Research supervision:
I am happy to supervise PhD thesis on a wide range of topics, including archaeological theory, material culture, the Near Eastern Neolithic, Historic Archaeology of Ireland, the economics of food storage, mortuary practices and the archaeology and ethnography of small-scale villages. As part of a group of University of Notre Dame faculty with similar interests, I help foster an intellectual community of graduate and undergraduate students with similar research interests. Over the years at the University of Notre Dame this has included post-doctoral researchers Drs. E. Guerrero Vila (2007-09), J. Salazar (2013-14,) M. McLeester (2018-19), and R. Lash (2019-20), past University of Notre Dame Ph.D. students N. Ames, D. Enverova, S. Field, H. Erftenbeck, S. Morrow, and current students A. Fiorani, D. Grogan, M. Nisheda, and S. Park. Past members of this research group also include University of Notre Dame Undergraduates who have subsequently gone on to undertake their Ph.D. at other Universities, including R. Lash (Northwestern Univ., 2019), M. Conway (Univ. of Southern Carolina, 2019), C. Quinn (Univ. of Michigan, 2016), S. Bergin (University of Arizona, 2018).

The emerging village and household
I am interested in advancing research and helping students learn more about the social geography of space and landscape, both from a conceptual standpoint, the organization of the household, neighborhood and village, and how to root these comparative perspectives in case studies. This potentially includes work on the Near Eastern Neolithic, small-scale village demography, social and economic networks within historic Irish villages, and ethnoarchaeology. Geographically this has included work in Jordan, Turkey, Canada, Ireland, and most recently, the Republic of Georgia.

Mortuary practices and death
On a general level, I am interested in advancing conversations about the linkages between death, community and identity. This potentially includes studies of how people in the past and present organize mortuary practices, how these actions reflect on the historical biography and life-history of individuals, and how these potentially illustrate and highlight kin relations. I am particularly interested in topics related to burial ritual and skeletal studies and taphonomy.

Prehistoric economies, food storage, and technology
I am also interested in advancing research and conversations focused on prehistoric economies, food storage, and technology. This potentially includes experimental studies related to food storage, the seasonal organization of storage to overcome seasonal and annual shortages, modeling how these practices fits within a yearly round, and reflecting on the evolutionary implications of daily storage practices. I am also interested in work that advances our understanding of how changes in lithic technology, and more specifically energetics, brought about shifts in food processing, hunting, and gathering.

Documentary film making and the human condition
Finally, over the last 10 years I have been co-developing a series of research film projects that provide perspectives on the local and global 19th to 20th century movement of people from rural to urban settings. This has involved developing short documentary films geographically focused on rural Indiana farmsteads, abandonment of rural areas of Europe, life in rural republic of Georgia, and most recently the destruction of cultural heritage in Ukraine. This includes the co-developed (2024) 8 min film *Targeting Beauty* . Documenting the destruction of Oster, Chernihiv region, Ukraine. https://youtu.be/wl_22GzjUHM. I am very interested in talking to potential students with similar interests.
I am interested in learning more about your question-oriented research ideas, how these might be actualized as Ph.D. research projects, and how these help us understand the human world today and in the past.