**The Environmental History of Byzantium**

Monday March 30th 13:30 – 18:00

The Princeton University *Climate Change and History Research Initiative* (CCHRI) introductory workshops are intended to help social science and humanities graduates, postdocs and junior faculty, especially from the fields of history and archaeology, familiarize themselves with some of the key aspects of studying the way past human societies have interacted with their physical and climatic environments. In particular, they aim to show how to avoid misunderstanding and/or misusing palaeoenvironmental and palaeoclimatic research results, by explaining the key methodological and interpretational issues scientists in those fields have to confront in obtaining, processing and interpreting their data. This intensive ½ day workshop will cover – very briefly – some of these aspects in relation to the topics addressed in the Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies

13:30 – 13:55 + 15 mins Q & A ***Introduction and background; Approaches to environmental history and what is at stake*** John Haldon (Princeton University), Adam Izdebski (Max-Planck-Institute/Jena), Kristina Sessa (Ohio State University)

14:10 – 14:35 + 15 mins Q & A **Post-Classical decline and recovery in rural Anatolia: coaxing history to conduct experiments**

Neil Roberts (Plymouth University and Oxford)

14:50 – 15:05 Tea/coffee break

15:05 – 15:30 + 15 mins Q & A ***Palynology, dendrodating and (aspects of) late Roman economic history***

Warren Eastwood (University of Birmingham), Hugh Elton (Trent University/Ontario)

15:45 – 16:10 + 15 mins Q & A

***Archaeology and the environment: How to "read" a site for the archaeology of water infrastructure***

Jordan Pickett (University of Georgia)

16:25 – 16:40 Tea/coffee break

16:40 - 17:05 + 15 mins Q & A ***Ancient DNA and Interdisciplinary Approaches to Byzantine Disease History***

Lee Mordechai (Hebrew U/Jerusalem), Tim Newfield (Georgetown University)

17:20 – 18:00 ***General discussion*** with the CCHRI team

CCHRI: <https://cchri.princeton.edu/>