

ACTIVITES ACADEMIQUES /ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

CONTACTS AVEC L'AUSTRALIE

Le Centre de recherches helléniques en collaboration avec l'Association des écrivains Grecs de Montréal a accueilli du 6 au 13 novembre Mme Helen Nickas, qui enseigne la littérature grecque moderne à l'Université de la Trobe à Melbourne en Australie. Mme Nickas était de passage au Canada dans le cadre de sa recherche sur les écrivains Grecs de la diaspora.

Pendant son séjour à Montréal, et sous les auspices du Centre de recherches helléniques, Mme Nickas a donné deux conférences sur les Grecs de l'Australie et en particulier les écrivains Grecs de ce pays, une pour la Communauté grecque à l'Association des travailleurs Grecs du Québec et l'autre à l'Université McGill. Elle a aussi rencontré des écrivains, des universitaires et des artistes avec qui elle a discuté de la situation de la culture grecque au Canada et en particulier de la littérature de la diaspora.

Par ailleurs sous les auspices du Centre de recherches helléniques elle a rencontré des universitaires et des écrivains Grecs d'Ottawa où elle a fait une brève visite.

Le Centre de recherches helléniques envisage toujours une collaboration plus étroite avec des universitaires et de chercheurs de la diaspora hellénique. La visite de Helen Nickas au Canada renforce nos liens avec l'hellénisme australien.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE RESEARCH INSTITUTES OF HELLENISM FORMED

First Conference to be Held in Nicosia in November 1995

Representatives of eleven social science research institutes having to do with various aspects of Hellenism in Greece, Cyprus, France, Australia, Canada, and the United States met in Athens last summer to discuss ways to advance closer cooperation. Also attending the meeting, on July 7, 1994, were representatives of the Greek and Cypriot foreign ministries.

During the meeting, which took place at the Intercontinental Hotel, the group decided to form a committee from among those present to foster this cooperation. It is called the Coordinating Committee of the Research Institutes of Hellenism (Syntonistike Epitrope Ereunetikon Institutou Hellenismou).

The Vryonis Center was represented at the meeting by its director, Dr. Christos P. Ioannides. Also participating were the secretary of the Hellenic Studies Forum in Melbourne, Australia, Demetra Egan, and the director of the Center for Hellenic Studies and Research in Montreal, Dr. Stephanos Constantinides, who

both took part in the three-day conference organized by the Vryonis Center on "Greeks in English-Speaking countries : Culture, Identity, Politics" in Sacramento, May 12-14, 1994.

Greek research centers in Athens were represented by Dr. Theodore Couloumbis, Dr. Yiannis Valinakis, and P. Voudouris of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP); Vassilis Konstantineas and Nikos Stylianides of the Institute of Mediterranean Studies; Dr. Yiannis Freris of the Institute for Research and Policy Strategy (INERPOST); George Spyropoulos of the Center for European Studies (EKEM); and Dr. Marios Evriviades of the Institute of International Studies, Panteion University.

In addition, Dr. John Hasiotis of the Institute for Balkan Studies (IMXA) in Thessaloniki took part. The Cyprus Research Center (KYKEM) in Nicosia was represented by Nikos Koutsou, and Dr. George Prevelakis of the Group for the Study of the Greek Diaspora, part of the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Paris, also attended.

The Cypriot Foreign Ministry was represented by the director of the ministry's Diaspora Office, Platon Kyriakides, while the Secretariat for Diaspora Greeks of the Greek Foreign Ministry sent Christos Dimitriou.

KYKEM Serves as Ad Hoc Secretariat

The new Coordinating Committee decided that KYKEM would serve as the ad hoc secretariat for 1994-1995. The main objective of the secretariat will be to organize the first world conference of the Research Institutes of Hellenism in Nicosia from November 9-11, 1995.

KYKEM will be the host of the conference and will be assisted in this capacity by the Coordinating Committee. The working topic of the conference is "Hellenism in a global Village".

A conference of the Research Institutes of Hellenism will be held every other year, in odd-numbered years, and will complement the biennial conference on Greeks in English-speaking countries, which is held in even-numbered years.

The Vryonis Center will be coordinating Greek-American participation in the Nicosia conference. An announcement by the Center will be forthcoming as to the specifics of this conference.

The participants in the July meeting in Athens also discussed ways to link the research centers they represent through electronic networks.

The Coordinating Committee will convene a follow-up meeting in Athens in the fall of 1994 to finalize the program of the conference in Nicosia in November 1995.

(From the Vryonis Center News-letter/Fall 1994)

The Centre for Hellenic Studies and Research will be coordinating Greek-Canadian participation in the Nicosia conference.

THE CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH TAKES PART IN CONFERENCE IN CALIFORNIA

The director of the Centre for Hellenic Studies and Research, Dr. Stephanos Constantinides presented a paper at an international conference in Sacramento, California, on May 12-14, 1994. The conference, entitled "Greeks in English-speaking countries-Culture, Identity, Politics", was organized by the Sacramento-based Vryonis Centre for the Study of Hellenism.

The three-day conference, was cosponsored by the Hellenic Studies Forum, in Melbourne, Australia, in cooperation with the Hellenic Studies Institute of South Australia in Adelaide, and by the Department of Humanities and religious Studies at the California State University.

Dr. Constantinides' paper was entitled "*The "Greek Lobby" in Canada: The Role of the Greek Communities in the Formulation of Canadian Foreign policy*". Dr. Constantinides analyzed the impact Greek Canadians have on the decision-making process concerning Canada's policies on the Cyprus problem and the Macedonian question. He said the Greek-Canadian "lobby" is not as effective as it could be because of poor organization and a lack of coordination, clear objectives, and leadership.

The Sacramento conference brought together academics, government officials, political figures, economists, lawyers, artists, clerics, authors, and journalists from U.S., Canada, Australia, England, Greece, and Cyprus to examine the challenges faced by Greek communities in anglophone countries and the strides made by them in a variety of fields.

The conference was opened by Dr. Christos P. Ioannides, director of the Vryonis Centre. Dr. Ioannides noted that the Greeks in English-speaking countries share common democratic values and institutions and that the cultural bond of Hellenism which unites the English-speaking Greek communities around the world is alive and is reflected in the unprecedented mass mobilization of the Greeks in those communities over the Cyprus and Macedonian issues.

The general subjects addressed at the conference were Greek Ethnicity and Culture in English-Speaking Countries; Hellenism and Greek Orthodoxy in the Diaspora : Towards Convergence or Divergence ? Education and Identity; Greek Diaspora Women in 1990s : Beyond the Kale Noikokyra (Good Housewife) Image ; Linkages Between the Diaspora and Greece; The Sense of "Greekness" in Literature and the Arts Among Diaspora Greeks; The Cyprus and Macedonian Issues, and Diaspora Political Activism; and Greeks in Politics in the United States and Australia.

The closing event of the conference was a reception and dinner for 400 people in honor of George Stephanopoulos, Senior Advisor to President Bill Clinton, at the home of Vryonis Center Trustee Angelo Tsakopoulos and his wife Sophia in

Sacramento. U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, who had spoken at the conference earlier in the day on the panel "Greeks in Politics in the U.S. and Australia", was also a guest of honor at the reception.

**THE CENTRE FOR HELLENIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH
TAKES PART IN CONFERENCE IN GREECE**

The director of the Centre for Hellenic Studies and Research, Dr. Stephanos Constantinides presented a paper at an international conference in Komotini, Greece, on July 8-9, 1994.

The conference, entitled "Cultural Identity and a Strategy for Hellenism", was organized by the Athens-based Institute for Research and Policy Strategy (INERPOST). The president of the institute is Ms. Louka Katseli, who is also Special Economic Advisor to Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. The Scientific Director of INERPOST is Dr. Yiannis Freris.

A number of distinguished Greek academics, artists, and journalists participated in the conference, which was the first conference of its type to be held in Thrace. The Greek government was represented at the event by Minister of Education and Religious Affairs George Papandreou and Minister of Defence Gerasimos Arsenis. Both ministers addressed the conference at length.

Dr. Constantinides' paper was entitled "*Ethno-cultural Identity and Pluralism*".