



in the Late Bronze Age and early Iron Age, focusing on Cyprus. The wide range of topics and perspectives presented

at the workshop initiated a great deal of stimulating and lively discussion, and a volume of the papers will be published in 2011.

Lena Larsson Lovén

TRAC 2010

25-28 March 2010, University of Oxford,
UK

In March this year the 20th Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference (TRAC) took place in Oxford, hosted by the University of Oxford and arranged in collaboration with the 9th Roman Archaeology Conference (RAC). The conference started with an opening lecture on the first evening, 25th of March, and was followed by more than 20 sessions during the next two and half days (26-28 March). The sessions covered many different aspects of Roman archaeology from all over the Roman Empire for instance Rome and the Sea, various aspects of Roman religion, Roman imperialism, and recent archaeological work on villas at the bay of Naples. Many interesting papers were presented – for the TRAC conference with a special emphasis on theoretical approaches.

Of particular interest to the readers of Archaeological Textile Newsletter was the session on “Cloth, clothes and gender in Roman art”. The session was organised by Kelly Olson from the University of Western Ontario in Canada. Kelly Olson has published several works on the clothing of Roman women and most recently a book on *Dress and the Roman woman. Self-representation and society* (London/New York 2008) and as contributor to *Roman dress and the fabric of Roman culture* (eds. J. Edmondson and A. Keith, Toronto 2008). At the TRAC conference

she gave a paper on tunics as a sign of status and masculinity in Roman antiquity. Two of the papers in this session were concerned with representations on funerary monuments from the western and eastern parts of the Roman Empire. Lena Larsson Lovén (University of Gothenburg, Sweden) discussed how men and women are represented in relation to textile production on funerary monuments from Roman Italy and Gaul. Erika Cappelletto (University of Heidelberg, Germany) discussed spinning implements as represented on funerary stelae from Asia Minor. In the eastern and western Roman provinces spinning was clearly related to women and it was used as an iconographic symbol of female work as well as femininity. Two other papers were concerned with clothing in the Roman provinces of the Danube provinces. Ursula Rothe (University of Edinburgh, UK) talked about native woman's dress in the Danube provinces as a possible key to the understanding of the cultural identity of region. Karina Grömer and Eva Hölbling-Steigberger (University of Vienna, Austria) presented textile finds from cemeteries in the Roman province of Noricum dated to the 4th and 5th centuries AD. The textiles were the basis of a discussion on clothing and adornment as expression of identity, community and social structures in Noricum. The TRAC 2011 conference will be held in Newcastle, UK.