

CLASSICAL STUDIES FALL NEWSLETTER AND HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Dear friends,

Virtual greetings from virtual Morton Hall. What a strange term it was! Most of us are teaching remotely (safer for everyone), but we dearly miss face to face time with our students and the casual dropping into office hours to chat about anything and everything and nothing in particular. We were also happy to see some old friends at our (virtual) Homecoming Reception and are looking forward to reinstating the Homecoming Brunch next year. We were also delighted that our local Eta Sigma Phi chapter hosted the first annual alumni panel (featuring alumni who pursued fields outside the Classics), which I personally hope will become a regular feature of Homecoming Weekend.

Professor Brown saw his article on simultaneity in Menander's plays published in the modern drama journal *Etudes*. He enjoyed teaching both Elementary and Advanced Greek in the Spring. Finally, he was on leave in the Fall to take care of his daughter, Emilia, who was born in May of 2020.

Professor Halleran writes "After too many years out of the classroom, it was a rich pleasure to return, even if the classroom was two-dimensional. Professor Halleran found our students eager, talented, and fun. Seventeen students in elementary ancient Greek learned a great deal in three months and we had the treat of reading some of Luke's Christmas story on the last day of classes. In the advanced Greek class (Greek oratory), we sampled, among other things, the crisp forensic speeches of Lysias, the elaborate sentences of Demosthenes' political efforts at influencing policy, and the Rococo prose of Gorgias defending Helen, all under the theme of Athens as a city of words. I spent a good deal of time reviewing books and manuscripts and made progress on my current main project, a translation and commentary on the opening books of Homer's *Iliad*.

"All happy wishes for the holidays and a new year filled with joy (and an effective vaccine)!"

Professor Hutton served in the spring as faculty advisor for the third annual Classical Studies Symposium on the theme of Mobility in Antiquity. Then he promptly went on research leave, which he would be spending partially in Greece if it weren't for the Covid thing. He is continuing to work on his research projects via the web and interlibrary loan, and recently completed an article on ancient visitors to Cyprus.

Professor Irby remains at the departmental helm as κυβερνήτης and is looking forward to being relieved in June. It was a delight to teach Greek for the first time in ages, ending our time together with a look at Lucian's very entertaining *Dialogues of the Sea Gods*. It has also been a distinct pleasure to return to the Greek and Roman Mythology "classroom," albeit by zoom which, believe it or not, has its own distinct advantages. She saw the publication of two book chapters on Greco-Roman cartography, and she continues to work on watery matters, including a forthcoming book chapter on sea monsters.

Professor Emeritus Jones sends the following salute to William and Mary: “In August, 1959, my wife Elizabeth (the most brilliant linguist I ever knew) and I received our doctoral degrees in Classics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After that, we moved to Ohio where I obtained a position in the Classics Department at Ohio State University. I labored there for two years, years that were a valuable apprenticeship for me. But when I found that a position was opening up at William and Mary. I jumped at the opportunity to apply. I was invited to Williamsburg for an interview. The College had a new president, Davis Y. Paschall. He was a Virginian and a Baptists! He found that I was, too. I knew that I would soon be invited back to Williamsburg. In any case, I was invited to William and Mary, having been offered the rank of Associate Professor. I never left the place. The principal charm was the succession of bright and eager students I taught. I would go to regional and national meetings, and professors from other schools would tell me that at least they were teaching a student who was being lured by some famous graduate program. I reflected that I had a student like that that in almost every advanced course I had taught at William and Mary. Needless to say, I, having retired a few years ago (2001), find myself longing for the good old days—days of engaged students and congenial colleagues. My wife, incidentally, passed away in October 2013.”

While continuing to enjoy retirement but missing working with students, **Professor Emeritus Oakley** is delighted to announce the publication of his latest book, *A Guide to Scenes of Daily Life on Athenian Vases* (University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisc. 2020), published in both hardback and paperback.

Professor Paga celebrated two exciting arrivals in 2020: her daughter, Josephine, and her book, *Building Democracy in Late Archaic Athens* (OUP: <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/building-democracy-in-late-archaic-athens-9780190083571?q=paga&lang=en&cc=us#>). She also enjoyed teaching *Greek Art & Archaeology* and *Urbanism in the Ancient Mediterranean* on Zoom in the Fall, exploring new technologies and tools for active and engaged online learning.

Professor Panoussi writes “In 2020 I was happy to see published the collection of essays *Emotional Trauma in Greece and Rome: Representations and Reactions* (Routledge), which I co-edited. Aside from the introduction, I also contributed an essay on “Combat Trauma in Vergil’s *Aeneid*.” Other activities include an essay on “Cross Dressing” for the new online Oxford Classical Dictionary. Even though conferences this year were virtual, I participated at CAMWS and the Symposium Cumanum with papers from my ongoing project on *The Goddess Isis in Roman Literature*. I was also very honored to be voted President-elect for the Vergilian Society. I’m sending my best wishes to all for a safer, healthier, and happier 2021.”

Professor Spaeth spent the first two months of this year in Greece on her sabbatical, conducting research at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and preparing to study onsite at the Corinth Excavations. The coronavirus pandemic intervened, however, and she returned rather unexpectedly in March to Williamsburg. Since then, she has been working remotely online, both on her research and her teaching this fall. She finds remote teaching a challenge but is happy at least to be in contact with her students again via Zoom.

She hopes to return to Greece as soon as circumstances allow to finish work on her book on Roman cults in Corinth. She wishes a happy and safe holiday season to all of our alumni!

Professor Stephens had a productive year that included teaching her Comparative Slavery course over the summer and reprising her role as benevolent dictator in her Latin 101 course this fall (you WILL know your endings!). She sends warm greetings to all our alumni and many wishes for good health and joy this holiday season.

Professor Swetnam-Burland had a great year last year, teaching a class on the Etruscans. Students researched and catalogued all amber objects in major US collections, and created exhibits featuring their work, which you can find [here](http://resantiquae.net/etruscan_amber/exhibits/show/etruscan-amber-home/ancient-amber-home): http://resantiquae.net/etruscan_amber/exhibits/show/etruscan-amber-home/ancient-amber-home. Her book on women in Pompeii from the University of Texas Press will hit the shelves in 2021, and she also wrote several articles treating shrines from Pompeii.

Professor Ward has just finished teaching a mix of courses on Greek culture and archaeology, as well as cultural heritage law. This spring, he is pleased to offer a new iteration of the long-popular *Greek Vase Painting*, and he is optimistic about bringing William & Mary students to excavations in Sicily and Greece this coming summer.

Ms. Joyce writes “As we celebrate the holiday season, even in the era of a pandemic, I wish you and your loved ones a peaceful, safe and joy-filled holiday season. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah....And to all, a very Happy New Year.”

Ante-penultimately, mark your calendars for March 25-26 when the Department will be (virtually) hosting Peter Meineck, PBK Visiting Scholar. We will also be hosting two AIA talks: Hillary Becker, “Shopping for artists’ materials in ancient Rome: pigment shops, pigments, and product choice” (February 10) and Rebecca Fleming, “Anatomy as Religion: The Body in Ancient Italian Votive Practice” (March 29). The COLL 400 colloquium is tentatively scheduled to occur the week of April 19-23. All events will be on ZOOM.

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, an effective (quickly administered) vaccine, happiness, and prosperity in the New Year.

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

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