

## Newsletter “Beyond Canon\_” – December 2019

Dear Fellows and Friends,

With 2019 ending soon, we are looking back on a successful year at our *Centre for Advanced Studies* and would like to share some impressions with you:

### 1. Development of our Centre

Having moved into our rooms in January with only three Fellows and our coordination office, we now have expanded from originally four to now six offices – and a seminar room from a research group next door we may use for our Fellows’ Brunches, workshops, and conferences.

Our network has grown considerably since we started in October 2018: From around 20 prospective fellows in the beginning, our project has grown to approximately 100 Senior, Junior, Short Time Fellows and Affiliated Researchers. Especially the implementation of Short Time Fellowships (guests visiting us for 1-2 weeks, delivering a lecture in our Fellows’ Brunch and working intensively with members of our group) increased the dynamics at the Centre substantially: These short visits allow us to involve scholars whose academic obligations prevent them from visiting us for a longer period (and/or whose research focus is related to our project’s aims, bringing in new perspectives from different fields of research).

For 2020, more than 40 researchers already confirmed their participation in “Beyond Canon\_” – not counting the participants in conferences and workshops we are currently preparing.

### 2. “Beyond Canon\_” 2019 in numbers

- More than 70 (Short Time) Fellows and associated researchers visited our Centre
  - 17 Junior and Senior Fellows present for periods ranging from one month to one year plus 2 permanent postdocs
  - 29 Short Time Fellows and invited speakers at our Fellows’ Brunches
  - 25 guest speakers at our workshops and conferences from outside Regensburg
  - Numerous Affiliated Researchers within Universität Regensburg, especially from our partner research groups *Forum Mittelalter* and the Research Training Group (DFG-GRK 2337) *Metropolität in der Vormoderne*
- 40 Fellows’ Brunches and lectures were read
- Our Centre (co-)organized 6 international workshops and conferences, including
  - *Biblical Women in Jewish and Christian Literatures of Antiquity* – International Conference in Beersheba, Israel, March 27-29, 2019
  - *Dreams, Visions, Imaginations: Jewish, Christian and Gnostic Views of the World to Come* – International Conference in Barcelona, May 9-11, 2019
  - *Scripture and the Enemy in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* – International Conference in Cambridge, UK, July 1-3, 2019

- *Extracanonical Traditions and the Holy Land: Texts, Rituals, and Material Culture in Late Antique Palestine* – International Conference in Regensburg, July 2-5, 2019
- *The Early History of the Byzantine Liturgy of the Hours and the Horologion* – International Workshop in Regensburg, July 18-20, 2019
- *The Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles in Late Antiquity: Tradition and Innovation* – International Workshop in Regensburg, Germany, November 28-30, 2019 (please find a Photo Album in attachment)
- The list of publications related to “Beyond Canon\_” is growing – already published or forthcoming are:
  - 4 monographs
  - 8 edited volumes
  - 68 articles

### 3. Perspectives for 2020

The Coptic Course of our Fellow Tudor Sala found such a great resonance that participants decided to continue it in January – and we are already organising our **next language course**: Mari Mamyán will teach Armenian in **March 2020**.

With our Fellow Igor Dorfmann-Lazarev, we are currently preparing the conference “Sharing Myths, Texts and Sanctuaries in the South Caucasus: Apocryphal Themes in Literatures, Arts and Cults from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages” (**February 25–27, 2020** – conference statement and programme attached to this newsletter).

From **June 2-5**, our Symposium “The Liturgy of Saint James” will take place in Regensburg, followed by a Summer School “Perspectives Beyond the Canon” in Johannisthal (in cooperation with Janet Spittler/Charlottesville, Jörg Frey/Zurich, and T.J. Lang/St. Andrews) from **June 11-13**.

Of course we have several other ideas in mind for next year – more news and updates are to follow in the next newsletter issue!

We wish you and your families a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2020,

Tobias Nicklas, Harald Buchinger, Andreas Merkt,

Ulrike Linder-Windbichler, and Stephanie Hallinger

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