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◇Celtic Studies in the Netherlands

Natalia Petrovskaia

The focus of Celtic Studies in the Netherlands is at present in Utrecht, the seat of the only Chair of Celtic in the Netherlands. The Chair, currently held by Professor Peter Schrijver, was founded in 1923 by Anton Gerard van Hamel (5 July 1886- 23 November 1945).¹ The department is currently comprised of Prof. Peter Schrijver, Dr. Mícheál Ó Flaithearta, Dr. Aaron Griffith, Dr. Natalia Petrovskaia, and Dr. Nike Stam. In the current year, Celtic in Utrecht is being grouped with the newly formed Classical Studies department headed by Prof. Els Rose as part of the ongoing structural changes taking place in the university.

Reflecting the predominant medieval focus of the research and teaching at the department, its members are affiliated with the Utrecht Centre for Medieval Studies, a platform connecting Utrecht-based medievalists.² In addition, the department's affiliation with the two research centres at the university, the Utrecht Institute of Linguistics (OTS) and The Institute for Cultural Inquiry (ICON), illustrates the two major axes of its members' research interests: language and culture.³ The department has recently seen the

successful completion of a major research project funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - NWO).⁴ This project was entitled "Bilingualism in Medieval Ireland – language choice as part of intellectual culture" and ran from 1 June 2012 until 1 June 2016.⁵ The focus of the project team, led by Prof. Peter Schrijver, with Dr. Mícheál Ó Flaithearta, supervising two PhD candidates, Tom ter Horst and Nike Stam, was the phenomenon of Latin-Irish bilingualism in early medieval Ireland. The project organised workshops in Utrecht in May 2013 and May 2015, and in the summer of 2017 both PhD candidates defended their theses and were awarded PhD *cum laude*.⁶ Collaboration in research of linguistic focus beyond the

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<https://www.uu.nl/en/research/utrecht-institute-of-linguistics-ots> (accessed 26 February 2018).

⁴ <https://www.nwo.nl/en> (accessed 26 February 2018).

⁵ For more on the project, see <http://www.medievalirishbilingualism.eu/> (accessed 25 February 2018).

⁶For programmes and abstracts, see

<http://www.medievalirishbilingualism.eu/events/may-31st-multilingualism-in-medieval-texts-switching-mixing-or-non-existing/> (accessed 22 February 2018) and

<http://www.medievalirishbilingualism.eu/events/workshop-may-2015/> (accessed 22 February 2018). Dr Tom

ter Horst's PhD thesis is available in PhD format at

<https://www.lotpublications.nl/codeswitching-in-the-irish-latin-leabhar-breac> (accessed 26 February 2018). Dr

Nike Stam's PhD is available in PDF format at

<https://www.lotpublications.nl/a-typology-of-code-switching-in-the-commentary-to-the-f%C3%A9lire-%C3%B3engusso> (accessed 26 February 2018); for a short

introductory video (in Dutch, with English subtitles),

see https://youtu.be/iCB33wKT_zI (accessed 26 February 2018).

¹ Peter E. Busse, "Hamel, Anton Gerard van", in John T. Koch, ed., *Celtic Culture. A Historical Encyclopedia* (Santa Barbara CA, Denver CO, and Oxford UK: ABC-CLIO, 2006) pp. 889-890.

²<https://www.uu.nl/en/research/utrecht-centre-for-medieval-studies> (accessed 26 February 2018).

³ For more on the two institutes, see

<https://www.uu.nl/en/research/institute-for-cultural-inq>

department includes, for instance, Dr. Aaron Griffith's recent co-authored article on subject-verb agreement in co-ordinate sentences in Old and Middle Irish.⁷ Meanwhile, the cultural focus of research at the department is represented by the NWO-funded project currently running in the department (start date 1 February 2017), led by Dr. Natalia Petrovskaia, who will be joined in March 2018 by a research assistant, MA student Kiki Calis. The project, entitled "Defining 'Europe' in Medieval European Geographical Discourse: the *Image of the World* and its Legacy, 1110-1500",⁸ focuses on the development of the idea of Europe in a corpus of vernacular European geographical treatises.

The department of Celtic in Utrecht provides the only Celtic Studies BA programme in the Netherlands (and the only Anglophone BA programme in Celtic studies in Continental Europe).⁹ As of 2018, as part of the internationalisation of Dutch universities, the degree is being offered in English as well as in Dutch. In practice, most courses, which are often attended by international exchange students as well as student from other faculties, have already been taught in English for some time. Whilst each course, which runs over the period of one block (seven teaching weeks) builds up to an overarching trajectory of study, students retains a degree of liberty in their choices, particularly from the second year of study onwards, enabling them to focus on

⁷ Eliot Lash and Aaron Griffith, "Coordinate Subjects, Expletives, and the EPP in Early Irish", *Journal of Celtic Linguistics* 19 (2018), 87-156 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.16922/jcl.19.5> (accessed 27 February 2018).

⁸ For the project website, see <https://definingeurope.sites.uu.nl/> (accessed 26 February 2018).

⁹ For more on the BA programme in Celtic Languages and Culture at Utrecht University, see the programme website <https://www.uu.nl/bachelors/en/celtic-languages-and-culture> (accessed 20 February 2018).

language or cultural/literary aspect of the programme.¹⁰ The course of study culminates in a BA thesis, supervised by a member of the department, written in the space of one block. This is preceded by a special preparatory course. The BA in Celtic is linked to a masters' programme, the MA in Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, which offers a track of Celtic Middle Ages.¹¹ The academic life of the students of Celtic at Utrecht is complemented by the activities of the subject-specific student society, the "Studievereniging Asterix".¹² The student society collaborates with the department in the organisation of open day, admissions, and events for incoming first year students at the start of the academic year. The department itself also maintains an active Facebook page, sharing news and items of interest.¹³

Beyond the university, the A. G. van Hamel Foundation for Celtic Studies, (Stichting A.G. van Hamel voor Keltische Studies), founded in 1991, provides a platform for the study of Celtic for a broader public through events such as the annual Celtic Colloquium, and the publication of the quarterly periodical *Kelten*, which features academic articles in Celtic Studies, as well as information on relevant events and publications.¹⁴ The foundation also publishes the Online Database and e-Resources for Celtic Studies (CODECS), a public access database of publications and e-resources relevant to Celtic

¹⁰ For more on the course of study, see <https://www.uu.nl/bachelors/en/celtic-languages-and-culture/curriculum> (accessed 26 February 2018).

¹¹ See <https://www.uu.nl/bachelors/en/celtic-languages-and-culture/related-masters> (accessed 20 February 2018).

¹² For more, see the society's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/SV-Ast%C3%A9rix-Keltisch-212643682568664/> (accessed 26 February 2018).

¹³ <https://www.facebook.com/CelticUU/> (accessed 27 February 2018).

¹⁴ See <http://www.vanhamel.nl/stichting/A.G.vanHamelFoundationforCelticStudies> (accessed 25 February 2018).

Studies.¹⁵

The combination of active research, student activity, and a broader public platform for discussion of the specialist subject make Utrecht a uniquely vibrant location of Celtic studies on the Continent. The intention behind the official change to English-medium teaching taking place this year is to make it more accessible from abroad.

◇クローデット・エリアスさんのこと

梁川 英俊

昨年(2017年)の8月、クローデット・エリアスさんが鹿児島を訪れ、数日滞在した。クローデットさんは、『誇り高き馬』の著者ピエール・ジャケス・エリアスの長女である。知られるように、20世紀前半のブルターニュのビグーデン地方の生活を描いた『誇り高き馬』は、1975年に出版されるとフランスで「聖書に並ぶ」と言われるほどの大ベストセラーになり、当時のメディアでは読書界を超えた社会的事件として扱われた。

私がクローデットさんと知り合ったのは、2010年である。その年の9月、エリアスをテーマとする課題で科研費を得た私は、エリアスの足跡を訪ねて、プレストやレンヌでさまざまな人にインタビューをして歩いていた。なかでもエリアスの親族に会うことは大きな目的のひとつであった。しかし、どうやって会ったらいいのかは、まったく分からなかった。プレストのブルターニュ・オキシダンタル大学で、エリアスを研究するロナン・カルヴェスやマナニック・トマに親族のことを尋ねても、「よく知らない」と言う。頼りにしていたブルターニュの情報通で、当時は「エムグレオ・ブレイス」の社主であったファンシュ・ブルディックも、「息子や娘の消息については聞いたことがない」と首を横に振るばかり。かわりに手に入ったのは、エリアス夫人が最近亡くなったという情報のみで、すっかり意気消沈してしまった。

¹⁵ Available at <http://www.vanhamel.nl/codecs/Home> (accessed 26 February 2018).

ところが、その後レンヌに行き、レンヌ大学准教授のブリジット・プロにそのことを伝えると、数日後、彼女はどこからともなく長女のクローデットさんの住所を手に入れてきた。しかも、彼女はレンヌに住んでいるという。ブリジットはパソコンに向かって、両手の人差し指を巧みに使って事情を知らせる手紙を書きあげると、自転車に飛び乗り、私にはレンヌ市のコミュニティサイクルを借りさせて、一緒にクローデットさんの家に向かった。30分くらい走ったろうか。ブリジットが一軒の家の前に止まってベルを鳴らすと、2階の窓が開いて、エリアスの研究書で写真を見たことのあるクローデットさんが顔をのぞかせた。そのときのことを、あとでクローデットさんは、「自転車に乗った人たちが満面の笑みで手を振るから、てっきりモルモン教徒かエホバの証人かと思ったわ」とおかしそうに振り返っていた。

エリアスには息子と娘の2人の子供がいるが、顔だちという点では、娘のクローデットさんが父親に一番よく似ている。いや、風貌ばかりでなく、性格においても彼女は父親から多くのものを引き継いでいるようだ。背丈は小柄だが、内面的にも外面的にも、「背筋がぴんと伸びた」という言葉がぴったりの、凜とした品のある女性である。エリアスが『誇り高き馬』で使った「誇り」という言葉の意味の幾分かを、私は彼女から学んだように思う。というよりも、彼女自身が父親の倫理観を、きわめて意識的に受け継いでいるような気がする。

初対面以来、私はレンヌに行く度にクローデットさんと会うようになった。クローデットさんも私を自宅に食事に招いてくれたり、子供の頃家族と過ごした家に連れて行ってくれたり、絶版になった父親の本をくれたり、未発表の自筆の手帳を何冊も貸してくれたりして研究を助けてくれた。特に思い出深いのは、科研の最終年に、「生前のエリアスが特に親しかった人たちと会いたい」とわがままを言って、エリアスの親類旧友のところに連れて行ってもらったことである。そのときに会ったのは、エリアスのいとことその家族、生家を改造した「エリアス記念館」の館長、1970年代後半のプロゴルフの反原発闘争を描いた映画『銃対石』の監督であるニコール・ルガレック氏と夫君でカメラマンのフェリックス・ルガレック氏、記録的