

FALL/WINTER 2012

# INVENTORY

NEWS FROM THE JOUKOWSKY INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE ANCIENT WORLD

## JIAAW AS INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION

A very happy and unexpected development in recent years at the Joukowsky Institute has been the presence of several visiting international students. These are young scholars who, having received funding from their own countries or institutions, were attracted to the idea of coming to Brown and spending time in our community.

The first of these, Oscar Aldred, came from the University of Iceland in Fall 2008. Since then we have hosted Jesús Bermejo Tirado from Madrid's Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Nicholas Lamare from the Sorbonne, Manuel Sánchez-Elipse Lorente from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and Alba Serino from the University of L'Aquila (Italy). This year we will be adding Paula Falcão Argôlo from the University of São Paulo (Brazil). Their subjects of study ranged broadly, for example from Roman water management in North Africa, to Iron Age burials in Equatorial Guinea, to medieval monasteries in France and Italy, to the archaeology of children in ancient Athens.

These individuals stayed everywhere from several weeks to a full term, working side-by-side in the Graduate Studio with JIAAW students and participating fully in all activities. All

gave one of our Thursday Brown Bag seminars, and – in one term – some good sports even engaged in a series of Institute 'gym workouts' (including log-lifting on Brown's Main Green). After

people leave, they continue to stay in touch, and – in one case – Alba Serino will stay on to do an M.A. degree in the Department of History of Art and Architecture.

In a related development, the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World is one of only two selected United States destinations for scholars who receive the prestigious AIA/DAI Fellowship.

This is a joint program between the Archaeological Institute of America and the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, in which a reciprocal exchange of early career scholars takes place between Germany and America. The purpose of the fellowship program is to encourage and support scholarship of the highest quality on various aspects of archaeology and to promote contact between North

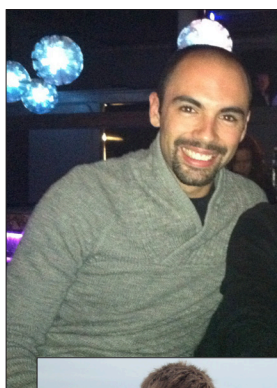
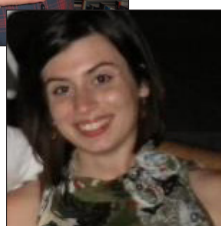
American and German archaeologists. Next year, for example, Dr. Ralf Bockmann will be at Brown, working on Christian archaeology in North Africa.

The practice of archaeology, as is well known, reflects national, ethnic and institutional differences. The long-term and engaged presence of such international visitors, therefore,

is of immense benefit in diversifying the intellectual and cultural community of the Joukowsky Institute. That said, our more 'permanent' residents are diverse as well. Of our six core faculty, one is British, one Dutch, one Turkish, one Colombian; of our four postdoctoral fellows, one is British-Ghanaian, one Greek and one Swiss-American; and of our 20 graduate students, two are British, two Canadian, two Turkish and one Maltese!

Sue Alcock

Director, Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World  
Joukowsky Family Professor of Archaeology  
Professor of Classics; Professor of Anthropology; Professor of the History of Art and Architecture



To learn more about the Joukowsky Institute, visit [www.brown.edu/joukowskyinstitute](http://www.brown.edu/joukowskyinstitute)





## INTRODUCING OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

The Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World welcomes Peter van Dommelen and Felipe Rojas to our faculty. We asked them, “What would you like *Inventory* readers to know about you, and what have you enjoyed so far about being at the Joukowsky Institute?” Below are their responses:

### Peter van Dommelen

*Joukowsky Family Professor of Archaeology and Professor of Anthropology*



Summer 2012 was all about moving: my family and I left Glasgow in early July and by the end of August we were more or less set up in Providence – just in time for the start of the semester. Meeting students and colleagues and being introduced to a multitude of Brown institutions took up the first few weeks, and I have gone from there without looking back.

The combination of teaching a graduate seminar and sitting in on the meetings with graduate students preparing their field and prelim exams has been both a steep learning curve to understand the graduate curriculum and a wonderful introduction to the quality and breadth of the work going on in the Joukowsky Institute.

My graduate seminar, *Rural Landscapes and Peasant Communities in the Mediterranean*, aimed to explore both anthropological and archaeological work on the rural Mediterranean. Looking back at the seminar, it has been a great experience, in no small part thanks to the nine grad students who took up with gusto the literature and approaches that were mostly new to them; they have been reading away and working hard to connect it all back to their own work on the ancient Mediterranean, eventually producing very different but all equally interesting personal projects.

I am now looking forward to teaching Brown undergraduates next semester. Thanks to the open curriculum, I am again able to teach a course that usually does not fit conventional syllabuses: taking my cue from Hannibal’s war against Rome, I will teach a widely ranging course on Phoenician and Punic archaeology – something I have never done before.

Because of the move this summer, fieldwork had been reduced to a mere two-week period in Sardinia in the spring. I managed nevertheless to see lots of Phoenician and Nuragic Iron Age pottery, and Andrea Roppa and I ran a successful one-day workshop on Iron Age archaeology in the village of San Vero Milis. Short as it was, the trip also served to set up a new fieldwork project that, thanks to the opportunities provided by Brown University and the Joukowsky Institute, will result in a new and exciting excavation in an Iron Age to Roman village around a large *nuraghe* in west central Sardinia.

### Felipe Rojas

*Assistant Professor of Archaeology and Ancient Western Asian Studies*



Intellectually, geographically, and chronologically, I am omnivorous. If you’re working on Roman Greece, Roman Gaul or Roman Perú, I want to learn about your weird Corinthian capitals, or the petty cultural conflicts among your unknown barbarians, or how Herodotus is to Guamán Poma de Ayala as Livy is to El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega. If you prefer plastered skulls, carved mammoth tusks, or mapping obsidian traffic in the Neolithic, I’m ready to listen and think arguments through. I also like to draw and build things and I’m trying to design courses to explore archaeological themes without always having to rely on words.

What I have enjoyed the most is learning from fellow faculty and students, both at the Joukowsky Institute and in the Department of Egyptology and Ancient Western Asian Studies. Despite the fact that I’ve been at Brown for barely over a year, the enthusiasm and generosity of the people here have informed my own attitudes towards the discipline of archaeology. If we are to think about archaeology boldly and broadly – as I think we should – and engage in dialogue with artists and anthropologists, material scientists and architects, literary historians, economists and geographers, this seems like the ideal place to do so. Perhaps then we can make – in fact, I think we are already making – the ancient world more complex, more relevant, and ultimately more exciting.

## NEW DOCTOR OF ARCHAEOLOGY

The Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World is delighted to announce the successful defense of one doctoral dissertation this winter:

### Jason Urbanus

*Settlement and Space in Northwest Iberia: Transition in the Territory of the Castros Culture during the Late Iron Age and Early Roman Period*

Dr. Urbanus’s dissertation focuses on the Roman conquest of the remote region of northwest Iberia at the end of the first millennium B.C., and its effects on the native Castros Culture.

The Iron Age Castros Culture developed gradually throughout the first millennium B.C., and is mostly characterized by the presence of “castros” – fortified, hill-top settlements consisting of roundhouses and circular structures.

The cultural “high point” of the Castros societies occurred in the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C., a period that coincided with an increased Roman presence in northwest Iberia. This era is marked by the growth of large native proto-urban settlements in which the northwest communities began adopting more Mediterranean concepts of spatial organization.



During the Augustan era, as the Romans gained control over the entirety of Iberia, the first urban centers in the northwest were founded – a key component to the Roman administration of the region. The Romans



established three strategic sites – Asturica Augusta, Lucus Augusti, and Bracara Augusta.

These foundations were the centers from which Roman culture spread throughout the northwest communities and were the first steps in a new process of Roman urbanization that continued throughout the 1st century A.D. This

process marked a transition in the built environment of the native landscape, where the traditional spatial concepts of the castro and the roundhouse were eventually replaced by the Roman town and the Mediterranean atrium house.

Dr. Urbanus successfully defended his dissertation on Friday, December 7th.



## CORE FACULTY AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Susan E. Alcock  
Director, Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology  
Joukowsky Family Professor of Archaeology  
Professor of Classics; Professor of Anthropology;  
Professor of the History of Art and Architecture

James P. Allen  
Wilbour Chair and Professor of Egyptology &  
Ancient Western Asian Studies

Laurel Bestock  
Assistant Professor of Archaeology and  
Egyptology & Ancient Western Asian Studies

John Bodel  
W. Duncan MacMillan II Professor of Classics and  
Professor of History

Sheila Bonde  
Professor of History of Art and Architecture,  
Professor of Archaeology

John F. Cherry  
Joukowsky Family Professor of Archaeology  
Professor of Classics and Anthropology

Rachel Ama Asaa Engmann  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Archaeology and Cultural  
Heritage

Sylvian Fachard  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Archaeology

Ömür Harmansah  
Assistant Professor of Archaeology and  
Egyptology & Ancient Western Asian Studies

Susan Ashbrook Harvey  
Chair and Willard Prescott and Annie McClelland  
Smith Professor of Religious Studies

Stephen D. Houston  
Dupee Family Professor of Social Science  
Professor of Archaeology

Fotini Kondyli  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Archaeology

Steven Lubar  
Director, John Nicholas Brown Center for Public  
Humanities and Cultural Heritage; Professor,  
Departments of American Civilization and History

Jennifer Meanwell  
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Archaeology and  
Engineering

Rebecca Molholt  
Assistant Professor of History of Art & Architecture  
and Archaeology

Suzanne Pilaar Birch  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Archaeology

Felipe Rojas  
Assistant Professor of Archaeology and  
Egyptology & Ancient Western Asian Studies

Krysta Ryzewski  
Visiting Scholar in Archaeology

Andrew Scherer  
Assistant Professor of Anthropology and  
Archaeology

Christopher Tuttle  
Visiting Scholar in Archaeology

Peter van Dommelen  
Joukowsky Family Professor of Archaeology  
Professor of Anthropology

### 300: The Fifth Anniversary Spectacular Celebration of See the Movie... Then Think About It

Five years ago, Sue Alcock noticed that the students in her *Roman Archaeology and Art* class were asking a lot of questions about the Battle of Thermopylae. It didn’t take her long to recognize the students’ enthusiasm was based on their recent, and repeated, viewing of the movie *300*. The opportunity to engage the students in an examination of the film’s basis – or lack thereof – in history was too tempting to pass up. Thus, “See the Movie... Then Think About It” was born.

Since that Fall, the Joukowsky Institute has showed a blockbuster film with an archaeological or ancient world connection each semester, then asked four or five Brown professors to discuss any aspect of the film they feel merits further attention. *300* prompted Keith Brown to examine the role of the Spartans in the shared imagination of the US Marine Corps. *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* inspired Matt Guttman to compose a poem about masculinity. The Director of Hasbro’s Creative Services and Studios, Terry Scott, shared insider information about the making of *Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen*. And *Year One* sparked a discussion of the foundations of monotheistic world religions. Each movie has played to a packed audience – most of whom remain enthusiastically in their seats even as the movies’ credits roll, waiting to hear the faculty commentaries and to discuss the film they have just seen.

In recognition of the lively series it helped to inspire, the Joukowsky Institute chose to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the “See the Movie...” series by showing *300* again on September 26th – almost exactly five years after its first Brown screening. Commentators this time included Brown University’s President Christina Paxson, as well as Professors Alcock, Beshara Doumani, Sylvian Fachard, Johanna Hanink, and Nancy Khalek. As has become the norm, the house was packed, the popcorn plentiful, and the discussion lively.



## BEFORE *MARE NOSTRUM*

This fall the Joukowsky Institute and Brown University's Office of International Affairs sponsored an international colloquium called "Before *Mare Nostrum*: Current Issues in Mediterranean Prehistory." The series was co-organized by Clive Vella, Tom Leppard, Müge Durusu-Tanrıöver, and Alex Knodell, and was scheduled to run concurrently with ARCH 2240: *Key Issues in Mediterranean Prehistory*, a graduate seminar taught by John Cherry.

The Mediterranean as a field of study has become fashionable in the humanities and social sciences. Yet the best-known studies of the "Middle Sea" have been limited to later periods, usually focusing on the Greek settlements sitting around its shores like "frogs round a pond" or the corralling of the basin's far-flung corners into what the Romans knew as *mare nostrum* – our sea. This colloquium aimed to push such large-scale research projects back before *mare nostrum*, attempting to see if a prehistory of, rather than in, the Mediterranean can be viewed as a coherent field.

The organizers brought together leading and senior scholars, whose regional interests, taken together, cover the huge temporal and spatial swath of Mediterranean prehistory. Speaker visits consisted of informal seminars for JIAAW



students and faculty, as well as public lectures. We heard from Curtis Runnels on major issues in the Paleolithic of the Mediterranean and his recent fieldwork in Crete; Bernard Knapp on Cyprus, the eastern Mediterranean, and themes of materiality, identity, and connectivity; and Bob Chapman on the "peripheries" of Mediterranean prehistory (North Africa and the western Mediterranean) and his work in Iberia. The seminar series was rounded out nicely on December 17 by a visit from Cyprian Broodbank, whose recent research has been grappling with these very challenges of writing a prehistory of the Mediterranean as a whole.



The series was a great success in presenting the cutting-edge of Mediterranean prehistory, with each lecture and seminar proving engaging and thought provoking for students and faculty at the JIAAW, as well as the larger archaeological community

of New England. The four organizers are extremely grateful to everyone who made this possible.

