



Social Inequality before Farming?

Multidisciplinary approaches to the investigation of egalitarian and non-egalitarian social relationships in prehistoric hunter-gatherer societies

Cambridge, 21-23 January 2018

McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research
Downing Street, CB2 3ER Cambridge, United Kingdom

organised by Luc Moreau

This conference is funded by the **McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research**

This conference is part of the **PALMOBI** Project
<https://www.lucmoreau.org/conference/>



McDonald Institute for
Archaeological Research



Horizon 2020
Programme

Sunday 21st January

- 16.30-17.00 Registration (Entrance lobby of the McDonald Institute)
- 17.00-17.10 *Conference Opening*
Luc Moreau (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)
- 17.10-18.00 *Social Inequality and Hunter-Gatherer Mobility: What's the link?*
(Keynote 1)
Robert L. Kelly (University of Wyoming, USA)
- 18.00-19.30 Wine reception

Monday 22nd January

- 08.00-08.30 Registration
- 08.30-08.40 *Welcome*
Cyprian Broodbank (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)
- 08.40-08.50 *Introduction*
Luc Moreau (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)

Session 1: Inequality in the European Upper Palaeolithic record?

- 08.50-09.40 *Did secret societies create inequalities in the Upper Palaeolithic?*
(Keynote 2)
Brian D. Hayden (Simon Fraser University & University of British Columbia, Canada)
- 09.40-10.05 *Cumulative processes versus adaptations in human prehistory*
Robert H. Layton (University of Durham, UK)
- 10.05-10.30 *Responses of Upper Palaeolithic (UP) humans to spatio-temporal variations in resources: inequality, storage and mobility*
William Davies (University of Southampton, UK)
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee (Entrance lobby of the McDonald Institute)
- 11.00-11.25 *Food, firewood and the accumulation of surplus in the European Upper Palaeolithic*
Alexander Pryor (University of Exeter, UK)
- 11.25-11.50 *Could incipient dogs have enhanced differential access to resources among Upper Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers in Europe?*
Mietje Germonpré (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Belgium)

Session 2: Potentials & limitations of rock art studies to unveil forms of socio-political organisation in prehistoric foragers

- 11.50-12.15 *Same but different: Equality and inequality in group depictions in the rock art of the Eastern Saharan last hunter-gatherers*
Emmanuelle Honoré (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge)
- 12.15-12.40 *Was there an inequality of artists in Palaeolithic Europe?*
Paul B. Pettitt (University of Durham, UK)
- 12.40-13.10 Discussion round
- 13.15-14.15 Lunch (Entrance lobby of the McDonald Institute)

Session 3: Complex hunter-gatherers, resource intensification, and social inequality in the Holocene

- 14.15-15.05 *Reciprocity and asymmetry in social networks: dependency and hierarchy in North Pacific comparative perspective*
(Keynote 3)
Ben Fitzhugh (University of Washington, Seattle, USA)
- 15.05-15.30 *TBC*
Preston Miracle (University of Cambridge, UK)
- 15.30-15.55 *Unequal in death and in life? Linking burial rites with individual life histories*
Rick Schulting (University of Oxford, UK)
- 15.55-16.25 Tea/Coffee
- 16.25-16.50 *Achieving equality: egalitarian strategies and the shape of long-term history*
John Robb (University of Cambridge, UK)
- 16.50-17.15 *The farming - inequality nexus*
Amy Bogaard (University of Oxford, UK)
- 17.15-18.00 Discussion round
- 19.00 **Conference Dinner** (Meeting point: St John's College Bar, St Johns St., Cambridge CB2 1TP)

Tuesday 23rd January

Session 4: Computational modelling approaches of social inequality

- 8.30-8.55 *Are we there yet? Modelling the origins of social inequality*
Enrico R. Crema (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)
- 8.55-9.20 *A comparative perspective on the origins of social inequality*
Matt Grove (University of Liverpool, UK)
- 9.20-9.45 *Burials and complex foragers towards the European Last Glacial
Maximum? Testing ecological factors*
Cornelis Drost (University College London, UK), Andrea Manica &
Luc Moreau (University of Cambridge, UK)
- 9.45-10.15 Discussion round
- 10.15-10.45 Tea/Coffee

Session 5: Egalitarianism & social inequality in extant hunter-gatherer societies

- 10.45-11.35 *What do we mean by social inequality and could it have existed prior to
farming? (Keynote 4)*
Paul Roscoe (University of Maine, USA)
- 11.35-12.00 *Learning egalitarianism: a cross-cultural review of forager children*
Rachel Reckin, Shiena Lew-Levy, Kate Ellis-Davies (University of
Cambridge, UK), Noa Lavi (University of Haifa, Israel)
- 12.00-12.25 *Sex equality and division of labour in simple hunter-gatherer: a window
into the origins of hunter-gatherer social structure*
Andrea Migliano (University College London, UK)
- 12.25-12.50 *The impact of equality in residential decision making on group
composition, cooperation and cultural exchange*
Mark Dyble (University of Cambridge, UK)
- 12.50-13.15 *Relevant Factors when examining Equality and Inequality among
Contemporary Hunter-Gatherers*
James Woodburn (London School of Economics and Political
Science, UK)
- 13.15-14.15 Lunch

Session 6: Social inequality, interpersonal violence & warfare in prehistoric and extant hunter-gatherer societies

- 14.15-15.05 *Social Complexity, Inequality, and War before Farming: Congruence of Comparative Forager and Archaeological Data* (Keynote 5)
Douglas P. Fry (University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA)
- 15.05-15.30 *Equality & access to the means of coercion: an understudied approach*
Duncan Stibbard Hawkes (University of Durham, UK)
- 15.30-15.55 *The ecology of prehistoric inter-group conflict in African hunter-gatherers*
Marta Mirazon Lahr (University of Cambridge, UK)
- 15.55-17.30 Final discussion