

## CASA REPORT

University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Howard College  
Durban

28<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Classical Association of South Africa  
29 June – 2 July, 2009

Personalia

Anne Gosling sadly died of cancer at the David Beare Care Centre in Pinetown on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August, 2008. Cf. the obituary by J. L. Hilton in *Akroterion* 53 (2008) 3-6.

Dr. Elke Steinmeyer was awarded her PhD in 2008 for her thesis 'Plaintive Nightingale or Strident Swan? The Reception of the Electra Myth from 1960-2005'.

Dr. Susan Haskins graduated with a PhD on 16 April, 2009. The topic of her thesis was: 'The Judgement of an Ass: Constructions of Female Sexuality in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*.'

NRF

Professor J. L. Hilton successfully applied for an NRF rating in 2009.

Dr. Steinmeyer was awarded an NRF grant of R40 000.

Postgraduate Students

UKZN HC was awarded a Mellon post-doctoral scholarship to host Dr. Mairéad MacAuley, a graduate of King's College, Cambridge. She has now left to take up a similar position at the University of Johannesburg.

Mr. Jeffrey Murray was awarded the Vogel Award in 2008. He spent the award travelling to England, U.K. (Nottingham, Oxford) and Germany (Berlin). He was also awarded a UKZN Graduate Travel Scholarship in 2008.

Ms. Szerdi Nagy was also awarded a UKZN Graduate Travel Scholarship in 2008.

Visiting Lecturers

In August 2007 Professor James O'Connell visited UKZN (HC) from Georgetown University, USA. He gave a paper on 'The Ancient World and the Making of the Modern Middle East: or, if only Alexander had died of old age and Justinian had died young.'

On Wednesday 6 to Friday 8 August 2008, two visiting lecturers from Brown University, Rhode Island, USA, Professor Kurt Raaflaub and Professor Deborah Boedeker, gave a series of lectures at UKZN, HC. These were: *The Truth about Tyranny: Tacitus and the Historian's Responsibility in Early Imperial Rome* (Prof. Kurt Raaflaub); *Zeus and Prometheus: Greek Adaptations of Ancient West Asian Myths* (Prof. Kurt Raaflaub); *Thinking about Peace in the*

*Ancient World: Why Greece? & Sappho Old and New* (Prof. Kurt Raflaub & Prof. Deborah Boedeker). In addition Prof. Deborah Boedeker gave a seminar on the new Sappho fragment.

In November 2009, Classics Programme at UKZN (HC) hosted a visit by Dr Noureddine Tili from the University of Paris 10 - Nanterre in France. He wrote his PhD on Education and Culture in Roman Africa and has published extensively on various aspects of this topic. He presented a paper on 'The image of Barbarians in Roman North Africa'.

#### Local Visiting Lecturers

|      |                     |                          |  |
|------|---------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 2007 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem | Dr Warren Snowball       | <i>Romans and Africans – A 3D Exploration</i>  |
| 2008 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sem | Prof. David Wardle       | <i>Planning for death and (im)mortality: Augustus, his Mausoleum, pantheon and stars</i> |
|      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem | Dr Jessie Maritz         | <i>From Roman Africa to Roman America</i>  |
| 2009 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sem | Prof. Christoff Zietsman | <i>Crossing the Roman Frontier - Egypt in Rome</i>                                       |

We also held our regular graduate colloquium to which all members of CASA are invited.

#### Graduate Colloquium

2007: Second Semester

|                       |  |  |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| 16 August             | Jeffrey Murray (Classics, HC, UKZN)                    | The reception of the Battle of Thermopylae in contemporary popular culture   |
| 22 August (Wednesday) | Professor James O'Donnell (Georgetown University, USA) | The Ancient World and the Making of the Modern Middle East: or, if only Alexander had died of old age and Justinian had died young |
| 6 September           | Elke Steinmeyer (Classics, HC, UKZN)                   | "Furibunda virgo" – The myth of Electra in Latin literature  |
| 20 September          | Dr Suzanne Sharland (Classics, HC, UKZN)               | Witches and Wet Dreams: Women in Horace's <i>Satires</i>   |
| 4 October             | Professor John Hilton (Classics, HC, UKZN)             | Furor, dementia, rabies in Apuleius' <i>Metamorphoses</i>  |
| 11 October            | Susan Haskins (Classics, HC, UKZN)                     | Representations of women's sexuality in Apuleius' <i>Metamorphoses</i> - Discussion of PhD draft                                   |
| 18 October            | Adrian Ryan (Classics, HC, UKZN)                       | A closer look at pose in the human figures of the Princeton Painter  |
| 25 October            | Anne Briggs (Classics, HC, UKZN)                       | The role of the "nuclear family" in Homeric and Vergilian epic   |

2008: First Semester

|             |                                    |   |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 28 February | Susan Haskins (Classics, HC, UKZN) | Constructions of female sexuality in Apuleius' <i>Metamorphoses</i>                                     |
| 13 March    | Tasha de Beer (Classics, HC, UKZN) | A close look at Geometric and Orientalizing pottery in the context of the birth of pictorial narrative. |

|          |                                       |  |
|----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 3 April  | Suzanne Sharland (Classics, HC, UKZN) | Reading between the Lines. Horace <i>Satires</i> 1.1   |
| 17 April | Adrian Ryan (Classics, HC, UKZN)      | What is painting style? A novel theory of attribution for Attic black figure vase-paintings. |
| 8 May    | Drama Panel: (Classics, HC, UKZN)     | The Oresteian Trilogy Production at UKZN 2008  |
| 22 May   | David Hulme (Law, HC, UKZN)           | Rome and the Law   |

## 2008: Second Semester

|              |  |   |
|--------------|--|---|
| 7 August     | Prof. Kurt Raaflaub & Prof. Deborah Boedeker (Brown University, USA) | Thinking about Peace in the Ancient World: Why Greece? & Sappho Old and New             |
| 21 August    | Szerdi Nagy (Classics, HC, UKZN)                                     | A comparative study of female guides in the Gilgamesh Epic, Homer, Vergil and Dante     |
| 28 August    | Anne Briggs (Classics, HC, UKZN)                                     | Family relationships in Homer and Vergil  |
| 11 September | Dr. Mairéad McAuley (Classics, HC, UKZN)                             | The mother figure in the works of Seneca and Statius                                    |
| 2 October    | Jeffrey Murray (Classics, HC, UKZN)                                  | Greeks and Freaks: Representations of Greeks and Persians in Zack Snyder's <i>300</i> . |
| 16 October   | Dr. Elke Steinmeyer (Classics, HC, UKZN)                             | The reception of the Oedipus myth in Jacqueline Leloup's play <i>Gueido</i>             |
| 30 October   | Cullen Mackenzie (Classics, PMB, UKZN)                               | Kill or Cure? <i>Izintelezi</i> and <i>pharmaka</i> as problematic concepts.            |

## 2009: First Semester

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| 12 March | Professor Bernhard Kytzler (Foreign Languages, UKZN, HC Campus) | Promises, Promises.....<br>Hopes and Fears in Ancient Utopian Novels                        |
| 19 March | Professor John Hilton (Classics, UKZN, HC Campus)               | Heliodorus and Julian   |
| 2 April  | Mark Kirby-Hirst (Classics, UNISA, Pretoria)                    | Dragonology   |
| 23 April | Dr. Mairéad McAuley (Classics, University of Johannesburg)      | The Politics of Gender Representation in Senecan Tragedy: Medea and Phaedra                 |
| 7 May    | Anne Briggs (Classics, UKZN, HC Campus)                         | The <i>Iliad's</i> Hector and his families of orientation and procreation                   |
| 21 May   | Jeffrey Murray (Classics, UKZN, HC Campus)                      | Greeks & Freaks: Representations of Greeks and Persians in <i>300</i>                       |
| 27 May   | Szerdi Nagy (Classics, UKZN, HC Campus)                         | From the Goddess to the Prophetess - The evolution from divine woman to woman as divine aid |