

## The Fourth IEMA Visiting Scholar Conference

16-17 April 2011 | Buffalo, NY

Saturday and Sunday, 16-17 April, 9am-5:30pm  
 380 Millard Fillmore Academic Center Ellicott Complex,  
 North Campus University at Buffalo, SUNY Buffalo, NY 14261

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## WORLDS OF SACRIFICE: EXPLORING THE PAST AND PRESENT OF GIFTS FOR THE GODS

Organizer: Dr. Carrie A. Murray | [www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference](http://www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference)

### Conference Participants

Åsa Berggren Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund University, Sweden  
 Jan Bremmer Internationales Kolleg Morphomata, Cologne, Germany  
 Nancy T. de Grummond Department of Classics, Florida State University  
 Michael Gagarin Department of Classics, University of Texas at Austin  
 Guinevere Granite Doctoral Candidate, Department of Anthropology, University at Buffalo, SUNY  
 S. Mark Heim Andover Newton Theological School  
 Samantha Hurn School of Archaeology, History and Anthropology, University of Wales, Trinity Saint David  
 Christoph Huth Institute of Archaeology, Freiburg University  
 Philip Kiernan Department of Classics, University at Buffalo, SUNY  
 Barbara Kowalzig Department of Classics, New York University  
 Thomas G. Palaima Dickson Centennial Professor of Classics, University of Texas at Austin  
 Enriqueta Pons Brun Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya-Girona, Spain  
 Mary-Ann Pouls Wegner Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto  
 Andrew Reynolds Institute of Archaeology, University College London  
 Jeffrey H. Schwartz Departments of Anthropology and History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh  
 Alan Shapiro Department of Classics, Johns Hopkins University  
 Tyler Jo Smith McIntire Department of Art, University of Virginia  
 Francesca Stavrakopoulou Department of Theology and Religion, University of Exeter  
 Phillip Stevens Jr. Department of Anthropology, University at Buffalo, SUNY  
 L. Vance Watrous Department of Visual Studies, University at Buffalo, SUNY  
 Roger Woodard Department of Classics, University at Buffalo, SUNY  
 Andrea Zeeb-Lanz Department of Monumental Heritage, Speyer, Germany

### Registration Information

All are welcome to attend the conference  
 Please register through [www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference](http://www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference)  
 For more information contact Dr. Carrie A. Murray ([carriemu@buffalo.edu](mailto:carriemu@buffalo.edu))

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Sacrifice is central for many societies—past and present—in cultural, religious, political, and economic terms. The parts, processes, and meanings transform over time and space. Sacrificial practices embody a contradiction of sorts, creating both loss and gain in real and metaphorical terms. Practicing sacrifice is a means of communicating simultaneously with the supernatural and members of a society. The beliefs and performances relate powerfully within each cultural context. Important parameters of social hierarchy determine what is sacrificed, how it is enacted, and by whom it is performed. By investigating the dynamics of how sacrifice is conducted, and the changing views in scholarship related to sacrifice, we can attempt to better understand people of the past and present. The interdisciplinary nature of this conference will bring together scholars from anthropology, archaeology, classics, and religious studies, whose work encompasses the Mediterranean and Northwest Europe. Sacrifice as performance will be discussed by exploring the essential components involved in these practices through material culture, iconography, literary sources, and ethnographic observation. The diverse forms of evidence, cultural contexts, and approaches will allow participants to create new insights on the interpretation of sacrifice within social context.