annual Meeting will follow a slightly different schedule this year by running Thursday to Sunday, with the Opening Reception Thursday night. There will be two venues: the Friday sessions will be held at the conference hotel (the Delta East Toronto), and the sessions on Saturday and Sunday will be held at UTSC (with shuttle buses running between the hotel and the campus).

I wish you all the best for the summer and, as always, look forward to hearing from you regarding any news, concerns, or fresh ideas for CAPA.

Tina Moffat

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Inside This Issue

Member News.....	2
Message from the Student Representative.....	3
Graduate Student Profile	4
Muge Conference Report.....	5
Notes from the 2012 Business Meeting.....	6
2012 Secretary-Treasurer's Report.....	11

ANNUAL MEETING

Toronto, Ontario
October 17-20, 2013

Hosted By:
The University of
Toronto Scarborough
Campus (UTSC)

Megan J. Highet

Email: meganz@ualberta.ca

MEMBER NEWS

McMaster University

Dr. Ann Herring has received a 3-year CIHR Operating Grant (Population & Public Health) on which she is co-investigator. The title is: "Mortality Risks in Later Life from Exposure to Pandemic Influenza in Early Life: the 1890 and 1918 Influenza Pandemics in Canada." The PI is Alain Gagnon from Université de Montreal.

Dr. Tina Moffat has received a 1-year CIHR planning grant (Nutrition, Metabolism & Diabetes) on which she is PI with co-investigators: Dan Sellen (UofT), Bruce Newbold

and Sandy Isaacs (McMaster). The title is: "Changing Homes, changing food: A study of immigrant dietary change".

Dr. Megan Brickley and Dr. Tracy Prowse along with their co-applicants Dr. Michele George of Classics, McMaster University and Dr. Simon Mays, English Heritage, UK have been awarded a SSHRC Insight grant to investigate "Social-Cultural Determinants of Community Wellbeing in the Western Roman Empire: Analysis and Interpretation of Vitamin D Status". This multidisciplinary research project will provide research opportunities for a small number of highly qualified

incoming students to the Anthropology graduate program at McMaster. This project will provide a limited number of research assistant positions allowing students to gain experience of working overseas and collecting data on human skeletal remains. Students working on the project will be able to use data gathered in their dissertation research. If you have any questions or are interested in being involved please contact Megan Brickley: brickley@mcmaster.ca.

Both Matt Emery and Laura Lockau successfully defended their MA theses in August, 2012.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 Shelley R. Saunders Thesis Research Grant

Iulia Badescu, University of Toronto

**Stephanie Calce, University of Victoria*

***Robert Stark, McMaster University*

*Stephanie Calce's research was featured in Graduate Student Profile of Newsletter volume 2012, issue 1.

**Robert Stark's research is featured in the Graduate Student Profile on page 4 of the current issue.

MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Amy Scott, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba

As the winter term ends, I am sure we are all breathing a collective sigh of relief to be done our studies, research, and work for another academic year. With the end of the snow and cold our summer begins and is an opportunity for many of us to embark on our anthropological adventures, whether it be field research, field school, or writing up that pushed aside project we all have someplace on our desk. As busy and exciting as the summer term can be, it is also a time when many of us begin to think about our long terms goals, future projects, and career paths; I know for me it certainly is. No sooner do we scratch something off our “to-do” list do we begin adding new projects to it in an attempt to get organized, be productive, and prepare for the future ahead. In recognition of this academic habit, the CAPA-ACAP 2013 organizing committee and I have been busy planning the student workshop for the Scarborough meeting. The primary inspiration for this workshop was to integrate the CAPA-ACAP student membership more completely into the association experience and to focus on student needs within the discipline. The prospect of

graduating after committing so many years of our lives to academia can be daunting for many of us, so this workshop is aimed at providing students with an essential skill set for success. As the summer wears on and work begins to pile up in advance of a new academic year, keep in mind this unique opportunity at the upcoming CAPA-ACAP meeting in Scarborough where students will have an opportunity to ask one on one questions with experienced faculty members and feel confident that the endless “to do” list can be synthesized into an impressive showcase of your academic talent. I will be sending out more information regarding the student workshop in the coming months, including the time and place, how to register, and the various topics being covered by our guest speakers. With that I wish you all an enjoyable summer term, where “to do” lists are tackled and anthropological adventures are had!

Cheers,

Amy Scott

ARE YOUR DUES UP TO DATE?

You may now access a printable membership renewal form on the association website: <http://capa.fenali.net/membership/>

Did you know that you now also have the option of renewing your CAPA/ACAP membership online via Paypal?

<http://capa.fenali.net/membership/membership-via-paypal/>

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

Robert Stark, *PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, McMaster University*

My doctoral research at McMaster focuses on the use of non-metric traits (NMTs) and stable isotopes, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$, to examine population diversity and migration among Roman era skeletal samples, ca. 1st-3rd c. C.E.

The reasons why I chose to embark on this particular line of research are multi-factorial in origin. I had initially been intrigued at the potential of combining NMTs and stable isotopes since these two methods of analysis had not been combined in previous analyses. I want to see if these two different methods for gauging heterogeneity can be combined to provide increasingly refined insights about potential inter-group diversity and migration.

The second basis for the research that I am undertaking is to provide a further level of specificity as to where individuals may have been coming from when they migrated to Rome. To date a significant volume of stable isotopic research has been conducted on Roman populations, yet most research thus far has been largely focused on the outer regions of the Empire. As my particular area of focus is on the environs around the city of Rome it is the work of Prowse and colleagues that is most relevant in developing a picture of where the people who lived at Ostia-Portus migrated from, the area in which my doctoral research focuses. What I hope to contribute with my research is a finer level of resolution for potential points of migration by combining $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values, from what individuals were drinking, with $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ values, derived from the underlying geology of a region incorporated into what individuals were eating, in order to provide a multi-isotope picture of migration in ancient Rome. By utilizing both oxygen and strontium it is hoped that a more specific regionalization can be provided to help clarify points of residence. Particularly, it is hoped that the use of strontium will be helpful for providing better regional resolution for areas of relatively homogenous $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ isotopic signatures, such as the western coastline of Italy, thus helping to provide a finer gauge of where individuals may

have been migrating from into the Ostia-Portus region of the Roman Empire.

To achieve these two goals I am in the process of gathering teeth (M2) for isotopic study as well as recording NMTs, cranial, infra-cranial and dental for the samples that I will be utilizing for this study. My research will include samples from Isola Sacra and Velia in Italy, as well as samples from the Rue Jacques Brel Necropolis, France, and from Leptiminus, Tunisia. These samples represent a diverse range of groups from various regions of the expanding Roman Empire and will form the core of my study for looking at Roman migration. To collect these samples I have been undertaking fieldwork at the Museo Pignorini in Rome and at the UMR-5199 PACEA (CNRS)/Université Bordeaux 1 laboratory in Pessac, France over the fall and winter of 2012-2013.

My study will include both male and female samples in order to investigate age and geographic regions of migration as well as issues of NMT heterogeneity. It is hoped that by conducting this isotopic and NMT project my research can help to provide further insights to ongoing debates in Roman archaeology regarding who migrated and at what ages, thus providing a further dimension for getting at some of the social issues, structures, and patterns of Ancient Roman life. It is in this vein of attempting to provide a further window into the social patterns of migration and population composition that my doctoral research seeks to address.



CONFERENCE REPORT

Dr. Mary Jackes, *Department of Anthropology, University of Waterloo*



From 21 to 23 March 2013, a conference was held at a beautiful old professional school in the small town of Salvaterra de Magos in Portugal. The conference (organized by Nuno Bicho, University of the Algarve and Cleia Detry, University of Lisbon) was called Muge 150th and it celebrated 150 years of archaeological and anthropological work along the Muge River, a small tributary of the Tagus River. The Tagus is the big river that reaches the sea at Lisbon. From 7000 to 8000 cal BP, the Muge was the location of an extraordinary late Mesolithic population. The first survey was carried out in 1863 and the first excavation in 1865. The 40-50 skeletons excavated that year immediately became part of intense discussions about European prehistory. Excavations in the 1880s, 1930s, 1950s, 1960s and now in this century have provided evidence of unique sites, especially three cemetery sites on midden mounds containing also shells, bones, hearths, pits, postholes and, of course, lithics.

The Canadian input has been high. In 1969 Chris Meiklejohn spent his honeymoon measuring Muge crania. In 1983 Chris and David Lubell visited Portugal to set up a Canadian-Portuguese connection, which has never been broken. Chris, David and Mary Jackes, together with Canadian and Portuguese

students in Canadian universities, have been going back and forth to Portugal. They were joined by Mirjana Roksandic for many years from 2000.

The conference started off (after the official welcoming speeches) with Mary talking about the archival and osteological museum collections for the site which has been studied from 1865 - it has a long and complex history. David was the chair for that introductory plenary session. Chris was meant to be speaking on his long years of work in Portugal, but unfortunately was prevented by the need to have back surgery (the good news is that the surgery was wonderfully successful). Hugo Cardoso was represented at the conference in a joint poster paper with Mary. Hugo was Shelley Saunders' student and is now at Simon Fraser. Canadians now in England had their input too, especially Rick Schulting. In fact, the conference had been broadened to include many studies of European sites of the late Mesolithic or early Neolithic. Mirjana chaired a session on mortuary archaeology and gave a broad ranging talk on understanding western European burials.

Portuguese food and wine and the wonderful setting, with lots of old friends, all added to the enjoyment.