

# The Australian Society for Classical Studies

# NEWSLETTER

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# ASCS GENERAL NEWS

## CISH (Conference Internationale des Sciences Historiques)

ASCS contributed to a section during the large international history conference CISH held at the University of New South Wales in Sydney in July, the first such conference to be held in the southern hemisphere. The section, sponsored by the International Association for Byzantine Studies and organized by Dr Andrew Gillett, of Macquarie University, involved not only ASCS, but also the Australian Association for Byzantine Studies and the Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies. The section was entitled "Antiquity Now: New Histories of the Classical, Medieval and Byzantine Worlds".

A number of papers were given by ASCS members (though sometimes they were wearing other hats): Professor Emerita Beryl Rawson ("The Future of 'The Family' in Studies of the Social and Cultural History of the Ancient Roman World"), Professor Tim Parkin ("Recent Trends in the Study of Ageing and Death in the Ancient Roman World"), A/Professor Roger Scott ("Towards a New History of Byzantine Literature: The Case of Historiography"), Dr Wendy Mayer ("Current Approaches to Late Antiquity"), A/Professor John Melville Jones ("Byzantine Identity from AD 324 to AD 1453"). There was an inspiring report on the ARC-funded "Network for Early European Research" (based at UWA), a project which classicists might profitably seek to emulate.

# AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

### Staff changes

Dr Wendy Mayer will be finishing her QEII fellowship in December 2005 and going to the Catholic University of America, Washington DC, to undertake a short-term research fellowship in 2006.

## New courses

We are at the planning stage for a Master of Arts in Theology (Early Christian Studies) to begin in 2007, taught totally online. Two more online Latin units are planned for 2007: *Ecclesiastical Latin C* 

and D. In Semester 2, 2006, Christian Life and Thought to 590 CE will be offered online for the first time.

## Visitors and public lectures

A recent visitor in July 2005 was Professor Philip Rousseau, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Early Christian Studies at the Catholic University of America, Washington DC, who delivered a public lecture at the Banyo Campus on "Asceticism: Current Issues and Approaches".

The Trendall Lecture, sponsored by the Australian Academy of the Humanities, was delivered at Banyo Campus on 20 September by Professor Pauline Allen and attended by a good audience including some members of the AAH.

In 2006 we will host Professor Shigeki Tsuchihashi from the School of Philosophy, Chuo University, for a year as a Visiting Professor. He will be working on Pseudo-Macarius, and will be based at the Centre for Early Christian Studies, McAuley Campus, Brisbane. Dr David Sim will host a visit of Professor Boris Repschinski from the University of Innsbruck to CECS early in 2006, based at St Patrick's Campus, Melbourne.

### Research grant success

Dr Geoffrey Dunn has received two five-week National Endowment for the Humanities research fellowships at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Saint Louis University (February-April, 2006) to work in the Vatican Film Library investigating the manuscripts containing fifth-century papal letters.

## Successfully completed postgraduate degree

Brian Beggs, PhD, supervised by Dr David Sim.

## Forthcoming conference

The third meeting of the West Pacific Rim Patristics Society will be held at Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan, from 29 September to 1 October 2006, on the theme "The Use of the Gospels in Early Christianity". Attendance is open to all.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

## Staff

Pim Allison is a Visiting Fellow at St John's College, University of Durham, between October and December this year.

#### New courses

Dr Claire Jamset will be offering a new course, *The Hero in Classical Literature*, in first semester next year.

## **Visitors**

Recent visitors included Professor Martha Joukowsky (Brown University), Professor Peter Wilson (Sydney) and Dr Ian McPhee. Professor Richard Seaford will be visiting in February 2006.

## Museum acquisition

A figurine of Aphrodite has been acquired for the Museum's collection.

## Successfully completed postgraduate degree

Steven Ellis, University of Sydney, successfully completed his PhD in August on "The bars in Pompeii: an archaeological typology of functions, forms and space". His dissertation was cosupervised by Dr Pim Allison.

## Forthcoming conferences

The Homer Seminar (Number 3) is to be held on Saturday-Sunday 10-11 December 2005 in the Humanities Conference Room in the A.D Hope Building at ANU. If you are interested, please contact <u>Elizabeth.Minchin@anu.edu.au</u> for further information on the conference itself and accommodation.

The Australian Archaeometry Conference 2005 will be held at ANU on 12-15 December. Dr Pim Allison will convene a session entitled "GIS and 'Legacy Data'", to which a number of Greek and Roman archaeologists are contributing. For further information, see <a href="http://car.anu.edu.au/Archaeometry/archaeometry\_conference.html">http://car.anu.edu.au/Archaeometry\_conference.html</a>.

# MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

## Staff

Congratulations to Dr Ian Plant, recently promoted to Senior Lecturer in Ancient History, and to Dr Peter Edwell, recently appointed Associate Lecturer in Ancient History.

#### New courses

Two units on China in Antiquity are now being taught at Macquarie: an undergraduate unit, Ancient China, taught with Asian Languages; and a postgraduate unit, Early China – History and Archaeology. A new unit on Numismatics, taught by Dr K.A. Sheedy, has been added to MA coursework options.

## **Visitors**

Mr Don Amiel, head of the Coin Department of the Israel Antiquities Authority, visited Macquarie as the 2005 Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies (ACANS) Senior Fellow. He delivered four papers keyed to aspects of his doctoral research, "A Numismatic Approach to the Reign of Herod the Great".

The Australian Centre for Egyptology hosted Dr Janet Richards (University of Michigan) and Dr Steven Harvey (Oriental Institute, University of Chicago), who presented a variety of illustrated papers on the historic and religious centre of Abydos at the ACE Annual Conference and associated student seminar.

Dr Paul Bassett, recently retired from Nazarene Theological Seminary (Kansas) as Professor of Church History, presented an overview of the ecclesiastical history of Spain.

Dr Jon Hall (University of Otago) shared his thoughts on Ciceronian rhetoric and emotional manipulation with an appreciative public audience.

## Museum acquisition

ACANS has recently acquired a selection of Greek and Roman coins including two silver tetradrachms of Ptolemy I.

#### Research grants

The Australian Centre for Egyptology continues research on its two ARC large-grant projects, "Enduring is the Perfection: State Formation and Socio-Cultural Change in the First Capital of Ancient Egypt (c.3200 to 1069 BCE)" directed by Professor N. Kanawati, Dr C. Kohler, and Dr B. Ockinga

(\$660,000 over a five-year period), and "The Design and Decoration of Burial Chambers in Old Kingdom Egypt" directed by Professor N. Kanawati (\$215,000 over a five-year period).

Dr Malcolm Choat has received ARC funding of \$35,000 over the next three years (2006-2008) for his project, "Religious Authority and Linguistic Change in Late Antique Egypt: non-elite perspectives on the rise of monasticism in contemporary documents".

Ancient History has also received an \$8000 research infrastructure grant for the digitisation of images and lexical material from inscriptions.

Congratulations to Dr Peter Keegan (Macquarie University Research Fellow), who was recently awarded the inaugural Gale Scholarship. He will pursue his research on the cultural discourse of inscribed cursive texts and images in Roman Italy as a resident scholar with the British School at Rome during the first half of 2006.

## Completed postgraduate degrees

Congratulations to Lesley Kinney, Des Bright, and Susanne Binder, recent PhD graduates in Egyptology. Similar felicitations to Bill Gale, Peter Edwell, and Jonathan Markley, PhD graduates in Ancient History.

#### **Publication**

The following book was published recently: I. Gardner, S. Lieu and K. Parry (eds.), *From Palmyra to Zayton: Epigraphy and Iconography, Silk Road Studies X*.

#### **Conferences**

Tom Hillard and Ken Sheedy represented the Department of Ancient History and ACANS as seminar presenters at the AAIA symposium in Athens celebrating the 25th year of the organisation's foundation.

Forthcoming conferences at Macquarie in 2006 include: Pompeii (1 April: contact <a href="mailto:thillard@hmn.mq.edu.au">thillard@hmn.mq.edu.au</a>), the ACE mini-conference (9 April: contact <a href="mailto:Egyptology@hmn.mq.edu.au">Egyptology@hmn.mq.edu.au</a>); the Society for the Study of Early Christianity (SSEC) conference, "Pioneers and Pilgrims" (6 May: contact AHDRC@humn.mq.edu.au).

# MONASH UNIVERSITY

#### New courses

The Classical Studies Program at Monash University continues to grow, with enrolments up and a high retention rate. Two new units have been approved by the University for inclusion in the 2006 syllabus. These are a course on Graeco-Roman conceptions of corporeality and a new module on Roman theatre and spectacle.

## Staffing

The Faculty of Arts and School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics (in which the program is situated) continue to give support to the development of the Classical Studies program. This has been particularly evident in the creation of a new lectureship in Classical Studies. We are delighted to announce that Dr Evangelina Anagnostou-Laoutides, the new appointee, will be joining the program in January 2006 as lecturer in Classical Studies. Dr Anagnostou-Laoutides is a specialist in myth and erotic ritual and joins Monash after teaching experience in the UK at the universities of Kent and Wales (Lampeter and Aberystwyth).

# UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

#### **Visitors**

Professor Martha Joukowsky (Brown University), the Visiting McNicoll Fellow, gave a public lecture on her work at Petra on 16 September. To an audience of about 75 she presented a fascinating overview of the marvellous finds at the site (photographs and digital reconstructions on slides).

Dr Marguerite Johnson from the University of Newcastle spent part of her sabbatical leave in Adelaide as Visiting Research Scholar (October 2005, with financial support from the Faculty of Humanities). She has been very active, discussing ongoing work with her host, Dr Jacqueline Clarke, giving a guest lecture in the level 2/3 course on Medieval Women, and presenting two papers: a new paper on Ovid's *Fasti* (staff research seminar, 14 October), and a public lecture for the Classical Association of South Australia (17 October) on *Medea in Twentieth Century Film*. Staff and students are grateful for her contribution and hope she had an enjoyable and fruitful stay.

## Staffing

A level B position in Greek history will be advertised in late October (closing date: 25 November 2005).

#### Galatis Lecture 2006

Preparations are underway for the special Galatis Lecture on the Byzantine World in 2006, which will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the event. The lecture will be given by Dr Paul Tuffin, who was involved in setting up the lecture in 1997. He joins an illustrious list of speakers: Bill Adler (1997), Sam Lieu (1998), Anne Moffat (1999), Michael Jeffrey (2000), John Haldon (2002), Eunice Maguire (2003), Margaret Mullet (2004), and earlier this year Professor Evangelos Chrysos who spoke on 'The European Nature of Byzantine Cyprus'.

A festive occasion has been planned for May 2006 at which Simon Bucsai will be reporting on his work done in Athens with the support of a one-off Galatis Travelling Scholarship.

## Conference papers and special lectures

Dr Han Baltussen gave a public lecture to the Classical Association in Christchurch (9 June) on Plutarch's *Consolation to His Wife*, and a paper on Ion of Chios to the staff seminar (10 June). He also presented a short paper entitled "Did Aristotle have a Concept of Intuition?" at the International Greek Conference, Flinders University (23-26 June).

Dr Jacqueline Clarke delivered a paper entitled "Catullus 65: The First Elegy?" at the Roman Elegy Seminar held at the Centre for Classics and Archaeology, University of Melbourne, 26-27 September.

Dr. M. O'Hea gave a paper at the 25th Anniversary of the AAIA Conference in Athens in October on "Greeks and glass", and presented a seminar at the one-day conference on "Hellenistic Kingdoms in the Levant" at Macquarie University's ACANS in September.

## Graduate success

Meaghan McEvoy (BA Classics 2001, First Class Honours 2002), who went to New College Oxford on a John Crampton Travelling Scholarship, has recently received her MPhil and is enrolled for a DPhil working on child emperors in the late Roman empire.

## **Publications**

Dr Han Baltussen, "Theophrastus", *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2nd ed., MacMillan/Thompson, 2005)

Dr Han Baltussen, "Les Présocratiques dans la doxographie: la transmission et la recherche récente", in G. Romeyer Dherbey (ed.), *Recherches sur les Présocratiques* (études réunies par Marwan Rashed, J. Vrin, Paris, 2005)

## UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

## Staffing

We are presently looking to fill a lecturership in Roman History.

## Visitors, research seminars, public lectures and outreach

For the Classical Association, Oswyn Murray (Balliol College, Oxford) spoke on "A History of Pleasure in Greece" in July, and Babette Puetz (Wellington) will speak on "Greek Drinking Games" in November. Also in November, Professor J.R. Green will offer a combined PhiloLogie and Classical Association lecture on representations of the theatre that will feature vases from our Logie Collection.

As for our Seminar Series, in May Dr Enrica Sciarrino gave a paper on "Cultural Mastery and the Formation of an Imperial Elite in second-century BCE Rome"; in June Dr Patrick O'Sullivan presented "Art, Poetry and Pindar's *Olympian* 7"; in July Dr Han Baltussen spoke about "Playing the Pythagorean: Ion of Chios' *Triagmos*', and Dr Penny Murray (Warwick University) about "The Muse in Early Greek Poetry". In September Dr Victor Parker lectured on "The Campaigns of Lysias: a Test of the Historical Worth of II Maccabees", and Dr Alison Griffith spoke on "Harvey Whitehouse's 'Modes Theory of Religiosity' and Roman Religion: National Catastrophe and Religious Response in the Second Punic War".

Last but not least, in September Professor Graham Zanker was invited to give his Professorial Inaugural Lecture, which was entitled "Poetry and Art on the Island of Cos".

As for our annual Classics Day organized by Ms Alison Holcroft, we are happy to report that this year 520 students attended the event.

#### Other staff activities

In August and September, Dr Patrick O'Sullivan spoke at the University of Western Australia on "The Rhetoric of Greek Art" and offered a research seminar by the title "A portrait of the Artist in Empedocles, Gorgias and Plato". In late September Dr O'Sullivan organized a very entertaining play reading of Euripides' *Cyclops* based on his translation.

# UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

#### Staff

The School of Art History, Cinema, Classics and Archaeology sponsored a conference on Superheroes entitled, "Holy Men in Tights!" The event, which was highly publicised even overseas, and which ran from 9-12 June, featured talks from all areas of our School, including some classics and archaeology staff and postgraduates. Assoc Prof Chris Mackie's talk, "Men of Darkness", explored the parallels between Achilles and Odysseus with Superman and Batman; Dr Louise Hitchcock's talk, "Antiquities as Superheroes: (Re)Presenting the Utopian Past in the Athens Olympics", discussed mythology as symbolic capital in the opening ceremonies of the 2004 Olympics; and postgraduates Annabel Orchard, Estelle Strazdins, and Djoymi Baker gave talks derived from their theses. The conference had a very respectable classics component that attracted many visitors, including Professor Ruby Blondell from the University of Washington (Seattle), who spoke on the Hercules television series.

Kudos to Dr Parshia Lee-Stecum, who with Dr Jacqueline Clarke of the University of Adelaide coordinated a seminar on Roman Elegy that took place on 26-27 September on Melbourne's campus. It was an intimate affair with some excellent papers by scholars throughout Australia on the work of Catullus, Ovid (especially the *Fasti*), Propertius, Sulpicia, and even the late-Latin poet Maximianus.

#### Student successes

In October the annual Alexander Leeper Prize (in conjunction with the Classical Association of Victoria) was awarded to the top undergraduate honours students in Classics (Latin and Greek) from the previous year. The winners were Michael Champion and Edward Jeremiah, both of whom are now pursuing M.A.'s in Melbourne's Centre for Classics and Archaeology.

### New courses

In 2006 our undergraduate Latin program will see a new experimental phase, in which our intermediate and advanced subjects will be topic-based on a rotating basis; in previous years, the topic for each semester has been chosen ad hoc by whoever was teaching it. So, in 2006 we'll have the following new intermediate level subjects (2.5 hours per week): 'Roman Elegy' (semester 1) and 'Roman Historiography' and 'Roman Satire' (both semester 2). There will also be a separate 'Intermediate Latin Language' subject offered each term as a 2-hour seminar, specifically for those needing grammar revision. The advanced Latin subjects (for 3rd and 4th year undergraduates) for 2006 have also been given topics: 'Roman Didactic Poetry' for semester 1, 'Roman Novel' for semester 2.

The following brand new 2nd/3rd year subjects will be taught in 2006: 'Sex and Gender in the Ancient World' (K.O. Chong-Gossard and Rhiannon Evans); 'Egypt Under the Pharaohs' (Andrew Jamieson); and 'New Kingdom Egypt and the World Beyond' (Andrew Jamieson). We also have two new 4th year seminars: 'Myth and Mythmaking in Euripidean Drama' (K.O. Chong-Gossard) and 'Olympic Games to Alexander the Great' (Gocha Tsetskhladze).

#### **Visitors**

We are pleased to have Julian Henderson (Professor of Archaeology at the University of Nottingham, U.K.) visiting us this semester as a Macgeorge Fellow and an International Visiting Scholar. He gave two public lectures in October, and will be keynote speaker at a symposium for our postgraduates in November.

Our public lecture series this year included talks by Martha Joukowsky, Professor of Archaeology at Brown University and Director of the Brown University Excavations at Petra (14 September); Jane Montgomery Griffiths, Convenor of Classics at Monash University, who on 27 October spoke on Sophocles' *Electra* (a talk originally scheduled for 12 April, as mentioned in April's Newsletter – although in the event cancelled); and Alison V.G. Betts of the University of Sydney, speaking on the Karakalpak-Australian Expedition (5 October).

# UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

After surviving a year of challenges and stress as the administrators began a series of major changes and reorganisations, the six Newcastle Classicists are looking forward to a (hopefully) more peaceful 2006. With colleagues in other disciplines leaving as a result of redundancies and voluntary packages, the discipline of Classics and its staff have retained their positions, and are enjoying secure enrolment numbers. The new School of Humanities and Social Sciences will be implemented in the New Year, which will combine the existing School of Liberal Arts (Callaghan Campus) and the School of Humanities (Central Coast Campus).

Harold Tarrant has recently attended an invited symposium on "Hellenism in Cyprus from Stasinos to Demonax" (22-25 September), talking on Eudemus of Cyprus, and also the AAIA 25th Anniversary Symposium in Athens (10-13 October).

The first two volumes of an annotated translation of *Proclus: On Plato's Timaeus* are now in production with CUP, with Vol. 1 by Harold Tarrant. A volume of essays relating to the conference on "Plato's Ancient Readers" held in Newcastle in 2002 has also been submitted to Duckworth.

Hugh Lindsay's book, *Strabo's Cultural Geography: The Making of a Kolossourgia*, co-edited with Daniela Dueck and Sarah Pothecary, is now to appear in December with CUP.

Dr Elizabeth Baynham and Professor Brian Bosworth gave presentations at a successful one-day conference on Alexander in Dunedin in August, which was organised by Dr Pat Wheatley in honour of Professor Waldemar Heckel.

Marguerite Johnson is spending Semester 2 on Study Leave, working as an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Sydney, with the month of October spent at the University of Adelaide as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar. Marguerite gave a paper at the Research Seminar Series (Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of Sydney) and presented a paper for the one-day public lecture series, "Catullus: The Poet and His Time" for the Centre for Continuing Education (University of Sydney). During Marguerite's Study Leave she has written "'Off with the Pixies" – The Fey Folk of the Long Poems and Catullan Poetic Disclosure' (forthcoming in *Classics Ireland*, 2006) and is completing a book on Sappho for Duckworth's 'Ancients in Action' series (forthcoming in 2006). She also attended the Roman Elegy Conference at the University of Melbourne, convened by Dr Jacqueline Clarke and Dr Parshia Lee-Stecum, presenting a paper on Ovid's *Fasti*, Book II.

Terry Ryan and Marguerite Johnson launched their book, *Sexuality in Greek and Roman Society and Literature: A Sourcebook* (Routledge, 2005), at the Co-op Bookshops (Central Coast and Newcastle branches) in May and June.

Harold Tarrant will be on Study Leave in Semester 1 2006, working until April at the University of Toronto, and after that in the UK and Europe. Jane Bellemore will also be taking Study Leave in the same semester.

## UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

#### Personalia

It is with great sadness that the School of Classics, History and Religion announces the passing of their esteemed colleague and friend, Dr Charles Tesoriero, on 21st August 2005.

Congratulations to Bronwyn Hopwood on the award of her PhD from the University of Sydney on the topic *Heres Esto: Property, Dignity, and the Inheritance Rights of Roman Women 215 BC – AD 14.* 

Congratulations to Matthew Dillon on his promotion to Associate Professor in 2005, and to Bronwyn Hopwood on her promotion to Lecturer in 2006.

#### New course

Announcing the Masters of Education (Archaeology and Ancient History), which will be offered for the first time in 2006. It is intended for teachers who wish to upgrade or extend their knowledge of archaeology and ancient history, and comprises eight units. Four of these are in education, with an emphasis on archaeology and ancient history curriculum development, and two units each in archaeology and ancient history. Enquiries: Iain Spence <a href="mailto:upence@une.edu.au">upence@une.edu.au</a>; (02) 6773 2794.

## **Publication**

Tesoriero, C. (†), "The Middle of Lucan", in Kyriakidis, S., and De Martino, F., *Middles in Latin Poetry*, Levante Editori, Bari, 2004, 183-216.

#### Museum of Antiquities

The Ninth Museum of Antiquities Maurice Kelly Lecture was delivered in Armidale on 26 September by Professor Amareswar Galla (ANU). The subject of the lecture was "Museums as Civic Spaces".

## Forthcoming tour

The academic study tour, *Rome and the ancient cities in the shadow of Vesuvius*, to be held in Rome from 1st to 23rd January 2006 has proved very popular and places are filling fast. Many participants in the tour have also chosen to combine the tour with further tertiary study either with UNE's 2005-2006 Summer School Programme or with a semester unit for cross-institutional credit. For more details contact Bronwyn Hopwood (email: bhopwood@une.edu.au).

### Postgraduate students

Scott Charlesworth has continued work on a PhD in Greek looking at *Textual Criticism of 2nd Century AD Christian Texts*. Although his plans to spend five months in research at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Centre for Textual Criticism have been interrupted by the recent hurricanes devastating that city, the Classics Department at the University of Michigan has generously provided him with hospitality.

Michael Schmitz is undertaking a PhD on *The Blurring of Frontiers: preannexation Romanisation in Dacia* under the supervision of Iain Spence.

# UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

## Symposium

Three scholars specialising in Alexander the Great visited Otago in August – Professor Waldemar Heckel (University of Calgary), Professor Brian Bosworth (University of Western Australia), and Dr Elizabeth Baynham (University of Newcastle, NSW) – for a one-day symposium organised by Dr Pat Wheatley (Otago) entitled "Alexander the Great and the Successors". Speakers included the visitors, Dr Lep Schep (National Poisons Centre, University of Otago) and three postgraduate students at the University of Otago, John Walsh, Jonathon McColl and Andrew Collins, with dinner and drinks (hence "symposium"!) in the evening.

## Recently completed graduate degrees

MA: Kate Anscombe, "The Lion Bull Combat as an Astronomical Symbol in the Context of the Origin of the Constellations".

MA: Anna Clare, "Aspects of Water in Homeric Epic".

### **Visitors**

The department's research colloquium has heard papers delivered by Dr Daniel Ogden (Exeter), Dr Penelope Murray (Warwick), Dr Bernard Muir (Melbourne) and Dr Malcom Wilson (Oregon).

Prospective visitor: Dr Stephen Harrison will be visiting Otago in April 2006 as a William Evans Visiting Fellow. His research interests are in Augustan poetry, the ancient novel and the Classical tradition.

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

## Staffing

The School of History, Philosophy, Religion, and Classics is currently being "restructured", in order to save money. Hence it is a considerable time of flux and uncertainty, especially regarding retention of both academic positions and programmes. Stay tuned.

Dr Tom Stevenson will be holding a fellowship at the UQ Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies, in 1st semester 2006, pursuing research on "Aspects of Fatherhood at Rome: Late Republic to Early Empire".

#### **Visitors**

Professor Richard Green (Sydney) (15 May) on "The Theatre at Paphos" (report on recent excavations).

Emeritus Professor Alexander Cambitoglou (Sydney) (26 June), who spoke as part of a celebration at UQ of the 25th anniversary of the AAIA.

Professor Pauline Allen (Australian Catholic University) (3 July) on "The preacher and the audience in early Christianity".

Professor Nota Kourou (Athens) (10 August) on "The sacred tree and its significance in ancient Greek Art".

Professor John Moorhead (History, UQ) (14 August) on "Silent pages or talking books? Accessing texts in late antiquity".

Dr Bridget Buxton (Auckland) (6 September) on "Traitors do Prosper: An Historical Commentary on the Hefzibah Inscription".

## Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Michael Kelly (PhD): "Sexual Jealousy and Love Relations in Greek and Roman Literature".

Also awarded her MPhil, at the age of 88 years, was Margaret Irwin.

#### Research seminar series

- 20 May: Maria Fletcher: "Miles or mercenary? Employment as a 6th-century AD soldier".
- 27 May: Paul Roche (Otago): "Righting the reader: Stoic cosmology and civil war in Lucan's *De Bello Civili*".
- 3 June: Yvette Hunt: "Roman pantomime libretti and their Greek themes: Augustus' rôle in the Romanization of the Greek Classics", and Caillan Davenport: "Continuity or Crisis? The Roman Elite from Commodus to Severus Alexander".
- 5 August: Jennifer Manley: "Caring for the ill in the Roman world: ideology and social security", and Jessica Suess: "Cultivation of genius Augusti: its role and significance in the early imperial cult".
- 12 August: Scott Robertson: "Plagiarism or contrast: The case for the Column of Marcus Aurelius", and David Gor: "Virtus Illyrici: the rise of Rome's Danubian armies".
- 26 August: John Ratcliffe: "A stabbing pain in the neck: Roman attempts at assassination".
- 9 September: Bob Milns: "Alexander the Great in western art".
- 23 September: Ian Nibloe: "The art of poison in the first century of the Roman empire".
- 7 October: Cam Battersby: "Surgical reflections on the death of Alexander the Great", and Paula Johnson: "Defeat and disgrace in Livy".
- 21 October: Sandra Christou: "Plank Figurines: sexually ambiguous images of Bronze Age Cyprus", and Rashna Taraporewalla, "The extra-urban sanctuaries of Attica and the Athenian strategy of defence".
- 28 October: Liz Crane: "Food in Roman Britain", and Marcel Prota: "Caesar and his Gallic War".

The eleventh annual HPRC and Friends of Antiquity Ancient History Conference, as outlined in the April Newsletter, was held on Friday and Saturday 6-7 May. In the week leading up to the conference radio interviews were held on the wonders. Overall, a very great (indeed wonderful) success. Plans for 2006 are already underway on the theme of "Disasters of the Ancient World".

On 13 May Tom Stevenson, Dorothy Watts, Bob Milns and Tim Parkin made an excursion to meet with school students and teachers in and around Toowoomba, lecturing on heroes and villains of antiquity.

#### Book launch

More than 80 people attended the launching of the latest book by Assoc. Prof. Dorothy Watts, *Boudicca's Heirs: Women in Early Britain* (Routledge, London, 2005) in the Women's College Auditorium on 11 September. The function was hosted by the Friends of Antiquity, and the book launch was performed by Emeritus Professor Bob Milns, formerly Professor of Classics and Ancient History. Prior to the book launch, Dorothy spoke on "Early British women from birth to marriage", as part of the Friends of Antiquity's regular *Sunday Series* talks. The Friends of Antiquity also used the occasion to welcome potential members – about 20 visitors were among the audience – and the event concluded with a champagne reception.

#### Student successes

Three 2004 honours students in Classics and Ancient History (more than any other discipline) were celebrated as University medalists at the latest (July) graduation ceremony:

- (1) Caillan Davenport, who has also been awarded the John Crampton Travelling Scholarship, set up to enable students of Architecture, Engineering, Fine Arts and/or Classical Antiquity to undertake overseas study. The scholarship is tenurable for three years and will pay for fees and a living stipend at Oxford.
- (2) Jessica Suess, who is now at Balliol College, Oxford, holding a Clarendon Fund Award.
- (3) Jennifer Manley, who recently attended the conference on "Approaches to Ancient Medicine" at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, 22-23 August. Her paper was entitled "The Carer in the Roman World: Master and Slave Interactions".

This year the Betty Fletcher Travelling Scholarship has been awarded to Melissa Cadden.

## Conference papers

Yvette Hunt, a PhD student, gave a paper at the symposium on "New Perspectives on Ancient Pantomime" for the Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama Symposium held at the Classics Centre, University of Oxford, on 13 July. Her paper was entitled "Roman Pantomime Libretti and their Greek Themes: the Role of Augustus in the Romanisation of the Greek Classics".

Pamela How, a PhD student, attended the conference on "Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church IV: The Spiritual Life"; it was held at ACU (Melbourne) from 6-9 July. Her paper was entitled " 'The Cult of the Dead' and Christian Relics: The Evolution of Burial Practices in the Roman West".

Bob Milns and Tim Parkin represented UQ at the symposium in Athens in October to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the AAIA; Bob spoke on Callisthenes, Tim on the ancient family.

Tim Parkin gave a plenary lecture to the Australian Society for Geriatric Medicine's annual conference in June. He also gave a paper on "Recent Trends in the Study of Ageing and Death in the Ancient Roman World" at the Congress of International Historical Studies in Sydney in July, and attended as keynote speaker a conference in Tampere, Finland, in August, on the theme of "old age and death in antiquity and middle ages", where he spoke on old age as a second childhood.

# UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

#### New courses

In 2006 Peter Davis will be teaching a new unit entitled "Love in the Ancient Novel".

#### **Visitors**

Recently Dr Bridget Buxton from the University of Auckland gave a public lecture entitled "Wrecks, ROVs and Rogues: Mediterranean Underwater Archaeology in the 21st Century". The lecture attracted an audience of over 150 enthusiastic listeners on a cold, wet Friday night in Hobart.

## Forthcoming conferences

We will be hosting ASCS 27 in January/February 2006.

# UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

#### Conference

John Melville-Jones attended the 3rd International Ancient History Conference at Fudan University, Shanghai, on 17-21 August (the other Australian participant was Llynneth Crawford from the University of Queensland). The conference attracted about 90 participants, half of them from outside China. The papers offered ranged widely in subject and time: for example, the earliest topic was the so-called Minoan thalassocracy, and the latest the classical-style Latin panegyrics written to honour the Habsburg rulers in the Early Modern period.

Fudan University has about 47,000 students, and is positioning itself to become one of the world's top 100 universities by 2020. It has recently established an Institute for the Study of Ancient Civilisations (i.e. non-Chinese ones) which is heavily oriented towards the Classical period. This is the fourth such institute to be established in China since the 1950s, the others being at North-Eastern Normal University at Changchun (the first), and at Beijing and Nankai Universities. Latin and Ancient Greek are taught at the first of these institutions.

The conference ended with an address by the senior Chinese Ancient Historian, Professor Wang, of Nankai University, in which he explained the development of the study of ancient European history in Chinese universities, promised further expansion, and concluded his speech by expressing a cheerful wish for a renaissance of classical studies in western countries.

# VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

This past trimester Victoria University of Wellington has had its usual and full complement of events and activities.

In July Dr Mark Masterson joined Classics from Hamilton College in New York State. Mark has a PhD from the University of Southern California. His research interests include epic poetry, Greek and Latin literature and society, sexuality and society and late antiquity. He has published on Vitruvius, Statius and his monograph, entitled *Impossible Translation: Antony and Paul the Simple in the Historia Monachorum*, will be published in the coming months by the University of Chicago Press. Mark will teach courses in mythology, epic poetry and literature at Victoria University and will be an enormous asset to our programmes of study.

Professor John Davidson delivered his Inaugural Lecture to the University on Tuesday 11th October. The lecture, entitled "The Sickness and the Cure: Classics in the 21st century", was received enthusiastically by almost 200 people. Professor Davidson argued for the relevance of every aspect of Classics in the modern university.

Oswyn Murray (Balliol College, Oxford) visited Victoria University in August and gave a public lecture for the Wellington Classical Association on nineteenth century British historiography of

Classical Greek history. In September Dr Peter Gainsford (Classics) and Dr Andy Edgar (Physics and Chemistry) gave an illuminating lecture on the ways in which spectral imaging enables academics to read lost texts on faded papyri, which included demonstrations of how this process is achieved.

This Summer we will run a new Classical Studies course on "Troy and the Trojan War". This is the first time we have taught a Classical Studies course over the summer trimester and enrolments are already high. We have run a highly successful intensive Latin programme for several years in addition to the five week Greek Field Trip to Greece and Crete for senior students. This year's field trip, led by Emeritus Professor Chris Dearden and Dr Judy Deuling, will leave for Athens on Sunday 13th November. We all wish them well.

Dr Judy Deuling has just returned from a short sabbatical at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. Judy won a Blegen Fellowship to continue research into Vergil and the monuments and to explore that university's fine research collections. Dr Babette Pütz won a new researcher's scholarship within the university to pursue her ongoing research into animal imagery in Aristophanes.

Several of our graduate students have successfully finished impressive postgraduate research. Judy Reid has completed a PhD entitled "Making a Living in Minoan Eastern Crete: Evidence, Interpretation, Theory". Kosal Kong has just completed a Masters with Distinction called "Led to the Altar: Marriage, Sacrifice and Initiation in the Iphigeneia Story". Finally, Tamar Nigogossian also completed a Masters on "Menander: a Study of Political, Literary and Social Influences on his Plays".

Next year is already looking busy. We are offering an entirely new Honours programme with new courses on Athenian Law and Society, Aristophanes, and Etruscan Culture and Art. We expect several overseas visitors including Richard Seaford in March and Dennis Feeney who will deliver the biennial Syme Memorial Lecture in July. Finally, a group of well-known Classicists are coming to Victoria University to conduct an academic review of our programmes in April.

We are also in the process of organizing and advertising a major international conference: Greek Drama IV in July 2007. Please look for notices and a forthcoming call for papers. For further information contact Matthew.Trundle@vuw.ac.nz or John.Davidson@vuw.ac.nz.