The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) announces a Lecture

by

Prof. Dr. Martina Hartmann
Director of the Institute Monumenta Germaniae Historica in Munich

An Author Vanishes: Frutolf of Michelsberg and the Bamberg Chronicles of World History

One of the most important chronicles of world history is the work of Frutolf, monk and later prior of Michelsberg near Bamberg in the 11th century. His chronicles are telling the history of the world from its creation up until the author’s lifetime. Since 1937 several scholars have been working on a new edition of these so-called “Bamberg chronicles” for the Monumenta Germaniae Historica (MGH) but, for different reasons, were not able to complete the task. My paper deals with the problems around “Frutolf and Co.” and discusses the possibilities of solving some of them with the help of the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) in Hamburg. One of Frutolf’s manuscripts survived in his own autograph, with continuations of other authors (today in Jena, Universitätsbibliothek Bos. q. 19), an ideal research object for the manuscript lab. Its abilities to visualize invisible text, as well as a palaeographical analysis of the autograph (in German “Händescheidung”), will help us to shed light on a central medieval source and its author.

Thursday, 10 December 2015 at 6 pm
Room 0001, CSMC