



KUDAR Update for April and May, 2024

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Dear Everyone,

As always, the late Spring is a tricky time of the year. Particularly in the last week of May, we're finishing our teaching or classwork responsibilities, while simultaneously preparing schedules, plane tickets, housing, and equipment for long and productive summer months. As such, we're all looking forward the opportunities to focus on our research projects, either in Turkey, Montenegro, Italy, or Greece, and all of the exciting results we'll generate. Until then, however, we're presently in the midst of closing our books, packing our bags, and finalizing our travel plans.

To begin, I'm happy to announce that our next KUDAR-ANAMED joint fellow will be Dr. Adria Breu, from the Autonomous University of Barcelona, who's project for the 2024-25 year is titled "Navigating Time: A comprehensive Study of Cargo and Shipbuilding Resins in Anatolian Waters from Multiple Historic Periods". More information about Dr. Breu and his project will be available on the ANAMED website soon.

In addition, our new PhD student, Berslan Korkut, is co-organizing a conference with Kostas Filis, Sabine Huy, and Mark Lawall, to be held at the German Archaeological Institute in Istanbul, in November of this year. Titled "Amphoras and the Archaeology of Ancient Economies (8th through 1st centuries BC): Mobilizing Knowledge in a New Generation" this event should be the first of three forums to share new discoveries, address broader long-standing issues, and explore new paths for future amphora studies. The call for papers is still open; more information about the event may be found [here](#) and [here](#), whereas paper titles and abstracts may be submitted [here](#).

Jelena Čelebić's PhD project, studying the maritime cultural landscape of the Bay of Kotor, in Montenegro, is proceeding well, and is quickly highlighting how continual development and growing tourism poses an ongoing threat to the region's rich material history. Her recent work in the archives in Zadar and Venice is uncovering evidence of the bay's longstanding ties to empires and economies around the Adriatic Sea. In addition, her recent presentations at the 25th Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology, in Zadar, and the Landscape 5 conference in Padua, are quickly disseminating her important results.



Burcu Ustaş had the opportunity to present her MA research on Byzantine-era amphoras at the 21st Underwater Sciences Symposium, in a presentation titled "Dynamics of Maritime Trade in the Marmara Sea in Late Byzantium". The event, held at Kocaeli University on May 4th and 5th brought together specialists in marine ecology, diving technology, marine health, and – for the first time – underwater archaeology.

Finally,

I had a surprisingly busy few weeks in April. I was invited to present a paper at the third meeting of the [TANMed Network](#) in Selinunt, Sicily, and afterwards I flew to the British School at Athens to use their wonderful library for a week, as the John Morrison Research Fellow for 2023-24. Notably, one of our former Koç students, Nuray Nisan Köknar, was the John Morrison Fellow the previous year. Following that productive week in Athens, I visited friends and colleagues and delivered a guest lecture at the Saxo Institute at the University of Copenhagen, then returned home to unpack and decompress.

Best wishes to everyone,

Matthew Harpster

Director

KUDAR: Studying the Relationship between Society and the Sea