



PETROGLYPHS

Archaeology Newsletter

Vol. 5, Issue 2, December 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

Lead Stories	1-2
Special Announcements	2
Fast Facts	2

Dear colleagues and friends,

I want to thank Susie Fishman-Armstrong for expertly managing projects in the archaeology department this fall semester while I was away in Mexico working as a faculty in residence for the OU in Puebla program. We also have some great news to share: we recently obtained another grant (our fourth) to support our important repatriation efforts at the museum. This repatriation work, done in collaboration with Native American tribes, has become one of our core missions. Furthermore, we recently established an Archaeology Department Endowment Fund at the OU Foundation that will eventually generate interest to support research, student training and curation. Please consider donating to this fund (see more information herein).

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2019!

Marc Levine, assistant curator of archaeology

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Sally Johnston has been volunteering with us since January 2016. She adores listening to audiobooks while tediously labeling thousands on thousands of artifacts. When asked what she likes best, she wrote a poem which includes, "I explore learning from those before, of wonders never seen."



Sally Johnston

LEAD STORIES

Semester in Puebla, Mexico



OU Group at Teotihuacan, Mexico

Archaeology Curator Marc Levine and his family spent the fall 2018 semester teaching at OU's study abroad program in Puebla, Mexico. The program emphasized experiential learning, with trips to some of Mexico's most spectacular archaeological sites, including

Teotihuacan, Templo Mayor, Monte Albán, Cholula and Coba. The group also visited several museums, such as Mexico's National Museum of Anthropology. It was an unforgettable experience!

New Endowment Fund

Thanks to the generosity of the Holbrecht Family, we're happy to announce the establishment of an endowment fund for the archaeology department at the museum. Managed by the OU Foundation, we hope to grow this endowment so that it eventually generates sufficient interest to fund archaeology research, student awards and the curation of our collection—the largest in the state of Oklahoma. To donate online, please click [here](#) and then select "Archaeology Research & Operations" in the drop-down menu.

New and Returning Acquisitions

The archaeology department has been busy with new and returning collections. Since June, approximately 165 cubic feet (approximately 201,717 artifacts) were transferred to the museum, with the majority being returned after a loan for processing by the United States Army Corps of Engineers by the [Veterans Curation Program, St. Louis, Missouri](#). (con't page 2)



Ella Crenshaw, intern, organizing boxes received from Camp Gruber

GOOD LUCK, PAUL SANDBERG!



Paul Sandberg, Ph.D.

Paul Sandberg has left to become a postdoctoral research scientist at the Center for the Advanced Study of Human Paleobiology at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

He is studying the microstructure and chemical composition of bones and teeth of wild baboons and great apes from East Africa to better understand how changes in the physical and social environment affect growth and development, life history milestones like weaning age and dietary variability.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Paul Sandberg and Susie Fishman-Armstrong participated in the annual Oklahoma Museum Association Smarties event at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City.

-Alex Chudak, graduate research assistant, completed fieldwork for his thesis research on Native Christianity, remembrance and heritage (re)production and participated in a 100-year commemoration of the Native American Church in Concho, Oklahoma. He will present a paper in an international Americanist symposium at the Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography in Saint Petersburg, Russia, in December.

-Ella Crenshaw, museum intern, attended the Oklahoma Museum Association annual meeting in Edmond, Oklahoma.

-Susie Fishman-Armstrong presented three talks at the Mountain Plains Museum Association annual meeting in Billings, Montana.

- Sarah Stice, volunteer, was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa at Rose State College.

FAST FACTS

- Eight volunteers worked 485 hours since June 2018.
- Catalog information for 2,886,083 artifacts are now entered in the collections database.
- Eight new accessions have been accepted since June 2018.
- Collection processing of more than 40 collections have been completed since June 2018.

In addition, the department received over 56,452 artifacts from [Camp Gruber](#), Oklahoma National Guard. These artifacts mark the beginning of a curation agreement in which the museum becomes the new home to collections recovered on CGTC property.

NAGPRA NEWS

The archaeology department has made significant progress in inventorying and re-housing human remains and associated funerary objects subject to [NAGPRA](#). Since June, we have published one [notice of inventory completion](#) for 118 individuals and 1,590 AFOs and submitted two additional notices of inventory completion for an additional 134 individuals and 15,196 AFOs. These submissions bring our total to 461 individuals and 20,244 AFOs from 86 sites inventoried from over 778,990 artifacts entered in the collections database.



NAGPRA Intern, Helen Sanders

We were recently awarded \$89,999 for a Consultation/Documentation grant from [the National NAGPRA Program](#) to inventory collections containing 202 individuals and 507 AFOs. We wish to thank the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation and United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Osage Nation and Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco and Tawakonie), Oklahoma for their efforts on these projects

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION UPDATES

The archaeology department began its third year in a five-year agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation to catalog, inventory, rehouse/repackage, tag and stabilize their collections held-in-trust at the museum. Alex Chudak, Fulbright grantee, assisted by volunteer Sarah Stice, announced that 45 collections (190 cubic feet) with 38,143 artifacts are cataloged, 38 collections are inventoried and 17 are completed.



Sarah Stice, organizing collection from the BOR

ARCHAEOLOGY BLOG UPDATES

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