Letter from the Chair
By Michael A. Flower

This is my last letter as chair of the Department of Classics. The last three years have seen a great deal of change both for the department and the University. There is no need to tell any of you about the challenges that the department has faced and I feel confident to assert, overcome. Needless to say, it would have been impossible to steer the department through this period in its history without the support of a dedicated staff and faculty.

Having supportive colleagues and a truly dedicated, and highly professional, staff has been the secret to our resilience in the face of many and varied challenges. Nancy Blaustein, Jill Arbeiter, Christopher Valentine, Eileen Robinson, Brittany Masterson, and Robert Castaños adapted to the challenge of working remotely and then swiftly and efficiently made the transition back to their offices. Nancy, our department manager, has given me unerring and steadfast assistance and guidance over the entire course of my term as chair. She has worked long hours keeping every aspect of departmental administration running smoothly and efficiently.

My colleagues have done everything in their power to give our students, both undergraduate and graduate, the best possible education under challenging circumstances. I feel particularly indebted to my fellow faculty administrators. Both Johannes Haubold, our Director of Graduate Studies, and Brooke Holmes, while filling in for Johannes 2020/21, tackled some exceptionally complex problems. Josh Billings, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, successfully oversaw the revamping of our undergraduate major and then took the lead in explaining to the world (literally) that the change was intended to increase the number of students studying Greek and Latin at Princeton, not to reduce it.

Although Andrew Ford retired at the end of the 2020/21 academic year, it was only this spring that we were able to hold a retirement dinner in his honor. It was a grand affair enjoyed by all in attendance, including the honoree who was in very fine form. Several of his former students flew in for the dinner and spoke with wit and charm about the experience of working with Andrew. This academic year saw one more retirement and two additional departures. Denis Feeney retired on July 1. Denis is generally considered to be the greatest scholar of Latin literature of his generation, in addition to being an extremely popular teacher and mentor. No one alive can fill his shoes, but we have been fortunate enough to hire a rising star in Latin literature. Peter Kelly, who is also an accomplished poet and painter, will be joining us in the Fall as an assistant professor. His varied interests and unique perspectives will surely vitalize the department. The two departures are Emily Greenwood, who joined us this fall, and our long-time colleague Joshua Katz. It is never easy to say goodbye when colleagues and friends depart our community, and we wish them a bright future.

The highlight of the academic year, at least for me, was the Robert Fagles lecture for Classics in the Contemporary Arts, which this year was combined with the English Department’s 17th annual Edward W. Said Memorial Lecture. The Fagles lecture came into being through the efforts of Andrew Feldherr and he has repeatedly brought artists of extraordinary talent to Princeton for this event. Robert Fagles was a professor of English and Comparative Literature at Princeton from 1960 to 2002. He was both a poet himself and one of the most accomplished translators of Greek and Roman poetry into the English language, as well as being an extraordinarily
gifted teacher. Despite his fame, his humility, generosity, and kindness were an inspiration to all who knew him.

This year’s speaker was Kamila Shamsie, Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Manchester. Professor Shamsie is one of the most acclaimed novelists of her generation. She is the author of seven novels, her most recent one being the highly praised Home Fire, published in 2017. Home Fire is particularly special for Classicists because it is inspired by Sophocles’ play Antigone. Her lecture, “Antigone of Pakistan: Narrative Violence and the Impossibility of Homecoming”, delivered before a large and appreciative audience, was an extraordinary tour de force that raised many issues of contemporary relevance.

The department continues to attract both undergraduate and graduate students of outstanding talent from many and diverse backgrounds. This year one new Pre-Doctoral Fellow joined our program, and in recognition of the success of this initiative we were granted permission to enroll two Pre-Doctoral Fellows for the next academic year. The Pre-Doctoral Fellowship is for students from historically underrepresented groups in the field of Classics. As I emphasize every year in this letter, its unique feature is that it comes with an offer of regular admission for the year following the holding of the fellowship. Our continuing fellows, as well as our incoming ones, are young scholars of extraordinary ability and promise, and their tenacity and commitment has inspired all of us.

Academic and social life started to return to a semblance of “normality” in spring 2022, even if the future is far from certain. There is one thing, however, that I can predict with assurance—that the department will be in extremely capable hands when Barbara Graziosi takes over as chair on July 1. Barbara comes to the job with an immense amount of administrative experience and a sure sense of savoir faire. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the department as chair, and I wish Barbara the best of luck as she undertakes this awesome responsibility.

Yelena Baraz

Starting last spring, I have found myself engaged in a project entirely new to me: together with Jhumpa Lahiri, I am working on a new translation of Ovid’s Metamorphoses, to be published by Modern Library. Working on a collaborative project with one of the best translators today during the isolation of the pandemic has been sustaining and inspiring. Over the course of the past year, we went from preparing a sample, to settling into a work routine, to beginning to present the project to students. As I write this, we foresee completing drafts of the first five books (it’s a long poem!) by the end of the academic year. My other projects this past year have centered around pastoral (a book on post-Vergilian pastoral, entries for the Oxford Classical Dictionary, and a chapter on the elegiac influences in the Eclogues of Calpurnius Siculus, forthcoming in a volume on Virgil and elegy from University of Toronto Press) and Lucan (an article on Lucan’s portrayal of Cicero and what it tells us about Lucan’s method as a writer of historical epic came out in Classical Quarterly in Fall 2021 and I am at work on another Lucan paper, on prophesy in book 5).

Joshua Billings

My research has been in transition this past year: I have been trying to finish two collaborative projects, the Cambridge Companion to the Sophists (with Christopher Moore) and a volume of essays for Helios on reading practices (with Felix Budelmann); I have also been deep in editing TAPA along with Irene Peirano. At the same time, I have been developing some ideas on early atheism (which benefited massively from exchanges with Mirjam Kotwick), and beginning, slowly, to imagine the next phase of my research. Looking forward, I want to think about what philology means today, and to do this both practically (by doing a philological commentary) and theoretically (by engaging with contemporary and historical accounts of philology). Watch this space for further updates on the project as it takes shape…
Emmanuel C. Bourbouhakis

Nietzsche once observed that philology “achieves nothing if it does not achieve it lento.” It seems to me I spent much of this past year vindicating the great German sage’s lenient pronouncement. Editorial projects at various stages—including Michael Psellos’ Rhetorica et grammatica, a poem by the same Psellos on the Orthodox liturgy, and manuscript survey for a planned new edition of Eustathios’ commentary on the geographic poem of Dionysios of Alexandria—made steady progress, as measured against the palaeographical timetable. A monograph on Byzantine epistolary culture of the 10th-12th c. kept a quicker tempo and shows promising signs of reaching its destination. There are plans afoot to repeat the very successful online Greek palaeography workshops with my Firestone colleague, David Jenkins, under the aegis of the MARBAS initiative, along with a resumption of manuscript studies at the Rome graduate seminars sponsored by Notre Dame, Stanford and Princeton. In the meantime, things are gearing up for the International Congress of Byzantine Studies in Venice in late August, where I am convening a roundtable on the reception of ancient Greek texts in the Middle Ages, in what I hope will be the first step to a planned volume on the subject.

Caroline Cheung

I finished my book manuscript on dolia and food storage technology in central Italy, and I have been enjoying the new phase of research on a new book project. Several papers came out in 2021-2022: “A Ptolemaic Lease (P.Tebt. 1.137 descr.)” (Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists 58: 53-78); “Born Roman Between a Beet and a Cabbage” (American Journal of Philology 142.4: 659-696); “Precious Pots: Making and Repairing Dolia” in The Value of Making: Theory and Practice in Ancient Craft Production (eds. H. Hochscheid and B. Russell); “Calculating Dolium Capacities and Material Use” (Archaeometry 64.3: 798-814). Conference paper presentations this year include: “Food Storage and Resiliency” in Climate and the Roman Conquest of Italy; “Working and Learning Environments” in Work/Life: Institutions, Subjectivities, and Human Resources in the Roman World; “Environmentally Friendly Food Storage and Packaging in Imperial Rome” in Society for the History of Technology; and “Dangerous Work” in On Outgroups and Muted Groups: A Conference in Honor of Amy Richlin. Papers for the first three conferences are heading towards publication as well as a paper on dolia and women’s bodies. I was also happy to teach (in person!) Town and Country (with Denis Feeney), Pompeii, Roman Empire, and the Science of Roman History (with Janet Kay). In addition, I organized several trips to Howell Living History Farm to practice horse plowing and learn about sheep shearing and herding; a trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art; an ancient Roman banquet; and workshops on Roman pottery and terracotta votive anatomical figurines (with Gina Tibbott).

Marc Domingo Gygax

I spent the academic year as visiting research fellow at Corpus Christi, Merton and Wadham in Oxford, conducting research on the status of non-citizens in the poleis of Hellenistic Asia Minor. I studied the factors that determined the exclusion of certain individuals from citizenship rights within Greek cities, the strategies pursued by cities to incorporate such people into the community, the efforts of non-citizens themselves at integration, and the hierarchies existing within this sector of population. I gave talks in Oxford and Seville, published the article “Who was Antipatrides? Nearchus and the Conquest of Telmessus in Polyaenus 5. 35.”, Ancient West & East, 20, 2021, and submitted articles on Demosthenes’ leadership in Athens, the Ptolemaic and Seleucid administration in Caria, and the relationship between center and periphery in the poleis of classical and Hellenistic Lycia. I also worked on the organization of a conference on Mediterranean Colonial Landscapes that is finally going to take place in July at the Princeton Athens Center after having been postponed twice since 2020.

Andrew Feldherr

This has been a busy year in the department, and most of my available time and energy for research has been directed at short-term objectives like conference papers, articles, and reviews. Among them are papers on Ovid’s accounts of Roman history in the Metamorphoses, the role of visuality in historical narratives of disaster, and a nearly finished longer piece about the images on Juno’s temple in Aeneid 1 (how many times can you go to the well?). I also hope to get on track with two longer term projects, on epiphany in Metamorphoses, and, if I can ever enter the appropriate
philological headspace, a commentary on the end of Livy’s narrative of the Second Punic War. Remember, you heard it here first!

Harriet Flower

Last Fall finally saw the publication by Cambridge University Press, after a number of COVID-related delays, of *Empire and Religion in the Roman World*, a volume of essays from the conference held at Princeton in May of 2017 to mark the retirement of Brent Shaw. Editing these papers by leading scholars that explore so many of Brent’s scholarly interests was a real pleasure. My article “The Most Expensive Slave in Rome: Quintus Lutatius Daphnis” published by *Classical Philology* in January 2022 represents my own first attempt to investigate the relationship of literary pursuits with the labor of the enslaved and manumitted in republican Rome. During a year-long sabbatical next academic year, I hope to research and write a concise book that builds on this initial study. I plan to examine the literary jobs and works both of boys educated by Roman slaveholders in their households and of prisoners of war, some of whom were already well-known intellectuals before being captured by the Romans. This research project grew out of my study of the early Latin autobiographical texts. The authors of those memoirs were each helped in writing about their personal and political lives by learned freedmen.

Michael A. Flower

As I wrote last year, being chair during a pandemic is not very conducive to scholarship, and on top of this academic presses have suffered their own version of Covid-caused delays. My first German language publication has just been published: “Religion, griechische” in *Militärsgeschichte der griechisch-römischen Antike, Lexikon Der Neue Pauly*, Supplement 12 (Metzler-Verlag). But articles that were scheduled to appear last year are slated to come out this summer or fall. Two rather long ones are in volumes being published by Cambridge University Press: “Omens and Portents Foretelling Victory and Defeat: Ontological, Literary, and Cognitive Perspectives,” in Roger Woodard, ed., *Divination and Prophecy in Ancient Greece* and “Seven Types of Fiction in the Greek Historians,” in K. Scarlett Kingsley, Giustina Monti, and Tim Rood, eds., *Revisiting Authority and Tradition*. These essays represent my two main areas of research, Greek Religion and Greek historiography. Thankfully, I will be on leave during the whole of the next academic year. During that time I hope to make substantial progress on a book about the application of theory to the study of ancient Greek Religion (under contract with Cambridge University Press), for which I have been awarded a Loeb Fellowship.

Barbara Graziosi

My general plan to teach collaboratively every year gathered momentum in 2021: I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the flagship western ‘Humanities Sequence’—especially in its new interaction with the parallel ‘Near-Eastern Sequence’. I also learned a lot from teaching a graduate course on dance in late antiquity, *Elevations of the Body*, with contributions by dance critic Jennifer Homans, historian Peter Brown, and philosopher George Boys-Stones: it was a treat, not least because of outstanding student work. My hope is that this course may lead to joint publications: a multi-authored article stemming from another graduate course, taught in 2019, has now appeared in the leading journal TAPA. My main research project, the monograph *Classics, Love, Revolution: The Legacies of Luigi Settembrini*, written with Andrea Capra, now exists as complete draft: colleagues and friends are reading it and will no doubt improve it. I have also written articles on Sappho’s intertextual geographies, classics and the limits of autobiography, and reparative readings of Homer: although I managed to do these by myself, I do emphasize, in all of them, the role of collaboration in the making of poetry. It is not too surprising, perhaps, given this emphasis on doing things together, that I have been asked to chair the Department, at a time when communal investment seems urgent. I have no doubt it will be a difficult job and I plan to draw strength not just from the contributions of students and colleagues here in Princeton, but also from the wider community: I look forward to giving papers at Cornell, Paris, Berlin and London next year, as well as launching new projects at the interface between Historical Research/Dance Practice and Philology/Artificial Intelligence.

Johannes Haubold

Much of my time this year was taken up preparing a large collaborative project with colleagues in the UK and Germany called the *Library of Babylonian

Brooke Holmes

Much of the limited research time I had this year was spent on the last chapters of my book on sympathy and on the collaborative project “Coming to Know” with the curator and writer Nida Ghouse in connection with her exhibition “A Slightly Curving Place.” Nida and I co-edited the book Coming to Know, which built on the discourse program we organized in Fall 2020 at Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, and the book was published this spring by Archive Books in Berlin, with a co-authored introduction. We also organized another discourse program in March to accompany the exhibition’s opening at Alserkal Arts Foundation in Dubai, where I had the chance to interview the dancer and choreographer Padmini Chettur. Nida and I have also been co-teaching a seminar this spring under the auspices of IHUM on “curation antiques” with a tremendous group of students. I saw through a couple of shorter essays, one for the curation project and book [UN-FINISHED], by Maria Lalou and Skatte Aymo-Boot, and another, “On the Nature of Plato’s Embodied City,” in e-flux. In Fall 2021 I traveled to Cambridge to give the Corbett Lecture in the Faculty of Classics on “Sympathy and the Problem of Nature.” Much else was virtual, including talks on Canguilhem’s vitalism (Critical Antiquities Network), “Anthropocene” (APGRD/BCLA/TORCH Seminar on Receptions and Comparatisms), Galen’s philosophy of nature (Utrecht), Aristotle and biopolitics (UCL’s Institute of Advanced Studies), and various conversations, responses, and roundtables, including one with the sculptor Stefania Strouza for a series at Duke and another on the excellent research station “An Archaeology of Disability.” I am much looking forward to a year of sabbatical as a Director’s Fellow at the Center for Ballet and the Arts at New York University.

Mirjam Kotwick

My main project continues to be a study on how classical Greek thinkers approached dreams and the question of their meaning, and how through dream interpretation they engaged with wider epistemological and hermeneutic questions. In this context, I am currently working on the Hippocratic text On Regimen and on Aristotle’s treatises On Dreams and On divination through Sleep. I presented parts of this work in talks at the University of Pittsburgh and at the Ancient Philosophy Society at Penn State University. Pertaining to textual matters and questions of transmission of ancient philosophical texts, I published in Classical Quarterly: “Aristotle, Metaphysics A 10, 993a13–15: A new reading and its implication for the unity of book Alpha”. In print for the Beiheft Lachmanns Erbe in Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie is “Textkritik und indirekte Überlieferung: Zur Rekonstruktion der antiken Überlieferungsgeschichte der Aristotelischen Metaphysik”. I presented at a (virtual)
conference at KU Leuven a paper in which I argue that hitherto neglected evidence in Alexander of Aphrodisias’ *Metaphysics* commentary can improve our understanding of Simplicius’ reliability as a witness to works of which he is our only source.

**Daniela Mairhofer**

The plan to take my Medieval Latin class (LAT232) to Italy over spring break, unfortunately, did not work out. But, with travel restrictions partly suspended, I was at least able to deliver some of the papers scheduled in Freiburg (i. Br.), Princeton, Rio de Janeiro, Oxford, Berlin, and St Gall in person, which I really enjoyed. I am currently co-organizing a conference in Oxford and hope that the virus does not throw a spanner in the works. A highlight this year was the interdisciplinary graduate seminar I co-taught with E. Bourbouhakis in the fall, ‘Classical Reception in the Middle Ages’ (CLAS65/ HLS 565). It gave me the opportunity to explore new territory: the reception of the classics in the Greek East. This spring, I launched the ‘Princeton Paleography Lab’ (PPLab) through Medieval Studies and MARBAS. It is a workshop aimed at undergraduates, graduates, and faculty who are interested in working with primary text sources transmitted in manuscripts, papyri and charters. Other than that, I have been mostly working on my book project, *Totum nihil*. Post-tenure life has also given me the chance to finally revisit my (dusty!) book manuscript on Petrarch’s *Africa*, which I am preparing for publication. In addition, I have been developing a palimpsest project with two colleagues based in Europe.

**Dan-el Padilla Peralta**

In that precious sliver of time between Omicron’s initial descent and the lifting of the federal public transportation mask mandate, I gave talks at Holy Cross, Duke, Davidson, Washington and Lee, the University of Southern California, the University of California—Santa Barbara, and Yale. The highlight of my AY21-22 was giving the W. E. B. Du Bois Lectures at Harvard in April. Audiences primed for three lectures on “Classicisms and other phobias” were alas not given full value, as I had to scurry back to New Jersey after delivering Lectures #1 and #2 (now up on YouTube for posterity): the core of a book now in progress, with everlasting gratitude to Skip Gates and the Hutchins Center community. Another, more bounded outgrowth of my ongoing work at the intersection of critical race studies and classics is a co-authored article with Sasha-Mae Eccleston on “Racing the Classics: ethos and praxis”, to appear in the *American Journal of Philology* this year. In Roman historical matters, *Divine Institutions* was announced earlier this spring as co-recipient of the CAMWS First Book Award. Seth Bernard (Toronto) and I co-published an article in the *Journal of Roman Studies* advocating for a more “connective” approach to the study of the Middle Republic; the edited volume that we are co-editing with Lisa Mignone (*Making the Middle Republic*) is now in production with Cambridge; an article on 331 BCE is soon appearing in *Classical Antiquity*. On the teaching front, I taught a splendid graduate seminar on “The Dark Side of Empire,” as well as an IHUM graduate seminar with Sarah Chihaya (English) on “Thinking in Public, Writing for the World”. I also supervised two excellent senior theses, one of which has lately made waves on the University’s homepage.

**Sappho and C.P. Cavafy, perhaps the two most iconic Greek poets (ancient and modern respectively), have been at the center of my work this past year. Together with Vasiliki Kousoulini and Chiara Blanco, I am coediting *Brill’s Companion to the Ancient and Modern Reception of Sappho*, with a projected publication date of late 2023. We have secured some forty contributions—including one by our colleague Barbara Graziosi—many of which will touch on less studied aspects of Sappho’s presence and influence from antiquity to the present; our aim is to produce an interdisciplinary, transhistorical, and transnational volume that will in turn galvanize further work on Sappho. My own chapter will focus on Sappho in twentieth-century Anglophone poetry, with an emphasis on the thin line between translation and original work. Cavafy is the subject of my next monograph, which I hope to complete during my research leave next year. I start out small, by examining Cavafy’s use of intralingual citations—that is, citations from older Greek texts in his Modern Greek poems—but hope to address some bigger questions: What can attention to and theorization of Cavafy’s quotation-al practice contribute to areas of inquiry beyond that of Modern Greek literature—to the study of classical receptions, comparative modernisms, or translation?

**Katerina Stergiopoulou**

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Andrew Ford

My commentary on Aristotle’s Poetics, now in chapter 19 with the home stretch (chapters 23–26) in sight, continues to be my main focus. Still, some more or less related side projects have appeared in 2021. I expanded ideas I drafted for the introduction on what makes that work unique into a treatment in 10,000-words of “Classical Criticism” for the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature (Oxford University Press, 2015—). The appeal of ring-composition moved me to accept another invitation: since my first publication was an article on Theognis, I was delighted (and awe-struck) to update and redo M. L. West’s entry on “Theognis (1)”, for the Oxford Classical Dictionary, published Dec. 2021 (2400 words). 2021 also saw what I think is my first publication devoted solely to a melic poet: “The Wisdom of Simonides: σοφὸς καὶ θεῖος ἀνήρ” in Simonides Lyricus: Essays on the “other” classical choral lyric poet, ed. Peter Agócs and Lucia Prauscello, 179–96. Lastly, and as always, Homer is remembered in a review of Homer in Performance: Rhapsodes, Narrators, and Characters, edd. J. L. Ready and C. C. Tsagalis (Austin) in the Journal of Hellenic Studies 41: 242–3.

Robert Kaster

There’s been no lack of work to fill the vast swaths of time I’ve been spending in T-shirts and sweatpants, looking at my computer monitor. My edition of Seneca’s De beneficiis, De clementia, and Apocolocyntosis for the Oxford Classical Text series is heading for the third round of proofs and will appear in late summer, while its companion volume, Studies on the Text of Seneca’s ‘De beneficiis’ (also OUP), was published in the U. S. in February. Around the turn of the year, I finished drafting my contribution to Princeton University Press’s “Ancient Wisdom for Modern Readers” series: How to be Fair: An Ancient Guide to Doing Right by Others, based on Seneca’s philosophical works and currently under review by the Press. And after flirting with the idea of actually retiring, I decided that can wait: instead, I’m preparing a formal proposal for one more OCT edition, of Cicero’s Tuculanæ Disputationes, which will give me the chance over the next four to five years to contemplate death, pain, grief, emotional upheaval, and the place of virtue in the best human life. Who could ask for anything more?

Brent Shaw

I exited from the COVID-19 epidemic, but with a lot of the technology, notably a more widespread use of Zoom, still with me. As for teaching, the one big course in which I was involved, on indigenous, Punic and Roman north Africa, with Professors Bruce Hitchner (Tufts) and David Mattingly (Leicester), was done in a transatlantic mode, now made possible by the wonders of Zoom. Additionally, I continued to do interesting work with graduate students up at Columbia, principally on the problem of slavery. There were numerous conferences, the most productive of which were a recent FLAME (‘Framing the Late Antique and Medieval Economy’) conference here at Princeton for which I directed one session; and another involving historians of the United States and the Roman Empire at Rice University (Houston) on relations between the state and indigenous communities, for which I prepared a plenary address. Of the current involvement with various projects, I might select two. First, my participation in a new Josephus collective that is intended to produce a new general ‘companion’ guide to the man and his voluminous and varied writings. The other is another combined effort involving researchers of quite varied backgrounds to frame an early history of the Atlantic world, broadly speaking, in the western Phoenician, Roman and early medieval periods. Among my publications, the one that I would like to note is a long essay that appeared in the journal Historia on the private business corporations that were involved in tribute collection and public projects of the Roman state of the late Republic and early empire.
Having always been fascinated more by the Greeks than by the Romans, I developed an interest in the peripheral areas of the “classical” Greek world. Away from Athens and Sparta, I set my gaze on areas where the Greeks met the “Others”: areas of exchange, encounter, and interaction between different peoples and multiple tongues, with a special focus on Anatolia (modern Turkey), the coasts of the Levant, and the Near East broadly intended. As often happens, my source of inspiration was a book I read when I was a second-year undergraduate in Pisa: Santo Mazzarino’s *Fra Oriente e Occidente*. This is a book that discusses how, during the early First Millennium BCE, Greeks and peoples of the Near East got to know each other, interacted, and came to share things and knowledge. More than a source of inspiration, that book was a revelation. After reading it, I discovered my path: I made my way to Ancient History and decided to do the job I now do.

Walking down this path, I realized that we could understand the Classical world much better if, paradoxically, we looked elsewhere. I first explored this approach by diving into the history of the city of Halikarnassos, modern Bodrum in south-western Turkey, where I studied the long-standing relations between the Greeks and the local people, the Carians. Looking at things from a Carian perspective helped me discover Carian culture and identity behind a local myth that the Classical tradition has consigned to Modernity: that of Salmacis and Hermaphroditus, famously narrated in Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*—and sung by the British rock band Genesis in “The Fountain of Salmacis”, from the 1971 album *Nursery Cryme*.

The same spirit animates my dissertation. From the civic micro-scale I shifted to the macro-scale and looked at political developments in early Greece and its Eastern Mediterranean context. Greece ca. 1200 BCE, like most of its Eastern Mediterranean neighbors, found itself in the middle of a political and societal collapse: previous Mycenaean kingdoms were gone, and after a few centuries poleis would emerge, with their characteristic system of power sharing. We commonly view this process as a “miracle,” something peculiar and unparalleled elsewhere. But how did it come about? How did it unfold? My dissertation seeks an answer to these questions, again, by looking precisely at that “elsewhere.” Here, “elsewhere” is Anatolia and the Levant: those regions that, together with Greece, were most heavily affected by the collapse of 1200 BCE. By looking closely at these regions, we discover that the Greeks were not alone when they redefined their way of doing politics in the early first millennium BCE: the political actors of early Greece had the same social profiles as their Eastern Mediterranean neighbors, and shared the same challenges and concerns. Although, in the end, they formulated different responses, early Greece and its Eastern Mediterranean neighbors were part of the same world – not worlds apart.

This conclusion reflects, more generally, my way of understanding Classics as a discipline—one that urges
us to recognize unity in diversity without forgetting diversity in unity. My time at Princeton coincided with a time in which Classics started interrogating itself about its mission and redefining its boundaries. These debates gave me food for thought and encouraged me to question my path, while at the same time pursuing it further and bringing it to new horizons. At Princeton, I learned to think about how I could contribute with my research and teaching to the future of the field, as a member of a community of scholars that works towards a common goal. In this community, among friends, colleagues, and exceptional mentors, I found a fertile soil to cultivate old interests and develop new ones. Stimulating seminars gave me invaluable conceptual tools to formulate my research questions and seek answers to them: I would not have been ready to write my dissertation if I had not taken Nino Luraghi and Brent Shaw’s seminar on cultural encounters in the Mediterranean world and Nathan Arrington’s seminar on the Orientalizing phenomenon in Greek art. Nor would I have been able to write on such a topic without the guidance and advice of my multi-disciplinary committee: Nino Luraghi, Johannes Haubold, Nathan Arrington, Joshua Katz, and Lorenzo d’Alfonso, who joined from New York University’s Institute for the Study of the Ancient World after I had spent a semester there as a visitor learning amazing things about the Neo-Hittite, Syrian and Mesopotamian worlds. Indeed, Princeton’s exchange programs – an opportunity from which I benefited more than once – played a crucial role in my training. Beside joining ISAW, for two years I took Akkadian classes at the University of Pennsylvania under the auspices of Princeton’s Exchange Scholar Program, and later spent a full year as a Hyde Fellow at the Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich, where I pursued further training in ancient Near Eastern history, carried out dissertation research, and learned Hittite.

Teaching has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time at Princeton. In all classes I have taught, I had the fortune to meet very engaged students: with their enthusiasm and genuine curiosity, they made every class an occasion for me to ask new questions, learn new things, and rethink old ones. My debt to them constitutes a substantial part of the overall debt I owe to Princeton. In my third year, I served as a preceptor for two stimulating courses, Marc Domingo Gygax’s “Archaic and Classical Greece” and Johannes Haubold’s “Creation Stories: Mesopotamian, Biblical, and Greek Cosmogonies Compared.” In Spring 2022, I was appointed as Postgraduate Research Associate and Lecturer in the Department of Classics, and had a chance to propose, design, and teach a course of my own. I took it as an opportunity to turn my own research and approach to Ancient History into teaching. I see this as one of the most thrilling challenges of the scholar, a way to make one’s research less “abstract” so it is accessible and of use to a wider community—a way to climb down from the ivory tower, as it were. In my course, “Kings and Tyrants: Greece and the Near East, ca. 1000–450 BCE,” we explored ideologies and practices of rulership across Mesopotamia, the Levant, Anatolia, and the early Greek world. We investigated such topics not only on texts, but also on artifacts and monuments: the class ended with a trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, where we dove into various visual manifestations of the language of power, from monumental reliefs and inscriptions in Assyrian palaces to elite war scenes in early Greek vase painting. Why is this relevant to a Classics program? First, I believe, because it helps us understand in what context Greek politics was born, and who the interlocutors were of early Greek political actors and thinkers. Second, because it provides us with a diverse array of answers to a key question that early Greeks shared with their neighbors: when (and how) does power become legitimate authority? Isn’t this—among many other things, to be sure—what the Iliad and the Odyssey are about?

As I write these words, my time in Princeton is coming to an end, after six intense but exciting years as a member of the Classics community. My path through Classics and Ancient History will continue overseas: next October I will take up a position as a Fellow by Examination (otherwise known as Junior Research Fellow) at Magdalen College, Oxford. Before leaving, I wish to thank the Princeton Classics community for the years we spent together: I look forward to playing my part in the service of our field in the future, as Princeton has taught me to do!
**The Philosophical Stage: Drama and Dialectic in Classical Athens**
Joshua Billings
Princeton University Press, 2021

A bold new reconception of ancient Greek drama as a mode of philosophical thinking, *The Philosophical Stage* offers an innovative approach to ancient Greek literature and thought that places drama at the heart of intellectual history. Drawing on evidence from tragedy and comedy, Joshua Billings shines new light on the development of early Greek philosophy, arguing that drama is our best source for understanding the intellectual culture of classical Athens.

**After the Past: Sallust on History and Writing History**
Andrew Feldherr
John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2021

Gaius Sallustius Crispus (‘Sallust’, 86-35 BCE) is the earliest Roman historian from whom any works survive. His two extant writings chronicle crucial moments of a political, social, and ethical revolution with profound consequences for his own life and those of his audience. *After the Past: Sallust on History and Writing History* examines what it meant to write the history of contentious events—Catiline’s famous rebellion in 63 BCE and the war waged against the North African king Jugurtha fifty years earlier—while their effects were still so vividly felt.

One of the first book-length treatments of Sallust in over fifty years, the text offers a comprehensive reading of Sallust’s works using the tools of narratology and intertextual analysis to reveal the changing functions of historiography at the end of the Roman Republic. Author Andrew Feldherr’s comprehensive approach examines the literary strategies used by Sallust and many of the most interesting and significant aspects of the historian’s accomplishment while advancing the study of historiography as a literary form, reconsidering its relationship to rival genres such as rhetoric and tragedy.

*After the Past: Sallust on History and Writing History* is an accessible and useful resource for students of Latin literature and Roman history from the advanced undergraduate through professional levels, and for all those with an interest in historiography as a literary genre in Greco-Roman antiquity and in the literary history of the late Republic and triumviral period.

**Empire and Religion in the Roman World**
Edited by Harriet Flower
Cambridge University Press, 2021

The inspiration for this volume comes from the work of its dedicatee, Brent D. Shaw, who is one of the most original and wide-ranging historians of the ancient world of the last half-century and continues to open up exciting new fields for exploration. Each of the distinguished contributors has produced a cutting-edge exploration of a topic in the history and culture of the Roman Empire dealing with a subject on which Professor Shaw has contributed valuable work. Three major themes extend across the volume as a whole. First, the ways in which the Roman world represented an intricate web of connections even while many people’s lives remained fragmented and local. Second, the ways in which the peculiar Roman space promoted religious competition in a sophisticated marketplace for practices and beliefs, with Christianity being a major benefactor. Finally, the varying forms of violence which were endemic within and between communities.
Benefactors and the Polis: The Public Gift in the Greek Cities from the Homeric World to Late Antiquity
Edited by Marc Domingo Gygax (Princeton University), Arjan Zuiderhoek (Ghent University)
Cambridge University Press, 2020

Historians generally study elite public gift-giving in ancient Greek cities as a phenomenon that gained prominence only in the Hellenistic and Roman imperial periods. The contributors to this volume challenge this perspective by offering analyses of various manifestations of elite public giving in the Greek cities from Homeric times until Late Antiquity, highlighting this as a structural feature of polis society from its origins in the early Archaic age to the world of the Christian Greek city in the early Byzantine period. They discuss existing interpretations, offer novel ideas and arguments, and stress continuities and changes over time. Bracketed by a substantial Introduction and Conclusion, the volume is accessible both to ancient historians and to scholars studying gift-giving in other times and places.

Der 'Oxforder Boethius'. Studie und lateinisch-deutsche Edition
Daniela Mairhofer (Princeton University), Agata Mazurek (University of Bern)
Erich Schmidt Verlag GmbH & Co. 2020

‘Der “Oxforder Boethius”. Studie und lateinisch-deutsche Edition’ is published by Erich Schmidt Verlag, Berlin, as part of the series ‘Texte des späten Mittelalters und der frühen Neuzeit’ (TMA, no. 58). The book, a co-production between a medieval Latinist and a medieval Germanist, focuses on the reception of Boethius’s Consolatio philosophiae (ca. 524) in the later Middle Ages. One of the most influential late-antique texts, the Consolation was extremely widespread in the Middle Ages. The rendering of the text into vernacular languages commences almost as early as the glossing and commenting of it.

The German version of the Consolation preserved in MS. Hamilton 46 of the Bodleian Library, Oxford, occupies a unique position among medieval German translations of the Consolation. It is one of four surviving German renderings written independently from one another in the second half of the 15th century. Dating from 1465 and written very likely in Siegen (North Rhine-Westphalia), it is only here that the German version survives together with the Latin base text and several layers of Latin interlinear glosses; these were incorporated into the translation. The existence of the pre-text provides a unique opportunity to examine the translation technique and thereby establish the context of use.

For the first time since its discovery by Professor Nigel F. Palmer (Oxford) in 1979, the ‘Boethius’ is made accessible to scholars in modern format. The synoptic critical edition of the Latin base text, the Latin glosses and the vernacular version is followed by an extensive commentary, which analyzes the translator’s modus operandi word for word, and two glossaries. The edition is preceded by a monographic study of eight chapters. They analyze the contents of the composite manuscript, the chronology of the text components that constitute the ‘Boethius’ and the text version of the Latin base text; furthermore, the Latin paratext (glosses and commentaries), the dialect of the German version and its position within the vernacular tradition. Finally, by means of a careful comparison of the Latin and German versions, the translation technique is being analyzed.

In 782 pages, this publication offers not only the first-time edition of the ‘Oxford Boethius’, but also a thorough study, thus providing scholars of the Middle Ages and beyond full access to a unique testimonial to the reception of Boethius’s masterpiece in the Middle Ages.
CLA 203 \ COM 217 \ HLS 201 \ TRA 203
WHAT IS A CLASSIC? J. Billings and P. Kelly

“What is a Classic?” asks what goes into the making of a classic text. It focuses on four, monumental poems from the ancient Mediterranean and Near East: Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey, Virgil’s Aeneid, and Gilgamesh, which are discussed through comparison across traditions, ranging as far as Chinese poetry. Students will consider possible definitions and constituents of a classic, while also reflecting on the processes of chance, valorization, and exclusion that go into the formation of a canon. Topics will include transmission, commentary, translation, religion, race, colonization, empire, and world literature.

CLA 212 \ HUM 212 \ CSS 212 \ HLS 212
CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY A. Feldherr

An introduction to the classical myths in their cultural context and in their wider application to human concerns (such as creation, sex and gender, identity, transformation, and death). The course will offer a who’s who of the ancient imaginative world, study the main ancient sources of well-known stories, and introduce modern approaches to analyzing myths.

CLG 215
LATE 5TH CENTURY ATHENS: ARISTOPHANES M. Haynes

A chorus of frogs, gods, the underworld and a trial of tragedians! Come read Aristophanes’ the Frogs and see ancient comedy in action. We will have the opportunity in Winter Session to see where this play was performed and get to know Athens, the city of tragedy and comedy. Students who complete CLG 215 will have the opportunity to travel to Greece during Winter session 2023. Enrollment is by application.

CLA 218 \ HIS 218
THE ROMAN REPUBLIC D. Padilla-Peralta

Which affected Roman history more: Julius Caesar’s assassination in 44 BCE, or the massive eruption of Alaska’s Okmok volcano the following year? This course will study the local and global contexts and consequences of a small republican city-state’s rise to imperial domination, through analysis of primary sources in translation and recent archaeological findings. Our emphasis will be on the development of Roman society, the rise and fall of republican government, and the Republic’s many afterlives.

CLA 250 \ HUM 253
POMPEII C. Cheung

The astonishing preservation of Pompeii has captured popular imagination ever since it was rediscovered beginning in the 1700s. This course will uncover the urban fabric of the city. We will look at its layout, at public and private buildings and their decoration, and at the wider cultural, geographical, and historical contexts. Using physical remains alongside texts in translation, we will explore aspects of the lives of the inhabitants, including entertainment, housing, religion, economy, slavery, political organization and expression, roles played by men and women inside and outside the family, and attitudes towards death.

CLG 101
BEGINNER’S GREEK: GREEK GRAMMAR M. Haynes

Students will learn to read Classic Attic Greek with facility and will end the academic year by studying a short Platonic dialogue or comparable text. Our emphasis this term will be on grammar and vocabulary. Travel to Greece planned for Winter session, pending COVID restrictions in January 2023. Enrollment is by application.

LAT 101
BEGINNER’S LATIN D. Mairhofer

An introduction to the basic grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of Latin designed to enable students to read and understand simple Latin prose and verse.
These twenty-four thoughts on the classics are taken from the final papers submitted by students taking the course CLA 203 *What Is a Classic?*, a new offering designed by Josh Billings and Barbara Graziosi and taught by Barbara Graziosi in Fall 2021. We would like to acknowledge the support of the 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education, the McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, the contributions of several colleagues in the Classics Department, together with Professor Lara Harb (Near Eastern Studies) and Professor Martin Kern (East Asian Studies).

**THE CLASSICS:**

- ancient languages reveal them in new light
- are books that... keep up the effort
- aware of time, but timeless
- become classics through classroom discussion, when a student disagrees with a peer, or a professor poses a controversial take that ignites a new debate: criticism makes the classic
- build like scaffolds on top of each other
- create community and are created by communal effort
- demand revisiting
- depend on institutional support
- element of luck involved in survival
- establish specific modes of reading... by reference to other texts
- exclusive yet popular
- feelings of closeness and sameness...
- feelings of distance and difference
- hide in plain sight
- imperialist tendencies
- imposing standards
- instances of thievery from native cultures
- interpretations do not get supplanted but pile up
- it is people like Simone Weil, who find a personal classic within the cultural classic, who have the power to keep the classics in circulation
- like Odysseus in Tennyson: "I am a part of all that I have met"
- made of collective memory...
- to be found the world over
- misfits
- objects of care
- old women sitting around a table... judging the ordeals of young women
- other readings are possible

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*Twenty-Four Thoughts on the Classics* (in alphabetical order)
Chiara Battisti, Graduate Student

Last year I presented my research on Marius Maximus and the Historia Augusta at the International Medieval Congress (University of Leeds), on Enheduanna’s Exaltation of Inanna and archaic Greek poetry at the Early Text Cultures research seminar (University of Oxford), and on Christophoros Mitylenaios’ Various Verses at the 5th Parekbolai Symposium on Byzantine Literature and Philology (University of Thessaloniki). All research papers were written for courses taken at Princeton. I am so grateful for all the feedback and comments I have received from professors and colleagues. Thanks to the opportunities offered by the Inter-University Doctoral Consortium, in the Spring term I took a course in Greek Epigraphy led by Professor John Ma at Columbia University. I also ran a reading group on Hellenistic literature and culture (PAW) with Sherry Lee and the Late Antique Book Club (CSLA) with Nicholas Churik which was a great way to be on the track of Hellenism in the longue durée. Finally, after much effort, my article on Strabo’s and Pausanias’ description of Ionia has been accepted for publication in Euphrosyne (2022).

Grant Bruner ‘23

They say time flies when you are having fun ... or when an independent work deadline is looming. My first Junior Paper, where I investigated agricultural realities in Pliny the Younger’s letters, was written during a relatively restful period in late December 2021; my second, analyzing the chronology of the Roman gold mines at Dolaucothi, was the final product of a blisteringly quick spring semester. I am incredibly grateful to Professor Harriet Flower and Professor Cheung for their support, critique, and mentorship during the writing process for this work. I have also really cherished the opportunity to engage in archaeological coursework, especially in CLA247: The Science of Roman History, taught by Professors Cheung and Kay, and ART398: Ancient Egyptian Funerary Culture with Professor Vischak. The term paper from the latter course, after many rounds of edits, eventually transformed into the presentation I gave at the 2022 SUNY New Paltz Undergraduate Art History Symposium. This summer promises to feel faster still, as I look forward to combing Grecian fields for pottery in Professor Arrington’s archaeological excavation and then sprinting around the Bay of Naples for my Senior Thesis research!

Ilia Curto Pelle ‘22

2021-2022 was for me a time of both ends and beginnings. I completed my senior thesis on the Transformation of Balkan Society in the 7th century under the incredible guidance of my advisors: Daniela Mairhofer and John Haldon. At the same time, though, with the immense support of my professors and the classics department, I took my first steps towards a future academic career in the field. My junior paper The Araxa Honorary Decree for Orthagoras: Dating and Context, and my independent project The Transformation of Mard o Mard from a Persian Tradition to a Literary Topos were published in undergraduate academic journals. At the same time, I had the unique opportunity to present several of my research projects at conferences in universities like Cambridge, Princeton, John Hopkins and the University of Pennsylvania. Moreover, as editor-in-chief of SCIVIAS: the Princeton Journal for Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages, I oversaw the publication of the journal’s third issue, which will be available in print soon. Finally, I was privileged to be offered a spot in Oxford University’s Master of Philosophy in Late Antique and Byzantine Studies program, which I will join in October of 2022.
Noelia Carbajal

On the Meaning of “Churches”: An Assessment of Archaeological Interpretations of Early Christian Churches

ADVISER: Janet Kay

How should archaeologists interpret the remains of early Christian churches? My thesis tackles this question in three parts. In the first chapter, I lay out the theology of early Christian churches based on archaeological and theological evidence. In the second chapter, I look at how theology can help us understand complicated sites, such as the Butt Road Structure in Colchester, England, and Dura Europos in Syria. Finally, I close with a chapter on the Hagia Sophia, showing how a proper understanding of “church” as something both material and theological can help us reconstruct the experiences of past churchgoers.

Ilia Curto Pelle

The Transformation of Balkan Society in the 7th century

ADVISER: Daniela Mairhofer

The history of the Balkans in the 7th century has traditionally been associated in scholarship with a period of darkness, in which the Byzantine Empire with its urbanized and centralized system of governance retreated from the region under the stress of invasions by barbarian groups like the Slavs, Avars and Bulgars. While recent academic contributions have drawn attention to the lack of evidence for large-scale migrations from beyond the Danube, the narrative of destruction, depopulation and abandonment has persisted, seemingly finding confirmation in the burned ruins of many former Byzantine cities. The most recent major study of the region posited that the 7th-century Balkans were empty, with nobody living in these lands. In my senior thesis, I use a multidisciplinary approach, combining traditional disciplines—archeology, numismatics, sigillography and textual criticism—with newer types of paleo-environmental data to pursue three main goals: to demonstrate that what may seem as an empty landscape in the Northern Balkans shows more evidence of continuity than what has traditionally been suggested, that alternative anthropological theories from the perspective of the periphery can offer us different explanations of the observed changes in Balkan society in the 7th century than the “depopulation”, “destruction” and “invasion”, which dominate scholarship, and that more comparative work with regions like Italy and the post-Roman West may shed more light upon the “Slav lands”.

Hermanus Kreike-Martin

The Constitution Antoniniana, Civitas, and the Cohortes: Caracalla’s Tripartite Strategy to Address Systemic Recruitment and Liquidity Concerns in the Third Century C.E.

ADVISER: Caroline Cheung

In 211 C.E., Caracalla became the sole emperor of the Roman Empire. His early reign was plagued by systemic recruitment and liquidity issues. The recruitment issues stemmed from perennial shortfalls in enlistment into the legions owing to such factors as better alternatives to legionary service—including the Urban Cohorts, the auxilia, and the Calvary alae—and strict recruitment criteria, notably the requirement of Roman citizenship. The liquidity issue arose from a recent 150% increase in the legionary base pay that had been instigated by his predecessor, Septimius Severus, and that Caracalla himself had continued, resulting in a shortage in the physical stock of metal coinage to pay the troops. Caracalla masterfully deployed a series of policies to successfully overcome these two systemic issues: the vicesima hereditatum, which doubled the inheritance tax; his famous Constitutio Antoniniana, which granted citizenship to everyone within the Roman realm; and a bold campaign of currency manipulation. These measures cemented Caracalla’s enduring legacy: he not only financed a replenished army that expanded the Empire on two overseas fronts, but also directed an impressive campaign of domestic public works projects.

Olivia Pugh

Casting an Intertextual Shadow: Virgil’s Use of Umbra in the Eclogues, Georgics, and the Aeneid

ADVISER: Dan-el Padilla Peralta

This thesis examines the ways in which Virgil connects the uses and treatments of umbra across the Eclogues, Georgics, and the Aeneid. By looking at multiple works of Virgil intertextually, I trace the evolving definition of umbra. I argue that by giving his readers such a comprehensive understanding of umbra in wide-ranging contexts, Virgil establishes connections across these categories and casts an intertextual shadow that can be directly traced through the word umbra. In doing this, this thesis shows the importance of intertextual reading within the classical world.

Emma Treadway


ADVISER: Dan-el Padilla Peralta

In this thesis, I interrogate ancient Stoicism, crafting an educational framework to address modern problems in the American K-12 public school system.
2021 – 2022
LECTURES & EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 9 Lecture
Carolina López-Ruiz
Ohio State University
“Phoenician Horizons and the Other Mediterranean”

SEPTEMBER 23 Lecture
Ben Fortson
University of Michigan
“A Festan Fest”

OCTOBER 29 Lunch Lecture
Jay Fisher
Rutgers University
“Greek Myth and Roman Empire 146 to 240 BCE”

DECEMBER 6 Workshop
“Breaking the 4th Wall: How to Engage the Audience in a Discussion”

DECEMBER 9 Lecture
Evan Jewell
Rutgers University-Camden
“Getting Lost and Finding Yourself in Ancient Rome.”

JANUARY 27 Lecture
Clara Bosak-Schroeder
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
“Breasts and Bees: An Excerpt from the Seven Wonders Project”

FEBRUARY 24 Lecture
Shivaike Shah
Khameleon Productions
“Uprooting Medea”
Sponsored by the Department of Classics and the Brown Arts Institute at Brown University

MARCH 21 Lecture
Robert Fagles Lecture for Classics in The Contemporary Arts
Kamila Shamsie
“Antigone of Pakistan: narrative violence and the impossibility of homecoming”
Sponsored by Princeton’s Departments of Classics, English and Comparative Literature, Humanities Council, Humanistic Studies, Lewis Center for the Arts, Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, the Program in Humanistic Studies, the Edward W. Said Memorial Lecture Fund, and the Princeton Committee on Palestine

MARCH 29 Lecture
George Boys-Stones
University of Toronto
“After Happiness: Middle Platonist Ethics”

APRIL 5 Lecture
James Uden
Boston University
“Epic Vulnerability: Anchises in the Aeneid”

APRIL 8 Lunch Lecture
Judson Herrman
Allegheny College
“A Discussion of Trends and Directions in Scholarship on Attic oratory”

APRIL 13 Workshop
Dr. Brea Willingham
Managing Editor of the Journal of Higher Education in Prison, for the Princeton University Prison Teaching Initiative
“Redefining What It Means to ‘Teach’ in Prison”

APRIL 14 Prentice Lecture
Rebecca Flemming
University of Cambridge
“Galen on Race, Health, and Disease: Medicine and Empire in the Roman World”

APRIL 22 Workshop & Lecture
“The Epic of Gilgamesh”

APRIL 29 Brunch Talk
Glenn Most
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa (retired)

MAY 21 Conference & Lecture
“Comparative Mysticisms”
Sponsored by Princeton University Humanities Council, Comparative Antiquity: A Humanities Council Global Initiative, Princeton University Department of Classics, and the Princeton University Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies

JUNE 15-16 Conference
“Fragmentary Roman Comedies”

P R I N C E T O N \ C L A S S I C S
After a long suspension of in-person activities, the Classics Club was very eager to hold new and engaging events again this year. We started our adventures with a trip to Howell Farm in September, where approximately 30 students from the club and Professor Cheung’s course CLA326: Topics in Ancient History: Town and Country learned how to plow fields using historically accurate techniques. Students then wandered among the pigs, sheep, and goats of the farm - at least until Professor Mairhofer reminded students what parchment is made from!

Later in October, members attended a two-part pottery demonstration series led by Gina Tibbott, an experienced potter and archaeologist. Over the course of two Saturdays, our students learned first about how the Romans constructed their wheel-thrown pots, and then had the opportunity to put their own designs on imitation cups. Some brave students even tried to make wheel-thrown vessels themselves, with mixed results. Certainly, we learned the craftsmanship and practice needed by Roman potters to make consistent vessels one after another.

In February, we held an intimate discussion with Classics Department guest Shivaike Shah, the founder of Khameleon Productions. Our members were particularly interested in the reception of the Classics in both the United States and Europe, as well as the difficulties in adapting a more than two millennia old play for audiences with less and less direct engagement with the Classics. We greatly appreciated the warmth and practical advice Shivaike gave to our group, especially to those who were interested in theater making.

In April, several members joined a trip to New York alongside students from Professor Holmes’ CLA231: Ancient Greek and Roman Medicine:
Bodies, Physicians, and Patients class, for a guided tour of the Greek and Roman galleries at the MET and an introduction to artist Martha Friedman in her Brooklyn studio. We also joined Ms. Tibbott for another workshop on votives, where students (as well as graduate students and Professor Haynes) made replicas of Roman foot, hand, eye, and uterus molds to take home, just in time for some good luck before reading period and final exams!

The Classics Club is extremely grateful to the entire Classics Department for its help organizing, funding and running events this year. We are especially indebted to Professor Cheung and Professor Holmes for their introductions to key guest lecturers and, in many cases, pitching us opportunities we never would have dreamt of ourselves. Now, co-Presidents Sydney Bebon ’23 and Grant Bruner ’23 are looking forward to passing on the baton to a new generation of Classics Club leaders and supporting their efforts in the Fall.

We report with great sadness the death of Professor T. James Luce. Luce was a major presence in our department for a generation. A native of Elmira, NY, he came to Princeton as a graduate student in 1955 (with a B.A. from Hamilton College), stayed on as Instructor, and remained at Princeton throughout his career. In 1977, he was named Kennedy Foundation Professor of the Latin Language and Literature; he retired in 1995. His 1978 monograph, Livy: The Composition of his History transformed scholarship on this author by demonstrating the planning behind, and sophistication of, his presentation of the Roman past, and his important articles on Roman historiography remain central points of reference decades after their appearance. He was also a generous and genial teacher of Latin, Greek, and Roman History, whose laughter would ring through the department. And his scholarly influence survives also among the many students he trained and inspired. In addition to two terms as Chair, Luce’s service to the university included thirty-two years as Latin scribe, writing the Latin for university degrees, and helping salutatorians with their speeches. He is survived by his husband Marvin Mandelbaum and by two siblings, to whom we extend our profound condolences. Jim’s many contributions to the field of Classics and to the department will be remembered with joy and gratitude.
Faculty
Yelena Baraz
Joshua Billings
Emmanuel Bourbouhakis
Caroline Cheung
Marc Domingo Cygax
Denis Feeney
Andrew Feldherr
Harriet Flower
Michael Flower
Barbara Graziosi
Emily Greenwood
Johannes Haubold
Melissa Haynes
Brooke Holmes
Mirjam Kotwick
Daniela Mairhofer
Dan-el Padilla Peralta
Katerina Stergiopoulou

Staff
Jill Arbeiter
Nancy Blaustein
Robert Castaños
Brittany Masterson
Eileen Robinson
Christopher Valentine

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Kasia Allen ’01
Mackenzie Bushy ’08
Scott Clemons ’90
Joan Breton Connelly ’76
Joy Connolly ’91
Carol Cronheim ’86
Andrew Porter ’03
Zachary Squire ’08

Editor: Nancy Blaustein
Copy editor: Aliya Ram
Graphic Designer: Michael Quanci
Cover Illustration: Mali Skotheim PhD ’16

About the Cover Illustrated by Mali Skotheim PhD ’16
The cover design is a celebration of Phillis Wheatley (1753-1784), who often drew on Greek and Latin literature in her writings, and references her poem, “An Hymn to the Morning,” published in her book Poems on Various Subjects (1773). The illustration is based on Meredith Bergmann’s statue of Wheatley for the Boston Women’s Memorial (2003).