

**A Linked Open World:
Alexander the Great, Transnational Heritage and the Semantic Web**

We are pleased to announce that a conference, *A Linked Open World: Alexander the Great, Transnational Heritage and the Semantic Web* will be held on 3rd and 4th April 2017 at New College, Oxford. The conference is part of the Oxford-Paris Alexander project (OPAL), a joint initiative between the Bibliothèque nationale de France and the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford funded by the Labex les Passés dans le Présent and the AHRC. OPAL, directed by Dr Frédérique Duyrat and Professor Andrew Meadows, explores the possibilities offered by Linked Open Data and the Semantic Web to preserve and make available the physical heritage of the coinage issued in the name of Alexander the Great, a unique and transformative phenomenon across an area from the modern Balkans to Afghanistan.

Coins issued by Alexander and in his name after his death exist today in their millions, scattered in collections across the world. But they are also the victim, as small pieces of precious metal, of destruction and looting in their source countries. The OPAL project will make available online a corpus of 3,500 coins of Alexander in the collection of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford (<http://hcr.ashmus.ox.ac.uk>) and the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris (<http://galica.bnf.fr>) and will contribute the data to the PELLA project of the American Numismatic Society (<http://numismatics.org/pella>).

The conference will investigate the homogenizing effect of the coinage of Alexander the Great on the economic history of the Mediterranean, the Near East, and Central Asia as well as advertising and exploring the value of amalgamated collections. The conference will look at the new tools created by Linked Open Data and the Semantic Web as well as their technical composition. It will present new research on the coinage of Alexander, much of which made possible by new opportunities afforded by the PELLA tool. And it will conclude by focussing particularly on the legacy of Alexander the Great, from shortly after his death to the present day, and discussing the importance of preserving such transnational heritage and the role in this that projects like OPAL and PELLA can play.

For further information and to reserve a place at the conference please email: simon.glenn@ashmus.ox.ac.uk

For the programme please see: <http://www.greekcoinage.org/opal-conference.html>



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A Linked Open World:
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Programme

Monday 3rd April

10.00 Registration

10.15 Introduction (Frédérique Duyrat & Andrew Meadows)

Part 1: New tools (Chair: Andrew Meadows)

10.30 Equality and Concept: Broadening the Scope of Linked Open Data
(Sebastian Heath)

11.00 ANS Digital Projects: A Comprehensive Platform for the Study of
Numismatics (Ethan Gruber)

11.30 Statistical exploration of PELLA data (Julien Olivier)

12.00 Lunch break

**Part 2: Imperial economic space - using PELLA to write a new history
(Chair: Robin Lane Fox)**

1.30 What is an Alexander? (Andrew Meadows)

2.00 The Destruction and Recreation of Monetary Zones in the Wake of
Alexander's Conquests (Peter van Alfen)

2.30 Exploring localities: a die study of Alexanders from Damascus (Simon
Glenn)

3.00 Tea break

3.30 The impact of Alexander's conquest on minted silver: new data from
metallurgical analysis of coins kept at the BnF (Maryse Blet-Lemarquand,
Julien Olivier, Caroline Carrier)

4.00 The first generation of Alexander's influence: diversity of empire (Karsten
Dahmen)

4.30 Alexander gold coinage throughout the Empire and beyond (Frédérique
Duyrat)

5.00 General discussion

6.00 Reception at the Ashmolean Museum



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Tuesday 4th April

Part 3: Cultural interaction and legacy (Chair: Frédérique Duyrat)

9.30 The coinage of Alexander the Great as perceived during the 16th -18th centuries (François de Callatay)

10.00 The legacy of Alexander: money in Central Asia (Simon Glenn)

10.30 Looting and its impact: the case of Alexanders from the Near East and the role of an online corpus project (Caroline Carrier & Simon Glenn)

11.00 The debate about the spread of Alexander's coinage and its economic impact: engaging with the historiographical *longue durée* (Pierre Briant)

11.30 The Virtual Museum of Alexander the Great (Angeliki Kottaridi)

12.00 Conclusion: Alexander: the Wider Vision (Robin Lane Fox)



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