Alumnis amicisque saltem dico.

In contrast with the tumultuous events on the world stage—and the increasingly stressful climate that accompanies the extension of the pax Americana to the banks of the Euphrates—the academic year 2002-3 was felicitous for Duke Classics on many counts. Not the least of these was the impressive array of guest speakers who graced our halls in the course of the year; among them were Professor Elaine Fantham (emerita, Princeton), who spoke with her customary insight and wit on Ovid’s Fasti, and Professor Kathleen Coleman (Harvard), who engaged us in an astute appraisal of a Latin epitaph composed by a precocious boy poet (“Q. Sulpicius Maximus, poet, eleven years old”). Both of these eminent scholars came to Duke at the invitation of our colleague, Assistant Professor Grant Parker, who chaired our lecture committee.

Equally memorable in the category of invited presentations was the lecture we were privileged to host by the distinguished Ancient Historian, Alan Bowman (Oxford), on the occasion of a celebration we mounted on March 31 in the Perkins Rare Book Room in recognition of our recently retired colleague, Professor John Oates (see pp. 6-7 for tributes marking John’s retirement). After a well-deserved laudatory prelude by Dean William Chafe, in which he recounted John’s many outstanding contributions to the University as a whole, as well as to the successful papyrological enterprise at Duke, Professor Bowman delivered a perceptive and entertaining talk on the topic, “Egypt under Cleopatra and Augustus: Aspects of Roman Imperialism.” All who attended the fest (among their number were several of John’s close family members) expressed a high measure of satisfaction with the event. We are all grateful to Professor Kent Rigsby for his ingenuity and thoughtfulness in organizing a fitting tribute to John’s achievements.

Last year’s undergraduate curriculum in Classical studies acquired an extra boost in the area of material culture through the timely offerings of visiting Professor Carla Antonaccio (Wesleyan University), who very ably filled the hiatus in our archaeology instruction caused by the departure of Professor John Younger in 2002.

On a personal note: early this summer I had the distinct pleasure of attending the annual Pacific Rim Roman Literature Conference, which this year was held at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Thanks to Grant Parker, who is a native of Capetown (and who, incidentally, also delivered a paper at the conference) I was able to combine participation in the conference proceedings with a fascinating sight-seeing tour of this city located at the extreme southern tip of the African continent. Both the archaic Greek poet, Archilochos, and the Augustan poet, Horace—the subjects of my own paper at the conference—would no doubt have shared my enthusiasm for the splendid products of the many vineyards in the vicinity of the Cape.

A few days before sitting down to compose this letter, I received the sad news of the death of my revered secondary school Latin teacher, Dr.
Alfred Blackett, who had retired many years ago to his native Barbados. His demise brought to my mind the succinct opening sentence of Pliny’s letter on the death of the poet Martial: “Audio Valerium Martialem decessisse et moleste fiero” (“I hear that Valerius Martial has died and I am disconsolate”). I crave your indulgence, gentle readers, for my having taken the liberty of reproducing a personal in memoriam to Dr. Blackett, which I wrote for the local Antiguan press, in this issue of *Pheme* (see p. 16).

In closing this, my valedictory letter as chair, I wish to extend my best wishes to my successor, Professor Peter Burian. Our department is indeed fortunate to be able to call on a person with the experience and wisdom of Peter to fulfill the challenging, but rewarding, role of princeps for the next few years.

*AVETE ATQUE VALETE*

Gregson Davis, Chair

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**The Classical Collection**

*by Keith Stanley*

A new addition to the Classical Collection this year is not only an unusually fine example of a Greek epichysis (used for pouring oil into lamps), but one of the most elegantly crafted pieces we have. This particular shape is commonly associated with pottery from Apulia, on the southeast coast of Italy, in the period 375–350 B.C., but the refinement of our piece may point to a date earlier in the century. The underside of the reel-shaped body is not glazed black but is covered with a red wash, perhaps in an effort on the part of a potter trained in Athens to imitate the characteristic color of Attic clay, in contrast to the lighter-colored native fabric. It is marginally smaller (12 cm. high) than the average, and its decoration is not painted but incised (with the use of sharply-detailed stamps, six palmettes and six arcs were pressed into the upper horizontal surface while the glaze was still slightly tacky, thus exposing the clay body beneath it). The strap handle, usually treated with ungainly angles, is here gracefully curved in a way that unifies the whole. The perfection of the modeling—especially of the spout and the double scroll at the join with the handle—is remarkable in a pot intended for daily use; in this regard it is similar to the exquisite fourth-century South Italian kantharos acquired two years ago (mentioned in an earlier *Pheme* but not illustrated; we’ve included a photograph for the sake of comparison).

The details of just how classical Greek pots were made—in particular the question of how many units were joined together to create a given piece, along with the methods of joining them—are now well known, thanks to Toby Schreiber’s exhaustive study, *Athenian Vase Construction: A Potter’s Analysis* (Malibu 1999). Her sometimes unexpected analysis is confirmed by a closer look at some of our fragmentary study pieces (not displayed in the Duke University Museum of Art), which become all the more valuable for classroom purposes. Using Mrs. Schreiber as a guide, I’ve continued with a project of reproducing some of the more manageable standard shapes, in stoneware and now porcelain. The experience provides an intimate sense of engagement with the originals, along with a very real humility before their creators’ skill and lively willingness to take risks. Fortunately I have no professional ambitions in this direction—though at least one contemporary potter, the Canadian Richard Millette, has been producing extremely deft and witty versions of black- and red-figured ware, adhering to the ancient shapes, colors, and dimensions exactly, but introducing into the painted scenes not imitations of the Greek originals but famous European paintings or perhaps a Pop Art Marilyn Monroe (see *Ceramics Monthly* 51 [2003] 64-68).
FACULTY UPDATES

Mary T. (Tolly) Boatwright - I traveled in September and October, 2002 (with funding from a 2002 NEH Summer Stipend) to Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, and Hungary. This continued on-going research on the Roman tombstones of Pannonia. I met wonderful, generous scholars (including Sarah Cormack, who is flourishing), and I saw amazing sites and museums. One piece from my large project, and article entitled "Children and Parents on Pannonian Tombstones," has been accepted for publication in The Roman Family, vol. IV (eds. K. Bradley and M. George, Oxford University Press). At the end of October, 2002, I presented "Agrippina’s Bier and Dining Couch" at a symposium honoring the late John H. D’Arms. In February, 2003, I gave a much expanded version of the paper at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. (Soon I’ll be ready to write it up!) Finally, the Roman History textbook I have been co-authoring for a few years with Richard Talbert and Dan Gargola (Oxford University Press) will be out by January, 2004 (deo volente).

Peter Burian - The academic year 2002-3 has been one of the best ever for Maura and me. We got to spend the fall term in Florence (strictly speaking, just outside, at the wonderful Villa Corsi Salviati in Sesto Fiorentino), where I directed and taught in the program that Duke is part of, along with my alma mater, Michigan, and Wisconsin. I invented a course on the influence of antiquity on various aspects of Florentine culture from 1300-1600 which gained a great deal from the surroundings in which we were living and learning. I participated in a conference at the University of Florence in November and one in May sponsored by the University of Siena.

This spring we are in Cambridge, where I have been a "senior associate" of King’s College, a great source of intellectual companionship with an almost uninterrupted supply of wonderful choral singing. I have given one seminar in London and one in Cambridge during the spring and two more in June. Meanwhile, an advance copy of the Oresteia translation that Alan Shapiro and I completed last year has just arrived and looks very nice indeed. . .

At this point, I know I am supposed to say that I look forward to coming home to a term as chair of the department, but would anyone believe me?

Diskin Clay - In September, Oxford University Press will publish Sophocles’ Philoctetes, translated by Carl Phillips, with Introduction and Notes by Diskin Clay.

I was awarded a Smith Faculty Enrichment grant for a study of The Art of Hell. This grant has allowed me to investigate and document the influence of Dante’s Inferno on scenes of The Last Judgment in Tuscan churches and convents over a period of nearly three centuries. During my sabbatical leave (Fall, 2003) I will return to Italy to finish my preliminary investigation.

I have been appointed area editor for ancient philosophy of the new Oxford Encyclopedia of Greece and Rome, edited by Elaine Fantham and Michael Gargarin.

I have also been asked to contribute a chapter on Plato and Myth for the new Cambridge Companion to Greek Mythology, edited by Roger Woodard.

I have just spoken in Delphi on: “The Survival of Apollo: From Dante’s Buono Apollo to Bernini’s Apollo and Daphne” for the conference on Apolline Politics and Poetics, July 4-11.


In regard to administrative service, I continued as chair of the department for a fourth and final year. Two other interesting administrative assignments also occupied my attention during the Fall semester: the chairmanship of the Search Committee for an External Chair in the Department of Religion, and membership in the Provost’s Task Force on Diversity. The latter two committee responsibilities, combined with the chairmanship of Classical Studies, kept me unusually busy last year and I am looking forward to reviving some languishing scholarly research projects during my deferred sabbatical leave in the coming academic year (2003-04).

Micaela Janan – I am working on a book project focused on Ovid’s Theban cycle (Metamorphoses III-IV). The book focuses on Thebes as an “anti-Rome” wherein Ovid dramatizes and problematizes Roman conceptualizations of political and sexual identity. A version of one chapter (on Ovid’s Pentheus) has been accepted for publication in Classical Philology. I will present a version of another chapter—on the “psychotic” nature of Thebes’ foundation—as part of a joint AIA-APA panel I helped organize with Robert Cohon and Paul Allen Miller. The panel will be presented at the 2004 APA convention in San Francisco, and
is entitled “Images of Desire: Psychoanalysis and the Classics.”

Francis Newton – My book (with co-author Charles Radding), *Theology, Rhetoric, and Politics in the Eucharistic Controversy: Alberic of Monte Cassino Against Berengar of Tours*, came out in January of this year (Columbia University Press, hardback and paperback). My article for the Italian universities’ Jubilee celebration of 2000 has now appeared: “Expolitio per l’Umanesimo: la formazione classica dei monaci cassinesi nell’XI secolo,” in *II Monaco il libro la biblioteca* ed. by O. Pecere, Edizioni dell’Università di Cassino, 2003. In June I presided over a session of palaeographical papers at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland at the 3rd Congress of the Fédération Internationale des Études Médiévales (FIDEM). This trip permitted research time in London before the Congress and in beautiful St. Petersburg after it. Yes, there are South Italian MSS in St. Petersburg!

John Oates - I continue to work to expand and improve the Duke Data Bank of Documentery Papyri. (See Feature Article on pages 6-7)

Grant Parker – My main achievement of the year was to get married. Marie-Louise Catsalis is a musician (piano and harpsichord player, accompanist, choir director and teacher), currently based in Sydney, Australia. We were married on June 29th in Cape Town (See picture: Grant and Marie-Louise with Grant’s parents). Marie-Louise will travel to Durham as soon as visas allow. (Indeed visa applications swallowed up lots of my academic year, as Jenna and Gregson will attest!) Most of the northern summer was spent in Sydney. I gave papers on Roman views of India and on obelisks at East Carolina University, at Oxford and at Stellenbosch (near Cape Town), at a conference also attended by Gregson Davis. I also presented a paper at a seminar on premodern links between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean, “Communities and commodities”, at Ann Arbor, Michigan. At Duke I was a panelist in a Franklin Center debate on reparations in history, and again took part in activities of the Center for Late Ancient Studies and the Mediterranean Studies Initiative.

My teaching included a newly devised senior undergraduate seminar, “Ancient texts of travel”, which involved not only the usual suspects such as Odysseus and Herodotus, but also the apostle Paul, the nun Egeria and the anonymous author of the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea (on the monsoon-driven trade between Egypt and India).

Lawrence Richardson – I have been working on Roman military spolia and their places of dedication. I am especially interested in the roles of Quirinus and Janus Quirinus and the cult of the house door and am still pursuing certain necessary and elusive bits of the evidence. In the fall I will return to teaching Roman painting and hope to be able to add at least a few new attributions to my lists of painters.

Kent Rigsby – On leave during 2002/3, I spent the usual hours editing the journal *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies*, which included developing a web page for the journal (http://www.duke.edu/web/classics/grbs/). My chief project continues to be the *Inscriptiones Graecae* volume on Cos; I spent part of May on the island collating inscriptions. I am also working now and then on a book about Hellenistic religion, one result of which appeared in *Museum Helveticum* 2003. In 2003 I wrote some small articles on other matters – Lucian’s Peregrinus, Strabo’s India, and the cults of Attouda in Phrygia.

Joshua Sosin – After spending a glorious and productive year at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington DC, Barbara and I are glad to be back in Durham. We bought a house and Barb has a great job at Colony Park Animal Hospital. I am making good progress on my book on charitable endowments in the Hellenistic world. This past year I presented some of my arguments to the Economics Department at Harvard, which was a lot of fun. Keep an eye out for three new articles on endowments: “Grain for Delos,” “An Endowed Peace,” both forthcoming in *Museum Helveticum*, and “Accounting and Endowments,” *Tyche: Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte, Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 16 (2001) [2003] 161-175. John Bauschatz and I recently published four Duke papyri that bear on the career of a Royal Scribe in Ptolemaic Egypt: “Four Papyri concerning Pesouris, Basilikos Grammateus,” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 141 (2002) 177-190. Work on the Duke Data Bank of Documentary Papyri is ongoing; we just added more than 2000 texts and have overhauled the *apparatus critici* of another 50,000! Be sure to visit us in the Papyrology Room next time you are in town.

Clare Woods - I took Junior Research Leave in Spring 2003. The primary focus of my research was my critical edition of Hrabanus’ ninth-century Latin sermon collection for Haistulf of Mainz. I worked principally on the first part of the collection, which contains sermons for the main feasts of the liturgical year. All the main manuscript witnesses to this part of the collection have now been assembled. I also completed a number of smaller projects: my article “The Manuscript Transmission of Paul the Deacon’s Epitome of Festus’ De verborum significatione” is forthcoming in the Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies. In addition, my reviews of Bengt Löfstedt’s critical edition of Hrabanus Maurus’ Expositio in Matthaeum (CCCM 174 - 174A, Turnhout: Brepols, 2000) and De Nonno, M., De Paolis, P., Holtz, L. (edd.), Manuscripts and Traditions of Grammatical Texts from Antiquity to the Renaissance, Vol. 1 & 2, Cassino, 2000, are in press for the Journal of Medieval Latin and The Classical Review respectively.

In Summer 2003, I directed the Duke in Rome summer program. The program, which admitted twenty-five students, spent three weeks exploring the city of Rome and environs, and a final week visiting sites and museums in Campania. For the academic year 2003-2004, I have been offered a one-year Research Fellowship at University College London. I will work on the Festus Lexicon Project, and be responsible chiefly for producing a revised critical edition of Paul the Deacon’s Epitome of Festus’ text.

John Zarker - I served on the Committee for the National Latin and Greek Exams to select 20 students for college/university scholarships, based on their exam results, personal essay, teacher recommendations, et al. Each year as I make these selections, my faith in the excellence of Secondary School teachers and students is reinforced.

In addition to teaching one course each semester in Classical Studies, I taught Roman Britain and King Arthur to a class of 30 senior citizens in spring 2003. As usual for these courses/tours, my wife Kathy arranged the itinerary of sites/sights. These 30 students toured Roman Britain and King Arthur sites in England, Scotland, and Wales from 5 to 21 July 2003. Of great interest were the new museums funded by the Arts Lottery in Britain, Verulamium (St. Albans) and Segedunum (Wallsend). The museums are spectacular in both design and content. Numerous Roman sites are being excavated. At Vindolanda, a fort near Hadrian’s Wall, a hospital is being excavated; a beautiful vase was found just as the tour group arrived. A course in Roman Spain is planned for spring term 2004 with a tour to follow in summer 2004.

Visiting Professor

Carla Antonaccio - While here as a visiting professor this spring I taught a full house of 25 in CLST 123, Greek Art and Archaeology I, and five students in CLST 312, Heroic Age of Greece. I also served on Daniel Shaver’s M.A. committee. In January, soon after arriving, I attended the APA/AIA where, among other things, I attended meetings as Secretary of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens Managing Committee, and its Executive Committee (of which I am a member ex officio). In late January I gave a paper on Iron Age kingship and hero cult at a conference held at the University of Edinburgh, and in February I gave a paper on ceramic style in Archaic Sicily at a colloquium at Columbia University. This summer I was in Durham working on various publications before going to excavate at Morgantina in Sicily during July and returning in August to teach again in the fall (another round of CLST 123, and CLST 155, the Aegean Bronze Age).
JOHN OATES
HONORED
BY
COLLEAGUES
AND FORMER
STUDENTS

On September 20th at a small reception in Allen 226, John Oates was presented with a surprise: Vol. 42, No. 1 of Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies dedicated to him and made up wholly of articles by former students of John’s. The volume consists of the papers in the CONTENTS, at left. The introduction, by Kent J. Rigsby and Joshua D. Sosin, reads as follows:

JOHN F. OATES retired from teaching in August 2002, after forty years of nurturing students, undergraduate and graduate, at Yale and Duke. We offer this issue of GRBS in fond recollection of years spent talking about antiquity in general and papyri in particular with John Oates—at international conferences, at meetings of the APA, and most importantly at the seminar table. All of the contributors to this issue have studied with John, whether Roman law, Polybius, Greek history, Livy, documentary papyrology, or the Attic orators. In his classes we have sat in awe and sometimes trepidation, knowing that as soon as we finished our presentations John would quietly inform us of the evidence that we had overlooked, of the word whose meaning we had taken for granted, of the assumption that we had not questioned. John taught us always to read meticulously and with skepticism, and never to posit error in a text before error in our own thinking. His teaching made all his students continuers, so far as we were able, of the tradition of Michael Rostovtzeff and Bradford Welles. John’s contribution to the scholarly world of papyrology speaks for itself. The Checklist of Editions gave order to the discipline; the Duke Data Bank of Documentary Papyri gave the discipline to the world. It is enough to say that junior scholars can hardly imagine the scholarly edifice of papyrology without these cornerstones. For these tools every practicing papyrologist thanks John Oates every day. We wish here to give thanks to John the teacher.
That September afternoon Josh gave the following personal tribute.

I'll bet anyone here 50 dollars that I can identify the make and model of the socks that John Oates is wearing today. Ever notice that this guy wears the same socks every single day? (Well, the same style not the same actual socks.) Now, that is consistency. And that is what I'd like to pay brief tribute to today: John's socks.

When I got to graduate school I knew that I liked reading Latin and Greek, but not much more; I was pretty clueless. Well, after a few weeks I still had no idea what I was doing but I figured that if I tried every day to leave the department after Larry Richardson and arrive before John Oates, I would at least be on the right track. This was no easy task. Coffee helped. He is in the library every day by 8 a.m. He is almost always in the Papyrology room—what you might call the Universal Papyrological Constant. As I was cutting my scholarly teeth in that room, John was always there, and always there for me.

I think of one late afternoon in December 1997. It was just a few days before I was to go to Chicago to present my first-ever paper at the APA. As you can imagine, I was pretty nervous. With only a few days to go I was running around trying to get everything just right. And there was one loose end that I could not tie up. You know how you always leave the most crucial detail for last. Well, I had spent all day searching and searching for the right ... pair of socks. Plain socks. Socks without paisleys, flowers, or little pictures of hunting dogs with dead pheasants in their mouths. Like John, I am color blind. If you know anyone who is color blind, you know the sort of sock-disaster I was trying to avoid. John listened quietly as I explained my great dilemma at length, in the sort of detail that only a philologist can muster. He just sort of laughed as he left for the day. As you can imagine, I was a little embarrassed afterwards.

Well, the next day I came into the papyrology room and there, resting on my chair was the perfect pair of socks, plain grey socks, the kind that John wears every day. I wore those socks to the APA; I have worn them at every interview I have ever had, every paper I've given, and I am wearing them today.

John, I have no illusions that I'll ever be able to fill your shoes, but I shall certainly do my best to fill your socks.
Robert G. Babcock (PhD, 1983) This year I had my appointment at Yale redefined to increase my teaching and reduce my work in the Library. I became Professor of Classics half-time, and remain curator of ancient and medieval manuscripts half-time. I taught two semesters of Latin palaeography to over 30 graduate students, and am scheduled to teach Textual Criticism and Medieval Latin in 2003-04. I completed a paper on Micon of St. Riquier for the Proceedings of a Conference that took place in York in 2001; submitted an article on Claudian for Sources of Anglo-Saxon Literary Culture; completed the proofs for the 4th volume of the Catalogue of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at Yale; and read a paper on the codicology of the Yale epigram codex. I organized a conference on Italian family archives at Yale in December 2002 and a post-doctoral Institute in Greek Papyrology during the summer of 2003.

Bob Bagnall (PhD candidate, 1977-1982) I'm still practicing law in DC and would love to see old Duke friends who are passing through DC; once house renovations are completed this summer (deo volente), there will be plenty of guest rooms available.

Whitney S. Bagnall (PhD, 1974) I wrote an article on the history of women at Columbia Law School for the Law School Report, fall 2002, (the publication sent to alums and friends) which has resulted in requests for information in much greater detail about Law's alumnae and their experience as students in this law school. These requests are something of a logical growth of my role as unofficial law school historian, meaning I know how to mine 19th century law school bulletins and announcements for historical material. Right now, I'm looking forward to a trip to England, one week in Cambridge, a second in Hereford.

David Banta (PhD, 1998) Things are going very well for the Latin program at Hanover College--ca. 40 students in intro Latin for the past two years, which isn't too shabby once you realize that the College has only 1000-1100 students; I've been within a whisker of the enrollments for intro French for two years, and hope to get over the hump in the Fall, making Latin the second largest language program on campus (second to Spanish, naturally). There are also five graduating majors this year, only two for next year, but again 5 declared Sophomores for the next (again placing Classics second to Spanish among language majors, but here the behemoth is in closer range). I am also in the process of overhauling the advanced levels of Latin. I also taught overloads to such a degree in the Fall and Winter (3 in total), that I was given Spring term (lasting a month) leave, and so I am in the middle of a great window of opportunity finally to put some publications in order. But that above is not the big news.

The really big news is that Jennifer and I recently had the good fortune to welcome a third child to the family (Helen Rose, born February 13). She is probably the spittiest and burpiest baby I have ever known, but is just now entering a stage of almost impossible cuteness. Since I know I have been lax about pictures in the past, I have included one for your delectation (Helen is the small one). Since I cannot top the picture, I will end with it for now.

Neil Bernstein (PhD, 2000) and his wife Yi-Ting announce the birth of their daughter, Hannah Wang Bernstein on March 9, 2003.

Simone Beta (MA, 1991) I have presented the paper “Homère et le mélodrame” at the conference “Homère en ligne” held in Grenoble, France (November 2002) and published the article “Dalla scena tragica al palcoscenico lirico: l’Edipo re di Giovacchino Forzano e Ruggero Leoncavallo” in the review Kleos. Estemporaneo di studi e testi sulla fortuna dell’antico, no. 7, 2002.

Sander (1990) and Laurie Biehn (1989) announce the birth of their son Hadrian Jankowski Biehn, born in Saint Paul, Minnesota, 21 November 2002, 5 pounds and 8 ounces, Flurries, 38 degrees fahrenheit, Mulfum in parvo. He is our 2nd! Ella has a brother...Very busy these days with 2 little ones. We are sure you will all approve of the name. Keep up the good work down there. We have had many folks ask us if “Hadrian” is a Celtic name! The world is in need of further classical education.

Christopher W. Blackwell (PhD, 1995) Amy and I are happy and well in Greenville, SC. We now have two children, William Albert Blackwell (4 years old) and Zoe Claire Blackwell (2 years old), known around the house informally and collectively as “the Visigoths.” My wife Amy Hackney Blackwell (1991), a veteran of many Classics Department courses, used to be a lawyer but is now a freelance writer. She and I collaborated on “Mythology for Dummies” last year—not quite a “possession for eternity” but at least a “contribution to the mortgage”—which has recently been translated into Dutch as “Mythologie voor Dummies.” Amy has also published a guide to the history and culture of Ireland and is currently writing the (tentatively titled) “Barnes and Noble Essential Dictionary of Law.” My own work at Furman University has been going well. I received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor last year and will begin serving as Chair of our small department next year. This year I have been enjoying a half-year sabbatical, the main work of which is “Demos: Classical Athenian Democracy,” a nascent electronic encyclopedia that lives at: www.stoa.org/projects/demos/. Demos currently offers about 400,000 words of content and over 800
Jill Chmielewski (PhD, 2002) I accepted a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Classical Languages at Wake Forest University for the 2003-04 academic year.


I have also been busy as a member of the Editorial Board for the Center for Hellenic Studies, and especially working to organize a workshop on electronic publication to take place in Washington during June.

By the way, during this sabbatical, Duke’s own Jill Chmielewski has been filling my shoes most capably.

Jim Blitch (1987) I am married to the wonderful Anne Lindgren Blitch. Together we have two children, Betsy who is 3 and JD who is 1. I practice law in the field of litigation, and I really enjoy that. Life as I know it takes place in Atlanta, which is a great place to live and work. I remember well my days at Duke, especially those in the Classics department.

David Brafman (PhD, 1985) As of October 15, 2002, I’m the new Collections Curator, Rare Books at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles.

Shane Butler (1992) I will be on leave from the University of Pennsylvania, where I am Assistant Prof. of Classical Studies, in 2003/2004, during which time I will be a Fellow of the Harvard Center for Renaissance Studies at the Villa I Tatti in Florence. I am also the recipient of a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship and have just received the University of Pennsylvania’s 2003 Kahn Award for Distinguished Teaching by an Assistant Professor. While in Florence I will be working on two books: an edition and translation of the Latin letters of Angelo Poliziano, and Latin Decomposition: Poetry and Plague from Lucretius to Fracastoro.

Jill Chmielewski (PhD, 2002) I accepted a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Classical Languages at Wake Forest University for the 2003-04 academic year.

James A. Francis (PhD, 1991) In addition to continuing as Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Kentucky, I have been asked to serve as a Visiting Professor at the Lexington Theological Seminary this upcoming Fall, teaching a seminar in pagan and early Christian asceticism (a topic that should come as a surprise to no one). Back at U.K., we in Classics have completed our first year as a division in the new Department of Modern & Classical Languages, Literatures, & Cultures. Although such a move often strikes terror into the hearts of Classics faculty, our experience so far has been extremely positive. The divisions have a good degree of autonomy, and the amalgamation with other languages has paved the way for cooperative courses; the division director of French and I are already constructing a course in Greek Tragedy and Théâtre Classique (O! Phaedra!). I have, in addition, taken on the responsibility of bibliographic liaison with the library for the department as a whole. Also this past year, I served on the local arrangements committee for the annual CAMWS meeting which was held at Lexington and U.K. in April 2003. A great success with near-record attendance, the meeting also brought back fellow-alumni who often visit Lexington: Dennis Trout from the University of Missouri and Denise McCoyski from Miami of Ohio. In fulfillment of a vow, I treated Denise to an afternoon of authentic Bluegrass racing at the Keeneland track. On the scholarly side, I have articles forthcoming in American Journal of Philology and Classical Philology, Phillip Rousseau has asked me to contribute an essay on Art and Text for the planned Blackwell’s Companion to Late Antiquity, and I will once again be attending the quadrennial Oxford Patristics Conference in August 2003.

Jason Garber (1991) I hope all is well with the Department. Please send everyone my warmest regards. Things are going very well for me. I have joined a private neurosurgical practice in Las Vegas, Nevada - yes, that’s right - viva Las Vegas! Our web site is www.brainandspine.com - check it out.

Craig Gibson (PhD, 1995) I have given papers at APA and CAMWS on Greek declamation, and I am working on a translation of Libanius’s Progymnasmata.
Betty Romani at the piano, on March 1, 2003 in the Nelson Music Room at Duke. I am a baritone. This month I started a preliminary program at the Boston University School of Medicine.

Carl Ginsberg (1992) I have two funny stories to tell regarding a pair of receptions I recently attended in Dallas. The first was a fundraiser for our next President of the United States, North Carolina senior Senator John Edwards. I told the Senator that, despite his having degrees from two North Carolina Universities, and neither one being Duke, I still support him because the Democratic Party is a "big tent" with room for Dukies and non-Dukies alike. He laughed.

I also recently attended a Dallas area alumni association reception for high school seniors, newly admitted to Duke. Not less than 6 people asked if I were a student thinking of attending Duke. I told each one, "God Bless You!!!"

In other news, I actually had another back surgery on April 1, 2003. As you recall, I was diagnosed with two herniated discs ca. one and a half years ago, but the doctor operated only on one disc at the time, because the other was not herniating enough to merit surgery. I suppose the other one eventually caught up, even though I faithfully followed all of the rehab instructions. The good news is that I am progressing well, and there are no other ruptured discs (so there should not be any more serious problems).

I told a friend of mine about the comments at the Duke reception and the medical procedures, to which he replied, "Well, Mr. Dorian Gray, that is the price to pay for eternal youth."

I hope all is well with the Department. Take care, and go Blue Devils.

Mark Gustafson (1992) After leaving Duke, I received my M.D. at the University of Virginia and then completed my residency in Otolaryngology Head & Neck surgery at the University of Cincinnati. I am now living in Carrollton, Georgia practicing in a three person group. I love every minute of it (at least when I’m not going in at some strange hour of the night on call!). I do miss the academic camaraderie and challenges, however, and try to stay somewhat conversant with the classics and archaeology through my reading.

My wife, Laurie, and I will be celebrating our tenth anniversary this year. We have a wonderful 13 month old daughter, Isabelle, who keeps us on our toes. If any alumni are in the Atlanta area and would like to get together please email mgustafson@yahoo.com.

Katherine A. Hagopian (1999) and Christopher M. Berry were married April 5, 2003 at Duke Chapel. Kate (M. A. in Comparative Literature, UNCCH 2002) and Christopher (JD, W&M Law School 2003) live in Williamsburg.

Eric Hanemann (1997) Thanks for the opportunity to share news with the Duke Classics community. In May I graduated from Fuqua’s Cross Continent MBA program. On April 6, I finished the Ironman triathlon in New South Wales, Australia. Since February I have been the pilot of a corporate aircraft based in Baton Rouge, LA.

Brian Hartman (1999) Greetings to everyone from Southern California. After nearly three and a half years of naval flight training in a variety of locations, it looks like I’m finally headed back to the east coast to join my first fleet squadron. In the next few weeks I’ll complete my year of training in the F/A-18 Hornet here at Miramar. I received word yesterday that I will be assigned to Navy Strike Fighter Squadron Eighty Three: VFA-83 Rampagers stationed at NAS Oceana Virginia. I should make my first full carrier deployment with them aboard the USS John F. Kennedy some time early next year.

William N. Hendricks, III (PhD, 1974) Son William graduates from NYU Law School in May, 2003. Ruth and I will be in Italy in spring, 2004—mostly in Florence, with some time in Rome.

Robert Jones (2002) I just wanted to fill you in on my goings on — recently took the MCATS, not nearly a Herculean task, but close enough. That, of course, means that I am looking towards medical school in September 2004 and, in the interim, I am returning to Duke to work at the Hospital, for clinical research. Of course, I could not be in such close proximity to the Classics Department without visiting for a lecture or chat with professors, whom I miss dearly. I truly looked upon the department and the students as family and I dearly miss the intellectual rigors and adventure of class in the Allen building.

On the Classics front, I am brushing up on my Tacitus and bracing myself for a dive into Greek, waters which I have not been treading for quite some time. My sister and I, in late July and August, attended a three week course at Cambridge University in Medieval history: should be quite wonderful. At present, I am enjoying my summer work here in St. Louis and tennis.

Hans Karl Kandlbinder (1954) of Munich, after more than 30 years of producing the annual analysis of the Spezialfonds (“The Kandlbinder Report”) with the 2002 issue has retired from this responsibility. The annual report is used extensively by institutional investors in Germany and is issued in German (Zeitschrift für das gesamte Kreditwesen, Frankfurt) and in English (IPE International Publishers, London). In August Dr. Kandlbinder celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his arrival at Duke under a Rotary and Fulbright scholarship. Congratulations, Hans Karl!

Jennifer L. Kindinger (1999) I graduated with a minor in Classical Civilizations. In May of 2002 I received my J.D. from The George Washington University School of Law, located in Washington, D.C. I was fortunate enough to be selected as a Presidential Management Intern, a prestigious two-year training program to bring students with graduate-level degrees and great leadership potential into the federal government. I am working as a PMF in the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights, a civilian agency of the Department of the Army, located near the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, and I hope to pursue a career in that field.
On a more personal note, on April 5, 2003, my best friend and fellow Duke graduate was married in Duke Chapel. Mrs. Katherine Berry, née Hagopian (1999), was a double major in English and Classics, also graduating in 1999.

Chris Kyle (1996) I am a student at UCLA’s MFA program in screenwriting. My latest screenplay is a comedy about Julius Caesar coaching a team of little gladiators in ancient Rome.

Richard A. (Rick) Lafleur (PhD, 1973) I hold the chair of Franklin Professor of Classics and am TA Supervisor and Coordinator of the Elementary Latin Program at the University of Georgia, where I served as department head from 1980-2001. Recent books include Latin for the 21st Century: From Concept to Classroom, revisions of Wheelock’s Latin, Workbook for Wheelock’s Latin, and Wheelock’s Latin Reader, and (with Alexander McKay) A Song Of War: Readings from Vergil’s Aeneid. This fall I will conclude 25 years of service as Editor of The Classical Outlook.

My son Jean-Paul is a corporate executive in Baltimore; daughter Caroline is an attorney in Atlanta; and daughter Kimberley is a nurse in Houston. My non-professional activities include hiking, running, weight-lifting, and spending time at my cabin in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Costas Lallas (1992) I am about to start my last year as a Urology resident at Duke Hospital; as a result, my wife Lydia and I are deciding where we will next continue our lives.

Shih-Ning “Suny” Liaw (1998) Classical studies was my second major. Biology was my first major, and since graduation, I have received my MD from UCLA school of Medicine. I truly enjoyed my four years in Los Angeles, and now I am finishing up my first year of Pediatric residency at the University of Texas-Houston program. I am enjoying it so far and am trying to figure out whether I plan to specialize or stay general.

I have exciting personal news as well. I am engaged to Yen Cao (Duke class of 2001), and we plan on getting married in Houston on Nov. 15, 2003.

Josh Lipsker (2001) I’m currently aboard the USS LASSEN (DDG 82), the navy’s most advanced deployable guided missile destroyer. I am both the Auxiliaries Officer and Public Affairs Officer. I am a part of the ship’s maiden deployment. We are currently operating in 7th Fleet (the Western Pacific). We left our home port of San Diego in January and expect to return some time between early July and early September. Joshua G. Lipsker, ENS USNR, AUXO/PAO USS LASSEN (DDG 82)

Deborah Lothman (1970) I want to tell you about Kate and me. Kate has accepted a job as Assistant Managing Editor in the Books Division of Duke University Press. She started work at Duke Press in early December, just in time for the huge ice storm that struck Durham. Although that was a most unpleasant experience for her, as it was for everyone in the surrounding areas, Kate is enjoying her new job and is happy to be back in Durham.

As for me, I have a growing private practice in clinical psychology. I provide psychological and educational evaluations of children, adolescents and young adults. Although I enjoyed living in the country for the past five years, commuting for an hour each day was not an activity I wished to continue. So, I’m now enjoying “city” life in Charlottesville.

Katherine (Kate) A. Lothman (2000) See Deborah Lothman above.

David Marttala (1983) After graduating at Duke in 1983, I attended Vanderbilt Law School and received a JD in 1986. I also met my wife, Susan, at Vanderbilt. She is a graduate of the University of the South and a native Tennessean. After law school, Susan and I settled in Nashville for a few years. I practiced with a downtown firm and she practiced with an attorney in the suburbs. We then decided to try small town life, so we moved to Susan’s hometown of McMinnville where we opened our own practice. We practiced together until 1996.

At that time, our second child was two and Susan decided she needed to devote more time to the children. She began working part-time for another law firm in town so that she could have more flexible hours. I continued practicing on my own for another year and then my major client, a local bank, asked me to serve as their in-house counsel. I have worked for the bank for about six years now. I do estate planning and oversee a title company the bank started last year.

Susan and I now have three children: Shelby (10 years), Will (9 years) and Lilly (5 years). Outside of our professional lives, we maintain an active schedule chauffeuring children between dance, gymnastics, piano lessons and the current seasonal sport (e.g. baseball, basketball, soccer). We also try to stay involved in community and church activities. All in all, we live a full life here in McMinnville.

Royce L.B. Morris (PhD, 1975) I am so pleased to have this opportunity to thank each person responsible for getting out the annual departmental Newsletter. I am always interested in it and pleased when it arrives. Last year because of the Newsletter, Bill Hendricks and I shared notes. It was the first time we had contacted each other in several years. Anyone else who wishes to contact me; please do. I would love to hear from you.

After retirement and since I no longer have the pleasure of teaching, my wife and I have tried to make up for this loss with travel. Since the last newsletter, we have traveled to San Francisco and Lake Tahoe, to Chicago, to New York City and we have just returned from London, where we had a very nice apartment in the very center of the city. Unlike what you usually expect in London we had beautiful weather and no rain until the day we left. We are planning more travel, but no definite sites at this time. My greetings and best wishes to all at Duke’s Department of Classics and to all who read the Newsletter.

Lonnie Player (1993) and his wife Dana were married on March 16, 2002. The marriage brought Lonnie also a stepdaughter, Alexandria, age 11. Like Lonnie, Dana is from Cumberland County, where both their extended families live. Lonnie (qualified 1998) is a civil attorney at the law firm of Hutchens and Senter in Fayetteville.

Jeremy Prager (1998) I graduated in May 2003 from Washington University School of Medicine and beginning a residency in Otolaryngology here at Wash U. Five more years in the Gateway City! In addition, 1
have become engaged to my junior high and high school sweetheart Amanda Read. She is a tax accountant here in St. Louis. We are currently the proud owners of a poorly behaved cat and an equally challenging house. All is well.

Meredith Prince (PhD, 2002) I am now living in New Orleans; I will be a Visiting Assistant Professor at Tulane this coming school year.

Gil Renberg (PhD, 2003) I'll be a senior lecturer at Ohio State University for the next year.

Elizabeth C. Riordan (1986) Greetings from New York from Elizabeth C. Riordan. Since graduation, I have been involved in the following:
- Went to Columbia University 1986-7, and received my MS in Human Nutrition
- Went to University of Connecticut Medical School 1987-1991, and received my MD
- Did my internship, and general surgical residency at SUNY, Stony Brook from 1991-1996
- Started working at the Northshore Medical Group of the Mt Sinai School of Medicine in Aug. 1996, as a General Surgeon—and am still employed there
- In 1998, became board certified in General Surgery, and got married to Richard Avery Flagg that same year.
- In 2000, became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.
- And most recently, gave birth to Aidan H. Flagg on May 1, 2003 who weighed in at 8 lbs, 2 oz and measured 22".

Can't wait to hear about the rest of my Classical Study colleagues!

Elizabeth Rocovich (1994) Greetings to everyone at Duke! I've been busy since I graduated in 1994. I finished my M.A. in Classics at the University of Virginia in 1997. I finished my coursework and exams for a PhD at the University of North Carolina in 1999, and I am currently in the latter stages (I hope) of my dissertation on imperial exile, under Dr. Richard Talbert.

Meanwhile, I graduated from Washington and Lee University School of Law in 2002. Currently, I am working on my dissertation and practicing tax and trusts & estates law with my father at Moss & Rocovich in Roanoke, Virginia. I still love the classics, and I hope to work as a part-time lecturer at one of the five colleges in our area after I finish the dissertation.

John Sarkissian (PhD, 1977) I am preparing to assume the role of Acting Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at Youngstown State University, where I find myself teaching Latin, Greek and Ancient History. After serving this year as Chief Reader Designate, I will assume the position of Chief Reader (or Chief Faculty Consultant) for the Advanced Placement Latin program.

Keesley Schell (2000) I took an M.Phil. in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic from Cambridge University in July 2001. For the last two years I have been pursuing a PhD in Classics at Brown University. I traveled to Germany in summer 2002 for a Goethe-Institut course, after which I took a two-week whirlwind trip from Madrid to Rome with my brother Skye. Most recent travels include a lovely trip back to Duke, which featured many friendly faces in the Classics Dept.!

Daniel Shaver (MA, 2003) and Caroline Brooks were married in June, 2003. They are living in Arlington, VA.

John Stevens (PhD, 1992) Last summer I published an article on Senecan wordplay in Syllecta Classica. At ECU, I have been named Director of Great Books, as well as serving as acting chair of the Foreign Language Department during the last two summers. My 18-month-old son Jack (tertius) occupies most of my time, charmer that he is.

Luther Stirewalt (MA,1937; PhD, 1945)
After clearing my desk and relieving my mind of studies on ancient Greek letter writing and on St. Paul's letters (my Paul, the Letter-Writer [Eerdman] appeared at the beginning of this year), I still am involved in letters and letter writing. I have fallen heir to several collections of letters. One collection is from two maternal great uncles who were in the Union Army. Before being killed in action they wrote seventy-five letters to their mother in Schuylkill County, Pa. Among other events, they record an invasion of the Outer Banks and the Battle of Petersburg. Another collection of about 150 letters were found in my grandfather's desk in New Market, Virginia after his death. They were written to him by his four sisters and two brothers between 1868 and the early 1900s. One sister lived as a farmer's wife in Iredell County, NC, and, strange to say, both brothers served in the Confederate Army. The letters are a rich source of information regarding life in the years after the war and during reconstruction. As a youth I spent many summers in New Market and experienced much of the end of the agricultural age as it remained in that region and as it is recorded in the letters. Some years ago my cousins, sisters and I arranged with Robert Byrd to deposit these collections and other papers in the Duke Rare Book and Manuscript Department. The Civil War letters are already there. I am still classifying and transcribing the other letters.

Benjamin Torbert (1998) I'm now post-prelim in the Duke Linguistics PhD. I still work at the North Carolina Language & Life Project (NCLLP) at NC State, under the direction of Walt Wolfram.

Fellow Duke PhD student Jeffrey Reaser and I have a chapter, "Bahamian Morphology and Syntax," forthcoming in the Mouton de Gruyter reference work Varieties of English, Volume II.

In 2002, I directed and produced a 24 minute documentary, "Hyde Talk: the Language & Land of Hyde County, North Carolina" for the NCLLP and the Hyde County Historical & Genealogical Society. I also received a Presidential Honorary Membership to the American Dialect Society for 2002-2005.

My wife, Shalay Hudson, teaches K-5 ESL at Holt Elementary School in Durham.

Felicia Traub (PhD, 1990) joined Colgate-Palmolive Company in New York as Trademark and Copyright Counsel in April 2002.

Jeannine Diddle Uzzi (PhD, 1998) Last year I accepted a position at the University of Southern Maine in Portland and left Whitman College, where I taught for four years. I miss Whitman, of course, but Chris (my husband) and I are very happy to be back on the east coast, where our daughter,
Mary Jane, who will be two in July, can finally get to know her extended family. We spent the year settling into both home and jobs; our new information is: 13 Sunset Road, Scarborough, ME 04074 e-mail: juzzi@usm.maine.edu. I am in the final stages of gathering images for my book, Children in the Visual Arts of Rome, which is being published by Cambridge University Press. I’ll be presenting at the Children and Childhood conference at Dartmouth this fall, and I’m a panelist on this year’s APA Presidential Panel on the future of classics. I hope to see everyone in January!

Amy E. Vickers-Smith (2000) I am living in Tucson, Arizona and working on my master’s at AU in conservation/animal studies. I was married on June 1, 2003, in Alexandria, Virginia, and returned to Arizona. My husband is working on his PhD in molecular biology at AU. My new address is 6574 N. Calle Sin Nombre, Tucson AZ 85718. Since graduation, I have acquired two horses (one from when I rode on the equestrian team at Duke) and a dog, to go along with my cat and my husband’s bird. We love animals! My e-mail address is ackgirl@hotmail.

John E. Ziolkowski (1958) I am well and still enjoying life at George Washington University, where I have been teaching Greek and Latin and related courses in translation since 1967. I am looking forward to the pleasure of learning more about your (Francis’) namesake, St. Francis of Assisi, thanks to an NEH Seminar in Italy this summer.

Study of Manuscripts: Undergraduates in Perkins Rare Book Room

Students in Latin 170, Roman Satire, examining one of Duke’s MSS of Juvenal, MS lat. 153, in Perkins’s Rare Book Room (note the white gloves). They are: seated, Jeffrey Davis from San Francisco (‘06); and, standing, from left, Jacob Pelley from Sherman TX (‘06), David Mermin from Chapel Hill (‘04), Julia Lewis from Pittsburgh (‘06), Andrew Evans from Philadelphia (‘06), and Anna Shields from San Antonio TX (‘06).

“Lectio difficilior, lectio potior”

The Latin 170 class collated the text of Juvenal’s first satire in MS Dukianus 153 (15th century, in Humanistic Script) with the Ferguson text that we were reading. At Sat. 1.120-126 Juvenal, in describing the crowd that gathered for distribution of the dole (sportula), vividly depicts an attempted fraud: a man has brought an empty litter or sedan chair with closed curtains and pretends that his wife is inside and has come to receive her dole as well. He calls out to the empty, closed litter, “profer, Galla, caput” (“Galla, stick your head out”), then turns to the manager of the sportula distribution and says, “noli vexare, quiescit” (“don’t disturb her; she is resting”), as it is in most MSS; or “noli vexare, quiescit” (“don’t disturb her; she will be resting”), as it is in the famous 9th century MS P, once owned by Pithou and preserved in the library of the School of Medicine at Montpellier in the south of France. At this point Duke MS 153, had “quiescit” in the original hand. Most editors follow the high authority of P here and print “quiescit,” the text-critical principle being summed up in the saying, “Lectio difficilior, lectio potior” (“the reading that is harder is the reading to be preferred”). In this case “quiescit” = “she will be resting” is the more difficult; the future means “you will find that she is resting.” The reasoning behind the motto is that the more difficult reading is more likely to be corrupted into the easier one, rather than the other way round. In fact, in P the reading “quiescit” has been changed into “quiescit” by a second hand; in effect, if scholars are correct to see this as the process, the text has been “dumbed down.” On the other hand, in the Dukianus some Humanist has corrected “quiescit” to “quiescit”--the more difficult reading, so the opposite process. This study is important to us as an example; it was hoped that it might provide the students the opportunity to have hands-on experience—with gloves, of course—of a classical manuscript, to see for themselves the kind of evidence that our texts rest on, to learn the rudiments of collating MSS, and, where the MSS disagree, to think about some basic principles in choosing readings.

For a case of “facilior lectio potior,” see Nesbit and Hubbard, Commentary on Horace, Odes I, on C. 1.3.19 ("turbidum" vs. "juridum"). It would require an entire course in Textual Criticism to address the many issues raised by students of the art today.
A list of graduating ephobes of the year 162/163 of our era, the third year of the rule as Caesar of Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus (their names in the genitive on the first and second lines of the text proper). Above that in larger script is the dedication in the dative to Agathe Tyche (Good Fortune). At the top a male figure.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2003
(Speaking of Good Fortune, we beseech the goddess to bring her blessings on the ephebaci and epheboi of this, the fourth year of rule of Gregson Davis as Caesar of the department.)

Classical Civilization - Majors:
Robert Marshall Brandt
Allison Rae Eaton
Luke Arthur Fedoroff
Adam Benjamin Gasthalter
Meredith Carin Houlton
Michael Ram Joyce
Christopher Paul McHugh
Rita Roxanne Rollins
Eric Jay Seid
Erin Ashley Smith

Classical Civilization - Minors:
Haritha Bodduluri
Kenneth William Borrelli
Laura Catherine Daniel
Jason Benjamin Dean
Tolulope Olubukola Falaiye
David Haley Ingram
Ann G. Langford
Shannon Faith Rosati

Classical Languages - Majors:
Madeleine Vogel Goodman
Michael Ram Joyce

Greek - Minor:
Jeffrey Christopher Stanley

David Taggard Clark
Prize in Classical Studies

Adam Benjamin Gasthalter

Doctor of Philosophy


Megan Drinkwater-Ottone, Dissertation title: Epic and Elegy in Ovid’s Heroides: Paris, Helen and Homeric Intertext. Directed by Gregson Davis

Sam Findley, Dissertation Title: Theognis, Tibullus and the Poetry of Loss. Directed by Peter Burian


Master of Arts

Samuel Herbert Jackson
Karen Louise Jones
Daniel Ethan Shaver
The Duke Graduate School awarded Summer Research Fellowships to Eric Adler, John Bauschatz, and Mike Lippman. The fellowships are offered competitively to PhD students who have completed 3, 4, 5, or 6 years of graduate study at Duke.

Elise Anschel - I gave a paper entitled, "Vergil's Miscens (Aeneid 6.149-235): Emblem of the Past, Obstacle to the Future" at the 6th Annual/UNC Graduate Colloquium in Classics, "Raising the Dead. Reexamining Ancient Ideas About Death."

Paul and I proudly announce the birth of Livia Elena on June 13, 2003. She weighed 8 lbs., 7 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long.

John Bauschatz - I delivered a paper, "Death in the Duke Papyri," at the most recent grad student colloquium. I published a paper with Josh Sosin, "Four Duke Papyri concerning Pesouris, Basilikos Grammateus." It appears in ZPE 141 (2002). John adds, "I am using my summer research fellowship to finance three months of gruelling, back-breaking, hardcore research in the Papyrology Room of Perkins Library."

Rodney Larson - I gave a paper on Molossus as a speaking-abundance in Aeneid 3 at the annual general meetings of the Classical Association of Canada, this year held in Fredericton, New Brunswick on the campus of the University of New Brunswick.

Mike Lippman - I have been named the Francis Newton Instructor Fellowship from the Graduate School.

Thomas "Eph" Lytle - I presented a paper at the APA in New Orleans entitled, "Crowds and Petronius: Analyzing a Narrative Device in the Satyricon." At the APA in Philadelphia the year before I gave a paper that has been revised subsequently and as 'Apuleius' Metamorphoses and the Spurcium Additamentum (10.21)" will be published in Classical Philology in the fall, by which time I will be far removed from lovely Durham, thanks to a fellowship at the American School in Athens. All this is of little consequence when contrasted with a development in my personal life: Anne-Marie and I are now the proud parents of an abandoned puppy, whose demonstrated ability to devour our shoes will hopefully provide in a year's time a ready excuse as to what, exactly, happened to my dissertation.

Rachel Meyers - I took a leave of absence from Duke during the academic year 2002-3 and spent my time in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. There I had the opportunity to offer a seminar at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. In the 8-week long seminar, I dealt with recent archaeological projects in Pompeii and Rome, as well as the history of excavations and special considerations of these two cities. It was a great opportunity for me to share the exciting discoveries of the Anglo-American Project in Pompeii, which I participated in during the 1999 field season. The seminar was well-attended by undergraduates, graduate students, and professors from departments of history, museology, and art history. During June and July 2003, I will be in New York City attending the Numismatic Society's Graduate Summer Seminar. I hope this seminar will prove helpful in the preparation of my dissertation, which will investigate coin and sculpture types of the second-century empresses.

Rachel Stroumsa - I attended the American School in Athens this summer from June 9 to July 23.

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Duke-UNC Graduate Colloquium in Classics
by Molly Maddox

The sixth annual Duke-UNC Graduate Colloquium in Classics returned to Duke this year on March 29, 2003. The Colloquium, which alternates each year between host schools Duke and UNC, was sponsored by the Classics Departments of both universities together with Duke's Mediterranean Studies Initiative. The topic for 2003, proposed by Duke graduate students Eph Lytle and Elise Anschel, was "Raising the Dead: Re-examining Ancient Ideas about Death." Dr. John Bodel, Professor of Classics at Brown University and noted authority on epigraphy and Roman funerary practices, delivered the keynote address entitled "Growing Memory: Sizing Up Roman Tomb Gardens" to the audience of forty.

Among the eight graduate student speakers representing seven American universities were John Bauschatz and Elise Anschel of Duke. Prof. Tolly Boatwright hosted the post-Colloquium party for speakers, guests, and graduate students of both Duke and UNC, generously offering her grill for a cookout. The 2003 Colloquium, an all around success, continued the tradition started in 1998 of uniting graduate students in Durham and Chapel Hill and bringing together peers from across the country for a day of collaboration, questions, and discussion. Molly Maddox, along with Dennis McKay of UNC, organized the colloquium. Charlie Muntz was responsible for the fliers and programs.
In Memoriam: Alfred Blackett
by Gregson Davis

The death of my former Latin teacher, Dr. Alfred Blackett, has prompted me to pay homage, in the form of this brief personal memoir, to his singular accomplishments as educator and scholar.

Alfred Blackett strode into my 5th form classroom at the Antigua Grammar School (AGS) at a crucial juncture in my secondary school education. He took up his post as our Latin master in the middle of a year in which we were preparing to face the ominous challenge of the Senior Cambridge School Certificate examinations. His appearance was for me akin to an intellectual epiphany. The diminutive Barbadian with an aura of gravitas and the gift of eloquence proceeded to dazzle us all with his immense erudition, his awesome knowledge of the Latin language and his almost fanatical commitment to thoroughness and perfectionism. Blackett’s classroom manner was as imposing as it was theatrical, and he delivered his instruction in a carefully modulated style that was ornate and, at times, bordering on the archaic. Like a virtuoso performer, he enacted his pedagogic role with flair and exquisite timing. A strict, even obsessive, disciplinarian, he often provoked stubborn resistance from those pupils who resented his meticulous observance of the rules of decorum in the classroom. For those of our number, however, who were thirsty for an intellectual mentor, Blackett was a veritable godsend. The Latin scholar was rapid and precocious.

Thanks to Blackett’s impetus my own formation as a Latin scholar was rapid and precocious. In the sixth form I responded to the challenge of his class in advanced Latin prose composition with a zeal that astounded even my revered master himself. A defining anecdote from my experience at AGS will serve to convey something of the flavor of his mentorship. Blackett would regularly produce an unbelievably elegant, polished version of the Latin composition passages that he assigned weekly from the famous English textbook, Bradley’s Arnold, as a model for his pupils and I, for one, would eagerly await each installment of his Ciceronian-style prose. One memorable day he entered the classroom and made the surprise announcement: “I am giving you Gregson Davis’ composition this week as your model. I could not have produced a better one myself.” Thereafter he took me under his wing, declaring, to my astonishment, that he thought I was now capable of passing the BA exams in Latin at the University of London with ease, and he immediately undertook to initiate me into the study of ancient Greek. I still own the tattered copy of Abbot & Mansfield’s elementary Greek grammar that he gave me as a philological debutant. Thereafter I went on to major in Classics at Harvard, where I was awarded the annual Bowdoin prize for Latin Translation four years in a row, and, in due course, delivered the Latin oration as class valedictorian at Harvard’s Commencement Exercises in 1960. There is no doubt that my subsequent success as a professor of Classics in the US academy (at Stanford, Cornell, and Duke) is due, in no small measure, to the excellent foundation I had the privilege of receiving from this truly inspiring teacher.

Alfred Blackett eventually obtained a PhD at the University of London at an age more advanced than usual for a graduate student. His experience as a graduate student was, at best, ambivalent. A proud man, he was predictably over-sensitive to the fact that he was far more advanced in his knowledge of Latin than the average doctoral candidate in Classics, and he chafed at what he saw as the subordinate role he was obliged to play while doing research on his PhD thesis, which was supervised by none other than the eminent German émigré Classicist, Otto Skutsch. “Be that as it may” (as Blackett was fond of saying), his doctoral thesis constituted an original contribution to our understanding of the nuances of metrical technique in Horace’s Odes.

Mention of Horace brings me to another important aspect of Blackett’s influence on my own development as a scholar. It is no accident that my own reputation as a Classical scholar rests, in part, on a book I wrote on Horace’s lyric poetry (Polyhymnia: the Rhetoric of Horatian lyric discourse, University of California Press, 1991). My abiding appreciation of the art of Horace can securely be traced back to my early exposure to the Odes in the sixth form under the expert tutelage of Alfred Blackett.

I offer this tribute in illustration of Alfred Blackett’s uncommon ability to inspire receptive pupils to high levels of academic achievement. I hope that other Antiguan graduates of the AGS whose scholarly gifts were nurtured and brought to fruition by Dr. Blackett will join me in marking the moment of his passing with similar testimonials. 

Requiescat in pace.
A Summer’s Research in Italian Libraries
by Benjamin Morris (’04)

If this is the last time that I have to say “I’m researching an inscription on the façade of the Duomo of Pisa,” I’ll be a happy man. During the months of June and July I said it in Italian so much (“Sto ricercando un’iscrizione sulla facciata del Duomo di Pisa”) that it may have even topped the number of times I said “Vorrei un cono di gelato.”

Well, maybe not.

Benjamin A. Morris in front of the Pitti Palace

November, 2002

Being fortunate enough to receive one of the Summer Fellowships from the Deans of Trinity College to assist me in my research, I traveled to Pisa, Italy under the auspices of Professor Newton to serve as his “eyes and ears” on the spot while Professor Newton begins to write the next chapter in his upcoming book on mythological paradigms in literature, art, and history. Our aim was to find as much out about the life of the builder of the Duomo mentioned in the inscription, Buscheto, as was possible, and our impetus for my going was the sheer unavailability of many of the materials here in the States. When I arrived in Pisa, then, after moving into my apartment (which was just as small and dusty and non-air conditioned as I had hoped—ubi in Roma, mentre in Italia, no?) I began ticking off my laundry list of documents to find: first was the book by Pio Pecchiai in the Biblioteca Universitaria—the Pisan Perkins, as I like to call it—containing the transcription of two manuscripts from 1104 and 1110 referring to Buscheto. A highlight came when I was able to view those documents in the Archivio di Stato and, with the assistance of a professor at the Scuola Normale, do a little corrective palaeography on Pecchiai’s incomplete transcription.

Along the way I stumbled on a document by Peleo Bacci, once the superintendent of the monuments of Pisa, who had performed some excavations on the Duomo and found the remnants of foundations under the old facade (the current facade is a later extension) that may point to an additional set of fortifications around the Duomo, something the inscription may allude to as well. It was an intriguing discovery, and so I spent a week buried in the Archives of the Superintendent attempting to find anything that might relate to Bacci’s life and work, unearthing several peculiar news entries from the 1910’s of public debates Bacci entered as well as a set of reports by American engineers on the leans and foundations of the Duomo. Following that, I tracked down a mysterious entry in a Cronaca Pisana in the archives of Lucca, watching in absolute horror as the archivist brushed aside my request for special photographic reproductions to put this gorgeous 800-year old manuscript on the Xerox machine. It was the biggest palaeographic no-no I have ever seen, but at the same time, I was thankful for the copies.

Interspersed with these adventures were a few glad visits to friends I had made in Florence while living there last fall, as well as seemingly hundreds of different books and essays (and eggplants — oh, how bellissime!) and numerous meetings with professors and experts at the various institutions of Pisa, all of whom were very helpful and friendly, even when they told me to walk across town in the scorching heat to talk to, yes, yet another expert. At times I began to feel like a pinball in a shirt and tie, but I didn’t mind. Consequently, when I left Pisa in late July, I had accumulated enough information about the inscription that the only thing remaining was to go home and read it all!

Please bring us up to date with your news at:

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My Life as a First Year Latin Teacher
By Steven R. Turner, Jr. ('02)

If you had asked me in the Fall of my freshman year at Duke what I thought I would be doing after I graduated, I believe that there is little to no chance you would hear me utter the following phrase: "I will be an eighth grade Latin teacher in Macon, Georgia." Of course, as I was raised just outside of New York City, the mention of Macon, Georgia in the above statement seems almost as unbelievable as the profession I chose, but I suppose it's funny how things work out.

Though I always saw myself in graduate school immediately after I left Duke, I decided that I wanted to spend a little time outside of the role of student. I wanted to experience the so-called "real world" that exists outside the walls of American universities. So I started looking for jobs on the website of the American Classical League (http://spectrum.troyst.edu/~acl/). I found that listings presented nearly endless geographical possibilities for me, and, being young and single, I applied for jobs all over the eastern seaboard, getting called back to interview at several schools. Shortly after my interview at Stratford Academy, the Middle School Principal made me an offer I couldn't refuse, though in a slightly less Italian and slightly more southern way than Marlon Brando. So, following a passion for Latin, the Allman Brothers Band, and good fried chicken, I packed my life into a seventeen-foot Uhaul and headed for Macon.

As the first day of school approached, I was certainly nervous. Would the kids like me? Would the other teachers respect me? Did I plan enough for my first lesson? Would the kids care about Latin at all? I must admit that I was sweating bullets as I stepped into my classroom. I explained to the students what they would be learning and what the rules were in my classroom. Confidence was building. Then, the first hand goes up. "Mr. Turner, does anyone in the world still speak Latin?" I was shocked, not so much by the question itself (these kids are only thirteen) as by the fact that I had been called "Mr. Turner." The only people who ever addressed me as "Mr. Turner" previously were people to whom I owed money. I started to realize that I was now an adult, an authority figure of some kind, and I have to say that this was a really good feeling.

For most of this year, I tried to pinpoint exactly what I wanted my teaching style to be. I thought back to teachers I had in middle school, high school, and even at Duke and what methods of theirs really helped me to get excited about the subject and to learn the material. My style of teaching became a blend of myself and my instincts coupled with what worked for all the teachers I had. My greatest effort was to make the kids become excited about the material and to make this "dead" language come alive in the classroom for all of them. The first day that we actually started delving into Latin itself, I handed out a photocopied excerpt from the Ars Amatoria giving Ovid's advice on how to pick up girls at the races. I had to provide them with a translation (toned down of course), and we were able to go through the passage in English and make comparisons between the Circus Maximus and a modern day movie theatre. As I heard the hormonal giggles of the kids, I knew that I had made the connection I was looking for. After reading through the passage in English, we read the Latin and looked for derivatives. The kids found at least two on every line, and I could tell that they already felt better about this language.

Shortly after this exercise, Friday, August 23rd arrived, marking the day before the eruption of Vesuvius. I decided to take the opportunity to provide a context for this new language the kids were learning. We spent the day partying like it was 79 AD, learning about the eruption itself, reading Pliny's account of the action, writing Latin graffiti on the board, and having our last meal of "vinum" and crustulæ. Many laughs were had at the toga and laurel wreath worn by Mr. Turner. The kids seemed to enjoy the day and really came to a new understanding of what they were learning.

While all of this makes it sound like teaching eighth grade Latin is all fun and games, my 91 thirteen-year-old students presented me with a great number of challenges this year as well. It was no easy feat to explain to them why a verb has six different endings in the present tense, or why they should not write "est currit" for "is running." Teaching is inventing many different ways to explain the same concept. When I tried to explain how to give the appropriate form of a first or second declension adjective to match a third declension noun, it seemed like I had as many explanations as I had students. This also means that teaching is having a near endless supply of examples readily available. If the students struggle with finding the appropriate form of

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Greetings to all from Wilmington, continuing in Latin. Thirty-four of my students were inducted into the National Latin Honor Society, and six Middle School Latin students represented Stratford at the Georgia Junior Classical League Convention. I have been elated to see my students develop the same enthusiasm for Latin and things classical. Latin is required for eighth graders at Stratford, but when the students reach high school, they can choose their language. Next year’s Latin II class is among the largest in the school’s history, with over twenty students continuing in Latin. Thirty-four of my students were inducted into the National Latin Honor Society, and six Middle School Latin students represented Stratford at the Georgia Junior Classical League Convention. I have been elated to see my students develop the same enthusiasm for Latin that I did as a Latin I student, and it thrills me to have been a part of this development.

Teaching Latin has really strengthened my comfort level with the language. Being considered the authority on the subject in the Middle School at Stratford makes me feel like the authority on the subject. But there’s more. Having to be prepared to answer every conceivable question, find ways to make sure that each student understands the concept, come up with an endless supply of examples to make a point, and at the same time make sure the kids think I know what I’m talking about all make me feel a comfort with the language that I have never felt before. In this sense, teaching Latin has been one of the greatest learning experiences I have ever had. I also feel like I am doing my part to pass on an understanding of Latin and things classical. Latin is required for eighth graders at Stratford, but when the students reach high school, they can choose their language. Next year’s Latin II class is among the largest in the school’s history, with over twenty students continuing in Latin. Thirty-four of my students were inducted into the National Latin Honor Society, and six Middle School Latin students represented Stratford at the Georgia Junior Classical League Convention. I have been elated to see my students develop the same enthusiasm for Latin that I did as a Latin I student, and it thrills me to have been a part of this development.

I would strongly encourage current undergraduates to consider teaching after graduating from Duke, either on a temporary or more permanent basis. If you are interested in hearing more, feel free to contact me at sturner@stratford.org.

News from Friends

Jane Bullock - Greetings to all from Wilmington, NC. I continue to enjoy my job at UNCW. Now I am taking classes at UNCW, too. I took Criminal Justice in the Fall and Introduction to Computers in the Spring. I am not sure what degree I will decide on but at 53 years of age I do not have a lot of time to decide.

Mike is still at the Monkey Junction WalMart. We are trying to get our new business “Seaside Treasures and Gifts” started. Farrah is still in Raleigh and Marlo, James, and Tyler are still in Durham. Between work and church we do not have a lot of time for fishing but plan to get started back soon.

MESSAGES FROM THE EDITOR

The department is dedicating a shelf in the Departmental Library to recent books and articles by faculty and graduate students. In addition, we solicit articles and books that you, the alumni, have recently published. Please help make it easy for all of us here to see and know thoroughly your work. In this way we remain in touch as we try to do by soliciting and publishing your news. Help us out!

The Editor would like to thank all the contributors, especially John Oates, Kent Rigsby, Keith Stanley, Virginia Morris, and Alexis Blane. A very special thanks to Jenna Golnik and her assistants, Monika Parson and Lucy Harris.


--The Editor

GRATIAS VOBIS AGIMUS

Each installment of PHEME affords us the opportunity to express, in a more public way, our warm thanks to all the donors who continue to support our mission. The continuing generosity of Bill and Sylvia Teasley has enabled us to add to our fine collection of Greek and Roman antiquities on display at DUMA (see the description of the latest acquisition on p. 2 of this issue by our departmental curator, Professor Keith Stanley). Twin gifts from the William A. Stern Foundation and Sidney J. Stern have, as often in the past, helped us to enhance our curriculum in a variety of ways, including support for teaching resources in our undergraduate Mythology class and for graduate student research projects overseas. Last but not least, we wish to thank those who have donated books to our departmental library: Professor Emeritus Larry Richardson, Professor John Oates, and the Anita Dresser Jurgens Foundation.

Gregson Davis, Chair