**Imperial Landscapes: Empires, Societies, and Environments in the Ancient to Modern Nile Delta**

Department of Classics, University of Toronto  
Lillian Massey Building, 125 Queen’s Park, Room LI 220

### Thursday March 23, 2017

**Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

9:00am – 9:30am  Katherine Blouin (University of Toronto)

**Environmental Opportunism and Connectivity: 3 Case Studies**

9:30am – 10:15am  Irene Forstner-Müller (Austrian Archaeological Institute, Cairo Branch) – The Nile Delta and Avaris: Thoughts on landscape through the perspective of a provincial/imperial capital

10:15am – 10:45am  Coffee break

10:45am – 11:30am  Marie-Françoise Boussac (University of Paris Ouest Nanterre) and Bérangère Redon (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, HiSoMA-Lyon) – “The Vine was Discovered First in Plinthine, a City of Egypt” (Hellanicus FR.155, APUD Athenaeus). Integration of a Marginal Territory into Egypt Through Wine Production

11:30am – 12:00pm  Sylvain Dhennin (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, HiSoMA-Lyon) – Growing with the Empire? From village to city: Kom Abou Bellou and its urban development

12:15pm – 2:00pm  Lunch break

**Water, Land, and the State**

2:00pm – 2:45pm  Penelope Wilson (Durham University) - Options for Roman Expansion in the North Nile Delta

2:45pm – 3:30pm  Brendan Haug (University of Michigan) – Following the Flow: The Shifting Waterscape of the Nile Delta between Antiquity and the Present

3:30pm – 4:00pm  Coffee break

### Friday March 24, 2017

**Sacred Landscapes 1: Holy Men, Sacred Waters**

10:00am – 10:45am  Ramez Boutros (University of Toronto) – Mapping the Cult of Christian Saints in the Nile Delta from the 4th to the 9th century CE

10:45am – 11:30am  Heba Mostafa (University of Kansas) – The Nile as Nexus: Between Veneration and Mediation in the Islamic Period

11:30am – 12:00pm  Coffee break

**Deltaic Toponymy in the Digital Age**

12:00am – 12:45pm  Usama Ali Gad (Ain Shams University, Egypt) – Digital Annotation of Arabic Place Names of the Nile Delta

12:45pm – 2:30pm  Lunch break

**Sacred Landscapes 2: Two Alexandrian Tales**

2:30pm – 3:15pm  Regina Höschle (University of Toronto) – Two Lovers and a Lion: Pankrates’ Poem on Hadrian’s Royal Hunt

3:15pm – 4:00pm  Jelle Bruning (Universiteit Leiden) – Religious Images of Alexandria in Early-Islamic Egypt

4:00pm – 4:30pm  Coffee break

**Writing Places: Literature and Cultural Mediation**

4:30pm – 5:15pm  Peter Bing (University of Toronto) – The Hetaira’s Tomb: Doricha/Rhodopis and the Pyramid of Mycerinus at Giza

5:15pm – 6:00pm  Rachel Mairs (University of Reading) – Just Passing Through? The Nile Delta and the Egyptian Tourist Economy in the Late Nineteenth Century

8:00pm  Conference dinner
SPECIAL THANKS TO

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ZOHIRA FAQIRI, TIFFANY RAMBALI, JOSHUA REYBOLDS,
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