



*The Association of Ancient Historians Newsletter is published three times a year by the Association of Ancient Historians and distributed free to members*

### President's Column

Dear Colleagues,

It is raining in Normal, IL and the leaves have started to change. Autumn is providing the right backdrop for this letter. I have been putting off writing this column because I knew that I had to acknowledge the passing of a colleague whom both I admired and about whom I have had conflicting feelings. This year, among the many people who have died, we have lost Eugene (Gene) Borza, along with Mortimer Chambers and Donald Kagan. I never met Chambers or Kagan, although I did read their work, but I have had opportunities to talk with Gene on a couple of occasions during our annual meetings. I will not give space to an obituary since many have been written since his passing, but it is Gene and his work I want to write about here.

After graduating from the University of Chicago, Gene was hired as an assistant professor at Penn State University in 1964 and began a long career of prolific scholarship and exemplary teaching. He published more than 50 peer-reviewed academic articles. His books include *In the Shadow of Olympus* (1990) and *Before Alexander: Constructing Early Macedonia* (1999). During his career he was an early supporter of the AAH and served the Association in a variety of capacities, including as President in 1984-1989. Gene loved the AAH and its members; he raised funds for the establishment of the Subvention Fund and, even in his death, he remembered us and included the AAH in his will. He retired from Penn State in 1995, but kept lecturing on and writing about the political, economic, and environmental history of ancient Macedonia. Like a number of other scholars of ancient Macedonia, Gene doubted that the ancient Macedonians were Greek, although he believed they became Hellenized in many respects. He argued that "...the Macedonians emerged as a people recognized as distinct from their Greek and Balkan neighbors," and doubted they were related to the modern Macedonians. He also acknowledged that the ethnic Macedonians of Greece, Albania, North Macedonia (previously known as FYROM), and Bulgaria are a recently emergent people in search of their past.

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### AAH Annual Meeting 2022 University of California San Diego April 28-30, 2022

The 2022 AAH annual meeting will be hosted by **The University of California San Diego**. Because of Covid-19 the conference will take place entirely online. The organizer is Denise Demetriou who can be reached at [aah2022meetingucsd@gmail.com](mailto:aah2022meetingucsd@gmail.com). The conference website will be available at a later time.

#### The 2022 Call for Papers

The organizing committee seeks papers that raise broader issues and themes in ancient history that will engage all AAH attendees. All sessions will be plenary. Papers will be 20 minutes in length, with time for discussion. Please send abstracts (.pdf or .docx) of no more than 500 words to [aah2022meetingucsd@gmail.com](mailto:aah2022meetingucsd@gmail.com) by **November 15, 2021**. Limited in-text references may be provided. Please attach a bibliography of the references cited and indicate the panel to which you are applying.

**1. Race and the Abuses of Ancient History** This panel seeks to bring the field of Ancient History into dialogue with the broader humanistic trends of the twenty-first century academy. In the early modern and modern periods, ancient historians developed ideas of Western superiority that both skewed their own understandings of the remote past and fueled justifications of European colonialism, imperialism, and racism. Today, the appropriation of ancient Greco-Roman themes, symbols, and historical data by white supremacists has become a cause of alarm for many. Among other related topics, papers could address the misrepresentation and abuse of the ancient past in scholarship, politics, or popular culture; the relation between notions of Western supremacy and concepts of race/ethnicity, cultural heritage, or Hellenocentrism/Romanocentrism; or ask what the field of ancient history can do to address and redress such issues in the public sphere.

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## **2. Teaching Ancient History Around the World**

How is ancient Mediterranean history taught in non-European countries that have their own ancient histories, such as those in Asia, Africa, Mexico and Central and South America, and Oceania? We invite faculty members who teach in these countries to discuss their approach to teaching ancient Mediterranean history, or ancient history more broadly. How are departments structured in which ancient history is taught? To what extent is comparative history incorporated in pedagogy? What languages are graduate students expected to learn? What new perspectives of ancient Mediterranean history emerge when taught in the context of other “classics?”

## **3. Mobility and Migration in Antiquity**

The ancient world was inhabited by people in motion. Individuals traveled by sea and by land to fight wars, sell their wares, participate in religious and athletic festivals, and conduct diplomacy, moving across communities as refugees, immigrants, settlers, slaves, and professionals. This panel invites papers that address any aspect of mobility and migration and the effects these two phenomena had on Mediterranean history, including but not limited to cross-cultural interactions, colonial entanglements, bi/multilingualism, questions of citizenship or other social statuses, changing identities, transformations of individuals and states, and models for understanding mobility and migration.

## **4. Ecology, Resources, and Environmental History**

This panel seeks to explore how humans, societies, and states interact with their physical surroundings and how the environment and ecology of a region can shape human lives and structure human societies. Among other topics, papers could address climate change in antiquity and its effects on communities, the relationship between power and resources, urbanization, ancient conservation, nonhuman animals and society, ancient theories on ecology and environmental history, historical geography, and notions of environmental determinism.

## **5. Marginalized and Underrepresented Groups in Ancient History**

Ancient history is often defined by the scarcity of sources available to its practitioners. In the past, our limited source basis had prioritized the study of elite men. But some of the most stimulating work of the last several decades has redressed that abuse of evidentiary scarcity, recentering those in the ancient world whose importance and value had been marginalized. This panel invites papers on marginalized groups in both the ancient world and in the history of the academy, such as enslaved persons, persons with disabilities, women, metics, refugees, illiterate persons, etc., or papers that show the ways in which intersectionality can bridge work on the ancient world’s sexual, gendered, ethnic, and economic margins.

## **6. Ancient Religion: A Useful Category?**

Recent scholarship has questioned the suitability of the category of religion to the study of premodern societies, arguing that the analytical tools used for the study of religion, which highlight “belief” and exclusive commitment, were utterly foreign to the ancient world. At the same time, the exploration of ancient religions from a cognitive perspective has accelerated in the last decade, offering a new approach that deemphasizes traditional focuses on doctrine and/or social conformity. This panel seeks to bring together papers that offer alternative views of the category of “ancient religion” and apply these to the study of ancient history. For instance, how can the fluid dynamics of memory help us understand the social and political role of religion(s) in antiquity? Do textual or visual representations of ritual provide insights on the lived experiences of ancient religion?

## **7. The Future of Intellectual History**

Intellectual history has its baggage. Its origins lie in unpalatable and often-repeated narratives of Greco-Roman-turned-Western exceptionalism. A part of that unpalatability is the harm done when ideas are cleaved off from the systems of violence and economic coercion which facilitated, and were facilitated by, those ideas. Recent work has both recentered peoples whose intellectual traditions have been trivialized and set the history of ideas against the economic and social realities of the ancient world. This panel seeks papers that reflect on intellectual history’s disciplinary legacy, continue its reformation, and show what new picture of the ancient world the history of ideas can help paint.

## **8. Toward a Global Antiquity**

Connections, interactions, and exchanges between different cultures in antiquity have been topics of study for quite some time, but the perspective that guided studies of these topics has almost always been Greek and/or Roman. In this

panel, we invite papers that discuss the theme of global networks as viewed from other vantage points. Papers could focus on economic, intellectual, religious, or diplomatic networks that brought different civilizations together; explore how global connections and interactions are depicted and perceived in sources from Iran, China, India, and Africa; discuss why western hemisphere civilizations, such as the Maya and Inca are often excluded from comparative perspectives on ancient history; investigate the effects of globalizing structures, such as empires, on ethnic minorities or other marginalized groups; or, indeed, whether we can study a truly “global” antiquity.

*The President’s Column, continued:*

Gene’s books came out at the wrong time to receive positive review in Greece, and they continue to be dividing. I think that sentiments in Greece are changing; we have started to acknowledge our role in and the effects of the politics of European colonialism on the modern history of the country. The Ottoman empire no longer exists, and the Old European powers made such “a mess” in the Balkans and the Near East in the 20th century that still today we live with its effects. Under the treaty of Lausanne, different people who had lived peacefully within the Ottoman empire before, but now were occupying the countries of Greece and Turkey, were forced to go through what was euphemistically called “the exchange of populations” based not on ethnicity but religion. In reality, the “exchange” turned out to be a genocide for thousands of people who, although Turkish, Karaman, Greek, Lazi, Armenian in ethnicity, were considered “Greek” because they were Christian and “Turks” because they were Muslim. As a third-generation descendant of those Greeks who came from Kelebesi (ancient Priene), Trabzon (ancient Trapezous), and Sokhumi (ancient Dioscurias) and were settled in Macedonia, I consider myself Greek and Macedonian, and Pontia and Mikrasiatissa (and yes, American, too!). But more importantly, we consider ourselves heirs of the ancient Greek world which, once upon a time, spread from the Pillars of Herakles to the shadow of Olympus and the steppes of Russia to the Indus River, and protectors of our language and cultural heritage. Would Gene agree?

Although I did not always agree with Gene’s positions on Macedonia and Macedonians, he was a good historian and thought deeply about the guiding principles of history. Writing in 2007, Gene advised: “...we must ask ‘What happened? [and] ‘How did it happen?’ I am not certain that ‘Why did it happen’ is an appropriate historical question, because any answer to it must lie in the very subtle realm of human motivation, and must therefore be highly interpretive.” Gene knew that different historians might arrive at different conclusions even when studying the same evidence. In the foreword to *Before Alexander: Constructing Early Macedonia*, he wrote: “If I have appeared to be opinionated about some matters, I hope that the reader will accept my views as a prerogative of age and an honest exercise of the historian’s right to make judgments about the work and the methods of other scholars, with the expectation that my own work will likewise be subject to their criticism, as it has been in the past.” A historian is the product of his or her time, a craftsperson, and an agent.

Thank you, Gene. May the wine and the music that you so much loved accompany you in your voyage.

Georgia



## NEWS FROM AND ABOUT COLLEAGUES

Edward Harris announces the publication of Sylvian Fachard and Edward Harris, eds. *The Destruction of Cities in the Ancient Greek World: Integrating the Archaeological and Literary Evidence* (Cambridge University Press). More information can be found [here](#).

Jeffrey D. Lerner has co-edited with Marek J. Olbrycht, *The Arsakid World: Studies on the History and Culture of Western and Central Asia*. Anabasis: StudiaClassica et Orientalia 10 (Rzeszów:Rzeszów University, 2019 [2021]). He published in the volume, "A Further Note on the Appearance of “Αντειχ” / “Σααβ” on the So-Called “Heraios” Tetradrachmas of the Kushan king Kujula Kadphises, c. 30-80 CE.," pp. 123-138.

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Mireille Corbier (corbier@msh-paris.fr), director of *L'Année épigraphique*, announces that *L'Année épigraphique* 2018 (containing 1997 entries, and 1115 pages, including 246 pages of index) was published in August, 2021, and is now available. Orders should be sent to Presses Universitaires de France at [revues@humensis.com](mailto:revues@humensis.com).

Christelle Fischer-Bovet announces the publication of Fischer-Bovet, C. and von Reden, S. (eds.), *Comparing the Ptolemaic and Seleucid Empires. Integration, Communication, and Resistance*, Cambridge University Press, 2021. More information is [here](#).

Theodora Kopestonsky and Lee L. Brice announce publication of their open access article “Teaching Evidence Use and Interpretation with Coins” in volume 30 of the *Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia*. The article is an expanded version of our presentation at the 2021 AAH meeting and be found [here](#).

Lee L. Brice and Gil Davis announce publication of “Teaching with Coins” a special volume of the *Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia*. The open-access volume includes seven peer-reviewed articles on numismatic education and using coins in the classroom, several of which are by AAH members, and can be found [here](#).

Mark Thatcher announces the publication of his monograph *The Politics of Identity in Greek Sicily and Southern Italy* (Oxford University Press, 2021). More information is [here](#).

Werner Reiss sends word of his edited volume, Werner Riess (Ed.), *Colloquia Attica III. Neuere Forschungen zu Athen im 4. Jahrhundert v. Chr. (Dys-)funktionen einer Demokratie*, Steiner: Stuttgart, 2021. More details are [here](#).



## AAH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AAH Membership Dues

Please remember to renew your AAH membership dues. It is possible to pay in advance for up to five years. Considering the costs of many other associations focused on history, we are still the best bargain out there! Members are notified of their membership status at the beginning of each year.

Payment can be made online though **PayPal** on the AAH website

<http://www.associationofancienthistorians.org/membership.html> or by traditional mail (see the dues form at the end of the Newsletter).

Membership	Dues
Regular Electronic	<b>\$15.00</b>
Associate Electronic ( <i>students and contingent faculty only</i> )	<b>\$7.00</b>
Regular Postal	<b>\$20.00</b>
Associate Postal ( <i>students and contingent faculty only</i> )	<b>\$12.00</b>
Life ( <i>retired members over 60 only</i> )	<b>\$200.00</b>
Institutional	<b>\$40.00</b>

### Please mail dues to:

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For questions or information about dues, or other financial matters, please contact Scott Perry at [Treasurer@AssociationofAncientHistorians.org](mailto:Treasurer@AssociationofAncientHistorians.org). Members uncertain if they are current with their dues or with other member address updates can contact Brian Messner at [Secretary@AssociationofAncientHistorians.org](mailto:Secretary@AssociationofAncientHistorians.org).



### Donate to the Subvention Fund!

The account used to underwrite subvention grants is separate from the AAH general fund and is supported only by earmarked donations. In other words, we rely on the generosity of AAH members in order to support our junior colleagues. If you are interested in making a donation, you can use the PayPal link on the association website (<http://associationofancienthistorians.org/grants.html>) or mail a check to the AAH Treasurer, Scott Perry ([Treasurer@associationofancienthistorians.org](mailto:Treasurer@associationofancienthistorians.org)). All donations, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated!



**Reminder:** Please remember to designate the AAH as your charity of choice at **Amazon Smile** and shop through the Amazon Smile website. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> to do so. (Everything else at Amazon's website stays the same, including your account.) A percentage of your Amazon orders will support the AAH!



## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Both the American Academy at Rome (<https://www.aarome.org/>) and the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (<https://www.ascsa.edu.gr/>) have a number of overseas study opportunities posted to their websites.



## PUBLICATIONS

The AAH Publications Committee invites suggestions for new volumes of the PAAH. (Please note that a suggestion for a volume does not bring with it the obligation to be its editor!) The *Publications of the Association of Ancient Historians* surveys scholarship in various areas of Ancient History. The primary audience is members of the AAH, but our volumes have also been adopted as textbooks. The most recent volume by Duane Roller, *New Directions to the Study of Ancient Geography* was published by Eisenbrauns last summer and is available through their website (<https://www.eisenbrauns.org/books/titles/978-1-7340031-1-6.html>). A list of previous volumes is available on the AAH website. To contact the Committee, send an email to [publications@associationofancienthistorians.org](mailto:publications@associationofancienthistorians.org).



Publication of the recent PAAH volume sparked interest in previous AAH works. Several PAAH volumes are now available free as pdf downloads at <http://www.associationofancienthistorians.org/monographs.html>. Serena Connolly also has copies of *The Legacy of Ernst Badian* edited by Carol Thomas available. Members are welcome to contact Serena at [serena.connolly@gmail.com](mailto:serena.connolly@gmail.com) to receive a copy. The cost is \$15 which helps to defer the mailing cost. Payment can be made by mail to AAH treasurer Scott Perry (address below) or on the PayPal link on the [membership page](#), and mark the \$15 as an unrestricted donation.



The *Ancient History Bulletin* is currently accepting submissions. *AHB* is a peer-reviewed digital journal that promotes scholarly discussion in Ancient History and ancillary fields (such as epigraphy, papyrology, and numismatics). For over 30 years *AHB* has combined high standards with a timely review and editorial process, publishing articles and notes on the

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history of the ancient world from the Bronze Age to Late Antiquity. Although contributors are encouraged to submit articles in English, submissions in French, German, Italian, and Spanish are welcome. <https://ancienthistorybulletin.org/>



*The Journal of Ancient History* continues to invite submissions of articles. We are committed to a speedy process from submission to publication while maintaining high standards of peer-review. Please see our website for submission information: <http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/jah>.



**The Witness to Ancient History** book series published by Johns Hopkins University Press invites proposals from potential authors. Our goal is to provide books for undergraduates and general readers that, in a brief and engaging format, are informative and authoritative. Each book focuses on a single pivotal historical event, describing it and explaining its consequences or significance. The books are short (about 50–60,000 words) and focused, suitable as an assignment for a week’s reading in a college course. The series covers all of ancient history through Late Antiquity and the entire Mediterranean basin and surrounding regions. For information on submissions, contact Series Editor, Greg Aldrete (aldreteg@uwgb.edu). For current series books, see: <https://jhupbooks.press.jhu.edu/series/witness-ancient-history>.



## POSITION AVAILABLE

The Getty Research Institute (GRI) Scholars Program and Getty Villa Museum seek a two-year limited-term Research Associate II. The position works with Villa scholars, especially those working under “The Classical World in Context” themes at the Getty Villa, providing them with logistical and research assistance, securing library and other materials for the scholars’ research, facilitating meetings and lectures, and providing coordination with other GRI and Museum programs. This position additionally participates in programmatic projects related to important topics in the field of art history, archaeology, Classics, and related disciplines. To apply, please visit <https://jobs-getty.icims.com/jobs/3752/research-associate-ii/job>

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# The Association of Ancient Historians Newsletter



Brian Messner, AAH Secretary  
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## Membership Information Form

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Please check all that apply:

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 Associate Electronic membership [students and contingent faculty only] (\$7.00 per year)  
 Regular Postal membership (\$20.00 per year)  
 Associate Postal membership [students and contingent faculty only] (\$12.00 per year)  
 Life Membership [*retired members over 60 only*] (\$200.00)  
 Institutional Membership (\$40.00)

Payment enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (limited to five years in advance)

Additional donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Is this additional donation designated for the subvention fund? \_\_\_\_\_

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