Our food-webs were shaped by two episodes of ‘food globalisation’ in the past. One was over the oceans, and the other was over the lands. Over the last 400 years, in the context of the ‘Columbian Exchange’, plants and animals originating from the Americas were brought to Eurasia, and the Old World foods and diseases expanded to the New World. Earlier still, between c. 7,000 and 4,000 years ago, the Eurasian landmass underwent a tremendous exchange of cereal crops. For example, wheat and barley from southwest Asia expanded to East Asia during those millennia, and Chinese millets spread to Europe about the same time. This paper will look into the timing, pathways and drivers of those prehistoric scenarios. Further questions should be explored. Does a region’s culinary system likely become fixed first, then the choices of crops fit their palates. When a food moved/lost in the past, were the memories associated with it moved/lost too?

Obtained PhD from University of Cambridge, **Xinyi Liu** is an Assistant Professor of archaeology at Washington University in St. Louis. He directs the laboratory for the analysis of early food-webs. His research has been focused on the origin of modern food-web.

**Wednesday, May 11, 2016**  
12:00pm - Seminar Room  
**Location:** Building 500  
488 Escondido Mall  
Room 106  

If you have any questions regarding our events, please contact:  
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