

February 25, 2013

Dear Friends:

As we approach the mid-term, we find ourselves hurdling toward the end of the school year amid a flurry of classes, conferences and committee meetings, while for our students the arrival of Spring Break this weekend promises travel, schoolwork and, perhaps most importantly, sleep!

Typically, there is no shortage of news to report but in the best tradition of ancient rhetoric, I'll focus on three items. First, after much planning, we are poised to admit our first class of post-baccalaureate students this fall. These will be students who already possess a college degree but who wish to pursue additional study in Greek and Latin, whether for graduate school, secondary school teaching or personal enrichment. The only one of its kind in Virginia, our post-bacc program will allow us not only to increase our language enrollments but also to create additional revenue for our department and for the college. I'll have much more to say about this down the road but for now suffice it to say that we are quite excited at the prospects for this new venture and we can't wait to enroll our first class.

Second, our very successful summer study and research abroad program in Rome and Pompeii now has a twin, as Prof. Bill Hutton will lead 14 students on a similar program in Greece this summer. The program will be based in Athens and Nafplio and, like its Roman counterpart, will involve extensive travel, site visits and student research. The response has been terrific, and the plan is to offer the Rome and Greece programs in alternate summers. As always, we remain committed to providing the best learning experience possible for our students while adapting to their changing interests and needs. Expect tales (and photos) to rival the best of ancient Greek travel adventures!

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that William and Mary has been chosen as the site of the 2016 annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. It's a natural fit. Our department has enjoyed a long association with CAMWS and in recent years our students have also become more actively involved by delivering papers and winning awards. Professors Panoussi and Irby are leading us in this effort, and it will be no small task, as we expect some 500 classicists to descend upon Williamsburg that spring!

I'll keep to my promise and stop here. We are always grateful for your interest and support. Do keep in touch!

Best wishes,

John