

Curriculum Vitae

PELISSERO, ALEX J.

EDUCATION:

- Present Colorado State University
PhD Candidate, Biological Anthropology
Area of Concentration: Paleoanthropology
Advisor: Michael Pante
- 2017 University of Colorado, Denver
M.A. Biological Anthropology
Area of Concentration: Paleoanthropology
Thesis: *A Comparative Analysis of Newly Discovered Hominin Footprints from Laetoli, Tanzania.*
Advisor: Charles Musiba
- 2010 University of Colorado, Boulder
B.A. Anthropology and History
Areas of Concentration: Archaeology and Labor History

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- 2019-2024 **Instructor**
Colorado State University, Dept. of Anthropology and Geography
Courses:
ANTH 120 – Human Origins and Variation
ANTH 121 – Human Origins and Variation Lab
ANTH 465 – Zooarchaeology
ANTH 374 – Human Biological Variation - Online
- 2022 **Instructor**
University of Northern Colorado, Dept. of Anthropology
Courses:
ANTH 130 – Introduction to Biological Anthropology
- 2020-2021 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Colorado State University, Dept. of Anthropology and Geography
Courses:
ANTH 372 – Human Osteology
ANTH 274 – Human Diversity

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

- 2023-2024 **Dissertation Fieldwork and Data Collection**
Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania
National Museum of Tanzania, Arusha
- 2022-2023 **Human Origins Collections & Library Curator**
Dept. of Anthropology and Geography
Colorado State University
- 2021 **Excavator and Faunal Analyst**
Astor House Community Archaeology Project
Golden, Colorado
Principal Investigators: Amy Gillaspie and Michelle Koons
- 2017 **Research Assistant / Teaching Assistant**
Human Origins Study at the Cradle of Humanity Field School
Laetoli, Isimila, and Engare Sero, Tanzania
Principal Investigators: Charles M. Musiba and Henry T. Bunn
- 2016 **Research Assistant**
Laetoli Research Project
Laetoli and Isimila, Tanzania
Principal Investigators: Charles M. Musiba and Henry T. Bunn
- 2009 **Field Student and Lab Assistant**
CU Boulder Archaeological Field School
Chadron, Nebraska
Principal Investigator: Doug Bamforth

AWARDS / GRANTS:

- 2024 Leakey Foundation Dissertation Research Grant - \$17,000
Grant #S202410524 – “The distribution of hominin activities at Olduvai Gorge: A geospatial approach.”

NSF – Archaeology Program Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant - \$8250
Award #2418743 – “The Spatial Distribution of Hominin Activities at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania During the Oldowan-Acheulean Transition”
- 2023 CSU Africa Center Graduate Research Scholarship - \$2500
CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Graduate Research Grant - \$1500
CSU Graduate School Council Professional Development and Supply Grant - \$100
- 2022 CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Graduate Research Grant - \$1500

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS:

- 2023 CSU Drone Flight School
- 2021 Best Practices in Teaching at CSU: Active Learning
Best Practices in Teaching at CSU: Inclusive Pedagogy
Best Practices in Teaching at CSU: Planning an Effective Class Session
- 2019 gtPathways: Integrating Writing in the Academic Core

REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

- Pelissero, A. J.** (2021). Ancestors: A creative and immersive game based on human evolution. ANCESTORS: THE HUMANKIND ODYSSEY. By Panache Digital Games. Private Division. 2019. \$39.99 (Windows/PlayStation 4/Xbox One). *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 176(3), 540–541.
- Bergstrom, K., Lawrence, A. B., **Pelissero, A. J.**, Hammond, L. J., Maro, E., Bunn, H. T., & Musiba, C. M. (2019). Aerial map demonstrates erosional patterns and changing topography at Isimila, Tanzania. *South African Journal of Science*, 115(7/8).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS / PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS:

- Pelissero, A.J.**, Herrmann, E., Njau, J. Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2024). Using Drone Survey to Map Hominin Activity Patterns at Olduvai Gorge.
Poster – East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology 9th Biennial Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Pelissero, A.J.**, Herrmann, E., Njau, J. Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2024). Using Drone Survey to Map Stratigraphy and Hominin Activity Patterns at Olduvai Gorge.
Podium – Paleoanthropology Society Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA.
- Pelissero, A.J.**, Negash, T., Pante, M. (2023). Using Drone Survey to Map Hominin Activity Patterns at Olduvai Gorge. *Poster – Rocky Mountain Biological Anthropology Association Annual Meeting in Estes Park.*
- Pelissero, A. J.**, Bergstrom, K., Lawrence, A. B., Hammond, L., Magori C., Maro, E., Mwambungu, M., Bates, C. R., Bateman, R., Bunn, H. T., Musiba, C. M. (2021). Transparency and data sharing in paleoanthropology: A case study of Isimila, TZ.
Podium – American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD.
- Musiba, C. M., Mwambungu, M. M., Mwankunda, J., Zaitsev, A. N., Savchenok, A. I., Mabulla, A. Z., Magori, C., Bergstrom, K., **Pelissero, A.**, Assefa, S. (2020). Balancing Research, Education, Conservation and Sustainable Use of the 3.6 Million Years Old Hominin Footprint Site G and S at Laetoli in northern Tanzania. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 171, 194–194.
- Pelissero, A. J.**, Musiba C. M., Magori C., Mwankunda J., Bunn H. T. (2019). Rethinking the Laetoli Hominin Trackmakers in Light of New Sets of Prints at Site S.
Podium - Paleoanthropology Society Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM.

Pelissero, A. J., Bergstrom, K., Lawrence, A. B., Hammond, L., Bunn, H. T., Musiba, C. M. (2018). Drone Mapping of Isimila, Tanzania: The Implications for Future Research into Mid-Pleistocene Homo Behavior.

Poster - Paleoanthropology Society Annual Meeting in Austin, TX.

Pelissero, A. J., Musiba, C. M., Magori, C., Mwankunda, J., Bunn, H. T. (2017). Photogrammetric Comparisons of Footprint Morphology of the Recently Discovered Hominin Footprints at Laetoli.

Podium - East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology 6th Biennial Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Pelissero, A. J., Musiba, C. M., Masao, F., Mabulla, A., Magori, C., Maro, E., Gidna, A., Bunn, H.T., Gurtov, A., Sarathi, A., et al. (2017). Photogrammetric Imaging: A Fresh Look at the Laetoli Footprints in Relation to Recent Discoveries.

Poster - American Association of Physical Anthropologists 86th Annual Meeting, in New Orleans, LA.

SERVICE:

2022-2023: **Volunteer** – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Public Outreach Programs

2019-2023: **Prospective Student Tour Guide** – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography

2021-2023: **United Campus Workers Representative** – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography

2020-2022: **Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison** – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography

2019-2020: **Graduate Representative** – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Seminar Series Committee

2019: **Graduate Student Mentor** - CU Denver Biological Anthropology and Archaeology Mentorship Program.

2016: **Rapporteur** - "Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver for Sustainable Development" UNESCO Conference, Arusha, Tanzania.

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES / CERTIFICATIONS:

FAA Unmanned Aerial Systems Pilot License

Agisoft Metashape

ArcGIS Pro; QGIS

R Statistical Language; PAST Statistics

Sensoscan Confocal Profilometer

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS:

American Association of Biological Anthropologists

American Anthropological Association

East African Association of Paleoanthropology and Paleontology

Paleoanthropology Society

Rocky Mountain Biological Anthropology Association