

EDITORIAL / REDAKSIONEEL

With this volume, *Akroterion* celebrates 60 years of classical scholarship and service to the academic community. From a humble *Newsletter* published in support of Latin school teachers *Akroterion* has developed into a widely recognized scholarly journal accredited by the South African Department of Higher Education and Training and indexed in international databases like *L'Année philologique*. Instead of publishing articles predominantly by staff members of the University of Stellenbosch, *Akroterion* now receives submissions from a wide spectrum of scholars both nationally and internationally.

Of course, the classics scene in South Africa is very different now compared to what it was 60 years ago: at that time, Latin and even Greek were still taught in many high schools throughout South Africa, Latin was compulsory for all Law students, and many church denominations required of their ministers several years of Greek and even Latin before ordination. Most of this has changed, to the detriment of widespread knowledge of the classical languages. During this period, however, university courses in Classical Civilisation or Ancient Cultures which do not require knowledge of Greek or Latin have been introduced and they now account for the majority of student enrolments in courses relating to the ancient world. The focus of *Akroterion* has therefore also expanded to include articles for readers without knowledge of ancient languages and especially articles demonstrating the enduring relevance of the classical heritage in South Africa and the broader continent.

On this auspicious occasion, I wish to thank all those who in the past have contributed to the publication of the journal: past editors, members of the Editorial Committee and of the Editorial Board, editorial assistants, scholars who submitted articles, and, in particular, the referees whose selfless efforts continue to ensure the academic quality of the journal.

JC Thom

Redakteur / Editor