

# Susan Bilynskyj Dunning

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NATIONALITY Canadian/US citizen

## Degrees

### **PhD, Classics (completed June 2016; thesis accepted with no corrections)**

University of Toronto; Collaborative Program in Ancient Greek and Roman History

*Dissertation:* 'Roman Ludi Saeculares from the Republic to Empire', <https://hdl.handle.net/1807/89244>.

Supervisor: Andreas Bendlin 2010–16

### **MA, Classics**

University of Toronto 2008–10

### **BA, Classics (Major) and Linguistics (Major)**

Seattle Pacific University 2004–8

## Academic Appointments

**Maternity leave** 2020–21

### **Postdoctoral Fellow**

Faculty of Classics, University of Oxford (Supervisor: Beate Dignas) 2019–23

### **Fulford Non-Stipendiary Junior Research Fellow**

Somerville College, University of Oxford 2019–22

### **Sessional Lecturer II**

University of Toronto, Departments of Classics (St George) 2019

### **Sessional Lecturer**

University of Toronto, Departments of Classics (St George) and Historical Studies (Mississauga) 2018–19

### **Visiting Fellow**

Institute of Classical Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London 2017

### **Visiting Assistant Professor**

University of Toronto, Department of Classics 2016–17

## Research Areas

- Roman religion and history, esp. the development of the *Ludi Saeculares* and the Roman concept of the *saeculum*.
- Human (esp. non-elite) associations with divinity in Plautus, Pompeian graffiti, and funerary monuments
- Latin epigraphy and its use in undergraduate teaching

## Publications

### Article

**‘The Republican *Ludi Saeculares* as a Cult of the Valerian *Gens*.’** (2020) *Historia* 69.2, pp. 208–236.

### Entries for the Oxford Classical Dictionary

**‘Secular Games.’** In *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, digital edn. Oxford University Press. Article published October 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199381135.013.5781>.

**‘Saeculum.’** In *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, digital edn. Oxford University Press. Article published November 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199381135.013.8233>.

### Reviews

Latham, J.A. (2016) *Performance, Memory, and Processions in Ancient Rome: The Pompa Circensis from the Late Republic to Late Antiquity*. New York: CUP. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, Dec. 23, 2017. <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2017/2017-12-23.html>.

## Works in Progress

### Monograph

***The Ludi Saeculares and the Saeculum: Time, Festival, and Authority in the Roman World*** (under review, OUP)

***Humans as Gods from the Roman Republic to Empire***

### Articles

**‘Assessing Emendations to Festus with the Lacunae of the Codex Farnesianus (Naples, Biblioteca Nazionale, MS IV.A.3),’** co-authored with A. Dunning (under review, *Mnemosyne*)

**‘Human Association with Divinity in Plautus and in Funerary Monuments of the Imperial Period’**

**‘Horace’s Rejection of the *Carmen Saeculare* in C. 4.7’**

**‘Acts of Thanksgiving in the Comedies of Plautus’**

## Teaching

*Tutorial Leader, University of Oxford*

**Roman History I.5: Republic in Crisis 146–46 BC** 2020

**Augustan Rome** 2020

*Primary instructor, University of Toronto*

**Introduction to Classical Mythology (CLA204)** 2014, 2018, 2019

**Introduction to Roman Society and Culture (CLA233)** 2016, 2018, 2019

**Latin Oratory I & II (LAT342/442)** 2018

**Latin and Greek in Scientific Terminology (CLA201)** 2018

**Classical Spaces, Sites, and Monuments (CLA389)** 2018

**Topics in the Study of Roman History: Time, Festival, and Memory (CLA371)** 2017

**Intermediate Latin II (LAT202)** 2017

**Augustus and the Julio-Claudians (CLA368)** 2017

**Topics in Classics: Greek and Roman Drama and Theatre (CLA395)** 2016

**Religion in the Greek World (CLA308)** 2016, 2018

**Introduction to Classical Studies (CLA160)** 2015

**Introductory Latin II (LAT102)** 2015

**Introductory Ancient Greek II (GRK102)** 2014

**Religion in the Roman World (CLA310)** 2012

**Introduction to Roman History (CLA231)** 2012, 2016

**Introductory Latin I (LAT101)** 2011, 2016

*Tutorial leader, University of Toronto*

**Introduction to Roman Society and Culture (CLA233)** 2010, 2015

**Introduction to Classical Studies (CLA160)** 2010

*Teaching assistant, University of Toronto*

**Introduction to Roman History (CLA231)** 2015

**Ancient Mythology II: Greece and Rome (CLAA06)** 2011

**Introduction to Classical Mythology (CLA204)** 2011

**History and Culture of the Greek World (CLAB05)** 2009

**Introduction to Classical Studies (CLA161)** 2009

## Invited Lectures

**Calling your Girlfriend ‘Venus’ in Plautus’s Comedies and Pompeii’s Graffiti**

Oxford University Philological Society, University of Oxford 2019

<b>‘The Most Blessed Age of Our Lords’: Creating Authority over the <i>Saeculum</i> in Coinage, Inscriptions, and Literature of the Imperial Period</b>	
Oxford-Princeton Seminar, Faculty of Classics, University of Oxford	2019
<b>Deifying Your Lover, Deifying the Emperor? Politics of the Gaze in the Roman Imperial Cult</b>	
SCR/MCR Symposium, Somerville College, University of Oxford	2019
<b>The Ludi Saeculares and <i>Saeculum</i>-Rhetoric in the Roman Empire</b>	
Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Munich, Germany	2014
<b>Numismatic Evidence for Imperial Performances of the Ludi Saeculares</b>	
Oxford Roman Discussion Forum, University of Oxford, United Kingdom	2013

## Peer-reviewed Presentations

<b>The Subversion of the Imperial <i>Saeculum</i> in Christian Apologetics of the Second and Third Centuries CE</b>	
‘Apologists and Empire’, King’s College London, UK	2020
<b>The Transformation of the <i>Saeculum</i> in the Construction and Rejection of Roman Imperial Power</b>	
‘Time in Greek and Roman Antiquity’, Université Côte d’Azur, Nice, France	2020
<b>The Cold Comfort of Cyclical Time in Horace’s Lyric Poetry</b>	
29th Annual Conference, Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Toronto	2019
<b>Statius’s <i>Silu.</i> 5.1 and Private Deification in the Imperial Period</b>	
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, St John’s, Newfoundland	2017
<b>Flavian Restoration and Innovation in Domitian’s Ludi Saeculares</b>	
Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario	2017
<b>Horace C. 4.7 As a Rebuttal of the <i>Carmen Saeculare</i></b>	
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, Quebec City, Quebec	2016
<b>Imperial Authority and <i>Saeculum</i> Rhetoric from Augustus to Constantine</b>	
Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California	2016
<b>The Tarentum in the Campus Martius as a Commemorative Space for the Ludi Saeculares</b>	
Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana	2015
<b>Establishing Dynasty: Officiating the Ludi Saeculares of Augustus and Severus</b>	
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec	2014
<b>The Invention of the Ludi Saeculares of Emperor Honorius</b>	
Classical Association of the Middle West and South Annual Meeting, Waco, Texas	2014

<b>Valerian Tradition and the Ludi Saeculares of 17 BCE</b>	
American Philological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois	2014
<b><i>Ego tibi salus sum: Human Identification with Gods in Plautus</i></b>	
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba	2013
<b>(Re)constructing the Republican Ludi Saeculares in Augustan Rome</b>	
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, London, Ontario	2012
<b>Fabricating Ritual Tradition: The Relationship of the Republican and Augustan Ludi Saeculares</b>	
13th International Spring School on Ancient Religions, University of Erfurt, Germany	2012
<b>Communicating with Divine Others in Horace's <i>Carmen Saeculare</i></b>	
11th International Spring School on Ancient Religions, University of Erfurt, Germany	2010

## Other Presentations

<b>'Unto Ages of Ages': The Development of Christian Usages of the Terms <i>Saeculum</i> and <i>Αἰών</i> in Late Antiquity</b>	
Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, The University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto	2018
<b>Epigraphic and Numismatic Evidence for the <i>Saeculum</i> and the Creation of Roman Imperial Identity</b>	
Ancient History Proseminar, Department of Classics, University of Toronto	2015
<b>Women as Goddesses in Plautus's Comedies and Funerary Monuments of the Roman Empire</b>	
Department of Historical Studies Prandium Series, University of Toronto Mississauga	2015
<b>Augustus, the Valerii, and the Ludi Saeculares: The Transformation of a Gentilician Cult</b>	
ColPAH Work in Progress Seminar, York University, Toronto, Ontario	2013
<b>Gentilician Cults in Republican and Augustan Rome</b>	
17th New Frontiers in Graduate History Conference, York University, Toronto, Ontario	2013
<b>Song and Sacrifice in Ancient Greece and Rome</b>	
WIDEN Lecture Series, Massey College, Toronto, Ontario	2011

## Popular Outputs

<b>Did the Romans Believe in Their Gods?</b>	
<a href="https://lisa.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/did_the_romans_believe_in_their_gods?nav_id=9347">https://lisa.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/did_the_romans_believe_in_their_gods?nav_id=9347</a>	
Video produced as schools outreach for Somerville College, University of Oxford, and for the L.I.S.A. Wissenschaftsportal, Gerda Henkel Stiftung	2020

**Has Boris Johnson been picking up tips from the Roman emperors?**

<https://theconversation.com/has-boris-johnson-been-picking-up-tips-from-the-roman-emperors-131535>

The Conversation, UK

2020

**Adapting the male gaze theory in Roman religion**

<https://www.some.ox.ac.uk/news/power-in-the-eye-of-the-beholder-the-male-gaze-and-roman-religion/>

Somerville College blog, University of Oxford

2019

**Time, Festival, and Authority in the Roman Saecular Games**

<https://ics.blogs.sas.ac.uk/2017/12/20/time-festival-and-authority-in-the-roman-saecular-games/>

Institute of Classical Studies blog, School of Advanced Study, University of London

2017

## Grants and Recognitions

**Humans as Gods in the Roman World (C\$90,000)**

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

2019–22

**Divine Associations in Roman Societies (€61,545)**

Research Scholarship, Gerda Henkel Stiftung, Düsseldorf, Germany

2018–21

**Undergraduate Teaching Experience Fund Award (\$900 CAD)**

Department of Historical Studies, University of Toronto Mississauga

2019

**Doctoral Completion Grant (\$17,500 CAD)**

University of Toronto, Department of Classics

2015–16

**Jacobi Scholarship (€2,100)**

Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik at the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Munich, Germany

2014

**School of Graduate Studies Travel Grant (\$5,280 CAD total)**

University of Toronto

2013, 2016

**Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Classical Studies**

Classical Association of the Middle West and South

2013

**M.B. Wallace Memorial Graduate Award in Classics (\$5,500 CAD total)**

University of Toronto, Department of Classics

2011, 2013

**School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant (\$470 CAD)**

University of Toronto

2012

**Rene Efrain Memorial/Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Classics (\$60,000 CAD total)**

University of Toronto

2011–12, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16 (*declined*)

<b>Jackman Junior Fellowship in the Humanities (\$15,000 CAD total)</b> University of Toronto	2010–13
<b>Leonard Woodbury Fellowship (\$1,500 CAD)</b> University of Toronto, Department of Classics	2010
<b>Lilly Graduate Fellowship (\$9,000 USD total)</b> Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts	2008–11

## Professional Development

<b>Advanced University Teaching Preparation</b> Teaching Assistants' Training Program, University of Toronto	2010–14
<b>Postgraduate Summer Course in Epigraphy</b> British School at Rome	2014

## Research Assistantships

<b>Editing appendix for monograph</b> Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Seth Bernard)	2016
<b>Editing index for monograph</b> Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Victoria Wohl)	2014
<b>Editing indices for monograph</b> Department of Humanities, York University (Philip Harland)	2014
<b>Assistance with SSRHC application</b> Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Andreas Bendlin)	2012–13
<b>General editing, creation of indices for several books, research on slave names in inscriptions</b> Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Alison Keith)	2008–13

## Affiliations, Outreach, Service

<b>Presenter at student information session 'Applying for JRFs and the Pathway to Academic Careers'</b> Somerville College, Oxford	2020
<b>School visit academic taster sessions: Somerville College, Oxford</b> Live presentations: Kingston Academy, Landau Forte Academy Amington, Bourne End Academy	2019–20

**Undergraduate admissions interviews**

Somerville College, Oxford 2019

**Faculty of Classics, University of Oxford**

Visiting Associate 2013

**Department of Classics, University of Toronto**

Library and Resources Committee 2016–17

Voting Representative for Undergraduate Business 2012–13

New Student Orientation Coordinator 2012

**Massey College, University of Toronto**

Resident Junior Fellow 2009–12

Junior Fellow Lecture Series Committee member 2009–10

## Professional Memberships

**Society for Classical Studies** 2012–present

**Classical Association of Canada** 2012–present

**British School at Rome** 2014–2016

## Languages

English (native), Latin (advanced reading), Ancient Greek (advanced reading), French (reading, basic speaking and writing), German (reading), Italian (reading)