

AANLS NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR NEO-LATIN STUDIES

SPRING-SUMMER 2022

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2023 AANLS Panel @ SCS

Hyatt Regency
New Orleans, Louisiana
January 5-8, 2023

Neo-Latin at High Table: Current Research

*Organized by Rodney Lokaj,
Università Kore di Enna*

Renato Ricco

Università di Salerno
“Writing for marriage and the pope
during the pontificate of Julius II: the
case of ‘Fausto’ Maddaleni
Capodiferro”

Carmela Panarello

Independent Researcher
“How salt gets to the table promoting
European culture”

Nancy Impellizzeri

Università Kore di Enna
“Fabio Vigili vs Blosio Palladio in
an unusual satirical *carmen*”

Rodney Lokaj

Università Kore di Enna
“Scoring an invite to feast in
Leonine Rome”



New Orleans.

Report on the 2022 AANLS Panel @ SCS San Francisco The World of Neo-Latin Epic

*by Annette M. Baertschi,
Bryn Mawr College*

This year's AANLS panel at the SCS annual meeting, held once again virtually because of the pandemic, was devoted to Neo-Latin epic. The very international panel consisting of both early career and established scholars featured five presentations on epic poems produced in Germany, Italy, England, Spain, and Mexico between the fifteenth and the eighteenth centuries, thus taking the audience on a journey through the old and the new world and illustrating the diversity and richness as well as the global appeal of Neo-Latin epic.

Massimo Cè (Thesaurus Linguae Latinae, Munich) discussed the first complete verse translation of Homer's *Iliad* in Latin by the German poet and humanist Helius Eobanus Hessus (published 1540) and demonstrated how Eobanus successfully, if rather anachronistically, combined a deliberate Vergilianizing language and style with a German nationalistic agenda.

Louis Verreth (Leiden University) focused on the reception of classical river imagery in two epic poems written at the court of Lorenzo de Medici in Florence, the *Volaterrais* by Naldo Naldi (1474) and the *Florentia* by Pandolfo Collenuccio (1490), arguing that both authors consciously appropriated the representation and symbolism of the river Tiber in their depictions of the Arno in order to highlight Florence's status as the true political and cultural successor of ancient Rome.

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Stephen Harrison (Oxford University) explored Thomas Campion's two-book epic *De Pulverea Coniuratione* (probably written in 1612-1613) on the 1605 London Gunpowder Plot, a near-successful attempt to blow up the English Parliament together with the King. He showed that Campion made use of several divine and supernatural scenes especially from the *Aeneid*, thus not only enriching the literary texture of his work, but also providing an interpretive commentary on its characters and storyline.

Jonathan F. Correa Reyes (Pennsylvania State University) examined the portrayal of the Ethiopians in the *Austriad* by Juan Latino (1573), an epic composed in commemoration of John of Austria's victory in the Battle of Lepanto, and demonstrated that Latino, himself claiming to be of Ethiopian origin, re-imagined the battle and proposed an alternative narrative, emphasizing the benefits of John's victory for the Ethiopians and recognizing the legitimacy of their traditions.

Finally, **Bernardo Berruecos Frank** (National Autonomous University of Mexico) discussed the blending of classical and post-classical elements and intertexts with indigenous imagery and Judeo-Christian ideology in José de Villerías' epic *Guadalupe*, elucidating the complex processes of identity-building and the tensions between colonialism and creole subjectivity in eighteenth-century Mexico.

While the presentations dealt with very different works, written not only in different countries and at different times, but also with different goals and target audiences in mind, some common themes and shared interests emerged and led to a lively and thought-provoking discussion at the end of the panel.

A first, perhaps obvious point was the self-conscious decision of all the authors to write their works in Latin, even though they were engaging with specific national issues or groups and vernacular alternatives were available and preferred by

some of their contemporaries. But as the individual presentations showed, Eoban, Naldi and Collenuccio, Thomas Campion, Juan Latino, and José de Villerías all chose Latin for their projects not only with the aim to enhance their cultural standing and relevance, but also to facilitate the dissemination and reading of their epics in other regions and countries, thus widening the geographical radius of their activity and connecting with influential figures abroad.

Likewise, all the authors used their own extensive learning and their poetic skills both to position themselves within the larger literary tradition and to support or advance specific socio-political and/or religious agendas (Eoban, Naldi, Collenuccio, Campion) or to transcend social or intellectual limitations and restrictions that they themselves or the communities to which they belonged experienced (Latino, de Villerías).

Thirdly, the presentations illuminated the polemical or even subversive potential of Neo-Latin epic grounded precisely in the re-appropriation and adaptation of narrative structures and thematic and literary patterns from the classical models. This is not only true for a poem that was written within a colonial context like de Villerías' *Guadalupe* or a work engaging with racial prejudice like Latino's *Austriad*, but also for Eoban's complete Latin translation of the *Iliad* at a time when the advancement of Greek instruction enabled more and more people to read Homer in the original.

Future AANLS Panels @ the SCS Meetings

Jan. 4-7, 2024	Chicago
Jan. 2-5, 2025	Philadelphia

News from Members

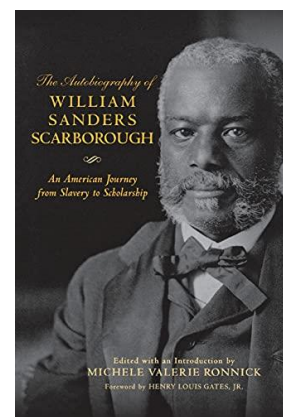
Rodney Lokaj was officially admitted to the hallowed Accademia Petrarca di Lettere, Arti e Scienze, Arezzo (Tuscany). He is one of the few scholars of non-Italian birth to become an "Accademico aretino" in the very home where Petrarch himself was born.

He is also working on Dante Alighieri in this year following the Year of Dante 2021. He translated and edited the *Rime* for the Società Dantesca Italiana bilingual national edition of Dante's works.

Mark Riley is assisting Robert Meindl, Emeritus Professor of English, California State University, Sacramento, with a new verse translation of John Gower's *Vox clamantis* (ca. 1383). A verse translation by A. G. Rigg of Book 1 was published a few years ago, but this is the entire *Vox*, seven books, about 250 pages. It will replace a prose translation by Stockton, which is riddled with errors. Publication (probably on-line) is expected towards the end of this year 2022.

Michele Valerie Ronnick is the 2021 Merita Award Winner from the American Classical League.

She edited and provided the introduction to *The Autobiography of William Sanders Scarborough: An American Journey from Slavery to Scholarship*, Foreword by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (Wayne State University Press, 2005, paperback edition 2021).



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Professor Scarborough may be found among classicists cataloged in an installation that she envisioned and brought into existence, “Black Classicists: A Mural Mosaic, at the Center for Hellenic Studies, at Harvard University, Washington, D.C. This installation is now permanent on the Center’s website: <https://chs.harvard.edu/permanent-collection/black-classicists/>.

Her exhibition “Black Classicists: From Ostracism to Scholarship” began touring the UK in May 2022. She worked with the James Loeb Classical Library Foundation at Harvard University on this project. The [poster](#) was made by Marc Ives, Classics Head at St Gabriel’s School in the Sandleford Priory, Berkshire, UK.

She has published a study of the first black person to hold a fellowship at the American Academy in Rome (FAAR) in classics from 1951-1953, Philip F. Wooby. He did not write any Neo-Latin works but he taught classics at Howard University, then Canisius College, and finally at Millersville State University where he was the school’s first black professor. He directed students in Latin comedies (and these influenced one of his students, Timothy J. Moore, the John and Penelope Biggs Distinguished Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Classics at Washington University in St. Louis). He also published a translation of Lucretius in the 1970s that was not well-received. See further <https://dbcs.rutgers.edu/all-scholars/wooby-philip-francis-2>.

She also gave an invited paper in April 2021, “Dr. Charles Leander Hill (1906-1956), Black Neo-Latinist and Reformation Scholar,” at *Freedom Abroad: The History of African Americans in Europe*, an online conference jointly hosted by New York University (New York City) and Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, Ohio) on April 14, 2021.

Rose Williams made a video presentation for the meeting in 2022 of the American Classical League Institute in Charleston, South Carolina entitled “Classical and Native American Arts Compared.” This presentation compared and contrasted some examples of art and architecture in the ancient world with those found in Native American cultures. She also maintains a website devoted to Latin teaching materials: www.rosierwilliams.com.

Neo-Latin Fellowship Opportunity



Innsbruck, Austria. Photo courtesy of Florian Schaffenrath.

The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Neo-Latin Studies in Innsbruck, Austria, offers fellowships (1-6 months) for younger (and older) scholars doing Neo-Latin research. For further information, see <http://neolatin.lbg.ac.at/general/lbi-fellowship>, or contact Prof. Dr. Florian Schaffenrath at florian.schaffenrath@neolatin.lbg.ac.at.

Announcing a New Neo-Latin Publication Series

LYSA Publishers is pleased to present LYNX – Lysa Neo-Latin Texts. The series intends to publish Neo-Latin texts from the fifteenth century onwards, annotated and with facing translations. The series General Editor is Jeroen De Keyser and the advisory board consists of Paul Botley, Noreen Humble, and Keith Sidwell.

Questions or potential submissions can be directed to Jeroen De Keyser (jeroen@lysapublishers.com). For more information and to subscribe to our newsletter, please visit <https://www.lysapublishers.com>.

Call for Papers IANLS @ RSA 2023

The International Association for Neo-Latin Studies (IANLS) will be sponsoring four panels at the next Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America (RSA) in San Juan, Puerto Rico (2023). See the AANLS Website page “Calls for Papers: Neo-Latin” at <https://aanls.apps01.yorku.ca/> for the Call for Papers and Panels.

Proposals should be sent to Professor Marc Laureys, who is the IANLS representative with the RSA, at m.laureys@uni-bonn.de, **no later than 24 July 2022**.

Neo-Latin News

Neo-Latin News is the official publication of the American Association for Neo-Latin Studies (AANLS). It is published twice a year at the back of the journal *Seventeenth-Century News* and consists of reviews of Neo-Latin texts and monographs. Links to past issues can be found on the AANLS web site. AANLS members who are interested in writing reviews for NLN are encouraged to contact Patrick Owens, Editor, *Neo-Latin News*, at patrickm.owens@gmail.com.

AANLS Finances

by Diane Johnson
AANLS Secretary-Treasurer

As of June 14, 2022, the AANLS has a balance of \$6,376.44, which includes earned interest of \$6.32 for the year. There have been no expenses this year.

Please note Diane Johnson’s new postal address for dues and any associated correspondence on the Membership Form on the following page.

American Association for Neo-Latin Studies

Membership Form

Annual membership dues (January to December) 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: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ NO CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR

Telephone or e-mail (preferable): _____

_____ NO CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR

Research Interests: _____

_____ NO CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR

Any Suggestions for the AANLS:

Year(s) _____ Dues Enclosed: \$ _____

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