

AANLS NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEO-LATIN STUDIES

SUMMER 2009

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COMING SOON

AANLS Panel at the
Annual Meeting of the APA
in Anaheim, California
January 2010

Thursday, January 7, 2010

11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Place: TBA

Neo-Latin in Europe and the Americas: Current Research

Edward V. George, Organizer
Professor Emeritus
Texas Tech University

Jane Chance

Rice University
Coluccio Salutati's De Laboribus
Herculis and the Medieval
Boethius Commentary

W. J. C. M. Gelderblom

Radboud University Nijmegen
One Kiss Can Make a Difference:
The Genesis of Johannes Secundus'
Basia (20 mins.)

Mark Riley

California State University,
Sacramento
John Barclay as a Writer of
Characters

Anne-Marie Lewis

York University
The Personification of America in
Stephen Parmenius' *De*
Navigazione

***See page 4 for information on
the AANLS Roundtable 2010 –
volunteers needed.**

CALL FOR PAPERS

AANLS Panel in San Antonio,
Texas, January 2011

Neo-Latin Studies:
Current Research

Organized by Frederick J. Booth,
Seton Hall University

The AANLS invites proposals for a panel of papers on current research in Neo-Latin Studies to be held at the meeting of the American Philological Association (APA) in San Antonio in January, 2011. Our intent is to illustrate the diversity and richness of these studies and to underscore the importance of research concerning the complex international phenomenon of Neo-Latin literature.

We welcome papers on all aspects of the study of literary, historical, technical, and scholarly works written in Latin in the Renaissance and early Modern Period (to about 1800); we will also consider proposals dealing with more recent Neo-Latin.

Abstracts should be sent not later than **February 15, 2010** to Professor Booth, preferably electronically to boothfre@shu.edu, or by mail to Classical Studies Department, Seton Hall University, 400 South Orange Ave., South Orange, NJ 07079 USA. Abstracts should be only one page in length.

In accordance with APA regulations, all abstracts for papers will be read anonymously by three outside readers. Please follow the instructions for the format of individual abstracts that appear in the Program Guide in the October 2009 APA newsletter. In your cover letter or e-mail, please confirm that you are an APA member in good standing, with dues paid through 2010.

Current Work on Neo-Latin in Poland

by Fred Booth

While on sabbatical from the Classical Studies Department at Seton Hall University for the Spring semester 2009, I travelled with my wife Ann to Kraków for a week in February, 2009. Through the professor of a colleague, I had been in e-mail contact with Dr. hab. Janusz Gruchała, Professor of Polish Studies at the Jagiellonian University and author of *Iucunda familia librorum. Humanisci renesansowi w świecie książki* [Renaissance Humanists in the World of Books] (Kraków, 2002), before my trip.



Fred and Dr. hab. Janusz Gruchała, 2009

Prof. Gruchała received us with great generosity and hospitality and helped me tremendously with my own work. He set up a meeting for me with some of his colleagues and graduate students who are also working on Polish Neo-Latin, and he accompanied me to Kraków's Czartoryski Library, where, thanks to his arrangements, I was able to examine the first edition of the poem I have been working on, *De Statura, Feritate Ac Venatione Bisontis Carmen* [A Poem About The Size, Ferocity And The Hunting Of The Bison], written by Nicolaus Hussovianus and published in Kraków in 1523 (for more about the poem, see my article in *Amphora* 6.1, p. 21ff., "Hunting the Lithuanian Bison," online at http://www.apaclassics.org/outreach/amphora/2007/Amphora_6.1.pdf. Kraków was the

center of Poland's Golden Age in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and the royal court sponsored scholars, writers, architects, and artists who transformed the city into a leading center of Renaissance culture.

There has been a lot of important work done recently on the rich Neo-Latin heritage of Poland. At our meeting at the Jagiellonian University, Prof. Gruchała and his colleagues presented me with a number of books and journals, and we discussed their current research and projects. The scholars I met see Neo-Latin as a vital part of their own cultural heritage, and they are very excited about North American interest in their earliest literature. Dr. hab. Andrzej Borowski, Chairman of the Department of Old Polish Literature at the Jagiellonian University, and an Associate Member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, gave me a copy of his most recent book in English, *Iter Polono-Belgo-Ollandicum: Cultural and Literary Relationships Between the Commonwealth of Poland and the Netherlands in the 16th and 17th Centuries* (Kraków, 2007). The book explores the importance of cultural exchange between Poland and the Netherlands and Belgium in the formation of ethnic and national identity.

I met Dr. Elwira Buszewicz from the same department, whose most recent book is *Sarmacki Horacy i jego liryka: imitacja, gatunek, styl; rzecz o poezji Macieja Kazimierza Sarbiewskiego* [Sarmatian Horace and His Lyric Poems: Imitation, Genre and Style; On the Poetry of Mathais Casimir Sarbiewski] (Kraków, 2006). Sarbiewski, (1595-1640) a Jesuit who enjoyed international fame as Casimir and earned the sobriquet of "the Christian Horace," marks for many scholars the zenith of Polish Latin poetry. Prof. Buszewicz is also the editor and translator of a bilingual edition (Latin-Polish) of Sarbiewski's *Peregrinatio*

terrestris. Carmina selecta (Kraków, 2003).

Prof. Dr. hab. Albert Gorzkowski, who could not attend, sent an inscribed copy of *Fontes neolatini: materiały źródłowe do dziejów renesansowej prozy nowolacińskiej w Polsce (XV-XVI w.)* [Selections of Renaissance Neo-Latin Prose in Poland (XV-XVI centuries)] (Kraków, 1999), which he edited. The book is an annotated selection of prose including letters, orations, and dialogues by major writers including Długoz, Buonoccorsi, Celtis, Dantiscus, Copernicus, and Madrewski. Monika Wójcik, who is a doctoral candidate at the Jagiellonian University, gave me a copy of her master's thesis, a bilingual (Polish-Latin) edition and translation of poems to the Virgin Mary by the Jesuit Albertus Ines (1620-1658) which has been published as *Albert Ines, Poesis Mariana, Poezje Maryjne* [Marian Poems] (Kraków, 2007). I also met Maria Kozłowska, who is preparing as her M.A. thesis a Polish-Latin edition of Jakob Balde's *Somnium Vitae Humanae*. Balde (1604-1668) was a German Jesuit who



Doorway, Collegium Maius, Jagiellonian University, Kraków: "Plus ratio quam vis."

taught classics and wrote lyric poetry and was acclaimed during his life as "the German Horace." Prof. Gruchała, who is the author of "Aratus" *Jana Kochanowskiego - warsztat filologiczny poety* [Jan Kochanowski's "Aratus"- A Philological Workshop of the Poet] (Kraków, 1989), gave me a copy of

Ioannes Cochanovius (Kraków, 2008), a new comprehensive

Polish-Latin edition of Jan Kochanowski's Latin poetry. Kochanowski (1530-1584) is a towering figure in Polish vernacular poetry, but he wrote his earliest poetry in Latin and continued to write in Latin throughout his life. The new edition of Kochanowski's Latin verse is an elegant book with illustrations, many in color, including portraits and other artwork and photographs of the Polish landscape. Prof. Gruchała is currently working on the Polish *poeta laureatus* Clemens Ianicius, (1516-1543) who is best known for the autobiographical poem on his short life.



Latin Inscription above the door of Długosz house, Kanoniczna Street, Kraków: "Nil est in homine bona mente melius."

In addition, Prof. Gruchała presented me with Mieczysław Mejer's Polish-Latin edition of *Roxolania* by Sebastian Fabian Klonowicz (1545-1602). Klonowicz, who wrote in both Polish and Latin, lived for a while in Lviv, then part of Poland but now in Ukraine. *Roxolania* is a poem of more than 1800 lines in elegiac couplets celebrating the Polish-Ukrainian landscape. Prof. Gruchała rightly assumed that I would be interested in another poem on natural history like Hussovianus' poem on the bison.

Prof. Gruchała also added to my collection of books the last three editions of *Terminus*, a journal devoted to the classical tradition in modern culture, edited and published by the Polish Studies faculty at the Jagiellonian University. While most of the articles are in Polish, some are in English, and there are English summaries of most of the Polish articles. Similarly, all of the books I received had enough Latin text to be useful to people, like myself, who can read Latin but not Polish.

Besides showering me with books, setting up our meeting, and introducing me to his colleagues and their work, Prof. Gruchała also showed my wife and me places in and around Kraków that were important to the period and poets I have been working on. He took us on a tour of the world-famous salt mines at Wieliczka, southeast of Kraków, a subterranean world of labyrinthine passages, giant caverns, underground lakes, and chapels with salt sculptures and bas-relief scenes carved in the salt rock, then took us back to the city for some traditional Polish peasant food. In addition, he showed us several of Kraków's many beautiful and historic churches and guided us around the Jagiellonian University campus, where we toured its oldest building, now a museum, the Collegium Maius, which was built in 1400.

On our own, my wife and I saw the many sights of Kraków, including the royal castle and Wawel Cathedral. The Old Town area of Kraków is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, containing the largest market square in Europe, just a few blocks from the University. This elegant piazza, ringed with exquisite medieval and Renaissance buildings, remains the hub of the city, with churches, monuments, museums, art galleries, shops, cafés, hotels, and restaurants. One of the museums we visited was the palace of Bishop Erazm Ciołek, the patron of

Hussovianus, which now houses a collection of Polish religious art.

The city abounds in Latin inscriptions. We stayed at the Hotel Pod Różą, just a block from Kraków's main square, where the entry is framed with a Neo-Latin inscription from the seventeenth century:

Stet domus fluctus formica
marios ebibet et totum testudo
perambulet orbem.

May this house stand until an
ant drinks up the waves of the
seas and a turtle walks around
the entire world.

On our last afternoon in Kraków, we returned to find in our rooms a final gesture of Polish hospitality from Prof. Gruchała: a bottle of Żubrówka, Poland's famous bison-grass vodka, adorned with a picture of the bison and containing a blade of the grass upon which the herds feed. It remains unopened and on display in our house, as a memento of our trip.

We had a wonderful time in Kraków and look forward to returning. I am very grateful for the generous reception we were given by these scholars, especially Prof. Gruchała, who are rightly proud of Poland's achievement in Latin literature during the Renaissance and Reformation.



Bison on a Kraków street

News from Members

Edward V. George:

“Cynicism Enhanced: Late Additions to Juan Luis Vives’ *Third Sullan Declamation*.” in Dirk Sacré & Jan Papy (eds.), *Syntagmatia. Essays on Neo-Latin Literature in Honour of Monique Mund-Dopchie and Gilbert Tournoy*. Supplementa Humanistica Lovaniensia, 26 (Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2009). Pp. 317-28.

The Latest from The I Tatti Renaissance Library (Thanks to James Hankins, Harvard University)

Fall 2009

37. Pietro Bembo, *History of Venice*, vol. 3, ed. and tr. Robert W. Ulery

41. Francesco Filelfo, *Odes*, ed. and tr. Diana Robin

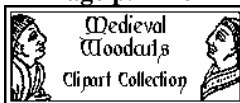
In Press for Spring 2010

42. Federico Borromeo, *On Sacred Painting; The Museum*, ed. and tr. by Kenneth S. Rothwell, Jr. with an introduction and notes by Pamela M. Jones

43. Florentius de Faxolis, *Liber Musices*, ed. and tr. Bonnie Blackburn and Leofranc Holford-Strevens

44. Antonio Beccadelli, ‘il Panormita’, *Hermaphroditus*, tr. Holt Parker

Image p. 1 from

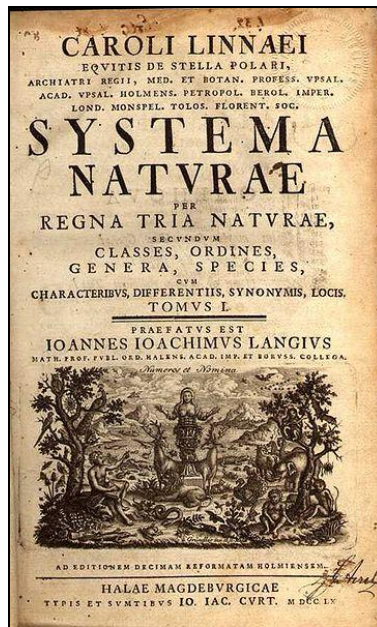


<http://www.godecookery.com/clipart/clart.htm>

Volunteers Needed for AANLS Roundtable at the January 2010 Meeting

We will be holding a Roundtable Session at the APA Meeting in Anaheim in January 2010. Our first such Roundtable, held at last year’s meeting in Philadelphia, was a great success (see Diane Johnson’s report in our newsletter, **AANLS NEWS**, Spring 2009), which is posted online at <http://www.arts.yorku.ca/aanls/index.html>. Please contact either Diane Johnson at diane.johnson@wwu.edu or Anne-Marie Lewis at amlewis@yorku.ca if you are able to join us at the roundtable to help promote Neo-Latin Studies to the wider APA community.

The Roundtable is tentatively scheduled for between 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2010.



Linnaeus, *Systema Naturae*, 1760

Spotlight on . . .

Charles Darwin and Linnaeus’ (Neo-) Latin Classification System

The year 2009 has certainly been a notable one for naturalist Charles Darwin. February 12 marked the 200th anniversary of his birth, and November 24 will mark the 150th anniversary of the publication of his *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* (its original title, later shortened). Not coincidentally, in 2009, Darwin appears as the star of the new film *Creation*, which has had limited release in a few places, but not yet in the U.S., where no distributor (as of this writing) has picked it up.

Darwin was no great student of Latin (or Greek), and he published his scientific works in English. But he drew upon the prior work of many others, including Carl von Linné (Linnaeus), the Swedish scientist who developed the system of biological classification. In the eighteenth century, Latin was the language of science. Linnaeus set out his system first in his seminal Neo-Latin work *Systema Naturae*, published in 1735, and he updated and expanded this work in a number of subsequent editions (the title page of his 1760 edition is at left). Linnaeus’ grand system of Latin nomenclature is still in use today. Linnaeus thus has an important place not only in Neo-Latin literature but also in the history of the Latin language in general.

Further Reading: Nicholas Ostler, *Ad Infinitum: A Biography of Latin* (2007) and Tore Janson (*A Natural History of Latin* (2004). See also *online Linné* at Uppsala University: <http://www.linnaeus.uu.se/online/history/upsala.html>.

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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEO-LATIN STUDIES

2010 Membership and Dues Form

Annual membership dues are \$20.00 U.S. (\$10.00 U.S. for students). Please make check or money order in U.S. funds payable to AANLS.

Please print out this form and mail, with dues, to the address below.

Name and Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

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Neo-Latin Research Interests: _____

Any Suggestions for the AANLS:

Please let us know:

**** Are you willing to have your name, affiliation, e-mail address, and Neo-Latin area of interest listed on the AANLS website in the Members' Directory? YES _____ NO _____**

2010 Dues Enclosed: \$ _____

Please send dues to:

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