

2003 Report of the Activities of the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Black Sea Studies

Introduction

- Aims and research plan
- Staff
- PhD grants
- Highlights of the year

Research activities

- Results
- Revision of the research plan
- Perspectives
- Visiting scholars at the Centre
- Congresses and seminars held by the Centre
- Research travels
- Participation in seminars and congresses organised by others
- Publications of the Centre

Other activities included in the contract

- Homepage
- Gazetteer of sites
- Database of Black Sea coins
- Teaching undertaken by the Centre staff
- Russian
- Library
- Dissemination to the general public

Additional activities

- Meetings of the scientific committee
- Meetings with external collaborators
- Co-funding not included in the contract
- Internal evaluation

Introduction

The second year of the Centre's work was a year of many and diverse activities: two international conferences, two one-day seminars, one international, one aimed at the general audience and the publication of two books, the first volume in the international series, *Black Sea Studies*, and the first in the Danish series, *Sortehavsstudier*. Unfortunately, the year also to a certain extent became affected by the fact that the director underwent an operation and subsequent treatment for cancer which took almost the entire year. She remained active, but the illness did cost 24 days of work.

Aims and research plan

The aims of the Centre are described in detail in the Annual Report of 2002, see http://www.pontos.dk/ann_report_2002.htm.

Staff (2003)

- Director Pia Guldager Bilde (Classical Archaeology), 1.2.2002-30.6.2006
- Associate Professor Vladimir Stolba (Ancient History, Classical Archaeology), 1.2.2002-30.6.2006
- Assistant Professor Jakob Munk Højte (Classical Archaeology), 1.2.2002-30.6.2006
- Assistant Professor George Hinge (Classical Philology), 1.2.2002-31.1.2004
- PhD student Jesper Majbom Madsen (Ancient History), 1.1.2003-31.12.2005
- PhD student Trine Madsen (Ancient History), 1.1.2003-31.12.2005
- PhD student Jane Hjarl Petersen (Classical Archaeology), 1.7.2003-30.6.2006
- Secretary (part-time) Jytte Brask, 1.3.2002-30.6.2006
- Academic Secretary (part-time) Sine Toft Jensen, 19.5.2003-30.6.2006

PhD grants

With the deadline of 30 May 2003, applications were invited for the Centre's third PhD grant (co-financed by the Danish PhD School in Archaeology). Assessment committee:

- Pia Guldager Bilde (chairman)
- Professor Henrik Thrane, Dept. of Prehistoric Archaeology, University of Aarhus
- Assistant Professor Birte Poulsen, Dept. of Classical Archaeology, University of Aarhus

The committee's work was finished on 1 July 2003. Jane Hjarl Petersen received the grant (Classical Archaeology; enrolled in Aarhus), 1.7.2003-30.6.2006. Project: "On the Edge of the Greek World. Cultural identity and cultural interaction in the northern Black Sea c. 550-270 BC. A study of burial customs as indicators of cultural identity".

Highlights of the year

In 2003 the Centre launched its two publication series, the international series, *Black Sea Studies* and the popularizing series in Danish, *Sortehavsstudier*. *BSS 1, The Cauldron of Ariantas, Studies presented to A.N. __eglov on the occasion of his 70th birthday*, edited by Pia Guldager Bilde, Jakob Munk Højte and Vladimir F. Stolba celebrated one of the pioneers in Black Sea archaeology and our main collaborator at the Institute of the History of Material Culture in St Petersburg. The book contains 22 contributions from 24 scholars from Russia, Ukraine, Denmark, France, and Great Britain. It provides a broad perspective on the status of Black Sea studies today. The book was financed by external grants. It was presented to A.N. __eglov in St. Petersburg 17.10.2003.

In the first volume of the Danish series, *Sortehavsstudier 1, På randen af det ukendte. Hvad græske og romerske forfattere kan fortælle om Sortehavsområdet i antikken*, redigeret af Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen og George Hinge, the papers of the Centre's first annual meeting were published. They cast light on the geographical knowledge the ancient Mediterranean authors had of this remote periphery of the Greco-Roman world. The book was presented at the annual meeting of the Centre on 29.11.2003.

Research activities

Results

The Centre has undertaken research in all four *Research Activities* in 2003. The diagram below summarises the main activities carried out by the Centre staff and scientific committee:

<p><i>Research Activity 1:</i> International seminar on Geography: published (TBN, GH) Study of Greek cults and ritual practice: ongoing (PGB, JMH, GH, JHP, VS) Study of Herodotus' Scythian logos and the stereotype of the other: ongoing (GH) Study of Olbia's Archaic necropolis and Greek burial customs for MA thesis: completed (JHP) Study of Greek burial customs in the Greek cities of the northern Black Sea region in the period 550-270 BC: initiated (JHP) Study of numismatics and Greek-Barbarian relations: ongoing (VS) International conference on landscape archaeology: planned and executed; oral papers published on the net (PGB, VS, LH) Publication of The Cauldron of Ariantas: planned and completed (PGB, JMH, VS) Annual meeting on Religion and Cult: planned and executed; oral papers published on the net (PGB) Methodological debate on the character of the Greek colonisation of the BSR: ongoing (PGB, VS, JMH, GH, JHP, LH, TBN) Methodological debate on interpretation of archaeological cultures: ongoing (VS, LH, PGB, JMH, JHP)</p>	<p><i>Research Activity 2:</i> International conference on Chronology: oral papers published on the net; manuscripts for publication currently being edited (VS, LH) Study of fishing and marine resources: completed (TBN, JMH, VS) International workshop on marine resources: completed; oral papers published on the net; manuscripts for publication currently being edited (TBN) International conference on Trade and trade relations: planning initiated (VG, JL, TM) Study of numismatics and economy: ongoing (VS) Study of pottery and amphora stamps (chronology, trade relations): ongoing (VS, JMH, PGB, JHP, LH, JL)</p>
<p><i>Research Activity 3:</i> Work on Panskoe I, necropolis: ongoing (VS) Work on Panskoe I, U7: ongoing (VS, JMH, LH) Work on sanctuary at Djangul': ongoing (PGB) Negotiations concerning collaboration with Kiev on publication of Olbia, lower town in the Hellenistic period: completed (PGB, VS)</p>	<p><i>Research Activity 4:</i> International seminar on geography: published (TBN, GH) Study of the Kingdom of Pontos and Mithridates VI: ongoing (JMH) Study of fishing technology: completed (TBN, JMH) Study of euergetism: initiated (TM) Study of the Romanisation of the provinces Moesia and Bithynia et Pontos: initiated (JMM)</p>

In 2002 the research of the Centre addressed the issues of "time" and "space". The "space" aspect was in 2002 considered through the lens of the outside world: that of ancient Mediterranean authors.

In 2003 the aspect was taken up again, but viewed from inside the Black Sea region. By means of an ambitious international conference on landscape archaeology, it was the Centre's aim to produce an overview of the relationship between the larger cities, *poleis*, and their territories, the *chorai*, through discussing how the *chorai* were defined and organised in time

and space. Researchers representing the main ancient cities of the west, north and south coasts of the Black Sea region were invited to the conference. Specialists from the Mediterranean participated by providing a comparative perspective. In addition some of the main theoreticians on Mediterranean landscape archaeology were invited.

This particular field of archaeology has, during the past 40 years, developed into a highly specialised and sophisticated discipline within Western archaeology. It aims at understanding regions beyond the individual site, frequently on city state, region or landscape level. The methodological debate current in Mediterranean archaeology over this discipline has hardly reached the Black Sea region yet. The scope of the conference was therefore dual: to discuss factual data of the Black Sea *chorai* and to introduce the methodological debate to our Eastern colleagues.

On data level much new information was generated. Of great importance was the substantiation of the trend already observed and reported in 2002 that the first third of the 3rd century BC was a period of extensive decline in all the *chorai*. A new image of a changing world is emerging with crises in food and money and a movement of peoples (Greeks and barbarians).

On the methodological level we were bound to realize that East and West have much to learn from each other. Nearly a century of mutual lack of knowledge and communication cannot, when it comes to methodological issues, be overcome without a long-term strategy for exchanging opinions and ideas. This conference has been one of many steps necessary for establishing a balanced dialogue.

Another main issue addressed in 2003 was the incentives for the colonisation of the region. It is commonly accepted that land for grain production was the main attraction of the region for the early colonists. This research stereotype was scrutinised during the first of the year's international conferences, which aimed at investigating the role of fish and fish products in the diet, economy and trade of the region.

The earliest Greek colonies were all situated strategically close to the major river estuaries: Istros in the delta of the Danube, Berezan vis-à-vis the confluence of the Bug and the Dnjepir and Targanrog by the delta of the Don all founded in the middle of the 7th century BC. Many localities yielded rich finds of fish bones and scales. Particularly interesting are the data from Olbia, where it can be seen that over the time span covered by the Centre (7th century BC to 325 AD), the bone remains showed definite signs of overfishing, namely that the size of the individual species caught decreased.

The conference confirmed the hypothesis that processed fish played a major role for the region also as an object of trade.

From the outset the Centre aimed at establishing an overall understanding of the Black Sea region as part of the Greek and Roman world. However, most of the Centre studies reveal that the Oriental, specifically Iranian, world played a dominant role. Ethnically and politically speaking, in fact, it is polemically viable, in certain specific periods, to refer to the Black Sea as the Persian Sea. It is debated whether the Achaemenid empire reached as far as the southern Caucasus. However, it is beyond dispute that at least the elite culture of Colchis, ancient Georgia, was to a considerable extent part of an Achaemenid cultural (and probably even political) *koiné*.

The northern and eastern nomadic groups, the "Scythians" to give them a generic term, are of Indo-Iranian origins. The Oriental aspect is an important key to understanding Greek-barbarian relations and the Greek conception of the barbarians. The same is shown by the study of the Mithridatic kingdom with its core land the south coast of the Black Sea.

The Centre's study of rituals and cult in religion and in the funerary culture disclose the same trends, namely a significant osmosis between Greeks and non-Greeks of the region to a degree that has been hitherto overlooked. This is hardly surprising since the same picture emerges in current research on other colonial regions of the Greek and Roman world as an effect of the decolonisation of the research itself. But what is surprising is that in the colonial world of the Black Sea the Greeks appear much more deeply influenced by the local milieu than in, for example, Magna Graecia. This may be due to a difference in the power balance between the Greeks and the local population of the two areas. The analysis of the particular character of the

colonisation process around the Black Sea is one of the Centre's main aims.

The two PhD projects concentrating on power structures and power relations, namely on *euergesia* (Trine Madsen) and on *Romanisation* (Jesper Majbom Madsen) are advancing satisfactorily. Both have in 2003 concentrated on methodological and theoretical aspects. It is therefore too early to report on their particular contributions to the Black Sea discourse. This will be done in 2004.

As for the establishment of primary data, work progressed on the three publication volumes, *Panskoye I* vol. 2 *The Necropolis* (Vladimir Stolba), *Panskoye I* vol. 3 *The Monumental Building U7* (Vladimir Stolba, Jakob Højte and Lise Hannestad) and *Djangul'* (Pia Guldager Bilde). To this can now be added the Centre contribution to the analysis and publication of the data from the excavations of the lower city of Olbia (1985-2002) in collaboration with a number of Ukrainian and Russian colleagues. The planning of this work was done in 2003 modelled on the previous experience with collaboration on the publication of *Panskoye I* with Russian colleagues. The work will commence in January 2004, when two key persons from among the Ukrainian staff will work at the Centre. It will continue during one month's fieldwork in Olbia in August 2004 for all members of the Centre involved in the project.

In 2003 the Centre addressed the issue of trade with a particular effort concentrating on the trade in fish and in fish products. In 2004 the Centre will focus on the overall question of trade and trade relations, tolls and taxation in an international congress in May. The research on the Kingdom of Mithridates and hence on the south coast of the Black Sea (*Research Activity 4.a*) will be intensified significantly as a leading Russian specialist, Sergej Saprykin (Moscow) will be working at the centre for six months (January-June 2004). The Kingdom of Mithridates will also form the subject of the next annual meeting.

Revision of the research plan

A major contribution to the research plan is the inclusion of the project "The Lower City of Olbia in the 5th century BC - 4th century AD (the sector NGS)" in collaboration with the Academy of Sciences in Kiev. This project involves a complete archaeological and historical analysis of the data obtained during the archaeological fieldwork in the years 1985 to 2002. The project will contribute significantly to the establishment of high quality primary data. The lower city of Olbia predominantly dates from the Hellenistic period. The research will give valuable insight into life in one of the region's most important cities in the period after the previously mentioned crisis in the early 3rd century BC. It will also provide an invaluable pendant to the Centre's study of the distant *chora* of the neighbouring *polis*, Chersonesos, namely western Crimea (*Research Activity 3*) as it offers the possibility of examining the life of the Greek settlers in the city and in the *chora* respectively. The results will be published in two volumes modelled on *Panskoye I* with S.D. Kryzhytskiy, N.A. Lejpunskaja, P. Guldager Bilde, and V.F. Stolba as editors. The manuscripts are due 1.1.2006 and the publication should be issued late in 2006. The Olbia project will be categorised as part of *Research Activity 3*. This *Research Activity* is accordingly renamed *Polis and chora* with two subordinate projects: "Northwestern Crimea - the territory of a Greek City State" (3.a) and "The Lower City of Olbia in the 5th century BC - 4th century AD (the sector NGS)" (3.b).

A minor revision of the research plan is that the time of the two last international conferences switches places, so that the conference on *Romanisation* (*Research Activity 4.b*) will be held in January 2005 and not in 2006 and the conference on the meeting of cultures (*Research Activity 1*) will be held in January 2006, not in 2005. The change is occasioned by the desire to include the PhD students in the planning and execution of the above-mentioned conferences. Accordingly all three PhD students have the opportunity to co-organise one international conference each.

Perspectives

The work of the Centre has lifted a corner of the veil from a highly significant incident in the life of the entire region, namely the catastrophe of the early 3rd century BC that led to a "new deal" in the area. The Centre should like to pursue its current hypothesis that an ecological

catastrophe was the primary cause of a series of collapses in society and economy and among the various ethnic groups. It has been observed that limnological investigations made by A.I. Dzents-Litovskij in the first half of the 1930s in the salty Lake Saki in the western Crimea may document independently the tendency revealed in the archaeological material of a climatic crisis during this period (presence of salt lenses that can be dated by varve chronology). As there are no further data available from Crimean (or other Black Sea) salt lakes, the Centre has contacted the limnologists of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg in order to make a second interdisciplinary pilot project drilling in the Saki Lake and in another lake as control in order to obtain an understanding of the climatic changes in the region and to obtain pollen profiles for the specific areas. The counting of varves will provide an independent means of dating the climatic sequences of the region. Setting this important project in motion, which will break new ground with potential also for the Mediterranean, will depend on external funding.

Visiting scholars at the Centre

- S. Kashaev, (Junior researcher, Russian Academy of Science, St. Petersburg, Moscow), 3-28.3.2003.
- S. Saprykin, (Professor, Centre for Comparative Studies of Ancient Civilizations, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow), 7-27.5. 2003.
- G.A. Paskevich (Senior researcher, Institute of Archaeology, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kiev, Ukraine), 26.9.-1.10.2003.
- I. Gagoshidze (Senior researcher, Department of Archaeology of the Janashia State Museum of Georgia), 26.9.-1.10.2003.

All the visiting scholars gave public lectures on the occasion of their visit to the Centre.

Congresses and seminars held by the Centre

The Centre has held two international conferences, an international one-day seminar, a popularizing one-day seminar (in Danish) and seven internal seminars.

(a) A two-day international conference with 18 invited specialists from USA, England and Denmark on "Marine resources and trade in fish products in the Black Sea region in Antiquity", University of Southern Denmark, Esbjerg campus, 04.04-05.04, 2003

Organiser: Tønnes Bekker Nielsen.

- Pia Guldager Bilde, Welcome.
- Robert Curtis, Sources for production and trade of processed fish.
- Jakob Munk Højte, Fish processing along the Black Sea.
- John Wilkins, Fish as a source of food in antiquity.
- Hans Otto Sørensen, The biochemistry of fish processing.
- Vladimir Stolba, Fish and money: numismatic evidence.
- John Lund, A fishy business: transport amphorae of the Black Sea region as a source for the trade in fish in the Classical and Hellenistic periods
- Bo Ejstrud, Estimating garum volumes.
- Athena Trakadas, Fish processing in the Western Mediterranean.
- Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen, Ancient fishing technology.
- Lif Jacobsen, The reliability of fishing statistics.
- Tønnes Bekker Nielsen, Summing up and conclusion.

The papers are available on the Centre's homepage: <http://www.pontos.dk/publications-frame.htm>. The conference papers will be published in May 2004 as *Black Sea Studies 2*.

(b) Four-day international conference with 26 invited specialists from Russia, Ukraine, England, Holland, USA, Germany, France, Italy and Denmark: "Chora, catchment and communications. The present state and future prospects of landscape archaeology in the Black Sea region, 7th century BC-4th century AD", Sandbjerg 31.8-03.9. 2003

Organisers: Pia Guldager Bilde, Lise Hannestad and Vladimir Stolba

- Pia Guldager Bilde, Welcome and introduction.

- John Bintliff, Introduction: A view from the intensive survey tradition of the Greek homeland.
- Susan Alcock, The more unusual dots on the map: 'special purpose' sites and the texture of landscape.
- Peter Hayes, Horses for courses: thoughts on the archaeology of landscapes from a survey perspective.
- Joseph Carter, Towards a comparative study of colonial chorai, west and east.
- Alexandru Avram, Chora of Histria and Callatis.
- Sven Conrad, Archaeological survey on the lower Danube. Results and perspectives.
- Sergej B. Ochotnikov, Chora von Tyras und Nikonion im VI-IV Jahrhundert v. Chr.
- Sergej D. Kry_ickij, Chora d'Olbia, problèmes de démographie des établissements.
- Bujskich, S. B., Chora of Olbia Pontica - The main stages of spatial development.
- Kutajsov, V. A., Chora of Kerkitis
- Nikolaenko, G. M., Mar_enko, L.V., The Chora of Tauric Chersonesos. Calaster of IV-II c. BC.
- Sergej Ju. Saprykin, The Chora of the Bosporan Kingdom: new Discoveries and Problems.
- Viktor N. Zin'ko, The Chora of Nymphaeum.
- Alexander V. Gavrilov, Theodosia and its chora in Antiquity.

The papers are available on the Centre's homepage: <http://www.pontos.dk/publications-frame.htm>. The conference papers will be published in early 2005 as *Black Sea Studies 4*.

(c) International one-day seminar held on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Niels Hannestad and Lise Hannestad.

Organiser (Black Sea part): Pia Guldager Bilde

Two guests of the Centre Galina A. Pa_kevi_, a renowned palaeobotanist from Ukraine and a leading archaeologist from Georgia, Iulon Gagoshidze contributed to the seminar.

(d) One-day seminar (in Danish), the Centre's Annual Meeting open for all and aimed at a general audience: "Man and Gods by the Coasts of the Black Sea", University of Aarhus, 29.11.2003

Organiser: Pia Guldager Bilde

- Pia Guldager Bilde: Velkomst og introduction. (Welcome and introduction).
- George Hinge: Sjølevandring Skythien tur-retur. (Soul journeys: Scythia there and back).
- Vladimir Stolba: Bystatens guder: Parthenos og Herakles. (Gods of the Polis: Parthenos and Heracles).
- Pia Guldager Bilde: Gudens bolig? Templer ved Sortehavet. (Home of the God? Temples by the Black Sea).
- Lise Hannestad: Hverdagsguder. Terrakottafigurer fra Sortehavsområdet. (Everyday Gods. Terracottafigurines from the Black Sea Area).
- Jakob Højte: Tempelstater i kongeriget Pontos. (Temple states in the Kingdom of Pontos).

The papers are available on the Centre's homepage: <http://www.pontos.dk/publications-frame.htm>. The conference papers will be published as *Sortehavsstudier 2* (in Danish) in September 2004.

(e) A series of internal seminars called "Thursday seminars" have been held in both semesters. The purpose of these seminars is to provide a forum for scholarly exchange for the Centre staff, colleagues, PhD students and graduate students working in the disciplines of the study of antiquity. Seven seminars have been held:

20.2.2003:

Trine Madsen: *An investigation of euergesia in the Black Sea region from c. 322 B.C. to the end of the third century A.D. - the development of societal structures in the cities of the Black Sea in the Hellenistic and Roman periods.*

Jesper M. Madsen: *The Romanization of Bithynia et Pontus and Moesia Inferior. A comparative study of the local elite's response to the Roman hegemony in the early Empire.*

20.3.2003:

Vincent Gabrielsen: *Economic exchanges between the Black Sea region and the Mediterranean: a prolegomenon.*

Jakob Højte: *Settlement patterns in the Black Sea region. An analysis of the data currently in the gazetteer of sites.*

24.4.2003:

George Hinge: *Sprogvidenskabsmanden Herodot: Sprog og etnicitet i oldtiden.* (In Danish)

23.9.2003:

Vladimir Stolba: *Monetary crises in the early Hellenistic poleis of Olbia, Chersonesos and Pantikapaion. A re-assessment.*

30.10.2003:

Pia Guldager Bilde: *Greek Temples by the Black Sea.*

20.11.2003:

Jane Hjarl Petersen: *Burial customs and intercultural relations in the Northern Black Sea Region from c. 550 to 270 BC.*

Vladimir Stolba: *Russian private collections of Greek coins from the Black Sea region (late 19th - early 20th century): the case of Grand Duke Alexander Michailovich.*

11.12.2003:

Trine Madsen: *Euergetism and Bourdieu - approaches to the study of the benefactor in the Black Sea region* (held in Copenhagen).

The article "Differences between the Romanization of Hellas, western Asia Minor and Bithynia and the western provinces", by Jesper Majbom Madsen, was discussed at an internal seminar 14.8. 2003.

Research travels

- Vladimir Stolba worked in St. Petersburg 11-30.04.2003 studying the finds from Panskoe I, in order to prepare his part of the publications *Panskoye I. Vol. 2 and 3.*
- Jesper Majbom Madsen and Tønnes Bekker Nielsen went to Ker_ 16-25.5.2003 in order to attend the conference "Fourth Bosporan readings".
- Pia Guldager Bilde and Vladimir Stolba were in Kiev and in southwestern Ukraine 17-23.6.2003 in order to finalise planning of collaboration project between the Centre and the Institute of Archaeology, the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kiev on the Hellenistic city of Olbia.
- Pia Guldager Bilde worked in St. Petersburg 10-19.10.2003 with material from the sanctuary of Djangul'.
- Jakob Højte and Vladimir Stolba worked in St. Petersburg, 12.10.-26.10.2003, studying the finds from Panskoe I, in order to prepare their part of the publications *Panskoye I. Vol. 2 and 3.*
- Jesper Majbom Madsen, Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen and John Lund took part in a field study trip to Istanbul organized jointly by the University of Bergen (Norway) and the University of Southern Denmark, 26.10.-2.11.2003.

Participation in seminars and congresses organised by others

Pia Guldager Bilde

None due to illness.

Vladimir Stolba

- 1) XIII International Numismatic Congress, Madrid 15-19 September. (With paper).
- 2) The Development of the Northern Coin Cabinets from minor Kunstkammer collections into great National Collections, 18th and 19th centuries. International Conference, St Petersburg, 21-25 October. (With paper).

Jakob Højte

- 1) XVIth International Congress for Classical Archaeology, 23-26 August (Boston, USA) (with paper).
- 2) Pedagogy for university teachers, 18-21 August (Sandbjerg, Denmark).
- 3) Mithradates VI, King of Pontos (in Danish), Student seminar on ancient history, University of Southern Denmark, 10 October (Esbjerg).

George Hinge

- 1) Komparativ sprogforskning på vej II, University of Copenhagen, 20-21 October. (With paper).
- 2) Pedagogy for university teachers, 18-21 August (Sandbjerg, Denmark).

Trine Madsen

- 1) Introductory PhD Course, Danish Research School of History, 3-4 June.
- 2) Modern Sociological Theory, Copenhagen Business School, 25 April, 25-29 August and 9-10 October.

Jane Hjarl Petersen

- 1) Archaeology and Modern Society, The Danish PhD School in Archaeology, 5-8 May (Bygholm, Horsens, Denmark).
- 2) Archaeology. The Theory and History of the Discipline, the Danish PhD School in Archaeology, 3-10 November, Petra, Jordan. (With paper).
- 3) Seminar on Fund-raising, the Danish PhD School in Archaeology, 4 December (University of Aarhus).

Jesper Majbom Madsen

- 1) Fourth Bosporan readings, Cimmerian Bosporus and the Barbarian World in the period of Antiquity and the Middle Ages, 20-23 May, Ker_.
- 2) Understanding Roman Imperialism (In Danish), Department of History, University of Southern Denmark, 26 September (Esbjerg).
- 3) Plutarch and the political aspect in ancient biography (In Danish), Student seminar on ancient history, University of Southern Denmark, 23 November (Esbjerg).

Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen

- 1) Fourth Bosporan readings, Cimmerian Bosporus and the Barbarian World in the period of Antiquity and the Middle Ages, 20-23 May, Ker_' (With paper).
- 2) Table Ronde meeting of the British Academy Black Sea Initiative (BABSI), 14-16 March 2003, Chancellor's Conference Centre, University of Manchester.

Publications of the Centre (2003)

Alcock, S., "The more unusual dots on the map: 'special purpose' sites and the texture of landscape". http://www.pontos.dk/landsc_konference/ALCunusual_dots.htm

Bekker-Nielsen, T., "Mobility, ethnicity and identity: the evidence of the funerary inscriptions from Pantikapaion", *Bospor Kimmerijskij i varvarskij mir*, Ker_' 2003, 299-302 = http://www.pontos.dk/e_pub/Kerch%20paper%20final%20version.pdf

Bekker-Nielsen, T., "Ptolemaios fra Alexandria og hans samtidige", in: Bekker-Nielsen, T., & G.

Hinge (eds.), På randen af det ukendte. Hvad græske og romerske forfattere kan fortælle om Sortehavsområdet i antikken, *Sortehavsstudier* 1, Aarhus 2003, 55-66.

Bekker-Nielsen, T., „Lutter øren“, *Sfinx* 26.4, 2003, 166.

Bekker-Nielsen, T., & G. Hinge (eds.), På randen af det ukendte. Hvad græske og romerske forfattere kan fortælle om Sortehavsområdet i antikken, *Sortehavsstudier* 1. Aarhus Universitetsforlag 2003.

Bekker-Nielsen, T. (ed.), Ancient Fishing and Fish Processing in the Black Sea Region, *Black Sea Studies* 2, Aarhus 2004. In print.

Bekker-Nielsen, T. & P. Guldager Bilde (eds.), "Ecology, Development and Change: the Black Sea Region in a Long-Term Perspective" (EDC-BSR). Proposal to EU's 6th Framework Programme (Network of Excellence).

Bintliff, J., "Introduction: A view from the intensive survey tradition of the Greek homeland".
http://www.pontos.dk/landsc_konference/BINTchora_introduction.htm

Carter, J., "Towards a comparative study of colonial chorai, west and east".
http://www.pontos.dk/landsc_konference/CARcomparative_study.htm

Conrad, S., "Archaeological survey on the lower Danube. Results and perspectives".
http://www.pontos.dk/landsc_konference/CONlower_danube.htm

Ejstrud, B., "Estimating garum volumes",
http://www.pontos.dk/Fiskeseminar/SizeMatrs_pontos.dpdf.pdf

Gagoschidze, I. Achaemenid and Achaemenidizing silver vessels found in Georgia,
http://www.pontos.dk/Birthday_Lise_Niels/gagoschidze.htm

Gavrilov, A. V., "Theodosia and its chora in Antiquity",
http://www.pontos.dk/landsc_konference/GAV_feodosia_chora.htm

Guldager Bilde, P., J.M. Højte & V.F. Stolba (eds.), The Cauldron of Ariantas, Studies presented to A.N. __eglov on the occasion of his 70th birthday, *Black Sea Studies* 1 (Aarhus 2003).

Guldager Bilde, P., "Wandering Images: From Taurian (and Chersonesean) Parthenos to (Artemis) Tauropolos and (Artemis) Persike", in: P. Guldager Bilde, J.M. Højte & V.F. Stolba (eds.), The Cauldron of Ariantas, Studies presented to A.N. __eglov on the occasion of his 70th birthday, *Black Sea Studies* 1 (Aarhus 2003), 165-183.

Guldager Bilde, P., "What was Scythian about the Scythian Diana at Nemi?",
http://www.pontos.dk/e_pub/PGBscythianDiana.htm.

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For further publications and activities of the Centre staff in 2003, please refer to the Annual Report of the University of Aarhus: <http://www.au.dk/da/hum/klasark/arsb2003.htm>.

Other activities included in the contract

Homepage

Since May the homepage has been updated by the Centre's academic secretary. There are no plans for changing the overall layout of the homepage. The section on *News* announcing the activities of the Centre will undergo major changes in 2004.

Gazetteer of sites

Work on the gazetteer of sites in the Black Sea Region proceeds. It has now been published in a preliminary version on the homepage. Material is continuously being collected by the staff and entered into the data base. A web interface has been build for access to the base through the internet.

Address: <http://lysbilled.hum.au.dk/total/gazetteer/gazetteer.htm>

Database of Black Sea coins

The database of ancient coins minted in the cities of the Black Sea region in the possession of the Royal Collection of Coins and Medals at the Danish National Museum that was launched last year on the homepage has proven to be a very useful tool both in research and for teaching purposes. In 2003 Black Sea coins in the Museum of Ancient Art, Aarhus have been added.

The data base can be searched at: <http://lysbilled.hum.au.dk/total/sngcop/introduction.htm>

Teaching done by the Centre staff

Centre staff offered one course to the institutes concerned with classical studies in the spring term 2003:

- *The Kingdom of Pontos* (George Hinge, Jakob Munk Højte).
- Jesper Majbom Madsen taught one session during the course: Lange linier, in autumn term 2003 at the Department of History, Esbjerg, 25.9.2003: *Understanding Roman Imperialism*
- Pia Guldager Bilde taught one session during the course Videnskabsteori, 24.11.2003, Aarhus University: Landscape archaeology

Russian

The non-Russian Centre staff started intensive training in the Russian language in December 2002. This activity continued through the spring term until 1.5 2003. Jane Hjarl Petersen attended an introductory course in Russian at the Department of Slavonic Studies, University of Aarhus, in the autumn term 2003. Trine Madsen attended an intensive course in Russian (15 ECTS points), Copenhagen University, in the autumn term 2003. All Centre employees have now basic skills in reading Russian.

Library

George Hinge has for the past year been responsible for the Centre's library, which has expanded considerably.

Dissemination to the general public

The Centre has been presented in the publication *3 nye centre* by the Research Foundation: "Et multikulturelt samfund i Oldtiden", 11-16; in *Aarhus Universitet i ord og billeder 2002*: "De glemte grækere", 20-21 [erroneous text] and in *The University of Aarhus, Denmark 2002*: "The forgotten Greeks", 22-23 [correct text]; in *Agora 1*, 2003, 2-12 (contributions by the Centre staff); Pia Guldager Bilde: essay "Oldtidspirater ved Sortehavet", *Politiken* (29.7.2003); "Ved det gæstmilde hav?" *Sfinx* 26.3, 2003, 128-133; "Danmarks Grundforskningsfonds Center for Sortehavstudier", *Klassikerforeningens Meddelelser* 205, 2003, 16-21.

Additional activities

Meetings of the scientific committee

Two meetings have been held in the scientific committee: 20.3.2003, 1.9.2003.

Meetings with external collaborators

Apart from the current collaboration projects included in the original research plan, work continued or was launched on three further projects:

(a) "Ecology, Development and Change: the Black Sea Region in a Long-Term Perspective" (EDC-BSR). With a grant (START) from the Danish Research Council for the Humanities, work on preparing an application for EU's 6th Framework programme continued.

The first meeting between the contractors was held 8-10.2.2003 in Esbjerg with the participation of Pia Guldager Bilde and Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen and representatives from Zentrum für Archäologie und Kultur des Schwarzmeergebietes (ZAKS), Halle, Germany; The British Academy Black Sea Initiative (BABS), London, UK; The British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara (BIAA), Ankara, Turkey; The research project „Le monde scytho-sarmate“, Bordeaux, France; Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of Exeter, UK; Maritime Historical Studies Centre, University of Hull, UK, Istanbul Technical University (ITU). At this meeting the main lines of the application and the organisational structure were decided. The group of applicants was supplemented by two eastern partners, the Centre for Comparative Studies of Ancient Civilisations, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow and the Centre for Environmental History, European University, St. Petersburg.

The second meeting was held in Manchester 15-16.3.2003. During this meeting the final draft of the application was made. During the last two weeks of February the application received its final polish and was sent to meet the deadline 8 April 2003.

Primo October 2003 the Centre received the evaluation, which made it clear that our application would not be taken into consideration. Even though this is disappointing, the process of writing the application and negotiating with the contractors has had a significant integrating effect, which strengthened the network of Black Sea researchers decisively. One direct result is an inter-disciplinary conference, jointly organised by the British Academy Black Sea Initiative and Istanbul Technical University, two of the contractors, on the past, present and future of the Black Sea region to be held in Istanbul in October 2004.

(b) "The Lower City of Olbia in the 5th century BC - 4th century AD (the sector NGS)"

The collaboration on the analysis and publication of the data from the excavations of the lower city of Olbia (1985-2002) were finalised in a series of meetings held in Kiev in June 2003 between Pia Guldager Bilde, Vladimir Stolba, Sergey Kryzhytskiy, Nina Lejpunskaja, Valentina Krapivina and Alexander Karjaka and at Sandbjerg 2.9.2003, where Pia Guldager Bilde, Lise Hannestad, Vladimir Stolba, and Sergey Kryzhytskiy were present.

(c) "Climate changes in the Black Sea region in antiquity"

The first soundings concerning collaboration between the Centre and the Institute of Limnology, the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg were taken at a meeting in St. Petersburg 13.10.2003. Present were Pia Guldager Bilde, Vladimir Stolba, Alexander Alkhimenko, Natalja Davidova, Dmitri Subetto. The purpose of the collaboration is to obtain data concerning climate changes in antiquity in addition to pollen profiles by investigating at least two salt lakes in the Crimea.

Co-funding not included in the contract

- The stay at the Centre of S. Kashaev (St. Petersburg) was co-financed by INTAS.
- The Centre's third PhD scholarship is co-financed with the Danish PhD School in Archaeology (50:50).
- The printing costs of *Black Sea Studies* 1 were covered by the Ny Carlsberg Foundation and by Aarhus University Research Foundation.
- The travel and meeting costs involved in the preparation of the FP6 application were covered by the Danish Research Foundation for the Humanities.
- Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen's participation in Fourth Bosphoran Readings was financed by the University of Southern Denmark.

Internal evaluation

The director held individual talks with the employees 6-10.1.2003 (MUS) and the Centre staff held a one-day evaluation and strategy meeting 16.12.2003.