REEEC Welcomes New Associate Director Dr. Maureen Marshall

Dr. Maureen Marshall joined the REEEC staff as Associate Director of REEEC in mid-October. Before joining REEEC, she served as the Outreach and Campus Programs Coordinator at the Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies at the University of Chicago. At Illinois, Maureen looks forward to working with REEEC students, faculty, and community to support internationalizing education, fostering global citizenship, and engagement with the languages and cultures of Eurasia. “REEEC has an excellent program — from the rich diversity of course offerings to the well-regarded Summer Research Lab — and I was immediately impressed by the students’ love for the program and the collegiality on campus. It is a challenging time for area studies, but it is also an opportunity for creativity and innovation. I look forward to being a part of that at REEEC.”

Maureen earned her PhD at the University of Chicago in Anthropology in 2014 with a thesis on “Subject(ed) Bodies: A Bioarchaeological Investigation of Lived Experiences and Mobile Practices in Late Bronze-Early Iron Age (1500-800 B.C.) Armenia.” Her research focuses on the bioarchaeology of early complex polities and empires in the South Caucasus and Eurasia. She is Associate Director of Project ArAGATS, the joint American-Armenian project for the Archaeology and Geography for Ancient Transcaucasian Societies, which has been excavating in Armenia since 2005, and collaborates with physical anthropologists in Armenia. She serves on the advisory board for the Aragats Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting Armenia’s cultural heritage through heritage preservation, development, and education. Dr. Marshall’s work has been published in edited volumes on global perspectives in human remains analysis, including Archaeological Human Remains: A Global Perspective in 2014 and The Routledge Handbook of Archaeological Human Remains and Legislation in 2011. Her research interests include political subjectivity, the body, violence in ancient societies, disease and health in ancient populations, the archaeology of Eurasia and the Near East, and the history of physical anthropology. Maureen hopes to use this background to enhance REEEC’s expertise in the Caucasus and Central Asia and to contribute to interdisciplinary conversations.