

## NEW AWARDS

*The Dorothy Ellison (4T8) Scholarships in Latin and an Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Classics in memory of Dorothy Ellison*

Three new scholarships have been given by Laura Chunosoff in memory of her friend Dorothy Ellison, alumna of the University (1948) and former student of English and Latin. Two scholarships will be awarded for excellence in undergraduate courses in Latin. The third scholarship will be awarded to a graduate student to enable him or her to continue studies in Classics.

It is expected that these scholarships will be awarded for the first time in 2003. The Department is grateful to Ms Chunosoff for her generosity in making these awards possible.

## GRADUATE NEWS

- Ross G. Arthur (M.A. 1969), invites you to look at PDF files of the *Iliad*, the *Odyssey*, and Plato's *Apology*. The texts, in elegant script, may be downloaded at <http://www.yorku.ca/inpar/>
- Alan Bowman (Ph.D. 1969) has been appointed Camden Chair of Ancient History at Oxford.
- Anne Carson (Ph.D 1981) continues to be feted with awards: the Griffin Poetry Prize for her poetry collection *Men in the Off Hours* and, for *The Beauty of the Husband*, the 2001 T. S. Eliot Prize and the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry.
- Isla Chisholm (B.A. 2000) has recently completed her MA in Classics at Nottingham University.

# CLASSICS

Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto  
Volume Nine June 2002  
<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/classics>



## EX CATHEDRA

When I attended the orientation session for new chairs last fall, the Provost predicted that our time as chairs would fly past, and how right he was. My first year has gone by in an exhilarating flash!

The big news of the year has certainly been searches for new colleagues. We looked in four areas: ancient drama (at UT-Mississauga), ancient philosophy, Roman history, and Greek history. At this moment we have only made one definite hire: Martin Revermann will be joining the department at UTM. Martin is a recent graduate of Oxford and comes to us from a junior research fellowship at Merton College. His undergraduate teaching will be shared with Drama and Theatre Studies, but he will play a vital role in our graduate programme on the St. George campus. Martin says he will be around 97 St. George a good deal and we look forward to having him with us. We still hope to add an ancient philosophy specialist to our roster for next year (a joint position with the Philosophy department), but despite a string of impressive candidates we didn't find the right person for either history position. The searches will continue next year.

It was a bumper year for visiting speakers as well. In addition to all our job candidates, we had David Konstan delivering the Robson lectures at Victoria College, David Sedley for the Mary White Memorial Lecture at Trinity, Alexander Nehamas for the Stubbs lecture at University College, and Martin West delivered this year's Wiegand lecture to a packed house in

the Medical Sciences Auditorium (and on the internet – if you missed it in person, you can check the link at <http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/newsandevents/webcasts/wiegand/index.shtml> .

Ancient Studies is also thriving. The new director is Eric Csapo of Classics and the programme has for the first time forged a formal link with the Canadian Archaeological Institute in Athens. The University has founded the CAIA Fellowship, a great opportunity for a Toronto graduate student to work with the Archaeological Institute. The University will now have formal representation on CAIA's board.

Our faculty members have done very well in grant competitions. Professors Bruun, Csapo, Jones and McDonough join Burgess, Inwood, Magee and Rubincam as SSHRCC research award holders. Tim Barnes' Killam senior fellowship has been renewed for a second year.

Our students continue to win awards too. This year's Vorres travelling scholarship went to Jennifer Stewart of our M.A. programme. The Connor prize for Greek composition was won by doctoral candidate George Bevan, and undergraduate Diana Pai was an impressive runner-up. Our students also did well in the prizes for sight translation awarded by the Classical Association of Canada (the details are reported elsewhere in the newsletter). But most exciting of all is the foundation of two new prizes in honour of alumna Dorothy Ellison. Thanks to the generosity of her

*continued on page three*

# NEWSNOTES

## FACULTY NEWS

Professor Michael Dewar has been chosen to receive an Outstanding Teaching Award from the Faculty of Arts and Science. (See photo at right.)

Professor Catherine Rubincam was this year's lecturer on the Central Lecture Tour sponsored by the Classical Association of Canada. Between October 9 and 19, 2001, she visited ten universities (Western Ontario, Wilfrid Laurier,

McMaster, Brock, York, Queen's, Ottawa, Carleton, McGill, and Concordia), delivering three different lectures: "Thucydides and Defoe: Two Plague Narratives"; "Roman Liberty: Iconography and Ideology"; and "Casualty Figures in the Greek Historians".

Having now served for two years as Vice-President of the Classical Association, Professor Rubincam will begin a two-year term as President in May 2002.

### Recent publications by Classics faculty:

*The Tradition of the Trojan War in Homer and the Epic Cycle*, Jonathan S. Burgess. Baltimore, Md: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001.

*Engendering Rome: Women in Latin Epic*, A.M. Keith. Cambridge ; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

*Ptolemy's Geography: An Annotated Translation of the Theoretical Chapters*, J. Lennart Berggren and Alexander Jones. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 2000.



Dean Carl Amrhein presents Professor Michael Dewar (right) with an Outstanding Teaching Award in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Congratulations, Michael!

## UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Congratulations to the following students for an excellent showing in the Classical Association of Canada sight competitions:

### Senior Sight Translation in Greek

First Prize: Edward Barham  
Fifth Prize: Brian Monteiro

### Senior Sight Translation in Latin

First Prize: Brian Monteiro  
Third Prize: Alexander Orwin  
Honourable Mention: Michelle Wong

Giselle Gos, a first-year student in Greek, and Kristina Glicksman, in third-year Latin, have been accepted in the Anglo-American Project in Pompeii this summer, organized by the University of Bradford in England. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to get experience in field archaeology, and we look forward to a report from them when they return.



## IN MEMORIAM

### Rev. Donald Joseph McNeil, C.S.B. 1916-2001

The Reverend Donald McNeil, M.A. (Toronto) 1948, of the Congregation of Priests of St Basil, formerly Associate Professor of Classics in St Michael's College and latterly in the Department of Classics of the University of Toronto, died in Toronto on 24 November, 2001, after a very long and intense illness.

Donald Joseph McNeil graduated from the Honours Classics course of the University of Toronto, and taught Latin and Greek for 43 years, in the St Michael's Department of Classics and after 1975, in the University Department of Classics.

After his retirement, Father McNeil continued his conscientious service to St Michael's by carrying out the complex and sometimes touchy task of classroom assignment: "Space Controller" was how he appeared for many years in the St Michael's staff directory, a title in which he took a certain understated delight.



## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

**re: Charles Norris Cochrane**  
1889-1945 (Professor of Ancient History, 1929-1945)

I would be grateful for any information as to surviving relatives and the whereabouts of the Cochrane Papers.

Please write, phone or email to  
Barry Cahill  
Public Archives  
6016 University Avenue  
Halifax NS  
B3H 1W4  
Tel. 902 424 6085  
Fax 902 424 0628  
Email: yorkhill@istar.ca



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# APPRECIATION FOR YEARS OF GREEK

When I studied Ancient Greek in high school, there were rarely more than five students in the class. It wasn't easy to read Homer and Herodotus, not even in the 1960s when schools had far more money than they do today. In Grade 11, I was the sole Greek pupil, which meant the class had to be held in the early morning before the start of the regular curriculum.

Not only could Ancient Greek be a lonely road through the groves of academe, but sometimes an obscure and worrisome one, with no identifiable destination in sight. But I stayed with it through four years at the University of Toronto, a rapt traveller in a lost world, navigating Homer's wine-dark sea and rosy-fingered dawn, the haunted House of Thebes, and the agora of Athens where democracy took root.

As clearly as I recall the wonder and absorption of those stories and poems, I remember the jab of icy fear that I would not be able to find a job when the time came. And indeed, walking into an

## EX CATHEDRA

*continued from page one*

friend Laura Chunosoff of New York, there will now be prizes in Latin at the third and fourth year levels to match those in Greek. There will also be a new graduate scholarship in Dorothy Ellison's memory. Generous support from friends of the department also helps the Smith fellowship to continue its impressive growth.

As tuition increases make it harder and harder for students to pursue their love of the classics at university, the generous support which alumni have given to departmental fellowship funds becomes all the more precious. I want to thank everyone who has contributed and urge you all to give something to our fellowship and prize funds next year. Your gift will be tax deductible, of course. To make a donation, contact the



*Heather Hill (right) gathers information for a story.*

employment agency with no typing skills but a meticulous knowledge of a dead language is a humiliating experience. There were several false starts as I took several McJobs — receptionist,

office of the chair at 416-978-3179 or by email ([chair.classics@utoronto.ca](mailto:chair.classics@utoronto.ca)).

Finally, a piece of news we greet with mixed feelings. Two former chairs of the department, John Grant and Emmet Robbins, are taking early retirement at the end of this academic year. Both have given many years of distinguished service in the classroom and in research, and both have devoted themselves selflessly to the well-being of the discipline of Classics and of the department. They will be missed greatly, but I am sure that readers of this newsletter will join me in wishing them both many years of happy and productive retirement. *Otium cum dignitate* is a just recompense for having given so much to so many.

*Brad Inwood*  
Chair

jeune fille au pair, advertising clerk. Unfulfilling? Of course. Did I regret my chosen course of studies? Never.

Eventually I hit upon a professional field — journalism — where the intellectual rigour and discipline demanded by Greek were vital professional tools. After you have learned to keep in your head five cases and six tenses, collecting the data for a 10-inch story on a hospital strike is a walk in the park. The drama of a news story becomes a tiny shadow beside the mythic events and complex motivations of a Greek tragedy.

Over time, the characters of the countless pages of Greek I read have faded from my memory like the print on old wallpaper. But the foundation of the language is strong. Whatever edifice I construct as a writer today rises successfully on that.

*Heather Hill*

*Heather Hill (Victoria College, 1976) has been working as a public information officer for the United Nations World Food Programme since 1998. She is based in Bangkok.*



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# SPRING REUNION 2002

As part of the University of Toronto's Spring Reunion

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

are invited to a reception  
on Thursday, June 6, 2002  
From 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

in the Woodbury Room, in the Department's new home at 97 St. George Street

We hope that alumni and friends of the department will be able to visit our new headquarters in a fine heritage house at the heart of the St. George campus, meet the faculty and staff, and to catch up on our exciting plans for the future, including several new appointments.

We are also inviting to the reception the students who are completing programs in Classics, and who have participated, for the first time, in the university's "Gratitude" fundraising campaign.

To recover the costs of entertaining the students, we will be asking faculty and alumni to contribute \$10.00 towards the cost of the reception.

We do hope very much that you will be able to visit us on June 6th.

**RSVP by Monday, June 3, 2002, to**

**Professor Hugh J. Mason  
Department of Classics  
97 St. George Street  
University of Toronto  
Toronto ON M5S 2E8**

**or email** [hugh.mason@utoronto.ca](mailto:hugh.mason@utoronto.ca)

**or phone** 416-978-7174

**or fax** 416-978-7037

**Please make your cheques payable to: University of Toronto.**

How did the study of Classics prepare you for what you are doing now? If you, like Heather Hill, have discovered that learning Greek or Latin has given you skills for the workplace, please send your story for our next newsletter to the Editor, Eleanor Irwin, Department of Classics, 97 St George St., Toronto, or email [irwin@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:irwin@utsc.utoronto.ca)

Please consider the Chair's request for contributions to fellowship and prize funds.

For contributions to this issue, I wish to thank my colleagues: Brad Inwood, Michael Dewar, Alexander Jones, Christopher McDonough, Richard Toporoski, Hugh Mason and Catherine Rubincam; for layout, artwork and design of the newsletter, Philip Street; for printing, the Printing Mill.

—Eleanor Irwin, Editor

Return address:

**Department of Classics, University of Toronto,  
97 St. George St., Toronto, Canada M5S 2E8**

