

# ***Michelle Evelyn Rich***

*Behavioral and Social Sciences  
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## **Education**

- 2007-pres. Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas  
Ph.D. Candidate, degree expected December 2010. Title: *Shifting Alliances and Classic Period Politics: The Archaeology of the Mirador Group at El Perú-Waka', Petén, Guatemala*. Committee: David Freidel (chair), Michael Adler, Héctor Escobedo A., David Meltzer, and Robert Sharer.
- 2007 Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas  
M.A., Anthropology.
- 2001 Minerva Language School  
Five-week intensive Spanish language program, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.
- 1996 University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
B.A., Anthropology with a German minor, *Summa Cum Laude*  
Honors Thesis: *Archaeological Excavation and Ceramic Analysis at Cerros, Belize*.

## **Professional Interests**

Maya and Mesoamerican archaeology; Space and place in complex societies; Political systems, ideology and iconography of rulership; Archaeological method and theory; Museums, communities and archaeological ethics.

## **Teaching Experience**

- 2009-2010 Adjunct Faculty. Sul Ross State University, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Alpine, Texas.

### ***Courses Taught***

- Anth 4311 Special Topics – From Tikal to Tulum: Maya Archaeology (Fall 2010)  
Anth 1302 Introduction to Archaeology (Spr 2010)  
Anth 1301 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Fall 2009, 2010)  
Anth 4311 Special Topics – Mesoamerican Archaeology and Art (Fall 2009)

### ***Additional Courses Prepared***

- Understanding Civilization: The Rise of Complexity around the Globe  
History and Theory in Archaeology  
Designing Archaeological Research

Landscape in the Archaeological Record  
Archaeology and Contemporary Society

Fall 2008; 2000-2001 Teaching Assistant. Southern Methodist University, Anthropology Department, Dallas, Texas

***Courses Assisted***

Anth 2310 Introductory Cultural Anthropology, Dr. Carolyn Smith-Morris  
Anth 2315 Human Evolution, Dr. Ronald Wetherington

2003 Field Instructor. Forensic Excavation Two-Day Seminar for Law Enforcement Workers, University of North Texas Field Program, Beaumont, Texas. Dr. Gil King, Supervisor.

1998-1999 Field Instructor. University of Wisconsin La Crosse Department of Sociology and Archaeology Summer Field School, Programme for Belize Archaeological Project (PFBAP), Belize. Dr. Kathryn Reese, Project Director and Dr. Fred Valdez, Jr., Principal Investigator.

1994-1995 Field Instructor. Florida International University Archaeology Summer Field School, Cerros Cooperative Archaeological Development Project (CCADP), Belize. Dr. Debra S. Walker, Principal Investigator.

**Awards, Grants and Fellowships**

2008 El Perú-Waka' Figurine Conservation Project (David Freidel and Michelle Rich). Board of Trustees, Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas. Estimated award based on budget proposal: \$20,000.

2008 Charles R. Jenkins Award, Lambda Alpha National Honor Society for Anthropology Certificate of Distinguished Achievement.

2007 Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies, Inc. (FAMSI) Research Grant: \$9,990.

2002-2005 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Three-year support with full tuition and monthly stipend.

**Select University Grants and Awards**

2007 / 2009 Paul Steed Travel Award, Anthropology Department, Southern Methodist University: \$1,100 (\$600, 2007; \$500, 2009).

2001-2009 Graduate Student Development Grant, Southern Methodist University Office of Research and Graduate Studies: \$2,000.

2008 Southern Methodist University Anthropology Department Dissertation Writing Fellowship: \$10,500.

2001-2008 Graduate Student Assembly Funding, Southern Methodist University: \$1,100.

2002 Southern Methodist University Presidential Partners Grant (Michael Adler and Michelle Rich) for new GIS software for two laboratories in the Anthropology Department: \$1,050.

2000-2001 Full tuition waiver and teaching assistantship stipend in Ph.D. program, Southern Methodist University.

1993 University of Minnesota Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) Award: \$1,000.

## Publications

### Books and Edited Volumes

Rich, Michelle and Olivia Navarro Farr

In prep *Ritual Behavior and Displays of Power at El Perú-Waka'*. Edited volume in preparation for University of Arizona Press.

### Peer Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

Rich, Michelle, David Freidel, F. Kent Reilly III and Keith Eppich

In press An Olmec-Style Figurine from El Perú-Waka', Petén, Guatemala: A Preliminary Report. Article accepted by *Mexicon*, May 2010.

Freidel, David and Michelle Rich

In review The More the Merrier: Case Studies and Lessons Learned about Collaboration between Archaeological Projects, Museums and Countries of Origin. In *The Future of the Past: Ethical Implications of Collecting Antiquities in the 21st Century*, edited by Susan Bruning and Michael Adler, SAR Press, Santa Fe.

### Book Chapters

Rich, Michelle

In prep Articulating Memory, Place and Power: Creating Meaning at a Funerary Pyramid, chapter in preparation for *Ritual Behavior and Displays of Power at El Perú-Waka'*, edited by Michelle Rich and Olivia Navarro Farr.

Rich, Michelle and Olivia Navarro Farr

In prep Introduction, chapter in preparation for *Ritual Behavior and Displays of Power at El Perú-Waka'*, edited by Michelle Rich and Olivia Navarro Farr.

Rich, Michelle, Varinia Matute and Jennifer Piehl

2006 Conducta Ritual en la Montaña Sagrada: El Complejo Mirador en El Perú-Waka'. In *XX Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala, 2006*, edited by J. P. Laporte, B. Arroyo and H. Mejía, pp. 629-638, Museo Nacional de Arqueología y Etnología, Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle

2004 Descubrimientos Recientes en El Perú-Waka' Petén: Paisajes Sagrados en la Zona Sureste del Epicentro, in *XVIII Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala*, edited by J. P. Laporte, B. Arroyo and H. Mejía, pp. 319-324, Museo Nacional de Arqueología y Etnología, Guatemala.

### Other Articles, Contributions and Internet Publications

Freidel, David, Michelle Rich and F. Kent Reilly III

2010 Resurrecting the Maize King. *Archaeology Magazine*, September/October 2010.

Rich, Michelle and David Freidel

2010 Figurine assemblage description and interpretation, Burial #39, Mirador Group, El Perú-Waka'. Contributing authors in *Fiery Pool: The Maya and the Mythic Sea*, edited by Daniel Finamore and Stephen D. Houston, pp. 284-287, Yale University Press, New Haven.

Rich, Michelle  
2008 Analysis of Samples and Artifacts from the Mirador Group, El Perú-Waka'. Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies, Inc. (FAMSI) website, Available at: <http://www.famsi.org/reports/07087/index.html>.

Rich, Michelle  
2007 Mesoweb Website Contributor. English-language versions of El Perú-Waka' field reports (2003-2006). Available at: <http://www.mesoweb.com/resources/resources.html>.

Rich, Michelle  
2003 Contributing Author and Featured Archaeologist. *Archaeology Magazine's* Interactive Dig. Available at: <http://www.archaeology.org/interactive/waka/index.html>. February-May.

### Organized Symposia and Workshops

Hruby, Zachary, Olivia Navarro Farr and Michelle Rich, co-organizers and co-chairs  
2009 *Rethinking Garbage in the Archaeological Record: Theoretical Perspectives and Case Studies from the Maya Region*. Session for the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the Society for American Archaeology, Atlanta, April 22-26.

Olivia Navarro Farr and Michelle Rich, co-organizers and co-chairs  
2007 *Ritual Behavior and Displays of Power at El Perú-Waka'*. Session for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting for the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, April 25-29.

Rich, Michelle and Elizabeth Muenich, co-organizers and instructors  
1994 *Introduction to Ceramic Analysis Workshop*. University of Minnesota Department of Anthropology Annual Undergraduate Conference, Lake Itasca Research Station, April 30.

### Presentations

Rich, Michelle, Griselda Perez, Varinia Matute, David Freidel and F. Kent Reilly III  
2010 *Un Ritual Mortuorio Real: Las Figurillas del Entierro #39, El Perú-Waka'*. Paper presented at the XXIV Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala, July 19-23, Guatemala City. July 19.

Rich, Michelle  
2010 *The Unknown Ruler: Burial 39 at El Peru-Waka', Peten, Guatemala*. Paper presented at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis. April 15.

Rich, Michelle and Olivia Navarro Farr  
2009 *Will the Real Audience(s) Please Stand Up?: An Analysis of the Private/Public Dichotomy Conveyed in Ancient Maya Monumental Architecture at El Peru-Waka', Peten, Guatemala*. Paper presented at the 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia. December 4.

Rich, Michelle  
2009 *Refuse or Ritual? An Examination of the Problematic Deposit of Artifacts in the Tomb Fill of Burial 39, El Peru-Waka, Guatemala*. Paper presented at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Atlanta. April 23.

- Rich, Michelle, David Freidel and F. Kent Reilly, III  
2008 *Heirloom Ornament/Heirloom Concepts: Social Memory Embodied in an Olmec-Style Figurine from El Perú-Waka', Petén, Guatemala*. Paper presented at the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco. November 29.
- Freidel, David and Michelle Rich  
2007 *Revelations from the Grave: Maya Royal Roles*. Paper presented at the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C. November 29.
- Eppich, Keith and Michelle Rich  
2007 *Comparison of Elite Mortuary Assemblages at El Perú-Waka', Guatemala*. Poster presented at the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C. December 1.
- Rich, Michelle, Varinia Matute and Jennifer Piehl  
2007 *The Mirador Complex at El Perú-Waka': History and Power Cached in Pyramids*. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Society for American Archaeology, Austin. April 27.
- Piehl, Jennifer, David Lee and Michelle Rich  
2007 *The Construction of Identity and Gender in Mortuary Ritual at El Perú-Waka'*. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Society for American Archaeology, Austin. April 27.
- Rich, Michelle, Varinia Matute and Jennifer Piehl  
2006 *Conducta Ritual en la Montaña Sagrada: El Complejo Mirador en El Perú-Waka'*. Paper presented at the XX Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueologicas en Guatemala, July 24-28, Guatemala City. July 26.
- Rich, Michelle, Varinia Matute and Jennifer Piehl  
2005 *Monumental Landscapes at El Perú-Waka'*. Michelle E. Rich, Jennifer Piehl and Varinia Matute. Paper presented at the 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C. December 3.
- Rich, Michelle  
2004 *Descubrimientos Recientes en El Perú-Waka': Paisajes Sagrados en la Zona Sureste del Epicentro*. Paper presented at the XVIII Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueologicas en Guatemala, July 19-23, Guatemala City. July 20.
- Cackler, Paul, Kathryn Reese, Olivia Ng, Marc Zender, Deepika Fernandez, and Michelle Rich  
2001 *Identifying Maya Political Boundaries: Watersheds, Ideologies and Politics in Northwestern Belize*. Paper presented at the 34th Annual Chacmool Conference, University of Calgary, Nov. 14-18, Calgary, AB.
- Reese, Kathryn, Paul Cackler and Michelle Rich  
2001 *Defining Classic Period Maya Kingdoms: A Question of Boundaries*. Paper presented at the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, New Orleans. April 20.

Hageman, Jon and Michelle Rich

2001 *Family Matters: Identification and Significance of Late Classic Maya Lineages*. Paper presented at the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the Society for American Archaeology, New Orleans. April 22.

Rich, Michelle and Elizabeth Muenich

1995 *Investigation of Early Classic Ritual Behavior at Cerros through Ceramic Analysis*. Paper presented at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Minneapolis. May 6.

### Invited Lectures

- 2010 Invited Speaker. Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, TX. August 28.  
Lecture with David Freidel – *Royal Send Off on the River to the Dawning Sea: Treasures from El Perú-Waka’*.
- 2010 Invited Speaker. Maya Society of Minnesota, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN. February 5 and 6.  
Lecture - *Shifting Alliances and Classic Period Politics: The Archaeology of the Mirador Group at El Perú-Waka’, Petén, Guatemala*.  
Seminar: *What Can We Learn from Ancient Maya Tombs?: A Case Study of Royal Burials from El Perú-Waka’*.

### Field, Research and Laboratory Experience

- 2006-2008 Research Assistant. Tzintzuntzan Ethnographic Documentation Project. Dr. Robert Van Kemper, Supervisor.
- 2003-2006 Operation Director. El Perú-Waka’ Archaeological Project, Guatemala, Dr. David Freidel and Dr. Héctor Escobedo, Project Co-Directors.
- 2005 Archaeological Technician. Fort Davis Historic Site, National Park Service, Fort Davis, Texas. Jeffery Rust, M.A., Cultural Resource Manager.
- 2002 Field Crew Member. Excavation at Mountaineer Site, Gunnison County, Colorado. QUEST Archaeological Research, Dr. David Meltzer, Principal Investigator.
- 2002 Research Assistant. Dr. Lewis Binford, Supervisor.
- 2001 Reconnaissance Assistant. El Perú-Waka’, Guatemala, Dr. David Freidel, Project Director.
- 2000 Field Assistant. Programme for Belize Archaeological Project (PfbAP), Belize. Dr. Fred Valdez, Jr., Principal Investigator.
- 1998-1999 Operation Director. University of Wisconsin La Crosse Department of Sociology and Archaeology Field School, Programme for Belize Archaeological Project (PfbAP), Belize. Dr. Kathryn Reese, Project Director; Dr. Fred Valdez, Jr., Principal Investigator.
- 1994-1995 Operation and Laboratory Director. Florida International University Archaeology Field School, Cerros Cooperative Archaeological Development Project (CCADP), Belize. Dr. Debra S. Walker, Principal Investigator.
- 1993 Student. University of Minnesota Department of Anthropology Field School, Cerros Cooperative Archaeological Development Project (CCADP), Belize. Dr. Debra S. Walker, Principal Investigator.

## Technical Reports

Rich, Michelle

2009 WK11: Análisis de Muestras de Artefactos del Grupo Mirador, El Perú-Waka'. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No. 6, Temporada 2008*, edited by David A. Freidel and Juan Carlos Meléndez. Report presented to the Instituto de Antropología e Historia (IDAEH), Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle, Varinia Matute and Jennifer Piehl

2007 WK-11: Excavaciones en la Estructura O14-04. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No. 4, Temporada 2006*, edited by Héctor Escobedo and David Freidel. Report presented to the IDAEH, Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle, Jennifer Piehl and Varinia Matute

2006 WK-11: Continuación de las Excavaciones en El Complejo Mirador, Estructura O14-04. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No.3, Temporada 2005*, edited by Héctor Escobedo and David Freidel. Report presented to the IDAEH, Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle

2005 WK-08: Excavaciones en la Estructura N14-12, O14-07 y Cerca de la Estela 3. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No. 2, Temporada 2004*, edited by Héctor Escobedo and David Freidel. Report presented to the IDAEH, Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle

2004 WK-08: Excavaciones en la Estructura N14-12. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No. 1, Temporada 2003*, edited by Héctor Escobedo and David Freidel. Report presented to the IDAEH, Guatemala.

Gunter, Stanley Paul and Michelle Rich

2004 WK-04: Excavaciones en la Estructura L13-22. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No. 1, Temporada 2003*, edited by Héctor Escobedo and David Freidel. Report presented to the IDAEH, Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle, David Lee and Mary Jane Acuña

2004 Procedimiento de Registro Utilizado por el Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka'. In *Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka': Informe No. 1, Temporada 2003*, edited by Héctor Escobedo and David Freidel. Report presented to the IDAEH, Guatemala.

Rich, Michelle

1994 Excavations at 4B-1st. In *Research at Cerros, Belize: Results of the 1994 Excavation Season*, edited by Debra S. Walker. Report presented to the Belize Department of Archaeology, Belmopan.

## Museum Contributions

2010 Contributing Writer. Text panels for 23 ceramic figurines. *La Corte Real del Reino de Waka'*, National Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Guatemala City, June 22-July 30.

2006 Contributing Illustrator. El Perú-Waka' Burial #24 plan map drawing. *Lords of Creation: The Origins of Sacred Maya Kingship*, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, February 12-May 7.

### Service and Community Involvement

- 2010 Reviewer. *Maya Archaeology* occasional volumes, Precolumbian Art Research Institute. San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 Guest Lecturer. Mesoamerican Archaeology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. Dr. Tara Bond-Freeman, Instructor.
- 2006 Radio Show Guest. *Good Morning Guatemala* installment focusing on archaeology with anchor Carlisle Johnston. Emisoras Unidas Radio Station, Guatemala City, July 26.
- 2005 Field Volunteer. Rock art recording at Graef Petroglyph site. Center for Big Bend Studies Transpecos Archaeological Program, Sul Ross State University, December 27 and 28.
- 2003 Guest Instructor. Summer Activity Program for Children, Guest Archaeologist, Dallas Museum of Art, August 16.
- 2003 Guest Lecturer. Cultures and Peoples of Mesoamerica, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas. Keith E. Eppich, M.A., Instructor.
- 2001-2003 Instructor. SMU Anthropology Club Activity Area, Annual Farmer's Branch Archaeology Fair. Sponsored by the Farmer's Branch Historical Park, Farmer's Branch, Texas.
- 2002 Organizer. Southern Methodist University's Anthropology Club Brown Bag Lecture Series, Fall semester.
- 1999 Volunteer. Resource Center of the Americas Bookstore, Minneapolis, MN.
- 1998-2000 Board Member. Maya Society of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
- 1998-2000 Board Member. Great American History Theatre, St. Paul, MN.
- 1991-1993 Volunteer. Institute for Minnesota Archaeology Public Outreach Committee, Minneapolis, MN.

### Professional Affiliations

Society for American Archaeology  
 American Anthropological Association  
 Lambda Alpha National Honor Society for Anthropology

### Languages

Spanish: Reading and writing proficiency  
 German: Moderate familiarity

### Professional Background

- 1997-2000 Development Associate – Membership, Database and Annual Fund. Minnesota Historical Society Development and Membership Office, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 1995-1997 Database and Provider Service Coordinator. Allina Health System, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 1989-1995 Public Service Assistant. Hennepin County Public Library, Minneapolis, Minnesota.