

The year 2006-7 at Cambridge

Students

Three students took Modern Greek papers in the Part IB examinations in 2007: Madeleine Edwards, Claire Nance and Katharina Walsh all achieved II.1s. One student took Modern Greek in the first-year examinations (Part IA).

Cecily Arthur spent her year abroad at the University of the Peloponnese in Kalamata. In addition to attending courses in Greek literature and linguistics at the University, she also studied the bouzouki and the viola at the local Odeion.

Four candidates passed the examinations for the Certificate in Modern Greek: Carleen Sobczyk and Emma Yap were awarded Distinctions; Alexander Holyoake passed with Credit. Dr Rupert Thompson was awarded a Distinction in the examinations for the Diploma in Modern Greek.

Marina Rodosthenous was approved for the PhD in October 2006. Her dissertation is entitled: "Youth and old age: a thematic approach to selected works of Cretan Renaissance literature". Dr Rodosthenous is continuing her research on Cretan and Cypriot Renaissance literature, with a grant from the A. G. Leventis Foundation.

PhD students Efstratios Myrogiannis and Foteini Lika were awarded second and third prizes respectively in the London Hellenic Society postgraduate essay competition for 2006.

Teaching staff

Ms Eleftheria Lasthiotaki took over the duties of Language Assistant, seconded by the Greek Ministry of Education, from October 2006. Dr Notis Toufexis contributed two lectures to the course on Greek literature, history and thought since 1880, and Mr Kostas Skordyles gave two courses on modern Greek history. Professor David Holton taught various courses on Greek literature, Introduction to the Cretan Renaissance, and translation from Greek.

The Department of Other Languages

As a consequence of administrative reorganisation within the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, the Department of Other Languages ceased to exist on 1 October 2007. Alternative arrangements have been made for the languages which formerly made up the Department: Dutch has become part of a Department of German and Dutch; Neo-Latin will be administered within the Department of Italian. Modern Greek is now a “section”, within the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, with responsibility for its own teaching and research activities.

Visiting scholars

Professor Panos Karagiorgos, of the Ionian University, Corfu, paid a brief research visit to Cambridge in October 2006. Dr Ann Chikovani, Lecturer in Modern Greek at Tbilisi State University, Georgia, spent four weeks in Cambridge in July-August 2007, under the Cambridge Colleges' Hospitality Scheme. Dr Chikovani stayed at Selwyn College, while researching and planning new courses in Modern Greek literature.

Visiting speakers

Nine lectures were given by invited speakers in the course of the year. The programme was as follows:

- 19 October. Dr David Ricks (King's College London): *“A faint sweetness in the never-ending afternoon”*: Cavafy and the Greek epigram
- 2 November. Dr Eleni Kefala (University of St Andrews): *Peripheral Modernisms in Greece and Argentina: the cases of Borges, Cavafy, Kalokyris and Kyriakidis*
- 9 November. Professor Richard Clogg (St Antony's College, Oxford): *Defining the Diaspora: the case of the Greeks*
- 25 January. Dr Georgios Varouxakis (Queen Mary, University of London): *After Philhellenism: perceptions of the modern Greeks among the Victorian intellectual elite*
- 8 February. Dr Liana Giannakopoulou (King's College London): *The Parthenon in poetry*

- 15 February. Dr Charles Stewart (University College London): *An epidemic of dreaming on Naxos in 1930: antecedents and consequences*
- 1 March. Professor Michael Jeffreys (King's College London): *Modern Greek in the 11th century*
- 8 March. Dr Tassos A. Kaplanis (University of Cyprus): *Recording the history of the Cretan War (1645-1669): an overview*
- 3 May. Professor Marc Lauxtermann (Exeter College, Oxford): *Inventing a literary past: the first two surveys of Modern Greek literature*

Graduate Seminar

The Graduate Seminar met on eleven occasions during the year. Papers were given by the following invited speakers: Dr Eleni Papargyriou (Oxford University), Christos Papadopoulos and Dr Barbara Zipser (both from the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College London). The other papers were presented by members of the seminar, who include research students and research and teaching staff: Aslı Çomu, David Holton, Julia Krivoruchko, Foteini Lika (two papers), Stratos Myrogiannis (two papers), and Notis Toufexis.

The Grammar of Medieval Greek research project

In July 2006 we held a conference in Cambridge, in association with the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, with the title "Unlocking the potential of texts: interdisciplinary perspectives on Medieval Greek". Speakers included: Aglaia Kasdagli, Kritonas Chrysochoidis, Martin Hinterberger, Stavros Perentidis, Georgios Velenis, David Holton, Nils Langer, Nicholas de Lange, Charalambos Dendrinis, and Agamemnon Tselikas. Several of the papers can be viewed on the website: <http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/greek/grammarofmedievalgreek/unlocking/>

The next important event for the research team was the 21st International Congress of Byzantine Studies, held in London from 21 to 26 August 2006. We convened a panel on language variation in Byzantine and post-Byzantine texts. Papers were given by David Holton, Notis Toufexis and Io Manollessou.

Tina Lendari has been appointed to a lectureship in Medieval Greek philology at the University of Athens and will leave the project on 1 October 2007. In her place, Marjolijne Janssen, a graduate of the University of Amsterdam, joins the project as a Research Associate from September 2007.

Activities of members of the Modern Greek Section

Professor David Holton gave a lecture on *Erotokritos* at Oxford University in February 2006, and in May he chaired a session at a conference on honour of Professor Peter Mackridge, also in Oxford. His co-authored book *Greek: an essential grammar of the modern language* (2004) has recently appeared in a Greek translation: *Βασική γραμματική της σύγχρονης ελληνικής γλώσσας. Μετάφραση Μιχάλης Γιωργιαφέντης* (Athens: Patakis 2007). He has also published: “*Ερωτόκριτος και Βοσκοπούλα: μια συγκριτική ανάλυση*”, in: S. Kaklamanis (ed.), *Ζητήματα ποιητικής στον Ερωτόκριτο* (Heraklion: Vikelaia Dimotiki Vivliothiki 2006), pp. 273-90.

Dr Tina Lendari has published an article on *Erotokritos* and the Medieval Greek romances: “*Ο Ερωτόκριτος και η ελληνική δημώδης μυθιστορία του Μεσαίωνα: ο λόγος της επιθυμίας και η απουσία του*”, in: S. Kaklamanis (ed.), *Ζητήματα ποιητικής στον Ερωτόκριτο* (Heraklion: Vikelaia Dimotiki Vivliothiki 2006), pp. 51-74. Her edition of *Livistros and Rodamne* has also been published: *Livistros and Rodamne. A critical edition of Vat. gr. 2391 with introduction, commentary and index verborum. Editio princeps* [Βυζαντινή και Νεοελληνική Βιβλιοθήκη, 10] (Athens: MIET 2007).

Dr Notis Toufexis, gave two papers at the 21st International Congress of Byzantine Studies, held in London from 21 to 26 August 2006. He also gave papers at a workshop on “Open Source Critical Editions” held at the Centre for Computing in the Humanities, King’s College London, in September 2006 and the Classical Association Conference at the University of Birmingham in April 2007. In February and April 2007 he organized two workshops for language officers in the Faculty of Modern and

Medieval Languages on digital resources for language teaching. In September 2006 he participated in a workshop on “Advanced Text Encoding with TEI P5” held at the University of Oxford. He has submitted two papers for publication, due to appear next year, and has written a set of reviews of publications on electronic editing for the “Gateway for the Greek Language” of the Centre for Greek Language in Thessaloniki (www.greek-language.gr). In March 2007 he played the role of Antinoos in “Penelopeia”, a reading of the original Homeric Greek text organized by Professor Patrick Boyde in Cambridge.