

Job Opening: PhD Fellowship
in Greek / Byzantine Studies
Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams
Ghent University



Within the framework of "[Poetry from the Margins: Literary, linguistic, philological and cultural-historical analysis of a new corpus of Byzantine book epigrams \(800-1453\)](#)", a research project closely connected with the [Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams](#), the Greek Section of the [Department of Literary Studies](#) at Ghent University (Belgium) is seeking well-qualified applicants for a fully-funded and full-time doctoral research fellowship (four years). The successful applicant will be part of an international team of pre- and postdoctoral scholars and is expected to work on the literary analysis and/or editing of selected book epigrams (metrical paratexts in Byzantine manuscripts). (S)he will be supervised by project director Professor Kristoffel Demoen and start employment between 1 October 2016 and 1 January 2017.

Envisaged profile

The successful candidate will have

1. an MA degree in Classical Studies (with an emphasis on Greek) or Byzantine Studies;
2. excellent knowledge of ancient Greek;
3. good notions of medieval Greek (at the least);
4. very good grades (including BA and MA dissertations of high quality);
5. good knowledge of ancient and medieval Greek literary history;
6. an interest in literary and/or cultural history, as evidenced by her/his study trajectory (e.g. optional courses, subject of papers and dissertations, etc.);
7. the willingness to attend training courses in Greek paleography, codicology, textual criticism and/or book history (if these skills have not been acquired previously).

In order to be eligible, candidates must have obtained their MA degree at the time of application or demonstrate convincingly that they will have their degree in hand by 1 October 2016.

We offer

1. a four-year contract of full-time employment as a PhD student, continuation being subject to positive evaluation after one year;
2. a competitive salary in accordance with the salary scales for PhD students as established by the Flemish government (c. €1,900 net monthly);
3. a substantial allowance for travel and other research purposes in addition to this salary;
4. office space at the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, full membership of both the [Department of Literary Studies](#) and the [Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams](#) research team, and a solid and engaging academic working environment with a strong international profile;
5. the possibility to acquire transferable skills as part of a [Doctoral School programme](#).

The Poetry from the Margins project resonates with the interests of a number of other scholars at Ghent University and the successful candidate will be able to interact with them as well as with students affiliated with various departments and research institutes at the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, such as said [Department of Literary Studies](#), the [Department of Linguistics](#), the [Department of History](#), the [Ghent Institute for Classical Studies](#), and the [Pirenne Institute for Medieval Studies](#).

We expect that the successful applicant

1. will write and successfully defend a PhD dissertation within the four years of the fellowship;
2. will contribute to the strong research tradition of the Department and the University by pursuing excellence in her/his research and publishing her/his results in peer-reviewed journals and with academic publishers that are internationally accepted as being of the highest quality;
3. will come and live in Belgium, work closely together with the other team members, and contribute to a pleasant and stimulating atmosphere;
4. will actively contribute to the scholarly activities of the research group (e.g. by organising events in collaboration with the other members of the team).

How to apply?

(a) Applications should include

1. a brief autobiographical statement (no more than one page) highlighting why the applicant is interested in this project and what added value (s)he expects to bring;
2. a full curriculum vitae (including accurate information on obtained grades);
3. relevant writing samples such as papers, a BA or MA dissertation.

and should be sent to kristoffel.demoen@ugent.be.

(b) In addition, we kindly ask candidates to arrange for two letters of reference to be sent directly by the referees to kristoffel.demoen@ugent.be.

Deadline

Applications (both a and b) should arrive no later than 7 July 2016.

Candidates will get a notification of the outcome of their application within a week after this date. Up to three candidates will be shortlisted. They will be asked to write a concise research proposal and will be invited for a job interview (either in Ghent or through videoconference) in August.

Please direct any queries to kristoffel.demoen@ugent.be. A summary of the overall project is available upon request.

Ghent University offers professional support for those applying to the many funding schemes at local, regional and European levels.

Ghent is an attractive medieval city, with a strong economic base and lively cultural scene. Just thirty minutes by train from Brussels, two hours from Paris and Amsterdam and two and a half hours from London, it is ideally situated at the heart of European intellectual life.