



## Dan Sandweiss

Dan Sandweiss is an archaeologist who works in western South America, particularly on the Peruvian coast. He studies the role of climate change (especially El Niño) and maritime adaptations in the prehistory of the region, and he has complementary interests in extracting climatic data from the archaeological record and in understanding the influence of climatic and environmental change on past societies.

Sandweiss received his BA in Archaeology from Yale University (1979) and his MA (1983) and PhD (1989) in Anthropology from Cornell University. Currently, Sandweiss is Dean and Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Professor of Anthropology and Quaternary & Climate Studies at the University of Maine, where he joined the faculty in 1993.

Sandweiss has carried out field research in Peru since 1978 and also worked in Guatemala, Honduras, and Cuba. In Peru, he has directed excavations in sites ranging from the Terminal Pleistocene to the Spanish Conquest (~13,000-400 cal yr BP). Working with geoscience colleagues, Sandweiss is completing a study of Holocene upwelling from radiocarbon in marine shells in archaeological sites, he is engaged with another group on research into climatic and environmental processes associated with the collapse of Late Preceramic coastal society, and he is working with UMaine Climate Change Institute colleagues on a remote sensing study of an early monumental site on the north coast.

As an interdisciplinary scientist, Sandweiss publishes in general science journals, archaeological journals, and geoscience journals. He has written or co-written several books and monographs, and recently co-edited *Climate Change and Cultural Dynamics* with D. Anderson and K. Maasch (Academic Press 2007) and *El Niño, Catastrophism, and Culture Change in Ancient America* with J. Quilter (Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection 2008). He is the founder and editor of *Andean Past* (Cornell University), a member of several editorial advisory boards, and a former Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer (2005-2007).

Sandweiss works to promote and protect appropriate interaction among archaeologists in the Americas, through an Andeanist listserve and through the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), for whom he chaired the Committee on the Americas (2005-2008); he is currently chairing the Task Force to select new editors for *Latin American Antiquity*. In 2008, Sandweiss received a Presidential Recognition Award from the SAA for his work on intrahemispheric relations.