



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET



World Philology Union

W P U

# PHILOLOGY AND THE NARRATIVE HERITAGE

UPPSALA UNIVERSITY  
MAIN BUILDING, ROOM IX, 2024



DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

9:00 Arrival and registration of participants.

9:30 *Coffee.*

OPENING SESSION

10:00–10:15 Welcome by Prof. Ingela Nilsson,  
Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Languages.

10:15–11:00 Introductions:

- (a) WPU President, Jens Braarvig
- (b) President of the International Union of  
Academies (UAI), Klaus Herbers
- (c) Vice President of CIPSH, Luisa  
Migliorati
- (d) UU organizer, Eric Cullhed

11:00–11:15 *Coffee break*

THEME 1: OLD NORSE PHILOLOGY

11:15–12:00 Old Norse Philology, I: “New  
series for digital editions, and the other  
World in words: the new manuscript  
exhibition in Reykjavík” – Guðvarður Már  
Gunnlaugsson, Reykjavík.

12:00–12:30 Old Norse Philology, II: “The  
Study of Old Norse Narratives” – Philip  
Lavender, Gothenburg.

12:30–13:00 Old Norse Philology, III:  
“Reading the Roman Classics in the Medieval  
North” – Lars Boje Mortensen, Odense.

13:00–14:00 *Lunch*

THEME 2: TRANSMISSION OF NARRATIVES AND  
KNOWLEDGE THROUGH TRANSLATIONS

14:00–14:30 “The Middle Eastern  
Contribution to Western Narrative Culture”  
– Ulrich Marzolph, Göttingen.

14:30–15:00 “Barlaam and Josaphat: Indian  
Tales in Arabic, Georgian and Byzantine  
Greek” – Amund Haave, Oslo.

15:00–15:30 “Oupnek’hat: The Upanishads in  
Persian and Latin” – Jens Braarvig, Oslo.

15:30–15:45 *Coffee break*

15:45–16:15 “Towards a critical edition of the  
Old Hittite law text: The role of philology” –  
Kazuhiko Yoshida, Kyoto.

16:15–16:45 “Multilingual philologies: types of  
translations” – Gebhard Selz, Vienna.

16:45–17:15 “Oral and Written Transmission,  
Questions of Accuracy” – Philippe Swennen,  
Liège.

18:30 *Conference dinner: Restaurang Duo*

DAY 2: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

THEME 3: NARRATIVE TRADITIONS BETWEEN  
CULTURES

9:30–10:15 “The Travels of Pre-Buddhist  
Chinese Narratives” – Wolfgang Behr,  
Zürich.

10:15–11:00 “Central and South Asia: Narrative  
traditions from the Vedas and Avesta to the  
Great Epics and beyond” – Velizar Sadovski,  
Vienna.

11:00–11:30 “Narrative Transformation in  
Chinese Buddhist Texts” – Jianrong Shi  
(Mei-Ling Lin), Taipei.

11:30–11:50 “Narratives as Legal Precedents:  
The Mūlasarvāstivāda Vinaya” – Jens W.  
Borgland, Uppsala.

11:50–12:00 *Coffee break*

12:00–12:30 “Mediations in the meeting of  
Byzantine and Georgian textual cultures” –  
Christian Høgel, Lund.

12:30–12:50: “Leon of Pella and Alexander’s letters to Olympias in the Alexander Romance” – Benjamin Garstad, Alberta

12:50–13:10 “Turfan Sogdian texts in Manichaean script: narratives and beyond” – Enrico Morano, Turin/Berlin.

13:10–14:00 *Lunch*

14:00–14:45 “Saving World Heritage through Philology and Hylistics” – Annette Zgoll, Göttingen.

14:45–15:05 “Jewish Narrative Traditions: The ‘Rivers of Babylon’ Theme” – Lutz Edzard, Erlangen.

15:05–15:25 “The Sumerian and Akkadian Flood Story – A Fluid Tradition” – Ulla Koch, Copenhagen

15:25–15:45 “Egypt: The Open Book” – Nils Billing, Uppsala.

15:45–16:05 *Coffee break*

16:05–16:35 “A metaphorical-narratological approach to a philological problem: the case of Avestan *pərətu* – ‘ford’ or ‘bridge?’” – Kianoosh Rezaia, Bochum.

16:35–17:15 “Narrative Oral Literature in Meso-America” – Luisa Villani, Mexico City.

17:15–18:00 IE II: “The East Face of Helicon Revisited: Etymology, Catalogue, and Narrative” – Athanasios Vergados, Newcastle.

18:00–18:30 IE I: “Homer and the South Slavic Epics” – Georg Danek, Vienna.

## DAY 3: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

### THEME 4: DIGITAL PHILOLOGY

9:00 “Homer and the Noisy Channel: Simplification and Predictability in Widely-Spread Narratives” – Yuri Bizzoni, Aarhus

9:30 “Exploring Narrative Typology with Deep Learning” – Hope McGovern, Cambridge

#### 10:00–11:00 DIGPHIL PRESENTATIONS

“People and Places of the Past: Methods for Named Entity Recognition in Historical Texts” – Crina Tudor, Stockholm

“Handwritten Text Recognition for Ajami Manuscripts” – Oreen Yousuf, Uppsala

“Digital methods for comparing chronologies of sound changes in historical-comparative linguistics” – Ulrik Nielsen, Uppsala

“Cracking the Code: Neural Networks in Historical Ciphertext-Plaintext Alignment” – Micaella Bruton, Stockholm

“First Steps into Automatic Scansion of Alliterative Poetry” – Irene Miani, Uppsala

“Philology and the Narrative Nexus Redefining Genre Trough Élie de Saint-Gilles” – Mahdi Brecq, Stockholm

11:15–11:35 *Coffee break*

#### THEME 5: METHODOLOGICAL AND THEORETICAL QUESTIONS

11:35–11:55 “When Holy Men Get Things Wrong” – Danuta Shanzer, Vienna.

11:55–12:15 “Populating the Spatium Mythicum in 12th c. Poland: Vincent of Krakow’s use of Ancient Peoples in his Fabulous Narrative” – Willum Westenholz, Poznań.

12:15–12:45 “Elias Lönnrot’s Five Kalevalas: Oral Tradition, Scribal Performance and Literary Production” – Mr. Frog, Helsinki.

12:45–14:00 *Lunch*

14:00–14:30 “From Gung Ho to Guanxi – When is a loanword not a loanword?” – Sam Lieu, Cambridge.

#### THEME 6: THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PHILOLOGY

14:30–15:30 Presentation and discussion of the Uppsala Declaration of the WPU.

15:30–16:00 *Coffee break*

16:00–17:00 General Assembly of Confirmed Members of the WPU.



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