

Opportunity for Early Proposal Submission
SHA 2011 Conference on Historical and Underwater
Archaeology
The Hilton Austin, Austin, Texas
January 5 - 9, 2011

In order to encourage more international participants, the planning committee for SHA 2011 is offering an opportunity for early review of *session* and *paper* proposals. Our customary deadline for submission of proposals for SHA is in the summer, with acceptances in the early fall, but we have learned that this does not allow sufficient time for some of our international colleagues to apply for travel funds and visas. Therefore, *for sessions which include international participants*, we will review proposals and provide written acceptances early, in the hope that more people from outside the U.S. will be able to attend. If you are interested, read on.

If you submit a proposal to us early, we will review it and respond (via email) no later than within one month of proposal submission. We can also provide our response on hard copy on SHA letterhead on request, either by snail mail or as a signed PDF. If you do have a "right away" deadline let us know and we will make every effort to respond quickly. Letters for accepted proposals will indicate that the session has been accepted as part of the professional program for SHA 2011, and would indicate that the conference would take place from January 5 – 9, 2011.

However, please note that all sessions and papers would still need to be submitted (by the session organizers and individual authors) by the “regular” deadline in the “customary” fashion – that is, using the following timetable:

Call for Papers Opens: May 1, 2010 (to be announced in SHA’s Spring Newsletter)

Online Call for Papers Available: June 1, 2010

Final Submission Deadline: July 10, 2010

Therefore precise scheduling for any given session will not be available until later in the year.

This early opportunity is available **ONLY** for sessions which include participants from outside the U.S.A., although all of the participants in any given session do *not* have to be from outside the U.S.A.

The theme for SHA 2011 is described below. For additional information about session formats, travel grants, and any other matters please contact the SHA 2011 Program Chair, Carol McDavid, at mc david@publicarchaeology.org, the

Terrestrial Program Director (Michael Strutt; Michael.Strutt@tpwd.state.tx.us) or the Underwater Program Director (Filipe Castro; fvcastro@tamu.edu).

Conference Theme:

Boundaries and Crossroads in Action: Global Perspectives in Historical Archaeology

Over time, Texas has been variously referred to as a frontier, colony, empire, borderland, hub, republic, and state. This changing configuration of Texas' role in the modern world was shaped by multiple factors, including forced and voluntary immigrations and the attempts at empire building by various nations. The contributions of Native Americans, Euroamericans, African Americans, and peoples of diverse nationalities, including Mexicans, Germans, Spaniards, and the French, underscore the state's rich legacy. Boundaries and crossroads both conceptualize and capture the subsequent exchanges, conflicts, challenges, and accomplishments of a range of individuals and groups as they sought to establish themselves in an ever-transforming world. Yet, we are interested in a broader application of the theme and view it as related to a much wider scope of issues, questions, and practices both in the past and present.

Boundaries and crossroads evoke two distinct but related spheres of engagement and interaction, in geographical, social, and intellectual terms. While "boundaries" seek to demarcate space and cohesiveness, in reality the lines drawn are porous and subject to multiple, and often disputed, crossings. Similarly, while "crossroads," as intersections, imply points of contact and exchange, these processes are often fraught with contestation. Together, boundaries and crossroads are sites of action and simultaneously represent negotiated spaces, processes, identities and change. We propose an inclusive and more universal definition of these concepts and seek theoretical, thematic, and geographical translations of "boundaries" and "crossroads" in session papers and topics that emphasize the global nature of historical and underwater archaeology.

As sites of potential conflict, negotiation is often required when travelling across boundaries, and moving within crossroads. We see this challenge as an opportunity for enriching the discipline with regard to theory and practice, and reconceptualising traditional subject matters. For example, we recognize the need to cross geographical and intellectual boundaries to develop more global, comparative bodies of research in order to address such issues as social inequality, capitalism, trade, and alternative strategies of colonization. Sessions might interrogate the crossroads of identity formation by considering the intersection of ethnicity, gender, race, and/or class. Cultural contact is a nexus of interaction that as a process serves as a vehicle by which people construct, negotiate, and deploy boundaries and crossroads. Yet we also see boundaries and crossroads in the realm of public archaeology, where practitioners work emphatically to transgress boundaries and to establish inclusive, mutually beneficial relationships with various publics. Heritage and archaeological sites and museums often signify cultural crossroads or archaeology/public boundaries. How do we constructively negotiate these spaces? Finally, sessions might explore the boundaries between and crossroads/intersections of academic and CRM archaeology, or terrestrial and underwater archaeology, in search of more productive ways to work together.

Travel Grants for International Participants in SHA 2011

In an effort to expand international participation at these meetings, the 2011 Planning Committee will award a limited number of travel grants to scholars who wish to participate in the program. Those who reside in the following countries are *excluded* from eligibility for these grants:

Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sectioned Arab Emirates, Singapore, Sultanate of Oman, Taiwan, United States, Western Europe (except Greece and Portugal).

Applications will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis up to the limit our budget allows, which is still being determined. We estimate, however, that we will be able to offer about 20-25 grants, and that each grant will offset from 40%-75% of the registration fee (which for previous conferences has ranged from \$100 - \$200). Student grants will be for a larger percentage of registration cost, and a photocopy or scan of a current ID will be required. Prospective attendees will be asked to complete a one-page application form (to be provided on request) if they wish to take advantage of this offer. "Participation" means participating in at least one of the ways described below, and joining the SHA (membership information is located at http://www.sha.org/about/membership_info.cfm).

Session formats

The SHA 2011 planning committee hopes to encourage flexibility in the types of sessions offered. All sessions must, however, be organized into 1.5 or 2 hour segments, and can include any combination of papers, discussants, and/or group discussion. All formal papers will be 15 minutes long.

Symposia, panels, and discussions:

Submit a 150-word abstract of your proposed session along with a list of participants (including a 150-word abstract for each paper proposed), plus 3 keywords. Also submit a more detailed session description which tells us how you wish to organize the session, dividing the session into 15-minute increments. A symposium may include (for example):

- 4 or 6 papers and two 15-minute discussion segments,
- 4 or 6 papers, one discussant and one discussion segment,
- 6 or 8 papers,
- 5 or 7 papers plus one discussant,
- an introduction, 4 papers, and one discussant,
- ...and so on.

If you wish to have a longer session with more participants, you still need to organize your proposal so that each part of your session will fit into either 1.5 or 2 hour blocks. *This may involve recruiting more papers, or restricting the number of participants, as needed.*

If you wish to have a longer session with more participants, you still need to organize your proposal so that each part of your session will fit into 1.5 hour segments. You do not need to list the order of presenters – that will be determined later by the conference committee, based on the probable need to schedule individual presenters at different places on the same day.

Individual papers

Papers will be given 15 minute slots in session groupings determined by the program committee. Please include a 150-word abstract and 3 keywords. Individual papers will be grouped appropriately by the program committee, based on the keywords you provide.

Submit all proposals to the Program Chair, Carol McDavid, mcdavid@publicarchaeology.org.

During the conference period, participants will be allowed to serve as:

Primary author – one time during the conference.

Discussant – one time during the conference.

Panelist in a forum or open discussion – as many times as desired. However, the committee will only attempt to protect each participant from being “double booked” once. Therefore, if you choose to participate in more than one panel, you will need to let us know what your “primary” choice is.

Secondary author – as many times as desired, although *no* protection can be offered for “double booking” secondary authors.