Morning Session Link:
Co-hosted by CSUCA and the Chancellor’s Office
https://calstate.adobeconnect.com/research

Afternoon Session Links:
Poster Session:
https://csudh.zoom.us/j/81563604077
pwd=azR2VnQ4OGp2SytHTXZsZjIzeW9Ldz09
Password: POSTER

CalNAGPRA/NAGPRA Panel:
https://csueb.zoom.us/j/82931629460?
pwd=ZDdDL1FMU1ZVQmVIUTJ6RktFellHdz09
Password: COMPLIANCE

ARCHAEOLOGY DURING A GLOBAL PANDEMIC
FRIDAY, APRIL 23 | 9:30 AM
SCHEDULE

Morning Session

9:30 AM
Introductory Remarks
Sarah Lacy & Ken Seligson (CSUDH)

9:45 AM
Keynote Address
Jerry Moore (CSUDH)

10:00 AM - Coffee Break

10:10 AM
The Apparatus of Digital Archaeology amidst a Global Pandemic: 3D Visualization of Cultural and Archaeological Features in the Dos Hombres to Gran Cacao Archaeology Project
Marisol Cortes-Rincon, Jason Laugesen, Boston O’Donohue, Lisa Higgins, Zachary McClellan, Abigail Keep (HSU)

10:30 AM
Zooarchaeology in Pandemic Times: Re-thinking Time Investments in Video Tutorials
Nicole Mathwich (SDSU)

10:50 AM
Archaeology of cannabis: The Bell Springs Taliaferro Landscape
Nick Angeloff (HSU)

11:10 AM - Coffee Break

11:20 AM
Digital-Tangibility: Online Pandemic Pedagogy for a New Archaeology Concentration
Jon Spenard (CSUSM)

11:40 AM
The Trinidad Trail: Recent Work following the Gold Rush Trails in Redwood National Park
Mark Castro (HSU)

12:00 PM
Heritage Projects in a Time of Pandemic: Walking Temple-Beaudry
James E. Snead (CSUN)

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
Wrap & Lunch Break

Afternoon Session

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM - Student Poster Session
1. Leslie Gomez & Sarah Lacy (CSUDH)
2. Priscilla Y. Hernandez, Gina Dee, Carolina Ocana (SDSU)
3. Efrain Arroyo (CSUDH)
4. Vanessa Armenta (CSUEB)
5. Nancy Sanchez (CSUDH)
6. Karina Reyes & Katherine Kinkopf (CPP)
7. Jean Pickard (CSUDH)
8. Heather Militello & Albert Gonzalez (CSUEB)

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM - Panel
Collaboration And Compliance: A Panel Discussion on the Impact of AB-275 on Repatriation Compliance Efforts across The CSU System
Co-Chairs: Albert Gonzalez (CSUEB) & Sarah Eckhardt (CSUS)
Panelists: Cindi Alvitre (CSULB), Marisol Cortes-Rincon and Nick Angeloff (HSU), Rachel Hensler & Carly Whelan (CSUC), Michelle Fitzgerald (SFSU), Sandra Konzak (SSU), James Snead (CSUN)
Discussants: Jody Brown & Tina Biorn (CalTrans), and others TBA

4:00 PM
Closing Remarks
Sarah Lacy & Ken Seligson (CSUDH)
Covid-19 realities have changed the equation in both field and laboratory settings. This paper emerges from a faculty-student collaboration and adaption during one of the worst global pandemic. The scope of this research is to present the basis of a digital database that incorporates geospatial analysis, 3D photogrammetry, and technical illustrations of cultural features located in a ceremonial site in northwestern Belize. Results of archaeological studies are plentiful in spatial and temporal information that are closely related to one another. Among its main objectives, this project investigates the sociopolitical nature of the study area through architectural, material cultural remains, and geospatial analyses. A database done ‘for archaeologists, by archaeologists’, is a versatile tool and has real benefit in both formulating and answering research questions, both in the course of fieldwork as well as in secondary analyses.

Nicole Mathwich (San Diego State University)

"Zooarchaeology in pandemic times: Re-thinking time investments in video tutorials"

In 2020, the COVID-19 Pandemic accelerated the adoption of pre-existing online teaching and remote working strategies. A portion of these changes are likely permanent in higher education. The question then becomes, "What is worth keeping and what cannot be responsibly transferred online?" With the rapid shift to online teaching and the cancellation or deferent of research travel for the past year, a core piece of archaeology has been lost through the lack of access to material cultural. Universities, however, still expect archaeologists to teach and to conduct research, but do not understand how best to support the communication of online material culture training. In this presentation, I examine the successes and failures of teaching two lab classes online and present a case study of teaching students to conduct a zooarchaeological analysis and write a report. I present three strategies for successful digital analysis of material culture with students: 1) The use of project management software, 2) the importance of high-definition images and tutorials, and 3) the use of real archaeological data sets in classes. In some cases, features such as screen sharing, project management applications, and tutorials were more effective methods of teaching analysis techniques and conducting team research. For osteological landmarks and tactile comparisons required for zooarchaeological identifications, the online medium was woefully inadequate. As educators consider what to retain from these unusual times, investments in high-quality, high-resolution tutorials have the longest benefits."
Nick Angeloff (Humboldt State University)

“Archaeology of cannabis: The Bell Springs Taliaferro Landscape”

The cannabis industry in Humboldt County, California has driven archaeological work over the past three years. Several significant sites have been impacted by past cultivation activities and have been required to mitigate past damages as part of the permitting process. Working with the local tribe, Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, we have collaborated to preserve these sites. One complex of sites, designated Bell Springs Taliaferro 1-4, is the subject of ongoing research that has yielded significant data regarding ethnographic through archaic period use of the emerald triangle with at least 8000 years of habitation at this location. The results of assemblage analysis is presented here in the context of our broader research synthesizing survey and excavation data from over 300 locations.

Jon Spenard (CSU San Marcos)

"Digital-Tangibility: Online Pandemic Pedagogy for a New Archaeology Concentration”

Archaeology was offered as a new concentration for the Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology degree at California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) starting in the Fall of 2020. The courses for it had been designed with significant hands-on, experiential components intended to be taught on campus in a traditional face-to-face setting. Implementing these courses in the full online modality necessitated by COVID-19 proved challenging. For this podium presentation, I discuss how I adapted the hand-on components of the archaeology courses including summaries of what worked and what did not. The talk will focus on my delivery of a lower division Introduction to Archaeology course taught as a methods class, which was also offered for the first time at CSUSM in Fall 2020. Strategies employed for content delivery included prepping and mailing at-home lab kits, recording a mock dig, creation of 3D digital models of excavated content, and the use of other online digitally-tangible resources. Demonstrations of the content will be provided in the presentation. The talk ends with an overview of how I have adapted and structured my current courses from the lessons learned from the Fall 2020 semester, and a review of current student feedback regarding how these practices are being received.
Mark Castro (Humboldt State University)

“The Trinidad Trail: Recent Work following the Gold Rush Trails in Redwood National Park”

At the onset of the California Gold Rush, trails were constructed to bring gold seekers to the various gold fields throughout the state. The first trail to lead Argonauts from the coast to the Salmon River and Klamath River gold fields was the Trinidad Trail. This paper will delve into the history of this Gold Rush trail from its construction to its early use, while describing recent efforts by Humboldt State University Cultural Resources Facility and the National Park Service to find the remnants of this trail in Humboldt County.

James E Snead (CSU Northridge)

"Heritage Projects in a Time of Pandemic: Walking Temple-Beaudry"

The phrase “think globally, act locally” is particularly resonant for scholarship conducted under quarantine conditions. Even for those of us whose research is already “local,” restricted opportunities and disrupted work patterns have mandated reassessment of what can be done, and how to do it. Present circumstances also provide the opportunity to evaluate project concepts, expand knowledge bases, and identify new connections. There is also pedagogical relevance for scholar-educators such as those in the CSU community, due both to the immediate need for creating “engaged” course content appropriate for distance learning and the chance to build out conceptual infrastructure.

What I call “Walking Temple-Beaudry” takes advantage of these circumstances to explore how the city of Los Angeles identifies, manages, and interprets “heritage” through its Office of Historic Resources (OHR). Focusing on one specific neighborhood close to the city center, I am combining informal survey on foot with historical research as well as evaluation of previously defined “historical assets.” Consultation with OHR staff and evaluation of resources such as SurveyLA provides additional perspective. Ultimately the initiative has prospects for transcending the boundaries of project templates developed by academic and consulting archaeologists, providing the opportunity to engage stakeholders in a specific urban locality around themes of heritage and community.
Fieldwork is one of the primary sources an anthropological researcher has to support their academic inquiries; however, conducting research during a pandemic requires alternative methods. Nevertheless, anthropology is an adaptable field, and we suggest multiple avenues for researchers to maintain their projects and student involvement. One option is instead of seeking new data via field methods, one should work with data in hand. Working through backlogs of data will often satisfy the qualitative or quantitative needs to support current proposals. Depending on the data format, students may assist remotely or social distancing protocols for one’s lab may be possible in consultation with institutional administration. If no personal data is available, requesting samples by mail from colleagues or accessing published databases may suffice until personal inquiries can be made. Finally, there are numerous remote data collection techniques including GIS modeling, LiDAR, and 3-D scans whose technology was disseminating across the field even before a global epidemic. This cohort of undergraduate students still need to be involved in research to inspire and prepare them for graduate training. If faculty pause their projects, we will miss this microgeneration. Supporting students to conduct extensive background research regarding the topic at hand will better prepare the individual for the next available field season, but they are not limited to the literature. These suggestions for increasing the flexibility of our research programs is not targeted only at the current moment and should be better prepared for; regional shutdowns due to natural disasters, political unrest, and disease are not once-in-a-century events.

Priscilla Y. Hernandez, Gina Dee, & Carolina Ocana (San Diego State University)

"Zooarchaeological Analysis of Mission Dolores de Cósari"

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Spanish missionaries entered the Pimerá Alta, a vast region located today in Sonora, Mexico and southern Arizona. This area was primarily the traditional homeland of the Tohono O’odham people before the emergence of the Spanish missions. These Spanish missionaries built a system of religious agro-pastoral communities where their conversion efforts were contested, adapted, and mitigated by O’odham groups. One of the earliest sites in this system was Mission Dolores de Cásari, founded in 1697, being the second mission ever to be excavated in the state of Sonora. This poster represents a zooarchaeological analysis of animal and resource use at Mission Dolores with a focus on the labor of the O’odham. We analyzed data from two excavated units from the mission midden and reported the summary of butchering patterns and species usage. Results indicate that the largest proportion of faunal remains that were found were mainly from domesticated mammals. Evidence showed that sheep and cattle were the primary animal resources at this site, and a substantial portion of native labor went toward managing and butchering these animals, as opposed to native species. The significance of this evidence shows a critical moment of change in O’odham diet and lifeways, which became the foundation for the modern Sonoran economy.
“Using Google Earth for archaeological research: a virtual survey of the Inca road network between Machu Picchu and Choquequirao”

In a global pandemic, disciplines that rely on field research, like archaeology, have adapted to remote investigation settings. Following the launch of Google Earth (GE), 2005, researchers have postulated and tested its utility for archaeological research. Archaeologists have recognized its potential as a tool for visualization, education, and research. Since 2016, the GlobalXplorer Project has demonstrated the utility of satellite imagery for analyzing looting, in addition to discovering and preserving previously unknown sites. However, more research is needed to assess its usefulness to the survey of areas in mountainous and heavily forested terrain, like the Central Andes. Tawantinsuyu, the Inca Empire, during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, was the largest indigenous polity ever to exist in the Americas, spanning western South America. The Inca road network, the Qhapaqán, connected the vast territories of the empire with 40,000 km (25,000 mi) of roads. To test the utility of GE images for virtual survey, this project surveyed 60 square kilometers of Inca roads between the sites of Machu Picchu and Choquequirao in the Cusco region, Peru. Using GE tools to identify and trace Inca roads, this project proves the viability of using a publicly accessible and free satellite imagery to complete a preliminary survey, an antecedent to ground-truthing. The results of this project proved the use of GE for prospection and creating plans of roads. The preliminary results of this project indicate that archaeologists should be able to identify and quantify Inca roads using GE, allowing preparation for eventual pedestrian survey.

“The Garbage Continues: A Municipal Park Trashscape in Oakland, California”

CSU East Bay archaeology students carried out a garbological survey on the grounds of Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, located in Oakland, California’s Fruitvale neighborhood, in 2017. During the 2017 project, students categorized, quantified, and cataloged park refuse, revealing occasional off-hours drinking, smoking, and even sex. The 2021 project will include a second survey and comparison of resultant datasets with comparable ones from 2017, producing a realistic picture of community use of various park spaces over time. Park staff plans to take advantage of the updated research, incorporating related garbological data analysis into park teaching materials targeting high school and college student groups. This poster reports on both the proposal for 2021 work and on the work carried out to date on the new project.
What caused the early death of young medieval women? This poster presents the cases of five individuals from the Medieval Tuscan archaeological site, Pieve di Pava from a bioarchaeological perspective. Pava was a centralized rural site, in which many were bound to servitude in order to survive. This resulted in many physiological strains amongst this sample (Kinkopf 2020, Riccomi 2019). We use multiple indicators, including degenerative spine disease data, cross-sectional geometry of the humerus and femur, and historical documents to look at the factors that influence mortality in young women, and consider how daily life experiences contributed to an early death. Most research on mortality risk for the medieval period focuses on population-level approaches, therefore it is well established that childhood physiological stress and nutritional stress influences mortality risk in medieval people at the population-level is primarily described through transmittable diseases and plagues amongst pooled populations(e.g., DeWitte 2017, 2014). Other studies have pooled their data from urban populations, for it is often the population that is able to provide numerous samples for data conclusion (citation). This is especially true when it came to mortality rates amongst remains that demonstrated economic status differences (Walter & Dewitte 2017). This project is unique because we use an osteobiographical approach to examine multiple young adults from a rural medieval context. This poster presents the results of research completed in a remote and virtual environment during a COVID-19 pandemic.
Heather Militello and Albert Gonzalez (CSU East Bay)

"Supporting Data-Informed Academic and Pedagogical Decisions by Utilization of the CSU Archaeology Profile Database"

The work and regional foci of CSU archaeology staff and faculty are as diverse as they are innovative. This poster reports on the aggregation of CSU archaeologists’ online profile data by geographic specialty and area of expertise. We aim for the resultant CSU Archaeology Profile Database to facilitate inter-campus academic and pedagogical collaboration, student selection of CSU graduate programs, and the expansion of specialties among archaeology faculty and staff in the CSU-system generally. Finally, the poster encourages CSU archaeologists and anthropology program leaders to utilize the database to serve their own department and program needs.

Jean Pickard (CSU Dominguez Hills)

"Monterey Chert Trace Element Analysis: Source Provenance at The Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA"

At the southern end of Santa Monica Bay, California, along the precipitous cliffs of the Palos Verdes Peninsula, lies the archaeological site known as CA-LAN-138, home to the prehistoric Tongva-Gabrielino who exploited and possibly controlled vital area resources such as Monterey chert. Monterey chert provenance is a valuable source of archaeological data, with research questions predicated on our ability to associate chert artifacts with their source. Through recent advancements in geochemical analysis, the provenance of Monterey chert sources in Palos Verdes can now shed light on the lifeways of the prehistoric Tongva-Gabrielino including mobility patterns, lithic procurement strategies, and trade activity. Further study can also inform researchers on what control, if any, the Tongva-Gabrielino had over local chert sources. Therefore, the goal of this study is to determine the geochemical composition of local Monterey chert sources to establish source distinction, and to study the relationship between these sources and lithic artifacts from CA-LAN-138. These findings will not only add information to a growing provenance database for chert sources in the Monterey Formation, but they can be used to develop pXRF calibrations for non-destructive analysis of chert artifacts held in nearby museum collections. Restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic have limited the opportunities for research including the use of labs and tools at CSUDH. In light of these restrictions, this research will temporarily focus on acquiring the necessary permissions for Monterey chert specimen collection from state/local agencies and private entities.
"Collaboration and Compliance: A Panel Discussion on the Impact of AB-275 on Repatriation Compliance Efforts across the California State University System"

This panel will discuss the changing repatriation compliance landscape for archaeologists and museum personnel across the California State University (CSU) system, specifically regarding the recently enacted California Assembly Bill 275 (AB-275). AB-275 requires all state-funded agencies and museums in possession of California Native American human remains and/or cultural objects to produce inventories and summaries in consultation with affiliated tribal groups and lineal descendants. It also creates a path for some federally unrecognized tribes in the state to pursue repatriation. AB-275’s speedy timeline has lit a fire under CSU museum directors, NAGPRA coordinators, and tribal liaisons, producing a volume of inter-campus communication on the topic not seen since the early days of NAGPRA. However, the same deadlines have worked in concert with a lack of clarity on the part of the state to generate confusion and concern among those personnel. This panel represents a step toward clarity in that vein, drawing CSU archaeologists and repatriation specialists into conversation with our counterparts in the UC system and at other state agencies. Panelists will discuss the status of their current repatriation efforts, any anticipated obstacles to the process, and will share information as to potential resources and funding. We aim for the panel to serve as much as a “state of the system” session as a launching pad for the development of best practices modeling and documentation across CSU repatriation efforts.

Participants: Cindi Alvitre (CSU Long Beach), Marisol Cortes-Rincon and Nick Angeloff (Humboldt State), Rachel Hensler and Carly Whelan (Chico State), Michelle Fitzgerald (San Francisco State), Sandra Konzak (Sonoma State), and James Snead (CSU Northridge)

Discussants: Jody Brown and Tina Biorn (CalTrans), and others TBA.