

# **Robert N. Spengler III, PhD**

www.robertnspengler.com

Laboratory Director  
Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History  
Kahlaische Str. 10, 07745 Jena, Germany

## **CURRENT RESEARCH FOCUS**

My research feeds into a broad understanding of human environmental adaptations, the development of agricultural systems, and cultural exchange, while building on models that link the emergence of complex social traits with agricultural intensification. Additionally, I am investigating the role of gene flow through seed dispersal as a driving force in plant domestication, and how the extinction of the Pleistocene megafauna effected the progenitors of our modern crops. Methodologically, I implement a range of paleoethnobotanical techniques, relying heavily upon macrobotanical remains. I have directed paleoethnobotanical studies across Asia, from Mongolia in the northeast to Turkmenistan in the southwest, as well as East Asia, Europe, and North America.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

I am the Paleoethnobotany Laboratory Director at the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, and have recently finished my position as a Visiting Research Scholar through the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World and New York University.

## **RESEARCH POSITIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Laboratory Director of the Paleoethnobotany Laboratory at the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History (Max-Planck-Institut für Menschheitsgeschichte)	2016 – Present
Visiting Research Scholar, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University	2016 – 2017
Adjunct Instructor, Campaign Management, School of Professional Studies, New York University	2017 – 2017
Volkswagen and Mellon Foundations Postdoctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Universities and Research Institutes in Germany at the German Institute of Archaeology, Eurasian Branch	2014 – 2016
Affiliated Researcher with Free University Berlin, in the Paleontology Department	2014 – 2015
Faculty Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis	2014 – 2014
Research Associate in anthropological archaeology, Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis	2013 – 2017

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### PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Doctoral degree in anthropology defended	2013
Washington University in St. Louis – terminal Ph.D. program in anthropology	2008 – 2013
Washington University in St. Louis – M.A. in anthropology; graduate studies in anthropology	2006 – 2008
Middlebury College in Vermont – accelerated Russian language program	2008
University at Buffalo; S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo, New York – anthropology major with an archaeology focus, minors in art and history, concentration in Classics; B.A. in anthropology	2002 – 2006
Canisius College in Buffalo, New York – studied philosophy for a semester	2001

### SECONDARY LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Russian	Moderate reading and speaking ability
French	Moderate reading ability

### PUBLICATIONS

#### BOOKS

#### **Spengler, Robert N., III**

(In prep) *Domestication: Nature's Greatest Success*. A reevaluation of plant domestication studies from the perspective of evolutionary theory. Over 2/3 drafted.

#### **Spengler, Robert N., III**

(In prep) *The Rise of Inner Asia*. Currently under negotiation for publication with the University of Cambridge Press.

#### **Spengler, Robert N., III**

2019 *Fruit of the Sands: Silk Road Origins of the Food We Eat*. University of California Press: Berkeley.

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### PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

#### EDITED VOLUMES

**Spengler, Robert N., III**, Mayke Wagner, and Pavel Tarasov  
2016 *Introduction and Intensification of Agriculture in Central Eurasia and Adjacent Regions*. Special Edition volume of *The Holocene*. October 2016, issue – 26.

Frachetti, Michael D. and **Robert N. Spengler III** (eds.)  
2015 *Mobility and Ancient Society in Asia and the Americas: Proceedings of the Second International Conference on "Great Migrations"*, Springer Publishing.

#### ARTICLES

**Spengler, Robert N., III**  
(In prep) Origins of the Apple: The Role of Megafaunal Mutualism in the Domestication of Eurasian Rosaceae. *Quaternary Science Reviews*.

Wilkin, Shevan, Tumurbaatar Tuvshinjargal, Alicia Ventresca Miller, Bryan Miller,  
**Robert N. Spengler III**, William Taylor, Jessica Hendy, Erdene Myagmar,  
Nicole Boivin, and Patrick Roberts  
(In prep) Economic Diversification Not Specialized Pastoralism Catalyzed ‘Nomadic’  
Empire Formation in Mongolia. *PNAS*.

Taylor, William Timothy Treal, Julia Clark, Tumuurbaatar Turshinjargal, Jamsramjav Bayarsaikhan,  
Jessica Thompson Jobe, Isaac Hart, **Robert N. Spengler III**, Jessica Hendy,  
Shevan Wilkin, Franziska Irmer, Samantha Brown, Svetlana Shnaider, Aida  
Abdykanova, Daniel Shultz, Victoria Pham, Katerina Douka, Nicole Boivin, and  
Emily Lena Jones  
(In review) Horses and Herding Transitions in the Bronze Age Eurasian Steppes. *Journal of  
Archaeological Science*.

**Spengler, Robert N., III** and Natalie Mueller  
(In review) The Unexplored Role of Endozoochoric Seed Dispersal in the Domestication of  
Grain Crops. *PLOS ONE*.

**Spengler, Robert N., III**  
(In review) Gene Flow through Seed Dispersal is the Most Important Driver in the Early  
Stages of Plant Domestication. *American Journal of Botany*.

Ren, Meng, Zi-Hua Tang, Xin-Hua Wu, **Robert N. Spengler III**, Hong-En Jiang, Yi-Min Yang, and  
Nicole Boivin  
(In review) Mortuary Cannabis Burning in the Pamirs During the First Millennium BC. *Nature  
Plants*.

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### PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

#### ARTICLES

- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Farhod Maksudov, Elissa Bullion, Ann Merkle, Taylor Hermes, and Michael Frachetti  
2018 Arboreal crops on the medieval Silk Road: Archaeobotanical studies at Tashbulak. *PLOS ONE*. 13(8): e0201409.
- Christian Leipe, Stefanie Müller, Konrad Hille, Hirofumi Kato, Franziska Kobe, Mareike Schmidt, Konrad Seyffert, **Robert N. Spengler III**, Mayke Wagner, Andrzej W. Weber, and Pavel E. Tarasov  
2018 Vegetation change and human impacts on Rebun Island (Northwest Pacific) over the last 6000 years. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 193: 129-144.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**  
2018 Dung Burning in the Archaeobotanical Record of West Asia: Where are we now? Special Edition Volume of *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*. Online First.
- Doumani Dupuy, Paula, **Robert N. Spengler III**, and Michael Frachetti  
2018 Eurasian Textiles: Case studies in exchange during the incipient and later Silk Road periods. *Quaternary International*. Online First.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Naomi F. Miller, Reinder Neef, Perry A. Tourtellotte, and Claudia Chang  
2017 Linking agriculture and exchange to social developments of the Central Asian Iron Age. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*. 48:295–308.
- Leipe, Christian, Elena A. Sergusheva, Stefanie Müller, **Robert N. Spengler III**, Tomasz Goslar, Hirofumi Kato, Mayke Wagner, Andrzej W. Weber, and Pavel E. Tarasov  
2017 Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) in the Okhotsk culture (5th-10th century AD) of northern Japan and the role of cultivated plants in hunter-gatherer economies. *PLOS ONE*. 12(3): e0174397.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Ilaria de Nigris, Barbara Cerasetti, and Lynne M. Rouse  
2017 The Breadth of Dietary Economy in the Central Asian Bronze Age: A case study from Adjı Kui in the Murghab Region of Turkmenistan. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*. Online First.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Pavel Tarasov, and Mayke Wagner  
2016 The Origins and Spread of Agriculture in Central Asia and Adjacent Regions: An Introduction. *The Holocene*. 26: 1523-1526.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Natalia Ryabogina, Pavel Tarasov, and Mayke Wagner  
2016 The Spread of Agriculture into Northern Asia. *The Holocene*. 26: 1527-1540.
- Miller, Naomi F., **Spengler, Robert N., III**, and Michael Frachetti  
2016 Millet Cultivation across Eurasia: Origins, Spread, and the Influence of Seasonal Climate. *The Holocene*. 26: 1566-1575.

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### PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

#### ARTICLES

#### Spengler, Robert N., III

- 2015 Agriculture in the Central Asian Bronze Age. *Journal of World Prehistory*. 28 (3): 215–253.
- Doumani, P. N., M. D. Frachetti, R. Beardmore, T. Schmaus, **R. N. Spengler**, and A. N. Mar'yashev  
2015 Bronze Age Mountain Agriculture, Funerary Ritual, and Mobile Pastoralism at Tasbas, Southeastern Kazakhstan. *Archaeological Research in Asia*. 1-2: 17–32.
- d'Alpoim Guedes, Jade, Lu Hongliang, Li Yongxian, Wu Xiaohong, **Robert N. Spengler III**, and Mark S. Aldenderfer  
2014 Moving Agriculture onto the Tibetan Plateau: The Archaeobotanical Evidence. *Journal of Archaeological and Anthropological Science*. 6: 255–269.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Barbara Cerassetti, Margareta Tengberg, Maurizio Cattani, and Lynne M. Rouse  
2014 Agriculturalists and Pastoralists: Bronze Age Economy of the Murghab Delta, Southern Central Asia. *Journal of Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*. 23: 805–820.
- Spengler, R. N.**, M. D. Frachetti, P. N. Doumani, L. M. Rouse, B. Cerassetti, E. Bullion, and A. N. Mar'yashev  
2014 Early agriculture and crop transmission among Bronze Age mobile pastoralists of Central Eurasia. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. 281: 20133382.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Paula Doumani, and Michael Frachetti  
2014 Agriculture in the Piedmont of Eastern Central Asia: The Late Bronze Age at Tasbas, Kazakhstan. *Quaternary International*. 348: 147–157.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**  
2014 Niche Dwelling vs. Niche Construction: Landscape Modification in the Bronze and Iron Ages of Central Asia. *Human Ecology*. 42(6): 813–821.
- Langlie, BrieAnna S., Natalie G. Mueller, **Robert N. Spengler**, and Gayle J. Fritz  
2014 Agricultural Origins from the Ground Up: Archaeological Perspectives on Plant Domestication. *American Journal of Botany*. 101(10): 1601–1617.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Claudia Chang, and Perry A. Tourtellotte  
2013 Agricultural Production in the Central Asian mountains: Tuzusai, Kazakhstan (410-150 BC). *Journal of Field Archaeology*. 38(1): 68–85.
- Spengler, Robert N., III**, Michael D. Frachetti, and Gayle J. Fritz  
2013 Ecotopes and Herd Foraging Practices in the Bronze and Iron Age, Steppe and Mountain Ecotone of Central Asia. *Journal of Ethnobiology*. 33(1): 125–147.

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### PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

#### ARTICLES

**Spengler, Robert N., III**, and George Willcox

2013 Archaeobotanical Results from Sarazm, Tajikistan, an Early Bronze Age Village on the Edge: Agriculture and Exchange. *Journal of Environmental Archaeology*. 10(3): 211–221.

**Spengler, Robert N., III**

2013 *Botanical Resource Use in the Bronze and Iron Age of the Central Eurasian Mountain/Steppe Interface: Decision Making in Multi-resource Pastoral Economies*, Ph.D. Dissertation for the Anthropology Department at Washington University in St. Louis.

Frachetti, Michael D., **Robert N. Spengler**, Gayle J. Fritz, and Alexei N. Mar'yashev

2010 Earliest Direct Evidence for Broomcorn Millet and Wheat in the Central Eurasian Steppe Region. *Antiquity* 84: 993–1010.

**Spengler, Robert N.**

2008 *Archaeobotanical Analysis of the Begash Site: Plants as a Component of Mobile Pastoralism*. St. Louis: Unpublished Master's Thesis, Available in the Anthropology Department at Washington University.

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

**Spengler, Robert N., III**

(In press) Fruits on the Ancient Silk Road. In Susan Whitfield and Fleur Jones (Eds.) *The Silk Road*. Thames & Hudson: London.

Cerasetti, Barbara, Lynne M. Rouse, Roberto Arciero, Luca Forni, Elise Luneau, and **Robert N. Spengler III**

(In press) Interactions between sedentary and mobile peoples in the Bronze Age of southern Central Asia: Excavations at Togolok 1 in the Murghab region. *Proceeding of the Eurasian Archaeology Conference of the German Archaeological Institute*. German Archaeological Institute, Berlin, Germany.

Cerasetti, Barbara, Roberto Arciero, Marialetizia Carra, Antonio Curci, Jacopo De Grossi Mazzorin, Luca Forni, Elise Luneau, Lynne M. Rouse, and **Robert N. Spengler III**

(In press) Bronze and Iron Age urbanization in Turkmenistan: Preliminary results from the excavation of Togolok 1 on the Murghab alluvial fan. *Conference Volume for the International Turkmenistan Archaeology Conference*. Bern, Switzerland.

**Spengler, Robert N., III**

(In press) Paleoethnobotany. In *SAS Encyclopedia of Archaeological Sciences*. Gill Campbell and Sandra Lopez Varela (Eds.), Wiley and Blackwell: New York.

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### PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

##### Spengler, Robert N., III

2016 Archaeobotany (Qualitative Results Report) at Tashbulak. In Michael Frachetti and Farhad Maksudov (eds.) *Archaeological Research of the Qarakhanids (ARG) 2015 Excavation at the 11<sup>th</sup> c CE urban center 'Tashbulak'*. (pp. 93-104) Unpublished.

##### Frachetti, Michael D., and Robert N. Spengler III (eds.)

2015 Introduction. In *Mobility and Ancient Society in Asia and the Americas: Proceedings of the Second International Conference on "Great Migrations"*, Springer Publishing.

##### Spengler, Robert N., III

2015 Central Asia, pre-Silk Road Agricultural Exchange. In Mary Beaudry and Karen Metheny (eds.), *The Archaeology of Food: An Encyclopedia*. Rowman and Littlefield.

##### d'Alpoim Guedes, Jade, and Robert N. Spengler III

2015 Sampling in Paleoethnobotany. In *Method and Theory in Paleoethnobotany*. University Press of Colorado: Denver, Colorado.

##### Spengler, Robert N., III

2014 Paleoethnobotanical Methods for the Study of Early Agriculture and Cuisine in the Prehistory of Central Asia. In *Experience of Turkmenistan in Research and Museumification of Archaeological Findings*. (pp. 326-328), Turkmenistan Ministry of Culture, Ashgabat.

##### Spengler, Robert N., III

2014 Introducing Archaeobotany to Central Asia. In *Dissertation Reviews; Asian Archaeology* <http://dissertationreviews.org/archives/6982>.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

##### Spengler, Robert N., III

2018 Claudia Chang. Rethinking prehistoric Central Asia: shepherds, farmers, and nomads. 2018. Abingdon & New York: Routledge; 978-1-138-73708-2 £105. *Antiquity*, 92(363), 827-828.

##### Spengler, Robert N., III

2015 A review of staple economies and social integration in northeast China: Regional organization in Zhangwu, Liaoning, China, by James Williams., In *Dissertation Reviews; Asian Archaeology*. <http://dissertationreviews.org/archives/11950>.

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### EDITORIAL ROLES

I am currently a peer-reviewer for roughly thirty (30) academic journals and granting agencies.

Guest Editor for the journal <i>The Holocene</i> , to assist with the production of the special edition titled “Introduction and Intensification of Agriculture in Central Eurasia and Adjacent Regions”	2014 – 2016
Honorary Lectorate awarded through the German Archaeological Institute as a branch of the Bridging Eurasia book series, for the volume titled <i>Sogdian in China: An Archaeological and Art Historical Study of Tomb Finds and Historical Texts from the 3rd to the 10th Century AD</i> by Patrick Wertman	2014 – 2015
Co-editor of the collective volume titled <i>Mobility and Ancient Society in Asia and the Americas</i> , published by Springer	2013 – 2014

### GRANTS & RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Laboratory Startup Funds for the Paleoethnobotany Laboratory at the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History	\$50,000	2017
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, Visiting Research Scholar, Writing Fellowship	\$69,317	2016
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, Visiting Research Scholar, Research Grant Funds	\$5,000	2016
Editorial Honourarium from the German Archaeological Institute	\$1,500	2015
<u>Wenner Gren Foundation</u> , workshop grant (Gr. CONF-673) to host “Introduction and Intensification of Agriculture in Eurasia”	\$20,000	2014
<u>Volkswagen and Mellon Foundations</u> , Workshopping grant for research in the humanities. Funded to host a conference in Berlin in unison with the DAI	€10,000	2014
Collaborator – <u>ICARES</u> , Iron production, urbanism, and environmental sustainability along the Medieval Silk Road: Ecological niche construction and ancient industrial development at the highland smelting center Tashbulak, Uzbekistan. P.I. Michael Frachetti	\$35,000	2014
Volkswagen and Mellon Foundations, Postdoctoral Fellow at the German Institute of Archaeology, Eurasian Branch; Volkswagen Postdoctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Universities and Research Institutes in Germany	€50,000	2014



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### GRANTS & RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

Editor Honorarium, for editorial work on the conference proceedings titled "Mobility and Ancient Society in Asia and the Americas"	\$4,000	2013 – 2014
Washington University in St. Louis Graduate Dissertation Writing Fellowship	\$15,000	2012 – 2013
Washington University in St. Louis Anthropology Department Summer Writing Funding	\$2,500	2011
Washington University in St. Louis Anthropology Department Dissertation Research Improvement Funding	\$3,000	2011
<u>National Science Foundation</u> , Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: Plant Use and Domestic Economy among Eurasian Mobile Pastoralists: Semirech'ye, Kazakhstan during the Bronze and Iron Age Interface	\$20,000	2010
Washington University in St. Louis Anthropology Department Dissertation Research Improvement Funding	\$1,333	2010
Washington University in St. Louis Anthropology Department Summer Research Grant	\$3,000	2008
Washington University in St. Louis Stipend/Graduate Fellowship (every semester)	\$15,000	2006 – 2012
S.U.N.Y., University at Buffalo, Research grant through the Advanced Honors Society	\$6,000	2005

### AWARDS/HONORS

Lecture Honorarium for the Friday Archaeology Lecture series in St. Louis	2015
Editorial Honorarium from the German Archaeological Institute	2015
Most downloaded dissertation of the year from Washington University	2014
Defended my dissertation with honors (equivalent to the highest honor rank in the European system)	2013
State Universities of New York Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence	2006
University at Buffalo Advanced Honors	2006
Graduated Summa Cum Laude	2006

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### **AWARDS/HONORS (Continued)**

Anthropology Honors	2006
University Dean's List every semester of undergraduate program	2006
Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society	2006
Lambda Alpha National Anthropology Honor Society	2004
The National Scholars Honor Society	2004
Golden Key International Honor Society	2004
Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society	2003

### **RESEARCH/FIELD EXPERIENCE**

Paleoethnobotanist for the B6K Project in Swat Valley Pakistan	2017 – 2018
Paleoethnobotanist at the Bash Tapa Iron Age fortress and tell site near the Bukhara Oasis in Uzbekistan	2017 – 2018
Paleoethnobotanist at the Tashbulak Medieval village site in Uzbekistan	2017 – 2018
Paleoethnobotanist for a series of collaborative projects across Mongolia	2015 – 2018
Excavator and Paleoethnobotanist at the Tashbulak Medieval village site in Uzbekistan	2015
Excavator and Paleoethnobotanist at the Mayli Kotan site in Uzbekistan	2013
Excavator and Paleoethnobotanist at the Dali and Tasbas sites in Kazakhstan	2011
Paleoethnobotanist on Turkmenistan excavations, Ojakly site	2010
Excavator and Paleoethnobotanist at Tuzusai site in Kazakhstan	2010
Surface survey on the Chengdu Plains Archaeological Survey Project in Chengdu, China	2009 – 2011
Excavator and Paleoethnobotanist at Tuzusai site in Kazakhstan	2009
Excavator in Semerich'ye, Kazakhstan at Iron Age burial site	2008
Paleoethnobotanist and Surveyor in Semerich'ye, Kazakhstan	2007
Surveyor at Rochester Museum of History Cultural Resource Management	2006

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### RESEARCH/FIELD EXPERIENCE (Continued)

- Excavator and Palynologist at Thy, Denmark, part of an international cooperative research project on Viking/Medieval settlements; studying pollen cores at Viking sites in Northern Denmark 2005
- Excavator in Western New York State, Late Woodland Site through the University at Buffalo Cultural Research Management Program 2005

### SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES (Select Examples)

- Organized and hosted the International Training Course in Scientific Methods of Archaeology in Jena, Germany 2018
- Organized and hosted an international conference on the archaeology of Central Asia in Jena, Germany, titled "Breadth of Dietary Economy in Central Asian Prehistory" 2017
- Paleoethnobotanical analysis for the Bash Tepa site in eastern Uzbekistan, project directed by Sören Stark, In collaboration with an international team of specialists 2016 – Present
- Paleoethnobotanists on four separate projects in Mongolia, spanning the late Paleolithic through the Xiongnu period, directed by several different researchers 2016 – Present
- Paleoethnobotanical analysis for the Tashbulak site, dating to the Medieval period of Uzbekistan, directed by Farhad and Frachetti, in collaboration with an international team of specialists 2015 – Present
- Organized and hosted an international conference in Berlin Germany through the German Institute of Archaeology, titled, "Introduction and Intensification of Agriculture in Central Eurasia: The Exception to the Rule or the Exception the Proves the Rule?" 2014
- Paleoethnobotanical analysis for the Adji Kui and Togolok Bronze Age settlement sites in Turkmenistan, directed by Barbara Cerassetti and her team from the University of Bologna, Italy 2013 – Present
- Paleoethnobotanical analysis for Vasilkovka and Krasnyi-Yar, Northern Kazakhstan (3700 – 3100 B.C.), conducted by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and the Presidential Cultural Center of Kazakhstan 2013
- Project Paleoethnobotanist for a series of different excavation projects in Mongolia conducted during the summer of 2012, 2014, and 2015, variously directed by Julia Clark, Lisa Janz, and their colleagues 2012 – 2015
- Project Paleoethnobotanist for the Tasbas site in Semirech'ye, Kazakhstan, principle investigator Paula Doumani 2011 – 2015

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### SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES (Select Examples, Continued)

- Part of a team conducting paleoethnobotanical analyses on material from three sites in Tibet, Changuogou, Kung Lung Silver Castle, and Din Dun. The project is in collaboration with Jade d'Alpoim Guedes, Lu Hongliang, Li Yongxian, Wu Xiaohong, and Mark S. Aldenderfer 2010 – 2013
- Project Paleoethnobotanist for the site of Ojakly in the Kara Kum of Turkmenistan, principle investigators Lynne Rouse and Barbara Cerasetti. Excavations at Ojakly and subsequent analyses were funded by NSF Grant No. 1036942, Wenner-Gren Grant No. 8157, the George F. Dales Foundation, and the International Research & Exchanges Board IARO Grant program. As an extension of this project I am analyzing material from sites 1211 and 1219, excavated under the directorship of Maurizio Cattani 2010 – 2015
- Worked as the Project Paleoethnobotanist and excavator at the Tuzusai excavation in Kazakhstan. The excavation was conducted by the Kazakh-American Talgar Archaeological Project under the directorship of Claudia Chang. Archaeobotanical research was funded by NSF (2010-2011), Grant Number 1010678 “Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: Plant Use and Domestic Economy Among Eurasian Mobile Pastoralists: Semirech’ye, Kazakhstan, during the Bronze and Iron Age Interface”, PI/Co-Pi: M. Frachetti and R.N. Spengler III 2009 – Present
- Worked as part of the Dzhungar Mountains Archaeological Project during two field seasons. In the Semerich’ye region of southeastern Kazakhstan, I conducted macrobotanical studies using floatation, surface survey, and excavation. The project is directed by Michael Frachetti and is partially funded by NSF, Grant Number 0211431 “Dzhungar Mountains Archaeological Project”, principle investigator Michael D. Frachetti 2007 – Present
- Studied classical and Medieval history in Rome, Italy and at the Vatican as part of an honors contract through the University at Buffalo. “Medieval Catholic Pilgrimages to Rome” a study of the early Christian practice of pilgrimages to Rome 2005
- Honors Thesis - a procedural thesis showing the validity and importance of the early acetolysis techniques in modern archeology. Conducted palynological analysis on two Danish archeological sites during the summer of 2005. The sites were being excavated under the funding of NSF, Grant Number SBR-0314407, “Decentralized Societies and the Development of Secondary States”, Principle Investigator Tina L. Thurston 2003 – 2006

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### PRESENTATIONS

- Talk at the European Association of Archaeologists, Barcelona, Spain, session: "Farming Under the Crescent Moon: Agriculture in the medieval Islamic world," "Archaeobotanical Studies at the Tashbulak Archaeological Site during the Qarakhanid Period" 2018
- Talk at the European Association of Archaeologists, Barcelona, Spain, session: "Water Management in Ancient Central Asia" "Using Archaeobotanical Data to Discuss Irrigation Systems in Ancient Central Asia" 2018
- Talk at the Conference of the Society for East Asian Archaeology, Nanjing, China, "Archaeobotany of the Silk Road" 2018
- Discussant Talk at the Conference of the Society for East Asian Archaeology, Nanjing, China, "Stretching North East Asian Prehistory: Integrating Linguistics and Genetics with Archaeology" 2018
- Talk at the Comparative Pathways to Agriculture Symposium 2018; "Early Arboriculture in Eurasia" Sponsored by the ComPAg ERC project and the Domestication, Human Niche Construction and the Anthropocene Research Network of the UCL Institute of Archaeology. University College London. 2018
- Talk at the International Congress on Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE), session: "Redefining Interaction and Mobility in Prehistoric southern Central Asian Archaeology," "Archaeobotany of the Silk Road" 2018
- Talk at the International Application of Archaeological Science, "Archaeobotanical Methods and Applications" 2018
- Talk at the International Application of Archaeological Science, "Closing Remarks" 2018
- Invited Lecture for The Oxford Centre for Asian Archaeology, Art & Culture School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, "Fruits of the Silk Road" 2018
- Invited Lecture for The Oxford Centre for Asian Archaeology, Art & Culture School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, "How Nomadic were the Eurasian Nomads?" 2018
- Invited Lecture for the Paleontology Department at Free University Berlin, "Ongoing Research and Laboratory Facilities at the Jena Max Planck Branch" 2017
- Talk at the Central Asia Workshop that I co-organized for the Max Planck Institute for the science of Human History, Jena, Germany "Breadth of Dietary Economy in Central Asian Prehistory" 2017
- Invited Lecture for the Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes" and the CRC 1266 "Scales of transformation" Lecture Series at Kiel University, "Millet Dispersal" 2017

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### PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

- Invited Lecture for the Friends of the Archaeological Institute of America, New York Branch, “Fruits of the Silk Road”, New York City 2017
- Invited lecture for the Critical Topics Lecture Series through the Global Issues program at the New York University of Professional Studies, “Fruits of the Silk Road”, New York City 2017
- Society for American Archaeology Meetings, *Chenopodium* Session, “*Chenopodium* Seeds in the Archaeobotanical Record of Inner Asia”, Vancouver, Canada 2017
- Society for American Archaeology Meetings, Fryxell Award Session Honoring Naomi Miller, “Revisiting the Topic of Dung Burning in the Archaeobotanical Record of Central Asia”, Vancouver, Canada 2017
- Invited lecture for the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, “Eurasian Agriculture Spread”, Jena, Germany 2017
- Invited lecture for The Archaeological Institute of America, Westchester Society, “Fruits of the Silk Road”, Westchester, New York 2017
- Invited lecture at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University, Lecture Series. “Fruits of the Silk Road: The spread of agriculture through Central Asia”, New York City 2016
- Guest Lecture at New York University, invited by Sören Stark, “Looking Back to the Origins of the Silk Road” 2016
- Presented in the Friday Archaeology Lecture Series at Washington University. “Anthropogenic Landscapes of Prehistoric Central Eurasia: Archaeobotanical studies of agricultural niche construction” 2015
- Opening and closing talks at the international conference on the “Introduction and Intensification of Agriculture in Central Eurasia”, held at the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin, Germany 2015
- Presented at the Turkmenistan Ministry of Culture’s conference on “Paleoethnobotanical Methods for the Study of Early Agriculture and Cuisine in the Prehistory of Central Asia” in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, “Experience of Turkmenistan in Research and Museumification of Archaeological Findings” 2014
- Presented in the Geokolloquium Series in Earth Sciences at Free University, Berlin. “Spread of Agriculture into Central Eurasia and the Third Millennium B.C. Corridor of Exchange” 2014

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### PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

- Presented at the Society for American Archaeology Meetings, Symposium: “Contrasting Patterns of Collecting, Treatment and Use of Stems and Fiber for Crafts in Hunter-Gatherer versus Horticultural and Agropastoral Groups”, Titled: Textiles as an Early Silk Road Commodity: Mobile Pastoralists in Central Asia” 2014
- Presented at the Society for American Archaeology Meetings, Symposium: “Ongoing research in Eurasian archaeology”, Titled: “Late Third Millennium B.C. Agriculture in the Foothills of Central Asia: A Mixing Zone for East and South Asian Crops” 2014
- Presented at the Economic Botany Meetings in Plymouth, England, Titled: “Late Third Millennium B.C. Agricultural Innovations in Central Asia” 2013
- Presented in the session “Food Globalization in Prehistory” at the International Work Group in Palaeoethnobotany Meetings, in Thessaloniki, Greece, Titled: “The Central Eurasian Corridor of Exchange and the Spread of Agriculture: Late Third and Second Millennia B.C.” 2013
- Presented at the Eurasian Archaeology Conference at Cornell, Titled: “The End or Beginning of Nomadism: The Spread of Agriculture and Community Diversification in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Ages in Eastern Central Asia” 2012
- Presented at the Society for American Archaeology Meetings, Southwest Asian Session, Titled: “Ecotopes and Herd Foraging Practices in the Bronze and Iron Age, Steppe and Mountain Ecotone of Central Asia” 2012
- Presented at Friday Archaeology Lecture Series at Washington University in St. Louis, Titled: “Central Eurasian Crop Corridor: Tracking the Path of Wandering Crops” 2012
- Presented at the Society for American Archaeology Meetings, Eurasian Steppe Archaeology Session, Titled: “Paleoethnobotanical Studies in Eastern Kazakhstan: The Bronze and Iron Age Interface” 2011
- Presented at Friday Archaeology Lecture Series at Washington University in St. Louis, Titled: “Mountain Pastoralism: Working Agriculture into the Diversity of Archaeological Central Eurasian Pastoral Economies” 2011
- Guest lecturer at Sichuan University in Chengdu, China, Titled: “Agriculture in Bronze and Iron Age Central Asia” 2010
- Guest lecturer at Buffalo State College, Titled: “Plants and Mobile Pastoralists: A Case Study from Kazakhstan, during the Bronze Age” 2010

## Robert N. Spengler III, PhD

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### PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| Presented at the International Ordos, Inner Mongolia Conference, Titled: "Plants in the Diet of Mobile Pastoralists: Begash, Kazakhstan, during the Bronze Age"                                    | 2010 |
| Presented at the Society for American Archaeology Meetings, Eurasian Session, Titled: "Plants in the Diet of Mobile Pastoralist: Semirech'ye, Kazakhstan during the Early Iron Age"                | 2010 |
| Presented at Friday Archaeology Lecture Series at Washington University in St. Louis, Titled: "Floating Some Models for the Role of Agriculture: Results from a Summer of Flotation in Kazakhstan" | 2009 |
| Presented at Friday Archaeology Lecture Series at Washington University in St. Louis, Titled: "Some Food for Thought: Preliminary Results from Begash, Kazakhstan"                                 | 2008 |
| Presented completed research on palynological analysis of archaeological sites in western New York and northern Denmark at the University at Buffalo Celebration of Academic Excellence            | 2006 |
| Presented data from palynological analysis on archeological sites in western New York and northern Denmark at Annual Honors Research Forum   | 2005 |
| Presented data from a palynological analysis of archeological sites in western New York at the University at Buffalo Celebration of Academic Excellence  | 2004 |
| Presented a preliminary study of the acetolysis technique at the Annual Honors Research Forum  | 2004 |
| Biographical article of my research published in the fall issue of "UB Today"  | 2004 |



## **Robert N. Spengler III, PhD**

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### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

I have prepared and presented dozens of lectures on a wide range of topics over the past seven years. I have held teaching assistantship positions at Washington University in St. Louis, Free University, Berlin, and New York University. My experience includes running laboratory sessions, lecturing to undergraduates, leading seminars, advising graduate and undergraduate students in office hours, and directing methods courses in the field and in the laboratory. I have considerable experience teaching and three full courses prepared and ready to implement.

Faculty Instructor, Free University, Berlin, The Archaeology of Food in Asia: Archaeobotanical Approaches	2014
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Public Health Statistics	2014
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Human Developmental Variation	2013
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Brave New Crops	2012
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Social Landscapes in Global View	2011
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Brave New Crops	2010
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Rich Nations and Poor Nations	2009
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Anthropology and Public Health	2009
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Plants and People: Ethnobotany and Paleoethnobotany	2008
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Africa: Peoples and Cultures	2008
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	2007
Teaching Assistant, Washington University, Introduction to Archaeology	2007

### **COURSES**

Domestication: Where does our food come from?  
The Archaeology of Food  
Ethnobotany and Paleoethnobotany: Methods and Theory  
The Archaeology of Inner Asia: Prehistory along the Silk Road

## **Robert N. Spengler III, PhD**

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### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

#### Order of the Arrow

Vigil Honor Member, and volunteer Adult Advisor	2005 – Present
Chapter Ceremonial Chairman	1999 – 2005
Lodge Ceremonial Chairman	1999 – 2004

#### Boy Scouts of America

Eagle Scout, and volunteer Assistant Leader	2003 – 2009
Youth leadership roles	1996 – 2003

#### University at Buffalo Anthropology Club

2003 – 2004

### **GRADUATE ADVISORS**

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Gayle J. Fritz

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Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, VA

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