

**Crossing Boundaries:
Multilingualism, Lingua Franca and Lingua Sacra**

TOPOI Conference at the MPIWG
Boltzmannstrasse 22, 14195 Berlin
8-10 November 2010

Monday 8 November

Introduction

10.00-10.30 Jürgen Renn (MPIWG) and Jens Braarvig (University of Oslo)

• *Discussion of Globalisation of Knowledge*

Jürgen Renn (MPIWG)

• *Brief survey of previous meetings*

Jens Braarvig (University of Oslo)

1. General Reflections on Multilingualism

10.30-11.15 in the chair: Jürgen Renn (MPIWG)

• *Empires and their languages*

Reinier Salverda (Friske Akademie, Leeuwarden)

11.15-11.30 *coffee*

2. Linguae Scripturae in Egypt

11.30-13.00 in the chair: Jochem Kahl (FU Berlin)

• *Language contact and language change in Egypt and Southwest Asia*

Frank Kammerzell (HU Berlin)

• *„After having translated these deeds, I explained to the Greeks the god's and the ruler's power". Some observations on multilingualism in Graeco-Roman Egypt*

Alexandra von Lieven (FU Berlin/Lichtenberg-Kolleg, Göttingen)

13.00-14.30 *lunch break*

3. Mesopotamia: Multilingualism and Lexicography

14.30-16.00 in the chair: Jörg Klinger (FU Berlin)

• *Another view of Listenwissenschaften*

Irving Finkel (British Museum, London)

• *Preliminary observations on newly edited Early Dynastic lists*

Gebhard Selz (University of Vienna)

16.00-16.30 *tea*

16.30-18.00 in the chair: Eva Cancik-Kirschbaum (FU Berlin)

• *On some peculiarities of Middle Assyrian bilingual compositions*

Klaus Wagensohnner (University of Vienna)

• *Was stellen keilschriftliche Listen dar? Zur Funktion schriftlicher Repräsentationen im Kontext multilingualer epistemischer Praktiken im antiken Mesopotamien*

Markus Hilgert (Heidelberg)

Tuesday 9 November

4. Looking Eastward towards Iran, India and Central Asia

10.00-11.30 in the chair: Ludek Vacin (MPIWG)

• *Multilingualism in Neo-Elamite and Achaemenid times*

Jan Tavernier (Louvain)

• *Wandering motifs, multilingualism and transcultural influences: Magic spells and incantations from India, Iran and Central Asia to Asia Minor, Egypt and Greece*

Velizar Sadowski (Academy of Sciences, Vienna)

11.30-11.45 *coffee*

11.45-12.30 in the chair: Jens Braarvig (University of Oslo)

• *Berosos in Aramaic (?)*

Mark Geller (FU Berlin)

12.30-14.00 *lunch break*

5. European Multilingualism from Late Antiquity to Middle Ages: Europe

14.00-15.30 in the chair: Beatrice Gabriel (MPIWG)

- *Multilingualism and classical heritage in Italian Quattrocento: The Hebrew-Latin evidence*

G. Busi (FU Berlin)

- *Loan-translation vs. Loanword: On the influence of Latin and French on Medieval German*

Kurt Gärtner (Marburg)

15.30-16.00 tea

6. Lingua Sacra and Lingua Franca

16.00-18.15 in the chair: Angelika Neuwirth (FU Berlin)

- *What language does God speak?*

Florentina Badalanova Geller (FU Berlin)

- *The Arabic Qur'an - Many languages*

Michael Marx (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften)

- *Euclid: Lingua Mathematica*

Jens Braarvig (University of Oslo)

Wednesday 10 November

7. Multilingualism in the Far East

10.00-11.30 in the chair: Matthias Schemmel (MPIWG)

- *Multilingualism and lingua franca in the ancient Chinese world*

William Boltz (University of Washington, Seattle)

- *Aspects of multilingualism in Turfan as seen in Manichaean texts*

Desmond Durkin-Meisterernst (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften)

11.30-11.45 coffee

8. Summary

11.45- 12.30 Jens Braarvig (University of Oslo) and Mark Geller (FU Berlin)