extant Coptic colophons’. It offers a new valuable instance of a so far poorly attested type of scribal subscriptions, while enhancing our knowledge of the prosopography of Byzantine Thebes and allowing a quite likely dating thanks to the analysis of its palaeographical features.

Another finding of the Polish Archaeological Mission, two leaves from the parchment codex found in Šayḥ ʿAbd al-Gurnah, was studied by Przemysław Piwowarczyk who provided ‘Some remarks on the codex decoration and the text of Martyrium Petri preserved in the manuscript from Sheikh Abd el-Gurna’. The leaves appear to contain the text of the Martyrium Petri in a version differing reasonably from the already published manuscripts; the opening section (roughly corresponding to the section four of the Greek text) was previously unknown in the Coptic translation.

A general discussion completed the conference.

The full programme and conference abstracts are available at <http://paths.uniroma1.it/international-conference-coptic-book>.

(Red.)

Von der Historienbibel zur Weltchronik:
Die byzantinisch-slavische Palaea / Paleja

Greifswald, 28–30 September 2017

Palaea / Paleja is a term referring to a genre of anthologies about Old Testament history. It includes the Byzantine Palaea Historica and the Old Church Slavonic Tolkovaja Paleja and their chronographic arrangements. The Paleja is a particular branch of biblical reception, closely linked to other genres, above all to Christian chronography. The Palaea literature paraphrases and embellishes the great narrative from the creation to the time of the kings. Among the many additions there are attacks against various Jewish and Christian apocrypha. While some of the apocrypha themselves have since been lost, the Palaea passages are their only reflections remaining. The conference ‘Von der Historienbibel zur Weltchronik. Die byzantinisch-slavische Palaea / Paleja’, convened by Christfried Böttrich at Alfried-Krupp-Wissenschaftskolleg from 28 to 30 September 2017, dealt with this great literary context and the manifold intertextual connections of Paleja literature.

In his opening talk Christfried Böttrich tried to answer the question, ‘Wovon erzählen ‘Historienbibeln’?’ Whereas most papers focused on the Slavic Paleya (e.g. Alen Novalija, ‘The Serbian Transmission of the Tolko-

The proceedings will be published in Greifswalder theologische Forschungen monographic series.

(End.)

44th Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies

Saint Louis, 13–14 October 2017

The 44th annual conference of St Louis University was organized at the Vatican Film Library of Saint Louis University on 13 and 14 October 2017.

While the majority of papers dealt with occidental manuscripts, several presentations covered traditions within the COMSt scope.

The keynote talk by Marianna Shreve Simpson was dedicated to ‘Persian Manuscripts and the Meaning of Masterpiece’. Illuminated Persian man-