PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

In the most recent National Humanities Center Newsletter, one of my co-fellows (Jean Bethke Elshtain) writes, "The Center is informal in the best sense. ... Compared to other institutes for advanced study, [it] has a more collaborative atmosphere. And then there's lunch— people mix up, eat at different tables. You don't see people walking around saying, 'Where's my group?' At other places the pecking order often gets fixed early, but there is no sense of hierarchy at the Center.”

I’d say that this description would capture the open mood of our Association’s meetings too, and long may it continue so. Please come yourself, and encourage others—colleagues, graduate students, anyone who might be interested—to come as well. The program for Lubbock has been skillfully organized by a pro, and promises to be very rewarding. At the business meeting, the Association’s publication initiatives will be on the agenda for open discussion.

Needless to add, exchanges with colleagues in other disciplines can prove remarkably revealing. Last month I had the privilege of participating in a historical clinical pathological conference organized by the University of Maryland medical school in collaboration with Judy Hallett in U of M Classics. Tony Barrett and Sandra Joshel also spoke, and we all learned an immense amount from current practitioners’ perspectives on the medical and psychological problems of the Julio-Claudian family in general and Claudius in particular. I would single out the insights on epilepsy and poison (this latter purely as a historian), but there was much else besides. The meeting attracted a wide range of participants, and plans for publication are being pursued. It was an outstanding instance of cross-disciplinary interchange which will enrich both research and teaching.

Good wishes, Richard Talbert

SPRING MEETING PLANS
AAH ANNUAL MEETING
MAY 3-6, 2001
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Program:
The meeting will open with a welcome reception and buffet at 7:00 on Thursday, May 3. There will be five paper sessions:

- Friday, 9:00-11:45 Makedonika (Chair: Gene Borza)
- Friday, 2:00-5:30 The Emergence of the Polis (Chair: Carol Thomas) Note: this session will be held at the Cap*Rock Winery.
- Saturday 9:00-12:00 Roman Historiography (Chair: Richard Mitchell)
- Saturday 1:45-4:45 Roman Imperialism (Chair: Allen Ward)
- Sunday 9:15-10:30 Augustan Imperialism (Chair: Colin Wells)

The annual Business meeting will be held on Saturday immediately after the afternoon paper session. The annual banquet, a traditional Texas barbecue, will be held on Saturday evening.

Programs and registration materials were mailed to each member in January. For more information please contact Briggs Twyman, Department of History, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-1013.

Information and registration materials are also available on the AAH web site at http://www.trentu.ca/aah/welcome.shtml

Housing:
The conference organizer, Briggs Twyman, has arranged two housing options. Members should make their own reservations and identify themselves as participants in the Association of Ancient Historians conference. (Use Briggs Twyman’s name, if necessary.)

Four Points by Sheraton, 505 Ave Q, Lubbock, TX. $69 + tax single or double. Phone 800-325-3535. Rates guaranteed through April 7; convention rate on a space-available basis until April 15.

La Quinta Civic Center, 601 Ave Q, Lubbock, TX. $59 + tax single or double, includes continental breakfast. Phone 800-687-6667 (national number). Rates guaranteed through April 15.

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REGINA BOOKS

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Plus shipping of $2.50 for the first book and $1.00 for each additional book.

*15 to 50% royalties on each book (including classroom use) go to AAH

AHA HONORS MACMULLEN

Ramsay MacMullen received the Lifetime Award for Scholarly Distinction from the American Historical Association. Professor MacMullen was cited for “his compelling and influential scholarship...his appearance in the public realm as a scourge to politically motivated falsehood about antiquity, his exacting care for teaching, his devotion to his students, his untiring administrative service to Yale, and now his indefatigable retirement [which] make [him] an exemplum virtutis for the historical profession.” Congratulations!

The Association of Ancient Historians Newsletter is published three times a year by the Association of Ancient Historians, Department of History, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182-8147, and is distributed free to members of the AAH.
MINUTES OF 2000 MEETING
5/6/00

Meeting called to order at 4:10

Valerie Warrior, on behalf of the APA, distributed a questionnaire to the members about the use of electronic resources in teaching. The results of this questionnaire will be used by the APA to guide its activities in this area. She strongly urged everyone to complete the questionnaire and return it to her before the end of the conference.

MSP (Lauritsen, Burstein) to approve the 1999 minutes with one correction (call for papers for 2001 meeting to be issued “in Spring 2000,” not “shortly”).

President’s Report (Talbert): There was a moment of silence in honor of Chester Starr and Carl Roebuck. Talbert reported that plans for future meeting sites were in very good order. He also announced the publication of PAAH 6 and invited ideas for further volumes. The AAH will continue its presence at AHA with a co-sponsored session. There may also be a second session co-sponsored with another affiliated organization.

Secretary-Treasurer’s Report (Dintrone): The financial report for 1999/2000 was distributed. Membership has grown slightly and

(Continued on page 4)
the financial situation is sound. Income from royalties and publication sales is up significantly. The Association will be able to afford a new monograph approximately every two years. MSP (Adams, Frank) to approve the report.

Subvention Report (Borza): Borza thanked the members for their continued contributions to the fund. He reviewed the application process and asked members to encourage qualified students and colleagues to apply for the grants. He thanked Dintrone and Gabbert for their service on the committee and introduced two of the grant winners: Judy Gaughen and Lee Brice. (The third winner, John Lee, was not present.)

Election: Talbert thanked Dintrone for her services as Secretary-Treasurer over the past three years. Dintrone was the only nominee for the next 3-year term. MSP (Talbert, Adams) to dispense with the election and declare Dintrone the winner by acclamation.

Old Business: Briggs Twyman distributed the call for papers for the 2001 meeting in Lubbock. MacMullen raised a concern about the lack of session topics after the first century B.C. Twyman said that no additional sessions could be added for logistical reasons but that the committee would consider papers outside the stated session parameters. He also described the plans for the session locations, accommodations, and the banquet.

Tim Teeter of Georgia Southern University extended an invitation to the AAH to meet in Savannah in 2002. The meeting dates will be April 27-30. He described some of the advantages of Savannah and suggested a theme of “Urbanism, Colony, and Empire.” MSP (Teeter, Cargill) to accept the invitation.

New Business: Dintrone raised the question of maintaining the AAH’s web presence. The current Webmaster, Shawn Ross, can no longer assume this responsibility. This raises the question of where to house the web site and who will maintain it. After some discussion of alternatives, MSP (Vanderspoel, Gabbert) to have the officers look into this question and act as they see best.

MSP (Dintrone, MacMullen) to pass the following resolution of thanks:

Whereas
Shawn Ross put the AAH on the World Wide Web by developing its first web site and
He has volunteered his time to maintain the web site for five years and
He has done this while simultaneously managing the busy schedule of a graduate student at the University of Washington
Therefore be it resolved that
The AAH expresses its formal thanks to Shawn Ross for his help in moving the Association into the computer age.

Allen Ward read the following resolution of thanks:

When Richard Talbert asked me to be Jenny Roberts at this point in our meeting, I was momentarily flattered but then filled with fear and anxiety. You know Jenny Roberts and I am no Jenny Roberts. Alas, my meager rhetoric will contain no syncopated patter to delight our deserving hosts; and deserving they are!

Many of our presenters have justly commented on the beauty of the site that our hosts have provided and their obvious high standing with the gods of good weather (at least so far). We will long remember this as one of our pleasantest venues. Clearly the ancient Athenians, with their tolerance of personal pleasures and individualistic behavior, would have felt right at home here in Madison, Wisconsin, although Plato may not have approved the mode of music wafting in.

Particular thanks, of course, go to Mike Clover of the University of Wisconsin’s History Department for inviting us here, arranging to the facilities, and organizing an excellent program. Andrew Wolpert of Wisconsin’s Classics Department also merits praise as an admirable Agrippa to Mike’s Augustus in leading us on this historical voyage around the ancient Mediterranean, down the Red Sea, and across the Indian Ocean to India itself. Those who provided the exhibitions in honor of William Westermann at Memorial Library and the Elvehjem Museum of Art are to be commended.

I shall not slavishly mention each of our presenters by name, lest I end up on a list of the proscribed, but we owe a special debt to Professors Alexander Demandt, David Cronon, John Cooper, and Glen Bowersock (a.k.a. Roger Bagnall, his able stand-in), who volunteered impressive amounts of time and talent to research the careers of William Westermann and other maiores who played major roles in founding the modern discipline of ancient history. At the same time, the many fine papers by iuniores on the program have shown that ancient history has a very bright future.

Now, lest we go beyond our allotted period, let us express our sincere gratitude to all with a vigorous round of applause!

Meeting adjourned at 5:15
ATTENTION RECENT GRADUATES
(and their dissertation directors)

AAH would like to publish the authors and titles of recent dissertations completed in Ancient History.

If you have recently completed a dissertation (or recently finished directing one), please send an e-mail with the name of the author, the title, the school, and the director to patricia.dintrone@sdsu.edu. or mail to the return address on this newsletter.

AAH INFORMATION FORM

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DUES INFORMATION

- Annual dues are $7.50/year for regular members and $5.00/year for Associate members (students, retired, and non-residents of the US or Canada). Dues may be paid up to 5 years in advance. Payments received in 2001 can cover years up to and including 2006.
- The year for which you most recently paid dues can be found as the first line of your mailing label. Members are dropped from the mailing list after three years of non-payment of dues. Therefore, if your mailing label says 1998 or earlier, your membership will lapse at the end of December.

RECENT DISSERTATIONS

NEW BOOKS


VISITING FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

The University of Houston is hosting a visiting Fulbright Scholar from November 2000 - May 2001. Dr. Valerii Nikonorov is a Russian specialist in Central Asian archaeology and history. He holds an appointment in the Institute of the History of Material Culture, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia. He has conducted field work at numerous sites in Central and East Asia and is working on the development of ancient military technology. During his stay at the University of Houston he will lecture extensively and collaborate with his host, Frank Holt, on research projects related to Hellenistic Bactria. Scholars wishing to correspond on these matters or who may wish to invite Dr. Nikonorov to lecture at their institutions may write to Frank Holt at histm@pop.uh.edu.

SEPTEMBER 1 is the deadline for items for the Fall Newsletter. Remember: the Newsletter depends upon information provided by members.

AJAH MOVES

The American Journal of Ancient History has moved from Harvard University to Rutgers University. Please address inquiries to Professor T. Corey Brennan, Department of Classics, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1414. Phone: 732-932-9493, fax 732-932-9246, website www.ajah.org.

Paid-up members of the AAH are entitled to a 20% discount on an annual subscription to the AJAH.