

Dear Colleagues,

You are cordially invited to participate in the forthcoming 7<sup>th</sup> Balkan Symposium on Archaeometry (BSA 2020) – “Science & Heritage”, to be held in the West Attica University, Athens, on September 22-25, 2020.

The Balkan Symposium on Archaeometry (BSA) was first held in the “Sts Cyril & Methodius” University, Skopje, on September 18-20, 2008, and since then is ordinarily organized on a biennial basis (2010-Istanbul/Turkey, 2012-Bucharest/Romania, 2014-Nessebar/Bulgaria, 2016-Sinaia/Romania, 2018-Ljubljana/Slovenia).

The Balkans is a region where human activity is attested from the dawn of civilization, and interactions between various cultures have been taking place continuously since at least 5000 BCE. Therefore, there is a well-established need for cutting-edge archaeological research and archaeometry/conservation science.

In the broad framework of the interdisciplinary field of archaeometry, applied sciences such as physics and chemistry boost our understanding of the past through the analytical investigation of materials culture, offering thus an invaluable tool in the hands of archaeologists, art historians and conservators. In this view, the BSA aims at bringing together and stimulating the interaction between experts from various scientific fields, including –but not limited to- physics, chemistry, conservation/restoration, archaeology and history of art. Moreover, the Symposium aims at reinforcing the network between the members of the Balkan archaeometric community, and also at enhancing relevant collaborations.

The 2020 Athens BSA will include the following topics:

- Analytical techniques in cultural heritage materials
  - Ceramics, metals, glass, lithics, pigments, organic materials
  
- Dating Methods & Palaeo-environment
  - Absolut Dating methods
  - Palaeo-environment Reconstruction
  - Geophysical prospection & GIS applications
  - Bioarchaeology
  
- Conservation Science
  - Conservation of inorganic and organic materials
  - Art conservation
  - Degradation mechanisms
  
- Open Session
  - Experimental archaeology
  - Computer Sciences in cultural heritage
  - Data manipulation and statistics
  - 3D scanning/printing in cultural heritage
  - Imaging techniques in arts and archaeology

Important dates:

- Abstract Submission: 31/05/2020
- Notification of abstract acceptance:30/06/2020
- Early bird registration:15/07/2020
- Conference: September 22-25, 2020.

Further information on abstract submission, registration, social events, accommodation and transportation will be soon available on the Symposium website: <https://bsa7.uniwa.gr>

Looking forward to seeing you all in Athens.

On behalf of the organizing committee,

Professor Theodore Ganetsos  
University of West Attica