

# Canadio-Byzantina

A Newsletter published by the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists

No.28, January 2017

## Introductory remarks

Welcome to the sixth bulletin that I have put together, incorporating, as usual, reports on our members activities, reports on conferences and excavations, and announcements on forthcoming activities or material or events relevant to Byzantinists.

When I started preparing this edition of the bulletin, I was worried by a shortage of reports and an apparent drop in membership; however, a round of messages to various members (and potential members) has altered the situation somewhat. I have had to reword this paragraph therefore, since the situation seems, on balance, quite good. There are more reports than ever about conferences, both here in Canada and abroad. A Byzantine/Late Antique colloquium was organised in early November 2016 at Queen's University on which the graduate students and postdocs involved, Grant Schrama and Eduardo Fabbro, deserve congratulations. And now in February 2017 Dimitris Krallis has put together an event at SFU in Vancouver. So it seems that Byzantinists are active in Canada, which is encouraging. I do hope that it will translate into more members for a number of reasons, including the obvious financial one.

This brings me to the next point: as of 2017 our membership fees will increase. **Full membership will cost \$30, student membership \$15.** Our treasurer, Richard Greenfield, explains the reasons for this in his report below, p.12. This is the first such increase in many years, as he notes, and is needed to fund both our membership in the International

Association (the AIEB) and to allow us to offer essay prizes to undergraduates.

Our committee has been active over the year, e.g. during the deliberations in Belgrade during the quinquennial congress, about which you can read below, pp.21-3. But we have undertaken other initiatives too, for instance in making available on the web some important lectures on Byzantine topics. All were originally organised by the Canadian Institute for Balkan Studies and given in the late 1990s; among the authors of the papers are Speros Vyronis, Jr., Ihor Ševčenko and Warren Treadgold. Full details may be found below, p.24.

We shall be distributing this issue of the bulletin in pdf format only, which I hope will not inconvenience anyone. This will allow us to save on the expense of both photocopying and postage; as our treasurer makes clear, resources are tight. The issue will be posted on the University of Ottawa website, where all previous issues can be found, in due course, as also on my academia.edu site and on our own website (given just below). But I allow a certain interval before posting it, in order that you, the membership, enjoy the advantage of being the first to read the bulletin.

It remains only to wish our members a fruitful and pleasant 2017. Our website remains at:

<http://www.scapat.ca/canbyz/>

Geoffrey Greatrex

## ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

**Emmanuel Bourbouhakis**, Princeton University

Emmanuel C. Bourbouhakis, continues to expand Princeton's offerings in Byzantine language and literature, having introduced a regular undergraduate class on the development of 'Koinê' and its genres down to the early Byzantine period as part of the curriculum in Classics, as well as a graduate seminar on methods and reading in Byzantine philology. Recently published articles include 'Literary Criticism and the Ancient Heritage' in the *The Cambridge Intellectual History of Byzantium*, eds. A. Kaldellis, N. Siniosoglou (Cambridge, 2016) and 'To Flutter or to Crawl? Ihor Ševčenko and the "Two Varieties of Historical Writing"', *Palaeoslavica*, Volume XXIV, no. 1 (2016) 232-244. A study cum edition, translation, and commentary of Eustathios of Thessalonike's funeral oration for Manuel I Komnenos, titled *Not Composed in a Chance Manner* is due out this June, followed by an edited volume of papers from the May 2015 conference 'The Sound of Sense: Orality/Aurality in Byzantine Texts and Contexts,' to be published by Utrecht Studies in Medieval Literacy. He is currently writing a monograph on middle Byzantine epistolography.

**David Buck**, Brockville, sends word that he is now enjoying retirement (from UPEI).

**Richard Burgess**, Ottawa

I have been teaching Greek and Roman history at the University of Ottawa since 1989 and have written five books, almost fifty articles and chapters, and about seventy encyclopedia entries on the history of the fourth century, late Roman numismatics, late Roman historiography, and in particular chronicles, both Latin and Greek, from the third century BC to the twelfth century AD. Although my main interest is analysing and publishing the Latin chronicles of Late Antiquity, I have been actively urging historians and historiographers of the medieval West and Byzantium to ignore conventional genres and nomenclature and to pay more attention to the nature of the works themselves in order to understand their true origins and development. For the Byzantine world this means recognizing that there are no Byzantine chronicles apart from the *Chronicon Paschale* and Theophanes, and that what most Byzantinists call chronicles are descendants of either regnal-year lists (καρόνες) or Hellenistic universal *breviaria*.

Select publications:

with Michael Kulikowski, *Mosaics of Time. The Latin Chronicle Traditions from the First Century BC to the Sixth Century AD, I. A Historical Introduction to the Chronicle Genre from its Origins to the High Middle Ages*. Turnhout, 2013.

Roman Imperial Chronology and Early-Fourth-Century Historiography, The Regnal Durations of the So-called *Chronica urbis Romae* of the *Chronograph of 354*. Stuttgart, 2014.

"The *Chronograph of 354*: its Manuscripts, Contents, and History", *Journal of Late Antiquity* 5 (2012), 345-96.

"The Date, Purpose, and Historical Context of the Original Greek and the Latin Translation of the So-called *Excerpta Latina Barbari*", *Traditio* 68 (2013), 1-56.

“The Summer of Blood: The “Great Massacre” of 337 and the Promotion of the Sons of Constantine”, *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* 62 (2008), 5-51.

Michael W. Hinds, George Bevan, and Richard Burgess, “The Non-Destructive Determination of Pt in Ancient Roman Gold Coins by XRF Spectrometry”, *Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry* 29 (2014), 1799-1805.

**Marica Cassis**, Memorial University, St John’s

Sharon R. Steadman, Gregory McMahon, Jennifer C. Ross, Marica Cassis, T. Emre Şerifoğlu, Benjamin S. Arbuckle, Sarah E. Adcock, Songül Alpaslan Roodenberg, Madelynn von Baeyer, and Anthony J. Lauricella, “The 2013 and 2014 Excavation Seasons at Çadır Höyük on the Anatolian North Central Plateau,” *Anatolica* 41(2015): 87-123.

“Çadır Höyük” for Archaeology of Byzantine Anatolia. Ed. Philipp Niewöhner. Oxford University Press [In Press].

**Erica Dodd**, University of Victoria

I am working on a chapter for the *Oxford Handbook of Byzantine Art and Architecture*, entitled “Byzantine Art and the Middle East.” Completed and going to the editor this week.

For several years I have been working on the *Supplement to Byzantine Silver Stamps*, published by Dumbarton Oaks in 1962. In 1981, I submitted a “Supplement” to D.O., including about 70 objects in the catalogue. 32 of these new objects, belonged to the Sion Treasure, which is presently divided between Dumbarton Oaks and Turkey. It was decided not to publish at that time, because Turkey objected to publication, on the grounds that the Dumbarton Oaks' portion of the Treasure should be returned to its place of origin, namely Turkey.

In 1986 Susan Boyd and Marlia Mango published the Sion Treasure in all aspects other than the stamps, using the documentation obtained from my manuscript and referring to “Dodd’s forthcoming publication of the Supplement.” But the forthcoming Supplement has never been allowed to come out.

I have continued to work on the stamps, on newly discovered objects drawn to my attention and made several more recent efforts to submit the revised manuscript to Dumbarton Oaks, but these attempts have all been rejected. When I ask for copyright to publish the pieces in their collection, they do not answer my e-mails. In the catalogue of the latest Supplement, I have gathered over 100 “new” objects with stamps, including the Sion Treasure. These new objects confirm the original conclusions reached in *Byzantine Silver Stamps* and add considerably to our knowledge of the stamping system in the Byzantine world. Some important information has emerged from this documentation, including the working of the system behind the Imperial stamps, the time-period over which the stamps were in use, and the discovery of other places of manufacture and control, including Tarsus.

I am now too old to delay publication any longer and am attempting to publish elsewhere. This is difficult to do unless copyright is granted. I have recently completed the new catalogue for the Supplement and am nearly ready to submit it for publication. Dumbarton Oaks has, once again, rejected this latest attempt.

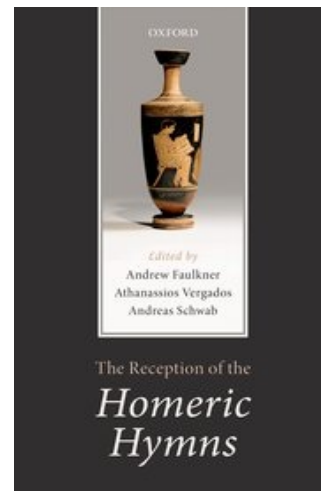
This is to inform my colleagues that in the event that I die before this new manuscript gets published, it will be passed on to the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum, in Mainz, in the care of Benjamin Furlas.

**Andrew Faulkner**, University of Waterloo

I had an edited book entitled *The reception of the Homeric Hymns* appear last year with OUP, in which there is a lot of material on Byzantine reception.

My own article in the book is on Theodore Prodromos, ‘Theodoros Prodromos’ Historical Poems: a Hymnic Celebration of John II Komnenos’.

I’m continuing to work on early Christian poetry in late antiquity. Last year I received a five-year SSHRC award for the study of late antique poetry. This year at Waterloo I also have a visiting postdoctoral fellow who works on late antique Latin poetry, Joshua Hartman (Ph.D. Washington).



**Greg Fisher**, Carleton University, Ottawa

I am on sabbatical working on a book on the Near East / Arabs for Routledge (as yet without title!).

**Benjamin Garstad**, MacEwan University, Edmonton

I attended the Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo in May and was very impressed by the strong showing in the fields of Late Antiquity, Early Medieval Studies, and Byzantine Studies, including the ‘Platinum Latin’ sessions, a session on Byzantine seals sponsored by Dumbarton Oaks, a contingent from the University of Łódź, and one of the plenary sessions by Ian Wood on ‘Religion and the End of the Roman West’. I delivered a paper on related constructions of the past in John Malalas, the Excerpta Latina Barbari, and Fulgentius.

2016 also saw the publication (or acceptance) of the following articles:

“Alexander’s Return to Greece in the Alexander Romance.” *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 56 (2016) 679-95.

“Euhemerus and the Chronicle of John Malalas.” *International History Review* 38 (2016) 900-929.

“Alexander’s Gate and the Unclean Nations: Translation, Textual Appropriation, and the Construction of Barriers.” *Transcultural: A Journal of Translation and Cultural Studies* 8 (2016) 5-16.

“Alexander’s Circuit of the Mediterranean in the Alexander Romance.” Forthcoming in *Ancient Narrative*.

“The Goat from the Southwest in Theodotion’s Daniel Translation, Theodoret’s Commentary, and the Alexander Romance.” Forthcoming in *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie*.

I am currently at work on a study of the Christian and Dionysiac elements in Alexander’s visit to the temple at Lysos, one of the interpolations in the early Byzantine β recension of the Alexander Romance.



**Geoffrey Greatrex**, University of Ottawa

‘Réflexions sur la date de composition des Guerres perses de Procope’ in C. Freu, S. Janniard and A. Ripoll, eds, *Libera Curiositas. Mélanges d’histoire romaine et d’Antiquité tardive offerts à Jean-Michel Carrié* (Turnhout, 2016), 363-6.

Review of M. Kahlos, ed., *The Faces of the Other. Religious Rivalry and Ethnic Encounters in the Later Roman World*, *Mouseion* 13 (2016), 188-91.

Work in Progress: Historical commentary on Procopius, Persian Wars, I-II, edited volumes on Procopius’ world and on work on Procopius in languages other than English.

In the winter term (2016) I gave a 3000-level survey course on Byzantium for the Medieval Studies programme, which covered the period from Constantine to 1453.

**Richard Greenfield**, Queen’s University, Kingston

*Holy Men of Mt Athos*, the volume of six *vitae* to which I contributed and which I co-edited with Alice-Mary Talbot, was published in April 2016 (Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library 40, Greek Series; Harvard UP, 745pp). I also continued to be active in work on other volumes as a member of the Byzantine Greek Editorial Board of the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library.

I completed an article: ‘A revision in the dating of Euthymios the Younger of Thessalonike (BHG 655)’. It is currently under consideration for publication.

My chapter: ‘Magic and the Occult Sciences’ to be published in Antony Kaldellis and Niketas Sinioussoglou eds., *The Cambridge Intellectual History of Byzantium* is now forthcoming, 2017.

In March I gave a paper to the University of Ottawa Medieval Seminar, “Controlling the Demonic: miracles of exorcism and magical coercion in the Byzantine world”.

In December I gave the Queen’s History Department Faculty Lecture, “Lost at the Crossroads of the World: Looking for Greece in the History of the Middle Ages”.

I am now supervising five PhD students: Abdulkerim Kartal, Grant Schrama, Paul Gebhardt, Julian Yang and Sarah Rosser. In the Winter term I taught a general lecture on the Crusades (to 140), an upper year undergraduate seminar on Medieval Greece (20), and a Graduate directed reading course (3) on Byzantine Hagiography. Since July 1 I have been on leave. I spent three weeks in Greece in July (on Paros and Iraklia in a Modern Greek language course) and a month in the Fall (travelling in Thrace, Macedonia and Epiros). I have started work on editing and translating the Life of Gregory of Sinai by Kallistos.

**Cecily Hilsdale**, McGill University, Montreal

This year I was awarded an Insight Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for my research project ‘The Mobility and Mutability of Byzantine Art in the Medieval Mediterranean.’ I presented portions of this research as part of the Mary Jaharis Center Lecture Series in

partnership with Harvard's Standing Committee on Medieval Studies, at the Medieval Studies Institute of Indiana University in Bloomington, at the University of California at Berkeley, and at the Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians held at Université Laval, Quebec.

In addition, I participated in the Dumbarton Oaks Spring Symposium dedicated to 'Worlds of Byzantium,' in Washington DC in April 2016 and the conference on 'Textile Gifts in the Middle Ages' at the Bibliotheca Hertziana/Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte in Rome in November.

2016 also saw the publication of an essay on the pictorial cycle of Vatican Greek manuscript 752 in *A Book of Psalms from Eleventh-Century Byzantium: The Complex of Texts and Images in Vat. gr. 752*, edited by Barbara Crostini and Glenn Peers (Città del Vaticano: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, 2016) as well as a review of Anthony Kaldellis, *The Byzantine Republic: People and Power in New Rome* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2015) in the journal *Phoenix*.

Lastly, with the close of the year, my book *Byzantine Art and Diplomacy in an Age of Decline* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) was released in paperback.

**Kerim Kartal**, Queen's University, Kingston

I am a fourth year PhD candidate in the History Department at Queen's University. Presently I am in the process of writing my dissertation which is entitled "The Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and its Political, Religious, and Intellectual Relations with the Contemporary World in Late Byzantium, 1261-1453" under the supervision of Prof. Richard Greenfield.

In 2016, I completed the second chapter of my dissertation. Also, I presented "The Patriarchate of Constantinople in Early and Middle Byzantium: The Gradual Politicization of the Centre of the Byzantine Church from its Foundation until 1261" at McGill-Queen's Graduate Conference in History.

I TAed HIST 250 (The Middle Ages) and GREK 112 (Introductory Greek) in the winter term, and HIST 125 (Evolution of Modern Europe) in the summer term. Right now I am a teaching fellow of HIST 122 (Making of the Modern World).

Currently I am holding two awards from Queen's University: Queen's Graduate Award and International Student Award. In addition, I received a scholarship from Dumbarton Oaks this summer, attended the Byzantine Greek Summer Program there for a month in July 2016.

Lastly, in collaboration with Prof. Drew Griffith, the head of the Classics Department at Queen's University, I wrote and submitted an article entitled "Modern Greek Borrowings Back (αντιδάνεια) from Turkish and Arabic" for publication in December 2016.

**JaShong King**, Ottawa

I am a second-year M.A. student at the University of Ottawa studying the Late Roman / Byzantine imperial accession process, with a long-term interest in Sino-Roman comparative history.

**Dimitris Krallis**, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver

While awaiting the publication of five papers, due to appear in 2017 and 18, and having handed my second book manuscript, provisionally entitled *An Empire of Quills: The Life and Deeds of a Byzantine Mandarin* to the hands of an agent, I wrote a new article with a social-historical focus. It is titled *The Mundane Mechanics of Politics: Charting the Byzantine Commons in the Empire's Villages and Towns* and will soon be sent to a journal. Over the past year I also started conceptualizing my next major research project. This entails a digital mapping of the tenth century *Book of Ceremonies* by Emperor Konstantinos VII Porphyrogenetos and is tentatively titled: *Mapping Statecraft: People, Space, Time and Movement in Byzantine Imperial Ceremonial*. This project aside I am at the moment working on a preliminary sketch of a paper on Memory and Urbanism as reflected on Constantine's forum in Constantinople. Finally, this coming February I will be hosting at SFU a symposium entitled *Collectivities, Individuals, Identity and the Polity: Imagining the Commons in Byzantium*. This even will be held on SFU's Burnaby campus on February 3-4, 2017 and will bring together Byzantinists and scholars of Late Antiquity from Canada, the US, the UK and Greece.

**Antony Littlewood**, University of Western Ontario, London

He has been continuing this year with research on cricketers.

His only lecture has been a very long talk on 'Greek Technology' at St Andrew's High School, Nuku'alofa, Tonga.

Travels this year, apart from to England, Timor-Leste and Papua/NewGuinea, have been mainly to small islands in the Pacific: Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and New Caledonia.

**Lucas McMahon**, Princeton University

In 2016 I completed my Princeton coursework, and will be taking the general exam in May 2017. Due to the ongoing coursework, there is little to report. I published a short piece in the *Annual of Medieval Studies at CEU 22* (2016), which argued that Syriac sources can help nuance our long-term understanding of warfare along the eastern frontier and that we do not need to be so dependent on the tenth-century manual *De Velitatione Bellica* for understanding warfare during the "dark centuries".

**Stefan Moffat**, Ottawa

I am a second year MA student in Classics at the University of Ottawa. My thesis, under the direction of Geoffrey Greatrex, is about temple reuse in late antique Greece. Based on my thesis research, I've developed my interest in the archaeology of southeastern Europe.

**Glenn Peers**, Austin, Texas

2015-16      Fellow, Israel Institute for Advanced Study, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel;  
Fellowship from the European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS); Research Associate, W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem.

Co-edited with Barbara Crostini, *A Book of Psalms from Eleventh-Century Constantinople: On the Complex of Texts and Images in Vat. gr. 752*, Studi e Testi, vol. 504, Vatican City, 2016.

‘Senses’ Other Sides,’ in *Proceedings of the 23rd International Congress of Byzantine Studies. Belgrade, 22-27 August 2016. Plenary Papers*, Belgrade, 2016, 175-87.

‘Trebizond and Its World through Manuscripts,’ in *Byzantium's Other Empire: Trebizond*, ed. Antony Eastmond, Istanbul: Koc University, Research Centre for Anatolian Civilizations, 2016, 103-24.

‘Adam’s Anthropocene,’ *postmedieval: A Journal of Medieval Cultural Studies* 7.1 (2016): 161-71 [theme issue Imagined Encounters: Historiographies for a New World, ed. Roland Betancourt].

Exhibition reviews: Jerusalem 1000-1400: Every People under Heaven (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City), in *Apollo* (December 2016): 104.

Book reviews: Vasileios Marinis, *Architecture and Ritual in the Churches of Constantinople (Ninth to Fiteenth Centuries)*, Cambridge, 2014, in *The Medieval Review* 16.01.16.

Meredith J. Gill, *Angels and the Order of Heaven in Medieval Renaissance Italy*, Cambridge, 2014, in *American Historical Review* 121.2 (April 2016): 637.

#### Conference papers and invited lectures

- Oct., 2016 ‘The Three Youths Cycle in Psalter Vaticanus Graecus 752: Formation in Praise and Deliverance,’ at the 42nd Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
- Aug., 2016 Plenary Paper, ‘The Senses in Byzantium,’ at the 23rd International Congress of Byzantine Studies, Belgrade, Serbia.
- June, 2016 ‘Hellenism's Instrumental Identity in Fourteenth-Century Trebizond,’ Fourth International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium, Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey.  
‘Isaac of Antioch's Organ and the Media of Musical Subjects,’ The Poetics of Christian Performance: Prayer, Liturgy, and their Environments in East and West, Israel Insitute for Advanced Study, Jerusalem, Israel.  
‘Hagios Euphemianos Chapel in Lysi, Houston and Lefkosia: New Experiences of Byzantine Art,’ at the Cypriot History Society, Nicosia, Cyprus.
- May, 2016 ‘Coexistence or Schism? On a Byzantine Psalter from 1059 (Vaticanus graecus 752),’ 19th Annual Mediterranean Studies Conference, Palermo, Italy.  
‘Making Time and Subject in a Late-Byzantine Illustrated Typikon (Vatopaidi 1199),’ Time and Temporality in Medieval and Early Modern Art, Open University of Israel, Raanana, Israel.

#### **Linda Safran, Toronto**

Linda Safran (PIMS) had a busy Byzantine year. In February 2016 she took graduate students from the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts to Sicily, after teaching a seminar on medieval Sicily in fall 2015; they visited monuments with students and faculty from the University of Toronto who had studied the same

material with Prof. Jill Caskey. This trip, and another in May to see Buddhist painted caves in northwestern China, were under the auspices of a Getty Connecting Art Histories initiative on ‘Global and Postglobal Perspectives on Medieval Art and Art History.’ Linda returned to China in December 2016 to give a lecture in Beijing, comparing Buddhist caves with cave churches in Cappadocia and southern Italy, and a workshop in Guangzhou titled ‘Was Byzantine Art Global?’

In May she presented ‘A Prolegomenon to Byzantine Diagrams’ at a workshop on Visualizing Knowledge in Medieval and Early Modern Europe [sic!]. She published the ‘Introduzione’ to *Botrugno: Chiesa dell'Assunta; La parete absidale dopo il disvelamento degli affreschi*, ed. Sergio Ortese (Galatina: Congedo, 2016), xv-xviii; other articles in Italian should have come out this year but didn’t. She is nearing the end of her second and final three-year term as editor of *Gesta* (with Adam S. Cohen).

**Grant Schrama**, Queen’s University, Kingston

In 2016, I continued work on my dissertation, tentatively titled *Colonialism in Frankish Greece: A Cultural History of the Franks in the Eastern Mediterranean, 1081-1453*. As well, I presented papers at two conferences. The first was in March at the University of Zurich, where I gave a paper on effeminacy and postcolonial narratives in Byzantine and crusading history. The second was at the annual Byzantine Studies Conference, held this year in October at Cornell University, where I presented on colonialism in Frankish Greece during the period from 1204 to 1261.

As well in the past year, I organized, alongside Eduardo Fabbro, a small colloquium entitled *Crisis and Migration in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages*. The colloquium was hosted at Queen’s University in November, and attracted sixteen faculty and graduate student speakers, including: Maximilian Lau, Lara Howerton, Richard Shaw, Nora Thorburn, Nicholas Everett, Hugh Elton, Steven Mooney, Katie Menendez, Deanna Brook’s, Julian Yang, Devon Levesque, Lucas Villegas-Aristizábal, JaShong King, and Aleksander Paradziński. The keynote lecture, attended by around fifty students and faculty, was presented by John Osborne from Carleton University. Overall, the colloquium was a successful first incarnation of what I hope will become an annual event, whereby Canadian Byzantinists can come together with other scholars to discuss and present their research. (*Editor’s note: see also the report on this colloquium on p.17*).

For 2017, I will continue to work on my own research and aim to finish writing my dissertation by the spring. I am presenting a paper on the archaeology of medieval Greece at the Annual Meeting for the Archaeological Institute of America in January, and will be working on a series of articles detailing various aspects of the cultural history of Frankish Greece.

**Foteini Spingou**, Oxford

Having spent last year at PIMS, Foteini is now working for the ERC project on ‘Monumental Art of the Christian and Early Islamic East’ in Oxford, U.K., based in the Classics faculty.

‘John IX Patriarch of Jerusalem in exile: A “Holy Man” from Mar Saba to St Diomedes/New Zion’, *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* 109/1 (2016) : 179–206.

**Kristina Terpoy, Oxford**

Over the course of 2016, I continued working on my DPhil dissertation in Oxford and had the opportunity to pursue research and academic activities abroad.

Early in the year, I attended and chaired a session at the Oxford University Byzantine Society's Graduate Conference and later travelled to Scotland to present a paper at the Edinburgh Conference on Late Antiquity. I also presented a paper at the University of Oxford's Late Antique and Byzantine Archaeology and Art Seminar in June and I had the opportunity to attend the Late Antique Archaeology 2016 Conference in London, U.K. in October. I also assisted in the organization of the workshop Asia Minor in the Long Sixth Century which took place in Oxford, U.K. in early December. All of these experiences were valuable and facilitated intriguing discussions on a number of important topics. I look forward to attending and presenting papers at various venues in 2017.

In terms of academic activities outside of the UK, I participated in the Kostoperska Karpa Regional Archaeological Project this past spring. My research activities also took my back to Turkey, where I explored the north coast and travelled to places such as Sinop, Samsun, and Trabzon to name a few. Having had only travelled to southern parts of Turkey previously, this experience was particularly intriguing as I witnessed first-hand the unique environment and landscape of the north.

I will continue with research in 2017 and work towards the completion of my DPhil dissertation.

**Alexandra Vukovic, Cambridge**

Publications: "Promissory Rituals in Rus': Heteropraxy and oath-taking 'by kissing the Cross'" *Byzantinoslavica* 75.1 (2017)

"Le Prince et son épée dans le Rous' du Nord à la suite du séjour de Vsévolod Iourevich à Byzance" in Élisabeth Yota (ed.), *Byzance et ses voisins* (Bern: Peter Lang, 2017).

"Itinerant Rulership in Early Rus'" in Teresa Earenfight (ed.), *New Perspectives on Elite and Royal Households in Medieval and Early Modern Europe, Explorations in Medieval Culture* 3 (Leiden: Brill, 2017).

I am currently the convener of the Cambridge Byzantine Studies Seminar as well as the Byzantine Reading Group and I have updated the Cambridge Byzantine website to reflect our activities over the academic year. The website also includes a growing image catalogue of Byzantine sites with picture galleries of Byzantine sites from Armenia, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, Serbia, Ukraine, and others.

<https://cambridgebyzantine.wordpress.com/about/>

I am also organizing a conference with the Skilliter Centre for Ottoman Studies on the topic of 'The Ottoman Conquest and Knowledge: A Global History'. The conference will be held at Newnham College, Cambridge in July (6-8), 2017. (*Editor's note: see the announcements section below for more details*). This conference focuses on networks, production, and transmission of knowledge during the Ottoman conquest of the eastern Mediterranean.

**Conor Whately**, Winnipeg

## Research Grant:

2016-2018: SSHRC Insight Development Grant, "War and History at the End of Antiquity", \$33,544

## Conference Grant:

Co-organized with James Chlup (University of Manitoba) colloquium: 'Greek and Roman Military Manuals: Genre, Theory, Influence' (see report below).

Book: *Exercitus Moesiae: the Roman Military in Moesia from Augustus to Severus Alexander*, British Archaeological Reports 2825, ISBN 9781407314556

Articles: 'The War Cry: Ritualized Behaviour and Roman Identity in Ancient Warfare, 200 BC - AD 400', in A. Zuiderhoek and W. Vanacker (eds.), *Constructing (an) Imperial Identity? Ritual and Identity Formation in the Roman World*, Routledge, pp. 61-77

'Camels, Soldiers, and Pilgrims in Sixth Century Nessana', *Scripta Classica Israelica* 35: 121-135.

'Some Observations on Procopius' Use of Numbers in Descriptions of Combat in Wars 1-7', *Phoenix* 69: 394-411.

Book Reviews: J. Given (trans and introduction), *The fragmentary history of Priscus*, Merchantville, NJ, 2015, *AHB Online Reviews* 6: 50-53

D. Dzino and K. Parry (eds.), *Byzantium, Its Neighbours and Its Cultures*, Brisbane, 2014, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, 2016.02.23

Lecture: Seminar Paper, May 2016 (invited): 'Cohesion and Motivation at the End of Antiquity', University of Aberystwyth.

**Scott Winges**, Ottawa

I am a first-year Classics M.A. student at the University of Ottawa. I am primarily interested in prosopography and onomastics vis-à-vis the Early and Later Roman Empire. I shall be combining both fields of study for my thesis, which will be a comparative study of the evolution of naming practices in the Roman East.

**John Wortley**, Winnipeg

Work continued on *More Sayings of the Desert Fathers*, a corporate effort to which I am a contributor and of which I am the editor; this should be with the publisher (CUP) by the end of January.

I also made a publishable version of E.W.Brooks' translation of John of Ephesus, *Lives of the Eastern Saints* which Robert Kitchen is now checking prior to supplying an Introduction (maybe CUP.)

And I just completed a prose translation of the anon. 13th cent *Chanson de geste, Huon de Bordeaux* (10,800 lines,) a rollicking good tale of knights and faeries [e.g. Auberon the dwarf-king] in the time of the senile [?] Charlemagne.

## REPORTS

Treasurer's Report**Membership**

Last year we had twenty-five paid up members (thirteen faculty, twelve students); I believe four of these were new (all students). However this figure represents a loss of nine former members who never responded to emails or paid dues; in addition there were four for whom the email addresses no longer worked and whom I was unable to track down; and one withdrew.

**Finances**

Without supplying all the minutiae (available on request) it should be apparent from the above that the revenues from current membership only amounted to just under \$400 for 2015-16. Given our obligations to pay annual dues of E200 for membership in the AIEB (at the last exchange rate over \$300 CAD), our commitment to encourage undergraduate interest through the annual \$100 essay prize, the costs of electronic and print distribution of the Bulletin, and bank fees, it is clear that we have already had to dip into our very meagre reserves and will be unable to break even in 2017 with membership and dues at the current levels.

I am informed that dues have not risen for at least a decade. In consultation with Geoffrey, **I am thus proposing that dues for next year, 2017-18, should rise to \$30 for regular members, \$15 for students.** If anyone sees this as a serious obstacle to continued membership I would be pleased to hear from them. However the alternatives, in terms of potential cost cutting, are minimal or would result in an undermining of our purpose, while the possibility of increasing membership, though most definitely to be encouraged, does not seem particularly likely.

Excavations at Baturyn in 2016

Last summer, the Canada-Ukraine archaeological expedition proceeded with its annual excavations at the town of Baturyn, Chernihiv province, Ukraine. The Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (PIMS) at the University of Toronto, and the Ucrainica Research Institute in Toronto sponsor this project. The W. K. Lypynsky East European Research Institute in Philadelphia also awarded a generous grant for the historical and archaeological investigations of early modern Baturyn during this academic year.

Prof. Volodymyr Kravchenko, Director of CIUS, heads the Kowalsky Program. Prof. Zenon Kohut of CIUS is the academic adviser of the Baturyn project. Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev (CIUS) and Prof. Martin Dimnik (PIMS) participate in this research and dissemination of results. Some 70 students and scholars from universities in Chernihiv, Kyiv, Sumy, and Hlukhiv, Ukraine, took part in the 2016 excavations. The expedition in Baturyn was led by archaeologist Yurii Sytyi of the Chernihiv National University.

Between 1669 and 1708, Baturyn was the capital of the Cossack state, or Hetmanate, and reached the pinnacle of its urban development under the reign of Hetman Ivan Mazepa (1687-1709). In 1708, while quelling Mazepa's military resistance to Moscow's absolutist rule in central Ukraine, the Russian army totally ravaged



the town. Hetman Kyrylo Rozumovsky (1750-64, d. 1803) rebuilt and repopulated Baturyn and promoted its local economy, reviving the town's commercial and cultural ties with the West.

The 2016 expedition continued to excavate the remnants of Mazepa's manor in Honcharivka, the suburb of Baturyn. Prior to 1700, the hetman built there a richly decorated masonry palace consisting of three stories and an attic. In 1708, his principal residence was destroyed by Russian troops.

Examination of the numerous fragments of ceramic floor tiles from the Honcharivka palace found during our excavations in 2009-14 has shown that nine floor pavement designs were used in its superstructure. Floors were made of hexagonal, octagonal, square, rectangular, and triangular tiles of various sizes. Many of them were glazed flask-green and sky-blue, while others are plain terracotta.

A comparative analysis has revealed that the tiles' shapes and adornments and the methods of flooring in the Honcharivka palace have extensive analogies with those found in early modern basilicas, abbeys, palaces, castles, university campuses, and town halls in Warsaw and Cracow, Poland, as well as Florence, Pistoia, Tuscany, and Bologna in Italy. Most likely the reconstructed floor patterns and inlays of Mazepa's palace first appeared in northern Italy during the Renaissance and were transferred via Poland to Ukraine in 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

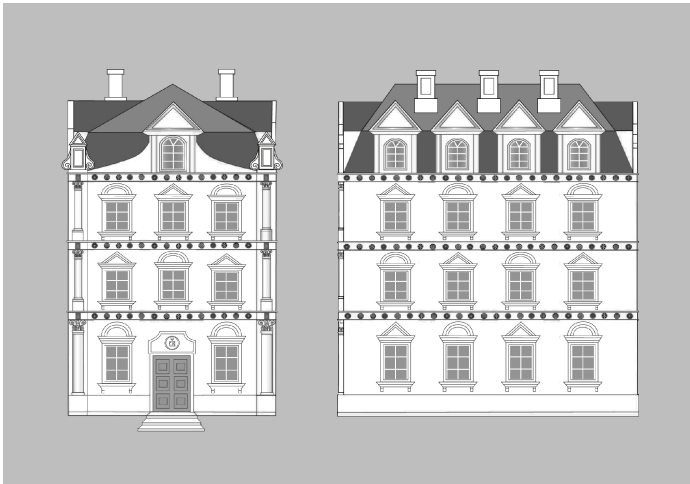


Fig.1 Frontal and lateral elevations of Mazepa's palace in Baturyn before 1708. Hypothetical reconstruction by V. Mezentsev, computer graphic by S. Dmytriienko, 2016.

The hetman probably instructed his architects and decorators not only to borrow Western baroque architecture for his Baturyn residence, but also to include the fashionable floor pavements from 17<sup>th</sup>-century aristocratic palaces, villas, and mansions in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth or Western Europe. Analysis of the 1744 drawing of the palace ruins suggests that its architectural design and ornamentation belonged to the style of the mature Central European baroque. At the same time, archaeological sources indicate that the palace frieze of entablature was adorned with eye-catching multicoloured glazed ceramic rosettes—a hallmark of 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>-century ecclesiastical structures in Kyiv. Thus, the impressive exterior and interior embellishments of the Honcharivka palace represented a mixture of Western and Ukrainian (more precisely, Kyivan) baroque decorative techniques.

The application of nine ceramic floor patterns, many of which were finished with green and rare blue enamel, of nearly 30 types of glazed polychrome stove tiles, five kinds of façade rosettes, and two variants of heraldic slabs testify to the exceptionally rich and imposing adornment of Mazepa's main residence in Baturyn. It was unrivalled among all the known houses of other hetmans, high-ranking officers, and officials of the Cossack realm. Using a computer photo collage method, archaeologists have prepared unprecedented hypothetical reconstructions of two living chambers and the grand hall of the ruined Honcharivka palace.

In 2016, in the former fortress and the southern suburb of Baturyn, archaeologists excavated remnants of 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>-century timber dwellings of the Cossacks and burghers. They found there: 11 silver and copper Polish and Russian coins, three fragments of copper rings, four copper buttons, four bronze clasps and six decorative appliquéés from Cossack leather belts and horse harnesses, an iron horse stirrup, four lead musket bullets, four flint pieces from flint-lock rifles, the fragment of a bronze hilt guard of a rapier, a lead seal, an iron lock and key, and a ceramic game chip of this time. Several noteworthy finds are described below.

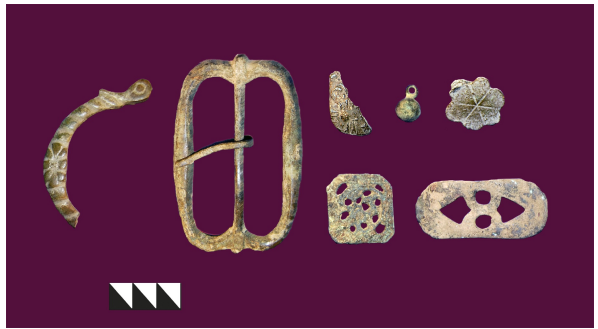


Fig.2 Bronze clasps and decorative appliquéés from Cossack belts and horse harnesses, and a copper button, 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> centuries. 2016 Baturyn excavations.

In the southern suburb, a small 17<sup>th</sup>-century bronze neck cross was unearthed. Its arms are gradually



Fig.3 Front and back of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century patterned bronze neck cross discovered in the southern suburb in 2016.

was unearthed. Its arms are gradually broadened toward the ends. On the front, it bears the relief of a three-barred Orthodox cross set atop a stepped figure representing Golgotha and the symbols of the Passion of Christ on both sides in keeping with Byzantine iconographic tradition. The back side is ornamented with relief geometric and floral motifs. Traces of white enamel give us reason to assume that this cross was produced in a professional workshop and thus relatively expensive.

Several silver, billon, bronze, tin, and lead neck crosses of similar shape with an inscribed relief Orthodox cross and the Golgotha symbol were discovered in the course of our excavations of 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>-century graves near the Holy Trinity Cathedral (1692) within the fortress in 2007-10. These crosses could have been manufactured in Baturyn before its destruction in 1708, or at some other centres of metal-casting in central Ukraine, and sold widely, particularly in the towns and monasteries that attracted the masses of Orthodox pilgrims.

In Baturyn's northern outskirts, the remnants of a 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>-century brick dwelling of a well-to-do person were located. It was identified as the suburban residence of Chancellor General Pylyp Orlyk, the closest associate and chargé d'affaires of Mazepa, who became hetman in exile in 1710-42.

At this site were found shards of costly ceramic stove tiles of the Mazepa period. They are adorned with fine baroque relief flower patterns and covered with multicoloured glazing. One fragment features the depictions of a cannon barrel and Cossack hand-weapons. These may represent part of a larger heraldic composition now lost. The many burnt stove tiles attest to the conflagration of Orlyk's residence during the sack of Baturyn in 1708. Our expedition will continue its archaeological investigation of his household next summer.

Near the extant late 17<sup>th</sup>-century masonry mansion of Judge General Vasyl Kochubei in Baturyn, the expedition uncovered portions of brick foundations, which supported a wooden structure thirteen metres wide. Researchers believe that this was an administrative building commissioned by Rozumovsky in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and dismantled sometime in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. While excavating its debris, two fragments of narrow

ceramic tiles that revetted heating stoves were found. These tiles have no relief, but are decorated with elaborate plant motifs of dark-blue and white enamel in a baroque Dutch style.

Within the fortress, archaeologists unearthed half of a larger rectangular ceramic tile with flat facing and images in this style. In previous years, five whole tiles of the same form and size were discovered in Baturyn. All of them are glazed cobalt blue and white and bear schematic graphic representations of early modern Western European houses and towers, as well as stylized birds inside figured white frames. Two symmetrical flowers flank the frame on both sides of each tile. Perhaps these elongated tiles were applied as decorative horizontal bands between rows of larger tiles facing heating stoves.



Fig.4 Fragments of 18th-century Dutch-style ornamented glazed ceramic stove tiles. Baturyn excavations in 2016.

Although no stoves have survived from the two Rozumovsky palaces in Baturyn (1752 and 1799), many of their revetment ceramic tiles of various formats have been found over the years. They are glazed predominantly cobalt and white, but occasionally brown, green, and yellow. These tiles possess highly artistic depictions of early modern Western European urban landscapes, country houses, sailboats, people, birds, and flowers, as well as plant and geometric designs, especially along the margins, all executed in late baroque Dutch style. Rozumovsky likely imported the best and most expensive tiles from Holland for finishing the heating stoves or fireplaces at his ambitious palatial residences and state administrative buildings. He could have also used some cheaper imitations of the fashionable Dutch tiles, which were manufactured in Russia from the Petrine era and locally in Baturyn since 1750.

While excavating the fortress, for the first time in Baturyn, archaeologists discovered a remarkable tiny porcelain figure of an elegantly-dressed gentlemen in late baroque or early neoclassical European clothing. Unfortunately, his head and upper part of the right hand are broken off. This statuette was fashioned in a realistic manner, but without small details. It was somewhat coarsely painted in blue, red, apple-green, gold, dark-brown, and black colours. These observations point to the mass production of such figurines for a broad market. Preliminary research indicates that it was a product of a German porcelain factory and brought to Baturyn during Rozumovsky's time. The statuette could have stood on display in the house of a wealthy resident or served as a toy for his children. The finds of the valuable German porcelain sculpture and the Dutch-style glazed ceramic stove tiles provide insight into the Westernization and prosperity of the Baturyn elite during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The 2016 excavations in Baturyn have yielded several rare and significant artefacts for the study of interior adornment of residences and administrative buildings as well as the culture and lifestyle of the hetmans and the Cossack

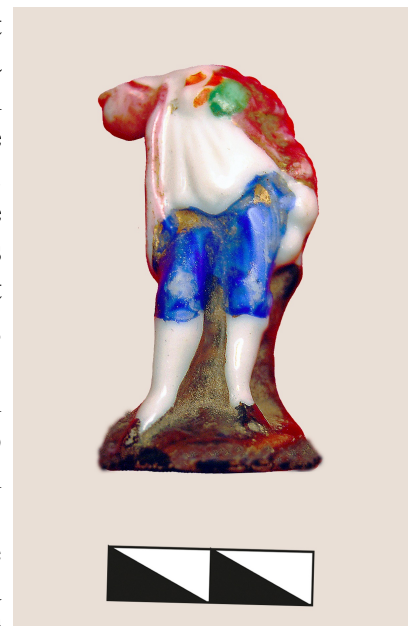


Fig.5 Broken 18th-century porcelain male statuette, or a toy, found in the Baturyn fortress in 2016.

elite. New archaeological data have also advanced our knowledge about local production of metal ornaments, accoutrements, arms, and the architectural majolica in the town, as well as its trade imports and artistic influences from Western Europe and Russia in the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Canada-Ukraine expedition will continue its annual summer field explorations in Baturyn next year.

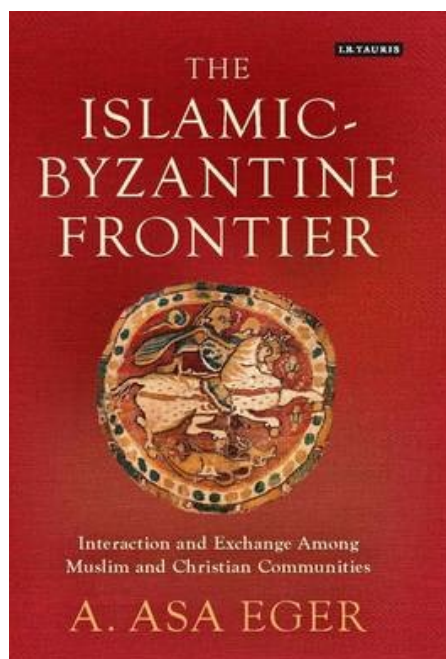
Martin Dimnik and Volodymyr Mezentsev; all photos by Yu. Sytyi.

Lecture report: The Archaeology of a Dividing Line: The Islamic-Byzantine Frontier

*Editorial note: I commissioned this report from Chandra Giroux, a former student at the University of Ottawa, since the lecture was clearly relevant to Byzantine studies. The speaker gave the same presentations at a number of other North American universities. I was unable to attend the talk myself because of a clash with another event.*

On Sunday 16 October Dr Asa Eger, Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro presented a talk entitled The Islamic-Byzantine Frontier for the Ottawa Society of the Archaeological Institute of America in cooperation with Saint Paul University. Despite the dreary weather, approximately 80 people, including delegates from the Turkish Embassy, arrived at Saint Paul University's Amphitheatre in anticipation of learning more about frontier interactions during and after the Islamic conquest of the Byzantine East.

Using evidence from his surveys of the Amuq Plain, the Plain of Issus, and the Plain of Mar'ash, and supplemented by approximately thirty surveys and relevant historical texts, Dr Eger presented a nuanced approach to the frontier that offers a more complex version of the dividing line than what is traditionally understood. Dr Eger accomplished this by first looking at canal sites, highlighting the complex building projects that were underway and which, he argues, reflect the priority given by the Islamic state in this border region to controlling water sources. Fascinatingly, the archaeological evidence from these sites show that they were large and had almost no defensive systems, painting a picture quite different from a dangerous, or tense, border zone under siege. Next, Eger looked at marsh sites that were ecologically rich but also contained people living on the fringes of Islamic society, as well as criminals and nomadic groups who were hard to control. This is in contrast to the waystations, Eger's next series of sites, where the material evidence speaks to their role as nodes of commerce, accepting merchants from both sides of the border. Lastly, a brief survey of the Byzantine side of the frontier was offered to the audience, which, Eger explained, showed a movement of peoples upwards into the mountains and in what the Arabs referred to as the 'underground granaries' of the cave-like systems of Cappadocia. From all of this, Eger concluded that there were three layers of interaction: the external frontier with a competition for resources (generally livestock), the internal frontier of nomadic groups who upset the balance of the Islamic state, and the ideological frontier that was elastic and changed, based on the realities of the border.





Dr Eger succeeded in demonstrating that the Islamic-Byzantine frontier is a tool for understanding the various interactions between groups and between peoples and their landscapes. His great visual Powerpoint along with his story-like delivery made it easy to understand the heavy scholarship working behind the scenes of the presentation. The audience was clearly enthralled by his presentation, as the question period bustled with activity and lasted until it was closed by the President of the Ottawa Society of the AIA. Throughout it all, Eger included many allusions to modern issues in the area, forcing the audience to pause, and to make one wonder how the more things change, the more they remain the same.

Chandra Giroux  
PhD Candidate, McGill University

#### Report on a conference at Winnipeg on military manuals

A conference entitled, “Greek and Roman Military Manuals: Genre, Theory, Influence”, co-organized by James Chlup (University of Manitoba) and Conor Whately (University of Winnipeg), was held at the University of Winnipeg on October 21 and 22. There were speakers from around the world including the US and Canada, the UK, Austria, Germany, and Australia. Chronologically, the papers ranged from Classical Greece and Xenophon through to the middle Byzantine period and the reign of Leo VI. There were five sessions.

The first, untitled, panel included a paper on the value of manuals as sources for historical explanations (Hans Michael Schellenberg), the use of military manuals to uncover how sieges were conducted in the fourth century (BC) (Graham Wrightson), and a paper on the mercenaries found in some military manuals (Aaron L Beek). The second session was on Xenophon, and included a paper on his *Peri Hippikes* as an equestrian military manual (Lucy Felmingham-Cockburn), on whether his *Hipparchikos* was a theoretical or practical manual (Magnus Frisch), and a third paper on using the *Cyropaedia* as a military manual (Jeffrey Rop). The third panel included a paper on *tacticae* and Achaemenid Persia (Sean Manning), and another on the lost *tactica* of L. Papirius Paetus (Murray K Dahm). The fourth panel included a paper on using military manuals to determine whether the age of Justinian presented a model for Byzantine warfare (Clemens Koehn), and a paper on the place of religion in the *Taktika* of Leo VI (Meredith Riedel). The fifth and final panel contained three papers on Vegetius. The first explored the practicality of Vegetius’ *Epitoma Rei Militaris*, the second examined his rules of war and the text’s composition (Jonathan H. Warner), while the third and final paper (of the conference) discussed Vegetius’ naval appendix.

The conference was a tremendous success, and the organizers were very pleased with the quality of the papers and the discussions that followed. Plans are in the works to publish a revised form of the proceedings as an edited volume.

Conor Whately, University of Winnipeg

#### Report on a colloquium at Queen’s on Crises & Migrations in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages

In light of current events in Europe, the decision of Queen’s History and Classics Departments to host and sponsor a colloquium regarding crises and migrations in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages was quite apt - and presumably not coincidental. Encompassing the better part of two days in November (4th and 5th),

the stated aim of the conference was to investigate the relationship between these two themes in the aforementioned historical periods.

Attendees had the opportunity to hear seventeen brief lectures, spanning a miscellany of disciplines and topics. In addition to Queen's University, the roster of speakers comprised professors and graduate students from the University of Ottawa, Trent University, Carleton University, Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Academy, and the University of Toronto's Centre for Medieval Studies, which was particularly well-represented. The conference was also fortunate to include international presenters from Oxford University, the Bader International Study Centre in Britain (associated with Queen's), and Hitotsubashi University in Japan. The keynote lecture on seventh century Rome and immigration was given by my former Dean of the Faculty of the Arts and Social Sciences at Carleton University, Dr John Osborne. In sum, the conference appeared to have been well organised and executed. Moreover, the variety in subject matter ensured that there was something of interest for all participants and perchance stimulated the growth of new ones (as it certainly did for me).

That said, I would be remiss not to make the following two observations. First, there was a noticeable disparity between the number of presentations regarding Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages respectively. Of the seventeen lectures, only four were wholly concerned with the late antique world. My bias for Late Antiquity aside, I believe that the conference could have struck more of a balance between the two. Secondly, the time allotted to each speaker was evidently too constraining, since many of them were compelled to read through their lectures with undue haste. As a result, the time set aside for questions and discussion was reduced, and the flow and comprehensibility of the lectures was impeded on occasion. In such a situation, it would perhaps be more edifying and engaging to have fewer speakers, thereby granting more time for discoursing and fielding questions. Hopefully these observations will be taken into consideration in the event that the organisers decide to establish a colloquium of this sort as an annual fixture.

Scott Wings, M.A. student, University of Ottawa

The 42nd Annual Byzantine Studies Conference  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, October 6-9, 2016

The 42nd Byzantine Studies Conference was held at Cornell University in early October, 2016. The success of the event was due the wonderful event management of the local arrangements committee, which consisted of Suzanne Abrahms Rebillard, Benjamin Anderson, and Kim Haines-Eitzen, all from Cornell University. The well-organized and well-run sessions were due to the excellent work of the program committee, which was made up of Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen, Pacific Lutheran University (Chair), Christina Christoforatos, City University of New York, Craig A. Gibson, The University of Iowa, Leonora Neville, University of Wisconsin at Madison, and Matthew Savage, Louisiana State University.

The conference was characterized by a diverse program, with 19 sessions covering all of the fields represented in Byzantine studies, from history and literature to art and archaeology. Individual panels ranged from discussions of gender and identity, to monastic landscapes and material culture. Two panels were sponsored by the Mary Jaharis Centre for Byzantine Art and Culture, one on Defining Cults in Byzantium, and a well-attended (and much appreciated!) panel on publishing. The Mary Jaharis Centre was also responsible for another well-attended and important session for graduate student development,

which focused on helping graduate students prepare for the job market and for their first jobs. The panelists for this event were Christian Raffensperger (Wittenberg University, OH), Jennifer Ball (City University of New York) and Marica Cassis (Memorial University of Newfoundland).

The conference also included several wonderful special events, starting with the plenary session by Robert Ousterhout, titled 'The Enigma of Cappadocia', which was followed by a reception hosted by Cornell's Department of History of Art and Visual Studies. On Friday, a reception was held by the Departments of Classics and Near Eastern Studies, and the Jewish Studies and Religious Studies programs of Cornell. On Saturday, Cornell University's Middle Eastern Music Ensemble provided the music for the final reception. Many thanks go to the Cornell University community for making the conference attendees feel so welcome. The weekend concluded with a trip to the Corning Museum of Glass.

The Business Lunch on Saturday featured reports from the BSANA President, Secretary, Treasurer, and representatives of Dumbarton Oaks and the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies. In addition, the new members of the Governing Board of the organization were elected [Darlene Brooks Hedstrom, (Wittenberg University), Young Richard Kim, (Calvin College), Stephen Rapp (Sam Houston State University), Galina Tirnanic (Oakland University)]. The winners of the 2015 BSANA Graduate Student Prizes were also announced. Congratulations go to Lora Webb (1st Place), Alex Miller (2nd Place), and Mary Farag (3rd Place). The complete conference program, abstracts, and minutes can be downloaded from the BSANA web site ([www.bsana.net](http://www.bsana.net)) under Annual Conference archives.



Panelists: Christian Raffensperger (Wittenberg University, OH), Jennifer Ball (City University of New York) and Marica Cassis (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Details about the next meeting of the BSC were also announced on behalf of Matthew Canepa and Andrea Sterk, and the 2017 BSC will be held at the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis (October 5-October 8).



Holger Klein, Leonora Neville, Glen Peers et al.

I would also like to reiterate our request from last year: in the spirit of collaboration and of raising the visibility of the CCB, please consider proposing a paper or a complete panel for the 2017 conference. Please also encourage your graduate students to submit paper proposals, as some funding is available for graduate students giving papers at the BSC who do not reside in the area of the conference (see the BSANA web site for further details).

Respectfully submitted by Marica Cassis ([mcassis@mun.ca](mailto:mcassis@mun.ca))

Report on the conference ‘Finding the Present in the Distant Past. The Cultural Meaning of Antiquarianism in Late Antiquity’, Ghent, 19-21 May 2016

This conference, organised by Lorenzo Focanti and Raf Praet, was a well-run and thought-provoking affair, which allowed plenty of time for discussion; it was co-sponsored by the universities of Ghent and Groningen and the research agencies of Flanders and the Netherlands. Sessions considered issues such as the term ‘antiquarianism’ itself – hard, if not impossible, to translate into (e.g.) French and German – the phenomenon in both West and East in Late Antiquity, and indeed beyond, into the Byzantine period. There some sixteen papers, spread over three separate days, which allowed ample time for discussion. Peter van Nuffelen and Jan Willem Drijvers ably drew together the threads of the various presentations and stimulated debate. Worthy of note too was the presence of an array of talented young researchers at the event. Among those participating were Clifford Ando, discussing antiquarianism in the law, Giusto Traina, who dealt with Procopius’ handling of Armenian material, and Bruno Bleckmann, who offered a close analysis of a tetrarchic triumph as related in later sources.



R. Flower, C. Ando, D. MacRae, P. Van Nuffelen



P. Di Cicco, P. Manafis, R. Praet, J.W. Drijvers

All in all, the event was stimulating and enjoyable. The subject of antiquarianism is clearly one that is attracting a lot of attention now and the conference gave the opportunity to reflect on how exactly one should approach the notion and how applicable it may be to our understanding of Late Antiquity. Some of the contributions will be published in a forthcoming special edition of *Belgisch Tijdschrift voor Filologie en Geschiedenis - Revue Belge de Philologie et d'Histoire*.

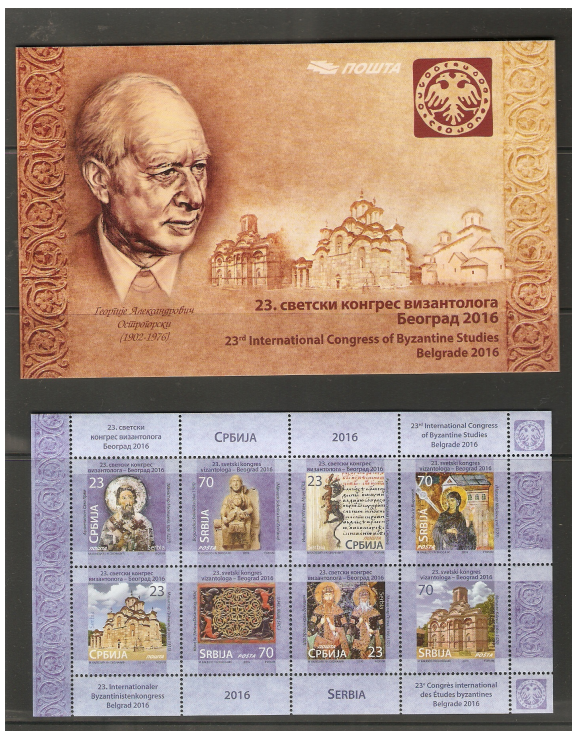
Geoffrey Greatrex



The 23<sup>rd</sup> International Congress of Byzantine Studies  
Belgrade, 22-27 August 2016

This year's congress was a well organised and stimulating event, offering a wealth of plenary sessions, round tables and communications; often it was hard to choose between the various parallel sessions. Plenary sessions started at 9.00 a.m., while in the evening round tables were scheduled from 6.30 to 8.30, but often overran. At the round table in which I was involved, one of the student helpers had to come round to explain that the building was due to be locked up, bringing discussions to a close around 9.00 p.m.

The various sessions of the conference were divided between the university (the Faculty of Philology) and the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, both buildings lying at the heart of the city and easily reachable one from the other. In the vicinity lay a good selection of restaurants; and, just as importantly, in an agreeable shady courtyard within the university rectorate (to be seen in the image to the right), chairs and tables were provided for participants at which they could work or confer with colleagues and be served drinks by an impressive array of helpers. Needless to say in this day and age, wifi was available.



**George Ostrogorsky and commemorative stamps for the congress**

The President of Serbia, Tomislav Nikolić, addressed the conference on two occasions, both at the opening (on the Monday) and at a reception at his palace the previous evening. He emphasised threats to the Byzantine and Serbian heritage in Kosovo on both occasions; his speech to the conference at the opening ceremony may be found on You-tube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANxfgGk8vao>

As can be seen at the very start of the video, a number of dignitaries were present for this inauguration, particularly from the orthodox church. Diplomats also attended: to my surprise I met a representative from the Canadian embassy, who had just arrived in post, who, upon reading my name tag, asked about my research on Procopius! Our embassy staff are clearly extremely well briefed. According to him, there were some ten Canadians at the congress, although this was not apparent to me: to be sure, there were several colleagues present, such as Dominic Moreau and Glen Peers, but their affiliation in the programme is not declared as being Canadian. It follows therefore that our representative from the embassy must have engaged in some quite extensive research...

There were a number of exhibitions at various venues throughout the city, while the mayor also hosted a very pleasant reception at the City Hall on the Friday evening, at the end of the congress. It is worth noting that the event was widely reported in the media, as I discovered for myself when visiting other sites and talking to people there.

It would be impossible to do justice to the wealth of the programme in this short report; I attended a fair number of sessions and heard about others. I shall therefore confine myself to a few brief remarks on those that I did attend and then go on to report on the meeting of the bureau of the AIEB on the Friday.

Both the plenary sessions I attended were of a high standard. One concerned the Byzantine city, ably chaired by Jim Crow, while the other, on the Friday, was devoted to Byzantine historiography. Among the panellists in the latter case were Leonora Neville, Warren Treadgold and Anthony Kaldellis. The differences of approach between the last two gave rise to some memorable exchanges, although there was little time for discussion. This was, indeed, a general problem throughout the whole congress: too much was packed into too little time. The tables rondes were particularly ill served by the tendency of speakers to want to deliver a lengthier paper than was reasonable: in principle, participants should merely have summarised their papers, allowing plenty of time for discussion. In practice, however, this almost never occurred: speakers seemed determined to read their entire paper, even if it could already be read on the web. Chairs were often unwilling or unable to intervene, alas.



For the most part, I attended sessions on early Byzantium, but I had the opportunity to go to sessions (e.g.) on Byzantine archaeology, which covered the whole spectrum; likewise to more general sessions on literature. There was also an abundance of panels on art history, for instance, and ecclesiastical issues. I should say that on the whole the congress was better attended than the one at Sofia; there was also a wealth of younger scholars present, some of whom had received support from the AIEB to be able to attend. There were various excursions during the week, but such was the richness of the programme that I chose rather to remain in Belgrade. Moreover, I was obliged to miss several interesting sessions because of the AIEB general meeting on the Friday.

All in all, the congress was memorable and adeptly organised. The main organiser, Professor Ljubomir Maksimović, deservedly received an award from the Serbian president for his work; he was ably assisted, as noted, by a large array of volunteers.

#### Report on the meeting of the AIEB (Friday 26 August)

Two significant outcomes of the lengthy meeting of the general assembly must be noted at the outset. First, a new bureau was elected, comprising John Haldon (Princeton) as president, Béatrice Caseau as treasurer, and Athanasios Markopoulos as secretary; the last is the only member of the previous bureau to



remain in post, while the other two were obliged to retire on the grounds of age. Second, the venue for the next congress was chosen. In this case, it is worth going into more detail, since the choice was more contested than that for the members of the bureau.

It must be remembered at the outset that the congress took place in the wake of the unsuccessful coup in Turkey and the immediate clampdown that followed it. Some Turkish colleagues were delayed in getting to Belgrade as a consequence; it is possible that others were unable to attend at all. These events were of particular relevance to the deliberations of the assembly, since three places were competing to host the 2021 International Congress, Istanbul, Cyprus and Munich. In the first round of voting Istanbul had a majority, albeit not an absolute one; to the surprise of many, Cyprus obtained more votes than Munich and thus made it to the second round. At this stage, however, Istanbul decisively defeated the Cypriot bid, and thus it follows that the next congress will indeed be in Istanbul. We can hope thus to support our Turkish colleagues, whose aim it has been for a long time now to invite the congress to the focal point of Byzantine studies.



The members of the national committees present were treated to a lavish lunch just across from the Museum of Yugoslav Film (pictured), where the meeting was held. They were also presented with a first-day cover with the stamps issued by the Serbian government on the occasion of the conference (picture above). The overall conduct of the meeting, however, was somewhat erratic; there was confusion about points of order, for instance. Yet ultimately the future for the association is encouraging, now that a new team has taken over, which already is making substantial progress in implementing proposals put forward by

the Development Commission (presented by Sergei Mariev from Germany at the meeting).

Geoffrey Greatrex



The BSANA is conducting a survey of what its members who attended the Belgrade congress thought of the event; Richard Greenfield has kindly passed on Marica Cassis' circular about this issue. I would be very happy to hear from any of our members who took part in the event in order to provide feedback to the bureau of the AIEB. If you did not attend because (for instance) the cost was prohibitive or the timing inappropriate, that would also be worth signalling. Thank you in advance for your input on this.

Geoffrey Greatrex

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eight lectures from the 1990s, published by the Canadian Institute for Balkan Studies (Toronto), have been made available on the web through the University of Ottawa's depository. We are grateful to the Morisset library for hosting these important contributions to Byzantine studies, which otherwise had been available only in booklet-format (32 pages approx.), as we are also to Helen Saradi, who ran the Institute at the time. The details are as follows:

K. Ware, 'A Fourteenth-Century Manual of Hesychast Prayer: The Century Of St Kallistos And St Ignatios Xanthopoulos' (1995), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35619>

I. Ševčenko, 'Observations on the Study of Byzantine Hagiography in the Last Half-Century or Two Looks Back and One Look Forward' (1995), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35618>

H. Maguire, 'Image and Imagination: The Byzantine Epigram as Evidence for Viewer Response' (1996), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35616>

P. Magdalino, 'The Byzantine Background to the First Crusade' (1996), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35615>

G. Myers, 'A Tale of Bygone Years: The Kontakion for the Dedication of a Church in Medieval Rus'. A Source Study and a Reconstruction' (1997), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35621>

S. Popović, 'The Architectural Iconography of the Late Byzantine Monastery' (1997), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35617>

W. Treadgold, 'Why Write a New History of Byzantium?' (1997), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35620>

S. Vryonis, Jr., 'The Fate and Fortunes of the Legacy of Saints Cyril and Methodios in the Balkans during the Period of the Ottoman Empire (Fourteenth-Eighteenth Century)' (1998), available at:

<http://www.ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/35622>

Conference announcement  
The Ottoman Conquest and Knowledge: A Global History  
Newnham College, Cambridge, 6-8 July 2017

This conference focuses on networks, production, and transmission of knowledge during the Ottoman conquest of the eastern Mediterranean.

The aim of this conference is to further our understanding of the ways in which knowledge was transformed, exchanged, diversified, expanded, and suppressed during the period from the Ottoman conquest of the Eastern Mediterranean. The conference, and the intended publication, it is hoped will make an important contribution to the growing body of research that challenges long-held assumptions, prejudices, and misconceptions that the Ottoman Conquest of Byzantium and former Byzantine lands signalled the beginning of a 'Dark Age' of the production and exchange of knowledge.



The Sultan Ahmed (Blue) Mosque, Istanbul (1609-16)

The conference is meant to cover a broad geographical and disciplinary field. Each panel will focus on a different geographical area, with chronologically ordered papers to cover both diverse regions—Europe, the Near East, the Balkans, North Africa, and Muscovy—and a large number of historical questions regarding the effects of the Ottoman Conquest on written culture, book-learning, and the production of knowledge. The conference will engage substantially with questions concerning the mechanics of the transmission of knowledge: the transfer of books and texts from the Byzantine Empire to other parts of the world, the transformation of the built landscape, intermarriage and marriage alliances, exiles and refugees, and diplomatic exchange; and the production of knowledge: through cross-cultural exchange and dialogue, the production and recuperation of texts and written culture, the collection and recuperation of Byzantine learning and knowledge in the wake of the Ottoman Conquest, and the creation and function of networks of knowledge in the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond.

One of the major thematic strands examines intellectual exchange and the transmission of information through diplomatic, mercantile,

and religious infrastructures that rose out of the Ottoman Conquest. A second major thematic strand examines how cultural and religious tolerance developed out of the Ottoman Conquest based on

knowledge exchange and transmission and why the early Ottoman Empire attracted rather than simply created immigrants. It is important to ensure a geographic diversity, so that the regional impact of knowledge expansion (or contraction) during the period and in the wake of the Ottoman Conquest is addressed. It is precisely for this reason that the geographic limits of the conference are not restricted to the lands that the Ottomans conquered, but include regions that were affected by the transmission, production, and exchange of knowledge that occurred during the period of the Ottoman Conquest of the Eastern Mediterranean. This is also why the chronological boundaries have been substantially enlarged to encompass the Ottoman Conquest from the 14th century and the Byzantine-Ottoman wars and period of Ottoman conquest to about 1566 and the consolidation of Ottoman rule, the rise of Muscovy, and the winding down of Ottoman expansion. This geographical and chronological framework will ensure that the conference papers, and the planned publication, draw on diverse sources that are rarely treated in conjunction.

Participants will include historians of the Byzantine Empire, the Medieval Mediterranean basin, the late Medieval Balkans, the early Ottoman Empire, the Medieval European States, and Muscovy.

It will include the following thematic panels:

- Visual dialogues: conservation, transformation, and transmission of the built landscape
- The Ottoman Conquest and the Northern World
- The Ottomans and Venice: dissemination, understanding, and transmission
- Islands of learning: Byzantino-Latin cultural echoes in the eastern Mediterranean
- Travel, Travellers, and cross-cultural dialogue across the Ottoman world
- Cross-cultural knowledge and exchange across the Balkans
- Perceptions of the Ottoman 'Other', Byzantine Perspectives
- The reception of Ottoman culture in Mamluk Egypt
- Cross-cultural exchange in and about the east: from Safavid Persia and Central Asia

Speakers at the conference will include the renowned Ottomanist Michel Balivet, specialists on Mamluk Egypt Amina Elbendary and Doris Behrens-Abouseif, Russianist Don Ostrowski, Byzantinists Alexander Beihammer and Ida Toth, and Balkan specialist Sophia Laiou.

Information supplied by Alexandra Vukovic (Cambridge).

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[New Digitized Syriac Manuscripts Resource at syri.ac](http://syri.ac)

I am very pleased to announce that we have just added a major new resource to <http://syri.ac> : a comprehensive, interactive list of all Syriac manuscripts that have been digitized and are freely available online.

You can find this new resource here: <http://syri.ac/digimss>

Scott Johnson (Univ. of Oklahoma)



## Undergraduate Essay Contest in Byzantine Studies

Elena Shardina of the University of Toronto was this year's winner of the undergraduate essay competition in Byzantine studies. The title of her paper was 'The Motivations Behind the *Relatio de legatione Constantinopolitana* of Liutprand of Cremona. The judges want to commend all those who participated for the quality of their contributions. In addition, the judges were pleased with the diversity of the essays in terms of subject matter and methodology, with topics ranging from maritime neighbourhoods of Constantinople and athletics, to Justinian's policies and Constantine's mother Helena.

We are also pleased to announce the third Undergraduate Essay Contest in Byzantine Studies, which is designed to celebrate and reward exceptional research undertaken by undergraduate students in Canada who have written essays, in English or French, on any theme relating to Byzantine studies, i.e., concerning the eastern Roman Empire from A.D. 312 to 1453. Applicants do not need to be a major in a pertinent discipline (Archaeology, Art History, Classics, History, etc.) to submit their work. Furthermore, the course for which the essay was written need not be focused specifically on Byzantine Studies. The prize for the winner will be \$100. Essays should be submitted electronically (from a university e-mail address) by either the student or the instructor on the student's behalf. In either case, the student should have the instructor's endorsement. They should be sent in pdf format to:

Dr Conor Whately  
Department of Classics  
University of Winnipeg  
515 Portage Ave.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada

c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca

There should be no indication of the student's identity on the essay document itself. Instead, the required information should be provided on a separate document (also sent electronically) that indicates the student's name, email address, university affiliation, and the title of the paper. If the essay is being submitted by an instructor the name and email address of the applicant should be included. The essay should be submitted as it was written for its course without revisions, with the exception of typographical corrections. It should be 10-20 pages in length (including bibliography) and double-spaced. Students may submit only one essay per year.

The judging is based on both the essay's content and its form: the winning essay must be well written, clearly organized and free from errors of grammar and syntax; and the contest winner will have made good use of the pertinent sources, have covered their chosen subject thoroughly, and ideally have provided new insights on their chosen topic. The deadline for submitting material to the competition is **May 19th, 2017**. The winner will be notified in July (2017) and will be announced in a subsequent CAN-BYZ newsletter.

It is possible to submit the essay both to this contest and to that organised by SCAPAT ([www.scapat.ca](http://www.scapat.ca)).

**Register of members**

George Bevan	Queen's University
Emmanuel Bourbouhakis	Princeton University
David Buck	(UPEI)
Richard Burgess	University of Ottawa
Marica Cassis	Memorial University
A.-L. Caudano	University of Winnipeg
Ewa Charowska	Etobicoke
Martin Dimnik	University of Toronto
Erica Cruikshank Dodd	University of Victoria
Andrew Faulkner	Waterloo University
Greg Fisher	Carleton University
Thanos Fotiou	(Carleton University)
Benjamin Garstad	MacEwan University
Paul Gebhardt	Queen's University
Patrick Gray	(York University)
Geoffrey Greatrex	University of Ottawa
Richard Greenfield	Queen's University
Cecily Hilsdale	McGill University
Kerim Kartal	Queen's University
JaShong King	University of Ottawa
Dimitris Krallis	Simon Fraser University
Antony Littlewood	(Univ. of Western Ontario)
Ariane Magny	University of Ottawa
Eric McGeer	Dumbarton Oaks
Lucas McMahan	Princeton University
Volodymyr Mezentsev	University of Toronto
Stefan Moffat	University of Ottawa
Glenn Peers	University of Texas at Austin
Sarah Rosser	Queen's University
Linda Safran	University of Toronto
Grant Schrama	Queen's University
Franziska Shlosser	(Concordia University)
Kristina Terpoy	Oxford University
Alexandra Vukovic	Cambridge University
Conor Whately	University of Winnipeg
Scott Wings	University of Ottawa
John Wortley	(University of Manitoba)
Julian Yang	Queen's University
Susan Young	Nova Scotia

If you have not renewed your subscription for this year, please send a cheque (\$20 or \$10 for students) payable to 'The Canadian Committee of Byzantinists' to Prof. Richard Greenfield, Department of History, Watson Hall, Queen's University, 49 Bader Lane, Kingston ON, K7L 3N6. **The fee will increase next year!**