

Call for paper

The 18th European Maya Conference is co-organized by Wayeb, the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB, Dpt. of Art history and Archaeology, section pre-columbian civilisation), the CENA (Centre d'Etudes Nord-Américaines-Canada-Etats-Unis-Mexique of the ULB) and the Belgian Society of Americanists (SAB).

It will be held from October 28 to November 2, 2013 in Brussels, Belgium. A three-and-a-half-day Workshop (Oct. 28-31) will precede a two-day Symposium (Nov. 1-2).

Symposium

The theme of this year's conference will be: **Post-Apocalypso: crisis and resilience in the Maya World.**

Since the start of the study of Maya culture, the concepts of crisis and collapse have been widely used to interpret a series of phenomena that are often framed simplistically. The "abrupt" abandonment of the great Maya centres at the end of the Classic period is a good example of this tendency. In the past two decades, however, a growing number of researchers have proposed more nuanced interpretations. There is little doubt that the collapse had causes that reflected respective regions and communities; that the course of collapse varied; and that resilience played a critical role in the socio-political and economic transformations that occurred. We must also consider the role of resilience in other crises, such as the passage between the Pre-classic and Classic periods, the years of Conquest, the Caste War, and the Civil War in Guatemala.

We propose in Brussels to debate the topics of crisis and resilience across the entire span of Maya history, from Prehispanic times to the recent past. We are interested in discussing the forms of cultural change brought about by crisis as well as in delineating which cultural elements persisted and which mechanisms allowed for continuity in times of crisis across the various periods. Discussion and debate should not be limited to phenomena of major extent such as abandonment or hiatus but should include detailed perspectives on access to resources, the transmission of dynastic power, the consequences of wars and attacks, and the impact of contact with other cultures in Classic times, the Colonial period or afterwards.

We shall accept contributions from the fields of epigraphy, archaeology, ethnography, ethno-history, and linguistics.

Post-Apocalypso: crisis y resiliencias en el mundo maya

Desde los inicios del estudio de la cultura maya, el concepto de crisis y colapso ha sido ampliamente usado para interpretar una serie de fenómenos y datos poco explícitos. El abandono "abrupto" de los grandes sitios mayas a fines del periodo Clásico es un buen ejemplo desta tendencia. Sin embargo, en el curso de las dos últimas décadas, un número creciente de investigaciones llevan a matizar estas

interpretaciones. Se constata que el colapso sin duda tuvo causas múltiples y diversas según las regiones y los sitios, que su velocidad también es relativa, y que el concepto de resiliencia parece haber jugado un papel más importante de lo que se pensaba hasta la fecha. Y que decir sobre la resiliencia en las crisis que eran el pasaje de la época pre-clásica al Clásico, la Conquista, la Guerra de Caste, la guerra civil en Guatemala, etc.?

Proponemos debatir estos temas a través del conjunto de la historia maya, de los tiempos pre-hispánicos al pasado más reciente. Nos interesamos discutir las formas de cambios culturales causados por las crisis, ver cuales elementos culturales resisten los cambios, o cuales mecanismos permiten la continuidad en la cultura maya a través de las épocas. Los conceptos de crisis y resiliencias deben entenderse no solo para fenómenos de mayor amplitud como los citados, sino también para perspectivas más puntuales como el acceso y la rarefacción de recursos, la transmisión del poder dinástico, las consecuencias de guerras y ataques, el impacto del contacto con otras culturas, sea en el periodo Clásico como en la época colonial y después.

Aceptaremos contribuciones de la epigrafía, arqueología, etnografía, etno-historia, lingüística, etc.

Invited keynote speakers include:

M-Charlotte Arnauld (CNRS, Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Geoffrey Braswell (University of California, San Diego), Alain Breton (CNRS, Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense), Peter Eeckhout and Sylvie Peperstraete (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Nikolai Grube (University of Bonn), Takeshi Inomata (University of Arizona), Jesper Nielsen (University of Copenhagen).

Call for papers

The Wayeb Conference Board invites the submission of abstracts concerning the conference topic. Papers will be selected from all sub-disciplines of Mesoamerican studies to cover the conference topic in all dimensions and from various perspectives. Presentations will be accepted in English and Spanish. Abstracts may not exceed 250 words. Contributions of authors who submit more than one abstract (including co-authored papers) will not be considered. Co-authorship needs to be indicated upon submission. It will not be possible to add co-authors on a presentation unless these have been explicitly included in the submitted abstract and approved as such.

Please submit in electronic format (Word attachment) in the following order:

1. Author's name and affiliation
2. Address, phone number and email address
3. Title of paper
4. Abstract

The abstracts will be forwarded without the author's particulars to an anonymous Review Committee that will be selected by the Wayeb Conference Board.

Please submit your application to callforpapers@wayeb.org

(Only abstracts sent to this address will be accepted. Please do not send your abstract to the organisers or the Conference Board! If you send your abstract to

another email address than the above your abstract will be immediately disqualified from further consideration.)

The call for papers will close on the **30 April 2013**! All abstracts have to be sent in and confirmation of receipt received prior to this date.

For more information, please contact the ConferenceBoard@wayeb.org or the local organisers Dr. Peter Eeckhout and Dr. Sylvie Peperstraete of the University of Brussels at emc2013@wayeb.org