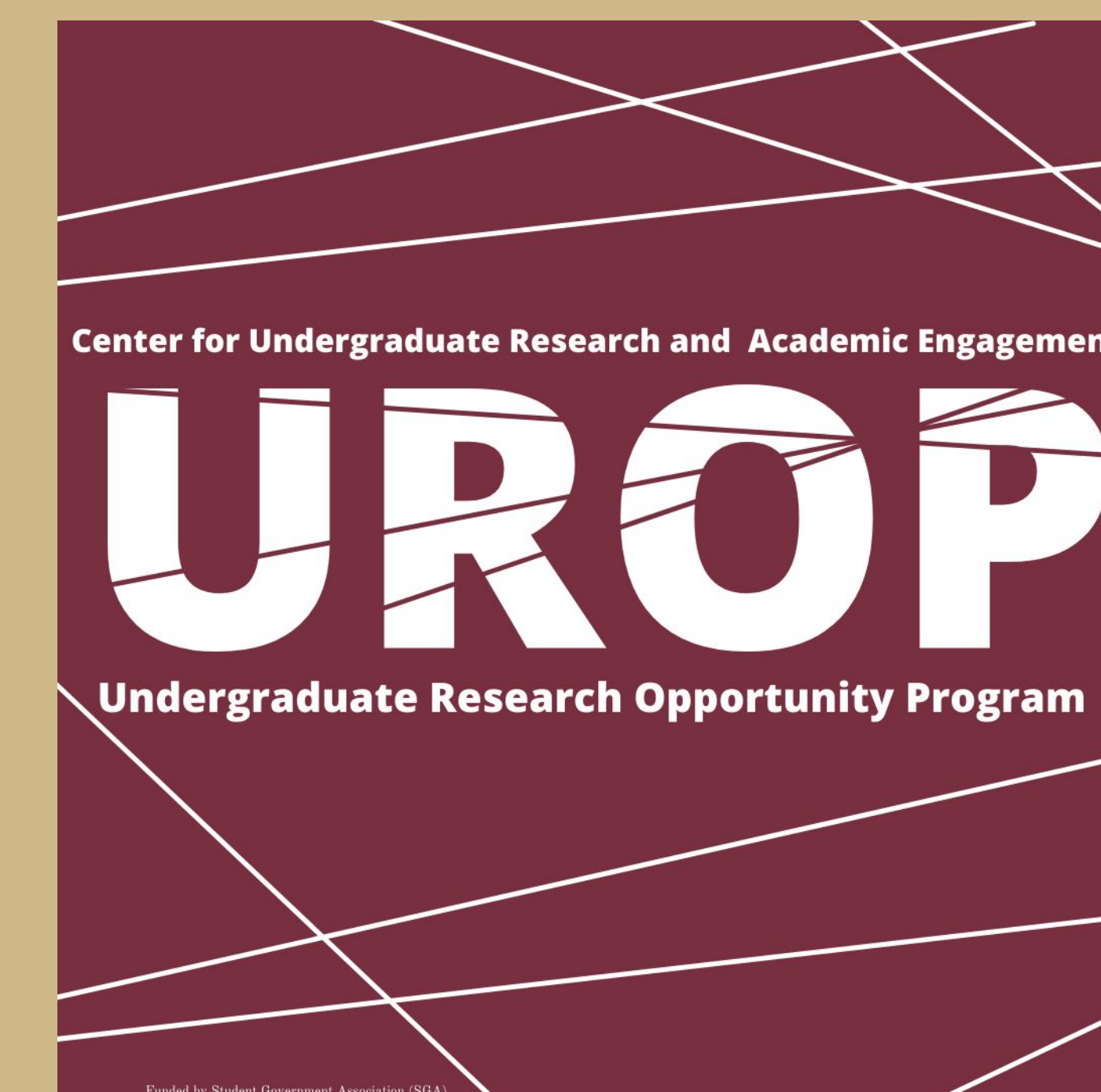




Zoo-Anthropology Exhibition

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Abstract

Anthropology, often described as the science of man and its relationships with distribution, origin and culture, contains a number of branches including the relatively recently coined zoo-anthropology/anthrozoology. Anthrozoology focuses on the interactions between humans and non-human animals, it is invaluable to science as a whole as it gives insight into the diet, culture, habits and taboos of ancient communities under study. To shed light on how this information is gathered and analyzed by anthrozoologists, we are collecting information from a number of anthrozoology sources and compiling them in preparation for an exhibit to be displayed in FSU's anthropology building. FSU's resident zooarchaeologist was consulted and a number of sources were analyzed including annual reviews of anthropology and books detailing the methods used by archeologists that tie zoology to archaeology. The goal of this project is to educate the public on anthropology and one of the ways it interconnects with other sciences, in this case zoology.

Results

The end goal of this project is to erect a museum-like display in the Department of Anthropology, Carraway Building that can educate students on the benefits zoo-anthropology brings to the scientific community and what exactly this subset of anthropology is. The display will feature the benefits of the science as well as how researchers go about collecting zooarchaeological data and what this data tells us about our early ancestor's interactions with animals. The research done in order to provide the information for this project reveals zoo-anthropology allows scientists to recreate the cultural and environmental landscapes of our past as well as better understand the origins of our species.

Future Works

The research compiled in this project will allow for anthropology students to construct an exhibit in the Carraway Building like the one shown below.

References

1. Gifford-Gonzalez, Diane. *An Introduction to Zooarchaeology*. 1st ed. 2018., Springer International Publishing, <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-65682-3>
2. Ungar, Peter S., Frederick E. Grime, and Mark F. Teaford. "Diet in Early Homo: A Review of the Evidence and a New Model of Adaptive Versatility." *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 2006, vol. 35, 209–228.

Methods

Zooarchaeologist's systematically study various animal remains recovered from archaeological sites, with the goal of understanding past human life in historic and prehistoric times. Below are some of the ways they do so: In order to understand the diet of early human ancestors of the Homo (Human) genus, researchers first collected large sample sizes of Homo genus specimens and compared their age of origin with a number of mass cooling events. This created a timeline of which species of interest existed at a certain time. Researchers then analyzed archaeological findings from each time period to determine which species was capable of preparing vegetation and butchering meats. To determine what types of foods early humans were eating, teeth samples of the Homo species were taken and compared to modern day primates in the same regions where the teeth were uncovered. By comparing the wear patterns of early human teeth to those of modern primates such as *Gorilla gorilla* and *Pan troglodytes* a rough picture can be painted of what types of foods our ancestors consumed.



Figure 1: A collection of Bovine skulls organized taxonomically.

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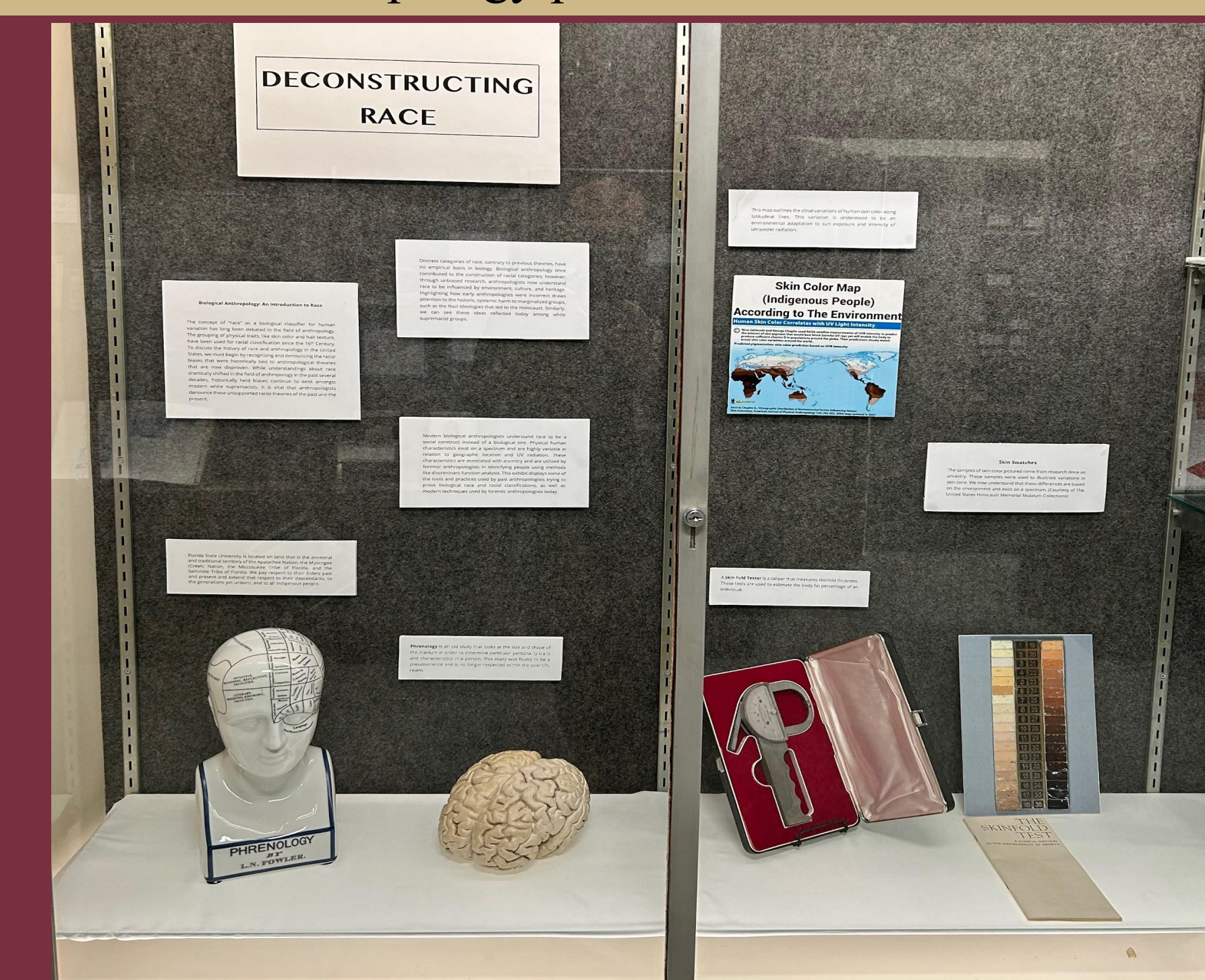


Figure 2: Museum style exhibit in the Carraway Building.