



Διάλογοι

Hellenic-Canadian Academic Association of Ontario (HCAAO)
Ελληνοκαναδική Ένωση Πανεπιστημιακών του Οντάριο (ΕΚΕΠΟ)

Issue 9, November 2000
Τεύχος 9, Νοέμβριος 2000

Τα 10 χρόνια της ΕΚΕΠΟ

Αγαπητά μέλη,

Ήταν πριν 10 χρόνια περίπου, με την ακρίβεια στις 27 Σεπτεμβρίου 1991, όταν έγινε η επίσημη ίδρυση της ΕΚΕΠΟ ως συλλόγου (corporation). Τώρα κοιτάζοντας πίσω δεν μπορούμε παρά να δούμε θετικά την προσφορά της ΕΚΕΠΟ, ανεξάρτητα από τις δυσκολίες που αντιμετωπίζουμε και τις περιόδους μειωμένης δραστηριότητας που περάσαμε παλιότερα. Από την πρώτη στιγμή που ιδρύθηκε η ΕΚΕΠΟ, το κύριο μέλημά μας ήταν η δημιουργία έδρας και προγράμματος Νεοελληνικών Σπουδών σε ένα από τα πανεπιστήμια του Τορόντο. Ήδη τον Ιούλιο του 1992, η τότε πρόεδρος της ΕΚΕΠΟ, Σταυρούλα Πανταζοπούλου παρουσιάζει την πρώτη σχετική πρόταση προς την Επιτροπή Ελληνικών Σπουδών της Ελληνικής Κοινότητας Μητροπολιτικού Τορόντο (ΕΚΜΤ). Οικονομικές και άλλες δυσκολίες, όπως και αλλαγές στις ηγεσίες των βασικών παροικιακών συλλόγων, δεν βοήθησαν την άμεση ευόδωση εκείνης της προσπάθειας. Πρόσφατα, με την συνεργασία της ΕΚΕΠΟ με το Ίδρυμα Ελληνικής Κληρονομιάς (Hellenic Heritage Foundation, HHF), έναν ελληνοκαναδικό οργανισμό επιχειρηματιών, το θέμα της ίδρυσης έδρας Νεοελληνικών Σπουδών προχώρησε γρήγορα και είμαστε στην ευχάριστη θέση να ανακοινώσουμε ότι η συμφωνία με το York έχει υπογραφεί και η συγκέντρωση των χρημάτων προχωρεί σύμφωνα με το πρόγραμμα. Περισσότερες λεπτομέρειες μπορείτε να διαβάσετε στο τμήμα του δελτίου μας "Hellenic Studies". Αυτή ήταν η σημαντικότερη προσφορά της ΕΚΕΠΟ στα 10 χρόνια λειτουργίας της και σε αυτό ακριβώς το θέμα των ελληνικών σπουδών στα πανεπιστήμια ήταν απαραίτητη η συμβολή της ΕΚΕΠΟ, καθώς η ίδρυση μιας πανεπιστημιακής έδρας και η διαμόρφωση ακαδημαϊκού προγράμματος προϋποθέτει, εκτός από οικονομική και νομική συνδρομή, και γνώσεις της λειτουργίας και των θεσμών των πανεπιστημίων. Ελπίζουμε ότι αυτή η προσφορά της ΕΚΕΠΟ, η οποία και απορροφά μεγάλο μέρος του χρόνου μας, βρίσκει υποστήριξη σε κάθε μέλος του συλλόγου.

Annual General Meeting 2000

The Executive Council of HCAAO calls all members and potential members to a General Assembly on
Sunday, December 10, 2000, at 4:00 p.m.,
Room LP266 (or PT266), D. L. Pratt Building,
6 King's College Rd, University of Toronto.
King's College Rd is vertical to College Street and to the east of St. George Street. It is very important that you participate in the meeting and let us know your thoughts and ideas on past and future activities of the association. The meeting is also a great opportunity to meet colleagues from various universities. After the meeting, as it is customary, we will go for a dinner. If you have guests (who are not members), you can arrange that they join us after the meeting. (The telephone number in the meeting room LP266 is 416-978-7386.)

Membership

All members are kindly asked to submit their membership dues for 2001. The amount is \$25. A membership application/renewal form is enclosed. We would appreciate if all past members who forgot to pay their membership dues for 2000 send their dues for both 2000 and 2001 (i.e. a total of \$50). New members pay dues for 2001 only (i.e. \$25). Please make checks payable to the **Hellenic-Canadian Academic Association of Ontario** and mail them to

Prof. Christina Christara
Computer Science Dept., Univ. of Toronto
10 King's College Rd., Toronto
Ontario M5S 3G4

Once we receive your dues, you will be sent a receipt. Those who come to the General Meeting and have not paid their dues will be requested to pay at that time.

Our web site includes a list of our members at <http://www.greekvillage.com/hcaao/members.html>. If you wish to make any changes to the information shown for you, please e-mail ccc@cs.utoronto.ca, or indicate the changes in the membership form.

Hellenic studies

From the Summer of 1999 till January 2000, HCAAO and HHF were working on the text of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) with York University on the establishment of a Chair and Programme in Modern Greek Studies. On January 28, 2000, the MOA was signed by HHF and York University. The Greek Community of Metro-Toronto was also a co-signatory (without financial liability). In brief, the MOA provides for the (a) establishment of a Chair in areas such as Modern Greek History, International Relations and/or Culture and Society; (b) offering of two new full-year (or equivalent) courses in related areas; (c) offering of the current three full-year (or equivalent) courses in Modern Greek Language and Literature on a permanent basis; (d) establishment of the “focus area Greece” within the European Studies Programme; (e) offering of a certificate and/or a honours minor program in Modern Greek Studies; (f) research and student supervision activities in the area of Modern Greek Studies; (g) offering of two public lectures per year on related themes; (h) establishment of a scholarship fund to support students pursuing Modern Greek Studies. The cost of the above is \$2,000,000 of which \$500,000 is provided by York. HHF contributed \$500,000 at the time of the signing and another \$250,000 in July 2000. Several Greek-Canadian organizations including HCAAO contributed smaller amounts. The remaining amount will be raised by HHF and contributed at specific times, the latest being December 31, 2002.

Presentation of Hellenic studies programme to media

On February 10, 2000, the members of the HCAAO executive, Christina Christara and Theodoros Toliás, participated in a meeting with the Hellenic-Canadian Media and representatives of HHF, and of the Greek

Community of Metro-Toronto. C. Christara made a presentation of the academic aspects of the MOA. C. Christara and T. Toliás answered questions raised by the media people and made clarifications on the MOA.

Get-together dinner: past and upcoming

The second HCAAO get-together dinner took place on Sunday, January 30, 2000, at the Toronto Lawn Tennis Club Ltd. Members, potential members and their guests started gathering in the hall around 6 p.m. Chating and drinking were followed by an excellent meal dinner, and a piano and violin performance by Dimitra Marangozi (piano, member of the Royal Conservatory of Music), and Yiannis and Giorgos Tourlakis (violin). The performance included Sonate for violin and piano BWV 1021, and Bach-double, by J. S. Bach. The event closed with popular and demotika Greek songs, played on the piano by Dimitra Marangozi and chorused by all participants.

This academic year, we plan to hold a similar event, possibly with some keynote speaker this time. Most likely, the event will take place some time between end of January and mid February 2001, in the same venue as the past event. We will let you know all the details, when they are set.

Donations by HCAAO

- HCAAO donated a total of \$7000 towards the Hellenic Studies Chair Fund. Of these, \$2000 were the proceeds of the dinner-dance of 1999, and \$5000 were contributions to HCAAO by individuals. For its contribution, HCAAO received the designation “Iris Patron”, the highest of its kind, by HHF. HCAAO is committed to helping the establishment and functioning of the Hellenic Studies Chair and Program in York University, and encourages all its members and the interested public to make their donations, either as organizations or as individuals. (Receipts for charitable donations to be used for tax purposes are issued.) To donate towards the above Fund choose one of the following options:

Option A: Check made payable to

Hellenic Heritage Foundation,
Re: Chair in Hellenic Studies Fund,
and mailed to

Hellenic Heritage Foundation (HHF)
9251 Yonge Street, Suite 303
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 9T3
Tel: (905) 771-7100, Fax: (905) 771-1441

Option B: Check made payable to

York University, Re: Chair in Hellenic Studies Fund,
and mailed to

Attn: Gary Smith, Vice-President
University Advancement
York University
4700 Keele Street
Toronto (North York), Ontario M3J 1P3
Tel: (416) 736-5131

- HCAAO is also committed to promoting university-level education among the Greek-Canadian youth. As a way of promoting this cause, this year, HCAAO awarded a scholarship of \$1000 to a Greek descent university student through the competition of the Hellenic-Canadian Federation of Ontario. The amount was part of the proceeds from the dinner-dance of 2000. The award ceremony took place Saturday, April 8, 2000, 7 p.m., at the Polymenakeion Cultural Centre of the Greek Community of Toronto. Below is the Certificate of Appreciation given to HCAAO for its contribution.

- HCAAO donated \$100 towards the Demetre A. Grammatikos AHEPA Scholarship Fund, in the memory of D. Grammatikos who died so unexpectedly in August 2000.

Εκλογές Δεκεμβρίου 1999

Στις 12 Δεκεμβρίου 1999, πραγματοποιήθηκε η ετήσια τακτική γενική συνέλευση της ΕΚΕΠΙΟ και εξελέγη το νέο διοικητικό συμβούλιο για τα επόμενα δύο χρόνια. Τα μέλη του συμβουλίου παρουσιάζονται στον παρακάτω πίνακα.

<i>Executive Council Member</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Christina Christara President	Depart. of Computer Science University of Toronto
Vladimiro Papangelakis Vice-President	Depart. of Chemical Eng. & Applied Chemistry University of Toronto
Panagiota Klentrou Secretary	Faculty of Applied Health Sciences Brock University
Theodoros Toliadis Vice-secretary	Schulich School of Business York University
Kostas Plataniotis Treasurer	Depart. of Elect. & Comp. Eng. University of Toronto

Other activities

- HCAAO was a co-organizer of the lecture by Dr. Juliana Chrysostomides, of the University of London, England, on "War, Diplomacy and Peace in Byzantium". The event took place on Sunday, May 28, 2000, at 4:30 p.m., at the Theatre of the Royal Ontario Museum (R.O.M.), Theatre room, level One Below, and was offered on the occasion of the permanent Byzantine Exhibit at the Royal Ontario Museum.
- C. Christara, president of HCAAO, met with the Ambassador of Canada to Greece, during the latter's visit to Toronto, last February.

Letter on the 25th of March 2000

On Thursday, April 6, 2000, The Toronto Star published the following letter, written by Prof. Takis Yannopoulos, member and former secretary of HCAAO.

Greeks hurt by scant coverage of independence day parade

Letter of the Day

The Toronto Star, Thursday, April 6, 2000, Page A29

Re the March 27 GTA section article, ‘Protest outside Greek consulate calls for rights for Macedonians,’ about a protest by a small group of people claiming human rights violations in Greece and Greece’s attempt to destabilize the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Star is free to cover any event it wishes. But I object to the way this event was covered. I consider it to be a slap in the face of the Greek community because your newspaper almost ignored a major event that took place on the same day: the Greek Independence Day parade.

The parade was attended by at least 80,000 people, with Ontario Opposition Leader Dalton McGuinty, Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman and the Mayor of Athens, Greece, Dimitris Avramopoulos, and many other dignitaries marching along Danforth Ave. None of these details was reported in your newspaper.

What is even more outrageous to the Greek community is that your combined your scant report of the Greek parade with a detailed report of a small demonstration by about 70 people (and not 200 as you reported) belonging to a small fringe group of individual who have territorial designs on Greece.

Not only that, but through a masterful manipulation of the two events - the parade and the demonstration - and by reporting a number of false accusations against Greece made by protesters, the end result was to tarnish in the eyes of the Canadian public, not only our parade, a source of pride to all Canadians of

Greek descent, but also the good name that Greeks enjoy in this country.

There are no human rights violations in Greece. All ethnic minorities in Greece enjoy the same rights as the rest of the Greek population. Greece is not trying to destabilize the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Western-type democracy, and a full member of NATO and the European Community, Greece is considered to be the only source of stability in the Balkans.

Greece and the republic have enjoyed excellent diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations in the last few years and Greece fully recognizes the newly created country.

Hard-working Canadians of Greek descent are deeply hurt and outraged by your coverage.

Takis Giannopoulos, Toronto

Summary of upcoming events (details inside)

Event	Date
Annual Meeting	10-12-00, 4 p.m.
Get-together-dinner	end of Jan to mid Febr 2001