

THE ROBERTA BUFFETT CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE STUDIES

FACULTY & FELLOWS COLLOQUIUM

ROBERT W. WALLACE

PROFESSOR OF CLASSICS, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

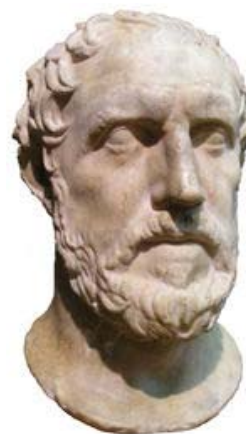
“THE NEW THUCYDIDES”

Friday :: May 23, 2008 :: 12:00 (noon) - 1:00pm

BCICS :: 1902 Sheridan Road

Lunch will be served

During the last half century, the most striking development in Thucydidean studies is his growing appreciation as literary artist and highly charged. Traditional epithets such as "scientific," "rational," or "medical" no longer seem adequate. Deeply passionate, Thucydides has created a literary masterpiece. Furthermore, while Thucydides' intellectual brilliance is universally acknowledged, his passionate engagement with his material and the elaborate construction of his text, as speeches and episodes echo across books and years, have made many scholars increasingly uneasy about the objectivity and validity not only of his judgments but also of his representations of historical fact. The discussion today will explore these problems principally in Thuc. book 1, including his representations of the causes of the Peloponnesian War and the rise of Athens after the Persian Wars, and his statements of method and purpose. If participants might read book 1 in advance, that would be useful but is not necessary.



Robert Wallace is Professor of Classics at Northwestern. He is the author of *The Areopagos Council, to 307 B.C.* and *Reconstructing Damon: Music, Wisdom Teaching, and Politics in Democratic Athens*; he co-authored *The Origins of Greek Democracy*. In addition, he has co-edited four volumes on Greek law, Greek music and performance, and Hellenistic political history, and has published some sixty articles in the fields of Greek history, law, music theory, numismatics, and literature. During the calendar year, he expects to complete a MS, *Freedom and Community in Democratic Athens*, and then turn to Sophokles.

BCICS Faculty & Fellows Colloquium: A Northwestern faculty member or visiting fellow presents current research to an interdisciplinary audience of faculty, fellows, and graduate students. Each meeting lasts one hour followed by informal discussion; lunch is provided by BCICS. The series was motivated by a desire to build a greater sense of awareness of what other scholars on campus are working on, to promote interdisciplinary connections and discussions among faculty working on international and comparative research, and ultimately to develop a stronger community among BCICS affiliates. If you are interested in presenting your work in this series, please contact BCICS Associate Director, Brian Hanson bhanson@northwestern.edu.



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