

Sociology & Anthropology

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON
FALL 2021

A Message from our New Interim Department Chair Dr. Heather Jacobson

Returning to in-person campus life provides an opportunity to reflect upon this extraordinary time we have experienced (and continue to experience!). It has unquestionably been a difficult time, with many current and former members of our department community experiencing illness, loss, and social separation. The challenges of the last 18 months have been profound. In the midst of these challenging times, our department members have accomplished amazing things. Instructors successfully taught online and both instructors and students learned how to manage Teams meetings, virtual presentations, and Canvas discussion boards. Students progressed in their programs, final projects were completed, theses were written, and degrees were awarded. Faculty published books and journal articles, gave virtual talks, received promotion and tenure, won teaching and research awards and grants, and creatively adapted their research projects to pandemic restrictions. In the following pages, you will read about these various activities and important accomplishments of our department members. I am grateful for all the effort of our department faculty, staff, students, and alums as it creates the supportive and vibrant community of our department. Please reach out with news to share, follow us on our social media, and check out our beautiful new website! I hope this new academic year is gentle for us all, providing opportunities to reconnect and grow.



Warmly,

Heather Jacobson

Check out this QR code linking to our Instagram and Facebook pages:



HAVE A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE (shoutout to Drs. Cleghorn and BA Shelton!):

<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/sociology-anthropology>

Faculty Corner



Dr. Ashley Lemke Part of Underwater Research Team Finds 9,000-Year-Old Stone Artifacts

Dr. Ashley Lemke, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Texas Arlington, is an underwater archaeologist and is part of a research team studying 9,000-year-old stone tool artifacts discovered in Lake Huron that originated from an obsidian quarry more than 2,000 miles away in central Oregon. The obsidian flakes from the underwater archaeological site represent the oldest and farthest east confirmed specimens of western obsidian ever found in the continental United States. “The artifacts found below the Great Lakes come from a geological source in Oregon, 4,000 kilometers away making it one of the longest distances recorded for obsidian artifacts anywhere in the world.” Said Ashley Lemke. The find is part of a broader study to understand the social and economic organization of caribou hunters at the end of the last ice age. *MavWire*, Tuesday, June 15, 2021, Devynn Case. Lemke’s research is in anthropological theory, hunter-gathers and geophysical methods in the field of underwater archaeology. She examines the human past through artifacts, structures, and remains found beneath the water. She has studied ancient submerged settlements beneath the Great Lakes and has looked for evidence of prehistoric peoples in the Atlantic. Lemke is Chair of the International Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology (ACUA). The ACUA for more than 50 years has worked to educate scholars, governments, sport divers and the general public about underwater archaeology and the preservation of underwater resources. Lemke will serve as ACUA chair until 2023. <https://www.uta.edu/news/news-releases/2020/02/24/lemke-acua-leadership>. *MavWire*, Monday, Feb 24, 2020, *Anthropologist to Lead Underwater Archaeology Group*. In addition, Dr. Lemke was awarded the Outstanding Research or Creative Activity Award from the College of Liberal Arts, the UTA Student Organization Advisor of the Year, and the UTA President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.



Dr. Kelly Bergstrand Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure, Assumes Role of Sociology Director of Graduate Studies



Dr. Kelly Bergstrand was promoted to Associate Professor of Sociology with tenure this fall. Dr. Bergstrand specializes in social movements, environmental sociology, and social psychology. Last year she won the College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Teaching Award for Tenure Track faculty. Her current research projects include examining sources of community resilience after environmental disasters and investigating whether certain types of social movement issues are inherently more powerful in attracting resources and public support. She teaches courses in environmental sociology, research methods, and social statistics. Dr. Bergstrand has assumed the position of Sociology Director of Graduate Studies from Dr. Heather Jacobson, who is the new Department of Sociology and Anthropology Interim Chair.

Dr. Christian Zlolniski Promoted to Full Professor



Dr. Christian Zlolniski, director of UTA's Center for Mexican American Studies, was promoted to Professor of Anthropology this fall. Dr. Zlolniski is editor of the bilingual, international journal *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos*. The journal is a unique forum for research relating to a wide range of Mexican culture issues. Dr. Zlolniski received a UTA Research Enhancement Program Grant for 2020-21. He was also recently awarded a National Science Foundation Grant to study the labor and environmental implications of natural resources being marketed as sustainably sourced products.

Check out these Podcasts Featuring our Faculty!

Dr. David Ardití was on the Podcast Money 4 Nothing:

<https://money4nothing.podbean.com/e/getting-signed-and-the-ideology-of-record-contracts-featuring-david-arditi/>

Dr. Heather Jacobson was on the North Carolina National Public Radio show Embodied:

<https://www.wunc.org/show/embodied-radio-show/2021-07-09/embodied-surrogacy-pregnancy-families-surrogate>

Dr. Shelley Smith was on the Podcast Sausage for Science:

<https://www.humbio.org/sos-bonus-remembering-c-loring-brace-with-dr-shelley-smith/>



DR. DAN CAVANAGH NAMED INTERIM DEAN COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



Dr. Cavanagh is our new College of Liberal Arts Interim Dean, filling the position previously held by Dean Elisabeth Cawthon, who will continue at UTA as a faculty member. Dr. Cavanagh is a professor of music and is the former chair of the Department of Music. "Dan has been in the UTA college of Liberal Arts for 15 years. He advanced from assistant professor of music to professor and department chair before becoming COLA Dean. He is an accomplished composer and pianist winning a number of awards." *Office of the Provost, July 22, 2021 Pranesh Aswath, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs ad interim.*

Faculty Awards 2020-2021

***McNair Scholars Program Faculty Mentor 2020**

***UTA Faculty Development Leave 2020-21**

Dr. Shelley Smith, Professor of Anthropology

***Center For Research on Teaching & Learning Excellence—Faculty Mentor 2021**

Dr. Heather Jacobson, Professor of Sociology

***President's Award for Excellence in Teaching (Untenured) 2020**

***Student Organization Advisor of the Year**

***CoLA Outstanding Research or Creative Activity Award**

Dr. Ashley Lemke, Assistant Professor of Anthropology

***Professional Learning Community Faculty Fellow**

***Maverick Advantage Faculty Engagement—Faculty Fellow 2020-21**

***Fulbright Foundation Scholar**

Dr. Ritu Khanduri, Associate Professor of Anthropology

***CoLA Outstanding Teaching Award for Tenure-Track Faculty 2020**

Dr. Kelly Bergstrand, Associate Professor of Sociology

***CoLA Faculty Research Endowment 2021**

***CoLA Outstanding Research or Creative Activity Award 2021**

Dr. David Ardit, Associate Professor of Sociology

***UTA Research Enhancement Grant 2021**

Dr. Christian Zlolniski, Professor of Anthropology

***UTA Research Enhancement Grant 2021**

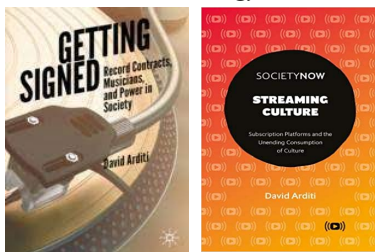
Dr. Luis Plascencia, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anthropology



Faculty Updates

Teach Inspire* Motivate**

David Ardit, Sociology



Over the past year, Dr. David Ardit has been traveling the world from the comfort of his own home giving book talks. Now he's ready to get out in the real world. In 2020-21, Dr. Ardit published two books and a second edition of his first book. The first, *Getting Signed: Record Contracts, Musicians, and Power in Society*, explores the way dreams to sign record contracts create exploitation. The second book, *Streaming Culture: Subscription Platforms and the Unending Consumption of Culture*,

takes a deep-dive on the interaction between cultural commodities, streaming technology, and our everyday lives.

Krystal Beamon, Sociology

Krystal Beamon received her Bachelors, Masters, and PhD from Oklahoma State University. She joined UTA in fall 2008 after a three year tenure-track position at The University of Oklahoma. She was awarded tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor in Sociology in 2015 from the University of Texas Arlington. Her primary areas of scholarship are Race and Ethnicity, Sociology of Sport, and Inequality. Her book *The Enduring Color Line in U.S. Athletics* is among the top 10 best sellers in that genre. She is a recipient of the prestigious Regents Outstanding Teaching Award. Dr. Beamon received the 2017 Rising Star

Award from her alma mata, Oklahoma State University, for her outstanding accomplishments since graduation. She teaches the following courses, Sociology of Sport, Racial & Ethnic Groups in the U.S., Introduction to Sociology, Social Problems, and Inequalities in Public Education.

Kelly Bergstrand, Sociology

Dr. Kelly

Bergstrand continues her research into disasters, as well as mechanisms underlying why or why not people

are willing to take action for social and environmental causes. This August, she presented (virtually) at the annual American Sociological Association on



her research looking at how emotions like fear and anger can lead to activism. She was also a coauthor on an article published this summer that examines how social movement organizations try to recruit and appeal to kids, teens, and college students. This year, Dr. Bergstrand spent time with her family camping, visiting ghost towns, and finding rocks like amethyst, pyrite and quartz.



Dr. Cleghorn studies the impact of sea level change on early foraging societies of the southern coast of South Africa. Over the past seven years, more than 50 researchers and students from UTA and around the world, and a professional excavation team based in South Africa, have contributed to the project. This year, it became clear that travel abroad and archaeological fieldwork were not in the cards once again for 2021. Loss of field time is hard on any researcher, but it is particularly difficult for the graduate and undergraduate students hoping to advance their academic careers through training, networking, and development of their own research through this fieldwork. Dr. Cleghorn is hopeful that 2022 will hold more opportunities for our students. This fall she is getting back to teaching lab classes in the lab again! She is grateful to all her students last spring who showed great perseverance and resilience in the transition to online and hybrid learning models. Thank you, especially to the osteology students who patiently waited for her to roll out the lab (see cart in photo) to them each week in our unique learning environment, and to



the zooarchaeology students who brilliantly recovered when their research projects became inaccessible last spring. Dr. Cleghorn spent the summer writing and analyzing data from her mobile office on the coast of Maine. She is looking forward to a return to the field in 2022.

M. Faye Hanson-Evans, *Sociology*



Faye Hanson-Evans is an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology where she teaches courses on the sociology of poverty, gender, social problems, and more. Faye earned her MA and BA in Sociology from UT Arlington and is both a McNair Scholar and Honors College alum. Her specializations include the sociology of poverty, political sociology, and quantitative data analysis. In 2017, Faye was named UT Arlington's College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Teacher in Distance Education. In 2018, Faye served as faculty advisor to assist her students to establish a new UTA student organization chapter - *Project Downtown* - a national 501(c) (3) that works specifically with the homeless populations of Arlington and Fort Worth. Most recently, Faye was named an I.D.E.A.S. Faculty Fellow for her outstanding course development and teaching practices - both online and in the classroom. Faye is also fur mom to Dolly and Barkley - her two Saint Bernard's - and regularly finds herself unwittingly accessorized with slobber and dog hair.

Heather Jacobson, *Sociology*



Heather Jacobson is a family sociologist and reproductive scholar. Since the last newsletter, Heather published "Commercial Surrogacy in the Age of Intensive Mothering" in *Current Sociology* and "Brief Thoughts on Adoption Scholarship" in *Adoption & Culture*. She and colleagues Anika König (Freie Universität Berlin) and Anindita Majumdar (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad) were awarded an 18-month Volkswagen Foundation Grant to study the impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic on the surrogacy industry in the U.S., Germany, and India. This summer, her work was featured on the North Carolina NPR podcast Embodied. She participated in a Special Issue Forum organized by Marcin Smietana, Charis Thompson, and Sarah Franklin for *Reproductive Biomedicine and Society Online* in May. She is chairing the Adele E. Clark Book Award Selection Committee run by the ReproNetwork this year and is the Book Review Editor for *Adoption Quarterly*. This past academic year she served as the UTA Faculty Senate Parliamentarian. Heather is grateful for the help and support of outgoing department chair, Beth Anne Shelton, and former chairs Bob Kunovich, Bob Young, and Shelley Smith as she transitions to her new role as interim chair.

Dorothy Kalanzi, *Sociology*



Dr. Kalanzi's research on HIV/AIDS and climate change in Africa is ongoing. She is currently teaching five courses including Medical Sociology, Social Inequality, and three sections of Introduction to

Sociology. In the spring she may once again be teaching Medical Sociology, Social Inequality, and three sections of Introduction to Sociology.

Ritu Khanduri, Anthropology

Dr. Ritu Gairola Khanduri researches on media, material culture and science in the context of India and the Indian diaspora. She is the author of Caricaturing Culture in India: Cartoons and History in the Modern World published by Cambridge University Press. She is currently



pursuing projects on Gandhi and developing new research on India's visual culture. Dr. Khanduri enjoys seeing

her students' course work presented in seminars and appearing in publications. She received a Professional Learning Community Faculty Fellow and a Maverick Advantage Faculty Engagement Faculty Fellow for the years 2020-21. She is passionate about teaching South Asia, India, Gandhi, visual culture and public engagement with cultural anthropology. Her life is ruled by two adorable cats, Lou and Leepoosing. She enjoys running, traveling, twitter, vegetarian cuisine, cooking for family and friends, music and films.

Robert Kunovich, Sociology

Bob Kunovich teaches courses in statistics, research methods, work, inequality, and risk. He is currently working on several different research



projects, which focus on confidence in science, the consequences of uncertainty, and poverty. He is also considering a larger project – tentatively titled “A Sociologist’s Guide to the Apocalypse” – that would examine efforts to address risk and danger through local community

building. Dr. Kunovich enjoys playing the guitar, swimming, gardening, camping, kayaking, and fishing. Fun fact: Dr. Kunovich’s first attempt to swim a mile took over an hour. He can now complete the swim in 31 minutes. Dr. Kunovich spends his evenings serenading the family pets with ditties by Peter Gabriel, Van Morrison, and Mumford and Sons.

Ashley Lemke, Anthropology



Last year Dr. Ashley Lemke taught Introduction to Archaeology and Archaeology in Practice to undergraduate students across UTA. Archaeology in Practice trains students how to conduct research, present scientific posters, and other practical skills. She also taught a summer class, an underwater archaeology field school, where 8 UTA Anthropology students traveled to Michigan and the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary to learn about historical shipwrecks and other archaeological sites in the Great Lakes. In terms of research, Dr. Lemke is working in Lake Huron on very old archaeological sites and recently published an article in the prestigious journal *PLOS One* with her colleagues. This article reports two small stone tool flakes that were made on obsidian, a volcanic glass, that was traced back to Oregon! This find shows that people 9,000 years ago had extensive trade networks across North America.

Carrie Perkins, Anthropology



Carrie Perkins is a cultural anthropologist whose research focuses on forced migration and refugee studies. She recently published a chapter in the Handbook of Culture and Migration, which discusses refugee repatriation in Southeast Asia. After a 2-year hiatus from the field, Dr. Perkins returned to Thailand in the summer of 2021 on a grant-funded fellowship to conduct research concerning labor rights for refugees from Myanmar. After leaving Thailand, she and her husband finally got to try out their new scuba diving certification in the U.S. Virgin Islands. They saw sea turtles, sting rays and even a large reef shark.

Josephine Ryan, Anthropology

Dr. Josephine (Joci) Ryan is a cultural anthropologist with interests including



food and culture, gender and sexuality, human rights, public health, and medical anthropology.

This fall she is teaching Global Cultures and Sex, Gender, and Culture. She served as the Graduate Advisor for the Anthropology program from 2009-2015. She is active in the refugee resettlement community and works with non-profit organizations seeking to fast-track living wage employment for newcomers. She also works in the area of human rights education and has traveled with students to locations in Africa, Europe, and Central America.

Beth Anne Shelton, Sociology

Beth Anne Shelton earned her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. She continues work on gender and political ambition,



primarily by looking at those who run

for school board. She and her co-author recently (virtually) presented some new data on this topic at the American Political Science Association meetings. With the new data on school board members from around the state, some early findings related to gender, political activism and ambition can now be more fully explored. After almost two years of distancing, mask-wearing, and avoiding the indoors, she is adjusting to outside socializing and recently took up biking as another way to be outside and enjoy the beautiful Texas fall, winter and spring (ignoring summer).

Jason E. Shelton, Sociology

Jason E. Shelton’s primary research interests concern the Sociology of Religion, as well as the intersections of race, class, and political/social attitudes in the Post-Civil Rights Era. His articles have appeared in *Social Science Quarterly*, *Du Bois Review*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Journal of African American Studies*, *American Behavioral Scientist* and other respected publications. Dr. Shelton has been interviewed by major media outlets for news stories relevant to his research such as the *USA Today*, *Chicago Tribune*, the *British Broadcasting Company (BBC)*, *Houston Chronicle*, and network television affiliates in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. He’s currently working on his second book, which is tentatively titled, *Religious Diversity Among African Americans: How Racial Progress Undermines the Contemporary Black Church*. Dr. Shelton also chairs the Arlington Unity Council, which is a racial equity



Shelley Smith, Anthropology

Gone Writing

Professor Smith was awarded a Faculty Development Leave for Fall 2021. She is diligently working on two book manuscripts, both associated with her Museum Displays of Human Evolution project. She will return in Spring 2022 to teach three courses: Introduction to Anthropology, Biological Anthropology, and Growth, Development, and Evolution.

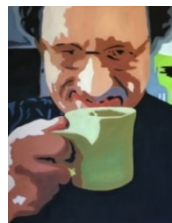


Amy Speier, Anthropology

Dr. Amy Speier, medical anthropologist of reproductive travel, has been working on her book manuscript, tentatively entitled "Fertile Mobilities." She hopes to complete the project during this academic year. It is anxiety inducing, though also nice to be back in the classroom where organic conversations can happen. She is thinking of ways to create research opportunities for students in the Food and Culture course, typically taught in the fall semester.

Robert Young, Sociology

Bob Young teaches in the areas of social psychology, small group processes, and research



methods. Most of his recent research has focused on social interaction processes, human-animal relationships, and the development of a theory of moral perception. His article, "Toward an Integrative Model of Moral-value Perception" appeared in the September 2021 issue of the *Journal for the Study of Social Behavior*.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/jtsb.12271>. Dr. Young loves teaching, researching and writing about individuals in the social world, and being part of a thriving department with great colleagues. He

adores his family and is somewhat fanatical about jazz.

Christian Zlolniski, Anthropology



Christian Zlolniski is a social anthropologist interested on work and labor migration issues in the context of economic globalization. He is the recipient, along with Dr. Luis Plascencia, of a Research Enhancement Grant to study the working and living conditions of temporary Mexican workers in North Texas who come to the United States with the H-2B work visa. He is also starting a new project funded by the NSF to examine the extraction and commercialization of Mexican beach pebbles in the United States, generally used in the landscaping industry as environmentally friendly materials to cope with water scarcity and climate change. During the summer he and his family discovered the wonders of the Adirondack Park in upstate New York with its marvelous views and cool weather.

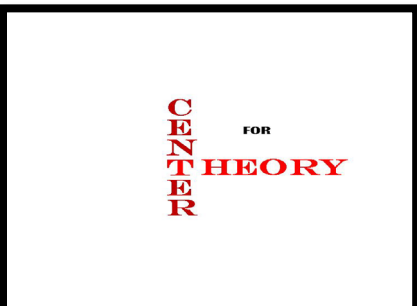




UTA SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY FACULTY



Center for Theory



The Center for Theory was established in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Texas at Arlington during 1999 by Professor Ben Agger. The Center under Agger’s direction established the successful and well-known entirely online journal, *FAST CAPITALISM*. The Center also initiated a widely celebrated and closely followed on-campus Speaker’s Series to feature the latest research in cultural, political, and social theory from faculty members and graduate students at UTA as well as occasional visitors from off-campus. These activities have been very significant opportunities to enhance scholarly communication and interaction at UTA, enabling members of the University community to pursue the

intellectual goals of the arts, humanities and social sciences, refine their research for eventual publication, and find fruitful new collaborative networks both on-campus and at other Universities around the country. The Center for Theory is once again looking for alumni support. The goal of the Center for Theory aims to “facilitate the research and teaching of a growing number of faculty and graduate students interested in contemporary social and cultural theories.” There are multiple ways you can support. First, we are looking for support to grow the Ben Agger Theory Library. The library houses theory books and books by Center-affiliated faculty. Donations would support purchasing new books and/or furnishing the space. Second, the Center for Theory hosts an annual Colloquium Series. You can sponsor a colloquium for \$1,000! This is enough to bring in an outside speaker for an event. Third, if you would like to support a graduate student as a Graduate Research Assistant for the Center, any contribution would be helpful. Finally, we’d like to go big and fund a postdoc. Do you want a postdoc named after you? Get in touch! If any alumni are interested in donating in any way to the Center for Theory’s initiatives, please contact **David Arditi (darditi@uta.edu)**.

Anthropology Field Schools

Knysna South Africa

Dr. Naomi Cleghorn and her Excavating Team

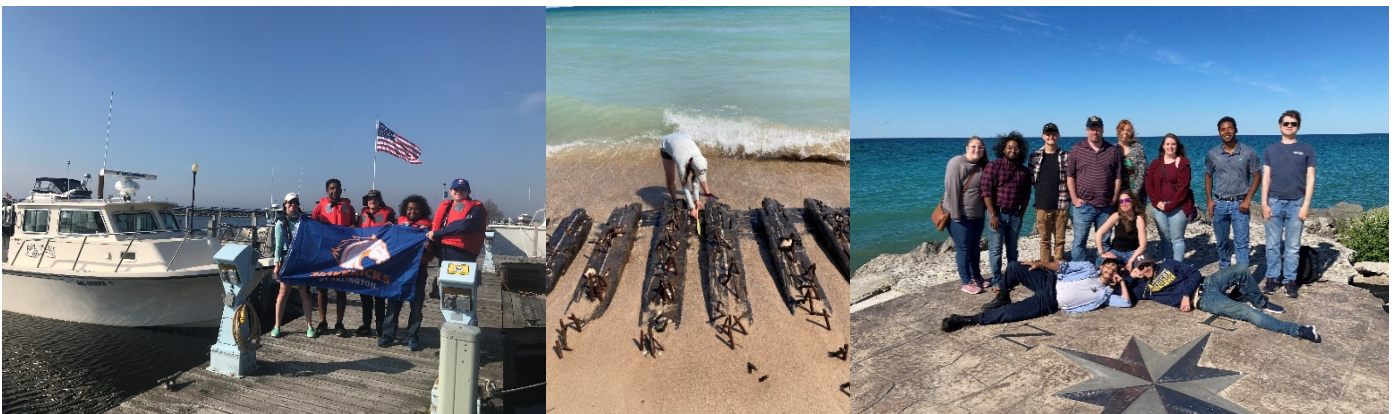


Dr. Cleghorn and her team in Knysna South Africa

Dr. Naomi Cleghorn, Anthropology, studies the impact of sea level change on early foraging societies of the southern coast of South Africa.

Michigan and the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Dr. Ashley Lemke Field School



Dr. Lemke measuring a ship wreck

Dr. Ashley Lemke, Anthropology, traveled with 8 UTA Anthropology students to Michigan and the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary to learn about historical shipwrecks and other archaeological sites in the Great Lakes.

Sociology & Anthropology Students

Virtual AWARDS CEREMONIES

The annual Department of Sociology and Anthropology Celebration of Achievement Awards Ceremony was held this year as a virtual event. We would like to congratulate the Sociology and Anthropology graduates receiving their Bachelor's and Master's Degrees! At the Ceremony we celebrated the following students receiving program, departmental, and university awards:

Bachelors in Sociology Graduates Fall 2020: Joseph Glass, Joshua Hill, Serita Johnson, Amanda Joseph, Maria Molina, and Edward Naranja.

Bachelors in Anthropology Graduates Fall 2020: Daniel Miller, Aimee Moran, Ofelia Pastora-Rodriguez, Thomas Schloeman, and Rachel Tatum.

Bachelors in Sociology Graduates Spring 2021: Diana Hadad, Andrea Jenkins, Michaelya Outland, Priscilla Ramos, and Emily Silva.

Bachelors in Anthropology Graduates Spring 2021: Destiny Burnett, Abigail Key, Erin Kielty, Paola Puentes, and Stephanie Vazquez.

Masters in Sociology Graduates 2020/2021: LaDarius Beck, Jessica Cole, Kaylee Woodward Cook, Iris Garcia, Dorian Moore, and Garth Pickard, Jessica Salas, and and Tanner Strawbridge.



Sociology Honor Roll recipients who maintained a GPA of 3.2 or higher within the major and 3.0 or higher overall: Blanca Antolin, Joseph Blankenship, Hanah Caldwell, Karime Esquivel,, Maribel Gonzalez, Dennis Haney, Dominic Lamanna, Alicia Leon, Emily Rahal, Keyla Ramos, and Kusum Regmi.

Anthropology Honor Roll recipients who maintained a GPA of 3.2 or higher within the major and 3.0 or higher overall: Alejandra Bolivar, Matthew Collins, Kelsey Deweese, Chelsea Goldsmith, Sergio Hernandez, Andrea Johnson, Kristin Kaosa, and Ashley Stephens.

Sociology Scholars who maintained a GPA of 3.2 or higher within the major and 3.0 or higher overall and have completed more than 12 hours of coursework in the major: Delia Crisantos, Christopher Ha, Kelsey Helland, Andrea Jenkins, Antonia Jones, Marissa Mata, Vanessa Murillo, Yazmin Narvaez, Jara Richard, Ashley Rodriguez, Evelyn Sanchez, Emily Silva, and Garrett Woodall.

Anthropology Scholars who maintained a GPA of 3.2 or higher within the major and 3.0 and higher overall and have completed more than 12 hours of coursework in the major: Destiny Burnett, Michelle Hoskins, Abigail Key, Erin Kielty, Susana Lozano, Maria Mills, Shelby Raney, Paola Puentes, Megan Rodriguez, Baonhu Tran, and Treasure Willige.

College of Liberal Arts Scholars: Desiree Alvarez, Destiny Burnett, Erica Favor, Kelsey Helland, Abigail Key, Alicia Leon, Susana Lozano, Keyla Ramos, Megan Rodriguez, Evelyn Sanchez, and Baonhu Tran.

Lambda Alpha Inductees: Michelle Hoskins, Erin Kielty, Shelby Raney, Ofelia Pastora-Rodriguez, Baonhu Tran, and Treasure Willige.



Lambda Alpha Graduate: Erin Kielty.

Alpha Kappa Delta Inductee (Undergraduate Majors): Marissa Camille Mata.

Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees (Graduate Students): Kyle Aaron and LaDarius Beck.

Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees (Undergraduate Minors): Crystal Antell, Michael J. Byrne, Bianca Lizette Delgado, Sana Quraishi, and Natividad Rojas.

The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship recipients: Alicia Leon and Marissa Mata.

The Ben and Trudy Termini Anthropology Fellowship recipients: Kelsey Deweese, Kristin Kaosa, Susana Lozano, and Treasure Willige.



Student Ambassadors

The UTA Ambassadors serve as the official student hosts/hostesses of UT Arlington under the direction of Mr. and Ms. UTA. The group maintains and promotes new and old campus pride and traditions; increases



awareness of UT Arlington's services, programs, and activities to students and the surrounding community; and establishes and strengthens pride and passion for UT Arlington on and off campus.



The Department of Sociology and Anthropology Student **Ambassadors** assist prospective students selecting the best major and attend events where we showcase all we have to offer. Our Ambassadors in 2020/2021 were Ofelia Pastora, Maria Molina, Taylor Valeriano, Jessica Smith and Paola Puentes. We appreciate their dedication!

Sociology Master's Summer 2021 Final Projects



LADARIUS BECK –Summer 2021
Thesis Title: “The Black Church and Guns: Assessing the Links Between Religion and Race in the United States”
Committee Chair: Dr. Jason Shelton

TANNER STRAWBRIDGE -Summer 2021
Non-Thesis Title: “Conservation and Sociology”
Committee Chair: Dr. David Arditì

Alumni: Where Their Degrees have Taken Them

PEYTON CARROLL (BA Anthropology, 2019)

Peyton received an M.Phil. in Archaeology in 2020 from the University of Cambridge, UK.

PORSHA GUNISHAW (BA Sociology, 2015)

Porsha is a Customer Experience Specialist at ECI, a company that provides business software.

ALICIA HOOPER, LCSW, LCDC (MA Sociology, 2019)

Alicia is a Licensed Critical Social Worker and a Licensed Chemical Dependence Counselor working with adolescents and adults with substance use and mental health disorders.

OFELIA PASTORA RODRIGUEZ (BA Anthropology, 2020)

Ofeilia is currently working for SWCA Environmental Consultants as a cultural resource intern.

CHRISTOPHER ROMO (BA Anthropology, 2020)

Christopher is working in cultural resource management for SWCA Environmental Consultants.

ELIZABETH SOTINEL (BA Sociology, 2014)

Elizabeth earned her JD from the University of Notre Dame in 2018 with a specialty in regional human rights systems.

KRISTI STEPHENSON (BA and MA Sociology)

Kristi is Director of Consumer Insights Mobile for Samsung Electronics.

PHYLICIA WAY (BA Anthropology 2017)

Phylicia is employed with Cultural Resource Management for SWCA Environmental Consultants.



Send us your alumni news! Email us at:
sociology@uta.edu or anthropology@uta.edu

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Lambda Alpha (The Anthropological Honor Society Alpha Chapter of Texas)



Lambda Alpha is a dynamic national collegiate organization which nurtures and rewards undergraduate and graduate students' excellence in Anthropology. In addition to assisting with the Termini Lecture and Brown Bag series, we focus on developing professional and scholarly skills such as networking and research. We attend conferences and lectures throughout the year. This coming year will also see the introduction of social hours, events designed to give members an opportunity to discuss anthropological topics and career paths. Lambda Alpha president is Michelle Hoskins. **Dr. Amy Speier** is Faculty Advisor.

Anthropology Club



The Anthropology Club kicked off with a great start this year. Many of our plans which included museum visits, distinguished brown bag lecturers, exciting events like flint knapping, and helping with the annual goat roast hosted by Dr. Naomi Cleghorn had to be postponed due to COVID-19. We are looking forward to continuing with social events like our cultural lunches at local venues. This coming year we seek to promote increased awareness of local and national events in anthropology while encouraging fun activities for our student body. For more information on the Anthro Club you may go to:

<https://mavorgs.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/anthropologyclub>

Anthropology Club officers are Michelle Hoskins-President, Kelsey Deweese-Vice President, Alejandra Bolivar-Creative Director, and Baonhu Tran-Secretary. **Dr. Ashley Lemke** is Faculty Advisor.

Sociology Student Association (SSA)



The Sociology Student Association (SSA) is an officially recognized, student-led organization at the University of Texas Arlington. The purpose of SSA is to demonstrate the practical and theoretical aspects of Sociology in ways beneficial to its undergraduate and graduate students and the surrounding Arlington community. Membership is not limited to sociology majors. SSA activities include career development events, educational activities, community involvement, and social events. Each semester's activities are determined by the student members. SSA President is Andrea Jenkins, Vice-President, Amanda Chara, and Treasurer is Mariah Richardson. Faculty advisors for 2021/2022 are **Dr. Robert Kunovich (fall)** and **Dr. Beth Anne Shelton (spring)**.

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)

AKΔ



The Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) Sociological Honor Society Omicron Chapter of Texas welcomed new sociology scholars from UTA to its ranks during the 2020 year. New initiates were inducted at last year's ceremony co-sponsored with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Lambda Alpha. The ceremony also honored UTA's own Sociology Scholars and Sociology Honor Roll students with a virtual ceremony. AKD assists with funding for students interested in attending or presenting at professional conventions. To stay informed of the latest national AKD news, join the Facebook group: Alpha Kappa Delta Sociological Honor Society, and for more information on the Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society of Sociology you can go to: <https://alphakappadelta.org/> **Dr. Kelly Bergstrand** is Faculty Advisor and Chapter Representative for AKD.

WE RECOGNIZE SOCI-ANTH STUDENT SCHOLARS

Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology

The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology was award to

Alicia Leon Luna



Marissa Mata



The Blaine T. and Jean W. Williams Endowed Scholarship in Sociology was established by their son, Blaine Williams and his wife, Elaine Davenport. Blaine T. Williams, Sr. and his wife, Jean Wood Williams were pioneers in the Dallas-Fort Worth Sociology and Social Work community. The scholarship is awarded annually to a junior or senior majoring in Sociology at the University of Texas Arlington.



The Ben and Trudy Termini Anthropology Fellowship

The Ben and Trudy Termini Anthropology Fellowship was awarded to

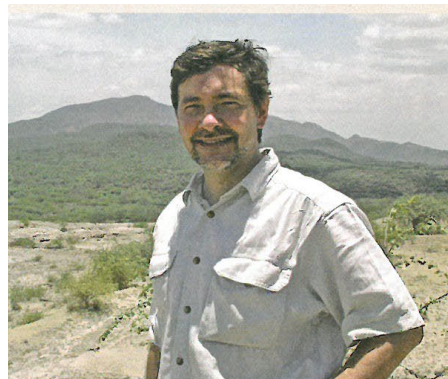
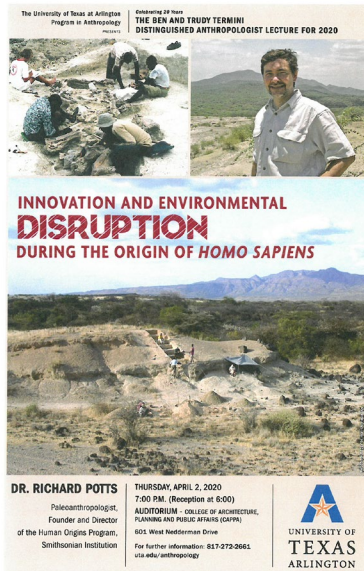
Kelsey Deweese Kristin Kaosa Susana Lozano Treasure Willige



Drs Ben and Trudy Termini established their medical practices in Arlington in 1975 and retired in 2003. They were always interested in Anthropology and audited a course at UT Arlington. They eventually began sponsoring an endowed lecture series which has attracted many world renowned speakers.

Termini Lecture Series 2022

“INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISRUPTION DURING THE ORIGIN OF HOMO SAPIENS”



The Ben and Trudy Termini Distinguished Anthropologist Lecture for 2021 was postponed in April due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. Richard Potts, Paleoanthropologist, and Founder and Director of the Human Origins Program, Smithsonian Institution was scheduled to be the Termini guest speaker.

Watch for more details for the Termini lecture Series to resume in the Spring 2022!

Donations, Gifts, & Endowments

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology acknowledges with gratitude the following financial supporters:

Ben and Trudy Termini, Endowed Lecture Series in Anthropology

Blaine Williams and Elaine Davenport, Endowed Scholarship in Sociology

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Paul and Suzanne Baldon
Sharon R. Gamez-Bittner
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