

A close-up photograph of a marble bust of a classical Greek man's face, showing the nose, lips, and chin. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the stone.

SFU

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CENTRE
FOR HELLENIC STUDIES

AGORA

The annual publication of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation
Centre for Hellenic Studies at Simon Fraser University

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Cover image: Marble portrait head of the Emperor Constantine I
(ca. 325–370 CE), Metropolitan Museum of Art New York.
Below: View from the ruins of the Ionian city of Priene, photo by Yusuf
Dündar via Unsplash.

The *Agora* is the annual publication of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies at Simon Fraser University. *Agora* is the Greek word for public space. It is the place where citizens come together, where ideas and goods are exchanged, and where politics are created. This publication informs students, faculty, and the community at large who share our interest in Hellenism. We highlight those individuals and groups who have joined us on our Hellenic journey and have impacted our program. Their contribution and enthusiasm make our journey worthwhile.



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Bronze box mirror with relief of goat-god Pan (late 7th century BCE),
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Despite its many challenges, 2020/21 proved to be a year of growth, resilience, and creativity for Hellenic studies at SFU. This year marked the ten-year anniversary of the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies, the 25th year of Hellenic studies at SFU, as well as the first year of our new home within the Department of Global Humanities. As it happens, these milestones also coincide with the bicentennial anniversary of modern Greece.

The year was marked by the cancellation of in-person activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Rising to the challenge, the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies maintained a steady stream of virtual activities throughout the year, including hosting our regular fall and spring Seminar Series for students, staff, faculty and colleagues, both at home and abroad, on topics ranging from antiquity to modern-day Greece.

As part of its mission to promote Hellenism both locally and internationally, the Centre partnered with UCLA's SNF Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture to deliver two lectures to audiences from across North America, and around the world. Artemis Leontis, the C.P. Professor of Modern Greek and Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan, and Professor Emerita Eleni Angelomatis-Tsougarakis from the Ionian University, two highly accomplished Hellenic scholars, delivered lectures about everyday women from Greece's past. The latter had her talk celebrated under the auspices of the Greece 2021 Committee. Plans are already underway to further strengthen the synergies between the two centres in the future.

In what became a very isolating and precarious period for many young people, the Centre prioritized student support, while at the same time further developing the technology behind Staellinika, which we proudly launched with our partners in October of 2020. The SNF New Media Lab now shifts to maintaining the Staellinika platform and its apps, alongside its other legacy projects.

As disappointing as it was to see so many of our planned in-person events cancelled, it did provide an opportunity to augment the Centre's long-term programming. Significant savings were generated over the past year, including from both the Aegean and McWhinney endowments as a result of travel restrictions, but also thanks to more local efforts. The Office of the Dean of the Faculty

of Arts and Social Sciences took on the salary and benefits of Lecturer Eirini Kotsovili, while the merger of the Hellenic Studies Program with the Department of (now) Global Humanities resulted in many efficiencies. As a result, we were able to make significant additions to our endowments' principal accounts with an eye towards a time free from pandemic-related restrictions.

In addition, and in keeping with the university's commitment to high-quality education, research and community engagement, SFU's Board of Governors approved a one-time capitalization into all endowment principal accounts. Taken together, these recapitalization efforts will allow us to regularly offer a postdoctoral fellowship, while also maintaining robust support for our graduate student members.

With the profound support provided by the SNF, we are excited to move forward, embracing the new tools and strategies we have gained over the past year. We will continue to deliver an exceptional experience for students and work with communities beyond the walls of our institution to promote Greece's language, culture and history.



DIMITRIS KRALLIS
PROFESSOR OF BYZANTINE HISTORY



Icon with Saint Demetrios (950–1000 CE),
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

BUILDING BRIDGES TO PROMOTE HELLENISM: OUR STORY WITH UCLA

Two cities, two stories, one objective: to promote Hellenic studies both locally and abroad.

The cities of Vancouver and Los Angeles share a similar ethos. Both are internationally renowned hubs for film and television, are hosts to large shipping and cruise ports, and also serve as meccas for art, culture, and nature on the Pacific Coast. They also both happen to be home to centres for Hellenic studies funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF).

Simon Fraser University's SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies and University of California, Los Angeles' SNF Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture share a similar origin story. The founding of both Centres can be credited to the strength and resilience of the Greek diaspora, the ambitious nature of their academic institutions, and the extraordinary dedication by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation to protect and promote the study of

Greece's history, culture and language around the world. Their common desire to enhance the student experience, share knowledge and resources, and willingness to collaborate, make them ideal partners.

The two centres began to collaborate after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. In an effort to combat what was becoming an isolated student experience, centre directors Dimitris Krallis (SFU) and Sharon Gerstel (UCLA) decided to harness technology to organize monthly and bimonthly cross-disciplinary seminars for their graduate students in fall of 2020. What has since become known as the West Coast Byzantinists Seminar (WCBS) has allowed students at SFU, UCLA, and UBC to network and gain feedback from their peers, experiment with new research ideas, and even interact with established international guest speakers working in Hellenic studies—all through Zoom.

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HUMANITIES: MEMORIES AND TRAUMA RESEARCH CLUSTER

BY EIRINI KOTSOVILI, ALESSANDRA CAPPERDONI, AND JAMES HORNCastle

What led to the creation of the Memory and Trauma Research Cluster (MTRC)? How did the idea originate?

Eirini Kotsovili (EK): The conceptualization of the cluster came about in 2019, following discussions the three of us had, on research and teaching interests; there was a noticeable overlap regarding the themes we explored— and continue to do so—in our classes, along with their significance in ongoing debates. We wanted to form a network of scholars working on various historical, geographical, and cultural contexts, across disciplines, with an interest in sharing resources and collaborating on research projects. The research cluster was also established in order to host academic events at SFU for members of different communities on topical issues.

Alessandra Capperdoni (AC): Our interests revolved, in part, around the pervasiveness of violence in human culture and the effects of violence-induced trauma in the lives of individuals, social groups, and nations. We approach violence broadly: from the violence of conflict to the loss of homeland, from race-based and sex-based discrimination to intergenerational violence, but also specific conditions such as inequalities and power relations in labour or in the effects of pandemics. Can we speak of trauma in all of the above? We think we can, but this is also the mandate

of the research cluster. What are the effects of upheavals in the memory formation of subjects and social groups? Can memory be activated to work for social justice in the present, rather than confining it to a eulogy of an irremediably lost past? The current war against Ukraine is an example of how historical memory and historical traumas can be mobilized with conflicting effects— violence against the other or defense from such violence. Our perspectives are different. Eirini and myself come from literature, theory, and cultural studies. James is primarily a historian. I have found working together to be a very enriching experience.

Who is the MTRC intended for?

James Horncastle (JH): For me, one of the nice things about this initiative is the variety of audiences we can reach with the cluster. While our events have so far been blended in the sense that we targeted both academics as well as members of the broader lay community depending on the topic, and issue we can tailor it to different audiences.

AC: I agree with James on this point, but I would add that it also shows how scholars from different disciplines can work together. It is valuable to the presenters, to ourselves, and to the audience. It also gives us an opportunity to include students.

EK: I agree with both JH and AC. The MTRC was created to bring together members of different communities to reflect on key themes, but also pressing issues.

The first MTRC event titled, “Memory and Trauma Through History and Culture: Migration Symposium,” invited 15 scholars to present their research on migration in different geographic and historic contexts, a truly interdisciplinary exercise. What do you recall being a significant takeaway from this event? Has this experience influenced your research or teaching in any way?

JH: One thing that I took away from the event was that it reinforced how important it is to approach the subject in a truly interdisciplinary manner. The benefits of an interdisciplinary approach were one of the elements that caused us to form the cluster in the first place and seeing how the event allowed for the free exchange of ideas and enriched discourse on the themes was a rewarding process.

EK: It was very rewarding to see the level of engagement and response from audience members, which also included some of my students. I discussed the presentations in class while connecting them to the notion of identity and other course themes or readings. I intend to do the same with upcoming events.

The MTRC hosted a second event on another topical theme in late November of 2020, which invited speakers to reflect on the legacies of past pandemics and current challenges. From your perspective, why was the exercise of comparing past and present pandemic challenges important? What were you trying to accomplish as organizers?

JH: One thing that a more comprehensive approach to pandemics can teach us is that many of the elements of the ongoing pandemic that we consider exceptional have antecedents in human history. By recognizing past similarities, we can better understand the present.

AC: I agree that this was the main takeaway. It was wonderful to see how many similarities we were able to identify across quite different historical eras and areas of research. One of the speakers was Diane Reder, who later said that she would never have worked on this had it not been for the invitation. And her presentation was mind-blowing.

We were interested in seeing if pandemics generate similar reactions despite their specificity, but we found that they also reveal vulnerabilities in social systems

EK: The event allowed us to approach past pandemics from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, and establish connections with today. Ultimately, it allowed us to picture a time after the

pandemic, with all the challenges and opportunities that it affords.

What makes SFU’s Department of Global Humanities, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies, and the Institute for the Humanities ideal collaborators to co-host these events?

AC: The three have different strengths and range of interests, but they also intersect on many issues. They offer the advantage of specialized research, but also a dialectical component that helps foster collaboration.

EK: Their long track record of engaging with the public in meaningful ways; hosting events that are open to all, that encourage critical reflection, dialogue, and foster connections.

In addition to hosting symposia, panels, and other academic events, does the MTRC have plans in place for other projects and/or initiatives?

AC: Yes. We are thinking of collaborative publications, both in terms of articles and edited issues. The challenge is to find the time, since Eirini and myself are teaching faculty, which means less time for research. We are also thinking about a more formal connection with other institutions of research, but this will take some time to build, as well as workshops for students.

EK: We are open to collaborations and have regular meetings to discuss ideas for the future which, as Alessandra has already mentioned, may include workshops and publications on memory and trauma.

How does participation in the MTRC benefit undergraduate and graduate students? What about for students seeking non-academic careers?

JH: I see the MTRC as having great potential to aid undergraduate and graduate students in the future. While we have managed to incorporate graduate students into our events, with the return to in-class learning in the post-COVID environment I see opportunities for greater engagement with undergraduates as well. Given that the issues of memory and trauma impact a variety of non-academic professions, highlighting them can help students in a variety of career paths.

AC: I agree with James.

EK: Participation also allows for meeting other community members within and beyond academia; gaining a sense of community and belonging to a group of people with similar interests.

What do you think the future holds for MTRC? What topics would you consider exploring next and when might this happen?

JH: One event that we are hoping to host in the future deals with the themes of memory and trauma in protracted conflicts.

AC: And one on Art and Conflict.

TEACHING DURING COVID-19

BY JAMES HORNCastle

The pivot to remote learning was a big adjustment for students and faculty. I had originally planned to teach during the Greek Field School, and when travel restrictions upended those plans, I had to shift from a program built around increased interaction with students, to teaching and learning in isolation.

Most institutions, SFU included, recognized that teaching remotely in COVID would be a novel experience for many and offered courses and workshops to help faculty meet the challenge, and I immersed myself in remote learning pedagogy. That said, despite SFU's embrace of distance learning in the years leading up to the pandemic, it became quite clear that this was something altogether different. Most remote instruction pedagogy was designed to supplement, not eliminate, the classroom experience. COVID-19 meant that our classes had to stand alone. Furthermore, we also had to consider the increased challenges students faced learning in isolation.

Perhaps the greatest challenge for instructors was the increased difficulty in "reading a classroom." Instructors, when giving a lecture, are constantly "reading a classroom" to see if students are engaging with the material. Based on students' reactions one can determine if they understand the material, and one can adjust the lecture accordingly to emphasize points that appear difficult to grasp. In remote learning, where it soon became clear that students did not always have their cameras on, this became a near-impossible task.

Nevertheless, these changes spurred me to explore new technologies and methods for learning. Whereas, previously,

EK: More events, as mentioned by JH and AC; establishing more collaborations with students and colleagues; maintaining our presence and ties within and beyond SFU; reflecting more on identities and sense of belonging.

I would emphasize discussions in my classes, I pivoted to having discussions through asynchronous online discussion forums. These discussions certainly were not the same as in-class discussions, which have an organic feel to them; asynchronous discussions on the other hand tend to be more formal.

I've also valued the increased collaboration among faculty members. Since we are all, in essence, starting fresh when it comes to remote learning, we, have been sharing teaching techniques, things that work and things that do not, at an increased rate. I've appreciated the opportunity to improve my teaching, as well as the new collaborations throughout the Centre and beyond.

Despite all the challenges, teaching during the pandemic remains rewarding, in large part because of the students. Even with all the issues we faced with remote learning, students were genuinely interested in the material and appreciative of the opportunity to continue learning. When one is able to witness students still striving to learn despite the challenges they face, one cannot help but remain excited to teach.

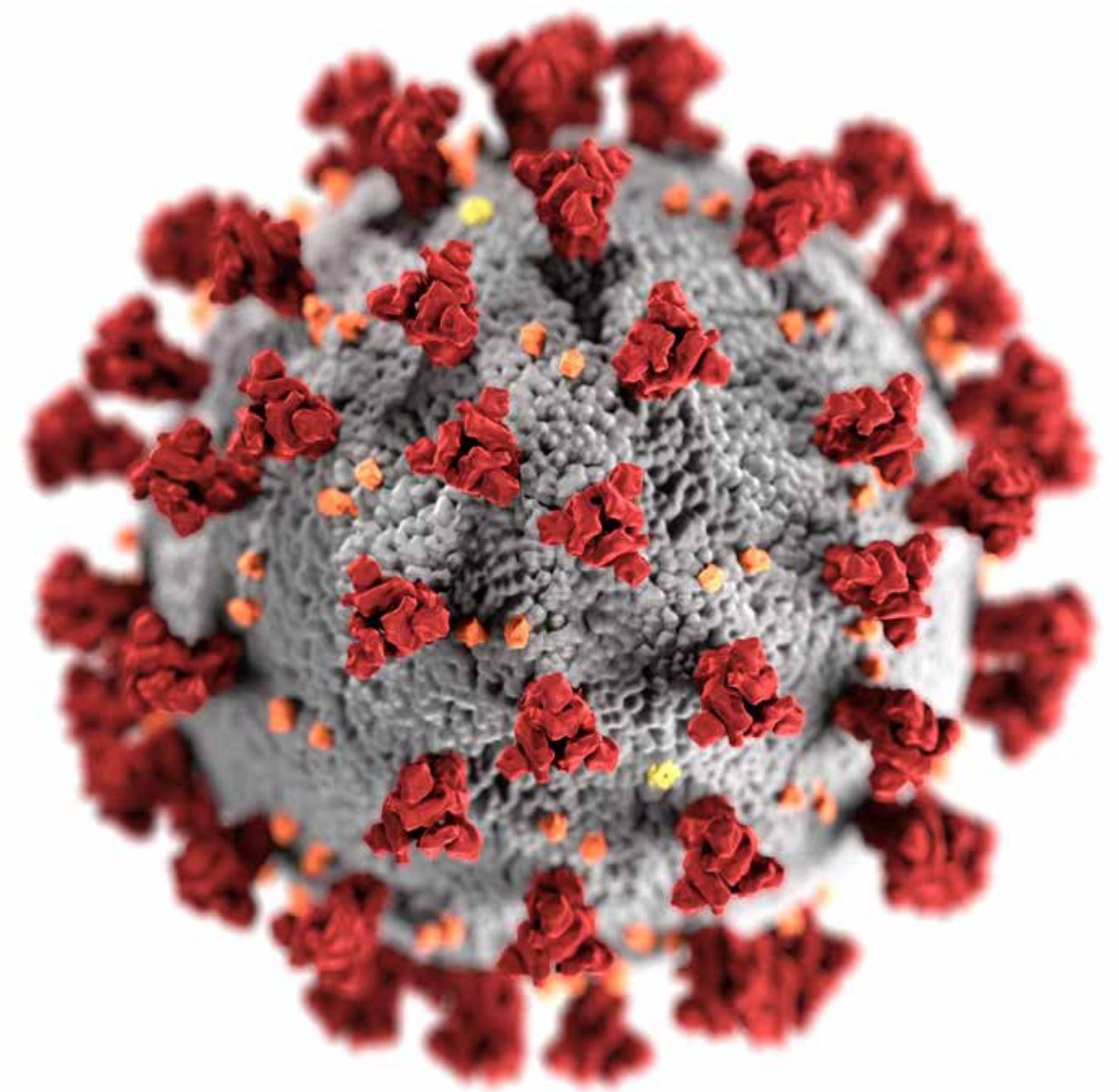


Illustration of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) that causes COVID-19, Center for Disease Control and Prevention via Unsplash

THE SNF NEW MEDIA LAB AND STAELENIKA

On October 6, 2020, the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies announced the official release of Staellinika, in collaboration with the General Secretariat for Public Diplomacy and Greeks Abroad of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and the support of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF). With the official release, Staellinika users will be able to experience the full version of the web application, which has been available for several months as a pilot.

Staellinika is an online platform and suite of apps developed by the SNF New Media Lab that provides individuals, ranging from preschool-aged children to young adults, with an innovative and engaging product designed to reconnect Greeks around the world with their heritage language and culture. The full release sees this goal realized with the launch of a complete course curriculum for beginner heritage learners in schools and at home. The platform can be used either as a stand-alone program to assist schools or to supplement existing curriculum. It is offered for free thanks to generous support of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

An interdisciplinary team of developers, animators, and educators coordinated have been working for over two years to develop the online platform and suite of apps. Those involved in the project are particularly proud of the talented interns from Greece who have been pivotal in bringing Staellinika to life.

The Staellinika platform and suite of applications consists of a series of language and culture courses, which targets learners of different age groups. These courses include Beginner's Greek for Ages 4+, Beginner's Greek for Ages 6+, Beginner's Greek for Ages 9+, Beginner's Greek for Teens and Adults (Ages 13+), and Greek Mythology. The mobile apps are available for iOS and Android devices (phones and tablets).

With COVID-19 challenging the traditional learning ecosystem for young people around the world, now more than ever, educational institutions are relying on technology to deliver effective pedagogy and content. Staellinika responds to this crisis and to the ever-increasing dependence on digital technology and facilitates remote learning by privileging accessibility and innovative pedagogy.

Staellinika is used as a core tool for teaching and learning the Modern Greek language, mythology, and elements of Greek culture throughout the diaspora. In May, the platform was made available as a pilot in select schools of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs.

May 2021 marked the launch of Staellinika's Greek mythology course. Designed for children aged 8 and older, the eight-module course invites young learners to uncover the adventures of some of Greece's most beloved heroes and villains including Hercules, Icarus, Daedalus, Perseus, and Medusa, amongst others. In each module, learners are guided by exciting visuals to understand how the city of Athens came to be named, how the Trojan War came to an end, how the Olympic Games were born, etc.

At the same time, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America shared the news that it would begin offering a new Greek mythology course to students across the U.S. using Staellinika's online learning platform. The course offers a way for youth in the Greek diaspora to connect to their heritage in a virtual space.



IS THERE A FUTURE FOR 'THE WEST'?

THE FIFTH ANNUAL EDWARD AND EMILY MCWHINNEY
MEMORIAL LECTURE WITH ROMAN GERODIMOS,
MARCH 16, 2021

On Thursday, March 9, 2021, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies was pleased to present Dr. Roman Gerodimos, associate professor of Global Current Affairs at Bournemouth University, and faculty member at the Salzburg Academy on Media & Global Change, for the Fifth Annual Edward and Emily McWhinney Memorial Lecture entitled, “Is There a Future for ‘The West’? European Security, the Transatlantic Alliance, and the Role of Values in the New World Disorder.”

ABSTRACT

What are the main security challenges facing Europe? And what are the tools at our disposal? How do elite narratives differ from young people’s perceptions of security? Is the concept of deterrence, which secured the peace during the Cold War, still relevant in an age of cyber-attacks and hybrid warfare? What is the role of the transatlantic Alliance, and can NATO overcome its political stalemate? Is the construct of ‘the West’ still meaningful, and if so, what is its meaning in the age of the New World Disorder? Drawing on data from a recently completed research project, Roman Gerodimos will review the emerging challenges facing European security, as well as the transatlantic Alliance. He will reflect on the contrasting mindsets and priorities of decision-makers and young people, and will highlight the role of values as the key to the survival not just of intergovernmental organizations such as NATO, but also of Western liberal democracies in general.

SPEAKER BIO

Dr. Roman Gerodimos is an associate professor of Global Current Affairs at Bournemouth University, and a faculty member at the Salzburg Academy on Media & Global Change. His research focuses on the challenges facing engagement, democracy, and global security due to globalization, digitization, and extremism. He has led research projects funded by NATO, the UK Department for International Development, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Independent Social Research Foundation, and has published in numerous academic outlets across the political and

social sciences. He has also written, directed, and produced four award-winning short and documentary films, including his latest film *Deterrence*. Roman is the founder and convenor (2004-2017) of the Greek Politics Specialist Group—the largest international network of social science scholars on Greece. He is the winner of the Arthur McDougall Fund Prize, awarded by the Political Studies Association, for his research on digital youth civic engagement.

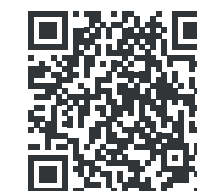
MODERATOR BIO

James Horncastle was born and raised in New Brunswick, Canada. After attending St. Thomas University. He was inspired by its emphasis on liberal arts education, which he applied to his Masters studies at the University of New Brunswick on the social, political, and military dimensions of Yugoslavia’s collapse in the 1990s. He completed his doctoral studies at Simon Fraser University, where he examined the Macedonian Question in the Greek Civil War. After serving in a limited-term appointment at Simon Fraser University for three years, he joined the Hellenic Studies Program as the inaugural holder of the Edward and Emily McWhinney Professorship in International Relations.

EDWARD AND EMILY MCWHINNEY

Edward and Emily McWhinney Memorial Lecture was established in 2017 to honour the memory of two long-time friends and supporters of Hellenic Studies at Simon Fraser University and is devoted to contemporary issues in international relations. Both Edward and Emily were committed to academic excellence and public service and this now annual lecture is a lasting legacy for the couple at SFU. It is organized by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies to support public discussion of the topics that animated the McWhinneys’ professional and intellectual lives. Professor Emeritus Edward McWhinney, QC passed away in 2015 on his ninety-first birthday, following a short illness. He was predeceased by his wife Emily McWhinney, who passed away in 2011.

EVENT
RECORDING



SEMINAR SERIES

OCTOBER 2, 2020

**CHURCH, STATE & PEOPLES:
EDUCATIONAL POLICIES & MEDIEVAL HISTORY CURRICULA**

Ft. Jovana Anđelković (Simon Fraser University)

OCTOBER 16, 2020

**BACK THROUGH THE SYSTEM... AGAIN:
TAKING APART THE AEGEAN BRONZE AGE**

Ft. Dimitri Nakassis (University of Colorado Boulder)

OCTOBER 25, 2020

GOING AFTER EVA PALMER SIKELIANOS

Ft. Artemis Leontis (University of Michigan)

OCTOBER 30, 2020

**MAPPING THE MARGINS: INTRODUCING THE CENTRAL ACHAIA
PHTHIOTIS SURVEY**

Ft. Margaret Haagsma (University of Alberta)

NOVEMBER 13, 2020

**A MEMORY CALLED EMPIRE: SCIENCE FICTION FROM A
BYZANTINIST'S FRAME**

Ft. AnnaLinden Weller (Author)

NOVEMBER 27, 2020

SWINGING DEMOCRACY: LAW IN EARLY HELLENISTIC ATHENS

Ft. Ilias Arnaoutoglou (Academy of Athens)

JANUARY 15, 2021

**CLEMENTINE LITERATURE:
A PORTRAIT OF THE WRITER AS A YOUNG CHRISTIAN**

Ft. Sergio Basso (Simon Fraser University)

JANUARY 29, 2021

WOMEN, PHILANTHROPY AND NATIONALISM IN MANDATE PALESTINE

Ft. Angels Dalachanis (École Française d'Athènes)

FEBRUARY 26, 2021

MARY AT MAR SABA: THE GEORGIAN LIFE OF THE VIRGIN

Ft. Stephen Shoemaker (University of Oregon)

MARCH 5, 2021

**THE IONIAN ISLANDS AND BRITISH INTERVENTION IN THE GREEK
REVOLUTION OF 1821**

Ft. Sakis Gekas (York University)

MARCH 26, 2021

THE CONSPIRATORIAL MOOD OF PLATO'S REPUBLIC

Ft. Demetra Kasimis (University of Chicago)

MARCH 31, 2021

**READING VIRGIL: CAIETA'S CULT, AENEAS' ἌΧΟΣ, AND SOME GAPS IN
THE AENEID FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE BEAVER WARS**

Ft. Kyle Gervais (Western University)

APRIL 9, 2021

ADOPTION, MEMORY, AND COLD WAR GREECE

Ft. Gonda Van Steen (King's College London)



Windmills of Mykonos,
Chris Ouzounis via Unsplash

RESEARCH

DIMITRIS KRALLIS

Another year of administrative work at the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies saw investment in capacity building at a time of continued pandemic restrictions. One such capacity-building project was the West Coast Byzantinists' Seminar (WCBS), a cross-campus initiative, created and hosted by professors Sharon Gerstel (UCLA) and Dimitris Krallis (SFU). The WCBS has fostered dialogue and reflection on all manner of themes Byzantine. In its first season the WCBS saw presentations from graduate students under our supervision and recent graduates of our programs, but also stimulating lectures by Drs. Makris, Neville, and Shea. The WCBS and the broader collaboration between the Hellenic studies centres at SFU and UCLA, attracted the attention of the SNF and led, in 2021, to a joint application for a collaborative project, on which more will be shared in the following issue of *Agora*. Administration aside, Dr. Krallis continued foundation research work on two parallel projects, on impersonal governance in the Byzantine world and on Byzantine cities as agents of political disruption. These longer-term projects have yet to bear fruit in the form of publications, but inform much of his current thinking and writing. Furthermore, they inspired a symposium co-organized by Dr. Krallis with Drs. G. Politis (the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) and C. Repapis (Goldsmiths University in London). Titled "Political Animals: Explorations of the Political Across the Ages" brought together researchers, and students from Canada, the U.S., UK, Serbia, and Greece, to think about politics through lenses of rhetoric, writing, space, materiality, economics, rationality and irrationality, imagination, gender. and much else.

EIRINI KOTSOVILI

During the academic year 2020-2021, Dr. Kotsovoli organized—together with fellow founders of the research cluster Memory and Trauma through History and Culture, Dr. Horncastle and Dr. Capperdoni—two academic events on migrations and pandemics. She continued her research on 20th and 21st century identity, culture, and politics, and presented findings at the annual Modern Languages Association Convention; she contributed a book review for the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* and an

article for the *Erȳon—Greek/American Arts and Letters Journal*. Dr. Kotsovoli was also nominated and elected as a Steering Committee member of the Institute for the Humanities at SFU and was invited to join the University's World Languages and Literatures Department as an associate member. She served as a member of several committees in the Department of Global Humanities and participated in the Rhodes Scholarship Application Adjudication. In terms of teaching, she proceeded to integrate best practices for blended learning in all her courses after training at SFU's Centre for Educational Excellence (seminars and workshops). She also received a nomination for SFU's 2020 Excellence in Teaching Award. Finally, she co-presented on the work of the celebrated Greek authors Margarita Liberaki and Ioanna Karystiani at two events organized by the Consulate General of Greece in Vancouver, Alliance Française—Vancouver branch and EUNIC member, in collaboration with the Vancouver Public Library.

EVDOXIOS DOXIADIS

Due to the pandemic many conferences and workshops I had been invited to participate in were cancelled or postponed, including a conference I am organizing titled "Interactions, Exchanges, and Transformations: European Legal Traditions and their impact on the Construction of Gender in a Global Context." Originally scheduled for the spring and then fall of 2021, this conference is now set to take place in February 2022. I received a SSHRC Connection Grant for this conference alongside a Vice-President Academic Conference Grant, as well as support from the departments of History, Global Humanities, International Studies, Gender Sexuality and Women's Studies, and the Centre for Contemporary Muslim Studies.

Two of my articles were published during this time: the first titled "'Ous o Theos Synezeuxen, Anthropos Chorizeto.' State, Church, and Divorce from the Ottoman Empire to the Modern Greek State" was published in the Austrian journal of gender history *L'Homme* vol. 31, no. 1 (2020) 35-52 and the second titled "Fathers and married daughters in 19th century Greece" was published in the Italian journal *Quaderni Storici* Vol 3, No, 165 (2020). I also published a book chapter titled "Stamp duty and

the transformation of the dowry in 19th century Greece" in the volume *Gender, Law, and Material Culture: Immovable Property and Mobile Goods in Early Modern Europe*. Annette Caroline Cremer (ed), (London: Routledge, 2021), 223-238.

JAMES HORNCastle

For Dr. Horncastle, the 2020/2021 year was productive despite the restrictive protocols that arose as a result of COVID-19. Among other things, he facilitated the production of *Between Two Fires: Neutral Countries as Clandestine Battlefields during the Second World War and the Cold War, 1939-1962*, which was published in September 2020 by Rowman and Littlefield. Two of his articles, "Clandestine 'Comrades': the Comintern, Tito and the Underground Communist Party of Yugoslavia, 1939-1941," and "Turning off the Tap: the 1999 Bombing Campaign of Kosovo and the Securitization of Water," appeared in edited volumes this year. In addition, an article he co-authored with Jack Adam MacLennan, assistant professor from Park University, was published in spring 2021 in the *Special Operations Journal*. Finally, he submitted another article to an edited volume on nationalism and migration. This year, he also authored a review on "Greek-Serbian Relations in the Age of Nation-Building" for the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* and delivered two papers remotely. "Greece, Nationalism, and Migration: an Ongoing Paradox" and "Destroying a movement, building a nation: the events of 1924 and the founding of IMRO (United)" were presented at virtual conferences in Norway and Romania, respectively.

Dr. Horncastle also helped organize two virtual events as part of the ongoing series "Memory and Trauma through History and Culture." He also hosted the fourth and fifth annual Edward and Emily McWhinney Memorial Lectures. Harris Mylonas, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at George Washington University, gave the rescheduled fourth lecture in the fall of 2020, sharing his research on the legacy of two controversial, but charismatic figures from Greece's past: Konstantinos Karamanlis and Andreas Papandreou. A few days later, on October 21st, Horncastle worked with the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies to host a screening of Mylonas' latest documentary, *Searching for Andreas, Political Leadership in Times of Crisis*. The film was well received by our lay audience, but was of particular interest to SFU graduate students. Associate Professor of Global and Current Affairs at Bournemouth University, Dr. Roman Gerodimos, presented the fifth McWhinney memorial lecture on March 9th, 2021, titled, "Is There a Future for 'The West'? European Security, the Transatlantic Alliance, and the Role of Values in the New World Disorder." Once more, our guest offered to host a separate session specifically for graduate students. On March 11th, 2021, Dr. Horncastle organized a film screening of Gerodimos' latest documentary, *Deterrence*, on the present and future role of NATO in European security.

SABRINA HIGGINS

In 2020, Dr. Higgins received a SSHRC Insight Development Grant for a research project entitled "The Early Cult of the Virgin and the Hegemony of the Text," which will culminate in August 2022 with the submission for publication of two articles. The first article, titled "Mary, the Apocrypha and the Construction of a Visual Identity in Late Antique Egypt," will be submitted to the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*. The second, "Localizing Mary: the Physical Evidence for the Early Cult of the Virgin in the Eastern Mediterranean," will be published as part of an edited volume entitled *The Virgin Beyond Borders*, co-edited by Higgins and Dr. Niki Tsironis. This edited volume will be the direct result of a conference that the two will host together in Greece in March 2022.

By way of community engagement, in 2020, Dr. Higgins was part of a team of six Canadian archaeologists and historians who launched an open-source digital humanities project titled *Peopling the Past*. This website hosts podcasts, videos, and blog posts (all created/managed by the team of scholars) that bring educational content to the public focusing on the lives of ancient peoples in the Mediterranean. Since its launch in September 2020, the initiative has won three major international and national awards, including the Canadian Social Knowledge Institute—Emerging Open Scholarship Award (Honourable Mention), the Women's Classical Caucus Public Scholarship Award, and a Classics Everywhere Grant.

Dr. Higgins is currently supervising archaeology Ph.D. candidates Aurora Camaño and Goran Sanjev. The latter receives up to four Graduate Fellowships annually, each totaling \$7,000 CAD. This funding is committed up until his fifth year of study (2023/2024).

DAVID MIRHADY

Thanks to a grant from the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies, David and his colleague at the Academy of Athens, Ilias Arnaoutoglou, were able to open a new page (actually it runs to over 100 pages) in *Nomoi*, their online bibliography of ancient Greek law. The new page covers Hellenistic *Nomoi*, and so books and articles dealing with law after 323 BCE, mostly recorded epigraphically on stone and on papyri from Egypt. His latest project is a paper on Socrates' *Apology* and its discussions of different forms of *diabolē* (slander), which became a standard area to be discussed in the rhetorical handbooks, for instance of Aristotle and Anaximenes. David earlier translated the latter handbook, the so-called *Rhetoric to Alexander*, for Harvard's Loeb Classical Library.

GRADUATE PROGRAM



Casket with Warriors and Mythological Figures (10th-11th century), Metropolitan Museum of Art New York

JOVANA ANĐELKOVIĆ

In a year marked by unprecedented trials and challenges, the world has embraced new avenues for pedagogy, renegotiating what teaching is and what education means to society. It is exactly these circumstances, unfortunate as they are, that Jovana has found her way to continue exploring didactic practices and developing different informal educational content. By utilizing various online tools and platforms, she has engaged with young learners, and, through the Hellenic Canadian Congress of B.C., she has brought the world of the Byzantine Empire closer to the present. In the second part of the year, once classrooms began opening up, Jovana was placed in charge of a multidisciplinary seminar held in Petnica, Serbia, where she organized a camp for Social Sciences and Humanities. While enjoying the practical side of pedagogy through these projects, there was also room for a theoretical one—she presented her previously conducted research (titled “The Church, the State and the People(s)—Educational

Policies and Medieval History Curricula in the Balkans”) in the Hellenic Studies’ Fall Speaker Series, and she was invited to contribute a piece on a similar topic to the edited volume titled *Inventing Heritage—Dialogues on the Politics of Medievalism between the Balkans and the World*. The paper was accepted and is awaiting publication. At the same time, Jovana has been working on her dissertation that is concerned with Byzantine letter collections. Looking at more than 500 epistles ranging from 9th to 11th century, she is gradually unravelling questions of genre, freedom of speech and political dissidence in a vibrant, medieval Roman Empire.

AURORA CAMAÑO

During the 2020 / 2021 academic year, Aurora completed the fourth year of her PhD in the Department of Archaeology at SFU. Aurora advanced to candidacy following the completion

of comprehensive examinations, which covered a range of theoretical, methodological, and regional topics related to forced migration, landscape archaeology, and the material culture of Asia Minor. At the 2020 annual Byzantine Studies Conference, Aurora, alongside Dr. Marica Cassis, organized the conference’s plenary session titled “Teaching Byzantium” on creative pedagogies in Byzantine Studies, for which Aurora also presented on how she approaches the challenge of teaching Byzantine Archaeology in the absence of teaching collections. The continued Library and Archive pandemic closures in early 2021 required a shift in focus away from her dissertation, during this time Aurora audited courses in Armenian and Medieval Art at Tufts University and wrote a blog on her dissertation research for the digital humanities initiative, *Peopling the Past*. She also continued to hone her skills in the field of digital humanities and early Christian art through her work as a research assistant on the Digital Mary Project.

METE OGUZ

Pandemic conditions, lockdowns, and remote work permeated life during this past year. In this time, Mete worked on his dissertation, completing one of his chapters looking at the Byzantine province of Paphlagonia and its relationship with Crimea, while continuing to gather data for subsequent chapters. In spring 2021 and fall 2021, Mete had the great pleasure of TAing HIST 225: 20th Century Europe and HIST 224: Europe from the French Revolution to the First World War, respectively. While the former was remote, the latter was conducted in-person. In July 2021, Mete presented a paper titled: “Modern Games and their Imagination of Byzantium” at the International Medieval Conference in Leeds as part of the Modern Games strand. This paper, subsequent presentation, and the academic networking surrounding it, provided a refreshing new avenue of research for Mete. He plans to extend and publish this work on the perception of Byzantium in modern video games if time allows it. One piece of relatively recent news was the publication of Mete’s chapter titled “Imagining Peasant Identity in Middle Byzantine Narrative Sources” in the edited volume *Routledge Handbook of Identity in Byzantium* (March 2022). The following months for Mete will involve a field trip to Paphlagonia (Northern Turkey) and even more research and writing to prepare drafts of subsequent dissertation chapters. All the while he will attempt to really get into the mindset of Byzantine Paphlagonia and its inhabitants who lived a millennium ago.

NAZ VARDAR

Naz Vardar joined SFU in September 2020 upon completing her MA thesis titled “Carnival Celebrations in Istanbul: the Changing Perception and Experience of Apokries and Baklahorani” at Bogazici University, Turkey. At SFU, she is working with Evdioxios Doxiadis towards her proposed research on the history of carnival festivities in the larger Ottoman geography and modern Greece in the 19th and 20th century. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, she had to complete her first year at SFU virtually from Istanbul. In the 2020/2021 academic year, she completed the graduate seminar course in the History department, did directed readings with Paul Sedra on Themes in Middle Eastern History and Evdioxios Doxiadis on Gender and Nationalism in Modern Greece, and audited Modern Greek Language courses offered by SNF Centre of Hellenic Studies. She attended the *Shifting Tides* conference organized by the history departments of B.C. with a presentation titled “Greek-Orthodox Carnival Celebrations in Istanbul: Festive Space and Public Discourse in the Early Republican Period” in March 2021. In August 2021, she completed the online intensive summer course for Modern Greek offered by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She is currently working towards her comprehensive exams.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

HELLENIC STUDIES AEGEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN SOCIETIES AND CULTURES GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

This award is funded through the Hellenic Studies Professorship in Aegean and Mediterranean Societies and Cultures Endowment Fund, established in 2015 through a generous donation from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Students working under the

supervision of the holder of the Hellenic Studies Professorship in Aegean and Mediterranean Societies and Cultures, may be eligible for this award.

Goran Saney

THE EDWARD AND EMILY MCWHINNEY FOUNDATION HELLENIC STUDIES GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

The Edward and Emily McWhinney Foundation Hellenic Studies Graduate Scholarship was established in 2016 with a generous gift of \$125,000 from the Edward and Emily McWhinney Foundation. The scholarship supports graduate students pursuing research

in international relations in the Hellenic Studies Program. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic merit and research interests.

Stevan Bozanich

STANLEY MORISSE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP TO SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENTS IN HELLENIC AND CYPRIOT STUDIES

In 1993 Stanley Morisse established this scholarship to recognize the Greek heritage of his native country Cyprus and his love of Canada, the country he adopted. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial support to graduate students who are

undertaking studies related to history, archaeology, art history, international relations, literature, or language of Cyprus or Cypriot culture.

Aurora Camaño

NICK KRAVARIOTIS MEMORIAL GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP IN HELLENIC STUDIES

In 1998, family, friends and colleagues of Nick Kravariotis—founder of United Maritime Shippers in Vancouver—established an endowment fund in his memory in order to support a Graduate Scholarship in Hellenic Studies.

Stevan Bozanich

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES RESEARCH AWARD

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies Research Award recognizes the accomplishments of top academic students entering a graduate program to study with the Centre's faculty members by providing top-up funding to major award winners.

Mete Oguz

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

The SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies offers a wide range of support to graduate students studying various aspects of Greece's history, language, and culture, from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Thanks to the generosity of the SNF, we are able to fund several graduate fellowships from the endowment every year.

Stevan Bozanich; Jovana Anđelković

HELLENIC CANADIAN CONGRESS OF BC GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2006 through donations by the Hellenic community and matching funds by SFU, the purpose of the Hellenic Canadian Congress of BC Graduate Scholarship is to support graduate students in Simon Fraser University's Hellenic Studies Program. Preference is given to graduate students entering their second year of studies after having successfully completed all first-year requirements.

Stevan Bozanich

GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES FELLOWSHIP

SFU's Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies assists the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies to attract and support top academic talent from around the world through a series of graduate fellowships. Awards are made based on academic merit and need and form an important part of the Centre's institutional support packages.

Panagiotis Delis

KATEVATIS GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP IN HELLENIC STUDIES

The Charalambos (Harry) and Helene Katevatis Graduate Scholarship was established in 2009 through generous donations from Harry and Helene Katevatis and the Burnaby Mountain Endowment Fund Matching Program to promote knowledge and understanding regarding Hellenism, including Greek history, language, and literature.

Jovana Anđelković

HELLENIC STUDIES COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

This fellowship is awarded to graduate students affiliated with the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies to deliver mini workshops, in either the fall or spring semester, to the local youth of the Greek diaspora on a topic related to their research on Hellenism.

Jovana Anđelković

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES GRADUATE TRAVEL AWARDS

Archival and field research, as well as, conference presentations and attendance are an important aspect of any graduate education. The SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies, thanks to the generosity of the SNF, has set aside an annual budget to support graduate students who are studying with Hellenic Studies faculty members.

None awarded in 2020/21



SNF CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES

MEMBERS

Evdoxios Doxiadis, Associate Professor
Modern Greek History

Sabrina Higgins, Assistant Professor and Professor in Aegean and
Mediterranean Cultures and Societies
Classical Archaeology

James Horncastle, Assistant Professor and Edward McWhinney
Professor in International Relations
Modern Balkan History

Eirini Kotsoveli, Lecturer
Modern Greek Literature

Dimitris Krallis, Professor
Byzantine History

David Mirhady, Professor
Ancient Greek Rhetoric and Law

ASSOCIATE AND AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Eugenia Arvanitis
University of Patras

Julian Brooks
Douglas College

Aleksandar Jovanović
Simon Fraser University

Teresa Shawcross
Princeton University

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Jovana Andelković
Byzantine History

Stevan Bozanich
Modern Greek History

Aurora Camaño
Medieval and Byzantine Archaeology

Mete Oguz
Byzantine History

Goran Sanev
Classical Archaeology

Tiffany Van Winkoop
Byzantine History

Naz Vardar
Late Ottoman, Modern Turkish and Modern Greek History

SNF NEW MEDIA LAB

Costa Dedegikas
Technology Director and Creative Director

Sally Huang
China Outreach Coordinator

Polychronis Kampylis
Lead Software Engineer

Konstantinos Kontos
iOS/OS X Engineer

Tasos Skikos
Online Course Developer and Technical Support

STAFF

Lauren Gilbert
Coordinator, Outreach and Community Engagement

Dimitris Krallis
Director

The SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies was established in 2011 at Simon Fraser University through a multimillion-dollar grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Situated atop Burnaby Mountain, just east of downtown Vancouver, the Centre is a major site for Hellenic Studies in North America and is committed to the advocacy and study of Hellenism.

The Centre supports the Department of Global Humanities at SFU, which offers undergraduate courses in Ancient, Byzantine, Early Modern and Modern Greek History, in addition to Archaeology and Greek language training. Graduate students working with our faculty receive significant financial support as well as teaching and publication opportunities. The Centre is also home to the SNF New Media Lab, which through the creation of the intelligent language tutor, has forged new methods for language learning and language preservation.

The SNF New Media Lab, through the creation of the intelligent language tutor, has forged new methods for language learning and language preservation. The Centre also has partnerships across the United States and is leading the way in the expansion of Hellenic Studies to China.

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES

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