

# RIVER ECOLOGIES AND EXCHANGE

Tiber Valley, Campo Rampone, archaeological area of Poggio Sommavilla by Matteo Paoletti

28 April 2026

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

**28 April 2026**

**American Academy in Rome** | Via Angelo Masina, 5  
14.00–20.00

14.00 **Introduction**  
CAROLINE GOODSON, American Academy in Rome

14.10 **Rivers in Systems**  
Chair: JAMES PAGE, British School at Rome

PENELOPE WILSON, Durham  
*The Nile in Roman Egypt: A Risk Assessment*

PETER CAMPBELL, Barca Archaeology  
*Riverine Processes and Cultural Patterns: Ancient Rivers, Object-Oriented Ecology, and the Question of Environmental Determinism*

JEAN-PHILIPPE GOIRAN, CNRS/Lyon  
*Where Rivers Meet the Sea: Multimodal Harbor Systems in the Ancient Mediterranean, a Geoarchaeological Perspective*

15.00 Discussion

15.30 Break

16.00 **Economies on Rivers**  
Chair: CAROLINE GOODSON, American Academy in Rome

RORY NAISMITH, Cambridge  
*Rethinking River Valleys and Exchange Systems in the Early Middle Ages*

MARIA JOSEFA CASTILLO-PASCUAL, La Rioja  
*The Economic Conquest of the River Ebro from Antiquity to the Nineteenth Century*

MARCO PANATO, Nottingham  
*From the Charters to the Land (and vice versa): Pisa, its Rivers, and Territory in the Early Middle Ages*

17.00 Discussion

17.20 **Harbors, Ports, and Boats**  
Chair: CAROLINE GOODSON, American Academy in Rome

ALICE LUCCHINI, Zadar  
*Archaeological Evidence for Navigation in the Early Medieval Po Valley: the Po and the Oglio Rivers*

LISA BRIGGS, Barca Archaeology  
*Gift of the River: Fluvial Deposits and their Implication for Biomolecular Analysis of Roman Shipwrecks and Harbors Proximal to River Systems*

SIMON MALMBERG, Bergen  
*The Tiber in Flux: a Long Perspective on River Ports in Ancient Rome*

GIULIANO GIOVANNETTI, Rome  
*The River Harbors of Rome from Late Antiquity to the Late Middle Ages*

18.40 Discussion

19.00 Reception