

Bacon Conference, May 18-20, 2023

**Thematic Continuities in Astronomy and Astrology from Antiquity to the
Renaissance: A Conference in Memory of Noel M. Swerdlow**

Thursday, May 18, 2023 (Caltech, Dabney Hall, Treasure Room)

8:30 AM Breakfast Buffet (outside Treasure Room, Rm 110,)

8:50 AM Welcome by Jed Buchwald

Morning Session Chair, Jed Buchwald

9:00AM Tony Grafton, Princeton University
Historical Chronology before Scaliger: Jean Bodin Dates the Past

10:00 AM Robert Morrison, Bowdoin College
Levi ben Gerson's Theory of Planetary Latitudes: A Closer Look

11:00 AM Coffee break

11:15 AM Betsey Price, Glendon College, York University, Canada
Albertus Magnus' Choice of a Lunar Model

12:15 PM Lunch – Served outside Treasure Room

Afternoon Session Chair: Tony Grafton

1:45PM Margaret Gaida, Caltech
Calculating the Length of Life in Premodern
Astrology: Tables and Techniques

2:45 PM Clemency Montelle, University of Canterbury, New Zealand
The Parvadvayasadhana of Mallari: A Sixteenth-century Sanskrit Table
Text to Compute Eclipses

Friday, May 19 (Dabney Hall, Treasure Room)

Morning Session Chair: Margaret Gaida, Caltech

- 8:30 AM Breakfast Buffet - outside Treasure Room, Rm 110
- 9:00 AM John Steele, Brown University
Neo-Assyrian Investigations into the
Prediction of Eclipses
- 10:00 AM Mathieu Ossendrijver, Freie Universität Berlin
The Babylonian Planetary Tables Revisited
- 11:00 AM Coffee break
- 11:15 AM Lis Brack-Bernsen, University of Regensburg

Babylonian Astronomy: Observations and Numerical Fits
- 12:15 PM Lunch - Served outside Treasure Room
- 4:00 PM Keynote Lecture – Francesca Rochberg, University of California, Berkeley
Baxter Lecture Hall, South side of Baxter Hall, 2nd floor
- 6:00 PM Bacon Reception – The Athenaeum, East Patio
- 6:30PM Bacon Banquet – The Athenaeum, Main Lounge

Saturday, May 20 (Dabney Hall, Treasure Room)

9:30 AM Breakfast Buffet

Morning Session Chair: Alan Shapiro, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

10:00 AM Alex Jones, New York University
Ptolemy's Grand Demonstration in
Harmonics Book 2 chapter 1

11:00 AM Alan Bowen, Institute for Research in Classical Philosophy and Science :
The Genesis in the 2nd Century of the Later Reception of Ptolemaic
Astronomy in the Greek Philosophical Schools

12:00 PM Lunch - Served outside Treasure Room

1:30 PM Liba Taub, Trinity Hall, Cambridge University
What Plato Meant by Saying that G-d is always Doing Geometry:
Response to the Question Posed by Plutarch in Table-Talk 8.2

2:30 PM Florence C. Hsia: University of Wisconsin–Madison
Title TBA

3:30 PM Closure