

Under the Auspices of H. E. the President of the Hellenic Republic  
**Mr Prokopios Pavlopoulos**

The Holy Monastery of Sinai (Egypt), the Early Manuscripts Electronic Library (Los Angeles) and the Mount Sinai Foundation (Athens) have the honor to invite You to the opening session of the international conference:

**“The Other Voice of the Desert: The palimpsest manuscripts of the Sinai Monastery, new technologies for reading, discovery of unknown texts, prospects for research”**

Monday, 27 November 2017, at 17:30, in the “Giannos Kranidiotis” auditorium of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Akadimias 1 Ave, Athens).

Your attendance will be a special honor for us.

The Archbishop of Sinai, Faran and

Raitho Damianos

Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Sinai

& President of the Mount Sinai  
Foundation

Michael B. Phelps

Executive Director

Early Manuscripts Electronic Library

RSVP by 20 November to Dr. Nikolaos Fyssas at:

Email: [msf@otenet.gr](mailto:msf@otenet.gr)

Tel.: (+30) 210-645-4923 / (+30) 693-839-2718

Under the Auspices of H. E. the President of the Hellenic Republic  
**Mr Prokopios Pavlopoulos**

**“The Other Voice of the Desert: The palimpsest manuscripts of the Sinai Monastery, new technologies for reading, discovery of unknown texts, prospects for research.”**

International scientific conference — Athens, 2017 November 27-29

**Monday, November 27**

Auditorium of Greece’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs “Giannos Kranidiotis”

17:30 to 19:30 — *Opening session: St. Catherine’s Monastery of Sinai and its Palimpsest Manuscripts*

Welcome and introductory remarks

- “Η Ιερά Μονή Αγίας Αικατερίνης Θεοβαδίστου Όρους Σινά, φάρος πολιτισμού” (“St. Catherine’s Monastery of Sinai, Beacon of Civilization”) His Eminence Archbishop Damianos of Sinai, Faran and Raitho
- “Recovering Erased Texts in the World’s Oldest Library” Michael Phelps, Executive Director, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library
- “The Sinai Palimpsests: Recovering Also the Early History of the Monastery.” Archmandrite Justin Sinaites, Monastery Librarian

**Tuesday, November 28**

Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs “Giannos Kranidiotis” auditorium

14:00 to 16:30 — *Spectral imaging and the Recovery of Erased Texts in the Sinai*

Chair: Nikolaos Fyssas, Mount Sinai Foundation

- “Εφαρμόζοντας την φασματική φωτογράφιση στο Όρος Σινά - Απρόσμενες ανακαλύψεις” (“Implementing Spectral Imaging in the Sinai and Unexpected Encounters”) Damian Kasotakis, Director of Imaging, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library
- “Image Processing Methods That Reveal Erased Handwriting” Keith Knox, Chief Scientific Advisor, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library
- “Discerning Text in the Noise: Customized Statistical Processing of Spectral Imagery from St. Catherine’s Monastery” Roger Easton, Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology
- “An Online Digital Library of Sinai Palimpsests: IIF-Compliant Site with Tools for Navigating Spectral Imagery”

Todd Grappone, Associate University Librarian, University of California Los Angeles, and Michael Phelps, Director, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library

17:30 to 19:30— *Discoveries among Sinai's Palimpsests and their Impact on Historical Scholarship*

- “New Dimensions in Medieval Manuscript Culture: The Impact of the Sinai Palimpsests Project”  
Claudia Rapp, Professor, University of Vienna
- “Ανακαλύψεις από τα ελληνικά κείμενα των σιναϊτικών παλιμψήστων”  
 (“Discoveries among the Greek Undertexts in Sinai Palimpsests”  
Agamemnon Tselikas, Head of Historical and Paleographical Archive, National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation)
- “Some Notable Syriac Texts Discovered Among Sinai Palimpsests”  
Grigory Kessel, University of Vienna

**Wednesday, November 29**

Historical and Paleographical Archive, National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation (3, P. Skouze str., Athens)

14:00 to 16:00— Workshop on Spectral Imaging of Palimpsests and Image Processing  
Host: Agamemnon Tselikas, Head of Historical and Paleographical Archive,  
National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation

Instructors: Ken Boydston, CEO, MegaVision  
Damian Kasotakis, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library  
Roger Easton, Rochester Institute of Technology  
Keith Knox, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library  
Michael Phelps, Early Manuscripts Electronic Library

Notice: On November 27-28 there will be simultaneous translation into English for the presentations given in Greek.