

The Douglas Kelly Australian Essay Competition 2020

Winner:

Patrick Ryan (University of Sydney): ‘*Respexit in aethera*. The Heroism of Capaneus in *Thebaid X*’

Commendations:

Timothy Livingstone (University of Sydney): ‘Landscapes of Change: Metamorphosis and Liminal Landscapes in Ovid’s *Metamorphoses XI*’

Phoebe Leggett (University of Melbourne): ‘Does Diomedes Violate the Laws of ξενία in *Iliad* Book 6?’

Five universities submitted 21 entries to this competition in 2020, including some from universities which have not participated in recent years.

The judges observed that the standard of essays once more was consistently very good. Some were marred by avoidable errors of grammar in English. There were fewer essays with a historical bent this year than with a literary one. The historical essays in general tended to depend on secondary sources rather than to engage independently with the primary ones.

The judges and I would like to thank all who entered and to wish them the best for their future studies. It is wonderful to see the breadth of topics taught and the skills which our students are developing in thinking and writing about the ancient world.

As 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 2021. I also extend my warm thanks to the judges, Dr Michael Champion and Dr Graeme Miles, for generously giving of their time and for supporting this competition.

Peter Davis

30 January 2021