

Napoli, 16–17 gennaio 2025

Scuola Superiore Meridionale – Università Federico II

FuMaSt 4

The Future of Manuscript Studies



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Early-stage researchers working on mediaeval manuscripts are widely present within PhD courses in various disciplines and subjects, funded projects, universities and research institutions. Their research activities, which contribute in an essential way to building the future of manuscript studies, would highly benefit from a broader comparison of methods and results, both among young scholars and within the wider scholarly community.

The fourth **International Contest "Fumast - The Future of Manuscript Studies"** aims to bring together once again – after the first three editions (held in Gaeta in October 2019, online in April 2021 and in Udine in December 2022) – experienced scholars and young researchers engaged in the study of manuscripts, coming from a variety of countries and scholarly traditions, and working in different and often not directly connected contexts.

Proposals are expected from PhD students and early-stage researchers (PhD earned not more than 10 years before the application; documented breaks for maternity/paternity or illness are taken into account in the calculation). They may concern ongoing projects as well as first results of scholarly undertakings in the field of manuscript studies (palaeography, codicology, history of illuminated manuscripts, cataloguing, textual history). Interdisciplinary approaches are most welcome. Topics not centred on the study of manuscript books (i.e. those of a purely philological, literary or art-historical nature) will not be considered. Those who have already been selected as participants in previous Fumast contest cannot apply for this edition.

Eight papers will be selected for a 20-minute oral presentation, followed by a 10-minute discussion. The papers will need to conform to a few formalia, in order to make communication more efficient, and should contribute to shaping 'good practices' in the oral presentation of palaeographical and codicological research. These requirements – which will be sent to the selected speakers – mainly concern the structure of the papers, the relevance, technical quality and organisation of illustrations, and the drafting of a longer abstract in two of the contest's official languages. The proposals for papers should be written in French, English, Italian, Spanish or German, and contain the following information:

- author's name and affiliation (if applicable);
- a short curriculum vitae (max. 2,500 characters);
- title;
- summary (min 4,000/max. 6,000 characters), offering sufficient information on the context, methods and results of the presented research.

The presentations will take place **at the University of Naples on 16–17 January, 2025**. The eight selected speakers will be granted hotel accommodation in Naples and a refund for travel expenses.

The best three presentations, chosen by a panel representing the organising institutions, will be awarded a prize consisting in:

- a certificate jointly issued by the organizing institutions;
- the support of the Scientific Committee in case the author intends to submit the contribution to a recognised scholarly journal

The first-place finisher will also receive a symbolic prize of 500 euros.

The proposals, in PDF format, should be sent to the Organizing Committee no later than **30 August, 2024**. The selected papers will be announced by 15 October, 2024. The complete texts of the papers must be sent by 30 November, 2024 to the Scientific Advisory Board, which may then make some suggestions to authors for the definitive version of their work.

For submissions and further information please contact: fumast4@gmail.com