



# Vox Classica



## The Newsletter of the Department of Classics, University of Virginia, Fall 2019

### Letter from the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends of UVA Classics,

Greetings from the spectacularly autumnal grounds of UVA. It is a pleasure to look back at a successful year. I would like to offer our continued gratitude for the support of our friends and alumni/ae, who help us fund our guest speakers and lecture series, student travel abroad, the Constantine Library, as well as this Newsletter. I would also like to thank John Miller for serving so ably as interim chair in the spring semester while I was on leave. The Classics Department is enjoying a busy and productive semester so far. Enrollments in our undergraduate courses remain very strong and we are encouraged by continued student interest. The Department's strong dedication to teaching was proven this year by the presentation of two major teaching Awards: Stocker Professor John Miller won the Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Jefferson Scholars Foundation and fifth-year graduate student Brett Evans was given the Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award for the Humanities. We are very proud of their achievements.

The faculty has been joined this year by Inger Kuin as a visiting Assistant Professor. She has her Ph.D. from New York University, and comes to us most recently from Dartmouth. Her specialty is Greek Literature of the Roman Empire. In other big news, we are excited about participating in the launching of a new initiative from the Graduate School, as part of its commitment to diversifying the graduate student body. The Department of Classics is seeking to support students from groups that are underrepresented in our discipline and who have not yet received sufficient training and research experience to prepare them for admission to doctoral programs. The Bridge Fellowship is a fully funded two-year program assisting gifted and hard-working students in Classics to acquire research and language skills needed to pursue a Ph.D. in Classics. We think that this is a fantastic opportunity for us to help diversify the field of Classics more broadly.

As usual we have had many distinguished guest speakers come to the department, among them Christina Kraus of Yale, Susan Stephens of Stanford, Kathleen Coleman (Harvard), Andrew Becker (Virginia Tech). The University-



**INSIDE:** News of the Faculty   Alumni News   Undergraduate News   News of the Graduates   Donors  
Forthcoming Events   ...and More

## Letter from the Chair Continued

funded Humanities Lab, “Dissecting Cultural Pluralism: Religion and Society in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean,” co-organized by Professors John Miller and Andrej Petrovic along with Janet Spittler of Religious Studies and organized around the overarching theme of ancient and medieval Mediterranean religious pluralism, sponsored two conferences recently: one on “Inner Purity” organized by Ivana and Andrej Petrovic and one on “Celebrating the Divine,” organized by John Miller and Anke Walter (Newcastle).

Interest in ancient Greek and Latin continues to be strong. Classics Majors garnered several impressive awards: Kira McBride won the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Prize from the Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality for her DMP thesis; four students were elected to Phi Beta Kappa (Sallie Blanks, Kerith Fern, Trang Nguyen, Erin Plant; plus Kira McBride [as a Third-Year]); in the national CAMWS Latin Translation Contest, Kira McBride placed fourth overall, while David Orvedahl, Kristin Myers, and Apollo Yong all received commendations. Sixteen Majors graduated in May, and are headed on various career paths—e.g. museum curatorship, the Air Force, missionary work, dental school, law school, business, medical school, teacher-training degrees in Curry, and graduate study in Classics at Oxford University. Our students continue to demonstrate the value and versatility of a Classics degree.

We hope you enjoy reading about the activities and achievements of our faculty and students in this newsletter. We always encourage you to write and share your news with us. I would like to thank you, our alumni/ae and friends, for generously supporting the Classics Department with financial gifts, especially now during the University’s Bicentennial celebration. These gifts help to ensure the future health of the department and our ability to enhance the educational experience for Classics majors and Graduate students in ways ranging from Study Abroad to visiting Lectures and Conferences to the Constantine Library, which remains the heart and soul of the Department. We even rely on gifts to put on graduation. This will be my last letter as Chair, as I will have served my second and final term after this academic year. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as Chair for six years which have seen so many changes in the department. I look forward to the future.

With best wishes,

Sara Myers, Chair

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## News of the Graduate Students

Two students received their MA degrees: Evan Brubaker and Jovan Cvjetičanin. This Fall, we welcomed four incoming students: Camilla Basile, Iam McClain, Isabelle Cimala and Erica Krause.

The annual Classics Graduate Student Colloquium was once again successful, with several strong papers and lots of discussion; Kathleen Coleman from Harvard was the keynote speaker. The theme was “*Vox Populi*: Populism and Popular Culture in Ancient Greece and Rome.”

Almost all graduate students presented papers at scholarly meetings and conferences this year: At the SCS meeting in San Diego in January, presentations were given by Peter Moench, Kevin Scahill, and Joseph Zehner. Eight students presented papers at the CAMWS convention in Lincoln, Nebraska (Jovan Cvjetičanin, Brett Evans, Michael Fons, Stephen Hill, Holly Maggiore, Nina Raby, Kevin Scahill, Joseph Zehner). Brett Evans also presented on aspects of his research at the Princeton Epigraphic Friday at the Center for Advanced Studies at Princeton in the Spring, and at the

## News of the Graduate Students Continued

*Hellenistica Groningana* Conference in Groningen, Holland in August. Peter Moench presented on aspects of his research at the King's College London conference in September. Rebecca Frank presented a paper at the conference in Edmonton, Alberta. Stephen Hill had a very busy year: in addition to presenting papers at CAMWS and at the *Paideia* conference in New York, Stephen also organized and taught in the Polis Institute's first intensive Greek summer course (June 24 to July 12) at Christendom College in Front Royal, VA, in cooperation with Christendom professor Andrew Beer (PhD from UVA Classics) and organized and co-moderated the third annual Σύνοδος Ἑλληνική (July 14-20) in Lexington, Kentucky, with Christophe Rico of the Polis Institute, Jerusalem.

### Publications

Brett Evans' two papers were accepted for publication in journals (*Philologus* and *Classical Quarterly*); Rebecca Frank has published a chapter in an edited volume (*Power, Kingship, and Memory in Ancient Macedonia: Sources and Context*).

### Honors and awards

Three students won the GSAS Dissertation Completion Fellowships for 2019–20: Brett Evans, Rebecca Frank, and Peter Moench.

Sidney Christman has received a fellowship to spend the 2019-2020 academic year at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Brett Evans won the Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award for the Humanities. This award is among the highest honors that graduate students can earn in recognition of their dedication to teaching at the University of Virginia.

Rebecca Frank was awarded a fellowship in Digital Humanities. During the academic year 2019-2020 Rebecca is serving as a PhD Plus Liaison in the Digital Humanities at UVA for graduate students in Classics and other areas of the humanities. Evan Brubaker has been awarded an Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Summer Research Fellowship and was able to inspect two manuscripts in Rome of the *Fasti Sacri* of Ambrogio Fracco last summer.



Stephen Hill (wearing the UVa baseball cap) with his pupils in Lexington, Kentucky.

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## From the Undergraduate Director

This August, I took over as principal advisor for Classics majors from the capably efficient hands of Greg Hays. As this installment of *Vox Classica* goes to press, I am meeting individually with our current majors, numbering in the thirties, with that number increasing weekly as enrollment for spring classes approaches and additional undergraduates choose majors or minors in Latin and Greek. My contact with undergraduates in first-year Latin, which I am now teaching for the second year, demonstrates to me the strong interest in Classics among UVA students, an interest that is undoubtedly owed in no small part to the extraordinary Latin opportunities provided to Virginia students at the K-12 level. Greg Hays's institution of an online placement exam has greatly improved our ability to serve this constituency. Aside from making matters more flexible for incoming students busily attending summer orientation, the online format makes it possible to place efficiently those students who have taken Latin in high school but for whatever reason chose

## From the Undergraduate Director Continued

not to resume their Latin studies at UVA immediately. A number of these students have already taken the placement exam this fall, for most of whom the newly instituted offering of Latin 1030 in spring should be an attractive option. A significant number of graduating Classics majors were celebrated at departmental commencement exercises last May—sixteen, including three students who wrote theses as part of the Distinguished Major Program (Kerith Fern, Kira McBride, and Sarah Anne Simmons). In the near future, our undergraduates will be completing their studies under the guise of the new college curriculum that was adopted by faculty vote this October. After much deliberation, and listening to thoughtful debates among colleagues in the College, I have become a hopeful supporter of the change, optimistic that the new course of studies will make our undergraduates even more engaged in the world around them than they are now. In terms of the department, the “Literacies” portion of the curriculum maintains the college-wide requirement of two years, or intermediate level, in the study of a world language.

*Anthony Corbeill*

### Classics Club

The Classics Club has had a wonderful start to the year! Our small yet efficient group of officers, listed below, has been working hard to put on fun events to bring together students who have an interest in classics. So far, we have kicked off the fall semester with a popular Trivia Night, celebrated Homer’s birthday by handing out candy on the Lawn, put on a fun Game Night, and hosted study hours! We are currently planning for a Movie Night and the annual VJCL Convention, both in November, and we will wrap up the semester with our Saturnalia celebration with the Department on Friday, December 6. Check out our website at <https://classicclubatuva.wordpress.com/> for more information and some pictures from this semester!

*President:* Heather Snowden

*Vice President & Social Chair:* Alexis Harris

*Secretary, Webmaster, & Historian:* Jonathan Patane

*Treasurer & ASC Representative:* Neah Lekan

*Classics Day Consul:* Carolina Leonard

### News from American School of Classical Studies at Athens

We are proud to have four Virginia graduate students in residence at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens this year! Sidney Christman (Classics), Najee Olya (Art), and Kevin Woram (History) are participating in the School’s Regular Program, travelling all throughout Greece this year. Justin Mann (Art) is also at the School, completing dissertation research on a Fulbright Fellowship.



Sidney, Justin, Najee, and Kevin on the steps of Loring Hall, the School’s dormitory. (Photo credit: Lilly Kustec.)

## Faculty News

**Giulio Celotto.** My first year at UVa flew by in a heartbeat, and I enjoyed every single day of my time in Charlottesville. After a wonderful summer break spent between Italy and Hawaii, I am now ready for another exciting school year. This semester I am pleased to teach an Intensive Elementary Latin course, an advanced course on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and a course on Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece and Rome, in which my students and I are having stimulating discussions on a wide variety of topics, such as marriage, parenthood, adultery, homosexuality, virginity, rape, prostitution, slavery, and witchcraft. Next Spring I am very excited to offer an Intermediate Latin course, and an advanced course on Petronius, in which, I am sure, we will have a lot of fun reading a selection of the most famous and significant episodes in the *Satyricon*. 2019 has been a very productive year for me. It started in January with the SCS Annual Meeting in San Diego, where, in addition to catching up with friends from all over the world, I also presented a paper on Lucan's characterization of Africa as the embodiment of chaos and *furor* in the *Bellum Civile*. In May I was thrilled to accept the invitation to give a talk at my Alma Mater, the University of Naples Federico II, where I spoke about Underworld descriptions in Latin epic and satire. This year I also had two papers accepted for publication: an article on Lucanian allusions in Tacitus' description of the civil war between Otho and Vitellius in *Historiae* 1-2, forthcoming in *Classical World*, and a chapter on the intertextual dialogue between the *Bellum Civile* and the (Pseudo-)Senecan tragedy *Hercules Oetaeus*, which will appear in the Proceedings of the Seminari Lucanei, an international conference organized by the Department of Classics at the University of Salerno in September 2018 to commemorate the scholar Emanuele Narducci, whose studies have deeply influenced my research. In addition, I look forward to seeing in print a chapter on Lucan's reversal of the elegiac motif of *militia amoris* I wrote for the Proceedings of the 2017 Symposium Cumanum, and an article on Juvenal's and Dante's rewriting of Vergil's "pageant of heroes" in light of Lucan's malicious reading of *Aeneid* 6, which is supposed to come out before the end of the year in *Illinois*



*Classical Studies*. I am currently working on my book project, tentatively entitled '*Amor Belli*'. *Love and Strife in Lucan's 'Bellum Civile'*, and on a number of article-length studies, such as a paper on the fluidity of gender roles in Catullus, one on repetitions in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and one on the character of Livia in Seneca's *De Clementia*.

**Anthony Corbeill.** My teaching time has been spent trying to share with students an appreciation of the beauty and intricacy of Latin prose style, from first-year classes to a graduate course on composition. When not teaching, Cicero—*ut semper*—dominates. I completed a draft of my portion of a commentary on *De haruspicum responsis* and gave a few talks on tangential issues. One was at a conference on pseudepigraphic texts co-organized by a former student, now professor at the University of Illinois, Brian Walters, where I was challenged to say something interesting about the execrable pseudo-Ciceronian *Pridie quam in exilium iret*. A second presentation in Lausanne treated the relationship between Cicero and Varro, and was followed by a five-day bike ride around Lake Geneva for which Jocelyn and I had trained in the hills around Charlottesville. Two pieces will appear this year from a side project involving cultural memory (on Plautus and Vergil). In lighter moments, I have been trying to render a book of Nonnus into English for a multi-authored translation, a task that is stretching the limits of my Greek, and of my creativity. Perhaps most exciting is the first North American manifestation of Cicero Awayday, an informal gathering of North American Ciceronians, co-organized with Luca Grillo (Notre Dame) and set to take place in Charlottesville in April 2020.

**John Dillery.** The last year proved to be a fruitful one for me. I published a trio of papers on Greek historiographical topics, including one on the story of Croesus and his son Atys from Herodotus Book 1. Additionally, I published a note on a verse inscription dedicated at Olympia by the sister of King Agesilaus of Sparta. I continued, though, to focus most of my energies on writing a commentary on Herodotus Book 2 (the 'Egypt Book'), and my current leave is dedicated to the same project. I look forward in the Spring term to teaching Greek Myth again, as well as a graduate seminar on Herodotus.

**Coulter George.** The big news this year is that my general audience book, *How Dead Languages Work*, was accepted by Oxford University Press, and, if all goes according to plan with the production schedule, it will be released in spring 2020. If you want a reminder of all the amazing ways you can say things in Greek and Latin that don't really have English equivalents—and if you want a taste of how Old English, Sanskrit, Old Irish, and Biblical Hebrew work too—then this is definitely the book for you! What's more, if you've ever wanted to share your excitement about Greek and Latin with family and friends who haven't had the chance to learn these languages, this is *also* the book for them: I take readers through the material slowly enough that, even without

## Faculty News Continued

any previous experience, they can still get a sense of how much linguistic richness there is in actual excerpts of Homer, Horace, and friends. Apart from that, teaching continues to be as rewarding as ever. It's great to be teaching the beginning Greek sequence for the second time, and, in my graduate seminar this semester, to revisit the language of Greek epic after a ten-year interval since the last time I taught it.

**Greg Hays.** This spring I was invited to deliver the J.R. O'Donnell Memorial Lecture at the University of Toronto. The published version, "A World Without Letters," has just appeared in the 2019 volume of the *Journal of Medieval Latin*. After several years as Director of Undergraduate Studies I handed off my portfolio to Tony Corbeill in August. While there are some aspects of the job I'm glad to relinquish, I'll miss advising our majors and hearing about their progress. This semester I've been test-driving a new course, "Ancient Rome at the Movies"—from the 1913 *Last Days of Pompeii* through *Gladiator*, with glances back to the 19th-century paintings of Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema and Jean-Léon Gérôme. It's been a lot of work, but a lot of fun too. Some non-classical books I've enjoyed lately: Sandra Newman's hard-to-describe novel *The Heavens*, Thorkild Hansen's *Arabia Felix: The Danish Expedition of 1761-67*, and Robert Aickman's collection of weird stories, *Compulsory Games*.

**Inger Kuin.** The biggest news from me for the past term would be my move down (1,000 km) from Dartmouth in Hanover, NH to the UVA Classics Department. It was a very easy transition thanks to the warm welcome I received from my new colleagues, and getting to know the university and the town has been a great pleasure. This term I am teaching Catullus and Cicero in intermediate Latin, and Plautus in an advanced Latin seminar. The students are blowing my socks off! They are so kind, motivated, and good, and it's been very exciting getting to know them. Since getting to UVA I have also been busy putting the finishing touches on an edited volume titled *After the Crisis. Remembrance, Re-Anchoring, and Recovery in Ancient Greece and Rome*, which will appear in January. In September my book chapter 'Diogenes vs. Demonax: Laughter as Philosophy in Lucian' was published in an interesting volume on laughter and ancient philosophy from Oxford University Press. One of my absolute highlights since getting to UVA was having the opportunity to speak at a conference on Roman festivals organized by John Miller and Anke Walter in August. I was able to share my interpretation of Lucian's wonderful piece *Saturnalia*—while funny, it has something serious to say about the importance of celebrating religious festivals *right* - and I learned a lot from the other speakers. I could not have wished for a better start to my time here at UVA!

**John Miller.** Last year among my publications was the collaborative interdisciplinary volume that Jenny Strauss Clay and I coedited, *Tracking Hermes, Pursuing Mercury* (Oxford University Press). This book originated as a conference held at UVA. Last year I made two

research trips to Italy, an extended one in the fall while on research leave to continue projects on Ovid's *Fasti* and the Latin calendar-poems of the Renaissance, the other in early summer to participate in a conference in Pisa by the fledgling International Ovidian Society. In Rome I ran into a number of UVA Classics folks, current graduate students Evan Brubaker and Lily Van Diepen (History), alumna Zoe Ortiz who is now a graduate student at Michigan, and Xiomin Jin, who visited with us last year and is now back studying architecture at Sapienza. Last year I also gave talks in Milan, Newcastle, San Diego, and Lincoln NE. In August I organized a conference here with Anke Walter of Newcastle on Celebrating the Divine: Roman Festivals in Art, Religion, and Literature. The speakers included colleague Inger Kuin, former colleague Lily Panoussi, and Ph.D. alumnus Courtney Evans, now teaching at Creighton University. Our graduate students helped mightily, not least by chairing sessions. It was a pleasure to teach Horace's *Odes* to graduate students last spring and at present to be offering Greek Mythology to a large class and an undergraduate seminar in Book 8 of Virgil's *Aeneid* to a strong group of Latin students. In recent years I have participated in a number of program reviews at other colleges and universities, and when I return I am always struck by what a full complement of courses we are able to offer to our majors—nowhere else that I have seen gives advanced Latin students the choice of four different courses each semester. Our Lab funded by the Mellon Foundation on Dissecting Cultural Pluralism is now wrapping up after two and a half years of programming and discussions among graduate students and faculty who study religions of antiquity and the Middle Ages in various traditions—Greek, Roman, Christian, Islamic, Jewish, and Buddhist. We have brought in many terrific visitors and have been able to support the research of quite a few of the participants; we are about to run a workshop for high school teachers in collaboration with the Center for the Liberal Arts—colleague Tony Corbeill will be one of the presenters. This Lab, which I co-directed with Janet Spittler of Religious Studies and Andrej Petrovic, aimed among much else to foster an intellectual community on Grounds across several departments.

**Sara Myers.** Last year I was on research leave in the Spring and was able to continue work on my garden book and finish a number of articles (on Ovid's *Fasti* and the pseudo-Vergilian *Culex*). I also travelled (too much) to give talks at the SCS in San Diego, at Columbia University, and at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, Italy at the International Ovidian Society European Launch. I had a great time directing two excellent undergraduate Distinguished Majors Projects last year (on Ovid's *Heroides* and Vergil's *Aeneid*) and teaching a graduate course on Vergil. This semester I am teaching a lively graduate seminar on Roman Elegy and directing another DMP.

**Andrej Petrovic.** This has been another eventful and pretty full year for me: apart from publishing several pieces this year, I delivered talks at conferences in

## Faculty News Continued

Schwerte and in Heidelberg in Germany, in Princeton and here at UVa at a conference which Ivana Petrovic and I organized in May 2019. I continue to work on issues of inner purity and pollution together with Ivana, and also on the cults of bound divinities. I very much enjoyed working on a fairly spectacular new epigram that was found in the excavations of the ancient city of Teos, located just south of Izmir in Turkey. This is an Archaic inscriptional poem the likes of which I have never seen on a stone – the text is heavily damaged and in places very difficult to read, but the general sense is quite clear: the poem tells the story of a woman who “spent every night in a different harbor”, and who “got what was coming her way” and died having been an embarrassment to her family and her father. Much is yet to be understood about this poem, but one thing is clear: we have no comparable poems surviving on stone, and the poem’s mocking spirit, known in ancient Greek as *kertomia*, is otherwise foreign to inscriptional poetry. Late this summer I received high resolution images from my collaborator, Professor Mustafa Adak of Antalya University in Turkey, and I hope to be able to decipher the rest of this poem in the course of this school year.

In terms of teaching, I have the privilege of teaching the Greek Civilization course this year, and am also greatly enjoying teaching a graduate course on Greek and Roman epigram – and have thus had a chance to return to my first epigrammatic love: divine, brilliant, and very naughty Martial.

**Ivana Petrovic.** The highlight of my teaching year has been Greek Myth, which I had the honor and pleasure to teach in the Spring. This was by far the biggest class I have ever taught and I must admit that wearing a mike made me feel like a rock star. I never tire of seeing how the students’ eyes light up when they first read the *Iliad*, or when they find out that Ancient Greek myth features the earliest story about a haunted house. I relished the opportunity to share my enthusiasm for the wonderful and terrible tales which first sparked my interest in Classics and to witness the delight new generations take in them.

I spent most of 2018 working on two edited volumes, and the second one was finally published this year: *Greek Epigram from the Hellenistic to the Early Byzantine Era*, co-edited with C. Carey and M. Kanellou, Oxford University Press, 2019. It came out just in time for Andrej Petrovic’s graduate course on the epigram and it feels very good to see students reading it. I continue to work on inner purity as a religious category and the scholarly highlight of the year for me was a conference I organized with Andrej Petrovic in May 2019. Our principal goal was to discuss inner purity and pollution in ancient religious traditions (variously grasped as moral, ethical, or more generally spiritual purity and pollution). A further goal is to illuminate the way individual communities reacted to other purity beliefs and the impact of other societies on individual communities’ purity and pollution beliefs. We invited experts in ancient Egyptian religion, ancient Judaism, early Christianity, Greek and Roman religions, and ancient Buddhism. The conference was a resounding

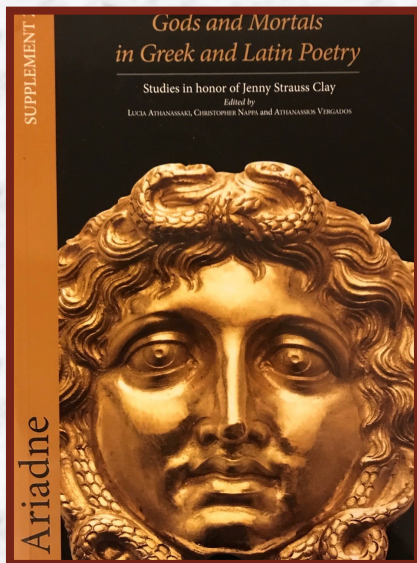
success, mostly because we all did our best to open up our own fields to colleagues in the neighboring disciplines. We compared and contrasted our evidence and methodologies, and came to some startling conclusions: inner purity mattered greatly in all cultures under discussion; we could establish differences in terms of sources and duration of pollution, but also cross-cultural ties and channels of influence. In some cases, conscious efforts were made on the part of one culture to inform the neighboring states about inner purity and religious ordinances requiring it. We also made new friends and had fun! I can’t believe I’m writing this, since I made a solemn promise to myself that I will take a break from editing volumes, but the proceedings would make a really useful book, and I’m very tempted...Watch this space!



*Inner Purity and Pollution in Ancient Mediterranean Religions and Beyond*, conference participants at the closing lunch in Michael’s

## Emeriti

**Jenny Strauss Clay.** I have been doing a lot of traveling, writing, lecturing, and attending conferences. To mention only a few: a presentation organized by our Georgia Sermamoglou-Soulmeidi (PhD 2012) in Athens in honor of Dan Devereux, a lecture in Munich (in German!), organizing a panel on Languages and the Pre-Socratics at SCS in San Diego, a conference in Newcastle on “Arche and Origo,” organized by our Thanasis Vergados and Anke Walter, visiting Ashley Mehra (BA 2018) in Cambridge, and Courtney Evans (PhD 2016) and Harriett in Omaha; Oh, and I got to be MC at CAMWS in Lincoln Nebraska – what a gas! John Miller and I finally saw the emergence of our volume on Hermes/Mercury from Oxford University Press. But the high point of my career – and most touching and a total surprise! – was a volume in my honor edited by Lucia Athanassaki, Chris Nappa, and Thanasis Vergados on *Gods and Mortals in Greek and Latin Poetry*. A good number of the contributors were UVa students among whom Diane Arnson Svarlien (BA 1983), Daniel Mendelsohn (BA 1982), Zoe Stamatopoulou (PhD 2008), Anatole Mori (BA 1990), Ben Jasnow (PhD 2014), Daniel Barber (PhD 2010) Blanche Conger McCune (PhD 2014), Chris Nappa (PhD 1996), Thanasis Vergados (PhD 2007), and Stephen Smith (PhD 1996) – and I could not be prouder.



Professor Emeritus I am still working hard on various classics projects. I have done a goodish piece of a commentary on Euripides' *Electra*, which I hope will offer a corrective to the opinion, current since A. W. Schlegel's influential lectures in the early nineteenth century, that this is the work of a poet who is either inept or is setting out perversely to lower the tragic genre. There is also a lot of work to be done on the text of the play, which rests on a single manuscript of the fourteenth century. I have taken a more conservative line than most editors in some places but argued strongly for editorial intervention in others.

Soon to be published by Oxford University Press is a verse translation of *Oedipus the King* preceded by a long introduction that focuses on the role of the gods, especially Apollo, in the play. I argue that Dodds's famous 1966 *Greece and Rome* article has misled everyone on an important point by saying that Apollo could not have caused Oedipus to commit parricide and incest; he merely predicted it, for otherwise Oedipus would be a marionette whose strings are pulled by others

and would have little dramatic interest for the spectator. This assertion has had a long run, echoes of it being heard still in 2015, nearly fifty years on, but the idea that gods don't interfere with human action has lots of counter-examples in tragedy (Phaedra? Heracles? Pentheus? Hello?), and it is contradicted by passage after passage in *Oedipus*. In my translation I have tried to raise the elegance level by rendering the spoken lines in blank verse that is as rhetorically pointed as I can make it. I have strictly eschewed the archaisms beloved by Storr (whose work appeared in the first Loeb edition of 1912) and other earlier translators.

My *Troades* commentary (OUP) came out last December. I am aware of only one review, but it was quite favorable. Jon Mikalson's comments to me were enthusiastic. Let's hope that others feel the same way. The book, among other things, demonstrates that the common view that the play is a reflection of the Athenian conquest of Melos is almost certainly wrong. My wife Judith and I have both experienced health problems, hers considerably more serious and life-threatening than mine. But we are coping. She also is at work on scholarly projects when she feels well enough. Life still seems good. We have seen quite a bit of our daughter Ellen and our grandchildren Madeleine (seven) and Graham (three).

**Jon Mikalson.** Shadow and I try to make weekly trips to the Department and to “walk” the Lawn, I to be re-inspired by colleagues, students, and Mr. Jefferson, Shadow for the pats, dog treats, and good smells. In that vein, I will be giving a talk on Classics at UVa in the nineteenth century (A.D.) at a conference in Athens (Greece) in late January and hope to visit with Sidney Christman and Kevin Woram who are students at the American School this year. Last year, on a road trip in the Southwest (of USA), we spent a few nights in Las Vegas (Caesar's Palace, of course) and had a nice lunch with Tom Garvey. In May we're off to Ukraine for 10 days, then in early July to Montana for Megan Bowen's wedding, not fifty miles from Virginia City, my father's birthplace, then the next week to Pawleys Island for a big family reunion.

Amidst all these travels I will be teaching an OLLI course on 20<sup>th</sup> century A.D. problems in 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Athens, and I expect to finish up revisions on the Isocrates book and do some serious work with Andrej and Ivana Petrovic on the third edition of *Ancient Greek Religion*.

**Tony Woodman.** In early April I flew from Newcastle via Amsterdam to Bari, whence a taxi drove me inland to a hotel complex near Martina Franca, where a colloquium was to be held in honour of John Marincola. Many old friends were gathered to pay tribute to the great man (whose visit to the downtown mall on the occasion of one of the Graduate Colloquia will not soon be forgotten) and a wonderful time was had by all. My short paper was on Livy's Preface. Most of the other papers I have been writing have been on Horace (and I have now completed the draft of my commentary on *Odes* 3 for the green-and-yellow series), though one, on



## Emeriti Continued

Ennius and Tacitus, is to appear in *Ennius' Annals: poetry and history*, the papers of a conference held at Penn a few years ago. At another conference, this time in Newcastle in early May, I had the pleasure of linking up again with Jenny Clay, John Miller, Matt Pincus and Sarah Teets—which meant that, with Athanassios Vergados, Anke Walter and myself, there were seven of us with connections to Classics at UVA!

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## In Memoriam

It is sad to report the deaths of two members of the UVA Classics family. Requiescant in pace.

**Mark P. O. Morford**, Professor of Classics at the University from 1984 until his retirement in 1998, passed away on October 14 in Leeds, Massachusetts after a brief illness. He was 90 years old. Mark came to us after many years at Ohio State, where he served for a long stretch as Chair of the Department. Upon his retirement from UVA, he moved to Northampton, Massachusetts, where at Smith College he continued his research as Salloch Fellow in the Mortimer Rare Book Room. Among his projects completed at Smith Mark was particularly proud of the catalog that he produced of the library's incunabula.

Mark's many publications included *The Poet Lucan: Studies in Rhetorical Epic*, which in 1967 helped to start the rehabilitation of that neglected writer; *Persius*, a general introduction to another Neronian poet; *Stoics and Neostoics: Rubens and the Circle of Lipsius*, which was a trailblazing foray into sixteenth-century Flemish intellectual history; and the widely used textbook, *Classical Mythology*, with Robert Lenardon and then Michael Sham, which is now in its eleventh edition. Among his academic distinctions were the presidency of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South and his election as the Vice President for Education of the American Philological Association.

His UVA students remember Mark as a very supportive teacher of Latin at both the graduate and undergraduate levels and of larger lecture courses in Greek and Roman Civilization. Most of the graduate students in those years were recruited by Mark as our Director of Graduate Admissions. Colleagues and students both remember fondly the warm hospitality of Mark and his wife Martha, who frequently welcomed us into their home.

**David Mankin**, a distinguished and beloved Ph.D. alumnus (1985), died unexpectedly on April 24 at home in Ithaca, New York. He was 61. After his B.A. in Classics at Harvard, David breezed through the requirements for the M.A., then Ph.D., which climaxed with his dissertation on Horace's *Epodes* and the Greek iambic poet Archilochus, directed by Jenny Strauss Clay. After graduation David began his long career at Cornell University, first as postdoctoral fellow, and then Assistant Professor of Classics, later promoted to Associate Professor.

Notable among his publications are his commentaries on Horace's *Epodes* and Cicero's *De Oratore* Book 3 (both with Cambridge University Press), important contributions which display his great learning and exacting philology. At Cornell David was a truly inspirational teacher and an encouraging advisor of countless students. He was a classroom legend there, as students took his classes in droves, and Cornell awarded him more than one award for distinguished teaching. Part of David's appeal was his down-to-earth approach and willingness to share with students and colleagues his enthusiasm for so much, from the classical languages and history to music, sports, his cats, and the nearby farm where he enjoyed volunteering. A memorial event to commemorate his career was held at Cornell on September 20.

David stayed in close touch with UVA Classics from graduation to the end of his life. Jenny Clay in particular remained an influential mentor throughout his career. He is remembered here as a brilliant student, for the same idiosyncratic appearance that he sported for life—high-topped sneakers, sunglasses worn inside and out year-round—but especially for his generosity, whether personally on Grounds to new graduate students and newly arrived faculty and their families, in later years with encouraging words to our alumni, or through his gifts to the Department, joined by those of his parents, including the annual graduation prize that David created for distinguished work in the Classics Major.

## **Some Nineteenth Century Classical Alumni of UVa** **From Jon Mikalson's *An Informal, Slightly Hagiographic History of Classics at the University of Virginia, from 1825 to 1970.***

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Professor Ward Briggs wrote some years ago to the author, "They may not be well-known now, but UVa provided a real stable of classicists to southern institutions." The information given below is just a brief, University of Virginia-oriented synopsis of entries in Briggs' most useful and distracting *Database of Classical Scholars*. All "professors," unless otherwise noted, are professors of Latin, or Greek, or Classics.

### **James Nesbitt Anderson (1864-1945)**

UVa, B.A. (1886) and M.A. (1887); Johns Hopkins, Ph.D. (1894). Professor at University of Oklahoma, Florida State, and University of Florida. A major figure in establishment of University of Florida.

### **Charles Wesley Bain (1864-1915)**

UVa, study; Sewanee, M.A. (1895). Professor at University of South Carolina and University of North Carolina.

### **Wills Henry Bocock (1865-1947)**

Hampden-Sydney, B.A. (1884); study at UVa (1885). Professor at Hampden-Sydney and, for fifty-six years, at the University of Georgia.

### **Alexander Lee Bondurant (1865-1937)**

Hampden-Sydney, B.A. (1884); UVa, study (1887-1889). Professor, for forty-seven years, at University of Mississippi.

### **Lewis Parke Chamberlayne (1879-1917)**

UVa, B.A. (1899) and M.A. (1902); Halle, Ph.D. (1908). Professor at University of South Carolina. His daughter married Moses Hadas.

### **John Clinton Futrall (1873-1939)**

UVa, B.A. and M.A. (1894). Professor of Classics, for forty-four years, Manager of Football Team and President, University of Arkansas.

### **Addison Hogue (1849-1942)**

Hampden-Sydney, B.A. (1869), UVa, study (1869-1872). Professor at Hampden-Sydney, University of Mississippi, and Washington and Lee.

### **William Gwathmey Manly (1862-1929)**

UVa, M.A. (1884); Harvard, M.A. (1890). Professor, for nearly forty years, at University of Missouri. One of the founders and first President of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South in 1905.

### **Robert Somerville Radford (1869-1936)**

UVa, Ph.D. (1889); Johns Hopkins, Ph.D. (1895). Professor at Elmira College, University of Tennessee, and Kenyon College.

### **William W. Smith**

UVa, B.A. (1868), M.A. (1871). Professor and President of Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, VA and in 1893 founder of Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, VA.

### **Charles Elisha Taylor (1842-1915)**

UVa, B.A. (1870); ordained Baptist minister (1871); University of Richmond, D.D. (1884). Professor, Wake Forest University for forty-five years.

### **Wm. Henry Tutwiler (1807-1884)**

UVa, B.A. (1828), M.A. (1830). Henry Tutwiler was a classmate of Gessner Harrison in the first class at the University and studied with George Long. He remained close to both and corresponded with them regularly during their lifetimes. He, like Harrison, received a Diploma in 1828 and then went on to earn the first M.A. at the University in 1830. In 1831 he was appointed Professor of Ancient Languages at the University of Alabama, one of four professors at the new University. The students at the University of Alabama were even more raucous than those at the University. Tutwiler sought, as he had learned at the University, accommodation with the students, but the President there was a strict Baptist moralist and disciplinarian. He and Tutwiler had monumental battles, ending with the resignation of Tutwiler (and all the other faculty) in 1837. After moving about a bit, he founded and ran a preparatory school in Alabama until his death in 1884. He was later twice (1868 and 1874) offered the presidency of the University of Alabama, which he declined.

**From *A Slightly Hagiographic History of Classics at the University of Virginia* by Jon Mikalson, available from Amazon or as a free pdf from the author (jdm9x).**

## Meet Our New General Faculty Member

Our new faculty member, Inger Kuin, completed her Ph.D. in classics at New York University, after obtaining master's degrees in philosophy and journalism at the University of Amsterdam. Before coming to UVA, she taught at Dartmouth College and the University of Groningen. This year she will be teaching courses on Plautus, Cicero & Catullus, and New Testament Greek, as well as a seminar on laughter and humor in ancient Greece and Rome. In her free time she can be seen around Charlottesville on her bike, carrying her cello around, or sometimes in running shoes. Her research concerns the Greek literature of the Roman Empire. She is interested in the intersections during this period between religion, popular culture, and philosophy. Inger is working on a monograph on the comic works of Lucian of Samosata, titled *The Gods in Lucian: Humor, Popular Culture, and Religion in the Second Century CE*. She has published an introduction to ancient religion - in Dutch - titled *Leven met goden. Religie in de oudheid*; it was the runner-up for the 2018 Homerus Prize for the best Dutch popular book on antiquity. Inger has co-edited several volumes, either already in print or about to appear: *Strategies of Remembering in Greece Under Rome (100 BC - 100AD)* (Sidestone Press, 2018); *After the Crisis. Remembrance, Re-Anchoring, and Recovery in Ancient Greece and Rome* (Bloomsbury, 2020). She has published numerous journal articles and book chapters on imperial Greek historiography, Latin epigraphy, and ancient philosophy, and is a regular contributor to Dutch newspapers and magazines.



## Farewell and Good Luck!

After 13 years as the Administrative Supervisor for the Departments of Classics and Philosophy, Glenda Notman accepted a position as a Budget Analyst with the Dean's Office. We thank Glenda for all she has done over the years and for her unwavering dedication to the Department Faculty, Staff, and Students. We wish her luck and continued success on her new journey.





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## News From our Alumni and Alumnae

**Jaclyn Lund, B.A. 2018.** I have just begun my first year teaching Latin I-V/AP at Bexley High School outside of Columbus, Ohio. I have started a JCL chapter, and we are gearing up for our first ever JCL event as a school. First year is always crazy, but I have many more good days than bad, and I hope to be sending young Classics lovers to Charlottesville before too long.



**Erich Merkel, Ph.D. 2015.** Four years after graduation, I'm continuing to work in the financial industry, but I keep up my Greek and Latin studies daily, whether it's just reading and commenting on ancient authors or periodically writing book reviews. I've recently started recording audiobooks in Greek and Latin, and at some point in the future hope to complete a history of Hellenistic Greece. I still live happily in Charlottesville with my wife, Emily, and our three children (two cats and a dog).

**Joclyn Rohrbach Moore, Ph.D. 2017.** I recently became the first Director of Programs for the UVA faculty-run St. Anselm Institute for Catholic Thought at the University of Virginia, where I was postdoctoral fellow from 2017 to 2019. Utilizing my PhD ('17) in some unexpected ways, I have developed a new undergraduate seminar on "Faith and Reason at the Modern University," tying the Ancient Greek and Hebrew wisdom traditions with the Christian. I have also led seminars on "Friendship, Ancient to Modern," a lunch series exploring the lives of extraordinary christian women in the Americas, and have thoroughly enjoyed bringing my expertise in tragedy to bear on a 'Catholic novel' discussion group. In addition to publishing several book- and theater reviews, forthcoming articles on Aeschylus and Edgar Alan Poe, and on Euripides' *Heracles*, I presented over the summer at a conference in Lyons, France on *Politics and Poetics in Euripides*. I am also making progress on a first book, "If These Walls Could Speak: The Fall of the House in Greek Tragedy." I like to joke that Daniel (PhD '13) and I are living a fairytale as we manage our own delightful trio of daughters: Evangeline (4.5), Zelig (3), and Lucia (1).

**Keith Page, B.A. 2008.** Eleven years after graduation, I'm happy to be back on Grounds. I was in Durham, NC after earning a Master's in Theological Studies at Duke Divinity School, and seven years ago I returned to Charlottesville. But this year I am happy to be back at the University, working for the STAR Initiative at the Curry School of Education and Human Development. I am coordinating ECHO telementoring networks to help spread specialist knowledge about autism to people throughout the state.

**Jennifer Swalec, B.A. 2009.** After finishing my Ph.D. in Classics at Brown University and teaching in the Classics Department at the College of the Holy Cross for two years, I am now in my second year of teaching Greek and Latin at the Pierrepont School in Westport, CT. I am especially happy to be teaching a brand-new advanced Greek literature seminar on Helen of Troy (or Sparta, if you please). The course is a wonderful opportunity to introduce high school students to the field of gender studies. As my students trace Helen's complex story through excerpts from Homeric epic, Athenian tragedy, and a variety of other primary sources, they are paying close attention to how different authors assign or deny blame, responsibility, power, and agency to Helen, Paris, and Menelaus.

**Stephen Williams, B.A. 1967.** I am an alumnus and in fact the *only* Classics major of the class of 1967 - I was there in the age of the Golden Triumvirate, i.e., Constantine, Stocker and Colker. I have been living in Bologna, Italy, practicing medicine for the past twenty years, and often I borrow upon Latin grammar and vocabulary when speaking Italian. I have forgotten most of what I learned in Cabell Hall, I'm sorry to say. I wonder if any of you might recall Prof. Colker's rule for the use of "dative with special verbs." We were compelled to memorize this - an impressive list of verbs, most of which I cannot recall except for the last four: "envy, threaten, pardon and spare." Can you complete the *first* part of the rule for me - without going to any trouble, that is? His rule has value in Italian as well as in Latin, and I'd love to remember it. He would routinely call upon us randomly in class to stand up and recite the rule (as well as several others)—if we failed he'd frown and make a small mark in a book on his desk without saying a word. Now THAT was scary! I'm amazed I don't still remember the rule completely. I have lost touch with my fellow students; otherwise I'd ask them.

**SN:** Behind his back we used to call him "Marvelous Marv," which endeared him to us even more.



## Celebrations!



Sidney Christman and Kevin Woram (History) got married in late August. They are currently studying at the American School in Athens.



Rebecca Frank and Giancarlo Rolando got married in Seattle on July 27, 2019, in a small ceremony with their families.

## Upcoming Events

- Jan 15: Annual Stocker Lecture—Amy Richlin, UCLA
- Jan 27: Friends of Classics Talk—Corneila Lauf, John Cabot University
- Feb 21: Classics Talk—Janet Downie, UNC Chapel Hill
- Mar 17: Classics Talk—Ruth Bielfeldt, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
- Mar 21: Graduate Student Colloquium
- Apr 13: Margaret Lowe Memorial Undergraduate Lecture—Amy Cohen, Randolph College
- Apr 15: Classics Talk—Carole Newlands, University of Colorado Boulder
- Apr 18: Cicero Conference
- May 16: Final Exercises

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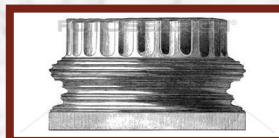
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