

Writing and the Transmission of Knowledge

Donnerstag, 30. April 2009 bis Samstag, 02. Mai 2009



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Morning session

Introductory Session

The introductory session aims at making the participants mutually familiar with their research. After a brief introduction by the organizers presenting the questions to be addressed, each participant will be asked to give a brief statement about her/his scientific work and to give examples illustrating how this work is related to the main topic of the workshop. These statements should be substantial, but should not take more time than a maximum of 5 minutes each.

Afternoon session

Knowledge Exchange On the Eurasian Continent

- William G. Boltz: East and West of Eurasia, some general observations
- Jens Erland Braarvig: Orality and Writing in the Buddhist Translation Processes
- Joachim Kurtz: Transmission of Knowledge and its Consequences: Early Reinterpretations of Chinese Intellectual History in European Terms

Freitag, 1. Mai 2009

Morning session

Representation and Reflection of Knowledge

- Manfred Krebernik: The earliest bilingual dictionary and its function
- Gebhard Selz: The representation of experiences in cuneiform writing: Old Babylonian examples

Afternoon session

Representation and Reflection of Knowledge (Continued)

- Florentina Geller: Oral tradition designating written texts: examples from Bulgaria
- Malcolm Hyman: Reflecting oral traditions: Panini's grammar
- Matthias Schemmel: The role of writing for the origins of theoretical mechanics: China and Greece

Samstag, 2. Mai 2009

Morning session

Representation and Reflection of Knowledge (Continued)

- Eva Cancik-Kirschbaum: Numbers, Signs and Meaning
- Mark Geller: Lingua Franca as the means of transmission of knowledge
- Antonio Becchi: The role of texts and images in the transmission of technical knowledge: the example of Vitruv

Afternoon session

Interpretations and Misinterpretations of the Origins of Writing

- Werner Oechslin: Klaproth and others: in spite of Champollion's decipherment of the Egyptian hieroglyphs (Facts and the multifold desires for – 'better' – understanding.)
- Peter Damerow: Ignaz Gelb's theory of writing
- Final Discussion and Evaluation of the Workshop