ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

Την Τρίτη, 15 Μαΐου 2012, ώρα 12.00 μ.μ.
sto Σπουδαστήριο Κλασικής Φιλολογίας,
θα γίνει στο πλαίσιο των «Επιστημονικών Συναντήσεων»
tου Τομέα Κλασικής Φιλολογίας η ομιλία
tης καθηγήτριας Karin Blomqvist
(University of Lund)
με θέμα:

“Harmony and Freedom in a Totalitarian Society.
Epiktetos and the Good Life”

Σας προσκαλούμε να παραστείτε.

Η διευθύντρια του Τομέα Κλασικής Φιλολογίας

Μαρία Βουτσίνου-Κικίλια

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ABSTRACT

It is an old truth that in-bred prejudices are extremely hard to eradicate. People believe what they want to believe.

This is valid not least when it comes to our conceptions about philosophies of old. In the most frequently studied hand-books in Ancient Philosophy, a somewhat simplified picture of for instance the Stoics appears. And since the knowledge in Classical Greek is rapidly declining in western Universities, the tendency to rely on secondary sources will grow even stronger.

One frequently appearing conception about the Stoics, is that they were fatalists, i.e., they preached that whatever you do, you are in the hands of fate, and that they preached resignation and to always expect the worst.

However, was it really that simple? In my presentation, I shall test that notion on one of the most prominent representatives of second-century Stoicism, Epiktetos. His preserved speeches, as written down by Arrianos, enable the reader to draw different conclusion. Without being a stranger to the darker aspects of life, Epiktetos still shows a way to become your own master and stay free, even in a totalitarian society. Far from preaching resignation, Stoicism in fact pointed to a realistic way of leading a good life.