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Editorial Note

It is with great joy and gratitude that the board of *Mnemosyne* and its publisher present this special issue to mark Gerard Boter's retirement from his professorship. Its publication has taken slightly longer than expected but, two years *post festum*, we still hope that it will be a welcome gift.

Gerard was executive editor of this journal and the *Mnemosyne Supplements* series from 2007 to 2016 and guided both with great care and professionalism. His incredible love for details, his famously sharp eyes and his great philological acumen have saved countless authors from both minor and major blunders. In fact, Gerard seems to us the ideal personification of an editor. One of his greatest pleasures in academic life is to find errors that everyone else has missed (in Amsterdam, this category of lapsus, which only Gerard can possibly detect, are called 'Gerardjes'¹). Even after having transferred the final editorial responsibility to others, he still continues to read the proofs of every single article published in this journal—and he always finds something which the authors and the executive editor have overlooked. In the last five years, only two or three times did he send back the proofs of an article without any comment—and in these cases he almost seemed to doubt his own eyes. Luckily for the board and for all authors, Gerard will continue to offer his services as proof reader to the journal and thus set a shining example of academic precision and selfless dedication.

The members of the board and the editorial staff at Brill warmly thank Gerard for his dedication, enthusiasm and good humour over the last one and a half decades and wish him all the best for the future. For now we hope that he enjoys reading this special issue dedicated to him—and that he will not find too many errors in what is the first issue of *Mnemosyne* since 2007 that has not passed his critical eyes before publication.

Mirjam Elbers

senior acquisitions editor Classical Studies, Brill

Christoph Pieper

executive editor *Mnemosyne*

1 Botertjes v.l. (*nonnullis ab eius collegis Amstelodamensibus tradita*).