



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

DEVELOPMENT PLAN
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

UPDATED JUNE 12, 2002

I. Introduction: the Greenfield bequest and beyond

The Department of Classics at the University of Washington has experienced a great deal of change, most of it for the good, since the late 1980s. It can reasonably be claimed that the Department stands today at the highest point yet in its institutional history. However, the need to respond to the increasing challenges surrounding the funding of public universities becomes more pressing every year. In partnership with all who care about the future of Classics in the Pacific Northwest and beyond, and as stewards of the Department for future generations, we must make it a high priority to seek out new sources of support for our intellectual and social missions. This document summarizes the Department's achievements and outlines its development goals for the years ahead.

Our efforts to expand beyond the restrictions imposed by severely limited state support entered a new epoch with a recent bequest of over \$3M from the late Meg Greenfield (1930-99). Meg's visionary act of generosity, in endowing the **Jim Greenfield Scholarship Fund**, has utterly transformed our ability to support our undergraduates. Our new challenge is to attract donor interest and support to other areas of the Department's missions in which investment can be similarly transformative. The crisis in higher education funding in 2002 has brought home the reality that, despite our new scholarship money, we remain very vulnerable to cuts and squeezes in other key areas: faculty, graduate student and staff support, library collections, travel, collegial activities.

Large gifts and small are equally important to us. Consider the **Classics Endowment Fund**, our main financial resource for most of the events which put us in touch with each other and with friends of Classics in Seattle and beyond. This fund, begun over a generation ago and now earning some \$8,000 per annum, stands as a monument to a host of donors who have built up patterns of regular giving over the years, some on a modest and some on a grander scale. Such loyalty attracts notice: the numerical strength of our community of donors will protect our standing within the University, whether the donation in any given case be of \$10 or of \$10,000.

The unprecedented scale of the Greenfield bequest has given us an additional charge, within our broader development plan. Many close to Meg have been kind enough to befriend us, and to make generous gifts of their own in her or her brother's name. Some of these will continue to contribute to the fund designed by Meg, the Jim Greenfield Endowed Classics Scholarship Fund; the Fund is already being augmented by profits from Meg's posthumous book *Washington*, thanks to the noble editorial work of Michael Beschloss. However, in consultation with family and friends, we would like to honor Meg's vision through new initiatives too — in affectionate memory of her sparkling intellect and late-blooming love for our field. Conversations about this are already taking place: we hope to have further news soon.

Our major fund-raising priorities are outlined below, along with some supporting information.

II. Faculty recruitment, retention and support: endowed professorships

In evaluations and exit surveys, our students consistently attribute their interest in Classics to inspired teaching in the Department. Three Classics faculty have won the University's top teaching award—two of them in the past six years. In the past twenty years, the Department has attracted faculty members who have chosen UW in preference to jobs or offers at Harvard, Michigan, Princeton and Brown.

However, we have had losses too (most recently to Stanford). The challenge of retaining faculty in an institution with historically low salaries needs to be met, in Classics as in the College at large. A two-part strategy involving (a) endowed professorships, and (b) an endowment for general professorial use in support of research, publication, teaching and travel, will allow us to support and nurture existing faculty, and to attract the very best in new faculty when the need arises.

- Endowed Professorships of Classics \$250K ea.
- Endowment for Faculty Excellence in Classics \$500K

III. Graduate student recruitment and fellowship support

The UW Classics PhD program has emerged as a major national player despite the complete absence until 2000 of the fellowship packages fundamental to the success of other top Classics programs. In a 1995 National Research Council survey, UW Classics was rated the most improved Classics PhD program in the nation; it received one of the top ten improvement ratings among all 585 Arts and Humanities programs assessed nationwide.

To follow up on this promise and to ensure continuing success, it is imperative that we find new means, beyond our staple of state-funded Teaching Assistantships, to attract and reward excellence in the PhD program. In addition to its support of undergraduates, the bequest of Meg Greenfield has allowed a real but limited beginning in the area of graduate fellowships. Support could take the form either of donation to the Jim Greenfield Scholarship Fund or of new endowment in the areas listed below.

- Endowed Graduate Fellowships \$200K-600K ea.
- Endowed Graduate Summer Bursaries \$25K ea.

IV. Undergraduate scholarship support

With approximately 60 undergraduate majors, the Department of Classics has the largest B.A. program on the West Coast and one of the largest and best-regarded in the entire country. One statistic of which we are particularly proud is that, in the nation's most prestigious competition for undergraduates headed for advanced study, the Department has produced 4 Mellon Fellows in the past 8 years.

Our ability to reward individual merit among the Department's undergraduate majors has been utterly transformed by the 1999 bequest of Meg Greenfield, a gift that, along with previous annual gifts, established the Jim Greenfield Endowed Classics Scholarship Fund. In addition, we have a fund specifically dedicated to undergraduate excellence in Greek, which enjoys the loyal support of a group of distinguished alumni donors: the Densmore Fund. Additional support for these funds will help us continue our success with our undergraduates, especially as tuition bills rise.

- Campaign goal for new contributions to endowed undergraduate scholarship support (including profits from MG's posthumous book, *Washington*) \$150K

V. Gifts in support of Classical collections in the Suzzallo and Allen Libraries

In Classics, unlike many other disciplines, scholarly works (especially texts, commentaries and periodicals) tend to have a long shelf life, and to be relevant for generations rather than years. The continued vitality of research and teaching in the Department is due in no small part to the excellent collection of Classics books and periodicals in the University Libraries. However, repeated cuts to the Libraries' acquisitions budget increasingly threaten to compromise the quality of the collection.

The establishment of new funds in support of Classical acquisitions in the Suzzallo and Allen Libraries can protect and enhance the quality of the Classical holdings in the University Libraries. The Classics Library Fund, just now established in June 2002 (partly by a one-time grant from the Libraries' 21st Century Fund, and partly by faculty and other donor contribution), can help us to protect the collection in a time of budgetary crisis. In the longer term we aim for the establishment of a permanent endowment, to guarantee that the University Libraries' Classical holdings will continue to be a vital component of the Department's excellence.

- Classics Endowment for Suzzallo and Allen Libraries \$200K

VI. Student travel support (undergraduate and graduate)

Since 1987, the Department's Classical Seminar in Rome program has sent one faculty member and 12 students to UW's Rome Center, Palazzo Pio, for ten weeks each Spring Quarter. The program, regularly cited by graduating seniors as the highlight of their college careers, has suffered from the rising expense of travel and living in Rome as well as the removal of a tuition subsidy.

Several recent alumni of the Rome Seminar have shown their appreciation by contributing to the Classics in Rome Fund, which adds small enhancements to the Seminar; but the need for more systematic donor involvement is now a pressing one. Travel, both to Rome and elsewhere, is a vital element in the formation of any educated person, but especially a student of Classics. Donations either to the Classics in Rome Fund or, for broader use, to the Jim Greenfield Scholarship Fund, can ensure the future

affordability of the Classical Seminar in Rome, as well as providing individual awards to meritorious students for study-related travel to Mediterranean and other 'classical' lands, and to museums and other institutions of learning.

The Department is also proud to be associated with the Educational Opportunity Program's annual program at the Rome Center for historically underrepresented students: prospective donors to the EOP program should contact Prof. James Clauss (Classics) or the Office of Minority Affairs.

- Campaign goal for new support of student travel \$200K

VII. Annual gifts in support of Department activity

While many of the Department's long-term goals are best met through specific endowed funding, a variety of other goals can be met through smaller gifts contributed to our unrestricted funds by generous individuals each year. In a time of increasing budgetary constraint, it is more vital than ever to have such unrestricted funds available to meet the ever-changing demands and opportunities which our Department faces.

Dollars given to the Friends of Classics fund support activities which enhance our treasured sense of community and collegiality, including receptions, symposia, class retreats, lectures, academic visits, and plays, and can also make possible small capital projects such as refurbishment of the Meg Greenfield Room (=Denny 210, the Classics Seminar) and expansion of the Department's own heavily used collection of texts, commentaries, journals and works of reference.

As described in the preface to this document, dollars (large or small) given to our venerable Classics Endowment Fund produce a permanent income stream, a "savings account" which can continue to strengthen us in innumerable ways in the years ahead.

Whether under the head of these two funds, or through a dedicated use fund, we should like to associate some future activities in support of student collegiality with our commemoration of Jim and Meg Greenfield: we can thus symbolically honor the spirit behind Meg's idea of a student retreat house, a vision which was thwarted by legal obstacles.

- Campaign goal for new contributions to Friends of Classics fund \$25K
- Campaign goal for new contributions to the Classics Endowment Fund \$100K

VIII. Events

On March 5 2002, the Department and the Seattle chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America co-hosted the Third Annual UW Faculty Lecture in Classical Culture. Dan Harmon lectured to a packed audience in Kane Hall on 'Isis sanctuaries in Rome and Pompeii'; a reception followed in the Walker-Ames Room.

On June 4 2002, the Department hosted a reception in the Petersen Room, Allen Library, in commemoration of our benefactors, and in celebration of a year of student achievement in Classics. This was a sequel to the highly successful celebration event of April 2001; the Jim Greenfield Scholars for 2002-2003 were announced.

IX. Friends and volunteers

Members of the Department faculty are already meeting with friends and alumni to discuss the feasibility of the goals described above, and to strengthen the Department's contacts in the region and beyond. This outreach effort will expand to the recruitment of a structure of volunteer advisers, who will help us to raise consciousness about the Department's successes and goals, and to emphasize to all the importance of going on record as donors, not just at the level of the major benefaction or bequest, but at any level of contribution.

X. Practical information for prospective donors

Contributions designated for any of our funds, and/or simply made out to 'University of Washington,' can be mailed to the Department. The further option of on-line contribution will be introduced soon. If you are interested in major gift planning, please get in touch with the Department Chair, James J. Clauss (contact information below), or with Donald C. Summers, Director of Development for the Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences, Box 353765.

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For a brief summary of our funds, please click on the page **How to Donate**.