



Prehistoric Casa Grandes, Mexico.
Photo: Courtney McConnan Borstad

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ian Colquhoun, Western University



I have the sense that, for many of us, these first several months of 2017 (a.k.a., the second term of the 2016-17 academic year) have seemingly flown by. Suddenly, it's summer. At this point, I need to note that when a suddenly unfolding medical situation caught me by surprise in late February and into March, laying me up for several weeks, **Past-President Tina Moffat** stepped to the fore and seamlessly handled duties to which I could not attend (e.g. orchestrating the review process for the many applications submitted for the 2017 Shelley R. Saunders Thesis Research Grants). I could be wrong about this, but Tina's activity as Past-President in this context is to my knowledge the first time in the Association's history that the "Duties" provision of the CAPA-ACAP Constitution came into play where "the immediate Past-President will assist the President, and will assume the role of President in the event of the absence or disability of the President during the first year of the President's term." So, although I'm nearing the end of year two since being elected as President of the Association, it is still reassuring to see that our Constitution works in action as it is designed on paper. Needless to say, Tina deserves our greatest appreciation for keeping the Executive operating while I was side-lined with medical woes – stellar job, Tina!!

Speaking of the SRS Thesis Research Grants, time to tie up some old business. In late 2016, Tina and I conferred and agreed that it was fitting to revisit the review of the 2016 pool of

applications and see if we could perhaps resolve the anomalous outcome that initially resulted (i.e. no awards made). Because a call for judges for the 2017 SRS Thesis Research Grants produced no shortage of volunteers, I was also able to assemble a separate judging panel to revisit the 2016 set of applications. The latter judges have completed their work and I am pleased to recognize:

Courtney McConnan Borstad (U. of Calgary) for her project, "Dietary variation at prehistoric Paquimé (Casas Grandes), Chihuahua, Mexico";

Ana Morales-Arce (U. of Calgary) for her project, "Ancient mitochondrial DNA of pre-Columbian populations inhabiting Greater Nicoya during the Sapoia Period (AD 800-1350); and **Luisa Marinho** (Simon Fraser U.) for her project, "Pattern of skeletal injuries in fall-related deaths: Exploring the effects of fall conditions in the reconstruction of the circumstance of death". Congratulations to all!

The judging panel that was charged with reviewing the 2017 SRS Thesis Research Grant applications certainly had their work cut out for them – no less than 11 (!) applications were submitted, the largest annual applicant pool in the short history of the Shelley R. Saunders Thesis Research Grant. Thanks, on behalf of the Association, to all the judges (who shall

remain nameless!) for volunteering their time and energy to review SRS Thesis Research Grant applications.

My grapevine source (well, actually, Tina) also informs me that the conference website for the **45th CAPA-ACAP Annual Meeting** (to be held in Edmonton, Alberta, October 25th–28th, at the [Matrix Hotel Edmonton](#)) will be up and online shortly. So, if you have not done so already, you can start thinking about abstract submission for this year's Annual Meeting. Note, too, that a call for Symposia Proposal for the 2017 Annual Meeting has already been posted [here](#), with June 30th as the deadline for submissions – still time to put together a symposium if you are so inclined! While I'm on the topic of the Annual Meeting, one seed I'd like to plant for further discussion at the Business Meeting is the compiling of a "List of Experts" as a media resource on the Association website. On the surface of it, this would seem to be a "low-hanging fruit" in terms of both relative ease and straightforwardness of getting a list organized (individuals could simply self-identify whether, and how, they want to be included in a "List of Experts"), as well as being a relatively easy way of raising the profile of the Association. I'd not be at all surprised if most, if not all, of our home Departments already have some similar outreach mechanism in place for our respective departmental contexts. So, I guess the

determination we'd want to consider at the Business Meeting would be whether this might be too much of a duplication of department-based efforts that might already be in place, or whether, regardless, it would be worth undertaking in order help raise the profile of CAPA-ACAP and all the really cool, interesting, and awesome work we do? So, give it some thought and we'll see where the discussion might lead in Edmonton!

Another matter for the near future to flag for people... after several years of polished and professional work, **Jennifer Sharman** is nearing the end of her term as Editor of the CAPA-ACAP Newsletter. So, if you enjoy computer graphics and have a designer's eye, please consider contacting me and putting your name forward to take up the post of Newsletter Editor from Jen; according to the **CAPA-ACAP Constitution** – "The Managing positions of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster will be filled by appointment, by the President. Nominations should be received at least 4 months prior to the subsequent annual meeting."... so, don't take too long to contact me on this!

Hope the weather in your parts eventually gets into a summer-like mode, and that any summer projects you have on the go are productive and successful. Hope to see everyone in Edmonton come October!

Please mark your calendars!

45th Annual Meeting of CAPA/ACAP
October 25-28, 2017
Edmonton, Alberta

Hosted by **University of Alberta**
at [The Matrix Hotel, Edmonton](#)
see [CAPA/ACAP website](#) for additional details.
Abstract deadline: **September 15, 2017**

We look forward to seeing you in Edmonton!

MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Sarah Duignan, McMaster University



Dear CAPA-ACAP Student Members,

As winter semesters come to a close, I'm sure I am not alone in saying it is a tremendous relief to see the finish line of this academic year in sight. With the warm spring rainfall comes an opportunity for us to acknowledge all of the hard work we put into our research, studies, and teaching this year. As we set out to embark on summer field work, writing, and, gulp, perhaps even comprehensive exams, I think it is important that we stop to take a breath and thank our bodies and minds for trekking through an especially politically charged year.

From an academic perspective, I've always found summer to be a helpful blend of self-reflection and recharge. Quite often as students, we lose ourselves and our aims in those ever-expanding to-do lists, chipping away at short term goals to help us through our degrees. As physical anthropologists, we are fortunate to often have the ability to travel and explore in the summer, be it for academic or personal gain. And quite often, these adventures are embedded in a sense of having to achieve particular academic goals: compiling enough data, networking with enough young professionals, writing enough of our theses, or even taking enough photos to remember our journeys.

This is a perfect time to reflect on our wider goals as budding professionals, but also to

reconnect to what ignited our passion for studies in the first place. Who we are, and how that fuels our commitment to anthropological research, is useful not only to motivate ourselves to set long-term academic goals, but also in our day to day interactions. While some of us may not perceive our work as inherently political, we have the ability as young anthropologists to make our research a reflection of our values, and have the power to shape dialogues in our increasingly polarized society.

As part of my commitment to that ongoing dialogue, I am working to enhance inclusion practices within CAPA-ACAP. Along with the CAPA-ACAP Equity and Diversity Subcommittee, I am working to change and enhance the language we use as an organization to reflect more inclusive practices, including the use of preferred pronouns. If you have any suggestions on how we can tackle these themes, I would love to hear them at **duignase@mcmaster.ca**. With that, I hope that you all have fulfilling summer adventures, accomplish your academic goals, and use your unique and powerful voice in your spheres of influence!

Best,

Sarah

A BRIEF REMEMBRANCE OF GEOFFREY GAHERTY (1941–2016)

Chris Meiklejohn, Professor Emeritus, University of Winnipeg

Earlier this year I learned with considerable sadness of the death of Geoffrey (Geoff) Gaherty on July 7, 2016, from complications following a kidney transplant. He was one of the six people responsible for the idea that led to the founding of CAPA in 1973. Geoff and I were the two “outsiders” who joined the physical anthropology programme at University of Toronto in September 1964, and we were close friends over the following decade, sharing interests not only in our discipline but also in music. Both had come to Toronto from other universities and disciplines; others in the programme in 1964 were all graduates of the Toronto department. Geoff was from Mathematics and Physics at McGill, I came from Biology at Carleton. The programme in 1964 was taught by Lawrence (Larry) Oschinsky, who had arrived in 1963 from the National Museum in Ottawa. The first professional meeting that Geoff and I attended was the 1965 AAPA meeting at State College, PA, almost 52 years ago, the first meeting of AAPA that the attendance exceeded 100 people and the last AAPA meeting without concurrent sessions.

Geoff became the first member of this group to obtain his Ph.D., in 1970, based on skeletal material in West African collections, directed by David Hughes. He was the fourth person in physical anthropology to receive a doctorate from Toronto, the other three a year earlier in 1969. The others were students of James (Jim) E. Anderson, one from his work at Toronto prior to 1963 (Nancy Ossenberrg), the other two

coming to Toronto in 1966 with Anderson after Oschinsky’s death at Christmas 1965 (Jerry Melbye, Mike Pietrusewsky).

After obtaining his doctorate, Geoff taught, first at University of California (Santa Barbara) and then at McMaster. In that context, he was one of those who met in my hotel room at the AAPA meetings in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1972. The result was the decision to hold the initial meeting of what became CAPA, at the Banff Centre in February 1973. The others in the group were Frank Auger (Université de Montreal; deceased), Charlie Eyman (University of Calgary; deceased), Jamshed Mavalwala (University of Toronto), and Jim Paterson (University of Calgary). Loring Brace (University of Michigan) was a willing conspirator cheering from the sidelines. Sadly, Geoff left academics in the 1970s, a loss to the discipline. He published several short papers on the West African skeletal series, had a brief summation of his thesis published in *AJPA* (Gaherty 1974), and was lead author on a paper on the legacy of Larry Oschinsky (Gaherty et al. 1969).

After leaving academics, Geoff became an IT specialist. He was also widely respected as an amateur astronomer and member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, from whom he won the Chant Medal in 2008 for work in astronomy by an amateur. For many years he wrote a regular column, “Through the Eyepiece”, for the *Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada* and was also a contributor on

astronomy to *Scientific American* based on his work through space.com. He was also a lutenist and recorder player, and a founding member of the Early Music group, Cassiopeia. He will be missed by those who knew him from the early days in physical anthropology in Canada, and by those from his later life in astronomy and music.

Gaherty, G., Kettel, D., MacDonald, J., Niemann,

L., von Graeve, B. & Arima, E. (1969) Notes on the Physical Anthropology of Lawrence Oschinsky. *Anthropologica*, ns 11(2): 275-292.

Gaherty G. (1974) Discrete traits, cranial measurements and non-biological data in Africa. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 40: 136-142.

OPPORTUNITY: BECOME CAPA-ACAP'S NEXT NEWSLETTER EDITOR

CAPA-ACAP needs a new newsletter editor!

If you love Oxford commas, en-dashes, correcting typos, and getting to read material related to physical anthropology before anyone else reads it, this is the (volunteer) job for you! Newsletters go out twice per year, and the term of the newsletter editor is three years; the editor also produces an annual report to be read at CAPA's business meetings.

If you have any questions about what is involved in producing the newsletter, please feel free to email outgoing editor **Jennifer Sharman** (jsharman@dunelm.org.uk).

To nominate yourself for this position, please email CAPA President **Ian Colquhoun** (colquhou@uwo.ca) your statement of interest, including a brief summary of any relevant background experience you would bring to the position, by **July 31, 2017**.

NEW JOURNAL

There's a new journal out: *Forensic Anthropology* (<http://upf.com/fa.asp>). *Forensic Anthropology* will support all facets of forensic anthropology and archaeology and will act as an inclusive venue to foster professional discussions about research, policy, and application of what it means to practice forensic anthropology globally. The journal will primarily focus on research, technical advancements, population data, and case studies related to the recovery and analysis of human remains in a forensic context. The journal also aims to highlight innovative student research. The peer-review process is double-blind and the target time to publication after acceptance of a manuscript is six months (which is pretty darned good). The journal will be published quarterly, the first issue in January 2018. Submissions received by August 21, 2017, may be eligible to appear in the first issue.

The inaugural editors are Angi Christensen (Federal Bureau of Investigation), Joe Hefner (Michigan State University) and Nicholas Passalacqua (Western Carolina University). CAPA member **Derek Congram** is on the Editorial Board. There are folks at both ends of Canada (and in-between) who are engaged in forensic research and case work, so please consider submitting manuscripts to *Forensic Anthropology*!

DEPARTMENT NEWS

University of Alberta

From **Pamela Mayne Correia**, MA,
Forensic Anthropologist, Curator and FSO III

Pamela and Dr. Cecilia Wu, Assistant Chief Medical Examiner, and the RCMP Historical Crimes Section, as well as her undergraduate student **Julie Cork**, have undertaken a review the osteobiographical information of all outstanding unidentified human remains cases in the province. The intent of the project is to review all cases to ensure that the information available to CPIC and MCPUR databases is complete. This work has been ongoing for one year now, as cases at both the northern and southern Medical Examiners' offices were reviewed. 72+ cases will be written up over the next year and corresponding data is being added to the missing persons databases. These cases include modern materials as well as all the ancient and historical remains located in the facilities. As well, Cpl. Jean Nault completed facial reconstructions on two suitable modern cases to add to the Missing Persons website. Several other cases have been compared for potential matches and this work is ongoing.

One additional component to this project is the production of 3D digital scans of the crania for a number of the cases where the potential for facial reconstruction is warranted. The 3D scans are available for digital reconstructions or for 3D printing for traditional reconstructions. We have produced one printed cranium at this point and the production was very good.

Given the United Nations Declaration on the

Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Government of Alberta's working group Proposal 5D, Historical Burial Sites policy, the collection of information on the historical/ancient remains held by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, will be beneficial to understanding the extent of ancient and historical remains in the OCME. Both the OCME and Pamela are involved on the 5D working group.

Western University

The Department of Anthropology at Western thanks long-time colleagues **Christine White** and **El Molto** for their many contributions to our collective work, and congratulates them on their July 2016 retirements. They both continue as Professors Emeriti, but we miss their involvement in the daily work of the department.

We are also pleased to announce that **Andrea Waters-Rist** and **Jay Stock** will be joining the department soon – Andrea in July of 2017 and Jay officially in July 2019. Waters-Rist (PhD Calgary 2011) is returning to Canada from a position at Leiden University, the Netherlands. She joins Western this summer as a tenured Associate Professor. Stock (PhD Toronto 2002), is currently a Reader in Human Evolution and Adaptability at Cambridge University. He will continue at Cambridge while he completes the final portion of his current European Research Council project, joining Western this summer as an Adjunct Research Professor, and then in July 2019 officially as a tenured Professor.

University of Calgary

Two of **Warren Wilson's** masters students have successfully defended their theses:

1) **Amy Rudkoski**: "Social Support and Maternal Mental Health in Rural Nicaragua". Globally, mental disorders are the largest cause of years lived with disability. More than half of this burden is the result of depression and anxiety disorders, with depression being the number one cause of disease burden for women globally, and number two for men. This research was designed to address two gaps in our understanding of the etiology of maternal mental health: 1) there exist almost no studies on mental health of women in rural regions of developing countries; 2) most studies concerning the relationship between perceived social support and maternal mental health do not control for the many variables that may confound this relationship. Our understanding of the evolution of human sociality and the bulk of the literature on the topic suggests that maternal mental health is strongly associated with perceived social support. In her findings, Amy found that before controlling for potential confounders, perceived social support was associated with maternal mental health. However, after controlling for the confounders, perceived social support was not associated with maternal mental health. Rather, in every model, household food insecurity, and self-reported health had significant relationships to maternal mental health, with increased household food insecurity and decreased self-reported health scores associated with higher levels of mental distress. This study adds to the literature an assessment of the relationship between perceived social support and maternal mental health in a rural community setting in a developing country while considering multiple possible explanatory factors.

2) **Garielle Brown**: "Exploring the Relationship Between Intestinal Permeability and Growth in

Children Under 2 Years of Age in Rural Nicaragua".

Child growth, perhaps more so than any other single measure, reflects a child's physical and mental health, dietary adequacy, and is predictive of their future well-being. Malnutrition and associated compromised growth, however, remains widespread. Programs targeting this public health issue have utilized re-feeding protocols with little impact. This may be explained by observations that the digestive tracts of these children is compromised by chronic infection, a condition known as environmental enteric dysfunction (EED). EED compromises one's ability to absorb nutrients and renders them more vulnerable to infection through the lining of their gut. This study was designed to explore the relationship between gut function and child health in a sample of 50 0-2 year olds in rural Nicaragua. Contrary to previous studies on the topic, this research did not find an association between digestive function and child growth. These findings may be explained by the age of the children sampled and the test used to assess digestive function.

Congratulations to Amy and Garielle!

McMaster University

Congratulations to **Robert Stark** and **Rebecca Gilmour** for successfully defending their PhD theses!

Stark RJ. Ancient Lives in Motion: A Bioarchaeological Examination of Stable Isotopes, Nonmetric Traits, and Human Mobility in an Imperial Roman Context (1st–3rd C. CE).

Gilmour RJ. Resilient Romans: Cross-Sectional Evidence for Long Term Functional Consequences of Extremity Trauma.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

From Professor Emeritus Chris Meiklejohn, University of Winnipeg:

Brewster, C., R. Pinhasi & C. Meiklejohn, 2014. Human craniometric variation supports discontinuity at the Late Glacial Maximum in Europe. In F.W.F. Foulds et al., eds., *Wild Things: Recent Advances in Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Research*. Oxford: Oxbow, 106-118.

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

Jackes, M.K., D. Lubell, H.F.V. Cardoso, J.A. Anacleto & C. Meiklejohn, 2015. Cabeço da Arruda in the 1860s. In N. Bicho et al., 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 et al., eds., *Muge 150th: The 150th Anniversary of the Discovery of Mesolithic Shellmiddens - Volume 1*, 239-254. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press.

Lazaridis, I. et al., 2016. Genomic insights into the origin of farming in the ancient Near East. *Nature* 536, 419-424.

Gallego-Llorente et al., 2016. The genetics of an early Neolithic pastoralist from the Zagros, Iran. *Nature Scientific Reports* 6, 1-7 (31326; doi: 10.1038/srep31326).

Meiklejohn, C., J. Babb & W. Hiebert, 2016. A chrono-geographic look at Mesolithic burials: an initial study. In J.M. Grünberg et al., eds., *Mesolithic Burials – Rites, Symbols and Social Organisation of Early Postglacial Communities*. Tagungen des Landesmuseums für Vorgeschichte Halle/Congresses of the State Museum for Prehistory Halle 13(1), 25-45. Halle: Landesmuseums für Vorgeschichte.

Meiklejohn, C., D.C. Merrett, D. Reich & R. Pinhasi, 2017. Direct dating of human skeletal material from Ganj Dareh, Early Neolithic of the Iranian Zagros. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 12, 165-172 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2017.01.036>).

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

Ana Morales-Arce, PhD candidate, University of Calgary

I obtained a BSc from the Technology Institute of Costa Rica (TEC) and MSc in Anthropology from the University of Costa Rica, with a specialization in the study of the genetic variation of Central American indigenous groups. Afterwards, I worked for eight years in the laboratories of human genetics at the Biology School of the University of Costa Rica.

The study of human genetic diversity, particularly in relation to the indigenous groups of Central America, has been a key component of my research. I worked for several projects on the indigenous groups of Costa Rica at the University of Costa Rica (UCR), which increased my interest in the current native groups. I applied molecular techniques to the



Ana Morales-Arce

study of lactose intolerance in indigenous groups of Costa Rica and evaluated their potential health problems, which resulted in my MSc thesis and its publication. I also worked for the Centre for Molecular Biology (CIBCM-UCR), where I worked and conducted research on the cultural expression of delusions in schizophrenia patients in Costa Rica under the supervision of Dr. Henriette Raventos-Vorst. Further to this, I have assisted in fieldwork projects at the University of Calgary on the manipulation and selection of human skeletal samples from

archaeological sites, such as a large bioarchaeology project funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council in Casas Grandes, Mexico, and an International Development Grant funded the creation of a Bioarchaeology Lab on the campus of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua in Managua in 2014, where I helped to organize collections of human skeletal remains. Also, I have received training in Next Generation sequencing (NGS) methods to hone my training in ancient DNA methods, applied to ancient skeletal samples, by the University of Oklahoma's Laboratories of Molecular Anthropology and Microbiome Research (LMAMR). I have also been trained in data



Ana in the lab.

analysis of high-throughput sequencing and genomes by the laboratory of Ancient DNA at McMaster University, which helps to complement my training on the study of past and present genetic diversity of the native groups. I consider the understanding of the human groups that first colonized the Americas and their remaining communities to be an integral part of my research and interests.

Thesis project:

Since 2012, I have conducted my PhD studies at the department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of Calgary. I am currently finishing my PhD degree in Archaeology at the University of Calgary, and am in the final stages of writing my dissertation. My dissertation focuses on the prehispanic migrations that populated the southwestern area of Central America, in particular on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua and northwest Costa Rica. Based on Colonial period ethnohistorical accounts, migrants from central Mexico moved into the area in the final centuries before

European contact. For this reason, my analysis has included skeletal populations from Costa Rica as well as from sites in Mexico. This work has been funded through extensive teaching and a number of scholarships, including the Wadsworth Fellowship, by the Wenner-Gren Foundation. My study makes an original contribution to our knowledge of these intriguing migrations, and demonstrates the possibility of conducting ancient human DNA analysis from tropical settings in Central America. In addition, I worked with another culture from northern Chihuahua, the archaeological site called Paquimé, whose inhabitants disappeared before the Spaniards' arrival and whose ancestry has been debated. I have presented these results at international conferences and an article assessing the ancestry of Paquimé inhabitants has been published in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. A second article about the successful recovery of first ancient mitogenomes from Central America and northern Mexico is under review in the *Journal of Archaeological Science*.

CAPA/ACAP 2017: CALL FOR SYMPOSIA

The Organizing Committee for the **2017 CAPA/ACAP meeting in Edmonton, Alberta** (October 25-28), is **requesting proposals for symposia**.

To submit a proposal, please visit the [conference website](#). The deadline for submissions is **June 30, 2017**.

All symposium proposals will be evaluated by the Organizing Committee. Given the limited time slots available, it may not be possible to accept all proposals. Symposia will be judged on merits including their potential to bring together participants from multiple institutions and/or research groups, the scholarly interest of the theme tying the presentations together, and how interesting and useful they are likely to be to the attending CAPA/ACAP membership at large.

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

Courtney McConnan Borstad, PhD candidate,
University of Calgary

I am a third-year PhD candidate in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of Calgary, under the supervision of Dr. Anne Katzenberg. I'm a relative latecomer to anthropology as I graduated with a nursing degree in 2003 and worked as a registered nurse in Edmonton for several years. My experiences in forensic nursing, coupled with an interest in past health and disease, sparked an interest in physical anthropology and I decided to return to school in 2007. As I learned more about the wide range of this discipline, I became interested in dietary reconstruction and this is the area I am focusing on in graduate school. I completed a Master's degree at the University of Alberta under Dr. Sandra Garvie-Lok, where I examined temporal changes in stable carbon and nitrogen isotope values of human bone collagen from ancient Greece. The results of this research emphasized for me the importance of considering the potentially changeable nature of local dietary resources and past cultural practices when interpreting the data. To continue my studies, I applied to the University of Calgary and started there in 2013. I have been fortunate to receive funding for my dissertation research from the SSHRC doctoral fellowship program, the department, and from Dr. Katzenberg's project.

My PhD dissertation forms part of a larger SSHRC-funded project headed by Dr. Katzenberg and the late Dr. Jane Kelley entitled *Conflict and Violence in Prehistoric Northwest*

Mexico. My contribution involves the analysis of stable carbon and nitrogen



isotope values of bone collagen from individuals previously excavated from the prehistoric site of Casas Grandes (also called Paquimé), Chihuahua. Some of these individuals show signs of skeletal trauma or post-mortem processing, others are from burials with distinctive grave goods, and some show an apparent lack of burial consideration. One question is whether or not these individuals were local to the area or if they came from elsewhere, perhaps attracted to Casas Grandes' trade and religious functions or as captives following conflicts with other groups. My dissertation research is investigating whether or not the stable carbon and nitrogen isotope values vary according to local or non-local origins as characterized through strontium and stable oxygen isotope values. Additionally, I am examining whether the social status of the individual as inferred through their burial treatment is reflected in their dietary stable isotope values.

I am grateful to receive a Shelley R. Saunders Thesis Research Grant as it will go towards funding another part of my dissertation involving the stable hydrogen isotope analysis of bone

collagen. Modern ecological studies use this technique with different tissues to trace migration, but it is less commonly used with bone collagen in dietary reconstruction. This is mainly because the contributions of both drinking water and food values to the collagen need to be taken into account and because of the intensive sample preparation required for the analysis. Although the bone collagen values of the Casas Grandes individuals will reflect their location, they will also provide information about trophic level, since stable hydrogen isotope values increase with each step in a given food

chain. The addition of this analysis is important because it provides additional data that are independent of the stable nitrogen isotope values, which may be affected by non-dietary factors such as aridity. The use of stable hydrogen isotope analysis will provide a clearer idea of dietary variation at Casas Grandes relating to local and non-local status and also help identify differential consumption of higher trophic level foods for some individuals.

SHELLEY R. SAUNDERS AWARD WINNERS

CAPA-ACAP is pleased to announce the 2016 and 2017 winners of the Shelley R. Saunders Award!

The 2016 winners are:

- **Courtney McConnan Borstad**, University of Calgary: Dietary Variation at Prehistoric Paquimé (Casas Grandes), Chihuahua, Mexico
- **Luisa Marinho**, Simon Fraser University: Pattern of Skeletal Injuries in Fall-Related Deaths: Exploring the Effects of Fall Conditions in the Reconstruction of the Circumstance of Death
- **Ana Morales-Arce**, University of Calgary: Ancient Mitochondrial DNA of Pre-Columbian Populations Inhabiting Greater Nicoya During the Sapoa Period (AD 800-1350)

The 2017 winners are:

- **Katherine Bishop**, University of Alberta. Investigating Transhumance and Pastoralism in Modern and Ancient Thessaly, Greece Using Stable Isotope Analysis of Carbon, Strontium, and Oxygen Isotopes from Sheep and Goat Teeth
- **Sarah Duignan**, McMaster University. An Exploration of Body Image, Health, and Identity in Immigrant and Female Youth
- **Malcolm Ramsay**, University of Toronto. Landscape Genetics of Mouse Lemurs within a Fragmented Dry Forest

Congratulations to Courtney, Luisa, Ana, Katherine, Sarah and Malcolm!