

24th EAA Annual Meeting

BARCELONA,
5-8 SEPTEMBER 2018

REFLECTING FUTURES

Abstract Book VOLUME II



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Author's affiliation is stated in brackets following the author's name; where authors share the same affiliation, it is only stated once.

The Index of Authors, situated in Volume II, includes all session organisers and only the main authors of contributions.

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Edicions

the soil samples from a sacred altar where votive offerings and traces of consumption of ritual meals are clearly documented. The archaeological record shows that the plant remains played a central role in the context of the religious rituals of this worship place gathering also important evidence as regards what was the surrounding ancient landscape. As a matter of fact the paleobotanical assemblage could help us both tracing the territorial distribution as well as interpreting the significance of some specimens in the cult sphere of this Hellenistic local sanctuary.

627

CROSS THE STREAMS. MULTIPROXY APPROACHES TO DEMOGRAPHY AND POPULATION DYNAMICS

Theme: Theories and methods in archaeological sciences

Organisers: Solheim, Steinar (Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo) - Hinz, Martin (Institute for Pre- and Protohistoric Archaeology, Kiel University) - Diez Castillo, Agustín (Department of Prehistory and Archaeology, University of Valencia)

Format: Regular session

In the last two decades, approaches dealing with demographic assessments based on archaeological data have experienced enormous popularity. The reason for this is certainly that almost all aspects of past societies, which are archaeologically interesting, is related to the question of the size of these societies. A certain zoo of different methods has developed in this course. These include the number of sites per time period and relative site density, size sites, density of artefacts, 14C data, paleoanthropological or paleobotanical methods as well as oral and written history, to mention a few.

However, it is obvious that most investigations rely on only one of these methods. The linking of different proxies is the only way to check their validity and to calibrate them because of the lack of ground truth.

For this session we would like to invite contributions that examine archaeological case studies regarding demography and population dynamics using more than one method or proxy. What knowledge can be gained from combining different methods? Which approaches have proven their worth, and which ones confirm each other? Have we developed methods of correlating the individual proxies with each other that go beyond observing correlation or forming mean values? How can we correlate proxies with different temporal resolution? We welcome studies based on empirical evidence and archaeological data as well as papers dealing with these issues from a theoretical perspective.

ABSTRACTS

01 CROSS THE STREAMS: INTRODUCTION TO THE SESSION

Author(s): Solheim, Steinar (Museum of Cultural History University of Oslo) - Hinz, Martin (Institute for Pre- and Protohistoric Archaeology, Kiel University) - Diez Castillo, Agustín (Department of Prehistory and Archaeology, University of Valencia)

Presentation Format: Oral

In the last decades, approaches dealing with demographic assessments based on archaeological data have experienced enormous popularity. One reason for this is certainly that almost all aspects of past societies, which are archaeologically interesting, are related to the question of the size of these societies. A variety of different methods have developed in this course. These include the number of sites per time period and relative site density, size of sites, density of artefacts, 14C data, paleoanthropological or paleobotanical methods as well as oral and written history. While most investigations rely on only one of the methods, linking of different proxies is the only way to check their validity and to calibrate the proxies because of the lack of ground truth.

What knowledge can be gained from combining different methods? Which approaches have proven their worth, and which ones confirm each other? Have we developed methods of correlating the individual proxies with each other that go beyond observing correlation or forming mean values? How can we correlate proxies with different temporal resolution?

In this introductory paper we will give a short introduction to the session and present a brief overview of recent developments in approaches to demography and population dynamics.

02 BEHIND THE MODEL: DATA AND ASSUMPTIONS FOR ESTIMATING DEMOGRAPHY OF THE ENEOLITHIC SOCIETIES OF THE SANDOMIERZ UPLAND (SE POLAND)

Author(s): Oberc, Tomasz (Institute of Archaeology Jagiellonian University)

Presentation Format: Oral

A shortage of reliable data allowing direct calculation, the main problem for modern demography concerning today's societies is even more pronounced in case of distant past populations sizes and dynamics estimations. In case of prehistoric archaeology, with no births or deaths censuses available, we have to rely solely on remains of material culture, buried bodies and signs of land use, with each group of sources suffering seriously limitation as a proxy for that kind of studies.

In this presentation some examples of demographic estimation methods based on different types of data will be presented, with