## WU Department of Sociology and Anthropology Spring 2022 Newsletter

### Dear Students, Alumni, and Friends,

This spring, our Sociology and Anthropology (SOAN) students, faculty, and staff were back in action!

## **SOAN Takes Apeiron By Storm!**

On April 22, 2022, students presented their research in-person at Apeiron for the first time in two years. SOAN had a strong representation with a total of nine oral and poster presentations from our majors.



### **Oral Presentations**

- Sidney Cavner Analysis of the Remains of the Koerner Mound Site | mentor Dr. Maxwell (left)
- Emily Myers and Emma Morrissey Truth and NAGPRA: Washburn's Collaboration with the Kansas Historical Society | mentor Dr. Maxwell (center)
- Taton Smith Alternative Truths: A Case Study in the Dangers of Pseudoarchaeology | mentor Dr. Murphy (right)



## **SOAN Takes Apeiron By Storm!**

### **Poster Presentations**



- Anna Anderson and Loren Kuck 1,000-Years-Old; The Historical Buildings of Caen | mentor Dr. Sullivan, Modern Languages (top left)
- Mara J. Coufal, Brailey Moeder, and Dy-Esha Risby Truth in Bioarchaeology | mentor Dr. Maxwell (top right)
- Alicia Hay Diaper Drive-Expanded | mentor Dr. Park (bottom left)
- Tierney Kester Engagement with Topeka's Young Community Topeka Youth Project's Youth Court | mentor Kristine Hart, Center for Community & Civic Engagement (not pictured)
- Loren Kuck Preservation Hall; Its history of Jazz in New Orleans | mentor Dr. Sullivan, Modern Languages (not pictured)
- Taton Smith, Kristen Radell, and Sidney Cavner Keith Phase Osteobiography | mentor Dr. Maxwell (bottom right)

### **SOAN Club**

Top right: The SOAN Club visited the temporary Auschwitz Exhibition at Kansas City's Union Station in February. Aligning with the WUmester theme of "Truth," the group of 14 had a thoughtprovoking and emotional experience absorbing the truths of the Holocaust. It made for an exceptional learning opportunity to interact with each other and the exhibition in person, and to think about the importance of preserving the past through oral histories and artifacts.





Left: The SOAN club organized a community service event to clean up Shunga Creek at Felker Park, continuing a tradition from last year's Earth Day cleanup organized Dr. Lindsey Ibañez's Environmental Sociology class. Pictured left is Club President **Emily Myers** and **Shota Nagino**.

Bottom right: The department finally has official tshirts!! **Melissa Lewis**, Senior Administrative Assistant, and SOAN student office worker, **Angel Hayes**, prepared the t-shirts for sale. All proceeds went to the SOAN student organization for club activities.

Interested in joining the club? Students can join the SOAN club here: <u>https://washburn.presence.io/organization/socio</u> <u>logy-and-anthropology-club</u>



# SOAN STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT CONT.

### **Bods' Adventures in the Classroom**

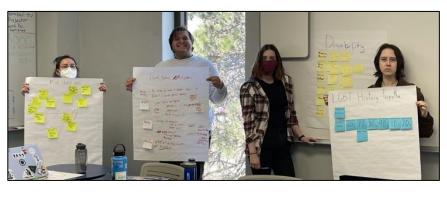
Top right: **Dr. Jason Miller's** AN322 Visual Anthropology class displayed their multimodal project process maps/timelines as part of the WUmester theme of "Truth."

(left to right: **Kiwenke Hubbard**, Alex Baldwin (History), Jess Seidel (Mass Media), and Alex Griffiths (Psychology).

Middle right: AN322 class presents their final projects at the Multimodal Exhibit.



Above: **Dr. Murphy's** AN371 Archaeology Field and Lab Methods class has had two weeks of beautiful weather - perfect for learning skills in survey data collection and setting test excavation units.





Below: In **Dr. Sundal's** AN317 Peoples and Cultures of Africa class, students analyzed African literature to explore the colonial legacy across Africa. The novels' narrative format introduced students to modes of African storytelling, religion, gender ideology, and kinship structures. (right: **Dy-Esha Risby** and **Danae Camacho** creating a mind map).



# SOAN STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### **Bods' Adventures in the Classroom**

Center: James Woods and Shota Nagino volunteered to repackage and donate diapers at Community Action from **Dr. Park's** Diaper Drive. The Diaper Drive is a High Impact Community Engagement Practice, which gives students opportunities to get involved in their local community. Repackaged diapers are given to families in need every month. A total of \$990 and \$1000 worth of diapers was donated, and Dr. Park's SO310 class personally dropped them off to Community Action (bottom right).



Right: **Dr. Sangyoub Park's** SO319 Food and Culture class participated in a Korean Festival and played a game from Netflix's Squid Game show. Students also participated in the first post pandemic cooking inclass activity making onigiri and inari sushi! (CUC short-term exchange students; (left) Christian Clark, Valerie Edwards; (right) Jason Guerra, Yuna Iwasawa, and Hanabi Ito).



# SOAN STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT CONT.

### Spring 2022 Commencement for Washburn University's College of Arts and Sciences will be Saturday May 14, 2022, 12:30 pm. For more information, click here.

Spring 2022	Summer 2022
✤ B.A. Anthropology	✤ B.A. Anthropology
<ul> <li>Tierney Kester</li> <li>Tessah Lugsch-Long</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Loren Kuck</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Samantha Reed*</li> </ul>	B.A. Sociology
A P S Anthronology (EC)	<ul> <li>Natalie Flores</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>B.S. Anthropology (FC)</li> <li>Cohning Catherent*</li> </ul>	
Sabrina Cathcart*	
Sidney Cavner	
Brailey Moeder*	
Taton Smith*	

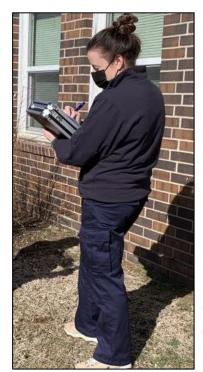
B.A. Sociology

- Dominique Becher\*
- Jamie Gutierrez\*
- ✤ Alicia Hay
- Tessah Lugsch-Long
- Samantha Reed\*
- Dy-Esha Risby



\*Designates Department Honors

### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Heather Greathouse, BS (FC'20)



My interest has always been in forensics, and I knew I was in the right field of study when I started taking classes at Washburn University. To experience as much as I did throughout a pandemic, let alone graduating in one, was challenging but rewarding. Dr. Klales helped guide me through my first publication in the journal Forensic Anthropology and allowed me to participate with forensic cases. Being surrounded by such great professors and peers has given me the confidence to assert myself in professions I couldn't



have even imagined. After graduation I jumped right into the workforce, and I recently started working at the Shawnee County Coroner's Office as a Death Investigator. I conduct scene investigations through photography and written statements. I absolutely love it! I hope to continue to be presented with opportunities and challenges related to this field and become a boardcertified medicolegal death investigator.

Dr. Lindsey Ibañez was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of a nonprofit "Friends of the Dominican Republic," which supports grassroots development efforts, scholarships for Dominican college students, and professional development opportunities for Peace Corps volunteers in the Dominican Republic. She was also on a Washburn University panel "Uncivil Religion and the Insurrection: A Forum," providing a sociological analysis of religious trends in the US to make sense of the use of Christian imagery during the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 attack on the capital.



- Dr. Alexandra Klales gave invited lectures on Skeletal Sex Estimation for the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine/Monash University (Australia) and for the U.S. Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. She published book chapters "Estmacion Sexual" in Avances en Antropología Forense (Quinto Sánchez & Gómez Valdés 2022) and "Contemporary Cultural Alterations to Bone: Anatomical, Ritual, and Trophy" in Manual of Forensic Taphonomy (eds. Pokines, Symes, L'Abbe), and presented "The Reliability of Bone Features Commonly Used to Predict Saw Class Characteristics" at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences February 2022. She has also worked on 20 WU-FARU forensic cases with 10 student volunteers thus far.
- Dr. Ashley Maxwell facilitated a teaching circle on "Demystifying Disability," and moderated the SOAN oral presentations at Apeiron. She developed a new course "Bioarchaeology: Death and Burial" which was part of the WUmester theme of "Truth."
- Dr. Jason Miller once again co-facilitated the Inclusive Pedagogies Research Group on campus for faculty and staff who are interested in conducting research about inclusive teaching and learning. He spoke about his work as a facilitator at the 2022 Society for Applied Anthropology meeting. Dr. Miller also hosted a film screening of "Fruits of Labor" along with a discussion with film director Emily Cohen Ibañez. The event was part of the WUmester theme of "Truth," and was sponsored by the Washburn University Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Student Life, Sociology and Anthropology, HALO, Gamma Phi Omega, and Sigma Lambda Gamma.



Dr. Laura Murphy received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor of Anthropology. She organized and moderated the Center for Kansas Studies annual Kansas Day speaker lecture event by Dr. Sarah Deer, a University Distinguished Professor at the University of Kansas and Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of the Prairie Island Indian Community entitled "A Trail of Tears in Kansas? An Indigenous Perspective of Kansas History." Dr. Murphy gave a talk for the Wichita State University Anthropology titled: "Geoarchaeological Insights into Department Paleoenvironmental Reconstruction and Past Cultural Dynamics: Case Studies from the Great Plains." She spent some time analyzing soil cores from an archaeological site in Texas as part of a collaborative project with WSU archaeologist Dr. Crystal Dozier.



Alex Myers has continued his research and teaching in the areas of law, crime and their relationship to various types of social inequality and is planning a research trip to Wisconsin during summer 2022 to collect data for a project examining the links between social welfare policy and social exclusion. Additionally, he is proud to have helped 4 current and former students enter graduate programs in law and social science.



Dr. Sangyoub Park hosted "Let's Fold the Pandemic," which honors and remembers those who died in the Covid-19 pandemic, with the final piece installed in the Memorial Union May 5, 2022).

Dr. Mary Sundal participated in the B.S. in Anthropology (FC) and the B.A. in Sociology Program committees. Both committees received CTEL Assessment Grants to revise their associated program and curriculum requirements. Dr. Sundal was awarded the CAS Professional Development Fellowship for the summer 2022 where she'll focus on pedagogical changes to decolonize her pedagogy and prepare manuscripts dedicated to the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

### Congratulations!!

**Melissa Lewis,** Senior Administrative Assistant for the SOAN department, won the "Living Well at Washburn Award" and was nominated for the Outstanding Service Award for Administrative Support. Melissa is a compassionate and kind individual, and we are so fortunate to have her in our department.





Left: **Dr. Alexandra Klales** won the A. Roy Myers Excellence in Research Award for her outstanding scholarly contributions to the field of forensic anthropology.

Center: **Dr. Laura Murphy** won the SOAR Organization Advisor Award for her excellent mentorship of the SOAN student club.

Right: **Dr. Mary Sundal** won the CTEL Innovation Award for Diversity & Inclusion for her redesign of AN321 Anthropology of Women to focus on BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) scholars.

## **Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Certificates**

### **Certificate of Teaching and Learning:**

Dr. Lindsey Ibañez Dr. Ashley Maxwell\* Dr. Ashley Maxwell\* Dr. Jason Miller\* Dr. Laura Murphy\* Dr. Mary Sundal Certificate of Inclusive Teaching and Learning: Dr. Jason Miller Dr. Mary Sundal

\*Faculty also served as CTEL facilitators

### **Adjunct Faculty Spotlight**



Jennifer Dueñas is a Ph.D. Candidate from the University of Kansas in the department of Sociology and an Adjunct instructor at Washburn University. A San Francisco Bay Area native, Jennifer has been teaching at Washburn since 2021 but moved to the area in 2015. Jennifer currently teaches Introduction to Sociology (SO100) and Introduction to Race and Ethnicity for the African American and African Diaspora Studies program (AD200) and looks forward to any opportunity to serve Washburn students. While Jennifer has two area specialties, Medical Sociology and Social Inequality, she is also passionate about teaching courses in Families, Gender and Sexuality, Race and Ethnicity, Social Inequality, and Health and Medicine. As a first-generation college graduate, Hispanic, single mother of four, Jennifer continues to remain dedicated to the ideology that education is a powerful, transformative agent to which everyone should have access to and emphasizes compassionate teaching in her courses. Enroll in one of her classes today!!!!

# SOAN Scholarship Fund: A Day of Giving

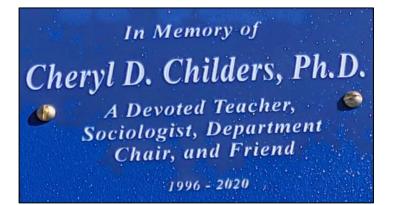
- The Sociology and Anthropology Scholarship Fund raised \$2275 from 12 gifts and a match donation from Tim and Margaret Carkhuff. The department also received a generous donation from Marianna and Austin Nothern to purchase equipment for our anthropology classes.
- The WU-FARU Scholarship Fund Raised \$1587 from 24 gifts. The WU-FARU Scholarship supports student who volunteer with the Washburn University Forensic Anthropology Recovery Unit.
- To learn more about how to support these programs visit: <u>https://washburngivingday.org/soanscholarships</u> and <u>https://washburngivingday.org/faru</u>





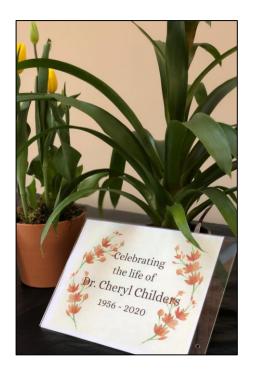
# Celebrating the Life of Dr. Cheryl Childers

For the first time in two years, the entire Sociology and Anthropology department came together in person to dedicate a tree on campus (Henderson Hall, east side) and to celebrate and remember the life of **Dr. Cheryl Childers** (1956-2020).



We thank her family members who traveled from Oklahoma, Dr. Farley and Mrs. Farley, Dean Stephenson, and faculty and staff from Washburn University's College of Arts and Sciences who attended, spoke kind words, and wrote cards of remembrances. Special thanks to Melissa Lewis, Dr. Jason Miler, and Alex Myers for organizing the event in the chapel.







Left to Right: (back) Dr. Jason Miller, Dr. Alexandra Klales, Melissa Lewis, Dr. Sangyoub Park, Dr. Ashley Maxwell, Alex Myers, Dr. Lindsey Ibanez, Dr. Laura Murphy, Dr. Mary Sundal.