



The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

Newsletter no. 52, May 2023

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ASCS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I write this report with the sincere hope that teaching and research at all your universities is returning to some semblance of “normal” following the disruption of the Covid pandemic, and despite the new plague, text-generating AI chatbots.

It was wonderful to start the year with a face-to-face conference in Christchurch. Great papers, good company, and lovely weather certainly helped. I am greatly looking forward to the first hybrid ASCS conference (ASCS45) to be held in Melbourne at Australian Catholic University on February 12–16, 2024.

I warmly welcome and thank our new Executive Committee members: Tonya Rushmer and Lars Sheppard-Larsen (PG representatives), Hamish Cameron (Messages Secretary), and Kathryn Welch (Website Manager).

Members will have noticed that we are trialling something new, in order to ensure that we are getting feedback on ASCS matters from all members. After the March meeting I circulated a summary of what was discussed and a call for feedback on proposed amendments to the ASCS Constitution through our messages secretary, Hamish Cameron, as well as through university representatives. Please do send through feedback.

Membership numbers continue to be a concern, so I remind members that if each one of us pays the subscription, or brings in one colleague as a returning or new member to ASCS, the Society will be much the better for it.

May the remainder of the semester go smoothly for you all.

Alison Griffith
University of Canterbury

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

Australian Catholic University

ACU will be hosting the 45th ASCS conference in Melbourne from 12–16 February 2024.

A news report will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter later this year.

Australian National University

Emeritus Professor Graeme Clarke, AO, FAHA (1934-2023)

We are deeply saddened to report that Professor Graeme Clarke passed away on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. Graeme was renowned both as a scholar of early Christianity (his four-volume translation of Cyprian's letters remains unsurpassed) and as a classical archaeologist, leading the excavations at the Hellenistic site of Jebel Khalid in Syria. Graeme taught Classics at ANU (then Canberra University College) in 1957 and 1961-1963 before taking up positions at the University of Western Australia, Monash University, and the University of Melbourne, where he was Professor of Classical Studies. He then returned to ANU in 1982 as Deputy Director and later Director of the Humanities Research Centre. Graeme will not only be remembered for his enormous contributions to Classical Studies and to the Humanities more broadly, but also for his kindness and generosity to students and scholars. Everyone at ANU will miss him greatly, and we extend our sincere condolences to his family and to his many friends and colleagues worldwide.

The Centre for Classical Studies

It has been an exciting start to 2023 at ANU's Centre for Classical Studies. We are now a team of six, made up of Dr Tatiana Bur, Associate Professor Caillan Davenport, Dr Tom Geue, Dr Estelle Strazdins, Museum Curator Dr Georgia Pike-Rowney, and Dr Meaghan McEvoy, who is cross-appointed between the School of History and CCS. Numbers across our in-translation and language courses are very healthy and the team is currently busy designing an exciting new Classical Studies curriculum for implementation in 2024. We are very grateful for the continuing support of the university leadership and our Emeriti, Professor Elizabeth Minchin and Professor Graeme Clarke.

Staff Achievements

We warmly congratulate Dr Tatiana Bur for winning the University of Cambridge Hare Prize for the best PhD thesis in Classical Studies. Her thesis, 'Manufacturing the Marvellous. Technology and Divine Presence in Ancient Greek Religion', is forthcoming with Cambridge University Press.

Hearty congratulations to Dr Estelle Strazdins on the publication of her monograph, *Fashioning the Future in Roman Greece: Memory, Monuments, Texts* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2023). A celebration is planned for May 17!

Staff Activities

Dr Tatiana Bur was a guest commentator at a recent instalment of the SCIENCE. ART. FILM. series presented by the National Film and Sound Archive, Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science and ANU Humanities Research Centre. She joined colleagues from ANU and UC to discuss the 2013 film *Elysium* on March 23.

Dr Tom Geue will be an invited speaker at conference on the philology of Sebastiano Timpanaro at the University of Pisa (November 24-25): *O tenebris tantis. La filologia Latina (e dintorni) di Sebastiano Timpanaro a 100 anni dalla nascita*. He has also been invited to be the respondent to the panel 'Green Virgil' at the Society for Classical Studies Conference in Chicago in January 2024.

Dr Meaghan McEvoy is co-organising an international conference, *Christian Political Cultures in Late Antiquity*, at the University of Liverpool from June 21-22, together with Professor Richard Flower (Exeter) and Dr Robin Whelan (Liverpool).

CCS Visiting Fellow Dr Karen Possingham gave a talk on 'Speaking from the Heart: David Malouf's Emotional Engagement with the *Iliad* in *Ransom*' at the Queensland Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens (QFAAIA) Sunday Function, October 9, 2022.

Dr Estelle Strazdins has been invited to speak at the A.G. Leventis Conference, 'The Fabric of Hellenism. Hellenic culture and civic identity in the Imperial Greek world', at the University of Edinburgh from November 16-19.

Semester 1, 2023 Events

Dr Estelle Strazdins has organised a wonderful Centre for Classical Studies Seminar Series in Semester 1, with talks from local and visiting speakers, including Dr Fabian Schulz (Tübingen), Associate Professor Rhiannon Evans (La Trobe), Dr Alina Kozlovski (UNE), and Associate Professor Jan Willem Drijvers (Groningen).

The Canberra Friends of the Archaeological Institute at Athens welcomed Dr Joseph (Seppi) Banks (Sydney) on February 16. He gave an excellent talk at the Canberra Hellenic Club on 'The Iron Age Megacity on Kerkenes Dağı'.

The Friends of the Classics Museum hosted an informative talk by Dr Estelle Lazer (Sydney) on 'Painted walls and tiled floors from Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Beyond' on March 2. Professor Alastair Blanshard (UQ) was the guest speaker at the Friends' Roman dinner on April 14, which was designed by Executive Chef Janet Jeffs of Ginger Catering. Professor Blanshard entertained guests with his talk, 'Dining with Emperors, Feasting with Heroes: A Culinary Odyssey of the Ancient World'.

Forthcoming Events

We will be hosting a book launch for Dr Estelle Strazdins' new monograph, *Fashioning the Future in Roman Greece: Memory, Monuments, Texts*, on Wednesday, May 17. Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Minchin will speak at the launch, to be held in the ANU Classics Museum. Registration details here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/monuments-memory-and-temporality-in-roman-greece-tickets-577821729347>

Associate Professor Caillan Davenport and Dr Meaghan McEvoy are organising an afternoon colloquium *East and West in Late Antiquity* on June 30. The keynote speaker is Professor Noel Lenski (Yale), with papers to be given by Associate Professor Paul Roche and Mr Nelson Chen (Sydney) and Caillan Davenport, Meaghan McEvoy, and Dr Georgia Pike-Rowney (ANU).

Dr Meaghan McEvoy is organising the colloquium *Women, Gender, and Authority in Late Antiquity, Byzantium, and the Medieval World* on November 17. Associate Professor Lisa Bailey (Auckland) and Professor Clare Monagle (Macquarie) will be special guest speakers. Further details on both these events to be made available in due course.

Visiting Fellows

Associate Professor Rhiannon Evans from La Trobe University was a Visiting Fellow in the Centre for Classical Studies in April, working on her next book on identity and Caesar. She

gave a wonderful talk on 'Caesar's Experiments in Crafting a New Model Warrior' in our seminar series.

Dr Maria Gerolemou from the Centre for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University, will be a Research School of Humanities and Arts Visiting Fellow in September 2023, thanks to a collaborative grant won by Dr Tatiana Bur. Drs Bur and Gerolemou will be working on a co-edited volume for Oxford University Press, entitled *Technological Animation in Classical Antiquity*. They will also be collaborating with Dr Anna-Sophie Jürgens from ANU's Centre for the Public Awareness of Science by hosting a symposium on technological animation in theatrical contexts.

Dr Lucy Jackson, Assistant Professor of Classics at Durham University, will be the inaugural Humanities Research Centre / Centre for Classical Studies Visiting Fellow for 2023. Dr Jackson is an expert on Greek Drama and she will be pursuing a project on 'Containing Multitudes. Disruption, Repair, and the Ancient Greek Chorus'. She will be based at ANU in October and early November this year and will be delivering a lecture at the HRC and a research seminar for the CCS. More details on these visitors and events will be provided later in the year.

The ANU Classics Museum

The ANU Classics Museum has launched an exciting new programme of School Tours, designed and led by Curator Dr Georgia Pike-Rowney. The tours cater for students of all ages from kindergarten to Year 12, including workshops aligned with the Senior Ancient History Curriculum. Dr Estelle Strazdins, Dr Tatiana Bur, and Dr Tom Geue have given talks to senior students on topics ranging from Ovid to the Battle of Marathon.

Dr Pike-Rowney launched the first solo exhibition by artist Jessica Murtagh at the Grainger Gallery in Canberra. Murtagh, an Adelaide-based glass artist, responds to ancient Greek forms and motifs in a method of glass-making reminiscent of Roman cameo glass, depicting scenes of modern life. Georgia also welcomed Jessica and Richard Grainger to the Classics Museum earlier in the day for a behind-the-scenes tour.

The Museum ran a professional development event for teachers on Tuesday, April 4, on the topic of 'Women in the Ancient World: Goddesses, Empresses, and Everyday Life', with guest speakers Dr Estelle Strazdins, Dr Georgia Pike-Rowney and Associate Professor Caillan Davenport.

The Graeme Clarke Teaching Collection

Emeritus Professor Graeme Clarke has generously donated over 450 fragments and objects as a new hands-on teaching collection to enhance the educational outreach activities of the ANU Centre for Classical Studies and the Classics Museum. The items stem from excavations conducted by Professor Clarke at Jebel Khalid in Syria, a Hellenistic site on the banks of the Euphrates River, undertaken from 1986 - 2010. The objects that make up the teaching collection are those that were approved for removal to Australia by a panel of experts in Syria who examined each item.

The items donated by Professor Clarke include ceramics (small vessels, amphora handles, fragments and sherds), metals (weapon heads, small domestic objects, and fragments), stone and plaster (sculptural fragments in marble, tesserae from mosaics), and glass (fragments and small vessels). In addition to these items, Prof. Clarke has donated site maps from the excavations, which will allow students to learn how to identify the original context of an object

in the site. The site drawings are by the late architect Dr Barry Rowney, father-in-law to new Classics Museum Curator, Dr Georgia Pike-Rowney.

The hands-on collection has been named in Professor Clarke's honour and will be housed in a bespoke object-based learning room adjacent to the Classics Museum. This room is currently undergoing renovations in order to appropriately house the collection, as well as provide infrastructure and materials for hands-on learning activities, and a collection of reference texts.



The Major Reports of the excavations at Jebel Khalid have been published in 8 volumes (6 are complete with two volumes forthcoming). These volumes will be generously purchased for the object-based learning room by the Friends of the Classics Museum. The renovations will also include an updated set of museum cases devoted specifically to the display of student curatorial projects, creative responses, and temporary exhibits. The renovations of the room and the adjacent museum cases is generously funded by the Classics Endowment.

Dr John Tidmarsh has generously made a wonderful addition to the Professor Graeme Clarke Teaching Collection of an array of fine ware pottery sherds from the excavations of Jebel Khalid. The collection includes lovely examples of Megarian moulded pottery.

Emeritus Professor Graeme Clarke with objects from the new teaching collection

Caillan Davenport & Georgia Pike-Rowney

La Trobe University

Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff

Rhiannon Evans took study leave in semester 1 2023 to work on her monograph on Julius Caesar's account of the conquest of Gaul.

Ian McPhee and Elizabeth Pemberton returned to Ancient Corinth in October 2022 for a month of research on material from the excavations of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens

Gillian Shepherd carried out research work in Sicily in October 2022, and returned to Italy in January 2023 as a presenter and also co-convenor of the conference "Contextualizing South Italian Red-Figure Pottery: The Case of Apulia" (Accademia di Danimarca, Rome, 16-17 January 2023)

Visitors

The Trendall Research Centre looks forward to welcoming the 2020 Trendall Fellow, Dr Daria Russo, in June 2023. Dr Russo's visit was postponed due to COVID-19. She will spend a month carrying out research in the Trendall Library and Archive on shield devices on South Italian red-figure pottery.

Museum news

A major activity in 2022 was the education partnership led by Gillian Shepherd in collaboration with Melbourne Museum for the exhibition *Open Horizons: Ancient Greek Journeys and Connections* (23rd April-14th August 2022) of objects from the National Archaeological Museum in Athens.

Major research grant successes

Bridget McClean was awarded her MA in 2022 (*We Band of Brothers: An Analysis of Seated Male Figures on Coin Types Issued in Magna Graecia: c. 470-325 BCE*, supervised by Gillian Shepherd). In early 2023 Bridget was awarded a place and full scholarship at Merton College, Oxford University, for a DPhil in Ancient History (numismatics). Bridget will take up her place in October 2023.

Postgraduate completions

Cassandra Votzourakis was awarded her MA for her thesis '*For Deeds So Glorious: Kleos, Suicide and Gender in Greek Tragedy*', supervised by Chris Mackie and Rhiannon Evans

Gillian Shepherd

Macquarie University

Staff changes and appointments

Dr Julia Hamilton commenced as Lecturer in Egyptology.

Associate Professor Greta Hawes commenced her ARC Future Fellowship project titled 'Storytelling networks and community crises in ancient Greece'.

Dr Tom Derrick has been appointed as Gale Fellow in Ancient Glass and Material Culture, a 12-month fellowship to study Macquarie's ancient glass collection which commences in July 2023.

Significant activity by staff

Professor Ray Laurence had a period of study leave (Outside Studies Programme) to complete a book called *Mediterranean Timescapes: Chronological Age and Cultural Practice in the Roman Empire*:

<https://www.routledge.com/Mediterranean-Timescapes-Chronological-Age-and-Cultural-Practice-in-the/Laurence-Trifilo/p/book/9781138288751>

Associate Professor Trevor Evans is on Long Service Leave in S1 2023.

Major research grant successes

Prof Bronwen Neil will take up a research fellowship in S1 2024 in the Käte Hamburger Kolleg für Apokalyptische und Postapokalyptische Studien / Käte Hamburger Centre for Apocalyptic and Post-Apocalyptic Studies (CAPAS) at the University of Heidelberg. The title of her project is *Ancient imaginaries and apocalyptic concepts of environmental collapse in Europe and the Pacific*.

Dr Natalie Mylonas won a Covid Recovery Fellowship, 2022-3 to work on a project titled Emotion, Space, and Power: Jerusalem as Contested Space in Ezekiel 16. The fellowship was completed in February 2023.

Postgraduate completions

Lydia Bashford: PhD. Thesis title: *Egyptian observations of the avian world: Categorisation through human, bird, language, and landscape interactions*. Principal Supervisor: Associate Professor Linda Evans.

Brikha Nasoraia: PhD. Thesis Title: *The Naşoraean-Mandaeen Ancient Secret Illustrated DC 7 Diwan Nahrawatha (the Rivers Scroll /Sacred Waterways): Critical Edition, Transliterations, Translation, and Commentary*. Principal Supervisor: Dr Peter Edwell

Elizabeth Stockdale: PhD. Thesis title: *The Principles of Female Figures in the Odyssey*. Principal Supervisor: Associate Professor Ian Plant.

Jennifer Budd: Masters of Research. Thesis title: *Maerendo pauca: Lament in the Letters of Sidonius Apollinaris*. Principal Supervisor: Professor Bronwen Neil.

Laura Irving: Masters of Research. Thesis title: *Reflecting Roman Empresses: Ostrogothic Royal Women in Sixth-Century Italy*. Principal Supervisor: Dr Peter Edwell.

Michelle Kay: Masters of Research. Thesis title: *Identities in Ink: Exploring Connections Between Tattoos and Ethnic Identities in the Ancient Nile Valley*. Principal Supervisor: Professor Ronika Power.

Hyunji Lee: Masters of Research. Thesis title: *Transformative Trade: The Impacts of Trade on the Periphery of the Roman Empire*. Principal Supervisor: Dr Peter Edwell.

Sybil Wong: Masters of Research. Thesis title: *Insanity from a Historical Perspective: The Holy Fool in Late Antiquity*. Principal Supervisor: Dr Peter Edwell.

Conferences

The Australian Centre for Egyptology annual mini conference was held on Saturday April 22, which featured presentations by ACE staff about recent archaeological fieldwork in Egypt and current research projects.

A research workshop on Crisis in Late Antiquity will be held at Macquarie from 1-3 June 2023. Guest speakers will include Professor Jan Willem Drijvers from the University of Groningen and Professor Lieve Van Hoof of Ghent University. Convenor: Associate Professor Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides.

Associate Professor Trevor Evans presented the paper 'Still at the Crossroads? LXX-Language Studies in the Twenty-First Century' to the 5th online meeting of the Cologne-based Postclassical Greek Network on 14 April 2023.

Professor Bronwen Neil gave the Keynote address with the title *The Letters of Maximus the Confessor: An Overview* to the Colloquium on St Maximus the Confessor's Letters, Belgrade on 3 February, 2023. See the following link for further details:

<https://ifdt.bg.ac.rs/index.php/events/colloquium-on-st-maximus-the-confessors-letters/?lang=en>

Professor Bronwen Neil gave a paper titled *Revisiting Questions of Gender in Byzantium* at the conference Time, Gender and Emotions in Byzantium, 11-12 March 2023.

Convenor: Niki Tsironis.

Symposium of the Emotions in History and Psychology Project.

Institute for Historical Research of the National Hellenic Research Foundation, and the Center for Hellenic Studies of Harvard University.

Venue: Marie Blanche Library, Attica, Greece.

New books

Natalie F. Mylonas, *Jerusalem as Contested Space in Ezekiel: Exilic Encounters with Emotion, Space, and Identity Politics* (London; New York; Dublin, Bloomsbury, 2023).

Harlow, M. & Laurence, R. (eds.), *A cultural history of shopping: in antiquity* (London; New York; Dublin: Bloomsbury, 2022)

Worthington, I., *The Last Kings of Macedonia and the Triumph of Rome* (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2023).

Other items of interest

A number of Macquarie Ancient History Staff were awarded a Faculty of Arts Learning and Teaching Award, 2022 in the category of Learning Innovation: Team - Ronika Power, Michael Rampe, Beverley Miles, Mary Hartley, Jacinta Carruthers, Hannah Vogel, Crystal Miller; Criterion: Innovation that Enhances Student Learning, Assessment, and Feedback. Project: *Implementing Digital Story Assessments in The Archaeology of Death and Burial*.

International Women's Day Honours 2023: Professor Ronika Power was named as one of the 50 women at the cutting edge of Science in Australia by Royal Institute of Australia's *Cosmos Magazine*. The list was compiled to showcase "exceptional and interesting" women scientists and researchers across Australia.

After the recent round of bids for funding, the Centre for Ancient Cultural Heritage and Environment will continue as a Faculty of Arts Centre with colleagues from the Faculty of Science and Engineering and Walanga Muru, MQ. Affiliates are welcome. Please contact the director: Ronika Power or the deputy-directors, Bronwen Neil and Tim Ralph.

Dr Peter Edwell's 2021 monograph, *The Case that Stopped a Nation: The Archibald Prize Controversy of 1944* was short-listed for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards, Non-fiction, 2022.

Peter Edwell

Massey University

The Classical Studies Programme at Massey is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. A series of projects, activities, and events has been scheduled throughout the year to mark the occasion. Here are the first two:

In collaboration with Jonathan Tracy and senior learning technologist Kevan Loke, Gina Salapata has produced the pilot scenario of an interactive computer game, [The Trojan War](#), incorporating text and graphics based on ancient Greek sources and models. The game allows

players to take on the role of different characters and make decisions which can change the canonical ancient version of events. Read more about it here:

https://www.massey.ac.nz/about/news/teaching-greek-myth-through-literature-art-and-a-computer-game/?fbclid=IwAR0Amw0h2eNgzCn8CRIqTO_4tlrGU3azMUHM1ssP7ImcwLmrEfukWlmZcf0

In collaboration with her linguist colleague, Olly Ballance, Gina Salapata has begun publishing a series of short articles in the local Palmerston North newspaper *The Manawatu Standard* on the Greek and Roman origins of commonly used English words. Five articles have appeared so far (the third is written by James Richardson):

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300788933/the-odyssey-of-english-exploring-the-origin-of-music>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300804552/the-odyssey-of-english-the-many-colours-at-the-heart-of-iris>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300817324/the-odyssey-of-english-the-roman-roots-of-census>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300832418/the-odyssey-of-english-the-deadly-origins-of-toxic>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/lifestyle/300846813/the-odyssey-of-english-the-origins-of-idiot>

Significant activity by staff

During two short stints overseas, Gina Salapata delivered three talks: ‘Androgynous Boiotian Protomes: Technique and Ideology’, at the International Conference on ‘What Can Terracottas Tell Us: Coroplastic Polysemy in the Ancient Mediterranean’ (Cagliari, November 2022); ‘Male Boiotian Bust-Protomai: From Technique to Religious Meaning’, at the Athens Greek Religion Seminar organised by the Swedish Institute at Athens (Athens, March 2023); and ‘A Rare Wounded Kastor?’, which was a talk at the American School of Classical Studies, Athens (March 2023).

Gina Salapata also published an opinion piece on ‘A Divine Drink: Wine Drinking in Ancient Greece’ (*Massey News* 18/1/2023: <https://www.massey.ac.nz/about/news/a-divine-gift-wine-drinking-in-ancient-greece/>).

James Richardson

Monash University

Significant activity by staff and postgraduate students

Anna Stevens is the W.K. Simpson Visiting Professor in Egyptology at the American University in Cairo for Semester 1, 2023.

Saskia Moorrees, an MA student in Ancient Cultures, received the Alpha Archaeology Prize for 2022 from the Archaeological and Anthropological Society of Victoria for her paper “Burning actions in ancient ritual analogy during the Greco-Roman period.”

Postgraduate completions

Sarah Chandlee completed her PhD in November, 2022, on the subject “Domestic Architecture in Late Period and Ptolemaic Egypt.” Jessie Birkett-Rees was primary supervisor.

New books

Australasian Egyptology Conference 4: Papers from the Fourth Australasian Egyptology Conference, edited by Colin A. Hope, Bruce Parr, and Carlo Rindi Nuzzolo, and dedicated to Gillian E. Bowen, was published by Archaeopress in late 2022. This also features contributions by a number of Monash students and staff!

Also in late 2022, Centre for Ancient Cultures research affiliate Taylor Coughlan published a new student-focused commentary on Lysias’ *For the Disabled Man (Oration 24)*, with extensive introductory discussion and essays, in the Dickinson College Commentaries series.

Andrew Connor

University of Adelaide

General News (staffing etc.)

After the recent Faculty mergers at UofA, two University leaders began exploring the possibility to merge the University of Adelaide with the University of South Australia. The SA premier has already made public comments, to the effect that this merger *will* happen, but there are other comments from the university that they are exploring.

The Faculty of ABLE (Arts, Business, Law and Economics) is currently undergoing an academic review which will lead to courses being cut if “loss-making”. Classics may lose more courses, but we are working to keep the Classics Major by redesigning the curriculum for next year in consultation with the History colleagues and new strategies to improve recruitment of students.

In the News

Adelaide Classics and Ancient History have entered the Top 100 in the QS World Ranking by Subjects for the first time in the University’s history:

<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/newsroom/news/list/2023/03/23/university-of-adelaide-subjects-rated-among-the-worlds-best>

Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff

Prof. Baltussen spent January and February in London at the Institute of Classical Studies, taking up his Dorothy Tarrant Fellowship, awarded in 2019 for 2020. He had a fruitful six weeks in London, making good use of the library, attending talks and networking. He also met up with two former Adelaide postgraduates, Alex Antoniou DPhil (Associate Lecturer, Faculty of Classics, Oxford) and Dr. Lewis Webb (Fulford JRF and Stipendiary Fellow at Somerville College, Oxford).

We congratulate our Affiliate Professor Graham Zanker on his new book *Fate and the Hero in Virgil’s Aeneid* (CUP 2023). He also participated in a conference in Tübingen last July, SFB 1391, Tagung ‘Die Ambiguität des Scheins. Dynamiken ästhetischer Praxis in der Vormoderne’, by giving a paper (via zoom) entitled ‘Lumineszenz und Erscheinung in Theokrits Idyll 2 “Die Hexe Simaitha”.’

Dr. David Rafferty will be co-convening a conference at the University of Melbourne from 4-6 July on “How Republics Die: Creeping Authoritarianism from the Ancient to the Modern World” with Frederik Vervaet and Chris Dart. This is part of his ongoing DECRA project “How Republics Die: Rome’s democratic breakdown in the first century BCE”.

Conference papers/talks

During his stay at the ICS Prof. Baltussen gave three talks:

- (1) Seminar paper at Durham University (Ancient Philosophy series) on Theophrastus’ epistemology and its engagement with Aristotle (Jan. 28).
- (2) Guest lecture at the University of Kent at Canterbury on his former ARC funded project “Banning Ideas, Burning Books: Censorship in Antiquity” (Feb. 8).
- (3) The 2023 Dorothy Tarrant Lecture (ICS, London) entitled: “Homeric Authority in the Service of Pagan Polemic? Poetic Allusions in Eunapius’ *Lives of Philosophers and Sophists*”. Due to the strikes in the UK, the lecture was not held on the date planned originally (Feb. 16), but as a Zoom talk from Adelaide (April 19, 2023); available at <https://ics.sas.ac.uk/node/20885> (press play at the bottom of the page).

On April 20 Prof. Baltussen also gave an invited public lecture for the Festival Hellenica (his sixth appearance since 2012 and the first public event since 2020), speaking about Epicurus’ ideas on how to live and not fear death.

Postgraduate news

Chelsea Schwartz joined the postgraduate cohort this year with a project entitled “Greek physicians in Rome: Immigration and Integration” (supervisors: Han Baltussen and David Rafferty).

Han Baltussen

University of Auckland

Staff changes

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Alex McAuley as lecturer in Greek language, history and culture. Dr McAuley has a doctorate in Ancient History from McGill University, and has most recently been Lecturer in Hellenistic History at the University of Cardiff. He has published on the topics of female rulership, military and royal leadership, classical reception, and much else besides. He will be joining us for the start of semester 2.

We are sad for our own sake, but delighted for hers, to announce that Dr Elke Nash has been offered a tenure-track position at the University of New Hampshire, and will be departing Auckland at the end of the semester. Dr Nash has been a wonderful presence in our community here, making contributions not only with her teaching, but also her pastoral care, engagement with postgrads, and participation in workshops. We wish her all the best in this new adventure.

Papers at conferences outside Australasia

Lisa Bailey, ‘Grace, free will, and ‘unavoidable’ sex: women in service in the early medieval West’, *International Medieval Congress*, July 2022, Leeds.

Jeremy Armstrong, 'Swords in Early and Mid-Republican Italy', *The Joint Annual Meeting for the Society for Classical Studies and the Archaeological Institute of America*, January 2023, New Orleans.

New course

Associate Professor Lisa Bailey has been teaching a new course this semester: ANCIENT 214/314 Ancient Barbarians and Others. Dr Alex McAuley will be offering a new course, ANCIENT 215/315 Hellenistic Society, in semester 2.

Visitors

Denis Feeney, Princeton University, visited in March.

Georgia Frank, Colgate University, is visiting in May.

Greg Woolf, University of California Los Angeles, is visiting in June.

David Rosenbloom, University of Maryland Baltimore County, is visiting in July.

Amy Russell, Brown University, is visiting in July.

Grant completions

Lisa Bailey, 'Servants of God, Slaves of the Church: Rhetoric and Realities of Service in Early Medieval Europe', Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Grant.

Jeremy Armstrong, 'Blood and Money: The 'Military Industrial Complex' in Archaic Central Italy', Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Grant.

Postgraduate completions

Flo Cardon, MA, (*Bread, Bakers, and Bakeries: A Study of Bread-making in Roman Italy*)

Alex Grigor, MA (*The Afterlives of Agrippa and Maecenas*)

Allanah Hodge, MA (*Powerganda: A Game of Pharaohs An Investigation into Propaganda as a Tool for the Survival of Power and Pharaonic Identity in the New Kingdom of Egypt*)

Harry Lillington, MA (*A Repositioning of Theban Tombs in Ancient Egyptian Art History*)

Nicky Rawnsley, PhD (*The Herodotean Gaze: The evidentiary value and descriptive effect of physical things in the Egyptian logos of the Histories*).

Books

Armstrong, J. and S. Cohen (eds.), *Production, Trade, and Connectivity in Pre-Roman Italy* (London: Routledge, 2022).

Other items of interest

Associate Professor E. Anne Mackay, Associate Professor Jeremy Armstrong, and Dr Maxine Lewis, all gave public lectures in conjunction with the British Museum travelling exhibition 'Ancient Greeks: Athletes, Warriors and Heroes'.

Jeremy Armstrong

University of Canterbury

Members of the department are pleased to have hosted ASCS44, and thank ASCS members for their positive feedback. We offer a huge ka pai to Kate Cook, our keynote speaker, and to Hamish Cameron, who organised all the gaming sessions.

We are pleased to have hosted Hamish Cameron as the 2022 Graham Zanker lecturer, with the well-attended talk “Playing with the Past: classical worlds in video games” in Turanga, the central library in Christchurch.

Alison Griffith has taken over as HoD. Course enrolment numbers continue to climb in line with growing University of Canterbury numbers, since among other things Christchurch currently has the trifecta of student priorities: reasonable weather, reasonable rent, and a newly rebuilt city with a lot of bars.

Our combined 100-level Greek and Latin course is going well in the second year of its existence. As the financial crunch of the previous decade eases, we are increasingly able to use the Teece collection for tutorials and classes at all levels. We are also starting to see the positive results of reorganised teaching at 100 level, along with useful changes to required courses in the BA.

The Canterbury Museum, with whom we have partnered for student projects for over 20 years, has closed for a 5-year makeover and has loaned much of its collection of ancient Mediterranean antiquities to the Teece Museum. This will facilitate numerous student research projects in the coming years.

Public talks and other professional engagement

Enrica Sciarrino was Visiting Professor at the University of Torino, Italy in November and December 2022. There she taught a course on “Memory and Mnemonics in theory and practice” and offered a seminar on the oratorical ego in Mid-republican Rome.

Gary Morrison gave two talks: *Bright Lights, Big City — Roman Illumination*, for Coffee and Classics, and also *WWI and the Ancient World*, for the Royal Society Talk, in the Tūranga Central Library, Christchurch.

Alison Griffith also spoke to the Royal Society, with the talk *Verginia and Nga Roimata: Examining a Roman myth through a Bicultural lens*, in the Tūranga Central Library, Christchurch.

Patrick O’Sullivan has been awarded (i) Erskine Programme Canterbury Fellowship at the University of Oxford for Sept.-Dec. 2023 and (ii) a Visiting Fellowship at University College, Oxford also for Sept.-Dec. 2023.

Teece Museum

We congratulate our curator, Terri Elder, who has been re-accredited as a Workplace Assessor for the National Certificate in Museum Practice, and who has now supported several students working towards this qualification.

We also congratulate Terri and our Gallery Hosts for their role in welcoming over 65,000 visitors since May 2017. We are extremely pleased to welcome a new assistant curator, Emily Rosevear, who will help our curator, Terri Elder in hosting numerous community groups and school and university classes, and also in contributing to external events and endeavours that bring aspects of the Teece and departmental expertise out into the community.

In 2022, Classics, Music, the Teece Museum, and the Arts Centre location in central Christchurch were the focus of a Community Impact audit commissioned by University management. We are very pleased to report that the results were overwhelmingly positive, to the extent that the University has committed to our remaining in this location for another lease term. We could not possibly have achieved this milestone without the dedication of our curator, Terri Elder, our Arts Centre location manager, Naomi van den Broek, and our administrator, Harriet Boyle.

Several interns are working with the collection and other ongoing projects, such as entering objects into the eHive catalogue, the Audio Descriptions project, and other initiatives related to the University of Canterbury's 150th anniversary being celebrated this year.

The Teece continues to run monthly evening talks and the popular Classics and Coffee. The Teece also participates in a Careers in Heritage event that is hugely popular with high school and university students.

Alison Griffith

University of Melbourne

Staff changes, appointments, promotions, obituaries

The classics discipline at the University of Melbourne was deeply saddened to hear of the death of Professor Graeme Clarke in May 2023. Professor Clarke was an outstanding administrator in his time here at Melbourne as Chair of Classics (1969-81), he gained a D.Litt. from the university in 1976 for his ground-breaking translation and commentary of Minucius Felix, and in the years after his departure from Melbourne for Canberra he maintained a close involvement with researchers here, in particular through his excavation of the massive Hellenistic site at Jebel Khalid in Syria. We expect that much more will be published about his career and achievements over the coming months.

The discipline of Classics and Archaeology of the University of Melbourne is proud and delighted to report the appointment of four new full time continuing colleagues. Dr Edward Jeremiah (Latin and Greek), Dr Andrew Turner (Latin), and Dr James Stratford (Ancient World Studies) have been appointed continuing Teaching Specialists. Dr Sarah Corrigan has been appointed Lecturer in Classics (Latin) at level B. [Hyun Jin Kim]

As well, we were all extremely pleased that our colleague, Frederik Vervae, was appointed to the position of full professor in November 2022, in recognition of his outstanding record in the fields of teaching and research.

Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff

In July of 2022, Professor Frederik Vervae delivered a fully funded Keynote (*Perdita Res Publica: The Failed Reforms of M. Livius Drusus*) at a conference on 'Reform in the Roman Republic' at the University of Queensland. In September and October, he delivered modified versions of this talk in UoM's School of Historical and Philosophical Studies (Ancient World Seminar series), at the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, remotely via Zoom) and the University of Liège (Belgium, onsite).

Professor Ron Ridley was awarded honorary Italian citizenship for contributions to the history of Rome, awarded at Labico (Lazio) in November 2022.

Visitors

On 5 October, the Classics and Archaeology discipline at Melbourne hosted Prof. em. Nathan Rosenstein (Ohio State University), who delivered a riveting and topical public lecture on “Controlling Political Competition: Lessons from Republican Rome?”.

In February, 2023 we hosted Dr Jessica Gelber of the University of Toronto, who delivered a paper at the Ancient World Seminar series on the topic: “Why does the gecko crawl into the ass’s nostrils? Aristotle on explanations of relational facts”.

In May, 2023 the discipline is hosting Professor Lieve van Hoof of the University of Ghent, who is speaking at the Ancient World seminar series on topic: “Libanius, For the Prisoners (*Oration* 45): An extraordinary speech for social justice”.

Postgraduate completions since last notice

Athanasios Matanis, “Beyond an Antagonistic Approach: the Role of Universalism in the Formation of Koine Culture” MA thesis (primary supervisor Hyun Jin Kim; associate supervisors Gijs Tol and Emily Hulme-Kozey)

Paula Phillips, “The Settlement and Mortuary Assemblages from the Earliest Levels at Tell Fara South” MA thesis (primary supervisor Andrew Jamieson; associate supervisor Stephen Bourke)

Giovanni Piccolo, “The *Collectanea Rerum Memorabilium* by Gaius Julius Solinus: A Roman Geography for a Changing World” PhD thesis, awarded November 2022 (supervisor Tim Parkin).

New books

Professor Ridley’s ‘documentary study’ of Marcus Furius Camillus has been accepted by Verlag Antike in Goettingen, to come out this year.

Andrew Turner

University of New England

Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements, obituaries

Obituary:

R.J. Baker (1939 – 15.3.2023)

Robert John [‘Rob’] Baker, who retired at the level of Associate Professor from UNE Classics and Ancient History in 2000, but remained an active member, died on 15.3.2023 after a long illness, aged 83. His funeral and burial took place in Armidale on 23 March.

Latin was his great love in the context of his work, especially Propertius and the later Christian hymnic poet Prudentius. ASCS awarded him Life membership in 1990, in recognition of his commitment to the journal *Antichthon* as co-editor for 15 years, followed by nearly two decades as a member of the journal’s editorial board.

A full account of Rob’s life and contribution will be provided at the next ASCS conference in early 2024.

Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff

Gleeson, T. was an invited speaker at *Exemplary Representation(s) of the Past: New Readings of Valerius Maximus' Facta et dicta memorabilia* conference hosted by the University of Friburg, Switzerland. Paper title: 'Has she no shame? None at all, if Valerian *verecundia* is de-contextualised! A wholistic reading of *Facta et Dicta* 3.8.6'.

Kozlovski, A. convened the *Faking the ancient Mediterranean in 1940s Hollywood: Günther Anders and the corpses of history* roundtable with C. Müller (Media Studies, Macquarie University) and B. Nickl (Comparative Literature and Translation Studies, University of Sydney) at the 'Antiquity in Media Studies' conference hosted online by organisers from San Francisco State and Brigham Young universities, USA.

Lawrence, S.J. was an invited speaker at *Exemplary Representation(s) of the Past: New Readings of Valerius Maximus' Facta et dicta memorabilia* conference hosted by the University of Friburg, Switzerland. Paper title: 'Making an Example of Socrates: 7.2 and the Meaning of Wisdom'.

New courses or major modifications to existing courses

UNE is steadily building a program in Cultural Heritage and Digital Humanities with a suite of new degrees, majors, and units on offer, including: a Bachelor of Arts in "Cultural Heritage"; Masters of History in "Ancient Pasts", and Masters of History in "Applying the Past"; Museum coursework units: HIST337/537: "History and Museums" (now offered annually), and HINQ303/503 "Making Museums Digital"; and, Museum capstone research units, including: HASS301: "Art-I-Facts" (6cpt); HASS506: "UNEMA Significance Assessments" (6cpt); HASS512: "Automata Research & Exhibition" (12cpt); and HASS518: "Exhibit UNE" (18cpt) projects.

Museum news

UNEMA offered two exhibitions at the 2022 Parramatta Lanes Festival which proved enormously popular. "Animal Alley" showcased eight street posters of animal-based artefacts from UNEMA's collections, integrated with cultural stories, interactive 3D scans, and a clue treasure hunt. "Finding Humanity" showcased eight street art-box portrait-sculptures, exploring the themes of the origins of humanity, arrogance, beauty, identity, mortality, colonialism, race, and gender, and integrating interactive 3D artefacts, audio-interviews, and an augmented reality "Selfies of Humanity" challenge. The online virtual and augmented reality components of the exhibition can still be explored at:

<https://exhibition.une.pedestal3d.com/>

Three new scholarships in Ancient History and Classical Material Culture were established at UNE in 2022: The AG & IC McCready Scholarship (\$1,000) supporting Honours in Ancient History; The UNEMA AG & IC McCready Research Scholarship (\$1,000) supporting Honours or Coursework HDR Research Projects on an aspect of the Material Culture of Classical Antiquity; and, The AG & IC McCready PhD Scholarship (\$5,000) supporting research in Ancient History or the Material Culture of Classical Antiquity.

Congratulations to UNEMA volunteers Jackson Shoobert and May Zarb. After training and working as a 3D scanning project officer at UNEMA, in 2022 Jackson was appointed by external competitive process into a permanent position as Digital Scanning Technician in UNE's Media Learning Team. In 2023, May Zarb became the recipient of a prestigious Museums & Galleries

NSW Fellowship, Mentorship, and Placement Program Award. She will undertake her mentorship placement at Sydney's Chau Chak Wing Museum in late-2023.

The first phase of The Armidale Globe Theatre Project, a collaboration between Armidale Secondary College, the UNE Museum of Antiquities, and experts in Classics, English, History, and Theatre Studies has been launched. Phase one of the project saw Armidale Secondary College's 1970s Globe Theatre Model restored, put on display, and digitally scanned; an animated timeline of the history of the theatre was created; and an interactive reconstruction of the ceiling of "The Heavens" that draws upon 16th century cosmology, architecture, and art, and which utilises AI-generated figures and AI-coding was developed. A 360-degree point-of-interest virtual walk-through of the Globe Theatre has also been finished and will be used in teaching and UNEMA's online displays shortly. Phase two will explore a second, undocumented model of the Globe Theatre, that was discovered in Armidale during the research for Phase One, and finish by producing a "making of" video, documenting the entire project:

<https://www.une.edu.au/info-for/visitors/museums/museum-of-antiquities/projects/globe-theatre-project>

UNEMA remains physically closed due to the October 2021 tornado event (supercell 83 2122) which devastated the Arts, Education, and Union precincts of UNE's Armidale Campus. A fundraiser to help refurbish the museum which was launched in May 2021 is now seeking a minimum target of \$60,000 to reopen the museum. All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible and very gratefully received. The online donation form for the UNEMA appeal can be found at:

<https://www.une.edu.au/give-to-une/une-museum-of-antiquities-refurbishment>

Major research grant successes and/or completions

In 2022 Bronwyn Hopwood (UNEMA), in collaboration with the UNE Heritage Centre (UNERA), and UNE Heritage Futures Research Group obtained a \$165,957 CAPEX grant supporting the creation of a 3D makerspace and printing hub, the acquisition of environmental dataloggers to improve UNEMA's collections management, and the installation of a state-of-the-art Book-Eye cradle scanner for digitising rare and fragile documentary collections.

Dr Hopwood's Office of Environment and Heritage "Heritage Near Me" research grant project has been completed successfully in 2023. The project has produced over 15 hours of audio-visual tours and interviews exploring the history and heritage of UNE's houses, gardens, and cultural and scientific collections. The App: "Discover UNE" is available to download free from Google Play and the AppStore.

Postgraduate completions

PhD: David Tindal, UNE. *Economic Statecraft in the Ancient Greek World*. Principal Supervisor: Matthew Dillon

New books

M. Dillon and C. Matthew (eds.), *Religion and Warfare in the Classical World: The Roman Empire* (Barnsley: Pen and Sword, 2022).

Alina Kozlovski

University of Newcastle

Staffing Changes

After some time of reflection, Professor Marguerite Johnson recently decided to leave The University of Newcastle. Appointed a Fellow of the Academy of Humanities in 2022, Marguerite intends to focus on research and writing, collaborating on various public outreach projects, and dividing her time between Sydney and extensive periods in Greece. Her absence will be felt in the community and we wish her the best.

Dr. Tanika Koosmen has come on board in a sessional capacity in Semester 1 2023 to teach our new Ancient Egypt- the New Kingdom course, designed by Prof. Johnson. Her energy and enthusiasm are a welcome addition to the team.

New Courses

As mentioned in Semester 1 2023 UoN debuted a first-year survey on Ancient Egypt. It has seen high enrolments and has been very popular among students. This year saw the return of our face to face offering of Mythology, taught by Dr. Ryan Strickler. Between these two courses student numbers are encouraging. We expect this to continue into Semester 2 with the debut of our Pompeii survey, and the redesign of our Roman Republic and Roman Empire units.

Significant Activity

Emeritus Professor Harold Tarrant delivered the following presentations:

- ‘Amelian Nous: Origins and Development’, at Human and Divine Nous from Ancient to Byzantine and Renaissance Philosophy and Religion, University of Prague, June 28th-30th, 2022
- ‘The Place of the Sophist in Old Academic Theory and Curriculum’, International Plato Society, Symposium XIII, Plato’s Sophist, University of Georgia, Athens GA, July 18-22, 2022.
- ‘Classificatory Space in Speusippus and the Philebus’, International Workshop on the History of Platonism, Universität Trier, 22-23 September 2022.
- ‘Colotes on Menedemus, Plato, and Arcesilaus’, Epicurean Polemic, Università di Pisa 12th January 2023.
- ‘Amelius: Triad of Intellects and Triad of Matters’, Triades et Trinité: Structures ontologiques et cognitives, Paris, Centre Léon Robin. 16th February 2023.

Dr. Ryan Strickler submitted, along with Prof Bronwen Neil (Macquarie), Dr. Estelle Strazdins (ANU), and Dr. Amelia Brown (UQ) a Discovery Project application for 2024 on Media and Power in the Roman Empire from the Flavians to the Theodosians.

On 1 December 2022 Prof. Marguerite Johnson delivered the keynote address titled “Add Nymph and Mix: The Eroticisation of The Australian Landscape” for the Reception, Susception, Acception — The Use and Re-Use of Classical Studies workshop at ANU.

Visitors

On 4-5 August 2022 UoN held Greek History series around the visit of Associate Professor David Pritchard (UQ). A/prof Pritchard provided a public lecture as well as a talk for the UoN HCISS Seminar Series. Both events were well attended and well received.

On 28 April Associate Professor (UQ) Tom Stevenson delivered a seminar on Roman Art as part of the UoN HCISS Seminar Series ahead of his keynote address for the workshop “Meet the New Gods, Same As The Old Gods.”

Postgraduate Completions

Tanika Koosmen was awarded her PhD (Classics) for the thesis, “Between the City and the Forest’: Towards a Posthuman Reading of the Ancient Werewolf.”

Conferences at UoN

After a delay, UoN hosted a workshop on 29 April in support of the forthcoming 2024 Discovery Project application mentioned above. Titled “Meet the New Gods, Same as the Old Gods?: Roman Religion, Mass Media and Imperial Power.” Held at UoN’s Q Building in the CBD campus, the workshop drew 27 participants, including 11 speakers from universities across NSW and QLD.

On 30 June-1 July, PhD Candidate Connie Skibinski will host a conference “Challenging the Patriarchy: Reframing Graeco-Roman Women and their Reception”, organised with Dr. Anastasia Bakogianni (Massey). The conference will feature speakers from Australia, New Zealand, and the UK and will feature a special AWAWS session. Details can be found at: <https://challengingthepatriarchyconference.wordpress.com/>

New Books

Ewans, M. *Euripides Medea: Translation and Theatrical Commentary*. Routledge (2022)

Ryan Strickler

University of Otago

Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements

Associate Professor Pat Wheatley retired from the University in December 2022. He joined the Classics Department (as it was then called) in early 2004 and served both it and the University well over his 18 years as our Ancient Greek History expert and a teacher of ancient Greek. As most will know, Pat was a specialist in Hellenistic history, on which he penned many journal articles; however, he was particularly proud of his very successful book, *Demetrius the Besieger* (Oxford, 2020, co-authored with one of his post-grad Phds, Charlotte Dunn, now herself a successful academic at Hobart). Pat was also a most generous and well-loved supervisor of several post-graduate students during his tenure; several more of whom went on to have their own successful careers in our profession. But, beyond the professional side of the things, Pat was the most generous and gregarious of persons, whose sharp wit and occasionally cheeky sense of humour are sorely missed.

With the retirement of Assoc Prof Pat Wheatley, we were able to bring on-board a Teaching Fellow for 2023, while we conduct a search for Pat’s replacement. We were fortunate that Dr

Joel Gordon, one of our PhD graduates, was able to assume the responsibility for the teaching of one Latin and one Greek paper this semester and will be delivering the Ancient History paper in second semester.

Arlene Allan

University of Queensland

Staff changes

Annabel Florence has joined us on a contract at Level B. Estelle Strazdins left UQ for a lectureship at ANU. Duncan Keenan-Jones left for a lectureship at the University of Manchester.

Significant activity

Papers delivered outside Australia/New Zealand:

Kit Morrell, 'Women and legal change in the Roman republic' at conference *Ciudadanas: las mujeres Romanas en la república*, hosted by the Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Seville (October 2022).

Kit Morrell, 'Women and reform in the Roman republic?' at University of Amsterdam Ancient History Seminar (November 2022).

(Both papers are connected to Kit's DECRA project, 'Reforming the Roman Republic'.)

The 28th Annual Ancient History Day was held on 18 March 2023. The theme was 'Art and Politics in the Ancient World'. Speakers included:

Dr Rebecca Clifton, University of Melbourne: 'Overcoming and Erasure: Responses to Crisis in Egyptian Royal Art'.

Prof. Alastair Blanshard, UQ, 'Athens, Empire and Art'.

Dr Charlotte Mann, British School at Rome, 'The Enigmatic Emperor? A Quantitative Reassessment of Hadrian's Imperial Coinage'.

Dr Janette McWilliam, UQ, 'Children on Trajan's Column'.

A/Prof. Tom Stevenson, UQ, 'Sculpture and Politics in the Transformation of the Roman Republic'.

Dr Amelia Brown, UQ, 'From Governors and Gods to Icons and Doorsteps: Politics and Religion in Portrait Art of Late Antiquity'.

Visitors

Prof. Josiah Osgood (Georgetown University, Washington, DC) visited UQ for the last two weeks of March as the 2023 R.D. Milns Visiting Professor. Prof. Osgood gave a series of stimulating presentations on his research, including 'Women as Witnesses in Roman Criminal Trials' and 'Political Rivalries in the Late Roman Republic', and he shared his expertise generously with staff, undergraduates, and postgraduate students. It was a very rewarding visit.

The invited guest speaker for the 2023 School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry Annual Lecture on Friday 19th May, 5:30—7:30 p.m. is Dr Sarah Lawrence from Classics and Ancient

History at the University of New England, who will be speaking on ‘Empathy and the Arena: Looking for (and with) Empathy in Early Imperial Rome’. We are looking forward to her visit.

Museum news

The current exhibition at the R.D. Milns Antiquities Museum is entitled ‘Wondrous machines: the *automata* of Hero of Alexandria’.

Postgraduate completions

Filippo Attinelli (PhD), *Cicero’s Use of Justice in Roman Foreign Relations*.

Principal Advisor: Dr Janette McWilliam

Nicholas George (MPhil), *Civil Violence and Rome’s Urban Space in the Late Republic and Early Imperial Period*.

Principal Advisor: Dr Janette McWilliam

Mark Mather (MPhil), *Caesar’s Supply Methods in Gaul*.

Principal Advisor: A/Prof Tom Stevenson

Tom Stevenson

University of Sydney

Staff changes, appointments, promotions, retirements

Professor Margaret Miller retired from her post as Arthur and Renee George Professor of Classical Archaeology in June 2022, followed by the retirement of Dr Ted Robinson, also from Archaeology, in January 2023. They are both much missed.

James Tan, from Classics and Ancient History, was promoted to Senior Lecturer in the last promotion round. Congratulations James!

Significant activity by staff, postgraduates, honoraries, and retired staff

Associate Professor Lesley Beaumont delivered an invited paper to the 2022 annual conference of the Society for American Archaeology on “New Approaches to studying adolescence in the past: Exploring ancient Greek archaeological evidence through the lens of developmental biology and neurodevelopmental psychology”.

Richard Green: I write this from Paphos where Craig Barker has assembled a team to work at the theatre site, a project which I initiated so many years ago. It is good to have the fieldwork recommencing after the gap prompted by the pandemic. We are also putting considerable effort into preparing publication of the finds. Immediately beforehand I spent six weeks at the Institute of Classical Studies in London, overlapping very briefly with Han Baltussen and more of the time with Diana Burton.

In February 2023, Professor Julia Kindt embarked on a lecture tour to Japan, visiting Kyoto, Tokyo, and Kamakura.

Excavations

In April 2023, The Paphos Theatre Project undertook its first excavation season since the global pandemic began in 2020. The excavations, directed by Dr Craig Barker, were concentrated on revealing more of the urban landscape that the theatre was part of in the north-east corner

of the ancient city as well as later Medieval-Venetian period activity at the top of Fabrika hill. The team was joined by Emeritus Professor and co-director Richard Green, who founded the excavations in 1995, and included students, senior team archaeologists, photographers, conservators and surveyors all working towards a major volume on the excavations to date.

New courses or major modifications to existing courses

Associate Professor Lesley Beaumont and Dr Stavros Paspalas co-taught ARCO3404: Archaeology in the Field and ARCL6902: The Archaeology of Athens as a three-week intensive programme in Athens between 20 January and 10 February 2023 to a group of 38 undergraduate and postgraduate students from the universities of Sydney, Melbourne, West Australia, Newcastle, New England, Macquarie, Wollongong and Monash.

In semester 1, 2023 Julia taught ANHS3000: Humans and Other Animals for the first time.

Visitors (recent, current, and prospective)

2023 is the first year of a new collaboration between Classics and Ancient History at the University of Sydney and the Faculty of Classics in Cambridge. Building on a long history of productive interconnectedness between these institutions that continues in the present day, this will see Visiting Ritchie Fellows from Cambridge come to Sydney and Ritchie Visiting Scholars go from Sydney to Cambridge, to foster collaboration in Classics between the Universities of Sydney and Cambridge; to enrich graduate horizons and internationalism; and to support career development. Later this year, our first Visiting Ritchie Fellows from Cambridge will be: PhD candidate Robin Kreutel, who will be coming to work on space in Plautine comedy with Bob Cowan in October; and Dr Marcus Ellis, a recent PhD awardee who will come to work on Euripides' *Orestes* with Peter Wilson in September-October. From Sydney, PhD candidate Phillip Dupesovski will travel to Cambridge later in the year to work with Tim Whitmarsh as a William Ritchie Research Scholar in Classics.

Museum news

In February 2023 David Ellis, Director of Museums and Cultural Engagement, retired from the University. Michael Dagostino has taken up the Directorship, looking after the Chau Chak Wing Museum and Seymour Centre. Michael joins the University with over 25 years of experience in the contemporary arts sector, and most recently was Director of Campbelltown Arts Centre.

Since opening the Chau Chak Wing Museum in 2020 a renewed approach to Object Based Learning has been led by Dr Eve Guerry and Jane Thogersen. The Nicholson Collection remains core to archaeology and ancient historical studies, but through this program it has been embedded into disciplines spanning the University of Sydney's diverse teachings: 2021 saw 821 unique Nicholson objects (with an average 3.3 x repeat usage) and 2022 saw 666 unique objects (with an average 5.45 x repeat usage) as part of these programs. So far in 2023, exhibitions featuring the Nicholson Collection specifically have been part of 40+ units of study with thousands of students from Anatomy, Ancient Greek, Archaeology, Art History, Business Studies, Dentistry, English, Global Health, History, Pharmacy (and more) taking bespoke tours and reflecting on cultural heritage as part of their classes.

In April the museum was fortunate to host the book launch for *Rex: Seven Kings of Rome* by Dr Peta Greenfield and Dr Fiona Radford (aka the Partial Historians), as well as began a new lunch

time series on the relevancy of ancient philosophy to modern life. In May, we will be hosting an extended weekend of events with the Hellenic Lyceum Club, as part of the Greek festival of Sydney, including a pop-up exhibition of historical village costumes, Greek dancing and musical performances, and an evening lecture by Candace Richards on William Woodhouse's historic photographs of Greece in the Nicholson Collection (Thursday 18 May, Saturday-Sunday 20-21 May).

Postgraduate completions

James Clay completed his MPhil with fantastic reader reports and will begin the PhD program in Classical Studies at Columbia in the Fall.

Conferences (recent and forthcoming)

The University of Sydney will host the 2023 International Council of Museums Committee for University Museums and Collections Conference from 29–31 August 2023. Held at the Chau Chak Wing Museum, UMAC 2023 brings delegates to Sydney, Australia to explore the conference theme of 'Truth-telling through university museums and collections'. The full program will be released in due course online: <https://www.sydney.edu.au/museum/whats-on/umac-2023.html>

The third annual meeting of the Mediterranean Archaeology Australasian Research Community (MAARC), took place from Monday 13 to Wednesday 15 February 2023 (online via Zoom) hosted by The University of Sydney with the support of the Department of Archaeology, Chau Chak Wing Museum, Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens and Near Eastern Archaeology Foundation. The conference welcomed over 250 attendees and included 64 papers, a film night and a keynote lecture by Professor John K. Papadopoulos on The Ancient Methone Archaeological Project.

New books

Beck, H. and J. Kindt (2023) *The Local Horizon of Ancient Greek Religion*. Cambridge.

Gardner, I. *Mani's Epistles. The Surviving Parts of the Coptic Codex Berlin P. 15998*, (Manichäische Handschriften der Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin, Band II), W. Kohlhammer, Stuttgart 2022.

Hartwig, A., *Nikostratos II – Theaitetos*, *Fragmenta Comica 22.2* (Göttingen: Verlag Antike, 2022).

E. Csapo, H.-R. Goette, J.R. Green, B. Le Guen, E. Paillard, J. Stoop, P. Wilson (eds.), *Theatre and Autocracy in the Ancient World*, (Berlin–Boston: De Gruyter, 2022).

Other items of interest

Tamara Neal was awarded the Raeburn Trophy for the Advancement of Classics by the Classical Languages Teachers Association.

Tamara Neal

Victoria University of Wellington

The most exciting news for VUW Classics is that we can, after a break of some years because of Covid, host a Syme lecture this year. Greg Woolf from UCLA will deliver his lecture 'Rome Unbound! How the Republican elite won the world and lost control of their culture' on 8 June and give a research seminar the following day on 'Moving People. Moving Things. The Ebbs and Flows of the Roman World System'. After spending a week in Wellington, he will travel to Canterbury, Otago and Auckland.

Another visitor will be David Rosenbloom from University of Maryland, Baltimore County, who will visit Wellington to give a Classical Association talk and a research seminar in late July.

As to other news, Diana Burton has been appointed to Associate Professor. She and Jeff Tatum are currently on RSL, spending time in London as Visiting Fellows at the Institute for Classical Studies. Hamish Cameron was on RSL for a semester in 2022.

Mark Masterson's book *Between Byzantine Men: Desire, Homosexuality, and Brotherhood in the Medieval Empire* (London: Routledge) came out in 2022.

Several staff have or will soon deliver papers internationally: James Kierstead spoke about 'Assemblies, Mediterranean and Pacific' at the Popular Political Participation Beyond Athens conference at Ghent University (via Zoom), Jeff delivered a paper to the London Ancient Literature Seminar, Mark Masterson gave a paper on 'An Undisciplined Masculine Body of Pleasure and Desire' at the International Medieval Congress in Leeds in July 2022 and organised a conference 'Persistence and Resistance: 100 to 1000 CE, Pacific Partnership in Late Antiquity' in February 2022. Babette Puetz will give a paper on 'Forgetting and Power in Greek Tragedy' at the Forgetting and Power Conference in Eichstätt, Germany, in early July, after spending a week doing research at Free University Berlin.

Hamish Cameron offered a new course in 2022: CLAS 312: 'Special Topic: Playing with the Ancient World: Ancient Greece and Rome in Video Games'.

Babette Puetz



ASCS Newsletter no. 52, compiled by Kit Morrell (k.morrell@uq.edu.au)
The Australasian Society for Classical Studies
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