REPORT 2004-05

PROGRAM NEWS

In April 2005, our program alumnus Mr. Kyriakos Tsakopoulos pledged a second $1 million gift toward the Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Chair in Hellenic Studies. The gift also established a lecture series titled “Aristotle and the Moderns,” which was inaugurated in November 2005 by European Ombudsman Nikiforos Diamandouros.

With the arrival of Vangelis Calotychos and Mark Mazower, our offerings in Balkan and eastern Mediterranean contexts have been enhanced with courses on Greece and Turkey: Literature and Politics and The Balkans since 1800. Meanwhile, Stathis Gourgouris considered Greece’s place in the Western cultural Imaginary while Neni Panourgia’s Constructions of Alterity in European Thought included Greek material. Calotychos examined the Greek novel in Greek with advanced undergraduates.

As always, the Program offered three years of language instruction.

The Program also set up a website (see masthead above) and established the “Modern Greek Seminar” under the auspices of Columbia’s University Seminars Program. Seminar associates are chiefly faculty, Ph.D students in Hellenic Studies, artists and writers from the tri-state area. Lectures by Karen Van Dyck and Peter Mackridge on the Greek language inaugurated the monthly seminar. For more details, see:

http://www.columbia.edu/cu/seminars/seminars/cultural-studies/seminar-folder/moderngreek.html

The Program’s chief event was an international conference, “Luce Irigaray and ‘the Greeks’: Genealogies of Re-writing.” Organized by our Lecturer Elena Tzelepis in cooperation with Columbia’s Center for French and Francophone Studies, the conference explored the feminist philosopher’s re-writing of Ancient Greek texts and attracted over twenty speakers and 150 participants. Elena Tzelepis and Athena Athanasiou are in the process of editing the papers for SUNY Press. More information at:
http://www.columbia.edu/cu/french/maison/conferences0405.html

The Program also hosted lectures by Roderick Beaton, Michael Paschalis, Anastasia Stouraiti, Penelope Papaillas, Yiannis Kiourtsakis, Khachig Töölyan’s Thirteenth Kimon A. Doukas Memorial Lecture ranged beyond the Greek diaspora to discuss "Diasporas, Homelands, Old And New World Orders." Finally, Alternate Minister of Culture, Fanny Palli-Petralia spoke about the Olympic Games’ legacy at a celebratory event in December 2004.

News of Faculty & Students

With Vangelis Calotychos at the helm, Karen Van Dyck focused on a study abroad consortium in Thessaloniki and translation studies at Columbia. Besides doing readings for A Century of Greek Poetry: 1900-2000 (Cosmos, 2004), she lectured on Psycharis and the Balkans, Psycharis and Saussure, Papadiamantidis and the Diaspora, and produced a radio program for the MLA What's the Word on Kazan's America America. She has begun work on a collaborative anthology of Greek Poetry (Norton, 2007). Vangelis Calotychos’s co-translation, with Patricia Felisa Barbei, of Menis Koumandareas’s Their Smell Makes Me Want To Cry appeared in the Birmingham Modern Greek Translations Series. He published articles on economic migrants in Greek fiction and Durrell in Cyprus as well as on the November 17 group in Andrew Ross & Kristin Ross (eds.), Anti-Americanism: Its History and Currency (NYU Press, 2004). He wrote the foreword to Peter Bien’s translation of Myrivilis’s Life In The Tomb (Cosmos, 2004). Elena Tzelepis taught popular language classes as well as in Columbia’s Core. Mark Mazower’s Salonica, City of Ghosts: Christians, Muslims and Jews, 1430-1950 (Knopf) won the 2004 Duff Cooper Prize. He directs the new Center for International History at Columbia (http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cih/). Neni Panourgia participated in the production of the exhibit East of Attica: Photographs 1930-1970 curated by the Benaki Museum and edited the exhibit catalogue, which includes her article "En Meso-Gaias". She published "Simple Lessons of Various Economies" in Et in Iraq Ego, edited by B. Papadopoulou (Plethron); "Colonizing the Ideal: Neoclassical Articulations and European Modernities" Angelaki (Vol. 9:2); and contributed to the debate on the Civil War in Ta Nea. She co-organized the conference “New Europe, New Balkans”, held at the Hetaireia Makedonikon Spoudon in Thessaloniki. Stathis Gourgouris' Dream Nation was translated into Serbo-Croatian (Belgrade Circle Press) and is due in Greek (Kritiki, 2006). A Greek translation of Does Literature Think? is forthcoming from Nefeli. Ioanna Theocharopoulou continued her Ph.D research on informal urbanism in Athenian architecture between 1941-1974 on a Mellon-CLIR Dissertation Research Fellowship. Ioanna contributed "The Housewife, the Builder and the desire for a Polykatolikia apartment in postwar Athens" to Negotiating Domesticity. Spatial Constructions of Gender in Modern Architecture, edited by Hilde Heynen & Gulsum Baydar (Routledge, 2004). Ioanna is teaching at Parsons and at the Cooper Hewitt Design Museum. Karen Emmerich passed her oral examinations and was also awarded a grant from the PEN
Translation Fund to translate *Poems (1945-1971)* by Miltos Sachtouris. **Kalli Kofinas** received Hons. for her Political Science thesis on democratic reversal and consolidation in Postwar Greece. **Anastasia Liberis** and **Christina Grammenos** received Greek Ministry of Culture fellowships to attend the Institute for Balkan Studies in 2004 and 2005 respectively. **Toby Lee** began a Ph.D in Anthropology at Harvard in Fall 2004.

**Stathis Gourgouris** has been appointed Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Los Angeles. We wish him well in his new appointment.