

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

CLASSICS 2024



University of Colorado **Boulder**



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Note from the Chair



I have had the privilege of filling in as Chair this fall for Andy Cain, who has been on sabbatical leave in France (p. 17). It has been light work—not least because Andy runs a tight ship and enjoys, as I do, the help of our beloved and capable staff members Sandy Brown and Brian Gordon. It is a never-ending delight to be involved in so much of the work of our amazing community. As you will read in these pages, it has been an eventful year. Although we did not welcome any new faculty or staff colleagues, long-time lecturer Travis Rupp was appointed Teaching Assistant Professor, and we can look forward to many more of his wide-ranging and popular classes and other contributions. In the spring, we graduated a large crop of majors, minors, and graduate students; you can read their names and some of their accomplishments on pp. 13–16 and 19–22. An eager and talented group of new ones will now try to fill their shoes. Early in the year, a trio of MA students hosted “Plague and Pandemic in the Ancient World,” featuring keynote speaker Hunter Gardner and ten graduate student speakers from around the country and as far away as Portugal (p. 2). We welcomed a handful of other distinguished visitors throughout the year, and in the fall a concentration of them during two major events: the ninth annual Celia M. Fountain Symposium and the conference “Empire of Correspondence” convened by Zachary Herz. The discovery of a headline-making papyrus provided the occasion for the Fountain Symposium, which we were able to host in person for the first time since the pandemic (pp. 3–4); “Empire of Correspondence” resulted from Zach’s success in landing a coveted NEH grant (p. 7). Many other colleagues achieved milestones as well: Dimitri Nakassis as College Professor of Distinction (p. 18), Kirk Ambrose as Distinguished Research Lecturer (p. 28), Jackie Elliott as participant in an unusual and intensive workshop in China (p. 8). Archaeological fieldwork continues in Croatia on Brač Island (pp. 5–6) and in Egypt at Hermopolis (pp. 11–12), led by Sarah James and Yvona Trnka-Amrhein, respectively. For more on faculty accomplishments, see pp. 23–28, and for more on two of our alumni, see the features on MA graduate Jake Sawyer (p. 29) and PhD graduate and current lecturer Mitch Pentzer (p. 9), whose collaboration with our long-time friend and supporter John Nebel is especially heartening. Altogether, Classics is thriving at CU, in large part because of the interest and support of our wider community, of which you, dear reader, are a part. We thank you and hope that you will stay in touch and share your news with us!

- John Gibert

Plague and Pandemic in the Ancient World

Classics Graduate Colloquium

In January 2024, the year-long hard work of graduate students Elise Ramsey, Emma Halverson and Alexa Davidson came to fruition with the conference “Plague and Pandemic in the Ancient World”. Keynote speaker Hunter Gardner (University of South Carolina) kicked off the conference with a talk entitled “Art would get us through it”: Plague and poetry from Vergil’s bees to Emily St. John Mandel’s *Station Eleven*, which described the historical and imagined uses of art as a response to plague from Livy and Vergil through Mary Shelley and Albert Camus to Emily St. John Mandel and Taylor Swift. The following day, nine graduate-student speakers from seven institutions across the country (Columbia, SUNY Buffalo, Arizona, Florida State, UCLA and Maryland College



Conference co-organizers extraordinaires: Elise Ramsey (left), Alexa Davidson (centre), Emma Halverson (right)

Park) gave a series of talks; CU Boulder was represented twice (by Katelyn Reeves and Julius Arnold). The conference series also welcomed its first international visitor, Gustavo Barroso from the University of Lisbon, who spoke on “Rome at war with ‘barbarians’, Persians and disease (late second century AD)”. Other topics included “Pestilence and perception: observations of the self during the Cyprianic Plague”, “Magic and Medicine: evidence of magical practice at the grave sites of victims of disease”, and “New citizens made from ants: illusory renewal and the permanence of death in Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*”. Approaches from the fields of literature, anthropology and natural science combined to make this a highly stimulating, engaging and memorable event. Thanks again to the Classics Graduate Colloquium team who made this highlight possible!



Left: MA student Katelyn Reeves presenting “The 6th-Century Apocalypse: Origin, Transmission, and Symptoms of the Justinianic Plague”; **Center:** Keynote speaker Hunter Gardner; **Right:** MA student Julius Arnold presenting “Gods and doctors: dealing with plagues during the ancient Olympic Games”; **Top of page:** St. Sebastian pleads for the life of those afflicted with the “plague of Justinian” (c.6 CE); oil painting by Josse Leferinx, end c. 15 CE.

The Ninth Annual Celia M. Fountain Symposium

Greek Myths from Egyptian Sands: Discovering the New Euripides

In September, thanks to the generosity of our long-time friend Dr. Celia M. Fountain, the Department hosted the 9th annual Fountain Symposium, co-organized by Professors John Gibert and Yvona Trnka-Amrhein. The event grew out of the sensational discovery in November of 2022 of a single sheet of papyrus preserving nearly 100 lines from two previously lost plays by the Athenian playwright Euripides—the most significant discovery of new tragedy in nearly 60 years. The papyrus was legally and scientifically excavated by archaeologists led by Dr. Basem Gehad of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities, who turned it over to the team's papyrologist, our own Prof. Trnka-Amrhein. Yvona began deciphering the text and soon realized that it contained Euripidean tragedy, and then that it included 60 lines of dialogue from the little-known tragedy *Polyidos*. She invited department colleague Prof. Gibert to join her in continuing the decipherment and preparing the first edition of the document. Together, Yvona and John discovered that the first of the two columns holds 37 lines from the only slightly better-known *Ino*.

Basem, John, and Yvona completed their *editio princeps* in February, and it was published in August. In June, they were joined by 12 colleagues—from Greece, Ireland, Italy, the UK, and the US—for a closed-door conference hosted by Harvard's Center for Hellenic Studies (<https://chs.harvard.edu/the-new-euripides/>). The proceedings, along with a revised edition and translation, will eventually be available as an online, open-access book, which will also include contributions from the Fountain Symposium speakers.



Above: the papyrus
Below: Dr. Celia Fountain



Left to right: Yvona Trnka-Amrhein, John Gibert, and Basem Gehad





Grave that contained papyrus



Location of grave

The Fountain Symposium introduced the discovery to a wider public—150 in-person attendees on the Boulder campus and about 100 from around the world via livestream. Yvona and John were joined by Prof. Lauri Reitzammer as resident experts highlighting different aspects of the papyrus and its interpretation. The three will co-edit the CHS volume. In Boulder, they shared the stage with three distinguished visitors: Sarah Iles Johnston (Ohio State), Paul Schubert (Geneva), and Laura Swift (Oxford). Altogether, the audience was treated to six 25-minute presentations covering everything from the archaeological and papyrological context to the mythical and ritual background to the literary and theatrical interpretation of the precious new document, with ample time devoted to Question & Answer. Presented in contrapuntal pairs, the talks were punctuated by a catered lunch and a coffee break and followed by a reception on the spectacular rooftop terrace of CU's Champions Center at Folsom Field, as the weather gods smiled.



Inspecting the papyrus in Egypt

A gala dinner provided an occasion to thank Celia and present her with a special gift acknowledging over 10 years of friendship and generous financial support of the Fountain Symposia (<https://www.colorado.edu/classics/fountain-symposia>). Additional funding was provided by the Classics Department, the Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization, and the Research and Innovation Office. Invaluable logistical support came from the ever-cheerful and efficient Sandy Brown, Brian Gordon, and a team of student volunteers coordinated by Classics major Casey Brengman. Further information is available at <https://www.colorado.edu/classics/2024-fountain>, where, for a time, readers will find a link to a high-quality video recording of the Symposium.

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Symposium participants Lauri Reitzammer, Laura Swift, Paul Schubert, and Sarah Iles Johnston

The Rocks We Left Behind

Brač Island Project update by Sarah James



Above: Hillfort of Gradina Rat, view of plateau and south slope from west end. image by Sara Popovic

The Brač Island Project had an incredibly fruitful season this summer, which went well beyond our expectations based on last year's excavations. We excavated on the hillfort site of Gradina Rat on the west end of the island for five weeks from May 27 to June 28 and lived in Supetar.

This season we focused on three areas: on the southern slope where there are old vineyard terraces, a section next to the 2023 trench, and at the northeastern corner of the plateau. Our goal this season was to gain more evidence about the Late Bronze and Iron Age phases at this site. Thanks to our previous seasons' work, we knew that the natural bedrock impacted depositional processes at the site. In 2024, we placed a 5x7m trench on the southern slope near the top of the slope and closer to the plateau, because we had learned that the bedrock dropped in this location thus creating large pockets of undisturbed erosional fills. Our excellent field directors this year were Andrew Rivadeneira (CU MA '24, now at the University of Arizona)



Above: Italian Matt-Painted Pottery fragments (ca. 600-500 BCE). photo by Sarah James



Above: Hillfort Terrace Wall from E photo by Andrew Rivadeneira

and Hannah Hungerford (CU MA '23, now at Princeton University), who did exceptional work after the director broke her right ankle.

For this terrace trench, we were able not only to unearth deep deposits that were radiocarbon dated to the 5th century BCE, but also to locate a 4m stretch of the original circuit wall of the hillfort (tentatively dated to the 10th c. BCE). This is an incredible discovery! Normally we remove rocks on site but, in this special case, we cherish them in situ.

Although hillforts are relatively common in the Dalmatian islands, archaeological evidence for their construction and use is extremely rare. We immediately recognized this wall's importance and are working with local authorities to conserve it for future visitors to the site. The other two trenches on the site yielded more evidence of Bronze and Iron Age activities.

Artifacts from the deposits above this terrace wall produced a truly remarkable range of imported Italian and Greek pottery dating from the 9th c. BCE to 1st c. CE, which suggests that this site has the longest occupational period of any hillfort in Dalmatia. It was therefore a busy season in the lab, where I was assisted by Claire Hook (CU MA '24), as we documented and catalogued hundreds of fragments of imported pottery. The local Bronze and Iron Age ceramics are being studied by project collaborator Dr. Vedran Barbarić from the University of Split.

We look forward to another exciting excavation season in 2025!



We found a Bronze Age cup! Photo by Elise Ramsey



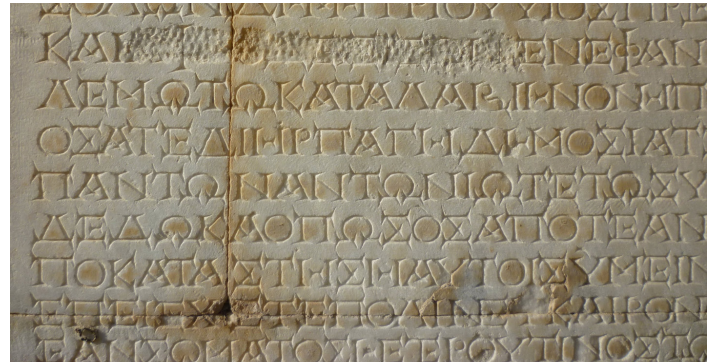
BIP Team on site. photo by Slavica Bosnjak

Empire of Correspondence

On October 4 and 5 of this academic year, the Classics department had the great honor of hosting scholars from around the world for a conference on Roman imperial correspondence. Attendees from as far away as Helsinki, Warsaw, and Stellenbosch spent the weekend in Boulder sharing insights and ideas about letters and the Roman empire.

Talks ranged from the literary (with Kelly Shannon-Henderson visiting from Cincinnati to describe emperor-cult in the letters between Pliny and Trajan), to the papyrological (with Warsaw's Jakub Urbanik presenting on the role of imperial judgments in Egyptian court documents), and even the artistic (with Simon Corcoran Zooming in from Newcastle to describe the various visual accoutrements of imperial authorship). With lectures on Trajan and Justinian, from Alexandria to Qing China, and even a keynote on Fergus Millar from Serena Connolly of Rutgers, a wonderful time was had by all.

The conference was organized by Prof. Zachary Herz and generously supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as Boulder's own Center for the Humanities and Arts. Zach's favorite parts of the conference were introducing friends of the department like Celia Fountain to our lineup of visiting speakers; showing off Boulder, CO on a beautiful fall weekend; and bringing back Noel Lenski to see how Boulder has changed since he left! A volume of the proceedings will come out in the next few years, and we can't wait to share them all with you.



Empire of Correspondence

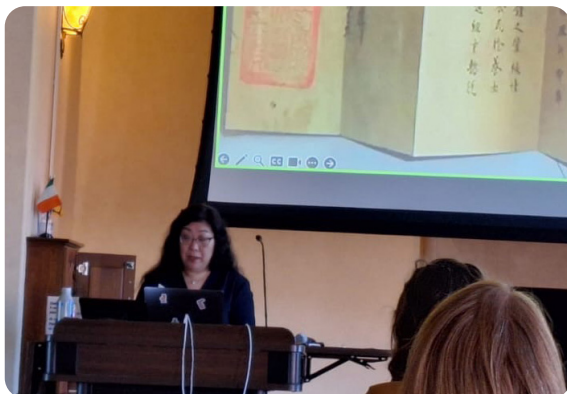
Boulder, CO

October 4-5, 2024

Speakers:

Clifford Ando	Graham Barrett
Philip Bosman	Pierangelo Buongiorno
Serena Connolly	Simon Corcoran
Kimberley Czajkowski	Annarosa Gallo
Noel Lenski	Jinyu Liu
Kelly Shannon-Henderson	Kaius Tuori
Jakub Urbanik	Lieve van Hoof
Rafail Zoulis	

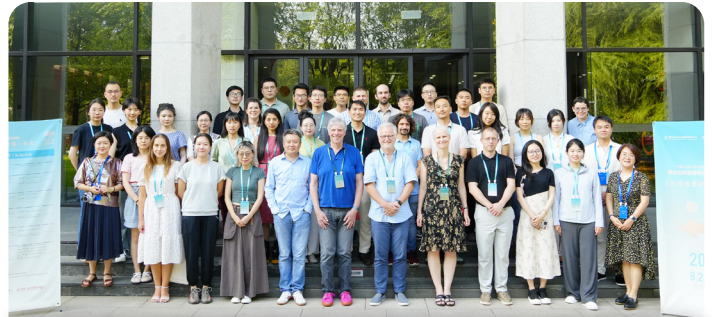
Empire of Correspondence event poster
with featured speakers



Presentations at the Empire of Correspondence

First Books in the Ancient World

In August, Prof. Jackie Elliott participated in a five-day doctoral student workshop on the topic “First Books in the Ancient World”, hosted on the beautiful Suzhou campus of Renmin University of China. Alongside co-presenters Martin Kern (Princeton), Glenn Most (Pisa; Chicago) and Xu Jianwei (Renmin University of China), she explored different moments in the history of classical Chinese and Greek and Roman literature. The aim was not only to illustrate how questions of evidence and interpretation differ across different eras and cultural contexts but to engage discussants in questions of principles and methodologies applicable beyond the range of their disciplinary homes. The role of commentary and scholarship in endowing writing with the status of “book” figured large both at the workshop and at the subsequent international conference on the same theme. On the final day of the workshop, the forty students in attendance (half from Chinese universities, half from the rest of the world) also had the opportunity to present their individual research.



Above: Group photo of the students and presenters at the workshop



Above: Jackie Elliott with Martin Kern and Glenn Most, on a visit to one of the historic gardens of Suzhou, after a long day of presenting



Central area of the Suzhou campus of Renmin University of China



Musical performance on traditional Chinese instruments

John Nebel and Mitch Pentzer: A partnership built in Classics

John Nebel and Mitch Pentzer first met in Mitch's summer introductory Greek class in 2011. John was so impressed by Mitch's method and materials that he soon went on to fund the creation of the department's online Greek class, which continues to be based on materials developed under John's patronage. John too remains a generous and hugely appreciated friend of the department. He now routinely reads Greek literature and philosophy and has a particular interest in Plato and coinage of the Classical period. He is a numismatist of standing and an active member on the board of the American Numismatic Society. He has shared his collection with students and faculty alike over the years. Some of his coins are currently on display at the CU Art Museum, in the context of the exhibition of Greek and Roman coins curated by Diane Conlin's numismatics class in 2019, which also incorporated coins from the Wink Jaffee coin collection.

Through learning Greek with Mitch's support, John could not help but be aware of Mitch's acumen, his attention to detail, his professionalism and his dedication. John and Mitch now work together in the context of John's computer systems company. The picture shows them celebrating after presenting their work to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment last year.



One of John Nebel's coins, showing a satyr (or the god Pan) and a griffon guarding wheat. The coin is from Pantikapaion (Kerch in modern Crimea), and John dates the coin to 340–25 BCE. In the figure of the satyr, John sees a pun on the name of Satyros I, king of Cimmerian Bosphorus from 432 to 389 BCE. John's support of our students will continue next year, when he will help Beth Dusingberre teach a course on numismatics at the CU Art Museum.

Mary E. V. McClanahan

Lecture Series & Essay Prize

“Defining Beer in the Ancient World”

Mary E. V. McClanahan’s generous sponsorship once more allowed us to share faculty research with the wider community. On November 29, 2023, we got together for a lecture by Travis Rupp on “Defining Beer in the Ancient World” (on Travis’ work on the history of beer, see also the feature in the 2023 newsletter and his website, www.thebeerarchaeologist.com). Some seventy audience members in Boulder and on Zoom got to think about what makes beer beer. Most intriguingly, the lecture showed that research on the ancient world can have valuable uses in the 21st century: Travis also spoke about his recent role as an expert witness in a dispute between breweries that hinged on the historical definition of “beer.”



Minoan ewer jar with barley motif from Akrotiri on the island of Thera (c. 1625 BCE). It now resides in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens.

“Rome’s Other Twins: Ovid’s Gemini in Fasti V.”

The McClanahan Essay Prize was won by Rachel Dzugan, one of our doctoral students, whose talk offered a nuanced analysis of Ovid’s Gemini story in *Fasti* 5.693-720 in three complementary interpretative layers: firstly, by examining the poem’s generic and programmatic considerations; secondly, by reading through a metapoetical lens; and thirdly, by drawing parallels with the other twins in the *Fasti*, namely Romulus and Remus. Her exploration of the Gemini narrative not only explored the challenges faced by Ovid’s poetry but also illustrated Ovid’s inventive strategies as he grappled with and adapted to the challenges of past and present history and politics. The Gemini story in Book 5, though only 28 lines of text, represents a microcosm of the complexity of Ovid’s poetry and the difficulty of any definitive interpretation of it.



The head of Roma on the front and the two Dioscuri riding horses on the back. Münzkabinett, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin.



The legendary she-wolf suckles Romulus and Remus. Musei Capitolini.

The City of the Baboon Project in 2024: Blocks upon Blocks

This year our team welcomed to site three CU MA graduates – Jake Horton, Hannah Hungerford, and Danise Wu – and current MA student Julius Arnold. Our work focused on the monumental gate of the 5th century Coptic basilica church and the northern edge of Kom Oussoum. We also began cleaning and preliminary excavation at the South Temple of Ramesses II that was redecorated under the Roman Emperor Nero. Here we made a very unexpected find: the top half of a colossal statue of Ramesses II that fits perfectly on one of the two bottom halves of colossi which were first documented at the site in the *Description de l'Égypte* of 1809 (a lavishly illustrated encyclopedia of Egyptian ruins created by the French artists and scholars who came to Egypt with Napoleon's army). This fit was determined by creating photogrammetric models of both halves and joining them virtually.

Kom Oussoum remains a puzzle, but it is clear that whatever was happening there required a massive water supply. In addition to the basins, pipes, and tanks excavated in 2023, the area contained a deep well that we believe formed part of a large water wheel. It would be noteworthy if this represents a significant industrial operation so close to the main temples of the city, although there is an interesting comparison for this at the nearby necropolis of Tuna el Gebel.

The monumental gate of the basilica church was both a significant challenge and a significant opportunity. Since its four 7 meter tall granite columns were tilting dangerously, the project had been tasked with stabilizing the



Hannah Hungerford and Heba Adly document column elements.



Above: Setting out from Cairo!

structure. To do so, we needed to dismantle the columns, but this allowed the exciting possibility of excavating their foundation. Here we uncovered several layers of spoliated architectural elements ranging in date from talatat blocks of the Amarna period to column bases and capitals of Greek style columns. In total we documented about 900 blocks and have begun to study how they might fit together. The joins we have made so far have allowed us to reconstitute parts of the decorative program of a Ramesside Temple, most likely the south Temple of Ramesses II. In addition to providing crucial evidence for the nature of this mostly lost building, the discovery of these blocks should help us understand how the city was transformed in the 5th century CE, as pagan buildings gave way to a newly ascendant Christianity.



Danise Wu and Julius Arnold visit our neighbor Petosiris.

Congratulations Graduate Award Winners!

Joy King and Barbara Hill Graduate Support Award

The Joy King and Barbara Hill Graduate Support Award was established to commemorate the work of the late Joy King, who was chair of our department and a wonderful professor and friend, sorely missed, and of Barbara Hill, who served many years as our Latin program coordinator. We greatly appreciate their generosity, which makes this award for a student pursuing the teaching of Latin possible. This year's recipient is **Matt Coy**. Matt is pursuing the MA in the Teaching of Latin and currently teaching in our introductory Latin sequence. His teaching project takes "a simplified linguistics . . . approach to teaching introductory level Latin grammar" and will "incorporate some elements of historical linguistics . . . to explain otherwise mystifying forms (sum, esse, for example)."

Hunter Rawlings Award

CU alumna Melanie Biermann generously established the Hunter Rawlings Award in honor of Hunter Rawlings III, a distinguished scholar of Greek historiography, former president of Cornell University, and, last but not least, a former CU professor. Its goal is to enhance the intellectual and professional development of CU Classics graduate students. **Daniel Wisniewski** won the award this year and used it to participate in a program on "German for students of Classical Studies" at the University of Cologne in Germany. This is already paying dividends for his MA thesis on "Nazi receptions of Classical Sparta."

Dilts Swartz Award

The Dilts Swartz Award was established in honor of CU alumna Dorothy Dilts Swartz to support the training of CU Classics graduate students in archaeology and material culture, broadly defined. This year the Department decided to split the award between **Phoebe Mock** and **Katelyn Reeves**; this allowed them both to take part in Professor Sarah James's Brač Island Project (BIP)—see pp. 5-6 and bracislandproject.com—and supported Phoebe's summer studies in Hellenistic art and archaeology.

Classics Departmental Awards

The BIP and the training it provides our students are crucial to our mission, so the Department supplemented these awards and also made additional graduate awards from its own funds. Those awards went to **Frances Harrington** and **Autumn Greene** and enabled them also to participate in the BIP. **Louis Mainwaring Foster** also received department funding to participate both in the BIP and in the famous Athenian Agora excavations—quite the busy and exciting summer! Finally, **Julius Arnold** also won graduate summer funding to support taking summer Greek to complement his strong profile in ancient history, archaeology, and Latin when he applies to doctoral programs.

Congratulations to PhD Graduate Brooke Latham!

Brooke Latham successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis in July and received her degree on August 22, 2024. Brooke's dissertation, "*Dysphêmia*: Ritual Speech and Gender in Aeschylus," grew out of her interest in ritual language and gender in the tragedies of Aeschylus. She was drawn to the relationship between dysphemic speech (often associated with women and lamentation) and euphemic speech (often associated with male characters) and she observed that male characters in tragedy frequently attempt to silence female voices with a call for euphemic speech. In three chapters that discuss each play of the *Oresteia* in turn, alongside two other plays of Aeschylus, Brooke considers gender and ritual language, including genres of speech such as paeon, lament, curse, and prophecy. For example, she demonstrates that lament has the potential to tip over into curse. It is this potential for harm and disruption that makes dirges so unsettling, dangerous, and troubling and results in the call on the part of male characters for euphemic speech. Ultimately, Brooke shows that, in Aeschylus' *Oresteia*, male euphemic speech triumphs over female dysphemic speech, and she offers an original contribution to traditional readings of the trilogy. Brooke has been teaching this year in the Classics department and plans to continue to pursue teaching opportunities in Classics and ancient languages.



Congratulations Master's Graduates!



Alexa Davidson

Classical Antiquity

Alexa will pursue a PhD in the History of Art & Architecture at the University of Oregon, with a focus on late classical to Hellenistic architecture.



Tanner Frick

Greek

Before applying to PhD programs in Classics and Comparative Literature, Tanner is taking a gap year during which he will be a regional coordinator for Americorps helping to run tutoring facilities in schools throughout the Boulder and Denver areas and offering private tutoring sessions to middle and high school students.

"I would say that my two favorite experiences I've had with CU are working with the Brač Island Project and the Hellenistic Poetry class with Yvona."



Claire Hook

Classical Art & Archaeology

Claire will participate in our department's Brač Island Project in Croatia this summer. She then will work during a gap year as she applies to PhD programs in ancient Mediterranean archaeology.

At Brač Island, *"being out in the field digging in the trench, trying to claim the best trowels, and carefully throwing rocks into our makeshift wall was an experience I will always cherish. It also gave me the opportunity to create lifelong bonds with my fellow grad students and other graduates from different universities that made the whole experience even more memorable."*



Emma Halverson

Teaching of Latin

Emma completed our MA in the Teaching of Latin program.

"My plan after graduation is that I will be teaching Latin at Sky View Academy in Highlands Ranch. One of my favorite memories has been my walk to class every day, since I get to see the mountains and the creek, and the landscape is so beautiful."

Eli Kessler

Classical Art &
Archaeology

"I currently plan to take a little time off, but I am hoping to finish up my undergrad Art degree, work for a little, and explore my options before scouting PhD programs."

"I really loved all of the classes I took, both as an undergrad and a grad student!"



Andrew Rivadeneira

Classical Art &
Archaeology

Andrew will take part this summer in the Brač Island Project, where he will be a field supervisor. In the fall he will begin the PhD program in Anthropology at the University of Arizona.

"I'd say my favorite memory would be the Croatia excavation."



Elise Ramsey

Latin

Elise is still finalizing her plans which do involve staying in Boulder and probably finding a teaching position.

"As I've reflected on the conclusion of my degree, I keep coming back to the quiet moments walking around the beautiful campus here or watching the Flatirons out of the windows in Eaton, and the bittersweet feeling knowing that this is the end of those moments. However, my most overwhelming emotion is gratitude. I am so incredibly fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with so many of the faculty members here. I've learned so much from them, not just about Classics but about life, and I very much hope that we stay in touch."



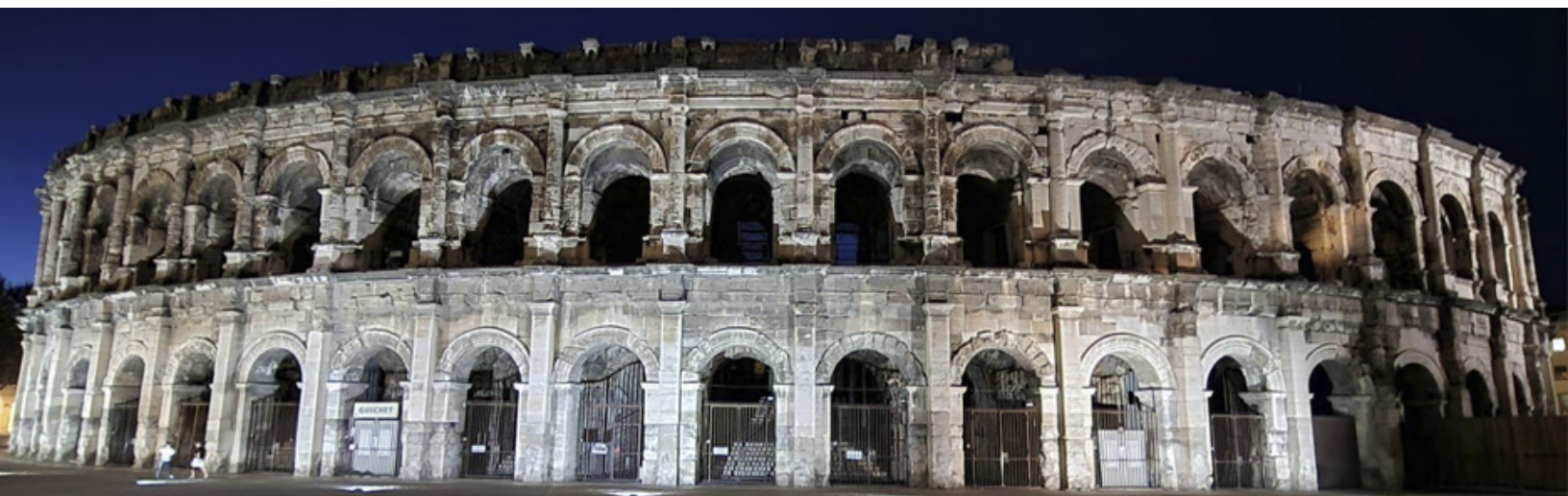
Danise Wu

Greek

Danise plans to spend a year researching the oral poetry of a Chinese ethnic minority before applying to PhD programs.

"One of my favorite things at CU is being able to take a wide range of classes that I would otherwise not have the opportunity to take. I cannot pick out my most favorite classes, but I highly enjoy reading the weirdest lyric poetry and Hellenistic epigrams."





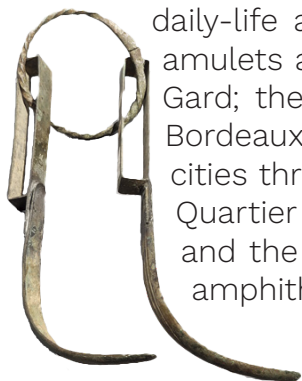
Sabbatical Report:

Andy Cain's Research Leave in France

During the late summer and fall, Professor Andy Cain spent an adventurous sabbatical semester in France. Having lived there twice before and having traveled extensively throughout the country in the past, he felt right at home re-immersing himself in its rich culture and language. He was based primarily in Paris, where he conducted research at the Bibliothèque nationale de France and consulted numerous important medieval Greek manuscripts as he finalized his new critical edition of Athanasius' 4th-century Greek *Life of Antony*, the first and most influential work of monastic hagiography, a Christian literary genre which was explosively popular throughout Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. This critical edition forms part of Andy's book *Athanasius and the Invention of Monastic Hagiography: A Commentary on the Life of Antony, with an Introduction, Text, and Translation*, which Oxford University Press will publish in 2025 in three volumes.

Andy also ventured well outside Paris to visit some of the best-preserved Roman sites outside Italy, along with their accompanying museums which house countless

daily-life artifacts, from terracotta lamps and bathing accoutrements to good-luck amulets and children's toys. These awe-inspiring sites include the aqueduct Pont du Gard; the theaters of Orange, Arles, Lyon, and Vienne; the amphitheaters of Arles, Bordeaux, and Nîmes; and various temples and public baths in these and many other cities throughout France. Paris, too, has its own Gallo-Roman remains in the storied Quartier Latin not far from the Sorbonne—a bathing complex (Thermes de Cluny) and the Arènes de Lutèce, a unique structure that once doubled as a theater and amphitheater.



Above: Orange theater
Below: Pont du Gard
photos by Andy Cain



Top: Nîmes amphitheater by night
Lower left: Pair of strigils used in a bath house, Musée de la Romanité in Nîmes. Photos by Andy Cain

Dimitri Nakassis named College Professor of Distinction

In December of 2023, Professor Dimitri Nakassis was named a College Professor of Distinction, an honorific title awarded by CU's College of Arts and Sciences that is "reserved for scholars and artists of national and international distinction who are also recognized by their college peers as teachers and colleagues of exceptional talent." This well-deserved honor recognizes the many outstanding contributions that Dimitri has made in research, teaching, and service, at the national and international levels. He is currently at work on three main research projects: the final publication of the Linear B tablets from Late Bronze Age Pylos, co-authored with Emmett Bennet Jr., José Melena, Jean-Pierre Olivier, and Tom Palaima (forthcoming, 2025), the final publication of the Western Argolid Regional Project, co-directed with Sarah James and Scott Gallimore, and a monograph tentatively entitled *Reassembling Mycenaean Greece*, for which he received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2023.



Dimitri Nakassis at Seven Magic Mountains in Las Vegas, Nevada (December 2023)

Notably, our department already had two College Professors of Distinction, Professors Carole Newlands (awarded in 2015) and Elspeth Dusinberre (in 2020). This award thus also recognizes the important role that Classics continues to play in the College and the importance of the research and teaching in the department. Congratulations, Dimitri!

CU Classics Club Activities

The CU Boulder Classics Club, run by Student Executives Casey Brengman and Libby Clemence as well as Faculty Liaison Zachary Herz, offers students the opportunity to socialize and relax with their peers in monthly meetings organized around a variety of ancient-world-themed events. Highlights include movie nights, vase painting, and Greek sculpture-making. The meetings are well attended by both Classics students and those simply interested in the ancient world, and attract both undergraduates and graduate students. Meetings often combine hands-on activities with guest lectures from CU faculty and staff, which engage students in subjects they may not have the opportunity to explore during their classes. The club also offers students academic and career guidance in the classics through connections with career services and student advisors, as well as opportunities to visit the Norlin Library Special Collections and the CU Art Museum to view their vibrant collections of ancient works. The club enjoys robust faculty and staff support, often being promoted in classrooms and announced through the Classics Weekly Bulletin. This year, the Classics Club hosted 40+ students at their events, and looks forward to continuing to do so in the coming year!



Teaching Assistant Professor Travis Rupp presenting at the Classics Club

Congratulations Undergraduate Scholarship and Award Winners!

Ann Nichols Herodotus Grant winner: Laine Slinglend

"I have been having an amazing time studying classics at the University of Edinburgh. I am taking classes on Greek and Roman epistolography and the changing uses for the story of the Trojan War over time, along with an evolutionary genetics course for my evolutionary biology degree. Most of my time outside of classes has been spent exploring Edinburgh, but I have had the opportunity to take several trips to tour and hike the Scottish Highlands, as well as visit Hadrian's Wall at the border. I also have a trip planned for Athens where I hope to experience as much of the city and its history as possible."



Laine Slinglend

Ann Nichols Romulus Grant winner: Rachael Nelson



Rachael Nelson

With the support of an Ann Nichols "Romulus" Grant, Rachael Nelson participated in two excavations this summer, spanning 10 weeks in total. Rachael worked both on the Coriglia Excavation Project and at Campo Della Fiera, each located outside Orvieto in central Italy. These sites have been continuously inhabited from the time of the Etruscans through the Medieval period, making them rich in history and invaluable for the study of Etruria and its various inhabitants. During her time there, Rachael excavated several significant structures, including a Roman bath complex, a Roman vasca, an Augustan temple, and a sacred Etruscan road. The continuous inhabitation of these sites allowed the team to study how culture and its physical remains influence a region

over generations. As a returning excavator on both sites, Rachael was able to help instruct new students and assume more responsibility and so increase her archaeological skillset. Rachael reports that she is incredibly grateful for the opportunities the "Romulus" grant gave her!

Ann Nichols Travel Grant winner: Jordan Ardoin

"Thanks to support from the Ann Nichols conference travel grant, I was able to attend and present at my first academic conference, the University of Tennessee's Twelfth Annual Classics Undergraduate Research Conference. I presented a paper entitled "Bones, Bulls, and Beetles: Rethinking Animal Sacrifice in the Iconography of Bronze Age Crete." The paper explored what famous animal artifacts from Bronze Age Crete (bull's head rhyta [drinking cups], the Hagia Triada sarcophagus, "votive" animal figurines, etc.) can tell us about socioeconomic human-animal relationships, such as those involved in agriculture and the consumption of meat. As a graduate student at CU, I am now working on a project about depictions of human-animal relationships in ancient Greek tragedy. Even though my current research is more literary in nature, it is still informed and supported by artistic and iconographical representations of animals in ancient art, which I learned a lot about through my previous project on Bronze Age Crete."

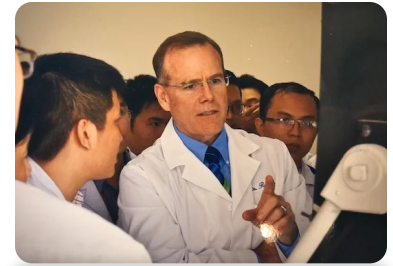


Jordan Ardoin

Randy Robinson Memorial Award Scholarship

Dr. Randolph “Randy” Robinson was a doctor, philanthropist, and student of Classical Greek at the University of Colorado Boulder. To those lucky enough to be his classmates, he was encouraging, uplifting, patient, and kind.

The Randy Robinson Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of Dr. Robinson by one such classmate, provides a \$4,000 scholarship award for a student enrolled at the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder and majoring in Classics on the Greek and/or Latin Language and Literature track, in each of the years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. The scholarship is currently in its final cycle: all students on the Language and Literature track who have at least one semester of undergraduate study remaining in AY 2025–26 are encouraged to apply!



Randy Robinson at work and at play



Casey Brengman

2024 Winner: Casey Brengman

“I’m incredibly grateful to have been chosen to receive the Robinson Memorial Award. Studying the Greek and Latin languages is such an important and meaningful part of my life: It teaches me every day to think outside the box and embrace challenges with joy and curiosity, and it has introduced me to a heartfelt community of friends and peers without whom I would not be the person I am today. From the bottom of my heart: χάρις ἔχω!”

Field Study Scholarship winner: Grace DiNapoli

With the generous support of the Classics Field Study Scholarship, Grace DiNapoli was able to return to the Pompeii I.14 Project in summer 2024, to act as a lead excavator. The Pompeii I.14 Project focuses on a series of commercial buildings in Region I, Insula 14, in an attempt better to understand urban life in Pompeii prior to the eruption in 79 CE. The research team is looking at the role of social dynamics, waste management systems, and the evolution of infrastructure within the insula. This season, Grace gained experience in documenting and recording excavation processes. She worked alongside her supervisor and student excavators to dig two trenches in the northern garden. The discoveries within these trenches have provided insight into this insula’s early architectural development and contributed to ongoing environmental research. Grace is grateful to be a part of this team and meaningful research and reports that she is especially thankful for the critical support offered by the Field Study Scholarship!



Grace DiNapoli

Dwyer Translation Prize

The Dwyer Translation Prize is made possible by CU Classics alumnus Matthew Burke Dwyer (BA 1990), in support of excellence in the study of Latin and Greek at the undergraduate level. The 2024 winner of the Latin translation is **Jordan Ardoin**, for their translation of Cornelius Nepos’ *Life of Atticus* 3-4, and the winner of the Greek translation is **Casey Brengman**, for her translation of Herodotus’ *Histories* 9.48.

Congratulations Undergraduate Students!

Celebrating our Classics Majors

Jordan Raine Ardoin

Major: Classics
Graduated with distinction

Annie Louise Arnold

Majors: Classics and Biochemistry

Jon Ryan Barragan

Majors: Classics and History

Alex Boyce

Majors: Classics and Philosophy

Madina Buhendwa

Majors: Classics and Psychology

Grace Eloise DiNapoli

Major: Classics
Minor: Anthropology
Graduated with distinction

Madeline Grace Guyer

Majors: Classics and Music
Graduated with distinction

Abby Brooks Kruger

Major: Classics

Nick Lawson

Major: Classics *summa cum laude*
Graduated with distinction

Justin Shriver Morris

Major: Classics

Rachael Elaine Nelson

Majors: Classics and Art History *summa cum laude*
Minor: Italian
Graduated with distinction

Madeleine Brooke Panek

Majors: Classics and History
Graduated with distinction

Hannah Rose Pritchard

Majors: Classics *summa cum laude*
Minors: French and Creative Writing
Graduated with distinction

Megan Katherine Robertson

Majors: Classics and Anthropology *magna cum laude*
Graduated with distinction

Angie Lynn Singmaster

Majors: Classics and Anthropology
Minors: Sociology and Ethnic Studies
Graduated with distinction

Taylor Rebecca Smith

Major: Classics and Psychology
Graduated with distinction

Jeanette Wood

Major: Classics *magna cum laude*
Minor: Art Practices

Sora L. Wyatt

Majors: Classics and Anthropology

"I learned so much and made life-long friends during my time at CU! I'm very excited for my upcoming trip to Rome to actually see the sites I read about in my history classes!"

"I am so appreciative of getting to know the faculty. They were so helpful in every one of my classes! I'll especially miss pizza nights with the Classics Club!"

Celebrating our Classics Minors

Charlize C. Abdi

Major: Sociology

Peter Edward Ash

Major: Integrative Physiology

Sam Maria Bond

Majors: Anthropology

Max Scott Bornstein

Major: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Smith Arrasmith Dicken III

Major: Physics and Mathematics

Haylie Puccio Dickinson

Major: Philosophy, with distinction

Minors: Business and Cinema Studies

Aidan Patrick Dwyer

Major: Psychology, with distinction

Minor: Business

Kayleigh Frakes

Major: Anthropology

Minor: History

Emma Lynn Holman

Major: Psychology

Minor: Philosophy

Mikayla Ediger Jassem

Majors: International Affairs and Theatre, with distinction

Minor: German

Lia Zell Kaufman

Major: Art History, with distinction

Minor: Business

Max Elizabeth King

Major: Political Science, with distinction

Minor: Philosophy

Camryn Grace Knudson

Major: Psychology

Steven Krokodilos

Major: History

Garnet Rose Letendre

Major: Psychology, with distinction

Minor: Philosophy

Maggie Marie Maestas

Major: English

Anna F. Maji

Major: Sociology, with distinction

Matias Vicente Mendez

Major: Neuroscience

Kieran Michael Monaghan

Major: Psychology

Makenzie Morton

Major: Art History, with distinction

Andy Stephen Muller

Major: Psychology, with distinction

Minor: Music

Lily Micahla Nichols

Major: History

Dillon Otto

Major: History, with distinction

Isabelle Rose Pollock

Major: Psychology

Sam Lewis Senseman

Majors: History and Philosophy, with distinction

Sarah Vanden-Heuvel

Major: History

Seth Michael Wells

Majors: Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and Anthropology

Osborne Weng

Major: Psychology

Minor: Linguistics

Jack Robert Wiegand

Majors: Economics and History, with distinction

Freddy James Zepernick

Major: Political Science

Faculty Bookshelf

what our faculty have been publishing lately



Andrew Cain

“Porphyry’s *Life of Pythagoras* and Athanasius’ *Life of Antony*: A Newly Proposed Intertext,” *Mnemosyne* 77 (2024): 1000-1011

“The Constantinian Dynasty and the Rhetoric of Subversion in Athanasius’ *Life of Antony*,” in O. van Nijf, R. Rees, and N. Lenski (eds.), *From East to West in Late Antiquity: Studies in Honor of Jan Willem Drijvers* (Bari: Edipuglia, 2024), 37-48

John Gibert

B. Gehad, J. Gibert, and Y. Trnka-Amrhein, “P. Phil. Nec. 23 ↑: New Excerpts from Euripides’ *Ino* and *Polyidos*,” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 230, 2024, 1–40.

J. Gibert, “Re-examining the Unidentified Play on P. Strasb. W. G. 304–307 in the Light of a New Papyrus of Euripides’ *Ino*,” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 231, 2024, 37–52.

Review of Jacques A. Bromberg and Peter Burian, eds. *A Companion to Aeschylus* (Wiley Blackwell, 2023), *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2024.08.24

Zach Herz

“The Epistemology of the Courthouse,” in Brenda Cossman & Joseph Fischel, eds., *Enticements: A Queer Legal Studies Reader* (NYU Press, 2024), 29–58

“How to Do the History of Elagabalus,” in Ella Haselswerdt, Sara H. Lindheim and Kirk Ormand, eds., *The Routledge Handbook of Classics and Queer Theory* (Routledge, 2024) 408–22

“Straight Talk About Curved Horns and Gay Marriage: A New Reading of Juvenal’s Second Satire” *Classical Quarterly* (2024) 1–16

Peter Hunt

“Imagining Athens in the Assembly,” for *The Athenian Funeral Oration* (ed. David Pritchard), Cambridge University Press, 2024, 261-79.

Review of *Slaves and Slavery in Ancient Greece*: by Sara Forsdyke. *Slavery & Abolition*, 45.3 (2024) 690–691.

Review of *Theater and politics in Plutarch’s Parallel Lives*, by Raphaëla Dubreuil. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2024.09.10.

Review of *Slavery and Rebellion in Second-Century BC Sicily*. From *Bellum Servile* to *Sicilia Capta*, by Peter Morton. *The Classical Review*. Published online 2024:1-3.

Sarah James

S. A. James, D. Nakassis, W. Caraher, S. Gallimore, G. Erny, R. Fernandez, J. Frankl, A. Friedman, M. Godsey, and M. Gradoz. "Landscape Histories and Terrestrial Networks in the Peloponnese: Results from the Western Argolid Regional Project," *Hesperia* 93.1: 145-190.

"In the Shadow of Argos: The Western Argolid Regional Project 2014-2016," in the *Third International Scientific Meeting of Archaeological Work in the Peloponnese, Kalamata, Greece, 2-5 June 2021*, Athens: 285-294.

Isabel Köster

"Reading about Nymphs and Roman Soldiers with and without Frazer" in S. Budin and C. Tully (eds.) *A Century of James Frazer's The Golden Bough: Shaking the Tree, Breaking the Bough* (London, 2024), 207-217. London: Routledge (2024)

Dimitri Nakassis

S.A. James, D. Nakassis, W.R. Caraher, S.C. Gallimore, G. Erny, R. Fernandez, J. Frankl, A. Friedman, M. Godsey, and M. Gradoz. 2024. "Landscape Histories and Terrestrial Networks in the Peloponnese: Results from the Western Argolid Regional Project," *Hesperia* 93.1, 145-190. DOI: 10.2972/hes.2024.a922194

D. Nakassis. 2024. "Before the economy? Growth, institutions, and the Late Bronze Age," in *Models, methods, and morality: Assessing modern approaches to the Greco-Roman economy*, ed. S.C. Murray and S. Bernard (London: Palgrave Macmillan) 151-184. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-58210-3_6

D. Nakassis. 2024. "Time and the Other Greeks," in *The Routledge Handbook of Classics, Colonialism, and Postcolonial Theory*, ed. K. Blouin and B. Akrigg (London: Routledge) 251-264.

D. Nakassis. 2024. "On Time, Archaeology, and Greece," Vassilis Lambropoulos Essay on New Directions in Modern Greek Studies, University of Michigan. <https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lambropoulosessays/>

Carole Newlands

'Ali Smith and Robin Robertson: Marsyas on the Margins,' *Giornale Filologia Italiano* 75 (2023): 349-68.

Carole Newlands (continued)

Introductory essay to M.C.J. Putnam, *The Poetic World of Statius' Silvae*. Oxford University Press, 2023.

Introductory essay to Cédric Scheidegger-Lae-mmle, *Literary Politics*, Cambridge University Press, 2024 (in press).

Book Review essay on *After Ovid*, ed. F. E. Consolino, for *The Journal of Roman Studies*, 2024 (in press).

'Text, textile, and Ovid's *Fasti*,' chapter for a volume on Ovidian reception, Glasgow University (in press).

Lauri Reitzammer

"Birds, Stars, and Female *Mousikê*: Visions of Escape in Euripidean Choral Odes" (in press, *BICS*, expected 2024).

Travis Rupp

Rupp, Travis. "Caesar's Cervisia." Dublin Gastronomy Symposium 2024 – Food and Memory: Traces Trauma and Tradition. Article Published 5/20/24. <https://doi.org/10.21427/fm8v-7549>.

Yvona Trnka-Amrhein

"The Exemplarity of the Non-Ideal Sesostris: A History of Two Unflattering Episodes from the Sesostris Legend," in *Sesostris – Scheschonq – Sesonchosis: Ein internationaler Held und sein Nachwirken* ed. F. Hoffmann and S. Schoske (Leiden, 2024), 237-300.

"P. Phil. Nec. 23 : New Excerpts from Euripides' *Ino* and *Polyidos*," *ZPE* 230 (2024), 1-40. With Basem Gehad and John Gibert.

"The City of the Baboon Project," *Scribe* 13 (2024) 50-51.

"Ramesses Reappears in Hermopolis," *Egyptian Archaeology* 65 (2024), 4-9. With B. Gehad and H. Sourouzian.

"Two Lost Plays of Euripides from Roman Philadelphia," *Egyptian Archaeology* 65 (2024), 37-39. With B. Gehad.

Faculty News, Awards and Achievements

Kirk Ambrose

In April, Kirk Ambrose presented a paper at the University of Valladolid (Spain) as part of a site visit sponsored by the British Archaeological Association. In May, he was invited to participate in a symposium at the Université de Poitiers (France) celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Centre d'études supérieures de civilisation médiévale. Both papers will be published in 2025.

Andy Cain

served as department chair last academic year and he spent the fall 2024 semester on sabbatical (see "Sabbatical Report" on p. 17). On the research front, he published two articles and had a few more accepted for publication. His book *Athanasius and the Invention of Monastic Hagiography: A Commentary on the Life of Antony, with an Introduction, Text, and Translation* was accepted by Oxford University Press and will appear in 2025. In addition to continuing work on five co-edited volumes, he is co-organizing two international conferences for 2025, one in Leuven on the emergence of monastic hagiography as a literary genre, and the other in Göttingen on the late antique reception of Athanasius' *Life of Antony* and he will co-edit both conference proceedings. This past year Andy also delivered a conference paper in Oxford and four invited talks abroad at the University of Bern, the University of Vienna, the University of Leuven, and the University of British Columbia.

Reina Callier

This year, Reina collaborated with secondary school teachers to create a series of promotional videos for Colorado Latin classes. Partially funded by CAMWS's Committee for the Promotion of Latin and Greek, these videos can now be found on the Colorado Classics Association's YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/@ColoradoClassicsAssociation>).

Beth Dusinberre

Beth has been on research leave during 2024, thanks to a Getty Scholar Fellowship and a Guggenheim Fellowship. She is working on a book publishing the buildings and their contents found in the "elite quarter" of the Phrygian capital, Gordion, during the Early Phrygian period (ca. 900-800 BCE). She spent the winter months in Los Angeles at the Getty Villa Museum and the summer at Gordion in Turkey, studying the artifacts and architectural remains and talking with colleagues about archaeological interpretations. This fall she has been in Boulder drafting the book that will publish her finds. Her cancer remains in remission for now (huzzah!), her son Sam is now tenured as a trumpeter with the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, and her two corgis Gretta and Arinna provide welcome incentive for frivolous play.

Jackie Elliott

is enjoying her term as director of undergraduate studies, as it puts her in close contact with so many of our wonderful Classics majors and minors! Teaching this year has included a further iteration of *Ancient Roots of Modern Medicine* and the delight of reading Vergil's *Georgics* with a strong crew of undergraduate Latinists. The year was full of travel: after speaking about "Cato 'the antiquarian'?" at the Society for Classical Studies in Chicago in January, Jackie gave a talk on the ancient reception of pre-Ennian epic at Corpus Christi College, Oxford in May, participated in a workshop and conference in the environs of Shanghai in August (see the feature on p. 8), and gave a keynote address in December at the conference in Grenoble "Quoting, editing, rewriting: reception and representation in fragmentary Latin poetry" hosted by the French *FragmAnt* research initiative. In the meantime, Lily is in her final year of primary school!

John Gibert

taught courses on Greek & Roman Mythology, Greek & Roman Epic, Euripides' *Medea*, and Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*. In research, he devoted himself mainly to co-editing and interpreting the New Euripides papyrus and co-organizing and presenting at two related conferences (see pp. 3-4). The *editio princeps* (with Basem Gehad and Yvona Trnka-Amrhein) was published in August, and a companion piece on a papyrus now in Strasbourg appeared in November. At the Center for Hellenic Studies conference in Washington, DC, he spoke not about the newly discovered papyrus, but about a previously known "book fragment" also belonging to *Ino* ("Thin Ice? *Ino* fr. 420 in Anecdotal and Anthological Tradition"). He completed an article on the fourth choral song of Euripides' *Hippolytus* for an edited volume on *Collective Emotions in Ancient Greek Theater*; presented at the International Theatre Institute's Symposium on "The Role of Mythos in Ancient Tragedy" in Nicosia, Cyprus; and spoke about the papyrus at the Universities of Cyprus, Munich, Pisa, and (remotely) Oxford. This fall, he has been serving as Interim Chair of Classics during Prof. Andy Cain's sabbatical leave.

Zach Herz

My 'biggest deal' of the year has to be finishing my monograph. I've sent *The God and the Bureaucrat: Roman Law, Imperial Sovereignty, and Other Stories* to press, and it should be on bookshelves by next fall. Look for it at the new Barnes and Noble by the Costco! Beyond that, some professional highlights have been: publishing a couple of articles on Roman sexuality (check them out on the Faculty Bookshelf), teaching my first course on third-century Latin, and hosting the *Empire of Correspondence* conference in October. Beyond that, the year has mostly been taken up with wedding planning and taking photographs of my dog; the first of those will wrap up next May, but the second is a lifelong endeavor.

Peter Hunt

taught Survey of Greek Literature for the first time this fall. His version of this intensive Greek reading course focused on his specialties in historiography and biography with sections on Herodotus, Thucydides, and Plutarch, but he also had the chance to try his hand at Homer and Aristophanes. His work on Plutarch's *Life of Phocion* picked up speed thanks to research assistance over the summer and fall from recent MA graduate Danise Wu, '24. He enjoys exploring diverse topics and some smaller projects have been coming to fruition, including a chapter in *The Athenian Funeral Oration: After Nicole Loraux*, which came out early this year. His investigation of "Slavery, non-citizens, and the democratic community," for *The Cambridge History of Democracy* and "Confiscating people: wealthy wives and the female slaves missing from the Attic *stelai*," for *Classical Antiquity* are both in press and expected out in 2025.

Sarah James

Dr. James taught four courses during the academic year, Hellenistic Archaeology, Greek Sculpture, the Archaeology of Death, and a new 7000-level seminar on mortuary archaeology. This summer, she took on the role of Associate Chair of Graduate Studies for a three-year term. Sarah's archaeological fieldwork on the Brač Island Project (BIP) in Croatia began again in late May with ten Classics graduate students, and we found some spectacular finds, especially from the Iron Age phases of the site. Future research on Brač will be funded by a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Grant awarded in July 2024. Her other professional activities involved co-organizing a panel on ancient Adriatic trade at the European Association of Archaeologists annual meeting in Rome, at which she also gave a paper on BIP and continuing work on the Greek material culture sections of the 5th edition of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*. She published two papers, one in the journal *Hesperia* and the other in a conference volume about archaeological fieldwork in the Peloponnese produced by University of Kalamata in Greece.

Faculty News, Awards and Achievements

Isabel Köster

put the finishing touches on her first book, *Stealing from the Gods: Temple Robbery in the Roman Imagination*, which will appear with University of Michigan Press next year. Smaller writing projects took her into the world of Roman nymphs, late Roman funerary inscriptions, and, as usual, Roman invective. She gave conference talks at the SCS and CAMWS and was excited to present the first forays into her next book project on divine punishment in the Roman world at Duke University and Texas Tech. On the teaching front, she taught undergraduate Latin, two courses in Roman history, and “Paganism to Christianity.”

Tyler Lansford

taught a familiar slate of lower-division classes in Roman history, Roman art history, and Greek mythology, plus Roman architecture and Roman painting at the senior and graduate levels. Two undergraduates in senior-level classes developed work they did for his classes into larger projects: an independent study on the public image of the emperor Diocletian and a senior thesis on the François Tomb (a historically and archaeologically important Etruscan tomb).

Dimitri Nakassis

was on sabbatical for the 2023-2024 academic year and returned to the classroom in the fall, teaching the Archaeology of Religion and Modern Issues, Ancient Times: Race and Antiquity. He gave invited talks over Zoom for the Institute for Aegean Prehistory and the University of York; at the annual meeting of the AIA in Chicago he co-organized sessions on the Mycenaean *koine* and diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) in archaeology and the AIA. He also presented at the University of Cincinnati and Brown University. He’s working on two

books: *The Palace of Nestor at Pylos in western Messenia Volume IV: the Inscribed Documents* (with †Emmett Bennett Jr., José L. Melena, †Jean-Pierre Olivier and Thomas G. Palaima) and *Reassembling Mycenaean Greece*. Over the spring and summer, he worked at the National Archaeological Museum, the Thebes Archaeological Museum, and in the western Argolid.

Carole Newlands

I enjoyed teaching epic poetry this year to very enthusiastic students. A course on Virgil’s earliest poetry, the *Eclogues*, has likewise opened up new perspectives for me and the students on these poems written during the collapse of the Roman Republic.

During the academic year I gave papers in Berlin at the International Ovidian Society annual meeting, at CAMWS (St. Louis), at Trinity College Dublin, and online for the feminist research website EuGesTa. A badly sprained ankle meant that I had to withdraw from a September conference in Athens celebrating imperial Latin poetry! It was a privilege, however, at the start of the academic year to attend the ninetieth birthday party of the distinguished Latinist, Michael C.J. Putnam, and concurrently to celebrate the publication of his latest book, for which I wrote the introduction, *The Poetic World of Statius’ Silvae*. I spent summer research time on the Island of Mull and in Cambridge, completing the final edits on my book, *The Voice of the North: Scotland and the Classics*; the manuscript is now under review at Cambridge University Press. I am currently working on the Introduction and Notes to a new Oxford World Classics translation of Ovid’s *Heroides*, translated by author/translator Sarah Kafatou, as well as completing several articles on Latin poetry, among them a poem on a topic dear to academics’ hearts, insomnia.

Lauri Reitzammer

continues work on her book project on *theôria* (sacred sightseeing), gender, and Athenian drama. She has just published an essay on Euripidean female choruses and escape wishes (*BICS*, in press, 2024), and she is co-editing (with John Gibert and Yvona Trnka-Amrhein) a volume on the New Euripides papyrus which will include an essay on Euripides' *Ino*. She is also finishing three essays that will appear in three different edited volumes: the first concerns teaching a modern adaptation of Euripides' *Medea* (Luis Alfaro's *Mojada*); the second concerns gender and cult; and the third concerns Dionysus and *Bacchae*. In the past academic year, she has given invited lectures at Brown University, Berkeley, and FSU (Langford Conference). She also gave papers at CAMWS and SCS.

Travis Rupp

After serving as a Lecturer in the department for 14 years, Travis was awarded a full-time faculty position as a Teaching Assistant Professor of Classics in August. While he will continue teaching a variety of courses on ancient Egypt, Greek art, sport and spectacle, and food and alcohol, his focus will now lean towards Roman archaeology. His research of ancient beer production continues as well. Thus far in 2024, Travis recreated beer styles from 18th-century Virginia, 19th-century Bohemia, and WWI Belgium at his research brewery, The Beer Archaeologist LLC. He also successfully brewed two versions of Homeric κικεύων (c. 8th century BCE). This particularly bizarre intoxicant is said to have been a mixture of grapes, barley, cheese, and onions! In June, Travis continued his research on early monastic brewing in Ireland by searching for St. Brigid's legendary beer from the 5th century CE. While there, he presented his recently published article on beer during Caesar's Gallic campaigns at the Dublin Gastronomy Symposium. This article citation can be found in this newsletter's "Faculty Bookshelf." His research focus will soon be shifting to food and drink in the Roman games.

Yvona Trnka-Amrhein

enjoyed an amazing year working on The New Euripides papyrus with John Gibert and looks forward to chasing the new text's ramifications down every single rabbit hole. She is excited to be editing the volume of proceedings from the CHS Euripides papyrus conference and the 2024 Fountain Symposium with John and Lauri Reitzammer. Her project in Hermopolis Magna (see pp. 11-12) is going strong, and she hopes to be in Egypt several times in the near future. While she will not be teaching in 2024-2025 and is sad to be away from the classroom, she will be most pleasantly occupied with her new baby and her book *Portraits of Pharaohs*.

Kirk Ambrose: 122nd Distinguished Research Lecture



In fall 2023, Professor Kirk Ambrose was selected as a 2023-2024 Distinguished Research Lecturer. This prestigious award, one of the highest honors bestowed on the CU Boulder faculty, recognizes colleagues with a distinguished body of academic and/or creative achievement and prominence, as well as contributions to CU's educational and service missions.

Kirk delivered his Distinguished Research Lecture, "The Authentic and the Counterfeit in Medieval Art," on Tuesday, November 28th to a packed house in Chancellor's Hall and Auditorium in the CASE building.

Where are they now?

Alumni News



Jake Sawyer (MA, '20)

has completed four years in the Classics PhD program at the University of Toronto and is spending this year at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, working on his dissertation, “Sane Madness: Christian and Classical Intertext in Nonnus of Panopolis’ *Dionysiaca*.” He recalls first entering the wild world of Late Antiquity through a Nonnus reading group at CU Boulder led by Prof. Yvona Trnka-Amrhein. Ever since, he has been fascinated by the unique confluence of Classical and Early Christian modes of thinking in that 5th century CE poet’s works. He is also interested in Quintus of Smyrna (3rd century CE) and Oppian (2nd century CE), and his most recent project, besides his dissertation, focuses on two Greek epigrams attributed to the emperor Augustus in Suetonius’ *Lives of the Caesars*.

In Munich, Jake is (re)learning German and taking the opportunity to visit the city’s many excellent museums and parks. In November, he took a short break from his studies to meet up with Prof. John Gibert and join him for a tour of the Thesaurus Linguae Latinae at the Bavarian Academy of Arts & Sciences. He is pictured here in front of just a few of the project’s many boxes stuffed with slips documenting the usage of individual Latin words. (This image is brought to you by the letter C, published in 1907–1909; after 125 years, the dictionary has gotten all the way to the letter R...) Jake’s leisure pursuits include playing the drums and bass guitar, reading modernist novels and poetry, hiking, and pondering the aesthetic theory of Theodor Adorno and the Frankfurt School. After his year in Germany, Jake will return to Canada to complete and defend his dissertation.

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