

## ABSTRACT

The international conference „Letters, archives and communication in Late Antiquity“ draws attention to the use of private and business letters in Late Antique Egypt in the context of Coptic society and communication. It involves specialists of late epistolography who work mainly on late antique monastic, village and urban networks and on diverse social milieus and groups.

The conference covers a range of epistolographic evidence including early Coptic letters (4th century CE), Greek and Coptic letters from the Byzantine period (5th-7th century CE), and 7th-8th century letters from bi- and trilingual archives (Greek, Coptic, and Arabic).

## CONTACT

SFB 933 “Material Textcultures”, Subproject A03 “Antique Letters as a Means of Communication”

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## VENUE

International Academic Forum Heidelberg (IWH)  
Hauptstraße 242 · 69117 Heidelberg



## SFB 933 “MATERIAL TEXTCULTURES“

[www.materiale-textkulturen.de](http://www.materiale-textkulturen.de)

[sfb933.hypotheses.org](http://sfb933.hypotheses.org)

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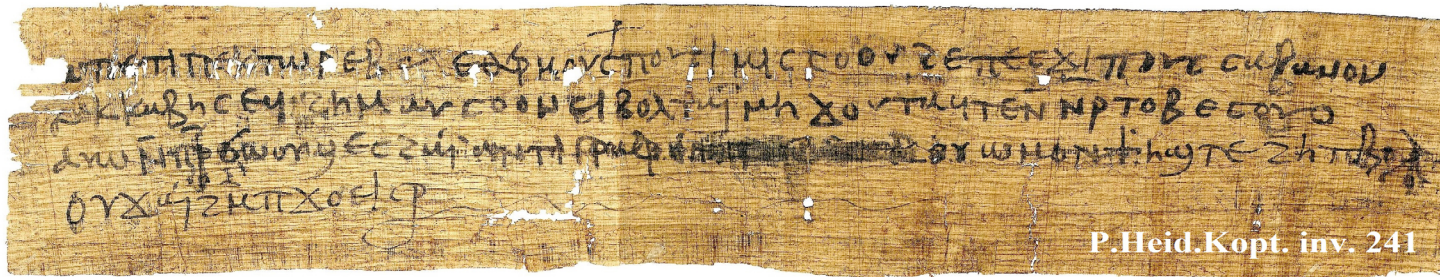
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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE LETTERS, ARCHIVES AND COMMUNICATION IN LATE ANTIQUITY

8 – 9 November 2021





P.Heid.Kopt. inv. 241

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## PROGRAMME

### Monday, 8 November 2021

- 09:00–09:30 Opening of the conference
- 09:30–10:00 Welcome talk and introduction: Letter writing in bilingual milieus  
**Rodney Ast (Heidelberg) / Lorelei Vanderheyden (Heidelberg)**
- 10:00–10:30 The private letters of Greco-Roman Egypt: limits and misunderstandings  
**Jean-Luc Fournet (Paris)**
- 10:30–11:00 The Ancient Letters Research Environment  
**Gustavo Riva (Heidelberg)**
- 11:00–11:30 Coffee break

#### Chair: Joachim Quack (Heidelberg)

- 11:30–12:00 Jesus – Abgar Correspondence: Coptic Magical Texts as Letters  
**Markéta Preininger (Würzburg)**
- 12:00–12:30 Mails from aunt Thecla. Documentary letters in indirect transmission (P.Col. inv. 600, 24-52)  
**Sebastian Richter (Berlin)**

12:30–13:00 General discussion (morning session)

13:00–14:30 Lunch Break

#### Chair: Julia Lougovaya (Heidelberg)

- 14:30–15:00 Letters from the Patriarch: Formats of official correspondence in Late Antique Egypt  
**Sofia Torallas-Tovar (Chicago)**
- 15:00–15:30 Letters “from” the Archive of Apa Sabinos of Antinoopolis: making further progress  
**Maria-Jesus Albarran (Madrid)**  
[– online –](#)
- 15:30–16:00 Coffee break

#### Chair: Jean-Luc Fournet (Paris)

- 16:00–16:30 Moving beyond clichés. A multimodal approach to politeness in Late Antique letters  
**Yasmine Amory (Ghent)**
- 16:30–17:00 Development of the politeness formulae based on the Greek word *skulmos*  
**Anne Boud'hors (Paris)**  
[– online –](#)

17:00–17:30 General discussion (afternoon session)

### Tuesday, 9 November 2021

#### Chair: Andrea Jördens (Heidelberg)

- 09:00–09:30 The Letters of Andrew of Hermonthis from the Monastery of Apa Ezekiel: The nature of the archive and the impact of the copyist(s)  
**Frederic Krueger (Berlin)**
- 09:30–10:00 Letters and letter writing in the so-called archive of Bishop Pisentius  
**Jacques van der Vliet (Leiden)**  
[– online –](#)
- 10:00–10:30 Coffee break

#### Chair: Rodney Ast (Heidelberg)

- 10:30–11:00 Materiality, layout, and style of the Arabic Qurra-letters  
**Naïm Vanthieghem (Paris)**  
[– online –](#)
- 11:00–11:30 Materiality, layout, and style of the Greek Qurra-letters  
**Lajos Berkes (Berlin)**  
[– online –](#)
- 11:30–12:00 Studying the Late Coptic Letters on Paper: Linguistic, Diplomatic and Material Aspects  
**Vincent Walter (Berlin)**
- 12:00–12:30 General discussion & conclusions
- 12:30–14:00 Lunch in IWH / Departure of the participants