SESSION I. From the Periclean Age to Sicily: Historical and Biographical Perspectives

Sebastian Anderson: “Athens in a Cup: The Individual, Party, and the Periclean City”

This paper offers a reconsideration of the hetaireia ('political club') in fifth-century Athens in the light of the recently discovered Cup of Pericles. In particular, it aims to distinguish the hetaireia from partisanship to particular political ideologies, and I offer a sketch of the social context in which the cup would have been inscribed and read. This cup and its context is then related to Thucydides' account of Pericles' vision of the ideal city.