



Archaeological Sciences Centre Lecture Series Presents

Climate Change, Health, and the Biocultural Experience of Resilience in the Indus Age of South Asia

Talk by: Dr. Gwen Robbins Schug



Dr. Gwen Robbins Schug is a Professor of Anthropology at Appalachian State University. She has been conducting research in South Asia since 1999 and has been fortunate to work on skeletal collections spanning much of the Holocene (from 8500 to 700 BCE). She recently edited "A Companion to South Asia in the Past" (Wiley-Blackwell, 2016) and is the author of "Bioarchaeology and Climate Change: A view from South Asia" (University Press of Florida, 2011). Dr. Robbins Schug is an Associate Editor of the journal, *Bioarchaeology International* and has published 18 journal articles and book chapters in *PLoS One*, *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, *International Journal of Paleopathology*, *American Antiquity*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, among others.



As members of the global public become increasingly concerned about climate change, popular presses promote "scientific" narratives about the success or failure of past societies (e.g. Diamond, 2011), human security literature perpetuates a narrative that violence is a "natural" outcome of increased competition in such circumstances (e.g. Barnett, 2007), and generally, we hear very little about the topic of human-environmental interactions from those who know it best, anthropologists. In this talk, Dr. Robbins Schug will explore some of the approaches bioarchaeologists use to research this topic and she will demonstrate the complex dynamics that shaped the human experience of climate, social, and economic changes in the first and second millennium BCE in South Asia. This talk will also provide a critical exploration of the experience of resilience and the process of culture change as it articulates with climate and economic changes in the past.

Date & Time: September 15th 2017, 5 to 6 PM

Venue: AB 6/202

Refreshment at 4.45 PM