

### Lecture Series

The 2017 Spring term was a busy one of the Climate Change and History Research Initiative. In February, Professor Dagomar Degroot (Georgetown University) presented some of his recent research, titled 'Climate Change and Conflict: Perspectives from the Little Ice Age', pointing to the effects of changing climate on early modern European conflict. In March, Professor Nükhet Varlık (Rutgers University) gave a lecture on 'Climate, Biodiversity, and Epidemics: The Ottoman Plague Experience', convincingly arguing that plague remained endemic in the medieval and early modern hinterland of Asia Minor. Richard Hoffman (York University) spoke about 'Climatic Variability and the Fisheries of Medieval and Early Modern Europe', offering a fresh take on how changing climate affected the fisheries of northwestern Europe, resulting in a cascade of cultural and economic changes.



### The Spring 2017 Colloquium



On 5-6 May the CCHRI convened its third annual multidisciplinary colloquium on climate change, social resilience and vulnerability, contrasting complex societies in the Mediterranean and pre-Columbian Latin America. Participants came from the disciplines of history, archaeology, and paleoclimate, and included John Bintliff, Vera Candiani, Arlen Chase, Nicola di Cosmo, Warren Eastwood, Martín Medina Elizalde, Dominik Fleitmann, Benjamin Graham, John Haldon, Adam Izdebski, Jürg Luterbacher, Joe Manning, Sturt Manning, Lee Mordechai, Jason Nesbitt, Tim Newfield, Johannes Preiser-Kapeller, Arlene Rosen, Billie Lee Turner, and Elena Xoplaki. We are currently exploring ways to make the results of the research and discussion available to the wider scholarly community. It was great to get together again, and we're all looking forward to the next meeting in a year!

### Looking Ahead, the Fall 2017 Workshop



On 7-9 September, we will hold our third annual palaeoclimate workshop for premodernists. This year we are excited to expose participants to three topics. Two days will be dedicated to an introduction to the sciences of glaciology (ice cores) and speleothemology (stalagmites and stalactites) and how to use their data to reconstruct past climate on both local/regional and global scale. A third day will focus on resilience theory and its application to the study of past complex societies. Joe R. McConnell (Desert Research Institute), Dominik Fleitmann (University of Reading) and Marty Anderies (Arizona State University) will lead the workshop. The application deadline is 10 June 2017 and the workshop is free. More details are available on the CCHRI's website ([cchri.princeton.edu](http://cchri.princeton.edu)).



### Looking Ahead, 2017/8

We are looking forward to the third year of the CCHRI's activities, complete with another workshop, an annual lecture series, and a larger-than-usual colloquium to conclude the current phase of the CCHRI. We are proud to announce that we are merging with a similar project at the Institute of Advanced Studies led by Nicola di Cosmo. Finally, we expect more of our research to be published over this year, including the special issue of the *Journal of Human Ecology*.

### The Project

The CCHRI aims to integrate the research of scholars in all relevant social and natural scientific disciplines in order to evaluate and interpret the evidence for societal resilience to environmental stress and change. The focus is premodern and Eastern Mediterranean but we have provided comparative case studies on Central Eurasia and pre-Columbian Americas. The project has already contributed to several publications by its members, while a special issue of *Human Ecology* is currently in the making. The CCHRI has been funded generously by the Princeton Institute for Interregional and Regional Studies, with additional support from the Center for Collaborative History, the Princeton Environmental Institute, the Program in the Ancient World, The M. Munir Ertegun Foundation for Turkish Studies at Princeton, the Council for the Humanities, and the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, with the support of the Stanley J. Seeger Hellenic Fund. For more, visit [cchri.princeton.edu](http://cchri.princeton.edu).

### Looking Forward to 2017/8!

**Nicola di Cosmo, John Haldon, Lee Mordechai and Tim Newfield**