

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

# CLASSICS

2025







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# Note from the Chair

**By Andy Cain**

2025 is almost in the books, and it has been yet another banner year for our department.

To start off with exciting news on the personnel front, we warmly congratulate two faculty members on their promotions this year: Isabel Köster has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure and Tyler Lansford has been promoted to Teaching Full Professor. Although we were saddened by the departure in May of our longtime Manager of Business and Finance Operations Sandy Brown, we are tremendously happy and fortunate that Brian Gordon, previously the coordinator of our undergraduate and graduate programs for two years, is our new Manager of Business and Finance Operations. We also are thrilled to welcome to our team Lindsey Terranova, the energetic new coordinator of our undergraduate and graduate programs. You can read more about Brian and Lindsey on the next page.

Enrollments in our courses across the board are bursting at the seams, a testament to the enduring interest of our subject matter as well as to the outstanding instruction that we deliver in the classroom. The Classics Club has been vital in fostering a vibrant sense of community among our undergraduates, welcoming an average of thirty attendees to its monthly events (p. 7). In May we celebrated the graduation of twenty-two undergraduate majors and forty-one minors (pp. 9-10), and of two newly minted PhDs and eleven MAs (pp. 15-18); over a dozen of these students were recipients of departmental awards and honors (pp. 11-14).

Our first-rate faculty continue to shine and innovate in the classroom. This fall Beth Dusinberre is teaching a new course on ancient Greek coins, with participation from the CU Art Museum and longtime department friend and donor John Nebel (p. 5). Several faculty members have garnered intramural and extramural awards and grants for both their teaching and research. As one can see from the Faculty Bookshelf section of the newsletter, our faculty continue to publish their ground-breaking research in top-flight venues, and three of them published new books this year which promise to transform their respective fields. Over the years, the department's profile has been kept high on the international stage also by various faculty members organizing academic conferences on the Boulder campus and abroad, and in 2025 two international conferences were organized in Belgium and Germany (p. 6).

Finally, I thank all of you who support our department's mission, both with your time and your financial generosity, which enable us to provide scholarships and prizes and to hold lectures, symposia, and other enriching events. We remain deeply grateful for your generosity on all levels as it is absolutely vital to our collective success.



The Colosseum by the moon  
(photo by Andy Cain)

# Welcome Lindsey Terranova!



We are thrilled to introduce Lindsey Terranova, who joined our department as the Graduate and Undergraduate Program Coordinator in October 2025!

Originally from Buffalo, New York, Lindsey earned her degree in Elementary Education and Secondary Social Studies from SUNY Buffalo State University. Her background as a dedicated classroom teacher in Title I schools means she brings a wealth of experience in student advocacy, organization, and navigating complex systems.

Lindsey is passionate about social justice, inclusion, and racial equity, having pursued significant professional development in these areas. While she is brand new to CU, she is excited to dive in and support our students and faculty!

She currently lives in Erie, Colorado, with her husband, two children, and dog.

## With Gratitude to Sandy Brown; Excitement for the Future

In May 2025, our longtime Manager of Finance and Business Operations, Sandy Brown, left the Classics Department to take on a new challenge as the Program Manager of the Applied Mathematics Department. After 14 years of dedicated service to Classics, she is greatly missed, and we wish her every success in her new role.

We're also delighted to announce that Brian Gordon, who has served as the Classics Undergraduate and Graduate Program Coordinator since 2023, has stepped into the position of Manager of Finance and Business Operations. His deep knowledge of our department and his enthusiasm for supporting faculty, students, and staff make him an excellent fit for this role. He aims to improve efficiency and automate processes by leveraging his computer programming skills.

With the addition of Lindsey and the promotion of Brian, we're excited to have such talented and committed colleagues leading our administrative operations. Their teamwork and expertise ensure that the department will continue to thrive in the years ahead.



Above: Sandy (right) at the 2024 Classics commencement ceremony



Brian Gordon



# Entangled Histories:

## The Final Season of the Brač Island Project

This season's goal was to prepare the archaeological material from three seasons of excavation at the indigenous hillfort site of Gradina Rat in Croatia on Brač for publication. We processed more than 25,000 artifacts that were produced through the excavation of 314 contexts from 2022-24. We worked in a makeshift lab in the town of Supetar on the island of Brač cataloguing more than 1,100 artifacts and taking nearly 9,000 photographs this season, including 500 that are publication quality.

Using radiocarbon dates, we can say that in the 16th century BCE there was a large rectilinear building with stone foundations on top of the hill. Artifacts associated with this early phase include locally made pottery and many fragments of terracotta altars suggesting that ritual activities took place there to an unknown deity. After this building was abandoned, multiple structures were built directly over top but made in less durable materials like wattle-and-daub. All that survives of these later phases are packed earth floors, sometimes with intact vessels on them, with layers of ash and burnt daub separating them. Dates from the floors and destruction debris suggest that all this activity took place before the actual hillfort was constructed; except for the last building on the site which dates to the 8th century BCE.

During the 8th-7th century BCE, the sides of the hill were made into wide terraces that would have been inhabited. At the same time, the hilltop was fortified with additional walls constructed on the northwest, which is the easiest approach to the site. In sum, this hillfort took advantage of what had been an important area in the region for nearly a millennium and made it more defensible and more prominent in the landscape. Historically, the 8th-7th centuries mark the beginning of intensive contacts with the Italian coast at Gradina Rat based on ceramic finds.



Julia Bowers in the pottery lab on Brač holding an intact cup (photo by Natalie DeGeeter)

By the 5th century, wares from Mainland Greece, southern Italy, and the Aegean had made their way to the site. These imports were used by local inhabitants alongside their own pottery, as demonstrated by these two types being found mixed together in archaeological contexts. Gradina Rat has much to offer to the field of Classics as an example of cultural entanglement between non-Greeks and Greco-Italian products and later 4th-century colonists. No other site in the Adriatic has this kind of evidence for growing contacts, indigenous adoption of Mediterranean shapes (and perhaps practices), and a diachronic history of the 1st millennium BCE.

This has been an incredibly productive project. I thank CU, the Classics Department, and all the CU graduate students who have participated.



Phoebe Mock processing pottery at the BIP lab in Supetar, Croatia (photo by Sarah James)



Italian matt painted krater rim (7th c. BCE) (photo by Sarah James)

# The City of the Baboon

## Project in 2025

In January of 2025, Professor Yvona Trnka-Amrhein's City of the Baboon Project at Hermopolis Magna excavated in the center of the Roman city near the Sphinx Gate. The team continued uncovering a 5th century CE level which seems connected to "back-of-house" or commercial functions. We are now working to understand how this area relates to the 5th century basilica church nearby, considering in particular whether the Sphinx Gate area contained a facility for housing and feeding those associated with the church or whether the area was a public facing market. We also followed the so-called "Dromos of Hermes" south and began uncovering monumental foundations likely connected with the 2nd-3rd CE century phase. In 2026 we hope to learn more about this promising level and make gains in understanding the Roman city plan. Notable finds included a horde of Roman coins representing an almost complete set of emperors from Nero to the middle 2nd century CE – perhaps someone's personal collection!

In fall 2025, the team shifted south to the Ramses/Nero Temple where work proceeded around the two colossal statues of Ramses II. So far, we have uncovered what appears to be the original New Kingdom floor between the statues as well as a 5th century CE layer with intriguing connections to the activity we have been exploring near the Sphinx Gate. This promises to add considerably to the accumulating evidence for understanding how the city changed when pagan worship was officially abolished in 392 CE.

There is still much to do and process! Check back next year for updates!



Excavation of a 5th century CE phase at The Sphinx Gate.



The City of the Baboon Project team for January 2025.



# New Course: Greek Numismatics

In the fall semester of 2025, CU Classics is pairing with the CU Art Museum (CUAM) and longtime department friend and numismatics expert John Nebel to offer a new course on ancient Greek coins, taught by Beth Dusingberre with the participation of Mr. Nebel and CUAM Director Hope Saska. The undergraduate and graduate students in the class are conducting original research on the coins in the CUAM's collections and those of Mr. Nebel, and learning from a dazzling array of leading experts both in person and via Zoom. As part of the course, the students are helping to create a new exhibit of ancient Greek coins at the CUAM that will be installed in the spring of 2026. We are very excited to offer the students this once-in-a-lifetime chance to learn about such exquisite, complex, fascinating, and illuminating ancient artifacts, and we are also excited to install the exhibit—and its online component—this coming spring! Thank you, John and CUAM, for making this artifact-based learning experience in the Humanities possible.



Silver tetradrachm of Syracuse, ca. 405-400 BCE. Obverse: Charioteer driving quadriga, Nike overhead. Broken rein and broken wheel make this a rare portrayal of a chariot wreck. Reverse: Head of Arethusa (nymph of Syracuse's sacred spring, said to have originated in Greece and traveled under the sea to reach Sicily), four dolphins; signed K, perhaps Kimon. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ ("of the Syracusans"). Courtesy John Nebel/ancientmoney.org.



Silver tetradrachm of Athens, 454-404 BCE. Obverse: Head of Athena (patron deity of Athens and goddess of wisdom, craftsmanship, and tactical warfare) facing right, wearing crested helmet with olive leaves. Reverse: Standing owl facing right, head frontal, in incuse square. Olive sprig with vertical crescent in field at left. AΘΕ ("of the Athenians"). CU Art Museum 2014.06.93.

# Two International Conferences on Hagiography

Monastic hagiography—or idealized storytelling about ultra-holy people—was the most popular form of Christian literature throughout Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. With deep roots in Classical and Biblical literature, it first emerged in Greek and Latin in the 4th century CE and continued to proliferate in those languages as well as in Coptic, Syriac, and other languages. Monastic hagiography enthralled centuries of readers with tales of religious superheroes: godlike women and men who performed all kinds of miracles like walking on water, curing terminal illness, and controlling the natural (and supernatural) world around them. With hundreds of individual writings that survive, monastic hagiography presents almost limitless possibilities to researchers today.

In 2025 Prof. Andy Cain co-organized two international conferences on this topic in Belgium and Germany. The first, co-organized with Prof. Joseph Verheyden (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven), took place in Leuven in February and convened fourteen scholars from eight countries who explored the beginnings and development of monastic hagiography in Late Antiquity.

The second conference, co-organized with Prof. Peter Gemeinhardt (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen), occurred in Göttingen in June and welcomed seventeen



Göttingen, Germany: historic town tall (left) and the locally famous Gänselesel ("goose girl") fountain (photo by Andy Cain)



Anthony, star of Athanasius' *Life of Antony*, being beaten by demons



Brussels, Belgium: Grand-Place (Photo by Andy Cain)

scholars from nine countries who charted the profound influence that Athanasius' Greek *Life of Antony*, the very first work of monastic hagiography, had on the explosive growth of this genre. Both conferences were tremendous successes all around and made even better by the scenic cities which hosted them. Their ensuing volumes will be published by Brepols and Cambridge University Press.



# Promoting Latin in Colorado

In the Fall of 2023, members of the Colorado Classics Association formed a working group aimed at developing strategies to promote the teaching of Latin throughout the state of Colorado, especially at the secondary level, where enrollments and administrative support have been declining. Reina Callier, Latin Program Coordinator for CU Boulder Classics, joined this group.

It was a truly collaborative effort, from the brainstorming stages to the execution, and that effort paid off in rich dividends. The group developed a series of videos—both YouTube “shorts” and a longer version—that highlight what students experience in Latin class (and why they love it so much), using interviews with real students from throughout the state and lively footage from the classrooms of Colorado’s exceptional Latin teachers. With a grant from the Committee for the Promotion of Latin and Greek, the group was able to hire a professional video editor (and former Latin student) to polish these videos. Now that they have been finished, they are available to share widely: <https://www.youtube.com/@ColoradoClassicsAssociation/videos>. This collaborative project gained attention from both Chalkbeat Colorado (<https://www.chalkbeat.org/colorado/2025/02/24/latin-classes-dwindle-in-big-public-schools/>) and CU Boulder’s Arts & Sciences Magazine (<https://www.colorado.edu/asmagazine/2025/04/01/cu-prof-fighting-keep-latin-classes-alive-through-video-storytelling>).



Dr. Reina Callier,  
Latin Program Coordinator  
for CU Classics

The Colorado Classics Association is the official organization of teachers, students, and friends of Classics in Colorado. It offers a host of benefits to its members, including a guide to employment and licensure as a Latin teacher in Colorado and the chance to network with likeminded students and educators throughout the state. The CCA’s website is: <https://sites.coloradocollege.edu/cc/>

## Classics Club

The CU Classics Club has had another wildly successful year under the enthusiastic leadership of undergraduate Classics majors Casey Brengman and Libby Clemence. The Club ran monthly social events for members of our undergraduate Classics community, where attendees were treated to free pizza, soft drinks, and good fun and fellowship with likeminded students. All events were very well attended, averaging around thirty participants. Highlights have included making clay sculptures like ones from the ancient world, a private tour of the CU Art Museum, a Classics-themed trivia night, and—at the suggestion of faculty liaison Prof. Zach Herz—introducing a new generation to the tacky wonders of I, Claudius.



Hope Saska (right), CU Art Museum Director, talking to Club members about ancient Greek vase painting

# Undergraduate Spotlight

## *Sophia Basche*

Taking classes within the CU Classics program has opened up a passion I never knew I had. Initially, I enrolled out of curiosity, but the more I explored ancient literature, mythology, and history, the more deeply I connected with the subject. What began as academic interest quickly became personal; I found myself fascinated by how the ancient world continues to shape our modern lives. This newfound passion inspired me to study abroad in Rome—a heart of classical civilization. Walking through the Roman Forum, standing in the Colosseum, and seeing the Pantheon in person brought my studies to life in ways I never imagined. Living in Rome deepened my appreciation for the complexity and beauty of the ancient world, and confirmed that Classics is more than just a field of study—it’s a lifelong lens through which I now view the world. I’m incredibly grateful that the CU Classics program revealed that to me.



Roman Forum and Colosseum  
(photo by Sophia Basche)

## *Casey Brengman*

As a student in the CU Classics program I have been given so many opportunities not only to learn but to grow as a leader and as a person. I have studied tragedy and comedy, medicine and philosophy in my time here, and in each class, I was challenged to think about the world, both ancient and modern, in new and exciting ways. Outside of the classroom I have gotten involved as much as I could; I ran the Classics Club for three years, spoke at conferences and colloquia in the Classics Department and beyond, wrote a senior honors thesis, and helped to organize the 2024 Fountain Symposium. More than this, I built lasting relationships with my peers and professors which I will treasure for the rest of my life. As I look at graduating from CU this coming May, I hope to build a career around the arts in museums or auction houses, and I look forward to continuing to study Classics in the near future.



Casey Brengman



# Congratulations Undergraduate Students!

## Celebrating our Classics Majors

Paige Sarah Daniels  
Majors: Classics; Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

Jackson Brooks Dean  
Major: Classics

Ainsley Elizabeth Dodson  
Major: Classics *summa cum laude*  
Minor: Creative Writing

Alexander Johnson Esrey IV  
Majors: Classics and Integrated Design Engineering

Lou Flores  
Majors: Classics and English  
Graduated with distinction

Mars Giacomino  
Major: Classics

Holly Harber  
Major: Classics

Lindsey Mae Harriman  
Majors: Classics and Philosophy  
Graduated with Distinction

Abigail Lauren Abbott Horton  
Majors: Classics and History *summa cum laude*  
Minor: Art History  
Graduated with distinction

Madeleine Berry Malone  
Majors: Classics and Art History *magna cum laude*  
Minor: Creative Writing  
Graduated with distinction

Kasey Rebecca Michlowitz  
Major: Classics

Anthony Judson Mignogna  
Majors: Classics, History, and Anthropology  
Minor: Sports Media  
Graduated with distinction

Elena Ruth Miller  
Majors: Classics and Anthropology

Alexander Ryan Person  
Major: Classics  
Minor: Physics

Anneliese Katherine Pesce  
Majors: Classics and Astrophysical & Planetary Sciences

Brandon Rivera  
Majors: Classics and German Studies  
Minor: Nordic Studies  
Graduated with distinction

Conner Glenn Rizzo  
Majors: Classics and Anthropology

Braden Joshua Singer  
Major: Classics

Kristofer James Slimko  
Major: Classics *summa cum laude*  
Graduated with distinction

Damian Joe Sonsino  
Majors: Classics and Biochemistry  
Minor: Hebrew & Israel Studies

Dana Lynn Szustak  
Majors: Classics and History  
Graduated with distinction

Lily Noel Wolfram  
Majors: Classics and Geography

## Celebrating our Classics Minors

Cameron Daniel Adams  
Major: Finance  
Minor: Economics

Bronwyn Delia Brody  
Major: Political Science, with distinction  
Minor: History

Sydney Marcel Brooks  
Majors: Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

Duncan John Clyma  
Major: Cinema Studies & Moving Image Arts, with distinction

Stefan Damas  
Major: Integrative Physiology  
Minor: Business

Shelby Reese Glenn  
Major: History & International Affairs, with distinction  
Minors: Asian Studies

Olivia Glyptis  
Major: Marketing

Riley Peyton Griffin  
Major: Integrative Physiology

Donovan Scott Harbold  
Major: History

Lily J. Hatke  
Majors: International Affairs

Cassandra Elizabeth Hauch  
Major: Psychology  
Minor: Business

Paige Marie Herbert  
Major: Art History

Allison Taylor Hill  
Major: Political Science

Zophia Hypsher  
Major: Finance  
Minor: Accounting

Ian Fredrick Jeske  
Major: History, with distinction  
Minor: Political Science

Dylan Memphis Kelley  
Major: Psychology  
Minor: Sociology

Emma Kathryn Lane  
Major: Political Science  
Minor: Creative Writing

Aaron Ojeda Lowy  
Major: History

Adriana Ayse Machura  
Major: Anthropology

Allana Lee MacRossie-Smith  
Major: Psychology

Lilly Elizabeth Marston  
Major: Psychology

Casey Elizabeth Matthews  
Major: Political Science

Marina Lee Mazuera  
Major: Political Science, with distinction  
Minor: International Affairs

Kendall Cornels McClain  
Major: English, with distinction  
Minor: Education

Genesse Haley Miles  
Majors: Art Practices  
Minor: Creative Technology & Design

Christopher Jon Mote Jr.  
Major: Psychology

Thomas Michael O’Gara Jr.  
Majors: History

Abigail Tyler Petursson  
Major: Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

Alexandra Ilse Plocki  
Majors: Physics, with distinction

Reiley Robinson-Edmands  
Major: English

Spencer Langworthy Ruff  
Major: Economics  
Minor: Business

Julia Anna Rydel  
Major: Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology, with distinction  
Minor: Business

Harrison Michael Schachter  
Major: Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

Hawkins Lee Schipper  
Major: Economics  
Minor: Business

Alexis Schmitz  
Major: History

Andrew Darryl Stolberg  
Major: Psychology  
Minors: Business and Sociology

Madeleine Frances Stone  
Major: Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

Joshua Lee Strong  
Major: History

Isadari Rivera Stubblefield  
Major: Anthropology, with distinction

Anna Catherine Trujillo  
Major: Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences, with distinction

Reese Desmond Vickers  
Major: English



# Congratulations Undergraduate Scholarship and Award Winners!

## 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. After receiving his Bachelor’s degree from the University of Colorado Boulder, Matthew Dwyer went on to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Comoros, where he began what turned out to be his life-long teaching career. Dwyer subsequently earned an MA in Education from Teachers College at Columbia University and has taught at high schools in New York City, Istanbul and, since 2006, Luxembourg. He currently teaches English, Social Studies and Theory of Knowledge at the International School of Luxembourg. His wife, Yvonne, is also a teacher, and his son Quinn will graduate from ISL in 2025. This year, the Dwyer Translation Prize in Latin went to **Casey Brengman**, for her translation of Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 8.183–200. The Dwyer Translation Prize in Greek went to **Victor Gerber**, for his translation of Solon, *Elegy* 1.



Victor Gerber

## 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.

This scholarship, established in memory of Dr. Robinson by one such classmate, provided 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.



Neko Conner

This scholarship was established in 2022 by David Reynolds to honor Randy Robinson’s memory. David Reynolds has studied at the University of Georgia, Auburn University, the University of Colorado Boulder, and Oxford University in the UK. He served in the United States Navy. The scholarship helps to defray tuition costs for undergraduate students studying Classical languages at CU Boulder.

This year’s Robinson Memorial Award goes to **Neko Conner**, who writes: “I am so grateful to have been granted the amazing Robinson Memorial Award. Double majoring while working outside of school has often felt like a limitation to my studies. This generous scholarship will allow me to focus more on my education and dive deeper than ever into the Latin literature that I love so much!”

## Ann Nichols Scholarships



Casey Brengman

Thanks to the generosity of CU Classics alumna Ann Nichols, the Department of Classics is able annually to offer several generous scholarships to continuing Classics majors for the following summer and academic year. This year, **Casey Brengman** won an Ann Nichols Scholarship for ongoing study of Classics at CU Boulder. Casey writes: “It’s an honor to receive the Ann Nichols Scholarship for continued study in Classics! The CU Classics program has given me so much in my time as a student thus far - from engaging and educating me in the classroom to supporting my professional endeavors and offering me leadership opportunities to give back. I can honestly say that studying Classics at CU has changed my life, and I’m incredibly grateful to be able to continue to study in this exceptional program because of this scholarship. Thank you deeply - χάρις ἔχω!”

**Brandon Rivera** also won an Ann Nichols Scholarship for ongoing study of Classics at CU Boulder. Brandon writes: “I am very grateful for being chosen for the Ann Nichols Scholarship! I intend to use it to further my study of Classics and the Latin language during my final semester here at CU. Winning this award means that I can continue devoting time to the subjects that most interest me, which is very important to me. I am so very grateful to Ann Nichols for this meaningful support for my journey to the end of my Classics degree.”



Brandon Rivera

## Ann Nichols Romulus Grant



Mariela Marceny

**Mariela Marceny** won an Ann Nichols “Romulus” award to attend College Year in Athens’ Despotiko Field School: “Excavating the Aegean”. Mariela writes: “Attending the Despotiko Field School was an astonishing experience only made possible by the generosity of Ann Nichols. Over the summer I was able to complete my first excavation at a Sanctuary to Apollo on the Cycladic island of Despotiko. I spent my mornings digging in structures surrounding the ancient temenos (“sanctuary”) and afternoons learning archaeological theory and history relevant to the site. Not only did I grasp invaluable knowledge about archaeological practice but I was also able to immerse myself in Greek culture. I gained an entirely new perspective and context that I will carry with me in all of my future classes and endeavors. This program allowed me to discover a love for archaeological practices that has shaped my plans post-graduation. I am now confident that I would like to pursue a master’s degree in archaeology which has inspired me in

both my current studies and in my preparations for my life after graduation. I could not be more thankful for this opportunity and all that it has taught me!



# Congratulations Graduate Award Winners!

## 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 split the award between Jordan Ardoin and Natalie DeGeeter, both of whom describe below how they put their awards to good use:

**Jordan Ardoin:** Over the summer, I used funds from the Classics department to participate in the American School of Classical Studies at Athens' Summer Session, a six-week program that took me all over Greece. We visited archaeological sites, museums, and modern historical sites in Attica, the Peloponnese, Thessaly, Macedonia, and even spent a week traveling across Crete! This was my first time in Greece, and I saw more of the country than I ever could have on my own. I also had the opportunity to meet many influential classical archaeologists, as well as fellow students in the field who I hope will be colleagues for life. It was a great privilege and an eye-opening experience to see so many of the places and artifacts I have been studying for years in living color, and I certainly came away with new perspectives and ideas for future research projects.



Jordan Ardoin discussing the Ayia Triadha Sarcophagus in the Herakleion Museum on Crete



Natalie DeGeeter in the lab on Supetar, Croatia (photo by Sarah James)

**Natalie DeGeeter:** Because of the Dilts Swartz award, I was able to assist in the Brač Island Project this summer. I spent two weeks in Croatia cataloguing pottery, helping with flotation, and analyzing the findings from this project under the direction of Dr. Sarah James. Overall, I learned a ton about pottery analysis techniques and had a fantastic time doing hands-on fieldwork with a wonderful group of people. I'm grateful for the opportunity I received to learn more about the process of analyzing archaeological artifacts and the amazing direction I was able to get from experts in the field. It couldn't have been a better experience!

## 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. This year's award was given to Ali Macey, who describes below how he used it:

**Ali Macey:** The Hunter Rawlings award provided me the ability to stay in Boulder over the summer and work seriously on the Greek MA reading list. I was able to access the resources from Norlin Library and Eaton Humanities which helped greatly with my studies and the funds also allowed me to purchase some useful commentaries for myself. I read selections of Plato, Demosthenes, Homer, Hesiod, and Herodotus and this has put me in a much stronger position for the comprehensive exams in the spring.

## Classics Field Study Scholarship

**Julia Bowers:** With support from the Classics Field Study Scholarship, I participated in three projects in summer 2025, the Brač Island Project, Perachora Peninsula Archaeological Project, and the Western Argolid Regional Project. I processed and catalogued materials from previous seasons and gained experience in working with archaeological ceramics. I am grateful for the support that I received to participate in such wonderful opportunities.



Julia Bowers

# McClanahan Essay Prize

Julius Arnold (MA '25) won the 2024 Mary E. V. McClanahan Graduate Essay Prize for his paper "*Sine Spoliis: The Commemoration of the Third Macedonian War through the Porticus Octavia*." His paper illuminated "how Lucius Aemilius Paullus and Gnaeus Octavius collaborated to control the public memory of their military successes," and it located "the *Porticus Octavia* within the broader context of the commemoration of victories over Hellenistic kingdoms and the display of war spoils in the city of Rome." This annual essay prize is made possible by the wonderful and generous Mary McClanahan, a great friend of the Department and of many of us individually. The faculty committee (Profs. Newlands, Nakassis, and Hunt) judged Julius' paper the winner in a large and competitive field of excellent submissions from our graduate students. Indeed, this prize serves not only to honor the winners but also to encourage graduate students to improve and polish their favorite papers for the contest. As is our tradition, Julius then gave a lively public lecture based on his paper to the Department and its friends. Afterwards we all enjoyed a reception with stimulating conversation and tasty food. Julius himself went on also to win the "Best should Teach" Silver Award for his work as Lead Graduate Teacher for Classic for the Center for Teaching and Learning. He is now embarking on a doctoral program in Ancient Mediterranean Art and Archaeology at the University of Michigan.



Julius Arnold



"The Triumph of Aemilius Paulus" (1789) by Carle Vernet. (Image credit: The Metropolitan Museum of Art)



Ancient map of Rome showing the Porticus Octaviae, confused with the Porticus Octavia by some ancient authors. (Image credit: The Stanford Digital Forma Urbis Romae: fr. 3 lu.)



# Congratulations Master's Graduates!

**Julius Arnold**

Art and Archaeology

Julius assisted Tyler Lansford with his upcoming book on Roman topography. This fall Julius began his PhD in the Interdisciplinary Program in Ancient Mediterranean Art & Archaeology at the University of Michigan.

**Matthew Coy**

Teaching of Latin

Matt plans to offer professional tutoring services in Greek, Latin, and Classics-related subjects while searching for a full-time teaching position in the area.

**Samantha Frost**

Classical Aniquity

Samantha graduated in the Classical Antiquity track with specializations in ancient Greek and Roman religion.

**Autumn Greene**

Art and Archaeology

Autumn is taking a year off to work and applying for PhD programs in the fall. Her favorite memories are the late nights spent in Eaton with friends studying for finals.

**Frances Harrington**

Classical Aniquity

Frances joined the University of Chicago's Classics Department this fall as a PhD student specializing in Byzantine history. One of her favorite memories is participating in the Brač Island Project.

**Maggie Henry**

Classical Aniquity

Maggie spent the summer in Florence at the Medici Archive Project's Summer Seminar. Her fondest memories are working with Jackie Elliott and making lifelong friends.

**Kristjan Johnson**

Classical Aniquity

Kristjan will start teaching Latin in the area and help set up the Latin program for the school.

**Louis Mainwaring Foster**

Art and Archaeology

This fall Louis began a PhD in the Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology department at Bryn Mawr College.

**Phoebe Mock**

Art and Archaeology

Some of Phoebe's favorite classes at CU were seminars on Queer Theories, Vase Painting, Roman Architecture, and Latin Epigraphy. This past summer she undertook an intensive study of ceramics in Croatia and Greece. She intends to apply to PhD programs this fall.

**Katelyn Reeves**

Art and Archaeology

During her time here Katelyn was mentored by Carole Newlands and is grateful for her support. Katelyn began a teaching position in Baltimore this fall.

**Daniel Wisniewski**

Classical Aniquity

Daniel's favorite classes were Alexander the Great with Peter Hunt and Sophocles with Lauri Reitzammer. In the spring he defended his master's thesis about the reception of Sparta in 19th- and 20th-century Germany. This fall he intends to apply to law school and Classics PhD programs.



L to R Matt Coy, Daniel Wisniewski, Frances Harrington, Maggie Henry, Katelyn Reeves, Julius Arnold, Autumn Greene, Phoebe Mock, Louis Mainwaring Foster (photo by Sarah James)



# Congratulations to PhD Graduate David Chu!

David Chu defended his PhD thesis in March, and in a highlight of May Commencement, his parents added a doctoral hood to his regalia as he received his degree.

The title of David's dissertation is *Form and Function of Male Lament in Euripidean Tragedy*. In ancient Greece, some of the rituals around death and burial fell mainly to women. In literature, the example of Antigone is well known: she defies the king and dies rather than allow him to prevent her from burying her brother. Classical scholars have likewise tended to see mourning and lamentation as the special province of women. Plutarch and others report that in sixth-century elite Athenian families, women became so visible and vocal in lamenting the dead that the state passed laws to rein them in. In the last decades of the 20th century, as efforts to recover the voices of ancient Greek women intensified, a consensus emerged that lamentation is so strongly associated with women that lamenting males can be seen as weak or effeminate.

In his dissertation, David challenges this consensus. He shows that there is a socially acceptable role for male lamentation, and that the examples in Greek tragedy do not all point to failed masculinity. He focuses on three plays of Euripides—*Hippolytus*, *Suppliant Women*, and *Andromache*—that illustrate a range of possibilities. He observes that when male characters lament in these plays, most of them spend more time than female characters do worrying about how to continue their family lines. That is, they respond to loss by focusing on what they can *do* about it, just as classical Athenian society expected of high-status males, with the larger aim of restoring the patriarchal status quo. One of David's case studies, *Hippolytus*, emerges as an exception that proves the rule.

Now that it has been made, David's argument appears long overdue and correct. Congratulations on a job well done, David!



# Congratulations to PhD Graduate Rachel Dzugan!

Congratulations to Rachel Dzugan, who on August 18, 2025 successfully defended her PhD thesis entitled "Hidden in Plain Sight: Ausonius' Transgressive Poetics." Rachel's committee consisted of Carole Newlands (supervisor), Andy Cain, Zach Herz, and Yvona Trnka-Amrhein. The external examiner (who participated via Zoom) was Dr. Helen Kaufmann of the University of Oxford.

Ausonius is hardly a household name, even among classicists. And that was part of Rachel's point in writing this dissertation. Ausonius was a prolific and prominent poet of fourth-century Roman Gaul. As Rome crumbled, Ausonius showed that Gaul could take on the mantle of Roman culture and reinvigorate it. Rachel's dissertation explored how innovative, inventive, thoughtful and witty was Ausonius' literary transformation—or, we might say, "transgression"—of classical culture. In the two hours allotted to the defense, Rachel eloquently supported her ideas. Overall, everyone enjoyed a fruitful discussion of the challenges, both political and literary, facing a poet at the virtual end of the Roman empire.

The committee was fully persuaded that Ausonius should be given much greater prominence in today's canon of Latin authors and looks forward to the future publication of Rachel's important work.





# Faculty Awards, Grants & Fellowships

## Peter Hunt: Teaching Award

Peter Hunt was recognized in spring 2025 with a University of Colorado Best Should Teach Gold Award for his exceptional teaching, exemplifying award founders Lindley and Marguerite Stiles’ message “The Best Should Teach.” As the student nomination put it, “Professor Hunt is the epitome of an excellent scholar and mentor. His expertise on ancient slavery is unparalleled, and his passion for sharing that knowledge is evident in every class.” The award description adds: “His classes are known for encouraging critical engagement with the material, using creative discussions and assignments to explore sensitive topics, such as ancient slavery, from multiple perspectives.”

## Isabel Köster: CHA Fellowship

Isabel Köster has received a Faculty Fellowship from CU’s Center for Humanities & the Arts to spend Spring 2026 working on her next book project, tentatively titled *Justice Beyond the Courts: Divine Punishment in the Roman World*. This project explores how the inhabitants of the pre-Christian Roman world used appeals to divine retribution to obtain justice against those who had wronged them. By tracing the rhetoric of divine punishment across inscriptions, poetic texts, philosophical works, oratorical handbooks, and speeches, *Justice Beyond the Courts* demonstrates that Romans from all social classes saw the gods as essential, but capricious, partners in addressing injustice who could be incentivized to help individuals negotiate a deeply unequal and unfair world.

## Dimitri Nakassis: CHA Fellowship

Dimitri Nakassis was awarded a Center for Humanities & the Arts fellowship for the fall semester to work on a book about the Mycenaean world of Late Bronze Age Greece. The book will argue that the standard understanding of that world is deeply flawed, the root problem being the idea of a single Mycenaean world that can be distilled to a single essence: the palace. In fact, Greece in the Late Bronze Age was a complicated place and needs to be understood as such. This book will attempt to build up an understanding that accounts for the remarkable diversity of practices and forms that we can observe.

## Andy Cain: \$300,000 Research Grant

Andy Cain is co-Principal Investigator (with three other colleagues) on the new multi-year research project “Translation and Transformation in Late Antiquity,” which investigates translations of literature (in Greek, Latin, Coptic and Syriac) and their cultural impact during Late Antiquity (c.300–c.600 CE). In early 2025 the four-member research team secured an extremely competitive \$300,000 grant from the Australian Research Council which will fund doctoral and post-doctoral positions as well as the organization of conferences in Italy (Rome), Australia (Melbourne), Portugal (Coimbra), and the United States (Boulder). The outcome will be two co-edited conference volumes and one monograph co-authored by the research team.

# Faculty Bookshelf

*what our faculty have been publishing lately*



## Kirk Ambrose

“A Divergent Centaur on the Font at Bro,” in H. Gearhart (ed.), *Tributes to Elizabeth Sears: Activating the Eye and Mind* (Turnhout, 2025), 47-54

## Andy Cain

*Athanasius’ Life of Antony: A Commentary with Introduction, Text and Translation* (Oxford, 2025), 3 volumes

“*Graeca veritas* and the *Vetus Latina* in Jerome’s Commentaries on the Pauline Epistles,” in I. Schaaf and B. Feichtinger (eds.), *Hieronymus und die Bibel. Schrift – Texte – Kontexte* (Brepols, 2025), 244-265

“Athanasius’ *Life of Antony* and Its Intended Audience: Some New Reflections,” *Studia Patristica* 47 (2025): 162-79

“The Letters of Jerome,” in E.-M. Becker, U. Egelhaaf, and A. Fürst (eds.), *Handbuch: Briefe* (Berlin, 2025), 1054-1063

## Beth Dusinberre

R.F. Liebhart, B.W. Cordivari, L. Stephens, M. Metin, and E.R.M. Dusinberre, “Beyceğiz Tumulus: A Middle Phrygian Cenotaph near Gordion,” *American Journal of Archaeology* 129 (2025): 3-23

## Jackie Elliott

“*Ille ego*: Ennian First Persons in Epic and Beyond,” in J. Hill and C. Marshall (eds.), *Ennius beyond Epic* (Cambridge, 2025), 292–314

## John Gibert

Review of E. Kearns, *Euripides: Iphigenia in Tauris*, in *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 145 (2025)

## Zach Herz

*The God and the Bureaucrat: Roman Law, Imperial Sovereignty, and Other Stories* (Cambridge, 2025)

“Analyzing Anonymity in Justinian’s Digest: A Quantitative Approach,” *Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte, Romanistische Abteilung* 142 (2025): 547–573

“Beyond the Constitutions of Marcus: Cassius Dio, Italian *Volksrecht*, and the Trouble with Law on the Books,” *Klio* 107 (2025): 126–148

Dictionary entry for “Ulpian,” *Oxford Classical Dictionary*

Review of L. Eberle and M. Lavan (eds.), *Unrest in the Roman Empire*, in *Sehepunkte* (2025)

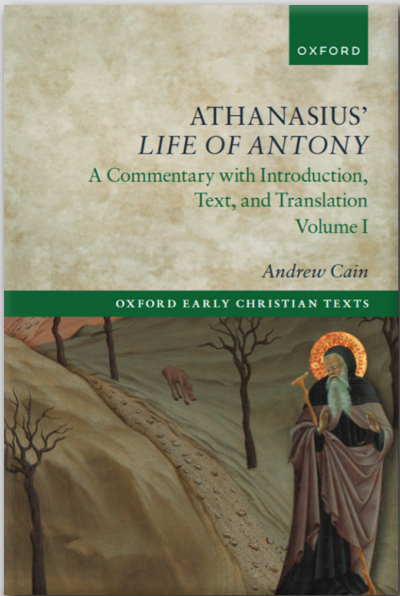
Review of A. Heller, *Kommentar zur Vita Alexandri Severi der Historia Augusta*, in *Gnomon* 97 (2025)

Review of F. Nasti, *L’Enchiridion di Sesto Pomponio*, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (2025)



# Faculty Bookshelf

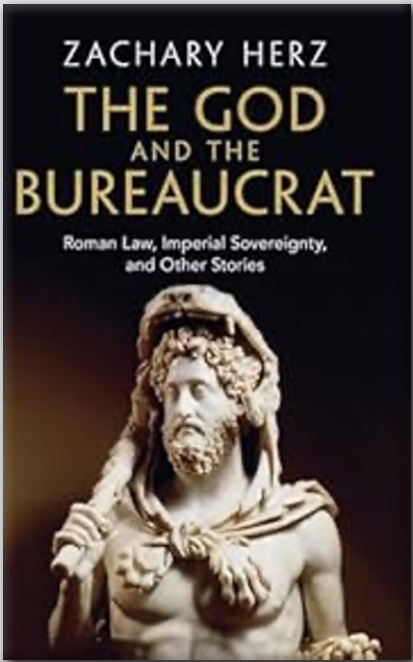
*Athanasius' Life of Antony: A Commentary with Introduction, Text and Translation*, 3 volumes  
**Andrew Cain**



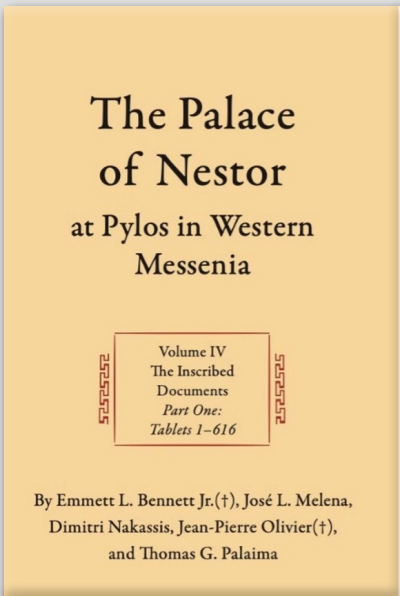
*The Life of Antony*, by Athanasius of Alexandria, is widely considered one of the most important and influential of all early Christian writings. Its protagonist, as heroicized by Athanasius, is the legendary first desert monk of Egypt who trounces fearsome demons, performs astounding miracles, and defends the church's integrity by confounding pagan philosophers and adherents of the Arian heresy. In short, the Antony of the *Life* is the quintessential Christian holy man and the avatar of Athanasius' ascetic, theological, and ecclesiastical ideals. With the *Life*, Athanasius invented an entirely new literary genre—monastic hagiography—which went on to become explosively popular for centuries to come. It is his most famous and most innovative writing, yet until now it has not received the kind of sustained, microtextual analysis that a proper commentary affords. This three-volume set published by Oxford University Press presents the first large-scale commentary, in any language, on this monumental Christian classic. Cain accesses an extensive array of ancient sources and takes a cross-disciplinary approach in comprehensively addressing stylistic, literary, historical, cultural, theological, text-critical, and other issues of interpretive interest. The voluminous introduction situates the *Life* in the broader context of Athanasius' episcopal career and probes the complexity of its literary architecture, its scintillating storytelling, and the nuances of its hagiographic construct of Antony. The introduction, commentary, and the accompanying critical Greek text and new English translation serve as an invaluable resource for future scholarly research on this key Athanasian writing.

*The God and the Bureaucrat: Roman Law, Imperial Sovereignty, and Other Stories*  
**Zachary Herz**

Why is Roman law so boring? In this book, Zachary Herz argues that the bureaucratic, positivistic world of Roman law is not a distraction from the violent autocracy of the Roman empire, but an imagined escape. Lawyers, bureaucrats, and even emperors used legal writing to think about worlds that were safer or fairer than the one in which they lived. This archive of political imagination slowly became a law-code, and now guides readers through a legal system about which its authors could only dream. From Augustus to Justinian, this book shows how law symbolized order in chaotic times, and how that symbol eventually took on a life of its own. From the enlightened judgements of Hadrian to the great jurists and child rulers of Severan Rome, Herz reveals what Romans were really talking about when they talked about law.



*The Palace of Nestor at Pylos in Western Messenia. Volume IV: The Inscribed Documents*  
**Emmett L. Bennett Jr.(†), José L. Melena, Dimitri Nakassis, Jean-Pierre Olivier(†) and Thomas G. Palaima**



In 1939, on the first day of excavation on a hill in western Messenia called Ano Englianos, Carl W. Blegen uncovered a Mycenaean palace that he called the Palace of Nestor. Its archives contained clay tablets, labels and sealings inscribed in the so-called Linear B script, a syllabary employed to record the Greek language. These texts, which confirmed that the ancient name of the site was Pylos, had been unintentionally baked in a conflagration that destroyed the palace early in the 12th century BCE. Blegen, who died in 1971, had planned to see all the Linear B texts from Pylos published in a final volume of his excavation series. This two-volume book fulfills his commitment, and represents the work of several generations of scholars who remained dedicated to the enterprise. After a lengthy introduction, some 900 Linear B inscriptions are presented accompanied by color photographs, transcriptions, and definitive epigraphical and palaeographical notes. Thanks to a generous grant from the Packard Humanities Institute, the eBook is available as a free download on the Lockwood Press site: <https://www.lockwoodpress.com/product-page/the-palace-of-nestor-at-pylos-in-western-messenia-vol-iv-inscribed-docs-1>

## Peter Hunt

“Wealthy Athenian Wives and the Female Slaves Missing from the Attic *Stelai*,” *Classical Antiquity* 44 (2025): 1-38

## Sarah James

“Revealing Sikyon-Demetrias: Local Responses to Historical and Economic Change in the Hellenistic Period,” in C. Baier and W. Gauß (eds.), *Approaching Ancient Greek Coastal and Inland Poleis in the Northern Peloponnese: New Research in the Microregions of Aigiera, Lousoi, and Sikyon* (Athens, 2025), 229-241

“Sikyon,” in R. Scodel (ed.), *Oxford Bibliographies in “Classics”* (New York, 2025)

## Isabel Köster

“Sepulchral Inscription with a Petition for a Deceased Spouse (CIL 3.7436),” in E. Orlin (ed.), *Prayer in the Ancient World Online* (Leiden, 2025)

Review of T. Blank, *Religiöse Geheimniskommunikation in der Mittleren und Späten Römischen Republik. Separatheit, gesellschaftliche Öffentlichkeit und zivisches Ordnungshandeln*, in *Sehepunkte* (2025)

## Dimitri Nakassis

A. Kanta, D. Nakassis, T.G. Palaima and M. Perna, “An archaeological and epigraphical overview of some inscriptions found in the Cult Center of the city of Knossos (Anetaki plot),” in J. Bennet, A. Karnava and T. Meißner (eds.), *KO-RO-NO-WE-SA: Proceedings of the 15th International colloquium on Mycenaean studies* (Rethymnon, 2024), 27–43

J. Hruby and D. Nakassis, “Reduce, reuse, recycle? The clay of the Pylos tablets,” in J. Bennet, A. Karnava and T. Meißner (eds.), *KO-RO-NO-WE-SA: Proceedings of the 15th International colloquium on Mycenaean studies* (Rethymnon, 2024), 545–559

G. Erny and D. Nakassis, “Gender and Power in the Practice of Mediterranean Archaeology,” in S.K. Costello and S. Lepinski (eds.), *Ethics in Archaeological Practice* (Alexandria, 2025), 29–50

“Reading Between the Lines: Textual Evidence for Socioeconomic Organization in the Late Bronze Age,” in D. Pullen (ed.), *Social Groups and Production in Mycenaean Economies* (Leiden, 2025), 21–34



# Faculty Bookshelf

Dimitri Nakassis (continued)

“Seeing Like a Pylian State,” in S.E. Allen, R. Schon, and R.A.K. Smith (eds.), *Power and Place in the Prehistoric Aegean and Beyond: Studies in Honor of James C. Wright* (Philadelphia, 2025), 145–149

“The Linear B Tablets,” in S.R. Stocker, C.L. Lyons, J.L. Davis, and E. Militsi-Kechagia (eds.), *The Kingdom of Pylos: Warrior-Princes of Mycenaean Greece* (Los Angeles, 2025), 139–141

E. L. Bennett, Jr., J. L. Melena, D. Nakassis, J.-P. Olivier, and T. G. Palaima, *The Palace of Nestor at Pylos in Western Messenia. Volume IV: The Inscribed Documents* (Columbus, GA, 2025)

Carole Newlands

Review of F.E. Consolino (ed.), *After Ovid: Aspects of the Reception of Ovid in Literature and Iconography*, in *Journal of Roman Studies* 45 (2025): 1-3

Lauri Reitzammer

“Difficult Conversations Teaching Alfaro’s Mojada,” in Y.R. Kim (ed.), *The Art and Artistry of Luis Alfaro: Reimagining Classics in the Classroom and Community* (in press)

“Birds, Stars, and Female *Mousikê*: Visions of Escape in Euripidean Choral Odes,” *Bulletin of the Institute for Classical Studies* 67 (2024): 32-44

Travis Rupp

Review of T. Paulette, *In the Land of Ninkasi: A History of Beer in Ancient Mesopotamia* in *Classical Review* 75 (2025)



Roman amphitheater in Verona, Italy  
(photo by Andy Cain)

# Faculty News

**Kirk Ambrose**

walked nearly 800 miles this past summer along medieval pilgrimage routes through Switzerland and France, wearing through a pair of hiking boots while researching sites for a forthcoming book on art and doubt in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. In February he delivered a lecture at Rice University on the sculpture of the stave church at Urnes, Norway. His chapter, “A Divergent Centaur on the Font at Bro,” appeared this year in a Festschrift honoring Elizabeth Sears. Meanwhile, the web resources developed by the Center for Teaching & Learning, which he directs, were translated into Vietnamese and distributed at universities across that country.

**Andy Cain**

resumed department chairing in January after spending a wonderful fall sabbatical in France and elsewhere in Europe. He has enjoyed returning to the classroom and teaching an undergraduate course on Pompeii and a graduate seminar on Roman comedy. This fall he published his three-volume introduction, text, translation, and commentary on Athanasius’ Greek *Life of Antony* and continued work on several articles and co-edited volumes. He co-organized two international conferences in Leuven, Belgium and Göttingen, Germany (see p. 6), at which he also gave papers and moderated panels. He delivered invited lectures at the University of Konstanz, the University of Vienna, and the Monastero di Bose in scenic northwestern Italy. In May he delivered the keynote lecture for a three-day conference at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is excited to have begun a multi-year research project on translation and its cultural impact in Late Antiquity, for which he and his three co-PIs won a \$300,000 grant from the Australian Research Council (see p. 19). A

highlight of his travels abroad this past year was visiting over 50 Roman and Romano-Byzantine archaeological sites (and museums) throughout Israel and several European countries.

**Reina Callier**

spent the summer writing and self-publishing. She published three books under her own imprint, Artes Reginae Press: 1) *Her Undying Thirst*, a retelling of the vampire classic Carmilla, 2) *Sirens Go Off*, a novella that takes a humorous and irreverent approach to Greek mythology, and 3) *The Essential Argonautica*, an abridged translation of Apollonius of Rhodes’ Argonautica.

**Beth Dusinberre**

returned to full-time teaching in 2025 and has had a dream schedule. In the spring she taught Ancient Near Eastern Art & Archaeology and a graduate seminar on the Achaemenid Persian Empire; in the fall she is teaching the introductory “Trash & Treasure, Temples & Tombs” and a new class on ancient Greek coins together with the CU Art Museum and John Nebel. She spent the summer largely in Boulder, working on the numismatics class and two book manuscripts, one publishing the seal impressions on the Aramaic tablets of the Persepolis Fortification Archive and the other a co-edited volume on Middle and Late Phrygian Gordion.

**Jackie Elliott**

reports a good year, making progress on Cato and other projects and presenting at conferences in Grenoble, Philadelphia, Poland, Boston, and at Vanderbilt. This is the final year of her term as Classics faculty undergraduate advisor and—mirabile dictu—also her final year at CU Boulder. She has accepted *(Continued next page)*



# Faculty News

a position as Professor of Classics at the University of California Berkeley, to begin in August 2026. She will remain deeply connected to Boulder and its Classics community and will continue living in Boulder until 2028. Lily is thriving at Summit Middle School and will complete her years there before moving to California with her parents for high school.

## John Gibert

taught Beginning Greek all last year, as well as intermediate and advanced Greek courses on Homer's *Iliad*, the Gospel of John, and Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* and *Women at the Thesmophoria*. In research, he completed another article on the New Euripides soon to be published by the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute, and after a flurry of lectures and presentations about the papyrus in Europe described in this space last year, in the spring he spoke about it at the College of William & Mary and, in tandem with Yvona Trnka-Amrhein, at Harvard, Wesleyan, Yale, and Dartmouth, as well as here on campus to the CU Boulder Retired Faculty Association. With Yvona Trnka-Amrhein and Lauri Reitzammer, he is editing the proceedings of last June's conference at the Center for Hellenic Studies and September's Fountain Symposium.

## Zach Herz

has had an eventful year. On the bad side, Jeffrey and he had to say goodbye to their beloved dog, Moose—many colleagues had the chance to meet him and know how much they miss his kind (?), gentle (?) spirit. But there was also plenty of good news! Jeffrey and Zach got married in May, and Zach's first book (*The God and the Bureaucrat*; see pp. 21) came out in July. This year he is looking forward to teaching his first big lecture class, running a Roman law moot court competition with friends at the University of Cincinnati, and cooking his way through Ottolenghi.

## Peter Hunt

had a busy and happy year. He designed and taught a new course on "The Historian as Exile: Greek and Roman Historiography," which read sections of Herodotus, Thucydides, Plutarch, Sallust, and Tacitus—with a bit of theory and some Sima Qian mixed in. He also received a teaching award (see pp. 19). He gave a talk on "Natural Politics in Plutarch's *Phocion*"—about medical, astronomical, and cosmological metaphors—at the Congress of the International Plutarch Society in lovely Gronigen in the Netherlands. He continues to work on slavery and presented "How's the Water for Running Away," as a keynote speech at a graduate student conference at Stanford University and at the Ohio State University's Center for Historical Research. His 38-page article "Wealthy Athenian Wives and the Female Slaves Missing from the Attic *Stelai*" appeared in *Classical Antiquity*. This explored women's property rights and the process of state confiscation in classical Athens. Wives may have been able to protect some of their property—consisting of enslaved women—from confiscation when their husbands were condemned in court; this resulted in a skew in the gender ratio among the enslaved persons listed on the inscriptions recording the confiscations.

## Sarah James

had an active fieldwork season on the Brač Island Project (BIP) in Croatia, the Perachora Peninsula Archaeological Project in Greece, and in the Argolid. She focused this summer on training graduate students in archeological ceramics including identification and the preliminaries to publication. The Perachora project marks a new direction in her research and was supported by a CHA Small Grant. In addition to her international roles as the area editor for Greek Archaeology for the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* and the auditor of the International Association for Research

on Pottery of the Hellenistic Period, she also reviewed manuscripts and award applications for institutions in Europe. Within the Classics department, she continues to serve as the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies.

## Isabel Köster

taught Bread and Circuses, Roman Gender and Sexuality, and a graduate seminar on Latin inscriptions last academic year. In March, she presented at CAMWS on a 16th-century German illustrated manual of Roman history based on Livy, a copy of which remarkably found its way to the Rare and Distinct Collections of the CU libraries. For the 2025–26 academic year, she is spending the fall on sabbatical in Munich, Germany, and the spring back in Boulder on a CHA fellowship to work on divine punishment in the Roman world and various smaller projects. Her first book, *Stealing from the Gods: Temple Robbery in the Roman World*, has gone to the printer and will be officially out with University of Michigan Press in January 2026.

## Tyler Lansford

Tyler's efforts are focused on bringing the world of Classics alive for the scores of undergraduates from virtually every academic program at CU Boulder who enroll each semester in his courses on Roman history, art, architecture, and topography. He also continues to take an active hand in mentoring and examining students in the department's graduate program in Art and Archaeology. The object of Dr. Lansford's academic interest remains the historical and monumental topography of the city of Rome. This year, he was invited to deliver the annual Daniel P. Harmon lecture at the University of Washington (Seattle), where he elucidated the post-classical architectural history of the Theater of Pompey (today, the theater's ruins support the seventeenth-century *palazzo* that houses the UW Classics in Rome program, of which Dr. Lansford is an alumnus).

## Dimitri Nakassis

taught Aegean art and archaeology in the spring while serving as chair of the Arts & Sciences Faculty Council; in the fall he was on a Center for Humanities & the Arts fellowship. Over the past year, he participated in a Getty Art Break, and he presented to the Smithsonian Associates and the 16th Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies in Madrid. Over the summer, he excavated on Daskaleio as a member of the Keros Archaeological Project in the Cyclades and he worked in the western Argolid with Sarah James, Claire Hook, and Julia Bowers. He worked on projects about the heterogeneity of the Mycenaean world, Bronze Age settlement patterns in the Argolid (with Sarah James), a unique ivory Linear A inscription from Knossos, and the interpretation of X-ray fluorescence data from the Linear B tablets from Pylos. Now that the publication of the Palace of Nestor IV is complete, he's looking forward to turning his attention to the final publication of the Western Argolid Regional Project.

## Carole Newlands

particularly enjoyed teaching Virgil's *Eclogues* last fall. The class culminated with a group project of translating (with commentary) the medieval pastoral poem, the *Debate between Truth and Falsehood*. Truth is the official winner, but Ovid, the class agreed, the unofficial one. Prof. Newlands' position as co-president of the Colorado Classics Association was very rewarding. The CCA's fall and spring meetings offered welcome opportunities for faculty and high school teachers to support one another and explore further ways to support Latin teaching. Currently in press with Oxford University Press is *Ovid's Heroides* (translated by Sarah Kafatou) for which Prof. Newlands wrote the introduction and extensive notes, the latter with the assistance of CU PhD graduate Sam Kindick. In press also are her articles on the reception of the *Heroides* and on Senecan tragedy. With Andrew Feldherr of Princeton she is editing a set of essays by young scholars for the international journal *Ovidius*.



**Lauri Reitzammer**

continues work on her book project on *theôria* (sacred sightseeing) and Athenian drama. An essay on Luis Alfaro’s *Mojada* (an adaptation of Euripides’ *Medea*) is in press and expected soon, 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 two chapters that will appear in two different edited volumes: the first concerns gender and cult; and the second concerns Dionysus and *Bacchae*. This year she gave an invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, as well as papers at CAMWS, the Celtics Classics Conference (Coimbra, Portugal), where she also co-organized a panel, and the Classical Association (St Andrews, Scotland). She has recently enjoyed teaching Greek and Roman mythology, Greek and Roman tragedy, and Aeschylus.

**Travis Rupp**

in his new position as Assistant Teaching Professor in Classics taught twelve courses during the past academic year on a variety of topics spanning Greek, Roman, and Egyptian archaeology. His research focus continues to be alcohol production and consumption in the Roman military and food and drink in Pompeii and Herculaneum. He has taken on tangential projects in ancient Greek tavern life, beer survival during the German occupation of Belgium during WWI, and most recently the beer industry in 19th century Boulder County. His endeavors as owner/operator of The Beer Archaeologist also continue. In the past twelve months he revived and brewed six beers that span 2,700 years of brewing history. His one publication this year was a review of Tate Paulette’s recent book *In the Land of Ninkasi: A History of Beer in Ancient Mesopotamia*. Many beer history projects are on deck for the upcoming year, and the beer history will keep flowing.

**Yvona Trnka-Amrhein**

worked on her monograph *Inventing Ptolemaic Myth* which she expects to complete by the end of 2025. This has involved diving deep into the complex and intriguing world of Egyptian mythology and spending time with yet more papyri. This fall she is teaching Mythology and an advanced Greek class on scientific prose, where she truly appreciates the wonderful students’ patience for Aristotle. For spring, she looks forward to a semester of Hellenistic explorations with a class on Alexander the Great and an advanced Greek class on Callimachus and Theocritus.



Temple of Hera, Agrigento  
(Photo by Dimitri Nakassis)

# Where are they now?

## Alumni News

**Jacob Horton (MA ‘23)**



After graduating from CU in 2023 with an MA in Classics (Latin Track), Jake Horton moved to the East Coast and entered the PhD program in Classics and Ancient History at Yale University. Now in the third year of the program, he is completing his qualifying exams and drafting the prospectus for his dissertation on the literature and archaeology of the cities of late antique Gaul. Beyond his dissertation, Jake currently is working on a project centered on the Eusebius *Gallicanus* collection, a (largely) anonymous sermon collection from late antique Gaul that became wildly popular in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. Additionally, over the last few years he has been involved in the City of the Baboon archaeological project at Hermopolis Magna, led by CU Classics’ Professor Yvona Trnka-Amrhein, and he looks forward to continuing to participate in this exciting project. This fall he is co-organizing a conference entitled “Premodern Approaches to Life Writing,” which will bring together scholars from various fields from across the East Coast to explore different ways of crafting a “life” in antiquity. At Yale Jake also is pursuing his interest in early Christian hagiography, an interest he cultivated while at CU, especially with his paper “Athanasius Strikes Back: The *Life of Antony* as a Rebuttal of Philostratus’ *Vita Apollonii*,” which won the 2022 Mary McClanahan Essay Prize. On a more personal note, Jake is happy to announce that he got engaged this past summer and he and his fiancée are very much looking forward to planning their wedding!

**Hannah Hungerford (MA ‘23)**

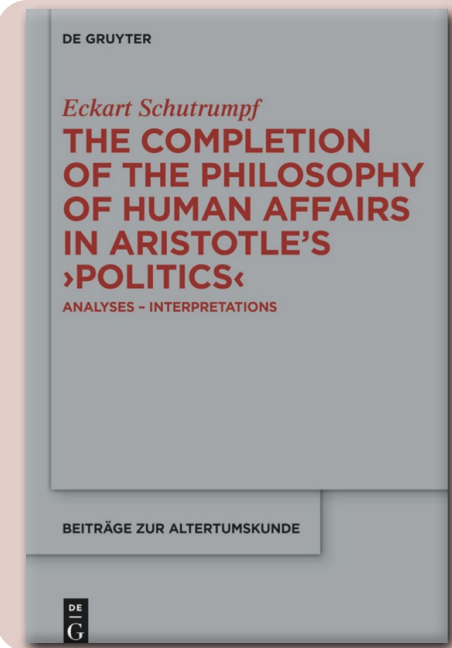
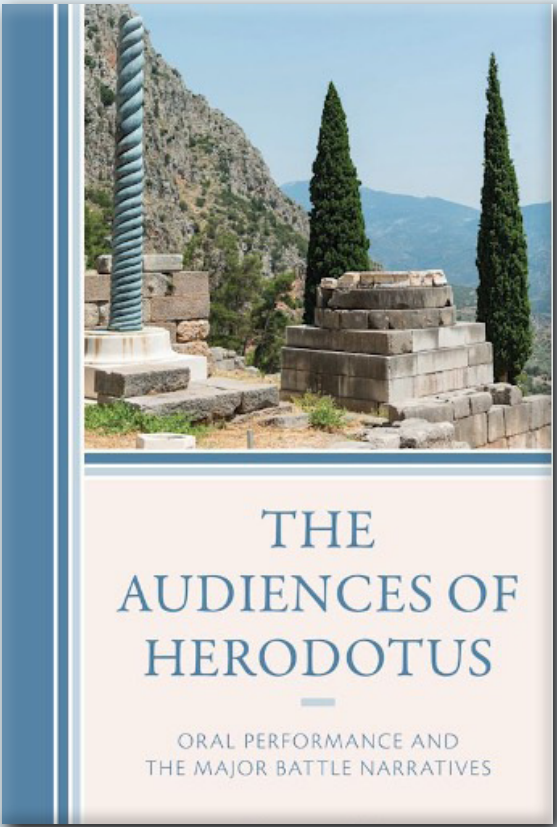


Hannah Hungerford is in the third year of her PhD program in Art and Archaeology at Princeton University. She is currently finishing her final semester of coursework, preparing her general exams and dissertation prospectus, and working as a teaching assistant for a course on Near Eastern and Egyptian art and archaeology. This spring and fall she participated in a travel seminar in Greece and Princeton (PITHOS), where she presented on depictions of dreams in Asklepien votive healing reliefs. Since graduating from CU two years ago with her MA in Classical Art and Archaeology, Hannah has interned at the Princeton University Art Museum, presented at conferences in the United States and United Kingdom, and excavated at several sites in Greece. Additionally, she has continued to work closely with CU professors on their fieldwork projects: as a team member of the City of the Baboon Project in Hermopolis Magna (led by Professor Yvona Trnka-Amrhein) and as Field Director for the Brač Island Project (led by Professor Sarah James). Hannah remembers her time at CU fondly, and she is thrilled to continue working with fellow Boulder alumni and professors.



# New Books by CU Classics Alumnus and Emeritus

Congratulations to CU Classics alumnus Dr. Ian Oliver (PhD '17), who currently teaches at Regis Jesuit High School in Aurora, CO, on the publication of his new book, *The Audiences of Herodotus: Oral Performance and the Major Battle Narratives* (Lexington Books, 2025). This book is a new take on the *Histories* of Herodotus, focusing on the audiences for whom it was written and performed. Its argument found its initial seeds in the paper Dr. Oliver wrote as a graduate student that won him the Mary E. V. McClanahan Essay Prize in 2013 (<https://www.colorado.edu/classics/mcclanahan>)! That paper grew into his PhD thesis, which has now evolved into his new book. Thank you, Mary, for sponsoring the McClanahan Essay Prize that recognized the value of the work in its initial form, and congratulations again to Ian! Here is an example of what one reviewer had to say about it: “Oliver deepens our understanding of Herodotus’ intellectual milieu, shedding important light on his connections with contemporary purveyors of wisdom including the praise poet Pindar, his place between oral and literate culture, and the nature of early Greek oral storytelling” (Emily Baragwanath, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill).



Congratulations to Eckart Schütrumpf, Professor Emeritus of Classics at CU who in recent years has been based in Berlin, on the publication of his book *The Completion of the Philosophy of Human Affairs in Aristotle's Politics. Analyses – Interpretations* (De Gruyter, 2005), which delves into the nuanced relationship between the two works that comprise Aristotle's philosophy of human affairs, the *Nicomachean Ethics* and the *Politics*.

# Partner with CU Classics!



Temple of Concordia, Agrigento (Photo by Dimitri Nakassis)

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We are so very grateful for your financial support that helps us share the field of Classics with the next generation. In one way or another, all the financial support we receive from you benefits our students, whether by providing them with scholarships and fellowships or by improving the quality of our facilities and programs. Gifts of any size are welcome, and we also welcome the opportunity to work with you to direct your donation to the cause of your choice. The quality of our operation depends on your generosity. Please consider a donation to Classics, whether by mailing a check or by giving online at: [colorado.edu/classics/giving](https://colorado.edu/classics/giving).

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