

Current Research in Egyptology 2023



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Current Research in Egyptology 2023

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Edited by

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Introduction

We at the department of Egyptology of The University of Basel, Switzerland, were excited to be elected as the hosts for the twenty-third Current Research in Egyptology Conference, which was held on 10th-15th September 2023. Despite the age of the university itself, the chair of Egyptology in Basel was established comparatively recently, in 1957 for Ursula Schweizer. She can be considered the founder of German-speaking Swiss Egyptology which was the culmination of work in and cooperation with Egyptological institutes in Germany and France, not to forget those of French-speaking Switzerland who at this point already had a long history of independent and international cooperative work with France concentrated around, for example, the Universities of Geneva and Neuchâtel. From the very beginning, this form of cooperation has been central to Egyptology in Switzerland and Basel, and the current department of Egyptology strives to uphold this legacy. It was therefore our great pleasure to invite more than 70 young Egyptologists from around the world to join us in person, with several more joining us online, to present research from Italy, Egypt, Portugal, England, Wales, the USA, Australia, France, Japan, Cuba, Brazil, and several other countries in the form of 87 paper presentations and 17 poster presentations on a variety of topics, such as religion, history of Egyptology, archival research, scientific and digital methods, reports on archaeological excavations, methodological issues and many others.

As a new trial, we also introduced a new 10 minute-presentation format to the regular CRE structure, next to the already existing 20 minute and poster presentations. The 10 minute-presentations were aimed at introducing newly started projects or still ongoing research.

The organising committee, consisting of a team of ten doctoral candidates and postdoctoral researchers, would like to express its gratitude to all the people who have helped to realise this conference. First and foremost, our gratitude goes towards the University of Basel and the Department of Ancient Civilizations, especially the Basel Egyptology team and Prof. Dr. Susanne Bickel in particular. She moreover welcomed all the participants in the opening keynote lecture, presenting Egyptological research at Basel. Our other two keynote speakers, Dr. Giuseppina Lenzo and Prof. Dr. Sandrine Vuilleumier, completed the presentation of Egyptological research in Lausanne and Basel respectively.

The organisation of the conference would not have been possible without our sponsors. A heartfelt thank you goes towards the Egyptology Research Group at the University of Basel, Freiwillige Akademische Gesellschaft, eikones - Zentrum für die Theorie und Geschichte des Bildes, Studentische Körperschaft der Universität Basel (SKUBA), Basler Forum für Ägyptologie, Fonds zur Förderung der Altertumskunde, Max Geldner Stiftung, Uni Basel Forschungsfonds Nachwuchsförderung and the Doktoratsprogramm der Basler Altertumswissenschaften.

After four days filled with presentations, the last day of the conference was used to explore the broader Basel area. While one group went for a hike in the mountains, another group visited the Roman site Augusta Raurica. Two tours were kindly offered by Dr. Thomas Hufschmid and Cedric Grezet, one in the ancient theatre and one of the current excavations. The excursions were a nice ending to a successful conference!

We would of course also like to thank all the contributors who sent in a paper as well as extend our gratitude towards Archaeopress and to Mike Shurer in particular. Finally, we would like to thank the members of our scientific committee, and the additional scholars who reviewed the articles. We are looking forward to CRE 2024 in Liverpool and wish the organisers all the luck in the world!

The Editors

Organizing Committee

Alexis Den Doncker, postdoctoral assistant at the Department of Egyptology at the University of Basel.

Lauren Dogaer, doctoral candidate in the SNF-PRIMA Project ‘Beyond the Text: New Funerary Compositions from the Greco-Roman Period: Textualities and Archaeology in Thebes’.

Cyprian H.W. Fong, doctoral candidate in the SNF-PRIMA project ‘Beyond the Text: New Funerary Compositions from the Greco-Roman Period: Textualities and Archaeology in Thebes’.

Elena Hertel, doctoral candidate in the SNF-FNRS project ‘Crossing Boundaries: Understanding Complex Scribal Practices in Ancient Egypt’.

Charlotte Hunkeler, doctoral candidate and university assistant at the Department of Egyptology at the University of Basel.

Jacqueline M. Huwylar, doctoral candidate at the Department of Egyptology at the University of Basel.

Marwan Kilani, postdoctoral fellow, head of the SNF Ambizione project ‘Like the conversation of a Delta man with a man from Elephantine! Exploring the interactions between dialectal realities, Levantine loanwords, and sociolinguistic dynamics in New Kingdom Egypt’.

Geirr Lunden, doctoral candidate in the graduate school of eikones – Center for the Theory and History of the Image.

Tarek Mohamed, doctoral candidate and ESKAS scholarship holder at the Department of Egyptology at the University of Basel.

Sayed Soliman, doctoral candidate and ESKAS scholarship holder at the Department of Egyptology at the University of Basel.

Student Members

Felix Bloch

Melina Jakobs

Anna Khoury

Najara Merki

Bettina Schulz

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Susanne Bickel

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Giuseppina Lenzo

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Sandrine Vuilleumier

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