

## **The Harry J. Psomiades Library and the Center for Byzantine & Modern Greek Studies of Queens College Archive Projects**

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The Psomiades Library project has made steady progress since the beginning of 2023. The main task has been to catalogue the existing library collection and incorporate it into the computer-accessible Rosenthal main library system so that the books can be searched online via the College website. So far, Room 1 of the collection (the "Byzantine Room") and Room 2 (the "Literature Room") has been completed except for fragile books that will require some preservation measures and will not circulate. Cataloguing is in progress for Room 3 (the "history/politics room") and will be completed in the coming months. A secondary focus of the project is to sort through the huge number of stored books that are not currently in the collection itself. We are slowly working through the stored boxes of material are making progress in determining which of these stored books are worth keeping and incorporating in the collection, and which can either be given to other libraries or found other uses. We are extremely grateful for the generous gift, from our kind patron, who has asked to remain anonymous which will allow the second phase of the Library Project to be completed and will pave the way for continuing preservation and digitization projects.

In 2024, Queens College Special Collections and Archives processed the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies (CBMGS) Records over the course of about six months. We began surveying and acquiring the collection in the summer of 2023. The time spent processing the CBMGS records provided a unique lens to the growth and development of the center since its establishment in 1974. Through the correspondence from the founder and first director of the center Harry J. Psomiades, we were able to see how the center's expansion was a slow and steady one, despite having to overcome adversarial situations such as budget cuts as a result of the NYC fiscal crisis of the 1970s. The collection of pamphlets and fliers announcing the various conferences and lectures the center has hosted and supported, such as The Linos Politis Lectures, showcased the

center's commitment to Hellenistic and Modern Greek academia. The newspaper clippings and press releases in the collection cover over two decades of development for CBMGS and Greek culture. The Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies Records is a boon to both students and researchers who are looking for insight into the center's life and activities over the decades, the development of Greek Academia more broadly, and the contributions of the department to Queens College and its students. Both projects are ongoing and will eventually make additional resources available to anyone engaged in the study of Byzantine and Modern Greek history and culture.

The Center Records' finding published and the Records are open for research can be accessed at: <https://qcarchives.libraryhost.com/repositories/2/resources/235>

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