



human development in landscapes  
GRADUATE SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KIEL

BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIUM  
Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> of November, 05.00 pm

TOWARDS A PROSOPOGRAPHY OF ARCHAOMETALLURGY IN THE  
EURASIAN BRONZE AGE

Mark Pollard, Research Lab for Archaeology, University of Oxford

**Abstract:** This talk will outline a new approach to addressing the composition of Bronze Age copper alloys which takes into account changes in composition as a result of remelting and recycling. It therefore addresses the age-old question of metal provenance, but not from an interpretation of 'static' compositions (as typified by traditional approaches using multivariate data analysis), but more from a 'fluid' interpretation of composition as a mutable property of the object. As such, it advances the idea of creating multiple object biographies. The value of such an approach will be illustrated using data from Europe and Iran. Moreover, a case will be made for treating the Bronze Age of Eurasia not as a series of isolated regional case studies, but as a unified mutually interacting whole.

**About Mark Pollard:** His research over the past 35 years has encompassed the application of the physical sciences, particularly chemistry, within archaeology, and has included a wide range of topics. It might be summarized under three main headings – the study of archaeological materials, the investigation of biogeochemical processes, and numerical applications in archaeology and palaeoclimatic reconstruction.

**Venue: Seminar Room 204 Leibnizstraße 1, CAU Kiel**