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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Marie Louise Nosch and Hedvig Landenius Enegren

At the meeting of the *Comité international permanent d'études mycéniennes* (CIPEM) in Sèvres in September 2010, the CIPEM accepted Marie-Louise Nosch's suggestion to host the 14th Mycenological colloquium in Copenhagen. The first gathering took place in Gif-sur-Yvette near Paris in 1956. The spirit of good humour and collaborative enthusiasm established at the first colloquium became known within the field as *l'esprit de Gif*.

The group of countries and scholars at the mycenological conferences still reflect the correspondents and receivers of Ventris's work notes, which he had circulated to colleagues long before the internet made such a practice feasible.¹ The Gif colloquium included participants from Britain, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the USA.

Today mycenological studies are also an active field of research in Germany, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, and Australia. It is still the founding members of CIPEM who represent the most numerous scholars in the field of Aegean scripts since 1956, but new scholars join the group, and the photographs from each mycenological colloquium illustrate how the number of participants increases. We are an expanding discipline. Another significant change is the increasing number of female scholars in the field. John Chadwick, in his speech at Salzburg in 1995 noticed the few female scholars,² but this has also changed since then. In Nürnberg 1981, the hosts graciously arranged for a parallel 'spouse program' during the colloquium. In Copenhagen, 24 of 57 participating scholars were women. Since the publication in 1954 of *Documents in Mycenaean Greek*, Ventris and Chadwick strived to include other disciplines into the study of Aegean scripts, among others, the disciplines exploring texts from the ancient Near East.

Pierre Carlier and his co-organisers of the *13th Mycenological Colloquium*

¹ Bennet 2014.

² Chadwick 1999, 36.

in Sèvres in 2010 were the first to convene special events on comparative studies of the Mycenaean palatial economy and Near Eastern palatial economies.³ We believe this to be a particularly important yet challenging endeavour and we are happy that several colleagues took up the challenge and publish stimulating comparative studies in the present volume.

Since the Paris colloquium in 2010, we have lost colleagues who will be missed for their scholarly contribution as well as for the friendship that unites us: Pierre Carlier (1949-2011), Emmett L. Bennett Jr. (1918-2011), Petar Hr. Ilievski (1920-2013), Martin S. Ruipérez (1923-2015), Anna Morpurgo-Davies (1937-2014) and Margareta Lindgren (1936-2017). We would like to take this opportunity to dedicate this volume to one our discipline's first ladies, historical linguist Anna Morpurgo-Davies, a world-leading figure in the study of ancient Greek and Anatolian, and as such a role model for what it takes to conduct comparative analyses. We corresponded with Anna Morpurgo-Davies until a few months before she passed away in September 2014. She was trained by Gallavotti and was editor of the first lexicon of Mycenaean, published in 1963. In Oxford, she worked closely with professor of Comparative Philology, Leonard Palmer, and Hittitologist and epigraphist David Hawkins. In 1971, she succeeded Palmer as chair at Oxford.

In this volume we also wish to remember the very first female scholar in Aegean scripts, Alice Kober (1903-1950), and thus highlight her significant contribution to the field of Mycenology. Alice Kober who received an MA and PhD from Columbia University became assistant professor at Brooklyn College. It was with a Guggenheim Fellowship that she was able to immerse herself full-time to the study of Linear B.⁴ Her methodological approach to the study of the Linear B signary, in which she established that the Mycenaean script shows an inflected language, ultimately influenced Ventris's final decipherment of the script.⁵

We also wish to commemorate our Scandinavian colleague, Margareta Lindgren (1936–2017). A pupil of Arne Furumark, she continued the Linear B scholarly tradition at Uppsala University with her publication on the prosopography of Pylos, a fundamental work within Mycenaean Studies.

As head of the Department for Maps and Prints at the Uppsala University Carolina Library for many years, she kept in close contact with the Department of Archaeology and Ancient history as an immensely appreciated lecturer in Aegean Scripts, who really knew how to engage her audience with her keen sense of humour. On a personal note, she was the thesis advisor to the co-

³ Zurbach et al. forthcoming.

⁴ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Kober

⁵ <https://repositories.lib.utexas.edu/handle/2152/15875>

editor of this volume (Hedvig Landenius Enegren). Her last participation in a Mycenological Colloquium was in Rome in 2006 with a paper on Cypriot Scripts. Many of us remember her vivid personality and her enthusiasm in a wide range of interests that went beyond Linear B; these included in later years, among others, pistol target shooting and the Harry Potter books!

It was an honour to host the *14th Mycenological Colloquium* in Copenhagen, 2-5 September 2015. We thank friends and colleagues for joining us for this event, and for their presentation and fruitful discussions. We are particularly honoured to hear of *l'esprit de Copenhague*, uniting us all in a friendly conversation on the advancement of knowledge in our field.

For hosting the conference on the exquisite premises of the Carlsberg Academy, the former private villa of brewer Jacobsen and domicile of Niels Bohr, we warmly thank the Carlsberg Foundation. For continued support and trust, we thank the Danish National Research Foundation and the University of Copenhagen. Egzona Haxha, Camilla Ebert and Louise Ludvigsen were our efficient and kind coordination and organisation hostesses and assistants. We warmly thank Maurizio Del Freo for all his help in editorial and other matters; for the indexation Mikkel Nørtoft and for editorial assistance Peder Flemstad. We warmly thank Lillian and Dan Finks Fond, the Institute for Aegean Prehistory and the R.K. Rasks Legat foundation for generous support for this publication. We are grateful to Alessandro Naso, Marco Bettelli and Maurizio Del Freo for welcoming the conference proceedings in the *Incunabula Graeca* series.

Copenhagen and Brussels, Fall 2017

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