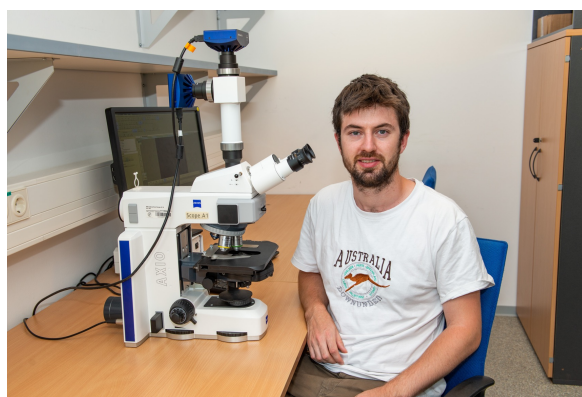
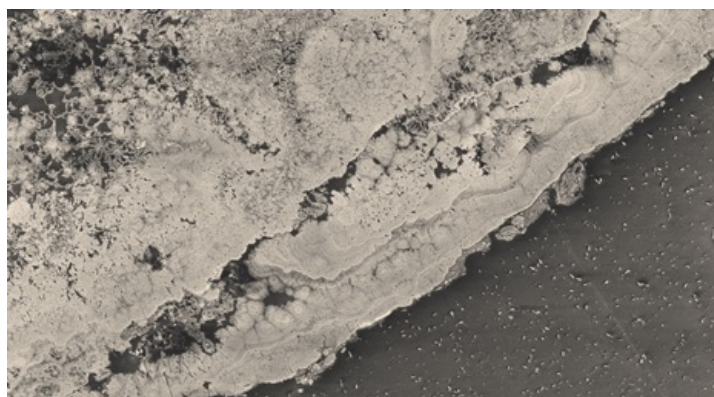


## ***Exploring early diets, economy and society through the analysis of ancient human dental calculus***



**Lunes 15 de abril, 18:00h**

**Aula F0.1 (Facultad Geografía e Historia, planta baja)**

**Dr. Robert C. Power**

Dental calculus, dental plaque which has been mineralised in saliva, is a widely found human oral pathology. This hard material is commonly found even on archaeological human remains. Thanks to its hard structure, it preserves the character of much of the dental plaque which in itself is comprised of dead bacteria, inhaled dust, food remains and other particles. Thus this material offers a glimpse into the lives of ancient people. In my work as an archaeobotanist, I study inclusions of dental calculus to reconstruct ancient diets. In this talk, I will present an overview of this material and some useful case studies of its application to study crop dispersal in Neolithic and Bronze Age Europe as well as Africa.

*Dr. Robert C. Power started his career as an undergraduate in University College Cork, Ireland. He completed a masters in University College London before completing a PhD jointly at Leiden University in the Netherlands and the Max Planck for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig. He is currently a research fellow in the School of Archaeology in University College Dublin, Ireland. His work is dedicated to exploring the role of diet in human origins. Much of his work uses plant microremains (e.g. phytoliths and starches) in human dental calculus and sediments to understand plant consumption and behaviour amongst hunter-gatherer and early farming societies.*

Serie de Conferencias ANTARQBIO Curso 23-24 (nº 5)