

**Princeton-Humboldt Early Career Workshop:
“Technical Translation; Translation Technique”**

Princeton University, 3-4 December 2015

Call for Papers – deadline Sunday 29th March, 2015

On December 3-4, 2015, the Princeton-Humboldt partnership will host a graduate and early career workshop, “Technical Translation; Translation Technique”, on the theme of Ancient Translation at Princeton University.

The Theme:

In recent years, a new space for the fresh study of ancient translation has been opened up by theoretical approaches which move away from the idea that “mechanical” translations can take place between languages and cultures. Following the Deconstructionist claim that “translation” can only be a metaphor for rewriting, technical as well as literary translation is increasingly seen as an interpretative act which warrants academic interest in its own right. This, coupled with the current scholarly interest in reception studies, makes this an opportune moment to consider the status of the translation of both literary and non-literary works as an act of both interpretation and reception.

Princeton has been at the forefront of new approaches to classical reception with the project in “Postclassicisms,” supported by a grant from the Global Collaborative Networks Fund, while the Humboldt has recently supported several important studies on the translation of classical texts under the auspices of the *Sonderforschungsbereich* (Collaborative Research Centre) 644 “Transformations of Antiquity.” In the Princeton-Humboldt Early Career Workshop we seek to bring into dialogue the work of these two institutions, and to treat the theory and practice of ancient translation, broadly conceived. In particular, we hope to extend these approaches beyond purely literary texts, and to languages and periods which have received less scholarly attention. This might include consideration of: scholarly vs popular translations of ancient literature; translations made before the 18th century or into non-European languages; translation technique in the fields of ancient science, medicine, and philosophy; translation within the ancient world and between ancient and later cultures; translations across media; and other modes of translation of ancient knowledge.

The Workshop:

The format of the workshop is intended to be focused on discussion and feedback. Short papers will be pre-circulated with the intention that participants read them in advance, so that our time in Princeton can be dedicated to response and discussion. We invite proposals for short position papers (of 6,000 words or less) from graduate students and early career scholars at Princeton and Humboldt Universities

on any topic in the theory and practice of translation of ancient texts. Possible approaches could include:

- case studies of translations (either within the ancient world, or from the ancient world to the modern)
- ancient reflections on translation practice and theory
- theoretical developments and issues
- problems in the translation of particular technical subjects/into particular cultural contexts
- discussion of your own translation activities and the difficulties that have been faced

Please send proposals for papers to: ancienttranslationworkshop@gmail.com by Sunday, 29th March 2015.

We would also like to gauge interest from those who would not like to contribute a paper, but might like to respond to a paper by a colleague, and help to lead the subsequent discussion. To indicate your interest, or for any other inquiries, please email the workshop organisers at: ancienttranslationworkshop@gmail.com.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Paul Touyz and Gina White,
Princeton University.