

CALL FOR PAPERS

The European Society for Textual Scholarship Sixth International Conference

‘Texts beyond Borders: Multilingualism and Textual Scholarship’

Academy for Science and the Arts (KVAB), Brussels, Belgium
November 19-21, 2009

Deadline for proposals: 31 May 2009

Contacts between languages, especially translations, have always played a crucial role in the making of European culture, from Antiquity until today. Bilingual or multilingual documents, literary works created in another language than their creators’ mother tongue, translations and translated texts are special textual objects which require appropriate editorial treatment. The conference will explore how textual scholarship responds to multilingualism in its various forms, such as:

1) *Scholarly editing and annotating: Using translations as witnesses to an “original” text*

How do we edit ancient or medieval texts (or parts of texts) that are preserved only in translations? How can we handle those cases where translations do not appear to be based on direct witnesses to the text?...

2) *Scholarly editing and annotating: Translations as literary objects*

Is the original text the only source used by a translator? How did he use earlier translations? How can we trace the sources and tools used by a translator? ...

3) *Book history, the history of reading and translations*

Dissemination of translations; bilingual editions; the role of Bible translations in the history of philology; translations which become more popular than the original; texts which circulate first or more widely in translation than in their original form (e.g. Flemish performances of Michel de Ghelderode’s theatre prior to the French original); annotations and marginalia in languages other than the reader’s native tongue: how do readers respond to works not written in their own language? ...

4) *Authorship and translations*

Revisions of translations by the author himself may contain precious interpretative information. Translations may seem less authoritative than other texts and editors might therefore be tempted to emend translations on a larger scale than in the case of “original” texts. ...

5) *Multilingualism and scholarly editing*

Do multilingual works of literature need other methods of editing than monolingual writings? It might also be necessary to make a distinction between different types of multilingual works (self-translations, ‘hybrid’ writings, ...). Do these different types require different editorial treatments? Is it necessary to find adequate methods to edit works by authors writing in languages not their own? Or works not written in any “natural” language, such as nonsense poetry? ...

The programme chairs invite the submission of proposals for full panels or individual papers devoted to the discussion of current research into different aspects of textual work, preferably focusing on the topics mentioned above. A selection of papers will be published in *Variants: The Journal of the European Society for Textual Scholarship*. Proposals and abstracts (250 words) should be submitted electronically to:

Caroline Macé, University of Leuven : Caroline.Mace@arts.kuleuven.be and
Dirk Van Hulle, University of Antwerp: dirk.vanhulle@ua.ac.be

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All participants in the ESTS 2009 conference must be members of ESTS. For information about membership, please visit the ESTS website <http://www.textualscholarship.eu/>