



Call for Papers

International Conference: Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philological Encounters 5-7 June 2014, Leiden

The research program **ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE: REVISITING THE CANONS OF TEXTUAL SCHOLARSHIP** (Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin) and the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS), in cooperation with Leiden University Library, invite papers for their joint international conference **Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philological Encounters** which will take place at the University of Leiden, 5-7 June 2014.

Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philological Encounters

Convened by **Islam Dayeh** (Zukunftsphilologie/Freie Universität Berlin), **Umar Ryad** (Leiden University) and **Pascale Rabault-F Feuerhahn** (CNRS Paris)

As a result of colonial expansion and the technologies that made long-distance communication and travel possible, the 19th and 20th centuries witnessed an accelerated rate of individual interactions across the globe, including scholarly encounters. Individual scholars became more conscious of the commonalities that they shared with fellow humans all over the world, which they expressed in universalistic projects in philosophy, philology, the life sciences and other fields of human inquiry. Yet the encounter also brought about an articulation of differences. **Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philological Encounters** is a conference dedicated to exploring the personal (and especially self-reflective) dimensions of academic knowledge production by studying scholars (i.e., producers) and their contexts (i.e., institutions and societies) in relation to their objects of study.

Knowledge is always embedded in institutions and is produced by individual scholars whose choices are shaped by their biographies as much as by the subjects they study. Thus, **Philological Encounters** refers to the discovery of difference that came about due to the real-life encounters between professionals and interpreters of texts, languages and cultures across the globe. This conference outlines an avenue of research dedicated to the study of tensions, antagonisms and polemics – as well as fascination,

cooperation, appropriation and friendship – that transpired as a consequence of the meetings of different scholars and their dissimilar modes of textual scholarship, made possible through international cooperation in the form of conferences, journals, academic associations and student exchange.

The conference objective is not hagiography, but rather historicizing seemingly monolithic categories – such as 'orientalism', 'philology' and 'history' – by localizing the role of individual actors in the process of knowledge formation, in the colonial and post-colonial periods. The conference addresses this by looking at first-person accounts of conferences, reports, travel writing, correspondences, memoirs, auto/biographies, polemical essays, and translations, among other writings.

Application

If you are interested in participating, please send us your short CV and a 300 word abstract (sent by e-mail as one pdf file) by **14 July 2013** to **Zukunftsphilologie@trafo-berlin.de**. Accepted proposals will be notified by the end of September 2013. The final date for the submission of the full paper will be **9 March 2014**. It is expected that papers will be published in a peer-reviewed edited volume.

For accepted papers, we will be happy to fund your return flight/train (economy class/second class) and your hotel accommodation (from 4 to 7 June 2014).

Contact

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The research program **ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE** supports research in marginalized and undocumented textual practices and literary cultures with the aim of integrating texts and scholarly traditions from Asia, Africa, and the Middle East as well as from Europe itself, by way of a critical recuperation of the practice of philology. The program takes as its point of departure the increasingly growing concern with the global significance of philology and its potential to challenge exclusivist notions of the self and the canon. Zukunftsphilologie is based at the Freie Universitaet Berlin and is a research program at the Forum Transregionale Studien. It is supported by funds from the Land Berlin. For further information, please visit: www.zukunftsphilologie.de

The **Leiden University Centre for the study of Islam and Society (LUCIS)** is an interdisciplinary and interfaculty centre that brings together researchers from the Faculty of Humanities, the Leiden School of Law and the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences. The aim of LUCIS is to develop and strengthen teaching and research on Islam and Islamic societies. LUCIS also facilitates and contributes to public debate and policy making with regard to Islam. LUCIS's aim is to strengthen Islamic studies in Leiden. LUCIS organizes lectures and symposiums on current research projects that target both specialists and stakeholders. LUCIS also brings together existing expertise into new research projects. LUCIS awards grants to young and senior members of academic staff for their research at Leiden University. For further information please visit: <http://www.research.leiden.edu/research-profiles/amt/centres/lucis.html>

The **Forum Transregionale Studien** is a Berlin-based research platform designed to promote research that connects systematic and region-specific questions in a perspective that addresses entanglements and interactions beyond national, cultural or regional frames. The Forum works in tandem with already existing institutions and networks engaged in transregional studies and is supported by an association of directors of universities, research institutes and networks mainly based in Berlin. The Forum Transregionale Studien is funded by the Land of Berlin and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

For more information, please visit: www.forum-transregionale-studien.de