

SAS BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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FROM THE EDITOR

CARMEN TING

Apologies for the delay in delivering the Spring Issue of the bulletin, even though I spent more and more time sitting in front of my 13" laptop for the past few months. I felt like I am constantly working, but with very little actual outcome. So, either I need to come up with alternative ways of working more efficiently or everything just takes longer to get done in the

virtual world, or maybe a bit of both. Do you also feel the same? Maybe we should do another special issue for the bulletin, this time sharing our experience of teaching and learning online or discussing how to strike a better work-life balance working from home. To make up for this delay, this issue contains more contributions than ever. You will read the debut contributions of our new associate editors for archaeological ceramics, remote sensing and prospections, archaeobotany and bioarchaeology, and the SAS student ambassador for the bulletin. You will also read the contributions from our devoted associate editors, who continue to work tirelessly to keep filling the bulletin with interesting contents and latest developments in their respective fields.

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editor (C. Ting)	1
Announcement: Two new SAS awards	1
The great virtual exchange and a post-conference interview with Program Chair Mary Kate Donais (A. Zipkin)	2
Archaeological pigments (R. Radpour)	2
Sourcing the pseudo-archaeology (M. Golitko)	2
Zooarchaeology (L. Recht)	3
Archaeobotany (C.V. Ngonadi)	3
The race to stop talking about 'race' (A. Moles)	3
Lebanese bioarchaeology: Embedding a troubled past into future research (M. Mardini)	3
Studying sacrificial llamas in ancient Peru using stable isotope analysis (T.A. Hunter Cunningham)	4
Who will survey the surveyors? (A. Garcia-Molsosa)	4
Review: Microscopic Records. The New Interdisciplinarity of Early Modern Studies, c. 1400 - 1800 (U. Veronesi)	4
Review: Graduate short course in archaeological science at STARC, The Cyprus Institute (A. Oikonomou)	5
Review: Annual Ceramic Petrology Group Meeting (C. Gardner)	5

This issue also features the reviews of three virtual conferences, which will give us an opportunity to reflect on the future of professional meetings. As the world seems to be slowly emerging from lockdown, with the prospect of our lives resuming to normalcy (whatever that means and let's try not to jinx it), do you think in-person meeting can be replaced entirely by virtual meeting? This way, we may be able to reduce the carbon emission and organisational cost. But, can we truly replicate the social aspect of an in-person meeting virtually? Maybe you can express your views on this to us at the SAS Annual General Meeting, which is planned to take place virtually on the 8th of June. Hope to see as many of you there as possible; before then, take care and enjoy this issue!

ANNOUNCEMENT: TWO NEW SAS AWARDS

The SAS is pleased to announce the launch of two new awards. The first award is dedicated to Charles C. Kolb, who is the honorary associate editor of the SAS Bulletin and a life member of the SAS for over 30 years. You can read more about Charlie's

contributions to the SAS and the field of archaeological sciences and ceramic studies in the last issue of the bulletin. More information of the 2021 round of the Charles C. Kolk Award is available here: <https://socarchsci.org/awards/charles-c-kolb-award.html>

The second award – SAS Research Support – aims at supporting the work of the student and early career members of the SAS during the COVID-19 pandemic. This new award temporarily replaces the existing Student Research International Travel Award and a Postdoctoral Conference Travel Award that was to have debuted in 2020. More information of the SAS Research Support can be found in this link: <https://socarchsci.org/awards/student-travel-award.html>

THE GREAT VIRTUAL EXCHANGE AND A POST-CONFERENCE INTERVIEW WITH PROGRAM CHAIR
MARY KATE DONAIS

ANDREW ZIPKIN, *VP for Intersociety Relations*

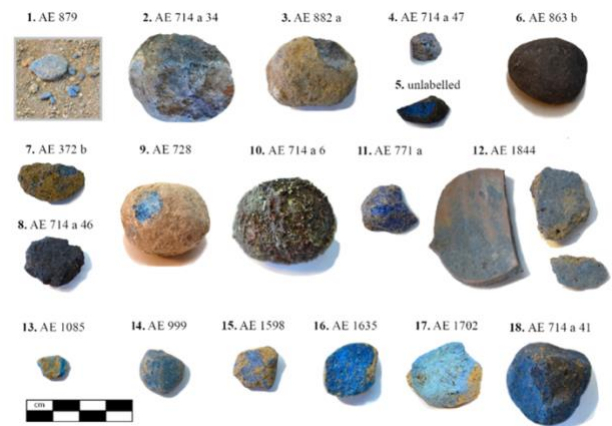
Andrew had the opportunity to interview Prof. Mary Kate Donais, the Program Chair of 2020 Great Scientific Exchange, or SciX – the flagship annual conference of the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies (FACSS). Full interview with Prof. Mary Kate Donais is available at the link below: <http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/01/after-dust-has-settled-great-virtual.html>

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PIGMENTS

ROXANNE RADPOUR, *Associate Editor*

Feeling blue? Roxanne provided us with an update on a recent piece of research on Egyptian blue pigment production in the Aegean during Antiquity.

Full text is available in this link: <https://www.mdpi.com/2075-163X/10/12/1063>

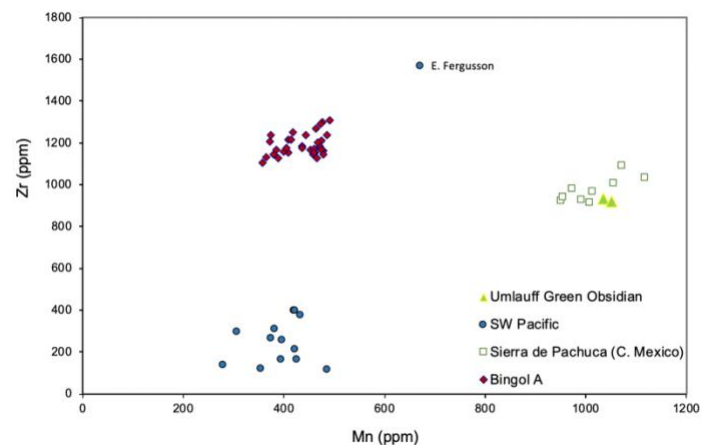


The Egyptian blue finds from the Koan workshop, Greece (Kostomitsopoulou Marketou et al. 2020; Figure 2)

SOURCING AND PSEUDO-ARCHAEOLOGY

MARK GOLITKO, *Associate Editor*

The use of portable x-ray fluorescence (pXRF) has become more widespread in studying archaeological materials, especially tracing the sources and exchange networks of lithic, Mark has reminded us of the risks of not looking into the history of the collections we study, based on some recent developments and his own experiments.



Mark plotted the pXRF measurements on two pieces of greenish obsidian from the Field Museum's collections, compared to possible relevant raw material source samples.

Full text is available in this link: <http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/sourcing-and-pseudo-archaeology.html>

ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

LAERKE RECHT, *Associate Editor*

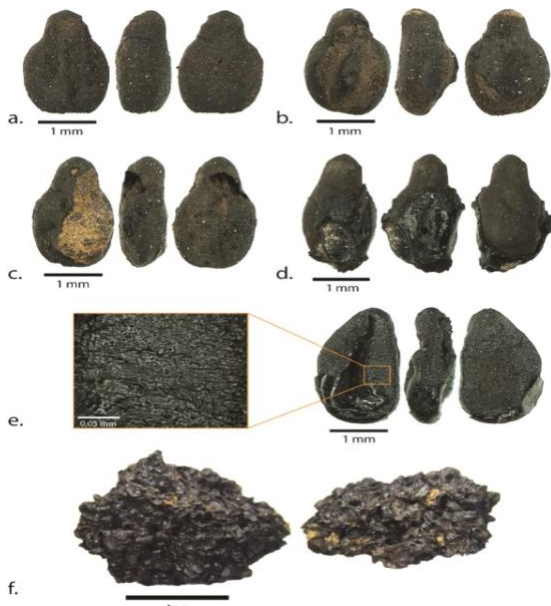
Laerke also gave us an update on the upcoming conferences relating to zooarchaeology, which you can find out more in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/updates-on-zooarchaeology.html>

ARCHAEOBOTANY

CHIOMA VIVIAN NGONADI, *Associate Editor*

In her debut contribution, Chioma provided us with an update on the upcoming conferences relating to botanical studies. She also shared with us some of the latest publications in the field, with case studies stretching from Greece to Turkey and the Arabian Peninsula.



Sesame remains (Douche et al. 2021; Fig. 5)

Full text is available in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/updates-on-archaeobotany.html>

THE RACE TO STOP TALKING ABOUT 'RACE'

ANNA MOLES, *Associate Editor*

From the 'Black Lives Matter' movement last year to the recent campaign of 'Stop Asian Hate', Anna wrote a convincing and compelling piece on why we should stop talking about 'race' in her debut contribution.



Read more about this timely piece in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/the-race-to-stop-talking-about-race.html>

LEBANESE BIOARCHAEOLOGY: EMBEDDING A TROUBLED PAST INTO FUTURE RESEARCH

MAHMOUD MARDINI, *Associate Editor*

The bulletin has always featured a strong presence of research in the eastern Mediterranean, but rarely we cover research that is going on in Lebanon. In his debut contribution, Mahmoud brought to our attention the state-of-the-art of bioarchaeological research in Lebanon and its implications on the broader developments in the eastern Mediterranean.

Full text is available in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/lebanese-bioarchaeology-embedding.html>



A heavily damaged Souks area in the city centre of Beirut (<https://www.world-archaeology.com/features/beirut-excavating-the-souks>).

STUDYING SACRIFICIAL LLAMAS IN ANCIENT PERU USING STABLE ISOTOPE ANALYSIS

TEKLA ANNE HUNTER CUNNINGHAM, SAS student
ambassador for the bulletin

Tekla brought us all the way to Peru, where a recent study on some sacrificial llamas was made using stable isotope analysis.



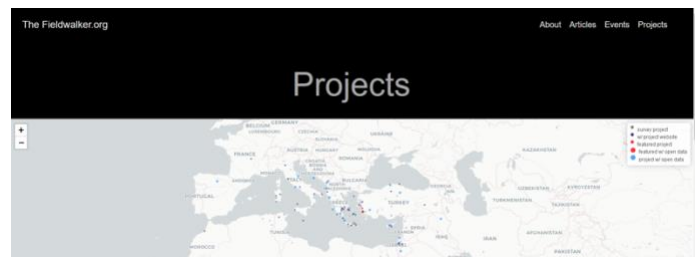
Full text of Tekla's debut piece is available in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/studying-sacrificed-llamas-in-ancient.html>

WHO WILL SURVEY WITH SURVEYORS? A TALK WITH THE TEAM BEHIND FIELDWALKER.ORG

ANRAU GARCIA-MOLSOSA, Associate editor

In his debut contribution, Arnau introduced us to the world of field survey. He interviewed the researchers who were behind the new initiative Fieldwalker.org, an open-source platform that enables researchers to share their experience and stories of conducting field survey. It is also an online database, with the aim of providing a very simple and open spatial directory of current and past systematic survey projects.



Full interview is available in this link:

<https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/preview/2229021710768107501/1047964446412919112>

You can also check out this very cool initiative here:

<https://www.fieldwalker.org/projects/survey/>

REVIEW: MICROSCOPIC RECORDS. THE NEW INTERDISCIPLINARITY OF EARLY MODERN STUDIES, C. 1400 – 1800 (29TH SEPTEMBER – 1ST OCTOBER 2020)

UMBERTO VERONESI, Guest contributor

Umberto has kindly accepted my invitation to write a review on a very interesting conference organised by Dr. Stefan Hanß (Senior Lecture in Early Modern History at the University of Manchester). As part of Dr. Hanß's British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award, the conference sought to bridge the gap between history and science, with the aim of establishing a novel interdisciplinary framework to understanding the early modern period.

Umberto's full review is available in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/microscopic-records-new.html>

REVIEW: GRADUATE SHORT COURSE IN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE AT STARC, THE
CYPRUS INSTITUTE (12TH – 23RD APRIL 2021)

ARTEMIOS OIKONOMOU, Associate editor

Artemios shared with us his experience of organising the graduate short course in archaeological science, which was one of the initiatives of the Promised project, funded by the European Commission Horizon 2020 Framework. The Promised project aims at developing the doctoral training programme at the Cyprus Institute. You will learn more about other exciting opportunities that The Cyprus Institute has to offer in the next issue.

Artemios' full review is available in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/graduate-short-course-in-archaeological.html>

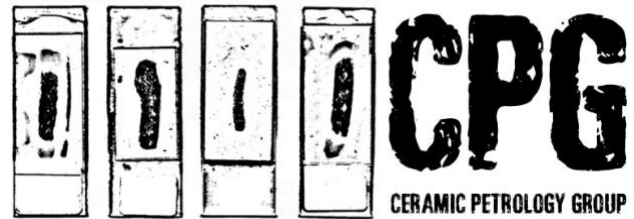
Learn more about the Promised project in this link:

<https://promisedtwinning.cyi.ac.cy>

REVIEW: ANNUAL CERAMIC PETROLOGY GROUP
MEETING (9TH – 12TH NOVEMBER 2020)

CARLOTTA GARDNER, Associate editor

In her debut contribution, Carlotta brought to our attention the annual meeting of the Ceramic Petrology Group. This meeting provides a unique platform for researchers for all levels to present their work on the scientific analysis of archaeological ceramics to a friendly and specialised audience.



Carlotta's full review is available in this link:

<http://socarchsci.blogspot.com/2021/05/annual-ceramic-petrology-group-meeting.html>

You can also follow the Ceramic Petrology Group on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheCPG>

Interested in joining the next annual meeting? Follow this page for the latest updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/CPG2021>

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