I am very pleased to share with you the many accomplishments of the Classics faculty and students in the past year and a half since our last newsletter. Our faculty grew by the addition of Brett Kaufman (PhD UCLA) as an assistant professor in Archaeology with a specialty in Carthage and Israel and Daniel McLean (PhD UPenn) as a lecturer in Classics. Craig Williams received the prestigious NEH to continue his work on Native Americans and the Classics (2018-19); Clara Bosak Schroeder was named LEAP Scholar (Lincoln Excellence for Assistant Professors) for 2018-20, and Ariana Traill became Lynn M. Martin Professorial Scholar for 2018-20. Dan Leon was awarded the prestigious Arnold O. Beckman Research Award for his project “Disability and Monarchy in Ancient Macedonia.”

Our department houses two journals: Classical Journal and Illinois Classical Studies. In the summer of 2018, we hosted the SCS Material Culture Seminar on campus, partly funded by the Leon Levy Foundation, with 10 participating graduate students from around the country who came to central Illinois to study in our superb library and amazing museum collections. As of the Fall 2018 semester, the Modern Greek program is now housed in Classics, with available courses in Modern Greek language. A major gift to Hellenic studies by alumnus George Reveliotis will fund the Modern Greek program for many years to follow and help it grow!

We are very proud of the accomplishments of the Classics undergraduate and graduate students, some of which you will see illustrated in the following pages. Through our Classics Undergraduate Travel Award we offer students the opportunity to study abroad in the Mediterranean and beyond (recent recipients: Sneha Adusumilli and Nina Hopkins); and through the Richard T. Scanlan Teaching Fellowship, we honor the excellence of graduate teaching assistants (Clayton Schroer, 2018; Stephen Froedge, 2017).

In the past two years, we have been very active organizing conferences and events. Last year we hosted a conference on “Plutarch and Gender” as well as a workshop on “Classical Receptions,” and this year we have just hosted a workshop on “Race Work in the Classics” and will be organizing an international conference in March on “Contested Authorships in Latin Literature and Beyond.”

We are very proud of the accomplishments of the Classics undergraduate and graduate students, some of which you will see illustrated in the following pages. Through our Classics Undergraduate Travel Award we offer students the opportunity to study abroad in the Mediterranean and beyond (recent recipients: Sneha Adusumilli and Nina Hopkins); and through the Richard T. Scanlan Teaching Fellowship, we honor the excellence of graduate teaching assistants (Clayton Schroer, 2018; Stephen Froedge, 2017). Classics majors and minors have competed and won local and national awards (The Houston and Papadimitriou Greek Culture Awards; Eta Sigma Phi Translation prizes; National Latin Exam; Greek College Exam; ICC Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Classical Studies). Our graduate and undergraduate students have had a great presence at national conferences such as the SCS, CAMWS, and Eta Sigma Phi. Check our alumni section in this newsletter to catch up with some of our many successful alumnae and alumni!

(continued on next page)
Demand for Classics remains quite high, and our enrollments continue to thrive. In the Fall 2019 semester, we will offer our new “American Race and Ethnicity in the Classical Tradition” class to 200 students, while new and redesigned versions of some of our online classes will be available beginning this coming summer. Ariana Traill continues her amazing work on summer camps, which have become immensely successful over the years. A group of Illinois students, led by Dan Leon, took a class on warfare in the ancient world in Athens during the winter term of 2018-19 and had an amazing experience on site! We have plans to expand study abroad offerings in Italy and other Mediterranean countries.

Thanks are due most of all to the friends and alumni whose generous donations support the Department, Hellenic studies, the Richard T. Scanlan Teaching Fellowship, and the Classics Undergraduate Travel Award. Your gifts are very much valued. We love to hear from you; please let us know what you have been doing and consider stopping by the Foreign Languages Building, if you are in town.

Classics and the Community

Classics and Social Justice (classicssocialjustice.wordpress.com) is a new outreach organization that seeks to bring classics out of the academy. Members have amassed online resources, held workshops for writing race & ethnicity syllabi, and co-organized a new intersectional mentoring program for the Society of Classical Studies. This January, they presented a panel on teaching in prisons at the SCS annual meeting. As chair of the subgroup on disabilities, neurodiversities, and mental and chronic illness, Clara Bosak-Schroeder co-authored Best Practices for More Accessible Conferences (https://go.las.illinois.edu/Best-Practices-Accessible-Conference19) and created a slack workspace (https://go.las.illinois.edu/slack-workspace19) for disabled classicists to exchange support. In July, she will travel to London with other members of CSJ to present this work at the 15th Congress of FIEC and the Classical Association.

GIVE TO CLASSICS

The Department of the Classics at the University of Illinois has been fortunate over the years to receive support not just from alumni, but also from numerous friends. Contributions have played a vital role in the department’s growth and success. Our Scholarships and Prizes website details all the support we offer to undergraduate and graduate students thanks to these generous donations. For more information and on-line donations, please visit our website at www.classics.illinois.edu/giving

You can also contact:

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Antony Augoustakis
Antony Augoustakis recently published three volumes on Flavian literature as well as classical reception. He is currently working on two commentaries on Silius Italicus’ *Punica* 3 and the pseudo-Virgilian poem *Ciris*, as well as a few edited, collaborative volumes. He is the editor of *Classical Journal*.

Clara Bosak-Schroeder
Clara Bosak Schroeder recently published a papyrus of Thucydides in the *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists*, and her article “Making Specimens in the Peripiles of Hanno and its Imperial Tradition” will appear in the *American Journal of Philology* this spring. Her first book, *Other Natures: Environmental Encounters with Ancient Greek Ethnography*, has just been accepted for publication, and Clara has started to envision a second project on modern art and classical reception theory. This past year she became active in Classics and social justice as chair of the disability subgroup and was elected to the Women’s Classical Caucus Steering Committee in November. Clara was named a Lincoln Excellence for Assistant Professors Scholar and holds a Junior Fellowship from the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory for 2018-2020. She is very excited to teach Greek and Roman Religion this semester for the first time!

Brett Kaufman
Brett Kaufman is an assistant professor of Classics, joining the faculty in 2018. He graduated with a PhD in archaeology from the University of California, Los Angeles, before holding a postdoctoral fellowship at Brown University, and an assistant professorship at the University of Science and Technology Beijing where he maintains an affiliation. His research focuses primarily on ancient, historic, and prehistoric science and engineering with a particular specialty in metallurgy (archaeometallurgy), the archaeology and history of the Mediterranean and Near East, and reconstructing the management strategies of past societies facing environmental change, resource shortages, and pollution. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the National Geographic Society, and the National Natural Science Foundation of China.

Daniel McLean
Daniel McLean joined the Department as lecturer in the Fall of 2018. He is teaching Classical Civilization courses.

Kirk Sanders
Kirk Sanders currently serves as head of the Department of Philosophy and continues his work in Hellenistic philosophy and Xenophon.

Jon Solomon
Jon Solomon recently co-edited “The Greco-Roman Tradition in Opera” for the *Oxford Bibliographies Online*. The third volume of his edition of Boccaccio’s *Genealogy of the Pagan Gods* has been completed and is in queue for final editing and publication by Harvard University Press for the I Tatti series. He is currently preparing an anthology chapter on the classical tradition in French opera from the Revolution to the Restoration.

Ariana Traill
Ariana Traill has completed a translation of Menander’s *Perikeiromene*, a short paper for *The Classical Outlook*, and a couple of reviews with CJ-Online, as well as refereeing for various presses and journals this year. This past fall, she presented papers at the annual meeting of the *Illinois Classical Conference* and a local “Language Teaching Share Fair.” In addition to teaching classes in Roman drama, Euripides, the Teaching of Classics and (in translation) ancient tragedy, she happily continues as the department’s Latin program coordinator and began serving as the director of graduate studies in August, after stepping down from a rewarding semester as interim head this past May. This year she also began her term as the SCS vice president for education and president of the Illinois Classical Conference, and she continues chairing the CAMWS Semple, Grant and Benario Committee – all fulfilling positions, though none perhaps as delightful as directing the Classics Department’s summer camps in their fourth, highly successful year this past June.

Dan Leon
Dan Leon is currently finishing a book on the historian Arrian, and he has two related articles out or forthcoming. The first (*Mnemosyne*) covers Arrian’s account of the intestinal episode that prevented Alexander the Great from conquering Scythia. The second (forthcoming in *Histos*) uses digital imaging techniques to clarify the damaged text of the only inscription preserving Arrian’s full name. Last spring Dan hosted a conference on Plutarch and Gender at Illinois, and the proceedings will be published soon. He was thrilled to take a group of students to Athens this past winter and hopes to do it again before long.
Angeliki Tzanetou is currently serving as editor of *Illinois Classical Studies*. Most recently, she gave a lecture at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. Her major research project is a book on Athenian motherhood and politics. Other current research projects include the representation of war trauma in Athenian tragedy through the lens of politics.

Brian Walters has recently finished an article (“Sulla’s Phthiriasis and the Roman Body Politic,” accepted for publication by *Mnemosyne*) that explores the metaphorical resonances of the story of Sulla’s horrific death by parasites and its connections to Roman narratives about their republic’s diseased political body. His book, *The Deaths of the Republic: Imagery of the Body Politic in Ciceronian Rome*, under contract with Oxford University Press, was completed earlier this spring. Translations and playful reworkings of Roman poetry have appeared in recent issues of *Arion* (two poems “From Propertius” in 25.1, Summer 2017, and the opening hymn of Lucretius’ *De Rerum Natura*, as “A Prayer For Peace,” in 25.3, Winter 2018). Brian is currently in the process of co-organizing (with Antony Augoustakis) a conference on pseudepigraphic Latin texts, titled “Contested Authorships in Latin literature and Beyond” and is planning on writing a commentary on the *Invectives* of Pseudo-Sallust and Pseudo-Cicero, if he can ever stop listening to *Tha Carter V*. His wife and son and cats are still the world.

Craig Williams has been awarded a highly competitive research fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for academic year 2018-2019. The fellowship, which releases him from teaching for the year, was awarded in support of his project on Native American writers’ use and transformation of ancient Greece and Rome, from 17th-century Latin texts written by American Indian students at Harvard College through contemporary novels such as Louise Erdrich’s *The Round House*. Since some of the texts he is studying are stored in archives, he has been traveling to libraries and repositories in North America and England. His article on a Latin letter written in 1663 by Harvard student Caleb Cheeshahteaumauk is forthcoming. At the same time, Craig continues to pursue his interest in animals and love in Greek and Roman literature. His article entitled “The Poetry of Animals in Love: A Reading of Oppian’s *Halieutica* and *Cynegética*” has just appeared, and another entitled “The Risks of Riding a Dolphin: A Motif in Some Greek and Roman Narratives of Animal-Human Love” is in progress.

Craig Williams

George Reveliotis (BA, ’96) has generously pledged $118,000 to fund a lecturer in the Department of Classics with specialization in Hellenic studies and classical civilization courses, as part of an effort to strengthen and support the program at Illinois. This comes after he already funded a teaching assistant position for the current school year. Reveliotis said the decision to give came from the perspective he has gained as an attorney, as he has worked with clients from all over the world who came to America. He muses that he has learned more from them than they have learned from him, as he has been in unique position to see their successes, their failures, and their determination to succeed. “They came here to the United States and they lived the American dream, they fought hard,” he said. “Looking at all of that, the older we get we tend to evaluate things differently from how we did when we were young and we want to leave something behind that has substance. I really want to leave something behind that carries a different type of value—a value that could carry on into a type of perpetuity and would influence not just my inner core of people.” What better way to do it, he said, than within the scholastic community? “Especially within a community that you know very well,” he added. “The University of Illinois is a very prestigious institution that attracts people from all over the world. I think financially endowing this program can give a wonderful impact.”

Reveliotis said that many benefits can come from an exceptionally strong program in Hellenic studies under the Department of Classics. Growing up with a Greek background, he said, helped him tremendously with understanding English words because he understood their etymology—the Latin that English derives from is largely derived from Greek. He added that our world has been deeply influenced by Greece for centuries.
Konstantinos Arampapaslis
Konstantinos Arampapaslis is finishing his dissertation in the Spring of 2019 on magic in the literature of the Neronian period.

Stephen Froedge
Stephen Froedge is currently in his sixth year at Illinois and composing his dissertation, “Plenus monstris: Monsters and Monstrosity in Flavian Epic,” under the direction of Antony Augoustakis. His dissertation builds on recent work on Flavian epic and “monster theory” and looks to diagram the ways in which monsters in the Thebaid and Punica both reflect and project Flavian culture. Last year he presented a paper on centaurs at CAMWS.

Clarissa Goebel
Clarissa Goebel is in the second year of the MA program. She holds a BA from Truman State University.

Christopher Gipson
Christopher Gipson is in his fifth year and holds the Illinois Distinguished Fellowship. His research interests include Greek drama, Greek historiography, and religion. This fall he presented a paper on Oppian’s Halieutica at a graduate workshop at University of Wisconsin-Madison on “Identity in the Ancient World.” He is currently finishing his written examinations and beginning to write his dissertation proposal on cannibalism.

Orestis Karatzoglou

Victoria Karnes
Victoria Karnes is a first year MA student. She currently works as a TA for Classical Mythology. Her interests are primarily in gender and sexuality in antiquity, ancient Greek novel, as well as the reception of antiquity in modern media.

Adam Kozak
Adam Kozak is in his fourth year of the PhD program and is writing his dissertation on human encounters with nature in Flavian epic. This fall he taught Latin 202 and Latin 401. He presented a paper on Statius’ Thebaid at the SCS meeting in San Diego in January.

Aine McVey
Aine McVey will defend her dissertation on Suetonian biography in April 2019.

Ky Merkley
Ky Merkley is a second year PhD student. Last spring, they presented a paper on gender in the Orpheus and Aristaeus episode in Vergil’s Georgics at CAMWS and they will be presenting a paper on cross-dressing in Senecan tragedy at the upcoming CAMWS meeting. Ky is currently a TA for Classical Mythology and is working on completing qualifying exams.

Nicholas Rudman
Nicholas Rudman is a first-year student who recently completed his BA at the College of William & Mary in Virginia. His particular research interests include Flavian literature and ancient historiography. After completing his MA, he plans to continue on to pursuing a PhD.

Genevieve Scheele
Genevieve Scheele is completing her MA in Classics this semester.

Clayton Schroer
Clayton Schroer is in his sixth year at Illinois having advanced to candidacy in February of this year when, under the direction of Professor Augoustakis, he defended a dissertation on exile in Flavian epic, titled “quid restat profugis? Exile and Power in Statius’ Thebaid and Silius Italicus’ Punica.” He is enjoying the bookish days of writing and reading. Last year Clayton was honored to receive the Scanlan teaching award after many happy years teaching Latin; this year he is enjoying the editorial assistantship for the Classical Journal. A recent project, a textual note on Propertius 2.32, is forthcoming in Rheinisches Museum.

Jen Stanull
Jen Stanull is in her fifth year, during which she is finishing up everything else before writing a dissertation on Greek tragedy. She is excited to be presenting a paper on Thucydides at CAMWS this spring.
Graduate Student News continued

Emma Starr
Emma Starr joined the Department as an MAT student in Fall 2018. She holds a BA from Carleton College.

Ashley Weed
Ashley Weed is in her second year at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign as an Illinois Distinguished Fellow. Last fall, she presented her work on the development of human-animal identity and cognition in Apuleius’s *Metamorphoses* as well as her work on the reception of the Roman Empire in *The Elder Scrolls* video game series. Ashley serves as a graduate representative for the department and looks forward to giving a paper on dramatic narrative structures in Seneca’s *Troades* at CAMWS in the spring.

Jessie Wells
Jessie Wells received an MA in Classics at the University of Illinois in 2014 and an MA in Comparative Literature from the University of New Mexico in 2012. She is currently a PhD candidate in Classical Philology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her non-traditional research interests include visual art of the ancient and modern worlds and Classical reception in a variety of media, including film and television. Her dissertation focuses on the gendered and sexualized relationship between the text and the reader in Latin epigram. With particular emphasis on Martial, she explores the poet’s use of diction in anthropomorphizing his poetic corpus and its complex relationship to its reader and possible poetic rivals. Currently, she is working on a chapter that follows the themes of castration/emasculation, self-mutilation, and authorial self-censorship as it applies the body of the poetic work (i.e. the book).

Classics Summer Campus

This past June the sounds of the Greek alphabet being sung to the tune of the “Macarena” could be heard in the Foreign Languages Building. Latin and ancient Greek are popular subjects these days – with kids. The Classics Department offers two successful summer camps, now in their fourth year, for children aged 9-12, “Meet the Greeks” and “Meet the Romans.”

Kids learn the basics of Latin and ancient Greek – body parts, animals, colors, numbers, greetings. They read simple stories and ancient texts, such as graffiti or vase inscriptions, while learning about ancient cultures through games and crafts. In the morning, they might create a *bulla*, a locket that Roman children wore to protect themselves from evil spirits, while dressing up as their favorite mythological figure. In the afternoon, they might write out their own Greek papyrus with a stylus and ink, paint and label their own Greek vases, or play a mythology trivia game. In the morning, they might create a *bulla*, a locket that Roman children wore to protect themselves from evil spirits, while dressing up as their favorite mythological figure. In the afternoon, they might write out their own Greek papyrus with a stylus and ink, paint and label their own Greek vases, or play a mythology trivia game. In the morning, they might create a *bulla*, a locket that Roman children wore to protect themselves from evil spirits, while dressing up as their favorite mythological figure. In the afternoon, they might write out their own Greek papyrus with a stylus and ink, paint and label their own Greek vases, or play a mythology trivia game. In the morning, they might create a *bulla*, a locket that Roman children wore to protect themselves from evil spirits, while dressing up as their favorite mythological figure. In the afternoon, they might write out their own Greek papyrus with a stylus and ink, paint and label their own Greek vases, or play a mythology trivia game. In the morning, they might create a *bulla*, a locket that Roman children wore to protect themselves from evil spirits, while dressing up as their favorite mythological figure. In the afternoon, they might write out their own Greek papyrus with a stylus and ink, paint and label their own Greek vases, or play a mythology trivia game. In the morning, they might create a *bulla*, a locket that Roman children wore to protect themselves from evil spirits, while dressing up as their favorite mythological figure. In the afternoon, they might write out their own Greek papyrus with a stylus and ink, paint and label their own Greek vases, or play a mythology trivia game.

The camps are run through the University Language Academy, the pioneering work of Silvina Montrul, whose research in secondary language acquisition among children has demonstrated the importance of early and continuous exposure to a foreign language for higher linguistic proficiency. The summer program expanded into Latin and ancient Greek in 2015. Since 2017, Classics Camps has included a special section for students from Danville P.S. District 118, a low income school district, thanks to the initiative and support of Alicia Geddis, district superintendent. The camps are self-supporting.

Classics graduate students appreciate this new employment opportunity during the summer. Last year five graduate students taught in the four-week camps program. PhD students gain exposure to K-12 teaching and knowledge about running an outreach program. Students in the Latin teacher training program benefit from valuable experience working with children, which can be required for hiring by public schools.

The children have a great time. They love writing their names in Greek, playing hangman in Greek and recognizing the letters on sorority/fraternity buildings, or playing with clay knuckle-bones – a common game in antiquity – and making Roman roads out of candy. “My favorite Latin word is *abi*,” one child noted. “It means go away.” A popular favorite is a visiting golden-doodle named Donut (pictured below), who responds to commands such as “*Sede, volve, salta* and *da pedem.*” Students talk about the excitement of learning a new language, making Roman curses, or performing skits about Cupid and Psyche or Hercules. One enthusiastic camper demanded that her parents fly her back from their summer location just to attend. Parents like that their children are learning and having fun (“though maybe less candy in those roads,” noted one) and the camps can spark an interest in Classical antiquity that endures years afterward.

For more information, see classics.illinois.edu/academics/summer-camps. Registration opens each year on March 1.
It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to the Illinois Classics community. I arrived in August and have already been incredibly impressed with the inviting and collegial atmosphere I have found at Illinois. There is a great and long tradition of archaeology at the University of Illinois, of which I am now honored to be just the most recent addition. With the hope that I’ll be meeting more and more colleagues, students, and interested members of our community, I will share here a bit about my professional background as well as where I hope we can all go together.

My research interests straddle political economy and sociopolitical organization, including the formation and maintenance of hierarchy, reconstructing management strategies of ancient and historical societies facing environmental change, and ancient engineering and design. A comparative approach incorporating research from global cultures past and present has allowed me to contextualize and make sense of my own data, but the regions in which I primarily operate are around the Mediterranean Sea. As an archaeometallurgist, it has been greatly rewarding and humbling to analyze metallurgical remains from Bronze Age Canaan, Iron Age Jerusalem, Crusader Jaffa, Phoenician Carthage, and Roman-Punic Tripolitania.

I graduated with a PhD in Archaeology from the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at the University of California, Los Angeles in 2014. From 2014 to 2016 I held a postdoctoral fellowship at the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World at Brown University. From 2016 to 2018 I was an assistant professor at the Institute for Cultural Heritage and History of Science and Technology (ICHHST) at the University of Science and Technology Beijing (USTB), where I continue to serve as a visiting research professor. The ICHHST is also known by its older name of the Institute of Historical Metallurgy and Materials, rooted in its original, chief focus on archaeometallurgy. But the new name reflects how much it has grown in recent years—it is now a thriving home for archaeological sciences, conservation sciences, and industrial heritage. I was recently awarded a grant from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) entitled “Remote Sensing Identification and Modern Health Risks of Ancient Metallurgical Pollution” which I hope to use to develop a global applied archaeometallurgy protocol to identify and investigate undocumented historical and ancient metallurgical waste that might be affecting modern populations. I truly hope to build a relationship between Illinois and USTB, fostering an exchange of ideas and indeed students and faculty as well. The future of academia is a global one, and I feel extremely fortunate that Illinois has given me a platform from which to build strong connections with our international partners.

In addition to my ongoing projects in China, I am working with my team to publish a monograph and perhaps continue fieldwork at the Carthaginian/Roman site of Zita in southern Tunisia. I began working at Zita as co-director in 2013, along with Ali Drine of the Institut National du Patrimoine (INP), Prof. Hans Barnard from UCLA, and Rayed Khedher from Davidson College. Our work was the first collaborative archaeology and ethnography project between American and Tunisian scholars since the Arab Spring (which began in Tunisia in 2011 as the Jasmine Revolution). Preliminary evidence points to Zita being founded as a colony by Carthage as it expanded into North Africa in the Sixth Century BCE. The research design we developed integrates archaeological, historical, and anthropological methodologies to reconstruct the daily life of the inhabitants, including their diet, health, trade, industry, and rituals. The site is particularly interesting due to the fact that a tophet, or Punic ritualized sacrificial precinct, was likely established by refugees from Carthage following the Roman destruction in 146 BCE. Using bioarchaeological (Jessica Cerezo-Román) along with geophysical (Thomas Fenn) methods, we are attempting to paint a picture of the tophet rooted in empirical and scientific techniques to supplement our cultural historical ones. Furthermore, the Romans built a forum at Zita in 42 CE as part of a campaign to integrate the agricultural wealth of North Africa into their empire. In 2015 I was awarded a grant by the National Geographic Society Committee for Research and Exploration to investigate the relationship between the industrial output of Zita (metallurgy, amphorae production, olive oil) and its paleoecology (timber fuel consumption, potential industrial pollution). To date, we have had five seasons in the field (2013-2017), and we are currently focusing on publishing our findings and, as mentioned above, perhaps renewing excavations, geophysical, and laboratory work.

The fieldwork which I have participated in, supervised, or directed in New York, Israel, Italy, Tunisia, and China is both fulfilling and essential to archaeology, but post-excitation laboratory analysis of artifacts and sediments also majorly informs my research. As an archaeological materials scientist I count myself very fortunate to have access to one of the world’s leading Engineering programs here at Illinois. In addition to a wide array of analytical instruments and techniques available here to conduct my research, my faculty colleagues in Classics and Materials Science and Engineering (MatSE) are enabling me to offer opportunities to students in lab training and perhaps the design and experimental reproduction of objects as well. Working experimentally with materials is a great way to not only understand the formation of the archaeological record, but also to get a sense of why people made what they made and what efforts it must have taken them to do so. At Brown, engineering professor Clyde L. Briant and I taught a design course in which students researched metal coinage, weaponry, and musical instruments as objects made within their cultural contexts by ancient people seeking specific aesthetic, (continued on next page)
Students in Action

Sneha Adusumilli (BA,'18)
During the summer of 2018, I had the privilege of excavating in central inland Tuscany, Italy at the Poggio Civitate Archaeological Project. Before this time, I had little familiarity with classical archaeology as a discipline, or any type of archaeology for that matter. I had studied Latin for most of my life and also found a passion for science and medicine. Having been a student of classics and a prospective physician, I was interested in classical archaeology and the ways in which the discipline could enhance my world view.

In learning the basics of archaeology as a first-year student, I was surprised to realize how multidisciplinary the excavation team was. The team included not only those who excavated and supervised on site, but also conservators, photographers, biologists, botanists, and illustration artists. I admired the value that all these people contributed to the accurate discovery, identification, and communication of the information obtained from Poggio Civitate. Moreover, I am now proud to call many of these people good friends of mine.

Poggio Civitate was the site of a once thriving community, which collapsed in a somewhat mysterious and abrupt manner in the Sixth Century BCE. The Etruscan site is well known for evidence of particular buildings which suggest its inhabitants were of an elite class. While the way in which the community was disbanded remains to be elucidated, one focus of current and future work at Poggio Civitate concerns how the commoners of the community lived and worked. During my training, I learned much about the character and lifestyle of its inhabitants. For example, I was impressed by the skillful construction of many of Poggio Civitate's buildings, some having been built with a decorative "lateral sima", a gutter system to divert water runoff from the roof. The "workshop" structure on Poggio Civitate is where various types of manufacturing took place and may have been built in this way. This area is where I spent much of my time excavating.

By stepping into the shoes of an archaeologist, I gained a greater appreciation for both the physical labor and the intellectual curiosity required to be productive in the field. The first-year students rotated among four trenches at the site each week, allowing us the opportunity to learn about various areas of the site and work with people who have diverse experiences and perspectives. At the site, I learned to discern stratigraphic layers, take measurements, and use my trowel for many excavation purposes. I also practiced how to differentiate among types of pottery, including terracotta, slipware, and bucchero (which was unique to the Etruscan population).

Additionally, each of us spent approximately one day per week in the Magazzino, the conservation laboratory for the excavation. Here, I learned a great deal about how archaeological finds are conserved and catalogued once they arrive from the field. For instance, I practiced properly cleaning terracotta, bronze, and slag in addition to learning different techniques for adhering broken pieces back together. As a life scientist, I enjoyed learning about the chemistry involved in many conservation techniques as well.

As a physician, I ultimately hope to be involved in interdisciplinary approaches to medicine. Medicine is a humanistic practice, and I believe that an understanding of the ways in which different people live and have lived in the past is necessary to practice medicine with compassion and empathy. Not unlike archaeology, much of the practice of medicine involves analysis of the past. Whether in taking patient histories, analyzing genetic risk factors, or even in developing prognoses, physicians must be able to take the past into account and use it to make predictions about the future. During my time at Poggio Civitate, I experienced firsthand how archaeology and medicine are similar in this way. I am grateful to have enjoyed this memorable learning opportunity, which would not have been possible without the support of the Illinois Department of Classics.
Brendan Labbe (BA,’20)

This past summer found me halfway across the world, living out the culture of Italy in Rome. I spent six weeks working with The Paideia Institute, a non-profit that is dominating educational service work in the classics field.

Despite its prominence, however, I had never heard of the institute before the spring semester.

Fortunately, a member of the classics community informed me of the summer internship the institute was offering, and in a fit of great fortune, I was accepted! To this day I am reminded of how much the professors and faculty of classics care not only for their students specifically, but so we can experience the beautifully alive tradition of Greek and Latin, as well.

As to the nature of the internship itself, it was a perfect blend of work and leisure. I would spend about eight hours a day, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., working with other undergraduate classics majors on whatever task was at hand.

The general goal was first simply to gather data on many of the institute’s donors and potential sponsors. However, our development team easily achieved those milestones, and we began to envision what a global classics community would look like.

From then on, we committed ourselves to this ideal, and ended up coming up with Nexus, a digital outreach initiative designed to bridge the gap among classicists around the world. For my first internship, this was more than I anticipated accomplishing, but I am truly happy with the end product, and its potential to benefit others like me.

Outside of office hours was a beautiful whirlwind of events. Newfound friends and I would either innovate with Italian cuisine, or would head out to aperitivos, which are like appetizer-filled banquets, and sing our hearts out at karaoke afterwards.

We were fortunate enough to also explore the historical elements of the city, like the Colosseum or the Campo de’ Fiori, and venture out onto some beaches as well. A personal favorite excursion was visiting Bracciano. The culture of the area was built around this beautiful and immense lake, one that I daresay rivals our own Great Lakes.

In short, the Department of Classics, as well as the College of LAS, gave me a chance to say, “I have lived in Rome,” with a special emphasis on the “live.”

John Foulk (MAT,’17)

I teach at Parkview High School, part of Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS), in Lilburn, Georgia, a northeastern suburb of Atlanta. At Parkview, there are five full-time Latin teachers and over 700 students enrolled in Latin in a completely Comprehensible Input (CI) program. One of Parkview’s feeder middle schools has started a Latin program in the 2018-2019 school year with a sixth full-time Latin teacher joining our team.

Since graduating with my MA and teaching licensure from the University of Illinois in 2017, I have achieved several personal and professional accomplishments. In my first year at Parkview, I taught Latin I and Latin II, assumed the role of the lead Latin I teacher, and co-sponsored Parkview’s chapter of Junior Classical League (JCL). I attended the Georgia Junior Classical League’s two weekend retreats, Fall Forum and State Convention, with Parkview Latin students. I also attended the annual convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in Nashville. In April 2018, I participated in Biduum Georgianum, a spoken Latin immersion retreat hosted by SALVI (The North American Institute of Living Latin Studies) - there I had the chance to catch up with fellow Illinois Classics alumna Amy Norgard! This past summer I achieved my lifelong dream of visiting Egypt. Visiting Alexandria was especially a treat because my interests in the Classics began with Cleopatra and the Hellenistic period.

The 2018-2019 school year has already been an busy and exciting time! In August, I gave a presentation with my colleague, Miriam Patrick, on resources for CI world language teachers at GCPS’ World Language Pre-Institute Workshop. Once again, I am the lead teacher for the Latin I curriculum and teach Latin I and Latin II. I am also enrolled in coursework to receive my endorsement in gifted education in May 2019. Many conferences and workshops will take place next summer, so I know that I will attend at least one! Novellas (short stories often written at the novice and intermediate levels for learners) are increasingly popular in foreign language education, so I plan over the next year to work on one of my own.

If you would like to follow more of what the Parkview Latin team and I do, feel free to follow me on Twitter @magisterfoulk and read my blog at magisterfoulk.blogspot.com.

John Fraser (MAT,’08)

I taught Latin at Bosque School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the past six years, during which time I served as state chair for the NMJCL and built/enjoyed relationships with “classics folks” from all backgrounds and levels in the city and state. Our firstborn son was due in April, so my wife and I began looking for opportunities to move closer to family in the Midwest or Northeast. It was quite fortuitous that a Latin teaching position opened up at Creighton Prep in Omaha, Nebraska, where my
family lives. I applied for and got the position, our son was born, and we relocated this summer. We are adjusting well to all of the changes and I am enjoying my new job. I am currently teaching Latin I and II and my proposal for an introductory Greek elective for next year recently made it past the first gatekeeper. I really enjoyed seeing many old friends from Illinois at CAMWS in Albuquerque last spring (the week after my son was born!) and I look forward to another rendezvous at this year’s meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska. As luck would have it, I have been able to serve on two consecutive local organizing committees for CAMWS.

Kirk Halverson (BAT, ’17)

After graduating in 2017 with a BAT, I started teaching Latin at two schools both in Lake Forest, Illinois. I teach Latin 2 and Latin 3 at Lake Forest High School which has two other Latin teachers with a Latin program of over 200 students taking the language. I also teach Latin to 8th grade students at Deer Path Middle School, which has a Latin program that starts in 5th grade, with another teacher for 5th to 7th grade. The Lake Forest community has a strong history with Latin in their schools, and I feel very fortunate to work in a school with very experienced and helpful colleagues. I really enjoy that I get to work with many of the same students from 8th grade who come into my Latin 2 class and then continue in my Latin 3 class; it really does help the whole program succeed with fostering relationships with the students and a continuity of the learning. Currently in my second year of teaching, I find myself very busy with processing and applying everything I have learned in the last year since I started but is excited and am absolutely loving it.

Since I have started working at Lake Forest High School, the district has become a member of the Illinois Junior Classical League, bringing a delegation of 11 students to the state convention in the first year, and I am looking forward to growing the school’s involvement and participation in the convention. I spent the summer of 2018 travelling to Rome with the American Academy and participating in the Classical Summer School. I thoroughly enjoyed going into great depth about the material evidence we have of life from the early Etruscan times to late Empire and later of the experiences of the Romans; this experience has renewed my interest in continuing my studies as I hope to go on to pursue an MA and perhaps a PhD in the next few years.

Bill Hunt (MAT,’08)

I am teaching Latin in Springfield, Illinois, at Lanphier and Southeast High Schools, and will be taking a group of students to Italy and Greece in June.

Charlotte Hunt (MA,’18)

Charlotte is a first year PhD student in Classics at Cornell, having received her MA in Classics from Illinois last spring. This fall she presented a paper on Homeric nostalgia in Robert Silverberg’s The Face of the Waters at the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts meeting. Next spring Charlotte looks forward to seeing some of her Illinois friends at CAMWS, where she will present on geography in Seneca’s Medea. In her free time, she’s been keeping busy with her new puppy named Medea and her four cats (who are not so pleased about Medea).

Anne Mackay (MA,’11)

I completed my MA at Illinois in 2011 and moved to the UK in 2012, taking a break from study but with Flavian epic never far from my mind. I began my PhD on Valerius Flaccus at UCL in 2015, with Gesine Manuwald as my supervisor. After an intervening but short maternity leave, this month I defended my dissertation, “Animals and Animal-Human Dynamics in Valerius Flaccus’ Argonautica.” This project explores the role of animals in Valerius’ poetics; Valerius’ depiction of animal subjectivity and empathy, and the ethical implications thereof; the relationship between animals and humans in the world of the epic; and humans’ appropriation of animal bodies and use of animal imagery as personal and social signifiers. I plan to expand this study into a monograph, and to pursue further teaching, research and writing opportunities in academia or at the secondary education level.

Michelle Martinez (MA,’17)

I graduated with my MA in Classics from Illinois in August of 2017. I received my Ohio licensure to teach both Latin and Greek in Fall 2017 and am currently in my second year of teaching at my alma mater Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. I now teach Latin 1 to 7th graders on an interdisciplinary humanities team and have an enthusiastic group of 10th - 12th graders taking Greek 1. My Greek 2 course was just approved and will run next year. I presented at the 2018 meeting of the SCS, and my paper “How to ‘Bee’ a Good Wife” was nominated for a Women’s Classical Caucus award. I enjoy integrating my research interests into my classes—including a mythological women scavenger hunt for my 7th graders and a deep dive into Euripides’ Medea with my upperclassmen. I also received an “Accomplished” rating on the Ohio teacher evaluation system.

Amy Oh (PhD,’13)

Since leaving C-U, I have become an East Coaster. After four years as an instructor at the University of South Florida, I headed north towards more… diverse weather conditions and am currently in my second year as visiting assistant professor at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. When I am not spending time with my partner and our four (!) cats, I teach a wide variety of courses ranging from animals to emotions in antiquity. I am now teaching a Latin poetry seminar called “Rome in Verse,” a play on “Roman Verse” with units on “Rome in Progress” and “Rome in Inscriptions.”

 Alumni News continued
Campania in the Flavian Poetic Imagination
Edited by Antony Augoustakis and R. Joy Littlewood (Oxford University Press 2019)

The collection of essays offers the first examination of the region of Campania in Flavian poetry.

Fides in Flavian Literature
Edited by Antony Augoustakis, Emma Buckley, and Claire Stocks (University of Toronto Press 2019)

This volume considers the significance and semantic range of fides, the Roman value of trustworthiness and loyalty. The editors argue that fides was both a vehicle for reconciliation and a means to test the nature of “good faith” in the wake of a devastating and divisive period of Roman history.

Epic Heroes on Screen
Edited by Antony Augoustakis and Stacie Raucci (Edinburgh University Press 2018)

This collection of essays examines the most recent manifestations of the ancient hero on screen from a range of perspectives on 21st century cinematic representations of heroes and antiheroes from the ancient world.

Metallurgical Design and Industry: Prehistory to the Space Age
Edited by Brett Kaufman and Clyde L. Briant (Springer 2018)

This edited volume examines metallurgical technologies and their place in society throughout the centuries. The authors discuss metal alloys and the use of raw mineral resources as well as fabrication of engineered alloys for a variety of applications.

Giovanni Boccaccio’s Genealogy of the Pagan Gods, Volume 2, Books VI–X
Edited and translated by Jon Solomon (Harvard University Press)

Illinois Classical Studies 43.1 (Spring 2018)
By Angeliki Tzanetou

Illinois Classical Studies 43.2 (Fall 2018)
By Angeliki Tzanetou

Teachers ranked as excellent

FACULTY SPRING 2018
Classical Civilization, Latin  Brian Walters  LAT 491, CLCV 116
Greek  Daniel Leon  GRK 411, GRK 511
Classical Civilization  Ariana Traill  CLCV 222
Classical Civilization, Latin  Brian Walters  LAT 491, CLCV 116
Classical Civilization  Jon Solomon  CLCV 111, CLCV 120
Classical Civilization  Katherine Kreindler  CLCV 132, CLCV 217, CLCV 232
Classical Civilization  Krishni Burns  CLCV 323

GRADUATE STUDENTS SPRING 2018
Latin  Charlotte Hunt  LAT 101
Latin  Christopher Gipson  LAT 102
Latin  Clayton Schroer  LAT 201
Classical Civilization  Charlotte Hunt  CLCV 115
Classical Civilization  Clarissa Goebel  CLCV 115
Classical Civilization  Jennifer Stanull  CLCV 115
Classical Civilization  Katherine Cantwell  CLCV 115
Classical Civilization  Ky Merkley  CLCV 115
CONFERENCES

Race Work in the Classics
Thursday-Friday, February 21-22
Leuck Faculty Center Fourth Floor Lecture Hall

IPRIL Plenary Lecture
Race, Ethnicity, and Beyond in Classical Antiquity
Feb 21, 12:00 pm

Mohini D. Desai (Harvard University)

 Worship and Translation
Feb 22, 9:00-10:00 am

Richarda Patra (University of North Carolina)

Adventures in Race at the University of Cusco
Feb 22, 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Rafael David (University of Texas)

W.E.B. Du Bois and Black Classics
Feb 22, 2:00-3:30 pm

Alicia Patterson (Boston University)

Teaching with the Greats: Du Bois on Race and Universal History
Feb 22, 4:00-5:30 pm

Paula John (University of Pennsylvania)

Race, Gender, and Indigeneity
Feb 22, 7:00-8:30 pm

Efrain J. Galvez (Florida International University)

Panel 1: Roman Republican
Feb 21, 1:30-2:30 pm

I. P. Sturtz (University of Pennsylvania)

Reading the Text: Social, Cultural, and Historical Contexts
Feb 22, 9:30-11:00 am

Heather O’Connor (University of Edinburgh)

Roundtable: Race in the Profession
Feb 22, 11:30-1:00 pm

Roxanne Egerstahl (University of Gothenburg)

2018

Plutarch and Gender
February 23-24, 2018
Lory Bly Lounge

Contested Authorships in Latin Literature and Beyond
February 25-26, 2018
Atrium of the Aldo Leopold Forum

Friday, March 29
4:00-5:00 pm
Panel 2: Plutarch’s Influence
Professor Morris Wishart (University of Edinburgh)
Professor Julia M. Schildt (University of Michigan)
Professor Leigh Jeffery (University of Oregon)
Professor David Krug (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Saturday, March 30
4:00-5:00 pm
Panel 3: Plutarch’s Influence
Professor Morris Wishart (University of Edinburgh)
Professor Julia M. Schildt (University of Michigan)
Professor Leigh Jeffery (University of Oregon)
Professor David Krug (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Panel 4: Plutarch’s Influence
Professor Morris Wishart (University of Edinburgh)
Professor Julia M. Schildt (University of Michigan)
Professor Leigh Jeffery (University of Oregon)
Professor David Krug (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Panel 5: Plutarch’s Influence
Professor Morris Wishart (University of Edinburgh)
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Professor David Krug (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Panel 6: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 7: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 8: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 9: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 10: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 11: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 12: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 13: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 14: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 15: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 16: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 17: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 18: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 19: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 20: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 21: Plutarch’s Influence
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Panel 22: Plutarch’s Influence
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