John N. Kazazis

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Born 1947 in Thessaloniki, he studied classics at the University of Thessaloniki and did graduate work at the University of Illinois and Yale University Graduate School (his MA. was on the orator Demosthenes; his Ph.D., on Herodotus). He was first hired at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 1979, as an Epimelete to the Second Chair of Ancient Greek Philology. In 1992, he was elected full Professor of Classics. 1980: Research Fellow in Vienna, sponsored by the Austrian Academy of Sciences. In 1982-83, he received a postdoctoral fellowship from the Center for Hellenic Studies of Harvard University, where he performed research. He served as Visiting Professor at the University of Maryland (1989-90), where he also worked towards raising funds to endow a chair for Greek studies.

As a classicist, he has both written about and taught early historiography, archaic and Greek epic poetry, the semi-literary ancient epigram, and lyric poetry. The history of classical education and the course in Ancient Greek Composition comprise the subject of his book, *Ancient Greek Prose* (1992). He has translated into Greek M. Bowra's *Ancient Greek Lyric Poetry,* and supervised the republication of T. Zielinsky's *We And the Ancients,* in a translation from the original German by John Sykoutris, including a new Introduction and two papers written by himself. Together with A. Rengakos and D. Jacob, he edited and translated the essays incorporated in the volume *Ten Studies on Homer's Odyssey* (1999). His collaborative work, *Ancient Greek Lyric Poetry as Musical Education* (1999, with A. Karamitrou and M. Sotiriou), was approved for publication by the Ministry of Education for use in the 11th grade. With A. Rengakos, he co-edited *Euphrosyne: Studies in the Ancient Epic and Its Legacy* (Festschrift D.N. Maronitis) (1999). He remains active in the fields of the history of classical studies and the history of the European university. Recent translations include those of U. von Wilamowitz's *History of Classical Scholarship* (2005) and R. Harder's *Die Eigenart der Griechen* (2008).

As a specialist in computerized lexicography (trained at the Center for Greek Lexicography at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND, 1972-73, under the direction of Prof. D. J. Georgakas), he has published, with the help of computers (along with Jean Bréhier) the three-volume *Vocabulary of Makrygiannis* (1982), and a *Concordance to Makrygiannis* (1992) in seven volumes and one CD-ROM, a work which received an award from the Academy of Athens.

At the Center for the Greek Language, he directs the Division of Lexicography, the main responsibilities of which include the charting of academic centers for the teaching of Greek worldwide (cf. *Institutions Offering Courses of Modern Greek in Greece and Abroad: A Brief Guide, Updated and Revised,* Athens-Thessaloniki 1999) and the editing and publication of basic reference works of Greek lexicography. Recently-published works include: *Proceedings of the First International Conference for Greek Lexicography,* Thessaloniki (in press); *Greek Studies in Europe* (in Greek) (2007); Volume I of *A Greek-English Dictionary* (compiled by Prof. D. J. Georgakas, this is an international reference work for Modern Greek) (2006); Vol. 15 of Emmanuel Kriaras' *Dictionary of Medieval Vulgar Greek Literature 1100-1669* (2006), plus the two-volume edition of Emmanuel Kriaras' *Concise Dictionary of Medieval Vulgar Greek Literature 1100-1669* (2001, 2003).

At the Center for the Greek Language, he is in charge of the creation of the "Electronic Portal for the Support of the Research and Teaching of Greek". This project, begun in October 1998, has produced an extensive series of electronic products (bibliographies, dictionaries, teaching aids, a newsletter, and a discussion forum), available to Greek researchers and schools worldwide.

He has served as Director of the Division of Classics at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, was elected to the University Senate for several terms, and served as Chairman of the Department of Greek Literature (1994-98). He served on the editorial committee of the University of Thessaloniki Alumni Newsletter *Philologos* for ten years (1986-96). For seven years (1986-1993), he served as Research Coordinator for the Academy of Athens' *Centre for the Historical Lexicon.* Since 1994, he has served as Deputy President of the Centre for the Greek Language and Director of its Division of Lexicography. He has also been a member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Greek Culture (1995-98). He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Hellenic American Educational Foundation (HAEF) in 2007, and appointed to the Board of Directors of the Thessaloniki Innovation Zone in 2010.

The JASON Program: In 1994 he designed and proposed to the University of Thessaloniki Senate the JASON program, which was approved and which he now directs. JASON is a research and application program sponsored primarily by the Senate as well as by other public bodies, whose goal is the practical and material support of Greek studies in 16 universities around the Black Sea. Of these, some maintain a long tradition in ancient, Byzantine, or Modern Greek studies, while others have only recently expressed their interest in developing Greek studies (usually Modern Greek).