



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

ASGLE Bulletin

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Annual Dues Reminder

Members are reminded that payments for 2023 membership are now due. Payments may be made via PayPal or by check drawn on a US bank. The annual fee remains \$45 US for full membership (which includes membership in *Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine*) and \$15 US for retired faculty, students, and independent scholars. Lifetime membership is also available with one-time payment of \$700.

Please submit payments for 2023 by December 31, 2022. Payment information can be found on the last page of this Bulletin or by visiting the [Membership](#) page on the ASGLE website.

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ASGLE Panel – 2023 AIA/SCS Meeting – New Orleans

EPIGRAPHIC TEXTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS IN THE GRAECO-ROMAN WORLD

Organized by Jonathan Edmondson (York University)

ASGLE received an excellent response to its Call for Papers for the Association's 2023 panel, "Epigraphic Texts and Archaeological Contexts in the Graeco-Roman World," to be held at January's joint AIA-SCS Annual Meeting in New Orleans: nineteen abstracts were submitted from the following countries: US (10), UK (4), Italy (3), Germany (1), and Poland (1). A committee of three ASGLE members was charged with reviewing the abstracts anonymously.

As a result, six papers were accepted for presentation:

- **Silvia Orlandi** (Università La Sapienza, Rome), "Epigraphic messages inside the buildings: the monumental inscriptions of the Colosseum" (15 minutes)
- **Mary-Eveline Farrior** (PhD Program in Classical Studies, Columbia University), "Writing Home in Rome: The Epigraphy of Diaspora Communities in Southern Trastevere" (15 minutes)
- **Gavin Blasdel** (PhD Program in Ancient History, University of Pennsylvania/American School of Classical Studies in Athens), "Harmodius in Roman Athens: recontextualizing an honorific monument for Sulla" (15 minutes)
- **Flavio Santini** (PhD Program in Ancient History & Mediterranean Archaeology, University of California at Berkeley), "Aureis litteris figenda. Readability, meaning, and diffusion of (gilded) bronze letters in the East under Nero" (15 minutes)
- **Abigail Graham** (Institute of Classical Studies, University of London), "Two sides of the same story? Cognitive approaches to the changing

faces of bilingualism in the urban landscape of Ephesos" (15 minutes)

- **John Pearce** (King's College, University of London), "Encounters with writing in the sanctuaries of Roman Britain" (15 minutes)

In addition, Jonathan Edmondson (York University, Toronto) will offer an Introduction to the panel (10 minutes) and James Sickinger (Florida State University) will provide a Closing Response (15 minutes).

The panel was accepted by both the SCS and the AIA and will be presented as a joint SCS-AIA ASGLE panel. It will take place on **Friday 6 January 2023 from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m.**

2023 ASGLE Business Meeting

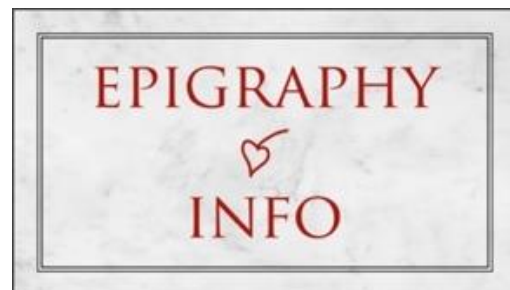
The SCS has confirmed the time and place of the **2023 ASGLE Business Meeting** in New Orleans:

Date: Friday, January 6, 2023

Time: 10:30 AM – 12.00 PM

Place: Room Strand 2, Hyatt Regency
New Orleans, 601 Loyola Ave.,
New Orleans, LA 70113

We shall follow up with details about remote participation via Zoom later in December.



NOTES FROM THE US EPIGRAPHY PROJECT: Reconstituting a Fragmentary Inscription in a North American and Italian Collection

Around the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, more than two-thirds of the Latin inscriptions currently held in American collections were shipped from Italy to North America. More than 600 of these originated from a large necropolis of the early imperial era between the Via Pinciana and the Via Salaria north of the modern Corso d'Italia in Rome. Between their times of discovery and export, a number of inscribed epitaphs from this area were broken and their pieces became separated, with one or more fragments being shipped to the USA and other pieces becoming dispersed among European collections. The following case study illustrates one such story.



Approximate area of Via Salaria necropolis on map of modern Rome is outlined in red; location of former Villa Ceci indicated by yellow pin; approximate area of Vigna de Cinque outlined in yellow.

When Giuseppe Gatti published the bipartite **epitaph of Plotia Fausta and P. Caesonius Anteros** (*CIL* 6.37442~[MI.AA.UM.KM.L.1421](#) ~ [EDR122019](#)) in the *Bullettino Comunale* in 1906, the inscription was still intact.¹ It was found *in situ* in a sepulchral chamber on the property of the villa Ceci (currently the seat of the Nunziatura Apostolica) amidst development of the northern area of the Via Salaria necropolis for a new road.²

Only two years later, in 1908, the inscription had been broken. Walter Dennison bought its right half from the antiquarian Maniani on the Via della Consolazione in Rome as part of a series of purchases for Francis Kelsey, Professor of Latin at the University of Michigan, who was at

that time acquiring antiquities from the ancient Mediterranean world to form the nucleus of a university teaching collection.³

¹ G. Gatti. "Nuove Scoperte nel Sepolcreto fra la Via Salaria e la Via Pinciana," *Bullettino della Commissione Archeologica Comunale di Roma*, Vol. 34. Rome (1906): 95.

² A. Casaramona. *Il Sepolcreto Salario: Studio Topografico e Monumentale*. diss. Sapienza Università di Roma (2018): 62.

³ M.W. Baldwin and M. Torelli. Latin Inscriptions in the Kelsey Museum: the Dennison Collection. *Ann Arbor* (1979): 1.

The left half of the epitaph of Plotia Fausta and P. Caesonius Anteros was apparently first in the possession of the *Antiquarium Comunale*, but was then moved to the *Musei Capitolini*, where it now remains.⁴ The details of how the left half of the epitaph originally came into the possession of the *Antiquarium Comunale* remain obscure, but Maniani—from whom Dennison purchased the other half—reportedly told Dennison that he had already sold off other inscriptions from the villa Ceci, the findspot of the bipartite epitaph.⁵ Indeed, the epitaph of C. Antistius Ninus (CIL 6.37447 = [EDR119260](#)), which was found with the epitaph of Fausta and Anteros at the villa Ceci, was published in the same volume of the *Bullettino Comunale*, and is also currently at the *Musei Capitolini*.⁶ This inscription's provenance suggests that it and the part of the tablet recording Fausta's epitaph may have been sold together to the *Antiquarium Comunale*, perhaps by Maniani himself.

It cannot now be ascertained how, when, and in what condition Maniani acquired the epitaph of Plotia Fausta and P. Caesonius Anteros. Perhaps the stone was already broken and Maniani only ever managed to get his hands on the part he sold to Dennison. Perhaps it was broken but complete



Composite image of the epitaph of Fausta and Anteros.
Left: Musei Capitolini, NCE 295 (EDR). Right: Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, no. 1421.

when he acquired it, in which case he was complicit, actively or passively, in its separation. Perhaps it was still intact when he acquired it, which may suggest that the break was intentional. About these details of the inscription's history we can only speculate.

The story of the epitaph of Plotia Fausta and P. Caesonius Anteros illustrates the twists and turns undergone by many of the inscriptions discovered in the area of the Via Salaria necropolis on the various routes they travelled on their way into American collections. The [U.S. Epigraphy Project](#), in compiling metadata about the circumstances of acquisition as well as circumstances of discovery (where known) of these and other ancient inscriptions registered in its inventory, hopes to make it easier to trace the connections among institutions, collectors, financiers, and middle-men that collectively tell the story of the origins of the reception in North America of the epigraphic heritage of the classical Mediterranean world.

Sophia Papandonatou
U.S. Epigraphy Project

⁴ Baldwin and Torelli (1979): xviii; F. P. Arata and N. Balistreri. "L'Antiquarium Comunale del Celio in Il Primo Miglio della Via Appia a Roma," *Atti della Giornata di Studio (Roma, 16 giugno 2009)*. Rome (2010): 276.

⁵ Baldwin and Torelli (1979): 1. Giorgio Crimi at EDR 122019 first noted the join between the two halves in 2012.

⁶ Gatti (1906): 98.

ASGLE at the XVIth International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy in Bordeaux

President Jonathan Edmonson reports:

In the final week of August, 434 epigraphers and their guests, drawn from 31 countries, gathered in the attractive city of Bordeaux (France) to take part in the 16th International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy. All told, 245 speakers gave papers and over 60 presented posters.



Cour Mably (Bordeaux)

The five-day congress, which ran from Monday 29 August to Friday 2 September, was organized around the theme of “Epigraphy and the Epigraphic Profession in the 21st century.” It provided a rich mixture of plenary sessions, parallel sections and three keynote lectures. On the Monday Denis Rousset (École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris) reflected on how to publish Greek and Latin inscriptions in the 21st century; on the Wednesday Attilio Mastino (Università di Sassari and editor of *Epigraphica*) discussed geography, geopolitics and epigraphy, while Marietta Horster (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz and director of the *CIL*) closed the conference on the Friday afternoon with her reflections on the future of epigraphy.

In the thirteen plenary sessions, a series of invited speakers took stock of recent developments in Greek and Roman epigraphy, concentrating on the aims, methods and modes of operation of epigraphers and reflecting on the most fruitful ways in which epigraphic studies might develop in the future. These talks tackled general questions such as the relationship between traditional printed *corpora* and digital epigraphic databases or reviewed progress in a series of regions of the Greco-Roman world (for example, the Iberian Peninsula, Italy, the Gauls, Greece, frontier zones) or on various important themes such as epigraphy and gender, epigraphy and language, and epigraphy and the ancient economy.

The topics for the twenty parallel sections were proposed by individual colleagues or groups of colleagues. The international committee of the congress made the decisions about which themes would be accepted, and there was then an open call for presentations, with the final makeup of each panel determined by the session chair or chairs, in consultation with the organizing committee.

There was also a display of fifty posters available for viewing and discussion for much of the conference, while another eleven digital posters were presented in connection with some of the parallel sections.

In addition to the academic sessions, participants at the congress got to enjoy two evening receptions at the Musée d'Aquitaine, where we were able to visit the collection and view the film, *Valete vos viatores*, devoted to outreach efforts to make epigraphy better known to the wider public, and at the charming 18th century Cour Mably, which from the late 19th century until 1953 served as Bordeaux's Musée des Antiquités, where along with the wine and other gastronomic delights of the Bordeaux region, we were able to watch a stonecutter at work inscribing a Latin text.



Gallo-Roman Museum Vesunna (Périgueux)

At the mid-point of the congress, on the Wednesday afternoon, five busloads of congress attendees visited the important Gallo-Roman ruins of Périgueux, *civitas* capital of the Petrucori, and its impressive new museum, which incorporates the remains of an impressive urban *domus* with substantial remains of Roman wall-painting. The visit was rounded off with a splendid reception on the upper floor of the museum.

ASGLE was well represented at the congress. Former ASGLE President, John Bodell, was one of the three invited plenary speakers who on the first day discussed the practice of doing epigraphy in the digital age, which unsurprisingly became one of the dominant themes of a congress devoted to epigraphy in the 21st century. Current President, Jonathan Edmondson, and former President, Nikolaos Papazarkadas, chaired respectively the parallel sections on *Tituli Novi Latini* and *Tituli Novi Graeci*.

Several epigraphers working in the U.S. and Canada gave papers in the parallel sections: current Vice-President Jim Sickinger, former ASGLE Presidents Paul Iverson and John Traill, as well as Michael Gargarin, Chris Faraone, Gavin Blasdel, Georgios Tsolakis, Morgan Palmer, William Stenhouse, Simeon Ehrlich and Thomas Leibundgut. Jonathan Edmondson was asked to give a brief presentation on the epigraphy of Augusta Emerita in the plenary session on the Iberian Peninsula. And several more ASGLE members contributed posters: Rebecca Benefiel and Holly Sypniewski in a joint-digital poster, Colleen Kron, Jonathan Edmondson, Scott J. DiGiulio, John Bodell and Elli Mylonas.

ASGLE members will be interested to learn that AIEGL members voted for Bologna as the venue for the next congress in 2027, after it narrowly defeated Budapest. For the officers and members of the Committee of the Association for the five-year period 2023-2027, Silvia Orlandi was re-elected President, Denis Rousset was re-elected Vice-President and Francisca Feraudi-Gruénais was elected Treasurer in succession to Cédric Brélaz. Our ASGLE colleague John Bodell was elected a member of the committee.

CALL FOR PAPERS: COMPARATIVE EPIGRAPHY



Comparative Epigraphy

First International Colloquium

Universitat de Barcelona, 28th – 30th September 2023

Call for Papers

The research team *LITTERA* is happy to announce an international colloquium on *Comparative Epigraphy*, to be held on the 28th–30th of September 2023 at the Universitat de Barcelona.

The comparative study –both genetic and typological– of written cultures is a still incipient but very promising methodology. This colloquium aims to assess the potential contribution of a Comparative Epigraphy to the analysis of the numerous written cultures that were generated, developed and, in most cases, disappeared in the Mediterranean world between the first millennium BC and the end of the Roman empire.

The colloquium will be articulated around six thematic sections introduced by the following lectures:

1. J. Velaza: *Why Comparative Epigraphy?*
2. I.-X. Adiego: *The written cultures of the Anatolian World*
3. M. G. Amadasi: *The written cultures of the Phoenician world*
4. M. P. de Hoz: *The written cultures of the Greek world*
5. P. Poccetti: *The written cultures of the Italian Peninsula*
6. F. Beltrán: *The written cultures of the Iberian Peninsula*

We invite communication proposals that address both the theoretical aspects of the methodology and studies on typologies, functions, media and epigraphic forms, as well as any other type of contribution in which the comparative method predominates. Presentations will be 20 minutes long, followed by 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

If you would like to present at the colloquium, please email an abstract of 750/1.000 words and a short bio to epigrafiacomparada@gmail.com by the 31st of January 2023. A scientific committee will analyze the proposals and communicate their acceptance before **20th of March 2023.**

If you have further questions, please email epigrafiacomparada@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF GREEK AND LATIN EPIGRAPHY (ASGLE), founded in 1996, is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to further research in, and the teaching of, Greek and Latin epigraphy in North America. The Society fosters collaboration in the field and facilitates the exchange of scholarly research and discussion, both in the public forum and in published form. It sponsors a thematic panel each year at the meetings of the Society of Classical Studies (formerly the American Philological Association) and an international congress every five years.

Membership in ASGLE is open to all person interested in the study and promotion of Greek and Latin epigraphy and related disciplines. Full membership, for college and university faculty in North America, includes membership in *L'Association Internationale pour l'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine* (AIEGL). A reduced-rate membership does not include membership in AIEGL and is available for students, independent scholars, retired faculty, and foreign scholars who are already members of AIEGL. Lifetime memberships are also available. Please see the table below for a schedule of fees.

Category	Description	Fees
Full (for college and university faculty)	Includes annual membership in <i>L'Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine</i>	\$45/year
Student, Retired, Independent, Foreign Scholars	Does not include membership in <i>L'Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine</i>	\$15/year
Lifetime	Includes lifetime membership in both ASGLE and <i>L'Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine</i>	\$700/one-time

Individuals may join the Society by completing and detaching the form below and sending it, with payment, to the Secretary-Treasurer at the address listed. Checks should be made payable to ASGLE in US dollars and drawn on a US bank. Dues may also be paid online by visiting the Society's website at <http://www.asgle.org/>.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Year(s) to which fees applied (e.g., 2023, 2024, etc.): _____

Please mail payment, with this form, to:

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York, PA 17403