

Classical News from Denny Hall

Volume 31-- November 1995

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It has been a busy year, filled with many interesting speakers, a colloquium on allusion, a further initiative to bring students to Rome, a two-quarter residence by **James O'Donnell**, our Teachers' Conference, an NEH Summer Seminar for School Teachers on Cicero, and a Mellon Fellowship for one of our graduating seniors, **Dylan Sailor**. As many of you know, the University faced budget cuts this past year. While it was a wrenching experience for all on our campus, our Department was unscathed and I remain very hopeful about the future.

Michael R. Halleran

FACULTY NOTES

Professor Lawrence Bliquez was elected to serve a four-year term on the College Council, the body which oversees tenure and promotion cases and advises the Dean on policy matters. He is Vice President of the Society for Ancient Medicine.

Professor Mary Whitlock Blundell participated in Reed College's celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of its Humanities program, speaking on "Plato: an Equal-Opportunity Paternalist." In the Spring she will be on leave, continuing her work on character in Plato.

Professor James Clauss led a group of ten students on an intensive ten-day study of Rome during Spring break. He gave presentations at the FIEC conference in Québec City and the CAMWS meeting in Omaha. He serves on the University's Graduate Council.

Professor Sheila Colwell is on leave this year, an honorary Associate of the Department of Greek, Roman and Egyptian Studies at Monash University in Australia. She is working on a book on Pindar and the *Psalms*.

Professor Catherine Connors gave papers at the CAPN meeting in Banff ("Lucan's Nile: A Geography of the Unknown") and at Wesleyan University ("Recognitions of Odysseus and Other Blasts from the Past in Petronius' *Satyricon*").

Professor Alain Gowing taught an NEH Summer Seminar for School Teachers on "Cicero's Philosophical Works and the Crisis of the Roman Republic." He recently received an adjunct appointment in the Department of History.

Professor Michael Halleran's commentary on the *Hippolytus* has just been published by Aris & Phillips. He serves on the University Senate's Committee on Planning and Budget.

Professor Daniel Harmon continues to be busy as co-director of the University's Rome Center. Along with James Clauss, he is working on a translation of Filippo Coarelli's guide to Rome.

Professor Stephen Hinds returns after a year of leave as an NEH fellow during which, among other things, he brought near to completion his book on intertextuality in Roman poetry. While on leave he presented

papers at Keele, Florida State University, Bristol, Oxford, and Iowa.

Professor Merle Langdon was on leave in the Autumn, doing field work in Attica. In Athens he presented a paper on "Lolling's Topographical Work on Salamis" at a conference on H. G. Lolling sponsored by the German Archaeological Institute.

Professor Pierre MacKay's translation "The City of Boudonitza" (from the *Seyahatname* of Evliya Çelebi) appeared in the *Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces*. His piece "A Typesetter's Toolkit" was published by *Tugboat*.

DEGREES

Our Commencement Day party celebrating our graduates was happily crowded--fittingly so since we saw many of our students graduate this year. Our congratulations to **David Antillon** (Classical Studies), **John Blankenship** (Greek and Latin), **Mario Chorak** (Classical Studies), **Esther Kaplan** (Classics), **James McAleer** (Classics), **Kathleen Moles** (Classical Studies), **Christopher Norwood** (Greek), **Erica Palin** (Classical Studies), **Shelly Park** (Classical Studies and History), **Dylan Sailor** (Classics and History), **Ethan Tancredi** (Classical Studies), **John Watrous** (Classics).

Three of our undergraduate majors have gone on to do graduate work in Classics--Jim McAleer at Michigan, Dylan Sailor at Berkeley, and John Watrous at Harvard--and Kathleen Moles is studying ancient art at the Institute of Fine Arts.

Congratulations also to those who received their M.A. degrees--**Laura Baldwin**, **Catherine Chatalas**, **Owen Ewald**, **John Franklin**, **Braden Mechley**, **Andy Montgomery**, **Kathryn Pauw**, and **Jerome Shaw**--and their Ph.D.'s--**Jennifer Dellner** and **Richard Wright**.

JIM GREENFIELD SCHOLARS

Jim Greenfield Scholarships are made possible through the sustained generosity of Meg Greenfield in memory of her brother. This year they were awarded to three of our students, all, interestingly enough, double majors. **Brett Grace** combines his major in Classics with another in Computer Science; he participated in our Rome program two years ago. **Aislinn Melchior's** study of seventeenth and eighteenth century British literature led her to Latin, and now she majors in both Latin and English; she also writes Gothic romances. **Christy Stocker** came to the University as an art major but now spends most of her energies on Latin and Greek.

ALLUSION COLLOQUIUM

With assistance from the University's Center for the Humanities, the Department hosted a colloquium in April entitled "Allusion and the Limits of Interpretability." Speakers were **Patricia Rosenmeyer** (Yale), "Her Master's Voice: Sappho's Dialogue with Homer;" **Michael R. Halleran**, "It's Not What You Say: Unspoken Allusions in Greek Tragedy?;" **James J. Clauss**, "Cast in Another's Role: Medea as Nausicaa, Hannibal as Catiline;" **Alessandro Barchiesi** (Verona), "Augustan Hypertexts: The Poetics of Augustan Monuments;" and **Stephen Hinds**, "Whose Line Is It Anyway? The Dynamics of Appropriation." Lively discussion made it a memorable occasion.

EOP COURSE IN ROME

We expanded our offerings at the Rome Center in 1995 with a new course for Minority and Educational

Opportunity Program (EOP) Students. After collecting \$12,500, on a one-time basis, from the Office of Minority Affairs, Foreign Study Programs, School of Architecture, President's Fund for Excellence, and the Department of Classics, **James Clauss** was able to bring 10 EOP students to Rome this past Spring for an intensive introduction to Roman civilization. The participants were very enthusiastic about the experience--one of the students even made a documentary film of the trip--and have pledged their support to help find the funds needed to keep the program alive so that other EOP students can benefit from exposure to Ancient and Modern Rome.

CLASSICS IN ROME

This past spring **Alain Gowing** conducted the ninth annual Classical Seminar in Rome at the Palazzo Pio. There were 12 students in this year's group, the largest since the program's inception. The program offered a seminar in Martial and Statius and Latin and Greek to meet the needs of the several undergraduate majors in the group, but as usual, the ancient city and its topography took center stage.

In addition to twice-weekly visits to sites within the city--which included a rare visit to the Villa Torlonia and an extended tour of the splendid House of Augustus on the Palatine--the group took several trips outside the city to Ostia, Hadrian's Villa, Horace's Sabine farm, Licenza, Cerveteri, Tarquinia, Veii (where they were treated to a rousing thunderstorm) as well as a long walk along the Via Appia, which one intrepid group followed all the way to the ninth milestone near S. Maria della Mole. The classicists also joined with the Comparative History of Ideas group (which inaugurated its own Rome program this spring) for an overnight trip to Pompeii and Paestum. They bravely made the ascent to the summit of Mt. Vesuvius, memorable for both the breathtaking view and a heart-stopping bus ride.

NEH SUMMER SEMINAR

This summer **Alain Gowing** directed a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for School Teachers on "Cicero's Philosophical Works and the Crisis of the Roman Republic." Fifteen school teachers, representing 12 states and a variety of disciplines, were selected from a pool of applicants to participate in the seminar, which was one of 70 such NEH seminars offered this summer throughout the US and abroad. The seminar involved an intensive study of five philosophical works written between 54 and 44 BC, supplemented by readings in the historical sources for the period, including Cicero's letters and Caesar's *Civil War*.

Although the seminar met for several hours a day four days a week, ample time was found for social activities. Seminar participants made regular excursions to the surrounding sights, and Departmental alumna Nora MacDonald even arranged for some of the participants to take an evening cruise on Puget Sound aboard her and her husband's sailboat.

SPEAKERS

Our first speakers this past year were **Richard Seaford** (Exeter), "Tragedy and Ambiguity," and **Don Fowler** (Oxford), "Reading Reading." In the Winter **Haijo Westra** (Calgary), "The Pilgrim Egeria's Concept of Place," and **Maria Wyke** (Reading), "Engendering Roman Elegy," presented papers, and **Oliver Taplin** (Oxford), gave a talk on "Performances and Audiences (Sophocles and Shakespeare)" in April. Our final speaker of the year was **Leonard Barkan** (New York University), who visited our campus as a Walker-Ames Professor and in addition to his public lecture on "The Heritage of Zeuxis: Painting, Rhetoric, and History" spoke to us on "The Story of History: Pliny and the Lives of the Artists."

O'DONNELL VISIT

In conjunction with the Department of History and the College of Arts and Sciences, we were able to have **James O'Donnell** (University of Pennsylvania) visit us for Winter and Spring Quarters. While here he taught a graduate seminar on Augustine, a course on medieval history, and a seminar on "Cultures of the Book." He also gave the keynote address at the University's Computer Fair.

WILLIAM C. GRUMMEL IN MEMORIAM

Professor Emeritus William Charles Grummel, our colleague since 1950, passed away on June 29, 1995. Although failing health kept him from active participation in departmental life for the last year or two, he had continued to assist us in many ways even after his retirement. His interests and teaching were remarkable for their breadth as well as depth. They included Roman history and the historians, Greek and Latin poetry (especially epic and lyric), mythology, and literary criticism. Professor Grummel directed more dissertations than any other faculty member in the Department and for many years served as Graduate Program Coordinator. His seminar on the year 63 B.C., offered several times over the years because of its popularity, became a legend.

Bill Grummel received the A.B. at St. Louis University, the A.M. degree at Washington University and the Ph.D. at New York University, where he taught from 1945-50. He was a Ford Foundation Fellow at Yale University in 1953-4. He was preceded in death by his wife Marjorie and by his son William. He is survived by a daughter Madeleine and two grandchildren. During his nearly half century at the University of Washington, Professor Grummel played a major role in developing the Department's graduate curriculum. He will be deeply missed by his colleagues and by his many friends.

GAIL INGLE IN MEMORIAM

I am saddened to report that Gail Ingle, former Latin teacher at Roosevelt High School and longtime friend of the Department, died on April 28, 1995. She will be sorely missed.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The generosity of many of our alumni and friends greatly enhances our Departmental activities. We have several Departmental funds--including the Densmore Scholarship Fund, Friends of Classics Fund, Classics Endowment Fund, Classics in Rome Fund--which allow us to support our students, bring visitors to campus, improve our seminar room collection, etc. Contributions to any of these funds can be mailed to the Department. Thank you.

DONORS 1994-1995

The Department is most grateful for the generous support of donors to our various funds:

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