

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FACULTY OF HELLENIC STUDIES

Centre for Studies on the Classical Tradition in Poland and East-Central Europe (OBTA)

University of Warsaw

2004/2005

A. ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

1. HELLENIC STUDIES (MODERN GREEK PHILOLOGY) - THE THREE-YEAR PROGRAMME (B.A.)

The academic year 2004/2005 was the second year of the functioning of the three-year programme of studies for a B.A. in Modern Greek Philology at OBTA. During the summer examination session 2004/2005 19 2nd year students and 14 3rd year students took their examinations.

So far 8 diplomas have been obtained. The subjects of the theses were as follows:

1. Justyna Jezior, Τα χαρακτηριστικά της σύγχρονης κρητικής διαλέκτου (Characteristic features of the Cretan dialect - June 2004),
2. Jacek Raszewski, Η Ελληνική Επανάσταση 1821 στα έργα των Δ. Σολωμού και του Α. Κάλβου (The Greek revolution in 1821 in the works by D.Solomos and A.Kalvos - June 2004),
3. Karolina Berezowska, Η Αθήνα στο μυθιστόρημα του Μένη Κουμανδάρη «Δυο φορές Έλληνας» (Athens in the work by Menis Koumandareas 'Greek Twice' -June 2004),
4. Katarzyna Kosim, Ο Καρυωτάκης όχι μόνο μελαγχολικός. Μια περιγραφή της ποιητικής δημιουργίας (Kariotakis - not only melancholical. A presentation of his poetic work - December 2004),
5. Barbara Malinowska, Ανάλυση και ερμηνεία του μυθιστορήματος της επιστημονικής φαντασίας «Εγώ είμαι ο Κύριος ο Θεός σου» του Κ. Ρωμοσίου (The analysis and the interpretation of the science-fiction novel 'I am the Lord, your God' by K.Romosios - April 2005),
6. Katarzyna Losson, Απελευθερωτικός αγώνας στην Κύπρο από την όψη των νεαρών αγωνιστών της μέσα στα διηγήματα της Ρ. Ιωαννίδου-Σταύρου (The

independence struggle in Cyprus from the perspective of its young participants as presented in the short stories by R. Yoannidou - Stavrou - May 2005),

7. Konrad Kuczara, Έλληνες στην ιστορία της Ορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας στην Πολωνία (1588-1620) (Greeks in the history of Orthodox Church in Poland 1588-1620 - May 2005),
8. Małgorzata Kazimierska, Η ποίηση του Κώστα Καρυωτάκη στα μάτια της ελληνικής κριτικής του Μεσοπολέμου (The poetry by Kostas Kariotakis as seen by Greek criticism of the Inter-war period - June 2005).

Theses by the following students are being prepared and shall be completed soon:

1. Katarzyna Ceynowa
2. Łukasz Dawid
3. Monika Wiśniewska
4. Małgorzata Eder
5. Małgorzata Liśkiewicz
6. Katarzyna Nodzykowska
7. Filip Taranienko

In the coming academic year, a new group of 1st year students will be accepted (up to 20 people). Entrance examinations will take place between July 13 and 15.

2. POSTGRADUATE HALLENIC STUDIES - THE TWO-YEAR PROGRAMME

21 students study at the Postgraduate Studies (11 in the 1st year and 10 in the 2nd year). A thesis titled 'Adamantios Korais - an editor of Homer' is being prepared.

3. CERTIFICATE OF ATTAINMENT IN MODERN GREEK

In the academic year 2004/2005, on May 18-19, examinations for the Certificate of Attainment in Modern Greek (of the Centre for the Greek Language of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs in Thessaloniki) took place at OBTA for the second time ever on 3 levels (level 2 - 16 candidates, level 3 - 13 candidates, level 4 - 1 candidate). The candidates come not only from Warsaw, but also from other Polish cities: Puławy, Legnica, Gliwice, Ruda Śląska, Elbląg, Rybnik, Solec Kujawski, Gdańsk, Kielce and Jelenia Góra.

The results are expected towards the end of July.

4. SCHOLARSHIPS

This year 10 students will participate in the summer programmes of Greek language and culture in Greece (ΘΥΕΣΠΑ at the University of Athens and IMXA in Thessaloniki) – 5 scholarship holders from the 2nd year and 3 of the 3rd year of Modern Greek Philology, and 2 scholarship holders – students of the postgraduate programme.

Every year some of our students are granted IKY yearly scholarships. 3 students applied this year. At the moment, 3 of our students are studying at the University of Athens (Michał Marszał – 2nd year, Magdalena Krystecka – 3rd year, Karolina Berezowska – PhD candidate).

Moreover, Jacek Raszewski, a graduate of Modern Greek Philology (and a student of the Interdepartmental Individual Studies in the Humanities - MISH), obtained a yearly scholarship at the University of Athens within the ERASMUS programme.

B. ACADEMIC AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE FACULTY OF HELLENIC STUDIES

The staff and the students of the Faculty of Hellenic Studies have taken part in publications and in conferences related to the promotion of Greek culture.

We are continuing our work on the next volumes of the series MASTERPIECES OF MODERN GREEK LITERATURE, edited by Professor Małgorzata Borowska.

1. Greek Folktales. An anthology (volume 5 and 6) – introduction, translation, comments (with the students' participation)
2. Letters by Adamantios Korais. An anthology (volume 7) – introduction, translation, comments (with the students' participation)

The Faculty has begun a new academic project by OBTA titled 'Philhellenism in Poland in the 19th and 20th century. Polish characteristics and the European framework'. The project is the outcome of our long-lasting research on the reception of Greek culture in Central-Eastern Europe and it is based on monographic research on Polish and European Philhellenism in the 19th century.

Γ. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRANSLATIONS

In March, Paweł Krupka, a Polish diplomat who has been co-operating with the Faculty, was awarded the prize of the Greek Literary Translators Association for a collection of translations of Greek literature which was published last year and was titled 'From

Parnassus to Olympus'. Teachers and students from the Faculty contributed to the translations.

Professor Małgorzata Borowska was awarded a prize of the famous Polish magazine 'Literatura na świecie' (Literature in the World) for her critical translation of the work 'Military Stratagems' by Polianios (a Greek orator of the 2nd century A.D.).

Karolina Obuch (3rd year), with the assistance of Paweł Krupka, published a collection of poems by Maria Mistrioti in Polish translation. Other translations are being prepared. Monika Wiśniewska (3rd year) is translating Panayotis Tsutakos' poems, Małgorzata Kazimierska (3rd year) a text on pro-Homeric poetry. Małgorzata Eder (3rd year) selected poems by Nikos Anoghis from the collection «Αδελφέ μου άνθρωπε» ('My bother, man').

5. PhD THESES

The following PhD theses are being prepared at the Faculty of Hellenic Studies:

1. Przemysław Kordos (PhD studies of the Interdepartmental Individual Studies in the Humanities MISH), The image of Greece in the texts by 20th century Polish travelers
2. Paweł Krupka, «Άξιον εστί» by O. Elitis,
3. Karolina Berezowska (PhD studies of the Interdepartmental Individual Studies in the Humanities MISH), thesis on the Greek language in the context of translation theory.

6. CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

A unique introductory conference on 'Philhellenism in Poland in the 19th and 20th century. Polish characteristics and the European framework. Introduction to the programme'. (March 26, 2005, University of Warsaw).

Speakers:

1. Professor J. Axer 'Philhellenism in Poland'
2. Professor M. Kalinowska (head of the programme) 'Introduction to Polish philhellenism'
3. Professor M. Borowska «Why do we need Modern Greek studies in Poland?'
4. Dr J. Ławski 'Romanticism and Eastern tradition: issues concerning research'

It has become a tradition to organize Greek evenings every last Wednesday of the month:

1. Yorghos Stasinakis (President of the International Association of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis), Kazantzakis the poet (October 2004)
2. Nikos Serghis (University of Budapest), The civil war and art. The case of Greek cinema. (December 2004)
3. Przemysław Kordos, Athens 2005 – photographs from Athens in winter (February 2005)
4. Tomasz Kozłowski, Contemporary trends in modern Greek music (April 2005)

In November 2004, the Faculty created a film club where only the Faculty's students have the chance to watch famous and important Greek films. 10-30 fans of Greek cinema come every time that a meeting is organized to play a film at the club. During the academic year 6 films were presented: «Ποτέ την Κυριακή», «Zorba the Greek», «Η δε γυνή να φοβείται τον άνδρα», «Κάλπικη λύρα», «Πολίτικη κουζίνα» and «Νύφες».

7. CO-OPERATION

The Faculty continues its co-operation with the Greek Dance Theatre «Dora Stratou». The theatre asked us to find images of Greek costumes in the collections of the last Polish king, Stanisław August Poniatowski. The Faculty found many such representations from the beginning of the 18th century, and it will probably present them to the public in November, together with fragments of 20 Polish travellers' books related to Greek dance. We also continue our meetings with Mrs Dora Stratou.

Alicja Mierzejewska, a student of the 2nd year of Modern Greek philology, co-operates with the 'CHOREA' Dance Theatre in Gardzienice, which is making attempts at reviving ancient dance and music. The theatre will present the results of its research during dance classes which will take place at the Centre for Studies on the Classical Tradition (OBTA) at the end of July (as part of a conference devoted to the reception of ancient tradition in Poland).

The Faculty co-operates with the Association of Friends of Greece seated in Warsaw. Przemysław Kordos gave a lecture on contemporary Epirus (November 2004) and contributed to an evening devoted to Greek carnival (April 2005). The Faculty also participated in the organization of the Kite Day (May 2005), as well as the organization of Greek Days (January 2005) – Ourania Lalioti taught elements of Byzantine iconography, as she does every year.

The Faculty's two students will take place in an educational project of the Polish community in Athens. It is an initiative of the Polish bookshop (Mihail Voda 19 Str.,

Athens) to give a chance to Poles living and working in Athens to gain at least basic knowledge of Greek. The classes will take place all summer.

8. LIBRARY - NEW BOOKS

The library of the Faculty of Hellenic Studies, apart from some books purchased on our own, was enriched by valuable gifts, mainly from the Greek Ministry of Culture: in total from the beginning of 2005 our collection has grown by around 130 books and now includes over 3000 volumes, covered in the 'Archimedes' electronic catalogue, available at <http://www.psh.obta.uw.edu.pl/files/archi.php>.

9. PLANS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2004/2005 AND THE FOLLOWING

The Faculty has the following plans:

1. Co-organization of the 1st international conference 'Philhellenism in Poland in the 19th and 20th century. Polish characteristics and the European framework' (February 2006, OBTA), with around 20 speakers from Poland and abroad.
2. Organization of an academic tour in Greece to complete the classes on Greek ethnography. A group of teachers and students of the Faculty of Hellenic Studies is preparing the programme of the tour. The aim is to enrich the B.A. theses which are being prepared with inspiration and material. The tour is projected for September 2005.
3. Following an offer by «Wiedza Powszechna» publishing house, the Faculty of Hellenic Studies is planning to prepare a new Polish-Greek/Greek-Polish dictionary, according to EU standards, with the contribution of our students. The dictionary will be larger than the dictionary by T.A. Kamboureli (1999 και 2002), which has already been published. The «Wiedza Powszechna» publishing house will provide a list of entries in Polish. In addition, the same publishing house commissioned a general manual of Modern Greek ('Modern Greek for beginners') within the framework of a popular series of manuals „Mówimy po...” ('We speak...').
4. Organization of the international conference on 'Philhellenism in Poland'. The conference is part of the programme devoted to Polish philhellenism and, in a wider context, to the reception of Greek heritage in Poland.