

Todd Fenton

Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Forensic Anthropology Laboratory at Michigan State University

East Lansing, MI, US

An expert in forensic anthropology.

Biography

Dr. Todd Fenton is a board-certified forensic anthropologist. His research interests focus on the analysis of skeletal trauma as well as techniques in human identification. He is the Director of the MSU Forensic Anthropology Laboratory, a laboratory that provides forensic services to medical examiner offices and law enforcement agencies across the state of Michigan. Over the past decade (2008-present), he has consulted on over 500 forensic anthropology cases, including positive identification of unidentified human remains, human skeletal analysis, trauma analysis, human vs. nonhuman bone, and field search and recovery cases. He recently completed his third National Institute of Justice funded research project titled "Building a Science of Cranial Fracture" with co-PIs Roger Haut and Feng Wei. His NIJ grants have focused on understanding the biomechanics of cranial fracture, including fracture initiation, propagation and patterning. Additionally, the effects of energy level, interface compliance, impactor shape, and head drops versus entrapped impacts have been investigated. Dr. Fenton is also research-active in bioarchaeology, and has ongoing, long-term collaborative projects in Italy. His current research at the Roman site of Roselle investigates the health of the human skeletons and the possible presence of malaria. This project is a collaboration with Dr. Mariagrazia Celuzza, Direttore del Museo Archeologico e d'Arte della Maremma, Grosseto, Italy; and Dr. Elsa Pacciani and Dr. Alessandro Riga, Laboratorio di Archeoantropologia - SABAP-FI Scandicci, Italy. His newest project is the Impero Archaeological Project based in Paganico, Italy (Tuscany) directed by Dr. Alessandro Sebastiani of the University at Buffalo, Department of Classics. For this Roman and medieval archaeological research initiative and field school, Dr. Fenton direct the human osteology component.

Industry Expertise

Education/Learning, Research, Writing and Editing

Areas of Expertise

skeletal trauma, unidentified human remains, Forensic Anthropology, human identification

Affiliations

American Academy of Forensic Sciences

Education

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona,
Ph.D. Anthropology

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona,
M.A Anthropology

Accomplishments

The Kerley Award

Presented by the Kerley Foundation at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Denver, CO.

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