FROM THE CHAIR: Academic year 2003-04 was truly remarkable! Joint Classics and Near Eastern Languages major Allyssa Lamb won a Rhodes Scholarship. PhD candidate Jackie Murray and undergraduate Jonathan Rowland won scholarships in the College of Arts and Sciences. Nineteen undergraduates received their BAs in our various majors, many of whom have double majors or minors and four of whom went on to graduate school. Four of our graduate students gave papers at conferences and three accepted tenure-track positions, while five moved into or renewed one-year jobs. The number of students taking Latin and Greek is strong, with 33 in beginning Greek and 138 in beginning Latin, while there are 26 students in our upper division Latin courses and 28 in upper division Greek. Demand for Classics courses in translation also continues to be exceptionally strong. Among the many achievements of the faculty, it is of particular note that Stephen Hinds was awarded a named professorship in the Humanities (see below). In short, the department at every level is abuzz with activity, making this an exciting place to work and study.

What follows are some of the highlights of 2003-04. It is a real pleasure to keep in touch with you in this way. Thank you so much for your friendship and support.

James J. Claus


UNDERGRADUATE HIGHLIGHTS: Allyssa Lamb was one of 32 American college students nationwide to be chosen as a Rhodes Scholar for 2004-06. This year, she is attending Merton College, Oxford University, where she will study Egyptology. Jonathan Rowland won a Fritz Fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences. Angela Wishaar received a Densmore Scholarship, named after Professor Harvey Densmore, who taught in the Department from 1907 to 1952 (a former Rhodes Scholar himself). The following UW Classics undergraduates moved on to graduate programs in the field: Brendan Haug and Emily Munro (Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology, UC Berkeley), Christine Shaw (Classics, USC), and Vincent Tomasso (Classics, Stanford).
GRADUATE PROGRAM NEWS: The following graduates and ABDs have accepted tenure-track positions this year: Pauline Ripat (PhD '03) at the University of Winnipeg, and Christina Vester (PhD '04) at the University of Waterloo (Ontario); Jackie Murray (PhC '03) has accepted a tenure-track position at Temple University for 2005-06. The following graduates and ABDs have taken or renewed one-year positions: Ethan Adams at the Intercollegiate Center in Rome, John Chesley at Rhodes College (Nashville, Tennessee), Christopher Chinn at UCLA, Patrick Myers, Lilly Teaching Fellow, at Wabash College, and Erika Nesholm at Williams College. Jackie Murray won the Alvord Fellowship in the Humanities (the second winner in a row from Classics); Kari Ceacovschi won a fellowship for the Institute on the Public Humanities; Alex Dressler and Lindsay Morse won Simson Center for the Humanities Scholar Awards.

Our graduate students gave papers at several conferences nationally and internationally: John Chesley “Genre, Accuracy, and Authority in Livy 21.1.1-3” (APA) and “Certamen Gloriae, Certamen Historiae: Competing Views on Elite Competition in Roman History” (CACW); Christina Franzen “The Pathetic Monster: Colonization and Rationalization in Stesichorus’ Geryones” (APA); Mark Nugent “The Sculpted World: Definition as Depiction in Plato’s Statesman” (CAPN and CAMWS); and Jackie Murray responded to the paper “Die Argonauten in Lycophrons Alexandria” (Hellenistica Groningana). Incoming student Rubén G. Fernández presented “What about Creusa? Intratextual Echoes Between the Creusa and Nisus and Euryalus Episodes in the Aeneid” (CAMWS).

DANIEL PATRICK HARMON RETIRES: Daniel P. Harmon is now formally Emeritus Professor of Classics. Dan came to the UW in 1967 and later served as departmental chair from 1976 to 1991. Under his leadership, the department grew in both number and stature, the Jim Greenfield Scholarship was established, and the Rome Program began. In fact Dan hired many of the current faculty. In addition to his important publications on Roman literature and religion, Dan enhanced our university and profession by his ever-thoughtful contributions to the many committees and councils on which he served and which he led. The word that stands out for its many occurrences on his CV might well summarize his career of outstanding service: Chair. Thank you, Dan, for the gift of your talents that you so generously offered over the years.

FACULTY FOOTNOTES: Lawrence Bliquez’s paper “Roman Surgical Spoon-probes and their Ancient Names” appeared last year and “The Hippocratic Surgical Instrumentarium, a Study in Nomenclature” is currently in press. Larry also gave various papers, including “Gynecological Surgery from the Hippocratics to the Fall of the Roman Empire” (Notre Dame) and “Psychiatry in the Greco-Roman World” (UW Medical School); he also gave the annual faculty lecture sponsored by the department and the Seattle Chapter of the AIA.

Ruby Blondell’s book, The Play of Character in Plato’s Dialogues, was named a Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2003. She presented papers on Plato at Stanford and at several conferences, and contributed to an APA panel on Representations of Women in Modern Mass Media. She is co-editor of the related special volume of Helios. She continues to serve as the department’s graduate advisor and as the treasurer of the Lambda Classical Caucus.

James Clauss’s article “Once upon a Time on Cos” appeared in Harvard Studies. He is finishing up papers involving programmatic language in Vergil and Nicander and has several papers on Classical mythology and film in various stages of preparation. Jim led the minority student program in Rome in March and appeared on TV in England, the United States, and Italy in a documentary on Jason and the Argonauts.

Catherine Connors has been working recently on the neo-Latin novels of John Barclay and will publish a biographical essay on him in the Biographical Dictionary of English Classicists in addition to a paper on “Metaphor and Politics in John Barclay’s Argenis.” She also gave a paper on Lucan’s Nile at a conference on Lucan at Princeton last Fall.

Alain Gowing’s second major work, Empire and Memory. The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture, will be published by Cambridge in early 2005. In addition to being president of CAPN and serving as Secretary of the Advisory Council of the American Academy in Rome, Alain led this year’s Rome program and gave a paper on historical memory at the Lucan conference at Princeton and the annual C. May Marston Lecture at Seattle Pacific University.

Michael Halloran continues to serve the University as a Divisional Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences. This year, he is teaching an honors seminar on “Greek Tragedy and the Tragic.”
Daniel Harmon wrote a number of articles for inclusion in a multi-volume encyclopaedia of mythology and religion to be published by the Brown Reference Group in England. The topics include Faunus, Lares, Mars, Minerva, Neptune, Penates, Romulus and Remus, Rome, Venus, Quirinus, and Rhea Silvia. He also served in the Faculty Senate. Though he retired formally at the end of Summer 2004, Dan will teach 40% time for the next several years.

Stephen Hinds was honored by being named the Byron W. and Alice L. Lockwood Professor of the Humanities for 2003-06. In addition to giving numerous invited lectures nationally and internationally, Stephen has turned his gaze to Petrarch in recent years, publishing a paper entitled “Petrarch, Cicero, Virgil: Virtual Community in Familiares 24.4” in MD with another article, “Defamiliarizing Latin Literature, from Petrarch to Pulp Fiction” destined for publication in the Spring.

Olga Levaniouk received a grant from the Loeb Library Foundation to work on epichoric myth and traditional allusion in the Odyssey and is teaching this Fall (2004) at the University of Rethymnon, Crete, with whom we have an exchange program. Her research projects include studies of Dionysus, Penelope and the Pandareids, Erinna’s Distaff, and Pindar’s Olympian 1. Olga serves as Assistant Editor of “Greek Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches” (Lexington).

Timothy Power’s paper “The Aulete as Actor: Sound and Vision in Athenian ‘New Dithyrambs’” was accepted for presentation at “The Context of Dithyramb” conference in Oxford. He is currently working on papers dealing with the representation of musical exotica in Athenian Drama and the genre and authorship of the Deipnon, attributed to Philoxenus. Tim also serves Assistant Editor of “Greek Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches.”

Sarah Culpepper Stroup is currently working on several article-length projects involving Martial, Greek Rhetoric in Rome, and the “Ritufaction” of violence in Rome. Her paper “Nisi in bonis: the ‘Republicizing’ of amicitia in Cicero’s Laelius” was given last year’s APA by colleague Alain Gowing, as Sarah was expecting the latest departmental arrival: Max. Last summer, Sarah returned, with Max, to the excavation at Tel Dor, Israel, for the second year of a Getty Foundation Grant.

Eremiti: Pierre MacKay has given a number of papers nationally and internationally on various issues regarding Negropont and has received a grant from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

STAFF: Douglas Machle, in his capacity as building manager, has facilitated numerous construction projects, including the replacement of Denny Hall’s fifty-year old roof; Leslie Boba Joshi tutors Latin and is developing a curriculum on choral Latin for singers and conductors.

ROME: 2004 Alain Gowing led last Spring’s annual Classical Seminar in Rome which featured the topic “Urbs Scripta: Rome in Latin Literature.” Eleven students participated in what was our 18th year at the UW Rome Center and the rainiest Spring on record. Jim Clauss took twelve Educational Opportunity Students to Rome for an intensive ten-day introduction to Roman topography and architecture.

TEL DOR: Sarah Stroup once again took a group of UW students to the joint Hebrew University/UC Berkeley/UW excavation at Tel Dor in Israel. Among the students in attendance were Lauren Cannon, John Chesley (square supervisor), Brendan Haug, Jessica Lefcourte, and Shir Lerman.

CAPN and K-12: The Department hosted the 34th annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Pacific Northwest at the UW’s Faculty Center in April. The meeting attracted participants from all over the region, including a number of private and public secondary school teachers and several of our own graduate students. The conference papers featured a broad range of subjects and interests, from pedagogy to philology. Catherine Connors and Alain Gowing organized the event.

VISITING SPEAKERS: The following visiting speakers gave presentations in 2003-04: Joy Connolly (Stanford), Mary-Kay Gamel (UC Santa Cruz), Mark Griffith (Berkeley), Stephen Miller (Berkeley), Sheila Murnaghan (Penn.), Mark McPherran (University of Maine), Ellen Oliensis (Berkeley), Ilan Sharon (Hebrew University), Hanne Sigismund-Neilsen (Calgary), Denis Feeney (Princeton) was the John and Mary McDermid Lecturer for 2003-04.

ALUMNI: Nora McDonald (BA ’71, MA ’86) was awarded the title of “Summa Cum Laude JCL Sponsor” during the 51st annual convention of the National Junior Classical League at the University of Richmond in VA. Mimi Goh (BA ’97, cum laude) accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Indiana and Aislinn Melchior (BA ’98, summa cum laude) accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Puget Sound.
PASSAGES: We are sad to report the deaths of Jane Jeremy Barthelmess (PhD ’74), Ed Kadletz (PhD ’76), and Signe Moen (former long-time secretary in the department).

DEVELOPMENT NEWS: John and Mary McDiarmid Lectureship. Thanks to your generosity, we have made wonderful progress toward endowing a lectureship in memory of John and Mary McDiarmid. We currently have over $10,000 on our way to the minimum of $25K needed to establish an endowment. We hope to achieve this goal in the not-too-distant future and welcome all support toward this end.

For this and other ways of contributing to the department, please consult the enclosed envelope or visit our Departmental Website at http://depts.washington.edu/clasdept and click “Support the Classics.” This fall has seen the formal launch of the university-wide Campaign UW. An especially strong showing by donors to Classics Department funds over the next several months will help us reap the long-term benefits of this major fundraising initiative. Thank you for all your support, financial and otherwise!

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