



Vox Classica



The Newsletter of the Department of Classics, University of Virginia, Fall 2022

Letter from the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends of UVA Classics,

I am very happy to report that things are back to normal at UVA: we are teaching in person, the students are very enthusiastic, there are many events on Grounds, and the general atmosphere is very joyful. We started the Fall term with a party honoring Sara Myers, who served as chair during my leave in 22/23. This was also the first party Andrej and I hosted in our new house, and we were thrilled to celebrate Sara and to thank her for everything she did for the department.

At the end of 21/22, we had 29 majors and 4 of them graduated in May. Currently we have 29 majors. Enrollments in our courses are very strong and we are encouraged by continued student interest. We are very grateful for the continued help by our friends and alumni/ae, who support our guest speaker and lecture series, student travel abroad and the Constantine Library. We had four talks and a conference on Sulpicia organized by Giulio Celotto since the beginning of this term, with the Constantine Lecture and two other talks planned by the beginning of December! Our Tuesday luncheon series is back, too. Our department is what it used to be before the pandemic: busy and resounding with laughter (mostly coming from the graduate student offices). I have missed this so much!



In 21/22, we welcomed our first Bridge student, Louis Mainwaring-Foster, and a second one, Jess Alexander, in August this year. We have also celebrated four successful completions of the PhD degree: congratulations to Tim Brannelly, Matt Pincus, Christina Boltsi and Peter Moench! Peter has additional happy news to communicate (read on!). Of our most recent PhDs, Christina Boltsi accepted a job offer from the EU administration in Luxemburg; Brett Evans (PhD 2020) holds a Visiting Assistant Professor position at Georgetown; Rebecca Frank (PhD 2020) just started her new position as Visiting Assistant Professor at Colby College; Joseph Zehner (PhD 2020) has been appointed postdoctoral Fellow at Leiden University, Netherlands, and Stephen Hill (currently in his 6th year!) has been appointed as first Instructor, and upon completion of his PhD, an Assistant Professor of Classics (permanent position), at the Wyoming Catholic College; Timothy Brannelly (PhD 2021) has accepted a position with a local high school. We are so proud of them!

Our graduate students have organized a very successful online student colloquium (hopefully our last virtual event); the topic was “Pushing the Boundaries: African and Asian Interactions with the Ancient Mediterranean”. They regularly present at national and international conferences and run a highly successful Summer Latin Institute.

I am also very proud of the exceptional distinction of our faculty – I hope you will enjoy reading about their activities and achievements in this newsletter. We always encourage you to write and share your news with us – and now you can also follow us on Instagram! We are so grateful to you for your continued support with financial gifts. They help to ensure the future health of the department and allow us to organize events for undergraduates as well as their other activities: last year we were able to financially support a student who participated in the archaeological excavations at Caesarea and another who attended the Summer Seminar on Ancient Greek Philosophy in Syracuse. Our graduate students regularly need funding for the various conferences they attend. Finally, there is the Constantine Library, the heart of our Department. It is so thrilling to see it filled with undergraduate and graduate students again!

With best wishes,

Ivana Petrovic, Chair

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

News of the Graduate Students

As Ivana said in her letter, we've had an eventful year. First of all, we welcomed three new PhD students to our program: Sam Green joined us from Ohio State, Meredith Huff from Austin College via Chicago, and Mary Clare Young from Christendom College. We are delighted to welcome also a new Bridge student this year, Jess Alexander, who came to us from CUNY.

The Ph.D. degrees were received by Christina Boltsi, Tim Brannelly, Peter Moench, and Matthew Pincus and all of them started new careers this year. Furthermore, three MA's were awarded, to Isabelle Cimala, Alex Konieczny, and Will Nichols. Regarding other achievements, Evan Brubaker had one paper accepted for publication and another one under review – both of them by prominent journals; Jovan Cvjetičanin was awarded a Society of Fellows research grant; and Stephen Hill published another paper in an edited volume.

Similarly, conference activities of our students continue. Jovan Cvjetičanin and Stephen Hill gave papers at the SCS in San Francisco, while three students presented papers at CAMWS (Jovan Cvjetičanin, Peter Moench, and Nina Raby). Evan Brubaker also gave a talk at the South Central Renaissance Conference. The conference that our graduate students organized was terrific, I thought – the program was varied and students' papers were really interesting and rewarding.

There are not many things that make a DGS's heart rejoice more than seeing our excellent students give papers and publish (apart from getting a job, of course!). As the departmental DGS, I am grateful to our colleague Jackie Arthur Montagne who provided a truly terrific set of resources and additional advice regarding professionalization; we hope that this trend of our students delivering papers and publishing excellent papers will continue.

On a personal note, it is a source of great joy for me to see the graduates and undergraduates fill the halls of the Coker Hall with so much joyous energy. There is laughter around again, the Constantine and the TA offices are abuzz with work and happiness, the corridors often smell of delicious baked goods made by our students, and the departmental dogs are doing what they can to help spread the happiness. Finally, we are also in the process of restructuring our graduate programs at the college level, and we think and hope for the better – but I will write about that next year, as I don't want to jinx it.

Andrej Petrovic, DGS

Classical Art and Archaeology

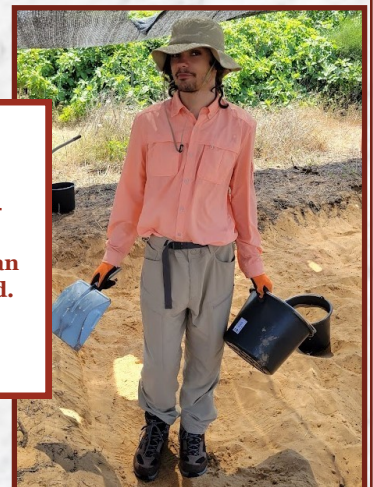
Last summer, Tyler Jo Smith, Director of UVA's Interdisciplinary Archaeology Program, partnered with colleagues from several universities (UNC Greensboro, FSU, University of Haifa) to launch the **Caesarea Coastal Archaeological Project (C-CAP)** in northern Israel. The site of Caesarea Maritima is one of the largest archaeological sites in Israel. It was founded as a Hellenistic anchorage settlement and developed into an elaborate Roman city under Herod the Great in 22-10 BC. From then through the Byzantine period, it was the capital of the province of Palestine, and larger than Jerusalem.

Our renewed excavations of the city are investigating the Early Islamic occupation of the city and the larger regional Levantine coast in the early Medieval period. An amazing group of UVA undergraduate and graduate students, including several from Classics, took part in the 2022 season. They learned the fundamentals of excavation and traveled as part of the study abroad program to sites in Galilee and Jerusalem.

Interested students are invited to apply for summer 2023 and receive **6 hours of credit**: go.uncg.edu/israel
No prior experience necessary!! Please contact Dr Smith for more details: tjs6e@virginia.edu



**Annika Reynolds
(Classics) measuring
in a trench near the
ancient theatre.**



**Louis Mainwaring-
Foster (Classics)
shifting sand along an
ancient Roman road.**

From the Undergraduate Director

I am happy to report that the news has been exaggerated about the death of foreign language study (a.k.a. “world languages” in the new parlance, for reasons I still do not understand). After a two-year lull in college enrollment in most languages throughout the country--students seemed quickly to realize that Zoom does not provide the best medium for teaching languages--enrollment in elementary Latin is rising back up to pre-pandemic levels. Yet despite this dip, enrollment in our undergraduate program matches levels from previous years, with over 840 students attending the department’s various offerings for 2021-2022. The numbers of Classics concentrators also shows signs of returning to regular levels after the ranks were depleted with the departure of twenty majors in Spring 2021. In Spring 2022 we celebrated the graduation of four majors: Abigail Lund, Jackson Rose, Nancie Wilson, and Brando Leggott. Brando also wrote a Distinguished Major Thesis on “Political Ramifications of Roman Human Sacrifice.” Other academic achievements include the presentation of a range of papers by three of our students at the eighth Virginia Undergraduate Research Symposium in Classics. Mac Johnson spoke on sleep in Lucretius, Abigail Lund on the *locus amoenus* in Statius’ *Silvae*, and Annika Reynolds on analogies of fatherhood in Seneca. On the national stage, Classics major (and Classics Club President) Megan Sullivan made it to the semi-finals of the *Jeopardy!* National College Championship in February. Finally, after a hiatus of overseas travel, the Lazenby Award provided funds for two of our students to study abroad: Annika Reynolds participated in archaeological excavations at Caesarea and Zhihan Hu attended the Summer Seminar on Ancient Greek Philosophy in Syracuse (Italy) through the Exedra Mediterranean Center. Let’s hope that with the clearing of the air more of our undergraduates can have the opportunity for foreign study and travel.

Anthony Corbeill, DUP

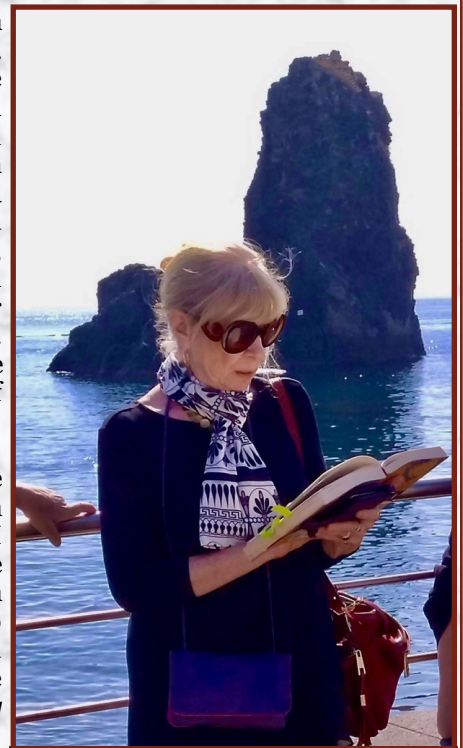
Emeriti

Jenny Strauss Clay. As usual, retirement has been anything but. Peter Moench and Matt Pincus, my last students, completed their PhDs – both brilliant. Conferences in Venice and Delphi this summer and talks in Sicily and Newcastle this fall. Have vowed not to travel in the summer: too many people and too much heat, plus a touch of Covid and food poisoning... But lovely encounters with Joseph Zehner, at the International Association for Pre-Socratic Studies in Delphi, and Georgia Sermamoglou-Soulmaidi in Athens, who will be taking up a position at the University of Patras in January, as well as Courtney Evans and Harriett Livesey, on their way back from New Zealand, and Rachel Bruzzone, who is at the Center for Hellenic Studies for the fall semester. Here in Charlottesville, a working visit with Thanasis Vergados finishing up our commentary on Hesiod’s *Theogony* (only the Introduction remains to be done). Still scribbling away, including something on Pindar’s Second *Olympian* Ode (what a headache!) and working with Daniel Mendelsohn on his translation of the *Odyssey*.

Jon Mikalson. Two books came out last year, *The Essential Isocrates* from the University of Texas Press and the third edition of *Ancient Greek Religion* with new contributions by my friends and colleagues Ivana and Andrej Petrovic. I continue to examine, leisurely, those much neglected half-dozen Greek words we all, without much thought, translate as “wretched” and “miserable,” but which actually have rather distinct meanings and usages that add interesting nuances to some famous (and not so famous) passages of epic, tragedy, comedy, history, and philosophy from the archaic and classical periods. And, as I write this, I am in the middle of teaching a 12 week course on a “leisurely reading” of Homer’s *Odyssey* for twenty “senior citizens” through the OLLI program. Travels include two weeks in Wisconsin with friends and family last August and two weeks in France this coming March.

I was delighted to attend yesterday the first post-pandemic renewal of the Tuesday Luncheon and have during the year enjoyed several lectures and programs of our vibrant Department. And Shadow is happy to have a new friend, the Petrovics’ Alfie, as an exuberant member of our Classic community.

Tony Woodman. My green-and-yellow commentary on Horace, *Odes* 3, was published at the end of 2021. I have published, or have forthcoming, papers on Horace, Virgil, Livy, Velleius and Tacitus. The day I received the reminder about *Vox Classica* was also the day on which Ian Du Quesnay passed away peacefully at his home in Cambridge. He was my friend, collaborator and intellectual companion for half a century and will be greatly missed.



Jenny Strauss Clay reading Homer in front of Polyphemus’ rocks in Sicily.

Faculty News

Jacqueline Arthur-Montagne. My second year with UVA Classics has imbued with me a special appreciation for the fact that I am no longer entirely new to the Grounds, classes, and colleagues. Even if I still have plenty of learning to do about the history of our Department, as well as the forward-looking research projects of our faculty and students, it is rather nice to at last know how the printer works and how to check out books from our many libraries! Over the past year, I've had the great pleasure of teaching a course on the ancient reception of Homer's *Odyssey* and designing a new class on "Ancient Athenian Democracy" for spring 2023. Due to the generous support of the Jefferson Trust, I have been able to hire several graduate course assistants to help me implement this role-immersion and active-learning pedagogy. Speaking of democracies past and present, I have been keeping busy this fall 2022 as one member of the "Paradoxes of Ancient Citizenship" Working Group with colleagues in several different departments: Elizabeth Meyer (History), Tyler Jo Smith (Art History), and George Klosko (Politics). With the support of the newly established Karsh Institute of Democracy, we have been able to invite several guest scholars to speak with the broader Classics community about the urgent topics of citizen rights and democratic (dis)enfranchisement in antiquity and beyond. I sincerely hope that Department friends and alumni will consider joining us for some of these presentations in spring 2023.

In the realm of my own research, I have been struck this year by the critical role that my UVA colleagues have played in helping me shape and persevere in several projects. My co-edited volume with Inger



Kuin and Scott DiGiulio (MSU) on Documentality has at last been published, highlighting the benefits of collaborative scholarship in Classics and Ancient History. John Dillery and Ivana Petrovic have also been instrumental in helping me formulate broad questions of education, history, and (of course!) fictionality in the long trajectory of Greek literature. After many years as the solo classicist at my previous university, I have a renewed understanding of just how much we benefit from learning and listening to one another at all stages in our pursuit of *paideia*. On a final note, my husband and I produced our first hay crop on our mini-farm in Scottsville. I can't say we're following any of the farming advice in Hesiod or Vergil, but we welcome all and any proposals to try out ancient agricultural techniques on our little plot of Virginia heaven.

Giulio Celotto. By bringing back face-to-face classes and in-person events, the past school year granted us some sense of normalcy after a few rough semesters. With the hope that we continue to move in that direction, and finally put the pandemic behind us for good, this Fall I am enjoying teaching an accelerated elementary Latin course for students with previous knowledge of Latin, and an intermediate Latin course on the character of Clodia in the works of Catullus and Cicero. Next Spring I am very excited to offer a course on Helen of Troy in Greek and Roman literature and art. In terms of research, 2022 has been a productive year for me. My first monograph, titled '*Amor belli*': *Love and Strife in Lucan's 'Bellum civile'*, came out with the University of Michigan Press, and my article on the reception of Juvenal *Satire 15* in Dante's *Inferno* appeared in the latest issue of *Paideia*. In addition, I look forward to seeing in print my paper on Pietas and the Furies in Statius' *Silvae*, as well as that on Aristophanes' parodic portrait of Agathon in the *Thesmophoriazusae*, recently accepted for publication in *Classical Quarterly* and *Symbolae Osloenses*, respectively. This year I was also pleased to give my first in-person talk in over two years at the CAMWS Annual Meeting in Winston-Salem, NC, where I spoke about Statius' engagement with Empedoclean philosophy in the *Thebaid*. Lastly, I am glad to report that "The Siren Project," the interdisciplinary research initiative on women's voice in literature and the visual arts that I co-direct with my colleagues Francesca Calamita (Spanish, Italian & Portuguese) and Giulia Paoletti (Art), is continuing to thrive. The proceedings of the virtual symposium on women's voice in the early Roman Empire that took place in 2020 are forthcoming as a special issue of *Classical World*, and in Fall 2022 we were delighted to host a two-day virtual conference—the first ever held in North America—on the Roman female poet Sulpicia.

Anthony Corbeil. After two decades of thinking about it and (not quite so long) writing and researching, I have at last finished my commentary on Cicero's *De haruspicum responsis*, available from Oxford University Press (UK) some time in mid-2023. A topic seminar that I taught the previous fall on Roman religion contributed to some revisions and corrections in the manuscript and I thank the nine graduate students in that class for their efforts. Jocelyn and I dealt with my resultant post-partum blues by taking our first trip overseas in some time, to Amazonia (Manaus), Brazil, where I spoke on conflict resolution in antiquity and narrowly avoided a contemporary conflict with piranhas (one of my swimming partners was not so fortunate). Appearing in print this year with University of Michigan Press is my translation of book 39 of Nonnus's *Dionysiaca* (*Tales of Dionysus*), part of a group effort by poets, classicists, and other hapless victims. More fun, and more fitting, I gave a talk via Zoom at the Academy of Athens on sonic effects in Ciceronian oratory, a printed version of which should appear soon. For the academic year 2023/2024 I will be Professor-in-Charge at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (the "Centro").

Faculty News Continued

John Dillery. The last year was a busy one as I attempted the reemergence from COVID-imposed limitations. I attended a conference (on ZOOM of course) on Xenophon at which I gave a paper and ran a panel. I also worked on a paper on Xenophon's *Cyropaedia*. I am currently at work on a long essay on the development of Greek historiography. I hope soon to be able to return to my long-term projects: a commentary on Herodotus Book 2 and translations of Xenophon's *Hellenica* and *Agésilas*. My colleagues and students, both undergraduate and graduate, continue to inspire me and make me feel that Classics still has a place in the world and in Higher Education specifically.

Coulter George. After two years of pandemic teaching, I very much appreciate the opportunity to be on sabbatical leave this year. That said, it was already a relief to see things gradually return to something closer to normal during the spring semester: as someone whose glasses fogged up mercilessly when teaching in a mask, I was especially glad to be able to relax that practice towards the end of the year. As ever, I enjoyed teaching Indo-European, and I was also delighted to have a second chance to teach Greek Prose Composition. Most memorably, however, in March I had the honor of officiating at the wedding of former Classics undergraduates Sarah Simmons and Wyatt Joyner—definitely a first for me! In the summer, I went on my first overseas trip since 2019 to give a paper in Madrid at the triennial International Colloquium in Ancient Greek Linguistics (on the subtlety with which Demosthenes decides where to place adverbs in a clause) and will soon be heading back across the Atlantic to take up a year-long Visiting Fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford, where I will be working on my Greek prose style book in between trips to give talks at Cambridge (on the style of Aeschines), Paris (on Aeschines' and Demosthenes' differing use of interactional particles), and Newcastle (on Dionysius of Halicarnassus' account of Demosthenes' style).

Greg Hays. I'm afraid I haven't done much this year that would be of interest to *Vox's* readers. Along with my teaching and research I continue to oversee the Constantine Library, ably aided by our graduate librarian, Will Nichols. Some non-classical books I've enjoyed are Anna Kavan's *Ice*, Jean Levi's *The Chinese Emperor*, and Pierre Senges's *The Major Refutation*. The best movie I saw this year was Claire Denis's *White Material*. Also good: *Flowers of Shanghai*, *The Element of Crime*, *Le Samourai*.

Inger Kuin. Writing this a few days before Halloween, I am enjoying the beautiful Virginia fall weather, and eagerly anticipating the return of Trick-or-Treating on the Lawn, easily my favorite UVA tradition. I had a full and exciting year, teaching several new classes, and finishing up some projects that were (very) long in the making. In the spring I taught a course on Apuleius' wildly intricate *Metamorphoses*, and this fall I joined the 2022-2024 cohort of College Fellows to teach in the

Engagements. My course is titled 'Engaging Difference: Why Do We Laugh?' Students read ancient excerpts ranging from Aristophanes' *Clouds* to the Roman jokebook *Philogelos*, to the Hippocratic corpus alongside modern theories of laughter and contemporary examples of humor. In March I travelled to the Netherlands for the festive book launch symposium of a (Dutch) volume that I co-edited on ethnicity, diversity, and identity in



antiquity and ancient studies titled *De huid van Cleopatra*. In May I had the good fortune to spend a week as a guest professor at the Université Clermont Auvergne in France. I gave an undergraduate lecture on ancient religious doubt and disbelief, a workshop on studying abroad, and participated in a conference on ancient satire and philosophy. I also got to visit the nearby site of the Gallo-Roman temple to Mercury at the Puy de Dôme summit, which has stunning views. Just last month a volume that Jacqueline Arthur-Montagne and I first conceived when we were both still graduate students came out in the Trends in Classics series with De Gruyter, titled *Documentality: New Approaches to Written Documents in Imperial Life and Literature*, a proud and long-awaited moment for both of us.

John Miller. As we went all-virtual early in the Pandemic, frustration with the inability to travel in part prompted me to satisfy my curiosity regarding something that I see every day on Grounds, namely UVA's statue of Homer and his companion in its earliest history. I located some rare photographs of the monument when it was fresh from the hand of the sculptor Moses Ezekiel in his Roman studio in the ruins of the Baths of Diocletian, and I also uncovered some items of interest about the statue's dedication at graduation in 1907. UVA's Homer has been a potent symbol from the start, whose very recent appropriation for racist and other objectionable comment you have no doubt read about in press accounts. I also made progress on projects that I was supposed to be working on—papers on Virgil and Ovid, a co-edited collaborative volume on Ovid, and my commentary on Fasti Book 5. It was a pleasure to teach Virgil's Eclogues and Greek Mythology last year, as it is right now to be reading Roman Comedy and Livy with students. Among the talks that I gave, the most memorable was at a symposium in Thessaloniki last June (on unfinished works), which was my first time to visit that fascinating city in northern

Faculty Continued

Greece—ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman, modern. In other conference-going closer to home, both in person and virtual, I enjoyed seeing many UVA Classics alumni, some going way back to my earliest days here nearly 40 years ago. Do keep in touch; it's always wonderful to hear how you are doing.

Sara Myers. I enjoyed being back in the classroom after a year of leave, teaching my Women and Gender course for the first time in years. Masks finally came off in the classroom in the Spring and suddenly I could see my students' faces and learn their names. In between I continued to work on my Latin Literary Gardens book. I cannot remember much else from a very busy year of subbing as Chair of the Department. I am very happy to have the department again in Ivana's capable hands.

Andrej Petrovic. It is truly delightful to be able to teach in person again, *and* to see students' faces! When I came back from my leave in Spring 2022, I was delighted to have a chance to read the *Odyssey* in one of the pavilions with a very gifted group of advanced undergraduates, and this semester I am teaching Greek 1010. This is the first time I have an opportunity to do so at UVA, and I simply love it; I must express my deep gratitude to Jon Mikalson from whose decades of experience in teaching Greek 1010 I have profited a lot. The students are eager, hard-working, and fearless – over the past two weeks we've been working on the Big-Four of Greek mi-verbs, and I am truly astonished just how quickly and how well most of the students are getting it. I am equally pleased with my graduate course on Greek epigraphy – it is a privilege to work with such exceptionally gifted and industrious graduate students. The leave was wonderful and productive, but it flew past too quickly. With Ivana I made significant leaps on our books on bound divinities and issues of inner purity and have published this year papers on Greek epigram and surprise, Simonides of Ceos, intermediality, and together with Ivana, a long piece on Hesiod's *Works and Days*, and submitted for publication a number of other papers. Also, the third edition of Jon Mikalson's *Greek Religion* is now out, and Ivana and I were delighted to be able to contribute to it. Look out also for the new issues of the *Greece and Rome* journal which contain some pretty interesting papers. Ivana and I hoped last year that we would spend the summer 2022 in Greece, but nothing came of it due to travel restrictions and possible complications associated with international travel. But the big news is that last winter we got a puppy, about a year after we lost our beloved dog Miyagi. The new dog, Alfie, is another Lab and he came to us from Gretna, VA. He, too, is a real sweetheart, and I am writing these lines with him sitting in my lap, which is a bit of an issue since he's a pretty big boy now.

Ivana Petrovic. I was on leave in 21/22 and it was a wonderful and very strange year. Like my beloved Hellenistic poets, I found myself in the birdcage of the Muses: surrounded by books, doing research all day long, and rarely leaving my house. I did participate in various online events, first giving a keynote lecture at the Groningen conference Crisis and Resilience in Hellenistic poetry. Closely following that event, I presented at the conference Reflections on Language in Early Greece, co-organized by one of our distinguished alumni, Athanasios Vergados. I did miss teaching, so I agreed to give a virtual presentation for the Cambridge Undergraduate Seminar Gods of Greece and Rome. Andrej and I also worked on our joint projects during the whole summer and fall. One result that collaboration, an article about Hesiod's ritual norms is forthcoming in *Kernos* this Fall. But the most exciting thing happened in January: after a long search, Andrej and I finally found and adopted a wonderful yellow Labrador puppy! His name is Alfred and he is absolutely adorable! There were some sleepless nights during the intense houstraining period, but he was worth every effort. Come and meet him at the department of Classics, where he is now our trusted TA and emotional support animal not only for us, but also for our students. He significantly contributes to our uptick in majors!

In the spring I gave my first in-person lecture since the beginning of pandemic. I didn't go very far, since I was invited to Washington to present the 31st annual Bodnar Lecture at Georgetown University. It was absolutely amazing to be able to address a 'live' and very lively audience! After that, Andrej and I gave a joint virtual presentation "Greek ritual norms: between tradition and renewal", at the Wittenberg conference Law: Textual Representation and Practices in the Ancient World. Andrej and I also organized a conference on the Practices of Self at UVA with Janet Spittler and Sonam Kachru in April 2022.

After an intense period of writing and presenting, Andrej, Alfred, and I decided to finally go on a road trip we have been dreaming of for years: We visited all New England states and Upstate New York and had a fantastic adventure. Alfred was a perfect companion: he loves car rides and is a very enthusiastic sightseer (especially if a trip to the beach is on the menu). We came back refreshed and ready for another term!



Mr. Jefferson

For Mr. Jefferson's lifelong dedication to the study of Greek and Latin philology and literature we can best turn to his own words, both as Vice-President of the United States and in his "retirement" at Monticello.

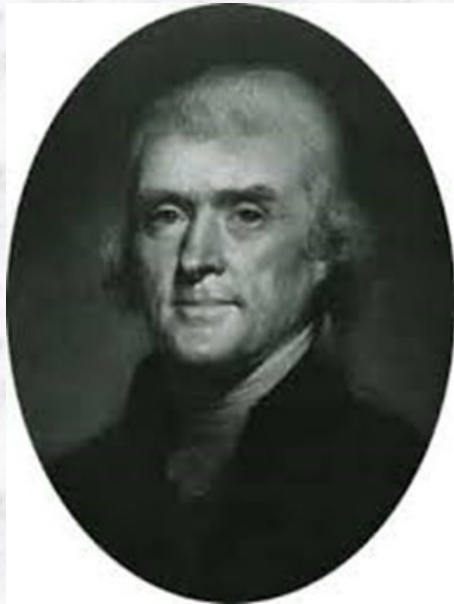
Thomas Jefferson, letter to Joseph Priestly, 1800

To read the Latin and Greek authors in their original is a sublime luxury; and I deem luxury in science to be at least as justifiable as in architecture, painting, gardening, or the other arts. I enjoy Homer in his own language infinitely beyond Pope's translation of him ..., and it is an innocent enjoyment. I thank on my knees him who directed my early education for having put into my possession this rich source of delight; and I would not exchange it for anything which I could then have acquired, and have not acquired since.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Brazier, 1819

You ask my opinion on the extent to which classical learning should be carried in our country.... The utilities we derive from the remains of the Greek and Latin languages are, first, as models of pure taste in writing. To these we are certainly indebted for the rational and chaste style of modern composition which so much distinguishes the nations to whom these languages are familiar.... Second, among the values of classical learning I estimate the luxury of reading the Greek and Roman authors in all the beauties of their originals.... I think myself more indebted to my father for this than for all the other luxuries his cares and affections have placed within my reach; and more now than when younger and more susceptible of delights from other sources.... A third value is in the stores of real science deposited and transmitted (to) us in these languages, to wit: in history, ethics, arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, natural history, etc.

But to whom are these things useful? Certainly not to all men. There are conditions of life to which they must be forever estranged, and there are epochs of life too, after which the endeavor to attain them would be a great misemployment of time. Their acquisition should be the occupation of our early years only, when the memory is susceptible of deep and lasting impressions, and reason and judgement are not yet strong enough for abstract speculations.



These two quotations, much loved and quoted by the Department of Classics, support the learning of the classical languages which Mr. Jefferson made, as the School of Antient Languages, a centerpiece of his program for the University of Virginia. The Professor of Antient Languages was, in fact, the first Professor hired by the University in 1824. The quotations do not, however, capture the lifelong use Mr. Jefferson made of Greek and Latin. John Adams, who took up his Greek again only ca. 1805, at age 70, wrote to Mr. Jefferson that he "again paid my Addresses to Isocrates and Dionissius Hallicarnassensis &c &c &c" and "collected all my Lexicons and Grammers." "In this Way I amused myself for sometime; but I found, that if I looked a word to day, in less than a Week I had to look it again. It was to little better purpose than writing Letters on a pail of Water." Unlike Adams, Mr. Jefferson throughout his life collected the best original texts and English and French translations of an astounding range of Greek and Latin authors, read widely in them, even on his deathbed, and held sophisticated discussions of points of diction, accent, and interpretation with his correspondents, regularly recommending to them or their children other classical texts to be read. His love of Greek and Latin came early and lasted his whole, long life. His granddaughter wrote, "Books were at all times [my grandfather's] chosen companions.... I saw him more frequently with a volume of the Classics in his hand than with any other book."

Mr. Jefferson's personal dedication and lasting legacy to the study of Classics at the University are far too great and complex to be summarized here, but in light of the current doubts about the University's desire to maintain libraries as homes for books,

we note that Mr. Jefferson had written in his will that his "retirement library" of nearly 1600 volumes, largely Greek and Roman texts and translations collected since the sale of his original library of 6707 volumes to the Library of Congress in 1815, should be given to the University. We would now be having the use and enjoyment of them if they had not been sold and dispersed in a bankruptcy sale held in New York on March 30, 1829.

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@virginia.edu).

News From our Alumni, Alumnae, and Friends

Kim Curtis, B.A. 2000, started a new position as Communications Specialist at the Rare Book School at UVA in October. In addition, Kim co-edited *The Papers of Martha Washington* (July 2022, UVA Press), the first scholarly edition of Martha Washington's correspondence, financial papers, and third-party documents.

Brett Evans, Ph.D. 2020. Emily and I welcomed our first child, a daughter Eleanor Grace, into our family in January 2022. It was quite the wild spring semester functioning on the least sleep of our lives! She is an absolute delight and we are happy to live so close at the moment to Emily's family. Here she is with her favorite bath toy, Mr. Krabs, from her academic aunt and uncle, Ivana and Andrej Petrovic, and Alfie.

I was very humbled to visit Charlottesville this fall at the invitation of Jackie Arthur-Montagne to speak with the graduate students about academic writing and publication. Thank you to all for making me feel so welcome back home.



Stephen Long, M.A. 2006. I am in my fourth year as assistant professor at Providence College (Providence, RI), and have enjoyed being on research leave for Fall 2022. I've finally been able to finish up a couple of articles that had been on the back burner due to teaching responsibilities and begin work on the last chapter of a book on gift-exchange in Hellenistic Judea. That said, I really look forward to being back in the class room in the Spring. It has been lots of fun to explore more of the northeast this past year with the family: highlights included taking our kids on a whale watching trip off the coast of Mass. and camping up in Maine. I also had my best year so far with my amateur beekeeping -- 20 gallons of honey!

Abigail Lund, B.A. 2022. I started my first year of teaching in August at Charlottesville High School. I am teaching Latin II, III, IV, & AP and loving every minute of it!



I am a travelling teacher this year!

Peter Moench, Ph.D. 2022. Peter and his wife Sarah welcomed a baby girl, Sylvie Elizabeth on August 29th.



William Nichols, Current Classics Ph.D. Student, my news is that I got married to Molly this summer on July 9, at St John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Johnsburg, Wisconsin. Here's a picture of us right after the wedding.



Sarah Simmons, B.A. 2019. I (Sarah Simmons) and **Wyatt Joyner, B.A. 2020** (another former UVA Classics student) got married this past March. Professor Coulter George served as our officiant!



Dustin Thomas, Current Art & Archaeology Ph.D. Student, three of the Mediterranean Art and Archaeology PhD students participated or are participating in programming with the American School for Classical Studies at Athens this summer (Abigail Bradford is there for the Regular Year program now; I did the Summer Session, funded via the William Sanders Scarborough Fellowship; and Steph Polos went to one of the Summer Seminars).

A Reflection from the Chair

My chair report was written before the tragic events of Sunday, November 13 and Monday, November 14th. From the initial alert that came on Sunday at 22.32: “Shots fired reported at Culbreth Garage” and the ‘shelter in place’ directive closely following until the press conference on Monday at noon, when we were told that the shooter was taken into custody, UVA community went through shock, fear, and finally devastating sadness as we realized that three young lives were lost, and two further students were in hospital, one of them in a critical condition. We mourn Devin Chandler, Lavel Davis Jr. and D’Sean Perry, three students and athletes who were shot to death by another UVA student on Sunday night as they all returned to Grounds from a class field trip. There were about 25 students on that bus, accompanied by their professor who organized what was supposed to be yet another wonderful educational and bonding experience we are so proud to be able to offer at UVA. Instead, the trip ended in a tragedy. I write this on Wednesday, November 16th, after two days in which classes were suspended and we took the time to process these events. UVA community is strong and we find comfort in it, but it is going to take a long time for us to heal from this devastating loss. When I returned to Grounds today, I was again humbled and comforted by the way my colleagues and grad students resumed their classes: with kindness, compassion, and genuine care for our students’ wellbeing. From bringing doughnuts to class to giving the students an option to write and talk about what happened, to taking dogs to classrooms, each of us was looking for a way to comfort and assist our undergraduates. And that makes me hopeful.



Events 2022-2023

- Sept 1: Classics Talk, Athanassios Vergados, Newcastle, “Lucian’s Dialogue with Hesiod: Philology, Philosophy, and Satire”.
- Sept 15: Classics Talk, Stephen Heyworth, Oxford, “Editing Ovid’s Vestal (Fasti 6.249-460)”.
- Oct 20-30: Sulpicia Conference
- Dec 1: Constantine Lecture, Radcliffe Edmonds, Bryn. Mawr, “Magicians and Mendicants: New Light from the Marmarini Inscription”.
- Feb 2: Classics Talk, Jessica Lamont, Yale, “Medical Pluralism in Classical Greece: Treating Epilepsy and Other Chronic Disease”.
- Mar 18: Graduate Student Colloquium
- Apr 13: Stocker Lecture, Irene Peirano-Garrison, Harvard
- Apr 22 : Cicero Away Day
- May 20: Finals Weekend
- TBA: Annual Lowe Lecture
- TBA: Annual Alumni Lecture



BACHELOR OF ARTS

Leggott, Brando Edward**

Lund, Abigail Ruth

Rose, Jackson Leo

Wilson, Nancie Ellington

MARIAN W. STOCKER PRIZE

For distinguished work in the major by one intending to teach high-school Latin

Abigail Ruth Lund

- * Distinguished Major Program in Classics
- ** Distinguished Major Program in Classics (High Distinction)
- *** Distinguished Major Program in Classics (Highest Distinction)
- ^ Phi Beta Kappa

J. P. ELDER PRIZE

For distinguished work in the major

Brando Edward Leggott

MASTER OF ARTS

Cimala, Isabelle

Konieczny, Alexander Haden

Nichols, William

Stover, William John (May 2020)

ANNE MARYE OWEN PRIZE IN GREEK

For distinguished work in first-year Greek

Grace Saunders

Grace Lebo

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Boltsi, Christina

A Metapoetic Reading of Catullus' Relationship with Lesbia

Brannelly, Timothy (July 2021)

Jupiter and Juno in Ovid's *Fasti*: Prismatic Personae and Polarity

Moench, Peter (Fall 2022)

Pindar's Physics of Family: Kinship, Heredity, and the Problem with Being Human

Pincus, Matthew Benjamin (December 2021)

Voices in the Interstices: Internal Aporia in the Platonic Dialogues

ANNE MARYE OWEN PRIZE IN LATIN

For distinguished first-year work in advanced Latin

Adhvikaa Ambikapathi Revathi

Adam Rodriguez

Ryland Wilson

Our Generous Donors

We Thank You for Your Support



Ms. Tonia Sanborn Anderson, B.A. 1993 &
Mr. Scott R. Anderson

Professor Jacqueline Arthur-Montagne

Ms. Ashley Rawlings Bagby, B.A. 1992 &
Mr. Pleasant H. Bagby

Mr. Preston J. Bannard, M.A. 2007 &
Mrs. Mary Frances Bannard, B.A. 2007

Professor Malcolm Bell III

Mr. R. Victor Bernstein, Esq. & Ms. Gail Landis

Ms. Emily Cummings Berry, B.A. 2003

Mr. George Baty Blake, M.A. 1994

Mr. Myles Bland, B.A. 1992 & Bland & Associates, P.C.

Ms. Samatha L. Blankenship, B.A. 2010

Ms. Caroline Brautigan, B.A. 2010

Mr. Geoffrey H. Butler, B.A. 2002

Mr. Christopher L. Caterine, M.A. 2009, Ph.D. 2014 &
Ms. Mallory M. Caterine

Professor Guilio Celotto

Mr. Howard Chang Esq., B.A. 1998, J.D. 2001 &
Mrs. Vanessa Schreiber Chang

Professor Jenny Strauss Clay

Professor Anthony Corbeill

Mrs. Brenda Courtney (in memory of Professor Edward
Courtney)

Mr. John Lee Daugherty, B.A. 1985, J.D. 1988

Mr. Harry D. Dickinson, B.S. 1975, M.S. 1976 &
Mrs. Doris Dickinson

Professor John Dillery

Mr. Brett Charles Evans, M.A. 2006, Ph.D. 2020

Mr. Gary Freedman, B.A. 1988

Dr. Tom Garvey, M.A. 2006, Ph.D. 2010

Professor Coulter George

Professor Gregory Hays

Mr. Michael Harrup, M.A.T. 1989

Professor David Kovacs

Professor Inger Kuin

Mr. Christopher G. Kulp, B.A. 1988

Dr. Richard LaFleur, B.A. 1968, M.A. 1970

Mr. Brandon Edward Leggott, B.A. 2022

Ms. Taylor V. Locks, B.A. 2014

Dr. Sandra V. Lowe & Dr. Whitson Lowe

Ms. Sophie Massie, B.A. 2009

Mr. Rajesh Mehra & Ms. Urvashi A. Mehra & Ms. Ashley
Mehra, B.A. 2018, M.A. 2019

Professor Jon D. & Mrs. Mary V. Mikalson

Professor John F. & Mrs. Mary T. Miller

Mr. Denis Mitchell, B.A. 1996 & Mrs. Kathleen P. Mitchell

Mr. Jonathan C. Morris, B.A. 1997, J.D. 2000

Professor Sara Myers

Mr. André Nance, M.A. 2005

Mr. Christopher Nappa, M.A. 1992, Ph.D. 1996 &

Mr. Stephen C. Smith, M.A. 1991, Ph.D. 1996

Ms. Page Nelson

Mr. Dennis A. O'Brien

Dr. John F. Parrott, Jr., B.A. 1996

Professor Andrej Petrovic

Professor Ivana Petrovic

Ms. Alexandra N. Pisano, B.A. 2009

Mr. Vernon Marshall Powell, Jr., B.A. 1970, M.A. 1972

Mr. Hal William Reynolds, B.A. 1980 &

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Reynolds

Ms. Katherine Anne Runkle

Mr. Avraham Sommer

Ms. Zoe Stamatopoulou, M.A. 2004, Ph.D. 2008

Ms. Anna Stelow

Ms. Diane Arnson Svarlien, B.A. 1983

Mr. Michael W. Terry, B.A. 1986 & Mrs. Nancy P. Terry

Mr. C. Wayne Tucker, M.A. 1966, Ph.D. 1972

Mr. Will Tysse, B.A. 2000 &

Mrs. Jill E. Tysse

Mr. Andrew M. Winston, B.A. 1993, J.D. 1998

Mr. Alexander Spotswood de Witt

Ms. Elizabeth Dickinson Witt, B.A. 2013

Professor Anthony Woodman



University of Virginia
Department of Classics
P.O. Box 400788
Charlottesville, VA 22904

Vox Classica

Phone: 434-924-3008
FAX: 434-924-3062
e-mail: mrm8e@virginia.edu
www.virginia.edu/classics
www.facebook.com/UVAcClassics



Make a gift to the Department of Classics

If you would like to apply your gift to one of the programs, please indicate it below. If you have no preference, please know that we will apply the gift to the program with the most need.

- Constantine Library
- L.T. Brown Fund
- Apply as needed

Checks should be made payable to the University of Virginia and sent to the department at PO Box 400788, Charlottesville, VA 22904

Online donations can be made through our website link: <https://classics.virginia.edu/support-us>

Please call 434-924-3008 if you have any questions about giving to the Department of Classics.

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

