

CURRICULUM VITAE

Ellen H. Belcher, PhD

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CURRENT POSITION:

Assistant Professor & Special Collections & Reference Librarian (2004-present), tenured 2009

Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

As Special Collections Librarian, I develop, manage and provide access to our collections of [rare books](#), [manuscript collections](#) and [College Archives](#). I am also manage and catalog our [Digital Collections](#) and digitized books on the Internet Archive. As Reference Librarian, I provide reference assistance to the John Jay community and outside researchers and liaison to [accessibility challenged students](#), [Gender Studies](#), [Anthropology](#) and [Art](#) and Music depts. I also write and update several [web-based research guides](#) on topics relating to John Jay curriculum and our [Special Collections](#).

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

PhD 2014 – Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology. Dissertation title: [*Embodiment of the Halaf: Sixth Millennium Figurines from Northern Mesopotamia*](#)

MPhil 1998 – Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology, Carolingian Manuscripts, Theory of Style

MA 1996 – Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology Thesis title: *The Red Sea Route: Interconnections between 4th Millennium Mesopotamia & Egypt*

Columbia University, School of Library Service

Adv. Cert. 1992 – Preservation of Library and Archival Materials

MS-LS 1990 – Rare Books, Archives and Special Collections

Drew University, College of Liberal Arts

B.A. 1984 – Art History

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2003 Adjunct Lecturer, Near Eastern Languages & Civilization Dept., University of Washington

Taught: *NE-220: Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*

2002 Consulting Archivist, Tukwila Historical Society, Tukwila, WA

2001 Consulting Archivist, Burke Museum of Natural History, University of Washington

2000-01 Special Projects Librarian, Technical Services, University Libraries, University of Washington

1995-00 Adjunct Special Collections & Preservation Librarian, Long Island University, Brooklyn Center Library

1994-01 Research Fellow, Babylonian Collection, Yale University

1994-95 Mellon Preservation Administration Intern, Yale University Libraries

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles (refereed)

Belcher, E. (2016). "Identifying Female in the Halaf: Prehistoric Agency and Modern Interpretations." *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*. doi: [10.1007/s10816-016-9291-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10816-016-9291-1)

Belcher, E. and Sexton, E. (2008) "Digitizing Criminals: Web Delivery of a Century on the Cheap." *OCLC Systems & Services: International Digital Library Perspectives*. 24/2: 116-132. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/10650750810875467>

Book Chapters (refereed)

Croucher, K and E. Belcher. (2017) "Prehistoric Figurines in Anatolia (Turkey)." Chapter 20 in, T. Insoll, Ed. *Oxford Handbook of Prehistoric Figurines*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 443-467.

Belcher, E and K. Croucher. (2016) "Exchanges of Identity in Prehistoric Anatolian Figurines." In, R. A. Stucky, O. Kaelin & H. P. Mathys (Eds.) Proceedings of the 9th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (9th ICAANE). Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, Vol. I, pp. 43-56. http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/57/

Belcher, E. (2011) "Halaf Bead, Pendant and Seal 'Workshops' at Domuztepe: Technological and Reductive Strategies." In, E. Healey, S. Campbell and O. Maeda, Eds. *The State of the Stone: Terminologies, Continuities and Contexts in Near Eastern Lithics*. Studies in Early Near Eastern Production, Subsistence and Environment (Berlin: ex-Oriente.) 13: 135-143. http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/72/

Journal Articles (not refereed)

Belcher, E. (2008) "Crime in the Library! The Special Collections of Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY: A Repository Profile." *Metropolitan Archivist* 13/2: 25-28. http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/121

Belcher, E. (2007) "Fifth Millennium Anthropomorphic Figurines in Southeastern and Central Anatolia: Comparative Museum Research," *Arastirma Sonuçları Toplantısı* 25/3: 233-246. http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/71/

Encyclopedia Articles

Belcher, E. (2009) "[100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care](#)," "[National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives \(NOBEL\)](#)." In, H. T. Greene and S. Gabbidon (eds) *Encyclopedia of Race and Crime*. Sage Publications.

Belcher, E. (2004) "[Duty Belts, Gun Belts](#)." In, L. Sullivan and M. Rosen, (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Law Enforcement*. Vol. I, 160.

Other publications:

Belcher, E. (2005-present) Articles on various topics in [*Classified Information: The Lloyd Sealy Library Newsletter*](#). Comes out once a semester, I have contributed at least one article to every issue.

Kasten, U. & Belcher, E. (Eds.) (1998) *Highlights from the Yale Babylonian Collection: Beinecke Library, Yale University July-September 1998*. New Haven: Yale Babylonian Collection. (Catalogue of exhibit in conjunction with the 45th *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale*.)

DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS

Data publications

Belcher, E. (2016 - present) "Halaf Figurines Project: A Catalog of Figurines Excavated from Sixth Millennium Northern Mesopotamian Sites in Syria and Turkey". Released: 2016-08-18. Open Context. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6078/M7736NTG>

Belcher, (2015 – present) [*Lost Ornaments Survey of NYC*](#). From a restriction in movement, a string is broken, a fastening is pulled and an ornament is lost. This is a walking and biking archaeological survey of the context of tiny lost ornaments in the big city.

Library digitization projects

Belcher, E. (2016) [*Digitizing Policing: Opening Access to Law Enforcement Resources*](#). This ongoing project, in part grant funded, offers digital access to library resources on law enforcement resources.

Belcher, E. (2016) [*Law Enforcement News Digital Library*](#): Released in 2016, this webpage provides digital access to all issues of *Law Enforcement News*, published by John Jay College, 1975 – 2005 and now available digitally on the Internet Archive.

Lloyd Sealy Library Digital Collections: Released in 2014, I am content manager and the principal metadata cataloger for thousands of digital assets made available here, digitized from our Special Collections. <http://dc.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/>

Belcher, E. and Sexton, E. (2007) *Crime in New York 1850-1950 Digital Library*. Released in 2007, this grant-funded scholarly resource was the Library's first digital project, which provided unrestricted access to primary archival resources from two collections held in Lloyd Sealy Library's Special Collections. www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/crimeinny

Selected Library Research Guides (LibGuides):

2013-present [continually updated] *Guide to Resources on NY Prisons and Jails*
<http://guides.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/NYPrisons> - guide received 12,156 views in 2016.

2012-present [continually updated] *Guide to NYPD Historical and Current Research*
<http://guides.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/nypd> -This guide received 22,429 views in 2016

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

Belcher, E. “Being Halaf in Western Mesopotamia: Figurines from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey) and Tell Kurdu (Hatay, Turkey).” [Research article to be submitted for publication in 2017]

Belcher, E. “Shades of grey to brown and crumbling: Practical, sustainable and critical digitization methodologies for small academic libraries.” [Research article to be submitted for publication in 2017]

Belcher, E. “Documenting the first century of policing New York City (1844-1949): Publications and Images.” [Research article to be submitted for publication in 2018]

Co-authored publications in preparation

Belcher, E. and K. Croucher “Material Identities: Ornamenting communities in 6th millennium BCE (Halaf) Mesopotamia.” [Research article to be submitted for publication in 2017]

Belcher, E and E. Baysal “Beads Pendants and Ornaments from the earliest levels of Tell Barcin.” Section of co-authored article written by Gerritson et. al. (Tell Barcin team) [Research Article to be submitted for publication in 2017]

Yener, K. A., Campbell, S., Carter, E, **Belcher, E**, Humayun, J. L., Humayun, M. and E. Morey and G. Lerner. “Earliest Known Silver Metal: Two Sixth Millennium BC Beads from Turkey, Ancient Anatolia.” [Research article accepted with major revisions in 2010 to *Archaeometry*]

Belcher, E. and E. Baysal “Beads, Pendants and Ornaments” Chapter in F. Gerritsen and R. Özbal (ed.) *Tell Barcin Final Report*. [Chapter in a Book to be published in 2018]

Belcher, E. “Amuq C Beads, Pendants and Pierced Objects.” and “Amuq C Figurines and Clay Models.” In, R. Özbal, and F. Gerritsen (Eds.). *Tell Kurdu Excavations I: Amuq C Levels*. Oriental Institute Publications. [Book chapter, publication date unknown]

Belcher, E. “Late Halaf Beads, Pendants and Seals.” and “Late Halaf Figurines.” Chapters in, Stuart Campbell and Elizabeth Carter, eds. *Prehistoric Domuztepe I: The Late Halaf levels excavated 1995-2000*. Monumenta Archaeologica: Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA. [Book chapter, publication date unknown]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK PROJECTS

Lost Ornaments of NYC Survey, New York City <http://lostornaments.tumblr.com/> Ongoing contemporary urban archaeology project documenting and analyzing assemblages of found ornaments throughout New York City. Project director 2015-present.

Boncuklü Höyük Excavations, Konya, Turkey <http://boncuklu.org/> Beads and ornaments specialist for this 9-8th millennium site, sponsored by Liverpool University, UK. My participation begins with the summer 2017 season.

Barcın Höyük Excavations, Bursa, Turkey <http://www.nit-istanbul.org/projects/barc-n-hoyuk-excavations> Beads and ornaments specialist for this 7th millennium site, sponsored by Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey and the Netherlands Archaeological Institute (NINO) 2014, 2016 seasons.

Domuztepe Excavations, Kahramanmaraş, Turkey <http://domuztepe.org/> Small finds specialist and archaeologist at this Halaf and early ceramic excavation (6th millennium), sponsored by the British Museum and Manchester University, UK. 1996 - 2011 seasons.

Tell Kurdu Excavations Antakya, Turkey Beads, Pendants and Figurines specialist, contributing to the publication of the now completed Halaf – Ubaid excavations, sponsored by Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey.

CONFERENCE PAPERS, PANELS AND INVITED LECTURES

'Doing Small Finds': Discoverability and Interpretation of the Miniature in Archaeological Discourse. [Theoretical Archaeology Conference of North America, Toronto, Canada](#) (TAG-Toronto) accepted to the ["Scale of Things" Session](#), May 19, 2017.

Discoverability of Small Things: Historiographies of prehistoric Mesopotamian comparanda. [British Association of the Archaeology of the New East \(BANEA\), Glasgow, Scotland](#), UK January 2017.

Identifying Halaf: Embodiment and Adornment in Sixth Millennium Mesopotamia. [Archaeological Institute of America 117th Annual Meeting/AIA 2015](#), (session 6C) San Francisco, California, on January 8, 2015.

Panel discussant. [Police, Public Safety & Computing: Reflections of a Trail Blazer](#), John Jay College 10/19/2016

Unlearning Function in Prehistoric Figurines: New Methodologies and Theoretical Approaches. Paper presented at the [UK Theoretical Archaeology Conference/TAG Bradford](#), Bradford, England, on December 16, 2015.

Breaking the String: Losing Beads in Tight Places. Paper presented at the [North American Theoretical Archaeology Conference/TAG-NYU](#), New York City, on May 23, 2015.

Identifying Female in the Halaf: Prehistoric Agency and Modern Interpretations. Paper presented at the [20th Annual Conference of European Association of Archaeologists/EAA](#) (session T06S020), Istanbul, Turkey, on September 12, 2014.

Exchanges of Identity in Prehistoric Figurines. Paper presented with Karina Croucher at the [9th Annual Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East/ICAANE 9, Basel, Switzerland](#), May 2014.

Identifying Halaf in the Syrian Jazirah. [Paper presented at the British Association for the Near Eastern Archaeology/ BANEA, Reading, UK](#), January 2014.

Re-Considering Intention in the Object Biography of Broken Halaf Figurines. Paper presented at the [Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Chicago \(TAG Chicago\)](#) May 11, 2013.

Sexing the Halaf: Divining Female Agency in late Neolithic Mesopotamia. Paper presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Buffalo, NY (TAG Buffalo) on May 19, 2012.

Imagining the body as a sum of its parts: Prehistoric body-parts & modern meanings. Paper presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference Berkeley, CA (TAG-Berkeley) on May 7, 2011

Consuming Halaf Body Imagery: Constructed Commodifications of Halaf Figurines. Paper presented at the 7th International Congress on Archaeology of the Ancient Near East/ICAANE 7 on April, 2010.

Parts of the Whole: Disembodied Imagery in the Halaf. Paper presented at Interpreting the Late Neolithic of Upper Mesopotamia, Leiden University, Netherlands on March 27, 2009.

Speaker and Panelist *Feminist Archaeologist Panel*. [[recording on SoundCloud](#)] In conjunction with *The Fertile Goddess* exhibit at The Elizabeth A. Sackler Galleries for Feminist Art. Brooklyn Museum. March 14, 2009.

Is There a Halaf Bead Typology and Technology? Examples from the British Museum Collections. Paper presented at Near Eastern Bead Technology Workshop. British Museum, London, England January 12, 2009.

Diminutive Embodiment: Considering Figurines as Halaf Bodies. Paper presented at the 1st annual North American Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, New York City (TAG-NYC) on May 25, 2008.

High versus Low: Visual Expression and Craft Production in the Definition of Social Relations and Status. Paper co-presented with Dr. Karina Croucher at The 6th International Conference on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE), Rome, Italy, on May 6, 2008.

Death and Life in Anatolia: the Prehistoric Settlement of Domuztepe. Lecture presented to the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) Montclair University, NJ on March 25, 2008.

The Halaf Beads and Pendants from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey): Technological and Reductive Strategies. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference on the Neolithic Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Fertile Crescent, Manchester, UK, March 4, 2008.

Interpreting Halaf Figurines: Empirical Proposals. Paper presented at British Association of Near Eastern Archaeologists (BANEA), Liverpool, UK, March 1, 2008.

Embodying the Halaf: Prehistoric figurines from Northern Mesopotamia. Lecture presented to the Columbia University Center for Archaeology, New York City on February 21, 2008.

The Beads, Pendants and Figurines from Domuztepe and Perspectives on Craft Production. Papers presented at Domuztepe and its Environs, Cotsen Institute for Archaeology, U.C.L.A, Los Angeles, CA, September, 2007.

Fifth Millennium Figurines from Central and South-Eastern Anatolia: Museum Research. Paper presented at The 29th International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry in Turkey, Kocaeli, Turkey, June, 2007.

Socializing with Late Neolithic Figurines from Northern Mesopotamia: [Re]Constructing Contexts and Typologies. Paper presented at Social Life in the Past: Objects, Identity and Politics, Columbia University Center for Archaeology Conference, February, 2002.

Standing through the Millennia: Figurines from 6th to 5th Millennium Mesopotamia. Paper presented at The Fifth Millennium in the Near East Conference, Liverpool, U.K., November, 2001.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP SESSIONS/PANELS ORGANIZED

Session co-coordinator (with Philipp Rassmann): [*Breaking and Broken: Envisioning Intention and Purpose from Fragments.*](#) Theoretical Archaeology Group, Chicago Conference (May 9-11, 2013)

Session co-coordinator (with Karina Croucher): [*Present, Past and Future: Modern and Archaeological Bodies in Interpretation*](#) Theoretical Archaeology Group Berkeley Conference (May 6-8, 2011)

Session co-coordinator (with Karina Croucher): *Embodiment, Material Culture and Identity in Prehistory.* Theoretical Archaeology NYC Group Conference, (May 23-35, 2008)

Workshop co-coordinator: *Digital Projects within CUNY Libraries*, Special Collections and Archives Roundtable Workshop of LACUNY/Library Association of CUNY. November, 2006

EXHIBITS CURATED

2017 exhibit of Lloyd Sealy Papers in coordination with [*Lloyd George Sealy Panel Discussion*](#) 2/27/2017.

2016 exhibit of the Papers of Scott Hovey in coordination with [*Police, Public Safety & Computing: Reflections of a Trail Blazer.*](#) John Jay College 10/19/2016

2016 exhibit of Records of the Fortune Society in coordination with [*Celebrating 50 Years and the Gift of the Fortune Society Papers panel discussion*](#) 4/11/2016

2012- present, Library Exhibits Coordinator, Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College.

2005-present, *New Acquisitions and Featured Collections from the Library and Special Collections.* Ongoing rotating exhibitions, Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College,

2008-9 Consultant-curator for [*The Fertile Goddess.*](#) On exhibit December 19, 2008-May 31, 2009, The Herstory Gallery, Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, Brooklyn Museum.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Elected John Jay College Union Delegate, [*Professional Staff Congress-CUNY*](#), 2017-2019

Elected at-Large Member 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018 John Jay College Faculty Senate and College Council

Elected Co-Chair, 2005-2007; 2015-2017, LA-CUNY Archives and Special Collections Roundtable

Chair, Library Space Committee 2014-2016.

Chair, Middle States Review, Evidence Room Committee 2012-2013

Elected at-large Member 2007-2009, John Jay College Elections Committee

Elected departmental representative 2005-2008, John Jay College Undergraduate Standards Committee

Fundraising Coordinator 2005 *Open Access: Payers and Players*, LA-CUNY Institute Planning Committee

GRANTS & AWARDS RECEIVED

Institutional grants benefitting Lloyd Sealy Library

2015-2016 *Digitizing Policing: Opening Access to Law Enforcement Resources*. \$5,000 [METRO Digital Conversion Grant, 2015/2016](#)

2011-2013 *Digitization of NY State Related Criminal Justice Books by Archive.org* \$3,000
Awarded from Metropolitan New York Library Council

2006 *Crime in New York 1850-1950 Digital Library*. \$8,750 Awarded, [“Digital Metro NY” grant from the Metropolitan NY Library Council](#)

Individual Research grants

2016-2017 *The Role of Ornaments in the Neolithization of Anatolia*. \$3,500 Awarded, PSC-CUNY Research Award TRADA-48-231, #60161-00 48

2016-2017 *Halaf Figurines Data Publication*. \$1,000 awarded, Open Access Grant, John Jay College Office for the Advancement of Research

2015-2016 *Ornaments and Adornment in Prehistoric Anatolia: A Comparative Analysis*. \$3,500 Awarded, [PSC CUNY Research Award TRADA-46-652](#)

2013-2014 Fellowship Leave/Sabbatical (Full year of research leave awarded from John Jay College)

2013-2014 *Identifying Embodiment and Adornment in Sixth Millennium Anatolia*. \$3,500 Awarded [PSC CUNY Research Award TRADA-44-225](#)

2010-2011 *Analysis, Conservation and Publication of Halaf Ornaments and Figurines from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey) & Tell Kurdu (Antakya, Turkey)* \$4,440 Awarded [PSC CUNY Research Award PSCREG-41-814](#)

2009-2010 *Excavation and Analysis of Halaf Ornaments and Figurines from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey)*. \$2,150 Awarded, [PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-40-398](#).

2008-2009 *Materials Analysis of Archaeological Samples from Domuztepe*. \$1,000 Awarded, John Jay College Faculty Research Assistance Program

2008-2009 *Trafficking by Subscription & Screenings: A Bibliographic and Cinematic History of the U.S. White Slavery Scare*. \$3,375 Awarded, [PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-39-380](#)

2006/7 *Comparative Study of Late Neolithic Figurines from Central Anatolia*. \$2,000 Awarded, [PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-37-118](#) [renewal]

2005/6 *Comparative Study of Late Neolithic Figurines from Southwestern Anatolia*. \$3,990 Awarded, [PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-36-773](#)

MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer-reviewer, [*Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*](#) (Elsevier)

Appointed Co-Chair, Digital Libraries Special Interest Group 2008-2010

Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO)

Appointed Professional Planning Group Strategic Task Force Member 2008-2010

Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO)

Appointed Annual Awards Committee Member 2004-2008

Archivists Roundtable of Metropolitan New York

Professional Member, BANEA – British Association of Near Eastern Archaeology

Professional Member, PA-NYC - Professional Archaeologists of New York City.

Professional Member, AIA – Archaeological Institute of America www.archaeological.org/

Professional Member, British Institute of Archaeology in Ankara www.biaa.ac.uk

Professional Member, Society of Bead Researchers <http://sbrwebsite.home.comcast.net/>

Professional Member, Archivist's Roundtable of Metropolitan NY www.nycarchivists.org/

Professional Member, Librarians Association of CUNY (LA-CUNY) <http://lacuny.cuny.edu/>

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Founding Member & web content manager, NYC Street Memorial Project 2006-present
www.ghostbikes.org

Board Member, NYC Community Gardens Coalition (NYCCGC) 2009-2010, 2017-2019.
www.NYCCGC.org

Master composter & web content manager, Morris-Jumel Community Garden
morrisjumelcommunitygarden.wordpress.com/

Volunteer & web content manager, Morris-Jumel Cat Colony
<https://morrisjumelcats.tumblr.com/>