

MEDIEVAL GENETICS

MAPPING POST-ROMAN MIGRATION THROUGH GENOMIC RESEARCH

WED
OCTOBER 23
5PM

Lincoln Hall
Recital Hall Room 75

Recent advances in genomics have been accompanied by the promise that through genetic analysis, fundamental questions about the human past can be at last answered. Some of these claims are exaggerated or even dangerous, as when geneticists reduce identity to biology or proclaim that they will be able to tell us “who we really are.” But at the same time, responsible analysis of molecular data combined with historical and archaeological methodologies does promise new ways of exploring history. In this lecture, Professor Patrick Geary of the Institute for Advanced Study will demonstrate the potential of such research by presenting the international, interdisciplinary project he directs that studies Lombard era migration from Pannonia to Italy. The team, composed of geneticists, archaeologists, and historians from Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and the United States, is developing new models and methods for the analysis of historical population movements.



Patrick Geary is Emeritus Professor of Medieval History at the Institute for Advanced Study. He is former director of the Notre Dame Medieval Institute and the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Among his books are *Furta Sacra: Thefts of Relics in the Central Middle Ages*; *Living with the Dead in the Middle Ages*; *Phantoms of Remembrance: Memory and Oblivion at the end of the first Millennium*; *The Myth of Nations: The Medieval Origins of Europe*; *Women at the Beginning: Origin Myths from the Amazons to the Virgin Mary*; *Writing History: Identity, Conflict and Memory in the Middle Ages*; and *Language and Power in the Early Middle Ages*. His research concentrates on Continental European history between the fifth and twelfth centuries.