

The Center for Hellenic Studies and The Council of Independent Colleges

Lyric Poetry

August 9–13, 2011

**The Center for Hellenic Studies
Washington, DC**

Directed by

Gregory Nagy

Francis Jones Professor of Classical Greek Literature and
Professor of Comparative Literature, Harvard University

and

Kenneth Scott Morrell

Associate Professor and Chair of Greek and Roman Studies, Rhodes College

Nomination Deadline: April 18, 2011



THE COUNCIL OF
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

With the generous support of the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation

Lyric Poetry

Center for Hellenic Studies

3100 Whitehaven Street NW, Washington, DC ☎ August 9–13, 2011

The seminar, designed for non-specialists, addresses the challenge of keeping alive in undergraduate education classical texts such as the *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, the Homeric Hymns, the poetry of Hesiod, and the *Histories* of Herodotus that a generation ago were read and understood by everyone. Full-time faculty members at CIC member colleges and universities in all disciplines who might have occasion to use lyric poetry in their courses are encouraged to apply.

This seminar will explore the contextual differences between epic and lyric in a way that will enable participants to situate lyric poetry in the general evolution of what became “genres”—as well as to make connections with parallels in other song cultures. Epic, in the form of the Homeric poems to cite just one example, is part of a larger and older song culture exemplified by the work of poets from the archaic period, such as Archilochus, Sappho, Alcaeus, and Pindar. Because music and dance played an integral role in the lyric tradition, this seminar will be of particular interest to faculty members in the fine arts as well as in literature. It will also explore the relationship between the production of poetry and the displays of power and influence among prominent families who dominated the political landscape of the sixth and fifth centuries BCE.

The seminar will focus on materials and approaches that will make lyric poetry more accessible to undergraduate students in a wide variety of fields. Participants will gain a background in the complex of traditional narratives and oral traditions that gave rise to the poems. They also will examine some of the parallels in other ancient cultures, learn about the historical and archaeological contexts of the poems, and trace some of the images and elements of the poems in later poetic traditions, especially those in the Roman world. Finally, the group will discuss a variety of strategies for incorporating the materials in a wide range of curricula.

Materials for the workshop will be available in electronic and printed formats in advance of the seminar. Participants will be asked to read a core subset of the texts before arriving in Washington and then, once the seminar is underway, to contribute their ideas, energy, experience, and skills to creating modules for use in different academic settings.

SEMINAR LEADERS

Gregory Nagy is the Francis Jones Professor of Classical Greek Literature and Professor of Comparative Literature at Harvard University. He has served as chair of Harvard’s Literature Concentration, chair of the Department of the Classics, president of the American Philological Association, and, since 2000, director of the Center for Hellenic Studies. His publications include *The Best of the Achaeans: Concepts of the Hero in Archaic Greek Poetry*, which won the APA’s Goodwin Award of Merit; *Greek Mythology and Poetics*; *Pindar’s Homer: The Lyric Possession of an Epic Past*; *Poetry as Performance: Homer and Beyond*; *Homeric Questions*; *Plato’s Rhapsody and Homer’s Music: The Poetics of the Panathenaic Festival in Classical Athens*; and *Homeric Responses*. In the spring of 2002, he delivered the Sather Lectures at the University of California, Berkeley on “Homer the Classic.”

Kenneth Scott Morrell is associate professor and chair of Greek and Roman Studies at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, and is currently the director of outreach at the Center for Hellenic Studies. In addition to publishing

and teaching on ancient Greek and Latin literature, he has participated in an archaeological survey in southwestern Turkey and been active in a variety of initiatives related to the use of information technology. He was an original member of the Perseus Project and has more recently been involved with Sunoikisis (sunoikisis.nitle.org) and the Collaboratory for GIS and Mediterranean Archaeology (CGMA) Project (cgma.depauw.edu).

PARTICIPANTS

Up to 18 individuals will be selected by competitive nomination. Participants must be full-time faculty members at CIC member institutions and can be in any field or department.

LOCATION

The seminar will take place at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, DC. Housing will be provided at the Center.

EXPENSES

Room, most meals, books, and other expenses will be covered with support from CIC, the Center for Hellenic Studies, and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation. Participants or their institutions will be expected to cover the cost of transportation to and from Washington.

NOMINATION PROCESS

The chief academic officers of the nominees' institutions must nominate faculty members who wish to participate. Each institution may nominate more than one individual, and faculty members of all academic ranks are eligible to participate. The seminar is open to individuals who have participated in previous CIC/CHS seminars but some preference will be given to first-time participants. Each nomination package should consist of the following:

1. Nomination letter from the chief academic officer;
2. Nomination form (see back page);
3. Nominee's curriculum vitae; and
4. Nominee's statement of reasons for wishing to participate in the seminar and of anticipated outcomes (no more than one page).

NOMINATION DEADLINE

Please send four copies of the completed nomination package to CIC by **Monday, April 18, 2011**.

SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS ANNOUNCED

Friday, May 6, 2011

NOMINATION FORM

Lyric Poetry

A Seminar Sponsored by the Center for Hellenic Studies and the Council of Independent Colleges

Name of Faculty Member Being Nominated: _____

Institution: _____

Faculty Rank: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominator's Name (*Please print.*): _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please submit together as a package:

- nomination letter from the chief academic officer;
- nomination form;
- nominee's curriculum vitae; and
- nominee's statement.

Send original plus three copies in a single packet to:

Stephen Gibson
Director of Projects
Council of Independent Colleges
One Dupont Circle, Suite 320
Washington, DC 20036-1142
Phone: (202) 466-7230

Or submit by email to: sgibson@cic.nche.edu.

Nomination Deadline: April 18, 2011

Selection of Participants Announced: May 6, 2011