



**37th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON ARCHAEOLOGY
SIENA, Italy May 12th - 16th, 2008**



FIRST CIRCULAR: Call for Abstracts

Organized by:

Siena University: Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Dipartimento di Archeologia e Storia delle Arti, Dipartimento di Scienze Ambientali, Dipartimento di Chimica

Organization

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B. LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Scope

The aim of the Symposium is to promote the development and use of scientific techniques in order to extract archaeological and historical information from the cultural heritage and the paleoenvironment. It involves all Natural Sciences and all types of objects and materials related with human activity.

In general, papers should deal with the development and/or application of scientific techniques for extracting information related to human activities of the past, including the biological nature of man himself and the environment in which he lived.

The subjects covered by the Symposium are grouped into the following fields that form the sessions under which the papers will be presented either as oral or poster.

Sessions

1. Field Archaeology (Remote Sensing and Geophysical Prospecting, sampling and fieldwalking strategies, in situ observations of preservation, site monitoring, etc).
2. Archaeo-chronometry (New developments in dating techniques, novel applications, methods of combining dating strategies, new interpretation strategies, synchronization of cultures, cultural phase analysis, etc.).
 - 2.1.Recent Developments in Radiocarbon Dating (Special Sub-session).
3. Human - Environment Interactions (Geoarchaeology, Palaeoclimate studies, Landscape Archaeology, Environmental reconstructions, etc.).
4. Bioarchaeology (DNA, Human Diet, health, mobility, demography, residues, zooarchaeology, archaeobotany, etc.).
 - 4.1.Food preparation and consumption in Antiquity (Special Sub-session).

5. Stone, Plaster and Pigments (Technology and Provenance)
6. Ceramics, Glazes, Glass and Vitreous Materials (Technology and Provenance)
7. Metals and Metallurgical Ceramics (Technology and Provenance)
8. Integrated Site Studies (they should combine: excavation procedure, scientific studies of materials and environment, and archaeological interpretation).

Special Theme Session for Siena: Micro/nano diagnostic and ancient technology

Abstracts

Abstracts should have a length of between 200 and 400 words. They should contain: A brief description of the archaeological problem and the materials or objects under study, a description of the research goals, the techniques used and the results obtained so far, including a short interpretation. The above information is necessary in order to help convenors to understand the work involved and to select the papers for oral or poster presentations.

We welcome abstracts addressing the designated sessions especially those that illustrate successfully interdisciplinary collaborations and clear definition of archaeological and technical problems. In general, papers should deal with the development and/or application of scientific techniques and integrated methodologies (scientific, humanistic, ethnographic) for extracting information related to human activities of the past, including the biological nature of man and the environment in which he lived.

Papers that deal with weathering and deterioration of archaeological objects or monuments will be welcome provided they are relevant to one of the main themes of the Symposium and provided they involve integrated studies combining Archaeometry, Archaeology and Conservation Science leading to a better preservation and management of the cultural heritage. Papers that deal solely with conservation techniques or the development of materials for conservation are outside the scope of this conference and normally will not be accepted.

Submitting Abstracts

At the bottom of your abstract you should clearly indicate for which of the designated sessions, sub-sessions or special theme sessions you want your abstract to be considered.

Also, at the bottom you should clearly indicate if you prefer a Poster presentation.

To submit your abstract, please fill in the enclosed form and return it to us by e-mail to gliozzo@unisi.it by **December 1st, 2007**, clearly indicating as subject: Abstract ISA2008.

Selection between Oral and Poster presentation:

The selection by the convenors of a paper for oral or poster presentation is not based only on the quality of scientific work but rather on how extensive and complete is a certain work and how wide is the specialization of the audience to whom it may be appealing. Preference for oral presentation will be given to papers that involve: 1) Intergraded and multi-disciplinary approaches involving archaeologists, 2) Description of a well defined archaeological or environmental problem and its solution or attempt to solve it, 3) Results concerning large geographic areas or periods in antiquity and 4) Presentation of new, well defined and well documented advances to methodologies.

The Posters are the highlight of the Symposium.

- ◆ They always generate more discussion, as there is more time of contact between authors and participants.
- ◆ They are placed in a spacious and adequately lighted room.
- ◆ The poster boards are big enough and placed at a reasonable distance from each other, so each one has its own dignity.
- ◆ The coffee is served in the poster room so participants are always in contact with the posters.
- ◆ Two and a half hours in each of the two poster sessions are dedicated to the posters during which no other event is taking place. Apart from the special poster sessions, the posters of each session are on display for two days continuously.
- ◆ The program for the posters is released exactly at the same time as the oral and printed with exactly the same layout as the oral.
- ◆ There is absolutely no differentiation between poster and oral papers as regards the publication of the proceedings.
- ◆ There are special prizes for the best student posters.

Venue

The Symposium will be held at the *Complesso Didattico del Laterino*, situated just out of the historic city walls, very near to the Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra and to the historic centre of the city. More information will be published on the **Conference's Website**, which will work starting from **January 15th 2007** at <http://www.unisi.it/eventi/isa2008/>

The organizing committee will also provide information on possible travel arrangements and available accommodation during the Symposium on the Conference Website.

Social Program

During the Symposium the organizing committee will take the participants on some tours of the city.

A symposium banquet will also be organized, at an additional cost, in a suitable place with live music and dancing.

The day after the symposium, a trip will be organized for interested participants (also at additional cost). Further information will be included within the Website.

Language of the Symposium

The official language of the Symposium will be **English**.

Registration Fees

Registration fees including access to all sessions, coffee-breaks, welcome party, abstract volume, Conference proceedings and tour of Siena are as follows:

Before March 1st, 2008:

- Symposium Participants: 200 €
- Students: 100 €(prove of student status is required)

On March 1st, 2008 or later:

- Symposium Participants: 250 €
- Students: 125 €

Key Dates

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **December 1st, 2007**

Notification of acceptance or rejection: **January 30th, 2008**

Deadline for registration and payment of regular registration fee: **March 1st, 2008**

Deadline for hotel reservations: **March 1st, 2008**

Martin Aitken Prizes for Best Student Posters

To encourage the active participation of students in the Archaeometry Symposium, the Standing Committee offers two prizes of 200 € each, for the best posters representing the work of students enrolled in programs leading to degrees in science or archaeological science. Students must attend the Symposium to claim their prizes.

Financial Support

Financial support is expected from some private and public institutions for a limited number of students and other participants with financial difficulties. This may cover their expenses in full (travel and accommodation), or partly (e.g., travel, accommodation or registration fee). Applicants will have to send a brief curriculum vitae and an application letter to the **Fellowship Secretariat** (listed below), within **December 1st, 2007**.

Further details on Prizes and Fellowships will be available in the Symposium Website.

Communication

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Fellowship Secretariat

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