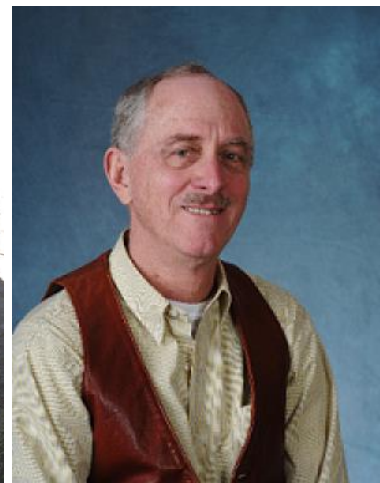


The Department of Anthropology, Earth and Ocean Sciences & the Honors College

welcome you to a presentation on
the impacts of volcanism on human groups in prehistoric Costa Rica

by
Dr. Payson D. Sheets
University of Colorado Boulder

**Thursday March 28, 2019
4:00 pm, Kenan Hall Room 1111**



Adapting to a Hyperactive Volcano in Ancient Costa Rica

Native Central American Indians have been living in Costa Rica for over 10,000 years, in a tropical climate. A new volcano, named Arenal, was born 7,000 years ago, with a huge explosive eruption that forced survivors to evacuate the area. Dozens of other eruptions have occurred, with the latest only 50 years ago. Archaeologists and volcanologists are exploring how ancient people living in the shadow of Arenal have adapted to those disasters. Researchers have discovered surprising sophistication by the villagers, which will be shared in the presentation.

Dr. Sheets is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Colorado Boulder. His research focuses on the ancient societies of Mesoamerica and lower Central America. He studies how societies, from egalitarian to complex, react to the sudden massive stresses of explosive volcanic eruptions. Dr. Sheets received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania, and his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Colorado Boulder.

