

## Report from the BES Autumn Colloquium 2019

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Autumn Colloquium of the British Epigraphy Society took place on Saturday, 16 November 2019, in the Institute of Classical Studies in London. 34 epigraphers based in 7 different countries and representing 20 different institutions and organisations met to discuss the latest research, presented in paper, poster and short report form. Over the day, the meeting featured 5 papers, 4 reports, as well as 4 posters (Photo 1), taking discussion from Olbia Pontike in the Roman period (Photo 2) to the hunt for inscriptions in Greek lands by early travellers, the onomastics of the enslaved in Archaic Greece, the Ptolemaic inscriptions of Alexandria, as well as epigraphically attested vows and gift to the gods in the Roman world.



Photo 1: Poster discussion at the BES Autumn Colloquium 2019

The participants were especially lucky this year to hear the latest news from CIL in Berlin: Dr Ulrike Ehmig, who co-ordinates the activities of the CIL, gave an overview of the state of play regarding the latest volumes presently worked on. Her report was framed by other reports about projects that are in progress – including the corpus of the inscriptions from the Artemision at Ephesos (presented by Dr Vera Hofmann from the University of Vienna), and the Corpus of Ptolemaic Inscriptions from Egypt (CPI) based at the University of Oxford (presented by Dr Kyriakos Savvopoulos).

The meeting was highly successful in enabling discussion and engagement among the assembled epigraphists. It provided in particular significant scope for epigraphists in the early career stages to exchange with long established epigraphists on their work. The Society is enormously grateful to the SPHS for its kind support of our meetings, and especially our bursary scheme: ‘bursar impressions’ from the day are appended below to illustrate both their experiences and their gratitude.

Dr Ulrike Roth, BES Honorary Secretary, 1 February 2020.

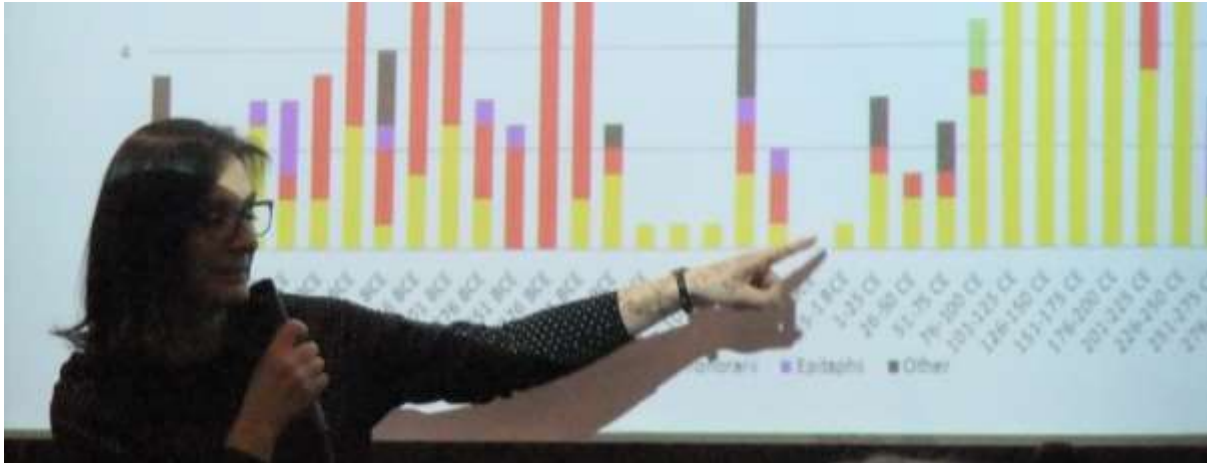


Photo 2: Dr Joanna Porucznik (Opole): 'Olbia Pontike and Rome in light of the epigraphic material'

### **Bursar impressions from the BES Autumn Colloquium 2019**

'The British Epigraphy Society provided me with an £80 bursary to support my travel to the Autumn Colloquium in November 2019. This was exceptionally helpful [...] I would not otherwise have been able to attend had this not been granted. My principal reason for attending the colloquium was to hear Dr Pearson's paper on slave names and social mobility in Greece. Although I did not necessarily agree with all of his conclusions, I found his methodology and approach very interesting, and upon discussion with Dr Pearson I was able to reconsider several aspects of my own thesis. Several other papers, in particular those dealing with new approaches to archival evidence of now lost inscriptions, were also very interesting, although they hold less direct relevance for own work. Much more pertinent was one of the posters presented by Dr Barrón Ruiz de la Cuesta on the *seviri Augustales*, which touches upon my own work, and I was able to have a very useful discussion with him. Overall, this was an extremely productive conference that enabled me to meet a number of scholars whose research has real relevance for my own thesis.'

'I am extremely grateful to the British Epigraphy Society for their support in enabling me to attend the Autumn Colloquium in London on 16th November 2019. The papers given throughout the day were all of an extremely high standard with a wide breadth of both subjects and geographies discussed that ensured it was both a very interesting, and enjoyable experience. Of particular interest was Dr Porucznik's paper on the relationship of Olbia Pontike with Rome and how the epigraphic lens can modify our perspectives. As someone also working on understanding such relationships, albeit following the Roman conquest of Italy, I found it generated a number of questions about the way I would like to proceed with my own work that I look forward to exploring. For similar reasons, I was also taken by the paper by Dr Ehmig on the use of *dona* and *vota* in Roman dedications. Such inscriptions constitute a significant proportion of the corpus I work with, and so I found her conclusions to be invaluable, especially in relation to their Republican roots. Further, Dr Ehmig's report on the operations of the CIL in Berlin offered a unique insight into the internal mechanisms of such a vast project, and it will be exciting to see the developments come to fruition over the forthcoming years. Dr Pitt also offered a fascinating insight into archival research and the importance of the contributions of early travellers for the corpus that survives today. My interest was piqued in the inter-connectedness between these early writers and their relationships to one another. I was particularly taken by the levels of contribution and interaction among all those in attendance, both during the discussion following each paper, and more generally throughout the day. I found it to be a very welcoming environment with a lot of encouragement for those, such as myself, just starting out in the field. I found the Autumn Colloquium to be a wonderful event once again this year, and I look forward to my continued participation at similar events in the future.'

# BES Autumn Colloquium 2019

## Programme

Venue: room G. 22/26 in the Institute of Classical Studies, Senate House, Malet Street, London

### **10.30-11.00**

Registration & Morning Coffee

### **11.00-12.00**

Dr Joanna Porucznik (Opole), 'Olbia Pontike and Rome in light of the epigraphic material'

### **12.00-13.00**

Dr Robert Pitt (Athens), 'Early travellers and the hunt for inscriptions in Greek lands'

**13.00 Lunch Break** (note: lunch is not provided, but there are several nearby places to eat or buy lunch!)

**14.30 AGM** (Members only)

### **15.00-15.40**

Dr Cameron Pearson (Warsaw), 'New evidence for slave names and social mobility in Archaic Greece'

### **15.40-16.15**

Dr Kyriakos Savvopoulos (Oxford), 'Alexandria in the Corpus of Ptolemaic Inscriptions' & brief report on the 'Corpus of Ptolemaic Inscriptions from Egypt (CPI)'

**16.15 Afternoon Tea**

### **16.30-17.30**

Dr Ulrike Ehmig (CIL, Berlin), 'Gifts (*dona*) and vows (*vota*): how to deal with Roman gods'

**17.30 Short Reports**

Dr Michael Metcalfe (The Syracuse Academy): 'Inscriptions copied in the Eastern Mediterranean by Sir William Gell and his antiquarian acquaintances'

Dr Vera Hofmann (Vienna): 'The inscriptions from the Artemision: a first volume of the corpus of Ephesos (TAM VI.1 1)'

Dr Ulrike Ehmig (CIL, Berlin), 'CIL in Berlin'

Prof. Michael Crawford (UCL): 'Diocletian's Prices EdictS ...'

**18.30 Finale: Posters**

Dr Maria Ángeles Alonso (Universidad del País Vasco): 'Physicians and the display of identity in Roman funerary monuments'

Dr Alberto Barrón Ruiz de la Cuesta (Universidad de Cantabria): '*Seviri Augustales* around the north-western limes of the Roman Empire'

Prof. Charlotte Roueche (KCL): 'SLS: Promoting the archaeology, history and environment of Libya'

Dr John Pearce and Beth Waters (KCL), 'Roman writing and the Portable Antiquities Scheme'

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