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UF College of Fine Arts,  
Classics and Anthropology Departments

## **Industrial Religion: Workshop Cult in Ancient Athens**

**Prof. Susan I. Rotroff**  
**Department of Classics, Washington University**

**Wednesday, February 1, 2012**

**7:00 pm**

**Oak Hammock at the University of Florida**  
Commons Building, Williston Road and SW 25<sup>th</sup> Terrace

About 70 unusual deposits excavated in the industrial areas bordering the agora of ancient Athens included offerings associated with funerary cults. At first American archaeologists working on the sites interpreted the finds as baby burials, but the animal remains are actually those of sheep and goats, animals most commonly sacrificed by ancient Greeks. The deposits, then, appear to be the remnants of sacrifices intended to protect and assure the success of the industrial workers.



Temple of Hephaestus, Athens Agora

Professor Rotroff is the Jarvis Thurston and Mona Van Duyn Professor of Humanities at Washington University, St. Louis. Earlier she served on the faculty at Hunter College and has been a guest lecturer at universities around the world, as well as participating in various roles with the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. She took her PhD in Classical Archaeology from Princeton University.

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