

Byzantine archaeology is a rapidly developing area with profound implications for the future of the subject. But it has very little infrastructure in North America: no established chairs, few graduate programs, little available field training. Even creating opportunities for an exchange of views is difficult, sometimes easier in the host countries in the field than in North America. This has the result that scholars find it hard to cross the political boundaries; few archaeologists work in both Greece and Turkey, for example. Honorable exceptions are panels at the AIA, and MGSA, and blogs set up by individuals, as well as many interdisciplinary initiatives. There is anxiety about finding and training the next generation of archaeologists in such a fragmented practice, particularly in specialist fields like ceramics. And then of course there are problems in placing students once they have qualified. All in all it appears more difficult at present to be a Byzantine archaeologist than any other kind of Byzantinist, while the results can change the field more rapidly and fundamentally than in any other discipline. This is why we are holding a series of conversations in April 2010 in Dumbarton Oaks on achievements and challenges and the future. We hope that we can arrive at suggestions which can improve opportunities in the field, and in which Dumbarton Oaks can play some part.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9 IN THE FOUNDERS' ROOM

2:00 Welcome ♦ Jan Ziolkowski and Margaret Mullett

2:15 Jim Russell ♦ Last time around

I ACHIEVEMENTS OF NORTH AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Chair ♦ Margaret Mullett

2.30 Introduction ♦ Margaret Mullett

2.45 Achievements in Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, led by Sharon Gerstel, Bob Ousterhout, Marcus Rautman

4.15 Tea in the Study and group photograph in the garden

4.45 Achievements in Italy, the Balkans, North Africa and the Levant, led by Richard Hodges, Susan Stevens, Ken Holum

7:00 Cocktails on the Bowling Green

7:30 Dinner at the Refectory

SATURDAY, APRIL 10 IN THE FOUNDERS' ROOM

II PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Chair ♦ John Haldon

8:30 Coffee in the study

9.00 Introduction ♦ John Haldon

9.15 North American institutional and attitudinal issues, led by Susan Alcock, Kostis Kourelis

10.15 Coffee in the Study

10.45 Problems and possibilities for and in host countries and in American overseas research centers, led by Scott Redford, Chris Lightfoot, Mary-Ellen Lane

12.15 Transforming Byzantine archaeology through science, led by Henry Schwarcz

1.00 Lunch at the Refectory

III THE FUTURE

Chair ♦ Michael McCormick

2.45 Introduction ♦ Michael McCormick

3.00 The future as seen from Frankfurt ♦ Joachim Henning

3.15 Discussion

3.30 The future as seen from Edinburgh ♦ James Crow

3.45 Discussion

4.00 Tea in the Study

4.30 General Discussion

6:00 Reception for host countries on the Music Room Terrace

PARTICIPANTS

SUSAN ALCOCK

RINA AVNER

BETSY BOLMAN

DARLENE BROOKS HEDSTROM

SUSAN BOYD

GUDRUN BÜHL

JAMES CROW

DANNY ĆURČIĆ

FLORIN CURTA

TONY CUTLER

ÖRGÜ DALGIÇ

JENNIFER DAVIS

CLIVE FOSS

SHARON GERSTEL

HEATHER GROSSMAN

JOHN HALDON

JOACHIM HENNING

RICHARD HODGES

KEN HOLUM

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MARCUS RAUTMAN

SCOTT REDFORD

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BYZANTINE ARCHAEOLOGY IN NORTH AMERICA

CONVERSATIONS ON ARCHAEOLOGY

Dumbarton Oaks

Research Library and Collection

1703 32nd Street NW

Washington, DC 20007

April 9 - April 10, 2010

