

Horizon & Tradition



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Cover Image – *Surviving foundations at Camp Monticello, a World War II Italian POW camp ruin in southeast Arkansas. (Photograph by Matthew P. Rooney)*

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INFORMATION FOR SUBSCRIBERS

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INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Horizon & Tradition publishes reports, opinions, current research, obituaries, and announcements of interest to members of the Conference. All materials should be submitted to the Associate Editor for the Newsletter. Deadlines are March 25 for the April issue and September 25 for the October issue. Submissions via e-mail are preferred. Style should conform to the detailed guidelines found on the SAA website.

CREDITS

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Questions or comments about *Horizon & Tradition* should be directed to mr096@uark.edu.

Editor's Greeting



After editing a couple of these newsletters, I decided that I would start issuing a call for newsletter material a couple of weeks before the due date to stimulate more content submissions and announcements. As you will see in this issue, this tactic was successful. In addition to short articles and announcements, I'd also love to have submissions of photographs to use for things like the cover of the newsletter or in other empty spaces throughout. For those submitting announcements and articles, please consider including photographs and/or relevant graphics to help your submission stand out.

There are a number of important developments contained in this issue. The first is information on a pending SEAC membership dues increase on page 6. Please fill out the questionnaire linked and QR coded on that page.

On page 7, the editors of *Southeastern Archaeology* provide concerning clarification about our publisher selling our works to Microsoft to be used in the training of artificial intelligence.

Earlier this year, the executive board voted on changes to the way the Rising Scholar Award would be decided in future years. This resulted in a statement drafted by several of the current voting members in opposition that I include in this issue starting on page 9. Please note that this was written and submitted to me before President Hollenbach wrote her letter (starting on page 4) where she explains that the board has already decided not to go through with the proposed change.

Speaking of the SEAC executive committee, voting for new officers should have already begun



Brittney Bostian and Lilly McKee screening dirt at the Hollywood Grove site (Photograph by Matthew P. Rooney)

by the time you are reading this, so please turn to page 11 for the election details and pages 12-17 for candidate photographs and statements.

The remainder of this issue is filled with information about our upcoming annual meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia; funding and award application information; and announcements of a NAGPRA training program and a world archaeological conference, both to be held in 2025.

Finally, I decided to publish two obituaries that were submitted to me. In the past, the SEAC business meeting minutes were published in the newsletter following the annual meeting, which included the ceremonial resolutions honoring those who have passed on. Since this is no longer occurring, please send obituaries or statements to me directly if you'd like them to appear in *Horizon & Tradition*.

Matthew P. Rooney

Letter from SEAC President Kandi Hollenbach



One of my favorite aspects of the fall season is looking forward to the annual meeting. Janene Johnston, Patrick Johnson, and their crew of helpers have an exciting agenda in store for us at Williamsburg from November 13th-16th, with a slew of workshops that are already full, tours of the Colonial Williamsburg Archaeological Collections and Historic Jamestowne that are already full, student luncheons that are already full, a pass to Colonial Williamsburg's Art Museum Complex, and a Public Day co-hosted by the Council of Virginia Archaeologists on Saturday. This is the first time that SEAC has been held in Virginia, and Janene and Patrick have put in a lot of work, first trying to secure a space in Richmond before turning to Colonial Williamsburg. While the main hotel is admittedly pricey, any profits from the hotel venue go to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the non-profit organization that supports the historical site and their archaeology department.

Of course, the best thing about the conference is the opportunity to interact with colleagues, share new ideas and new data, catch up with old friends, and meet new friends. For me, the annual meeting has been a homecoming of sorts, but I know that isn't the case for everyone. The Executive Committee particularly heard a number of complaints from the Chattanooga meeting about the treatment of attendees; I know there are sets of people who do not feel welcome at SEAC. To address these concerns, we formed a task force chaired by Ramie Gougeon to discuss and develop ways that we can create an atmosphere at our annual meetings that is friendly and welcoming to all participants. They have shared some suggestions with the Williamsburg organizers and will have more opportunity to impact the 2025

meeting in Baton Rouge. I urge you all to keep this in mind during the annual meeting – we can respectfully disagree with our colleagues, but more importantly, we should be active bystanders who reach out to those individuals who experience uncomfortable situations, or those who look like they are new and know few people at SEAC yet. Please actively help us make SEAC a space where people feel they belong and are appreciated.

Over the summer, the Executive Committee also voted to increase membership dues. This has been a topic of discussion for a number of years, as SEAC has experienced a set of unexpected costs and as we look to expand our support for outreach efforts, student engagement, and participation of Native partners. Jon Marcoux has outlined these increases in this newsletter, and the Executive Committee has developed a brief survey to gain input on possibly implementing a tiered membership dues structure. Please take a minute to share your thoughts with us!

The Executive Committee also considered making a change in the process used to select the recipient of the Rising Scholar Award. Concerns had been voiced in the recent past to bring the process more in line with other SEAC awards, which are voted on by committees of three; in contrast, the Rising Scholar Award is voted on by the Executive Committee and all past recipients of the award, which now number 37. The Executive Committee voted to simplify the process to voting by the Executive Committee and a sliding window of five past recipients, but as you can see from David Anderson and colleagues' submission to the newsletter, many of the former Rising Scholar Award recipients value their role in the process. As such, the Executive Committee has decided to

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT HOLLENBACH

reconsider and reimplement the existing voting system. We also appreciate any additional feedback from the general membership on this issue, please send any comments or thoughts you may have to me or any of the other Executive Committee members.

Planning is also well underway with the 2025 annual meeting in Baton Rouge, headed by Rich Weinstein and co-organizers Chip McGimsey, Mark Rees, and Lynn Funkhouser. The joint meeting with the Midwest Archaeological Conference in Louisville has had to be postponed until 2027, but we are grateful to Ashley Smallwood, Tom Jennings, and their team in northern Kentucky who have been looking into arrangements there. To fill the 2026 gap, Matt Gage, Elliott Blair, and Kim Pyszka have stepped forward to coordinate a meeting in Birmingham and tap into the many students and archaeology programs in Alabama. I have several feelers out for 2028 and beyond, but if you are interested in hosting the annual meeting in your neck of the woods, please reach out to me or Jane Eastman, the incoming President!

As you can imagine, I am delighted to hand over the reins of SEAC to Jane, the rest of the Executive Committee, and the various committee and task force members this November. I have greatly enjoyed working with this fluctuating group of people over the last four years, first as President-Elect and then as President. SEAC won't be rid of

me entirely, as I will take over as chair of the Investment and Finance Committee as Paul Welch steps down from the position. As an organization, we owe much of our financial well-being to the acumen of Paul, who has guided our successful investment strategies for the past three decades. A huge thanks to Paul for his many years of dedicated service to SEAC.

Truly our greatest asset as a conference is our members, and I can assure you, we have many people who care deeply about SEAC and southeastern archaeology. Serving as a member of the Executive Committee or one of the other committees is one of the best ways to help shape the future of SEAC. We have a great slate of candidates for this year's election, but please reach out to the Nominations Committee or any of the Executive Committee if you are looking to get involved. We greatly appreciate any involvement, as well as any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have.

It has been my sincere pleasure to serve this active, thoughtful, and vibrant organization over the past four years, and I am excited about the future of SEAC and our amazing members.

Kandi Hollenbach
President

FROM THE TREASURER

SEAC Dues Increase

Jon Marcoux

As treasurer, my responsibility is to report and advise on the finances of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. While I am happy to say that our financial position is quite sound due to the incredible job of our investment committee, we do have a significant structural challenge. As outlined in my 2024 budget report, we are set to run a deficit of approximately \$10,000 in 2024. While less than the deficit in 2023 (\$35,000), it marks a historical pattern of loss for six out of the last seven years.

While our investment funds have thus far been able to generate enough return to cover these deficits, this is simply not a sustainable strategy in the long run. This is especially true given that our Bylaws limit transfers from the Life Fund into operating funds to the total return on investment from the previous fiscal year. In short, if the market does poorly, we will not have much of a safety net.

Like my predecessor in this position, I advised our membership in my 2023 report and the SEAC Executive Committee to consider and enact ways to increase our revenue in order to pay for the basic operations of the conference (e.g., a journal, grants, awards, a website, support for our yearly meeting) and to expand funding to the great existing programs for public outreach and engagement with Native American communities.

To that end, I ran some revenue projections for membership dues increases and for introducing a conference surcharge. The latter was sagely recommended by my predecessor as a solution that spreads the cost burden across all membership levels rather than concentrating the burden on non-life members, as would happen solely with a membership dues increase. I used mean values for

annual membership totals and conference attendance since 2014. In my projections, I sought to keep the cost burden placed on students as low as possible.

My recommendation is to combine a membership dues increase of \$15 for regular and family memberships and \$5 for students with a conference surcharge of \$20 solely for non-student attendees. I further recommended that the increase be staged over two years. In Year 1, regular and family memberships will increase by \$10 to \$55 and \$60 respectively, and student memberships will increase by \$2 to \$22. In Year 2, regular and family memberships will increase by \$5 to \$60 and \$65 respectively, and student memberships will increase by \$3 to \$25. The annual increase in revenue with these changes is projected to be \$13,640 in Year 1 and \$16,860 in Year 2 and beyond.

I know that increases in dues are never popular, which likely explains the fact that our last increase was in 2017. The Executive Committee is exploring ways to make the task of funding SEAC as equitable as possible. One such method would be to institute tiered membership dues based on self-reported income. We would like to know what you all think about this idea, so we've created [a short, anonymous survey that can be accessed at this link](#) or scanning the QR code shown here.



Thank you all for your continued support and commitment to the future of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference.

Regards,
Jon Marcoux (Treasurer)

Update on *Southeastern Archaeology* Publishing Agreement

Lindsay Bloch and Tony Boudreaux

Over the summer, it was announced that Taylor & Francis, the company that publishes *Southeastern Archaeology*, had entered into a partnership with Microsoft, providing content for artificial intelligence (AI) development. We reached out to Taylor & Francis for clarification and provide their response below:

The first agreement is with Microsoft. The partner in the second agreement has not been named. Both agreements provide access to Taylor & Francis published content for training purposes, specifically to help improve the relevance and accuracy of Large Language Models (LLMs). A key aim of these partnerships is to enhance Taylor & Francis's services for authors and readers by improving research discoverability and content creation, for example by automating tasks and providing tools for such things as data analysis and translation.

The first agreement with Microsoft relates to Taylor & Francis books (Advanced Learning) content only. The second agreement with an unnamed partner covers both books and journals (Researcher Services) content. I can confirm that research that has been published in *Southeastern Archaeology*, is included in the second agreement.

Finally, I would also like to confirm that contractual rules are in place with both AI partners to protect authors' rights, safeguard content from unauthorized access or use, and limit the reproduction of verbatim text. Licensing is an everyday part of what we do. It's part of our commitment to authors to ensure their ideas make the fullest possible contribution. We view this as in keeping with our routine activities and responsibilities to our authors. We do not routinely notify rightsholders about new and ongoing licencing [sic] agreements. It follows that

our publishing contracts do not enable authors or partners to opt out from a specific use of their content (whether that is for AI or Text and Data Mining (TDM) or other types of licensing opportunity) which are needed for standard publishing operations.

As editors and as authors ourselves, we are concerned about the implications of this sale for the intellectual property of our authors and the integrity of our journal. At the same time, while Taylor & Francis' AI partnerships directly affect us, we recognize that many other academic publishers are reaching similar agreements. AI data mining is, to some extent, inescapable if one publishes in a publicly accessible way. Our current publishing agreement with Taylor & Francis runs through 2025. As renewal approaches, the Board will be reaching out to membership for public input on how best to continue publishing high quality research in the most equitable and ethical way possible.



Towards Achieving Curation Literacy: TACLiNG the Curation Crisis

Michelle Rathgaber and Sarah Shepard

This summer the Arkansas Archeological Survey (ARAS) hosted "Towards Achieving Curation Literacy: TACLiNG the curation crisis", a curation-based field school. The field school was presented in collaboration with the Institute for Field Research, hosted by Sarah Shepard and Michelle Rathgaber at the ARAS Coordinating office in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and planned in consultation with Caddo Nation. We had an excellent group of 7 students who spent 5 weeks learning about curation methods and best practices, obstacles to completing and maintaining high curation standards, and grappling with how we can move forward ethically with archeological research with the ever-growing issue of curating artifacts in perpetuity.

In addition to working in the lab most days of the week, we had guest speakers come to present about a variety of topics. Tribal representatives from Choctaw Nation spoke about how they do archeology on Tribal land and how they are able to preserve sites in place with small changes at the early stages of construction planning. A representative from the United Keetowah Band spoke about river cane and its importance to his Nation's history and



Back row L-R: Michelle, Emerson, Rilee, Naomi, Sarah; Front row L-R: Carly, Jaida Caitie, Monique

connection to the region. Survey archeologists spoke to students about different specialized equipment and techniques in archeology such as 3D scanning and printing, database development, and drones for LiDAR and photography.

We also took field trips to other curation facilities and museums to see how they handle their artifact collections. We visited Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park to see a facility that they had recently upgraded and talk about the politics involved in curating and displaying artifacts, the University of Arkansas Museum curation facility to talk about the day to day work of maintaining a collections facility, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center to talk about funding for archeological site museums and collections, and Crystal Bridges to talk about how art museums work with and curate artifacts versus purposefully made art pieces.

We undertook a 3 day field trip to southwest Arkansas to see sites related to the artifacts with which we were working in the lab. We also got a chance to work with Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, our station archeologist at Henderson State University to map a Caddo ancestral site in the region and get a taste of fieldwork in Arkansas in the summer.



Students in the lab doing an initial sort of artifacts from an old collection to be processed and inventoried

Changing the Rising Scholar Award: A Call for the SEAC Board to Defer Implementing their Recent Action

We urge the SEAC Executive Board to defer implementing the motion they passed at their August 2024 meeting, which made substantial changes to the way the Rising Scholar Award is determined. President Hollenbach's statement, sent to those voting for the 2024 award by Maureen Meyers on 30 August 2024, is as follows:

When the name of the award was changed recently to the Rising Scholar Award, the task force also discussed a change in the voting process. There have been some concerns expressed among the membership that the voting is somewhat biased toward people who already know each other. The current voting process includes all of the past winners, and all voting members of the Executive Committee. The current Executive Committee met at the end of August and voted in favor of changing the voting process to include all members of the Executive Committee (including the non-voting members, who are the Associate Editors and potentially the SAC representative), as well as a sliding window of past recipients – namely, those who won the award 6-10 years previous. So in 2025, this would include those who won the award in 2015-2019. This would retain a voting group that is relatively diverse and relatively random in terms of our overall membership. This would potentially go into effect next year, but we would like to get your feedback before we implement it. If you have any feedback, please contact Kandi (kdh@utk.edu) with any comments, suggestions, complaints, etc.

In the April 2023 issue of *Horizon and Tradition*, President Meyers had in fact noted that the task force that recommended changing the name of the award had also:

“recommended changes to the way the award is decided as well; however, these were tabled at that time to stagger changes... Such changes would include moving this committee in line with other award committees, including a rotating

committee who are the only voters with specific guidelines to decide winners” (p. 21).

There does not appear to have been further public discussion or call for input about these changes prior to the recent board meeting. President Hollenbach's message above, however, does make clear the board would like feedback.

Moving forward, unless the board revisits their action, the Rising Scholar award will no longer be voted on by all past awardees and the voting members of the Executive committee, but by the Executive Committee as expanded to include nonvoting members, and a small number (n=5) of recent past awardees.

The notification prompted an extended email discussion and feedback from among roughly a third of the voters, most past awardees, and it was clear few were aware such a motion was being considered.

There was substantial concern about the new voting arrangements, mostly that what had made the award special, indeed nearly unique in archaeology, was that the winners were elected by past awardees, as opposed to selection by a small committee or board. However, almost everyone also agreed that the award process needed substantial modification. A number of recommendations were suggested, which we have summarized here, with the reasons as variously expressed, including:

I. Changing the criteria for consideration of the award to promote greater diversity and inclusivity, perhaps by opening both nominations and voting to a much greater pool.

Rationale: The current award is open only to those members who are within ten years of receiving a PhD. This privileges primarily younger academics, while excluding those without a PhD, and older

LETTER REGARDING THE RISING SCHOLAR AWARD

members who are still very active. Many people have advanced southeastern archaeology through CRM, government or administrative service, as SHPOs and THPOs and staffs, or through public engagement, and should be considered. The composition of the conference includes many historic archaeologists, and while past awardees have conducted some research in this field, no one who has received the award has had it as their primary specialty. Likewise, while a fairly even gender balance has been maintained, few First Peoples, people of color, ethnographers, historians, or members of other related fields have received the award. Having multiple awardees in a given year, other than when a tie occurs as at present, would also increase numbers and diversity.

With regard to voting, the credibility and significance of the award appears by many to many to be tied to how the winner is selected, primarily by past awardees, and that should continue in some form. Restricting the voting pool by excluding some younger and almost all older awardees was not thought by some as a good way to promote greater diversity, and was thought to be ageist by a few. The large number of voters, and candidates, was thought by some to be too logistically challenging to implement, but taking this task off one person would be a way to overcome this concern (see point 4, below). Suggestions included that voting should continue to include all past awardees and voting members of the Executive Board; a sample of the same, albeit more diverse; or expanding the voting to include more parties as deemed useful to promoting diversity. This might include committee chairs; other past awardees like Student Paper or Lifetime Achievement Award recipients; THPOs, SHPOs, or state archaeologist; or perhaps a vote by the full membership.

2. Creating and making publicly available a rubric by which the award is determined, explicitly stating who may be considered, how they may be nominated, and how the voting will be conducted.

Rationale: Few people understand the nomination process, which includes someone submitting a 200 word nomination letter and CV for the nominee, and that these materials could be updated annually. Information about the process has been included in recent calls for nominations in *Horizon and Tradition*, and this should continue there and elsewhere, to expand the pool of nominees.

3. Having the annual award nomination and election process handled by someone other than the immediate past SEAC President, as at present.

Rationale: Calling for and organizing nominations, sending them to the voters, and the solicitation and counting of votes is a lengthy process, and would be best handled by a long standing group than a new past-President every two years. Such a group would be appointed by the Executive Board, should emphasize diversity, and might include one or more past awardees. Key criteria are familiarity with the process and a willingness to take on the job for an extended period.

4. Keeping the overall administration of the award within SEAC and under the oversight of the SEAC Executive Board.

Rationale: The operation of the agreement transferring the award from the LMS to SEAC in the fall of 2009 did not specify who would oversee the award process beyond the immediate past President, but in the years since the Executive Board has overseen its administration, as they do most SEAC operations. The membership should be kept informed of the boards actions via minutes and reports at the annual business meeting.

5. Possibly changing the name of the award.

Rationale: The name 'Rising Scholar' might be viewed as somewhat ageist and chauvinistic in tone, since it implies traditional academic scholarship is the sole measure under consideration. If the pool of nominees is expanded to be more inclusive, a more

LETTER REGARDING THE RISING SCHOLAR AWARD

suitable name might be something like the Phoenix Award for Excellence in Advancing Southeastern Archaeology, a name which encompasses a more diverse recognition, and acknowledges both First Peoples (after the Cherokee Phoenix), and a bright symbol of uplifting or rising.

We thus ask that the SEAC Executive Board delay implementing their August 2024 decision, until new procedures like some or all of those advanced here can be implemented.

Respectfully submitted, and with the good of the conference in mind,

Sincerely

David G. Anderson, Sarah Baires, I. Randolph Daniel, Jr., Penelope B. Drooker, Jessi J. Halligan, Shane M. Miller, Timothy R. Pauketat, Thomas Pluckhahn, Matthew C. Sanger, Ashley M. Smallwood, Marvin T. Smith, Victor Thompson, John Worth.

SEAC ELECTION 2024

Southeastern Archaeological Conference Election 2024

Ramie A. Gougeon, SEAC Secretary

The SEAC Nominations Committee has identified a slate of candidates for five (5) elected positions in SEAC.

The two candidates for President-elect are ASHLEY DUMAS and RAMIE GOUGEON. The term for this position is 2024 through 2026, followed by a term as President from 2026 through 2028.

The candidate for Treasurer-elect is MARY BETH FITTS. The term for this position is 2024 through 2025, followed by a term as Treasurer from 2025 through 2028.

The two candidates for Executive Officer II are TREVOR DUKE and PAUL EUBANKS. The term for this position is 2024 through 2026.

The two candidates for Social Media Editor-elect are GABRIELLE PURCELL and MICHELLE RATHGABER. The term for this position is 2024 through 2025, followed by a term as Social Media Editor from 2025 through 2028.

The candidate for Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Coordinator-

elect is SHAWN LAMBERT. The term for this position is 2024 through 2026, followed by a term as SHARP Coordinator from 2026 through 2028.

The definitions of SEAC offices and the duties and terms of SEAC officers are specified in [Articles III and IV of the SEAC Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws](#) (see pages 5–8).

The 2024 SEAC election will be held from 9:00AM EDT on Sept. 30, 2024, through 5:00PM EDT on October 18, 2024, by electronic ballot only. All current SEAC members in good standing will receive an email which will provide a link to access your official ballot. Please do not share this link or forward this email message to others. Please note that Family and Family Life members are entitled to two votes and will be sent two codes.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the candidates and to vote! Your participation is an important contribution to the SEAC community. For questions about the election process, please contact Ramie A. Gougeon (rgougeon@uwf.edu).

2024 SEAC Election Candidate Statements



Ashley Dumas, President-Elect

I am humbled by the nomination for SEAC president-elect and would be honored to serve in such a role. SEAC became my academic home after attending my first conference in 1997. SEAC is not only a vibrant professional community engaged in scholarship but a refuge for southeastern archaeologists like me who wear multiple hats in service to the profession, whether as educator, contractor, community advisor, advocate, or fund raiser.

Being involved in the success of non-profits and other organizations that promote scholarship, awareness, and preservation of the past has been important throughout my career. With SEAC, I've served on the Public Outreach (twice), Nominations (twice, once as chair), and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committees. I won the Student Paper Competition and a Public Outreach grant. I have decades of experience as an executive officer, leader, and board member in other archaeological and preservation organizations, including the Alabama

Archaeological Society, Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, Alabama Historical Association, and Friends of the Alabama Archives. I currently serve on an advisory panel to redesign "The First Alabamians" exhibit at the Museum of Alabama to incorporate NAGPRA considerations and tribal perspectives. In the last year and half, I've given more than twenty public presentations to local civic, historic, preservation, and archaeology groups. In 2022, I traveled to Poland on a Fulbright to promote public archaeology and outreach to Polish archaeology students and professors.

When not engaged in service, I work as a professor of anthropology at the University of West Alabama, where I also manage the Fort Tombecbé archaeological site, the Black Belt Slave Housing Survey, and spent two years as Faculty Senate president. I'm currently leading the Search for Mabila Project. Although employed in a university setting, I also have professional experience in CRM that informs my appreciation for its tremendous contributions to our discipline and to prepare my students for the rigors and rewards of contract archaeology.

My vision as SEAC president involves, first, supporting our collegial, welcoming environment at conferences and ensuring that it is extended to students, tribal members, and all practitioners. As learned with the Sexual Harassment Survey, as well as SHARP and DEI committee activities, inclusivity and safety require hard work and vigilance. Membership numbers remain healthy when people know that our conferences are supportive, inclusive, and our resources robust. Our committees, too, should reflect SEAC membership and benefit from representation by members of various backgrounds. Second, as SEAC president I would promote frequent and effective communication with members, committee chairs, and fellow officers to facilitate action within the parameters of the bylaws. SEAC began as a gathering of archaeologists who wanted to standardize the classification of pottery so that

2024 SEAC ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

knowledge about Southeastern peoples could expand. As a SEAC member, I remain dedicated to these original, core values of scholarship and dissemination. As SEAC president, I would additionally emphasize the aspects of our profession that require outreach and collegiality, as all these components are now essential for our field to flourish. With these goals, SEAC will continue as the venue and infrastructure for our community to dialogue and collaborate, while constructing new agendas for the practice of Southeastern archaeology.



Ramie A. Gougeon, President-Elect

It is my honor to be considered for the position of President-Elect of SEAC. I have been a proud member of this august body and an enthusiastic attendee of the Friday Business Meeting for thirty years. As the next President of SEAC, I would work to preserve and enhance the benefits of membership – the journal, the meetings, and the camaraderie – which have shaped and enriched my career in immeasurable ways. In recent years, we have seen

more involvement in archaeology by Native and other descent communities. SEAC should be at the forefront of promoting responsible and considerate archaeological practices alongside descendants of those whose sites we investigate while simultaneously encouraging an overall appreciation of archaeological research. I believe SEAC can achieve this by facilitating more collaborative research, offering more educational opportunities, and striving to be more inclusive and expansive in who can be involved in and appreciate archaeology.

My academic background includes earning a BA from UNC Charlotte (1994) and my doctorate from the University of Georgia (2002). I had many constructive and positive years in CRM, working my way up to the position of regional manager and senior archaeologist. I have also held teaching positions at universities in Georgia and North Carolina. I am currently a professor at the University of West Florida (UWF) and serve as both Chairperson of the Department of Anthropology and acting Director of the Archaeology Institute. I was the grievances coordinator and later President of the UWF chapter of the United Faculty of Florida. I served the Florida Archaeological Council as President, Vice President, and Secretary, and am currently a board member. My prior services to SEAC include being Secretary and serving a 3-year term on the Lifetime Achievement Award Committee. It is my hope to bring these leadership experiences to SEAC as President-Elect, where I will continue to support the efforts of our President and Executive Committee as we strive to “keep the party going.”

Mary Beth Fitts, Treasurer-Elect

My name is Mary Beth Fitts (she/her/hers) and I am a Research Archaeologist at the Research Laboratories of Archaeology, UNC-Chapel Hill. My research focuses on foodways of American Indian communities during the colonial period. I received an M.A. in applied anthropology from the University of South Florida in 2001 and a Ph.D. in anthropology from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2015. While in Florida, I

2024 ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



worked for CRM firms, the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, and the USDA Forest Service; I also served as Treasurer for the Florida Anthropological Society from 2002-2004. In North Carolina, I worked for the Office of State Archaeology prior to my current position, serve on North Carolina's National Register Advisory Committee, and have been Treasurer for the North Carolina Archaeological Society since 2017.

My first SEAC was Macon 2000, and I have been a regular attendee ever since. It would be an honor to serve SEAC as Treasurer, a position I have held for other organizations. While I once enjoyed balancing my check book by hand, I now appreciate the technologies that make it possible to be more accurate, efficient, and transparent in accounting than ever before. If elected, I will work to foreground these three principles as SEAC Treasurer and ensure that the investments sustaining our organization remain on sound footing.

Trevor Duke, Executive Officer II
PhD, University of Florida 2022; MA, University of South Florida 2015; BA, University of West Florida 2011

I am a Principal Investigator at New South Associates, Inc., where I primarily conduct research for the purpose of evaluating archaeological resources for the National Register of Historic Places. Alongside this endeavor, I actively pursue research on precontact societies of the southeastern US, using archaeometry (e.g., NAA, petrography) to infer past social interaction and exchange. SEAC has long been foundational in my scholarly development. The welcoming and intellectually stimulating atmosphere I encountered at SEAC 2012 oriented my career toward southeastern archaeology, and I am eternally grateful to this organization that generously awarded me the student paper prize in 2021. It's now time to give back. I intend to do so by building on my experience as an academic, museum curator, and CRM professional to serve as Executive Officer. Recent trends in academic job placement and CRM growth are encouraging archaeologists on both sides to re-evaluate their core mission(s). As a recent attendee of Airlie House 2.0, a workshop aimed at re-envisioning the Federal Archaeology Program and CRM, I am well-positioned to advise on such issues, especially as they relate to our region and membership. The experience I attained in Tribal

2024 ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

consultation in a prior NAGPRA role would also be beneficial in this position, as SEAC has sought more sustained, positive interaction with Tribal communities in recent years. My ultimate mission as Executive Officer would be to develop courses of action that best serve SEAC's diverse constituency, and I would be honored to serve in this role.



Paul Eubanks, Executive Officer II

I am an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU). In 2016, I completed my dissertation on Caddo salt production in northwest Louisiana at the University of Alabama. Upon my arrival at MTSU, I began leading our department's local summer archaeological field school. Beyond training the next generation of archaeologists, our field school serves as a platform for public engagement. Each season, we host a series of weekend outreach events that have allowed us to connect with hundreds, if not over a thousand, individuals interested in archaeology. Additionally, I teach a variety of classes, including a laboratory analysis course that, as of last year, incorporates a public outreach component.

Since attending my first SEAC in 2006, this meeting has been one of the highlights of my fall. In addition to catching up with old friends and meeting new ones, I get to hear about the latest happenings in southeastern archaeology—and occasionally, I even get to listen to a paper or two about salt. One of the things I appreciate most about SEAC is the opportunity to engage and collaborate with individuals from diverse backgrounds. If elected to this position, I would be eager to contribute to efforts that further SEAC's commitment to fostering an environment of inclusivity and collaboration. I believe SEAC should be a place where everyone feels welcome and valued. I'm excited about the possibility of serving SEAC as an executive officer, and I look forward to seeing you all in November.



Gabrielle Purcell, Social Media Editor-Elect

It is an honor to run for the SEAC Social Media Editor. I have been a member of SEAC since I was an undergraduate student, and attended my first meeting in 2008 in Charlotte, North Carolina. I enjoyed it so much that, other than the meeting in Mobile, Alabama, I've attended every SEAC meeting since. My research focuses on understanding Native American foodways during European colonization

2024 ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

using paleoethnobotanical remains. Currently, I am a Lecturer and Archaeology Lab Manager at Troy University, Alabama, where I manage Troy's archaeological collections.

I've found social media to be an important place to share resources, ideas, and suggestions related to several archaeological topics. I contributed to SEAC's social media when I was a volunteer for the 2021 SEAC meeting in Durham, NC, during which I was part of the team responsible for posting social media updates about the city and the meeting. I'm very mindful of the rapidly-changing social media landscape, and how different demographics use social media. If elected, I would like to find out how social media can better serve our organization, such as creating resource files on Facebook and exploring other platforms to support SEAC students. As Social Media Editor, I look forward to continuing to make a contribution to this outstanding organization.



Michelle Rathgaber, Social Media Editor-Elect

I am the Educational Outreach Coordinator with the Arkansas Archeological Survey (ARAS). As part of my position at the ARAS I do our social

media outreach (FB, Instagram, Threads, LinkedIn) as well as work with our IT Manager to create, collect, and publicize website content.

I have been a member of SEAC most years since 2011 when I moved to Arkansas and began working full time in the southeastern US. I was a member of the SEAC Student Affairs Committee from 2016-2018 during my graduate studies at the University of Arkansas. As a member of that committee I was one of two people in charge of our SEAC SAC social media accounts. In 2020-2022 I was a part of the SEAC Little Rock planning committee. In that capacity I organized and advertised the Public Day that we hosted on the Saturday of the meeting and did the SEAC social media posting leading up to and during the meeting in November of 2022. I worked with Wordpress (the platform that the SEAC website utilizes) when I was on the Arkansas Archeological Society board from 2017-2020 making updates to their website as needed.

My research interests are in best practices in informal archaeology education for the public, which includes in person and online methods of outreach such as social media, YouTube, and website-based content. Most recently I have been interested in curation and teaching students its importance in archaeological research. To this end, my ARAS colleague Sarah Shepard and I taught a curation-based field school through the Institute for Field Research this past summer (2024) about which we will be presenting at SEAC 2024 [see page 8 of this newsletter –Editor]. I have also presented research about vulnerability and resilience to earthquakes in the New Madrid seismic zone during the Mississippian period in northeast Arkansas at SEAC meetings multiple times over the years.

If elected as Social Media Editor, I look forward to working with Karen Stevens (current Social Media Editor) to learn more about the SEAC website and how to manage what is probably the most visible and important part of SEAC's online presence as well as continuing SEAC's social media visibility on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

2024 ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



Shawn P. Lambert, SHARP Coordinator

It is such an honor to run for the SHARP Coordinator position. I began my career in southeastern archaeology as a student at the University of Alabama and continued in graduate school at the University of Oklahoma, where I

received my MA and PhD degrees specializing in community-engaged archaeology. There, I found a passion for collaborating with the public and descendant communities. I continued my passion for community and advocacy archaeology as Utah's State Public Archaeologist. I am now an associate professor in anthropology at Mississippi State University and there began working with an amazing team of researchers studying sexual harassment and assault in archaeology. I was a coPI on an NSF-funded grant researching sexual harassment and assault to develop best practices to make archaeology safer and more inclusive and over the course of four years, we have published several articles on ways in which we can make our discipline safer and more inclusive, especially for students working in field settings. I have been a member of SEAC's Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Assault for over four years, developing a series of workshops and presentations. As someone who is also a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I believe I can bring unique and valuable perspectives as the SHARP Coordinator. If elected, I would utilize these experiences to reduce sexual harassment and develop approaches to normalize safer, inclusive, and supportive environments to all SEAC members and beyond.

THIN SECTION LIMERICK

*It is well known that ceramic petrography
illuminates community practice, pottery recipes and biographies
that thin sections preserve these data makes them worthy of curation,
no doubt!*

*If you have thin sections languishing about, please give us a shout!
FLMNH-CTL will gladly curate and store them in perpetuity!*

By: Ann S. Cordell

If any SEAC members are looking for a good home for their orphaned ceramic or clay thin sections, please email Andrea Torvinen (a.torvinen@floridamuseum.ufl.edu) at the Ceramic Technology Lab of the Florida Museum of Natural History.



**CERAMIC
TECHNOLOGY LAB**
at the Florida Museum of Natural History

80TH ANNUAL MEETING



Williamsburg, Virginia

November 13-16, 2024

We are very excited to host the 2024 Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Williamsburg, VA! This is the first time SEAC will be held in Virginia. The Historic Triangle – made up of Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown – is home to a number of nationally significant archaeological projects and sites, that include groundbreaking approaches to engaging with historically marginalized groups including enslaved Africans, African Americans, and Virginia Indians.

Due to the preponderance of things to do, [Travel + Leisure recently ranked Williamsburg](#) as one of the best cities in the US! For those who want to spend some time away from the historic attractions, Busch Gardens and Water Country USA are also located in Williamsburg and King's Dominion is an hour away.

In nearby Richmond and Norfolk, there are a number of science, art, and historical museums to suit anyone's interest. The [Mariners' Museum and Park](#), located 30 minutes away from the conference venue in Newport News, is a must-see and only costs \$1 for admission. Nearby historic attractions located within a few hours include [James Madison's Montpelier](#), [Thomas Jefferson's Monticello](#), [George Washington's Mount Vernon](#), [Stratford Hall](#), [American Civil War Museum](#), and [Historic St. Mary's City](#).

Conference Venue and Hotels

The conference will be held at the Williamsburg Lodge, a Colonial Williamsburg (CW) affiliated hotel with attached meeting spaces. As such, any profit goes to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the non-profit organization that supports the historical site, including their top-tier archaeology department.

[Colonial Williamsburg](#)

80TH ANNUAL MEETING

We are offering two conference hotels that are affiliated with Colonial Williamsburg. The main room block is at The Williamsburg Lodge, but we have secured an additional block at The Woodlands. There are a range of other options within a 10 minute drive from the venue. Please check the [Hotels page](#) for more details.

**Cutoff date for special hotel rate:
October 17th, 5 pm EST**

[Book your Stay](#)

Getting to Williamsburg

Williamsburg is located in the Tidewater region of Virginia, just off of I-64. It is served by airports in Richmond, Newport News, and Norfolk (Richmond and Norfolk airports are just under an hour away. Newport News is about 30 minutes, but is a much smaller airport). There's also an Amtrak station one mile away from the hotel for those who prefer to come in by train or those who wish to visit Washington DC before or after the conference.

[Williamsburg Area Transport Authority](#) operates cheap buses throughout the town of Williamsburg ([WATA Route Maps](#)) for \$3/day. One notable route is from the Amtrak at the Williamsburg Transportation Center to the Williamsburg Lodge and the Colonial Williamsburg Visitor's center (located next to the Woodlands, the cheaper conference option). The Colonial Williamsburg shuttle operates within Colonial Williamsburg.

Important Deadlines

Online registration will open on June 10th. The pre-registration deadline is Friday, October 11. At this time, the fee for registration will increase.

Student Volunteers

SEAC relies on student volunteers to make the Annual Meeting a success. Student volunteers

provide support for registration, field trips, workshops, paper sessions, and all other conference activities. In exchange for their work, volunteers receive free registration. Students interested in volunteering should email Mary Furlong Minkoff at mminkoff@uwf.edu. Please include a copy of your student ID and availability, including travel dates and whether or not you are presenting.

Student Reception

Location TBD

Thursday Museum Reception: Details TBD

In addition to a reception, attendees will receive a pass to visit Colonial Williamsburg's Art Museum Complex at their leisure. The museum complex contains the [Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum](#) and the [DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum](#). A recent \$40 million, 65,000 square foot expansion has led to seven new galleries for over 70,000 examples of fine, decorative, mechanical and folk art in addition to the over 16 million archaeological objects at Colonial Williamsburg more generally.

Public Day

Saturday 10am to 3pm

The [Council of Virginia Archaeologists](#) (COVA) welcomes visitors to celebrate archaeology throughout the Commonwealth for a day-long, family-friendly, special event at Colonial Williamsburg. This event offers the opportunity to showcase the depth and breadth of Virginia archaeology on the eve of COVA's 50th anniversary to the public and our SEAC colleagues attending the annual conference in Williamsburg at the same time. Visitors can interact with COVA archaeologists at stations representing various themes in Virginia archaeology including public education and outreach, current tools and techniques for archaeological

80TH ANNUAL MEETING

survey and excavation, material culture and artifact curation, and community history and collaboration. Visitors will also be able to view active archaeological excavations at the nearby Custis Square site. Additional program elements may include welcome remarks and a public program about archaeology with a Colonial Williamsburg interpreter. The goal of the event is to foster public awareness and support for the preservation of Virginia's archaeological resources and highlight 50 years of Virginia archaeology in one place.

Newport News Mariner's Museum *Saturday 9:30am to 3:30pm*

This 6-hour field trip on Saturday departs the conference hotel at about 9:30 on Saturday and returns at about 3:30. The tour includes a docent tour of the USS Monitor Center, a discussion of conservation efforts in the dry lab, a discussion of efforts to preserve the Princess Carolina in the wet lab, and self-guided time at the [museum's exhibits](#). Learn more about the [USS Monitor Center](#), and the [Princess Carolina](#), the oldest surviving North American-built merchant vessel, whose repairs in 1729 were never completed.

Cost: \$50 (Includes transportation and on-site lunch from Firehouse Subs), Capped at 53 participants.

Daycare

Only a few registrants so far have expressed an interest in daycare. A meeting room has been tentatively reserved and we are discussing a contract with Sterling Event Planners of Williamsburg, VA. They will provide activities, games, toys, videos, coloring books and crayons suitable for each age group. Costs of renting the room will be split by parents who choose daycare based on a daily rate from Colonial Williamsburg. The \$60/hour per Sterling staff member (3 hour minimum) would also be split by parents. Sterling will have the following caregiver to child ratios:

Infants = 1:2 (newborn-1 years)
Toddlers = 1:3 (2-4 years)
School Age = 1:4 (5-8 years)
School Age = 1:6 (9-12 years)

Costs are thus very dependent on the number of children and their ages but would be in the neighborhood of \$25 to \$40 an hour per child with a minimum of 3 hour, or \$200 to \$300 per child per day. Patrick Johnson (patrickj86@gmail.com) will communicate with those who have checked the "I am interested in learning more about daycare" button at registration. However, please start communicating the extent of your interest and the age of your child to him by September 23. This would not yet be a commitment but would help ensure we have more solidified numbers.

Sponsorship Opportunities

One of our top priorities with funding this year is ensuring that it is as affordable as possible for students.

Donations will be advertised online and in the program. Donations of over \$250 will be listed in the pocket program, the full program, online, and in-person at the conference and other donors will have their name listed in the full program and online.

Bronze donors = \$250 or more will receive a 1/6 page ad.

Silver donors = \$500 or more 1/4 page ad.

Gold donors = \$750 or more a 1/2 page ad.

Platinum donors = \$1000 or more a full-page ad in the pocket program.

For sponsorship questions, please email Patrick Johnson at patrickj86@gmail.com

AWARD SUBMISSION CALL

Judith G. Knight Student Paper Competition

Submission due October 15, 2024

The Judith G. Knight SEAC Student Paper Competition is one of the highlights of the annual meeting. The value of this award lies first and foremost in the recognition that the winner and the runner-up receive from peers and colleagues. These student winners are among our best and brightest and it is always a pleasure to acknowledge their contributions. However, in the words of T.R. Kidder, one cannot eat prestige! Thus, the winner receives a substantial collection of new and recent books on Southeastern Archaeology awarded at the Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. The runner-up receives a Lifetime membership in SEAC and all back issues of the journal *Southeastern Archaeology*.

Who May Apply?

Any person currently enrolled in an academic, degree-granting program or having graduated since the last SEAC meeting may submit a paper to the competition. Only papers having one author are eligible. The paper must be on the program of the upcoming annual meeting. Presenting a paper at the meeting requires membership in SEAC, and requires that a paper proposal be submitted to the Meeting Organizer by the deadline for submissions.

To enter the Competition, papers must be submitted in advance of the meeting to a committee appointed by the Executive Board of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (see [How to Apply](#), below). It is also the responsibility of the submitter to send to the Program Chairperson of the Annual Meeting an abstract and the necessary

registration forms at the proper time. To be eligible for the Competition, your paper must be part of the program at the conference.

How to Apply

You may email a Word or pdf version to the Chair of the Judith G. Knight Student Paper Competition Committee by October 15, 2024 (see [Standing Committees](#) page). The paper reviewed for the Competition must have THE SAME CONTENT as that presented at the Annual Meeting and can include any tables or figures that will be used in the presentation. The paper MUST be limited to 10 PAGES OF DOUBLE-SPACED TEXT, no more than 2900 words. Figures, tables, and references should be submitted on separate pages (not interspersed among the text) and not included in the total page count. Any papers with OVER 10 PAGES/2900 WORDS of text will be not be accepted for consideration. A cover letter should accompany the entry, containing a representation of the submitter's current status in a degree program. Only one submission per applicant will be considered for the award. Papers will be evaluated based on topical relevance, theoretical sophistication, analytical sophistication, data quality, logic and impact of interpretations, and overall quality of writing.

The winners of the Competition will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. The winners will receive their prizes the following day. The Committee reserves the prerogative to defer the Competition and award in the event of a shortage of entries.

SEAC FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Native Affairs Speaker Fund

The Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC) Native American Affairs Liaison Committee (NAALC) has established a Native Affairs Speakers Fund (NASF) in order to facilitate communication, develop and strengthen relationships, and disseminate information about archaeological research and tribal perspectives and knowledge which is of mutual benefit to the SEAC and to American Indian tribes. The function of the Native Affairs Speakers Fund is to provide travel expenses for either SEAC members to travel to native communities or for tribal representatives to travel to universities, agencies, gatherings, or other designated places to present information and engage in dialogue about issues in the past, present, and future of archaeological research and American Indian heritage preservation.

Proposals to the NASF will only be accepted from tribal members and should be made via email to the [Native American Affairs Committee](#); at least ninety days in advance of proposed travel. Proposals will include standard title, executive summary, and applicants' contact information as well as a one-page statement detailing the proposed travel, interactions, goals, and costs. A brief written endorsement from a SEAC member (this could be a tribal or non-tribal person) must accompany the application, describing the mutual benefits of the proposed award to the tribe(s) and the SEAC and related institution(s). This is to say that there must be two parties to each application, one who is the speaker or presenter, and one who represents the venue or audience. A concise

budget must also accompany all applications. During this first year, two proposals will be funded. Proposals will be evaluated for up to 30 days and a response of "awarded" or "further information needed-reapply" will be delivered via email.

[GSA travel rates](#) should be followed in all proposals unless extraordinary circumstances apply.

Requested travel amounts should not exceed \$2000 per application. All proposals will be reviewed by the NAALC and evaluated using a proposal scoring sheet (see [Speakers Fund Scoring Card](#)). Disbursement of funds will be via reimbursement upon submission of the following to the NAALC: a brief report on the event; receipts for airline, other commercial carrier, or personal vehicle mileage; hotel receipts; any other non-meal, travel-related receipts; and number of per diem quarter-days spent on the funded travel event (for standard GSA rate per diem reimbursement). The NASF may not be used by agencies to fund travel for required compliance consultation mandated under any federal law such as NHPA, NAGPRA, ARPA, NEPA, etc.

Finally, the brief report of approximately one page must be filed with the NAALC by the SEAC member party to awarded proposals. This report on how the event went must be filed to the NAALC within 30 days after the conclusion of the funded travel event. A derivative of the report may be published in the SEAC newsletter or webpage in consultation with the applicants.

RESEARCH GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Student Research Grant Application due December 15, 2024

The **Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education, Inc. (AWIARE)**, in cooperation with the Levett Foundation, is making available up to \$10,000.00 to be awarded annually to provide assistance to students who are pursuing M.A., M.S., or Ph.D. degrees and who are conducting archaeological, historical, and paleoenvironmental research in the greater Tampa Bay region of Florida.

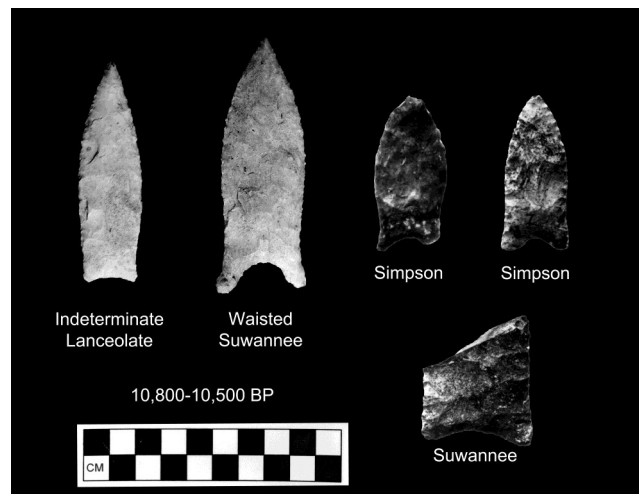
Types of projects that will be considered include field research, laboratory analyses, collections research, and documents research. Priority will be given to applicants whose proposals include: 1) field research at Weedon Island Preserve; 2) research using artifact, faunal, or documents collections at AWIARE; 3) field research at sites in the greater Tampa Bay area (Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee counties); 4) research using Tampa Bay area collections held elsewhere (e.g., Florida Museum of Natural History, Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, Smithsonian Institution, universities, local museums, private collections).

Research related to the Weeden Island culture and period is encouraged but not required. Paleoenvironmental research must have applicability to archaeological or historical time periods (i.e., Late



Pleistocene through the modern era) and interests (e.g., human-environment interaction; effects of sea level variation on human populations; climatic variability through time).

Individuals interested in applying must be currently enrolled in a university or college. The deadline for applying for the 2025 grant is December 15, 2024. Individuals interested in submitting a proposal should contact Dr. Robert Austin, AWIARE, 1500 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702, or by email to awiare1@gmail.com for application guidelines.



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

2025 Intensive NAGPRA Summer Training & Education Program University of South Carolina

Applications for the Intensive NAGPRA Summer Training & Education Program (INSTEP) will open on November 1, 2024. The 2025 program will take place July 7-11, 2025 at the University of South Carolina.

This program serves as a training opportunity focused on best practices related to Ancestral human remains under NAGPRA. The one-week, intensive program focuses the interpretation and implementation of NAGPRA and its regulations, as well as on areas of ethical concern surrounding research, teaching, curation, and other aspects of working with tribal nations and their Ancestors. Training areas include, but are not limited to: strategies for NAGPRA documentation in the laboratory/curation space; understanding cultural affiliation to contemporary tribal

communities; cultural sensitivity protocols; working with tribal governments; the effects of anthropological collecting and intergenerational trauma; and collaborative research practices. Training sessions involve learning from Native and non-Native NAGPRA practitioners, tribal scholars and Elders, research partners, and others as appropriate. The major goal of the project is to develop accessible, consistently-available training for anthropologists and NAGPRA practitioners.

Tribal citizens and representatives accepted to the program will receive funding for travel and lodging during the program. There is no tuition or registration fee in order to participate. Please contact instep.nagpra@gmail.com with any questions about the program or individual eligibility.



Program Participants in 2024, hosted by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

10th World Archaeological Congress Darwin, Australia, June 2025

Colleagues, consider attending (and even presenting at) this fascinating archaeological conference, held by a global organization that promotes all archaeology, including scholarship by indigenous peoples from [all over the world](#).

WAC as an organization has a very interesting history, [originating in political dissent](#).

The meetings are (usually) held every four years—always at an interesting location—and last almost a week but with a day in the middle for tours of archaeological sites and other locales of interest, as well as other excursions organized for attendees before and after the meeting.

[WAC 9 was in Prague in 2022](#), and included explorations of castles, museums, Czech food and drink, and aspects of eastern European political, social, historic, and architectural worlds. Papers were grouped according to specific themes, and topics ranged from ethnoarchaeology to Paleolithic to historic archaeology to native peoples' rights. The closing dinner was at a brewery that had existed for many centuries.

[WAC 8 was in Kyoto, Japan](#), and included tours of castles, gardens, and ancient Kofun keyhole tombs, as well as a public archaeology program at a nearby museum and the conference closing dinner with over a hundred different local and international foods.

In 2025, [WAC 10 will be held from 22-28 June in Darwin, Australia](#), on the north edge of that huge continent, hosted by Flinders University in collaboration with the Northern Institute Charles Darwin University. As the WAC Australian representatives at the SAA meeting in New Orleans announced, they have promised cultural as well as archaeological field trips.



Major (Moogy) Sumner AM (Co-Chair, Indigenous Elders Committee) and Claire Smith (Academic Secretary)

Yes, it is a long way from the US Southeast, but as we expand our vistas we improve our scholarship, of course. As a WAC veteran since the early '90s I am happy to answer any questions you may have about the organization or the meeting.

-- Nancy White
University of South Florida
nmw@usf.edu

World
Archaeological
Congress

Founded 1986



BOOK REVIEW OPPORTUNITY

Book Reviews for *Southeastern Archaeology*

Southeastern *Archaeology* accepts book reviews for publication that might be of interest to our readership.

Books for review should be mailed to the [Associate Editor \(Book Reviews\)](#).

Persons eligible to review include MA and Ph.D. students in Anthropology/Archaeology programs,

professionals in Cultural Resource Management or other related field, and professionals at academic institutions. Requests to review and review submissions should be emailed to the [Associate Editor \(Book Reviews\)](#). Please check the link below for a list of books available for review, or you may request books not otherwise reviewed in the journal.

[Full list of books available to review](#)

Rice, Prudence M.	<i>Revisiting McKeithen Weeden Island</i>	2024
Barnes, Jodi A.	<i>An Archaeology of Hollywood Plantation</i>	2023
Buchanan, Meghan E.	<i>Life in a Mississippian Warscape: Common Fields, Cahokia, and the Effects of Warfare</i>	2022
Hayden, Brian	<i>Understanding Chipped Stone Tools</i>	2022
Simek, Jan	<i>A Dark Pathway: Precontact Native American Mud Glyphs from 1st Unnamed Cave, Tennessee</i>	2022
Barton, Christopher P. (ed.)	<i>Trowels in the Trenches: Archaeology as Social Activism</i>	2021
Brown, Ian	<i>Still Rambling at Sixty-Nine: An Archaeologist's Memoir</i>	2021
Chambers, Mark Milton	<i>Gray Gold: Lead Mining and Its Impact on the Natural and Cultural Environment, 1700</i>	2021
Dye, David H.	<i>Mississippian Culture Heroes, Ritual Regalia, and Sacred Bundles</i>	2021
Earle, Timothy	<i>A Primer on Chiefs and Chiefdoms</i>	2021
McGill, Alicia Ebbitt	<i>Colonialism, National Identity, and Resistance in Belize</i>	2021

OBITUARY

Patty Jo Watson Submitted by Talia Ogliore

Patty Jo Watson, a professor emerita in anthropology in Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, died Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024, in Arlington, Mass. She was 92.

Watson was one of the world's leading experts on cave archaeology and agricultural origins. She was a pioneer in ethnoarchaeology — the branch of archaeology that studies contemporary societies to aid the understanding of archaeological remains left by ancient peoples.

At WashU, Watson was a founding member of the Department of Anthropology and developed the archaeology laboratory in McMillan Hall, training a large number of students to become archaeologists.

Watson worked extensively to improve knowledge about the archaeology of the pre-Columbian southeastern United States. She also set new standards in the practice of archaeology. Watson developed a technique and set of equipment for the flotation of archaeological materials that allowed samples to be processed more effectively and efficiently. Plant evidence collected in this way has revolutionized our understanding of the pattern and timing of plant domestication and of the origins of food production.

Watson began her career excavating prehistoric sites in Iraq, Iran and Turkey. She later shifted her primary focus to North America, where her research emphasized understanding prehistoric people who explored and mined portions of the world's longest cave system in Mammoth Cave National Park.

"It is hard to fully explain Pat's immense legacy," said T.R. Kidder, the Edward S. and Tedi Macias Professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences.

"As a woman in a largely male-dominated field, Pat broke gender barriers and inspired a generation of



Photograph courtesy of the Cave Research Foundation

women to follow in her footsteps," he said. "Pat was a grit-tempered woman and she will be missed."

Watson grew up in rural Nebraska and Iowa. She earned master's and doctoral degrees in anthropology from the University of Chicago in 1956 and 1959, respectively. Watson joined the WashU faculty in 1969 and twice served as chair of anthropology. She retired from teaching in 2004.

Watson was an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She received achievement awards from the Society for American Archaeology, the American Anthropological Association and the Archaeological Institute of America, among other accolades. In 2012, the Southeastern Archaeological Conference established the Patty Jo Watson Award for best article or book chapter about southeastern archaeology in Watson's honor.

Watson was preceded in death by her husband, Richard "Red" Watson, a professor emeritus of philosophy in Arts & Sciences. She is survived by her sister, Sharon Kay Dreyer; daughter, Anna M. Watson (Laurie L. Caldwell); and grandsons, Riley K.S. Watson and Liam M.S. Watson.

OBITUARY

Bruce Rippeteau

Submitted by Steve Brueckner

Dr. Bruce Estes Rippeteau, archaeologist and public servant, passed away on August 21, 2024 in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was 78 years old. Bruce is survived by his wife Sandra, children Astrid and Lucius, and siblings Darrel Jr. and Jane.

Born in Watertown, New York in 1946, Bruce received his BA from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1968, where he co-founded the still-extant AnthroGroup. He went on to earn his MA from the University of Arizona in 1970 and his Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University in 1973. His doctoral thesis, "The Principles and Theory of Radiocarbon Chronology and a Radiocarbon Chronology for Lithic Variation in the Northeastern United States during 3,000 to 500 Calendrical Years B.C.," contributed to his eventual election as a national fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

After completing his Ph.D., Bruce took an associate professorship in the Archaeology Department at the State University of New York at Oneonta. Here he led field work in the Upper Susquehanna Valley, collaborating closely with Robert E. Funk, the State Archaeologist of New York. Their work resulted in several publications, including "Adaptation, Continuity, and Change in Upper Susquehanna Prehistory" (1977), as well as an early theory of climate change impacts on native populations in the area.

In 1976, Bruce moved to Colorado, becoming the state's first State Archaeologist, a position he held until 1984. He took an interest in preserving antiquities at a time when antiquities depredations were an issue at sites such as the ancient Puebloan, as captured in his paper "Antiquities Enforcement in Colorado" (1979) and his role in founding the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists in 1978. One of Bruce's most unique contributions was the "Denver Elephant Project" in 1979, where he coordinated a collaborative series of experimental



archaeological studies on the carcass of a deceased zoo elephant. His experiences in Colorado led to the publication of "A Colorado Book of the Dead: The Prehistoric Era" in 1978.

In 1984, Bruce moved to South Carolina, where he served as the State Archaeologist until 2000 and Director of the University of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology until 2002. Bruce was involved with numerous projects, serving on the USS Monitor Archaeological Documentation Committee from 1986 to 1992, the raising and conservation project of the H.L. Hunley Historic Confederate Submarine from 1995 to 2003, and the team that established the Cooper River Underwater Heritage Trail in 1998, believed to be the first of its kind in the nation.

Bruce founded the Archaeological Research Trust at SCIAA in 1991, which continues to support archaeological research in South Carolina. He was also active in the Society for American Archaeology, where he acted as Secretary, served on the

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fundraising committee, and twice-received the presidential recognition award. Bruce was also active outside of academia in the Palmetto State, and in recognition of his contributions the state's General Assembly honored Bruce with a resolution in their 2011-2012 session.

After retiring from South Carolina, Bruce moved back to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he joined the University of Nebraska-Lincoln anthropology faculty in 2014. In 2015 he co-founded and chaired the department's Alumni Friends Advisory Board and in 2024 endowed a Prize for Great Plains Archaeology and Paleontology with his wife Sandra. He also

served on the board of the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation and appeared on the television show "Homicide Hunter" in 2018. In 2022, the University's College of Arts & Sciences recognized Bruce with an inaugural Distinguished Alumni award. The archaeological community has lost a dedicated scholar, mentor, and innovator with the passing of Dr. Bruce Rippeteau. His legacy will continue through the countless colleagues with whom he collaborated, the institutions he strengthened, and the contributions he made to our understanding of North American prehistory. Memorials may be made to UNL Foundation to support the Department of Anthropology in Bruce's name.