

AFGLC

American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture

Current Topics Mini-Forum 2014

Greek Independence: 193 years in Review

Sponsored by the family of Dr. John U. Balis



March 22, 2014

St. Petersburg College - Tarpon Springs Campus,
Tarpon Springs, Florida

American Foundation for Greek Language & Culture

AFGLC Mission Statement

The fundamental mission of the AFGLC (American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture) is to assist in the preservation and enhancement of Greek Culture and Language in the United States through our institutions of higher learning. The Foundation was established by a group of concerned Greeks and Philhellenes across America, whose role is to make available to the present as well as secure for the future the historic and cultural role of the Hellenic tradition and language. We strongly believe that we can most effectively accomplish this by the establishment of *Interdisciplinary Centers of Hellenic Studies* (ICHS) at various academic institutions on a regular basis across the United States. Each of such ICHS chapters will typically consist of five endowed professorships, as depicted to the right, operating as a permanently endowed team. This unique construct ensures that AFGLC-affiliated host institutions will be able to offer such course offerings in perpetuity.



The foundation is situated as a nonprofit organization with its headquarters in the State of Florida. Its scope and patronage are envisioned as national and international with particular emphasis on the bonds that exist between Greece and the United States.

AFGLC welcomes people who share with us the conviction that the revival of interest in the Greek Language and the preservation of the Hellenic heritage are of great importance, given the role that both played in the formation of the values and ideas of our beautiful country. It will be a time to rejoice and celebrate when the students in our colleges and universities have once again the opportunity to study the wealth of meanings that have given our western civilization its solid conceptual foundations in philosophy, in language, the arts and the sciences.

We must not forget what the famous philosopher Alfred North Whitehead said: “That all philosophy is but a series of footnotes of Plato” or Sir Henry Summer Maine’s significant remark “except for the blind forces of nature nothing moves on this earth that is not Greek in its origin.”

**“If we do not succeed in the rejuvenation and
enhancement of Hellenism in the Americas,
History will not forgive us.” – AFGLC**

“AFGLC-ICHS Mini-FORUM 2014”

About the cover:



Theodoros Vryzakis

*Bishop Germanos of old Patras blesses
the Greek Banner at Agia Lavra on the
outset of the national revolt against the
Turks on 25 March, 1821.*

American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture & St. Petersburg College - Tarpon Springs Campus

Present:

Mini-FORUM 2014

Celebrating The 193rd Anniversary Of Greek Independence: 1821- 2014

A review of the events that engendered the Hellenic uprising, the time line of the uprising, the role of those who helped them succeed, the rediscovery of Democracy after a hiatus of 2,000 years, and how the Greek culture was affected after several centuries of occupation by the Ottomans.

Sponsored by the family of Dr. John U. Balis

Program - Saturday March 22, 2014

8:30 am – 9:15 am Registration & Continental Breakfast

- 9:15 am - 9:30 am **Welcome:** Dr. Conferlete Carney, Provost, SPC Tarpon campus
Invocation: Fr. James Rousakis, Acting Dean, St. Nicholas Cathedral & Vicar of W. Florida for the Metropolis of Atlanta.
Introductions: Dr. Conferlete Carney
The AFGLC-SPC Synergy: Dr. Ulysses J. Balis, President, AFGLC
Program Overview: Dr. Byron P. Palls, Past President, AFGLC
-
- Presentations:** Dr. Mark Lulek, Academic Program Director, SPC
- 9:30 am - 9:45 am "Individual Rights – The Big Idea that Changed the World," Prof. David Monroe
9:45 am - 10:00 am "The Old Regime in Crisis: France and the Spanish Empire," Prof. Bob O'Donnell
10:00 am - 10:15 am "I Was a Slave for 400 Years!" Fr. James Rousakis
10:15 am - 10:30 am "Chronology of the Greek War of Independence," Ms. Brittany Johnson
10:30 am - 10:45 am Q&A on the preceding presentations
10:45 am - 11:00 am **Break**
11:00 am - 11:15 am "A Poet and a Painter Support the War of Independence: Byron & Delacroix," Prof. Kimberly Felos
11:15 am - 11:30 am Transition from Kapodistria to a Monarchy to Democracy in Greece," Dr. Bill Manikas
11:30 am - 11:45 am "Hellenic Transformations of Ottoman Influence," Dr. Eleni Manolaraki
11:45 am - 12:00 pm &A on the preceding presentations
12:00 pm - 12:15 pm "Songs of the Greek Struggle for Independence: Kleftika and Rizitika," Dr. Tina Bucuvalas, Mr. Leonidas Zafiris & Mr. Elias Poulos
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm The Hellas Dancers of Clearwater, * Mr. Keith Mastorides, Director
12:30 pm - 12:45 pm **Awards & AFGLC Scholarships:** Ms. Kalliope Chagaris, V.P., AFGLC & Dr. Palls
AFGLC Peter & Sophia Kourmolis Scholarship Recipients:
Ms. Despina Lucas and Ms. Alexandra Gerecke
AFGLC Dr. Demetrios Halkias Scholarship Recipients:
Mr. Michael Konstantinidis and Mr. Jonathan Pajak
Acknowledgements & Concluding Remarks: Dr. Ulysses J. Balis

**Ranked FOURTH in the nation out of 100 Hellenic dancing groups (L.A., 2014)*

Presenters

Bucuvalas, Tina: Curator of Arts & Historical Resources City of Tarpon Springs

Felos, Kimberly: The Balis Professor of Humanities at St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs, FL.

Johnson, Brittany: Student at St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs, FL

Manikas, William: Professor of History and Political Science, St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL

Manolaraki, Eleni: Professor of Classics, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

Mastorides, Keith: Principal, Clearwater High; Director of the award-winning Hellas Dancers of Clearwater.

Monroe, David: Professor of Philosophy, St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs, FL.

O'Donnell, Bob: Professor of History, St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs, FL.

Poulos, Elias: vocalist in Greece, Canada, Boston, Tarpon Springs, member of the band Ellada

Rousakis, James, Fr.: Acting Dean, St. Nicholas Cathedral; Vicar of Western Florida for the Metropolis of Atlanta.

Zafiris, Leonidas: musician, music teacher in Greece, Toronto and Tarpon Springs, member of the band Ellada

An Appeal

The raison d'être of the American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture (AFGLC) is to preserve and disseminate the Greek language and culture.

Three years ago, the college of St. Petersburg teamed with AFGLC to create a program in Hellenic Studies. This is the latest AFGLC center in a higher education setting. It is hoped that the thousands of students who study here will come to appreciate the inventive genius of Ancient Greece and its seminal contributions to the entire world in nearly every field of knowledge; in the process, they will learn that their own cultural roots go back to ancient Greece!

Hellenic Studies' current offerings are: Greek Mythology, Greek Culture, Greek Philosophy and, shortly, Biblical Greek; so far, 612 students have benefited from these courses!

The program needs to be funded and many efforts are being made to make it a permanent fixture of the SPC curriculum. We need donations to help establish this worthy program: from a few dollars to \$60K to name a professorship in perpetuity. Won't you please help?

Should you wish to make a donation, it will be greatly appreciated: please make your checks payable to "AFGLC" and either give your contributions to Dr. Byron P. Palls or mail to: AFGLC, Inc., 10413 Butia Place, Tampa, FL 33618-4117.

For additional information, please write to Dr. Palls at: bpalls@afglc.org, or call him at 727-449-9189 (home) or 727-542-6595 (cell). He will gladly come to make a presentation to your organization or group. Thank you!



“AFGLC-ICHS Mini-FORUM 2014”

AFGLC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS

DR. ULYSSES J. BALIS, PRESIDENT OF AFGLC/IFGLC

MS. KALLIOPE D. CHAGARIS
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

DR. SANTO NICOSIA
VICE PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

DR. BYRON PALLS
PAST PRESIDENT AFGLC/IFGLC

MS. OURANIA STEPHANIDES
DATABASE PLANNER

DR. HARVEY GLASS
TREASURER

MR. JOHN HATSIOS
MEMBER-AT-LARGE

MR. VASILE FAKLIS
MEMBER-AT-LARGE

MR. JOHN KRINOS
MEMBER-AT-LARGE

MR. NICHOLAS J. MAROULIS
MEMBER-AT-LARGE

MS. LENA MAVROMATIS
NEWSLETTER EDITOR

MR. HARRY PATSALIDES
MEMBER-AT-LARGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MR. CHRIS ALAHOUZOS

DR. TED VLAHOS

MRS. SOULA JAMOULIS

DR. MARIOS STEPHANIDES

MRS. MARIA GORTER

TRI-STATE: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DR. GEORGE VASSILATOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

NEW YORK: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DR. STELLA TSIRKA, PRESIDENT

DR. VASSILIS DANGINIS, VICE-PRESIDENT

MISSOURI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MR. NICHOLAS KARAKAS, PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

TAMPA: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MS. KALLIOPE D. CHAGARIS, PRESIDENT

COLUMBIA: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DR. LUIS ALFONSO RAMIREZ, PRESIDENT



GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

THE 193TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE
FROM OTTOMAN RULE: 1821-2014



Map of the compartments of Greece that were liberated - or ceded to Greece by several powers - which took 116 years to reach the current map. It should be noted that Smyrna, a large area in western Turkey, was first awarded to Greece and then given back to Turkey, following the massacre of its Greek population during 1922-23.



The logo of the AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE, AFGLC, is taken from a scene on a cup (found at Vulci in Etruria and currently in the British Museum) painted by the Athenian painter Douris around 480 BC. It shows a school scene where a master unrolls a scroll with an epic verse on it. The verse is in the style of Homer, but does not come from either the *Iliad* or *Odyssey*.

Μοῖσα μοι
ἄμ>φι Σκάμανδρον
εὐρων ἄρχομαι
ἄειν ἰδεν

Muse,
I begin to sing for myself
of fair-flowing Scamander

The design that partially borders the front and back pages of the program was taken from the Elgin Marbles Wing of the British Museum, and illustrates the majestic Meander of the Parthenon frieze. This Hellenic design with its characteristic blue and gold compound undulations was reserved for the most august Athenian state structures. As a variant of the classical Greek key, the meander reflects the continuity of the Hellenic Universe, through the undulating representation of waves and their interplay into the atmosphere.

You can find AFGLC on the Internet: www.AFGLC.org