

## SARAH E. JACKSON, PH.D.

*Divisional Dean and Anthropological Researcher at a Public, Urban, Research I University*

College of Arts and Science  
Office of the Dean  
University of Cincinnati  
P.O. Box 210367  
Cincinnati OH 45221-0367

### EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Anthropology (Archaeology), Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
Master of Arts, Anthropology (Archaeology), Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology (Archaeology), *summa cum laude*, Harvard University, Cambridge MA

### ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

*Divisional Dean for Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Cincinnati* 2020-present

Context: The *College of Arts and Sciences* includes 21 academic units, 7500 undergraduate majors, 750 graduate students, 450 full-time faculty, and 140 staff members. The College is served by three divisional deans, an associate dean for inclusive excellence, and a dean, who work collaboratively. The *Social Sciences division* includes 7 units (Departments of: Africana Studies, Anthropology, Journalism, Sociology, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Schools of: Communication, Film, and Media Studies, Public and International Affairs), 13 bachelor's degree programs, 6 master's programs, 3 PhD programs, 90 full-time faculty, 1400 undergraduate majors, and 125 master's and PhD students.

Responsibilities: *Associate Dean-level role.* Provide dual-directional support to Social Science departments (Heads, faculty, staff, students) and to College's and Dean's priorities. Lead on regular academic processes and needs for divisional departments, including reappointment/tenure, enrollment management, adjunct budgets, hiring plans, personnel issues. Lead on specific cross-divisional projects.

#### Achievements:

- Facilitated conversations amongst diverse stakeholders in order to advance faculty-led cross-disciplinary initiatives leading to schools (3 separate initiatives); worked on translating existing administrative processes to school structures and supporting faculty/departments that have chosen to transition to schools;
- Collaborated with Dean's Office team to clarify, codify, and communicate regular processes for faculty and staff, including Head searches, faculty-initiated movement of their departmental appointments, assignment and deployment of staff within "cluster" structures, certificate directorships, review of DEI codes for gen ed courses;
- Supported and elevated research/creative priorities of Social Sciences and Humanities faculty through coordinated activities in response to faculty needs and desires (including peer grant mentoring, cross-disciplinary work-in-progress conversations, targeted incentives/support for completion of projects)
- Co-developed alt-ac careers course for grad students in Humanities and Social Sciences disciplines;
- Led committee for examination of administrative/service roles and associated compensation throughout college in order to regularize recognition of positions and more securely situate cross-disciplinary programs and positions; oversaw implementation of these changes;
- Supported and coordinated conversations related to Social Justice initiatives (teaching, research, service) across the college;
- Initiated and participated in regular conversations with faculty, staff, and students in order to learn about needs and concerns of programs and individuals, find places of intersection with existing opportunities, and collaboratively trouble-shoot areas of difficulty.

*Department Head, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati*

2017-2020

Context: The *Department of Anthropology* consists of two BA programs, a MA program, and a minor, with 12 faculty members, 100 undergraduate majors, 10 graduate students, and 3 staff members (shared).

Responsibilities: Support and facilitate the success of faculty, students, and staff in all areas of the department's mission; collaborate with other departments on research and teaching initiatives; interface with the Dean's Office to advocate for departmental needs, and align with and advance college priorities.

Achievements:

- Facilitated departmental conversations about departmental strengths in order to define forward-looking research clusters and leverage disparate faculty foci (Categories, Knowledge, and Justice; Environment, Power and Adaptation);
- Led revision of departmental RPT document to make criteria more inclusive and recognize a wider range of scholarly outputs;
- Developed process for annual departmental collaborative goal-setting/prioritization;
- Refined and continued implementation of service equity project (see below);
- Collaborated with departmental Business Manager in order to strategically sustain departmental needs and initiatives during time of reduced general funds allocation from the college;
- Collaborated with Director of Undergraduate Studies on streamlining course planning process to increase enrollments and more equitably assign teaching;
- Collaborated with Dept. of Biological Sciences for approval and recruitment of a joint hire;
- Opened dialogues with wide range of departmental stakeholders via regular, informal low-stakes events to strengthen inclusive departmental community and to hear stakeholder ideas and concerns.

*Assistant Head, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati*

2015-2016,

Responsibilities: Assisted Department Head in duties related to functioning of department; 2017-2018 led special projects.

Achievement: Developed and implemented departmental service equity project: documented both official and unofficial service work, facilitated department conversation about service assignments, analyzed historical data on faculty service assignments (including by rank and gender), and shared data that allowed for group commitment to and ongoing re-evaluation of equitable service assignments.

*Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati*

2010-2012

Responsibilities: Advised and provided individual programmatic guidance for all majors and minors (~100 students) in Anthropology and Archaeology degrees; represented the department in curricular and program conversations in Undergraduate Council and beyond; facilitated submission and approval of new courses; collaborated with Head on course schedule planning.

Achievement: Prepared and transitioned departmental majors and minors from quarter to semester system, with individual advising and academic plan documents for each student.

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati	2020-present
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati	2015-2020
Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati	2009-2015
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati	2008-2009
Affiliate faculty, Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Department of Romance and Arabic Languages and Literatures, University of Cincinnati	ongoing
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto	2006-2008
Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of New Hampshire	2005-2006

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Accepted and in press* Bodies, Bones, and the Dead: Representations and Cross-Category Connections in Classic Maya Iconography. In *From Individual Bodies to Bodies of Social Theory: Exploring Ontologies of the Americas*, edited by Gordon Rakita and Nené Lozada. University of Florida Press.
- Accepted and in press* La ciudad habitada por personas no humanas: Objetos como miembros de la orden social de los Mayas Clásicos. M. T. Urriarte Castañeda, A. Velázquez, A. Ciudad Ruiz, eds. *VIII Mesa Redonda Palenque*. Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico D.F.
- Under contract and in preparation* *Exploring Material Culture: People and Their Things*. (Book MS.) Routledge.
- Under contract and in preparation* *Crafting as World Making: Relationality, Language, and Knowledge Sharing*. (Edited volume; co-edited with Uzma Rizvi). Berghahn Books.
- 2020 Data-Informed Tools for Archaeological Reflexivity: Examining the Substance of Bone through a Meta-Analysis of Archaeological Texts. *Internet Archaeology* 55. <https://doi.org/10.11141/ia.55.12> First author; co-authored with C. Richissin, E. McCabe, J. J. Lee.
- 2020 Hieroglyphic Texting: Ideologies and Practices of Classic Maya Written Evidence. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal*. doi:10.1017/S0959774320000141
- 2019 Countermapping the Past: Reenvisioning Ancient Maya Spaces at Say Kah, Belize. *Norwegian Archaeological Review* 52(2):109-136. First author; co-authored with J. Wright and L.A. Brown. (Chosen as featured "Discussion" article for its broad interest; see next entry below.)
- 2019 'All Those Rocks....Were Talking to Each Other': Three Scenes of Archaeologists at Work. *Norwegian Archaeological Review* 52(2):142-147. First author; co-authored with J. Wright and L.A. Brown. (Reply to published comments by other scholars; see previous entry).
- 2019 Rethinking Resources at Say Kah, Belize. In *From the Early Formative to the Postclassic in Central Belize: Challenges to the Narratives of Ancient Maya Civilization*. J. Morris, M. Badillo, and G. Thompson, eds. Pp. 257-270. Institute of Archaeology, Belmopan, Belize. First author; co-authored with L.A. Brown.
- 2019 Water and Ancestors: Tangible and Intangible Resources at Say Kah, Belize. *Mexicon* XLI:11-20. First author; co-authored with L.A. Brown.
- 2019 Facing Objects: An Investigation of Non-Human Personhood in Ancient Maya Contexts. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 30(1):31-44.
- 2017 Envisioning Artifacts: A Classic Maya View of the Archaeological Record. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 24(2):579-610.
- 2016 Pushing the Paperless Envelope: Digital Recording and Innovative Ways of Seeing at a Classic Maya Site. *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 4(2):176-191. First author; co-authored with C. Motz and L. Brown.
- 2015 Governing Polities: Royal Courts and the Written Landscape of Late Classic Maya Politics. In *Maya Politics of the Southern Lowlands: Integration, Interaction, Dissolution*. D. Marken and J. Fitzsimmons, eds. Pp. 243-263. University Press of Colorado, Boulder.
- 2014 Domestication and Liberation: How We Relate to Our Data, and What it Means for Understanding the Maya. *Reviews in Anthropology* 43(2):111-134.
- 2014 The Work of Monuments: Reflections on Spatial, Temporal, and Social Orientations in Mongolia and the Maya Lowlands. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 24(1):117-140. First author; co-authored with J. Wright.
- 2013 Writing as Material Technology: Orientation within Landscapes of the Classic Maya World. In *Writing as Material Practice: Substance, Surface, and Medium*. K. Piquette and R. Whitehouse, eds. Pp. 45-63. Ubiquity Press, London.
- 2013 *Politics of the Maya Court: Hierarchy and Change in the Late Classic Period*. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.
- 2011 Continuity and Change in Early Colonial Maya Community Governance: A Lexical Perspective. *Ethnohistory* 58(4):683-726.
- 2009 Imagining Courtly Communities: An Exploration of Classic Maya Experiences of Status and Identity through Painted Ceramic Vessels. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 20:71-85.

- 2001 The *Aj K'uhun* Title: Deciphering a Classic Maya Term of Rank. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 12:217-228.  
First author; co-authored with D. Stuart.

#### **SELECTED EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING (AS PI)**

- 2019 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Conference/Workshop Grant (U. Rizvi, co-PI)  
2019 Rust Family Foundation, Archaeology Grant (L. Brown, co-PI)  
2018 Curtiss T. and Mary G. Brennan Foundation, Field Research Grant (L. Brown, co-PI)  
2017 National Geographic Society, Committee for Research and Exploration Grant (L. Brown, co-PI)  
2017 American Philosophical Society, Franklin Research Grant (L. Brown, co-PI)  
2015 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Post-PhD Research Grant (L. Brown, co-PI)  
2015 National Geographic Society/Waitt Foundation Grant (L. Brown, co-PI)

#### **SELECTED INVITED TALKS**

- 2018 "Hieroglyphic Texting: Ideologies and Practices of Written Evidence in Classic Maya Epigraphic Landscapes." Borghesi-Mellon Seminar on Epigraphic Landscapes, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison.  
2017 "La ciudad habitada por personas no humanas: objetos como miembros de la orden social de los Mayas Clásicos." VIII Mesa Redonda de Palenque. Palenque, Chiapas, Mexico.  
2014 "Courtly Intrigues: Envisioning Classic Maya Political Communities." Student Anthropology Society, Department of Anthropology, Northern Kentucky University.  
2013 "Reconstructing a Cultural Model of Materiality: Investigations of Classic Maya Objects and Identities." Taft Research Center Annual Symposium, University of Cincinnati.  
2013 "Classic Maya Politicking: Perspectives from Three Monuments." Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C.  
2012 "Politics in the Court: Hierarchy and Change among the Late Classic Maya." Dickson Memorial Lecture Series, Department of Art History, Pennsylvania State University,

#### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- 2019 "Crafting Human/Hieroglyph Relationships in Classic Maya Contexts." Paper presented at SAA meeting, Albuquerque.  
2018 "Ancestors, Water, and Memory: Rethinking Rank and Resources at Say Kah, Belize." With L. Brown. Paper presented at Belize Archaeology Symposium, San Ignacio, BZ.  
2018 "Contrasting Cartographies: Mapping a Maya Site using Multiple Perspectives." With J. Wright. Paper presented at SAA meeting, Washington, D.C.  
2017 "The Emic, the Etic and the Electronic: Digital Documentation in Northwestern Belize." With L. Brown, B. Houk. Paper presented at SAA meeting, Vancouver.  
2016 "Categories, Space, and New Perspectives in a Late Classic Maya Community." With J. Wright, C. Motz, L. Brown. Paper presented at SAA meeting, Orlando.  
2015 "Human-object Relationships in Classic Maya Contexts: Object Technologies, Political Participants, and Cultural Infrastructures." Paper presented at SAA meeting, San Francisco.  
2015 "Past/Present Tensions in an Archaeological Design Thing: Rethinking Spaces of Alliance and Interaction at a Classic Maya Site." Paper presented at the Research Network for Design Anthropology research seminar meeting, Aarhus University, Denmark.

#### **FIELDWORK AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

Current: Say Kah Archaeological Project (co-director), Programme for Belize, Belize (current); Previous: Proyecto Arqueológico Cancun (researcher), Petén, Guatemala; Proyecto Arqueológico Piedras Negras (researcher), Petén, Guatemala; Peabody Museum (research assistant), Cambridge, MA.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Archaeology; Introduction to Physical Anthropology; Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology; Anthropology of Hipsters (co-taught); Identities and Material Culture; Maya Prehistory; Royal Courts of the Ancient New World; Archaeological Method and Theory; Archaeological Theory; Field Archaeology: Mesoamerica; Public Careers in the Humanities and Social Sciences (co-taught); Public Careers in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

*Master's Thesis Committees:* 20 (primary advisor for 6; committee member for 14)

*PhD Dissertation Committees:* 5 (committee member; Anthropology does not offer a PhD at UC)

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

### SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer for scholarly journals (*Advances in Archaeological Practice, American Anthropologist, Ancient Mesoamerica, Cambridge Archaeological Journal, Estudios de Cultura Maya, Ethnohistory, Geoarchaeology, Heritage, Journal of Anthropological Archaeology, Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, Journal of Archaeological Research, Journal of Field Archaeology, Latin American Antiquity, Material Religion: The Journal of Objects, Art, and Belief, Open Archaeology*)

Reviewer for scholarly presses (Cambridge University Press, University of Oklahoma Press, University Press of Colorado)

Grant reviewer for National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada), Narodowe Centrum Nauki (National Science Center, Poland)

External tenure reviewer (Texas Tech University, College of Wooster) 2020, 2017

Member, Book Award Committee, Society for American Archaeology 2017-2020

### AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

#### University

Member, Associate Deans for Research Committee 2022-present

Member, University Graduate Council 2020-present

Representative, Research Advisory Board 2020-2022

Member, Museum Studies Faculty Advisory Council, DAAP 2019-2020

Chair, Taft Research Group Selection Committee 2019

Discussant, Social Innovation, Social Justice: Rethinking Design Anthropology Conference, University of Cincinnati 2018

Member, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Advisory Board 2015-2016

Presenter, Irate 8 Teach-in 2015

#### College

Representative, Faculty Senate 2020-present

Chair, Department of Sociology Head Search Committee 2020

Member, Academic Program Review committee 2018-2020

Member, Latin American Studies Committee/Latin American Studies Council 2008-2020

Member, College RPT Committee (A&S) 2015-2016

Member, Instructional Innovation Advisory Council 2015-2016

Member, Taft Research Center Executive Board 2013-2016

Member, Advisory Council of Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CET&L) 2010-2016

#### Department

Member, External Relations Committee 2017-2018

Presenter, Race after Charlottesville Teach-in 2017

Member, Curriculum Committee, Department of Anthropology 2013-2015

Member, Anthropology Head Search Committee 2015

#### **SELECTED EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND CONNECTIVE ACTIVITIES**

- 2022 Guest presenter for elementary school class studying cultures of the ancient Americas, Seven Hills School, Cincinnati OH
- 2021 “Royal Courts, Hierarchy, and Change: Monumental Perspectives on the Classic Maya Political Community.” Archaeological Institute of America talk, Westchester NY (via Zoom). (Invited AIA Lecturer)
- 2021 Unexpected Happiness in Virtual Spaces. *anthro{dendum}* Co-authored with Zoe Crossland, Celine Gillot, Praveena Gullapalli, Sven Haakanson, Christina Halperin, George Lau, Uzma Rizvi, Kisha Supernant, Dawn Wambold, and Joshua Wright. <https://anthrodendum.org/2021/01/27/unexpected-happiness-in-virtual-spaces/>
- 2019-21 Collaborator and content creator for Cincinnati Museum Center exhibit *Maya: The Exhibition* and associated educational activities
- 2019 “Classic Maya Material Meanings.” Archaeological Institute of America talk at Randolph College, Lynchburg VA. (Invited AIA Lecturer)
- 2019 A Rock, a Human, a Tree: All were Persons to the Classic Maya. *AEON* <https://aeon.co/ideas/a-rock-a-human-a-tree-all-were-persons-to-the-classic-maya>
- 2017 “Culture as Casualty: Conversations in Classics.” With Holly McGee and Marion Kruse. Taft Research Center, University of Cincinnati.
- 2013 “Ancient Maya Politics: The Royal Court, its Members, and how they Transformed Classic Period Governance.” Presentation at the Cincinnati Museum Center.

#### **SELECTED RECENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

- 2022 Beyond the Ivory Tower workshop (Templeton Foundation supported training for academics writing for broader audiences) alum
- 2021-22 HERS (Higher Education Resource Services) Leadership Institute alum