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Melammu Workshop

The Linguistic Position of Sumerian: Isolate or not?

Innsbruck, May 25-26 2023

Claudiasaal, Herzog-Friedrich-Straße 3, 6020 Innsbruck

Program

Melammu Workshop

Innsbruck, May 25-26 2023

Venue: Claudiasaal, Herzog-Friedrich-Straße 3, 6020 Innsbruck

Organisation: Simonetta Ponchia (Verona), Martin Lang (Innsbruck), Sebastian Fink (Innsbruck)

May 25 2023

- 09:00-09:15 **Opening**
- 09:15-10:00 Simo Parpola (Helsinki): *A change of paradigm: why Uralists should study Sumerian, and vice versa*
- 10:00-10:45 Peeter Espak (Tartu): *Sumerian and Finno-Ugric languages: Aspects of a history of research*
- 10:45-11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:00-11:45 Gebhard Selz (Wien): *Which Sumerian? How homophones and homoiophones as well as syntactical observations might influence linguistic comparisons*
- 11:45-12:30 Cale Johnson (Berlin): *How to think about language in the proto-cuneiform texts*
- 12:30-14:15 *Lunch break*
- 14:15-15:00 Massimo Maiocchi (Venice): *Notes on the early terminology for writing and accounting in Mesopotamia*
- 15:00-15:45 Martin Joachim Kümmel (Jena): *Ob-Ugric as a relative of Sumerian?*
- 15:45-16:15 *Coffee break*
- 16:15-17:00 Gordon Whittaker (Göttingen): *Euphratic, Ugric, and Sumerian: Interlinguistic vs. intralinguistic relationships*
- 17:00-17:45 **Discussion**, chaired by Raija Mattila (Helsinki)

May 26 2023

- 09:00-09:45 Sampsa Holopainen (Vienna): *Uralic etymologies and problems of long-range comparison*
- 09:45-10:30 Noah Kröll (Innsbruck): *Emesal as evidence for the linguistic position of Sumerian*
- 10:30-11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:00-11:45 Marcos Such Gutiérrez (Madrid): *Difficulties using the Sumerian lexicon as a basis for a comparison: the case of the semantic field of animals*
- 11:45-12:30 Alexander Steiner (Innsbruck): *Some considerations on the etymology and the sound change of 629. éd.a; éd 'orient' in 'Utu.éd.a 'sunrise, morning, east'*
- 12:30-14:15 *Lunch break*
- 14:15-15:00 Aleksi Sahala (Helsinki): *Sumerian and Proto-Uralic in light of finite-state machines and Comparative Linguistics: A critical review*
- 15:00-15:45 Peter Revesz (Lincoln-Nebraska): *A comparison of Proto-Ugric and Sumerian grammars*
- 15:45-16:30 **Final discussion**, chaired by Simonetta Ponchia (Verona)