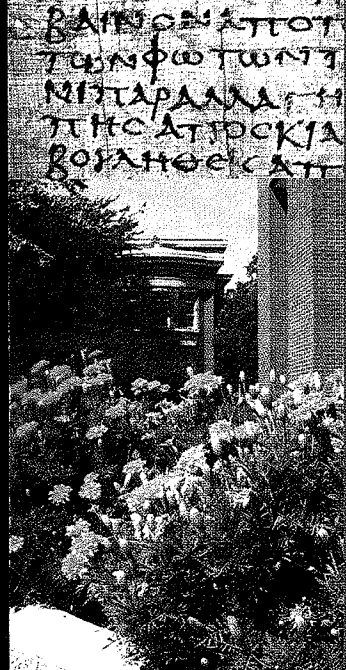
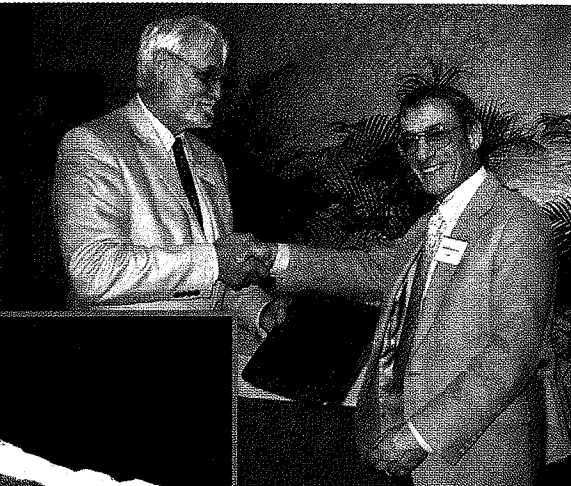
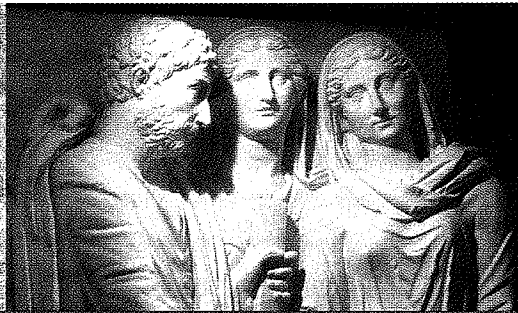
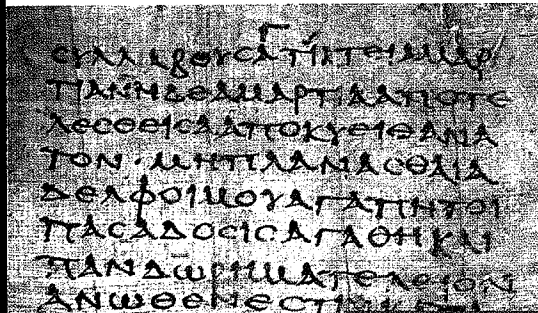


# DIALOGUS

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE CLASSICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Fall 2005



INSIDE: The Department's New Look  
The Classics Library Today  
Across Cultures and Centuries  
100 years of the Classics at Illinois



*Kirk Freudenburg welcomes Departmental colleagues and friends September 1, 2005.*

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF THE CLASSICS AT UIUC

It has been much too long since the last newsletter went out from the Classics Department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), so instead of trying to do everything at once, this letter will take but a few small steps towards reconnecting with the Department's many alumni and friends. In this issue we will focus on re-introducing you to the Classics at UIUC by letting you see who we now are, as well as what we have been up to in the last year or so. But, rest assured, we hope that in subsequent issues of *Dialogus* we will be able to help all of you reconnect not only with us, but also with the old friends and fellow students whom you once knew from your days at UIUC, but whom you may have lost track of. In the interests of getting the process jump-started, just this once we have chosen to forego the standard "News from Alumni and Friends" for the very simple reason that we have lost track of many of you, and we need you to tell us where you now are and what you have been up to. I hope that all of you will take a few minutes to fill out the Alumni and Friends Information Sheet on the last page of this newsletter and send it in. We would also love to have pictures of you (your prizes, your books, your babies) to show in future issues of the newsletter, so please send those directly to me at [kfreuden@uiuc.edu](mailto:kfreuden@uiuc.edu).

This year is special for the Classics at Illinois, for it marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the

Department's formation in 1905. To mark the occasion the Department will host a gala celebration on Wednesday, November 9, to which all of you are cordially invited, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend. The details are still being worked out, but they will soon be posted on the Departmental website ([www.classics.uiuc.edu](http://www.classics.uiuc.edu)), so please stay tuned for further details. The event will be held in the afternoon and evening hours so that those of you who are within a 2-3 hour drive can make it for the day. You are all, in some way, large or small, part of the Department's history. We would love to have you celebrate that history with us on November 9.

As I enter my third year as the Department's Chair, I am glad to report that news from the Department is very good. For the Classics at Illinois the future is not just bright, it is 'now'. With seven new professors added since the fall of 2003 (for full details see inside), we have a new look, new areas of strength, and a whole range of innovative programs to offer students who want not only to be challenged, but to call Classics their home. Look for more changes in the days ahead—we will be hiring again this year. And do let us hear from you soon, and often!

Remember to mark your calendars. I hope to see many of you in November!

—Kirk Freudenburg

## Jon Solomon Appointed to Robert D. Novak Chair

Jon Solomon was appointed to the Robert D. Novak Chair in the Liberal Arts and Sciences in August, 2005. He is the first holder of the newly endowed chair. An official installation celebration will be held in the Spring semester of 2006 (with the exact date still to be determined). Previously Professor Solomon taught at the University of Colorado, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Arizona. Professor Solomon is a leading expert in the Classical Tradition, ancient Greek Music, and Greek Mythology. For more than twenty-five years he has published widely on ancient musical theory and the representation of the ancient world in opera and in film, earning him a unique reputation among his scholarly peers. Professor Solomon also has interests in humanistic fields that extend well beyond the confines of the Classics (e.g. an ancient Roman cookbook, and a scholarly compendium of the films of The Three Stooges!). As a leading authority on the Classical Tradition, particularly in the tradition of the Classics in film and opera, Professor Solomon is sure to have a full and active extra-departmental life on the UIUC campus.

As a legendary teacher, with fully eleven (!) teaching and faculty awards to his credit, Jon Solomon will be able to represent the Novak chair not only as an outstanding researcher, but as a teacher and mentor of undergraduates. He loves to teach large lecture courses designed to introduce students to the ancient world. He is very interested in developing large, general-education lecture courses in the classical tradition as well as a Discovery course on classical allusions in modern film.

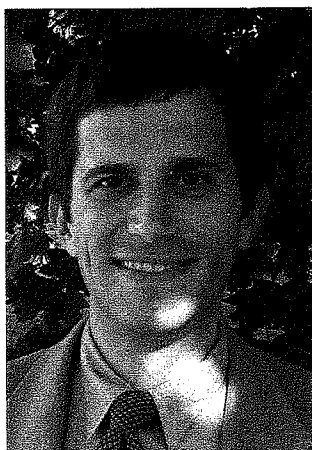


John Solomon, summer 2005

Professor Solomon is currently completing a two-volume survey of the classical tradition in opera, and he is preparing a three-volume edition and translation of Giovanni Boccaccio's 'Genealogy of the Pagan Gods' for Harvard University Press.

## Also new in the fall of 2005, the Department adds two new scholars of Ancient Philosophy

Kirk Sanders is currently on fellowship leave at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington DC, where he is working on a book that is an expanded and revised version of his dissertation, *Natural Passions: Desire and Emotion in Epicurean Ethics*. Kirk's area of expertise is the Epicurean philosophical school, especially the Epicurean theory of the emotions. He also does work in the area of Greek papyrology, specializing in the philosophical fragments from the Villa dei Papiri in Herculaneum. In August of 2002 Kirk received his Ph.D. in Philosophy from the joint Classics-Philosophy program at the University of Texas at Austin. Upon receiving his degree he taught for three years as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Classics at Rutgers University, where he was also a member of the graduate faculty of the Department of Philosophy. Kirk will begin teaching jointly in Classics and Philosophy at UIUC in the fall of 2006.



Kirk Sanders

Kirk and his wife, Rebecca, especially enjoy the outdoors. They are also the proud parents of two young daughters, Madeline (5) and Emily (2).

Barbara Sattler arrived on campus in August of 2005 from the Free University of Berlin. She is currently finishing her Ph.D. dissertation on the topic of *Aristotle's Concept of Movement as a Reaction to Zeno's Paradoxes and Plato's Timaeus*. Barbara is from Vienna, where she began her studies at the University of Vienna in German Philology and Philosophy. She then transferred to the Free University of Berlin, where she received her M.A. (with distinction) in 2001. She spent a semester at St. Andrews University in Scotland in 2002, and then a year at Oxford in 2002-03, before finishing a diploma in international relations at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. She has held research and teaching assistantships both at the Free University and at St. Andrews, and she has taught a variety of courses in both German and English, not only in ancient philosophy but also on Kant, Hegel and others in the European tradition. She loves traveling and is very interested in the fine arts, literature and theatre. Her book reviews have been broadcast regularly on Austrian radio.



Barbara Sattler

**Also new to the Department in the fall semester 2005, Angeliki Tzanetou studies Greek Tragedy and Women's Lives in Ancient Greece**



Angeliki Tzanetou

Angeliki Tzanetou is beginning her first year at UIUC as assistant professor in the department of the Classics. After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Angeliki spent two years at Case Western Reserve University as a Visiting Assistant Professor and four years as an Assistant Professor in the Classics Department. She has published articles and book reviews on political aspects of Greek tragedy and on women's rituals in drama. She has co-edited a soon-to-be published collection of essays on

women's rituals with Maryline Parca and is currently at work on a book on exile, democracy and empire in Greek tragedy. She was a Visiting Scholar at the Department of the Classics this past year and helped organize the Illinois Classical Conference in October 2004. Her most recent article "A Generous City: Pity in Athenian Tragedy and Oratory" was published in *Pity and Power in Ancient Athens*, edited by Rachel Sternberg, by Cambridge University Press.

Angeliki and her husband, Philip, who teaches in the Physics department, live in Champaign and recently had a boy whose name is Orestes.

**Recent arrivals, Professors Danuta Shanzer and Ralph Mathisen bring Late Antiquity's Shifting Frontiers to UIUC**



Danuta Shanzer

Danuta Shanzer, Professor of Classics and Medieval Studies and Vice-Chair, came to UIUC in the Fall of 2003, after teaching nine years (1981-90) at the University of California at Berkeley and fourteen years at Cornell University, where she was Director of the Medieval Studies Program for nine years (1992-2001), Acting Chair of Classics (1997-98), and Director of Graduate Studies in Classics (2001-2003). She holds a B.A. in Classics from Bryn Mawr College

('77) and a D.Phil. in Lit. Hum. from Oxford University ('81). She specializes in the Latin Literature and philology (including textual criticism) of the later Roman and early medieval West and also



Walter Goffart makes a point to Andreas Schwarcz, Patrick Périn, and Bailey Young during a break at last spring's Shifting Frontiers Conference.

(increasingly) in later Roman and early medieval social, religious, and intellectual history. She is the author of *A Philosophical and Literary Commentary on Martianus Capella's De Nuptiis Philologiae et Mercurii Liber 1* (Berkeley 1986) and co-author (with Ian Wood) of *Letters and Selected Prose of Avitus of Vienne* (Liverpool 2002) and the co-editor (with Ralph Mathisen) of *Culture and Society in Later Roman Gaul: Revisiting the Sources* (Ashgate 2001). Her publications include numerous articles, book-chapters, and reviews on authors ranging from Varro to Dante. She is currently writing a book on the origins of the early medieval judicial ordeal by fire, and working with Ralph Mathisen on a collaborative translation and commentary of the *Letters* of Desiderius, Bishop of Cahors and on an edited volume, *Romans, Barbarians, and the Transformation of the Roman World*. She is the North American Editor for *Early Medieval Europe* (publ. B.H. Blackwell) and the Editor of *Illinois Classical Studies*. Latin is her special concern, also the ills of academe, doctoral students, keeping the flame alive, passing the torch, creating a first-rate program in Late Antiquity, Christianity and classical culture, and libraries. She is completely in love with the incomparable Classics Library (and usually to be found there).

She is proud to be a member of a department with such a great tradition in philology, such a broad and inclusive conception of Classics, and such hard-core, precise, and *unusual* scholars. She is an avid academic lecturer and conference-organizer with numerous speaking engagements in the US, Canada, and Europe. She enjoys making things happen, tidying things up, getting the right people together, gossiping, and arguing. She hates the idea of being dead either from the neck up or the neck down. Given that there are no mountains to climb or rivers to row on here on the prairie, she has turned with Ralph Mathisen to ballroom and Latin dancing, and hopes, some day, to master the close embrace milonguero Tango.





Conference organizers Ralph and Danuta enjoy themselves at the Shifting Frontiers banquet.

**Ralph Mathisen** came to UIUC in the Winter of 2004 after 23 years at the University of South Carolina, where he was Louise Fry Scudder Professor of Humanities. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1979, and is still a Badgers fan. He is a specialist in the society, culture, and religion of Late Antiquity. He currently is working on books on "Barbarian Intellectuals in Late Antiquity"; the late Roman comedy "The Querolus"; and the life and letters of Desiderius of Cahors (a collaborative project with Danuta Shanzer). He has authored or edited ten books, including *People, Personal Expression, and Social Relations in Late Antiquity*, 2 vols. (Univ. of Michigan, 2003); *Society and Culture in Late Antique Gaul. Revisiting the Sources* (Ashgate, 2001) (with Danuta Shanzer); *Law, Society, and Authority in Late Antiquity* (Oxford Univ. Press, 2001); and *Ruricius of Limoges and Friends: A Collection of Letters from Visigothic Aquitania* (Liverpool Univ. Press, 1999), and has published over 60 scholarly articles. He is Director of the Biographical Database for Late Antiquity Project, and a Fellow of the American Numismatic Society. Every other March, Ralph and Danuta organize the "Late Antiquity at Illinois" conference; they also were co-hosts of the 2005 edition of the "Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity" conference. On a personal note, Ralph and Danuta have become dancing nuts — there's hardly a ballroom, tango, or night-club dance floor they haven't graced.



Ralph Mathisen

## Freudenburg Appointed Department Chair

**Kirk Freudenburg** is now in his third year at UIUC as professor and chair of the department of the Classics. After receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1989, Professor Freudenburg spent 3 years at Kent State University, followed by 10 years at Ohio State (alas, he is still a Buckeyes fan), where he also served as an Associate Dean of the Humanities. His published works focus on the social life of Roman letters, and they include three books on Roman Satire: *The Walking Muse: Horace on the Theory of Satire* (1993), *Satires of Rome: Threatening Poses from Lucilius to Juvenal* (2001), and *The Cambridge Companion to Roman Satire* (2005), for which he served as volume editor. Currently he is writing a commentary on Horace *Sermones* Book 2 for Cambridge University Press, and he is editing a book of readings on Horace's satires and epistles for Oxford University Press. Last April he hosted a conference at UIUC entitled 'Dirty Poems: Satire and Political Dissent in the Ancient World', and he gave a lecture on Apuleius at the third annual Rhethymnon Conference on the Ancient Novel at the University of Crete.



Kirk Freudenburg

On a personal note, Kirk is an avid runner and a fixer-upper of things (including university departments). He and his wife, Judi, make their home near campus in Urbana. Their son, Paul, is now 12, a soccer nut, and in his first year at the University High School. Their daughter, Annah, is 10, a creative writer and a lover of cats.

## Recently arrived in the fall of 2003, Ariana Traill

**Ariana Traill** is in her third year at UIUC, after six years at the sunny University of Colorado at Boulder. She received her Ph.D. in 1997 from Harvard University and her B.A. in 1991 from the University of Toronto (she is Canadian born but a dual citizen thanks to an American mother). She has published on Greek and Roman comedy and is currently finishing a book on Menander under the working title *Women and the Menandrian Mistaken Identity Plot*. She is planning a commentary on a Plautine play for her next project. Recently, she spoke about Dryden's *Amphitryon* at the annual conference of the Classical



Ariana Traill

Association of Canada (Banff, Alberta, May 2005). She is enjoying serving as Latin Program Coordinator for the department and teaching in the University Honors program.

Ariana lives in Urbana with her husband Brian, an experimental atomic physicist in the Department of Physics. They have one very shy dog, Mocha.

### More News from the Department's Faculty



William M. Calder III

**William M. Calder III**, William Abbott Oldfather Professor of Classics and holder of the Alexander von Humboldt Prize, began his fiftieth year of teaching this fall! Over the course of his career he has directed eighteen doctoral dissertations, adding one last fall, and he continues to publish books and articles at a prolific, even Vahlenesque, if not Willamowitzian, rate, with a book total that now itself approaches the 50 mark! This last year he was honored to have his *Collected Papers on the Politics and*

*Staging of Greco-Roman Tragedy* published by *Spudasmata*, edited by R. Scott Smith, a former student. Two more books are on the way, as well as more than twenty book-chapters, articles, and book reviews. He continues to support international scholars studying at the University of Illinois through the generous support of the William Abbott Oldfather Fellowship fund, and for the last several years he has provided funds for scholars to spend time each summer near the shores of Lake Geneva, at the Fondation Hardt in Switzerland. On June 2, 2004, he was guest-of-honor at a dinner at the German Ambassador's Residence in Washington DC. The dinner, followed by six speeches in his honor, was held to mark the occasion of his endowing the Calder Fellowship.



Jim Dengate

**Jim Dengate** spent the fall semester of 2004 on sabbatical leave preparing the first two volumes (of a four-volume work) of the final reports of the Halieis excavations on the houses and fortifications. Volume one is now available for purchase from the Indiana University Press website, with volume two soon to follow! These works include Professor Dengate's own chapters on the excavations of the mint at Halieis and the coins found during the excavations, which he helped conduct. The

production of these volumes required frequent travel to the Halieis records kept at the Indiana University Archives in Bloomington IN, and to Palo Alto CA for records at Stanford University.



Scott Garner

**Scott Garner** is entering his fifth year as an assistant professor at UIUC, having arrived in 2001 from Princeton University, where he received both his M.A. and Ph.D. His publications have focused on the complex roles that oral traditions have played in the composition and reception of early Greek poetry as well as epic from the South Slavic

region. Currently he is putting the final touches on a manuscript entitled *Traditional Correction*, which examines the oral traditional link between early Greek epic and elegy as made apparent through metrical anomalies, and he is pursuing various projects concerning Alcman, Sappho, and the Homeric Hymns.



Eric Hostetter

**Eric Hostetter** is spending his sabbatical year in San Diego working on the writing and editing of manuscripts for the final publication of the *Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma / American Academy in Rome excavations on the NE slope of the Palatine Hill*. The goal of this project is to investigate the many Republican and Imperial, private and

public, structures located on this pendant of the hill and to acquire, through a single consistent methodology, a complete stratigraphic sequence of the Palatine from the terrace of the Temple of Heliogabalus above to the Arch of Constantine below.

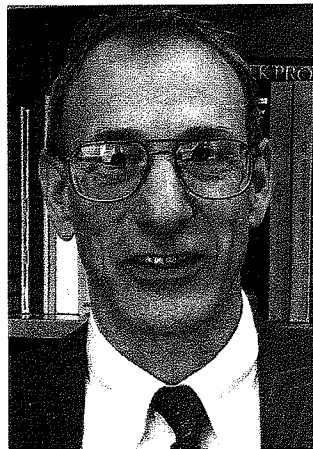
He also hopes to complete a project which examines, through scientific techniques dating travertine formation, the date of the last flow of water in the Baths of Caracalla in Rome, a study undertaken with Prof. Bruce Fouke of the UIUC Geology Department.

Maryline Parca is spending the academic year '05-'06 on sabbatical leave in California where, with the generous support of a Loeb Foundation Fellowship, she will complete her book on the Lives of Women in Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt in light of the papyri. This book will be an additional resource for scholars researching women's experiences in the multicultural world of Graeco-Roman Egypt. But it will also reach a popular audience and thereby highlight the kind of important, interdisciplinary work that is currently being done in the Classics at UIUC. Professor Parca organized the panel "Papyrology, Gender, and Diversity" at the Feminism and Classics IV conference held at the University of Arizona in Tucson in May 2004. With Professor Angeliki Tzanetou she is editing *Women's Rituals in Context*, a collection of essays that grew out of a conference they organized together in October 2002. Professor Parca was recently elected Vice President of the American Society of Papyrologists. She is also Secretary-Treasurer of the Women's Classical Caucus.



Maryline Parca  
Photo courtesy of Jason Lindsey.

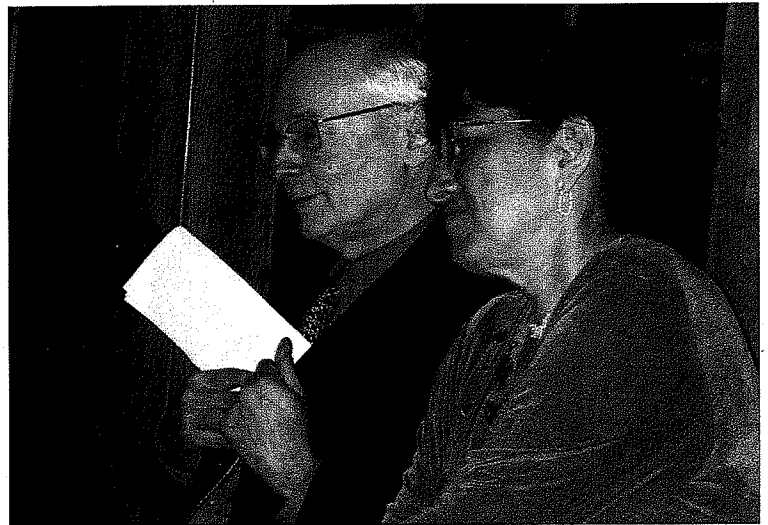
David Sansone recently published *Ancient Greek Civilization* with Blackwell's Press, a reprint of which has already appeared. He also produced a major article on Prodicus, "Heracles at the Y," in the *Journal of Hellenic Studies*. Currently he is engaged in an attempt to solve what has been called "perhaps the most famous crux in English literature," namely the identity of the "two-handed engine" in Milton's *Lycidas*. He has provided his solution to the crux in recent lectures at UIUC, the University of Chicago, and the Annual Meeting of the American Philological Association in Boston. Currently he is helping the School of Music organize a conference to be held in conjunction with the American premiere of Georges Enescu's opera *Oedipe*, which will be performed at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in October. The conference will bring together specialists in Classics, opera, theater and modern French literature.



David Sansone

## Howard Jacobson Celebrates His Retirement

On the evening of May 10, 2004, the Department of the Classics hosted a celebration at Kennedy's Restaurant in Urbana to honor Howard Jacobson on the occasion of his retirement. Howard came to the Department in the fall of 1968 as a fresh Ph.D. from Columbia University. In recognition of his many achievements as a scholar, teacher, and mentor, Howard was subjected to the laudations of a number of old friends and colleagues who had traveled from near and far to help him celebrate. Speakers and honored guests included William M. Calder III (UIUC), John Vaio (University of Illinois-Chicago), R. Scott Smith (New Hampshire), Bruce Swann (UIUC Classics Library), Shayne Cohen (Harvard), Peter Schmidt (Konstanz), and fellow Emeritus Professor Gerald M. Browne.



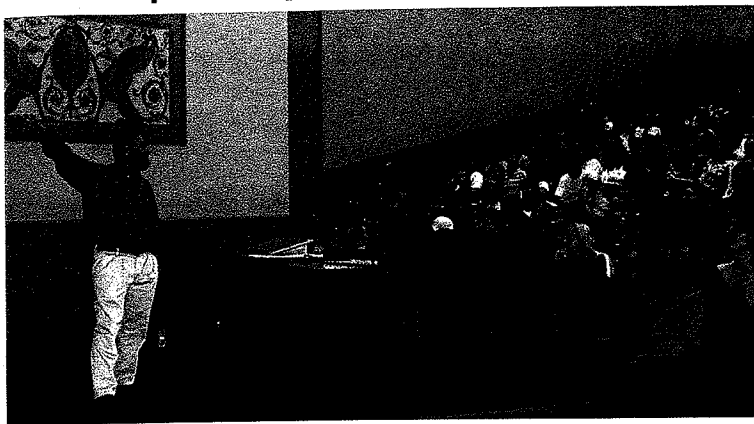
Howard and Elaine Jacobson take in the retirement festivities of May 10, 2004.

Since his retirement Howard has maintained a regular presence in the Department of the Classics where he works in his office on an almost-daily basis. He now travels regularly, more than he is accustomed to, in order to visit his children and grandchildren who are scattered across the States and beyond. He continues to research and publish on a variety of subjects, classical and otherwise.

## Other News from our Emeritus Faculty

Professor J.K. Newman published a study of the *Aeneid* under the title *Troy's Children* (with Frances Newman) in January 2005. Professor Newman reports that he is now writing a book on Horace. He has articles on Book III of Propertius and the Classical sources of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* in press. His longer term projects include editing the Latin Poems of Benedictus Chelidonius (Nuremberg 1511).

## Stephen Bay Tackles Mythology



*Stephen Bay teaching teaching Classical Mythology to 600 students, Fall 2005.*

**Stephen Bay** was hired as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of the Classics for the academic year 2005-2006, after completing his Ph.D. dissertation under the direction of William M. Calder III entitled *Toward an Edition of Themistius' Paraphrase of Aristotle's De Anima*. As a former graduate student in the Department, Stephen is well known to us as an exceptional teacher, so he was immediately assigned the yeoman's task of teaching Greek Mythology (CLCV 111/115) to more than 600 students. This is a task that Stephen performs in the long shadows cast by the course's legendary teachers of the past (Scanlan, Olson, and more recently Scott Garner). As of this reporting, several weeks into the semester, all is going exceptionally well.

## Mary Ellen Fryer Takes New Post



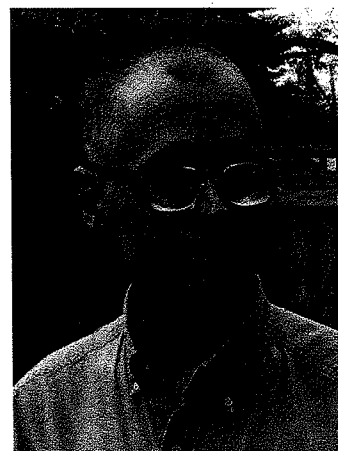
*Mary Ellen Fryer*

**Mary Ellen Fryer**, for many years the Department's Administrative Assistant and, more accurately, 'the rock' of the Classics at Illinois, has taken on a new set of duties in the Foreign Languages Building. With the recent restructuring of the building (effective fall 2003) Mary Ellen has become the secretary for three executive officers besides holding an impressive set of further duties that are key to the effective running of the building. But that is not to say that the Department has

lost its soul. Mary Ellen remains nearby on the fourth floor of FLB and she continues to help administer the Department and assist its professors and students on a daily basis. We are very happy to have her close by, and we are delighted that we can still claim her as our own. When she is not busy in the office Mary Ellen enjoys spending time with her eight(!) beautiful grandchildren (four nearby, and four in Texas).

## Gerald M. Browne, (1944-2004)

Gerald Michael Browne, Professor Emeritus of the Classics at UIUC, died unexpectedly on August 30, 2004 at his home in Urbana aged 60. Michael was a beloved teacher and a scholar whose work touched the lives of countless students over the course of his thirty-year career at the University of Illinois. He was internationally



*Michael Browne, spring of 2004*

renowned for his careful editing of difficult texts in ancient Greek, Coptic and Old Nubian. Professor Browne took his AB, AM, and PhD in Papyrology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (1965, 1966, 1968). He was Instructor, Lecturer, and Assistant Professor of the Classics at Harvard University (1968-1973) and Junior Fellow of the Center for Hellenic Studies, Washington D.C. (1973-74). He came to UIUC as Assistant Professor of the Classics in 1974, gaining tenure the following year. He was Professor of the Classics 1980-2003, when he retired. He directed six doctoral dissertations in Classics at UIUC. He published over 200 articles and monographs. A volume honoring him on his retirement was published shortly before his death. It contains his full bibliography. He was a dear friend to many, and he will be sorely missed.

Below is a Latin poem written in memory of Michael by his former colleague, J.K. Newman. The poem was read at his memorial service, held on the UIUC campus on Sunday, October 3, 2004.

### Elegy, by J.K. Newman

#### In Memoriam

*Quid si risus abest labris, facundia linguae  
Torpuit, ingenium come sopore tacet?  
Vivit adhuc tantis commissa laboribus aetas  
Pars animae melior non moritura viget.  
Cetera turba malis longo deserviat aevo,  
Cessit ab humana spiritus iste via.*

What if the smile is missing from his lips, his eloquent tongue is stilled, his kindly temperament lies asleep? A life given over to such great toils still lives, the better part of his soul is still strong enough to defy death. Let others endure a long slavery to their troubles, his spirit has soared beyond the common round of men.



## Across Cultures and Centuries

### Ancient records reveal how traditions persevere as cultures mingle.

*From looking at the past, one can see into the future.*

That's the conviction of Maryline Parca, a professor in the Department of the Classics who focuses much of her research on Graeco-Roman Egypt, a period covering three centuries before the Common Era. Following Alexander the Great's invasion of Egypt, the Hellenistic culture blended with that of the indigenous Egyptian society in a way, Parca argues, that is a model of multiculturalism for the modern era.

Today's resistance to globalization exists because "we fear it will make the world alike—but that doesn't seem to have been the case in antiquity," she says. "The Egyptian culture was able to hold on to its traditions alongside the imported elements of Greece and Rome." For instance, Parca explains, some prayers from this era combine worship of traditional Egyptian deities together with Greek gods—and sometimes even the emperor, who was considered divine.

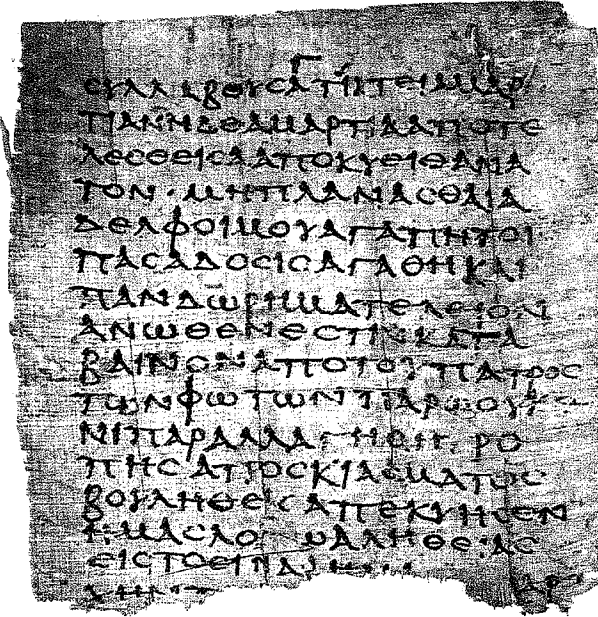
"It is close to what is happening today. The traditions survive. They accommodate the new elements, and the traditions take on a different shape, but they don't die out. I hope that the ancient model will be what happens today."

Parca has generated such conclusions through her practice of what is known in the field as papyrology. She reads and analyzes papyri—economic, legal, or personal documents written by commoners or professional scribes on papyrus, the primary writing material available at the time—to understand everyday life during the Graeco-Roman period.

Maryline Parca believes that Graeco-Roman Egypt is a model of multiculturalism for today.

Papyrology has helped scholars get a sense of the legal, religious, and economic status of women in Graeco-Roman Egypt. The topic of women was one of the fault lines in this newly multicultural society. Egyptian women enjoyed more rights and freedoms than Greek women, Parca says. Many of the papyri—real estate sales, wet nursing and marriage contracts, divorce settlements, and police reports—involve women.

"This door to the everyday life and the pettiness and nastiness of everyday life that existed is like reading the battery section of the local newspaper," Parca says.



*POxy 1229, an early 3rd century text of James 1: 15-18. Papyrus photograph courtesy of the Spurlock Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*

The police complaints expose a culture of violence against women and between women, but not necessarily of a domestic nature. The complaints are of more petty crimes, such as a woman accusing another woman of stealing her garment at a public bath. One report documents an Egyptian woman, who emptied a chamber pot on a Greek man as he walked under her window. She later hit him and grabbed his coat.

Many papyri date from the early days of the Greek occupation of Egypt. As time went on, Parca says, the once rigid barriers

between cultures became fluid as the immigrant and indigenous peoples blended together as they forged relationships.

Parca sees in the papyri that a few generations into the Hellenistic presence in Egypt, many of its inhabitants "feel at home in both worlds and are able to deal with either world," she says. "Through intermarriage and through people having bonds across cultures, it seems that the violence subsides cross-culturally," says Parca, who is herself a multicultural microcosm. The daughter of Italo-French parents, she grew up in Belgium but has lived most of her adult life in the United States.

Parca is quick to note that her department is one of the oldest in the University, and believes that it may be more relevant today than ever before.

"The ancients have pondered many issues we are dealing with," says Parca. The place of women in society, the place of the individual in a changing world, and the challenges of empire. The model of antiquity is a useful one."

—By *Laura Weisskopf Bleill*, July 2004  
(reprinted from *University of Illinois, LAS News, Summer 2004*)

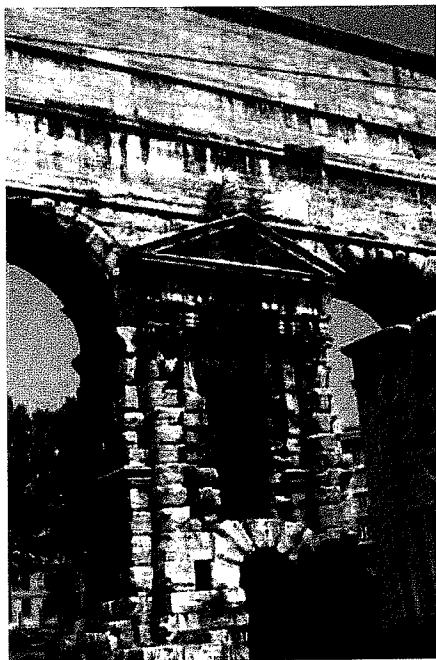
## Classical Archaeologist Eric Hostetter takes a new look at the aqueducts of Rome

Eric Hostetter has dug up some magnificent artifacts over the course of his long career as an archaeologist and art historian here at the University of Illinois, but some of his most exciting recent finds have come not from the soils of the Palatine, but from a laboratory on the U of I campus. "It started with a colleague of mine in art history who said he knew someone who could date stone buildings," says Hostetter, noting that finding such a person is "every archeologist's dream."

The person in question is Bruce Fouke, a professor of Geology at the University of Illinois. Professor Fouke mixes the skills of a geologist with those of a microbiologist to determine how certain microbes interact with the mineralized spring water to create crystalline deposits. His work takes him deep into hot springs, coral seas, and even to his telescope, to study the terraced structures on the surface of Mars.

"When I met Bruce, I found that he could not date buildings, but could date the formation of travertine stone," Hostetter says. "He was working on the formation of travertine (a crystalline form of calcite) in Yellowstone, and he had developed methods of dating the formation of the travertine pretty precisely."

Over time, the water channels in Roman aqueducts became encrusted with crystalline deposits of travertine. Such deposits also appear in the reservoir tanks that provided water to the Baths of Caracalla, an important structure of the third century AD well known to students of the ancient city. In its glory days, the baths were fed by a specially built aqueduct branch and served as a popular leisure-time retreat for Romans.



*Three aqueduct channels are superimposed above Rome's Porta Maggiore.*  
(photo courtesy of Kirk Freudenburg)



*A view of the Baths of Caracalla.*  
(photo courtesy of Kirk Freudenburg)

Together with Marina Piranomonte, an Italian government representative and expert on the archeology of the baths, Fouke and Hostetter launched a pilot project in 2000, funded by the Campus Research Board, to determine when water stopped flowing through the channels that fed the baths.

Using methods developed by Fouke and his Yellowstone research team, the pair hopes to "persuasively demonstrate that water was flowing through that aqueduct at a far later date than most people suspect," Hostetter says. Preliminary studies put that date at about 1050 A.D., "which is a number of centuries later than anyone suspected."

The fact that water was flowing through the aqueduct at that late date does not mean the baths were still functioning as baths, Hostetter says. "It means water was flowing for a variety of purposes, for instance, to irrigate orchards or vineyards. Water was still coming through those aqueducts in some volume, though not necessarily the volume of earlier imperial times."

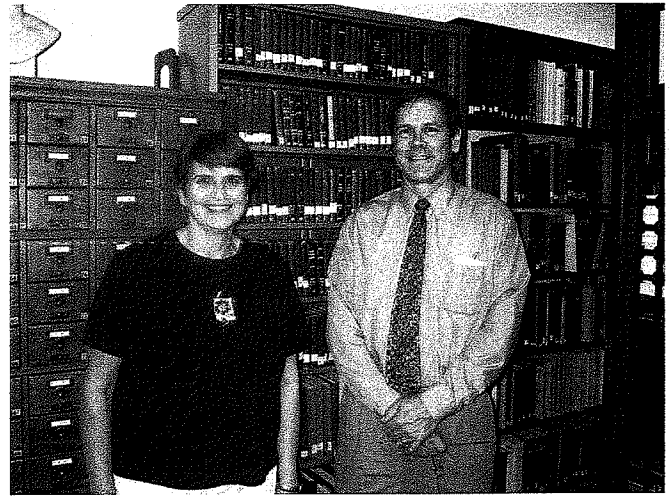
If Fouke is able to extract ancient bacterial DNA from the travertine samples and identify specific microbes trapped within the crystals, the knowledge could possibly lead to new information about the presence and spread of certain diseases prior to the fall of Rome.

In the meantime, Fouke and Hostetter hope to collect and analyze more samples from the same aqueducts and other water complexes. Viewed together, these should shed significant light on the breakdown of the hydraulic infrastructure of the city in the Early Medieval period. The researchers expect to publish some of their initial results soon.

## The Classics Library: a brief history by Bruce Swann

The teaching of Latin and Greek at the University of Illinois began in 1867, thus classical books were among the first materials in the University Library. The Classics Seminar, the term originally used to designate such collections outside the Main Library, was one of the first two established. Its organization as a separate collection dates from 1908, when the former faculty room or "Tower Room" on the third floor of the old library building, now Altgeld Hall, was outfitted with shelves to accommodate the "classical seminar of 2,500 volumes."

Professor W. A. Oldfather, who came to the University in 1909, deserves credit for his careful selection of the materials for the collection. In 1910, assisted by Professor Arthur Stanley Pease, Oldfather removed classics books from the University Library stacks to augment the newly established classics library. The private library of about 5,600 items of Professor Wilhelm Dittenberger of Halle University was purchased in 1907. In 1908, Mr. H. W. Denio was employed to catalog these items and, during the process, devised the special classification system of the Latin and Greek authors that was first applied to the Dittenberger collection.

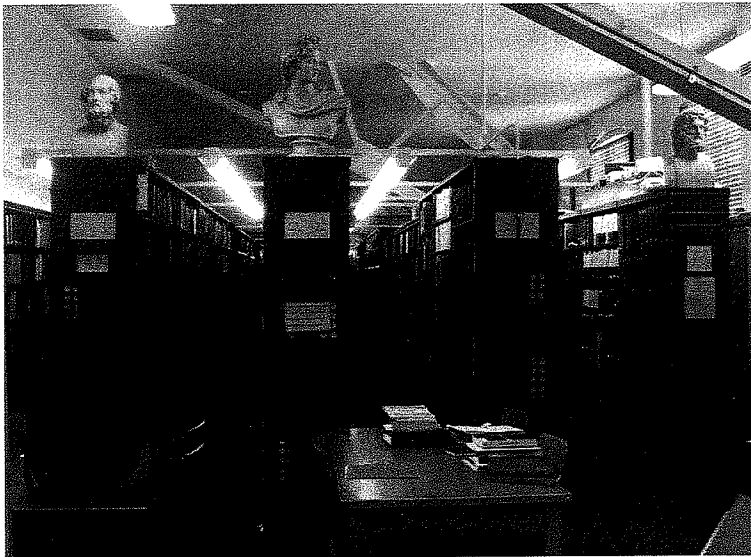


*Our Classics Librarians, Karen Dudas and Bruce Swann.*

The growing classics library moved to Lincoln Hall in 1911 and 1912, and in 1913 and 1914, the collection was again greatly enlarged by the acquisition of the private library of Professor Johannes Vahlen of Vienna and Berlin. His collection numbered some 10,000 volumes including his "Handapparat," about 15,000 mostly unbound dissertations, reprints of articles and program publications.

Due to the enthusiasm of President James in accumulating research materials in the Library during his 16 years in office between 1904 and 1920, and his special interest in the classics collections, the classical library grew rapidly at this time, not only by the addition of the Vahlen library, but by the acquisition or filling out of numerous sets and other standard works of reference. After 17 years in Lincoln Hall, the library moved to the first floor of the main library building in 1928 and 1929, as did the other "Seminar" libraries. In September of 1964 the Classics Library was relocated to its current location on the fourth floor of the main library.

There are currently approximately 54,000 volumes in the Classics Library with many more in the main bookstacks in addition to the early editions of authors from the incunabular period through the seventeenth century in the Rare Book and Special Collections Library.



*The Classics Library at the University of Illinois.*

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<http://listserv.uiuc.edu/wa.cgi?SUBED1=antiquitas-L&A=1>

## IN AND AROUND THE CLASSICS: UPCOMING EVENTS

- 'Man at the Crossroads,' a symposium on George Enescu's opera *Oedipe*, in conjunction with the opera's American premier at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. October 15-16, 2005
- Classics Centennial Celebration, November 9, 2005
- Jonathan Shay: 'From Troy to Baghdad: Can the U.S. Military Learn from Homer's Epics?' November 17, 2005
- 'The Secret Gospel of Mark: Genuine, or a Modern Forgery?' December 2-3, 2005

For more information on these and other events, as well as a full list of departmental lectures and seminars, please consult the 'Classics Calendar' on the Department's website at:  
<http://www.classics.uiuc.edu>

## KEEP IN TOUCH

### For our archives, a request for your special memories of the Classics at UIUC

Do any of you have any noteworthy personal memories that you would be willing to share with us from your student days at the University of Illinois? We would like to have your memories of your favorite professors, your classes, clashes, and special times, and so on, to gather up, scrap-book style, for our next newsletter. Some of these (with your permission), we would like to use as part of the festivities on November 9.

### We would love to hear from you

Please take a few minutes to fill out the form below to let us know where you are and what you've been up to. You can include your special "departmental" memories in the space provided below (which you can cut out and mail to the address provided below). Or if it is easier for you to provide this information via email, please send your information directly to Kirk Freudenburg at [kfreuden@uiuc.edu](mailto:kfreuden@uiuc.edu).

Name *last* *first* *middle (maiden)* *Degree and Date*

Home address *street* *city* *state* *zip code*

Home telephone number

Business address *street* *city* *state* *zip code*

Business telephone number *fax*

E-mail

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**Your news** (please include newspaper clippings, photos, extra pages, etc.)

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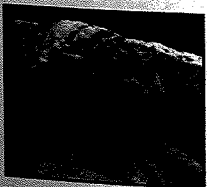
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Return to Mary Ellen Fryer, Department of the Classics.

If you know someone who would like the newsletter and is not receiving it, please send us her or his address.



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