



## MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Discovering new information about our shared past

The Museum of Anthropological Archaeology is dedicated to original research on humanity's past, as well as the protection of important collections related to that past. All curators in the museum are also professors of anthropology and, as such, tend to focus their research on crucial issues in the development of our species including the origins of human culture in the Stone Age, the beginnings of agriculture and animal domestication, the creation of hierarchical societies and social inequality, and the rise of kingdoms and multiethnic empires in the New and Old Worlds.

We curate archaeological research collections from areas as diverse as the Great Lakes, North America, Latin America, Asia, the Near East, Africa, and Europe, as well as Archaeobiology (plants and animals relevant to past cultures). These items, currently numbering more than three million, are used not only in the curators' ongoing research but also in educating undergraduates about human diversity and training graduate students to be anthropological archaeologists.

In the laboratories of the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, undergraduates work side by side with graduate students and with curators in the pursuit of knowledge about the past. By handling actual prehistoric material, Michigan students learn how to work in teams, collaborate with fellow researchers, share credit, and gain expertise far beyond that provided in classroom settings. For many students, this is their first exposure both to science and to the use of empirical data in testing theories about what it means to be human. This hands-on learning leads many undergrads to join one of our numerous expeditions to the field to excavate and discover new information about our shared past.

To maintain the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology's reputation as an international leader in research and student training, gifts are vital to support the work of faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students to enable them to contribute new knowledge to the field. We are also seeking funding for publications, to bring speakers to campus, and to send Michigan students and faculty to conferences. All of these initiatives will contribute to a vital and vibrant museum poised to be a leader in the nation and the field.

## MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY SPEAKER SERIES

Our ongoing brown bag lecture series is one of the most important functions of the museum. The interactions of students and curators with guest speakers, as well as the discussions that continue long after the speakers have departed, have enduring impacts on research and education. To ensure our ability to bring in the best external speakers, the museum is seeking a stable source of funding of \$5,000 to \$10,000 annually.

## STRATEGIC FUND

Expendable, undesignated gifts of \$10,000 to \$50,000 are extraordinarily important to the continuing success and growth of the museum. Contributions to the Strategic Fund supply the resources that strengthen and enrich the activities of students and the research of faculty by enabling them to present their research at conferences, publish primary archaeological research and data-rich reports that serve as source documents for all future research, and provide for necessary equipment for field and laboratory research.

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FUND

The museum's curators and research staff seek to involve undergraduates in the excitement of archaeological field and laboratory research. U-M undergraduates participate in archaeological field training projects, sponsored by the museum and anthropology department, in Michigan, the Southwest U.S., and Senegal, and conduct original research on the museum's collections from these areas as well as Latin America, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. Gifts of \$25,000 annually to this fund will provide fellowships (\$5,000 per student) for students seeking to participate in archaeological fieldwork and to attend conferences to present their work.

## GRADUATE STUDENT FIELD RESEARCH FUND

To attract the very best and most talented graduate students to our program, we need to make excavation trips accessible to students. These trips are vital to a well-rounded education and are important for graduate students so that they experience archaeological research in the field. Active research sites include Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Near East, and North America. A gift of \$50,000 will support two to five graduate students, depending upon the location of their research site.



**“The Museum has a really good community. That is something I felt when I visited and something that has held up in actually being here.”**

*–Angela Feak, doctoral student in anthropology, whose research focuses on diet reconstruction of hunter-gatherer societies in Southern Africa, Australia, and South America*



## FUND AN EXCAVATION BY A PROFESSOR

To maintain the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology's leading position as a center of innovative research in archaeology around the globe, we seek expendable funds to provide seed money for archaeological field research in the U.S. and abroad. These funds will allow us to develop and sustain research collaborations, engage in the rapid deployment of new methods of analysis and dating, and nurture the rapid dissemination of research results. Areas of active museum research include Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Near East, and North America. A gift of \$100,000 will fund an excavation for one to two years, depending upon location and size of crew.

## GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

The University of Michigan has long been recognized as the nation's preeminent graduate program in anthropological archaeology—and has trained many of the leading scholars who now occupy prominent positions in leading universities and museums in the United States, Europe, Latin America, and Asia. To sustain this excellence, we would like to offer three graduate student fellowships per year at \$50,000 per fellowship, and a \$1M endowed investment would provide the funding needed to accomplish our goal.

## WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

## CONTACT INFO

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