



Department of Classics
 University of Colorado Boulder
 Fall 2011

Classics

2011–12 Ann Nichols Undergraduate Scholarships



Ann Nichols Scholars: Kristin Bruner, Leslie Fowler, Cameron Hutchins, Lisa Ridge, Jesse Barkalow (left to right)

Thanks to the generosity of our Classics alumna and long-time donor Ms. Ann Nichols, the Undergraduate Studies Committee was delighted to award seven 2011–12 scholarships. With a focus in classical art & archaeology, Cameron Hutchins was awarded a Romulus Grant. This past June, Cam joined a team of CU graduate students and alumni excavating at the Villa of Maxentius in Rome. Jesse Barkalow and Lisa Ridge also received Romulus Grants to attend the Spoken Latin in Rome program this past summer. They report that the Rome program was both challenging and highly rewarding. Kristin Bruner, Taylor DeLaura, Leslie

Fowler, and Natalie Vitozsky were each awarded Ann Nichols Scholarships for their outstanding course performances as Classics majors. Many congratulations to all of our exceptional Classics scholarship awardees!



Taylor DeLaura, Ann Nichols Scholar and co-president of the Classics Club

From the Chair

The department has enjoyed another strong year with several exciting developments that you'll find in the various articles in this newsletter. Our greatest successes, however, are often not the ones that a chair can easily list in a column or that are newsworthy in the traditional sense. A student writes a top-notch paper or simply appreciates a great work of literature on a deeper level; after several semesters of hard and consistent work another student suddenly finds that translating Latin seems easy and the meaning clear; instead of coasting with a well-established course a professor puts in many extra hours to revamp it and it works better than ever; another writes a short article that changes the way scholars understand a puzzling yet crucial passage in an ancient author. The students and faculty of Classics have been doing all these things and more. I hope you read all the items in this newsletter—which are indeed important—but remember that some of our best moments are silent ones, noticed only by the people concerned. And often that's all that really matters.

Last year I talked about the difficulties the budget crisis here forced upon us. These have not disappeared, but the department has, nonetheless, fared well recently. One positive development is that the administration began putting more weight on the number of student credit hours taught by each department's tenure-stream faculty. We don't generally like such counting games, but we liked this one! By this criterion, Classics was easily the most

continued on page 2



Department of Classics

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

The Villa of Maxentius: Field Notes from Rome

In June 2011, the Department of Classics returned to the field after two years of study seasons. Professor Diane Conlin and four Classics students joined three Classics alumni and a small team of Italian archaeologists to conduct the fifth season of excavations at the suburban archaeological site known as the Villa of Maxentius on the Via Appia Antica in Rome, Italy. The Classics participants included undergraduate major Cameron Hutchins and MA classical art & archaeology graduate students Andrew Carroll, Lauren Brooks, and Britt Johnson. They worked alongside Classics alumni Sarah Herkes (MA '11), Jacob Morton (MA '09, currently a PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania), and Matthew Mandich (BA '06, currently an MA student at the University of Leister). They were joined by their Italian colleagues, Dr. Gianni Ponti (co-director), Daira Nocera (PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania), Alessandro Delfino, and Valerio De Carli, as well as Camie Mess, a student staff member at IES.

Following substantial vegetation clearing conducted by the Comune di Roma, the team established and excavated a trench to the east of the grand late Roman



The 2011 team outside of a breakfast cafe on the Via Appia Antica. Bottom row, left to right: Valerio Di Carli, Ale Delfino, Daira Nocera. Middle row: Britt Johnson, Diane Conlin, Sarah Herkes, Camie Mess, Lauren Brooks, Andrew Carroll. Back row: Cam Hutchins, Matt Mandich, Jake Morton.

From the Chair, *continued from page 1*

productive among the university's language and literature departments. We do not have the armies of TAs and instructors that some departments use to generate student credit hours, but all of our tenure-stream faculty regularly teach large courses and thus provide an important service to the university. In return for this virtuous behavior, long performed and recently noticed, we have been allowed to run the occasional small class without the threat of cancellation—knock on wood!

In another positive development, last year the administration began to allocate additional funding to three outstanding graduate programs in the humanities including Classics. This funding allows us to support two entering doctoral students each year as research assistants (RAs) for a year instead of requiring them to begin teaching as soon as they arrive. Doctoral students need to be experienced teachers to do well in the brutal academic job market, but they also need time to hone their language, research, and writing skills. We sometimes are able to win university fellow-

ships to allow students to focus on their studies for one or two years, but the RA program lets us do this regularly and also helps us recruit better students with the attractive promise of a year without teaching duties. Graduate students at Ivy League graduate programs, for example, often only need to teach half of the time that they are in a doctoral program, which is probably close to an ideal mix. The RA program is a step toward enabling our graduate students to compete on an equal footing.

Basilica Hall. The goal was to learn more about the portico building constructed in the second century CE that was partially destroyed by the Maxentian construction workers. A substantial portion of this portico was previously uncovered by the CU team in 2008, including the vestiges of the portico stylobate and three columns in situ. Their preliminary hypothesis is that the portico was constructed as part of the enormous villa and funerary park project of Herodes Atticus, an intimate and sophist at the court of the Antonines in Rome. In 2011, excavations revealed that the portico building was substantial, and that the building continued northward along the exterior of the eastern wall of the later basilica. They discovered that the anticipated fourth column, however, had been removed, confirming that some of the architectural elements of this covered walkway were deliberately dismantled and reused by the early fourth century workers in the course of later imperial construction. Another interesting discovery was a small stretch of white marble floor that appears to belong to a room located just to the east of the portico. The CU team intends to expand operations next year

to investigate this curious space. As with earlier seasons, students and staff uncovered much brick and mortar architectural debris, fresco fragments, mosaic tesserae, and pottery sherds. The results from seasons '07, '08, and '11 are currently being prepared for publication. Professor Conlin will share the results of this season at a lecture for the Boulder Society of the Archaeological Institute of America on the Boulder campus in November.

The 2011 project was one of the most delightful seasons to date, with fabulous weather, intriguing discoveries concerning architectural process, and a great crew of talented and enthusiastic students. The team received several visitors this year, including the American Academy in Rome archaeology summer school participants led by Professor Nic Terrenato (University of Michigan) as well as Professor Ann Kuttner (University of Pennsylvania), a distinguished Roman art historian. The season concluded with the now legendary Circus of Maxentius Race, with participants running the long trek around the ancient track in full excavation gear, including steel-toed boots! Jackrabbit archaeology



The 2011 Villa of Maxentius circus race winners celebrating on the victory podium. Matthew Mandich (BA Classics '06, bronze), Andrew Carroll (current Classics grad, gold fennel crown), Jacob Morton (MA Classics '09, silver).

graduate student Andrew Carroll won this season's fierce competition by several strides. Congratulations to all of the students for a wonderful field season! CU will return to the site for further excavations in June 2012.

Our library lecture series for the public, funded by a generous gift from Mary McClanahan, was a great success last year and we will be continuing to run it this year. This year Mary is continuing to support the library series—which is now also sponsored by the Boulder Public Library—but has also sponsored the first annual Mary McClanahan Graduate Essay Contest with a prize of \$1,500. We hope that this contest, judged by a panel of three faculty members, fosters a greater sense of intellectual seriousness among the graduate students. The

winner will receive well-earned recognition and a welcome addition to their graduate student stipend. The winner will also get to present his or her paper at a department lecture open to the public. Feel free to come! We hope also that other students who revise and submit their best papers will at least benefit by having a polished writing sample at hand, when they apply to PhD programs.

This will be my last year as chair. I will be happy to return to doing more teaching, but I will miss chairing such a great department and working closely with

such wonderful people—including, of course, our hard-working administrative staff, Lynne and Nancy. A slightly mysterious clause in our bylaws requires that our chair be elected almost a full year before taking office. Thus Noel Lenski has already been elected to be chair again beginning next summer. I am sure the department will continue to prosper under his very capable and experienced guidance.

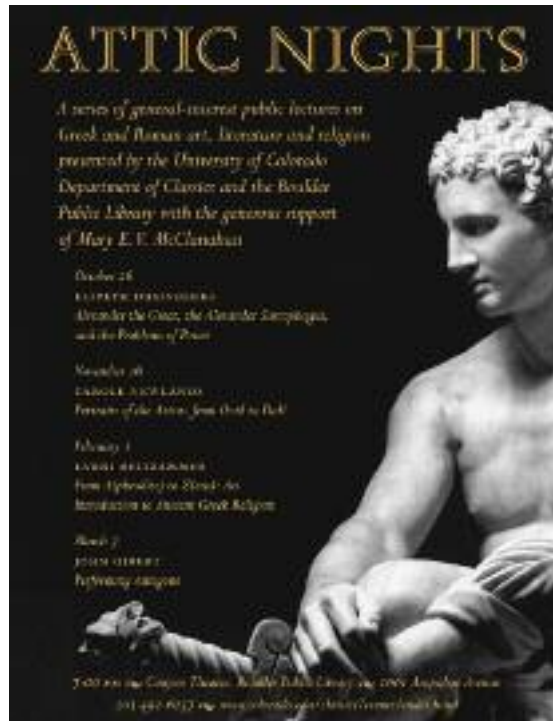
Peter Hunt
Chair

Public Lectures at the Boulder Public Library

Last year the Classics Department began a Wednesday night series of public lectures at the Boulder Public Library, thanks to the generous sponsorship of Mary McClanahan. A large and interested audience heard Peter Hunt talk on the Trojan War and whether it actually happened, Noel Lenski on possible causes for the “decline” of the Roman empire, Diane Conlin on the first, decidedly unscientific, excavations at Pompeii in the 18th and 19th centuries, and Tyler Lansford on the fascinating history of the Capitoline Hill in Rome. This year we will have lectures on Greek drama and religion, the Alexander Sarcophagus, and the classics in art from Pompeii to Dali. All lectures start at 7 p.m. in the Canyon Theater.

October 26: Alexander the Great, the Alexander Sarcophagus, and the Problems of Power—Elspeth Dusinberre

Alexander the Great was never buried in the Alexander Sarcophagus, but it is a monument that serves as a nexus for understanding the impact of his personality on his world. Alexander was born in 356 BCE in Macedonia and died in 323 BCE in Babylon. He was barely 20 when he succeeded to the throne, and it was but two years later, having already secured all of Greece, that he invaded the vast neighboring Persian empire that reached from the Aegean to the Indus, from Egypt to the Central Asian Republics. In the course of a few years, he overthrew the Persian kings and their enormous empire. The Alexander Sarcophagus, named because the Macedonian conqueror appears twice in the sculptures that decorate its sides, was carved around 320 BCE for the ruler of Sidon, in modern Israel. It shows Alexander as a vital, forceful warrior, as ruler, as semi-divine figure. It creates links between Alexander as king and the prior Persian kings. And it does all of this by melding Persian and Greek traditions. It is a monument that itself exemplifies many of the traits Alexander was seeking to attain in his brief time as King of Kings, King of the Four Corners, King of the Achaemenid Persian empire and of Greece. This one object thus demonstrates conquest, glory, sycophancy, propaganda, and actual administrative practice. It allows us to understand both the power of images — and the power of Alexander himself.



November 16: Portraits of the Artist: from Ovid to Dali—Carole Newlands

Writing poetry was a dangerous art in the Roman world. Those who offended the emperor could have their books banned and burned, and the authors themselves exiled or executed. Perhaps the most high profile author to fall foul of the emperor was Ovid (43 BCE – ca. 17 CE), who was exiled for his poetry by Augustus to the furthest frontier of the Roman empire. His most famous work was a mythological poem called the *Metamorphoses*; several of its myths concern the persecution or failure of artists. This lecture will focus on the various interpretations of these myths by later visual artists who grappled, like Ovid, with the questions of artistic freedom and the power of the state.

February 1: From A(phrodite) to Z(eus): An Introduction to Ancient Greek Religion—Lauri Reitzammer

The ancient Greek polytheistic system—characterized as it is by jealous gods and goddesses who fight amongst themselves—appears deeply strange to our way of thinking. This lecture offers a survey of a few fascinating aspects of the “twelve Olympians” (certainly one of the more peculiar families to be documented by any culture) and suggests that an examination into such a radically different system might cause us to look at our own religious concepts with fresh eyes.

March 7: Performing *Antigone*—John Gibert

This lecture will talk about theater and production in conjunction with the performance of *Antigone* by CU’s Theatre and Dance department. As the main spring production of its 2011–12 season, CU’s Department of Theatre and Dance will stage **Sophocles’ *Antigone* (March 15–18 and 20–23)**. In this lecture Professor Gibert, who will serve as Director Tamara Meneghini’s dramaturg for the production, explores ways of making Greek tragedy meaningful for a contemporary audience. Topics to be covered include masks, the role of the chorus, and the use of theatrical space and music. Excerpts of earlier productions will be screened, and CU student actors will be on hand to give a sample of their performance.

Undergraduate News

With approximately 90 majors and a very active Undergraduate Classics Club, the undergraduate program in Classics at CU continues to be one of the strongest programs in the country. Our highlight activity this year was the opportunity to visit the travelling King Tut exhibit, “Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs,” at the Denver Art Museum. Our undergraduate enhancement fund covered the ticket costs for all interested Classics majors to attend the exhibition. The CU Classics Club continued to meet regularly this past year for chats and snacks under the co-consulship of Classics Club presidents Taylor DeLaura and Adam Tabeling. This year, the inaugural Classics Club



Graduates Adam Tabeling (cum laude), Angela Funk (magna cum laude), and Daniel Armour (history and classics) with honors advisor Jackie Elliott.

t-shirt was designed for club members. Kudos to Taylor and Adam for their excellent leadership and contagious enthusiasm!

In 2010–11, the undergraduate program in Classics graduated 19 majors and 6 minors. This year we bid farewell to classics majors Jacquelyn Akmakjian, Daniel Armour, Emily Baker, Stacey Ball, Grant Barber, Madina Buhendwa-Ntiara, Skylar Cragg, Leslie Elgin, Angela Funk, Christopher Gilson, Brian Hughes, Kathryn Kleinkopf, Robert Kopperud, Chantel Osborne, Alexandra Pipp, Kathryn Reidy, Adam Tabeling, and Chase Thompson. Daniel Armour, a double major in history and classics, most enjoyed studying Roman history

and plans to apply to law school. With a focus in classical art and archaeology and Latin, Emily Baker plans on pursuing career opportunities in publishing and teaching Latin. Grant Barber focused his studies in history, mythology, and art & archaeology. Grant plans to attend grad school after a much-needed short break, while Skylar Cragg, a double major with anthropology and classics and a proud member of the CU marching band, plans to pursue a career in archaeology, perhaps through CRM work, and will continue to develop his career as a musician. Angela Funk graduated with honors in classics (magna cum laude). Angie focused her studies on history and archaeology and she will be teaching English in South Korea this fall. Christopher Gilson, a double major with anthropology and another proud member of the CU marching band, plans on applying to a graduate program that specializes in underwater archaeology. Most interested in Roman history and Latin, Brian Hughes will be attending graduate school at Franciscan University of Steubenville to pursue a master's in theology. Kathryn Kleinkopf, a double major in history and classics, graduated with honors in history (magna cum laude). Katie's interests in classics include Latin and early Christianity, and she will be studying German in Vienna this year in preparation for graduate school. Robert Kopperud, a double major in history and classics, also graduated with honors in history (magna cum laude). In classics, Bob's interests are in Roman social history and he plans on pursuing graduate work. Chantel Osborne, a double major in anthropology and classics, plans to pursue a graduate degree in archaeology with hopes for a career in museum studies. Alexandra Pipp, another double



Elsbeth Dusinberre, Mary McClanahan, and Diane Conlin at Graduation

major in anthropology and classics, is pursuing a museum internship with plans for attending graduate school in classical archaeology. Kathryn Reidy's interests are Greek art and Latin. She will pursue her master's in education and a teaching license. Adam Tabeling, a double major in anthropology and classics, graduated with honors in classics (cum laude). Adam is attending the University of British Columbia in Vancouver this year to begin work on his master's degree in classical archaeology. Finally, Chase Thompson graduated with distinction. Chase will be attending UC-Hastings College of Law in San Francisco for a law degree specialty in intellectual property law. In 2011, the Classics Department also graduated minors Benjamin Brown, Amanda Epp, Natalie Kaiser, Courtney McCall, Christopher Sichko, and Bryony Walter.



Another year-end celebration: the annual Hellenists-versus-Latinists volleyball game at the spring picnic. The Hellenists won this year in an epic five-game battle.

Graduate News



MA class of 2011 (left to right): Caitlin Purcell, Joshua Newton, David Morphey, Emily Martin, Jessen Jacobsen, Sara Herkes, Zachary Fischer, Emily Maus, and Courtney Tobin (not pictured)

The past year was an important one in many ways for our graduate program. Of course, we were delighted to award MA degrees to nine students at commencement ceremonies in May: Zachary Fischer, Sara Herkes, Jessen Jacobsen, Emily Martin, Emily Maus, David Morphey, Joshua Newton, Caitlin Purcell, and Courtney Tobin. In addition, the department awarded one PhD to Amanda Sherpe for a thesis entitled “The Power of Prayer: Religious Dialogue in Virgil’s Aeneid,” which was supervised by Peter Knox. In the fall, the department will welcome another cohort of new graduate students, several of whom are intending to pursue the PhD.

Along with returning students, they will find a revamped degree program, designed to make the transition from an MA program to the PhD more seamless. Students who wish to enter the PhD program will now have a clear track from the point at which they begin their MA studies, which will allow for the possibility of completing the entire program within six years. In addition, students in the PhD



Amanda Sherpe, PhD

track are now benefiting from a pilot program offered through CU’s Graduate School which supplies funding in the first year as a research assistant. Students in this program will work closely with a faculty member with compatible academic interests, but will be also able to focus on completion of their course requirements and preliminary examinations. Two students currently in the program, Reina Callier and Chris Ostro, are the first recipients of this highly competitive award. They will be joined this year by Danielle Washington, who comes to us from Baylor University. The department was one of only three in the College of Arts and Sciences selected for this

funding on the basis of the excellence of their programs. In spite of the difficult economic circumstances that continue to afflict the university, we are excited at the prospect of continuing to build a nationally ranked graduate program to prepare the teachers and scholars of the next generation.

Faculty News

Andy Cain’s book *Jerome’s Commentary on Galatians* (Catholic University of America Press) appeared in print late last fall, along with six articles on various late Latin topics. He has enjoyed the past year on post-tenure sabbatical, supported by a CU Faculty Fellowship. During this time he has completed and submitted to press substantial commentaries on two of Jerome’s most famous writings, for which he also prepared new Latin critical editions and English translations. He has since been focusing on Greek patristic literature and is writing a book on the *History of the Monks in Egypt*, an account of the visit that seven Palestinian monks made in 394 to the famed monks of Egypt.

Diane Conlin spent this past June co-directing the CU excavations at the Villa of Maxentius in Rome [see Field Notes from Rome]. In addition to her current works in progress, she recently received a contract for a co-authored book (with Paul Jacobs), tentatively titled “The Campus Martius: The Historical Topography of Rome’s Field of Mars” from Cambridge University Press, and she is completing the online bibliography entry on the Ara Pacis Augustae for Oxford Online Bibliographies. In 2010–11, Diane taught courses on Roman sculpture and Roman art and architecture. She also finished up her third year as the associate chair for undergraduate studies in the Department of Classics. When not playing in Roman dirt, she most enjoys spending time with her husband, Michael, and their two children, Kevin (18) and Julia (15).

Beth Dusingerre returned to teaching in 2010–11 after her sabbatical leave. Teaching the 300-person introductory lecture class *Trash & Treasure, Temples & Tombs* was familiar and fun for her in the fall, with five talented graduate students ably handling the demands of leading discussion sections. The graduate seminar on Hellenistic art and archaeology that she taught for the first time that semester seemed at the opposite end of

the spectrum, with a small number of advanced students who could focus on discussion and interpretation in class. Her book on Anatolia when it was part of the Achaemenid Persian empire was accepted by Cambridge University Press and should appear in 2012, and she has now turned her attention full-time to the seal impressions on the Persepolis Fortification Archive. This consists of about 20,000 clay tablets dating ca. 500 BCE that were excavated from the Persian capital city, Persepolis. They are government receipts, documenting disbursements made in foodstuffs and beverages to those engaged in imperial business at and around Persepolis. Beth is responsible for deciphering and publishing (online and in hard copy) the impressions left by ancient sealstones on those tablets of the archive written in Aramaic, and is excited by the insights into imperial administration, social history, and the tastes and activities of individuals that the seals can afford.

Jackie Elliott worked primarily on two projects this year: completion of her book manuscript on Ennius' *Annales*, now in submission with CUP; and a contribution to a volume on geography, topography, and landscape in Greek & Roman epic. She enjoyed teaching undergraduate language courses focusing on Roman Elegy and Sallust's *Jugurtha*, but the highlight of her teaching year was a seminar on universal history with a very able and engaging group of graduate students. Her new research projects involve some of the historians on the seminar syllabus, such as Trogus-Justin and Velleius Paterculus. She also plans to continue work on areas of interest developed in the course of her Ennius project, such as editorial procedure and commentaries.

John Gibert completed a chapter on "Euripides and the Development of Tragedy" for *A Companion to Euripides* (ed. R. Mitchell-Boyask) and a handful of entries for *The Encyclopedia of Greek Tragedy* (ed. H. Roisman), both forthcoming from Blackwell, while continuing to work on his annotated edition of Euripides' *Ion* for the *Cambridge Greek*

and Latin Classics. He wrote a short article on the Roman satirist Lucilius and reviews of two books on Aeschylus and a third on lyric poetry. In the spring, he gave guest lectures on Greek tragedy and myth at Kenyon College and Franklin & Marshall College. The mythical subject matter was timely, as he was also teaching a large lecture class on Greek myth for the first time. In the coming year, he looks forward to taking up the role of graduate advisor again, returning to the Latin classroom to teach Horace's *Odes* and *Epodes*, and teaching Homer's *Iliad* as well as a new course on Greek prose composition.

In addition to the publication of two of his chapters, "Athenian Militarism and the Recourse to War," and "Slavery in Greek Literary Culture," **Peter Hunt** won a LEAP grant (Leadership Education for Advancement and Promotion),

which provided him a teaching release in fall 2010 to enable him to focus on his book-in-progress on Greek and Roman slavery. He was promoted to full professor in spring 2011. Back to teaching that semester, he greatly enjoyed one of his favorite courses, Alexander the Great and the Rise of Macedonia—during which the class conducted the famous/notorious "spear exercises" on the Norlin Quadrangle—see picture below. Peter's last book, *War, Peace, and Alliance in Demosthenes' Athens* (2010), received favorable notice in the (London) *Times Literary Supplement* and won the Kayden Book Prize here. Most of the prize money is to be devoted to bringing speakers to campus for a mini-symposium on the book, which will be open to the public.

continued on page 8

Hoplites in the Quad

This spring Peter Hunt took his class on "Alexander the Great and the Rise of Macedonia" onto the quad with PVC spears for memorable and educational "spear" exercises.

One student, Heidi Short, posted a YouTube video spoof with sound from "300" and "World of Warcraft" at www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3pUETmv5MU.



Hoplites were well protected with armor and deadly at hand-to-hand combat. But, when hoplites fought armies that relied on archery, they tried to get through effective archery range (about 200 meters) and to close with the enemy as quickly as possible while maintaining a tight formation.

Faculty News, *continued from page 7*

Peter Knox enjoyed spending a year as the graduate advisor. He also had the opportunity to teach some of his favorite courses during the past year, including Latin prose composition with an enthusiastic group of students. Several articles and book reviews of his appeared in print after a prolonged period of gestation. In the meantime Peter completed the last of his 101 entries for the *The Virgil Encyclopedia*, which is now in press, as well as a few other articles and reviews. He also completed his portion of *The Oxford Anthology of Literature in the Roman World*, which he is co-editing with Jim McKeown of the University of Wisconsin. He is currently at work on an edition of Angelo Poliziano's Greek and Latin epigrams for the *I Tatti Renaissance Library*, which he hopes to complete before the end of the year. He is also in the early stages of a new edition of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* for the Loeb Classical Library. His work on Ovid's *Epistulae ex Ponto* continues in fits and starts. He will be on sabbatical in 2011–12, spending the year in Atlanta at Emory University with Professor Sandra Blakely, whom he married in May.

Tyler Lansford continues to enjoy the challenge of adding new courses to his teaching portfolio. Last year, the focus of his efforts was Roman Architecture; this summer, he taught The Roman Republic for the first time; and in spring 2012 he will teach another new course—the Topography and Monuments of Medieval and Modern Rome—as a sequel to the Topography and Monuments of Ancient Rome in the fall.

Noel Lenski enjoyed a second year of research leave thanks to the generosity of the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation. During this period, Noel completed several articles on various topics: Constantine's establishment of a temple to Tyche in his new city of Constantinople; captivity and slavery among nomadic Arabs in the Late Antique period; a reading of Jerome's "Life of Malchus" as a slave narrative; and an overview of

the history of slavery in the Late Antique period. He also completed revisions for a new edition of the *Cambridge Companion to the Age of Constantine* and revisions to his translation of book seven of the *Codex Justinianus*, which will appear with Cambridge University Press. He finished a draft of a monograph on the emperor Constantine, which he is now revising, and continued to work on his large-scale study of Late Antique slavery. Noel reports that he has enjoyed the freedom to focus on his own research for two years but has greatly missed teaching and students and is very eager to return to the classroom this fall.

Hallie Meredith enjoyed teaching Classics courses this year on topics ranging from Paganism to Christianity, Roman art and architecture, and Late Antique art and society. She was invited to participate in CU-Boulder's student-run Consortium conference and journal. The topic was the introduction to a recently published volume edited by Dr Meredith entitled *Objects in Motion: The Circulation of Religion and Sacred Objects in the Late Antique and Byzantine World* (Oxford: Archaeopress, 2011). She is currently working on a comprehensive study of Roman and early Christian open-work vessels.

In 2011 **Carole Newlands** published her commentary on Statius *Silvae 2* with Cambridge University Press. In late spring she gave invited lectures at conferences at the Aristotle University, Thessaloniki, Greece, and at the University of Udine, Italy. She also taught a four-day faculty seminar on imperial literature for Sunoikisis, a consortium of liberal arts colleges who design curriculum by working with faculty in graduate programs.

Lauri Reitzammer did not teach last academic year. During the fall semester, she was on maternity leave in Berkeley, CA, and she is happy to report that she is the proud mother of a little boy named Lucas Antonio Ranucci (born October 3, 2010). Although she hasn't been get-

ting much sleep, she is enjoying Lucas immensely. During the spring semester, she benefited from a teaching release and was able to work on her book manuscript (an investigation into representations—visual and literary—of the Adonis festival). She also wrote an essay on Euripides' *Bacchae* for *Blackwell Companion to Euripides* (ed. Robin Mitchell-Boyask) and gave a talk at the University of California, Davis on *Bacchae*. She is looking forward to returning to the classroom in Fall 2011 when she will teach Greek Mythology, as well as a third-semester Greek course on Plato's *Apology*.

Eckart Schütrumpf spent six and a half months in Madrid as a recipient of the Cátedra de Excelencia (chair of excellence) at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. This award allowed him to focus exclusively on research. He completed four articles there (of which he proofread two). In addition to three lectures he gave at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, he presented seven papers at international conferences, ranging from "Plato on Slavery in the Laws" (Naples, It.), "Justice and Right in Aristotle's *Politics*" (Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague), "Melancholy of Extraordinary Men" (Cologne) to "Phaenias on Murder of Tyrants" (Trier). Eckart experienced Madrid as a vibrant city with an architecture that reflects the imperial past of Spain and the sentiment that its capital should show off these aspirations with magnificent buildings, palaces, churches, and beautiful parks. The pleasant climate of Madrid makes its people who are friendly and very relaxed spend a lot of their time outside. On each of the many big or small plazas in the city there are tables set up, and during the summer it is difficult to find a seat before 11:00 p.m. Madrid is an incredible place to live and work, and Eckart was privileged to be there for half a year, and grateful for the contacts and friendship established there with wonderful colleagues.

Alumni News

Danielle S. Fatkin (BA '98) received her doctorate from Stanford in 2007 and is now a visiting assistant professor in the History Department at Knox College. During the summer, she also co-directs a dig at Dhiban in Jordan; for details see www.dhiban.org. **Zachary Biles** (PhD '99) is enjoying his first sabbatical after a promotion to associate professor at Franklin and Marshall College. The year began with a visit to the University of Sydney to participate in a conference on Fourth Century Theater; together with his colleague at F&M, Jed Thorn, he presented a paper on the adaptation of Athenian choregic iconography in Apulian vase painting. For the rest of the year, he and Douglas Olson, with the support of a Loeb Foundation fellowship, will continue work on a commentary on *Aristophanes' Wasps*, a play he first started thinking about seriously while a student at CU. **Chad Hutchens** (MA '01) is the electronic resource librarian in the collection development department of the University of Wyoming at Laramie, where he spends time working out contracts, licenses, and price negotiation with publishers and vendors for electronic content. In addition to exploring the exploding options e-resources can offer, he also enjoys hiking and fishing with his two dogs. **Holly Scriptor** (MA '04) is immersed in children's education, volunteering at her twin girls' school and helping them learn at home, as well as volunteering at a nursing home,

for church, and various other places. She really enjoys the process of educating children and observing how they learn, and is amazed by how differently every child learns, even within the same educational system. **Courtney Roby** (MA '05) defended her dissertation at Stanford in November, and in June moved from sunny California to not-so-sunny Ithaca to begin a position as an assistant professor in the Classics department at Cornell, where she will specialize in ancient science and Latin literature. **Rachel Gothberg Fuller** (MA '05) is thriving, working in the Jefferson County Public Library system, continuing her interest in archaeology, and looking after her two marvelous dogs. **Megan Aikman** (MA '05) lives in Golden, where she has worked as the curator at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, continued her interest in fiber art and in knitting, spinning, crocheting, and sewing, and where she now has two energetic and wonderful children. **Sarah Thomas Bloom** (MA '05) has left her positions at the Getty and Pacific Asia Museums and will return to school in 2011, pursuing a PhD in museum anthropology at the University of Washington. She is interested in studying the commodification of art and culture, the role background plays in perceptions of art, and the ways museums relate to their local cultures. **Summer Trentin** (MA '05) is in the PhD program in art history at the University of Iowa and is working on her dissertation on peristyle gar-

dens in Pompeii. **Kevin Ballestrini** (MA '06) is married and teaching Latin and classical mythology at the Norwich Free Academy in Connecticut; he has developed a game-based introductory Latin curriculum called "Operation LAPIS" and together with colleagues is developing additional educational software for learning about classics (see www.practomime.com). **Jeff Gingras** (MA '06) is at the University of Arkansas teaching Latin, and he will co-lead a study abroad tour in Italy for the University of Arkansas in summer 2012. He also works on the CORONA Satellite Imagery Digital Atlas project that uses Cold-War-era satellite imagery to create 3D images of sites and landscapes in Egypt and the Near East (see cast.uark.edu/home/research/geomatics/photogrammetry/corona-satellite-imagery-based-digital-archaeological-atlas-of-the-near-east.html). **Rob Nichols** (MA '06) is a PhD candidate in the Department of Classical Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, writing a dissertation that investigates Athenian social values through Attic orators' use of the term "timoria" and the way it illuminates tensions between private vengeance and collective values. Rob will return to the American School of Classical Studies at Athens in 2011–12 as the Edward Capps Fellow, to complete research on his dissertation. **Jessica Stephens** (MA '06) is completing her last exams in the Interdepartmental Program in Greek and

Roman History at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She has been exploring aspects of emotion and memory in Roman historical narrative as the foundation of her dissertation. **Joanna Schmitz** (MA '06) is living in Longmont, happily married and the mother of three children all in school for the first time this fall. She splits her professional time between being a research assistant on a manuscript on the Campus Martius, running a successful Mary Kay business, and privately teaching French, as well as working with the Archaeological Institute of America and continuing active research into such issues as the cult of Artemis of Ephesus. **Jessika Akmenkalns** (MA '07) has completed her MA in Anthropology at UC Santa Barbara and is beginning work toward her PhD. In summer 2010 she was part of an archaeological project in southwestern Germany looking at Paleolithic/Mesolithic settlements, while during the winter of 2011 she worked on a Nubian and Egyptian cemetery in northern Sudan that will also form the focus of her dissertation fieldwork. **Henry Colburn** (MA '07) is in the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Art and Archaeology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he has completed his exams and begun work on a dissertation exploring the complexities of Egypt within the Achaemenid Persian empire. This summer he

continued on back page

Gideon Bohak Visit

The bastardized Latin phrases *Expecto patronum* and *crucio* are now common in the everyday speech of teenagers. J. K. Rowling’s Harry Potter series has changed the way we think about Latin and magic, simultaneously reviving an interest in both but also distorting our understanding of how they were used in the lived contexts of the past.

This summer, CU was fortunate to have Professor Gideon Bohak of Tel Aviv University to help us set the record straight. Like Rowling, Bohak is also a specialist in magic, but magic as it was practiced in Antiquity and the Middle Ages rather than as it is reimagined in the modern world. He has published widely on the field, including many articles and the authoritative *Ancient Jewish Magic* (Cambridge, 2008). His work has been facilitated by a formidable knowledge of ancient and modern languages, including Latin and Greek, but also Hebrew, Aramaic, and Arabic. Bringing these skills and knowledge to the Boulder campus, Bohak taught a course on pagan, Christian and Jewish magic in the summer B term to 12 eager students.

The course is designed to show how widespread the practice of magic was



Magic amulet with Hebrew inscription in Greek characters

among religious systems of antiquity and how magical practices often constituted a sort of cultural koine through which the various religions exchanged ideas and

“technologies” of communication with the divine. The evidence pool is abundant, in no small part because magical devices—curse tablets, magical bowls, amulets—were sometimes made of durable materials like lead or glass and were often buried as part of their usage. We thus have a great abundance of material with which to reconstruct a picture from the practitioners’ perspective. This helps us to counterbalance outsiders’ views on the subject, which were almost uniformly negative. Magic, it turns out, was omnipresent and was particularly inclined to show up in certain contexts or situations: to attract or repulse a lover, to defeat an enemy in a chariot race, to silence a litigant in court, to curse a hostile neighbor or ward off thieves and brigands. Ancient magicians were not masters of prestidigitation (à la David Copperfield) nor bespectacled schoolchildren (à la Harry Potter), but skilled professionals who worked with quite precise formulas consisting of words, potions, symbols, and objects that they manipulated in order to compel various deities to do their bidding. Their tool kits included age-old magical phrases, among them the authentically ancient *Abra-cadabra*. With Bohak’s guidance, students are learning the ancient roots of Harry Potter’s craft and learning the sociological and religious contexts that led to the rise and flourishing of this almost universal human phenomenon. They are learning, in other words, that Rowling’s success stems not just from her abilities as a writer and storyteller, but from her skill at tapping a cultural vein that runs very deep in human societies across time and place.

Sharon James Visit

In April the department was visited by Professor Sharon L. James of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Professor James is the author of *Learned Girls and Male Persuasion: Gender and Reading in Roman Love Elegy* (University of California Press, 2003), and is currently co-editing two books: *Blackwell’s Companion to Women in the Ancient World* with her colleague

Professor Sheila Dillon, and *Women in Roman Drama* with Professor Dorota Dutsch of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Professor James spent time meeting with students and on the evening of April 12 delivered a lecture entitled “Fallite Fallentes: Rape, Deception, and Intertextuality in Terence’s *Eunuch* and Ovid’s *Ars Amatoria*.”

Giving to CU Classics

We are so very grateful for all the past financial support we have received from our alumni and friends. The quality of our operation depends on your generosity. Please consider a donation to Classics, whether by mailing a check (made out to the “CU Foundation”) to:

Department of Classics
248 UCB
University of Colorado Boulder
Boulder, CO 80309-0248

or by giving online at:

www.colorado.edu/classics/events

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$1,000 \$500 \$200
 \$100 \$50 \$_____

Name: _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Newsletter Survey

If you have not already done so, please help us keep in touch with you by completing the following survey and returning it to us at:

Department of Classics
248 UCB
University of Colorado Boulder
Boulder, CO 80309-0248

If you prefer, you can also complete a digital form that will allow you to receive the newsletter electronically at:

www.colorado.edu/classics/newsletter/index.html

Address Information:

Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr.: _____ Former Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Year of Graduation: _____ Degree: _____

Preferred Newsletter Format:

- I would prefer to receive my newsletter in two annual installments via e-mail
 I would prefer to receive my newsletter in one annual mailing via the post
 I would prefer not to receive a CU Classics newsletter

PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Peter.Hunt@colorado.edu



Department of Classics

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

HUMN 340

248 UCB

Boulder, Colorado 80309-0248

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit No. 156

Alumni News, *continued from page 9*

participated in the American Numismatic Society's Summer Seminar, and he will be presenting the results of his research there at a conference in Sydney in September.

Stephanie Smith (MA '07) lives and works in England, having earned a second graduate degree in artefact studies at University College London's Institute of Archaeology in 2011. She is the finds liaison officer for East and West Sussex, where she works for the British Museum and the Sussex Archaeological Society to identify, date, catalogue, and report all chance archaeological finds in an effort to identify and protect sites and objects of archaeological interest (<http://finds.org.uk/>).

Ben Gracy's (PhD '08) job at the TLG is to shepherd texts through the process of digitization, so that hard-copy editions become electronic files of searchable text. The TLG corpus already contains a half million more words than when he started earlier this year, in texts ranging from

Philodemus to the fifteenth century. He is currently working on the letters of the fifth-century Nilus of Sinai, a prolific correspondent, as printed in the *Patriologia Graeca*. This is a satisfying project because the letters are quick to read and engaging, and because dubious readings in the Greek can often be resolved with the facing-page Latin translation. So the knowledge of Greek and Latin that he developed in graduate school is paying off. He's also enjoying the southern California beaches. **Brent Schmidt** (PhD '08) has been teaching ancient history at Weber State University for the past two years (and is currently exploring the national job market). He will be teaching New Testament courses full time at Brigham Young University starting in January 2012 and he has been working as an editorial fellow of BYU Studies. Studying classics opens doors in many diverse fields. Brent is overjoyed that his son, Derek,

age 8, is eager to learn every detail about Greek mythology. **Jake Morton** (MA '09) is in the Graduate Group in Ancient History at the University of Pennsylvania and continues his involvement with Diane Conlin's work at the Villa of Maxentius in Rome. He is interested in social history and the study of food in the ancient world and posts some of the fruits of his leisure-time investigations into ancient foods and recipes at <http://ancientfoodstoday.blogspot.com>. **Erin Pitt** (MA '09) is in the Program in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology at Berkeley, where she continues her interests in Roman urbanism and economy. She has recently been examining the southern coast of the Black Sea, detailing the primary influences on urbanism and urbanization there from the Classical to the Late Antique period. **Travis Rupp** (MA '09) is employed by the Classics Department at the University of Colorado to teach

Greek and Roman archaeology, and by Apple Inc. as a business specialist. This makes for a busy but happily diverse and challenging life. **Emily Wilson** (MA '09) is in the Program in the Ancient Mediterranean World at the University of Chicago, which she loves. She spent the summer of 2011 traveling in Italy, Sicily, and Turkey studying Greek colonial sites as part of preliminary dissertation research; she is also working with Beth Dusinger on seal impressions on the Persepolis Fortification Archive and preparing to take her comprehensive exams in 2011–12. **Megan Gorman** (MA '10) is the Latin and Mythology specialist at the Ricks Center for Gifted Children at the University of Denver, where she works with children from preschoolers through eighth-graders. She will also be teaching the Introduction to Art History as adjunct faculty at the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design in 2011–12.