

Introduction

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The online publication of volume 35 of the *Journal of Modern Hellenism* continues the distinguished record of scholarly contributions to the fields of Byzantine and Modern Greek studies since its founding in 1984. The last *JMH* volume (34), appeared in 2019. This new volume owes its appearance to the collaboration and support of a new partnership between the Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies Center of Queens College/CUNY and the American Hellenic Institute Foundation. It is appropriately dedicated to the memory of Dan Georgakas, a long-time editor and contributor to previous issues, whose vision that *JMH* needed to be continued, and whose work in gathering support and making arrangements for this new partnership, made it all possible. He was designated to be the volume 35 Journal's Managing editor, however, his tragic loss in November 23, 2021, delayed the process and necessitated that someone else be identified to continue his work. It is with deep humility and a profound sense of both the challenge and the honor, that I will seek to attempt to follow his record of editorial excellence and scholarship.

Dan was a unique individual in so many ways, whose work and activism touched and contributed to many fields. He was also a dear friend who always supported those whose voices were often ignored and whose new ideas challenged the status-quo. At a MGSA Symposium session on his work which I was privileged to Chair, I referred to him as a "Renaissance man," because his range of interests created innovative linkages between the cinematic and fine arts, politics, history, literature, economics and ethnic studies, to name only a few areas. Dan was also a pioneer and advocate for the inclusion of Greek-American and diaspora studies within the more established fields of Hellenic Studies. Although, I know that no one can ever hope to reach his level of expertise in so many fields and editorial and literary excellence, I will do my best to honor his memory by continuing his work and record of welcoming diverse views and supporting innovative new scholarship.

Unlike many previous *JMH* issues, the articles in volume 35 are not focused upon a particular theme; this is both because of Dan's sudden loss and what I was able to find in the electronic files he left behind. I am grateful to his devoted wife Barbara, and to professors Van Coufoudakis and Christos Ioannides for making what Dan had gathered together through numerous emails available to me. Only the two book reviews and one of the articles in this issue had been collected and partially edited by my predecessor. I have also added a new section entitled: "Sources and Archives" which is designed to highlight and make available important primary sources in our field. It is my hope that scholars will find this new *JMH* resource a valuable addition for the study of Hellenism. Although I have made an effort to adhere to the Journal's established format, I am aware that the present contributions are not all uniform and may contain some deviations. This was necessitated by the circumstances surrounding gathering

this disparate material together, and it is my expectation that future issues will be more closely aligned to the announced *JHM* submission guidelines. Naturally, as Managing Editor, I alone am responsible for the imperfections that remain. My model will always be the editorial skill and literary excellence of Dan Georgakas. I hope that over time, I can improve my skills so that I can better honor and reflect my dear old friend's scholarship; finally, as we say in Greek: "Aionia e Mneme—Eternal Be His Memory."