

THE HELLENIC LINK, Inc.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ Member Update - BULLETIN



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No. 82, November 2009

IN MEMORIAM

Professor Alice Scourby Passed Away

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Professor Alice Scourby. Professor Scourby completed her baccalaureate degree at Brooklyn College in 1953. She went on to earn her PhD in Sociology at the New School for Social Research in 1967. Between 1961 and 1967 she was a lecturer and instructor at Hofstra University. In September of 1967 she joined the faculty at C.W. Post, where she spent the bulk of her long and distinguished career. While instructing at C.W. Post she directed the Women's Studies Program and was eventually elected Chair of the Sociology Department, a position she held for more than fifteen years. Her scholarly activities included an impressive array of papers, articles, and texts including *The Greek American Community in Transition* (edited with H.J. Psomiades. Pella, 1982).

Her colleagues at C.W. Post remember her for her irreverent honesty, her absolute intolerance of hypocrisy, and, above all, as a good and devoted friend whose word was her bond. With her passing, the Greek American community has lost a preeminent daughter. May her memory be eternal.

Professor Scourby is survived by her husband, Nicholas and her son, Alexander
Prof. Michael A. Souprios, C.W. Post Campus, Long Island University

The Hellenic Link, Inc. shares the grief of the family, of colleagues and of the community at large for the loss of Professor Scourby. The Advisory Council on Hellenic Education of this Association feels particularly the empty space left by her departure. The Council was privileged to have her as an active distinguished member until she became ill; the Council received the benefit of her wisdom and also of her professional zeal with which she always advocated a thorough documentation of every project and effort on behalf of Hellenic Education in America. Her memorable principles should remain live with us and continue to be adhered to. This would be a fitting honor that she would accept approvingly from us for upholding her exemplary and inspiring professional legacy.

Prof. Constantine Efthymiou, President
Coordinator, Advisory Council on Hellenic Education

Progress Report on Educational Projects

We wish to inform our members of recent developments in the efforts of the HL Advisory Council on Hellenic Education.

In the project “**Interactive Distance Teaching**” of the Greek language, preparations are nearly complete to launch its collaborative implementation by academic institutions in Greece and the USA. The first contacts between the respective faculties by means of teleconference, for interviews, consultations, and for trial lectures will begin soon. The Hellenic Link of Athens is looking into the technical details of such contacts in cooperation with the technical staff of the Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens, which has kindly spared its facilities for this purpose, and with the respective technicians of the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. At the same time, our colleagues in Athens under the direction of **Professor George Bozonis** are advancing the selection of experienced faculty, who will carry out the program of distance-teaching Modern Greek to beginning, intermediate, and advanced students in America. Part of their effort is to define the suitable content and approach of teaching American students.

In similar future endeavors, the Hellenic Link, Inc. may invite professional educational, community and school groups in the United States to express interest in receiving quality instruction for learning the Greek language by the same interactive distance-mode. In the case of actual interest, our Association would assess the existing feasibility to facilitate the inception and carrying through of such program.

In the sector of **educational technology**, the acquaintance of educators in America with teaching resources available through the “Institute of Language and Speech Processing” (**ILSP**; see Bulletin 81) and a functional familiarity with such resources has been another objective in recent HL activity, aimed at upgrading qualitatively as well as to strengthen quantitatively the Hellenic community’s effort to spread the learning of the Greek language and Culture in America. It is hoped that in cooperation with experts of ILSP, participating in outreach educational events together with the HL, an early appreciation of the diverse requirements of teaching the language to distinct populations of American students will be gained for a successful pursuit of the community’s effort.

In yet another key area of instructional innovation, the introduction of “**Modular Teaching of Hellenic Cultural Themes**” is aimed at embodying “ a new pedagogical approach to old content and an alignment between research scholarship and school curricular mandates” in order to raise effectiveness and to appeal to younger generations of students. Specific projects in line with this objective are being developed jointly by research scholars and Hellene educators. It is hoped that scholars from the National Hellenic Research Foundation will contribute substantially to the development of Teaching Guides based on the above titled instructional concept.

CJE

FROM THE CIRCLE OF PROFESSIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF OUR MEMBERS

“The Universality of Science: Limits and Needs”

Professor Loucas G. Christophorou, Member of the Academy of Athens, was invited to present a Lecture on the Universality of Science to the Annual Meeting of the European Members of the International Council for Science (ICSU), at Podgorica, Montenegro, September 29-30, 2009.

The entire Lecture can be read at the **Web Site** of the Hellenic Link, Inc.

{Η «ιερά» και η «θύραθεν» παιδεία του Μιχαήλ Χωνιάτη, μητροπολίτη Αθηνών}

Demetrios Constantelos, *In Realia Byzantina*, edited by Sophia Kotzabassi and Giannis Mavromatis; Walter de Gruyter, Berlin-New York, Publ. 2009, pp 25-34. A study of the hierarch, who expresses the academic and the educational ethos of the Orthodox Church during the Byzantine millennium: Christian faith and Hellenic logos converge in a harmonious expression by him.

The Lecture Series of the Hellenic Studies Unit of Concordia University of Montreal

Dr. Nikos Metallinos, Professor of Communication Studies and Coordinator of the Hellenic Studies Unit, Concordia University of Montreal is informing us about the successful presentation of the first Lecture of the 2009-10 Academic Year Series devoted to the general theme: *Contributions of Hellenism in the 21st Century*. The first Guest Speaker was **Professor Christine Angelidis**, Research Director of the Institute for Byzantine Research at the National Hellenic Research Foundation. She spoke on: *“Late Antique Heritage and the Remaking of Antiquity in the Middle Byzantine Period.”* Her Lecture introduced and emphasized the significant role of Byzantium in the preservation of Hellenic Culture and Ideals to the present time, We reprint here Dr. Metallinos’ communication on the event, as received.

ΟΙ ΔΙΑΛΕΞΕΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΜΟΝΑΔΑΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΩΝ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ ΣΤΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ CONCORDIA

Την Τρίτη, 27 Οκτωβρίου 2009 άρχισαν οι προγραμματισμένες για την Ακαδημαϊκή Χρονιά 2009-2010 διαλέξεις της Μονάδας Ελληνικών Σπουδών του Πανεπιστημίου Concordia.

Τη διάλεξη με θέμα *«Η Κληρονομιά της Ύστερης Αρχαιότητας και η Επαναδημιουργία του Αρχαίου Κόσμου στη Μεταβυζαντινή Περίοδο»* έδωσε η Δρ. Χριστίνα Αγγελίδη, Διευθύντρια Έρευνας του Ινστιτούτου Βυζαντινών Ερευνών, που επισκέφθηκε την πόλη μας προσκεκλημένη από την Έδρα Νεοελληνικών Σπουδών Φρίξου Παπαρησιτίδη στο Πανεπιστήμιο McGill.

Την εμπνευσμένη και άψογα οργανωμένη διάλεξη της Δρος Αγγελίδη χαρακτήρισαν τρία βασικά σημεία

- Πρώτον, η βαθιά γνώση, μελέτη και εμπειρία της στα Βυζαντινά θέματα και στη Βυζαντινή Ιστορία ειδικότερα.
- Δεύτερον, ο πλούτος των εικόνων που έξοχα πλαισίωσαν και αξιοθαύμαστα τεκμηρίωσαν τα ιστορικά γεγονότα της ομιλίας.
- Τρίτον, η συνεχής υπενθύμιση και υπογράμμιση της ομιλίας στη σχέση και αδιαμφισβήτητη συνέχιση του Ελληνισμού της αρχαιότητας με το Βυζάντιο και τη Βυζαντινή αυτοκρατορία.

Στις πάμπολλες ερωτήσεις, θέσεις και προτάσεις που ακολούθησαν τη διάλεξη της Δρος Αγγελίδη, προστέθηκαν και οι απόψεις μερικών που αρνούνται να δεχθούν την ελληνικότητα και τη συμβολή του Βυζαντίου στη διατήρηση και στη συνέχιση των ελληνικών ιδεών και γενικά του Ελληνισμού.

Η διάλεξη της Δρος Αγγελίδη όχι μόνο μας εισήγαγε στο θέμα, αλλά πάνω απ’ όλα, υπογράμμισε τη σημασία του Βυζαντίου στη διάσωση όσο και στη διατήρηση του Ελληνισμού μέσα από τους αιώνες, προσφέροντας ασταμάτητα τα δημοκρατικά, φιλοσοφικά, καλλιτεχνικά και άλλα ιδεώδη στον αιώνα μας.

Για τη Μονάδα Ελληνικών Σπουδών του Πανεπιστημίου Concordia
Dr. Nikos Metallinos

“Academic Conference on the Asia Minor Catastrophe”

Under the above title, a Conference was hosted by the Pontian Greek Society of Chicago on Saturday November 7, 2009. The event follows last year’s Conference on issues dealing with documentation and

recognition of a Hellenic Genocide by the Ottoman Turks; it will focus on the experiences of Hellenes living under Ottoman rule

in Asia Minor, Pontos and Eastern Thrace during the same period.

The presentation of the following papers has been scheduled:

- ***“The Greek Deportations and Massacres of 1913-1914. A Trial Run for the Armenian Genocide”*** by Dr. Taner Akcam of Clark University, MA;
- ***“Official and Unofficial American Reactions to the Asia Minor “Catastrophe”*** by Dr. Constantine Hatzidimitriou of St. John’s University, NY;
- ***“Aspects of Western Sources and Interpretations of the Pontian Genocide”*** by Matthias Bjorlund, Historian and Researcher;
- ***“The Plight of the Greek Refugees After the Break-up of the Ottoman Empire”*** by Dr. Alexander Kitroeff of Haverford College, PA;
- ***“Turkey’s Deliberate and Systematic Violations of International Agreements since 1923”*** by Dr. Van Coufoudakis, Dean Emeritus, College of Arts and Sciences, Purdue University, IN.

Moderator of the Conference will be George Shirinian, Director of the Zoryan Institute, Toronto Canada; Concluding Remarks under the title:

“Placing the Events of the Anatolian Genocide in the Broader Context of Hellenic and World History” will be made by Dr. C. Hatzidimitriou, who, as our readers know, is also a Hellenic Link’s Advisory Council Member.

Forthcoming Lecture at the SOLON Society of Long Island

In its series of historical and cultural presentations at St. Paul’s Cathedral Hall , the Hellenic Cultural Society of Long Island Solon will host a lecture on Thursday November 12, 2009:

Topic of the Lecture: ***“From the Greek Revolution to the Megali Idea and the Trials and Tribulations of Modern Greece”***

Guest Speaker: **Prof. Christos Ioannides**, Director of the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, at Queens College CUNY

Place and time: Cathedral of St. Paul’s, 110 Cathedral Avenue, Hempstead, NY.
The Lecture begins at 8:00 p.m. It follows a coffee, tea and dessert reception 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. For more information call: 516-326-8222 or e-mail at solon_society@yahoo.com

A NEEDED OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY

Wellness Promotion, Healthy Ageing and Alzheimer’s Disease (AD)

On Tuesday afternoon, October 27 2009, **Dr. Andreas Adams** (MSW, MPH, Ed.D.), Director of Community Education & Outreach at the Brooklyn Alzheimer’s Disease Assistance Center (BADAC), AND Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, SUNY Downstate Medical Center along with **Ms Angela Floratos**, a fluently Greek – speaking public health nurse presented a seminar-workshop at the Frank Parlamis Hellenic Senior Center of Saint Demetrios, Jamaica (Queens) on the above themes. This educational presentation was followed by a vigorous and lively “Q&A” between the numerous attendees and the clinicians.

The talk began with an overview of healthy ageing as a universal process, not as an illness (contrary to society's morbid stereotypes), tips and suggestions on remaining/extending physical and psychological health as a way of delaying the onset of AD (i.e., cutting down on Greek pastries!), recognizing early symptoms of AD and other types of dementias, the behavioral changes and mood disorders which accompany AD, and the roles and importance of the physical/mental exercises, the Mediterranean diet, culture, religion, and spirituality. The formal presentation concluded with comments/facts on care giving, and ways of preventing burn-out and eventual death of the caregiver, who in 70-75% of the cases is a woman (i.e., wife, daughter). Scientific and medical research indicate that caregivers live ten years less than no caregivers (both genders) due to a myriad of physical-psychological diseases (mind-body relationship).

The clinicians' remarks and recommendations were well received by the 62 attendees, based upon their queries. Several participants asked questions on mental health issues, such as late - onset and seasonal types of depression, topics long denied because of stigmatization within the Hellenic and Greek-American communities. During the "Q&A," these clinicians explained the various specialties of the different clinical providers(i.e., general internist vs. geriatrician; psychologist vs. geriatric psychiatrist), how to carefully select clinical professionals and facilities and how to assertively interact with one's medical providers, since many older adults are very passive and fully accept what their doctors tell them.

These clinicians offered to return to present more educational programs on an array of health-related topics (elder mistreatment, memory screenings, diabetes, depression and suicidal thoughts, loneliness/isolation, hypertension and to facilitate wellness-support groups. The presentation was arranged through the efforts and energies of **Ms. Dorothy Katopis** , the Volunteer Director of the St. Demetrios Senior Center, Mr. Manny/Ms. Marina Katsoulis, and the encouragement of the Hellenic Link's President.

Dr. Andreas Adams and Ms. Angela Floratos are members of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York and co-workers of the Hellenic Link, Inc. in outreach efforts of implementation of its socio-charitable objectives. Greek-American communities interested in similar educational presentations can contact the Hellenic Link (telephone: 718-217-4285) for relevant information.

THE HELLENIC LINK, Inc.
A NON PROFIT CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION
OF HELLENES AND PHILHELLENES
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A Significant Collaborative Cultural Event is Forthcoming:

ANNOUNCEMENT-INVITATION

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York in collaboration with the Scientific-Cultural Association Hellenic Link, Inc. introduces with pleasure to the Hellenic–American Community of Greater New York:

The "Omada Aegeou"

A pre-eminent Greek volunteer Organization focusing on revitalizing the small isolated communities on remote islands of the Aegean Sea by providing medical services and improving living conditions.

Guest Speaker: *Dr. George Plakogiannakis, Board Member of the Directors of the Organization will give a vivid account of the work of the "Omada" and report on the existing conditions and humanitarian needs, deeply affecting life on the isles of the Eastern Aegean Sea.*

Coordinators of the Event:

Drs. Constantine Efthymiou & George Tsioulis

Place: *The Cathedral Cultural Center, 337 East*

74th

Street, New York 10021

Time: *Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.*

Members of the Medical Society, of the Hellenic Link, and of all Hellenic Organizations, especially fellow-citizens descending from any and all islands of the Aegean Sea, are cordially invited to attend. Your presence and solidarity are very much needed and will be greatly appreciated.

Following the presentation of the program, there will be a fellowship-mingling and a reception. Admission is free; to make reservations please call: 718-398-2440.

ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ – ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

Ο Ελληνικός Ιατρικός Σύλλογος Νέας Υόρκης σε συνεργασία με τον Επιστημονική-Πολιτιστική Ένωση «Ελληνικός Σύνδεσμος» έχει την τιμή να παρουσιάσει στην Ελληνοαμερικανική Κοινότητα της Μείζονος Νέας Υόρκης

Την Ομάδα Αιγαίου,

Οργάνωση, που τα τελευταία 15 χρόνια προσφέρει εθελοντικές ιατρικές υπηρεσίες και έργα υποδομής σε απομονωμένες μικρές κοινότητες των νησιών του Αιγαίου.

Κύριος Ομιλητής: Ο Ιατρός κ. Γεώργιος Πλακογιαννάκης,
Μέλος του Δ.Σ. Ομάδας Αιγαίου

Θα δώσει μία ζωντανή εικόνα του έργου της Ομάδας καθώς και των συνθηκών που επικρατούν και των βιοτικών αναγκών που βαθειά επηρεάζουν την ζωή των κατοίκων των μικρών νησιών του Ανατολικού Αιγαίου.

Συντονιστές Εκδήλωσης: οι Δρ. Κωνσταντίνος Ευθυμίου και Γεώργιος Τσιούλιας

Χώρος Εκδήλωσης: Αίθουσα Εκδηλώσεων του Καθεδρικού Ναού Αγίας Τριάδος
337 East 74th Street, Manhattan, NY 10021

Ημέρα Εκδήλωσης: Τετάρτη, 9 Δεκεμβρίου 2009 και **Ωρα:** 7:30 μ.μ.

Μέλη του Ιατρικού Συλλόγου, του Ελληνικού Συνδέσμου, και όλων των Ελληνικών Σωματείων, ιδιαίτερα οι συμπολίτες Αιγαιοπελαγίτικης καταγωγής, προσκαλούνται θερμά να παραστούν στην εκδήλωση αυτή. Η παρουσία και συμπαράστασή τους είναι αναγκαία και άξια πολλής εκτίμησης

Μετά την παρουσίαση του Προγράμματος θα ακολουθήσει φιλική συναναστροφή και δεξίωση. Είσοδος ελεύθερη. Για κρατήσεις καλέστε το 718-398-2440.

Professionals and students in every discipline or field of endeavor, whether of Greek Descent or Philhellenes, are cordially invited to join the Hellenic Link, Inc. as members. It is quite easy and useful! Just contact us at any of the indicated addresses (page 5).