

Newsletter of The Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Mississippi State University



Spring 2020

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Letter from the Head

Dear AMEC Community, Let me start by saying that I hope that all of you and your loved ones are safe, healthy, and well during this unprecedented time. I am excited to revive the departmental newsletter, hoping to re-establish this channel of communication from AMEC to our community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. I would like to extend my thanks to Rita Bouwens, an AMEC graduate student, for her work on this newsletter. It is hard for me to believe that I just completed my 2nd year at Mississippi State University and as the Head of AMEC. Many things have happened since I started in 2018 and I look forward to what the future holds for the department. As you will read in this newsletter, our faculty and students are productive and doing exciting and innovative research. We all have had to

make significant changes starting in March 2020 due to the global pandemic, and I am very proud of how AMEC's faculty, staff, and students have risen to the occasion with grace and flexibility. The faculty have been creative and they have embraced technology and innovative on-line pedagogy under disruptive circumstances. Our students have shown great resilience and perseverance during these changing times and have had to adjust in many different ways. I am impressed with their determination. Five undergraduate Anthropology majors graduated in Fall 2019, ten in Spring 2020, and three are on track to graduate in Summer 2020. Two graduate Applied Anthropology MAs graduated in Fall 2019, three in Spring 2020, and three are on track to graduate in Summer 2020. We wish them much success in whatever lies ahead for them and we are excited to have them as AMEC alum. Please continue to check our website for updates and links to our social media: <https://www.amec.msstate.edu/>. Please keep in touch with us--we would love to hear from you! Cheers! *Hsain Ilahiane*

Faculty Highlights

Dr. Jimmy Hardin

[Dr. Jimmy Hardin named Interim Director of MS State's Cobb Institute of Archaeology](#) (click to read full story) Dr. Jimmy Hardin spent most of 2019 working on publications, efforts associated with the Cobb Institute, and with students, primarily in the Near Eastern Archaeology Lab. A planned hiatus in excavation at Khirbet Summeily in southern Israel during 2019 proved fortuitous with the Covid-19 Pandemic. But despite some Covid curve balls, the year has remained productive. In fact, when the pandemic began in February, Hardin was in Israel working with Jeffrey Blakely, Bill Isenberger, and Dylan Karges on the final publication of the Hesi Regional Survey. Loose ends were being tied up on the survey to complete drawings/illustrations, revisit the survey area to check some mapping and sites, and begin turning the final publication in to the Israel Antiquities Authority. Three publications came out in 2019 and earlier this year centered on his earlier work at Tell Halif and more recent work in the Hesi Region of southern Israel. These were all co-authored with colleagues and former students. One former student, Dr. Tim Frank published his doctoral thesis in 2019; another former student, Mr. Latif Oksuz, began his doctoral course work at the University of Durham in England. Another, Ms. Kara Larson completed her MA this Spring and will begin her doctoral work at the University of Michigan this Fall.

Hardin was invited to Israel earlier in 2019 to participate in an International Conference centered on early Judah in the 10th Century BCE. Relatedly he presented or co-presented with students three papers at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research this past November. These papers highlighted work from the Hesi Region and Khirbet Summeily. Research and publication efforts continued this summer in the Near Eastern Archaeology Lab with MSU graduate students (Rachel Banks, Ben Hatfield, and Kara Larson) and colleagues from the University of Wisconsin (Drs Jeffrey Blakely and Geoffrey Ludvik). Various members of this group completed five manuscripts to be submitted to peer review journals and edited volumes, continued work on five more that are in various stages of completion and made excellent progress on an edited volume.

In Hardin's work with the Cobb Institute, much of his time has been spent exploring ways to support archaeological research in the Mediterranean Basin and the southeast U.S. and work on outreach with Mr. Derek Anderson. We supported field research in Mississippi, South Carolina, and Croatia in 2019.

We supported the Internship of Keri Porter in Rabat, Morocco working with their National Institute for the Sciences of Archaeology and Heritage (INSAP). We were fortunate to receive the largest single gift for research received by the Cobb Institute since the original endowment gifts. Hardin continues to work with Mr. Derek Anderson on outreach opportunities and he presented nine public presentations across the State and one in Israel. Ms. Lori Neuenfeldt of Art Architecture and Design at MSU and Dr. Jeffrey Blakely of the University of Wisconsin, Madison accepted invitations to become Research Associates of the Cobb Institute.

Dr. David Hoffman

Dr. David Hoffman Continues NOAA Coastal Research and Other Projects Dr. David Hoffman recently (August 2019) conducted three years of survey fieldwork with Vietnamese-American fishermen in coastal communities of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. This collaborative interdisciplinary work was sponsored by NOAA's Saltonstall-Kennedy grant program and was designed to elicit Vietnamese-American fishing community perspectives and opinions about communications they have with state and federal agencies regarding the fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico. All told, the research team collected 327 surveys and is currently working on several publications based on the results. Dr. Hoffman also returned to his dissertation field site in Quintana Roo, Mexico in March of 2019 to follow up with old friends and interlocutors regarding the state of conservation, tourism, and fishing in the community. It was his first return to the community since 2010. Dr. Hoffman was also asked to give a research talk for the Department of Anthropology at the University of Quintana Roo (UQROO) in Chetumal. While there, he also opened discussions about future collaboration between UQROO and MSU in the area of Applied Anthropology as both Universities house MA programs in that research area. Lastly, Dr. Hoffman has recently begun a collaboration with an interdisciplinary team at the University of Central Florida to study the contemporary, historic, and prehistoric usage of the Manialtepec Lagoon in Oaxaca, Mexico. The team was recently awarded an internal grant from UCF and will be traveling to gather preliminary data in May 2020.

Dr. Hsain Ilahiane

[Dr. Hsain Ilahiane instrumental in inviting Syrian Artist & Architect Mohamad Hafez and Iraqi Storyteller & Writer Ahmed Badr to Campus](#) Dr. Hsain Ilahiane was instrumental in inviting Mohamad Hafez and Ahmed Badr to MS State's campus in Fall 2019. Dr. Ilahiane's research and teaching interests are focused on the Middle East and North Africa. One of his goals as Head of AMEC is to expand the department's minor in Middle Eastern Studies. Additionally, Dr. Ilahiane is interested in shedding light on the current crises of refugees in and outside of the Middle East. With this in mind, he initiated a conversation with Lori Neuenfeldt of the MS State University Department of Art and Derek Anderson of the Cobb Institute regarding the possibility of inviting these two artists to the MS State Campus to share their artistic productions and stories. Please click on the link above for more information on these events. In collaboration with Lori Neuenfeldt and Derek Anderson, Dr. Ilahiane received several grants to support these events. The grants were awarded by the Mississippi Arts Council, the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Criss Trust Foundation, the Mississippi State University College of Arts and Sciences, the Mississippi State University International Institute, the Mississippi State University Honors

College, and support from AMEC and the Mississippi State University Department of Art. The project began on 9/30/2019 with a panel discussion, art exhibit opening reception, and an artist talk by Mohamad Hafez. The art exhibit remained at the Cullis Wade Depot Art Gallery on the campus of Mississippi State University through 11/1/2019. On 10/18/2019, Ahmed Badr presented a storytelling workshop and a public talk. These two scholars made critical contributions towards understanding the complicated situation of refugees inside and outside of the Middle East. Using art and storytelling to produce a multimedia exhibit, they provided a global perspective rooted in their own personal narratives on the journeys of displaced persons from Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. Dr. Ilahiane has a book under contract with Lexington Books on the use of mobile phones in Morocco. The working title of the book is *Mobile Morocco: Technological Globalization, Culture, and Economy*.

Dr. Shawn Lambert

[Dr. Shawn Lambert Awarded \\$300,000 National Science Foundation Grant to Improve Archaeology Field Schools](#) Dr. Shawn Lambert, who joined the AMEC Faculty in August 2019, was awarded a NSF Grant with other researchers to examine and combat sexual harassment during archaeological field studies. Please click above to read MSU's press release on this project and grant. **Project:** "Evidence-based Transformation of Undergraduate Field Schools to Promote Safety and Inclusivity"

Principal Investigators:

Dr. Carol Colaninno (Research Assistant Professor, Center for STEM, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville)

Dr. Shawn Lambert (Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, MSU)

Dr. Emily Beahm (Station Archaeologist, Arkansas Archeological Survey)

Dr. Carl Drexler (Station Archaeologist, Arkansas Archeological Survey, Southern Arkansas University)

Project Synopsis

The proposal describes a research study to examine practices, policies and behaviors that foster safe and inclusive environments in archeology field schools. Because field school is typically an important experience of disciplinary learning and induction into the discipline, and because some risks are enhanced in field settings, negative experiences here of harassment or assault can have a profound deterrent effect on undergraduates' interest and persistence in the field. The three-stage study is set within field schools connected to a professional archeology society in the southeast US where the proposers are professionally active. The study begins with a landscape analysis based on surveys and documents collected from directors of up to 80 field schools; eight field schools with varied characteristics and some evidence of positive practices will be recruited from that sample for case studies that include surveys and interviews; and finally the team will work with the directors of these schools to improve their practices and will re-administer the study measures to see if this makes a difference.

Dr. Kate McClellan



1 - Dr. Kate McClellan with staff at the GAM's Animal Welfare Center in Jordan, where dog sterilization surgeries are performed.

Dr. Kate McClellan Continues Research on Human-Animal Relations in Jordan In September 2019, Dr. Kate McClellan traveled to Amman, Jordan to conduct fieldwork for her longterm research project on human-animal relations. In particular, her research in the Fall focused on two new developments in Jordan: first, the opening of a new wildlife sanctuary in northern Jordan for animals rescued from zoos and the illegal wildlife trade, and second, the establishment of humane protocols for stray dog management in Amman. At the sanctuary, called Al-Ma'wa in Arabic, Kate interviewed animal handlers, tour guides, veterinarians, and project directors to understand how the sanctuary approaches wildlife care and how they envision their relationship with the nearby villages of Souf and Sakib. To understand changing urban relationships with animals in Amman, Kate interviewed staff from the Ministry of Agriculture, Greater Amman Municipality (GAM), and local animal welfare groups to track changes in stray dog management in the city. City officials recently adopted the policy of Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) to replace the longstanding practice of culling stray dogs, and this shift has prompted a range of reactions from local residents -- some who support the new program, but many who question its ethics and feasibility. Kate is working on a book manuscript on the politics of human-animal relations in Jordan, which will feature this and other research. During her stay in Amman, Kate resided at the American Center for Oriental Research (ACOR), where she held a residential NEH fellowship in 2014.

Dr. Shane Miller

Dr. Shane Miller and Derek Anderson Lead Survey Field School Dr. Shane Miller, Derek Anderson (Cobb Institute of Archaeology) and the survey field school students spent two weeks on Pockoy Island near Edisto, South Carolina working with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to document two shell rings and additional archaeological sites that are eroding away due to rising sea levels. They also spent two weeks surveying around the Hester Site in Amory, Mississippi.

In November 2019, Dr. Shane Miller gave a presentation at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference and two presentations at Harvard University.



Dr. Anna Osterholtz



2 - Bioarchaeology in Croatia

Dr. Anna Osterholtz Leads Bioarchaeology Field School Programs in Croatia During the summer of 2019, Dr. Anna Osterholtz led two different study abroad programs in Croatia. The first focused on intensive osteology at the Institute for Anthropological Research in Zagreb and the second focused on mortuary excavation at the site of Đurđevac-Sošice in eastern Croatia. Students from Mississippi State as well as other universities throughout the US lived and worked together, got to know each other, and learned a lot! In addition to the coursework, students experienced weekend life in the city (in Zagreb) and in the Country (in Đurđevac), attending weekend festivals, art fairs, and generally getting to know the land and the people of Croatia. In addition to excavating approximately 130 burials at Đurđevac-Sošice, we made some good friends and some long-term plans for future excavations.



3 - Bioarchaeology in Croatia

Dr. Evan Peacock



Former Cobb Institute Interim Director, Dr. Evan Peacock, retired after 21 extremely productive years at Mississippi State! Please join us in congratulating him and wishing him well! Click [here](#) for more on Dr. Peacock.

Dr. Molly Zuckerman

Dr. Molly Zuckerman Continues Outreach Projects for Mississippi State Asylum (MSA), Data Collection at Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History Dr. Molly Zuckerman participated in a two-day outreach event, Old Asylum Days (July 19-20th 2019), in Jackson, MS, that was coordinated by the Asylum Hill Research Consortium (AHRC) at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. The event focused on current research on the Mississippi State Asylum (MSA), which provided care for mentally and chronically ill individuals in Jackson, MS, between AD 1855 and 1935. Furthermore, several of our current and former applied archaeology/bioarchaeology MA students, other AMEC faculty (Dr. Anna Osterholtz), and Dr. Molly Zuckerman presented their research on burials from the cemetery of the MSA in an invited poster session at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) in November 2019. This session (co-organized with Nicholas Herrmann, PhD, Texas State University) focused on current archaeological and bioarchaeological knowledge on the MSA. In addition to forthcoming research articles, findings from their research on the MSA will also be featured in an episode of PBS's new documentary series on the history of the treatment of mental illness in America, which will air in Spring 2021.

During the Summer of 2019, as well as during the Fall of 2019 when **Dr. Molly Zuckerman** was on sabbatical, she worked on writing the content for an introductory textbook. It is designed for Introduction to Biological Anthropology and other lower-level biological anthropology classes. The textbook is under contract with Oxford University Press. The rest of 2020 will bring more work on Dr. Molly Zuckerman's textbook and, during the summer, skeletal data collection at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History. This work will begin to address questions of how the progression of acquired syphilis infection relates to the immune status, immune response, and overall health of those infected with the condition.



4 - Mississippi State Asylum

[AMEC Faculty visit the International University of Rabat and the National Institute for the Sciences of Archaeology and Heritage \(INSAP\) in Morocco](#)

In November 2018, along with an MSU delegation Dr. Jimmy Hardin, Dr. Shane Miller, and Dr. Hsain Ilahiane visited the International University of Rabat and the National Institute for the Sciences of Archaeology and Heritage (Institut National des Sciences de l'Archéologie et du Patrimoine (INSAP)) and explored potential modalities of academic exchanges and programs between MSU and these Moroccan institutions of higher education. Please click headline link for additional information on this visit.

Student Highlights



5 - Graduate student Sara Cody

Graduate student **Sara Cody's** research focuses on bioarchaeology in the Ancient Near East. In the summer of 2019, Sara worked as a field archaeologist for the Baton Rouge branch of SWCA Environmental Consultants and hopes to conduct her internship with them in Summer 2020.

Sara will participate in an intensive research session on the Hesi Archaeological Project at the Cobb Institute of Archaeology this summer and plans to present a paper reporting these findings at the 2020 annual ASOR meeting in November. Sara is currently working on a coauthored chapter for an edited volume commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Tell El Hesi Archaeological Project with her advisor, **Dr. James Hardin**, and colleague, **Kara Larson**.



6 - Graduate student Malavika Jinka conducted her thesis research in Southern India with the Chenchu people.

Graduate student **Malavika Jinka** completed her Master's fieldwork in India in Summer 2019. Her research focuses on development definitions of internally displaced Chenchu people and the Indian government in Southern India. Malavika also published a blog post for COPAA entitled "My Fieldwork Reflections from the Nallamala Forest in India." Currently, Malavika is working on preparing her thesis, which she plans to defend in May 2020.



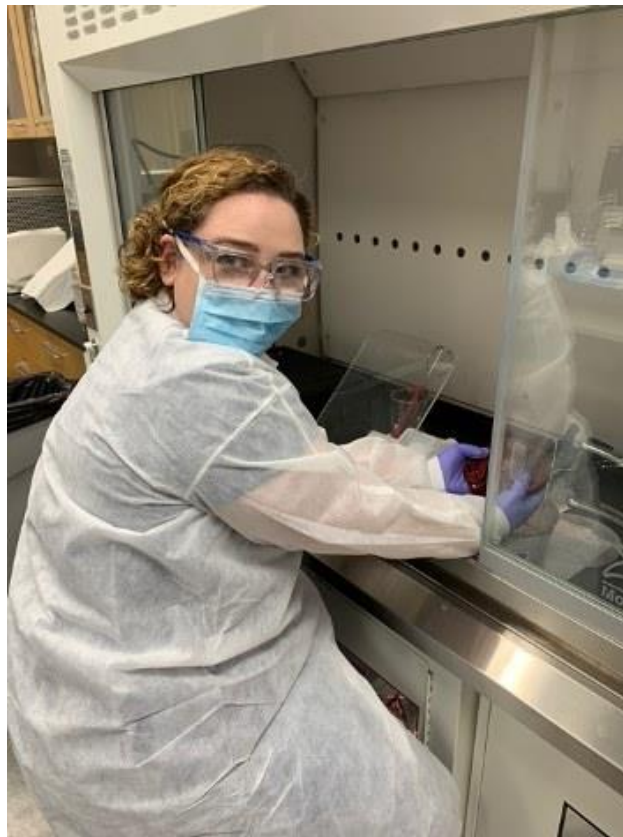
7 - Graduate student Kara Larson

Last summer (2019), graduate student **Kara Larson** traveled to Israel to stay at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research as a recipient of the Harva L. Sheeler fellowship. Kara was able to analyze the remaining Hesi Regional Survey material and the faunal remains recovered from the cultic space at Khirbet Summeily. She also had the opportunity to TA for the Mississippi State University survey field school at Pockoy Island, SC and Hester, MS.

Kara will be spending the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester working on the publication of her thesis.

This summer, Kara will be engaged in an intensive study season with the Tell el-Hesi Archaeological Project staff at the Cobb Institute, working on the publication of the Hesi Survey volume and conducting analyses on the recovered Early Bronze Age faunal bone tubes from Hesi. In addition, she will be working as a staff member for the Tel Burna Archaeological Project in Israel this summer, along with various other projects. Kara will be publishing a chapter on the Early Bronze Age faunal remains at Tell el-Hesi.

Kara will be continuing her education and research in archaeology in the anthropology PhD program at the University of Michigan. She hopes to continue to represent MSU in all of her future endeavors.



8 - Graduate student Julianne Paige

Last summer, graduate student **Julianne Paige** successfully completed an internship in the Nutrition and Reproduction lab at University of Nevada, Las Vegas under the supervision of Dr. Daniel Benyshek. Over the course of her internship, Julianne processed human placental tissue as part of an ongoing project analyzing the hormone content in placentas intended for maternal consumption. Following this internship, she applied to the PhD program in biomedical anthropology under the guidance of Dr. Benyshek at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in Fall 2019 and was accepted in February 2020.

Currently, Julianne is finishing up committee edits on her master's thesis, as well as prepping an article for publication with fellow graduate student **Kara Larson**, focusing on the faunal remains found in

association with Julianne's thesis assemblage. Julianne will be presenting her internship data results at the SfAA conference in March and she will be attending an invited placental workshop in May 2020. She will be defending her master's thesis by the end of Spring 2020.



9 - Graduate student Keri Porter in Morocco

I spent 8 weeks over this past summer working at the Institut National des Sciences de l'Archéologie et du Patrimoine (INSAP) in Rabat, Morocco. This internship was part of an effort to promote cooperation between INSAP and the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures at Mississippi State. My time in Morocco followed a visit by several faculty members in our department to Rabat earlier that year. As part of my internship, I analyzed and recorded a fragmentary, commingled skeletal collection dating to the Neolithic from the Temara Region just south of Rabat.

*Written by **Keri Porter**, an Applied Anthropology graduate student focusing on bioarchaeology in the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures (AMEC)*

Thesis Defenses

Graduate student Ashley Dafoe successfully defended her thesis on January 13th, 2020, and will graduate in May 2020.

On January 24th 2020, graduate student Kara Larson successfully defended her thesis on the isotopic results from the Khirbet Summeily Iron Age IIA faunal assemblage.

Student and Faculty Publications, Paper Presentations, Panels, Posters, Grants, and Invited Talks

PUBLICATIONS An Archaeological Survey of the Arab Village of Bureir: Perspectives on the Late Ottoman and British Mandate Period in Southern Israel. *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*. 383: 1-32. Benjamin Saidel, Rachel Hallote, Tali Erickson, -Gini, Bernard Schecter, and **James W. Hardin** (2020).

"The K8 House: A New domestic space from the Iron Age II at Tell Halif, Israel." *Palestine Exploration Quarterly*, 151:3-4, 218-244, Latif Oksuz, **James W. Hardin** & Jared Wilson (2019).

"Land Use, Regional Integration, and Political Complexity: Understanding the Hesi Region as Pasturage during Iron Age IIA." *STRATA: Bulletin of the Anglo-Israel Society* 37: 53-81 **James W. Hardin** and Jeffrey A. Blakely (2019).

Schewe, Rebecca, **David M. Hoffman**, Joseph Witt, Brian Shoup and Matthew Freeman (2020). "Citizen Science, Stakeholder Science: Citizen Science as a Strategy for Stakeholder Engagement in Natural Resource Management." *Environmental Management* 65(1): 74-87.

Hoffman, David M. (2020). "A Fractured Mirror: Migration to National Park Buffer Zones as a Reflection of the Ecolaboratory" in *Lessons from the Ecolaboratory: Negotiating Environment and Development in Costa Rica*. Fletcher, Robert, Dowd-Urbe, Brian and Aistara, Guntra A. Eds.: University of Arizona Press.

Hsain Ilahiane. 2018. "The Berber House or the World Leaked: Mobile Phones, Gender Switching, and Place in Morocco." In *Location Technologies in International Context*, edited by Rowan Wilk, Gerard Goggin, and Heather Horst. Pp. 54-66. New York: Routledge.

Hsain Ilahiane. 2019 [2016]. *Islamic Philanthropy and the Expansion of Technology in Morocco*. In *Cultural Anthropology: Contemporary, Public, and Critical Readings*, edited by Keri V. Brondo. Second Edition. Pp. 110-117. New York: Oxford University Press. **Hsain Ilahiane**. 2019. Why Do Protests Keep Happening in North Africa? It's al-hogra. <https://www.juancole.com/2019/01/protests-happening-africa.html>

Dr. Kate McClellan's article "Becoming Animal People: Empathy Pedagogies and the Contested Politics of Care in Jordanian Animal Welfare Work" was published in *Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol. 92, No. 3, Pp. 787-816.

Dr. Shane Miller co-authored a publication in the *Journal of Osteology* with **Dr. Anna Osterholtz**, and co-authored three additional book chapters.

Dr. Shane Miller (2019) Analysis of Pathology and Activity Related Changes to the Patellae of Individuals from Tell Abraq. (Third author with **Anna Osterholtz** and Ryan Harrod) *Journal of Osteology* 29(2):294-302.

Dr. Shane Miller (2019) Paleoindian Settlement in the Southeastern United States: The Role of Large Databases (third author with David G. Anderson, David Echeverry, Andrew A. White, Stephen J. Yerka, Eric Kansa, Sarah Whitche Kansa, Christopher R. Moore, Kelsey Noack Myers, Joshua J. Wells, Thaddeus G. Bissett, and Ashley M. Smallwood). In *New Directions in the Search for the First Floridians*, edited by David K. Thulman and Ervan G. Garrison, pp. 241-275. University Press of Florida, Gainesville.

Dr. Shane Miller. 2019. Geoarchaeology and Bayesian Statistical Modeling of Radiocarbon Dates from 40CH171, a Multi-Component Shell-Bearing Site in Cheatham County, TN (first author with David Anderson, Thaddeus Bissett, Stephen Carmody, Aaron Deter-Wolf, and Tanya Peres). In *The Cumberland River Archaic*, edited by Tanya Peres and Aaron Deter-Wolf, pp. 75-90. The University Press of Florida, Gainesville.

Dr. Shane Miller. 2019. Investigating the Barnes Site (40DV307) (third author with Thaddeus Bissett and Stephen Carmody). In *The Cumberland River Archaic*, edited by Tanya Peres and Aaron Deter-Wolf, pp 91-110. The University Press of Florida, Gainesville.

Dr. Anna Osterholtz and **Dr. Molly Zuckerman** published an analysis of health-related caretaking in a chronically ill, young adult female from the Mississippian period in Tennessee in the *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* (29(5): 843-853).

Dr. Molly Zuckerman and her colleague, John Crandall, published a synthetic review of sex, gender, and sexuality relative to health and disease in bioarchaeology in the *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* (54: 161-171.)

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

"Interactions beyond the Hesi Region during the Iron Age I and Iron Age II." American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Conference. San Diego, CA, November 23 **Jimmy Hardin** (2019). "From the Herd to the Dinner Plate: Contextualizing Butchery Practices from EB III Tell el-Hesi. American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Conference. San Diego, CA, November 23. With **Kara Larson** and **Sarah Cody**. **Jimmy Hardin** (2019) "Examining Iron Age Administrative Provisioning in the Southern Levant through Isotopic Analysis. American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Conference. San Diego, CA, November 22. with **Kara Larson** and **Elizabeth Arnold**. **Jimmy Hardin** (2019) "Increasing Complexity and Regional Integration in the Southern Shephelah and Negev Desert in the Iron I/II Transition - a View from the Hesi Regional." The First International Conference on the Archaeology of Judah: State Formation Processes in the 10th Century BCE Levant. April 9 (Invited). Jerusalem. **Jimmy Hardin** (2019)

Hoffman, David M. "Drowning in a Stinking Pile of Seaweed: Sargassum's Stranglehold on a Coastal Community's Conservation and Development." Paper for a session entitled, "Tourism and Climate Change (Invited Session: Anthropology of Tourism Interest Group (ATIG))." 117th Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, BC, Canada. November 2019.

Hoffman, David M. "The 'Mero-Quadrado' and Conservation Outcomes: Narco Environmentality in a Mexican Marine Protected Area." Paper for a double session entitled, "Dimensions of the Global and Local Narco-Environments." 79th Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Portland, OR. March 2019.

Hoffman, David M. "Conservación y Comunidades: Lecciones y Aprendizaje de 10 años de Trabajo en México y Costa Rica." Universidad de Quintana Roo, Chetumal, Mexico, February 2, 2019.

Hsain Ilahiane. 2019. Jamal Khashoggi Case: Male-Male Honor Killings and the Creation of Masculine Identity. Paper accepted for presentation at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings. Vancouver, BC, Canada. November 20-24. (With **Dr. Anna Osterholtz**).

Hsain Ilahiane. 2019. Recrafting waqf (Islamic trust) as a Design Space for the Communal and Autonomous in Morocco. Paper presented at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings. Portland, OR. March 22.

Hsain Ilahiane. 2019. Roundtable Participant. Engaging with a Culture of Practice: Our Beginnings in the Tech Sector, Part I (Business TIG) at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings. Portland, OR. March 22.

In November, **Dr. Kate McClellan** presented a conference paper entitled "Ambivalent Care: Reproductive Violence and Humane Governance in Jordanian Stray Dog Control" at the American Anthropological Association's annual meeting in Vancouver, BC.

Jinka M. (March 17-21, 2020). "Development" Definitions of Internally Displaced People and the Government: A Case Study of the Chenchu Tribe in the Nallamala Forest of Southern India" Accepted Paper Presentation. 80th Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM. Ragsdale, K., Read-Wahidi, M.R., **Jinka, M.**, Crenshaw, H., French, W., Coleman, M., Williams, P. (March 17-21, 2020). "Stuff You Need to Know. For Real! Culturally Relevant Sexual and Reproductive Health Outreach for Teens in the Mississippi Delta." Accepted Oral Presentation. 80th Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM. Scope: International. Refereed: Yes. Submitted in 2019. **Chair: Malavika Jinka Ramamurthy** (MS State U); **Panelists:** Sarah Mellin (Davidson Coll), Cynthia Rodriguez (Davidson Coll), Anthony Munkres McDonald and Katelyn Farnsworth (NAU), Zoe Zaroff (GVSU) and Filiberto Penados (U Toronto), Ashley Gilliam (Brandeis U). "Realizing Global Citizenship: Interactions of Ethnicities, Citizenship, and Cultural Identities in Diverse Societies, a COPAA Student Session (Immigration TIG)". (March 17-21, 2020). 80th Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM.

This spring, graduate student **Ashley Dafoe** presented her thesis research at the annual Paleopathology Association (PPA) conference in Los Angeles, CA. Her poster was titled "Physiological Consequences of Adverse Early-Life Experiences: A Skeletal Investigation of Frailty and Resilience within an Institutionalized Sample Using a Modified Version of the Skeletal Frailty Index (SFI)".

Dr. Molly Zuckerman and her colleague, Kathryn Marklein, PhD (University of Louisville) organized a podium session at the American Association of Physical Anthropology (AAPA) meetings (April 2020, Los Angeles, CA). This session focused on pressing contemporary ethical issues and debates in curating and researching human remains, including skeletal material. Their plan is to publish a guest edited issue of a journal on this subject, as well as translate the session into a National Science Foundation grant for an ethics policy and public outreach workshop, working with colleagues from the University of Oklahoma and other institutions. Crespo, F., E. Rich, SN. DeWitte, and **MK. Zuckerman**. 2020. Osteoimmunology as new frontier in treponemal infection: setting the ground for bioarchaeological analysis and reconstruction of host immunological status using skeletal samples. Podium presentation at the 47th annual meeting of the Paleopathology Association, Los Angeles, CA, April 2020. **Zuckerman, MK., and AJ. Osterholtz**. 2020. Incorporating community feedback and ethical concepts of personhood into bioarchaeological practice: Informing excavation, curation, and analysis at the cemetery of the Mississippi State Asylum with contextualized feedback from the community of practice. Invited session, "The skeletons in our closets: addressing ethical issues involved in the acquisition, curation, and analysis of human remains." Organizers: K. Marklein and **MK. Zuckerman**. Podium presentation at the 89th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Los Angeles, CA, April 2020. *Invited contribution to session*. Turner, BL., **MK Zuckerman**, and H Klaus. 2020. Doing context-specific, anthropological bioarchaeology: Two case studies. Invited session, "Fryxell Award Symposium: Papers in honor of Debra L. Martin." Organizer: P. Stone. "Paper presented at the 85th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, TX, April 2020.

Kara Larson will be in Prague for a weekend in July to co-chair a session with a PhD student from the University of Edinburgh on the intersection of faunal remains and human identity. **Kara Larson** 2019 "The Early Bronze Age in the Southern Levant: New Discoveries and Implications from the Greater Hesi Region and Beyond" for American Schools of Oriental Research 2019 Annual Meeting. (6 papers). Co-Chair (with Dr. Geoffrey Ludvik). 2019 *Examining Iron Age Administrative Provisioning in the Southern Levant through Isotopic Analyses*. **Kara Larson**, Elizabeth Arnold, and **James W. Hardin**. In: Isotopic Investigations in the Ancient Near East and Caucasus. American Schools of Oriental Research 2019 Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA. November 20th, 2019. Paper Presentation. 2019 *From the Herd to the Dinner Plate: Contextualizing Butchery Practices from Early Bronze Age III Tell el-Hesi*. **Kara Larson, Sara Cody, and James W. Hardin**. In: The Early Bronze Age in the Southern Levant: New Discoveries and Implications from the Greater Hesi Region and Beyond. American Schools of Oriental Research 2019 Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA. November 21st, 2019. Paper Presentation. **Kara Larson**: 2020 (Accepted) "Archaeology of the Iron Age" for Society of American Archaeology 2020 Annual Meeting (14 papers). Chair. 2020 (Accepted) *Meat on the Hoof: A Zooarchaeological Isotopic Investigation into Administrative and Cultic Herd Management at Khirbet Summeily*. **Kara Larson**. In: Archaeology of the Iron Age. Society of American Archaeology 2020 Annual Meeting, Austin, TX. April 25th, 2020. Paper Presentation. **Kara Larson** 2020 (Accepted) "Reconstructing Past Human Behaviors and Identities through Advanced Zooarchaeological Methodologies and Technologies" for World Archaeological Congress 2020 Annual Meeting. (5 papers). Co-Chair (with Katharine Steinke). 2020 (Accepted) *We are What We Eat: Examining 10th Century b.c.e. Political Affiliations through Isotopic Analyses on Animal Remains at Khirbet Summeily*. **Kara Larson**. In: Reconstructing Past Human Behaviors and Identities through Advanced Zooarchaeological Methodologies and Technologies. World Archaeology Conference 2020 Annual Meeting, Prague, Czech Republic. July 5-10, 2020. Paper Presentation.

Dr. Shane Miller. 2019. What Happened at the End of the Early Archaic? Examining Paleoindian and Archaic Subsistence Trajectories in the Mid-South. (First author with Stephen B. Carmody). Paper presented at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

Jinka, M. (March 19-23, 2019). "Internally Displaced Persons and the Government: Do They Define "Development" the Same Way?" Poster Presentation. 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Portland, OR. **Zuckerman, MK.,** K. Kamnikar, **A.J. Osterholtz,** N.P. Herrmann, and J. Franklin. 2020. Applying the Index of Care to the Mississippian period: A case study of treponematosi, physical impairment, and probable health-related caregiving from the Holliston Mills site, TN. Poster presentation at the 47th annual meeting of the Paleopathology Association, Los Angeles, CA, April 2020.

Dafoe, A., MK. Zuckerman, SN. DeWitte, and **AJ. Osterholtz.** 2020. Physiological consequences of adverse early-life experiences: A skeletal investigation of frailty and resilience within an institutionalized sample using a modified version of the Skeletal Frailty Index (SFI). Poster presentation at the 47th annual meeting of the Paleopathology Association, Los Angeles, CA, April 2020.

Herrmann, NP., A Plemons², G. Harley, **M. Zuckerman,** and W. Trask. 2019. Data Integration of the Mississippi State Asylum Burial Sample and Archival Records. Invited contribution to session, "Recent Investigations at the Mississippi State Asylum Cemetery: An Interdisciplinary Approach toward Understanding." Organizers: NP Herrmann and MK Zuckerman. Poster presented at the 76th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

Cody, S. and **MK Zuckerman.** 2019. Reflecting on the Lived Reality of Asylum Patients in the Industrializing American South: An Osteobiography of Burial 28 of the Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum. Invited contribution to session, "Recent Investigations at the Mississippi State Asylum Cemetery: An Interdisciplinary Approach toward Understanding." Organizers: NP Herrmann and MK Zuckerman. Poster presented at the 76th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

Olsen, K., and **MK Zuckerman.** 2019. Context is Key: The Osteobiography of Burial 37, Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum Cemetery Project. Invited contribution to session, "Recent Investigations at the Mississippi State Asylum Cemetery: An Interdisciplinary Approach toward Understanding." Organizers: NP Herrmann and MK Zuckerman. Poster presented at the 76th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

Porter, K. and **MK Zuckerman.** 2019. Lived Experience in the Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum: An Osteobiography of Burial 8. Invited contribution to session, "Recent Investigations at the Mississippi State Asylum Cemetery: An Interdisciplinary Approach toward Understanding." Organizers: NP Herrmann and MK Zuckerman. Poster presented at the 76th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

Woodyard, L and **MK Zuckerman**. 2019. How Osteobiographical Study Helps Shed Light on the Lived Experience of Burial 53 from the Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum Cemetery. Invited contribution to session, "Recent Investigations at the Mississippi State Asylum Cemetery: An Interdisciplinary Approach toward Understanding." Organizers: NP Herrmann and MK Zuckerman. Poster presented at the 76th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

Zuckerman, MK., AJ Osterholtz, and NP Herrmann. 2019. Current Bioarchaeological Knowledge and Potential Directions for Future Research at the Cemetery of the Mississippi State Lunatic Asylum. Invited contribution to session, "Recent Investigations at the Mississippi State Asylum Cemetery: An Interdisciplinary Approach toward Understanding." Organizers: NP Herrmann and MK Zuckerman. Poster presented at the 76th annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2019.

2019 *Surveying Shell Rings with Advanced Technology and Methodology: Initial Results from the 2019 Survey at Pockoy Island, South Carolina*. **Kara Larson, Nathan Shores, Caleb Hutson**, Karen Y. Smith, **Derek T. Anderson**, and **D. Shane Miller**. In: Shovel to Machine: Survey Methods in the Southeast. Southeastern Archaeological Conference 2019 Annual Meeting, Jackson, MS. November 7th, 2019. Poster Presentation.

2019 *An Archaeological Faunal Database for Mississippi*. **Derek Anderson** and **Kara Larson**. In: The Old and the New: Standard and Innovative Methods. Southeastern Archaeological Conference 2019 Annual Meeting, Jackson, MS. November 7th, 2019. Poster Presentation.

2019. *Feasting with the Dead: Preliminary Analysis of Faunal Remains at the Put Dragulina Roman Cemetery*. **J. Paige, K. Larson, A.J. Osterholtz**, and L. Paraman. Poster presented at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Albuquerque, NM. April 10-14, 2019.

2020. *Who Is Recommending Placenta Consumption?: A Survey of Placentophagic Mothers*. **J. Paige**, D.C. Benyshek, S.M. Young, J. Selander, and A. Cantor. Poster presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, NM. March 17-21, 2020.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Key Personnel, "Modeling Lagoon Ecosystem Health over Deep Time: Developing New Methods through Convergent Research in Tropical Mexico." University of Central Florida Office of Research. (**Dr. David Hoffman**)

Dr. Anna Osterholtz and **Dr. Molly Zuckerman** were awarded funding from the College of Arts & Sciences at MSU to design guidelines for future excavations and bioarchaeological research at the

cemetery of the MSA (A&S SRI: "Creating a guiding document for excavations and analysis of human remains from the Mississippi State Asylum" (2019).

Graduate student **Malavika Jinka** secured a GSA travel grant scholarship from the Graduate Student Association at MSU in January 2020.

Graduate student **Kara Larson**, 2019: First Presbyterian Church Near Eastern Archaeological Dissertation Start-Up Grant (**\$5000.00**)

Kara Larson, 2019: American School of Oriental Research Student Travel Grant (**\$250.00**)

Kara Larson, 2019: Mississippi State University Graduate Student Assistant Travel Grant (**\$500.00**)

Kara Larson, 2019: College of Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Travel Award (**\$500.00**)

Kara Larson, 2019: Heritage Archaeological Research Grant for Near Eastern Studies (**\$3000.00**)

Kara Larson, 2019: Harva L. Sheeler Excavation Fellowship (**\$2000.00**)

Kara Larson, 2019: Mississippi State University Women's Club Scholarship (**\$500.00**) **TALKS**

Dr. Shane Miller. 2019. Getting from the Pleistocene to the Present in the American Southeast: What Is and What Still Could Be. Harvard University Native Culture Speaker Series, November 2019.

Dr. Shane Miller. 2019. Hester and Swag: Searching for Pleistocene Archaeological Sites in the Savannah and Tombigbee River Valleys. Harvard University Archaeology Speaker Series, November 2019.

Dr. Milena Melo was selected to share her research for Rice University Chair's Annual Lecture. Her talk titled, "Resisting Death: Undocumented Immigrants and the Politics of Kidney Failure in the U.S. -Mexico Borderlands" was presented on September 13th, 2019.

Student and Faculty Honors and Awards

[Dr. Evan Peacock, Emeritus Interim Director of the Cobb Institute and professor emeritus in the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, was an awardee of the 2020 Robert E. Wolverson Legacy Award.](#) **Dr. Milena Melo** was selected to be a 2019-2020 Community Engaged Learning Fellow at MSU. **Dr. Milena Melo** was selected as a Summer Institute on Tenure and Professional Advancement (SITPA) Scholar for 2019-2021 sponsored by Duke University. **Dr. Milena Melo** has been selected to be an Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation (ENACT) Fellow for 2020-2024 sponsored by Brandeis University.

Graduate student **Malavika Jinka** won a first-place award for her poster "*Development: Is It the Same for Both Internally Displaced People and the Government?*" at the Graduate Research Symposium held at MSU in October 2019.

Graduate student **Kara Larson**, 2019: Mississippi State University Graduate Research Symposium First Place Poster Recipient (**\$300.00**)

Julianne Paige. 2019. People's Choice Award in 3-Minute Thesis, Mississippi State University Graduate School, Mississippi State University (**\$750**)

Julianne Paige. 2019. First Place Master's Award for Poster Presentation, Graduate Student Association Research Symposium, Mississippi State University (**\$300**)

Graduate student **Rita Bouwens** received an "Alternate" status for her 2019 Fulbright application to conduct research in Costa Rica on human-animal relationships.

AMEC Departmental Award Recipients

The Jean W. Marcus Undergraduate Achievement Award, given annually to the AMEC undergraduate major with combined highest GPA and overall best record of academic achievement in anthropology.

2020 Recipient = Laura Ingouf

2020 Recipient = Desiree Goodfellow

The Joe D. Seger Award for Staff Excellence, given annually to the AMEC or Cobb staff member who best exemplifies professional excellence in service to the department or institute.

2020 Recipient = Kathleen Elliot

The Paul F. Jacobs Award for Best Applied Anthropology Master's Thesis, given annually in recognition of the AMEC Master's thesis that best represents completion of a rigorous, data-driven, applied-anthropological research project.

2020 Recipient = Brittany Higgs

2020 Recipient = Victoria Marshall

The Janet Rafferty "True Grit" Faculty Award, given annually to the junior faculty member who best exemplifies the grit and determination characteristic of Emerita Professor Dr. Janet Rafferty.

2020 Recipient = Dr. Shawn Lambert

The Janet Rafferty Fund for Archaeological Survey, given each year to a rising junior or senior anthropology major committed to pursuing a career in archaeology.

2020 Recipient = Laura Butler

The Richard Marshall Memorial Annual Scholarship, given each year to a rising junior or senior anthropology major committed to pursuing a career in archaeology.

2020 Recipient = Sarah Jerden

AMEC Faculty & Staff

Please click [here](#) to learn about the AMEC Faculty & Staff

Contact Us

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