Douglas Kelly Australian Essay Competition

In 2018 the Douglas Kelly Australian Essay Competition attracted a field of thirty-eight entries, drawn from six Australian universities, with thirty-six essays coming from four universities and one each from the other two. This was almost twice as many as in previous years.

The quality of entries was very high and the scope of subject matter admirably diverse: the members of the judging panel (Dr Graeme Miles of the University of Tasmania and Dr Michael Champion of the Australian Catholic University) were required to adjudicate on submissions ranging from Egypt and Mycenae, to Athenian democracy, and to Virgil and Tacitus.

The winner was Emily Kerrison (University of Sydney) with an essay entitled ‘*Psychagogia* in Lucretius and Virgil’.

The runners-up were Janek Drevikovsky (University of Sydney) ‘*Promiscae scaenae*: theatrical perversion and the death of Seneca in Tacitus’ and David Pittavino (University of Sydney) ‘οὐ τῷ δήμῳ, ἀλλὰ τοῖς ἀρίστοις: The Democratisation of History in Herodotus and Thucydides’.

As the competition co-ordinator, I would like to commend all the entrants on the quality of their work and encourage all those still eligible to consider submitting an essay again in 2019. I also extend my warm thanks to the two judges for generously giving of their time and for supporting this competition. The Society owes them a particular debt of gratitude because of the number of entries in 2018, which was almost double that of previous years.

Peter Davis

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