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Meet the New AISA Board!

The American Indian Student Association (AISA) recently elected a new student board: Gaby Anderson, a junior in Apparel Merchandising, will be serving as President. Bethany Stoller, a sophomore studying Anthropology and Human Biology, earned the Vice President position. Esme Patterson, a Junior majoring in Human Biology and Anthropology, will be

working as Treasurer. Kayla Murphy, a Junior in Biochemistry, will be serving as Secretary and Lane Maddox will be the officer.

AISA is open to both Native students and allies; they focus on social events and education. As Murphy explained, "I am looking forward to continuing to be involved in a group where I get to meet so many people interested in my heritage. I am looking forward to continuing to education people about Native Americans through the work we do through AISA."

In the past, AISA members have held movie nights and took trips to the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis. President Anderson explains that she's "most looking forward to having some fun, new events this semester and meeting some of the new people that decide to come out!" If you're interested in joining AISA (Native students and allies welcomed), contact Gaby at andergab@indiana.edu.

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BLOOMINGTON

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Publisher: American Studies Department
Ballantine Hall 544, Indiana University
1020 E. Kirkwood Ave
Bloomington, IN, 47405
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AISA members visiting Eiteljorg



AISA members ending a meeting at FNECC

NAIS Beyond Indiana University

In the Fall 2015 issue of the Native American and Indigenous Studies newsletter, the introductory article presented a summary of discussions with several individuals who were trained in Native Studies (and related fields) at Indiana University and who are now working in the field. Due to the popularity of this article, the NAIS newsletter will present the information collected from those and subsequent interviews/questionnaires in full transcript format.

Individuals' answers will be presented sequentially, so that the reader may be able to read the story of each contributor without interruption. These interviews were conducted in December 2016/January 2017.



Elizabeth Watts Malouchos

1. What year did you graduate from Indiana University?

I am currently writing my dissertation, which focuses on the material relationships between communal identity formation and the built environment in southwestern Indiana during the Mississippian period from circa AD 1050-

1450.

2. What was your major/minor/area of study?

My major is Anthropology with a concentration in Archaeology. My minor areas of study are Bioanthropology and Geography.

3. What is your position now?

Currently, I am the Associate Research Scientist at the Indiana University Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology (GBL), a research laboratory, museum, and library focused on the study, preservation, and celebration of Indiana's cultural heritage. My role as Associate Research Scientist involves securing internal and external funding to implement both collections and field-based research to better understand and promote the rich archaeological heritage of Indiana.

4. Is this your first job? If not, what other positions have you held?

I have worked in many different capacities as a professional archaeologist in both field and laboratory settings. On field projects, I have served as an archaeology field technician, supervisor, geophysical survey consultant, field director, and most recently, principal investigator. Laboratory positions I have held include laboratory technician, ceramic analyst, and now, research scientist. Most of my work has been centered in the Midwest, but archaeology has also led me to research and field positions in Alaska and Greece.

5. How do you feel IU and what you've learned at IU have prepared you for your current position?

I am very grateful for the rich field and laboratory experiences and training that I

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gained through Indiana University that have prepared me for my current research position, but also for a variety of avenues for future employment. Working with my dissertation advisor provided experience excavating pre-contact sites in Indiana and opportunities to learn new methodologies, particularly, how to conduct geophysical surveys through magnetometry. The Anthropology Department and the GBL provided support that has allowed me to conduct my dissertation research and excavations in southwestern Indiana; not to mention all of the fantastic collection resources and analytical tools that I have utilized at the GBL over the years.

6. What advice would you give to those who are in Native Studies, or a related field, and who are about to finish up/ enter the job market?

A good dissertation is a done dissertation. Beyond that clichéd advice, I would advocate for multi-faceted collaboration in your work. Continue to strive for collaboration with Tribal communities, different stakeholders, other academics and professionals, and interdisciplinary researchers. Many of my most fruitful experiences, both personally and professionally, have been born out of collaborative work.

7. Are there any other bits of wisdom you would like to share with the reader?

In the same vein, I would suggest not only keeping your mind open to, but seeking out and trying to better understand the views, beliefs, and experiences of others. A wonderful way to put this idea into practice is to become involved in the wide array of student groups and community organizations during your tenure at Indiana University and Bloomington. I feel I have

learned a great deal through my involvement with the First Nations Educational and Cultural Center and the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning in addition to partnerships outside of the university like outreach programming at Girl's Inc. of Monroe County.



Meghan Buchanan

1. What year did you graduate from Indiana University?

I graduated from IU in the Spring of 2015.

2. What was your major/minor/area of study?

My degree is in Anthropology with a focus in archaeology and a minor in cultural anthropology; my outside minor was in geography (specializing in GIS). My dissertation (and current) research explores the ways in which violence and warfare impact peoples' daily practices. I have focused my research on pre-contact indigenous societies of southeastern US, societies that archaeologists refer to as

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Mississippians. My analytical specialties include ceramic and zooarchaeological analyses and remote sensing (gradiometry).

3. What is your position now?

I am an Assistant Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work at Auburn University.

4. Is this your first job? If not, what other positions have you held?

This is not my first job. Between undergrad and graduate school, I spent a year working as an archaeological technician for a contract archaeology firm at the University of Illinois. I also worked as a laboratory supervisor and a zooarchaeological assistant at Southern Illinois University Carbondale while completing my MA. At IU, I was lucky to gain teaching experience as an Instructor in the Department of Anthropology.

My first big job however, was at the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology as the Collections Manager and later as Research Scientist.

5. How do you feel IU and what you've learned at IU have prepared you for your current position?

IU prepared me in many ways for my current position. Course work gave me the technical and theoretical skills to conduct research and write grants to fund that research. Numerous teaching opportunities at IU prepared me to teach different kinds of undergraduate courses (large lecture classes, smaller seminars, lab courses) and archaeological field schools, all of which I do in my current position. Serving as Collections Manager at the Glenn Black Lab also prepared me to oversee the archaeological collections we currently have housed in our

curation facility at Auburn.

More importantly, IU prepared me to be aware of the position of archaeology in its different social contexts. Archaeology should not be just for other archaeologists or academics. Our work impacts descendant and local communities and they have a stake in all of our research. Working at the Glenn Black Lab, I have had the privilege to work with IU Office of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). This has opened up a number of opportunities for me to collaborate with representatives from the Native American communities that have cultural and geographic affiliation with the ancestors currently housed at IU. While these initial collaborations were focused on NAGPRA-related collections, they have opened up further areas of collaboration, such as the Shawnee Pottery Project.

6. What advice would you give to those who are in Native Studies, or a related field, and who are about to finish up/enter the job market?

Diversify your areas of expertise – have multiple skills you can rely on. The job market is a fickle place. Sometimes you will come across jobs that seem like they were written for you; know that many other people had that exact same thought when they read the job ad. If you have skills that set you apart from the pack, you increase your chances of getting hired. Other times, there will be very few jobs that seem like they are written for you, but again, if you have those other skills you learned that may open up brand new job markets for you. That is part of the reason why I chose geography/GIS as my outside minor during graduate school; those GIS skills could be used at an archaeology firm and would also

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make me marketable to a number of other industries. Make sure that you foster positive relationships with faculty, staff, and other collaborators while at IU. The connections that you make while in school will continue to benefit you and open up opportunities once you leave. These are the people who will write you glowing letters of recommendation and will think of you when they see jobs posted.

7. Are there any other bits of wisdom you would like to share with the reader?

I recently had the pleasure of hearing Bryan Stevenson (author of *Just Mercy*, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative) at Auburn. He said that if you want to make a change in the world (create greater justice, opportunity, and fairness), you have to “get proximate.” You have to get closer to the things that matter, you have to get close to people who are affected – you cannot make change at a distance. While at IU, make use of the tools and services that the university offers, get proximate, and have an impact on the world.



Christopher Clements

1. What year did you graduate from

Indiana University?

2016

2. What was your major/minor/area of study?

Major: American History, Minors: NAIS & the African Diaspora

3. What is your position now?

Ready? Global American Studies
Postdoctoral Fellow at the Charles Warren Center and Lecturer at Harvard University

4. Is this your first job? If not, what other positions have you held?

This is my first job!

5. How do you feel IU and what you've learned at IU have prepared you for your current position?

IU prepared me for my new position in a few ways. At IU, I taught Indigenous Worldviews, which I slightly adjusted and updated this summer before teaching it at Harvard in Fall 2016. My postdoc is in American Studies, so it was really helpful to come prepared with a course I had already taught and could offer again. Of course, the faculty, and especially my adviser at IU, Christina Snyder, offered rigorous academic training that have left me feeling qualified to work and teach at Harvard, which was and is still a bit intimidating. Finally, my involvement with the FNECC and the programming its members offer at IU helped when I met the faculty and students who run the Harvard University Native American Program (HUNAP), a similar, although slightly different, institution. I have lots to learn from the people at HUNAP but also came with ideas for academic and social programming inspired by the work being done by the FNECC.

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6. What advice would you give to those who are in Native Studies, or a related field, and who are about to finish up/enter the job market?

My advice would be to think big in terms of what your Native Studies degree has prepared you to do. As an interdisciplinary field, Native Studies prepares you to teach across a number of academic disciplines, in my case, American History, American Studies, and Native Studies. Unfortunately, the job market is a small place, and Native Studies is a growing field. That's a good thing, but it means there are still relatively few job postings that exclusively seek out Native Studies scholars. Embrace your versatility!

7. Are there any other bits of wisdom you would like to share with the reader?

Compared to other fields, Native Studies can sometimes feel like a small, insular community, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. However, it offers a methodology and way of thinking relevant to lots of academic disciplines that haven't yet connected with the intellectual mission of NAIS. In other words, some of the most exciting NAIS scholarship coming out today tries to break into fields that haven't dealt with things like settler colonialism, the concept of genocide, Native social movements (like Idle No More and the wave of activism coming out of Standing Rock), and the difficult questions that NAIS forces us to deal with. I haven't read it yet, but one example of what I mean would be Coll Thrush's new book, *Indigenous London: Native Travelers at the Heart of Empire* (Yale University Press, 2016), which takes NAIS and applies it to a place and period that scholars don't typically think of as "Native" or "Indigenous." I think that kind of work

energizes Native Studies to keep growing and gaining relevance, and we should all invest ourselves in that project.

Upcoming Events

- **Speaker Series Presents: Ryan Comfort.** Wednesday, February 8th from 12-1 PM at the First Nations Educational & Cultural Center.
- **Craft and Social Night.** Wednesday, February 15th from 12-1 PM at the First Nations Educational & Cultural Center.
- **Speaker Series Presents: Mark Chatarpal.** Wednesday, February 22nd from 12-1 PM at the First Nations Educational & Cultural Center.

Links

- [IU First Nations Educational and Cultural Center](#)
- [Past NAIS Newsletters](#)
- [The American Indian Studies Research Institute](#)
- [Mathers Museum of World Cultures](#)
- [The Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology](#)

IU Students & Faculty Present at the Midwestern Archaeology Conference



The Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology (GBL) is an entity on the Indiana University Bloomington campus that serves as a research laboratory, museum, library, and meeting place with the goal of preserving, celebrating, and researching Indiana's cultural and archaeological heritage. In celebration of the GBL's 50th anniversary, nine members of the laboratory traveled to Iowa City and held a forum at the Midwestern Archaeology Conference (MAC). The meeting allows researchers to gather and share their interests and foster collaboration and as a meeting to advocate for conservation of archaeological sites and data in the midwestern United States.

The nine individuals from the GBL served as Indiana University representatives as they presented their research in the forum. The talks covered a wide range of topics and demonstrate the important and variable work being conducted at the GBL. Topics ranged from explaining reorganization strategies for the GBL's education collection to explaining a current research project on foodways from Indiana's Angel site to current preservation initiatives for the GBL's large historic image collections.

Melody Pope, the Curator of Collections at the GBL, organized a forum in order to share projects that GBL staff and volunteers were working on in a series of lightning talks. She

envisioned these talks as explaining the "ways we are integrating the functions of a lab-museum to meet the challenges of moving into an increasingly open access and digital 21st century." This session also provided an outlet for some students to present their research for the first time.

Alex Elliot, an undergraduate who works at the GBL, presented her first talk on curation methodologies and results on Indiana's Mann Site. Elliot explained, "I thought going to MAC was fun in a lot of ways. It was a great way to get experience, meet new people, and learn about what others from different universities are doing.... I think it is important that we show interest in the research pursuits of others and try to add our own contributions at conferences, such as MAC."

For those interested, according to their website (midwestarchaeology.org), MAC's next meeting will be held in Indianapolis from October 19-21, 2017. Similarly, stop by the free Glenn A. Black Laboratory to learn more about their ongoing projects and see their exhibits. If you're interested in learning about education opportunities for your classroom or setting up a volunteer practicum at the GBL contact gbl@indiana.edu.



Elliot presenting her paper at MAC.

Current NAIS Student Spotlight



Jedediah Kuhn, a current graduate student in American Studies, with minors in Native American and Indigenous Studies and History, shared some of his thoughts with us, so that we could learn more about NAIS:

1. Why did you choose to join NAIS and how do you feel it has benefited you?

My interest in NAIS stems from questions I had about my own identity and my experiences of being Chicano yet part of an extended Washoe Tribal community. I took the introduction to NAIS course in my first semester with Dr. Christina Snyder and found that it offered the critical approaches to race, indigeneity, and colonialism that I was looking for. I took Dr. Snyder's Ethnohistory course the next semester and that proved to be the one-two punch that prompted me to sign up for the minor.

2. What advice would you give to those who are considering joining NAIS?

NAIS has a lot to offer graduate students across disciplines because it is unique, even among the ethnic studies. It unsettles what we think we know about race, gender, sexuality, citizenship, governance, nationalism, and more. Additionally, if you think you might apply to jobs in Native Studies in the future, declaring a minor in NAIS is an important step in signaling your competence in the field to potential employers.

3. Are there any other bits of wisdom you

would like to share with the reader?

Because the program is still small, it's likely that you will have to do an independent study. I found independent studies to be among my most intellectually rewarding courses at IU. You get to tailor course readings to your specific interests and build a working relationship with a faculty member.



Gaby Anderson, a junior in Apparel Merchandising with minors in Business and Native American and Indigenous Studies, shared some of her experiences in NAIS with us:

1. Why did you choose NAIS and how do you feel it has benefited you?

I chose to join NAIS as another way to be involved with my Native heritage, in addition to being involved at the FNECC and being part of AISA.

2. What advice would you give to those who are considering joining NAIS?

NAIS is worth joining, even if you think it has nothing to do with your major!

3. Are there any other bits of wisdom you would like to share with the reader?

NAIS has exposed me to so much more than I thought it would. It has changed the way that I think about the topic and I'm very happy that I made the decision to become a NAIS minor!

IU Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Anya Royce



Dr. Royce during one of her first visits to Juchitán

As a Chancellor's Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Comparative Literature and a professor serving on the Committee on Native American and Indigenous Studies, Dr. Anya Peterson Royce works with the Isthmus Zapotec people of Juchitán, Oaxaca, Mexico. She's been traveling to work with these people since 1967, when on a Ford International Scholarship, she went to study the changes in dance from village to national dance companies. She returned four years later for anthropological research, which started a lifetime of relationships and exploration. In summer 2016, Royce was presented with the Medalla Binniza (the

Medal of the Zapotec People), making her the first non-Mexican recipient of the award. She was given the medal at the opening of her photography exhibit, "Reflections on a Community of the Heart" in Juchitán. She explained, "In the beginning, I didn't think of myself as a photographer... but I kind of naturally fell into it." She started photographing children and would record the same places, year after year.

Currently, Royce is working on a collaborative project with Zapotec artists, poets, and musicians. Together they'll create a book, documentary, workshops, and exhibits. Their choice to do so was explained

by Royce: “[giving back is] something that they value – artists, writers, musicians, poets – they really mentor the younger generation... They do things specifically for them, that don’t necessarily benefit the artists directly, but benefit the community.”

This focus on working with and understanding people was reinforced when Royce explained why students should join NAIS. She answered, that NAIS “gives you an understanding of the world you don’t get anywhere else ... It may be an academic subject, but it’s also something that is alive and lived.” She explained that NAIS can allow students to become more comfortable with diversity and gives one a perspective on how to understand multiple cultures and make connections between them. When asked about what advice she has for people entering the job market, she warned people against trying to package themselves as something other than who they are, and instead encouraged applicants to be transparent in interviews. When considering career directions it helps by, “being clear about what gives you satisfaction, what makes you feel good, and what opportunities might make you feel fulfilled.” She follows this with her work, as she doesn’t think of being an anthropologist as a 9-5 job, but rather as a way of life. This perspective gives her an inner strength that helps remind her



One of the many photographs taken by Dr. Royce

that her pursuits and projects matter.

If you’re interested in learning more about Royce’s work, she encourages you to reach out to her. She’d be happy to have students digitize photographs and aid in the creation of a digital library for those in Juchitán. Similarly, she has previously donated a collection of Zapotec clothing to the Mathers Museum and continues to add to it each year; she’d be open to helping set up a volunteer opportunity for those who may be interested in working with these textiles. One can reach out to Dr. Royce through her email at Royce@indiana.edu.

She, along with archaeologist Dr. Stacie King, and linguistic anthropologist Dr. Daniel Suslak, both of the Anthropology Department, is offering a summer field program in Oaxaca. The course will provide an introduction to three of anthropology’s four subfields and provide an understanding of how fieldwork is conducted by field trips to the places where the instructors work. (<http://www.indiana.edu/~anthro/about/oaxaca.shtml>). The application deadline is February 6, 2017.