

# UCLA Department of Classics

## Greetings from the Chair



Dear Friends of Classics,

As I observed in the last newsletter, the department is going through a period of exciting change. We were joined at the beginning of this quarter by Assistant Professor Lydia Spielberg (whose profile you can read on p. 2), who, in addition to a Latin class on Tacitus is also teaching a new course she has designed on “Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in the Greco-Roman World.”

Assistant Professor Bryant Kirkland, who arrived in the Fall and whose profile was featured in our previous newsletter, underwent his baptism of fire last quarter, teaching “Discovering the Greeks” as

soon as he arrived. Adjunct Assistant Professor Adriana Vazquez is teaching another new course: “Classics in Central and South America.” Visiting us from the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa this quarter is Professor Gianfranco Adornato, who is our Visiting Palevsky Professor this year. His graduate seminar is called “*The Great Beauty*: Discovering Rome with Pliny the Elder.” This is just a sampling of the exciting directions being explored by new and visiting faculty — and of course, we are also in the midst of our search to hire a new colleague in Roman Material Culture.

I can report to you on an exciting new development in Hellenic Studies. The Division of Humanities has been awarded a \$5 million grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation to start an initiative to create the UCLA Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture. The award involves a requirement for a \$3 million match, and fundraising on this front is already underway. Classics is delighted to be part of this initiative, although of course, academic work on Hellenic culture stretches far beyond the confines of the department. The most immediate result is that starting in the next academic year we will have a lecturer who will be teaching modern Greek, as well as civilization courses in Hellenic Studies. This is a most welcome addition to department strengths, and we look forward to the closer ties with the LA Greek community that this will bring. There will also be exciting new programming, including, we hope a conference on the Greek village next year (continued on page 2).



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# Department News

## Greetings from the Chair (continued)

A final observation: graduate recruitment is almost upon us, and we are looking forward to welcoming a very impressive group of 11 hopeful and prospective students, whose interests range from Homeric epic to Seneca and Lucan. As ever, we will work hard to provide our top candidates with competitive funding packages, although (and this is something you have heard from me often before) it is hard to compete with the stipends offered by private universities. Our Centennial Scholarship fund now stands at \$42,000 thanks to your generous gifts. May I urge you, if you can, to take a moment to consider sending a contribution (or an additional contribution) to this fund? Every gift, large or small, makes a difference and will help a talented young classicist make the decision to come to our outstanding program where he or she will help give UCLA undergraduates an experience of what a truly excellent public education means.

Kathryn Morgan

## Welcome, Assistant Professor Lydia Spielberg!

Although she is finding the hills of Westwood a challenge after the bicycle paths of the Netherlands, Lydia Spielberg is thrilled to be joining UCLA's Classics Department. Lydia is a Latinist whose primary areas of interest include historiography (especially Tacitus), ancient rhetorical culture, and the politics of imperial Latin literature in antiquity and beyond. She took her BA from Bard College (2009) and her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania (2015), and she joins the department after a post-doc at Radboud University in Nijmegen. There, she worked from 2015 to 2017 in the "Anchoring Innovation" initiative organized by OIKOS, the Dutch Classics Research School, where she pursued a project on historiographical commonplaces and clichés.

Lydia's current preoccupation is a book project about claims to be quoting "the very words that were said" in Roman historiography. There's no better way to blacken a character than by tendentiously quoting authentic (or at least notionally authentic) words, she argues, and this habit of invidious misinterpretation passes from Roman rhetoric into historiography as historians seek to shore up the authority of their genre and wrestle with the changing functions of documents, recitation, and quotation in Roman society. Although the book is taking up most of her research time, she has a few shorter projects in progress as well: Ennian speeches in Cicero and Livy, self-fulfilling ethnographic performance in Tacitus' *Histories*, and a Neronian joke about noses. When she can find the time, Lydia enjoys knitting, sci-fi novels, and chamber music.



# Department News

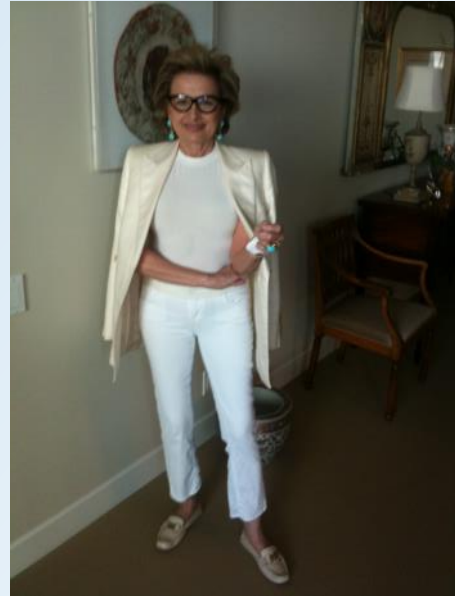
## Gift of Graduate Fellowship

The Classics department is delighted to announce that it has been the recipient of a generous \$500,000 gift from the estate of the late Sandra Ann Mabritto to support a graduate fellowship.

Sandra Mabritto was a native of LA. She studied art at Cal. State, LA, and then transferred to UCLA where she studied mainly political science. Art remained a lifelong passion for her, and she travelled widely to view collections. She had a considerable talent for collecting and for real estate. Her mentor was the late Lilian Levinson, an artist and philanthropist who had studied art at UCLA, and after whom several fellowships in the Department of Art are named. Lilian Levinson's exemplary philanthropy was a major influence on Ms. Mabritto.

Professor Stephen Bell of the Departments of Geography and History at UCLA, her close friend and former partner, observes the following of Sandra Mabritto: "She was extremely intelligent and independent minded. Sandra was not born to affluence but she had a philanthropic streak from her youth. She had a fine sense of style. Her politics were progressive." As the years passed, her philanthropic energies shifted toward young people and public education. An early foray into philanthropy involved a scholarship directed toward Hispanic students at Santa Monica College, and she enjoyed witnessing the results of this. After she was diagnosed with cancer in 2009, she began to plan her legacy carefully. This involved creating a series of graduate fellowships in Latin American Studies, a further one in the Department of Geography for cultural-historical geography, and also the fellowship for our department. Ms. Mabritto did not study Classics, although she read very widely. She was a very enthusiastic member of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art [ICAA], an institution whose existence may have influenced her bequest to the department.

Sandra Mabritto fought her cancer very bravely, but died in January 2017. We are so very grateful that this friend of the department thought to include Classics graduate students in her legacy, and only regret that we were not able to thank her in person for her generosity. The good she did will live after her in the Sandra Mabritto Memorial Fellowship Fund.



## Congratulations, Giulia Sissa!

Professor Giulia Sissa has been awarded the Premio Nazionale Vincenzo Padula, for non-fiction for the Italian version of her book on jealousy (*La Gelosia. Una passione inconfessabile*, published by Editori Laterza). Those who prefer to read the English version, [click here](#). Congratulations, Professor Sissa!





# Faculty News

## Professor Robert Gurval in Morocco

Prof. Bob Gurval likes to travel. Since his Fulbright year in Hong Kong (2010-11), he has been a frequent visitor to China where he has lectured and taught mini-seminars on Ancient Biography, Augustus, and Cleopatra at Guangzhou, Macau, Shanghai and Beijing. In November he traveled for the first time to Morocco as the faculty lecturer for UCLA Alumni Travel. The 12-day tour began in the country's capital, Rabat. There he and the group of 24 fellow travelers explored the site of Hassan Tower (an unfinished 12th-century colossal minaret and mosque complex) and the earlier ruins of the Roman city of Salé (ancient Sala Colonia). Rabat recently opened its new archaeological museum, which exhibited an impressive collection of pottery, inscriptions, coins, mosaics, and sculpture (including the marble statue of Ptolemy, the last king and ruler of Mauretania, who was also the grandson of Mark Antony and Cleopatra, and the famous bronze busts of Cato the Younger and Juba II, Ptolemy's father). Many of these objects came from Volubilis, the most important Roman city in Morocco, which the group later visited and walked among the ruins of its rebuilt 3rd-century triumphal arch and basilica and marveled at its beautiful mosaics (especially those of the twelve labors of Hercules, the rape of Hylas, and Orpheus) still in situ. The ancient city was the topic of one of Prof. Gurval's three lectures. The other two focused on the Berbers and ancient elephants and on Edith Wharton, who wrote the first English travel guide to Morocco in 1917. Other highlights of the trip included the medieval souks (marketplaces) of Fez, treks into the Sahara Desert by camel, crossing the Atlas Mountains, and the Koutoubia mosque and horse-drawn carriages in Marrakesh. The adventure concluded with dinner and drinks (but he was shocked, no gambling!) at Rick's Place in Casablanca.



# Faculty News

## ***In August 2017, Professor Brent Vine was appointed to the A. Richard Diebold, Jr. Endowed Chair in Indo-European Studies. Professor Vine has a split appointment between Classics and Indo-European Studies.***

Having been asked to write a few words about the relationship between Classics and Indo-European — and especially the UCLA Department of Classics and the UCLA Program in Indo-European Studies — on the occasion of my appointment to the Diebold Chair in Indo-European Studies, I'm led to cite the famous observation that gave birth to the entire field of Indo-European Studies. In 1786, in an address to the Asiatick Society, the jurist and orientalist Sir William Jones said:

The *Sanskrit* language, whatever be its antiquity, is of a wonderful structure; more perfect than the *Greek*, more copious than the *Latin*, and more exquisitely refined than either, yet bearing to both of them a stronger affinity, both in the roots of verbs and in the forms of grammar, than could possibly have been produced by accident; so strong indeed, that no philologist could examine them all three, without believing them to have sprung from some common source, which, perhaps, no longer exists.

So began the study of what we now call “Proto-Indo-European”, the reconstructed ancestor language that eventually developed not only into Sanskrit, Greek, and Latin, but also, of course, into all the other members of the Indo-European family of languages, including Iranian languages, Baltic and Slavic languages, Celtic languages, Germanic languages, Albanian, and Armenian. Dramatic discoveries and decipherments in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century have also given us precious Indo-European linguistic resources from ancient Anatolia (such as Hittite and Luvian, both extinct), as well as documents from Western China in an Indo-European language (also now extinct) known as Tocharian.

It is no surprise that Jones first referenced Greek and Latin: these have always been cornerstones in the study of Indo-European linguistics; and as a result, some of the greatest specialists in the history of Indo-European Studies were first-rate Classical scholars who worked intensively on Greek and Latin. To name just one major figure from the first few decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: Antoine Meillet (1866–1936), who actually taught secondary-school Latin for a time (as did I!), and whose still-useful 1897 dissertation on the Proto-Indo-European root *\*men-* ‘think’ (whence words like Latin *mens* ‘mind’, Greek *mainomai* ‘be out of one’s mind’, and even English *mind*) was written in Latin (alas, mine was not!), co-authored what is still in many ways the finest etymological dictionary of Latin; and he also uncovered the close connection between Greek and Sanskrit poetic meters, thereby laying the groundwork for the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European poetic meter itself. (All this was in addition to his pioneering work on Slavic, Armenian, and many other Indo-European language areas.) Closer to our own time, and closer to UCLA: the greatest American Indo-Europeanist of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was Calvert Watkins (1933–2013), who (I’m proud to say) was one of my own teachers. Although he is perhaps best known as a specialist in the ancient Anatolian languages, his celebrated book *How to Kill a Dragon: Aspects of Indo-European Poetics* (1995) won the Charles J. Goodwin Award of Merit (for “an outstanding contribution to classical scholarship”) bestowed by the American Philological Association (now called the Society for Classical Studies), and is full of insights into Greek poetry (especially the poetry of Pindar), early Roman literature, and poetic language in Umbrian and other ancient Italic languages related to Latin. For many years, Watkins was Professor of Linguistics and the Classics at Harvard University, and then spent the final decade of his life as Professor in Residence of Classics and Indo-European Studies at UCLA. (See <http://www.pies.ucla.edu/cwatkins.html> for an appreciation of Watkins’s life and his contributions to UCLA.) (Continued on page 6)

# Faculty News

Nor was Watkins the only distinguished Indo-Europeanist/Classicist at UCLA: although the Program in Indo-European Studies is now an independent Ph.D.-granting entity, it was begun in the 1960s as a subsection of the Classics Department, under the stewardship of Jaan Puhvel (b. 1932) — a renowned scholar of Hittite who has also produced important scholarship on Greek and Latin linguistics and on comparative mythology. And the UCLA Program in Indo-European Studies recently suffered the loss of the distinguished Indo-Europeanist Vyacheslav Ivanov (1929–2017), whose immense scholarly output on every area of Indo-European included a number of contributions to Greek and Latin.

The first holder of the UCLA Diebold Chair in Indo-European Studies was the eminent American Indo-Europeanist and specialist in ancient Anatolian languages H. Craig Melchert (b. 1945), who retired from UCLA in June 2015. There are, moreover, two other endowed “Diebold Chairs” in Indo-European: one at Harvard and the other at Oxford. We are thus in very good company! In all three institutions, close ties between Indo-European and Classics are part of the picture. At UCLA, this is manifested in many ways, beginning from the fact that Classics and Indo-European share the same skilled and dedicated staff members of the Dodd Humanities Group. Classics graduate students can earn a “Graduate Certificate” in Indo-European Studies, and Indo-European graduate students can earn one in Classics. Indo-European graduate students frequently serve as Teaching Assistants for Classics courses, and Classics graduate students often participate in Indo-European course work and other Program activities. Even though the bulk of my dissertation advising supports graduate students in Indo-European Studies, many of my advisees’ topics have been devoted to Classical subjects, including the language of Homer, Greek and Latin meter, and various problems in the study of the Greek dialects. And the Classics/Indo-European connection is not restricted to the graduate level: Classics majors and minors taking Classics 180 (“Introduction to Classical Linguistics”) learn about the background of Greek and Latin and thus get a heavy dose of Indo-European; and undergraduates of all kinds taking Classics 185 (“Origins and Nature of English Vocabulary”) — a course that carries General Education credit — develop the skills to appreciate the deep history of English words, many of which, as they find out, go all the way back to Proto-Indo-European itself.

Undergraduate students in particular are often surprised to learn that linguistically speaking, Greek and Latin are not very closely related to each other (apart from the fact that they are both descended from Proto-Indo-European), and that the conjunction of Greek and Latin in modern “Classics Departments” is more a matter of intellectual history than a reflection of linguistic affinity. (Greek has closer linguistic connections with, for example, Sanskrit and Armenian; Latin is more closely related to Celtic and Germanic.) What remains fundamental, however, is the bond between Classics (and the Classical languages) and Indo-European Studies, as Sir William Jones already saw in 1786. In my work as the current holder of the Diebold Chair in Indo-European Studies, I look forward to carrying on this venerable tradition of teaching and scholarship.

## Update from Sander Goldberg

Sander Goldberg, Distinguished Research Professor, has been keeping busy even in Oregon. His new edition of Ennius for the Loeb Classical Library, prepared in partnership with Gesine Manuwald of University College London, appeared in January. Forthcoming are an essay, “Lucilius and the *poetae seniores*,” in *Lucilius and Satire in Second Century BC Rome*, edited by Brian Breed et al. (Cambridge 2018) and in the Spring TAPA “Theater without Theaters: Seeing Plays the Roman Way,” which piggybacks on our own Chris Johanson’s RomeLab Project and the work of UCLA’s Experiential Technology Center. In April he will be joining a session on “The Making of Fragments” at the 2018 meeting of the Classical Association (UK), sharing the program with Virgilio Costa (Rome), Alan Sommerstein (Nottingham), and John Briscoe (Manchester). In the works are a book on Terence’s *Andria* for a new Bloomsbury series on ancient comedy and studies in the ancient reception of Ennius and of Terence.



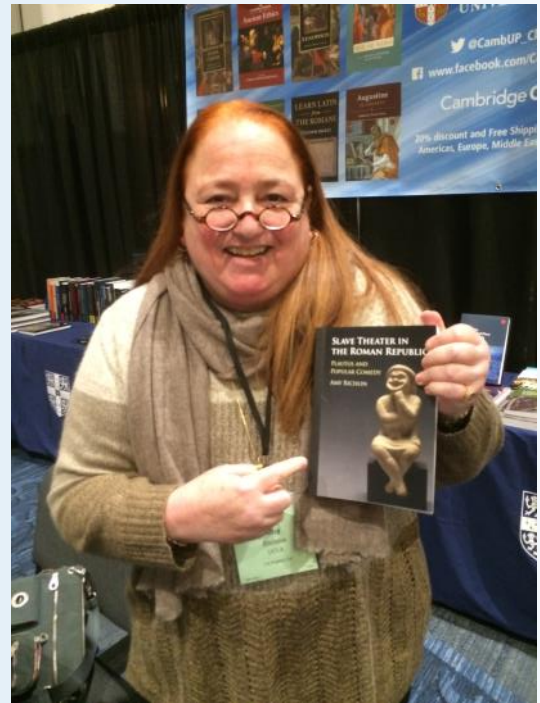
# Faculty Bookshelf

## Slave Theater in the Roman Republic Plautus and Popular Comedy

Amy Richlin

Cambridge University Press, 2017

Amy Richlin's new book, *Slave Theater in the Roman Republic: Plautus and Popular Comedy*, is just out from Cambridge University Press. Eight years in the making, this book reads early Roman comedy—mainly the twenty extant plays of Plautus—as rooted in the war-torn world of the 200s B.C., where mass enslavement and the displacement of whole communities affected actors and audience. Comedy from below: an inspiring story of resistance to slavery, this book is also meant for those who love shtick, drag, and insult matches. Thanks are due to colleagues Sander Goldberg, Mario Telò, and Brent Vine, who read the manuscript; to research assistants Grace Gillies (PhD 2018) and Kristie Keller (postbacc 2015); and to grad students in the spring 2012 Plautus seminar, whose frequent laughter disrupted business on the second floor of Dodd.



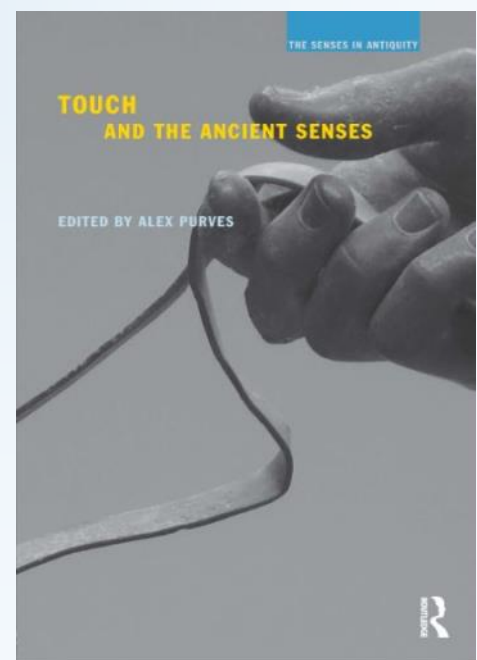
## Touch and the Ancient Senses

Edited by Alex Purves

Routledge, 2018

The essays in this volume explore the ways in which touch plays a defining role in science, art, philosophy and medicine and shapes our understanding of topics ranging from aesthetics and poetics to various religious and ritual practices. Whether we locate the sense of touch on the surface of the skin, within the body or—less tangibly still—within the emotions, the sensory impact of touching raises a broad range of interpretive and phenomenological questions.

As well as editing the book, Alex Purves wrote the introduction, “What and where is touch?” Giulia Sissa also contributed a chapter: “In touch, in love: Apuleius on the aesthetic of a Platonic Psyche.”



# Graduate Summer Travels

## Jasmine Akiyama-Kim

Last summer, I received departmental funding to attend the Goethe Institut in Mannheim, Germany. Classics graduate students are required to pass a German reading exam, and I jumped at the opportunity to study the language in situ. Mannheim is in the southwestern part of Germany, at the intersection of the Neckar and Rhine rivers, and is famous for its orthogonal city grid. The city is proud of this, and circulates the following motto: *Leben . . . Im Quadrat*. Mannheim is neither grand, nor rustic, nor even particularly beautiful, but it is lovable for its own collection of unique attractions, which include the European flagship John Deere factory, the Technoseum, which displays exhibits on industrialization in Baden-Württemberg, and the Fernmeldeturm, which boasts a 360 degree view of Mannheim and the surrounding cities.

The first thing I did when I arrived in Mannheim was take a placement exam, which determined the class I would attend for the next four weeks. The class met daily from 8:30 to 1, and was taught in German. After class and on weekends, the Goethe Institut arranged for Kultur activities, such as *Stammtisch* at local restaurants, swimming in the nearby lake, and city tours of Heidelberg and Karlsruhe. We also had ample time to explore the region on our own, and during a long weekend, my friend Irem and I took the train to Strasbourg, where we were delighted to see German tourists struggling to speak French. (Perhaps if my German had been better, I wouldn't have taken such obvious pleasure in their hardship.)

My time in Mannheim reinvigorated my zeal for German: speaking a modern language is immediately rewarding (or humiliating) in a way studying Latin and Greek can't be. I appreciated the immediate value of each lesson I learned, sometimes in the classroom, but often in the city, where each experience caused a reaction which informed the next. I intend to continue my study of both reading and speaking German in LA, and hope to return to Germany soon, where perhaps I will give some other answer to the question "kannst du Deutsch?" than "ein bisschen."





# Graduate Students at the SCS

## Dale Parker

"Aristotelian Refutations in the *Protagoras* and *Gorgias*"

At this year's Annual Meeting, the SCS offered me a spot on their panel "Argumentation in Plato." This topic has enthused me for the past couple years, and so I was happy to contribute to the conversation. I shared an idea that has become key to my research, namely that Aristotle's logical works can illuminate difficult passages of Plato's dialogues. Aristotle describes formalized dialogues that had emerged in the intellectual circles of his time. One function of these dialogues was to test the knowledge claims of an answerer. In my paper, this is how I read Plato's *Protagoras* and *Gorgias*: Socrates argues for striking positions (hedonism, unity of the virtues, etc.) not because they are his own opinions, but to test the dialectical mettle of his opponents.

## Andre Matlock

"Hesiod's Two Plows: Materiality and Representation in *Works and Days*"

My paper examines the juxtaposition between labor-intensive process and spontaneous emergence that defines the materialist poetics of Hesiod's *Works and Days*. I identify this dynamic in the coexistence of the two plows that Hesiod recommends his addressee "store up in the house, one of a single-piece (αὐτόφυον) and the other fit together (πηκτόν), since it is much better this way" (v. 433). While Hesiod provides extensive instruction on how to construct a plow that is pieced together from raw timber, the single-piece plow appears already complete and stored away, without comment by the poet on how it came to be or where to acquire one like it—its self-fashioned material perfection is reflected in its sudden occurrence in the poem. Using this example as a reified emblem of Hesiod's poetics, I focus on other key moments in the poem where Hesiod juxtaposes one type of material that must be shaped, crafted, or constructed with another type of material that is emergent, self-forming, and transitory. I argue that these types of material productively correspond to Henri Bergson's definitions of analysis and intuition as the two basic forms of psychological engagement with being. Analysis and intuition, as complementary modes of experiential inquiry, enable Hesiod to seek actively to make sense of the world around him, but also leave room for all that lacks sense.



# Undergraduate News

## Helen Caldwell Awards and Prizes

Robert Gurval

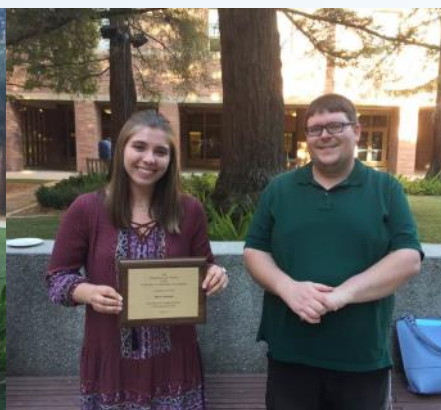
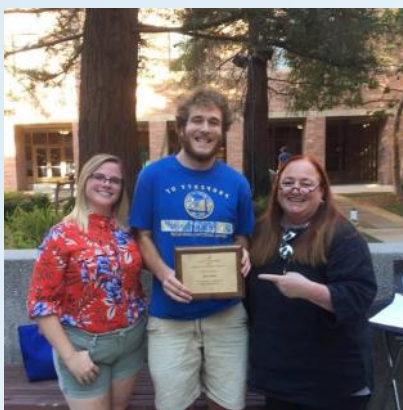


L to R: Prof. David Blank, Emily Bowyer, Hayley Makinster, Prof. John Papadopoulos



L to R: Prof. John Papadopoulos, Haoxing Liu, James Richardson, Prof. Robert Gurval

Last year the Department was pleased to bestow the 16th annual Helen Caldwell Awards and Prizes. Helen F. Caldwell graduated in the first class at UCLA to award the Bachelor of Arts in 1925 and earned her M.A. in Latin fourteen years later. She later was employed by the Classics Department for 30 years until her retirement in 1970. A dedicated teacher of Latin and Greek, Helen Caldwell was also a respected scholar of Brazilian literature, one of the first to translate into English some of the most important works of the 19th century novelist Machado de Assis. The recipients for the 2016-17 Caldwell Awards for Outstanding Majors were Emily Bowyer (major: Classical Civilization) and Hayley Makinster (major: Classical Civilization; minor: Theater). The Caldwell Outstanding Minors were Haoxing Liu (major: Financial Actuarial Mathematics; minor: Classical Civilization) and James Richardson (major: Applied Math; minor: Classical Civilization). The Caldwell Prizes in Elementary Greek and Latin were awarded at our welcome reception last fall. The recipients were Danny Golde (Greek & Latin major) in Greek and Emily Bowyer (a double Caldwell, who also won the Award for Outstanding Major) and Mary Anastasi (Greek & Latin major) in Latin.



L to R: TA Anastasia Baran, Danny Golde, Prof. Amy Richlin, TA Nathan Kish, Emily Bowyer, Mary Anastasi, TA Benjamin Niedzielski

# Undergraduate News

## Joan Palevsky Award for Extraordinary Achievement

Robert Gurval

Tony Pearson (B.A. 2017, majors: Classical Civilization and History; minor: Art History) is the third recipient of the Joan Palevsky Award for Extraordinary Achievement. The Palevsky Award honors the memory of a remarkable woman, who was a generous benefactor of the arts and humanities, feminist and political causes, Los Angeles charities and community organizations, and a great friend to the UCLA Classics Department. Born in nearby Northridge, Antonio Gaetano Person (to give him his full complement of Roman names), better known to us as Tony, came to UCLA in Fall 2015 as a transfer student from Moorpark Community College. A trip to Rome with his family in 2011 made a powerful impression upon the proud Italian-American, and after starting a major in another field he came back to his passion, the study of Classics. Tony wrote in his personal statement to the Department (nominated for the Caldwell Award for Outstanding Major) that the first day of class in the summer GE course taught by Prof. Gurval, *Cinema and the Ancient World: The Hollywood Myth of the Gladiator*, gave him an incredible boost of confidence and assurance that he had chosen the right path. He never looked back. With a double major and a minor, all completed in two years and two summers, Tony also earned Departmental Honors. Under the supervision of his faculty mentor, Prof. Gurval, he wrote a well researched and emotionally meaningful study on the life of the Roman legionary soldier from recruitment to retirement. He later was invited to

create a poster on his thesis at the UCLA Undergraduate Research Week in Pauley Pavilion, where he held a captive audience at the student session lauding the achievements of the ancient Romans. For the capstone seminar, Tony explored the symbolism of the eagle and its inheritance from ancient Rome in the history of the United States, from the Founding Fathers to the recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. In his final year Tony was the Director of Social Events for Eta Sigma Phi, the new Classics Honors society at UCLA. Chief of Tony's goals was to have a competition (simply called *The Certamen*) of Classics students from UCLA, USC and Cal State Long Beach. It was an effort, almost Herculean, organizing this event. But Tony made it all happen at the Getty Villa during the first week of Spring Quarter. Students from each campus competed in Jeopardy-like contests in Ancient History, Greek and Latin translations, and even debate speeches. Despite UCLA's losing efforts, Tony inspired the Department to make this an annual event. Last fall, Tony headed to the Old Dominion state of Virginia and began his first year at William & Mary Law School.





# Alumni Spotlight

## Joey Skarzenski (Political Science BA, Classics Minor, 2014)

Joey Skarzenski is an alumnus from UCLA with a BA in Political Science and minor in Classical Civilization. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude, and received College Honors. He was an active member of the fraternity Beta Theta Pi. Following graduation, Joey began a career in finance as an investment banking analyst and is currently a private equity associate.

Joey spent a lot of his time at UCLA pursuing a degree encompassing game theory and collective choice theory graduate-level coursework. He received highest departmental honors in his department's honors thesis program. Advised by Thomas Schwartz, his thesis focused on collective choice theory, and entailed definitions and proofs that further generalized membership requirements for choice-set functions by allowing indifference in preference profiles via a constructed, procedural refinement.

As someone of Greek descent who spent much of his time in the Greek American community and his summers in Greece, Joey always viewed his Classics curricula as opportunities to pursue some of his most passionate interests in and outside the classroom. Some of his fondest memories of UCLA include all of Professor Morris' courses, Professor Goldberg's class on legal advocacy, and Modern Greek with Kyria Tsaggouri.

Joey spent numerous summers studying abroad in Greece on the AHEPA Journey to Greece program and as a journalist covering the global financial crisis with the Reinventing Greece project. Throughout those summers, he visited a long list of ancient sites that he regularly came across in his Classics courses. Also while at UCLA, Joey served on the national lodge/board of the Sons of Pericles, the largest Greek American youth philanthropic organization. He has also been Greek folk dancing since he was five years old, and danced competitively at the annual Greek Folk Dance Festival throughout his youth. One his favorite research papers at UCLA was on the Pyrrhic dance in his Ancient Athletics course – the ancient Olympic event is the supposed origin of a Pontic Greek war dance (Serra) that Joey has danced many times.

Following graduation, Joey worked at Lazard as an investment banking analyst. At Lazard he focused on mergers & acquisitions in the healthcare industry, and helped advise companies such as Google's Verily and Amgen. After two years, Joey returned home to Los Angeles in 2016 to work in private equity as an associate at The Gores Group. At Gores, he evaluates control investment opportunities and helps oversee/manage portfolio companies owned by the firm. Joey is passionate about contrarian value investing and naturally gravitates towards challenging and unconventional investment opportunities such as distressed turnarounds and corporate carve-outs.

Outside of his career, Joey enjoys spending time continuing his education in Classics and perpetuating Hellenism. When it comes to Classics, somehow his reading list gets longer the more he reads! Joey is a staunch proponent of Classical studies – it's always the first opinion he asserts on the topic of education. Although he works in finance today, he attributes a lot of the development in his critical thinking and analytical skills to his time spent at Dodd Hall. For example, Joey regularly recalls Professor Morris framing the question of the end of the Bronze Age in her course on Mycenaean Art and Archaeology (a must!) as an exploration of war, climate, or catastrophe. There's no quick-fast answer as to what exactly happened around 1200 BC – it's a complicated mystery that requires an inter-disciplinary approach to postulate possible explanations. Joey thrives on these types of unique and perplexing learning experiences. He constantly seeks after them in his career, and believes there is no better place to find them at UCLA than at the Classics Department.

# Graduate Alumni Travel

## In the Footsteps of Alexander

Justin Vorhis (Classics PhD, 2017)

To celebrate my graduation from UCLA's Classics Ph.D. program in June 2017, I spent the final part of the year fulfilling a dream I had conceived early on in graduate school: to take a trip following in the footsteps of Alexander the Great, the subject of my dissertation and the reason I chose to study Classics in the first place.

While my plans for this Alexander trip had originally been far grander, I decided, in the end, to focus on a single part of the Macedonian king's career, namely, his early campaigns in Greece and the Balkans. By focusing on these campaigns, I figured, I would not only be starting from the beginning of Alexander's career, but would also be able to cover many of his marches on foot, something I had long hoped to do.

Throughout October, I retraced Alexander's Greek campaign of 336 B.C., his campaign to reassert Macedonian hegemony over Greece in the wake of his father Philip's assassination. Starting from Pella, I followed Alexander's probable route south to Corinth, having a number of adventures along the way: crossing Mt. Ossa with the help of a Greek guide, as Alexander had done to outflank a Thessalian army encamped in the Vale of Tempe; passing through Thermopylae after taking a bath in the site's famous hot springs; and, last but certainly not least, befriending a group of Greek neo-pagans at Corinth and subsequently participating in a neo-pagan ceremony amidst the ruins of the temple of Aphrodite on Acrocorinth (!).

The next month, I returned to northern Greece to follow Alexander's Balkan campaign of 335 B.C., his campaign against the Thracian and Illyrian tribes beyond the borders of Macedon. While I began this part of the trip in Greece, hiking from Amphipolis to Xanthi, I spent most of it in Bulgaria, where, in a whirlwind bus tour, I made my way, together with my partner Celsiana, to most of the country's major Alexander-related sites: Plovdiv (ancient Philippopolis), a Thracian town refounded by Philip II; the Shipka pass, where Alexander may have won his first victory over a Thracian tribe; and the Danube river, which Alexander crossed with a small force as a way of compelling the same Thracian tribe to surrender. From Bulgaria, I pressed on alone to Albania, where, with the help of a Greek taxi driver, I visited the hill some have identified as Pelion, the site of Alexander's victory over the Illyrians.

Finally, in late November, I returned to Greece to retrace Alexander's second Greek campaign, his fateful march on the rebellious city-state of Thebes. Following a combination of modern reconstructions of this campaign, I traveled by foot from Upper Macedonia to the base of the Pindos mountains, by car and bus from the Pindos down to Thermopylae, and again by foot from Thermopylae most of the way to Thebes. When I reached Thebes, my sense of accomplishment was matched only by my sense of exhaustion. What, I wondered, was Alexander thinking when he reached Thebes over two thousand years ago? Was he, like me, ready to return home? Or was he, instead, already yearning to embark on the campaign that would make him a legend. If my travels had taught me anything about him, I felt confident I knew the answer.



# Alumni News

**Robin Bond** (Classics PhD, 1999) is an Assistant Dean of the Honors College at Washington State University. She is involved with operations of the College (including advising, recruiting, admissions, etc.), directs the undergraduate honors thesis program, and promotes the distinguished scholarship program among the honors students. She recently published an article in *Classical World*, "Dramatic Reckoning of the Numeric Kind: Herodotus' Extended Calculations."

**Yurie Hong** (Classics PhD, 1999) is an Associate Professor of Classics at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. Her research focuses on the representation of pregnancy and childbirth in Greek literature and medicine. These days, she is particularly interested in examining the ways in which the study of the ancient world can prompt us to think more deeply about contemporary concerns.

**Haley Iwig** (Classical Civilization BA, 2015) is pursuing her Masters of Social Work at California State University, Long Beach.

**Suzanne Lye** (Classics PhD, 2016) will start her new position at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with the title Assistant Professor of Classics next Fall term (2018-19 academic year).

**Bruce McMenemy** (PhD, 1993) is living in Seattle and has made a career out of online teaching, which gives him a "delightful range of options most university professors wouldn't have." He teaches Latin and Greek, "Western Literature to Dante," Shakespeare, world history, and even occasionally Old English. He and his wife set up Scholars Online as a non-profit corporation, and he is very proud of the success his students have achieved: he has five or six Classics Ph.D.s among his former students, and a number of others have done spectacularly well on the National Greek and Latin exams. In 2014 he published *Syntactical Mechanics* with the University of Oklahoma Press (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/0806144947/>). He also reviews occasionally for Classical Journal and is active with the American Classical League.

**Nathan Pollak** (Classical Civilization and Economics BA, 2005) owns and operates a local chain of artisan grilled cheese sandwich restaurants in San Francisco. He has just announced a franchising program to expand his concept across the West and hopefully the US. He has also published a grilled cheese cookbook that is a national best seller on Amazon. He is pursuing his MBA at the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley.

**Melissa Rose** (Classical Civilization and Political Science BA, 2014) received her JD from the University of San Diego School of Law in 2017 and is now a practicing attorney in San Diego. She specializes in insurance coverage and insurance defense. In the spirit of Classics, she named her two cats Apawllo and Artemis.

**Erika Regina Schulz** (Classical Civilization and French BA, 2013) graduated from the UCLA School of Law in 2016, where she served as class president all three years. She is now an associate at DLA Piper LLP, where she practices

**We want to keep in touch with all our students and friends, so please do send any news of your lives and accomplishments to [kmorgan@humnet.ucla.edu](mailto:kmorgan@humnet.ucla.edu)!**



# Upcoming Events



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The **Joan Palevsky Lecture in Classics** will be delivered on Thursday April 26th, 2018 by Daniel Padilla Peralta, Assistant Professor of Classics, Princeton University. Professor Padilla Peralta will be presenting a lecture entitled, "Citizenship's insular cases: from Greece and Rome to Puerto Rico." "The title for this lecture references a series of court opinions in 1901 that marked a decisive turn in the United States' practice of what has since become known as 'differentiated citizenship.' Working backwards from this historical juncture, I will examine the appearance of systems of differentiated citizenship in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean and comment on their reception in several modern colonial (and postcolonial) contexts."

We encourage all friends and alumni of the department to attend this public lecture at the California Nanosystems Institute on the UCLA Campus. Please join us for a reception at 4 pm (meet old friends and make new ones!), and the lecture at 5 pm. We will be providing more detailed instructions and maps after we send out a formal invitation and receive your reservations. In the meantime, be sure to save the date.