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 (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)

• Language contact and language change in Egypt and Southwest Asia
  Frank Kammerzell (HU)

• „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/Lichtenberg-Kolleg, Göttingen)

13.00-14.30 lunch break
3. Mesopotamia: Multilingualism and Lexicography

14.30-16.00 in the chair: Jörg Klinger (FU)
- 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)
- On some peculiarities of Middle Assyrian bilingual compositions
  Klaus Wagensonner (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 Braavig (Oslo)
- Reconciling Prakrit, Greek and Aramaic: Principles, problems, and puzzles of the ancient translations of the Asokan Inscriptions
  Richard Salomon (University of Washington, Seattle)

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)
- 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: Angelica Neuwirth (FU)
- What language does God speak?
  Florentina Badalanova Geller (FU)
- The Arabic Qur’an - Many languages (?)
  Michael Marx (University of Potsdam)
- God in the flesh: translating the incarnation and the globalization of Christianity in the 19th century British empire
  Torkel Brekke (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 (BBAW)

11.30-11.45 coffee

8. Summary

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