

## PREFACE

The sixteenth Symposium of the Gesellschaft für griechische und hellenistische Rechtsgeschichte took place at University College of Durham University from 2 to 6 September 2007. Previously the Symposium had met in Italy, France, Austria, Germany, Spain, Greece, and the United States; this was the first time the Symposium met in the United Kingdom. The advice, encouragement, and support of Eva Cantarella and Joseph Mélèze Modrzejewski helped us to ensure the success of the meeting. We were also lucky to obtain the cooperation of the notoriously fickle weather of Northern Britain, which supplied us with four bright and rainless days. Thirty-eight participants came to Durham from Continental Europe, Israel, the United States, and the United Kingdom to present papers and responses. For the first time two Japanese colleagues joined the discussion. The papers ranged from Greek Law in the Archaic period to the law of Roman Egypt. Specialists from several different disciplines (Law, Ancient History, Classical Philology, Rhetoric, Epigraphy, and Papyrology) contributed to the Symposium and enriched the lively debate. Fritz Mitthof could not attend for reasons of health but sent his paper to be read. We have published it in this volume.

The sixteenth Symposium was hosted by the Department of Classics and Ancient History, Durham University. We would like to express our gratitude to the Department for their warm welcome and to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of Durham University for their generous support provided to help defray the costs of publication. For the editing process we were fortunate to have the help of Eva Schellnast of the University of Graz. Without her skill, patience, and efficiency this volume would never have appeared so soon after the Symposium. In proof-reading the entire volume and preparing the index, I have received valuable assistance from David Lewis of Durham University. Finally we would like to thank all of the participants for the prompt submission of the final versions of their papers and responses.

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Graz, Gerhard Thür

