



William & Mary Arts & Sciences

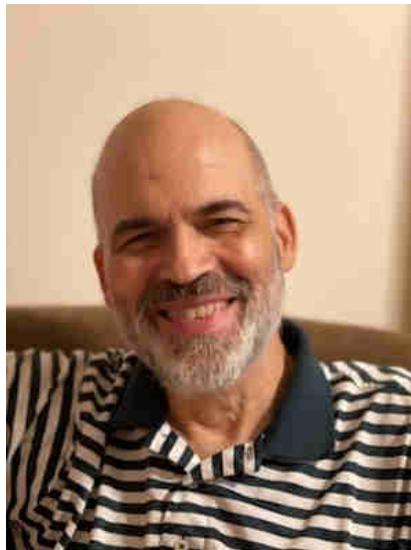
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

Dear Friends,

Greetings from (virtual) Morton during these strange and trying times. We hope that you and yours are healthy and thriving. The Classical Studies Department survived the Spring term, quickly transitioning after Spring Break to a virtual format for delivery of all our classes, from high-enrollment lectures to small upper-level language courses and everything in between. This was a real partnership with our students, whose flexibility and hard work made the challenge rewarding and even pleasant. Despite sheltering at home, social distancing, cancelled talks, and cancelled summer research plans, much of the department's work continued unabated.

Our [Latin students](#) dominated this year's National Latin Translation Exam, administered annually by the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS). W&M had 13 students win prizes, more than any of the other 37 schools that participated at the collegiate level, far outdistancing the 9 awards of the closest competition. The thirteen prizewinners were students in Molly Swetnam-Burland's Intermediate Latin class (Latin 202) and Lily Panoussi's advanced seminar on Ovid (Latin 331). Nearly 40% of the students enrolled in these classes won prizes, including cash and books.

We congratulate our colleague Michael R. Halleran, who will return to the classroom in Fall 2020 as the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) [Professor of Classical Studies](#).





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We also congratulate our colleague Lily Panoussi, who was honored at this year's (virtual) annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South with a prestigious (and well-deserved) *ovatio* for service to the field. The presentation is [here](#).



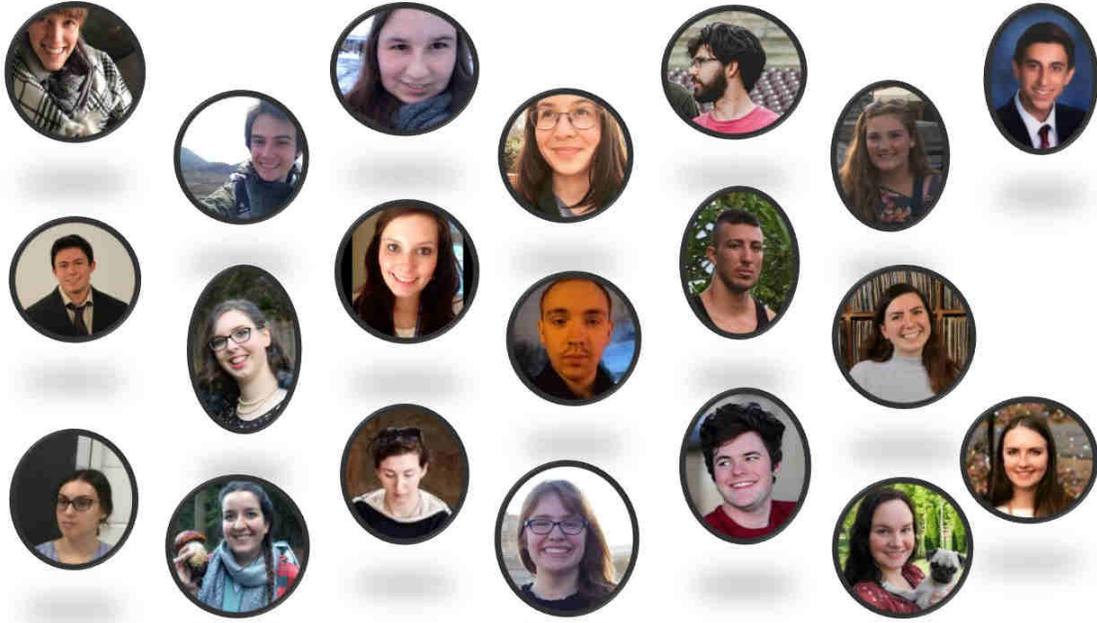
The third annual [Classical Studies Colloquium](#) took place online (via Zoom) on April 25. Thirteen advanced classical studies students presented the results of their research on the theme of “Treks and Tales: Mobility in Antiquity.” The talks dealt with topics ranging from wandering Homeric bards to Etruscan trade networks to Christian pilgrimage. Most of the students were members of the Spring 2020 Classical Studies capstone seminar, led by Bill Hutton. While there were some disadvantages to the online format (including a brief episode of “Zoom bombing” by outside mischief-makers), one advantage was in the number of people who could attend without traveling to Williamsburg. At times the audience numbered as many as fifty. The talks were well received and the discussion periods at the end of each session were lively. See the full program here: <https://www.wm.edu/as/classicalstudies/classical-studies-colloquium/classical-studies-colloquium-2020/index.php>





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Graduation was also a virtual ceremony. On May 16, we awarded thirteen diplomas and five post-baccalaureate certificates to one of our largest cohorts of accomplished students who, during their tenure at W&M, have presented their research at regional and national conferences, won awards for their skills in Latin and Greek, studied abroad in Italy, Greece, France, and elsewhere, participated in archaeological excavations, and won admission to prestigious graduate programs.



Also participating in the ceremony were five post-baccalaureate students who are leaving the program early to attend graduate programs: Jordan Click, Becca Gaborek, Bailey Hall, and Catherine Newell.

DEPARTMENTAL PRIZE WINNERS

- Virginia Grace Burns
Cosmo P. Coltrán-Bray
Peter Psathas
Catherine Newell
Hana Liebman
Cosmo Coltrán-Bray

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

DEGREE RECIPIENTS

- Virginia Grace Burns
Cosmo P. Coltrán-Bray
Ma N. Harris
Hana B. Liebman
Charles L. Manning
Catherine M. Newell
Peter Psathas
Givi Rahaf
Alexandra Scholle
Carson R. Sisk
Kregan B. Stibbany-Tostevin
Georgios A. Tsoumchakis
Varvara Trounaki

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

- Christina L. Mowroe
Makelaine W. Nelson
Andrew W. Scelis
Caroline A. Spurr
Jacobus A. Weisberg





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The William & Mary Classical Studies department and its post-baccalaureate program are proud to announce that seven post-baccalaureate and three undergraduate students have won admission for next year in graduate programs in the US and abroad. This is our largest cohort in recent memory! For the full list please see: <https://www.wm.edu/as/classicalstudies/news/wm-classical-studies-students-bound-for-graduate-school.php>

In response to heightening racial tensions, peaceful *Black Lives Matter* protests, and continuing horrific racism and police brutality, the faculty issued a [statement](#):

The Department of Classical Studies at William & Mary condemns the killing of George Floyd and similar actions that exemplify police brutality and racial oppression. We hope through our teaching, scholarship, and public statements to combat the racist thinking that can lead to such actions. In concert with our national organizations ([Society for Classical Studies](#), [Archaeological Institute of America](#), [Classical Association of the Middle West and South](#), [Classical Association of New England](#), [American Classical League](#)), we affirm our dedication to providing a safe and supportive environment in which everyone, regardless of race, national origin, gender, religion, identity, is treated with dignity, and encourage robust, respectful dialogue. The ancient world provides both positive and negative models for dealing with racial and other diversity, as well as for the use of socially sanctioned force in the public arena. We will use these models to encourage vigorous discussion in our classes about these issues as they played out in antiquity and continue to do so today.

We acknowledge the role that the field of Classical Studies has played in the creation and defense of modern racist and colonial systems, and the burden placed on modern Classicists to actively combat this legacy. To this end, as we assert in our departmental [diversity statement](#), we strive to be a community that not only condemns acts of hate and racism when they occur, but also does whatever is within our power to help prevent these and other injustices from occurring.



DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

We live in challenging times but prefer to end on a positive note. It is with great joy and open hearts that we welcome the tiniest members of our department: Josephine Lombardini (March 2020) and Emilia Brown (May 2020). Congratulations to Jess Paga and John Lombardini and to Mitch and Sabrina Brown!



Antepenultimately, as always, we invite your news:

<https://www.wm.edu/as/classicalstudies/alumni/sendnews/index.php>

Penultimately, we are as ever 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 health and peace.

~From all of us in the Department of Classical Studies at W&M

~Georgia

Professor G. L. Irby
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