



News

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Stanford Professor to Discuss Evolution of Modern Human Behavior Nov. 15 at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Stanford University professor Richard Klein will explore the evolution of modern human behavior in a talk from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Spanos Theatre at Cal Poly.

His talk, “Out of Africa and The Evolution of Human Behavior,” focuses on a major debate taking place in paleoanthropological circles over the last decade about when modern human behavior evolved.

Most anthropological scholars now agree that biologically modern humans evolved in Africa at least 150,000 years ago and from there spread to Asia and Europe at least 50,000 years ago. Some scientists believe that modern human behavior developed gradually between 150,000 and 50,000 years ago. Others, such as Klein, believe it emerged all at once 50,000 years ago because of genetic mutations. Klein will summarize the arguments for both sides. A question-and-answer session will follow the talk.

The event is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Social Sciences Department and College of Liberal Arts in celebration of National Archaeology Month. For more information, contact Social Sciences Professor Terry Jones at tljones@calpoly.edu or 805-756-2523.

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