Dr. Michael Danti is a Near Eastern archaeologist with over 25-years experience directing archaeological programs in Syria, Iraq, and Iran. He received his BA in Anthropology from Purdue University (1990) and a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania (2000). From 1991 to 2010, he directed excavations and archaeological surveys in Syria's Raqqa Province. He currently serves as Academic Director of the American Schools of Oriental Research Cultural Heritage Initiatives (ASOR CHI) established through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of State. ASOR CHI monitors and reports on the heritage situation in Syria and northern Iraq, plans and implements remediation projects, and engages in cultural heritage outreach and public awareness. Michael also directed the Mosul University Archaeology Program (2013–2015), funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of State, which worked to enhance the quality of archaeological education at Mosul University's College of Archaeology. Michael continues to be actively engaged in field research in the Middle East and directs the Rowanduz Archaeological Program in Iraqi Kurdistan. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 2011 and serves as a Consulting Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.