

2019 SCCM, Louisiana State University

Organized by Heather McKillop, Rachel Watson, and Valerie Feathers

Friday October 18 - Sunday October 20, 2019

Presentations will be held in [Howe-Russell-Kniffen Geoscience Complex](#) (new building opposite the LSU Student Union). Registration will be in the foyer of the building.

Each talk is allocated 15 minutes, consisting of the oral presentation of 12 minutes and time for a question and change of speakers).

Summary Information:

Friday: Talks noon-5pm. Key-note speaker (Dr. Lisa LeCount) at 5:30pm, with a reception following.

Saturday: Talks 9am-noon and 2pm to 5pm. Key-Note Speaker (Dr. Thomas Garrison) at 5:30pm, with a reception following.

Sunday: Talks 9am-noon. Tour of the LSU Indian Mounds in the afternoon (see sign-up sheet at Registration).

Detailed Schedule:

Friday October, 18

Presentations will be held in Howe-Russell E130

11:00 Registration and Silent Auction Open, in the Foyer to Howe-Russell

12:00 Opening Remarks

12:15 Orthographies (writing systems) for Modern Mayan Languages

Mary Jill Brody (Louisiana State University)

12:30 **Wood You Belize It**

Dwayne Hinton (Louisiana State University)

12:45 **The River of Gold and the Flow of Power**

Katherine Schumann (Dallas Museum of Art)

1:00 **Some Like it Chaud, Some Like it Caliente: Connecting Louisiana and Mesoamerica Through Tabasco!**

Corey David Hotard (South Louisiana Community College)

1:15 **The Rise and Fall of a Maya Noble House: Investigations in the Chok Group, El Perú-Waka', Guatemala**

Keith Eppich (TJC—The College of East Texas)

1:30 **The Maya Agricultural Cycle**

D. M. Urquidi (Independent Scholar)

1:45 **Caves and Consistency: Amate Paper Codices from the 1970s**

Zach Lindsey (Texas State University)

2:00 **Coffee Break**

2:30 **Do Kings Matter? Shifting Royal and Non-Royal Households at the Ancient Site of La Sufricaya**

Alexandre Tokovinine (University of Alabama)

2:45 **Archaeological Looting in Belize: Exploring Solutions, Challenges, and Amendments**

Irene Martí Gil (Louisiana State University)

**3:00 Broken Terminal Early and Middle Preclassic Figures from El, Petén
Guatemala: Evidence of Fragmentation Theory?**

Leslie G. Cecil and Prudence M. Rice (Stephen F. Austin State University)

**3:15 Rise and Fall of Textile Mills in Tlaxcala, Mexico, from XIX Century to the
Present**

Gonzalo Yanes-Diaz (El Colegio de Tlaxcala, A.C.)

**3:30 Hidden Faces in Public Places: Connecting Images from Ballgame
Accouterments to the Iconographic Program at El Tajín**

Cierra Frances Linander (Lone Star College & University of Houston)

**3:45 Exploring Pre-Columbian Turkey Remains (*Meleagris cf gallopavo*) in the Gran
Nicoya Area, Costa Rica**

Susan Monge (University of Illinois at Chicago)

4:00 Late Postclassic Mixtec Religion of Coastal Oaxaca

Arron F. Ott (University of Central Florida)

4:15 Carl O. Sauer's "Berkeley School" and Mesoamerican Research: A Brief History

Kent Matthewson (Louisiana State University)

4:30 Break

**5:30 Keynote Address: The Role of Collective Action in Land Tenure Systems at the
Ancient Maya Site of Actuncan, Belize**

Lisa LeCount, Professor (University of Alabama)

I suggest that collective action played an important role in the established of property rights and land tenure systems at the Maya site of Actuncan, Belize. This interpretation is based on settlement patterns in the urban core of the site that were reconstructed through

both excavation and remote sensing programs. Excavations into patio-focused groups provide data to reconstruct residential histories and the timing for the founding of the political center in the Terminal Preclassic (B.C. 100 to A.D. 300). A gradiometer survey and ground-truthing testing program correlate two types of magnetic signatures to buried residential platforms and non-domestic constructions including agricultural features and craft-activity work areas. Combined, these research programs provide a more complete assessment of houselot organization and improvements, as well as how the nature of property changed from the center's founding to the Terminal Classic period (A.D. 780 to 900). Spatial analyses document that houselots did not cluster through time; however, they became smaller and more improved in the Classic period lending evidence to suggest a communal land system with increasing privatization. Both community and polity institutions were involved in community affairs given access patterns to administrative architecture in the civic core and in the settlement.

6:30 pm **Reception in the Atrium of Howe-Russell**

Saturday October, 19

Presentations will be held in Howe-Russell E130

8:00 **Registration and Silent Auction Open**

9:00 **Orthographic Conventions in Mayan Writing: Problems with Disharmony, Morphosyllables, and More Plausible Alternatives**

David F. Mora-Marín (University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill)

9:15 **Determination of Sex Ratios from Midnight Terror Cave, A Commingle Skeletal Deposit**

Erika McMullin (California State University, Los Angeles)

9:30 **Analyzing Vertebral Osteoarthritis in Maya Sacrificial Victims**

Amy Chan (California State University, Los Angeles)

9:45 **Digital Dilemmas: Assessing the Accuracy of Digital Biodistance Measures from the Tipu Collection**

Amy Hair (The University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Science and Global Studies)

10:00 Stature in Ancient Mesoamerica

Marie Danforth, Jaime Thomas, and Peter Mercier (University of Southern Mississippi)

10:15 Ancient Zapotec Tiles at the Saint Louis Art Museum

Amy Clark (Saint Louis Art Museum)

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 A View of the Sea Floor at Ta'ab Nuk Nah, Belize

Heather McKillop (Louisiana State University)

11:15 Identification of Activities Using Sediment Chemistry at Ta'ab Nuk Na, an Ancient Maya Salt Work

Cory E Sills (University of Texas at Tyler), Heather McKillop (Louisiana State University), and Cher Foster (Louisiana State University)

11:30 Excavation of the J-Line at Ta'ab Nuk Nah, Paynes Creek Salt Works, Belize

Cheryl M. Foster (Louisiana State University), Heather McKillop (Louisiana State University), and Cory Sills (University of Texas at Tyler)

11:45 What the Magnetic Susceptibility and Stratigraphy of the Witz Naab and Killer Bee Mounds Reveal About Ancient Maya Salt Production

Rachel Watson (Louisiana State Division of Archaeology) and Heather McKillop (Louisiana State University)

12:00- 2:00 Lunch Break

2:00 Ritual Lithic Deposits: Preclassic Precursors to Classic Period Traditions

Rachel A. Horowitz (Appalachian State University), Kathryn M. Brown, Jason Yaeger, and Bernadette Cap (University of Texas at San Antonio)

2:15 Marketplace Exchange of Spindle Whorls at the Classic Maya Site of Xunantunich, Belize

Bernadette Cap (University of Texas at San Antonio)

2:30 Recent Investigations of a Preclassic E Group at Las Ruinas de Arenal, Belize

Kathryn M. Brown (University of Texas at San Antonio) Rachel A. Horowitz (Appalachian

State University)

2:45 Recovering Preclassic Activity from the E-Group Plaza of Actuncan

Borislava Simova (Tulane University)

3:00 A Late Preclassic Ballcourt at the Maya Site of Las Ruinas de Arenal, Belize

David Burns (University of Texas at San Antonio)

3:15 A Summary of Ongoing Excavations at the Site of Tz'unun

Hollie Lincoln (Louisiana State University), Rianna Bowen, Joshua Kwoka, Carlos Quiroz, Alex Pastrana, Kevin Austin, Thomas Ruhl, Greg Savoie, and Thomas Guderjan (Maya Research Program)

3:30 Coffee Break

4:00 The Morphology of Mesoamerican Pilgrimage

Garrett Cook (Baylor University)

4:15 Reconsidering the Role of the Copan Polity in the Ixtepeque Obsidian Exchange Sphere

Erlend M Johnson (Tulane University)

4:30 A Maya Pyrite Mosaic Mirror from a Royal Tomb at Buenavista del Cayo, Belize

Jason Yaeger (University of Texas at San Antonio)

4:45 Silent Auction Winners Announced

5:00 Break

5:30 Keynote Address: Re-Imagining the Ancient Maya Landscape: Lidar's Lessons and Limits in 21st Century Settlement Archaeology

Thomas Garrison, Assistant Professor (Ithaca College, New York)

It has been a decade since the first lidar images at Caracol sent shock waves through Maya archaeology. Since that time, developments in instruments, data collection, and ground-truthing methods have transformed regional perspectives on lowland Maya civilization. This paper focuses on the landscape of the Buenavista Valley, a natural corridor connecting to the great city of Tikal to the western Maya Lowlands, and inclusive of the ancient kingdom of El Zotz. Data from the Pacunam Lidar Initiative (PLI) have transformed our understanding of regional developments in the valley, revealing seismic changes, conflict, and the strategic construction of landesque capital. While lidar has undoubtedly forever altered our perspectives of this region, ground-truthing efforts suggest that our knowledge is imperfect and we must continue to test the limits of new technologies even as they revolutionize our field.

6:30 pm Reception to follow in Howe-Russell Atrium

Sunday October, 20

Presentations will be held in Howe-Russell E130

8:00 Registration Opens

9:00 Ritual Termination of Balamkú at Chichen Itza

James E. Brady and Melanie Saldaña (California State University, Los Angeles)

9:15 Recontextualizing the Osario Infantil at Chichen Itza

Christina Iglesias and Michael Prout (California State University, Los Angeles)

9:30 Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Sascaberas

Brian Waldo, Wendy Layco, Neil Kohanski, and James E. Brady (California State University, Los Angeles)

9:45 How Ancient People Responded to the Eruption of the Ilopango Volcano: Monumental

Architecture and Volcanic Activities in the Zapotitán Valley, El Salvador

Akira Ichikawa (University of Colorado at Boulder)

10:00 Coffee Break

10:30 Assessing Surface Correspondence of Maya Figurines and Molds Using Multi-line Laser Technology and Metrology

Terry Winemiller and Virginia Ochoa-Winemiller (Auburn University, Auburn University Montgomery)

10:45 Reconstructing Ancient Lives Using 3D Technology: A Case Study of Pork and Doughboy Point, Belize

Jane Fiegel (Xavier University of Louisiana)

11:00 The Underestimated Power of Ancient Maya Women

Brandy Nicole Kerr (Louisiana State University)

11:15 Pots Marching Through Time: A Clay-Sourcing Petrographic Pilot Study of Ceramics from Sitio Conte, Panama, and Evidence for Local Production Versus Long-Distance Trade

Monica Fenton (Louisiana State University)