



Department of Classics
University of Colorado at Boulder
May 2000

Classics

From the Chair

Peter E. Knox

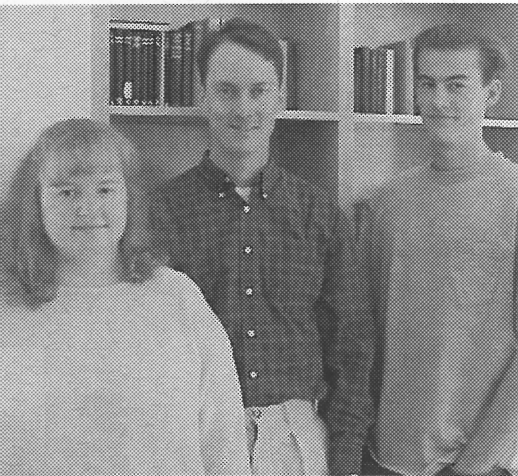
This has been another year of accomplishment in the Department of Classics. At commencement thirteen graduating seniors will receive their degrees in the new Humanities Building at the first ceremony in the new facility. In addition, the Department will award ten MA's and one Ph.D. Faculty too have been gathering accolades. Noel Lenski is the recipient of the prestigious Boulder Faculty Assembly's Excellence in Teaching Award; Diane Conlin is traveling to Rome to conduct research for her project in Trajanic sculpture, with the assistance of a travel grant from the Graduate Committee on the Arts and Humanities and a Junior Faculty Development Award.

Next fall we welcome back John Gibert, who has been spending the year as a Fellow at Harvard's Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C. One of his colleagues at the Center was Peter Hunt, one of two new additions to the faculty of the Department. Peter's special field is ancient Greek history. In the fall semester he will teach Beginning Greek and Alexander and the Hellenistic World. Joining John and Peter in Washington was Elspeth Dusinberre, who was a Fellow at the Smithsonian and is the second of our new faculty members. Beth, who specializes in Greek art and archaeology, will start teaching for the Department in the spring semester of 2001. Now eleven members strong, the Department offers a comprehensive program in the language, literature, history and material culture of Greek and Roman antiquity and is widely recognized as a rising star in the constellation of classical studies.



Watch for the Department to be involved in a number of events designed to involve the community—especially our friends and alumni—in the vibrant world of classics. In the fall, Diane Conlin and Noel Lenski will mount an exhibition of priceless Roman coins, on loan from a generous benefactor, in conjunction with their new graduate course on Roman numismatics. Perhaps most exciting is the Department's involvement with the Denver Center for the Performing Arts and their production of a new ten-play series entitled *Tantalus*. The work of the renowned playwright, John Barton, *Tantalus* is a modern retelling of myths surrounding the fall of Troy. *Tantalus* will be directed by Sir Peter Hall and is a joint production with the Royal Shakespeare Company. The series will debut in Denver, its only appearance in North America, before touring in England and on the continent.

Peter E. Knox, Chair



Meet our Undergraduate Scholarship Award Winners

Thanks to the generosity of CU alumna Ann Nichols, the Department of Classics was again able to offer several scholarships to some outstanding undergraduate majors this year. Two Distinguished Undergraduate awards of \$4000 each were made to Sarah Koutavas and David Darcy for their studies at CU in the 2000-2001 academic year. Another award, the Herodotus Travel Grant in the amount of \$11,750, was given to Stephanie Ladd for participation in a study abroad program. J. Kay Melton was chosen as an alternate for this award. In addition, for the first time this year, we were able to offer an Ann Nichols Fellowship of \$4000 to an incoming freshman planning to study Classics at CU. This award went to Aaron Kessler of Regis High School in Denver.

Sarah Koutavas is in her third year as a Classical Languages major at CU. Having already begun the study of Latin at Thornton High School with alumnus Steve Frazer, she has continued with both Latin and Greek at CU where she had been on the

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Graduate News

Graduate Students Prepare for Commencement

This spring the Department of Classics awards ten M.A. degrees and one Ph.D. Our newest graduates have various plans for their futures, ranging from clear to vague, from new ventures to more of the same. The most popular future among this year's crew is in high school teaching: we are glad to know that at least three of our alumni will be devoting their energy to high schools in Colorado, Florida, or Massachusetts.

Douglas Doll, our newest Ph.D., the author of "Ovid's *Metamorphoses* 13.623-14.608: The Influence of Apollonius' *Argonautica* Upon Ovid's Reading of Virgil," is on the market for a university teaching position and awaits the results of a few interviews. He and his wife, Belinda, are expecting their first child in late June.

Denise Fichtner will continue to live in Boulder and will be looking for a job in the Denver area. She reports that she liked working on her thesis so much that she is considering publishing or editing as a possible career. Because she is staying in Boulder, she plans to stay in close contact with the Classics Department.

Sonia Isaacs has accepted admission into the Ph.D. program in the Classics Department at the University of Washington, where she will be a Teaching Assistant. Her friend Mark, who helped with her decision, will be joining her and taking a job in Seattle in the high-tech field (we hear there are a few...).

Chris Kintzel plans, somehow or other, to make his first trip to those lands so close and yet so far away, Greece and Italy.

Libby Krecek has accepted a position with the Joslyn Art Museum in her hometown of Omaha, Nebraska. She will spend part of her time on research and part on computerizing some of the collections.

Alex Mueller plans to teach high school English next fall. He may return to Standley Lake high school in Westminster, or he may move elsewhere

in Colorado or to the Boston area.

George Paganelis plans to spend about a month in Greece on vacation after graduation and, upon return, attend the University of Illinois' Graduate School in Library and Information Science, where he will focus upon academic librarianship. Following Illinois, George plans "to return to California to find a job and live in peace and beauty".

Matthew and Mary Wiland Tindle will be moving to Matthew's home state of Florida, where Matthew plans to teach Latin in a high school.

Helen Vickery will stay in Denver, start her study of ancient Greek, read Vergil and Servius at her leisure, and continue to contemplate study for a Ph.D. in Classics. She will also get a job to earn her keep.

Jane Woods will continue teaching Latin at Boulder High School, where she is working to develop the program. She has been spotted patrolling the halls at Boulder High with an impressive arsenal of keys around her neck, scolding trepidatious young students for missing homeroom.

Scholarship Award Winners

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Dean's list since her arrival. Sarah is working concurrently on a double major in English. This has sparked her interest in the influence of Classical literature on later cultures and societies. After graduating she hopes to continue her contacts with the academic world in graduate school and ultimately as a teacher.



Sarah Koutavas

David Darcy is a second year student majoring in Classical Studies. He has taken a variety of courses in literature and history and performed outstandingly in all of them. His particular love is ancient history and religion, a passion which has led him to travel on his own in the old world. He hopes to continue his travels and eventually to become a teacher as well.

Stephanie Ladd transferred to CU from Sweetbriar College where she had already studied a good bit of Greek and taught herself Latin. She has continued with a strong performance in both Latin and Greek classes at CU, where she too has made the Dean's List. She will use the Herodotus Travel Grant to go to the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome next spring. At present Stephanie is strongly leaning toward law school after graduation, though she too is keeping her eye on a potential academic career.

Aaron Kessler has studied four years of Latin with alumnus Jim King at Regis High School. He has participated in the American Junior Classical League annual conference in Estes Park, has been an award winner on the National Latin Exam, and has been involved in a variety of community service projects. He is also an outstanding athlete, having played varsity soccer at Regis for all of his four years there. We look forward to working with Aaron in the coming years.

Once again, we would like to offer heartfelt thanks to Ann Nichols for her remarkable generosity. Her gift has allowed us to energize the talents of this department and has helped us bring young minds to life with the excitement of the field. We would also like to thank these young award recipients, and indeed all of our outstanding applicants, for making our jobs as instructors so rewarding.



Students and Faculty Enjoy Winter Retreat



Eighteen of our undergraduate and graduate students joined professors Noel Lenski and Ariana Traill in January for another wonderful weekend of skiing and classics activities in the Colorado Rockies. Everyone roomed, cooked, ate and socialized family-style in one of the large cabins at Snow Mountain Ranch. Our many skilled skiers had a great day on the slopes at Winter Park while the rest took advantage of the amusements of Snow Mountain Ranch. Snowshoeing, roller-skating, swimming and sledding left even the non-skiers ready for a little Roman-themed movie watching at the end of the day. **Romani ite domum!** (We brushed up on our movie-Latin.)

The Latin highlight of the retreat was a fast-paced, dramatic reading of scenes from Plautus' *Poenulus* in English, Latin and "Punic". Undergraduates Colleen Martin, Matt Moore and recent graduates Joe Campanella and Amy Roberts gave spirited performances as Plautine comedians. They discovered that they could—with a little coaching from Prof. Traill—understand and paraphrase most of the 100 lines of Latin dialogue they performed. Also worthy of note was a show-stopping cameo appearance by Prof. Lenski as Lycus the Pimp.

One of the pleasures of this trip was the opportunity for faculty and students to learn about each other in an informal setting. Students spoke about the breadth of their interests, from fencing to audio engineering. Prof. Lenski and his wife Alison Orlebeke, offered us all a lesson in the joys and difficulties of balancing work and family as they fit care of then 4-month-old Helen and her voluble elder brother, Paul, around the weekend's activities (including Paul's persistent efforts at wood-carving). Students who found time for homework were quick to take advantage of the faculty on hand. This year's retreat was a welcome break, enjoyed by all.



(Above) *The Winter Retreaters: Scott Farrington, Brian DiMarco, Jared Benton, Ariana Traill, Joe Campanella, Yaz Ostrowski, Matt Moore, Amy Roberts, Libby Kracek, Ben Lindquist, Dawn Snyder, Maura Williams, Kristen Kemp and (in front) Paul Lenski. Not pictured: Colleen Martin, Heidi and Jim Herrington, Sonia Isaacs, Chad Hutchens and Denise Fichtner.*

(Left) *Classics students prepare to read Plautus' Poenulus. From rear left to rear right, Yaz Ostrowski, Amy Roberts, Colleen Martin, Matt Moore, Brian DiMarco, Prof. (and play director) Ariana Traill and Joe Campanella.*

UCB Classics Opens a "Washington Branch"

Three Department faculty members have found themselves in Washington, D.C. this spring. John Gibert, our "sorely missed" specialist in Greek drama, is on sabbatical leave; he and Peter Hunt, a Greek historian who will join us in Fall 2000, are finishing up their fellowship years at Harvard's Center for Hellenistic Studies. Meanwhile, Beth Dusingberre, a Greek archaeologist and art historian who has taught for the department in the past and also begins a regular appointment at CU this fall, has been conducting research in the archives of the Smithsonian Institution's Freer Gallery. John, Peter and Beth have set up a shadow department in Washington so as not to miss out on committee work. They also got together in January for dinner and chamber music at Dumbarton Oaks. Earlier in the year, Peter lured John to a climbing gym in Alexandria and made him discover muscles he never knew he had. Faculty members beware: the department fitness test has entered a new phase. Beth, who is due to have a baby in June, is not climbing any rocks, but she is enjoying Washington's renowned spring and has become a frequent visitor to the Gibert house, whose children declare that she will be an excellent parent.

Colorado Classics On-Line

It is now possible to read Colorado Classics on the department website (<http://www.Colorado.EDU/Classics>). A web version of the Newsletter is now regularly posted to our website, which also offers an archive of back issues.

Over four years old and still one of the most professional-looking sites in the field, the Department of Classics website was designed as a Webworks special project. It has recently been updated and expanded and now offers a new "Announcements" page with information on visiting lecturers and upcoming department events, as well as current information on course offerings (including summer school courses), students, faculty and staff. Students can download application forms for undergraduate fellowships and graduate programs (and many already have!). We are working to make web-based submission possible as well.

As more and more students research colleges on-line, departmental pages are becoming a vital service. The CU Classics site receives a steady stream of e-mail inquiries from around the world, several of which have resulted in students joining our program. Classics faculty have also been quick to take advantage of the web in their teaching. Over the last two years, the number of Classics course pages (click on "Classics Related Links" to access these) has increased dramatically. Many of our graduate reading lists may now be consulted on the web (click on "Graduate Guide"), and others are in progress.

Much of this new information has been added in response to e-mail questions. Comments and suggestions from Colorado Classics readers are welcomed. Just click on "E-mail CU Classics".

New Classics Courses Offered

It seems as if each new semester brings with it a new Classics course. In spring 2000 Prof. Schutrumpf is teaching for the first time a new course "Greek and Roman Antiquity in Music from 1600." The idea of developing such a course came after watching a performance of H. Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" broadcast on PBS a couple of years ago. There are many topics from Greek and Roman literature which have inspired composers. Research into this subject brought interesting results. European opera owes its existence to the attempt by Italian classical scholars of the Renaissance who wanted to revive ancient Greek music, that is, monody accompanied by stringed instruments. First to put this idea into practice was the classical scholar G. Mei in cooperation V. Galilei (the father of the astronomer). Only a decade after their first attempts, the first masterpieces of opera were written, such as C. Monteverdi's "Orfeo" or his "Arianna," and later his "Coronation of Poppaea". Ancient Greek monody became modern recitativo and solo aria.

Topics in this new course are Lully's "Alceste", Handel's "Semele", Gluck's "Iphigeneia among the Taurians", Beethoven's "Creatures of Prometheus" and many more. In the final weeks of the semester, the class turned to 20th century examples: R. Strauss' "Ariadne on Naxos", Strawinski's "Oedipus Rex",

and Brecht-Dessau's "Sentencing of Lucullus". In class the ancient stories are discussed and compared with the modern versions, and then the class listens to selected musical parts. The course demonstrates the vitality ancient myths and historical events had for the creativity of some of the greatest artists of the last four centuries.

Next fall, Profs. Conlin and Lenski will offer a team-taught, graduate level course on Roman numismatics. Students will explore the history, economics, iconography and propagandistic value of coins in the Roman world. Students will research both the current numismatic holdings in the CU museum and an outstanding collection to be lent by a local benefactor. This will allow students an excellent cross-section of unique and informative Roman issues.

Students will identify specific coin types and explore the political messages of obverse and reverse designs and legends. The seminar will then prepare an exhibition with student-designed displays and label copy for a public exhibition in the Special Collections facilities at Norlin Library. We encourage all graduate students to join us for this rare opportunity to experience hands-on research with an extraordinary collection of Roman coins.

Classics Department Reaches

One of the Department's long-term goals is to maintain and improve the quality of our outreach to communities and educational institutions around the state. In the past year we have done much to maintain and enhance our profile as an academic entity intimately involved "the real world".

Thanks to an outreach grant won by Rose Chang for ALTEC (the Anderson Language Technology Center), the Department was able to arrange to send two graduate students, Sonia Isaacs and David Warburton, along with representatives from many other units and foreign language departments, to the town of Buena Vista in Chaffee County. David reports a very positive experience introducing Roman culture and the Latin language to three separate social studies classes at the middle school.

Brad Churchill, as President of the Colorado Classics Association, whose membership consists primarily of educators across the state, helped host two workshops

News from our Alumni

Kara Birkedahl (MA 1981, JD University of Denver 1985) has practiced law for the past fourteen years in a small downtown Denver law firm which emphasizes plaintiff's personal injury work, employment law and civil rights. Kara reports that her training in Latin was quite helpful for law school and "once word got out that I had studied Latin, I was called upon in every class to translate the legal Latin phrases."

Tamara Bauer (BA 1977, MA 1992) teaches Latin at Pierce Middle School in Milton, MA, where all students in grades 6-8 are required to take a foreign language. She is also a member of the committee responsible for the annual National Latin Examination. Tamara resides in Boston with her husband, Peter Cohee.

Peter Cohee (MA 1989, PhD 1994) serves as Head of the Classics Department at the Boston Latin School. Boston Latin has an enrollment of 2400 students, each of whom takes five years of Latin beginning at the 7th grade. Peter teaches Latin classes at two levels, coordinates the sixteen members of the Classics faculty and spearheads curriculum development. Boston Latin has currently received \$45 million toward its capital campaign of \$100 million.

Nick Eddy (BA 1995) will graduate from Harvard Law School in June. Nick and his wife, the former Wendy Morris, and their daughter Grace will then move to Washington DC where Nick will start work at Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, a Boston-based firm with a good Communications law group in DC. Nick and Wendy are expecting identical twins in October.

Steve Frazer (BA 1976, MA 1978) teaches Latin at Thornton High School and, beginning this year, at Horizon High School in Thornton, CO. Latin is now offered at Horizon following an election in which students voted for the single course they most wanted to see added to the curriculum and Latin won.

Hardy Fredricksmeier (BA 1980, MA in History Columbia 1984, Ph.D. in Classics University of Texas 1996) is a lecturer in the University Writing Program at UCB and will teach Greek Mythology for the Classics Department this summer. Hardy and his wife Stephanie have a ten year old son, Ben.

Stefan Fredricksmeier (BA 1987, JD UCB 1990) is a lawyer with offices in Louisville, CO. Stefan and his wife Beth have a three year old son, Sam. Hardy and Stefan are the eldest sons of Prof. Ernst and Gloria Fredricksmeier.

Georgia Irby-Massie (PhD 1994) has published *Military Religion in Roman Britain* (Brill 1999). She teaches at Louisiana State University.

Tyler Lansford (BA 1983 MA1986, PhD 1992 University of Washington) is co-owner of the Seattle Language Academy, a private language school formed in 1986. Most of its students are adults pursuing evening language instruction for personal rather than professional reasons. The most popular languages are Spanish and Italian; Latin and ancient Greek ordinarily account for about one eighth of the quarterly enrollment of 150-200 students. Tyler teaches most of the Latin and Greek himself. He uses

Wheelock for his first-year Latin series and Clyde Pharr's *Homeric Greek* for first-year Greek. Each quarter he offers one reading class in Latin, and in the past year has taught Virgil (*Aeneid* VI); Cicero (In Catilinam I and *De Amicitia*) and Augustine (Confessions). Every other quarter or so he offers a reading class in Greek, and in the past year or so has taught Aeschylus' *Prometheus Bound*, Herodotus Book I and Plato's *Crito*. This summer he plans to teach the Homeric *Hymn to Apollo*. As the school grows, Tyler hopes to create a second-year program that will combine reading and prose composition. More detailed information about the Seattle Language Academy is available on its website: www.sealang.com.

Carol Murphy (MA 1987), teacher of Latin and Foreign Language Department Chair at Smoky Hill High School in Aurora, serves on two important committees in the field of education. She is a member of the Curriculum Revision committee of the International Baccalaureate Program as well as the Teacher Licensure committee for the state of Colorado.

Kristin Tracy (MA 1988), who teaches Latin to students in 2nd through 8th grade at the Ricks Center for Gifted Children at the University of Denver, has authored an "Elementary Activity Packet" available through the American Classical League. This packet contains teacher-ready materials and student activities for Latin teachers in the primary grades. Kris reports that the Ricks Center now allows children to select classes from a variety of options, and this year, in addition to Latin, she is teaching "Acting the Myths", two historical novels set in ancient Rome (*The Mystery of the Roman Ransom* and *Locadio's Apprentice*) and "Preparation for the 2000 National Mythology Exam". Ricks is now a Laptop Community (2nd through 8th grades) where each student has been issued a laptop that is connected to a server in the school via Infrared so the kids are learning how to take notes electronically. Kris provides an outline and the students fill in the details as they discuss the details. They also do vocabulary study via laptops. Kris is also pleased to announce that one of her 8th graders received a perfect score on the Latin I section of the National Latin Exam.

Out to Community and State

this year. In August Colorado teachers, including Carol Murphy (MA 1987), gave presentations on their individual areas of expertise. Carol demonstrated how she uses Latin manuscripts as a pedagogical tool. In February Tatiana Summers, visiting from the University of Alabama, took CCA members on an on-line tour of ancient Rome, introduced them to the educational resources available on via the VRoma website and helped them learn how to begin using it in their own classes as a pedagogical tool. In addition, Barbara Hill serves as the editor of *The Colorado Classicist*, the newsletter of the Colorado Classics Association.

Among other outreach activities this year were Ariana Traill's talk to Professor Marianne Wesson's "Women in Law and Literature" class in UCB's law school. Prof. Traill spoke about Attic law in the comedies of Menander. In April Prof. Traill and Prof. Churchill serves as judges for the Boulder County Spelling Bee.

Friends of Classics at UCB

You can support Classics at CU-Boulder by sending your contribution,
payable to the CU Foundation, to:
**Department of Classics
Campus Box 248
University of Colorado at Boulder
Boulder, CO 80309**

I enclose a check payable to the CU Foundation in the amount of:

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I prefer that my contribution be designated for:

_____ Classics Department Gift Fund _____ Hough Library Fund _____ Hulley Lecture Fund

News from Alumnae and Alumni

We hope that you will take a moment to fill out the form below. We are always interested in hearing from our former students.
Please help us also to keep our mailing list up to date.

Name: _____ Degree/Year: _____

Major: _____

Address and phone number: _____

e-mail address: _____

News about you:



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