

**CAITILIN MCCRACKEN**  
**2006**

**Address**

Quaternary Sciences Program, Box 5644 (928) 523-1718 (work)  
Northern Arizona University (928) 600-4338 (home)  
Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-5644 caitilin.mccracken@nau.edu  
fireweede@gmail.com

**Education**

MS, Quaternary Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Paleontology (in progress)

BA, Anthropology and Geology, University of Texas, Austin 2001

Master's Thesis: A Comparative Osteological Description of Isolated Cranial Elements of the Chuckwalla (Reptilia, Squamata, Iguanidae, *Sauromalus*). (in progress)

**Present Positions**

Teaching Assistant for Vertebrate Paleobiology: Squamates (GLG 536) at Northern Arizona University; taught by professor Dr. Jim I. Mead; Spring 2006

Quaternary Pollen Processor at the Laboratory of Paleoecology, Northern Arizona University; employment consists of pollen extraction from both archaeological sediments and from lake cores; under the supervision of both Dr. Scott R. Anderson and Susan J. Smith; from September 2003-present

**Related Experience**

**-Teaching Assistant**, for Quaternary Pollen Analysis (QS 672) at Northern Arizona University; taught by professor Dr. Scott R. Anderson; Fall 2005

**-Field Assistant**, June 2002, March 2003, March 2004; Térapa, Mexico; Pleistocene megafaunal fossil excavation, screenwashing for microfauna, interpretation of paleoenvironment/ecology

**-Field Assistant**, August 2002, Museum of Northern Arizona Skutumpah mammoth excavation; southern Utah; Dr. Dave Gillette, Principal Investigator

**-Field Assistant**, August 2002, NAU, Grand Canyon-Parashant cave prospecting, surface excavation of fossils and sediments, packrat midden collection

**-Field Assistant**, 2001 June-September, Metaponto, Italy; 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> century BC Greco-Roman archeological survey; surface excavation, artifact processing in lab; extensive GIS and GPS experience

**-Field Assistant**, 2000 June-August; Belize-Central America; Mayan archaeology; excavation, laboratory processing of artifacts

**-Field Assistant**, 1998 July-August, Dinosaur, Colorado; *Apatosaurus* excavation; on-bone experience, plaster-jacketing, identification of fossil megafauna

**-Undergraduate Research Assistant**, January 1998-May 2001; Plant Resources Center/University of Texas at Austin Herbarium; processing/mounting of pressed plants for the collection

**-Independent Study**, January-May 2001; under Dr. Timothy Rowe at the Texas Memorial Museum University of Texas, Austin; casting of plesiosaur and other megafauna

**-Independent Study**, June-August 2000; Belize-Central America; ethnobotanical medicinal plant use of the Maya people

### **Research Projects/Grants**

Contract report for the Bureau of Land Management; entitled Fossil Resources of Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument; submitted by C. McCracken under the supervision Dr. Jim Mead; 2004

Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Jim Mead, Director of Quaternary Sciences, Northern Arizona University, September 2002- May 2003; responsible for maintenance of Laboratory of Quaternary Paleontology and National Park Service Repository fossil collection; packrat midden processing; cataloging and processing of collection specimens

Analysis of the faunal remains of packrat middens collected from the Grand Wash Cliffs Wilderness; 2002; publication in progress

Undergraduate Archaeology Honors Thesis; Use-wear analysis of a prismatic obsidian blade collection from a coastal Belize Mayan archaeology site; September 2000-May 2001

Undergraduate Research Fellowship: granted by the University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2000. Financially funded a research trip to Belize/Guatemala.

### **Volunteer Activity**

-The Arboretum at Flagstaff; January 2005-present; volunteer activities include beekeeping, assistance with the High-Country Raptor Program, aid in the gardens, aid in the Horticulture Center, and aid in rare plant monitoring.

-Beekeeping; assisting Dr. Patrick Pynes with the Sustainable Beekeeping workshop at Coconino Community College; assistance with maintenance of top bar hives; 2006

-Glassblowers' assistant at Fire on the Mountain, Flagstaff, Arizona

### **Professional Societies**

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology

Phi Beta Kappa

Golden Key National Honor Society

Lambda Alpha (Archaeology Honor Society)  
National Society of Collegiate Scholars  
Glass Art Society

**Honors**

Cumulative GPA of 4.0 in the Quaternary Sciences Program at NAU  
Liberal Arts High Honors Degree UT Austin May 2001  
Anthropology Departmental Honors May 2001  
Semester Departmental Honors (each semester 1997-2001)  
Cumulative GPA of 3.89 at UT Austin