

## Heather B. Thakar, PhD, RPA

<https://liberalarts.tamu.edu/anthropology/profile/heather-thakar/>

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### Degrees Awarded

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2014 PhD Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2008 MA Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2004 BA Anthropology and History (*cum laude*), Texas Tech University

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### Honors, Awards & Fellowships

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2020 ADVANCE Diversity Champion, Dean of Faculties, Texas A&M University  
2020 Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society Membership Nomination  
2018 Teaching & Mentorship Impact Recognition, Veteran Resource and Support Center, Texas A&M University  
2017 Student Success Faculty Fellowship, Center for Teaching Excellence, Texas A&M University  
2015 Best Research Poster, Ethnobiology 38th Annual Meeting, Santa Barbara, CA  
2015 Integrative Learning Teaching Circle Fellowship, Teaching and Learning Center, Temple University  
2015 Dissertation Award Nomination, Society for American Archaeology, Nominated by Dissertation Committee  
2006 – 2014 Merit-based Tuition & Fee Fellowships, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2012 Albert Spaulding/Elman Service Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2012 Affiliates Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate Division, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2011 Dean's Advancement Fellowship, Graduate Division, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2011 National Ethics Bowl Championship Team, Society for American Archaeology  
2010 – 2011 Luce Environmental Science Fellowship, Marine Science Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2008 High Pass on M.A. Comprehensive Exams, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2001 – 2004 Presidential Endowed Fellowship, Texas Tech University  
2002 – 2004 President's List/ Dean's List, Texas Tech University  
2001 Phi Beta Kappa Superior Academic Achievement Award *summa cum laude*  
2000 National Merit Commended Scholar

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### Research & Teaching Interests

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Archaeological Theory, Evolutionary Ecology, Niche Construction, Foraging and Proto-agricultural Societies  
New World Archaeology (California, Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua), Coastal and Island Archaeology  
Human Paleoecology, Archaeobotany, Palynology, Stable and Radiogenic Isotope Geochemistry, Zooarchaeology (Marine)  
Quantitative Methods, Chronological Models and Data Integration  
Archaeological Ethics, Repatriation, Curation and Collections Management

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### Academic Appointments

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Texas A&M University

2018 – **Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology**  
2018 – *Director*, Paleoecology and Archaeometry Laboratory, Department of Anthropology  
2016 – *Curator & NAGPRA Coordinator*, Anthropology Research Collections, Department of Anthropology  
2018 – *Associated Faculty*, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Doctoral Program  
2018 – *Affiliated Faculty*, Center for the First Americans  
2016 – *Associated Faculty*, Stable Isotope Geosciences Facility, College of Geosciences  
2016 – 2018 *Instructional Assistant Professor*, Department of Anthropology

Temple University

2014 – 2016 *Director*, Anthropology Laboratory and Museum, Department of Anthropology  
2014 – 2016 *Assistant Professor of Instruction*, Department of Anthropology  
2014 – 2016 *NAGPRA Coordinator*, Department of Anthropology

University of California, Santa Barbara

2010 – 2014 *Summer Teaching Associate* (Instructor of Record) Department of Anthropology  
2013 – 2014 *GIS Analyst*, Central Coast Information Center, State Office of Historic Preservation  
2010 – 2013 *Assistant Curator*, Repository for Archaeological Collections, Department of Anthropology  
2006 – 2014 *Teaching Assistant*, 18 academic quarters, Department of Anthropology  
2007 – 2008 *GIS Analyst*, Central Coast Information Center, State Office of Historic Preservation

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**Competitive Grants (Research, Facilities, and Instruction)** Principal Investigator or Co-Principal Investigator

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\*excludes all travel awards and non-competitive grants

- 2021 Summer Research Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University (\$2000)  
2021 Summer Technical Assistance Grant, Center of Digital Humanities Research (CoDHR), Texas A&M University.  
2020 National Science Foundation Senior Research Archaeology Program Collaborative Grant (\$272,685 [TAMU \$110,765]) BCS-2023089.  
2019 National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduate Grant Supplement (\$6000) BCS-1757374.  
2018 National Park Service Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Program (\$88,993) FAIN #P18AP00350.  
2018 National Science Foundation Senior Research Archaeology Program Collaborative Grant (\$136,636 [TAMU \$42,960]) BCS-1757374.  
2017 Transformational Learning Grant (\$10,000) Center for Teaching Excellence, Texas A&M University.  
2016 Enhancing Cultural Heritage Preservation, Research, and Education through Strategic Investment in the Anthropology Laboratory (\$105,000) PI with Paul Farnsworth, College of Liberal Arts, Temple University.  
2015 Instructional Improvement Grant (\$3000) Teaching and Learning Center, Temple University.  
2015 Anthropology Laboratory NAGPRA Compliance Curation Support (\$82,137) Office of Research, Temple University.  
2012 Instructional Improvement Grant for Enhancing ANTH 3: Introduction to Archaeology (\$18,325) University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2012 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Research Grant (\$2500) University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2012 Summer Research Award (\$500) Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2012 Doctoral Student Research Travel Grant (\$685 travel funds) Academic Senate, University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2011 National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$19,900) Archaeology Program Grant BCS-1113057.  
2011 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Research Grant (\$2500) University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2011 Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant (\$2000) Graduate Division, University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2011 Summer Research Award (\$1500) University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2010 Luce Environmental Science Research Grant (\$5000) Marine Science Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2009 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Research Grant (\$2500) University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2008 Mildred E. Mathias Graduate Student Research Grant (\$2000) University of California Natural Reserve System.  
2008 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Research Grant (\$500) Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara.  
2008 Student Research Grant (\$500) National Shellfisheries Association.  
2007 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Grant (\$2000) University of California, Santa Barbara.

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**Other Funded Research Activities**

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*Research Collaborator* (2020-2023) "The Gulf Coast Heritage Preparedness Initiative" with Andrea Roberts and Sarah Potvin, Funding Texas A&M University X-grant.

*Principal Investigator* (2020 – 2021) "Understanding the Role of Indigenous Lands and Peoples for Texas A&M University" with Sarah Potvin and Dawn Jourdan, Funding: T3 Texas A&M Triads for Transformation,

*Participant* (2020 – 2021) "The Social Lives of Archaeological Repositories" with Terry Childes and Danielle Benden, Funding: Wenner-Gren Workshop Grant.

*Contributor* (2019 – 2020) Computed Tomography (CT) Technology Driving Innovative and Creative Uses of Natural History Collections Across Disciplines, Funding: School of Innovation 2019 Innovation [X] Grant

*Research Collaborator* (2017 – present) "Early Holocene Human Ecology and Culture in the Southern Lowlands of Belize" with Keith Prufer and Yemane Asmerom, Funding: NSF Award Number 1632061

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**Competitive Travel Awards**

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\*excludes departmental/college travel awards

- 2020 Southeastern Conference (\$1700) Visiting Faculty Travel Grant Program  
2007 Student Assistantship (\$500) ESRI International User Conference.

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**Books**

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In Press **Thakar, Heather B.** and Carola Flores Fernandez (eds.) *Human Behavior at the Coastal Margins: Theoretical Approaches to Past Coastal Adaptations*. University Press of Florida: Society and Ecology in Island and Coastal Archaeology Series.

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**Peer Reviewed Publications**

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- 2020 Kistler, Logan, **Heather B. Thakar**, Amber M. VanDerwarker, Alejandra Domic, Anders Bergstrom, Richard J. George, Thomas K. Harper, Robin G. Allaby, Kenneth Hirth, and Douglas J. Kennett "Archaeological Central American Maize Genomes Suggest Ancient Gene Flow from South America." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2015560117>  
2019 Stephens, Lucas, Dorian Fuller, Nicole Boivin, Torben Rick, Nicolas Gauthier, Andrea Kay, Ben Marwick, Chelsey Geralda Armstrong, C. Michael Barton, Tim Denham, Kristina Douglass, Jonathan Driver, Lisa Janz, Patrick Roberts, J.

- Daniel Rogers, **Heather B. Thakar**, Mark Altaweel, Amber L. Johnson, Maria Marta Sampietro Vattuone, Mark Aldenderfer, Sonia Archila, Gilberto Artioli, Martin T. Bale, Timothy Beach, Ferran Borrell, Todd Braje, Philip I. Buckland, Nayeli Guadalupe Jiménez Cano, José M. Capriles, Agustín Diez Castillo, Çiler Çilingiroğlu, Michelle Negus Cleary, James Conolly, Peter R. Coutros, R. Alan Covey, Mauro Cremaschi, Alison Crowther, Lindsay Der, Savino di Lernia, John F. Doershuk, William E. Doolittle, Kevin J. Edwards, Jon M. Erlandson, Damian Evans, Andrew Fairbairn, Patrick Faulkner, Gary Feinman, Ricardo Fernandes, Scott M. Fitzpatrick, Ralph Fyfe, Elena Garcea, Steve Goldstein, Reed Charles Goodman, Jade Dalpoim Guedes, Jason Herrmann, Peter Hiscock, Peter Hommel, K. Ann Horsburgh, Carrie Hritz, John W. Ives, Aripekka Junno, Jennifer G. Kahn, Brett Kaufman, Catherine Kearns, Tristram R. Kidder, François Lanoë, Dan Lawrence, Gyoung-Ah Lee, Maureece J. Levin, Henrik B. Lindsoug, José Antonio López-Sáez, Scott Macrae, Rob Marchant, John M. Marston, Sarah McClure, Mark D. McCoy, Alicia Ventresca Miller, Michael Morrison, Giedre Motuzaitė Matuzevičiute, Johannes Müller, Ayushi Nayak, Sofwan Noerwidi, Tanya M. Peres, Christian E. Peterson, Lucas Proctor, Asa R. Randall, Steve Renette, Gwen Robbins Schug, Krysta Ryzewski, Rakesh Saini, Vivian Scheinsohn, Peter Schmidt, Pauline Sebillaud, Oula Seitsonen, Ian A. Simpson, Arkadiusz Sołtysiak, Robert J. Speakman, Robert N. Spengler, Martina L. Steffen, Michael J. Storzum, Keir M. Strickland, Jessica Thompson, T. L. Thurston, Sean Ulm, M. Cemre Ustunkaya, Martin H. Welker, Catherine West, Patrick Ryan Williams, David K. Wright, Nathan Wright, Muhammad Zahir, Andrea Zerboni, Ella Beaudoin, Santiago Munevar Garcia, Jeremy Powell, Alexia Thornton, Jed O. Kaplan, Marie-José Gaillard, Kees Klein Goldewijk, Erle Ellis "Archaeological assessment reveals Earth's early transformation through land use." *Science* 365(6456):897-902. DOI: 10.1126/science.aax1192.
- 2017 Kennett, D.J., **H.B. Thakar**, A.M. VanDerwarker, D.L. Webster, B.J., Culleton, T.K. Harper, L. Kistler, T.E. Scheffler, Hirth, K. "High-precision chronology for Central American maize diversification from El Gigante rockshelter, Honduras." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*. [www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1705052114](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1705052114)
- 2017 **Thakar, Heather B.**, Michael A. Glassow, and Carol A. Blanchette, "The Forest and the Trees: Small-Scale Ecological Variability and Archaeological Interpretations of Temporal Changes in California Mussel Shell Size." *Quaternary International*, 427 (A):246-249. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2016.08.031>
- 2017 **Thakar, Heather B.**, Michael A. Glassow, and Carol A. Blanchette, "Reconsidering Evidence of Human Impacts: Implications of Within-Site Variation of Growth Rates in *Mytilus californianus* along Tidal Gradients." *Quaternary International*, 427 (A):151-159. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2015.10.018>
- 2016 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Foraging Ancient Landscapes: Seasonal and Spatial Variation in Prehistoric Exploitation of Plant and Animal Food Resources on Santa Cruz Island, California." *Journal of California and Great Basin Archaeology*, 36(1):27-50. Special issue on California Paleoethnobotany edited by Seetha Reddy and Eric Wohlegemuth.
- 2016 VanDerwarker, Amber M., Dana N. Bardolph, Kristen M. Hoppa, **Heather B. Thakar**, Lana S. Martin, Allison Jaqua, Matthew E. Biwer, and Kristina M. Gill "New World Paleoethnobotany in the New Millennium (2000-2013)." *Journal of Archaeological Research*, 24(2):125-177. DOI 10.1007/s10814-015-9089-9
- 2016 Glassow, Michael A., Carola Flores Fernandez, and Elizabeth Sutton, **Heather B. Thakar** "Proxy Measurements of California Mussel Valve Length." *Advances in Archaeological Practice*, 4(1):31-40. DOI: 10.7183/2326-3768.4.1.31
- 2016 **Thakar, Heather B.** and Lynn H. Gamble "Religions and Rituals of Native Coastal California." In *Coastal California: A Land of Diversity*, edited by Lynn H. Gamble. School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico, pg. 75-82.
- 2015a **Thakar, Heather B.** "Dating the Tlacuachero Post-Archaic Deposits." In *An Archaic Mexican Shellmound and its Entombed Floors*, edited by Barbara Voorhies. Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of California, Los Angeles, pg. 29-47.
- 2015b **Thakar, Heather B.** "The Tlacuachero Floors: Description and Sampling Methods." In *An Archaic Mexican Shellmound and its Entombed Floors*, edited by Barbara Voorhies. Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of California, Los Angeles, pg. 47-71.
- 2015c **Thakar, Heather B.** "The Tlacuachero Floors: Spatial Analysis of Surface Color and Embedded Microrefuse." In *An Archaic Mexican Shellmound and its Entombed Floors*, edited by Barbara Voorhies. Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of California, Los Angeles, pg. 95-107.
- 2014 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Sites Forlorn: Dating Intervals of Abandonment at Three Shell Middens on Santa Cruz Island, California using Bayesian Chronological Models." *Journal of Archaeological Science* 52:633-634. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2014.03.029>
- 2012 Glassow, Michael A., **Heather B. Thakar**, and Douglas J. Kennett "Red Abalone Collecting and Marine Water Temperature during the Middle Holocene Occupation of Santa Cruz Island, California." *Journal of Archaeological Science* 39(10):2574-2582. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2012.03.017>
- 2012 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Ancient Actions Predict Modern Consequences: Lessons from Prehistoric Shellfish Intensification." In *Time, Space, and Form in Biological Conservation*, edited by Lee Lyman and Steve Wolverton, University of Arizona Press, Tuscon, pg. 92-109.
- 2011 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Intensification of Shellfish Exploitation: Evidence of Species-Specific Deviation from Traditional Expectations." *Journal of Archaeological Science* 38(10): 2596- 2605. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2011.05.008>

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#### Other Professional Publications

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- 2019 The Collective Change (**Heather Thakar**, Jason De Leon, Chelsea Fischer, Pamela Gellar). "#MeToo In Archaeology"

*The SAA Archaeological Record* 19(4):12-15.

- 2019 Kelley Hays-Gilpin, Meagan Thies-Sauder, Catherine Jalbert, Laura Heath-Stout, **Heather Thakar**, with contributions by Kenneth Aitchison (Landward Research Ltd.), Jon Driver (Simon Fraser University), Kisha Supernant (University of Alberta), and Amber VanDerwarker (University of California, Santa Barbara) "Changing Our Professional Culture of Apathy and Creating Safety in Archaeology: Progress Report from the SAA Task Force on Sexual and Anti-Harassment Policies and Procedures" *The SAA Archaeological Record* 19(4):8-11.
- 2018 Katherine Chiou, Margaret Conkey, Morag Kersel, Kenneth Aitchison, Daniel Perez, **Heather Thakar**, Dru McGill, and Anonymous authors. Case Studies in Archaeological Ethics for the Fourteenth Annual Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Competition. [https://documents.saa.org/container/docs/default-source/doc-annualmeeting/2019-ethics-bowl-cases.pdf?sfvrsn=e60f3525\\_0](https://documents.saa.org/container/docs/default-source/doc-annualmeeting/2019-ethics-bowl-cases.pdf?sfvrsn=e60f3525_0)
- 2016 Knoll, Michelle, Jenna Domeischel, **Heather Thakar**, Janaki Krishna, and Bruce Huckell. "Archaeologists Anonymous the Twelve-Step Program to Getting Those Old Collections Curated." *The SAA Archaeological Record* 16(3):25-32.

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### Professional Reports

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- 2015 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Analysis of Archaeobotanical Remains from Yokohl Ranch." Final Report Submitted to Dudek, San Diego, CA.
- 2011 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Paleoethnobotanical Analysis of Column Sample from KM-2011-LOPEZ-1, Santa Rosa Island, California." Final Report Submitted to Channel Islands National Park Service, Ventura, CA.
- 2010 Voorhies, Barbara, **Heather B. Thakar**, and Fernando Girón Campero "Informe de Proyecto Los Origenes de Arquitectura Publica en la Costa Sur de México". Final Report Submitted to the Consejo de Arqueología, Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, México.
- 2010 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Spatial Distribution of Archaeological Sites on the Northern Coast of Santa Cruz Island." Report Submitted to the Mildred E. Mathias Foundation.
- 2009 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Christy Watershed Intensive Pedestrian Survey on Santa Cruz Island." Report Submitted to the Central Coast Information Center, Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2009 **Thakar, Heather B.** "Prisoners to Pelican: Intensive Pedestrian Survey on the North Coast of Santa Cruz Island." Submitted to the Central Coast Information Center, Santa Barbara, CA.

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### Conferences and Symposia Organized

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- 2019 Human Behavioral at the Coastal Margins: Global Perspectives on Coastal & Maritime Adaptations. Society for American Archaeology, 84th Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico. (with discussants Daniel Sandweiss and Douglas Kennett)
- 2019 #MeToo in Archaeology. Forum sponsored by SAA Committee on Ethics. Society for American Archaeology, 84th Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico. (with co-moderators Jason DeLeon and Pamela Gellars)
- 2017 When Disaster Strikes: Environmental Impacts on Collections Preservation. Session co-sponsored by SAA Climate Change Strategies and Archaeological Resources Committee and Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology, 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference, Vancouver, B.C. (with discussants Thomas McGovern and Danielle Benden)
- 2015 21st Century Challenges Demand 21st Century Liberal Arts. Conference sponsored by Temple University, College of Liberal Arts. October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Conference Organizer and Panel Moderator.
- 2014 Stewardship, Public Education, and Preservation: How Archaeologists Demonstrate the Value of Archaeological Collections. Session sponsored by SAA Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology, 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Austin, TX. (with discussants Kevin Smith and David Hurst Thomas)
- 2014 Beyond Foraging: Evolutionary Approaches to Understanding the Development of Social Complexity Society for California Archaeology 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Visalia, CA. (with co-chair Bruce Winterhalder and discussant Robert Bettinger)
- 2013 Lessons Learned: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symposium of the SAA's Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI. (with discussant Julie Stein)
- 2012 New Methods, New Questions, and New Data from Old Collections. Session sponsored by SAA Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Memphis, TN. (with discussants Terry Childs and Lynne Sullivan)
- 2012 Whither the Twain Shall Meet: Paleoethnobotany and California Archaeology. Society for California Archaeology 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA. (with discussants Bill Hildebrandt and Amber VanDerwarker)
- 2011 New Perspectives on the Archaic Period of Coastal Chiapas, Mexico. Society for American Archaeology, 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Sacramento, CA. (with discussants Barbara Voorhies and John Clarke)

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## Conference Papers & Presentations

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- 2021 "Paisajes Antropogénicos del Pacífico de Nicaragua a través del Tiempo: Evidencia Sedimentaria del Estero Real y la Orilla del Lago de Managua", Hector Neff and Heather Thakar. Paper presented at the Tercer Coloquio de Arqueología de Nicaragua. Managua, Nicaragua. July 14-16, 2021. *Prohibited from attendance due to University COVID-19 travel restrictions.*
- 2020 "The Foraging to Farmer Transition: Generating Novel Testable Hypotheses" Paper at Society for American Archaeology, 85th Annual Conference, Austin, TX. *Cancelled due to COVID-19.*
- 2020 "Reaping the Rewards of Incipient Agriculture from the Land to the Sea and the Mangroves In Between" with James Daniels. Paper at Society for American Archaeology, 85th Annual Conference, Austin, TX. *Cancelled due to COVID-19.*
- 2018 "The Esperanza to Middle Marcala Phase Subsistence Practices at El Gigante Rockshelter 11,000–7400 cal BP" with Kenneth Hirth, Alejandro Figueroa, Alejandra Domic, and Harry Iceland. Paper at Society for American Archaeology, 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. In Electronic Forum: Recent Developments in Mexican and Central American Preceramic Research.
- 2018 "Enhancing Transformational Learning through Reflexive Museum Practice." Poster presented at Transformational Teaching & Learning Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. (4/18/2018)
- 2017 "Finding our way Forward: Opportunities for Enhancing Cultural Heritage Preservation." Paper presented at Society for American Archaeology, 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference, Vancouver, B.C. In When Disaster Strikes: Environmental Impacts on Collections Preservation. Session co-sponsored by SAA Climate Change Strategies and Archaeological Resources Committee and Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation.
- 2017 "Climate Change & Resilience: Archaeology and Contemporary Problems." Lightning Round Paper presented at Society for American Archaeology, 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference, Vancouver, B.C. In "Effective Communication about Archaeology in Three Minutes or Less". Session co-sponsored by SAA Public Education Committee and Public Archaeology Interest Group.
- 2016 "Nearshore Paleo-Sea Surface Temperature and Human Intertidal Gathering during the Holocene around Santa Cruz Island: Integrating Oxygen Isotope ( $\delta O^{18}$ ) and Archaeomalacological Data from Shell Midden Sites" with Carola Flores and Amy Gusick. Paper presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> California Islands Symposium, Ventura, CA.
- 2016 "Foraging Ancient Landscapes: Seasonal and Spatial Variation in Prehistoric Exploitation of Plant and Animal Food Resources on Santa Cruz Island, California." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
- 2016 Forum Discussant in "For the Record: Archaeological Archives in the 21st Century" at the Society for American Archaeology 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
- 2015 "Development and Intensification of Small-seed Plant Food Economies and Implications for Women's Workload." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA. In California Paleoethnobotany Session, organized by Seetha Reddy and Eric Wohlegemuth.
- 2015 "Risk-Reducing Foraging Behavior and Population Growth from Santa Cruz Island, California." Paper presented as Poster at Society of Ethnobiology 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2014 "An Evolutionary Context for Understanding Hunter-Gatherer Demographic Shifts." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Austin, TX. In Humans on the Landscape: Papers in Honor of Michael Jochim Session, organized by Douglas Bamforth.
- 2014 "Panarchy on the Northern Channel Islands: Understanding the Development of Complexity as a Series of Nested Adaptive Responses." Paper presented at the Society for California Archaeology 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Visalia, CA. In Beyond Foraging: Evolutionary Approaches to Understanding the Development of Social Complexity, organized by Bruce Winterhalder and H.B. Thakar.
- 2013 "Dates, Diet, and Demography: A Detailed Chronological Framework for Evaluating Diachronic Subsistence Variation and Population Growth." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI. In The Frison Institute Symposium: Dates as Data: New Applications of Radiocarbon Dating to Archaeological Problems, organized by Robert Kelly and Nicholas Naudinot.
- 2012 "Food and Fertility in Prehistoric California." Paper presented at the California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Sciences Annual Meeting, San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 2012 "Before CA-SCRI-236 was Ch'olosush: 3000 Years of Occupation, Subsistence and Mobility." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Memphis, TN.
- 2012 "Tis' the Season: Behavioral Responses to Seasonal Food Risk." Paper Presented at the Society for California Archaeology 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- 2012 "Methods for Evaluating Seasonal Nutritional Sufficiency in Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherer Population." Paper presented at 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Symposium, Santa Barbara, CA.

- 2011 "If Floors Could Talk: Investigation of Clay Floors at the Tlacuachero Shell Mound." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Sacramento, CA.
- 2010 "Ancient Actions Predict Modern Consequences: Lessons from Prehistoric Shellfish Intensification." Paper presented at Society of Ethnobiology 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Victoria, B.C.
- 2010 "Reconsideration of Traditional Archaeological Conceptions of Shellfish Intensification." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, St. Louis, MI.
- 2010 "Spatial Variation in Prehistoric Settlement Strategies on Santa Cruz Island, CA." Paper presented at Mildred E. Matthias Symposium, Symposium, Matagorda Bay, CA.
- 2008 "Coastal Geomorphology and Climatic Variation on Santa Cruz Island." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Vancouver, B.C.
- 2008 "Spatial Analysis of Shellfish Diversity and Abundance in Archaeological & Ecological Contexts." with co-author Carola Flores Fernandez. Paper presented at 7<sup>th</sup> Channel Island Symposium, Ventura, CA.

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### Invited Seminars and Lectures

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- 2018 "The Fundamentals of Paleoethnobotany." Invited Online Seminar (10/30/2018) Society for American Archaeology Seminar Series.
- 2018 "Oxygen Isotope Analysis of Archaeological Mollusk Shells: Paleo-Sea Surface Temperatures & Human Foraging Behavior." Invited Presentation (11/28/18) GeoBio Mass Spectrometry Seminar Series, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2017 "Archaeological Perspectives on Mesoamerican Maize Domestication & Diversification." Invited Lecture (10/2/2017) Food and Culture Seminar Series, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2017 "Archaeology in a Museum of Ideas: Integrating Collaborative Research & Creative Communication." Invited Lecture (4/10/2017) Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2017 "Evolutionary Contexts for Demographic Shifts in Prehistoric Foraging Societies." Invited Lecture (2/22/2017) Evolutionary Ecology Seminar Series. University of California Davis, Department of Anthropology, Davis, CA.
- 2015 "Integrating Research, Education, and Collections Care." Invited Lecture (12/14/2015) Texas A&M University, Department of Anthropology, College Station, TX.
- 2014 "A Reproductive Ecological Perspective on Demographic Shifts in Foraging Populations." Invited Lecture (12/12/2014) Ecology Seminar Series. Pennsylvania State University, Department of Anthropology, State College, PA.
- 2013 "Food and Fertility in Prehistoric California: A Fresh Perspective from Reproductive Ecology." Invited Lecture (2/11/2013) Evolutionary Anthropology and Archaeology Speaker Series. California State University at Fullerton, Fullerton, CA.
- 2012 "A Case Study of Risk- Reducing Subsistence Strategies and Prehistoric Population Growth from Santa Cruz Island, California." Invited Lecture (3/5/2012) Santa Barbara County Archaeological Society, Santa Barbara, CA.

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### Selected Archaeological Projects & Field Experience

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*Principal Investigator* (2019 – present) Holocene Landscape Transformations and the Evolution of Coastal Settlements in Central America, Funding: NSF Archaeology Program Collaborative Research Grant BCS-2023089.

Landscape and Foodways Reconstruction through Palynological, Isotopic, Macrobotanical, and Faunal Analysis  
Additional Principal Investigators: Hector Neff (CSULB)

*Principal Investigator* (Winter Break 2019) Pilot Project: Natural Hazards, Risk, and the Transition to Agriculture along the Soconusco Coast of Chiapas

Field Reconnaissance and Initial Planning Project

*Principal Investigator* (2014 – present) Domestication, Food Production & Wild Plant Use during the Holocene 11,000 -2,500 cal BP, Funding: NSF Archaeology Program Collaborative Research Grant BCS-1757374.

Paleoethnobotanical and Isotopic Analysis of the El Gigante Rockshelter Collection from Honduras

Additional Principal Investigators: Amber VanDerwarker (UCSB), Douglas Kennett (PSU)  
Collaborator: Kenneth Hirth (PSU)

*Research Collaborator* (2017 – present) Long-Term Human-Environmental Interaction in a Lowland Tropic Setting

Paleoethnobotanical Analysis of Early Holocene Human Ecology and Culture in the Southern Lowlands of Belize  
Principal Investigators: Keith Prufer and Yemane Asmerom, Funding: NSF Award Number 1632061

*Research Collaborator* (2016 – present) High-Precision Radiocarbon Dating & Chronological Assessment of Arlington Springs Man.

Bayesian Analysis and Integration of Chronological and Stratigraphic Data for Arlington Springs Man 13,500 cal BP  
Principal Investigator: John Johnson (Santa Barbara Natural History Museum), Funding: Private Donor

*Co-Principal Investigator* (2014) Pilot Project: Transition to Agriculture along the Soconusco Coast of Chiapas

Field Reconnaissance and Initial Planning Project  
Principal Investigator: Barbara Voorhies (UCSB), Funding: UC Mexus

*Principal Investigator* (2007-2014) Food & Fertility in Prehistoric California: Risk-Reducing Behavior and Prehistoric Population Growth from Santa Cruz Island, California, Funding: NSF Archaeology Program Dissertation Improvement Grant BCS-1113057.

Intensive Pedestrian Survey of East Pelican Bay and Canada Christy Watershed  
Site Testing and Excavation throughout the Canada Christy Watershed  
Paleoethnobotanical, Zooarchaeological, and Isotopic Laboratory Analysis to Reconstruct Foraging Behavior

*Field Archaeologist* (2006-2014) Northern Channel Islands Survey and Field Research

Regular participation in survey and excavation crews run by researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara and by the National Park Service on the Northern Channel Islands, California

*Field Archaeologist* (2009) Tlacuachero Shellmound Research Project

Archaic Shellmound Excavation Project in Chiapas, Mexico  
Principal Investigator: Barbara Voorhies (UCSB), Funding: National Geographic Society

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## **Pedagogical, Diversity & Inclusion Training**

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2021 Society for American Archaeology Online Seminar Series  
Exploring Power Dynamics, Responsibility, and Accountability in Archaeological Practice: Part II (October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021)  
Exploring Power Dynamics, Responsibility, and Accountability in Archaeological Practice: Part I (October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

2020 – 2021 **Faculty Mentoring Academy**, Texas A&M University  
Assessing Understanding in Mentoring (7/9/2020)  
Addressing Equity and Inclusion in Mentoring (7/15/2020)  
Fostering Independence in Mentoring (7/21/2020)  
Promoting Professional Development in Mentoring (7/29/2020)  
Maintaining Effective Communication in Mentoring (10/6/21)  
Aligning Expectations in Mentoring (10/13/21)

2020 Green Dot Bystander Intervention Training Program, Texas A&M University  
2018 Humanizing Education, Learning, and Leadership On/Offline (HELLO<sup>2</sup>) Teaching Certificate, Texas A&M University  
2018 Aggie Ally Workshop, Offices of Dean of Student Life, Texas A&M University  
2017 – 2018 Student Success Faculty Fellows Program, Texas A&M University  
2015 – 2016 Integrative Learning Teaching Circle Fellowship, Temple University  
2013 INT 223A Education Hypermedia, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2012 EMB 292 Science Communication and Teaching, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2010 Summer Teaching Institute for Associates, University of California, Santa Barbara  
2010 Lead Teaching Assistant Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara

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## **Teaching Experience**

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Texas A&M University

ANTH 637 (Graduate) Archaeobotany	ANTH 412 Archaeological Theory Capstone
ANTH 640 (Graduate) Ethics and Professionalism	ANTH 484 Internships in Anthropology
ANTH 680 (Graduate) Radiocarbon Dating in Archaeology	ANTH 370 Cultural Diversity & Ethics
ANTH 448 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology	ANTH 205 Peoples and Cultures of the World
ANTH 421 Advanced Museum Studies	

Temple University

ANTH 8006 (Graduate) Archaeology Core Course	ANTH 2050 Curation & Collections Management
ANTH 3180 Museum Exhibit Design	ANTH 0867 World Regions and Cultures
ANTH 3170 Curation & Collections Management	ANTH 0825 Quantitative Methods
ANTH 3170 Paleoethnobotany	ANTH 0814 Human Ecology
ANTH 2172 Archaeology of North America	

University of California, Santa Barbara

ANTH 188 The Seacoast in Prehistory	ANTH 131 North American Indians (TA)
ANTH 131 North American Indians	ANTH 130A Coupled Human & Natural Systems (TA)
ANTH 3 Introduction to Archaeology	ANTH 5 Physical Anthropology (TA)
ANTH 194P Archaeology Laboratory Practicum (TA)	ANTH 3 Introduction to Archaeology (TA)
ANTH 178 Internship in Archaeological Curation (TA)	ANTH 2 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (TA)
ANTH 181 Field Methods in Archaeology (TA)	

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## Graduate Students Supervised

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### Dissertation Committee Chair

2021 – present	Taryn Johnson, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2021 – present	Bradie Dean, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2020 – present	Kevin Wann, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2020 – present	Chloe Fackler, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University

### Dissertation Committee Member

2021 – present	Collin Rohrbaugh, Department of History, Texas A&M University
2021 – present	Asia Alsgaard, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
2021 – present	Kevin Johnson, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2021 – present	Aigul Seralinova, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2021 – present	Olivia Thomas, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2020 – present	Victoria Izzo, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2018 – present	John White, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2021 – 2021	Pierre Lau, Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University
2017 – 2021	Katelyn McDonough, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
2017 – 2021	Taryn Johnson, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University

### Masters Committee Member

2021 – present	Emma McLauchlan, Department of Visualization, Texas A&M University
2021 – present	Veronica Rios, Recreation, Parks, and Tourism, Texas A&M University

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## Undergraduate Students Supervised

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2021 Spring – 2021 Fall	Andrea DeLeon (California Shell Midden Analysis)
2020 Fall – 2021 Summer	Mark Chavez, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Texas A&M University
2020 Fall – 2021 Spring	Olivia O'Rourke and McKenna Voll (Chiapas Faunal Analysis)
2019 Fall	Gage Thomsen, Lexi Alexander, Olivia O'Rourke, and McKenna Voll (Chiapas Faunal Analysis)
2019 Fall	Adeline Lutz, Leslie Mora, and Andrea DeLeon (Comparative Collections Catalogue)
2019 Fall	Andrew Lambert and Mark Chavez (El Gigante Maize Analysis Project)
2019 Fall	Ryan Petre, ANTH 291 Research Experience (Halls Cave Sediment Flotation)
2019 Fall	Casey Dickens, ANTH 491 Research Experience (Halls Cave Sediment Flotation)
2019 Fall	Katherine Peters, ANTH 491 Research Experience (Halls Cave Sediment Flotation)
2019 Spring	Osbaldo Alvarez (Halls Cave Sediment Flotation)
2019 Spring – 2020 Summer	Amelia Hammond (Conservation of Hide Bag from El Gigante)
2018 Spring – 2019 Spring	Roxanne Scruggs, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Texas A&M University
2018 Spring – 2019 Fall	Mary Katherine Bryant, NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates, Texas A&M University
2018 Spring	Lindi, Lawson, Directed Studies in Zooarchaeology, Texas A&M University
2017 Spring – 2020 Summer	Shelby Turner, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Texas A&M University
2016 Spring	Haley Ragsdale, Directed Studies in Zooarchaeology, Temple University

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## Elected and Appointed Posts

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<i>Member</i> (2020 – present)	Undergraduate Committee, Anthropology, Texas A&M University
<i>Member</i> (2016 – present)	Museum Studies Advisory Board, Texas A&M University
<i>Chair</i> (2019 – 2020)	Climate and Inclusion Committee, Anthropology, Texas A&M University
<i>Member</i> (2019 – 2020)	Meeting Safety Committee, Society for American Archaeology
<i>Member</i> (2019 – 2021)	Standards and Ethics Advisory Committee, Society for California Archaeology
<i>Member</i> (2019 – 2020)	Task Force on Sexual and Anti-Harassment Policies and Procedures, SAA
<i>Member</i> (2017 – 2020)	Climate and Inclusion Committee, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University
<i>Member</i> (2016 – 2020)	Climate and Inclusion Committee, Anthropology, Texas A&M University
<i>Member</i> (2017 – 2018)	Faculty Senate, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University
<i>Member</i> (2017 – 2018)	University Core Curriculum Council, Texas A&M University
<i>Member</i> (2016 – 2018)	Advisory Committee on Climate Change Strategies and the Archaeological Record, SAA
<i>Member</i> (2014 – 2018)	Advisory Committee for Museums, Collections, and Curation, SAA
<i>Member</i> (2014 – 2015)	Laboratory and Technology Committee, Temple University Anthropology
<i>Member</i> (2011 – 2014)	Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Academic Outreach, UCSB
<i>Member</i> (2011 – 2013)	Advisory Committee for Museums, Collections, and Curation, SAA
<i>LEAD Teaching Assistant</i> (2008 – 2010)	Department of Anthropology, UCSB
<i>Outreach Coordinator</i> (2009 – 2012)	Anthropology Graduate Student Association, UCSB
<i>Chair</i> (2007 – 2009)	Anthropology Graduate Student Association, UCSB

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## Other Professional Service

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2021 *Presenter*. Field Code of Conduct Seminar. Department of Anthropology. Texas A&M University, College Station, TX



- 2021 *Presenter*. Zoominar for Anthropology Graduate Students: Job Search Part 2 Academic Job Interview. Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
- 2021 *Workgroup Member*. Champion Research Impact, Strategic Planning Steering Committee, The College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University.
- 2021 *Task Force Member*. Faculty Engagement & Evaluation, The College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University.
- 2020 – 2021 *Task Force Member*. The Gardens on West Campus Expansion and Museum Development, The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Texas A&M University.
- 2020 *Task Force Member*. Developing a Department Code of Conduct for Field Research, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2019-2020 *Ethics Bowl Faculty Coach*. Texas A&M University Anthropology Department Team, 85th Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, TX, Sixteenth Annual Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Competition. Cancelled due to COVID-19
- 2019-2020 *Search Committee Member*. Biological Anthropology Tenure Track Faculty Member Position, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2019 *Search Committee Member*. Biological Anthropology Temporary Lecturer Position, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2019 *Panelist*. Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, and the 2019 SAA Meetings: A Panel Discussion for Faculty and Graduate Students (4/22/2019), Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2018 *Ethics Bowl Judge*. 83rd Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C. Fourteenth Annual Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Competition.
- 2018 *Student Paper Judge*. Ecological Integration Symposium, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2018 *Student Poster Judge*. Anthropology Symposium, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.
- 2016 – 2018 Anthropological Research Collections Academic & Community Outreach Program, Texas A&M University.
- STEM 4 Innovation Experiential Learning for Teachers (1/26/2018)
  - Clear Creek Intermediate School "Campus Archaeology" Simulation Preparation for 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Spring 2017)
  - Oakwood Intermediate School Kids Klub (10/3/16)
  - The Academy at World Champions Centre (9/1/16)
- 2010 – 2013 *Primary Coordinator and Program Leader*, Interactive Introduction to Archaeology Program Repository for Archaeological and Ethnographic Collections, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Marymount Middle School, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies (10/14/2012 & 10/15/2012)
  - Office of Academic Preparation Early Academic Outreach Program at Harding Elementary (1/27/2012)
  - Native American Indian Scholars Program A.N.C.H.O.R. Event (10/22/2011)
  - Marymount Middle School, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies (10/26/2011 & 10/27/2011)
  - Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation Educational Program Chumash Youth Summer Camp (7/12/2011)
  - Office of Academic Preparation Jumpstart to Pathways Program at Dos Pueblos High school (5/27/2011)
  - Office of Academic Preparation Jumpstart to Pathways Program at Isla Vista Elementary (3/3/2011)
  - Office of Academic Preparation Early Academic Outreach Program at Harding Elementary (10/15/2010)
  - Marymount Middle School, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies (10/21/2010 & 10/23/2010)
  - Girvetz Graduate School of Education South Coast Writing Project for R. J. Frank Middle School (9/17/2010)
- 2010 *Research Mentor* (6/2011 – 8/2011) Summer Sessions Mentorship Program, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2009 *Program Assistant* (9/22/2009 & 9/23/2009) Ancient Exploitation of the Arroyo Burro Watershed. Santa Barbara Coastal Long Term Ecological Research Schoolyard Ecological Tour and Lecture for La Cumbre Junior High
- 2009 *Program Assistant* (10/2009) UCSB-Harding Elementary Early Academic Outreach Event
- 2008 *Program Assistant* (10/2008) UCSB-Harding Elementary Early Academic Outreach Event

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## Recent Peer-Review

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**Ad hoc Grant Reviewer**, National Science Foundation Archaeology Program

**Expert Reviewer**, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Climate Change and Land (SRCCL)

**Ad hoc Article Reviewer**, *American Antiquity*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, *Journal of Archaeological Science Reports*, *Quaternary International*, *Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology*, *Journal of Field Archaeology*, *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology*, *Journal Advances in Archaeological Practice*, *Tennessee Archaeology*, *Southern African Archaeological Bulletin*, *Hunter Gatherer Research*

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## Popular Press

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- 2020 [We've Been Transforming the Earth for at Least 10,000 Years](#). The Good Men Project.
- 2019 [Ancient civilizations were already messing up the planet](#). Science Daily.
- 2019 [La degradación ambiental se remonta a hace 10.000 años](#). National Geographic Espana.
- 2019 [Humans have been impacting Earth for thousands of years, study says](#). CNN.
- 2019 [Humans Began Mass Ecological Destruction 3,000 Years Ago](#). Ancient Origins.
- 2019 [We've Been Transforming the Earth for at least 10,000 years](#). Futurity.
- 2019 [Crowdsourcing 10,000 years of land use](#). PennToday.

- 2019 [Humans Dominated Earth Earlier than Previously Thought](#). The New York Times.  
2019 [When did humans start altering the Earth?](#) EarthSky.  
2019 [Study Shows How Humans Have Transformed Earth, And Still Do](#). Environmental News Network.  
2018 [Texas A&M receives grant to help repatriate Native American artifacts](#). The Eagle.  
2017 [Study dates corn as staple crop in Central America beginning 4,300 years ago](#). Smithsonian Insider.  
2017 [Maize from El Gigante Rock Shelter shows early transition to staple crop](#). AAAS EurekAlert!  
2015 [Deep History](#). The UCSB Current.

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### **Professional Affiliations**

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Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA)  
Society for American Archaeology (SAA)  
Society for California Archaeology (SCA)