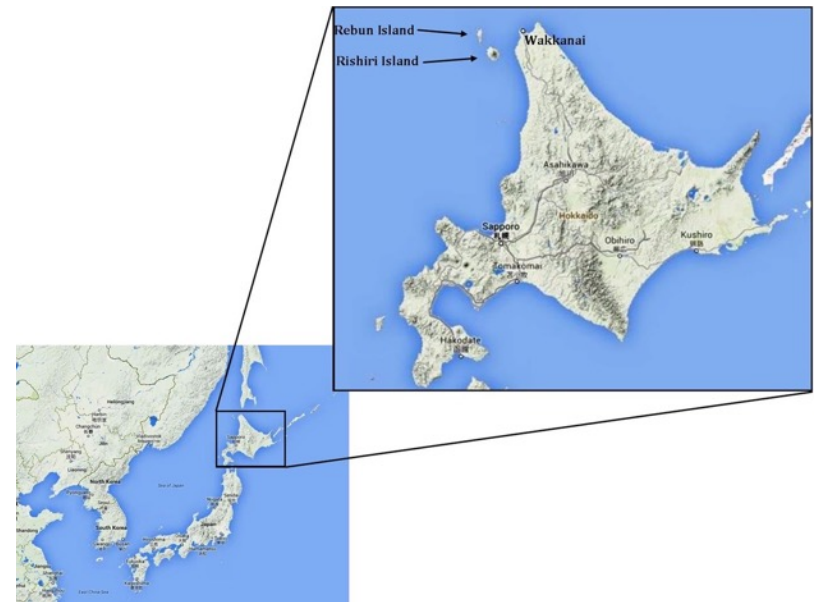


Rebun Island 2015

Between July 24th and August 31st the department of Anthropology at the University of Alberta hosted a field school in Archaeological methods on Rebun Island, Hokkaido, Japan. Eleven students from around the world participated with Dr. Andrzej Weber at the helm of the field school.

The students were taught both excavation and laboratory methods. The site, Hamanaka-II, has been continuously occupied from ~3,000 B.C. to Present. The site has a diverse range of archaeological material (e.g. shell, animal bones, human burials, ritual deposits, pottery, stone tools, metal objects, hearths, etc.).

Top Right: Location of Rebun Island
Bottom Right: View of Rishiri from field lab



Excavation

Students experienced all aspects of fieldwork from digging, to drawing a stratigraphic profile, to the recording of data using a total station.

Top Right: Obsidian finds at HA2 had to be imported from the mainland



Dr. Weber overseeing the excavation



Student Rong Fan (Yale University) working the total station



Top Left: Student Emily van Alst (Yale University) enjoying the time on site

Bottom Left: TAs Victoria van der Haas and Ruth Urlacher instructing students on how to draw a stratigraphic profile

Bottom Right: Bone bed of Sea Lion skulls





Students collaborated with the Japanese side of the excavation team as well as visiting graduate students from Russia.

Top Left: Yu Hirasawa (Keio University)

Bottom Left: Student Chelsea Carle (UNBC) asking Tomonari Takahashi (Keio University) a question

Bottom Right: Graduate student Vladimir Shibaev





Top Left: View of Funadomari Bay from the Kaikan (community centre) where students would have lunch

Top Right: Student Patrick Rim (Oregon State University) enjoying the view during lunch

Bottom: A local women laying out her Kombu (kelp) to dry

Lab Work

Students sorted, cleaned, labeled and photographed the artifacts from the field. As well, students worked the 'floatation' machine to recover organic remains from samples.



Staff member Tyler Cantwell overseeing the photography station



TA Victoria van der Haas with staff and students outside the lab

Cultural Days

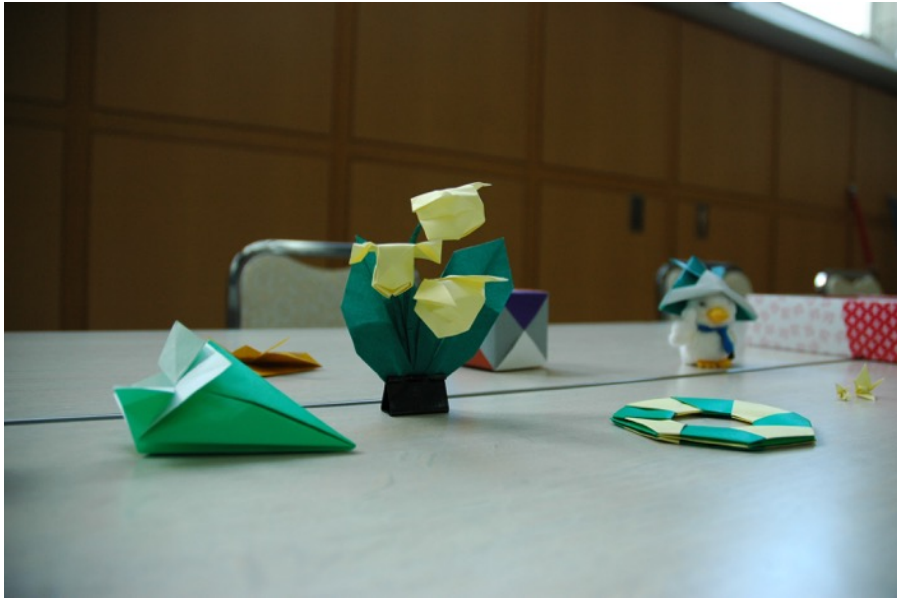
BHAP organized a day of cultural interaction for the students of the 2015 field school. This involved Taiko drumming, origami, kendama, and other activities. All of these activities were instructed by locals.



Taiko song and lesson



Students trying out Taiko drumming



Students trying Origami

Students trying Kedama

Students were each given a half of a heart pendant and a local elementary student had the other half and they had to find each other. Once they did, they worked together on a scavenger hunt to solve a puzzle.

Top Right: A student tries to match his pendant with TA Victoria's

Bottom Left: Student Helen (McGill University) finds her match

Bottom Right: Student Helen (McGill University) works with her partner to solve the puzzle



The cultural interaction day ended with a “noodle slide” where noodles (Soba) rode a stream of water down a split piece of bamboo and students had to grab them with chop sticks (hashi).



Exploring Rebun

In the evenings and days off, students were free to explore the island of Rebun. Sometimes these trips were organized by the staff.

Top Right: Students at Cape Sukoton, the most northern cape in Japan

Bottom Right: Student Chelsea Carle (UNBC) atop a rock at Cape Sukoton

Bottom Left: TA Victoria van der Haas at the a festival in Funadomari Bay





Sunset on Rebun Island, Hokkaido, Japan