MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT HALLE-WITTENBERG





Launch of the

International Max Planck Research School for the Anthropology, Archaeology and History of Eurasia (IMPRS ANARCHIE)

Distinguished Lecture | 15 October 2012 | 6:00 p.m.

Patterns of Long-Term Change in the European Neolithic

Stephen Shennan (Institute of Archaeology, University College London)

The talk will show that although the appearance of farming led to increased populations in Europe these were not sustained. Regional populations underwent a pattern of 'boom and bust'. These fluctuations had a major impact on social, economic and cultural patterns, including the building of monumental tombs and enclosures, the exploitation of flint resources and the spatial and temporal patterns recognised by traditional culture history. It will be suggested that describing and explaining 'big pictures' is an appropriate goal for a unified archaeological and anthropological approach to European prehistory and that the integrative theoretical perspective of 'cultural evolution' as developed over the last 30 years by Boyd and Richerson and many others offers a productive framework for achieving it.

Launch of the IMPRS ANARCHIE | 15 October 2012 | 6:00 p.m. | Main Seminar Room

Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology | Advokatenweg 36 | 06114 Halle | www.eth.mpg.de

Refreshments will be served following the lecture. All are welcome.