

SIBA Coordination is involved in the coordination and development of numerous activities and national and international projects for the retrieval and the assessment through electronic media of archaeological finds, books, and documentary material of high historical value and archival rarity.

It is therefore engaged in the development of coordinated services aimed at:

- digital reproduction
- digital preservation
- virtual restoration
- assessment of the historical, scientific and cultural holdings of the University.

It is also engaged in the development of methodologies for the use of digital technologies within the cultural heritage field by means of the use of innovative technological and computerized systems.

SIBA Coordination has set up several laboratories provided with the high technological HW and SW equipment. Among them:

➤ **Server Laboratory:**

http://siba2.unile.it/sedi/lab_serv.html

➤ **Laboratory for the acquisition and processing of bibliographical and documentary information:**

<http://siba2.unile.it/sedi/labelbib.html>

➤ **Laboratory for the digital acquisition and processing of images:**

<http://siba2.unile.it/sedi/labdig1.html>

➤ **GIS Lab (Geographic Information Systems):**

<http://siba2.unile.it/sedi/labgis.html>

➤ **3D Lab (acquisition and processing of three-dimensional images):**

<http://siba2.unile.it/sedi/lab3d.html>

The **Laboratory for the digital acquisition and processing of images** of the SIBA Coordination is one of the most advanced in Italy. It possesses sophisticated HW and SW equipment, which allows the acquisition of digital images at both low and high resolutions. The balancing platform and the HMI cold light lamps allow the acquisition of images in compliance with the regulations for the preservation of the documents. The Dicomed digital back allows the acquisition of colours and information invisible to the



naked eye at a very high resolution, and to obtain images of 7520x6000 pixels (129 Mb).

The dedicated software and workstation allow the processing of digital images, the virtual documents restoration and the creation of new images.

The System of acquisition and digital processing used at the SIBA Coordination:

- guarantees the protection and the preservation of the documents of particular value, as well as the safeguard from further damage provoked by repeated consultation, while allowing its immediate assessment
- optimizes the quality and the quantity of information and guarantees the reading of informative data in a stable, unchanged and lasting way for what concerns the colour and the characters
- allows the acquisition of information, not perfectly visible for the naked eye, and increases the possibilities for study and research.

The **virtual restoration** is not in contrast with the "traditional" restoration performed on the physical document.

The virtual restoration represents a tool of cognitive integration, to obtain the information that went lost or that is unlikely deducible from the original copy. It allows the optimization of the legibility of the textual and artistic informative data, without turning to interventions often traumatic for the original copy.

Besides, the virtual restoration, always and anyhow reversible unlike the traditional one, allows a in-depth study on possible interventions of traditional restoration.



CENTRO DI STUDI PAPIROLOGICI
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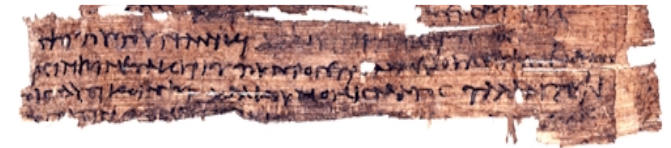
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CENTRO DI STUDI PAPIROLOGICI
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The **Papyrological Study Centre of the University of Lecce** has been founded in 1992 by Prof. Mario Capasso and by a team of professors of the Classic and Medieval Philology Department and of the Antiquity Sciences Department. It became an Interdepartmental Centre in 1997.

The Centre has set up several initiatives, as for example, the **Papyrus Collection of the University of Lecce**, the journal of papyrological studies **Papyrologica Lupiensia** (from Lupiae, the name of the ancient town of Lecce) and the critical edition of the **Corpus of the historical Greek and Latin papyri**.

From 1993 the Centre is involved in the **Joint Archaeological Mission of the Universities of Lecce and Bologna in Bakchias** (Fayyum – Egypt), which already brought to light several quarters of the ancient town as well as a stone Temple, in the course of 8 archaeological Campaigns.

From 1996, in cooperation with the SIBA Coordination of the University of Lecce, the Centre is engaged in the **PUL Project (Papyrologica Universitas Lupiensis)**, for the digital reproduction and assessment of the papyri and critical editions of the Centre through electronic media.

From 1997 the Centre is dealing with the **Restoration and conservation of Egyptian and Greek papyri of the Egyptian Museum of Cairo**, within a collaboration project between the Centre itself and the Research and Preservation Centre of the Egyptian Museum.



From 1998, the Centre is involved, in cooperation with SIBA Coordination, in the **Initiative I21** of the **Coordinated Plan of the Universities of Lecce and Catania**, for the cataloguing, the digital acquisition, virtual restoration and assessment of its papyrus collection.

From 2001, the Centre is cooperating with the University of Bologna within the **Soknopaiu Nesos Project**, which aims, among other things, at the topographic survey of the Greek site of Soknopaiu Nesos (Dime), located in Fayyum, north of Birqet Qarun.

Currently, the Centre collaborates with SIBA Coordination for the planning of the **FAIS Project (Fayyum Archaeological Information System)**, which aims at the digital acquisition and processing, the three-dimensional reconstruction and the supplying of geo-references on a cartographical basis, of archaeological finds, architectonic structures, environments and archaeological areas of the region of Fayyum.

The **Web site** of the Papyrological Study Centre of the University of Lecce, created by Siba Coordination, is accessible at <http://siba2.unile.it/csp>



The journal **Papyrologica Lupiensia** is an annual publication of the Classic Philology and Philosophical Sciences Department of the University of Lecce and the Interdepartmental Papyrological Study Centre.

In this journal the results of all researches promoted and realized by the Lecce University Papyrological Chair and the Herculanean Papyrology Course, are published.

Since 1992 the journal has been published in a printed version by the publisher Congedo (Galatina, Lecce). Since 1998 it has also been published in electronic version (<http://siba2.unile.it/plup/>) by SIBA Coordination, within the ESE Project (Scientific Electronic Publishing, <http://siba2.unile.it/ese/>).

The **Corpus of the historical Greek and Latin papyri** consists of the systematic collection of all fragments and testimonials relative to Greek and Latin historians, which reached us on papyrus support; these are thousands of texts that are critically edited, together with translations and with comments from a papyrological, linguistic and historical point of view.

The publishing of every text is based on an autopsy of the original or on a good photographic reproduction. The Corpus will consist of about ten volumes.



Pectoral of a mummy of the ptolemaic period (III/II b.C.), before and after the virtual restoration. The restoration has been done on the left half only.

The **Papyrus Collection of the University of Lecce** consists of 310 papyri, purchased between 1990 and 2001. This material has been retrieved mainly from *cartonnages*, coming, as it seems, from Fayyum: 198 fragments are documentary Greek texts; 107 are documentary Demotic texts; 2 are fragments of Coptic texts and 3 are Hieratic text fragments. The Greek material almost completely dates back to the Ptolemaic and Roman period.

The **PUL Project (Papyrologica Universitas Lupiensis)** has been set up in 1996 in cooperation with SIBA Coordination. This project aims at the retrieval and assessment through electronic medium of the papyri and critical editions of the Papyrological Study Centre, of the critical editions published within the project Corpus of the historical Greek and Latin papyri, and of the material of major historical interest, found during the Joint Archaeological Mission of the Universities of Bologna and Lecce in Bakchias.



The **I21 Initiative** of the **Coordinated Plan of the Universities of Catania and Lecce** (<http://siba3.unile.it/ctle/>) has been set up in 1998, in cooperation with SIBA Coordination, for the development of the PUL Project and in particular for the cataloguing, digital acquisition and virtual restoration of the papyri and their assessment, on-line and on CD-ROM. Besides, it provides the permanent exposition of the papyri in a Museum-laboratory, deliberately realized by the University of Lecce within this project.

The **Electronic Archive Papyri Universitatis Lupiensis** has been realized by SIBA Coordination in coop-

eration with the Papyrological Study Centre, within the PUL Project and the I21 Initiative of the Coordinated Plan Catania-Lecce.

The Archive contains the description of the Greek, Demotic and Coptic papyri of the Papyrological Study Centre, the critical transcription of some of them, the full-text of the respective publications, the bibliography and links to other correlated electronic resources. Besides, it contains the images of the papyri and of the virtual restoration of some of them, at a low resolution (550x850 pixel), in JPEG format, and at a high resolution (6000x7000 pixel), in TIFF format.



Detail of a fragment of a Greek papyrus, of the Ptolemaic period (III/II b.C.) before and after the virtual restoration.

The Archive is accessible via Web (<http://siba2.unile.it/ctle/papyri/>), with low resolution images.

The images at high resolution, for advanced study and virtual restoration for expert use, are accessible at the SIBA Coordination Historical Archive .

Currently, the Archive contains about 440 records. It will be further developed and integrated with other informative resources within these projects and the FAIS project.

The **digital acquisition and virtual restoration of the Papyri** are carried out by SIBA Coordination at its own Laboratory for digital acquisition and processing of images, with expert advice where needed.

S.I.B.A. **SIBA Coordination** is the structure of the University of Lecce that coordinates, manages and develops the Telematic Information System for Research and Education. It moreover coordinates the development of the University libraries computerization and of the relations with other national and international Universities and Research Centres for the achievement of information systems and other shared **projects**.

SIBA Coordination offers to scholars and students the possibility to access a coordinated system of bibliographical and documentation resources in digital format and full-text.