

# RADU IOVITA

Rufus Smith Hall, New York University  
25 Waverly Place, New York, NY 10003  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
E: [iovita@nyu.edu](mailto:iovita@nyu.edu)  
W: [raduiovita.wordpress.com](http://raduiovita.wordpress.com)

Early Prehistory & Quaternary Ecology  
Rümelinstr. 23, 72070 Tübingen  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
E: [radu.iovita@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:radu.iovita@uni-tuebingen.de)

## EDUCATION

2008 PHD in Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania  
2005 Complex Systems Summer School, Santa Fe Institute  
2002 MPhil in Archaeology (*with distinction*), University of Cambridge  
2001 AB (Hons.) in Anthropology (*magna cum laude*), Harvard University

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

### CURRENT

2016– Assistant Professor of Anthropology, New York University  
2017-2021 Group Leader, ERC Project [PALAEO-SILKROAD](#), University of Tübingen  
2012-2018 Associated Scientist, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology

### PREVIOUS

2012-2016 Senior Scientist, Monrepos Research Centre, Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum (RGZM)  
2010-2012 Junior Researcher (DFG-funded), Monrepos Research Centre, RGZM  
2009-2016 Associated Lecturer, Dept. of Ancient Studies, University of Mainz  
2008-2012 Postdoctoral Fellow, Monrepos, RGZM

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Paleolithic archaeology • Human responses to environmental change • Eurasian loess steppe (Central Asia, Eastern Europe) • Archaeological survey techniques • Lithics • Use-wear • Controlled experiments • Geometric Morphometrics

## FELLOWSHIPS AND DISTINCTIONS

2015 Finalist, [KUKA Innovation Award](#), Hanover Fair 2015 (RoboCut team member)  
2008-2010 RGZM Postdoctoral Fellowship, RGZM (EUR 19 800 p.a.)  
2007-2008 *Louis J. Kolb Fellowship*, University of Pennsylvania (USD 23 000 p.a.)  
2006-2007 *Dissertation Fellowship*, University of Pennsylvania, (USD 21 500 p.a.)  
2002-2006 *William Penn Fellowship*, University of Pennsylvania, (USD 14 500 p.a.)  
2001 *Phi Beta Kappa*, Alpha Iota Chapter of Massachusetts  
2001 *Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize* for undergraduate research (nominated)  
1998-2001 *John Harvard Scholarship* for academic excellence

## GRANTS

Primary benef.: USD 2.1 million

Partial (collab.): USD 4.8 million

- 2017-2018 New York University, University Challenge Research Fund, *Stone Age Tribology: new approaches to wear formation in ancient stone implements*, USD 13 000
- 2017-2021 European Research Council (ERC), [PALAEO-SILKROAD: Reconstructing Upper Pleistocene Hominin Dispersals and Adaptations in Central Asia](#), EUR 1 497 643
- 2017-2018 Leakey Foundation, *Pioneers in the foothills: excavations at early Upper Paleolithic Maibulak (Kazakhstan)*, USD 24 550
- 2016-2020 Leibniz-Gemeinschaft (with F. Daim, S. Gaudzinski), *Traceology at the Roman-Germanic Central Museum (RGZM)*. Research infrastructure grant, EUR 4.4 million
- 2015 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Travel Grant, EUR 1 989
- 2014-2017 ETH-Zürich Research Grant (with J. Buchli), *Robots carving a window to the human past: towards robot-aided paleoanthropology*, CHF 228 000
- 2013 DAAD University Lecturer Exchange Program (Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan), EUR 700
- 2012 DAAD Travel Grant, EUR 1 450
- 2011 Fritz-Thyssen Foundation, *Stone Age Weaponry Workshop*, EUR 14 000
- 2010-2012 German Research Foundation (DFG), *Neandertal Projectile Technology*, EUR 146 000.  
Co-PIs: Sabine Gaudzinski-Windheuser (RGZM) & Frank Jäger (PTB)
- 2010-2012 Max Planck Society, *Lower Danube Survey for Paleolithic Sites*, EUR 27 000
- 2009 DAAD Travel Grant, EUR 1 400
- 2006-2007 NSF Dissertation improvement grant (BCS #0624962), USD 12 000
- 2005 Department of Anthropology Field Funds, University of Pennsylvania, USD 3 000
- 2000 Radcliffe Traveling Fellowship, *Polynesian Exchange Networks*, USD 2 000
- 2000 Harvard College Research Program *Polynesian Exchange Networks*, USD 1 000

## PUBLICATIONS

*Citation metrics - February 4, 2018: 603 citations* | [Google Scholar H-index 13](#)

☒ denotes corresponding author | \* denotes student co-author

### EDITED BOOK (PEER-REVIEWED)

- 2016 **Iovita, R.** and K. Sano (Eds.) *Multidisciplinary approaches to the study of Stone Age weaponry, Vertebrate Paleobiology and Paleoanthropology*, Springer, Dordrecht. [2 citations](#)

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- in press 1. Fitzsimmons, KE, T. Sprafke, C. Zielhofer, C. Günter, J.-M. Deom, R. Sala, and **R. Iovita**. "Loess accumulation in the Tian Shan piedmont: implications for palaeoenvironmental change in arid Central Asia." *Quatern Int.* [[DOI](#)] [6 citations](#)
- 2017 2. Fitzsimmons, K.E., **Iovita, R.**, Sprafke, T., Glantz, M., Talamo, S., Horton, K., Beeton, T., Alipova, S., Bekseitov, G., Ospanov, Y., Deom, J.-M., Sala, R., Taimagambetov, Z. "A chronological framework connecting the early Upper Palaeolithic across the Central Asian piedmont." *J Hum Evol* 113, 107–126. [[DOI](#)]

- 2017 3. **Iovita, R.**, I. Tuvi-Arad, M.-H. Moncel, J. Despriée, P. Voinchet, and J.-J. Bahain. "High handaxe symmetry at the beginning of the European Acheulian: The data from la Noira (France) in context". *PLoS One* 12(5): e0177063. [[HTML](#)] **2 citations**
- 2017 4. Dibble, H.L., Holdaway, S.J., Braun, D.R., Douglass, M., **Iovita, R.**, Lin, S., McPherson, S.P., Olszewski, D., Rezek, Z., Sandgathe, D. [alphabetically listed after 2nd author] "Major Fallacies Surrounding Stone Artifacts and Assemblages," *J Arch Meth Th* 24(3):813-851. [[DOI](#)] **14 citations**
- 2016 5. Dobos, A. and **R. Iovita**. "The Lower Paleolithic of Romania revisited: new evidence from the site of Dealul Guran." In *Paleoanthropology at the Gates of Europe*, K. Harvati and M. Roksandic (Eds.), Vertebrate Paleobiology and Paleoanthropology, Springer, Dordrecht, pp. 171-186. [[DOI](#)] **6 citations**
- 2016 6. **Iovita, R.** and K. Sano. "Summary and Conclusions: 20 years since Knecht: advances in the study of Stone Age weapons" In *Multidisciplinary approaches to the study of Stone Age weaponry*, R. Iovita and K. Sano (Eds.), Vertebrate Paleobiology and Paleoanthropology, Springer, Dordrecht. [[DOI](#)]
- 2016 7. **Iovita, R.**, H. Schönekeß, S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser, and F. Jäger. "Identifying weapon delivery systems using macrofracture analysis and fracture propagation velocity: a controlled experiment." In *Multidisciplinary approaches to the study of Stone Age weaponry*, R. Iovita and K. Sano (Eds.), Vertebrate Paleobiology and Paleoanthropology, Springer, Dordrecht, pp. 13-27. [[DOI](#)] [[PDF](#)] **11 citations**
- 2015 8. Pfleging\*, J., M. Stücheli, **R. Iovita**✉, and J. Buchli. "Dynamic monitoring reveals motor task characteristics in prehistoric technical gestures". *PloS One* 10(8): e0134570. [[HTML](#)]. **>2250 views 4 citations**
- 2015 9. Dobos, A. and **R. Iovita**, 2015. Paleoliticul inferior din România: o reevaluare din perspectiva descoperirilor din situl Dealul Guran. *Materiale si cercetari arheologice* SN. XIX, 5-17.
- 2015 10. Rolett, B., E. W. West, J. M. Sinton, and **R. Iovita** "Voyaging in the East Polynesian homeland: New evidence from the Hawaiki core area" *J Archaeol Sci* 53: 459-471. [[PDF](#)] **11 citations**
- 2014 11. **Iovita, R.** "The role of edge angle maintenance in explaining technological variation in the production of Late Middle Paleolithic bifacial and unifacial tools" *Quatern Int* 350:105-115. [[DOI](#)] [[PDF](#)] **13 citations**
- 2014 12. **Iovita, R.**, A. Dobos, K. E. Fitzsimmons, M. Probst\*, U. Hambach, M. Robu, M. Vlaicu, and A. Petculescu. "Geoarchaeological prospection in the loess steppe: preliminary results from the Lower Danube Survey for Paleolithic Sites (LoDanS)". *Quatern Int* 351:98-114. [[DOI](#)] [[PDF](#)] **14 citations**
- 2014 13. **Iovita R.**, H. Schönekeß, S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser, and F. Jäger "Projectile impact fractures and launching mechanisms: results of a controlled ballistic experiment using replica Levallois points." *J Archaeol Sci* 48: 73-83. [[DOI](#)] [[PDF](#)] **32 citations**
- 2013 14. Fitzsimmons, K. E., U. Hambach, D. Veres, **R. Iovita**. "The Campanian Ignimbrite eruption: new data on volcanic ash dispersal and its potential impact on human evolution". *PLoS ONE* 8(6): e65839. [[HTML](#)] **40 citations >11 600 views**

- 2012 15. **Iovita, R.**, K. E. Fitzsimmons, A. Dobos, U. Hambach, A. Hilgers, and A. Zander “Dealul Guran: evidence of Lower Paleolithic occupation of the southeast European loess steppe.” *Antiquity* 86(334): 973-989. [[PDF](#)] [17 citations](#)
- 2011 16. **Iovita, R.** “Shape variation in Aterian tanged tools and the origins of projectile technology: a morphometric perspective on stone tool function.” *PLoS One* 6(12): e29029. [[HTML](#)] [52 citations](#) [>7850 views](#)
- 2011 17. **Iovita, R.** and S. P. McPherron “The handaxe reloaded: a morphometric reassessment of Acheulian and Middle Paleolithic handaxes.” *J Hum Evol* 61: 61-74. [[PDF](#)] [76 citations](#)
- 2011 18. Rezek, Z., S. Lin, **R. Iovita**, and H. Dibble “The relative effects of core surface morphology on flake shape and other attributes.” *J Archaeol Sci* 38 (6): 1346-1359. [[PDF](#)] [50 citations](#)
- 2010 19. **Iovita, R. P.** “Comparing stone tool resharpening trajectories with the aid of Elliptical Fourier Analysis.” In *New Perspectives on Old Stones: Analytical Approaches to Palaeolithic Technologies*, S.J. Lycett and P. Chauhan (Eds.), pp. 235-253. Springer, Dordrecht. [[LINK](#)] [[PDF](#)] [43 citations](#)
- 2009 20. **Iovita, R. P.** “Ontogenetic scaling and lithic systematics: method and application.” *J Archaeol Sci* 36(7): 1447-1457. [[PDF](#)] [41 citations](#)
- 2009 21. **Iovita, R. P.** “Re-evaluating connections between the Early Upper Paleolithic of Northeast Africa and the Levant: technological differences between the Dabban and the Emiran.” In *Transitions in Prehistory: Papers in Honor of Ofer Bar-Yosef*, J. Shea and D. Lieberman (Eds.), pp. 125-142. Oxbow Books, Oxford. [[PDF](#)] [10 citations](#)
- 2005 22. Dibble, H.L., U. A. Schurmanns, **R.P. Iovita**, and M. McLaughlin “The measurement and interpretation of cortex in lithic assemblages.” *Am Antiquity* 70 (3): 545-560. [[PDF](#)] [102 citations](#)
- 2004 23. **Iovita, R. P.** and T. G. Schurr “Reconstructing the origins and migrations of diasporic populations: the case of the European Gypsies.” *Am Anthropol* 106 (2): 267-281. [[PDF](#)] [45 citations](#)

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2006 1. **Iovita, R. P.** Review of “Transitions before The Transition: Evolution and Stability in the Middle Paleolithic and Middle Stone Age”, E. Hovers and S. L. Kuhn (Eds.). *Paleoanthropology* 2006, pp. 86-88. [[PDF](#)]
- 2005 2. Augenblick, E., A. Heuvelink, **R. Iovita**, and G. Ritchie “The emergence of differentiating signals within groups.” Complex Systems Summer School Final Project Papers, Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, NM. [[PDF](#)]

#### FIELD REPORTS

- 2015 1. **Iovita, R.**, K. E. Fitzsimmons, T. Sprafke, L. Schunk, E. Ospanov, G. Bekseitov. “New fieldwork at Maibulak, Almaty Province, Kazakhstan.” Report submitted to Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 25 October 2015.

- 2012 2. Zirra, V. V., A. Dobos, **R. Iovita**, S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser, K. Fitzsimmons, J.-J. Hublin, S. McPherron, U. Hambach, A. Petculescu, A. Ciornei. "54. Pestera, Pestera commune, Constanta county, site: Dealu Guran. Chronicle of archaeological research in Romania, 2011 campaign." XLVI-th National Session of Archeological Reports, Târgu Mures, 23-26 May 2014, National Heritage Institute, Bucharest: 98. (in Romanian)
- 2012 3. Zirra, V. V., A. Doboş, **R. Iovita**, S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser, M. Probst, K. Fitzsimmons, J.-J. Hublin, S. McPherron, A. Petculescu, N. Schlösser, K. Weber, C. Nica. "48. Pestera, Pestera commune, Constanta county, site: Dealu Guran. Chronicle of archaeological research in Romania, 2012 campaign." XLVII National Session of Archeological Reports, Craiova, 27-30 May 2013, National Heritage Institute, Bucharest: 101. (in Romanian)
- 2010 4. **Iovita, R. P.**, K. E. Fitzsimmons, U. Hambach, A. Dobos, and R. Dobrescu. "Lower Danube Survey for Paleolithic Sites: a Report of the 2010 Field Season", report submitted to the Max-Planck-Society, Leipzig 10 September 2010.

#### **INVITED SEMINARS**

- 2016 1. "A Paleolithic Silk Road? Hominins, climate, and landscape in Late Pleistocene central Asia." Department of Anthropology, Stony Brook University, 18.11.2016.
- 2016 2. "«Tales of mountains and steppes»: Pleistocene human-environmental interaction in arid central Asia." Department of Anthropology, New York University, 18.02.2016.
- 2015 3. "Microscopic methods for identifying impact traces in obsidian tools." Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey, 20.10.2015.
- 2014 4. "Using secondary fracture characteristics to infer impact velocity in prehistoric stone-tipped projectiles." Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany, 22.10.2014.
- 2013 5. "New geoarchaeological methods and the potential for Kazakh-German cooperation in the field of paleoanthropology". Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 16.05.2013.
- 2013 6. "Robo-cut? Reconstructing Neandertal gestures from wear traces on stone tools using (simple) robots." Agile and Dexterous Robotics Lab, ETH Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland, 7.03.2013.
- 2012 7. "Technological diversity in the Paleolithic: groundwork for querying a patchy record." Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis, USA, 19.03.2012.
- 2012 8. "Aterian tanged tools: projectile tips or general-purpose edge-tools?." Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany, 15.02.2012.
- 2010 9. "The weasels and whales: an investigation of artifact shape variability at Neumark-Nord 2/0", Landesamt für Denkmalpflege, Halle, Germany, 01.08.2010.
- 2009 10. "The Lower Danube Survey for Paleolithic Sites (LoDanS)." Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany, 26.11.2009.

- 2009 11. “Diversity in Middle Paleolithic bifacial tools: a use and maintenance perspective.” Department of Anthropology, McGill University, Canada, 06.01.2009.
- 2007 12. “Geometric-morphometrics applications to resharpening processes in Mousterian tools.” Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut, CT, USA, 24.11.2007.

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

### WORKSHOPS AND SYMPOSIA ORGANIZED

- 2017 *Controlled experiments in lithic technology and function* (with J. Marreiros and T. Perreira), SAA Meetings, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2015 *From the shores of the Caspian to the Tian Shan foothills: paleoenvironments and human behavioral adaptations in Central Asia* (with K. Fitzsimmons), at XIX INQUA Congress, Nagoya, Japan, 26 July-2 August 2015.
- 2011 *Multidisciplinary Scientific Approaches to the Study of Stone Age Weaponry*, Mainz, 19-22 September 2011, funded by the Fritz-Thyssen Foundation.
- 2008 Symposium: *Advances in the study of lithic morphology* (with E. Otarola-Castillo, B. Schoville, E. Fisher), Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, Canada.

### PRESENTATIONS

29 peer-reviewed | 27 talks (2 keynote, 2 plenary, 9 invited/inv. symposium) 8 posters | \* denotes student 1<sup>st</sup> author

- 2017 1. **Iovita, R.** “Coming of age in archaeological morphometrics: integrating process, scale, and behavior.” MORPH2017 Conference, Aarhus, Denmark. [keynote]
- 2017 2. \*Rodriguez, A., M. G. Chacón Navarro, R. Cornette, E. Pouydebat, M.-H. Moncel, A. Bardo, L. Chèze, **Radu Iovita**, and A. Borel. “New application of geometric morphometrics in use-wear analysis for the identification of hand preference from stone tools” MORPH2017 Conference, Aarhus, Denmark. [poster]
- 2017 3. **Iovita, R.**, Pflöging, J., Buchli, J. “Evaluating the effect of force and duration on lithic use-wear using a force- and impedance-controlled robot” in “Controlled experiments in lithic technology and function”, symposium organized by J. Marreiros, T. Pereira, **R. Iovita**, SAA Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, 28 March - 2 April. [symposium talk]
- 2017 4. Fitzsimmons, K.E., **R. Iovita**, Sprafke, T., Glantz, M., Horton, K., Beeton, T., Alipova, S., Bekseitov, G., Ospanov, Y., Deom, J.-M., Sala, R., Taimagambetov, Zh. “A chronological framework connecting the early Upper Palaeolithic across the Central Asian piedmont”. Paleoanthropology Meetings, Vancouver, Canada, 27-28 March. [talk]
- 2015 5. \*Noack, E., Smith, G. M., Schösser, N.-M., and **R. Iovita** “New evidence of Early Mesolithic hunting injuries on animal bones from northern Germany”. 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Mesolithic in Europe. Belgrade, Serbia. [talk]
- 2015 6. **R. Iovita**, K. E. Fitzsimmons, M. Glantz, K. Horton, T. Beeton, S. Alipova, Z. Taimagambetov “A chronological framework for the Palaeolithic in the central Asian loess steppe” XIX INQUA Congress, Nagoya, Japan, in Session H21: *Paleoenvironments and human behavioral adaptations in Central Asia*, convened by **R. Iovita** and K. Fitzsimmons. [talk]

- 2015 7. Taimagambetov, Z., **R. Iovita**, K. E. Fitzsimmons, T. Sprafke, M. Glantz, S. Temirbekov, S. Alipova, E. Ospanov. "Between the steppes and the mountains: old and new data on human-environmental interactions in Kazakhstan." *XIX INQUA Congress*, Nagoya, Japan, in Session H21: *Paleoenvironments and human behavioral adaptations in Central Asia*, convened by **R. Iovita** and K. Fitzsimmons. [poster]
- 2015 8. \*Pfleging, J., M. Stücheli, **R. Iovita**, J. Buchli. "Dynamic monitoring in use-wear experiments: the case of motion in hide-scraping." Association of Wear and Residue Analysis (AWRANA) Conference, Leiden, Netherlands. [session keynote, plenary]
- 2014 9. **Iovita, R.**, K. Fitzsimmons, M. Glantz, T. Beeton, K. Horton, N.-M. Schlösser, L. Schunk, Z. Taimagambetov. "A reappraisal of the Early Upper Paleolithic assemblages from Maibulak, Kazakhstan." *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Florence, Italy. [Pecha-Kucha]
- 2014 10. \*Schlösser, N.-M. and **R. Iovita**. "Exploring Palaeolithic weapon delivery systems using a controlled and realistic experimental setup: preliminary results" *XVII World UISPP Congress*, Burgos, Spain. [talk]
- 2014 11. \*Schlösser, N.-M. and **R. Iovita** "Exploring Palaeolithic weapon delivery systems using a controlled and realistic experimental setup: preliminary results" *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Florence, Italy. [poster]
- 2014 12. Bailey, S., **R. Iovita**, T. Higham, V. Kharitonov, A. Buzhilova, R. Pinhasi "The power of deciduous teeth in diagnosing taxa: case study of a late surviving Neandertal in the Caucasus." *Paleoanthropology Society*, Calgary, Canada. [poster]
- 2013 13. **Iovita, R.**, H. Schönekeß, F. Jäger, and S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser "Identifying weapon delivery systems using macro-fracture analysis and fracture propagation velocity: a controlled experiment." *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Vienna. [poster]
- 2013 14. \*Schlösser, N., A. Doboş, K. Weber, A. Ciornei, **R. Iovita** Long-term stability in raw material economic strategies: the case of Dealul Guran, Romania. *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Vienna. [poster]
- 2013 15. Fitzsimmons, K. E., U. Hambach, D. Veres, **R. Iovita** "The potential for catastrophic impact of the Campanian Ignimbrite (CI) tephra on human evolution: new data from the Lower Danube loess steppe." *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Vienna. [plenary]
- 2013 16. Rolett, B., E. West, J. Sinton, and **R. Iovita** "Voyaging in the East Polynesian Homeland: new evidence from the Hawaiki Core Area." *SAA Annual Meeting*, Honolulu, USA. [talk]
- 2012 17. Dobos, A., **R. Iovita** "The Lower Paleolithic of Romania revisited: new evidence from the site of Dealul Guran." *Paleoanthropology in the Southern Balkans*. International Symposium, University of Tübingen, Germany. [invited talk]
- 2012 18. Fitzsimmons, K.E., **R. Iovita**, A. Dobos, U. Hambach, A. Hilgers, A. Zander. "Integrating records of environmental change and human occupation in the lower Danube loess steppe." *Last glacial palaeogeography and archaeology of the eastern Mediterranean and of the eastern European loess belt*, Aachen, Germany. [invited talk]

- 2012 19. Iovita, R., H. Schönekeß, F. Jäger, and S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser “Factors influencing the production of projectile diagnostic impact fracture: results from a new ballistic experimental protocol.” *International conference on use-wear analysis*, Faro, Portugal. [talk]
- 2012 20. Iovita, R., H. Schönekeß, F. Jäger, and S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser “Investigating Paleolithic projectile armatures and delivery systems: results from a new controlled ballistic experiment.” *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Bordeaux. [poster]
- 2012 21. Fitzsimmons, K. E., U. Hambach, S. Markovic, A. Dobos, R. Iovita “Loess archives as contextual records of prehistoric human migration and environmental change in the Lower Danube loess steppe.” *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE)*, Bordeaux. [poster]
- 2012 22. Fitzsimmons, K. E., R. Iovita, A. Dobos, U. Hambach, A. Hilgers, and A. Zander “Prehistoric human migration and environmental change in the Lower Danube loess steppe: perspectives from the Lower through Upper Palaeolithic”. *German Geoarchaeology Commission*, Leipzig. [talk]
- 2012 23. Iovita, R., K. E. Fitzsimmons, A. Dobos, U. Hambach, A. Hilgers, and A. Zander “Dealul Guran: evidence for the Lower Paleolithic (MIS 11) occupation of the Lower Danube steppe,” *Paleoanthropology Society*, Memphis, USA. [talk]
- 2012 24. Iovita, R. “Aterian tanged tools: scrapers or projectile tips? A geometric scaling perspective,” *The Four Sides Of A Uniface: The Design And Use Of Simple Hafted Stone Tools*, SAA Annual Meeting, Memphis, USA. [invited symposium]
- 2012 25. Iovita, R., H. Schönekeß, F. Jäger, and S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser “Controlled ballistic experiments with glass replicas of Levallois points: the effects of speed and kinetic energy,” *6<sup>th</sup> Experimental Archaeology Conference*, York, UK. [talk]
- 2011 26. Iovita, R., K. E. Fitzsimmons, A. Dobos, U. Hambach, A. Hilgers, and A. Zander “Dealul Guran: investigations at a newly discovered Lower/Middle Paleolithic locality in southeast Romania,” *British Museum Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Conference*, London, UK. [talk]
- 2011 27. Iovita, R., H. Schönekeß, F. Jäger, and S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser “Controlled ballistic experiments with glass replicas of Levallois points,” *Multidisciplinary Scientific Approaches to the Study of Stone Age Weaponry*, Mainz, Germany. [talk]
- 2011 28. Iovita, R. “Morphological variability in Aterian tanged tools and its implications for the origins of projectile technology,” *Paleoanthropology Society*, Minneapolis, USA. [talk]
- 2010 29. Iovita, R., K. E. Fitzsimmons, *et al.* “Linking landscape and people: prehistoric environmental change and human migration in the Lower Danube catchment”, *Palaeoclimate in the Danube Basin*, Bayreuth, Germany. [invited]
- 2010 30. Iovita, R., and S. P. McPherron “The handaxe reloaded: a morphometric reassessment of Acheulian and Middle Paleolithic handaxes”, *The Roots of the Middle Paleolithic: An Uniquely Eurasian Evolutionary Experiment*. SAA Annual Meeting, St Louis, USA. [invited symposium]



- 2010 31. McPherron, S. P. and R. Iovita “A morphometric reassessment of Acheulian and Middle Paleolithic bifaces,” *Hugo Obermaier Conference*, Leipzig, Germany. [talk]
- 2009 32. Iovita, R. P. “Made like a biface, used like a scraper: reassessing variability in Middle Paleolithic resharpened tools,” *Paleoanthropology Society*, Chicago, IL, USA. [talk]
- 2008 33. Iovita, R. P. “Reversed ontogenies in stone tools: a new method for investigating use-lives of Paleolithic artifacts”, in *Analytical Approaches to Paleolithic Technologies*, SAA, Vancouver, Canada. [invited symposium]
- 2007 34. Iovita, R. P. “Relations between bifacial and unifacial industries in the European Middle Paleolithic: a morphometric approach to resharpening patterns.” SAA Annual Meeting, Austin, USA. [invited symposium]
- 2004 35. Iovita, R. P., H. L. Dibble, M. McLaughlin, U. A. Schurmans, and A. Steenhuyse “Modeling cortex in lithic assemblages: an experimental approach.” SAA, Montreal, Canada. [talk]

## TEACHING

### NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

(\* denotes new preps)

- 2017 \**Extinct Landscapes* - graduate seminar (Fall).
- 2017 \**Archaeology: Early Societies and Culture*\* - undergraduate introduction (Fall).
- 2016 \**Archaeology of Modern Human Origins and Dispersal*\* (with R. White) - graduate seminar (Fall).

### UNIVERSITY OF MAINZ

- 2015 \**Middle-range approaches in the archaeology of human behavior: ethnoarchaeology and experimental design* [in English and German]. Seminar.
- 2014-2016 \**The digital site—a practical introduction to data processing on excavations* [in German], Practicum.
- 2015; 2014 \**Prehistory of Europe – an outline* [in German]. Co-taught survey lecture course with S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser, L. Kindler, O. Jöris.
- 2013 \**Quantitative Approaches for Archaeologists* [in German], Seminar.
- 2012 \**Stones and Minds: the Archaeology of the Evolution of our Cognitive Capacity* [in German and English]. Seminar.
- 2012 \**Introduction to working in science—Einführung in das wissenschaftliche Arbeiten* [in German]. Short seminar.
- 2011 \**Introductory Statistics for Archaeologists* [in German]. Lecture.
- 2010-2012 *Field Practicum*. Survey, GIS, excavation in the loess-steppe of Romania.
- 2010 *Long Field Excursion - Romania* Archaeological introduction to a region.
- 2009 \**Lithic Analysis* [in English]. Seminar.

## MENTORSHIP

### POSTDOCTORAL

- 2017-2020 Patrick Cuthbertson, University of Tübingen

## PHD

- 2017– Alice Rodriguez, New York University  
2017– Emily Coco, New York University

## MASTER'S AND BACHELOR'S

- 2017-2018 Madison J. McCartin, New York University, BA Honors (reader)  
2016-2017 Tanner Kovach, New York University, BA Honors (reader)  
2014-2015 Nina-Maria Schlösser, University of Mainz, MA (chair)

## EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- 2014– Erbolat Ospanov (“al-Farabi” Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan, PhD, Co-supervised with Z. Taimagambetov)  
2015-2016 Alice Rodriguez (National Museum of Natural History, Paris, MA, co-supervised with A. Borel and E. Pouydebat)

## FIELDWORK

### AS DIRECTOR

- 2017-2021 [PALAEO-SILKROAD](#) Project. Co-PI: Z. Taimagambetov (National Museum of Kazakhstan).  
2013-2017 *Re-evaluation of the site of Maibulak and survey in the Tien Shan foothills*, Kazakhstan. Co-PIs: Z. Taimagambetov (National Museum of Kazakhstan), K.E. Fitzsimmons (Max Planck Institute for evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig), G. Bekseitov (al-Farabi Kazakh National University).  
2011-2012 *Excavations at Dealul Guran*, Romania. [Lower Danube Survey for Paleolithic Sites](#) Project.  
2010-2013 *Lower Danube Survey for Paleolithic Sites*, Romania. Co-PIs: A. Dobos (Institute of Archaeology «Vasile Pârvan», Romanian Academy of Sciences) and K.E. Fitzsimmons (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig).

### AS INVITED SPECIALIST

- 2008-2009 *Neumark-Nord 2*, Middle Paleolithic, Germany. Geometric morphometric analysis of Keilmesser. PIs: S. Gaudzinski-Windheuser and W. Roebroeks.  
2008 *Contrebandiers* excavations, Morocco. *Senior scientist*. Geometric morphometric analysis of Aterian points. PIs: H.L. Dibble, U.A. Schurmans, Abd-el-Jalil el-Hajraoui.

### OTHER FIELDWORK

- 2007-2008 *Abydos Survey for Paleolithic Sites*, Egypt. PIs: H.L. Dibble, S.P. McPherron, D. Olszewski, and J. R. Smith.  
2006 *Jebel Irhoud* excavations, Morocco. PIs: J.-J. Hublin, S.P. McPherron.  
2005-2006 *Abydos Survey for Paleolithic Sites*, Egypt. PIs: H. L. Dibble, S.P. McPherron, D. Olszewski, and J. R. Smith.  
2005 *Roc de Marsal*, Dordogne, France. *Assistant field manager*. PI: H.L. Dibble and S.P. McPherron.  
2004 *Roc de Marsal*, Dordogne, France. *Assistant laboratory manager*. PIs: H.L. Dibble and S.P.

McPherron

- 2004 *Pech de l'Azé IV*, Middle Paleolithic, Dordogne, France. *Lithic analyst*.  
2003 *Poiana Ciresului*, Epigravettian, Romania. PI: M. Cârciumaru.  
2000 *Polynesian Exchange Networks Project*, Society and Austral Islands, French Polynesia. PIs:  
B. Rolett and G. Sinton.  
2000 *Ksiecia Józefa*, Middle Paleolithic, Poland. *Excavation*. PIs: J. Kozłowski, K. Sobczyk.  
1999 *Kfar HaHoresh Field School in Prehistoric Archaeology*, Neolithic, Israel. PI: N. Goring-Morris.  
1999 *Revadim*, Lower Paleolithic, Israel. *Excavation*. PI: I. Saragusti.

## EDITORIAL AND REVIEW RESPONSIBILITIES

### EDITORIAL BOARD

- 2014– *Ethnoarchaeology: Journal of Archaeological, Ethnographic, and Experimental Studies*

### REFEREE FOR PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- 2015 Outstanding Reviewer for *Quaternary International* (March 2015)

*PNAS* • *Current Anthropology* • *Journal of Human Evolution* • *PLoS One* • *Antiquity* • *Journal of Archaeological Science* • *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* • *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* • *Advances in Complex Systems* • *Paleoanthropology* • *Quartär* • *Quaternary International*

### REFEREE FOR GRANTING AGENCIES

*National Science Foundation* (NSF), USA (4 proposals)  
*German Research Foundation* (DFG) (1)  
*Israel Science Foundation* (2)  
*National Geographic Society* (2)  
*Leakey Foundation* (1)  
*Research Foundation Flanders* (FWO), Belgium (1)

## SERVICE

### NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

- 2017– Center for the Study of Human Origins Colloquium Committee  
2017– Graduate Admissions Committee  
2017– Committee for Junior Faculty Mentorship  
2017 Borgman Prize Honors thesis nomination committee  
2016-2017 Undergraduate Studies Committee

### RÖMISCH-GERMANISCHES ZENTRALMUSEUM

- 2014-2016 Scientific Librarian, Monrepos  
2013-2014 Member, Process Optimization Group for Research Laboratories of the RGZM

## MEDIA COVERAGE

### ROBOCUT PROJECT

Tracing human evolution with robots. *ETH News*, Switzerland  
Archaeology robots will explore where no human can. *Vice Motherboard*, UK  
Robot Arm Brings Humanity Back to the Stone Age. *IEEE Spectrum Automaton*

### NEANDERTAL PROJECTILE TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Spitze Verteidigung *Deutschland Funk* (German National Radio)

### LOWER DANUBE SURVEY PROJECT

Zeugen der Super-Eruption. *Leipziger Volkszeitung* (German national newspaper)  
Kampanischer Ignimbrit *Wikipedia.de*  
Steinzeitliche Eruption verwüstete Südosteuropa. *Scinexx.de*  
Cea mai veche urma a civilizatiei antice pe teritoriul României. *Ziua* (Romanian daily newspaper)

### KAZAKH PROJECT

Bliz Almaty arkhologii izuchayut stoyanku kamennogo veka. *Kazakh National Television*

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

- 2015 LECTURE SERIES: *Archaeometry and Forensic Science – equal techniques on different time scales*. “Surfaces - not superficially examined: understanding traces of human activity and how robotics can come to the rescue” (in German). Mainz, 26 June 2015
- 2012 SPARKASSE LECTURE SERIES “On a journey with the Stone Age Weapons Inspector” (in German). Neuwied, 22 May 2012 [[LINK](#)]

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2012– *Association of Archaeological Wear and Residue Analysis*  
2011– *European Society for the Study of Human Evolution*  
2005– *Paleoanthropology Society*  
2004– *Society for American Archaeology*  
2007– *Kolb Society*

## LANGUAGES

*German* (proficient)  
*French* (proficient)  
*Russian* (conversational)  
*Italian* (one year formal study)  
*Arabic* (one year formal study)  
*Romanian* (native)