

LOCAL CONNECTIONS *in the*

LITERATURE *of* LATE ANTIQUITY

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY *for* LATE ANTIQUE LITERARY STUDIES

3rd annual conference

The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities: July 1-2, 2015

The **2015 ISLALS conference**, on the topic of **Local Connections**, will explore the place of literature in the shifting geography of late antiquity. The transfer of imperial power away from Rome and the founding of Constantinople in the early fourth century had a profound effect on the literary culture of the ancient Mediterranean. In the west, this is the era in which 'Roman' literature can be seen to become 'Latin' literature, as authors and readers spread out from the capital to form regional literary communities in other parts of Italy, Gaul, Spain, and Africa. Greek literature had been produced in these sorts of local contexts for a much longer period of time, but in the east as well, new centers of literary activity were emerging in late antiquity. Papers will therefore examine the ways in which local landscapes and communities are represented in late antique literary texts. Other questions to address might include: how distinctive are the various regional literatures of the world of late antiquity, and what kinds of relationships existed between them? In what ways did later Latin and Greek authors shape the dialogue between local identities and international institutions, such as the Roman Empire or the Christian Church? What was the role of late antique texts in the formation of modern European literatures, and how have local considerations influenced their reception in other periods?

If you would like to participate, please send an abstract of your paper via email attachment to the steering committee by **March 1, 2015**: **Scott McGill** (smcgill@rice.edu), **Joseph Pucci** (Joseph_Pucci@brown.edu) and **David Bright** (dbright@emory.edu). Papers should be no longer than thirty minutes in length. Thanks to the generosity of the **Oxford Faculty of Classics** and the **Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity**, lunch, refreshments, and a closing banquet will be provided for conference speakers. Other meals, as well as lodging and travel will be the responsibility of participants. Please send queries about conference particulars to **Ian Fielding** (ian.fielding@classics.ox.ac.uk). General queries about **ISLALS** may be sent to any member of the steering committee.

