

CONVERSATIONS ON BYZANTINE ARCHAEOLOGY IN NORTH AMERICA, 2

THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN OVERSEAS RESEARCH CENTERS

13-14 January 2012

Byzantine archaeology is a rapidly developing area with profound implications for the future of the subject. But there is very little infrastructure in North America: no established chairs, few other posts in Byzantine archaeology, few graduate programs, little available field training, very few jobs advertised for Byzantine archaeologists. Even creating opportunities for an exchange of views is difficult, with a result that scholars find it hard to cross the political boundaries; few archaeologists work in both Greece and Turkey, for example. Excellent work by the American Research Centers abroad, and by their umbrella body CAORC, have attempted to fill this gap, but are now themselves under financial pressure. This meeting in a series of conversations on Byzantine archaeology at Dumbarton Oaks seeks to establish why Byzantine archaeology struggles to maintain a profile in Mediterranean studies, what is needed to restore that profile, and how such efforts can be funded and supported.

Friday 13 January

2pm: Welcomes by Jan Ziolkowski and Margaret Mullett (Dumbarton Oaks)

2.15: Mary Ellen Lane (CAORC), Problems and possible solutions

I: ACHIEVEMENTS AND ASPIRATIONS: chaired by Margaret Mullett and Julian Gardner (CASVA)

This session will highlight the major contributions to Byzantine archaeology of the AORCs, discuss what AORCs can and cannot do, and identify the needs of the next generation: discussion will be led by representatives of the Centers or by researchers in the countries of AORCS, and will touch on Byzantine projects, all-period sites/surveys, and publications, by Centers and by others. We expect a wide range of approaches to the issues.

2.30-4.00: Discussion of achievements in Turkey (Tony Greenwood), Israel/Jordan/Palestine (Jodi Magness), Cyprus (Andrew McCarthy), Egypt (Michael Jones)

4.00-4.30: Tea

5.00-6.30: Discussion of achievements in the Maghrib (Nacera Benseddik) Italy (Hendrik Dey) Greece (Guy Sanders), Bulgaria (Todor Petev)

6.30: Commentary by Michael Jones, 'What I would do if I could' and discussion

7.00 for 7.30 Dinner in the Refectory

Saturday 14 January

II: BYZANTINE ARCHAEOLOGY, ARCHAEOLOGIES AND THE ACADEMY: chaired by Joanne Pillsbury (Pre-Columbian Studies) and Michael McCormick (Harvard)

This session will open discussion on what Byzantine archaeology is and what it has achieved as against both other archaeologies, and the multi-disciplinary subject of Byzantine Studies. The purpose of these sessions will be, for each separate section, to open a discussion comparing what Byzantine archaeology has done/does with what other archaeologies do; what can Byzantinists learn, and vice versa? How does information presented by archaeology enrich/inform the study of the same topics by scholars working exclusively in other disciplines (philology, history, art history, religious studies, anthropology etc.) How can broadening our approach to the field through alliances with the social and medical sciences stimulate planning for funding or strategic thinking? And what has been the contribution of the AORCs and what can it be in future?

9.00: Susan Alcock, 'Archaeology games the Academy'

9.15: Discussion of 'Landscapes and Cityscapes', led by Bill Caraher and Scott Redford

10.30: Coffee

11.00: Discussion of 'Cultural Heritage, and Site Management Conservation', led by Bob Ousterhout and Brian Rose

12.15: Lunch

1.30: Discussion of 'Transitions', led by Jodi Magness and Florin Curta

2.45: Commentary by Kostis Kourelis and discussion

3.30: Tea

III BYZANTINE ARCHAEOLOGY AND ITS SOURCES OF FUNDING chaired by Nancy Micklewright (Freer-Sackler)

What governmental/corporate/private sources might support an integrated approach to Byzantine archaeology or discrete needs (NSF, Social Science funding, Luce Foundation, Packard Foundation, Mellon etc.) How can these funding sources partner with established research centers to support the field of Byzantine archaeology? How can we attract seed money for the establishment of positions in Byzantine archaeology? How can Byzantine archaeology be better integrated into diachronic archaeological projects? What specific activities need cross-Center funding?

4.00 The issues and a proposed application: Mary Ellen Lane

4.10 Breakout groups

4.40 Reports and discussion

5.00 The Way Forward: Mary Ellen Lane, Margaret Mullett

5.30 Reception in the Byzantine Courtyard

Participants

Susan Alcock	Roger Bagnall	Nacera Bensiddik	Deb Brown	Gudrun Bühl
Glenn Bugh	Bill Caraher	Florin Curta	Sarah Craft	Örgü Dalgiç
Elif Denel	Hendrik Dey	Asa Eger	Helen Evans	Julian Gardner
Tony Greenwood	Timothy Gregory	Matthew Harpster	Eric Ivison	Michael Jones
Kostis Kourelis	Mary-Ellen Lane	Andrew McCarthy	Mike McCormick	Jodi Magness
Vasileios Marinis	Nancy Micklewright	Margaret Mullett	Bob Ousterhout	Todor Petev
David Pettegrew	Joanne Pillsbury	Andrew Poulter	Nanette Pyne	Scott Redford
Brian Rose	Guy Sanders	Jonathan Shea	Carolyn Snively	Nebojsa Stankovic
Susan Stevens	Nikos Tsivikis	Günder Varinlioğlu	Jan Ziolkowski	Stephen Zwrn

