83rd Annual Plains Anthropological Conference

October 21-24, 2026
Lincoln, NE

Conference Program & Abstracts

CONFERENCE HOSTS & ORGANIZERS

Dave Williams (Conference Chair), *Nebraska State Historical Society State Archeology Office*

Adam Wiewel, *National Park Service Midwest Archeological Center*

Elsie Whitehorn, *Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma*

Matt Reed, *Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma*

Christina Goodson, *University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center for Great Plains Studies*

Phil Geib, **Annabel Hendrickson**, & **LuAnn Wandsnider**, *University of Nebraska-Lincoln, School of Global Integrative Studies*

CONFERENCE SUPPORT

Chris Johnston, *PAS Treasurer*

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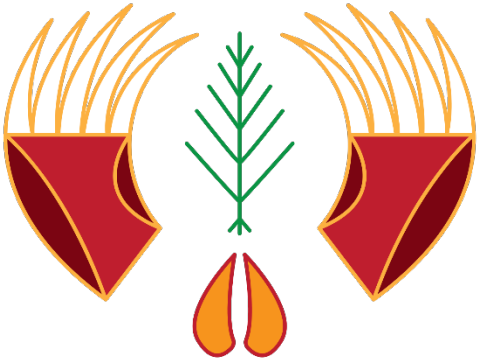
Chad Caswell, *Conference App*

Tracie Simpson, *Visit Lincoln*

Corina Almanza & Arden George, *The Graduate*

CONFERENCE LOGO

This year's conference logo was developed by citizens of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma and Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma. The final design was created by Risaru (Chief) Gilbert Beard of Pawnee Nation. The logo features colors and imagery significant to both Tribal Nations. In the center is a green cedar tree. Cedar is a sacred medicine associated with purification and longevity; it is one of the oldest aspects of Pawnee culture, a physical manifestation of Mother Cedar, the mother of all Pawnee people, also known as Evening Star. This cedar tree motif comes from Otoe-Missouria Faw Faw Coats and the associated Faw Faw ceremony dating to the 1890s.



Flanking the cedar tree are two bear claws. Pawnee oral history describes a connection between grizzly bears and cedar trees: the bears informed the Pawnees how to use the medicine, and cedar is included in the Pawnee's bear claw necklaces. Members of the Pawnee Bear Society—who could be chiefs, doctors, or military leaders—wore these necklaces into battle as their only form of protection. Bears are also Otoe-Missouria traditional leaders, and Pawnee songs describe Father Bear and bears' affinity for cedar trees. Pictographs from the oldest dated Pawnee site (ca. AD 1125), located in southeast Colorado, depict men with atlatls hunting a bear directly alongside cedar trees.

Beneath the cedar is a bison hoof print, representing the animal as both a traditional leader and sacred relative, foundational as a pillar of ecology, sustenance, and the spiritual world. For the Otoe-Missouria, bears and bison lead at different times of the year, creating a full circle.

The full logo design with text surrounding the imagery mirrors that circle. The circle represents interconnectedness and wholeness within both the community and the larger universe.

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Ethics and Inclusion Policy Statement

The Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) is committed to providing a safe and collegial space for all of our members regardless of age, ethnicity, race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disabilities, religion, marital status, or for reasons unrelated to professional performance. All members of the PAS deserve courtesy and respect in an environment where one can converse, interact, learn, and grow. The PAS does not tolerate harassment, assault, bullying, or intimidation. As an organization, the PAS is committed to ensuring the safety, well-being, and inclusion of all our members and guests at PAS-sponsored functions.

Plains Anthropological Society Annual Meeting Code of Conduct

This code of conduct applies to all participants, presenters, guests, volunteers, and other attendees at the annual Plains Anthropological Conference (PAC). We ask that all PAC attendees read and understand this code of conduct prior to the conference. As an organization, the Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) promotes inclusivity and opportunity at its annual meeting. To that end, the PAS will not tolerate any form of harassment, assault, bullying, or intimidation at PAC events, as set forth in the PAS Anti-Harassment Policy. No attendee at PAC events should be subjected to such misconduct. Accordingly, some behaviors are specifically prohibited, whether directed at other attendees, PAS volunteers, speakers, exhibitors, or event venue staff. Prohibited behaviors include any intimidating, harassing, abusive, discriminatory, or derogatory conduct.

Harassment is defined as verbal, written, or physical conduct—whether online or in-person—related to one's protected-class identity that unreasonably interferes with an individual's work or academic performance or creates an intimidating or hostile work, educational, or living environment. Sexual harassment specifically refers to an attempted or actual sexual act directed against another person, without the affirmative consent of the person, including instances where the person is incapable of giving consent. Sexual harassment includes any verbal, physical, or visual conduct of a sexual nature that is unwelcome and offensive to the recipient such that it impairs the recipient's ability to fully participate, enjoy, or engage in PAC events. Discrimination occurs when an individual suffers an adverse consequence on the basis of a protected-class identity. Unacceptable behavior at a PAC event also includes physical or verbal abuse, intimidation,

bullying, threats, efforts to annoy others, stalking, pushing, shoving or use of any physical force whatsoever against any person that creates a disturbance that is disruptive or dangerous, or creates reasonable apprehension in a person. Discussion of opposing or different viewpoints is appropriate when conducted in a respectful tone and manner that avoids personal attacks.

We expect all attendees to recognize that harassment, assault, bullying, discrimination, and intimidation are forms of professional misconduct that are antithetical to the principles and values of the PAS and the lives and careers of our members. We expect all attendees to conduct themselves with regard to codes of professional ethics, workplace guidelines and behavioral expectations, and U.S. law.

If You Have Been Harassed or Assaulted:
For immediate help, call 911. Local police can accompany you to a hospital or health center. There is no time limit on making a police report, and filing a report does not mean you have to press a criminal case. The National Sexual Assault Hotline (1-800-656-HOPE) or the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (1-877-739-3895) can connect you with local resources. Universities also often offer free counseling or other places to anonymously discuss sexual assault and harassment. Safety assistance through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln can be found at **safety.unl.edu**.

Safety Message
The Plains Anthropological Society Board of Directors and the annual meeting organizers are committed to all attendees having a safe and enjoyable experience. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to **dave.williams@nebraska.gov** or **safety@plainsanthropologicalsociety.org**. This email will be monitored by multiple members of the PAS, including the EIC Committee Chair, President, and conference chair. We are available to provide guidance and support.

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Welcome to Lincoln!

We are thrilled to bring the 2026 Plains Anthropological Conference back to Lincoln for the 26th time, and first time in a decade! This 83rd annual meeting is co-hosted by the Nebraska State Historical Society (State Archeology Office), University of Nebraska-Lincoln (School of Global Integrative Studies & Center for Great Plains Studies), National Park Service (Midwest Archeological Center), Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, and Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma.

Conference Venue

The Graduate by Hilton Lincoln is at 141 North 9th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, right on the edge of the historic Haymarket district in downtown Lincoln. Additional conference hotel amenities include onsite restaurant, an indoor pool, fitness center, snack and coffee shop, and free Wi-Fi.

Please note that extensive road construction is underway in downtown Lincoln, particularly on O Street near the conference hotel, and on N 14th St. between the hotel and the Nebraska History Museum.

Parking

Parking is available at **The Graduate** and is included at no extra charge with rooms booked at the conference rate. If you are unable to secure a room at the conference rate, onsite parking is $23.00 per day. EV charging is also available.

There are also numerous parking garages within the immediate vicinity of the conference hotel. The following links detail various parking options.

- https://downtownlincoln.org/get-around/by-car/parking
- https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Urban-Development/Park-and-Go/Find-Parking

Dining

Many dining options are available within walking distance of the conference hotel. The following links provide information on many restaurants in the area.

- https://downtownlincoln.org/explore/dining (all Lincoln restaurants)
- https://downtownlincoln.org/haymarket/directory/dining (Haymarket district restaurants)
- https://www.lincoln.org/restaurants/

Airport & Transportation

Travelers have two options for flying to and from Nebraska. Generally, it is more economical to fly into Omaha, but we recommend checking flights and comparing prices for the best options.

Lincoln Airport, Lincoln, NE (airport code: LNK)
http://www.lincolnairport.com/

Eppley International Airport, Omaha, NE (airport code: OMA)
http://www.flyoma.com/

Multiple ground transportation options are available from the Lincoln airport, including car rentals, vans, taxis, buses, and ride sharing services (Uber and Lyft). For more information about ground transportation, check out
https://lincolnairport.com/ground-transportation/.

Ground transportation from Eppley International Airport can be found at
https://www.flyoma.com/ground-transportation/.

For shuttles between Omaha and Lincoln, check out
http://www.omalink.com/.

While you're in Lincoln, you can easily get around town to view some of the many public art exhibits, museums, shops, and even the Nebraska State Capitol. The following link provides information on getting around by foot, bike, bus, or car.
https://downtownlincoln.org/get-around

Learn More About Lincoln

- Visit Lincoln (Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau): http://lincoln.org/
    - Maps of the Lincoln area: https://www.lincoln.org/plan-your-visit/maps/
- Downtown Lincoln Association: http://downtownlincoln.org/
- Lincoln Haymarket: http://lincolnhaymarket.org/
- Historic Haymarket Walking Tour: https://app.otocast.com/guide/LincolnNE_Haymarket

Registration

The registration and information table is in the lower-level lobby of The Graduate at the following times:

Wednesday, October 21, 5:00–8:00 pm
Thursday, October 22, 8:00 am–4:00 pm
Friday, October 23, 8:00 am–4:00 pm
Saturday, October 24, 8:00–10:00 am

The registration table may be closed during lunch breaks. A limited amount of conference merchandise will be available for purchase at the registration table.

Sessions

All paper sessions will be in the Rozier, Crouch, and Rodgers rooms in the lower level of The Graduate on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. All poster sessions will be in the Perkins Room in the main level of The Graduate on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. A lightning session will take place in the Oldfather Auditorium at the Nebraska History Museum during the Thursday evening reception.

Vendors

Conference vendors and exhibitors will be in the Legends Ballroom (Devaney and Osborne Rooms) on the lower level of The Graduate. Vendor and exhibitor spaces will be available all day on Thursday and Friday, and until 12:00 pm on Saturday.

Conference Merchandise

We will be selling a limited quantity of conference t-shirts (short- and long-sleeved), hats, stickers, and koozies at the registration table each day. If you purchased merchandise in advance, it will be ready for you at the registration table during check-in.

Smart Phone App

The Plains Conference 2026 program and schedule is available on a mobile app for your Android and iPhone devices. Visit your appropriate app store and search for PAC 2026 to download. If you have a previous version of the app, you will still need to download the current version.

Breaks and Refreshments

Complimentary coffee, iced tea, and water will be provided in the lower-level lobby during mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks on Thursday and Friday. Mid-morning breaks will also feature an assortment of pastries and muffins, and mid-afternoon breaks will feature an assortment of snack and dessert items.

ATTENTION SESSION MODERATORS

Session moderators are responsible for uploading all the presentations scheduled within their session and/or assisting with the final installation of all the poster presentations within their session. A laptop computer, projector, and microphone will be available for use in each of the three session rooms. Make sure to arrive with enough time before your session to check your equipment (either prior to the start of the morning sessions or during the lunch break for afternoon sessions). Session moderators must adhere to the presentation schedule and keep presenters on time. Please give each presenter a five-minute and a two-minute warning before the end of their allotted time slot. All papers are 20 minutes in length, and this should be vigorously enforced. If a presenter is a "no show," the session moderator will call a break for the appropriate amount of time. We ask all moderators to remind all attendees to silence their cell phones.

ATTENTION PAPER PRESENTERS

All paper presentations will be in the Rozier, Crouch, and Rodgers rooms in the lower level of The Graduate. Presentations must be uploaded to the room laptop prior to your session. A podium and a microphone will be available for use by presenters in each of the session rooms. Please adhere to the 20-minute time length for papers as the conference itinerary is very packed and we want attendees to experience as much of the conference as possible.

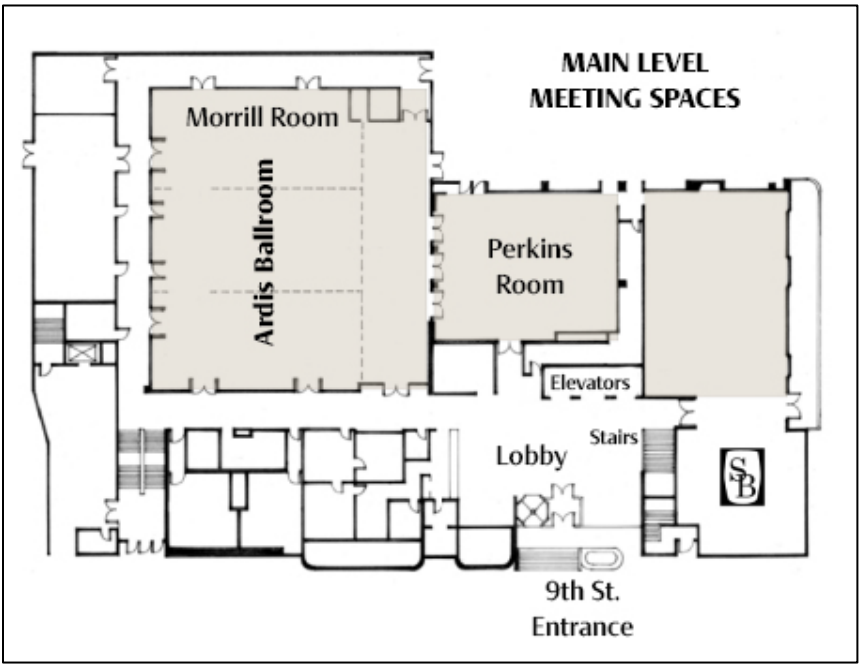
ATTENTION POSTER PRESENTERS

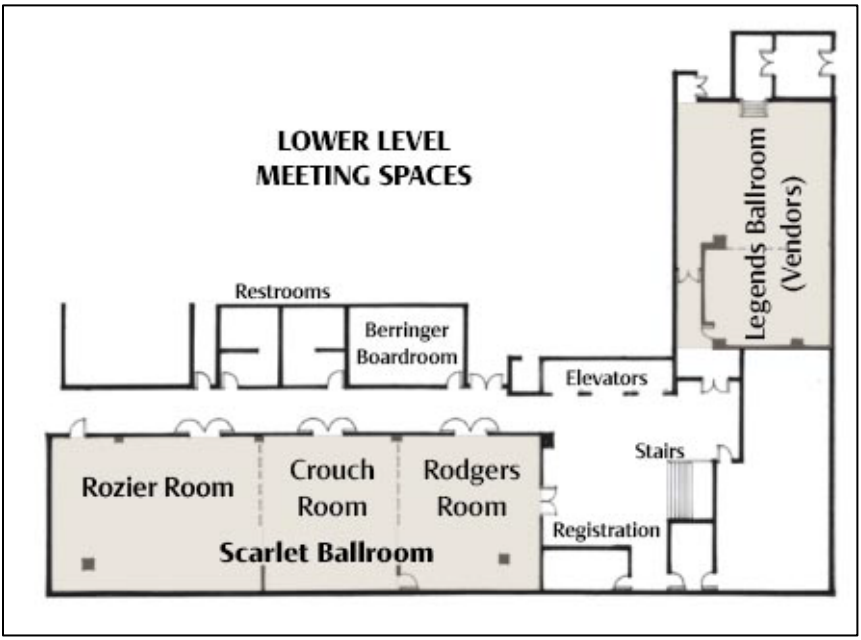
The conference organizers anticipate that many poster presenters will be traveling to the conference with their posters rolled up and tubed. For poster presenters who wish, you are welcome to store your poster with conference staff in the Berringer Boardroom until it is time to hang your poster. Please clearly label your poster tube with your name and affiliation so there are no mix-ups or lost posters. If storing your poster in the Berringer Boardroom, arrive with ample

time before your poster session to ensure someone is available to help you retrieve your poster.

All poster sessions will be held in the Perkins Room on the main level of The Graduate. Session moderators, as well as conference organizers and volunteers will be on hand to assist with poster hanging and leveling prior to poster sessions. Easels with foam board and push pins will be available. Morning session poster presenters should arrive to the Perkins room between 8-8:45 am to hang their posters. Afternoon poster presenters should arrive to the Perkins Room after lunch, between 1:15-1:45 pm, to hang their posters. As a reminder, all posters should be no larger than 36" x 48".

Venue Map


MAIN LEVEL
MEETING SPACES
Morrill Room
Ardis Ballroom
Perkins
Room
Elevators
Stairs
Lobby
9th St.
Entrance


LOWER LEVEL
MEETING SPACES
Legends Ballroom
(Vendors)
Restrooms
Berringer
Boardroom
Elevators
Stairs
Rozier Room
Crouch
Room
Rodgers
Room
Registration
Scarlet Ballroom

Event Location Map

Conference Schedule at a Glance

	Wednesday (Oct. 21)	Thursday (Oct. 22)
All Day	Omaha area Tour (8 am-5:45 pm) Genoa area Tour (8 am-4:30 pm) [1] Geophysics workshop, Nebraska History Museum Gilmore Room & Centennial Mall, (8 am-4 pm)	On-site registration, lower-level lobby, (8 am-4 pm) Vendors, Legends Ballroom, (8 am-4 pm) *Below Nebraska* meet & greet, Legends Ballroom, (3-4 pm)
Morning		[2] Ludwickson (Bozell et al) Rozier Room, 8:20 am [3] Student Papers (Trabert) Rodgers Room, 10:00 am [4] Arch. Method & Theory (Wiewel) Crouch Room, 9:00 am [5] Partitioning Posters (Todd & Hofman) Perkins Room, 9:00 am
Lunch		PAS Board of Directors Lunch (Morrill Room) (11:30 am-1:30 pm)
Afternoon	On-site registration (lower-level lobby) (5-8:00 pm)	[6] Head-Smashed-In (Swisher) Crouch Room, 1:40 pm [7] Hist. Arch. In KS (Swisher) Crouch Room, 2:40 pm [8] Hey Plains! (Carlson) Rozier Room, 1:40 pm [9] Panel: Sect. 106 Process (Bacon) Rodgers Room, 2:00 pm [10] Student Posters (Perkins) Perkins Room, 2:00 pm MWAC Open House (3-5 pm)
Evening	Early-Bird Reception (cash bar) (Scarlet Ballroom) (6:30-9:30 pm)	Reception at Nebraska History Museum (6-8 pm) [11] Lightning Session, NHM Oldfather Auditorium (6:45 pm)

	Friday (Oct. 23)	Saturday (Oct. 24)
All Day	On-site registration, lower-level lobby, (8 am-4 pm) Vendors, Legends Ballroom, (8 am-4 pm)	Southeast Nebraska Tour (8 am-6 pm) On-site registration, lower-level lobby, (8-10 am) Vendors, Legends Ballroom, (8 am-12 pm)
Morning	[12] Osborn (Cannon) Crouch Room, 8:20 am [13] Pawnee Arch. (Shield Chief Gover) Rozier Room, 8:20 am [14] Panel: Future of Sect. 106 (Clark) Rodgers Room, 9:00 am [15] Lithic & Geoarch. Posters, Perkins Room, 9:00 am [24] Faunal Studies Posters, Perkins Room, 9:00 am	[21] Plains Village & After (Thimmig) Rozier Room, 9:00 am [22] Forensic Anth. (Belcher) Rodgers Room, 9:00 am [23] Lithic Analysis (Swisher) Crouch Room, 9:00 am
Lunch	[16] PAS Student Engagement Lunch Workshop: Geophysics, Rodgers Room, (11:30 am - 1:20 pm)	83rd Annual Plains Anthropological Conference October 21-24, 2026 Lincoln, NE
Afternoon	[17] Paleoindian (Howland) Rozier Room, 2:00 pm [18] Panel: Anth. Mentoring & Teaching (Hadley) Rodgers Room, 2:00 pm [19] Forum: Quivira (Blakeslee) Crouch Room, 2:00 pm [20] Hist. & Collaborative Posters, Perkins Room, 2:00 pm PAS Business Meeting, Rodgers Room, 4:00 pm UNL SGIS Alumni Gathering, Perkins Room (4:30-6:30 pm) PAS Board of Directors Meeting, Rodgers Room, 5:00 pm	
Evening	Ardis Ballroom Cash Bar (5:30-9 pm); Banquet (by ticket, 7 pm) Announcements & Awards (7:45 pm) Speaker--Dr. Margaret Jacobs (ca. 8 pm)	

Conference Snapshot

Wednesday, October 21

Pre-conference tours: Omaha area & Genoa area, all day (meet in The Graduate lobby at 7:45 am)

Geophysics Workshop, Nebraska History Museum (8:00 am–4:00 pm)

Registration, The Graduate (lower-level lobby) (5:00–8:00 pm)

Early Bird Reception, The Graduate Scarlet Ballroom (lower level) (6:30–9:30 pm)

Sponsored by the Nebraska Association of Professional Archaeologists

Thursday, October 22

Registration, The Graduate (lower-level lobby) (8:00 am–4:00 pm)

Vendors and Exhibitors, The Graduate (Legends Ballroom) (8:00 am–4:00 pm)

Student Paper and Poster Competition Sessions (see schedule for times and locations)

Paper and Poster Sessions, Panels, and Forums (see schedule for locations) (9:00 am–4:00 pm)

PAS Board of Directors Lunch, The Graduate (Morrill Room) (11:30 am–1:30 pm)

Midwest Archeological Center Open House (3:00–5:00 pm)

Below Nebraska author meet and greet & book signing with Rob Bozell and Courtney Ziska, UNL Press booth (Legends Ballroom) (3:00-4:00 pm)

Reception and Lightning Session, Nebraska History Museum (6:00–8:00 pm)

Sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

Friday, October 23

Registration, The Graduate (lower-level lobby) (8:00 am–4:00 pm)

Vendors and Exhibitors, The Graduate (Legends Ballroom) (8:00 am–4:00 pm)

Paper and Poster Sessions, Panels, and Forums (see schedule for locations) (9:00 am–4:00 pm)

PAS Student Engagement Lunch & Geophysics Workshop, The Graduate (Rodgers Room) (11:30 am–1:20 pm)

Sponsored by the PAS Student Engagement Committee and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Global Integrative Studies

PAS Business Meeting, The Graduate (Rodgers Room) (4:00–5:00 pm)

UNL Alumni Gathering, The Graduate (Perkins Room) (4:30–6:30 pm)

PAS Board Meeting, The Graduate (Rodgers Room) (5:00–6:00 pm)

Cash Bar, The Graduate (Ardis Ballroom) (5:30 pm)

Banquet, The Graduate (Ardis Ballroom)

Dinner, 7:00 pm

Banquet Awards, 7:45 pm

Banquet Speaker, Dr. Margaret Jacobs, 8:00 pm

Saturday, October 24

Conference Tour: Southeast Nebraska, all day (meet in The Graduate lobby at 7:45 am)

Registration, The Graduate (lower-level lobby) (8:00–10:00 am)

Vendors and Exhibitors, The Graduate (Legends Ballroom) (8:00 am–12:00 pm)

Paper and Poster Sessions, Panels, and Forums (see schedule for locations) (9:00 am–12:00 pm)

Banquet Speaker

Dr. Margaret Jacobs is the Charles Mach Professor of History and was the Director of the Center for Great Plains Studies at UNL between 2020 and August 2026. Her work with the Center includes co-founding and co-leading the Walking in the Footsteps of our Ancestors project, a partnership between the Center and the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma. With Lincoln journalist Kevin Abourezk, she is the co-founder and co-director, too, of Reconciliation Rising, a multimedia project that showcases Indigenous people and settlers who are working together to honestly confront painful histories and create pathways to healing and reconciliation. Margaret is also the co-founder and former co-director of the Genoa Indian School Digital Reconciliation Project, which digitized government records related to the Genoa school as an act of bringing history home to tribal nations. Margaret has published more than 35 articles and 4 books, primarily about the U.S. government's century-long policy and practice of Indigenous child removal. She published *After One Hundred Winters: In Search of Reconciliation on America's Stolen Lands* in 2021. She recently completed a film, "The Land Returns," regarding the grassroots movement in the United States to return land to Native peoples, that is airing nationally on PBS in October and November.

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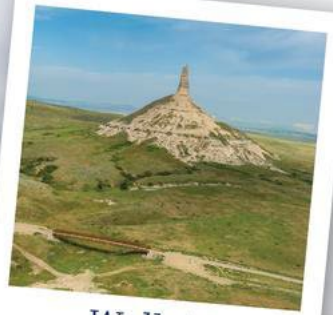

Walk to the Rock

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Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

Nebraska's Past. Preserved for the Future.

Archaeological sites, historic places, artifacts and collections all help tell the story of the people who have called Nebraska home.

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Cynthia Kordecki Scholarship

The Cynthia Kordecki Scholarhip is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization providing financial assistance to individuals to promote the scientific investigation, preservtation, and publication of archaeological research in North Dakota and the Northern Plains. Research scholarhips up to $1,000 (USD) are awarded annually.

For more information please visit:
https://www.ndarchaeology.com/scholarship
Email: ckscholarship@yahoo.com

The Cynthia Kordecki Scholarship is a separate nonprofit organization from the North Dakota Archaeological Association (NDAA). The NDAA is a nonprofit 501(c)(4) organization.

DETAILED DAILY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 21

Pre-Conference Tours (meet in The Graduate lobby at 7:45 am)

Omaha Area Tour (8:00 am–5:45 pm)

This tour will be by passenger van and will be led by Nolan Johnson (Nebraska State Historical Society). Box lunches are provided. This day-long tour will highlight post-discovery activities at multiple archeological sites and curatorial facilities around the Omaha area. Facilities visited will include the Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) forensic labs located at Offutt Air Force Base, whose mission is to recover and identify unaccounted service members from past conflict areas around the world, and the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center, a world-class regional facility conducting conservation examination and treatment of objects, paintings, and works on paper. Archeological sites will include Fort Atkinson State Historical Park (1820-1827, the first military post west of the Missouri River) to learn about past archeological efforts and view reconstructed for buildings, and the sunken Steamboat Bertrand and its museum containing a wonderful assortment of 250,000 Civil War-era artifacts (1865). While the tour will be traveling by van, we will be doing some light hiking at Fort Atkinson, so please wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Participation in the hike is not mandatory, however.

Genoa Area Tour (8:00 am–4:30 pm)

This tour will be by passenger van and will be led by Matt Reed (Pawnee Nation THPO) and Elsie Whitehorn (Otoe-Missouria Tribe THPO). Box lunches are provided. Tour limited to the first 30 people; a waitlist will be created. This tour will provide a detailed overview of combined Otoe-Missouria and Pawnee culture and history in central Nebraska from ca. 1800 to present, culminating in a discussion of how national experiences and interactions with the U.S. government have shaped Otoe-Missouria and Pawnee political policies, NAGPRA, Section 106, and more. Stops will include multiple important archeological sites within the Loup River valley, the Valley View Cemetery south of Genoa, and the Genoa US. Indian School Museum.

Geophysics Workshop, Nebraska History Museum (8:00 am–4:00 pm)

Dedicated to the memory of Robert K. Nickel

Whether you are a student or a professional archaeologist in the academic, government, or private sector, having a basic understanding of ground-based geophysical techniques is increasingly important. This one-day workshop is meant to provide an introductory level, hands-on experience for individuals who have limited or no previous experience. The workshop will highlight the use of different techniques such as magnetometry, ground-penetrating radar, earth resistance, conductivity, and magnetic susceptibility; the suitability of different instrument types; equipment and project costs; and data processing and interpretation.

Advanced registration for this workshop is required. Registrants should meet at the Nebraska History Museum Gilmore Room (131 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508) at 8:00 am. The Nebraska History Museum is located approximately 0.5 miles from the conference hotel for participants who wish to walk. Alternatively, paid parking is available nearby at the Larson Building and Garage or University Square Garage. The workshop, led by Adam Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center), Laura Crawford (Nebraska State Historical Society), and Steve DeVore (Midwest Archeological Center) will include classroom lecture, field data collection, and data processing components. Lunch is on your own; bring a lunch or choose one of many options located in the blocks around the Nebraska History Museum.

Registration and Merchandise Purchases

Tables for advanced registration check-in, onsite registration, and merchandise purchases are in the lower-level lobby of The Graduate. On Wednesday, October 21, the tables will be open from 5:00–8:00 pm. Conference merchandise will be available while supplies last.

Early Bird Reception

The Early Bird Reception will be held from 6:30–9:30 pm in the Scarlet Ballroom (lower level) of The Graduate. Enjoy a variety of complimentary light hors

d'oeuvres and dessert options, including pork belly bao buns, chicken kabobs, and carrot cake bars, alongside a cash bar.

This reception is graciously sponsored by the Nebraska Association of Professional Archaeologists.

Thursday, October 22

Registration and Merchandise Purchases

Tables for advanced registration check-in, onsite registration, and merchandise purchases are in the lower-level lobby of The Graduate. Tables will be open from 8:00 am–4:00 pm. Conference merchandise will be available while supplies last.

Vendors and Exhibitors

Several vendors and exhibitors will be stationed in the Legends Ballroom on the lower level of The Graduate. Booths will be open from 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

Paper and Poster Presentations and Panels (see schedule)

Student Paper Competition

Students competing in the annual Student Paper Competition will present their research on Thursday, October 22, at 10:00 am in the Rodgers Room. The Student Paper Award encourages and recognizes undergraduate and graduate students who present professional quality papers at the Plains Conference. All students attending the Plains Conference are invited to compete for this annual award. Separate undergraduate and graduate student awards will be granted. The award is a cash payment of $300 to undergraduates and $400 to graduate students with the potential for invitation to submit the paper for publication in *Plains Anthropologist* in some cases. The winner(s) will be announced at the Friday evening PAS Business Meeting and recognized at the conference banquet, to which all competition participants will receive two complimentary tickets.

Student Poster Competition

Students competing in the annual Student Poster Competition will present their research on Thursday, October 22, at 2:00 pm in the Perkins Room. The Student Poster Awards, given at the undergraduate and graduate level, are intended to recognize high-quality posters and associated presentations at the Plains Conference. All students attending the Plains Conference are invited to submit their posters for consideration. At least one student presenter for each poster should plan to attend their poster during the scheduled poster competition so that they can speak directly with the award judges. The award amounts are $200 to undergraduates and $300 to graduate students. The winner(s) will be announced at the Friday evening PAS Business Meeting and recognized at the conference banquet, which all competitors are encouraged to attend.

PAS Board of Directors Lunch

The PAS Board of Directors will hold their annual conference meeting on Thursday, October 22, from 11:30 am–1:30 pm in the Morrill Room at The Graduate.

Below Nebraska Author Meet and Greet & Book Signing

Co-editors of a new book about Nebraska archeology, Rob Bozell and Courtney Ziska, will be at the University of Nebraska Press vendor booth on Thursday, October 22, from 3:00–4:00 pm in the Legends Ballroom.

Midwest Archeological Center Open House (3:00–5:00 pm)

Conference attendees are welcome to visit the Midwest Archeological Center, an office of the National Park Service that has provided professional support to park units in the Midwest Region as well as other federal, state, and local government agencies for more than 50 years. Displays highlighting recent archeological projects will be set up throughout the office and lab, and staff will be available to discuss the Center's history and role in the National Park Service.

MWAC is located in the Robert V. Denney Federal Building (100 Centennial Mall N., Room 474, Lincoln, NE 68508), so visitors will be required to pass through security. Free parking is available in the federal garage across from the federal building on the south side of "O" Street. The garage closes at 5:30 pm, so visitors

cannot remain in the federal garage for the Thursday evening reception at the Nebraska History Museum. Once parked, visitors will enter the federal building on the west side where they go through a metal detector at the security station. A photo ID is required. All bags must go through an X-ray machine. No weapons (including pocketknives and mace) or cameras are allowed in the building. Cell phones are acceptable.

Evening Reception and Lightning Session

Thursday evening's reception will be at the Nebraska History Museum (NHM) (131 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508) from 6:00–8:00 pm. Attendees will be able to view current exhibits at the museum, including *Piecing Together the Past: An Exhibit Exploring 13,000 Years of History with Nebraska's Archeologists*, and *Our Nebraska: The Place, Its People, & Their Impact*, exploring 250 years of layered, interconnected histories in this land we now call Nebraska. Additionally, a series of Lightning Session presentations will be held in the NHM's Oldfather Auditorium starting at 6:45 pm.

The reception will include heavy appetizers, including 3 Sisters salad, choke cherry chicken sliders, bison sliders, blue cornmeal with mixed berries, and chocolate and pinon nutcake, prepared by Tradish(ish) ("Where traditional meets contemporary, a fusion of Native American cuisine") from Ralston, NE. A cash bar will be provided by Meier Cork 'n Bottle.

The Nebraska History Museum is located approximately 0.5 miles from the conference hotel for participants who wish to walk. Shuttle vans will be available to transport attendees between The Graduate and NHM from 5:45–6:15 pm, and from 8:00–8:30 pm. Street parking at meters near the Nebraska History Museum is free after 6:00 pm, Monday through Saturday. Several paid parking garages are also located nearby.

This reception is generously sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation.

Friday, October 23

Registration and Merchandise Purchases

Tables for advanced registration check-in, onsite registration, and merchandise purchases are in the lower-level lobby of The Graduate. Tables will be open from 8:00 am–4:00 pm. Conference merchandise will be available while supplies last.

Vendors and Exhibitors

Several vendors and exhibitors will be stationed in the Legends Ballroom on the lower level of The Graduate. Booths will be open from 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

Paper and Poster Presentations, Panels, and Forum (see schedule)

PAS Student Workshop Lunch: An Introduction to Archeological Geophysics

This student-focused workshop will provide an introduction and overview of the most used geophysical techniques in archaeology, including magnetometry, ground-penetrating radar, earth resistance, conductivity, and magnetic susceptibility. The workshop will be in the Rodgers Room from 11:30 am–1:20 pm and will be led by Adam Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center), Laura Crawford (Nebraska State Historical Society), and Steve DeVore (Midwest Archeological Center). All students attending the PAC are encouraged to register. Free lunch will be provided for the first 35 student registrants. Other attendees may bring their own lunch. Attendance at the Wednesday geophysics workshop is not required to attend this lunch workshop.

The Student Lunch Workshop is sponsored by the PAS Student Engagement Committee and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Global Integrative Studies

PAS Business Meeting

On Friday, October 23, the PAS Business Meeting will be at 4:00 pm in the Rodgers Room.

UNL SGIS Alumni Gathering

This reception, hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Global Integrative Studies, is open to all SGIS—Anthropology, Geography, and Global Studies—students, alumni and friends. We would love the opportunity to reconnect and hear where your journey has taken you. Faculty, students, and alums attending the reception are equally excited to visit with you and share some of the programs, projects, research, and great work happening across SGIS today. Come reconnect with friends, faculty, and colleagues, meet current students, and spend some time catching up with the SGIS community. SGIS will provide hors d'oeuvres and complimentary soft drinks, along with one drink token per RSVP'd guest for a complimentary beer or glass of wine. A cash bar will be available for additional beer and wine purchases. This gathering will be in the Perkins Room from 4:30–6:30 pm.

PAS Board Meeting

The Friday, October 23, PAS Board of Directors Meeting will immediately follow the PAS Business Meeting in the Rodgers Room.

Evening Banquet

The Friday evening banquet will begin at 5:30 pm with a cash bar in the Ardis Ballroom (The Graduate, main floor). A plated dinner for those who purchased tickets will begin at 7:00 pm. Conference announcements and awards will be presented at approximately 7:45 pm. Banquet speaker Dr. Margaret Jacobs will begin about 8:00 pm. Seating will be available for conference attendees who did not purchase a banquet ticket but wish to attend the awards and speaker presentations.

Saturday, October 24

Conference Tour (meet in The Graduate lobby at 7:45 am)

Southeast Nebraska Tour (8:00 am–6:00 pm)

This tour will be by passenger van and will be led by Rob Bozell (retired Nebraska State Archeology Office) and Elsie Whitehorn (Otoe-Missouria Tribe THPO). Box lunches are provided. This day-long tour will highlight the deep cultural history of Southeast Nebraska, with stops at multiple ancestral Otoe-Missouria and Pawnee archeological sites, Rock Creek Station State Historical Park (California & Oregon

Trail, and Pony Express station), and Homestead National Historical Park (location of one of the first land parcels claimed under the 1862 Homestead Act). While the tour will be traveling by van, we will be doing some light hiking at Rock Creek Station, so please wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Participation in the hike is not mandatory, however.

Registration and Merchandise Purchases

Tables for advanced registration check-in, onsite registration, and merchandise purchases are in the lower-level lobby of The Graduate. Tables will be open from 8:00 am–12:00 pm. Conference merchandise will be available while supplies last.

Vendors and Exhibitors

Several vendors and exhibitors will be stationed in the Legends Ballroom on the lower level of The Graduate. Booths will be open from 8:00 am–12:00 pm.

Paper and Poster Presentations (see schedule)

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 21

[1] **WORKSHOP: ARCHEOLOGICAL GEOPHYSICS** [Nebraska History Museum, Gilmore Room] Organizers: Adam Wiewel, Laura Crawford, Steve DeVore

Thursday Morning, October 22

[2] **A TRIBUTE TO THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHN LUDWICKSON**
[Rozier Room] Chairs: John R. Bozell, Steven R. Holen, and John M. O'Shea

8:20 am ***John Ludwickson - - The Early Years***. Craig M. Johnson (Paleocultural Research Group)

8:40 am ***John Ludwickson: The Early Years***. Steven R. Holen (Center for American Paleolithic Research)

9:00 am ***The John Ludwickson Archive***. John R. Bozell (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist)

9:20 am ***Interpreting Plains Village Culture***. L Adrien Hannus (Professor Emeritus, Augustana University)

9:40 am ***On the Centrality (or Not) of Extended Coalescent, Post-Contact Coalescent and Historic Arikara Earthlodge Village Ceremonial Lodges***. Kerry Lippincott (Consulting Archaeologist, retired)

10:00 am ***Break***

10:20 am ***Going Back: Results of the Recent Investigations at the East Mortensen Site (25HW9) and the Emergence of the Central Plains Tradition***. Michael Page (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist)

10:40 am ***What, Where, and When Is the Itskari Variant?*** Michael Page (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist)

11:00 am ***Boy, Were We Wrong!*** Donald Blakeslee (Wichita State University)

11:20 am ***Life on the Proto-Historic Frontier: An Introduction to the Barcal Village Site (25BU4), Butler County, Nebraska***. John O'Shea (Museum of Anthropological Anthropology, University of Michigan)

11:40 am ***The 2025 Excavation at 25ST16 The Sharpe Homestead: John Would Have Hated It.*** Nolan Johnson (Nebraska State Historical Society)

[3] **STUDENT PAPER AWARD COMPETITION** [Rodgers Room] Chair: Sarah Trabert

10:00 am ***Barkaology: An Ethnoarchaeological Assessment of Dog Butchery***. Thomas Barton (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Elizabeth Brandt (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Jessica Kirkman (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Monica Quilatan (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Christine Parker (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and William Belcher (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

10:20 am ***Mapping the Ioway***. Amy Peterson (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

10:40 am ***One Ocean, Two Worlds: Southern Pomo and Native Hawaiian Navigations of Biological Anthropology***. Miles Rhoads (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Jessica Gammage (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

11:00 am ***New Evidence for Buried Early Holocene Deposits at the Lawrence Site, Grand Teton National Park***. Colin King (University of Wyoming), JP Schubert (National Park Service), Kate Birmingham (National Park Service), Rebecca Pachlhofer (National Park Service), Claudia Celia (University of Wyoming), Xavier Littlehead (University of Wyoming), Lilian Befeler (University of Wyoming), Cinthia Campos-Hernandez (University of Wyoming), and Randy Haas (University of Wyoming)

[4] **APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHOD AND THEORY** [Crouch Room] Moderator: Adam Wiewel

9:00 am ***Bones Under the Road: A Preliminary Faunal Analysis of 13WD244 in Sioux City, Iowa***. Fox Nelson (University of Iowa), Derick P. Juptner (University of Iowa), and Tarah Marks (Tallgrass Archaeology, LLC)

9:20 am ***Project Management in Archaeology: A Crash Course***. Laura Crawford (Nebraska State Historical Society)

9:40 am ***Lessons from Experimental Knapping: Spatial Patterning in Lithic Debris Scatters***. Kenneth Kvamme (University of Arkansas, retired)

10:00 am ***Seeing Beneath the Surface: The Midwest Archeological Center's Archeological Prospection Program After 50 Years***. Adam Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center)

10:20 am ***It's Not Marmalade: 'Reflections of My Life' in Anthropological Archaeology, 1975-2025***. Paul Picha (Retired, Bismarck, North Dakota)

10:40 am ***#Is Spider Man a Serial Killer?: The Role of Forensic Archaeology in the Investigations of Homicides and Missing Persons Associated with a Mixed Martial Arts Fighter***. Kent Buehler (University of Oklahoma, retired)

[5] **PARTITIONING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD: IMPACTS OF SITE DEFINITIONS, SPATIAL CONSTRAINTS, AND ASSEMBLAGE-BASED ANALYSES ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATIONS** [Perkins Room]

Chairs: Lawrence Todd and Jack Hofman; 9:00–11:00 am

(1) ***Survey, Sampling, and Surface Archaeological Assessment: Looking at the Record***. Lawrence Todd (GRSLE) and Daniel Dalmas (Iowa State University)

(2) ***Regional Archaeological Pattern Recognition: Examining Effects of Site Definition***. Lawrence Todd (GRSLE)

(3) ***Partitioning the Historic Period in the Central Plains: A Pre-Statehood, Pre-GLO Post on the Marais des Cygnes in Eastern Kansas***. Barbara M. Crable (Kansas Historical Society), Jack L. Hofman (University of Kansas), and J.C. Parkin

(4) ***Lithic Signatures for Strike-A-Light Fire Making at Historic Sites***. Jack Hofman (University of Kansas)

(5) ***The Iron Age in the Central Plains: Partitioning the History of Pressing Irons***. Jack Hofman (University of Kansas)

(6) ***The Probability of Missing: Measuring Lithic Diversity Across the Absaroka Mountains***. Daniel

Dalmas (Iowa State University) and Lawrence Todd (GRSLE)

(7) ***Aiming Beyond Categories: Rethinking Archaeological Partitioning Through S.H.O.T.s***. Charles Orngard (GRSLE), Lawrence Todd (GRSLE), and Daniel Dalmas (Iowa State University)

(8) ***Partitioning Archaeological Space: How Sampling Scale Changes the Archaeological Record***. Riley Hamada (University of Utah), Daniel Dalmas (Iowa State University), and Lawrence Todd (GRSLE)

(9) ***A Sharper Look: Resharpening Trends and Flake Comparison in the GRSLE Dataset***. Pierce Mulroe (University of Utah), Lawrence Todd (Colorado State University), and Daniel Dalmas (Iowa State University)

Thursday Afternoon, October 22

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[6] **CURRENT WORK AT HEAD-SMASHED-IN BUFFALO JUMP** [Crouch Room] Moderator: Will Swisher

1:40 pm ***Orchestrate, Conduct, Repeat: The Remarkable Record of Reuse of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump***. Bob Dawe (Royal Alberta Museum), Karen Giering (Royal Alberta Museum), Alwynne Beaudoin (Royal Alberta Museum), Shawn Bubel (University of Lethbridge), and Kevin McGeough (University of Lethbridge)

2:00 pm ***Buffalo Jumpers and Hide Hunters in Cinematic Westerns***. Kevin McGeough (University of Lethbridge) and Shawn Bubel (University of Lethbridge)

[7] **Historic Archeology in Kansas** [Crouch Room] Moderator: Will Swisher

2:40 pm ***Fort Zarah, A Temporary Post Along the Santa Fe Trail***. Barbara M. Crable (Kansas Historical Society) and Jack L. Hofman (University of Kansas)

3:00 pm ***Preliminary Findings from the 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School***. Paige Bump (Kansas Historical Society), Nikki Klarmann (Kansas Historical Society), Steven Keehner (Kansas Historical Society), Doug Kressly (Kansas Historical

Society), Barb Crable (Kansas Historical Society), Jackson Witt (Kansas Historical Society), Carlton Shield Chief Gover (University of Kansas), Matt Reed (Pawnee Nation Historic Preservation Office), Wesley Gibson (Stantec), and Morris Floyd (Kansas Anthropological Association)

3:20 pm ***GIS-based Assessment of Flooding Risks at Historic Highland Cemetery, Wichita, Kansas***. Matthew Howland (Wichita State University), Timmerie J. Henke (Wichita State University), and Barb Myers (Wichita State University)

[8] **HEY PLAINS! WE NEED TO TALK** [Rozier Room] Chair: KC Carlson

1:40 pm ***Who Are We Working With? Rethinking American Indian Archaeology***. Carlton Shield Chief Gover (University of Kansas, Pawnee Nation)

2:00 pm ***Tribal Identification: Bulletin 38 and Beyond***. Tyrel Iron Eyes (Standing Rock Sioux Tribe)

2:20 pm ***Rematriation of Archaeology: Perspective of a Ponca Wau'***. Stacy Laravie (Ponca)

2:40 pm ***Curation, Consultation, and Other Invisible Labors: Why Plains Anthropology is More Than Dirt Archaeology***. Brooke Morgan (Illinois State Museum)

3:00 pm ***Beyond Plains Anthropologist: Twenty Years of Gendered Publishing Trends***. Phyllis S. Johnson (Michigan State University)

3:20 pm ***Chasing Bison: A Career from Grad School to Tenure, with Toddlers to Teens***. KC Carlson (Augustana University)

[9] **PANEL: THE SECTION 106 PROCESS IN SHPOS/THPOS** [Rodgers Room] Chair: Kelli Bacon

2:00–4:00 pm Panelists: Doug Kressly, Mariska Molnar, Matt Reed, Elsie Whitehorn

[10] **STUDENT POSTER AWARD COMPETITION** [Perkins Room] Chair: Stephen Perkins; 2:00–4:00 pm

(1) ***New Radiocarbon Dates Confirm Pleistocene Horse Contemporaneity with Clovis Culture in Alberta***. Larkin Chapman (University of New Mexico)

(2) ***This is OUR Noem, not yours: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Shaping of Immigrant Identity on Instagram***. Samuel Rich (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(3) ***P Beadwork as Intergenerational Cultural Knowledge: An Autoethnographic Perspective***. Shema Lincoln (Oklahoma State University)

(4) ***Being Buried in a Box: Coffins and Preservation in Medieval Transylvania***. Kallen Swearingen (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(5) ***Ceramics, Consumption, and Everyday Life in Early Lincoln: The Ross Theater Ceramic Collection***. Mary Watson (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Effie Athanassopoulos (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(6) ***Anatomical Variation in Biological Anthropology Lab Materials***. Charlotte Coughlin (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Timothy Sefczek (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(7) ***Excavations of Laundress Architecture at Old Fort Meade, Sturgis, SD***. Greyson Baumberger (University of South Dakota), Anthony Krus (University of South Dakota), Natalie Wagner (University of South Dakota), Willow Gilliland (University of South Dakota), Avery Welte (University of South Dakota), Rhyan Hemphill (University of South Dakota), Abigail Zenner (University of South Dakota), Broeden Fenicle (University of South Dakota), and Aaron J. Mayer (University of South Dakota)

(8) ***The Carnahan-Garrison Cemetery***. Gabrielle Carmona (Kansas State University), Lauren Jones (Kansas State University), and Nathan Klembara (Kansas State University)

(9) ***Hidden Features: Aerial Remote Sensing Characteristics of Clandestine Graves***. Thomas Barton (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(10) ***Cobs in the Current: An Experimental Study on the Effects of Inundation on Maize Cob Morphology***. Annabel Hendrickson (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(11) ***Using Neural Network to Delineate Soil Profiles in Archaeological Contexts***. Max Gosch (Purdue University)

(12) ***Lost Neighborhoods of Lincoln: Mapping Civil Architecture at the Heart of the UNL City Campus***. Diego A. Ruiz (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), McKenzie Fuller (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Mustafa Al Turki (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(13) ***Language Geographies of Settler Nebraska: Geolinguistic Sense of Place in Willa Cather's Novels***. Elle Ward (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

(14) ***Intangible Connections and X-Files: An Approach to Evaluating Commingled Remains of US WWII Servicemembers with Geospatial Mapping & Knowledge Graphs.*** Ella Axelrod (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Thursday Evening, October 22

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[11] **LIGHTNING SESSION** [Nebraska History Museum, Oldfather Auditorium]

6:45 pm ***There Can be Only One: Chipped Stone Debris***. Nolan Johnson (Nebraska State Historical Society)

6:50 pm ***Paws-itive Results: HHRD K9s in the Field***. Ashley Barnett (National Park Service)

6:55 pm ***Distance Learning: Not Just for Pandemic Times!*** Rebecca Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center)

7:00 pm ***Never (Actually, in This Case, Please Do) Tell Me the Odds: Nebraska's Buried Sites Predictive GIS***. Dave Williams (Nebraska State Historical Society) and Annie Davis (Nebraska State Historical Society)

7:05 pm ***Piecing Together the Past: How the Nebraska State Historical Society Brings Archeology into Classrooms Across Nebraska***. Jennifer Banks (Nebraska State Historical Society)

7:10 pm ***Seeing Triple: A Multi-Instrument Geophysical Survey from the Nebraska Sandhills***. Adam Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center)

[12] **A SYMPOSIUM TO HONOR THE SCHOLARSHIP AND CAREER OF ALAN OSBORN** [Crouch Room] Chair: Kenneth Cannon

8:20 am ***The Career of Alan J. Osborn: A Study in Diversity***. Robert Hitchcock (University of New Mexico) and Melinda C. Kelly (Kalahari Peoples Fund)

8:40 am ***The Final Fifty Years of the Jiwere-Nut'achi (Otoe-Missouria) Tribes in Nebraska***. John R. Bozell (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist)

9:00 am ***The Biocultural Evolution of Cuisine: Pellagra and the Archaeology of Nixtamalization***. Barrett Brenton (Binghamton University)

9:20 am ***The Application of Strontium Isotopes in Tracking Holocene Bison in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem***. Kenneth Cannon (Cannon Heritage Consultants, Inc.), Ethan Ryan (HRA), and Houston Martin (SUNY Westchester Community College)

9:40 am ***Talking Turkey, Fooling Gobblers: An Early Holocene Yelper from the Lower Illinois River Valley***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University) and Thomas J. Loebel (Illinois State Archaeological Survey)

10:00 am ***Break***

10:20 am ***Early Paleoindian Occupations at Hell Gap: Younger Dryas, Making Clothes, and Keeping Warm***. Marcel Kornfeld (University of Wyoming)

10:40 am ***Reflections of an Older Plains Archaeologist: Losing My Site and Becoming Non-Binary***. Lawrence Todd (GRSLE)

11:00 am ***Arguing from First Principles: Houses as Signals in Custer County, Nebraska, 1870–1890***. LuAnn Wandsnider (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

11:20 am ***Mentor to Collaborator: Comments from Students and Colleagues of Alan Osborn***. Molly Cannon (Utah State University)

[13] **ARCHAEOLOGIES OF THE PAWNEE NATION: CURRENT RESEARCH AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS** [Rozier Room] Chair: Carlton Shield Chief Gover

8:20 am ***A Pawnee Hunting Camp on the Smoky Hill River, Western Kansas: The Kraus Tipi Ring Site, 14EL406***. Jack Hofman (University of Kansas)

8:40 am ***Tracing Origins Through Pottery: Ceramic Attribute Analysis Within a Communities of Practice Framework at 25BD1 (Lynch Site)***. Kelsey Hoppes (University of Colorado Boulder)

9:00 am ***Hopes for the Heithoff Site (25AP37), 2026-2027***. Laura Crawford (Nebraska State Historical Society) and Nolan Johnson (Nebraska State Historical Society)

9:20 am ***Eighteenth-century Central Plains Hunting and Farming Strategies: An Evaluation of the "Dual Economy."*** John R. Bozell (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist) and Mary J. Adair (Curator Emerita, University of Kansas)

9:40 am ***Ancient DNA from Archaeological Dogs Reveal Insights into Pawnee History***. Ariane Thomas (National Institutes of Health), Matthew E. Hill, Jr. (University of Iowa), Matt Reed (Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma), Andrew Kitchen (University of Iowa), Greger Larson (University of Oxford), Laurent A. F. Frantz (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität), and Elaine A. Ostrander (National Institutes of Health)

10:00 am ***BREAK***

10:20 am ***Distinctive Features of Pawnee Ceramic Traditions***. Margaret Beck (University of Iowa)

10:40 am ***Origins of the Pawnee Bow***. Devin Pettigrew (Sul Ross State University)

11:00 am ***Revisiting Northern Caddoan Origins and Long-Term Social Change***. Douglas B. Bamforth (University of Colorado Boulder)

11:20 am ***Searching for Home: Archaeology and the Ckîri Homeland***. Carlton Shield Chief Gover (University of Kansas, Pawnee Nation)

11:40 am ***Pawneeland in a Severalty World***. Roger Echo-Hawk (Pawnee Nation)

[14] **PANEL: THE FUTURE OF SECTION 106** [Rodgers Room] Chair: Andrew Clark

9:00–11:00 am Panelists: Jennifer Harty, Tyrel Iron Eyes, Brooke Morgan

[15] **LITHIC AND GEOARCHEOLOGY STUDIES POSTERS** [Perkins Room]; 9:00–11:00 am

(1) ***Year One for the South Dakota Pipestone Project: Using XRD to Refine the Mineralogy***. Alison Hadley (Texas A&M International University), Greg Haggerty (Mitchell Indigenous Archaeological Site & Museum), and Eddy Veliz (Texas A&M International University)

(2) ***Quartzite Quarry Comparisons: Determining the Stratigraphic Location of 39CU0551 within the Inyan Cara Group***. Kayleigh Johnson (South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeological Research Center)

(3) ***Distance from Spring Predicts Lithic Density at Willow Springs Campsite, WY***. Reuben M. Haas (Forager Archaeology Lab) and Randy Haas (University of Wyoming)

(4) ***Middle Woodland Ochre Use at the Two Hawks Site***. James McGrath-Seegmiller (Tallgrass Archaeology)

(5) ***Environmental Change and the Timing of Human Occupation Revealed by OSL Dating at the Lynch Site, NE***. Gosia Mahoney (Midwest Archeological Center), Paul R. Hanson (University of Nebraska), and Sherilyn C. Fritz (University of Nebraska)

(6) ***Overlapping Borders: Oklahoma-Colorado Projectile Point Typologies***. Katie Gamblin (Oklahoma State University)

[24] **GREAT PLAINS FAUNAL STUDIES POSTERS** [Perkins Room]; 9:00–11:00 am

(7) ***Archaeology of Keystone Rockshelter, Eastern Iowa: The Upper Valley Dalton Component***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University), Daniel M. Dalmas (Iowa State University), John M. Lambert (Illinois State Archaeological Survey), and Thomas J. Loebel (Illinois State Archaeological Survey)

(8) ***Bayesian Modeling of Oneota Tradition Radiocarbon Dates along the Des Moines River in Central Iowa***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University)

(9) ***Asynchronous Horn-core and Postcranial Size Reduction in Late Pleistocene Bison from Interior North America***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University), Ryan M. Byerly (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.), Cody Newton (University of Colorado), and Lawrence C. Todd (Colorado State University)

(10) ***An Update on Dire Wolf in the Interior of North America***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University), Christopher C. Widga (Pennsylvania State University), Todd A. Surovell (University of Wyoming), Kurt M. Wilson (Lawrence University), Sarah A. Allaun (Office of the State Archaeologist of Colorado), and McKenna L. Litynski (University of Wyoming)

(11) ***A Complete Sabertooth Cat Cranium from the Midcontinent of North America and Its Evolutionary and Ecological Context***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University)

(12) ***A Late Pleistocene Wood Turtle from Southwest Iowa: Response of the Taxon to Glaciation and Formation of the Current Range***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University)

(13) ***Synthesis and Assessment of the Flat-headed Peccary Record in North America***. Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University) and Kurt M. Wilson (Lawrence University)

(14) ***Selective Grazing and Patchy Prairies: Bison Foraging and Holocene Grassland Heterogeneity in the Central Plains***. Daniel Dalmas (Iowa State

University), Matthew G. Hill (Iowa State University), Andrew D. Somerville (Iowa State University), and Joan Brenner Coltrain (University of Utah)

Friday Lunchtime, October 23

[16] **Student Lunch Workshop:** [Rodgers Room] Organizers: Adam Wiewel, Laura Crawford, Steve DeVore

Sponsored by the PAS Student Engagement Committee & University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Global Integrative Studies

11:30 am–1:20 pm ***An Introduction to Archeological Geophysics***

Friday Afternoon, October 23

[17] **PALEOINDIAN ARCHEOLOGY ON THE PLAINS** [Rozier Room]

Moderator: Matthew Howland

2:00 pm ***Revisiting the James Allen Site in the Laramie Basin, Wyoming***. Kelton Meyer (University of Wyoming) and Michelle Dinkel (ERO Resources)

2:20 pm ***From Kill to Camp: A Macroscopic Analysis of Lithic Technology at the James Allen Site***. Natalie Bryant (University of Wyoming) and Kelton Meyer (University of Wyoming)

2:40 pm ***Back to the Bonebed: Taphonomic Analysis of Bison antiquus from the James Allen Site (48AB4)***. Zach Downey (University of Wyoming) and Kelton Meyer (University of Wyoming)

3:00 pm ***Keratin for Stone Stool Production: The Exemplary Utility of Bighorn Sheep Horn Rods for Indirect Percussion and Pressure Flaking***. Phil Geib (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

3:20 pm ***Agate Basin at Blackwater Draw, Roosevelt County, New Mexico***. Brendon Asher (Eastern New Mexico State University)

[18] **PANEL: ANTHROPOLOGY AGAINST THE CURRENT: EXPERIENCE AND ADVICE ON MENTORING AND TEACHING TODAY** [Rodgers Room] Chair: Alison Hadley

2:00–4:00 pm Panelists: Todd Ahlman, Margaret Beck, Stephen Perkins, Sarah Trabert

[19] **FORUM: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH IN QUIVIRA** [Crouch Room] Chair: Donald Blakeslee; 2:00–4:00 pm

[20] **Historic and Collaborative Archeology Posters** [Perkins Room]; 2:00–4:00 pm

(1) ***Genomic Analysis and Divergence of the Blackfoot Lineage***. Maria Nieves Zedeño (The University of Arizona), R.S. Malhi (U. Illinois Urbana), M. DeGiorgio (Florida Atlantic U.), J. Lindo (Emory U.), F. Lanoe (U. Arkansas Fayetteville), D. First Rider (Blood Tribe), A. Crop Ear Wolf (Blood Tribe), and J.R. Murray (Blackfeet THPO)

(2) ***From the Mines to the Dungeon: The Rediscovery of Lead's Homestake Open Cut Archaeological Collection***. Kathryn Anderson (South Dakota State Historical Society Archaeological Research Center) and Katherine Lamie (South Dakota State Historical Society Archaeological Research Center)

(3) ***Digitizing Early Lincoln: The UNL Campus Archaeology Project***. Effie Athanassopoulos (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Karin Dalziel (Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, UNL), and Chad Koch (Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, UNL)

(4) ***Shut Up & LISTEN: Conversation & Collaboration (Not Consultation)***. Meagan Schoenfelder (State Historical Society of North Dakota), Jon Eagle (State Historical Society of North Dakota), and Abigail Eve Fisher (ERG)

(5) ***Before the Bubbles: Historical Archaeology of Immigration and Integration at the Welk Homestead***. Andrew Clark (State Historical Society of North Dakota), Kacy Hollenback (Southern Methodist

University), and Addie Loftis (Southern Methodist University)

(6) ***Teaching from the Ground Up: Fieldwork at Reller Prairie Field School***. Ella Axelrod (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and LuAnn Wandsnider (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Saturday Morning, October 24

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[21] **ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE PLAINS VILLAGE PERIOD AND AFTER** [Rozier Room] Moderator: Rachel Thimmig

9:00 am ***More Than a Cabin: Reframing Like-A-Fishhook Village's House 3 as a Mandan-Hidatsa Home***. Rachel Thimmig (Brown University)

9:20 am ***Final Results of Archaeological Investigations within the Middle Missouri Subarea along the Swan Creek Tributary in Walworth County, South Dakota***. Matthew Busch (South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeological Research Center)

9:40 am ***Dating Infinity: A Multicomponent Site in Southeastern Kansas***. Steven Keehner (Kansas Historical Society)

10:00 am ***Preservation, Research, and Stabilization at Knife River Indian Villages NHP: Managing the Elbee Site***. Andrew Weiland (National Park Service)

10:20 am ***Occupational and Depositional History of the House Locale at Etzanoa (14CO3)***. Crystal Dozier (Wichita State University) and Nautika Richards (Wichita State University)

10:40 am ***Beyond the Pueblo Revolt: Rethinking Horse Introduction on the Southern Plains***. Brandi Bethke (Oklahoma Archeological Survey), Sarah Trabert (University of Oklahoma), Jarron Davidson (University of Oklahoma), and Joaquín Rivaya-Martínez (Texas State University)

11:00 am ***Cultivating the Plains: Paleosol Evidence for Woodland and Plains Village Period Landscape Use***. Katelyn Cooke (Oklahoma State University), Carlos

Cordova (Oklahoma State University), and Charles Frederick (C. Frederick Consulting)

[22] **THE STATE OF FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY: THE VIEW FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN** [Rodgers Room] Chair: William Belcher

9:00 am ***The State of the Statutes: How State Cultural Resources Laws Connect to Forensic Anthropology in Nebraska***. Dave Williams (Nebraska State Historical Society)

9:20 am ***Forensic Anthropological Casework: the View from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2019 to Present***. William Belcher (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

9:40 am ***From Prairie to Practice: An Integrated Framework for Regional Forensic Taphonomic Research***. Jessica Gammage (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

10:00 am ***An Overview of Decomposition Studies in the Great Plains***. Patrick Barchett (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

10:20 am ***Gunshot Trauma and Its Impact on Decomposition and Trauma Preservation in Southeastern Nebraska***. Alexandra Tieken (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

10:40 am ***One Ocean, Two Worlds: Southern Pomo and Native Hawaiian Navigations of Biological Anthropology***. Miles Rhoads (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Jessica Gammage (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

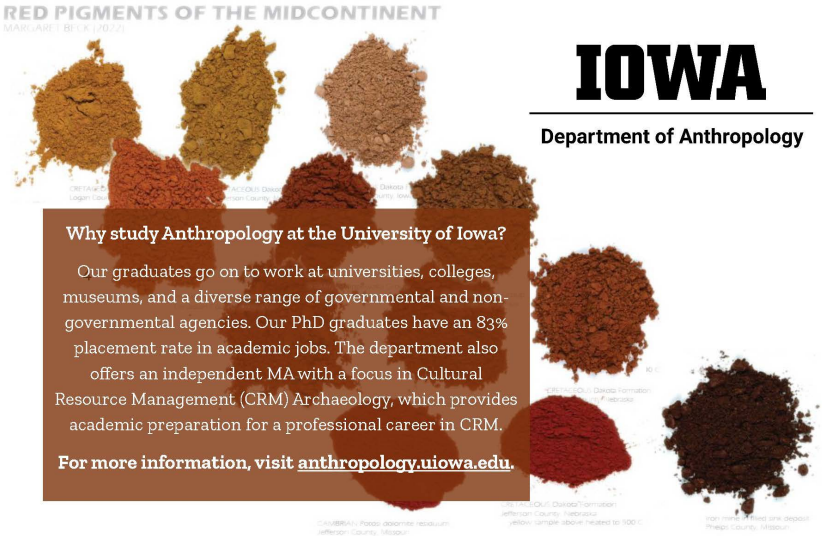
[23] **LITHIC ANALYSIS ON THE GREAT PLAINS** [Crouch Room] Moderator: Will Swisher

9:00 am ***Lithic-source analysis supports a model of rapid adaptation to the Teton Mountains, Wyoming***. Randy Haas (University of Wyoming), Michael Thom (University of Wyoming), Robert Kelly (University of Wyoming), Michael Page (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist), Marcia Peterson (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist), Paul Sanders (independent), and JP Schubert (Grand Teton National Park)

9:20 am ***Reinterpretation of the Lithic Material Tesesquite Quartzite Cimarron County, Oklahoma***. Dean

Richmond (University of Oklahoma) and Leland Bement (Oklahoma Archeological Survey)

9:40 am ***Preliminary results from the Phase III Data Recovery excavations at the Two Hawks Site (13WD244)***. Justin Moe (Tallgrass Archaeology)



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ORGANIZED SYMPOSIA, WORKSHOP, PANEL, & FORUM ABSTRACTS

[1] **Workshop: Archeological Geophysics**

Adam Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center), Laura Crawford (Nebraska State Historical Society), and Steve DeVore (Midwest Archeological Center)

Wednesday, 8:00 am–4:00 pm, Nebraska History Museum (Gilmore Room)

Whether you are a student or a professional archaeologist in the academic, government, or private sector, having a basic understanding of ground-based geophysical techniques is increasingly important. This one-day workshop is meant to provide an introductory level, hands-on experience for Plains Anthropological Society members who have limited or no previous experience. The workshop will highlight the use of different techniques such as magnetometry, ground-penetrating radar, earth resistance, conductivity, and magnetic susceptibility; the suitability of different instrument types; equipment and project costs; and data processing and interpretation.

[2] **A Tribute to the Contributions of John Ludwickson**

John R. Bozell (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist), Steven R. Holen (Center for American Paleolithic Research), and John M. O'Shea (Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, University of Michigan)

Thursday, October 22, 8:20 am, Rozier Room

John Ludwickson's archeology career began while still in high school in the mid-1960s, working on Smithsonian Institution-River Basin Survey crews in the Middle Missouri Subarea of South Dakota. He maintained a half-century of consistent and diverse archeological compliance work and research until his passing in 2024. Most of that time was spent at the Nebraska State Historical Society. John's knowledge of Nebraska anthropology history was encyclopedic and unmatched. His research spanned a plethora of Plains Village tradition topics as well as deep research efforts on military history particularly 1860s campaigns in the Platte River valley. In addition to important publications, John is perhaps best remembered for unselfishly assisting other archeologists in navigating their way through obscure collections, gray literature, and difficult to access archives.

The papers in this session touch directly on John's contributions and career but also on current research which John certainly would have appreciated.

[5] **Partitioning the Archaeological Record: Impacts of Site Definitions, Spatial Constraints, and Assemblage-based Analyses on Archaeological Interpretations**

Lawrence Todd (GRSLE) and Jack Hofman (University of Kansas)

Thursday, October 22, 9:00 am, Perkins Room

This session considers examples of managerial and analytical decisions that impact documentation and interpretation of the archaeological record. Regionally different definitions of archaeological "sites" as partitioned analytical units produce significantly different patterns in the archaeological record at landscape scale. These imposed patterns can easily be misconstrued as behaviorally or culturally derived when they may instead reflect archaeological management practices. Similarly, partitioning assemblages into discrete analytical categories based on material type, commonly considered separately by specialists, can diminish recognition of systemic linkages reflecting human behavior and the interrelated nature of many categories. Furthermore, partitioning the record into chronological units can result in lumping or mixing cultural units which are distinctly different in origin, tradition, or character. The historic pre-statehood period in Eastern Kansas includes multiple distinct cultural traditions and material assemblages. Posters in this session consider these and closely related issues and their implications for how we document, partition, analyze, and interpret the archaeological record.

[8] **Hey Plains! We Need to Talk**

KC Carlson (Augustana University)

Thursday, October 22, 1:40 pm, Rozier Room

This session brings together indigenous scholars and mid-career women to discuss the good, the bad, and the ugly of Plains Archaeology. As Plains archaeologists, we have seen and experienced plenty in our careers and will share firsthand the best and worst of what it is to be a Plains Archaeologist. The organization membership long ago outgrew its image. It's time to wonder, is that image of what it means to be a Plains Archaeologist holding us back? Is it

excluding good people and good work? More importantly, we outline concrete paths forward to a more inclusive future for the Plains and the research that drives current studies in the region. It's not all good, it's not all bad, there's plenty of ugly, and it's well past time we talk about it.

[9] **Panel: The Section 106 Process in SHPOs/THPOs**

Kelli Bacon (Nebraska State Historical Society, NeSHPO)

Panelists: Doug Kressly (Kansas Historical Society, KSSHPO), Mariska Molnar (Nebraska State Historical Society, NESHPO), Matt Reed (Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma THPO), Elsie Whitehorn (Otoe-Missouria Tribe in Red Rock, OK THPO)

Thursday, October 22, 2:00 pm, Rodgers Room

While the National Historic Preservation Act lays out the Section 106 process in 36 CFR Part 800 - Protection of Historic Properties, each State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) carries out the process slightly differently. This panel discussion will include participants from multiple SHPOs and THPOs who will tell you about their specific requirements, how they conduct reviews, how they make decisions, and how they reach concurrence. There will be time for discussion between panelists and conference attendees.

[12] **A Symposium to Honor the Scholarship and Career of Alan Osborn**

Kenneth Cannon (Cannon Heritage Consultants, Inc.)

Friday, October 23, 8:20 am, Crouch Room

Across six decades, Dr. Alan Osborn has sharpened his trowel and analytical tools, challenging assumptions, gathering data, and generating models that investigate humans within social, ecological, and biological systems. Drawing from his vast fieldwork, from the Plains to the American Southwest to Central and South America, Osborn's oeuvre interrogates everyday life of past peoples and their innovative solutions for navigating and adapting to environmental and biological stressors. This symposium honors that body of work and celebrates Osborn as a committed, dedicated member of the Plains anthropology community.

[13] **Archaeologies of the Pawnee Nation: Current Research and Future Directions**

Carlton Shield Chief Gover (University of Kansas, Pawnee Nation)

Friday, October 23, 8:20 am, Rozier Room

Pawnee archaeology has been an important component of archaeological research in the Central Great Plains for more than a century. Archaeological investigations of Pawnee and ancestral Pawnee communities have contributed substantially to our understanding of sedentary life, agricultural economies, regional interaction, population movement, material culture, and the broader history of the Central Plains. At the same time, new research, new analytical approaches, and renewed engagement with Pawnee communities are creating opportunities to reconsider longstanding interpretations and develop new questions about Pawnee history and heritage.

This organized session brings together scholars and practitioners working from a variety of perspectives on Pawnee archaeology and anthropology. Papers will highlight current research on Pawnee archaeology and ancestral Pawnee communities, while also considering new research directions in the coming years. Topics may include archaeological investigations, collections and material culture, archaeological science, cultural resource management and state archaeology, ethnohistory, linguistic anthropology, Indigenous archaeology, and collaborative research with the Pawnee Nation.

The session also provides an opportunity to consider how decades of archaeological research can inform future scholarship. Contributions from established scholars who have worked extensively with Pawnee archaeology are presented alongside research by current practitioners and perspectives from Pawnee scholars and cultural heritage professionals. Together, these papers demonstrate both the depth of the existing research tradition and the range of possibilities for future work.

Rather than presenting a single approach to Pawnee archaeology, the session highlights the breadth of current scholarship and encourages conversation about where research on the Pawnee Nation should go next. By bringing together archaeological, linguistic, historical, and Indigenous perspectives, the session aims to foster dialogue across disciplinary and methodological boundaries and to

identify new questions, approaches, and opportunities for research on Pawnee peoples, places, histories, and heritage.

[14] **The Future of Section 106**

Andrew Clark (State Historical Society of North Dakota)

Panelists: Jennifer L. Harty (NAVFAC HQ), Tyrel Iron Eyes (Standing Rock Sioux Tribe), Brooke Morgan (Illinois State Museum)

Friday, October 23, 9:00 am, Rodgers Room

In 2025, changes in the federal executive branch ushered in sweeping funding cuts to programs affecting academic, federal, state, tribal, and private-sector anthropologists, archaeologists, and historic preservationists. The second year of the new administration has brought additional changes that promise to further impact our fields. Rather than undercutting funding, the current target is to fundamentally change the legislative and regulatory framework that has been relatively stable for over half a century. From the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's attempt to rewrite its 36 CFR Part 800 regulations to the recently introduced United States Senate-initiated Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026, the National Historic Preservation Act has faced a whiplash of legal and regulatory proposals that could fundamentally change the Section 106 process. This forum brings together a panel of cultural resource professionals to provide perspectives from tribal, state, and federal stakeholders from the PAS Board of Directors on the current state of historic preservation, the proposed changes, and reasoned solutions for how the field can work with the public to support historic preservation.

[16] **Student Workshop: An Introduction to Archeological Geophysics**

Adam Wiewel (Midwest Archeological Center), Laura Crawford (Nebraska State Historical Society), and Steve DeVore (Midwest Archeological Center)

Friday, 11:30 am–1:20 pm, Rodgers Room

This student-focused workshop will provide an introduction and overview of the most used geophysical techniques in archaeology, including magnetometry, ground-penetrating radar, earth resistance, conductivity, and magnetic susceptibility.

[18] **Panel: Anthropology Against the Current: Experience and Advice on Mentoring and Teaching Today**

Alison Hadley (Texas A&M International University)

Panelists: Todd Ahlman (Texas State University), Margaret Beck (University of Iowa), Stephen Perkins (Oklahoma State University), Sarah Trabert (University of Oklahoma)

Friday, October 23, 2:00 pm, Rodgers Room

In the last five years, academics have seen challenges to the content they are allowed to teach, reduction of core curriculum, minors, and majors, and restructuring of tenure and university governance. These changes have directly impacted teaching and recruiting faculty and students. The reduction of government-funded grants for social science research, attacks on Section 106, and downplaying the importance of cultural and natural resources have also had a trickle-down effect on the current milieu of anthropology departments, research centers, and museums. In this panel, we will share our experiences in teaching and mentoring anthropology students. Together we will work toward solutions and best practices to strengthen and bolster the future of our programs and students.

[19] **Invitation to Participate in Research in Quivira**

Donald Blakeslee (Wichita State University)

Friday, October 23, 2:00 pm, Crouch Room

Recent developments indicate that Quivira became one of the largest native societies in what is now the United States. All previous research lacked that perspective. The upshot is that opportunities abound for institutions and individuals to develop research programs that deal with it. This open discussion will cover topics that need investigation and the potential for various forms of cooperation.

[22] **The State of Forensic Anthropology: The View from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

William Belcher (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Saturday, October 24, 9:00 am, Rodgers Room

Forensic anthropology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has grown substantially since 2019, reflecting both evolving research priorities and rising medicolegal service demands across Nebraska. This session reviews recent casework conducted through the University's forensic anthropology program, highlighting trends in case volume, recovery contexts, and forensic consultation with state and regional law enforcement. We highlight research on human decomposition in the Great Plains, where regional climatic and ecological factors create unique taphonomic patterns relevant to postmortem interval estimation and recovery strategies. The presentation also examines advances in the analysis of gunshot trauma, including the interpretation of skeletal ballistic injury and decomposition in a Great Plains context. Finally, we will explore ongoing efforts in Indigenous forensic reconciliation from a student-practitioner perspective, emphasizing ethical engagement with Tribal Nations, culturally and statute-informed approaches to ancestral remains, and collaboration in repatriation and identification initiatives.

PAPER & POSTER ABSTRACTS

Session number in brackets following name and affiliation.

*Student competition entries
‡Presentation contains images of human remains.

Anderson, Kathryn (South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeological Research Center) and **Katherine Lamie** (South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeological Research Center). [20] ***From the Mines to the Dungeon: The Rediscovery of Lead's Homestake Open Cut Archaeological Collection*** [Poster Presentation]. From the late 19th Century to the early 20th Century, the city of Lead in the Black Hills of South Dakota was home to ethnically diverse groups of neighborhoods centered around operations at the world's largest gold mine, the Homestake Open Cut. Several decades later in 1993 and 1994, large scale archaeological work was conducted across these historic neighborhoods prior to the expansion of the mine. Archaeologists recovered 25 privy features, eight major sheet deposits, and tens of thousands of historic artifacts that documented daily life and industry. After the completion of a substantial 836-page archaeological report with 194 appendices (Buechler, et al. 1996), the collection was accepted for storage at the University of South Dakota; however, the collection became largely inaccessible and neglected over the next several years. When the 200+ box collection was "rediscovered" in 2021 in the bowels of East Hall, Dr. Tony Krus led students through preliminary emergency rehousing before the collection was transferred for permanent curation to the South Dakota State Historical Society's Archaeological Research Center (ARC) in Rapid City. This poster presents the collection's history and spotlights the final phase of the collection's stabilization at the ARC, which includes the preparation of a master inventory that will allow the once-lost Homestake Open Cut collection to be fully documented and accessible for future research.

Asher, Brendon (Eastern New Mexico University). [17] ***Agate Basin at Blackwater Draw, Roosevelt County, New Mexico*** [Paper Presentation]. Blackwater Draw Locality 1, the Clovis type-site, was first investigated by professional archaeologists over 90 years ago. Since that time, numerous excavations have been conducted by different institutions, the results of which have shaped our current understandings of past human lifeways in eastern New Mexico. This presentation will review the rich history of archaeological research and excavation at the site since 1929, focusing on results from recent

investigations conducted during the summer of 2025 in a possible Agate Basin and Folsom camp setting.

Athanassopoulos, Effie (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **Karin Dalziel** (Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, UNL), and **Chad Koch** (Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, UNL). [20] ***Digitizing Early Lincoln: The UNL Campus Archaeology Project*** [Poster Presentation]. The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Campus Archaeology Project is developing a digital archive of collections recovered from a former residential neighborhood on UNL's City Campus. Dating to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the artifacts provide insights into household life, consumption, and the development of early Lincoln. In collaboration with UNL's Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, we are building an Omeka S archive integrating artifact records, contextual information, and photographic documentation using established metadata standards. Informed by the Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery (DAACS), the project adapts approaches developed for large-scale digital initiatives to smaller regional collections. The archive will facilitate data sharing and comparative research while supporting teaching and public engagement. By linking artifacts to households, neighborhoods, and Lincoln's changing urban landscape, the project demonstrates how digital archaeology can make local collections accessible and connect archaeological research with broader communities.

Axelrod, Ella** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Intangible Connections and X-Files: An Approach to Evaluating Commingled Remains of US WWII Servicemembers with Geospatial Mapping & Knowledge Graphs [Poster Presentation]. This poster will discuss preliminary methods for assessing commingling opportunities between the remains of US WWII servicemembers using a combination of geospatial and non-spatial data derived from the historic records ("X-Files") of recovery and identification efforts. Utilizing geospatial mapping, data such as locations of recovery and analysis, proximity to other casualty events, and patterns of interment and disinterment can be more readily investigated for commingling opportunities via physical proximity. Non-spatial data such as specific recovery teams, forensic analysts, and dates associated with various identification efforts can be more easily visualized and examined via knowledge graphs. These approaches can reveal the intangible connections between cases that may not have been considered otherwise. This helps to establish a broader pool of individuals that may also be commingled with a given

case, particularly when forensic anthropological efforts exhaust an initial pool of candidates.

Axelrod, Ella (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and **LuAnn Wandsnider** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [20] ***Teaching from the Ground Up: Fieldwork at Reller Prairie Field School*** [Poster Presentation]. This poster will discuss the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's School of Global Integrated Studies' field school held at Reller Prairie Field Station in Sprague, Nebraska. The field school encompasses both traditional and forensic archaeology, allowing students to tailor their experience to their academic and career goals. Reller Prairie Field Station provides an adaptable and accessible learning environment, having an active archaeological site, simulated clandestine burials for forensic excavation, areas for decomposition studies in varied microenvironments, and varied terrain for survey. Students are exposed to a wide variety of tools common to the field ranging from analog implements to advanced digital equipment, aiming to prepare them for whatever working environment they may encounter.

Bamforth, Douglas B. (University of Colorado Boulder). [13] ***Revisiting Northern Caddoan Origins and Long-Term Social Change*** [Paper Presentation]. For over a century, Anthropology has drawn on an array of evidence to wonder about the deep history of northern Caddoan groups, especially the Pawnee, and has answered some but not all of the questions it has asked. Widely recognized patterns in linguistic, documentary, and other data generally document consistent patterns of stability and change from the 17th century onward but open important and sometimes unnoticed issues about the archaeology of older periods. A birds-eye view emphasizes the importance of new chronological work and evidence of long-term continuity along with questions about movement of languages and movement of people and about the incorporation of diverse groups and ideas into new social and ethnic formations.

Banks, Jennifer (Nebraska State Historical Society). [11] ***Piecing Together the Past: How the Nebraska State Historical Society Brings Archeology into Classrooms Across Nebraska*** [Lightning Session Presentation]. The “Piecing Together the Past” exhibit was created in 2019 in collaboration with The Nebraska State Historical Society archeologists and is comprised of the most frequently asked questions of archeologists. Thanks to the important work of our dedicated Museum Education Staff, we are able to offer free Virtual Field Trips to students across Nebraska. These Field Trips include a guided virtual tour of our

Piecing Together the Past exhibit, and if you sign up in September, your guide just might be a real archeologist! This past September we added a recorded version of the tour available to folks who can't make the weekly tours. Come along as I share how we do this in 5 minutes or less.

Barchett, Patrick (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [22] ***An Overview of Decomposition Studies in the Great Plains*** [Paper Presentation]. When estimating the postmortem interval (PMI) of human remains, it is important to have region- and climate-specific decomposition data. Domestic pig carcasses (*Sus domesticus*) can be used as proxies for human remains because of their similar skin, muscle, and body hair composition, and body mass. Decomposition and forensic taphonomy are well-documented in several regions in the United States, but research within the Great Plains is limited. Anthropology students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are working to bridge this gap by studying pig carcasses placed at UNL's Reller Prairie Field Station. In the inaugural Fall 2022 study, early stages of decomposition were examined, and followed patterns observed in cold climates. Research on additional specimens has continued with at least one larger study planned for the coming year. This research puts a new emphasis on Great Plains taphonomic research with the hope of establishing a donor-based human decomposition facility at UNL.

Barnett, Ashley (National Park Service). [11] ***Paws-itive Results: HHRD K9s in the Field*** [Lightning Session Presentation]. Historic human remains detection dogs are finding more applications in archeological fieldwork. Come learn what we do and how we do it!

Barton, Thomas** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Hidden Features: Aerial Remote Sensing Characteristics of Clandestine Graves [Poster Presentation]. Clandestine graves are secretly hidden human burials that are intentionally hidden because of malicious actors or unintentionally lost to time and records. The current method of detecting clandestine graves involves a physical approach to identify depressions in the ground using a pedestrian or line survey method. This method has proven its effectiveness in the field, time and time again. However, while we can claim successful identifications of clandestine graves, it is difficult to identify missed graves without repetitive searches of the same area. This is not only time-intensive, but also costly and requires many trained personnel who know the signs of a clandestine grave. This poster outlines the literature review section of my master's thesis aimed at

solving this problem: aerial remote sensing. Using LiDAR, photogrammetry, thermal, hyperspectral, and multispectral imagery, this research aims to identify characteristics of clandestine graves through visual surface features and ground surface elevation changes.

Barton, Thomas** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **Elizabeth Brandt** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **Jessica Kirkman** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **Monica Quilatan** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **Christine Parker** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **William Belcher** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [3] ***Barkaology: An Ethnoarchaeological Assessment of Dog Butchery [Paper Presentation]. Despite the butchery of dogs being observed ethnographically in various parts of the world, archaeological evidence of dog butchery has not been examined in great depth. This research examines a modern assemblage of dog bones (n = 501) butchered at a restaurant in Quang Binh province, Vietnam. Using Landon's (1996) study as a reference, this paper documents the frequency and location of the five types of butchery marks. Analysis of the marks in comparison with bone type and location showed no statistical significance between location and mark type. Furthermore, analysis of bone sizes and types indicated that the symbolism behind the consumption of dog meat holds more significance than the butchery methods or demographics of the dogs consumed. This case study will ultimately be used as a comparative dataset to examine the butchery of dogs in Indigenous communities in the Great Plains.

Baumberger, Greyson** (University of South Dakota), **Krus, Anthony** (University of South Dakota), **Natalie Wagner** (University of South Dakota), **Willow Gilliland** (University of South Dakota), **Avery Welte** (University of South Dakota), **Rhyan Hemphill** (University of South Dakota), **Abigail Zenner** (University of South Dakota), **Broeden Fenicle** (University of South Dakota), and **Aaron J. Mayer** (University of South Dakota). [10] ***Excavations of Laundress Architecture at Old Fort Meade, Sturgis, SD [Poster Presentation]. The 2026 University of South Dakota archaeological field school took place at the Soapsuds Row area of Fort Meade at the Bear Butte Creek Historic Preserve in Sturgis, South Dakota. The term "Soapsuds Row" refers to the housing originally used by laundresses employed by Fort Meade in the late AD 1800s. Twelve 1x1m units were opened to investigate a log house and possible privy. The diagnostic artifacts recovered date primarily to the 1870s-1910s and include household items, food debris, children's toys, and military clothing. This work advances the goal of learning more about the history of Fort Meade and the longer human use

of the valley of Bear Butte Creek. Additionally, the project is in support of development of a natural and historical park on land formerly included in the Fort Meade Military Reservation, as well as providing an education experience for South Dakota archaeology students and volunteers.

Beck, Margaret (University of Iowa). [13] ***Distinctive Features of Pawnee Ceramic Traditions*** [Paper Presentation]. What is distinctive about ancestral Pawnee ceramic vessels? How might potters have developed Lower Loup phase vessels, dating to the time period around CE 1500, from earlier ceramic traditions in and around Nebraska's Loup River? I address these questions through analysis of vessel body shape with whole vessels attributed to the Itskari phase of the Central Plains Tradition and the Lower Loup phase, making comparisons to the Upper Republican phase of the Central Plains Tradition and the Initial and Extended Coalescent.

Belcher, William (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [13] ***Forensic Anthropological Casework: the View from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2019 to Present*** [Paper Presentation]. Since 2019, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Forensic Anthropology Research Laboratory (FARL) has provided forensic anthropological services supporting medicolegal investigations throughout Nebraska and the surrounding region. The majority of casework involves consultation with the Nebraska State Patrol, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office, and Lincoln Police Department, with a primary focus on distinguishing human from non-human remains. Additional examinations include the analysis of human skeletal remains in potential missing persons and unidentified decedent cases, as well as assessments of traumatic injuries and taphonomic change. FARL also contributes expertise to investigations in neighboring states, including South Dakota and Missouri, extending regional forensic anthropology capacity. Beyond case consultations, FARL supports professional training through the Anthropology Center at the Reller Prairie Field Station in Martell, Nebraska, where law enforcement personnel receive instruction in forensic recovery methods, scene assessment, and the recognition of human skeletal remains.

Bethke, Brandi (Oklahoma Archeological Survey), **Sarah Trabert** (University of Oklahoma), **Jarron Davidson** (University of Oklahoma), and **Joaquín Rivaya-Martínez** (Texas State University). [21] ***Beyond the Pueblo Revolt: Rethinking Horse Introduction on the Southern Plains*** [Paper Presentation]. Horses have long played a central role in the history of the American West, yet debates persist

over the timing and mechanisms of their dispersal into Indigenous communities. These conversations were shaped by Euroamerican texts from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, leading many scholars to argue that horses did not spread widely across the Plains until after the 1680 Pueblo Revolt. This paper reassesses this timeline of horse dispersal by revisiting the foundations of this dominant narrative alongside recent archaeological evidence that suggests horses came to Plains communities prior to 1680, primarily through Indigenous trade networks. Evaluating early scholarship reveals how particular accounts gained authority and shaped settler-colonial chronologies of Indigenous horse adoption. We propose an 'anti-model' for studying horse introduction and diffusion that resists singular, event-driven timelines and instead foregrounds the complex, Indigenous-driven processes by which horses became integral to the history of the Southern Plains.

Blakeslee, Donald (Wichita State University). [2] ***Boy, Were We Wrong!*** [Paper Presentation]. In 2006, Marlin Hawley and I summarized the Great Bend Aspect for a book on Kansas archaeology. That complex is the remains left by the ancestors of the Wichita Tribe when they were living in the place that Coronado called Quivira. In that chapter, we reported that the people lived in clusters of small villages and we managed to miss the fact that Quivira held one of the largest populations in what is now the United States and had commercial connections from coast to coast and deep into Mexico. This presentation begins to set the record straight.

Bozell, John R. (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist). [2] ***The John Ludwickson Archive*** [Paper Presentation]. After John Ludwickson's retirement in 2019 and his passing in 2024, Bozell, and others, rough-sorted his papers. The quantity and diversity of these materials is impressive to say the least. The archive includes various archeological excavation descriptions and artifact analyses, partial manuscripts (some nearly complete), and research notes. Nearly thirty projects were in various stages of completion. Topics include River Basin Survey and WPA excavation of various Plains Village sites, histories of the 7th Iowa and 1st Nebraska along the Platte River in the 1860s, Emigrant trail stage stations, Omaha chiefs, Missouri River historic cartography, and a working inventory of commemorative artillery, tanks, and planes at various parks, courthouses, and cemeteries across Nebraska. For those with an interest in seeing some of these projects to completion, John's materials are archived primarily at the Nebraska

State Historical Society in Lincoln with military-focused collections at the Nebraska National Guard Museum in Seward.

Bozell, John R. (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist). [12] ***The Final Fifty Years of the Jiwere-Nut'achi (Otoe-Missouria) Tribes in Nebraska*** [Paper Presentation]. The Jiwere-Nut'achi (Otoe-Missouria) tribes left their largest and most well-known village near Yutan, Nebraska about 1835 which had been occupied for over four decades. They moved down the Platte River to near a mission established by Moses and Eliza Merrill where they stayed for five years. From 1840 until about 1855, the tribes occupied several towns at the mouth of the Platte before moving to their final Nebraska village near Barneston. The tribe was removed to Oklahoma in the early 1880s. This paper summarizes what we know of these late villages and movements through archeology, history, cartography, and oral traditions. The only systematic archeological excavations at these sites took place at the Merrill Mission site under the direction of Alan Osborn with his students from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Bozell, John R. (Retired Nebraska State Archeologist) and **Mary J. Adair** (Curator Emerita, University of Kansas). [13] ***Eighteenth-Century Central Plains Hunting and Farming Strategies: An Evaluation of the "Dual Economy"*** [Paper Presentation]. Hunting strategies and plant use evolved over centuries in the Central Plains during precontact times. The diversity in the selection of a broad range of terrestrial, avian, and riverine species during the Central Plains tradition was matched by multicropping farming and a wide selection of wild plants. By ca AD 1400 this successful pattern changed to reflect a greater dependency on bison and maize. Early Caddoan sites in central Nebraska and Kansas that date into the 16th and 17th centuries support a continuation of this economy and have helped support the interpretation of the existence of a "dual economy" for early historic Native tribes. Here we present faunal and botanical data from several early to late 18th-century occupations in eastern Nebraska that do not fit this interpretation. We evaluate the influence of ecology, European trade, and settlement patterns to understand this variation.

Brenton, Barrett (Binghamton University). [12] ***The Biocultural Evolution of Cuisine: Pellagra and the Archaeology of Nixtamalization*** [Paper Presentation]. This paper reviews the inextricably linked relationship between human biology, nutrition and Indigenous cultural adaptations of food processing and cooking traditions or cuisine across time. It draws from the career work of

Dr. Alan Osborn that precipitated decades of work by others related to uncovering human nutritional adaptative strategies in the past, bridging evidence from archaeology, bioarchaeology, paleoethnobotany, experimental archaeology, ethnoarchaeology, and ethnography. A specific focus will be on the biocultural evolution of alkali processing or nixtamalization of maize across Indigenous cultures of the Americas for mitigating the impacts of pellagra, a niacin/tryptophan deficiency disease. Case studies will review 1) the role of shell-tempered pottery and stumpware in prehistoric Mississippian period contexts, and 2) the development of the paper-thin maize bread, Piki amongst Pueblo IV period peoples and the Hopi. Proposed paleopathological evidence of pellagra, and altered starch evidence of nixtamalization from ceramic residues will also be discussed.

Bryant, Natalie (University of Wyoming) and **Kelton Meyer** (University of Wyoming). [17] ***From Kill to Camp: A Macroscopic Analysis of Lithic Technology at the James Allen Site*** [Paper Presentation]. The James Allen site (48AB4) is the type site for the Late Paleoindian parallel oblique Allen projectile point. The site was originally excavated by William T. Mulloy and the University of Wyoming (1951-1954). The excavation focused on a Bison antiquus bone bed with 30 Allen points. The Continental Divide Archaeological Center initiated new fieldwork at the site to clarify site activities. Mulloy hypothesized the site was a single kill/butchering event with limited campsite activities, but his work did not detect clearly defined campsite spaces. The 2026 field work yielded 44 lithic artifacts on the surface, including 11 projectile points (spanning from Paleoindian to Formative) and 5 other stone tools. The presence of a burned Allen midsection reutilized as a scraper strongly suggests hearth centered spaces, even if short term. These results indicate that the James Allen site retains untested deposits from campsite activities.

‡**Buehler, Kent** (University of Oklahoma, retired). [4] ***Is Spider Man a Serial Killer?: The Role of Forensic Archaeology in the Investigations of Homicides and Missing Persons Associated with a Mixed Martial Arts Fighter*** [Paper Presentation]. Cedric Marks, a former Mixed Martial Arts fighter and current Texas Death Row occupant, competed under the less than imaginative nom de guerre “Spider Man.” Marks, convicted in 2023 of a double homicide in Temple, Texas, had returned to his old stomping grounds in Oklahoma to bury the bodies which were recovered in 2019. Subsequently, witnesses have come forward with information indicating this is a long-standing pattern for Mr. Marks, with a high

probability of additional bodies yet to be found. The presentation covers the substantial role forensic archaeology has played in the investigations, including the successes, the failures, and the frustrations. ***NOTE**: This presentation contains depictions of human remains in a forensic context. The images have been heavily redacted using photo processing software and are NOT graphic in nature. However, given that the subject of the presentation is a double homicide, viewer discretion is advised.*

Bump, Paige (Kansas Historical Society), **Nikki Klarmann** (Kansas Historical Society), **Steven Keehner** (Kansas Historical Society), **Doug Kressly** (Kansas Historical Society), **Barb Crable** (Kansas Historical Society), **Jackson Witt** (Kansas Historical Society), **Carlton Shield Chief Gover** (University of Kansas), **Matt Reed** (Pawnee Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office), **Wesley Gibson** (Stantec), and **Morris Floyd** (Kansas Anthropological Association). [7] ***Preliminary Findings from the 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School*** [Paper Presentation]. This report presents preliminary results from work conducted at the 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program at Stranger Valley Ranch in Russell County, Kansas. From June 4 to 15, 2026, 124 participants completed surveys, excavations, metal detection, and lab work. This included surveys of 963.8 acres; excavation of 13 units (12 at one site and one at another); metal detection at two sites and several high-potential areas; and lab work on 17 cubic feet of artifacts. The work conducted identified and recorded sites, expanded our understanding of sites, and processed, cleaned, cataloged, and housed artifacts from the Chalfant-Hutchens donation, the 1985 Phillips donation, and material recovered from field school. This work helped train avocationalists and the public while deepening the understanding of Kansas' history.

Busch, Matthew (South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeological Research Center). [21] ***Final Results of Archaeological Investigations within the Middle Missouri Subarea along the Swan Creek Tributary in Walworth County, South Dakota*** [Paper Presentation]. In 2022, the South Dakota State Historical Society's Archaeological Research Center (ARC) conducted archeological investigation at 19 site locations within portions of Title VI public lands along the Swan Creek tributary to the Missouri River. This project was conducted on the behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assess the sites' significance and eligibility for potential nomination as a NRHP archaeological district. Limited excavation and cutbank sampling at 15 sites provided the unique

opportunity to investigate cultural use and past environmental conditions associated with temporal contexts spanning the Late Archaic to Historic periods, all along a largely extant creek terrace above the maximum pool level of Lake Oahe. The preliminary results of this investigation detailing the presence of hearth and midden features; several burn lenses; a variety of artifact types that included lithic tools and debitage, pottery, ferrous and cuprous metal, and trade beads; plus, a significant volume of processed bone materials across the project area were presented at the 2023 Plains Conference. The relationship between subsequent radiocarbon dating results and artifact assemblages across the creek valley was further explored in the final project report. The new datasets contribute toward the understanding of settlement and subsistence/procurement strategies within tributary creek valleys and lend to the further refinement of temporal chronologies for the Plains Village Pattern Extended Coalescent and Post-Contact variants, Protohistoric, and/or Historic periods within the Middle Missouri Subarea of South Dakota.

Cannon, Kenneth (Cannon Heritage Consultants, Inc.), **Ethan Ryan** (HRA), and **Houston Martin** (SUNY Westchester Community College). [12] ***The Application of Strontium Isotopes in Tracking Holocene Bison in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*** [Paper Presentation]. Light and heavy isotopic studies have become an integral tool in understanding the ecology of humans and vertebrates. In migration and mobility studies, strontium isotopes are used to determine if the individual is local to a particular area by comparing the isotopic values from bone and dental enamel of the specimen with local isotopic values that have been established for that specific geographic location. The local values of a specific place are determined by studying the underlying geology of a particular place. The GYE provides a unique research laboratory due to the number of distinct geologic substrates it contains. We should expect high resolution 87Sr/86Sr variation in this mountainous area due to the complex juxtaposition of lithologies. In this paper, we discuss the role of strontium isotopes (87Sr/86Sr) in tracking bison from five locales ranging in age from the Early Holocene Horner site to Late Holocene bison from Jackson Hole and Idaho. A comparison of the archaeological specimens with modern Yellowstone National Park bison indicates significant shifts in range and range size. This has implications not only for understanding the predictability of this resource for precontact native groups but also in managing bison herds in the context of climate change.

Cannon, Molly (Utah State University). [12] ***Mentor to Collaborator: Comments from Students and Colleagues of Alan Osborn*** [Paper Presentation]. In this introductory paper, I reflect on Osborn as a mentor and research collaborator by sharing stories and remarks from former students and colleagues.

Carlson, KC (Augustana University). [8] ***Chasing Bison: A Career from Grad School to Tenure, with Toddlers to Teens*** [Paper Presentation]. The image of a Plains Archaeologist is a Rancher Archaeologist, or a White Bearded Plainsman. After 17 years, I have never fit that image and yet I am a Plains archaeologist, because of a community that supported me, and despite those that tried to inhibit me. I often had children in tow in the field and at conferences. This talk focuses on the support of a community that from the outside might not look inclusive for a single mother. We do, however, fall short, not from malice but from ignorance. Plains we can and have to do better, for the sake of all those brilliant Plains archeologists waiting in the wings. Let's talk about the last 17 years and where we have succeeded and failed, so we can move forward in our strengths and work hard on our weaknesses.

Carmona, Gabrielle** (Kansas State University), **Lauren Jones** (Kansas State University), and **Nathan Klembara** (Kansas State University). [10] ***The Carnahan-Garrison Cemetery [Poster Presentation]. The Carnahan-Garrison Cemetery is a historically significant landscape that preserves both the remains of community members and material evidence of the community's collective history. Incomplete documentation, however, made it difficult to preserve information about the cemetery's burials, grave markers, and history. This project sought to establish a more complete record that reflected the needs of the surrounding community. To address these gaps, a cemetery survey documented and photographed headstones, recorded their condition and significant details, and catalogued and cross-referenced original documents. These materials were used to create a functional record of the cemetery and identify discrepancies in existing documentation, including incorrect birth and death dates and inaccurate counts of deceased individuals. These discrepancies demonstrated the need for further research. Beyond producing a record for the cemetery committee, this project used archaeological methods and community input to support the preservation of local memory that might otherwise have been lost over time.

Chapman, Larkin** (University of New Mexico). [10] ***New radiocarbon dates confirm Pleistocene horse contemporaneity with Clovis culture in Alberta [Poster Presentation]. The archaeological site at Wally's Beach, Alberta, contains the most widely recognized Pleistocene horse kill site in North America, with the bone material from the site just pre-dating the Clovis technocomplex. Also from Alberta, some radiocarbon dates on horse bone from paleontological sites have shown evidence for Pleistocene horses (genus Equus) contemporaneous or even post-dating Clovis. Here, the presence of these late-dating horses is confirmed using parallel dates on subsamples of bone prepared using both ultrafiltration and XAD radiocarbon pretreatment techniques. The associated carbon and nitrogen stable isotope values from these horses show a relatively narrow C3 plant-based diet and the distinct ecological signature of melting permafrost just prior to regional extirpation. This is significant for showing the differences in radiocarbon results between pretreatment techniques and for confirming the presence of a landscape shared by humans and horses on the Northern Plains at the end of the last ice age.

Clark, Andrew (State Historical Society of North Dakota)**, Kacy Hollenback** (Southern Methodist University)**, and Addie Loftis** (Southern Methodist University). [20] ***Before the Bubbles: Historical Archaeology of Immigration and Integration at the Welk Homestead*** [Poster Presentation]. Between 1870 and 1920, 120,000 German Russians immigrated to the United States, leaving political, economic, and social pressures in Russia. The passage of the Homestead Act (1862) made an agrarian lifeway tenable for many. By 1910, roughly 60,000 had emigrated from Ukraine to North Dakota, settling mainly in Emmons, Logan, and McIntosh counties. Yet domestic historical archaeological sites from this era are understudied and at risk. This research explores immigrant experiences on the northern Plains from the late 19th through the mid-20th centuries, specifically how families integrated into broader society while maintaining elements of their identity and traditions, and how they contributed to American lifeways at the community, state, and national scales. Stage 1 has focused on a collaborative archaeological field school with the State Historical Society of North Dakota, Southern Methodist University, and United Tribes Technical College at the Welk Homestead State Historic Site.

Cooke, Katelyn (Oklahoma State University), **Dr. Carlos Cordova** (Oklahoma State University), and **Dr. Charles Frederick** (C. Frederick Consulting). [21] ***Cultivating the Plains: Paleosol Evidence for Woodland and Plains Village***

Period Landscape Use [Paper Presentation]. The Caddo Paleosol Complex (CPC) is a suite of buried pedogenic horizons that appear in various alluvial settings in the Southern Great Plains (SGP). Their importance is their contemporaneity with the Woodland and Plains Village complexes, and coinciding with the development of the first farmers in the SGP. From a geoarchaeological perspective, however, these paleosols have been understudied, and their relationship with early SGP farmers remains underexplored. This study aims to bridge this multidisciplinary gap by 1) analyzing the pedologic properties of the CPC to affirm its suitability for late Holocene farming; 2) analyzing the spatio-temporal context of the CPC to assess its contemporaneity with the climatic conditions that prevailed from ca. 0—1500 CE. Through soil-stratigraphic analysis of settings and radiocarbon assays, preliminary results suggest that the CPC includes well-drained, floodplain soils that would have benefited horticulture and affirms the relatively wet conditions and landscape stability at the time.

Coughlin, Charlotte** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and **Timothy Sefczek** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Anatomical Variation in Biological Anthropology Lab Materials [Poster Presentation]. Variation is recognized as inherent in human anatomy and important for comprehensive and accurate analysis. Yet, this quintessential component is often overlooked in higher education. In biological anthropology, identifying variation is important for studies in pathology, demography, and forensics, but, due to ethical considerations limiting the use of anatomical specimens, casting materials are often used instead. In this study, I evaluate the amount of variation present in biological anthropology labs in the state of Nebraska to assess how much skeletal variation is introduced to students. I collected data from biological anthropology labs at University of Nebraska Lincoln, University of Nebraska Omaha, University of Nebraska Kearney, and Creighton University (OTHERS?). For this study, skeletal variation included differences in age, sex, and ancestry. These results will help determine if students in the Plains are being exposed to skeletal variation or if education on skeletal materials is homogenous across the region. The aim of this research is to evaluate the variation present in casted models of human bones present in Biological Anthropology labs here in the state of Nebraska. The presence of variation is essential for making independent and new observations in a classroom setting. In order for students of the Biological Anthropology discipline to obtain a complete education, variation in the teaching materials must be present. If casted bones are only from a certain population,

age group, sex, etc., students will not be exposed to adequate subject matter and will fail in the face of diversity. Data will be taken from Biological Anthropology labs in the state of Nebraska via digital communication. Data will be arranged manually. If approved, this project will examine the variation present in casted bones in Biological Anthropology labs in the state of Nebraska

Crable, Barbara M. (Kansas Historical Society) and **Jack L. Hofman** (University of Kansas). [7] ***Fort Zarah, A Temporary Post Along the Santa Fe Trail*** [Paper Presentation]. Recent excavations outside of Great Bend, Kansas have identified the remnants of the second Fort Zarah. The Kansas Department of Transportation plans to enlarge US-56 from a two-lane to a four-lane highway which raised concerns because the Fort was believed to have been located close to the existing highway. The second Fort Zarah's actual location, however, was unknown. Likewise, it was unknown whether its footprint or any structural remains were still present. Several years of archeological fieldwork and research have been conducted to locate the Fort's exact location. Kansas State Historical Society field excavations in February 2026 resulted in identifying the boundaries of the main fort structure. This presentation will provide a brief history of the fort and a review of archeological work completed.

Crable, Barbara M. (Kansas Historical Society), **Jack L. Hofman** (University of Kansas), and **J.C. Parkin**. [5] ***Partitioning the Historic Period in the Central Plains: A Pre-Statehood, Pre-GLO Post on the Marais des Cygnes in Eastern Kansas*** [Poster Presentation]. The Flintlock Site (14FR36), located on the Marais des Cygnes River yielded historic artifacts collected from disturbances and eroded surfaces. The Marais des Cygnes/Osage River served as a highway to the Missouri River and beyond, connecting the location to places such as Fort Osage and St. Louis during the fur trade and pre-statehood era. The site dates to the late 1700s and early 1800s and was abandoned before 1845. The variety of artifacts recovered include white clay pipes, gun parts, gun flints, metal arrowpoints, and other material. The recorded artifacts and features indicate a trading post where a blacksmith/gunsmith was working and repairing guns including changing flintlocks to cap locks. This trade and smithing work likely engaged people from the Osage, Kansa, and other Nations.

Crawford, Laura (Nebraska State Historical Society). [4] ***Project Management in Archaeology: A Crash Course*** [Paper Presentation]. Although archaeology is inherently project-based, few archaeologists receive formal training in systematic

project planning and execution. Instead, project management skills are acquired informally through field schools, mentorship, and experience on previous projects. While this apprenticeship model has produced many capable practitioners, it can also result in inconsistent planning practices and uneven project outcomes. Integrating tools and strategies from the field of project management can provide archaeologists with a more systematic approach to planning and executing projects, improving efficiency, consistency, and overall outcomes. This paper argues that archaeologists should incorporate and adapt relevant project management principles to better plan and execute archaeological projects.

Crawford, Laura (Nebraska State Historical Society) and **Nolan Johnson** (Nebraska State Historical Society). [13] ***Hopes for the Heithoff Site (25AP37), 2026-2027*** [Paper Presentation]. The Heithoff site (25AP37) lies just outside Neligh on private land owned by Rhonda and Terry Heithoff. It has long been known as a significant site and could represent the Pawnee village Andreas (1882) identified in his records. After carefully building rapport over most of 2026, the Heithoffs graciously agreed to geophysical survey and small-scale excavation. Preliminary finds point to rich subsurface deposits, including intact living surfaces. Surface scatters suggest the site may be Caddoan - ancestral to the Pawnee and Arikara tribes. Despite meticulous planning, excavation has been delayed until September 2027. However, with ample time to prepare, we propose more in-depth research and extensive geophysical survey to further refine our 2027 excavation strategies.

Dalmas, Daniel (Iowa State University), **Matthew G. Hill** (Iowa State University), **Andrew D. Somerville** (Iowa State University), and **Joan Brenner-Coltrain** (University of Utah). [24] ***Selective Grazing and Patchy Prairies: Bison Foraging and Holocene Grassland Heterogeneity in the Central Plains*** [Poster Presentation]. Stable carbon isotope ratios (d^{13}C) in bison bone collagen are widely used to reconstruct Holocene grassland composition across the Great Plains, yet ecological assumptions underlying this proxy have not been thoroughly evaluated. Two assumptions are particularly important: bison consume C3 and C4 grasses in proportion to landscape abundance, and C3/C4 communities were spatially homogeneous at a given time. We test these assumptions using collagen d^{13}C values from 30 bison radii collected along the West Nishnabotna River in west-central Iowa, including 15 directly dated specimens spanning 8000–250 cal BP. Collagen d^{13}C values range from -19.42‰

to -9.66‰, spanning nearly the full expected C3–C4 spectrum. Bayesian regression identifies only a negligible and surprisingly negative temporal trend, contrary to expectations (for increasing reliance on C4 grasses). These results indicate spatially heterogeneous, dynamically fluctuating mosaics of C3 and C4 vegetation and caution against interpreting bison $d^{13}C$ as a straightforward regional paleoclimate proxy.

Dalmas, Daniel (Iowa State University) and **Lawrence Todd** (GRSLE). [5] ***The Probability of Missing: Measuring Lithic Diversity Across the Absaroka Mountains*** [Poster Presentation]. Archaeological surface assemblages are often analyzed by dividing artifacts into discrete categories, which can obscure relationships among artifact classes and limit estimates of assemblage diversity. Here we examined chipped-stone assemblages from the Absaroka Mountains of Wyoming while developing a standardized approach for evaluating archaeological surface assemblages. We apply a Modified-Whittaker sampling method adapted from plant ecology to characterize lithic material and size diversity across nested spatial scales. This method evaluates how artifact diversity changes with sampling area, estimates the proportion of assemblage diversity likely to be missed through conventional surface survey, and enables interpolation of artifact probabilities across a landscape. The method provides a way to evaluate sampling adequacy and improve comparisons among archaeological assemblages across landscapes and over time.

Dawe, Bob (Royal Alberta Museum), **Karen Giering** (Royal Alberta Museum), **Alwynne Beaudoin** (Royal Alberta Museum), **Shawn Bubel** (University of Lethbridge), and **Kevin McGeough** (University of Lethbridge). [6] ***Orchestrate, Conduct, Repeat: The Remarkable Record of Reuse of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump*** [Paper Presentation]. Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump is one of the largest, one of the oldest, and one of the best preserved buffalo jumps on the Plains. This site has attracted the attention of archaeological activity spanning ten decades of investigations by a disparate assortment of academic institutions, museums and cultural resource management practitioners. This paper provides a synopsis of the Radiocarbon dating record compiled from these various sources since the investigations by the Glenbow Museum and the University of Calgary in the 1960's. This study consolidates data from both the two primary kill loci and the extensive campsite and processing area investigations. A total of 149 dates attest to a near continuous use of the site for more than 8,000 years. Remarkably, most of these dates are from different jump episodes. By collating

radiocarbon dates from the kill locations and the campsite we can conclude that Head-Smashed-In was one of the most frequently used buffalo jumps on the Plains.

Downey, Zach (University of Wyoming) and **Kelton Meye**r (University of Wyoming). [17] ***Back to the Bonebed: Taphonomic Analysis of Bison antiquus from the James Allen Site (48AB4)*** [Paper Presentation]. James Allen (48AB4) is the type site for the Late Paleoindian Allen complex. William Mulloy and the University of Wyoming field school (1951-1954) excavated a single bonebed containing the butchered remains of Bison antiquus. Jack Berman performed a preliminary faunal analysis of metapodial elements in 1957 and estimated the bonebed contained 15 bison individuals. This paper presents a new faunal and taphonomic analysis of the assemblage curated in the University of Wyoming Archaeological Repository (UWAR). The analysis focuses on bone surface modifications including anthropogenic marks (cut marks and percussion marks), carnivore modifications, root etching, and weathering stages. New fieldwork initiated by the Continental Divide Archaeological Center (CDAC) provides additional context to the existing faunal collection. A previously untested campsite locale is suggested by the presence of burned bones in proximity to the bonebed.

Dozier, Crystal (Wichita State University) and **Nautika Richards** (Wichita State University). [21] ***Occupational and Depositional History of the House Locale at Etzanoa (14CO3)*** [Paper Presentation]. The 'House Locale' of Etzanoa (14CO3, or the Cowley Country Club Site) has been host to the Wichita State University Archaeological Field School, 2017-2025. The region has been formally investigated archaeologically since the 1930s, and along with 14CO1, has been recognized as one of the primary type sites for understanding the Lower Walnut focus of the Great Bend aspect, part of the local expression of the larger Plains Villager tradition in south-central Kansas. Our investigation documents the site formation practices at this complex locale, which is dominated by a low midden mound overlaying features, predominately deep storage pits. We utilize radiocarbon dating, stratigraphic analysis, and flotation to understand both the depositional and occupational history of the locale. New radiocarbon dates indicate a Great Bend Aspect primary occupation and utilization of storage pits, with the midden mound construction likely occurring sometime after the latter half of the seventeenth century, later than previously assumed for Ancestral Wichita groups in Kansas.

Echo-Hawk, Roger (Pawnee Nation). [13] ***Pawneeland in a Severalty World*** [Paper Presentation]. The evolving character of land use protocols shaped the Pawnee archaeological record from antiquity into recent history. For much of that history, the defining elements of those processes are mostly invisible, speculative, or fragmentary. But through the second half of the 19th century, important aspects of functioning land use conventions sprang into view across Pawneeland. As the Pawnees traversed various cultural transitions, they actively explored various options, engaging in public debate and sorting through preferences. And by the end of the century, the idea of land as a public realm had become transformed into land as private property – in those days the Pawnees found themselves "in the midst of civilization," and the option of allotment became institutionalized. When we review the details of this history, we can observe the Pawnee people enmeshed in disintegration, making choices designed to strengthen and sustain their world as they entered the 20th century.

Gamblin, Katie (Oklahoma State University). [15] ***Overlapping Borders: Oklahoma-Colorado Projectile Point Typologies*** [Poster Presentation]. Comparing projectile point typologies used in southeastern Colorado with those from western Oklahoma, I examined whether the classifications used by archaeologists identified actual differences in point technologies or simply different archaeological taxonomies. To do so, I analyzed twenty-three projectile points collected in 2024 and 2025 by volunteers surveying High Plains archaeological sites under the guidance of Paleocultural Research Group on the 53,000-acre Chancellor Ranch preserve. I then compared these projectile points with similar examples published in earlier guides by the Oklahoma Anthropological Society (OAS) and reports from southeastern Colorado's nearby Pinon Canyon Maneuver area (PCMS). Differences in classification techniques exist across these locations. Still, the visual and chronological overlaps between my sample with those of the PCMS and OAS classes support the hypothesis that despite the variations in typologies identified, notable similarities in the region's projectile dates and attribute classifications can be identified.

‡**Gammage, Jessica** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [22] ***From Prairie to Practice: An Integrated Framework for Regional Forensic Taphonomic Research*** [Paper Presentation]. Forensic taphonomic research has expanded considerably, yet the geographic distribution of experimental studies remains uneven, limiting the applicability of decomposition models across different environmental settings. The Central Great Plains remains comparatively

underrepresented despite its distinct ecological and geomorphological characteristics. Southeastern Nebraska, with its tallgrass prairie ecosystems, loess-derived soils, seasonal climatic variability, and riparian environments, presents an opportunity to address this research gap. Building upon my master's thesis, this presentation introduces an integrated framework and proposed operational approach for developing a forensic taphonomic research facility at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's Reller Prairie Field Station. The proposal brings together three interconnected components: regional environmental assessment, phased experimental development, and ethical and institutional governance. Building upon existing non-human analogue research at Reller Prairie, the framework outlines a gradual approach to expanding research capabilities, establishing standardized experimental protocols, and developing the infrastructure necessary to support potential future human donor research. The proposed operational framework emphasizes systematic environmental monitoring, controlled research access, interdisciplinary collaboration, and standardized procedures for experimental placement, documentation, and recovery. Ethical considerations are incorporated into facility planning, including informed donor consent, institutional oversight, long-term osteological stewardship, and meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities.

Geib, Phil (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [17] ***Keratin for Stone Stool Production: The Exemplary Utility of Bighorn Sheep Horn Rods for Indirect Percussion and Pressure Flaking*** [Paper Presentation]. Keratin, a natural fibrous protein, is a key structural material for hair, nails, horn, hooves, and other animal features. It is also perishable and therefore commonly subject to loss in the archaeological record. Favorable preservation environments, such as caves of the North American Southwest, can protect keratin artifacts. A notable example consists of rods made from the horns of bighorn sheep that Basketmaker II flintknappers (~500 BCE - CE 500) used as indirect percussion punches and pressure flakers to make dart-sized projectile points and knives (Geib 2002). Was this use of horn flaking tools in antiquity a one-off or a more common practice that is poorly represented because of limited preservation? Here I examine the utility of horn flaking tools, especially for indirect percussion, including fluting of Folsom points. Plains archaeologists need to consider keratin in our models for producing stone tools.

Gosch, Max** (Purdue University). [10] ***Using Neural Network to Delineate Soil Profiles in Archaeological Contexts [Poster Presentation]. Archaeological soil profiles provide important evidence for understanding site formation, stratigraphic relationships, and anthropogenic modification. Identifying and documenting soil horizons, however, can be time-intensive and dependent on the experience and interpretation of individual observers. This study investigates the application of deep-learning semantic segmentation to the identification and spatial delineation of soil horizons in archaeological contexts. Training data were collected from soil-profile walls exposed in 1 × 1 m excavation units in the Smoky Hills of north-central Kansas using Canon EOS R50. Profile photographs were processed in Python and manually labeled according to master soil horizons to create a ground-truthed dataset for model training. A nested U-Net architecture implemented through PyTorch will be used to segment profile images into A, B, and C soil horizons. The model will be trained and evaluated using the Kansas dataset, with additional Mollisol profiles used to examine its ability to delineate horizons in comparable archaeological soil contexts. Model performance will be assessed by comparing automated segmentations with manual delineations. This approach explores the potential of computer vision to make archaeological soil-profile documentation more consistent, reproducible, and efficient while maintaining interpretation as the basis for ground-truthing and evaluation.

Haas, Randy (University of Wyoming), **Michael Thom** (University of Wyoming), **Robert Kelly** (University of Wyoming), **Michael Page** (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist), **Marcia Peterson** (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist), **Paul Sanders** (independent), and **JP Schubert** (Grand Teton National Park). [23] ***Lithic-source analysis supports a model of rapid adaptation to the Teton Mountains, Wyoming*** [Paper Presentation]. The nature and pace of human adaptation to interior montane environments have been widely evaluated, resulting in several competing models consistent with archaeological data. This study examines lithic-source data for over 600 temporally diagnostic bifacial artifacts from the Grand Teton region of the northern Rockies—an interior mountain environments characterized by cold winter temperatures, high snowfall levels, and low oxygen. Visual and x-ray-fluorescence sourcing methods reveal remarkably similar raw-material profiles with approximately 80% local materials across the Late Paleoindian, Archaic, and Late Prehistoric periods. Early Paleoindian Period artifacts are notably absent. A minor but statistically significant increase in non-local materials is observed in the Archaic. The data thus support a model of relatively rapid and stable

adaptation of seasonal, interior, montane land use beginning approximately 11.7 cal ka. The data further suggest a period of elevated residential mobility, likely associated with mid-Holocene aridity.

Haas, Reuben M. (Forager Archaeology Lab) and **Randy Haas** (University of Wyoming). [15] ***Distance from Spring Predicts Lithic Density at Willow Springs Campsite, WY*** [Poster Presentation]. Water is understood to be a significant driving factor in land use patterns of prehistoric peoples across the globe. This study demonstrates this human-environment relationship between the semi-arid Northwestern Great Plains and its prehistoric inhabitants. Willow Springs (48AB302) is a multicomponent site situated at the southern end of Wyoming's Laramie Valley. The site shows evidence of occupation ranging from the Paleoindian period to the historic period (ca. 13,000 to 85 years BP). Using logistic regression modeling, this analysis demonstrates a strong statistical relationship between density of lithic artifacts on the surface and distance from the site's central spring. This supports the interpretation of the many prehistoric occupations as being water-dependent logistical campsites, likely in close relationship with nearby Willow Springs bison pound (48AB130).

Hadley, Alison (Texas A&M International University), **Greg Haggerty** (Mitchell Indigenous Archaeological Site & Museum), and **Eddy Veliz** (Texas A&M International University). [15] ***Year One for the South Dakota Pipestone Project: Using XRD to Refine the Mineralogy*** [Poster Presentation]. Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, recently acquired an X-Ray Diffractometer system for joint use by the Departments of Engineering, Chemistry, Biology, and Social Sciences. This long-awaited equipment is allowing us to refine the mineralogical profile South Dakota pipestones. At this stage, we have preliminary results on four pipestone samples from eastern South Dakota near Corson, Sioux Falls, Garretson, and Dell Rapids. Eventually, we will compare these new mineralogical profiles to existing databases to help archaeologists identify the geological provenance of the artifacts made specifically from South Dakota pipestone.

Hamada, Riley (University of Utah), **Daniel Dalmas** (Iowa State University), and **Lawrence Todd** (GRSLE). [5] ***Partitioning Archaeological Space: How Sampling Scale Changes the Archaeological Record*** [Poster Presentation]. The 2026 field season of the Greybull River Sustainable Landscape Ecology (GRSLE) project focused in part on field methods and spatial sampling within

open, lower-elevation environments. This work highlighted how characteristics of the archaeological record change with survey intensity and the spatial scale at which observations are partitioned. GRSLE's artifact-based data collection allows researchers to reexamine areas documented during previous archaeological surveys at different spatial scales and survey intensities. Modified-Whittaker plots provide nested sampling areas through which we can systematically evaluate the effects of changing observational scale. In this preliminary study, we examine how archaeological characteristics—including artifact density, spatial extent, and material composition—change as we incorporate increasingly large spatial units into an analysis. Rather than treating archaeological patterns as independent of observational scale, we ask how the spatial units archaeologists use to sample and partition a landscape influence the patterns subsequently described as characteristics of the archaeological record.

Hannus, L. Adrien (Professor Emeritus, Augustana University). [2] ***Interpreting Plains Village Culture*** [Video Presentation]. This video presentation examines museum exhibits created over the last four decades at the Mitchell Indigenous Archaeological Site (site 39DV2). The exhibits are designed to help visitors achieve a better understanding of the Plains Village culture of 1,000 years ago. Each display is based on direct archaeological evidence collected through excavations at the site.

Hendrickson, Annabel** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Cobs in the Current: An Experimental Study on the Effects of Inundation on Maize Cob Morphology [Poster Presentation]. Maize has long been a focus of archaeological research for understanding past diets and lifeways. Under the right taphonomic conditions, maize cobs provide valuable information through their morphology and DNA; however, this potential hinges on preservation. Inundation and fluctuating water levels can damage cob morphology and limit the information available for analysis from previously submerged sites. This ongoing experimental study examines the effects of inundation on charred and uncharred maize cobs across four laboratory conditions: dry, aerobic inundation, anaerobic inundation, and wet-dry cycling. Morphological characteristics, including row number, cupule dimensions, rachis dimensions, and pith diameter, will be measured before and after submersion using digital calipers and 3D scanning to compare traditional and digital measurement techniques. Changes in morphology will be evaluated using descriptive statistics and linear mixed-effects models. This study will provide an experimental framework for assessing the

preservation and analytical potential of submerged maize, including in Plains reservoir contexts.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University). [24] ***A Complete Sabertooth Cat Cranium from the Midcontinent of North America and Its Evolutionary and Ecological Context*** [Poster Presentation]. Outside Rancho La Brea, late Pleistocene carnivores in North America are poorly known because skeletons and reliable dates are scarce. A complete sabertooth cat cranium from southwestern Iowa, directly AMS dated to 13,605–13,455 cal B.P., belongs to a subadult male 2–3 years old, weighing an estimated 251 kg. An antemortem canine fracture suggests death within days of injury. The cat lived during the Bølling-Allerød in a cool, dry boreal grassland/parkland, where Jefferson's ground sloth was likely its focal prey. Bayesian modeling of 72 direct dates suggests sabertooth cat extinction was hemispheric and synchronous, after 13,285 cal B.P.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University). [24] ***A Late Pleistocene Wood Turtle from Southwest Iowa: Response of the Taxon to Glaciation and Formation of the Current Range*** [Poster Presentation]. A partial wood turtle shell from the West Branch of the East Nishnabotna River in southwestern Iowa returned a direct AMS radiocarbon date of 11,975–11, 815 cal BP. Subfossil records show that wood turtles shifted far south into the southeastern United States during late Pleistocene glaciation. The Iowa specimen documents a previously unknown western range, where suitable habitat and cooler summers persisted until approximately 10,200 cal BP. The Holocene subfossil record suggests the western portion of the modern range formed within the past 1000 years.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University). [24] ***Bayesian Modeling of Oneota Tradition Radiocarbon Dates along the Des Moines River in Central Iowa*** [Poster Presentation]. Bayesian modeling of radiocarbon dates from Moingona phase sites in the central Des Moines River valley refines the age, duration, and settlement history of the occupation. The posterior median age is 1325 CE, with most probability between 1300 and 1340 CE, indicating a brief occupation. Overlap among site-level activity periods prevents ordering sites or identifying discrete occupation episodes. Variation in age ranges reflects limited evidence, imprecise charcoal dates, and features of the calibration curve. Comparative modeling suggests Oneota groups appeared at about the same time in central, southeastern, and northwestern Iowa.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University) and **Thomas J. Loebel** (Illinois State Archaeological Survey). [12] ***Talking Turkey, Fooling Gobblers: An Early Holocene Yelper from the Lower Illinois River Valley*** [Paper Presentation]. Deceptive hunting technologies alter what prey see, hear, or smell in order to lead them into a trap or bring them within reach of a hunter. Decoys, lures, disguises, scents, and calls are widespread in the ethnographic record, but most are made of perishable materials or use no equipment at all, so they rarely survive. Bone calls are an exception. A "yelper" from the Stilwell site in the lower Illinois River valley is a two-piece suction call made from turkey wing bones and used to draw turkeys within range. It is directly dated to ca. 9,000 cal BP, roughly 1,300 years older than the Middle Archaic yelpers from the Eva site in Tennessee. Turkey bone is relatively common in Archaic and later avifaunas in the eastern United States, but calls are not. Part of the gap may reflect the many other ways to hunt turkeys, but broken calls and manufacturing debris have probably also gone unrecognized.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University) and **Kurt M. Wilson** (Lawrence University). [24] ***Synthesis and Assessment of the Flat-headed Peccary Record in North America*** [Poster Presentation]. Flat-headed peccary were common in late Pleistocene faunas of the eastern United States, especially in rugged, dissected terrain where caves, crevices, and fissures offered shelter for farrowing and for sick, injured, or aged animals. The taxon was uncommon on the Great Plains and in the Far West. Gaussian-resampled inverse-weighted McInerny method (GRIWM) analysis of direct radiocarbon ages places final extinction during the Younger Dryas, between ~12,500 and ~12,000 cal BP. No evidence currently shows that flat-headed peccary and Clovis foragers were contemporaneous. The late Pleistocene–Younger Dryas shift to a nutrient-decelerating mode of ecosystem fueling likely reduced forage quality and may have suppressed reproduction. Simple simulations show that small increases in inter-birth interval or juvenile mortality could have driven rapid extinction.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University), **Ryan M. Byerly** (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.), **Cody Newton** (University of Colorado), and **Lawrence C. Todd** (Colorado State University). [24] ***Asynchronous Horn-core and Postcranial Size Reduction in Late Pleistocene Bison from Interior North America*** [Poster Presentation]. Two directly AMS-dated Bison subfossils from southwestern Iowa on the eastern Great Plains constrain the timing of horn-core and postcranial size reduction in interior North America. A cranium from the

West Nishnabotna River, dated to 23,805–23,350 cal BP, has fully reduced horn cores and is the oldest directly dated occurrence of the derived condition by roughly 9,000 years. A metatarsal from the East Nishnabotna River, dated to 13,450–13,300 cal BP, is at B. latifrons grade, which no specimen referred to another taxon reaches. Both are referred to Bison sp. Metatarsal shape tracks size rather than taxon, and postcranial size is neither taxonomically nor temporally diagnostic across this interval. Horn-core reduction preceded postcranial reduction by at least 10,000 years, a pattern consistent with mosaic evolution of the bison skeleton.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University), **Daniel M. Dalmas** (Iowa State University), **John M. Lambert** (Illinois State Archaeological Survey), and **Thomas J. Loebel** (Illinois State Archaeological Survey). [24] ***Archaeology of Keystone Rockshelter, Eastern Iowa: The Upper Valley Dalton Component*** [Poster Presentation]. Reanalysis of chipped stone artifacts and faunal remains from Keystone Rockshelter characterizes site use by foragers of the Upper Valley Dalton technocomplex, a regional expression of the broader Dalton phenomenon in the Upper Mississippi River Valley. Two direct AMS radiocarbon dates on elk and deer bone place intermittent use of the rockshelter at 10,200–9500 cal BP. Bayesian modeling of these and other regional Dalton dates indicates that Upper Valley Dalton spans 10,500–9100 cal BP and is contemporaneous with Late Dalton and Breckenridge phases in the Dalton Heartland.

Hill, Matthew G. (Iowa State University), **Christopher C. Widga** (Pennsylvania State University), **Todd A. Surovell** (University of Wyoming), **Kurt M. Wilson** (Lawrence University), **Sarah A. Allaun** (Office of the State Archaeologist of Colorado), and **McKenna L. Litynski** (University of Wyoming). [24] ***An Update on Dire Wolf in the Interior of North America*** [Poster Presentation]. Dire wolves were key predators in late Quaternary megafaunal communities across southern North America. We report the first two Iowa records (a radius and a partial cranium) and update the Peccary Cave record in the Ozark Highlands. ZooMS confirms all three are dire wolf, rather than gray wolf. The Iowa specimens date to 29,040–28,410 and 14,325–14,075 cal B.P., and Peccary Cave to 25,350–21,405 cal B.P., placing dire wolves in the continental interior before, during, and after the Last Glacial Maximum. Of 166 occurrences in southern North America, at least 112 date to MIS 2–3. Terminal extinction occurred after 12,800 cal B.P.

Hitchcock, Robert (University of New Mexico) and **Melinda C. Kelly** (Kalahari Peoples Fund). [12] ***The Career of Alan J. Osborn: A Study in Diversity*** [Paper Presentation]. Alan Osborn's career has been a study in diversity - geographically, temporally, and culturally. He has worked in South America and the Southwestern United States. He has focused on the ecology of high mountain ecosystems, climate change, technology, marine resources, poison use in hunting, fire ecology, and storage strategies, among other topics. This paper will address the impacts of Alan Osborn's important work over the past six decades.

Hofman, Jack (University of Kansas). [13] ***A Pawnee Hunting Camp on the Smoky Hill River, Western Kansas: The Kraus Tipi Ring Site, 14EL406*** [Paper Presentation]. Mapping and testing at the Kraus tipi ring site from 2014 to 2016 contributed to nomination and inclusion of the site on the National Register (Weston et al. 2018). The site is one of few documented tipi ring sites in Kansas and is located on a north-south historic trail near a significant spring system which feeds into the Smoky Hill River. At least 35 tipi rings are documented at the site and additional rings are believed to be present. Investigations of three rings and other features are summarized in this paper. The site is interpreted to be a Pawnee hunting camp and was probably visited by Fremont's expedition in 1844. When the site was first used is not known, but the tipi rings are stratified which implies significant time depth.

Hofman, Jack (University of Kansas). [5] ***Lithic Signatures for Strike-A-Light Fire Making at Historic Sites*** [Poster Presentation]. Partitioning early historic assemblages into categories such as metal and lithic for analyses can result in masking the interrelated nature of some artifacts groups. An example being the lithic by-products of flint-and-steel fire making and the fire steels themselves. Flint and steel fire making became the preferred fire making method in the Americas following European contact and prior to availability of sulfur matches during the late 19th Century. Recognition of flint and steel fire making at archaeological sites has been limited because fire steels were highly curated items, and the associated flints do not fit easily within traditional stone tool typologies. This paper explores the distinctive nature of flints (fire cores) and lithic debitage (fire core flakes) produced during flint and steel fire making, based on experimental studies and samples from early historic Pawnee and Kansa sites. Such fire making is recognizable even when fire steels are not present.

Hofman, Jack (University of Kansas). [5] ***The Iron Age in the Central Plains: Partitioning the History of Pressing Irons*** [Poster Presentation]. Archaeologists regularly divide cultural historical sequences into temporal units characterized by selected combinations of attributes and features (e.g., Willey and Phillips 1958). This historic period in the Central Plains region has been a time of rapid and dramatic technological changes which have affected everything from transportation systems, agriculture, manufacturing, power generation, ecology, cultural interactions and more. In the example presented here, the dramatic changes which have occurred in pressing irons are reviewed with documentation of key horizon markers in the development of pressing irons. Pressing irons are only one of hundreds of historic artifact types which can potentially be used to aid in refining our understanding of regional behaviors and changes during the past two centuries on the Central Plains.

Holen, Steven R. (Center for American Paleolithic Research). [2] ***John Ludwickson: The (Later) Early Years*** [Paper Presentation]. I first met John Ludwickson when I was an undergraduate Anthropology major at UNL in the early 1970s. We formed an intellectual bond with an intense interest Central Plains Tradition/Pawnee archaeology and spent many hours discussing this subject. Our first field project together was at the King Hill Site, a ca. 1700 AD Oneota/Kansa site in St. Joseph, MO in 1972. The next year we were Teaching Assistants on the UNL Field School in central Nebraska taught by Peter Bleed. We excavated two Central Plains Tradition houses and a Woodland site during that summer. John was instrumental in getting me my first full-time job at the Nebraska State Historical Society in 1979 and we were Highway Archaeologists from 1979–1984. After that time, we grew apart, John stayed at the NSHS for the remainder of his career, and I went on to hold several positions in museums in the Great Plains. I will recount several professional and personal stories regarding our early years working together.

Hoppes, Kelsey (University of Colorado Boulder). [13] ***Tracing Origins Through Pottery: Ceramic Attribute Analysis Within a Communities of Practice Framework at 25BD1 (Lynch Site)*** [Paper Presentation]. This research uses ceramic attribute analysis to investigate population origins, social identity, and community formation at 25BD1 (the Lynch site), a thirteenth- and fourteenth-century multicultural settlement on Ponca Creek in northeastern Nebraska. Because 25BD1 appears to have grown rapidly through migration and coalescence, this study examines utilitarian pottery as evidence of learned

technological practice within a communities of practice framework. By comparing low-, medium-, and high-visibility attributes in the Lynch assemblage with Mill Creek, Initial Middle Missouri, Extended Middle Missouri, Central Plains tradition, and Western Oneota ceramics, this research identifies shared manufacturing knowledge, stylistic signaling, and attribute blending. It also highlights women's agency as producers and transmitters of ceramic knowledge whose decorative choices socially signaled belonging and political affiliation. The results show that 25BD1 pottery reflects multiple communities whose practices were maintained, combined, and transformed into a new blended community identity.

Howland, Matthew (Wichita State University), **Timmerie J. Henke** (Wichita State University), and **Barb Myers** (Wichita State University). [7] ***GIS-based Assessment of Flooding Risks at Historic Highland Cemetery, Wichita, Kansas*** [Paper Presentation]. This study uses GIS-based modeling to assess rainfall-driven inundation at the oldest cemetery in Wichita, Kansas, Highland Cemetery, as part of a collaborative cultural heritage project. Cemeteries are some of the most tangible manifestations of a community's cultural heritage. Highland Cemetery contains the burials of many of Wichita's founders and later residents. However, burials at the cemetery are threatened by a range of site formation processes, including vandalism, flooding, and weathering and sinking of grave markers. The Friends of the Wichita Pioneers, a community organization dedicated to documenting and mitigating these problems at the city-owned cemetery, has demonstrated the impacts these processes have had on the descendant community. Here, we apply GIS to model flooding at the cemetery to shed light on causes of grave marker sinking and lost graves. This work provides a basis for mitigating degradation of Highland Cemetery's important history, in collaboration with the descendant community.

Iron Eyes, Tyrel (Standing Rock Sioux Tribe). [8] ***Tribal Identification: Bulletin 38 and Beyond*** [Paper Presentation]. Per the existing 36 CFR 800 language, Tribes are meant to be part of the Section 106 process from start to finish, including the identification of historic and cultural properties. While the cultural properties aspect is outlined by the guidance of Bulletin 38, this paper seeks to not only reiterate the importance of Tribal presence in the field identification efforts, but also to extend those principles to collections review particularly as it relates to NAGPRA compliance. While strides have been made in the field with

regard to Tribal participation and Tribal engagement, there are aspects in which we still have room to improve.

Johnson, Craig M. (Paleocultural Research Group). [2] ***John Ludwickson - - The Early Years*** [Paper Presentation]. Through a series of photographs, John's early participation in several field projects is reviewed. An early one occurred in 1965-1966 during the Smithsonian Institution River Basin Surveys (SI-RBS) Missouri Basin Project (MBP) excavations at the Cattle Oiler site (39ST224), an Initial Middle Missouri (IMM) Plains Village community located in the Big Bend region of the Middle Missouri subarea. In 1967, he participated in the RBS excavations at Medicine Creek (39LM2), another site with a major IMM component. Reliance on RBS photographic and written records illustrate their value in reconstructing fieldwork, useful resources in conducting research long after the program was terminated at the end of June 1969. Finally, John's 1972 fieldwork at the King Hill site (23BN1), a protohistoric Kansa Oneota site in the city of St. Joseph excavated by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, concludes this review.

Johnson, Kayleigh (South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeological Research Center). [15] ***Quartzite Quarry Comparisons: Determining the Stratigraphic Location of 39CU0551 within the Inyan Cara Group*** [Poster Presentation]. Prehistoric quarry 39CU0551 is located in Custer County, South Dakota and consists of grey quartzite that was used by American Indians to manufacture tools. Past geological maps placed this quarry within the Lower Cretaceous Inyan Kara Group, which includes the Fall River and Lakota Formations. However, no detailed geological maps were made of this region and the stratigraphy surrounding the quartzite unit was unknown. Fieldwork and lab work were conducted to identify and describe the outcrops within and near site 39CU0551. Additionally, quartzite samples from 39CU0551 were compared to similar quarries within the Inyan Kara Group. Nine outcrops were visited and nine hand samples were described along with quartzite samples from 39CU0551 (n=7), 39FA0049 (n=7), 39FA0055 (n=7), and 39PN0001 (n=5). The quartzite recorded at 39CU0551 ranged from an orthoquartzite to a low to medium-grade metaquartzite and closely resembled quartzites and the lithology found within the Fall River Formation.

Johnson, Nolan (Nebraska State Historical Society). [2] ***The 2025 Excavation at 25ST16 The Sharpe Homestead: John Would Have Hated It*** [Paper Presentation]. The Nebraska Department of Transportation had plans to expand

US-275 from two to four lanes for several decades. As part of that effort the Nebraska State Historical Society identified the Sharpe Homestead as a National Register of Historic Places eligible archeological resource that would likely be adversely affected by the project as far back as 1991. The project eventually became a reality, and the site was excavated in the spring of 2025. Despite the best efforts of numerous archeologists, the excavation did not go according to plan. Important information was learned, but not necessarily what was originally expected. Some lessons must be learned the hard way, and this presentation will explain those in the hopes that other future archeologists can avoid the same pitfalls.

Johnson, Nolan (Nebraska State Historical Society). [11] ***There Can be Only One: Chipped Stone Debris*** [Lightning Session Presentation]. Archeologists have used many terms through time to describe the waste pieces of stone made while creating stone tools. I will show that there is single correct term.

Johnson, Phyllis S. (Michigan State University). [8] ***Beyond Plains Anthropologist: Twenty Years of Gendered Publishing Trends*** [Paper Presentation]. Recent research demonstrates that women working in Plains archaeology in the United States are not publishing in Plains Anthropologist nearly as often as men. In fact, gendered publishing trends for first and single authors have hardly changed since the inception of the journal in 1954. Women comprise more than 80 percent of the theses and dissertations produced on Plains archaeology since 2020, however, demonstrating that women likely comprise the majority of archaeologists working in the Plains. The present study expands on this research by examining the nuanced publishing trends of women in Plains archaeology over the last 20 years to determine 1) if gendered presentation rates at the Plains Anthropology Conference are consistent with publishing rates in Plains Anthropologist; 2) if and where these archaeologists are publishing; 3) what specific topics they are publishing on; and 4) if occupation is a determining factor for gendered publishing trends.

Keehner, Steven (Kansas Historical Society). [20] ***Dating Infinity: A Multicomponent Site in Southeastern Kansas*** [Paper Presentation]. The Infinity site (14MY305) is a complex multicomponent site located in southeastern Kansas. It was recorded and intensively investigated in the 1960s by Kansas State Historical Society archaeologists as part of a project for the National Inter-agency Archaeological Salvage Program. The 10-acre site yielded evidence for

occupations spanning over 2,500 years, with significant material culture assemblages identified as being temporally assignable to the Archaic, Woodland, Plains Village, and Post-Contact periods. However, previous attempts to date the Infinity site have been problematic due to issues with labs, sample types, and their association with distinct assemblages. Through support from the Donna C. Roper Research Fund, I present those past issues and the results of new AMS radiocarbon dates obtained from targeted samples of charred-food residues from ceramic cooking vessels. For the first time, the results provide temporal markers associated directly with the material assemblages for the Woodland and Plains Village components.

King, Colin** (University of Wyoming), **JP Schubert** (National Park Service), **Kate Birmingham** (National Park Service), **Rebecca Pachlhofer** (National Park Service), **Claudia Celia** (University of Wyoming), **Xavier Littlehead** (University of Wyoming), **Lilian Befeler** (University of Wyoming), **Cinthia Campos-Hernandez** (University of Wyoming), and **Randy Haas** (University of Wyoming). [3] ***New Evidence for Buried Early Holocene Deposits at the Lawrence Site, Grand Teton National Park [Paper Presentation]. Early Holocene adaptations to mountain environments remain relatively understudied, leaving subsistence practices and land-use strategies equivocal. The Lawrence Site is a large multi-component site in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. Today much of the site is inundated by the Jackson Lake Reservoir. Previous investigations have focused on inundated components and have attempted to find intact deposits. These investigations have revealed that much of the site has lost stratigraphic integrity due to wave action. Recent excavations of ~12 square meters in alluvial fan and sheet wash deposits outside of the lake's high-water mark have revealed intact deposits, including one large roasting feature, two unlined hearths, a possible house feature, in addition to ground stone, FAR, bone and ~1,300 lithic artifacts. Temporally diagnostic artifacts suggest an Early Holocene signal. Artifact and feature analyses are ongoing and hold potential to add to our understanding of Early Holocene adaptations to interior mountain landscapes.

Kornfeld, Marcel (University of Wyoming). [12] ***Early Paleoindian Occupations at Hell Gap: Younger Dryas, Making Clothes, and Keeping Warm*** [Paper Presentation]. The Folsom period of about 12,700 – 12,000 years ago, broadly coincides with the Younger Dryas climatic event, a brief return to cooler conditions of earlier Pleistocene. Although human populations arrived in North America some 1000 years earlier from northern latitudes, the southern

migration along with a warming late Pleistocene climate alleviated the need for extreme cold adaptation of previous generations. However, with the return to cooler temperatures cold adapted technologies again became necessary even in southern latitudes. An apparent proliferation of bone needles appears to mark Folsom and other occupations of the period.

Kvamme, Kenneth (University of Arkansas, retired). [4] ***Lessons from Experimental Knapping: Spatial Patterning in Lithic Debris Scatters*** [Paper Presentation]. Experimental knapping informs us about distributional patterns within archaeological lithic scatters. Focusing on percussion knapping, it is shown that large flakes and flakes from coarse-grained materials tend to distribute more widely than smaller flakes and flakes of more vitreous stone types. The result is spatial sorting where smaller flakes distribute more centrally while larger flakes fall father, largely determined by their size. Knapper height above the floor positively correlates with scatter spread, as does hammer type with stone sending flakes farther than antler. Finally, scatter shape may indicate knapper facing and possibly handedness. In all cases as flakes are struck they generally fall at random, suggesting their distributions can be closely modeled by the exponential family of distributions. Using a 400 sq m area of mapped archaeological surface scatters, detective work based on these principles is applied to ascertain the nature of flaking activity at several individual stone-working stations.

Laravie, Stacy (Ponca). [8] ***Rematriation of Archaeology: Perspective of a Ponca Wau'*** [Paper Presentation]. What if, we approached the science of archaeology completely differently? Has the separation of scientific fields narrowed study so completely that we have lost kinship connections. Kinship connections from indigenous perspectives recognizes the relationships inherent in nature. For example, by separating the study of geology and botany, we are separating the family relationship that better defines the whole story of who are as human beings and how we relate to our nature world. Is there an alternative? I propose a rematriation of archaeology. Rematriation is the sacred process of returning nature to the land, highlighting kinship over ownership, and shifting to matrilineal knowledge. As opposed to repatriation which implies ownership and a transfer of property. What if we interpreted the past from a different lens, one defined by kinships and connection.

Lincoln, Shema** (Oklahoma State University). [10] ***Beadwork as Intergenerational Cultural Knowledge: An Autoethnographic Perspective [Poster Presentation]. In Oklahoma, where distinct tribal communities maintain longstanding intertribal relationships, beadwork provides an important lens for examining cultural continuity, identity, and revitalization. My poster presents an autoethnographic study of Indigenous beadwork as an example of embodied cultural knowledge. Through experience, I demonstrate how traditions, identity, and cultural continuity are transmitted across generations and between tribes. Born and raised in Oklahoma within Seminole, Muscogee (Creek), and Mississippi Choctaw communities, I learned beadwork from my mother, a master beadwork artist. Early memories of watching her bead gradually developed into intentional learning as she taught me techniques, color selection, sewing methods, and creative expression. I acquired more than techniques; I learned patience, creativity, cultural histories, and meanings embedded within beadwork practices. Using autoethnography, I illustrate how Indigenous knowledge transmitted through embodied practice and storytelling, reinforces familial relationships. Cultural knowledge persists within the social activities involved in the creation of Indigenous material culture.

Lippincott, Kerry (Consulting Archaeologist [retired]). [2] ***On the Centrality (or Not) of Extended Coalescent, Post-Contact Coalescent and Historic Arikara Earthlodge Village Ceremonial Lodges*** [Paper Presentation]. John Ludwickson helped me in transferring the then Glen Elder Reservoir, now Waconda Lake, Upper Republican archaeological materials from UN-L to MU on several occasions. The description and analysis of those materials was the suggestion of Dr. Richard A. Krause for my dissertation research. In my experience, thinking of research projects for "someone else" to undertake and complete is one of the easiest and most satisfying examples of academic project completion for the suggester. This literature survey of the central location, or not, of archaeological and historical ceremonial lodges in Arikara earthlodges villages could be viewed as another example of that suggestive thought process.

Mahoney, Gosia (Midwest Archeological Center), **Paul R. Hanson** (University of Nebraska), and **Sherilyn C. Fritz** (University of Nebraska). [15] ***Environmental Change and the Timing of Human Occupation Revealed by OSL Dating at the Lynch Site, NE*** [Poster Presentation]. OSL dating of ceramics and sediments at the Lynch site (25BD1) in northeastern Nebraska provides new geochronological constraints on Holocene dune activity and its relationship to

late prehistoric human occupation. OSL ages identify two episodes of sand mobilization that coincide with regional megadroughts: an early–mid Holocene event (ca. 8000–5000 years ago) and a late Holocene episode (840–530 years ago). The younger episode includes two discrete phases (840–760 and 580–530 years ago), separated by a century-scale period of surface stability, which coincides with Lynch occupation in the late 13th and 14th centuries. Renewed sand reactivation post-dates site abandonment, suggesting anthropogenic disturbance may have reduced stabilization of soils and surface sediments, preconditioning the terrace for deflation. This study underscores the importance of high-resolution local chronologies for disentangling climatic and human drivers of landscape change and highlights OSL dating of pottery as a valuable complement to radiocarbon chronologies.

McGeough, Kevin (University of Lethbridge) and **Shawn Bubel** (University of Lethbridge). [6] ***Buffalo Jumpers and Hide Hunters in Cinematic Westerns*** [Paper Presentation]. As excavators of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump UNESCO World Heritage Centre, we frequently have contact with tourists who are first-time visitors and have had little exposure to buffalo jumps, let alone to traditional Plains buffalo hunting. These experiences in archaeological outreach have led us to consider the different ways in which the general public learns about buffalo hunting. Through this paper, we explore one of these ways – cinematic representations of buffalo hunting, especially in the genre of the Western. What is striking about cinematic representations is not just what filmmakers get "right" and "wrong" about buffalo hunting and buffalo jumps, but what other messages are conveyed by these movies. This paper discusses these messages, especially in relation to the genre of the Western, and the implications for archaeological, anthropological, and historical work on the Plains.

McGrath-Seegmiller, James (Tallgrass Archaeology). [15] ***Middle Woodland Ochre Use at the Two Hawks Site*** [Poster Presentation]. Recent Phase III Data Recovery excavations at the Two Hawks Site (13WD244) produced a relatively large ochre assemblage. While no painted objects were found at the site, this ochre assemblage shows clear evidence for the heat treatment of locally available hematites and goethites, ochre pigment processing, and the intentional discard of expended ochre nodules. When considered alongside other material types recovered, the ochre assemblage provides indirect evidence for the painting of hides and other soft tissues at the Two Hawks Site.

Meyer, Kelton (University of Wyoming) and **Michelle Dinkel** (ERO Resources). [17] ***Revisiting the James Allen Site in the Laramie Basin, Wyoming*** [Paper Presentation]. James Allen (48AB4) is best known as the "type site" for Late Paleoindian Allen complex projectile points with lanceolate blades, concave bases, and parallel-oblique flaking. Excavations by W.T. Mulloy and the University of Wyoming field school (1951-1954) revealed a shallow bonebed with disarticulated bison remains (MNI ~15) and 30 Allen projectile points, but also limited quantities of processing tools (scrapers, flake knives) and debitage, suggesting a short-term occupation. A single piece of burned bone was dated to 7900 +/- 400 BP, but the excavations did not identify any hearth features or confirm the presence of a campsite locality. The Continental Divide Archaeological Center (CDAC) initiated new investigations in 2026 to clarify whether the site contained an associated campsite with untested deposits. Results of systematic survey and shovel testing revealed new areas with burned bone, Allen complex weaponry, and debris from later occupations.

Moe, Justin (Tallgrass Archaeology). [23] ***Preliminary results from the Phase III Data Recovery excavations at the Two Hawks Site (13WD244)*** [Paper Presentation]. The Two Hawks Site (13WD244) represents a late Middle Woodland bison processing and habitation site situated at the confluence of Bacon Creek and the Floyd River in Sioux City, Iowa. Intact portions of the site, located below a meter of historic fill and partially underneath an active roadway, were subjected to Phase III Data Recovery excavations. Data Recovery excavations resulted in the excavation of six features and recovery of approximately 17,000 artifacts. This presentation will provide an overview of preliminary results from the Phase III excavation, including the landform setting, artifact spatial patterning, obsidian sourcing, and resource use identified as part of our ongoing study of the site.

Morgan, Brooke (Illinois State Museum). [8] ***Curation, Consultation, and Other Invisible Labors: Why Plains Anthropology is More Than Dirt Archaeology*** [Paper Presentation]. Plains archaeology has long been defined by fieldwork, though collections-based research contributes important insights. Yet gaps between field collection and museum curation continue to fuel the "curation crisis." Despite their importance to long-term data preservation, ethical stewardship, and community collaboration, "invisible" tasks—including curation, collections management, and Tribal consultation for NAGPRA compliance—remain systematically undervalued in archaeological practice. Because this

curatorial and care-oriented labor disproportionately falls to women, it is further marginalized by structural gender biases that privilege field data collection over ongoing collections maintenance. Funding models routinely overlook post-fieldwork responsibilities, shifting financial, logistical, and administrative burdens onto curating institutions and their predominantly female staff. Traditional academic training reflects these same biases, leaving students and early-career professionals underprepared in essential stewardship practices. This paper examines archaeology's reliance on gendered labor in the curatorial sphere and calls for a recognition of such contributions to the field of Plains anthropology.

Mulroe, Pierce (University of Utah), **Lawrence Todd** (Colorado State University), and **Daniel Dalmas** (Iowa State University). [5] ***A Sharper Look: Resharpening Trends and Flake Comparison in the GRSLE Dataset*** [Poster Presentation]. Projectile point curation intensity reflects how hunter-gatherers responded to landscape familiarity and confidence in lithic sourcing over time. This poster examines preliminary resharpening data from projectile points across the GRSLE regional dataset in the Absaroka Mountains, spanning Paleoindian through Late Prehistoric occupations. Coded specimens (n=535) show a marked drop in resharpening frequency during the Late Prehistoric compared to earlier periods, suggesting reduced curation as groups became more familiar with local toolstone. As a complementary line of evidence, we compare small-format complete flakes (< 7 mm) from the excavated, hearth-based Bugas-Holding site (48PA563) with surface-collected flakes from other GRSLE localities. Flake attributes differ between Bugas-Holding and the surface record. Still, this pattern shifts depending on site and raw material, pointing to both behavioral variation and recovery methods as contributing factors. This poster highlights how excavated, chronologically secure sites like Bugas-Holding can help interpret undated surface assemblages elsewhere in the GRSLE dataset.

Nelson, Fox (University of Iowa), **Derick P. Juptner** (University of Iowa), and **Tarah Marks** (Tallgrass Archaeology, LLC). [4] ***Bones Under the Road: A Preliminary Faunal Analysis of 13WD244 in Sioux City, Iowa*** [Paper Presentation]. 13WD244 in western Iowa is characterized by the presence of lithics, faunal materials, ceramic sherds, and charcoal, with diagnostic materials recovered from the site including Knife River flint, pipestone, obsidian, and cord-marked ceramic sherds to name a few. While Middle Woodland sites in western Iowa are not well known, the artifact assemblage at 13WD244 is similar in artifact types and morphologies to that of western Iowa Middle Woodland sites

such as M.A.D. and Rainbow. The site has also produced a moderately-sized faunal collection dominated by deer, elk, bison, turtle, and canid remains. This analysis of the faunal assemblage at 13WD244 intends to answer key questions about the nature and formation of the faunal assemblage, such as what faunal species were utilized, what types of anthropomorphic modifications and spatial patterning can be seen in the faunal assemblage, and if subsistence at 13WD244 is similar to other Middle Woodland sites.

O'Shea, John (Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, University of Michigan). [2] ***Life on the Proto-Historic Frontier: An Introduction to the Barcal Village Site (25BU4), Butler County, Nebraska*** [Paper Presentation]. An abiding interest of John Ludwickson was the write up of important, but neglected, archaeological collections generated in Nebraska by WPA crews in the 1930's. One such collection derived from the Barcal Site, a proto-historic Pawnee village that was excavated in 1936 by John L. Champe under the auspices of the Nebraska State Historical Society. Excavations at Barcal uncovered three houses, two midden areas, numerous deep storage pits, and 34 burials. Visible surface depressions suggested the likely presence of an additional 27 lodges. The Barcal occupation was on the cusp of the contact era, as witnessed by the provocative mix of native made objects and chronologically sensitive Euro-American trade items in the assemblage. Among the more intriguing is the frequent occurrence of pipestone fragments that are found throughout the site. The substantial number of pipe blanks suggests that pipe manufacture may have been a specialized activity at the site.

Orngard, Charles (GRSLE), **Lawrence Todd** (GRSLE), and **Daniel Dalmas** (Iowa State University). [5] ***Aiming Beyond Categories: Rethinking Archaeological Partitioning Through S.H.O.T.s*** [Poster Presentation]. Archaeological categories are necessary for organizing material evidence, but they can become limiting when descriptive distinctions also restrict comparison. Temporal, material, and technological divisions are often treated as fixed analytical boundaries, even when different artifact classes preserve evidence of comparable behaviors. Using data from the Greybull River Sustainable Landscape Ecology Project (GRSLE), this poster considers what becomes possible when those boundaries do not dictate what we can compare. Projectile points and modern cartridge casings are technologically and temporally distinct, yet both preserve S.H.O.T.s (Signatures of Hunting Over Time). Together, they reveal associations with big game migration corridors alongside differences in spatial

patterning, highlighting both continuity and change. These patterns reveal how cross-category comparison can raise questions about behavioral continuity and change that remain difficult to see when datasets are separated. Ultimately, archaeological categories should organize evidence without limiting the questions we are able to ask of it.

Page, Michael (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist). [2] ***Going Back: Results of the Recent Investigations at the East Mortensen Site (25HW9) and the Emergence of the Central Plains Tradition*** [Paper Presentation]. In 1939, A.T. Hill conducted excavations at the East Mortensen site along Davis Creek in central Nebraska. In 2019 and 2023, a small team of volunteers devoted approximately eight hours to screening an estimated 2% of the fill that surrounds the house basin. These investigations recovered 637 artifacts, including a diverse assemblage of faunal and floral remains, chipped stone, and pottery. Five radiocarbon determinations obtained from bison bone and maize indicate that the house was occupied at approximately cal AD 1026 or cal AD 1176. These results identify East Mortensen as one of the earliest, and potentially the earliest, securely dated Central Plains tradition sites currently known. This paper summarizes the site's artifact assemblage and radiocarbon chronology, evaluates the evidence supporting its proposed age, and examines the implications of these findings for understanding the emergence of the Central Plains tradition.

Page, Michael (Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist). [2] ***What, Where, and When Is the Itskari Variant?*** [Paper Presentation]. In 1979, John Ludwickson proposed a new taxon for sites whose material assemblages differed substantially from the other phases of the Central Plains tradition. From its initial formulation, the Itskari phase was understood to encompass several related groups, subsequently designated Itskari A, B, and C. The validity and analytical utility of the Itskari phase—or variant—were reasonably questioned because most sites remained unpublished and chronological evidence was virtually absent. Recently, however, an expanding body of evidence has become available, including AMS radiocarbon dates. Although significant interpretive gaps persist, the available data indicate that the Itskari variant consisted of several partially contemporaneous and related groups, distinguished by characteristic material-culture traits, who lived primarily in the Loup River Valley over a period of several centuries. This paper delineates the Itskari variant through an examination of three interrelated dimensions: its material-culture characteristics, geographic distribution, and the temporal ranges of its proposed phases.

Peterson, Amy** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [3] ***Mapping the Ioway [Paper Presentation]. Beginning in the 1600s and into the 1700s, the Ioway people migrated south and southwest from the Great Lakes region to the Central Plains into areas that are now known as the states of Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri settling along major rivers. During this time, they practiced maize agriculture combined with fishing, hunting, gathering, and seasonal bison hunting establishing seasonal agricultural villages that they often returned to annually. Beginning in 1815, the Ioway became the focus of several treaties with the United States Government, which promised supplies, training, and money in exchange for the Ioway to relocate to smaller areas over time. Why did the U.S. Government want to move these people off the lands they occupied? Where were they located prior to the treaties versus where they were relocated? Using maps created by the American Board of Ethnology, I employ Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to illustrate where the Ioway were relocated and investigate the reasons for their relocation.

Pettigrew, Devin (Sul Ross State University). [13] ***Origins of the Pawnee Bow*** [Paper Presentation]. The double convex or gull wing bow has been considered a form unique to Indigenous American cultures and unknown to colonial Europeans. Its efficiency has also been questioned by modern bowyers, although efficiency has multiple elements that need to be considered. This paper explores the likelihood that this bow type was introduced into North American from northern Asia, given the wide-spread popularity of a similar form across Eurasia in the Bronze Age. Furthermore, I explore the possibility that It became widely popular across the Plains with the ethnogenesis of the Pawnee.

Picha, Paul (Retired, Bismarck, North Dakota). [4] ***It's Not Marmalade: 'Reflections of My Life' in Anthropological Archaeology, 1975-2025*** [Paper Presentation]. Recollections drawn from 1974-1976 undergraduate coursework provide the backdrop for musings on the impacts of the Anthropological Archaeology paradigm and its role in shaping my career choices some fifty years on.

Rhoads, Miles** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and **Jessica Gammage** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [3 & 22] ***One Ocean, Two Worlds: Southern Pomo and Native Hawaiian Navigations of Biological Anthropology [Paper Presentation]. Biological anthropology's traditional emphasis on clinical detachment often positions Indigenous cultural obligations as sources of

scientific bias rather than methodological strengths. Drawing on the experiences and embodied methodologies of two Indigenous biological anthropologists, we explore how Southern Pomo and Native Hawaiian epistemologies inform scientific practice while maintaining distinct cultural responsibilities. Southern Pomo t!un obligations situate skeletal analysis and NAGPRA repatriation within ancestral care, while a "Kinship of Data" framework addresses concerns surrounding Indigenous representation in Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) casework. Similarly, Native Hawaiian kuleana emphasizes genealogical responsibilities toward iwi kupuna (ancestral remains), recognizing Ancestors as relations rather than specimens. Rather than adopting a homogenizing Pan-Indian framework, we examine how distinct Indigenous responsibilities converge through relational accountability. We argue that scientific rigor and cultural obligations are not mutually exclusive and that Indigenous researchers offer important perspectives for rethinking ethical and methodological standards in biological and forensic anthropology.

Rich, Samuel** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***This is OUR Noem, not yours: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Shaping of Immigrant Identity on Instagram [Poster Presentation]. This study examines how the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) uses Instagram to shape immigration discourse and construct the identities of immigrants and immigration enforcement officials. Findings are derived from 1,150 DHS Instagram posts beginning with Kristi Noem's tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security. Analysis includes a large-scale content analysis using deductive and inductively derived codes, followed by a critical discourse analysis of a smaller sample. Preliminary findings reveal changes over time in the content and format of DHS posts and contrasting representations of immigrants and enforcement officials. Immigrants are frequently portrayed through dehumanizing language and imagery, while enforcement officials are positioned as saviors, protectors, and defenders of the nation. These patterns demonstrate how government social media constructs boundaries between threat and safety, belonging, and exclusion.

Richmond, Dean (University of Oklahoma) and **Leland Bement** (Oklahoma Archeological Survey). [23] ***Reinterpretation of the Lithic Material Tesesquite Quartzite Cimarron County, Oklahoma*** [Paper Presentation]. An investigation of potential lithic sources in Cimarron County, Oklahoma Panhandle, has yielded notable results, identifying more local lithic sources than previously documented.

Two quartzite sources are exposed near the renowned Basketmaker caves: the Tesesquite and the "Goofy" quartzites. A recent evaluation indicates that both quartzites are stratigraphically within the Kenton Member of the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation. The "Goofy" Quartzite records a large fluvial system, and its beds were disturbed by a strong Late Jurassic seismic event. The Tesesquite Quartzite consists of several isolated exposures at approximately the same stratigraphic horizon. In thin section, pore spaces show diagenetic alteration of intergranular kaolinite to hematite and chlorite. Bed thickness, limited areal extent, grain-size distribution, sorting, and diagenetically altered intergranular clay suggest that the quartzite was deposited as sandstone beds in overbank crevasse splays within the Kenton Member of the Morrison Formation.

Ruiz, Diego A.** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **McKenzie Fuller** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and **Mustafa Al Turki** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Lost Neighborhoods of Lincoln: Mapping Civil Architecture at the Heart of the UNL City Campus [Poster Presentation]. This project is working towards the investigation of the architectural profile of the neighborhood that once existed between 14th and 15th streets, and between U street and the continuance of T street, where the UNL Kauffman dormitories currently are located. The data of our exploration consists primarily of archival photosets located in various physical and digital repositories throughout Lincoln. The scope of work accounts for the neighborhood's most prominent decades—1890s – 1940s—to maximize the amount of visual and numerical data available on the neighborhood properties. A dedicated recollection of the study area's architectural history has yet to be done, and so existing physical and digital resources in the university archives regarding the subject have not been accounted for. The project is aligned with the efforts of the UNL Campus Archeology Project, which has actively explored and organized the archeological material record of the excavations that were led on the same premises prior to the construction of the dormitories. One of the main products of this project will be to expand the Campus Archaeology Project's current database to include a collection of archival photos and 3D rendered, maps, organized by a time period. These maps will be informed by artifacts, rasterized maps, and tenant information. By providing the Campus Archeology Project with a visual portrait, this research will inspire interest and curiosity within the community about the architectural heritage of Lincoln and provide a significant visual component to the project. This investigation will also establish the means for a continuum of research that

can be enriched later, with the option of being exported to physical exhibition spaces for display models or augmented reality experiences.

Schoenfelder, Meagan (State Historical Society of North Dakota), **Jon Eagle** (State Historical Society of North Dakota), and **Abigail Eve Fisher** (ERG). [20] ***Shut Up & LISTEN: Conversation & Collaboration (Not Consultation)*** [Poster Presentation]. How you approach a person or any given situation in life will either create resistance or movement. But the only way to create movement is to develop a relationship first. This poster seeks to open a dialogue of conversation about the importance of relationships between tribes and archaeologists (whether employed as contractors, by universities, government entities, or repositories). When laws and regulations change how can we set up a framework that keeps these conversations productive and collectively leading the narrative? We seek to understand what can be gained beyond the base level consultation conversations when genuine questions and involvement occur from the start of archaeology work. We want to know what archaeology reports and studies would look like if real conversations took place and relationships were formed before they were written. When you look at things differently, you can see things in a different way.

Shield Chief Gover, Carlton (University of Kansas, Pawnee Nation). [13] ***Searching for Home: Archaeology and the Ckîri Homeland*** [Paper Presentation]. Ethnographic accounts describe numerous Ckîri (Skidi) Pawnee towns that once occupied the Loup River region, yet many of these communities remain archaeologically unidentified. This paper explores whether descriptions of Ckîri towns preserved in the ethnographic record can help identify archaeological correlates among Coalescent Tradition settlements and develop a predictive approach for locating currently undocumented or under-reported sites. I examine the geographic, environmental, and settlement characteristics recorded for historically documented Ckîri communities and compare these patterns with the archaeological distribution and characteristics of known Coalescent Tradition sites. I pay particular attention to whether specific archaeological settlements can be plausibly associated with individual Ckîri communities or social groups. Rather than treating ethnographic accounts as mere historical confirmation of archaeological identifications, this approach treats them as a source of spatial and social information that can generate testable archaeological expectations and guide future survey and research within the Pawnee homeland.

Shield Chief Gover, Carlton (University of Kansas, Pawnee Nation). [8] ***Who Are We Working With? Rethinking American Indian Archaeology*** [Paper Presentation]. What does it mean to conduct archaeology with American Indian Nations? Plains archaeology has increasingly embraced Indigenous perspectives, community engagement, and collaborative research, yet these approaches can obscure an important distinction between Indigenous identity, Indigenous communities, and sovereign Tribal Nations. Recent controversies surrounding Indigenous identity in archaeology highlight challenges that arise when individual identity becomes the basis for representing Indigenous interests. This paper considers an alternative framework for American Indian Archaeology grounded in Tribal sovereignty and government-to-government relationships. Drawing on experiences working with Tribal Nations, I explore how archaeological practice might benefit from conceptualizing relationships with American Indian Nations in ways more analogous to international archaeology. This approach raises questions about compliance, institutional responsibility, collaboration, and representation, while offering an opportunity to reconsider how Plains archaeology understands its relationships with Tribal Nations and how those relationships might contribute to a more accountable future.

*‡**Swearingen, Kallen** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Being Buried in a Box: Coffins and Preservation in Medieval Transylvania*** [Poster Presentation]. This study examines the factors influencing the preservation of skeletal remains interred in a wooden coffin within the context of a Transylvanian Medieval Church and its outdoor cemetery. The study aims to deepen understanding of the container's role as a taphonomic agent and the burial practices of this region and period. The research applies the biocultural perspective of the archaeology of the dead, funerary taphonomy, and the coffin wear hypothesis to interpret the coffin's taphonomic impacts. Remote data collection from archaeological paperwork at the Papdomb site in Valeni (Patakfalva) obtained a systematic sample of 32 graves from every 25th individual across 1000+ burials. The study helps to address the gap on medieval coffin wood studies in bioarchaeological research and stimulates discussion regarding the container's impact on skeletal remains, the theoretical mechanism behind the formation of coffin wear, and their function in the funerary space.

Thimmig, Rachel (Brown University). [21] ***More Than a Cabin: Reframing Like-A-Fishhook Village's House 3 as a Mandan-Hidatsa Home*** [Paper Presentation]. Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) domestic structures changed during the mid-nineteenth century from earthlodge to cabin. This change was previously viewed as indicative of assimilation and a loss of authentic indigeneity. Indeed, the physical form changed, but earthlodges and cabins were more than structures; they were lived spaces imbued with traces of their inhabitants' memories and actions. In other words: homes. By reframing cabins as homes, MHA practice is recentered and evidence of continuity rather than change is prioritized. One particular cabin, House 3 from Like-A-Fishhook Village, offers material traces of gendered subsistence labor, contradicting the idea that cabins were spaces of masculine assimilation. Similarly, ritual and ceremonial behavior in House 3 disrupts the claim that cabins were secular, non-sacred spaces. House 3 is a home where agricultural activity that empowered the community to physically persist and ceremonial practice that maintained the spiritual well-being of the community continued.

Thomas, Ariane (National Institutes of Health), **Matthew E. Hill, Jr.** (University of Iowa), **Matt Reed** (Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma), **Andrew Kitchen** (University of Iowa), **Greger Larson** (University of Oxford), **Laurent A.F. Frantz** (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität), and **Elaine A. Ostrander** (National Institutes of Health). [13] ***Ancient DNA from Archaeological Dogs Reveal Insights into Pawnee History*** [Paper Presentation]. The ancestors of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma used dogs to haul supplies and goods across the North American Great Plains between A.D. 1500 and 1875, but the genetic connection between Lower Loup and historic Pawnee dogs with Central Plains tradition dogs has not been investigated. We present high-quality ancient DNA for the nuclear and mitochondrial genomes of 28 canid individuals from six archaeological sites in Nebraska: 25BU2, 25BU4, 25CX1, 25NC1, 25NC2, and 25NC3. Our results identified a coyote and 26 individuals with Indigenous dog ancestry. We also identified the same mitochondrial haplogroup present at 25NC3 across two time points spanning 405 years based on radiocarbon dates. These findings contribute to archaeological evidence linking Central Plains tradition to historic Pawnee sites. This research was supported in part by the Intramural Research Program of the NIH but does not necessarily reflect the views of the NIH or the U.S. Department of HHS.

Tieken, Alexandra (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) [22] ***Gunshot Trauma and Its Impact on Decomposition and Trauma Preservation in Southeastern Nebraska*** [Paper Presentation]. Accurate identification of gunshot trauma (GST) in forensic anthropology is complicated by its effects on decomposition. This study examines how different types of postmortem gunshot trauma influence decomposition rate and trauma preservation in a humid continental climate in southeastern Nebraska. Using *Sus scrofa domesticus* as human proxies, three pigs were subjected to close-range gunshot trauma from a 9 mm handgun, a 12-gauge shotgun, and an AR-15 rifle, while a fourth served as a control. Environmental conditions, scavenging activity, and trauma visibility were documented throughout decomposition. Results indicate that gunshot trauma type, combined with climate and scavenging, significantly affects decomposition rates and the preservation of skeletal trauma.

Todd, Lawrence (GRSLE). [12] ***Reflections of an Older Plains Archaeologist: Losing My Site and Becoming Non-Binary*** [Paper Presentation]. In 1977, I gave my first Plains Anthropological Conference paper in Lincoln, Nebraska, in this same hotel where we are now. Then, I was sure I understood what an archaeological site was. Five decades of archaeology have made me considerably less certain. Inspired by Alan Osborn's career of questioning archaeological assumptions rather than simply describing archaeological remains, this paper considers two assumptions I have gradually abandoned. The first is that archaeological sites are natural units of the archaeological record rather than useful—and sometimes necessary but arbitrary administrative constructions. The second is that the research significance of those units cannot meaningfully be reduced to a binary decision – NRHP eligible or non-eligible. Drawing on five decades of largely taphonomically based research, this is less a presentation of results and more a story about changing one's mind, asking different questions, and becoming less certain of assumptions and definitions as we become older archaeologists.

Todd, Lawrence (GRSLE). [5] ***Regional Archaeological Pattern Recognition: Examining Effects of Site Definition*** [Poster Presentation]. When developing large, essential archaeological datasets, such as SHPO site records, one key attribute is defining what constitutes a basic archaeological unit—the site. To explore potential unforeseen consequences of these definitions, we partition a single large artifact-based dataset from the Greybull River Sustainable Landscape Ecology (GRSLE) project into sites using several different SHPO criteria. Because

the underlying artifact distributions remain constant, differences in resulting site numbers, areas, densities, contents, and spatial patterning can be attributed to the definitions applied rather than differences in the archaeological record itself. One of the more surprising results is that, even with the same surface artifact data, different site definitions can suggest very different past behavioral interpretations. The results provide a basis for considering how state-specific recording standards may influence apparent archaeological patterns and whether interstate and regional comparisons based on site inventories reflect recent administrative classification decisions rather than past human behavior.

Todd, Lawrence (GRSLE) and **Daniel Dalmas** (Iowa State University). [5] ***Survey, Sampling, and Surface Archaeological Assessment: Looking at the Record*** [Poster Presentation]. Archaeological surface survey and documentation methods vary widely. They are often presented as key components of recording archaeological spatial patterning, but too often they are presented and assessed without methodological consideration. Examples of analytical evaluations of surface inventory methods are needed, especially when results relate to projects with a high potential for archaeological resource damage. Using data from a long-term, largely non-collection surface inventory project in NW Wyoming (GRSLE), this poster illustrates comparisons of methods for estimating artifact densities and inventory coverages. Using both recent GRSLE inventory and previously reported work, we indicate a wide range in method-based results assessment and potential impact evaluation.

Wandsnider, LuAnn (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [12] ***Arguing from First Principles: Houses as Signals in Custer County, Nebraska, 1870–1890*** [Paper Presentation]. A hallmark of Alan Osborn's scholarship is its grounding in first principles. From these foundational premises, Osborn meticulously constructs a model of how the world should operate, then evaluates the evidence to see if it did. When the data matches the model, we carry on; when it diverges, it signals an opportunity to interrogate those first principles and refine the framework. I apply this analytical approach to examine whether and how early settlers in Custer County, Nebraska, used housing quality to emit and receive honest signals about their neighbors. Between 1870 and 1890, the Custer County landscape was a prairie panopticon. Populated by both English and diverse non-English speakers, it was an environment where material culture spoke louder than words, and where community reliance was critical to individual and family

survival. Under these conditions, signaling status and reliability through physical structures could be highly effective. I evaluate this proposition in detail.

Ward, Elle** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Language Geographies of Settler Nebraska: Geolinguistic Sense of Place in Willa Cather's Novels [Poster Presentation]. Willa Cather's Great Plains novels subtly depict a vastly assorted polyglot landscape shaped by European migration across historic Indigenous homelands in the Great Plains. Applying a geolinguistic and spatial semiotic framework to O Pioneers!, My Ántonia, and One of Ours, this study examines how the multitude of languages now present in the region - specifically Bohemian/Czech, Swedish, English, and German - function across rural Nebraska. By mapping dialect distribution, toponymical linguistic origin, and interaction with Indigenous language artifacts, we reveal how language acted as a co-constitutive geographic force peripherally across the prairie of Cather. Rather than presenting a monolithic frontier, Cather's literary cartography highlights the short-lived but formative existence of settler Nebraska's multilingual spheres, and helps us trace their ghosts that lead to Nebraska's near-ubiquitous anglophone-dominant present. Through the integration of literary geography with historical language shift, this paper shows how linguistic identity (re)shaped Great Plains human landscapes in the novels of Willa Cather.

Watson, Mary** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and **Effie Athanassopoulos** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). [10] ***Ceramics, Consumption, and Everyday Life in Early Lincoln: The Ross Theater Ceramic Collection [Poster Presentation]. This poster presents results of an ongoing analysis of archaeological materials recovered during construction of the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center on the University of Nebraska–Lincoln campus in 2001. Two privies containing ceramics and other household materials provide a rare archaeological record of residential life in Lincoln before the neighborhood became part of the university. Dating primarily from the 1890s through the 1920s, the assemblages reflect a period of rapid urban growth and expanding access to manufactured consumer goods. Analysis of vessel forms, wares, manufacturers, and decorative techniques provides insight into the consumer choices of households in this neighborhood. Although whiteware predominates, porcelain, bone china, gold luster, and hand-painted designs indicate access to fashionable goods from American and European manufacturers. By documenting and digitizing this understudied collection, the project examines how household

material culture illuminates consumer behavior, socioeconomic status, and everyday life during Lincoln's transformation into a growing state capital.

Weiland, Andrew (National Park Service). [21] ***Preservation, Research, and Stabilization at Knife River Indian Villages NHP: Managing the Elbee Site*** [Paper Presentation]. The Elbee site (32ME408) in Knife River Indian Villages National Historical Park has suffered for decades from cutbank erosion, exacerbated by ice scours during North Dakota winters. With only one solitary earthlodge recorded, the material record is still rich in the area, implying other use areas than the nearby dense village sites. I review the history of research and preservation at the site, including geophysics, terrestrial laser scanning, micromorphological analysis, charcoal reflectance, and Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy. I highlight recent longitudinal peaked stone toe protection stabilization efforts and Section 106 mitigation planned by the National Park Service that will ensure its data potential for future researchers.

Wiewel, Adam (Midwest Archeological Center). [4] ***Seeing Beneath the Surface: The Midwest Archeological Center's Archeological Prospection Program After 50 Years*** [Paper Presentation]. In July 1974, Robert Nickel and Tom Thiessen from the Midwest Archeological Center partnered with Professor John Weymouth of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Nebraska to conduct a magnetic survey at the Walth Bay site in North Dakota. Similar projects that followed in the 1970s and 1980s were meant in part to demonstrate the efficacy of geophysical investigations. This collaborative relationship launched the Center into a decades long position of leadership in archeological prospection. This paper will discuss the historical legacy of this early partnership and the development of the Center's geophysics program, focusing on key projects and trends during the 50 years, Doug Scott's systematic use of metal detectors for battlefield archeology, Steve De Vore's external projects and outreach, and the National Park Service's archeological prospection workshop.

Wiewel, Adam (Midwest Archeological Center). [11] ***Seeing Triple: A Multi-Instrument Geophysical Survey from the Nebraska Sandhills*** [Lightning Session Presentation]. As the primary contact for geophysical projects at the Midwest Archeological Center, I am often asked to weigh the benefits of different survey strategies given time constraints, funding limitations, and instrument availability. I usually respond with a guiding principle from archeological

prospection that multiple methods yield more comprehensive and accurate interpretations of subsurface archeological features. Results of a multi-instrument survey at the Humphrey site (25HO21), a 17th-century Dismal River aspect or Plains Apache habitation in the Nebraska Sandhills demonstrate this best practice. At Humphrey, Midwest Archeological Center staff surveyed with magnetometry, electromagnetic induction, and ground-penetrating radar. None of the instruments yielded exceptionally good results although the combined findings are remarkable because of the clarity with which they revealed the remnants of at least three domestic structures and other exterior features. Limited test excavations by others subsequently confirmed these interpretations.

Wiewel, Rebecca (Midwest Archeological Center). [11] ***Distance Learning: Not Just for Pandemic Times!*** [Lightning Session Presentation]. Those of us who are active in public archaeology turned to virtual field trips and presentations during the COVID-19 pandemic, but distance learning remains an effective outreach tool even when in-person events are possible. The Midwest Archeological Center runs an active distance learning program, reaching hundreds (and sometimes thousands) of K-12 students and lifelong learners annually. This talk focuses on effective approaches to distance learning, considers challenges, and offers encouragement for those of us striving to maximize outreach outcomes with our limited time and resources.

Williams, Dave (Nebraska State Historical Society). [22] T***he State of the Statutes: How State Cultural Resources Laws Connect to Forensic Anthropology in Nebraska*** [Paper Presentation]. Two state cultural resource laws in Nebraska--the Nebraska Archeological Resources Preservation Act and the Unmarked Human Burial Sites and Skeletal Remains Protection Act—charge the Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) with identifying, documenting, and preserving human burial sites, both marked and unmarked. In instances where burials have been inadvertently discovered due to natural or human-implemented circumstances, recovery and identification of the remains leading toward repatriation and reburial may be necessary. In the absence of trained forensic anthropologists on staff, the NSHS frequently partners with University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) faculty and students toward identification and return of inadvertently discovered human remains. This presentation will outline requirements of the Nebraska cultural resource laws and processes outlined within as they relate to forensic identification of discovered human burials, as well as highlight successes of collaboration with UNL on recent cases.

Williams, Dave (Nebraska State Historical Society) and **Annie Davis** (Nebraska State Historical Society). [11] ***Never (Actually, in This Case, Please Do) Tell Me the Odds: Nebraska's Buried Sites Predictive GIS*** [Lightning Session Presentation]. Developed in three phases over nearly a decade, the Nebraska State Historical Society and Kansas Geological Survey completed a groundbreaking (no pun intended) research project that created GIS data layers to delineate different landform-sediment assemblages and depict associated geologic potential for buried cultural deposits in select watersheds across Nebraska. A public web application containing these layers is now available to work as a CRM planning tool for researchers, professionals, students, and construction firms.

Zedeño, Maria Nieves (The University of Arizona), **R.S. Malhi** (U. Illinois Urbana), **M. DeGiorgio** (Florida Atlantic U.), **J. Lindo** (Emory U.), **F. Lanoe** (U. Arkansas Fayetteville), **D. First Rider** (Blood Tribe), **A. Crop Ear Wolf** (Blood Tribe), and **J.R. Murray** (Blackfeet THPO). [20] ***Genomic Analysis and Divergence of the Blackfoot Lineage*** [Poster Presentation]. We report findings from a genomic study carried out in partnership with the Blackfeet Tribe of Montana and the Blood Tribe of Alberta. This study sheds new light on the peopling of the Americas and offers novel evidence in support of aboriginal and treaty rights. Our results reveal that sampled Blackfoot individuals carry a previously unrecognized ancient lineage that separated from other genomic lineages in the Americas during the Late Pleistocene.

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PAST CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

82nd (*2025*) Iowa City, IA
81st (*2024*) Lethbridge, AB
80th (*2023*) Rapid City, SD
79th (*2022*) Oklahoma City, OK
78th (*2021*) Boulder, CO
2020: No Meeting, Covid 19
77th (*2019*) Bloomington, IN
76th (*2018*) San Antonio, TX
75th (*2017*) Bismarck, ND
74th (*2016*) Lincoln, NE
73rd (*2015*) Iowa City, IA
72nd (*2014*) Fayetteville, AR
71st (*2013*) Loveland, CO
70th (*2012*) Saskatoon, SK
69th (*2011*) Tucson, AZ
68th (*2010*) Bismarck, ND
67th (*2009*) Norman, OK
66th (*2008*) Laramie, WY
65th (*2007*) Rapid City, SD
64th (*2006*) Topeka, KS
63rd (*2005*) Edmonton, AB
62nd (*2004*) Billings, MT
61st (*2003*) Fayetteville, AK
60th (*2002*) Oklahoma City, OK
59th (*2001*) Lincoln, NE
58th (*2000*) St. Paul, MN
57th (*1999*) Sioux Falls, SD
56th (*1998*) Bismarck, ND
55th (*1997*) Boulder, CO
54th (*1996*) Iowa City, IA
53rd (*1995*) Laramie, WY
52nd (*1994*) Lubbock, TX
51st (*1993*) Saskatoon, SK
50th (*1992*) Lincoln, NE
49th (*1991*) Lawrence, KS
48th (*1990*) Oklahoma City, OK
47th (*1989*) Sioux Falls, SD
46th (*1988*) Wichita, KS
45th (*1987*) Columbia, MO
44th (*1986*) Denver, CO
43rd (*1985*) Iowa City, IA
42nd (*1984*) Lincoln, NE
41st (*1983*) Rapid City, SD
40th (*1982*) Calgary, AB
39th (*1981*) Bismarck, ND
38th (*1980* Iowa City, IA
37th (*1979*) Kansas City, MO
36th (*1978*) Denver, CO
35th (*1977*) Lincoln, NE
34th (*1976*) Minneapolis, MN
33rd (*1975*) Lincoln, NE
32nd (*1974*) Laramie, WY
31st (*1973*) Columbia, MO
30th (*1972*) Lincoln, NE
29th (*1971*) Winnipeg, MB
28th (*1970*) Tulsa, OK
27th (*1969*) Lawrence, KS
26th (*1968*) Lincoln, NE
25th (*1967*) St. Paul, MN
24th (*1966*) Lincoln, NE
23rd (*1965*) Topeka, KS
22nd (*1964*) Lincoln, NE
21st (*1963*) Taos, NM
20th (*1962*) Lincoln, NE
19th (*1961*) Lawton, OK
18th (*1960*) Norman, OK
17th (*1959*) Lincoln, NE
16th (*1958*) Lincoln, NE
15th (*1957*) Lincoln, NE
14th (*1956*) Lincoln, NE
13th (*1955*) Lincoln, NE
12th (*1954*) Lincoln, NE

11th (*1953*) Lincoln, NE
10th (*1952*) Lincoln, NE
9th (*1952*) Lincoln, NE
8th (*1952*) Lincoln, NE
7th (*1949*) Lincoln, NE
6th (*1948*) Lincoln, NE
5th (*1947*) Lincoln, NE
4th (*1940*) Norman, OK
3rd (*1936*) Mount Vernon, IA
2nd (*1932*) Lincoln, NE
1st (*1931*) Vermillion, SD

PLAINS ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENTS

1969 Wedel, Waldo R. – Smithsonian Institution
1970 Wedel, Waldo R. – Smithsonian Institution
1971 Wedel, Waldo R. – Smithsonian Institution
1972 Krause, Richard – University of Missouri
1973 Gradwohl, David M. – Iowa State University
1974 Frison, George – University of Wyoming
1975 Henning, Dale R. – University of Nebraska
1976 Hamilton, Henry W. – Missouri Archaeological Society
1977 Schneider, Frederick E. – University of North Dakota
1978 Wilson, Michael C. – University of Calgary
1979 Jantz, Richard L. – University of Tennessee
1980 Davis, Leslie – Montana State University
1981 Loendorf, Larry – University of North Dakota
1982 Parks, Douglas – Mary College
1983 Harvey, Amy E. – Stephens College
1984 Sims, E. Leigh – Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature
1985 Witty, Thomas A., Jr. – Kansas State Historical Society
1986 Anderson, Duane – Office of the State Archaeologist of Iowa
1987 Vehik, Susan – University of Oklahoma
1988 Vehik, Susan – University of Oklahoma
1989 Schneider, Mary Jane – University of North Dakota
1990 Schneider, Mary Jane – University of North Dakota
1991 Hofman, Jack L. – Oklahoma Archeological Survey
1992 Hannus, L. Adrien – Augustana College
1993 Tiffany, Joseph A. – California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
1994 Lintz, Christopher – Mariah Associates
1995 Bozell, Rob – Nebraska State Historical Society
1996 Toom, Dennis – University of North Dakota

1997 Lees, William – Oklahoma Historical Society
1998 Reher, Charles – University of Wyoming
1999 Brink, Jack – Provincial Museum of Alberta
2000 Artz, Joe – Office of the Iowa State Archaeologist
2001 Stanley, Lori A. – Luther College
2002 Walker, Danny N. – Wyoming State Archaeologist Office
2003 Reeves, Brian O. K. – Lifeways Canada, Ltd.
2004 Hartwell, William T. – Desert Research Institute
2005 Amick, Daniel S. – Loyola University
2006 Kornfeld, Marcel – University of Wyoming/Frison Institute
2007 Bement, Leland – Oklahoma Archeological Survey
2008 Tiffany, Joseph – Mississippi Valley Archaeological Center
2009 Peterson, Lynelle – Ethnoscience, Inc.
2010 Billeck, William T. – Smithsonian Institution
2011 Dawe, Bob – Royal Alberta Museum
2012 Miller, Mark E. – Wyoming State Archaeologist Office
2013 Greer, Mavis – Greer Services Archeological Consulting
2014 Mitchell, Mark D. – Paleocultural Research Group
2015 Bleier, Amy C.—State Historical Society of North Dakota
2016 Hollenback, Kacy— Southern Methodist University
2017 Trabert, Sarah – University of Oklahoma
2018 Sturdevant, Jay – Midwest Archaeological Center
2019 Adair, Mary – University of Kansas
2020 Adair, Mary – University of Kansas
2021 Pool, Kelly J. – Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
2022 Pool, Kelly J. – Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
2023 Hedden, John G. – Office of the Iowa State Archaeologist
2024 Wiewel, Adam S. – Midwest Archeological Center, National Park Service
2025–2026 Andrew Clark – State Historical Society of North Dakota

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2025	Alfred Johnson, Lance Foster
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2023	Richard Drass
2022	Fern Swenson, Kent Buehler
2021	Mary Adair
2020	Lawrence L. “Larry” Loendorf
2019	John (Jack) W. Brink, Raymond J. DeMallie
2018	Christopher Lintz
2017	Susan Vehik
2016	Alice Kehoe
2015	Donna C. Roper
2014	*No award*
2013	Joseph A. Tiffany
2012	F. A. Calabrese
2011	Richard A. Krause
2010	Les Davis
2009	Patricia J. O’Brien
2008	*No award*
2007	Thomas A. Witty, Jr.
2006	Stanley A. Ahler
2005	Dale Henning
2004	Thomas Kehoe
2003	Mary Jane and Fred E. Schneider
2002	Don Wyckoff
2001	James H. and Delores A. Gunnerson
2000	*No award*
1999	Richard G. Forbis
1998	David M. Gradwohl
1997	Larry and Janice Tomsyck
1996	*No award*
1995	George C. Frison
1994	Robert E. Bell
1993	William J. Mayer-Oakes
1992	W. Raymond Wood
1991	Waldo R. Wedel and Mildred Mott Wedel

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT AWARD WINNERS

2025 **Darien Quick Bear, Rosebud Lakota (Sicangu)** (New Mexico Highlands University)
Jami Ecklund, Cherokee Nation (Wichita State University)
2024 **Erica Van Vugt, Métis Nation of Alberta** (University of Calgary)
2023 **Robbyn McKellop, Muscogee (Creek) Nation** (Wichita State University)
Bailey Pelletier, Cree from Cowessess First Nation (University of Saskatchewan)
Jami Ecklund, Cherokee Nation (Wichita State University)
Abigail Ried, Cherokee Nation (Kansas State University)
2022 **Colby Dean, Seneca-Cayuga** (University of Oklahoma)
Abigail Gallardo, Tunica-Biloxi (UCLA)
Robbyn McKellop, Muskogee (Wichita State University)
Chance Ward, Cheyenne River Sioux (University of Colorado)
Makayla Williams, Cherokee (Augustana College)
2021 **Joni Tobacco, Oglala Sioux** (Salish Kootenai College)
2020 **Maura Fournier, Metis** (University of Winnipeg)
2019 **Carlton Shield Chief Gover, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma** (University of Colorado)
2018 **Justin Roy Lund, Navajo Nation** (University of Oklahoma)
2017 **Morgan Fluker, Kaw Nation of Oklahoma** (Kansas State University)
Martin Lopez, Apsaalooke (Crow) of Montana (University of Montana)
2016 **Melanie McKay-Cody, Chickamauga Cherokee** (University of Oklahoma)
Tyrone Peterson, Navajo Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe (University of Iowa)
2015 **John Reynolds, Rosebud Sioux Tribe** (St. Cloud State University)
2014 **Justin Roy Lund, Navajo Nation** (University of Oklahoma)
2013 **Melanie McKay-Cody, Chickamauga Cherokee** (University of Kansas)
2012 **Royce Freeman, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nations** (University of Oklahoma)
2011 **Michael B. Catches Enemy, Oglala Nation** (St. Cloud State University)
2010 **Donna Longhorn, Shawnee/Delaware** (University of Oklahoma)
2009 **Brad Kroupa, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation** (University of Indiana)
2008 **Wilena Old Person, Blackfoot** (University of Montana-Missoula)
2007 **Brenda Covington, Colville/Spokane** (University of Montana)

2006 **Jason Hale, Prairie Band Potawatomi** (Washburn)

2005 **La Rae Buckskin, Manitoba Métis** (University of Idaho, Peterborough, Ontario)

2004 **Gloria McCarty, Muskogee** (University of Oklahoma)
John T. Haj, Delaware (University of Tulsa)

2003 *No award*

2002 **Julie Bartlett, Oglala Lakota** (University of Winnipeg)

2001 **Laura Cocker, Manitoba Métis Federation** (University of Winnipeg)
Jana Vee Cornelius-Baird, Seminole-Creek Tribe of Oklahoma (University of Oklahoma)

2000 **Claudette Rocan, Métis** (University of Winnipeg)
Martin Earring, Minneconju-Oglala, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (University of South Dakota)

1999 **Rebecca Amen, Omaha Tribe** (University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

1998 **Paulette F. Steeves, Cree/Cherokee/Micmac** (University of Arkansas)
Jacquelin St. Clair, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma (University of Wyoming)

1997 **Florence Whitehorse-Taylor, Kiowa of Oklahoma** (University of Oklahoma)
Alix Reynolds, Manitoba Métis Federation (University of Winnipeg)
Shanna Olinger, Yankton Sioux Tribe (Montana State University)

1996 **Evelyn Siegfried, Bigstone Cree Band** (University of Calgary)
James Bird, Eastern Cherokee (University of Oklahoma)

1995 **Michelle Fox, Red Lake Chippewa** (University of North Dakota)

1994 **Dawn Makes Strong Move, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska** (University of South Dakota)

STUDENT PAPER AWARD WINNERS

2025 **Megan Bieraugle** (Graduate Student, University of Alberta): ***Ageing dogs and wolves using x-ray micro-computed tomography (μ-CT): an application to canid remains from the Junction Site, Alberta, Canada.***
Fox Nelson (Graduate Student, University of Iowa): ***Identifying the driving force behind dietary diversity of people in Uinta Phase (1800–1000 years Before Present) sites in Southwest Wyoming.***

2024 **Mavis Chan** (University of Calgary): ***A Deadly Visual Illusion: Visibility and Least Cost Path Analysis on Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump UNESCO World Heritage Site (Graduate Student Award)***

2023 **Kelsey Hoppes** (Graduate Student, University of Colorado, Boulder): ***Lost in the Details: Investigating a Multicultural Community in Northeastern Nebraska through Attribute-Based Pottery Analysis***

2022 **Caitlin Calvert** (Graduate Student, Metropolitan State University of Denver): ***Prehistoric Occupation in an area of the Colorado Piedmont as seen through the Survey at Cherokee Ranch***

Robert J. Madden (Undergraduate Student, Colorado State University): ***Morphological Comparison of Prehistoric Colorado "Gaming Pieces" to Historic Native American Dice***

2021 **Rachel Thimmig** (Graduate Student, Brown University): ***On- and Off-Reservation Life: A Reexamination of Crow-Flies-High Village***

Clifford White (Undergraduate Student, University of Wyoming): ***Did Water Availability Impact Clovis Settlement Strategies on the Great Plains?***

2020 ***No awards given; conference and competition postponed due to Covid 19***

2019 **Evelyn Pickering** (Graduate Student, University of Arizona): ***Creation and Creative Recreation: Blackfeet Resilience Capacity on the Northern Plains***

2018 **Amanda Anne Burtt** (Graduate Student, Indiana University): ***Unlikely Allies: Modern Wolves and the Diets of Pre-contact Domestic Dogs***

Travis Jones (Graduate Student, Georgia University): ***Revisiting Huff Village: Toward Generational Timescales for Plains Villages***

2017 **Abigail Fisher** (Graduate Student, Southern Methodist University): ***When is a Wolf a Dog? Combined Geometric Morphometrics and Stable Isotope Analysis for Differentiating Wild from Domestic Canids on the North American Great Plains***

2016 **Ryan Breslawski** (Graduate Student, Southern Methodist University): ***Seasonal Bison Hunting by Paleoindians on the Northwestern Plains: Revisiting Fetal Prey Remains from Horner II and Casper***

Seamus Anderson (Undergraduate Student, Texas Tech University): ***Death, Divination, and Obligation: Owls in 19th Century Kiowa Culture***

2015 **Whitney Goodwin** (Graduate Student, Southern Methodist University): ***Complementary Techniques for the Estimation of Original Firing Temperatures of Plains Ceramics: Experimental and Archaeological Results***, published in *Ethnoarchaeology* 8(2):180-204 (2016)

2014 **Adam Wiewel** (Graduate Student, University of Arkansas): ***Examining Agricultural Surplus at Huff Village, North Dakota: Combining Archaeological and Geophysical Data***

2013 **Sarah E. Wolff** (Graduate Student, University of Arizona): ***Protecting a National Icon: The First Use of the Antiquities Act of 1906 to Declare Devils Tower National Monument***

2012 **Elsa Perry** (Undergraduate Student, University of Lethbridge): ***Correlating Etching Tool Materials with Petroglyphs at Writing on Stone***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 60(223):72-83 (2015)

2011 **William Reitze** (Graduate Student, University of Arizona): ***Salvaging a Sandia Site: Reinvestigation of the Lucy Site, Central New Mexico***

2010 **Kacy Hollenback** (Graduate Student, University of Arizona): ***Social Memory of Disaster: Exploring Historic Smallpox Epidemics among the Mandan and Hidatsa***

Travis Hill (Undergraduate Student, Colorado State University): ***Qualifying Comfort: Intentional Design in Unhafted End Scrapers at the Lindenmeier Folsom Site, Northern Colorado***

2009 **Maureen Boyle** (Graduate Student, Indiana University): ***Beyond Linearity in Western Historical Narratives: The Wild West as Temporal Frontier***

Wendi Field Murray (Graduate Student, University of Arizona): ***Feathers, Fasting, and the "Eagle Complex": A Contemporary Analysis of the Eagle as a Cultural Resource in the Northern Plains***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 56(218):143-153 (2011)

Brigid Grund (Undergraduate Student, University of Colorado): ***Understanding the Great Plains Paleoindian Projectile Point Chronology: Radiocarbon Dating and Potential Coevality of Point Types***

2008 **Jeremy Planteen** (Graduate Student, University of Wyoming): ***The Wild West Show: Rethinking the Influence of the Miller's 101 Ranch Wild West Show and Early Film on the Native American Stereotype***

Shana Wolff (Undergraduate Student, Laramie County Community College): ***An Analysis of Plants Traditionally Used by Plains American Indians as Topical Antiseptics for Antimicrobial Effectiveness***

2007 **Naomi Ollie** (Graduate Student, Colorado State University): ***Many Mountains Moving: Tales of Mass-Wasting and Archaeology in the Absaroka Range, Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem***

Sarah Trabert (Undergraduate Student, Kansas State University): **Steed-Kisker Ceramics: Analysis of the Scott Site (14LV1082) Assemblage**, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 54(212):289-299 (2009)

2006 **Michael P. Jordan** (Graduate Student, University of Oklahoma): ***Religion and Reservation Life: Kiowa Revitalization Movements of the 1880s***

Jayme Job (Undergraduate Student, Minnesota State University-Moorhead): ***Sourisford Salamanders: Renewal Iconography of the Devils Lake-Sourisford Ceramic Complex***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 54(209):75-82 (2009)

2005 **Tomasin Playford** (Graduate Student, University of Manitoba): ***Establishing Site Seasonality: Importance, Problems and a Potential Solution***

Patti Kinnear (Undergraduate Student, University of Colorado): ***Cooperation and Conflict: Examining Alternative Views of Archaeology on the Great Plains***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 53(206):161-177 (2008)

2004 **Raven Carper** (Graduate Student, University of Montana): ***A Study of the Utility of a 'Symmetry Index' in the Assessment of Biface Production Goals***, published in *Lithic Technology* 30(2):127-144 (2005)

2003 **Lucy Burris** (Graduate Student, Colorado State University): ***Western Harvester Ants: Archaeology's Little Helpers***

2002 **Jodi Jacobson** (Graduate Student, University of Tennessee): ***Identification of Mule Deer (Odocoileus hemiounus) and White-tail Deer (Odocoileus virginianus) Post-cranial Remains as a Means of Determining Human Subsistence Strategies***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 48(187):287-297 (2003)

2001 **Chad Goings** (Graduate Student, University of Arkansas): ***A Predictive Model for Lithic Resources in Iowa***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 48(184):53-67 (2003)

Charles Egeland (Undergraduate Student, Colorado State University): ***From Cutmarks to Behavior: The Reliability of Cutmarks for Inferring Processing Intensity***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 48(184):39-51 (2003)

2000 **Paula Renaud** (Undergraduate Student, University of Wyoming): ***Sticks, Stones, and Cyberwaves: Creating an International Community of Aboriginal Philosophy in the 21st Century***

1999 **Rhonda S. Fair** (Graduate Student, University of Oklahoma): ***Becoming the White Man's Indian: An Examination of Native American Tribal Web Sites***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 45(172):53-67 (2000)

1998 **Jesse Ballenger** (University of Oklahoma): ***Late Paleoindian Land Use in the Oklahoma Panhandle: Goff Creek and Nall Playa***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 44(168):189-207 (1999)

1997 **Susan Tanner** (University of Nebraska): ***An Analysis of Use-Wear on Nebraska Phase Ceramics***

1996 *No award*

1995 **Bruce Low** (Graduate Student, University of Saskatchewan): ***Swan River Chert: Its Geological Occurrence, Geographical Distribution, and Archaeological Collection - A Ubiquitous Pre-Contact Lithic Resource of the Northern Plains/Southern Boreal Forest***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 41(156):165-174 (1996)

1994 *No award*

1993 *No award*

1992 **Elizabeth Miller** (University of Nebraska): ***Evidence for Prehistoric Scalping in Northeastern Nebraska***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 39(148):211-219 (1994)

1991 *No award*

1990 **Jeffrey A. Huebner** (University of Texas-Austin): ***Late Prehistoric Bison Populations in Central and Southern Texas***

1989 *Unknown*

1988 *Unknown*

1987 *Unknown*

1986 **Judith Habicht-Mauche** (Harvard University): ***Southwestern-Style Culinary Ceramics on the Southern Plains: A Case Study of Technological Innovation and Cross-Cultural Interaction***, published in *Plains Anthropologist* 32(116):175-189 (1987)

STUDENT POSTER AWARD WINNERS

2025 **Daniel Dalmas** (Graduate Student, University of Utah): ***Small Animals with Big Data: An Application of Microfaunal Analysis at the Bugas-Holding Site to Interpret Past Environment and Ecology***

Stephanie Silverman (Undergraduate Student, University of Kansas): ***Comparison of Three Methods of Digital Modeling for Archaeological Materials***

2024 **Aleah Kuhr** (Graduate Student, Colorado State University): ***Five Decades Later: A Fresh Perspective on the Integrity of the Porcupine Peak Site in Summit County, Colorado***

Tammi Mills (Graduate Student, University of Lethbridge): ***The Digital Preservation of DkPj-23, a Petroglyph Site at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump***

Victor Prieto (Undergraduate Student, University of Colorado, Boulder): ***Archaeology, Illustration, and the Importance of Artists in the Field***

2023 **Robbyn McKellop and Douglas Kressly** (Graduate Students, Wichita State University): ***Assessment of Caddo Ceramics Within the Great Bend Aspect***

Makayla Williams (Undergraduate Student, Augustana University): ***Green Blades: Introductory Analysis of Bijou Hills Quartzite from Site 21RK82***

2022 **Abigail E. Fisher** (Graduate Student, Southern Methodist University): ***Dog Diet as a tool to Assess Forager Response to Farmers on the Northern Plains: Stable Isotope Analysis Data***

Caden P. Hooker, Aleah Kuhr, Bryn Sullivan, Kelsy Kreikemeier, Spencer Little (Undergraduate Students, Center of Mountains and Plains Archaeology): ***Of Rarified Air and Form: A Recently Recorded Ceramic Vessel from Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado***

2021 **Kelton Meyer** (Graduate Student, Colorado State University): ***Countryside Folsom in the San Luis Valley, Colorado: Revisiting the Reddin Site***

Sasha Buckser (Graduate Student, University of Colorado at Boulder), **Karissa Hughes** (Oklahoma University), **Victoria Bowler Monagle** (University of New Mexico), **William Taylor** (University of Colorado at Boulder), **Courtney Hofman** (Oklahoma University): ***Human-Canid Interactions at Black's Fork, Wyoming***

Riley Limbaugh (Undergraduate Student, Colorado State University): ***The Days After Colorado's Darkest Days: Using Weapons and Ammunition to Date Conflicts and Identify Participants in Battle***

2020 ***No awards given; conference and competition postponed due to Covid 19***

2019 **Danielle Soza** (Graduate Student, University of Arizona) ***Soil Chemistry and Stone Ring Sites: Preliminary Results from Four Horns Lake, Montana***

Sylvia M. Sandstrom (Undergraduate Student, Minnesota State University-Moorhead) ***The Boller Site Platter--A Northern Plains Ceramic Anomaly***

2018 **Matthew Colvin** (Graduate Student, University of Georgia): ***Further Evaluation of Shoreline Erosion Rates along the Upper Oahe Reservoir, South Dakota***

Paul Buckner, Madeline Kunkel, and Jessica McCaig (Undergraduate Students, Colorado State University): ***A Second Chance for Archaeology: Measures for the Stabilization, Preservation, and Study of a Disturbed Rock Shelter, Larimer County, Colorado***

2017 **Evelyn Pickering** (Graduate Student, University of Arizona): ***Reaching Sovereignty through Persistence: The Blackfeet Water Compact***

Samantha Nadel and Cynthia Strong (Undergraduate Student, Cornell College): ***An XRF Analysis of Ceramics from the Huston-Fox Site (39MD133), Meade County, South Dakota***

2016 **Jennifer K. Deats** (Graduate Student, University of Colorado, Boulder): ***Changing Style and Identity: An Examination of Chief Looking's Village (32BL3) Ceramics***

2015 **Justin Garnett** (Undergraduate Student, University of Missouri, Kansas City): ***Experiments in Fending Atlatl Darts with Basketmaker S-Shaped Sticks***

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