



DONOR IMPACT REPORT
**2022 Fieldwork
Participation
Scholarships:
G. E. Wright &
Shirlee Meyers
Scholarships**



asor

UNEARTHING THE PAST SINCE 1900



Donor Impact: Summary

\$8,000

awarded to
students in
2022

4

students on
international
excavations

Colleges & Universities of Recipients:

Eötvös Loránd University
Simon Fraser University
Texas State University
University of Michigan

Excavation/Fieldwork Sites:

**The Lautenschläger Azekah
Expedition - Israel**
**Vayots Dzor Fortress Landscape
Project - Armenia**
**Ayioi Omoloyites Bioarchaeological
Project - Cyprus**
**"A Multi-Survey Exploration of
Residences Near Tell el-Hesi" - Israel**

Scholarship Recipient Names:

Bruno Barros
Aurora Camaño
Krysten Cruz
Anna Luurstema



A once-in-a-lifetime academic experience and cultural immersion.

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"I was overjoyed to be able to return to Armenia, and deeply enjoyed my time in Vayots Dzor working with the VDFLP team. Our site was located high in the mountains, overlooking the village of Karaglukh. We were treated to stunning views of wildflowers and the smells of wild thyme during our workday. Beyond the interesting archaeological work we conducted in Karaglukh, I enjoyed the many interesting conversations we had over delicious meals and homemade lavash in the village of Areni, strolls through neighbouring apricot orchards, and visits to the local 13th century church. I deeply appreciate the support of ASOR in making this experience possible. "

- **Aurora Camaño**, Vayots Dzor Fortress Landscape Project

Advancing research in the field.

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"My primary goal this summer was to join the Lautenschläger Azekah Expedition and look for answers for my Ph.D. research in the Neo-Assyrian expansion in the Southern Levant. I am grateful for many of the questions answered during the season and for being part of the 2022 team. I would like to express my gratitude to ASOR and the scholarship's donors. They made this exciting experience possible and have significantly contributed to my research. I also thank the Azekah administration and Prof. Oded Lipschits for having hosted me and clarifying many of my questions."

- **Bruno Barros**, The Lautenschläger Azekah Expedition

Name: Aurora Camaño
University: Simon Fraser University
Site: Vayots Dzor Fortress Landscape Project,
Armenia

“We, along with other team members and local workers **opened a new trench with the hopes of finding evidence of the fortification believed to be in the area.**”

“We were pleased to have found a number of walls, and while several seemed like temporary builds from later medieval squatter occupation, we excavated the corner of a well-built wall that appeared to be curved. **The wall was still impressively tall, and due to its size is likely an outer wall of original fort.** Beyond the architectural features of the trench, we also uncovered an array of pottery, both medieval and iron age of mostly local production. **Through this process we were able to better understand regional ceramic production and the different vessel and fabric types that frequented the site.**”



Aurora Camaño is a PhD Candidate in Archaeology at Simon Fraser University. She is a landscape archaeologist who specializes in built landscapes in the medieval Near East and South Caucasus. Her current dissertation studies landscapes of relocation in medieval Armenian Cilicia.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Name: Krysten Cruz

University: Texas State University

Site: Ayioi Omoloyites Bioarchaeological Project,
Cyprus

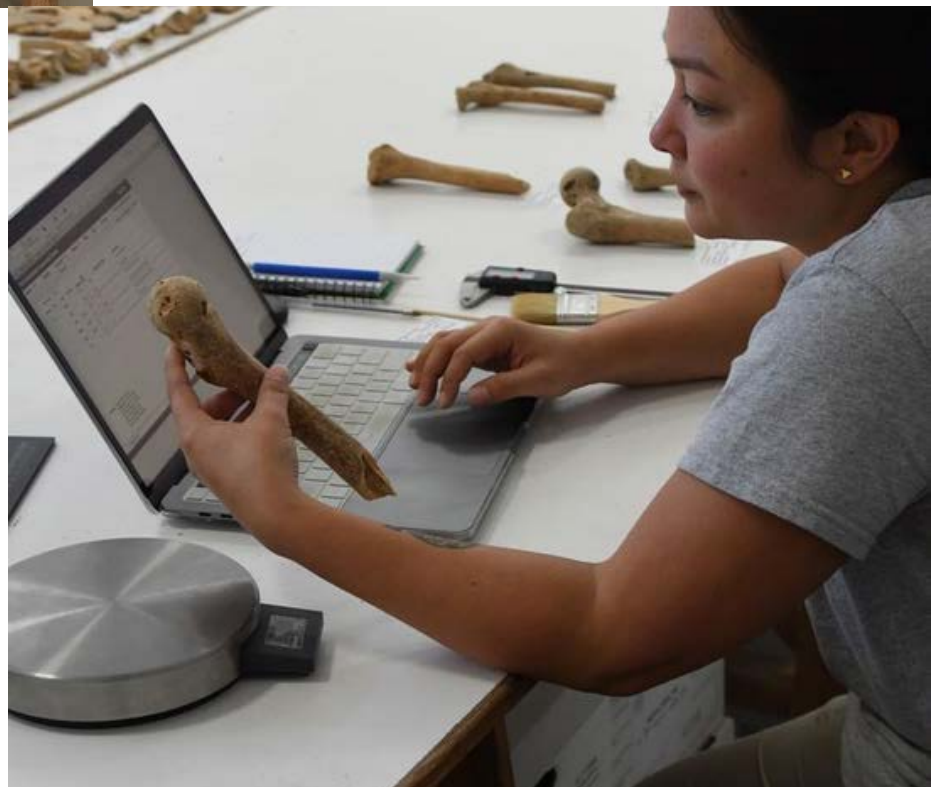


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"Although I participated in general analyses, **my main goal of the summer was to conduct research of my own by observing specific areas of the humerus (arm) and femur (thigh).** I was looking for skeletal lesions that look like porous areas or spongy bone."

"There is substantial discussion in the literature about where these lesions are specifically located and what they are supposed to look like in order to be considered evidence of disease or just an indicator of a particular lifestyle, so I tried to take notes and detailed photos. **I am attempting to assess whether these lesions are related to a common disease found on the island, or whether they are actually a sign that these individuals were participating in specific activities.**"

Krysten Cruz is a PhD student in the Applied Anthropology doctoral program at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. Her research interests include forensic anthropology and eastern Mediterranean bioarchaeology.



Name: Anna Luurstema

University: University of Michigan

Site: "A Multi-Survey Exploration of Residences Near Tell el-Hesi," *Israel*

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"In the area surrounding the tell, we created a grid of five-by-five meter squares in order to systematically measure the densities of potsherds, lithics, and other artifacts. We had five minutes in each square to pick up as many artifacts as we could."

"Our findings were then recorded and photographed before being placed back in the square. Over the course of three weeks, we surveyed 600 squares. **Sometimes I collected upwards of thirty sherds in a square, while other times I was lucky to find three.** It was sometimes difficult to stay motivated in the heat, but it helped me to look forward to the next milestone—200 squares, 300 squares, 400 squares—and to remember how much progress we had already made."



Anna Luurtsema is a senior at the University of Michigan studying anthropological archaeology with a minor in Middle East Studies. Her research interests include zooarchaeology, human mobility, and the origin of agriculture, and she plans to apply to graduate school this fall.

Name: Bruno Barros

University: Eötvös Loránd University

Site: The Lautenschläger Azekah Expedition, Israel



Bruno Barros is a Ph.D. candidate in the department of Assyriology and Hebrew Studies at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. His research interests include Neo-Assyrian Art History and Levantine Archaeology particularly in the Iron Age.

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"Our task in area N1 was to open a new square adjacent to the Iron Age IIC olive oil press so we could search for the continuation of the Iron Age walls and possibly also a new press."

"During the first few days the big pickaxes dominated the scene without much result. Our group was a bit disappointed at first, but the rewards started to come during the second week. **It took three weeks to expose most of the walls along with a few rooms that belonged respectively to the Iron Age IIC and Persian periods**, not to mention a strange structure. We are still not sure of this structure's exact function, but according to the directors it is most likely a silo from the Persian Period."





*Thank you for all you do to support the
next generation of experts.*

