

## TIMA NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2009

### TIMA EVENTS

#### TIMA GRANT SCHEME 2009

**Deadline: 16 October**

The TIMA Grant Scheme was established to further the aims of the Association by supporting the projects and research of its members in the field of Islamic manuscripts. Work that we aim to support includes, but is not limited to, activities related to preservation and conservation; facilitating access to digital and microfilm images of manuscripts; the cataloguing of collections and the creation of universal cataloguing standards; publishing and editing. In brief, the Grant Scheme is designed to further any activities which support the needs of manuscript collections, particularly in the area of collection care and management and in advancing scholarship related to Islamic manuscripts.

This year's deadline is 16 October 2009. For more information please see <http://www.islamicmanuscript.org/grants/grantscheme/Funds.html>

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### TIMA VACANCIES

#### Two Office Administrators

**Closing date for applications: 9 October 2009**

The Islamic Manuscript Association is one of the main projects of the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation. The Association is an international non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting Islamic manuscript collections and supporting those who work with them. It was formed in response to the urgent need to address the poor preservation and inaccessibility of many Islamic manuscript collections around the world. Both positions are full-time and are based at the Association's office in Cambridge, UK. The contracts are for one year with the possibility of renewal. Employment in Cambridge will be through the Foundation's representative company Tradigital, which is based in Cairo, Egypt. We are seeking to fill these positions immediately. The salary will be £25,000 gross per annum.

The successful candidates will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Association, including the organisation of the Association's annual conference, meetings and workshops; the development of online resources for professionals working with Islamic manuscripts, and the coordination of the Association's grant scheme. They will report to the executive director. Excellent interpersonal skills and an enthusiasm for the Association's aims are essential.

The successful candidates will be able to work well as part of a small team and also under their own direction when necessary.

#### Key responsibilities

- \* Administrate the Association's office on a day-to-day basis
- \* Work with the executive director and other Association staff to organise Association events including conferences, meetings, and workshops
- \* Regularly revise and update the content of the news, resources, grants and events pages of the Association's website in cooperation with the executive director and webmaster
- \* Monitor the progress and development of projects funded by the Association's grant scheme
- \* Monitor and support the activities of the Association's working groups: cataloguing, conservation, digitisation, and research and publishing
- \* Manage the Association's finances in consultation with the treasurer and accountant
- \* Maintain all records required for the good governance of the Association (e.g. membership lists) with the relevant legal authorities

#### Key qualifications and experience

- \* Good level of general education to a bachelor's level
- \* Excellent written English and phone manner
- \* Proven experience in administration and staff management
- \* Excellent IT skills: Microsoft Office, databases, email clients and wikis
- \* Willing to travel internationally
- \* Capable of juggling multiple demanding priorities in a high-pressure environment
- \* Knowledge of a discipline relating to the care and management of manuscript collections (e.g. cataloguing, conservation or digitisation), Middle Eastern and Islamic studies and/or codicology an advantage
- \* Knowledge of Arabic an advantage

### **Application procedure**

To apply please send a CV and covering letter explaining your suitability for the position to:

The Islamic Manuscript Association Ltd  
 c/o 33 Trumpington Street  
 Cambridge CB2 1QY  
 United Kingdom

Email: [tima@islamicmanuscript.org](mailto:tima@islamicmanuscript.org)

The closing date for all applications is 9 October 2009  
 Interviews will be held from 12 October 2009

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The Sixth Islamic Manuscript Conference: Central Asian Islamic Manuscripts and Manuscript Collections**  
**8-10 July 2010, Queens' College, University of Cambridge, UK**

The Islamic Manuscript Association is pleased to announce that the Sixth Islamic Manuscript Conference will be held at Queens' College, University of Cambridge from 8-10 July 2010. The Conference will be hosted by the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation, the Cambridge Central Asia Forum, and the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre of Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge. The theme of the Conference will be Central Asian Islamic manuscripts and manuscript collections.

The Association invites the submission of abstracts on topics related to the study of Islamic manuscripts – particularly codicology – and the care and management of Islamic manuscript collections. Preference will be shown to submissions pertaining to the Conference's theme. The Conference will be organised around the Association's four key working areas: cataloguing, conservation, digitisation, and research and publishing; and papers falling into these broad categories will be included in the relevant panel. The Association will also consider submissions on topics that do not fall directly under the purviews of the working groups but are yet concerned with scholarship on Islamic manuscripts or the care and management of Islamic manuscript collections. Please note that the total number of papers accepted will not exceed 25 and that preference will be given to speakers who have not presented papers at the Association's previous conferences.

The invitation is open to members and non-members of the Association. The languages of the Conference will be Arabic and English and submissions will be accepted in both languages. The deadline for submissions is 31 January 2010. Late submissions will not be considered. The duration of each conference paper is 30 minutes inclusive of questions and answers.

Please send an abstract of 500 words, a resume and the attached cover sheet to the Association's Executive Committee at the below email, fax or postal address:

The Islamic Manuscript Association Ltd  
c/o 33 Trumpington Street  
Cambridge CB2 1QY  
United Kingdom  
Email: [tima@islamicmanuscript.org](mailto:tima@islamicmanuscript.org)  
Fax: +44 (0)1223 302 218

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**LECTURE**  
**"Earthquakes and other upheavals in Persian History"**  
**5.00pm, Saturday 3 October**  
**Room 3, Mill Lane Lecture Rooms, Cambridge, UK**

Professor Charles Melville, president of TIMA, will be giving his inaugural lecture, 'Earthquakes and other upheavals in Persian History' at 5.00pm on Saturday 3 October, in lecture room 3 of Mill Lane Lecture Rooms, Cambridge, UK. Refreshments will follow in the Thomas Grey Room at Pembroke College. All are welcome.

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**CONCERT SERIES**  
**Music and identity in the Middle East and Central Asia**  
**13 October- 17 November**  
**Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Sidgwick Site, Cambridge, UK**

This programme of lectures is jointly hosted by Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre of Islamic Studies and Cambridge Central Asia Forum, University of Cambridge, Michaelmas term, 2009 (13 October- 17 November). The lectures are to be held in the Faculty of Middle Eastern and Asian Studies, at the Sidgwick Site.

Programme Convener: Dr Razia Sultanova  
For Information please contact: [Secretary@cis.cam.ac.uk](mailto:Secretary@cis.cam.ac.uk)

For a more comprehensive list of lectures and biographies, please visit:  
<http://www.cis.cam.ac.uk/ls2009Mich.htm>

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Online collection**

The Marcel Collection of Early Qur'ans in the National Library of Russia are now available online at:  
<http://www.nlr.ru/eng/exib/Koran/>

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**NEWSLETTER**  
**The September 2009 Issue of the Library of Congress Digital Preservation Newsletter is now available.**

<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/news/newsletter/200909.pdf>

In this issue:

- \*Profile of Digital Preservation Pioneer David Riecks
- \*An article about recently published white papers on preserving digital legislative data
- \*LOCKSS Chief Scientist David Rosenthal speaks at Library of Congress
- \*An article about the K-12 Web Archiving Program
- \*Library of Congress digital initiatives profiled in "Library Journal"
- \*News of the 2009 SAA annual meeting and Saving Public Policy Web Content meeting
- \*Upcoming Events: iPres 2009 and the Cultural Heritage Online Conference

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## **REQUEST**

### **Islamic Manuscripts of the Walters Art Museum: A Digital Resource**

This is an informal invitation to provide feedback on current progress of the "Islamic Manuscripts of the Walters Art Museum: A Digital Resource." Please see, for example, W. 582:

<http://art.thewalters.org/viewwoa.aspx?id=23935>

The Walters Art Museum houses one of North America's most important collections of codices and single folios produced in the Islamic world from the 9th to the 19th century. In 2008, with a Preservation and Access Grant supported by NEH, the Walters initiated a project to preserve, catalogue, archive, and provide global unlimited access to the museum's little-known but exceptional collection of Islamic manuscripts. October 2009 marks the halfway point of this pioneering effort. All comments and suggestions will be gratefully welcomed by e-mailing: [alandau@thewalters.org](mailto:alandau@thewalters.org).

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## **EXHIBITION**

### **"Common Cultural Heritage: Plurality in Unity"**

**September 16th to October 11th, 2009**

**Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, Ibrahim Pasa Palace, Sultanahmet, Istanbul**

An exhibition of manuscripts and rare books with original and digital copies, part of the "Common Cultural Heritage: Plurality in Unity" series of events.

Ayda Perçin  
Director of Manuscripts and Rare Books Department

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## **CONFERENCE**

### **International Conference on Academic Libraries**

**October 5-8, 2009,**

**Delhi University Conference Venue**

The objective of the conference is to reposition the Academic Libraries by taking advantage of modern developments in the field of ICT; management techniques including change management; scholarly communications; advocacy; user-vendor-librarians interface etc. and develop a ROAD MAP which can be used by the governmental agencies for upgrading the library systems in India. We have developed a document having the conceptual framework which provides a framework on how various facets are conceived.

**MANY PROMINENT SPEAKERS FROM INDIA AND ABROAD ARE EXPECTED**

For more details please visit: <http://library.du.ac.in/ocs>

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**SALE**

**7 Oct 09, London**

**Exhibition Opens 2 Oct 09**

Arts of the Islamic World  
Sale L09723

E-CATALOGUE:

<[http://links.mkt2449.com/ctt?  
kn=2&m=2304094&r=Njk2Mzg5MzI2NAS2&b=0&j=MTU4MTAxNzE5S0&mt=1&rt=0](http://links.mkt2449.com/ctt?kn=2&m=2304094&r=Njk2Mzg5MzI2NAS2&b=0&j=MTU4MTAxNzE5S0&mt=1&rt=0)>

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**SALE**

**Sam Fogg Ltd**

**15D Clifford Street**

**London W1S 4JZ, UK**

For a list of the items in our new exhibition of Arabic, Persian and Ottoman Manuscripts, please click on our catalogue online:

<http://www.samfogg.com/cgi-bin/gallery-2.pl?type=exhibition&id=20091006&style=2>

Let us know if you would like more images or a price list. A PDF catalogue with detailed descriptions is available on request.

Tel: 020 7534 2100

Fax: 020 7534 2122

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Third International Margot Conference**

**The Digital Middle Ages: Teaching and Research**

**June 16-17, 2010**

**Barnard College, Columbia University, NY, USA**

**The deadline for proposals: Friday, October 2, 2009**

Proposals for complete sessions and individual presentations are currently being accepted for the Third International MARGOT Conference (Moyen Age et Renaissance Groupe de recherches – Ordinateurs et Textes) held at Barnard College, Columbia University, New York from June 16 to June 17, 2010.

During this two day conference, we will explore the use of digital resources in teaching and research in the Middle Ages. We especially encourage submissions on the current state of the art in digital studies, on teaching and curricula matters, and on recent new and expected future developments in the field.

For information about the conference, including proposal submissions, registration, and accommodation, please go to [www.barnard.edu/digitalmiddleages2010](http://www.barnard.edu/digitalmiddleages2010). The website will be updated periodically. For inquiries, please contact Prof. Laurie Postlewaite: [lpostlew@barnard.edu](mailto:lpostlew@barnard.edu).

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## **CONFERENCE**

**'Object, Artifact and Script: digital approaches to inscribed surfaces**  
**Thursday and Friday, 8-9 October, 2009**  
**e-Science Institute in Edinburgh**

The text upon an object is both evidence for and part of its form and therefore its function; just as the construction and purpose of an object gives context to and aids in the interpretation of text. Indeed, the form of an object effects the placement and design of text and decoration upon it. Non-verbal decorations drawn or painted on an object fall somewhere between (2-D) text and (3-D) physical object: like the text they are added by the scribe or artist, they have semantic (if not verbal) connotation, and are often taken out of the material context of the object; like the object, however, they are considered as artistic and visual content, and are hard to digitize meaningfully. Nevertheless they sometimes come closest to crossing the artificial boundary and may be studied by both philologists and archaeologists. Text may also be constrained by the placement of decoration on a surface, or vice versa.

If you are interested in attending this event, please register on the eSI website, and confirmation will be sent you as soon as possible.

Programme will be posted at <http://www.nesc.ac.uk/esi/events/1014/> .

Email: [gabriel.bodard@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:gabriel.bodard@kcl.ac.uk)

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## **JOB**

**Assistant professorship in the history of the Islamic World**  
**Department of History at Texas A&M University**  
**Review of applications will begin on October 9, 2009**

The Department of History at Texas A&M University invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in the history of the Islamic World to begin in September 2010 or later. Applications from historians of all time periods, all areas, and all subfields of the history of the Islamic World, including minority communities, are welcome. We especially encourage candidates whose work crosses cultural borders, employs a broad comparative perspective, takes a transnational approach, and/or uses gender as a form of analysis. A PhD or defense of the PhD by September 1, 2010, evidence of scholarly accomplishment or potential, and the ability to take an active role in both graduate and undergraduate courses are required.

Send a letter of application, a current c.v., a short writing sample (article or chapter), and three letters of reference to Cynthia A. Bouton, Chair, Islamic World Search, Department of History, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-4236. Review of applications will begin on October 9, 2009, and the search will continue until the position is filled. To ensure full consideration all materials should arrive by that date.

(979) 845-7151  
FAX (979) 862-4314  
[c-bouton@tamu.edu](mailto:c-bouton@tamu.edu)

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## **JOB**

**Tenure-track Assistant Professor, Islamic World**  
**Northeastern Illinois University**

## **Review of applications begins October 15**

Islamic World. Northeastern Illinois University invites applications for the position of tenure-track assistant professor with appointment beginning August 2010, pending budgetary approval. Candidates should have a deep and broad understanding of the Islamic World, with area of specialization and period of concentration open, and interdisciplinary approaches welcome. The successful candidate is expected to teach general surveys as well as upper-division and graduate courses in area of specialization.

Send letter of application stating teaching and research interests, graduate transcript, c.v. with current e-mail address, statement of teaching philosophy, and three letters of reference (at least one addressing teaching effectiveness) to Charles Steinwedel, Chair, Islamic World Search, Dept. of History, Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave., Chicago, IL 60625-4699.

Electronic submissions are welcome. Additional information is available at [www.neiu.edu](http://www.neiu.edu).

Phone: (773) 442-5624

Email: [c-steinwedel@neiu.edu](mailto:c-steinwedel@neiu.edu)

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## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**International Journal of Digital Libraries (IJDL)**

**Special Issue on Foundations of Digital Libraries**

**October 15, 2009: Due date for submission of manuscripts**

**<http://www.dljjournal.org/>**

The aim of IJDL is to advance the theory and practice of acquisition, definition, organization, management and dissemination of digital information via global networking. In particular, the journal will emphasize technical issues in digital information production, management and use, issues in high-speed networks and connectivity, inter-operability, and seamless integration of information, people, profiles, tasks and needs, security and privacy of individuals and business transactions and effective business processes in the Information Age.

More information about the journal can be found at: <http://www.dljjournal.org/>

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## **CONFERENCE**

**SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE BOOK**

**The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK**

**16-18 October 2009**

<http://book-conference.com>

The Book Conference serves as an inclusive forum for examining the past, current and future role of the book. It proceeds from recognition that although the book is an old medium of expression, it embodies thousands of years' experience of recording knowledge. The pervasive influence of this experience continues to shape newer forms of information technology, while at the same time providing a reference point for innovation.

The Book Conference not only considers the book and other information technologies as artefacts or discrete objects, it also examines other key aspects of the information society, including publishing, libraries, information systems, literacy and education. Broadly speaking, the Conference engages the interrelation between changes in thought, creation, production and distribution, and the role and meaning

of the book and other information technologies. The Book Conference welcomes a wide range of participants from the world of books including authors, publishers, printers, librarians, IT specialists, book retailers, editors, literacy educators, and academic researchers and scholars from all disciplinary traditions.

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## **WORKSHOP**

### **Workshop on the Digitisation of Library Material in Europe Royal Library of The Netherlands 19 to 21 October 2009**

Topics in the programme are: public-private partnerships, new economic models, digitisation needs of research and public libraries, measuring the impact of digitisation projects, aggregation of digital content, interoperability and metadata issues.

Click on <http://www.libereurope.eu/node/391> to see the full programme and to register.

Deadline for registration: Friday 2 October 2009

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## **CONFERENCE**

### **Water Impact on Library, Archival and Museum Materials Prague, October 29-31, 2009**

This conference is part of the cycle initiated by IFLA-PAC Core activity focusing on cultural heritage preservation and the four elements, Air, Water, Fire and Earth. The first conference on Air was held at the Bibliothèque nationale de France on March 5-6, 2009. The second one, in Prague, is dedicated to the possible dangers due to water hanging over cultural heritage.

You can find the draft programme at:

[http://www.ifla.org/files/pac/programme\\_eau\\_prague.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/pac/programme_eau_prague.pdf)

Registration is free of charge due to the support of Czech ministry of Culture.

To register: [http://www.nkp.cz/water\\_impact\\_2009/index.htm](http://www.nkp.cz/water_impact_2009/index.htm)

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## **CONFERENCE**

### **Preserving Africa's Ancient Manuscripts Addis Ababa, 17-19 December 2010 Deadline for abstracts submission: 30 October 2009**

West Africa is by far the largest reservoir of ancient 7th-19th century manuscripts in the Africa region. Most of these manuscripts are kept in disastrous conditions and need special care in the areas of conservation, microfilming, digitalization, cataloguing and content analysis. There is renewed interest from the part of Africana scholars and culturalists with regard to Africa's written treasures kept in closed family circles, mosques and Islamic centers.

The convening of an international conference on the subject matter as well the publication of a landmark book on the conservation and analysis of ancient manuscripts in Africa will play a critical role for setting in motion a larger issue related to the preservation and promotion of Africa's cultural heritage and historical treasures. Until recently, the Timbuktu manuscripts were completely ignored at world level. Thanks to several stakeholders' interest and The Ford Foundation's pioneering engagement in this field, many of

these ancient manuscripts were systematically collected and catalogued while Timbuktu's main public and private libraries were empowered to build capacities in the areas of cataloguing, preservation, translation of Arabic material and restoration.

The International Exhibition on Ancient Manuscripts and Writing Systems in Africa will be inaugurated on 17 December 2010 in Addis Ababa. It will take place in the historic halls of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa in close cooperation with Ethiopia's Ministry of Culture, Council of Churches, Islamic Council, Institute of Ethiopian Studies and national museums.

The exhibition will cover the following areas: 1/ Evolution of Africa's writing systems (rocks; cave paintings; parchments; scrolls; papyrus; paper); 2/ Presentation of ancient manuscripts from a wide range of African countries dating back – 4 000 years to the XIXth century; 3/ Presentation of relevant original or copied ancient manuscripts, photographs and artifacts; 4/ demonstrations of calligraphic skills by African crafts men and women; 4/ sale of copies of ancient manuscripts and rare books provided by participant private libraries as well as some of the latest books published on Africa's ancient manuscripts and history.

Simultaneous interpretation in English, Arabic and French will be available.

### **Participants**

There will be a maximum of 60 invited participants and perhaps more depending on the availability of financial sponsoring. Invited librarians and speakers from Africa will be sponsored (return tickets, accommodation and food).

### **Call for papers**

Contributors will be asked to send a CV and an abstract of 200 words summarizing salient methodological and analytical approaches. The deadline for abstracts submission is 30 October 2009. All documents should be sent to the Steering Committee at the following email address:

Scommittee@africanmanuscripts.org. Selected authors will be informed and will receive information on the editorial format they will be using. Deadline for papers submission will be 30 March 2010.

Commissioned papers will cover research expenses and honoraria. All papers will be peer-reviewed and published in a book format that will be available prior to the International Conference.

Email: Mgmt@africanmanuscripts.org

Postal: P.O. Box 5409 Dakar-Fann, Dakar, Senegal

J. Habib Sy

Tel.: +221 8203660 (office); + 221 5691682 (cell)

Fax: + 221 8203667

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### **SEMINAR**

**2nd Annual Lawrence J. Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age**  
**Lex scripta: The Manuscript as Witness to the History of Law**  
**October 30-31, 2009**

In partnership with the Rare Book Department of the Free Library of Philadelphia and the Biddle Law Library of the University of Pennsylvania, Penn Libraries are pleased to announce the 2nd annual Lawrence J. Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age. This year's symposium is dedicated to the history of handwritten law and legal documents in Western Europe and the Middle East up to the early modern period in honor of the 100th anniversary of the death of Henry Charles Lea, whose library containing a significant collection of works on ecclesiastical legal history was conveyed to the University in 1926.

Nine speakers will present papers on various topics relating to the history of handwritten law and legal documents. The symposium will conclude with a panel of digital humanities scholars who will discuss specific projects and issues related to the digitization of legal manuscripts and documents.

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## **FELLOWSHIPS**

**School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study**

**Princeton, NJ, USA**

**Deadline: November 1 2009**

The Institute is an independent private institution founded in 1930 to create a community of scholars focused on intellectual inquiry, free from teaching and other university obligations. Scholars from around the world come to the Institute to pursue their own research. Those chosen are offered membership for a set period and a stipend. The Institute provides access to extensive resources including offices, libraries, subsidized restaurant and housing facilities, and some secretarial services.

Open to all fields of historical research, the School of Historical Studies' principal interests are the history of western, near eastern and Asian civilizations, with particular emphasis upon Greek and Roman civilization, the history of Europe (medieval, early modern, and modern), the Islamic world, East Asian studies, the history of art, the history of science, philosophy, modern international relations, and music studies.

Candidates of any nationality may apply for a single term or a full academic year. Residence in Princeton during term time is required. The only other obligation of Members is to pursue their own research. The Ph.D. (or equivalent) and substantial publications are required. Information and application forms may be found on the School's web site, [www.hs.ias.edu](http://www.hs.ias.edu), or contact the School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Einstein Dr., Princeton, N.J. 08540 (E-mail address: [mzelazny@ias.edu](mailto:mzelazny@ias.edu)).

Email: [mzelazny@ias.edu](mailto:mzelazny@ias.edu)

Visit the website at <http://www.hs.ias.edu/hsannoun.htm>

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## **FUNDING**

**Endangered Archives Programme, British Library**

**Call for applications**

**The deadline for receipt of preliminary grant applications is 6 November 2009**

The Endangered Archives Programme at the British Library is now accepting applications for the next round of funding. Detailed information on the timetable, criteria, eligibility and procedures for applying for a grant is available on the Programme's website. The deadline for receipt of preliminary grant applications is 6 November 2009.

Since it was established five years ago, the Programme has so far funded 120 projects in 52 countries in grants totalling £3.3 million. The Programme is funded by Arcadia, in pursuit of one of its charitable aims to preserve and disseminate cultural knowledge and to promote education and research. The aim of the Programme is to contribute to the preservation of archival material worldwide that is in danger of destruction, neglect or physical deterioration.

The Programme's objectives are achieved principally by awarding grants to applicants to locate relevant endangered archival collections, where possible to arrange their transfer to a suitable local archival home, and to deposit copies with local institutions and the British Library. Pilot projects are particularly welcomed, to investigate the survival of archival collections on a particular subject, in a discrete region, or in a specific format, and the feasibility of their recovery.

To be considered for funding under the Programme, the archival material should relate to a 'pre-modern' period of a society's history. There is no prescriptive definition of this, but it may typically mean, for

instance, any period before industrialisation. The relevant time period will therefore vary according to the society. The endangered archival material will normally be located in countries where resources and opportunities to preserve such material are lacking or limited.

For further details of the projects funded to date as well as application procedures and documentation, please visit the Programme's website.

Web: [www.bl.uk/angeredarchives](http://www.bl.uk/angeredarchives)

Email: [angeredarchives@bl.uk](mailto:angeredarchives@bl.uk)

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## **CONFERENCE**

**Fundraising for Collections: Preservation and Conservation**  
**William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education**  
**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**  
**November 13, 2009, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM**

Effective fundraising can significantly enhance preservation and conservation programs in libraries, museums, archives, and historic sites. Even in prosperous times our institutional budgets often fall short of meeting collection care needs. How has fundraising for preservation and conservation changed in our current economic environment? The North Carolina Preservation Consortium presents a panel of nationally recognized speakers to share their fundraising success stories and offer advice for establishing and enhancing a comprehensive development program. Join colleagues from across the state for a discussion on annual drives, events, direct mail, capital campaigns, endowments, planned giving, grant writing and other fundraising strategies. Learn how to craft a compelling case statement and a prioritized development plan.

All personnel working in libraries, archives, museums, historic sites, and other heritage institutions will benefit from this conference, as well as college and university faculty, and students in library and information science, archives, public history, museum, conservation, and related disciplines. Advocates for collections preservation are also welcome. A registration form is available on the NCPC Web site under Events: <http://www.ncpreservation.org>

Directions to the Friday Center are available on their Web site:

<http://www.fridaycenter.unc.edu/directions/index.htm>

Email [robertjamesncpc@gmail.com](mailto:robertjamesncpc@gmail.com)

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## **SCHOLARSHIP**

**Four to Six Doctoral/Postdoctoral Fellowships for the year 2010**  
**Deadline for applications: 15 November 2009**

The Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence (Max-Planck-Institute) and the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin are pleased to announce a doctoral and postdoctoral fellowship program entitled 'Connecting Art Histories in the Museum: The Mediterranean, Central Asia and the Indian Subcontinent 400-1650', starting with the academic year 2009-2010.

<http://www.khi.fi.it/forschung/projekte/projekte/projekt102/>

The fellowships are open to scholars of art history and related fields (in particular European, Islamic, Byzantine and Asian Art). We seek scholars whose work has a broad horizon and whose interests focus on the interartistic and intercultural agency as well as the mobility of ideas, artists and works of arts within

the framework and in relation to the program. This also includes research projects dedicated to its historiographical and museographical dimension.

Application languages are English or German. Applicants should send a C.V., a research proposal, one substantial writing sample or a portfolio, and two letters of recommendation to:

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Wolf, Director, Kunsthistorisches Institut -  
Max-Planck-Institut, Via Giuseppe Giusti 44, I- 50121 Firenze, Italy.

The envelope should be marked with "Connecting Art Histories in the Museum". Applications by e-mail are particularly appreciated, and should be sent to the following address: [dirwolf@khi.fi.it](mailto:dirwolf@khi.fi.it)

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## **WORKSHOP**

**23 to 28 November 2009**

**IIMK Campus in Kozhikode, Kerala, India**

International Workshop on Greenstone Digital Library Software to be organized in Kerala

The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK), in technical collaboration with Greenstone Support for South Asia, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and UNESCO New Delhi office, is organizing an International Workshop on Greenstone Digital Library Software. This workshop will be held at IIMK Campus in Kozhikode, Kerala, India during 23 to 28 November 2009.

The objective of the Workshop is to propose a six-day long high-end training programme on digital libraries on the open source software 'Greenstone'. Conducted as a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) where participants are expected to develop professional capacity in their respective countries, the Workshop shall facilitate the participants in creating state-of-the-art digital libraries using the Greenstone open source software, which include software installation, configuration, customization, digitization and other related workflow operations, content development and management, designing and creating standard metadata sets to describe digital objects and encoding it in standard mark-up formats. A special session will concern localization of Greenstone user's interface in South Asian languages.

Registration is open for interested professionals from India and other countries on first-come-first-served basis. Nomination Forms duly filled in, along with the Course Fee, should reach the FDP Office at IIMK latest by 12 November 2009.

Further Details: <http://www.iimk.ac.in/fdp/fdp09/FDP10.php>

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## **CONFERENCE**

**International conference of Digital Archives and Digital Humanities**

**1-2 December 2009, International Conference Hall, National Taiwan University Library**

Digitisation has become an important way to preserve, represent and provide public access to cultural heritage. The ways in which humanities scholars work has been changed by the development of information technology. What new research tools and methodologies have we brought to the humanities? What new research materials and issues are discovered? How do we expect these methodologies and the role of the humanities scholar to change in the future under the influence of IT?

This conference aims to respond to these new challenges and to fertilize the effect on digital humanities as a whole by opening up new ways and methodologies to enhance the use of IT in a wide range of humanities disciplines.

Research Center for Digital Humanities

<http://www.digital.ntu.edu.tw/>

Tel: (02)3366-9847

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## **CONFERENCE**

### **Fourth Asian Semantic Web Conference (ASWC 2009)**

**6-9 December, 2009**

**Shanghai, China**

The Asian Semantic Web Conference is the yearly conference on theoretical foundations, technological building blocks and practical applications of semantic technologies on the Asian continent. Targeted at both academia and industry, the conference will present the latest research and development of the Semantic Web and its related technologies. It will bring together researchers in relevant disciplines such as artificial intelligence, knowledge modeling, logic, databases, social networks, Web services, distributed computing, Web engineering, information systems, natural language processing, multimedia, and human-computer interaction.

<http://www.aswc2009.org/research-paper-track/callpostersdemos>

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## **GRANTS- WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH CENTRE**

### **WARC Travel Grant**

**2009-2010**

The WARC Travel Grant program promotes intra-African cooperation and exchange among researchers and institutions by providing support to African scholars and graduate students for research visits to other institutions on the continent. The West African Research Center in Dakar, Senegal offers travel costs up to \$1500 and a stipend of \$1500 to selected scholars. This competition is open only to West African nationals affiliated with institutions of higher education. Travel grant funds may be used to 1) attend and present papers at academic conferences relevant to the applicant's field of research; 2) visit libraries or archives that contain resources necessary to the applicant's current academic work; 3) engage in collaborative work with colleagues at another institution; 4) travel to a research site.

A complete application must include the following (one original and two copies of all materials-3 sets total):

- o A WARA grant application cover sheet
- o A brief (50-80 word) abstract of the activity to be funded, beginning with a clear statement of purpose
- o A description (6 double-spaced pages maximum) of the applicant's research and how the proposed travel is relevant to this work. This should be presented in a language understandable to non-specialist readers
- o A curriculum vitae with research and teaching record when relevant
- o If attending a conference, an abstract of the paper to be read and a letter of acceptance to the conference
- o If visiting another institution, an invitation from host institution
- o If travel is to consult archives or other materials, a description of the collections to be consulted and their significance to the applicant's research.
- o For graduate students, a letter of recommendation by the professor overseeing their research
- o Proof of citizenship in the form of a photocopy of the applicant's passport (please note: this competition is open only to West African nationals eligible for non-immigrant visas to the U.S.)

Application deadlines 2009-2010:

No earlier than January 1, 2010 and no later than March 15, 2010 for travel to take place between July 1, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2010.

All materials should be submitted, by mail, to:  
West African Research Center/Centre de Recherche Ouest Africaine  
B.P. 5456 (Fann Residence)  
Rue E x Léon G. Damas  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel: 221-865-22-77; Fax: 221-824-20-58; Email: warc\_croa@yahoo.fr.

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### **WARA Residencies for West African Scholars 2010**

In the interest of enhancing transatlantic exchange and collaboration, the West African Research Association offers WARA Residencies for West African Scholars to visit WARA member institutions. Please note that applications can only be made by WARA member institutions for the purpose of bringing a specific scholar to their campus; applications from individual scholars will not be considered. Each residency will last 4-8 weeks and will provide the visiting scholar with opportunities for library research, guest lecturing or teaching, and/or collaborative work with American colleagues. WARA will pay the round-trip travel costs of the selected scholar as well as a stipend of \$3500 to help cover meals and local transportation costs. Host institutions are encouraged to provide additional support (e.g. housing, conference participation) for the period of the residency. To apply for a residency to take place in Spring or Fall 2010, interested member institutions should submit:

- o A WARA grant application cover sheet (this form, to be filled in by the proposed visiting scholar, is downloadable from the WARA website)
  - o Name and contact information for representative of WARA host institution
  - o A 50-80 word abstract of the proposed residency, clearly indicating the purpose of the Residency (clearly indicate the host institution contact person)
  - o A proposal of no more than six (6) double-spaced pages profiling the visiting scholar, his or her proposed residency activities, how the residency will contribute to the goals of WARA, the expected impact or outcome of the residency, and any support that the host institution is prepared to contribute
  - o Curriculum vitae for the visiting scholar
  - o A letter of interest from the scholar
  - o A letter of support from a relevant administrator (dean, department chair, etc.) at the host institution
  - o Proof of citizenship in the form of a copy of the scholar's passport (please note: only scholars who are eligible for non-immigrant visas to the U.S. will be considered)
- Complete applications will consist of one original and three copies of all materials (4 sets total).

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 1, 2010**

Upon completion of the residency, residents are required to submit a detailed report of their work and findings. This report will subsequently be published in the biannual WARA newsletter. Please direct inquiries about institutional membership and submit applications to:

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### **WARA Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Competition 2010**

Applications are invited from graduate students for the WARA Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, for research in West Africa during the summer of 2010. Awardees will conduct research for a 2 to 3 month period in order to 1) prepare a doctoral research proposal; or 2) carry out research related to the completion of another terminal degree program (e.g. MFA or MPH). Funded through the bureau of Educational and Cultural

Affairs of the U.S. State Department, this competition is open to U.S. citizens who are currently enrolled in graduate programs at institutions of higher education in the United States. It is advisable that applicants be conversant in an African language spoken where they will be conducting research. Priority will be given to applicants who are at the pre-dissertation stage, that is, who will be returning to their institution to complete course work, exams, etc. before beginning their fieldwork.

Each fellowship will provide round trip travel to a West African country and a stipend of up to \$3,500. The West African Research Center (WARC) in Dakar, Senegal may assist with academic contacts and affiliations and recommendations for lodging in the country chosen by the fellow.

A complete application must include the following (one original and three copies of all materials-4 sets total, except for letters of reference):

- o A WARA grant application cover sheet (downloadable from the WARA website)
- o A 50-80 word abstract of the proposed research project, beginning with a clear statement of purpose
- o An essay (6 double-spaced pages maximum) describing the concept, methodology and significance of the proposed research project to the applicant's academic field, and how this research contributes to the mission of WARA. This should be presented in a language understandable to non-specialist readers.
- o A one-page bibliography relevant to the proposal may also be attached
- o An itemized budget including costs for

- o Housing
- o Food
- o Travel
- o Equipment
- o Printing/photocopying
- o Institutional affiliation fees

- o Name and email address of faculty who will help facilitate your research
- o Three (3) letters of reference by professors (to be included in the application packet in envelopes sealed and signed by the referee). Letters of reference sent separately will not be considered.
- o Curriculum vitae
- o Both undergraduate and graduate transcripts (copies of official ones are acceptable)

An excellent source of suggestions for preparing your application can be found on the SSRC website at [http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art\\_of\\_writing\\_proposals/](http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art_of_writing_proposals/)

ALL MATERIALS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 10, 2010.

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### **2010 WARC Library Fellow**

WARA is accepting applications for WARC Library Fellow for the summer of 2010. This program is designed to encourage the next generation of Africana librarians and to assist in capacity building at the library of the West African Research Center (WARC) in Dakar, Senegal. The WARC Library Fellow will work with the WARC librarian on electronic cataloguing and use of electronic research databases and should have well-developed skills in these areas. Preference will be given to those who are fluent in or have a working knowledge of French.

This internship will provide round trip travel to Dakar and a stipend of \$2500 to cover the cost of living for 6 to 8 weeks. This competition is open to US citizens who are enrolled in a graduate program in Library Science and who plan to pursue careers as Africana librarians. Priority will be given to those enrolled in graduate programs at HBCUs and to those who completed their undergraduate studies at an HBCU. Applicants should submit a statement of not more than six double-spaced pages describing their career plan and how this internship would contribute to their professional development. This should indicate particular areas of interest and expertise as well as describing personal and professional goals for the internship.

A complete application must include the following:

- o A WARA grant application cover sheet (downloadable from website)
- o A statement (6 double-spaced pages maximum, described above)
- o Three (3) letters of reference from professors
- o Resumé
- o Both undergraduate and graduate transcripts (copies of official ones are acceptable)

An excellent source of suggestions for preparing your application can be found on the SSRC website at [http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art\\_of\\_writing\\_proposals/](http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art_of_writing_proposals/) Complete applications will consist of one original and three copies of all materials (4 sets total) except letters of reference. Letters should be included in the application packet in envelopes sealed and signed by the referee. Letters of reference sent separately will not be considered.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 1, 2010.

Upon completion of their internships, grantees are required to submit a detailed report of their work and findings. This report will subsequently be published in the biannual WARA newsletter. Please direct inquiries and submit applications to:

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### **WARA Post-Doctoral Fellowship Competition 2010**

Applications are being accepted for the WARA Post-Doctoral Fellowship for research in West Africa during the summer of 2010. Awardees will conduct research for a 2 to 3-month period in order to 1) complete or elaborate upon an earlier project; 2) initiate a new research project; or 3) enhance their understanding of a particular topic in order to improve teaching effectiveness or broaden course offerings. Funded through the bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. State Department, this competition is open to U.S. citizens already holding a Ph.D. who are currently affiliated with an academic institution or who work in another related domain (e.g. public health or museology). All applicants must have been affiliated with an institution of higher education or research within the last three years. It is advisable that applicants be conversant in an African language spoken where they will be conducting research.

Each fellowship will provide round trip travel to a West African country and a stipend of up to \$3,500. The West African Research Center (WARC) in Dakar, Senegal may assist with academic contacts and affiliations and recommendations for lodging in the country chosen by the fellow.

Complete application must include the following (one original and three copies of all materials-4 sets total, except for letters of reference):

- o A WARA grant application cover sheet (downloadable from the WARA website)
- o A 50-80 word abstract of the proposed research project, beginning with a clear statement of purpose
- o An essay (6 double-spaced pages maximum) describing the concept, methodology and significance of the proposed research project to the applicant's academic field, and how this research contributes to the mission of WARA. This should be presented in a language understandable to non-specialist readers.
- o A one-page bibliography relevant to the proposal may also be attached
- o An itemized budget including costs for

- o Housing
- o Food
- o Travel
- o Equipment
- o Printing/photocopying
- o Institutional affiliation fees
- o Three (3) letters of reference by colleagues in the applicant's field.
- o Curriculum vitae

An excellent source of suggestions for preparing your application can be found on the SSRC website at [http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art\\_of\\_writing\\_proposals/](http://fellowships.ssrc.org/art_of_writing_proposals/) Complete applications will consist of one original and three copies of all materials (4 sets total) except letters of reference. Letters should be included in the

application packet in envelopes sealed and signed by the referee. Letters of reference sent separately will not be considered.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 10, 2010

Please direct inquiries and submit applications to:

WARA

African Studies Center, Boston University

232 Bay State Road

Boston MA 02215

Tel: 617-353-8902

Fax: 617-353-4975

Email: wara@bu.edu

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## **JOB**

**University of Louisville - Assistant Professor in the history of the Islamic Middle East**

**Deadline: 8 January 2010**

The University of Louisville is seeking a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the history of the Islamic Middle East. The person hired will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in his/her research field, and the Department? History of Civilizations course. The Department is particularly interested in a scholar whose work focuses on the medieval Middle East from Iran to Egypt. Ph.D. preferred, but ABDs considered. Start date is July 1, 2010. Please apply online and send letter of application, curriculum vitae, official graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation by 8 January 2010, to Chair, Middle Eastern Search Committee, Department of History, University of Louisville, Louisville KY 40292. If you have trouble with the online application, please e-mail: history@louisville.edu.

Website: <http://louisville.edu/>

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## **CONFERENCE**

**International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL)**

**Shaping the Information Paradigm**

**23 – 26 February 2010, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**

Registration after 31 December 2009

Continuous capacity development and awareness programmes are necessary to achieve the objective of transforming the novice into digital librarians of the future. The success of ICDL 2004 and ICDL 2006 has encouraged and motivated TERI in partnership with IGNOU to conduct of the ICDL 2010 which will provide yet another stimulating forum for DL professionals to share their knowledge, experience and wisdom.

E-mail [icdl@teri.res.in](mailto:icdl@teri.res.in), Web: <http://www.teriin.org/events/icdl>

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## **CONFERENCE**

**Special Libraries Association Arabian Gulf Chapter 2010**

**March 16-18, 2010**

<http://webapps.uaeu.ac.ae/library/SLA-AGC16/CallforPaper.aspx>

16th Annual Conference of the Special Libraries Association Arabian Gulf Chapter 2010 Virtual  
Knowledge in Information Institutions: Issues and Perspectives United Arab Emirates

David G. Hirsch  
Chief Librarian  
Abu Dhabi National Library  
email: david.hirsch@adach.ae

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## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **THE SHAHNAMEH AND PERSIANATE IDENTITY CONFERENCE 9-12 April 2010, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Scotland**

A conference focusing on the Shahnameh and the development of Persianate identity in historical perspective.

A millennium after his death, the Shahnameh of Ferdowsi remains the single most important literary source of the construction and definition of Persianate identity. Ferdowsi's magisterial achievement in collating and versifying the history and myths of the Iranian peoples ensured not only the preservation of a canon of shared historical memory and experience, but crucially secured the renaissance of the Persian language for future generations.

This conference will focus on the political, social and historical legacy of the Shahnameh in the development of identities in the Persianate world. Moreover, it will welcome papers which look at aspects of identity beyond ethnic or national characterisations. What, if any, are the ethical bases of the Shahnameh? Does it serve as a moral guide for human behaviour which transcends ethnic affiliation or can it be best understood as the creation myth of a particular people? How are we to understand its mythical and historical relevance? How do we explain its continued – political - appeal to this day?

The conference will seek to address these questions, amongst others in historical context, looking at the origins and development of the Shahnameh in Sasanian Iran and its aftermath, particularly in the post-conquest period when Persianate historians struggled to reconcile their inherited narratives with those resulting from the Muslim conversion. How did these historians seek to reconcile these competing traditions, and why did the Shahnameh remain popular with governing elites from Delhi to Istanbul, from the mediaeval to the modern world?

For general enquiries please contact Professor Ansari on [iran@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:iran@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Regular updates can be found on <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~iranian>

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## **CONFERENCE Forty-Fifth International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 7-10, 2010**

The Digital Medievalist Community of Practice (<http://www.digitalmedievalist.org/>) is sponsoring two sessions at the Forty-Fifth International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 7-10, 2010. See below for session names and descriptions.

Paper sessions include:

- The state of the art in handwriting recognition and analysis for medieval documents
- Collaborative tools and environments for medieval scholarship

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## **CONFERENCE**

### **Conference on codicology and history of the manuscript in Arabic script Madrid, 27-29 May 2010**

In the course of the centuries, the Islamic world has witnessed an intense activity of composition of texts, which was in its turn going hand in hand with an equally intense activity of transcription of those texts. Researches and publications on the codicology of the manuscripts in Arabic script have been growing over the last quarter of a century, thus allowing us to know better their composition and peculiarities. Much still remains to be done, but the amount of codicological data now available enables us to get a broader view of this field of research and to start taking into consideration the history of the book in the Islamic world. On this last issue, although the question of the total number of Arabic manuscripts still remains unanswered, a quantitative approach seems under the present circumstances better qualified to lead on to significant results.

The need to address these various new questions does not mean that we consider that any effort at exploring the technical aspects should be discontinued. The section dedicated to codicology in the programme of the conference is as important as ever. Similarly, papers devoted to the use of books in Islamic societies or to the culture of the book would find their place within the frame of this conference. Due to the close relationship between the manuscript and the lithographed book from a technical point of view, contributions about the latter could also take place within the programme of the conference and help starting a discussion on the continuities between these two kinds of books as well as on the changes introduced by lithography.

This international conference is intended for the specialists of codicology, history of the book and of reading; it may also interest those who are using Arabic manuscripts in their researches –historians, editors of texts, for instance-, restorers or historians of the book at large.

Languages of the conference: English, French and Spanish.