

Origen and Origenism in the History of Western Thought

4th Circular letter, July 2012

Dear colleagues!

The planning of *Colloquium Origenianum Undecimum* is progressing. I am happy to say that there is much interest for the conference among colleagues from almost all parts of the world. I am struggling to answer all e-mails as quickly as possible, but some of you have experienced some delay for which I apologise. From August on, two of my younger colleagues, Maria Munkholt Christensen (mlc@teo.au.dk) and Nicholas Marshall Nicholas Marshall (nma@teo.au.dk) have promised to take upon them the function of conference secretaries. This will hopefully secure a faster and more efficient communication.

Conference home-page

The conference has a home-page <http://conferences.au.dk/origeniana/>. The home-page will be updated continuously. Please visit the homepage for information.

Conference program

As you can see at the conference home-page, the program has five main themes:

1. Influence, use or reception of ancient traditions. Theoretical approaches to Origen in Western traditions.
2. The reception of Origen's thoughts in Western theological and philosophical traditions.
3. The reception of Origen's thoughts in Western religious experience / mysticism.
4. The reception of Origen's works in modern editions and translations.
5. How can Origen and Origen Studies contribute to Western traditions in the 21st century?

Five main lectures will introduce these themes:

- 1 Bernard Pouderon, professor at Université Francois – Rabelais, Tours, Centre d'Études Supérieures de la Renaissance, ***Influence, use or reception of ancient traditions. Theoretical approaches to Origen in Western traditions.***
- 2 Ilaria Ramelli, Milan, ***The reception of Origen's thoughts in Western theological and philosophical traditions.***
- 3 Andrew Louth, professor emeritus of Patristic and Byzantine Studies, Durham University: ***The reception of Origen's thoughts in Western religious experience / mysticism***
- 4 Christoph Marksches, professor of Church History, Humboldt University, Berlin: ***The reception and transformation of Origen's works in modern editions and translations: Some comparative views on Editions in Britain, France, Italy and Germany.***
- 5 Alfons Fürst, professor, Seminar für Alte Kirchengeschichte, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster: ***Origen's legacy to modern thinking about freedom and autonomy.***

In order to maintain the thematic coherence of the conference it would be appreciated if suggested themes for contributions clearly related to the themes of the conference. However, as mentioned in previous circular letters there will also be sessions for contributions which are not directly connected to the theme of the conference.

PhD seminar: Friday, 30 August – Saturday 31 August 2013

The organisers of *Colloquium Origenianum Undecimum* have decided to add a PhD seminar to the conference. At this seminar, PhD students will have the opportunity to present and discuss their dissertations with fellow PhD students and senior scholars. The themes of the dissertations do not have to be related to the theme of the conference.

It is possible to present dissertations at all stages in the writing process. In all cases, the PhD student must submit a short outline of the dissertation for discussion. This outline should include a table of (supposed) contents and a short abstract explaining the main ideas of the dissertation. For those who have written parts of their dissertation, it is possible also to submit a few pages (maximum 10). **The deadline for submission is 1 May 2013.** The material will be uploaded at the conference website in order for other participants to prepare for the seminar.

At the seminar, 45 minutes will be allocated to the presentation and discussion of each dissertation. The presentation should not exceed 15 minutes. 30 minutes will be reserved for discussion. A senior scholar will open the discussion with some prepared comments on the presented material.

PhD students who present their work at the PhD seminar are also welcome to present a paper at the conference if they wish.

PhD students must register for the PhD seminar at the same time as they register for the conference. All who register before the deadline and who submit the necessary material will get the opportunity to present their work at the PhD-seminar.

There will be no additional fees for participating in the PhD seminar.

Posters

We encourage all participants to bring posters, leaflets or the like with presentations of ongoing research projects, ideas for new projects, new books etc. The posters will be exhibited in a central place. If you are unable to bring the poster you can send it in PDF-format as an attachment to an e-mail to Maria Munkholt Christensen mlc@teo.au.dk. We will then print it in A-3 format (color).

Deadlines

- See the deadlines for submitting suggestions for lectures, papers and workshops at the conference home-page. Please observe the deadlines and other regulations described there. Suggestions including the demanded abstracts should be e-mailed to the conference secretary Maria Munkholt Christensen. The organisers would very much appreciate it if those of you who already have submitted suggestions by e-mail will send abstracts according to the descriptions on the home-page. We will answer the suggestions for papers, lectures and workshops continuously and not later than by the end of January 2013.

- The registration for the conference will open at 1st of February 2013 when the organizers have had time to answer all suggestions for lecturers, papers and workshops. The registration will close at 1st of August 2013. Registration takes place via the conference home-page.
- Booking of accommodation will, as previously announced, open on 1st of September 2012. More information about the pre-booked accommodation will be available at the home-page before that date. We have pre-booked enough rooms, so it is not necessary to book your accommodation before you register for the conference. We can provide accommodation at different price levels including very cheap accommodation for PhD-students.

Please, be ambassadors for the conference

Even though the interest shown for the conference is currently very promising, the organisers encourage all recipients of this circular letter to spread the news about the conference and encourage others to take part. We should focus on encouraging:

- Scholars who represent ‘the Western tradition’ after Origen to take part and thus qualify our discussions about ‘Origen and Origenism in the History of Western Thought’.
- Young scholars to take part and present their works at the conference and/or the attached PhD seminar.
- Scholars from all parts of the world.

The organisers hope to find more funding for the conference, which will allow us to reduce the expenses for younger scholars and scholars from the third world.

Conference fee

The normal conference fee will be **200 Euro / 250 USD**. This fee will cover participation in all sessions of the conference, all meals (except breakfast), excursion and other events connected to the conference.

The organisers are constantly applying for more funding for the conference. We are almost sure that this will enable us to reduce the fee at least for younger scholars and hopefully also the general fee. We will provide more information about this at the home-page.

On behalf of the organisers, thank you!

Anders-Christian Jacobsen