



PETROGLYPHS

Archaeology Newsletter

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Dear colleagues and friends,

This certainly has been a challenging semester and I hope this note finds you safe and sound. In response to the global pandemic, the Sam Noble Museum has been closed since March. I am very appreciative to our staff members, who have done a great job shifting to work at home while still juggling many other responsibilities. I also want to congratulate Dr. Daniel Swan, interim director of the Sam Noble Museum, curator of ethnology, and professor of anthropology, on his imminent retirement. Dr. Swan has been a great colleague over the years and a steadfast supporter of the Archaeology Department. He will be missed and we wish him the best.

Best,

Marc Levine
Associate Curator of Archaeology

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Jen Dewey is a Ph.D. student in anthropology with a focus on historic bioarchaeology in the greater southwest. When she isn't volunteering, she likes to paint, draw and bake. She considers herself both a storyteller and a scientist, and bioarchaeology allows her to do both to bring more stories back into our world.



AAPA meeting in Austin, TX in 2018

LEAD STORIES

Work Continues Despite Covid-19

In response to the pandemic, the staff of the archaeology department has been working from home since March and remains as focused as ever. We continue to make progress on our active NAGPRA projects, collections management duties, as well as various reports and paperwork. If all goes well, we hope to have a limited number of staff members back in the museum later this summer.



Projectile Points, SNM Collection

NAGPRA Community of Practice

The archaeology department is an active participant in the [NAGPRA Community of Practice](#), a group led by the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology. Their mission is to build a network of members from museums, tribes and other agencies to share knowledge and information regarding the implementation of The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. The group also seeks to create a network of support for NAGPRA practitioners across the U.S. Our team has had the opportunity to meet with the NAGPRA Community of Practice group in Denver and Alaska, and plan to facilitate a session at the Oklahoma Museum Association and the Mountain Plain Museum Association annual meetings next fall.

New Acquisitions

A new lithic collection was accepted by the archaeology department on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District. The Hugh Byler Jr. collection has over 400 lithic artifacts that include projectile points, knives, scrapers and axes. The collection was graciously donated by Mr. Byler's daughters, Patti Hansen and Toni Good.



Large Projectile Point, Hugh Byler Collection

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ella Crenshaw and Gerald Franklin attended the Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network ([OKPAN](#)) conference in Tulsa, Okla. Gerald taught a basic flintknapping workshop at the end of the conference.



Gerald Franklin demonstrating flintknapping techniques at OKPAN

-Former intern Ash Boydston-Schmidt has been accepted into the University of New Mexico Graduate Program to pursue a degree in museum studies.

- We congratulate Dr. Daniel Swan, Sam Noble Museum interim director, on his retirement and wish him the best.

- Susie Fishman-Armstrong travelled to Sioux Falls, S.D. to attend the mid-winter Mountain Plains Museum Association Board Meeting.

- Dr. Marc Levine was recently awarded a Senior Faculty Summer Fellowship to carry out excavations in Oaxaca, Mexico. Due to the pandemic, this project has been postponed until summer 2021.

ARCHAEOLOGY BLOG UPDATES

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

FAST FACTS

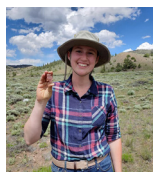
Six volunteers worked 135 hours since July 2019.

Catalog information for 16,313 artifacts has been entered in the collections database since January 2020.

3,020,190 artifacts are now entered in the collections database.

Three new accessions have been accepted since January 2020.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Ella Crenshaw at OU field school in Lake City, Colo.

Student Assistant Ella Crenshaw is graduating with her B.A. in anthropology and was also awarded the “Robert Bell Award in Archaeology” that is annually awarded to a graduating senior in anthropology. This is a big honor! Next fall, Crenshaw will return to the University of Oklahoma to pursue graduate studies in anthropology.



Jill Jennings

Student Assistant Jill Jennings is graduating with her B.A. in anthropology with a minor in spanish. She would like to work as a forensic technician or crime scene investigator for a police department or medical examiner.



Nate Gossard

Intern Nate Gossard will be graduating from Southern New Hampshire University with a B.A. in anthropology this summer. He hopes to find a job in cultural resource management or at a museum repository.



Cameron Benton 12,500 ft. above sea level, Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest

Congratulations to Cameron Benton, former intern, who recently graduated with an M.A. from the University of Denver. His M.A. thesis is entitled, “An Archaeological Investigation into Social Organization and Political Reform in the Reserve Area of New Mexico, A.D. 1000–1350.” For more information and a downloadable file, [click here](#). Benton is now working for AmaTerra, Inc. as a project archaeologist.



Dr. Bonnie Pitblado, executive director and founder of OKPAN

Congratulations to Dr. Bonnie Pitblado (OU Anthropology) for receiving the [Provost’s Community Engagement Award for Outstanding Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity](#). Dr. Pitblado was recognized for her work as founder and executive director of the [Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network](#).