LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

After several years of planning and organization, the American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy is about to hold its first annual meeting, including both a business and an academic session. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the many persons who contributed towards this day, especially members of the Executive Committee. I am very much aware of how much has been accomplished to date, and how much remains undone. We now have a strong membership base of over a hundred members, a web page, and a newsletter. Moreover, at the last Executive Committee meeting the Constitution and By-laws of the Society were approved. I am also happy to report that ASGЛЕ received official recognition and commendation at AIEGL'S XIth Epigraphical Congress in Rome, in September of this year.

This is a very good beginning, but it will take the involvement and commitment of many more scholars if the society is to reach its full potential. I welcome your suggestions and ideas. It is our wish to increase the benefits of membership in ASGЛЕ in a variety of ways, to the extent that our income permits. Please bear in mind that half of your membership fee goes directly towards your membership in the AIEGL, and is not available for expenditure in the ASGЛЕ budget.

I strongly believe that a North American epigraphical society can do much to protect and advance the discipline in the current university climate of cutbacks and downsizing. I invite you to join with me in building a society that will promote epigraphical research of the highest calibre and encourage new scholars in the field.

--Bradley H. McLean, President, ASGЛЕ, and Dean, Huron College, University of Western Ontario, 1349 Western Road, London, Ontario, N6G 1H3, Canada.
<bhmclean@julian.uwo.ca>

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

2. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer (G.W. Houston).
   a. Memberships
   b. Financial Report
4. Reports from AIEGL.
5. New Business.

Immediately following the business meeting, the ASGЛЕ Colloquium, "Athenian History and Epigraphy, will be held in the same room.

Officers of ASGЛЕ for 1997-1998:

President: Bradley H. McLean (address above).
Vice-President: John Bodel, Department of Classics, Rutgers University, 131 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.
<bodel@rci.rutgers.edu>
Secretary/Treasurer: George W. Houston, Dept. of Classics CB 3145, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.
<gwhousto@email.unc.edu>
8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. AIA/APA Joint Colloquium, "The Senatus Consultum de Gnauo Pisone Patre." Cynthia Damon, Amherst College, and Sarolta Tákacs, Harvard University, Organizers.

Introduction: Cynthia Damon, Amherst College, and Sarolta Tákacs, Harvard University.

Punishing Piso: John Bodel, Rutgers University.


Tacitus and the SC de Pisone Patre: Richard J.A. Talbert, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Discussant: Harriet Flower, Franklin and Marshall College.

APA SECTION 20. 1:30 PM (Huron).

Collegia Funeratica in the Inscriptional Record: A Reconsideration of Mommsen's Dissertation: J. Scott Perry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

APA SECTION 21. 1:30 PM (Ohio).

Family and State in the SC de Pisone: Beth Severy, University of California, Berkeley.

The Ornamenta Triumphalia and the Elogia of Augustus' Forum: Jane D. Chaplin, Middlebury College.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29.

AIA SESSION 3B. 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon.

The Vestal Virgins: Prospopographic Remarks: Silvia Orlandi, Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza."

Vestal and Imperial Portraits and Inscriptions from the Atrium Vestae: The Antonine and Severan Material: Molly Lindner, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.
AIA SESSION 3E. 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon.


"Migrating" Inscriptions: A Case Study from Moesia Inferior: Steven A. Krebs, Indiana University.

APA SECTION 41. 11:00 AM (Ohio).

IG II² 2318 and Athenian Archives of the Early Fifth Century: James P. Sickinger, Florida State University.

Architectural Archives at Aphrodisias: Phyllis Culham, United States Naval Academy.

AIA ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS. 12:00 noon-1:30 PM.

Silvia Orlandi, Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza," will lead a session on "Epigraphy and Archaeology (with Special Regard to the Roman World)." Dr. Orlandi writes: "As a discipline studying not just texts, but monuments on which texts were inscribed, epigraphy touches on other subfields in classics, including history, philology, palaeography, and archaeology. The ties between epigraphy and archaeology are particularly close not only because most surviving inscriptions were found in more or less regular inscriptions, but also because our knowledge of urban and territorial settlements, handcrafts, and artistic production in antiquity is largely based on epigraphic materials. The aim of this roundtable will be to discuss (starting from each participant's experience in working, learning, and teaching) the role that Latin epigraphy plays or should play in this field. In brief: How can the study of Latin inscriptions be situated within a more global archaeological project and still maintain its own methods, specialists, and means of analysis?"

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30.

AIA SESSION 5E. 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon.

An Athenian Wine Merchant during the Peloponnesian War: Graffiti and Amphoras in the Athenian Agora: Mark L. Lawall, University of Manitoba.

* * * * *

ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GREEK AND LATIN EPIGRAPHY

The Eleventh International Congress took place in Rome, at the Teatro Quirino, from September 18 to 24, 1997. Silvio Panciera, the President of AIEGL and organizer of the Congress, has sent us a report from which the following information comes.

There were 540 registered participants, from 32 different countries. Of these, 125 had prepared papers in advance, which were published in a volume of Preatti (of 992 pages) and discussed during the Congress, and there were 25 poster sessions. Also, 48 specialists gave invited papers, including epigraphers from Algeria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Tunis, Turkey, and the United States. These papers were not circulated in advance, but were read and discussed during the Congress.

Special events included:

- The opening of a new wing in the Museo Nazionale romano delle Terme di Diocleziano, in which inscriptions are displayed together with archaeological materials and detailed labels putting all of the material in its proper context.
- A day trip to Ostia, with walking tours of Portus, the Isola Sacra necropolis, and the city of Ostia.
• The opening of an exhibition, "Hispania. Da terra di conquista a provincia dell'Impiero," in the Palazzo delle Esposizioni.
• The opening of an exhibition, "L'epigrafia dei Cristiani nei Musei Vaticani," in the Vatican Museums.

Of the nearly 2300 inscriptions recorded, 378 (39 Greek and 339 Latin) have not previously been published. Cost is $32.95 plus $5.00 shipping and handling; orders may be sent to Publications, American Academy in Rome, 7 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022-1001.

Elizabeth Forbis, _Municipal virtues in the Roman Empire: the evidence of Italian honorary inscriptions_. Stuttgart: B.G. Teubner, 1996. (Beiträge zur Altertumskunde, Bd. 79.)

Dan Geagan has received a three-year grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to prepare the inscriptions of the Roman period from Isthmia for final publication. He is collaborating with David Jordan and spent the summer of 1997 at Isthmia working with Matthew F. Trundle on this material.


Paul Harvey (Pennsylvania State University) has accepted an invitation to re-edit and prepare for publication the corpus of inscriptions on stone and brickstamps from Cosa. These items have been dealt with in a University of Michigan dissertation by E. Bace; the new publication will substantially revise and update that dissertation. Professor Harvey has stray notes and comments from a range of people on these inscriptions, but he would welcome any and all observations on the epigraphic material from Cosa. He will, of course, acknowledge any help you can give him. If you have any information you think would be of use to him, you may contact him by email at

---

**PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS, AND QUERIES.**


John Bodel and Stephen Tracy, _Greek and Latin Inscriptions in the USA - A Checklist_. Rome, 1997. This volume attempts to register all ancient Greek and Latin inscriptions in museum, university, and private collections in the United States. The survey, which covers seventy-eight collections, lists some 720 Greek and 1575 Latin texts; several hundred others are accounted for generally in the introductory paragraphs to the individual collections.
Dan Hunt has two queries for our members. "I am searching for a Moderatus of the late period (5th-6th centuries A.D.). The geographical area in question is Britain and Gaul. In addition, I am seeking an acceptable etymology for the name Artorius. I ask these questions because I live in a rural area and my library's interlibrary program has been savaged by budget cuts..." Dan Hunt's email address: <hermes@worldaccessnet.com>.

A NEW EDITION OF FOURTH-CENTURY ATTIC DECREES
by Michael Clark

In Rome, at the International Congress, the latest of several meetings was held concerning an international, collaborative project to re-edit the post-Euclidean Attic decrees. In attendance were more than two dozen epigraphers, including several members of ASGLE. After detailed discussions about the possibilities and pitfalls of such a project, it was decided to do the following.

A) To submit a formal proposal to Inscriptiones Graecae in order to establish a basis for working with IG on this project. It remains uncertain whether this new edition will be brought out as another volume of IG Attica, although that was seen as a desideratum by most of those in attendance in Rome. The editors of this proposal (Michael Clark, Berkeley; Graham Oliver, Liverpool; Charles Crowther, Oxford) would welcome comment from ASGLE members.

B) To hold an organizational meeting in Athens in late spring 1998, perhaps early in June. The specific date has not yet been set. We will circulate information about the meeting as details firm up.

C) To hold a workshop in hands-on epigraphy immediately following the meeting, taking advantage of the confluence of epigraphers in Athens in order to provide intensive training in epigraphical methods. Students and faculty in Classics, ancient history, and related fields, are encouraged to attend the workshop, which will last several days. The American and British schools are now investigating ways to make space available at low cost. A registration fee, if there is any, will be modest, so please spread the word about the workshop!

For further information, or to add your name to the mailing list, contact Michael Clark at <mgclark@uclink4.berkeley.edu> or: Classics Department, Dwinelle Hall, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720.

* * * *

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at The Ohio State University offers short-term fellowships (of one to four months duration) to support visitors pursuing post-doctoral research in Greek and Latin epigraphy. The Center's holdings include a comprehensive library and several special collections of squeezes and photographs.

The fellowships pay for travel to and from Columbus and a living expense of $1500 per month; they must be taken up between September 1998 and April 1999. Recipients are expected to be in residence during the tenure of the award and are encouraged to participate in the activities of the University. Applications will be due January 31, 1998.
For further information, contact: Director, Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies, The Ohio State University, 190 Pressey Hall, 1070 Cormack Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1002.

* * * *

CIL 6.26124 SURFACES
by John Bodel

Ancient Latin inscriptions have a tendency to show up in odd places, but few, in recent years, can rival the unexpected epiphany of an epitaph of a Roman girl, Seia Helis, last seen (or at any rate noticed) more than a century ago.

A recent advertising circular (no. MK 215) for a kitchen-cabinet manufacturer, Mill's Pride, whose products are marketed by the office and home-supply chain store Home Depot, shows (on page 17) a handsome modern kitchen fitted out with matte white 'Venice'-style cabinets and decorated with various knickknacks illustrating classical themes (model temples, photographs of antiquities, and the like). Among the latter, an inscribed rectangular white (marble?) plaque fastened to the wall in the position of a splashboard behind the sink immediately catches the eye. There, in clearly cut, regular letters (without shading), one reads:

D I I S MANIBVS
S E I A E H E L I D I F I L I A E
S V E A E Q V A E V IXIT AN X
M V D XVIII C A R I S S I M A S V I S
C V M I D I V S P O T H V S
E T S E I A H E D I A F E C E R V N T
E T S I B I E T S V I S

In line 6, the NT is in ligature.

The epitaph was known to Chr. Huelsen, who published it (as CIL 6. 26124) among the sepulcrales of Rome. Huelsen did not see the stone itself, which by his day had been removed, along with the girl's inscribed ash urn (CIL 6.26122), to Rossie Priory castle in Scotland, but only a transcription of the text in manuscripts at Rome and in a history of the castle published at Dundee in 1877.

But that is not all one reads today on the tablet. Beneath the final line of text reported in CIL, "ET SIBI ET SVIS", which surely represents the end of the original epitaph, one finds an initial "R" followed by a point (at baseline level rather than medial, as elsewhere in the inscription), and then--maddeningly obscured in the photograph in whole or in part by the faucet fixture--three letters (possibly C [J] P), and then AERT, so that the final line reads:

R. C[J]PAERT (of which C and P are uncertain: possibly O, R or B)

Four obvious questions, then, are:

How is the last (modern) line to be restored? To whom or what does it refer? How did the stone (if it is indeed the stone and not a plaster cast) wind up in a model kitchen? And where is the inscription now?

As with all such little epigraphic mysteries, the questions are far easier to pose than to answer. I put the basic queries to readers of the EPIGRAPH discussion list last May (1997) and learned from a helpful response from Dr. Lawrence Keppie that the Rossie Priory collection, which belonged to Lord Kinnaird, is now housed at the National Gallery of Scotland in Edinburgh. Dr. Keppie kindly furnished also the name of the Director of the National Gallery, Timothy Clifford, to whom I addressed an inquiry about the inscription. As of October 1997, I have heard nothing in response.

Can the members of ASGLE shed any further light on this puzzle? All comments, leads, and queries are most welcome.

John Bodel
Department of Classics
Rutgers University
131 George Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
<bodel@rci.rutgers.edu> fax: 732-932-9246