

# Alexandria

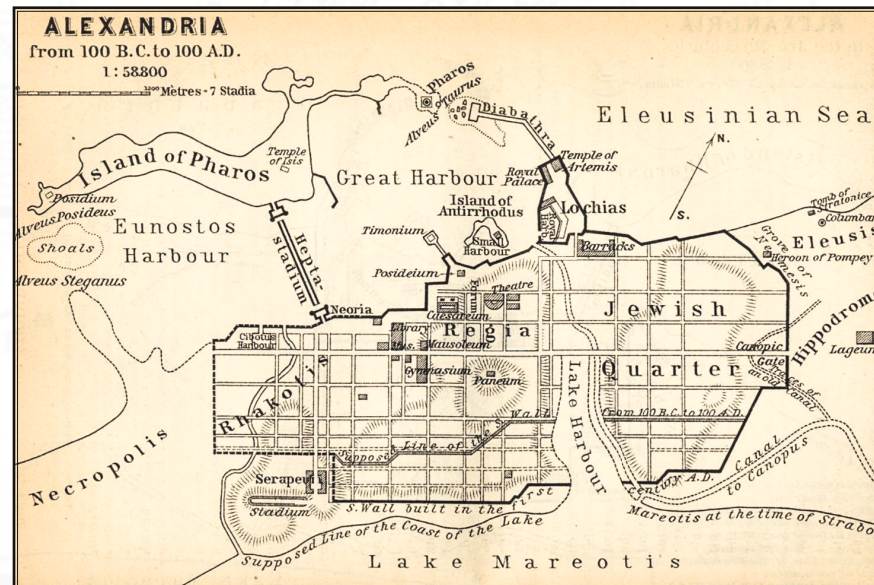
Hub of the Hellenistic World

AUGUST 22-25, 2017  
UNIVERSITY OF BERN

## Friday, August 25

- 9.15 - 9.45 **Wolfgang Grünstäudl**  
*Biblical and Historical Theology (University of Wuppertal)*  
The Quest for Pantaenus. Pierre Collomp, Wilhelm Bousset and Johannes Munck on an Alexandrian Enigma.
- 9.45 - 10.15 **Luca Arcari**  
*Department of Humanities (University of Naples)*  
Reinventing Monotheistic Traditions in Pseudo-Justin's De Monarchia. Political and Cultural Aims of an Alexandrian Posture concerning the Unicity of God.
- 10.15 - 10.45 Discussion and Break
- 11.15 - 11.45 **Thomas J. Kraus**  
*Department of New Testament (University of Zurich)*  
Alexandria, City of Knowledge: Clement on Idols in Protrepticus 4.
- 11.45 - 12.15 Discussion & Summary
- 12.15 - 12.30 Synthesis and Conclusion of the Conference

Lunch



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Intellectual, economical, and political centre of Graeco-Roman Egypt for almost one thousand years and, second to Rome, one of the most significant cities in the ancient world. A metropolis linked with many myths and legends, a model for urban planning and development. Ancient Alexandria is associated with the Pharos, the Great Library as part of the Mouseion, Alexander the Great as the city founder, and a host of influential thinkers and rulers. With the rise of Christianity, all major cultures and religions of the Early Roman Imperial Era were present at Alexandria. The conference addresses a wide variety of themes, all converging in the question of the features and manifestations of cultural-religious encounters in this hub of Graeco-Roman civilization.

u<sup>b</sup>

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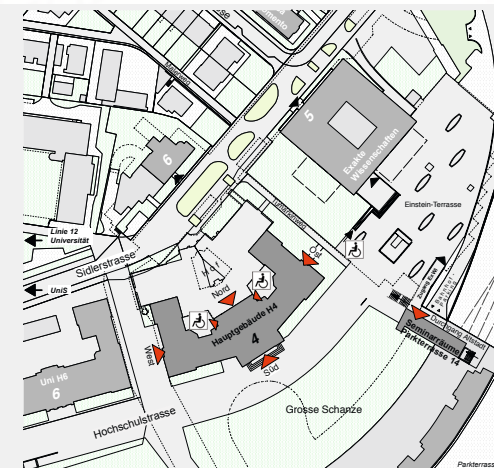
### Conference Venue

University of Bern  
Main Building  
Kuppelraum  
Hochschulstrasse 4  
3012 Bern  
Switzerland

### Contact and Information

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Hub of the Hellenistic World

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BERN  
AUGUST 22-25, 2017



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## Tuesday, August 22

### 1. Introduction

- 14.00 **Welcome Address**
- 14.15 - 14.45 **Benjamin Schliesser, Jan Rügemeier**  
*Institute of Biblical Studies (University of Bern)*  
Alexandria - Hub of the Hellenistic World. Introduction.

### 2. Alexandrian Gods, Lords, and Thoughts

- 14.45 - 15.15 **Sylvie Honigman**  
*Department of Ancient History (University of Tel Aviv)*  
The Shifting Definition of Greek Identity in Alexandria through the Transition from Ptolemaic to Roman Rule.
- 15.15 - 15.45 Discussion and Break
- 16.15 - 16.45 **Christoph Riedweg**  
*Department of Greek and Latin (University of Zurich)*  
Alexandria in the New Outline of a History of Philosophy.
- 16.45 - 17.15 **Rainer Hirsch-Luipold**  
*Institute of Biblical Studies (University of Bern)*  
God as Alexandrian Persona.
- 17.15 - 17.45 Discussion
- 18.00 Apéro

## Wednesday, August 23

- 8.45 - 9.15 **Stefan Pfeiffer**  
*Department of Ancient History (University of Halle-Wittenberg)*  
Bottom up or Top down: Who Initiated the Building of Temples for Augustus in Alexandria and Upper Egypt?

### 3. Jewish Alexandria

- 9.15 - 9.45 **René Bloch**  
*Institute of Jewish Studies / Institute of Classical Philology (University of Bern)*  
How much Hebrew in Jewish Alexandria?
- 9.45 - 10.15 Discussion and Break
- 10.45 - 11.15 **Sandra Gambetti**  
*Department of History (City University of New York)*  
Alexandria 2nd century BCE: Mosaic constituencies and the origins of diaspora Jewish political thought
- 11.15 - 11.45 **Barbara Schmitz**  
*Department of Old Testament (University of Würzburg)*  
What Does the So-called Letter of Aristeas Tell Us about Alexandria?
- 11.45 - 12.15 Discussion and Lunch Break
- 14.15 - 14.45 **Jan N. Bremmer**  
*Faculty of Religious Studies and Theology (University of Groningen)*  
The Jewish Testament of Orpheus.
- 14.45 - 15.15 **Michael Sommer**  
*Institute of Biblical Studies (University of Halle-Wittenberg)*  
The Apocalypse of Abraham and the Apocalypse of Zephaniah.
- 15.15 - 15.45 Discussion and Break

### 4. Gnosticism and Manicheism

- 16.15 - 16.45 **Enno E. Popkes**  
*Department of New Testament (University of Kiel)*  
The Interpretation of Pauline Understandings of Resurrection within 'The Treatise on the Resurrection' (NHC I,4).
- 16.45 - 17.15 **Anna van den Kerchove**  
*Protestant Institute of Theology (Paris)*  
Origen and the Valentinians in Alexandria at the Beginning of the 3rd Century.
- 17.15 - 17.45 Discussion and Break
- 19.15 **Roberta Mazza**  
*Faculty of Classics & Ancient History (University of Manchester)*  
What a Manuscript Tells Us: The Anti-Manichaean Polemic in Egypt and the Alexandrian Catechetical School.

## Thursday, August 24

### 5. The Alexandria of Strabo and Philo

- 9.15 - 9.45 **Gregory E. Sterling**  
*Yale Divinity School (University of Yale)*  
Strabo's Alexandria: A Reconstruction of First Century Alexandria.
- 9.45 - 10.15 **John Granger Cook**  
*LaGrange College (LaGrange)*  
Philo's Quaestiones in Genesim and Paul's σώμα πνευματικόν.
- 10.15 - 10.45 Discussion and Break
- 11.15 - 11.45 **Beatrice Wyss**  
*Institute of Classical Philology (University of Bern)*  
Cultural Rivalry between Jews and Egyptians in Alexandria: The Egyptians Apion and Chaeremon.
- 11.45 - 12.10 Discussion and Lunch Break

### 6. From the New Testament to the Early Church

- 14.15 - 14.45 **Samuel Vollenweider**  
*Department of New Testament (University of Zurich)*  
Apollos of Alexandria: Portrait of an Unknown.
- 14.45 - 15.15 **Jörg Frey**  
*Department of New Testament (University of Zurich)*  
New Testament Texts from Alexandria? On the Aporia of Scholarship.
- 15.15 - 15.45 Discussion and Break
- 16.15 - 16.45 **Zbyněk Kindschi Garský**  
*Institute of Biblical Studies (University of Bern)*  
Alexandrian Beasts: The Egyptian Roots of the Early Christian Interpretation of Nature.
- 16.45 - 17.15 **Tobias Nicklas**  
*Department of Exegesis and Hermeneutics (University of Regensburg)*  
Extra-Canonical Traditions about Mark in Alexandria.
- 17.15 - 17.45 Discussion and Break
- 20.00 Dinner