

American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy Société americaine d'épigraphie latine et grecque Newsletter, October 1, 2000 Volume 4, Number 2

Letter from the President

The Boundaries of Our Field.

Two epigraphic events of the past eighteen months remind us that the epigraphic cultures of Greece and Rome, though dominant throughout the Mediterranean region during the central period of classical antiquity, were by no means linguistically or materially isolated from the rich variety of inscriptional evidence that has come down to us.

At the end of May 1999 at a press conference in Florence F. Nicosia announced the discovery seven years previously near Cortona of seven of eight fragments of a lengthy bronze opisthographic inscription (or rather inscriptions, since the two sides preserve independent texts) in the Etruscan language recording, it seems, a public transaction between two leading clans, possibly for the purchase or sale of land. Datable to the late third or second century BCE, when the area was firmly under Roman control, the TabulaCortonensis constitutes not only a rich new source of information about the Etruscan language (as the third longest Etruscan text to survive, the document includes 27 new words and several new verb forms and syntactical constructions) but also a valuable testimony to the

interaction of Etruscan and Roman cultures, particularly in matters concerning the law of property. An editio princeps has now been published by L. Agostiniani and F. Nicosia (Tabula Cortonensis, Rome, L'Erma di Bretschneider 2000, 180 pp. + 21 +17 illustrations), and a brief overview (in English, by A. Bottini) of the document's history and significance can be found on the internet at:http://www.repubblicarts. kataweb.it/repubblicarts/etruschi/test o.html. For good images and a transcription visit: http://members.nbci.com/_XM CM/Pdictus/tabula.html and follow the link to Table of Cortona on the menu at the left.

At the eastern end of the Mediterranean, an international project to produce a Corpus Inscriptionum Judaeae / Palaestinae was recently launched and is now well under way. Headed by a team of specialists from the Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, and the University of Cologne, the project is not only a model of international cooperation but a reminder of the restrictions imposed upon the modern study of ancient inscriptions by contemporary political realities. The territory to be covered – the coastal strip bounded by the Mediterranean, the river Jordan, the Negev, and the Golan heights -- does not correspond

precisely to any ancient Roman or Byzantine province but fills a gap in the regional coverage provided primarily by French scholars producing volumes for the series Inscriptions grecques et latines de la Syrie and Inscriptions de la Jordanie. In contrast to these traditional corpora, however, the new publication, arranged geographically, aims to provide a linguistically comprehensive corpus of all inscriptions from the Hellenistic, Roman, and early Byzantine periods written not only in Greek and Latin but also in the Semitic languages, principally Hebrew, Aramaic, Samaritan, Nabataean, Syriac, Thamudic, and Safaitic. Further details about the project are provided by the principal organizers, H. M. Cotton, W. Eck, L. Di Segni, and B. Isaac in ZPE 127 (1999) 307-8. A brief synopsis, with an email address for those seeking further information, can be found on the internet off the AIEGL homepage at: http://www.uni-koeln.de/philfak/ifa/altg/eck/mitt.html.

While few of us possess the linguistic expertise to control much of this varied material -- one recent estimate puts the number of epigraphically attested languages from the Roman empire other than Greek and Latin at more than a dozen (W. V. Harris, Ancient Literacy, Cambridge, Mass. 1989, 175-90, at 175) -- anyone interested in understanding the epigraphic cultures of antiquity must inevitably recognize not only that inscriptions provide a narrowly selective window on the realities they attest but also that those written in Greek and Latin offer only a partial view of the broader epigraphic landscape. It seems to me that ASGLE, though appropriately named to reflect the central interests shared by all of us,

would do well to encourage membership and participation from those whose linguistic competencies and historical focus center on other epigraphically attested cultures of classical antiquity than those of Greece and Rome. Greek epigraphy already embraces the various Greek dialects in use during the archaic and classical periods, and Latin epigraphists working in any region of the empire regularly encounter inscriptional evidence of Roman civilization coming into contact with native linguistic and epigraphic traditions. Efforts to recruit Etruscologists, Celtists, Punicologists, students of the ancient Near East or of Cypriot culture, and other specialists in related fields would enrich our association in at least two ways. All students of inscriptions confront certain technical problems (of transcription and editing, for example, or of interpreting the relationship between text and 'text carrier') which might profitably be discussed across linguistic boundaries. At the same time, acquiring a greater tamiliarity with the various epigraphic practices attested in antiquity would enable each of us better to appreciate the distinctive characteristics of the particular epigraphic cultures we have chosen to study.

I welcome comments on this idea from the ASGLE membership and propose to raise the question for general discussion at our open business meeting at the APA/AIA meetings in San Diego in January. If broadening our recruitment efforts in this direction is generally agreed to be worthwhile, I will invite specific advice as to how to proceed and will share with those present any suggestions offered in advance.

John Bodel, President ASGLE.

Report on ASGLE activities in 2000

Since our last business meeting at the APA/AIA meetings in Dallas in December 1999, ASGLE has been involved in several initiatives, which I itemize below and which we will discuss in greater detail at our upcoming meeting in San Diego in January 2001.

- Tim Winters' call for submission of essays concerning the use of inscriptions in the classroom for a volume intended to help college and secondary school teachers introduce inscriptions into their classes in elementary and advanced Greek and Latin as well as in history and civilization (ASGLE Newsletter 4.1 [January 2000] 4) has elicited two completed manuscripts and a promise of two others, which are currently in preparation. ASGLE members interested in contributing to the volume are invited to contact Tim directly at the Department of Languages and Literatures, P.O. Box 4487, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN 37044 or by e-mail at: winterst@apsu01.apsu.edu.

N.B. As John says, I have now two papers for this volume, and two more in preparation. I know that all of you use inscriptions in the classroom, and I encourage you to write up your methodology, include a small corpus of relevant texts, and send it to me for inclusion in the volume.

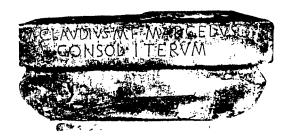
- The ASGLE Squeeze Project. Following a suggestion of E. Badian, a proposal has been drawn up to establish a database of all known squeezes and photographs, in the USA and Canada, of ancient Greek and Latin inscriptions, to be mounted at the ASGLE website. The proposal calls for the collection and assembly of information at the U.S. Epigraphy Project using a system of registering the material similar to that employed by the

U.S. Epigraphy Project for the cataloging of inscriptions. For more information, see the web site: http://usepigraphy.rutgers.edu. A copy of the proposal can be obtained from John Bodel, U.S. Epigraphy Project, Department of Classics, 131 George Street, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Anyone knowing of squeezes or photographs that should be included in the registry is encouraged to contact the U.S. Epigraphy Project at the address given above or by email to: bodel@rci.rutgers.edu.

- Diane Harris-Cline has proposed that ASGLE establish a traveling summer school of epigraphy, to be held in Greece and Italy in alternating years. The idea will be discussed at the ASGLE business meeting in San Diego.
- EpiDoc: Tom Elliott has drafted a proposal to create a system for the electronic markup of Greek and Latin inscriptions, using Extensible Markup Language (XML) and the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) tag set, with the aim of developing a standard digital format for encoding epigraphic texts and exchanging them between databases, web sites and word processors. The proposal also addresses the use of the new Unicode font specification to display the various brackets and special characters needed for the transcription of epigraphic texts. This initiative is being advanced in close consultation with the Stoa Consortium for Electronic Publication in the Humanities, the Perseus Project and an AIEGL subcommittee appointed to address related needs.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bodel, President, ASGLE



EPIGRAPHY AT APA/AIA 2001

This year's ASGLE panel, "Epigraphy and the Arts," will be held on Saturday, 4 Jan., from 9:30-11:00. Here is the list of speakers and topics.

- 1. Kevin Clinton, Cornell University Introduction (10 mins.)
- 2. Patricia A. Butz, Public and Private Transformation in the Art of the Trajan Inscription
- 3. Julia L. Shear, Univ. of Pennsylvania Epigraphy, Art, and Tribal Victories at the Panathenaia
- 4. Nora Dimitrova, Cornell University Inscriptions and Iconography in the Monuments of the Thracian Rider
- 5. Marietta Horster, University of Rostock (Germany) Honoring Roman Empresses
- 6. Dennis Trout, University of Missouri-Columbia Damasus and the Poetics of Praise: Refashioning the Latin Elogium

In addition to the ASGLE panel, there are others which include agreat deal of epigraphical material. Gil Renberg and Celia Schultz are co-organizers of the panel "Religious Authority in Italy's Towns and Countryside" held at 8:30 am on Jan 4 at the APA in San Diego. Every paper on this panel is epigraphical. The papers are:

"Colonial Deities? Religious Praxis in Rural Italy" by Paul B. Harvey of the Pennsylvania State University

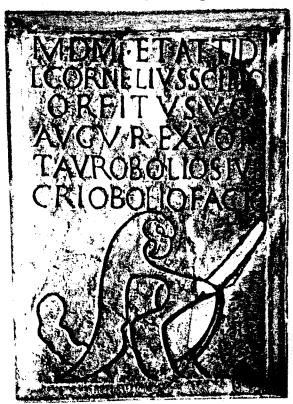
"The Lanuvian Juno and Roman Insecurity" by Celia E. Schultz of Johns Hopkins University "Gender Roles in the Senatus Consultum de Bacchanalibus" by Harriet I. Flower of Franklin and Marshall

"Religious Authorities and Divine Authorities in Roman Italy" by Gil Renberg of Duke University

Russell T. Scott of Bryn Mawr College will respond.

Also of note is the talk in the Biography session, 1:30 to 4:00 on Friday afternoon, by Juan Gomez Pallarez, "Autobiography as Metaliterature: Epigraphy and Literature from Ancient to Medieval times."

The panels on Religious Authority in Italy's Towns and Countryside, 8:30 to 11:00 Thursday, on Greek Law and Society, 1:30 to 4:00 Thursday, on Greek History, 1:30 to 4:00 Friday, and Epigraphy and Manuscripts, 11:45 to 1:30 Saturday, also have epigraphical papers, as do many other panels.



Minutes of the 1999 Business Meeting of ASGLE

The meeting was held in the Adams Mark Hotel, in Dallas, on 28 Dec. 1999. The meeting was called to order at 3:30. In attendance were John Bodel, Steve Tracy, Glenn Bugh, Diane Harris-Cline, Timothy Winters, Thomas Corstin, Dennis Trout, John Morgan, George Houston, William West, Steve Tuck, and Paula Perlman. A moment of silence was observed in honor of two members of our profession who passed away this year: Joyce Gordon, and Antony Raubitschek. John Bodel gave a brief recap of the referendum on the conferring of a dissertation prize or a monograph series. 54 ballots were returned, 49 in favor of the monograph series to publish collections of inscriptions in the United States. So far, only one such project is underway, Michael Pechin at NYU is working on a group of about 40 Latin inscriptions. He will not be ready to submit a manuscript for some time. As for the dissertation prize, there were 39 in favor and 11 against. The executive committee chose to abandon the initiative for the moment based on the ideas that there is not a great deal of money involved, there are not enough submissions, and the award would not encourage people to work in epigraphy. There followed a great deal of discussion about the issue, with John Morgan encouraging the committee to revisit the idea. His thought is that such an award may help raise awareness of epigraphy, and help someone get a job. An alternate suggestion was put forth to award a prize for an essay. This was discussed and abandoned. William West suggested that funds be provided to offset the cost of acquiring photographs of inscriptions to be

included in a dissertation. Diane Harris-Cline proposed providing funds for graduate student travel to collections for work in progress. In short there was a lively discussion and John Morgan is drawing up a proposal concerning the award of a dissertation prize. The topic of how ASGLE distributes its funds will be taken up again at the next meeting. The AIEGL initiative on epigraphy and technology was discussed briefly. The U.S. is better equipped right now to deal with these issues because of access to software, fonts, etc. Right now no suitable font available to handle all diacritical marks, and epigraphical signs. We are invited to send suggestions about the use of particular fonts and any other computer hints which may be helpful in this regard to Kevin Clinton who is the U.S. representative for this initiative. Prof. Clinton can be reached on e-mail at: kmc1@cornell.edu. Steve Tracy reported on the new edition of IG which is underway. The plan is to finish the new edition in ten years. The goal is to put out a less expensive edition of IG. There is senior advisory board which has the authority to give out material for editing. Gravestones will not be included in the new edition, but rather they will be published electronically. There is a position available in Berlin to coordinate all of the editors. Interested parties may contact Prof. Tracy concerning the particulars for that position. Prof. Tracy's e-mail address is tracy.2@osu.edu. John Bodel noted that there were twenty submissions for this year's panel, and he encouraged us all to submit papers for next years panel on epigraphy and art. Steve Tracy requested also that we encourage students or apply ourselves for the fellowship money available at

the Epigraphy Center at Ohio State University. The fellowships carry a stipend of \$1500.00 per month, and fellows have no teaching responsibilities.

Under new business, John Bodel noted that he had carried on a correspondance with Greg Miller, a secondary teacher, who is interested in using inscriptions in the classroom. Mr. Miller wonders if the newsletter might not be used as a forum for producing brief lessons which highlight the use of inscriptions. Prof. Bodel has offered to produce the first such lesson. George Houston pointed out the newsletter does not reach many secondary teachers and therefore may not be the best venue for such a publication. Susan Cole suggested that a volume of such lessons would be useful. Tim Winters then set forth plans for the publication of such a volume, based on the 1999 CAMWS panel on inscriptions as pedagogical tools. The observation was made that inscriptions which are available on the web would be most useful for secondary teachers. The decision was made to send out a call for papers in order to pursue publication of a volume of lessons using inscriptions in the classroom.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40.

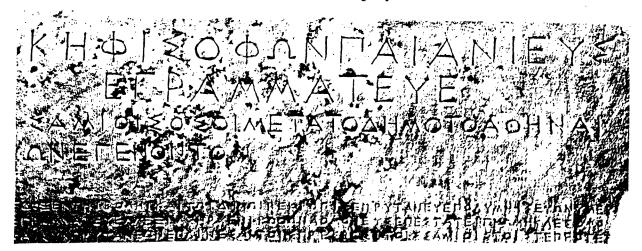
Respectfully submitted, Timothy F. Winters, Secretary-Treasurer

POSITION AVAILABLE

PADDISON PROFESSOR OF LATIN

The Department of Classics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been authorized to search for a distinguished senior colleague to join the Department as the Paddison Professor of Latin and successor to Robert Getty, T.R.S. Broughton, Brooks Otis, and Jerzy Linderski. The Paddison Professor teaches a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses and seminars. We seek a scholar with a strong record of publication, an international reputation for excellence in research, and a demonstrated commitment to first-rate teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Department encourages applications from women and minority candidates. Nominations are welcome. We will begin to consider applications on December 4, 2000, and continue the search until the position is filled. Please send a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, and the names of four persons who would be willing to write on your behalf, to: Professor Philip Stadter, Chair, Paddison Search Committee, Department of Classics CB 3145, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599 email: stadter@unc.edu

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SPRING 2001 CONFERENCE

The conference "Philostratus, Heroikos, Religion, and Cultural Identity" will be held on May 4-6, 2001 at Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, Mass. The last decade has witnessed a renaissance of interest in the Heroikos, the sophist Philostratus' artful, humorous, and often subversive retelling of the lives of the heroes from the Trojan War. Recent translations have appeared in German, Italian, Spanish, Modern Greek, and the first English translation is forthcoming (Society of Biblical Literature, Texts and Translation: Graeco-Roman Religion Series). The Heroikos now stands in the center of many issues engaging Classicists, and this conference will use this third-century text as a springboard for exploring questions of religion, cultural identity, literary activity, the reception of Homer, oral poetry, and politics at the cusp of late antiquity. Epigraphic and archaeological evidence for understanding the historical and social context of the Heroikos will also be considered. Those interested in the development of Early Christianity will find that the Heroikos addresses many of the same issues faced by Christian communities (e.g., the relation of an emerging canon of texts to local traditions) and that Early Christian belief and practice will be illumined when studied within the context of contemporaneous strategies of creating religious meaning, such as are visible in the Heroikos. An international team of scholars will present papers in the following sessions: Hero Cult in the Second and Third Centuries C.E., The Heroikos of Philostratus, Hellenes and Foreigners, The Heroikos and Early Christianity, and Syria and the Severan Dynasty. There will also be a panel discussion on Translation and Pedagogy. Further conference information.

including a list of speakers and paper abstracts, as well as a summary of the *Heroikos*, can be found on the *Heroikos* web site http://www2.roanoke.edu/religion/maclean/Heroikos/HomePage.html). The conference organizers, Jennifer Berenson Maclean and Ellen B. Aitken may also be contacted by e-mail: jmaclean@roanoke.edu ellen_aitken@harvard.edu.



EPIGRAPHICAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Oxford University announces the International Summer School in Greek and Latin Epigraphy for 2001, to be held Monday 2nd July to Thursday 12th July 2001. The summer school will be held at the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents, University of Oxford, under the auspices of the BritishEpigraphy Society. The School will be directed by Dr G.J. Oliver, Dr A.E. Cooley, Dr A.K. Bowman, and Dr D. Obbink. Accommodation with full board in college rooms will be provided in Christ Church College at a heavily subsidised rate. The charge for the course, including accommodation with full board, is £350. There will also be a course fee of £50 for those who wish to attend on a non-residential basis. The number of places on the course is strictly limited,

and people wishing to obtain further details and an application form should contact Dr Cooley as soon as possible (Dr A.E. Cooley, Corpus Christi College, Oxford. OX 14JF; e-mail: alison.cooley@ccc.ox.ac.uk). The closing date for applications is 1st Nov. 2000. The Summer School will offer practical instruction in a seminar format to advanced undergraduates and graduate students in Greek and Latin Epigraphy. In addition to the practical seminars, students will attend key-note lectures given by leading scholars (Prof. J.K. Davies, Prof. S. Mitchell, Prof. M.H. Crawford, Mrs C.M. Rouech»), and specialist workshops led by experts (Greek pots, writing tablets, coins, instrumentum domesticum, epigraphic manuscripts, Christianity, architecture, information technology). The course will offer students the opportunity both to develop practical expertise in reading and editing epigraphic texts, and to increase their understanding of the importance of epigraphy for ancient historians.



NOTES FROM MEMBERS

A book, Epigraphic Evidence: Ancient History from Inscriptions, edited by John Bodel, will be published by Routledge Press in March 2001 in the series "Approaching the Ancient World". Individual chapters address the question of epigraphic cultures in antiquity and the place of inscribed writing in the ancient world (Bodel), local languages and native cultures (Maryline Parca), onomastics and prosopography (Olli Salomies), the family and society (Richard Saller), civic and religious life (James Rives), and inscribed instrumentum and the ancient economy (Giuseppe Pucci). An appendix provides a guide to the arrangement of the major epigraphic corpora and serial publications.

Professor William M. Calder III and Dr Robert Kirstein will publish in early 2001 their new uncensored edition with commentary of the correspondence between Ulrich von Wilamowitz-Moellendorff and his father-in-law Theodor Mommsen. Many inscriptions, especially provincial Greek texts from the Empire are edited, restored or emended in these letters because Wilamowitz often read early drafts of Mommsen's publications. A careful index locorum antiquorum will ease access to the new material.

Tom Elliott is working on an epigraphical dissertation at Chapel Hill under the supervision of Prof. Richard Talbert. The dissertation concerns boundary disputes and Roman Imperial administration. Tom also reports that the ASGLE web site is undergoing a major overhaul, in which the links section has been updated. Please continue to send interesting links and other web information to Tom at: Tom_Elliott@unc.edu

Kudos to Diane Harris-Cline who received tenure at Univ. of Cincinnati recently. Diane is on leave this year, teaching an epigraphy course at Johns Hopkins, while holding down a full time position at Howard University as well. The web site for her epigraphy course is well worth a visit: http://home.flash.net/~drcline/2000/JHU.html

Ed Harris reports publication of his article, "Notes on the New Grain-Tax Law" ZPE 128 (1999) 269-72. The article contains new views on certain aspects of the Grain-Tax Law published by Ron Stroud in Hesperia Suppl. 29.

Kudos as well to Philip J. Smith, who recently completed the requirements for the Ph.D. at McGill University with an epigraphical dissertation titled Megaris in Hellenistic and Roman Times: an Archaeological and Epigraphical Study. Dr. Smith's dissertation was completed under the supervision of Prof. John Fossey.

Richard Talbert reminds members that the Barrington Atlas is available at a special price for a limited time. The date has now been extended to 30 November. Log on to: www.unc.edu/depts/cl_atlas for ordering information.

Steve Tracy of Ohio State keeps very busy in his added roles as Chairman of the Managing Committee for ASCSA, and as a member of the senior advisory board for the new edition of the post-Eukleidian inscriptions of Attica. A group under his supervision has put up on the web images of a number of important Attic inscriptions. The url for this site is: http://omega.cohums.ohio-state.edu/epigraphy/inscriptions>

Steve has also recently had several articles appear:

- 1. "Demetrius of Phalerum: Who was He and Who was He Not?," pages 331 to 345 in *Demetrius of Phalerum*, Rutgers University Studies in Classical Humanities IX (New Brunswick, N.J. 2000).
- 2. "Dating Athenian Inscriptions: A New Approach," *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* 144, 2000, 67-76.
- 3. "Athenian Politicians and Inscriptions of the Years 307 to 302 BC, *Hesperia* 68 (1999).
- 4. "IG II2 2181 + 1028," Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik 124 (1999) 143-144

Yannis Tzifopoulos sends notice of a new periodical and accompanying web site which deal with epigraphy. The journal is Eulimene, and the contents of Vol. 1 may be viewed at: http://www.phl.uoc.gr/eulimene/ ed. note: The current edition of this journal contains articles by two members of ASGLE, Angelos Chaniotis, and David Jordan. There are images attached to several of the articles as well. Prof. Tzifopoulos also reports publication of two new books which include inscriptions: Pavlos Chrysostomou, Η Θεσσαλική Θεὰ Εν(ν)όδια η Φερεὰ Θεά (in Greek. The Thessalian Goddess En(n)odia or Pherea goddess, Athens 1998 (Αρχαιολογικόν Δελτίον publications 64). The volume contains all inscriptions, as well as sculpture, mentioning this local goddess.

P. Themelis (ed.), Προτοβυζαντινη Ελευθερνα Τομεας I, vol. II, Rethymno: University of Crete (2000) Contributions are in Greek and English. The contents include Y.Z. Tzifopoulos, "The Inscriptions", Kleanthes Sideropoulos, "Νομισματικα ευρηματα", as well as chapters on pottery and various other aspects of the important site of Eleutherna.

Brent Vine has published "Latin *opio and optare", in Essays in Poetics, Literary History and Linguistics Presented to Viacheslav Vsevolodovich Ivanov on the Occasion of His Seventieth Birthday, ed. L. Fleishman et al. (Moscow: OGI, 1999), 520-526. The primary focus of the paper is linguistic, but part of the argumentation concerns a gloss in Festus, the evaluation of which depends on certain facts of Republican Latin inscriptional paleography.

If you have a recent or forthcoming publication, or news of an interesting web site, please let me know and I will be happy to include notice of it in the newsletter.



CENTER FOR HELLENIC STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS

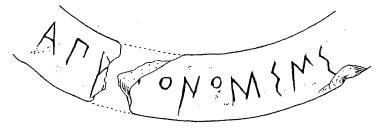
CHS Junior Fellowships

The Center for Hellenic Studies invites applications for twelve Junior Fellowships in Ancient Greek Studies, to be awarded for the academic year September 2001 through May 2002 (or for Fellows with school-age children, to the end of the school year in June). Applicants who are unable to stay for the full academic year may apply for a one-semester fellowship; they should include with their application a note explaining the circumstances that make this necessary. The Fellowship includes a stipend, free housing and utilities on the premises for the Fellows and their families, subsidized health insurance, and other benefits. The stipend (maximum \$24,000) is adjusted for individual circumstances, such as the number of dependents accompanying the Fellow and the amount of support from other sources. Additional support (up to \$1000) is available for professional travel and other research expenses. The Center can also assist with Fellows' travel expenses to and from Washington. Fellows, together with the Director and staff, lunch together on weekdays throughout the year. The program of the Center is not demanding: talks by visiting scholars occur once or twice a month, and occasionally meetings are held for Fellows to discuss their research. In general, the way is clear for a year of full-time individual study and research in a collegial international environment. The Center's specialized library contains over 50,000 volumes, including a large collection of periodicals. For rarer items it is possible to call on the resources of the Library of Congress, of the Center's

sister-institution Dumbarton Oaks, or of nearby universities, and, through the Interlibrary Loan system, of the major university libraries of the United States. Prerequisites for the Junior Fellowships are the Ph.D. (or its equivalent) at the time of application and professional competence in ancient Greek studies as documented by published work. The principal requirement is a detailed research proposal. The Fellowships are designated for outstanding Hellenists in the earlier stages of their professional careers (usually not more than ten years post-doctorate. Potential candidates who are uncertain about their eligibility should contact the Director before applying. The Center supports affirmative action and equal opportunity in the selection of Fellows.

Application forms are available by clicking on "application" link or on request. Applications (for the following academic year) must be postmarked by October 15, 2000. Letters of recommendation are due separately at the Director's office by November 1,2000. All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Director Center for Hellenic Studies 3100 Whitehaven Street NW Washington, DC 20008 USA Tel: 202-234-3738 Fax: 202-797-3745 E-Mail:CHS@Harvard.edu



Second Call for Papers

As our president noted above in his comments on the recent activities of the Society, the project to produce a volume which deals with the use of inscriptions in the classroom is still alive: I repeat the call for papers here.

Many of us who are comfortable with inscriptions use them in a variety of ways in our classes. From elementary language instruction to advanced history and reading courses, everything we teach can be aided by the use of inscriptions. Unfortunately, many of our colleagues do not use inscriptions either because of the difficulty of finding those which are most suitable for a particular course or lesson, or because they are under the impression that only the specialist is equipped to deal with inscriptions. This proposal seeks to rectify that situation by producing a volume of essays which explain how inscriptions can be used in pedagogical settings. The essays will be accompanied by a selection of helpful inscriptions. To that end, papers are invited which deal with the use of inscriptions in the classroom. Papers may address language instruction at any level, history, religion, private life, mythology, anywhere you use inscriptions to help students with their understanding of the ancient world. Authors are requested to provide a small corpus of relevant inscriptions which will be reproduced along with the essays. The aim here is to obviate the necessity of navigating the corpora which is a major stumbling block for some who would otherwise like to use inscriptions in their teaching. I offer as an example one lesson which I use in elementary Greek. The first week of class, I bring in photocopies of

the demosion sema inscriptions, and

after a brief discussion about the significance of these inscriptions I have the students read the names aloud to practice reading Greek. The fact that they know that this is real Greek, even if it is only a list of names, provides a boost in their confidence right out front. I also draw a parallel with the Vietnam memorial in Washington and we take a few minutes to discuss that. The students are immediately drawn into the reality that these were flesh and blood people who died in battle, and it is good that their names ring out once more. The whole exercise takes only about 15 to 20 minutes, but students always remember it. They get to read some Greek which Plato may have seen, they begin to understand the importance of inscriptions right from the beginning of their Greek lessons, and thus come to realize that inscriptions are not to be feared, but embraced. Please consider submitting a paper for this volume which should be very useful for all. Send submissions to:

Timothy F. Winters
Dept. of Language and Literature
P.O. Box 4487
Austin Peay State University
Clarksville, TN 37044

A Note from the Secretary

I am in the process of updating all membership information, and will send out a new directory of membership with the next newsletter. If your e-mail address has changed, or you would like to change your current mailing address, please contact me at winterst@apsu01.apsu.edu. Please inform me if you would like to have your telephone number included in the directory.

Visit the ASGLE web-site at: http://asgle.classics.unc.edu Bookmark it!

If you have questions or comments about the newsletter, or any items for inclusion, please address them to me. I also gladly accept dues.

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