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# Society News

Society for the Promotion of Byzantine Studies



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**Issue 14**

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**The 41st Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies**  
*The Archaeologies of Byzantium*  
**School of History, Classics and Archaeology,**  
**University of Edinburgh**  
**4-6<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

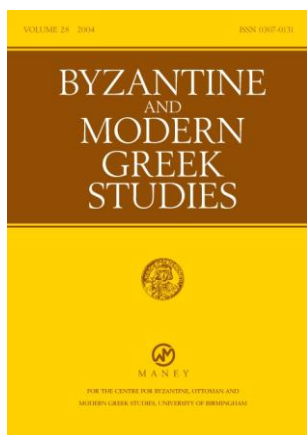
This will be the first Spring Symposium directly focused on Byzantine Archaeology and aims to consider differing approaches to the archaeologies of the Byzantine world as well as highlighting the most important discoveries of recent years. We will cover the archaeology of the Byzantine world from the death of Justinian to fall of the City in 1453. We hope to consider how an understanding of the material culture of Byzantium has been moulded by the differing cultural and national perspectives of those who have inherited former Byzantine lands, especially Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria.

Major themes will include:

- Spanning the divide, Archaeology and History
- Nautical archaeology;
- The Archaeology of Buildings;
- The Archaeology of Images;
- National Narratives;
- Material world ceramics, coins etc
- The Borders of Byzantium: Italian and Islamic perspectives
- Technology
- Peoples and Lands, settlement and landscape
- Geoscience: pollen etc.
- Osteoarchaeology

For further information contact the symposiarch: Professor J. Crow  
([jim.crow@ed.ac.uk](mailto:jim.crow@ed.ac.uk))

## Offer to members of the SPBS *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies*



The Society proposes to offer *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies*, published twice yearly, at a significant reduction in cost. Members would receive two issues of the journal yearly, together with the *Bulletin of British Byzantine Studies*, for a small raise in the annual subscription rate of £10-15.

For more information about *BMGS* and a sample of its contents see

<http://www.maney.co.uk/journals/byzantine>

and

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/maney/byz>

We are very keen to solicit Members' views on this proposal. Please send responses, indicating whether you would be interested in taking up this offer, to Fiona Haarer, either by email ([fiona.haarer@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:fiona.haarer@kcl.ac.uk)) or post (Department of Classics, King's College, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS) by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007.

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### SPBS Grants

The SPBS is delighted to announce the establishment of the 2006 Fund. This is set up to fund postgraduate students to attend conferences, symposia and exhibitions abroad. It will also offer grants to attend the Society's Annual Spring Symposia. It is limited to students studying for a postgraduate degree at a British university. Priority will be given to students who have had papers accepted for delivery at the conference for which they are applying.

## Conference Travel Grants Postgraduates!

We encourage you to apply to us to attend all events that are relevant to your studies and research interests. We anticipate applications to attend events such as:

- The annual Dumbarton Oaks Symposium
- Byzantine Studies Conference in the US
- Australian Byzantine Studies Conference
- Kalamazoo Medieval Conference
- The whole panoply of European conferences, network meetings and workshops
- New exhibitions (for example: *Picturing the Bible: the Earliest Christian Art* at the Kimbell in Fort Worth, TX)

But we will welcome applications to any event that is relevant to your studies.

### Symposium Grants

The SPBS will also offer a number of grants from the 2006 Fund to subsidise the cost of attending the Spring Symposium. They are available to those registering for **the whole conference** and are designed to enable those who would **otherwise be unable to afford the cost** of the symposium to attend. Awards will be made of a minimum of £50. Priority will be given to students at UK universities and to the unwaged in the UK. Byzantinists based outside the UK who wish to attend the symposium are encouraged to apply to their own national committee of the AIEB for financial support if needed.

### Conference Grants

The SPBS also offers small grants to help with the **organisation** of one-off small conferences, workshops, day-schools or seminars. Here, applicants must be the event organiser and be based in the UK. Applications from postgraduate students will be prioritised. Please note: the total amount the Society has to offer is £500 each year.

Applications for Conference Travel and Conference Grants are considered by the Development Committee of the SPBS at half-yearly intervals. The deadlines for submissions are 1 March and 1 November each year. The

deadline for Symposium Grants is 1 March each year. Late applications will not be considered. Forms will appear on the SPBS website (<http://www.byzantium.ac.uk>).

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## Teaching Resources

A new section of the SPBS website dedicated to Teaching Resources is currently under construction. This will include a section for “unofficial” or “private” translated texts. Suggestions and offerings of material gratefully accepted. Please contact Liz James, Chair of the Development Committee ([e.james@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:e.james@sussex.ac.uk)) or Department of Art History, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton)

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## Byzantium at the Royal Academy

The Royal Academy will host a major exhibition on Byzantine art from October 2008 to March 2009. The Society wishes to help organise a series of lectures around the country to help publicise this important exhibition. If you are willing to give a lecture in your locality on Byzantium or on the exhibition (and we will let you know more about the exhibition itself soon), then please contact Prof Liz James at the University of Sussex: [e.james@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:e.james@sussex.ac.uk), as we are trying to establish a list of willing helpers.

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## Oxford Centre for Late Antique Studies

Oxford University has recently set up an Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity, to link the work of over sixty scholars researching in Oxford at post-doctoral level into Late Antiquity - which, for the purposes of this centre, embraces the period circa 250-750 and the geographical area between Iran and Ireland.

The Centre has set up a website at [www.oclax.ac.uk](http://www.oclax.ac.uk) where all Oxford research seminars and lectures within Late Antiquity are advertised, and, thanks to a generous gift, will

also be inviting to the university a number of speakers from overseas. Members of the SPBS will already know that Oxford has particular strengths in Byzantine studies, and also in the study of near eastern Christianity. Information on all activities and courses in these areas can be found on the new website, as well as information about work on the Latin West and on the early Islamic world. Any interested party can attend the lectures and seminars that are advertised on the OCLA website.

Bryan Ward-Perkins  
Chair, OCLA

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## Cardiff University Centre for Late Antique Religion and Culture

Cardiff University's Centre for Late Antique Religion and Culture (CLARC) is launching a new journal for inter-disciplinary research into the post-classical and late antique period.

The Journal for Late Antique Religion and Culture (JLARC) is a full text, open access online Journal edited by members and associates of CLARC and published by Cardiff University.

Contributions are welcome for a wide range of topics in the research area as defined on the homepage of the centre. Further information, including details of the editorial board, may be found at:

<http://www.cf.ac.uk/clarc/jlarc/jlarc-home.html>

The launch of the journal is planned for the end of November 2007.

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## Byzantine Greek Summer School

Dumbarton Oaks will again offer an intensive four-week course in medieval Greek and paleography in the early summer of 2008. A limited number of places will be available for students from North America and Europe.

## Course Offerings

The principal course will be a daily 1 ½ hour session devoted to the translation of sample Byzantine texts. Each week texts will be selected from a different genre, e.g., historiography, hagiography, poetry, and epistolography. Two afternoons a week hour-long sessions on paleography will be held. One additional hour weekly will provide instruction in the basic bibliography of Byzantine philology (dictionaries, grammars, etc.) and electronic tools, such as the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae. In addition each student will receive a minimum of one hour per week of individual tutorial. Thus 11 ½ hours per week will be devoted to formal classroom instruction. It is anticipated that students will require the remaining hours of the week to prepare their assignments. If they should have extra time, they may conduct personal research in the Dumbarton Oaks library.

## Faculty

Stratis Papaioannou, Brown University and Dumbarton Oaks

Alice-Mary Talbot, Dumbarton Oaks

## Accommodation and Costs

No tuition fees will be charged. Successful candidates from outside the Washington area will be provided with housing in the guesthouse at no cost and lunch on weekdays. Local area students will not be offered accommodation, but will receive free lunch on weekdays. Students are expected to cover their own transportation expenses.

## Requirements for Admission

Applicants must be graduate students in a field of Byzantine studies (or advanced undergraduates with a strong background in Greek) at a North American or European university. Two years of college level ancient Greek (or the equivalent) are a prerequisite; a diagnostic test will be administered to finalist applicants before the final selection of successful candidates is made.

## Application Procedure

Applicants should send a letter by January 15, 2008, to Dr. Talbot, describing their academic background, career goals, previous study of Greek, and reasons for wishing to attend the summer school. The application should also include a curriculum vitae and a transcript of the graduate school or undergraduate record. Two letters of recommendation should be sent

separately, one from the student's advisor, and one from an instructor in Greek, assessing the candidate's present level of competence in ancient or medieval Greek. Principles of selection will include three considerations: previous meritorious achievement, need for intensive study of Byzantine Greek, and future direction of research. Awards will be announced in late February 2008, and must be accepted by March 15.

Dumbarton Oaks

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## Residential Fellowships, Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, Istanbul

Koç University is accepting applications for junior and senior residential fellowships for the 2008-2009 academic year at its Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations in Istanbul. Koç University invites applications from junior and senior scholars specializing in the archaeology, art, history, and applied disciplines of Anatolia (and Istanbul) during the Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Seljuk and Ottoman eras. The deadline for applications is December 15, 2007. For an on-line application form and information about the residential fellowship program and the RCAC, please visit: <http://rcac.ku.edu.tr>

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## From the Treasurer...

Please could members remember that annual subscription to the Society is due by 31st January, 2007 (£20 / \$40 / 40 euros / or £10 / \$20 / 20 euros for students).

