



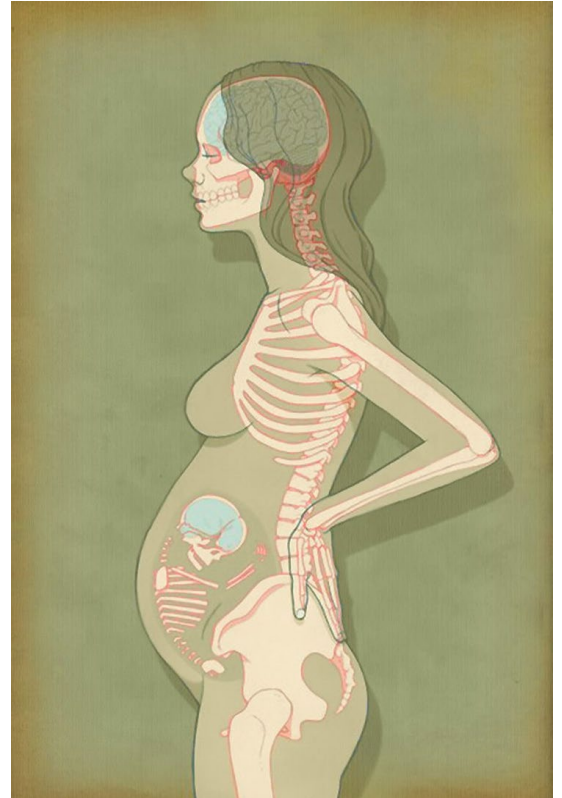
University  
of Victoria

# GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM

## DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

### **Bringing to bear: An analysis of the growth of the human pelvis in living girls with respect to childbirth.**

**Dr. Sarah-Louise Decrausaz**  
Adjunct Assistant Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Victoria



Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 2022  
11:30 am – 12:50 pm  
Online – via Zoom

Zoom meeting link and details on the website

[www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/anthropology/research/colloquium/index.php](http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/anthropology/research/colloquium/index.php)

The human bony pelvis is a complex structure, shaped both by locomotion and reproduction. Evolutionary analyses of the pelvis with respect to childbirth have focused on the intersecting demands of efficient bipedality and delivering large-headed babies through a comparatively narrow birth canal. Examining the pelvis with respect to childbirth in past populations is complicated by the poor preservation of this part of the skeleton, and the additional challenges of understanding the roles and functions of both hard tissue (bone) and soft tissue (muscle and tendon) in the pelvis. In this presentation, I outline the results of my doctoral work, which examined the growth of the pelvis in healthy living girls as a means of understanding influences on pelvic growth that may impact childbirth in adulthood. Using medical imaging to collect pelvic measurement data from living girls, my work demonstrates variation in growth patterns of the pelvis, associations between hard and soft tissue in during growth in girls and the value of collaborating with public health and biomedical researchers in evolutionary investigations of the human body.

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

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