Letter from the Chair

XAIPETE!

Dear Friends,

Greetings to all you classic Blue Devils – it is a pleasant duty to offer greetings and news of the department over the past year: there is much to report and to celebrate. The following remarks highlight just a few of the many things that you will find in the pages of PHEME this year.

I offer salutations and thanks to our two short-term colleagues who have now moved on from Duke to new positions. Ben Wolkow, who has taught Greek, Latin and classical civ courses for us, tutored tirelessly, and advised and encouraged our students these past two years, takes up a one-year position at Loyola Chicago this year. John Schafer, who endeared himself to both our undergraduates and grads with his dedication, erudition, and enthusiasm, will spend this year as a fellow at the Thesaurus Linguae Latinae in Germany before taking up a position the following year at Northwestern. We wish them both the very best, and we will miss them.

This summer our current grad student Jake Butera spent several weeks working at the theater on Samothrace and Joanne Fairhurst attended the American Academy at Rome summer session, both with Teasley Fund support. We heartily celebrate
Bart Huelsenbeck's successful defense of his dissertation this spring. Bart is teaching for us full-time this year as a visiting assistant professor. Congratulations also to Akira Yatsuhashi, who has a pre-doctoral fellowship at Carleton lined up. After a year recovering from the bumper crop of admitted students a year ago, we happily welcomed five new graduate students in the fall. We rejoice in David Ungvary's (now a Senior) winning a Beinecke Fellowship for his future graduate studies.

This summer, Clare Woods has led a full complement of students on the Duke in Rome summer program, having done an excellent job in her first year as director of graduate studies. José González has carried out a conference this fall held at the Franklin Center (with its co-sponsorship), on *Diachrony* (see the description infra) that brought a wide range of scholars to Duke in October. Tolly Boatwright is now enjoying a much deserved and long-delayed sabbatical, and Gregson Davis, stepping down after five years as Dean of the Humanities, is also on leave all year. Peter Burian has departed these shores for a year in Italy, where he is now Professor in Charge at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. Peter, his wife Maura, and Clare were able to join me in Sicily in July for a period of sight/site seeing and (in Maura's case) excavation with the Virginia crew working on the Hellenistic bath building. And after continuing to teach, advise, and work in his office daily for nearly two decades past his official retirement, Larry Richardson has moved into assisted living in Durham, where he receives many departmental visitors and continues to work; his study of Plautus was complete this spring. (His contact information may be found inside.)

With the several retirements of the past few years and the absence of so many stalwart colleagues next year, I am very happy to report that we are enjoying the arrival of two new faculty colleagues this fall. I am delighted to welcome as assistant professor of Latin Jed Atkins, who specializes in Cicero and in political theory. Jed has just completed his PhD at Cambridge and we look forward to having a new colleague to help rebuild our junior ranks. We are also most fortunate to have lured William Johnson away from the University of Cincinnati, where he has been serving at head of the department. William is a distinguished scholar who works on topics ranging from ancient music to reading communities and ancient literacy. The US office of L'année philologique, a major professional resource that is administered through the American Philological Association, comes to us from Cincinnati as part of this hire. We are most fortunate, in these straitened financial times that have spared not even an institution of such resources as Duke, to have been able to make these fine appointments.

Finally, I can report that we have secured new office space on the ground floor of Allen building that is being vacated by the Graduate School. By the end of the summer, we will have consolidated all our resources and members, including graduate students, the offices for GRBS and L'année, our emeritus faculty and new hires, in the same wing of Allen building.

It remains only to thank all my colleagues for their exceptionally hard work this year, as well as Jenna Golnik and Cathy Puckett for their superhuman efforts to support the mission of the department. I offer my heartfelt thanks for Francis Newton who once again demonstrated his devotion to the department in so many ways, offering his advice on hiring, advising and encouraging our students, and editing this newsletter.

We are always glad to hear your news and hope you will stay in touch; please visit us if you are ever in Durham!

In January, when Dean George McLendon announced the appointment of Srinivas Aravamudan to succeed Gregson Davis, he spoke warmly of our colleague in the following remarks:

Dean McLendon said, "Gregson Davis will be deeply missed. It has been a privilege to have him as a colleague and we are indebted to him for the advances we have made in the arts and in transcultural humanities."
Carla Antonaccio: 2009 was my second year as chair, a position that has both its challenges and rewards (see my letter on the front page). Otherwise, I taught a new course in the fall, an undergraduate survey introduction to archaeological method and theory through case studies of early complex societies around the world. I also taught my course on early Greek archaeology, ca. 1200-500 BCE. These two courses enrolled nearly 80 students. In the spring I co-taught a graduate seminar on Iron Age archaeology with my close colleague Donald Haggis at UNC to a group of students from Duke and Carolina, a very rewarding experience as I am working on a book on the topic and Donald is an old friend (since the Agora excavations in 1982!). I was elected an academic trustee of the Archaeological Institute of America and attended my first board meeting in May of 2009.

I directed most of my scholarly effort this year toward seeing publications to print. These include a contribution on the meaning of identity in Classical Studies that I wrote for a volume edited by my colleague Peter Euben (and Karen Bassi, of UC Santa Cruz), and another essay on material culture and identity that saw its final revision on the way to press with Cambridge in a volume edited by Tamar Hodos (Bristol). It was a pleasure to have Tamar visit the area in March and meet with the Iron Age seminar. I am happy to report that the Blackwell Companion to Archaic Greece, in which I have a contribution on the western Mediterranean, finally has appeared. I gave two papers at conferences this year: “At home in the Middle Ground. Settling in Sicily” in a panel at the conference Meetings between Cultures in the Ancient Mediterranean (17th International Congress of Classical Archaeology) in Rome in September. The second was co-authored with Justin Walsh, “Athenian Pottery, Metal Vessels, and Local Taste at Morgantina”, which we gave at the Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in January.

This summer saw yet one more trip for study at Morgantina in Sicily, where Malcolm Bell (University of Virginia) and I have been working together since 1990. We have been joined by sophomore major Brendan Saslow and colleagues Peter Burian, Maura High (who came in 2007) and Clare Woods – a kind of Classical Studies extension. Mac and I are concentrating on our own research and assisting our Sicilian colleagues and collaborators in readying the museum for the return and display of several significant antiquities illegally exported in the past.

Mary (Tolly) Boatwright: Since last writing for PHEME, I have enjoyed a great albeit busy year. I accomplished a long-standing dream when I got to Hadrian’s Wall in Great Britain. Thanks to Alex Meyer (ABD, Duke PhD) and Beth Greene, moreover, I walked 12 miles of the Wall one day, and biked on the next 13 miles in the opposite direction. In July 2008 I was in London to review the amazing Hadrian show at the British Museum (now published in AJA 113, January 2009). I then went north to visit the Wall, drawn not only by Hadrian and the Roman army, but also by the Roman site of Vindolanda, where Alex and Beth have been digging for the last few years. It was a fantastic trip. My “school year” was also fun, even though the pace of life wasn’t as slowed by passing on the DGS role to Dr. Woods as I had anticipated. I taught two new classes: a F08 graduate course on Roman Frontiers (wonderful help for my talk at the Franklin Humanities Institute; see below), and an undergraduate capstone class (S09) on “Imperial Cities.” Both were marvelous experiences, teaching me a lot (as also did my customary 3rd-semester Latin and Roman History classes). I gave a paper on Roman frontiers and imperialism at the “Empire Without End” conference the FHI put on in October 2008. In early January I spoke on “New Approaches to Roman Institutional and Political History” at the APA at a session organized by the Association of Ancient Historians (see http://www.apaclassics.org/education/CAH/2009panel.html). Now in May, I am leaving for a talk at the University of Cincinnati, “Gendering the Roman Forum: the Puzzle of the Aedicula Faustinae.” I’m looking forward to the summer and then a year’s sabbatical (09-10), so that I can get caught up on the many projects I have yet to complete – a couple of books, articles, reviews... I better get to work now!
Peter Burian: Back in the saddle after a blissful year of sabbatical leave, I have rediscovered the joys of teaching (and the pitfalls of excess) by offering three courses in each of the last two terms. My department load was all Greek and all good: Greek 1 and 2 were as much fun as ever, with more students than we’ve had in recent years (16 plus auditors), the valuable assistance of my graduate student co-instructor, Chad Austino, and a new textbook (Reading Greek). In the fall, I taught a new course, a graduate-level survey of Hellenistic literature (mostly poetry), and in the spring, a third-year Homer course, in which we read Iliad 9 and 14. Sometimes I wonder why they pay me for this—but don’t tell the dean!

The first of my self-inflicted “extras” were a course in the fall on ancient myth and modern performance (drama, opera, film) in the Graduate Liberal Studies program. My collaborator was the program’s wonderful director, Donna Zapf, and teaching with her was a delight from beginning to end. (We began in the happiest possible way, reading Sophocles’ Antigone and seeing brilliant performance by a local company of Athol Fugard’s The Island, a two-person version of the Antigone as presented by political prisoners on South Africa’s notorious Robben Island.) In the spring, I taught a course on theory and practice of literary translation as preparation for a conference organized in collaboration with colleagues from German and Turkish studies at Duke and comparative literature at UNC. This class begins as a theory seminar with style exercises designed to focus on issues that face translators and then becomes a writing workshop in which students present and critique translation projects in progress. The conference, with participants from several countries and two days of panels and keynote talks of very high quality, was in effect the best imaginable culmination of the course.

I celebrated spring break with a trip to England to participate in a 75th birthday celebration for my dear friend Pat Easterling, a superb scholar and (what is perhaps rarer) a great human being. A group of her friends produced a book of essays in her honor and presented it to her at a surprise party—both the book and the party really were surprises, and it was a joyous occasion. I then went to Oxford, gave a talk at the new Classics Center on “Ambition, private and public, in Aristophanes’ Birds and Euripides Phoenician Women,” and had a wonderful time staying at Christ Church and visiting colleagues in a number of colleges.

My essay in the Easterling volume, “Inconclusive conclusion: the ending(s) of Oedipus Tyrannus,” is the first of the pieces I completed on sabbatical to see the light of print. This year also saw the publication of the first two collected volumes of the Oxford Greek Tragedy in New Translations, which William Arrowsmith began nearly forty years ago, and which I have been editing for the last decade. The remaining seven volumes are scheduled to appear before the end of 2010.

I’ve saved my most exciting news for last: At the end of June, Maura and I will be heading for a month in Sicily, and the beginning of a year at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, where I will be professor in charge. In Sicily, Maura will be volunteering on the excavations at Morgantina (the beautiful site that Carla Antonaccio co-directs) while I review Roman history and gallivant around the island to visit the sites where we’ll be taking students next October and February. What is it they say? A tough job but someone has to do it. If you’re in Rome, between August and May of next year, look us up!

Diskin Clay: I retired in September of 2008. After finishing endless encyclopedia and Blackwell Companion entries, I have sworn off all such diversions to continue to work on The Art of Hell (manu dextra) and a commentary to Lucian’s True History (manu sinistra). My memoir "Greek Poets and Strangers" will soon be published by The American School of Classical Studies in Athens, and I am writing a memoir of my years as an undergraduate at Reed College ("Sentenced to Reed 1956-1960"). In early June 2009 I returned to Delphi to honor Charles H. Kahn at the European Cultural Centre at Delphi during a four-day conference on Plato and the Presocratics. My topic was the "new Empedocles." In early October I will visit Boston University where my translation of Euripides' Trojan Women will be taught (with Sophocles' Ajax and Euripides' Hecuba) as part of their "core curriculum."
Gregson Davis: As I approach the end of my five-year term as Dean of Humanities, I am looking forward eagerly to completing a monograph on “Thalia: The Interplay of Ideas in Vergil’s Eclogues,” that I have been obliged to keep on the back burner (with intermittent re-warming summer sessions) under pressure of administrative duties. For inspiration in bringing the project to fruition, I hope to spend part of the coming fall semester on sabbatical leave at the American Academy in Rome. The opportunity to interact with our very own Peter Burian, who will be directing the Centro next year, makes the prospect of a Roman sojourn on the Gianicolo even more alluring.

In the course of my final year at the post I have barely succeeded in fulfilling a publishing contract with Blackwell to edit a volume on Horace in their “Companion” series. I am also currently in the process of composing two long over-due articles that were commissioned for special issues of journals on the poetry of the late Aimé Césaire.

As I look back over my stint as Dean, I am gratified to report that the two major strategic initiatives that were conceived and planted under my stewardship have begun to take root and even flourish: “visual studies” and “transcultural Humanities.” My fond hope for the future of the latter, in particular, is that it will eventually contribute to the more ambitious goal of re-writing the story of “Western” studia humanitatis in the direction of revealing and acknowledging the interconnectedness of all civilizations, not excluding those that occupy the Mediterranean basin.

José González: It is hard to believe that I am coming to the end of my second year at Duke. It has been an exhilarating and productive time, though not without its challenges. On the professional front, I have in the offing several articles on Hesiod, another on Theokritos, and a book based on my dissertation on the performance of Homeric poetry. I am also supervising a dissertation on the Odyssey and organizing Diachrony, a conference sponsored by the department for next October on the diachronic study of ancient Greek literature and culture. (Check out its website, http://www.duke.edu/web/diachrony.)

Given Duke’s budget cuts, this last project has turned out to be rather fraught and laborious, but Carla’s unwavering support has helped to move it along. The collegiality of the departmental faculty makes Duke an outstanding work and research environment, and I feel fortunate to be a member of the classics community here. On the personal front, my wife, Lauren, gave birth to our firstborn, Daniel, at the end of my first semester in NC. When she returned to her fulltime postgraduate medical training, I enjoyed being the primary care-giver for the baby. Carla kindly arranged a parental leave for me last fall, which I devoted to catching up on my research agenda. Now Lauren and I are eagerly anticipating the arrival of our second child, also next October. It will be a busy month, indeed! Please enjoy the family pictures.

Micaela Janan: Last summer, I revised my book ms. on the role of the City of Thebes in Ovid’s Metamorphoses; it was formally accepted for publication in August. Little did I suspect that only then would the REAL work begin! I had selected half-a-dozen poems as epigraphs, one for each chapter of the book; copyright permission was needed for each. Finding the original published sources of poems I knew only through the New Yorker was bad enough. In addition, the legal holders of copyright apparently view themselves as modern-day Minoses: constructing a labyrinth to conceal their identities and foil the casual petitioner is half the fun. Fortunately, I had a lot of help. Two stalwart Perkins librarians lent their skills to the hunt: Kevin Smith and Holly Ackerman lent me their expertise (his in copyright law, hers in Latin-American poetry). Willis Goth Regier, director of the University of Illinois Press, patiently hunted through five volumes of Emil Cioran’s Cahiers to find the original form and source of this twisted Delphic aphorism: “Connais-toi toi-même. On n’a jamais exprimé en une formule plus brève l’état de malédiction.” But a hermaion cut the most baffling Gordian knot: Chris Wilson Simpkins, a contributor to WOMPO (The Women’s Poetry Listserv), discovered the true author of “Go Loudly, Pentheus.” The poem has been misattributed to Kathleen Raine in its most widely-circulated reprinting (Nina Kossman’s anthology of
poems on mythological subjects, *Gods and Mortals*, Oxford University Press 2001). The real author was Colin Way Reid (a talented poet who took his own life when barely past thirty, which made posthumously robbing him of credit seem particularly cruel). I notified OUP, and they promised to correct the next edition of Kossman’s anthology.

The whole chase was enough to make a cat laugh—or to cure me of decorating my scholarship with modern belles-lettres. Notwithstanding, *Reflections in a Serpent’s Eye: Thebes and Rome in Ovid’s Metamorphoses* will be published by the Oxford University Press in the Fall of 2009.

The department decided to keep me off the streets and out of trouble by having me chair a search committee this year; though the plan worked, it has meant reading nothing but dossiers for months. No books to recommend, therefore, but some DVDs. I’ve (belatedly) watched “Hedwig and the Angry Inch”; the film elaborates imaginatively on the myth Aristophanes tells in Plato’s *Symposium*. For Hedwig (as for Aristophanes’ double-bodied proto-humans) desire is the tragicomic, achingly unappeasable result of a botched surgery. I wanted a happier ending for Hedwig, but then… I’ve always wanted to rewrite the *Symposium* as a romantic comedy. Also recommended: David Simon’s 7-part HBO miniseries “Generation Kill,” based on Evan Wright’s 2003 experiences in Iraq as an embedded reporter (more proof that we heed what the Parthians had to teach the Romans no more than they did). One priceless line (an infantryman commenting on the dangerously idiotic officer his men call “Captain America”): “You know how they say ‘Achilles wasn’t born into this world to be a seamstress’? Well, I think Captain America was cut out to be a seamstress—but somehow his ass ended up in the Marines.”

**Francis Newton:** Having earlier declared I had taught my absolutely last course, I still could not resist when the department asked me to fill in for the second half of the fall semester in an independent study in Apuleius’ *Metamorphoses* (the Golden Ass, as Augustine calls it). Excellent subject; excellent student. Pursuing my long interest in mediaeval Naples and its MSS, I gave a paper at the “Manuscripta” conference in St. Louis in October, entitled, “A Neapolitan Hagiographical Manuscript in Beneventan: Dating Corsiniana 777 and its Palaeographical Context.” At the APA meeting in Philadelphia in January, I gave a paper in the “Late Latin Laughter” session; mine was on “Alcuin’s Canino-Lupine Friend: The Letter to Dogwulfus (Dagulf the Scribe).” There was no laugh-meter at the session, but indeed plenty of laughter. If anything, even more laughter at the Duke-UNC Party on the Friday evening; it was an occasion for reunion with many Dukies of old (see photographs).

I published a brief discussion and text on the coming of Arabic medical texts to Europe at the end of the eleventh century, the golden age of Islamic learning: "Arabic Medicine in Europe. Constantine the African (ca. 1080)," in *Mediterranean Passages: Readings from Dido to Derrida*, ed. by Miriam Cooke, Erdag Göknar, and Grant Parker, Chapel Hill, 2008, pp. 115-118, including a translation of Constantine’s version of the "Oath of Hippocrates," taken from ‘Ali Ibn 'Abbas al-Magusi’s Arabic Complete Book of the Medical Art. See Gregson Davis’ comment above on “the inter-connectedness of all civilizations.”

**Molly Pryzwansky:** My first year on the “other side” of the university fence kept me busy. In addition to teaching the sequence of Beginning Latin and Greek/Roman Civilization at Duke, I also taught a course in the spring semester at North Carolina State University for their University Honors Program. My topic at NCSU, “Nero: Tyrant or Tragic Figure,” stemmed from my dissertation on Suetonius, completed last year at Duke.

In addition to teaching five classes at two universities, I also gave two conference papers (both on Suetonius—I’m really trying to milk the dissertation for all it’s worth!). The first, entitled “An Artful Telling: Suetonius on Nero’s Death (Nero 47-50)” was presented in November at the CAMWS Southern Section meeting in Asheville, NC. My second conference paper, called “Taken or Given?: The Marriage of Livia in Suetonius’ *Caesares,*” was at the “big” annual CAMWS meeting in Minneapolis, MN. For both meetings I shared a room with Duke Alumna Meredith Prince. We were happy to catch up with Megan Drinkwater.
and Asheville-resident Elise Anschel at the Southern Section meeting. Minneapolis saw Mike Lippman, Craig Gibson and Rachel Meyers among others.

As the conference papers reveal, I am growing more involved with CAMWS. This year was my first of three on the Stewart Teacher Training and Travel Awards sub-committee, of which I am chair for next school year. Our committee had a busy year. Budgets are tight not only at colleges and universities, but at a number of primary and secondary schools as well. Thus, we had a healthy applicant pool of Latin teachers in need of financial support, which will probably be the case next year as well.

This summer, I plan to decompress a bit. After that, I'm working on a project on Cornelius Nepos that comes from a CAMWS panel I was on last year. I would also like to start work on an article on Suetonius' presentation of Nero's demise. I will return to Duke in the fall semester to teach Latin 91 (Transition to Advanced Latin) and to NCSU to teach "The Golden Age of Athens."

In other news, Lily turned 3 this May and is now officially a big girl who can do everything by herself.

Lawrence Richardson: In early May 2009 Professor Richardson moved into Carillon Assisted Living, a lovely Assisted Living facility in Hillsborough, NC. His move was prompted by a diagnosis of Macular Degeneration, which persuaded him, with great reluctance, to stop teaching. Duke Eye Hospital is now helping him to maximize his visual acuity, and he is working on memoirs about his time at the American Academy in Rome after World War II. He is also anticipating revisions for a Plautus textbook he is co-authoring with Michael Fontaine (Cornell University).

Professor Richardson has since moved to Croasdaile in Durham, is now thriving and would welcome hearing from you. His contact information is:

Lawrence Richardson
2600 Croasdaile Farm Parkway
C218 Heritage Hall
Durham, NC 27705   telephone: 919 384-2509

Joshua Sosin: This has been a busy year for us. Much of my time continues to be taken up by service as Director of Undergraduate Studies, and to the Duke Data Bank of Documentary Papyri. We completed work on the grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation ($500,000), under which our goal was to begin integrating the DDBDP, the Advanced Papyrological Information System, and the Heidelberger Gesamtverzeichnis der griechischen Papyrusurkunden Ägyptens. This exciting project has been a collaboration with Duke University Libraries (Deborah Jakubs, Rita DiGiaIonnaDoro Holloway University Librarian & Vice Provost for Library Affairs, and I are co-PIs), Columbia University, King's College London, and scholars from UNC's Ancient World Mapping Center and School of Information and Library Science. Now, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation generously awarded support ($814,000) for a second phase of the project, to last two years, again a collaboration with Duke University Libraries (Deborah Jakub and I are again co-PIs); Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University; Zentrum für Altertumswissenschaften Institut für Papyrologie, Universität Heidelberg; Center for Visualization and Virtual Environments, University of Kentucky; and the Centre for Computing in the Humanities, King's College London. You can see some of what we have built already at papyri.info.

Tomás Alejandro Sosin continues to be the smartest person in our household. If I could learn things the way he does.... He likes fish; scuba diving (pictures of); The Clash; tadpoles; the hammock; working in the garden; videos of Italian alpine rescue dogs leaping out of helicopters into lakes, set to 1980s Phil Collins; hotdogs (ala); worms; school buses; hawks; legs; contrails; Puerto Rico; hiding; slugs; dip; excavators; and just about anything else that goes well with pizza.
Clare Woods: This year I took over the job of Director of Graduate Studies from Tolly – a hard act to follow! It was also my last year as Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program, and I still direct the Center for Late Ancient Studies, so it has been a very busy year. Teaching has been busy too, with two new courses developed for Fall 2008 (LAT 170: Readings in Late Antiquity, and LAT 201, a Classical Latin literature survey), and, in the Spring, the largest enrollment for Mythology to date. Many thanks to my two TA’s, Joseph Miller and Carrie Pennow! This Summer I taught Duke in Rome. We started out in Campania, basing ourselves at the Villa Vergiliana near Cumae, and the Hotel Villa dei Misteri in Pompeii, to allow for easy day trips to sites such as Herculaneum, Pompeii, Paestum, Capri… we even climbed Vesuvius, before moving up to Rome for the final weeks. Once in Rome, we visited a huge range of archaeological sites, churches, galleries and museums, with daytrips too to sites like Cerveteri and Hadrian’s Villa. It is always an intense teaching experience, but I had a great group of students, a wonderful TA (Matt Woodworth), and I think everyone learnt a lot, and had an enjoyable time. I’ll be posting photos to the Study Abroad website soon, so watch that space. Working around all the administrative and teaching duties, I also managed to finish my article “Inmaculata, Incorrupta, Intacta: Preaching Mary in the Carolingian Age”. This has been submitted as part of conference proceedings to the new Brepols Sermones series. In April I was invited to participate in a conference entitled Subversive Classics. Politically Subversive Appropriations of Mediterranean Antiquity. A link to the poster and schedule can be found here, for those too far away to read it on my office door: http://www.stanford.edu/dept/classics/home/images/SubversiveClassicsHandout.pdf. The conference was organized by a former Duke colleague, Grant Parker, and hosted by Stanford University Classics Department. I took part in the final round-table discussion, which was a wonderful – if nerve-wracking – opportunity to engage with all the papers we had heard, and help generate further conversation on them. Finally, to continue this summer’s Italian theme, I visited Sicily for the first time, staying in Aidone near Morgantina. This was a lovely opportunity to see Carla’s excavation, and Aidone, in central Sicily, made a great base for daytrips to other sites.

IN MEMORIAM
Carol Roscoe Rigsby
April 19, 1944-October 6, 2008

Carol with her two granddaughters, Emma and Francesca

A CLASSROOM MOMENT

Having taught Homer as part of a Greek history course many times now, I have learned to be a little wary of proposed papers on fate and free will in the Iliad. It’s not that the subject is uninteresting or unimportant; but it is messy, and in any case wants more than three pages. I usually urge students to find a more historically oriented approach to the Iliad. This year a sophomore ignored my advice, I am very pleased to say. He wrote a wonderful paper, in which he argued that the Greek emphasis on ritual orthopraxy rather than belief was an inevitable outgrowth of a deeply rooted theological disposition: one cannot fathom the will of the gods or fate, so that one must anchor interaction with gods in the stability of strictly prescribed actions, rather than the shifting sands of belief. In other words, the Greeks’ conception of fate and free will is causally related to their emphasis on practice. This was one of the most beautiful undergraduate essays that I have ever read. Three pages was not enough(!), but is was enough to knock me out!

Joshua Sosin
News of Current Graduate Students

Daniel Griffin: I completed my 2nd year in the program, which was a busy one. I chaired the Duke-UNC Graduate Colloquium on Children and the Elderly in the Ancient World, which featured a keynote speech by our own alumna Barbara Olsen. I also presented two papers at CAMWS and CAMWS-SS, and gave a response to a lecture at this year's Duke CLAS Colloquium. To improve my health, I recently went to Casablanca for the waters. In addition, I was elected in April to an executive board position in the Graduate and Professional Student Council, Executive Secretary, which I will serve for the next year.

Alexander Loney: I had two wonderful opportunities this past year. I spent two months in Greece and Egypt last summer. I traveled all over Greece in the summer session of the American School in Athens (picture here is of me in Athens). Then my wife, Emily, came and we spent a week with friends in Egypt. One adventure we had was to hike up Mt. Sinai, alone and unguided, on a poorly marked trail, in the middle of the night, while sick with the traveler's bug (I blame our stop at mango-juice stand). We made it to the top for sunrise. The other picture is from the peak. The other opportunity I had was to teach a course I designed myself, "The Poetics and Ethics of Revenge," as the Kenan graduate instructor in ethics. We read a great range of texts, from the Odyssey to Durrenmatt's The Visit. I'm looking forward to my sixth and (hopefully) final year!

Akira Yatsuhashi: It has been an eventful year. I continue to work on my dissertation which focuses on the Mouseion's and Alexandrian poetry's crucial role in shaping imperial elite identity during the early Hellenistic period. I hope to complete it in early 2010. This year I was also lucky to receive two wonderful opportunities to complete my dissertation. First, Duke awarded me their Bass Fellowship for Undergraduate Instruction based on a course I proposed entitled “Priests, Pyramids, and Papyri: Egypt in the Western Imagination.” Instead of accepting the Bass, I decided to move my family from Duke, Durham, and our wonderful house for the Midwest, having accepted a scholar-in-residence fellow position at Carleton College. Thanks to Carleton College’s participation in the CFD (Consortium for Faculty Diversity) program, I will be able to work on my dissertation and teaching while reacquainting myself with the liberal arts college experience. At Carleton, I will have the opportunity to teach an upper level Greek course on Daphnis and Chloe (Winter) and a class on Film and the Ancient World (Spring) while having the fall semester for my own research. As part of the selection process at Carleton, I gave a job talk and sole paper for the year entitled "Beyond the Ivory Tower: Empire and Alexandrian Poetry."

By far, the highlight of my year was teaching. I truly loved teaching both Greek and Roman Civ classes again this year. My students, like last year, were the BEST. They put up with my occasional rants and quirky personality, and I might have actually improved as a teacher! I was flattered and embarrassed when one of my Greek Civ students read aloud a series of quotes of all the outlandish things I had said in class. Most are a little too much for Pheme, but one of the tamer ones is something I said when discussing depictions of elite and non-elite on vases, "They think, well, these guys are idiots! I mean look at this moron—he can’t even count the toes on his fingers!"

On the domestic front, it has been chaos of late with the move and a daughter who will be four in September! (Note my gratuitous shot of my beautiful daughter.) My family and I will definitely miss Durham. It’s been a wonderful six years (How time flies!), but we are looking forward to Minnesota and all it has to offer.
The UNC-Duke Colloquium

This year's graduate colloquium, Dialogues of the Vulnerable: Children and the Elderly in the Ancient World, was a great success! In addition, 2009 marked the 20th year of a graduate colloquium in the Triangle, a distinction which marks the Duke/UNC colloquium as one of the foremost graduate colloquia in the country. We were lucky enough to have grads from across the country and even Canada participate, as well as our very own Alex Meyer, who gave a paper entitled "Numerius Popidius Celsinus and the Promotion of Children in Pompeii and Beyond." The highlight of the colloquium was the keynote address by Duke Classics Alumna Barbara Olsen (2004) entitled "Can we rescue Astyanax? Images of Youth and Vulnerability from the Late Bronze Age to Homer," which brought to light a dichotomy between a Minoan culture that delighted in scenes of youthful daring and their Mycenaean counterparts, who focus more on the vulnerability of children through images of mothers protecting their children. Professor Olsen also treated the graduate students to a special seminar on women in the Linear B tablets. For many of us, this was our first exposure to Linear B--there could have been no better introduction! Thanks to all who participated and helped to make this years colloquium a great success!

Daniel Griffin

Duke at the Meetings

Duke had quite a showing at the CAMWS-Southern Section meeting Nov. 13-15, 2008, at Ashville, NC. Current graduate students presenting talks were Alex Loney and Dan Griffin; former students included Megan Drinkwater (Agnes Scott College), Meredith Prince (Auburn University), and Molly Pryzwansky (Duke University). Kudos!

By: Mary Taliaferro Boatwright
APA: The party at the APA meeting in Philadelphia in January drew an unusually large group of alumni. It was held jointly with UNC and was a marvelous opportunity to see old friends.

Charles E. Muntz, Clare Woods, and Mike Lippman at the APA.

Larry McMicken, Angela Muller, and Peter Burian at the APA.

Carla Antonaccio, James Rives, and Zara Torlone at the APA.

Chris Parslow and Beth Carney at APA.

Ed DeHoratius

Bart Huelsenbeck and Marcello Lippiello at the APA.

Students enjoying the dining facilities at Sperlonga.

Greek Civilization, Fall 2008

Professor Diskin Clay (in hat) celebrating a milestone birthday with the Classics Department.
Graduating Class of 2009
Family Photos

2009 Honors Graduate

Graduation with High Distinction
Susan A. Davis

David Taggard Clark Prize
In Classical Studies
Susan A. Davis

The Classical Association of the
Middle West & South
Outstanding Accomplishment Award
Susan A. Davis
Classical Civilization – First Majors:
Anna Caroline Beyer
Peter Daniel Lafer
Michael Thomas Moore
Matthew Bradley Rich

Classical Languages – First Major:
Hugh Hampton Beachum
Joshua Abraham Chapin – cum laude
Susan Angeline Davis – summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Classical Civilization – Second Majors:
Stephanie Claire Cordato
Susan Angeline Davis – summa cum laude

Classical Languages – Second Major:
Abigail Stevens Alger

Classical Archaeology – Minors:
Michael Thomas Moore
Xiameng (Ellen) Sun – magna cum laude

Classical Civilization – Minors:
Johanna Ruth Collins – magna cum laude
Nicholas Kyle Lowman
Farayi Mafoti
Samuel Landon Tasher – cum laude

Latin – Minors:
Erica Taylor Bates
Peter George Dickos – summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY:
Bart Alan Huelsenbeck
Diane Warne Anderson, PhD 1986
I am teaching Latin at Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota, this past spring 2008 and again next spring 2009, but will teach at University of Saint Thomas this fall. My son Chris is now 12 and going into 7th grade. Last year he had an introduction to Latin when I taught him and two other kids as a home-school program. We got all the way through the first book of Eece Romani. But now Chris continues instead with Chinese. Latin is not so cool, because it is what Mom does!

Under the sponsorship of the Center for Medieval Studies at the University of Minnesota, I have been team-teaching a workshop on manuscript studies each June at the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library, Saint John's University (Google "Minnesota Manuscript Research Laboratory"). We provide a basic orientation to manuscripts in general, to bibliography and digital tools, and to palaeography, codicology, and textual editing. The workshop is targeted primarily to graduate students and professors of any institution, but it is also open to undergraduates, independent scholars, and anyone who is seriously interested. From this introduction, people may be able to see what is involved if they would like to use manuscripts in their research or teaching, what courses or independent study they might need to pursue for preparation, what tools are available in print and electronic forms.

The most exciting thing that I have been doing recently is attending living Latin conferences, sicilicet, the Conventicum Latinum Vasontienense at the University of Washington, Seattle, where we speak nothing but Latin for a whole week of the summer. At my first Conventicum, it was terrifying to begin to speak, but I found I could understand almost everything spoken (barring certain infrequent or modern vocabulary, e.g. what is, Latine, an MP3 player?). The group leaders and other participants are very patient and supportive. Everyone, after all, started out as a beginner.

Spoken Latin, along with other best practices borrowed from the modern languages, is the new big thing of the present and the wave of the future. The strongest argument in its favor is that it makes learning Latin (and Greek) easier for students. Human brains are set up to learn language through the ears and mouth, but in recent decades we had been trying to force it in through the eyeballs. For me, it has been a transformative experience, to discover and participate in this world of fluent Latin speakers, humanists in a 21st century Renaissance.

Erin Smith Ahrens, BA 2003
On October 18, 2008, I married Matthew Ahrens (a Dartmouth Alum) in Pawleys Island, SC. We are currently living in New York City, where I work as an equity analyst following consumer staples stocks. This year I was ranked in the Wall Street Journal's "Best on the Street" analyst survey and as a top analyst for the 2009 Financial Times/Starmine Analyst Awards. Although I enjoy working in finance, I miss studying the classics. My husband loves history and archaeology, and we hope to travel to Italy or Greece some time in the near future.

John Bauschatz, PhD 2005
Retina and I are happy to report that the past year has been a productive one, as well as a reproductive one. (Who saw THAT coming?) Our first child, Oscar Lee Bauschatz, popped into our world on February 28, 2009. He's been running our lives ever since. We're still getting to know him, but so far can say with certainty that he likes kicking, eating and a good song. We bought a house in Tucson in the summer of 2008 and have been very happy with it so far. It's got a nice guest room, as well as air conditioning, citrus trees (yes, outside), running water, assorted doors and a pretty big back yard (which, as it turns out, isn't so great when you're the one doing the landscaping). Professionally, Retina is making steady progress towards an M.A. in Special Education at the University of Arizona while working as a learning specialist at Tucson Hebrew Academy. I am still an Assistant Professor in the University of Arizona Classics Department and am looking forward to (the extra revenue generated by) teaching intensive beginning and intermediate Greek this summer. Speaking of which, we'll be in the Old Pueblo all Summer long, if there are any potential visitors out there who love oppressive heat and oppressive puns.
NEIL BERNSTEIN, PhD 2000
My book, *In the Image of the Ancestors, Narratives of Kinship in Flavian Epic*, University of Toronto Pr., appeared in fall, 2008. [Editor: William Dominik says: "...a learned account of how the epics reveal a fundamental change in the Roman élite's perception of kinship and descent narratives during the first century."] My current book project is on the Pseudo-Quintilianic *Major Declamations*. With my family I spent 2008-2009 teaching in the Department of Drama and Theatre at National Taiwan University (Taiwan is Yi-Ting’s home), including a course on "Drama and Democracy." It was a great pleasure to teach classical drama to theatre students. Their engagement with the scripts was much more intense than the average literature student's, and they taught me a great deal about Asian theatre traditions. These include some very successful efforts to marry Greek drama and Chinese opera. I read about many of these, and was lucky enough to see Contemporary Legend Theatre Company's revival of their 1990s *Medea*.

We have further news: we are expecting a baby girl at the end of September. We are all very excited. Hannah is overjoyed at the prospect of having a little sister. The picture of the three of us was taken at the Lin Liu-Hsin Puppet Theatre Museum, one of the few museums to preserve the traditional art of puppet-making and puppet theatre.

WARREN S. BLOOM
I've been married for 22 years now to a former lawyer who went to Vanderbilt. We have 2 girls ages 13 and 16. Both of our girls are very into theatre and our oldest was the lead in a play at the Fringe Festival last year in Edinburgh, Scotland (very edge of the Empire).

My younger brother with a PhD in French Literature from Columbia taught for 8 years at University of Haifa and recently came back to the States where he now is Spanish teacher in the Cambridge, Mass system (he hates it).

I'm trying to get my oldest to look at Duke and UNC, so I will definitely try and come by and see you. I'm sure I won't recognize the campus any longer. The few times I've been back to Duke, the place seems to have grown like kudzu.

CARRIE COOK BLUME, BA 1996, JD/MA 1999
It's been an exciting year for me! My husband, Chris, and I welcomed our first child, Claudia Michelle, in July of 2008. As I write, she is ten months old and ready to walk at any moment. She is a very relaxed, happy baby - most of the time, at least! Chris and I just celebrated our fourth anniversary, and we're looking forward to Claudia's first birthday this summer. Meanwhile, I continue to practice commercial real estate law in Houston, Texas, which I enjoy very much. I can hardly believe that I've been practicing for ten years now! I hope all is well with my friends at the Classics Department and beyond!

BETSY STRAWN BULLARD, BA 1967
Although I have been retired for two, almost three years from the Guilford County Schools--I did have a grand reminder of my years in the classroom. When I opened the January-February issue of our Duke Magazine 2008, on page 42-43, I saw a great photo of my former student, Andrew Lakis. The story tells of his experience in the Teach for America program in Washington, DC. I had Andrew for four years through his Latin at High Point Andrews High School. He was such a special student... in fact, he won the Trinity Scholarship from our county to Duke. (Via post, I will send a photo of Andrew at Duke on one of our field trips during his high school years.)

I guess you could say Andrew is sort of a "relative" of the Classics department at Duke! He and his parents were most appreciative of how Latin helped him in school.

ELIZABETH D. CARNEY, PhD 1973
I am Professor of History and Undergraduate Coordinator for History at Clemson University. Well, I guess I can say that a monograph on Arsinoe Philadelphus is on the way (contract with OUP) and also that Daniel Ogden and I have co-edited some of the papers from my Alexander conference... too early to tell whether OUP will publish that.
DAVID DIAL, BA 2002
Salveet! This past year has been a busy one for me. I got engaged to my wonderful fiancée, Laura, back in March, and I also finished up my first year of doctoral work in the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia. I live in Atlanta, and I work as a part-time academic coach within the Georgia Tech Athletic Association.

DAVID DUDLEY, BA 1970
I was at the Centro spring 1969. I am Chair of the Department of Literature and Philosophy at Georgia Southern University, and was recently promoted to full professor. My second novel, "Caleb's Wars," will be published by Clarion Book in 2010.

TOM ELLIOT, BS 1989
Since February 2008 I have been working as Associate Director for Digital Programs at New York University's Institute for the Study of the Ancient World. In this position, I have responsibility for a wide range of computing initiatives aimed at supporting research and graduate teaching in the history, archaeology, linguistics and philology of ancient Europe, Africa and Asia both within the Institute and beyond. Most of these projects are collaborative with other institutions.

Some highlights: joint work with UNC's Ancient World Mapping Center on Pleiades (a digital gazetteer based on the Barrington Atlas: http://pleiades.stoa.org/) and a Mellon-funded effort involving Duke, Heidelberg, Columbia, King's College London and the University of Kentucky to upgrade and integrate the Duke Databank of Documentary Papyri, the Heidelberger Gesamtverzeichnis der griechischen Papyruserkunden Ägyptens and the Advanced Papyrological Information System (http://idp.atlantides.org). We have also just received a joint grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the German Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft to work with the Heidelberg Epigraphic Databank (http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/institute/sonst/adw/edh/indexe.html) to give them mapping and geographic search functions, as well as import and export capabilities for epigraphic texts in the EpiDoc format (also now used by the Duke Databank: http://epidoc.sf.net).

I can be reached at tom.elliott@nyu.edu and you can read more about our work via my web page: http://homepages.nyu.edu/~te20/. I live and work from home (most of the time) in rural Moontown, Alabama.

WILLIAM EWARD, BS 1996
My name is Will and I studied Classics at Duke from 1992-1996 (BS, Trinity in Biology & Classical Studies). Studying Latin and Classical Studies was one of the highlights of my time at Duke. Doing an independent study with Dr. Zarker and reading the plays of Terence was incredible. I went on from Duke to go to veterinary school at Auburn University. I actually made time for some graduate Latin courses there (not an easy thing to schedule). There I met my wife, Cindy, also a veterinarian. We were married in 2002 and now have three children - Aelwyn (5), Luke (3), and Ellery (2). I went back to school to get my MD degree (University of Vermont, class of 2006). I have now returned to Duke where I am a resident in Orthopaedic Surgery. We are extremely happy to be back in Durham and are hoping to stay.

I am really glad to hear from you! Please keep me in the loop with regards to Classical Studies happenings.

JAMES K. FINN, MA 1969
I just completed another semester as an adjunct at Villanova, where this spring I had the pleasure of teaching Latin Lyric Poetry in the Graduate School. In June I will read AP exams again in Kansas City and, later in the month, will present a paper entitled 'Cicero, Matius, and the Ides of March' at the ACL annual meeting at Loyola Marymount University in California.

JAMES A. FRANCIS, PhD 1991
It has been a needlessly exciting year for me. Though I was on sabbatical, continuing to work on the book on verbal and visual representation in the 2nd to 4th centuries CE, things kept popping up. My partner David and I took a long-intended cruise to Alaska in September, my not teaching allowing us to take advantage of cheaper Fall prices. That was going to be the excitement for the year, until David was offered a job in Washington, DC, in mid-November... starting on December 15th. A planned drive to his parents' for Thanksgiving suddenly had an apartment hunting trip to DC attached to it, and in a whirlwind weekend, we ended up with a nice high-rise in Arlington. So David is now Senior Attorney for the American Bar
Asn. Commission on Law and Aging and I have one of those modern "quality-time" commuter relationships. Be clear, I am not complaining about having a pied-à-terre in the nation's capital one bit. So it was all that adjustment and trying to work on the book at the same time. Then somehow I got myself scheduled for standing and delivering at three conferences in a two months; I suppose I should be happy I'm popular. The great bright spot in all that, aside from meeting some new and very interesting and delightful colleagues at other institutions, was a grand Dukie reunion at the North American Patristics Society meeting in Chicago at the end of May. As many will know, Kent Rigsby now lives in Chicago, and we managed to arrange to get together for dinner one evening: Dennis Trout (from Classical Studies), Blake Lyerle (from Religion), and I - all Kent's students - along with Bob Gregg (now at Stanford), a good friend and colleague of Kent's while he was at Duke in the Div School and Religion Dept. The occasion can only be described as delightful, delicious, and memorable.

JASON E. GARBER, BA 1991
Following graduation, I went to medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas and graduated from medical school in 1995. Following medical school, I entered neurological surgery residency at Baylor College of Medicine, and completed my training in 2001. Following my residency training, I entered a complex spine reconstruction fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin, and completed it in 2002. I then moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where I am currently in private practice in neurological surgery. I am a partner in the Western Regional Center for Brain and Spine Surgery. My wife of four years, Cheryl, and I have two sons - Benjamin, three, and Charles, one.

JOHN GEYSSEN, PhD 1992
We're all doing well. The kids are grown, yes. Sean (18) just graduated from high school. There are no immediate academic plans for him. Becky's 26, and living in Saint John (about 100 km south, on the coast--Bay of Fundy region, if you know it) with her boyfriend. She graduated with a business degree from UNB and then got an interior design degree from college. She's currently a kitchen designer with a company in SJ, but her hope is to open her own kitchen design company at some point. Marg and I are...aging (celebrated 27 years in April), and living fairly comfortably at the moment (student loans have been gone for a while).

Work does keep me quite busy. Small department, lots of teaching, 4 MA students this year. We're trying to reconfigure as more of a material culture dept, rather than philology (I'm director of the archaeology program, an interdepartmental venture between classics and anthropology). This year, I'm teaching Greek cults, Greek myths, grad course on Greek pottery, Pompeii and the Eclogues. Main project at the moment is a biography of Domitia Longina (not far advanced, although I have presented a couple of papers on her). On the other hand, I'm constantly recognized for my teaching, which is quite rewarding.

I generally get overseas every summer (not this one; figures they would open the House of Augustus the year I don't go), taking a class of students to Italy or Greece (3 or 6 weeks); we're going to try Turkey next year.

My newest 'job' is editor of Mouseion, Journal of the Classical Association of Canada. Something I've wanted to do since sitting for a summer in the GRBS office. I just took over last summer, and the learning curve was/is steep and I find it's more time consuming than I expected. But the 'administrative' end of it doesn't appeal to me that much. I do get to read a wide range of stuff that I otherwise wouldn't have time for, so that is rewarding. It does mean I'm very involved in the national association and I now know almost every classicist in the country.

CRAIG GIBSON, PhD 1995
My translation of Libanius' Progymnasmata was published by SBL and Brill in the fall. I recently became co-editor of the journal Syllelecta Classica with Peter Green. I won an internal research award in the fall (Faculty Scholar) to be on leave for the next three spring semesters (2010-2012), during which I will continue with various research projects on Greek progymnasmata and declamation. My daughters will turn 4 and 6 this summer, and I'm also a proud new Doktorvater.
WILLIAM HENDRICKS, PhD 1974
Ruth and I are happily at home in West Harwich on the southern shore of Cape Cod. We're in the phone book--anyone up this way, drop in!

STEVE HODGES, BA 1994
We have added a new addition to the family! Abigail Marie Hodges was born January 5, 2009. Stella Grace is almost 2 years old now and is a great big sister. We are still in Winston-Salem, NC and I work in the Department of Urology at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

MICHAEL R. JOYCE, BA 2003
I have been living in Germany for the last two years, where my wife is stationed with the Army. It's been fantastic to travel and see all of the places I studied in the Allen Building -- Athens, Rome, Istanbul, Delos, etc. I did not appreciate just how much the Acropolis towers over Athens until I was standing at the foot of it. I move back to the US at the end of August to begin studying for an MBA at the Tuck School of Business.

JEFFREY H. KAHN, BA 1994
We are moving yet again as, after three years at Penn State, I have accepted an offer to join the faculty at the Washington & Lee University School of Law. My wife, Jessica, will also be teaching there. My three-year-old son, Matthew, so far has shown little interest in Roman mythology but I am not giving up yet and I keep reading the stories to him almost every night.

RICHARD LAFLEUR, PhD 1973
I am Franklin Professor of Classics at UGA, and serve as Associate Head, Director of the Georgia Classics Summer Institute, and Coordinator of the Elementary Latin Program and Latin GTA Supervisor. My new distance-education Latin teaching methods course, with online audio, streaming video, and other technologies, draws enrollments from across the U.S. Dear wife Alice lovingly tolerates the extra hours invested in writing my new textbook, *Scribblers, Sculptors, and Scribes*, under contract for publication by HarperCollins next year. To my three children and five grandchildren I am now "Poppa Rick."

JULIA LEWIS, BA 2006
I graduated in June from Harvard Law School, took the Massachusetts Bar, and have moved to Washington, DC, where I will be doing a year-long fellowship with the DC Public Defender Service, Trial Division, before returning to the law firm Ropes & Gray as a litigation associate.

REBECCA LIPSHUTZ PEAK, BA 1998
It's been a very busy year! I graduated with my M.D. from Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, Michigan on June 2nd, and moved to Boston in July, where I am thrilled to have matched for my residency in adult psychiatry at Boston University Medical Center. My husband Brian and I are very happy to be returning to our Boston roots and to have the opportunity to be nearer to our families. After 11 happy years together, we are very excited to get to celebrate our 5th wedding anniversary on June 6th back in our hometown! We are also thrilled to be anticipating the blessing of the arrival of our first child sometime around the end of October. Our new (human) arrival will join its (canine) shepherd/lab siblings, Romeo (age 7) and Milo, (age 2) and we are hopeful that the puppies will give up their favorite sleeping spaces (on our bed) to their new human sibling with only a minimal amount of negotiation! We are very grateful and happy to report that life is very good!

Hope all is well at Duke, and our best wishes to all the new graduates and alumni!

ANDREW H. LUKE, BA 1981
Our family is back in Richmond VA for the second time. After Duke (T'81) I was off to Chicago for 2 years, Detroit for 2 years, back to Chicago for business school (Kellogg School at Northwestern), got married and moved to NYC for 2 years, Dayton OH for 2 years, Charlotte NC for 4 years, Richmond VA for 6 years, Connecticut for 6 years, and Richmond VA again for nearly 3 years. It's enough to make you dizzy. Our kids (daughter 17 and son 14) are growing fast and acting their ages -- parents of teenagers know what I am referring to!

Since Duke I have worked in the steel industry and for the last 23 years MeadWestvaco
Corporation (packaging), largely in marketing, management, and strategy roles.

I have made a number of my Duke reunions and look forward to more trips to Durham now that we are back in Richmond. Our daughter is a rising senior in high school. So this summer are hitting campuses far and wide. We were on campus for the Jump Start program (for children of alumni) on June 19. Our son, soon to be a 9th grader, has just finished his first year of Latin. A great success! It was fun to pick up his books and reminisce (although after taking 9 years of Latin myself, I'm afraid to admit I should remember more).

**LAWRENCE G. McMICHIEL, BA 1975, JD 1978**

I was delighted to be able to catch up with Professor Newton in Philadelphia this past January. I am a senior partner in a Philadelphia law firm with a mixed trial practice, focusing on large commercial matters. I have four kids. One is in graduate school in meteorology in London, one is a fine arts major at Maryland just finishing his junior year, an 8th grader at the Haverford School (who has just finished his second year of Latin with straight A's) and a 5th grader at the Shipley School. Life is very busy. I try to use some Latin every day.

**JADIE R. METCALF, BA 1957**

I can report that, as a student of Dr. James Truesdale (Class of '57), I have been working on New Testament Greek for the last two or so years, as a pastime. I find that the original text speaks more clearly than the translations, due to the fact that it forces a careful look at each word and sentence. Getting through Gospel of St. John was quite an effort, but in time it got easier...a good way to pay homage to one of the great teachers Duke provided me, a man whose scholarship and character influences me to this day.

I found that learning German, French and Dutch, needed in my law practice here in Europe was really relatively easy compared to the complexity of Greek grammar. So in a very practical way, Greek contributed heavily to my success as a corporate lawyer.

Greek writers like Plotinus and Epictetus have likewise made a major impact on my thoughts, and of course I like to see the original text, which somehow brings them to life, in a way translations do not. Modern Greek is likewise interesting in that any of the words and grammar of classical Greek are still very recognizable and thus familiar.

I trust that many students of the language have enjoyed its qualities and writers as I have, and as Dr. Truesdale used to say, down whatever path your thoughts may take you, you will find a Greek has walked that way before.

**ELIZABETH T. MEYER, BA 2004**

I am a research associate at the Council of State Governments Justice Center, working in their New York City office. I work on the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program and provide support for the Justice Center's efforts to promote collaboration between corrections and mental health systems. I received my M.S.W. and M.S. in Criminology from the University of Pennsylvania in the spring of 2008.

**RACHEL MEYERS, PhD 2006**

Since I received my PhD in 2006, I have been Lecturer in Classical Studies at Iowa State University, where I also serve as the faculty adviser to Eta Sigma Phi. Last summer I was the recipient of an NEH fellowship to participate in the Summer Seminar "Identity and Self-Representation in the Subcultures of Ancient Rome," held at the American Academy in Rome. It was a great opportunity to get back and explore Rome, reminisce about my days at the Centro, and, of course, dine on excellent pizza and gelato -- all this in addition to weekly field trips and bi-weekly seminar discussions led by Ellie Leach and Eve D'Ambrico. My time in Rome also allowed me to continue my research on monuments set up around the Roman Empire to commemorate the Antonine imperial family, and this research has resulted in conference papers at the AIA/APA Joint Annual Meeting in January 2009 and at the CAMWS meeting in April 2009.

**JOHN MOORE, BA 1987**

I am enjoying myself and employment as a securities analyst at KDP Investment Advisors in NYC, where my Duke Classics work has fortified my writing skills. My children sometimes ask me to clarify Greek mythology for them and I thank my Duke Classics professors for that as well. Also, I have regular discussions on Thucydides and Aristophanes with a good friend and I find these experiences very extraordinary. I keep up with my
friend and classics mate Jim Blitch, who has a terrific family and practices law in Atlanta. I hope to see some Classics professors on my next visit.

CHARLES E. MUNTZ, PhD 2008
After completing my PhD in 2008, I received a one-year appointment at the University of Arkansas that has recently been extended for a second year. At Arkansas I am teaching courses in both the History and Classics departments, including Greek History, Roman History, Hellenistic History, and Greek and Latin language courses. Fayetteville is a great place to live, the University is a great place to work, and I am looking forward to spending another year here.

ELIZABETH S. NEIKIRK, BA 1971
I am a 1971 graduate of The Women's College, in Peter Burian's early years at Duke. I went to the Intercollegianae Center for Classical studies in spring 1970 when the Galassi-Berias's were there and we lived in the convent in Trastevere. I have many fond memories, which I have shared with my boyfriend, now husband since August 1971. He & I have been to Milan on a business trip, but for years I have filled his head with tales of Italy.

God works is mysterious ways. Good news: We will spend 2 weeks in Rome and 2 weeks in Florence - the entire month of June. No 2-day zippo tour. The not-so-good news: I was diagnosed with stage 4 Glioblastoma Multiforme (nasty brain cancer) in July 2008, so we are doing a lot of carpe diem-ing! I am being treated at MD Anderson, which is the best. Ok, Duke is a close 2nd, and they do have a great basketball program. I have great doctors, and so many people praying for me that I know everything's ok, no matter what. (write back if anyone wants to access my Care Page at MB Anderson.)

But I digress: I graduated from Duke 1971, Classical Studies; Masters Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling, lifetime certification in teaching in Texas where I worked with Special Education students, and most recently tutoring all ages from pre-readers to SAT preparation. Now, 2nd graders read better than I do, so don't ever take reading for granted! I have worked with monolingual migrant workers and teenagers in juvenile lock up. I have concluded that the younger the better!

I should start here because it's the most important: My wonderful husband since August 1971 and I have one son who went to Duke as an undergraduate before getting his Juris Doctor. As of 4/18, when our son was married, I have a daughter!

MATTHEW OLMSTED, BS 2004
After graduation from Duke in May 2004 with a major in Classical Civilizations, Biological Anthropology & Anatomy, and "Men's Varsity Swimming," I began dental school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While in dental school, I served as President of the dental school student body and received 3rd place in the American Dental Association's 2007 Student Clinician Research Program. Several dental school externships provided the opportunity to travel to the Republic of Moldova in Eastern Europe, the Flathead Indian Reservation in northwest Montana, and Denver, CO. I graduated from UNC in May 2008 with the DDS degree, and am now in the second of three years as resident in the Orthodontic Department at UNC studying how to straighten the teeth of adolescents and adults. I continue to reside in Chapel Hill, where I still enjoy swimming routinely and sharing knowledge of the Classical world among my fellow future orthodontists.

MEGAN DRINKWATER OTTONE, PhD 2003
This year I am relieved to report that I have passed my mid-term review at Agnes Scott College and am looking forward to a semester of research leave in spring 2010. I am close to submitting chapter and section number additions to Barbour's classic Selections from Herodotus for the University of Oklahoma Press, after which I launch into preparations for two new classes this Fall, one an upper-level history course on Caesar and Augustus and the other a Greek class the ancient novel, Daphnis and Chloe in particular. On the home front, Nicola is growing apace, still sleeping and eating like a champion-- how many 13-month-olds eat radicchio risotto and eggplant pasta, I wonder? Gabriele and I are confusing him mightily by teaching him the English and Italian words for everything, and hope that he will forgive us one day. He doesn't look too resentful in the attached photo, at least.
JACOB PELLEY, BS 2006
After 3 years of living in the mountains and skiing, I have somehow acquired a J.D. from the University of Colorado. I am doing a Masters of legal letters or LLM degree at the University of Miami, focused on tax law and estate planning. It is going ok so far, a lot of mundane tax work, but such is the discipline.

I did have an interval this summer in Texas with my family, although I was studying for the bar exam the entire time. I took that at the end of July, and hopefully I will have passed it (results in November). My father loves it here, and was actually here all this long weekend. This city is very fast and easy, not exactly what a country mouse like myself is used to or prefers, but it is a unique experience.

WILLIAM POE, BA 1963
After graduating from Duke with a Greek major in 1963 I earned a M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary with a focus on Hebrew and Northwest Semitic inscriptions. I then went to Brandeis University where I earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. in the department of Mediterranean Studies. My M.A. qualifications were in Archaeology and Egyptian Language. My Ph.D. qualification areas were Archaeology, Southwest Asian Prehistory, and Arabic Language and Islamic Civilization.

Since 1970 I have been at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California, about fifty miles north of San Francisco. I am Professor of Archaeology in the Department of History but at various times in the past have been an administrator as well, serving as Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dean of Academic Planning and Chair of the Division of Social Sciences.

I was a part of the senior staff of an archaeological project at Hebron, then in Jordan, that was curtailed by the 1967 war. I then co-directed a project in the early 1970's at Petra, Jordan. Following a long break from field archaeology while I was a university administrator and helped raise children, I shifted my focus to Mesoamerica and directed archaeological projects in Guatemala and Belize during parts of most years between 1995 and 2008 and participated in two projects in Peru.

My teaching responsibilities include History of the Arabs, History of the Maya, Judaism and Christianity in the Formative Period, Ancient Near Eastern Texts, and Egyptian Language and Culture. The last course is an introduction to both hieratic and hieroglyphic Egyptian.

JEREMY PRAGER, BA 1998
Hello to all of my old friends! My wife Amanda and I have been in Cincinnati, OH, where I am finishing a two-year pediatric otolaryngology fellowship, after my training (MD) at Washington Univ. in St. Louis. Amanda and I now have two children, Rachel (to be 3 in October) and Olivia (to be 1 in October). We got back to Duke for a weekend visit in September.

ELIZABETH RIORDAN, BA 1986
Myself and my family moved to Connecticut a little under two years ago. I am the Director of Breast Services with the Midstate Medical Center in Meriden, CT in addition to continuing my general surgery practice with the Midstate Medical Group, Surgical Specialists. My two children Aidan (6) and Madeleine (4) love their new surroundings, and keep me busy when I am not at work! My husband Rick is in the process of starting a new restaurant up in our town of Farmington, CT--the "Flaggstead Texas Smokehouse" will open in early June of this year. Life is full but wonderful. Can't believe I am heading towards my 25th Duke Reunion in a couple of years!!

STERLING RIVES, MA 1975
I received a Master's degree in Latin from Duke in 1975. For a year or so I worked for the decidedly non-profit Mediterranean Society, during which time Professor Wheeler from the University of Richmond and I lead an educational tour to Greece. Four the next seven years, I taught Latin in the evenings and during summer school as an adjunct faculty member at Virginia Commonwealth University. During those same years, I taught Latin and many other subjects during the day at a private high school and then earned a law degree from the University of Richmond. After four years in private practice, in 1987 I left a large D.C. law firm to take the position of County Attorney for Hanover County which is located just north of Richmond. Local government practice encompasses a broad spectrum of civil matters, including litigation,
environmental, legislative, land use, real estate, construction, employment, education and eminent domain. Fortunately, I have enjoyed the assistance of a number of very capable assistant county attorneys over the years who have made it possible for me to be successful in this position.

My wife Nancy (whom I brought back to Richmond from D.C.) and I live in Richmond where she teaches A.P. U.S. History and where we both serve as docents at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. We have a seventeen year old son, Edward, who will start his senior year at St. Christopher's in the Fall and a 15 year old son, Henry, who is just finishing his freshman year at the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School. I have taught many professional seminars over the years but enjoyed none of them nearly as much as teaching Edward introductory Latin at the kitchen table during the summer before his first year of high school. Due to his proficiency as a student (not mine as a teacher), he was able to go straight into Latin II Honors. Henry also has excelled in his Latin studies, but it appears unlikely that either will choose it as a major. Nancy, Henry and Edward endured with reasonably good spirits a forced march with me through the major museums and archaeological sites of Rome, Naples and Florence in 2005. We plan to return next year. I hope that Department of Classical Studies at Duke University is prospering!

ELIZABETH RUDISILL, BA 2008
On May 11, 2009, I started the A-100 orientation course with the Foreign Service of the State Department of the United States. I am training to serve as a U.S. diplomat in Seoul, South Korea as a consular officer! After language and job training in Washington I will move to my first post abroad, where I will serve for two years.

KATIE BURKE SCHUHL, MA 1996
MARC P. SCHUHL, MA 1996
My husband, Marc, and I graduated from Duke in 1996 with Master's degrees and promptly began teaching Latin at schools in Dutchess County, New York. Currently we're living in Los Angeles, where I teach Latin at Polytechnic School in Pasadena, and Marc is teaching ancient history at Brentwood School. Next year he is expanding his teaching repertoire to include American history. The picture I've included is of students going to the regional Latin convention, SCRAM (Southern California Regional Amici Madness) this past fall (2008). My colleague, Elliott Goodman, who has been instrumental in reaching middle-school students, is standing on the back right. We're currently working on becoming fluent in Latin - we speak it very badly to each other at the moment! I'd like to attend a spoken Latin workshop next summer. We're also planning to take a group next spring (2010) to Italy if we have enough interest and to offer a beginning Greek class at some point as a senior elective. Marc and I met at Duke, so it will always have a special place in my heart, especially as I remember our talks while walking through the Rose Gardens to and from class. We look forward to hearing about all of you!

STEPHAN X. SKAPEK, BA 1984
I moved with my family to Chicago ~18 months ago to continue my cancer research in the laboratory. I also take on some additional administrative/clinical/teaching responsibilities at this great medical school. We have three children - Stephen and Mary (twins - age 15, ninth graders) and Timothy (age 11, 5th grade). Mary and Stephen took Latin in middle school, but only Stephen has continued it in high school. Mary, being perhaps more practical of the two, opted for Spanish. Tim? He's still undecided on language, but he loves a challenge.

One of my favorite sayings - Pluralitas non est ponenda sine necessitate - comes in handy when I help my lab team members interpret their experimental results!

IAN SUTHERLAND, PhD 1990
I am Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages at Gallaudet University in Washington DC. I am also director of archaeology for the Restoring Ancient Stabiae Foundation, an Italian-American partnership which is expanding and developing the archaeological site of ancient Stabiae, near Castellammare. In the academic year 2009-10 I will be Professor-in-
Charge of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Catania, Sicily.

**MARK TORLONE, BA 1985**

I begin my 25th year of teaching high school Latin this fall. I am currently teaching all levels of Latin at Sycamore High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. This past year I served on the writing committee that composed the revised standards for certification in world languages for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. My wife, Zara, a Classics professor at Miami University, published her book "Russia and the Classics: Poetry's Foreign Muse." We are the proud parents of Christina (Duke Class of 2024), who graduated this year from kindergarten.

**FELICIA TRAUB, BA 1990**

I am very well. I resigned from my position as Senior Counsel - Trademark and Copyright at Colgate-Palmolive Company to return to law firm practice as Special Counsel - Intellectual Property at Duane Morris LLP. In between jobs, I took some wonderful time off with family. I also finally made it to Southern Italy. I stayed on the Amalfi coast and visited Pompeii, Herculaneum, Paestum, and the Museo Archeologico in Naples. I am hoping I can return this year so I can spend two days at Pompeii, and a full day at Herculaneum. I was thrilled by the bookstore at Herculaneum and purchased many books there—including some in Italian! It will take me quite a while to make my way through the Italian books, so I'm saving those for later!! I've run out of book shelf space in my 1-bedroom apartment, so I suppose I'll need to cull through and sell some of my less beloved tomes!

**JEANNINE DIDLLE UZZI, PhD 1998**

I am still Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Southern Maine in Portland. USM is big, poor, public, and urban, which describes nothing I had ever anticipated for my career, but I have found teaching classics to adult learners and first generation college students as rewarding and humbling as it is challenging. I am constantly amazed that my students plunk down their hard-earned money to take Latin or ancient Greek. I'm definitely not preaching to the choir, as they say! We now offer three tracks through the classics major at USM—classical languages, classical humanities, and Latin for teachers—and we have a total of 34 majors with only two full-time faculty members. I am currently Chair of my department (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures), Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate, and Vice Chair of the Maine Classical Association. My most recent publication, "The Power of Parenthood in Official Roman Art," may be found in Cohen and Rutter's Constructions of Childhood in Ancient Greece and Italy (American School of Classical Studies at Athens 2007), but I am taking a brief hiatus from the world of Roman art and social history to collaborate with a poet at the University of Maine at Farmington on a new translation of Catullus' Lesbia cycle, to which I devoted my Fall 2008 sabbatical. Wish me luck!

Chris is now working as Primary Application Developer at the Council for International Educational Exchange in Portland. Mary Jane is nearly 8, and Freddie is 3 1/2. Mary Jane has just begun to learn Latin via Minimus, but her first love is the pogo stick. Now that Freddie is old enough not only to ride a two-wheeler but also to detach a bit from Mommy, I'm hoping we can resurrect our USM in Tuscany program for Summer 2010. I'm including a photo of Mary Jane with the newest member of our family, Bailey, a (we think) spaniel-poodle mix rescued from a shelter in Kentucky. After losing Clyde, our beloved schnauzer, last March, we finally felt ready for another canine baby. Best wishes to y'all from the Uzzi family—come visit us in Maine when you want to cool off! juzzia@usm.maine.edu

**ELBERT W. WALL, PhD 1983**

Cheryl and I have just celebrated our son's graduation from the University of Arkansas, majoring in English/Creative Writing. I have largely given up information technology and consider myself semi-retired. I teach part-time at the University of Memphis and at MidSouth Community College in West Memphis, Arkansas. With the current economic crunch, part-time PhDs look like a great deal to the local schools. Cheryl
continues at the University of Memphis. We send
our best wishes to all.

EVERETT L. WHEELER, PhD 1977
Now Scholar in Residence, I published the
following: “Anti-Deceit Clauses in Greek Treaties:
An Apologia,” in E. Dabrowa, ed., Greek and
Roman Military Studies (=Electrum 14 [Cracow
2008]) 57-83; “Pullarii, Haruspices, and Sacerdotes
in the Roman Imperial Army,” in M.H.
Schellenberg et al., eds., A Roman Miscellany:
Essays in honour of Anthony R. Birley (Gdansk
2008) 185-203; and a review: Michael B. Charles,
Vegetius in Context: Establishing the Date of the
Epitomae Rei Militaris, in Bryn Mawr Classical
Review 2008.06.42. My “Shock and Awe: Battles
of the Gods in Roman Imperial Warfare, Part I,” is
forthcoming in the acta of the 4th Lyon Congress on
the Roman Army and his “NotDig., Or. 38 and
Roman Deployment in Colchis: Assessing ‘New’
Views,” will appear in the Mélanges Yann Le Bohec
now in press. A review of David Kennedy, The
Roman Army in Jordan (second edition) will appear
in Ancient West & East 8 (2009). In January I
delivered a paper, “Polyaenus scriptor militaris,” at
a Tagung on “Polyainos in Context,” at the
Universität Erfurt, and in April I spoke on
“Polyaenus’ Strategika, Ethnography, and the Birth
of Geopolitical Thought in Western Military
Theory” at the annual meeting of the Society for
Military History, held in the vicinity of the Jack
Daniels Distillery, where I was instructed on the
fine distinctions between “Old No. 7,” “Single
Barrel,” and “Gentleman Jack.”

Sanjai Jalaj
wows them as
Xerxes with
wailing chorus
in Aeschylus’
play; theatre at
Syracuse, Fall,
'08.

GRATIAS AGIMUS
We are happy to acknowledge those who
have made the contributions large and small
over the past two years that enrich our
programs and provide resources for things
we would otherwise not be able to do.

The Warren J Gates Endowment
The Anita Dresser Jurgens Endowment
Sean Murphy
The William A. Stern Foundation
The Teasley Family Classical Antiquities
Endowment
Willie Mack Tribble
Teasley-Carroll-Trope Family Faculty Support
Loy Witherspoon
Carolyn Yarian

The Persae
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHK8T_tekHw
"My Choice Was Classics"

By Andy Luke, Latin major ’81

[Editor’s Note: Here’s an account of a Dukie’s choice of field of study, with an unusual twist. We hope to hear from others about how they got into our subject.]

I learned late in college that I might have enjoyed engineering – and been good at it. It made me wonder why I had taken all those years of Latin.

It was the winter of my senior year at Duke. My pending degree in Economics and Latin did not immediately suggest a career path. With life after college looming and no sense of plans after graduation, I took my dad’s suggestion to take part in aptitude testing in an attempt to discern my natural abilities.

As I learned through the process, research suggests individuals who pursue careers in fields where they are able to leverage their natural abilities tend to have higher job satisfaction. Those who find themselves in jobs where they are unable to do so are often more likely to become frustrated and unhappy with their work. Individuals in such situations can find some fulfillment through hobbies which leverage their aptitudes, but only as a second option, I was told.

Two days and 17 tests later, high scores in structural visualization and other spatial thinking tests suggested I have an aptitude for engineering and architecture. Unlike some whose profile suggests only a general inclination towards one field or another, the results of my tests were unambiguous. In fact rarely before had those who administered and scored my test seen such a clear profile. These same experts told me that pursuing a career where I could put those abilities to use would likely be the most satisfying for me. Too bad I was already a senior.

With an additional undergraduate degree not in the cards (at least for the time being), I chose the next best thing. Rather than follow in the footsteps of my brother and sister, who left Duke for jobs in NYC in banking, I accepted a job in the steel industry and headed to Chicago. There began my passion for manufacturing. Twenty eight years later, I continue to find fulfillment in industries (first steel, then paper, now packaging) where I can find roles which leverage my natural abilities and interests.

Now, back to Latin.

Those who administered my aptitude tests were intrigued that an individual with my profile not only had interest in, but passion for Latin. Upon reflection, they reasoned that my need for structure and my ability to see how to construct things in my mind’s eye was consistent with the often complex “architecture” of Latin prose. No wonder that translating certain texts at times felt like decoding a puzzle.

I started taking Latin in the 7th grade and continued with it, largely uninterrupted, through my senior year at Duke. As the junior high I attended did not have a Latin instructor, the Classics teacher from the high school would walk across the street to the junior high to teach us. To a 7th grader, that was cool and added to the appeal.

I continued with Latin for all those years (plus one year of Greek) because I liked it and—thanks to excellent instruction along the way—found I was pretty good at it. Only later did I learn my affinity for it may link to an aptitude.

As it has for others, Latin helped me build a solid foundation in grammar, strengthen my skills as a writer, and gave me tools by which to improve my vocabulary. But I also came to see it as a lens through which to view history as well as a mirror that reflects what is around us every day.

Thanks to amazing teachers who brought Latin to life and made study of it relevant, today I see the classics all around me... in literature, architecture, government, culture. The high school and college Latin texts that sit on my bookshelf serve as a different type of reminder... one of the years of study, instruction, and relationships built along the way that helped shape how I think and view the world.

That the study of Latin may have tapped into an aptitude I didn’t know I had is a bonus. Perhaps my experience can serve as an invitation to freshmen and sophomores who have discerned an interest in or aptitude for engineering, but who are looking for additional courses to round out their schedule. If they are like me, they may like what they find.

Had I taken the aptitude tests early in college rather than during my senior year, I might well have made different choices about my educational focus. What I would have lost in the process, though, I cannot begin to calculate.
I have known Jack and Kathy Zarker for many years. When Jack came to graduate school just sixty years ago this fall from Franklin and Marshall, I remember his giving a seminar report on Ovid's Ars Amatoria, I thought to myself, "Wow, these guys from Pennsylvania know how to work, and it shows." And this respect for him has continued, when he was my colleague --all too briefly-- at Vanderbilt, and in these last two decades at Duke.

Jack was a master teacher. Ed Gaffney went to Vanderbilt in 1966 intending to major in German. He says, "There was this personality; he made the classics come alive. From the start in his Catullus class, I knew what I wanted to do." Will Eward came to Duke with no Latin (it was not offered at his high school, and he began teaching himself at home). He encountered Jack after Jack had come here from Tufts. The combined spark of interest that Will already had, and Jack's infectious love of Latin, steered him to a major in our department. Mary Jane Morrow, though a graduate student, came into his course in Ovid's A. A. --you see this theme in Jack's life-- and discovered "this hysterical undergraduate course," with "an incredible presence"; the students, she said, adored him. Even those who had trouble getting up in the morning, she also said, managed to get there. In Will's class, Jack picked out all the funniest passages in the A.A. and Plautus. But the fun went along with Jack's high expectations of his students. When in the same class --maybe it was one of those hard-to-get-up mornings-- Mark Gilbert persisted in trying to translate "ecce" (Latin for "behold!") as if it were the more familiar "esse" ("to be"), the teacher got fed up. The next thing Mark remembers is, a book came flying through the air, aimed right at his head. Mark says it connected. In this season of H1N1, it is well to remember that there is a bad infection and then there is a good infection. People I talked to about Jack used the term "infectious" over and over, for instance, for his booming laugh. Will and Mark said Jack's Independent Study students in Roman Comedy could track him down in the second floor of Allen Building by his laugh down the hall. And Norman Keul, Director of Advising at Duke, remembers his "infectious, raucous, wonderful laugh; it was a joy to hear him talk about his subject."

In this connection, as you would expect, Jack was also a master adviser. He served in this post as underclass adviser from the beginning of his work at Duke. But he had begun this decade's before and he was fearless. At Vanderbilt Ed remembered the little brother of a friend of his who was Jack's advisee; the youngster went into Jack's office and announced, "I'm going to take Russian." "Fine," said Jack; "I'm signing you up for Greek." Just forty years after Ed Gaffney entered Vanderbilt, in the fall of 2006 David Ungvary was part of a group of eight entering Duke freshman meeting their adviser for the first time. Jack stood up in front of the group and said, "Who's this kid who's had four years of Latin and is taking Latin I?" It was David. David is a Latin major now. He explains: "The great thing about him was he taught his advisees: 'Follow your passion. Do what you want to do.' And David continues: "Some people, you can tell when they love what they do. In this field, everyone has fallen in love with it. Prof. Zarker was a shining example of that." Jack's advice to Mark, to major in classics, was something Mark had never even considered; as a pre-med, he had thought he would automatically major, as he says, "in some science." He is eternally grateful to him for that. Sometimes it was more subtle; Ed says, "He had such good rapport with the students, he guided them without their knowing." After Iby Nathans left her Duke post as Director of Advising, and before Norm came, Jack was the Acting Director, and a superb one. And this August, when his stroke came, he was preparing to meet yet another brand-new group of Duke advisees the following week.

In my research, I have studied the transmission of texts in mediaeval MSS and the survival of our Latin classics. For many years I told our graduate students --my only piece of advice to them about their teaching, which was outstanding and needed no coaching from me, but I said it anyhow--: "Teach every 50-minute class as though the survival of the classics depended upon it." Well, Jack was a living example of that. He spread the infection of love for the classics.
Aidan Conti: In 1998, I moved to Toronto, got married and then completed my PhD at the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto in 2004. Since then, I've been at the University of Bergen, Norway as a post-doctoral fellow, research fellow, and visiting ferstemanuensis. This spring I taught a brief (and cursory) introduction to palaeography with two colleagues to a group of 40 students; in the fall, I taught Medieval Latin to M.A. students. I've recently published several articles on Old Norse, Old English and Middle English translations of Latin homiletic material and am working on a collaborative edition of the Latin reception of some fifth-century Greek homilies on Christ's descent into Hell. My wife, a comparativist, and I have two children, Christopher (2001) and Eva (2006), both of whom enjoy children's life in Norway.

Rosemary Oates: This is a recent picture of John Francis Oates III ("Jack") who was born Sept. 28, 2007. This is a correction to the date posted in last year's Pheme that said he was born in 2003. We apologize for the misprint.

Elizabeth Ann Wood: Time flies when having fun, and I enjoy every day. Activities keeping me busy are playing golf, bridge, club meetings, and volunteer work. I was named Volunteer of the Year at our hospital last year and even had my picture on a billboard in Newark. (Ohio). On one of my last visits to Duke, I saw Josh Sosin—it was like seeing one of my boys grown up. My New Jersey family moved to Boston. Gives me a new area to explore. My best wishes to all. I look forward to reading about everyone.

John G. Younger: I am now starting my 8th year at the University of Kansas, still teaching Greek art and archaeology, but I have added two hats: Curator of the Wilcox Classical Museum (a collection of casts and antiquities, the only such museum in Kansas), and Director of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (formerly Women's Studies). WGSS is one of the oldest WS departments in the US and soon, one of two Women's Studies programs in the Midwest to offer a PhD (ours will begin, we hope! in 2011). I am still taking students around Greece -- the next trip will be in 2010; and I still have a pack of pups.

Student Workers and Office Staff

Danielle Starks

Jordan Hardy

Dianna Hu

Cathy Puckett and Julie Doring
(Staff Asst. and Assoc. Slide Curator) with Julie's new baby Zoe

Please be sure to keep in touch with the Classics Department (classics@duke.edu) here at Duke University and let us know of any changes in contact/address information. We are always happy to hear from our alumni.

N.B. – The Editor apologizes for the late appearance of this year's PHEME. For those who submitted news, you may feel it is no longer very new. Please come to visit us when on campus.