

Broken Bones, Broken Pots - and Solar Cult? - on the Mountaintop

Speaker: Dan Diffendale, IPCAA, PhD Candidate University of Michigan

Host Department: Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

Date: 03/19/2015

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: Room 2009 Ruthven Museums Building

Description:

Archaeological investigations on the peak of Mt. Lykaion in the Greek Peloponnesos between 2004 and 2010 revealed traces of human activity dating to as early as the Final Neolithic period, with evidence—primarily ceramics and a 1.5 m-deep deposit of burned animal bone—suggesting continuous cult practice on the mountaintop from around 1400 to 400 BCE. These remains prompt questions about the nature of prehistoric and later human activity in the Arcadian uplands and the relationship of the cult practiced at the site to its regional and supraregional contemporaries.