

ABSTRACT

The principal aim of this conference is to bring together scholars of various fields who work with recycled inscribed pottery sherds, in order to examine writing on ostraca as a cultural practice. Particular attention will be paid to the types and purpose of documents on sherds, their material aspects, and the context in which they were produced and utilized (geographical, historical, social, and archaeological). With the increase in discoveries and publication of ostraca in the last few decades, the questions of new methodologies that allow for careful recording, analyzing, and interpretation of the material have come to the fore and will be addressed in the conference.

CONFERENCE VENUE

Heidelberg University Neue Universität Seminarraum HS01 – HS02 Grabengasse 3-5, 69117 Heidelberg

International Conference

Using Ostraca in the Ancient World: New Discoveries and Methodologies



Thursday 12 - Saturday 14 Heidelberg University Neue Universität





CONTACT

SFB 933, subproject A09: Schreiben auf Ostraka im inneren und äußeren Mittelmeerraum

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SFB 933 "MATERIAL TEXT CULTURES"





PROGRAM

Thursday, 12th October 2017

17:00-17:15

Opening Remarks

17:15-18:00

Ostraca from the Eastern Desert of Egypt. 30 years and Still Counting Adam Bülow-Jacobsen (Paris)

Reception Dinner

Friday, 13th October 2017

OSTRACA AS ARTIFACTS: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL VIEW

9:00-9:45

Papyri and Ostraka as Archaeological Objects: The Importance of the Contexts Paola Davoli (Lecce)

9:45-10:30

Pottery Sherds for Writing: An Overview of the Practice *Clementina Caputo (Heidelberg)*

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

PRAXIS OF WRITING ON OSTRACA

11:00-11:30

The Survival of New Kingdom Ostraca: Coincidence or Meaningful Patterns?

Ben J.J. Haring (Leiden)

11:30-12:00

Ostraca in Action
Rodney Ast (Heidelberg)

12:00-12:30

Some Prolific Letter Writers of the Eastern Desert Fatma Hamouda (Heidelberg)

12:30–14:00 Lunch

OSTRACA VS PAPYRI: A QUESTION OF CHOICE?

14:00-14:45

Hi Aḥutab': Ostraca From Elephantine With Letters in Aramaic (5th c. BCE and Beyond) Margaretha Folmer (Leiden)

14:45-15:30

Why Write Literature on an Ostracon? *Julia Lougovaya (Heidelberg)*

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

DESCRIBING, RECORDING, RESEARCHING: WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

16:00-16:30

Text, Potsherd and Context: the Many Souls of Ostraka. A Basic Statistical Approach. Bruno Bazzani (Reggio Emilia)

16:30-17:00

Working Together, or Making Best Use of Our Resources James Cowey (Heidelberg)

Saturday, 14th October 2017

CASE STUDIES

9:00-9:45

Ostraca and Their Use in Egyptian Temple Context from the Graeco-Roman Period – Soknopaiu Nesos and Athribis Sandra Lippert (Montpellier) Maren Schentuleit (Heidelberg)

9:45-10:30

"Forgive Me, Because I Could Not Find Papyrus": The Use and Distribution of Ostraca in Late Antique Western Thebes Jennifer Cromwell (Copenhagen)

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

New Finds

11:00-11:45

New Ostraca from Late Antique Ephesus *Patrick Sänger (Vienna)*

11:45-12:30

The Ostraca of Samut North and Bi'r Samut (Eastern Desert). Some Reflections on Type and Find Location Bérangère Redon (Lyon)

Marie-Pierre Chaufray (Bordeaux)

12:30-13:00

Concluding Remarks

13:00–14:00 Lunch

Dinner