

John Rowan, PhD

Assistant Professor in Human Evolution

Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge

email: jr2006@cam.ac.uk | lab website: rowanlab.org | [Google Scholar](#)

Research Foci: Human and ape evolution, vertebrate palaeontology, palaeoecology, Africa

EARNED DEGREES

PhD, 2018, Evolutionary Anthropology, Arizona State University

MA, 2014, Evolutionary Anthropology, Arizona State University

BA, 2012, Biology (cum laude, Program Distinction), Stockton University

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2024- Assistant Professor in Human Evolution, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge

2020-2024 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University at Albany

2019-2020 Darwin Fellow, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, UMass Amherst

2018-2019 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, UMass Amherst

APPOINTMENTS

2024- Member, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research

2022-2024 Director for the Origins Field School (UAlbany Kenya Study Abroad run in collaboration with the Turkana Basin Institute and Stony Brook University)

2020- Lecturer, MSc Program in Human Evolutionary Biology, Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Turkana University College (Kenya)

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

*Student author; †Co-first author

In Review

Rowan, C. M.*, Kolawole, F., Becel, A., Betka, P., Rowan, J. Necking of active rifts and priming eastern Africa for continental breakup. *Nature Communications*.

In Revision

Du, A., Friedlander, E., Rowan, J., Alemseged, Z. Placing probabilities on a taxon's true absence: applications to the hominin genus *Paranthropus*. *Paleobiology*.

Norwood, A. L., Rowan, J., Robinson, J. R., Du, A., Lazagabaster, I. A., Faith, J. T. Phylogenetic niche conservatism constrained dietary responses of late Cenozoic African herbivores to environmental change. *Nature Ecology and Evolution*.

In Press

(59) Smiley†, T. M., Rowan†, J., Aoron*, E., Barrett, P. Z., Beck, C. C., Feibel, C. S., Fortelius, M., Gaiku*, M., Green, D. R., Henkes, G. A., Holt, W. E., Kinyanjui, R. N., Lavin*, S. T., Lee*, D., Liutkus-Pierce, C. M., Mbatha*, P., Miller, E. R., Fehringer*, L., Omondi*, E. A., Ormsby*, C. M., Poulsen, C. J., Princehouse, P. M., Rowan*, C. M., Russo, G. A., Sankau*, L. K., Ungar, P. S., Uno, K. T., Vitek, N. S., Žliobaitė, I., Nengo, I. O. The Miocene record of primate and faunal evolution in the Turkana Basin. In: L. B. Martin and F. E. Grine (eds) *Africa: The Human Cradle* (chapter in forthcoming book by Springer).

- (58) Russo, G. A., Miller, E. R., Feibel, C. S., Smiley, T. M., Hintermeister*, M. P., Seiffert, E. R., Vitek, N. S., Rossie, J. B., Prang, T. C., McGeachie, F. R., Kuo, S., Ward, C. V., Rowan, J., Lazagabaster, I. A., Rios, M., Morlo, M., Friscia, A., Green, D. R., Lavin*, S., Fry*, T., Fehringer*, L. K., Siddiqui, A., Rasbury, E. T., Kinyanjui, R. N., Cox, S. E., Sousa, F. J., Mana, S., Hatton*, K., Saslaw*, M., Stinchcomb, G. E., Nyete, C., Kirinya, M., Leakey, M. G., Leakey, L. N., Uno, K. T., Beck, C. C., Henkes, G. A., Nengo, I. O. The paleoanthropological significance of Napudet, Turkana Basin, Kenya. In: L. B. Martin and F. E. Grine (eds) *Africa: The Human Cradle* (chapter in forthcoming book by Springer).
- (57) Rowan, J., Lorenzen, E. D., Bibi, F. Evolutionary biogeography of African antelopes: Implications for *Paranthropus*. In: P. J. Constantino, K. E. Reed, B. A. Wood (eds) *The Forgotten Lineage(s): Paleobiology of Paranthropus* (chapter in forthcoming book by Springer).

2025

- (56) Pallas, L., Nakatsukasa, M., Daver, G., Guy, F., Rowan, J. New femoral evidence from the Afar reveal the early evolution of habitual squatting behaviors in the genus *Theropithecus*. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 13: 1593646.
- (55) Green D. R., Uno, K. T., Miller, E. R., Feibel, C. S., Aaron*, E. E., Beck, C. C., Grossman, A., Kirera, F. M., Kirinya, M. M., Leakey, L. N., Liutkus-Pierce, C., Manthi, F. K., Ndiema, E. K., Nengo, I. O., Nyete, C., Rowan, J., Russo, G. A., Sanders, W. J., Smiley, T. M., Princehouse, P., Vitek, N. S., Cleland, T. P. Eighteen million years of diverse enamel proteomes recovered from the East African Rift. *Nature* 643: 1-7.
- (54) Kirkpatrick, A. G., Lazagabaster, I. A., Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Campisano, C. J., Reed, K. E., Scott, J. E., Ungar, P. S. Dental microwear of bovids from the Pliocene-Pleistocene transition in the Lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 112932.
- (53) Robinson, J. R., Lazagabaster, I. A., Rowan, J., Lewis, M. E., Werdelin, L., Campisano, C. J., Reed, K. E. Paleoeology of the Pliocene large carnivore guild at Hadar, lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia. *Journal of Human Evolution* 202: 103653.
- (52) Schowaneck, S. D., Davis, M., Lundgren, E. J., Middleton, O., Rowan, J., Ramp, D., Sandom, C. J., Svenning, J. C. The late-Quaternary extinctions gave rise to functionally novel herbivore assemblages. *Ecology and Evolution* 15(3): e71101.
- (51) Fehringer*, L. K., Beck, C. C., Leakey, L. N., Princehouse, P., Rowan, J., Russo, G. A., Teaford, M. F., Uno, K. T., Ungar, P. S. Dental microwear of Neogene Cercopithecoidea from the Turkana Basin, Kenya. *Journal of Human Evolution* 201: 103646.
- (50) Norwood, A. Rowan, J., Faith, J. T. Reconciling the environmental implications of late Quaternary faunal and pollen records in southern Africa. *Quaternary Science Advances* 17: 100259.

2024

- (49) Wooster, E. I. F., Middleton, O. S., Wallach, A. D., Ramp, D., Sanisidro, O., Harris, V. K., Rowan, J., Schowaneck, S. D., Gordon, C. E., Svenning, J. C., Davis, M., Scharlemann, J. P. W., Lundgren, E. J., Sandom, C. J. Recently established predators rewire Australia's mammalian food webs. *Current Biology* 34(22): 5164-5172.

- (48) Abraham*, J. O., Rowan, J., O'Brien*, K., Sokolowski*, K., Faith, J. T. Environmental context shapes the relationship between grass consumption and body size in African herbivore communities. *Ecology and Evolution* 15,14(2): e11050.
- (47) Faith, J. T., Rowan, J., Du, A. Late Cenozoic faunal and ecosystem change in Africa. *Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences* 52:1.
- (46) Lewis, J. E., Ward, C. V., Kimbel, W. H., Kidney, C. L., Brown, F. H., Quinn, R. L., Rowan, J., Lazagabaster, I. A., Sanders, W. J., Leakey, M. G., Leakey, L. N. A 4.3-million-year-old *Australopithecus anamensis* mandible from Ileret, East Turkana, Kenya, and its paleoenvironmental context. *Journal of Human Evolution* 194: 103579.
- (45) Rowan, J., Wood, B. A. Dart and the Taung juvenile: Making sense of a century-old record of hominin evolution in Africa. *Biology Letters* 20 (7), 20240185.
- (44) Rowan, J., Du, A., Lundgren, E. J., Faith, J. T., Beaudrot, L., Campisano, C. J., Joordens, J., Lazagabaster, I. A., Locke, E. M., Smail, I. E., Reed, K. E., Kamilar, J. M. Long-term biotic homogenization in the East African Rift System over the last 6 Myr of hominin evolution. *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 8: 1751-1759.
- (43) Wooster, E. I. F., Lundgren, E. J., Lemoine, R. T., Sandom, C. J., Svenning, J. C., Rowan, J., Balisi, M., Jolly, C. J., Linley, G., Cowan, M. Wright, N., Westaway, D., Nichols, H., Middleton, O. S. Functional traits of the world's late Quaternary mammalian hypercarnivores. *Global Ecology and Biogeography* 33(12): e13909.

2023

- (42) Žliobaitė, I., Fortelius, M., Bernor, R. L., van den Hoek Ostende, L. W., Janis, C., Lintulaakso, K., Sällä, L. K., Werdelin, L. W., Casanovas-Vilar, I., Croft, D., Flynn, L., Hopkins, S., Kaakinen, A., Kordos, L., Kostopoulos, D. S., Pandolfi, L., Rowan, J., Tesakov, A., Vislobokova, I., Zhaoqun, Z., Aiglstorfer, M., Alba, D. M., Arnal, M., Antoine, P. O., Belmaker, M., Bilgin, M., Boisserie, J. R., Borths, M., Cooke, S. B., van Dam, J., Delson, E., Eronen, J., Fox, D., Friscia, A., Furió, M., Giaourtsakis, I. X., Holbrook, L., Hunter, J., López-Torres, S., Ludtke, J. Minwer-Barakat, R., van der Made, J., Mennecart, B., Pushkina, D., Rook, L., Saarinen, J., Samuels, J. X., Sanders, W., Silcox, M. The NOW database of fossil mammals. In: I. Casanovas Vilar, C. Janis, J. Saarinen, L. van der Hoek Ostende. (eds) *Evolution of Cenozoic Land Mammal Faunas and Ecosystems: 25 Years of the NOW Database of Fossil Mammals*, pp 33-42. Springer.

2022

- (41) Barr, W. A., Pobiner, B., Rowan, J., Du, A., Faith, J. T. No sustained increase in archaeological evidence for carnivory after the appearance of *Homo erectus*. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 119: e2115540119.
- (40) Campisano, C. J., Rowan, J., Reed, K. E. The Hadar Formation, Afar Regional State, Ethiopia: Geology, fauna, and paleoenvironmental reconstructions. In: S. Reynolds and R. Boe (eds) *African Paleoecology and Human Evolution*, pp 214-228. Cambridge University Press.
- (39) Cohen, A. S., Du, A., Rowan, J., Yost, C. L., Billingsley, A. L., Campisano, C. J., Brown, E. T., Deino, A. L., Feibel, C. S., Grant, K., Kingston, J. D., Lupien, R. L., Muiruri, V., Owen, R. B., Reed, K. E., Russell, J., Stockhecke, M. Plio-Pleistocene environmental variability in Africa and its implications for mammalian evolution. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 119: e2107393119.

- (38) Fricke, E. C., Hsieh*, C., Middleton, O., Gorczynski*, D., Cappello, C. D., Sanisidro, O., Rowan, J., Svenning, J. C., Beaudrot, L. Collapse of terrestrial mammal food webs since the Late Pleistocene. *Science* 377:1008-1011.
- (37) Patterson, D. B., Du, A., Faith, J. T., Rowan, J., Uno, K., Behrensmeyer, A. K., Braun, D. R., Wood, B. A. Did vegetation change drive the extinction of *Paranthropus boisei*? *Journal of Human Evolution* 157:103154.
- (36) Rowan, J., Lazagabaster, I. A., Campisano, C. J., Bibi, F., Bobe, R., Boiserrie, J. R., Frost, S. R., Getachew*, T., Gilbert, C. G., Lewis, M. E., Melaku*, S., Scott, E., Souron, A., Werdelin, L., Kimbel, W. H., Reed, K. E. Early Pleistocene large mammals from Maka'amitalu, Hadar, lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia. *PeerJ* 10: e13210.

2021

- (35) Blondel, C., Merceron, G., Rowan, J., Surault*, J., Boisserie, J. R. Dietary ecology of Reduncini (Bovidae) from the Shungura Formation, lower Omo Valley, Ethiopia. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 587:110789.
- (34) Du, A., Rowan, J., Wang, S.C., Wood, B.A., Alemseged, Z. On the fossil recovery potential in the *Australopithecus anamensis-afarensis* lineage: reply to Žliobaitė (2020). *Journal of Human Evolution* 157:103025.
- (33) Faith, J. T., Du, A., Behrensmeyer, A. K., Davies, B., Patterson, D. B., Rowan, J. Wood, B. A. Rethinking the ecological drivers of hominin evolution. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 36: 797-807.
- (32) Lundgren*, E. J., Schowanek*, S. D., Rowan, J., Middleton*, O., Davis, M., Ramp, D., Pedersen, R. O., Sandom, C. J., Wallach, A. D., Svenning, J.C. Functional traits of the world's late Quaternary large-bodied mammalian herbivores. *Scientific Data* 8: 1-21.
- (31) O'Brien*, K. O., Tryon, C. A., Blegen, N., Kimeu, B., Rowan, J., Faith, J. T. First appearance of Grévy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*) from the Middle Pleistocene Kapthurin Formation, Kenya, sheds light on the evolution and paleoecology of large zebras. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 256: 106835.
- (30) Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Barr, W. A., Sponheimer, M. Intrataxonomic trends in herbivore enamel $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ are decoupled from woody cover. *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 5: 995-1002.
- (29) Schowanek*, S. D., Davis, M., Lundgren*, E. J., Middleton*, O., Rowan, J., Pedersen, R. O., Ramp, D., Sandom, C. J., Svenning, J. C. Reintroducing extirpated herbivores could partially reverse the late Quaternary decline of large and grazing species. *Global Ecology and Biogeography* 30: 896-908.

2020

- (28) Faith, J.T., Rowan, J., Du, A. Fifty gazelles do not equal an elephant, and other ecological misunderstandings. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 117: 3370-3373.
- (27) Faith, J. T., Rowan, J., O'Brien*, K., Blegen, N., Peppe, D. Late Pleistocene mammals from Kibogo, Kenya: systematic paleontology, paleoenvironments, and non-analog associations. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* 40: e1841781.
- (26) Faith, J.T., Rowan, J., Du, A., Barr, W. A. The uncertain case for human-driven extinctions prior to *Homo sapiens*. *Quaternary Research* 96: 88-104.

- (25) Lundgren*, E. J., Ramp, D., Rowan, J., Middleton*, O., Schowanek*, S., Sanisidro, O., Carroll, S. P., Davis, M., Sandom, C. J., Svenning, J. C., Wallach, A. Introduced herbivores restore Late Pleistocene ecological functions. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 117: 7871-7878.
- (24) Rowan, J., Beaudrot, L., Franklin, J., Reed, K.E., Zamora*, A., Smail*, I. E., Kamilar, J. M. Geographically divergent evolutionary and ecological legacies shape mammal diversity in the global tropics and subtropics. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 117: 1559-1565.
- (23) Sandom, C., Middleton*, O., Lundgren*, E. J., Rowan, J., Schowanek*, S., Svenning, J. C., Faurby, S. Trophic rewilding presents regionally specific opportunities for mitigating climate change. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences* 375: 20190125.

2019

- (22) Du, A., Rowan, J., Wang, S. C., Wood, B. A., Alemseged, Z. Statistical estimates of hominin origination and extinction dates: A case study examining the *Australopithecus anamensis-afarensis* lineage. *Journal of Human Evolution* 138: 102688.
- (21) Faith, J. T., Du, A., Rowan, J. Addressing the effects of sampling on ecometric-based paleoenvironmental reconstructions. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 528: 175-185.
- (20) Faith, J. T., Rowan, J., Du, A. Early hominins evolved in non-analog ecosystems. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 116: 21478-21483.
- (19) Rowan, J., Faith, J. T. The paleoecological impact of grazing and browsing: Consequences of the late Quaternary large mammal extinctions. In: I. Gordon and H. Prins (eds) *The Ecology of Browsing and Grazing II*, pp 61-79. Springer.

2018

- (18) Blondel, C., Rowan, J., Merceron, G., Bibi, F., Negash*, E., Barr, W. A., Boisserie, J. R. Feeding ecology of Tragelaphini (Bovidae) from the Shungura Formation, lower Omo Valley, Ethiopia: Contribution of dental wear analyses. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 496: 103-120.
- (17) Du, A., Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Lazagabaster*, I. A., Behrensmeyer, A. K. Stable carbon isotopes from paleosol carbonate and herbivore enamel document differing paleovegetation signals in the eastern African Plio-Pleistocene. *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology* 261: 41-52.
- (16) Faith, J. T., Rowan, J., Du, A., Koch, P. L. Plio-Pleistocene decline of African megaherbivores: no evidence for ancient hominin impacts. *Science* 362: 938-941.
- (15) Lazagabaster*, I. A., Souron, A., Rowan, J., Robinson, J. R., Campisano, C. J., Reed, K. E. Fossil Suidae (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from Lee Adoyta, Ledi-Geraru, lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia: implications for late Pliocene turnover and paleoecology. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 504: 186-200.
- (14) Rowan, J., Martini*, P., Likius, A., Merceron, G., Boisserie, J. R. New Pliocene remains of *Camelus grattardi* (Mammalia, Camelidae) from the Shungura Formation, lower Omo Valley, Ethiopia and the evolution of African camels. *Historical Biology* 31: 1-12.

2017

- (13) Bibi, F., Rowan, J., Reed, K. E. Late Pliocene Bovidae Ledi-Geraru (Lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia) and their implications for Afar paleoecology. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* 37: e1337639.
- (12) Robinson, J.R., Rowan, J. Holocene paleoenvironmental change in southeastern Africa (Makwe Rockshelter, Zambia): Implications for the spread of pastoralism. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 156: 57-68.
- (11) Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Campisano, C. J., Wynn, J. G., Reed, K. E. Late Pliocene environmental change during the transition from *Australopithecus* to *Homo*. *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 1: 0159.
- (10) Rowan, J., Locke*, E. M., Robinson, J. R., Campisano, C. J., Wynn, J. G., Reed, K. E. Fossil Giraffidae (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from Lee Adoyta, Ledi-Geraru, and late Pliocene dietary evolution in giraffids from the lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia. *Journal of Mammalian Evolution* 24: 1-13.

2016

- (9) Lazagabaster*, I. A., Rowan, J., Kamilar, J. M., Reed, K. E. Evolution of craniodental correlates of diet in African Bovidae. *Journal of Mammalian Evolution* 23: 385-396.
- (8) Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Faith, J. T., Fleagle, J. G. Paleoenvironmental change in the late Middle Pleistocene-Holocene Kibish Formation, southern Ethiopia: Evidence from ungulate isotopic ecology. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 450: 50-59.
- (7) Rowan, J., Kamilar, J. M., Beaudrot, L., Reed, K. E. Strong influence of palaeoclimate on the structure of modern African mammal communities. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences* 283: 1-9.

2015

- (6) DiMaggio, E. N., Campisano, C. J., Rowan, J., Dupont-Nivet, G., Deino, A. L., Bibi, F., Lewis, M. E., Souron, A., Garello*, D., Werdelin, L. Reed, K. E., Arrowsmith, J. R. Late Pliocene fossiliferous sedimentary record and the environmental context of early *Homo* from Afar, Ethiopia. *Science* 347: 1352-1355.
- (5) Rowan, J., Adrian, B., Grossman, A. The first skull of *Sivameryx africanus* (Anthracotheriidae, Bothriodontinae) from the early Miocene of East Africa. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* 35: e928305.
- (4) Rowan, J., Faith, J. T., Gebru*, Y., Fleagle, J. G. Taxonomy and paleoecology of fossil Bovidae (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from the Kibish Formation, southern Ethiopia: Implications for dietary change, biogeography, and the structure of living bovid faunas of East Africa. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 420: 210-222.
- (3) Villmoare, B., Kimbel, W. H., Seyoum*, C., Campisano, C. J., DiMaggio, E. N., Rowan, J., Braun, D. R., Arrowsmith, J. R., Reed, K. E. Early *Homo* at 2.8 Ma from Ledi-Geraru, Afar, Ethiopia. *Science* 347: 1355-1359.
- (2) Villmoare, B., Kimbel, W. H., Seyoum*, C., Campisano, C. J., DiMaggio, E. N., Rowan, J., Braun, D.R., Arrowsmith, J. R., Reed, K. E. Response to comment on: "Early *Homo* at 2.8 Ma from Ledi-Geraru, Afar, Ethiopia." *Science* 348: 1326.

2014

- (1) Rowan, J., Reed, K.E. The paleoclimatic record and Plio-Pleistocene paleoenvironments. In: W. Henke and I. Tattersall (eds) *Handbook of Paleoanthropology*, pp-465-491. Springer.

BOOK REVIEWS, REPORTS, NEWS & VIEWS

2022

Rowan, J., Princehouse, P., Kinyanjui, R., Uno, K. T. Isaiah Odhiambo Nengo (1961-2022). *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 6: 659.

Rowan, J. Only in Africa: The Ecology of Human Evolution (book review). *Quarterly Review of Biology* 97: 223-224.

Rowan, J., Edome Akwee, P., Feibel, C., Harmand, S., Henkes, G., Hildebrand, E., Lewis, J., Princehouse, P., Taylor, N., Nengo, I. Raising up African Paleoanthropologists: An Innovative Master's Program at Turkana University College, Kenya. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 31: 2-4.

2019

Bell*, R., Fuchs*, A., Rowan, J., Zintel*, T., Dorshorst*, Zamora*, A. The 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in Cleveland, Ohio. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 28: 106-108.

2018

Rowan, J. Very short introductions to evolutionary mammalogy (book review). *Evolutionary Anthropology* 27: 247-248.

POPULAR SCIENCE PUBLICATIONS

2017

Rowan, J. Africa's mammals may not be able to keep up with the pace of climate change. The Conversation. [Link to publication](#).

2016

Rowan, J. Who are you? (Essay on phylogenetics for the "Ask an Anthropologist" website, an Institute of Human Origins k-12 initiative). [Link to publication](#).

Rowan, J. Historical human habitats. (Essay on paleoecology for the "Ask an Anthropologist" website, an Institute of Human Origins k-12 initiative). [Link to publication](#).

Rowan, J. Changing climates and changing faces. (Essay on paleoclimatic influences on human evolution for the "Ask an Anthropologist" website, an Institute of Human Origins k-12 initiative). [Link to publication](#).

EXTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

In Review	NERC/NSF GEO 'Tracing the origin of the hominin lineage and eastern African savanna ecosystems in the Late Miocene' £926,908 (Role: PI; co-PIs: G. A. Henkes, G. E. Stinchcomb)
2025-2026	Cambridge Africa ALBORADA 'Revealing our African origin: Evolution and palaeoenvironments of the earliest modern humans (<i>Homo sapiens</i>) from Natodomeri, Kenya' £19,990 (Role: PI; co-PI: F. K. Manthi)
2025-2027	Leakey Foundation 'Late Miocene hominin evolution in the Turkana Basin, Kenya' \$29,985 (Role: PI; co-PIs: G. A. Henkes, I. A. Lazagabaster, A. Ortiz, G. E. Stinchcomb)

- 2025-2027 Turkana Basin Institute Research Fund ‘Illuminating the origins of the African ape and human clade across the Middle to Late Miocene in the Turkana Basin, Kenya’ \$224,821 (Role: PI; co-PIs: I. A. Lazagabaster, G. A. Russo)
- 2021-2024 Turkana Basin Institute Research Fund ‘Lothagam: Hominin origins and faunal turnover in the late Miocene’ \$158,235 (Role: PI; co-PI: I. O. Nengo)
- 2021-2024 NSF BCS-2039759 ‘Examining the relationship between an increasingly carnivorous *Homo erectus* and Pleistocene mammal extinctions’ \$90,099 (PI: W. Barr, co-PIs: J. Rowan, A. Du, K. L. Chritz)
- 2021-2024 Keck Foundation ‘Disentangling the drivers of human evolution: Climate, tectonics, and habitat’ \$1,200,000 Keck Foundation (PI: B. Saylor; Senior Personnel: J. Rowan)
- 2019-2022 Leakey Foundation ‘Multiproxy paleoecology of ~2.35 Ma early *Homo* from Ethiopia’ \$13,996 (PI: J. Robinson; co-PIs: J. Rowan, I. A. Lazagabaster)
- 2014-2017 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship \$138,000 (total stipend/three years)

INTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 Arizona State University Dissertation Completion Award (\$22,400)
- 2016 Arizona State University Graduate Research Grant (\$1,944)
- 2015 Institute of Human Origins Research Grant (\$700)
- 2014 Institute of Human Origins Research Grant (\$500)
- 2012 Arizona State University Multi-Year Graduate Fellowship (\$134,064)
- 2011 Stockton University Board of Trustees Fellowship for Distinguished Students (\$1,000)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2025 Philip Leverhulme Prize in Archaeology (£100,000), Leverhulme Trust
- 2024 Nominee, Torch Award (Student Mentorship Award), University at Albany
- 2020 Nominee, Cozzarelli Prize, National Academy of Sciences
- 2016 Paleoanthropology Society Conference Travel Grant (\$250)
- 2015 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Jackson School of Geosciences Student Travel Grant (\$400)
- 2015 Arizona State University Morris Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Student (\$300)
- 2014 American Association of Biological Anthropologists William S. Pollitzer Student Travel Grant (\$500)
- 2013 Honorable Mention, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS WITH PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

2026

- (55) Reed, K. E., Su, D. F., Schultz, J. M., Smail, I. E., Sanders, W. J., Rowan, J., Rector, A. L., Levin, N. E., Lazagabaster, I. A., Haile-Selassie, Y., Gilbert, C. G., Frost, S. R., Feary, D. A., Campisano, C. J. Faunal perspective on the context of human evolution in the Lower

Awash Valley. 95th Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Denver, Colorado.

- (54) Van Holstein, L., Rowan, J. The role of clade competition in Plio-Pleistocene hominin, papionin, and suid evolution. 95th Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Denver, Colorado.

2025

- (53) Azé, J. O., Lahr, M. M., Rowan, J. Miocene ape locomotor diversity: A 3D geometric morphometric analysis of the fore- and hindlimb joints. 2025 European Society for the study of Human Evolution Meeting, Paris, France.
- (52) Ungar, P. S., Campisano, C. J., Kirkpatrick, A. G., Lazagabaster, I. A., Reed, K. E., Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Scott, J. R. Dental microwear textures of Plio-Pleistocene bovids from Ledi-Geraru and Hadar, Ethiopia. 2025 European Society for the study of Human Evolution Meeting, Paris, France.
- (51) Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Lazagabaster, I. A., Campisano, C. J., Reed, K. E., Kimbel, W. H. Isotopic paleoecology of Early Pleistocene *Homo* (A.L. 666-1) and associated fauna from Hadar, lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia. 94th Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Baltimore, Maryland.
- (50) Wood, B. A., Rowan, J. A hundred years of *Australopithecus*. 94th Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Baltimore, Maryland.

2024

- (49) Henkes, G. A., Beck, C. C., Feibel, C. S., Poulsen, C. J., Uno, K. T., Bahadori, A., Becel, A., Cox, S., Fortelius, M., Green, D. R., Hemming, S., Holt, W., Kinyanjui, R. N., Liutkus-Pierce, C. M., Malit, N., Mana, S., Miller, E. R., Rowan, J., Rasbury, T., Russo, G. A., Smiley, T. A., Sousa, F., Stinchcomb, G. E., Ungar, P. S., Vitek, N. S., Zliobate, I. Miocene landscape reconstruction and faunal evolution in Kenya's Turkana Basin: A report from the Turkana Miocene Project. Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Anaheim, California.
- (48) Lazagabaster, I. A., Rowan, J., Feibel, C. S. The last appearance of listriodontine suids in Africa: New evidence from the late Miocene of Lothagam, West Turkana, Kenya. 9th biennial meeting of the Eastern African Association of Paleoanthropology and Paleontology.
- (47) Fehringer*, L. K., Princehouse, P., Rowan, J., Uno, K. T., Ungar, P. S. Dental microwear of late Paleogene/Neogene primates from the Turkana Basin of Kenya. 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.
- (46) Sankau*, L., Green, D. R., Uno, K. T., Rowan, J. Niche partitioning in fossil bovids near the Mio-Pliocene at Lothagam, Turkana Basin, Kenya. 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.
- (45) Locke, E. M., Rowan, J., Faith, J. T., de Jager, D., Reed, K. E. Revisiting the systematics of antilopine bovids from Makapansgat Limeworks. 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.
- (44) Norwood*, A. L., Rowan, J., Faith, J. T. Changing mammal communities southern Africa in the terminal Pleistocene. 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.

- (43) Omondi*, E., Rowan, J. Turnover of Mio-Pliocene large mammal communities at Lothagam (West Turkana, Kenya). 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.
- (42) Ormsby*, C. M., Rowan, J., Lazagabaster, I. A. Paleoecology of the saber-toothed felid *Lokotunjailurus emageritus* from Lothagam (Turkana Basin, Kenya). 2024 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, Los Angeles, California.
- (41) Robinson, J. R., Lazagabaster, I. A., Rowan, J., Lewis, M. E., Werdelin, L., Campisano, C. J., Reed, K. E. Paleoecology of the Hadar carnivore guild: New insights from enamel stable isotopes. 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.
- (40) Rowan, J., Du, A., Lundgren, E. J., Faith, J. T., Beaudrot, L., Campisano, C. J., Joordens, J., Lazagabaster, I. A., Locke, E. M., Smail, I. E., Reed, K. E., Kamilar, J. M. Biogeographic evolution of eastern African mammal faunas over the last 6 Myr. 93rd Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.

2023

- (39) Batlay*, A., Stinchcomb, G. E., Rowan, J., Beck, C., Saslaw*, M., Henkes, G. Exploring post-depositional processes in late Miocene paleosols at Lothagam, Turkana Basin, Kenya. Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- (38) Uno, K. T., Green, D. R., Bapana*, S., House*, A., Beck, C., Liutkus-Pierce, C. M., Miller, E. R., Princehouse, P., Rowan, J., Sankau, L., Vitek, N. S. Neogene ecosystems and mammal diets in East Africa. Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- (37) Uno, K. T., Green, D. R., Bapana*, S., House*, A., Beck, C., Liutkus-Pierce, C. M., Miller, E. R., Princehouse, P., Rowan, J., Sankau, L., Vitek, N. S. Neogene climate and tectonic influences on ecology and evolution in East Africa. Annual Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, San Francisco, California.

2022

- (36) Gaiku*, M., Feibel, C. S., Vitek, N. S., Seiffert, E. R., Rowan, J., Aoron*, E., Princehouse, P. Diversity and distribution of new Paleogene mammalian faunas from the Topernawi Locality (Turkana Depression, Kenya). 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Toronto, Ontario.
- (35) Sankau*, L., Green, D. R., Uno, K. T., Rowan, J. Niche partitioning in fossil bovids near the Mio-Pliocene at Lothagam, Turkana Basin, Kenya. 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Toronto, Ontario.
- (34) Barr, W. A., Pobiner, B., Rowan, J., Du, A., Faith, J. T. The zooarchaeological record does not show a sustained increase in carnivory after the appearance of *Homo erectus*. 8th Meeting of the Eastern African Association of Paleoanthropology and Paleontology, Arusha, Tanzania.
- (33) Nengo, I., Feibel, C. S., Harmand, S., Henkes, G., Hildebrand, E., Lewis, J., Rowan, J., Taylor, N., Princehouse, P. Raising up African Paleoanthropologists: An Innovative Masters Program at Turkana University College, Kenya. 8th Meeting of the Eastern African Association of Paleoanthropology and Paleontology, Arusha, Tanzania.

- (32) Fuchs*, A.J., Bell*, R. B., Kunaparaju*, A., Rowan, J., Beaudrot, L., Reed, K. E., Kamilar, J. M. Using ecological niche modeling to assess how frugivorous non-primate mammals impact frugivorous primate distributions on a global scale. 91st Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Denver, Colorado.
- (31) Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Barr, W. A., Sponheimer, M. Linking mammalian herbivore diets and (paleo)environments: implications for hominin paleoecology. 91st Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists, Denver, Colorado.

2020

- (30) O'Brien*, K., Tryon, C., Blegen, N., Rowan, J., Faith, J. T. First appearance of Grévy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*), Kapthurin Formation, Kenya. 80th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- (29) Svenning, J. C., Schowanek*, S. D., Davis, M., Lundgren*, E. J., Middleton*, O., Pedersen, R. O., Rowan, J., Sandom, C. J. Macroecological perspectives on the functional impacts of late Quaternary megafauna extinctions and potential restoration through trophic rewilding. 2020 Ecological Society of America Meeting (virtual).
- (28) Du, A., Friedlander, E., Rowan, J., Alemseged, Z. A. Placing probabilities on whether a fossil taxon was truly absent from a site or has not been found yet. 80th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- (27) Bell*, R., Reed, K. E., Rowan, J., Beaudrot, L., Kamilar, J. M. How do non-primate competitors affect the potential distribution of frugivorous primates? 89th Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Los Angeles, California.

2019

- (26) Rowan, J., Beaudrot, L., Franklin, J., Reed, K. E., Zamora*, A., Smail*, I. E., Kamilar, J. M. Phylogenetic and functional trait structure of tropical mammal assemblages is shaped by late Quaternary climate change and human impacts. 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution, Providence, Rhode Island.
- (25) Rowan, J., Beaudrot, L., Reed, K. E., Zamora*, A., Smail*, I. E., Kamilar, J. M. Paleoclimatic legacies structure present-day mammal communities in the global tropics. 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Cleveland, Ohio.
- (24) Lundgren*, E. J., Ramp, D., Rowan, J., Middleton*, O., Schowanek*, S., Sandom, C., Scharlemann, J., Davis, M., Svenning, J. C., Wallach, A. Global declines in terrestrial herbivores are functionally offset by introduced species. 29th International Congress for Conservation Biology, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- (23) Seyoum*, C., Rowan, J., Reed, K. E., Kimbel, W. H. Bovid paleocommunities and *Australopithecus* environments in the lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia, from ~ 3.8-2.95 Ma. 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Cleveland, Ohio.
- (22) Gebru*, Y., Rowan, J., Yirga, S., Fleagle, J. G. Paleoenvironmental context of early *Homo sapiens* from the Kibish Formation, southern Ethiopia: evidence from bovid ecomorphology and abundance. 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Cleveland, Ohio.

2018

- (21) Rowan, J., Du, A. Divergent diversification histories of large mammals across two sedimentary basins in eastern Africa over the last 7 Myr. 2018 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, Austin, Texas.
- (20) Alemseged, Z., Du, A., Rowan, J., Wood, B. A. Estimating the timing and placing confidence intervals on the origination and extinction of the *Australopithecus anamensis-afarensis* lineage. 2018 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, Austin, Texas.
- (19) Faith, J. T., Rowan, J., Du, A. Emergence of the functionally modern ungulate community of eastern Africa. 2018 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, Austin, Texas.
- (18) Reed, K. E., Feary, D. A., Rowan, J., Campisano, C. J. Plio-Pleistocene climate proxies and hominin evolution in East Africa. 2018 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, Austin, Texas.
- (17) Reed, K. E., Rowan, J., Smail*, I. E., Feary, D. A. Reconstructing vegetation and climate from fossil mammals: Late Cenozoic ecosystem evolution across 7 Myr of hominin evolution in eastern Africa. 2018 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2017

- (16) Rowan, J., Smail*, I. E., Reed, K. E. Mixed effects of modern climate, Pleistocene climate, and anthropogenic activity on global primate diversity patterns. 86th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- (15) Reed, K. E., Smail*, I. E., Rowan, J., Robinson, J. R., Locke*, E. M., Lazagabaster*, I. A., Campisano, C.J. Biogeography, endemism, and functional trait community structure: basinal differences during the Pliocene. 86th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, New Orleans, Louisiana.

2016

- (14) Rowan, J., Locke*, E. M., Robinson, J. R., Campisano, C. J., Wynn, J. G., Reed, K. E. Dietary shifts in the giraffid *Sivatherium* and paleoenvironmental differences between the Afar and Turkana Basins during the late Pliocene. 2016 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, Atlanta, Georgia.
- (13) Lazagabaster*, I. A., Rowan, J., Garelo*, D., Campisano, C. J., Arrowsmith, J. R., Reed, K. E. Fossil Artiodactyla (Mammalia) from Markaytoli, a new Middle Pleistocene site in the lower Awash Valley, Ethiopia. 76th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- (12) Locke*, E. M., Rowan, J., Reed, K. E. Sexual dimorphism in Pliocene *Gazella* (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from Makapansgat Limeworks Cave, South Africa. 76th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- (11) Robinson, J. R., Rowan, J., Campisano, C. J., Wynn, J. G., Reed, K. E. Origins of *Homo* and latest Pliocene expansion of C₄-dominated environments. 2016 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Denver, Colorado.

2015

- (10) Rowan, J., Franklin, J., Reed, K. E. Late Pleistocene biogeography and climatic niche evolution in plains zebra *Equus quagga* and blue wildebeest *Connochaetes taurinus*. 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Dallas, Texas.

- (9) Rowan, J., Reed, K. E., Du*, A., Locke*, E. M., Smail*, I. E., Campisano, C. J., Lazagabaster*, I. A. Fossil mammals reveal patterns of inter- and intra- basinal endemism in eastern Africa, ca. 4-1 Ma: Implications for hominin biogeography. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, San Francisco, California.
- (8) DiMaggio, E. N., Campisano, C. J., Rowan, J., Dupont-Nivet, G., Deino, A. L., Garello*, D., Reed, K. E., Arrowsmith, J. R. Late Pliocene fossiliferous sedimentary record and the environmental context of early *Homo* from Afar, Ethiopia. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Baltimore, Maryland.
- (7) Du*, A., Behrensmeyer, A. K., Rowan, J., Davis*, M. Comparing taxonomic and functional change through time in terrestrial mammal paleo-communities in Pliocene-Pleistocene East Africa. 100th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, Washington, D.C.
- (6) Lazagabaster*, I. A., Kamilar, J. M., Reed, K. E., Rowan, J. Tempo and mode of evolution in African ungulate craniodental traits and diet. 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Dallas, Texas.
- (5) Locke*, E. M., Rowan, J., Campisano, C. J., Reed, K. E. Fossil Giraffidae (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from 2.8 Ma sediments at Lee Adoyta, Ledi-Geraru: implications for the paleobiology of *Sivatherium maurusium*. 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Dallas, Texas.
- (4) Reed, K. E., DiMaggio, E. N., Campisano, C. J., Rowan, J., Dupont-Nivet, G., Deino, A., Bibi, F., Lewis, M. E., Souron, A., Werdelin, L., Arrowsmith, J. R., Villmoare, B., Kimbel, W. H., Seyoum*, C., Braun, D. R. Paleoanthropology of Ledi-Geraru, Afar Regional State, Ethiopia. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, San Francisco, California.

2014

- (3) Rowan, J., Reed, K. E. Bovidae (Mammalia, Artiodactyla) from the Plio-Pleistocene Busidima Formation of Hadar, Afar Regional State, Ethiopia, and the evolution, paleoecology, and biogeography of bovid faunas at Hadar ca. 3.4-2.3 Ma. 74th Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Berlin, Germany.
- (2) Reed, K. E., Rowan, J., Kamilar, J. M. African vegetation structure: modern analogs and hominin habitat reconstructions. 83rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Calgary, Alberta.

2013

- (1) Rowan, J., Reed, K. E. Endemism and dispersal in East African Bovidae from the late Miocene through the Recent. 73rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Los Angeles, California.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

-
- 2025 "The biogeographic context of hominin evolution in eastern Africa" University of Liverpool
 - 2024 "Evolution, ecology, and environmental context of early African hominins" University of Cambridge
 - 2022 "African ecology and human evolution: New insights from Lothagam (Turkana Basin, Kenya)" New York State Museum and University at Albany Symposium: Changing Human and Natural Environments Through Time

- 2022 “*Homo erectus* and ancient hominin impacts in Africa” Université de Poitiers
- 2021 “Did ancient hominins cause extinctions?” Case Western Reserve University
- 2020 “African paleoecology and human evolution” Yale University
- 2019 “Evolution and ecology of early African hominins: Field work, fossils, and big data” University at Albany
- 2019 “Reconstructing ancient climates and environments from fossil mammals” Boston University
- 2019 “Deep time perspectives on the past, present, and future of large mammal biodiversity” Stony Brook University
- 2019 “Ancient ecological perspectives on what it means to be human” University at Buffalo
- 2019 “The past is key to the present: Deep time perspectives on mammalian diversity” UMass Amherst
- 2018 “Ecology and evolution of early African hominins: Large mammals as a model system” George Washington University
- 2018 “Abiotic and biotic drivers of late Cenozoic community evolution in African mammals” Stony Brook University

FIELD AND MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

- 2023- Napudet Research Project, West Turkana, Kenya, project scientist (lab)
- 2022- Lothagam Research Project, West Turkana, Kenya, project director (lab and field)
- 2022 PALEVOPRIM Lab, Poitiers, France (study of fossils on loan from Toros-Menalla, Kollé, Kossom Bougoudi, and Koro Toro, Chad)
- 2019- Lake Victoria Prehistory Project, Lake Victoria, Kenya, project scientist (lab)
- 2016- Omo Group Research Expedition, Omo Valley, Ethiopia, project scientist (lab and field)
- 2016 Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois (study of mammalogy collections)
- 2015 Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C. (study of mammalogy collections)
- 2013- National Museum of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (study of fossil collections in summer 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2025)
- 2013- Hadar Research Project, Afar, Ethiopia, project scientist (lab)
- 2013- Ledi-Geraru Research Project, Afar, Ethiopia, project scientist (lab and field)
- 2012- National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya (study of fossil collections in summer 2012, 2019, 2022, and 2023)
- 2012 Koobi Fora Field School (East Turkana, Kenya), graduate teaching assistant

TEACHING

Courses Taught at the University of Cambridge

Names and catalog numbers for organized courses are followed by the term and year in which they were taught (note that this does not include independent studies or thesis credits).

Undergraduate/Graduate:

- Human Evolution (B3): L25
- Apes and Human Evolution (B12): L25

Courses Taught at Other Institutions

Undergraduate:

- Introduction to Human Evolution (University at Albany): S21, S22, S23, F23, S24
- Human Osteology (University at Albany): F23
- Primate Evolutionary Biology (University at Albany): F21, F22
- Human Paleobiology (University at Albany): F21, S22
- Writing in Biology (UMass Amherst): S20
- Stones, Bones, and Human Evolution (Arizona State University, Lab Portion): F13, S14

Graduate:

- Proseminar in Biological Anthropology (University at Albany): F21, S23, S24
- Primate Paleobiology (University at Albany): F22
- Earth and Life Through Time (Turkana University College): S21, F21
- Evolution of Life on Earth (UMass Amherst): S20
- Primate Evolution (Turkana University College): S22
- Proseminar in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology (UMass Amherst): F19

Workshops Taught

- 2021-2022 “Quantitative Methods” for Primate Evolution (MHEB 824) Turkana University College/Turkana Basin Institute
- 2019 “Analyzing and Visualizing Biodiversity in Space and Time (in R)”
Interdepartmental Graduate Programs in the Life Sciences, UMass Amherst

STUDENT ADVISEES

PhD Students (Chair)

- 2022- Everlyne Omondi, PhD student in Anthropology, University at Albany
- 2021- Christianne Ormsby, PhD student in Anthropology, University at Albany

MA/MSc/MPhil Students (Chair)

- 2025- Lindsey Peacock, MPhil student in Human Evolutionary Studies, University of Cambridge
- 2024-2025 Juliet Azé, MPhil student in Human Evolutionary Studies, University of Cambridge
- 2021-2024 Sara Magee, MA student in Anthropology, University at Albany
- 2021-2023 Linet Sankau, MSc student in Human Evolutionary Biology, Turkana University College, thesis: Stable isotope analysis of bovid dietary niche partitioning in the late Miocene of Lothagam (West Turkana, Kenya)

PhD Thesis Internal Examiner

- 2025 Matthew Van Schalkwyk, PhD student in Archaeology, University of Cambridge, thesis: Ecomorphological and Ecometric Approaches to Clarifying *Homo sapiens* Palaeoecology
- 2025 James Clark, PhD student in Archaeology, University of Cambridge, thesis: Seasons of Change: Investigating the Role of Seasonality in the Oldowan-Acheulean Transition

MPhil Thesis Internal Examiner

- 2025 Natalie Moss, MPhil student in Archaeology, University of Cambridge, thesis: Variability in Trabecular and Cortical Morphology: Relative Influences and Applications to Commingled Remains

M.Sc. Thesis External Examiner

- 2025 Christine K. Chepkorir, MSc student in Human Evolutionary Biology, Turkana University College, thesis: Understanding the daily lifestyle of the early pastoralists during the mid-Holocene of West Turkana, Kenya: Nakwaperit II as a habitation zone
- 2023 Margaret Gaiku, MSc student in Human Evolutionary Biology, Turkana University College, thesis: Spatial analysis of the geology and faunal communities of the Topernawi locality in northern Turkana, Kenya.

PhD Committees

- 2024- Haregwine Hailu, PhD student at PALEVOPRIM, Université de Poitiers
- 2024- Linet Sankau, PhD student in Anthropology, Arizona State University
- 2021- Antonio Otero, PhD student in Anthropology, University at Albany

First-Year Report External Examiner

- 2024 Margot Serra, PhD student in Archaeology, University of Cambridge

Undergraduate Researchers (Primary Advisor)

- 2024 Allison Varian, University at Albany
- 2023-2024 James Cooper, University at Albany
- 2023-2024 Katharine Serio, University at Albany
- 2023-2024 Elainna Jennings, University at Albany
- 2023-2024 Eleanor McDonald, University at Albany
- 2023-2024 Michelle Sacramento, University at Albany
- 2018 Xavier Jenkins, Arizona State University
- 2017 Alexandra Norwood, Arizona State University
- 2016 Alexandra Fappiano, Arizona State University
- 2014 Angela Peña, Arizona State University

SERVICE

Professional

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer (n = 39 manuscripts total)

Acta Geologica Sinica (1), Acta Palaeontologica Polonica (1), Alcheringa (1), Annales Zoologici Fennici (1), Ecography (1), Ecology and Evolution (1), eLife (1), Evolutionary Anthropology (1), Global Change Biology (1), Global Ecology and Biogeography (1), Historical Biology (1), Frontiers of Biogeography (1), Journal of African Earth Sciences (1), Journal of Archaeological Sciences (1), Journal of Human Evolution (3), Journal of Mammalian Evolution (1), Journal of Quaternary Science (1), Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology (3), Nature Scientific Reports (1), Paleobiology (1), Palaeontologia Africana (1), Palaeontologia Electronica (2), PCI Paleo (1), PNAS (3), Proceedings B (1), Quaternary (1), Quaternary International (1), Quaternary Research (1), Quaternary Science Advances (1), Royal Society Open Science (1), Science (1), South African Journal of Science (1).

- 2025 Consultant and Reviewer, *Janus-faced: The Origins of War and Peace in the Human Species* (by H. Meijer). Cambridge University Press.
- 2024 Austrian Science Fund (Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung, FWF) ESPRIT (Early Stage Program: Research, Innovation, Training) Postdoctoral Fellowship Review
- 2024 Book Chapter Review for L. B. Martin and F. E. Grine (eds) *Africa: The Human Cradle*. Springer.

- 2024 British Academy International Fellowship Program Review
- 2023 Abstract Reviewer, 4th Annual Paleontological Virtual Congress
- 2021- Leakey Foundation Proposal Reviews (n = 5): F25
- 2021 Book Chapter Review for P. J. Constantino, K. E. Reed, B. A. Wood (eds) *The Forgotten Lineage(s): Paleobiology of Paranthropus*. Springer.
- 2021- SVP Annual Meeting Program Committee (3-year term), Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
- 2020- Human Evolutionary Biology (M.Sc.) Program Committee, Turkana University College
- 2020- Regional Coordinator, Africa (5-year term), NOW (New and Old Worlds) Fossil Mammal Database
- 2020 Scientific Committee, 2nd Annual Paleontological Virtual Congress
- 2020 National Science Foundation Proposal Review (Archaeology)
- 2019 National Science Foundation Proposal Review (Earth Sciences)

Departmental

- Oct. 2025 Insight Programme Representative for Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge
- July 2025 Presenter, Open Day, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge
- Dec. 2023 Search Committee Member, Visiting Assistant Professor in Human Biology, University at Albany
- May 2023- Chair, Undergraduate Affairs Committee (Department of Anthropology), University at Albany
- Dec. 2022 Search Committee Member, Visiting Assistant Professor in Human Biology, University at Albany
- Oct. 2022 CURCE Undergraduate Research Fair (Human Biology Representative), University at Albany
- May 2022- Director of Origins Field School (Semester Abroad in Kenya), University at Albany
- Sept. 2021- Committee Member, Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Department of
May 2023 Anthropology, University at Albany

College and University

- April 2024 Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Accepted Students Reception, University at Albany
- Oct. 2023 Human Biology Representative, Fall Preview Day for Prospective Undergraduate Students, University at Albany
- Sept. 2023 Human Biology Representative, Munch with the Majors, University at Albany
- Mar. 2023 Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Accepted Students Reception, University at Albany

Mar. 2023	Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Open House, University at Albany
Feb. 2023	Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Spotlight on Biology and Chemistry, University at Albany
Oct. 2022	Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Open House, University at Albany
Oct. 2022	Human Biology Representative, Fall Preview Day for Prospective Undergraduate Students, University at Albany
Mar. 2022	Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Accepted Students Reception, University at Albany
May 2021	Marching Faculty Member, University Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony, University at Albany
Mar. 2021	Human Biology Representative, College of Arts and Sciences Open House, University at Albany
Nov. 2020	Human Biology Representative, Fall Preview Day for Prospective Undergraduate Students, University at Albany
Oct. 2020	COVID-19 Surveillance Testing (Saliva Test Kit Assembly), University at Albany

MEDIA COVERAGE EXAMPLES

Interviewed on research by several media outlets, including The New York Times, BBC, The Guardian, Wall Street Journal, Popular Science, Newsweek, and the Huffington Post.

[“UAlbany professor: Humans have led to waves of animal extinctions”](#) Times Union (2022)

[“Did a taste for blood help humans grow big brains? Story isn’t so simple, study argues”](#) Science (2022)

[“Did eating meat really make us human?”](#) Wired (2022)

[“Eating meat may not have been as crucial to human evolution as we thought”](#) Popular Science (2022)

[“Pablo Escobar’s hippos fill a hole left since Ice Age extinctions”](#) New York Times (2020)

[“Pablo Escobar’s ‘cocaine hippos’ show how invasive species can restore a lost world”](#) The Guardian (2020)

[“Pablo Escobar’s invasive hippos could actually be good for the environment”](#) Popular Science (2020)

[“The functional uniqueness of ancient megafauna”](#) Current Biology Dispatch by Robert M. Pringle (2020)

[“Present-day drivers do not explain biodiversity patterns in mammals”](#) PNAS Commentary by Richard T. Corlett (2020)

[“Connecting the prehistoric past to the global future”](#) National Science Foundation (2020)

[“Humans ‘off the hook’ for African mammal extinction”](#) BBC News (2018)

[“Environmental change, not humans, caused extinction of large ancient mammals”](#) US News & World Report (2018)

[“First humans emerged in Africa 2.8 million years ago during sudden climate change”](#)
International Business Times (2017)

[“Oldest Homo fossil found”](#) Nature (2015)

[“First human discovered in Ethiopia”](#) BBC News (2015)

[“Oldest Human Fossil Found, Redrawing Family Tree”](#) National Geographic (2015)

[“Jawbone fossil fills a gap in early human evolution”](#) New York Times (2015)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association of Biological Anthropologists

National Museums of Kenya Research Affiliate

Paleoanthropology Society

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology

Turkana Basin Institute Research Affiliate