14.30 – 15.50 Two Types of Magic in One Tradition?
A Cognitive-historiographical Case Study on the Interaction of Narratives and Ritual Performance
Dirk Johannsen (Basel)
English Pageant Fictions of the Interwar Period
Jan Rupp (Heidelberg)

15.50 – 16.20 Angelic Perspective:
The Book of Tobit and its Presentation in Media
Fletcher DuBois (Heidelberg)

16.20 – 16.50 COFFEE

16.50 – 17.30 INTERIM DISCUSSION

17.30 – 18.50 Ritual, Narrative, Commemoration –
The Case of the Mevlevi Rituals in Cyprus
Béatrice Hendrich (Gießen)
Alevi Ritualisation-in-Conflict:
Participating in Counter-Narrations of ‘Radical Humanness’
in the Poetry of East-Anatolian Bards
Brigitte Schulze & Kemal Dağlı (Frankfurt)

19.30 DINNER

Ritual and Narration
November 17-18, 2011

FUNDING:

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CONVENEORS:
Prof. Dr. Vera Nünning & Prof. Dr. Gregor Ahn
Collaborative Research Centre "Ritual Dynamics"
It has been argued that rituals and stories share certain characteristics, but the nexus between them has not as yet been sufficiently addressed. What precisely is the relationship between ‘ritual’ and ‘narration’? What are the stories that rituals tell, or that are told about them? Who does the story-telling in or about rituals, and to what ends? Drawing on various disciplinary perspectives as well as new approaches in narratology, this conference seeks to explore systematically forms and functions of narrativity in/and rituals. It will proceed from a number of guiding questions such as:

What is the connection between narrations and rituals? Are they similar in terms of structure? Where do they intersect, what do they share? To what extent are rituals shaped by narrative structures?

What role does narrativity play in rituals and in representations of ritual? What is the role of narrative strategies in media representations of rituals? To what extent do even non-fictional texts and other historical sources make use of narrative elements and strategies – i.e. documents which record and describe rituals?

These questions constitute a broad thematic focus, which accommodates more theoretical or methodological contributions as well as in-depth case studies. Bringing together narratology and ritual studies promises new insight into the workings of ‘ritual dynamics’. Moreover, applying narratological concepts may be useful to analyse how rituals are received, experienced and perceived in terms of the senses (by taking in experiential and cognitive approaches from narratology). Finally, transgeneric and intermedial approaches may help research on rituals to open up to a wide spectrum of media and genres in which rituals are represented.