MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Colleagues,

Several weeks have passed since Don Ortner’s sudden death on April 29th. As we continue to struggle with our loss, I am struck by the many stories about Don that are being shared within our department. How do we celebrate “a life well lived,” a sentiment that is often heard throughout Africa and elsewhere in the world when people eulogize an accomplished and well respected person. Don’s - ‘life well lived’- certainly includes his achievements as a biological anthropologist and as a leader in the field of paleopathology. It also encompasses his steadfast commitment to the Smithsonian and the important leadership roles he took both in the department and in the museum at large. Tim McCoy, Chair of Mineral Sciences, wrote of Don in his message of condolence to the Department, “Colleagues who served as Chair along with Don recall not only his excellence in research, but his unique (and frequently, uniquely calm) perspectives when perspective and good counsel were needed in the turbulent times of the late 20th century.”

As I listen to the stories about Don in the department and in the museum and think of my own interactions with him over several decades, I have come to greatly appreciate that in true African measure Don’s greatest asset was his “wealth in people.” Don touched many lives here at the Smithsonian over nearly a half century of his professional life in the department, first as a student assistant, then as a museum technician, museum specialist, and as a curator. Many of the stories I have heard over the past several weeks are people remembering his generosity to them, his interest and advice, and the small gestures of support and encouragement that mean so much to each of us. Don acted on his belief that everyone’s work was valuable and that every one of us contributes in important ways to moving our mission forward.

Don also acted on his deeply held commitment to the next generation of scientists and to promoting diversity in our ranks as he mentored many students and young colleagues in their careers. Mary Sangrey sent me a list of students and colleagues Don had mentored since the early 1970s. The list numbers 60 people, (although I know that does not begin to capture all of the students and colleagues he informally mentored). Mary also posted the announcement of Don’s passing on the NMNH Fellows and Interns Facebook page and shared with me some of the responses people posted. Carlos D. Bustamante (intern 1995) wrote, “I am so sorry to hear the news. Don was a wonderful mentor and I remember with great fondness the summers I spent in his lab. He was acting director at the time, but was always very generous with his time.” Jamie Hodgkins (intern 2002) wrote, “Don was such a wonderful advisor to me. I am so sad to hear about his passing.” In an
email I received from Rebecca Ferrell (currently a Research Associate), she wrote, “I was so very saddened about Don’s death. He has been such an incredible mentor to me, as he has to so many others.” And as Jane Buiskra, colleague, NMNH Board member, and friend of the Department wrote, a sentiment shared by many, “Can’t imagine a world without Don — or a NMNH!”

Mary Jo Arnoldi

DONALD J. ORTNER, SR. (1939-2012)

The Department was deeply saddened at the loss of colleague Don Ortner, who began his career in the department in the early 1960s. Don was a founding member of the Paleopathology Association and members rememberances of Don can be read on the Association’s website at http://www.paleopathology.org/Ortner%20memorial.html

Shortly after hearing of Don’s death, Museum Director Cristián Samper sent out the following tribute to Don to his museum colleagues.

It is with great sadness that I write this message this morning to inform the museum community that Don Ortner passed away Sunday evening, April 29, following a stroke he suffered on Friday. His wife Joyce, their three children, and his long-time museum colleague and friend Bruno Frohlich were with him at the end.

Don was one of the scientists I came to know well during my years at the Smithsonian, and I treasured the times we spent together. I valued his wise counsel that I sought on several occasions, and I always knew he would be there for me with friendship and support when I needed him. He was particularly helpful in recent years with regard to the Museum’s Tel Jemmeh project.

Don’s research interests ranged widely, from human skeletal biology and paleopathology, to human adaptation and history in the Ancient Middle East, to the effect of disease on human evolution and the origins and spread of specific diseases such as syphilis and tuberculosis.

Don was the author of more than 125 scientific papers, many of which are on the subject of human disease.


He was awarded an Honorary D.Sc. degree from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom and received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Kansas. He served on several boards and review panels most recently as vice-chairman of the Bioarchaeology Panel, The Wellcome Trust, London. At the time of his death, he was on the editorial boards of three scientific journals.

Don’s contributions went beyond his scholarly publications, with years of service to his chosen profession, including teaching here and in England, leading international symposia, and making major contributions to the museum’s exhibition program, including the recreation of two tombs from a Bronze
Age (3100 B.C.) cemetery complex at Bab edh-Dhra, Jordan for the former Hall of Western Civilization. His work excavating these tombs in Jordan helped clarify the relationship of these Bronze Age people to other Near Eastern populations. In connection with this work he began a scientific collaboration with archaeologist Bruno Froelich that has continued to today.

Don served as Chair of the Department of Anthropology (1988-1992), Chair of the Museum’s Exhibit Committee (1980s), and Acting Director of the Museum (1994-1996), as well as Visiting Professor in the Department of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bradford, Bradford, England. Early in his long Smithsonian career—Ortner came to the Museum in 1963 — he was quoted: “The men, women, and children of past civilizations often had little to leave to posterity that would tell us what their lives were really like. But they did leave us their bones, and we should not waste that gift.”

Don’s many talents, his long service to the museum, and his distinguished contributions to his field make it eminently clear that he never wasted the gift of the collections here, nor the many gifts of his own talents. We mourn his passing, we remember him with fondness, and we honor his many distinguished and lasting contributions to his field.

Our deepest condolences go out to his wife Joyce and their three children.

Melinda Zeder of the Program in Human Ecology and Archaeobiology was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. She joins Dolores Piperno and Bruce Smith as the third department member to be elected to the Academy.

Igor Krupnik was awarded the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) Medal 2012 “for bridging between natural and social sciences and in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the success of the International Polar Year. His April 26 award lecture was titled “Sea Ice as a Cultural ‘Scape’ – an IPY Legacy.”
NMNH 2012 Science Achievement Awards


Mindy Zeder and Dave Hunt were the anthropology team members of the Tweetup Team, comprised of 10 NMNH staff, who received the Outreach Achievement Award the award. In 2011 the museum organized its first tweetups, one featuring the opening of Eternal Life in Egypt exhibition for which Mindy and Dave were co-curators. The other team members were Sahra Banks, Dave Bohaska, Kelly Carnes, Don Hurlbert, Tom Jorstad, Pete Kroehler, Meg Rivers, and Sarah Sulick.

IN THE MEDIA

Tim McCoy (Department of Mineral Sciences) and his family’s efforts to speak Myaamia, the language of their tribe Myaami (Miami), was the focus of a story by Jessica Gould for WAMU Metro Connection on February 24th. As part of the piece, “A Virginia Family Works to Retain a Nearly-Forgotten Language,” Joshua Bell was interviewed. Tim is a participant of the museum’s Recovering Voices initiative, led by Joshua Bell.

Dave Hunt and his work with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is mentioned in the online Forensic Magazine article “Computerized Skull Reconstructions: CT scans and computer modeling allow for faster facial reconstructions to expedite missing persons cases” by Ernie Allen (February 10, 2012).

The research of Dennis Stanford and his colleague Bruce Bradley (University of Exeter) on ice age mariners that crossed the Atlantic more than 20,000 years ago was the topic of a The Washington Post article; “Theory Jolts familiar view of first Americans;” by Brian Vastag (March 1, pp. A1 & 9). The authors gave a Smithsonian Associates talk on their book on February 29, which was a sold out event. Following their presentations, Dennis and Bruce signed their co-authored book Across Atlantic Ice: The Origin of America’s Clovis Culture, published by the University of California Press.

Dennis’ and Bruce Bradley’s book Across the Atlantic Ice was the subject of Joel Achenbach’s The Washington Post column “Who found America? Certainly not teenagers” (March 6, E2 Science section).

Representatives of the South Korean media group Joong-Ang visited Bruno Frohlich on March 1 to film him for a news piece they were doing on his CT scanning work, after reading about his work in The Washington Post last fall.

Ron Bishop participated and consulted in the research noted in the Science Daily article “Discovery of the First Evidence for Pre-Columbian Sources of Maya Blue,” published online April 2,

Lars Krutak appeared as a radio guest on 774 Australian Broadcasting Corporation-Melbourne to discuss cultural programming at the Rites of Passage Tattoo Convention and Arts Festival, held April 27-29. Lars also appeared on Australia’s oldest independent broadcaster RRR 102.7FM in Melbourne to discuss his recent one month expedition to Papua New Guinea, where he documented disappearing forms of indigenous tattooing amongst nine groups.

The Bentwood Hat Master Artists and Apprentices Workshop, hosted by The Arctic Studies Center at the Anchorage Museum on March 5 - 9, received online and television media coverage. View the ASC blog -http://nmnh.typepad.com/arctic_studies .

PUBLICATIONS


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**PALEOPATHOLOGY ASSOCIATION**

The 2012 Paleopathology meeting took place in Portland, Oregon, April 10 & 11.

The Osteoware project team was invited by the Paleopathology Association to present a workshop that **Chris Dudar** organized titled “Implementing Osteoware Software: An Interactive Workshop.” The other SI project team members who assisted with the workshop were **Kathleen Adia, Rhonda Coolidge, Kirsten Pearlstein,** and **Claire O’Brien.**

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**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

The AAPA meeting took place in Portland, Oregon, April 11-14. Several staff and undergraduate interns participated

**Marilyn London,** Gwyn Madden, and Susan Kirkpatrick Smith held a workshop titled “Teaching Biological Anthropology in the 21st Century.” The workshop attracted more than 40 participants from 19 states and five countries, representing faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, post-docs, and a publisher and an editor from Norton Publishing. The organizers presented courses they had developed for a variety of situations and audiences, and the participants then formed groups to develop courses of their own. The results of the workshop (course descriptions, outlines, lists of resources, etc.) will be sent to all participants, and to anyone else who requests them.

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**Rossie, J.B., Gutierrez, M., and Goble, E.:** “Fossil fore-limbs of *Simiolus* from Moruorot, Kenya.”

**Prang C, Tocheri MW.** Poster: “Three-dimensional quantitative analyses of calcaneal and cuboid joint morphology in eastern and western gorillas.”

**Almejica S, Orr CM, Tocheri MW.** “3D geometric morphometric analysis of the hamate in extant hominoids.”

**Crevecoeur I, Tocheri MW, Due Awe R, Orr CM, Carnation S, Jungers WL.** Poster: “The thumb of *Homo floresiensis*: first comparative analyses of the proximal and distal first manual phalanges from Liang Bua.”

**McClure NK, Philips AC, Vogel ER, Tocheri MW.** Poster: “Unexpected pollex and hallux use in wild *Pongo pygmaeus wurmbii.*”


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**SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

The SAA meeting took place in Memphis, Tennessee, April 18-22. Staff who participated include:

**Pobiner, B.L., Kovarovic, K.** “A modern taphonomic and ecological landscape bone study in Laikipia, Kenya.”

**Bruce Smith** was a discussant in the symposium Worldwide Large-scale Trapping and Hunting of Ungulates in Past Societies. In the session **Melinda Zeder,** with Guy Bar-Oz, Scott Rufolo and Frank Hole, presented the paper “The Role of Mass-Hunting in the Extirpation of Steppic Herd Animals in Northeastern Syria.”


**Darrin Lowery and Dennis Stanford:** “Coastal Plain Geology, Marine Transgression, and Geochemistry: An Understanding of Archaeological Patterns Along the...
Delmarva Peninsula, USA,” in the Symposium Emerging Patterns in the Americas in the Archaeological Record Before Clovis.

**Catherine West** and **Torben Rick**: “A View from the Coast: Stable Isotope and Zooarchaeological Analyses of Canid and Human Diets,” in the Symposium Beyond Domestication: The Archaeology of the Human/ Dog Relationship.

Leslie Reeder, **Torben Rick**, Jon Erlandson, Nicholas Jew and Lauren Willis: “CA-SRI-666: An Early Holocene Village on Santa Rosa Island, California?” Symposium Site-Specific Perspectives On The Trans-Holocene Record In California.

**Ronald L. Bishop**: “Does Compositional Standardization of Ceramic Paste Really Mean Specialization—a Revisit,” in the symposium: Honoring Dean E. Arnold on his Supposed “Retirement.”


Jacob Freeman, **William L. Merrill** and Robert J. Hard: “A Dynamic Model of Food Storage and Optimal Labor Allocation to Farming and Foraging.”

**Paulina Ledergerber**: “Canari and Shuar’s Ancestors: Cultural Landscapes in the Morona-Santiago Province, Ecuador.”

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**DIVISION OF ETHNOLOGY**

**Gabriela Pérez Báez** received a Scholarly Studies Award in the amount of $47,300 for the project Comparative Study of Tone Phenomena in Zapotec Languages.

This project will contribute to the advancement of knowledge about Zapotec verbal morphology and tone, and, more broadly, to tone typology cross-linguistically. Further, it will contribute towards an understanding of the history of change in Zapotec languages and of the development of their complex dialectology.

This collaborative effort involves Mark Sicoli of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, two field collaborators from the Zapotec communities of La Ventosa and Santa María Lachixio, and two visiting research assistants from two additional communities. This project responds to and embraces the Smithsonian’s Valuing World Cultures Challenge and is in line with the NMNH’s Recovering Voices priority initiative.


**Gabriela** presented a talk on “Linguistic Diversity within the Latino Population in the United States: Indigenous Languages, Migration and Language Endangerment” at the invitation of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures of The City College of New York, on February 22.

**Gabriela** presented the paper titled “Bases verbales con consonante inicial dentro del sistema de valencia del diidxa za” at the Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas held in Oaxaca, Mexico, April 20-22.

**Gabriela** hosted **Devin Shiple** (Univ. of Virginia) and **Chiara Tornabene** (Univ. of Mary Washington) for a Spring Break internship March 5-9. Devin and Chiara worked on the Juchitán Zapotec Lexical Database tagging Spanish loanwords for ease of filtering and analysis.
**Fieldwork in Oaxaca, Mexico**

Gabriela Pérez Báez conducted fieldwork in Oaxaca, Mexico, over a period of five weeks in April and May. Her main objective was to collect botanical specimens in the mountains of La Ventosa, Juchitán de Zaragoza, Oaxaca, for the purposes of obtaining scientific identifications for the several hundred plant names she had collected over the years for the Juchitán Zapotec Lexical Database. During fieldwork, Gabriela, local knowledge bearer Fernando Sánchez López, and biologist Geovanni Martinez Guerra from Oaxaca’s Jardín Bótanico collected 105 specimens, representing about 25% of the plant names in the database. Identification of the specimens, with the assistance of Silvia Salas of the Sociedad para el Estudio de los Recursos Bióticos de Oaxaca, will continue this summer with the assistance of the Biology Department at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. The work to date was possible thanks to an NMNH Small Grant award. Future work will build on this initial pilot and the established collaborations to conduct further research on the botany and zoology of the La Ventosa area.

From left to right, Gabriela Pérez Báez, knowledge bearer Fernando Sánchez López, and youth representative Javier Aragón López at Ojo de Agua, La Ventosa, Juchitán de Zaragoza, Oaxaca. Photo by Geovanni Martínez Guerra.

Mary Jo Arnoldi and Joshua Bell participated in the symposium Excavation, Accumulation, and Preservation in the African Landscape,” an interdisciplinary and collaborative symposium of working papers co-sponsored by the Smithsonian and the University of Maryland, held March 9-11. Mary Jo spoke on “Preservation and Patrimony in the Republic of Mali: The Case of Old Town Djenne and the Sanké Mon Collective Fishing Rite in San.” Joshua was a discussant for the session on “Accumulation.” The exhibition Earth Matters: Land as Material and Metaphor in the Arts of Africa opened at the National Museum of African Art on April 22.

Adrienne Kaeppler served as a consultant for the exhibition Arctic Ambitions, which focuses on materials collected by Captain James Cook from the Northwest Coast of America and the search for the Northwest Passage. The exhibition is expected to open in Anchorage in 2015 and then travel to Tacoma, Washington.

Adrienne was a representative of the Anthropology Department for the Senate of Scientists Lightning talks on February 29th. Her presentation was “The US Exploring Expedition Barkcloth Research and Conservation Project.”

Adrienne introduced two films on Micronesia at the Environmental Film Festival at NMNH on March 18th.
Adrienne gave a lecture titled “Lakalaka and Mak’Yong: A Story of two UNESCO Masterpieces” to the Ethnomusicology graduate students at the University of Hawaii - Manoa on April 5th.

Fieldwork in Tonga

Adrienne Kaeppler conducted fieldwork in the Kingdom of Tonga, April 19 to May 9. She interviewed a variety of people about the recent funeral of King George Tupou V and the important ceremonial events associated with it. She also talked with the new King and Queen about the upcoming wedding of the Crown Prince, which has been postponed owing to the extended mourning period for the late King. In addition, she finished her illustrated small book on the Tongan Lakalaka, a UNESCO - declared ‘Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity’.” The book will be published by Vava‘u Press of Tonga.

Barkcloth/tapa/kapa Workshop

As part of the US Exploring Expedition Tapa (barkcloth) Project, Curator Adrienne Kaeppler and Conservator Greta Hansen, along with the two contract conservators, Natalie Firnhaber (former staff member) and Bob Muens, conducted research in Honolulu and Hilo from April 8 – 15th.

They interviewed and videoed a number of researchers and elders about the reconstruction of Hawaiian kapa as an art that had laid dormant for more than a century. Their work focused especially on the making of kapa from a plant known as mamaki, which is a conservation problem in that it deteriorates more rapidly and differently than the kapa made from paper mulberry – the more usual raw material. During the research they visited knowledgeable scientists at the Amy Greenwell Gardens in Kona, and Karen Pratt botanist at the Volcano National Park.

During the week they collected and sent to Natural History numerous specimens of mamaki taken on different parts of the island and at different altitudes and environments. These will be used for experimenting with the process of preparing the mamaki, beating it, and combining it with other barks. The team also did research on dyes and how the different dyes were processed and used, as well as how they might add to the deterioration of the kapa. They also carried out research on the kapa at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu and the Lyman Museum in Hilo, where they studied the identification of the different kinds of kapa and presented their work to students and docents.

Adrienne Kaeppler gave a lecture at the ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center of the University of Hawai‘i - Hilo on the Hawaiian Collections in the Smithsonian’s Anthropology Department and the Tapa Project on April 12th.

Ives Goddard attended the Fourteenth Spring Workshop on Theory and Method in Linguistic Reconstruction, sponsored by the Department of Linguistics of the University of Michigan and held in Ann Arbor, March 16-18, 2012. He gave a paper on “The lost languages
The group included the new Tribal Chairman, Frank Blackcloud, councilmembers Travis Davenport and Judith Bender, and Tribal Executive Director Christina Blackcloud-Garcia. The tribal language program was discussed over lunch, and later digital recordings of teaching sessions were played and commented on.

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**Jane Walsh** spent 10 days in Mexico in March working on a project to examine Teotihuacan stone masks at the National Museum of Anthropology and the National Museum of Teotihuacan. She is working with a team of Mexican and American archaeologists, geologists, and materials scientists, including Mineral Science’s Tim Rose. They looked at more than 60 masks in two museum collections and survived a car crash, an earthquake, and a broken bone – all in the name of science.

The Mexican, American and French researchers are holding a symposium at the International Congress of Americanists in Vienna in July of this year.

**Lars Krutak** received a Special Projects Grant from the Daniele Agostino Derossi Foundation to conduct research on tattooing in Papua New Guinea. Lars also received a Whatcom Museum Jacobs Research Fund Grant to document developing cultural practices concerning tattooing among Native North Americans in the United States and Canada.

Lancelot, a Managalase man from Sila village. Photograph by Lars Krutak.

Lars Krutak conducted four weeks of field research focusing on the vanishing art of indigenous tattooing across Papua New Guinea (PNG). Funded by a Special Projects Grant provided by the Daniele Agostino Derossi Foundation and with sponsorship by the Borneo Research Council, Krutak interviewed and photographed over sixty tattoo bearers among the Vanishing art of indigenous tattooing across PNG.

Edna Kareba, a Miniafia woman from Utukwaf Village. Photograph by Lars Krutak.

In the storage area of the National Museum of Anthropology. L-R: Ricardo Sanchez-Hernandez, a geologist; Sue Scott, independent researcher; Sofia Martinez del Campo Lanz, analytical conservator; Jane Walsh; and Tim Rose, NMNH geologist. The stone masks on the table were some of the ones they were studying.
Managalase, Korafe, Maisin, Aroma, Inland Aroma, Hula, Motu, Waima, and Mekeo. Krutak recorded more than twenty hours of interviews focusing on local tattoo terminology, associated rituals and medicinal practices, and myths. Eventually, copies of all of Lars’ field materials will be deposited at the University of Papua New Guinea Michael Somare Library within the Special Collections unit.

One of the highlights of Krutak’s trip was a visit to the remote Managalase village of Tabuane in Oro Province. Here, Lars screened the 1984 documentary *Kuije Kanan: Managalase Tattooing* (by John Caldwell, UCLA), which had never been seen by regional elders. Apart from most cultural areas of PNG, Managalase tattooing was male-centered and performed in conjunction with a lengthy three to six month seclusion in a dimly-lit womb-like hut. Numerous taboos were observed before, during, and after the seclusion and once the young men emerged they were painfully tattooed all over their bodies with traditional motifs derived from natural symbols. Managalase women stated they would not marry untattooed men.

After the PNG trip, Lars attended the Rites of Passage Tattoo Convention and Arts Festival (April 27-29) at the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne, Australia, to present lectures that coincided with his widely traveled photographic exhibition *Shamanic Skin: The Art of Magical Tattooing*. Krutak’s photo exhibition has now visited London, Florence (Italy), Kuching (Malaysia), New York City, and Australia.

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**Dan Cole** of Information Technology (formerly with the Handbook Office) attended the Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference on April 19. The conference focused on how maps are used and how they influence laws concerning American Indians. Dan was a panelist on the topic Mapping Indian Law and Policy. He is co-editor (with Imre Sutton) of a book to be published by SI Press titled: *Mapping Native America: Cartographic Interactions between Indigenous Peoples, Government, and Academia*. 

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*Ade Baroa, a Motu woman from Gaba Gaba village. Photograph by Lars Krutak.*

*Lars Krutak with Taitá Oa, a Waima woman from Hisiu village.*
RECOVERING VOICES

Hoonah Master Weavers Visit SI Collections
Five master weavers from Hoonah came to study Tlingit and Haida woven artifacts in the National Museum of American Indian and the National Museum of Natural History, from March 20-23. Chris Greenwald, Marjorie Peterson, Darlene See, Harlena Warford and Daphne Wright focused on spruce-root woven basketry. The master weavers split their time between the two museum collections and examined several hundred objects. The visit resulted in the master weavers being inspired by a range of techniques and patterns, while the Smithsonian gained knowledge about the names of patterns, provenance and materials used. When not looking at these collections, members of the group consulted material in the NAA and the HSFA. Chris Greenwald discovered a previously unknown photograph of her husband’s grandmother, while Harlene Warford and Darlene See went to the HSFA and listened to audio recordings of Tlingit songs and stories collected by Frederica de Laguna. These recordings were very informative and helped fill in the gaps of their own cultural knowledge. The visit was coordinated by the Huna Heritage Foundation, a nonprofit organization that promotes the preservation of Huna Tlingit culture, with support from the NMNH’s Repatriation Office and Recovering Voices.

Recovering Voices Workshop: The Art of Bentwood Hunting Hats at the ASC-Alaska
During the week of March 5-9, museum visitors thronged the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center to watch Aleut/Unangax artists as they transformed planks of rough, raw wood into elegant bentwood hats and visors ornamented with painted designs, glass beads, and sea lion whiskers. Master artists Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory and Michael Livingston and apprentices Tim Shangin and Delores Gregory demonstrated each step in the process, including the delicate moment when a carved hat blank is boiled then quickly bent and clamped on a special form. Any flaws are instantly revealed by splitting of the thin-shaved wood.

Bentwood hats were indispensible to hunters who traditionally wore them at sea. “It was alive,” said Lekanoff-Gregory. “The man, the qayaq, and the hat are all one unit.”

Josh Bell

The JuneauEmpire.com covered the visit in the article “Hoonah weavers study ancestors’ work at Smithsonian Institution” http://juneauempire.com/art/2012-03-29/hoonah-weavers-study-ancestors-work-smithsonian-institution

Master artist Michael Livingston explains how bentwood hats are used to Anchorage School District students.
Photo by Wayde Carroll.

(continued on next page)
Hats and visors shaded the eyes, gathered sound, and visually transformed the hunter into a beautiful sea creature. “The more elaborate the hats would be, the more sea mammals would give themselves to the person wearing them,” Lekanoff-Gregory told visiting students from Romig, Central, and Alaska Native Charter schools in Anchorage.

The artists’ residency was the latest installment of the Alaska’s Living Cultural Treasures series, designed to support the teaching of endangered indigenous arts. Program sponsors include the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Smithsonian Institution.

Aron Crowell

Recovering Voices Seminars


May 25: “For the fatigue that ails those who”: Nahua therapeutics and the paradox of power in early Colonial Mexico” by León García Garagarza (Smithsonian Latino Studies Postdoctoral Fellow).

As part of the Recovering Voices 2010 Grand Challenges Grant, Henry Ke’a returned to Washington D.C. from Papua New Guinea, for seven weeks (January 23-March 5) to continue his collaboration with Joshua Bell. Since his visit last year, Henry has worked to elicit reactions from Purari community members about the working book of F.E. Williams’ 1922 photographs. Incorporating these suggestions, Henry and Joshua refined the book’s translations, and produced a final copy of the book for distribution to elementary schools. Aware of the ways in which books can go missing and easily become private property, the two produced two laminated posters for schools.

The first poster was developed in collaboration with Alexis Demetriades, a scientific illustrator, who in the fall of 2011 worked with Joshua. This poster focused on vernacular terms in 1’ai of the sago palm (*Metroxylon sagu*). A central facet of Purari Delta communities subsistence and material culture, local knowledge of the palm is fading as people increase their consumption of commodities.

The other poster focused on the sago palm baskets. Known locally as *akeke*, these female-made objects are used in food production and storage and to store personal belongings. Drawing again on the illustrations of Alexis, this poster detailed the manufacture of *akeke* and the materials used to dye decorated *akeke* and various documented designs.

The designs of these baskets invoke totemic relationships and thus stories about kin groups relationships to their wider environment. These designs remain one of the last visible forms of these relationships. It is hoped that these posters will become pedagogic tools and help raise awareness about cultural heritage and language and inspire children to carry this knowledge forward. Henry took thirty copies of the book and twenty posters back for distribution to community elementary schools in the Purari Delta.

Henry and Joshua also worked to refine collected data about trees in the region and the area’s biodiversity. This was complemented by ongoing work on understanding the ways in which the relationships communities have to their environment are articulated in song. The next stage in their collaboration will entail the making of a resource book for the community that features this knowledge. Henry returned to the Purari Delta and is working to photograph plant specimens for identification.

**Joshua Bell**

**DIVISION OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

Doug Ubelaker attended a meeting of the Forensic Advisory Group of the forensic unit of the International Committee of the Red Cross at their training center in Ecogia, Geneva Switzerland, May 29 and 30.

Dave Hunt gave the Keynote Address “Mummy Research at the National Museum of Natural History: Non-Invasive Study for the ‘Eternal Life in Egypt’ Exhibit” at the Washington Academy of Sciences Annual Awards Ceremony on May 10.

Marilyn London taught Plagues, Pathogens, and Public Policy: An Anthropological Perspective at the Shady Grove Campus of the Univ. of Maryland. She is presently in Australia giving workshops and invited talks.
The Osage Face Bust Project

On April 28, 2012, all ten of the Osage face busts (called the “Osage Ten”) were finally all positioned together at the Osage Tribal Museum, Library & Archives in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. At the ceremony a number of distinguished guests presided, including former Osage Principal Chiefs George Tallchief, Charles Tillman, and James Gray; renowned Osage poet, Carter Revard, Ph.D. (who created a poem especially for the occasion); Kathryn Red Corn, Director of the Osage Museum; and David Hunt. Among the invited guests were directors of the Osage Tribal Historical Association as well as representatives from numerous American Indian tribes and nations.

The creation of The Osage Ten began approximately 100 years ago in Pawhuska when molds and pictures were made by Smithsonian's Frank Micka of ten living models (nine male and one female) from the Osage Tribe. The selection of the ten individuals came from the ethnologist Louis LaFleche who was there studying the Osage and communicating with Ales Hrdlicka, curator at the Smithsonian. These faces were incorporated into full-size plaster busts made by Micka to be part of the collections to be displayed at the California-Panama Canal Exposition in 1915-16 at San Diego California.

During the past seven years, the Osage Tribal Museum, the oldest tribally-owned museum in the country, has collaborated with the Department of Anthropology in obtaining re-casts of The Osage Ten to become permanent holding of the Osage Museum. This will bring these past Osage tribal members “back to life” by the three-dimensional format and in a sense, brings them home to be honored and remembered.

The beginning of this journey came in 2004 when a descendant of Albert Penn, Evelyn Trumbly Taylor, accompanied by husband, came to the Smithsonian to see a bust of their ancestor. Arrangements were made with the Office of Exhibits Central to make a re-casting of the bust, which was donated in 2005 to the Osage Museum. The other busts that have been donated in the past six years are of Shun-kah-mo-lah, Charles McDougan, Wah-To-Ke-Ah (William Fletcher), Henry Pratt, Ah-Hu-Shin-Kah (Little Wing), Che-Sho-Wah-Ke-Pah (Fidelis Cole), Wa-Xthi-Zhi (Charles Wah-Hre-She), and Wah-Noh-She-Shin-Ki (Principal Chief Fred Lookout).

The culmination of all the Osage Ten was the arrival and unveiling of Wah-hrah-lum-pah (Margaret Goode), taking her place with the other nine Osages on permanent exhibit at the Osage Tribal Museum. Descendent family guardians of the busts at the ceremony were Joseph Tillman (Wah-hrah-lum-pah), Tim Lookout (Fred Lookout), Rebekah HorseChief (Charles Wah-hre-she), Fidelis Davis (Fidelis Cole), John Tallechief Lemon (Little Wing), Bill Fletcher (William Fletcher), Cameron Pratt (Henry Pratt), Mike McDougan (Charles McDougan), Joseph Pratt (Shun-kah-mo-lah), and Joe Don Brave (Albert Penn).

It was a great day for the Osage Nation, the descendants of these Osage people, and for the Smithsonian Institution.

Dave Hunt
The National Science Foundation will award a three-year collaborative research grant to the Arctic Studies Center (Aron Crowell, PI) and the University of Alaska Fairbanks (Daniel H. Mann, PI) for “Glacial Retreat and the Cultural Landscape of Ice Floe Sealing at Yakutat Bay, Alaska.” This is a multidisciplinary study of the ancient, historical, and contemporary harvest of harbor seals at ice-floe pupping grounds near Hubbard Glacier in Yakutat Bay which will join indigenous knowledge, language, and oral heritage with the evidence of archaeology, geology, and paleoenvironmental studies. Glacial recession after A.D. 1100 attracted major concentrations of harbor seals and opened the fiord for Sugpiaq, Eyak, Ahtna, and Tlingit settlement, and a clan-based system of hunting practices and access rights developed in this multiethnic indigenous community. Seal camps shifted from the outer to the inner bay over time to follow the receding glacier, creating a series of archaeological sites that are recognized in oral tradition and often named in multiple Native languages. The effort to document this extraordinarily rich, 900 year-old cultural landscape is being undertaken in collaboration with Yakutat community scholars, including Elaine Abraham (Alaska Native Science Commission) and George Ramos (Sealaska Heritage Institute). Preliminary work began last summer with an NSF EAGER grant and will continue through 2014. Samples of 2011 interviews and fieldwork are posted at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DilpRbEjGPE&lr=1&uid=dzlSwkK intimacyPQsdH2w.

Aron Crowell

Tours and Spotlight Presentations

Aron Crowell and Dawn Biddison continue to give tours of the Living Our Cultures exhibition for special interest groups and the general public. Tours included VIPs from the American Heart Association and Exxon; Marko Peljhan, artist and Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Media Arts and Technology Program, California Nanosystems Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara; and David Sanborn, Senior Tribal Liaison for the U.S. Department of Defense, with over 50 delegates from American Native Lands Environmental Mitigation Program.


The ASC also hosted three Smithsonian Spotlight presentations. While his exhibit Echoes, Fire, and Shadows was at the Anchorage Museum, artist Preston Singletary gave a talk on February 2nd on his development as glass blower and inspirations from his Tlingit heritage. The March 1st talk was given by Tlingit graduate student Kyle Wark, who discussed his research on the importation and use of alcohol among the Tlingit from the Russian through early American periods. On April 5th, writer Joan Kane discussed her King Island Iñupiaq family history and read from The Cormorant Hunter’s Wife, a poetry collection about adaptation and resilience inspired by her Alaska Native heritage and the Arctic landscape. She also read new work, including poems written in the King Island dialect of Iñupiaq. Her talk was followed by a book signing.
Rick Potts participated in an NMNH workshop on faunal change and ecosystem dynamics, a forum sponsored by the Evolution of Terrestrial Ecosystems Program, held February 24-26.

Since February, Rick has had press interviews with USA Today, Science News, and Associated Press about new discoveries on human evolution. The BBC interviewed Rick about the extinction of fossil hominin species. The interview is part of an upcoming 3-part radio series called ‘Extinct.’

Rick is co-curator of the Human Genome traveling exhibition, expected to open at NMNH in 2013. The NMNH Exhibits team continues to meet regularly with the science/education team from the National Human Genome Research Institute (NIH).

In May, Rick and Briana Pobiner hosted the annual meeting of Human Origins Program’s Broader Social Impacts Committee. Committee members met over a 3-day period to develop resources that complement our educational/outreach efforts and enable the Museum to reach audiences affected by potential challenges at the intersection of scientific findings and religious reflection.

HUMAN ORIGINS PROGRAM

PROGRAM IN HUMAN ECOLOGY AND ARCHAEOBIOLOGY

Bruce D. Smith has been appointed to a five-year term to the U.S. National Committee (USNC) for the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA). The committee operates under the auspices of the Policy and Global Affairs (PGA) Board on International Scientific Organizations (BISO) of the National Research Council (NRC) of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS). So in summary, it’s the NAS-NRC-PGA-BISO-INQUA-USNC!

The Program just launched a new website http://anthropology.si.edu/archaeobio/. The website highlights many of the research projects, collections, and outreach activities of the program. Thanks to Elaine Reiter and Stephanie Christensen for help creating, updating, and uploading the website!
Rick is a consultant on plans for a Hollywood (Warner Brothers) action/adventure film concerning the discovery of an early hominin species still living in seclusion and its implications for our species.

Research Trips

Matt Tocheri and research fellow Hanneke Meijer spent seven and four weeks, respectively, in Jakarta, this spring at the National Research and Development Center for Archaeology in Indonesia. Matt collected data from archaeological materials from the site of Liang Bua, and measured more than 6,500 rat femora (thigh bones). Hanneke continued her research on the Liang Bua bird fauna, which now number more than 1,500 identified specimens.

Presentations

In April, Rick presented an invited lecture in the symposium titled “Did Climate Change Shape Human Evolution?” hosted by the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. During this two-day symposium at Columbia University, leading scientists presented the latest evidence for climate and faunal change in East Africa over the last five million years and discussed how these changes may have influenced the evolution of African mammals, including our human ancestors. The workshop, featuring Richard Leakey, Rick Potts and many others, was organized by Peter deMenocal, a paleoclimatologist at Lamont-Doherty and Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Columbia. A news report and videos of the event can be found at http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/news-events/did-climate-change-shape-human-evolution

Rick Potts and Briana Pobiner were featured at the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History in a series of programs titled “What Does It Mean to Be Human?” over two days in late March. Rick gave two invited lectures, “The Challenges of Becoming Human: Evolution in an Era of Dramatic Climate Change” and “What’s Hot in Human Origins”; Briana’s lecture was “Behind the Scenes of a Smithsonian Archaeological Dig.” Rick and Briana then facilitated a half-day educator’s workshop at the Iowa MNH.

In conjunction with the annual meeting of Human Origins Program’s Broader Social Impacts Committee, a public panel discussion titled, “Human Evolution and Religion: Questions and Conversations from the Museum’s Hall of Human Origins” took place at NMNH on May 12th. Rick Potts gave the introduction and committee co-chair Connie Bertka moderated the discussion.

Matt Tocheri gave an invited seminar about Homo floresiensis to anthropology undergraduates at University of Delaware on February 21st.

Matt participated in the “Relatively Human” lecture series at the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, Missouri on May 10th. More than 350 people attended his presentation on “The Pleistocene meets Middle Earth: The Significance of the Indonesian Hobbits.”

“The Scientist is In” and “HOT (Human Origins Today)” presentations given in the Human Origins Exhibit Hall included the following speakers: Erin Marie Williams and Brian Villmoare, GWU; Rick Potts, Briana Pobiner and Matt Tocheri; Connie Bertka, co-chair of the Human Origins Program’s Broader Social Impacts Committee; Daryl Domning, Howard University; Jason Lewis, Rutgers University; John Yellen, National Science Foundation; Andrew Hill, Yale University; and Kevin Hatale, George Washington University.

The Paleanthropology Seminar Series featured presentations by Brian Villmoare, The George Washington University; Andrew Hill, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History; and Jason Lewis, Rutgers University.

Publications

Rick Potts served on the Strategic Planning Committee of the U.S. Global Change Research Program, which coordinates and integrates research and outreach across 13 U.S. government agencies concerning environmental change and its societal implications. “The National Global Change Research Plan 2012-2021” was released to the public at the end of April. Rick was on the writing team for Advancing Research. Go to http://library.globalchange.gov/ to see the final Plan; the direct link to the 31MB file is available at: http://downloads.globalchange.gov/strategic-plan/2012/usgerp-strategic-plan-2012.pdf.
**Around the Lab**

**Matt Tocheri** and Kris Helgen (Curator-in-Charge, Division of Mammals) received $30,000 from the Smithsonian’s 2012 Collections Care and Preservation Fund to continue their work digitizing NMNH skeletal collections. Contractors **Grace Veatch** and **Kate McGrath** have thus far processed and uploaded more than 1,100 3D models to the Human Origins Website (http://humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/3d-collection/).

Visitors to HOP include: Mimi E. Lam, University of British Columbia, and Thierra Nalley, Arizona State University.

Congratulations to **Grace Veatch** for her acceptance into The George Washington University Anthropology Masters Program. Grace’s focus will be in Biological Anthropology.

**ANTHROPOLOGY OUTREACH OFFICE**

The spring issue of AnthroNotes focused on Ancient Egypt, in celebration of the opening of the new *Eternal Life in Ancient Egypt* exhibit at NMNH. The permanent exhibition was developed under the leadership of **Melinda Zeder**.

The authors for this issue of AnthroNotes include exhibit co-curator **Dave Hunt** (“The Child’s Mummy”), guest curators **Salima Ikram** of American University, Cairo (“Creatures of the Gods: Animal Mummies from Ancient Egypt”) and **Lana Troy** of Uppsala University, Sweden (“Ancient Egypt in Our Midst”), and **Betsy M. Bryan**, Alexander Badawy Professor of Egyptian Art and Archaeology, Johns Hopkins University (“The Egyptian Afterlife: What to Take with You and Why”).

An expanded online version of the publication included an interview with Eric Cline, director, and Deborah Lehr, chairman, Capitol Archaeological Institute by AnthroNotes editor **Alison Brooks** (“The Future of Egypt’s Past”), a list of “Websites on Ancient Egypt,” and an article on “Dating Ancient Egypt” by Lana Troy, with a reference chronology of dates and dynasties for Ancient Egypt adapted from the book *The Mummy in Ancient Egypt: Equipping the Dead for Eternity* by Salima Ikram and Aidan Dodson (Thames & Hudson 1998, pp. 8-12).

To view past issues of AnthroNotes, visit http://anthropology.si.edu/outreach/anthnote/anthronotes.html

*AnthroNotes* editors are Ann Kaupp, Ruth Selig, Alison Brooks, and Carolyn Gecan.
The late Robert L. Humphrey, professor emeritus of anthropology at The George Washington University and illustrator for AnthroNotes from 1979 to 2002, was memorialized on June 2 by a seminar room now named in his honor. The seminar room is in the Amsterdam House, part of the GWU Department of Anthropology. Organized by Professor Catherine Allen, the event was attended by his widow Johanna Humphrey, AnthroNotes editors Ruth Selig and Ann Kaupp, former students, including Maureen Malloy and Deborah Wood, and close friends. Humphrey was chair of the GWU Anthropology Department for many years, ran a popular field school in Mexico, trained many graduate students who became Smithsonian interns and employees over the years, and illustrated the book Anthropology Explored: The Best of Smithsonian AnthroNotes that includes many chapters by members of the Smithsonian Department of Anthropology.

**PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGY**

Maureen Malloy, volunteer coordinator for the Chesapeake Regional Office of Project Archaeology in the Department of Anthropology, recently completed a 10-month collaboration with DC Public Schools, where she worked with 5th grade students at Watkins Elementary. Maureen met with four 5th grade science classes (88 students) each Tuesday during the 2011-2012 school year. The curriculum guide Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter formed the basis of the archaeology program that Maureen taught, which was adapted to meet the DCPS 5th grade life science standard on Adaptation and Survival, as well as supporting standards in the U.S. History and Geography and English/Language Arts. Students began the school year with an exploration of the concept of culture, followed by practice using scientific inquiry skills including observation, inference, and classification. Students discovered the importance of context in archaeology through classroom games and activities before being introduced to authentic archaeological data from excavations of a slave cabin at Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest Plantation. The students used a variety of data including historical photos, environmental and geographical information, archaeological data, and soil analysis, to help them understand the lives of the enslaved families at Poplar Forest. The students completed the year with research on historic preservation laws in the U.S. and D.C. and a series of activities that stimulated discussion on stewardship and our ethical and legal responsibilities to help protect and preserve the archaeological record. As part of a summer enrichment program in DCPS, Maureen will be presenting a condensed version of the program that includes a field trip to the exhibition Slavery at Jefferson’s Monticello: Paradox of Liberty.

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**Project Archaeology Coordinator’s Meeting**

The Annual Project Archaeology Meeting in April, organized and conducted by BLM PA lead Jeannie Moe, was attended by 14 Project Archaeology coordinators, friends, national advisors, and national staff. Sessions focused on the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which will be implemented nationwide in the Fall of 2014 and call for high academic rigor, relevance to 21st century careers, integration of knowledge, and problem-solving by applying a wide variety of inquiry skills and information. Participants examined the CCSS and determined that Project Archaeology is well-suited to assist educators with implementing the new standards. Dr. Shirley Key, University of Memphis professor of education, provided participants with practical ways to use archaeology to engage underserved students in science education.

**Project Archaeology Facilitator Training**

For the first time, Project Archaeology offered training for archaeologists to become workshop facilitators at the Society for American Archaeology conference. Twelve new facilitators earned their instructor’s certification through this new program. States represented include Tennessee (3), Colorado (3), New Mexico (1), South Carolina (1), New Jersey (1), West Virginia (1), and Florida (1). A graduate student from Japan attended the session and intends to use the materials for her research and educational programming in Thailand. The participants from Colorado and Tennessee jointly planned professional development for educators in their respective states. The participants from South Carolina and New Jersey intend to start new state Project Archaeology programs while the remaining participants will connect with existing programs in their home states. The workshop was co-taught by Jeannie Moe.
COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES PROGRAM

NAA Digital Lab

The NAA digital lab has produced digital surrogates for over 12,000 pages of material from 160 manuscripts as part of the Save America’s Treasures grant for preservation of the Numbered Manuscript Collection. Much of this material is now available online through the SIRIS catalog (http://www.siris.si.edu/) and the Collections Search Center (http://collections.si.edu/search/) and more will be uploaded throughout the grant period. Highlights of recent uploads: over 6,000 pages of Iroquoian language materials collected by J.N.B. Hewitt, Mohave language documentation, and manuscripts scanned for participants in last summer’s Breath of Life workshop. Check back often to find your favorites. Congratulations to Stephanie Christensen and all the digital imaging lab contractors and interns for their work on this project!

Monetary Awards

Gina Rappaport has received an award from the 2012 Small Grants Pool for “Documenting the Edward S. Curtis archival Diaspora.” The award will fund travel to Los Angeles to conduct research in several archival repositories as well as interview a number of Curtis experts.

Stephanie Christensen received a WAG grant for $4,900.00 for updates to the NAA/HSFA website and CAP page.

Carrie Beauchamp received a CIS (Collections and Information Systems) grant for $10,500 for migration of various legacy data sets into EMu, including the Anthropology Conservation Lab’s database.

Human Studies Film Archives (HSFA)

A former volunteer with the Human Studies Film Archives, Faith Haney (Historic Research Associates), worked with Pam Wintle on a presentation concerning the use of cultural heritage film for The Archaeology Channel’s ninth international film and video festival, The Archaeology Channel Conference on Cultural Heritage Film, May 9-11 at the University of Oregon, Eugene. The purpose of the conference was to promote discussion and collaboration regarding the uses of cultural heritage film.

Ms. Haney’s talk, “The Linker Collection: An Example of Cultural Heritage Film in Support of UNESCO World Heritage Sites,” provided an example of how television travelogue films can be used in scientific monitoring and interpretation of cultural heritage sites. She also talked about the upcoming website and app created under a Smithsonian and UNESCO MOU to use Smithsonian collections, including film and photographs, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. Ms. Haney was able to do a video oral history with David Linker, the son who travelled the world with his parents in creating this multi-decade popular television travelogue series. She screened two clips from HSFA’s YouTube Channel. (A copy of the oral history will be given to the HSFA.) The presentation was attended by an enthusiastic international audience who engaged in a lively post presentation discussion.

The HSFA acquired more than a half million feet of original 16mm color motion picture film, including 150 edited travelogues, all independently produced by the Linker family from the 1950s through the 1970s. The Linker family presented travelogue film series such as “Three Passports to Adventure” and “The Wild, the Weird and the Wonderful,” which were syndicated in 45 American television markets.

page 20
HSFA and Department Outreach and Use of Modern Technology Recognized

An applicant for a minority internship fellowship wrote the following regarding the broad outreach efforts of the department, particularly the HSFA and its application of modern technology for scholarly and educational benefits:

The emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches that bring together individuals from disparate disciplines and experiences into a collaboration geared towards expanding global access to education and intellectual resources inspires me.

The Human Studies Film Archives in particular seem to encompass this goal. They are an example of a successful and effective use of modern technology in order to share the knowledge of the past with the world. As Pam Wintle states in her interview on the Anthropology Department website, they can act as a “virtual repatriation,” which is vital in this new digital world. I admire that an institution with such a rich history is so willing to adopt new and innovative technologies and way of communicating information.

OFFICE OF REPATRIATION

The Killer Whale Hat

The Killer Whale hat repatriated to a Tlingit clan in 2005 was returned to the museum by the current clan leader for laser scanning. The clan authorized the Repatriation Office to work with OEC to make a replica of the hat, which will be added to the collections and displayed in the museum’s new education center to tell the story of the repatriation.

The process was filmed by Education and will also be featured in the 3D charter collection. Eric Hollinger and a digitization team took the replica to Sitka, AK, for a Tlingit Clan Conference at the end of March. There the replica was displayed with the original hat and later worn in dances alongside the original. The Smithsonian digitization team demonstrated the 3D technology over the four days of the conference, and clan leaders brought forward some of their most important clan hats and other objects to be scanned and archived as security against loss to fire or some other disaster.

The replica hat being danced by Joshua DeAsis.

All of the photos for this article were taken by Eric Hollinger.
R. Eric Hollinger, Adam Metallo, 3D Digitization Coordinator, Smithsonian Digitization Program Office, and Carolyn Thome, Model Maker, Smithsonian Office of Exhibits Central, gave a presentation to staff titled “Smithsonian 3D Scanning and Reproduction of Tlingit Clan Objects: Collaborations for Cultural Preservation and Education” on May 22.

Repatriation Reports


Editor and Compiler: Ann Kaupp
Reviewers: Maggie Dittemore
Betty Meggers
Chair: Mary Jo Arnoldi
Department Website: www.nmnh.si.edu/