

Dear Members,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and an excellent start to the New Year!

The beginning of January means that it is time for the first SNLS newsletter for 2017 (number 9 of the series), which provides an update of recent events and an outline for the year ahead.

SNLS news:

- AGM and Annual Lecture: The AGM and Annual Lecture 2016 took place at the Museum of London on 18 November 2016. Draft minutes of the AGM have been circulated in December and will be available in the Archive on the SNLS website shortly. Preparations for the next event in November 2017 are under way, and details will be published in due course.

- Postgraduate Event: The 2017 SNLS Postgraduate Event is kindly being organized by Sarah Knight and will take place in Birmingham (<http://bmi.org.uk/>) on 17 March 2017. Thanks to a successful application for SRS funding, bursaries for postgraduate students will be available. A call for papers (for the programme of part of the day) is currently open (deadline 1 February 2017; see also attachment):

We invite proposals from any interested postgraduate or post-doctoral researchers to give 20-minute papers on their work. The papers will be organised into three-speaker panels on related topics. Proposals should take the form of a brief outline of the speaker's affiliation and research interests; an abstract of the paper to be given (100-150 words) and a provisional paper title. Proposals should be submitted by the deadline of **February 1st 2017** and speakers will be notified as soon as possible of the outcome of the selection process

Proposals should be submitted via email to the organiser Sarah Knight (sk218@le.ac.uk); if you have any questions or require any further information about the event, please also contact Professor Knight.

- Classical Association Conference: Continuing a now established tradition, William Barton has organized another panel for the Classical Association Conference, held at the University of Kent in Canterbury this year, 26-29 April 2017 (<http://www.classicalassociation.org/events.html>). The SNLS panel will take place on Thursday, 27 April 2017, 2-4pm. This year's panel, on 'Classical Genre and the Shape of Knowledge in Renaissance and Early Modern Latin Writing', will have the shape of a 'roundtable' panel, in the hope of encouraging lively discussion: This 'roundtable' panel will address the issues of genre and the shaping of knowledge in Neo-Latin literature by means of three short 'impulse papers' (10 – 15 mins) and a response (10 mins) by the session's moderator intended to catalyze a lively discussion between panelists and the floor.

- SNLS/CSNLS Conference: The highlight of the year promises to be the joint SNLS / CSNLS conference, to take place in Cambridge on 15-16 September 2017, on 'Neo-Latin Literary Perspectives on Britain and Ireland, 1520-1670'. A stimulating and full programme for the two days has been put together (mainly thanks to Andrew Taylor). It will appear on the SNLS website shortly, along with information on registration. Watch the space!

- Neo-Latin Reading Group at KCL: The weekly neo-Latin reading group at KCL (Strand campus) is about to reconvene for the spring term. It will be reading a prose text this term. The choice of text and

the time of the meeting will be decided via a poll of all those who would like to attend. If you are interested in attending, please email Victoria Moul (victoria.moul@kcl.ac.uk) to be added to the mailing list.

- IANLS panel: Yasmin Haskell and Elizabeth Sandis will submit a panel on 'Neo-Latin and Performance' for the IANLS conference in Albacete in summer 2018, which will represent SNLS there. If anybody else would like to propose another panel, this would be very welcome; the deadline is 30 April 2017 (<http://eventos.uclm.es/6255/detail/17th-international-congress-of-the-international-association-for-neo-latin-studies.html>).

- Public Engagement: As discussed at the last AGM and mentioned in the minutes, SNLS now has a public engagement officer, William Barton: he is keen to hear suggestions from members as to what could be done to bring Neo-Latin to the general public, school children etc. Thanks to one of the new members of the Executive Committee, Sharon van Dijk, there is already an opportunity to become involved in such activities: Neo-Latin Outreach with the Latin Programme.

The Latin Programme is a charity which teaches Latin to Key Stage 2 pupils (Y3-6) at primary schools in London with the aim of improving literacy. Through our Postgraduate Representative Sharon van Dijk, who works with the Latin Programme, the SNLS can offer outreach opportunities to volunteers interested in introducing pupils to Neo-Latin themes in topic classes near the end of the summer term. The children are enthusiastic about Latin and teachers with the Latin Programme find the experience very rewarding. Neo-Latin topics classes should be adapted to the level of the school pupils and include an interactive element in the session (a game, a bit of acting or some active group work usually works well.) Visits to museum exhibitions or manuscript collections, for example, are also very much encouraged!

Potential volunteers interested in this exciting outreach opportunity are invited to contact Sharon (sharon.van_dijk@kcl.ac.uk) who can provide further details and arrange participation in the programme. The Latin Programme teaches in schools every day of the week, so those interested in teaching a lesson can indicate a preference for a particular date or time of day and their schedule will be accommodated as far as possible.

- Social Media and sharing information: In connection with the last item, it is timely to remind members that SNLS has a Twitter and a Facebook account; members are encouraged to participate in discussions going on there and to provide relevant information to be posted there. Generally, it would be appreciated if members could notify the Executive Committee about new publications and ongoing PhD projects, so that information of mutual interest can be distributed and shared.

- SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize: After the AGM, the 2016 prize was awarded to Caroline Spearing for her essay 'Tangled Thickets and Sacred Groves. Virgil and Lucan in Book 6 of Abraham Cowley's *Plantarum Libri Sex* (1668)'.

Submissions for the SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize 2017 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 October 2017 (as an email attachment to 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.

- REF consultation: As you may be aware, the consultation document for the next REF is now available (<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/rsrch/refconsultation/>). I attended an event organized by the AHA and the School of Advanced Studies in London on 12 December, and there will be another event at the British Academy on 25 January to discuss these matters and to agree a response by learned societies and subject organizations in the humanities. I suppose that we would all be happy to support any submission by a group of societies, but of course SNLS can also submit an individual response (by 17 March 2017). If people think that we should do so and / or have any views on points to be raised, please contact the President, and we will collate responses.

News from the wider world of Neo-Latin and early modern studies:

- Conference: 'Early Modern Exemplary Drama', Prague, 12–14 October 2017

The year 2017 will mark the 300th anniversary of the death of Carolus Kolczawa (1656–1717), a notable Jesuit playwright, author of 23 dramas written for the future teachers of Jesuit colleges and published as *Exercitationes dramaticae I–VI*. We have decided to honour this occasion with a conference, focusing on exemplary drama in the plays produced for the Early Modern educational institutions. Exemplary dramas, issued predominantly for teachers, represent a remarkable phenomenon – especially because the texts circulated through Europe in a relatively extensive time interval. Their examination therefore offers the possibility to pursue the transfer of paradigms (of both content and form) not only among various Jesuit colleges in different locations but also out of this scholarly sphere.

The main goal of the conference is to define the exemplary texts and outline the mechanism of their use as models for the regular production of school plays. Topics to consider include: The author of exemplary drama and his work; How to become the author of exemplary drama; Theoretical premises of playwriting and exemplary texts; Exemplary drama as source of inspiration (in terms of topics, motifs, text); Reception of exemplary dramas outside the academic sphere; Echoes of exemplary drama in broader temporal and territorial perspective; Exemplary drama and the possibilities of its realization on stage; Forms and changes of the language and style of exemplary plays; Thematic anchoring of exemplary drama, differing treatment of the topics in the European context; Classical drama as a model.

The conference languages will be Czech, English and German. The possibility of simultaneous interpreting is currently in negotiation.

Please send paper/roundtable proposals including abstracts (1000 characters max) by January 20, 2017 to theatrum.neolatinum@gmail.com. The maximum duration of paper presentations is 20 minutes, discussion presentations should last no more than 15 minutes.

- Conference: 'Shakespeare and European Theatrical Cultures: AnAtomizing Text and Stage', University of Gdańsk and The Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre, Poland, 27 – 30 July 2017

<http://esra2017.eu> This conference will convene Shakespeare scholars at a theatre that proudly stands in the place where English players regularly performed 400 years ago. This makes us ponder with renewed interest the relation between theatre and Shakespeare. The urge to do so may sound like a commonplace, but it comes to us enhanced by the fact that in the popular and learned imagination alike Shakespeare is inseparable from theatre while the theatre, for four centuries now, first in England, then on the continent (Europe) and eventually in the world, has been more and more strongly defined and shaped by Shakespeare. Shakespeare has become the theatrical icon, a constant point of reference, the litmus paper for the formal, technological and ideological development of the theatre, and for the impact of adaptation and appropriation on theatrical cultures. Shakespeare has served as one of the major sources for the development of European culture, both high and low. His presence permeates the fine shades and fissures of a multifarious European identity. His work has informed educational traditions, and, through forms of textual transmit such as translation and appropriation, has actively contributed to the process of building national distinctiveness. Shakespeare has been one of the master keys and, at the same time, a picklock granting easier access to the complex and challenging space of European and universal values. Please send your abstracts and biographies to seminar organisers (and cc conference organisers at gdansk@esra2017.eu) not later than 31 January 2017. Seminars announcement: http://esra2017.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/ESRA_-_SEMINARS.pdf

– Event: ‘The Languages of Translation in Renaissance France and Europe’, 10 Feb 2017, 10:00 - 17:00, The Warburg Institute Free of charge. <http://www.sas.ac.uk/events/event/7199>

- Publication: The *Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum* is now online (<http://catalogustranlationum.org/index.php/archives/volume-i>).

This is the latest round-up of Neo-Latin news. As always, we hope that this is useful for members and encourage everyone to submit items for the next issue.

For now, all the best for 2017, and we will be in touch again in the spring with updates on all ongoing matters.

Best wishes,

Gesine Manuwald
(President, SNLS)