

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

Postdoctoral Fellow

Faculty of Classics, University of Oxford (Supervisor: Beate Dignas) 2019–22

Fulford Non-Stipendiary Junior Research Fellow

Somerville College, University of Oxford 2019–21

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 Clan’ (forthcoming, *Historia*)

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

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

Peer-reviewed Presentations

- The Transformation of the *Saeculum* in the Construction and Rejection of Roman Imperial Power**
‘Time in Greek and Roman Antiquity’, Université Côte d’Azur, Nice, France 2020
- The Cold Comfort of Cyclical Time in Horace’s Lyric Poetry**
29th Annual Conference, Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Toronto 2019
- Statius’s *Silu.* 5.1 and Private Deification in the Imperial Period**
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, St John’s, Newfoundland 2017
- Flavian Restoration and Innovation in Domitian’s Ludi Saeculares**
Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario 2017
- Horace C. 4.7 As a Rebuttal of the *Carmen Saeculare***
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, Quebec City, Quebec 2016
- Imperial Authority and *Saeculum* Rhetoric from Augustus to Constantine**
Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California 2016
- The Tarentum in the Campus Martius as a Commemorative Space for the Ludi Saeculares**
Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana 2015
- Establishing Dynasty: Officiating the Ludi Saeculares of Augustus and Severus**
Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec 2014
- The Invention of the Ludi Saeculares of Emperor Honorius**
Classical Association of the Middle West and South Annual Meeting, Waco, Texas 2014
- Valerian Tradition and the Ludi Saeculares of 17 BCE**
American Philological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois 2014

Ego tibi salus sum: Human Identification with Gods in Plautus

Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba 2013

(Re)constructing the Republican Ludi Saeculares in Augustan Rome

Classical Association of Canada Annual Conference, London, Ontario 2012

Fabricating Ritual Tradition: The Relationship of the Republican and Augustan Ludi Saeculares

13th International Spring School on Ancient Religions, University of Erfurt, Germany 2012

Communicating with Divine Others in Horace's *Carmen Saeculare*

11th International Spring School on Ancient Religions, University of Erfurt, Germany 2010

Other Presentations

'Unto Ages of Ages': The Development of Christian Usages of the Terms *Saeculum* and *Αἰών* in Late Antiquity

Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, The University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto 2018

Epigraphic and Numismatic Evidence for the *Saeculum* and the Creation of Roman Imperial Identity

Ancient History Proseminar, Department of Classics, University of Toronto 2015

Women as Goddesses in Plautus's Comedies and Funerary Monuments of the Roman Empire

Department of Historical Studies Prandium Series, University of Toronto Mississauga 2015

Augustus, the Valerii, and the Ludi Saeculares: The Transformation of a Gentilician Cult

ColPAH Work in Progress Seminar, York University, Toronto, Ontario 2013

Gentilician Cults in Republican and Augustan Rome

17th New Frontiers in Graduate History Conference, York University, Toronto, Ontario 2013

Song and Sacrifice in Ancient Greece and Rome

WIDEN Lecture Series, Massey College, Toronto, Ontario 2011

Popular Outputs

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 (€52,645)

Research Scholarship, Gerda Henkel Stiftung, Düsseldorf, Germany

2018–20

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 (\$45,000 CAD total)

University of Toronto

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

Jackman Junior Fellowship in the Humanities (\$15,000 CAD total)

University of Toronto

2010–13

Leonard Woodbury Fellowship (\$1,500 CAD)

University of Toronto, Department of Classics

2010

Lilly Graduate Fellowship (\$9,000 USD total)

Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts

2008–11

Professional Development

Advanced University Teaching Preparation

Teaching Assistants' Training Program, University of Toronto 2010–14

Postgraduate Summer Course in Epigraphy

British School at Rome 2014

Research Assistantships

Editing appendix for monograph

Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Seth Bernard) 2016

Editing index for monograph

Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Victoria Wohl) 2014

Editing indices for monograph

Department of Humanities, York University (Philip Harland) 2014

Assistance with SSRHC application

Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Andreas Bendlin) 2012–13

General editing, creation of indices for several books, research on slave names in inscriptions

Department of Classics, University of Toronto (Alison Keith) 2008–13

Affiliations, Outreach, Service

Presenter at student information session 'Applying for JRFs and the Pathway to Academic Careers'

Somerville College, Oxford 2020

School visit academic taster sessions: Somerville College, Oxford

Video presentation 2020

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)