

Dear TIMA members,

This month we are very pleased to announce the call for papers of **THE FIFTH ISLAMIC MANUSCRIPT CONFERENCE: ACCESS AND RIGHTS**

Cambridge 24-26 July 2009

Call for Papers

Dear Colleagues,

The Islamic Manuscript Association is pleased to announce that the Fifth Islamic Manuscript Conference will be held at Christ's College, University of Cambridge, UK from 24-26 July 2009. It will be hosted by the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation and the Centre of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge.

The Association invites submissions of papers for its annual conference on topics related to the care, management, and study of Islamic manuscripts. In 2009, the Conference will specifically address the issue of access to manuscripts. Improving access to manuscripts through digitisation and electronic ordering and delivery systems whilst ensuring their proper long-term preservation is fundamental to the successful future study of the Islamic heritage. Presently, technologies are available that have the potential to transform the way manuscripts are studied; however, the access these technologies can allow is counterbalanced by collection holders' concerns regarding their legal rights and the financial sustainability of their organisations. During the Fifth Islamic Manuscript Conference these vital issues will be discussed by our invited speakers and selected paper presenters.

As in previous years, the Conference will be organised around the Association's four main interest groups: cataloguing, conservation, digitisation, and publishing and research. Papers on access naturally falling into these broad categories will be included in the relevant panels, so please make clear to which interest group your submission relates. We will also accept submissions related to topics that do not fall directly under the purviews of the interest groups. These may be papers about specific manuscript projects, library collections, research on a particular manuscript, etc. Please note that the total number of papers accepted will not exceed 25 and preference will be given to speakers who have not presented papers at the Association's previous conferences.

This invitation is open to members and non-members of the Association. The Conference will be bilingual in Arabic and English and submissions will be accepted in both languages. The title of your paper must be included in your submission. The deadline for submissions is 13 February 2009. Late proposals will not be considered. The duration of each conference paper is 30 minutes inclusive of ten minutes of questions and answers.

Please send your abstract (maximum 500 words) along with a brief CV mentioning at least one relevant publication and a cover sheet to the Executive Committee by email (tima@islamicmanuscript.org), by fax to +44 (0)1223 302218 or by post to the address below:

The Islamic Manuscript Association
33 Trumpington Street
Cambridge CB2 1QY, United Kingdom

We look forward to welcoming you to Cambridge this coming summer.

Yours sincerely,
Davidson MacLaren
Executive Director

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Dr. Akbar Irani

Fourth ASPS Convention, Lahore, Pakistan, February 26 - March 2, 2009

The Research Centre for the Written Heritage would also participate in this event with two pre-organized panels: "Old Persian Texts in the Subcontinent" and "Persian Language; the common heritage of Iran and the Subcontinent".

Published: *Essays in Honor of Sadiq Kiya* compiled by 'Askar Bahrami in Tehran. Publisher: The Research Centre for the Written Heritage (Miras Maktoob), 2008

For more information please visit: <http://www.english.mirasmaktoob.ir/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=12>

An important source for the researchers of Zaydi Imams:

Al-Ifādah fī Tārīkh al-A'imma al-Sādah by Abu Talib Yahya bin Husayn Huruni, edited and researched by Mohammad Kazem Rahmati, published in 2008, *Miras-I Maktoob*

For more information please see: <http://www.english.mirasmaktoob.ir/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=13>

From Dr. Omar Khalidi

The Arabic Papyrology Webclass : Bilingual Greek and Arabic Documents 16 February - 25 May 2009

During the seventh and eighth centuries, the Muslim administration of Syria-Palestine and Egypt issued documents both in Greek and in Arabic. In this webclass, we will read bilingual Greek and Arabic documents, with a special focus on the interaction of the two languages.

This is an on-line webclass taught by Raffaele Luiselli, Florence (Greek) and Andreas Kaplony, Zurich (Arabic) open to students in Greek studies (no Arabic needed) and Arabic studies (no Greek needed). During each two or three sessions, a document is to be read. A scan of the document will be sent to you in advance. Estimated time for preparation: 1-2 hours/week. Communication will be in English.

Duration: Spring semester 2009: 16 February - 25 May 2009; Monday, 16-18 h Swiss time (time might be changed). Fees: CHF 250.- (scholarships on request; no fees for students at the institutes at Zurich, Bale, Berne, and Geneva) Registration: www.ori.uzh.ch/apw.

Further reading: General introductions: Adolf Grohmann. Einführung und Chrestomathie zur arabischen Papyruskunde, vol. 1. Monografie Archivu Orientalniho, vol. 13,1. Prague 1954; Andreas Kaplony et al.

The Arabic Papyrology School, <http://www.ori.uzh.ch/aps>. Editions: Becker, C.H., Papyri Schott-Reinhardt. Vol. 1. Heidelberg 1906 (Veröffentlichungen aus der Heidelberger Papyrussammlung 3); Kraemer, Casper J. Jr., Excavations at Nessana. Vol. 3: Non Literary Papyri, Princeton 1958; Morelli, Federico, Documenti greci per la fiscalità e l'amministrazione dell'Egitto arabo, Wien 2001 (Corpus Papyrorum Raineri 22).

Prof. Dr. Andreas Kaplony

Orientalisches Seminar, Universität Zürich Wiesenstrasse 9, Büro H-05,
CH-8008 Zürich Tel. 0(041)44 634 07 36, Fax 0(041)44 634 36 92
www.ori.uzh.ch.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Columbia University

Invites applications for an appointment as Arcapita Visiting Professor in Modern Arab Studies for a one-semester position for fall 2009 or spring 2010 semesters.

For additional information and to submit your application, please visit our Recruitment of Academic Personnel System (RAPS) website at: <https://academicjobs.columbia.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=51045>. Questions about this position should be addressed to: Mirlyne Pauljajoute, Middle East Institute, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, 11th Floor, Mail Code 3340, 420 West 118 Street, New York NY 10027 (or via email mp2584@columbia.edu). Columbia University is an equal opportunity /affirmative action employer.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2009.

York University, Toronto

The Department of Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, invites applications for the York-Noor Visiting Chair in Islamic Studies, a three-year contractually limited appointment at the Assistant or Associate Professor level.

We are seeking a candidate who is well grounded in the classical tradition of Islam and the historical development of Islamic institutions, especially as they relate to Islamic cultures in a broader comparative context. High proficiency in classical and standard Arabic is required and knowledge of another research language is preferred. Candidates should have a completed PhD in hand by the commencement of the appointment. The successful candidate will show evidence of a vigorous research agenda and promise of excellence in teaching.

A letter of application, curriculum vitae, three confidential letters of recommendation, a sample of the applicant's written work (20 pages) and teaching dossier should be sent to:

Professor Patrick Taylor, Chair,
Division of Humanities,
Faculty of Arts, York University,
4700 Keele St.,
Toronto Ontario M3J 1P3 Canada
(phone: 416-736-5158; fax: 416-736-5460; taylorp@yorku.ca).
E-mail applications will NOT be accepted.

Application deadline: January 31, 2009.

CONFERENCES

MELCOM conference 2009

This is to confirm the dates of the next MELCom International annual conference which will be held at the N Lobachenskiy's Scientific Library, State University of Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan : 22-25 June 2009. The local organiser is Nuria Garaeva of the Department of Manuscripts and Rare Books: Nuria.Garaeva@ksu.ru

A proper First circular including registration / visa form and a call for papers will be posted on our website no later than mid December. We recommend that you include this website on your list of favorite URLs and check it regularly and frequently as all information concerning visa issues as well as subsequent circulars will be available there. Please circulate this information as widely as you can.

<http://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/ext/melcomintl/melcurrentconf.shtml>

Digitizing Medieval and Early Modern Material Culture

Call for Papers: Digitizing Medieval and Early Modern Material Culture

Editors Brent Nelson (University of Saskatchewan) and Melissa Terras (University College London) invite submissions for a collection of essays on "Digitizing Medieval and Early Modern Material Culture" to be published in the New Technologies in Medieval and Renaissance Studies Series edited by Ray Siemens and William Bowen.

This collection of essays will build on the accomplishments of recent scholarship on materiality by bringing together innovative research on the theory and praxis of digitizing material cultures from roughly 500 A.D. to 1700 A.D. It will promote the deployment of digital technologies to the study of material culture by bringing together expertise garnered from complete and current digital projects, while looking forward to new possibilities for digital applications; it will both take stock of the current state of theory and practice and advance new developments in digitization of material culture.

Enquiries and proposals should be sent to brent.nelson@usask.ca by 10 January 2009. Complete essays of 5,000-6,000 words in length will be due on 1 May 2009.

Third International Meeting on 'Libraries on the Agenda': "Access to Knowledge Infrastructures: Networking through Libraries" Berlin, 19-20 February 2009

On the occasion of the IFLA presidency of Claudia Lux, the German IFLA National Committee in cooperation with different partners is organizing the third and last of the series of IFLA Presidential Meetings. According to Claudia Lux' presidential theme on 'libraries on the agenda', international library experts, politicians and decision makers will discuss the role of libraries within the international networking of the knowledge society. International contributors from various Islamic countries have also been invited.

Topics to be discussed will be among others the development of the information society as a national obligation, the relationship of digital knowledge and cultural heritage and the role of libraries within the network of research, education, society and state.

TIME:

Thursday 19 February 2009, 9:30 h- 17:30 h (reception afterwards) and

Friday, 20 February 2009, 9:30 h - 15:30 h (15:45 h library tour starts)

VENUE:

Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, Werderscher Markt 1, 10117 Berlin, Germany

CONFERENCE FEE:

Registration fee for the two-day programme (including lunch and reception) is:

100 € for registration until 20 January 2009 (inclusive)

160 € for registration from 21 January 2008

Closing date for registration: 10 February 2009.

"And Diverse are their Hues: Color in Islamic Art and Culture"

Cordoba, Spain, 02-04 November 2009

Third Biennial Symposium on Islamic Art of Virginia Commonwealth University & VCU School of the Arts in Qatar (FCUQ)

Visit www.islamicartdoha.org

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visual Culture of the Islamic World

Muqarnas is seeking scholarly articles on all aspects of Islamic visual culture, historical and contemporary, for Volume 27, to be published in November 2010. Please note that we are also seeking submissions for a new section, to be introduced in this volume, titled "Sources," which will feature previously unpublished primary sources along with brief commentaries of 12–15 pages. For more information, please visit <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~agakhan/publications.php> or contact: Karen Alexandra Leal, Managing Editor, *Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visual Culture of the Islamic World*, Sackler Museum, Room 411, 485 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138 (617)495-3774; fax: 617 496-8389; muqarnas@fas.harvard.edu). Submissions deadline: March 1, 2009.

WORKSHOP

Deacidification of Paper 16-17 June, London British Library

This two day course covers paper chemistry and the problems of acidity, and the various treatments available, (including a new technique practised by the Centre Interrégional de Conservation du Livre, (CICL) Arles) and possible treatments for the future.

Discussions (where possible, demonstrated also in practical sessions) will include:

- i) determination of the acidity of a paper (surface pH non-destructive, pH cold extract)
- ii) determination of the alkaline reserve of a paper
- iii) the treatment of an acidic paper using conventional methods (spray)
- iv) the treatment of a paper by the CICL method
- v) determination of the breaking length of papers.

Visit: www.academicprojects.co.uk

FELLOWSHIPS

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, 10 Post-Doctoral Fellowships for Academic Year 2009-10

The Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, the Fritz Thyssen Foundation and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin invite scholars to apply for ten post-doctoral fellowships for the research program. This research program seeks to rethink key concepts and premises that link and divide Europe and the Middle East. The project draws on the international expertise of scholars in and outside of Germany and is embedded in university and extra-university research institutions in Berlin. 'Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe' supports historical-critical philology, rigorous engagement with the literatures of the Middle East and their histories, the social history of cities and the study of Middle Eastern political and philosophical thought (Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and secular) as central fields of research not only for area or cultural studies, but also for European intellectual history and other academic disciplines. The program explores modernity as a historical space and conceptual frame. The program puts forward three programmatic ideas:

- 1) supporting research that demonstrates the rich and complex historical legacies and entanglements between Europe and the Middle East;
- 2) reexamining genealogical notions of mythical 'beginnings', 'origins', and 'purity' in relation to

culture and society; and

3) rethinking key concepts of a shared modernity in light of contemporary cultural, social, and political entanglements that supersede identity discourses as well as national, cultural or regional canons and epistemologies that were established in the nineteenth century.

The program 'Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe' is funded by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation. It supports and builds upon the following interconnected research fields:
Cities Compared: Cosmopolitanism in the Mediterranean and Adjacent Regions

This research group is directed by Ulrike Freitag and Nora Lafi, both of the Centre for Modern Oriental Studies, Berlin. It contributes to the debate on cosmopolitanism and civil society from the historical experience of conviviality and socio-cultural, ethnic, and religious differences in the cities around the Mediterranean;

Islamic Discourse Contested: Middle Eastern and European Perspectives

This research group is directed by Gudrun Krämer, Institute for Islamic Studies, Freie Universität Berlin. It analyzes modern Middle Eastern thought and discourses in the framework of theories of multiple or reflexive modernities;

Perspectives on the Qur'an: Negotiating Different Views of a Shared History

This research group is directed by Angelika Neuwirth, Seminar for Arabic Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, and Stefan Wild, Universität Bonn. It situates the foundational text of Islam within the religious landscape of late antiquity and combines a historicization of its genesis with an analysis of its reception and perception in Europe and the Middle East;

Travelling Traditions: Comparative Perspectives on Near Eastern Literatures

This research group is directed by Friederike Pannewick, Centrum für Nah- und Mitteloststudien, Philipps-Universität Marburg, and Samah Selim, IREMAM, Aix-en-Provence. It reassesses literary entanglements and processes of canonization between Europe and the Middle East.

The fellowships are intended above all for scholars of history, literature, philology, political philosophy, religion and sociology who want to carry out their research projects in connection with the Berlin program. Fellows gain the opportunity to pursue research projects of their choice within the framework of one of the above-mentioned research fields and in relation to the program 'Europe in the Middle East - the Middle East in Europe'. In Berlin, they will be integrated into a university or non-university research institute. The working language of the research program is English.

Fellows will receive a monthly stipend of 1.800 € (supplement for accompanying spouses: 250 €), and are obliged to work in Berlin and to help shape the seminars and working discussions related to their research field.

As a rule, the fellowships begin on 1 October 2009 and end on 31 July 2010. The applicant's doctorate should have been completed no earlier than 2001.

An application should be made in explicit relation to one of the research fields and consist of 1.) a curriculum vitae; 2.) a 2 to 4 page project sketch; 3.) a sample of scholarly work (maximum 20 pages from an article, conference paper, or dissertation chapter); and 4.) a letter of recommendation by one university instructor.

The application should be submitted by email as word document or PDF File in English and sent to: eume@wiko-berlin.de; Europe in the Middle East - the Middle East in Europe, c/o Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Attn: Georges Khalil, Wallotstrasse 19, 14193 Berlin (fax: +49 30 - 89 00 12 00; khalil@wiko-berlin.de). For further information on the program 'Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe' and for detailed information on the research fields, please see: www.eume-berlin.de **Deadline: January 11, 2009.**

American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)
Mellon Research Fellowships in Yemen for 2009-2010

The American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS) is pleased to invite applications for Mellon Research Fellowships in Yemen for 2009-2010. AIYS is offering two fellowships to scholars who are citizens of—and who are permanent residents of—East European and Baltic countries including the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. They may engage in individual advanced research projects in any research field of the humanities or the social sciences involving Yemen. The fellowships are for two to three months for research to be carried out in affiliation with the AIYS center in Sana'a, Yemen.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has provided funds for AIYS to offer two fellowships. Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Slovak, Bulgarian, and Romanian scholars are eligible to apply. Applicants must hold the PhD or its equivalent. Applicants who have previously held a fellowship under this program may apply only after five years have lapsed since the prior fellowship. Preference will be given to scholars in the early stages of their careers. Fellows are expected to devote full time to their projects and to participate in the activities of the Institute. The program offers a stipend (up to \$11,500) to cover the costs of conducting the scholar's research project for two to three months, including travel, living expenses, and work-related costs.

For details about the program, eligibility and application requirements, see the AIYS website at <http://www.aiys.org/fellowships>, or contact Dr. Maria Ellis, Executive Director of AIYS, at the AIYS Administrative office: American Institute for Yemeni Studies; PO Box 311; Ardmore PA 19003-0311 (610 896-5412; fax: 610 896-9049; mellis@sas.upenn.edu. **Application deadline: March 1, 2009.**

We always welcome news of upcoming events from members. Please email your suggestions to tima@islamicmanuscript.org in the following format:

- Title of event
- Venue and date
- One sentence describing the event and a web link or email address for further information or enquiries

You are welcome to follow this information with a fuller description, but we ask that you stick to the above format initially. This will help us considerably in adding your event to the TIMA website.

Best regards,
Natalia

The Islamic Manuscript Association
c/o 33 Trumpington Street
Cambridge CB2 1QY, United Kingdom

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Yours sincerely,
Davidson MacLaren
Executive Director