



The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

NEWSLETTER

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ASCS GENERAL NEWS

ASCS 27

The 27th General Meeting and Conference was held at the University of Tasmania in Hobart on 30th January to 3rd February, the first time ASCS has met at that location. There were over 140 registrants and some 110 papers; the large number of papers, many from postgraduate students, again presented the organisers with a mammoth task in scheduling multiple sessions – all done with great efficiency. The keynote speaker, Barbara Gold, Professor of Classics at Hamilton College, New York, and editor of the *American Journal of Philology* since 2000, delivered a public lecture to a large audience on “Inhuman She-Wolves and Unhelpful Mothers in Propertius’ *Elegies*”. The lecture was also funded by the Australian Humanities Academy as the Trendall Lecture for 2006. The conference dinner at the Meadowbank Estate Vineyards was the usual rousing occasion, and a fitting end to the conference. The Society’s warm thanks were expressed to the convenor, Peter Davis, his assistants, Paul Burton and Jessica Deitrich, the clerical staff, Lyn Rainbird and Emma Craw, and all their helpers.

General Meeting and Executive Committee Meetings

At the several business meetings held during the conference, there were the usual routine matters such as reports on the journal and the essay competition and discussions of the current financial situation (which continues to be healthy) and the proposed budget for 2006. One of the major items was to announce the winner of the inaugural “Early Career” Award of \$2000, Dr Anna Silvas, from UNE. In his Report the Secretary particularly highlighted the growth in membership of the Society, which stood at just on 400 members and which would go higher with the new members generated by the present conference.

The following were elected (or subsequently nominated) to the various positions on the Executive Committee:

President:	Mr John Penwill
Vice Presidents:	Professor John Davidson, Professor Ronald Ridley
Secretary:	Dr Bruce Marshall
Treasurer:	Mr William Dolley
Business Manager:	Dr Ian Plant

Editors:	A/Prof Peter Davis, Dr Elizabeth Minchin		
Website Manager:	Dr David O'Brien		
Postgrad Rep:	Mr Jeff Tillitzki		
AAIA Rep:	Emer. Prof. Bob Milns		
University Reps:			
ACU	Dr Geoffrey Dunn	Melbourne	Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard
ANU	Dr Ben Kelly	Newcastle	Dr Marguerite Johnson
ECU	Dr Bill Leadbetter	UNE	Dr Bronwyn Hopwood
La Trobe	Ms Leanne Lockwood	UNSW	Dr Geoff Nathan
Macqu	Dr Peter Keegan	Queensland	Professor Tim Parkin
Massey	Dr Gina Salapata	Otago	Dr Jon Hall
Monash	Dr Eva Anagnostou-	Sydney	Dr Emma Gee
	Laoutides	Tasmania	A/Prof Peter Davis
Adelaide	Dr Han Baltussen	UWA	Dr Neil O'Sullivan
Auckland	Dr Marcus Wilson	VUW	Dr Barbara Pütz
Canterbury	Dr Enrica Sciarrino		

The General Meeting warmly accepted the invitation of the Classics Department of the University of Newcastle to hold the next General Meeting and Conference in Newcastle in early February 2007 (you will find a first notice about this conference at the end of this Newsletter).

ASCS SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2005

It has again been another successful and active year for the Society.

Membership numbers have continued their steady increase. There are now just under 400 members, up from the 350 at the same stage last year. This means that the membership of the Society has more than doubled in the last five years. A very considerable proportion of that increase are postgraduate and honours students. Unfortunately there are still too many members who have to be chased up for overdue subscription; in October I had to chase up no less than 25% of our members who had not paid their 2005 subscription. On the other hand it is pleasing to report that some 20% of members have now chosen to pay their subscription at the five-year rate.

The conference and general meeting held at the University of Otago in Dunedin in February created yet another record for the number of papers given and for the number of persons attending; all credit must go to the Convenor, Professor Bill Dominik, and his team for this outstanding achievement. The practice of funding a keynote speaker continued, with Professor Alan Cameron, from Columbia University, attending the Dunedin conference, and with Professor Barbara Gold, from Hamilton College, attending the present conference. Professor Gold will also be delivering the Trendall Lecture, funded by the Australian Academy of the Humanities, during this conference. There is increasing demand for the funds available to subsidise student travel to attend these conferences, with up to AU\$4000 being divided between 28 students to enable them to attend this year's meeting.

The new initiative begun in 2004 – the provision of grants to small departments to assist in the local promotion of the subject – was continued in 2005. Two grants were made: AU\$1000 to the Australian Catholic University (McAuley Campus) to help fund the visit of Professor Rousseau in July, and NZ\$590 to Massey University for some of the expenses of a Year 13 Classics Day for schools. Two grants have already been approved for 2006.

A new initiative for 2005 was the setting up of an "Early Career" Award of AU\$2000. There were three applicants, and a decision on the recipient is expected very soon.

The Newsletter was sent out twice during the year, in April and October, and is welcomed as a means of keeping members in touch with what is happening with the subject in the various universities. With

the happy amalgamation with our New Zealand colleagues, there are now 20 university departments which are represented on the executive committee. Contacting members by email continues to be a convenient way of disseminating information: some 89% of members now receive communications in this format. This allows for the regular sending out of interesting or useful messages, as well as matters relevant to the running of the Society.

The executive committee met once at the Australian National University in November, and covered a very full agenda, some items of which will be considered at today's meeting.

[Presented by the Secretary at the AGM on Thursday 2nd February 2006]

ASCS "EARLY CAREER" AWARD FOR 2005

It is pleasing to announce that the winner of the inaugural ASCS "Early Career" Award is Dr Anna Silvas, from the University of New England. Dr Silvas plans to use the award of AU\$2000 to assist with travel and expenses of a trip to Uluköy (site of ancient Annisa in the Roman province of Pontus) to explore the possible location nearby of the ascetic retreat of St Basil the Great and related aspects of local historical geography

ASCS ESSAY PRIZE COMPETITION 2005

The Competition attracted 25 (29 in 2004) entries, drawn from the following Australian universities:

Adelaide	3	Newcastle	2
ANU	3	Sydney	5
Macquarie	5	UNE	1
Melbourne	4	UWA	2

The essays covered the following topics:

Latin and Greek literature	Petronius' Satyricon and Homer's Odyssey, Catullus, Katabasis in modern cinema, Iliad, Aeneid 11
Greek history and society and Roman history and society:	magic and religion, herbalism, structures of Roman politics, senatorial decree on Piso, Roman witches, the aims of Bruns 10, the Hippocratic oath, principate of Caligula, Finley's Ancient economy, Rome before 490 BC, the fifth century Athenian women, attitudes to rape in Rome, Olympias, Ptolemies and Egypt, use of pike by Macedonians, family in late Roman law
Archaeology	de arte romana
Late antiquity	Chronicles

Winners and Highly Commended

First Prize: Mark Siford (UWA) ("Thirty Years after Finley's Ancient Economy")

Highly commended: Kiera Trepka (Newcastle) ("Herbalism among the Ancients"), Christopher Ranson (ANU) ("Honour and the Hero: Masculinity, Status, and Rebukes in the Iliad")

Assessors' Report (Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard and Dr Tom Stevenson)

This year twenty-five essays were submitted for consideration for the annual ASCS prize. This number is slightly down on those submitted in previous years, so perhaps a little more encouragement on the part of academic staff would not go astray. On the whole, the essays were of a high standard, as

the judges have come to expect, and we were certainly impressed by the great range of topics. It seems that there are many interesting and inspiring subjects being researched in Australian universities under the rubric of Classics and Ancient History.

Happily, the judges were able to agree independently on the winner, which we knew only as 'no. 16'. This essay, a rigorous critique of Moses Finley's view of the Roman economy, stood out for its mature style, wide research, deep understanding, sustained analysis and compelling argument. Ancient evidence and modern opinion were handled comprehensively and with flair. The writer's capacity for intelligent independence at critical junctures also created a good impression. Other successful essays examined herbalism among the ancients and the interplay between masculinity, status and rebukes in Homer's *Iliad*. Topics varied in character from the legal (Roman legislation against extortion in the provinces) to the military (the Macedonian sarissa) to the political (Roman political structures and attitudes) to the religious (the distinction between magic and religion in Graeco-Roman antiquity). One interesting and insightful essay examined the depictions of witches in Roman literature. Some writers were seduced by the Julio-Claudian emperors of Rome (Tiberius and Caligula). Others chose subjects of pronounced social interest (Greek women, medical ethics, the late Roman family). Literary essays featured heavily: Homer and Catullus were favourites, but Petronius, Vergil, Ovid and Livy won attention too. Roman art made an appearance, as did a fine essay on chronicles. Olympias and the Ptolemies were well handled, but there was no Alexander this year. Classical influences on modern cinema gave rise to yet another interesting essay.

No particular areas or disciplines dominated among the rich pickings. Greece and Rome were studied by around half the essays each. The same could be said for history and literature. Art and archaeology, on the other hand, were virtually absent – a quite extraordinary development in comparison to last year, when both the winner and third-placed essays examined archaeological topics. Surely this lack can be redressed without too much trouble next year, and perhaps the philosophers among our students will take up the challenge to submit a characteristically thoughtful piece on (e.g.) Aristotle or Seneca.

Frances Muecke
Department of Classics and Ancient History
University of Sydney

[A history of the Essay Prize Competition, its winners and their subsequent careers, prepared by James Uden (winner in 2000 and 2002), is to be placed on the ASCS website. There are some gaps in the information, so if you are able to fill them in, it would be appreciated. Contact Frances Muecke (frances.muecke@arts.usyd.edu.au).]

SCHOLIA ESSAY COMPETITION 2005

Scholia Essay Competition for New Zealand Students in Honour of John Barsby 2005

It is my pleasure to announce the results of the 2005 Scholia Student Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby, which was judged this year by Dr Paul McKechnie (Auckland), Dr Matthew Trundle (Wellington) and Assoc. Prof. Robin Bond (Canterbury).

First place has been awarded to Elizabeth Lochhead, a student at the University of Canterbury, for her essay entitled *The Relationship Between Books and Slaves: Horace Epistles 1.20*. Elizabeth wins \$150, and her essay will be published in the forthcoming volume of *Scholia*. The prize this year was generously sponsored by the Australasian Society for Classical Studies.

Joint second place was awarded to Maree Newson (Victoria University, Wellington) for her essay *The Greek Succession Myth*, and to Olivia Holborow (Victoria University, Wellington) for her essay *A*

Comparison of the Ancient Greek Myth of the Amazons and the Modern Feminist Movement. There were ten entries in all.

Full details of the 2006 competition will be circulated in April.

Many thanks to ASCS, all the Classics lecturers who advertised and supported the competition this year, and especially to the judges. Thanks also to Dr Arlene Allan who helped with the administration of the competition.

Jon Hall
Department of Classics
University of Otago

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Staff changes

From the end of 2005 with the completion of her Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship, Dr Wendy Mayer is replaced by Dr Bronwen Neil as deputy director of the Centre for Early Christian Studies. Wendy is currently living in Washington D.C. but remains an honorary research associate of the Centre.

New courses

THEO 661 – Christian Life and Thought to 590 CE is a new on-line unit to be offered at Master's level at ACU in second semester 2006.

Visitors

Professor Boris Repschinski, a New Testament scholar from the University of Innsbruck, visited in February and March 2006 and gave seminars at the Strathfield and Brisbane campuses of ACU. Professor Shigeki Tsuchihashi of Chuo University, Tokyo, is a visiting fellow from April 2006 to March 2007, based in the Centre for Early Christian Studies at the Brisbane campus of ACU. Professor Kazuhiko Demura of Okayama University will be visiting in August and September 2006 and will also be based at the Brisbane campus.

Research grants

Professor Pauline Allen, Dr Wendy Mayer and Dr Bronwen Neil secured a discovery grant from the Australian Research Council for 2006-2008 with a project entitled "Poverty and Welfare in Late Antiquity". Dr Geoffrey D. Dunn and Dr Silke Trzcionka are employed as Senior Research Associates on the project, which will focus on issues related to wealth and poverty in the writings of John Chrysostom, Augustine of Hippo and Leo the Great.

Dr Geoffrey D. Dunn secured two five-week Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowships to use the Vatican Film Library manuscript collection at Saint Louis University, Missouri, from February to April 2006 to work on his preparation of a critical edition of the letters of Innocent I.

Forthcoming conferences

The Western Pacific Rim Patristics Society will hold its annual meeting at Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan, from 29 September to 1 October 2006. The theme of the conference is "The Use of the Gospels in Early Christianity". Papers may be offered in languages other than English, as all papers will be pre-circulated in hard copy. Further information can be found on the website of the Centre for Early Christian Studies website, www.cecs.acu.edu.au. More will be posted as it becomes available.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

New courses

Dr Claire Jamsset is offering a new course, *The Hero in Classical Literature: identity, gender and self-definition in ancient poetry*, in first semester this year.

Visitors

Professor Richard Seaford (Exeter) gave a talk, "Sacred Sex and Tragic Space", for the Friends of the AAIA.

Museum acquisition

A small Sumerian cuneiform tablet (21st century BC), and a large Roman silver fibula (3rd century AD). Both have been purchased by the Friends of the ANU Classics Museum.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Staff

La Trobe University is now the home of the ASCS President, with the election of Mr John Penwill at the annual general meeting held in Hobart in February. Ms Leanne Lockwood has replaced John as La Trobe's representative on the ASCS Executive Committee.

New courses

Dr Rodney Blackhirst is offering a new undergraduate unit entitled 'Traditional Cosmologies'. The focus of this unit is Plato's account of the creation of the world, the *Timaeus*, but the study of the *Timaeus* involves placing it and its underlying mythological ideas in a broader context of myths and doctrines that are found, in various forms at various times, throughout the world.

John Penwill has introduced a new undergraduate unit, 'Women in Classical Greece and Rome': an examination of how women are represented in classical Greek and Roman literature and art. Necessarily this largely involves looking at ways in which women are portrayed by men, but the subject does include some surviving examples of women's writing from the ancient world (notably Sappho) and representations of gender politics in authors such as Aeschylus and Tacitus.

Completed research degrees

Celeste Harrison was recently awarded an MA for her dissertation entitled "The Evidence for the Corinthian Theatre in the Classical and Hellenistic Periods".

Debbie del Frate has successfully completed her PhD thesis entitled "Al Volo d'uccello: The depiction of birds in early Christian paintings and mosaics in Italy".

Publications

Dr Roger Swarder, *Homer on Immortality: The Journey of Odysseus as a Path to Perfection* (Frome, The Prometheus Trust, 2004).

Ramus Vol. 33, a special double number devoted to essays on Terence, has recently been published. It contains articles by William S. Anderson, Elaine Fantham, Susan Lape, John Henderson, Joseph Smith, Kathleen McCarthy, Siobhan McElduff, John Penwill and Emily Gowers. For further details go to <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/arts/ramus/special.html> or contact the Associate Editor, John Penwill, at j.penwill@latrobe.edu.au.

Public lectures

While in the USA last year John Penwill gave a public lecture on Seneca's *Trojan Women* at Brown University and one on Lucretius at Columbia University.

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Staff

An oversight in the last Newsletter was to report the appointment to a personal chair of Alanna Nobbs: belated congratulations to her.

Outstanding Service Awards for Community Outreach have been given to Dr Tom Hillard and to the Mangement Team at the Museum of Ancient Cultures headed by Karl van Dyke. The Division of Humanities received two out of the five awards made in 2005.

Congratulations to a recent Macquarie PhD graduand Dr Jonathan Markley, who will take up an appointment as Assistant Professor responsible for Asian History to 1700 at California State University, Fullerton, starting in the second half of 2006.

Dr Jim O'Neill is teaching Greek Drama at Macquarie in 2006.

The current ACANS (Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies) senior research fellow is Dr Sergei Kovalenko (Pushkin Museum, Moscow) and the ACANS junior fellows are Ms Lauren Horn (Macqu) and Mr J. McAnally (UWA).

Visitors

Dr Ray Lawrence spoke to the topic 'Breathing Life into Pompeii' in early March.

Professor Richard Seaford from the University of Exeter was a Visiting ACANS Fellow and gave two lectures in March on the relationship between coinage and the origins of philosophy and tragedy.

Dr Tom Wright (Anglican Bishop of Durham) has been a guest of the Society for the Study of Early Christianity and given a series of massively attended lectures on topics including the historical Jesus, fresh perspectives on Paul, and decoding the Da Vinci Code.

Book launch

Dr Tom Hillard and Dr Kathryn Welch (USyd) recently celebrated the launch of their co-edited collection, *Roman Crossings. The Roman Republic in Theory and Practice* (Classical Press of Wales, 2005), in the Nicholson Museum.

Museum acquisitions

As one of the final acts as Vice-Chancellor of Macquarie University, Professor Di Yerbury has purchased a large collection of antiquities from Mr Graham Joyner. Graham retired from his position as a lecturer in Ancient History and as Honorary Curator of the Museum some nine years ago. For many years he has been a collector of antiquities, using many of these to supplement his teaching of courses in Archaeology. Much of his collection has been on loan to the Museum for many years and it is highly appropriate that the University acquire this collection to help fill recognised gaps in the Museum collection. This purchase will come to the Museum of Ancient Cultures as "The Joyner Collection".

Research grants

Dr Ken Parry has been awarded a grant from the Australian National Commission for UNESCO for travel to India for research on his project "A photographic survey of the ancient cultural monuments associated with the Saint Thomas Christians of Kerala in South India". This follows on from his

successful photographic exhibition at Macquarie University Library in 2004 entitled “The Stone Crosses of Kerala in South India”.

Postgraduate success

Congratulations to Ronika Power, a postgraduate student in Ancient History, on achieving a Commonwealth Travelling Scholarship. She will undertake a MSc degree in Human Osteology and Palaeopathology at the University of Bradford. The course provides advanced instruction in the identification and analysis of both complete and fragmentary human skeletal remains, the techniques and methods applied to understand skeletal morphological variation, and the means by which to assess pathological conditions affecting the skeleton. The degree will complement her MacquU PhD project on Child and Infant Burials in the Egyptian Archaeological Record, as the course encourages the integration of biological and archaeological evidence to address problem-oriented research themes and to apply scientific methods to achieve a better understanding of the human past.

Conferences

November 2005 saw the first National Numismatic Conference in Australia. Hosted by the Numismatic Association of Australia, the three day event contained lecture sessions at the Powerhouse Museum and ACANS. There was a range of lectures dealing with ancient numismatics with speakers including Pat Wheatley (UOtag), Peter Edwell, Walter Holt, Ted Nixon, Colin Pichfork, Clare Rowan, David Worland and Ken Sheedy.

On 2nd April a conference was held on *The Cities of Vesuvius* organized by the Macquarie Ancient History Association and addressing topics integral to the new core option in the NSW Higher School Certificate Ancient History syllabus. Presenters will be (in alphabetical order) Pim Allison (ANU), Frances Billot (Auckland), Jean-Paul Descoedres (Geneva), Dale Dominey-Howes (Macquarie), Estelle Lazar (Sydney) and Andrew Wallace-Hadrill (BSR).

The annual Egyptology conference, this year entitled “Music, Drawing and Sexuality in Ancient Egypt”, will take place on 19th August. For more information please call the Australian Centre for Egyptology (02) 9850 8848 or egyptology@hmn.mq.edu.au.

The annual research conference of ACANS, *New Research on the Black Sea*, will be held on Friday 1st September. Please see the website of ACANS for details: <http://www.humanities.mq.edu.au/acans/>.

A conference entitled *The Reign of Justinian and Theodora* will take place at Macquarie on October 14-15, 2006. A photographic exhibition entitled ‘City of Constantine through the Ages’ will be on display at Macquarie University Library during the weekend of the conference. The exhibition showcases the ‘City of Constantine’ online project which is currently being developed by the Department of Ancient History, in conjunction with Modern Greek and the Centre for Middle East and North African Studies. For further details email Ken Parry: kendee@bigpond.com.

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History

The Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History continues to attract significant student numbers. For 2006 we have a total enrolment of 485 undergraduates, 10 honours students, 7 Masters candidates and 7 PhD candidates. We have two full-time staff members.

New units

The Centre is offering two new units for second and third level in 2006: ‘The Age of Empires’ and ‘The Archaeology of Greek Religion’.

Museum loan

The Centre's Museum of Mediterranean Antiquities has received a sizeable loan from Graeme Geddes; these include Greek and Roman sculptures, including a bust of the emperor Hadrian, a mosaic, several stelae, a cartonnage mummy case and a selection of Greek vases.

Archaeological field-work

Staff and students from the Centre again undertook fieldwork in the Dakhleh Oasis, Egypt, during January and February. Excavation, under the direction of Colin Hope, was conducted at Ismant el-Kharab (ancient Kellis) and at Mut el-Kharab. Work at Ismant el-Kharab focused upon a large Roman-period structure, the walls of which are decorated with paintings, including images of Serapis and Isis, and a columbarium. At Mut el-Kharab, we continued work within the enclosure of the Temple of Seth. The latter yielded fragments of decorated blocks from the temple as well as significant quantities of ostraka written in Greek, Demotic and Coptic. Work at Ismant el-Kharab is funded by Professor Roger S. Bagnall (Columbia University) as part of a Distinguished Achievement Award granted to him by the Carnegie-Melon Foundation; that at Mut el-Kharab is funded by Australians Studying Abroad.

Classical Studies

The re-establishment of Classical Studies at Monash proceeds with fast and satisfactory pace. In first semester 2006 we have a total enrolment of 197 undergraduates, a number that is expected to rise in second semester. We have two full-time staff members, one of whom is the recently appointed Dr Evangelina Anagnostou-Laoutides, who joined the Program in January 2006 as lecturer in Classical Studies. Her special interests are in myth and erotic ritual.

New courses

The Program will be offering from next year an Honours degree in Classical Studies. We will be also offering a Graduate Diploma in Latin, while a Diploma in Classical Languages is expected to be approved shortly.

The Program offered in the first semester of 2006 a new unit with the title 'Eros and the Body: Sexuality and Body Politics in the Classical World', while in the second semester we will be offering a second new unit with the title 'Performing Rome'.

Research

The members of the Program hope that they will be soon in a position to offer post-graduate study courses. Dr Evangelia Anagnostou-Laoutides is currently focused on producing a more popular version of her doctoral thesis published in 2005 (Gorgias Press, New Jersey) under the title *Eros and Ritual in Greco-Roman Literature: Singing of Atalanta, Daphnis and Orpheus*. The book is expected to appear with translations of Greek and Latin in 2007. She has also contributed two articles in Latin literature and one in Modern Greek Literature to the Routledge *Encyclopedia of Erotic Literature* (2006).

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

Staff changes and appointments

Our offer for the post in Greek History has been accepted by the preferred candidate, but we are awaiting full confirmation before we can make an official announcement. Our new colleague will be replacing Dr Anne Geddes (from 1st July), who will retire officially at the end of 2006.

Courses

Dr Ron Newbold's course "Classical Mythology" (level 2/3 UG) has once again received a record enrolment of 106.

Dr Han Baltussen has revived a course on Ancient Philosophy (level 2/3 UG) under the combined banner of European Studies and Classics in Semester 1, 2006, surveying the major Greek and Roman thinkers from the Presocratics to Plotinus.

Specials events and visitors

On 10 March, Dr Anton Powell (Swansea, UK) gave a paper entitled “Why did Sparta not destroy Athens in 404 and in 403?”, presenting a fascinating account of political and military intrigue.

On 22 May, His Excellency the Ambassador of France, Mr Francois Descoueyte, will be presenting the Constantinos Moraitis Research Scholarship to Simon Bucsay (BA Hons), who has just started work on a PhD in Greek history. The one-off travel scholarship offered by N. Galatis allowed Simon to visit Athens in 2005 and was awarded for high achievement in Undergraduate Studies in Classics.

Recent museum acquisitions

Artefacts from a private collection have been offered to our Classics Museum. More details will be forthcoming upon the return of the Director from sabbatical leave.

Research

Dr Han Baltussen will be spending a major part of his sabbatical leave (Sept-Dec 2006) as a member of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. He will be working on an ongoing book project under contract with Duckworth, London. The book will be the first to analyse the methodology of the late Greek commentator on Aristotle, Simplicius (c AD 530), whose works are especially important for the preservation of early Greek thought.

Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Geoffrey Adams (now UNE) has been awarded his PhD after completing his thesis entitled *The Nature of the Villa Suburbana in Latium and Campania: Literary and Spatial Analysis of Social and Potential Entertainment Functions from the 2nd Century BC to the 2nd Century AD*. The supervisors were Dr Margaret O’Hea and Dr Anne Geddes.

Danijel Dzino has been awarded his PhD after completing his thesis entitled *The Illyrian Policy of Rome, 168 BC-AD 68*. The supervisors were Dr Ron Newbold and Dr Anne Geddes.

Forthcoming conference

Plans for an international conference on consolation literature from Homer to the early Modern Age are being developed for July 2007. Convenor: Dr Han Baltussen.

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Staff

Dr Marcus Wilson will be on study leave in Semester 1, and Dr Bill Barnes in Semester 2. Dr Lisa Bailey will be on parental leave in Semester 1, and Dr Bridget Buxton for both Semester 1 and Semester 2

Visitors

Professor Richard Seaford (University of Exeter) presented a lecture on “Sacred Sex and Tragic Space” on 6 March.

Dr Andrew Wallace Hadrill (Reading University and Director of the British School at Rome) gave a seminar on “Hellenization, Romanization and local identities in second century Italy”, and a public lecture on “Saving Herculaneum” during a visit from 3-5 April.

Dr Jocelyn Penny Small (Rutgers University) will visit the Department in July, and Dr Denis Feeney (Princeton University) in late July.

Recent museum acquisitions

A number of items has recently been acquired: a terracotta of a standing lady (2nd cent. BC), a faience Bes amulet (Late period), Roman dice, a Roman glass flask, a miniature unglazed clay jug, and a bronze handle attachment (from small oinochoe or the like) with satyr-mask.

Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Christina Ringer-Robertson (MA in Latin) (September 2005)
Roesmary Brereton (MA in Ancient History) (September 2005)
Linda Carson (MA in Ancient History) (May 2006)
Graham Day (MA in Ancient History) (May 2006)
Jessica Priestley (MA in Greek) (May 2006)

Forthcoming conference

4-8 July 2006: VIIIth International Orality/Literacy Conference: "Orality – Literacy – Memory" with Dr Jocelyn Penny Small (Rutgers) as the keynote speaker. Conference information on the website: log onto www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/cla and follow the links.

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

Staffing

At the end of April Ms Alison Holcroft will leave us after having accepted voluntary severance from the University. We are also in the process of appointing a new lecturer in Roman History.

New courses

This year we have designed a new course for second and third year students about "Sport and Leisure in Ancient Rome" and we are very happy about the number of students that it has attracted. Involved in the running of this course are Dr Sciarrino (co-ordinator), Dr Griffith and Dr O'Sullivan.

Patrick O'Sullivan will also give some lectures in a new course on ancient aesthetics, co-ordinated by Assoc. Prof. Denis Dutton, entitled "Classical Concepts of Beauty".

Visitors

In November Professor Dick Green (USyd) stayed with us for two weeks to study the Logie Collection and to assist in the preparation of two new catalogues, one scholarly and one a general guide for the public, to be published by the University of Canterbury Press. Professor Green spoke also to the Classical Association on "The Reception of Theatre in Greek Art". Also in November Dr Babette Pütz (VUW) entertained us with "Fun and Games Greek Style". In December, Lucy Wadeson talked to us about what lies "Behind the Facades of Petra's Rock-Cut Tombs". She is a graduate from our Department and is now working on a PhD at Keble College, Oxford.

In March Professor Richard Seaford (Exeter) spoke on "Sacred Sex and Tragic Space", and in May there will be a play-reading of Assoc. Prof. Robin Bond's translation of Euripides' *Iphigeneia in Aulis*.

Our research seminar series this year was inaugurated by Professor Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy (Linguistics, Canterbury). His talk was entitled "ABA form in poetry from R.A.K. Mason to Catullus: a linguistic discussion".

Confirmed prospective visitors to the Department include Denis Feeney (Princeton) and Jocelyn Penny Small (Rutgers).

Recent museum acquisition

We have recently received on loan a collection of ancient Greek coins from Dr John Voukelatos.

Papers presented

As for our staff, we should note that in early January Dr Alison Griffith gave a paper entitled 'The Pons Sublicius in Context: Revisiting Rome's First Public Work' at the American Archeological Association Convention in Montreal. In late January, at the Annual Meeting of the Australasian Society for Classical Studies held in Hobart Ms Roslynne Bell gave a paper on 'Architectural Metaphor or Something More? Reconsidering the Sorrento Base's Magna Mater', Dr Patrick O'Sullivan gave 'A Report on the Survey of the Teaching of Latin and Greek in Universities in Australia and NZ', Dr Enrica Sciarrino spoke on 'Convivial Scenarios and Roman Poetic Practices', and Professor Graham Zanker presented 'Characterization in Hellenistic Epigram'.

Student successes

We are happy to announce that Ms Roslynne Bell received a Rome Award from the British School to work on the publication of her PhD thesis *Power and Piety: Augustan Imagery and the Cult of the Magna Mater*. We are also pleased to report that Elizabeth Lochhead, one of our honours students, won The Scholia Student Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby 2005 with an essay entitled *The Relationship Between Books and Slaves: Horace Epistles 1.20*. The prize was generously funded by ASCS and her essay will be published in *Scholia*. Last but not least, Hamish Cameron has been accepted into the PhD programme at the University of Southern California with full support.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Staff

Ron Ridley has retired from teaching and from a personal chair after 41 years in the History Department. This is to devote himself to a number of log-jammed books: Livy, The Politics of the Roman Republic, Akhenaten, The Birth of History, Historians and Autobiography, perhaps a dictionary of the history of Roman archaeology, and the trial of Prince Chigi in Rome in 1790 (in collaboration with Dino Bressan).

Associate Professor Tony Sagona, Head of the School of Art History, Cinema, Classics and Archaeology (AHCCA), was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in November 2005. The Academy was established by Royal Charter in 1969 and awards its prestigious fellowships to residents of Australia who have achieved the highest distinction in scholarship in the humanities. Also elected as an Honorary Fellow is an alumnus of the classics program, Professor Michael Stone, now Professor of Armenian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Professor Stone graduated in Greek and Hebrew in 1959 and continues to return to Melbourne every few years. Melbourne's Centre for Classics and Archaeology is well represented with FAHAs, others being Professor Frank Sear; retired Associate Professors Elizabeth Pemberton and Roger Scott; and Professorial Fellows David Runia and Eric Osborn.

Research grants

Professor Frank Sear is the recipient of an Australia Research Council Discovery Project Grant, along with Mr Andrew E W Hutson (Architecture, UMelb), and Dr Helen M Goldsworthy (Civil and Environmental Engineering, UMelb), with funding that began in 2006. The project is entitled *Technological Advances in Largescale Roman Concrete Buildings during the 2nd and 1st centuries BC*. Description: How were the Romans able to build monuments which are still standing after 2,000 years? Skills to achieve this were clearly not developed overnight. The 1st century BC has been identified as a time of tremendous technological change in Roman architecture. Was it that the Romans used a technologically advanced type of concrete? Was it that they had perfected the

structural design of vaults and domes? Was it simply their organizational ability or the enormous wealth that flowed from their vast Empire? The team of experienced archaeologists, architects and engineers seeks to answer these questions by survey and material analysis of a number of key Roman monuments.

Congratulations are in order for Dr Louise Hitchcock, who in January was awarded the 2006/2007 Annual Professorship at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem, as well as honorary status in the National Endowment for Humanities, having been ranked the highest in both categories. The Annual Professorship is the oldest and most prestigious of the grants, so it is a great achievement for Louise. She will leave for Israel in November 2006 and remain there until July 2007.

Congratulations to Associate Professors Tony Sagona and Chris Mackie for winning a major, nationally competitive contract with the Federal Government to contribute to an historical and archaeological survey of the ANZAC Battlefield area. This contract was announced in March 2006. Using the 1915 features as the focus, and working with Australian, Turkish and New Zealand authorities, Tony and Chris (and Cliff Ogleby from Geomatics, UMelb) will provide the government with a holistic overview of the area from 1915 to antiquity, which will draw on historical, archaeological and literary sources. This year will be the initial phase of a development plan for the Gallipoli National Park leading up to the 100th anniversary in 2015.

Visitors

This past semester we have enjoyed public lectures and seminars by visiting scholars. Professor Philip van der Eijk (University of Newcastle, U.K.) gave a talk on 16 March, 'Is there such a thing as Hippocratic medicine?'. Professor Richard Seaford (University of Exeter, U.K.) spoke on 21 March about the invention of money in the 6th century BCE. Dr Alan Greaves (University of Liverpool, U.K.) spoke on 5 April about his archaeological research at Miletos and its environs. Professor Andrew Wallace-Hadrill (Director of the British School at Rome) lectured on 6 April on the Herculaneum Conservation Project.

Forthcoming events

Some Melbourne University students have formed their own ancient drama group, Omniprop Productions, which will perform Seneca's *Phaedra* between 26-29 April. Should be interesting, since Seneca is rarely performed in Melbourne these days!

Professor Frank Sear is collaborating with Ms Jane Montgomery-Griffiths (Classical Studies, Monash) and Mr Paul Monaghan (School of Creative Arts, Melbourne) to convene a conference on ancient dramatic performance, entitled "Close Relations: the 'Spaces' of Greek and Roman Theatre," to be held from 19-23 September 2006 on the Melbourne University campus. The conference will combine archaeological studies of theatre space, literary studies of 'space' in Greek and Roman drama, and modern performance studies, with a particular emphasis on the history of the performance of Greek and Roman drama in Australia and New Zealand. The website is: www.sca.unimelb.edu.au/close/.

Postgraduate students

Dr Trudie Fraser has sent off her book on Hadrian's building programme in the western provinces to BAR.

Emma Strugnell, writing her PhD on the Parthians, is currently in Athens on an Australian Institute of Archaeology scholarship.

John Whitehouse has just been awarded an outstanding first for his MA on Thucydides and Tacitus as "historians of disenchantment" and is about to begin his PhD on related matters.

Other successfully completed postgraduate degrees

PhD

Emma Chapman (Feb 2006): "Reading, writing and the body in Propertius."

Geoffrey Mottershead (Aug 2005): "The constructions of Marcus Agrippa in the West"

M.A.

Erica Bexley (Feb 2006): "Replacing Rome: geographic and political centrality in Lucan's Pharsalia"

Penelope Harding (Feb 2005): "The prophecies of Rome and the voice of protest."

Ophelia Keys (April 2005): "Domus and Imperium in Livy's First Pentad."

Estelle Strazdins (Jan 2006) "Urbs Graeca, Orbis Romanus: cultural identity in Juvenal and Lucian"

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Newcastle is hosting the 2007 ASCS Conference at Noah's on the Beach (Monday-Wednesday 5-7 February). There will be early registration on Sunday 4 February at Newcastle City Hall from 3 pm with an informal reception from 6-8 pm. More details to come on the ASCS website. In the meantime, you can always send early abstracts to Marguerite.Johnson@newcastle.edu.au, or Hugh.Lindsay@newcastle.edu.au. Postgraduates may contact Jeff Tillitzki for any additional information about the conference: jeff.tillitzki@students.mq.edu.au.

Harold Tarrant is on Study Leave for Semester 1 and is researching at the University of Toronto as well as running a graduate seminar on the Platonic 'Alcibiades I'. He presented a paper entitled, 'Fact, Fiction, Allegory: The Ancient Reception of the Atlantis Story' at the University of Calgary and attended a Symposium, 'Introducing Plato Over the Ages', at the Swiss Institute at Rome in April, where he also delivered a lecture 'Are there Introductory Elements in Alkinoos?' – also to be delivered as the annual lecture at the AAIA in Athens in May. Harold is expecting two publications this year: *Proclus: Commentary on Plato's Timaeus*, vol. 1 (Cambridge) and, with D. Baltzly (eds.), *Reading Plato in Antiquity* (Duckworth). Otherwise he's soaking up the rays in sunny Ontario.

Jane Bellemore is also on Study Leave for Semester 1, working in association with Macquarie University. As part of her leave, Jane will be attending a workshop in New Zealand on new initiatives in teaching Latin and Greek to be hosted later in the semester by Professor David Langslow of the University of Manchester.

Jane is also hosting the Classics Seminar Series on Fridays (2 pm) throughout Semester 1. For more details, contact Jane.Bellemore@newcastle.edu.au. As part of the Seminar Series, Professor Anton Powell visited in March and attracted a lively audience, of undergraduates as well as senior students and colleagues, for a paper entitled *Virgil, Sex and Misery*. Dr Alan Greaves also presented a paper, 'The Archaeology of Ionia', on 12 April.

Other colloquiums hosted by Classics staff include the Research Centre for Ethics and Religion Seminar Series also held on Fridays (12 pm). For more details, contact Marguerite.

Although on Study Leave, Jane has been active in the arrangement of an Ancient History Study Day for HSC students. It will be running from 9 am to 1 pm on Friday, 30th June, 2006, at University House/Nesca House in Auckland Street, Newcastle. Further details, contact Jane.

As part of language promotion, Marguerite and Terry Ryan were involved in teaching at the five day annual Sydney Latin Summer School at the University of Sydney in January. They have also been involved in negotiating HSC Latin Days in conjunction with Scots College.

Hugh Lindsay has a major publication to his name this semester with the arrival of his *Strabo's Cultural Geography*, Cambridge University Press, co-edited with two overseas colleagues.

Marguerite has recently published seven entries in Richard M. Golden (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Witchcraft: The Western Tradition*, 4 vols. (ABC-CLIO Publishers: 2006; 1-57607-243-6). Her entries are: Crossroads, Hermeticism, Lilith, (the) Moon, Necromancy, Night Witch and Oracles. Marguerite will be presenting a paper entitled 'Black Medea – The Landscape of Dreaming' at the conference 'Medea: Mutations and Permutations' at Bristol in July. She has also been invited to present a paper on the new Sappho fragment at a special panel, 'The New Sappho on Old Age: Textual

and Philosophical Issues,' at the APA in 2007, organised by Marilyn B. Skinner and Ellen Greene; her presentation is entitled 'Poem 58 and L-P 31: The Poetic 'Body' and the Body of Sappho'.

With the expansion of the School there has been more collaboration with Marguerite, previously based at Ourimbah. She has replaced Jane in teaching Elementary Latin this semester as well as having a major share in AHIS3310 Epic at Callaghan. Hugh and Terry are running AHIS3130 Roman Britain at Ourimbah, while Neil Morpeth (Enabling Programs) has offered the School his AHIS3580 Health and Disease course this semester. So, despite having only four full-time staff we are able to offer a full menu of Ancient History and Latin as well as the usual offerings of Classical Greek.

With the decision by the Education Faculty (in December 2005) to grant Ancient History status as a teaching subject independent of Modern History, we have witnessed a major increase in enrolments, especially at 1000 level. For the first time in several years, one of our 1000 level courses has passed the 100 mark. Upper level courses, no doubt seen as relevant to the needs of trainee teachers, in Society and 5th Century Greek History, have also attracted their highest numbers for some time, but equally pleasing is the enrolment in Greek and Roman Epic, its highest ever.

Two Doctoral candidates commenced this semester, one from Palmerston North and the other, one of our Honours graduates from 2005. Two others have undertaken Master of Arts candidature. They join the existing five Doctoral and two Masters candidates in Classical Studies.

PhD student, Mary Galvin, was awarded an AAIA grant in 2005 to undertake field research in Greece for her work on Artemis. Mary has written an article on her findings to be published in the AAIA Bulletin.

The staff would like to congratulate Kiera Trepka for being awarded a Highly Commended in the recent ASCS Essay Competition for her essay "Herbalism among the Ancient".

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

Staff changes and appointments

The School of Classics, History, and Religion welcomes Dr Paul Roche as the newly appointed Lecturer in Latin. Paul recently completed his doctoral thesis at Otago University and has published articles on the Emperors Domitian, Nerva, and Trajan, and on Latin Epic. He is currently revising for publication a commentary on Lucan, *De Bello Ciuili*, Book 1.

Associate Professor Iain Spence has been appointed as Head of School for Classics, History and Religion for the next three years.

Dr Bronwyn Hopwood has been promoted to Lecturer in 2006.

Dr Geoff Adams was awarded his doctorate from the University of Adelaide in December 2005. The title of Geoff's thesis is *The Nature of the Villa Suburbana in Latium and Campania: Literary and Spatial Analysis of Social and Potential Entertainment Functions from the 2nd Century BC to the 2nd Century AD*.

Dr Bronwyn Hopwood was awarded her doctorate from the University of Sydney in November 2005. The title of Bronwyn's thesis is *Heres Esto: Property, Dignity and the Inheritance Rights of Roman Women 215 BC – AD 14*.

Teaching

Semester Two, 2006, will see the first run of ANCH 310/410, a new senior undergraduate Roman History unit, *Life and Politics in the Roman Republic 201-31 BC*, to be coordinated by Dr Hopwood.

2006 has seen the first offering of a Masters of Education majoring in Ancient History and Archaeology, in conjunction with the Department of Archaeology and the Faculty of Education.

Grants and awards

Anna Silvas is the recipient of the inaugural ASCS *Early Career Award*, while Bronwyn Hopwood is the recipient of a 2006 UNE *International Conference Travel Grant*.

Publications

Adams, G., *Romano-Celtic Elites and their Religion*, Caeros, Armidale 2005.

Dillon, M., and Garland, L., *Ancient Rome from the Early Republic to the Assassination of Julius Caesar*, Routledge, London 2005, pp.ix + 784.

Schmitz, M., *Enemies of Rome*, Caeros, Armidale 2005.

Silvas, A., *The Asketikon of St Basil the Great*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York 2005, pp.xix + 519.

Several articles and works by the late Charles Tesoriero are forthcoming including an anthology *Oxford Readings in Lucan*, the completion of which is being overseen by Tamara Neal and Frances Muecke (USyd). The completion and publication of Charles' *Commentary on Lucan* (a book stemming from his doctoral thesis) is being overseen by Lindsay Watson (USyd).

Tamara Neal's book *The Wounded Hero* (ISBN 3-03910-879-4) is shortly to be released by Peter Lang.

Greg Horsley's *The Greek and Latin Inscriptions in the Burdur Archaeological Museum* is being formatted for publication by the British Institute of Archaeology, Ankara.

Conferences

Dr Hopwood has been invited to give a paper *The lex Voconia and the Rhetoric of Empire* at the international conference *Gender Identities in Italy in the 1st Millenium BC* to be hosted by the Institute of Classical Studies, University of London, and National University of Ireland, Galway, at the ICS in June 2006.

The Museum of Antiquities

The Tenth Maurice Kelly Lecture hosted by the Museum of Antiquities was delivered in Armidale on 14th March 2005 by Iain Davidson, Professor of Archaeology and Palaeoanthropology at the University of New England. The subject of Professor Davidson's address was *Getting Power from Old Bones: some Mediterranean museums and their importance*.

Visitors

The School of Classics, History and Religion in association with Earle Page College and the Armidale Chapter of the UNE Alumni Association were pleased to host Professor Richard Seaford who delivered on 3rd March the first *Aspects in Antiquity* Public Lecture for 2006 entitled *Sacred Sex and Tragic Space*. Richard also presented a paper at the School's Research Seminar Series entitled *Money and the Genesis of Philosophy in Ancient Greece*.

The new President of ASCS, John Penwill, will visit UNE in late May to give a lecture, a seminar, and to hold discussions with staff and students.

Josiah Ober (Princeton) will visit UNE at the end of June to give a public lecture and research seminar. He and his wife spent two months at UNE as Visiting Fellows in the early 1990s.

Roman tour

We are happy to report the outstanding success of the first biennial academic study tour *Rome and the Shadow of Vesuvius* led by Dr Hopwood and Dr Adams. Many of the participants have chosen to combine their tour experience with CHR's 2006 Summer School Programme *Roman Society, Art, and Architecture in Text and Context* or with further academic study at UNE.

Student scholarships

A new travelling scholarship has been established at UNE to help students in Archaeology, Classics, and Modern History participate in an archaeological dig and gain field experience. This scholarship has been set up in memory of Mary Dolan, a long time staff member at UNE in History and Education. It will be awarded for the first time at the end of this year.

The 2006 J.H. Bishop Scholarship for Classics and Ancient History and the 2006 Nicholas Vournazos Travelling Scholarship to Greece have both been awarded to Graeme Burke, a PhD student working on ancient Elis.

The 2006 Maiben Davies Postgraduate Scholarship for Greek has been awarded to Scott Charlesworth, a PhD candidate working on textual criticism in the 2nd century AD. He will use it to travel to Edinburgh to undertake research in the middle of this year. Scott has also been awarded a Keith and Dorothy Mackay Postgraduate Travelling Scholarship which will be used to help fund the same research trip.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Staff

Dr Geoff Nathan is on study leave in 2006.

New course

A new General Education course entitled "An Introduction to New Testament Greek" has been offered in 2006.

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

New courses

Over the next two years the department is phasing in a variety of courses as part of its new undergraduate programme. This year will see the introduction of a new first year paper entitled "Age of Heroes: Mycenaean, Trojans and Greeks" taught by Professor Robert Hannah and Dr Patricia Hannah; three second year papers: "Love and War in Graeco-Roman Literature" and "Fantasies, Phobias and Families in Graeco-Roman Myth", both co-taught by Professor William Dominik and Dr Arlene Allan; and "Art of Empires: Hellenistic Art from Alexander to Augustus" (Professor Robert Hannah and Dr Patricia Hannah); and three papers at the third/fourth year level: "The Age of Alexander the Great: 336-323 BC" (Dr Pat Wheatley); "The Art of Imperial Rome" (Professor Robert Hannah); "Greek Tragedy in its Historical Context" (Dr Arlene Allan). A team-taught paper ("Research Methods in Classics") is also now offered at the third year level.

Visitors and conferences

In March and April 2006, the department sponsored a series of six lectures by Professor Stephen Harrison (Corpus Christi, Oxford) entitled "Literary Classics: Poetry Past and Present" (as a William Evans Visiting Fellow of the University of Otago). Prospective visitors to the Department include Professor Denis Feeney (Princeton) and Professor Penny Small (Rutgers).

The University of Otago will host the third Symposium in an International Series (following Calgary in 2002 and 2005) on Alexander the Great and his Successors in Dunedin on August 23-25, 2006. Professor Brian Bosworth, of the University of Western Australia, will give a plenary lecture, and invited speakers will include Professor Waldemar Heckel (Calgary), Dr Elizabeth Baynham

(Newcastle), Professor Daniel Ogden (Exeter), Professor Victor Alonso Troncoso (San Sebastian), Professor Edward Anson (Arkansas), Dr Leo Schep (Otago), Professor Franca Landucci Gattinoni (Milan), Professor John Yardley (Ottawa), Professor Craig Cooper (Winnipeg), Dr Tom Boiy (Leuven), Dr Boris Dreyer (Frankfurt), Dr Lara O'Sullivan (UWA), Dr Frances Pownall and Mr Erin Garvin (Edmonton), and Mr Jeff Tillitzki (Macquarie). Interested Australasian Hellenistic scholars and postgraduate students in the field are also most welcome to attend. The conference is sponsored by ASCS and the Humanities Division of the University of Otago. For further information, please contact Dr Pat Wheatley, Department of Classics, University of Otago: pat.wheatley@stonebow.otago.ac.nz.

Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Ross Bartlett has been awarded a PhD for his dissertation entitled "The Origins and Development of Acoustic Science in Ancient Greece".

Paul Roche has been awarded a PhD for his dissertation entitled "A Commentary on Lucan *De Bello Civili* 1".

Anna Clare has been awarded an MA for her dissertation entitled "Aspects of Water in Homeric Epic".

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Staff changes

Associate Professor Dorothy Watts will be retiring in the middle of 2006; she has been admitted as a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators (FACE). At the same time Professor Tim Parkin will be moving to Manchester (UK). A new appointment is pending, due to start in January 2007.

New courses

UQ is currently in the process of reviewing its entire BA structure, with a view to reducing the number of majors and the number of courses being offered. Classics and Ancient History is fighting hard to maintain its strengths in ancient languages.

Visitors

10 March: Dr Carol Bell (British School at Athens): "Tin, Pots and Donkeys: A New Look at Late Bronze Age Trade in the Levant".

31 March: Dr Benjamin Kelly (ANU): "Dispute Resolution and the State in Roman Egypt".

Museum acquisitions

Once again the start of semester has meant that the Antiquities Museum is now busy with students from a number of Classics and Ancient History courses intently studying their chosen research artefacts. But other UQ students are also using the collection: the new Museum Studies Postgraduate program run by the School of English, Media Studies and Art History is also utilizing the collection, and two coins are currently being examined (by non-invasive techniques only, rest assured) by students working on the Scanning Electron Microscope at the Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis (Nanoworld). The latter is a clear case of the merging of ancient skills and modern technology.

At the end of 2005, the Antiquities Museum acquired two new artefacts for the teaching of Roman art and society. These objects were purchased through the generosity of Assoc. Prof. Dorothy Watts and her UQ Excellence in Teaching Award (2004). Both items are Roman. One is a small and unusually delicate red-slip piriform jug from North Africa (AD 200-275) and decorated with appliqué which include palm fronds, an Eros and a Janus head. But the most interesting appliqué is a *tabula ansata*

inscribed PENTASI NIKA, the name of a Sodalitas, an association of professional fighters. The second item complements the jug for it is a 1st century AD terracotta figurine of a gladiator once part of the Pitt-Rivers Collection. This rather attractive piece has a strong resemblance to an opening Australian cricketer, for not only does he appear to be taking a long sweeping shot but he wears very long greaves or pads. Unfortunately the lower left arm is missing so we cannot be absolutely sure if he held a spear or a cricket bat. As one colleague pointed out, this is excellent evidence for the inclusion of cricket in the Olympics – and would surely result in another gold for Australia.

Research grants

Dr Tom Stevenson is currently holding a research fellowship in the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies at UQ.

PhD student Sandra Christou is currently holding a UQ Postgraduate Travel Scholarship and is undertaking a research trip to Sweden, Cyprus and America; she will also be giving a paper at an international conference in Sweden.

Conference

The 12th annual UQ Classics and Ancient History Conference will be held on May 5-6, 2006. This year's theme is "ANCIENT DISASTERS". The opening evening public lecture will be given by the distinguished Egyptologist Dr Colin Hope, Director of the Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History at Monash University. The topic is "The disastrous arrival of the ancient Egyptians in the oases of the western Desert: a view from Dakhleh". Dr Hope will also be the keynote speaker at the conference on the Saturday. Also on the conference program on the Saturday will be: Mr Don Barrett, Emeritus Professor Bob Milns, Professor Tim Parkin, Professor John Moorhead, Dr Tom Stevenson and Dr Sonia Puttock.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Major endowment

The Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Sydney has received an extremely generous benefaction from the estate of the late Emeritus Professor William Ritchie, to promote teaching and research in Classical Greek. Professor Ritchie was the Professor of Greek at the University of Sydney from 1965 until his retirement in 1991. The Chair of Classics at Sydney, currently held by Professor Peter Wilson, is now designated 'The William Ritchie Chair of Classics'. Also through the generosity of the Bequest, Professor Oliver Taplin will be the inaugural Ritchie Visiting Lecturer (in 2008).

Appointments

The Classics and Ancient History Department is pleased to welcome Dr Julia Kindt (MA Munich, PhD Cambridge), whose research and teaching interests include Greek cultural history; Greek religion; Herodotus; historiography (ancient and modern); Greek tragedy and society; oracles, divination and prophecy in the ancient world.

The appointment of Dr Emma Gee as Kevin Lee Memorial Lecturer in Ancient Greek has been extended until June 2008, thanks to the generosity of the Kudos Foundation and the Ritchie Bequest. Dr Gee is also ASCS Representative for the Department.

Dr Michael Turner, a specialist in South Italian Red Figure Iconography, has been appointed as vibrant new Senior Curator of the Nicholson Museum, Dr Craig Barker as Manager of Education Programmes.

Major publications

- Alastair Blanshard, *Hercules: Scenes from an Heroic Life* (Granta, 2005)

- John Davidson, Frances Muecke, Peter Wilson (eds), *Greek Drama III: Studies in Honour of Kevin Lee* (BICS Supplement, London, 2005)
- Eric Csapo, *Theories of Mythology* (Oxford, 2005)
- Dexter Hoyos, *Hannibal's Dynasty: Power and Politics in the Western Mediterranean 247-183 BC*. Paperback edn. (London, Routledge, 2005)
- Frances Muecke, Christopher Allen and Yasmin Haskell (eds), *Charles-Alphonse Dufresnoy, De Arte Graphica (Paris 1668)*, edition, translation and commentary (Geneve, Librairie Droz, 2005)
- Kathryn Welch and Tom Hillard (eds), *Roman Crossings: Theory and Practice in the Roman Republic* (Classical Press of Wales, 2005)

Awards

Internal Research and Development grants were awarded to Kathryn Welch ('Sextus Pompeius and the Transformation of the Roman Republic'), Alastair Blanshard ('Classical Pleasure: the Reception of Greek and Roman Erotica'), Lindsay Watson ('Animals in Greek and Roman Magic'), and Frances Muecke ('Pomponio Leto [1428-1498] and Andrea Fulvio [1470-c.1527]: A Case Study').

Peter Wilson and Eric Csapo have had a successful first year for their international research project (funded by the ARC) on the history of the Greek theatre, *Accounting for the Ancient Theatre: a new social and economic history of Classical Greek drama*. They have begun to build a huge electronic resource containing all data relating to the early history of the Greek theatre; this will form the basis of a new social and economic study of the Classical theatre.

Peter Wilson has also been awarded a Loeb Classical Foundation Grant to supplement funds for this project.

In Archaeology, Lesley Beaumont has been awarded the T.B.L. Webster Fellowship at the Institute of Classical Studies, to work on the iconography of childhood and youth on the Parthenon Freize.

Visitors

In December 2005 Professor Richard Hunter (Regius Professor of Greek, University of Cambridge) gave a seminar paper entitled 'The Sweetest Song: Callimachus (and Sappho) in Old Age'.

On 22 February a one-day symposium entitled 'The Economics of Greek Theatre' was held in the Department. Papers were presented by the keynote speaker, Professor Richard Seaford (Exeter), whose presence in Sydney prompted the symposium, and by Peter Wilson, Eric Csapo, Professor Richard Green (Archaeology, Usyd) and Dr David Rosenbloom (VUW), and a plenary session was chaired by Alastair Blanshard. The Nicholson Museum offered its facilities and ambience for a coin display and refreshments. The day was extremely successful, attracting over 40 participants and much positive feedback.

International visiting speakers in the Classics Research seminar for 2006 have so far included:

- Dr Anton Powell (Classical Press of Wales), 'Sex (and the Politics of Sex) in Virgil's *Aeneid*'
- Professor Richard Seaford (University of Exeter), 'Sacred Sex and Tragic Space'
- Professor Stephen Harrison (Corpus Christi College, Oxford), 'Making Waves: Maritime Metapoetics in Latin Poetry'

In Archaeology, Guy Hedreen (Williams University) gave a lecture entitled 'Involved Spectatorship in Archaic Greek Art' (28 March); Dr Stavros Paspalas (Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens) spoke on 'Kythera: A Mediterranean Island Through Time'.

Frances Muecke presented a research paper on 'Hannibal at the Bay of Naples (Silius Book 12)', at the University of Pisa in February.

New courses

An Ancient World Studies postgraduate coursework program was introduced in 2005. It provides interdisciplinary studies in the ancient world. The program draws on a range of disciplines, including

Ancient History, Classics, Philosophy, Museum Studies, Archaeology, Modern Greek, Hebrew and Jewish Studies and Religious Studies and looks to widen its scope still further. Several units are already offered on-line; more are intended.

'Greece and Rome in Performance', a junior level unit co-taught by Peter Wilson, Alastair Blanshard, Frances Muecke and Lindsay Watson was introduced in 2005. This unit aims to explore the 'performance culture' of Greece and Rome. It studies a variety of performance contexts, including Greek and Roman tragedy, comedy, mime, gladiatorial contests and other arena spectacles, adopting a wide range of analytical approaches. Emma Gee is offering a new unit for Greek Honours, in Hellenistic Literature, reading a range of authors and genres in the original, with particular interest in influence and interrelation. New courses in Classical Archaeology include 'Greek Cities and Sanctuaries' (Meg Miller).

PhDs awarded

Classics:

- Emily Matters, 'Aeneas in the Antipodes: the Teaching of Virgil in NSW Schools from 1900 to the Start of the C21st'

Archaeology:

- Agata Marczevska, 'Symbolism and Religious Character of Animal Representations in Cypriot Greek Art'
- Steven Ellis, 'The Pompeian Bar and the City'
- Andrea Rowe, 'Reconsidering Late Roman Cyprus'
- Christie Waddington, 'Roman Red Slip Pottery from Paphos'
- Francesco Motta, 'Roman Portrait Sculpture of the Middle and Late Republican Period'

Forthcoming events

On Thursday 22 June 2006, 4.00-5.00 pm, Professor Josiah Ober (Princeton) will deliver a paper to the Research Seminar entitled 'From Tellus to Themistocles (via Lydia): Herodotos on Happiness, Information and Decision-Making'.

Professor Jacques Perreault (Professor of Classical Studies, University of Montreal) is the 2006 Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens Visiting Professor, and will be in Australia from 14 August to 26 September 2006 (in Sydney from 14-23 August). Details of his full itinerary are available from Camilla Norman, Department of Archaeology, camilla.norman@arts.usyd.edu.au.

An international colloquium on 'War, Culture and Democracy in Classical Athens' will be held on 4-6 July 2006 at the University of Sydney. The keynote speakers will be Professor Josiah Ober (Princeton) and Professor John Keene (Westminster University). Please go to link www.arts.usyd.edu.au/school/sophi/wcd_conference.html, or contact david.pritchard@arts.usyd.edu.au.

The next Todd Lecture, given by Nicholas Purcell (University of Oxford), will be in 2006. Details from kathryn.welch@arts.usyd.edu.au. The 2008 Todd Lecture will be delivered by Professor Denis Feeney (University of Princeton). Details will be circulated in due course.

Emma Gee is organising a conference on the Greek and Roman Afterlife to be held in July 2008 at the University of Sydney. Contact emma.gee@arts.usyd.edu.au.

Student society

The Undergraduate Classics Society, Gaius Gracchus (President: David Allen), has designed and published a new website, at www.gaiusgracchus.org. This site contains links to Classics websites, a photogallery, forum and virtual library. For further information on the society or website, email contact@gaiusgracchus.org.

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

New course

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

Museum acquisition

A Roman branding iron has been purchased for the John Elliott Classics Museum. The iron is bronze from 2nd/3rd century A.D.; the handle is 23 1/2 cm long and the brand itself is 15 cm wide by 7cm. It is from a private German collection purchased by the Museum from Charles Ede Ltd.

Conference

We hosted ASCS 27 in January/February 2006 [for a report, see the ASCS General News at the start of this Newsletter].

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Visitors

Professor Richard Seaford of the University of Exeter visited on 25-28 March, and gave a public lecture on "Sacred sex and tragic space".

The annual Cassamarca Lecture will be given by Professor Vivian Nutton (London) on 20 September.

Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Completed PhD (with Distinction): Graeme Miles, "Humanity, Divinity and Animality in Philostratus' Life of Apollonius of Tyana and Heroicus".

Completed MA: Serena Ceccarelli, "Launching a thousand ships: the beauty of Helen of Troy in Isocrates".

Forthcoming conference

"Humanism and Medicine in the Early Modern Period" (supported by the Australian Research Council Network for Early European Research), Institute of Advanced Studies, 20-22 September, 2006. Further details: http://www.ias.uwa.edu.au/activities_and_programs/programs_2006/humanism_and_medicine_in_the_early_modern_era.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

New courses

This semester Dr Diana Burton is teaching a new course at 200/300 level 'Death, Dying and Disposal in Ancient Greece'. It examines ancient Greek attitudes and practices regarding death and dying, covering art, archaeology, literature and historical sources. Topics include burial practices, 'good' and 'bad' deaths, mythical deaths, philosophical approaches, the afterlife and ways of evading death.

Over the summer Dr Matthew Trundle organised a new 200/300 level course 'Troy and the Trojan War', taught by himself, Professor John Davidson, A/Prof Art Pomeroy and Dr Diana Burton. It explored the historicity, archaeology, mythology and drama about the legendary ten year siege,

investigating a variety of evidence and including a section on the reception of the Trojan War in modern films, from the 1950s 'Helen of Troy' to the more recent blockbuster 'Troy'.

Both courses were/are a great success: the Troy course had an enrolment of 72, and the 'death' course 79.

Visitors

In November 2005 Professor Bill Dominik from Otago University gave a Classical Association lecture, 'Pompeii: an Illustrated Text'. In March 2006 Professor Richard Seaford from the University of Exeter gave a research seminar, 'Money and Athenian Tragedy', and a Classical Association lecture 'Sex and Sacred Space'. We will have a bunch of visitors in April: Professor Mary Beard (Cambridge), Professor Peter Wilson (Sydney) and Assoc. Prof. Robin Bond (Canterbury) will come for the review of the Classics Department. In the same week Professor David Langslow (Manchester) will run a series of seminars/workshops on the teaching of Latin and Greek, give a lecture on 'What is Indo-European and how do we know?' and a seminar on 'Ancient Medical Letters', and Professor Stephen Harrison (Oxford) will give a seminar on 'Catullus in New Zealand'.

Recent museum acquisition

The Classics Museum acquired in March 2006 an Attic Black Figure Column Krater, dated c.510 BCE, attributed to the Leagros Group. The large krater is about half a metre in height with a rim diameter of nearly 47 cm, including the handles and decorated in Black Figure technique with the use of added white and red. Side A depicts Ariadne (?) wreathed and holding the reins as she steps into a four-horse chariot. Dionysos, bearded and looking towards her, stands in front of the vehicle and to the side holding a large kantharos in his left hand. On Side B three fully armed hoplite warriors departing for battle with shields and crested Corinthian style helmets, each farewelled individually. The krater has been recomposed from fragments with careful restoration.

Field trip

Dr Judy Deuling and Emer. Prof. Chris Dearden led the Greek field trip in November and December 2005.

Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Victoria Calver has completed her M.A. thesis 'The Scholar Bewitched: Interpretations of Apollonius' *Medea* in Academic Discourse'. Cynthia Werner has submitted her M.A. thesis on 'Madness and battle-fury in Greek and Old Germanic mythology and literature', and Liesl Nunns hers on 'Epic Cycle Plot Motifs in Homeric Narrative'.

Conference

The Greek Drama IV Conference will take place at VUW from 3-6 July 2007. Please contact John.Davidson@vuw.ac.nz or Matthew.Trundle@vuw.ac.nz for further information.

ASCS 28

Dates: Monday 5 February to Wednesday 7 February 2007

Hosts: Classics, University of Newcastle

Venue: Noah's on the Beach, Newcastle

Convenor: Marguerite Johnson (Marguerite.Johnson@newcastle.edu.au)

Early Registration: from 3.00 pm, Sunday 4 February, Newcastle City Hall

Informal Reception: 6.00-8.00 pm, Sunday 4 February, Newcastle City Hall

A General Meeting of the Australasian Society for Classical Studies and Meetings of the Executive Committee will be held during the Conference.

Early offers of papers and abstracts can be sent to [Marguerite.Johnson.@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Marguerite.Johnson@newcastle.edu.au) or Hugh.Lindsay@newcastle.edu.au.

Postgraduates may contact Jeff Tillitzki for any additional information about the conference: jeff.tillitzki@students.mq.edu.au.

Further information about the General Meeting and Conference will be posted on the ASCS website (www.ascs.gov.au) and in the next Newsletter.