

# **EMML @ 40**

## **The Life and Legacy of the Ethiopian Manuscript Microfilm Library**

July 25-26, 2013

Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Saint John's University, Collegetown, MN, USA

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

On 26 September 1973, microfilming began for the Ethiopian Manuscript Microfilm Library (EMML), a project co-sponsored by the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the Monastic Manuscript Microfilm Library (now Hill Museum & Manuscript Library), and Vanderbilt University School of Divinity and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Ford Foundation. Despite considerable financial and political uncertainties, this project would go on to image more than 9,000 manuscripts in Ethiopia over the next decade and a half, among them selections from many of the most important libraries in the Shoa, Wallo, Gojjam, and Gondar provinces. While earlier scholarship was largely confined to the holdings of major European institutions, EMML made readily accessible for the first time to scholars thousands of manuscripts from Ethiopia itself, including many hitherto unknown works. It would be no understatement to say that this has, in the forty years since the inauguration of the project, revolutionized Ethiopian Studies in the West.

In celebration of this anniversary, the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library will hold a conference on July 25-26, 2013 devoted to EMML and its impact on Ethiopian Studies. We invite proposals for papers that explore ways in which EMML has influenced scholarly research and the role that it continues to play in projects today. Abstracts of no more than 350 words should be sent to Adam McCollum ([amccollum@csbsju.edu](mailto:amccollum@csbsju.edu)) by email no later than 15 November 2012. The proceedings of this conference will be published in the Gorgias Press series Pax Christiana.