RIDING THE BICYCLE WHILE YOU’RE BUILDING IT!

How do you demonstrate that you know what you’re doing at the same time you’re figuring out how to do it? In a nutshell, that’s the problem CfAS has found itself in since it began two years ago. CfAS is modeled on the collaborative synthesis approach pioneered by the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS). But what works for NCEAS and many of the other nearly two dozen synthesis centers will not work for CfAS, at least not in its entirety. These centers are tied to relatively large funding sources (on the order of millions of dollars per year), which allows them a great deal of freedom in determining the type and range of research projects to pursue and to offer the support needed to ensure the success of those projects. Although we do not have access to these types of funds, archaeologists are nothing if not resourceful. Undaunted, we have crafted a way forward that relies heavily on partners and cooperation. In September at the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) annual meeting in Bern, Switzerland, CfAS co-presidents, Jeff Altschul and Keith Kintigh, described the steps the organization had taken since its founding in 2017, what we have already accomplished, and outlined what was in CfAS’ immediate future. Here we provide a link to the paper.

In late September and early October, CfAS convened its first-ever design workshop at the Amerind Foundation in Dragoon, Arizona. Co-sponsored by the EAA and the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), with assistance from the Society for Historical Archaeology, the design workshop brought together an eclectic group of scholars to develop a series of proposed collaborative synthetic projects that use the long-term perspective provided by archaeology to inform and shape public debate and policy on migration issues facing modern society. Three proposed...
projects emerged from the workshop, which are detailed below in the design workshop report. From all accounts, the design workshop was a tremendous success. Rachael Kiddey, on the participants, described the experience in her blog, which she has kindly allowed us to reprint.

In October, Kintigh and Altschul made a presentation at the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA) annual conference in Spokane, Washington about how and why cultural resource management (CRM) should be involved in archaeological synthesis. Most archaeological field research is done through CRM not just in the United States, but worldwide. Issues of data archiving, data access, and data integration are central to both CRM and archaeological synthesis. Importantly, ACRA firms have long recognized the importance of ensuring that the data produced by CRM projects benefits the public. ACRA is a founding CfAS Partner, and we were delighted to accept the invitation to attend the conference. We are pleased to note that subsequent to the CfAS presentation, several CRM firms became CfAS Partners.

CfAS is growing. In 2019 we added more than 100 Associates, which now number more than 250 individuals from around the world. We have 43 Partner organizations (listed in the band on the right) representing all parts of the discipline. Next year CfAS' first two projects will conclude, and we will issue reports and policy statements on biodiversity and fire management. The human migration projects will move forward, and new initiatives will be launched. The Coalition is gaining strength and is poised to demonstrate the power of collaborative archaeological synthesis.

CfAS Partners

Professional Organizations
- American Cultural Resources Organization (ACRA)
- Archaeology Division, American Anthropological Association
- Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA)
- European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
- International Scientific Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM)
- International Council for Archaeozoology (ICAZ)
- PanAfrican Archaeological Association (PAA)
- Society for American Archaeology (SAA)
- Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)

Cultural Heritage Firms
- Alpine Archaeology, Inc.
- Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.
- Desert Archaeology, Inc.
- Far Western Anthropological Research Group
- PaleoWest Archaeology
- Statistical Research, Inc.

Cyberinfrastructure Providers
- Archaeological Data Service (ADS; University of York)
- ARIADNE
- ASU, Center for Digital Antiquity (Arizona State University)
- Network for Computational Modeling in Social & Ecological Sciences (CoMSES Net)
- OCHRE Data Services
- Open Context

Academic Units
- Center for Ancient Cultural Heritage & Environment (CACHE; Macquarie University)
- Center for Archaeology & Society (Arizona State University)
- Center for Public Archaeology, Capital Normal University (Beijing)
- Cotsen Institute of Archaeology (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado, Boulder
- Eurasia Institute of Earth Sciences, Department of Ecology and Evolution (Istanbul Technical University)
- Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology (University at Buffalo)
- Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology (University of California, Berkeley)
- Santa Fe Institute (SFI)
- University of Arizona, School of Anthropology

Non-governmental Organizations
- Amerind Foundation
- Archaeology Southwest
- Center for American Archaeology
- Crow Canyon Archaeological Center
- Cultural Heritage Partners
- The Field Museum
- Institute for Field Research (IFR)
- Integrated History & Future of People on Earth (IHOPE)
- School for Advanced Research (SAR)
- SRI Foundation
- Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research
WHY ARCHAEOLOGY MATTERS

Ran Boytner, CfAS’ Treasurer, is the Executive Director of the Institute for Field Research (IFR). Ran has long championed the use of archaeology to address pressing issues of modern society. Recently, he expressed his thoughts to the IFR community, which he has graciously allowed us to reprint.

Any observer of contemporary global politics is witnessing a polarized, turbulent world. Mass shootings in the United States, Brexit, fires in the Amazon, and trade wars between the top two global economies are just a few examples of the heightened conflicts in which humans are engaging. Political forces are pushing folks across the world to take dogmatic positions, resulting in precious little room for understanding the other or accepting different views or ideas. This is true on both ends of the political spectrum – think alleged connection between immunization and autism or the fear of GMO’s for the left and nationalism and “traditional values” for the right. While all of us have political convictions and beliefs, it may be beneficial for archaeologists to use our skills in thinking of the longue durée to help our fellow citizens understand processes and find solutions to current and emerging conflicts. As some scholars suggest–primarily the likes of Yuval Noah Harari – if we will not engage with positive change and understanding of the processes we are experiencing, we may be doomed.

Why archaeology and how can it help? After all, archaeology is about the past, not about the now and most certainly not about the future. Confucius said that one “must study the past if you would divine the future.” The impact of the past on the present may be more nuanced. As Mark Twain said, “history does not repeat itself, but it often rhymes.” But how may the archaeological record inform us about this advanced technological age and help us devise a better future?

Plenty, as it were. While we certainly have a plethora of different and new technologies, human culture and behavior reacts in a similar manner to external stimuli. Is our age unique? Certainly, we are experiencing many new innovations and dramatic changes in the way we interact and communicate with each other and with nature. Alas, this is not the first time we are going through dramatic social changes or significant impacts on the environment.
During the agricultural evolution, humans began a massive change of the landscape, replacing wild flora and fauna with selected-for organisms that benefited our exclusive needs. This led to the urban revolution that enabled significant increases in craft specialization and dramatic improvements in technology, social complexity, and alteration of human/nature interactions. Millenia later, the industrial revolution moved humanity from a focus on food production to concentration on goods production, further altering all manner of human interactions both with each other and with our environment.

If it all happened before and will happen again (yes, I am channeling Battlestar Galactica, the most anthropological of all SciFi TV series – ever!), what are the lessons we can draw from studying the past? First, that technological change results in the creation of innovative and novel political structures. Agriculture brought chiefdoms. Urbanization produced royalty and kingdoms with some humans claiming a divine right to rule. The industrial revolution resulted in colonization and the nation-state, producing three distinct political orders – fascism, communism, and liberal democracy. The initial two political orders mostly disappeared and the third – liberal democracy – is teetering, seemingly no longer stable. Why? At the most basic level, it is because we are going through another revolution, and our technological revolution has just begun.

In the final decade and a half of the last century, roughly between 1985 and 2000, three major technological innovations took place. First, the desktop computer brought dramatic enhancement of computing power to individuals. Second, the rise of the internet brought unprecedented access to information to humans across the world. Third, the invention of the smartphone merged computing power with the internet on the go and at an affordable cost, democratizing access to knowledge and information. The result? The globalization of human activity – from commerce to social media, from fashion to food choices (think Nike, Coca Cola, KFC, and the prevalence of Toyota pickup trucks in conflict areas throughout the world).

Although we experience intensive globalization on the personal level, our political systems are still of the traditional type, acting at the nation-state level. As always, when large scale change takes place, many oppose it as the unknowns threaten us – to survive we need to know what the odds are and what to be worried about – and we are seeking ways to reduce exposure to this threat. For evidence, simply observe the recent and strong global political trends calling for a return to some type of “traditional” past, and the rise of nationalism to counter globalization.
Archaeology teaches us that technological innovations bring political changes and the creation of innovative systems of governance. Maybe the first lesson we can learn from archaeology is that the process we are experiencing is still in its infancy. We are adapting. Every change brings resistance, but resistance is futile (Star Track here, folks...). Evolution will take its course. Someone somewhere will soon come up with new, radical ideas about political governance that combine the local and global, and her ideas will spread as the new means for adaptation. How such processes work, and how we can minimize conflict and mayhem while we go through them, is an area where archaeology is vital. It can inform us about the nuances and regional reactions to such changes. It can provide us with an understanding of how significant political changes take place and case studies where violence associated with such change was minimal. Archaeology can and should be used as a tool to inform both citizens and decision makers on how best to cope with our own revolution, and how to maintain our basic human rights and values. Failure is simply not an option.

The study of the Anthropocene – the Age of Man – is not just about what brought us to who and where we are today. It is also, and maybe even more so, about helping create a better future for our children and their children to come. Archaeology must play its role, and archaeologists should have a seat at the table as only we can provide such deep context for the current revolution.

**REPORT ON THE SAA-EAA SPONSORED DESIGN WORKSHOP: HUMAN MIGRATION AS UNDERSTOOD FROM A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE**

*Mark Aldenderfer, Elise Alonzi, Ian Armit, Juan Antonio Barceló, Christopher Beekman, Penny Bickle, Doug Bird, Scott Ingram, Elena Isayev, Andrew W. Kandel, Rachael Kiddey, Hélène Timpoko Kienon-Kaboré, Franco Niccolucci, Corey Ragsdale, Beth Scaffidi, Scott Ortman, Christine Szuter, Keith W. Kintigh, and Jeffrey H. Altschul*

Between September 26 and October 1, 2019, 15 scholars and 4 observers came together at the Amerind Foundation in Dragoon, Arizona to examine human migration from a long-term perspective. The goal of the workshop was to devise a set of collaborative projects that synthesize archaeological and allied data to address problems related to contemporary human migration. The participants were selected from a pool of 52 applicants from 20 countries who responded to an open call for information, by a committee composed of representatives of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) and the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA). As detailed in Table 1, the 15 participants represented a diverse group, who had not known each other or worked together before this meeting. They came from seven countries, representing work on six continents, ranging from the Paleolithic to contemporary homeless migrants, with expertise that varied from aDNA to ethnography. In addition to the participants, there were two facilitators and two observers from the Coalition for Archaeological Synthesis (CfAS).
Origins of the Design Workshop

In 2015, the SAA and EAA jointly sponsored a thematic conference in Curaçao on slavery, colonialism, and trade. Because of the success of the conference, the two organizations agreed to work toward a second thematic conference. Migration from the Middle East, particularly from Syria, as well as North Africa was greatly affecting European countries, whereas migration from

Table 1. Participants at CfAS Design Workshop on Human Migration as Understood from a Long-Term Perspective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Expertise</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Aldenderfer, Mark</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Distinguished Professor</td>
<td>High altitude</td>
<td>Andes, Nepal, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Alonzi, Elise</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Post-Doc</td>
<td>Human isotopes/mobility, monastic mortuary</td>
<td>Medieval Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Armit, Ian</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Demography, social changes</td>
<td>Beaker Complex, Iron Age, Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Barceló, Juan</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Full Professor</td>
<td>Quantitative methods/computer simulations</td>
<td>Patagonia and Western Mediterranean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Beekman, Christopher</td>
<td>US</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Migration and climate change, ethnohistoric</td>
<td>Mesoamerica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Bickle, Penny</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Human isotope, gender and mobility</td>
<td>Early Neolithic in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Bird, Doug</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Quantitative ethnographic data</td>
<td>New Guinea/Australia (Sahul)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Ingram, Scott</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Climate change, social/ecological vulnerability</td>
<td>American southwest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Isayev, Elena</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Future Memories project, Un/Archived Past</td>
<td>Classical Mediterranean and Palestinian refugee camps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Kandel, Andrew</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Senior researcher</td>
<td>Paleolithic mobility database</td>
<td>Georelational database, global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Kiddey, Rachael</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Post Doc researcher</td>
<td>Community archaeology and heritage and social activism</td>
<td>Contemporary UK, Greece, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Kienon-Kaboré, Timpoko</td>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Metallurgy demography, history of technology</td>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa, West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Nicolucci, Franco</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Distinguished Professor</td>
<td>ARIADNE data portal</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Ragsdale, Corey</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Skeletal morphology, DNA attributes</td>
<td>Mexico, Southwest US, European comparative collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Scaffidi, Beth</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Post Doc researcher</td>
<td>Isotopic work, archaeochemistry, bioarch</td>
<td>Wari Empire in South America, borderlands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observers (O) and Facilitators (F)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observers (O)</th>
<th>Facilitators (F)</th>
<th>Cultural heritage, spatial analysis</th>
<th>Southwestern US, Central Asia, West Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 Altschul, Jeff</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Co-President, CfAS (F)</td>
<td>Southwestern US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Kintigh, Keith</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Co-President, CfAS (F)</td>
<td>Southwestern US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Ortman, Scott</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Assistant Professor (O)</td>
<td>Southwestern US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Szuter, Christine</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>CEO and President (O)</td>
<td>Southwestern US</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Latin America to North America, principally to the United States, was a subject of intense debate. Although the thematic conference never came to fruition, the causes, effects, and responses to human migration continue to be raised in public discourse and confound policy makers across the political spectrum. People on the move raise critical humanitarian and even moral—not just political—questions. Considering that climate change alone will be responsible for an additional 200 million migrants by 2050 (Brown 2008; Meyers 2005), it is a foregone conclusion that migration is an issue not simply of our time, but of our children’s and our children’s children.

SAA and EAA believe that archaeology, with its deep time perspective, can profitably contribute both to the scientific literature and to public discourse. In 2018, the Societies decided to advance their objective through a form of collaborative research being pioneered in archaeology by CfAS by co-sponsoring a design workshop that would examine human migration as a social process through the lens of deep time.

Established in 2017, CfAS advances synthetic research using the working group model pioneered in 1995 by the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) and now adopted by nearly two dozen synthesis centers around the world (Altschul et al. 2017, 2018; Altschul and Kintigh 2019; Hackett et al. 2008; Hackett et al. 2019; Hackett and Parker 2016). At their core, these centers share a commitment to collaboration. They use small (6–20 participants), self-organized groups, whose participants are drawn from diverse fields, social backgrounds, and professional statuses. Key to success is a deliberative process composed of intense, face-to-face meetings in places insulated from day-to-day noise and stress, followed by long intervals (4–6 months) of individual or small group work assisted by long-distance electronic communication (Hackett et al. 2019:5). Projects are relatively short, from two to three years, with the goal of answering questions, not simply giving the tired response or “more research is necessary.”

Before beginning a collaborative synthetic project, many synthesis centers convene a design or catalyst workshop that brings together a diverse group of scholars on a particular topic to craft problem statements and hone research plans for future projects. CfAS adapted this concept to meet the needs of the SAA and EAA by convening a four-day design workshop to develop one or more proposals focused on establishing long-term understandings of the factors stimulating human migration, the conditions and processes implicated in the success of the incorporation of immigrant groups at their destination, and how these new understandings might inform contemporary public policy.

The CfAS Human Migration Design Workshop

The design workshop was held at the Amerind Foundation in southeast Arizona. For more than 80 years, one of the foremost archaeological research centers specializing in the US Southwest and Northwest Mexico, the Amerind is an ideal place for a design workshop. Nestled among the granite outcrops of Texas Canyon, the Amerind provides an out-of-the-way, distraction-free environment that is essential for face-to-face collaborative research.
After the participants introduced themselves, the workshop began with an address from SAA President Joe Watkins. Watkins stressed the importance of migration to living people. A member of the Choctaw Nation, Watkins related how his ancestors had been forced to migrate from their homeland along the Trail of Tears and how that historical event still resonates and shapes his character.

After briefly discussing the meaning of “synthesis,” workshop participants turned their attention to developing interesting and approachable questions about human migration. Ultimately, the group decided to pursue three avenues of research. The participants then self-identified with one of three groups, with each group dedicated to fleshing out the details of a collaborative research project.

Group 1 – Climate migrants of the past, present, and future

Group 1—composed of Mark Aldenderfer, Doug Bird, Scott Ingram, and Beth Scaffidi—developed a project, which they titled “Climate migrants of the past, present, and future: A deep-time perspective of the impacts of extreme climate processes on human mobility and population movements across the Holocene” (Aldenderfer et al. 2019). The project’s premise is that as the planet warms, climatic events will become more extreme, leading to ecological transformation that will have a disproportionately harmful effect on small scale economies and indigenous societies. Unchecked, these climatic events will not simply lead to climate refugees, but quite possibly the devastation, if not destruction, of indigenous ways of life. The goal of the project is to help indigenous communities survive in their homeland.

Following recent projects such as ArchaeoGlobe (Stephens et al. 2019), the climate migrants project will utilize a crowdsourcing methodology to develop a large database of climate enforced migration cases. In concert with indigenous collaborators, the project principals will identify factors that exacerbate or ameliorate vulnerability, thereby providing, “a more nuanced perspective of the interplay of changing climates and the social contexts of past societies that experienced climate related migration as these processes played out over temporal frameworks of different lengths” (Aldenderfer et al. 2019).

Aldenderfer et al. (2019) argue:

Although there is intrinsic scientific value in creating this database and identifying possible causal factors that made past societies more vulnerable to climate related migration, we also seek to use our findings in collaboration with indigenous peoples in analogous socio-ecological contexts to anticipate the likely social effects of climate related migration. Armed with these insights, they may be in a better position to create local, culturally relevant solutions to vulnerability-exacerbating social conditions or use these data to work with governments and non-governmental organizations to effect alternative solutions to migration. Through the proposed workshops we hope to develop policy recommendations
that can be offered to our Indigenous collaborators as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations. This project will also contribute to recent trends to synthesize large bodies of archaeological data in service to contemporary problems as well as to provide open access to the products of publicly-funded research.

The Climate Migrants project is divided into four phases.

**Phase 1:** Identify a group of indigenous collaborators to explore their insights on the range of social factors that have been postulated in the anthropological and climate warming literature to exacerbate vulnerability in societies presently undergoing rapid warming or likely to experience it in the near term.

**Phase 2:** Develop a crowdsourcing methodology focused on a questionnaire to create a database of prehistoric examples of climate-related migration. The research seeks to identify social and environmental conditions that likely affected human decisions to move or remain in place during difficult climatic conditions. The methodology will necessarily include the detailed definition of relevant social indices (e.g., human securities as described by the UNDP [1994]) in archaeological terms as well as detailed information about the relevant climate processes of the case study. Importantly for this comparative study, we will also seek data on cases where extreme climate processes did not exacerbate vulnerability or lead to population movement.

**Phase 3:** Implement the questionnaire and explore the crowd-sourced database to identify those cases that have the clearest archaeological expression of the social indices that may have exacerbated or ameliorated social vulnerability to climate extremes. This phase of the project will seek to refine both the archaeological indices as well as the paleoclimatological conditions attendant to the strongest case studies and to perform quality-control research on them to assure a plausible degree of comparability. Results of the questionnaire and refined data will be statistically analyzed, and conditions influencing human decisions to migrate or remain in place will be identified, if such patterns exist.

**Phase 4:** We will conclude the project with two workshops: in the first, we will share our findings with this group and solicit their impressions and feedback on our findings. A second workshop will be convened to share our findings with relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations in regions threatened by climate warming.

The Climate Migrants project will take place over two years. In addition to the four project principals who composed Group 1, another four collaborators will be added to the team as well as approximately 10 indigenous collaborators and support staff.
Group 2 – Leveraging archaeology for migrations in the present (LAMP): documenting, synthesizing, understanding

Group 2—composed of Elise Alonzi, Ian Armit, Penny Bickle, Elena Isayev, and Beth Scaffidi (with Franco Niccolucci observing)—began with a simple question: what is the “normal” rate of human migration (Alonzi et al. 2019)? Noting that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicts that by 2050, an additional 2.2% of the world’s population will have been displaced by climate change (Myers 2005), the group wants to answer a series of questions: Is this rate of migration normal? Is it outside the range of human experience? And, what would an increase of that level mean to individuals and communities?

Group 2 developed a project proposal titled, “Leveraging archaeology for migrations in the present (LAMP): documenting, synthesizing, understanding,” that will contextualize migration rates in the past to inform current public discourse and policy. As Alonzi et al. (2019) state:

We contend that human mobility and migration have been seen throughout history, but we have yet to understand rates of movement through time and the varied scales of mobility seen within different societies. Without the synthesis of such long-term understandings, assumed rather than explicitly tested knowledge about migration is informing contemporary national policies. It is also allowing unexamined narratives about the dangers of accepting migrants to flourish in popular media and discourse - thus framing debates in terms of unsustainable numbers of migrants based on mis-interpretation of the archaeological evidence. We seek to critique the nature of the discourse (and language) of the kind that informs inter-state organisations, as for example the IOM, that present any mobility as outside the norm.

LAMP is predicated on the fact that “the amount and quality of relevant bioarchaeological and census information now make it possible to piece together hard data on the approximate percentages of individuals within past communities who experienced socially significant residential mobility” (Alonzi et al. 2019). The project will involve data mining of sources such as tDAR, ARIADNE, and several isotope databases. Overcoming the methodological challenges of combining bioarchaeological isotope data and historical census data into a coherent picture of past mobility will be one of the major scientific products of the project.

LAMP, which will require two years to complete, will result in five work packages (WP) as detailed below.

WP1 Critical assessment of the compilation and definition of current migration statistics (Duration: 6 months). The objective of WP1 is to determine on what basis existing and predicted rates of human mobility are produced and evaluated. The outcome will be a critical understanding of modern definitions of migration and the types and ranges of migrations across contemporary contexts.
WP2 Life-time movements in prehistoric communities: strontium isotope data (Duration: 8 months). The objective of WP2 is to estimate the percentage of non-locals at a wide range of archaeological sites (n=400) relating to different regional, environmental and socio-political contexts, based on statistical analysis of radiogenic strontium isotope ratios. The outcome will be a global database for strontium isotopic data and a statistical representation of how numbers of incomers fluctuated through time.

WP3 Historical demography: census and related data (Duration: 8 months). In WP3 we will synthesize material from targeted case studies that link to the available data sets in WP2. These relate to different regional, environmental and socio-political contexts, which include data from historic periods and create a database of mobility data for selected historically-documented communities.

WP4 Statistical Analysis (Duration: 4 months). WP4 will synthesize data gathered in WPs 2 and 3. Our objective is to integrate archaeological and historic data with modern migration data, enabling better contextualization of present-day figures with long-term patterning.

WP5: Articulating impacts for contemporary migration, Informing NGOs and Policymakers (Duration: throughout the 2 years). WP5 will create an empirical base of everyday mobility, the data capture and measurement parameters of which are to be created in dialogue with NGOs and international bodies, such as the World Bank, United Nations, World Health Organization, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. WP5 provides the context to position contemporary migration patterns and address the perceptions to human mobility which affect current policies, and importantly those of the actions of national electorates. Our aim is to ensure that the harvested data about the mobility patterns in the longue durée are meaningfully presented to policymakers and the public through relevant platforms. WP5 addresses the issue of the proportion of communities made up of outsiders across time and diverse contexts, in terms of sustainability to ensure the capacity for good quality of life as outlined by UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities (https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/envision2030.html).

Beyond the five developers of LAMP, the project will add another five principal collaborators as well as support staff.

**Group 3 – Long-Term Effects of Past Migration on Human Security**

Group 3—composed of Juan Antonio Barceló, Christopher Beekman, Andrew Kandel, Rachael Kiddey, Hélène Timpoko Kienon-Kaboré, and Corey Ragsdale—tackled the question of how the characteristics of past migrations have affected aspects of human security. The group took as its starting point the United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP 1994) list of basic human securities. One of the key aims of the project is to identify the extent of possible threats and their context-specific dimensions. Barceló et al. (2019) associated each security dimension with perceived threats of host communities that could be studied through the archaeological record as follows:
- **Food Security.** The arrival of new populations may threaten food availability for both newcomers and inhabitants and alter the carrying capacity of landscape.

- **Environmental Security.** The arrival of new populations may threaten the availability of non edible resources (water, timber, grass, arable land) in the environment by increasing the effects of erosion, soil degradation, deforestation.

- **Personal Security.** The arrival of a new population may threaten the security of individuals by increasing violence, both at the individual (within the group) or between-group level.

- **Health Security.** The arrival of a new population may threaten the health level of both newcomers and inhabitants by modifying the impact of illnesses.

- **Economic Security.** The arrival of a new population may threaten the social mechanisms both communities have used to organize labor and consumption. It may affect the original levels of inequality and affect access to means of production and consumption (property rights). The arrival of the new population may modify the existing technology, by introducing innovations, among both groups.

- **Community Security.** The arrival of a new population may threaten the identity of both groups by altering social norms, beliefs, languages and material culture, by increasing cultural distance, by imposing different forms of segregation (at the spatial and cognitive level), or by cultural coalescence and the emergence of cultural hybridization.

- **Political Security.** The arrival of a new population may threaten the way both communities arrive at decisions imposed on the collective. Those changes may also affect the progressive disappearance of traditional social ties within a group and the emergence of new social ties, both within and between groups.

For each security dimension, the group defined archaeological variables as well as anticipated effects, which will then be tested by synthesizing data from case studies drawn from across the globe. A key issue will be integrating the transdisciplinary datasets from archaeological science, applied and community archaeology, anthropology, material culture studies, ethnography and digital museology. Simulation models will be required to adequately test relationships drawn from case study data and digital visualization will be needed, for example, to develop a video game and museum displays aimed at ensuring that the project results have their greatest possible public reach. Synthesis as opposed to project interpretation requires overcoming these challenges. As Barceló et al. (2019) state:

The existing archaeological record stores a comprehensive record of our shared human experience. However, the application of this vast trove of archaeological data to the exploration of contemporary social issues has rarely been considered. This project tries to address this deficiency by integrating quantitative and
qualitative data on broad geographic and temporal scales to answer questions about migration in truly transdisciplinary ways. We confront the issue of human security in a novel way, by considering how migration directly affects economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security. To our knowledge, no other project has attempted to weave together such distinct and varied archaeological approaches or pioneer such collaborative research endeavors. The methods selected serve to break an impasse in the study of migration by adopting new variables; the project leverages already existing datasets and relates the effects of migration on human securities. The resulting synthetic model of migratory patterns across social contexts will allow us to assess the relationship of different modalities of migration and analyze migration events with respect to human security. Such a synthetic project demonstrates the applicability of archaeological data to contemporary social issues and can be used to advance decision-making and inform public policy.

The migration security project is slated to last two years. During the group’s initial meeting, the principals will identify additional members required to ensure the success of the project. At that meeting, they will also assign data accumulation and consolidation tasks. At a second meeting about six months later, all principals will reconvene and discuss the methods used to acquire and integrate datasets, the assumptions underlying these methods, and the limitations to and constraints in their work. The meeting will lead to refinements in data collection and integration. A third meeting will take place about one year after the start of the project, at which point a model or models will be designed of the varying influences of migration on the well-being of both migrants and the prior population across different modalities. Computer simulation will be used to test the model over the next six months, leading to a fourth meeting, at which point final refinements will be made to the model. Public products in the form of white papers, a video game, and museum displays, which are planned to begin early in the project, will be refined for final production.

Next Steps

Although a tremendous collaborative effort was achieved, none of the groups felt comfortable with the state of their contribution at the end of the workshop. The participants agreed to continue to work at home on their project design and proposal and submitted final workshop products to CfAS on November 1, 2019. CfAS co-presidents Altschul and Kintigh then worked with each project group to finalize the proposals. The CfAS board of directors, the workshop sponsors (EAA and SAA), along with all of CfAS’ partner organizations will determine the best course forward to fund and implement the three projects.

As we move forward, we will seek to engage with all sectors of our discipline. Additionally, we will solicit ideas for CfAS’ next design workshop. If anything, the human migration workshop led us to believe in the correctness of our course. There is power in archaeological collaborative synthesis that will enrich not only our understanding of the past, but also have a positive impact on our global future.
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UNDP  
STUDYING HUMAN MIGRATION IN LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE (CFAS WORKSHOP), ARIZONA, 2019

Rachael Kiddey is a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship researcher based at the School of Archaeology, University of Oxford. Her current project is called ‘Migrant Materialities’, which focuses on the role that material culture—objects and visual culture—plays in experiences of forced displacement in Europe. Rachael’s monograph ‘Homeless Heritage’ was published in 2017 Oxford University Press and is the 2019 winner of the Society for Historical Archaeology’s James Deetz Book Award. Rachael has also appeared on a range of broadcast media including BBC Inside Out West (TV) and BBC Radio 4’s ‘Thinking Allowed’. Last fall, Rachael participated in CfAS’ design workshop on human migration. She wrote about the experience on her blog, Rachael Kiddey, Contemporary Archaeologist. She kindly allowed us to reprint her blog post.

Sometimes, I find myself in situations and wonder how on Earth I got there. This was the case recently as I watched shooting stars arc across the clear desert skies above the Amerind Foundation, near Dragoon, Arizona, USA. A chance meeting at the annual conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) had led to an invitation to respond to a request for information from the Coalition for Archaeological Synthesis (CfAS). CfAS was looking to bring together around 15 researchers who were working on the subject of human migration in long-term perspective – that is, across deep time and global space – to engage in an intensive design workshop, to define problems that could be addressed using archaeologically sourced data. I applied and was lucky enough to be selected to attend the meeting and that is how, between 26th September to 1st October 2019, I found myself in Arizona.

The design workshop itself was modelled on that developed by other synthesis centres (e.g. the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis). Essentially, the workshop was first-most diverse, bringing together esteemed professors, cocky postdocs, and everyone in between; it was highly collaborative – we worked and ate together, and we shared accommodation; and the face-to-face nature of the meeting was intentional and useful. We met in a beautiful location which offered us space to think, time to talk, and few other distractions from the task at hand. This highly sociable workshop model has been acknowledged to be a powerful driver for advancing scientific research (Carpenter et al. 2009; Hackett et al. 2008; see also, Altschul et al. 2017, 2018). Following previous synthesis centre models, the idea is that 15 or so researchers convene for an intense week-long workshop several times a year for two or three years. Researchers are then expected to collaborate remotely in the intervening
months to produce transdisciplinary research proposals which reach beyond the confines of academia into policy, where they can have practical purpose.

The CfAS Migration group was lucky enough to be hosted in the former home of William Shirley Fulton (1880-1964), who founded the Amerind Foundation in 1937 as a private, not-for-profit archaeological research institution. Fulton travelled and collected in the American South-West throughout the early part of the twentieth century and his collection of Native American artefacts – baskets, pots, bowls, tools, clothing, paintings, jewellery, religious and cultural objects – forms the basis of the modern-day Museum. The central aim of the Amerind today is to promote knowledge and understanding of the Native Peoples of the Americas through research, education, and conservation, and the Foundation works closely with tribes whose ancestral land the estate occupies.

Initially, it felt rather like being a character in an Agatha Christie novel! We met in the drawing room over drinks, admiring the impressive scenery that surrounds the house, before walking down the cloister to dine together. We were hosted and catered for all week by a small and dedicated team. It was collegial and friendly, with none of the snobbery that often surrounds such events at English universities. As the sun set, we retired to bed before 10pm, ready for the next day of thinking and conversing together. Officially, work took place in the Library but in truth, as many ideas came together over breakfast or an evening stroll. This was the true value of the specific workshop model. So often, academics meet at enormous conferences where they deliver papers to rooms full of people who already know their work intimately – the benefit of the model developed by CfAS is that everyone knows everyone pretty well after a week as colleagues and roommates! The model affords the time and space necessary to hear something for the first time and feel your brow furrow in confusion or disagreement – listen to an approach, an idea, a theory, a standpoint – and reflect upon it critically. Crucially, with this model, everyone has enough time to consider it deeply and enough informal encounters with other researchers to be familiar enough to ask questions, probe more deeply – this enables everyone to move forward with the thought together.
After briefly introducing our individual work to one another, we opened to a wider discussion around the group of 15 or so researchers to identify the problems and key questions associated with the study of human migration in long-term perspective. This led to the creation of two (and later, three) project groups which broke off to spend the next two days turning a loosely defined problem into a much more clearly defined research proposal. This was where it got really exciting. As a Contemporary Archaeologist, I apply archaeological method and theory to the contemporary world. I use predominantly qualitative research methods, including ethnography, in studying the material culture of contemporary migration in Europe. My colleagues in our breakout project group, however, include those working on pre-Colombian Mexico, a bio-anthropologist, a metallurgist, a landscape archaeologist who works on the expansion of humans out of Africa almost 2 million years ago, and a quantitative archaeologist whose specialisation is statistical analysis in archaeology. It is fair to say that we are a refreshingly and unusually diverse group of archaeologists, whose expertise range across all manner of disciplinary and methodological boundaries allied to archaeology. This mix of people and approaches led us down some fascinating intellectual rabbit holes e.g. concerning the language which we use as archaeologists, what we mean by particular terms, even, whether it is possible to ‘do’ archaeology if one can’t provide a testable hypothesis or with data rather than datasets. If we, archaeologists, struggle to understand one another, what hope does the rest of the academic and non-academic world have? This is precisely why synthesis of our wide forms of archaeological knowledge really matters. This is why CfAS has developed this model of research in the hope that it can genuinely provide translational, useful, evidence-based new knowledge on human migration in long-term perspective.

Each group worked on their project idea until, all too quickly, the time came for us to open our ideas out for critique from the wider group, and later make our individual ways, across four continents, back home. The intense but profoundly stimulating experience of living and working together for a week is now complemented by ‘homework’ – collaborating over email until we have prepared our project proposals for submission back to CfAS. There is no guarantee that those invited to the first Migration group meeting will be invited back to the next. This is not a project for egos. Rather, this is about bringing together the right minds, the right knowledge, the right methods, data, approaches, attitudes, and experiences, for the task in hand. In this way, it clearly demonstrates the relevance and applicability of archaeological research. We want to better understand and be able to discuss human migration in long-term perspective. Personally, and I speak here for myself, not CfAS or my project colleagues, I see the value that this work has to potentially aid the defence of migration as a fundamental part.
of the human condition. One feature of being human is, perhaps, is to move through, between, and across all manner of borders.

To be continued (if they invite me back)...

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Rachael Kiddey

CFAS EVENTS IN 2020

CfAS is sponsoring the forum, Archaeological Synthesis: Building Arguments of Contemporary Relevance, at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meeting in Boston, Massachusetts on Friday, January 10th between 8:00 and 10:00 AM. The forum, moderated by Sarah Miller (CfAS Secretary) and Terry Klein (Executive Director SRI Foundation/CfAS), will bring together a group of well-known archaeologists—Evan Larson, Cheryl La Roche, Marcy Rockman, Jilian Galle, Julian Richards, Joe Joseph, and Jeff Altschul—involved in various aspects of archaeological synthesis. The forum is designed to solicit input from the audience on the nature and direction of collaborative archaeological synthesis.

On Saturday, January 11, 2020, CfAS will host a reception in the Presidential Suite of the Sheraton Boston from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. CfAS would like to acknowledge Mark Warner, SHA President, and the SHA for their gracious hospitality.
CfAS also will be well represented at the 85th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Austin, Texas. CfAS is sponsoring the forum, *Global Collaborative Efforts to Address Issues Facing Modern Society*, on Thursday, April 23, beginning at 8:00 AM. Jeff Altschul will also represent CfAS in the forum, *Increasing Global Collaboration between the SAA and EAA*, on Friday, April 24, at 10:00AM. In addition, there will be a CfAS reception on Saturday evening, April 25, at a venue to be determined.

At the European Association of Archaeologists annual meeting in Budapest, CfAS will be sponsoring the session, *Collaborative Synthesis: The EAA-SAA Human Migration Projects*. We also hope to host a reception. More information will be made available to Partners and Associates as these events draw closer.