

# AnthroScope

Department of Anthropology Newsletter Fall 2017

## World-Class Research: Grants



Christian Wells was awarded a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant (\$200,000), to work with University Area Community Development Corporation and other organizations to study environmental pollution and redevelopment challenges in the under-served University Area, close to USF. USF faculty and students will work with the community to develop a brownfields area-wide plan and implementation strategy for the neighborhood.



Heide Castañeda (with colleagues Elizabeth Aranda and Elizabeth Vaquera), has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant (\$333,847) for their study, “Ontological Security in Uncertain Times: Legal Status and the Social and Emotional Well-Being of Young Adult Immigrants.” The study examines the lives of undocumented Florida youth as they take different paths into the workforce, higher education, and family, and incorporates graduate students from Anthropology and Sociology.



Lorena Madrigal won an NSF EAGER grant for fieldwork in Kerala, India, which she is now analyzing along with undergraduates Ravella Raker and

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Castañeda is also on a multi-university team awarded a \$699,960 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to study how Americans of diverse socioeconomic, professional, and racial/ethnic backgrounds think about equity and deservingness in the health domain: “Investigating Conceptions of Health Equity and Barriers to Making Health a Shared Value.”

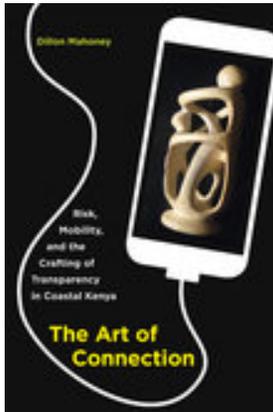
Nancy White received a historic preservation grant from the Florida

Sarah Rifae. Along with Dutch researchers, she was welcomed into the community to explore the questions why this small region is experiencing an “epidemic” of twin births – up to 500 pairs.

Department of State (\$47,633) for archaeological survey and synthesis of information on prehistoric and early historic peoples over the last 14,000+ years in the Apalachicola River valley of northwest Florida.

Robert Tykot (with co-PI A. Vianello) received a grant (\$16,200) from the International Catacomb Society: “Mobility in north-eastern Italy between the Late Roman and Byzantine periods: the view from stable isotopes.”

## World-Class Research: Books



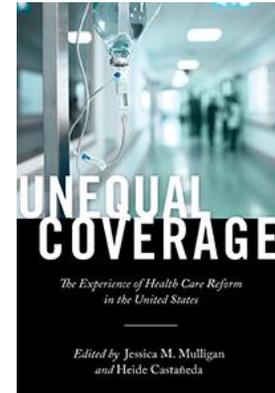
Dillon Mahoney's *The Art of Connection: Risk, Mobility, and the Crafting of Transparency in Coastal Kenya* (University of California Press), tells the stories of Kenyan artisans and traders who turn to new digital technologies to integrate their businesses into the global economy.

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Elizabeth Bird's *The Asaba Massacre: Trauma, Memory, and the Nigerian Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, co-authored with F. Ottanelli), reconstructs the story of a 1967 massacre, redefining it as a pivotal point in the Civil War, and exploring how trauma and memory intersect with justice. She launched the book in Nigeria and London, with readings and commemorative events.

[More](#)



Heide Castañeda's *Unequal Coverage: The Experience of Health Care Reform in the United States* documents the experiences of people attempting to access coverage and care under the Affordable Care Act (New York University Press, co-edited with J. Mulligan). They argue that while ACA expanded access, its effects were uneven and unequal.

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## World-Class Research: Forensics



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Erin Kimmerle, director of the Florida Institute for Forensic Anthropology and Applied Science, oversaw the opening of a new outdoor research facility for forensic science research and training on a 2.5-acre parcel of land donated by the Pasco Board of County Commissioners. The project is in partnership with the Pasco Sheriff's Office, which funded needed infrastructure. The facility is the only one in Florida, and is critical for research in the areas of human identification, trauma analysis, outdoor crime scene processing, forensic geochemistry, remote sensing, and time since death estimation. Faculty from Anthropology, Geoscience, and Chemistry

## World-Class Research: Fighting Hunger



David Himmelgreen and colleagues from Feeding Tampa Bay (FTB) founded the Hunger Action Alliance (HAA), which aims to address food insecurity by: conducting research on social determinants and health consequences of food insecurity; raising public awareness about food insecurity and its costs; and using research to develop programs and policies to eliminate food insecurity in Tampa Bay. Other partners to recently join HAA include Bank of America, the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Florida Hospital, Humana, Johns Hopkins/All

Children's Hospital, and Mosaic. Eight HAA-funded projects have been completed or are underway, all involving faculty (Tara Deubel) and graduate and undergraduate students from Anthropology and other USF departments.

## Community Engagement: Public Archaeology

Faculty member Dr. Diane Wallman held archaeological excavations at Gamble Plantation in Ellenton this summer, training 17 undergraduate and 3 graduate students in archaeological field methods. As a community-engaged project, the field school also included 6 public archaeology days, where hundreds of community members visited the site and participated in the excavations throughout the season.



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## Community Engagement: St. Croix Oral History

In summer 2017, Antoinette Jackson led an Oral History project, :Invisible Heritage: Identity, Memory, and Our Town, in Free Gut neighborhood, Frederiksted, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. As part of the community's revitalization efforts, she conducted oral history and ethnographic workshops for participants in the project, which centers on the cultural heritage of Freedom City, a neighborhood established for Free Blacks during the Danish Colonial period.



[Video on Facebook](#)



Ph.D. student Laura Kihlstrom was awarded the Better Living for Seniors Hillsborough County Academic Scholarship for 2017-2018.



Congratulations to Paola Gonzalez, winner of the 2017 USF Hispanic Pathways Award from the Latin Community Advisory Council in recognition for her outstanding research that creates pathways to the betterment of the lives of Latinos.

## Diversity Initiative



A cooperative graduate recruitment process agreement, developed by Antoinette Jackson in consultation with administrators and faculty at Bethune-Cookman University (B-CU), was signed by USF Provost Ralph C. Wilcox last year. The MOU established a graduate recruitment pipeline between B-CU, a historically black college in Daytona Beach, Florida and USF. This year, Jackson collaborated with B-CU faculty member Anthony Dixon on a special topics course and learning and exchange opportunity for B-CU students. The class was taught via Skype, connecting students on the B-CU

campus with Anthropology faculty and graduate students at USF, while some USF traveled to Daytona in person. USF participants included faculty (Jonathan Bethard, Heide Castañeda, Tara Deubel, David Himmelgreen, Antoinette Jackson, Erin Kimmerle, Lorena Madrigal, Kevin Yelvington, Christian Wells, and Linda Whiteford) and graduate students (Kristin Kennedy, Kaniqua Robinson, and Jacqueline Siven).

## Faculty Awards



Dr. Roberta Baer and Dr. Dillon Mahoney received awards from the Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force for their work on the project, Dietary Patterns and Nutritional status among Congolese Refugees in West Central



Hillsborough County Bar Association bestowed its prestigious 2017 Liberty Bell Award on Erin Kimmerle, who led

Florida. Graduate students Emily Holbrook and Renice Obure were also involved.

efforts to unearth remains from the Dozier School for Boys and return them to families. The award "recognizes an outstanding non-lawyer citizen whose community service strengthens the effectiveness of the American system under the law." Past Liberty Bell winners in Hillsborough County include Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, George Steinbrenner, Tony Dungy and former Tampa police Chief Jane Castor.

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## *New Faculty*



Charles Stanish joins the department from UCLA, recruited under a special Presidential initiative to bring senior, world class scholars to USF. His work focuses on the roles that trade, war, and labor organization play in the evolution of human cooperation and complex societies. He is the author of numerous books and other publications, He is Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and member of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States. With his tenure home in Anthropology, he is heading the Institute for the Advanced Study of Culture and the Environment.

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Kiran C. Jayaram joined us as a new Assistant Professor, coming from a teaching position at York College (CUNY). He specializes in mobility and migration, political economy, and education. His doctoral research examined how experiences of Haitian educational and labor migrants intersected with the political economy of contemporary Dominican Republic. His latest research investigates the meaning of mangoes in post-earthquake Haiti. Funded in part by a Fulbright Scholar Award, he explores how the knowledge of marginalized people, like Haitian farmers, reveals gaps between capital-intensive development endeavors and people's experiences.



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After three years in a Visiting position, Dillon Mahoney joins the department's permanent faculty as Assistant Professor. He conducts research in East Africa and the urban United States, focusing on businesses, media, and the environment in Kenya, while currently working with Congolese refugees in Tampa, Florida. His specialties also include language, politics, and conflict resolution.



Sarah Taylor also joins the permanent faculty from a Visiting position. Trained as an Andean Archaeologist specializing in the emergence/maintenance of social inequality, she has worked in the American Southwest, Southeast, and Northeast; northern Mexico; Panama; Costa Rica; Peru; and Ecuador. Currently she is managing the TeACH USF (Teachers Anthropology Curriculum Hub at USF), which produces online curriculum for Florida high schools that aligns with Florida State Standards.



## USF Anthropology

ANT-Newsletter@usf.edu  
4202 E. Fowler Ave., SOC 107  
Tampa, FL 33620  
(813) 974-2138

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