

PRESS RELEASE – AUGUST 30, 2019

Professor Thomas RÖMER appointed as the new chairman of the Collège de France.

Thomas RÖMER, who has been a professor at the Collège de France since 2007 (*The Hebrew Bible and its contexts* chair), has been appointed by presidential decree as the new chairman (*administrateur*) of the Collège de France, starting September 1, 2019, following his election at the June 2019 meeting of the Collège de France Faculty. He succeeds Prof. Alain PROCHIANTZ in this capacity.



A specialist of the Bible in the context of the Ancient World, Prof. Thomas RÖMER is an internationally renowned scholar, author of more than 350 scientific publications. His research on the historical study of religion combines a philological and literary approach to texts with ancient history and archeology of the Middle-East.

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Curriculum vitae of Prof. Thomas RÖMER

Professor Thomas RÖMER, chairman (*administrateur*) of the Collège de France (2019-), professor at the Collège de France (*The Hebrew Bible and its contexts* chair, 2007-).

Prof. Thomas RÖMER has served four years as vice-chairman of the Collège de France and five years as director of its Institute of civilizations. Starting September 1, 2019, he is appointed chairman of the Collège de France by presidential decree, following his election by the Faculty of the Collège de France during its June 2019 general assembly.

Name: RÖMER Thomas Christian

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Nationality: Swiss and German



Date of birth: 13 December 1955, Mannheim (Federal Republic of Germany)

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<http://www.college-de-france.fr/site/thomas-romer/index.htm>

Scholars ID: academia.edu ; google scholar : Thomas Römer

Education:

- 1974-1980 Study of Theology and Semitic languages at the Universities of Heidelberg and Tübingen.
- 1980-1982 Religious Studies at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris.
- 1982-1984 Training as a Minister of the Reformed Church of France in Nancy.
- 1988 PhD. at the University of Geneva under the supervision of Prof. Albert de Pury.

Employments and Teachings:

- 1984 –1989 Research Assistant in the Faculty of Theology at the University of Geneva Old Testament; Prof. A. de Pury). Lecturer in Biblical Hebrew and Ugaritic.
- 1989-1991 Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Theology in the University of Geneva.
- 1991-1993 Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Theology in the University of Geneva.
- Since 1993 Professor at the Faculty of Theology and Sciences of Religions in the University of Lausanne. (since 2014: Invited Professor)
- 1999-2000 Invited Director of Research at the EPHE, Paris, V^e section.
- 2000 Invited Professor at the CIEETS, Managua (Nicaragua).
- Since 2008 Professor at the Collège de France (chaire des « milieux bibliques »).
- Since 2013: Extraordinary Professor of the Faculty of Divinity of the University of Pretoria.
Invited Professor in the Faculties of Theology or of Biblical Studies in Montpellier, Neuchâtel, Paris, Zurich, Mexico, San José (Costa Rica).

Institutional responsibilities:

- 1996-1999 Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology, University of Lausanne
- 2001-2003 Project Leader, « Science, Vie et Société » Universities of Geneva and Lausanne
- 1999-2003 Dean of the Faculty of Theology, University of Lausanne
- 2005 Head of the committee for the election of the Rector of the University of Lausanne
- 2006-2010 Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Lausanne
- 2007-2008 Director of the Institute of Biblical Studies (IRSB), Faculty of Theology and religious Studies, University of Lausanne.
- Since 2013 Director of the UMR 7192 (Proche-Orient–Caucase : langues, archéologie, cultures)
- Since 2015 Vice Administrator of the Collège de France.



Approved research projects (selection)

- « *La construction de la figure de Moïse dans la rencontre entre Jérusalem et Athènes. Plaidoyer pour un comparatisme renouvelé* » (2004/2005-2006/2007).
- Projet franco-allemand (ANR/DFG): « COREGRAP » (*Composition et rédaction des Grands Prophètes*) (2009-2011).
- *Die innere Differenzierung der Priesterschrift: Vorlagen und Fortschreibungen der Priesterschrift*: SNF: 150336.
- « Composition and Redaction of the Wilderness Narratives (Exod. 15:22-18:27; Num. 10:11-20:29) in their Pentateuchal and Hexateuchal Context ».
- Coréquerent of the SINERGIA-Project: « Bible and Archaeology » (SNF; Universities of Zurich and Lausanne: 2016-2019).

Supervision of PhD students

Christophe Nihan (currently associate Professor at the University of Lausanne); Corinne Lanoir (currently Professor at the Protestant Institute of Paris), Dany Nocquet (currently Professor at the Protestant Institut of Montpellier), Jan Rückl (currently research fellow at the University of Prague), Jean Mutombo (currently minister at the Vereinigung Christlicher Missionen, Wuppertal), Brigitte Rabarijaona (currently professor at the Theological Faculty of Antananarivo, Madagascar).

Five PhD under current supervision (Micaël Bürki, Alain Bühlmann, Fabian Pfitzmann, Marco Fornerone, Mostari Ben Nasr).

Panels, Boards, etc.

- Main Editor (Hebrew Bible) of *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (de Gruyter, Berlin)
- Editor in Chief of *Ancient Israel and Its Literature* (SBLAIL, Atlanta)
- Director of the collections « *Le Monde de la Bible* », « *Essais bibliques* » (Labor et Fides, Geneva),
- Director of publication of the journal *Semitica* (Collège de France, Institut des Etudes sémitiques).

Editorial Committees

- Études théologiques et religieuses (Montpellier),
- Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel (Tübingen),
Journal of Biblical Literature (Atlanta),
- Journal Asiatique (Leuven – Paris),
- Revue de l'Histoire des Religions (Paris)
- Revue de Theologie et de Philosophie (Strasbourg),
- Tel Aviv (Tel Aviv),
- Transeuphratène (Paris),
- Zeitschrift für die Alttestamentliche Wissenschaft (Berlin – New York).

Reviewing activities (selection)



- Swiss National Funds (Ambizione, and other projects),
- Humboldt Stiftung (Germany),
- Austrian Science Funds,
- ERC Grants,
- Institut d'Etudes avancés de Nantes,
- Institut de France,
- South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF), ...

Fellowship in Societies and Steering Committees (selection)

- Member of the committee of the Swiss Society for the Study of the Ancient Near-East (SSPOA-SGOA),
- « Steering Committee » of the « Pentateuch Section », Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta (2009-2016; Chair 2011-2016),
- Society for the Study of the Old Testament (UK),
- Swiss Society of Theology,
- Swiss Society for the Sciences of Religions,
- Fachgruppe Altes Testament (Germany).

Organization of Scientific Symposiums (selection)

- Organization and chair of the *Colloquium Biblicum Lovaniense*, Louvain (2006).
- Organization with Jean-Daniel Macchi and Christophe Nihan of postgraduate studies in Hebrew Bible: The formation of the Prophetic Corpus (Fribourg – Geneva – Lausanne. 2007).
- Organization of annual colloquiums at the Collège de France (until 2011, together with Jean-Marie Durand): “Le jeune héros” (2009), “Les vivants et leurs morts” (2010), “Comment devient-on prophète” (2011), “Tabou et transgression” (2012), “Colères et repentirs divins” (2013); “Entre dieux et hommes: anges, demons, et autres” (2014), “Représenter dieux et homes dans le POA et dans la Bible” (2015), “Oral et écrit dans l'Antiquité orientale” (2016), “La vieillesse dans le POA” (2017), “Le sang” (2018).
- Workshops “Assyria and the Bible in Postcolonial Perspective”, “Deportations in the Ancient World” (with Dr. Ido Koch, TAU; Paris 2017; 2019).

Honors

- 2012: Sackler Scholar of the University of Tel Aviv.
- 2013: Extraordinary Professor of the Faculty of Divinity of the University of Pretoria.
- 2014: Gunning Lecturer, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh.
- 2014 : Prix d'histoire des religions de la Fondation « Les amis de Pierre-Antoine Bernheim », Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres.
- 2015 : Doctorat honoris causa of the University of Tel Aviv.
- 2015 : Prix culturel of the Fondation Leenaards (Lausanne).



- 2016 : Elected « Académicien » at the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, Paris.
- 2018 : Honorary member of the Society for the Study of the Old Testament.
- 2019 : Chevalier de l'ordre de la Légion d'honneur.

About the Collège de France

The Collège de France is a unique French public institution located in the heart of Paris. Since the 16th century, it has been a forum for cutting-edge research and education in all fields of knowledge, from the mathematical and natural sciences to the social sciences and humanities. The Collège carries out its missions in partnership with major national and international research institutions and is a member of PSL Research University. The Foundation of the Collège de France supports its activities.

The Collège de France has been home to ten Nobel Prize, four Fields Medal Laureates, and to influential scholars such as Claude Bernard, Fernand Braudel, Michel Foucault, Pierre Bourdieu, or Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, to name but a few. When professors retire, the Assembly of Professors can assign the vacated chairs to any discipline, following an extremely selective process. New appointments, which concern French and foreign scholars alike, are made with reference to the very latest scientific developments, rather than fixed academic programmes. The sole criterion for appointing scholars at the Collège de France is the significance and the originality their work.

Our Audiences

Lectures at this special place of learning are open to anyone wishing to attend, without any registration or fees. The Collège does not award degrees. Lecture series begin annually in October with an interdisciplinary symposium. Every year, between 120,000 and 140,000 members of the public attend the College's lectures and specialized and multidisciplinary symposiums. In 2017 more than 10 million people visited its website and 4 million downloaded its podcasts on iTunes.

Open Access to Knowledge

The website is central to the Collège's mission and contributes to its international outreach. It offers web users access to the teaching programme, to forthcoming events, and to a large number of lectures and symposiums in audio and video formats, as well as to scientific material and electronic publications.

For audios and videos of teaching and symposiums, please visit:

- the Collège's website: <http://bit.ly/cdfaudiovideo>
- its iTunes page: <http://bit.ly/cdfpodcasts>

For short presentation films of the professors and their research:

- the Collège YouTube page: <http://bit.ly/cdfyoutube>



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