

**CATHERINE P. FOSTER**

510.847.8562 | [cpfoster@ameeri.org](mailto:cpfoster@ameeri.org) | [www.microcommons.org/foster](http://www.microcommons.org/foster)

**CURRENT POSITIONS**

US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs  
Cultural Property Researcher, 2011–present

Co-Executive Director  
Ancient Middle East Education and Research Institute (AMEERI), 2010–present

**FORMER POSITIONS**

US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs  
Associate Coordinator for Iraqi Cultural Heritage, 2010–2011

Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology, Pacific School of Religion  
Associate Curator, 2006–2010  
Interim Director, 2006, 2009  
Assistant Curator, 2003–2006

University of California, Berkeley  
Graduate Student Instructor, 2002–2009

California State Parks, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Seasonal Archaeology Specialist, 2001

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, 2009. Near Eastern Art and Archaeology  
Thesis: *Household Archaeology and the Uruk Phenomenon: A Case Study from Kenan Tepe, Turkey*

M.A. University of California, Berkeley, 2003. Near Eastern Art and Archaeology

B.A. University of California, San Diego, 2001. Anthropology, with honors

**SPECIALTIES & RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Near Eastern art and archaeology, household archaeology, museology, cultural heritage management, collections management, exhibitions, anthropology of the senses, microdebris analysis, archaeology and the media, public archaeology, web development

**FIELD RESEARCH**

UTARP Kenan Tepe, Turkey. Excavation unit supervisor. Summer 2004–2008.

The Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (UTARP) is a multi-year archaeological excavation and survey project aimed at defining archaeological correlates of ancient imperialism, colonialism and culture contact in an area that was, for much of Mesopotamian history, a frontier zone between the centralized states of Mesopotamia and the much less centralized cultures of its Anatolian periphery.

Kerkenes Dağ Project, Turkey. Survey team and excavation unit supervisor. Summer 2002.

The Kerkenes Dağ Project has, since 1991, investigated this large first millennium settlement through a combination of excavation, survey and remote sensing. Possibly the ancient site of Pteria, Kerkenes was a well planned, but short-lived city that succumbed to a devastating fire and was abandoned, thus providing remarkable preservation for future archaeologists.

Jabal Hamrat Fidan Archaeological Project, Jordan. Excavator. Summer 1999.

The Jabal Hamrat Fidan Project is the first “deep time” study of ore procurement, early metallurgy, production and social change from the Neolithic to the Iron Age in Jordan.

## **RECENT EXHIBITIONS**

*Through Our Eyes*

Curated with Jon Vidar

Iraqi Cultural Center; Washington, DC (August–September 2011)

USC Stevens Institute for Innovation, Los Angeles, CA (December 2011–May 2012)

*A Narrative without Words*

Permanent video installation

Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology; Berkeley, CA (2010)

*Lived Experience in Ancient Judah*

Part of “Mining the Collection” Artist-in-Residence Program

Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology; Berkeley, CA (April–June 2010)

*Hope and Reflection: Images of Kurdish Culture from Turkey and Iraq*

Curated with Jon Vidar

Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology; Berkeley, CA (May–December 2009)

*Ancient Tell, Modern Art: GTU Artists' Responses to Artifacts from Tell en-Nasbeh*

Curated with Jennifer Leighton

Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology; Berkeley, CA (March–May 2009)

## **PUBLICATIONS** (\* Peer Reviewed)

### **Books**

*New Perspectives in Household Archaeology*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns. (Edited with B.J. Parker, in press).

### **Book Chapters**

“Introduction: Household Archaeology in the Near East and Beyond” in *New Perspectives in Household Archaeology*. Edited by B.J. Parker and C.P. Foster. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns. (Co-authored with B. J. Parker, in press).

“The Uruk Phenomenon: A View from the Household” in *New Perspectives in Household Archaeology*. Edited by B.J. Parker and C.P. Foster. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns. (in press)

\*“Beyond the Display Case: Creating a Multisensory Museum Experience” in *Making Senses of the Past: Toward a Sensory Archaeology*. Edited by J. Day. Carbondale: Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University. (in press)

“An Overview of the Ceramic Sequence at Kenan Tepe,” in *Studies in Honour of Altan Çilingiroğlu: A Life Dedicated to Urtu on the Shores of the Upper Sea*. Edited by H. Sağlamtimur, E. Abay, Z. Derin, A. Ü. Erdem, A. Batmaz, F. Dedeoğlu, M. Erdalkıran, M. B. Baştürk, and E. Konakçı, pp. 425–451. Istanbul: Arkeoloji ve Sanat Yayınları, 2009. Co-authored with B. J. Parker.

### Journal Articles

“Microarchaeological Analyses” in “The Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (UTARP): A Preliminary Report from the 2007 and 2008 Field Seasons at Kenan Tepe” by B. J. Parker et al., *Anatolica* 35 (2009): 93–109. Co-authored with B.J. Parker, M. B. Uzel, and R. Jensen.

“The Late Chalcolithic Period: Excavation Summary” in “A Preliminary Report from the 2005 and 2006 Field Seasons at Kenan Tepe” by B. J. Parker et al., *Anatolica* 34 (2008): 109–114, 162–168.

“Area F Trench 1” in “The Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (UTARP): A Preliminary Report from the 2003 and 2004 Field Seasons at Kenan Tepe” by B. J. Parker et al., *Anatolica* 32 (2006): 80–84, 116–125.

### Reviews

“Glass and Light: Making the Past Visible at the Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum.” *Dig-it-al Near Eastern Archaeology* (December 2011): <http://www.asor.org/pubs/nea/JohnsHopkins.html>

### RECENT FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

George A. Barton Fellowship (2010-2011) - Declined:

Funding for museum research and residency at the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem. Project: “*Publication of Tell en-Nasbeh III: The Early Bronze Age*”

Platt Excavation Fellowship (2008):

Support for field research at Kenan Tepe, Turkey.

Kress Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in the History of Art and Archaeology in Turkey (2007):

Funding for field research and residency at the American Research Institute in Turkey, Ankara. Project: “*Daily Life in the Late Chalcolithic: Micro-debris Analysis at Kenan Tepe, Turkey*”

Paul J. Alexander Memorial Fellowship (2007):

Established for the study of Byzantine, ancient, and medieval history by UC Berkeley graduate students as part of their dissertation research. Used for research and laboratory equipment.

Open Archaeology Prize (2007):

Awarded to the best open-access, open-licensed, digital contributions to Near Eastern archaeology by members of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR). For website project: “*Household*

*Archaeology and the Uruk Phenomenon: A Case Study from Kenan Tepe, Turkey*<sup>9</sup>  
(<http://www.microcommons.org/foster>)

George Franklin Dales Foundation Scholarship (2007–2008):

Funding for U.S. students pursuing research in ancient civilizations, archaeology, anthropology or professional fields supportive of these three academic areas. Used for laboratory equipment.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

NES 192A: Household Archaeology; Spring 2009 (Primary Instructor)

This course surveys the theoretical underpinnings of Household Archaeology drawn from anthropological literature and explores methods by which archaeologists investigate houses and households of the ancient Near East with comparative examples drawn from Mesoamerica and North America.

NES 15: Introduction to Near Eastern Art and Archaeology; Spring 2007, 2008

(Graduate Student Instructor)

This course surveys the major archaeological sites and monuments from the earliest settlements in the Neolithic (10,000–6000 BCE) to the conquest of the Near East by Alexander the Great in 330 BCE.

NES 10: Introduction to the Middle East; Fall 2002, 2003, 2004 (Graduate Student Instructor)

This course traces the modern and ancient socio–political history of ethnic and religious groups in the Arab states, Turkey, Israel, and Iran.

## **INVITED LECTURES**

“Mining the Collection: An Archaeology of the Senses.” Presented at a panel discussion for the Center for Arts, Religion and Education (CARE) at Graduate Theological Union and Doug Adams Gallery, May 2010.

“Royal Art as Political Message in Ancient Mesopotamia.” Presented at the UC Berkeley Office of Resources for International and Area Studies (ORIAS) Summer Teacher’s World History Institute conference *Visible Power: Art in National Life*, July 2009.

## **RECENT PAPERS GIVEN**

“Curating Badè’s Legacy: Management of the Tell en-Nasbeh Collection.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, San Francisco, CA, November 2011.

“Beyond the Display Case: Creating a Multisensory Museum Experience.” Presented at the conference *Making Senses of the Past: Toward a Sensory Archaeology*. Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, March 2010.

“Domestic Economies and Regional Relations at Kenan Tepe, Turkey.” Presented at the conference *Household Archaeology in the Middle East and Beyond: Theory, Method and Practice*. University of Utah, Salt Lake City, February 2009.

“Household Archaeology and the Uruk Phenomenon: A Case Study from Late Chalcolithic Kenan Tepe, Turkey.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Boston, November 2008.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

### **Committees**

ASOR Committee on Archaeological Policy, 2010–present

### **Conferences**

“Household Archaeology in the Middle East and Beyond: Theory, Method and Practice.” University of Utah. Conference Organizer, February 2009.

### **Editorial**

Alexandria Archive Institute: Open Context Editorial Board member, 2010–present

Journal of Associated Graduates in Near Eastern Studies

Contributing Editor, 2007–2009

Editor-in-Chief, 2004–2007

### **Databases**

“MicroCommons” open access Omeka database and website designed to facilitate the sharing of images, publications, methods and ideas to promote microarchaeological studies for all regions and time periods. Designer, web developer, and moderator, February 2010–current (<http://www.microcommons.org>).

### **Volunteer**

Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

AsiaAlive: Digging Archaeology Volunteer, December 2008.

Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program, University of California Berkeley

Project Manager, 2007–2008, 2009–2010.

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

### **Programs, Devices and Databases**

Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, Corel Draw, Microsoft Office Suite, CSS, XHTML, Omeka, Drupal, ExpressEngine, Geographic Information System (GIS), Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) and accompanying software, Arcview, PastPerfect, FileMaker Pro

### **Website Development**

Dhiban Excavation and Development Project (<http://www.dhiban.org>)

Benjamin W. Porter (<http://web.mac.com/bporter615/iWeb/Website/Welcome.html>)

Hellenistic Babylon: Text, Images and Names (<http://cdl.museum.upenn.edu/hbtin>)

Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (<http://www.utarp.org>)

Near Eastern Studies Student Association (<http://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~nessa>)

Journal of Associated Graduates in Near Eastern Studies (<http://www.jagnes.com>)

Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology (<http://bade.psr.edu/>)

Marian H. Feldman (<http://feldman.berkeley.edu>)

**MEMBERSHIPS**

American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)

Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG)

**LANGUAGES**

Reading proficiency in Akkadian, Biblical Hebrew, French, German, Spanish

Basic speaking ability in Turkish and Spanish

**REFERENCES**

John M. Russell, Department of History of Art, Massachusetts College of Art and Design  
621 Huntington Avenue, Boston 02115  
(617) 879-7594, [jrussell@massart.edu](mailto:jrussell@massart.edu)

Marian H. Feldman, Department of Near Eastern Studies and History of Art  
411 Doe Library, University of California, Berkeley 94720-6020  
(510) 642-1187, [feldman@berkeley.edu](mailto:feldman@berkeley.edu)

Aaron Brody, Pacific School of Religion and Director of the Badè Museum  
1798 Scenic Avenue, Berkeley 94709-1323  
(510) 849-8286, [abrody@psr.edu](mailto:abrody@psr.edu)