



Western Michigan University  
ScholarWorks at WMU

---

Participant/Observer

Intercultural and Anthropological Studies

---

Summer 2013

## Participant/Observer vol. 6. no. 1 Summer 2013

Anthropology Department

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/anthropology\\_news](https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/anthropology_news)



Part of the Anthropology Commons

---

### WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Anthropology Department, "Participant/Observer vol. 6. no. 1 Summer 2013" (2013). *Participant/Observer*. 6.

[https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/anthropology\\_news/6](https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/anthropology_news/6)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Intercultural and Anthropological Studies at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Participant/Observer by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact [wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu).





# Participant/Observer

*A newsletter of the friends of the Western Michigan University Department of Anthropology*

*Vol. 6, No. 1  
Summer 2013*

## Welcome from the Editor

I'm pleased to serve as the editor of the latest issue of the *Participant/Observer*. The challenge is not trying to fill up these pages but deciding what to leave out! There's so much happening in the Department of Anthropology both in and outside of the classroom with groundbreaking field-work throughout the world, exciting teaching initiatives, and cutting edge research. All of our work carries our anthropological message far beyond the walls of the University. There's too much to summarize in this short space, so I invite you to peruse this issue of the *Participant/Observer*. Keep us posted on your activities, as we always like to know how our associates and intellectual progeny are making an impact. We often see ourselves as charged with undermining cherished myths and promoting social justice. These are the critical values that inform much of what we do in the classroom, in the field, and in the community. Tell us how we are doing and thanks for your continued support. Feel free to contact me at [nassaney@wmich.edu](mailto:nassaney@wmich.edu) (269) 387-3981 with questions, comments or updates.

Cordially,

Michael S. Nassaney



# Recent Investigations of *Fort St. Joseph*

Since 1998, the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project has reached out to the public to share knowledge about colonialism and the fur trade in southwest Michigan. The Project, in conjunction with Western Michigan University's annual archaeological field school, continues the study of Fort St. Joseph, an 18th century French trading post, mission, and garrison located in Niles, Michigan under the direction of the principal investigator, **Dr. Michael Nassaney**. Complemented by a lecture series, open house, social media presence, and historical re-enactors, the Project utilizes a variety of resources and ongoing activities to engage with, and disseminate information to a large public audience. This past season (2012) marked WMU's 37th annual archaeological field school and the ninth field season at the fort.

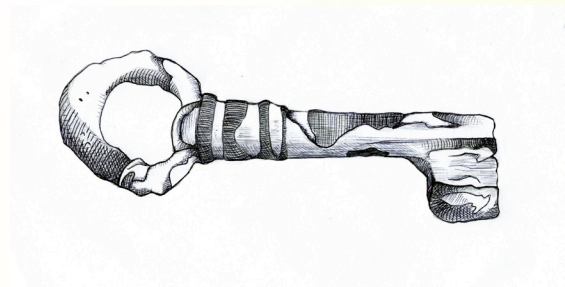
A research team of 21 students, staff, and faculty spent nearly seven weeks in the field beginning with the investigation of the nearby Lyne site (20BE10), where 15-1 x 1 m excavation units were placed in an area that had yielded cultural materials during an earlier Phase I investigation. Although this site was plowed in the 19th century, it continues to yield a variety of cultural material from ancient, colonial, and modern eras. Recent finds from the Lyne site included lead shot, glass seed beads, scattered chert flakes and shatter, a musket ball, and a copper alloy thimble. The thimble was of particular interest because it was intentionally perforated, suggesting a decorative use. The presence of European items on the terrace adjacent to Fort St. Joseph is indicative of evidence for an occupation contemporaneous with the 18<sup>th</sup> century fort and holds significant potential for future archaeological investigation.



*A perforated copper thimble excavated from the Lyne site. Photo by Sue Reichert.*

In order to begin excavation at Fort St. Joseph (20BE23), we were required to renew our 5-year permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The site is located on a floodplain, requiring dewatering to lower the groundwater and prevent flooding during excavation. Concerns were voiced over the quality of the displaced water from the dewatering system. After thorough water tests, a new dewatering system was devised and implemented that pumped water into the City's sewer system where it could be purified. With the assistance of the City and local experts, we met the DEQ requirements and began excavation at Fort St. Joseph in late July.

Research at the fort focused on a number of features with the aim of learning more about the size, location, and content of buildings at the site. Excavation began by re-excavating previous units in the vicinity of two large fireplaces associated with domestic buildings. Six-1 x 2 m excavation units were placed adjacent to these features. Various cultural materials were recovered including: two iron keys; a brass bell; a small carving of a bird (either bone or ivory); two Jesuit rings; and a silver or pewter cross that was likely locally produced based on its irregular shape.



*An artist's rendition of a key excavated from Fort St. Joseph. This key was used to open a chest, padlock, or door. Drawing by Arlyn Tiller.*

In addition to excavations, we conducted a geophysical survey of a 10 x 10 m and 20 x 20 m block west of the dewatering system with the assistance of Dr. William Sauck (WMU, Geosciences). The survey revealed several anomalies that have archaeological potential and warrant future investigation.

*(Continued on page 3)*

The Project continued its public education and outreach efforts. Throughout the field season, we regularly updated our Facebook group as well as our daily blog ([fortstjosepharchaeology.blogspot.com](http://fortstjosepharchaeology.blogspot.com)). Our blog has received over 15,000 visits over the past two years, and serves as an efficient tool to share information during the field season and throughout the academic year.

In 2012, the Project held its fourth annual summer archaeology lecture series, offering informative presentations from a variety of experts. All lectures were well attended and provided a useful and popular forum for public interaction.

The annual summer camp training program provided 27 students from a variety of backgrounds the opportunity to participate fully in the excavation at the fort. Middle school students, teachers, and lifelong learners spent a week in the field learning how to excavate, take field notes, and identify artifacts. These programs encourage direct community participation in the entire archaeological process as well as disseminates information to a variety of social groups.



*A group of visitors join field school students to tour excavations at Fort St. Joseph. Photo by Sue Reichert.*

The annual open house was held during the weekend of August 11-12, and focused on the militia. The open house included information booths and artifact displays from the excavation, as well as nearly 100 living history re-enactors camping near the site. Activities available were children's crafts, authentic period food and drink, local community representation, fort-related

merchandise, and a series of lectures and demonstrations. The open house was attended by nearly 2,000 visitors and received positive feedback via visitor surveys. A media crew attended and filmed the open house for the production of the DVD, "Militia Muster at Fort St. Joseph." The Project attracted tremendous community support and encouraged more involvement from WMU alumni. Visit our website, follow us on Facebook, read our blog for the most recent discoveries, or come see us in person at this year's open house (August 10-11) to learn how you can help us make the past come alive at Fort St. Joseph!



*Two living history re-enactors view a site map of excavations at Fort St. Joseph. Photo by Sue Reichert.*

# 2012 Finger Lakes National Forest Farmstead Archaeology Project Season



High School students exploring the interactive powerpoint.

**Dr. LouAnn Wurst** returned to the Finger Lakes National Forest this past May with a team of Western graduate students for a final field season for the Farmstead Archaeology Project. Stephen Damm, Mark Hook, Erica D'Elia, Alison Thornton, Kyle LeSage, and Phillip Shandorf all joined her, along with WMU alum Dustin Conklin, who is currently working on his Ph.D. at SUNY Binghamton.

This year, the field season lasted only a week and focused on public outreach activities. Dustin Conklin created an interactive Powerpoint presentation about the project that was used on touch screen computers and iPads in the field. This software application facilitated public outreach activities that included a presentation for the Backbone Ridge History Group, a walking tour of previously excavated sites along Burnt Hill Road, and work with a group of students from South Seneca High School who spent the day helping excavate the Ball Site. These investigations not only provided additional information about one of the project's many farms but also gave the local high school students an opportunity

to participate in archaeological investigations. In addition, the field crew insisted on excavating at the Kimble Site, a newly located site in the Finger Lakes National Forest. This site yielded one of the richest assemblages of artifacts relating to a farm with a unique occupational history. Students are still processing the material recovered from excavations of the privy, a fitting way to end the field component of this long-term project.



Kimble Site privy.

## Michigan Archaeology Day

Western's Department of Anthropology was well represented at the 2012 Michigan Archaeology Day held in Lansing on October 6. This annual event brings archaeologists and members of the public together to learn about the rich archaeological heritage of the state and talk to archaeologists about how people lived in the past. This year over 600 people attended Archaeology Day and got to talk to Western students about the projects they have been involved in. *(Continued on page 5)*

Participants in the 2012 WMU archaeological field school, Cassie Mohney and Michelle Letang, hosted the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project display. They answered questions about various artifacts recovered from the 18<sup>th</sup>-century site of Fort St. Joseph, one of the oldest European occupations in the western Great Lakes region. They also encouraged visitors to attend the Project's upcoming 2013 lecture series and open house to learn more about the history and culture of New France.

Students in the CRM Archaeology course designed a poster and staffed the table highlighting their class project at the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum in South Haven, Mich. They brought a sample of artifacts recovered from the site and talked about the results of their historical research, artifact analysis, and the significance of the site.

## Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum Project in South Haven



LHBM Archaeology Day display.



FSJ table at Archaeology Day.



LH Bailey skull photo.

**Dr. LouAnn Wurst** supervised archaeological excavations at the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum in South Haven, Mich. in 2012. The museum contacted Dr. Wurst to investigate a building shown in a newly discovered historic photograph, which they believed to be a privy. Dr. Wurst led a small crew out to the site after returning from the Finger Lakes. Mark Hooch, Stephen Damm, Erica D'Elia, and Alison Thornton joined Dane Kroll, a WMU Anthropology alumnus who worked as a curator at the museum, to conduct excavations for three weekends in late May and early June. While no structural remains of the building were located, the archaeology of the site proved intriguing.

In the fall, Dr. Wurst used this site as an experiential learning opportunity

and class project for the CRM (Cultural Resource Management) Archaeology course. Students returned for several weekends in September to conduct further excavations. The results of the historic and archaeological excavations were incorporated into a site report for the State Historic Preservation Office as well as a brochure for the museum. The final versions of these products are still being refined and all of the artifacts will eventually be returned to the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum.

As a side note, an artifact photograph taken in the field of a clay pipe bowl shaped like a skull went on to take first place in the Artifact Photo category at the 2013 Society for Historical Archaeology Photo Contest.

## Western Michigan University Recognized for Public Anthropology Excellence

In Fall 2012, **Prof. Kristina Wirtz's** ANTH 2400 (Principles of Cultural Anthropology) class was recognized for participating in a national Public Anthropology project involving over 3,600 students from 25 schools. Administered by Dr. Robert Borofsky of the University of Hawai'i, the Public Anthropology online student community showcases the ability of undergraduate anthropology students to learn effective writing skills while being active global citizens.

## Where Are Our Alumni Now?

We are always pleased to hear from our alumni, since so many are engaged in conducting such interesting work. It is through our graduates that our Department can reach out to make this place a better world.

**Tiwanna DeMoss (B.A.)** successfully defended her dissertation, "Building Houses or Creating Homes: Housing Development Programs and Quality of Life in Port Elizabeth, South Africa" in 2012 and received her Ph.D. from the American University. She has a publication forthcoming for the Society for Economic Anthropology's annual journal entitled, "From Informal Settlements to Formality: A Resettlement Community's Adaptation to Township Urban Planning and Spatial Conformity in Port Elizabeth, South Africa." She is currently serving as an adjunct instructor at American University and also working as a consultant for an international development consulting firm in Silver Spring, Maryland, a suburb of D.C., specializing in agricultur-

al development, monitoring and evaluation, and SME development. Congratulations, Tiwanna!

**Michelle Gamber (M.A.)** writes, "Happy New Year and Happy Holidays! I thought I would give you an update on my new job and what I've been up to. So, I am working at USAID in the Office of Food for Peace as a Gender Advisor. I came to work at USAID because I was selected to be an American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellow. All AAAS fellows are placed at government agencies throughout D.C. The purpose of the fellowship is to train academics and researchers on how to bridge the policy and research gap. Last April I had 12 interviews in 5 days...quite the whirlwind. I interviewed at USAID, State Department, NIH, and HHS. I ended up selecting USAID as my top choice and to be a gender advisor as it seemed to fit my past research experience and future goals the best.

The office I work in focuses on food security issues in both the emergency and development context, and we are the only office at USAID to work in both contexts, which makes us unique. Another interesting fact is that our office is funded out of the Farm Bill, so we are glad that there was an extension granted!

A few details on what my job entails:  
\*Upholding and integrating USAID's Gender Equality and Female Empowerment policy into the everyday work we do. My office currently operates in 23 countries, so keeping up with all we do, and making sure gender isn't overlooked is a challenge!  
\*Training our NGO partners and office staff on how to effectively integrate gender into program activities.  
\*Presenting policies and new guidelines to the NGO's and contractors we work with.

(continued on page 7)

\*Traveling to countries we work in to check on our programs and assist mission staff and NGO's in the field with any gender issues in their programs (this is my favorite part—wish I could do it more).

\*Reviewing documents for technical soundness—when I review I provide feedback on gender, health, and monitoring and evaluation activities. This is the major part of my job...I feel like all I do is read, read, and read. And, most of the documents are 100+ pages, single-spaced, and poorly written...haha!

\*Creating new office policies and guidelines around the Agency Gender Policy. On day four in the office I re-wrote the gender sections of the RFA!

\*Coordinate with our grantee partners on the work they are doing. Basically, I am supposed to provide guidance on how to make their programs better (and hope they listen to me).

I do a lot of other things, but that is the bulk of what I do. I have now been in my office for nearly four months, and although I like the work I do, it has also been a challenging transition. My biggest challenge is that I feel so far removed from the work we do. Basically, USAID is a granting agency and we manage the programs we fund from D.C. So, I tell people what they should be doing instead of getting to do any of that actual work in the field, which makes me feel like I'm not making a difference (although I suppose I am, just in a different way).

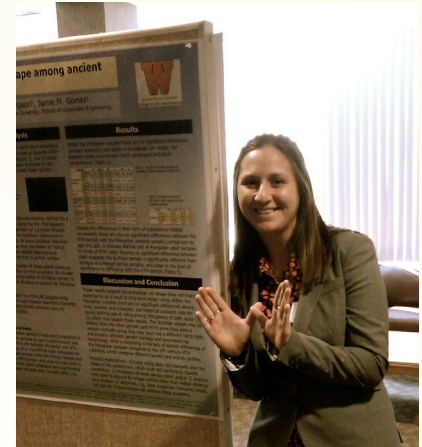
It has also been a challenge to meet the political/bureaucratic needs of this environment. For example, I have been charged with coming up with gender indicators to measure

women's empowerment and gender equality. As if there is one (or a few) "magic" ways to measure this... really, what they want me to do is create ways to quantify it somehow. We have to answer to Congress, and Congress likes numbers. But, most people in my office don't understand that something like gender equality and women's empowerment is not that simple to get at. Oh, and of course I am supposed to come up with these indicators in my first week...haha.

Besides these challenges I am trying to keep a positive attitude and learn as much as possible from this experience. I think this fellowship will be a great stepping-stone to whatever I do next and has provided me with a perspective on development and humanitarian work I have not yet experienced. I am unsure if I will stay here after my fellowship, but I'm going to work on publishing my dissertation this year in the event I do decide to go back to academia. I was also hired on as adjunct faculty at the University of Arizona in the College of Public Health, so I will be teaching a couple of online courses when needed. Lastly, I am working on pushing my office to let me take on more tasks related to maternal and child health (MCH) since it is a part of the work we do. My supervisor is the MCH person right now, but I want to keep up my public health side of things while I am here, so hopefully she lets me do some of that work in the near future. Well that's it for now. Keep in touch and take care."

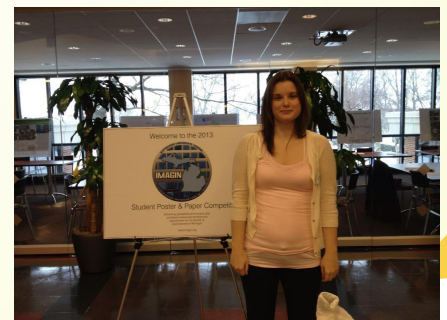
**Jamie Gomez (M.A. student)** presented her data analysis of dental health among ancient Asian populations, using data that had been collected by Dr. Eng. Jamie's talk

"Investigation of Sex and Age Related Dental Health Among Ancient Agricultural and Pastoral Populations of China and Mongolia" was presented at the 19th annual meeting of the Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association in Carbondale, IL. She also prepared a poster on the subject at the annual meeting of Paleopathology Association.



*Jamie Gomez and her poster presentation.*

**Samantha Lininger (M.A. student)** was one of the top six graduate finalists asked to present at the 2013 IMAGIN Student Paper and Poster competition, held this year at Schoolcraft College. This competition gives students the opportunity to gain professional experience, recognition, cash awards, and other GIS prizes. She presented her paper, "Using GIS to Visualize Taphonomic Features on Human Remains inside Chullpas: Marcajirca, Peru."  
*(Continued on page 8)*



*Samantha Lininger at Schoolcraft College.*



**Matt Pruitt (B.A.)** recently wrote to his mentor, Dr. Wirtz, saying, “I just wanted to let you know I ended up getting that internship at the Refugee Services Bureau through Lutheran Social Services of Michigan in Battle Creek after I graduated. I spent the entire summer working with Burmese refugees where I learned about a small novel’s worth of information on Chin culture, United States immigration policy, and the refugee resettlement process in general. I did everything at the organization from teaching supplemental ESL classes (which I had mixed feelings about) to book-keeping for the translators, case-workers, to writing public relations pieces about the organization and its clients. Though it was rather heart-breaking at times, I became accli-

mated to working with individuals in abject poverty pretty quickly. It was an excellent experience.

My summer’s work experience actually helped me land a job as a volunteer services/communications assistant at a food bank/family services organization in Sacramento, California. I just moved here about three weeks ago and I absolutely love it! I’m primarily doing public relations writing for the organization where I interview clients with success stories and volunteers who assist daily at the organization. The pieces I’m writing are put into the organization’s public newsletter every month and appear in the *Sacramento Bee* (a local newspaper). Everywhere in-between, I assist with recruiting/managing volunteers at the food bank and putting

together information regarding all of the volunteer programs. I’m on a contract for a year with the organization and afterward, I hope to join the Peace Corps or maybe give grad school a shot. I’m still a little on the fence between the two.

Anyway, I really want to thank you, Kristina. I learned so much in your classes that I use almost daily. You challenged me like no professor ever has. Your instruction and guidance helped me build my skills and confidence as a writer, thinker, and a human being in general. Without them, I’m not sure what I might be doing at this point. I’m forever grateful to you.”

# Faculty Updates

**Dr. Robert Anemone’s** field and lab research on early primates and other mammals from the Eocene of Wyoming and his work (with Geography colleague Dr. Charles “Jay” Emerson) on developing predictive models for the location of productive fossil sites, has kept him busy this past year. Two peer-reviewed papers on these topics came out in 2011, followed by four more in 2012. He and Dr. Emerson have signed a contract to write a research article on their collaborative work utilizing remote sensing and geographic information systems in paleoanthropology for publication in *Scientific American* that should be in print in 2014. His work has been featured in a number of online sites over the past few years including NASA’s Earth Observatory website, *ScientificAmerican.com*, *Nature.com*, *Scienceline.org* at NYU, and *SCOPEweb.mit.edu* at MIT. During last summer’s (2012) field season, he was joined in Wyo-

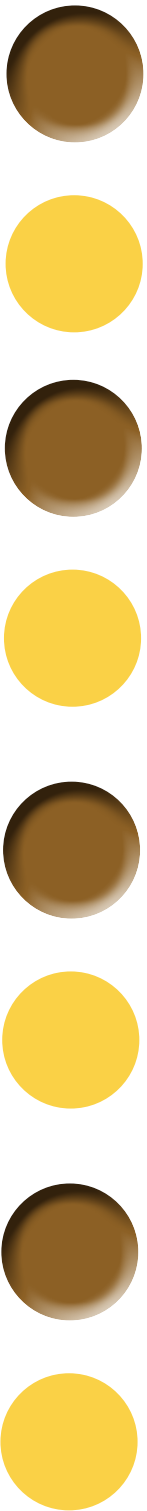
ming by four WMU undergrads (Rachel Burroughs, 2015; Eric Kolbe, 2012; Max Golczynski, 2012; and Shelly Voss, 2014). In September 2013 he was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation of nearly \$200,000 to continue this work. He returns to Wyoming with his field crew in July 2013 for his 18th year of fieldwork in the Great Divide Basin!

Alas, Dr. Anemone will be leaving WMU in the Fall 2013 to take a position as Head of the Anthropology Department at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Anemone has been at WMU since 1997, and we wish him the best in his new position.



*Members of the 2012 field crew searching for fossils in Wyoming.*

# Faculty Updates



**Dr. Jackie Eng** continued her research of health among ancient Asian populations with several student assistants, with support from previous grants (AAPA Professional Development Grant, FRACAA, and RDA). Her students have been co-authors in several conference presentations of the associated research findings. Her work in Nepal, analyzing the mortuary context of the remains of high altitude populations, was featured in the October 2012 issue of “National Geographic” and she will return to Nepal this summer.

Dr. Eng also secured a Visiting Scholar fellowship from the American Center for Mongolian Studies to sponsor an 11-week visit of Professor Erdene Myagmar of the National University of Mongolia during Spring 2013. Dr. Erdene, a biological anthropologist who has led many excavations in Mongolia, has been speaking with students and colleagues about her research, as well as giving two public presentations to the WMU community.

Dr. Jacqueline Eng collaborated with **Andrew Baker** (WMU graduate now a graduate student at Purdue), **Dr. Pingbo Tang** of ASU, **Shannon Thompson** (B.A. 2012), and Jamie Gomez (M.A. student) in preparing a poster for the 19th annual meeting of the Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association (BARFAA) in Carbondale, Ill. This research included the use of a 3D laser scanner to determine the shape of hip bones among ancient pastoral populations of Mongolia compared to 20th century American samples.

**Dr. Sarah Hill** will lead a Lee Honors College field course, “Garbage in Gotham” to New York City in July. Students will stop first in the Finger Lakes to visit the Department’s Finger Lakes archeology project and get their hands dirty with 19th century rural trash, before heading to the Big Apple to learn how America’s largest city has managed its effluent over time.

**Dr. Jon Holtzman** has been pursuing his interests in food and culture, both in Japan, where he has begun work over the past several years, and in Kenya where he has worked since the 1990s. The Japan research has continued to center on sweet foods he explores from a perspective of the connections of food and memory, specifically the power of food to instill and recall often otherwise forgotten memories. This work, that has been ongoing since 2010, has proven to be a fascinating and novel window into understanding both individual histories and broad social and economic changes in Japan from World War II to the present. He has recently added a public health component to this research. Despite high levels of wealth, and a keen interest in sweets (usually identified as the cause of rising obesity), Japan’s obesity rates remain the lowest among wealthy nations. Through a focus on cultural attitudes towards practices surrounding sweet foods, his research aims to understand this surprising fact, which may have important implications for public health concerns regarding the role of sugar on a global scale.

These public health issues have led to collaboration with colleagues in behavioral nutrition at the University of Bristol, U.K., whose interests lie in the relationship of anticipated satiation and portion size. Based on preliminary discussions, it became apparent that assumptions of their models—which are widely pervasive in regard to obesity research—are grounded in Euroamerican constructs of “ideal satiation,” such that much could be garnered through cross-cultural work. Consequently, in the summer of 2013 Dr. Holtzman will collect preliminary cross-cultural data in Kenya, which he hopes will lead to a fruitful cross-cultural, interdisciplinary project spanning Kenya and Japan.

*(Continued on page 10)*

**Dr. Michael Nassaney** remains actively involved in community archaeology through the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project and will direct the 38th annual WMU archaeological field school in July and August 2013. He served as executive producer for the Project's fourth video, entitled "Militia Muster at Fort St. Joseph" that can be viewed at <http://www.wmich.edu/fortstjoseph/>. He recently published "Decolonizing Archaeological Theory at Fort St. Joseph, An Eighteenth-Century Multi-Ethnic Community in the Western Great Lakes Region" in the *Mid-continental Journal of Archaeology* (2012); "Native American-French Interactions in 18th-Century Southwest Michigan: The View from Fort St. Joseph," in *Contested Territories: Native Americans and Non-Natives in the Lower Great Lakes, 1700-1850*, edited by Charles Beatty-Medina and Melissa Rinehart, Michigan State University Press, East Lansing (with William Cremin and LisaMarie Malischke); and "North America During the European Contact Period," for the *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology* (2013). He continues to edit the acclaimed book series, *The American Experience in Archaeological Perspective* (University Press of Florida), which now has a dozen books in print and several more under contract. Finally, Gov. Snyder recently appointed him to the Michigan Freedom Trail Commission in recognition of his work on the Underground Railroad in southwest Michigan. Nassaney has been granted a sabbatical leave for the 2013-14 academic year and will be writing a book on the archaeology of the North American fur trade for his series.

**Dr. Laura Spielvogel** continues to explore the intersections between anthropology and fiction and has published a short story entitled "Hair Loss" in the literary journal, *Freerange Nonfiction* and also has an ethnographic short story entitled "Sabishii Sofa" coming out in the June issue of *Anthropology and Humanism*. In Fall 2012, she and **Dr. Lyon-Callo** created and co-taught a new course called "Writing Creative Ethnography." Finally, she is part of a team that received a SBIR grant (small business research funding opportunities) from the Department of Education to develop a dual-sided e-textbook platform that integrates anonymous role-play with macro textbook content.

**Dr. Kristina Wirtz** has a book in press with the University of Chicago Press based on her recent fieldwork in eastern Cuba. The title is "Performing Afro-Cuba: Image, Voice, Spectacle in the Making of Race and History." A National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend Award in 2012 helped her complete the writing. In addition to ongoing publications on Cuba, she is currently preparing a new research project in Kalamazoo called, "Learning to be bilingual in a dual language elementary school," which she will carry out during a sabbatical in 2013-14 funded by recently awarded Spencer Foundation and Wenner-Gren Foundation grants. She has also been nominated for Western Michigan University's prestigious Emerging Scholar Award, given to junior faculty who demonstrate outstanding promise to make significant contributions to the discipline.

*Erdene Mygamar with Jackie Eng.*

*Rachel Volk and Brandon Soderman, winners of the 2012 Jacobs Award.*

# Annual Speaker Series



*We had a busy year hosting visiting anthropologists from all over the world. Faculty, students, and members of the broader Kalamazoo community benefited from the wisdom these public scholars brought to our Department and University community.*

**Oct.**

**Jan. 18,** Jason de Leon,  
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

**Feb.**

**Mar. 13,** Dylan Clark and Carmen Muñoz Fernandez,  
Harvard University  
**Mar. 19-20,** Clark Larson, Ohio State University  
**Mar. 25,** Bill Gardner, Anti-racist organizer,  
Boston, Mass.

**Apr.**

**Apr. 1,** Brad Weiss, College of William and Mary  
**Apr. 19,** Kaori Hatsumi, Kalamazoo College

**Oct. 19,** María Isabel Berbes Ribeaux, Casa del Caribe, Santiago de CUBA

**Jan.**

**Feb. 8, 22,** Erdene Mygamar, National University of Mongolia  
**Feb. 22,** Jacobs Award Winners, WMU Anthropology

**Mar.**



*Students, alumni, and faculty at the Leicester conference (Standing l-r, Andrew Beaupre, Andrew Robinson, LisaMarie Malischke, Andrew Zinke; sitting l-r, Michael Nassaney, Cynthia Nostrant).*

This past January, WMU traveled across the pond to attend the 46th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology sponsored by the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) in Leicester, England. The mayor of Leicester and the chancellor of the University of Leicester welcomed several WMU students, faculty, and alumni to the Leicester conference, which was the largest conference the city and university had ever hosted with over 750 attendees from around the globe.

WMU was well represented at the event that brings historical archaeologists together to present research results and attend a variety of papers and posters of interest. The theme of the conference was globalization, immigration, and transformation. **Dr. Michael Nassaney** served on a panel that examined diversity and anti-racism within the SHA. He also organized a day-long session for authors from the American Experience in Archaeological Perspective book series, of which he is the editor, to present papers dealing

with their specialization. The session sought to highlight how archaeologists have used archaeology to come to understand the American experience in ways which often challenge and force us to reconsider the “official” telling of history. Dr. Nassaney presented his recent work on Fort St. Joseph, and how it is used to explore the trends in the historical archaeology of the North American fur trade. **Dr. LouAnn Wurst**, department chair, discussed her research on the archaeology of class. **Dr. Terrance Martin** (G’86) presented on the faunal remains from Fort St. Joseph to explore how foodways provide insight into colonial relations.

The conference also featured paper and poster presentations from current students and alumni **Andrew Beaupré** (G’2011), **Erica D’Elia**, **Lisa Marie Malischke** (G’2009), and **Andrew Robinson**. **Erica D’Elia** and **Susan Reichert** submitted several photographs from the 2012 field season to the photo competition. Together they garnered multiple first, second, and third place awards, culminating

a very successful conference for all WMU attendees.

Some were lucky enough to take full advantage of the overseas conference to travel and visit sites across the United Kingdom and in France including a number of UNESCO and Irish and British heritage sites. The venue allowed the WMU crew to participate in a European style conference and experience the sights and sounds of Leicester and other places.

A highlight for the conference was a discovery in late 2012 by archaeologists in Leicester, which became buzz worthy across the U.K. and around the world. A human burial was found under a parking lot that archaeologists have confirmed as the physical remains of King Richard III, who died in battle near what would become the city of Leicester. His identity was recently confirmed through DNA analysis.

# Recognize anyone?

We dug up (pun intended) this crew shot of a WMU archaeological field school from the distant past. Can you identify some of these distinguished students? The archaeological field school was co-founded in 1976 by **Drs. William Cremin** and **Elizabeth Garland**. Now approaching its 38th year, the program is one of the longest running field schools in the Midwest, if not the nation. Since 2006 it has been held at the 18th century French trading post of Fort St. Joseph in Niles, Mich. under the direction of **Dr. Michael Nassaney**.

For those of you who can guess the names of any of the participants, the year the photo was taken, or the site where the field school was held, you'll win a free tour of our new archaeological laboratory facilities in Moore Hall. Submissions should be made to the Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology at the annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology. Get out your yearbooks or consult social media to match names with faces. Good luck!



## 2012-13 Department of Anthropology Awards

### Maher Award

Awarded annually to one or more graduating seniors or graduate students in Anthropology who demonstrate outstanding ability and promise for the future. The award was established in honor of Robert F. Maher who taught at the University for thirty years, and who was the founder and first chair of the Department of Anthropology.

#### 2012-2013:

*Jamie Gomez*  
*Amber Dupree*  
*Carolee Secrist*

#### 2013-2014:

*Skylar Bauer*  
*Roxanna Gamble*  
*Jenna Johnson*

*(Continued on page 13)*

### **Maher Travel Award**

Established in 2009, the Maher Travel Grant provides funds to support undergraduate and graduate anthropology students traveling to conferences to present professional papers or posters. This year, travel awards were given to *Skylar Bauer, Stephen Damm, Jamie Gomez, Mark Hoock, Samantha Lininger, and Rachel Volk.*

### **The Presidential Scholar Award**

The most prestigious honor an undergraduate student can be awarded at WMU. It is awarded to a single graduating senior in each department every year. Presidential Scholars are determined by the department faculty. This year's presidential scholar is *Krista VanProoyen.*

### **William M. Cremin Scholarship in Archaeology**

This scholarship was created in 2010 to honor Dr. William M. Cremin who co-founded the archaeological field school in 1976. This scholarship will help defray field school costs. Scholarships of \$500 were awarded to *Seth Allard and Anna Marie Gerechka.*

### **Alan H. Jacobs Memorial Award**

This award is made in the memory of Dr. Alan Jacobs who was a faculty member in the department for 22 years and served as chair from 1974-1978. Building upon Dr. Jacobs' commitment to students and international experiences, this award recognizes students who pursue innovative international experiences to enhance their anthropological understandings. Awards of \$500 were given to *Reiti Gengo, Jarek Marsh-Prelesnik, and Nichole Tramel.*

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

#### **Anthropology Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award**

*Stephen Damm*

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

#### **Anthropology Graduate Award for Teaching Effectiveness**

*Courtney Schofield*

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

#### **Staff Excellence Award**

*Lauretta Eisenbach*

### **Anthropology Phi Beta Kappa Students**

*Roxana Gamble*

*Krista Major*

### **Graduate Student Paper Prizes**

*Stephen Damm*, winner for the Eastern States Archaeological Federation and for the Midwest Popular Culture Association Graduate Travel Grant

*Samantha Lininger*, finalist for the IMAGIN: Improving Michigan's Access to Geographic Information Networks

### **Undergraduate Paper Prize (AGC)**

*Roxana Gamble, Jaime McCoy, Brandon Soderman, and Michelle Voss*

---

We would like to thank our generous donors, without whom these awards would not be possible: *Marilyn C. Jacobs, Douglas Young, James Horacek, Deborah and James Preston, Jane L. Crowner, Marci McCoy, Albert and Theresa Blinke, Kenneth Pott, Claudia and Stephen London, Daniel B. Goatley, Alison Thornton, Robert Anemone, and LouAnn Wurst.*

---