Genomic Insights into the Out-of-Africa Dispersal(s) of Modern Humans"

Mark Stoneking

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Beginning 30 years ago with seminal studies of mitochondrial DNA variation, genetic and now genomic data firmly establish that Africa is the home of modern humans, and that all non-African populations are derived from Africa. However, the number, timing, and route(s) of dispersal(s) of modern humans out of Africa, as well as potential back-migrations to Africa, remain contentious issues. In my presentation I will describe the latest findings from genomic analyses of human populations, including evidence from archaic human genome sequences and other insights from ancient DNA, that bear on these issues.