

**IRIS**  
**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LAMBDA CLASSICAL CAUCUS**  
**SUMMER 2009**

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*What to Do at the 2010 APA*

**LCC Panel 2010**

**One Hundred and Twenty Years of  
Homosexuality**

Organized by Ruby Blondell (University of  
Washington) and Kirk Ormand  
(Oberlin College)

The APA/AIA meeting in January 2010 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Lambda Classical Caucus. The papers presented here all reflect, though they do not all agree with, important work on sexuality of the early 1990's, much of it by founding members of the LCC. Together, they explore the fundamental areas of ancient sexual life, pre-modern sexual identities, and the ways that sex produces meaning. The papers discuss a range of areas of content, including literature, legal texts, material culture, women and men, Greece and Rome, and a variety of approaches, in order to showcase the best new scholarship in this burgeoning field.

Nancy Worman (Barnard College), "What Is 'Greek Sex' For?"

Julia Shapiro (University of Michigan), "Paederasty and the 'Popular' Audience"

Kate Gilhuly (Wellesley College), "The Discursive History of Lesbian Erotics"

Deborah Kamen (University of Washington) and Sarah Levin-Richardson (University of Washington), "Lusty Ladies: *Fututrices* in the Roman Imaginary"

Holt Parker (University of Cincinnati), "Vaseworld"

Mark Nugent (University of Washington), "*si vir fueris...* Sexuality and Masculine Self-Fashioning in Petronius' *Satyrica*"

**LCC/WCC Party**

Watch your email inboxes for details about this year's **theme**. As always, costumes are strongly encouraged!

**LCC/WCC Grad Cocktail Hour**

Graduate students and recent PhDs interested in the LCC or WCC are invited to attend the third annual LCC/WCC graduate student cocktail hour! Details forthcoming...

**2010 APA / AIA Roundtable**

**Explaining "Otherness": Ancient  
(Homo)sexuality in the Classroom**

Organized by Alexander Perkins (UC Irvine)  
and Konstantinos P. Nikoloutsos  
(Berea College)

This roundtable provides a forum in which graduate students and faculty can discuss questions associated with teaching "queer" topics from classical antiquity. Possible discussions include: What should be the goals of a class on ancient (homo)sexuality? Can a canon of "queer" texts exist? How does one explain the practice of pederasty to undergraduate students? What is the best approach to the archeological evidence for the classroom? What kind of theoretical tools can we use to defend such a class against conservatives and censors? How can we help students enrich their perceptions about ancient sexuality?

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## Call for Papers: LCC Panel 2011

### Ancient “Unspeakable Vice” and Modern Pedagogy: Talking about Homosexuality in Classical Antiquity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy

San Antonio, TX, January 6-9, 2011

Organized by Konstantinos P. Nikoloutsos  
(Berea College) and John P. Wood  
(University of Missouri-Columbia)

In E. M. Forster’s novel *Maurice*, published posthumously in 1971 and turned into a film in 1987, two young men in early 20<sup>th</sup> century England, strongly attracted to each other, attend a class at Cambridge University during which they translate Plato’s *Symposium*. When a student reaches a passage on same-sex love, the instructor says in a flat toneless voice: “Omit: a reference to the unspeakable vice of the Greeks.”

Although a century later the picture has changed and ancient accounts of homosexuality are more freely discussed in academia, prejudice against and misinformation on the sexual practices of the Greeks and Romans continue to persist. The 2011 LCC panel is soliciting papers that discuss the challenges of teaching such texts at university level and provide feedback on the responses they provoke among students. Questions that individual papers may address include but are not limited to the following:

- What pedagogical methods and interpretive tools (e.g., social theory, feminist theory, queer theory, psychoanalytical theory) do we employ in teaching what is nowadays considered to be nonnormative sexuality?
- What are the sources that we regularly use to demonstrate the sexual plurality of the ancient world and increase awareness about the nonuniversality of modern sexual practices? Are some texts less suitable than others? What are the criteria for creating a textual canon, if any (e.g., the content of the piece, the complexity of ideas expressed in it, its author and genre, the familiarity of the students with it, or simply a personal fondness of the instructor for a particular text)?
- What are the benefits of exposing students to ancient texts that are critical of same-sex desire?
- How do we effectively teach the transition (in terms of both similarity and difference) from Greek and Roman sexual ethics to that of late antiquity described in the texts of the Church Fathers? How do we incorporate Greek and Roman accounts in a syllabus on homosexuality throughout the ages?
- How can we draw on ancient attitudes to homosexuality to inform modern debates on homophobia, xenophobia, racism, and same-sex marriage?

Abstracts of one page in length are due by **February 1, 2010**. Please do not send abstracts to the panel organizers. Email them to Nancy Rabinowitz at [nrabinow@hamilton.edu](mailto:nrabinow@hamilton.edu). All abstracts will be refereed anonymously. Questions can be addressed to Konstantinos P. Nikoloutsos at [Konstantinos\\_Nikoloutsos@bera.edu](mailto:Konstantinos_Nikoloutsos@bera.edu).

#### Lambda Classical Caucus Officers

##### *Co-Chairs*

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**For the Winter Issue of *Iris*:  
To commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
the LCC, please submit your top 10 lists of  
the best queer books\* of the past 20 years!**

(\*of interest to Classicists)

## Call for Papers: LCC Paul Rehak Award 2010

Nominations are now being received for the Lambda Classical Caucus's annual prize, named in memory of Paul Rehak, Classics professor and former LCC co-chair. The Rehak award honors the excellence of a publication relating to the LCC's mission, including, but not limited to, homosocial and homoerotic relationships and environments, ancient sexuality and gender roles, and representation of the gendered body. The range of eligible work covers the breadth of ancient Mediterranean society, from prehistory to late antiquity, and the various approaches of classicists drawing on textual and material culture.

Articles and book chapters from monographs or edited volumes, published in the past three years (i.e. 2007, 2008, 2009) are eligible. Self-nominations are welcome; the nomination and selection process is confidential. Membership in the Caucus is not required, nor is any specific rank or affiliation. Nominations should be made by **October 31, 2009** to LCC co-chair, Bryan Burns, [bburns@wellesley.edu](mailto:bburns@wellesley.edu). Please provide full bibliographic information, a copy of the text, and/or contact information for the nominee. The award will be announced at the opening night reception of the APA/AIA meeting in Philadelphia.

To honor Paul's memory, the LCC has established a fund that supports the continued existence of these awards. Please send donations to:

Ruby Blondell (LCC Rehak Fund)  
Dept. of Classics, Box 353110  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA 98195

## Call for Papers: The 2010 LCC Graduate Student Paper Award

Did you see an amazing graduate student paper at the APA/AIA addressing queer issues? Please consider nominating! This year

we are proud to announce a new award for graduate students: The LCC Graduate Student Paper Award.

This award is designed to encourage and reward scholarship by pre-Ph.D. scholars on issues related to the LCC's mission, including, but not limited to: homosocial and homoerotic relationships and environments, ancient sexuality and gender roles, representations of the gendered body, and queer theory.

We ask for nominations of oral papers presented by a pre-Ph.D. scholar at a conference (including, but not limited to the APA/AIA and CAMWS) from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 (ca. 20 minutes in length as delivered). To nominate, e-mail Kristina Milnor ([kmilnor@barnard.edu](mailto:kmilnor@barnard.edu)) and Bryan Burns ([bburns@wellesley.edu](mailto:bburns@wellesley.edu)) with the presenter's name and email address and the title of the paper. Self-nominations are encouraged; information related to nominations is confidential. Membership in the Caucus is not required to be eligible for these awards. Nominations accepted until **September 1, 2009**. The winner will be announced at the 2010 WCC-LCC opening night reception at the APA/AIA.

## Recent Publications by LCC Members

Blondell, Ruby. "From Fleece to Fabric: Weaving Culture in Plato's Statesman." *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 28 (2005) 23-75.

Blondell, Ruby. "How to Kill an Amazon," in *Ancient Mediterranean Women in Modern Mass Media*, eds. Ruby Blondell and Mary-Kay Gamel = *Helios* 32.2 (2005) 73-103.

Blondell, Ruby. "Where is Socrates on the 'Ladder of Love'?" in *Plato's Symposium: Issues in Interpretation and Reception*, eds. James Lesher, Debra Nails, and Frisbee Sheffield (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006) 147-78.

(continued on p. 4)

- Blondell, Ruby. "Hercules Psychotherapist," in *Super/Heroes: From Hercules to Superman*, eds. Wendy Haslem, Angela Ndalians, and Chris Mackie (Washington, DC: New Academia Publishing, 2007) 239-49.
- Blondell, Ruby, ed. *Queer Icons from Greece and Rome = Helios* 35.2 (2008) (with an Introduction).
- Burns, B. E. "Sculpting Antinous," in *Queer Icons from Greece and Rome*, ed. Ruby Blondell = *Helios* 35.2 (2008) 121-42.
- Halperin, David M. *What Do Gay Men Want? An Essay on Sex, Risk, and Subjectivity* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2007; revised edition 2009).
- Joep, James. "Translating Strato: The Role of Translations in the Study of Ancient Sexuality and the Understanding of Classical Erotica." *Mouseion Series III* 5 (2005) 47-57.
- Joep, James. Review of Arnold A. Lelis, William A. Percy, and Beert C. Verstraete, *The Age of Marriage in Ancient Rome. Italian Quarterly* 43.167-8 (Winter/Spring 2006) 91.
- Joep, James and H. Lyman Miller. Review of G. E. R. Lloyd, *The Delusions of Invulnerability: Wisdom and Morality in Ancient Greece, China and Today*. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2006.06.22.
- Joep, James. Review of Werner Krenkel, *Naturalia non Turpia: Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece and Rome*. *Mouseion Series III* 7 (2007) 277-82.
- Joep, James. Review of Geert Roskam, *Live Unnoticed (Lathe biosas): On the Vicissitudes of an Epicurean Doctrine*. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2008.08.12.
- Joep, James. "Lucian's Triumphant Cinaedus and Rogue Lovers." *Helios* 36.1 (2009) 55-65.
- Kamen, Deborah. "The Life Cycle in Archaic Greece," in *The Cambridge Companion to Archaic Greece*, ed. H. A. Shapiro (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007) 85-107.
- Kamen, Deborah. "Servile Invective in Classical Athens." *Scripta Classica Israelica* 28 (2009) 43-56.
- Lear, Andrew and Eva Cantarella. *Images of Ancient Greek Pederasty: Boys Were Their Gods* (London: Routledge, 2008; paperback 2009).
- Lear, Andrew. "Anacreon's 'Self': An Alternative Role Model for the Archaic Elite Male?" *American Journal of Philology* 129.1 (2008) 47-76.
- Lear, Andrew. "Eros," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*, ed. Michael Gagarin (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2010).
- Nugent, Mark. "From 'Filthy Catamite' to 'Queer Icon': Elagabalus and the Politics of Sexuality (1960-1975), in *Queer Icons from Greece and Rome*, ed. Ruby Blondell = *Helios* 35.2 (2008) 171-96.
- Ormand, Kirk. *Controlling Desires: Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome* (Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2009).
- Reitzammer, Laurialan and John Oakley. "A Hellenistic Terracotta and the Gardens of Adonis," *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 125 (2005): 142-4.
- Reitzammer, Laurialan. "Aristophanes' *Adóniazousai*." *Classical Antiquity* 27.2 (2008): 282-333.
- Shapiro, Alan and Nikolaos Kaltsas, eds., *Worshipping Women: Ritual and Reality in Classical Athens* (New York: Onassis Cultural Center, 2008).
- Valentine, Jody. "Lesbians are from Lesbos: Sappho and Identity Construction in *The Ladder*," in *Queer Icons from Greece and Rome*, ed. Ruby Blondell = *Helios* 35.2 (2008) 143-70.

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*If you have any news or would like to review a book, please email the Newsletter Editor, Deborah Kamen (dkamen@u.washington.edu).*