



Classics

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EX CATHEDRA



As another academic year draws to a close it is a pleasure to review the Department's achievements over the past year. After two years of intensive internal (2009-

2010) and Faculty review (2010-2011) of our undergraduate programs, the revised program structure for the Major and Minor programs in Classics, Greek, and Latin received Faculty approval in May 2011. The Department's attention in 2011-2012 has accordingly been on consolidating program gains with the implementation of the new undergraduate programs and courses, including our new second-year research methods course in Classical Studies with a special focus on quantitative research methods (CLA260H1S). Approved in December 2010, the course was first run this year by Professor Ben Akrigg.

Curricular links fostered in the context of the academic planning exercise of 2009-2010 continue to bear fruit with the Department's ongoing support of an undergraduate archaeology course

(ARH361H1F) at Huqoq in Israel. We have also put into place a newly formalized relationship with the Department of English, permitting their majors to take two of our second-year lecture courses in classical literature for program credit in English: CLA204H1 (Introduction to Classical Mythology) and CLA236H1 (Greek and Roman Epic). In addition, the Department of Classics welcomed the opportunity for consultation during the Faculty-wide review of programs in the environment and resources, and looks forward to participating in the proposed School of the Environment.

Our superb undergraduate program in Greek and Latin language has been nationally recognized again this year with six awards to our students in the Classical Association of Canada National Sight Translation Competitions: First Prize (Junior Latin); Second Prize (Senior Latin); Third Prize (Junior Greek, Junior Latin, Senior Greek, Senior Latin); and two Honorable Mentions (in Senior Greek).

Congratulations to Nicholas Arrigo, Joel Benedicto, Doug Devries, Colin Hancock, Christina Ichim, and Mufei Jiang. Internally too, one of our graduating Classics majors (Nicholas Arrigo, recipient of Third Prize in Junior Greek) has held a Jackman Humanities Institute Undergraduate Fellowship for his project

on location/dislocation in Ovid's *Heroides* and *Tristia*. He is off to postgraduate study of Classics in Cambridge next year and we wish him all the best there.

Congratulations are also owed to our doctoral students who completed their programs this past year: Jessica Westerhold, with a dissertation on "Tragic Desire: Phaedra and her Heirs in Ovid"; Marie-Pierre Krück, "Discours de la corruption dans la Grèce classique"; Cillian O'Hogan, "Geography and Space in the Poetry of Prudentius"; Jaclyn Neel, "Creative History, Political Reality: Imagining Monarchy in the Roman Republic"; and James Lynd, "Aspects of Evil in Seneca's Tragedies." We wish them well as they embark on careers in the profession: Jessica holds a Visiting Assistant Professorship at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY, Marie-Pierre has a two-year post-doctoral fellowship, which she is splitting between

continued on page eight

In this issue

Ex Cathedra	1&8
Faculty Retirements	2&3
Visiting Faculty	3&7
Undergraduate Life.....	4&5
Graduate Life.....	6&7
Contact & Credits	8



CAC President Alison Keith presents Mufei Jiang with her third prize in the Senior Latin sight competition. Also pictured are (from left) Vicki Ciocani, Joel Benedicto (First Prize, Junior Latin) and Eric Tindale. Photo credit: Vilik Marks.

FACULTY RETIREMENTS

The department saw two long-time faculty members retire this past December. Both are much loved by students past and present and both are likely to be familiar to most if not all of our readers.

Hugh Mason completed a BA in Classics at McGill before moving to Harvard to undertake his PhD. He returned to Canada for his first academic appointment at the University of Toronto in 1966.

Hugh describes the department undergoing immense changes over the nearly five decades that he has been at the University. Most notably, he points out the greater emphasis on non-language teaching, with fewer students taking Greek and Latin courses and the department attracting students from other faculties. The department now teaches more students than ever and asks questions that were not explored when he first came here, about, for example, feminism and identity and politics, resulting in completely new and dynamic approaches to the classical world. To him, the department's greatest strength is both a strong undergraduate as well as an intensive graduate program, with the interna-

tional prestige of the programs leading the department to be one of the academic stars in the university and resulting in strong relationships with the deans and provost. He looks fondly back upon the classes he has taught, especially the ones on the ancient novel, which is his primary research interest, covering some of his favorite texts, *Daphnis and Chloe* and *The Golden Ass*.

Hugh's appointments at the administrative level included a lengthy period as Registrar of New College and terms as both the Graduate and Undergraduate Coordinator of Classics. Over two decades, he worked in the area of admissions and student counseling, which allowed him to be involved both in the university and its bureaucracy at large as well as the department. He especially loved counseling students and considers that among the highlights of his career, a love that carries over also into teaching. For Hugh, it is an ongoing source of wonder and fulfillment that for many decades he was paid to teach small groups of bright and eager students the texts and languages that he himself loves so much.

Professor Mason maintains active interests outside of Classics, lured especially by Venetian Baroque music. Although having no formal musical education or train-

ing, Hugh has immersed himself in his studies of Baroque Venice and its music. This research has resulted in a full-length manuscript, a biography on the Italian Baroque composer Tomaso Albinoni.

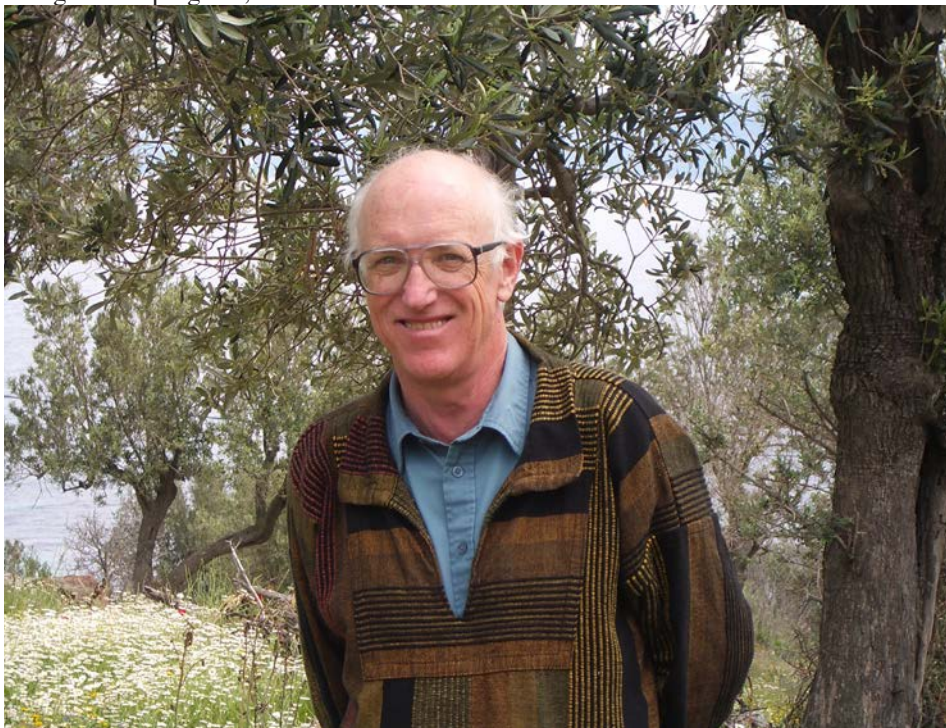
But Greece, both modern and ancient, remains Hugh's real passion. Hugh was at the American School of Classical Studies and excavating at ancient Corinth during the politically turbulent years of 1966-67 and that experience fostered a fascination with regional politics. Hugh has fond memories especially of Lesbos, where the ancient novel *Daphnis and Chloe* is set, and art by Lesbian artists decorates his office walls. Greece holds special significance also because he met his wife there when he was helping run Aegean cruises. The cruise on which they met was his wife's graduation present from her parents.

Professor Mason is fluent in modern Greek and continues to go back to Greece at least every two or three years. He looks forward to fewer responsibilities after retiring and the chance to declutter his messy home at last and to work on a family history project with his daughter-in-law. And, of course, to continued visits to Greece.

Catherine Rubincam (pictured at right) also retired this year, after forty-two and a half years of teaching and academic service as a member of the tri-campus Graduate Department of Classics. In fact, Catherine's connections to the University of Toronto precede her appointment as a professor. Born in Northern Ireland and having spent her childhood on the Channel Coast of England she immigrated to Toronto with her parents in 1956. Here her interest in Classics was kindled by a wonderful high school teacher, Vera Vanderlip, who taught Catherine both Latin and Greek at Earl Haig Collegiate in North York. Catherine went on to earn her BA in Classics in 1964 at the University of Toronto, followed by a second BA at St. Hugh's College at Oxford University, before going on to complete her PhD at Harvard.

Over her career Catherine taught more than two dozen different courses, ranging from general introductory classes on

continued on page three



Hugh Mason stands amid the olive trees and wildflowers on his beloved island of Lesbos.

FACULTY RETIREMENTS

continued from page two

the Classical world to graduate courses focusing on Thucydides and Herodotus. She describes as one of the most satisfying moments of her lengthy professional career when she received a phone call in the late 1970s from a senior colleague who had taught her Greek Prose Composition as a first-year undergraduate in 1960-61, asking, in a hesitant tone far from that which he had used to criticize



her use of Greek particles, "Is it true that you are teaching a course in Mythology?" And then, when she confirmed that she had been doing this since 1971, he asked, "Would you be willing to let me see your syllabus?" Like its model, the Mythology course he subsequently developed became a major attraction.

Catherine also served in a number of administration positions, including a split five-year term as Associate Dean at Erindale College in the 1990s. Outside of the University of Toronto Catherine spent many years on the Editorial Committee of the journal *Phoenix* and as a past President and Vice-President of the Classical Association of Canada. In 2009, she was honored with the CAC's Award of Merit, made in recognition of "a member's longstanding and meritorious efforts in fulfilling the goals of the Association."

After writing a dissertation on Diodorus under G. W. Bowersock, Catherine's primary research interests have remained Greek history and historiography, focusing particularly on Herodotus, Thucydides, and Diodorus Siculus. Beginning in the late 1970s, her research came to focus more particularly on the use of numbers by ancient Greek historians, resulting in many articles and conference presentations on the topic. She plans to publish a monograph based on the project, which involved the creation of a database containing statistical information on numbers in all the historical Greek narratives.

Reflecting on her hiring in 1969, Catherine notes that it occurred at a time when the department of Classics as we know it now did not yet exist. When she arrived there was no single university-wide department of Classics; the discipline was represented by separate departments located in each of the four original undergraduate colleges on the St. George campus. She was witness to the turbulent early years of the unification process and saw enormous changes in the teaching program, from the old system of strictly prescribed Honors courses, which describe her own undergraduate education here, to more open curriculum drawing students with less specialized interests from an array of fields. She notes appreciatively that the atmosphere in the Department of Classics itself has undergone a development in the direction of greater congeniality and a sense of shared involvement in a collaborative enterprise in the many years she has been here.

Catherine maintains active extracurricular interests in choral singing and as a member of a handbell ensemble. In retirement, she plans to continue work on the Numbers Project and to resume work on a second project, tracing the evolution of Liberty iconography on European coinage from ancient to modern times. She looks forward to devoting more time to her grandchildren and to indulging her passion for travel.

VISITING FACULTY

This fall the department will welcome two Visiting Assistant Professors. Gillian Ramsey completed her PhD at the University of Exeter and will join the department after a position as a Teaching Fellow in Ancient History at the University of Leicester. Her research looks at political elites in the Seleucid world, using chiefly Greek and Babylonian epigraphic evidence to study the ways that these elites used friendship, civic ties, wealth and travel to extend Seleucid influence in the eastern Mediterranean and Near East. At the University of Toronto she will be teaching Introductory Latin and courses on Rome and the Hellenistic Kingdoms, Archaic and Classical Greece, and Sports and Festival in the Greek world. She is looking forward to reminding herself to use Canadian spelling, availing herself of the resources of the Robarts Library, exploring the Royal Ontario Museum, and getting to know the faculty and students at the University of Toronto. In her spare time she enjoys knitting, music, and walking, and admits to a lifelong love of science fiction, especially the classic authors Isaac Asimov and Gordon Dickson.

Jonathan Tracy's visiting appointment will be a homecoming of sorts. He completed a dissertation entitled "Science, Egypt, and Escapism in Lucan" here in the Department of Classics in 2009. For the last two years he has been teaching as an assistant professor in the Department of Classics, Modern Languages, and Linguistics at Concordia University, and looks forward

continued on page seven



Visiting Assistant Professors Gillian Ramsey, standing in the theatre at Pergamum, and Jonathan Tracy, dining in Montreal.

UNDERGRADUATE LIFE

One of the goals of expanding our newsletter format is to provide an opportunity to focus more on the students who are the lifeblood of our thriving department. In the Undergraduate Life section we will regularly offer some brief impressions of the diverse activities of our current undergraduate students as well as profiles of recent and not-so-recent alumni.

ORAL PERFORMANCE

In March the department's undergraduate Oral Reading Club organized an event that featured members of the club performing readings of ancient texts in Greek and Latin. The event was organized by undergraduates Maya Chakravorty and Greg Darwin and also included performances



Above: Greg Darwin performing Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*.

Left: Maya Chakravorty reads from Livy's *History of Rome*. Photo credits: Vilks Marks.

by Anna Beausoleil, Vicki Peters, Toby Keymer, and Willem Crispin-Frei. The students read pieces from Virgil's *Aeneid*, Suetonius' *Caligula*, Tacitus' *Agricola*, the *Iliad*, Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*, and, last but certainly not least, a Latin translation of Lewis Carroll's nonsense poem *Jabberwocky* (*Gabberbocchus*).

There was a large turnout, with some students bringing their families, and the students are hoping that the performances will infect others with a love for reading aloud Greek and Latin texts. Those in attendance will certainly agree with Maya that "reading all of these texts out loud really does bring a whole new dimension of meaning and beauty to what are already fabulous pieces of literature." The event

was partly funded by the National Latin Teacher Recruitment Week, with Toronto high school teachers introducing the students and talking about the rewards of teaching Latin and Greek.

IN THE TRENCHES

Every year a number of our undergraduates find opportunities to gain experience in the field. Last summer, for example, Cristina Ichim, a third-year student in Archaeology and Classics, and Robin Buller, a fourth-year Classical Civilizations major, participated in excavations in Greece.

Recipient of an AIA Travel Fellowship, Cristina joined the Iklaina Archaeological Project directed by Prof. Michael Cosmo-



Above: Greg Darwin performing Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*.

Left: Maya Chakravorty reads from Livy's *History of Rome*. Photo credits: Vilks Marks.



poulos (University of Missouri-St. Louis) in June-July 2011. Iklaina is a secondary administrative center in the Late Bronze Age kingdom of Pylos in southwestern Greece, perhaps to be identified with the toponym *a-pu₂* in the Linear B texts from the palace of Nestor. Cristina became familiar with excavation techniques, flotation, and pottery analysis over a four week field season.

Robin ventured to northern Greece to participate in the archaeological excavation at Argilos run jointly by the Ephoria of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities of Kavala and the University of Montreal. Founded by colonists from Paros in the archaic period, Argilos is situated between the Strymona delta and the Chalkidiki peninsula. Robin reports that never having participated in an archaeological excavation she was unsure of what to expect:

"While the 5 am wake-up calls were a bit of an unwelcome surprise, I soon fell into and in love with the field school's routine. The days were long, exhausting and unbelievably rewarding. The field school gave the students the chance to try their hands at everything from trowel techniques to stratigraphical mapping, while at the Museum of Amphipolis, we learned how to identify and catalogue pottery. I was most interested, though, in the drafting and can't wait to learn more about the architectural side of archaeology."



Above: Cristina Ichim in the trenches at Iklaina in the southwestern Peloponnese, Greece.

Left: Robin Buller (at far left) with two undergraduate colleagues from McGill University in the trenches at Argilos in northern Greece.

ALUMNI PROFILES

We plan in future newsletters to feature a range of alumni profiles (please feel free to send suggestions!), but this year we chose two recent undergraduates who represent the wide spectrum of students who contribute so richly to the department's undergraduate programs. All of our students profit from a rigorous liberal arts education focused on classical antiquity. Many discover that they have been taught fundamental skills broadly applicable to countless non-academic professional careers like, in the case of Marcel Malfitano, law. Other students, like Alex Petras, are attracted to the department's range of research specialties and close ties to cognate programs, choosing to major in Classics specifically as preparation for graduate research.

Marcel Malfitano (pictured below) graduated with High Distinction and a degree in Classical Civilizations (and Political Science) three years ago. He immediately entered law school at Osgoode Hall, completing his JD this spring. He has just written the Ontario bar exam and will soon join Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP as an articling student.

It would be hard to imagine a more accomplished tenure in law school than Marcel's—in addition to acting in numerous leadership positions he received a half dozen major awards and prizes—and he is quick to credit his undergraduate training in the Classics Department for much of that success. Marcel says he became a Classical Civilizations major not as preparation for law but because of a desire to understand his Italian heritage. Nevertheless, he found the skills honed in the Department of Classics to be indispensable in law school. From the careful attention to syntax and grammar required to learn

Greek and Latin to the heavy reading load and the focus on evidence and analysis in his CLA courses, Marcel discovered that he was uniquely prepared for the rigors of law school. He notes that the analytical skills required, for example, to write a paper on why the Roman empire fell are easily transferred to the study of legal cases, with both processes involving historical accounts that you have to reason your way through.

Marcel remembers one course from his undergraduate degree in particular, an introduction to Roman tort law taught by Ernest Weinrib. Marcel found the course endlessly fascinating and it crystallized his decision to go to law school. Reflecting back on the course, Marcel notes how little things have changed - jurists are still deciding based on precedent.

Talking with Marcel it quickly becomes clear that he views his time in the Classics Department as formative. He jokes that he remembers as though it were yesterday an Introductory Greek class where he was used in a sample English-to-Greek exercise: "I throw rocks at Marcel, joyously." And given how strongly he feels his training in Classics prepared him for law school, and how seriously he seems to take traditional Roman virtues like *humanitas* and *pietas*, one begins to suspect that Marcel is only half-joking when he claims to hope one day to see his own service to society honored by a statue of himself set up in the foyer of the Classics Department, perhaps styled after the great Cicero.

Alexander Petras (pictured lower right) was drawn to Classics early on, inspired in part by his father, who passed on to Alex not only his Greek heritage but also a love of ancient literature and history.

Originally from Hoboken, New Jersey, a town which he says is well known for its abundance of bars, Alex came to Toronto lured by another sort of distinction altogether: the internationally recognized reputations of the Centre for Medieval Studies and the Classics Department. Both programs met his expectations and Alex has just graduated, having completed a

double major in Classics and Medieval Studies.

In fact Alex is especially interested in Late Antiquity and the Byzantine period, particularly the political history of the 6th and 7th centuries. These are interests that are rarely the focus of undergraduate coursework even at major research universities, so for Alex his course of study has, on the one hand, been a kind of compromise, with the traditional Classics curriculum usually focusing on material somewhat earlier than his interests and the Medieval Studies program generally concentrating on material that is slightly later. On the other hand, Alex notes that his double major has both fostered an even more intense interest in the Byzantine period and lent his training unusual breadth—he names as some of his favorite courses offerings as diverse as a fourth-year Latin seminar on Peter Abelard, a course on medieval Italy, and Greek Prose Composition.

At the same time Alex notes that there are a number of professors at the University of Toronto whose interests similarly bridge Classics and Medieval Studies and it is perhaps no surprise that he cites stimulating discussions with John Magee, whose appointment is shared between Classics and Medieval Studies, as some of the most rewarding experiences of his undergraduate career.

Alex intends to pursue his interests in the Byzantine period and plans to apply to graduate programs in the fall. In the meantime, he hopes to stay in Canada and become a citizen of the country he has quickly grown to love. He also plans to use his year off to learn Modern Greek, the language spoken by his grandparents.



GRADUATE LIFE

Given the remarkable productivity and diverse interests of our graduate students, it would be impossible to offer a detailed portrait of our graduate cohort here—we note, for example, that an incredible fourteen students presented papers at the most recent annual conference of the Classical Association of Canada alone! Nevertheless, we plan to use this additional space to feature annually some of the activities of our current students while likewise offering profiles of some of our recent graduates.

INSIDE LOOKING OUT

Students from the Collaborative Program in Ancient History (ColPAH) organized their first annual graduate conference this April. Hosted in the Department of Clas-



sics, the two-day conference was titled "From the Inside Looking Out: Alterity and Creating the Other in Ancient History." The conference drew presenters from Canada, the United States, Italy, and Great Britain. Professor Sara Forsdyke from the University of Michigan delivered a fascinating keynote address on the subject of Greek slavery and Department of Classics graduate students Jaclyn Neel, Miranda Robinson, and Alex Cushing all delivered papers at the conference while Chris Wallace and Megan Campbell chaired panels.



Classics graduate students at the ice rink. From left: Nate del Prete, Kat Clarke, Alex Kirby, Jenny Smith, Janet Mowat, Lisa Latour, and Alex Cushing. Photo credit: Sarah Malik.

STUDENT PROFILES

While working on an undergraduate degree in Classics at Stanford University Emily Fletcher (pictured below) discovered early on that she was especially interested in ancient philosophy. She was drawn to the University of Toronto because of the Collaborative Program in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (CPAMP), which affords one of the largest and most active communities of ancient philosophers in the world. In June she



defended her dissertation, entitled "Plato on Pleasure, Intelligence and the Human Good: An Interpretation of the Philebus," and supervised by Professors Rachel Barney and Brad Inwood from Classics and Jennifer Whiting from Philosophy.

In the fall Emily will be joining the Philosophy department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison at the rank of Assistant Professor. She reports that she will miss the supportive environment fostered by the faculty, fellow graduate students and staff whom she has gotten to know over the past six years, as well as the city of Toronto itself, of which she doubts it would ever be possible to tire.

Nevertheless Emily looks forward to her move to Madison, and although she has an active research agenda—interests include the nature of the soul, pleasure, perception, disease, similarities and differences

between humans, animals, and gods—she hopes to find some time to play the viola, ice-skate, dance, swim in lakes and rivers, and bake.



Now entering the third year of her PhD, Susan Bilinskyj (pictured above) is originally from Eugene, Oregon and came to the Department by way of Seattle Pacific University, where she earned a BA in Classics and Linguistics. While studying abroad at Oxford University as a third-year undergraduate Susan was introduced to ancient religion and those interests brought her to Toronto.

Susan loves being outdoors backpacking, fishing, and hiking but she reports that her studies have kept her largely holed up in the library, where she has recently been studying for her major field exam on Roman religion while also pursuing an active research agenda. In March she presented a paper entitled "Fabricating Ritual Tradi-

continued on page seven

STUDENT PROFILES

continued from page six

tion: the Relationship of the Republican and Augustan *Ludi Saeculares*” at the University of Erfurt in Germany for the 13th International Spring School on Ancient Religion. She also presented a paper on the *Ludi Saeculares* at the annual conference of the CAC in May.

Laura Mawhinney (pictured below) came to the University of Toronto in 2005 after completing a BA at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and an MA at the University of Florida. She just completed an academic year at Mt. Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, where she was the Crake Doctoral Fellow. While there she completed her dissertation, gave public lectures, and taught two courses in the Classics department, one on Greek and Roman epic and the other on symposiastic culture in Archaic and Classical Greece. Laura’s athletic prowess is well known to members of our department softball team and it is no surprise that while in Sackville she also added curling to the list of sports at which she is proficient (editor’s note: the list also includes tennis and after a quick google search it was determined that curling does, indeed, qualify as ‘sport’).

Laura recently gave a lecture on “Achil-

les as Anti-Symposiast in Homer and the Epic Cycle” and in May she defended her dissertation on sympotic and rhapsodic discourses in the Homeric epics. She plans to develop aspects of her dissertation for publication as articles and eventually a



monograph. More immediately Laura plans to move to Durham, England, where Carl Hope, another graduate student from the Department whom Laura recently married, will be teaching. While living in Durham Laura plans to remain active in the classics community and to pursue opportunities at the many classics departments in the region.



Above: Jaclyn Neel and Cillian O'Hogan at Spring convocation. Photo credit: Chris Wallace.

Left: Marie-Pierre Krück with her supervisor Victoria Wohl at Fall convocation. Photo credit: Frédéric Charbonneau.

VISITING FACULTY

continued from page three

to a break from the strike-related drama in Montreal.

Jonathan’s research has focused on the epic poet Lucan and interaction between the poet’s political ideology and his interests in science, geography and popular education. Jonathan plans to move beyond Lucan to examine Herodotus’ portrayal of Egypt and his attitude toward Athenian geography, and also to explore geography and ethnography in Latin literature.

Jonathan will be teaching Greek and Roman Epic, Theories of Myth, Introductory Latin, and intermediate Greek. He looks forward to teaching, especially Greek, a language by which he finds himself increasingly bewitched, and to becoming involved in the life of a large, vibrant, and thriving Classics department. He also plans to take part in interdisciplinary activities such as the Jackman Humanities Institute working group on travel literature. His interests outside Classics include Dutch history and culture, animals that no one would call cute, and singing and playing the songs of Noël Coward and Cole Porter, badly, he admits, but with great gusto.



Laura (on the left) poses with fellow Classics graduate student Sarah McCallum at the University of Toronto reception at the annual conference of the American Philological Association in Philadelphia. Photo credit: Christer Bruun.

EX CATHEDRA

continued from page one

Paris and Montréal; Cillian will take up a post-doctoral fellowship in the Department of Classics at the University of Waterloo in the fall; and Jaclyn Neel will take up a Visiting Assistant Professorship at York University in the fall. Four more doctoral students have defended their dissertations since the end of spring classes, and we congratulate them on their achievement: Laura Mawhinney, Chris Wallace, Sarah McCallum, and Emily Fletcher. Both Emily as well as recent Department graduate Donald Sells will take up Assistant Professorships in the fall, Emily in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Donald in the Department of Classical Studies at the University of Michigan.

Faculty members too continue to dazzle audiences at home and abroad, delivering prestigious lectures to acclaim and receiving a slew of awards and honours again this year. Professor Victortia Wohl delivered the western lecture tour sponsored by the Classical Association of Canada last fall and Professor Christer Bruun has been awarded a prestigious fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton for the fall of 2012-2013. In addition to the six SSHRC SRGs already held in Classics,

Contact & Credits

If you have suggestions for newsletter features or any news to report please contact us by email to:

chair.classics@utoronto.ca

or by traditional mail to:

Department of Classics
University of Toronto
125 Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C7

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moreover, the Department is now hosting a new SSHRC Grant-in-Aid to Scholarly Journals, in support of the Trinity-based *Phoenix*, Journal of the Classical Association of Canada.

The Department has benefitted greatly from the generosity of donors to both the undergraduate and graduate programs over the past year. Last summer the Chau/Chan Scholarship in Classics was established for award to an undergraduate enrolled in one of our programs while in the fall the Emmet Robbins Memorial Graduate Award was endowed in memory of a much-loved teacher, scholar and long-serving former Chair of the Department. Emmet offered unflinching support first and foremost to his students, from those just beginning to struggle with elementary Greek to those writing their dissertations and searching for their first jobs. Generations of students at the University of Toronto and beyond benefited from his instruction in ancient Greek language and literature, both formally and informally, and from his generous supervision of doctoral theses on Greek literature and culture.

Emmet's meticulous and accurate handling of philological evidence coupled with his profound ability to see larger literary developments and his warm but incisive humour made him a thoroughly inspiring scholar and invaluable critic. The generosity of Emmet's friends, students, and colleagues will enable us to ensure that his legacy lives on in the department to which he contributed so much.

Let me close by thanking the executive, Professors Ben Akrigg and Victoria Wohl, and the administrative staff, Mrs. Ann-Marie Matti and Ms. Coral Gavrilovic, for their help and guidance in the Department office. I am especially grateful to Victoria Wohl, who will step down from the position of Graduate Coordinator, which she has held since July 2009. She will be much missed by all of us in the office, as well as by our strong cohort of graduate students whom she has served so generously.

Alison Keith
May 2012



Emmet Robbins (far right) celebrating the publication of *Orpheus: Metamorphoses of a Myth* (Toronto 1982) with fellow contributors (standing from left to right) Pedro Leon (Spanish), Tim McGee (Music), Eleanor Irwin (Classics), John Warden (Classics), Giuseppe Scavizzi (Italian), and (seated) Pat Vicari (English).