



UNIVERSITÀ  
degli STUDI  
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## Seminari di critica testuale greca e latina

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Gli *Hermeneumata Celtis*, un glossario latino-greco della tarda antichità  
(a proposito di alcune recenti interpretazioni)

### 1. «Words with a Germanic etymology» (secondo Ferri 2012, 757-758).

15,6 (*de potestate, officiis, magistratibus*) *senatus* βουλευής, γερουσία

Ferri 2012, 757: «In 15, 6, *senatus* is translated by the familiar Greek γερουσία ‘council’, and by a more puzzling βουλευής. I take the second translation as evidence that the author of this specific entry was familiar with derivatives of Germanic *Sinn* as a common lexical item, and could therefore confuse *senatus* with something like \**sennatus*, ‘thoughtful, intelligent’, cf. Italian *assennato*».

33bis,47 (*de uictu quotidiano*) *brama*, *furcilla* βουλιμία

Ferri 2012, 757: «...in 33bis, 47, the common Greek βουλιμία is translated by *brama*, not known as a Latin word, but found in several French and Italian dialects with the appropriate meaning, ‘desire to eat’. Again, *REW* gives \**bramare* a Germanic etymology (*REW* 1270 from Germ. *brammon*; cf. It. *bramare*\*\*»).

### 2. «Greek loan-words (assimilated to Latin phonetics and morphology)» (secondo Ferri 2012, 758).

12,603 (*de moribus humanis*) *scardilissus* μιλφός

Ferri 2012, 757: «Cf. Gk. σκαρδαμκτής, ‘someone who blinks or winks’, also as a disease. μιλφός means (*LSJ*) ‘falling off of the eye-lashes’».

12,1201 *atlifuga* στραγευτής

Ferri, 2012, 758: «The meaning is clear, ‘idler, loiterer’, and must be related to the Greek verb στραγ(γ)εύομαι. A similar Latin gloss occurs in *CGL* III, 335, 4 and 528, 3, but the form is ΚΛΑΤΩΝ *oclifuga*, for which Heraeus 1937, p. 98-99 conjectured κλαγγών (in the *TLL* article *oclifuga*), a word found mostly in lexica, Hesychius, *Etym. Gen.* (λ 2 = ὁ εὐθέως λανθάνων τοῦ ἀγῶνος καὶ φόβου, ‘he who quickly disappears in the face of labour and fright’), *Etym. Magn.*, and in the *Excerpta Lugdunensia* 2, one of the late-antique handbooks of hippiatrics, of a diseased horse. The reading of *HC* is slightly

different, and suggests a different etymology, that is that the compound is a hybrid word-formation, from *at(h)lum* ‘task’ and *fugere*».

12,118 *scordalus* βάνασος

Ferri 2012, 758: «‘a vulgar, aggressive person’. From σκόρδον, garlic, thought to be a stimulant. Cf. Petr., *Sat.* 59: *agite, inquit, scordalias de medio*, ‘Banish, he said, quarrel from here’».

12,166 *alogiosus* σπάταλος, ὀλίγωρος

12,859 *alogiosus* ἄθυρος

Ferri 2012, 758: «The Latin word is not in *TLL*, except as a noun *alogia* ‘nonsense, trifle’ (cf. Petr., *Sat.* 58: *non didici geometrias, critica et alogias nenias*). The various Greek translations mean respe[c]tively ‘wanton, lascivious’ and ‘contemptuous, negligent, careless’, or ‘open, unchecked’, none of which seems a very good match».

### 3. «Words for which a new, technical or specialized, meaning is offered» (secondo Ferri 2012, 759).

18,258 (*de militia = de habitatione*) *anaticula* κορώνη

Ferri 2012, 759: «*Anaticula*, meaning *little duck, duckie*, also as an endearment, turns up in *HC* with a Greek translation meaning *door-handle*, in the section on serraments [*sic*] and houselocks».

27,64 (*de argenteis*) *cycni* κόκνοι

Ferri 2012, p. 759: «In the context, listing words for silverware, *cycni* can only be a kind of house tool, and I take the meaning to be ‘chimney-hook’, on the basis of the similar meaning of κόραξ at Suda ε 2614 ἐπιστάτην· ξύλον κόρακας ἔχον, ἐξ οὗ κρεμῶσι τὰ μαγειρικὰ ἐργαλεῖα ‘epistates: a piece of wood on which hooks are nailed, for the cook’s tools to hang from’, apparently referring to ‘hooks, resembling ravens’ beaks’».

18,125 (*de militia = de habitatione*) *cucumula* ὑπόκαυστον

Ferri 2012, 759: «*cucumula* is the diminutive form of a word for ‘pot’, ‘small bottle’. The *titulus*, however, contains words for city venues, streets, etc., not house tools, and the Greek translation ὑπόκαυστον ‘heated from underneath’ implies that *cucumula* here means a space, perhaps of circular or semicircular shape. There are only three more occurrences of this word in *TLL*, but only one is reconcilable with this meaning, from the sixth-century *Vita Caesarii Arelatensis*, where it means ‘apse’: cf. 2, 17: *ingrediens cocumulam ad consignandos infantes*, ‘on entering the apse to baptize the infants’.

### 4. «Latin words reconstructed in *REW* but not found in Latin texts of any period» (secondo Ferri 2012, 759-760).

24,141 *cremaculum* κρεμαστήριον

Ferri 2012, 759: «Cf. *REW* 2310, where French *crémaillère = chimney hook* is suggested to have come from a reconstructed Latin word, *\*cremasclum* and *\*cremaculum* (from Gk. κρεμάννυμι, with a Latinate suffix). In fact, the Latin word does occur in *CGL* II, 145, 1, κρέματα *pendet, unde cremaculus* (only instance in *TLL*)».

24,87 (*de supellectile*) *depanatorium* μηρυτήρ

Ferri 2012, 759: «A reconstructed form *\*depanare* is assumed by *REW* 2569 as the basis for the various Romance inheritors, e.g. It. *dipanare*, from *panus*, ‘a spool wound with thread’ (OLD), and connected with πῆνος. μηρυτήρ also is not on record, but seems connected with μηρύομαι, to wind off thread».

12,1306 *orbitarius* ὄδοιδόκος

Ferri 2012, 760: «*\*orbitaria* is reconstructed in *REW* 6084 from Romance reflexes, meaning ‘track of a waggon’. The Gk. term means ‘brigand, highwayman’, which is possibly correct for the Lt. too in the context».

## 5. Termini discussi in Ferri 2011.

33bis,54 *gumia* μονοφαγία

Ferri 2011, 161: «*Gumia* is a rare word in Latin, a loan-word from Umbrian extant almost exclusively in lexicographical literature (Nonius, p. 117 *gumiae: gulosi*, Fest.-Paul. 112 M *ingluuies a gula dicta. hinc et ingluuiosus et glutto, gulo, gumia*) and in Lucilius (cf. 1066 and 1237 Marx). It survives in Spanish (*gomia*) and other Romance languages, from which it seems reasonable to assume that the word had some currency in the spoken language, in spite of its rarity in the written evidence. The Greek gloss in *HC* appears incorrect («eating alone»). In the light of this evidence, it does not seem possible to decide whether the word came to *HC* from the lexicographical tradition or from some everyday word-list».

36,33 *molluscula* λεπτοκάρυα

Ferri, 2011, 162-163: «The Greek translation means, according to *LSJ*, “nut with a thin shell”. The Latin is unparalleled in this exact form, but the form *mollusca (nux)* is found in Plaut. *Calceolus* 1, 1 *molluscam nucem* (quoted in Macr. *Saturnalia*, 3.18.9, where the nut is also described in more detail) and, without a noun, in Plin. *NH* 15.90 *molluscae, putamen rumpentes*. On this evidence, and in view also of the different ending, *-ula*, the word seems to have reached *HC* from the spoken language, or an everyday word-list, not from a lexicographical antiquarian collection».

12,1262 *alaposus* πέρπερος

Ferri 2011, 166-167: «The word *alaposus* is absent from *TLL*. It occurs in the chapter *de moribus humanis*, with a Greek translation meaning “boastful”. The closest to *alaposus* we find in Classical Latin is Petr. 38.9 *est tamen subalapa et non uult sibi male*. The meaning of this Petronian passage is controversial, but Heraeus already found a parallel in ‘Philoxenus’ with an *alapor* καυχητής, “vainglorious”. *Subalapa* therefore seems to mean “a bit pompous”, rather than ‘still mindful of his having been a slave’».

### Riferimenti bibliografici:

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