Greetings to the anthropology majors, alumni and faculty representatives at the Lambda Alpha chapters. I hope everyone had a good summer break as the fall semester begins at campuses across the country. I wanted to take this opportunity to announce that several changes have occurred with the Lambda Alpha National Office. After many decades being hosted in Muncie, Indiana the national office has now moved to Arlington, Texas. Dr. Ritu Gairola Khanduri has graciously volunteered to serve as the society’s new National Executive Secretary and supervise the operation of the Lambda Alpha National Office. Dr. Gairola Khanduri (Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Texas at Arlington) is a cultural anthropologist and historian of India. A recent Fulbright Scholar, her research interests include visual culture, political cartoons, gender, Gandhi, comic books, journalism and science. Dr. Gairola Khanduri is very familiar with the Lambda Alpha National Anthropology Honor Society, having served for many years as the faculty representative with the Lambda of Texas Chapter, which incidentally is one of the society’s founding chapters in Texas. In conversations with Dr. Gairola Khanduri, it is apparent she will bring fresh energy, enthusiasm and vision to the role of National Executive Secretary. In addition to a new National Executive Secretary, daily operations of the national office will now be conducted by Ms. Vidula “Vivi” Gairola Khanduri, the interim Administrative Coordinator for Lambda Alpha. She is a Wellesley College graduate with experience in public relations, biological sciences, and data science. I extend a sincere thank you to Dr. Gairola Khanduri and Ms. Vidula Gairola Khanduri for serving the society in these roles.

As outgoing national executive secretary, I also wish to express my sincere thanks to Ms. Melanie Cabak for her efforts over the past half-decade as administrative coordinator. I also thank Dr. Peer Moore-Jansen and Dr. Marie Danforth, Lambda Alpha executive council members for their dedication. On a somber note, the society lost council member Dr. Faith Warner in November of last year. Dr. Warner passed away after struggling with a long-term illness. Dr. Warner’s guidance is missed. She was very devoted to her students and was a tireless advocate of Lambda Alpha.

I have enjoyed my tenure as national executive secretary and serving the society. For me highpoints during this time consist of the 50th anniversary of the society and weathering the pandemic. Both of these events emphasized to me the long-term importance of acknowledging and supporting excellence among young scholars in anthropology and not forgetting the significance of human resilience during challenging times. As anthropologists we all appreciate the fact that resilience is a distinguishing characteristic of mankind--past, present and future.

Please note, the PO box address for the national office has changed (see page 2). Questions regarding the society can be sent to the email address at laanthro@gmail.com. Society information is also posted at laanthro.org.

Dr. Mark Groover
Lambda Alpha

Newsletter 2022-23

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Communications

You can contact the Lambda Alpha National Office through email, mail, or phone.

Ms. Vidula Khanduri is the Lambda Alpha Administrative Coordinator.

Contact Lambda Alpha via:

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Attn: Administrative Coordinator
300 State Street
PO Box 92365
Southlake, TX 76092

Email:
laanthro@gmail.com

Webpage:
Laanthro.org
At the Lambda Alpha National Office we receive questions from faculty sponsors and students about how to run Lambda Alpha chapters. Other than the rules for student membership, we leave chapter management up to individual faculty sponsors (see laaanthro.org for student membership requirements). Nevertheless, we do have some suggestions for chapters.

Many chapters hold induction ceremonies for their nominees. Some chapters nominate student officers at organization chapter meetings and related events. Other activities could include monthly meetings, chapters hosting guest speakers, student presentations of their research, volunteer activities, anthropology clubs with student recruitment, and student paper competitions.

The annual newsletter is the best venue for sharing your chapter’s activities and programs. Useful items to include are student accomplishments, recognition, and on-going efforts of individual Lambda Alpha members connected with your department. Chapters are also encouraged to submit news items about cooperative projects conducted under the aegis of Lambda Alpha such as lectures series, dedications, etc. For example this newsletter features an article by Gamma of Michigan concerning a Food and Identity conference they participated in at Eastern Michigan University. Be creative, and share your chapter’s activities through the newsletter.
In 2023 scholarships and grants totaling $22,000 were awarded to Lambda Alpha members. Nineteen qualified graduate students applied for the Graduate Student Research Grants. Six grants were awarded in 2023 totaling $12,000. Each chapter could submit one applicant in each grant category. Nine different Lambda Alpha chapters were represented among the grant applications with a total of 16 applicants. The honor society would like to congratulate the following students on their achievements and thank them for applying to the annual graduate student award competition.

### ARCHAELOGY PROPOSALS

- **Amanda Brock**  
  University of Florida (Delta of FL)
- **Hallie Colonna**  
  Florida Atlantic University (Beta of FL)
- **Kara Jones**  
  University of Nevada Las Vegas (Alpha of NV)
- **Elizabeth Leclerc**  
  University of Maine (Alpha of ME)
- **Hannah Quaintance**  
  University of Buffalo (Lambda of NY)
- **Caleb Ranum**  
  University of Alabama (Beta of AL)
- **Taylor Recuero**  
  University of North Carolina Charlotte (Zeta of NC)

### BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY PROPOSALS

- **Belkis Abufaur**  
  University of Florida (Delta of FL)
- **Katherine Gaddis**  
  University of Nevada Las Vegas (Alpha of NV)
- **Megan Heron**  
  Florida Atlantic University (Beta of FL)
- **Nompumelelo Hlope**  
  Texas A&M University (Omicron of TX)
- **Tanvi Padalkar**  
  University of Alabama (Beta of AL)

### CULTURAL PROPOSALS

- **Haley Albano**  
  University of Maine (Alpha of ME)
- **Evans Atuick**  
  University of Buffalo (Lambda of NY)
- **Ana Maria Garrido**  
  University of Florida (Delta of FL)
- **Sharon Gillard**  
  University of North Carolina Charlotte (Zeta of NC)
- **Hyein Kim**  
  Texas A&M University (Omicron of TX)
- **Jean Tyu**  
  University of Alabama (Beta of AL)
Belkis Meha Abufaur (Delta of Florida) joined the University of Florida's Anthropology Department as a Ph.D. student with a Bachelor’s Degree in Anthropology along with prehistoric archaeology (double major) at Istanbul University. Her primary research interest is exploring the primate limbs’ material and structural properties to elucidate different skeletal responses to loading, which provide a baseline understanding of the regional bone structural adaptations. She works with primate collections from around the world and combines biomechanical and morphological techniques to study loading. Specifically, she focuses on the changes in the type of locomotion throughout development and how this helps primates to adapt to new environments. Why is it important? Because contrary to general perceptions, many primates change their locomotor behavior and posture as they mature. Some take months, and others take years to reach locomotor independence from their parents. But does the change affect bone deposition in the bone? How does this change affect their bone shape? Furthermore, is there a pattern of bony changes that we can detect among different primate species of different ages? In order to answer those questions, she employs high-resolution nano-CT and behavioral data.

Evans Akangyelewon Atuick (Lambda of New York) is a third-year Ghanaian international Cultural Anthropology PhD student/Teaching Assistant at the State University of New York at Buffalo. His research interests include rights of passage, gendered power relations in African patriarchies, social dimensions of disease and illness, witchcraft, body politics, and the biopolitics of humanitarianism. Evans’ PhD research project explores how concerns about perceived threats of witchcraft – emerging in the context of misfortunes such as disease outbreaks, loss of fertility and property, sudden death and poor harvests ——shape the biopolitics of humanitarian work and politics of the body in Northern Ghana. He has successfully defended his PhD research proposal and plans to embark on fieldwork in Ghana in September 2023.

Evans Atuick of Lambda of NY conducting fieldwork.
Amanda Brock of Delta of FL conducting archaeological research. (above).

Ana Maria Garrido (Delta of FL) recipient of a cultural grant conducting field research. (below).
Amanda Brock (Delta of Florida) is an anthropological archaeologist who investigates how people make lasting relationships with transforming landscapes as a result of climate change. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the anthropology department at the University of Florida and the director of the archaeological project, "Kawsay Pacha: Dynamic Landscapes and Monumental Sites" in the Callejón de Huaylas, Peru. She is an alumna of the Fulbright Hays Fellowship program and on the executive committee for the Red de Mujeres en Arqueología Peruana (RED MAP). Through her work, she implements community-centered and community-collaborative archaeological approaches that aim to address climate change impacts on archaeological heritage sites, local landscape relationships, and the political and social tensions that arise as a result of these issues. Inspired by Jo-Ann Archibald's and Sonya Atalay's ideas on Indigenous story work—braiding knowledge, and co-production of science—she and her local collaborators aim to address climate change issues through the documentation and dissemination of landscape knowledge and by implementing virtual and accessible story mapping. The Kawsay Pacha team includes members of the community of Huaylas, undergraduate students from the Universidad Nacional Santiago Antúnez de Mayolo in Huaraz, graduate students from other United States-based universities, and Peruvian archaeologists.

Katherine Gaddis (Alpha of Nevada) was awarded one of the bioanthropology grants. Her project seeks to further develop a bioarchaeology of aging, providing a platform by which the elderly are better represented in our understanding of both past and present societies. This study proposes to do this through the incorporation of methods used in clinical epidemiology and modern public health research. The growing field of social epidemiology, in particular, shows promise for expanding upon our biocultural knowledge of health in the past. Its focus on the social determinants of health complement our understanding of how certain aspects of individual and population identities might influence health and well-being. In considering traditional, evolutionary theories of aging alongside more modern socio-cultural perspectives, we hope to build a more holistic understanding of the aging process and the lived experience of elderly adults.

Ana María Garrido (Delta of Florida) is Ph.D. in Anthropology student at the University of Florida under the advisement of Dr. Catherine Tucker. For the past 10 years, she has been working on various projects concerning socio-environmental conflicts, resource governance, and community-based conservation. Her research has focused on understanding the impacts of extractive economies, particularly gold mining, on the livelihoods of Afro-descendant communities inhabiting the Pacific Region of Colombia. Additionally, before starting her PhD she worked in the Science-Policy interface in Colombia, designing and implementing environmental policies to strengthen local initiatives for the sustainable management of natural resources. From these experiences, she developed her current research interests, which focus on understanding how global conservation agendas, coupled with national and international economic processes, intersect with the everyday politics of resource management and use and shape the cultural and symbolic meaning of human-forest interactions. Ana María is interested in con-
ducting interdisciplinary research, combining qualitative methods such as participant observation and interviews, and methodologies of economic botany, mainly ethnobotanical inventories, as complementary ways of understanding the relationship between plants and people in agroforest landscapes.

Elizabeth Leclerc (Alpha of Maine) is an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. student at the University of Maine where she is affiliated with the Department of Anthropology, School of Earth and Climate Sciences, and Climate Change Institute. She has a Master of Science in Quaternary and Climate Studies from the University of Maine and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Elizabeth’s research interests center on societies’ relationships with their environments, past and present. She is particularly interested in how people became part of their landscapes, how they created and responded to change, and how we can apply that knowledge to help communities build or improve sustainable and equitable relationships with their environments today. For her dissertation, Elizabeth is studying the impacts of Spanish colonization on Indigenous communities’ long-term adaptation to El Niño climate phenomena in north coastal Peru. Her approach is transdisciplinary and integrates archaeological, historical, and environmental data and methods. Elizabeth is building collaborative relationships with local communities to ensure the project is inclusive and responsive to community needs with the goal of improving disaster risk management and response in the region.

Elizabeth Leclerc (Alpha of ME) exposing stratigraphy at the site of Pozuelo, Peru, in a study to reconstruct the site's paleoenvironmental history (photo credit: Larissa Fawknner).
In 2023 the National Office of Lambda Alpha received applications from 7 highly qualified students for the annual $5,000 award given to a senior. This year we also awarded second place ($3,000) and third place ($2,000) scholarships. The scholarship applicants have presented papers at conferences, published papers, conducted fieldwork, and conducted research. Many of these students have also led the anthropology clubs in their departments, and been the recipients of awards, grants, and honors. Several students have had anthropological employment. Lambda Alpha National Anthropology Honor Society would like to congratulate the following scholars on their achievements as undergraduate students and thank them for applying to the annual award competition. We would also like to encourage faculty sponsors to nominate a senior for the 2024 Senior Scholarships. Application guidelines will be emailed to faulty sponsors in late January 2024.

Kayli Brielle Freeman  Western Kentucky University (Alpha of KY)
Kathleen Gruber  University of Mary Washington (Iota of VA)
Daniela Hernandez-Gil  University of Florida (Delta of FL)
Shelby Hiatt  Texas A&M University (Omicron of TX)
Michaela Schroeder  Illinois State University (Kappa of IL)
Fiona Shackleton  SUNY at Geneseo (Epsilon of NY)
Gracie Wilson  Emory University (Beta of GA)
First Place

Gracie Wilson (Beta of Georgia), graduated from Emory University this May with Highest Honors in Anthropology, with a concentration in Power, Identity, and Social Justice. Gracie’s honors project, “The Culture of College Mental Health”, began as a research project at Emory’s Oxford College with the goal of better understanding student mental health from an ethnographic approach. The project expanded as Gracie led a team of fellow undergraduate students, and continued across Emory’s two campuses once Gracie transitioned to Emory College and joined the honors program. Their findings provide insight into student mental health cultures and how student mental health is created through a series of shared values, narratives, and identities. The work has been presented at the Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference at Valdosta State University and is currently being developed for publication.

As a graduate student at the University of Chicago pursuing a PhD in Comparative Human Development, Gracie will continue to use anthropological inquiry to explore the ways in which we understand and support college students as they navigate disability, illness, and managed care across educational settings. She plans to focus her graduate research among adolescents experiencing “inflammatory constellations”—chronic illnesses not quite specified or diagnosed, placing many people in an additional layer of ambiguity and liminality as they navigate an already
tumultuous and transformative stage of emerging adulthood. She is interested in research, teaching, and university administration and policies, making a university teaching position among her postgraduate endeavors. She is also passionate about the ways anthropology can collaborate with other disciplines—namely with social work, counseling, and the clinical space—and hopes to explore these intersections as her career develops.

Second-Place
Daniela Hernandez-Gil (Delta of Florida) is a recent University of Florida graduate who majored in Anthropology and Criminology. While completing her undergraduate degree, she engaged in ethnographic research and studied how traditional modes of Latinx kinship adversely affected and influenced judicial outcomes in Juvenile Justice proceedings. Additionally, she has worked with Alachua County's Public Defender's Office and is currently working with the 8th Circuit's Legal Aid Society in an effort to increase cultural sensitivity toward Latino/x defendants and clients.

Daniela has been an active member of Lambda Alpha since 2021 and has found the community of like-minded scholars to be inspiring and supportive in her efforts to increase access to valuable cultural capital within the legal realm.
Daniela has also begun her master's degree in Latin American Studies at the University of Florida, engaging in multidisciplinary approaches in the fields of Anthropology, Criminology, and Latinx studies. She is part of the 4+1 program, in which she has started her graduate studies while completing her undergraduate degree, graduating with both her undergraduate degrees and a master's degree in 5 years. She hopes to attend law school after finishing her master's and avidly believes that implementing traditional anthropological approaches to the legal field will contribute to a more equitable justice system. Her lifelong goal is to improve access and information for disadvantaged communities, which is why she has also received the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship to study Haitian Creole.

Third place
Fiona Shackelton is a recent graduate of the Department of Anthropology at SUNY Geneseo, who earned a BA in anthropology with a minor in art history. Fiona spent two years at SUNY Geneseo, after transferring from SUNY Fredonia. She is an outstanding student, having maintained a “perfect” 4.0 GPA at both schools, and being recognized with Summa Cum Laude graduation honors, membership in Phi Beta Kappa, and our department’s Wendell Rhodes Award for Archaeology, which was presented at the annual Senior Awards Dinner. For the past two semesters Fiona has served as President of the Society for Anthropology and Sociomedical Sciences (formerly the Geneseo Anthropological Association), which is our major’s “club.” Fiona participated in the 2022 archaeology field school that we held locally at a historic site in the nearby Bristol Valley and then during the 2022-2023 academic year, Fiona parlayed her field school experience in an archival research project at the Bristol Hills Historical Society, and an internship at the Livingston County Historical Society and Museum. As a result of the archival research conducted at the Bristol Hills Historical Society, she completed a research paper that helped win this award, and which is currently under review for publication by Cornell University Press in conjunction with colleague Dr. Marie Lorraine Pipes. The opportunity to potentially publish the paper arose from Fiona’s presentation of the results at the 2023 New York State Archaeological Association’s annual conference in April. Fiona is taking a gap year and was recently hired to work as a field technician for Hudson Cultural Services, a CRM firm based in Lagrangeville, NY. Next year she will be applying to graduate schools which include Washington State University and the University of Michi-
Fiona Shackelton (center, of Epsilon of NY) with classmates at her 2022 field school. In Bristol, New York.
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<th>Chapter</th>
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2230 Chew St.  
Allentown, PA 18104  
caseymiller@ muhlenberg.edu |
Lambda 15 Alpha
Lambda Alpha Merchandise

Lambda Alpha graduation regalia items

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Southlake, TX 76092

Please send cash, money order, or check payable to Lambda Alpha
Established in 1968, the purpose of Lambda Alpha National Anthropology Honor Society is to both acknowledge and reward academic excellence. The name Lambda Alpha is composed of the initial letters of the Greek words *Logos Anthropos* (Λογος Ανθρωπος), meaning the study of humankind.

Lambda Alpha supports scholarship and research by acknowledging and honoring superior achievement in the discipline among students engaged in the study of anthropology. Superior academic performance is recognized through membership in the society. Lambda Alpha rewards academic excellence through the annual awarding of student scholarships, research grants, and student paper prizes.

For information on how to start a Lambda Alpha chapter or become a Lambda Alpha life member please see our website (laanthro.org)