

Nicholas Sims-Williams – Curriculum Vitae

Born 11 April 1949, Chatham, England

British citizen, married since 1972, two daughters (born 1986, 1989)

Education:

Chattenden County Primary School, Kent, 1954-60

Borden Grammar School, Sittingbourne, Kent, 1960-68

Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge, 1968-75

B.A. and M.A. in Oriental Studies, University of Cambridge

(Part I, Old Iranian and Sanskrit, 1970: Class I)

(Part II, Old and Middle Iranian, 1972: Class I)

PhD., University of Cambridge, 1978

Academic career:

Research Fellow, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, 1975-6

Lecturer in Iranian Languages, SOAS, University of London, 1976-89

Reader in Iranian Studies, SOAS, University of London, 1989-94

Professor of Iranian and Central Asian Studies, SOAS, University of London, 1994-2004

Research Professor of Iranian and Central Asian Studies, SOAS, University of London, 2004-7, 2012 –

Professorial Researcher, SOAS, University of London, 2008-2011

Honours and awards:

Fellow of the British Academy, 1988

Corresponding Member of the Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente (now Istituto Italiano per l’Africa e l’Oriente), 1989

Corresponding Member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, 1990

Associé Étranger of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, Institut de France, 2002 (Correspondant Étranger, 2000)

Honorary Member, American Oriental Society, 2011

Member of the Academia Europaea, 2012

Prix Roman Ghirshman, Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, 1988

Hirayama prize for Silk Road Studies (jointly with Joe Cribb), 1997

Ehsan Yarshater Distinguished Lectures on Iranian Studies, Harvard, 2000

British Academy Research Readership, 1992-4

Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship, 2002-4

AHRB Major Research Grant (£528,000) for A Dictionary of Manichaean Texts, 2000-2005

AHRC Major Research Grant (£371,000) for The Chronology of the Bactrian Documents from Northern Afghanistan, 2004-8

Visiting Professor, Macquarie University, Sydney, 1998-2000; Adjunct Professor, 2004-6

Visiting Professor, Collège de France, 1999

Visiting Professor, University of Rome "La Sapienza", 2001
Senior Fellow, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York, 2010 –
Recipient of Festschrift "Exegisti monumenta", 2009
"Book of the Year Prize" of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2009

Other professional activities:

Chairman of the Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum, 2002 – (Secretary 1985-2002)
Honorary Vice-President of the Philological Society, 2007 – (President 2003-7,
Secretary 1998-2001, Member of Council 1985-90, 1995-8, 2002-3)

Chairman of the British Academy's Linguistics and Philology Section, 2004-7
(Member of Section Standing Committee, 1992-6)

Chairman, The Ancient India and Iran Trust, Cambridge, 2010 – (Trustee 1992 –
, Treasurer 2001-10)

Vice-President, Union Académique Internationale, 2010-13 (Board Member,
2006-9)

Secretary of the Society for Afghan Studies (1983-4)

Editor, *Beiträge zur Iranistik*, Wiesbaden, 1997 –

Associate Editor, *Encyclopaedia Iranica*, New York, 2001 –

Member of the Editorial Boards of the *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and
African Studies* (1997-2000), *Studia Iranica* (1997 –), *Bulletin of the Asia Institute*
(1997 –), *Silk Road Studies* (2000 –)

Member of the Board of the *Societas Iranologica Europaea*, 1991-9

Member of the Kommission "Turfanforschung", Berlin-Brandenburgische
Akademie der Wissenschaften, 2002 –

Member of the Kuratorium of the Institut für Iranistik of the Austrian Academy
of Sciences, 2002-7

Member of the Overseas Policy Committee of the British Academy, 2003-8

Member of the Councils of the British Institute of Persian Studies (1983-91) and
the Society for South Asian Studies (1983-4, 1997-2001)

Member of the Committee for Central and Inner Asia, 2002 –

Chairman of the Board of Studies in Oriental and African languages and
literatures, University of London, 1991-2

Head of the Department of Languages and Cultures of the Near and Middle
East, SOAS, 1998-2001

Principal publications:

The Christian Sogdian manuscript C2 (Berliner Turfantexte 12), Berlin, 1985
Sogdian and other Iranian inscriptions of the Upper Indus, 2 vols., London, 1989,
1992

(with James Hamilton) *Documents turco-sogdiens du IX^e-X^e siècle de Touen-
houang*, London 1990

New light on ancient Afghanistan: the decipherment of Bactrian (inaugural lecture),
London 1997

Bactrian documents from Northern Afghanistan, Vol. I: *Legal and economic
documents*, Oxford 2000 [2001]; new edition London 2012; Vol. II: *Letters
and Buddhist texts*, London 2007; Vol. III: *Plates*, London 2012

Bactrian Personal Names, Vienna 2010

(with Judith A. Lerner) *Seals, sealings and tokens from Bactria to Gandhara (4th to
8th century C.E.)*, Vienna 2011

Iranian manuscripts in Syriac script in the Berlin Turfan collection, Stuttgart 2012
(with Desmond Durkin-Meisterernst) *Dictionary of Manichaean Sogdian and*
Bactrian, Turnhout 2012