Bridging the Divides:

Expanding Engagement in the Greek Language Classroom

In the 21st century, classes in pre-Modern Greek face many challenges, but to meet those challenges, teachers are refreshing the ways students engage with the language. This panel assembles five papers, each of which showcases ways that enhance and expand the pedagogical experience in beginning and intermediate Greek classrooms.

Paper #1 "Learning Modern Greek Grammar (Without the Tears)" bridges a divide that regularly blockades interested learners, that between ancient Greek and modern Demotic Greek. As this paper and presentation will demonstrate, when linked thoughtfully and openly, the two phases of the languages can and should reinforce each other for both teachers and students.

Paper #2 "Material Culture in the Intermediate Greek Classroom" bridges another divide that too often constricts language learning, that between language pedagogy and material culture. This presentation provides a fun yet purposeful example of embedding language in material culture, with the very engaging act of producing papyrus.

Paper #3 "Grab and Go Greek Gaming" bridges a divide between online gaming, a "Weapon of Mass Distraction" for students, as it is wittily labeled here, to an integrated enhancement in the learning of Greek (with resources that teachers of Greek can take and use immediately).

Paper #4 "What Works: An Online Greek Teaching Success Story" continues discussion about online environments, this time in a forum for learning that has been in development, but in a post-Covid world, is an entrenched part of everyone's pedagogical experience. This paper

focuses on practical successes in teaching Greek online with individual feedback, video meetings, high standard requirements on vocab quizzes, and irresistible drills.

Paper #5 "The 2019 College Greek Exam" continues the tradition of reporting on the College Greek Exam, this time with special information about the past and future of the exam under extraordinary circumstances.