

JACQUELINE FABRE-SERRIS, JUDITH HALLETT

«Eugesta», *electronic journal of gender studies in Antiquity*

«Eugesta», an international electronic journal on gender studies in Antiquity, was created in 2011, in connection with the research network of the same name, the “European Network on gender studies in Antiquity”, launched in 2009 (10 partners universities in Europe: Bale, Bern, Fribourg, Lille, Manchester, Munich, Open University, Paris 1, Turin, Exeter and 2 partner universities in North America: Toronto and UCLA). This network, supported by the Center of Research Halma, UMR 8164 of the CNRS (French National Center for Scientific Research) at the University of Lille, brings together specialists in different areas (Middle East, Egypt, Greece and Rome), whose work integrates the perspectives developed in gender studies.

One goal of the *EuGeStA* network is to coordinate the numerous and expanding European studies on gender in Antiquity, which have not yet established the strong institutional traditions of those fostered in the USA and Canada. Another is to provide greater visibility for a specific issue. In Europe, questions regarding gender are posed in the context of “theories and practices”, which have been developed in accordance with schools of thought, during and after the intellectual conflicts of the 1970s and 1980s. During this period, those who championed traditional ways of studying the ancient world met with opposition from innovators adapting modern theories borrowed from anthropology, French new criticism, linguistics, semiotics, structuralism...

Since its founding in 2009, the *EuGeStA* network has developed ties with the Women’s Classical Caucus of the American Philological Association, renamed the Society of Classical Studies in 2013, through the forging of affiliations with several individual American

and Canadian female and male classicists as associate members (see <http://eugesta.recherche.univ-lille3.fr>). The journal «Eugesta», is the first project resulting from the collaborative endeavors begun through these ties. It is managed by two editors, one American, Judith P. Hallett (University of Maryland, College Park), the other European, Jacqueline Fabre-Serris (University of Lille). Published online in Open Access, «Eugesta», receives support from the University of Lille: it is hosted on the site of the University that provides assistance for formatting and copy-editing.

How do we constitute each issue of the journal?

The issues of the journal are annual and multilingual. They are not thematic, except when publishing a conference (see for example the issue 2 about “Sex and Genre: questions of Naming”). Submissions should be sent, before 30 June of every year, to the two editors at Jacqueline.fabre-serris@wanadoo.fr and jeph@umd.edu. Each article, written in the language of its author, should be accompanied by a brief abstract and a list of keywords.

We publish papers written by different categories of researchers. Some are by internationally known researchers (each autumn we regularly launch a call for publication by directly soliciting some specialists in various disciplinary fields). The others, spontaneously submitted, come from less internationally recognized researchers or from young gifted researchers, and even from PHD students.

Our scientific policy is to offer a virtual meeting space for American and European, junior and senior, researchers, each of them writing in her/his native language. We aim to offer unexpected opportunities for the readers to discover various methods and approaches, developed by different authors, who are writing and thinking in different linguistic and cultural areas. A reader who primarily is interested by this or that paper, might be attracted by another title. In order to facilitate connections between readers and authors, each article provides the author’s email address.

Reviewing process

All submissions for publication are anonymously examined by two reviewers. These reviewers are mostly chosen among the members of the scientific committee: Alganza Roldán (Grenada), Federica Bessone (Torino), Josine Blok (Utrecht), Claude Calame (EHESS),

Véronique Dasen (Fribourg), Therese Fuhrer (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), Allison Glazebrook (Brock University), Barbara Gold (Hamilton), Henriette Harich (Basel), Emily Hemelrijk (Amsterdam), Brooke Holmes (Princeton), Alison Keith (Toronto), Helen King (Open University), Florence Klein (Lille), David Konstan (Brown University), Donald Lateiner (Ohio Wesleyan University), Charilaos Michalopoulos (Thrace), Sheila Murnaghan (Pennsylvania), Gabriella Pironti (EPHE), Violaine Sebillotte-Cuchet (Paris 1), Alison Sharrock (Manchester), Giulia Sissa (UCLA), Thomas Späeth (Bern), Jane Stevenson (Aberdeen), Craig Williams (Illinois).

However, as our priority is to have submitted papers refereed by specialists who have written dissertations, books or papers on the author, the theme, and the approach chosen in individual submissions, in order to provide those submitting manuscripts with the most informed and insightful assessments as possible, we often solicit some reviewers from outside the scientific board. We seek reports of one or two (or more) pages, in which the reviewer initially summarizes the paper, gives her/his assessment of the thesis argued, the methods employed, the approach adopted, the results obtained, and the bibliography cited, and then provides detailed comments, proceeding page by page. In the event of differing assessments, a third reviewer is solicited. We send the third reviewer the anonymized paper and the reports of the two reviewers (including their names, in order that the third reviewer can better evaluate the situation) by asking her or him to take a position in relation to the two first assessments. Since the launching of «Eugesta», in 2011, we have gradually changed our policy in order to adapt it to various situations resulting from various reviewing experiences. 1. The assessments of the reviewers are positive, recommending that the paper be published but only after the author has rewritten it by taking into account, as much as possible, criticisms and suggestions made by the reviewers. 2. The assessments of the two reviewers are totally negative, leading to the conclusion that the paper is not suitable for publication. 3. If the assessments of the two or one of the reviewers include major criticisms, and recommend rewriting and resubmitting, there are two possibilities. We ask the author to rewrite her/his paper by taking into account both reports and to send us the new paper within two months, and we send it back to the same reviewers. If the work needed is considered too important to undertake in two months, we suggest that the author re-submit the following year. In any case, the author is invited to accompany her/his rewritten paper with a note in which she/

he explains why and how she/he has followed (or not) the different critics and suggestions of the reviewers. Because sometimes we have been embarrassed by a report appearing to be too short or be biased for different reasons, or in cases involving a re-submission when the two reviewers disagree, we (both editors) have decided to create an editorial board. The final decision for publishing or not publishing a paper will result from a discussion among the two editors and the members of this editorial board. In other terms, we will continue to respect and conform to the recommendations of the reviewers except in some problematic cases, in which the final decision will revert to the editorial board. As a result of our current reviewing process, two of every three papers are rejected and the number of pages is on average 250 pages (from 196 to 350 pages).

Scientific positioning

The scientific positioning of «Eugesta», is deliberately very broad, as can be seen in the programmatic text posted on the site: “The increased attention accorded to concepts of sex and gender developed by work in gender studies has powerfully transformed research in Antiquity, opening up a new extremely fruitful field of cultural and social analysis. Inasmuch as many ideas and values responsible for shaping the construction of identities in later Western societies originate in Antiquity, applying gendered theoretical perspectives to the texts and artifacts surviving from the ancient world offers particular benefits. Inquiries conducted into the relations among men, between men and women, among women, and on ways of constructing “the feminine” and “the masculine” have brought a new illumination on the functioning of ancient societies and cultures, an illumination also of major relevance for research on the reception of Antiquity in Western cultures”.

«Eugesta», accepts papers dealing with different cultural eras (Middle East, Egypt, Greece and Rome), belonging to different disciplinary fields: archaeology, economics, history, history of art, history of religion, law, literature, medicine, philosophy, reception of Antiquity... and using different critical approaches: anthropology, cultural history, intertextuality, mythography, narratology, new criticism, new historicism, psychoanalysis, reception, sociology... This broad scientific positioning is supplemented by three editorial choices that ensure the distinctive and very unique character of the journal: 1. «Eugesta» is the only international electronic journal on Gender in Antiquity;

promoting multilingualism and available in Open Access; 2. «Eugesta» is the only journal conceived as a virtual meeting place between North-American and European studies on Gender; it aims to provide them a higher level of visibility and to encourage reciprocal readings and productive interrelations among engaged researchers. 3. If all perspectives can potentially be accepted, «Eugesta», is particularly interested in publishing innovative studies reflecting new trends in criticism in order to contribute to the intellectual dynamism of gender studies in Antiquity.

Eugesta's international evaluation and new editorial project

«Eugesta», has been approved for inclusion in ERIH PLUS, the European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences. As a result of ANVUR's scientific assessment (Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca) in March 2017, «Eugesta», has been ranked "A" per tutti i Settori concorsuali della Area 10. Since its launching in 2011, 4 of its papers have been recognized by prestigious awards given for outstanding research in the United States (in 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2018). Since 2018, the University of Lille has decided to actively support the electronic reviews by creating a working group, animated by the director of Scientific Valorization, Solenn Bihan. As a result of these valuable efforts to define 'what should be the good practices when running an electronic journal in Open Access?', we will benefit from personalized assistance during 2019-2020, in order to incorporate various changes requested before submitting *Eugesta's* candidature to be included in an international plate-form.

Abstract: «Eugesta» è una rivista elettronica internazionale sugli studi di genere nell'antichità, diretta da J. Fabre-Serris (Lille) e J. Hallett (Maryland). È stata fondata nel 2011 in collaborazione con un gruppo di ricerca sul medesimo tema, l'European Network on Gender Studies in Antiquity. La rivista è pubblicata in Open Access e ospitata sul sito dell'Università di Lille. Promuovendo il plurilinguismo, «Eugesta» è concepita come un luogo d'incontro virtuale fra gli studi nordamericani ed europei sul genere; intende offrire ad essi un maggiore livello di visibilità e incoraggiare reciprocamente la lettura e il confronto produttivo fra i ricercatori coinvolti. Il contributo descrive come creiamo ogni numero, il processo di revisione e la nostra posizione scientifica. «Eugesta» è stata inclusa in ERIH PLUS.

«Eugesta», is an international electronic journal on gender studies in Antiquity, directed by J. Fabre-Serris (Lille) and J. Hallett (Maryland). It was created in 2011 in connection with the research network of the same name, the "European Network on Gender Studies in Antiquity". The journal is published in Open Access and hosted on the site of the University of Lille. Promoting multilingualism, «Eugesta», is conceived

as a virtual meeting place between North American and European studies on Gender: it aims to provide them a higher level of visibility and to encourage reciprocal readings and productive interrelations among engaged researchers. The paper describes how we constitute each issue, the reviewing process and our scientific positioning. «Eugesta» has been approved for inclusion in ERIH PLUS.

Keywords: rivista elettronica, studi di genere, antichità, multilinguismo, *EuGeStA*; electronic journal, gender studies, Antiquity, multilingualism.

Biodata: Jacqueline Fabre-Serris è Professoressa di *Letteratura latina* all'Università di Lille. È autrice di pubblicazioni sulla letteratura latina classica, in particolare su Gallo e la poesia augustea, su mitologia e mitografia, s'interessa specialmente di gender, intertestualità e ricezione dell'antichità. È codirettrice di tre riviste elettroniche: «Dictynna», «Eugesta» e «Polymnia» e di una collana sulla mitografia pubblicata da *Les Presses universitaires du Septentrion* (jacqueline.fabre-serris@wanadoo.fr).

Jacqueline Fabre-Serris is Professor of *Latin Literature* at the University of Lille. She has published on Classical Latin literature, especially on Gallus and Augustan poetry, on mythology and mythography. She has special interests in gender, intertextuality, and the reception of Antiquity. She is co-director of three electronic journals, «Dictynna», «Eugesta» and «Polymnia», and of a series on mythography published by *Les Presses universitaires du Septentrion* (jacqueline.fabre-serris@wanadoo.fr).

Judith P. Hallett è Professoressa di studi classici e Distinguished Scholar-Teacher Emerita all'Università del Maryland, College Park, si è laureata in latino al Wellesley College, specializzata e addottorata in filologia classica all'università di Harvard. Ha molte pubblicazioni nel campo della lingua e della letteratura latina; su donne, sessualità e famiglia nell'antica società greca e romana; sulla ricezione della classicità, e la storia degli studi classici nel XIX e nel XX secolo nel mondo anglofono. La raccolta del 2013, *Domina Illustris: Roman Literature, Gender, and Reception* celebra la sua attività (jeph@umd.edu).

Judith P. Hallett is Professor of Classics and Distinguished Scholar-Teacher Emerita at the University of Maryland, College Park; she obtained her MA and PhD degrees in Classical Philology from Harvard University. She has published widely in the areas of Latin language and literature; women, sexuality and the family in ancient Greek and Roman societies; classical reception; the history of classical studies in the 19th and 20th century Anglophone world. The 2013 Festschrift, *Domina Illustris: Roman Literature, Gender, and Reception*, honors her work (jeph@umd.edu).