
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEO-LATIN STUDIES

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Immediate Past President: Michele Ronnick

—October 15, 2003

From the President

It has been a pleasure serving as President of this organization whose purpose is to fill a unique niche in modern scholarship, in a field where the excess of work to be done over the number of people offering to do it is as great as in any other literary / textual arena. I am grateful for the cooperation and involvement of the many people who have joined to make this past three years another chapter of progress.

With all the places one might look for sources on Neo-Latin literature, items can easily slip by unnoticed. This might be the case with *Romans in A New World: Classical Models in Sixteenth-Century Spanish America*, by University of Puget Sound Classics Professor David A. Lupher (Ann Arbor: Univ. Of Michigan Press, 2003: ISBN 0-472-11275-9). Lupher explores the wide variety of ways the early Spanish conquistadors / colonizers referred their novel experiences to their literary acquaintance with the Greco-Roman past. Roman military heroes can be cited as inferior achievers alongside heroes like Cortés, who braved the unknown far beyond old Roman imperial boundaries. On the other hand, critics of the violent arrogance and greed of the conquistadors and *encomenderos* appeal patriotically to the Roman conquest of Iberia for a precedent. In this take, for example, the Aztec victims of the overthrow of Tenochtitlan are likened sympathetically to the heroic defenders of Numantia against Scipio Aemilianus in 133 BCE; the imperializing ancient Republicans, like the Spanish conquerors, are the villains. These are just two examples of Lupher's wide-ranging inquiries.

Numerous Neo-Latin sources inevitably surface in Lupher's investigation: Bartolomé de las Casas, Juan Ginés de Sepúlveda, Peter Martyr of Angleria., Fray Juan de Zumárraga, Francisco de Vitoria, Juan Luis Vives, Domingo de Soto, Juan de Solórzano Pereira, Fray Alonso de la Vera Cruz, and others. Lupher opens up numerous avenues for the study of Latin texts from the 16th and 17th centuries that tie Spanish experience with the writers' memory of the ancient world.

Edward V. George, President
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AANLS BUSINESS MEETING AND PANEL

The annual business meeting of the AANLS will be held along with the Neo-Latin panel at the APA in San Francisco on Saturday, January 3, 2004, 11:15-1:15. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. The papers this year are as follows:

AFFILIATED GROUP CALL FOR PAPERS FOR 2005 APA CONVENTION IN

BOSTON: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEO-LATIN STUDIES

Research in Neo-Latin: Epicureanism in the Renaissance.

Organized by Tatiana Tsakiropoulou-Summers, University of Alabama. Sponsored by the American Association for Neo-Latin Studies.

The AANLS invites proposals for a panel of papers on current research in Neo-Latin Studies. We will especially consider proposals on the theme of Epicureanism in the Renaissance.

Topics that papers might address include Epicurean morality and Christian ethics; atomism, atheism and Christianity; literary polemics and reactionary movements; pleasure vs. virtue; rebellion and conformism; natural science and Christian resistance; the paradox of Epicurean Christians; Epicureanism as a reactionary movement against scholastic neo-Aristotelianism; the Classical tradition and the literary reception of Epicureanism / Epicurus / Lucretius / Democritus; the influence of the Church Fathers on Renaissance thought concerning Epicureanism; materialism, empiricism and hedonism; Epicureanism and the papal Index; natural scientists and philosophers on Epicureanism: Valla, Erasmus, Gassendi, Galileo, etc.; the Epicurean guild in Italy; and, of course, Epicureanism as food fetish. However, we also welcome papers on all aspects of the study of literary, historical, technical, and scholarly works written in Latin in the period from Petrarch forward.

One page abstracts should be sent by February 10, 2004 (postmark) to Prof. Tatiana Tsakiropoulou-Summers, Dept. of Modern Languages & Classics: Classics Section, 238 B. B. Comer Hall, Box 870246, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0246; email asummers@woodsquad.as.ua.edu. Electronic submissions welcome. Proposals will be anonymously reviewed.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Frank Coulson calls our attention to the publication of his latest article which is chocked full of Neo-Latin material on Ovid: "Addenda and Corrigenda to Incipitarium Ovidianum," *Journal of Medieval Latin* 12 (2002): 154-180. He also held an NEH Fellowship at St. Louis University (during Spring term of 2003 where he worked on manuscripts in the Vatican which contained commentaries on Ovid. *For more information on study opportunities at the St. Louis Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies go to <http://www.slu.edu/colleges/AS/cmrs/fellow.html>.*

N. Bruce Rogers: I have just received from the printer the first copy of my new critical Latin edition of *Sapientia Angelica de Divina Providentia*, first published by Emanuel Swedenborg (a Swede) in Amsterdam, 1764. I have also received back today the page proofs of my English translation, *Angelic Wisdom Regarding Divine Providence*, and I hope to have it out in a few weeks. This will be my fourth Latin edition and fourth English translation of works by this author. Presently I am at work on his *Apocalypsis Revelata*, which is a long work. I cannot anticipate when I might complete the project, but now that I am semi-retired I may find more time for it.

Tatiana Tsakiropoulou-Summers: I received a grant from the University of Alabama to turn last year's APA AANLS panel paper into an article. The article, "Tantum potuit suadere libido: Religion and Pleasure in Polignac's Anti-Lucretius," is forthcoming in *Eighteenth Century Thought*.

OUR NEW WEB PAGE ADDRESS

The AANLS web page can be found at www.aanls.ua.edu. We are hoping that the web page itself will alert those interested in Neo-Latin studies to our existence and thereby increase our

membership. Please send suggestions you may have about improving the web page to Kirk Summers (beza1519@aol.com or ksummers@ML.AS.UA.EDU).

NAME: _____

CHANGES OF ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, OR E-MAIL: _____

NEW INTERESTS, SUGGESTIONS FOR THE OFFICERS:

Annual membership dues are \$20.00 (\$10.00 for students). You may pay for more than one year if you choose. Make check payable to AANLS.

**Send to: Kirk Summers, AANLS | University of Alabama | Box 870246
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