



ICAZ NEWSLETTER



NEW ICAZ MICROVERTEBRATE WORKING GROUP (MVWG)

After approval by the ICAZ International Committee, we are very pleased to welcome a new working group on microvertebrate remains.



Contributed by Christine Lefèvre, ICAZ Secretary

ICAZ is pleased to announce the launch of a new Working Group: the Microvertebrate Working Group (MVWG). It has been proposed by Sara E. Rhodes and Angel Blanco-Lapaz, from the Institut für Naturwissenschaftliche Archäologie, Universität Tübingen. The group will be a forum for the exchange of data and information related to the study of insectivore, rodent, bat, reptile and amphibian remains from archaeological deposits and will be active in increasing communication between academics, professionals, and graduate students with research interests related to microvertebrates. More information is available at <http://alexandriaarchive.org/icaz/workmicrovertebrate>.

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About the Newsletter

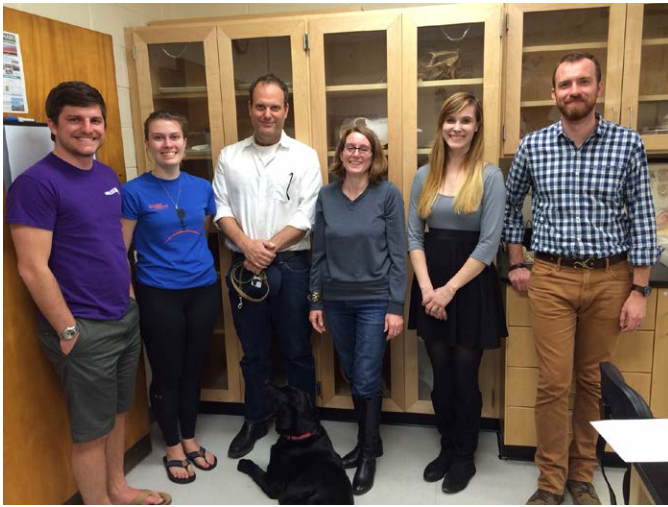
ICAZ welcomes submissions to its biannual newsletter. E-mail submissions to the editor, Angela Trentacoste. The annual deadlines are April 15 for volume 1 and October 15 for volume 2. Past issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from the Publications section of the ICAZ Website <http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/icaz>.

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Scott Oliver, Hope Loiselle, Dr. George Hambrecht, Dr. Barnet Pavao-Zuckerman, Sarah Noe, and Kevin Gibbons and Auggie, the unofficial lab dog

Contributed by Kevin Gibbons, University of Maryland (gibbonsk@umd.edu)

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Maryland, well-known for its strengths in historical archaeology, has committed to zooarchaeological research in recent years by welcoming Drs George Hambrecht and Barnet Pavao-Zuckerman to the faculty and supporting the creation of a new zooarchaeology laboratory for teaching and research.

The Zooarchaeology Laboratory is currently accumulating a robust reference collection primarily focused on native and introduced taxa from eastern North America. We also gratefully received an extensive library and faunal collection through a donation from the personal collection of Dr. John Speth (Emeritus, University of Michigan). In addition, the laboratory

has expanded research potential through generous access to the Archaeobiology Collections of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

The laboratory currently supports one PhD student (Kevin Gibbons) and two MAA students (Scott Oliver and Sarah Noe) in addition to hosting a new course for undergraduate and graduate students in zooarchaeology and taphonomy. Together, the faculty and graduate students in the laboratory have ongoing research projects focused on James Madison's Montpelier, medieval and early modern Iceland, Spanish missions in the colonial American Southwest, and various initiatives with the National Park Service. The University of Maryland Zooarchaeology Lab has also hosted two annual research coordination workshops as a contributing member of the Global Human Ecodynamics Alliance and is initiating a paleogenetics research project on Icelandic faunal material with support from Recombinetics, Inc. and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Taken together, the University of Maryland Zooarchaeology Lab in College Park is now the largest center for zooarchaeological research at a university in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. region. When coupled with our Department of Anthropology's strong foci in historical archaeology, ecological and environmental anthropology, and cultural heritage, as well as our connections to federal cultural resource agencies, the laboratory is well-positioned to support a variety of zooarchaeological research interests from an expanding number of graduate and undergraduate students. For more information, please follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/umd-zooarchaeology. ■