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EX CATHEDRA



As another academic year draws to a close it is a pleasure to review the Department's successes and signal achievements over the past year. Our focus in 2012-2013 has

been on the preparation of a departmental self-study in the context of an external review. The external reviewers visited the Department in mid-October 2012 to conduct the on-site review of the department, and they submitted their report to the Faculty in January 2013. The Department was pleased that the reviewers highlighted the many strengths of our undergraduate and graduate programs, the high calibre of our students and faculty members, and the many links with cognate units both within the University of Toronto and externally, at York University, as well as further afield provincially, nationally and internationally. Our thanks to Professors Susanna Braund (UBC), Michael Gagarin (UTexas at Austin), and Jeffrey Henderson (Boston University) for accepting our invitation to visit Toronto and spend two very long

days with us. We enjoyed their company very much and hope that they will return to visit again soon!

Indeed, we were fortunate to be able to host Professor Braund (Canada Research Chair in Latin Poetry and its Reception, Department of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies at the University of British Columbia), after the departure of her colleague, for the inaugural lecture in her central CAC lecture tour of Ontario and Québec. Her paper on "The Meaning of Metre in European Translations of the Aeneid" was a highlight of the autumn semester, and brought out not only faculty members and graduate students, but also some intrepid undergraduates interested in the reception history of the Aeneid and its metrical impact on poetry across the

European vernaculars.

Another highlight of the autumn semester was the ninth series of Robson Classical Lectures, delivered by Professor Clifford Ando (Professor of Classics, History and Law and in the College, and Co-Director, Center for the Study of Ancient Religions, University of Chicago). One of the most accomplished and eminent scholars of classical history today, with interests and expertise in a wide range of areas including Roman imperial administration, Roman law and political theory, Roman religion and early Christianity, Professor Ando is the author of five books and over fifty articles, and editor or co-editor of another two volumes (with many more in progress). Professor Ando's interest in

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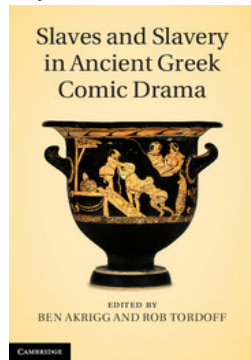
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Classics PhD graduates at the Spring 2013 Convocation. From left: Mariapia Pietropaolo, Melanie Racette-Campbell, and Rob McCutcheon. Photo credit: Gary Hoskins.

FROM THE FACULTY BOOKSELF

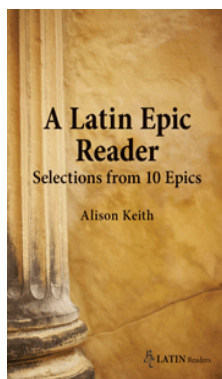
This has been a very productive year for research in the department. In particular, three books written or edited by our faculty members have recently been published.



Professor **Ben Akkrigg** co-edited with Rob Tordoff (York University) *Slaves and Slavery in Ancient Greek Comic Drama* from Cambridge University Press. This

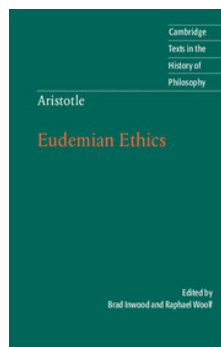
volume presents ten essays by leading specialists in ancient Greek literature, culture and history, exploring the changing roles and representations of slaves in comic drama from Aristophanes at the height of the Athenian Empire to the New Comedy of Menander and the Hellenistic World. The contributors focus variously on individual comic dramas or on particular historical periods, analysing a wide range of textual, material-culture and comparative data for the practices of slavery and their representation on the ancient Greek comic stage. The volume includes a chapter written by Professor Akkrigg, entitled “Aristophanes, slaves and history,” in which he argues that “Aristophanic comedy can provide a small piece of support for a reconstruction of economic and social conditions in classical Athens” (111).

This year also saw the publication of Professor **Alison Keith**’s *A Latin Epic Reader: Selections from 10 Epics* from Bolchazy-Carducci. This edition offers twenty-seven selections from a rich corpus of ten Latin epic poets. Though the focus is on republican and Augustan epic, a sample of later imperial epic allows exploration of the full expanse of Rome’s



responses to her own history and political culture, and to the art, history, and literature of ancient Greece. Professor Keith’s reader features an introduction to the genre of Latin epic, its authors, Latin style and grammar. It also includes selections of unadapted Latin text from Ennius, Lucretius, Catullus, Vergil, Ovid, Manilius, Lucan, Valerius Flaccus, Statius and Silius Italicus, followed by notes, vocabulary, and maps.

Aristotle’s *Eudemian Ethics* has been unjustly neglected in comparison with its more famous counterpart the *Nicomachean Ethics*. This is in large part due to the fact that until recently no complete translation of the work has been available. But the *Eudemian Ethics* is a masterpiece in its own right, offering valuable insights into Aristotle’s ideas on virtue, happiness and the good life. This volume offers a translation by Professor **Brad Inwood** and Raphael Woolf (King’s College London) that is both fluent and exact, and an introduction in which they help the reader to gain a deeper understanding both of the *Eudemian Ethics* and of its relation to the *Nicomachean Ethics* and to Aristotle’s ethical thought as a whole. The explanatory notes address Aristotle’s many references to other works, people and events.



NEW FACULTY

Kevin Wilkinson comes to the department from Fordham University in the Bronx, where, for the last two years, he has been teaching courses in the Coptic language and ancient Christianity. Prior to that, he attended the University of British Columbia (BA, MA) and Yale University (MA, PhD), earning degrees in both Classics and Religious Studies. His primary research obsession for the last several years has been the Greek epigrammatist Palladas of Alexandria. In several articles, and now in the book-length *editio princeps* of a fragmentary papyrus codex (American Studies in Papyrology, vol. 52), Kevin has situated Palladas’ frequently bitter social and po-



litical commentary in the opening decades of the fourth century CE, some 50-100 years earlier than previous estimates. This research arc will conclude with a book on Palladas that doubles as an idiosyncratic history of the period

from Diocletian to Constantine. He has also published on imperial itineraries, the Theodosian Code, the fourth-century senatorial widow Melania, and late antique oracular literature. His articles have appeared in the *Journal of Roman Studies*, *Greek, Roman & Byzantine Studies*, the *Journal of Late Antiquity*, the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, the *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists*, and *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik*. After more than a decade in exile (albeit mostly voluntary and mostly rather pleasant), he is looking forward to regaining citizen rights in Canada.

Boris Chrubasik is an ancient historian with a particular interest in the history of the eastern Mediterranean from the Achaemenid to the late Hellenistic periods. His doctoral dissertation (Oxford 2012) investigated usurpers in the Seleucid empire, the largest of the successor states of Alexander the Great, and is currently being revised for publication. The project investigates how other individuals within the empire could make themselves king, and how they could persuade groups within the state that they were a better alternative to the ruling monarch, thus revealing the structure and nature of this particular empire. He has published on the relationship between Hellenistic cities and kings, the Attalid state and is in the early steps of a new project on the relationship between ancient empires and local sanctuaries in Ancient Turkey and the Levantine coast.



CONFERENCES

This past academic year the department was host to two very successful conferences: the “Seventh Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Ancient Greek History and Political Theory Consortium” and a Graduate Student Conference on Space and Place in Antiquity.

ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY AND POLITICAL THEORY CONSORTIUM

On November 9-11, 2012, Victoria Wohl, Ben Akrigg, and Ryan Balot in Political Science co-hosted the seventh annual meeting of the Ancient Greek History and Political Theory Consortium, a group of North American scholars pursuing innovative approaches to the study of ancient Greek history and political culture. The goal of the consortium is to foster an interdisciplinary conversation among classicists, ancient historians, and political theorists working on the history of ancient Greece. Papers typically tackle a broad range of topics in Greek history and political thought and approach these topics from diverse perspectives, literary and historical, theoretical and empirical. The group has met annually since its inaugural meeting, organized by Robert Wallace at Northwestern University in 2006, and was last hosted by University of Toronto in 2007. Aside from the core members who have been participating regularly since the beginning, each year’s program also features “local talent,” many of whom continue to attend in subsequent years. The colloquium has thus become an ongoing conversation among scholars with diverse approaches but shared interests.

This year’s meeting, sponsored by the Department of Classics with additional support from the Department of Political Science, offered a particularly exciting slate of papers. Greg Anderson (History, Ohio State University) kicked off the program with a paper entitled “Greek History and the Ontological Turn,” followed by Matthew Christ (Classics, Indiana University) speaking on Andocides and the bad behavior of Athenian aristocrats (the topic

of his recent book). Sara Forsdyke (Classical Studies, University of Michigan) gave us a preview of her forthcoming book in a paper on popular justice and the rule of law, followed by James McGlew (Classics, Rutgers) speaking on the tyrannicide myth in classical Athens. One panel was dedicated to the politics of Attic comedy, featuring papers by Rob Tordoff (Humanities, York) on communism in Aristophanes’ *Ekklesiazusai* and Judith Fletcher (History, Wilfrid Laurier) on sacrifice and political authority in Aristophanes’ *Birds*. The colloquium concluded with a panel that featured Eric Robinson (History, Indiana University) speaking on Sparta’s military defeats, Bernd Steinbock (Classics, University of Western Ontario) examining the Sicilian Expedition, and Robert Wallace (Classics, Northwestern University) discussing Greek oligarchic government and democracies. As in past years, the discussion was animated but collegial and we are looking forward to our next meeting, to be hosted by Jim McGlew at Northwestern in November 2013.

DOMESTICATING REALITY



On April 20-21, 2013, the Department played host to a graduate student conference entitled *Domesticating Reality: Representations of Space and Place in Antiquity*. Organised by a committee of Classics graduate students (John MacCormick,

Jody Cundy, Marion Durand, and Janet Mowat), this event challenged participants to explore the various means by which artistic and literary features were envisioned and understood in spatial terms, and by which physical spaces were imagined and investigated through cultural expression. An enthusiastic response to the call for papers and an overwhelming number of submissions allowed this conference to be truly international (with participants from Italy, France, Hungary, England, the

United States, and Canada) and multidisciplinary (including papers on literature, philosophy, archaeology, history, ecology, and medieval studies).

Sixteen graduate student papers were delivered in total, spanning six panels. The ‘Boundaries and Buildings’ panel was nicely unified, with four papers exploring aspects of boundaries and thresholds in antiquity, particularly in the domestic sphere. The following panel featured two papers on ‘Far-Off Places’ and the mystery of distant lands in ancient thought. In the final panel of the first day, ‘Landscape and Empire’, three papers discussed conceptions of topography and environment under the Roman Empire. The Sunday-morning ‘Metaphysics’ panel featured papers on concepts of space in Epicurean, Aristotelian, and Platonic philosophy, while the ‘Literary Panel’ offered theoretical approaches to the representation of space in Homer and Greek tragedy. Finally, the panel ‘Reading the Topography of Rome’ presented two fascinating approaches to different aspects of space in Tacitus’ *Annales*. Three University of Toronto students - Janet Mowat, Jody Cundy, and Juan Pablo Bermúdez Rey (Philosophy) - presented papers, and many more students and faculty contributed to the proceedings from the audience.

Thanks to generous funding from the Department of Classics, the Collaborative Program in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, the Graduate Students’ Union, and the Graduate Classics Course Union, we were able to bring in two highly respected scholars as keynote speakers. Lisa Nevett (University of Michigan) delivered her keynote address on Saturday, speaking on ‘Housing as Cultural Symbol in Fourth-Century BCE Greece’, and Gábor Betegh (Central European University) spoke on Sunday about ‘Aristotle on the Three-Dimensionality of Physical Bodies’. Both of these papers generated lively discussion, and it was a joy to have Professors Nevett and Betegh present for the weekend’s events. We must also thank our undergraduate volunteer, Katrina, and the panel chairs, all of whom helped to keep everything running smoothly throughout the weekend.

STUDENT LIFE

Given the remarkable productivity and diverse interests of our students, it would be impossible to offer a detailed portrait of our undergraduate program and graduate cohort here. Nevertheless, we feature here some of the activities of our current students along with profiles of some of our students' recent PhD dissertations.

UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATOR REPORT



As always our undergraduate students made important contributions to the life of the department. This was a busy year outside the classroom, as besides the ACS' own program and the usual round of recruitment events, students were able to meet with candidates for the faculty position in Roman history, and with the external review assessors.

The strength of the department's language programs was showcased at a national level with our students' customary success in the Classical Association of Canada's annual sight translation competitions in Greek and Latin. Winners from the University of Toronto include Mufei Jiang, who won first prize in both Senior Latin and Senior Greek, Sonya Tors with second prize in Senior Latin and an honourable mention in Senoir Greek, Jessica Zung who won second prize in Junior Greek, and an Honourable Mention went to Neal Porter in Senior Latin.

We have many excellent students in our programs, and exceptional academic achievement is recognized by a number of annually awarded prizes and scholarships. In 2012 the recipients were: Cristina Ichim and Joel Benedicto for the Chau/Chan Scholarship in Classics; Natalie MacDougall for the Dorothy Ellison Scholarship in Latin; Heather Odell for the Dorothy Ellison Graduating Scholarship in Latin; Alexander Petras for the W. B. Wiegand Prize in Ancient Greek; Nataliya



Oral Performance club, Winter 2012. From left: Toby Keymer, Greg Darwin, Willem Crispin-Frei, Anna Beausoleil, Maya Chakravorty, Rachel Katz, SungKae Cho. Photo credit: Pru Robey.

Kuznetsova for the Eric Trevor Owen Scholarship in Greek; Nicholas Arrigo for the Graham Campbell Fellowship in Memory of Maurice Hutton in Classics; Alexander Petras (undergraduate) and Jen Oliver (graduate) for the James William Conner Greek Composition Prize; and Alain Zaramian for the All Souls Historical Essay Scholarship in Ancient History. Our warmest congratulations go to the recipients of all these prizes and awards.

Ben Akrigg
June 2013

ORAL PERFORMANCE

The department's undergraduate Oral Reading Club decided to hold two performances this year due to the success of the initial recitation in April 2012. The club met for two hours every Friday to discuss themes, choose passages, practice reading and critique each other's recital. Kevin Lawson, Maggie Rogow and Michael Bales were often present at these practices to help with pronunciation, scansion, and translation questions, as well as provide tips on performance and delivery.

The theme of this year's Winter performance was Euripides' "στόμα τ'εὔφημον ἅπας ἐξοσιούσθω" (Let Every Man Keep His Mouth Pure). The performances

included: Ovid's *Metamorphoses* 2.178-192 performed by Willem Crispin-Frei; Euripides' *Helen* 483-499 performed by Anna Beausoleil; Marcus Aurelius' *Meditations* 2.1.1 performed by Toby Keymer; Cicero's *In Catilinam* 1.1-11; 1.20-33 performed by Rachel Katz; Euripides' *Bacchae* 461-480 performed by Maya Chakravorty and Greg Darwin; Ovid's *Met.* 1.125-143 performed by SungKae Cho; Silius Italicus' *Punica* 1.81-103 performed by Maya Chakravorty; and Petronius' *Satyricon* 59 performed by Greg Darwin.

The theme of their Spring performance was Homer's "ἥς γαίης δύναμαι γλυκερώτερον ἄλλο ἰδέσθαι" (I Can See Nothing Else Sweeter Than One's Own Land), which included readings of: Ovid's *Tristia* 4.9 performed by Patrick Harris; Aeschylus' *Libation Bearers* 1-21 performed by Greg Darwin; Xenophon's *Anabasis* 4.7.21 - 25 performed by Toby Keymer; Euripides' *Helen* 437-468 performed by Maya Chakravorty and Greg Darwin; Ovid's *Met.* 8.183-202 performed by Willem Crispin-Frei; *Homeric Hymn to Dionysus* performed by Anna Beausoleil Shapiro; Homer's *Odyssey* 9.12-28 performed by Maya Chakravorty. Both Winter and Spring performances were filmed and are now available on YouTube.

GRADUATE COORDINATOR REPORT



The past year has seen a significant amount of professional activity on the part of our graduate students. This Spring the students organized a very successful graduate conference on the topic of “Domesticating Reality: Representations of Space and Place in Antiquity”, with Lisa Nevett (University of Michigan) and Gábor Betegh (Central European University) as key note speakers. The department was, moreover, very pleased to see a large contingent of its senior students present papers at the recent meeting of the CAC in Winnipeg (Emilia Barbiero, Vichi Ciocani, Susan Dunning, Nathan Gilbert, Jessica Higgins, John MacCormick, Robert McCutcheon, Janet Mowat and Melanie Racette-Campbell) and at various other conferences: Emilia Barbiero and Miranda Robinson spoke at the last meeting of the APA in Seattle, Vichi Ciocani presented a paper at this year’s CAMWS meeting in Iowa, Miranda Robinson participated in a conference on Greek tragedy at McGill, Alex Kirby took part in a workshop on “The Greeks in

Egypt” in Cairo, and Patrick Hadley gave a talk in Innsbruck, where he spent a good part of the year working on his dissertation at the Ludwig-Boltzmann-Institut for Neolatin Studies.

Our heartfelt congratulations go to our recent graduate Marie-Pierre Krück as the first winner of the newly established CAC dissertation award, which she received



Graduate students celebrate Thanksgiving 2012. From left: Maria Anna Oberlinner (visiting scholar from Germany), Alessandro Sisti, Adam Barker, Marion Durand, Alex Milodowski (friend of the department), Zoe Anthony (graduate student in the Department for the Study of Religion), Katie Sutor, Jen Oliver, Melanie Racette-Campbell, Brad Hald, and April Ross. Photo credit: Maria Anna Oberlinner.

for her excellent 2011 dissertation on “Discours de la corruption dans la Grèce Classique”. We also congratulate our three winners of APA Outstanding Student Awards (Robert McCutcheon for research, Mariapia Pietropaolo for teaching, and Sarah McCallum for service). The recipients of this year’s CAMWS Outstanding Student Awards are Megan Campbell (service), Susan Dunning (research) and Janet Mowat (teaching). Last but not least, it is our great joy to announce that Jen Oliver won two prizes for her work: the “Graduate Student Paper Award” from the Lambda Classical Caucus of the APA for her paper “*Oscula iungit, nec moderata satis nec sic a virgine danda: the Callisto episode in Ovid’s Metamorphoses and the typology of female homoeroticism*”, which she presented at a conference in Durham in 2012, as well as the “John J. Winkler Memorial Prize” for her essay on Amazons in Seneca’s Phaedra, which she will give at Oberlin next fall. Congratulations to everyone!

Regina Höschele
May 2013



Classics MA graduates Alexander Kirby and Katherine Clarke at the Fall 2012 Convocation. Photo credit: Madeline Northcote.

RECENT PhD DISSERTATIONS

Cara Jordan's dissertation, *Voicing Power through the Other: Elite Appropriations of Fable in the 1st-3rd Centuries CE*, examines why the Aesopic fable, although often argued to accurately reflect the voice of the Other, is found in elite literature written by and for highly educated adult males. What ultimately emerges is the elite use of the othered figure and genre to examine marginal areas where elite discourse and the elite author cannot go, but ultimately as the product of an elite text, the figure and genre reinforce their privileged attitudes about proper socio-political behaviours. Thus, in our extant sources, at least, fable remains an elite tool, like the body of the slave, for expressing their anxieties, fears and, in the end, their own power.

Despite its explicitly martial focus, the second half of the *Aeneid* features a number of episodes that contain the generic language and motifs of erotic elegy. In each chapter of her dissertation *Taking Love Seriously: Amor and Erotic Elegy in Vergil's 'Italian Iliad'*, **Sarah McCallum** substantiates and explores Vergil's extensive and sustained engagement with erotic elegy from the proemial invocation of Erato to the closural death of Turnus. She argues that Vergil uses elegiac language and motifs to delineate the intimate connection between *amor* and *arma*, and to identify passion as a direct cause of death and destruction.

Rob McCutcheon's dissertation, *An Archaeology of Cicero's Letters: A Study of Late Republican Textual Culture*, examines the semiotic role that the material *epistula* played in the correspondence of the Roman elite at the end of the Republic. Through close readings of descriptions of the physical letter in Cicero's *Letters* and with reference to the papyrological record and later epistolary cultures, he demonstrates that physical aspects of the *epistula* could help to delineate the epistolographer's status in the community and his relationship with the letter's addressee. By examining how the medium could in-

fluence the message, this dissertation also facilitates a more nuanced understanding of Cicero's epistolary relations with such figures as Atticus, Caelius, Plancus, and Antony.

Mariapia Pietropaolo's thesis on *The Elegiac Grotesque*, examines the role of grotesque imagery in Latin love elegy, focussing on its destabilizing function in the aesthetics of the genre. Such imagery appears to intrude into the logic of elegy and to disrupt the ideal refinement to which the genre conventionally aspires. This thesis shows, however, that both the grotesque and the sense of intrusion that accompanies its appearance in elegiac poetry are themselves products of the logic of elegy, whose complexity incorporates principles of self-subversion.

In her dissertation, *The Construction of Masculinity in Propertius*, **Melanie Racette-Campbell** read Propertius' lover-poet as a subject who seeks to build a new masculine identity from within the structures of the dominant culture, but without either fully accepting or rejecting these structures. In each chapter, Melanie looks at a different aspect of Propertian elegy (*fides*, women's speech, *seruitium amoris*, and *militia amoris*) and considers how it acts to destabilize the gender identity of the lover-poet and call the gendered constructions of both elegy and Roman elite culture into question. She concludes by arguing that the existence of similar themes and critiques in the non-Cynthia poems, especially those that ostensibly praise Augustus, suggests the importance of further investigation into the connection between Propertius' construction of masculinity

and the social, cultural, and political change of the Augustan era.

Laura (Mawhinney) Hope's thesis, *Sympotic and Rhapsodic Discourse in the Homeric Epics*, examines the relationship between sympotic and rhapsodic discourses and the Homeric epics in her thesis, and specifically considers how an understanding of sympotic discourse can affect an external audience's perception of events within the narrative. She analyses both the symposium and rhapsodic performances as discourses, using literary, archaeological, epigraphic, and iconographic evidence, in order to discuss implicit meanings conveyed in specific passages of the epics.

In the *Philebus*, Socrates undertakes a lengthy investigation of the nature of pleasures in order to determine which deserve a place in the best life. Commentators have long been frustrated in their attempt to uncover a single, unified account that explains in a plausible way the extraordinary variety of pleasures analyzed in the dialogue. **Emily Fletcher** argues, in her dissertation *Plato on Pleasure, Intelligence and the Human good: An Interpretation of the Philebus*, that this search for a generic account of pleasure is misguided, because one of the main purposes of Socrates' division of pleasure is to expose its essentially heterogeneous nature.



PhD graduate Sarah McCallum at Fall 2012 convocation with Professors (from left) Regina Hörschele, Victoria Wohl, and Brad Inwood. Photo Credit: Tony Baker.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with profound sadness that we learned of the death, from metastatic lung cancer, of Kathryn (Kate) Grace Bosher on Saturday, 23 March, just five months after she was diagnosed. Kate took her BA (1997) and MA (1998) in Classics at the University of Toronto before going on to complete her PhD (2006) in Classical Studies at the University of Michigan. The following is taken from Globe and Mail obituaries on 27 March and 17 April respectively.

The beloved wife of LaDale Winling, mother of Ernest Winling; daughter of John Bosher and K. Cecil (Berry) Bosher; sister of George Henry Francis (Hal), Sylvie, and Lise Bosher. Having been inspired by a Latin teacher at Branksome Hall and travel through Greece in her youth, Kate studied Classics at the University of Toronto, earning a BA, followed by an MA while a fellow at Massey College and a PhD in Classics at the University of Michigan. She researched the ancient origins of comedy in Sicily and Southern Italy and traveled to nearly every known excavated theater in Sicily. In 2006, Kate joined the faculty of Classics at Northwestern University where she taught Greek and Latin courses.

As a teen, Kate rowed with Canada's junior national rowing team, participating in the 1991 World Junior Championships in Barcelona, Spain. A competitive sculler in graduate school, she won the Royal Canadian Henley championship women's single scull and the women's elite single scull at the U.S. Rowing National Championship Regatta in 2004.

Very unlike the popular image of the tweeded geezer who pores over dusty, half-forgotten tomes, Prof. Bosher was a vibrant, energetic young woman who could make the Greek classics crackle. "Students were just blown away by her knowledge and passion," noted one of her colleagues.

Among a handful of scholars to research the ancient origins of comedy in Sicily and southern Italy, then western outposts of the Greek empire, she was equally at



Kate Bosher in Ann Arbor (2006) as she finished graduate school and left to join the Northwestern faculty. Photo credit: LaDale Winling.

home with the raunchy, sexually charged humour of Aristophanes as with the crystalline melodies of Sappho's poems. "Tragedy grew up in Athens but comedy grew up in Sicily," explained her husband, LaDale Winling, an American history professor at Virginia Tech. "She documented this process by looking at theatres that have been excavated, and clay fragments, to illustrate that as great as Athens was, it wasn't the birthplace of everything. There were cultural products coming from Sicily."

Prof. Bosher preferred the drama and tragedy of the ancients to their comedy, which, by today's measure, tended to be laced with crude bathroom humour. "She was faced with these jokes about bodily fluids and excreta, but she was much more high-brow and enjoyed a lofty plotline," her husband said. "Some of the jokes we just don't get anymore; they speak to a time and place and set of issues that no longer resonate or apply. She thought comedy could offer compelling and unique insights into a society."

But a social and political history of theatre in Sicily from around 500 to 200 BC had not been examined in great detail because the evidence seemed too sparse and fragmentary, Prof. Bosher wrote in her

doctoral thesis, *Theater on the Periphery*. "In recent years, however," she wrote, "significant discoveries have been made by archaeologists, papyrologists and philologists, and, by drawing on all these kinds of evidence, it is possible to piece together the outlines of the development of western theatre [in early Sicily]."

In 2009, Prof. Bosher helped win a Mellon Foundation grant for a two-year series of conferences called Theater Outside Athens, focusing on new research and bringing together scholars of theatre and antiquity. A resulting book of the same title she edited sought to produce a wide-ranging study of "this hitherto neglected history," she wrote in the introduction. She was sometimes called on to comment on what seemed a greater trend toward ancient Greek culture, as seen in the movies *300*, *Troy* and the *Clash of the Titans* remake. "It seems people are using Greek myth to think about the modern world, as people have always done," she told the Orlando Sentinel in 2010, "but there seems to be an extra swing toward Greekness."

Most recently, she directed a project called Classicizing Chicago, a website and archive that intends to investigate and document a wide range of aspects of Chicago's

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IN MEMORIAM

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engagement with Greco-Roman antiquity from 1830 until the present day.

Unfinished business included editing, with three colleagues, the Oxford Handbook of Greek Drama. “Kate was very much the driving force behind this volume and we will complete it very much in her honour,” relayed Prof. Justine McConnell of Oxford University.

Prof. Boshier started getting headaches and feeling neck pain last summer. The pain worsened. In October, it was diagnosed as lung cancer that had metastasized to several bone sites, including her cervical spine. The elite athlete had never smoked. She fought to the very end, a stoic like so many of her study subjects.

“When doctors at Ohio State University indicated there was nothing more they could do, she said to me, ‘Screw them. I don’t plan on dying in the next few weeks,’” Prof. Winling recalled. “I still cannot believe that Kate could not beat cancer, because she was the toughest person I have ever met.” She packed much into a life that was cut short at the age of 38.

Contact & Credits

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EX CATHEDRA

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Roman politics and law is of long standing and his Robson Classical Lectures explored the theme of Roman Social Imaginaries from the perspectives of “Belonging,” “Cognition,” and “The Ontology of the Social.”

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 and Honorable Mentions in both Senior Latin and Senior Greek; Second Prize in Senior Latin; and Second Prize in Junior Greek. Congratulations to Mufei Jiang, Neal Porter, Sonya Tors, and Jessica Zung!

Congratulations are also owed to our doctoral students who completed their programs this past year: Laura E. Mawhinney, Christopher R. Wallace, Sarah L. McCallum, Emily Fletcher, Melanie Racette-Campbell, Mariapia Pietropaolo, Robert McCutcheon, and Cara Jordan. See p. 6 for the titles and descriptions of their dissertation projects. We wish them well as they embark on careers in the profession: Laura has spent the year teaching at The Royal Grammar School at Newcastle and Durham University (part-time); Chris has been teaching at York University; Sarah taught at Brock University this past year and will take up a two-year SSHRC post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard University in June 2013; Emily has finished her first year in a tenure-stream position in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Wisconsin; and Melanie will take up a visiting position at Concordia University in August. Congratulations as well to Jen Oliver, PhD-2, who this year won both the Graduate Student Paper Award from the Lambda Classical Caucus of the APA (for her paper “*Oscula iungit, nec moderata satis nec sic a virgine danda*: the Callisto episode in Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* and the typology of female homoeroticism,” delivered last spring, 2012, at the Durham University conference Romosexuality) and the John J. Winkler Memorial Prize (for her essay on Amazons in Seneca’s *Phaedra*); Jen will present the latter at Oberlin



Jen Oliver at conference in Durham 2012.

next fall.

The Department was devastated to learn of the death of a recent undergraduate and graduate (MA) alumna, Dr. Kathryn (Kate) Grace Boshier, in March 2013, and has endowed the Dr. Kathryn Boshier Memorial Graduate Award in her memory. Kate was an extraordinarily talented scholar, teacher, and director of dramatic productions, whose untimely passing has cut short a stellar and innovative career. She offered unflagging support to her students, from those first encountering the ancient world through the magic of classical theatre to those struggling with the ancient languages. Her meticulous and accurate handling of both philological and archaeological evidence, coupled with her intellectual tenacity and scholarly daring, and her personal warmth and generosity made her a thoroughly inspiring critic and mentor. The generosity of Kate’s friends, students, and colleagues will enable us to ensure that her legacy lives on in the Department where she began her career. Kate is profiled on p. 7 & 8.

Let me close by thanking the executive, Professors Ben Akrigg and Regina Hörschele, and the administrative staff, Mrs. Ann-Marie Matti and Ms. Coral Gavrilovic, for their help and guidance in the Department office this past year. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the Department in the capacity of Chair for the last six years, and I wish Professor Christer Bruun all the best in his new role.

Alison Keith
May 2013



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