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Julie Benner, BS (Northwestern), MPhil (Glasgow), holds her master's degree in Textile Conservation from the Centre for Textile Conservation and Technical Art History where her dissertation examined the use of 'green' solvents for cleaning historic textiles. She returned to her home of Chicago to serve as Assistant Costume Conservator at the Chicago History Museum. In 2013, she joined the Field Museum of Natural History as an intern.

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Neil Dickson, BSc (St Andrews), MSc, DPhil (Oxon), AICB, ACIE, FBS, lectured in Mathematics at the University of Glasgow from 1974 to 2009 and was a member of the University’s Academic Dress Committee from 1990 to 2009. Early retirement from the University enables him to have time to prepare and independently examine charity accounts, train treasurers of charities, and pursue his interests in academic dress.

Alex Kerr, MA (Oxon), MA, PhD (Reading), FBS, is a lecturer at the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Oxford, and director of a training consultancy specializing in technical writing. He was the Burgon Society’s publications editor from 2003 to 2011.

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Charles R. Tsua, BA (Wolv.), FGMS, FBS, is a leading musician of the guqin (Chinese seven-stringed zither) in the UK, a committee member of the London Youlan Qin Society, and a dress historian primarily interested in formal and ceremonial dress of the 19th to 21st centuries. He is also an amateur tailor, robe maker and restorer of silk top hats.
The aim is to build up a comprehensive resource for those researching the design, history and practice of academical dress.

The Introduction is a brief survey of the key materials on academical dress that are either in print or available in the larger public and university libraries.

The Alphabetical list that follows is intended to cover what has been published on the subject since the beginning of the nineteenth century; earlier items are listed if they include engravings that provide important evidence of robes of the period.

Suggestions for additions (or corrections) are welcome. Please send e-mails to: webmaster@burgon.org.uk.

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From ‘A Purple Passion?’ pp. 63–71: Fig. 8, Cambridge Proctor, above, wearing the ruff under his hood in 1815. Top: Fig. 9, Tyrian purple.