**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**RE: LECTURE ON ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE GREEK DARK AGES**

The coastal village of Lefkandi, on the island of Euboea, Greece, has offered much to the archaeology of the Late Bronze and Iron Age Aegean. The amazing discoveries made by teams of British and Greek archaeologists at the site have changed our perspectives of the period from 1200 to 700 BCE. First occupied in the Early Bronze Age, the settlement became a prosperous center of activity. At one point under the control of the powerful palace of Thebes, archaeological finds indicate that Lekandi became one of the most important, wealthy, and complex settlements known in the Aegean, with inhabitants exploiting their location in the Euboean Gulf and the natural resources of their region. The extensive archaeological work there allows a glimpse into one of the less known periods in ancient Greece—but the question remains whether the site is truly extraordinary, or whether this is only an impression given by the paucity of evidence elsewhere.

In her lecture, **“Out of the Dark: Lefkandi in Euboea after 1200 BCE,”** Dr. Irene Lemos will present a summary of the most important discoveries at the site, including those from the recent excavations under her direction. She will also evaluate the data from Lefkandi to determine whether this site truly is the economic marvel it appears to be, or if it is the lack of other archaeological evidence from this period which makes Lefkandi seem so incredible.

Dr. Lemos is with School of Archaeology at Oxford University, and her research interests include early Greek archaeology and art, and Late Bronze and Iron Age exchange patterns in the Mediterranean. She is currently the Director of Excavations and Publications for the Lefkandi-Xeropolis excavations in Euboea.

The lecture will take place on **Tuesday, February 11, 2014**, at the **Haury Anthropology Building, Room 216, University of Arizona Main Campus**. It will begin at **5:30 p.m.**, will be followed by a reception, and is **free and open to the public**. It is part of the Archaeological Institute of America’s National Lecture Program, and funding for it has been provided by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation in New York, which strives to support the work of scholars in the fields of ancient art. The lecture has been co-sponsored by the Hellenic Cultural Foundation, Tucson AZ.

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