

**The European Association of Middle East Librarians
Association européenne des bibliothécaires du Moyen-Orient**

President: Sara Yontan

Secretary: Dominique Akhoun-Schwarb

Treasurer: Farzaneh Zareie

**39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN CAMBRIDGE
3rd -5th July 2017**

1. LOCAL CONVENER / ORGANISATRICE LOCALE:

Ms Yasmin Faghihi

Head of the Near and Middle Eastern Department

Cambridge University Library

West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DR

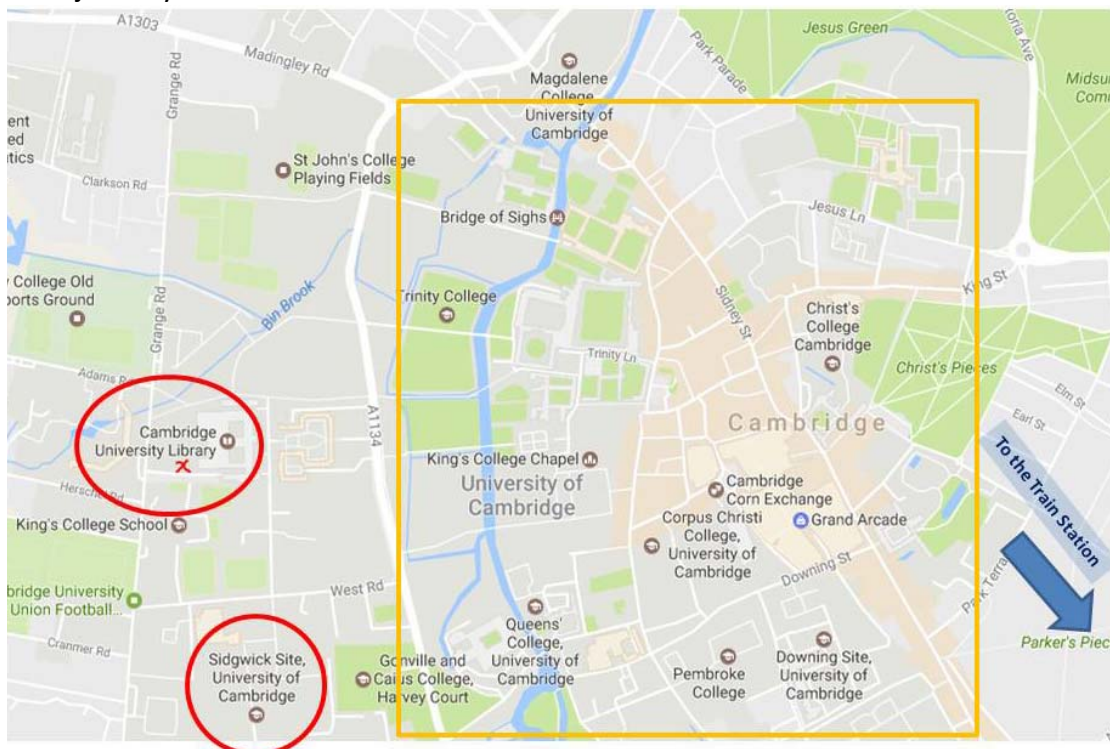
+44 (0)1223 764739

yf227@cam.ac.uk

mi2017cambridge@gmail.com (Please use for all matters related to the MI conference 2017)

2. VENUE

The conference will be held in the Runcie Room at the [Faculty of Divinity of Cambridge](#) on the Sidgwick Site, at a 5 minutes walk from the [Cambridge University Library](#) (<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/>). This is located west of the Centre of Cambridge, at about one hour train journey from Central London.



How to get to the Faculty of Divinity / Cambridge University Library:

Here is a link to tourist maps of Cambridge: <http://www.mapaplan.com/travel-map/cambridge-england-city-top-tourist-attractions-printable-street-plan/cambridge-top-tourist-attractions-map.htm>

3. PAPERS AND PROGRAMME

About 27 Papers will be presented in the following categories:

- Cataloguing policies and practices
- History of libraries & collections
- Collection management
- Manuscripts, rare books and documents : describing, cataloguing, preserving them
- Electronic resources and digitization projects
- Middle Eastern librarianship past, present, future
- Middle Eastern librarianship in the prism of politics

The preliminary programme will be circulated soon.

Note to the prospective speakers: Please specify the technical equipment needed. Internet access is available. It would be helpful if we knew in advance if you intend to make use of it and which internet browser you would like to use.

Please remember papers cannot exceed 20 minutes. 5-10 minutes are allocated for questions & answers following most paper. Some panels may have reduced time slots to allow more presentations to occur. Speakers will be notified individually.

4. CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE FEES

35 Euro for regular participants / 80 Euro for commercial participants / Free for students (upon presentation of a valid student ID)

35 Euro for the Conference Dinner*

50 Euro for the optional excursion on Thursday 6th July 2017 (lunch included)

Apart from the conference fees, all other expenditures are optional. Please indicate on the registration form which activities you wish to participate in.

All fees will be collected **in Euros, in cash only** during the conference registration morning. Cheques are not accepted.

*The Traditional Conference Dinner is prospectively to be held on Tuesday 4th July 2017. A vegetarian menu will be available. If you have any health-related diet requirements, please let us know in advance so we can communicate them to the restaurant.

5. VISA REGULATIONS:

Those who need letters of invitation to obtain an entrance visa to the United-Kingdom should write to the local organiser (mi2017cambridge@gmail.com) as early as possible, providing the following information:

- Full name as written in the passport
- Country of citizenship
- Entry date in the UK

- Exit date from the UK
- Format required : original letter printed and posted [provide a valid postal address] / Electronic letter sent by email [provide a valid email address]

Visitors arriving in the United-Kingdom are required to be in possession of a valid passport or identity card, and if not European Economic Area nationals or Swiss nationals, a valid visa of entry. Entry visas may be obtained from British Diplomatic and Consular Missions Abroad. Please check with your nearest British Consular mission for more details concerning visa regulations applying to your citizenship. More information is also available at the British Government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration>

6. ACCOMMODATION

Our host has arranged for rooms to be reserved for MELCom International delegates at three Colleges nearby:

SELWYN COLLEGE

Grange Road, Cambridge CB3 9DQ

UK Tel: (+44) (0) 1223 335846

<http://www.sel.cam.ac.uk/conferences/accommodation/>

Situated in the pleasant gardens of Selwyn College. Near the city centre and at a 5 minute walk from the Conference venue.

Price indication for a **single ensuite room**: £78/night (no lift available) or £86.50/night (building equipped with lift) per night, Full-English breakfast included.

NOTA BENE: Selwyn College has reserved 40 rooms for the MI conference attendees for a block of 5 nights [2-6/07/2017]. Attendees need to fill a booking form and pay the room in advance to secure their booking. **Bookings need to be made before 30/04/2017.**

If you cannot secure a room at Selwyn College, please explore the following two options:

Sidney Sussex College

Cambridge CB2 3HU

UK Tel: (+44) (0)1223 338800

<https://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/confer/accommodation/bookingindiv>

In the heart of the city centre and at a pleasant 15-20 minutes' walk from the conference venue.

Price indication: £84/night (ensuite single room) or £108/night (ensuite twin room), breakfast included.

NOTA BENE: Sidney Sussex College has reserved 23 rooms for the MI conference attendees.

Bookings need to be made **before 02/05/2017**, after which the rooms will be freed and opened to others for booking.

Pembroke College

Cambridge CB2 1RF

UK Tel: (+44) (0)1223 338100

<http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/the-college/visitors/maps-directions/>

In the city centre and at a 15-minute walk from the Library.

Price indication: £34.50 per person per night (single room, shared bathroom). Breakfast is not included but can be bought in the College canteen.

NOTA BENE: Pembroke College has reserved 10 student rooms for the MI conference attendees. Attendees need to book through the local organiser, Yasmin Faghihi. Bookings need to be made **before 02/05/2017**, after which the rooms will be freed and opened to others for booking.

The other hotels listed below are further from the Library and the City Centre, but both can be easily reached by bus.

Bookings for hotels below can be made directly with the hotels or through [booking.com](http://www.booking.com)

Hotel Ibis Cambridge Central Station***

2 Station Square, Cambridge CB1 2GA

Tel :(+44)1223 320960 | h8548@accor.com

<http://www.ibis.com/qb/hotel-8548-ibis-cambridge-central-station-/index.shtml>.

Ibis Cambridge is located next to the train station, a 25 min walk to the city centre and about 35 min walk to the University Library (about 20 minutes by bus). Ensuite double room with breakfast cost about £105/night.

Price indication for 5 nights (Sunday to Friday): from 528 GBP

Travelodge Cambridge Central

Cambridge Leisure Park, Clifton Way, Cambridge CB1 7DY,

<https://www.travelodge.co.uk/hotels/255/Cambridge-Central-hotel>

Travelodge Cambridge Central is a budget hotel located 8 minutes to the railway station, a 30 min walk to the city centre and about 40 min walk to the University Library (about 25 minutes by bus). Ensuite double room with breakfast from £77/night.

Price indication for 5 nights (Sunday to Friday): 330 GBP to 520 GBP

7. TRANSPORTS

Local Airports:

London Stansted Airport (STN) is the city's nearest airport, located around 23 miles (37 km) south of Cambridge in the neighbouring county of Essex. See: www.stanstedairport.com/

London Luton Airport, (LTN) is also within easy reach, located around 31 miles (50 km) southwest of Cambridge in the neighbouring county of Bedfordshire. See: www.london-luton.co.uk/

Travelling to/from Cambridge in the UK:

For more information on arriving in and departing from Cambridge, please check the British National Railway website for prices and information: <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

Regular train service connects Cambridge to London. It takes around 50-70 minutes from Central London to Cambridge by train and cost around €35.

Travelling in Cambridge:

The public transit system in Cambridge consists of a network of buses. Many people travel by bus, bike and by foot in this bike-friendly city. Bike hire is available from many private companies in Cambridge:

<https://www.yell.com/s/cycle+hire-cambridge-cambridgeshire.html>

8. EXCURSION

The excursion on Thursday 6th July 2017 should include a walking tour through historic Cambridge (Colleges, etc.), a punting tour on the River Cam, and the visit of one of the main Cambridge Museums.

This excursion's programme is only indicative and is subject to change. More details will follow and can be obtained with the organiser at mi2017cambridge@gmail.com.

9. MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Normally no immunizations are required or needed. Pharmacies are scattered around the city, and many are open 24 hours a day. For EU/EEA nationals, remember to travel with your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

10. CURRENCY

The local currency is the British Pounds (GBP). Credit cards (with chips and pin code) are accepted and widely used. You do not need to change money prior to arrival as ATM machines are available all over the city. Most banks are closed on Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

11. WEATHER & CLOTHING

Early July is early summer in Cambridge and is usually very agreeable (average 20°C) but always chilly in the evenings. Also pack for rainy days as well (this is Britain after all!).

