



American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy
Société américaine d'épigraphie latine et grecque

<http://www.asgle.org>

ASGLE Bulletin

14 December 2017

Volume 21, Number 2

MEMBER NEWS

Dues Increase: The General Assembly of the Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine (AIEGL) met on August 31, 2017, during the International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy in Vienna. At that meeting, the Assembly voted to raise membership fees in AIEGL from 20 to 25 euros per year.

That increase will necessitate a raise in membership dues for the American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy (ASGLE), starting with 2018. Currently, dues are \$40 per year, of which about \$25 goes to AIEGL membership. Changes in dues must be approved by the membership at the annual business meeting held at the SCS/AIA annual meeting. Until then, we will not be accepting dues payments for 2018.

ASGLE at the SCS 4-7 January 2018, Boston

ASGLE Business Meeting

Saturday, 6 January 12:00 – 1:30 PM
Westin Copley Place, Courier Room

* All members encouraged to attend *

ASGLE Panel

Friday, 5 January 1:45 – 4:45 AM
location TBA

Epigraphy and Religion Revisited
Organized by Nikolaos Papazarkadas

The main objective of this panel is to bring together papers that explore religious phenomena primarily from an epigraphic perspective. The American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy devoted one of its first thematic panels to Epigraphy and Religion, back in 1999. Almost two decades later, ASGLE revisits the topic in order to find out what the *status quaestionis* looks like for the current generation of scholars.

- 1) Jessica Paga, College of William & Mary
[“Administration and Topography in IG I³ 4A-B, the Hekatompedon Decrees”](#)
- 2) Irene Salvo, University of Goettingen
[“Religious Experience, Ritual Knowledge, and Gender in the Athenian Curse Tablets”](#)
- 3) Jessica Lamont, Yale University
[“The Koine of Cursing in Early Greece: Bindings and Incantations from the Epigraphic Evidence”](#)
- 4) John Bodell, Brown University
[“Ex visu / κατ’ ὄναρ Dedications and the Spiritual Lives of Greek and Roman Slaves”](#)

- 5) Santiago Castellanos, University of Leon
[“Religion and Epigraphy in Post-Roman Iberia: The Case of Eleutherius”](#)
- 6) Michael Zellmann-Rohrer, University of Oxford
[“Asklepios and St. Artemios: Comparative Perspectives on Hellenistic, Late Ancient, and Early Byzantine Narratives of Incubation”](#)

CALLS FOR PAPERS

SCS 3-6 January 2019, San Diego

ASGLE Affiliated Group Panel:
Writing the History of Epigraphy
and Epigraphers
Organized by Sarah E. Bond

The [American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy](#) invites submissions for a panel at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies in San Diego.

The history of epigraphy as a discipline stretches back to antiquity itself. In the same manner that Herodotus used inscriptions in order to list the temple inventories from Delphi and Delos and Suetonius appears to have drawn on the myriad inscriptions that dotted the Roman Forum, modern epigraphers continue to publish, interpret, and interweave epigraphic remains today. Although the focus is normally on the ancient content of these epigraphic remains, this panel turns its focus on the epigraphers themselves.

As the Society for Classical Studies looks back on 150 years of its existence as an academic organization in 2019,

epigraphers should similarly take a moment to reflect on the evolution of our field. From the Rosetta Stone to the Vindolanda Tablets, behind every great inscription is a great woman, man, and sometimes an entire archaeological team. We often contextualize inscriptions in their original time and provenance as a means of understanding the context and historical milieu in which they were written, yet understanding the motives, biases, and ethics of an epigrapher are similarly enlightening. Moreover, the role of the epigrapher as both historian and philologist is extensive. Whether it be Louis Robert's (1904–1985) and his wife Jeanne's publication of the *Bulletin épigraphique* from 1938 to 1984 or Joyce Reynolds' publication of *The inscriptions of Roman Tripolitania* in 1952, epigraphers have helped to influence classics, ancient history, and digital humanities in many meaningful ways.

The main objective of this panel is to explore broadly the relationship between classical antiquity and the epigrapher. This might include but is not limited to how ancient and early medieval writers used epigraphic evidence, how Renaissance antiquarians drew on classical epigraphy in order to create new fonts for the printing press, the impact of German scholars publishing over 250,000 inscriptions in the *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum* and the *Inscriptiones Graecae* from the latter half of the 19th century up until the present. The role of epigraphers in shaping the current state of digital humanities today is of equal import. Histories of epigraphers dedicated to working with ancient Near Eastern, Hebrew, Greek, Roman, Syriac, Etruscan, and any other language inscribed within the ancient Mediterranean world are welcome to apply.

Abstracts will be evaluated anonymously by members of the ASGLE Executive Committee and external readers, and should not be longer than 650 words (bibliography excluded); please follow the SCS "[Guidelines for Authors of Abstracts.](#)" All Greek should either be transliterated or employ a Unicode font. The Abstract should be sent electronically as a Word file, [along with a PDF of the Submission Form](#), by **March 3, 2018** to Sarah E. Bond at sarah-bond@uiowa.edu.

Organizer-Refereed Panel:
**Graphic Display. Form and Meaning
in Greek and Latin Writing**
Organized by Paula Perlman and Cristina Carusi (The University of Texas at Austin)

A growing number of digitized photographs and squeezes of inscribed and painted Greek and Latin texts are available online, providing readers today easy access to significantly more information about the format of the texts and the layout of the texts on the objects that bear them than was possible prior to the digital revolution. At the same time, today's presentation software (e.g. PowerPoint, Prezi, Haiku Deck) sensitizes producers and consumers of texts to the impact of text formatting (layout, letter size and font, color, etc.) on meaning and reader response.

Ancient writers of Greek and Latin texts that were inscribed and painted on stone and other materials appear to have employed strategies similarly, with the intent thereby (at least in part) of affecting (and effecting) the meaning of their texts and the response of their audience (reader and non-reader) to them. These strategies include:

- blank lines and spaces
- variation in the size and color of lettering
- paragraphing
- punctuation
- abbreviation
- column division
- text that is centered or justified at right or left
- direction of writing
- placement of multiple texts on one object (e.g. wall, stele, vase)
- combination of painting and inscribing in a single text

We believe that greater attention should be paid to these strategies, which we refer to collectively as "graphic display," in the interpretation of Greek and Latin inscribed and painted texts on stone and other materials (excluding papyri). Within these parameters, we invite papers that investigate any aspect of the relationship of "graphic display," content, and audience response. Among the questions that papers might address are the following:

- How and why are strategies of "graphic display" used to direct the audience's attention to the inscription/object or specific parts of the text?
- How do strategies of "graphic display" relate to the space in which the inscription/object was set?
- What peculiar strategies of "graphic display" characterize different categories of inscriptions?
- What does the use of particular strategies of "graphic display" reveal about the audience's interests and expectations?
- Can changes in "graphic display" be connected to significant developments in politics/ religion/ society, etc.?
- Do changes in "graphic display" contribute to our understanding of the audience's literacy?

The panel invites abstracts for 20-minute papers. Abstracts should be submitted via email as an attachment to info@classicalstudies.org with the subject line "Graphic Display. Form and Meaning in Greek and Latin Writing" by February 8, 2018. For guidelines for abstracts, see <https://classicalstudies.org/annual-meeting/guidelines-authors-abstracts>. Please note, the text of the abstract should not mention the name of the author. The organizers will review all submissions anonymously and inform submitters of their decision by **March 15, 2018**.

MEMBER PUBLICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cédric Brélaz shared information about the launching by the publisher Fabrizio Serra Editore Srl, Pisa-Rome, of a new journal in the field of Greek and Latin epigraphy: *The Journal of Epigraphic Studies (JES)*. The Journal now welcomes articles for the first issue to be published in 2018. Papers may be submitted by **January 31, 2018**, and will be peer-reviewed. More details about the submission procedure and the editorial rules are [linked at the ASGLE website](#) or are accessible through www.libraweb.net.

Lorenzo Calvelli reports on the new Fausto Zevi et alii, *Epigrafia ostiense dopo il CIL. 2.000 iscrizioni funerarie*, Edizioni Ca' Foscari, Venice, forthcoming in February 2018.

Until **31 January 2018** individuals and institutions can preorder a copy of *Epigrafia ostiense* at 50% of the cover price. [Full information linked at the ASGLE](#)

[website](#), including specifications about shipping costs outside of Italy.

Kevin Clinton informs us of three new articles:

- "Two Buildings in the Samothracian Sanctuary of the Great Gods," *Journal of Ancient History* 5 (2017) 323-356.
- "The Eleusinian Anaktoron of Demeter and Kore," *JAH* 4 (2016) 40-56.
- with **Nora Dimitrova**, "The Last Thracian Kings: New Evidence." In: M. Slavova and N. Sharankov (eds.). *Essays for the Centenary of Georgi Mihailov*, 85-100. Sofia, 2016.

Brent Vine has published "Latin SALVIDENUS, SALVIDENA (*CIL* I² 1813): Morphology, Orthography, Culture." In: *Miscellanea Indogermanica: Festschrift für José Luis García Ramón zum 65. Geburtstag*, ed. by Ivo Hajnal, Daniel Kölligan, and Katharina Zipser (Innsbruck: Innsbrucker Beiträge zur Sprachwissenschaft, 2017), 857-67.

ASGLE Executive Committee

President, Paul Iversen, 2-year term ending 31 December 2017

Vice-President, Nikolaos Papazarkadas, 2-year term ending 31 December 2017

Past President, John Bodel, 2-year term ending 31 December 2017

Secretary-Treasurer, James Sickinger, 3-year term ending 31 December 2018

Member-At-Large, Christer Bruun, 3-year term ending 31 December 2017

Member-At-Large, John D. Morgan, 3-year term ending 31 December 2018

Editorial Board

Senior Editor, Laura Gawlinski, 3-year term ending 31 December 2018

Web Editor, Sarah E. Bond, 3-year term ending 31 December 2018

The Epigraphy Club at the University of Victoria *by Charlie Kocurek and Novella Nicchitta*

Every year the Department of Greek and Roman Studies at the University of Victoria hosts a Lansdowne Lecturer to provide the students with an in-depth look at various aspects of the ancient world. In November of 2016, the department was fortunate enough to host Dr. Nikolaos Papazarkadas from the University of California, Berkeley. Knowing that Dr. Papazarkadas's main area of expertise is epigraphy, a small group of students from the department became curious about learning how to read ancient inscriptions. Despite the many language classes that are offered by the department, knowing Latin and Greek doesn't necessary mean that we students have the right tools or knowledge to decipher epigraphic evidence. With this in mind, a small group of students asked Dr. Gregory Rowe to lead us in learning how to approach inscriptions, and thus the Epigraphy Club was established. Last year, we met weekly – alternating readings of Latin and Greek inscriptions. We started printing large photographs of graffiti, monumental inscriptions, coins, and dipinti, in the attempt to work as if we had the inscribed objects in our hands. We confronted every type of writing, on various surfaces and written in different dialects, and, even with our limited knowledge, found increasing success in our decipherment abilities. The club progressively grew in size and the enthusiasm of the participants flourished. Some of us even began to prepare and present inscriptions of our own choice to the other members of the club – leading the others in the deciphering and learning process.



This year, the number of participants has significantly increased, with students participating from various departments: political science, anthropology, and even the hard sciences. Additionally, external international visitors have taken part in the club, including high school students from Italy on an exchange program in Victoria. Furthermore, the number of graduate students participating to the club

has increased, with some of them taking

active part in presenting interesting cases found during their studies – two of them just recently started to study Hittite in order to teach it to the club and help us walk through some Hittite inscriptions. Going forward, we would love to be able to extend our knowledge beyond our primary focus of Ancient Greek and Latin – perhaps Linear B?

This semester, two undergraduate students have led the discussions and the decipherments; they have been preparing at least one Latin and one Greek inscription to present on a weekly basis as a part of their Directed Studies projects. After copies of the original inscription are distributed, the students pair up and they attempt to generate a transcription and diplomatic text of the given inscription. After that, each person takes a turn reading some of their transcription out

loud to the group, while the moderator of the group presents relevant characteristics or features of the inscriptions in order to produce a comprehensive understanding of both the text and the context from which it came. At the end of the process, the group, as a whole, provides a translation of the inscription. It is a group project that combines the different skills of everyone in the group, and even people that have no experience in the ancient languages can enjoy the step-by-step process of a translation that is built by everyone.

Being a member of the Epigraphy Club in the Greek and Roman Studies Department at the University of Victoria means that you are a part of a holistic group; we grow together in our growing knowledge of the epigraphical record. The most rewarding part of the club is that, because of the co-

curricular nature of the club, you can see the genuine passion that has manifested in the students. It is a part of the week that we all look forward to and it helps us develop our own specific areas of interest, outside of the classroom. Perhaps this will lead some of us down an epigraphical path in our future research, as we move beyond our undergraduate education.



Charlie Kocurek and Novella Nicchitta are the Department of Greek and Latin's two nominees for the Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards, a university-wide program that allows "exceptional undergraduate students the opportunity to participate in research relevant to their discipline." Ms Kocurek is a 3rd-year honours student in GRS, researching Greek and Roman numismatic epigraphy. Ms Nicchitta is a 4th-year honours student in GRS, researching civic benefactions (especially gladiatorial shows) and epigraphy in Pompeii.

The *ASGLE Bulletin* welcomes epigraphic news, announcements of peer-reviewed publications and presentations, and short pieces of interest to its membership.

Submissions will be vetted anonymously by two members of the Executive Committee.

Looking for the membership page? Updated dues information will be available after the annual meeting.

ASGLE Life Members

Rebecca Benefiel
John Bodel
Christer Bruun
Laura Gawlinski
John D. Morgan
George Pesely
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