



# NOVA



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## Greetings from the Chair

Dear Alumnae, Alumni and Friends of Classics,

It is again my pleasure to pass along greetings to you on behalf of the faculty, staff and students of the Classics Department at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. I want to begin by thanking everyone for your support of the department and public higher education. This past year has been full of good news and I would like to review some of the highlights. On the personnel side, I am delighted to announce that Professor Debbie Felton Miller was awarded tenure at the close of the last academic year and I wish to thank her for a job well done. Professor Brian Breed breezed through his 4.2 review and has set his sights squarely on his tenure decision year. It is wonderful to be able to brag to colleagues in other departments about the quality of Classics faculty!

In January 2004 the UMass Amherst Classics Department sponsored its first course that involved study abroad. The course was entitled "Ancient Rome: Archaeology and History." Professor Maureen Ryan of Smith College, Professor Teresa Ramsby, and I led 17 students on a 12-day journey to the eternal city. We visited the major topographical sites in Rome, including the underground necropolis below St. Peter's Basilica, ancient Ostia, and the Etruscan museum and necropolis at Cerveteri. The trip concluded with a sumptuous feast at a locally owned eatery called Ristorante al Fagianetto. The students who participated were absolutely marvelous. They learned a ton, and more importantly, they threw themselves wholeheartedly into the "Rome experience."

Maureen, Teresa and I can only describe the trip and course a huge success, so much so that we intend to teach it again in January 2006. Interested alums are welcome to join us.

In March the department was selected as one of six departments campus-wide to participate in the Davis 2 Grant for Teaching Technology. Professors Debbie Felton Miller and Marios Philippides are using the grant to set up On-line Web-based Learning for Classical Mythology, the department's large lecture course.

The department received another round of good news in February and March. *The Etruscan Texts Project On-line*, a project that is building a database of recently recovered Etruscan inscriptions, was awarded grants from the American Philosophical Society, the Etruscan Foundation, and the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation. This is my pet project, but I am ably assisted by Michael Shamgochian, a classics alum who has written the program for the database, and graduate student James Patterson, who assists with linguistic matters, organization of the website ([etp.classics.umass.edu](http://etp.classics.umass.edu)), and other details too numerous to mention. Finally, I note that the project's website was originally designed by two Classics alums, Matt and Mark DiAntonio, who now run their own business in Boston called Frontier Now.

The department is also proud to announce the establishment of the Alumni/Alumnae Undergraduate Fund in Classics. Over the course of the past year, Professor David Grose—to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude for developing this idea—and I have worked with the good people at the UMass Foundation to set up an endowment fund for our undergraduate programs. Both David and I felt that this was a good way to put your hard-

earned money to work for the benefit of our program and its students. We hope to earmark the money from our upcoming fundraising campaign (see p. 2) to increase the size of the Department's endowment. The money will be used to sponsor undergraduate activities, study abroad, and scholarships. I could go on, but I will let my colleagues and our students tell the rest of our good tale. In closing, let me wish everyone a peaceful and productive autumn.

—*Cordiali saluti*, Rex Wallace, Chair



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Editors: David F. Grose, James Patterson, Rex Wallace

## Classics Celebrates its XXXV Anniversary with a Fundraiser

by Professor David Grose

In 1970 the Classics Department graduated its first students. It had been formed under the spirited leadership of **Gilbert Lawall**, who brought together faculty from around the United States and created a unique program of classical studies. They recognized that Classics had to change its programming in order to survive and prosper. Instead of the traditional M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, there would be a Masters in the Art of Teaching Latin and Classical Humanities (M.A.T.); instead of a B.A. almost exclusively relying on the ancient languages and literatures, there would be a broad-based curriculum emphasizing history, mythology, archaeology/art history, women's studies, and historical linguistics—in addition to Latin and Greek. Lawall's vision has stood the test of time and UMass Amherst is fortunate to have one of the most viable classics programs in North America.

The department was founded in UMass Amherst's glory years of expansion and strong state funding, but unfortunately for the University, those days are over. Following three recessions, the University has permanently lost 30% (or \$60 million dollars) from its base budget, tuition and fees have increased accordingly, and all departments are now encouraged to seek their own funding through annual giving and permanent endowments. In the past eight years we have been especially lucky in receiving three large endowments: the first from the former president of UMass, William Bulger to fund the **William M. Bulger Classics Awards**; the second from Frances Keitel entitled the **Frances and Henry Keitel Fund in Classics** to provide faculty development grants; and the third from an anonymous trust in San Diego, California. But this year we wish to make certain that the state monies lost will be replaced through an endowment. Our goal is to raise \$25,000. Start-up funds have been gratefully received from you, our alums, from faculty, and from the Friends of Classics. On behalf of our undergraduates we invite and encourage you today to make a contribution to this endowment, which we have entitled the **Alumni/ae Fund in Classics**.



Hon. William Bulger, Naomi Haqq, Jeffrey Wilson

### Bulger Awards 2003-2004

This year's recipients of the **William M. Bulger Classics Awards** are **Naomi Haqq** ('04) and **Jeffrey Wilson** ('04). With the former president of UMass present, the awards were announced at a reception in November at the UMass Faculty Club. Five years ago the president created the endowment that makes these scholarships possible. As Elizabeth Keitel said last year, in respect to the financial woes of the state—and quoting Cicero's *De Amicitia* — “when fortune is fickle, a faithful friend is found.” Naomi (whose family is of Indian descent from the Punjab) is from neighboring Belchertown where she was born and home-schooled. She is a pianist and much involved in community service youth work. Upon graduation she will return to university to pursue a career in nursing. Jeffrey was raised in Harwich on beautiful Cape Cod. During the summers he has spent several internships in the district

courts of Massachusetts. His career choice is law, and he has been accepted to the Boston College Law School for the fall. We congratulate this year's Bulger scholars and wish them well as they graduate from UMass.

### Leadership Donors

**Ann O'Rourke** ('86)

In the fall of 1982, Ann O'Rourke walked up to the fifth floor of Herter Hall and introduced herself and her intention to major in Classics with a concentration in Greek and Latin languages and literatures. According to her, “On that visit, I chatted with at least three faculty, all of whom interrupted their work and welcomed me to their offices. Each one offered his or her services as an academic advisor. Needless to say, even though I was a newcomer to the campus, I recognized that the reception I had received in the Classics Department was extraordinary within the context of a large institution. The rest of my experience as an undergraduate Classics major was consistent with that first encounter. The atmosphere in which I was studying was one of friendliness and high standards, but also of cultivation and nurture. The dedication of the faculty was astounding and apparent in every class. In just six semesters Professor Lawall, ever patient and encouraging, taught a group of us who had never read a word of Greek before to read poetry and prose. Professor Cleary taught us not just to translate the text of Virgil, but how to connect it with our world. While some would view reading Tacitus as a harsh sentence, Professor Keitel conveyed to us her personal enthusiasm for these difficult texts, and in the end, shepherded us all through the class successfully.

“Many other members of the faculty similarly shaped my experience, including Professor (*continued on p. 3*)

Grose who brought archaeological architecture and artifacts to life. Professor Phinney prompted a group of us to start the UMass Amherst Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. Professor Elizabeth Will was my dedicated advisor for four years. After graduation, I decided to enter law school at Georgetown University. All of the skills I have developed as an undergraduate Classics major, for example the ability to think critically and to write clearly and concisely, were the foundations I depended on during those post-graduate years. After law school, I moved to Boston to work at a large law firm, Mintz Levin, specializing in corporate and public finance work. On one occasion I was pleased to be able to work on a five-campus bond financing for the University of Massachusetts. After several years in private practice, I became the general counsel for a student loan finance corporation, known as Nellie Mae. After moving on from that position, I now split my time between consulting work for student loan finance companies and working for a start-up charter school finance organization, both in Braintree, MA.

“Outside work, my husband, Camille, and our two children, Johnny and Marc, keep me very happy and very busy at our home in Wayland. For many years I have played cello in the Longwood symphony, a community orchestra in Boston. I am also currently serving on the advisory board to the Dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, which brings me back to UMass Amherst at least twice a year to work on the critical financial and fundraising issues that the College faces. I am extremely pleased to have been offered the opportunity to give something back to Classics and the College from which I gained so much.”

#### **Carol Aleman ('95)**

Carol Aleman, a nontraditional student, withdrew from the University of Massachusetts in the early seventies until she enrolled as a part-time University Without Walls student fourteen years later. Carol spent a lot of time thinking about what she liked best – the study of language. After completing one semester in the UWW program, she transferred to the University's Day Division, content to declare Classics her major. Latin and later Greek became her passion. “I remember I surprised Professor Keitel in Latin 310 when I was able to recite the five verbs that take an object in the ablative case. I did not tell her that serendipitously I had just spent the summer reading the very grammar text that she had chosen for the course.” Later, Aleman says, “It was Ed Phinney leaving me with visions of ancient coins glowing from an old chest of drawers in the backroom of his youth, who taught me that it only took courage and a little confidence to learn Greek.” Indeed, he was right. In 1988 Aleman left her post at Greenfield Community College to join the staff of Five Colleges, Inc., continuing her part-time study and eventually earning a University B.A. *cum laude* in 1995. Just days before commencement, her colleagues at the consortium presented her with the cap she would wear at the ceremony. Upon it, splendidly mounted, sat a small replica Parthenon, spray painted gold. In the fall of 1996

Aleman was back in the classroom, this time to study linguistics. Fondly, she recalls the enthusiasm of Rex Wallace: “It was Rex who really got me started thinking about linguistics, and I have not been able to stop since.” Within a few years she had completed all the courses required for a second bachelor's degree in that field. “About this time my daughters and I planned our first visit to relatives in Italy. When we returned, I immediately enrolled in Italian.” This past spring Aleman completed her ninth course in Italian. She returned to Italy in May to revisit relatives and test her fluency. “My cousin Andrea's wife, Raffaella, is an English teacher in the Trentino-Alto Adige region. Not surprisingly, when we are together, the conversation is unmistakably about grammar.” Where else her studies will lead her, Aleman (*continued on p. 9*)

## **Undergraduate News and Awards**

By Professor Debbie Felton, Undergraduate Advisor

Our undergraduates continue to distinguish themselves on many fronts. At the Department level, **Andrew Bentley**, a Classics major, won the Latin Translation Contest. **Vilmarie Vega**, a Classics minor, won the Greek Translation Contest. Seniors **Naomi Haqq** and **Jeffrey Wilson** received the Department's highest honor, the William M. Bulger Classics Award for 2003-2004.

At the University level, **Janet Danylieko** and **Michael Shamgochian** received Commonwealth College Research Grants, and Jeffrey Wilson was awarded one of the University's highest honors, a UMass Alumni Association Senior Leadership Award. Inducted into the UMass Nu Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa this spring were Classics majors **Daniel Abosso**, **Elena Milonopoulos**, **Monica Valdez**, and **Michael Wright**, and Classics minors **Sarah Mulligan** and **Brian Zahora**.

At the national and international levels, senior Andrew Bentley won second place in the national Eta Sigma Phi Latin Translation Context. **Michael Wright**, **Sarah Mulligan**, and **Brian Zahora** joined the Golden Key national honor society. **Denise Camporeale**, a junior Classics major, received a coveted American Academy in Rome Fellowship to study at the CENTRO in Spring 2004. She joins several other Classics majors who have studied abroad in 2003-04, including **Michael Gibbons** in Germany, **Frances Devrow** in Italy, and Monica Valdez in Spain.

Many of our graduating seniors will be going on to graduate and professional schools across the country. **Joseph Charter**, who started his studies in Classics at UMass as a senior in high school five years ago, will join the Classics Department's MAT program this fall. **Jeffrey Wilson** will attend Boston University's law school, and **Michael Shamgochian** will attend Suffolk University's law school. **Jen Crow**, a double major in Classics and Biology, will attend the University of Iowa's excellent biology graduate program in addition to taking Classics courses there.

## Overheard in Herter – Mostly Seniors

**Melanie Convery** ('04) spent a semester teaching in Zhengzhou, China. Zhengzhou is a city of 6 million, and, according to Melanie, living and working there was both eventful and exciting. Chinese lessons from the faculty and from some of her students helped her to interact with the local people who lived in and around the campus. It proved to be a much more personal experience than regular tourism, and it taught her volumes about Chinese history and culture. The SARS epidemic, though initially frightening, offered a unique perspective on how a communist government operates in times of crisis. Teaching in Asia through Alliances Abroad requires a bachelor's degree in any field. UMass also offers other opportunities at sister schools throughout the world, and it is always possible, particularly in Asia, to arrive resume in hand, and simply apply for jobs as you travel. These teaching experiences afford a marvelous educational experience. It is a great way to travel, largely subsidized, and you interact with another country's life and culture in a way that is unavailable to the casual tourist trapped in a bus or train.

**James Patterson** ('03), a student of Classics and Linguistics, has developed an electronic Etruscan font called ETRUSCOTUTTO. This font has 105 characters plus the three most common forms of punctuation used to separate words. The Etruscan characters in the font cover the Archaic and the neo-Etruscan periods and also include the major regional variants for each chronological period. To complement ETRUSCOTUTTO, James developed a font for transcribing Etruscan texts entitled TRANSCRIPTIONNEXT. This font contains all of the characters required for transcribing Etruscan texts regardless of the system of transcription that one desires to employ, e.g. the "traditional" system, system Rix. He is also in the process of producing an early Italic alphabet font to include Sabellic, Venetic, Umbrian, South Picene, and Oscan. These fonts are available to Mac and PC users and may be downloaded for free from: <http://www.people.umass.edu/jamesp/fonts.html>.

**Anne Dewitt** launched into the study of classical Greek and Latin upon retirement! Each weekday she drives from her woodland retreat in Halifax, Vermont, to UMass to read and enjoy the literature of the ancient world. She writes: "Why am I studying the classical languages, having received degrees in Biology and Environmental Science? In this case the blame must fall on Homer, though my career as an English teacher played a role as well. To have read Homer each and every year, whether in Greek or in English, one comes at some point not simply to understand and appreciate the text, but as in the case with Shakespeare and Dante to realize, to experience, to feel the dimensions, power, the truths, the richness that constitute Homer and to walk again and again in that epic journey. One gets hooked, even eager to make that annual pilgrimage." This past summer she returned to her other home in Nauplion, Greece, to study, to write,

to walk, and swim, a place as she puts it, "where long ago a consciousness of certain enviable truths were born and took root—a dry and stony land of craggy mountains, whose ragged coastline projects into a dazzling, passionate, and sometimes wine-dark sea."

This past January, **Jennifer Tebo** ('04) worked as an intern at Old Sturbridge Village Museum, Massachusetts. She is a Theater and Classics Major; she did her internship for Museum Studies credits towards her Classics degree. Jennifer worked with Ed Hood, director of research, in order to document and research graffiti in early 1800s New England schoolhouses. She identified the graffiti and then documented them by doing tracings and taking digital photographs. Ed Hood presented the research at the Vernacular Architecture Forum Winter Meeting. Jennifer enjoyed her internship and believes it was an excellent experience. She recommends interning at Old Sturbridge Village or other area museums to anyone with an interest in history or museum studies. Jen was raised in Worthington in the Berkshires.

## Adjunct Faculty

The Classics Department has always benefited from the expertise of our colleagues in other departments. These faculty expand the richness of our course offerings and provide different intellectual approaches to the ancient past. We wish to express our gratitude to the following:

**Laetitia LaFollette** (Ph.D. Princeton) in Art History; **Carlin Barton** (Ph.D. Berkeley) in History; **Casey Perin** (Ph.D. Harvard) in Philosophy. And joining our ranks this fall is Professor **Michael Sugerman** in Anthropology who received his Ph.D. from Harvard University and specializes in the cultures of the Near East and Eastern Mediterranean during the Bronze and Iron Ages. This semester he is teaching a new course in Classics entitled "The Mediterranean in the Bronze Age."

The department has also benefited from the expertise of colleagues who join us in a part-time capacity. We thank the following for contributing to the instructional well being of the department:

**Angela Leatherman** (Ph.D., Brown), **George Ryan** (Ph.D. Princeton), and **John Towle** (Ph.D., University of Washington).

Professor *emerita* Elizabeth Will has informed the department that **Stan Andermann** (MAT '78) has passed away. While we have no details at this time, all of us who knew and taught him are deeply saddened by his death.



Classics students and faculty pose on their way to Ostia Antica, Italy

## UMass Abroad: Rome

In January 2004 the UMass Classics Department sponsored its first trip to Rome, and from the beginning to the end the endeavor was a success. This new course, *Ancient Rome: Archaeology and History*, consisted of a twelve-day trip to the eternal city. The trip was the brainchild of Rex Wallace who organized it. Teresa Ramsby assisted Rex in organizing the course and co-taught during the trip. Maureen Ryan of Smith College also participated, offering excellent lectures on the monuments of ancient Rome. Students eagerly took notes, kept journals, and did preliminary research for papers on specific monuments of the city.

The group investigated many Roman sites, including all of the remains of the Roman and Imperial Fora and the monuments of the Campus Martius, the remarkably well-preserved ruins of the ancient harbor town Ostia, the Colosseum, the Baths of Caracalla, and the Golden House of Nero. One special treat was a walk through the underground pagan cemetery that now rests under the floor of Saint Peter's Basilica. Professor Wallace hired a bus to take the group to Cerveteri, an Etruscan necropolis with so many tombs that we couldn't visit them all. Among the museums visited were the Capitoline Museum, the Palatine Museum, the Palazzo Massimo, and the Vatican Collections, including the breathtaking Sistine Chapel. One of the chief thrills for students and teachers alike was the experience of Roman cuisine, particularly gelato. On the final night the group gathered for dinner at Ristorante al Fagianetto to reminisce about favorite sights and experiences and to enjoy spaghetti bolognese and tiramisu.

This opportunity to study the sites and buildings of ancient Rome *in situ* was extremely rewarding. After returning, one student wrote, "I'd just like to say that the trip worked out phenomenally well, and I could not have expected a better time." Another wrote, "Thank you so much for such an amazing trip!" The next Rome trip will likely

take place January 2006, a promising development for UMass and Five College classics students.

## Classical Readings

Christopher Phillips, *Six Questions of Socrates: A Modern-Day Journey of Discovery Through World Philosophy* (New York and London: Norton, 2004). ISBN 0-393-05157-9.

Reviewed by **Mary Catherine Phinney**

A distinguishing characteristic of the ancient Greeks was their inveterate posing of questions. Some of their answers, such as the value of  $\pi$  and the circumference of the earth, are still considered essentially valid. Others, about the origin of the earth and the nature of matter, current for centuries, are now considered unscientific. Still other questions can never have a "right" answer, but are nevertheless worth asking. In a recent, highly readable book, *Six Questions of Socrates: A Modern-Day Journey of Discovery Through World Philosophy*, Christopher Phillips has asked anew the same questions of a varied cross-section of people and recorded some of their answers. Phillips devotes a chapter to each question: "What is virtue, moderation, justice, the good, courage and piety?" His interlocutors, among many others, include passers-by in the Agora in Athens, a plaza in Mexico City, a small group of Israeli and Palestinian students in New York City, old people in Korea, homeless in Madrid, inner-city school children in San Francisco, Navajos on a reservation, etc. Interspersed with their answers are illuminating questions from Confucius, the Koran, Primo Levi, St. Francis of Assisi and Plato, to name a few. Phillips has an amazing genius for engaging one's attention and then drawing deeply thoughtful answers from wildly disparate groups. Classics teachers of students of all ages and levels could profit from reading this slender volume, and then posing the same questions.

## Eta Sigma Phi Report

By Jeffrey Wilson, co-Prytaneis



The Epsilon Omicron chapter at UMass has enjoyed another very productive year. Led by faculty advisor, Teresa Ramsby, the officers have brought the undergraduate honor society to a new level of excellence while gaining the support and respect of the academic community at the University. The cur-

rent officers of the Epsilon Omicron chapter are the: co-Presidents, Jeffrey Wilson and Janet Danylieko; co-Vice Presidents, Andrew Bentley and Naomi Haqq; Treasurer, Sarah Mulligan; Secretary, Courtney Cormier; and Sergeant at Arms, Andre Palatino. We are happy to report that the events and programs sponsored by Eta Sigma Phi have been extremely successful and stimulated our goal to advance classical studies throughout the university and beyond.

Our first order of business was to continue the Latin and Greek tutoring program that has been a great success over the past two years. In 2003-2004, we recruited a wonderful crew of tutors who have assisted undergraduate students with their mastery of ancient languages. Classics faculty and staff provided considerable encouragement and support for this program; a few teachers even incorporated our help into their curriculum. Continuing with our goals to promote classical scholarship, we assisted in the advancement of Classics for young, upcoming students. All of the officers and a few avid members traveled to Belchertown High School to volunteer at the Pioneer Valley Classical Association's "Annual Classics Day." The volunteers assisted as judges and aides to high school teachers. We also helped with lunch, chaperoned, and talked with students of all ages about their future and about the study of the ancient past. Our second objective was to assist young students of the Junior Classical League with their annual convention at UMass at the end of May. We feel that our presence at these events has provided the students with role models nearer their own age who could talk to them about the importance of classical studies. Both presidents also represented the honor society at the fall semester's Major's Fair.

As the year continued, we have had several fundraisers in an attempt to boost our finances in the hope of sending a representative to the National Convention in Louisiana. Our fall book sale was a great success, as it always is. The sale raised over \$300, nearly half of the projected cost for the trip. We also held many bake sales throughout the year. These events enabled Janet Danylieko to travel to Loyola University, New Orleans for the 2003-2004 Eta Sigma Phi National Convention. At the convention Janet ably told other collegiate students about our activities and accomplishments.

As always, the chapter's most important goal is to create an environment where academically successful

students can socialize and further their appreciation for the study of Classics. We firmly believe that we have done this very well this year. Throughout the spring semester we showed the popular BBC special, *I Claudius*, at which attendance has been wonderful, and we have held meetings and gatherings at the officers' apartments. In appreciation of classical drama we traveled to Hartford to see the off-Broadway version of Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses* based on Ovid's epic poems. In addition, we had a large crowd attending UMass' performance of Euripides' *Trojan Women* in May. We also scheduled events to support the continuance of classics in popular culture, such as group trips to *The Passion of the Christ* and the upcoming film *Troy*.

We have continued to advertise our society and create a sense of pride that can be seen across the University by making T-shirts that students can wear with honor, and by maintaining a website to further our chapter's popularity: <http://www.umass.edu/esph>. We concluded the year by recognizing over twenty new members at the 2004 initiation, which was followed by the annual banquet. The banquet was highlighted by a slide show of the Classics Department's winter session in Rome and wonderful oratory by faculty and officers.

The state of UMass' Epsilon Omicron chapter of Eta Sigma Phi remains strong. Professor Edward Phinney the chapter twenty-three years ago. His hard work and vision created one of UMass' most successful disciplinary honor societies. The graduating seniors have created a solid base of programs and events that can be carried into the future. The incoming officers and members are enthusiastic and willing to do the work of maintaining the high level of respect that Eta Sigma Phi has attained. The tutoring program will continue to thrive and new programs will surely make our honor society one of the most active at the University of Massachusetts.

### National Conference of Eta Sigma Phi

by Janet Danylieko

The annual conference of Eta Sigma Phi, the national honors society for Classics, was held in sunny New Orleans from March 19-21. The conference was held at Loyola College, and was wonderfully fun and exciting, as well as a chance to meet other classics students and professors from all over the United States. On Friday, opening ceremonies were held. The next morning breakfast afforded the opportunity to mingle with other classicists. Afterward, we gave short reports regarding our chapter. Epsilon Omicron reported on what it had been doing during the year in regard to activities and community service. Our chapter has been very busy, and I spoke about our tutoring program, the ARES project, which hopefully will begin next year, as well as our recent trip to see Ovid's play *The Metamorphoses*. I also reported on our upcoming trip to see *The Trojan Women* at our own Fine Arts Center, as well as on our *I Claudius* nights, which we have held every other week. (*continued on p. 9*)

## Faculty News

In the past year, **Brian W. Breed** organized (with Andreola Rossi, Amherst College) and presided at a panel on Ennius at the annual meeting of the APA in San Francisco. A collection of papers that grew out of this panel is to appear as a special volume of the journal *Arethusa* entitled "Ennius and the Invention of Roman Epic." Brian's article "Portrait of a Lady: Propertius 1.3 and Ecphrasis" appeared recently in *Classical Journal*; he has other papers forthcoming on dialogue as a pastoral ideal and on Horace *Odes* 4.15. In the next year, Bristol Phoenix Press is re-issuing John Conington's historic commentary on the works of Virgil with a new introduction to the *Eclogues* by Brian. Work also continues on a Horace commentary with Gil Lawall, including MAT alumnae Helene Lerner and Sally Murphy. **David Grose** reports that he has finished his part in the excavations of the late Hellenistic Sanctuary on Yeronisos off the coast of Cyprus. But he has begun new projects at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Toledo Museum of Art, and the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan. He has been nominated to serve on one of the major committees of the American School of Classical Studies, Athens. He has been invited by the British Museum to revise a volume on Hellenistic glass. He greets all of his former students, especially those who continue their active interest in archaeology and museums. This year **Elizabeth Keitel** resumed her role as Graduate Program Director, taking over from Ken Kitchell. She was also awarded a TEACHnology Fellowship for 2004-2005 to revamp her course on women in antiquity. She has two articles forthcoming on Tacitus and is finishing up a school text of Cicero's *pro Caelio*. Finally, she has joined the ETS Praxis Latin Committee that is revising the Praxis exam for beginning Latin teachers. Professor **Ken Kitchell** spent a busy and productive 2003-2004. He was an invited speaker for the Maine and Missouri Classical Associations and presented seven other talks at classical meetings. This year he has learned PowerPoint, and has also begun teaching myth in Mahar Auditorium to 470 students! To his surprise he is enjoying it. He currently serves as president of the American Classical League; is co-director of the Latin Placement Service, CANE; and chairs the Centennial Committee of CAMWS. Not only is he the proud grandfather of his first grandson, Connor, born in mid-April in Texas, but his barbershop quartet, Gabriel's Horn, made the "cut" at divisional competitions and will compete in the district contest next October. In Fall, 2003, professor emeritus **Gil Lawall** completed a revision of *Athenaze: An Introduction to Ancient Greek* (Oxford University Press) for its Second Edition, which includes two student books, two teacher's handbooks, and two workbooks (new additions to the program); an audio CD with readings from the first five chapters has been prepared by Mark Miner, a graduate student at the University of Georgia. Lawall continues work on a Horace reader for the

Advanced Placement Syllabus, with contributions from Bruce Arnold, Mt. Holyoke College, Brian Breed, UMass, and schoolteacher Andy Murphy (UMass MAT '95). In Spring semester, 2004, Lawall sponsored a Horace Reading Group for the Pioneer Valley Classical Association, with eleven participants meeting at his house every other Sunday afternoon. An edition of Ovid's *Heroides* 7, the letter of Dido to Aeneas, edited by Stephen Prince (UMass MAT '90) and Lawall, will appear shortly in CANE Instructional Materials. Lawall is preparing an edition of the new selections for the Catullus Advanced Placement Syllabus, to be ready by the end of June 2004. **Marios Philippides** continues to teach his large, popular classes, and he continues his work on Byzantine history. One book is to be published by the University of Arizona's Center of Medieval and Renaissance Studies. A two-volume work on the fall of Constantinople has just been completed. In 2003 the University of Istanbul honored Marios by inviting him to deliver the keynote address to a conference commemorating the 500th anniversary of the University. He also spoke at the annual Byzantine Studies Conference, an organization that elected him Vice President. He currently is organizing a conference for the Renaissance Center, UMass, during which he will speak and also perform a concert of Renaissance music on the harpsichord. **Teresa Ramsby** traveled to Scripps College in Claremont, California this past fall to present a paper entitled, "A Barbarian Queen and Hollywood Dreams: The Film Adaptation of Ovid in Julie Taymor's *Titus*" for a panel on ancient/modern interactions at the annual PAMLA conference. She also presented a paper at Smith College in the fall entitled, "Visualizing the *Other* Woman: Barbarian Queens in Augustan Art and Poetry." She and a panel of scholars have submitted articles on the transformation of Rome under Augustus for a special edition of *Arethusa*. She currently is working on two articles regarding the (*continued on p. 9*)

### In Memoriam

By Kenneth Kitchell

This year brought great sadness to our UMass Amherst family as **Erica Schmitt**, a Smith College alumna and a 2001 graduate of the UMass Amherst MAT program, died in a car crash in her native New Jersey on November 1, 2003. At the time of her death Erica was a Latin teacher at the Enfield (CT) High School. Small in stature but enormous in personality, Erica touched all of us who knew her. She was always in a whirl, perpetually talking, and constantly thinking of her students—"my kids," as she called them. Her time with them was brief, but her impact was profound, as their Latin testimonials at the funeral demonstrated. A life is made up of myriad details and no one tessera can describe a mosaic. Yet one student's comment seems to do just that. "When I got to UMass I was a little lost," the student said, "Erica was always ready to help and guide me."

*Ave atque vale, magistra ... te lugemus.*

## News from the Graduate Program

by Elizabeth Keitel, Graduate Program Director

This year we bid goodbye to the class of 2003, all of whom are gainfully employed in the positions and places that they wished to be in. Among all the professions, teaching has openings, and with the rebirth of Latin there are many more positions than can be filled, especially by candidates who have gone through the nation's most rigorous and highest-regarded Latin MAT program—OURS! **Elizabeth Benestadt** is teaching at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, NH. **Julie Richardson** teaches at Spartanburg Country Day School, Spartanburg, SC. **Dana Coffin** is teaching in Maine. **Jennifer Brown** is teaching at the Tower Hill School, Wilmington, DE. **Nicole Brown** is teaching at Hudson High School, Hudson, MA. And this year we welcomed another distinguished group of graduate students, the Class of 2005: **Margaret Adamczyk** (BA Assumption College), **Deb Caldieri** (BA Smith College), **Carrie Heathcote** (BA Truman State University), **Rochelle Lindsay** (BA Rochester University), **Joey Meyer** (BA Wesleyan University). To express our appreciation to our MAT students and faculty we held our annual lecture series and parties. Rex Wallace and Maureen Ryan hosted the beginning-of-the-year reception in September. I hosted the Christmas gathering in my home in Greenfield, and Ken and Theresa Kitchell treated the graduates and their families to a picnic, surrounded by their dogs, birds, and a rescued wild bunny named Nigel. We are also pleased to announce the following: **Carrie Heathcote** was awarded the Alumni Scholarship, which she will use to attend the summer school of the American Academy in Rome. In addition to her other duties, **Shelley Lindsay** gave birth in January to **Magnus Lindsay**. Magnus is a frequent and much adored visitor to the fifth floor of Herter Hall. Several distinguished alumni of the department spoke to students in Latin 608, Teaching Latin Literature this spring. Thanks to **T.J. Howell**, **Sean Smith**, **Sally Murphy** and **Mark Pearsall** for their stimulating presentations on teaching technique. The graduate students once again contributed generously of their time and talents at the annual PVCA Classics Day, held this year at Belchertown High School. Many were also involved in the annual MaJCL convention held at UMass April 30-May 1.

## Heard Online: MAT Alumni News

After five years teaching at Elgin Academy, **Karl Hayes** (MAT '97) has moved to St. Mary's Hall in San Antonio. He and Karin are the parents of Patrick and Sophie. **Jacque Myers** (MAT '99) reports that she and **Luke Henderson** (MAT '99) are settling in well in Los Angeles. Jacque is teaching Latin to middle schoolers at St. Mathew's Parish School in Pacific Palisades, and Luke teaches nearly 100 students in Latin at Santa Monica High School. **John M. Oksanish** (BA '99, MAT '02) has been

accepted into the Ph.D. program in Classics at Yale in the fall. **Carl Phillips** (MAT '83) now teaches English and African and Afro-American Studies at Washington University in St. Louis. In the past year he has published a translation of Sophocles *Philoctetes* (Oxford University Press) and his seventh volume of poetry, *The Rest of Love* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). **Karl Ritval** (BA '01) has received his MA in Classics from The Ohio State University, Columbus. **Sunshine Rowley** (MAT '98) sent the department a photo of her two sons, Albert and Ralph Lagerman. Ralph was born in January, 2003. **Marjorie Keeley** (MAT '88) is completing her fifth year of teaching at Mt. Greylock High School. Marj is the co-chair of the Massachusetts Junior Classical League and has steered their state convention to the UMass campus for the past two years. "I have become hooked on JCL and recommend it as a great way to enhance any Latin program! The National JCL convention did it for me. If anyone has questions, suggestions, or just a salutation, please contact me in the backwoods of Peru, MA." **Daniel Cheng** (MAT '95) will enroll at Tufts School of Dentistry, Boston, in the fall. He writes that "Classics will continue to be my avocation." **Kate Buswick McCampbell** (MAT '97) has moved to Andover MA, where she is expecting her third child in May. "I miss teaching in the classroom a lot. I do tutor at a Sylvan Learning Center two nights a week as well as tutor students in Latin privately." **SaraAnne Washam Cody** (MAT '77) writes that she and a colleague at Thornton Academy "have the largest Latin high school enrollment in the state (of Maine): 230 students in a school of 1100." **Marilyn L. Rossi** (BA '69) is retiring from West Springfield High School and was honored by the Department at this year's alumni reunion for her long service to Latin in the Pioneer Valley. Thanks to Marilyn and best of luck in her retirement. She continues her travels in Italy. **John McVey** (MAT '85) was elected President of CANE for 2005-06 at the March meeting. Congratulations, John! **Kathleen Prins** (MAT '76) is retiring after teaching for twenty-eight years at Cony High School in Augusta, ME. **Mark Pearsall** (BA '91) teaches Latin at Gastonbury High School, Gastonbury, CT. Mark gave a paper at the ACL Summer Institute last June in Buffalo, NY. He is also pursuing a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at the University of Connecticut. **Selina Kell** (MAT '89) continues her enthusiastic teaching at Enfield High School, Enfield, CT.



Classics students at the Coliseum, Rome

## Leadership Donors

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cannot say. “My dream is to earn a graduate degree and one day find myself in a more primary role as teacher, perhaps even in Italy. In the meantime, Five Colleges gives me many opportunities for interacting with faculty, administrators, and students, in the classroom and the outside world. And once my daughters (Diana, a senior at Yale, and Andrea a sophomore at Goucher College) complete their studies, I hope to pursue more fully my own desires. (Who knows?)”

**Paul Dowling** ('95)

What would I do without Classics? It's a question that often comes to mind, prompted by experiences both profound and mundane; when I consider my dependence on the Internet, for instance, or the blackout in New York City, or when I receive re-gifted bath soaps from my friend Maureen, whose lack of sense of smell renders such delights quite useless to her. In each instance it's a question of connectivity: intellectual cultural, sensorial. The study of Classics is often perceived as a “disconnected” activity, one that has no resonance with or application in the modern world. I would argue just the opposite. The spirit of inquiry that inspires our study of antiquity is a key motivator in our cultural development and has been for at least the past five hundred years. In my daily work, I deal with books printed in the 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, artifacts of the Renaissance, the Reformation and Early Modern Europe. For the past seven years, I have immersed myself in a fascinating, hybrid world, which, like Nietzsche's philologist, looks both forward and backward. It is a world in which classical civilization has been revived and is regarded, not as a static artifact, but as a vibrant model for cultural advancement. In this world, knowledge of Greek and Latin provides the connectivity; it is the conduit through which knowledge is made available to society as a whole. In that new age of discovery, the printing press served as the vehicle for the rapid dissemination of knowledge. Early printed books, the products of this new technology, tell the story of that crucial “information age” and the dynamic, transformative role that Classics played in its development. Each book that I have been privileged to handle tells a different part of this fascinating story: the first printed edition of Homer, edited and seen through the press by refugees from fallen Constantinople; Martin Luther's defiant response to Pope Leo X's threats of excommunication; Christiaan Huygens' announcement of his discovery that Saturn has rings. The word “Classics” has always seemed inadequate to the task of capturing the scope of the ancient world or the profound impact that it continues to have on our modern lives. On the other hand, there is something in the succinctness of the word that conveys the pervasiveness, vastness and indispensability of the broad range of ideas for which it serves as a catchall. It's the same for words

like “air”, “love” or “DNA”. How could we deal without the classical past? We could not.

## Faculty News

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use of inscriptions in Ovid, and another on a poem by Propertius. She had the opportunity to participate as co-sponsor of the first winter session course in Rome that took place in January of 2004 (see article). She has been nominated to serve on the Supervisory Board of the Western Massachusetts Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, and continues her service as faculty advisor of the UMass chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. She is happy to report that the Epsilon Omicron chapter maintains its status as an active participant in the national organization. During the past year **Debbie Felton Miller** was awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Along with Marios Philippides, she received a coveted Davis Educational Grant for Teaching Technology. She is under contract to write a chapter on “Death and the Afterlife” for Blackwell's *Greek Religion* and a book with the University of Texas Press entitled *Things That Went Bump in the Night: An Anthology of Strange Stories from Greece and Rome*. She also presented a talk as part of the Commonwealth College's Pizza and Professor Night, participated in the annual Hamantash versus Latke debate at UMass Hillel, and gave a live radio interview in Norfolk, Virginia, on ghost stories, past and present. **Rex Wallace** spent the month of June in Murlo, Italy studying Etruscan inscriptions recovered at the site of Poggio Civitate, an Etruscan building complex dating to the 7th century B.C. While at Murlo he delivered a lecture entitled, “What every archaeologist always wanted to know about the Etruscan language but was afraid to ask.”

## National Conference of Eta Sigma Phi

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Many people seemed to like the idea, and it seems as if many other chapters will be holding *I Claudius* nights in the future.

The conference was a fantastic experience, and hopefully several members of our chapter will be able to attend next year, funding available. The weather was a welcome change from the winter in Massachusetts; people were shocked to find out that we had just been hit with a snowstorm that very week. Everyone was very friendly, and the other students and professors were very impressed with our chapter, our classics program, and the fact that UMass offers such classes as The World of the Etruscans, Sanskrit, and array of courses in ancient history and archaeology. The most inspiring part of this experience was being able to meet other people dedicated to the study of Classics. All of us in Eta Sigma Phi thank the department and its faculty for their support.

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