



human development in landscapes  
GRADUATE SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KIEL

**BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIUM**  
**Monday, 16th of April 17.00**

**“ANDENERÍA” AND “APUS”: APPROACHING HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT  
RELATIONSHIPS OF THE PREHISPANIC CENTRAL ANDES**  
**Dr. Daniel Contreras, CAU Kiel / Stanford University (Humbolt Fellow)**

As globalization increasingly homogenizes human cultural practices, the range of (pre)historic human-environment interactions becomes increasingly important as a record of alternatives. The Central Andes offer a reservoir of evidence of the variability of modes of human-environment interaction: as a result of millennia of occupation, relatively large prehispanic populations, and the demographic catastrophe of European contact, extensive anthropogenic landscapes are preserved in the region. Using examples from my work at Chavín de Huántar and in the upper Caracha drainage in the Peruvian Andes, I argue that we can use evidence of past landscape practices to understand the modes of human-environment interactions in the prehispanic Central Andes. By looking at changing landscape practices over time we can approach changes in conceptions of the environment, examining when and whether prehispanic Andean peoples treated their environments as resources to be exploited or sacred arenas demanding stewardship. Looking towards the ways in which those changes correlate with sociopolitical trends in the Central Andes—i.e. from mobile foragers to sedentary agro-pastoralists and from small-scale egalitarian communities to the institutionalized hierarchies of states—offers a means of examining the variability of modes of human-environment interaction.

**Venue: Lecture room 204, Leibnizstraße 1, CAU Kiel**