

Meeting of Queens College graduates at the initiative of the Byzantine Center

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Snapshot from the Queens College Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies alumni meeting.

NEW YORK. On Thursday, October 19, Queens College's Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies hosted an event at the Oasis Cafe in Flushing.

The event, as mentioned in the relevant press release, aimed to meet, reunite and network the Greek and Cypriot graduates of Queens College, thus connecting the different generations of graduates.

Present was the Director of the Byzantine Center Dr. Gerasimos Katsan and the deputy director Dr. Maria Athanasopoulou, who welcomed and thanked all the graduates who came to the meeting.



Snapshot from the Queens College Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies alumni meeting.

Among them were two members of the Advisory Committee of the Byzantine Center, Mr. Costas Vagelatos and Mrs. Efi Lekka, who were also graduates of Queens College.

After introducing themselves, all those present talked about how they started their studies, how they made friends with other Greeks or Cypriots, how some friendships lasted over the years and continue, and finally they mentioned what they are doing now and how they were helped by Queens College and especially by the Center for Byzantine and Greek Studies.

The need for alumni contact and networking both socially and professionally was emphasized. All promised to extend the network to other graduates who for various reasons did not learn or could not attend the meeting.

Dr. Maria Athanasopoulou mentioned that this year marks 50 years since the foundation of the Byzantine Center by the late Haris Psomiadis and on May 17, 2024 there will be a big event asking for everyone's help and participation.

The Oasis Cafe is a timeless meeting point for the Greek students of Queens College as the Greek Club Ikaros has been holding its monthly meetings in this space for years. All the students have tried the

wonderful Greek sweets of Oasis and always meet other Greek patrons there. For this reason, this particular Cafe was chosen as the meeting place.

Also, the people in charge and especially the manager Mr. Bogas helped the success of the meeting as as he said we all have to help the Byzantine Center which continues to offer Greek students for so many years.

Finally, everyone agreed that this meeting was necessary. They promised to activate and help the Center according to their capacity, somehow reciprocating its offer to them, the years when they were students themselves and had first come from Greece.

The evening ended pleasantly, some even expressed the desire to have the meeting more often to have the opportunity to bring other fellow students and they thanked Dr. Katsan and Dr. Athanasopoulou for this initiative.

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