**KATHLEEN J. BIRNEY, Ph.D.**

**(860) 685-2067 49 Michele Dr. Portland, CT kbirney@wesleyan.edu**

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

Cultural interaction between the Near East and the Aegean: Sea Peoples, Phoenicians, Persian & Hellenistic periods, perfumes & organic commodities, organic residue analysis, ceramic material science

**EDUCATION**

M.I.T. Adv. Studies Program (Center for Materials Research in Archaeology & Ethnology) 2018-9

Harvard University Ph.D., Near Eastern & Mediterranean Archaeology 2007

*Fields:* Near Eastern History, Syro-Palestinian Archaeology, Mediterranean Archaeology, Hebrew Bible

*Dissertation:* Sea Peoples or Syrian Peddlers? The Late Bronze – Iron I Aegean Presence in Syria & Cilicia

Harvard Divinity School Master of Theological Studies 1998

Yale University B.A., Classics (Ancient Greek) 1996

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Wesleyan University

Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies and the Archaeology Program 2018-present

Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies and the Archaeology Program 2011-2018

*Affiliate*: Department of Art History, Jewish and Israel Studies, Middle Eastern Studies Certificate

Harvard Semitic Museum, Research Associate 2010-present

Harvard University, Post-Doctoral Fellow 2007-2008

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS**

Co-Director, OpenARCHEM Project 2016 – present

Co-Editor-in-Chief, OpenARCHEM Archaeometric Database 2016 - present

Co-Director, Mouliana Project, Crete 2016 - present

Head of Persian and Hellenistic Research, Tel Shimron Project 2015 - present

Co-PI, Kastrouli-Desfina Archaeological Project, Greece 2018-9

Assistant Director, Ashkelon Excavations (Israel) 2015 - 2016

Grid Supervisor, Ashkelon Excavations 2007 - 2015

Square Supervisor, Ashkelon Excavations 1998-2002, 2004

Research Appointment, Ashkelon Publications, Cambridge MA 2003, 2005

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**WORKS IN PREPARATION**

*From Ashkelon to Ascalon: The Archaeological History of the Hellenistic Period.* Final Reports of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, Volume 10. In press, expected 2020, Eisenbrauns.

Challenges and Opportunities in Organic Residue Analysis: The Case for Recontextualization and Democratization (with A. Koh). Under review, *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeological Heritage.*

Organic Residues from Ritual Deposits of the Fetish Shrine at the Cult Center of Knossos-Anetaki (with A. Koh) In *Knossos-Anteaki: The Neo-Palatial Fetish Shrine,* A. Kanta and P. Betancourt. Philadelphia: INSTAP Academic Press. In preparation.

Hellenistic Agricultural Economies at Ashkelon. (with J. Marston). In preparation, for submission to *Environmental Archaeology*.

The Phoenician Perimeter: Considering Persian control of the Southern Levant in the 4th century B.C., In preparation, for submission to *Israel Exploration Journal*.

Stratigraphy and Methodology, in L. Stager, J. Greene, B. Gernand and K. Birney (eds.) *Excavations in the “Precinct of Tanit” (Tophet) at Carthage, 1976-1979*. American Schools of Oriental Research Punic Project, vol. 1. (My contribution complete. Volume expected in press 2020)

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

Ancient Organic Residues as Cultural and Environmental Proxies: The Value of Legacy 2019

Artifacts (with A. Koh). *Sustainability* 11 (3).656

An Astynomosat Ascalon. *Eretz Israel* 33: 25-32 2018

Adventures in Storax (with A. Koh). *Full Spectrum* 1.1 2018

Phoenician Bathing in the Hellenistic East: Ashkelon and Beyond 2017

*Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 378: 203-222

Organic Compounds and Cultural Continuity: The Penn Museum Late Minoan IIIC Jar 2017 from Tourloti. (with A. Koh) *Mediterranean Archaeology & Archaeometry* 17.2: 19-33

To the Dregs: Drawing Meaning from the Rhodian Handles of Hellenistic Ashkelon 2015

*Center for Hellenic Studies Research Bulletin 3.2* (2015)

<http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:hlnc.jissue:CHS_Research_Bulletin.Vol_03.Issue_02.2015>

Infant Burial and the Iconography of Death on a Burial from Philistine Ashkelon. 2011

(with B. Doak) *Israel Exploration Journal* 61/1 (2011): 32-53.

Iron II Weights and Measures, and ‘Phoenician’ Inscribed Bronze Cuboid Weights, 2011

(with E. Levine), in Stager, Schloen and Master (eds.), *Final Reports of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, vol. III.: The 604 B.C.E. Destruction*, 473-92. (Eisenbrauns)

Tracking the Cooking pot *à la steatite*: Signs of Cyprus in Iron Age Syria. 2008

*American Journal of Archaeology* 112 (2008): 565-580*.*

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**EXCAVATION REPORTS**

Tel Shimron, Israel: 2019 Preliminary Excavation Report, Grid 94 2019

Kastrouli, Greece: 2018 Preliminary Excavation Report, South Terrace 2018

Tel Shimron, Israel: 2017 Preliminary Excavation Report, Grid 94 2017

<https://www.academia.edu/39129990/Tel_Shimron_Preliminary_Excavation_Report_Grid_94>

Grid 51, Ashkelon: 2014 Field Season Preliminary Excavation Report 2014

<https://www.academia.edu/31877844/2014_Grid_51_Field_Season_Report>

Grid 51, Ashkelon: 2013 Field Season Preliminary Excavation Report 2013

<https://www.academia.edu/31877843/2013_Grid_51_Field_Season_Report>

Grid 51, Ashkelon: 2012 Field Season Preliminary Excavation Report 2012

<https://www.academia.edu/31877845/2012_Grid_51_Field_Season_report.doc>

Grid 51, Ashkelon: 2011 Field Season Preliminary Excavation Report 2011

<https://www.academia.edu/31877841/2011_Grid_51_Field_Season_Report.docx>

Grid 51, Ashkelon: 2010 Field Season Preliminary Excavation Report 2010

<https://www.academia.edu/31877842/2010_Grid_51_Field_Season_Report.pdf>

Grid 51, Ashkelon: 2009 Field Season Preliminary Excavation Report 2009

<https://www.academia.edu/31877840/2009_Grid_51_Field_Season_Report.doc>

**AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation New Directions Fellowship 2018-2020

Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies Publication Working Group Grant, (Mouliana Project) 2017

Loeb Classical Library Fellowship (declined) 2015

Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies Research Fellowship, Washington D.C. 2015

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship 2014

(W.F. Albright Institute for Archaeological Research, Jerusalem, Israel)

U.S. Women’s National Team, Shotokan Karate 2004-2011

Robert Pfeiffer Traveling Fellowship for archaeological research in Israel 2000, 2004, 2007

Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University 2001, 2006

Dorot Foundation Travel Fellowship 1998, 1999, 2002

G. Ernest Wright Prize for academic excellence in the study of ancient history 1998

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Wesleyan University, Dept. of Classical Studies & Archaeology Program 2011- present

Visualizing the Classical (Design Theory & Archaeological Reconstruction, Advanced)

Patterns in Ancient Organic Residue Degradation (Advanced Tutorial, Integrated Lab)

The Greek Vase as Art and Artifact (Advanced)

Archaeological Field Methods (Intermediate; onsite: Ashkelon, Shimron, Kastrouli)

Pyramids & Pyres: Death and Afterlife in Egypt & Greece (Intermediate)

Bronze Age Art & Archaeology (Introductory)

Greek Art & Archaeology (Introductory)

From Linear B to the Little Iliad: Homer and Homeric Traditions of the Bronze Age (Adv. Greek)

Hesiod: The Greek Creation Myth in Mediterranean Context (Adv. Greek)

Body, Soul, and Afterlife Journeys in Ancient Greece (Int/Adv. Greek)

Introduction to Ancient Greek (two semester course, Introductory)

Single Combat in the Ancient World (First-year Writing Seminar)

Senior Thesis Advising for Archaeology & the Dept. of Classical Studies (Advanced):

*Archaeology of Pan-Hellenic Politics: Monumental Dedications at Delphi and Cycladic Political Identity* (A. Peck 2012)

*Hellenistic or Roman? A Case Study of a Mosaic in Tel Dor, Israel in Regional Context* (A. Ruiz-Lopez 2013)

*What is for Lunch? Thin-Section Optical Mineralogy Study of Cooking Vessel Fabric during the Hellenistic Period at*

*Ashkelon, Israel* (E. Shames, co-advised with J. Varenkamp of Geology 2015)

*Egyptianizing Amulets from Persian Ashkelon* (S. McCully 2016)

*Grave Concerns: The Sacred Corpse and Burial Re-entry in Antiquity* (M. Rothberg 2016, co-advised with A.

Sharma of Anthropology, 2016)

*Colonial Collecting* (Senior Essay with exhibit in Olin Library, virtual exhibit online, S. Hoynes 2016)

*Our Warp Bloodred, Our Weft Coarseblue: Experimental Exploration of the Use and Mythology of the Warp-Weighted   
 Loom in Norse Greenland and Ancient Greece* (C. Diemer, 2018)

*Shedding Light on Dark Ages: LMIIIC Burials in East Crete* (K. Barnes, 2018)

Ashkelon Archaeological Field School(undergraduate and graduate instruction) 2008 - 2016

Harvard University, Classics Department and Core Program 2006

*Teaching Fellow, “Images of Alexander the Great” (Professor David Mitten)*

Independent Tutor for Latin Language SAT 2006

Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations 1999, 2001, 2003

*Head Teaching Fellow “The Bible and Its Interpreters” Prof. James Kugel, Prof. Gary Anderson*

Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations 2002

*Head Teaching Fellow “The Archaeological History of Egypt” (Prof. Peter der Manuelian)*

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**CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Hellenistic Unguentaria from Ashkelon: Insight from combined Organic and Materials Analysis 2019

(with W. Gilstrap). Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools

of Oriental Research, San Diego, CA.

The Value of Legacy ORA Data and Objects: Case Studies (with A. Koh) 2017

Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Boston, MA

The Mouliana Project: Results of the 2016 Season (with A. Koh, M. Clinton) 2017

Paper delivered at the Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, Toronto

The Phoenician Perimeter: Considering Persian Control of the Southern Levant 2017

Paper delivered at the Society for Biblical Literature Annual Conference, Boston MA

Hellenistic Agricultural Economy in the Southern Levant: New Evidence from Ashkelon 2017

(with J. Marston). Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools

of Oriental Research, Boston, MA

To the Dregs: Drawing Meaning from the Rhodian Handles of Hellenistic Ashkelon. 2015

Paper delivered at the Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies Research Symposium, Washington D.C.

To Rinse or to Receive? An Analysis of 2nd Century Stuccoed Rooms at Ashkelon. 2015

Paper delivered at Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research Paper, Atlanta, GA

From Ashkelon to *Ascalon:* Towards a Reconstruction of the Hellenistic City. 2014

Paper delivered at the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem, Israel.

Recent Excavations at Ashkelon: The Persian and Hellenistic Periods in Grid 51 2013

Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Baltimore, MD

Mycenaean Influence in Iron Age Syria – Reconstructing the Big Picture 2008

Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Boston, MA

Intramural Infant and the Iconography of Death at Ashkelon (with B. Doak) 2008

Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Boston MA.

Tracking the Cooking Pot à la Stéatite: The Road Inland 2005

Paper delivered at the American Schools of Oriental Research, Philadelphia, PA

**INVITED TALKS**

The OpenARCHEM Database as a Resource for Scientists and Humanists  
Invited Talk for the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Tübingen 2018

Making Digital Humanities work in the Classroom: Getting Students to Engage 2018

Invited Talk for AALAC/CLAC Workshop on Digital Humanities, Wellesley College

Who wants Take-Out? Exploring Archaeological Models for Urban Economies. 2017  
Invited talk for the Boston University Archaeology Seminar Series

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**INVITED TALKS (cont’d)**

Building Technology Training into Humanities Courses: Reflections and Analysis 2017

Homeric Heroes in Mediterranean Context 2017

Invited talk for the Department of Classics, Connecticut College

Invited talk for “From Theory to Practice: Digital Methods in Research &Teaching” Workshop Wesleyan University

Of Markets and Migrants: Thinking ‘with’ Mycenaean material culture in the 12th century 2017

Keynote Speaker, Brandeis University Graduate Conference, Department of Classics

Philistines, Dead and/or Alive: Recent Archaeological work at Ashkelon, Israel 2016

Invited talk for the Classical Association of Connecticut, Hartford, CT

Wrestling with *-ization* yet again: Material, Culture and Identity in Persian-Hellenistic Ashkelon 2016 Invited talk for the University of Connecticut Archaeology Lecture Series, Storrs, CT

The Impact of Hellenism on the Coast of Palestine: Ashkelon as a Test Case. 2014

Invited talk at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

Pushing Boundaries: Pioneers of Attic Red Figure 520-490 B.C. 2014

Invited talk at Wesleyan Potters, Middletown, CT

From Philistines to Phoenicians and Beyond: Ongoing excavations at the City of Ashkelon 2013

Invited talk at the Wasch Center, Wesleyan University

An Introduction to Philistine Culture 2011

Invited talk, American Institute of Archaeology Lecture Series, Trinity University, Hartford CT

Rethinking our Approach to the Sea Peoples 2010

Invited talk for the Core Archaeology Graduate Group, Harvard University, Cambridge MA

Economy and Trade in Ancient Egypt 2009

Invited talk for the Harvard Semitic Museum, Cambridge, MA

Late Bronze Age Trade in the Mediterranean: Modern Market Principles in the Ancient World 2008

Invited talk for the Harvard Semitic Museum

Mycenaean-Style Pottery in the ’Amuq Valley, Syria 2006

Invited Talk, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Chair, Archaeology Program, Wesleyan University 2019-present

Co-Editor-in-Chief/Co-Founder, *Full Spectrum* and *Full Spectrum Notes* Journal 2018-present

Archaeological Institute of America, Graduate Student Paper Award Committee 2016-present

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**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (cont’d)**

Reviewer: 2011-present

Israel Science Foundation Cambridge Archaeological Journal

National Endowment for the Humanities American Journal of Archaeology

Archaeometry

Voting Institutional Representative & Managing Committee Member, American 2011-present

School of Classical Studies at Athens

Wesleyan Admissions Office Faculty Panel Speaker 2011-present

Fries Center for Global Studies Grant, Tel Shimron Israeli-Palestinian Educational Program 2019

Wesleyan University Archaeology Program, Tenure-Track Faculty Search Committee 2018-2019

National Endowment for the Humanities, FPIRI Granting Committee 2018

Session Mediator “Getting Students to Engage” 2018

AALAC/CLAC Workshop on Digital Humanities, Wellesley College Jan 12 2018

Wesleyan University Faculty Committee on Rights and Responsibilities 2017-2018

Brandeis University 2016-2018

Master’s Thesis Co-Advisor, Dept. of Classical Studies

*Hellenistic Moldmade Bowls: Tracking Connections between Fabrics and Motifs* (R. Jones)

*Spatial Studies of Rhodian Amphora Distribution in Hellenistic Israel* (S. Chase)

Session Co-Chair “Integrating Organic Residue Analysis into Archaeology” 2017

Workshop, American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting (with A. Koh) Boston

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship Committee, AIAR 2017

Wesleyan University, Language Resource and Technology Committee 2016-2017

Project-Based Learning Grant, Wesleyan University Center for Pedagogical Initiatives 2016

University Lecture Grant, Allbritton Center for Public Life (with E. Visvardi) 2016

(for sponsored lecture by Prof. Josiah Ober, Stanford University)

Design & Engineering Initiative Course Development Grant (with C. Parslow) 2016

Wesleyan University Language Resource Center Committee 2015-2016

SHARE Field Program Coordinator 2012-2015

Board Member, Society for Humanitarian Archaeological Research and Exploration 2010-2015

Wesleyan University First Year Program Committee 2013-2014

**Kathleen Birney, 8 kbirney@wesleyan.edu**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (cont’d)**

Wesleyan University Archaeology and Anthropology Collections Committee 2013-2014

Session Chair, “Archaeology of the Near East: Bronze and Iron Ages,” 2013

Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Baltimore, MD

Collaborative Proposal Grant, Allbritton Center for Public Life (with S. Croucher) 2013

University Lecture Grant, Allbritton Center for Public Life, 2012

(for sponsored lecture by Dr. Adriaan Lanni, Harvard Law School)

Mentor, AIA/APA Women’s Classical Caucus 2012-2013

Instructor and Coach, Harvard Karate Club and Harvard Karate Team 1998-2011

Non-resident Tutor, Lowell House, Harvard University 2004

**LANGUAGE TRAINING**

*Ancient*: Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Phoenician, Ugaritic, Aramaic, Hittite, Luwian

*Modern*: Russian, reading fluency in French and German.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Archaeological Institute of America

American School of Classical Studies

American Schools of Oriental Research

Society for Classical Studies

Society for Biblical Literature