



College of Letters & Science  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Anthropology @ UW

News for Alumni and Friends of Department of Anthropology

Spring 2019

## Learning at Aztalan

Middle schoolers, faculty, and an undergraduate field school are unearthing lessons from Wisconsin's past.



@uwmadanthro

[anthropology.wisc.edu](http://anthropology.wisc.edu)

## A Word from the Chair



Spring in Wisconsin is nearly upon us – the lake is still frozen, giant piles of snow are rapidly disappearing across

campus, and students are finishing up midterms before heading off to various adventures during Spring Break. We haven't been in touch for quite a while, but our alumni and friends are never far from our thoughts, especially in the spring as we think about renewal and prepare for commencement in May. We love to hear about the latest accomplishments of our graduates, whose successes in an incredibly diverse array of careers inspire the next generation of anthropology students.

Our current undergraduate and graduate students are involved in research projects that span the globe and extend from our earliest human ancestors to modern peoples and non-human primates. The research interests of our faculty are equally varied, but there are some key themes that connect our research across interdisciplinary boundaries: environment, ecology, and the conservation of ecological diversity in an era of globalization; how identities are constituted in the present and the past; and food. Food is one thing that connects all of us as humans and it serves to center our intellectual and social community here on campus. You may remember the annual Halloween party with delicious Indian food prepared by Professor Kenoyer or the annual fall picnic that provides an opportunity to showcase culinary traditions from around the world. Or perhaps you have a vivid memory of first time you ate something that was wholly different from the foods you grew up with. What

prompted you to try something different? Was the experience shaped by your anthropological training?

Helping students connect the lessons from the classroom to the real world is a distinctive feature of our program, and we seek to help students gain some of these real-world experiences through field schools, research opportunities, internships, and volunteerism. Contributions from alumni and friends make it possible for us to provide small grants to our students to fund travel to conduct research or attend a conference. You can help expand these opportunities for our students. The Department of Anthropology is kicking off the first ever Day of the Badger giving event with a Challenge Match! Your gift in any amount to the Department of Anthropology Fund, given anytime during the Day of the Badger giving event, will be matched dollar-for-dollar by anonymous donors who have pledged up to \$3,000 for this challenge! Donate now to help support student educational and research experiences, program excellence, and events that help build our community. Alternatively, maybe your company is seeking interns, or you have an interest in serving as a mentor to a highly motivated undergraduate or graduate student. However you want to give back to our department, we would love to hear from you. Visit our website, connect with us on Facebook, or reach out to me: [sissel.schroeder@wisc.edu](mailto:sissel.schroeder@wisc.edu).

Sissel Schroeder

Professor and Chair

Department of Anthropology

Anthropology @ UW  
is the alumni newsletter of the  
Department of Anthropology at the  
University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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To discuss giving opportunities, contact:  
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ON THE COVER:  
UW-Madison undergraduate Vicky Wen  
holds a piece of survey equipment at  
Aztalan State Park.  
Photo credit Jeff Miller.

# Undergraduate Research Going Strong

Undergraduate anthropology majors **Megan Bernards** and **Samuel Ropa** both won prestigious awards that allowed them to undertake research over the summer of 2018. Bernards won a Hilldale Undergraduate Faculty Fellowship that supported archaeological excavation in Sicily, as well as a Holtz Center for STS Research Award.

In an interview with Kayla Huynh, Bernards said “I have always been interested in archaeology and this allowed me to pursue academic research within my own interests. This is an opportunity I knew I could only get in college.” You can read more about her experience at <https://news.wisc.edu/archaeology-expedition/>.



Sam Ropa was awarded a 2018 Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies Fellowship and who interned with the American Anthropological Association and the Smithsonian Institution’s Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage in Washington, DC this past summer 2018.

Sam is a fourth-year student pursuing a double degree in Anthropology and Geography. Following graduation, Sam plans to pursue a postgraduate degree in law with a focus on environmental litigation. Read more about Sam’s AAA experiences here: <https://blog.americananthro.org/2018/07/26/i-have-always-felt-at-home-in-libraries-an-update-from-aaa-intern-sam-ropa/>.



# Notes from the Field

Professor **Amy Stambach** is currently in Tanzania conducting ethnographic research with the support of a grant from the **Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research** on how people manage water on the slopes of Kilimanjaro. As the climate changes,

the rainforests diminish and Kilimanjaro’s glaciers disappear. Meanwhile, many people migrate from the mountain to the cities. How has the lineage-based water management system changed under these pressures? The photo she’s sent shows her being helped and led up a waterway. Being helped and led is “most of what fieldwork is, in my experience,” she notes.



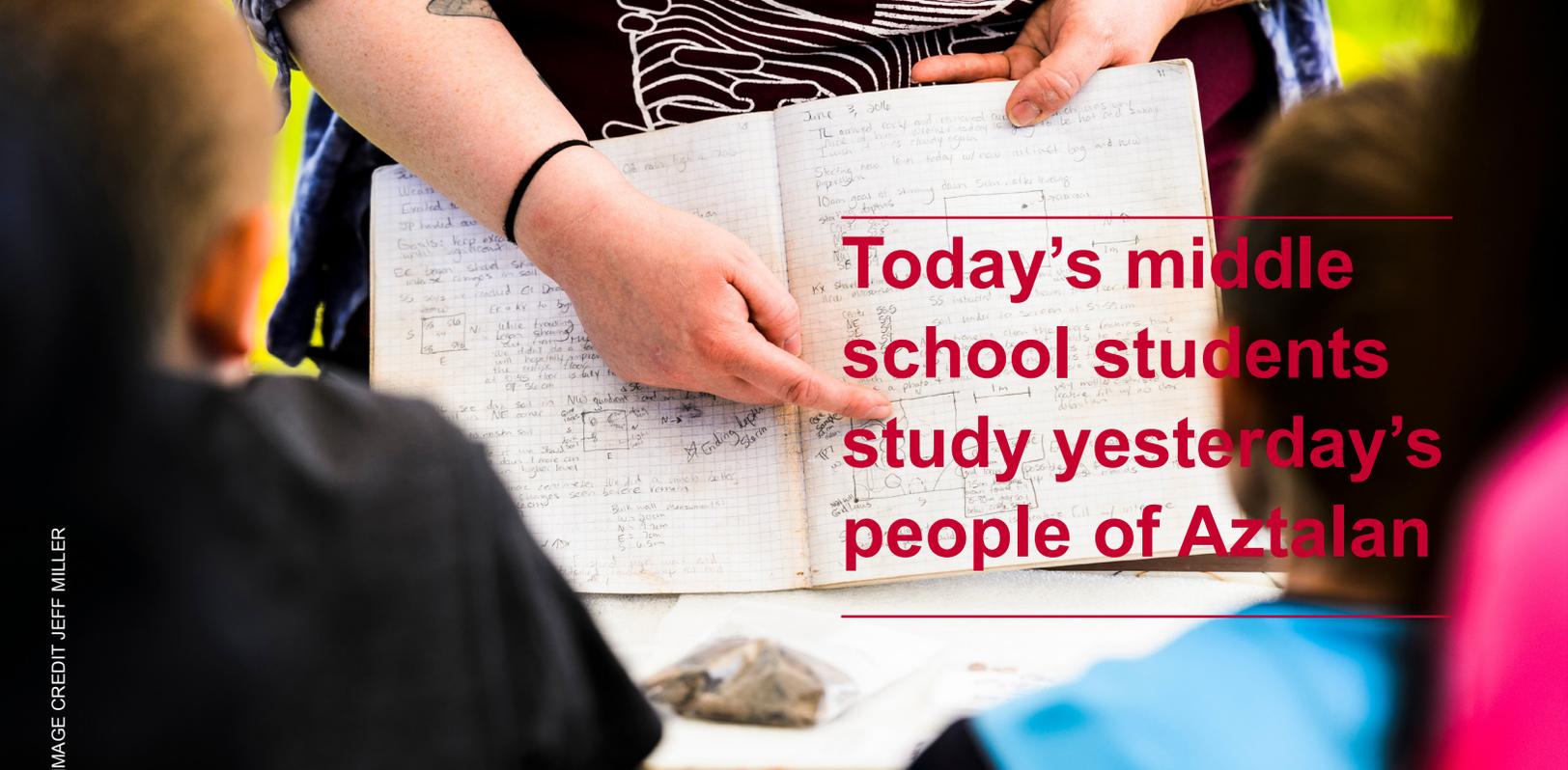
Graduate student **Akshay Sarathi** has also been working in Tanzania. He recently returned from more than a year combining ethnography and archaeological research in a southeastern Zanzibar village. Through excavations of trashpits as recent as 2019 and as old as fifteen thousand years ago, he hopes to understand how people have drawn from ocean resources--both for everyday subsistence and for trade in local and Indian Ocean markets. His work was funded by both a **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship** and by an award from the **National Geographic Society**.



#dayofthebadger

**Badgers  
Support  
Anthropology**





# Today's middle school students study yesterday's people of Aztalan

story by Kelly April Tyrrell [original publication June 19, 2018]

LAKE MILLS, Wis. — Gavin Ketterman was really excited about the animal bones. But he was also really excited about the tools.

That's because at age 12, he is thinking hard about what he wants to be when he grows up, which means he really enjoyed his field trip to Aztalan State Park with the rest of his 6th grade peers at Fort Atkinson Middle School on a recent May morning.

"I got to find out about what kind of grades you're supposed to get to be an archaeologist, because I kind of want to be one," he said.

What he and 200 of his classmates experienced on this school trip to Aztalan, a prehistoric Native American site located in nearby Lake Mills, was a walk through some of the most critical elements of an archaeological excavation. Four stations set up throughout the park allowed them to learn more about how archaeology is conducted there, from the very people who do it.

That's because every few summers, Aztalan State Park becomes an active archaeological site when University of Wisconsin–Madison Professor of Anthropology Sissel Schroeder leads an undergraduate field school there, with the goal of better understanding those who lived at Aztalan nearly 1,000 years ago.

In 2015, Schroeder and her colleagues were awarded a Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment Project Grant to help involve the public in the archaeological exploration of Aztalan. It has also given Schroeder's students the chance to communicate with the public about the science of archaeology and the history of the site.

The project has also funded the development of a statewide, K–12 science and social studies curriculum by project assistant and graduate student Linda Orié. Designed around archaeology, it is being piloted in partnership with Fort Atkinson Middle School. Orié formerly taught middle school science in the Menominee Nation and is herself a member of the Oneida Nation.

The Fort Atkinson visit in late May was part of a series of lessons the students received this year around Aztalan and its people, the practice of archaeological excavation, and the history of the site located not far from home. It provided a hands-on experience to complement their multiple in-class visits from Orié and recent former lab manager Sarah Taylor, who completed Schroeder's field school in 2016.

"It's a treat to be the fun thing they get to do," says Orié. "It's a novelty and that's so important for the kids. It's a breath of fresh air for the curriculum."

In those activities, the 6th graders learned about the foundations of archaeological excavation, which many of them recalled at Aztalan, like asking for permission before digging and "make no assumptions."

It's a partnership 6th grade social studies teacher Brenda Thayer, who has been involved in the Baldwin project since its inception, has valued. "It has been an awesome experience for the students involved, as well as the teachers," she

## 'A dream come true'

said. The project wraps up this year and she will be sad to see it go. Schroeder is hoping to secure more funds to keep the educational component going.

For Orie, the experience has been "fortuitous." The classroom visits have allowed her to "field test" her lessons, iron out bugs and get feedback from the students and teachers. She expects the curriculum will be ready to publish, in line with state standards, by next year.

"It's been wonderful," she said. "A dream come true."

As they hurried to the bus to get back to school at the end of the day, 6th graders Maritza Alvarado and Bethzy Garcia gushed about what they'd learned.

"It's fun, because now we know how to be archaeologists and it inspired us to do it because they showed us artifacts," said Garcia as she boarded the bus, a big smile beaming across her face.

*Editor's note: Author Kelly April Tyrrell is a co-leader of the Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment Project described in this story. For more photos, see the original publication at <https://news.wisc.edu/todays-middle-school-students-study-yesterdays-people-of-aztalan/>.*



IMAGE CREDIT: JEFF MILLER

## News and Kudos

Our department continues to be recognized for outstanding teaching. In 2018 Assistant Professor **Jérôme Camal** received the Chancellor's Inclusive Excellence Award. Graduate student **Jack Bish** received an Honored Instructor Award, as did Associate Professor **Sarah Clayton**. **Geoffrey Ludvik** was given a Campus-Wide TA Award.

**Stephanie Du Chatellier** won a Fulbright IIE Award to support field research in Thailand. **Pearly Wong** won a CHE Graduate Research and Travel Award, a Scott Kloeck-Jenson Award and a 4W Engagement Award from 4W and the Women's Philanthropy Council, all to support her pre-dissertation research in Nepal.

Dissertator **Ellen Hebden** won a Mellon Dissertation Writing Fellowship. Recent graduate

**Dr. Marta-Laura Suska**

has accepted a tenure-track position at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY. **Dr. Rachel Silver** has accepted a tenure-track position at York University in Toronto.

Professor **Yongming Zhou** received a Qiushi Endowed Visiting Professorship from Zhejiang University in China.

Two faculty members are prominently featured in a new short film about University of Wisconsin's research efforts in South Africa, studying the origins of humankind. Professor **Travis Pickering**, who leads a popular summer field school at Swartkrans, is

featured for his work on Little Foot, the most complete *Australopithecus* skeleton ever found. Professor **John Hawks** and his team of colleagues have garnered extensive media coverage and much scientific excitement with their discovery of the new species *Homo naledi* in the Rising Star cave system, also in South Africa. Check out the video links at [origins.wisc.edu](http://origins.wisc.edu).

Professor **Henry Bunn** gave a keynote lecture at the Zhoukoudian UNESCO World Heritage Centre in 2018. Professor **Claire Wendland** has won fellowships from the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Studies and from the American Council of Learned

Societies to support her work on maternal death in southeast Africa during a sabbatical year.

As president of the Association

of Asian Studies, Professor **Katherine Bowie** has given talks on three continents this year. (continued next p.)

## Save the date

**Graduation is coming!**

**FRI May 10 5:30  
Doctoral Commencement  
Kohl Center**

**SAT May 11 12:00  
Bachelor's and Master's  
Commencement**

**Camp Randall Stadium**

## ... and More News and Kudos!

(continued from previous page) At a presidential address in March 2018 she argued for the importance of oral histories, not merely as a way to recover the voices of those left out of history, but as a corrective to interpretations based solely on archival accounts.

Professor **Larry Nesper** began as Director of American Indian Studies in 2018. He has instituted a colloquium series that will create a forum for discussion of issues in the campus community interested in Native affairs. The program started with a provocative presentation on the generally-positive Wisconsin Oneida experience with boarding schools by UW-Madison Emeritus professor of Anthropology Herb Lewis. Professor Lewis's colloquium was followed by Jerilyn Decoteau of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition who presented a broader view of what is taken to be the more common indigenous experience. The contrast generated lively conversation and exploration of this and related issues.

Under Nesper's leadership, the AISP is also involved in the Culture Keepers/Elders-in-Residence Program, a new UW-Madison

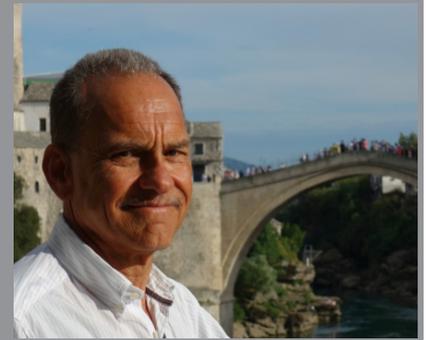


IMAGE CREDIT SHEILA REAVES

initiative to improve the experience of American Indian and Alaskan Native students by hosting Native elders on campus for extended visits and educational exchanges.

Professor **Mark Kenoyer** was awarded a WARF Named Professorship in spring 2018 and is now the George F. Dales Jr. and Barbara A. Dales Professor of Anthropology. Now the Society for American Archaeology has announced that he will receive the Award for Excellence in Archaeological Analysis on April 12, 2019. The award recognizes his detailed empirical analyses of a diverse array of archaeological materials utilizing rigorous elemental and microscopic methods and an

innovative interpretive framework grounded in experimental and ethnoarchaeological approaches. This award recognizes the significant global impact and enduring contributions of Dr. Kenoyer's research and teaching to archaeological analysis.

Department administrator **Kris Schultz**, finance specialist **Kyle Speth**, undergraduate coordinator **Gabby Weber**, and graduate coordinator **Hannah Shilts** continue to keep the chaos of department life controlled... with skill and good humor. New curator **Liz Leith** is maintaining and organizing collections, while teaching many students in hands-on curation labs.

## News from the Strier Lab

Professor **Karen Strier**, President of the International Primatological Society, is the first recipient of the Ai's Scarf Award: <http://langint.pri.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ai/en/news/wcd/2018.html>. The award celebrates the female scholars who dedicate their lives to promoting the research, conservation, and welfare of chimpanzees and other nonhuman primates. The scarf, created in 2017 for the 40th anniversary of the Ai project, is based on the painting by the chimpanzee Ai.

You can learn more about Strier's current research, and about the recent yellow fever epidemic among muriquis, in an article from *Scientific American*: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/brazilian-forests-fall-silent-as-yellow-fever-decimates-threatened-monkeys/>.



Lab member **Irene Duch Latorre** and co-PIs received a Primate Action Fund Grant from Global Wildlife Conservation and the Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation for their project, "First assessment of the brown-headed spider monkey, *Ateles fusciceps fusciceps*, in the forest fragment Río de Oro, Ecuador".

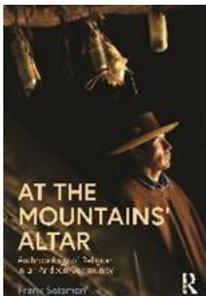
**Amanda Hardie** was elected as the student member of the Biological Anthropology Section (BAS) of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) and won a National Geographic Early Career Award.

## Emeriti Updates

Emeritus Professor **Anatoly Khazanov** wrote in from his travels: currently in Israel, he has been giving lectures and meeting with colleagues. He reports that he was able to do some fieldwork in Kazakhstan this year.

**T. Douglas Price**, Emeritus Professor of anthropology and an expert on prehistoric agriculture in Europe, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2018. Price pioneered the use of chemical isotopes to understand ancient peoples' mobility.

Emeritus Professor **Frank Salomon** recently published *At the Mountains' Altar: Anthropology of Religion in an Andean Community* (Routledge 2017). The



book is grounded in Salomon's extensive long-range fieldwork in Rapaz village in the high Andes, where villagers maintain a temple to beings who

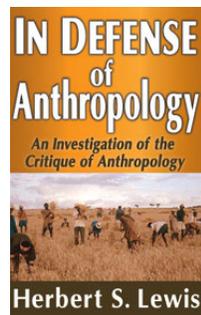
command weather. "By examining the ritual practices and belief systems of an

Andean community," reviewers note, "this book presents major theories of religion within a vivid, freshly researched ethnography." Salomon



continues active research and collaboration with colleagues in the Andes.

Emeritus Professor **Herb Lewis** also maintains an active research and lecturing profile, including lectures



on his 2013 book *In Defense of Anthropology*. In addition to his presentation at the AISP colloquium series (see the column on p. 6), Lewis presented research at the

Royal Anthropological Institute in London, at EASA meeting in Stockholm,

and at University in Ethiopia. He says "After the conference I went south to my 1958-60 field site, Jimma, Ethiopia, where I gave a talk at Jimma University and had a wonderful three days with both Oromo academics and two members of the royal family of Jimma (descended from the daughter of the last king)."



**ALUMNI: Got news for us? Milestones, publications, professional or personal updates you'd like to share? We hope to add an alumni news feature to the next newsletter. Please email the editor, [cwendland@wisc.edu](mailto:cwendland@wisc.edu), with any updates!**

**Latinx Music Course** Anthropology graduate student **Sarah Bruno**, winner of an Undergraduate Mentoring Award, has launched a new course drawing on her own research interests. The course surveys Latinx participation in Hip-Hop and Reggaeton, highlighting female artists, the Hispanophone Caribbean, and U.S. urban centers. As students learn about music, they also learn about race and gender inside and outside of Puerto Rico. Bruno says "My students have been amazing, they are engaged and comprehending really dense articles." She credits the pedagogical training she received as an Undergraduate Research Fellow and as a part of the Anthro 104 teaching team for supporting an innovative course design. Her students learn to "think about research differently, and what is "worthy" of research. They have exciting end of semester project proposals including visual art projects and mixtapes.

**CHICAN@LATIN@STUDIES 330**

INSTRUCTED BY SARAH BRUNO

**COURSE INFO**

TOPICS IN CLS: "LATINX IN REGGAETÓN AND HIP HOP"  
COURSE ID: 70483

WHEN: M & W | 4:00PM - 05:15PM  
WHERE: STERLING 1339

**ABOUT CLS 330**

This course surveys Latinx participation in Hip-Hop and Reggaeton, highlighting female artists, the Hispanophone Caribbean, and U.S. urban centers. Students will analyze texts, lyrics, performance, and social issues the music addresses from multiple disciplinary perspectives.

LATINX IN REGGAETÓN AND HIP-HOP  
AN EXPLORATION OF

BLACKNESS — FEMINISM — PERFORMANCE

# News from AnthroCircle

The Anthropology Circle Student Organization (AnthroCircle) is excited to share the events we have planned throughout the upcoming months. On March 30th, the Vinery Stained Glass Studio will host a glass blowing workshop for AnthroCircle, providing students with the chance to create and keep several blown-glass ornaments. On April 6th, AnthroCircle members will head to Chicago for a backstage tour of the Field Museum; transportation will be provided by members with cars. On Saturday, April 13th, Dongzhu Pottery Studio will host a pottery class for club members; for an additional fee, participants can keep what they make. In conjunction with these activities, AnthroCircle will host its biannual fundraiser in Sewell Sciences in mid-April. The exact date will be publicized on our website ([circle.anthropology.wisc.edu](http://circle.anthropology.wisc.edu)), Facebook page (University of Wisconsin-Madison AnthroCircle), Instagram account (@anthrocircle) and twitter account (@AnthroCircleUW). If you are interested in attending these events or volunteering at the fundraiser, email [anthrocircle@rso.wisc.edu](mailto:anthrocircle@rso.wisc.edu) to be added to our email list.



IMAGE CREDIT JEFF MILLER

Curious about what your fellow Anthropology enthusiasts are doing this summer? AnthroCircle will be running a summer social media series titled “Where in the World are UW Student Anthropologists?”, featuring photos submitted by students of their anthropology-related adventures. Students are encouraged to contribute photos by sending them to the email address listed above. A \$10 Starbucks gift card will be awarded to the student who submits the photo with the most ‘likes’ by the first day of 2019 Fall classes.

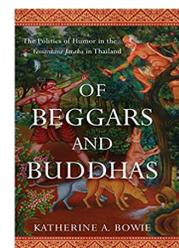
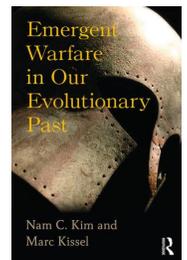
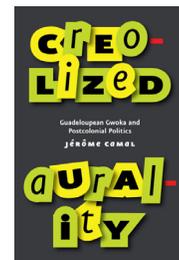
AnthroCircle is also thrilled to welcome three new undergraduate student officers to the administrative team. Freshman Isabelle Paulsen has stepped into the role of secretary, while juniors Nick Smith and Megan Binkley have taken on the roles of Social Media Coordinator and President. Graduate students Emma Kirby and Alan Lee will further their involvement as Treasurer and Event Coordinator, while continuing to act as advisors to the new officers.

## Book notes

In the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe, the complex interplay between anticolonial resistance and accommodation resounds in its music. In *Creolized Auralities*, Jérôme Camal demonstrates that musical sounds and practices express the multiple—and often seemingly contradictory—cultural belonging and political longings that characterize postcoloniality.

Nam Kim’s book *Results of Research on the Co Loa Citadel*, published in Vietnamese and English, summarizes findings from archaeological fieldwork at the site of Co Loa. Associated with Vietnamese folklore and legend, Co Loa is widely considered to be the first political capital of a proto-Vietnamese civilization. In a second book, *Emergent Warfare in Our Evolutionary Past*, Kim and recent UW PhD graduate Mark Kissel examine the origins and development of human forms of organized violence.

Katherine Bowie explores the politics and performance of a two-thousand-year-old story in which the Buddha became incarnate as a prince—and gave away not just his possessions but his wife and children. *Of Beggars and Buddhas* shows how this morality tale has shaped Thai political life.



# Supporting Anthropology

Donations from alumni make a huge difference for our students. Contributions small and large are welcome: you can choose whether to support the department's general fund or a specific program such as the ones listed here. **A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR MANY DONORS!** Your support means a great deal.

The **John T. Hitchcock Prize in Anthropology** provides scholarships and fellowships to both undergraduate and graduate students. The prize honors the memory of John Hitchcock, whose research on North India and Nepal was important for both cultural ecology and political anthropology, and who had a distinguished career of research, teaching and service in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The **Rao Bahadur Kashinath Narayan Dikshit Fellowship for Indus Archaeology** supports study and research relating to the Indus Valley civilization. Established to honor the memory of Dr. Padmakar Dixit and K.N. & Yashoda Bai Dikshit, the fund supports original field research in Indus Valley archaeology and closely related scholarship.

The **Neil L. Whitehead Memorial Scholarship Award** was established by family, friends and colleagues to commemorate Professor Neil Whitehead, the well-known scholar of dark shamanism, violence, and Guyanese kanimà who died in 2012 after years of research and teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This scholarship supports graduate student research travel or the presentation of significant

research results at professional meetings.

The **Robert J. Miller Prize in Anthropology** honors the memory of Robert Miller, and his distinguished career of research, teaching and service at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, including the development of South Asian studies here. The Miller Prize supports both undergraduate and graduate student research and conference participation.

Family and friends established the **Arvin B. Weinstein Prize in Anthropology** to continue Dr. Weinstein's support of undergraduate and graduate student research and conference participation in anthropology.

The newest endowed award in the Department of Anthropology is the **Buckingham Award for interdisciplinary Anthropology**, granted annually to one graduate student who demonstrates an appreciation for the value of anthropology in cross-discipline contexts. Alumnus **Dr. Zach Throckmorton**, who in July will become Associate Professor of Anatomy at the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, generously endowed this award.

If you're interested in supporting the department, you can do so easily at this link:

<https://www.dayofthebadger.org/campaigns/anthropology>

The graphic features a blue sky background with a red diagonal banner. In the top left is the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badger logo with the text "DAY OF THE BADGER 4.9.19". The main text reads "Badgers Support Anthropology". Below this, a white banner says "Thanks to generous donors, your gift will be matched\*" with an arrow pointing to the text "\*Up to \$3,000". At the bottom, the text "DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT" is written in large white letters on a red background, with the "L&S" logo in the bottom left corner.