



MCH RESEARCH PROGRAMME AU STAR

THURSDAY, 19TH MAY, 14:00 – 16:00

FOREDRAGSSALEN, MOESGAARD,
4206-139



Dietary Heterogeneity in Late Holocene Central California:

*An Isotope Perspective on Hunter-Gatherer Diets from the
Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Area*

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The prehistoric hunter-gatherer societies of California present an enigma to North American archaeology. On the one hand they demonstrate a long trajectory of acorn storage economies, yet had the highest population densities in North America. Intensive investment in plant and animal resources during the Late Holocene are associated with declines in foraging efficiency as measured through archaeobotanical and archaeofaunal indices. Through stable isotope analysis of human tissues, Dr. Eric Bartelink will discuss temporal and regional patterns in ancient diet among Late Holocene (4500-200 B.P.) hunter-gatherers from the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Area of California.

