



GRADUATE NEWS

The present academic year is the inaugural year of our new graduate programme in Classics. The new streamlined structure of our M.A. and Ph.D. programmes is designed to maintain the high international standing of our graduate department in the midst of rapid developments in the study of antiquity and profound changes in the modern university. By renewing our methods of training, we intend to ensure that our graduates will continue to be at the vanguard of the next generations of Classicists. Our first cohort entering the initial “qualifying” year of the programme will comprise five M.A. and eight Ph.D. students.

It has been a good year for external fellowships for our graduate students. Six have been awarded Ontario Graduate Scholarships, and one an SSHRC doctoral fellowship. Two incoming Ph.D. students have also been granted Connaught Scholarships.

Our congratulations to Aara Suksi (currently Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta) on her successful defence of her thesis in June.

CLASSICS

Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto

Volume Seven

September 1999

<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/classics>



FROM THE CHAIR

We have now been a year in our new home and are so pleased to be in these quarters that it is already hard to remember that we were ever elsewhere. Renovation continued throughout the year and is now far enough on that we have planned our official opening. It will be on Friday, October 15 in the Woodbury Library at 97 St. George Street at 5 p.m. The reception will be held in conjunction with the reception for the “Negotiating Ideologies” Conference (see p.2). You are cordially invited. If you think you can join us please call would help us to have some idea in advance of how many people to expect.

At the reception on October 15, Helen Smith will present for the first time the Department’s new **R.M. Smith Scholarship**, in honour of her husband. The first winner is George Bevan, a graduate student in Classics who is also an accomplished Sanskritist: he is an especially appropriate recipient since the scholarship commemorates a distinguished Sanskrit scholar. Once again we thank warmly all of you who in the past few years have responded to the Department’s fund-raising appeals and have made this scholarship possible. As you know

your donations were matched by the University, and in some cases by the Ontario government.

Other events of note during the autumn will be the Mary White Lecture and the Samuel J. Stubbs Lecture, the former by Christopher Jones, the latter by Anne Carson. Both lecturers have close connections with Toronto: Christopher taught for many years in the UofT Classics Department, and Anne received her Ph.D. from Toronto. The Mary White Lecture, entitled “Roman Law and Greek Bilingualism,” will be on Friday, October 29 at 12 noon in the George Ignatieff Theatre at Trinity College, and the Stubbs Lecture, entitled “The Economy of the Unlost: Reading Simonides with Paul Celan” will be on Wednesday, December 1 at 4:30 p.m in Room 140 at University College.

We have two new faces among the faculty this year. Both were undergraduates in our Department. Rebecca Nagel (see p.2) will be with us for the next few years; George Robertson, who defended his doctoral dissertation in May of this year at Oxford, will be teaching for the coming year, the last year of Christer Bruun’s leave in Rome.

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REBECCA NAGEL

Rebecca Nagel returns to the Classics Department this year. Her connections with the University are many: her father is recently retired from Philosophy, her sister is joining that Department, and her husband, Andrew MacMillan, has been a faculty member of the Department of Chemistry since 1996 (they met while they were undergraduates at the University of Toronto). Her study of Latin and Greek began at the University of Toronto Schools with Mrs. Lacey and Mr. Maynard; from 1984-88 she was a student at Victoria College in the Classics Specialist programme. In 1988 she went to Harvard University for a Ph.D. in Classical Philology. There, Professor Richard Tarrant,

formerly of Classics at the University of Toronto, supervised her dissertation on the similes in Statius' *Thebaid*. For the academic year 1994-95 she was the Crake Doctoral Fellow at Mount Allison University; the following year she lectured in Greek at Harvard and taught also at Tufts University.

In 1996 she was appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Alberta. As of July 1, 1999 we welcome Dr. Nagel to Toronto Classics and to her new office at



Room 105a on the main floor of the Department Building.

Rebecca's teaching interests are in Greek and Latin language and literature. This year she will be teaching Introductory Latin, Greek and Roman Mythology, and Women in Classical Literature. Her research interests

are in the area of Latin literature especially Imperial poetry. Her article, "The Lyric Lover in Horace, *Odes* 1.15 and 1.17", will be appearing in *Phoenix* in the near future.

NEGOTIATING

IDEOLOGIES

In the fall of 1998, some members of the department decided that a conference would be an ideal way to celebrate both the new home of the Department and the restructuring of the graduate programme. A topic and title, *Negotiating Ideologies*, was promptly established. The aim of the conference, broadly speaking, is both to reassess the different conceptions and practices of ideology in antiquity and to question the value or even the relevance of ideology in contemporary criticism. Ideology has often served, for example, as a



productive framework in which to situate a discussion of the representations of cultural constructs (e.g. class, status, gender and identity).

But problems often arise when one ideological paradigm is projected onto the myriad discourses of the past. The conference, therefore, aims (1) to refocus attention on the nexus of competing ideologies and (2) to adopt a more inclusive approach that emphasizes all

acts of representation, not only in literary texts but also in visual and material culture. The programme for

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VORRES SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Victoria Bishop (Victoria College, 9T9), this year's winner of the **Andrew and Stephanie Vorres Scholarship** for study in Greece, kept in touch with the Department by e-mail during her sojourn there. A straight A student throughout her time at the University of Toronto and already admitted to the University's M.A. Programme in Museum Studies, Victoria will be given credit for her summer studies in that programme. The summer course under the auspices of the American School of

Classical Studies at Athens, included visits to Crete, the Peloponnese, Delphi, Thessalonika, and Pella. Each participant was responsible for introducing the others to two sites: Victoria gave one of her presentations at the choregic monument of Lysicrates in Athens, a site relevant to her studies in Greek Tragedy and Comedy during her final undergraduate year.

At Epidaurus she saw two of Aeschylus' plays, *The Libation Bearers* and *The Eumenides*. At Eleusis she visited the site of the Telesterion, one of the most sacred sites of ancient Hellas. She walked in the footsteps of Socrates at the excavations in the Athenian agora and mourned the fallen at Marathon and Themopylae. Travelling to Northern Greece by bus, the group passed Mount Olympus when the



Victoria Bishop, this year's Vorres Scholar, in front of the Tholos at Delphi.

sky was cloudy and three huge lightning bolts flashed from the sky. "It was spectacular! No doubt Hera and Zeus were arguing again."

In Crete, she met Katerina Janetas, a previous undergraduate winner of the Vorres Scholarship who was working on the Kommos site with Professors John and Maria Shaw (Katerina is advancing into the Ancient Studies Programme with

Fine Art specialization). "The Shaws gave us a great tour. It gave me a new appreciation of how complex such a multi-phased site can be." At Knossos, Victoria was struck by the efficiency of the clerestory structure of the Palace; to her delight, on her return to Heraklion she discovered that her hotel room opened onto a lightwell of its own. A royal treat!

NEGOTIATING IDEOLOGIES

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the conference, organized by graduate students David Meban and David Roselli, has now been finalized and includes nineteen papers to be presented over the course of three days, October 15-17, 1999. The keynote addresses will be delivered by Josiah Ober of

Princeton and Matthew Roller of Johns Hopkins. For more information on the conference visit our webpage (www.chass.utoronto.ca/classics/new_grad_prog/ideology_conf.html) or contact us directly via e-mail (negotiating.ideologies@utoronto.ca) or phone 978-5513.



THE CROSSWORD SOLVED

Printed at right is the solution to the Greek crossword puzzle published in our most recent newsletter. The (revised) clues can be found through the Department's web page. Congratulations to our winner, James M. Lynd (M.A. 8T5). We have forwarded to him the promised prize, an auto-graphed copy of Anne Carson's acclaimed *Autobiography of Red*.



FROM THE CHAIR

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George follows Bruce Robertson (no relation!), whom we congratulate on his tenure-track job at Mount Allison. Alison Keith, who received a Humboldt Fellowship, is in Freiburg, Germany this year; Hugh Mason and John Traill are also on leave and will be much of the year in Greece.

Congratulations are due to Christer Bruun and Michael Dewar, both of whom were awarded tenure in the past year. University of Toronto President Rob Prichard, who approves tenure-decisions in the final instance, commented expressly that the dossiers of these two candidates were outstanding. No

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surprise to us who know them both well. John Magee sailed though his promotion to the rank of Professor in the past year: another person of whom we are enormously proud.

This is the last Newsletter of the millennium. We hope we are ready for any *contretemps* that Y2K may bring and are looking forward to the future in our new home, with con-

stantly renewed faculty. The University is bracing itself for increased enrolment, and we hope to have our share of it. The first event we can announce for the year 2000 is our high-school day on Monday, February 14.

Please do visit us on October 15 if you can.

— Emmet Robbins

For contributions to this issue of *Classics*, I wish to thank Victoria Bishop, Alexander Jones, Philippa Matheson, David Meban, Emmet Robbins, Rebecca Nagel; for layout, artwork and design of the newsletter, Philip Street; for printing, The Printing Mill; for preparing the mailing, Loretta England.

—M.T. O'Mara

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