



DEPARTMENT OF  
**GEOGRAPHY**

College of Arts and Sciences

# Geography Newsletter

November 2022

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## Fall Happenings

Fall weather has finally arrived in Stillwater, just in time as the Thanksgiving holiday (and OSU Fall Break) is upon us next week! Here are some things that have happened since the last newsletter, way back in September '22...

On October 19, PhD student (now candidate) **Fernanda Ramírez Sáenz** successfully defended her dissertation proposal titled “Geographical, social, and environmental factors associated with the health of Oklahoma residents during the Covid-19 pandemic: An assessment of accessibility to health resources and health equity.” Her advisor is **Dr. Jon Comer**.

The department hosted a reception on November 2 to highlight the undergraduate programs available. Thanks to the faculty and staff who helped with arrangements and were on hand to meet with prospective majors.

On Thursday, November 10, MS student **Stephanie Grace** successfully defended her creative component titled “Designing a Water Sustainability Course for Secondary Education.” Her advisor is **Dr. Thomas LaVanchy**.

Winners of the Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG) 2023 Student Travel Grants were recently announced. Recipients receive \$500 each to help them cover the cost of attending the upcoming CLAG Meeting in Tucson in January. PhD student **Clayton Lucas** was one of seven recipients for his research project “Contested territories around Lake Texcoco, Mexico: Local original peoples, their land, and protected ecological territories”

This week is Geography Awareness Week. Were you aware?

## Faculty Publications

**Dr. Carlos Cordova** has recently co-authored an article (below) and published a book.

The book is a review of research on the prehistoric and historic evolution of the Basin of Mexico's lacustrine systems since prehistoric times. Based on this review, the book presents a model of long and short-term natural lacustrine dynamics as the basis for understanding the processes of human adaptation and transformation of the lacustrine ecosystems of the Basin of Mexico.

Carlos E. Cordova

# The Lakes of the Basin of Mexico

Dynamics of a Lacustrine System and the Evolution of a Civilization

*Near Eastern Archaeology*, Vol. 85(3) 2022



 Springer

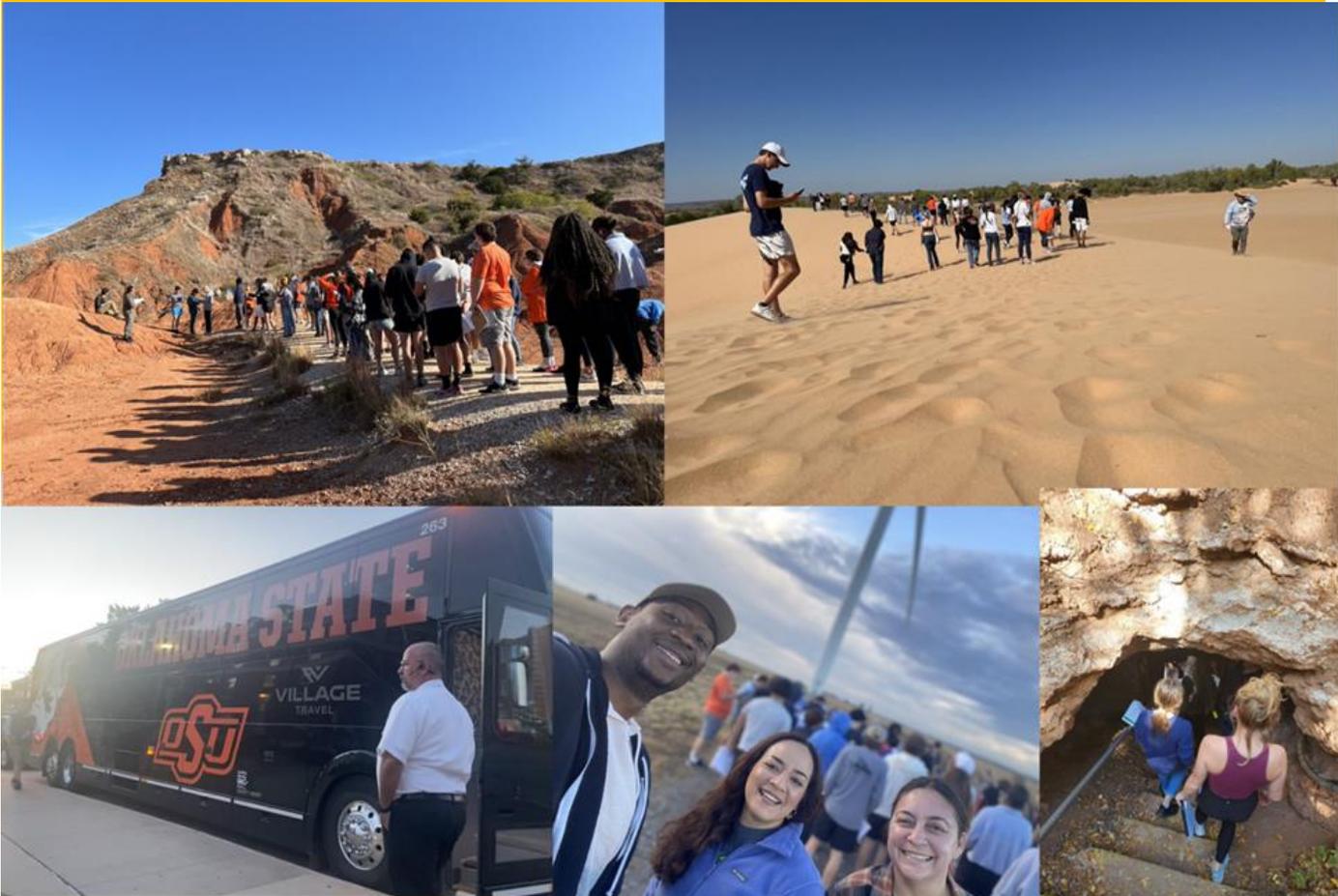
**Radiometric Dating of Wadi Zarqa Ma'in 1, a Limestone Sinkhole Natural Faunal Trap near the Dead Sea, Using Data from Test Pitting and a Portable Coring System**

James Pokines, Jeremy A. Beller, Amer S. A. al-Souliman, Osama Samawi, Christopher J. H. Ames, Carlos E. Cordova, and April Nowell

View at the upper margin of the natural faunal trap Wadi Zarqa Ma'in 1 in 2019.

## Physical Geography Field Trip

After 3 years of pandemic, GEOG 1114 returned to its traditional field trip to western Oklahoma this fall. The last time we went there was in the fall 2019. The two trips this time were on October 11 and 12. We stopped at the usual places, Gloss Mountains, Little Sahara dunes, Alabaster Caverns, Cimarron River crossing, and a windfarm in Kingfisher County. Fieldtrip staff: instructors (Peter Crank, Brice Zoungrana, and Jim Pendred), TAs (Fernanda Ramírez, Kathy Osei and Pecos McDonald), enthusiastic volunteer (Belem Carrasco) and coordinator (Carlos Cordova). We also thank the office staff, Barbara Goodnight and Carissa Gabilheri, for their logistic support, and to Mr. Thomas, our driver from Village Travel.



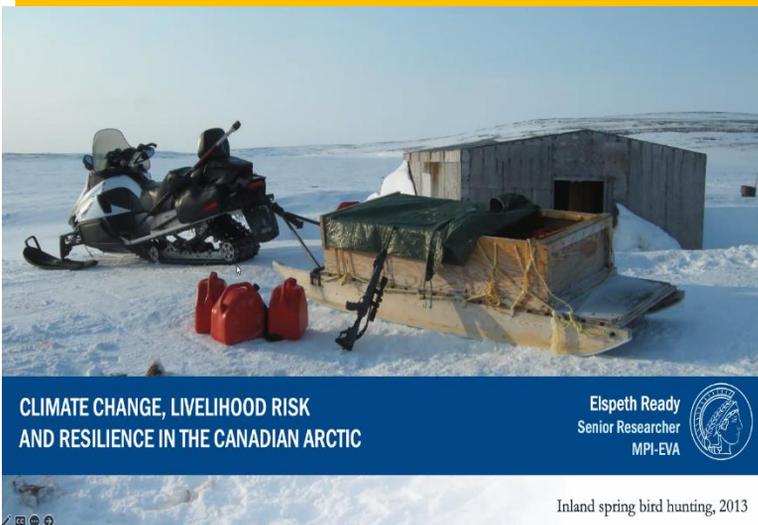
## Fall Colloquia

The department has hosted 3 colloquia so far this semester.

On October 17, OSU **Professor Jamey Jacobs** from Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering gave a talk titled “The Big Data Revolution: Autonomous Systems and Simulation in Geophysics.”



On November 7, **Elsbeth Ready**, Senior Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (Germany) gave a Zoom talk titled “Climate Change, Livelihood Risk and Resilience in the Canadian Arctic.”



On November 14, Assistant Professor **Amy Malek** from the School of Global Studies and Partnerships (OSU) gave a talk titled “Clickbait Orientalism & Vintage Iranian Snapshots.”

