

## **Creating a Hellenistic World**

### **Conference, 24-26 February 2006**

Classics in Edinburgh has recently been re-invigorated with a series of new appointments, a significant number of which have an interest in the Hellenistic World (c. 323-30 BC). This three-day conference is the first step of a wider project to make Edinburgh an international centre for research into Hellenistic culture and society. It will be followed by the launch of a new MSc in Hellenistic Studies.

The conference, 'Creating a Hellenistic World', aims to focus attention on the formation of the Hellenistic world and to encourage dialogue between scholars working on different aspects and regions. To this purpose the School of History and Classics in Edinburgh has invited some of the leading scholars in the field. Together they will explore the cultural, political and economic transformations of the early years of the Hellenistic period and the extent to which these were a consequence of Alexander's conquests. New kingdoms were established, new cities such as Alexandria and Antioch were founded, art and literature discovered fresh patrons, Egyptians and Iranians had to come to terms with Greco-Macedonian rulers.

The study of the Hellenistic world has excited considerable interest lately. The conference will be a major opportunity to integrate the findings of a range of recent scholarship while at the same time moving debate forward. The significance of these years in the development of the Mediterranean means that any conclusions will be valuable for our understanding not only of the early Hellenistic period but also of what follows.

The distinguished international scholars speaking include: Elizabeth Carney (Clemson College), "Hellenistic Queenship: a re-assessment"; Stephen Colvin (UCL), "The Greek Language in the Hellenistic Age"; Kathryn Gutzwiller (Cincinnati), "The Paradox of Amatory Epigram: Origin and Development."; Richard Hunter (Cambridge), "The Letter of Aristeas"; Robin Lane Fox (Oxford), "The Hellenistic world before Alexander"; Alan Lloyd (University of Wales Swansea), "Egypt from Satrapy to Kingdom"; Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones and Stephanie Winder (Edinburgh), "The Key to Berenice's Lock"; Silvia Milanezi (Nantes), "The Actors of Dionysus in the Hellenistic Period"; Daniel Ogden (Exeter), "Early Hellenistic Courtesans"; Graham Oliver (Liverpool), "Internalising Royal Power: Athenian politics and Hellenistic Kings"; James Porter (Michigan), "Hellenistic Aesthetics"; Joseph Roisman (Colby College), "The Silver Shields, Eumenes and their Historian"; Josef Wiesehöfer (Kiel), "Persis under the Seleucids"; Hans-Ulrich Wiemer (Zurich), "Early Hellenistic Rhodes: the struggle for independence and the dream of hegemony".

**For further details please contact Dr Andrew Erskine ([Andrew.Erskine@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Andrew.Erskine@ed.ac.uk)).**