

SCRIPTA CLASSICA ISRAELICA

YEARBOOK OF THE ISRAEL SOCIETY
FOR THE PROMOTION OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

ROME, JUDAEA AND ITS NEIGHBORS
SPECIAL ISSUE IN HONOR OF HANNAH M. COTTON

VOLUME XXXIII

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Edited by
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With special thanks to MENAHEM LUZ
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2014

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Editorial Note

This is our final issue of *Scripta Classica Israelica* as acting editors. After many years in charge (Rachel Feig Visnia, co-editor vols. 25-27, editor in chief, vols. 28-33; Rachel Zelnick-Abramovitz, co-editor and book review editor, vols. 28-33), the time has come to hand over the responsibility to others.

It is a great pleasure to dedicate our final issue as editors to Hannah Cotton, the energetic and indefatigable editor in chief of *SCI* (vols. 13-24), who has done more than anyone to crystallize the journal's character and assure its international acclaim.

We have incurred many debts over the years to our co-editors, the various officers of the ISPCS, the assistant to editors, numerous contributors and referees. But above all we are grateful to Donna Shalev, our former co-editor (vols. 28-31) for her exceptional and continuous help, even when out of office, in the complicated production of the journal.

We are also grateful to Werner Eck who agreed to join us as guest editor in this volume. His extraordinary scholarship, unmatched punctuality and his amazing pace of work were indispensable to the final shape of this issue.

We wish our successors much luck!

Rachel Feig Vishnia, Rachel Zelnick-Abramovitz

A Note from the President of the Israel Society for the Promotion of Classical Studies

Dear Hannah,

This is a token of recognition of your devoted service and of our great admiration for you personally. Many thanks from all of us for the years of creative work as the Editor of this journal, as the President of the Israel Society for the Promotion of Classical Studies, and, above all, for your inspiring presence and your immense contribution to everything that is Classics in Israel. We all wish you the best personally and professionally for many more years to come.

On behalf of the members of the ISPCS,

Margalit Finkelberg

Professor Hannah M. Cotton

Professor Hannah Cotton has been a lively, vibrant presence in the Departments of Ancient History and Classics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for well over four decades. As she progressed from an outstanding student who spent two hours deciphering a single sentence in Tacitus, refusing to budge from her seat in the library until she had mastered the difficult text on her own, to an internationally renowned senior scholar, her energy and intellectual enthusiasm have never flagged.

Hannah's scholarly research in the fields of Roman history, papyrology, epigraphy, and Jewish studies, particularly in relation to questions of administration and jurisdiction, have earned her many prestigious grants and honors, both at home and abroad. She is an honorary member of the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, the recipient of an honorary doctorate from the University of Bern, and was the first woman President of the Israel Society for the Promotion of Classical Studies, to name but a few.

Hannah also served as the chief editor of *Scripta Classica Israelica* for over a decade and during that time, she brought the quiet corridors of the Hebrew University Classics Department to life, in addition to invigorating the journal itself. When *Scripta* was due to go to press, the halls would be filled with the clattering of heels and the sounds of bantering and day long sessions, as Hannah and her fellow editors labored to ensure that the year's volume would be published properly and on time.

Hannah has an outstanding ability to foster cooperation among scholars, as one of her major scholarly roles, chief coordinator of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Iudaeae/Palaestinae (CIIP)*, a joint project of the Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, and the Universität zu Köln, well illustrates. She was quick to appreciate the advantages of electronic communication and her e-mail group lists are legendary, serving as a clearing house for notices relating to the study of Classics in the whole of Israel.

The subject of Hannah's Oxford doctoral thesis was Roman letters of recommendation and she probably did not realize then how much time and energy she would spend on writing letters of her own. She has encouraged and assisted dozens of young scholars, many of whom had their first taste of true research and scholarship while working as her assistants. Time and again, Hannah has turned to her international circle of friends and colleagues in order to smooth her students' path towards a first publication, a first job, a first period abroad, or a promotion.

Hannah's generosity and kindness extend to her teachers as well. Her devotion to her teachers, in Oxford as well as in Jerusalem, is exemplary and goes well beyond the call of *pietas*; several of Hannah's teachers have become her closest friends. Whether editing volumes of their work or rushing over to their homes to solve a computer crisis, Hannah devotes much attention to those who have enriched her life. It is to be hoped that we — Hannah's colleagues, students, and friends — will be wise enough to follow in her footsteps.

Deborah Gera

Hannah M. Cotton

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