

THE COROLLARIES IN THE COMMENTARIES ON ARISTOTLE'S PHYSICS BY SIMPLICIUS AND PHILOPONUS

Organizer: Excellenz Cluster Topoi, junior research group "Place, Space and Motion" D-II-2 (Prof. Dr. Christoph Helmig)

Location: Topoi Building Mitte, Hannoversche Straße 6

Date: June 24-25 2010

On June 24 and 25 2010 the International Workshop "*The Corollaries in the Commentaries on Aristotle's Physics by Simplicius and Philoponus*" took place at the Topoi Building in Berlin Mitte. It was organized by **Christoph Helmig**, co-director of the Junior Research Group "Place, Space and Motion" (D-II-2). The workshop brought together eight speakers at different stages of their careers (graduate and postgraduate students as well as professors). This allowed the younger researchers to benefit from the presence, the advice and the criticisms of some of the most distinguished scholars of late antique philosophy.

On the first day six talks were delivered. After a brief introduction by Christoph Helmig, **Daide Del Forno** (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin) presented and discussed two recent monographs on Simplicius' works and philosophy, thus providing an overview of the latest trends of scientific research in the field. **Philippe Hoffmann** (CNRS, Paris) first offered an in-depth analysis of a fragment of the Chaldean Oracles, then discussed the interpretations of that fragment provided by Proclus and Simplicius, and their relevance for the understanding of the Neoplatonic theory of space. **Gerd van Riel** (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, DWMC) attempted a reconstruction of Damascius' theory of space/place on the basis of some passages of Simplicius' in *Physica* and *Corollarium de loco*. **Carlos Steel** (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, DWMC) too discussed the relationship between Simplicius and Damascius, elaborating on the criticism that the former levels against the latter's theory of time. **Ioannis Papachristou** (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin) focused on the notion of 'corollarium', taking his cue from some examples in Philoponus' commentaries and suggesting to differentiate between digressions and corollaries proper.

The day ended with a lecture by **Andrea Falcon** (Concordia University, Quebec), who spoke on Aristotle himself; in particular, Falcon addressed the issue of the place of the treatise *De motu animalium* in Aristotle's physical writings. On the second day two talks were delivered. **Christoph Helmig** (Topoi, Berlin) explored possible connections between the Skeptic and the Neoplatonic concept of space/place. **Christopher Noble** (Berlin/Princeton) presented and evaluated the arguments that Plotinus and Simplicius offer in support of the notion of incorporeal matter.

Christoph Helmig