



The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following is an edited text of the Presidential Address given by Professor Davidson at the ASCS Conference in Perth in February.

I've just completed my first year as President, and I think it's fair to say that this has been a particularly busy one for the Society, not that I can claim to have been especially busy myself in this regard. When I was approached just over a year ago to consider standing as President, I was hesitant, because I could see that some of the most pressing issues for the Society could well be Australian-specific and I thought that the Australian interests of the Society might not be well served if they were represented by a Kiwi, in the case of a submission to Government, for example, or to a Vice-Chancellor. I also realised that it would in any case be difficult for me to get across the Tasman very often, so that from the Australian perspective there would be an absentee landlord, so to speak. I still feel that this is something of a problem, though quality submissions to the powers that be in Australia have been well made by the very Australian 'Bruce the Secretary,' to whom I'm extremely grateful. More about that shortly...

As far as actual visits to Australia are concerned, I haven't even achieved my modest goal of two or three. In fact, I've only made one visit, which was to the highly successful postgraduate Amphora conference in Melbourne in October last year, and I'd like to pay tribute to the organisers of that conference and to the excellent quality of the papers delivered. If that, and indeed this present conference, is anything to go by, Australasian Classics has a wonderful young talent pool.

Anyway, that has been my only visit, and I must compare myself most unfavourably in this regard with my predecessor John Penwill who was most active in visiting as many universities as he possibly could, in New Zealand as well as Australia. Indeed, I could describe John as the peripatetic president, whereas I have to settle for being the periodic president.

I've said that the past year has been especially busy, but all I've really been able to do is sit in my office in Wellington and watch the sagas unfolding via email, offering advice and support from time to

time and taking part in email discussions and the occasional email voting, but at the same time always feeling confident that the business of the Society was being conducted diligently and fairly.

A major item on the business agenda after last year's AGM in Sydney was the question of the electronic storage of *Antichthon*. A sub-committee was set to work on this, and I naively supposed that everything could be wrapped up in a couple of months or so. In fact, the more the matter was investigated the more complex it became, so that it was in fact many months before a final agreement and resolution was reached. I'd like to thank the members of the sub-committee and other co-opted members of the Society for all the hard work they put into finally achieve what is, I believe, the best possible outcome. The whole process was, of course, co-ordinated by 'Bruce the Secretary.' Again, more about that shortly...

Another difficult and extremely time-consuming issue was the ongoing problem over the ARC ERA journal ranking exercise. Here again, a number of the Society's members made significant contributions. This was certainly an Australian issue but it does, of course, have implications for New Zealand. This is because New Zealand doesn't have such a journal ranking list and so the Australian one is increasingly being used in a range of situations, including academic promotion applications, and I have no doubt that it will be an important factor in assessing the evidence portfolios in the 2012 Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) exercise.

It has been suggested to me that I might share a few thoughts on how PBRF has changed attitudes and practices in New Zealand academic circles and thus how ERA may have an impact on Australian departments if it gets off the ground. In New Zealand, the 2012 PBRF exercise will be the third of its kind, the first having taken place in 2003 and the second, a so-called partial round, in 2006. It has certainly given a fillip to research in New Zealand universities, including research in Classics and Ancient History, but for the wrong reasons. Publication by a certain cut-off date becomes all-important, the concept of publication after a considered maturation period having become obsolete. The universities are in fierce competition too, since the research component of government funding is dished out according to their standings as a result of the exercise.

Each academic presents a portfolio to be graded (A, B, C, or R – which bizarrely means 'research inactive'), as a result of which each department or discipline group gets an overall grading which is then compared with that of the equivalent department or discipline group in the other tertiary institutions. The portfolios have three components, the first being research outputs (worth 70% of the whole), the second being Peer Esteem (I think that the suggested term in Australia is 'esteem indicators') (worth 15%), the third being contribution to the research environment (worth 15%).

So the race is on, by fair means or foul, to play the system and come up with the best possible grading for individuals, discipline groups and universities as a whole. The result is that academics are increasingly compelled to think in PBRF terms. The first question when anyone has a research project is how valuable is it might be in PBRF terms, or even if it's PBRF-able at all! And all the usual games are played. Thus universities hire top performers on short contracts, which means they'll be in their employment on the census date. At the other end of the scale, all sorts of tricks are used to render poor researchers non-PBRF-able by putting them on teaching-only contracts, etc. The peer esteem game is played too as academics do deals with academics in other countries to cite each other's work as much as possible because favourable citations earn peer esteem points. All sorts of new research committees are set up and mini-conferences organised so that as many academics as possible can score contribution to the research environment points in that way. And so on and so on. Vice-Chancellors, assistant Vice-Chancellors, Deans and Heads of School are forced to become obsessed with the monster, and for good reason, because funding and reputation are at stake.

Of particular concern to Classicists is the question of journal ranking, because, depending on which journal you publish in, you score more or fewer Brownie points. And, as we all know, it sometimes takes several years to get published in a top journal, even if you get an article accepted, and if it's going to come out after the cut-off date you get no credit at all for it. So do you opt for a lower ranked journal which might publish your article in time but which won't get you so much credit? This is where the ranking list for journals may have a significant impact in the way Australian academics

think strategically about where to publish. It will also impact on New Zealand academics, because as I've said, you can be sure that this will be the yardstick used in 2012, no matter if the ranking for Classics journals has mistakes, as it may well end up having, despite the strenuous efforts of members of this Society to get it right. But when I say 'get it right,' what *is* right? Fierce arguments rage among Classicists themselves as to the quality of some journals vis-à-vis others. The particular Classics representative (if there *is* one) who happens to be on the national judging panel for your discipline group might have a different rating opinion for journals from yours and might have the influence to override a ranking list anyway.

In general, PBRF in New Zealand has made academics look over their shoulders at academics in their disciplines at other universities. A climate of suspicion has developed; a climate that is tending to see research as a pragmatic and calculated exercise rather than springing from the delight in a subject and the inquisitiveness about it. Of course, there's always been an element of pragmatism, since personal promotion has always been very dependent on research success. But PBRF has added another element to this, which is to be regretted, even if it *has* had the effect of forcing some of our more unmotivated brethren to get off their backsides.

The past year has been quite a year in the history of *Antichthon*, with two issues published, a remarkable achievement: my thanks to the editors, Elizabeth Minchin and Peter Davis, and also to Bruce for his excellent typesetting and related work, as well as to business manager Ian Plant. An extraordinary amount of work goes into producing and distributing *Antichthon*, and the Society is extremely well served by the people responsible for this. We now have a consistently high-quality product.

I've stressed the amount of work done by dedicated members of the Society, and at this point I have to sound a sober note. The past year has placed an enormous burden on Bruce in particular and he's been making a few strangulated noises about it. If the last year has been one of cultivation and harvest, Bruce is hinting that the coming year will be a fallow one. Of course, Bruce will be able to handle this with aplomb because, as we all know very well, Bruce is a 'jolly good fallow.' But, joking aside, have we reached a point where we need to seriously reconsider the way we run things, especially as membership keeps growing, which adds to the workload of the Treasurer as well, who makes a trip to the bank on Society business at least once a week throughout the year? It's been suggested in some quarters that we should be looking at ways of spreading the burden and/or establishing a 'secretariat' in some form and/or contracting out much more of the day-to-day work currently undertaken by the honorary secretary. And, in the light of the motion passed at the AGM yesterday, I've undertaken the first step by investigating the possibility of office space being available at one of the universities as a sort of physical ASCS base. The role of the various University reps on the Executive should also perhaps be reconsidered. I think myself that this is something for the incoming Executive to consider as a matter of urgency. Of course, aspects of the load *have* been shared out, one example being the work of John Penwill and Marguerite Johnson in taking over some of the work associated with the Society's Newsletter. And there have been developments such as KO Chong-Gossard's initiative in developing OPA! But these developments have been rather *ad hoc*. So perhaps it's time for a more carefully considered and co-ordinated strategy. In particular we have to decide what work gets paid for and what work remains on a voluntary basis, and what principles we use to arrange this. A further matter too which definitely needs addressing is the question of the incorporation of the Society, an issue which was to have been finalised in the past year, but which, for very good reasons, has had to be deferred. This is another complicated task, but we hope to surmount the various obstacles in the coming year.

But now a word about the state of Classics and Ancient History in Australia and New Zealand: to take New Zealand first, I think that I can speak with some optimism. As far as I know, the four universities with sizeable Classics programmes or departments are all in good shape and good heart. I retired as Professor of Classics at Victoria University of Wellington last July, and have been replaced with a professorial appointment, Jeff Tatum from Sydney, the number of full-time academics remaining at eight. Auckland had a positive review recently and has similar staff numbers, as do Canterbury and Otago. As far as I know too, the smaller programme at Massey is maintaining its position – and it's

especially pleasing to see a Massey winner this year for the newly named ASCS New Zealand Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby.

The situation is perhaps more variable in Australia, with some programmes/departments struggling a bit. The major event in the past year, I would say, has been the opening of the Classics Centre at Sydney, which must surely provide a major boost for our subject in the Antipodes. By all accounts, the opening was a truly grand occasion.

Another interesting development has been the establishment of the position of Director of Greek Studies at La Trobe. The appointment to this position of Chris Mackie from Melbourne may perhaps go some way to reviving the fortunes of Classics at La Trobe which have been on a worrying downward slide over the past three years. At the same time, there seem to have been verbal assurances at least that both Chris and Frank Sear will be replaced, though when this is to happen might be more problematic. And I understand that Philosophy may possibly be joining the School or Discipline Group to which Classics presently belongs.

It's also pleasing to note that the University of New South Wales had its first postgraduates in Ancient History last year, which is good news indeed, given that there was no Ancient History at all in that university before 2003.

From the University of Queensland it's reported that there *is* a replacement for John Whitehorne who retires in April this year, so we can be thankful for that, even if all is not so rosy in the garden there with regard to funding for Classics and Ancient History, and the apparent attitude towards the subject from administrators, and the news is not the most encouraging from Adelaide either, with the languages now in a parlous position. Meanwhile, the report from the University of Tasmania is more positive, with the new staff, all three of them, having settled in well, and with student numbers significantly on the rise.

But only having three staff makes it very difficult to run a full Classics and Ancient History programme. And this is a problem facing too many of the Australian departments or programmes, which have been slowly eroded in recent years, so that they only have three or four full-time staff, which places them in an extremely unfavourable position even in relation to the four large NZ university programmes. A while back myth courses were seen as a way of attracting student numbers to subsidise other parts of the subject and allow it to grow. Is it the case that Reception Studies will become a similar life saver? Time will tell. In any case, all of us must be vigilant about possible new avenues to take our subject down to maintain or even develop it. This is where I need to sound another warning to Australian colleagues. Another effect of the PBRF regime in New Zealand is that the focus is being increasingly placed on research at the expense of teaching and learning. And this is inevitable, because more and more pressure is being put on academics to publish PBRF-able research outputs. The result is that more and more academics are jostling to get teaching buy-out grants or at least reduce the amount of time they have to dedicate to teaching. If this trend continues, students will basically be marginalised, and if we don't nurture our students we have no future. There could also be a further threat to the viability of Latin and Greek since language teaching involves much time which academics may simply not be able to give, even if they're allowed to at all.

As I look back over the last year, I find much to be thankful for. There has been some outstanding research and scholarship by many of our members. And here I should note encouraging success for a number of academics in our discipline for ARC 2010 Discovery Grants, involving the Australian Catholic University, Macquarie University, the Australian National University, The University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney. I also note the number of conferences that are being held across a range of subject areas, usually involving input from beyond Australasia. Then there have been two splendid issues of our journal. There's also wonderful postgraduate talent, in one small way now recognised formally by the Society through the new OPA! Award. And there's tireless work by 'Bruce the Secretary,' William the Treasurer, Elizabeth and Peter the Editors, and Ian the Business Manager, not to mention Vice-Presidents Ron and Pat and all the members of the sub-committees and those others who willingly offered their time and expertise in a variety of causes. Then too, we are all in the debt of Lara O'Sullivan and her team for organising this conference so well and making us all feel so

welcome, and we have so much enjoyed and benefitted from the presence here of our keynote speaker Kurt Raaflaub, and Deborah Boedeker. And we are also most grateful to the University of Auckland for hosting next year's conference. I believe that the system of annual conferences instituted some years ago has been a signal success and should continue.

I sense that the Society is in good health and heart and that we can look forward to the year ahead with confidence, while recognising that even roses in the garden have thorns and that academic life as Classicists and Ancient Historians will not be so easy for some as for others. Government decisions at both national and state levels and decisions in individual universities always have the potential to cripple vital limbs of our body, and we must always be on our guard and stand shoulder to shoulder, putting aside petty jealousies and rivalries as we seek to maintain, defend and promote our wonderful cause in this part of the world.

John Davidson
President, ASCS

FROM THE SECRETARY

The following is the text of the Secretary's Report delivered by Dr Marshall at the General Meeting of the Society held on 4 February 2010.

It has been an extremely busy year for the Society. Membership continues to grow steadily, up from 440 last year to 470 this year, though not all those are financial, as usual. Particularly pleasing this year are: [1] the much lower number of recidivists – I will only need to chase up with one of my usual sweetly-worded reminders, about 50 un-financial members, and [2] the brilliant response to my request to members to pay their 2010 subscription in advance (in view of the appearance of the Guinness Book of Records Vol 44 for 2010 *prior suo anno*). 330 have paid up already, leaving just 130 to be sent subscription renewal forms next week. I'm not sure that the Treasurer is quite so pleased, since he has had to process two lots of subscription renewals in the last four or five months. He has, however, done a sterling job in keeping up with this increase in his workload, and he might be pleased to be counting out the money in his counting house.

While the membership stands now at 470, I put together the other day some interesting statistics. When I began the second period of my secretaryship in 2003, there were 200 names on the membership list, but only about 100 of them were financial. We have now more than quadrupled our financial membership in five years. But wait, there's more! In that same five-year period there has been a loss of 142 members: ten through death or illness, the rest through resignation or removal. That means that 610 classicists and ancient historians have been on our membership list between 2003 and 2009. That is a great figure when you think about it.

ASCS 30 in Sydney was a great success, thanks to the hard work of Pat and Lindsay Watson and their team of helpers. Over 170 in attendance and 120+ papers! The conference resulted in a surplus that is now being used to supplement the budgeted amount for student conference travel subsidies, particularly for this year and next year when long distances to attend are involved.

Mention was made in my last Report of the ARC's ERA journals ranking exercise and the considerable amount of effort it took on the part of a number of ASCS members to finalise a submission in a short time-frame. The work continues: a trial list for HCA (= Humanities and Creative Arts) appeared in May 2009. A rapid check, again by some hard-working members, revealed (unbelievably) that two high-ranking journals had gone missing, and many others had had their ranks changed without warning. So another submission was required – and this time the politicians were informed of our dissatisfaction, with useful results [*ASCS got its name in Hansard several times, and the Secretary possibly got an ASIO file*]. Yet another ERA list was produced right at the end of last year; I had to sign a confidentiality agreement to be allowed to see it. A check, by me alone this time, revealed that the two missing journals had been restored, but the bureaucrats got back at me by leaving

another **five** off this latest list! And a number of our recommendations about changed rankings continued to be ignored. Yet another submission went in, on the deadline of just a week ago. A rapid response was sent to me; at the risk of being in breach of my confidentiality agreement, I can now report that I have worn the bastards down and they've given in to all my demands – with just one exception.

A major achievement of the year was the appearance of not one but two issues of *Antichthon* – so not only *suo anno* but one actually a year ahead. Congratulations to the Editors. A major development connected with the journal was its electrification; a considerable amount of electronic discussion and analysis by a small and dedicated sub-committee made the decisions on this matter, and the process is all but complete. There will be further comment on this matter later in the meeting.

Funding for activities, awards and competitions continues to grow. Funding of the annual conference usually amounts to an administrative “start-up” of \$1000, \$3000+ towards the fares of the keynote speaker and \$3000+ for student travel subsidies, a total of \$7000 or more. Monies for one-off conferences were lower than usual in 2009 (just as well in view of our over-spending in 2008); there were only two requests for grants (The OSA Numismatic Conference, \$500, and Amphora 3, \$1000), but the total over the last four years has been \$16995, an average of \$4295 per year, and we have already committed \$4000 for four such activities in 2010. The annual budgeted figure for promotional grants to small departments has been as high as \$3000, but in no one year since the scheme was started (2004) has this amount been spent; last year there were no applications (but there is one so far for the coming year). The annual Early Career Award is valued at \$2000; the prizes for the two essay competitions now total nearly \$900, and for the two translation competitions the prizes total \$500; and the newly established OPA! Postgraduate Conference Presentation Award could cost up to \$600. The average cost of typesetting, printing and distribution of the journal all up is \$11000-\$12000; then there are donations (FIEC and recently the APA Capital Campaign), membership of CHASS (\$1100 last year), bank charges, day-to-day stationery and postage expenses (\$3000-\$4000), the Secretary's secret holiday travel slush fund, that sort of thing, which all add up.

I've done all this listing to show that in a typical year ASCS expends \$28000-\$30000 or sometimes more. The three main sources of income are: membership subscriptions (around \$10000), institutional subscribers (around \$10000) and interest on investments (around \$7000 in 2008). These are ball-park figures, but they show that we are running fairly equally between income and expenditure, but by funding a diverse and expanding range of activities we are fulfilling the basic objective set out in our constitution of advancing the study of ancient Greece and Rome and related fields.

The usual range of prize and award competitions was conducted; results will be announced later in the meeting. The Newsletter was, as usual, sent out twice during the year, in April and October. Last year I had the assistance of John Penwill and Marguerite Johnson in the collection and formatting of information for the Newsletter. Thank you to them. Regular messages are also sent out by email to more than 90% of members who have opted to receive communications in this format. During the year the executive committee had three email consultations; while this method of conducting business has its drawbacks, it a convenient way to involve a larger number of committee members on both sides of the Ditch.

Bruce Marshall
Honorary Secretary, ASCS

GENERAL NEWS

1. ASCS 31

ASCS 31, held at the University of Western Australia earlier this month, was a great success. There were about 95 members who attended and there were 67 papers. It was a happy and academically successful occasion. The organisation, thanks to the efforts of the Convenor, Lara O'Sullivan, ably assisted by Neil O'Sullivan and other helpers, ran smoothly, and the facilities of the UWA Club were

excellent, efficiently and quietly organised, with tasty morning and afternoon teas and lunches. The keynote speaker, Kurt Raaflaub, accompanied by his wife, Deborah Boedeker, were a delight to have around during the conference and gave generously of their time, attending and contributing to many sessions and giving papers of their own.

2. Items of Particular Interest

There were a number of items considered at the Executive Committee meeting and at the AGM. Here are some that will perhaps be of particular interest:

(a) Elections

The full list of those who were elected to fill positions on the Executive Committee has been placed on the current website. Most of the offices have been filled by the members who held them before.

(b) The electrification of *Antichthon* on ProQuest databases

The process of submitting hard copies of Vols 1-34 to be digitised and stored on PAO (= Periodical Archives Online) has been completed, as well as providing some hard copies and digital versions of Vols 35-42, which will appear on another ProQuest database. ProQuest says that the digitising process will be completed by the middle of this year and the marketing of the databases will start after that; the databases should be available in libraries and institutions by early next year at the latest.

(c) Incorporation of the Society

For a variety of reasons we have decided to incorporate in the state of Victoria, and the process will be a major undertaking this year. It is not as simple as one might imagine. The Secretary sought some informal legal advice as to whether the Society's activities in other states would be covered by incorporation in one particular state, and what is the situation with New Zealand and other overseas members; the advice informally given is that once we have incorporated in a chosen state we would then have to gain recognition as a non-for-profit organisation and register under the Commonwealth Corporations Act 2001, administered by ASIC, and then activities in other states would be covered. The advice was that it would be necessary to incorporate the New Zealand members in their own country in some way.

The Secretary explained that he would continue to work through the rewording of the model set of rules (= 'constitution') progressively, with the intention of putting before the Society a draft at some stage during this year. This will be a large task because of the number of pages involved (about 25), particularly for those members who do not receive communication by email. A new member of the Society, a retired corporate lawyer, has agreed to assist the Secretary in the rewording of the constitution. A further consideration will be the need to take out public liability insurance, which could cost \$2000 or more.

(d) Revamp of NZ essay competition and renaming of both essay competitions

Since ASCS has now taken over the funding of the prizes for the NZ competition, that competition is to be renamed 'The ASCS New Zealand Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby,' and in order to differentiate it from the Australian competition the latter is now to be named 'The ASCS Australian Essay Competition.'

(e) Revamp of ASCS Website

The newly elected Website Manager, Kit Morrell, will undertake the re-designing of the ASCS website and locating it with a commercial host. We hope that the new website will be up and running by the middle of the year.

(f) OPA! (Outstanding Postgraduate-Presentation Award)

A new competition was set up this year to provide an award of \$400 for the best postgraduate presentation at an ASCS conference, with up to two runner-up prizes of \$100 each. This was on the

initiative of Dr Chong-Gossard who co-ordinated the inaugural competition at ASCS 31. There were 20 entrants; five judges pre-selected a short list; four of those judges listened to the short-listed entrants' presentations; and the decision was announced at the end-of-conference barbecue.

3. Results of Competitions

(a) Australian Essay Competition

First prize: Brook Dixon (ANU) – Aischylos' *Persai*
 Runners-up: Bethany Flanders (ANU) – Dido
 Kate Crosbie (UNSW) – Augustan *pietas*

(b) New Zealand Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby

First prize: Dennis de Visser (MasseyU) – 'Religion in Politics and the Military'
 Runner-up: Jane Hollebbon (UOtago) – Horace

(c) Translation Competition

First prize (Greek): Owen Colman (UMelb)
 Highly commended: Hugh Niall (MonashU) and Nicholas Olson (USyd)
 First prize (Latin): Kyle Conrau-Lewis (UMelb)
 Highly commended: Hugh Niall (MonashU), Paul Reynolds (UMelb), Katherine Wangmann (UMelb) and James Weston (UMelb)

(d) OPA! (Outstanding Postgraduate-Presentation Award)

First prize: Peta Greenfield (USyd) for her paper 'Poetically Vestal: Tarpeia at the Parilia'

4. Next General Meeting and Conference

The University of Auckland will host the next General Meeting and Conference (ASCS 32) in Auckland in late January 2011. Dr Jeremy Armstrong and Assoc. Professor Anne Mackay will be the Convenors. The usual amounts were allocated: AUD\$1000 to assist with the organisation of the conference, \$3000 towards the cost of travel for a keynote speaker, and \$3000+ for student travel subsidies.

Bruce Marshall

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Staff:

Dr Stephen Lake (PhD Cambridge), an Australian who has held positions in Paris and Constance, joins the Centre to work on the 'Crisis Management' (see below) project. His research interests include hagiography, late antique and medieval history, philosophy, canon law and care for the sick.

Research Grants:

Professor Pauline Allen and Dr Bronwen Neil received \$262,000 for an ARC Discovery Project 2010-2012, entitled 'Crisis Management in Late Antiquity: The Evidence of Episcopal Letters'.

Major Publication:

Pauline Allen, Bronwen Neil and Wendy Mayer (edd.). *Preaching Poverty in Late Antiquity: Perceptions and Realities*. Leipzig: Evangelische Verlagsanstalt, 2009.

Forthcoming Conferences:

The 6th International Triennial 'Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church Conference' of the Centre for Early Christian Studies, ACU, and the Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society will be held at the Melbourne Campus of ACU from 7-10 July 2010. The theme is 'Politics and Religion'. Abstracts for paper proposals close on 23 April. See www.prayerspirit.com.au.

The annual conference of the Australian Early Medieval Association 'Courage and Cowardice' will be held in Perth at UWA from 18-19 November. See <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~medieval/conferences.html>.

Geoffrey Dunn

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Staff:

Jessica Dietrich is on maternity leave this semester; Paul Burton is on study leave. Sonia Pertsinidis, a postgraduate in the ANU Classics and Ancient History program, is replacing Drs Dietrich and Burton.

New Courses/Degree:

The new Bachelor of Classical Studies degree is up and running with its first student enrolments. A new later-year course, ANCH 2021: The Ancient World in Film, is being offered this semester with all staff contributing and with several guest lecturers from the ANU School of Cultural Inquiry and from outside institutions (including Fiona Radford, a PhD student at Macquarie University, and Arthur Pomeroy from Victoria University, Wellington, whose visit has been funded by an ASCS small program grant). Peter Londey and Elizabeth Minchin have launched a new overseas study course, ANCH 2020: A Region in Antiquity: Gallipoli and Turkey.

Visitors:

Recently Dr Andrew Jamieson of the University of Melbourne and the Ian Potter Museum of Art visited and delivered a lecture entitled 'In the footsteps of T. E. Lawrence: The British Museum excavations at Carchemish (1911-14) and recent research by the University of Melbourne in the Upper Euphrates Valley (2009)' for the Friends of the Classics Museum. Professor Jacques Perreault of the University of Montreal visited and delivered a lecture entitled 'The Kilns of Thasos: An Island Potter's Workshop in Ancient Greece' for the ANU (Canberra) Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens. In August Professor Robert Laffineur of the University of Liège will be visiting and holding a seminar entitled 'Techniques of Mycenaean Goldwork' and delivering a lecture entitled 'Thorikos Rich in Silver'. Professor Arthur Pomeroy of Victoria University of Wellington will visit in May and deliver a lecture to the ANCH 2021: The Ancient World in Film class on the HBO series, *Rome*. Professor Pomeroy will also deliver a public lecture, co-sponsored by the Film Studies and Classics and Ancient History programs in the School of Cultural Inquiry on the Italian *peplum* films of the 1950s and 1960s.

Museum News:

The Classic Museum refurbishment has begun in earnest. The new cases have arrived and are currently being installed.

Research Grants:*Gallipoli Peninsula Project*

Peter Londey and Elizabeth Minchin were among six recipients of an ARC grant for 2010 to begin work on a major project looking at the history of the Gallipoli peninsula since the Late Bronze Age.

Other members of the group are Chris Mackie and Tamara Lewit (University of Melbourne), Mehdi Ilhan (an Ottoman historian at ANU) and Joan Beaumont (also ANU). In December 2009 Peter visited Turkey and recruited a number of Turkish academics to collaborate on the project: Professor Mustafa Sayar (University of Istanbul) and Dr Fatih Yavuz and Mr Reyhan Körpe (Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart Üniversitesi). Further ARC applications are in the mail. The project is groundbreaking in its attempt to examine human occupation of the peninsula over more than 3,000 years from a variety of different angles. Londey, Mackie, Ilhan, Lewit, Sayar, Yavuz and Körpe will in particular be studying population movements, settlement patterns, ethnicity, economic activity, and inscriptions; Minchin and Mackie will focus particularly on Gallipoli in cultural memory; while Beaumont will work on the commemorative history of Gallipoli since 1915. The project has also attracted a number of other associates who will contribute on particular aspects, including archaeology, coinage, military history, and migration in modern times. Anybody who feels they could contribute to this project should contact Peter Londey (peter.londey@anu.edu.au).

The Archaeology of Cultural Interaction

Emer. Professor Graeme Clarke (ANU) and Dr Heather Jackson (UMelb) have been awarded a 4-year ARC Discovery Grant for 'The Archaeology of Cultural Interaction: The Working Lives of Greek Colonists and Indigenous Syrians in Seleucid Syria'.

Major Publications:

Colleen Chaston has published *Tragic Props and Cognitive Function: Aspects of the Function of Images in Thinking* (Brill). Currently in press is *Jebel Khalid on the Euphrates, Volume 3: The Pottery* by Dr Heather Jackson and Dr John Tidmarsh.

Conferences:

Elizabeth Minchin and Jessica Dietrich convened the fifth in the Homer seminar series on the theme 'Homer and the Epic Tradition', 28-29 November 2009.

ANU will host 'Orality and Literacy 9' from 29 June to 3 July 2010 in Canberra. The keynote speaker will be Professor Richard Martin (Stanford University). The draft program and registration information are now available on the web at <http://culturalinquiry.anu.edu.au/>.

Paul Burton

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Staff:

Dr Chris Mackie has been appointed Professor of Greek Studies and Director of the Research Centre in Greek Studies. He will take up this appointment on 1 July 2010 (see further under 'Staff' in the University of Melbourne report below).

In the Archaeology Program, Dr Mark Eccleston's post-doctoral appointment has been extended for a further year to allow him to continue his archaeometric studies of material from Egypt and Cyprus to the end of 2010.

Dr Stavroula Nikoloudis began part-time work in 2009 as Project Officer in the Trendall Research Centre.

News from the Trendall Centre:

Dr Nikoloudis' task as Project Officer is to begin the scanning of some 40,000 photographs of South Italian red-figure vases. At present all Campanian and Sicilian photographs have been scanned. La Trobe University is in the process of concluding an agreement with the University of Oxford so that

the Trendall Research Centre may participate as a full partner in the important CLAROS project with the Beazley Archive and other institutions.

Visitor:

In August 2010 the Australian Institute of Archaeology, based at La Trobe University, will host a visit by Dr Tom Davis, Director of the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute. Dr Davis will deliver the Institute's annual Petrie Oration.

Major Publications:

J. M. Webb, D. Frankel, K. O. Eriksson and J. B. Hennessy. *The Bronze Age Cemeteries at Karmi Palealona and Lapatsa in Cyprus. Excavations by J.R.B. Stewart*. Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology, Volume CXXXVI (2009).

John Penwill (ed.). *Apuleian Reflections* (= *Ramus* Vol. 38 no 1, 2009), a special number devoted to articles on a range of works by Apuleius. It includes contributions from Ellen Finkelppearl, Richard Fletcher, Judith Hindermann, John Penwill, Karen Ní Mheallaigh and Akihiko Watanabe.

Completed Postgraduate Degree:

Dr Robin Wastell, part-time assistant to the Director of the Trendall Centre, received her PhD in 2009 with a dissertation entitled *Pre-Iconoclastic Icons: A Study of Origins*.

Conference:

In second semester 2010 the Archaeology Program will host a workshop on *Interactions in Antiquity. Climate, Environment, Technology and Society*, convened by David Frankel, Jennifer Webb and Susan Lawrence. This will be a valuable opportunity for staff and other invited participants to discuss key issues, methods, approaches and the nature of archaeological explanations linking environments and society. It will result in an edited volume, with refereed chapters written by participants.

Other:

David Frankel and Jennifer Webb have recently been appointed Editors-in-Chief of the monograph series *Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology (SIMA)*, published by Åström Editions, Sweden. *SIMA* is devoted to the archaeology of the Eastern Mediterranean world from Palaeolithic to Roman times and provides a major outlet for the publication of primary archaeological data, particularly excavation reports. The series has been in abeyance following the death of Paul Åström, the founder and editor of *Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology* and associated series. Since then there has been considerable uncertainty over the future of the series. With the strong support of Paul Åström's family, *SIMA* will now continue. New arrangements have been put in place to ensure that publications meet the highest scholarly standards. An Advisory Board of senior scholars has been appointed, along with an Editorial Board of active researchers with expertise in all facets of Eastern Mediterranean archaeology.

John Penwill and Jenny Webb

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Staff:

Dr Victor Ghika, with degrees from Bucharest, Rome, Paris and Laval (Québec), joined the Department in November as Lecturer in Coptic Studies, replacing Professor Heikke Behlmer. He has expertise in Coptic language and papyrology, and has been involved over a period of time with the Dakhleh Oasis project.

Dr. Jann Tristant, a Research Fellow at the French Institute of Archaeology (IFAO) in Cairo, has accepted the position of Lecturer in Predynastic and Early Dynastic Egypt, previously held by Professor Christiana Kohler. He will join the Department in July.

The Department welcomes Dr Arianna Traviglia, recipient of a Macquarie University Research Fellowship (one of six only awarded by the University to exceptional early career researchers). In order to better understand the growth and decline of ancient cities Arianna's project, using a combination of archaeological research and aerial/satellite Remote Sensing (RS), will investigate the relationship between urban and suburban spaces of Aquileia (Italy), a World Heritage listed Roman city.

Visitors:

In August 2009, Dr Richard Hitchman (Somerville College, Oxford) presented a paper on 'Miletus and Cretan Mercenaries: Onomastic Evidence for Inter-marriage and Return to Crete'.

In February of this year, Professor Kurt Rauf laab, fresh from his duties as the 2010 ASCS Visiting Speaker, spoke to over 85 enthusiastic staff, students, and members of the public about 'Peace as the Highest Good and End? The Role of Peace in Roman Thought and Politics.'

In March, Professor Andreas Mehl (University of Halle) gave two papers: 'From Greek to Roman and Latin: The Beginning of Roman Historiography and its Consequences' and 'The Seleucid Empire: an ancient polyethnic empire with different peripheries'.

In April, Dr James Aitken (University of Cambridge) will speak about his contribution to the recently awarded major ARC project 'Words from the Sand' (see below).

Speaking at the forthcoming annual SSEC conference (see below), Professor Lucy-Anne Hunt (Manchester Metropolitan University), an expert in Byzantine, Coptic and Christian-Muslim art and culture in the Middle Ages, will address the topic of 'Imprint and Image : The True Likeness of Christ in the Medieval Eastern Christian World'.

Research Grants:

Congratulations are in order for Trevor Evans, John Lee, Sam Lieu and Gunner Mikkelsen for winning large ARC Grants:

Sam Lieu and Gunner Mikkelsen, together with Lance Eccles, formerly of the Department of Asian Languages, have won their grant for the project 'China and the Ancient Mediterranean World,' part of a large international project aiming to investigate the evidence for cultural contact between Rome and China, drawing upon material that has not previously received intense scholarly attention. It is also hoped that this project will help to strengthen research ties between the Social Science Academy of China and the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

The ancient Greek papyri from Egypt have long been a source of keen interest for Ancient Historians at Macquarie. Trevor Evans and John Lee's ARC project 'Words from the Sand' represents a major new development. Trevor and John will be conducting a lexical analysis of early Greek papyri over the next five years, in collaboration with James Aitken from the University of Cambridge.

Major Publications:

In an international gathering of Egyptologists from various expeditions working in Egypt, Zahi Hawass as Chairman of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities presented Naguib Kanawati with a Festschrift entitled *Egyptian Culture and Society: Studies in Honour of Naguib Kanawati* in February 2010. The two-volume work celebrates Naguib's contribution to the field of Egyptology, which has spanned a period of 35 years and resulted in the publication of over 45 books and 40 journal articles. The Festschrift was edited by three members of the Department of Ancient History, Alexandra Woods, Ann McFarlane and Susanne Binder, and includes several contributions from Naguib's colleagues, friends and students (past and present) from all over the world. Contributors to this work include: Susanne Binder, V. Gae Callender, Malcolm Choat, Linda Evans, Michelle

Hampson, Tom Hillard, Jana Jones, Edwin A. Judge, Lesley J. Kinney, Kim McCorquodale, Ann McFarlane, Alanna Nobbs, Boyo G. Ockinga, Kenneth A. Sheedy, Karin N. Sowada, Joyce Swinton, Elizabeth Thompson and Alexandra Woods.

Linda Evans, *Animal Behaviour in Egyptian Art: Representations of the Natural World in Memphite Tomb Scenes*. Oxford: Aris and Phillips, 2010.

Trevor Evans, with D.D. Obbink, *The Language of the Papyri*. Oxford University Press, 2010.

Completed Postgraduate Degrees:

Congratulations to Clare Rowan and Christopher Matthew, who will graduate with PhDs in Ancient History on 13 April. Clare looked at patron deities and the visualisation of imperial power in the Severan period and Chris conducted a reappraisal of hoplite warfare.

Conferences:

The Numismatic Association of Australia's third biennial conference, NAAC2009, was hosted by the Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies, Macquarie University (27 - 29 November 2009).

Forthcoming conferences include the Macquarie Ancient History Teachers Conference, *Meeting the Challenge of the New National Curriculum* (1 May), and the Annual Conference of the Society for the Study of Early Christianity, *The Real Picture of Jesus – Text and Image* (8 May).

Other:

Dr Camilla Di Biase-Dyson, a Macquarie Ancient History/Egyptology graduate who is currently in Germany on a one-year post-doc fellowship at the Humboldt University, Berlin, has just been offered a two year Alexander von Humboldt Foundation research scholarship.

Peter Keegan

MASSEY UNIVERSITY

We are very pleased to report that Dennis de Visser, an extramural third-year student majoring in Classical Studies and Philosophy, was awarded the J. A. Barsby Essay award for the best undergraduate essay in New Zealand. His essay, entitled 'Exploiting Superstition: The Power of Religion in Greek and Roman Political and Military Activity', will be published in *Scholia*.

We recently received a very generous donation from a former extramural student, Alan Jermaine, to be used for the acquisition and display of reproductions of Greek vases. This collection will complement our existing modest collection of sculptural reproductions.

Gina Salapata

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History:

Staff:

In 2010 the Centre made two two-year appointments. The successful applicants are Andrea di Castro, Classical Archaeology, and Christian Knoblauch, the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt.

Conferences:

The First Australasian Conference of Young Egyptologists, held at Monash Caulfield campus (Sept 4-6 2009), was extremely successful, with postgraduate students from Macquarie and Monash Universities, the Universities of Auckland, Melbourne and Sydney participating.

The Centre co-hosted the Sixth International Conference of the Dakhleh Oasis Project, held at the Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy, Sept 20-24. Two staff members and five post-graduate students presented papers.

Field Work:

During December and January Gillian Bowen and Colin Hope continued their field work in Dakhleh Oasis, Egypt, accompanied by four postgraduate students. Excavation was conducted at the church and possible monastic site of Deir Abu Metta, which dates from the 4th to 6th centuries and in one of the large elite residences at Ismant el-Kharab, ancient Kellis. The Roman-style residence, which covers an area of 400 square metres, has remarkably well-preserved wall paintings in classical style that include images of Serapis and Isis. Numerous fragments of sculpture from Isis figures were retrieved and it is possible that the structure was used by a religious association.

Gillian Bowen

Classical Studies Program**Staff:**

Jane Montgomery Griffiths moved from our Program in January to take up a new role at the Monash Centre for Drama and Performance Studies. Giulia Torello was reappointed for another year on a full-time basis. Alexandros Giannadakis joined us in January as the Greek Government appointee.

New Courses:

As of this year the study of the Modern Greek language is offered at beginners and advanced levels. Modern Greek Studies Convenor, Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides, has collaborated closely with Alexandros Giannadakis to establish this new discipline at Monash. Student numbers and participation have been extremely encouraging so far.

Visitor:

On 10 March Andreas Mehl from Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg gave a paper on 'How the Romans recorded, remembered, thought about, and used their past', which attracted a large and diverse audience. Andreas' talk opened our 'Classical and Modern Greek Studies Joint Research Seminars' series that has registered so far a very good attendance.

Giulia Torello

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE**Staff:**

From December 2009 to December 2012 Assoc. Professor Han Baltussen will be Head of Discipline, taking over from Dr Margaret O'Hea, who has served two terms (and a bit) as Head (2001-2009).

With staff numbers at four FTE, we are very fortunate to have Assoc. Professor Peter Davis, Dr Silke Sitzler, Dr Andrea Katsaros, and Meredith Coleman assist in our teaching program (including language classes), since both Dr Jacqueline Clarke (LSL April-July) and Dr O'Hea (SL January-July) are currently on leave.

In February Daniel Hill (BA [Hons] Adelaide) was awarded a postgraduate scholarship to begin his MA thesis on ambiguity in Aeschylus.

In second semester three full time staff will be on deck, while Han Baltussen will be on study leave.

New Courses:

The new course 'Games, Festivals and Leisure in Greece and Rome' (semester 1, coordinator Han Baltussen) is proving an interesting challenge for staff and students: studying public and private entertainment in Greece and Rome from the perspective of cultural history gives food for thought (and comparison). Meanwhile we are also working hard on preparing for the second new first year course 'The Ancient World and Film' (semester 2, coordinator Dr Eoghan Moloney).

Research Grants:

We congratulate Dr Danijel Dzino (PhD Adelaide) on his ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship Grant, which he has taken up at Macquarie University, for his project 'Ancient "Illyrians", Medieval "Slavs" and the Modern Construction of Identities in Post-Modern Yugoslav Space'.

For his study leave in second semester Assoc. Professor Han Baltussen has been awarded a fellowship from the Flemish Academy of the Arts and Sciences in Brussels (approx. value €20,000, which includes travel, housing, insurance, office space and facilities).

Major Publication:

We congratulate Dr Danijel Dzino on the publication of his monograph *Illyricum in Roman Politics, 229 BC-AD 68* (Cambridge University Press: Cambridge 2010), a thoroughly revised and expanded version of his PhD thesis (Adelaide 2005).

Other:

In November 2009 Assoc. Professor Han Baltussen was elected a Fellow of the Academy of the Humanities in Australia.

On April 7, 2010 Assoc. Professor Han Baltussen will give a public talk on Ancient Greek Medicine ('Trust me, I'm a Doctor? Ancient Medicine and its Impact') as part of the Greek Cultural Month program.

Eoghan Moloney and Han Baltussen

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Courses:

The 2010 enrolments in the Department's courses are running at record highs.

Major Publications:

Lisa Bailey, Lindsay Diggelmann and Kim M. Phillips (edd.). *Old Worlds, New Worlds: European Cultural Encounters c.1000-c.1750*. Brepols: Turnhout, 2009.

Conferences:

Three staff and two postgraduate students attended the ASCS conference in Perth, and delivered papers: Marcus Wilson, 'Seneca's Moods'; Jeremy Armstrong, 'Clans and the State: The Economy of Warfare in the Early Roman Republic'; Dougal Blyth, 'Philosophy in the Late Latin West'; Richard Carpenter, 'The Military Hierarchy of Plato's *Republic*'; Frances Billot, 'Hannibal, Elephants and Turrets'.

Dr Wilson is attending the 'Ancient Genres' conference at the University of Sydney (8-10 April) and presenting a paper on 'You Are What You Read: Genres in Seneca's Reading'. PhD student Britt Paul is also attending and delivering a paper on 'Crossing Gender, Crossing Genre: *Muliebris Vestis* as a Generic Marker of Identity in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*'.

The Department is preparing to host the ASCS annual conference (ASCS 32) in January 2011.

Other:

The Department's Egyptologists have been much in demand from the mass media to comment on recent Egyptian related news items. To discuss a planned UK reality TV show involving mummification, Professor Spalinger was interviewed in January, on the 7.30 pm evening programme on TV 3. He was further interviewed about his research interests on a local radio station 95 BFM. Dr Jennifer Hellum was interviewed on RadioLive in February about the claims of scientists to have solved by means of CT scans the mystery of the death of Tutankhamen.

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

Visitors, Research Seminars and Classical Association:

This was a period characterised by several visitors and travel for many members of the Classics Department here at Canterbury. In early October 2009 Professor Barbara Gold from Hamilton College, New York, visited the Department and gave a paper to the Classical Association, 'Inhuman She-Wolves and Unhelpful Mothers in Roman Poetry: A Consideration of Roman Mothers and Some Remarks on their Colonial American Counterparts'. She also presented an interesting Research Seminar to the Department: 'The Martyr Perpetua: Athlete of God?'

The Classical Association was also fortunate to have a paper presented by Dr Alison Griffith in late October entitled 'Horatius at the Bridge: The Pons Sublicius in Myth and Reality', and in November Professor Arthur Pomeroy (Victoria University of Wellington) presented 'Classical Epiphanies in Modern Greek Cinema: Theo Angelopoulos' view of the Classics in Modern Greek'.

In March 2010 Professor Emeritus Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy gave a research seminar in the Department, entitled 'Dido and the Nameless Mothers in *Aeneid* books 7 to 12'.

Conferences:

Professor Graham Zanker was invited and funded to attend the colloquium entitled 'L'Héroïque et le champêtre: la théorie rhétorique des styles appliquée aux arts, entre modèle analytique et schème explicatif'. It took place on 17-20 March in the Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art, Paris. His paper was entitled 'The Hellenistic Theory of Poetic Genre-Crossing: an Analogy for Interpreting Hellenistic Art?' and was selected for publication in the Proceedings.

Dr Enrica Sciarrino attended a conference in Oxford at the end of September 2009 'Text/Performance: Don Fowler's "Unrolling the Text" ten years on'. The conference was organised by the editors of Don Fowler's unpublished 'Unrolling the Text' to assess the place of this work in the field of Classics ten years since the author's death. The title of her paper was 'Navigating between "Text" and "Performance": The Case of Early Latin Prose'.

The Department is hosting two conferences this year:

1. The Pacific Rim Roman Literature Seminar (July 7-9); for details contact Assoc. Professor Robin Bond (robin.bond@canterbury.ac.nz).
2. 'Dining Divinely' (also July 7-9); for details contact Dr Alison Griffith (alison.griffith@canterbury.ac.nz)

Other:

Assoc. Prof Robin Bond translated the text and directed a performance of *Prometheus Bound*. The play showed over four nights in December 2009 and received very favourable reviews.

Gary Morrison

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Staff:

Frank Sear, Professor of Classics, retired from the University of Melbourne in December 2009 after nearly twenty years of service. He came to Melbourne in 1991 from the University of Adelaide, and since then has directed a project to survey a number of Roman theatres, including those at Gubbio, Taormina, Benevento and Pompeii in Italy, Jerash in Jordan, and Orange in France. His monumental *Roman Theatres: An Architectural Study* was published by Oxford University Press in 2006; you can still buy a copy at Amazon.com for \$399 USD! His expertise on Roman architecture and daily life in the ancient world has been inspiring to many students, and his culinary skills (especially with pasta and calamari) are top drawer. Frank will return to Melbourne in semester 2, 2010 to lecture in a third-year course on Pompeii. He will also deliver the W.H. Allen Memorial Lecture for 2010, fittingly so, since he also gave the Allen lecture in 1991.

Chris Mackie will be leaving the University of Melbourne at the end of June 2010, after over twenty years of service, to join the staff of La Trobe University as Professorial Director of the Research Centre for Greek Studies. Chris is well known for his active role in promoting Classics in the larger Melbourne community through organising 'Classics in the City' lectures, by directing the Centre for Classical and Archaeology since its inception in 2000, and through his major role in the University of Melbourne's Advancement Office. His overseeing of the on-line *Winged Sandals* project in 2003, which included liaising with the ABC, won him many accolades. His enthusiasm for Homer and Greek myth has been inspiring to generations of undergraduates, many of whom have gone on to graduate research on mythological topics.

There are plans to replace both Frank and Chris in the near future, initially with two entry-level (Lecturer B) positions. The ability to teach ancient languages (especially Ancient Greek) at all levels will be mandatory in both positions.

New Courses:

The Centre for Classics and Archaeology will be offering two winter intensive subjects for the first time in 2010. First is 'Intensive Beginners Ancient Greek A,' which in the course of only 12 days (between 28 June and 15 July) will cover the same material as the whole first semester of Beginners Greek (which will continue to be taught). Students who complete the Intensive Course can go straight into the second half of Beginners, which is taught at the normal pace in semester 2.

Second, Parshia-Lee Stecum is coordinating a new subject, 'Greek and Roman Games'; it is taught at second-year level and meets for ten days (between 6-22 July). Students will be introduced to the forms and contexts of athletic, theatrical, equestrian, poetic and gladiatorial games in the ancient world. The Olympian, Pythian, Isthmian and Nemean competitions, the dramatic competitions of the Festival of Dionysus at Athens, the Roman *ludi scaenici* and *ludi circenses*, and the blood sports of the gladiatorial arena will be studied closely. Issues to be addressed include the agonistic nature of Greek and Roman societies; the meanings of origin myths connected with particular games; the significance of games for war, inter-state relations, internal political competition and literary rivalries; and the role of festival, ritual, religion and magic in ancient games.

Major Publication:

A new digital edition of a 12th century English manuscript of Terence's comedies (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Auct. F. 2. 13), with introduction and commentary by Andrew J. Turner (Fellow in Classics) and Bernard Muir (Professor of Medieval Studies at Melbourne) has been published by the Bodleian Library. The texts of the manuscript are linked to a complete set of high-resolution images, which allows users to magnify details of the manuscript for closer inspection and to navigate easily through the plays and their scene-illustrations. John Barsby of the University of Otago also contributed his translation of Terence from the Loeb Classical Library, and provided audio segments about Terence's metre. To order your own copy, visit www.bodleianbookshop.co.uk.

Completed Postgraduate Degrees:

Jessie Birkett-Rees (PhD), *Archaeological Landscapes of Transcaucasia: Environment, Power and Place in Tbilise and Mtskheta* (September 2009)

Jennifer Wilson (PhD), *Wall Paintings of Processions: the implications for gendered activities in the late Bronze Age Aegean* (September 2009)

Emma Strugnell (PhD), *The Umbra Crassi and the Politics of Rome's Relations with the Parthian Empire, 96 BC - AD 224* (October 2009)

James O'Maley (MA), *Like-Mindedness?: Intra-Familial Relations in the Iliad and the Odyssey* (February 2010)

Other:

Undergraduate news: congratulations to our students in classical languages who placed well in the ASCS Ancient Greek and Latin Unprepared Translation Competitions. In Latin, the first prize winner was Kyle Conrau-Lewis. 'Highly Commended' were Katherine Wangmann, Paul Reynolds and James Weston. In Ancient Greek, the first prize winner was Owen Colman.

K.O. Chong-Gossard

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Staff:

Harold Tarrant will be producing a volume of his collected articles in Ashgate's Variorum series in November. The title as advertised is *From the Old Academy to Later Neo-Platonism*. Harold is also organising a panel at the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies in Madrid in June and will be presenting a paper at the International Plato Society in Tokyo in August as well as giving a paper at the invited symposium on the Platonic Corpus in Aix-en-Provence in November.

Three members of staff attended ASCS 31 at The University of Western Australia, with Jane Bellemore and Marguerite Johnson presenting papers. Marguerite was also one of 14 female academics chosen to participate in The University of Newcastle's Academic Women in Leadership Program for 2010.

(And from the Co-Editor: Congratulations to Marguerite Johnson on her promotion to Senior Lecturer!)

New Courses:

AHIS1060 Rome: A Survey of History and Archaeology and LATN1000 Introduction to Classical Grammar are currently being taught for the first time this semester. In semester two, there will also be another new course, AHIS1070 Classical Literature: An Introduction.

Marguerite Johnson

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

Staff:

Departures: Associate Professor Iain Spence resigned from UNE at the end of 2009.

Arrivals: Dr Randy Pogorzelski has been appointed to the Charles Tesoriero Lectureship.

Leave: Professor Greg Horsley is on leave, and Dr Bronwyn Hopwood returns from maternity leave in Semester One, 2010.

New Courses:

Offerings in Ancient History have been expanded to include a new undergraduate unit on 'Art and Architecture in the Ancient World'; graduate modules on 'Cities of the Ancient World', 'Imperialism' and 'Crime and Punishment' in the Master of History Programme; and collaborative teaching with History in a new course examining history in film.

Visitors:

The Aspects of Antiquity Seminar Series in conjunction with Earle Page College hosted Andreas Mehl in February 2010. Professor Mehl's enormously popular lecture looking at how the Romans thought and wrote about their history enjoyed standing room only.

Bronwyn Hopwood

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Staff:

Professor William Dominik has stepped down as Head of Department after an eight-year term, and has been replaced in this role by Dr Pat Hannah, with an initial appointment of three years. Professor Dominik is on Research and Study Leave for the first semester of 2010.

Visitors:

In the latter months of 2009, the department enjoyed visits by Professor Chris Dearden (formerly Victoria University of Wellington) and Professor Barbara Gold (Hamilton College, USA).

Completed Postgraduate Degree:

In December 2009, Robert Sims was awarded a PhD for his dissertation entitled *Statius' Tragic Thebes: Epic and the Tragic Mode*.

Other:

The national essay competition for Classics students has now been renamed the 'ASCS New Zealand Essay Competition in Honour of John Barsby,' and first prize for 2010 was awarded to Dennis deVisser from Massey University for his essay entitled 'Religion in Politics and the Military'. Second place was awarded to Jane Hollebon (University of Otago) for an essay on Horace. Thanks go to Babette Puetz (Victoria), Patrick O'Sullivan (Canterbury) and Dougal Blyth (Auckland), who served as this year's judges.

Jon Hall

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Staff:

Dr Amelia Brown has now joined our Discipline as Lecturer in Greek History and Language. Amelia began her studies at Princeton University, then completed her MA and PhD at University of California, Berkeley. She has just been back at Princeton on a postdoctoral fellowship. Her PhD, completed in 2008, focused on urban public life in Corinth from the second to the sixth centuries CE, integrating texts from Pausanias to Procopius with a century of American archaeological work there. Amelia also has her own archaeological project on Malta and is already reasonably widely published. She is a charming person and a promising young scholar, who, with our surging enrolments in ancient Greek history, is a welcome addition to our small team of five full-time staff.

After more than three decades of teaching at The University of Queensland Assoc. Professor John Whitehorne will be retiring this May. There will be a formal reception to celebrate his rich career on 15 April at St Lucia. Members of the Society are welcome to send messages for this event. John is currently on long-service leave. Dr Tom Stevenson is currently on sabbatical, conducting research at Manchester University's renowned Department of Ancient History. While her prognosis is encouraging, Dr Sonia Puttock has had to take extended sick leave in order to receive medical treatment. Dr Janette McWilliam continues with her innovative project to integrate computer-aided learning into the teaching of first-year Latin. Dr David Pritchard has been awarded a Faculty Fellowship in the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies for a project on the popular culture of classical Athens and a prestigious Danish National Bank Visiting Professor Fellowship, which will allow him to spend time at the University of Copenhagen where he will be working on a number of collaborative research projects. He has recently sent two books to press.

Visitors:

The R.D. Milns Visiting Professor for 2010 will be Professor Vincent Gabrielsen from the University of Copenhagen, who holds Denmark's only Chair of Ancient History. He will be spending ten days in Brisbane before visiting Sydney to give seminars at the University of Sydney and Macquarie University on 28 and 29 October respectively.

Dr Alastair Blanshard (USyd) will be delivering a talk on Greek pederasty for the University's Centre for the History of European Discourses on 13 May.

Conferences:

Professor Gabrielsen and Professor Margaret Miller of the University of Sydney will be the two keynote speakers at the Inaugural Queensland Greek History Conference, which will be taking place on 22 and 23 October. This will be co-sponsored by The University of Queensland Cultural History Project, the R.D. Milns Classics and Ancient History Perpetual Endowment Fund and the Greek Orthodox Community of St George, Brisbane. Enquiries about the conference can be directed to Dr David Pritchard (d.pritchard@uq.edu.au; +61 7 3365 3338).

Completed Postgraduate Degrees:

In the last few months Dr Rashna Taraporewalla graduated with her PhD for a thesis on the roles of the border sanctuaries of Attica in Athenian territoriality, and Dr Sandra Christou did the same for a thesis on sexually ambiguous imagery in ancient Cyprus.

David Pritchard

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Staff:

New appointments

The department is delighted to announce that Bob Cowan and Eleanor Cowan have been appointed as Lecturers in Latin and Ancient History respectively, and will arrive in July 2010. Bob is currently the Fairfax Fellow, Jowett Lecturer, and Tutor in Classics at Balliol College, Oxford, and specialises in Latin literature, especially epic and tragedy. Elly was an undergraduate at the University of Sydney and is a Lecturer in Ancient History at Leicester University. She specialises in the history of the late Republic and early Principate.

Promotions

Congratulations to Andrew Hartwig and Sebastiana Nervegna, who have both received ARC Postdoctoral Fellowships, which the University of Sydney has extended by a fourth year in return for their undertaking a 25% teaching load. Andrew's project is titled *Plato Comicus and Greek Comedy: A Study of his Dramatic Career*, while Sebastiana (previously the Kevin Lee Postdoctoral Research Fellow) will be working on the Classical reception of dramatic poets, as part of the team recently awarded an ARC Discovery Grant for work on the Greek theatre outside Athens (see below).

Departures

We are sorry to have lost Jeff Tatum and wish him all the best in his new Professorship at the Victoria University of Wellington. Both Frances Muecke and Lindsay Watson have now moved to part-time.

New Courses:

Two exciting new senior-level courses are being introduced this year: 'Ancient Greece and Rome on Film' (Alastair Blanshard) and 'The Emperor in the Roman World 14-117 AD' (Paul Roche).

Visitors:

Visitors to the Department and the Centre for Classical and Near Eastern Studies include: Anthony Barrett (University of British Columbia), Deborah Boedeker (Brown University), Maurizio Campanelli (La Sapienza, Rome), Bob Cowan (University of Oxford), Elly Cowan (Leicester University), Fiona Hobden (University of Liverpool), Richard Hunter (University of Cambridge), Richard Miles (University of Cambridge), Jacques Perreault (University of Montreal), Kurt Raflaub (Brown University), James Rives (Chapel Hill), Luis Siddal (SOAS), Greg Woolf (University of St Andrews) and William Zewdaski. Elena Firinu (University of Bologna) is a current resident in CCANESA. Elena wrote a postgraduate thesis under Professor Camillo Neri on 'Euripide e i Persiani di Timoteo: studi su un rapporto intertestuale' and will be giving a paper at the Classics and Ancient History seminar on 29 April. Prospective visitors to Sydney include John Rich (University of Nottingham), who will be a Visiting Fellow in June-July 2010, and John Marincola (Florida State University), who will deliver the Ritchie Lecture on July 29.

Research Grants:

A five-year ARC Discovery Grant has been awarded to Eric Csapo and Peter Wilson, with Ted Robinson, Richard Green and Sebastiana Nervegna, for a project titled *The Theatrical Revolution: The Expansion of Theatre Outside Athens*. The team will study the growth of the Greek theatre, a topic which has valuable insights for contemporary Australian concerns. The world's first medium of mass communication rapidly shaped Greek national identity, but also contributed to Athenian cultural and political hegemony. For its power to transform political practices, business, personal relationships, and ideas, the spread of theatre has been illuminatingly compared to the growth of the internet. Understanding this process is of clear concern to small nations struggling to conserve their national interest while adapting to global culture.

Major Publications:

- E. Csapo. *Actors and Icons of the Ancient Theater*. Wiley-Blackwell: 2010.
- H. J. Kim. *Ethnicity and Foreigners in Ancient Greece and China*. Duckworth: 2009.
- P. A. Roche. *Lucan, De Bello Ciuili 1: A Commentary*. Oxford University Press: 2009.
- C. Tesoriero, F. Muecke and T. Neal (eds). *Lucan (Oxford Readings in Classical Studies)*. Oxford University Press: 2010.
- L. and P. Watson (eds). *Roman Byways: Papers from a Conference in Memory of Charles Tesoriero* (= *Antichthon* 43, 2009).

Completed Postgraduate Degrees:*PhD*

- Tom Harber, *Felicitas in Roman Politics: The Triumviral Period to Trajan* (supervisors: Peter Brennan and Kathryn Welch)
- Akiko Tomatsuri, *The Representation of the Mousikos in Late Fifth and Early Fourth Century Athens* (supervisor: Peter Wilson)
- Fiona Tweedie, *Integration: The Allies, the Army and the Land from the Hannibalic to the Social War* (supervisor: Kathryn Welch)

Conferences:

The University of Sydney will host two conferences in the next couple of months: 'Genre in the Ancient World' (8-10 April 2010) and 'Appian and the Romans' (5-7 July 2010), the second in an international series of conferences on key authors of Roman History. Professor John Frow (University of Melbourne) will be the keynote speaker at the genre conference, and further details of the program can be found at: <http://members.optusnet.com.au/~mlborg/homepage.htm>.

The Appian conference website is at: <http://classics.org.au/appian/>.

Other:

In September 2009, the Nicholson Museum hosted a celebration of the modern-world première of Menander's *Dyskolos* at the University of Sydney in July 1959. Students, staff and members of the original 1959 cast re-performed scenes from the play, under the direction of Alastair Blanshard and Anthony Alexander, and members of the original cast reminisced about that important event in theatre history.

A two-day event connected to the ARC network for Early European Research was held at CCANESA in November 2009. The event was co-organised by Frances Muecke and involved a Latin Clinic and a day-long conference on 'Latin Identities: Representations of Self and Community from Antiquity to the Eighteenth Century.'

Alastair Blanshard, Hyun Jin Kim, Julia Kindt, Frances Muecke, Paul Roche, Jeff Tatum and Kathryn Welch were involved in two successful Study Days in the Nicholson Museum: 'Crossing the Rubicon: Civil War among the Romans' (April 2009) and 'Wondrous Antiquities: The Histories of Herodotus' (September 2009).

Anne Rogerson

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

Classics at UTas is approaching the end of its first full year with its three new members of staff, completing a cycle of renewal that began almost two years ago. This period has also seen a substantial redesign of both undergraduate and graduate unit offerings, and we are now seeing a pleasing growth

in student numbers – especially at first-year level, from which we hope for a strong follow-on effect in coming years. On the language front, this year Latin and Greek are being offered both internally and as ‘distance’ units for the first time, helping Introductory Latin in particular to attract a healthy 50 students in first semester.

Jonathan Wallis

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Staff:

Jeff Tatum (from Sydney) joined the staff in January 2010. Art Pomeroy is on research leave in the first trimester.

New Courses:

Jeff Tatum is teaching a new Honours seminar, ‘The Age of Augustus’.

Museum News:

A set of six papyrus fragments was bought for the museum. They are dated 4th to 6th century CE.

Completed Postgraduate Degrees:

Two Masters students completed with distinction: Nelson Brunsting wrote on Archaic Greek ideas of ownership and Alexandra Donnison on Athenian burial practices.

Other:

Jeff Tatum delivered the Annual Lecture of the Australian Archaeological Institute in Athens in May 2009. Matthew Trundle was invited to Korea by the Korean Association of Greek and Roman Culture where he gave the keynote lecture at a conference on War and the Humanities. He also spent several weeks in Greece at Isthmia examining the unpublished inscriptions at the archaeological site. David Rosenbloom delivered the closing keynote address at the Third Trends in Classics International Conference, ‘Crisis on Stage: Tragedy and Comedy in Late Fifth Century Greece’ held in Thessaloniki. The Classics Programme has been closely involved in Te Papa’s exhibition ‘A Day in Pompeii’, contributing poetry readings and lectures by Judy Deuling, Mark Masterson, Art Pomeroy, Matthew Trundle and Jeff Tatum.

Babette Puetz

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

New Courses:

Classics and Ancient History is gearing up for a major restructuring of its degree, in line with UWA’s shift to a new undergraduate course framework. More details will be available soon.

Major Publications:

The ever-productive Professor John Melville Jones has edited an English translation of Martin da Canal’s *Les Estoires de Venise*, accompanied by an introduction and commentary, which has been made by an American scholar (Padua 2009).

Completed Postgraduate Degrees:

Two postgraduate degrees have been conferred in the University's recent round of graduation ceremonies: Margaret Purdie received a MA degree for her thesis *The Account of the Siege of Constantinople 1422 by John Cananus* (supervised by John Melville Jones) and Pam Plynch a PhD for her work on *The People of Roman Britain: A Study of Romano-British Burials* (supervised by David Kennedy).

Lara O'Sullivan

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ASCS 32**THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE**

**will be held at the University of Auckland
in Auckland, New Zealand, and hosted by the Department
of Classics and Ancient History**

Proposed dates: 24th to 28th January 2011

Convenors: Dr Jeremy Armstrong
(js.armstrong@auckland.ac.nz)

Assoc. Prof. Anne Mackay
(anne.mackay@auckland.ac.nz)

Department of Classics and Ancient History, The University
of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand

Keynote Speaker: Professor Christopher Smith
(University of St Andrews, and Director, British School at Rome)

Further details, call for papers, registration procedure, accommodation etc.
will be available in due course on the ASCS website (www.ascs.org.au)