

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



Courtesy of Prof. Charles Merbs. July 1959, getting ready to leave Coral Harbour for the Sadlermiut sites.

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello CAPA-ACAP members,

Welcome to the Fall/Winter newsletter! As the weather is more fall than winter, it still seems appropriate to call this the Fall/Winter issue. Included in this issue for your reading pleasure are **two graduate student profiles**, and **an essay by Professor Emeritus Charles Merbs**, a long-time CAPA-ACAP member, on his fascinating time doing fieldwork in Arctic Canada.

Also in this issue is the exciting announcement of the inaugural meeting of the Paleoanthropological Society of Canada/Société PaléoAnthropologique du Canada (PASC/SPAC), giving Canadian paleoanthropologists an annual meeting of their own, and a way of promoting their important work. This first PASC/SPAC meeting occurred in Winnipeg, during the 43rd annual CAPA-ACAP meeting - which, by all accounts, was a resounding success. Thank you to the meeting organizers, **Drs. Robert Hoppa and Stacie Burke**, and volunteers, for coordinating this year's interesting program and events.

This year also marked a change in CAPA-ACAP's executive officers: many thanks to outgoing president **Dr. Tina Moffat**, who worked hard over the last few of years to get CAPA-ACAP's website updated alongside her other presidential duties. A thank-you must also be given to **Madeleine Mant**, our student representative, whose term is coming to an end. She has organized some fantastic student events at the annual meetings, and has set the stage for these events to continue.

Welcome to incoming president **Dr. Ian Colquhoun**, who has been our (much appreciated!) secretary-treasurer since 2005, and incoming secretary-treasurer **Geneviève Maltais Lapointe**. It will be another exciting few years for CAPA-ACAP with our new executive officers.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and have some time off over this holiday season!

Best wishes,
Jennifer

Email: jsharman@dunelm.org.uk



Just two of the many photos from the meeting.



MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Madeleine Mant, McMaster University

Dear CAPA-ACAP Student Members,

I hope that this brief missive finds you well as we approach the holiday season!

It was an honour serving as your student representative at the CAPA-ACAP meetings in Winnipeg, Manitoba, hosted by the University of Manitoba. Thank you to the U of M team for hosting such a successful event.

There were two student events at this meeting. The Student Pub Night following the opening reception was well attended and provided attendees a chance to catch up with old friends (and make some new ones) before the academic program commenced. The Graduate Student Professional Development Luncheon this year featured a panel discussion concerning publishing. The expert panelists were **Drs. Tracy Prowse, Paul Hackett, and Treena Swanston**, who provided entertaining and informative commentary about the publishing process. Thank you again to our panelists and to all the student members who attended and asked such probing questions!

At the CAPA Business Meeting I proposed that these student events should become permanent fixtures in the CAPA program and received a positive response. It will be up to the next CAPA Student Representative to keep this momentum going!

Speaking of which, I will be sending out information regarding **the nomination and election of the new Student Representative early in 2016**. Feel free to contact me if you would like information regarding the position.

Please continue to **submit your Graduate Student Profiles** to me at mantml@mcmaster.ca. We would love to feature as many students as possible on the new CAPA website. Profiles should contain the following information:

Name
E-mail
Affiliation
Degrees Attained
Supervisor(s)
Thesis/Research topic/title
Research interests (up to three)
Photograph of you in the field/lab

I wish you all a joyous and restful holiday!

Best wishes,
Madeleine





In May 2015, we sent out a call to colleagues at Canadian universities who work on any aspect of human and primate evolution to join us in establishing the Paleoanthropological Society of Canada / Société PaléoAnthropologique du Canada (PASC/SPAC). We received a very encouraging response and decided to hold an inaugural session at the CAPA meeting in Winnipeg. We believe that Canadian scholarship in palaeoanthropology, evolutionary anthropology and Palaeolithic studies has reached a critical mass that merits an establishment of our own society, which will serve to bolster communication, provide a forum for discussion of novel ideas, and support research by faculty and students. The long term goal of the society is to help promote proper understanding of the discipline by 1) granting agencies, by establishing it as a recognized research area by the Tri-Council; and 2) the general public, by advocating for inclusion of human evolution into school curricula. More immediately, it will provide connections for students and faculty across various institutions with palaeoanthropology research and graduate study opportunities.

The society will join other anthropological research groups that fall between the cracks of Tri-Council funding – medical anthropology, bioarchaeology, palaeoepidemiology – to promote success of the discipline in obtaining Tri-Council grants.

The inaugural meeting was held at the University Club of the University of Winnipeg (co-sponsored by the University of Winnipeg Department of Anthropology and Dean of Science) during the CAPA/ACAP meeting in Winnipeg on the 29th of October. The meeting, organized by Mirjana Roksandic (University of Winnipeg) with the help of graduate student Kirsten Bruce (University of Manitoba), was attended by David Begun, Mary Silcox, Michael Schillaci (University of Toronto), Susanne Cote (University of Calgary), Pamela Willoughby (University of Alberta), David Hopwood (Vancouver Island University), Sarah Richer (University of Manitoba), Vance Hutchinson (Yukon

College), Chris Meiklejohn (University of Winnipeg), Andrew Nelson (Western University), as well as graduate students Kathy Pitirri (University of Toronto), Jeff Werner (University of Alberta), Kirsten Bruce, Joshua Lindal, Kaitlynn Alarie (University of Manitoba), and undergraduate student Amber Tetreault (University of Winnipeg).

Mirjana Roksandic was elected as the President of the society and Mary Silcox as the Secretary/Treasurer. Within the next few months, we should move towards creation of an official society webpage, procurement of an official domain, and webmail account.

It was decided that PASC/SPAC should hold annual meetings in conjunction and collaboration with CAPA/ACAP and the next meeting will be held in Peterborough.

We'll keep you posted on all developments.

In the meantime, we are putting out the call for anyone interested in coming up with a design for our logo. We will try to get t-shirts and mugs with the logo to be purchased in Peterborough and the winner will get a t-shirt free (fair enough!)

CAPA Student Prize Winners

Congratulations to this year's Davidson Black and Oschinsky-McKern Award winners!

Creighton Avery, McMaster University, is the 2015 winner of the Davidson Black Award for Best Poster Presentation. Her poster was entitled 'The Challenges of Determining Social Status and Impact of Misidentification'.

Adrianne Offenbecker, University of Calgary, is the 2015 winner of the Oschinsky-McKern Award for Best Podium Presentation for her paper 'Examining Violence at Casas Grandes, Mexico Using Strontium Isotope Analysis'.



Madeleine Mant, McMaster University, was given an honorary mention for her podium paper, 'Femoral Neck Fractures in Post-Medieval Urban London: Palaeopathology and Patterns'.

Tina Moffatt congratulating Creighton Avery (*left*) and Adrianne Offenbecker (*right*) for their award-winning work.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Lakehead University

Dr. Matt Tocheri recently returned to Canada as the Canada Research Chair in Human Origins at Lakehead University. Dr. Tocheri conducts archaeological excavations on Flores in search of new evidence of *Homo floresiensis* and the environment it lived in. He also compares the skeletons of modern humans, great apes, and fossil hominin species to improve our understanding of how hand and foot morphology evolved to meet the functional demands of tool behaviour and bipedalism in humans.

Students interested in working with Dr. Tocheri on paleoanthropological research are encouraged to apply to the Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree program in Biology at Lakehead University (<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/graduate/programs/masters/biology/node/7277>). The application deadline is February 1st, 2016.

McMaster University

The McMaster Department of Anthropology is pleased to recognize the successful defences of two students:

Joelle Ingram, MA, for her thesis "Activity and Aging in Adult Males: Investigation of Entheses and Cortical Bone from the Late Roman Period Site of Lisieux-Michelet in Northern France."

Kandace Bogaert, PhD, with her thesis, "Casualties of War? An Ethnographic Epidemiology of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic Among Soldiers in Canada."

Kandace will begin a postdoctoral fellowship with Dr. Mark Humphries, Dunkley Chair in War and the Canadian Experience; Director, Laurier

Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies (LCMSDS). She will teach a course on Digital History and undertake research on the understanding of mental health, as seen through the diagnosis, treatment and pensions of soldiers in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (WWI).

University of Manitoba

Graduate student **Kirsten Bruce** writes:

'As part of my Master of Arts research at the University of Manitoba, my advisor (**Dr. Tracey Galloway**,

University of Toronto) and I conducted interviews in Yukon First Nations during July, 2015.



Kirsten Bruce in Yukon.

Photo credit: Dr. Tracey Galloway

This research was part of a larger CIHR-funded project, "Access to federal health programs" CIHR 134071, in which federally funded health programs in Yukon are being assessed for their ability to reduce health disparities. Our interviews were fundamental for this research as it allowed for the exploration of community-driven ideas about how health care is accessed. These discussions will be used to create a model of current health status and suggestions to reduce health disparities that exist. To support research in this area, I also

attended a field course called CASE:

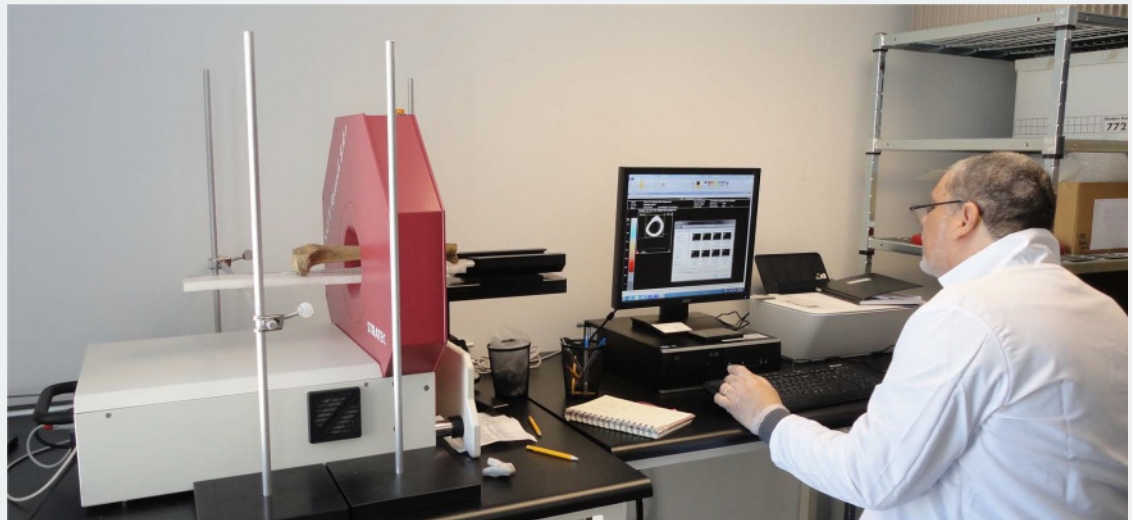
Collaborative Arctic Seminars in Epidemiology, hosted by the University of Alberta, held in Yellowknife, N.W.T., in August 2015. Here we

were able to holistically explore current health issues that exist in circumpolar populations both in Canada, and globally. The knowledge gained from this experience will help to support an understanding of health conditions that are unique to First Nations, as well as relatively northern communities.'

University of Montreal

The Department of Anthropology at the Université de Montréal recently inaugurated a new laboratory for the analysis of osteological remains. The "Ecomorphology and Paleoanthropology laboratory" (director: **Ariane Burke**; co-directors: **Michelle Drapeau** & **Isabelle Ribot**) was funded by the Canadian

Foundation for Innovation and is affiliated with GEOTOP, a scientific consortium based in Montreal. Our primary mission is to conduct ecomorphological analyses of both faunal and human skeletal remains. We offer training in microscopy (Olympus DSX-100 stereo-microscope and Olympus BX43 TurboScan microscope), in the use of a pQCT scanner (quantification of bone density, cross-sectional images), radiography, three-dimensional surface scanning (NextEngine), and the making of thin



Dr Alberico Nogueira de Queiros, visiting professor from the Universidade Federal de Sergipe (Brazil) using the CT scanner for a collaborative ecomorphological project.

sections of mineralized tissues. Information about the associated costs of training is available on our GEOTOP website (see below) and our technician, **Dr. Youssef Chebli**, would be happy to answer your questions.

<http://www.geotop.ca/fr/bases-de-donnees/10-laboratories/1173-laboratoire-d-ecomorphologie-et-de-paleoanthropologie.html>

The Anthropology Department of the University of Montreal is please to recognize the following student research in bioarchaeology from 2015:

B-Hardy, Marie-Hélène. Étude comparative de l'origine et de l'hétérogénéité de populations historiques de Montréal et de Québec par l'analyse de la morphologie dentaire: le cimetière catholique de la première église Notre-Dame (1691-1796) et le cimetière protestant Saint-Matthew de Québec (1771-1860). MA thesis, University of Montreal. Supervisors: Ribot, Isabelle (U. of Montreal) & Anne-Marie Grimoud (Toulouse U., P Sabatier).

Deswarte, Caroline. Étude exploratoire sur les origines du peuplement de l'île de Madagascar: Une approche de craniométrie comparative appliquée sur des populations modernes. MA thesis, University of Montreal. Supervisors: Ribot, Isabelle (U. of Montreal) & Froment, Alain (Musée de l'Homme, Paris)

Houle-Wierzbicki, Zocha. Étude paléopathologique préliminaire à travers l'analyse macroscopique et scannographique: exemple du cimetière Saint-Matthew, ville de Québec (1771-1861). MA thesis, University of Montreal. Supervisors : Ribot, Isabelle (Montreal U.) & Auger, Réginald (Laval U., Québec).

Janson, Rebecca. Frontières et identités: Étude des décors céramiques dans la région des monts Mandara et de ses plaines (Nord-Cameroun/Nord-Nigéria) à l'Âge du Fer. PhD thesis, University of Montreal. Supervisors: Ribot, Isabelle (U. of Montreal) & Scott MacEachern (Bowdoin College).

Pothier-Bouchard, Geneviève. Grotte du Bison: deux chasseurs pour un gibier. Analyse archéozoologique de la couche I-J sur le site moustérien de la Grotte du Bison, Arcy-sur-Cure (Yonne, France). MA thesis, University of Montreal. Supervisor : A. Burke (U. of Montreal).

Toupin, Rémi. Évolution des pratiques alimentaires en cours de vie: une étude isotopique multi-matérielle de la population du cimetière Saint-Matthew (Québec, 1771-1860). MA thesis, University of Montreal. Supervisors : Ribot, Isabelle (U. of Montreal) & Hélie, Jean-François (Geotop, UQAM).

2016 CAPA/ACAP MEETING DESTINATION: PETERBOROUGH

Drs. Anne Keenleyside and Jocelyn Williams, of the Department of Anthropology at Trent University, will be hosting CAPA for the 44th annual meeting in **October 2016**. Look out for more information on the CAPA/ACAP website: capa-acap.net

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

University of Winnipeg

From Professor Emeritus Chris Meiklejohn:

Brewster, C., **C. Meiklejohn**, N. von Cramon-Taubadel & R. Pinhasi, 2014. Craniometric analysis of European Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic samples support discontinuity at the Last Glacial Maximum. *Nature Communications* 5: 4094 doi: 10.1038/ncomms5094.

Syms, E.L., K. Brownlee, D.A. Ens, C.G. Hill, L. Larcombe, **C. Meiklejohn**, A.K. Peach & M. Thompson, 2014. *Stories of the Old Ones from the Lee River, Southeastern Manitoba: the Owl Inini, Carver Inini and Dancer Ikwe*. Winnipeg: The Manitoba Museum, 128 pp.

Meiklejohn, C., M.J.L.T. Niekus & J. van der Plicht, 2015. Radiocarbon dating of Mesolithic human remains in the Netherlands. *Mesolithic Miscellany*, 23(2), 3-48.

Merrett, D.C. & **C. Meiklejohn**, 2015. Living in a marginal environment: climate instability and possible lathyrism in the Syrian Neolithic. In S. Kerner, R. Dann & P. Bangsgaard Jensen, eds., *Ancient Climate and Society*, Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 245-266.

Brewster, C., R. Pinhasi & **C. Meiklejohn**, 2015. Human craniometric variation supports discontinuity at the Late Glacial Maximum in Europe. In F.W.F. Foulds, H.C. Drinkall, A.R. Perri, D.T.G. Clinnick & J.W.P. Walker, eds., *Wild Things: Recent Advances in Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Research*, Oxford: Oxbow Books, 106-118.

Jackes, M.K., D. Lubell, H.F.V. Cardoso, J.A. Anacleto & **C. Meiklejohn**, 2015. Cabeço da Arruda in the 1860s. In N. Bicho, C. Detry, T.D. Price & E. Cunha, eds., *Muge 150th: The 150th Anniversary of the Discovery of Mesolithic Shellmiddens - Volume 1*, 45-58. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press.

Meiklejohn, C. & J. Babb, 2015. Cranial morphology and population relationships in Portugal and Southwest Europe in the Mesolithic and terminal Upper Palaeolithic. In N. Bicho, C. Detry, T.D. Price & E. Cunha, eds., *Muge 150th: The 150th Anniversary of the Discovery of Mesolithic Shellmiddens - Volume 1*, 239-254. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press.

REBURIAL OF ST. MATTHEW'S PROTESTANT CEMETERY HUMAN REMAINS: PUBLIC LECTURE

Isabelle Ribot, University of Montreal, and Megan Brickley, McMaster University

This public lecture took place at Laval University (Archaeology Laboratory) in Quebec City on December 4, 2015. Its objective was to thank the Anglican community for their support in allowing us to study the 204 burials recovered at the 19th century St. Matthew cemetery that had been reburied a month earlier. Many researchers and students from various universities (Laval University; Montreal University; University of Quebec, Montreal; McMaster University) and institutions (Ville de Québec; Geotop; INRS) presented their results on various aspects of the past living conditions (health, diet, origins, etc.).

The day was split into two parts. In the morning, general topics related to St. Matthew's cemetery were presented by various speakers, such as: heritage management (William Moss), cemetery excavation (Daniel Simoneau), funerary practices (Robert Larocque), general bioarchaeology (Isabelle Ribot), archaeometry (Jean-François Hélie), metabolic diseases (Megan Brickley), biomechanical morphological studies (Michelle Drapeau) and medical imaging (CT scan database) (Geneviève Treyvaud).

In the afternoon, various students presented their recent research on the St. Matthew's collection. The topics included: the use of CT scan and histology in palaeopathology (Zocha Houle-Wierzbicki & Emeline Raguin), dental histology for investigation of residual rickets (Lori D'Ortenzio),

Denny Caron, Rémi Toupin) and biodistance analysis using dental morphology (Marie-Hélène B-Hardy).

The day ended with a touching word from Mia Anderson (past reverend of the Anglican Diocese of Quebec City) underlining the connection between science and faith. Marie-Sol Gaudreau, the current director, expressed her gratitude to the researchers and institutions for their time and effort.



multiple isotopic data on diet and mobility (Jacinthe Vigeant, Fanny Morland,



Clockwise from top right: Emeline Raguin & Zocha Houle-Wierzbicki; Marie-Hélène B-Hardy; Jacinthe Vigeant; Lori D'Ortenzio.

DRESSING FOR DINNER

Professor Emeritus Charles Merbs, Arizona State University

'Dressing for Dinner' is one in a series of essays by Charles Merbs on his bioarchaeological adventures in the Canadian Arctic. Professor Merbs became a member of CAPA-ACAP about two years after it was founded, and very nearly ended up accepting a museum position in Canada. Alongside his published academic papers, another essay was featured in the Canadian Archaeological Association's newsletter in Winter 2013 (Vol. 31, Issue 2). Another piece by Prof. Merbs, a fictional account of the death and burial of an elderly man in the Canadian Arctic around 500 years ago, with the events described by his granddaughter, has been published in *Emeritus Voices* (reference below; contact Prof. Merbs at Charles.Merbs@asu.edu for a copy).

Merbs, Charles F. 2014. Playing Ball in the Sky. *Emeritus Voices* Vol. 15, pp. 108-113.

June 1959. Dr. Jack Hildes met us at the Winnipeg airport, two professors named Chard and Van Stone, and me, a young graduate student. After helping us check into our hotel, Dr. Hildes—he preferred Dr. Jack—announced that we would be his guests for dinner that evening and waited in the lobby while we went back to our rooms to freshen up. The professors came down wearing jackets and ties; I wore the best clothes I had jammed into my duffel bag.

I was on my way to the remote Canadian Arctic and couldn't contain my excitement. I was off to the land of ice and snow, where the people we called Eskimos (they call themselves Inuit) wore skin clothing, lived in snow houses, traveled by dog sled, and hunted the mighty polar bear, or at least that was my image. It was also the land of the fearless explorer, who searched, sometimes at great cost of life, for the Straits of Anian, the body of water that would allow traders to sail across the northern end of the continent to reach the riches of the Orient, thereby avoiding the long and arduous journey around the tip of South America. In my mind, the Arctic explorer always had a beard, a full beard, covered with frost.

Now that rugged Arctic explorer would be me and I felt I had to look the part. It was imperative that I too have a beard where frost could find a home. I was 22 years old and had been shaving for some time, but could I actually grow a respectable beard while in the Arctic, or would my effort be nothing more than a puny, scraggly thing met with smiles of pity from those who saw it? Best not take a chance, I thought. Get a head start. If it looked as though I was going to end up with something less than explorer quality, I could simply shave it off and pretend I never tried.

By the time I reached Winnipeg, I had assured myself that it would work. What I had managed to grow so far did look like the beginning of a real beard, so I saw no need to shave it off. I had also stopped getting haircuts. After all, a hairy lower face needed a good scruff of hair above to make the frame complete.

The clothing I packed for the trip was a combination of military surplus and fashions that were long out of style. What from this wonderful wardrobe would be best suited for dinner that evening? After all, Dr. Jack was a successful physician. It would probably be a pretty nice restaurant. Well, I had a red turtleneck shirt that

nicely accented the newly purchased khaki woolen shirt I wore over it. I don't recall the style of trousers I chose, but I'm sure they were surplus khaki and thus went nicely with the shirt. Red socks would match the turtleneck, I reasoned, and the ensemble was highlighted by white shoes. White bucks had been immensely popular, but the fickle winds of style had moved on and they were now passé. So, why not take them to the Arctic, I reasoned. Get as much wear out of them as possible, and just abandon them on the tundra. They would blend in beautifully with the next snow fall.

Add to this a pair of dark glasses. My regular glasses had broken just before leaving home and I was told there was a place in Winnipeg that could produce a new pair in two days. But I had just arrived and was very dependent on my eye prescription; at the moment the dark prescription lenses were all I had.

Dr. Jack gave me an odd look when he saw my attire, but didn't say a word.

Before heading off to dinner, he took us to his apartment for drinks. He was unmarried, so there was no wife to meet, but I remember a truly elegant apartment. What really impressed me was his art collection, the finest display of Inuit and Indian art I had ever seen. Crowning the collection were some truly magnificent Inuit stone carvings. Also on display were natural objects that had an artistic quality to them, like animal bones and unusually shaped rocks. I picked up an object that looked like a small baseball bat, about two feet in length, a heavy natural bone with a slight shine on it. It was familiar to me from photographs, but this was my first experience with the real thing, the amazing penis bone of a walrus. Dr. Jack smiled when he saw me take an interest in the bone. He commented that a young lady had come to a party at his apartment recently and had also taken an interest in the bone.

"What a beautiful thing," she said, as her fingers traced the smooth contours of the bone. "But what is it? I give up."

"Well, it's something that a male walrus has and a female doesn't," was his response.

She pondered this for a time before responding. "OK, I know. It's a tusk," she said with a proud smile.

"Okay," he replied, and left it at that.

"I have a dinner reservation for us at my private squash club, and I think we better be on our way."

Then he surveyed my attire and frowned.

"I guess you didn't bring a jacket. Unfortunately, the club requires a jacket, not a tie, but they do require a jacket. Try on one of mine."

Unfortunately, Dr. Jack was smaller than me with short arms, so I wasn't very hopeful. I was right. All of his jackets were very tight on me and the ends of the sleeves didn't come close to reaching my wrists. We finally picked the largest one, a nice tweedy plaid number with sleeves a bit longer than the others, but still much too short. At least it would meet the requirements of the club.

He stepped back to survey the strange guest he was taking to his posh private club and just smiled. What a sight I made. Scruffy hair and long whiskers that were meant to pass for a beard, khaki pants and shirt with a bright red turtleneck peeking out at the collar, bright red socks and white shoes, a tweedy plaid jacket that was several sizes too small, and dark glasses. Perhaps the other members having dinner at the club would have pity on me, thinking me blind and not knowing what I had chosen to wear.

What Dr. Jack couldn't see was the crowning glory of my ensemble, a pair of red boxer shorts, perhaps the brightest red underwear this planet had ever seen. At least they wouldn't be a factor in my getting into the squash club, unless the bouncer had x-ray vision.

Finally, he just laughed. "I'll pass you off as a brilliant but eccentric young artist. It'll work."

We got some strange looks at the club that night, but no one challenged my right to be there. "What kind of art does he do," I heard several people whisper to Dr. Jack. He whispered something back that I was unable to catch, but the response would always bring a smile and a knowing nod. Perhaps they were even familiar with my work.

"Okay," I said when we left the club. "What kind of artist am I?"

"Did you have a good time?" was his only response.

"Yes, sure I did. It was a blast. But what kind of artist am I?"

"Sorry, but that's my little secret."

And it remains his secret. I always wondered what kind of artist I had been on that remarkable occasion.

As the Arctic summer progressed, I was pleased to discover that I could grow a beard to make any explorer proud. It was too warm for frost to nestle in it but you can't have everything. The Inuit children felt they needed a name for me in their own language. Neat. Every Arctic explorer had an Inuit name. What they came up with was *Oomaleek*, which could be translated as 'the bearded one'. The Inuit don't have much facial hair so my beard really stood out. I was immensely proud of their choice.

CONFERENCES

Working Your Fingers to the Bone - An Interdisciplinary Conference on Identifying Occupation from the Skeleton: Coimbra, Portugal. July 6–8, 2016. Go to:

http://www.uc.pt/en/cia/events/Occupation_Conference_2016 (also see flyer on page 19)

European Association of Archaeologists: Vilnius, Lithuania. August 31–September 4, 2016. Go to: <http://eaavilnius2016.lt/>

International Primatological Society/American Society of Primatologists: Chicago, Illinois, USA. August 21–27, 2016. Go to: <http://www.ipschicago.org/>

Paleopathology Association (North American meeting): Atlanta, Georgia, USA. April 12–13, 2016. Go to: <https://paleopathology-association.wildapricot.org/event-1947300>

Paleopathology Association (European meeting): Moscow, Russia. August 15–19, 2016. Go to: <http://www.21ppa2016.com/>

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

Creighton Avery, MA Candidate, McMaster University

Like many people, my love of archaeology began when I was a child. Knowing my interest in history, being outdoors and playing in the dirt, my parents sent me to a summer camp at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology. It was here, at the age of seven, that I participated in my first dig, and fell in love with archaeology.

Since this initial exposure, I have taken every opportunity to surround myself with archaeology. From a high school co-op at that same museum, working as a volunteer on a dig in Peru during my gap year, and obtaining my BA (Honours) from Trent University (2013), I quickly realized archaeology is about a lot more than history and playing in the dirt.

After participating in a field school in mortuary archaeology and human osteology during my undergraduate degree, I realized that I was most interested in bioarchaeology. Seeing how our lives become imprinted on our bodies, and how much of our lived experiences stay with us after death was fascinating. After completing my bachelor's degree, I worked for a CRM firm in London, Ontario, before completing an internship in historic conservation in Akko, Israel. While I loved the work related to conservation and preservation, it was evident to me that I wanted to continue with bioarchaeology.

Following my interest and passion, I am now a Master's student at McMaster University, supervised by Dr. Megan Brickley. My thesis research looks at differences in dental health by sex, gender, and social status group, in a Roman British cemetery sample from Winchester, UK. Ultimately, I hope to better understand sex- and

gender-based differences in the sample, particularly if the differences in dental health between males and females of the higher social status group are similar to the differences between males and females of the lower social status group.

It is generally accepted that Roman society had a defined set of social classes that permeated all aspects of society, and that women were not considered equal to men. However, gender inequality is not black and white, but can be experienced differently between social classes. Ethnographic, clinical, and archaeological evidence has shown that gender differences are not experienced uniformly within a single society, but inequalities can be influenced by numerous aspects of identity, including social status.

Dental health is an excellent tool to analyze such differences. As dental health is influenced by diet, including the composition (carbohydrates or proteins) and consistency (sticky or coarse) of foods, by examining dental health conditions, we can begin to understand the types of foods individuals were eating. Differences in dental health, especially in a community with limited exposure to oral hygiene, can therefore be interpreted as differences in food consumption



Creighton and her prize-winning poster.

and access to resources. Primary texts have stated that men had better access to higher status foods (i.e. meat, marine sources), while



Creighton and colleagues working on a site in Poland.

women consumed diets that were higher in carbohydrates. However, these texts were often written about Rome itself, and may not accurately reflect life in Roman Britain. As a result, my research aim is to understand the differences and similarities in lived experience between gender- and sex-based groups, as well as between social status groups.

Outside of academia, I volunteer with Scouts Canada. Primarily, I work with Venturer and Rover Scouts (16-26 year olds) who complete international development projects. After being approached by a community with a project in mind, we develop a team, learn about the cycle of poverty and other pertinent issues, and then travel to the country to help complete the project. This summer will mark the 10th anniversary of working with Ambato Boeni, a rural village in north-western Madagascar. Past projects have included building wells, community and hurricane shelters, school dormitories, bathroom blocks and more. Each time I travel with Scouts Canada, I am more impressed with our youth and their willingness to commit themselves and

give everything they can to others. I am also inspired by the communities we visit, who welcome us with open arms, bring us into their homes, and share their world with us.

I have been incredibly fortunate in my studies to have been able to travel around the world, to follow my passion, and study materials that interest me the most. Looking back, it's incredible to know that all these experiences began with a seven-year-old girl on a dig. As a Scouter, I've been asked to lead activities and discussions on archaeology with younger Scouts. For the Beaver Scouts (6-7 year olds), I set up a mock-dig, and let them find old spoons, bones from dinners, small toys, and more. As I was standing back, letting them explore and 'excavate' it dawned on me: my first exposure to archaeology was staged. I was stunned, thinking my whole world was built on a lie. But this thought quickly left as a Beaver Scout came running over to me with a pork rib (saved from another Scouter's dinner) shouting, "I FOUND A DINOSAUR!!!"

While the dig may not have been real, the feelings of excitement and discovery certainly were. So who knows, perhaps that Beaver Scout is a paleontologist in the making.



Creighton and the original owner of the bone?

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

Adrianne Offenbecker, PhD Candidate, University of Calgary

Adrianne is a PhD candidate in the Department of Anthropology & Archaeology at the University of Calgary under the supervision of Dr. M. Anne Katzenberg. Her doctoral research examines prehistoric violence in northwest Mexico and how this social phenomenon relates to emerging social inequality, ritual practices, and population aggregation. Adrianne completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Florida, her master's degree at North Carolina State University and has also conducted archaeological fieldwork in Thailand and the Caribbean. Adrianne became interested in bioarchaeology because it allows her to combine the natural and social sciences to understand human behaviour in the past.

Adrianne's doctoral research focuses on understanding the nature of violence at the prehistoric site of Casas Grandes, also known as Paquimé, located in northwest Chihuahua, Mexico. Casas Grandes is an ideal location to study this social phenomenon because the large skeletal assemblage recovered from the site exhibits trauma patterns and mortuary treatment indicative of both interpersonal and ritual violence, including human sacrifice and suspected cannibalism. In addition, many of the common catalysts for violence, including social

inequality, population aggregation, and cultural heterogeneity, were present in this society.

While previous studies have examined some of the circumstances under which violence may have emerged at Casas Grandes, little is known about the individuals involved. As such, the primary goal of her research is to determine who the victims of violence were with regard to their place within the Casas Grandes society. More specifically, were they considered to be

members of the local community or outsiders, such as immigrants or captives? The idea that immigrants would be the targets of violence derives from social theory on intergroup bias, whereby individuals tend to favour members of their own group (the ingroup) over members of the outgroup. An individual's status as a local or an immigrant may also have influenced their access to resources during life, their treatment after death, and their overall social status within the society.



Adrianne taking field notes and cataloging artifacts at Promtin Tai, Thailand.

Adrianne is using strontium and oxygen isotope analysis to determine the geographic origins of the individuals buried at Casas Grandes in order to identify whether locals or immigrants were the victims of violence. The utility of this method lies in its ability to directly identify the migratory individuals themselves, as opposed to the use of associated proxies, such as non-local artifacts, whose presence at a site may be due to other processes, such as emulation or trade.

Samples for this study were collected over the course of two summers and thus far,

Adrianne has conducted strontium isotope analysis on the initial sample (N=36), which includes 18 individuals who exhibit evidence of interpersonal and/or ritual violence, as well as post-mortem corpse processing (e.g. cutmarks, burning, scalping).

Her preliminary results point to a potential relationship between geographic origins and violence at Casas Grandes, as the majority of suspected human sacrifices and individuals with skeletal trauma exhibit non-local strontium isotope signatures. In addition, she found that the majority of individuals with local strontium isotope values were interred in a customary sub-floor burial pit, whereas the majority of non-locals were recovered from room fill or floor surfaces and were highly disarticulated and fragmentary. This suggests that non-local individuals were not afforded a proper burial and were treated poorly after death when



Adrianne in the field at Promptin Tai, an archaeological site in Lopburi, Thailand.

compared to their locally-born counterparts. Many of the non-local individuals also exhibit skeletal evidence of physiological stress, indicating they did not have adequate access to resources or buffers against disease stress during life. When combined, these data suggest that the victims of violence were predominantly non-local and many were of low social status within the Casas Grandes community.

Adrianne's doctoral research is part of a larger, multi-faceted research project led by Drs. Anne Katzenberg (Primary Investigator) and Jane Kelley (Co-Investigator) and funded by

a SSHRC Insight Grant. The Casas Grandes bioarchaeology project includes a wide-range of analyses (dietary reconstruction via stable isotope analysis, aDNA, radiocarbon dating, paleopathology, and paleodemography) aimed at understanding the nature of violence in the Casas Grandes region from ca. 900–1450 AD.



Casa Grandes, northwest Chihuahua, Mexico; it is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

FIELDWORK OPPORTUNITIES

McMaster University: Vagnari, Italy

Dates: July 2 – August 8, 2016

Tracy Prowse is offering her bioarchaeology field school in southern Italy again this year.

The Vagnari Bioarchaeological Field School will run from July 2–August 8, 2016. This excavation of a Roman period cemetery through the Department of Anthropology, McMaster University, gives students the opportunity to excavate burials, and record and analyze human skeletal remains and artifacts. For more information please go to: <https://anthropology.mcmaster.ca/field-schools/bioarchaeological-field-school-1>, or contact Dr. Tracy Prowse (prowset@mcmaster.ca)

Laurentian University: Cano Paloma Biological Station, Costa Rica

Dates: June – July 2016

Apply by March 15, 2016, to Dr. Kimberley Snarr (ksnarr@laurentian.ca) for this applied anthropological field school. Please see the flyer below for more details.

Study in Costa Rica - Advanced Environmental Anthropology Field Procedures, ANTR4195




EARN 6 CREDITS WHILE CONDUCTING FIELD WORK IN A REMOTE STATION ON THE NORTHEAST COAST OF COSTA RICA

Earn credit conducting Applied Anthropological field work. Investigate conservation issues facing Neotropical fauna and flora from the biocultural perspective in Central America. Students will be stationed at the Cano Paloma Biological Station (CPBS) located at the southern tip of a large national wildlife refuge. Key areas of focus: studies on the local use and sustainable use of natural resources, ethnobotany, conservation management, marine turtle monitoring, and community conservation.

Costs: tuition for a 6 credit course, plus approximately \$1200 + airfare. The course consists of 3 weeks online ahead of field time for project preparation, 3 weeks in the field (during month of June), and 3 weeks online following the field time for project completion. All students must submit an application by March 15th to: ksnarr@laurentian.ca

All Laurentian University students are welcome to apply.

Students from other institutions are encouraged to apply as well.



For More Information, contact:

Dr. Kimberley A Snarr
ksnarr@laurentian.ca
Laurentian University
School of Northern Development

WORKING YOUR FINGERS TO THE BONE

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON
IDENTIFYING OCCUPATION FROM THE SKELETON



COIMBRA, PORTUGAL

6TH-8TH JULY 2016

WORKING YOUR FINGERS TO THE BONE

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON IDENTIFYING OCCUPATION FROM THE SKELETON

The conference aims to bring together researchers interested in disease, injury and other effects of occupations (in the broadest sense) on the human skeleton to improve the interpretation of these changes in archaeological and forensic contexts.

WHY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH?

Identifying occupation, task division and activity-patterns from skeletal remains past populations and using this to assist forensic identification, has been an alluring prospect in bioarchaeology from its earliest inceptions.

TOPICS

Abstracts are invited on a diverse range of approaches including: palaeopathology, biomechanics, ethnography, modern medicine, forensic science, archaeology, socio-cultural anthropology, and experimental archaeology.

Specific topics include:

- Experimental archaeology
- Trauma and risk factors for trauma
- Palaeoparasitology
- Enthesal changes
- Cross-sectional geometry
- Respiratory disease and its risk factors
- Infectious disease and its risk factors
- Testing of methods on identified skeletal collections
- Documentary evidence and medical history
- Modern analogues.

ABSTRACT DEADLINE

Friday, **29th of February, 2016** (midnight GMT).

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference registration will open on the **18th of January, 2016**.

VENUE

The conference will be held in the **Department of Life Sciences** (College of São Bento), University of Coimbra.

MORE INFORMATION

Email: occupationfromskeleton@gmail.com

Website: http://www.uc.pt/en/cia/events/Occupation_Conference_2016

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