Two PhD positions in Classics/Ancient History (Ghent University, Belgium)

Two four-year PhD positions in Classics and/or Ancient History are available within Ghent University’s Department of History (Belgium). Both positions are related to Prof. Lieve Van Hooft’s research project “Lobbying in Late Antiquity” (https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/projects/lobbying-late-antiquity-letters-networks-and-decision-processes-4th-5th-c-ad), which uses late antique letter collections to investigate how individuals and groups sought to influence official decisions in Late Antiquity (ca. 300-600 A.D.).

Your duties and profile:

1. One PhD student, funded by Ghent University’s Special Research Fund (BOF), will focus on the letters of the Roman senator Symmachus, with special attention for social network analysis and what it can teach us about politics in late antique Rome (https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/projects/politics-late-antique-rome-networks-and-argumentation-symmachus%E2%80%99-letters). To do so, you possess a good master’s degree in Classics, History, or another relevant discipline (or will possess one by 1/10/2019). You have an excellent knowledge of Latin, whilst knowledge of ancient Greek constitutes an advantage. And you are familiar, or at least willing to become familiar, with digital humanities, and with digital social network analysis in particular. You have an interest in the literature and political history of (Late) Antiquity. You can work independently as well as in team. Your tasks include: completion of a PhD within four years, the co-organisation of a conference, limited amounts of teaching, and occasional assistance with other academic activities.

2. The other PhD student, funded by the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), will focus on the Greek and Latin letters transmitted in the manuscripts of the acts of the council of Chalcedon, which have thus far received but scanty attention from scholars (https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/projects/decision-processes-late-antiquity-networking-persuasion-presentation-and-governance-council). To do so, you possess a good master’s degree in Classics, History, or another relevant discipline (or will possess one by 1/10/2019). And you have an excellent knowledge of ancient Greek as well as Latin. You have an interest in the political, cultural and religious history of (Late) Antiquity. You can work independently as well as in team. Your tasks include: completion of a PhD within four years, the co-organisation of a conference, limited amounts of teaching, and occasional assistance with other academic activities.

The succesful candidate is expected to start on 1/10/2019 at the latest. S/he shall have to live in Belgium.

Our offer:

We offer you the possibility to work as part of a high-quality team at one of Belgium’s leading universities, boasting ample expertise in the field of Late Antiquity, a scholarship starting at 2.090 euro (net) per month, full health insurance, further training in our Doctoral School, and the possibility to study one year or semester abroad (depending on additional funding).
Procedure:

More information can be obtained from Prof. Lieve Van Hoof (lieve.vanhoof@ugent.be). Applications, consisting of a CV, personal statement (max 2 p.), the names of two referees, and one writing sample (e.g. MA thesis, MA paper, journal article, ...) should be submitted to the same e-mail address before 10 June 2019.

Application deadline: 10 June 2019

Interviews of shortlisted candidates will take place on 28 June 2019 in Ghent, Belgium (or via skype).