

Call for Papers:

“Latin language manuals from Western Christianity (350–750): An international workshop” (KU Leuven, Monday 15 May 2017)

During Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages, Western European society went through a number of important transformations. Studies by Banniard, Chin, Courcelle, Gemeinhardt, Irvine, Kaster, Law, Riché and others have shown the complex historical developments of cultural education (‘Bildung’) in the period concerned. However, many aspects of the textual foundations for this process remain to be studied in depth. In this respect, the corpus of Latin language manuals – grammatical, lexicographical and orthographical works – constitutes a rich but still underexplored source of documentation. The manuals at issue were composed by authors including Augustine, Cassiodorus, Isidore, and Bede, who propounded a distinctly Christian education and lifestyle, while at the same time basing themselves directly or indirectly on Donatus and the ‘pagan’ grammatical tradition.

With a view to investigating this corpus in a systematic and comprehensive way, the Center for the Historiography of Linguistics of KU Leuven is organizing an **international workshop on Latin language manuals from Western Christianity, 350 to 750**, to be held in Leuven on Monday 15 May 2017. The organizing and scientific committee consists of Tim Denecker (FWO Vlaanderen), Giovanbattista Galdi, Mark Janse (UGent), Gert Partoens, Pierre Swiggers, and Toon Van Hal (KU Leuven). Confirmed speakers are Guillaume Bonnet (Dijon), Bruno Bureau (Lyon), Thorsten Fögen (Durham/Berlin), Anne Grondeux (Paris), Louis Holtz (Paris), and Bruno Rochette (Liège).

The organizers invite **proposals for posters or 20-minute papers** to be presented during this one-day workshop, in English or French. Proposals from early career researchers are especially welcome. Preference will be given to posters or papers paying attention to transformations of the grammatical tradition, terminological and structural issues, traces of multilingualism and the regional differentiation of Latin, textual reflections of didactic practices, and the manuals’ connections with the broader sociocultural context in which they were produced and used. Proposals, counting 200 words max. for posters and 400 max. for papers, should be submitted to Tim.Denecker@kuleuven.be by 1 February 2017. Notification of acceptance will be given on 1 March 2017.