TRENDS AND TURNING-POINTS:
CONSTRUCTING THE LATE ANTIQUE AND
BYZANTINE WORLD (C. 300 - C. 1500)

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY BYZANTINE SOCIETY’S
18TH INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE CONFERENCE

26TH – 27TH FEBRUARY 2015
ERTEGUN HOUSE, OXFORD
**Trends and Turning-Points: Constructing the Late Antique and Byzantine World (c. 300 - c. 1500)**
The Oxford University Byzantine Society’s 18th International Graduate Conference
26th – 27th February 2015
Erdington House, Oxford

Friday 26th February 2015

09:00 Registration & Coffee

09:30 Matthew Kinloch
(OUBS President)
Opening Address

10:00

1a. Material Turning-Points?
Chair: Kristina Terpoy
Agnes Kriza
((Newnham College, Cambridge)
Was not the Schism 1054 a Real Turning Point? – An Art Historical Perspective

Hugh Jeffrey
(Lincoln College, Oxford)
Eight Hundred Years of the Cult of the Archangels at Aphrodisias/Stauropolis

Sebnem Donbekci
(Koç University)
The Fresco Cycle of Saint Francis in Constantinople

1b. Trends in Byzantine Scholarship
Chair: Nicholas Evans
Francesco Lovino
(Institute of Art History, Academy of Science of the Czech Republic)
Constructing the Past through the Present. The Eurasian View of Byzantium through the Pages of Seminarium Kondakovianum (1927-1938)

Anna Kelley
(University of Birmingham)
Re-excavating the Archaeological Textile: 19th Century Practice and Modern Scholarship

Sukanya Rai Sharma
(St John’s College, Oxford)
The Place of North Italy in the Sixth Century

11:30 Coffee Break

12:00

2a. Monastic Trajectories
Chair: Lucy Parker
Matteo Antoniazzi
(University of Pavia)
The Monastic Revolution: The Case of Sozomen’s Church History

Jeannie Sellick
(University of Virginia)
Foul and Holy Love: Reshaping the Family in the Age of Asceticism

Elif Demirtiken
(Central European University)
From the Komnenoi to the Palaiologoi, Changing Trends of Monastic Patronage in Constantinople

2b. Genre, Narrative & Discourse
Chair: Mirela Ivanova
Hana Coutilová Bohnová
(Masaryk University)
Mirrors for Princes: Genuine Byzantine Genre or Academic Construct?

Laura Borghetti
(University of Rome III)
The Power of the Cross; The Role of the Helper in Cassia’s Hymns’ Narratological Structure and its Doctrinal Implications

Maria Rukavichnikova
(King’s College, London)
Laughing up the Sleeve: The Ironic Discourse in George Pachymeres’ Historia

13:30
Lunch

14:30

3a. Thirteenth Century as Turning Point
Chair: Matthew Kinloch
Adam Simmons
(Lancaster University)
The Nubian King in Constantinople (1204): Trend or Turning Point?

Lilyana Yordanova
(Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris)
Patronage and Imperial Ideology during the Second Bulgarian Tsardom

Milan Vukasinovic
(University of Belgrade & EHESS, Paris)
Doings and Telling: Diplomacy and Administration in the 13th Century

3b. Renewal, Reinvention and Empire
Chair: Joseph Dawson
Sihong Lin
(University of Manchester)
The Man and the Hour: Imperial Renewal under Constans II (641-668)

Theresia Raum
(University of Tübingen)
οὐκ ἐξεν βασιλεύ ἐφοσακε καταλιμάνειν βασιλεύ καὶ ταῖς πόρρῳ ἐπιχειράζειν δυνάμειν (Niceph. brev. 2), The Reinvention of the Soldier-Emperor under Heracleius

Lauren Wainwright
(University of Birmingham)
A Cut Above the Rest: Turning-Points in Imperial Imagery in Late Antiquity

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30

4a. Trends in the Built Environment
Chair: Hugh Jeffrey
Audrey Scardina
(University of Edinburgh)
Churches through Time: An Analysis of the Patterns and Trends of Ecclesiastical Architecture from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages

Panayiotis Panayides
(Ustinnov College, Durham)
The Life History of Statues in the Public Baths at Salamis, Cyprus: Changes and Continuities from 300 AD to 700 AD

Stephen Humphreys
(University College, Durham)
Ecclesiastical Influence on Water Systems in Byzantine Palestine

4b. Constructing Barbarians & Romans
Chair: Michael Stawpert
Joseph Dawson
(Oriel College, Oxford)
The End of Imperium Sine Fine: River Borders in the 4th Century

Ulriika Vihervalli
(Cardiff University)
What we Talk About When we Talk About War: A Re-examination of Clerical ‘Reactions’ to Barbarians

Aleksander Paradziński
(Kellogg College, Oxford)
From Warlords and Roman Officials to Kings

18:00 Wine Reception

20:00 Speakers’ Dinner
Saturday 27th February 2015

09:00
Registration & Coffee

10:00
5a. Rethinking Byzantine Italy: Sources and Approaches
Chair: Nicholas Matheou
Maria Vrij (University of Birmingham)
*From a Numismatic Turning Point to a Historical One: The Mint of Syracuse in the Ninth Century*

Panagiotis Theodoropoulos (King’s College, London)
*The Last Eparch of Italy: An Interpretation of the Sigillographic Evidence*

Andrew Small (Kellogg College, Oxford)
*A Maniac, the Weasel and the Meaning of Empire: Byzantine Italy c.1020-40*

5b. Urban Trends and Visible Turning-Points
Chair: Sukanya Rai-Sharma
Shih-Cong Fan Chiang (King’s College, London)
*From Provincial Cities to Capitals: The Changing Patterns of the Sasanids’ Resettlement of Roman Captives in Late Antiquity*

Mirela Ivanova (Balliol College, Oxford)
*The Madara Horseman and the Culture of Writing in Early Bulgarian Inscriptions, (c.700-850)*

Elie de Rosen (University of Birmingham)
*The Fate of Urban Settlements in Middle Byzantine Greece*

11:30
Coffee Break

12:00
6a. Reception and Debate
Chair: Lynton Boshoff
Adrian Pirtea (Free University of Berlin)
*Feeling the Difference: Is the Syriac Reception of Evagrius a Turning Point in the History of Late Antique Mysticism?*

Peter Bara (University of Szeged)
*The Komnenian Iconoclast Debate: Turning Point in a Byzantine Religious Trend?*

Francesco Monticini (University of Rome III & EHESS, Paris)
*The Mythical and the Mystical: A Re-reading of Synesius’ On Dreams in the Light of Gregoras’ Commentary*

6b. Trends in Thought and Identity
Chair: David Barritt
Alasdair Grant (Corpus Christi College, Oxford)
*Byzantium’s Ashes and the Bones of St Nicholas: Two Translations as Turning Points, 1087-1100*

Grigory Vorobyev (Sapienza University of Rome)
*The Place of Humanism in the Byzantine Identity Evolution: Theodore Gaza’s Case*

Gunay Heyderli (Baku State University)
*Indulgences and the Crusade against the Turks*

13:30
Lunch

14:30
7a. Empire, Heretics and the Eastern Fringe
Chair: Alex MacFarlane
Jonas Nilsson (Exeter College, Oxford)
*The Emperor is for Turning: Alexios Komnenos, John the Oxite and the Persecution of Heretics*

Nicholas Matheou (Pembroke College, Oxford)
*Heresy and Society in Eleventh-Century Caucasian: Re-Thinking “Paulicanism” and the “T’ondrakian Movement”*

Kosuke Nakada (University of Tokyo)
*Omens of Expansionism? A Reconsideration of the Caucasian Chapters of De Administrando Imperio*

Nicholas Tsagkaropoulos (King’s College, London)
*Leo I and the Transformation of the Papacy*

David Barritt (St Cross College, Oxford)

18:00
Closing Remarks

18:30
Wine Reception

20:30
Conference Dinner (all welcome)