

Ústav fyzikální chemie J. Heyrovského, v.v.i.
Akademie věd České republiky

zve všechny zájemce na ústavní seminář,
na kterém promluví

Michael Henchman,
*Professor of Chemistry- Emeritus,
Brandeis University, Waltham MA*

na téma

**Is the \$25M Vinland Map Genuine or fake?
An Ongoing Controversy Since 1965**

It is drawn faintly on a thin sheet of parchment (A4 in size). “True believers” identify it as a map of the world, drawn at the Council of Basel around 1440. A landmass in the top left corner could only be America. Hence Columbus in 1492 — some 50 years later — was not the first to discover America. And this map must be the oldest record of America: it is insured for \$25M.

“Heretics” maintain that it dates from January 1957. Who drew it? We do not know. How was it drawn? We do not know. Why was it drawn? We do know that \$1M changed hands.

Enter the cops — this clearly being a problem in materials science for instrumental analytical chemists. For the past 50 years, this poor, limp specimen has been subjected to every conceivable kind of alphabetical abuse — IR, UV, XRD, SEM/EDX, PLM, TEM, PIXE, RAMAN, AMS. And so what is the 50-year outcome? In the latest paper (2008), the “true believers” assert their belief yet again while, yet again, the “heretics” rebut them. What does the chemistry actually say? This paper will tally the score



Seminář se koná [v pondělí 24. října 2011 od 14 hodin](#) v Brdičkově posluchárně
ústavu v Praze 8, Dolejškova 3.

Těšíme se na Vaši účast. Hosté jsou vítáni.

