



# Classics UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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



## EX CATHEDRA



As another academic year draws to a close it is a pleasure to review the Department's achievements over the past year. After two years of intensive internal program

reviews (graduate, 2008-2009, and undergraduate 2009-2010), the Department's attention this past year has been on consolidating program gains with the implementation of the new graduate program and the movement of the new undergraduate programs and courses through Faculty and University governance.

A cornerstone of the revised undergraduate program structure is the inclusion of a new second-year research methods course in Classical Studies with a special focus on quantitative research methods (CLA260H1). As a requirement for all majors and specialists across all our programs, this course will enhance instructional support for research engagement in our undergraduate programs and integrate courses and students across the civilization/language program divide.

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Curricular links fostered in the context of the academic planning exercise of 2009-2010 have borne fruit with the Department's support of the inaugural season this summer of an undergraduate archaeology course (ARH361H1F) at Huqoq in Israel and the realignment of SMC 222H1F, Medieval Latin, to a second semester offering in order to follow LAT201H1F in sequence and consolidate the organic relationship between classical and medieval Latin programs.

Our outstanding undergraduate Classics, Greek, and Latin programs have been nationally recognized again this year with multiple awards to our students in the Classical Association of Canada National Sight Translation Competitions: two First Prizes, three Second Prizes, two Third Prizes and two Honorable Mentions! Congratulations to Cristina Ichim (Second Prize, Junior Greek), Mufei Jiang (Second Prize, Junior Latin; Third Prize, Junior Greek), Sonya Tors (Third Prize, Junior Latin), Alessandro Sisti (First Prize, Senior Greek; Second Prize, Senior Latin), Jacob Currie (First Prize, Senior Latin), Laura Hare (Honourable Mention, Senior Greek), and Nicholas Arrigo (who in addition to receiving an Honourable Mention in Senior Latin has also been recognized by the award of a Jackman Humanities Institute Undergraduate Fellowship for 2011-2012, for his project on location/dislocation in Ovid's *Heroides* and *Tristia*).

Congratulations are also owed to Aven McMaster and Donald Sells, who this past year defended dissertations on "*Liberalitas* in late Republican and Early Augustan Roman Poetry" and "Old Comedy and its Performative Rivals of the Fifth Century" respectively. We wish them well as they embark on careers in the profession: Aven holds a tenure track position in Classics at Thorneloe College affiliated with Laurentian University in Sudbury, and Donald will take up a post-doctoral fellowship in the Department of Classics at McMaster University in the fall.

Faculty members too continue to dazzle audiences at home and abroad, delivering prestigious lectures to acclaim (see Faculty Notes, pp. 2-3) and receiving a slew of awards and honours again this year. Professor Rachel Barney has been promoted to the rank of full Professor, effective 1 July 2011. Professors Regina Höschele, Brad Inwood, and Jarrett Welsh have been awarded SSHRC Standard

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Hugh Mason and Alison Keith pose with some of the department's 2011 Classical Association of Canada National Sight Translation Prize winners (left to right): Nicholas Arrigo, Jacob Currie, Mufei Jiang and Sonya Tors. Photo credit: Dimitri Nakassis.

# FACULTY NOTES

In the past year **Ben Akrigg's** primary focus has been on projects nearing completion, including the manuscript of a monograph on *Population and Economy in Classical Athens*, and the volume he is co-editing with Professor Robert Tordoff of York University on *Slaves in Greek Comedy* for Cambridge University Press. He also gave conference papers at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of Canada (CAC) and at Northwestern University and the University of Western Ontario.

In addition to serving as Director of the Collaborative Program in Ancient History (ColPAH), **Andreas Bendlin** presented papers at conferences and workshops in Toronto, across the United States, and in Europe. Topics ranged widely, from the uses of myth in ancient literature and the notion of religion in Roman antiquity to the lives of associations in the imperial period and religion under the Flavian emperors. His publications similarly focused on the topics of associative life in the Roman world and Roman religion.

**Katherine Blouin** also lectured widely this past year, giving talks in Canada, Europe and the Middle East, while writing or publishing articles dedicated to the socio-economic and environmental history of Hellenistic and Roman Egypt. She also co-organized, together with Ingrid Hehmer of Ryerson University, a workshop on "Water and Society in Eastern Mediterranean Regions during Ancient and Medieval Times" (poster pictured below). She is currently completing a book on the Nile delta under Roman Rule and developing, in partnership with the University of Hawaii and the Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale, an excavation



project on the Hellenistic and Roman site of Tell Timai in the Eastern Nile delta.

Currently involved in a long-range project supported by SSHRC, that contextualizes the *Odyssey* in travel literature, **Jonathan Burgess** recently presented a paper on *Cold Mountain* and is about to embark on a research trip to Philadelphia to examine classical material in the commonplace book of William Bartram (the 18th c. traveling natural historian, whose book



*Travels* is featured along with the *Odyssey* in *Cold Mountain*). He enjoys exploring these issues in his classes, including, this past semester, an undergraduate course on ancient travel literature and, in the coming year, an undergraduate course on the pastoral (as literary genre, economic livelihood, and ideology) and a graduate seminar on the *Odyssey* and other ancient, fantastic travel tales.

On research leave in 2010-2011, **Christer Bruun** reports that one of the highlights of a busy and productive year was participating in the German-Dutch excavations of the Flavian imperial palace on the Palatine in Rome, led by Natascha Sojc. There he helped excavate a large lead pipe with a hitherto unknown inscription naming an imperial procurator (see photograph above). In December, he enjoyed the great honour of being elected a Foreign Member of the Societas Scientiarum Fennica (the Finnish equivalent to the Royal Society of Canada).

**Michael Dewar** was also on research leave this past year, working on a monograph on the politically charged representation of villas in Latin poetry, to be published next year by Bloomsbury. He



Above: Dean Meric Gertler presents a Faculty of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award to Professor Victoria Wohl. Photo credit: Lisa Bullock.

Left: Professor Christer Bruun excavating a lead pipe on the Palatine hill. Photo Credit: Andrea Schmoelder.

also wrote reviews of books on Lucan and Venantius Fortunatus for *Mnemosyne* and *The Journal of Medieval Latin*, gave a paper in October at a conference on the topography of Rome at the Fondation Hardt in Geneva (to be published in the Scripta Antiqua collection of Les Editions Ausonius), and had the honour of delivering the annual Arthur F. Stocker Lecture at the University of Virginia in March.

Enjoying a sabbatical semester, **Michel Cottier** spent January and February in Oxford at the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, at work on his next project: a complete edition of papyri documenting the activities of Lucius Belenus Gemellus, a legionary veteran who settled in the Egyptian Fayyum at the end of the first century AD. This work is a joint project with Department alumns Rodney Ast (University of Heidelberg) and George Bevan (Queen's University) as well as Giuseppina Azzarello (University of Udine).

**Regina Höschele** spent the past year at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, DC and the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, working on her new project,

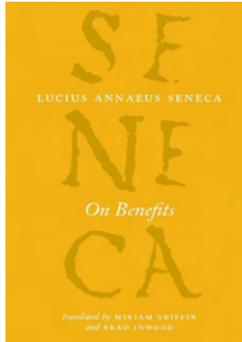
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## FACULTY NOTES

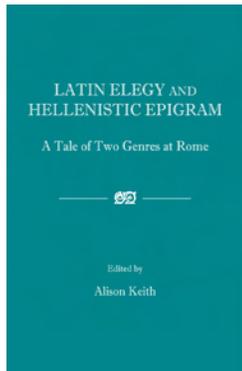
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a book-length study of Greek Imperial Epigram.

In recent months **Brad Inwood** delivered the Carl Newell Jackson lectures at Harvard University, under the title 'Ethics after Aristotle' and also saw the publication of his translation, with Miriam Griffin, of Seneca's *On Benefits* (University of Chicago Press 2011).



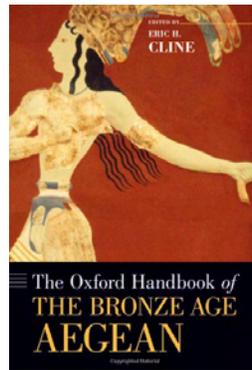
**Alison Keith** is enjoying her two-year term as President of the CAC (2010-2012) and especially the opportunity it affords her to catch up with friends and colleagues around the country at Council meetings and the Association's annual conference. She has recently edited a collection of papers on *Latin Elegy and Hellenistic Epigram* (Cambridge Scholars Press 2011) and completed a short commentary on selections from Latin Epic for Bolchazy-Carducci (forthcoming 2012). Her current research project centers on the reception of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* in imperial Latin epic, for which she has received funding support from SSHRC.



Thanks to an Insight Development Grant from SSHRC, **Eph Lytle** looks forward to research travel in the Aegean and Black Sea regions over the next two years. Recent and forthcoming publications include chapters in two edited volumes and articles in *Hesperia*, *TAPA* and *Classical Antiquity*. These articles treat topics ranging from Boeotian epigraphy to Oppian's *Haliutica*. He plans this summer to finish a monograph on fishing and the ancient economy.

**Hugh Mason** finishes his second term as undergraduate coordinator this July and looks forward to retiring from the University in July 2012. He has been busy guiding the revised undergraduate curriculum through the approval mechanism of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and working with Vichi Ciocani and Cara Jordan, who expect to finish their dissertations before he retires. His research on Longus and the Ancient Novel continues, and may shortly see some publications. He is looking forward to more time with his grandchildren and getting to Lesbos more often.

**Dimitri Nakassis** recently published two short articles in the *American Journal of Archaeology* in a special Forum section which he co-edited on redistribution in the Aegean Bronze Age. Two book chapters also came out this year, one for the *Oxford Handbook of the Bronze Age Aegean* and another in *Political Economies of the Aegean Bronze Age*. He continued work on his monograph on Mycenaean society and gave papers in the 13th International Colloquium of Mycenaean Studies in Paris, the annual meetings of the AIA in San Antonio, and the Archaeology of Performance conference at the Jackman Institute.



Enjoying a 6-month research leave, **Catherine Rubincam** made progress on her book *Quantifying Mentalities: Numbers in Ancient Greek Historiography*. In November she organized an afternoon symposium of six presentations by current and past research assistants (graduate students from the Department of Classics and undergraduates from UTM Historical Studies) on their contributions to the ongoing SSHRC-funded research project that is compiling the data to be presented in the above-mentioned book.

"*Labor vincit omnia*" cites Prof Emeritus **John Traill**. This year in addition to teaching nearly a full load of courses for the department, he also completed and published volume 19 of *Persons of Ancient Athens*,

while making progress on volume 20, and completed the MS of *Agora XVIII, Inscriptions: The Dedicatory Monuments* left unfinished by the late D. J. Geagan. Professor Traill further notes that "*Labor est laborem aliis donare*" applies to his contribution to *Collected Writings of E. Robbins* and the Canadian Institute in Greece volume in honour of the late Malcolm Wallace. He has also been assisting with the departmental squeeze project headed by former student Colin Clarke (see p. 4) and has added two new websites to join [chass.utoronto.ca/attica](http://chass.utoronto.ca/attica).

**Jarrett Welsh** continues work on his projects related to fragmentary Roman comedy, and completed a number of related articles on textual and philological problems in that material. He also completed a study of the earliest scholarly narratives about the beginnings of Latin literature, soon to appear in *JRS*.

While finishing the second year of a three-year term as graduate coordinator, **Victoria Wohl** found time for a busy speaking schedule: as the Martin Lecturer at Oberlin College she gave four papers on "The Politics of Form in Euripides," and she also delivered lectures at Oxford, Reading, and the CAC and APA. Victoria had an article appear in *TAPA* ("A Tragic Case of Poisoning: Intention between Tragedy and the Law"), and, perhaps most impressively, she was one of only four recipients of a Faculty of Arts and Science Outstanding Teaching Award (see photograph, p. 2).



Department graduates Donald Sells (PhD) and Meredith White (MA) at June Convocation. Photo credit: Ryan Sells.

## VORRES HONOURED

Thanks to the travel fellowship that he endowed, Ian Vorres has made it possible for dozens of department graduate students to visit and study in Greece. This summer that privilege will be enjoyed by Chris Wallace as he conducts research for his dissertation on Hellenistic civic institutions. The department is happy to learn that Ian Vorres's generosity and dedication to strengthening the bonds between Canada and Greece were recently recognized when he was awarded the Order of Canada, the nation's highest civilian



honour. He is pictured below, in the photograph on the left, at a special investment ceremony at the Vorres Museum with the Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, and Jean-Danielle Lafond. In the photograph on the right he is pictured with department graduate student Megan Campbell, who enjoyed Mr. Vorres's hospitality while spending the past year in Greece as Thomas Day Seymour Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies.



## EX CATHEDRA

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Research Grants and Professor Eph Lytle has been awarded one of the new SSHRC Insight Development Grants. In addition, Professor Victoria Wohl won an Outstanding Teaching Award from the Faculty of Arts & Science for her superb undergraduate teaching and pedagogical innovation in the Department. Congratulations to everyone!

Let me close by thanking the executive, Professors Hugh Mason and Victoria Wohl, and the administrative staff, Mrs. Ann-Marie Matti and Ms. Coral Gavrilovic, for their help and guidance in the Department office. I am especially grateful to Hugh Mason, who will step down from the position of Undergraduate Coordinator, which he has held since January 2008. He will be much missed by all of us in the office and, indeed, in the Department, when he enters retirement next year, after forty-three years on the faculty.

Alison Keith  
May 2011

## Contact & Credits

We are planning an expanded newsletter in the future and are interested in featuring profiles of our alumni. If you have suggestions or any news to report please contact us by email to:

[chair.classics@utoronto.ca](mailto:chair.classics@utoronto.ca)

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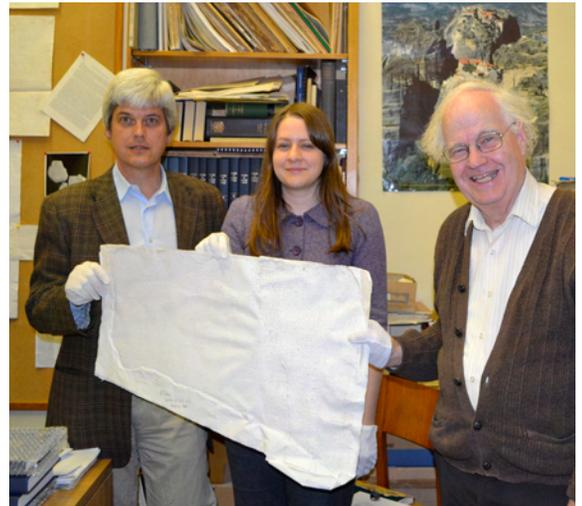
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## CENTRE FOR EPIGRAPHIC DOCUMENTS

The department is proud to host the Canadian Centre for Epigraphic Documents (CCED), founded in February of last year with the immediate goals of archiving, cataloguing and making digitally accessible thousands of squeezes donated to the department in recent years. Squeezes, the physical impressions of inscriptions, often made with photographic filter paper, are extremely useful research tools and frequently preserve evidence for missing or subsequently damaged documents. The Centre's collection will prove invaluable for future scholars. The project also has in mind larger goals such as establishing international cataloguing standards for epigraphic documents. For this, project members are uniquely well-prepared, with training in both Classics and Information Studies. The Centre possesses more than 3,000 squeezes, already making

it one of the largest collections in North America. A website is up and running at <http://epigraphy.chass.utoronto.ca/> and digitized images of the squeezes will soon be available online.



Left to Right: CCED Project Director Colin Clarke, Assistant Director Trisha Faulhafer, and Professor Emeritus John Traill, project advisor and contributor of well over a 1,000 squeezes of Attic inscriptions. Photo credit: E. Lytle.