International Workshop

What should we do with the fragments?
A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

Funded by the Department of Philology of the University of Crete

Thursday and Friday, May 4-5, 2017

We want to invite you to make a note in your diary for the International Workshop on Papyrus and Inscription Fragments (IWorkPIF).

It has the explicit aim of drawing attention to the variety of perspectives used by scholars to discuss fragments of papyri and inscriptions, usually smaller and less attractive pieces than the large complete ones, and which an editor or researcher is usually tempted to leave for later or, sometimes, to ignore completely.

The IWorkPIF is an interdisciplinary workshop and is of interest to students, university teachers and researchers of all departments of the Faculty of Letters.

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Thursday, May 4, 2017
08:45-11:45
Lecture room 11

08:45 Workshop opening remarks. Welcome

09:15 Nikos Lazaridis, A journey within a journey: The investigation of an ancient Egyptian traveller’s graffito in Kharga Oasis

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In this paper, Nikos Lazaridis will discuss Amun Rock 9, a rock graffito that was carved by the priest of Amun, Hut, probably during the 18th century B.C. Our epigraphic journey will follow step-by-step the analysis of the graffito’s different aspects, including its carving style, use of language, contents, as well as relationship with its immediate and wider contexts. The goal of this journey is to illustrate best the various difficulties and issues which an Egyptologist/epigrapher encounters and has to tackle carefully, in order to extract in a reliable fashion as much historical information as possible about the making and significance of such desert graffiti.

10:00 Fabian Reiter, From the pot to the top: Big hitters on ostraca

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What kind of literary texts would you expect to find on small potsherds? Fabian Reiter will offer an overview of types and themes of non-documentary texts on ostraca and will focus on the presentation of a most singular fragment from the excavations of the ancient Egyptian village of Tebtynis (Fayoum).

11:00 Ivan Guermeur, What the Hieratic papyri (excavations 1994-2010) tell us about the religious practices in Tebtynis during the Ptolemaic period

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http://cnrs.academia.edu/IvanGuermeur and
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Ivan Guermeur will present the Hieratic papyri, which were discovered in Tebtynis (Fayoum) between 1994 and 2010 and shed new light on our understanding of the religious practices in the culturally mixed society in the village of Tebtynis in the Hellenistic Period and in the beginning of the Roman rule in Egypt. Although a large number of the Hieratic papyri concern the cult of the local crocodile god, Soknebtynis (“Sobek lord of Tebtynis”), some papyri highlight the existence of a local Osirian cult, which was not hitherto attested. A remarkable sigilary documentation also confirms the existence of this cult.
Friday, May 5, 2017
15:45-18:30
Lecture Room 11

15:45  Ivan Guermer, Greek and Egyptian in Hellenistic Egypt: From the Court to the Chora

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16:30  Marco Vespa, The animal presence in the ἥθικὴ στοιχείωσις by Hierocles the Philosopher

Université Nice Sophia Antipolis - University of Siena - University of Pisa,
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Part of Hierocles’ book “Elements of Ethics”, ἥθικὴ στοιχείωσις, was preserved only in a papyrus fragment found in Hermopolis in 1901 (ΒΚΤ IV = P.Berol. inv. 9780v; see
http://ww2.smb.museum/berlpap/index.php/record/?result=0&Publikation=ΒΚΤ+IV.%22&order=Publikation=%22ΒΚΤ+IV.%22&order=Nr._mit_Zusatz-ASC&columns=pubnr). This will give Marco Vespa the opportunity to highlight how he normally uses papyri for his research and what this papyrus fragment can tell concerning animals in Antiquity. He will analyze and deepen several questions from the examples of “wise” animals given in the text to the broader cultural and encyclopedical context in which the text is located.

17:30  Fabian Reiter, Booze and Weeds in an Egyptian village? Problematic issues in the new ostraca from Tebtynis

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Fabian Reiter will present some results and problems of his work on the edition of Greek texts on ostraka, which have been discovered in recent excavations in the Egyptian village of Tebtynis (Fayoum). Several groups of texts concern the meetings of village associations.

18:15  Closing remarks

19:00  Wine party