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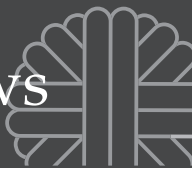
NESAT XI, 9-13 May 2011, Esslingen, Germany

The 11th meeting of The North European Symposium for Archaeological Textiles (NESAT) was held in Esslingen. The conference were organized by Johanna Banck-Burgess competently assisted by Carla Nübold and Mariana Bauer, and we thank the whole team for some very inspirational and informative days in a very welcoming and pleasant atmosphere. The conference was hosted by Landesamt für Denkmalpflege Baden-Württemberg and during the four full days of the conference many different papers and posters were presented. It is not possible to mention all the excellent papers here, so we have just pointed out a few examples. Abstracts are available online on the NESAT website (www.nesat.org). The theme of the first conference day was methodical principles within the humanities and natural sciences held at the beautiful location of the Salemer Pfleghof. The papers given demonstrated that this interdisciplinary approach entails many new

possibilities in our understanding and interpretation of the archaeological textile record with subjects ranging from color and fiber analysis to the use of iconographic sources.

The second day, continued with case studies applying methods of natural science in the study of archaeological material. The first paper of the day was on Virtual Technological Analysis of Neolithic textiles. Here it was demonstrated how virtual analysis can be used to reveal details that are otherwise invisible to the eye and how the method enable investigation into archaeological objects in a non-destructive manor. Later a paper on proteomics applied to wool was presented. This is a new method which aims at delineate differences within wool proteins. This is mostly related to modern wool but it has a big potential for the investigation of archaeological textiles in order to differentiate between the different properties that





ancient wool might have had. In the afternoon the poster presentation took place at the Landesamt für Denkmalpflege. The posters will be published on the NESAT website in the near future.

Thursday the focus of the papers were on the presentation of finds from prehistory to modern times, and in the afternoon excursions was arranged for the participants with visits to either the Fashion Museum Schloss Ludwigsberg or the Celtic Museum Hochdorf.

The last day continued with the presentation of finds and the subject of textile production. The conference ended with a final discussion and after this the report from the NESAT committee. Among other it was announced that Lise Bender Jørgensen will stand down from the NESAT committee in order to make room for new NESAT committee members. Her decision was accepted with reluctance and regret by all the NESAT participants. Since the beginning of the NESAT conferences Lise Bender Jørgensen has been a catalyst for the NESAT organisation throughout its 30 years of existence. In addition to discovering

and encouraging new members from many different countries to take up textile studies, she has edited three of the proceedings, supported grant raising initiatives and undertaken many behind-the-scenes activities. Her papers have frequently been groundbreaking in their vision and she has ensured that theoretical approaches, experimental archaeology and craft practice have not been overlooked. During NESAT XI Lise Bender Jørgensen presented her latest collaborative research project, "Studying creativity in Bronze Age textiles" supported by the Humanities in the European Research Area in which many young textile scholars participate. We thank Lise Bender Jørgensen for being an inspirational and incomparable figurehead for the NESAT community, and look forward to many more ground breaking papers at future NESAT conferences.

The next NESAT will be held in Hallstatt, Austria in May 2014, organised by Karina Grömer and hosted by Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna, Austria.