

Crystal A. Dozier

Associate Professor and Chair
Director, Archaeology of Food Laboratory
City Archaeologist, Wichita, Kansas
Department of Anthropology, Wichita State University
Wichita KS

Candidate Background:

Crystal A. Dozier received a BA with Honors in Anthropology from the University of Chicago (2012) and an MA (2016) and PhD (2018) in Anthropology from Texas A&M University. Her research interests primarily stem in the southern Plains, with a focus on foodways and social structures. Dr. Dozier directs the Archaeology of Food Laboratory at Wichita State University, where she is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology. She engages students directly in her research program, often co-publishing with emerging scholars, as well as engaging in local CRM projects and national contract residue studies. Dr. Dozier serves as a City Archaeologist for the City of Wichita, Kansas.

Statement of Interest:

As a member of PAS since 2018, I'm excited by the opportunity to better support the organization moving forward. I have regularly taken advantage of the PAS Undergraduate Travel Grant over the last seven years to bring vans of students to the Annual Conference, which has translated to wonderful learning and networking experiences. I served as the Chair for the Committee on Curriculum for the Society for American Archaeology for three years (on the Committee for a total of 8 years) and currently serve on the Kansas Antiquities Commission. I have volunteered to co-host the PAS Conference in 2028 in Wichita, Kansas, so joining the PAS Board would provide me with excellent connections and knowledge to promote the best possible experience! I am especially excited to see the Society continue to deepen its commitment to career development for students, strengthen ties to descendant and local communities, and promote ethical practices within archaeology.

Megan Ernst

Archaeologist

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Oahe Project

Pierre SD

Candidate Background:

Megan Ernst is an archaeologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Oahe Project in Pierre. She began her archaeological career in 2004 working on the historic Chinatown excavations in the City of Deadwood, SD. She then transitioned to working with the Archaeological Research Center conducting Class II and III surveys during the summer months. After graduating in 2007 from the University of South Dakota with a B.S. in Anthropology, Megan began her federal career. As the Oahe Project archaeologist her responsibilities range from implementing federal compliance (including NHPA, NAGPRA, and ARPA), consultations with Federal, State, and Tribal Nations, and cultural site stewardship. Megan *finally* received her M.S. in Cultural Resources Management from St. Cloud State University in 2019. Her areas of interest are the Missouri River Basin, prehistoric ceramics, and the uses of AI in the fields of archaeology and curation.

Statement of Interest:

Throughout my career, I have gained experience working with a wide range of individuals, including archaeologists, Indigenous Nations, state and federal agencies, and members of the public. These experiences have reinforced the importance of collaboration, respectful communication, acknowledging our field's historical biases, and the value of incorporating diverse perspectives into the interpretation and stewardship of the archaeological record. The Plains Anthropological Society has provided an important forum for advancing archaeology and anthropology of the Great Plains. I would be honored to serve on the PAS Board of Directors and contribute to the continued success of the Society.

Nolan Johnson

Highway Archeologist
Nebraska State Historical Society
Lincoln NE

Candidate Background:

I have been working in plains archeology since graduating with a B.S. from the University of South Dakota in 2004. I received an M.A. in Anthropology with a focus in Professional Archeology from the University of Nebraska in 2006. I am a long time PAS member and an almost 20 year veteran of the Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) holding various roles. I have been a Highway Archeologist since 2012 after starting my career as an archeological technician. I was laid off during the Great Recession and for a few years I dabbled in private archeological contracting while working in the security department at the NSHS. While nearly all my work has been in Nebraska I have conducted work in Iowa, South Dakota, and Kansas as well. For the last 14 years I have been an officer for the Nebraska Association of Professional Archeologists recently stepping down after a decade as president. Most of my work revolves around the Section 106 process for Nebraska Department of Transportation projects. When time allows, I have written and published articles in *Central Plains Archeology*. The part of the job I enjoy most is public speaking including many presentations at professional conferences. I have given hundreds of talks on all manner of Nebraska archeological themes to a wide variety of audiences.

Statement of Interest:

I have numerous goals for the PAS, but at the end of the day none can be accomplished without focusing on these two things first and foremost. Create and maintain engagement with student members. Show them the value of the organization on their careers and on the field as a whole. In addition, and I think of paramount importance, is the PAS has to show itself to be relevant and engaging to the public at large in the places where we all work. As someone whose job depends on the state government budget and the laws we work under, I believe that having public support is the most important tool we have to shield ourselves from budget cuts and “streamlining” efforts that are in vogue now. Doing that is easier said than done, but I would focus on making our work more accessible whether that is in print, online, or in person. The work of the PAS and its members needs to be in the public view for our profession to have public support.

Katherine Lamie

Senior Archaeologist/Repository Manager
South Dakota State Historical Society
Archaeological Research Center
Rapid City SD

Candidate Background:

Katherine (Katie) Lamie has served as the Repository Manager for the South Dakota State Historical Society's Archaeological Research Center in Rapid City since 2010. She initially received a B.A. in Anthropology and Philosophy (!) from the State University of New York at Geneseo (2005) and an M.A. in Anthropology (Archaeology) from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2008). Her undergraduate honors thesis explored ethics in anthropological research, while her graduate work focused largely on historic material culture identification and multi-disciplinary interpretations. Katie's most stimulating introduction to Plains Archaeology, and its landscapes and culinary repertoire, occurred when she headed to western Nebraska with Doug Scott and Peter Bleed on an extracurricular Battlefield Archaeology research project. She is also grateful to have had the opportunity to work with the dedicated curation staff at the National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center, which cemented her ongoing dedication to the many facets of collections management. Over the past 16 years, Katie has significantly upgraded the Archaeological Research Center's repository and records systems and enhanced the facility's large-scale collections research potential and accessibility. She also appreciates contributing to avocational and professional publications, outreach programming, and all aspects of cultural resource investigations on behalf of the State of South Dakota. However, the most rewarding part of her dynamic role has always been connecting researchers and diverse stakeholders to South Dakota's curated archaeological collections and invaluable archives.

Statement of Interest:

Some of the most formative experiences I've had as an archaeologist can be traced back to the Plains Anthropological Society and its amazing network of membership. My attendance at the 65th Plains Conference in Rapid City convinced me to take a job the following year in South Dakota and to make the area my new home. Spearheading the 80th Plains Conference in Rapid City was my opportunity to give back to the PAS and a way to share this special place with other archaeologists. I am consistently impressed by the professionalism, mentorship, and commitment of the PAS Board of Directors and the engagement of PAS members. I am honored to have been nominated as a candidate for the PAS Board of Directors and in remembering where I've been and who has made a difference in my life, I'll work to best support and encourage others as they pursue their goals.

Kevin M. McGeough

Professor of Archaeology
University of Lethbridge
Lethbridge AB

Candidate Background

Kevin M. McGeough is Professor of Archaeology in the Department of Geography & Environment at the University of Lethbridge in Canada and holds a Board of Governor's Research Chair in Archaeological Theory and Reception. Kevin received a BA (with Great Distinction) from the University of Lethbridge, an MTS from Harvard University, and a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Kevin has excavated in Israel, Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, and Canada and is currently a co-director of the University of Lethbridge archaeological excavations at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, UNESCO World Heritage Site. He has been the editor of the *Annual of the ASOR*, ASOR's *Archaeological Report Series*, and is currently co-editor of the *Alberta Archaeological Review*. Having published 11 books, Kevin is an active researcher in a variety of fields. His research interests include the archaeology of the Northwestern Great Plains, archaeological theory, sociopolitical and economic organization, and the reception of archaeology and the ancient world in film and other media.

Statement of Interest

A late in career convert to the Plains Anthropological Society, I have been overwhelmed by what a supportive and collegial organization PAS is. In these divisive and unstable times, PAS provides a particularly important space for the discipline, and I would like to make a contribution through my significant administrative, editorial, and organizing experience. I have recently co-organized the PAS 2024 Annual Meeting in Lethbridge and was on the organizing committee for the 2026 Canadian Archaeological Association Annual Meeting in Canmore. I have been an active Board member on the Archaeological Society of Alberta for many years and was a lecturer for the Archaeological Institute of America. I am currently the Vice President of the American Schools of Overseas Research (ASOR), where I have held many administrative positions, including chair of publications, managing its 2 online publications, 2 book series, and 4 journals. With ASOR, I have currently worked with committees to update our mission statement and am in the process of refreshing our statement of ethics and principles. As Vice President I also oversee ASOR's various committees, helping them communicate with one another, the Executive and Board, and to make sure that their actions are in line with ASOR policies. Through this work, I have gained a good working understanding of how scholarly societies are governed and operate; I would like to bring these experiences to bear in whichever ways the PAS needs.

Devin B. Pettigrew

Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Sul Ross State University | Center for Big Bend Studies

Alpine TX

Candidate Background:

Devin Pettigrew received a B.A. in Anthropology and Art and an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, and a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Colorado Boulder. Devin started his archaeological career working for the Arkansas Archaeological Survey in Fayetteville. Later, he took part in compliance mitigation excavations and pedestrian surveys predominately in Arkansas, Colorado, and Wyoming. In his graduate work, Devin focused on developing experimental approaches to the study of ancient hunting weapons, such as the atlatl, bow, and boomerang, with terminal ballistic performance assessments of stone points found across the Plains and Intermountain West. Presently, his research extends to include hunting weapon developments from the eastern Eurasian Steppe and implications of weapon developments for hunting ecology. Devin is a member of the Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) since 2013 when he first presented on atlatls and darts from Ozark rock shelters at the 71st annual meeting in Loveland, Colorado. Currently, Devin teaches at the southern margin of the Plains in West Texas, where he assists development of the anthropology and honors programs for Sul Ross State University, and conducts research and compliance projects for the Center for Big Bend Studies.

Statement of Interest

I am thrilled to be nominated for the PAS Board of Directors. As the first and still the best archaeological conference I attend on an annual basis, PAS holds a special place for me. Much of my experience doing real archaeology has focused on places on the periphery to, as well as within the Plains proper. As such, PAS has been the most important outlet for a voice in our field. Seeing first-hand the merit of the society and its annual conference for students as well as seasoned researchers, I sense the importance of continuing its success by ensuring the society's growth, retention, and inclusion, and maintaining PAS as a place to present and share our research among a diverse membership. Attendance of younger generations and Indigenous American scholars at the annual conference I find especially encouraging for our future success. If nominated to the board, I look forward to fulfilling my obligations to ensure a successful society and annual conference.

Rachel Thimmig

Ph.D. Candidate
Brown University
Providence RI

Candidate Background:

Rachel received her B.S. in Anthropology from Southern Methodist University in 2020, then continued her education at Brown University, earning her M.A. in 2022, and is expected to graduate with her Ph.D. in the spring of 2027. Rachel has conducted archaeological fieldwork in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and North Dakota. She has experience working in cultural resource management, museums, and academic contexts. Rachel is a historical archaeologist, focusing mainly on archaeologies of the reservation, theorizing the United States as a settler colonial nation, and centering Native American survivance and persistence. She is a strong supporter of non-destructive and non-invasive methodologies, such as collections reanalysis. She has attended Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) Annual Meetings since she was an undergraduate and served on the PAS Student Affairs Committee as both an undergraduate and a graduate student. In addition to being a member of PAS, she is a member of the Society for Historical Archaeology and the Society for American Archaeology and currently has work in press for the peer-reviewed journal *Historical Archaeology*. Rachel's research interests include collaborative indigenous archaeology, critical archival studies, and the history of archaeology.

Statement of Interest

I have been a student member of PAS for so long; it is a privilege to have this opportunity to potentially serve the community on the Board of Directors, as I am on the verge of transitioning from student to full-fledged member myself. If elected to the board, I would act as a bridge between students and the Board, as my term would begin during my final year of graduate school and continue as I enter the professional world. I believe I can offer a unique perspective to the Board and am honored to be given the opportunity to do so.