Still Caput Mundi?
The Role of Rome between Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages in the Western Mediterranean

The decline of the Western Roman Empire is often accompanied by the decline of the city from which it all sprang: Rome. The city, the historical and moral center of the empire, had long since lost its role as capital city, yet it retained its symbolic and traditional authority as caput mundi, recognized and felt by everyone in the world. The Late Antique period and the early Middle Ages witnessed the gradual evolution of Rome from the city of the emperor to the city of the pope, on the one hand rising to the role of Rome as perceived in the individual socio-cultural and socio-religious realities of the Mediterranean area.

Thursday, 3 March 2022
18.00 h Welcome and Introduction
Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram
Universität Hamburg

18.15 h Prof. Dr. Carlos Machado
University of St Andrews
Imagining pagan topography in Christian Rome

19.00 h Prof. Dr. Fabrizio Oppedissano
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
Subversive antiquarity: the Roman senate and the end of the ancient world

20.00 h Reception

Friday, 4 March 2022

History: Between Imperial Features and Religious Identity
Moderation: Dr. Rocco Selvaggi
Universität Hamburg

9.30 h Prof. Dr. Christian Raschle
Universität zu Berlin
Rome without emperor – the transformations of the “emperor cult” in the Western Empire from the 4th to the 6th century

10.15 h Prof. Dr. Umberto Roberto
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
The pagan reaction to the decline of Rome in the 5th century

11.00 h Coffee break

11.30 h Prof. Dr. Philippe Blaudeau
Université d’Aix-Marseille
The Petrine primacy of Rome: claim and perception of an elaborated geo-ecclesiological conception (IV-VIII centuries)

12.15 h Dr. Paolo Tedesco
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Economic Trajectories of the Italian Churches in Late Antiquity

13.00 h Lunch break

Literature I: Central Religion vs. Local Beliefs
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Carla Noce
Università degli Studi Roma Tre

15.30 h Prof. Dr. Alberto D’Anna
Università degli Studi Roma Tre
Political function and evolution of the story about Peter and Paul in Rome

16.15 h Dr. Ingo Schaaf
Universität zu Köln
Matria reterritorialized: Rome. Urban religious change through the eyes of Jerome

17.00 h Coffee break

17.30 h Dr. Giandomenico Ferraresa
Università degli Studi Roma Tre
“Greek” popes, texts and translations in 7th century Rome

18.15 h Prof. Dr. Klaus Herbers
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
The Liber pontificalis: Images and constructions of Roman Popes?

19.00 h Prof. Dr. Waldemar Königshaus
Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen

20.30 h Dinner

Archaeology: Transforming Architecture and Urban Planning
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram
Università Hamburg

15.30 h Prof. Dr. Riccardo Santangeli Valenzani
Università degli Studi Roma Tre
The Transformation of Urbs Roma in Late Antiquity

16.15 h Prof. Dr. Antonio E. Felle
Università degli Studi di Roma La Sapienza
Inscriptions by Christians in Late Antique Rome (3rd to 7th century): an overview

17.00 h Coffee break

17.30 h Prof. Dr. Javier A. Domingo
Pontificia Università della Santa Croce
Saint Jerome in Rome. Historical data, tradition and archaeological evidence

18.15 h Prof. Dr. Ralf Behnwald
Universität Bayreuth
A Circumcision dissolved and reassembled. Rome’s many meanings at the end of Antiquity

19.00 h Prof. Dr. Javier Arce
Université de Liège
Conclusions

20.30 h Dinner

Saturday, 5 March 2022

Literature II: Communication between Rome and the Western Dioceses
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Alberto D’Anna
Università degli Studi Roma Tre

9.30 h Prof. Dr. Geoffrey D. Dunn
Katschki Universitätshildesheim
Histories of Vorpholomaios and Papal Correspondence with Bishops in Gaul. The example of Boniface I, Ep. 12 (Difficult quaedam)

10.15 h Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram
Dr. Rocco Selvaggi
Università Hamburg
Letters from Rome to the Iberian Bishops: The Case of Vigilius and Proflutus of Braga – Challenges and Problems

11.00 h Coffee break

11.30 h Dr. Stanislaw Adamiaš
Universities Warszawskie
Maintaining Autonomy and Asking for Intervention: the Relation between the Churches of North Africa and Rome in the Late Antiquity

12.15 h Prof. Dr. Francesca Tinti
Università di Padova
From and the Anglo-Saxons in the 7th century

13.00 h Lunch break

Conference venue
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