Within the OPEN SESAME project (www.opensesame-h2020.eu), IPANEMA (the Ancient Materials Research Platform, http://ipanema.cnrs.fr), with the collaboration of The Cyprus Institute (https://www.cyi.ac.cy), is organising an international training school in the techniques of synchrotron spectroscopy and imaging used to study materials from archaeological, cultural heritage and natural history collections in the Middle East and the Eastern Mediterranean. OPEN SESAME will fund **20 full grants** (travel, fee and accommodation) for researchers from the SESAME Members (Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Pakistan, the Palestinian Authority and Turkey). The school will take place in Nicosia, Cyprus on 14–18 May 2018.

About the School

The synchrotron-based study of heritage materials is growing rapidly with more than 1,000 papers published in the field, the majority in the past ten years. The objective of the Ancient Materials Training School is to gather researchers and students from the Middle East strongly interested to further develop skills in the use of synchrotron techniques for their studies and/or research with specialists of synchrotron techniques for the study of ancient materials.

The core aim of the training school is to train researchers in the assets and constraints of synchrotron X-ray, UV–vis and infrared spectroscopy and imaging for the characterisation of ancient material remains. The school will provide an ample overview of the multidisciplinary requirements involved and provide strategies to integrate these requirements in the design of quality research projects using synchrotron methods.

Interactions between participants will be fostered through general lectures provided by experts in the field of synchrotron techniques applied to the study of ancient materials, through hands-on activities, and through sessions aimed at the preparation of synchrotron experiments. The rich programme of activities will include a visit of an important archaeological site in Cyprus.

How to submit?

- Participation in the Ancient materials Training school is subject to selection by the Scientific Committee of the School.
- Apply to the Training school before 31 January 2018 14:00 (CET) by sending a CV, a reference letter from a supervisor/teacher/head of department/etc., that should contain a statement about his/her English knowledge level (max. 1 page) and a motivation letter (max. 2 pages) to sophie.david@synchrotron-soleil.fr.
- The Scientific Committee will evaluate the applications. The School will accept up to 20 participants funded by the OPEN SESAME project.
- Accepted participants will be notified by email on 16 February 2018. They will receive an official invitation letter from The Cyprus Institute in order to apply for their visa (if necessary).

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Venue
The Cyprus Institute – Nicosia, Cyprus

Speakers
Uwe Bergmann (SLAC, Stanford), tbc
Loïc Bertrand (IPANEMA, CNRS, MiC, UVSQ)
Serge Cohen (IPANEMA, CNRS, MiC, UVSQ)
Marine Cotte (ESRF)
Messaoud Harfouche (SESAME)
Josiane Kaddissy (IPANEMA, CNRS, MiC, UVSQ)
Gihan Kamel (SESAME)
Mathieu Thoury (IPANEMA, CNRS, MiC, UVSQ)
Sam Webb (SLAC, Stanford)

Scientific Committee
Jean-Paul Itié (Synchrotron SOLEIL) – France
Gihan Kamel (SESAME) – Jordan
Claire Pacheco (Centre de recherche et de restauration des musées de France) – France
Anita Quilès (Institut français d'archéologie orientale) – Egypt
Gülsu Şimşek (Koç University, Surface Science and Technology Center, KUYTAM) – Turkey
Abderrahmane Tadjeddine (CNRS) – France

Organising Committee
Mathieu Thoury (IPANEMA, CNRS MiC, UVSQ)
Miguel A. G. Aranda (CELLS)
Loïc Bertrand (IPANEMA, CNRS MiC, UVSQ)
Charalambos Chrysostomou (The Cyprus Institute)
Sophie David (IPANEMA, CNRS MiC, UVSQ)
Kirsi Lorentz (The Cyprus Institute)
Ed Mitchell (ESRF)
Regina Oprandi (IPANEMA, CNRS MiC, UVSQ)

More information @ https://am-open-sesame.sciencesconf.org

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