



The Association of Ancient Historians

Newsletter &



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

No. 154 Editor: John Donahue Fall 2024

President's Column

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to a new academic year! So much has happened since our Annual Meeting at Harvard. If you have not had the chance to visit former president and current archivist, Serena Connolly's **webpage about the history of the AAH in the last fifty years**, I encourage you to click on the link (https://bit.ly/AAH50). Serena provides an exceptional and engaging multi-media reflection on the AAH's past as well as considerations of its future. The purpose of the website is to allow current members to look back, and for new members to learn about the AAH.

Two outstanding AAH officers, Brian Messner (secretary and membership director) and Scott Perry (treasurer), stepped down after their long and accomplished service to the Association of Ancient Historians. Those roles are now filled by two outstanding colleagues, John Donahue (secretary) and Cheryl Golden (treasurer and membership director). Both Cheryl and John have been distinguished teachers and scholars and bring with them years of academic and administrative experience. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them publicly. I am honored to be working with them. A big thanks to Brian, Scott, and Pat Dintrone for their assistance during this transition.

It has become a tradition every year for the AAH to host an **online teaching workshop**, this year organized by Eliza Gettel and Kevin Westerfeld, co-chairs of the Committee on Teaching. This year's panel concentrated on "Teaching with Games and Role-Playing in the Ancient History Classroom." I would like to thank both the organizers and the panelists for a very successful event. In addition, I want to thank every committee chair, every volunteer, and every member for what they bring to the table to make the AAH what it is. You are the heart and soul of the Association and without you, we would not exist. I hope you had a good and productive summer, and I wish you all an easy and successful semester!

The President's Column continues on page 3.



AAH Annual Meeting 2025 University
of Cincinnati
April 16-18, 2025

The 2025 Annual Meeting will take place in person at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio.

We invite abstracts for papers of 15-20 minutes in length. Please submit anonymous abstracts of no more than 500 words to https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/AAH2025 (you will need a Microsoft CMT account).

You may direct any questions to <u>aah2025@uc.edu</u>. The deadline for abstract submission is **December 1**, 2024. Additional information may be found at https://classics.uc.edu/departments/classics/aah-2025. Please direct any inquiries to the conference organizers at aah2025@uc.edu.

Call for Papers

Digital Directions

Ancient history is not lacking in excellent digital resources and projects, but the world of computers is developing continuously and at an ever-faster pace. What are current trends in digital humanities and ancient history, and what is next? What is the role of quantitative modelling and analysis in the study of the ancient world? How do we deal with uncertainty? What is the role of AI? How might gamification help research and teaching? We invite talks that showcase current and nascent digital projects and serve as a springboard to discuss the future of digital humanities, especially its role in (graduate) education.

Firsthand History: Claims of Autopsy in Ancient Historiography

This panel will explore autopsy as a literary motif in Greek and Roman historiography, with special consideration for how claims of firsthand observation

2025 Annual Meeting Information, continued

by the ancient historians affects their value for modern scholars of ancient history. Eyewitness testimony of an event, whether on the part of the historian himself or reported to him by others who were present, is but one form of "proof" in the historian's toolbox. When compared with others (e.g., source citation, collating alternate traditions), is autopsy always considered the best kind of "proof"? We can sometimes identify moments when an ancient historian asserts firsthand observation of something it is known or suspected he did not or could not have witnessed, or of something that appears outlandish or fantastical. How do such "incorrect" or implausible claims of autopsy affect our understanding of the authorial persona's authority?

Material Culture, History, and the People of the Mediterranean: New Models, New Thoughts (co-sponsored by the Diversity Committee)

Historiography of the Ancient Mediterranean is interdisciplinary by nature, drawing on an unusually rich textual and material record. That said, scholarship centering on the written word can produce historical narratives with a profoundly urban, elite focus. As scholarship on antiquity becomes more inclusive and attuned to nonelite experiences, ancient historians have sought to decenter writing and to build histories of people less well represented in the texts by using material culture. Sometimes the written and material evidence conflicts. How can we reconcile or manage conflicting evidence? Talks should explore the histories of nonelite or indigenous people of Classical Antiquity for which both written and material evidence exists. We welcome papers that apply methodologies or frameworks that introduce new methodologies to the evidence. For example, approaches might be gleaned from premodern historiography beyond the Mediterranean, such as the study of precontact Mesoamerica.

The Graeco-Roman Ancient Near East

For about two millennia the Ancient Near East including Egypt interacted with, or was a part of, the Graeco-Roman world. We need a broad overview of the history of such interactions and of the active participation of non-Greeks-and-Romans from the Ancient Near East in Graeco-Roman history. The Bronze Age, the Archaic Period, the Hellenistic World, the Roman Conquest of the East, and Late Antiquity are only the most obvious time periods where we expect such interactions, but various types of interactions (e.g., movement of goods and of people, not to mention of ideas and other cultural "artifacts") can also be traced throughout the two millennia. We may also reconsider the relation between the training of Greek and Roman historians, usually in PhD-granting Classics departments, and the training of Ancient Near Eastern historians, usually in their own department - if a university has one.

Public Ancient History and History Pedagogy

Public history makes history relevant to non-historians. The National Council on Public History focuses on professional public historians outside of academia. Their training, up to a point, is the same as that of academic historians. Ancient history cannot leave its responsibility to the public to local historical societies and only to some extent to museums and such, at least not in North America. Instead, it is up to us, professional academic ancient historians, to spread the word to the general public. In what ways do we currently engage the public - and in what other, novel ways can we engage the public - so that its perception of ancient history can inform the present responsibly or at least can no longer be manipulated to help shape it in a partisan way? How visible are we, or should we be, in society? What difference can it make to the way we train the next generation of professional academic ancient historians?

Infrastructure and Social Change

Ancient societies invested heavily in physical infrastructure, such as roads, walls, and waterworks. In fact, Dionysios of Halikarnassos claimed that roads, aqueducts, and sewers were the most signal accomplishments of the Roman empire. These works were often constructed for pragmatic reasons: cities needed defending, armies needed roads, and urban communities needed water. But all of these interventions in the built environment affected local societies. People were separated by walls, towns and countryside connected by roads, and communities formed and reformed around the availability and effort of retrieving water. What were the social consequences of infrastructural development in the

2025 Annual Meeting Information, continued

ancient world? How cognizant were ancient states of these consequences? And to what extent did awareness of these consequences motivate and shape the investments that were made?

Mobility, Networks, and the Production of Scientific Knowledge

Modern science is often thought of as a static, stationary activity unfolding in fixed and dedicated spaces. This vision perhaps colors perceptions of ancient scientific actors (broadly construed) laboring in isolation and in discrete spaces and immobile tools (think: Democritus's anatomical explorations at his home; Aristotle in his lagoon; Ptolemy with his astrolabe). This panel invites papers that explore this image to consider the mobilities which lay underneath the production of various forms of scientific texts and the networks along which its agents and objects of study flowed. We are especially interested in papers that explore how these scientific networks interact or overlap with other sorts of networks—like the sacred or economic—which have recently been more closely described. What are the marked nodes and hubs? Can we identify weak links that productively connect disparate networks to create novel ideas? Ultimately, then, we seek papers that more thoroughly embed scientific practice and production in the world of movement and exchange.

Epigraphy and the Ancient Historian: New Challenges, New Directions

Inscriptions are a major tool for ancient historians to uncover and engage with topics, people, and places that lay outside the main focus of our literary sources, such as the histories of non-elite actors. The volume of epigraphic documents is continually increasing, and numerous digital and scientific tools have been introduced that allow scholars to use epigraphic texts in new ways. This panel seeks to explore current trends and new approaches to the study of epigraphy and its role in the historical scholarship on the ancient world. What sorts of information can be gleaned from epigraphic texts? What methods can be used to integrate inscriptions with other forms of historical evidence? What pitfalls lay in wait to trap the unwary historian? While all aspects of epigraphic inquiry are valuable, in particular we are interested in papers that engage with new approaches to epigraphic texts and/or papers which illuminate new areas of inquiry for ancient historians.

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President's Column, continued

Our next AAH event is the **2024 Mommsen Society-AAH Joint Lecture Series**, which will take place online on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at 9 a.m. PST/11 a.m. CST/12 p.m. EST/6 p.m. CEST. Dr. Stanley M. Burstein (Professor Emeritus, California State University, Los Angeles) and Dr. Alexandra Eckert (Althistorisches Seminar, University of Göttingen) will be this year's speakers. The lectures will take place via Zoom and will be in English. If you would like to attend this event, please write to Lukas Reimann at reimann@uni-trier.de to register and receive a link. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

I would like to bring your attention to the **2025 Annual Meeting of the AAH**, which will take place in person at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. Sincere thanks to Danielle Kellogg for organizing our 51st Annual Meeting in mid-April. As usual, the conference will include the traditional opening reception and closing banquet, as well as the AAH Business Meeting. In a departure from our traditional practice, *the conference will open on Wednesday evening*, *April 16, and conclude with the banquet on Friday evening, April 18.* We had to make this difficult decision to accommodate both Cincinnati's events calendar and religious observances that week, but we expect to return to the traditional Thursday to Sunday conference in Iowa in 2026. The call for papers is included in this *Newsletter* and **the absolute deadline for abstracts is December 1, 2024**. Please send anonymous abstracts of no more than 500 words to https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/AAH2025 (you will need a Microsoft CMT account). All abstracts will be blind reviewed. Please, take this opportunity to update or sign up for membership to the Association of Ancient Historians at https://associationofancienthistorians.org/membership.html.

President's Column, continued

It is with great sadness that I end this letter by announcing **the death of Peter Morris Green** on September 16, 2024. A prolific novelist, journalist, critic, translator, and historian, Peter Green died at the age of 99 in Iowa City. Born in England in 1924, he was a RAF sergeant employed in the British intelligence service during WWII before he received his degree from Cambridge University in 1954. As an independent scholar and translator, he moved to Lesbos, Greece with his family in 1961, and later taught at College Year in Athens for a few years. After his divorce from his first wife, Lalage Pulvertaft, herself an Egyptologist turned novelist, he moved to the University of Texas at Austin, where he was the Dougherty Centennial Professor of Classics until his retirement in 1997. Green moved to Iowa City and lived with his second wife, Carin M.C. Green, herself a classical scholar at the University of Iowa, until her death in 2015. When Sarah Bond introduced me to Peter one lovely afternoon, he was working on his translation of the *Odyssey*. We had tea and he talked about his love of Greece. His house was full of books, art, and mementos from his travels. Peter Green touched many lives; many colleagues and students profited greatly from his scholarship, mentoring, and friendship. The AAH sends our collective heartfelt condolences to his family, as well as to his friends, colleagues, and students. *Requiescas in pace, Peter*.

Sincerely,

Georgia Tsouvala

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(385)

2024 AAH AWARD WINNERS

2024 Randall Howarth Award for Excellence in Mentoring



Deborah Kamen, University of Washington

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS



Jennifer T. Roberts, City College of City University of New York



Susan Treggiari, Stanford University and University of Oxford

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Lee L. Brice announces publication of the volume *Boundaries of War: Local and Global Perspectives in Military History* with MCUP, available as open access DOI: 10.56686/9798987336144. It includes three chapters on ancient topics, including two by members of the AAH: Rosemary Moore, and himself.

Lee L. Brice and Elizabeth M. Greene announce the imminent publication of the volume *Women and the Army in the Roman Empire*, Cambridge UP, available in October.

Duane W. Roller announces the appearance of the Romanian edition of his *Cleopatra: A Biography*, simply titled *Cleopatra* (Bucharest, 2024).

Eric Gruen announces the publication of his new book, *Scriptural Tales Retold: The Inventiveness of Second Temple Jews* (Bloomsbury: T&T Clark, 2024).

William V. Harris sends word that on October 7 De Gruyter will publish his new book, *Dire Remedies: A Social History of Healthcare in Classical Antiquity*.

Mireille Corbier (corbier@msh-paris.fr), director of L'Année épigraphique, announces that L'Année épigraphique 2021 (containing 1625 entries, and 968 pages, including 213 pages of index) was published in August 2024, and is now available. Orders should be sent to Presses Universitaires de France at revues@humensis.com. Stanley M. Burstein reports the publication of Greece's Northern Frontier: Studies in the History of the Ancient Greek Experience in the Black Sea, Colloquia Antiqua 38 (Leuven: Peeters, 2024).

Michele Salzman, UC Riverside, **and Edward Watts**, UC San Diego, are co-organizing a conference, "The Senate: From Antiquity to Modern Times," to be held at the Roman Forum and the American Academy in Rome from October 22-24, 2024. Additional information can be found at https://amaranth-nadine-56.tiiny.site.

Richard Talbert confirms that three resources noted as forthcoming in the Ancient World Mapping Center's 2023-2024 annual report are now available: the revised Catholic and Donatist Bishoprics in North Africa map with metadata; a set of nineteen Study Maps for readers of Livy, Book 21; and an article in *Museum Sinicum* by Talbert and Jeffrey Becker, "Maps of the Greek and Roman world and related resources: A guide to work published since the 1990s" (in Chinese). For links to all three, visit https://awmc.unc.edu.

Naomi Campa announces the publication of her new book, *Freedom and Power in Classical Athens* (CUP, 2024) https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/freedom-and-power-in-classical-athens/1E18CF1D5A375464BDF936D78ED2009B

(389)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Graduate Program in Classical Studies at Indiana University offers leading M.A., M.A.T., and Ph.D. programs. Funding is available including fellowships, teaching stipends, summer grants, and travel awards. Learn more at classics.indiana.edu. Email: classics@iu.edu.

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The American School of Classical Studies at Athens is offering information sessions for potential applicants to its academic programs. The deadline to apply for the ASCSA Academic Year Program is January 15, 2025. For additional information on these sessions - Email: programs@ascsa.org; Visit: ascsa.edu.gr.

(380)

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 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. All donations, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated!

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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. All donations, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated!

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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

(38)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Classics at the University of Texas at Austin invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor to begin in the fall of academic year 2025-26. We seek a colleague with research expertise that complements the department's current strengths, particularly in the areas of global antiquities, comparative approaches to classics, or classical reception. In addition to actively researching and publishing, responsibilities include providing administrative and committee service to the department, directing undergraduate honors theses

and eventually PhD dissertations, teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in classics, and may include contributing to the world literature sequence offered as part of UT Austin's <u>Plan II Honors Program</u>.

Details: https://classicalstudies.org/placement-service/2024-2025/38464/assistant-professor-classics

(389)

AAH PUBLICATIONS

The AAH Publications Committee invites suggestions for new volumes of the Publications of the Association of Ancient Historians (PAAH). (Please note that suggestions for a volume does not bring with it the obligation to be its editor!) The PAAH 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 might have copies of previous volumes also. Members are welcome to contact Serena at serena.connolly@gmail.com to receive a copy for a \$15 donation, which covers the mailing cost. Payment can be made by mail to AAH treasurer or on the PayPal link on the donations.google.com and mark the \$15 as an unrestricted donation.

(385)

AAH MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please remember to renew your AAH membership; 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 2025.

Payment can be made online though **PayPal** on the AAH website <u>here</u> or by traditional mail (see the Membership Rates and Membership Information Form below).

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

Please mail dues to: Cheryl Golden, History Department, 114 Fiske Hall, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount St., Wichita, Kansas 67260 For questions or information about financial matters and membership, please contact Cheryl Golden at Treasurer@AssociationofAncientHistorians.org.

MAAH.					Please mail dues to:	
Please check all that apply: Change of address New membership Renewal membership Regular membership (\$15.00 per year)					Cheryl Golden History Department 114 Fiske Hall Wichita State University 1845 Fairmount St. Wichita, Kansas 67260	
Associate membership [students, year) Life Membership [retired membership (\$40.00) Payment enclosed: \$	contingent faculty, and non-acaers over 60 only] (\$200.00)		(\$7.00 per			
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