

# PAMELA G. WEIS

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Evolutionary Anthropology, anticipated 2015, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Dissertation: “Communicating Darwin: Exploring Conceptions About Evolution in U.S. Biology Classrooms and Communities” (Dr. Robert S. Scott, Advisor)

M.A., Anthropology, 2008, Hunter College, CUNY  
M.A. Thesis: “Taphonomic analysis of the Hadar hominins (*Australopithecus afarensis*) and large-bodied cercopithecids: implications for carnivore-primate relationships in Pliocene East Africa” (Dr. Elizabeth H. Harmon, Advisor)

B.F.A., Musical Theater, 2004, The New School

Summer Field Training in Paleoanthropology, 2006, Koobi Fora Field School, Rutgers University

Immersion Education Program, Arts & Culture, Ghana, 2003, The School for International Training (SIT)

Certificate, Musical Theater, 1994, The American Musical and Dramatic Academy

Theater Major, Voice Minor, 1992-1993, Indiana University

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### TEACHING POSITIONS HELD

2009-2013	Teaching Assistant, Rutgers University
2012	Assistant Lab Instructor, Faunal Analysis, Rutgers University
2011	Adjunct, Seton Hall University
2011	Adjunct, Hunter College, CUNY
2010	Adjunct, Rutgers University
2009	Instructor, Koobi Fora Field School, Kenya, Rutgers University
2007-2008	Adjunct, Hunter College, CUNY

### CONTRACT WORK

2007	Forensic Tech, sieving excavated material for WTC recovery effort, New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner/Storm Riders
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## FUNDING

2012	Small Money Grant, Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers University: Pre-Dissertation Study on the Presentation of Evolution-based Information in Select Mid-Western Science Museums
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- 2010 Zelnick Award, Rutgers University: Pre-Dissertation Study on Leopard Feeding Traces and Landscape Taphonomy, Okavango Delta, Botswana  
Bigel Fund for Research, Rutgers University: Pre-Dissertation Study on Leopard Feeding Traces and Landscape Taphonomy, Okavango Delta, Botswana  
Conference Travel Award, Rutgers University: 2010 Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 2009 Waterman Pre-Dissertation Award, Rutgers University: Pre-Dissertation Research at National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, and Field Research at Koobi Fora and Olduvai Gorge  
Bigel Fund for Research, Rutgers University: Pre-Dissertation Research at National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, and Field Research at Koobi Fora and Olduvai Gorge
- 2007 Wieland Fund for Field Research, Hunter College: Thesis Data Collection & Exploratory Field Research
- 2006 Wieland Fund for Field Research, Hunter College: Koobi Fora Field School

## **PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS**

2010. Weis, P. & E.H. Harmon. A taphonomic analysis of Hadar hominins and cercopithecids: implications for predation pressure during the Pliocene. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 141 (S50): 240. (Part of the Special Poster Session in Honor of Elizabeth H. Harmon: Contributions by friends and colleagues. Organizers: Shara Bailey and Will Harcourt-Smith, 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Albuquerque, New Mexico)
2008. Weis, P. Hadar hominins and cercopithecids: a taphonomic analysis of carnivore damage. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 135 (S46): 220. (77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Columbus, Ohio)

## **TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

- Introduction to Anthropology, summer course, Rutgers University
- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Recitation), Rutgers University
- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Seton Hall University
- Introduction to Human Evolution (Lab), Rutgers University
- Extinction (Lab), upper-level undergraduate course, Rutgers University
- Theory of Evolution, upper-level undergraduate course, Hunter College, CUNY
- Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Human Evolution (Lab), Hunter College, CUNY
- Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Human Variation (Lab), Hunter College, CUNY

### **CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENT**

- 2011 Development of Theory of Evolution, upper-level undergraduate course, Hunter College, CUNY
- 2011 Partial Development of Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, undergraduate course, Seton Hall University

2010 Development of Introduction to Anthropology, undergraduate summer course, Rutgers University

#### GUEST LECTURER

2012 “Communicating evolution: misconceptions and cultural complications” (presented in Introduction to Cultural Anthropology course with Dr. Daniel Goldstein, Rutgers University)

2007 “Introduction to Taphonomy” (presented in Fossil Hominins course with Dr. Elizabeth Harmon, Hunter College, CUNY)

#### RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- Present Dissertation (Rutgers University – anticipated 2015): “[Mis]Communicating Darwin: Following the Trail of Misconceptions About Evolution in U.S. Science Classrooms and Beyond” (Dr. Robert Scott, Advisor)
- 2012 Field Statement: “Science as Culture: Themes, Issues, and Practical Applications in Social Studies of Science” (Dr. Daniel Goldstein, Supervisor)
- 2012 Midwest Museum Summer Project: Pre-dissertation study on the presentation of evolution-based information in select Mid-Western science museums
- 2012 Independent Study: “Microscale Distinctions between Canid Tooth Scores and Stone Tool Cut Marks” (Dr. Robert Scott, Supervisor)
- 2010 Field Statement: “Predator-prey evolutionary ecology and its application to the study of human origins” (Dr. Ryne Palombit, Supervisor)
- 2010 Botswana Predator Conservation Trust, Okavango Delta, Botswana: Pre-dissertation feasibility study of leopard feeding traces on bone and landscape taphonomy
- 2009 National Museums of Kenya: Pre-dissertation assessment of surface condition of Koobi Fora fossil fauna, including hominins, cercopithecids and bovids to determine suitability for large taphonomic analysis (with permission from Dr. Emma Mbua)
- 2008 Master’s Thesis (Hunter College, CUNY): “Taphonomic analysis of the Hadar hominins (*Australopithecus afarensis*) and large-bodied cercopithecids: implications for carnivore-primate relationships in Pliocene East Africa” (Dr. Elizabeth Harmon, Advisor)
- 2007-2009 Bronx Zoo/WCS: Carnivore Feeding Project - collected bones left over from carnivore feedings in order to study the tooth mark damage (David Powell, WCS contact)
- 2006 National Museums of Kenya: Survey of Carnivore Specimens – focused on carnivore teeth from East African Plio-Pleistocene sites to gain familiarity with species and tooth shape (with permission from Dr. Emma Mbua)
- 2003 School for International Training (SIT) Ghana, Independent Study: “Care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS in Ghana: immediate needs vs. sustainable development” (Peter Abum-Sarkodie, Advisor; Dr. Olayemi Tinuoye & Mr. Gavin Webb, Academic Directors)

## FIELD EXPERIENCE

- 2010 Botswana Predator Conservation Trust, Okavango Delta, Botswana: Radio-tracked and observed leopards for pre-dissertation feasibility study
- 2009 Koobi Fora Field School, Kenya: Instructor; Field worker and Research Assistant  
Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: Field and Lab Research Assistant
- 2007 Bala Paleoanthropological Research Area, Ethiopia: Research Assistant for follow-up survey of southern Ethiopian site
- 2006 Koobi Fora Field School, Kenya: Student for six weeks in northern Kenya, three of which were spent excavating at Ileret on the NE shore of Lake Turkana
- 2003 Ashanti Region, Ghana (SIT): Ethnographic study of the care and support systems for local people living with HIV/AIDS

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- 2013 World Science Festival: Web and Graphic Design
- 2013 Renaissance School of Arts: Guest Learner at Middle School Science Fair
- 2012-2013 Clergy Letter Project (an advocacy group for evolution education that brings together scientists and religious leaders): Web Development
- 2012 New York Academy of Sciences: After School STEM Mentoring Program (Module: Earth Science)
- 2009 Rutgers Day: Anthropology Department activities for children at outdoor festival
- 2005-2008 Prospect Park Zoo/WCS: Educational Docent
- 2005-2008 Shambhala Meditation Center, New York: Event volunteer
- 2004 Volunteers for Development International (Ghana-based NGO): Web Development

## OTHER INTERESTS & LANGUAGES

- Wildlife Conservation and Ecology, International Human Rights, Forensic Anthropology, Evolutionary Psychology, Zoology, History of Science and Religion, International Immersion Travel, Web Design, The Arts (Dance, Music, Theater, Visual Arts)
- French (intermediate); Asante-Twi and Swahili (beginner)