

## CLASSICAL STUDIES FALL NEWSLETTER AND HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Dear friends,

The Fall term went by so quickly! We held our first William and Mary Archaeology Day (September 21), featuring 14 posters from students and faculty in Anthropology, Chemistry, Classical Studies, Religious Studies, and VIMS, as well as a show and tell of the departmental artefact collection, and a screening of “Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark” (read more about the event here: <https://www.wm.edu/as/support/stories/so-many-ways-to-ken-the-past.php>). Our fifth annual Homecoming Lee Lecture featured Professor Dimitri Nakassis (University of Colorado at Boulder) who captivated all with his enthralling talk on “The World Before Odysseus: Rethinking the history of Late Bronze Age Greece”. At our **Homecoming Reception** (October 19) it was lovely to see old friends with whom we reminisced fondly while missing those of you who could not make it. And, yes, Morton Hall is not quite the same without Professor Oakley’s daily exuberance.

To Our Alumni, Family and Friends

May the holiday season fill your home with joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter. Have a wonderful, safe holiday season and a Happy New Year. Love, **Ms. Joyce**

**Professor Brown** saw his note on staging matters in Menander's *Dyskolos* published in *Classical Philology* this year. In addition, he really enjoyed delivering a paper on the concept of simultaneity in ancient drama at the Comparative Drama Conference in Orlando.

**Professor Donahue** continues to serve as Dean for Educational Policy. And he sends greetings from Ewell Hall.

**Professor Halleran** just completed serving for ten years as the university’s Provost. He is on leave this year (and spent the fall as a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Hellenic Studies) and looks forward to his full return to the classroom in the autumn.

**Professor Hutton** led eighteen W&M students on a summer study-tour of archaeological sites in Greece, and went to Princeton to give a talk at an interdisciplinary colloquium on the theme of ‘hope’. He is currently working on the last footnotes for his translation of Pausanias before sending it off to the publisher.

**Professor Irby** remains at the departmental helm as κυβερνήτης. She enjoyed working with a fresh group of first year students in the fifth iteration of her COLL 100 *Why Water Matters* and is looking forward to returning to advanced Latin in the Spring, with Roman (Natural) Philosophy. Her manuscript on water in the ancient Mediterranean has morphed into a two-volume *Water in the Greco-Roman World*, and she looks forward to working with Bloomsbury on the next stages of production. She enjoyed an October museum trip to Paris, reveling in the glory of the Nike of Samothrace, marveling at Rodin's antiquities collection, and glutting herself on Monet.

**Professor Nichols** has enjoyed working with another wonderful group of students this fall, particularly in his first-year seminar *Revenge in Classical Athens and Elementary Latin*. He wishes all alumni and alumnae happy holidays and always loves to hear from them!

**Professor Paga** returned to teaching this semester and had lots of fun with students in Greek Art & Archaeology and Greek & Roman Tragedy. Her book, *Building Democracy in Late Archaic Athens*, will appear this spring from Oxford University Press.

**Professor Panoussi's** 2019 book, *Brides, Mourners, Bacchae: Women's Rituals in Roman Literature*, was featured at the W&M news: <https://www.wm.edu/news/stories/2019/wm-professors-book-looks-at-womens-roles-in-ancient-rome.php>

Her co-edited volume titled, *Emotional Trauma in Greece and Rome: Representations and Reactions*, is going to be published in early 2020 by Routledge.

**Professor Spaeth** is on sabbatical this year, most of which she will spend in Greece, doing research on Roman cults in Corinth. She sends holiday greetings to all!

**Professor Stephens** taught the second iteration of her Comparative Slavery course this past fall and, despite its challenging content, enjoyed drawing connections from the Ancient Mediterranean world to the present day when discussing the ubiquity of modern involuntary servitude. She has begun preliminary work on a textbook for the course and is finishing revisions for her first book project on the changing Roman aristocracy during the first century CE. Additionally, Professor Stephens has thoroughly enjoyed teaching Latin 101 this past semester- she looks forward to continuing with 102 in the spring and teaching her students the lovely possibilities of the subjunctive mood. To all our alumni, she sends her warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

**Professor Swetnam-Burland** is editing a series of essays about women in Pompeii, for a volume under contract with the University of Texas Press called *Negotiating Silence*. Both the post-baccalaureate in Classics and the Joint Degree Program with St. Andrews continue to flourish under her directorship, and she sends warm holiday greetings to one and all.

In the Spring, **Professor Ward** led an advanced seminar on his research specialty, the archaeology of ancient colonization, as well as classes in language and culture. Over the summer, thanks to a grant from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers and William & Mary's Reves Center, Andrew conducted research in Rome and Florence, before supervising field operations for American archaeological missions in the Main Urban Sanctuary of Selinus in Sicily, and the Sanctuary of the Great Gods in Samothrace. This Fall, Andrew has taught courses on Greek art and civilization.

Together with **Professors Paga and Ward**, three W&M students participated in the excavations at the Sanctuary of the Great Gods on Samothrace this past summer (Elizabeth Dowker '20, Robert Yancey '19, Madeleine Nelson post-bac). You can read all about their adventures and discoveries here: <https://www.wm.edu/news/stories/2019/wm-faculty,-students-excavate-sanctuary-of-the-great-gods.php>. Despite some boat troubles at the end of the season, all made it safely on and off the island, sampled local delicacies like goat and octopus, swam in the Aegean Sea, and excavated in one of the most magical places in the Mediterranean.

Professors Ward and Paga also organized a trip to the VMFA for students in Greek Art & Archaeology and Greek Civilization. Students enjoyed guided tours of the ancient collection, as well as the Neo-classical exhibit. After weeks of seeing objects from antiquity on screens and in textbooks, the museum trip allowed them to view actual objects close up and demonstrated what a great collection the VMFA has on display.

If you happen to be in DC for the SCS-AIA meetings, drop by Independence Ballroom Salon C (January 3; 9:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.) for a reception co-sponsored by W&M, UVa, and Georgetown.

**Ante-penultimately**, mark your calendars for 18 Kal. Maias a.u.c. 2773 (April 14, 2020) when Carole Newlands (University of Colorado) will deliver our annual Ward Jones Lecture (*Go Buffs! exclaims your buff- κβερνήτης*). Mark your calendars also for 7 Kal. Maias (April 25) when our very own Jessica Lamont (Yale University AND Phi Beta Kappa's 2019 Sibley Fellow) will deliver the keynote address at the second COLL 400 colloquium in Classical Studies.

**Penultimately**, we are grateful for the continued financial support of our alumni:  
<https://www.wm.edu/as/classicalstudies/support/index.php>

And **ultimately**, we wish you and yours all the joys of the season and best wishes for health, happiness, and prosperity in the New Year.

~From all of us in the Department of Classical Studies at William & Mary

Professor G. L. Irby  
καβαρνήτης  
Department of Classical Studies  
The College of William and Mary  
P.O. Box 8795  
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795

<http://glirby.people.wm.edu/>  
Editor, NUNTIUS (Eta Sigma Phi)