

BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIUM
Monday, February 5th, 4:15 p.m.

**UPNORTH: EXPLORING THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT OF THE
LATE-GLACIAL RECOLONISATION OF NORTHERN EUROPE**
Rhiannon Stevens (University College London)

Human mobility and environmental interactions at the end of the Palaeolithic were undoubtedly influenced by large-scale and rapid climate change. With the melting of ice sheet and expansion / contraction of ecosystems, new landscapes and resources became available to late and final Palaeolithic hunter-gatherer people. The UpNorth project is examining the dispersal of people and animal populations into Northern Europe after the Last Glacial Maximum. Using a range of techniques, including stable isotopes, radiocarbon and ancient DNA analyses, UP-NORTH is exploring whether the process(es) of recolonisation and the increasing diversification seen in the lithic and bone industries during the late and final Palaeolithic represent responses to changing environments and resources, or if such changes were independent of one another. To address this question the project is developing an integrated chronological, palaeoclimatic and palaeoecological framework to explore changing landscapes, and human activity within them. A key aspect of the project is to assess the timing, pace and scales of change at a local level, and to evaluate whether these changes varied by or were consistent between, locations. By developing multiple integrated lines of evidence the project provides an insight into the Late-glacial landscape and environment change that Palaeolithic people experienced.

Venue: Leibnizstraße 1, Seminar Room 204