

**Heather B. Thakar**  
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## Education

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Ph.D. Archaeology, completed August 1, 2014  
University of California Santa Barbara

Dissertation Title: "Food & Fertility in Prehistoric California: A Case-study of Risk-Reducing Foraging Behavior and Prehistoric Population Growth from Santa Cruz Island, California"

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Michael Glassow (Chair), Dr. Michael Jochim, Dr. Barbara Voorhies, Dr. Amber VanDerwarker, Dr. Douglas Kennett

M.A. Archaeology, September 2006 - June 2008  
University of California, Santa Barbara

B.A. Anthropology and History (*cum laude*), September 2001 - May 2004  
Texas Tech University

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## Academic Appointments & Teaching Experience

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*Assistant Professor (Teaching/Instructional)*, Temple University Department of Anthropology  
*Director*, Temple University Anthropology Laboratory  
September 2014 - present

*Teaching Associate*, (Instructor of Record), UCSB Department of Anthropology

Summer 2014	ANTH 188: The Seacoast in Prehistory
Summer 2013	ANTH 131: North American Indians
Summer 2011	ANTH 3: Introduction to Archaeology
Summer 2010	ANTH 3: Introduction to Archaeology

*Instructor*, UCSB Department of Anthropology

Fall 2010 - Spring 2014	ANTH 194P: Archaeology Laboratory Practicum
Fall 2010 - Spring 2013	ANTH 178: Internship in Archaeological Curation

*Assistant Curator*, UCSB Repository for Archaeological and Ethnographic Collections  
March 2010 - October 2013

*Teaching Assistant*, UCSB Department of Anthropology

Spring 2014	ANTH 181: Field Methods and Techniques in Archaeology
Fall 2013	ANTH 130A/ES 130A Coupled Human and Natural Systems (cross-listed in Environmental Studies)
Fall 2010	ANTH 5: Physical Anthropology
Spring 2009	ANTH 3: Introduction to Archaeology
Fall 2008	ANTH 131: North American Indians
Fall 2006, Fall 2007	ANTH 2: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

*GIS Analyst*, Central Coast Information Center, State Office of Historic Preservation

January 2014 - April 2014  
January 2008 - September 2008  
January 2007 - June 2007

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**Peer Reviewed Publications** ( \* denotes sole authorship)

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- 2015\* (In Press) "Dating the Tlacuachero Post-Archaic Deposits". In *An Archaic Mexican Shellmound and its Entombed Floors*, edited by Barbara Voorhies. Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2015\* (In Press) "The Tlacuachero Floors: Description and Sampling Methods". In *An Archaic Mexican Shellmound and its Entombed Floors*, edited by Barbara Voorhies. Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2015\* (In Press) "The Tlacuachero Floors: Spatial Analysis of Surface Color and Embedded Microrefuse". In *An Archaic Mexican Shellmound and its Entombed Floors*, edited by Barbara Voorhies. Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2014 (In Progress) "Reconstructing Late Holocene Paleothermal Patterning and Upwelling from Stable Isotope Analysis of Archaeological Marine Shell Carbonate". *Environmental Archaeology*, special issue edited by Rhiannon Stevens, Emma Lightfoot, and Marcello Mannino (with co-author Syee Weldeab).
- 2014\* (In Press) "Sites Forlorn: Dating Intervals of Abandonment at Three Shell Middens on Santa Cruz Island, California using Bayesian Chronological Models". *Journal of Archaeological Science*, special issue *Dates as Data: New Applications of Radiocarbon Dating to Archaeological Problems*, edited by Robert L. Kelly and Nicholas Naudinot.
- 2012 "Red Abalone Collecting and Marine Water Temperature during the Middle Holocene Occupation of Santa Cruz Island, California". *Journal of Archaeological Science* 39(10):2574-2582 (with co-authors Michael Glassow and Douglas Kennett).
- 2012\* "Ancient Actions Predict Modern Consequences: Lessons from Prehistoric Shellfish Intensification". In *Time, Space, and Form in Biological Conservation*, edited by Lee Lyman and Steve Wolverton, pages 92-109. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.
- 2011\* "Intensification of Shellfish Exploitation: Evidence of Species-Specific Deviation from Traditional Expectations". *Journal of Archaeological Science* 38(10): 2596- 2605.

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**Other Professional Publications**

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- 2014 (In Press) "Ritual and Performance". In *Coastal California: A Land of Diversity*, edited by Lynn H. Gamble. School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico (with co-author Lynn H. Gamble).

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**Conference Papers and Professional Presentations ( \* denotes sole authorship)**

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- 2014\* "An Evolutionary Context for Understanding Hunter-Gatherer Demographic Shifts" Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Austin, TX.
- 2014\* "Panarchy on the Northern Channel Islands: Understanding the Development of Complexity as a Series of Nested Adaptive Responses" Paper Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Visalia, CA.
- 2013\* "Dates, Diet, and Demography: A Detailed Chronological Framework for Evaluating Diachronic Subsistence Variation and Population Growth". Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI.
- 2013\* "Food and Fertility in Prehistoric California: A Fresh Perspective from Reproductive Ecology". California State University at Fullerton Evolutionary Anthropology and Archaeology Invited Lecture (2/11/2013), Fullerton, CA.
- 2012\* "Food and Fertility in Prehistoric California". 3UC Annual Workshop on Evolutionary Behavior, San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 2012\* "Before CA-SCRI-236 was Ch'olosush: 3000 Years of Occupation, Subsistence and Mobility". Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Memphis, TN.
- 2012\* "Tis' the Season: Prehistoric Behavioral Responses to Seasonal Food Risk". Paper Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- 2012\* "A Case Study of Risk- Reducing Subsistence Strategies and Prehistoric Population Growth from Santa Cruz Island, California". Santa Barbara County Archaeological Society Invited Lecture (3/5/2012), Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2012\* "Methods for Evaluating Seasonal Nutritional Sufficiency in Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherer Population". Paper Presented at 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Symposium, Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2011\* "If Floors Could Talk: Investigation of Clay Floors at the Tlacuachero Shell Mound". Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Sacramento, CA.
- 2010\* "Ancient Actions Predict Modern Consequences: Lessons from Prehistoric Shellfish Intensification". Paper Presented at Society of Ethnobiology Annual Conference, Victoria, B.C.

- 2010\* "Reconsideration of Traditional Archaeological Conceptions of Shellfish Intensification". Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, St. Louis, MI.
- 2010\* "Spatial Variation in Prehistoric Settlement Strategies on Santa Cruz Island, CA." Paper Presented at Mildred E. Matthias Symposium, Symposium, Matagorda Bay, CA.
- 2008\* "Coastal Geomorphology and Climatic Variation on Santa Cruz Island" Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Vancouver, B.C.
- 2008 "Spatial Analysis of Shellfish Diversity and Abundance in Archaeological & Ecological Contexts" Paper Presented at 7<sup>th</sup> Channel Island Symposium, Ventura, CA. (with co-author Carola Flores Fernandez)

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### **Professional Symposia Organized & Chaired**

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- 2014 Stewardship, Public Education, and Preservation: How Archaeologists Demonstrate the Value of Archaeological Collections. Session sponsored by SAA Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology, 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Austin, TX. (with discussants Kevin Smith and David Hurst Thomas)
- 2014 Beyond Foraging: Evolutionary Approaches to Understanding the Development of Social Complexity Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Visalia, CA. (with co-chair Bruce Winterhalder and discussant Robert Bettinger)
- 2013 Lessons Learned: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symposium of the SAA's Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI. (with discussant Julie Stein)
- 2012 New Methods, New Questions and New Data from Old Collections. Session sponsored by SAA Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. Society for American Archaeology 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Memphis, TN. (with discussants Terry Childs and Lynne Sullivan)
- 2012 Whither the Twain Shall Meet: Paleoethnobotany and California Archaeology. Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA. (with discussants Bill Hildebrandt and Amber VanDerwarker)
- 2011 New Perspectives on the Archaic Period of Coastal Chiapas, Mexico. Society for American Archaeology, 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Sacramento, CA. (with discussants Barbara Voorhies and John Clarke)

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### **Technical Reports ( \* denotes sole authorship)**

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- 2011\* Archaeological Analysis of Column Sample from KM-2011-LOPEZ-1, Santa Rosa Island, California. Final Report Submitted to Channel Islands National Park Service, Ventura, CA.

- 2010 Informe de Proyecto Los Origenes de Arquitectura Publica en la Costa Sur de Mexico. Report Submitted to the Consejo de Aqueologio, Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia, Mexico. (with co-authors Barbara Voorhies and Fernando Girón Campero)
- 2010\* Spatial Distribution of Archaeological Sites on the Northern Coast of Santa Cruz Island. Report Submitted to the Mildred E. Mathias Foundation.
- 2009\* Christy Watershed Intensive Pedestrian Survey on Santa Cruz Island. Report Submitted to the Central Coast Information Center, Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2009\* Prisoners to Pelican: Intensive Pedestrian Survey on the North Coast of Santa Cruz Island. Submitted to the Central Coast Information Center, Santa Barbara, CA.

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### **Grants and Fellowships**

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- 2006 - 2014 Tuition & Fee Fellowships, UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2012 Spaulding Service Award (\$2500 stipend) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2012 Affiliates Dissertation Fellowship (\$3000 stipend) UCSB Graduate Division.
- 2012 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Grant (\$2,500) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2012 Summer Stipend Award (\$500) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2012 UCSB Instructional Improvement Program Grant (\$18,325) with Stuart Tyson Smith.
- 2012 Doctoral Student Travel Grant (\$685 travel funds) UCSB Academic Senate.
- 2011 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Grant (\$2,500) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2011 Graduate Dean's Advancement Fellowship (\$6,000) UCSB Graduate Division.
- 2011 National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$19,900) National Science Foundation Archaeology Program Grant BCS-1113057.
- 2011 Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant (\$2,000) UCSB Graduate Division.
- 2011 Summer Stipend Award (\$1,500) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2010 Luce Environmental Science to Solutions Fellowship (\$6,000) UCSB Marine Science Institute, Fellowship Tenure 2010- 2013.
- 2009 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Grant (\$2,500) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2008 Student Travel Grant (\$500) National Shellfisheries Association.
- 2008 Mildred E. Mathias Graduate Student Research Grant (\$2,000) University of California Natural Reserve System.
- 2008 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Grant (\$500) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2007 Student Assistantship (\$500) ESRI International User Conference.
- 2007 Peter Paige Memorial Fund Grant (\$2000) UCSB Department of Anthropology.
- 2001-2004 Presidential Endowed Fellowship (\$40,000) Texas Tech University.

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### **Recognition, Honors & Awards**

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- 2011 SAA National Ethics Bowl Championship Team member
- 2008 High Pass on M.A. Comprehensive Exams
- 2004 Completed Bachelors Degree with double major in 3 years
- 2002-2004 President's List/ Dean's List, Texas Tech University
- 2001 Phi Beta Kappa Superior Academic Achievement Award *summa cum laude*
- 2001 High Honor Graduate (top 1%), Coronado High school
- 2001 University Interscholastic League Scholar Award
- 2001 Senatorial Nomination and Appointment to United States Air Force Academy
- 2000 National Merit Commended Scholar

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## **Selected Laboratory Training**

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Paleoethnobotanical Analysis (September 2008-July 2014)

Supervisor: Dr. Amber VanDerwarker

VanDerwarker Paleoethnobotany Laboratory, University of California Santa Barbara

Faunal and Shellfish Analysis (September 2005-July 2014)

Supervisors: Dr. Michael Glassow & Dr. Amber VanDerwarker

California Archaeology Laboratory, University of California Santa Barbara

Stable Isotope Analysis

Supervisor: Dr. Syee Weldeab (August 2011-August 2012)

Weldeab Carbonate Laboratory, University of California Santa Barbara

Supervisor: Georges Paradis (September 2007- January 2009)

Marine Sciences Research Laboratory, University of California Santa Barbara

Course work completed under Dr. Michael DeNiro

Ceramic Analysis (August 2010-December 2010)

Supervisor: Dr. Barbara Voorhies

New World Archaeological Foundation, San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico

GIS Analysis (Fall 2006-Spring 2007)

Coursework completed under Dr. Michael Goodchild

Artifact Casting and Moldmaking (Fall 2006-Winter 2007)

Supervisor: Dr. Philip Walker

Walker Bioarchaeological Laboratory, University of California Santa Barbara

Laboratory Assistant (Spring 2003-Fall 2003)

Supervisors: Dr. Grant Hall and Dr. Tamra Walters

Texas Archaeology Laboratory, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

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## **Selected Field Experience**

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*Principal Investigator* (June 2009-present)

Food & Fertility in Prehistoric California

Santa Cruz Island, California

*Field Archaeologist* (January 2009- April 2009)

Tlacuachero Shellmound Excavation

Supervisor: Dr. Barbara Voorhies

Chiapas, Mexico

*Principal Investigator* (September 2008- November 2008)

East Pelican Bay Survey

Santa Cruz Island, California

*Field Archaeologist* (June 2007- August 2007)

Kappel Paleolithic Excavation Project

Supervisor: Dr. Michael Jochim

Kappel, Germany

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**Community Outreach Activities**

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2010-2013 UCSB Interactive Introduction to Archaeology Program

*Primary Coordinator and Program Leader*

UCSB Office of Academic Preparation

- Early Academic Outreach Program at Harding Elementary (1/27/2012)
- Jumpstart to Pathways Program at Dos Pueblos High school (5/27/2011)
- Jumpstart to Pathways Program at Isla Vista Elementary (3/3/2011)
- Early Academic Outreach Program at Harding Elementary (10/15/2010)

UCSB Native American Indian Scholars Program

- A.N.C.H.O.R. Event (10/22/2011)

Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation Educational Program

- Chumash Youth Summer Camp (7/12/2011)

UCSB Girvetz Graduate School of Education

- South Coast Writing Project for R. J. Frank Middle School. (9/17/2010)

Marymount Middle School

- Introduction to Archaeology (10/14/2012 & 10/15/2012)
- Introduction to Archaeology (10/26/2011 & 10/27/2011)
- Introduction to Archaeology (10/21/2010 & 10/23/2010)

2010 Research Mentor through UCSB Summer Sessions Mentorship Program  
(6/2011-8/2011)

2009 Ancient Exploitation of the Arroyo Burro Watershed. Santa Barbara Coastal Long Term Ecological Research Schoolyard Ecological Tour and Lecture for La Cumbre Junior High  
(9/22/2009 & 9/23/2009)

2009 Introduction to Archaeology Program Assistant, UCSB Early Academic Outreach Event for Harding Elementary (10/2009)

2008 Introduction to Archaeology Program Assistant, UCSB Early Academic Outreach Event for Harding Elementary (10/2008)

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**Elected and Appointed Posts**

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2014- 2017 SAA Committee for Museums, Collections, and Curation (member, 3 year tenure)

2011- 2014 Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Academic Outreach (member), UCSB

2011- 2013 SAA Committee for Museums, Collections, and Curation (member, 2 year tenure)

2008- 2010 LEAD Teaching Assistant, UCSB Anthropology

2009- 2012 Graduate Student Association Outreach Coordinator, UCSB Anthropology

2007- 2009 Graduate Student Association Co-Chair, UCSB Anthropology

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**Professional Affiliations**

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Society for American Archaeology (SAA)

September 2006- present

Society for California Archaeology (SCA)

September 2006- present

Society of Ethnobiology

September 2009- present

Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA)

February 2009- present