The fourth international conference on Song of Songs in the Shir ha-Shirim conference series will take place in Prague from the evening of June 9 until June 11 (late afternoon), 2015. This time the conference will be hosted by the Hussite Theological Faculty, Charles University in Prague. In addition, we are assisted by the GRASP project, which is an annual Prague Writer’s Festival publication.

During previous years’ meetings it became evident that approaches are markedly different, and more hermeneutical and exegetical contributions are required. Therefore the subject “Intersections: Exegeting and Understanding Song of Songs” has been chosen for our 2015 conference. Papers that include substantial exegetical reflection are particularly encouraged. However, interpretative contributions focused on among other matters the Wirkungsgeschichte of Song of Songs in Jewish and Christian texts of different genres as well as its reverberations in secular literature and art will get substantial attention too.

All papers may afterwards be submitted for publication; they will undergo a peer-reviewed process before publication in a special issue of the Journal for Semitics (shortened Harvard reference system).

You receive this letter because you had shown interest in this Song of Songs project. We therefore now have the pleasure of inviting you to the 2015 meeting, to participate by attending or by reading a paper. If you would like to accept this invitation by joining us to share your research, please suggest a paper title with a short paragraph describing your intentions with the paper, at your earliest convenience but no later than the 15th of February 2015, using this e-mail address: shirhashirim.2015@gmail.com.

All attendees will be responsible for financing their own travel and accommodation, but we may have some finances available to cover some expenses of colleagues who may have financial difficulties in joining us in Prague. However, this is dependent on an application for such funding we have submitted, the results of which we are awaiting. In such a case please make us aware of your situation as soon as possible and we will see how far we can assist you.

David Biernot, from the Department of Biblical and Jewish Studies at the Hussite Theological Faculty (Charles University in Prague), will provide you with further information on the conference later on, and will be at your assistance for all administrative questions.

Kind regards
Stefan Fischer Christo Lombaard David Biernot