GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

By Dennis Trout

Much of note has happened since I last wrote to welcome you to Mercurius. We currently boast more than fifty majors and twenty active graduate students and we continue to serve the campus in multiple ways. Our award-winning faculty members publish widely and present papers across the country and around the globe, and we are especially pleased to announce the arrival of Prof. Christopher Trinacty, a tenure-track Latinist. Several familiar faces have left our ranks, moving on to new jobs or new stages in their careers. Prof. Jim McGlew has joined the faculty at Rutgers, Prof. Charles Saylor is basking in the glory of emeritushood, and although Prof. John Miles Foley is now teaching less he continues to mentor graduate students and run both the Center for Studies in Oral Tradition and the Center for eResearch. In September we hosted a very successful graduate student conference and our own graduate students have been active in traveling to meetings and participating in archaeological work abroad. Both Casey Shamey and Philip Waddell have completed their dissertations and received their doctoral degrees—and both have jobs! Dr. Shamey is teaching the classics at the prestigious Ursuline School in New Rochelle, NY, and Prof. Waddell is in his second year of a Visiting Assistant Professorship with us. Prof. Doug Freeble has also been visiting for the last two years, teaching a wide range of courses. About all of this you will learn more below. So let me close by noting that as well as continuing to “Follow us on Facebook” (Classical Studies@Mizzou), you can now join us for a cup of coffee in our newly appointed common room on the fourth floor of Strickland Hall. Please do stop by when you are in the neighborhood!

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

SPEAKING OF CLASSICS

In the past year our journal Classical and Modern Literature helped sponsor two lectures on ancient Greece and Rome in film: Prof. Martin Winkler from George Mason University (“The Greek and Roman Gods on Film”) and Prof. Monica Cyrino from the University of New Mexico (“A Sit-Down Orgy for Forty: Screening Roman Sexual Deviance since ‘Quo Vadis’ (1951).”) Prof. Cyrino also delighted an enthusiastic audience of Classics graduate students with “I was Colin Farrell’s Latin Teacher,” a presentation on her adventures as a speech consultant for the 2011 remake of “Fright Night” (dir. Craig Gillespie). We enjoyed lectures by Prof. Hanna Roisman (Colby College), on “The Two Electras: Setting and Sense,” and Prof. Christopher Faraoe (University of Chicago), on “The Poetics of the Catalogue in the Hesiodic Theogony.” The 2011 Ancient Studies Lecturer was our former colleague from MU’s Religious Studies Department, Prof. Steve Friesen, now at the University of Texas-Austin, who returned to speak on “Junia Theodora and other Lost Lives from the Early Roman Empire, Being a Gendered Exploitation of Elite Men and Women.” Two Classical Studies workshops featured work by scholars in our own department: in November we heard from Morgan Grey (“Looking Back at Narcissus”) and from Alisa Bowden (“Lost in Translation: Female Agency in Archilochus”); in March Prof. Doug Freeble spoke on “Monster Killing in Greek Myth.” The academic year drew to a close with a reading of Odyssey Book I in Greek (and English, from time to time) at the annual “Homerathon,” hosted in 2011 by Prof. Mike Barnes and Prof. Anatole Mori.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

A round of applause for our six 2011 Arts and Science Scholarship winners: Stephen Cobb, Jaclyn Herr, Brittnay Lewis, Elizabeth Paris, Chelsie Temmen, and Lauren Woodruff. Kudos also to Larkin Philpot, now a
graduate student in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Toronto, for winning the 2011 Wakefield Foster Latin Prize, and to Bryson Sewell, who was awarded the 2011 Ferd LaBrunerie Greek Prize and has begun graduate work at the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Minnesota.

HEARTLAND GRADUATE WORKSHOP IN ANCIENT STUDIES

The inaugural meeting of the cross-disciplinary Heartland Graduate Workshop in Ancient Studies took place at Mizzou on September 23-24, 2011. Two faculty guest speakers, Prof. Nita Krevans (University of Minnesota) and Prof. Stephen Ellis (University of Cincinnati), and twelve graduate presenters from the universities of Chicago, Cincinnati, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin-Madison and Northwestern explored a number of topics related to the conference theme, “Foundations and Origins.” The workshop will be held next year at the University of Minnesota. 

http://sites.google.com/site/heartlandgradconference/home

CORIGLIA EXCAVATION

This summer Naomi Kaloudis, Kate Livingston, Eric Thienes, Rachelle Wilson-Loring (all Classical Studies graduate students), together with Tristan Barnes and an intrepid undergraduate, Maggie McCreary (both from the Department of Art History and Archaeology) participated in an archaeological excavation in Castel Viscardo, Umbria. Coriglia is an Etruscan and Roman settlement near the river Paglia and the ancient Via Nova Traiana. Excavations from the last six seasons have uncovered a Roman fountain, terrace walls, and an imperial bath complex. Notable finds this season included an Etruscan black bucchero vase, Villanovan impasto-ware sherds, Roman coins, a late antique pottery kiln, and a fragment of Augustan-period architectural terracotta. The excavation is organized and operated by Dr. David George and Dr. Claudio Bizzarri. http://www.digumbria.com/

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

In addition to teaching fellowships from the Graduate School, a number of named fellowships are also available on a competitive basis. Rebecca Benson and Katy Chenoweth, who joined us in Fall 2011, were each awarded G. Ellsworth Huggins Fellowships. Elizabeth Janda also holds a Huggins Fellowship; other fellowship recipients include Caitlin Corbett (Gus T. Ridgel Fellowship), Nikki Espie (Gus T. Ridgel Fellowship), Pierce Wade (Walter Miller Fellowship), and Deanna Wesolowski (Ancient Studies Fellowship). This year we are happy to announce two new sources of support: a final year dissertation fellowship, and a travel grant named in honor of the late Gene Lane. This year’s winner of the Lane Travel Grant, Naomi Kaloudis, reports, “I am grateful to the Eugene Lane Graduate Student Travel Grant for helping me to pursue my interest in classical archaeology at a more professional level. I look forward to hearing about experiences from other students who benefit from this grant.”

THE FUTURE OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

Your generous contributions to the department have been bearing fruit in a variety of ways. The Ferd LaBrunerie Greek Prize allows us to recognize our best undergraduate Greek student each spring. The Eugene Lane Fund provides support for our graduate students to travel and study abroad during the summers. Our departmental Walter Miller library has grown through contributions in honor of Wake Foster. Other funds have helped undergraduates take part in our burgeoning study abroad programs. As we grow and flourish, with ever increasing numbers of students and programs and limited support, our needs are great. Please consider contributing to Classics. For more information on giving, follow this link: http://classics.missouri.edu/giving.shtml.
MIKE BARNES: “Since the last Mercurius, I’ve managed to make even more irons and stick them in even more fires. In the summer of 2010, I led the second edition of the department’s study-abroad program: in the summer of 2009, Prof. Mori and I tromped around Greece and Turkey for five weeks with eight stalwart students; in June of 2010, I accompanied sixteen students on a tour of Greece for a month—from Athens, Mycenae, Delphi, and Olympia to Vergina, Pella, and Thessaloniki, with many days spent on the islands of Crete and Naxos and Santorini. There’s much I could say about the trip, but it would be simpler (and no less accurate) to say that it is the highlight of my teaching career to lead and learn with such students—all of them so eager, adventurous, thoughtful, and fun—as we soaked up as much Greek culture, ancient and modern, as we could. I’m very excited to launch the next study-abroad trip to Greece in the summer of 2012.

The big professional news on my end was winning a 2010 William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence in April of 2010. You can watch the whole thing unfold on YouTube, including my attempt to say something coherent after Chancellor Brady Deaton, a camera crew, and pretty much all my colleagues in the department interrupted one of my classes to announce the news. If you’re scoring at home, the department now has three Kemper winners: David Schenker, Barbara Wallach, and now, somehow, me. Among the perks of winning a Kemper, besides meeting past and present winners, riding in the Homecoming parade (so what if we were the last car?), waving to a confused crowd between the first and second quarter of an MU football game, and, you know, the $10,000 that comes with it—most of which I spent on a suede jacket encrusted with rhinestones that spell out “Kemper 4eva U can’t touch this” on the back. I wear it every day.

Speaking of teaching, I taught the usual apple-cart of classes the last few semesters, from the old standbys (myth to the masses, every fall) to some new courses (e.g., Classics in a Cross-Cultural Context, Greek “Boot Camp,” and a graduate course on the representation and reception of Achilles) as well as an array of special projects (an Undergraduate Research Mentorship on arete in Homer and Plato) and one-on-one intensive language courses (everything from Hellenistic literature to Greek prose composition to Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone in ancient Greek). In Spring 2011 I teamed up again with my colleague Prof. Marcus Rautman in Art History and Archaeology to offer a course on the ancient world in cinema. This year I’m making my debut teaching first-year ancient Greek, and I’m looking forward to teaching Latin prose composition in Fall 2012.

In February 2010 I happily gave a lecture in the Physics Department’s “Cosmic Conversations” series on “Dog Stars and Divine Hunters: Some Heavenly Bodies in Early Greek Poetry and Myth”; and April 2010 I co-presented, with Prof. Benton Kidd, the Curator of Ancient Art at our Museum of Art and Archaeology, an AIA lecture on “The Library of Alexandria: The Literary and Archaeological Evidence.” In December 2010 I gave the graduation address at the Arts & Science commencement ceremony, and I followed that up by reading the names of graduates at the Spring 2011 commencement. Besides the trip to Greece, I’ve made a couple of sojourns down to Lebanon Senior High School to give guest lectures to magistra Maegan Cooper’s (B.A. 2007) Latin III class, and traveled to southern California in September 2011 to read at Laura Behymer’s (B.A. 2006) wedding. (Yes, I do weddings, especially ones in California. Just call my agent.) While in California I visited the Getty Villa in Malibu for the first time since its renovation, and also spent several hours in the new Getty Center in Santa Monica. Both are jaw-droppers. Sadly, however, I have not been back to my adopted home, New Zealand, since 2006—a full five years now. The All Blacks flag still flies in my office, though, and as I write these words, the All Blacks are on the eve of the 2011 Rugby World Cup final against the French, and I am pretty much a jittery, anxious wreck.” (Editor’s note: the All Blacks beat France, 8–7, to win the World Cup.)
DAN HOOLEY: “Taking account of the past year’s work, you wonder what you spent all that time with, and why. Mostly, I’ve just forgotten. But the year has been in some respects memorable, notably for the changes and transitions in our departmental faculty—it was a bittersweet year in that respect—and the chance to give attention and finishing touches to a few projects. One essay, “Elegy’s Modernist Reception,” in The Blackwell Companion to Roman Elegy, ed. Barbara Gold (Blackwell, forthcoming 2011) gave me the opportunity to get back to some early ideas, dispose of most of them, and reacquaint myself with Roman elegy and Ezra Pound. Another piece, “Classical Mountain-scapes and their Legacies” in Heights of Reflection: Mountains in the German Imagination from the Middle Ages to the Present, ed. Sean Ireton and Caroline Schaumann (Camden House, forthcoming 2011) tapped into my climbing obsession (the editors too are climbers as well as German scholars) and was for that reason a delight to put together. A larger-scale project that has taken up quite a lot of the past couple of years, “Satire and Epigram: Horace, Juvenal, and Martial,” was written for the Oxford History of Classical Reception in English Literature, edd. C. Martindale and D. Hopkins (Oxford, forthcoming 2011-12) and, at long last, sent away in its final version. One more piece sent off during this past year, “Imperial Satire Reiterated,” was written for Barbara Gold and Josiah Osgood’s Blackwell Companion to Persius and Juvenal (Blackwell, 2011). A BMCR review of David Hopkins’ Con- versing with Antiquity: English Poets and the Classics from Shakespeare to Pope (Oxford, 2010), appeared last December.

This academic year, I am enjoying a research leave generously funded by a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship and the University of Missouri. I’m working on two projects, “Early Modern Translations” for the Handbook to the Reception of Ovid, edd. John Miller and Carole Newlands (Blackwell, forthcoming 2012), and Reading Persius, a book on that quirky Roman satirist’s post-classical reception. It should be a fair amount of work, and fun too. But far the highlight of the year was the wedding of my son Matt and Mary Mullen in Taos, NM. Mary and Matt are freshly minted UW-Madison English Ph.D.s and they are teaching this year at Wooster College in Ohio.”

CHRISTOPHER TRINACTY: Our new colleague comes to us from Oberlin College, where he taught as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Before that, Prof. Trinacty was the Keiter Fellow at Amherst College, and a visiting lecturer at the University of Arizona. He received his doctorate from Brown University in 2007; his work revolves around Latin literature, in particular the tragedies of Seneca and Augustan poetry. His current book project examines the intertextual relationship between Senecan tragedy and his poetic predecessors with an eye to the reception of the Augustan poets in Seneca’s work. His articles (on topics such as Proper-tius, and the impact of Ovid’s Heroides on Seneca’s Medea) have appeared in Classical Journal, Mnemosyne, and Phoenix. Forthcoming articles on Horace and Seneca’s Apocolocyntosis are slated for upcoming issues of Ar ethusa and Classical Philology.

Prof. Trinacty is a dedicated teacher and is proud of having won teaching awards at the University of Arizona and Oberlin College. He is particularly excited to be able to teach graduate students here at Mizzou, and eagerly awaits the opportunity to tackle Neronian literature with them in a graduate seminar this spring. Dr. T, as he has already been nicknamed by his students, looks forward to teaching a variety of Classical Humanities courses as well as Greek and Latin language courses. In his spare time, Christopher is usually found with his wife, Emily, and daughter, Ada, at local parks or wherever a swing-set can be discovered for his intrepid two-and-a-half year old. When he wants a humbling experience, he hits the golf course and realizes once again why he became a Classics professor and not a professional golfer.

BARBARA WALLACH: “In part (I strongly suspect) to wean me of driving (not slowly) to Virginia alone every summer, my sister Pat has established the tradition of the “chick trip” (my term, her invention) via Amtrak. The change has come in stages. At first, it was trips from Virginia to Philadelphia (to see the King Tut exhibit and do general historical stuff --- we got shadowed by a guard at the Liberty Bell exhibit), and then came New York City and Broadway (The Lion King). Now we each leave our part of the country by Amtrak and meet in Chicago before heading off to some other adventure. With marvelous (?) timing last summer, our trip there to see the musical Billy Elliot (and, of course, shop) coincided with the Stanley Cup victory of the Chicago Blackhawks (and lots of people getting very excited and running through the streets). This past July, we set out from Chicago via a sleeper train (avoid the upper bunk) and, after a few days in Richmond, took along a friend (also a chick who is a retired music teacher) and went to New York City to see the Pompeii Exhibit at the Discovery Museum and the superb revival of Cole Porter’s Anything Goes with
Sutton Foster on Broadway (and eat and shop). You may have noticed a pattern here by now. The Pompeii Exhibit was very well done, including not only a surprising number of artifacts and a bit of fresco but also a very moving display of some of the plaster casts (human and canine) and a recreation of the eruption (lots of noise and computer generated pictures and floor shaking). After Pompeii in the morning came Cole Porter in the evening, followed by a visit with the current Matilda (the hotel cat — the latest beneficiary of a tradition that dates back to the 1930’s) in the lobby/bar of the Algonquin Hotel. I did finally make it back to Columbia via sleeper train and to the reality of preparing for Greek Culture and a new seminar on the Literature and Culture of the Roman Republic (lots of fragments plus lots of Ciceronian paradoxes). I do have one sad item to report for those of you who remember my cats. Tuffy, the additional voice on my answering machine, passed away in her sleep this summer at age twenty. Needless to say, I have retired that answering machine, its message.”

FACULTY UPDATES

RICH FOLEY’s scholarship centers on two major figures in the history of philosophy, Plato and David Hume. He has recently published an article on Plato’s Symposium entitled “The Order Question: Climbing the Ladder of Love in Plato’s Symposium,” Ancient Philosophy 30 (2010): 57-72. He is currently working on a project on the Charmides, “Authority and Induction in Plato’s Charmides,” in which he explores the value Socrates places on intellectual autonomy. In addition to his work on the philosophy of Socrates and the use of the Socratic method in Plato’s early dialogues, Prof. Foley is continuing his research on Hume’s philosophy of religion with works on the design argument in the Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion and on the critical use of anthropology in the Natural History of Religion.

DOUG FREEBLE is in his second year as Visiting Assistant Professor. He presented “The Striking End of Tullus Hostilius: Lightning, Lore and the Roman Kings” at Southern Illinois University on December 9, 2010. He also gave a talk on “Monster-killing in Greek Myth” at the Classics Workshop at Mizzou on March 1, 2011. He is currently teaching a class on Ancient Magic and preparing a paper on the Mithras Liturgy.

Last year RAY MARKS published several book chapters, including “Silius and Lucan” in Brill’s Companion to Silius Italicus (Augustakis, ed., 2010), “The Song and the Sword: Silius’s Punica and the Crisis of Early Imperial Epic” in Epic and History (Konstan and Raaflaub, eds., 2010), and “Julius Caesar in Domitianic Poetry” in Tradition und Erneuerung: Mediale Strategien in der Zeit der Flavier (Kramer and Reitz, eds., 2010). This summer he traveled to London, where he gave a paper at the “Flavian Epic Interactions” conference (University College London), and to Sydney, where he gave the keynote speech at the “Silius Italicus and Flavian Culture” conference (University of Sydney). He is entering his third year as Director of Graduate Studies in the department.

ANATOLE MORI returns to teaching after a research leave supported by the MU Research Council for a book project, Contexts of Female Authority in Hellenistic Greek Poetry. She is also working on a chapter for Blackwell’s forthcoming Companion to Greek Literature, edited by Martin Hose and David Schenker. Recent publications include a chapter for a Companion to Greek Mythology, edited by Ken Dowden and Niall Livingstone (Blackwell, 2011); new entries for the online Brill’s New Jacoby, edited by Ian Worthington, and book reviews for Classical Review and the New England Classical Review. Highlights of the past year include presenting papers at a Hellenistic poetry conference in Lyon at L’Ecole Normale Supérieure and at the Classics Graduate Seminar in Literature at Cambridge University. This past year she founded the Heartland Graduate Workshop in Ancient Studies series.

DAVID SCHENKER: “It has been a year with good students, both graduate and undergraduate, in classes ranging from a seminar on the Athenian funeral oration (originally planned with Jim McGlew) to the first semesters of the Greek sequence, along with various forms of the ever-popular Mythology. My work as co-editor of a forthcoming Companion to Greek Literature has consisted so far in contacting potential contributors, assuring them that we do, in fact, need another companion, and reminding them of deadlines. I continue as CAMWS vice-president for Missouri (so send me any and all Classics news if you’re associated with a program in the state!) and faculty advisor to Eta Sigma Phi, our undergraduate honorary society. We’ll be hosting the ESP national meeting here on campus, March 16-18, 2012, expecting several hundred students and faculty to converge on us for fun and enlightenment. You can’t follow me on Twitter or Facebook, but I do read mail, and welcome visits from former students.”

DENNIS TROUT re-enlisted this fall for another three-year term as the department’s chair. He continues to give talks here and there, in the last year presenting at Princeton, the APA meeting in San Antonio, the University of Illinois, Rice University, and the International Patristics Conference in Oxford. Most of his (extra-administrative) attention has been devoted to Late Latin epigraphic poetry, its contents and contexts. Last year his chapter “Borrowed Verse and Broken Narrative: Agency, Identity, and the (Bethesda) Sarcophagus of Bassa,” appeared in Life, Death and Representation: Some New Work on Roman Sarcophagi, edited by Jas Elsner and Janet Huskinson (De Gruyter, 2010). Forthcoming is “Christianity in Italy” in the The Cambridge History of Ancient Mediterranean Re-

PHILIP WADDELL is in his second year as Visiting Assistant Professor. His teaching covers language courses, mostly Latin, at all undergraduate and beginning graduate levels, as well as several Classical Humanities courses on Greek and Roman topics. His primary field of interest is Latin historiography and Tacitus. His interests also extend to ancient History, Greek historiography, ancient Rhetoric, Narratology, and Film. Works in progress include two articles, “Ethos Translatum: Failures of Rhetorical Self-Presentation in the Annales of Tacitus,” and “Eloquent Collisions: The Annales of Tacitus, the Column of Trajan, and the Cinematic Quick-Cut.” He has contributed several entries (“Vilicus,” “Aes Alienum,” and “Congiarium”) to Blackwell’s forthcoming Encyclopedia of Ancient History (ed. R. Bagnall et al., 2012).

PHOTO CREDIT: Morgan Grey

Heartland Graduate Workshop in Ancient Studies: Prof. Benton Kidd (MU Dept. of Art History and Archaeology) enjoys the break-out session with MU students Naomi Kaloudis, Andy Smith, Rebecca Benson, and Elizabeth Janda. Photo credit: Morgan Grey

JUSTIN ARFT (B.A. Religious Studies, University of Missouri, 2000; M.A. Religious Studies, University of Missouri, 2003) is the Managing Editor of Oral Tradition and is working with Prof. John M. Foley on a book chapter in an upcoming Cambridge Companion to the Epic Cycle. He is the current Vice President of the Classical Studies Graduate Student Association, and also served on the planning committee for the first Heartland Graduate Workshop in Ancient Studies. His son Henry Christian Arft was born on June 3, 2011.

REBECCA BENSON (B.A. cum laude, University of Tulsa, 2011) is a first-year M.A./Ph.D. student and serves as the department’s Graduate and Professional Council representative. She is interested in the fields of early Greek epic and Plato.

KATY CHENOWETH (B.A. Classics, Baylor University, 2009; M.A. with Merit, Greek and Roman Archaeology, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 2010) is currently in her first year as a doctoral student. Her research focuses on cultural interactions in the Mediterranean, as seen in both the literary and archaeological record.

CAITLIN CORBETT (B.A. University of Oklahoma, 2009) is in her third year in the Classical Studies graduate program. She is concluding a study of the freedwoman Claudia Acte of Neronian Rome, and is also preparing a CAMWS paper on Tacitean characterization for publication. She is particularly interested in Roman history and historiography, namely that of the early Principate.

MATT CRUTCHFIELD (B.A. Truman State University, 2000; M.A. University of Missouri, 2003) is currently writing his dissertation and teaching at Chaminade College Preparatory School in St. Louis, Missouri.

STERLING GARNETT (B.A. Economics & B.A. Classics, both summa cum laude, University of Missouri, 2007; M.A. University of Missouri, 2009) is studying for comprehensive exams and researching issues of gender and sincerity in Augustan poetry.

MORGAN GREY (B.A. Cornell University, 2002; M.A. University of Missouri, 2007) is currently working on her dissertation, which focuses on literary criticism in the letters of Horace and Ovid. She enjoyed teaching a mythology course this past summer, and is currently a teaching assistant for a myth course. Morgan continues to work at the CSOT, as an assistant editor on the journal Oral Tradition and as a research assistant to Prof. John M. Foley

ELIZABETH JANDA (B.A. Tulane University, 2002; M.A. Russian Literature, University of Virginia, 2008) is a second-year Ph.D. student. Her many and disparate interests include Greek tragedy, medieval Latin texts, classical reception in Russian literature, and the portrayal of animals in the ancient world.

NAOMI KALOUDIS (B.A. cum laude St. Anselm College, 2004; M.A. Art History and Archaeology with a minor in Ancient Studies, University of Missouri, 2007) is writing a dissertation on the musicality of Theocritus’ Idylls. Last summer she was awarded the Eugene Lane Graduate Student Travel Grant, which helped support her second trip to Coriglia. This year she served as trench supervisor.

KATE LIVINGSTON (B.A. magna cum laude Davidson College 2002; M.A. Art History and Archaeology, University of Missouri, 2007) is preparing a proposal for a dissertation on the manipulation of information in Hellenistic funerary epigrams. This past spring she presented the paper, “Lost at Sea: Reviving Callimachus’ epigram 18,” at CAMWS in Grand Rapids, MI. Her main interest is Hellenistic funerary epi-
grams, and Greek Lyric and Hellenistic poetry in general. She reports, “In my daydreams I become a papyrologist.”

**RHIANNON ROWLANDS** (B.A. cum laude University of Arizona, 2002; M.A. University of Arizona 2005) is working on a dissertation on how the Romans define sex categories, with a particular focus on eunuchs. Rhian also spent last year working as an Education Technician at Sequoia National Park.

**M. SILVIA SARAIS** (Laurea in Lettere Classiche with Highest Distinction, Università degli Studi di Cagliari, 2005; M.A. University of Missouri, 2009) took her comprehensive exams last spring, and is currently working on a proposal for a dissertation on Seneca’s tragedies. Last November she presented the paper “Traders and their Conception of Sea Traveling in the Carmina Latina Epigraphica: A Necessary Evil?” at the PAMLA’s conference in Honolulu, HI. She is interested especially in Greek and Roman tragedy, the Periclean and Augustan ages, Seneca, and the Carmina Latina Epigraphica. She also enjoys teaching classes in Elementary Italian and Latin.

**ANDY SMITH** (B.A. summa cum laude Kent State, 2006; M.A. University of Missouri, 2009) is working on his dissertation (“Homeric Constructions: The Invention and Reinvention of Homeric Identity and Authority”), which applies the theories of oral traditional composition and reception to archaic epic. Andy is also interested in comparative epic traditions and the textualization of poetry during the Hellenistic period and beyond, as well as the ways in which the Romans adopted and made their own many Greek forms of poetry, including epic and pastoral.

**ERIC THIENES** (B.A. History, Pacific Lutheran University, 2002; M.A. Classical Archaeology, University of Arizona, 2007) is in his third year as a doctoral student. He is interested in classical archaeology, topography and history, and has research interests in the ancient Roman economy, trade, early Christianity, and late antiquity. He spends summers as trench supervisor on a Roman/Etruscan site in Orvieto, Italy. He is currently teaching Latin and is studying for comprehensive exams.

**PIERCE WADE’S** (B.A. summa cum laude Seattle Pacific University, 2007; M.A. University of Missouri, 2010) research interests include Hellenistic Philosophy, Didactic Epic Poetry—especially Lucretius—and classical receptions both ancient and modern. He has recently presented papers on Diogenes Laertius and the role of the founder in Stoic philosophy, and on Lucretius’ use of imagery from the natural world, at the University of Missouri and the City University of New York, respectively. He is currently serving his second term as Treasurer of the Classical Studies Graduate Student Association.

This fall **DEANNA WESOLOWSKI** (B.A. magna cum laude University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee 2000; M.A. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee 2005) is teaching at the University of Richmond. She is putting the finishing touches on her dissertation (“Frustrated Desires and Controlling Fictions: The Natural World in Ancient Pastoral Literature and Art”), which she will defend in November. This past summer she presented her research at the Vergilian Society’s annual conference in Cuma, Italy.

**STUDY ABROAD SUMMER 2010**

*Photo credit: Ally Anderson (minor, 2010)*

**NEWS FROM OUR ALUMS**

**MAX BAKKER** (B.A. 2007) is married and living in sunny Los Angeles, California, where he works as a sales representative for Anheuser-Busch bringing wonderful St. Louis, Missouri and European crafted ales and lagers to Westwood and Beverly Hills.
ANDREA BENNA (B.A. 2004) completed her JD in May 2007 and passed the bar the same year. She is working full-time for the MU athletics department and just began her fourth year as Assistant Director of Compliance for Eligibility and Recruiting at MU. She serves on the executive committee for both the Alzheimer’s Association and the Voluntary Action Center and recently became a member of Sunrise Southwest Rotary. In her free time she still finds time for reading and is learning Italian for a trip next spring.

RACHAEL CLARK (B.A. 2004; M.A. 2009) is teaching Latin at Garland High School in Garland, Texas. The Latin program continues to grow a little bit more each year, and she continues to enjoy her students, colleagues and curriculum. She has taken up two new hobbies: long distance jogging (in November she plans to participate in her first half-marathon) and French. Her husband, Ashby, still works for Citigroup, and her daughter, Sarah, has started her first year at the University of Texas, Arlington.

MAEGAN COOPER (B.A. 2007) has begun her fourth year as a Latin teacher of nearly 140 students at Lebanon High School in Springfield, Missouri. This spring break she will lead a group of twenty-five students (and parents) on a tour of Rome and Pompeii. She and her husband are celebrating their fifth anniversary this October. They and their two dogs, Reece, the Doberman, and Mary Queen of Scotts, the Scottish terrier, live in Marshfield, Missouri.

BRIANNA DUMONT (B.A. Art History and Archaeology; minor in Classical Studies, 2010) is living in Chicago with her husband, Tim Hammerly, who is employed by the Salvation Army as Director of Strategic Gifts. Tim is completing his doctorate in Social and Political Philosophy at SUNY Stony Brook, and Brianna is writing children’s fiction and running a holistic pet boutique. She and Tim were recently married (August 2011) and have also launched a small business: The Grant Matters Project, which offers training in grant writing to smaller non-profit companies.

STEVE MALCIC (B.A. 2005) is working on his doctorate in the Department of Film & Media Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he is studying cinema aesthetics and critical theory.

DAMIEN MARTIN (M.A. 2010) is living in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, working on the sports desk at The Tuscaloosa News. During their travels in Europe last spring he and his girlfriend had their train passes stolen in Marseilles, but they got engaged on the Pont des Arts in Paris and that, as he says, more than made up for it.

JIM MEYER (B.A. 2000, M.A. 2002) has been teaching Latin for ten years now, and is currently in his sixth year as Latin, Classics and Humanities teacher at Rock Bridge High School in Columbia, Missouri. Jim helps with the RB Scholar Bowl team, co-sponsors the Model United Nations team, and heads the World Language Department. His wife, Jen Schaffer, is an Academic Advisor for MU’s College of Arts and Science. Jim urges anyone considering a career as a high school educator in the Classics to apply to Columbia Public Schools, which will be opening its third traditional high school, Battle High (home of the Spartans!) in Fall 2013 (http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us).

KETURAH KIEHL (M.A. 2006) has moved from Memphis, Tennessee to Orlando, Florida where she is teaching Latin at The Geneva School. She is making the most of Florida's eternal summer by turning triathlete; after her first sprint triathlon in Melbourne Beach this past July, she hopes to return to Melbourne for an Olympic-length triathlon in October.

KATIE LANGENFELD (B.A. 2009) is currently in the Ph.D. program in Classics at Duke University, where she is also pursuing a graduate certificate in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Her scholarly interests include monastic literary culture and the archaeology of the Roman provinces as well as narrative theory and historiography from the Late Antique through Early Medieval periods. She is serving as chair of the Duke Graduate Student Classics Colloquium; this past spring she presented a paper at Purdue's Comitatus graduate conference, and last summer she took part in an archaeological dig at a 12th-century monastery in Trim, Ireland.

KEN OSTRAND (M.A. Ancient Studies 1973; Ph.D. Roman History & Archaeology 1984) participated this summer in Pompeii Food and Drink, an on-going non-invasive project co-led by a team of archaeologists from several universities. He also explored the Roman road and bridge system in the Aosta Valley, and is travelling this fall to Athens, Macedonia, Istanbul, and the Caucasus, where he hopes to see the easternmost Roman inscription along the Caspian Sea. His article on Egyptian materials (both ancient and modern) at the Museum of Fine Arts (Richmond, Virginia) is forthcoming from Kmt (http://www.kmtjournal.com/).

ANDREW PORTER (Ph.D. 2007) is an Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His research is focused on epic and oratory. In 2008, he and his wife Nancy welcomed Abigail Ella Grace Porter as a third child to their family.

STEPHANIE RADOS (B.A. 2008) is entering her third year at Saint Louis University School of Law, in St. Louis, Missouri. She plans to graduate in May 2012.

THOMAS RIESENBERGER (B.A. 2009) is currently enrolled in the MAT program in Classics from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. During the Spring 2011 semester he completed his practicum teaching Greek and Latin at the John Burroughs School; he is now teaching Latin part-time at Brittany Woods Middle School.

KIMBERLY SCHNEIDER (B.A. 1988) is an adjunct Lecturer at the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. A popular motivational speaker, Kimberly is a regular guest on several St. Louis television and radio shows. In December 2011 she published *Everything You Need Is Right Here: Mastering the Art of Conscious Manifestation* (Avalon Emerging Press) and is currently working on an audio book of original poetry and reflections.

JEFF TAMAROFF is the Curriculum Coordinator for the World Language and ESOL Departments in the Rockwood school district in St. Louis, Missouri.

CHASE UNRUH (M.A. 2010) teaches at the Thomas MacLaren School, a sixth- through twelfth-grade public charter school in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Chase and his wife Hailey enjoy living in the shadow of the mountains and spending time with new friends. He spends what little free time he has riding his bicycle, translating (Virgil's "Georgics" and, soon, Manilius' "Astronomica"), and attending performances by the Colorado Springs Philharmonic.

LARY WARNER (M.A. 1997) teaches Latin to seventh- and eighth-grade students at St. Francis School in Austin, Texas. In the past he has led his students on tours of Italy; this summer he read Dante’s *Purgatorio* with a Dante reading group. In preparation for the Fall 2011 term he also reread selections from Theocritus and Homer.

We’d love to hear from you! Please send address updates and any other items of interest to Mercurius Editor, Department of Classical Studies, 405 Strickland Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211, or simply email us at MercuriusEditor@gmail.com.