Palestinian archaeologists. It is also relevant to record here the Institute's continuing involvement in Widening Participation activities, thanks in particular to the work of Sarah Dhanjal, working with a number of London schools and hosting the Camden Young Archaeologists' Club.

The number and remarkably wide distribution of Institute fieldwork projects is apparent from the project map and distribution of Institute fieldwork projects activities, thanks in particular to the involvement in Widening Participation of the Institute in 2007–8 were far too numerous to list here. The coordinators of each of the Institute's five primary research groups report on the work of our students and the quality of the teaching and support they receive are always a pleasure to read.

The Environment and Culture Research Group

Coordinator: Simon Hillson
Deputy Coordinator: Ignacio de la Torre
Student Coordinators: Brenna Hassett and Anke Cross

The Environment and Culture Research Group provides a link for staff, research students and honorary members of the Institute whose research concerns past interactions between people and the environments they occupied. Several members of the group also participate in the activities of the AHRC Centre for the Evolutionary Analysis of Cultural Behaviour which is directed by James Steele (see report on pp. 10–11)

Research projects

This was the first year that the project office for the Çatalhöyük Research Project was based in the Institute of Archaeology and this has made close participation considerably easier. Several members of the research group continue to be involved. Louise Martin and her PhD student Liz Henton work with the faunal remains team in collaboration with Nerissa Russell (Cornell University) and Katheryn Twiss (Berkeley). Liz is using stable oxygen isotopes and tooth microwear to look for seasonality in breeding and mobility.

Simon Hillson continues to coordinate the human remains team jointly with Clark Larsen (Ohio State University). This year a substantial start was made on re-inventorying the Neolithic human remains, with 300 being completed. These data are being entered into a new database which will be an important tool for both the human remains team and other areas of research in the project. Arlene Rosen has been working with her PhD student Philippa Ryan on phytoliths which are particularly well preserved at Çatalhöyük. She is using the phytoliths to examine the diversity of plant use on the site and to reconstruct the range of environments exploited in collecting them. A fuller account of the work at Çatalhöyük appears later in this issue of AI.
Centre for Human Evolution Studies at Cambridge University. Andrew Garrard and Corine Yabbeck ran their final season of excavations at Mohgr el Ahwal in the Qadisha Valley of northern Lebanon in summer 2008. They have undertaken excavations in two adjacent caves, with a similar sequence of Epipaleoolithic and Neolithic levels, which included human burials. The caves are situated in a deeply incised valley on the flanks of Mount Lebanon, and palaeo-environmental evidence suggests they served as a forest refugium from the last Glacial Maximum through into the early Holocene. Yvonne Edwards has been studying the faunal remains, which include a diverse range of forest and crag species.

Ignacio de la Torre has this year directed palaeoanthropological surveys of the Golina region in Afar, Ethiopia. He has also taken part in surveys of Middle and Upper Bed II at Olduvai in Tanzania. His excavation at the Buenda Rockshelter has continued as part of his work in the Serrania de Cuenca, Spain. He was awarded a British Academy visiting fellowship so that he and his colleagues could work at the Institute of Archaeology on a GIS study. Also this year Ignacio published a substantial book on the archaeology of human origins in Africa. Dietrich Stout has continued his study of tool-making in relation to the evolution of the brain, language and cognition, in collaboration with colleagues from the Stone Age Institute at Indiana University and the Institute of Neurology at UCL. He presented a paper on functional brain imaging studies of Acheulian handaxe making at the McDonald Archaeological Institute workshop on The Sapient Mind: Archaeology meets Neuroscience. He has also continued to work on the stone tool technology of the earliest known archaeological sites at Gona in Ethiopia.

Anna Clement has been continuing her work with Simon Hillson and Ignacio de la Torre on a Leverhulme Trust funded study of tool wear in relation to the ethnoarchaeology of tool use in recent hunter-gatherers. She visited the University of Toronto Dental School to study dental impressions collected in the 1960s during dental examinations of the Inuit community living at Igloolik the far North of Canada. A fuller account of her project appears later in this issue of AI.

Daniel Antoine has entered the final year of his work on the growth of Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval London children. This project, directed by Simon Hillson, is a collaboration with Gustav Milne, Bill White (Museum of London), Derek Keene (Centre for Metropolitan History) and Tony Waldron.

Roxana Ferlini has carried out forensic work on the exhumation of an Armenian mass grave in Syria and on mass graves related to the Civil War and Franco regime in Spain. Also in Spain, she worked on the aircrash at Madrid Barajas Airport. In addition she has edited two books on forensic archaeology and forensic anthropology. Both Roxana and Simon Hillson participated in forensic anthropology training as part of a masters course run by the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, at Centro Mallquí in Ilo, southern Peru.

Dorian Fuller carried out further archaeobotanical research on the Chinese Neolithic sites of Tianluoshan and Caoxieshan which preserve evidence for the evolution of domesticated rice and agriculture. He was an invited archaeologist at a meeting on the genetics of domestication at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and, as a visiting professor, taught an archaeobotanical laboratory course at Peking University.

Ken Thomas had a sabbatical year, during which he continued to work on his Leverhulme Trust funded project in Sicily and on a large prehistoric site in Pakistan. Richard Macphail was awarded a British Academy grant to assess marine inundation of archaeological soils and sites on Wallasea Island in Essex. He could work at the Institute of Archaeology with his colleague on this project, Alfonso Benita, who is a visiting professor, taught an archaeobotanical laboratory course at Peking University.

The Material Culture and Data Science Research Group brings together staff, research students and honorary members of the Institute who are interested in the analysis of archaeological materials, particularly by instrumental and quantitative methods, within broader archaeological frameworks. It aims to apply these methods to archaeological questions by generating data that are independent of, and complementary to, traditional archaeological methods of enquiry. A major focus is the study of ancient technologies by analysing the form and composition of artefacts, raw materials and waste products, and through experimental studies. We aim to optimize the productivity of the Institute's substantial and technical resources in this field of research, and to promote the understanding of science-based archaeological information as an essential component of material culture. One way to achieve this is for the group to facilitate cooperation in projects being developed by the Institute's other research groups, and for its individual members to contribute to group research in addition to their own projects.

**Research projects**

Most of our research is done collaboratively, with colleagues in the Institute and with external partners. This year I highlight the wide geographical range of the research undertaken by members of the group. For reasons of space, I limit this to current staff, but the coverage is even broader when the research of our student members is included. I hope to showcase their work in next year's report.

Probably the furthest away geographically is Ethan Cochrane's focus. Ethan specializes in Pacific Island archaeology, and conducts a British Academy supported multi-year project in Fiji to examine Lapita ceramics in terms of style, function, and provenance, aimed at explaining the demise of the Lapita Cultural Complex c.700 BC.
Our work in Latin America also continued to expand. Marcos Martín-Torres obtained a grant from the European Union to undertake further analyses of metals from sites in Cuba, expanding previous collaborative research into the interaction between Europeans and indigenous peoples during the contact period (reported in AI 10). He also visited Colombia and strengthened links with the newly refurbished Gold Museum in Bogotá, which houses the largest collection of Pre-Columbian gold in the world. The first stage of the Colombian project is focusing on the origins, manufacture and meaning of Muiscan metalwork. Both projects involve the exchange of students and specialists between the UK and Latin America, thus promoting sustainable knowledge transfer as well as specific research results.

A smaller project in Mesoamerica concerns the first archaeological evidence for large-scale copper production prior to the arrival of the Spanish: Thilo Rehren collaborates with Dr Blanca Maldonado from the Centre for Archaeological Studies at the Colegio de Michoacan in investigating slag remains from southwest Mexico. Combining the scientific data with historical records from the earliest contact period provides a vivid picture of a well-organized state-controlled copper production network, linking ore mining with a smelting site in a densely forested region, more than 70km away, and the state capital, another 80km further east.

A third region of long-standing interest for members of our group is the Near East: here, Karen Wright and Simon Groom both contribute to the Institute-based Çatalhöyük project in central Anatolia. Through a stroke of luck Simon has found a series of thin sections from well-stratified ceramics from the earlier excavations at Çatalhöyük. The current analysis involves a stratigraphic petrological categorization followed by limited sub-sampling targeted for variable-pressure SEM. A fuller account of the work at Çatalhöyük appears later in this issue of AI.

Still in the Levant, Dafydd Griffiths is working with a French team on the analysis of ceramics from Sidon, a multi-period port site in the Lebanon and Thilo Rehren is continuing his work on the Ramesside workshops at Qantir – Pi-Ramesse in the eastern Nile delta, together with Dr Edgar Pusch from the Pelizaeus-Museum in Hildesheim, Germany (see his report on red glass production in AI 2005/06). The next step is the full documentation of the bronze casting installations which supported the new capital which Ramesses II had established there. The installations are exceptionally well preserved and had been reconstructed in principle some 15 years ago; the recent analytical work is able to show that not only was bronze cast into large objects such as temple doors, but also that the bronze was locally produced through the fusion of copper and tin metal. We always knew that this is the most likely way to make bronze; however, this is the first substantial archaeological evidence for it.

The work of Xander Veldhuijzen on Near Eastern iron production, funded through a postdoctoral fellowship from the Leverhulme Trust, already mentioned in last year’s report, completes this geographical focus.

Development of the Wolfson Archaeological Science Laboratories

The Wolfson laboratories continue to attract postgraduate students and visiting scholars for their excellent range of analytical facilities. Last year, I reported on UCL’s investment in a new Electron Microprobe, which is now well established and producing crucial data not only for staff and students at the Institute, but also for our colleagues in the Materials Group in the UCL Department of Chemistry, with whom we have a long-standing working relationship. Through this, we can access their facilities for X-ray diffraction and Raman microscopy; both methods are rather specialized but important for a full characterization of archaeological materials, such as ceramics, plasters and pigments. The availability of microscope-based Raman spectroscopy is particularly important, enabling us to work with minute amounts of material, a major curatorial consideration.

Such curatorial considerations often go hand-in-hand with export restrictions for archaeological material, and require us to become increasingly mobile and versatile in our analytical capabilities. I am delighted to report that we have been successful with a bid for a portable X-ray fluorescence instrument. We will share it with the UCL Department of Art History, who plan to use it for pigment analysis on paintings; for us, it will revolutionize aspects of field projects from China to Egypt, from Serbia to Columbia, and in museums all over the world.

Conferences and publications

Going to conferences, organizing workshops and meetings, and publishing are crucial aspects of academic daily life. Three of our doctoral students, Claire Cohen, Jane Humphris and Louise Isles, organized a well-attended and well-received session on “The Mind behind the Metal” at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeologists in Vancouver, Canada, while several staff and students contributed to other sessions at the SAA meeting. The Institute was one of the few British universities to be represented with their own booth, which was an interesting and rewarding experience.

Several of us went to a major international conference on early iron in Hüttenberg in Austria which we had co-organized with Dr Brigitte Cech from Vienna; this aptly named village is located in one of Europe’s richest iron ore regions, and has archaeological evidence for well over 2000 years of iron production, particularly from the Roman period.

It is with great relief that I report the publication of an edited volume on Archaeology, History and Science (Left Coast Press), based on a workshop held at the Institute six years ago, by Marcos Martín-Torres and myself. Clive Orton has published the Pottery from Medieval Novgorod and its Region (Oxbow Books), a collection of studies by Russian and Western scholars and part of the long-term involvement of the Institute in the Novgorod excavations, in cooperation with Professor Mark Brisbane from Bournemouth University. Numerous other papers appeared elsewhere, and are listed on our individual staff web pages.

The Social and Cultural Dynamics Research Group

Coordinator: Todd Whitelaw
Deputy Coordinator: Andrew Gardner
Student Coordinators: Elisa Perego and Claudia Zehrt

The Social and Cultural Dynamics Research Group brings together staff, postgraduate students and honorary members of the Institute whose primary interest is in anthropological and sociological approaches to the study of past societies. Its members share the common aim of studying the dynamics of material culture systems comparatively, cutting across the regional and chronological boundaries that have traditionally divided archaeology.

Research projects

As in recent years, members of the Group conducted research around the globe, with foci in Africa, Europe and the Caribbean. Collaborative research with colleagues from other institutions around the world characterizes a significant amount of
this work. Field projects also regularly involve Institute students, from first year undergraduates to PhD students, with many graduate student members of the Group also organizing their own field projects.

In Europe field research was undertaken in the UK, Italy and the Aegean. In the UK, Andrew Gardner and Ulrike Sommer collaborated with other staff and the Centre for Applied Archaeology, in the Institute’s undergraduate training excavation at West Dean in Sussex. Following last year’s pilot project, Andrew also undertook the first of two seasons of large-scale excavation at Caerleon in South Wales, in collaboration with colleagues from Cardiff University. The excavation focused on the investigation of a large storage building within the Roman fortress. During six weeks of excavation, the project received 3000 visitors, and documented late Roman phases at the site.

Ruth Whitehouse and Sue Hamilton, with a small team, completed fieldwork for the Tavoliere-Gargano Prehistory Project in southern Italy, focusing on topographic and environmental characteristics of the Neolithic ditched enclosures, and surface surveys of artefact distributions associated with large-scale Iron Age sites. Publication is now in progress. This was the third year of “The social context of Etruscan literacy 800-500 BC” project, co-directed by Ruth Whitehouse and John Wilkins, with Kathryn Lomas as Research Fellow. This has now been extended by a year to allow further museum visits, and preparation for a conference relating to the project.

In the Aegean, Andrew Bevan co-directed spring and summer study seasons to complete data collection and analysis for the Antikythera Survey Project. The project data has now all been made accessible on the web (www.ucl.ac.uk/asp), and the final publication is in preparation. Cyprian Broodbank co-directed a study season for the Kythera Island Project, with specific emphasis on material of the Roman period. On Crete, Todd Whitelaw co-directed, with colleagues from the Greek Ministry of Culture, a spring study season, and the final season of field survey, for the Knoossos Urban Landscape Project, documenting the extensive cemeteries surrounding the Prehistoric to Roman city.

Group members continue to be active in the Caribbean, with Liz Graham coordinating a range of projects at the Mayan urban centre of Lamanai in Belize. Work this year focused on modern land-use related to deforestation, and on ancient land-use, including raised field agriculture. In addition, work continued on finds excavated during previous seasons of the Maya Archaelocarchitecture Project. Liz also worked with colleagues sampling dark earth deposits at the site of Marco Gonzalez on Ambergris Caye. José Oliver concluded his fieldwork and laboratory analyses for the Uruado-Cagua Project in Puerto Rico, and progress was made toward publication. He also visited the Dominican Republic with the aim of developing a new field project in collaboration with the Museo del Hombre Dominicano.

New projects are being developed in East and Southern Africa. Andrew Reid spent part of his sabbatical in Uganda, laying the groundwork for future fieldwork, and continued writing-up his research for the Patterns of African Statehood Project. Ceri Ashley undertook reconnaissance for fieldwork investigating the migration of the Batawana into Ngamiland, and initiated a collaborative archaeological and palaeoenvironmental project on human-environment interaction around Lake Victoria in Uganda, over the past 2500 years. This project will include a field school for Ugandan students.

Sue Hamilton continued her collaborative project on the Rapa Nui (Easter Island) Landscapes of Construction Project, surveying selected ceremonial sites and their associated domestic landscapes. Fieldwork included the survey of the statue hat quarries at Puna Pau, and future excavation there is planned. A collaboration with the Chilean National Parks Authority focused on the documentation of petroglyphs at Orongo, as part of their conservation programme.

James Steele continues to co-ordinate “Hand to Mouth”, an EC-funded project on the evolution of speech and tool use.

**Publications**

In addition to c.30 journal articles and book chapters by members of the Group, Anne Kandler published elements of her doctoral research as Randanfangs- und Randbedingungen: Ein Vergleich verschiedener Lösungstechniken, published by VDM-Verlag. Kathryn Lomas, Ruth Whitehouse and John Wilkins edited Literacy and the State in the Ancient Mediterranean, a collection of papers presented at two seminar series at the Institute of Classical Studies, published by the Accademia Research Institute.

**Conferences and lectures**

As in previous years, members of the Group disseminated the results of their research widely, and contributed to the research environment at the Institute and beyond, through organizing conferences, workshops and conference sessions.

Andrew Bevan (with David Wengrow), organized the annual Institute conference, on *Cultures of commodity branding: archaeological and anthropological perspectives*. The Group also co-sponsored a conference on *The Ancient Levant*, organized by Katherine Wright. The activities of the AHRC Centre for the Evolution of Cultural Diversity are reported elsewhere, but in addition to its wide range of research, its director, James Steele, co-organized two conferences (*Demographic processes and cultural change and Cultural and linguistic diversity*) and a summer school in Cultural phylogenetics. He has also organized a series of outreach activities which includes a collaboration with curriculum experts on a school science teachers’ resource pack on the science of the voice and the evolution of speech, aimed at 11 to 12 year-olds.

Andrew Gardner co-organized the sessions “Too much phenomena and not enough ology?” and “Discussing evolutionary and interpretative archaeologies” at *TAG 2007* at the University of York, and “Beyond immediacy and the intimate: individuals and experience in the long duree” at *TAG NYC* at Columbia University, New York. Kathryn Lomas organized “Colonization and the development of Greek identity in the Western Mediterranean” at the 18th International Congress of Classical Archaeology: Meeting of Cultures in the Mediterranean, in Rome. Jeremy Tanner had the honour of a session at the Archaeological Institute of America/ American Philological Association joint conference, devoted to themes and debates concerning ancient aesthetics arising out of his book, *The Invention of Art History*.

Members of the Group presented their research and contributed to international scholarship widely, presenting lectures, papers and serving as discussants at: *Rome in Bloomsbury*, Birkbeck College London; *Archaeologies of the everyday*, Sheffield University; *What would a Bronze Age World-System look like?*, Sheffield University; *Demographic processes and cultural change*, Great Missenden; *A conference in honour of Peter Warren*, Bristol University; *Italians on the land*, University of Kent; *TAG 2007*, University of York; at the McDonald Institute, Cambridge University; *Communicating cultures in Iron Age Italy*, University of Copenhagen; *The evolution of language 2008*, Barcelona; the Nordic Graduate School workshop on *Discourse, theory and archaeological excavation*, the Swedish Institute at Athens; *Back to the starting line: new theoretical and methodological approaches to Early Bronze Age Crete*, the British School at Athens; *Back to the beginning: reassessing Pre and Proto-
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he Complex and Literate Societies Research Group provides a hub for Institute staff, research students and honorary members with interests in the archaeology of literate societies worldwide. The Group provides a forum for cross-cultural comparative approaches with a particular emphasis on fostering its graduate members. The group has recently re-appointed Graduate Coordinator (Andrew Agate) to assist cooperation between staff and graduates, while Kevin MacDonald continues as Deputy Coordinator. The period 2007–8 saw thriving research activity within the group, but it is a particular pleasure to report the Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Professor Clive Orton at the British Archaeological Awards in November 2008. Dr Juan Antonio Quiros Castillo (Vitoria) and Dr Julio Escalona (CSIC, Madrid) joined the group as new Honorary Senior Research Associates of the Institute, while Dr Susanna Harris (Institute PhD) secured a three-year research fellowship from the British Academy to continue her work on ancient cloth. Kevin MacDonald has become one of three executive editors of the journal Azania, while Andrew Reynolds has taken up executive editorship of archaeology for the journal Anglo-Saxon.

Research projects

Kris Lockyear conducted a further field season at Roman Noviodunum, Romania, funded by the AHRC. David Wengrow joined the staff of the Devonshire Pebblebeds Project, directed by Professor Chris Tilley (UCL, Anthropology), and carried forward his UCL Futures project: “Towards a sustainable archaeology in Israel and Palestine”, which includes fieldwork at the important Early Bronze Age and Early Islamic site of Tel Bet Yerah/Khirbet Kerak in northern Israel. In July–September 2008 Roger Matthews co-directed the first full season of excavations for the “Central Zagros Archaeological Project” in west-central Iran, uncovering buildings of 8th millennium BC date at two sites. At one site a shrine with red-ochre painted skulls of wild goat and sheep was revealed. In partnership with the Turkmenistan Ministry of Culture, Tim Williams continued fieldwork at Merv in September and October 2008. In July 2008 Andrew Reynolds continued fieldwork funded by the British Academy on the early medieval settlement of Aistra in the Spanish Basque County. Large-scale evaluation revealed a second cemetery at the site and further extensive settlement remains. The final season of this collaborative project (with the University of the Basque Country, Vitoria) will take place in 2009. Andrew Reynolds’ Leverhulme funded project “Anglo-Saxon Civil Defence in Viking Age” is entering its final phase, with Stuart Brooke and John Baker currently completing a monograph of the findings, as well as co-editing with Andrew Reynolds and David Parsons the proceedings of the international conference held at the Institute in 2007 on ‘Lands of Defence in the Viking Age: Anglo-Saxon England and Comparative Perspectives’. Sue Harrington and Martin Welch continue to work on the Leverhulme funded project “Beyond the Tribal Hidage”, exploring in detail the nature of burial and settlement in southern England in the Early Anglo-Saxon period. Corinna Riva has joined an interdisciplinary research project “Material Connections: Mobility, Materiality and Mediterranean Identities”, with Bernard Knapp (Glasgow) as principal investigator. Corinna’s role is to explore mobility and cultural interaction in the Northern Tyrrhenian region between Etruria and Southern France in the 6th and 5th centuries BC. Stuart Brookes continued evaluative research on archaeological pedagogy with an HEA teaching development grant: see “Archaeology in the Field: enhancing the role of fieldwork training and teaching”, in the journal Research in Archaeological Education (http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/hca/archaeology/RAEJournal).

Publications

Over 250 delegates, from over 20 countries, attended the 3rd International Congress on Underwater Archaeology (IKUWA3) at UCL in July 2008. With over 120 papers given, IKUWA3 was the largest meeting of its kind held in Europe. The lead sponsors were the British Academy and UNESCO, the latter bestowing their official patronage on the event. Publication of Congress proceedings is forthcoming. The annual Institute of Archaeology/British Museum Medieval Seminar programme was launched in October 2008 with a lecture from Dame Professor Janet Nelson (Kings). The event, held jointly with the Earlier Middle Ages seminar at the Institute of Historical Research, attracted an audience of over 100. The inaugural meeting of the UK Workshop: Ancient Egyptian Language and Texts (AELT) was held in the UCL Institute of Archaeology in December 2008. Organized by John Tait and Mark Collyer (Liverpool), the workshop is to become a regular event.

David Wengrow gave invited lectures at two international conferences: What Would a Bronze Age World System Look Like? (Sheffield) and “Meat”, Killing, Consuming and Commodifying Animals (Pennsylvania). In April 2008 he and Andy Bevan organized the Institute of Archaeology conference, Cultures of Commodity Branding, which attracted an international group of speakers from anthropology, archaeology, and business studies, and is now being prepared for publication. David was recently invited to give a series of named, public lectures at New York University’s new Institute for the Study of Ancient World.

Andrew Reynolds gave the inaugural Agnes Jane Robertson Lecture on Anglo-Saxon Studies at the University of Aberdeen in April 2008 – which is now published in Anglo-Saxon 2, 1–5. Andrew also gave invited lectures and seminars in Austin Tx, Frankfurt, Madrid, Oviedo, Vitoria and York. In February 2008 Corinna Riva organized a workshop on Migrations in the Ancient Mediterranean at UCL, where her own paper was concerned with “Villanovan” movements between the Tyrrhenian and the Adriatic? Corinna also gave a paper by invitation in Copenhagen in April 2008. Stuart Brookes has given papers by invitation in Cambridge, Dublin, London, Manchester and Iceland.

Visiting academics during the period included the Iraqi scholar Dr Abbas Al-Hussainy working with Roger Matthews and Dr Alexandra Sanmark (Uppsala), Dr Frode Iversen (Oslo) and Professor Juan Antonio Quirós Castillo (Vitoria) working with Andrew Reynolds.

The Heritage Studies Research Group
Coordinator: Elizabeth Pye
Deputy Coordinator: Beverley Butler
Student Coordinator: James Doeser

The Heritage Studies Research Group is the primary research group for staff, research students and honorary members of the Institute whose interests focus on the theory, method and practice of the management and conservation of cultural heritage. We have close links with other research groups notably the Material Culture and Data Science research group. Our current research ranges across the social, political and economic contexts of heritage, involves a variety of collaborators and is undertaken in a number of different countries.

During the year it was decided that each research group should have both a Coordinator and a Deputy Coordinator and Beverley Butler was invited to become the first Deputy Coordinator for this group. Also during the year James Doeser, our first Graduate Student Representative, stepped down, and Anastasia Sakellariadi was elected in his place.

Research and publication
Three broad themes characterize the research being undertaken by staff and students in this group. The first involves the social and political context of heritage and reflects the fact that much of our research focuses on developing connections with local communities. Beverley Butler has continued her fieldwork in Palestine and was involved in the organization of the Institute’s exhibition focusing on Flinders Petrie’s work in Palestine. She has been invited to edit a sub-series of publications for the Institute and Left Coast Press on the Critical Cultural Heritage. One of the first books in the series is her own book Return to Alexandria, which explores issues of memory and cultural revival in relation to the UNESCO sponsored Bibliotheca Alexandrina project. Dean Sully has continued to work with Maori communities in London and New Zealand, and with the National Trust, in reaching conservation decisions for Hinemih, the Maori meeting house at Clandon Park, Surrey. His research has resulted in an edited book which considers approaches to the care of meeting houses which are no longer in New Zealand, Decolonising Conservation: Caring for Maori Meeting Houses outside New Zealand, also published by Left Coast Press. Renata Peters’ research, based on her fieldwork with indigenous communities in Brazil and Peru, focuses on situations where views of professionals and of source communities may come into conflict over issues of conservation. Theano Moussouri has continued her work on aspects of disability and social inclusion in visitor research. Kathy Tubb’s work on the illicit trade of antiquities has involved her in co-editing and contributing a chapter to a book entitled Archaeology, Cultural Heritage, and the Antiquities Trade, published by University of Florida Press (the co-editors are N. Brodie, M. Kersel and C. Luke).

The second research theme focuses on the uses of museum collections. Suzanne Keene has set up a major and wide-ranging research project, supported by the Pilgrim Trust and the Museums Libraries and Archives council, on the uses of stored museum collections. This has developed out of the research for her book Fragments of the World published in 2005, and will generate further research projects. Elizabeth Pye has edited a book on touching and handling museum objects, The Power of Touch: handling objects in museums and heritage contexts, again published by Left Coast Press; it is intended to encourage debate and re-evaluation of handling as a means of access to collections. The book arose from a conference held in 2004 sponsored by the Heritage Studies research group, and organized by Sally MacDonald (now Director of UCL Collections) together with Beverley Butler and Elizabeth Pye.

The third research theme concerns management and conservation of sites and material culture. Clifford Price has completed his European Community funded research on the thermodynamics of mixed salts solutions, and has applied the results to stonework at a number of different sites. He has published “The kinetics of salt weathering of porous materials” in Problems of salts in masonry - SAL.EXPERT, European Research Institute of Conservation.
on Cultural Heritage: State-of-the-Art Studies series 5 (Prague: Academy of Sciences of the Czech (with A. Saudy). He was invited to give a keynote paper at the World Chemistry Congress in Turin (in June 2007) which was entitled “Crosslinking: chemistry and stone conservation”. He was also instrumental in gathering evidence to submit to the House of Lords Inquiry into Heritage Science. The Heritage Studies Research Group has since been considering how best to develop our own role in the light of the report resulting from the inquiry. John Merkel has continued to work on metal technology, in particular the Roman production of lead and silver in Serbia, and Pre-Peruvian technology of copper, arsenic, silver and gold alloys. Together with Prof Beno Rothenburg he has continued to work on the publication of the important copper mining site at Timna, Israel. Elizabeth Pye has further developed her interest in ethics relating to conservation practice. She continues to coordinate the conservation team at the Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük, Turkey; and out of this has come a new research project on the analysis and conservation of the painted plaster, being undertaken by a research student, Duygu Cleere and in collaboration with Karen Wright. Dean Sully has initiated a collaborative research project (with the Port of London Authority) on the analysis and conservation of the waterlogged wreck of an Elizabethan ship, thought to be associated with Sir Thomas Gresham (founder of the Stock Exchange). James Hales is developing an improved method for recording and retrieval of painted wall plaster scatter on archaeological sites based on work at the Roman site at Thwing, Yorkshire, currently being excavated by a team from the University of Cambridge directed by Professor Martin Millett.

Meetings and seminars

The group aims to encourage staff collaboration and to support research students by holding a number of informal and formal meetings, seminars and lectures through the year. Monthly meetings varied from informal discussion by a few members over a glass of wine to larger, more formal seminars. Short informal presentations by staff and students included: Dean Sully and Renata Peters on investigation of artefacts found with World War 1 bodies; Sophie Allen on storytelling and archaeology, Clifford Price on conservation of the “Dean’s Eye”, a window at Lincoln Cathedral; Gabriel Moshenska on heritage issues relating to human remains; Jane Sarre on the effects of multiculturalism; Suzanne Keene and Tim Williams on their experience of, and advice on, making grant applications; Hilary Orange organized the showing of a short Chinese film on the effects of rapid change on Chinese heritage.

More formal seminars included a memorable meeting on the controversial Sevso treasure, organized by James Doeser, and presentations on: 3D laser scanning, by Stuart Robson of the UCL Department of Engineering; an outreach project linked to the excavation of the circus at Colchester, by Peter Herring of the Colchester Archaeological Trust; and the excavation of a Ford Transit van by John Schofield and a team from the University of Bristol – this was organized by Hilary Orange and included the showing of a short film by Greg Bailey.

The Graduate Student Conference, held in April opened with an impressive group of papers given by members of the Heritage Studies Research Group, showing the range and strength of current student research: Akira Matsuda on “Between public outreach and multiple perspectives: a method to pin down Queen Giovanna’s underground tunnel in the Villa of Augustus”; Sada Mire on “The clash between local and Western heritage theory and practice: a case study from Somalia”; Gabriel Moshenska on “Performing and Witnessing Archaeology”; Hilary Orange on “Methods of Presentation and the Presentation of Methods”; James Doeser on “Tales from the Emerald City: why most heritage policy research is a waste of time and money”; Bonnie Hewson on “British Performing Arts Archives: What purpose do they serve?;” Kalliopi Fouseki on “Models as tool for theory construction and theories as a tool for model construction in heritage management”; Anastasia Sakellariadi on “Community archaeology: a challenge for any young scholar’s future and, quite ambitiously, for the future of Greek archaeology”.

Anastasia Sakellariadi and Akira Matsuda have been nominated to the Student Committee of the World Archaeological Congress and Akira is the current Chair of this committee. Research students have given a number of papers at conferences, notably Hilary Orange on her work at Tintagel, Cornwall and Gabriel Moshenska, who has given several papers on aspects of heritage and warfare. In collaboration with Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews, James Doeser has set up a website entitled Bad Archaeology which aims to explore “fringe” archaeology (http://www.badarchaeology.net).

The Centre for the Evolution of Cultural Diversity (CECD)

Director: James Steele

The Centre for the Evolution of Cultural Diversity (CECD) is a Phase Two AHRC Research Centre (2006–2010), building on the earlier work of the AHRB Centre for the Evolutionary Analysis of Cultural Behaviour. The CECD is working to define a new evolutionary science of cultural dynamics, with the aim of understanding past and present human cultural diversity. This science will provide a theoretical and methodological framework for the analysis of interdependencies of languages, social systems, material culture, and demography. Our scientific programme focuses at the theoretical level on processes of cultural variation, inheritance, selection, and drift. Our methodological contributions facilitate characterization of the operation of such processes in concrete instances. Our empirical contributions involve the compilation and analysis of archaeological, ethnographic and historical datasets that exemplify these processes. Archaeology is the most-represented discipline among the Centre’s projects and staff, but the contributions from social and biological anthropology and from linguistics are fundamental to the success of our mission.

The following are some of the main intellectual achievements at the Centre for the year 2008. This is a 2008 activity summary: much of the work reported here has only recently been submitted for publication, and some is currently being written up.

Theory and method

Most of our work during 2008 has been a continuation of activity initiated or developed during 2007. Much of this work was reported at two conferences organized by the Centre in 2008 (Demographic Processes and Cultural Change and Cultural and Linguistic Diversity), with the papers now being edited for journal publication. We have further explored by simulation the demographic preconditions for the Upper Palaeolithic revolution in cultural complexity. We have continued to explore statistical test for cultural selection when drift is the null model of turnover dynamics. We have explored further by simulation the use of phylogenetic methods to estimate transmission histories, and explored alternative quantitative techniques for diagnosing phylogenetic signal and reticulation in cultural data. We have continued to develop a quantitative understanding of rates of
character evolution under selection in cultural phylogenetic trees. We have also implemented new mathematical models of language shift, inspired by ecological competition models, and we have begun to analyse linguistic distance measures based on phonological properties.

Empirical work
We are continuing to address human cultural origins, by reconstructing the evolution of the human speech capacity and by imaging the functional neurology of human tool use. We have analysed transmission histories in Indo-European, Austronesian, and American Northwest Coast languages and kinship systems, and in late glacial European hunter-gatherer archaeology. We have further analysed the diffusion and diversity of pottery forms in prehistoric Fiji and in the Hittite and Greek states. We are continuing to characterize prehistoric demographic expansions from radiocarbon data and to document the spread of Neolithic animal economies. We are continuing to analyse the adoption dynamics of modern durable goods and the dynamics of fashion in modern popular culture.

Dissemination and outreach
The Centre has organized two discipline-leading conferences, confirming that CECD members are now accepted as leading international authorities on the theory and applications of cultural evolutionary models within archaeology and anthropology. The increasing interest in this work by workers in the life sciences is demonstrated by the commissioning of the conference proceedings as special issues of two interdisciplinary journals that are influential in that field. We have again hosted several international visiting scholars working on topics relevant to the Centre’s mission. The first Centre Summer School was a very successful initiative to disseminate our approach to a new generation of researchers. Our outreach strategy has meanwhile taken us once again to the UK Festival of Science, and is involving us in innovative collaborations with curriculum experts developing materials for school science teachers.

Capacity-building
The Centre has continued to meet its commitment to facilitate the academic progression of a new generation of researchers. In 2008 four PhDs were awarded for Centre projects and another thesis was submitted. Three of these students have accepted post-doctoral positions (one with the CECD and three elsewhere). Finally, two externally-funded Centre Postdoctoral researchers have progressed to tenure-track lectureships (one in Denmark, one in Sweden).

The International Centre for Chinese Heritage and Archaeology (ICCHA)
Director: Thilo Rehren

The ICCHA is a joint enterprise between the School of Archaeology and Museology of Peking University in Beijing, and the UCL Institute of Archaeology here in London. First established in 2003 with considerable support from the Simon Li foundation, it is one of the many enduring initiatives of Peter Ucko, and one he worked for until his very last days. Among its main aims is to strengthen the mutual knowledge of archaeology and heritage in China and the West, in terms of factual knowledge as well as methods for its study, management, preservation and presentation to the wider public. Apart from a steering committee representing the two partner institutions, ICCHA has no formal membership; it addresses the growing community at the Institute of people with an academic or cultural interest in China. This year, we have about a dozen Chinese postgraduate students at the Institute, mostly from mainland China, but also from Taiwan and Hong Kong, and several more whose research is focused on China in one way or another.

ICCHAs initiatives can be summarized under three headings: student-centred activities, research projects, and exchange and outreach. The first two in particular sometimes overlap, for instance when doctoral students are involved in joint research projects. During term time, our students organize the monthly China Night, with up-to-date presentations of research by staff and students, or indeed visitors. In addition, they organize their own Study Group to support each other, and help new students to adjust to academic life in the UK. China Night topics this year included “Radiocarbon Dating and Precise Archaeological Chronology: a case study in central plain of China from Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age” by Dr Zhang Hai, a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute, “Trade, Local Taste: Chinese ceramics in late proto-historic Island Southeast Asia” by PhD student Kuang-jen Chang, and “Differences and Relations: an ongoing technological study on the Hanzhong Bronze, Southwest China” by Kunlong Chen, a visiting doctoral student from USTB.

Major research projects of the Institute in China include work on early rice domestication and the study of the bronze weapons of the Terracotta Army. Both projects benefit greatly from the involvement of doctoral students from China who are at the Institute thanks to three-year studentships. ICCHA, the UCL Institute of Archaeology, and the students are all extremely grateful for the generous support of the SHKP-Kwoks Foundation in Hong Kong, which is currently supporting six doctoral students from mainland China, and has recently announced its intention to support another three beginning in 2009.

Finally, ICCHA regularly organizes and hosts visits by delegations from Chinese heritage and archaeology institutions, facilitating visits to relevant institutions and sites in the UK. In April, we hosted a delegation from the Beijing Institute of Cultural Relics who spent ten days in the UK, and in May we welcomed 17 Vice-Directors of Provincial Archaeological Institutes from across China. Another regular feature of ICCHA is the organization of international conferences in Beijing. In 2006, Peter Ucko organized a conference on Teaching of Archaeological Field Techniques, the proceedings of which have since been published by Saffron Press as a book (From Concepts of the Past to Practical Strategies; the teaching of archaeological field techniques; P Ucko, Qin Ling and Jane Hubert, eds). Following Peter’s untimely death in June 2007, Peter Stone from Newcastle University kindly agreed to organize the next conference, under the title Sharing Archaeology, which took place in November 2008.
The above list includes only the projects that involve survey or excavation (or both) run by members of the Institute or to which they make a major contribution. (Individual research students’ field projects are excluded, as are study visits to museum and other collections), and only the main members of the Institute involved in each project are named. Staff from other UCL departments and other UK and overseas universities and organizations also participate in many projects and in some cases co-direct them, but there is insufficient space to list them all here.

All the overseas projects depend on collaboration with local archaeologists and with the relevant antiquities services, museums or universities. Several of them also involve collaboration with other UK universities, museums and other organizations.