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2009 MODERN GREEK STUDIES DAY



Lunch was provided by SUGS and MUGA.



Eleni Eleftherias-Kostakidis of The Play Space with her display of Hellenic language educational material.



Dr Anthony Dracopoulos welcomes all to the University.

Students of Hellenism of all ages assembled at The University of Sydney last Saturday (1 August) for a special preparation day for this year's HSC examinations. HSC candidates, teachers, academics, consular staff and even family members attended a great afternoon of celebrating Hellenic language and culture.

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n behalf of the hosts, the Department of Modern Greek at The University of Sydney, Dr Anthony Dracopoulos welcomed all to Australia's oldest university. Dr Dracopoulos, Dr Elisavet Kefallinou (Macquarie University) and Dr Maria Zarimis (University of New South Wales) all promoted the advantages of undertaking Modern Greek courses at university, reminding the students in particular, that Modern Greek at tertiary level was more than just language. Courses on offer cover, film, music, sport and mythology, as well literature.

On behalf of the organisers, the Australian Hellenic Educators' Association, the Vice-President, Mr Dimitrios Kametopoulos (Marrickville IEC; Liverpool Boys' Saturday School) also extended the AHEA's welcome.

Mr Kametopoulos also provided the first presentation of the afternoon, addressing the topic of "text types and writing" in Modern Greek. Ms Toula Loizos (Blakehurst High) presented on "Listening and Responding" for the Continuers course (some readers will be more familiar with this as 2 Unit), followed by Ms Roula Evangelinos (Blakehurst High), who spoke on "Reading and Responding".

For the Beginners course, presentations were provided by Ms Flora Rossides (Georges River College - Oatley Senior Campus), while Mrs Pauline Christodoulides (Randwick Girls' High) covered the Speaking examination for the Continuers and Extension courses. The final presentation was delivered by Dr Panaviotis Diamadis (St Andrew's Cathedral School). His presentation, titled "Politiki Kouzina in its historical context", looked at the history and symbolism of the film which HSC Modern Greek Extension students examine as the prescribed text for their course.

At the conclusion of the presentations, Dr Diamadis thanked all those who had collaborated to organise the Day:

- the presenters:

- the Department of Modern Greek, The University of Sydney;
- the Sydney University Greek Society and the Macquarie University Greek Association for putting on the BBQ for the students; and
- The Play Space (Eleni Kostakidis) for organising the gift bags and for the display of Hellenic-language educational material.