

## **Rolling Rocks**

### **No Colloquium Today**

There won't be a colloquium today as everyone is getting ready for the GSA meeting.

### **Upcoming Taft Event**

Dr. Deanna Grimstead, Ohio State University



#### **“Isotopic Evidence for Long-Distance Mammal Procurement, Chaco Canyon, New Mexico”**

Thursday, November 5, 4pm

Taft Research Center

Previous research on the prehistoric communities of Chaco Canyon, NM (ca. A.D. 800 – 1250) provides evidence of an extensive procurement system of non-local food and economic goods. Oxygen and strontium isotope analyses are used to establish whether animal protein followed a similar pattern. We contextualized our isotopic analyses of the archaeofaunas from recent excavations at Pueblo Bonito with data on modern faunas across an area of ~100,000 km<sup>2</sup> around the site. Our results show that most archaeological deer, rabbits, and prairie dogs were obtained from >40 km away from Pueblo Bonito with the latter two likely being garden hunted. The Chuska Mountains west of Chaco Canyon and more distant San Juan Mountains to the north were the main source areas. These results closely align with previous results on architectural wood, corn, and other key resources. The importation of small game animals suggests that the local supplies could not meet the needs of the community. Long distance meat procurement may have been embedded within a more complex network of ritual-goods exchange or tribute that helped to offset the transport costs. Resource depletion may have contributed to the eventual abandonment of the region during the Medieval Warm Period.

### **Chris's projects and talk**

New geoscience research project seeking students to participate in an inclusive field-based experiences (two years, national and international sites, travel expenses and stipend provided). For more information, visit: <http://www.theiagd.org/geopath/> or contact Dr. Chris Atchison ([christopher.atchison@uc.edu](mailto:christopher.atchison@uc.edu)).

*Rolling Rocks, October 30, 2015*

Two weeks ago, Chris was invited to speak in the Department of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of British Columbia. His talk was entitled: An International Perspective of Inclusive Geoscience Workforce Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

And check out the EOS article at: <https://eos.org/articles/students-with-disabilities-not-just-welcome-but-expected>.

### **Thermochron in Appalachians**



The Thermochron class went to the Appalachians last weekend. Check them out on top of the large granite dome of the Stone Mountain State Park (North Carolina).

**Cheers,**

**Lewis**