

**YORK UNIVERSITY
PROGRAMME IN CLASSICAL STUDIES**



CAC-SCEC 2019 Central Lecture Tour

Professor BRENDAN BURKE

(Department of Greek & Roman Studies, University of Victoria)

***Uncovering Ancient Eleon in Central Greece: New Discoveries from the
Bronze Age through the Classical Periods***

Thursday 26 September 2019, 5.30 p.m.

2183 Vari Hall (History Department Common Room)



Refreshments will be served from 5.10 p.m.

ALL WELCOME!

The site of ancient Eleon was first investigated as part of a regional survey of eastern Boeotia starting in 2007 as part of a collaborative project sponsored by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Boeotia and the Canadian Institute in Greece. Excavations began in 2011 and continued until 2018. The advantageous position of ancient Eleon, located on a low hill overlooking the plain that connects Thebes with the Euboean Gulf was key to its success. The remains at Eleon uncovered thus far date to three major periods of activity: the Medieval period –including the agricultural tower on the western edge of the acropolis; the Archaic and Classical periods (roughly 700-400 BCE) with evidence for cult activity and monumental architecture in the form of a large polygonal wall. Lastly, the prehistoric phases span the Mycenaean period, ca. 1700-1050 BC, during which Eleon had contact with neighboring communities of varying scale and at varying intensities. In the early Mycenaean levels we have uncovered a truly impressive burial enclosure contemporary with, if not comparable to, the Grave Circles at Mycenae. This talk will provide an overview of our project's result thus far and highlight digital applications in the study of this newly investigated site. For students interested in the archaeology of Greece and in gaining fieldwork experience this talk should be of special interest.