



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET

May 21-22, 2010, Uppsala, Sweden

***The Small World of Late Antiquity:
Exploring Scholarly Cultures and Personal Networks in the
Eastern Mediterranean of the Fourth to Sixth Centuries***



Boethius teaching his disciples, ms Hunter 374, Glasgow University Library

The talks and lectures of the symposium are open to all interested students and scholars, but due to the limited number of seats available, we ask you to notify us in advance. The refreshments at the coffee breaks are reserved to invited participants and to those who notified their attendance in advance. The price for each coffee break is 40 SEK. Colleagues interested in taking part in the lunches and dinners (including farewell party) should contact the organizers in advance, because only a limited number of places are available.

Advance notification of attendance is especially important for the lectures on Sat. May 22nd. The campus buildings are only open on weekends to employees with access-card, so participants must contact the organizers to gain entry.



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Presentation of the Symposium

The ancient tradition is a project in Classical Languages at the Department of Linguistics and Philology, Uppsala University, that was launched in 2003 with financial support from the Swedish research council. It concentrates mainly on how Graeco-Roman Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages used Antiquity in order to fashion their own identities. Approaches have been drawn primarily from the fields of comparative literature and history of ideas. The aim of “The Small World of Late Antiquity” is to tie together some of the research being done within the project and the larger department with on-going research at other universities in Sweden and abroad.

We chose the expression “the small world of late antiquity” to emphasize the close interdisciplinary and interlinguistic ties between scholars in the centres of advanced learning in Alexandria, Athens, Gaza and elsewhere in the Eastern Mediterranean area. By promoting our own interdisciplinary ties with colleagues from Sweden and abroad, we hope to open up opportunities for future collaboration concerning the history of scholarship and higher education in Late Antiquity.

We are grateful to Magnus Bergvalls Stiftelse for the funding of this symposium as well as to the Department of Linguistics and Philology for additional funding from the J. O. Höijers fund.



Programme

Venue: Engelska Parken, Room 2K-1024 (cf map on last page)

Friday, May 21st

- 10:00 *Introduction*, Denis Searby, visiting professor of Greek, Uppsala University
- 10:15 *Reconsidering the Social History of the Last Platonists (c. 430-c. 550 AD)*
Edward J. Watts, associate professor, Dept. of History, Indiana University
- 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:30 *Early Monasticism and Classical Paideia*
Samuel Rubenson, professor, Dept. of Theology, Lund University
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 *Stephanus the Philosopher and Ps. Elias: a Case of Mistaken Identity?*
Mossman Roueché, independent scholar, London
- 14:45 *The Latin Organon in Late Antiquity*
Christina Thomsen Thörnqvist, senior lecturer, Latin, Göteborg University
- 15:15 *A Case for Creationism: Christian Cosmology in the 5th and 6th Centuries*
Börje Bydén, research fellow, Greek, Stockholm University
- 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:15 *Graduate student presentations*: Niklas Haga, *Stephanus Alexandrinus at the crossroads of culture*; Sami Aydin, *Sergius from Raishana and the commentary on the Categories*; Ambjörn Sjörs, *Arabic Aristotle translations*
- 17:00 Resumé and response by Prof. Katerina Ierodiakonou, Athens University
- 19:00 Dinner for invited speakers.

Saturday, May 22nd

- 10:00 *The Grammar of Monasticism*
Lillian Larsen, assistant professor, Redlands University, California
- 10:30 *Truth and Tricks. Philosophy and Rhetoric in the Fourth Century A.D.*
Lieve Van Hoof, research fellow, Research Fdn of Flanders, Belgium
- 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:30 *Torture and Identity: Paganism, Christianity and Beyond*
David Konstan, professor of classics, Brown University
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 *Libanius, Antioch and Athens*
Mikael Johansson, research fellow, Greek, Göteborg University
- 14:30 *In the Middle of Paradigms: Strategies of Rhetorical Adaptation in Choricus*
David Westberg, research fellow, Greek, Uppsala University
- 15:00 *The Schools of the Syrians*
Witold Witakowski, associate professor, Semitic languages, Uppsala
- 15:30 Coffee break
- 16:00 Graduate student presentations: Andreas Thor, *The language and style of Juvenius*; Sigrid Schottenius, *Proba and the Cento tradition*; Eric Cullhed, *Eustathius and Homeric scholia to the Odyssey*.
- 16:45 Concluding discussion led by Prof. Sten Ebbesen, Copenhagen University
- 17:30 Farewell party