

JACOB LEWIS BONGERS

Curriculum Vitae

Archaeology Program
Boston University
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EDUCATION

2019 Ph.D., Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles
2014 M.A., Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles
2011 B.A., Interdisciplinary Archaeology, University of Southern
 California, *summa cum laude*

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2022-Present Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Scholar, Boston University, USA
2019-2022 Senior Research Associate, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England
2015-2016 Curatorial Consultant for an exhibition titled *Mummies: New Secrets from the
 Tombs*, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, USA

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2023 **Bongers, J.L.**, Muros, V., O'Shea, C., Mejía, J.G., Cooke, C.A., Young, M., Barnard, H.
Painting Personhood: Red Pigment Practices in Southern Peru. *Journal of
Anthropological Archaeology*, 69, 101480.
- 2023 Lau, G.F., Dávila, M.L., **Bongers, J.L.**, Chicoine, D. The Rise of Native Lordships at
Pashash, a.d. 200–600, North Highlands of Ancash, Peru. *Journal of Field Archaeology*,
48(1), 36-54.
- 2022 **Bongers, J.L.**, Mejía, J.G., Harper, T.K., & Seidensticker, S. Assembling the dead:
human vertebrae-on-posts in the Chincha Valley, Peru. *Antiquity*, 1-19.
- 2020 **Bongers, J.L.**, Nakatsuka, N., O'Shea, C., Harper, T.K., Tantaleán, H., Stanish, C., &
Fehren-Schmitz, L. Integration of ancient DNA with transdisciplinary dataset finds strong
support for Inca resettlement in the south Peruvian coast. *Proceedings of the National
Academy of Sciences*, 117(31), 18359-18368.
- 2020 Harrower, M.J., Nathan, S., Mazzariello, J.C., Zerue, K., Dumitru, I.A., Meresa, Y.,
Bongers, J.L., Gebreegziabher, G., Zaitchik, B.F., & Anderson, M.C. Water availability
and the empire of Aksum: the Southern Red Sea Archaeological Histories (SRSAH)
Project Survey (2009-2016). *African Archaeology Review* 37, 51-67.

- 2019 Harrower, M.J., Dumitru, I.A., Perlingieri, C., Nathan, S., Zerue, K., Lamont, J.L., Bausi, A., Swerida, J.L., **Bongers, J.L.**, Woldekiros, H.S., Poolman, L.A., Pohl, C.M., Brandt, S., & Peterson, E.A. Discovery and excavations of an Aksumite town, Beta Samati (Ethiopia). *Antiquity*, 93(372), 1534-1552.
- 2018 **Bongers, J.L.**, O'Shea, C., & Farahani, A. Communities of weavers: a methodology for analyzing textile and cloth production. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 22, 223-236.
- 2016 Weinberg, C., Nigra, B. T., Lozada, M. C., Stanish, C. S., Tantalean, H., **Bongers, J.**, & Jones, T. Demographic analysis of a looted Late Intermediate Period tomb, Chíncha Valley, Peru. *Andean Past*, 12(1), 133-154.
- 2015 Arnold, J. E., Sunell, S., Nigra, B. T., Bishop, K. J., Jones, T., & **Bongers, J.** Entrenched disbelief: complex hunter-gatherers and the case for inclusive cultural evolutionary thinking. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, 23(2), 1-52.
- 2014 Harrower, M.J., O'Meara, K.O., Basile, J.J., Swerida, J.L., Dumitru, I.A., Hickman, C.J., **Bongers, J.L.**, Bailey, C.J., & Fieldhouse, E. If a Picture is worth a thousand words...3D modeling a Bronze Age tower in Oman. *World Archaeology*, 46(1), 43-62.
- 2012 **Bongers, J.**, Arkush, E., & Harrower, M. Landscapes of death: GIS-based analyses of chullpas in the western Lake Titicaca basin. *Journal of Archaeological Science*, 39(6), 1687-1693.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Bongers, J.L. *Death, Empire, and Resistance in Southern Peru*. Book manuscript in preparation.

Other Publications

- 2014 Nigra, B.T., Jones, T., **Bongers, J.**, Stanish, C., Tantaleán, H., Pérez, K. The Chíncha Kingdom: The Archaeology of the Late Intermediate Period South Coast, Peru. *Backdirt*, 36-47.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

External Grants and Fellowships (n=14; Total Awarded to Date=\$234,250)

- 2019 National Geographic Early Career Grant, *Paleogenomic Investigations of Inca Imperial Expansion and Forced Migration in the Chincha Valley, Peru*, **Co-PI** (with J. Dalton and L. Fehren-Schmitz), UCLA, (\$10,000)
- 2019 Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research, *Mashgonga: Exploring an Andean Fortified Town*, **PI**, UCLA (\$4,500)
- 2019 Elemental Analysis Facility (Field Museum) Grant, *Elemental Analysis and Characterization of Ochre from the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA
- 2019 The Ohio State University President's Postdoctoral Scholars Program (declined)
- 2017 Mellon Mays Travel and Research Grant, *Life and Death in the Chincha Kingdom: Funerary Practice and Sociopolitical Organization in the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$4,990)
- 2016 Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, *Inca Conquest and Local Burial Architecture in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$505)
- 2016 Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)-Orange County Scholarship, *Inca Conquest and Local Mortuary practices in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru: New Chronological Perspectives*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$2000)
- 2015 Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, *Imperialism, Ideology, and Funerary Practice in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$1,500)
- 2015 Explorers Club San Diego Chapter Grant, *Funerary Practices and Group Relations in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$500)
- 2014 Mellon Mays Predoctoral Research Grant, *Mortuary Practice and Sociopolitical Organization in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$2,995)
- 2013 **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**, *Examining Coastal Peruvian Mortuary Monumentality as a Social Strategy*, **PI**, UCLA, 2013-2018 (\$34,000 annual stipend and plus \$12,000 annual cost-of-education allowance)
- 2013 **Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship**, **PI**, UCLA, 2013-2018, (\$20,000 annual stipend plus \$12,000 cost-of-education allowance)
- 2013 National Geographic Young Explorers Grant, *Examining Coastal Peruvian Mortuary Monumentality as a Social Strategy*, **PI**, UCLA, \$4,260
- 2013 Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid, **PI**, UCLA, (\$1,000)

Internal Grants and Fellowships (n=7; Total Awarded to Date=\$72,800)

- 2017 International Institute Fieldwork Fellowship, *Life and Death in the Chincha Kingdom: Mortuary Practice, Imperial Conquest and Sociopolitical Organization in the Late Prehistoric Middle Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$1,500)
- 2017 Sarah Gilfillan Award, *Life and Death in the Chincha Kingdom: Funerary Practice and Imperial Conquest in the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru*, **PI**, UCLA, (\$2,500)
- 2015 Steinmetz Travel Award, **PI**, UCLA, \$1,000
- 2013 Graduate Research Mentorship, **PI**, UCLA, \$20,000
- 2013 Steinmetz Travel Award, **PI**, UCLA, \$800

- 2012 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, **PI**, UCLA
\$21,000 stipend (2012-2013) plus \$25,000 stipend (2018-2019)
- 2012 Irving and Jean Stone Fellowship Award, **PI**, UCLA, \$1,000

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 Bongers, J. Climate, Conflict, and Community in Coastal and Highland Peru. Sydney University Research Community for Latin America (SURCLA). May 11th.
- 2023 Bongers, J. Contesting Death: Mortuary Practice, Empire, and Resistance on Peru's South Coast. University of South Florida. May.
- 2022 Bongers, J. Contesting Death: Mortuary Practice, Empire, and Resistance in Southern Peru. Brown University. November 4th.
- 2022 Bongers, J. Digitally Preserving Endangered Cultural Heritage in Peru. Brandeis University. October 29th.
- 2022 Bongers, J. Death, Empire, and Resistance on Peru's South Coast. Harvard University. October 20th.
- 2021 Bongers, J. Death, Mobility, and Empire in Southern Peru. University of Sydney. September 9th.
- 2021 Bongers, J. Death, Mobility, and Empire in Southern Peru. Boston University. March 24th.
- 2021 Bongers, J. Death, Mobility, and Empire in the Chincha Valley, Peru. University of Michigan. February 12th.
- 2020 Bongers, J. Death, Empire, and a Drone: Exploring Local Mortuary Practice and Imperial Conquest in the Chincha Valley, Peru. University of Southern California. October 20th.
- 2020 Bongers, J. Death under Empire: Mortuary Practice, Imperial Conquest, and Mobility in the Chincha Valley, Peru. University of Nevada, Las Vegas. March 9th.
- 2019 Bongers, J. Mortuary Practice, Interaction, and Sociopolitical Change in the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru. University of East Anglia. March 14th.
- 2018 Bongers, J. Aerial Photography and 3D Modeling in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. Cultural Site Research and Management office, Baltimore, MD, March 28th.
- 2016 Bongers, J. Dead Body Politics: Inca Conquest and Mortuary Practice in the mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. Archaeology Research Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, March 3rd.

- 2015 Bongers, J. Funerary Practices of the Chincha Kingdom in the Mid-Chincha, Valley, Peru. Anthropological and Geographical Sciences Department, Pierce College, Los Angeles, CA, March 5th.
- 2014 Bongers, J. Mortuary Monuments and Ancestral Veneration: Recent Archaeological Discoveries in the Chincha Valley, Peru. Archaeology Research Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, April 22nd.
- 2012 Bongers, J. Digging, Researching, and Publishing as an Undergraduate Student. Research Symposium, The Harker School, San Jose, CA, April 28th.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Panels Organized

- 2019 Bongers, J., Tantaleán, H. From the Paracas Culture to the Inca Empire: Recent Archaeological Research in the Chincha Valley, Peru. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting.

Papers Presented

- 2023 Bongers, J.L., Nakatsuka, N., O'Shea, C., Harper, T.K., Fehren-Schmitz, L. A Multidisciplinary Approach to Inca Resettlement in the Andes. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. March.
- 2022 Bongers, J.L., Muros, V., O'Shea, C., Gómez Mejía, J. Painting Personhood: Exploring Red Pigment Practices in the Chincha Valley, Peru. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. April 2nd.
- 2019 Bongers, J.L. Local Mortuary Practice and Inca Imperial Conquest in the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. April 12th.
- 2019 Bongers, J.L. Local Mortuary Practice and Inca Imperial Conquest: Continuity, Change, and Innovation. Institute of Andean Studies Annual Meeting. January 5th.
- 2018 Bongers, J., Gómez Mejía, J., O'Shea, C. Modeling Late Prehistoric Mortuary Practice in the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. April 12th.
- 2016 Bongers, J., O'Shea, C. Late Prehistoric Textiles from a Mass Grave in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. International Conference on Pre-Columbian Textiles, Centre for Textile Research (CTR) at the Saxo Institute, University of Copenhagen. June 1st.
- 2016 Bongers, J., Jackson, B., Seidensticker, S., Jones, T., O'Shea, C. Postmortem Human Body Manipulation in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, April 9th.

- 2015 Bongers, J., Jackson, B., Jones, T., Seidensticker, S., Stanish, C. The Treatment of the Dead in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, April 17th.
- 2014 Bongers, J., Nigra, B.T., Jones, T. The Chincha Mortuary Tradition in the Upper Chincha Valley, Peru, Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, April 25th.
- 2013 Bongers, J. Landscapes of Death: GIS-Based Analyses of Chullpas in the Western Lake Titicaca Basin, Peru, 3rd Annual UCLA Archaeological Graduate Student Conference, April 27th.

Posters Presented

- 2019 Penfil, R., Osborn, J., Bongers, J. The Effect of Imperial Conquest on Regional Settlement Patterns: A Case Study from the Peruvian South Coast between ca. 1000 – 1532 CE. Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. April 13th.
- 2018 Osborn, J., Penfil, R., Bongers, J. From Inkawasi to Tambo Colorado: Macro-Regional Macro-Regional Analysis of Settlement Patterns on the Peruvian South Coast (ca. 1000 – 1532 CE). Annual Midwest Conference on Andean and Amazonian Archaeology and Ethnohistory. March 17th – 18th.
- 2015 O’Shea, C., Bongers, J. Conserving and Interpreting Two Bird Pendants from the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. Annual American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works Meeting, May 13th-16th.
- 2015 O’Shea, C., Bongers, J. Conserving and Interpreting Two Bird Pendants from the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru. 55th Annual Institute of Andean Studies Meeting, January 10th-11th.
- 2011 Bongers, J., Arkush, E., Harrower, M. Landscapes of Death: GIS-based Analyses of Chullpas in the Western Lake Titicaca Basin, 51st Annual Institute of Andean Studies Meeting, January 10th-11th.

CAMPUS OR DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2023 Bongers, J. Climate, Conflict, and Community in the Andes. Boston University. February 22nd.
- 2022 Bongers, J. Death, Empire, and Resistance in Southern Peru. University of East Anglia. March 9th.
- 2020 Bongers, J. Community and Conflict at the Fortified Town of Mashgonga, Ancash, Peru. Talk delivered on Zoom for University of East Anglia students and faculty members. May 6th.

- 2018 Bongers, J. Drone Archaeology in the Middle Chincha Valley, Peru. Fowler Museum, UCLA. Los Angeles, CA, June 13th.
- 2016 Bongers, J., Jackson, B., Jones, T. Mortuary Practice in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru: New Discoveries and Emerging Models. UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, April 27th.
- 2013 Bongers, J. Surveying the Upper Chincha Valley, Peru. National Geographic Young Explorers Grant Workshop, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, October 26th.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Boston University

Americas before Columbus (2023 Spring Semester, Instructor of Record)

UCLA

Women and Power in the Ancient World (2015 Winter Quarter, TA).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2022 Senior Research Associate, Rise of Divine Lordships in the Ancient Andes: Ancestors and Polity in Northern Peru Project, Peru
- 2013-Present Principal Investigator, Chincha Mortuary Project, Peru
- 2016-2019 Visiting Graduate Student, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Johns Hopkins University
- 2015 Co-Principal Investigator, Casa Grande Archaeological Project, Peru
- 2013-2014 Co-Principal Investigator and Chief Geospatial Technician, Chincha Archaeological Project, Peru
- 2012-2015 Staff Member, Chincha Archaeological Project, Peru
- 2012 Laboratory Director, Moqi Archaeological Project, Peru
- 2012 Staff Member, Southern Red Sea Archaeological Histories Project (SRSAH), Ethiopia
- 2012 Collections Management Intern, Gallo Romeins Museum, Belgium
- 2012 Geospatial Technician, Archaeological Water Histories of Oman (ARWHO), Oman
- 2011 Staff Member, Southern Red Sea Archaeological Histories Project (SRSAH), Ethiopia
- 2010 Staff Member, Vitor Valley Archaeological Project, Peru
- 2009 Survey Team Member, Machu Llaqta Archaeological Project, Peru
- 2008 Field School Student, Tarapaca Valley Archaeological Project, Chile

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2022 Panelist, One Planet/One Health, Dean's Advisory Board (BU)
- 2020-2022 Co-organizer, The Americas: Past and Present Reading Group (UEA)

- 2020-Present Member, Blue Ribbon Commission for the Institute of Andean Studies
- 2014-2015 Co-Organizer, Andean Working Group Talk Series (UCLA)
- 2014 Co-Organizer, Friday Talk Series (UCLA), Fall Quarter
- 2014 Co-Organizer, Pizza Talks (UCLA), Winter Quarter

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

Presentations

- 2019 Bongers, J.L. Arqueología de Drones en el Sitio de Pashash, Peru, Colegio Nacional Apóstol Santiago, Cabana, Peru, September 12th.
- 2018 Harrower, M., Bongers, J. African Civilizations: The Empire of Aksum, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School, Baltimore, MD, March 9th.
- 2017 Harrower, M., Bongers, J. Human Ancestors and Evolution, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School, Baltimore, MD, October 4th.
- 2017 Bongers, J. Inca Conquest and Local Mortuary Practice in the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru: New Chronological Perspectives, Concordia University, Irvine, CA, January 15th.
- 2016 Bongers, J. Conquest, Ideology, and Funerary Practice in the Andes: New Discoveries and Emerging Perspectives from the mid-Chincha Valley, Peru, Friends of Ethnic Art Organization, Private Home, Menlo Park, CA, January 10th.
- 2015 Bongers, J. The Treatment of the Dead in Ancient Peru, Natural History Museum, Los Angeles, CA, September 1st.
- 2015 Bongers, J. Death, Mummies, and Society: An Examination of Ancient Peruvian Mortuary Practices, Natural History Museum, Los Angeles, CA, August 26th, 27th, and 29th.
- 2015 Bongers, J. Death and Ritual in the Chincha Kingdom: New Insights into the Funerary Practices of the Mid-Chincha Valley, Peru, Friends of Ethnic Art Organization, Private Home, Menlo Park, CA, January 11th.
- 2014 Bongers, J. Mortuary Monuments and Ancestral Veneration: Recent Archaeological Discoveries in the Chincha Valley, Peru, Friends of Ethnic Art Organization, Piedmont Center for the Arts, Berkeley, CA, January 12th.

Posters

- 2022 Bongers, J.L. Conflicto y Señoríos Andinos: Trabajos de Prospección 2019 en el Distrito de Cabana, Perú, Cabana Museum, Peru.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF PUBLISHED RESEARCH

Radio Interviews

- 2022 National Public Radio's "The World," ["Unraveling the mystery of 'spines on sticks'"](#)
2022 Newstalk's Moncrieff, February 10th.

Selected Online News Stories

- 2023 LiveScience, [People 'finger painted' the skulls of their ancestors red in the Andes a millennium ago](#)
2022 National Geographic, ["Archaeologists seek out mystery behind 500-year-old 'spines on sticks'"](#)
2022 Science, ["Reconstructed human spines may honor Peru's defiled dead"](#)
2022 Nature, ["'Spines on posts' hint at ancient devotion to the dead"](#)
2022 The Guardian, ["Native Peruvians threaded corpses' spines on to sticks, study suggests"](#)
2022 Smithsonian, ["Why Did 16th-Century Andean Villagers String Together the Bones of Their Ancestors?"](#)
2022 CNN, ["Nearly 200 human spines found threaded onto posts in Peru"](#)

LANGUAGES

Spanish Reading: Good Speaking: Good Writing: Good

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of American Archaeology
Institute of Andean Studies

REFERENCES

Charles Stanish
Department of Anthropology
University of South Florida
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Tampa, FL 33620-7200
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Sainsbury Research Unit for the Arts of Africa, Oceania & the Americas
University of East Anglia
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Michael Harrower
Department of Near Eastern Studies
Johns Hopkins University
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