



Διάλογοι

Hellenic-Canadian Academic Association of Ontario (HCAAO)

Ελληνοκαναδική Ένωση Πανεπιστημιακών του Οντάριο (ΕΚΕΠΟ)

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Message from the President

This second year of the term of this board of directors has been one of the most productive ones. We were able to organize the first HCAAO symposium, April 8, 2017, which brought together Greek and Greek-Canadian members of the academic community of Ontario, allowed them to present their research work in various Ontario universities and affiliated institutions, and facilitated the dissemination to the general public. Furthermore, we continued having a Distinguished Guest Speaker, Professor Michalis Psalidopoulos, who spoke about the global economic crisis of 2008. And our get-together dinner on November 16, 2017, with invited guest Professor Tsotsos was very well attended.

I take this opportunity to thank the members of the executive Christina Christara, Sakis Gekas, Dimitris Hatzinakos, Petros Pechlivanoglou for all their hard work. I extend my special thanks to Ioannis Dimitriou, whose help, together with Petros Pechlivanoglou and Sakis Gekas, in organizing the symposium was invaluable; and to Christina Christara for maintaining the website and editing this newsletter.

Finally, I call all members and potential members to come to the General Meeting (see further), and engage in one way or another in our activities.

HCAAO 2017 Annual General Meeting and Elections

The Executive Council of HCAAO calls all members and potential members to a General Meeting on

Sunday, December 10, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.,

Room WB 215, Wallberg Building, 200 College Street (west of University Avenue, just east of St. George Street) at the U. of Toronto. If you encounter problems entering the building, please call 905 510 8591. We look forward to seeing you there.

The agenda includes elections and is as follows:

Agenda

- Approval of the 2016 AGM minutes
- President's report
- Treasurer's report
- Elections for executive council
- Activities for 2018
- Other items

First HCAAO Symposium

The Hellenic-Canadian Academic Association of Ontario (HCAAO) gave a unique opportunity to the members of the Greek and Greek-Canadian academic community in Ontario to come together, exchange ideas and present their research work to the academic community and the general public. This one-day conference was the first ever such conference, and attracted the participation of more than 150 academics and non-academics. It featured 17 faculty members talks and 7 student presentations, lively coffee breaks and a lunch with plenty of discussion.

Later in the afternoon, Professor Michalis Psalidopoulos gave the keynote lecture, as part of the long-held by HCAAO annual *Distinguished Guest Speaker Series* (DGSS), and a panel of five faculty members contributed their ideas and stirred the discussion.

You can see more details in <http://www.hcaao.org/?p=1916> or <https://hcaaosymposium.com>

Hellenic Studies Program at York U

The Hellenic Studies Program at York University and its Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Modern Greek History continue a successful course, with several activities, besides the three courses on Modern Greek Language and two courses on Modern Greek History. An indicative, but not exhaustive list of activities this year is given here:

- (1) An event on the 100 years from the November 1916 battle of Athens, and Greece's entry to the great War, presentation by Professor Sakis Gekas, Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair, Modern Greek History, York University [2017-01-31];
- (2) A dialogue on the Greek immigrant experience, presentation by Professor Sakis Gekas, within the community conversations organized by York University [19-03-2017];
- (3) A student conference on research on Greece, which was the first of its kind [2017-03-24];
- (4) Book presentations for "Xenocracy", a book by Professor Sakis Gekas [2017-04-04 and 2017-04-05];
- (5) Screening of the video "Trojan horse" on Greek-Canadian political activism, with help by the Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections at York University and the Greek Canadian History Project [2017-06-18];
- (6) A lecture by Professor Michalis Spourdalakis of the University of Athens on the methodological traditions on the state-society relationship in current Greece [2017-10-10];
- (7) A lecture by Professor Sakis Gekas on the immigration from Macedonia to Canada 1900-1940 [2017-10-11];
- (8) A presentation on the history of Greek immigrants in Canada from 1950 to 1970, by the research groups of McGill University, Simon Fraser University, University of Patras and York University [2017-10-18];
- (9) Screening of the film "Greece Year Zero", by director Dannis Koromilas and cinematography by Nick Kouros and Ilias Adamis, an epic documentary the compresses 200 years of Greek history into 77 fascinating minutes [2017-10-26];

Hellenic Studies Program at UT

The curriculum of this program offers modern Greek language at the beginner/intermediate/advanced levels along with a political science course at the third-year level on contemporary Greek politics and a fourth-year seminar on Greece, the Balkans and the European Union. All courses are taught within the European Studies undergraduate program, offered by the Centre of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CERES), under the auspices of the Munk School of Global Affairs. Furthermore, the curriculum was the base for several activities, including

- (1) A lecture on Odysseas Elytis, The Poet of the Aegean, by Professor Themistoklis Aravossitas, [2017-03-02];
- (2) A dance and theatre performance "Aegean - The Sea of Peace, Civilization and Humanity" along with a parade of traditional costumes [2017-03-02];
- (3) A field trip in Greece, for the students of the fourth-year seminar course;
- (4) A lecture by Professor Thanos Veremis titled "The West in search of its identity in three simultaneous states of mind: Pre-modern, modern and post-modern" [2017-03-23]

Other contributions by our members

- Professor Sakis Gekas, HHF Modern Greek History Chair, York University, gave a lecture titled "100 years of History: The National Schism and the participation of Greece in WORLD War I. Greece on the verge of civil war", organized by the Panmacedonian Association [2017-01-26];
- Professors Sakis Gekas (York U), Anastassios Anastasiadis (McGill), Panayiotis Pappas (Simon Fraser) and Angeliki Ralli (U of Patras) are collaborating on a project funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation to study the language and history of Hellenism in Canada. The program includes the development of a digital archive.
- Professor Themistoklis Aravossitas (U Toronto) with a group of researchers from Canadian and Greek universities are conducting a study on various aspects of a new wave of Greek migration, at least partly stemming from the economic crisis in Greece.

HCAAO Get-together Dinner 2017

The Hellenic Canadian Academic Association Annual Dinner of 2016 was held on Thursday, November 16, 2017, 7-10pm, at the Faculty Club, University of Toronto, 41 Willcocks Street.

Our guest speaker was Professor John Tsotsos, Department of Computer Science, York University. John is Distinguished Research Professor of Vision Science and has received many national and international awards. Among his distinctions, he was elected as Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2010 and

was awarded its 2015 Sir John William Dawson Medal for sustained excellence in multidisciplinary research, the first computer scientist to be so honoured. More information about the lecture and the speaker in <http://www.hcaao.org/?p=2017>

The dinner was attended by about 70 colleagues and guests, and the talk was followed by a fruitful Q&A session and discussion.

We thank our distinguished guest and all members and guests for their participation, and, most importantly,

Rose Hill Wineries

for their sponsorship of the wine, and

The School - Fine Dining

for their gift certificate, awarded by lottery to one of the attendees.

Membership

All members are kindly asked to submit their membership dues for 2018. The amount is \$30. A membership application/renewal form can be downloaded from http://www.hcaao.org/?page_id=29 We would appreciate if all past members who forgot to pay their membership dues for 2017 send their dues for both 2017 and 2018 (i.e. a total of \$55, as the fee was \$25 until 2017). New members pay dues for 2018 only (i.e. \$30). Please make checks payable to the **Hellenic-Canadian Academic Association of Ontario** and mail them to

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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 website includes a list of our members at http://www.hcaao.org/?page_id=11

If you wish to make any changes to the information shown for you, please e-mail ccc@cs.toronto.edu.

Renew your membership today!!!