

RESEARCH IN FOCUS

Newsletter Winter 2014



KNIR
KONINKLIJK
NEDERLANDS
INSTITUUT
ROME



The humanities experience a dynamic period of transition, characterized by new developments in research and intense debate on the relationship between academia and society.

The Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome aims to be at the forefront of these dynamics together with its partners in the Netherlands and Rome.

This Newsletter gives a short overview of the recent research initiatives at the KNIR.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER:

- 1. KNIR and eScience**
- 2. New interdisciplinary research theme**
- 3. Recent conferences**
- 4. KNIR-ambassadors & winner Ted Meijer Award**
- 5. Teaching Program Spring 2014**
- 6. Save the date: HADRIANVS in Rijksmuseum, 20 February 2014**

1 KNIR and eScience



The new discipline of digital humanities (or e-humanities) has become an integral part of various projects at the Institute. The project [Mapping the Via Appia](#) uses new 3D spatial mapping and analysis techniques in the study of the archaeological and historical landscape. This autumn, the project has obtained funding from [the Netherlands eScience Center \(NLeSC\)](#) through an application of the SpINLab of VU University Amsterdam, in collaboration with Radboud University and the KNIR.

The project [HADRIANVS](#), which digitally maps the traces of Dutch history and culture in Rome, also received significant financial input and computational expertise. The Huygens Institute for the History of the Netherlands (Huygens ING) successfully applied for funding by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences to integrate the data of HADRIANVS with other comparable datasets, such as the Biographic Portal of the Netherlands. In this same context, HADRIANVS also filed a direct application for funding from NLeSC, which will result in further developing software for semantic analysis of the data on Dutch artists and scholars and their networks in Rome. The total funding obtained this autumn by the KNIR and its partners in eScience reaches € 130,000.

2 New interdisciplinary research theme



In 2013 we launched a new research theme that aims at studying strategies of territorial expansion from the stone age to modern times, in particular in Italy. Within this theme, two [conferences](#) took place at the Institute this autumn, and we initiated a trajectory of [masterclasses](#) and [traineeships](#) in prospection archaeology and aerial photography.

3 Recent conferences



Within the framework of the theme 'Classical Traditions' the cornerstone of research at the Institute, this autumn the KNIR also hosted a series of other international conferences including [The Age of Tarquinius Superbus](#), organized together with the British School at Rome; and [Imagining the Ancients. Republics and the Classical Past, 1500-1800](#).

4 KNIR-ambassadors & winner Ted Meijer Award

The outreach of the KNIR has significantly increased thanks to the [KNIR-ambassadors](#), a group of young researchers from different disciplines at Dutch universities. Another young researcher, Bettina Reitz-Joosse, has won the annual Ted Meijer Award for her dissertation in classics defended at Leiden to work on her new project *Landscapes of War. Memory and the Battlefield in Ancient Rome*.



Bettina Reitz-Joosse

Many more courses and conferences are planned for the Spring semester. Stay informed about what we do through our [website](#) or, follow us on [facebook](#) and [twitter](#)!



5 Teaching Program Spring 2014



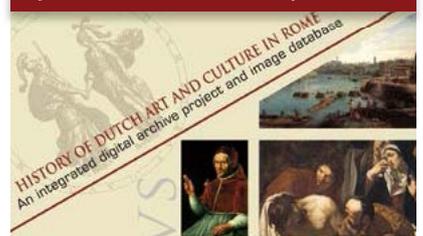
This Spring the KNIR organizes eight [Masterclasses](#) for excellent students at MA and/or PhD level.

Upcoming **deadlines** for application (apply via [this link](#)).

31 JANUARY: [Masterclass Science in Religion in Rome](#) (28 April-12 May).

1 FEBRUARY: [Masterclass Archaeology of Mythology](#) (7-20 April).

6 Save the date: HADRIANVS in Rijksmuseum, 20 February 2014



The HADRIANVS project will be officially presented to the Dutch scholarly community and the general public on a symposium at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam on 20 February. The symposium will focus on networks of Dutch artists in Rome, their representation of the city's cultural heritage, and the possibilities of digitalization to study these topics. More information on the program will soon be available on our website, [www.knir.it](#). All welcome, so save the date!

