

# **2015 Society for Neo-Latin Studies Annual General Meeting**

**27 November 2015, 3 pm**

**London, Inns of Court, Middle Temple, Sherrard Room  
(3rd floor of Ashley Building, Middle Temple Lane, London EC4Y 9BT),**

## AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minutes of the last AGM (held on 28 November 2014) and matters arising
3. Report on SNLS activities in the past year  
(incl. website, postgraduate event, conference panels, essay prize)
4. Report on CSNLS activities in the past year
5. Report on IANLS (Vienna 2015)
6. Report by postgraduate representative and early-career representative
7. Report by treasurer
8. Elections (Article 4 of the SNLS Statutes)
9. Plans for the future  
(incl. revised rules for essay prize, website, postgraduate events, finances, revision of statutes, conferences)
10. Any other business

## Society for Neo-Latin Studies

### 2015 Annual General Meeting Day: Full Programme

1.00 – 2.30 pm      London Neo-Latin Reading Group special session

This will be a special session of the London Neo-Latin Reading Group, run by Victoria Moul (KCL), which will enable members not based in London to participate. The group is reading Erasmus' *Ciceronianus* this term, but a relevant self-contained short text or extract will be selected for this particular session, so that those who do not usually attend will be at no disadvantage. Photocopies of the text will be circulated in advance to those who sign up.

Tea and coffee will be provided (sponsored by SNLS); attendees are welcome to bring their lunch. This session will take place at King's College London (room K-1.99, that is: King's Building, first basement, room 99; graduate students will be around to direct you to the venue).

Please **email Victoria Moul (at [victoria.moul@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:victoria.moul@kcl.ac.uk))** by 10 November 2015 if you are planning to attend or would like further information.

The rest of the afternoon will take place at the Inns of Court, Middle Temple, Sherrard Room (for a map and directions see: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/ren/snls/news/agm/>). Please **register via the website** by 21 November 2015.

The Inns of Court would like a donation of £5 per person towards their rare books fund. Salaried members are kindly asked to make a contribution by paying the Treasurer in cash on the day; he will write a cheque for the entire sum on behalf of SNLS. SNLS will make the donation for student members.

3.00 – 4.00 pm      AGM

4.00–4.10 pm      Award of SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize 2015

4.10–4.30 pm      Tea (sponsored by SNLS)

4.30–6.30 pm      Annual Lecture and Book Display  
Dr Hugh Adlington (Birmingham):  
John Donne's Latin Books: 'Per Rachel ho seruito & non per Lea'

This lecture explores the kinds of Latin books owned by poet and preacher John Donne (1572–1631) and the uses he made of them in his writing. The Italian motto that Donne inscribed in his books – from Petrarch, derived from Genesis 29:25 – is thought to refer to the medieval symbolism whereby Rachel represented the contemplative life and Leah the active. But how tenable is this distinction when considering Donne's diverse use of his Latin books across the full range of his activities, as satirist, love poet, lawyer, polemicist, diplomat, churchman and judge at law? And what can the surviving physical, literary and biographical evidence tell us about the influence of Donne's study of Latin books on his thought and writing?

To accompany the lecture, the Middle Temple Library has kindly agreed to display a selection of Latin books from Donne's collection. Members will have the opportunity to look at these books after the lecture.

7.00 pm              Dinner at a local restaurant (on a self-paying basis)

## Appendix 1: Minutes

see separate document

## Appendix 2: Elections

Elections (Article 4 of the SNLS Statutes): The election of the officers and members referred to in Article 3 [President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and up to five committee members] shall be conducted in the following manner. Nominations from the membership shall be made in writing (including electronic means) to the Secretary at least 7 days before the AGM. Voting at the AGM shall be by secret ballot, with the Secretary recording the numbers voting. Election for the officers shall be by a simple majority. Vacancies for Committee members shall be filled by the candidates who receive the largest number of votes, each member being entitled to cast votes for up to the total number of vacancies. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt as necessary members, who shall serve until the next AGM.

All current officers and members of the executive committee will be standing for re-election.

## Appendix 3: Revised rules for SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize

### SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize

Submissions for the SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize 2016 are now invited. All PhD students and post-doctoral researchers up to two years after their viva by the deadline (who are SNLS members) are eligible to submit an essay of up to 7,000 words (e.g. part of a chapter or a draft of an article or a written version of a conference paper) by 1 September 2016 (as an email attachment to [g.manuwald@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:g.manuwald@ucl.ac.uk)).

The word count includes footnotes, but excludes title, bibliography and any appendixes (which, however, should not be longer than the text of the essay). The name of the author, their affiliation and their role (e.g. final-year PhD student) as well as the word count should be indicated on the title page. Candidates can enter in every year in which they are eligible, but they may not submit the same essay twice.

SNLS is particularly looking for contributions discussing less well-known Neo-Latin texts and providing close reading of these and / or discussions of context at a high scholarly level in terms of both contents and presentation.

All submissions will be judged by members of the Executive Committee, who may ask other experts to join them. Candidates will be informed of the outcome by email within a month of the submission date. The winner will be announced officially at the AGM in November and will receive a certificate, a small financial award and publication advice if required.

#### Appendix 4: Membership fee

The SNLS membership fee is currently £10 per year (£5 for students). Would an increase of, say 20%, be appropriate (after 10 years)?

#### Appendix 5: Statutes

Amendments to statutes, to reflect developments over the last 10 years (see separate document).

#### Appendix 6: Plans for an SNLS conference

SNLS is too small a society to have a regular big conference every year, but it can organize them every few years. After the successful drama conference in Oxford in 2013 it is perhaps time to think about another one to keep the momentum going.

Andrew Taylor on behalf of CSNLS has kindly agreed to collaborate on this, and it would be possible to hold the conference in Cambridge in 2017 (in September?).

Suggested topics include 'The reception of the Italian renaissance in the 16th century' or 'Neo-Latin and the Near East'. This would include the rise of Byzantine studies, which might be a very timely antidote to the efflorescence of interest in the Ottomans/Turks and Persia. Other proposals are welcome.

Since the SNLS budget is limited, funding would have to be sought from external organizations.