

October & November 2012



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Notes From The SA

The Sustainable Archaeology Newsletter

One Year of Occupancy at Sustainable Archaeology

September 13th 2012 marked the one year anniversary of the SA's official occupancy permit. Over the course of this past year, there's been a tremendous amount of change at the facility as we work through the equipment purchasing phase of the project. The facility is now equipped with computer workstations, white-light and red laser 3D scanners, a microCT (Nikon), a digital x-ray (Faxitron) and an electric work assist vehicle (WAVE). We've welcomed tours of representatives from the Canadian Foundation for Innova-

tion, the First Nation's Financial Management Board, the Smithsonian Institution, the Art Gallery of Ontario, Mitacs, as well as individuals from across Ontario and around the world interested in Sustainable Archaeology. In addition to our existing partnerships with ADS and tDAR, we've also begun to establish communication with the Center for Digital Archaeology at the University of California, Berkley.

Over the course of the next year, we will be purchasing more equipment (including

DSLR and panoramic cameras, a hand-held XRF, a 3D printer and a Virtual Imaging station), and convening the SA Advisory Board for the first time. Graduates and Researchers who have worked with the equipment at the SA will be attending and presenting research at the Digital Engagement in Archaeology conference in London, England, the VAST2012 Symposium in Brighton, UK, the OAS symposium in Windsor, the CAPA conference in Victoria, BC and at the SAA's in April 2013 in Hawaii.

Visit from the Art Gallery of Ontario: Cross Discipline Collaboration

In September, curator Alexandra Suda and conservator Lisa Ellis from the Art Gallery of Ontario visited the SA Ancient Images Laboratory. The AGO was interested in scanning miniature carved boxwood prayer beads from their collection on the microCT scanner in order to learn more about how these artifacts were

constructed, and how they have been altered or conserved through time. The microCT allows for non-invasive and non-destructive internal and external reconstruction of objects. For more information about the carvings, see the AGO website: www.ago.net/idea-lab



Source: AGO



Digital radiograph of white tailed deer skull and mandible. Scan completed by Zoe Morris at the SA Ancient Images Lab.

Scanning Projects in the Ancient Images Lab

The Ancient Images Lab includes a Nikon Metrology microCT scanner and Faxitron digital X-ray, available for use by Western graduate students, and researchers.

The equipment has already contributed to the thesis projects of Western Anthropology students Zoe Morris (PhD candi-

date), Jenn Morgan (PhD candidate), and Arthur Klages (MA candidate).

Completed work includes Zoe's scans of 95 deer jaw bones on the digital x-ray in order to determine the dental mineralization sequence, and Jenn's scanning of Maya skeletal remains for the purpose of identifying evidence of

disease.

For more information on the Ancient Images Lab and its equipment, or to book an appointment with the lab technician, contact the Ancient Images Lab Technician, Zoe Morris at zmorris@uwo.ca

Collections and Research at Sustainable Archaeology

Last spring, under joint funding from the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and MITACS, Dr. Neal Ferris' graduate students Michael Carter and Namir Ahmed established the SA Animation Unit (SAAU) in the mezzanine of the SA facility. During the summer, the SA hosted students from Loyalist College's animation program as the first cohort of the SAAU. Students utilized the SA's 3D digitizing stations to develop assembly line scanning protocols and

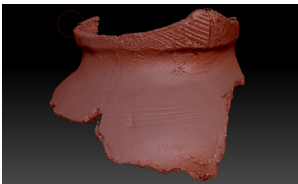
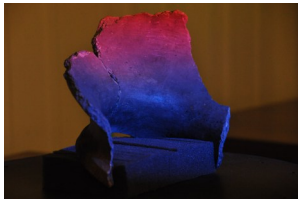
metadata retrieval standards for archaeological artifacts.



Through the scanning process, artifacts were converted into virtual models that provide digital assets that can be incorporated into research and presentations. Items from the Museum of Ontario Archaeology's Jury Collection were

scanned throughout the summer.

The Jury Collection consists of artifacts from Southern Ontario collected by Dr. Wilfrid Jury in the early 1900s. Through digitization, many of these artifacts have been incorporated digitally into the SAAU's virtual re-creation of the Lawson Village site (a 16th century Late Woodland village site). For a preview of the reconstruction, [visit the Sustainable Archaeology blog](#).



Top to bottom: photo of original vessel from the Museum's collection; photo of vessel as scanned; screenshot of un-textured 3D model; screenshot of final textured 3D model

Student Grant Opportunities to Fund Research at SA

Research Western's Graduate Thesis Research Awards

Awarded to help support the costs of thesis research to a maximum of \$750. Awards are available to full-time students at Western University (excluding Ivey & affiliate colleges) who are enrolled in a graduate program leading to a Masters or PhD. Applicants must be engaged in writing a thesis/dissertation as a part of their degree requirements. Students may apply for this award more than once during their graduate studies.

Application Deadline: Department nomination must be submitted by November 15 annually.

For more information visit: www.uwo.ca/research/funding/internal/graduate_thesis_research_fund.html

Wenner-Gren Foundation

A variety of the Foundation's grants support students

enrolled in doctoral programs leading to a Ph.D. (or equivalent), including grants for dissertation research.

Application Deadlines: May 1 & November 1 annually.

For more information, contact the The Wenner-Gren Foundation at 70 Park Avenue South, 8th Floor New York, NY 10016 USA

Phone: 212.683.5000

Email: inquiries@wennergren.org or visit their website:

www.wennergren.org/programs/

Raymond Davis Scholarship

Established in memory of Raymond Davis, this scholarship is given to an advanced-level undergraduate or a graduate student with an academic and/or research focus in a field related to imaging. The applicant must be an undergraduate who has completed two academic years of study or a graduate-level student, and must be a full-time student at an accredited institution.

A certificate and grant of at least \$1,000 are given to recipients of this award.

One or more awards are made annually, depending on available funds.

For more information, please visit the scholarship's website, www.imaging.org/ist/membership/davis.cfm?AwardCode=RS

Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research Program

The program awards grants of up to \$1,000 to students from all areas of the sciences & engineering. Students use the funding to pay for travel expenses to and from a research site, or for purchase of non-standard laboratory equipment necessary to complete a specific research project.

Application Deadlines:

March 15 and October 15 annually.

For more information, visit www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml



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Sustainable Archaeology is dedicated to advancing a transformative practice of archaeology that integrates the many forms of the discipline – commercial, academic, avocational – by consolidating the extensively recovered archaeological record from a region of the world and converting that material and contextual data into broadly accessible and integrated digital information. This compiled and converted record will allow for ongoing and innovative research advancing the knowledge, conception, appreciation, and engagement of this compiled and rich archaeological heritage left by the countless previous generations of those who loved, lived, and died in this place, by all those today who draw awareness, meaning, value, and identity from this human heritage.

Upcoming Events, Lectures and Conferences

Events and Lectures

London OAS Chapter Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 11th, 8pm, at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology, 1600 Attawandaron Rd. in London. For more information and lecture topics, check out the London OAS website: www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/oas/

Anthropology Graduate Research Seminar Series

Friday, Nov. 2nd, 2:30pm, SSC 2257. Presenter Chelsey Armstrong will speak on “Ancient DNA in archaeological Zea mays : overcoming inhibition and optimizing amplification of charred cultivars”.

Friday, Nov. 2nd, 2:30pm, SSC 2257. Presenter Alison Deplonty will speak on “Adventures in Museum Tracking: Visitation at Museo Huacas de Moche”.

Conferences

Symposium of the Ontario Archaeology Society: *A Bridge Across Time ... The Archaeology of the Great Lakes Region*. November 9-11, 2012. Windsor, Ontario www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca/

Canadian Association for Physical Anthropology Annual Meeting, Nov 7-10, 2012, Victoria, BC www.capa.feneli.net/annual-meeting/current-meeting/

Digital Engagement in Archaeology Conference, Nov. 8-9th, 2012, London, England www.digitalengagementinarchaeology.wordpress.com/

Symposium on Virtual Reality, Archaeology, & Cultural Heritage, (VAST2012) Nov. 19-21, 2012, Brighton, UK. www.vast2012.org/home

Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, January 9-12, 2013, Leicester, Great Britain www.sha.org/meetings/annual_meetings.cfm

Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, April 3-7, 2013, Honolulu, Hawaii. www.saa.org