



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,

In fewer than three weeks, the AAH will hold its 50th Annual Meeting! I am excited for this meeting and look forward to seeing you all again. Harvard University and the organizers, Emma Dench and Paul Kosmin, will welcome us on April 18, 2024. Please do not forget to register for the conference and book accommodations as soon as possible at the AAH 2024 website here: <https://www.aah2024.org> (the deadline has been extended to April 12). Information about transportation, hotels, etc. can be found there as well. The program is top rate! On behalf of our members, I want to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues at Harvard for their generosity, hard work, and service to the Association of Ancient Historians.

In preparation for the annual meeting, please renew your membership with the AAH or/and consider making a donation to the travel or publications subvention funds [here](#). All officers and committee members volunteer their work and time to the Association and are not remunerated for the service they provide. This is one of the main ways the AAH can keep costs down. It is truly inexpensive to be a member of our Association compared to other professional organizations. Membership fees and donations go to supporting graduate students and junior colleagues to travel to the Annual Meeting or to publish their work, and to paying for the Association's publications, and all other expenses, such as insurance, etc. All AAH members (full and associate) may:

- attend and participate in the AAH Annual Meetings,
- be elected or appointed to offices and committees,
- participate in, vote at, and bring proposals to the business meeting,
- receive our *Newsletter* and current PAAH publications for free,
- enjoy educational workshops and seminars designed to deepen our understanding of teaching ancient history to a variety of audiences and to assist in the diversification and inclusivity of our field,

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AAH Annual Meeting 2024 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA April 18-21, 2024

The 2024 Annual Meeting will take place in person in Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. The conference includes the traditional opening reception and closing banquet, as well as tea and coffee, and the AAH Business Meeting. The organizers are Emma Dench and Paul Kosmin. More information may be found at aah2024.org and questions may be directed to 2024AAH@fas.harvard.edu. All sessions will be plenary and in-person, including the Business Meeting.

Please note that the program is subject to change. The most up to date version of the program can be found [here](#).

All sessions will be held on the campus of Harvard University. Please note that session locations change at times during the Annual Meeting.

Please note that the Business Meeting will be on Friday this year.

AAH 50th Anniversary Conference: Program

Thursday, April 18, 2024

5:30-7:00 **Reception, Loeb House**

Information about the Annual Meeting continues on page 2.

Annual Meeting Information, continued

Friday, April 19, 2024

Science and Engineering Complex, Panels 1 & 2: Room LL2.224

7:45–8:30 *Continental breakfast*

8:30–11:00

Panel 1: God, History, and the Anthropocene (Chair: Paul Kosmin)

Rotem Meir (University of Helsinki), God and King in History: Reflections from Hellenistic Judea
James Taylor (Colby College), The Temptations of the Anthropocene and the Challenges of Deep Time
Zsuzsa Varhelyi (Boston University), Ultimate Judgments: Our Epic Sense of the Superhuman in History

Coffee break

11:15–12:45

Panel 2: Focal Points and Blind Spots (Chair: Giovanni Bazzana)

Zachary Herz (University of Colorado, Boulder), Cassius Dio, Italian Volksrecht and the Trouble with Legal Pluralism
Deirdre Klokow (UT-Austin), Empires From the Ground Up – Writing Non-elite Histories of the Hellenistic World
Seth Richardson (University of Chicago), Mapped and Myopic Worlds: On the Poverty of Babylonian Toponymy

Lunch (not provided)

Panels 3 & 4: Room 1.321 (Winokur Family Hall)

2:15–3:45

Panel 3: Beyond the Mediterranean? (Chair: Michael Puett)

Céline Debourse (Harvard), Priests and Kings: Negotiating Empire in Seleucid Babylonia
Jeremy Simmons (University of Maryland), Beyond Mediterraneanism: Ancient Indian Ocean Thalassology on its own Terms
Leighton Smith (UC Irvine), Losing a Child but Gaining Latin: Imperial Languages and Suffering Beyond the Mediterranean

Coffee break

4:00–6:00

Panel 4: Open Panel 1 (Chair: Adriaan Lanni)

Deb Kamen (UWA Seattle), Reconsidering the Status of “Privileged Slaves” in Classical Athens
Flavio Santini (UC Berkeley), On the Origins of Public Debt: The 5th Century B.C.
Stephen Shennan (Harvard), Old Tools and New Uses: Oaths in the Roman Republic and Early Principate
Yuan Zhang (UC Berkeley), Civic Benefaction as Negotiation: Evidence from Pliny's Letters and Latin Inscriptions

6:00–7:15 AAH Business Meeting

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Science and Engineering Complex, Room 1.321 (Winokur Family Hall)

7:45–8:30 *Continental breakfast*

Annual Meeting information continues on page 3

Annual Meeting Information, continued**8:30–11:00****Panel 5: The Exploited: Questions (Chair: Irene Soto Marín)**

Chance Bonar (Tufts), The Archive, Agency, and the Study of Ancient Mediterranean Slavery

Kimberly Bowes (UPenn), The Exploited: Category and Practice

Sarah Levin-Richardson (UWA Seattle), Wet-Nursing and Affective Expectations in the Roman Empire

Coffee break**11:15–12:45****Panel 6: Complex Origins: Racial Formations and Ancient Mediterranean Identities (Chair: Emily Greenwood)**Gaia Gianni (OSU), *Collactanei* and Milk-Siblings: From Ancient Rome to Modern Islamic Practice

Jinyu Liu (Emory), Fluid and Complex Ethnicities among the Enslaved and Freed Persons in the Early Roman Empire

Iain Mathieson (UPenn), Ancient DNA and the Evolution of Ancestry

Lunch (not provided)**2:15–4:15****Panel 7: Open Panel 2 (Chair: Rachel Love)**Brandon Bourgeois (USC David and Dana Dornsife), Fictions Made “Elsewhere than at Rome”: The *dies imperii* and *Lex de imperio* of VespasianPhoebe Hyun (Harvard), *Seeing Scent*: Constructing “Others” through Scent in Ancient Rome

Louis Polcin (UPenn), God Bless our Troops? Theological Underpinnings of Provincial Revolts

Jonathan Price (Brown), “Esarhaddon, King of Assyria, is Seated on the Throne Like Marduk-shapik-zeri”: Uses of the Past in Neo-Assyrian Babylonia

Coffee break**4:30–6:15****Panel 8: The AAH at Fifty and Looking Forward (Chair: Emma Dench)**

Serena Connolly (Rutgers), The AAH at Fifty

Ronnie Ancona (Hunter College and CUNY Graduate Program) and Sarah Pomeroy (Hunter College and CUNY Graduate Program), “Muted” and “Hidden from History”: Foregrounding the Lives of Women

Kathleen Coleman (Harvard), Looking back at Ernst Badian

Luke Madson (Rutgers) and Kathryn LaPenna (Trinity College, Dublin) in conversation on Animal History, Comparative History, and ancient histories of the future

7:00-8:30 **Banquet** at Harvard Natural History Museum**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

Morning Museum visits

President's column, continued

(Membership benefits, continued)

- attend and participate in the Annual Joint AAH and Mommsen Society Lecture Series,
- receive numerous emails with notices about employment opportunities, conference calls for papers, etc.,
- be eligible for subvention grants,
- be eligible for awards and recognition for their contributions to mentorship, and their service to the Association,
- connect with other ancient history scholars, professionals, and enthusiasts,
- enjoy different levels of membership based on one's employment status.

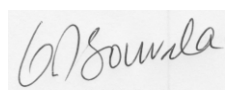
The Association depends solely on the generosity of its members for hosting its Annual Meetings every spring. Danielle Kellogg and colleagues at Cincinnati University are already planning for the AAH Annual Meeting in 2025. Stay tuned! If you are interested in serving the Association in this way, please contact me at gtsouva@ilstu.edu or at president@associationofancienthistorians.org, or any of the other officers. We are looking for candidates to host the meetings for 2026 and later.

This year we will continue our partnership with the Mommsen Society (the equivalent of the AAH, SCS, and AIA) in Germany. We are planning the annual event to be held in mid-October. If you are interested in presenting at this year's joint lecture, please submit your abstracts and C.V. to me (gtsouva@ilstu.edu) and our colleague, Werner Reiß (werner.riess@uni-hamburg.de), by May 15, 2024. More information is included in this newsletter.

Last but certainly not least, this is an election year for our Association. At the business meeting on Friday, April 19 at 6-7:45pm, we will vote to elect the next Secretary and Treasurer of the AAH. Currently, we have two individuals who have volunteered for those positions, and who have the supporting nominations. Any new nominations for the election, or any proposals to be discussed at the business meeting need to be brought to the secretary's attention and circulated to the membership at least two weeks before the meeting. Please send any nominations to Brian Messner at secretary@associationofancienthistorians.org by April 5.

I look forward to seeing you all in Boston!

Georgia



Georgia Tsouvala
president@associationofancienthistorians.com



NEWS FROM AND ABOUT COLLEAGUES

Regina Loehr sends word of the publication of her new book, *Emotion and Historiography in Polybius' Histories*, with Routledge. More information is [here](#).



AAH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nominations for AAH Secretary and Treasurer

Members are informed that nominations for both Secretary and Treasurer of the AAH are in order for the three-year term commencing at the Business Meeting of the 2024 Annual Meeting. A candidate becomes eligible for election when three members in good standing—each employed at separate institutions—submit written nominations to the Secretary (Secretary@associationofancienthistorians.org) at least two full weeks in advance of the 2024 Meeting (April 5), and the candidate indicates a willingness to serve. Nominations by email are acceptable.

Note: The incumbents, Secretary Brian Messner and Treasurer Scott Perry, have both served their second and final terms.

Membership Policy Update

The AAH announces a change in membership policy that will go into effect on January 1, 2025. For many years, the AAH has permitted members to wait one or more years to renew their annual memberships, largely because mail was slow and it took time for the Secretary-Treasurer to process and reply to membership renewals. However, now that renewals can be done online, virtually all members renew online, and acknowledgements can be sent by email quickly, the officers have decided to stop granting a full grace year for membership renewals. Some members were only renewing every other year, which was not fair to those members who paid faithfully every year. So, beginning January 1, 2025, all members will be expected to renew their memberships each year unless they are life members or have paid ahead. Members will continue to receive membership expiration updates, the AAH will continue to allow renewals up to five years in advance, and members will receive a final notice before their records are archived in the database. Questions or concerns can be directed to the Secretary at secretary@associationofancienthistorians.org. We will also entertain questions at the business meeting at the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Follow the AAH on X (formerly Twitter)

The Social Media and Technology Committee invites you to follow the AAH on X (formerly Twitter) as we share updates about the upcoming annual meeting and other items of interest.

Link: https://twitter.com/AAH_ancient

Handle: @AAH_ancient

Committee on Teaching Seeking a New Member

The Committee on Teaching is seeking a PhD student to join the committee! Please reach out to teaching@associationofancienthistorians.org to express interest and learn more.

THE MOMMSEN SOCIETY AND THE ASSOCIATION OF ANCIENT HISTORIANS ANNUAL JOINT LECTURE SERIES

Call for Papers for the 2024 Lecture Series

The AAH and the Mommsen Society welcome half-page abstracts for their joint lecture series in October, 2024. A representative of the Mommsen Society and a representative of the AAH will each give a 20–30 minute talk. Both

presentations will be in English. The event will take place virtually. Each paper will be followed by a 15-minute discussion.

Three AAH officers and three Mommsen Society board members function as the selection and organizing committee for this event. The papers to be presented will be chosen by the selection committee in a joint virtual meeting in mid-June. Successful candidates will be notified no later than June 30, 2024. Half-page abstracts and CVs are due by **May 15, 2024** to gtsouva@ilstu.edu and werner.riess@uni-hamburg.de.



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 and consulted by teachers and laypersons around the world. The most recent volume, *New Directions to the Study of Ancient Geography* by Duane Roller was published by Eisenbrauns and is available for purchase through their [website](#). To contact the Publications Committee, please email David Ratzan at publications@associationofancienthistorians.org.



A list of previous PAAH volumes is available on the AAH website. Several PAAH volumes are now available free as pdf downloads [here](#). 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 to receive a copy for \$15 which defers the mailing cost for the volume. Payment can be made by mail to AAH treasurer Scott Perry (address above) or on the PayPal link on the [donations page](#), and mark the \$15 as an unrestricted donation.



AAH Membership Dues

Please remember to renew your AAH membership dues; dues cover each calendar year. 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, so expect an email in January.

Payment can be made online though **PayPal** on the AAH website [here](#) or by traditional mail (see the dues and change of information form at the end of the Newsletter).

Membership	Dues
Regular	\$15.00
Associate (<i>students, contingent faculty and non-academics only</i>)	\$7.00
Life (<i>retired members over 60 only</i>)	\$200.00
Institutional	\$40.00

Please mail dues to:

Scott Perry
Department of History SMC C263
University of South Florida—Sarasota-
Manatee
8350 N. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34243

For questions or information about dues, or other financial matters, please contact Scott Perry at 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.



Donate to the Travel Subvention Fund!

The account used to underwrite travel subvention grants for graduate students and junior faculty 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 [here](#) or mail a check (write “Travel Subvention” on the memo line) to the AAH Treasurer, Scott Perry, Department of History SMC C263, University of South Florida—Sarasota-Manatee, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243. All donations, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated!



Donate to the new Publication Subvention Fund!

The Borza estate donated \$5,000 to the Association for the creation of a publication subvention fund. We rely on your generosity to make this subvention possible. If you are interested in donating to this fund, you can use the PayPal link on the association website [here](#), or mail a check (write “Publication Subvention” on the memo line) to the AAH Treasurer, Scott Perry, Department of History SMC C263, University of South Florida—Sarasota-Manatee, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243. All donations, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated!



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The American School of Classical Studies at Athens announces the Joan and Eugene Vanderpool Fellowship at the Athenian Agora. The fellowship supports research on any aspect of the Athenian Agora, including history, archaeology, literature, epigraphy, architecture, art history, and biodiversity. The fellowship is open to those who have not yet completed their PhD, with a deadline of **May 15, 2024**. More information about the fellowship, and application directions, can be found [here](#).



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

One-year lectureship in Greek history and language at Washington University in St. Louis

The Department of Classics at Washington University in St. Louis invites applications for a one-year lecturer in Classics with a specialty in Greek history for the 2024-2025 academic year. Successful candidates must have a PhD in hand by the start of employment and must be prepared to teach courses in Greek history (including two consecutive survey courses: Greek History: The Dawn of Democracy and Greek History: The Age of Alexander) and in the Greek language (including intermediate Greek [Plato] and an advanced course on Herodotus). Duties will include teaching three courses per semester and service to the Department of Classics.

Diversity and Inclusion are core values at Washington University, and we seek to create inclusive classrooms and environments in which a diverse array of students can learn and thrive.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. in Classics, Ancient History, or a closely related field is required at the time of employment. Complete information and the application requirements can be found [here](#).





Membership Information Form

Please check all that apply:

- Change of address
- New membership
- Renewal membership

- Regular membership (\$15.00 per year)
- Associate membership [students, contingent faculty, and non-academics only] (\$7.00 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: \$ _____ for ___travel subvention ___publication subvention ___other: (please specify)

Please check appropriate title: Prof. _____ Dr. _____ Ms. _____ Mr. _____ Other (please specify) _____

Last Name: _____ Other Names: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov.: _____

Postal / Zip Code: _____ Country: _____

E-mail address (please print neatly!!): _____

Academic Affiliation (faculty/staff/students): _____

Please mail dues to:
Scott Perry
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University of South Florida—
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Sarasota, FL 34243 USA