Dear Alumni and Friends of UVA Classics,

Greetings from Charlottesville! Here we are beginning to wrap up a beautiful and productive fall term. The Department is thriving and we continue to expand our course offerings, this year with an exciting new course taught by Anna Stelow on the legend of Helen from Homer to the modern world. As our new course offerings reach out to more students in the hopes of keeping the ancient world relevant, we continue to emphasize the ancient languages as the gateway to Classical knowledge. We take our teaching seriously. The award of a Grant from the Institute of World Languages focused our attention this term on the second year of Latin. This looks to be another busy year with many talks and activities. The Constantine Library is always full of students. New books have been purchased with the donations of generous and supportive alumni. We’d love to hear news from you year-round—photos too—for the new web site and Facebook page.

Last Spring we had a graduating class of nineteen Undergraduates in May; three were elected to Phi Beta Kappa. We were proud to send our Classics graduates off on their various paths, to medical school, engineering programs, graduate school, and positions in teaching, business, and non-profit organizations. Several graduates were double majors (Biology, Philosophy, Computer Science, English). We hope that they will stay in touch. With the support of the Lazenby fund, we again sent one of our majors (Anna Smith) to the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. The fourth-year class of majors this year numbers eighteen. Tragically, one of our brightest Greek majors, Margaret Lowe, passed away at the beginning of the term. We had one Classics PhD graduate and two MA’s. Recent PhD graduates landed jobs at the University of Illinois, Mississippi State, Tennessee, and Tulane, and Stephanie McCarter (PhD 2007) received tenure at Sewanee, had a new baby daughter, and published her first book!

This semester we are teaching one hundred forty-four students in the first two years of Latin and fifty-eight students are taking advanced Latin. Fifty-four students are taking Ancient Greek. These are remarkably strong numbers. Most of our...
Letter from the Chair

language courses still are taught by the regular faculty. Our Classics Club remains active, hosting an annual Classics Day for high school students. This year they have already celebrated Homer’s "birthday," and plan to stage an ancient play. Classics majors are encouraged to consider the opportunities for advanced student research that are available through the distinguished major program.

We welcomed four new graduate students into our graduate program this Fall. The 19th annual UVA Classics Graduate Student Colloquium was held in April on the theme “A Game of Thrones: Succession in the Ancient World.” Graduate students from throughout the country presented papers; the keynote speaker was Karl Galinsky of the University of Texas. Many grads presented papers at professional conferences and many of us will be going to the Classical Association of the Middle West and South in Williamsburg in the spring. The Lazenby fund allowed graduate students to study and do research in Greece and Germany over the summer.

The faculty remains enormously productive, as you can see from colleagues’ reports elsewhere in this newsletter. Professor John Dillery published his book Clito’s Other Sons: Berossus and Manetho (The University of Michigan Press 2015) and Professor Tony Woodman published a monograph Lost Histories: Selected Fragments of Roman Historical Writers (Histos Suppl. Vol. 2, 2015). Professor John Miller (with members of the Departments of Art, History, and Religious Studies) won a Page-Barbour award to hold a series of Interdisciplinary Workshops on Religion and Society in Graeco-Roman Antiquity throughout the academic year 2015–2016. We have already had many talks by distinguished guest speakers, including Donald Mastronarde (Berkeley, The Constantine Lecture), Chris Faraone (U. Chicago, Religion and Society), James Rives (UNC, Religion and Society), Chris Nappa (U. Minnesota, The Alumni Lecture), Lily Panoussi (William and Mary, The Undergraduate Lecture), and Mary Lefkowitz (Onassis Foundation). If you want to keep up with or attend Departmental events, they will be posted both on our web page and our newly active Facebook page; or, to be on our mailing list, email Shelly Rojas at mrm8e@virginia.edu.

I would like to thank you, our alumni and friends, for generously supporting the Classics Department with financial gifts. This year we received two major bequests from alumni, Peta Wyllie and Vernon M. Powell, Jr. These generous bequests will help to ensure the future health of the Department. Other donors sustain 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 are all grateful for your generosity and support, which alone allows us to offer these and other important enhancements to the Study of Classics at the University.

It is an exciting time of transition and renewal for the Department. We will soon see a number of retirements and new hires. This coming year, sadly, will see the retirement of David Kovacs, Hugh H. Obear Professor of Classics, after forty years of teaching at UVa. He will be greatly missed. Although David is, of course, irreplaceable, we are already planning to hire a new Hellenist for next year. Jon Mikalson in his recent brief history of the department points out that the Professor of Ancient Languages was the first Professor to be hired at the University in 1824. I feel very privileged to be chair of this historic department at the University of Virginia, which maintains its commitment to the value of the humanities and a public liberal arts education in the modern world.

With best wishes,
Sara Myers, Chair
In Memoriam

Carin Green

Sad news: Carin M. Green, an alumna of the Department, passed away on July 2 after a valiant battle with cancer. She died at home in Iowa City with her husband Peter at her side. Carin received her Ph.D. from UVA in 1991, with a dissertation on Sallust directed by Mark Morford. Immediately thereafter she joined the Classics faculty at the University of Iowa, where she rose to the level of Full Professor, and where she served as Department Chair in 2007–12. Carin published widely in Roman studies—on Varro, Lucan, Sallust, Ovid, Tacitus, and the history of Roman religion. Her book Roman Religion and the Cult of Diana at Aricia (Cambridge University Press 2006) won the Outstanding Publication Award from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. She was very active in professional organizations, especially CAMWS, which awarded her an ovatio in recognition of her exemplary service. She visited us at UVA a number of times through the years, for our international colloquium on Roman Religion in 2005, to speak to our graduate students about professional development in tandem with Peter Green delivering the first lecture in the renovated Cocke Hall, and last fall (2014), during a period of renewed strength, to give the annual Classics Alumni Lecture, on Varro and Roman Religion. On October 2 many gathered in Iowa City to celebrate Carin’s life and her many contributions as teacher, mentor, scholar, and friend.

Margaret Lowe

It is with great sorrow that the Department reports the passing of Margaret Lowe, a Fourth Year Greek major, one week into the Fall Term, 2015. Her fellow Classics students and teachers remember her as a vibrant and joyful presence in the classroom. Dedicated to her studies, Margaret was a focused and passionate student of Greek, Latin, and Classical literature. In her Greek classes in particular, she was always a keen student, full of energy, and was determined to do the very best she could. What really stood out in her quizzes and tests was the immaculate way she proceeded through the written work: always clear to read and, whenever she wasn’t quite sure about the correct answer, she would always ‘show her work’ the way one might in solving a math problem, so that even on the rare occasion when she couldn’t quite reason through to the correct answer, it was perfectly evident that it was indeed through reason that she was aiming to get there.

At Margaret’s memorial service all present were staggered by the accomplishments she achieved: counselor at a camp for the children of cancer sufferers; biking across the US for a charity that builds homes for the disadvantaged; work here at UVA in ADAPT. It was entirely appropriate that the bulletin at Margaret’s service featured the following verse from the New Testament: Εὖ δοῦλε ἄγαθε καὶ πιστέ, Matthew 25:21 (‘Well done, thou good and faithful servant’). The College will be awarding Margaret a BA degree in the Spring, a rare honor that the University almost never bestows posthumously on students who were unable to complete their work towards degree. Such was her standing at the University.

We shall miss her and will always cherish her memory.
Colonel Peter’s predecessor as Professor of Latin, Lewis Minor Coleman, was the only faculty fatality in the Civil War, having died in 1863 of a wound incurred on Dec. 13, 1862 at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Peters himself was a graduate of the University in 1850, had studied at the University of Berlin from 1856-1858, and was a Confederate veteran, hence Col. Peters. He had taught at Emory and Henry College before enlisting in 1861. In his military career he is famous for refusing a direct order, as commander of the 21st Virginia Cavalry, from General Early to burn the town of Chambersburg, PA, saying “that he would break his sword, and throw it away, before he would obey [the order] as there were only defenseless women and children in Chambersburg.” He was summarily arrested, and another commander, McCausland, “the Hun of Chambersburg,” torched the city, and it has been claimed that this wanton destruction motivated Sherman’s March to the Sea. Peters was eventually pardoned by Robert E. Lee.

Peters was remembered by students as being very strict in Latin exercises, for his “unyielding precision.” Professor Milton Humphreys, his successor, claimed that “Colonel Peters trained more men in Latin than any other Southern teacher, and exercised an enormous influence through the men who went from here to teach Latin or Greek elsewhere.” “His men knew Latin.” “I never knew a man so completely absorbed in anything as he was in Latin grammar and Latin metres. He required his graduates to know every little detail of both…. The subject matter and the literary effect he ignored and despised.” Peters was described by one student as “an untamed Confederate Colonel, disguised as a grammarian, and maneuvering Latin moods and tenses as if they were soldiers on parade.” In 1867 Peters established a “post-graduate department” in the School of Latin as had Gildersleeve for the School of Greek. He published two books, Syntax of the Latin Verb (Charlottesville, 1898) and Notes on Latin Case Relations (Charlottesville, 1882).

Peters’ interests ranged well beyond Latin grammar and syntax. At the University in 1893 he advocated the admission of women and was one of the four professors (out of sixteen) to vote in favor of the (defeated) proposal. After his retirement, in 1905, “Old Pete” apparently dabbled in local real estate. He built and rented out a “chapter house” for fraternities, a house purchased in 1913 by Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI’s) and still standing at 128 Madison Lane. Peters modeled it on Pavilion IX, his own residence on the Lawn. It served as the precedent for all the later fraternity houses that are Jeffersonian in architectural style if not in spirit. And it was his property on Chancellor Street that was purchased for the new St. Paul’s Memorial Church in 1909.
Featured Faculty Publications

**John Dillery**

*How did the non-Greek members of the ancient civilizations of the Near East and Egypt view the expulsion of the Persians and the conquest of their lands by the armies of the Alexander the Great? If the resulting “Hellenistic” world was in some sense a meeting of Greek and non-Greek through a process of Hellenization, how did this happen? What was Greek and what was non-Greek in the world views of the local elites of Babylon and Egypt? This book examines the work of Berossus and Manetho, a Babylonian and Egyptian respectively, who wrote in the Greek language histories of their lands in the years right after the death of Alexander the Great. The central focus of the volume is the interplay of Greek and non-Greek ways of curating the past.*

**Tony Woodman**

*Lost Histories falls into two parts. The first part discusses various fragments of the Roman historians from Fabius Pictor down to Livy in an attempt at contextualising them from a literary point of view; the second part consists of a series of notes intended to correct or supplement the recent three-volume edition of the fragmentary Roman historians edited by Tim Cornell and his team (OUP 2013). [http://research.ncl.ac.uk/histos/HistosSupplements.html]*

Classics Project of the Center for the Liberal Arts at UVa

Jon Mikalson and John Miller have for years served as co-directors of the Classics Project of the Center for the Liberal Arts at UVa, and through that program we have been able to put on, with our colleagues in History, English, and Art, Saturday workshops for high-school teachers, on topics ranging from Athenian Democracy, Euripides’ Medea, Julius Caesar, Sophocles’ Antigone, Mythology, and Homer’s Odyssey. This fall we did “Greek, Latin, and Indo-European in American Language of Government, Literature, Law, and Life,” for thirty teachers of English, Social Studies, and Latin. Jon Mikalson taught them some Greek, John Miller some Latin, and Coulter George tied it all together with an introduction to Indo-European. We three then risked our reputations with a session of “Stump the Professors” where the teachers threw out their favorite words to learn their derivation. The only word that stumped us was “lollygag.”

Professor Coulter George, and former student Ruth Sameth.
Summer Language Institute

The 2015 Latin Summer Language Institute was another great success, with ten dedicated students spending seven and a half hours a day with director Jennifer LaFleur and instructors Sarah Miller, Courtney Evans, and Adam Gross for the introductory session and Tim Brannelly, Nick Rich, and Evan Waters for the intermediate session. This was our second year using Keller and Russell’s *Learn to Read Latin* (Yale, 2003) and our first year focusing on one author per week in the second half, with an emphasis on sight-reading both in class and on exams. In this way, we covered much of the first Catilinarian, *Aeneid* 2, Livy 1, and *Ars Amatoria* 1, along with excerpts from related works intended to provide some historical or literary context for the main readings. Students were also able to see some manuscripts at the Special Collections library and a selection of coins at the Fralin Museum of Art. It was, as always, an intense but wonderful summer!

Visiting Scholar

Interview with Visiting Scholar Anke Walter. Ms. Walter has been spending a year in Charlottesville as the Feodor Lynen Fellow supported by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

What are you working on during your time here, and what do you hope to accomplish?

I’m here to work on one of the chapters of my recent book project on time in ancient aetiological narratives. My aim is to examine the way different conceptions of time are expressed in stories of origin, especially when an explicit connection is forged between the past and the present (typically expressed by formulae such as ἐτι νῦν πέρ or nunc quoque). I have already written chapters on archaic and Hellenistic aetiology. During my time at UVA I am working on the chapter on Augustan Roman aetiology, which will include Livy, the *Aeneid* and Ovid’s *Fasti*. My aim is to have this chapter finished by the time I return, so that I could then plunge into the concluding chapter on aetiology in early Christian texts.

Classics Club

The Classics Club has started anew this school year. With a full board of officers, we are in the midst of hosting numerous events. Members are attending department lectures, movie nights, and book club meetings. Despite all these activities, one thing has remained unchanged: the graduate students defeated us in our annual kickball match. Everyone in the club has been working hard to ensure that our upcoming events, including Saturnalia and Classics Day at UVA, will be a success for the flourishing undergraduate community. We anticipate a wonderful year for the club and look forward to what the future holds.
How do you find teaching here, and how do you find the students here in comparison with their German counterparts?

I'm co-teaching a Graduate Seminar on Roman Didactic Poetry with Prof. Miller, which I am enjoying very much. I am especially struck by the great enthusiasm and dedication of every student in the class, and by the really inspiring discussions we're having. In Germany, teaching is a little different in that we normally don’t have PhD students in our classes, since they are just focusing on their dissertations. The interests and levels of our students taking classes, most of whom are planning to become school teachers for Latin and one other subject, are a little more mixed than here. But still, many of them are wonderful and discussing texts with them is great fun.

What do you think of the way the UVa graduate program in Classics is set up?

From what I see in our Graduate Seminar, I'm impressed by how well the graduate students master both Greek and Latin, by how fluently they translate and understand passages and pay close attention to details of language – in addition to raising intriguing questions about the bigger picture. That's clearly an advantage of the courses and exams graduate students have to take here. On the other hand, it’s important to make sure that the students in the end have enough time to write their dissertation, which of course takes a while.

On average, how long does it take to complete a PhD in Germany?

I know no actual statistical data, but many scholarships are for two or three years. That said, I think very few people actually finish within these three years. Often you need another one or two (or even more) semesters in addition to that.

What do you think of Charlottesville?

I love it! It's such a wonderful and friendly town, and it's so easy to feel at home here. The only minor drawback (in comparison with Rostock) is that it’s rather far from the sea. But the beautiful landscape, the weather and all the things one can do here totally make up for that.

From the Undergraduate Director

We graduated a bumper crop of nineteen majors this past May. Two of them undertook the Distinguished Majors Program: Taylor Johnson did research on Homeric epithets while Julie Meadows wrote a commentary on Prudentius’s poem on St. Cassian (a teacher stabbed to death by his students: absit omen!). Three of our majors, Cierra Brooks, Matt Diem and Zachary Seid, were elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Post-UVa destinations included graduate programs in various fields, library school, software development, working in a public school through Americorps, medical school, a fellowship program with Trinity Presbyterian Church here in Charlottesville, and the ever-popular "not sure yet."

This year we have another good-sized fourth-year class, including one DMP student, Mark Lundy, who is working on a dramatization of one of Vergil's Eclogues. We were happy to welcome back Anna Smith, who spent last spring at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome ("the Centro"). She reports that she had a wonderful time in the Eternal City and notes that our program's emphasis on mastery of the languages stood her in good stead. I continue to marvel at the array of other majors and programs our students somehow manage to combine with Classics. This year they include Commerce, Government, Religious Studies, Economics, Linguistics, Media Studies, Computer Science, Medieval Studies, and Philosophy, Politics & Law.

Our Classics Club has been active this fall under the leadership of Rachel Makarowski. Their activities have included the now-traditional celebration of Homer's birthday, even if Zeus's thunderbolts compelled us to follow the inclement weather plan this year. (Apparently some of us just couldn't keep our hands off those tasty oxen ...). We hope to have better luck for the Ides of March.

Fall semester was darkened by the sudden death of Margaret Lowe, one of our Greek majors who would have graduated this coming May. Many if not most of us had taught Margaret or taken classes with her, and cherished her insights, attentive participation and cheerful disposition. We miss her.
On April 11, the graduate students of the Department of Classics hosted the 19th Annual Classics Graduate Student Colloquium, entitled “A Game of Thrones: Succession in the Ancient World.” The keynote speaker was Professor Karl Galinsky, the Floyd A. Cailloux Centennial Professor of Classics and University Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin, who addressed us on the topic, “Succession of Memories in the Time of Augustus.”

Peter Moench received his MA degree, with the thesis, “Raising Achilles: pudor, adulescentia, and Comedy in Book 1 of Statius's Achilleid.” Matthew Pincus also received his MA degree, with the thesis “(Re)constructing Athenian Identity: The Cultural Significance of the graphē paranomōn and the graphē nomon mē epitēdeion theinai.” Erich Merkel successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, entitled The Role of Eloquence in Tacitus.

In March, Daniel and Jocelyn Moore welcomed their daughter and first child, Evangeline Marian.

In May, Evan Waters married Sophie Crawford-Brown in Charlottesville. Sophie is a Ph.D. candidate in Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World at the University of Pennsylvania and a Visiting Scholar here at UVA for the upcoming year. This July, Evan was also a RBS-UVA fellow at the Rare Book School.

Evan, Sophie, and Rebecca Frank participated over the summer in archaeological excavations in Cosa, Italy. Both Mary Gilbert and Tim Brannelly spent the 2014-2015 school year at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, with Tim taking part in excavations at Corinth in the spring. Sarah Teets spent the summer at the American School as well, as a participant in the Summer Session.

Once again, our department was well represented at the 2015 CAMWS conference in Boulder, CO, in March. Sarah Teets accepted the role of Director of Social Media for CAMWS, and in her capacity as chair of the CAMWS Graduate Student Issues Committee organized a panel entitled “Making the Most of Your Graduate Student Experience.” Jennifer Lafort organized a workshop entitled “Reverse-engineering a Syllabus: Using Learning Objectives to Design Your Courses.”

Hilary Bouxsein presented “I Cannot Tell a Lie: Hermes’ Dishonest Truth.” Megan Bowen presented “Absent Presence: Comparing Dido to Ariadne and Penelope in Aeneid 6.” She also participated in the Huskey Research Exhibition at UVA in the spring, and took second place in her session with a talk entitled, “Infernal Voices: The Catalogue of Women in Aeneid 6.” She then presented a poster version of this talk at UVA’s Public Days. David Hewett presented “Forever to be Joined as One: Genesis ‘The Fountain of Salmacis’ and Ovid.” Sarah Miller presented “dicebant, ego nequibam: The Nature of Amicitia and Apologia in Cicero’s Fam. 3.8.” Peter Moench presented a version of his MA thesis here, as well as at the Huskey Research Exhibition at UVA in the spring, where he took third place on his humanities panel.

In April, Joseph Zehner presented his paper, “Contemporary Panpsychism in Empedocles” at the 2015 meeting of the Ancient Philosophy Society in Lexington, KY.
Faculty News

**Jenny Strauss Clay.** I continue to enjoy my teaching, this semester with our marathon romp through the *Iliad* and an old love of mine, Virgil's *Eclogues*. Our students seem to be getting better and better; perhaps they haven't heard of the crisis in the Humanities... They seem to love what they are doing. My contribution to the volume on ancient cosmogony just appeared from the Fondation Hardt *Entretiens*, as did a little article on Horace 1.11 (the *carpe diem* poem). I've given talks at CAMWS at Boulder last spring and lectures at Yale, the University of Chicago, and the University of Athens, as well as presenting a version of our "Mapping the Catalogue of Ships" with Ben Jasnow and Courtney Evans at Dumbarton Oaks. This summer took me to conferences in Ghent, where I gave a talk on "Zeus's Politics in the *Iliad*"; this was recycled in Heidelberg with a much better title: "Zeus the Godfather". In Patras, Greece, I talked about "Time and Space in Parmenides' Proem," and also taught a course on the Greek Gods in our alumna Georgia Sermamoglou-Soulmai's program Greek Studies on Site in Athens. In Heidelberg, I also collaborated with another alum, Thanasis Vergados trying out a sample of our commentary at a workshop. It’s wonderful to keep up with them. After all that, I treated myself to a week on the island of Melos. Highly recommended. Wonderful caves – highly valued by pirates – and fantastic volcanic formations. Now I’m racking my brain in trying to write an article on Homeric Religion in 6000 words and looking forward to a semester off this spring when I will be at the University of Tel Aviv hoping to make a dent in the *Theogony* commentary.

**Jane Crawford.** I had a Sesqui leave in Spring 2015, which I spent mostly in Bloomington, Indiana, where my husband Bernie Frischer (Emeritus Professor of Classics at UVa) now teaches. I was able to use the resources of the Indiana University library, and enjoyed the company of fellow classicists at IU. During the teaching-free semester, I continued working on my translation and commentary on the Bobbio Scholiast, which is now in its third or fourth revision, adding lots of footnotes on historical and legal matters and investigating sources and other issues that are pertinent. I hope to send the book to a publisher this year. I also gave a lecture at IU for the Classics Department on my scholiast, on material which I am integrating into the text as time permits this fall. I spent most of May 2015 in the Netherlands as a guest scholar at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (NIAS) in Wassenaar. The people there, both staff and other scholars, were wonderful—very friendly and amazingly helpful; conversations over lunch were a delight every time. I got quite a lot of additional work done on my project, while at the same time going to fabulous museums and seeing a bit of the Netherlands, which I had never visited before. The rest of the summer was full of travel as well, to Louisville KY for the AP Latin Reading in June; to Rome to work in the American Academy library; to France for a week of vacation and visiting Roman sites in Provence; and a trip to Oxford to see friends. This fall I am teaching beginning Latin and Tacitus’ *Agricola*, using Tony Woodman’s excellent new commentary. In the spring semester I will teach a graduate seminar on Cicero’s Letters, my favorite author, and Latin 1020. Millie the dog continues to be my wonderful companion and best friend.

**John Dillery.** The last year was a pretty big one for me. Most importantly, the book I have been working on for the past sixteen or so years (!) finally came out: *Clio’s Other Sons: Berossus and Manetho*. With an Afterword on Demetrius (University of Michigan Press). I also finished up my contributions both to a conference volume on Herodotus to be published by Oxford University Press, and on the shorter works of Xenophon for the *Cambridge Companion to Xenophon*. An essay on Manetho is to appear shortly in another conference volume published by OUP on interactions between Greece and Egypt. I gave papers at the University of Chicago in April of 2015 and at UPenn in Sept. I am currently working on a number of projects, including a commentary on Herodotus Book 2 and a special supplementary volume for the online historiography
Coulter George. This year, I’ve primarily been keeping myself busy with Greek particles: I spoke on the discourse-cohesive role of δή in Herodotus’ Thermopylae narrative at APA in January and again at the Societas Linguistica Europaea in Leiden in September, and on Homeric ἄρα (not as vivid a particle as recent commentaries have made it out to be) at the 2015 Ancient Greek Linguistics Colloquium in Rome as well as at CAMWS. I’ve also been laying the groundwork for my next major book project, a linguistic history of Greek prose style, partly by writing an entry on prose for Blackwell’s new Herodotus Encyclopedia, partly by preparing a new graduate seminar that I’ll be offering in the spring, on ancient literary criticism. I’ll be presenting material related to this work both at Cambridge, in March, and at a conference in Oxford, “Language in Style: Linguistic variation in Greek and Latin from Lexis to Register,” to be held in May.

Greg Hays. 2014/15 was a busy year, including a heavier-than-usual teaching load, my ongoing stint as Director of Undergraduate Study, and the arrival of our daughter Maggie in November. In consideration of the last I was able to take three weeks of parental leave in February. I’m grateful to our Chair, Sara Myers, and several other colleagues who helped out with my Cicero class, and to my TAs, Megan Bowen and David Hewett, who filled in for me heroically in Roman Civ. On the research side, I continue to work on my edition of Fulgentius and also on John of Garland—most recently his manual of pronunciation and prosody, the Ars Lectoria Ecclesiae. There hasn’t been much time for non-classical reading, but some books I’ve enjoyed this year are Kevin Brockmeier’s The Brief History of the Dead, John Meade Falkner’s The Nebuly Coat, and Christopher Priest’s Inverted World.

David Kovacs. This year I am teaching New Testament Greek for the first time in my career. The Greek is easy, of course, but the content is not. I have a good group of students, and we all are having an enjoyable time grappling with the problems. I also get to teach Greek Prose Composition this semester. Red ink flows, of course, in profusion, but everyone seems to be maintaining good cheer and learning a lot about how Greek actually works.

My commentary on Euripides’ Trojan Women for Oxford University Press made further progress last academic year and last summer. I wrote the part of the introduction that discusses whether the audience, watching a tragedy on the fall of Troy produced within three months of the Athenian destruction of Melos, would have had any incentive to connect the two. In brief, my view is that they would not. It used to be almost universally maintained that in Trojan Women Euripides was rapping his countrymen over the knuckles for Melos, but there is a lot more skepticism on this point nowadays. I hope to have put some nails in the coffin of this idea. Among other reasons, if Troy were a code name for Melos, Euripides could scarcely have said so much about the role of the gods in destroying the city — unless he meant to suggest that the gods destroyed Melos! I am now working on the two companion tragedies, Alexandros and Palamedes and trying to ascertain what can be known or reasonably guessed about them. I have a note coming out on the first line of Alexandros.

I have written a chapter on the notoriously difficult textual problems of Euripides’ Iphigenia in Aulis for The Oxford Handbook of Textual Criticism and an invited essay called “New Religion and Old in Euripides’ Bacchae” for an edited volume. My article on Horace, Odes 3.30, pointing out two difficulties in the received text and proposing solutions, appears in the next Classical Quarterly. I wrote three other notes on Horace’s Odes, one of which was accepted by Mnemosyne. (I am still revising the other two.) I’ve completed one piece on Pindar and am working on a second. It might be more prudent to spend all my time on the Trojan Women commentary and not allow myself to be side-tracked, but I find the variety to be pleasing.

On a more personal note, this year, my fortieth on the faculty of the University of Virginia, will also be my last. I leave with a profound sense of satisfaction at being...
involved in a wonderful department and deep gratitude to my many gifted students and to my splendid colleagues: a group of scholars more distinguished, hard-working, and collegial can scarcely be imagined. I will surely stay in touch during the next phase, which I call "permanent research leave."

**Jon Mikalson.** I am in the midst of the first of my last two years before retirement, teaching half-time each year, and enjoying this year, as always, teaching baby Greek. As I write, the second hour exam and the mi verbs are looming. On the scholarly side, I am negotiating the publication of *Acclamation and Authority* (another book on Athenian religion) and am starting work on the third edition of *Ancient Greek Religion* for Blackwells/Wiley. After that comes some serious attention to Isocrates. During the summer, as a most pleasant diversion, I wrote up *An Informal, Slightly Hagiographic History of Classics at the University of Virginia, from 1825 – 1970*. If you are interested, I would be happy to send you a PDF of this. Just email me at jdm9x@virginia.edu. A highlight of the year was a three-week trip to India, much of it spent cruising down the Ganges from Varnasi/Benares to Kolkata/Calcutta, where Mary had spent three of her teenage years. If you want to see polytheism alive and well, and if you want to understand Greek ritual practice, go to the rural Hindu villages of India!

**John Miller.** Last year was my first in many years not serving as chair of the Department. It was a little strange at first, I confess, but now I am embracing the liberation. In fall 2014 I was on research leave, some of it spent in Rome at the American Academy, where I continued my ongoing researches into Book 5 of Ovid’s *Fasti* (on the month of May in ancient Rome). I also published articles on Ovid and the reception of Ovid in the Renaissance, and am now (with Jenny Clay) co-editing a collaborative volume on Hermes and Mercury that grew out of a conference we had at UVA the year before last. This semester I have two terrific courses, one an advanced undergraduate course on the first book of Livy’s History with sixteen students, the other a graduate seminar on Latin didactic poetry, which I am team-teaching with Dr. Anke Walter, a scholar from Rostock, Germany, who is visiting us this year through the support of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. During the summer Mary and I toured the Baltic Sea on a cruise for Cavalier Travels, a voyage for alumni and parents for which I was the UVA faculty representative. This May I am scheduled to accompany another UVA trip through much of Italy. Since last year’s report I gave lectures at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (my graduate alma mater), the Università di Roma La Sapienza, the SCS convention in New Orleans, the CAMWS meeting in Boulder, the Governor’s Latin Academy at Randolph-Macon College, a conference on Dionysus in Rome in London, and most recently at the University of Iowa for the memorial event for our deceased alumna Carin Green. It’s been a special pleasure to catch up recently with a number of alumni, e.g. Ashley Rawlings Bagby, Vernon (Pat) Powell, Peta Wyllie, and with many others on Facebook, since I joined that venue last year.

**Sara Myers.** Well, I survived my first year as chair, but this coming year is a doozy! In between my chair duties in the past year, I have enjoyed teaching my courses on Women and Gender in the Ancient World and Beginning Latin. I gave a talk on Statius at the Fondation Hardt in Geneva, Switzerland last November and have an article on Statius forthcoming in *Materiali e Discussioni per l'analisi dei testi classici*. I am currently working on Columella as part of my research project on gardens in Roman literature.

**Tony Woodman.** As I write this, I am in England enjoying research leave, which happily I have been able to mark by submitting to Cambridge University Press the completed typescript of my commentary on Books 5 and 6 of Tacitus’ *Annals*, which is to appear in their ‘orange’ series, Cambridge Classical Texts and Commentaries. Earlier in the year I was very pleased to be able to accept invitations from graduate students at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and at Brown to talk on Horace’s *Epodes*, in the latter case for their Grimshaw-Gudewicz Lecture. This year too I published my first ever stand-alone e-book, *Lost Histories: Selected Fragments of Roman Historical Writers*, which appeared as Supplementary Volume 2 of the online historiographical journal *Histos*. But the autumn has been greatly saddened by the sudden death in early October of Professor John Moles, founder of *Histos* and one of my oldest friends.
ΚΥΔΩΣ

to our
Graduates

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Matthew Diem           Yoon (Eunice) Ko
Franlin Ewing          Charlton Lam
Allison Gray           Gregory Lewis
Chris Halverson        Julie Meadows
Matthew Harris         Rebecca Midkiff
Sarah Hart             Heather Mui
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Erich Merkel

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Harry Tisdale

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For distinguished first-year work in advanced Latin

Benjamin Hillman
Sarah Korchak

ANNE MARYE OWEN PRIZE IN CLASSICS
For distinguished work in Classics

Matthew Diem
Christopher Caterine, (M.A. 2009, Ph.D. 2014) writes: I continue to work in the Department of Classical Studies at Tulane this academic year, and find that I understand the ancient world better and better every day that I get to spend in New Orleans. Outside of the classroom, I have spent my time researching Lucan's *Bellum Civile*, an epic poem on which I wrote my dissertation at UVA. Last January I gave a paper on the poem's introduction at the annual meeting of the Society for Classical Studies; in the spring I gave a talk to the Louisiana Classical Association (LCA) on the origins and development of 'Uticensis' as a cognomen (identifying name) for the younger Cato; and just this fall the journal *Arethusa* published an article I wrote on the depiction of the younger Cato in Lucan's poem. I also helped to organize the 2015-2016 annual meeting of the LCA, which was held at Tulane in October. My free time has been given over increasingly to brewing my own beer, a hobby that I picked up during my last year in Charlottesville. Even so, I still miss taking country drives to the vineyards along Rte. 151 in Nelson County.


Since then, I worked in Berlin from 1998 to 2001 at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, with a focus on fellowship programs toward exchange on key issues between young leaders on both sides of the Atlantic.

In 2001, I joined Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors without Borders (MSF), spending two longer missions in the field in Liberia (2002) and Angola (2003-4) before joining the headquarters in Brussels, Belgium from 2005 -2013 to work on research and advocacy. This work took me on regular field missions, mainly to Sub-Saharan Africa, including Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Kenya, Central African Republic, Chad, and South Sudan.

In 2013, I joined Amnesty International’s European Institutions Office, where I work to pass human rights messages on Africa, Asia, and the Americas to European Union decision-makers, and have the pleasure of meeting human rights activists from around the world.

Today, I live with my partner William and our two kids Arno (13) and Celia (17) in Brussels. While Classics might not seem part of my everyday work, the intense and creative thinking and the love of discussion and reflection learned at UVA shape everything I do. Anyone passing through Brussels or vicinity is always very welcome chez nous! katharine_derderian@hotmail.com

Louis Ferro (B.A. 2011, M.T. 2014) writes: Since graduating from the Classics Department in 2011, I have worked towards becoming a full-time high school Latin teacher here in Virginia. After a little time off, I re-enrolled at the University in the Curry School as a part of their post-graduate Master of Teaching program in 2012. In the Curry School I taught in several area schools, including Monticello High School, before graduating with an MT in 2014 and a Virginia state teaching license. Upon completion of my Curry School degree, I was fortunate enough to find a job teaching high school Latin at Saint Gertrude High School within the city of Richmond starting in the 2014 school year. Saint Gertrude High School is a small, all-girls Catholic high school that takes pride in academic rigor and preparing young women for college. I inherited a small program, but the girls have been active and eager to learn. Now in my second year at Saint Gertrude I am hoping to make the Latin program more robust and interactive with the Latin learning community at large in the state of Virginia!

John Hiram Fargo (B.A. 1980, M.A. 1983) is very happy in his 12th year as Latin Teacher at Christ Prep Academy in Lenexa, KS (part of the Kansas City Metropolitan area).

Kristina Killgrove (B.A. 1999) writes: In addition to my professorial day job at the Department of Anthropology at the University of West Florida, and ongoing research into the burials and skeletons of Gabii, in May I became a contributor to *Forbes*, covering archaeology, anthropology, and the classical world. My classically-focused pieces have ranged from the re-analysis of bones from the Vergina tombs, to the life of Palmyran archaeologist Khaled al-Asaad, to the Greco-Roman allusions in *My Little Pony*. Read more here: http://www.forbes.com/sites/kristinakkilgrove/.

Rick LaFleur (B.A. Latin 1968, M.A. Latin 1970) writes: I continue to work in the Department of Classics at Virginia! Alice, and their five kids, eight grandkids, and one French Bulldog, Ipsa, are flourishing. Rick (Franklin Professor of Classics Emeritus, UGA) continues to teach independent Latin tutorials online for about a dozen students across the U.S., and has much enjoyed writing a series of newspaper columns called THE SECRET LIVES OF WORDS, introducing to general readers interesting word origins and aspects of Roman culture that have influenced our modern world. Alice is writing a book about her mom's and dad's backgrounds leading up to their meeting and falling in love in WW II, and along with Rick still makes time for gardening, she with her flowers and shrubs, he with tomatoes, potatoes, and such.

Daniel Mendelsohn (B.A. 1982) writes: I spent much of the past year working on my next work of narrative nonfiction, *AN ODYSSEY: A Father, A Son, and an Epic*, which recounts the last year of my late father's life, when we read the *Odyssey* together; I'm hoping to finish it by the end of 2015. Like my earlier books, this one will intertwine a personal narrative with reflections on an ancient text. In this case, the personal narrative is the story of how my 81-year-old scientist dad decided to reread the *Odyssey* for the first time since his junior year in high school, and ended up taking the freshman *Odyssey* seminar I was teaching at Bard College in Spring 2011—an experience that in turn led to our embarking, that summer, on an “Odyssey cruise,” which recreated Odysseus’ voyages throughout the Mediterranean. The text, of course, will be the *Odyssey* itself, although there are (entertaining, I hope) digressions about Venetus A, Eustathius of Thessalonica, Fenelon’s “Advrentures de Télémaque,” and Erich Auerbach. Since the book also recalls my education as a classicist, the University of Virginia—and Professors Clay, Mikalson, and Kovacs, to say nothing of Chase & Phillips—make appearances in these pages. If I finish on time, the book will be published by Alfred A. Knopf in 2017.

Although work on the book has prevented me from doing as much periodical writing as I usually do, I did publish a long essay about Sappho in *The New Yorker* in March (http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/03/16/girl-interrupted), pegged to the publication in late 2014 of Diane J. Rayor’s new translation, as well as four columns on various items of popular culture in *Harper’s*, where I was a culture columnist this past year. My fellow UVa classicists might be amused to know that I managed to work a reference to Aristotle’s *Poetics* into my discussion of “Downton Abbey” and other TV shows that jump the shark after a few seasons (January 2015); opened my April 2015 essay on “Selma” and other films about historical events with a discussion of the failure, in 494 BCE, of Phrynichus’s tragedy “The Capture of Miletus,” as reported by Herodotus; and devoted a good chunk of my July 2015 column on “VEEP” and “House of Cards” to a discussion of revenge in the *Oresteia* and the *Odyssey*.

I’m also taking time out this month to review a flashy and mildly pretentious new production of *Antigone*, translated by Anne Carson and staged by Ivo van Hove at BAM this fall (it ends with the chorus sitting down at tables and banging away at, uh, typewriters), and to write an Introduction to the *New York Review Books* series’ reissue of Jean d’Oremsson’s wonderfully witty novelistic wink at history and historiography, *The Glory of the Empire*, which will be published next Spring.

Erich Merkel (M.A. 2011, Ph.D. 2015) got married in June and is now working as a financial analyst and writing some book reviews.

Linda Sharrard Montross (M.Ed. 1976), though retired from the Fairfax County classroom where she taught for 31 years, has been "found" by a local independent school on the Northern Neck, Chesapeake Academy, where she is teaching nine sixth graders two times a week. She is having great fun! The rest of her Latin Life, as she most affectionately calls it, is consumed by all things involving the National Latin Exam where she serves as Co-Chair. *Carpite dies, amici!*

Josephine “Joey” Porcelli (maiden name Romeo) (B.A. 2007) writes: I am excited to announce that I married a wonderful man, Matthew Porcelli, on August 1, 2015, and am now living in Alexandria near Mount Vernon. I am also in my second year of teaching World History Honors and AP United States History at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, and my fifth year teaching Western Civilization I and II at Northern Virginia Community College.
Paula Rondon-Burgos (B.A. 2009) will soon begin her third and final year as a PhD candidate in Classics and Ancient History at Durham University in England. The past year was full of ‘firsts’ for her, including giving her first conference paper and her first Roman history lecture - both of these were, of course, on Cicero!

Kelly Shannon (B.A. 2007) writes: I am now in my second year as Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of Alabama (Aestuet Fluctus - "Roll Tide!"). where I teach intermediate and advanced Latin and Greek and Roman history. I am also continuing to work on my book on religion in Tacitus' Annals, and on my commentary on Phlegon of Tralles' Peri Thaumasion. This year I gave talks in Boston and Calgary, and took a research trip to Oxford. I also had the joy of spending a couple of months of the summer back in Charlottesville using the Constantine Library, for which I am very grateful to the Department.

Diane Arnson Svarlien (B.A. 1983) writes: In the past year I’ve been working on finishing my most recent collection of verse translations of Euripides, Ion, Helen, Orestes, which is now in production and will be published by Hackett in 2016. I’ve seen two excellent productions of my Medea translation in the past year, at Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln and Berea College in Kentucky. Medea was also staged at Cal Poly Pomona, and Trojan Women at Cerritos College, with another production coming up at Mississippi State University in November 2015. I’m thrilled that my work is making it onto the stage. All is well with the family; John and I are enjoying the empty nest, with Corinna in college and Aaron in grad school.


Ashley Mehra, Classics Major, Class of 2018

Last year, I proposed an idea to Mr. Gene Policinski, who is the Chief Operating Officer of the First Amendment Center and the Newseum Institute. I wanted to research the state of the First Amendment in the context of the origins of free speech in classical antiquity. Mr. Policinski remarked that my background in Classics would add an important and unique perspective to the ongoing scholarly discussion at the First Amendment Center. Therefore, last semester, I began my independent research project under the guidance of Mr. Policinski, Dr. Kovacs, and faculty in the Politics department at U.Va.

Interestingly, I found that the concerns that the Athenians had with parrhesia are strikingly similar to the anxieties people have today with free speech on the Internet. Many Athenians, especially the elite, worried that the license afforded by free speech had encouraged people to cast aside traditional norms of respect and shamefulness (aidos), creating a certain groundlessness that exposed Athenian society to a profound instability. Today, too, many Americans are concerned that the recent shift toward using the Internet as a vehicle for expressing more barefaced opinions has given way for people, to a large extent, to be oblivious to the sensitivities of others. I believe that observing parrhesia within the realm of the Athenian political experience better our understanding of the foundation of the principle of free speech and, hence, allows us to tackle today’s free speech debates through a constructive, historical lens.

When I presented my findings last summer to Mr. Policinski, he gave me the task of preparing them for a forum where they would be read by a larger audience than the Newseum's website. I am working with Mr. Policinski to create a kind of online agora or virtual marketplace of ideas. I hope you will take a look and contribute with a submission when we launch the program!
Friends of Classics

Friends of Classics sponsored two events this year including a lecture by Paul Barolsky, Commonwealth Professor in the Department of Art, entitled “Selections from an Imaginary Museum of Ovidian Art.” Paul’s long engagement with Ovid’s influence on art has recently culminated in his marvelous book, *Ovid and the Metamorphoses of Modern Art from Botticelli to Picasso* (Yale University Press 2014).

This fall, J. E. Lendon, Professor of History at UVa and internationally recognized expert on ancient warfare, regaled us with a lecture, both witty and learned, on “Ancient Greek Combat: What Can Modern Riots Tell Us?” He is the author of *Song of Wrath: The Peloponnesian War Begins* (Basic Books 2010) and *Soldiers and Ghosts: A History of Battle in Classical Antiquity* (Yale University Press 2005).

If you would like to be on our Friends of Classics mailing list, please contact Shelly Rojas at mrm8e@virginia.edu.

Bequests

We are deeply grateful for two substantial bequests to the Department of Classics. Vernon (Pat) Powell (B.A. 1970, M.A. 1972), a long-time supporter of the Department, has made a bequest for an endowed Graduate Dissertation Fellowship named in honor of Emeritus Professor Marvin Colker. Peta J. Wyllie (M.A. 2001), has made a bequest of an endowed professorship in Classics. These gifts attest to the generosity and loyalty of our alumni and will enhance and guarantee a flourishing future for the Department.

L.T. Brown Fund

The L.T. Brown Fund is alive and well! Our first challenge grant was quickly met by generous friends of the department. We were able to support graduate students while writing their dissertations as well as subsidizing their travel to professional meetings to give papers. This year we have a new challenge grant of $5,000 sponsored by David Mankin (PhD 1985), and a second one of $10,000, which will be matched 2 to 1. Given University budget constraints, the need for graduate support is great.

Upcoming Events

- **March 5-13:** Spring Break
- **March 16-19:** CAMWS
- **March 22-23:** Gunnel Ekroth, Uppsala University, Sweden
- **April 11-12:** David Frankfurter, Boston University
- **April 16:** Graduate Colloquium
- **April 21:** Stocker Lecture: Katharina Volk, Columbia University
- **May 21:** Final Exercises
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