



The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER TWENTY-ONE SEPTEMBER 2007

Contact addresses:

President

Mr John Penwill
Humanities and Social Sciences
La Trobe University, Bendigo
Bendigo VIC 3552

j.penwill@latrobe.edu.au

Honorary Treasurer

Mr William Dolley
1 Mount Pleasant Road
Belmont VIC 3216

william.dolley@deakin.edu.au

Honorary Secretary

Dr Bruce Marshall
3 Lorna Close
Bundanoon NSW 2578

brucemar@ozemail.com.au

website: <http://www.ascs.org.au>

ASCS GENERAL NEWS

ASCS 29

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

**will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand, hosted by
the Department of Classics at the University of Canterbury**

Dates: Sunday 27 January to Thursday 31 January 2008

Venue: Rydges Hotel, Christchurch

Convenor: Dr Enrica Sciarrino (enrica.sciarrino@canterbury.ac.nz)
Department of Classics, The University of Canterbury,
Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand

Further details, call for papers, registration procedure, accommodation etc.
are available on the ASCS website (www.ascs.org.au)

Greek Drama IV Conference, The Victoria University of Wellington

The 'Greek Drama IV' conference took place in the first week of July. A total of 11 countries were represented by the 35 scholars giving papers. Also in attendance was a pleasing number of postgraduate students from New Zealand and Australia. The conference was strongly supported by the Greek Embassy, the opening social function being held at the residence of the Ambassador, and

the Greek Government sponsored a delegate from Athens. To coincide with the conference, a season of Sophocles' *Antigone* was produced in the University's drama studies studio theatre, one of the performances being specially staged for conference delegates and members of the diplomatic corps. Both the conference and the production of the play were supported by grants from ASCS. A fuller account of the conference is given under the entry for the Victoria University of Wellington.

Pac Rim Roman Literature Seminar

The 21st Pacific Rim Roman Literature Seminar was hosted by ANU on 25-28 June and convened by Clare Jamset. The theme of the conference was 'Epic and Anti-epic', and participants were welcome to treat the theme liberally. A small but lively group attended this regular event. The next Pac Rim Seminar is to be held at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, in August next year.

Errata

In the previous Newsletter, No. 20 for April 2007, there were a couple of mistakes. In the report of the New Zealand essay competition it was stated that the second place getter, Melanie Place, came from Massey University; I have now been informed that she was from the University of Auckland. And in the report from the University of Sydney, under the heading 'postgraduate degrees and student awards', the second entry should have read: Natalie Angel (not Nagle), PhD, and her topic should have read: '*Clementia Caesaris*: The Creation and Dissemination of a Reputation'.

Apologies to the two people concerned.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Appointments

We welcome Dr Edward Morgan, recently graduated from Cambridge University, to the Centre for Early Christian Studies. He will be a research associate working on the ARC Discovery Project 'Poverty and Welfare in Late Antiquity'.

New courses

In first semester 2008 on the Brisbane campus, an undergraduate unit in late Roman republican history will be taught for the first time. This is part of a move to increase the history offerings in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Visitors

Dr Mary Cunningham of the University of Nottingham will be visiting the Centre on 24 September for a seminar presentation.

Forthcoming conferences

The Centre for Early Christian Studies will host its fifth international triennial conference *Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church* at its St Patrick's campus in Melbourne from 9-12 January 2008. The theme of the conference is 'Poverty and Riches'. This will incorporate the annual meeting of Western Pacific Rim Patristics Society. Abstracts are due by the end of September. Further information can be found on the website: www.prayerspirit.com.au

Successfully completed postgraduate degrees

Ian Elmer completed a PhD with a dissertation entitled 'Paul, Jerusalem and the Judaisers: The Galatian Crisis in its Broader Historical Context'.

Elizabeth Guntrip completed a MPhil with a dissertation entitled 'A Pentecostal Study of Daniel's Prince of Persia (Dan. 10:13)'.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Staff

The Classics Program was very sorry to lose Dr Ben Kelly as a colleague (based in the History Program at the ANU). Ben has taken up a position at York University, Toronto. We wish him and Angela well on their recent marriage.

Dr Claire Jamset is on maternity leave in second semester. Her baby, Marcus, was born at the end of June.

Dr Sara Saba arrived in April this year, after a long wait for her visa from the Department of Immigration. Unfortunately, Dr Saba will not be staying with us beyond the end of 2007, for personal reasons.

Research activities

Professor Emerita Beryl Rawson visited several universities in Switzerland and Germany in June. She gave lectures at the universities of Basel, Freiburg and Fribourg and had discussions there with staff and students on curricula and on developments in Archaeology and Ancient History in their countries. She also participated in the Fifth International Roman Family Conference, held in Fribourg, which had a particularly European flavour.

Visitors

Visitors so far this year include Professor Margaret Miller and Dr Alastair Blanshard (University of Sydney) for the Friends of the AAIA; and Dr Lea Beness (Macquarie) for the Friends of the Classics Museum. We look forward to a talk on ancient lamps by Dr Kate da Costa in August for the Friends of the Museum; and to the visit of the AAIA Visiting Professor, Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier, who will talk on the kouros of the Sacred Gate (lecture) and the most recent excavations in Bronze Age Miletos/Millawanda (seminar). Dr Julia Kindt (University of Sydney) will give a lecture for the FAAIA in October.

Visiting speakers in the Ancient World Seminar series, so ably convened by Ben Kelly, have included Dr David Pritchard (University of Sydney), Mr Nicholas Purcell (St John's College, Oxford), Dr Marta Kurpisz (University of Wroclaw, Poland) and Dr John Docker (Humanities Research Centre, ANU).

Recent museum acquisitions

The Classics Museum has acquired four new coins this year: a denarius of Julius Caesar; a bronze dupondius of Hadrian; a denarius of Antoninus Pius; and a denarius of Septimius Severus.

Publications

E. Minchin, *Homeric Voices: Discourse, Memory, Gender* (Oxford University Press 2007).

Arising from the excavations directed by Professor Graeme Clarke is Heather Jackson, "Jebel Khalid on the Euphrates. Volume Two. The Terracotta Figurines" = *Mediterranean Archaeology*, Supplementary Volume 6, Sydney 2006, 268pp + 44 b&w plates.

Successfully completed postgraduate degree

Arthur Gidis (MA), 'Gender in the Aegean Late Bronze Age: The Evidence of Iconography, Spatial Structures and Written Sources'.

Forthcoming conferences

Please note the Homer Seminar, 1-2 December 2007, in the Humanities Conference Room, A.D. Hope Building, The Australian National University. The closing date for submission of abstracts is 30

September 2007. Papers addressing the Homeric epics, Homer and the epic tradition, Homer and reception are all welcome. Enquiries should be addressed to Elizabeth Minchin. For further details see the Classics Program website: http://arts.anu.edu.au/languages/classics/classics_homepage.asp.

Teaching award

Dr Elizabeth Minchin was amongst those listed in the 2007 Carrick Australian Awards for University Teaching announced recently, for her contribution to teaching of beginners students in Ancient Greek and Latin.

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Appointments

The Department of Ancient History at Macquarie welcomes the following new staff:

Associate Professor Paul McKechnie, specialist in Roman and Greek history, language and literature.

Dr Ken Parry, Senior Lecturer, specialist in Byzantine history and Eastern Christianity.

Dr Trevor Evans, Lecturer, specialist in Greek, Latin, papyrology, and the language of the Septuagint.

We also take pleasure in the appointment of Dr Malcolm Choat to the position of Lecturer. Malcolm is a specialist in Coptic, monasticism, and papyrology.

New courses for 2008

MA in Ancient Art and Architecture, available from Second Semester 2008.

MA unit called City of Constantine, available from First Semester 2008.

Postgraduate Certificates in Ancient History and Coptic Studies, available from First Semester 2008.

Visitors

On May 7, Associate Professor John Melville Jones (Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Western Australia), Senior Research Fellow at ACANS, delivered the 2007 Gale Lecture in Ancient Numismatics: 'Making Money out of Making Money: How the Ancient Greeks did it'.

The international guest speaker for the Australian Centre for Egyptology's annual conference (August 4) was Michael Schultz, Professor of Anatomy and Anthropology at Göttingen University, Germany. He is a world leader in the study of ancient human remains. Mrs Jana Jones and Dr Christiana Köhler also spoke. Mrs Jones, of Macquarie University, is one of the world's leading experts in Egyptian fabrics. She has worked with both Professor Schultz and Dr Köhler, as well as at many other sites, studying such matters as burial wrapping. Dr Köhler spoke on the burial practices that led to ancient human remains surviving to this day, emphasising the universal nature of burial ceremonial and showing the development of such practices during the early periods of Egyptian civilization. During his visit Professor Schultz also gave a talk on his work with the Scythian Ice Mummy from the 3rd century BC in the Altan Mountains in Mongolia.

On August 13, the 2007 visiting professor from the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens, Wolf Niemeier (Director of the German Archaeological Institute in Athens, and formerly Professor in the University of Heidelberg) delivered the lecture 'The most recent excavations in Bronze Age Miletos/Millawanda and the history of western Asia Minor in the Late Bronze Age'.

In coming weeks, Macquarie welcomes a number of important visitors. Professor Paul Erdkamp (Nijmegen), who has published widely on the food supply of ancient Rome and the logistics of the Roman army supply, will address 'Food Riots and the Moral Economy of the Ancient Crowd'. Professor David Konstan (Brown University, Rhode Island) will speak to the question 'Do Animals

have Emotions? The View from Ancient Greece'. Professor Sophie Mills (University of North Carolina at Asheville) will look at the issue of 'Athenian imperialism and some contemporary analogues'. Dr Haim Gilter (Curator of Numismatics at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem) will offer two papers: 'A periplus to Ascalon in the late Hellenistic period' and 'Fake and fantasy: Jewish coins in Europe of the 15th-20th centuries'.

Publications

Malcolm Choat, *Belief and Cult in fourth-century Papyri* (Brepols Turnhout 2006).

Ken Parry, ed., *The Blackwell Companion to Eastern Christianity* (Blackwell Oxford 2007).

Forthcoming conferences

The Ancient History Postgraduate conference (August 31) will see 20 HDR candidates present work in progress to staff, fellow students and interested others.

The Ancient History Research Seminar, begun in First Semester under the firm hand of Trevor Evans, continues its substantial representation of on-going work across the spectrum of ancient world studies, with a regular Friday presentation (4.00 p.m. Room X5B, Museum of Ancient Cultures).

MONASH UNIVERSITY

The Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History

The Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History continues to flourish with an undergraduate enrolment of just under 500, six honours students and 18 postgraduates, two of whom completed successfully in first semester. In January 2007, Geoff Adams was appointed on a two-year contract. Geoff is teaching a new unit, 'Alexander the Great and his World', and will offer a unit on Roman Archaeology in 2008.

Excavations at ancient Kellis, Dakhleh Oasis, under the direction of Colin Hope, were conducted during January and February. Work continued on one of the elite Roman period residences, architectural features of which resemble those of Roman houses around the Mediterranean and which is decorated throughout with elaborate wall-painting in Roman tradition; stucco decoration occurs and this material was also used of classical-style sculptures. Amongst the wall-paintings were representations of Isis and Serapis Helios. Work also continued on the columbarium, attached to the residence. A small colonnaded shrine built in classical tradition, was also excavated. It contained a circular, baked-brick basin, fed by water from two channels; its function is not known but was presumably for ritual use. Eleven of our postgraduate students are now involved in research in Dakhleh Oasis.

In November this year, Colin Hope and Gillian Bowen will be guest lecturers on a tour of Egypt and the Western Desert, arranged through Australians Studying Abroad, and in early February, following the field season, they will deliver papers at a seminar in Cairo organized by the Australian Ambassador to celebrate 25 years of work in Egypt by Australians.

Gillian Bowen

The Programme of Classical Studies

The Programme of Classical Studies is developing at a progressive and positive pace. It currently numbers 316 students and 4 Honours students. The Honours programme introduced only this year has been particularly successful with more enrolments lined-up for next year when we shall also welcome our first MA students.

In January 2007 Dr Giulia Torello was appointed to a fixed-term contract to cover the maternity leave of Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides in the first semester and Jane Griffiths' OSP in the second semester.

In March 2007 we were happy to host Dr David Pritchard who spoke on 'War Minus the Shooting: Sport and Democracy in Classical Athens'. Several Melbourne postgraduates also presented at Monash in our Honours Research Seminar. Earlier in March EAL visited the University of Sydney and presented in their research seminar a paper, co-authored with Professor David Konstan, on 'Daphnis and Aphrodite'. The paper will appear in *AJPh* 129.4 (2008). Another article of EAL on 'The Trojan Exodus: The Initiation of a Nation' appeared in the refereed section of the journal *Iris* for 2006. An article on *Ancient Theatre and Modern Dilemmas* appeared in Greek in the journal *Athena* of the Hellenic Society for Ancient Studies (April 2007) and is due to appear in English in their subsequent issue. More publications are being prepared, including a book on *Ancient Messages from the Dead*. JG published an article on 'The Experiential Turn: Shifting Methodologies in the Study of Greek Drama' in *New Voices* 2 (2007) 73-90, and 'Remembering Derry' in *Didaskalia* 7, a volume co-edited with Paul Monaghan as the result of the 'Close Relations' Conference. GT is also expected to contribute an article in this volume. Another article by GT on the 'Resurrection of Aristeides, Miltiades, Solon and Perikles in Eupolis' "Demes" is due to appear in *Antichthon*. All three members of staff attended and presented papers in the Greek Drama IV conference at the Victoria University of Wellington (July 2007).

Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

Overhaul of BA in Arts

All disciplines in the Faculty of Humanities have been asked to revise the BA curriculum and adjust unit value (from 4 to 3) in order to attract more students from other Faculties. For Classics this process has entailed over the past 6 months streamlining the major into a program in which 5 courses become prerequisites before taking a compulsory advanced seminar (so-called 'capstone'). From 2009 Classics will introduce two 'capstone' courses on a trial basis: 'The Medium and the Message in Classical Literature' (analysis of important texts not covered elsewhere in the BA), and 'Unpeeling the Past: Ancient History and Archaeology'. A new literature course is in preparation entitled 'Poetry and the Passions' (Dr J. Clarke). Some existing courses have been modified and renamed, e.g. 'Hippocrates to Harvey: Ancient Medicine and its Legacy' (Dr H. Baltussen), 'Archaeology of Rome', and 'Archaeology of the Roman Provinces' (Dr M. O'Hea).

Specials events and visitors

On Thursday 30 August Professor Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier (Director, German Archaeological Institute at Athens) and AAIA Visiting Professor for 2007 gave a public lecture entitled 'The Kouros of the Sacred Gate: New finds of archaic marble sculptures in the Kerameikos of Athens'.

On Thursday 11 October Dr Han Baltussen will be giving this year's Galatis public lecture on the topic 'Hippocratic Oaths: from Kos to Glasgow?'. This event, formerly known as the *Annual Galatis Lecture in Byzantine Culture* has been renamed *Constantinos Moraïtis Annual Hellenic Lecture* in order to broaden the scope to Greek cultural and intellectual history. It is the tenth Galatis lecture in this privately funded series.

On Friday 26 October Dr Margaret O'Hea will give a public lecture on her researches into Nabatean glass: 'Reflections of Change in Nabataea. Recent Discoveries of Glass from Roman Petra, the Byzantine Monastery of S. Lot and Islamic Aila'.

On Friday 23 November Professor Peter Pfalzner (Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Tübingen) will give a public lecture entitled 'The Royal Tombs of Qatna', an overview of the breath-taking evidence of the wealth of the small kingdom in Western Syria, and its interactions with surrounding kingdoms.

Publication

The World of Ion of Chios (Leiden, *Mnemosyne* Supplement 288, 450 pp.) edited by Dr Victoria Jennings (PhD Cambridge) and Dr Andrea Katsaros (PhD Adelaide), Visiting Research Fellows at the University of Adelaide. This new collection of papers contains sixteen contributions on the life, works and reception of Ion of Chios (490/80-420s BC), the prolific Greek writer famed in antiquity for his *polyeideia*. His extraordinary range of writings in prose and poetry across multiple genres include tragedy, elegy, history, biography, mythography and philosophy. Contributors: Han Baltussen, Alastair Blanshard, Michael Clarke, Pat Easterling, Richard Fletcher, Anne Geddes, Nikos K. Haviaras, John Henderson, Victoria Jennings, Andrea Katsaros, Judith Maitland, Guy Olding, Christopher Pelling, Timothy Power and Alexander Stevens.

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND**Staff**

The Department is currently appointing a replacement for Dr Paul McKechnie, who has moved to Macquarie University.

New courses

Professor Tony Spalinger is co-teaching a new course on the archaeology and history of Palestine with staff of the Department of Anthropology.

Museum

The Department's collection of antiquities has been enhanced by the gift of an ancient Roman ink well (c. 1st cent.) by Pauline Warrington. A photograph of it is available on the Department's website.

Publications

Vivienne Gray's commentary on Xenophon, *On Government*, in the CUP Green and Yellow series, has recently been published. Similarly Dr Jennifer Hellum's book, *The Pyramids* (Greenwood Publishing Group).

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY**Proposal for a new BA Honours course**

We are happy to announce that our proposal for a BA Honours in Classical Studies is successfully going through the approval process. Assoc. Prof. Robin Bond has been contacting numerous distinguished overseas scholars concerning it: great support has been expressed and constructive suggestions have been made by Professor Denis Feeney (Princeton), Professor Jeff Tatum (Sydney), Professor Pat Easterling (Cambridge) and Professor Barbara Gold (Hamilton College).

New course

Dr Patrick O'Sullivan is taking a new Honours course on ancient Greek aesthetics, entitled 'Concepts of Art and Literature from Homer to Aristotle'.

Visitors and seminars

The local Classical Association has been hosting a number of speakers. On April 30, Dr Clemency Williams (Mathematics, University of Canterbury) spoke about 'Euclid's Elements: Pedagogy, Pictures, and Proof'. On May 30, Professor Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy (Linguistics, University of

Canterbury) presented a paper with the title 'Virgil's anti-Augustan message: Nisus and Euryalus in the *Aeneid*'. Other Classical Association speakers have included: Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard (Melbourne) on 'Sex, Power and Promotion in Suetonius' *Lives of the Caesars*' (June 28), and Professor Seth Schein (University of California, Davis) on "'Our Debt to Greece and Rome": Canon, Class and Ideology' (July 12).

As for our Research Seminars, we had the pleasure of listening to Tom Stevenson (University of Queensland) who spoke on 'Imaginations of Ancient Rome in 19th-century Historical Novels' in April. K.O. Chong-Gossard spoke on 'Consolation in Greek Tragedy', and Seth Schein also gave a research seminar on 'The Opening of *Iliad* 24 and the Transformation of Achilles'. In late August we had Anna Milne and John Arnold presenting their Honours research projects.

Research fellowship

Professor Graham Zanker will be on leave until next February. He has been awarded a Visiting Fellowship to Christ Church, Oxford, under the Oxford/Canterbury scheme for the period June till mid September. He will be conducting a study of the temple of Asklepios on the Greek island of Kos in late September. He then moves to the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, where he has been awarded a Visitorship for the period October till December. He aims, among other projects, to complete a commentary on the 3rd century BC literary mime writer Herodas.

Students successes

Good news on the student front as well. Linda Whybrew and Roslyne Bell have successfully completed their doctorates. Roslyne's dissertation, 'Power and Piety: Augustan Imagery and the Cult of the Magna Mater', has also been placed on the Dean's List.

Outreach activities

This year we are offering once again a series of events for high school students. On June 14 we had the Classics Quiz, organised by Dr Griffith; the winner was Christchurch Girls' High School. On August 30 we will have Classics Day. The day has been organised by Dr Sciarrino, and we expect the participation of about 500 Classical Studies students. The topics of the lectures offered range through Alexander the Great, Socrates, Aristophanes, Roman Art, Virgil's Dido, Roman Women and Greek Vases. We will also offer two workshops: one on the sarissa and another on 'how to date pots'. As an innovation this year, the students of the newly founded CLASSOC (Canterbury Students Classical Society) will provide sausages and entertainments during the lunch break.

Upcoming conferences

We will be hosting the 29th Conference of the Australasian Society for Classical Studies from 27-31 January 2008. For registration forms and information relating to the conference venue, accommodation and the like, please visit the conference website at <http://www.clas.canterbury.ac.nz/ascs/ascs.shtml>. Abstracts of 100 words should be sent as a Word attachment to Dr Enrica Sciarrino (enrica.sciarrino@canterbury.ac.nz), including 'ASCS 29' in the subject line. The final date for the electronic submission of abstracts is Wednesday 31 October 2007.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Major donation

Big news: our Classics and Archaeology library has received a major donation from an anonymous donor. \$1 million over the next three years has been pledged to build our Centre's collection of Classics books and periodicals into a front-rank Classics library. \$200,000 has already been received, with which we have begun a significant acquisition program of Loeb's, Oxford Classical Texts, Teubners, lexicons and dictionaries, as well as several dozen monographs on topics such as Greek and

Roman literature, ancient theatre, ancient law, philosophy, archaeology and papyrology. The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, is a graduate of the University who holds a high regard for Melbourne's standards and staff dedication and has a great passion for Classics. Inspired by the gift, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Glyn Davis, has commissioned architects to explore if the expanding Classics Library collection could be housed in the Old Law Library, at the historic centre of the University's Old Quadrangle.

Obituary

Eric Osborn, who was a Professorial Fellow in Classics and Archaeology, died on 11 May 2007. His funeral was held at the Wesleyan Church in Lonsdale Street. Eric, who was 84, was probably Australia's foremost scholar of the philosophy and history of early Christianity, especially the second century on which he wrote some seven monographs (six of them published by Cambridge). He had been a Fellow of the Australian Humanities Academy since the 1970s and had a very considerable reputation in Europe, especially the UK and Germany where scholars have sometimes assumed that there was an Australian Centre for Patristic Studies at Point Lonsdale, his beach house where he did much of his writing.

Staff

We have a new staff member in Ancient History, Dr Frederik Vervaet, who fills the position that Ron Ridley left vacant when he retired. Frederik received his PhD from Ghent University as a Research Fellow of the Research Foundation-Flanders. After graduation he moved to the University of California at Berkeley where he spent the academic years 2002-2004 as Francqui Fellow of the Belgian American Educational Foundation and Lecturer in the Departments of Classics (Fall 2003) and History (Spring 2004). This was followed by a three-year stint as Assistant Professor back at Ghent University, including a term at Oxford as Visiting Scholar at Wolfson College and Research Associate of the Classics Centre. He joined Melbourne's promising new interdisciplinary School of Historical Studies in June 2007. Frederik's research seeks to solve questions concerning the social, political and institutional history of the Roman Republic and the Early Empire and Roman public law in general. As the Republic's political and religious institutions were inextricably intertwined, he also takes a keen interest in Rome's religious life and its distinct priestly colleges of which the manipulative augural college is his personal favourite.

Congratulations to Gocha Tsetsckhladze who has been invited to hold visiting professorships in the Institute of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Russian State University of the Humanities in Moscow, and in the Department of Ancient World History and Cultures, Tbilisi State University in Georgia. Gocha will be teaching intensive courses in Mediterranean and Anatolian archaeology for graduates and undergraduates.

Congratulations to Assoc. Prof. Chris Mackie, Director of our Centre, for his appointment to the position of Associate Dean (Development) in Melbourne's Faculty of Arts.

Dr Heather Jackson, Australian Postdoctoral Fellow, has been elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (London) for her contributions to the archaeology of Syria. Heather has been involved for over a decade in the excavations at Jebel Khalid, a large site of the Hellenistic period situated in the Middle Euphrates region.

Conferences

The Centre for Classics and Archaeology will be hosting two conferences in 2008, for which are we rapidly making plans. An international conference entitled 'Private and Public Profiling: the Discourse of Despotism and Deceit in the Ancient World' is scheduled for 7-10 July 2008, on the University of Melbourne campus; conveners are Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard and Dr Andrew Turner (in connection with their ARC funded project) and Dr Frederik Vervaet.

Also, the 12th International Conference of Aegean Prehistory (on the theme of 'feasting') will take place 25-29 March 2008 on the University of Melbourne campus; it is being organised by Dr Louise

Hitchcock, in co-operation with the Service d'Histoire de l'Art et Archéologie de la Grèce Antique, University of Liège, Belgium, and with the Australian Archaeological Institute in Athens (AAIA).

The Centre for Classics and Archaeology is also co-sponsoring an international conference, 'Paphlagonia and Pontus in Antiquity and the Early Byzantine Period (7th c. BC - 7th c. AD)' which will take place in at the Dokuz Eylül University in Izmir, Turkey, 31 May-4 June 2008. The call for papers can be accessed online at <http://www.cca.unimelb.edu.au/community/Events/conference-paphlagonia.html>

Publication

Congratulations to Chris Mackie, whose book *Super/Heroes* (co-edited with Wendy Haslem and Angela Ndaliansis) is now in print, published by New Academia Press. It contains a chapter by Chris on 'Men of Darkness', comparing Homeric heroes with modern superheroes like Batman and Superman.

Visitors

International scholars who recently graced our Centre with public lectures and research seminars include: in August, Assoc. Prof. Lynne Lancaster of Ohio University, well-known specialist in Roman architecture (her visit was co-sponsored by the P.W. Tewkesbury Bequest to Melbourne's Faculty of Engineering); Donald Preziosi, Professor Emeritus in Art History at UCLA; in September, the AAIA Visiting Professor, Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier (Director of the German Archaeological Institute at Athens); and Haim Gitler, Curator of Numismatics, Israel Museum, Jerusalem.

Postgraduate students

The following Classics and Archaeology postgraduates were invited to present papers at key international conferences: Sarah Midford, 'Representing Conquered Civilisations in the Military Triumph', 27th International Conference of The Classical Association of South Africa, 2-5 July 2007, Golden Jubilee Conference: 'Aspects of Empire'. Katsuji Kobayashi, 'A survey of obsidian sources in the provinces of Erzurum, Erzincan and Van, 2006', 29th International Symposium of Archaeological Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry, Istanbul, Turkey, 28 May-1 June 2007. Jessie Birkett-Rees, 'A footprint in the wilderness: archaeological landscapes of Central Caucasia', Landscape Archaeology in the Near East and the Eastern Mediterranean: An International Symposium, Lyon, France, 18-19 June 2007.

Undergraduate students

The annual Alexander Leeper Prize (in conjunction with the Classical Association of Victoria) will be awarded on 11 October to the highest-achieving undergraduate honours students from 2006 in Classics (a course which requires the study of Latin and/or Ancient Greek). The recipient of the prize is Helen Slaney, who studied both Ancient Greek and Latin during her Honours study, and wrote a thesis entitled 'Tyrannies of Discourse: Power and poetic reception in Ovid's *Tristia*'. She is currently enrolled in an MA course, researching Valerius Flaccus' *Argonautica*.

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Staff

Professor William Dominik has now returned from study leave and has been appointed Head of Department until December 2009. Professor Robert Hannah and Dr Pat Wheatley are currently on study leave until December 2007.

New courses

Dr Jon Hall has introduced a new Classical Studies course at the 3rd and 4th year level entitled 'Cicero

and Roman Oratory’.

Visitors

In July, Professor Seth Schein presented a paper to the Classical Association of Otago entitled ‘Our Debt to Greece and Rome: Canon, Class and Ideology’, and a paper to the Classics Colloquium entitled ‘The Transformation of Achilles’.

Publications

Recent publications within the department include the collection of papers entitled *Alexander’s Empire: Formulation to Decay*, edited by Waldemar Heckel, Pat Wheatley, and Lawrence A. Tritle (Claremont CA Regina Books 2007), ISBN 1930053452.

Successfully completed postgraduate degree

In August 2007 Gordon Turner was awarded a PhD degree for his thesis ‘Image and Imagination: Perspectives on Athenian Naval Influence in the Fifth Century BC’.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Staff

John Whitehorne will be taking long service leave from 31 August to 3 November, leaving us with three full-time staff and some casual teaching assistance.

New courses

As a direct result of the restructure of the BA in 2006, new introductory courses in Greek and Roman History have been devised and taught for the first time in 2007.

Visitors

UQ has attracted a number of prominent visitors this year, including (in first semester) Dr Alastair Blanshard (Sydney) and Professor Naguib Kanawati (Macquarie). During second semester we will be hosting Professor Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier (Director of the German Archaeological Institute at Athens/AAIA Visiting Professor), Professor John Davidson (VUW), Dr Gillian Shepherd (Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham / Universitas 21 Fellow), Dr Haim Gitler (Numismatist from the Israel Museum), Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard (Melbourne), and Dr David Pritchard (Sydney).

Forthcoming conference

A Conference on ‘The Statue of Zeus at Olympia’ will be held at UQ from 3-4 July 2008. Expressions of interest may be directed to t.stevenson@uq.edu.au

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Staff

Babette Pütz is currently on parental leave and will be on research and study leave in the first half of 2008.

David Rosenbloom is attending conferences and giving lectures in England, Scotland and The Netherlands in September.

Conference

The 'Greek Drama IV' conference took place in the first week of July. A total of 11 countries were represented by the 35 presenters who delivered papers covering topics as diverse as Menandrian metre and modern theatre production. Among the other participants was a pleasing number of postgraduate student delegates from New Zealand and Australia. The conference was strongly supported by the Greek Embassy, the opening social function being held at the residence of the Ambassador, and the Greek Government sponsored a delegate from Athens. Arrangements are now under way for the production of a volume of selected papers.

Production of Antigone

To coincide with the conference, a season of Sophocles' *Antigone* was produced in the University's drama studies studio theatre, one of the performances being specially staged for conference delegates and members of the diplomatic corps. The director was well-known Wellington designer and director, Tolis Papazoglou.

Visitors

One of the 'Greek Drama IV' conference delegates, Professor Douglas Olson from the University of Minnesota, gave a special lecture entitled 'Some things we DON'T know about Greek Comedy'.

Other visitors to the Classics Programme have included, in June, Elena Korka, Head of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Athens, who gave a lecture on 'The Place of the Parthenon Marbles in Greek Archaeology Today', and Catherine Trundle from the University of Cambridge who spoke on 'The Grand Tour of Italy from the 17th-19th Century'.

Postgraduate completions

Recent MA completions have been Nathan Crocker, 'Ethical Issues on the Conservation of Antiquities', and Greta Hawes, 'The Myth of Actaeon in Greek, Latin and Medieval Italian Literature'. Greta has won a William Georgetti Scholarship and will be commencing study towards a PhD in myth and allegory later this year at the University of Bristol from which she has also received full scholarship support.