



Image: Pasargadae (Iran), Tall-e Takht | © Robert Rollinger, 2004

ACHAEMENID WORKSHOP 4

THE ACHAEMENID PERSIAN EMPIRE AND ITS WESTERN BORDERLANDS: A CHANGE OF PARADIGM

organized by *Robert Rollinger, Julian Degen and Erich Kistler (Innsbruck)*
in cooperation with *Bernhard Palme and Florian Schwarz (Vienna)*



Achaemenid
Workshops

OCTOBER 19-23, 2026

PALAIS CLAUDIANA

About

Departing from the emphasis on rivalry that dominated scholarly discussions of Aegean–Achaemenid-Persian relations for a long time, this workshop seeks to offer vistas onto the varied testimony (written, archaeological, numismatic) that is presently available for the study of the multifaceted encounters between the Aegean and Achaemenid-Persian worlds and to new approaches to its interpretation. The conference will highlight the importance of these encounters as a mirror to broader patterns of political, social, economic, and cultural phenomena promoted in the eastern Medi-terranean region (and beyond) under Achaemenid-Persian imperial expansion and rule.

Institutions

Austrian Academy of Sciences, Commission “Transformation Processes and Empire in the Ancient Afro-Eurasian Worlds”	 ÖAW AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TRANSFORMATION PROCESSES AND EMPIRE IN THE ANCIENT AFRO-EURASIAN WORLDS
University of California, Los Angeles, Pourdavoud Institute for the Study of the Iranian World	 Pourdavoud Institute for the Study of the Iranian World
University of Innsbruck, Department of Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies	 universität innsbruck Institut für Alte Geschichte und Altorientalistik
University of Innsbruck, Doctoral College “Entangled Antiquities”	 universität innsbruck Doktoratskolleg Entangled Antiquities
Embassy of France in Vienna	 AMBASSADE DE FRANCE EN AUTRICHE <i>Liberté Égalité Fraternité</i>
Austrian Science Fund (FWF) [Grant-DOI: 10.55776/COE8], Cluster of Excellence “EurAsian Transformations. Resources of the Past & Challenges of Diversity”	 FWF Austrian Science Fund  EurAsia EURASIAN TRANSFORMATIONS

PROGRAM

Monday, Oct 19

Opening

17:00-18:00 Introduction

18:00-19:00 Keynote 1: **Josef Wiesehöfer** (Universität Kiel)
Das Perserreich und der Westen: Eine lange Geschichte von
Selbstverständnis, Verständigkeit und Missverstehen (will be held in
English)

Buffet Reception

Tuesday, Oct 20

Section 1: The Eastern Mediterranean in Comparison

Chair: Erich Kistler (University of Innsbruck)

09:00-09:45 **Frank Daubner** (Universität Trier)
Alexander at Siwa: Sparta, Cyrene and the Reconfiguration of Borderlands

09:45-10:30 **Panos Christodoulou** (European University Cyprus)
In the Name of the King: The Battle of Cnidus (394 BC) and its Aftermath

Coffee Break

11:00-11:45 **Astrid Lindenlauf** (Bryn Mawr College)
Material Narratives of Persian Destruction and Greco-Persian Encounters in
Athens, Eretria, and Miletos

11:45-12:30 **Krzysztof Nawotka** (Uniwersytet Wrocławski)
Epigraphic Habit and the Western Borderlands of the Achaemenid Persian
Empire

Lunch Break

Section 2: Greece

Chair: Hans-Joachim Gehrke (Universität Freiburg)

13:30-14:15 **John O. Hyland** (Christopher Newport University)
The Great King's Apprentice? Kimon of Athens in the Achaemenid
Borderlands

14:15-15:00 **Jeffrey Rop** (University of Minnesota Duluth)
Herodotus, Athenian Imperialism, and the Persian Expedition to Marathon

Coffee Break

- 15:30-16:15 **Hilmar Klinkott** (Universität Kiel)
Darius Beyond the Sea and Greece as Imperial Maritime Borderland
- 16:15-17:00 **Janric van Rookhuijzen** (Universiteit Leiden)
The Achaemenid Attack on Athens and the Archaeology of Memory on the Acropolis
- Coffee Break
- 17:30-18:15 **Raimund Schulz** (Universität Bielefeld)
The Empire as Warning: Aeschylus, the 'Persians', and the Sea
- Conference Dinner

Wednesday, Oct 21

Section 3: Macedonia & Thrace

Chair: Bernhard Palme (Universität Wien)

- 09:00-10:00 Keynote 2: **Sarah P. Morris** (University of California, Los Angeles)
Persians in the North Aegean: The Hellespont and the Troad
- Coffee Break
- 10:30-11:15 **Dilyana Boteva-Boyanova** (St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia)
Thoughts on the Western Borders of the Achaemenid Persian Empire in Ancient Thrace under Darius I and Xerxes I
- 11:15-12:00 **Vasiliki Saripanidi** (Université libre de Bruxelles – FNRS)
The Temenid King under the Great King: Archaeological Insights into the Impact of Achaemenid Rule on the Macedonian Kingdom
- Lunch Break

Section 4: The Black Sea

Chair: Touraj Daryaee (University of California, Irvine)

- 13:00-13:45 **Luis Ballesteros Pastor** (Universidad de Sevilla)
The Great King's Journey around the World: Achaemenid Rule over the Black Sea
- 13:45-14:30 **Anca Dan** (École normale supérieure – CNRS, Paris)
The North-Western Corner of the World: Greco-Persian Entanglements in the Northern Aegean and the Black Sea
- 14:30-15:15 **Leah Lazar** (University of Manchester)
Northern Anatolia between Athens and Persia
- Coffee Break

Section 5: The Anatolian Worlds

Chair: M. Rahim Shayegan (University of California, Los Angeles)

- 15:45-16:30 **Leticia R. Rodriguez** (University of Houston)
Non-Conformity by Design: Borderland Bodies in Achaemenid Anatolia
- 16:30-17:15 **Emma Petersen** (University of California, Los Angeles)
Being Achaemenid in Anatolia: A View from Deve Hüyük
- Coffee Break
- 17:45-18:30 **Lara Fabian** (University of California, Los Angeles)
tba
- 18:30-19:15 **Marco Ferrari** (Sapienza Università di Roma)
Iranian Dynasties in Anatolian Environments. Reshaping the Identities of Empowered Elites in Achaemenid North-Western Anatolia

Thursday, Oct 22

Section 6: Western Asia Minor

Chair: Florian Schwarz (Austrian Academy of Sciences)

- 09:00-10:00 Keynote 3: **Elspeth R. M. Dusingher** (University of Colorado Boulder)
The Creation of Empire in Achaemenid Anatolia
- Coffee Break
- 10:30-11:15 **Denise Demetriou** (University of California, San Diego)
The Westernmost Borderlands of the Achaemenid Empire: Carthage, Sicily, and Etruria
- 11:15-12:00 **Lâtife Summerer** (Arkin University, Kyrenia/Cyprus)
Imperial Footprint or Local Resilience? Reassessing Achaemenid Influence in Anatolia
- Lunch Break
- 13:00-13:45 **Cinzia Tuena** (Universität Basel)
Satraps and Sibling-Spouses. Reassessing Hekatomnid Power in the Achaemenid West
- 13:45-14:30 **Naoise Mac Sweeney** (Universität Wien)
Anti-Achaemenid Resistance in Cilicia and the “Becoming” of the Greeks
- Coffee Break
- 15:00-15:45 **Dominique Lenfant** (Université de Strasbourg)
The Persian Achaemenid Power and Democracy
- 15:45-16:30 **Kai Ruffing** (Universität Kassel)
The Aegean Islands and the Economy of Empire

16:30-17:00 Concluding Remarks

Dinner

Friday, Oct 23

Departure Day