

The goal of this project is the creation of an immersive, interactive VR archaeological site that will allow any student to travel to an excavation and participate in archaeological field work. In a virtual excavation site, students will learn how to find and recognize fossils (both human and animal), stone tools and other human artifacts; how to recover these objects; and how to reconstruct and interpret each discovery. The prototype will be based on Dr. Shackelford's research site in northern Laos, Tam Pa Ling (pictured below), which is the site of the oldest fossil humans outside of Africa. Panoramic videos of the site in Laos will be used to create the atmosphere of an international working team and the cave surroundings.

Hua Pan Province – region of Laos where we work.



Pa Hang Mountain. Tam Pa Ling is located at the top of the mountain.





Tam Pa Ling cave, main gallery. Excavation site on the right.



Tam Pa Ling cave.



Excavations at Tam Pa Ling











