

TIME TRAVELLERS XVI LECTURE SERIES

The *Time Travellers Lecture Series* connects visitors with ancient stories from Alberta and exotic locations abroad that have shaped our modern world. Many lectures sell out, so get your *Time Travellers XVI* tickets early to avoid disappointment.

A MAN BY MANY NAMES: DAVIDSON BLACK AND THE DISCOVERY OF PEKING MAN

DR JULIE L. CORMACK | OCTOBER 8 2009

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY, MOUNT ROYAL COLLEGE, CALGARY

December 7, 1941 - The day that Pearl Harbor was bombed was the same day that the Peking Man fossils were to begin their journey of safekeeping from the Peking Union Medical College in Japanese-occupied China to an American army base for immediate shipment to the United States. The fossils never made it. Canadian scientist Dr Davidson Black, who first described these ancient human remains, had died seven years earlier, unaware of this tragic loss. Dr Julie Cormack will bring to life Dr Black's scientific analysis of *Homo erectus*, our 700,000-year-old human ancestor, and his commitment to human evolutionary studies in early 20th century China during the anxious period of warlordism and Sino-Japanese conflicts.



HUMAN EVOLUTION: PROGRESS, PROBLEMS AND POSSIBILITIES

DR BERNARD WOOD | OCTOBER 15 2009

CENTER FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY OF HOMINID PALEOBIOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, DC

The first fossil record of our forebears was uncovered close to 200 years ago. In the last 50 years, molecular and genomic evidence has confirmed what Charles Darwin suggested, namely that modern humans are part of the Tree of Life. Dr Wood will review the existing fossil and molecular evidence for human evolution, focus on some of the most persistent problems we face when we try to interpret that evidence, and then suggest new avenues for research that might help us solve some of those problems.

PEOPLING THE RED CONTINENT: PLEISTOCENE COLONIZATION OF AUSTRALIA

DR JAMES F. O'CONNELL | OCTOBER 29 2009

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Humans first arrived in Australia, New Guinea and nearby islands of the southwest Pacific about 45,000 years ago. Their journey was part of the movement of anatomically modern humans out of Africa and across Eurasia. The Australian event involved several major water crossings (the earliest evidence of human seafaring) and the occupation of a vast continent, in the span of a few centuries. Subsequent pre-European history of this region shows similarities and differences to that of Africa and Eurasia. As archaeologist Dr Jim O'Connell explains, the better the Australian record is known, the more striking - and intriguing - these contrasts become.

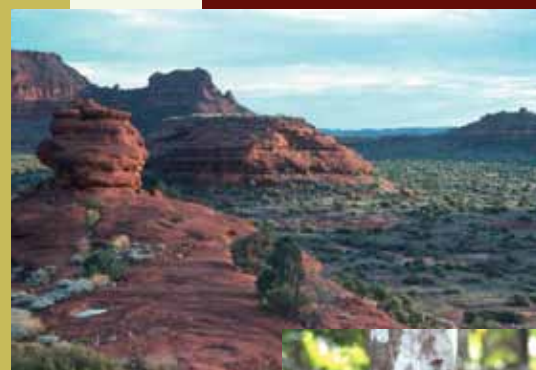


PHOTO CREDIT, TETSURO MATSUZAWA

CHIMPANZEE ARCHAEOLOGY: A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE

DR JULIO MERCADER | NOVEMBER 5 2009

ARCHAEOLOGY DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, ALBERTA

Tool use and social transmission of technological knowledge were once believed to be defining characteristics that set humans apart from other primates. Primate Archaeology, a new multi-disciplinary field, examines the past and present of material culture in Africa. Its findings radically undermine this distinction and raise questions about what it is that defines humanity. Dr Mercader pioneered Chimpanzee Archaeology in west Africa, where he has found that chimpanzees use stone hammers to crack nuts and return to places in the forest where these nuts abound every year. This behaviour has occurred for at least 4,300 years. Has this behaviour been transmitted from chimpanzee generation to generation? Is this evidence of a "Chimpanzee Stone Age"?

SINGLE LECTURE TICKET PRICE: \$8.00 • SERIES PRICE: \$25.00 • MAMMOTH PASS HOLDERS RECEIVE 10% OFF ALL TICKETS. ALL LECTURES BEGIN AT 7:00 PM IN THE MUSEUM THEATRE. TO BOOK, CALL 780.453.9100 AND PRESS "0".