

Editors' Note

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On September 15, 1915, the University of Arizona officially established the Department of Archaeology with Dr. Byron Cummings as acting director. Exactly one century later, we celebrate the centennial anniversary of this department, which is now the School of Anthropology (SOA), at the University of Arizona. In order to commemorate this historic occasion, the staff at the *Arizona Anthropologist* have compiled this issue to honor the past 100 years of professors, mentors, and students who have graced this department.

In this special Centennial Edition, contributors tell the stories of this department's past. To a large extent, these accounts stem directly from firsthand knowledge and experience. As the earliest years of the department extend somewhat beyond living memory, the staff of the *Arizona Anthropologist* did extensive archival research in the SOA Archives, the Arizona State Museum Archives, and the University Special Collections Library. Archival photos, ephemera and other records are re-printed here as means of engaging with this department's earliest history, and also to add color and historic perspective to the other contributions in this volume. We, the issue editors, are after all archaeologists: we love playing with the material culture of the past. The result is a multi-media historical document, one that we hope will serve as a resource to former, current, and future members of the University of Arizona anthropological community to understand their place in the context of this institution's past and future.

The first article is about the history of the graduate student journal, the *Arizona Anthropologist*, and how it started as a "breezy" semesterly newsletter for the department, called the *Atlatl*. Reprints of the *Atlatl* are interspersed throughout this issue, recording the monumental and mundane lives, personalities, and interests of anthropology students and faculty in its early years.

Several contributors wrote memorials on behalf of the individuals who molded and shaped their own lives, as well as the development of the department as a whole. These figures include Walter H. Birkby,

Bryon Cummings, Emil Haury, Harry T. Getty, William Kelly, William L. Rathje, and Edward Spicer, to name a few. Other contributors recall their own undergraduate, graduate, and career experiences at the School of Anthropology. In addition, this issue includes Dr. Raymond Thompson's compiled directory of every participant of all School of Anthropology archaeological field schools since the inception of this department. This record is significant, and forms an important part of this issue's attempts to include and celebrate the expansive community that has formed around UA Anthropology over the last century. The cover image paints a visual portrait of this community network, with graphics obtained from the Centennial Connections Project. The project's graduate researcher, Nicole Mathwich, discusses this image and the project as a whole in her contribution to this issue.

At this point, it is necessary to return to Dr. Thompson. In addition to his field school directory, he also contributed two other historical articles. We are extremely grateful to him for his enthusiasm and cheery availability for advice and editorial review at every turn as we compiled this issue. For this, as well as his lifetime of service to this department, this issue is dedicated to him.

We would also like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to all of the contributors who made this issue possible. Further, many individuals helped us in collecting various archival photographs and documents, especially Amy Rule and Jannelle Weakly at the Arizona State Museum, Trent Purdey, Roger Myers and Robert Diaz at the University of Arizona Special Collections, and Dr. Daniela Triadan and Norma Maynard at the School of Anthropology. We would also like to thank Shachaf Polakow for his photography expertise.

Finally, we made an effort to be as inclusive as possible in compiling this record and benefited greatly from the advice and support of the many people who lent their knowledge and time in assisting us. However, limits of time, pages, budget, and our own relatively short institutional memories mean that not everyone who is deserving makes an appearance in these pages. These exclusions are inadvertent, and are the sole responsibility of the editors, as are any informational inaccuracies and flaws.

All this being said, we were honored to be a part of the centennial anniversary celebrations, and we hope this issue reflects that. It has been two years and untold late nights in the making. We are very proud of the result, and sincerely hope you find it enjoyable.