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Dear colleagues and friends,

The archaeology department has been humming with activity! More than two dozen student interns, collections assistants, research assistants and volunteers have been helping us ramp up our collections management efforts — especially those related to NAGPRA. We also made some capital improvements, including the addition of a new work station and two research tables, which will help us manage our growing work force. In April, we hosted a digital photogrammetry workshop highlighting archaeological applications of this powerful technology. Finally, we are very proud of our students' accomplishments — don't miss those on page 2!

Have a great summer!



Marc Levine, Asst. Curator of Archaeology

WELCOME BACK, ALYSSA!



Alyssa Giles returned to the museum to work as a collections assistant on our NAGPRA projects. Alyssa also works part time at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum in Oklahoma City.

LEAD STORIES

Update on NAGPRA Grants

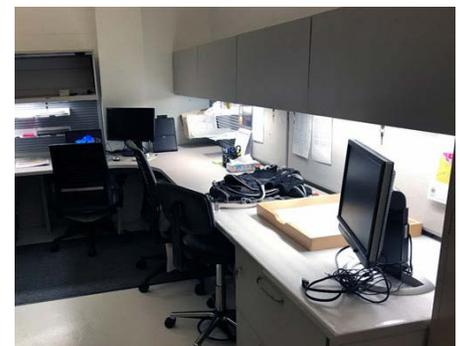
The archaeology department remains committed to working on collections subject to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. External grants awarded to the archaeology department in 2015 and 2016, both by the National Park Service, are funding this work. After great effort, we are very pleased to report that we are nearing completion of the project supported by the 2015 grant. At the same time, we have also made significant progress on our second project — funded by the 2016 grant. We presented an update to the NAGPRA Review Committee in Denver in March and had the opportunity to visit our colleagues at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (see photo). Over the past two years, we have learned a great deal about the complexities of NAGPRA law and about our own collections at the Sam Noble Museum.



Steve Nash, Ph.D., provides a tour of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science's new research and collections facility.

Workstation Upgrades

We have made some exciting upgrades to our work areas on the fifth floor, including a new workstation and a set of large tables for analysis. Staff and volunteers alike are celebrating the installation of the workstation, which provides desks and materials storage in an area that previously only featured folding tables. In addition, we purchased two waist-high tables and matching stools that increase space for analysis and are considerably more comfortable to use. Now everyone has a little more elbow room. More space means more collections assessed, analyzed and revitalized, so we couldn't be happier!



New workstation located on the fifth floor.

CONGRATULATIONS, MICHAEL!

Michael Walters defended his MA thesis and will graduate this May. He also has accepted a position to work on NAGPRA projects at the University of California, Davis. Good luck, Michael!



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pam Leader is serving as president and Kim Wright as secretary of the [Cleveland County Chapter Oklahoma Anthropology Society \(OAS\)](#).

Marc Levine, Don Wyckoff and **Paul Sandberg** gave guest lectures for the [Cleveland County Chapter OAS](#).

Susie Fishman-Armstrong attended the 2017 Mid-Winter MPMA Board Meeting, serving as chair of the [Registrar's Committee](#).

Nicole Palmeter will be graduating with her BA in anthropology and will be attending the [University of Tulsa](#) for her MA in anthropology.

Pam Leader was named volunteer of the year for the archaeology department

Meghan Dudley defended her MA thesis and will continue in the PhD program at OU.

Taylor Emery will be interning this summer at the [Paleo-Indian Program](#) at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, assisting with Clovis research.



Alex mapping an adobe wall with a drone

Alex Badillo (Indiana University) presented a photogrammetry workshop at the museum, covering the basics of how scan artifacts, landscapes, and features. Click here to see a scan of the field located south of the museum.

FAST FACTS

- 12 volunteers worked over 387 hours since January 2017.
- Catalog information for 62,401 artifacts was entered in the collections database since December 2016.

(Lead Stories cont.)

Hannum Collection

C. Edgar Hannum was a geologist who also owned a rare and out-of-print book company that dealt with books on geology, mining, archaeology and related subjects.

Ed was an Oklahoma Anthropological Society member and lifelong collector. When Hannum passed away in 2008, his partner, Casey Verhoeven, inherited this collection, and it was donated to the museum in 2014.



Oklahoma projectile points from the Hannum Collection

Long-time volunteer Pam Leader has been working on this collection over a year. She has processed nine out of 12 boxes with over 4,767 individually cataloged projectile points, mostly from Oklahoma. Artifacts from Ohio, New Mexico, Arizona and Missouri remain to be processed.

Lake Altus — Bureau of Reclamation

The archaeology department cares for collections owned by the Bureau of Reclamation, many of which were donated by private citizens or collected during surveys and field schools. To bring these collections up to current standards, graduate research assistant Sarah Luthman has been assessing collections

excavated or recovered at Lake Altus and comparing these to the catalog typed in 2016. These collections contain over 20,000 items. This year, Sarah worked with two volunteers, and together they completed processing one of the largest collections from Lake Altus. Over 4,087 artifacts from the Elmer Craft 2008 collection have been verified, stabilized, rehoused and labeled. Future work on BOR collections will focus mostly on Lake Thunderbird and Foss Reservoir to ensure that the artifacts from these areas will be preserved for years to come.



Jessica Smith and Bill Bell preparing artifacts for labeling

ARCHAEOLOGY BLOG UPDATES

Check [here](#) for more stories and departmental updates.