

November 21, 2011

Dear Friends:

It's hard to believe that the Thanksgiving holidays are just days away. As we look forward to time with family and friends, I thought you might appreciate a brief update on recent goings-on in Morton Hall.

We held our first Classics Department Homecoming Reception last month and all agree that it was a great success. Take a look at the accompanying photo gallery to see what I mean!

The occasion offered our graduates (both recent and not so recent!) the chance to connect with each other and to learn more about what we are doing in the Department these days. In fact, several of our current majors were on hand for the occasion and it was especially gratifying to see the instant connection that formed between our students and returning alums as the past connected with present. It reminds us all of the enduring bond we share with classical studies at William and Mary.

The reception also provided the chance for us to showcase a slide presentation of our most recent student research trip to Rome and Pompeii. We are very much committed these days to providing our undergraduates with the best academic experience possible and this includes opportunities for our students to enhance their classroom experiences with research and study abroad. The program is off to a great start and we are looking forward to leading another group overseas next summer. You can find out more about last summer's trip on our department web page.

Before closing, I would be remiss if I did not thank our generous donors over the past year. Your support makes a significant difference in what we try to accomplish every day in the Classical Studies Department. Gifts like yours make it possible for our students to engage in intensive learning experiences and new opportunities like the Rome/Pompeii program.

As you plan your end-of-year charitable contributions, I hope you will consider supporting the department.

Best wishes,

John