



Department of Classics
University of Colorado at Boulder
Fall 2008

Classics

Classics Faculty Members Garner Major Awards

Those fortunate enough to have studied with Diane Conlin will agree that she is an outstanding teacher. This year the University recognized this as well with two major awards. In April Conlin was granted the Boulder Faculty Assembly's Excellence in Teaching Award, a campus-wide honor that recognizes four of CU Boulder's finest teachers each year. Going one step beyond this, Conlin was also one of two CU Boulder faculty members selected to win The President's Teaching Scholar Award in 2008. This award, the University's highest teaching honor, is given to candidates from any of the three CU campuses. Winners are chosen not only for skill in their own classrooms, but for their promise of improving education and enlarging its possibilities across the university. The President's Teaching Scholars form a faculty learning community, serving as ambassadors for teaching and research. They establish and develop campus-wide projects aimed at the cultivation of teaching and engaged learning as well as the integration of research in teaching.

Barbara Hill, one of the great figures in the history of Latin instruction at CU, was awarded the Merita Award by the American Classical League. This award is intended to recognize sustained and distinguished service to the profession generally and to the ACL in particular. Barbara started teaching Latin and English full time in public schools in Michigan immediately after graduation from the Univ. of Michigan, where she also earned her MA. She later moved to Colorado for the PhD and then assumed the role of CU's Latin program coordinator, a job she held for over 15 years. All the while she monitored student teachers in Michigan and Colorado. Even after retiring she has continued to be ac-

tive in the field of Latin pedagogy. She has given more than 50 professional presentations to teachers of Latin and other foreign languages. She served as an officer of CCA many times and as vice-president of CAMWS. The numberless ranks of alumni who were touched by her skills as a Latin teacher, her commitment to quality instruction, and above all her amazing gifts for fostering a love of learning will surely agree that the ACL could not have found a candidate more deserving of this honor.



Diane Conlin, CU President's Teaching Scholar

Colorado
University of Colorado at Boulder



Lauri Reitzammer Joins CU Classics

Lauri Reitzammer received her Ph.D. in Classics from the University of California, Berkeley in 2006 with a dissertation entitled *Centering the Adonia: Representations of a Festival on the Cultural Margins*. She is currently working on a book on representations (literary and visual) of the Adonis festival, a peculiar ritual during which ancient Greek women cultivated



seeds in pottery vessels, climbed onto their rooftops and exposed the young sprouts to the elements. The plants withered and died in the heat of the sun and the women performed lamentations over the dead sprouts. In the book, she examines representations of the Adonia from the Athenian classical period (Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, Plato's *Phaedrus*, and vase paintings), with a look at Hellenistic representations for comparative purposes (Theocritus' *Idyll 15*, Bion's *Lament for Adonis*).

In general, Lauri is interested in Greek religion as well

as Greek poetry and prose, and, more specifically, she studies the role of ritual in the Athenian polis. She has published an article (co-authored with John Oakley) on a terracotta figurine associated with the Adonia festival in *Journal of Hellenic Studies*. A lengthy article on Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* and the Adonia is forthcoming this fall from *Classical Antiquity*.

She comes to Boulder most recently from Stanford where she was a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Introduction to the Humanities program. Last fall at Stanford she was involved in a symposium on the Bacchae in conjunction with a modern adaptation of the play involving music by Philip Glass. She also held a visiting position at Temple University in Philadelphia (2006-07). This year at CU she is teaching a large lecture course on Greek Mythology, an undergraduate reading course on Plato's *Symposium*, a graduate reading seminar on Euripides, as well as an undergraduate capstone seminar on ritual and gender.

Having spent many years living in Oakland, California while she was in graduate school, Lauri is particularly thrilled with the majestic mountains as well as the exotic (to her) wildlife. When not teaching and writing she enjoys hikes and yoga classes, as well as the ginger flavored ice cream produced locally by Boulder Ice Cream.

Classics Graduates Three PhDs

Three students completed their PhDs in Classics this calendar year! Our congratulations go to Scott Farrington, Benjamin Gracy, and Brent Schmidt for their outstanding effort and success in this.

Scott Farrington's dissertation, "Polybius and Tragic History: A Reconsideration" (Eckart Schütrumpf, *advised*) (continued on p. 3)



sor), examined echoes and influences of Plato and Aristotle on the later historian. Scott spent the summer in Germany and is now back in the United States, where he will be teaching Latin at East High School in Buffalo, New York.

Benjamin Gracy's dissertation analyzed a later Greek work in its capacity as a teaching tool: "Nourishing the Mind: Utilitarian and Didactic Aspects of Athenaeus' *Deipnosophistae*" (Eckart Schütrumpf, advisor). Ben is now teaching Latin at Denver University as well as teaching Kaplan test preparation courses in Boulder. He reports happily that both jobs are going well. He is also honing his computer skills by taking a computer programming class at the University of Colorado at Denver and plans to apply for Classics teaching jobs this fall.

Brent Schmidt's dissertation, "Utopia and Community in the Ancient World" (Noel Lenski, advisor), explored the creation of lived utopian communities in antiquity: the Pythagorean settlements of southern Italy, the Essenes of Palestine, the Monastic communities of late antique Egypt and the Neo-Platonic school of late Roman Athens. It examined the influence of philosophy and rhetoric in these communities and the importance of leadership in their success. Brent is teaching college courses at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah as well as teaching Latin at a Catholic high school in



Ben Gracy and Peter Hunt



Brendt Schmidt, Beth Dusinberre and Noel Lenski

Salt Lake City. He is also working assiduously toward publication of his dissertation.

Classics Majors Win Top Honors

Five Classics majors received their degrees at the May commencement with honors in 2008, a striking achievement that reflects the talents of the students who are attracted to our program and the faculty who guide them through the process of original research to produce a senior honors thesis.

In her thesis on "Snake Kings and Mother Cities", directed by Peter Hunt, Sarah Abelson (*cum laude*) investigated the religious and political contexts of the Erechtheion, one of the main temples on the Acropolis of Athens. Noel Lenski advised Andrew Detch (*cum laude*) on his project, "End of the Republic: Cicero's Demise and a Changing Political Reality", in which he studied the relationship between this famous orator and statesman and the upstart political genius Octavian in
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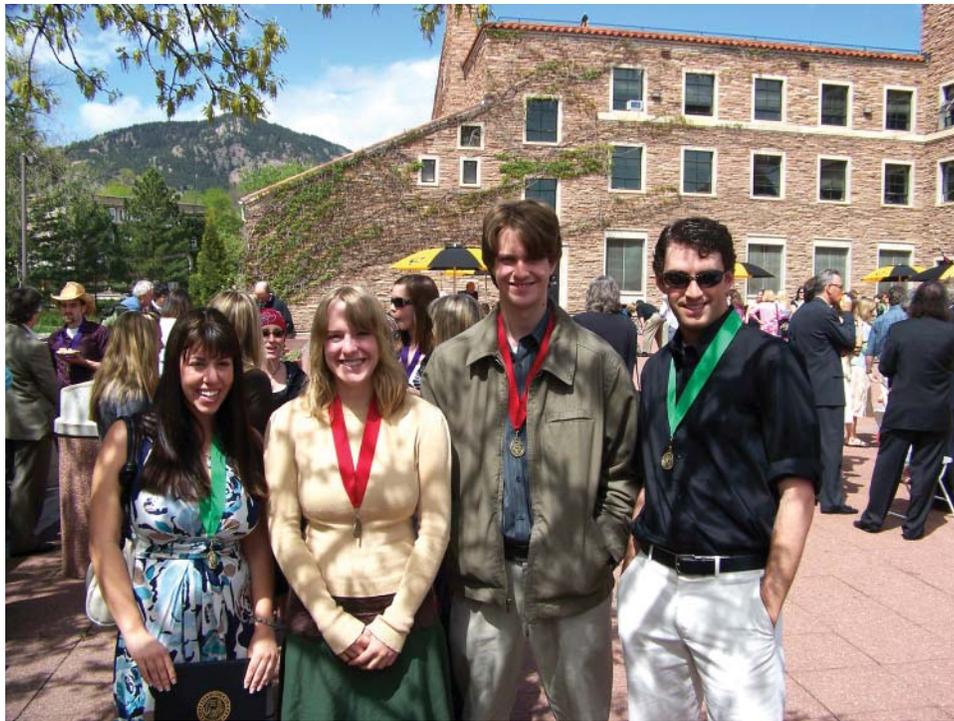
Majors Win Honors

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the years 44-43 BCE. “Unity and Valor in Jordanes *Getica*” was the topic of Stefan Hodges-Kluck’s thesis (*magna cum laude*), which was also advised by Noel Lenski. In this project he tackled the historiographical method and purpose behind the *Getica* of Jordanes, who was a Goth living in the eastern Roman Empire in the mid-sixth century. In her thesis on “Roman Water Law and the Role of Servitudes”, the third directed by Noel Lenski this year, Crystal Rome (*magna cum laude*) investigated the treatment of water rights in the ancient Roman legal system, using contemporary American law on the subject as a touchstone for comparison. Finally, in “Persephone’s Seeds: Abortifacients and Contraceptives in Ancient Greek Medicine

and Their Recent Scientific Appraisal”, which was advised by John Gibert, Sarah Nelson (*magna cum laude*) tested the claims of historians of medicine about the efficacy of the abortifacients most commonly used in antiquity against the most recent research in molecular biology. The Department is honored (sic) to have had the opportunity to work with these exceptional students and extends heartfelt congratulations to them all!

A senior honors thesis represents the capstone achievement of an undergraduate career, affording the opportunity to work in depth on an original research project with the guidance and support of a faculty supervisor. Over the years, the Classics Department has ranked as one of the most successful in the College in mentoring Honors students, and with five students successfully defending their theses this year, that record received added luster.



Sarah Abelson, Crystal Rome, Stefan Hodges-Kluck, and Andrew Detch



Alumni News

Joe Campanella, BA 99, lives in Longmont and works for Qualcomm. He reports “I still read a lot, still memorize easily, still consume science fiction and Coca-Cola with equal zeal. Everything I believed would be true about studying Classics actually holds.” Joe and honorary Classics alumna Yaz Ostrowski travel the globe regularly in search of the classical past, and buried treasure.

Sovi Chhin, BA 04, is living and teaching in Gambia where she serves as the Department head of Early Childhood Development at Gambia College (the only Teacher Education program in the country). She travels all around west Africa lecturing on education and invites any and all to join her for a visit saying “Gambia is Africa for beginners” and points out that ripe mangos cost only a quarter.

Danielle Steen-Fatkin, BA 98, finished her dissertation on imperial and local bathing structures in Roman Palestine at Stanford in 2007 and spent a year at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem where she was joined by her husband Todd and son Lucas. Upon her return to the US she took up a job teaching in History at Knox College in Galesburg Illinois.

Jeff Gingras, MA 99, teaches Latin in the Department of Foreign Languages at the University of Arkansas.

Denver Graninger, MA 99, went on to finish his PhD at Cornell University and received a tenure track job at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Graninger was recently named the Rhys Carpenter Faculty Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens for the period 2008-10 and has now taken up residence in Athens.

Aaron Horton, BA 03 and MA 2006, has entered Boston College’s MA/PhD program in Irish Studies. In

summer 2007 he learned modern Irish at Oideas Gael in County Donegal. Aaron also serves as an online Latin instructor. He teaches Latin I-IV for Colorado Online Learning and for the Insight Schools in the states of Washington and Wisconsin.

Clay Jenkinson, MA c. 92, continues to do reenactments of great historical figures like Robert Oppenheimer, Teddy Roosevelt, and Thomas Jefferson, for the last of whom he needs to maintain his Latin! Winner of the prestigious Charles Frankel Prize from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Jenkinson lives in Bismark ND but travels the country for his performances on stage and television.

Bleys Kueck, BA 2006, has returned from Chicagoland to Colorado to take up a job teaching Latin at The Classical Academy in Colorado Springs. Welcome back Bleys!

Richard Payne, BA 04, is completing his dissertation at Princeton University while serving as a DAAD research fellow at the Institute for Iranian Studies at the Freie Universität in Berlin. He was recently awarded the Tousimis Prize for outstanding graduate paper by the Byzantine Studies Association of North America. After visiting Iran this fall for his research on Syriac speaking Christian communities in Sasanian and early Islamic Iraq, Payne will take up a Junior Research Fellowship at Trinity College Cambridge.

Amy Sommer, MAT 05, serves as treasurer for the National Committee for Latin and Greek (NCLG). She teaches a full slate of Latin classes, including AP Vergil, at Cherry Creek High School in Denver.

Christine Zachary, who studied Classics at CU before finishing her BA at Oregon in 78, is an antiques dealer and fine artist in Portland. She reports fondly of her years studying at CU: “Taking Classics at CU has had a lifelong effect on me.”



Faculty News

Diliana Angelova reports, “In the fall I taught a new class on visual narrative in ancient art. I spent the spring researching the legend of Helena’s finding of the relic of Christ’s cross, and submitted a manuscript based on my findings to a journal. In the summer, thanks to a Junior Faculty Development Award and a Creative Work grant from the Graduate Committee on the Arts and Humanities, I was able to spend time in London and Paris, visiting museums and examining objects for a new project on classical mythology in medieval Byzantium. The highlight of this research trip was an after hours visit to the Cluny museum in Paris. To access the cavernous hall that contained an exquisite eleventh-century ivory box, I descended steep staircases in chilly medieval towers and passed through doors that opened with foot-long keys. Suddenly I was in the past and it was wonderful!”

Andrew Cain taught undergraduate courses on Roman civilization and Plautus and a graduate seminar on Roman comedy this past academic year, and he served his final year as Classics undergraduate advisor. His book, *The Letters of Jerome: Asceticism, Biblical Exegesis, and the Construction of Christian Authority in Late Antiquity*, was accepted by Oxford University Press and will appear in March 2009. In addition, he completed the first-ever English translation of Jerome’s massive *Commentary on Galatians* (Catholic University of America Press, 2010). With a European collaborator he edited his conference volume *Jerome of Stridon: His Life, Writings and Legacy* (Ashgate Publishing, 2009). He and Noel Lenski also completed work on their own conference volume, *The Power of Religion in Late Antiquity* (Ashgate Publishing, 2009). A shorter article by Prof. Cain appeared in *Classical Quarterly*, and he wrote and submitted six other articles on a variety of topics and authors ranging from Lactantius to Gregory of Elvira.

Diane Conlin is currently putting the finishing touches on her second book manuscript, *Political Art in Flavian Rome* for Cambridge University Press. In addition to her examination of Roman visual culture and imperial rhetoric, she continues as the co-director of excavations at the fourth century villa of the Roman emperor, Maxentius. In January 2008, she presented an illustrated lecture on the 2006-07 excavation seasons and served as a respondent for a panel on Roman workshop studies at the annual meeting of the AIA in Chicago. In 2007-08, Diane taught courses on Pompeii, Roman Art and Architecture, and Ancient Italian Painting. She finished up her term as the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Art and Art History and accepted responsibilities as the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Classics. In 2008, Diane was awarded the BFA Award for Excellence in Teaching and she was appointed a President’s Teaching Scholar (see page 1).

Beth Dusinger continues to serve as Associate Chair for Graduate Studies in 2008-09, a position which allows her the good fortune to get to know all our graduate students much better than she would otherwise have the chance to do. In May she delivered the P.R.S. Moorey Memorial Lecture in Oxford, on “Persepolis and the Founding of an Empire.” Over the summer she completed the first major stage of work on the seals ratifying that part of the Persepolis Fortification archive written in Aramaic; she and a talented undergraduate are now uploading thousands of images to the internet for on-line publication. She also submitted a proposal for her new book, *Empire, Authority, and Autonomy in Achaemenid Persian Anatolia* and is reveling in writing that. She loves both of her classes this term (Greek Vase Painting and Achaemenid Persia). Over the summer, the Graduate School awarded Beth the Outstanding Graduate Advisor Award. And she has a new horse! A
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Faculty News

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3-year-old Oldenburg filly named Bell.

Jackie Elliott spent the last academic year on fellowship at the American Academy in Rome. In addition to working on her book manuscript, “Ennius and the Architecture of the Annales,” she worked on a number of subsidiary projects: a paper ‘Aeneas’ generic wandering and the construction of the Latin literary past’ is forthcoming in *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology* 104 (2008) and another, “Livy’s Papirius Cursor and the manipulation of the Ennian past,” in *Classical Quarterly* 59.1 (2009). A paper on the function of an Ennian trope in Livy Book 22 is in submission, and one on the relation of Ennius’ work to universal history is in preparation. A grant from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation will enable her to continue working full-time on her book in fall 2008. She looks forward to a return to teaching in the spring, when she will teach Latin Prose Composition and Greek and Roman Tragedy.

John Gibert delivered a paper on “Foreigners in Late Fifth-Century Tragedy” at the conference “Why Athens? Reappraising Tragic Politics” at the University of Reading (UK) in September. The proceedings will be published by the Oxford University Press. In October, he participated in a commentary writers’ workshop sponsored by a grant from Harvard’s Loeb Classical Library Foundation and held at the University of Minnesota. He continues work on his annotated edition of Euripides’ *Ion* for the Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics.

Peter Hunt came back from sabbatical and taught a graduate seminar on the Attic Orators in spring 08; in conjunction with this course he brought Professor Judson Herrman to campus to discuss his work on a speech by Hyperides, recently discovered in the Archimedes Palimpsest. This fall he is teaching a new seminar on “Greek Epigraphy,” a challenging but exciting course,

which he has not taught before and has not been offered here in many years. On the research front, Peter completed his manuscript, *War, Peace, and Alliance in Demosthenes’ Athens*, for Cambridge University Press and is already working on his next book project, *Greek and Roman Slavery*, under contract for Blackwell. Peter was honored by an invitation to go to Harvard University as a visiting professor next semester; he’s excited about spending time in that illustrious department but will miss his friends, colleagues, and students here—not to mention the springtime in Boulder.

Peter Knox spent the past year working on a number of different projects, but focusing primarily on his commentary on Ovid’s *Epistulae ex Ponto* (“Black Sea Letters”). A chapter on “Catullus and Callimachus” appeared in *Blackwell’s Companion to Catullus*, edited by Marilyn Skinner, and his own *Companion to Ovid* in the same series will be published later this year. In addition to several book reviews, he has papers forthcoming on Horace and Tibullus. He contracted to produce an edition of Angelo Poliziano’s Latin and Greek epigrams for the *I Tatti Renaissance Library*, published by Harvard University Press and was recently appointed to the Editorial Board for *The Virgil Encyclopedia* to be published by Wiley-Blackwell.

Noel Lenski continues to work on Constantine and late antique slavery – opposite ends of the social spectrum. Since last report he has published two commissioned book chapters, both on Constantine, and four articles on “Two Sieges of Amida” in A.S. Lewin and P. Pellegrini, eds. *The Late Roman Army in the Near East*, “Slavery between Rome and the Barbarians,” in *Rome and the Barbarians: The Birth of a New World*, “Captivity, Slavery, and Cultural Exchange between Rome and the Germans” in *Invisible Citizens: Captives and Their Consequences* (edited by CU’s own Cathy Cameron) and “Evoking the Pagan Past: *Instinctu Divinitatis* and Constantine’s Capture of Rome” *Journal of Late Antiquity*. He spoke on the History Channel series “Rome,” (continued on page 8)



Faculty News

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Rise and Fall of an Empire” and delivered papers at MacMaster Univ., the Univ. of Tennessee, UC Irvine, Cividale del Friuli and Rutgers. He has taught a graduate seminar on Roman Slavery and the Roman Empire.

Alison Orlebeke enjoyed teaching Intermediate Latin / Latin Prose Composition at Colorado College in Colorado Springs in June. She gave a presentation on Latin textbooks at the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers meeting in February and at the Colorado Classics Association in September. She is currently serving the CCA as Treasurer, working with the graduate Latin instructors, and passing on her love of Caesar’s prose to another generation of young people.

Eckart Schütrumpf saw the publication of a new edition of the fragments of Heraclides Ponticus. Funded by the Humboldt Research Prize, he spent the first half of the 2008 in Berlin. He completed five pieces for a new Aristotle handbook as well as a book chapter on “Eduard Zeller and Werner Jaeger’s Aristotle.” Felix Meiner Press will publish a new edition of his translation of Aristotle’s *Politics*, including a new introduction. He is presently finishing two book chapters, one on “Political Deliberation in Aristotle” and another on “The earliest translations of Aristotle’s *Politics*.” During his stay in Berlin he team-taught a seminar on Aristotle’s *Politics* at the Humboldt University and presented papers at the August-Boeckh-Center for Antiquity and in the Philosophy Department. He gave papers at the University of Mannheim and at

conferences in Berlin and in Paris, and more recently in Madrid. His main research project is a new edition of the fragments of Aristotle, under contract with De Gruyter, a collaborative project of which he is the director and a contributor. In conjunction with this project he hosted a conference in Berlin last June.

In Corpore Sano

Boulder is home to some of the world’s greatest athletes and outdoor enthusiasts. Readers may be more surprised to learn that CU’s fundamentally bookish Classicists rank among those who hone their sporting prowess in the world class playground we call home. In the next few issues we will run a series on the more playful side of CU Classics in which you will learn that we list among our numbers a national champion climber, several first rate skiers, a fabulous equestrian, and one of Boulder’s most avid hikers.



Team CU Classics rounds Carter Lake

Several faculty members take advantage of Boulder’s bike trail system to commute to work: John Gibert, Peter Hunt, Noel Lenski, and Alison Orlebeke. Lenski and Gibert are also avid road and mountain cyclists. Lenski raced bicycles for years but eventually abandoned competitive cycling for more cerebral (and less dangerous) pursuits. Even so, he still logs thousands of miles per year. So too Gibert, who began cycling after he came to Boulder having already built a fitness base as a runner. Gibert and Lenski have ridden the Buff Bicycle Classic, a College scholarship fundraiser, since its inception in 2003. This year they were joined by fellow cycling enthusiast Jake Morton, who is completing his MA.



Featured Alumnus: John Thorburn

One steamy August afternoon in 1982 I stood in a gymnasium in Waco, Texas, for “Drop-Adds.” After dropping an English class and waiting in line to add a Speech class, I found the class closed. Wondering what course to add, I momentarily stared at the floor and then gazed into the forest of placards bearing the names of the various courses. My eyes locked on one sign: “Latin.” I had enjoyed my two years of high school Latin, and, curiously, there was no waiting in line to add Latin.

I never again went through “Drop-Adds.” After one week in Latin at Baylor I knew I wanted to teach Latin. In my junior year, I felt like I wanted to teach at the college level and began planning for graduate school. After finishing at Baylor, my Latin was in pretty decent shape, but I only had six hours of Greek, so I pursued an M.A. in Classical Humanities at Texas Tech, whose small program provided me with lots of individualized instruction.

During my final year at Texas Tech, I started looking at doctoral programs. A visit to Boulder during spring 1988 was rather surreal for a conservatively-raised Texan. I found CU’s campus blanketed in snow and the “fountain area” occupied by a shanty-town in protest of apartheid in South Africa. Ernst Fredricksmeier, who proved a charismatic ambassador for the Classics program, ameliorated my trepidation about CU.

Although I came to CU largely because of Dr. Fredricksmeier, I wrote my dissertation on Plutarch’s *De Audiendis Poetis* with Eckart Schutrumpf, who also got

me interested in computer technology and its applications for Classics. My first publication was a HyperCard edition of Caesar’s *De bello Gallico* 6.11-44. I wouldn’t be surprised if I were one of the first Classicists to use an LCD projector in the classroom. This new technology, along with Barbara Hill’s exemplary pedagogical mentoring, helped me win a Graduate Student Teaching Award at CU. Another teaching technique I developed while at CU was using music to recapitulate quickly various works of classical literature. Such songs as the

“Funky Cold Medea” (a parody of Tone Loc’s “Funky Cold Medina”) and “Living Vita Romana” (summarizing the Aeneid and parodying Ricky Martin’s “Living La Vida Loca”) have become staples of my lecture classes and have contributed to additional teaching awards, including a 2007 prize in the College of Arts and Sciences at Baylor, where I have been ever since leaving CU in August 1994.

My publications have varied widely, but I have worked

mostly on Euripides and Aristophanes, as evidenced by a published translation and commentary on the *Alcestis* (2002), as well as the *Facts on File Companion to Classical Drama* (2005). Currently, Antony Augoustakis and I are planning on editing a companion to Terence for Wiley-Blackwell, and the University of Oklahoma Press is considering my sourcebook *The Wives of the Twelve Caesars*. In 2003 I was awarded tenure at Baylor and I have just begun my second year as chairperson.





Field Archives From Rome



Alessandro Delfino and Megan Gorman clean a capital



Sarah Chapman in the trenches



Cara Ramsey enjoys her work

Last summer, Diane Conlin and a team of professional and student archaeologists completed the fourth excavation season at the Villa of Maxentius on the Via Appia Antica in Rome. Twenty five students from CU Boulder participated along with students from the University of Michigan, Marshall University, University of Miami, Ohio University and Brown University. The team discovered more evidence for the second century phase of the complex as well as a late Republican aqueduct system.



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Classics

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