

# 25 years of EAA: 1994-2019

For many of us, Bern is the place where the future of Modernity began after Einstein’s miracle year. On the 100th anniversary of the Dyson-Ed-dington-Davidson experiment that first tested the General Theory of Relativity, EAA comes to Bern to celebrate its own 25th anniversary. This fold in spacetime is therefore an extremely appropriate occasion to reflect on what our real contribution from Archaeology and Archaeological Heritage has been and can be, for a future in which everything that seemed solid in 1994 has melted away under the pressing threats that challenge an inclusive and progressive idea of Europe. If paradigms become like the mountains, barriers that enclose our lives and experiences, thinking beyond the limits enables us to discover the fractures in these paradigms that, like the passes through the mountains, foster interaction and convergence.

Felipe Criado-Boado, EAA President

The University of Bern is extremely pleased to host the Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) in Bern in 2019. We are honoured to welcome archaeologists from all over the world in the Swiss Capital which has a long and exciting history to be discovered during your stay in Bern. Founded in 1834, the University of Bern is an internationally operating institution for education and scientific research with eight different faculties. The main University campus is in walking distance to the railway station and to the Old Town. The campus environment is intimately linked to the social, economic and political life of the city and offers a delightful setting and a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Prof. Christian Leumann, rector of the University of Bern

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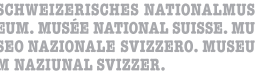
## Organisers



## Funding



## Partners



EAA 2019  
25 years  
Beyond paradigms

BERN  
4 - 7 September



**Welcome to Bern!** The University of Bern and the European Association of Archaeologists are delighted to invite you to the 25th Annual Meeting in Bern (September 4-7, 2019). The event will be organised by the Institute of Archaeological Sciences at the University which kindly offers the facilities and support for the Meeting. Being the 25th anniversary of EAA, we will celebrate this occasion through reflections of the past, present and future of archaeological science and heritage management. To encourage debates on the material record, theories and methods, as well as visions for the future, specific themes will be dedicated to these issues, accompanied by local topics on mountainous landscapes and global change.

Due to its interesting history, Bern is the perfect place to host an international archaeological conference. Bern is located in the heart of Switzerland which makes it easily reachable from all major European cities, either by public or private transportation. Archaeological findings go back to the Neolithic period and can still be experienced at different pile dwelling sites in the region. The Old Town which is located on a spur of land in a loop of the Aare river with its medieval covered arcades and the Cathedral has been declared UNESCO World Heritage in 1983. Bern is proud of its cultural history and has even more to offer, e.g., world-renowned museums. Thanks to the historic charm of Bern and because of its proximity to the Swiss Alps, an attractive social and excursion program will complement the Annual Meeting.

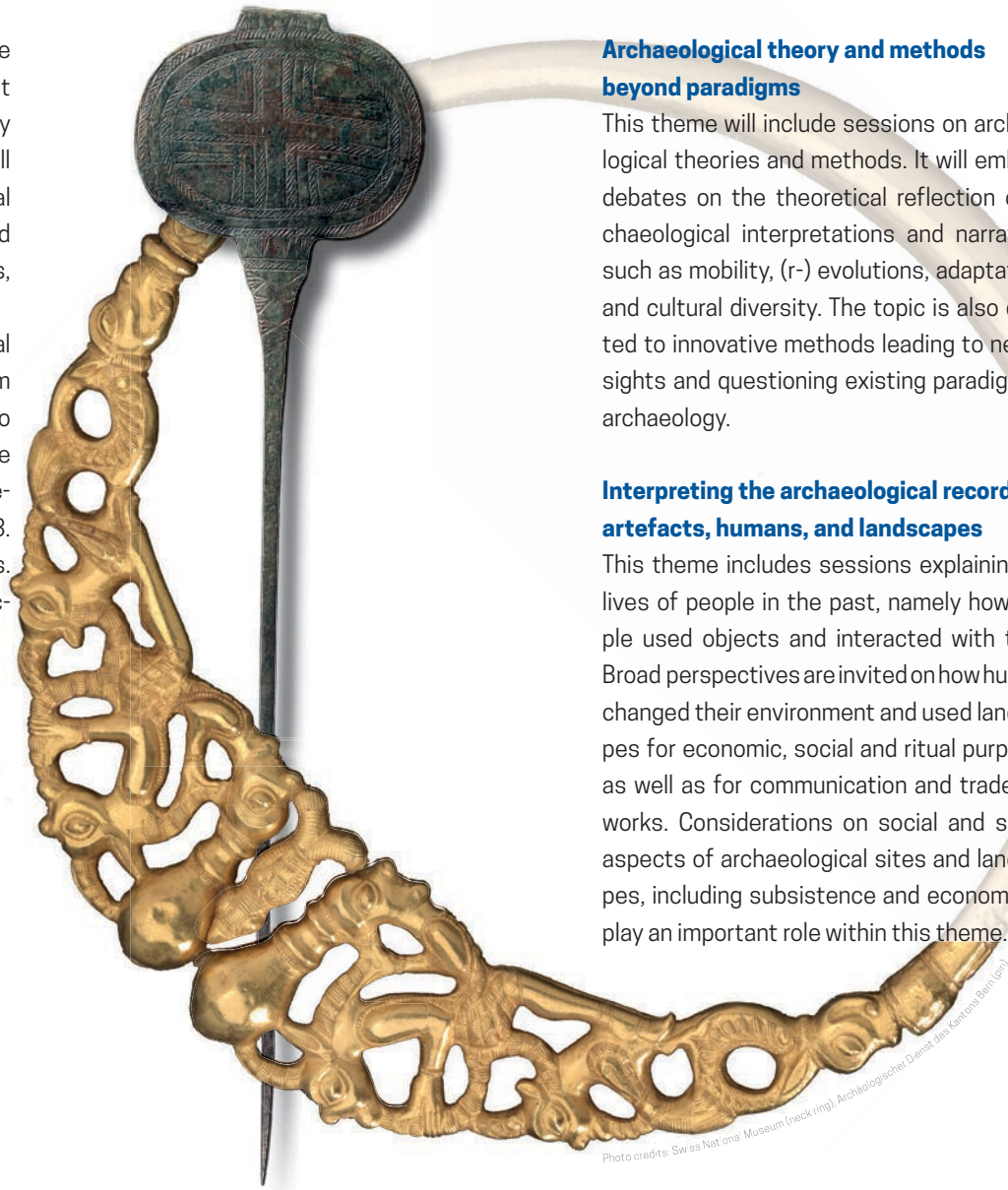
**We are looking forward to welcoming you in Bern!**

#### Local organisers:

**Prof. Albert Hafner**, Institute of Archaeological Sciences & Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern

**Amelie Alterauge**, Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern

**Corinne Staeheli**, Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern



#### Archaeological theory and methods beyond paradigms

This theme will include sessions on archaeological theories and methods. It will embrace debates on the theoretical reflection of archaeological interpretations and narratives, such as mobility, (r-) evolutions, adaptations, and cultural diversity. The topic is also devoted to innovative methods leading to new insights and questioning existing paradigms in archaeology.

#### Interpreting the archaeological record: artefacts, humans, and landscapes

This theme includes sessions explaining the lives of people in the past, namely how people used objects and interacted with them. Broad perspectives are invited on how humans changed their environment and used landscapes for economic, social and ritual purposes, as well as for communication and trade networks. Considerations on social and spatial aspects of archaeological sites and landscapes, including subsistence and economy, will play an important role within this theme.

#### Archaeology of mountainous landscapes

This theme pays tribute to Bern which is close to the Alps. The Alps have been historically a mountain chain separating and connecting the Mediterranean and Northern world. The theme covers archaeological research about peopling, symbolism, land use, resource management, and mobility of high altitude mountains, intermontane valleys and forelands in different mountainous landscapes. The influence on the subsistence, daily life and society will be discussed.

#### Digital archaeology, science and multidisciplinary. New methods, new challenges

Current debates in archaeological research are determined by the challenges provided by the 3rd science revolution, the application of digital techniques, and big data. Although, there is an urgent need for reflections on how archaeologists integrate this new data in their interpretations and narratives. New data and improved analytical tools have shaped archaeology within the last decades. Papers on multidisciplinary research are also welcome.

#### Archaeological heritage and museums management: future chances, future risks

Having its 25th jubilee in 2019, the EAA is inviting sessions which define the future of archaeological heritage and museums management for the decade 2020-2030. Sessions are invited which present examples of "sharing heritage" or "citizen science" projects. We invite contributions about how to valorize sites, monuments, and artefacts as well as the importance of cultural heritage for society.

#### Global change and archaeology

This theme is devoted to the impact of global change on humans in the past. It encourages contributions on paleoclimate, human environment interactions, land use, land cover, as well as on collapse and resilience of societies due to catastrophic events. The topic contains environmental reconstruction, genetics, diet, and paleopathology to understand human behaviour and deduce reasons for economic and social change. New issues on what might be learnt from the past and on solutions applied to modern ecological problems are welcome.

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