



# CASA

## Classical Association of South Africa Western Cape Branch

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2007-2009

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2007-2009 was a productive period for the classical community of the Western Cape.

#### UNIVERSITY NEWS

We have welcomed a new academic into our fold, Dr. Roman Roth, who joined UCT in April 2008. We have unfortunately also had to say goodbye to a stalwart of our academic community, Dr. Christoff Zietsman, who joined the Department of English and Classical Languages University of the Orange Free State, as Associate Professor. We had a few international visitors to the Universities this year. Deborah Boedeker and Kurt Raaflaub visited UCT in 2008, and offered lectures and seminars and Prof David Runia returned to US in 2009 to offer several seminars. The University of Stellenbosch Ancient Studies Research Seminar series continues to thrive and both Deborah Boedeker and David Runia presented papers in this forum during their visits. Dr Dyfri Williams of the British Museum was due to visit The University of Stellenbosch in May 2009 but unfortunately his visit had to be called off due to a death in the family.

#### CASA MEETINGS

As usual there were two CASA lecture mornings per year in 2007-2009. The programmes for the two-year period were as follows:

##### 2007 Spring meeting: Saturday 17 November

Dr. Christoff Zietsman (US): *A Day at the Races: Chariot racing in Ancient Rome*  
Thys Murray (US): *Zach Snyder, Frank Miller and Herodotos: three takes on the 300 Spartans*

##### 2008 Autumn Meeting: Saturday 29 March

Prof David Wardle (UCT): *Planning for death and immortality: Augustus, his Mausoleum, Pantheon and stars*  
Prof Barbara Borg (Exeter): *'The most exquisite sight in the world...' Portrait mummies from Roman Egypt*

##### 2008 Spring Meeting: Saturday 1 November

Prof. Jo-Marie Claassen: *Cornelius Fronto – a Libyan nomad at Rome*  
Dr. Roman Roth (UCT): *Capena antiqua: excavations on the colle della Civitucola*

##### 2009 Autumn meeting: Saturday 23 May 2009

Dr Roman Roth (UCT): *Pictures for the Dead: Life and Afterlife in Etruscan Tomb Paintings*  
Samantha Masters (US): *Light, space and affluent taste: A study of the ancient Pompeian house and its decoration*

#### CLASSICAL COMMUNITY

Carina Malan continues to lead international tours with a Classical focus. In November 2007 she lead a departmental trip to Italy/Sicily trip and in April 2009 she lead a very successful trip to Jordan. In the latter half of 2009 the Department of Ancient Studies will lead a trip to Syria and Southern Turkey (29 November-10 December).

#### ANTIQUITIES

The loan of the antiquities currently on view at the Sasol Museum (University of Stellenbosch Museum) has been renewed for another two years. This ensures that the pieces (owned by Iziko) will continue to be available for teaching and general viewing. Students from both US and UCT visit the collection and it is a valuable resource for students of Ancient Cultures and Art.

## SCHOOL NEWS

Since 2007 Latin has dwindled considerably at schools in the Western Cape. From Latin being taught at seven schools in the Western Cape in 2007, there will, within two years, only be two schools (Paul Roos Gymnasium and Paarl Boys' High) still offering Latin in the province.

## COMMITTEE

The current committee members are as follows:

Chairperson: S. Masters

Treasurer: S. Thom

(UCT) C. Chandler

(US) N. Brand

Additional members: J-M Claassen, H. Boeke

Samantha Masters  
Chairperson CASA WP Branch  
2008-2009