



Bulletin 2020

Καλώς ορίσατε!

Welcome to the seventh electronic Bulletin of the MGSA! This Bulletin presents current MGSA events and concerns in the form of a short newsletter. Further information about the MGSA's goals, activities, programs, and faculty can be found on [the association's website](#).

If you are not already a member, please consider supporting the MGSA with your membership dues and/or a voluntary contribution. You can register online. We thank you for your support.

Membership

Support



Brian Willer, "Greek Groups : Dancers at Toronto City Hall, 1970,"
York University Libraries | Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections online
exhibits, <https://archives.library.yorku.ca/items/show/3847>.

The newly elected Executive Board of the MGSA

assumed its responsibilities for a three-year term at its October 2020 meeting. The Executive Board (EB) comprises twelve members and one graduate student representative, namely: Elsa Amanatidou (Brown); Elizabeth A. Davis (Princeton); Joanna Eleftheriou (Christopher Newport University); Sakis Gekas (York University, Toronto); Neovi Karakatsanis (Indiana University, South Bend); Elektra Kostopoulou (NJIT/Rutgers University); Despina Lalaki (CUNY – Baruch); Panayotis League (Florida State University); Artemis Leontis (University of Michigan); Nikos Panou (Stony Brook University); Tom Papademetriou (Stockton University); and Katerina Zacharia (Loyola Marymount, Los Angeles). Sappho Papantonopoulou (University of Arizona) is the Graduate Student Representative. The governing body is assisted in its duties by Vangelis Calotychos (Brown), the Executive Director.

At its first meeting—conducted online by zoom—the EB elected its four officers for the new term: Tom Papademetriou (President); Artemis Leontis (Vice President); Despina Lalaki (Secretary); and Katerina Zacharia (Treasurer).

27th MGSA SYMPOSIUM, 13-16 October, 2022

One of the first duties of the new MGSA Executive Board was to consider whether to postpone our 27th MGSA Symposium, due to be held in 2021. Given the tremendous uncertainty surrounding the course of the COVID pandemic, the EB decided to reschedule the Symposium for one year later. The 27th MGSA Symposium will now be held in-person at York University, Toronto, Canada on 13-16 October, 2022. Alongside Professor Sakis Gekas, the Hellenic Studies Program & the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair of Modern Greek History at York, the MGSA looks forward to welcoming to Canada scholars and friends from around the world in the spirit of lively intellectual exchange. We all eagerly anticipate getting to know Toronto's vibrant Greek Canadian community, its history, and its neighborhoods!

THE MGSA PRIZES

As a result of the postponement and rescheduling of the MGSA Symposium, the Executive Board proceeded to push back all prize deadlines by a year. Books, translations, edited volumes, dissertations and graduate student essays should now be submitted by the following deadlines:

2022 Keeley Book Prize, 1 April, 2022

2022 MGSA Constantinides Memorial Translation Prize, 1 April, 2022

2022 Karagiannaki Prize for Best Edited Volume, 1 April, 2022

2022 Iatrides Best Dissertation Prize, 1 April, 2022

2022 Papacosma Graduate Student Essay Prize, 31 July 2022

Detailed information about prize guidelines and rules may be found [on the prize pages beginning with the Keeley Book Prize.](#)

The prizes are awarded on the first evening of the symposium, at the opening ceremony.

MGSA STATEMENT ON ANTI-RACISM AND SOLIDARITY WITH BLACK LIVES MATTER

“The Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA) mourns the death of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tamir Rice and countless others who have lost their lives due to police violence. We condemn racialized terror and the oppression of Black people and stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and other social movements that are working to address the pernicious effects of systemic racism on society. We urge our scholarly community to listen to and learn from those who experience racism. Academic organizations such as ours that bring together scholars and practitioners from a range of disciplines and backgrounds must contribute to the cultivation of the critical dialogues that are essential to addressing these entrenched injustices and the development of lasting and equitable solutions. To that end, we encourage Modern Greek Programs to incorporate anti-racist pedagogies and activities that contribute to raising consciousness about the experiences of those whose lives are negatively impacted by racism.”

—MGSA Executive Board, 2 July, 2020

MEET OUR NEW MGSA PRESIDENT, TOM PAPADEMETRIOU

Dr. Tom Papademetriou is the Constantine and Georgiean Georgiou Endowed Professor of Greek History, and Director of the Dean C. and Zoë S. Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies of Stockton University. A graduate of both Hellenic College (BA, 1988) and Holy Cross School of Theology (M. Divinity, 1992), Dr. Papademetriou received his Ph.D. in 2001 from Princeton University's Department of Near Eastern Studies in Ottoman History. Conducting research in the Ottoman Archives, the Archives of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul, and at the Centre for Asia Minor Studies in Athens, he focuses on the history of non-Muslims under Ottoman rule, especially the relations of the Greek Orthodox Church and State in the early Ottoman centuries which is the subject of his book, *Render Unto the Sultan* published by Oxford University Press, (Oxford, 2015).

Dr. Papademetriou has been awarded multiple research fellowships including from the Social Science Research Council, the American Research Institute in Turkey, and Dumbarton Oaks Byzantine Research Center-Harvard University. Most recently he was appointed Edwin C. and Elizabeth A. Whitehead Member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. Dr. Papademetriou also directs an international collaborative project called the Anatolian Churches Project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. As a member of the Historical Studies faculty of Stockton University since 2001, he teaches courses on the history of the Ottoman Empire, Islam and Eastern Christianity, Hellenism (Memory & Identity), Tourkokratia, Balkan, and Middle East history.

He lives in Linwood, NJ with his wife, Dorrie, who directs MudGirls Studios, a non-profit organization assisting women in poverty.

Journal of Modern Greek Studies: From the Editors

With the publication of our 2020 issues, the Journal has now fully completed our transition to the ScholarOne system. The platform has made the process of submission much simpler for all of us—authors, editors, and reviewers. We are also pleased to report that, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the Journal has been published on time.

Some statistics:

- * We are averaging 90.6 days from submission to final decision.
- * Over the last 12 months, we have received about 50 article submissions.
- * Our May 2020 issue featured 10 articles plus a special section introduction plus 8 book reviews, while our October 2020 featured 11 articles plus a special section introduction plus 6 book reviews.
- * The 2020 volume of the *JMGS* (Vol. 38; 38.1=May 2020 + 38.2=October 2020) is a total of 595 pages in length.

Our May 2020 issue featured a special section guest edited by UCLA professor Sharon Gerstel on the Greek village, while our October 2020 issue featured a special section on ruins, guest edited by Maria Boletsi and Ipek Celik.



Further planned special sections include ones on the Greek bicentennial ([May 2021, edited by Yanni Kotsonis](#)); one on political violence (May 2022, edited by Vassiliki Georgiadou and Lamprini Rori); on the centenary of the 1922 population exchange (October 2022, edited by Kristina Gedgaudaite and William Stroebl).

We have now developed extensive written guidelines for guest editors.

Kostis Kourelis, Arts & Humanities book editor, stepped down at the end of his term in December 2020. We are grateful to him for his years of outstanding service, as well as for being a source of stability and wisdom during the editorial transition at the start of 2019. We are pleased to announce that Joanna Eleftheriou, assistant professor of English at Christopher Newport University, replaces him as the Arts & Humanities book editor position for a term of three years effective January 1, 2021. Katerina Lagos remains the Book Review Editor for Social & Behavioral Sciences until the end of her term in 2022.

As of January 1, 2021, we are also pleased to announce the appointment of a new Editorial Board (2021-2023). We are grateful to all these prominent scholars for their willingness to serve.

Arts & Humanities

Elsa Amanatidou (Brown University)
Maria Boletsi (University of Amsterdam)
Doxis Doxiadis (Simon Fraser University)
Karen Emmerich (Princeton University)
Demetris Plantzos (University of Athens)
Konstantina Zanou (Columbia University)

Social & Behavioral Sciences

Athena Athanasiou (Panteion University)
Spyros Economides (LSE)
Laurie Kain Hart (UCLA)
Harris Mylonas (George Washington University)
Theodoros Rakopoulos (University of Oslo)
Susannah Verney (University of Athens)

Respectfully submitted,
Antonis Ellinas & Johanna Hanink, *JMGS* editors

The cover photo for *JMGS*, October 2020 (Vol. 38: No. 2) Photograph by Jelmer Nicolai. *Monument to Themistocles* with the abandoned fertilizer factory of Drapetsona and its emblematic chimney in the background, 2018.

Ergon: Greek/American Arts and Letters

Ergon: Greek/American Arts and Letters, the online journal in Greek/American and Greek Transnational Studies is a recipient of three-year start-up support from the MGSA (2018-2020). *Ergon* is open access.

The journal features position papers on the status of transnational Greek/American studies, new research on migration and history, ethnography, religion, music, and analyses of literary works, art works, and films. It includes essays, memoirs, and translations, and it also showcases new creative work in fiction, poetry, and photography. It hosts reviews and review essays of new books, or important books that have been previously neglected, in the field of Greek/American studies, as well as reviews of films, documentaries, and museum exhibits that feature the Greek/American experience. *Ergon* also features interviews with writers, artists, and scholars, and it publishes special guest-edited issues. Submissions and guest editors are solicited by invitation only.

[Do check it out!](#)

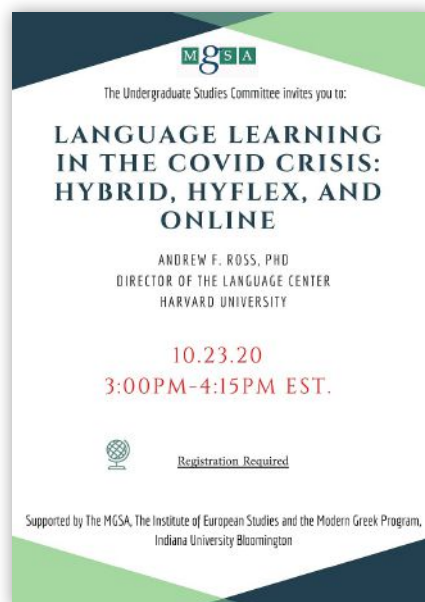
MGSA Greek Language Pedagogy Workshop

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the current pandemic, the 9th biennial Modern Greek Language Pedagogy Workshop, scheduled to take place in Bloomington, Indiana, at Indiana University, on November 6-8, 2020, was postponed. In its place, the Undergraduate Committee announced a series of four webinars on issues of online and hybrid delivery for the academic year, 2020-2021. The first two of the four webinars were held in the Fall semester. The webinars were supported by the MGSA, the Institute of European Studies & the Modern Greek Program, Indiana University Bloomington. Details of the first two webinars are as follows:

MGSA Greek Language Pedagogy Webinar I

Andrew Ross, Director of the Language Center, Harvard University

The present crisis, as challenging as it is for language programs across the country and the world, has perhaps finally put to rest the question of whether languages can be taught successfully online, or in an environment in which student and faculty co-presence is not always physical. Clearly, high-quality learning experiences can be crafted and employed across a variety of instructional modalities. The most common and best understood of these is the hybrid model, in which elements of the curriculum are delivered in an asynchronous environment, often the institution's learning management system (LMS), and students are primed for synchronous activities in a face-to-face environment (Laurillard 2002). Perhaps less well-researched is the distance learning modality, in which all interactions between teacher and student, and student and student, occur without recourse to a physical environment that all participants occupy together. The popularity of such online courses is increasing, often in response to financial and physical pressures associated with face-to-face instruction, and the perception on the part of administrators that language learning can benefit from the same economies of scale that other subjects do. Research in this area tends to focus on qualitative, rather than quantitative aspects of the student experience, and longitudinal studies of learning outcomes are less well-represented in the literature than one might wish (Blake 2013). Finally, a newly-salient mode of instruction, HyFlex, combines face-to-face instruction with online affordances to allow students to choose which of these modalities they wish to participate in at any given point in the course. Conceived at San Francisco State University in 2006 (Beatty 2007), HyFlex provided a means to allow graduate students to attend courses in person when practicable, but also to participate in equivalent learning opportunities online when they could not. The advantages of such an approach in the current – and continuing – environment are obvious, but the preparation needed to implement such a solution can be daunting.



In this presentation, I will briefly outline the design and implementation of these three modalities, and offer a set of best practices and strategies for language faculty to use as they prepare and teach students in these environments, focusing on online instruction as a mid-term necessity, and HyFlex as a likely new standard in the aftermath of COVID.

MGSA Greek Language Pedagogy Webinar II

“Aligning Technologies and Learning Outcomes in the L2 Classroom”

Chelsea Timlin, Assistant Director of Technology for the Center for Language Studies and Lecturer in Language Studies at Brown University.

Research surrounding the role of technology in second language learning and teaching has suggested a wide array of affordances for its use -- from its ability to connect learners to the target language and culture through multiple modes and texts, to the opportunities it provides for interacting and learning collaboratively (Chun, Kern, & Smith, 2016; Gonzalez-Lloret, 2020; Michelson & Dupuy, 2014; Thoms, 2018, 2020). With

seemingly infinite possibilities, how do language instructors decide which technologies to use and what function they have in the classroom? This webinar will present several strategies for approaching technology use through course learning outcomes and curriculum design. It will provide several examples of how to scaffold technology use purposefully throughout a course and will highlight several key technologies that have become more prominent over the last few years in the language classroom.

The MGSA Undergraduate Committee has compiled a list of resources for teaching in synchronous and asynchronous online, remote or hybrid environments. Some of these resources are specific to language pedagogy but some can be adapted to other disciplines.

More information about future initiatives may be found [on our website](#)

The MGSA Undergraduate Committee members are Elsa Amanatidou (Chair), Frank Hess, Maria Kaliambou, and Nicholas Kakkoufa.

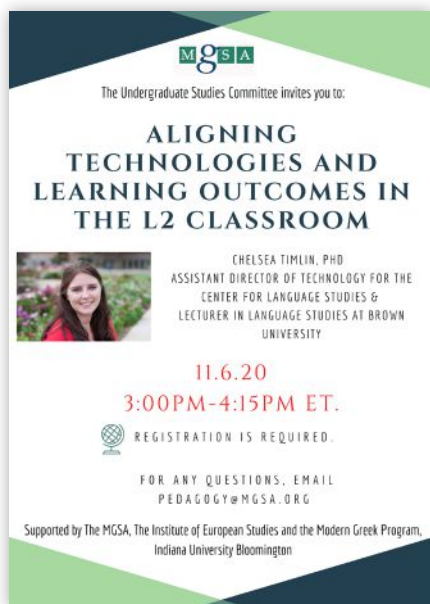
Please note that the MGSA Undergraduate Committee now has its very own email address: pedagogy@mgsa.org

MGSA Fund for Innovative Initiatives

This fund, for [innovative initiatives in Modern Greek Studies](#), provides monetary support to institutions of higher learning and other professional organizations to support innovative projects that promote Modern Greek Studies (including those of the Greek diaspora). Granted on a competitive basis, up to five grants are awarded per academic year. This year the MGSA Executive Board voted to increase its budget funding these grants. Hereafter awards will range between \$500 and \$1,000.

In 2020, Innovative Initiatives Grants were awarded to the following deserving projects:

Penelope Papailias, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Thessaly. The amount of the award is \$1,000. This initiative involves the creation of a database of “cultural memory in the present” related to the unfolding everyday experience of quarantine sociality in Greece during the CoViD-19 pandemic, created by students and recent graduates of the University of Thessaly, Department of History as well as members of the Pelion Summer Lab. The participants in this project -- themselves researchers-in-the-making -- will be gathering and annotating “documents” (photographs, memes, videos, music, artworks), writing fieldnotes, and (on a limited basis) conducting interviews.



We commend the “glocal (global + local) approach integrating global theoretical debates with local concerns and knowledge production, supporting a vision of world anthropologies (against that of “extraction” of ethnographic data from a Greek “field”). Rather than an area-studies logic, then, a theoretically-innovative and ethnographically-rich Modern Greek Studies informs -- and ideally is informed by -- the proposed research.”

The funds will be used for the licensing, data entry, dissemination of the [database](#), with priority being given to the translation of parts of the project into English in order to communicate “Modern Greek Studies” subject matter beyond Greek-language audiences. Activities also partially covered by the funds include: building the database in Microsoft Access (will be attempted in-house, depending on reopening of university) and producing a small print public (“zine” format). Materials from the archive will be presented on the [Pelion Summer Lab website](#).

In Fall 2020 the Innovative Initiatives Committee awarded \$1,000 to a joint project sponsored by **Dr. Maria Boletsi** (Marilena Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies, University of Amsterdam) & **Dr. Dimitris Papanikolaou** (University of Oxford) in connection with their proposal to migrate, modernize and maintain a [dedicated website for the project](#) “Rethinking Modern Greek Studies in the 21st century: A Cultural Analysis Network.” The objective is to host and archive a series of online roundtable discussions planned for the course of the academic year 2020-2021 under the title “Modern Greek Studies and Beyond: Local Cases, Global Debates.” The modernization of the website would enhance the capacity to host, archive, and update all of the network’s current and future events, including the group’s [dedicated network blog](#).

The Committee also awarded \$500 to **Dr. Maria Kaliambou** (Hellenic Studies Program, Yale University) toward the organization of a one-day symposium titled “The Greek Revolution and Greek Diaspora in North America,” at Yale University, in Fall 2021. The symposium will focus on the historical and cultural impact of the Greek Revolution for the Greeks

in North America, and it will strive to document how North American Greek communities perceive and enliven this milestone of modern Greek history. The symposium will also discuss its contemporary significance in the identity formation of those very communities and the mechanisms by which they cultivate the memory of the Revolution. The symposium is of significance for Greek American Studies and Diaspora Studies because it is the first academic attempt to bring the legacy of the war to the study of diasporic discourse.

Graduate Students

In light of the unavoidable postponement of the 2021 MGSA Symposium, the Graduate Studies Committee will be organizing a day-long graduate student workshop in October 2021. The workshop will be conducted in the form of an online webinar. Abstracts will be solicited beforehand. Further information will be disseminated in the Spring 2021.

Modern Greek Studies Programs

The MGSA regularly updates its web directory of Modern Greek Studies Programs in the United States and Canada. If you have not yet had a chance to list your program or to update your program’s profile, please contact us at mgsa.org@gmail.com, and we can help you with the process. If you are working to establish a new program or know of such an effort, please do not hesitate to seek the MGSA’s advice. Updates of and additions to faculty and graduate student profiles are always welcome as well. Currently the MGSA’s program directory lists 60 programs.

FAQs

The MGSA and JHUP have now created a [“Frequently Asked Questions”](#) page, which should address the bulk of your questions. Check it out.

These questions and answers will prove particularly useful when you renew your MGSA membership, access the Journal of Modern Greek Studies online, and register for our next Symposium.

Resolution Regarding Covid-19 Challenges To Collection Development In Modern Greek & Hellenic Studies

The Library Committee of the Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA) recognizes the outstanding work of the Collection Development and Equity in the Time of Covid-19 Task Force in the crafting of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) Resolution, the substantive and important response by the Middle East Librarians Association (MELA), and the most recent response by The Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation (CONSALD). We join them, in expressing our concerns for the vulnerability of print materials and the economies that support their production, as well as the exclusionary impact of e-preferred collection policies. We strongly advocate for the continued support of Open Access initiatives, and the preservation of funding and expert staffing required to acquire and process materials from these regions.

Therefore, the Library Committee of the Modern Greek Studies Association endorses the SALALM Resolutions, the MELA and CONSALD responses, and asks libraries to consider the following addenda:

Resolution

“Considering that due to the COVID-19 situation and budgetary reductions, libraries are implementing policies focusing primarily on digital formats, the MGSA Library Committee expresses the following concerns regarding challenges to collection development of Modern Greek and Hellenic Studies:

1. Whereas, most publications from Greece and Greek diaspora communities throughout the world are print-only, and are not available in electronic formats;
2. Whereas, e-preferred collection development policies will exclude non-English language materials and Greek cultural and scholarly production, including those of Greek immigrant communities in the United States, which are critical for advancing the research on and learning about Greek life in Greece and in the diaspora communities in the United States, Canada, Australia, and other European countries, and for students

and scholars at institutions of higher learning in the United States and elsewhere;

3. Whereas the study of modern and contemporary Greece builds on the long and prolific tradition of studies on ancient and Byzantine Greece, among the earliest humanities fields at academic research institutions in the United States together with Latin, Theology and Philosophy that were studied and taught and published centuries before the invention of computers and scanners;
4. Whereas, a sudden shift away from research materials only available in print not only threatens the integrity of diverse library collections, but also places a dedicated network of often small local vendors of scholarly and ephemeral research materials at risk of closure;
5. Whereas, these local vendors are essential because of their knowledge of scholarship and publications in Greece and because they provide access to necessary and unique materials for learning, teaching and research that generally are overlooked by larger vendors based outside of Greece;
6. Whereas, although pioneering cooperative Open Access models such as that of E.K.T. (the National Documentation Centre of Greece) are making scholarly journals and monographs from Greece available, a large gap of these materials still exists.

Be it resolved, that the Library Committee of the Modern Greek Studies Association on behalf of its members:

- Urges libraries to continue acquiring print materials through a network of Greek and other international vendors, often the only available sources, thereby not limiting diversity in scholarly collections.
- Encourages collaboration and further discussion with academic institutions across the United States and with local Hellenic societies and archives, as well as with libraries in Greece, such as The National Library of Greece, The Gennadius Library of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, and at Greek universities, such as Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Kapodistrian University of Athens, The University of Crete at Heraklion and Rethymnon, and The University of Patras.
- Endorses existing and future collaborative Open Access projects such as the *Greek Digital Journal Archive* and *Open Greek and Latin*.
- [Full details and further links here.](#)

In Memoriam: Eleni Bastéa

By Alexander Kitroeff
Haverford College

There is a poignant moment in Maria Iliou's 2012 documentary "Smyrna: The Destruction of a Cosmopolitan City 1900-1922" when Eleni Bastéa talks on camera about how her family members sat down one last time to have tea in their house in Smyrna in September of 1922 before fleeing for their lives. After finishing, they carefully washed the porcelain cups and saucers, hung the cups from their hooks in the kitchen. Then left the house locking the door behind them, and made their way to the quayside and safety. There is a catch in Eleni's voice at that point and seems to be close to tears. She tries to explain why she thought that moment so important to recount, even though far worse suffering took place during the Asia Minor Disaster. But she did not have to, because it is precisely such small stories that help us understand how ordinary people experience and react to much bigger things such as ethnic cleansing and widespread violence. And Eleni, in a gentle and deeply evocative manner which was characteristic of her approach to scholarship, also managed to convey the quiet dignity with which many Smyrniots faced the loss of their city and their world.

The community of scholars of Modern Greek studies is much the poorer with the passing of Eleni on January 12th, 2020. Her institution, the University of New Mexico, where she taught since 2001 and was Professor of Architectural History, announced her passing stating it came after a long fight with cancer. Those of us who interacted with Eleni recently had no idea she might be facing health issues. She was filmed recently



Courtesy of Mark Forte

for a new documentary by Maria Iliou. The documentary is on the history of Athens between 1821 and 1896 and as historical consultant I had no hesitation in recommending that Eleni, who had also appeared in the sequel of the Smyrna documentary which was on the Greco-Turkish population exchange, should appear in this one as well. Her outstanding book *The Creation of Modern Athens: Planning the Myth* published in 2000 is the authoritative study on the connection between the deployment of the legacy of Ancient Athens in the emergence of the modern city beginning in the 1830s.

At the filming Eleni said nothing about her health but she looked somewhat tired. A concerned Maria Iliou gently suggested that the filming be repeated after a few weeks and she agreed. That next time she spoke eloquently, interspersing her insightful comments with her broad smile. Eleni was also wonderfully engaging in a lecture she gave in 2017 in Athens as the Eleftherios Venizelos Chair at the American College of Greece. She was focusing on her new research interest, the city of Thessaloniki where her family had settled after Smyrna, addressing the issue of architecture and memory. It was a presentation that combined theory and personal experiences, a heartfelt homage to her growing up in Thessaloniki combined with scholarly reflection. Her new work and all her publications can be found on [her university website](#).

The premiere of the documentary on nineteenth century Athens took place at the Benaki Museum in Athens on February 10, 2020. Sadly, this was to be Eleni's last appearance on film. Eleni will be missed by all of us who got to know her and her work. We will miss the care, sensitivity and thoughtfulness with which she interacted with colleagues and treated the study of the Greeks, their culture and their cities.

The MGSA sends its sincerest condolences to Eleni's husband, Mark Forte, and her two sons.

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