64th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale –
Innsbruck July 16-20, 2018

First Circular - October 2017

The Leopold-Franzens University of Innsbruck has the honor and pleasure to invite you to the 64th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale that will take place in Innsbruck, Austria, on July 16-20, 2018. In the history of the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, this is only the second time that the conference will be held in Austria.

Theme
The theme of the 64th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale is

“The Intellectual Heritage of the Ancient Near East.”

The topic of the 64th RAI will coincide with the scientific aims of the “Melammu Project”, namely the investigation of the continuity, transformation, and diffusion of Mesopotamian and Ancient Near Eastern cultures from the third millennium BCE through the Ancient World until the Islamic periods and after. The Project, founded in Helsinki in 1998, promoted comparative studies dealing with the continuity of the Ancient Near Eastern Cultures into the present world and their cultural influence on the western thought. For the first time the conference will combine a Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale with a Melammu Symposium.

The organizing committee is particularly interested in welcoming lectures on the Ancient Near Eastern cultures and their cultural reception. Papers related to the main topic should ideally investigate the continuity, transformation, and diffusion of Mesopotamian and Ancient Near Eastern cultures through the western classical to the later Islamic times and modern worlds.
Papers belonging to the main theme “The Intellectual Heritage of the Ancient Near East” will be divided into the following thematic sections: (1) Literature, (2) Science (e.g. medicine, astronomy, afterlife of Ancient Near Eastern science and technology), (3) Religion, (4) Visual Arts, (5) Cultural Transfer (e.g. cultural exchange within Mesopotamia and beyond, Ancient Near Eastern traditions outside cuneiform cultures), (6) Geography and Landscape.

Please indicate your preferred sections in the topics together with your abstract submission.

**Workshops, Papers, Posters, and Abstracts**

The committee will also welcome lectures, posters and workshops on different topics, including panels on social and economic history, national heritage, current fieldwork in the Near Eastern regions, and thematic research projects.

**Workshops** must include a minimum of four related presentations. Proposals for topics, including a provisional list of contributions or participants, must be submitted to the organizing committee by no later than **January 1, 2018**.

All abstracts will go through a selection process before being accepted. The papers of all sessions should last no more than 20 minutes, with a further 10 minutes for discussion. To facilitate the selection, we kindly ask the participants to deliver informative **abstracts of 200–400 words by no later than March 1, 2018**. Since the abstracts will be distributed in printed form, we recommend that non-native speakers have their text proofread. Participants of a workshop will submit their abstract directly to the organizers of their workshop, who will pass on the information to the organizing committee once the program of their workshop is final and no later than **April 1, 2018**.

Participants will be notified of the acceptance of their abstracts by no later than **April 15, 2018**.

**Deadlines in Overview**

Workshop Proposals: **January 1, 2018**  
Titles and Abstracts Submission: **March 1, 2018**  
Abstracts Submission for Papers in Workshops: **April 1, 2018**  
Notification of Acceptance: **April 15, 2018**

**Registration**

The online registration is now open under [https://www.uibk.ac.at/congress/rai_64/registration.html.en](https://www.uibk.ac.at/congress/rai_64/registration.html.en).

To facilitate payment and to avoid additional costs, we kindly ask that participants based in Europe pay by bank transfer. Payment by credit card is available through the conference website.
The registration fees will be:

1. **Registrations before March 31, 2018**
   - IAA member: € 110
   - IAA member, student: € 50
   - IAA member’s guest/accompanying person: € 60
   - Non IAA member: € 130
   - Non IAA member, student: € 60
   - Non IAA member’s guest/accompanying person: € 70
   - Publisher: € 100

2. **Registrations after April 1, 2018**
   - IAA member: € 120
   - IAA member, student: € 60
   - IAA member’s guest/accompanying person: € 70
   - Non IAA member: € 140
   - Non IAA member, student: € 70
   - Non IAA member’s guest/accompanying person: € 80
   - Publisher: € 120

**Further Information**

For conference registration, the submission of proposed papers, proposed workshops, and abstracts sign in under “Registration” at the conference website. Information on the venues, travel and accommodation is provided under “General Information.”

A 2nd circular is planned for March 2018. For further questions please do not hesitate to contact us at rai64@uibk.ac.at.

We look forward to hosting you in Innsbruck!

**The Organizing Committee**

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Martin Lang
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