

Dear Members,

Happy New Year to all of you!

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and are now looking forward to further Neo-Latin activities in the New Year. At the turn of the year it is time for the first quarterly SNLS Newsletter for 2018 (number 13 of the series). As usual, there will be an update of what has happened around SNLS since the last communication, a preview of plans for the future and a summary of early-modern activities elsewhere.

SNLS news:

- Outreach / Public Engagement: Sharon von Dijk and Bianca Facchini will represent SNLS at the Festival of Imagined Worlds in Oxford on 9 February 2018 (<http://www.eoccc.org.uk/iris-festival-of-imagined-worlds>), which is intended to introduce the general public and school children in particular to Classics and related fields. More volunteers will be welcome!
- Neo-Latin Reading Group at KCL: The weekly Neo-Latin reading group at King's College London (Strand campus) have enjoyed reading *Milton, Defensio pro populo Anglicano* during the autumn term. The group will reconvene soon for more reading sessions (with another text) in the spring term. The choice of text and the time of the meeting are being 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.
- SNLS/CSNLS Conference: A major event in the previous year was the joint SNLS / CSNLS conference, held in Cambridge on 15-16 September 2017, on 'Neo-Latin Literary Perspectives on Britain and Ireland, 1520-1670'. It is hoped that a selection of the papers can be published; a proposal for a special journal issue is about to be submitted.
- SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize 2017: The SNLS Early-Career Essay Prize 2017 has been awarded to Bianca Facchini at the AGM 2017. Submissions for the Early-Career Essay Prize 2018 (deadline: 1 October 2018) are now invited.
- AGM and Annual Lecture 2017: The AGM 2017 and the Annual Lecture 2017 took place in the Nancy Knowles Lecture Theatre in Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London on Friday, 17 November 2017. The minutes have been circulated and are now also available on the SNLS website.
- Joint event with Wellcome Collection: An event on 'Finding lost science in early modern poetry' took place on Wednesday, 22 November 2017, at the Wellcome Collection in London, jointly organized by SNLS and the Wellcome Collection. The early afternoon consisted of three academic papers (including some by our members); this was followed by a public event in the late afternoon (as part of the Being Human Festival: <https://beinghumanfestival.org>). The academic part presented three different perspectives on early modern scientific writing, which, altogether, showed how much interesting material there still was to explore and how this benefits from an interdisciplinary approach. The public event attracted a small diverse and interested crowd, who enjoyed looking at original editions and discussing the relationship between science

and poetry in the early modern period and the contemporary world (see also the blog here: <https://cas.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/2017/11/28/a-welcome-blog-the-sounds-of-science/>).

- Postgraduate Event 2018: The 2018 SNLS Postgraduate Event will take place in the John Rylands Library in Manchester on 16 March 2018, organized by Paul White. A call for papers has been issued (see <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/ren/snls/news/snlsgradforum2018>).

- Conferences 2018: SNLS will be represented at the Classical Association Conference, the Society for Renaissance Studies Conference and the International Association of Neo-Latin Studies conference.

- Early-Career Researchers Event: An event for early-career researchers and postgraduate students (focusing on career planning, publication strategies etc.) will be held at King's College London in early 2019, kindly organized by Victoria Moul and Bianca Facchini.

- Membership Fees / Gift Aid: A reminder that membership fees (£15 / £7.50 concessions) for 2017/18 were due on 1 October 2017 (details here: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/ren/snls/officers/>). If you have not paid for this year yet, it would be great if you could do so now. Every little helps! Please consider paying by standing order or bank transfer and completing the Gift Aid form (if you are a UK taxpayer). This will enable us to reclaim Gift Aid from HMRC and thus increase the Society's income and enable us run more activities. The Treasurer is currently working on reclaiming the Gift Aid we are due from HMRC for the past financial year. Thanks again to everyone who has already paid their membership fee for the new academic year and agreed to the Gift Aid scheme! If there are any problems or questions, please contact the new Treasurer Lucy Nicholas (lucy.r.nicholas@gmail.com).

- REF 2021: As all researchers in the UK will know, preparations for REF 2021 are under way. After consulting the membership and discussion at the AGM, SNLS has nominated a few colleagues, who are a diverse group with a broad representation between them, as panel members to assess submissions in Neo-Latin studies. The final decision on appointing panel members rests with HEFCE. We will inform members once a list of panel members has been published and will keep updating the membership about other REF developments. For the latest news see here: <http://www.ref.ac.uk>.

- Arts and Humanities Network: On behalf of SNLS, the President attended one of the regular meetings of the Humanities and Social Sciences Learned Societies and Subject Associations Network at the British Academy in November. Topics discussed included the latest information on REF (see above), what to expect from KEF (Knowledge Excellence Framework), the role of interdisciplinarity, evidence for the importance of the skills obtained by a Humanities degree (<https://www.britac.ac.uk/node/8554?from=homepage>) and the relationship between teaching and learning. There were not many facts that members would not be familiar with, but it is always encouraging to see that colleagues in other Humanities disciplines see matters similarly and have similar opportunities and challenges.

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

- Lectureship in Early Modern Literature, 1500-1640 (salary: £39,992 - £49,149 per annum)
School of English, St Andrews

Closing Date: 4 January 2018

<https://www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/Vacancies/W/4632/0/166934/889/lecturer-in-early-modern-literature-ac2145sb>

From 1 September 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. Candidates may have interests in any aspect of the period, but teaching and research experience in Shakespeare and the drama may be an advantage. Applicants must have a PhD in a relevant area, a strong record of recent and relevant publication, substantial teaching experience and administrative experience. Informal enquiries to: Professor Jane Stabler, Head of School, enghos@st-andrews.ac.uk or Professor Neil Rhodes, Director of the Medieval-Renaissance Research Group, nppr@st-andrews.ac.uk.

- The Renaissance Genius

Room 331, 3rd floor, Foster Court, Malet Place, UCL

Tuesdays, 6pm to 8pm, January 9th 2018 to March 20th 2018

This unique course will explore the concept of 'genius' through the concept of the ideal Renaissance man and the classical concept of humanitas. Are humans limitless in their capacity for development? What lessons can we draw from the idea of universal education? Through seminars, analyses of texts and images, the course will illustrate the multifaceted reality of some of the greatest thinkers of the Renaissance and of all times, namely, Leon Battista Alberti, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti. Module taught by [Dr Tiziana Provvidera](#).

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/selcs/departments/italian/evening-classes/fees-and-payment>

- Magicians and Philosophers in the Renaissance

Room 351, 3rd floor, Foster Court, Malet Place, UCL

Mondays, 6pm to 8pm, January 8th 2018 to March 19th 2018

This unique course explores the notion of 'magic' within some fundamental philosophical and historical issues relevant during the Renaissance. The notion of Magic, the practice of prophecy and divination and its condemnation by the Church, will be discussed through the works of Marsilio Ficino, Giordano Bruno, Tommaso Campanella and Pico della Mirandola. Module taught by [Dr Tiziana Provvidera](#).

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/selcs/departments/italian/evening-classes/fees-and-payment>

- Professorship of Bibliography and Modern Book History

Faculty of English Language and Literature, University of Oxford

Deadline 15 January 2018

The University of Oxford intends to appoint to the Professorship of Bibliography and Modern Book History with effect from 1 October 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. The Professor is one of several statutory chairs in Oxford who play a leading role in researching and teaching writings in the English language and the literatures of the British Isles. The Faculty of English Language and Literature seeks applications from scholars working on any aspects of bibliography, digital humanities, textual criticism, manuscript studies and book history from c.1750 to the present day. The successful candidate will be a scholar of the highest international standing, with an outstanding record of research and publication. To apply, visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/academic/index/, click on the relevant post title, then click on the 'Apply Now' button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions.

- Living at the birth of the Renaissance, between 1350 and 1650

Room 351, 3rd floor, [Foster Court](#), Malet Place, UCL

Wednesday, 6-8pm, 25th of April to 27th of June

The Renaissance is traditionally considered to be a moment of rebirth, but what was the experience of those living through the period? This unique module will examine different

perspectives on the Renaissance, using literature and historical sources to build up a picture of the transition from the late Middle Ages to the Renaissance. We will explore the lives of those involved in printing, practising religion in confraternities and convents, dealing with healthcare in hospitals and during epidemics, and debating what the Italian language should look like in the *Questione della Lingua*.

Module taught by Dr Alexandra Lee.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/selcs/departments/italian/evening-classes/fees-and-payment>

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

For now, all the best for 2018! We look forward to more SNLS Neo-Latin activities and hope to be able to engage with many of you over the course of the year.

Best wishes,

Gesine Manuwald
(President, SNLS)