Founding of CAP
2007
Terry Brock
Campus Archaeologist
2007-2010
Chris Stawski
Campus Archaeologist
2010-2011
Kate Meyers Emery
Campus Archaeologist
2011-2013
Kate Frederick
Campus Archaeologist
2013-2015
Lisa Bright
Campus Archaeologist
2015-2018
Dr. Stacey Camp
New CAP Director
May 2018
Autumn Painter
Campus Archaeologist
2018-2020
Dr. Lynne Goldstein
CAP Director Retires
May 2018

By the time Dr. Lynne Goldstein retired from Michigan State University’s Department of Anthropology in 2018, she had gathered 22 years’ worth of stories and experience. Among these are the origins and development of the Campus Archaeology Program (CAP), which continues to offer students both field and lab experience.

We scheduled several conversations, rather than trying to capture all of Lynne’s stories at once. We started with a list of broad categories that seemed pertinent to historical research, and left the interview questions open-ended enough that Lynne could help shape the narrative.

We used Audacity software on a laptop with a Zoom Handy Mic to record and edit the data in LEADR.

We argue that oral history is a genre of documentation that should augment traditional publications in recording the historiography of archaeological projects, teams, and sites.

Field notes, white papers, and informal data recordings are all important aspects of archaeological research that don’t necessarily carry the same “weight” as monographs for academics; yet, they offer insight into the social and historical contexts of the archaeologists themselves.

Blogs are similarly public-facing work that incorporate of-the-moment and personal perspectives of archaeologists into the disseminated record of a dig or project.

Oral histories offer another kind of opportunity for public outreach and documentation.

This oral history records important information about the Campus Archaeology Program that has not been extensively documented until now. It also shows the larger impact of CAP on the University.

This project served as a case study for similar programs wherein oral history may serve as both valuable “grey literature” in recording unpublished archaeological data, as well as outreach to wider publics.

This project received a DH@MSU Seed Grant to produce text transcriptions for better accessibility.

Web images have alt-text, which is a brief description that screen readers can convey.

We created a link to a text-only version of the timeline so that people who cannot see the media can receive the content in chronological order.

Hyperlinks are on descriptive phrases (rather than generic “click here”) ensure that each is unique.

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