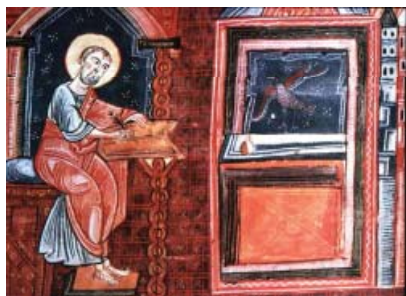


Research Support in Theological Libraries (1)

by Pauline Allen



ANZTLA 2011
Research Support in Theological Libraries

Pauline Allen
Centre for Early Christian Studies
Australian Catholic University

Objectives of the Centre

- ◉ to foster and develop the systematic study of early Christian literature from the first to the eighth century, in the areas of history, philosophy, theology, ethics, politics and social issues
- ◉ to conduct and publish research of an international standard
- ◉ to provide leadership and advice to the University and other tertiary institutions, on matters pertaining to Early Christian Studies
- ◉ to liaise and co-operate with other Centres in relevant fields
- ◉ to seek and raise funds from appropriate sources for research and related activities

Funded Research

- ◉ *Crisis management in late antiquity: the evidence of Episcopal letters*
ARC Discovery Project 2010-2012 (Pauline Allen and Bronwen Neil) **\$262,000**
- ◉ *The Clash of Sacred and Secular Authority in the Letters of Innocent I*
ARC Australian Research Fellowship 2007-2012 (Rev. Dr. Geoffrey D. Dunn) **\$534,000**
- ◉ *Poverty and Welfare in Late Antiquity*
ARC Discovery Project: 2006-2008 (Pauline Allen, Wendy Mayer and Bronwen Neil) **\$320,000**
- ◉ *Dwelling in the Household of God: The Spirituality of the Fourth Gospel.*
ARC Discovery Project: 2004-2006 (Mary Coloe) **\$102,500**
- ◉ *The development of the cult of Mary in North African Christianity (100 - 431 C.E.).*
ARC Discovery Project Grant: 2003-2005 (Pauline Allen, assisted by Geoffrey Dunn) **\$210,000**
- ◉ *Popes and Martyrs: The Politics of Hagiography in Ninth-Century Rome.*
ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship: 2001-2005 (Bronwen Neil) **\$210,000**
- ◉ *John Chrysostom: A Revisionist approach to a Prominent Figure in Late Antiquity.*
ARC Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship: 2001-2005 (Wendy Mayer) **\$370,943**
- ◉ *Completing the picture of a vital historical source: The homilies of John Chrysostom.*
ARC Large Grant: 2001-2003 (Wendy Mayer, assisted by David O'Brien and Silke Trzcionka) **\$121,461**
- ◉ *The bishop as letter-writer: pastoral care and civic administration in Christian antiquity.*
ARC Large Grant: 2000-2002 (Pauline Allen, assisted by Geoffrey Dunn and Youhanna Nessim Yousseff) **\$111,234**
- ◉ *Edition and translation of documents pertaining to the life of Maximus Confessor.*
ARC Large Grant: 1999-2001 (Pauline Allen, assisted by Bronwen Neil) **\$134,609**
- ◉ *The Homilies of John Chrysostom: Rehabilitating a vital late antique historical source.*
ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship: 1998-2000 (Wendy Mayer) **\$171,737**
- ◉ *John Chrysostom and Severus of Antioch as bishops, preachers and letter writers: Pastoral care and civic administration in Late Antique culture.*
ARC Large Grant: 1998-2000 (Pauline Allen, assisted by Kathleen Hay) **\$91,416**

OBSERVATIONS

1. Nature of the research and its difficulties

- i. secondary materials in foreign languages
- ii. old and out-of-print books
e.g. G. Przychocki, *De Gregorii Nazianzeni epistulis quaestiones selectae* (Cracow 1912)
- iii. limited access to ebooks
- iv. unwilling libraries/suppliers
- v. financial aspects

OBSERVATIONS

2. Strategies for research support

- i. winning competitive research grants
- ii. advocacy with senior library staff and DVC Research
- iii. donations



OBSERVATIONS

3. Nexus between acquisition and inter-library loans

OBSERVATIONS

4. Manuscript acquisition

- i. Greek Latin, Coptic, Arabic, mediaeval French
- ii. microfilm/microfiche/photocopy
- iii. unreliable catalogues/suppliers
- iv. financial aspects