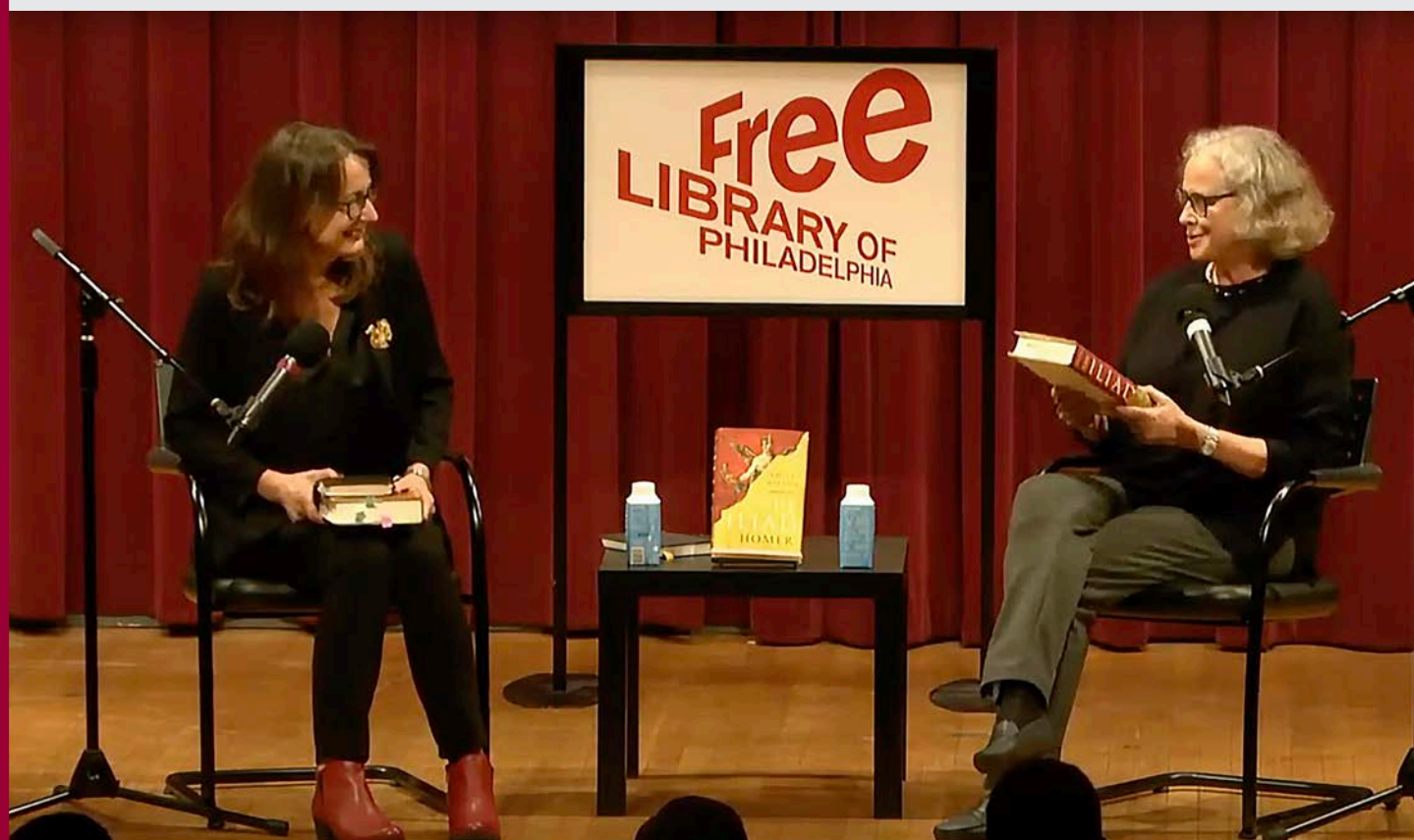




CLASSICAL STUDIES



Spring 2025

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

We are grateful to all of you who have supported our departmental activities this year, and especially:

- ◆ Rudy Masciantonio, in memoriam, for the Masciantonio Fellowship
- ◆ Emily Wilson, for the Elsie Phare Fellowship
- ◆ The Areté Foundation, in honor of Edward E. Cohen C'59, L'65, for the Penn Public Lectures on Classical Antiquity and the Contemporary World
- ◆ The Areté Foundation, for the Areté Gordion Expedition Fund
- ◆ Keith and Alix Morgan, for the Keith and Alix Morgan Grant
- ◆ Charles Paturick for the Paturick Fellowship Term Fund
- ◆ The Center for Ancient Studies

Figure 1 (Cover image): Conversation between Emily Wilson and Bridget Murnaghan at the Free Library of Philadelphia following the publication of Emily's new translation of the *Iliad*.

Greetings from the Chair

Sheila (Bridget) Murnaghan, 2023-24

I completed my term as Chair in 23-24, a task made much easier by the support of my hard-working colleagues and our superb Department Coordinator Sarah Gish-Kraus, whose outstanding efforts were recognized this fall with a Bronze Staff Recognition Award from the School of Arts and Sciences. A major undertaking of 23-24 was an External Review of the department; for this we produced an extensive self-

study and hosted a two-day site visit in April from our three distinguished reviewers. We were gratified by the Review Committee's highly positive report, which affirmed that ours is "an outstanding department in every respect" and especially noted our unusual success in integrating the several disciplines that make up Classical Studies. The reviewers also drew attention to how stretched we are as a faculty, performing at a very high level with fewer members than our peer departments, and this undoubtedly helped us make a successful case for the search that we



Figure 2: Friends and colleagues of Ralph Rosen at his career celebration.



Figure 3: Former students of Ralph Rosen at his career celebration.

were able to conduct in 2024-25.

The year ended on a high note with an exhilarating career celebration for Ralph Rosen, as he officially retired from full-time teaching (figs. 2, 3). Ralph remains active both at Penn and in the wider profession, in many roles including President-Elect of the Society for Classical Studies (SCS), but his retirement was a significant milestone for us. As much as anyone, Ralph has defined and fostered the distinctive character of the Department as a place where academic excellence coexists with exceptional collegiality. Ralph was adamant that he did not want a full-blown academic conference to mark the occasion; he said he'd been to "plenty of those already." So we settled on a more informal program that captured the intersection between Ralph's groundbreaking scholarship on ancient humor and ancient medicine and his extraordinarily dedicated mentorship of students: a roundtable of reflections by representatives of his Ph.D. students on works of ancient literature that they see differently because of Ralph—followed by a convivial reception.

I am delighted to be succeeded as Chair by Emily Wilson, who is now leading the Department with vision, good judgment, and lots of new chair energy.

Emily Wilson, 2024-25

I became Chair of the Department in fall of 2024, and I am more than ever grateful for my colleagues and students in this wonderful community. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Bridget Murnaghan, who chaired the department for the last two years and has spent a great deal of time showing me the ropes. Profound thanks also to Greek and Latin Languages and Literatures Graduate Chair James Ker, to An-

cient History Graduate Chair Julia Wilker, to Undergraduate Chair Kim Bowes, to Julie Nishimura-Jensen, Director of the Post-Baccalaureate Program in Classical Studies, to Graduate Coordi-

nator Kate Stoler, and to Department Coordinator Sarah Gish-Kraus.

This has been a year of much anxiety and turbulence, but we are weathering the storms. We were able to run

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED ANNUALLY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

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Please send comments, news, and updates via email to Sarah Gish-Kraus at: gishkrau@sas.upenn.edu



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Editing and general text: Brian Rose, Sarah Gish-Kraus

Design: Ardeth Anderson, Penn Museum

Photography: Ana María Núñez



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Thank you in advance!

a search for a junior tenure track Hellenist in 2024-25. Out of an impressive field and after much deliberation, we selected a brilliant and wide-ranging scholar of post-classical Greek literature and culture: Dr. Hanna Golab, who will be joining us in the fall (fig. 4).



Figure 4: New Classical Studies professor Hanna Golab.

Our intellectual and scholarly activities as a department and as a community have remained strong this year. At our weekly departmental colloquia, we have welcomed scholars and artists from a very wide range of sub-disciplines related to the ancient world, including reception, translation and performance, archaeology and material culture, deep dives into particular ancient authors and genres, and innovative studies of ancient cultural, economic, and political history. We were thrilled to host Professor Carlos Noreña as our Hyde lecturer this year, with a talk on the “backwaters” of the Roman Empire. We were very grateful for much-needed co-sponsorship support from the Center for Ancient Studies, for the Hyde and for our Colloquium, both of which operate on a shoestring and are fundamental to our intellectual community. We are concerned about the future of the Colloquium, given our

severe budgetary constraints, but we are very grateful to have been able to schedule a year of such vibrant, well-attended and varied talks, and we very much hope to be able to continue to do so in the future.

Our graduate programs have been thriving. Graduate students in our three programs have won prestigious fellowships and awards, including Dissertation Completion Fellowships, Teaching Awards, and American School of Classical Studies in Athens fellowships. Thanks to generous co-sponsorship, Professors Murnaghan and Rose were again able to take their graduate seminar on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Troy as part of their interdisciplinary course. One major change has been the re-titling of what was once the “Classical Studies” Graduate Group and Program as Greek and Latin Languages and Literatures. This change is long overdue and is designed to clarify the distinction between the Department and the associated Ph.D.-granting Graduate Groups, which include Ancient History and Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Mediterranean World, as well as the language and literature focused program (which is henceforth nicknamed “GL3”). We have been delighted to celebrate the successful dissertation defenses of 15 Ph.D. students this year across the three Groups.

Our undergraduate majors, minors, and visitors are also flourishing, in their classes, in their community activities organized by a strong Undergraduate Advisory Board, and in their research. At the Senior Colloquium, graduating undergrads presented the impressive fruits of their intellectual labors (fig. 5). One proud parent in attendance commented that classical studies is “a discipline that offers rewards that remain with a person through a lifetime. It was



Figure 5: Classical studies major Maggie Yuan speaking at the Undergraduate majors colloquium.

said (by someone) that philosophy is the best friend a person can have, but I think the love of classical studies and the sheer past of the past also ranks as a worthy friend.”

Our public outreach projects have remained vibrant and have enabled us to listen, learn from, and engage with community members of all ages, from the Certamen event that brings Philadelphia-area high school students to Penn, to the reading groups for veterans (Eternal Soldier), and the Martha Graham Dance Company performance in Philadelphia, co-sponsored by our department thanks to the financial support of Keith A., C’83, and Alixandra Morgan.

In these times of enormous uncertainty and change, we are more than ever dedicated to the project of studying antiquity in all its diversity, and understanding how deep engagement with the past can illuminate and orient our ever-changing present. Through research, teaching, mentoring, and dialogue with interlocutors both within and beyond the University, we hope to open up new insights on the ancient world and create new opportunities for more people from any and every background to experience and engage with the challenging, enriching strangeness that is inherent in the study of antiquity.

Penn Public Lectures : 2023-2024

The Penn Public Lectures series, very generously sponsored by the Cohen family, has been an enormous source of intellectual renewal and energy for us as a department. In the fall ’23 semester, the Department enjoyed the spirited presence of Elena Isayev, Professor of Ancient History and Place at the University of Exeter, a wide-ranging scholar and activist whose re-

search focuses on migration, displacement, belonging, and the construction of place in both the ancient Mediterranean and the contemporary world

(fig. 6). Prof. Isayev’s lectures on “People out of Place: Mediating Sovereignty and Power, Past and Present” presented a shrewd and illuminating account of



Figure 6: Elena Isayev, Penn Public Lecturer 2023.

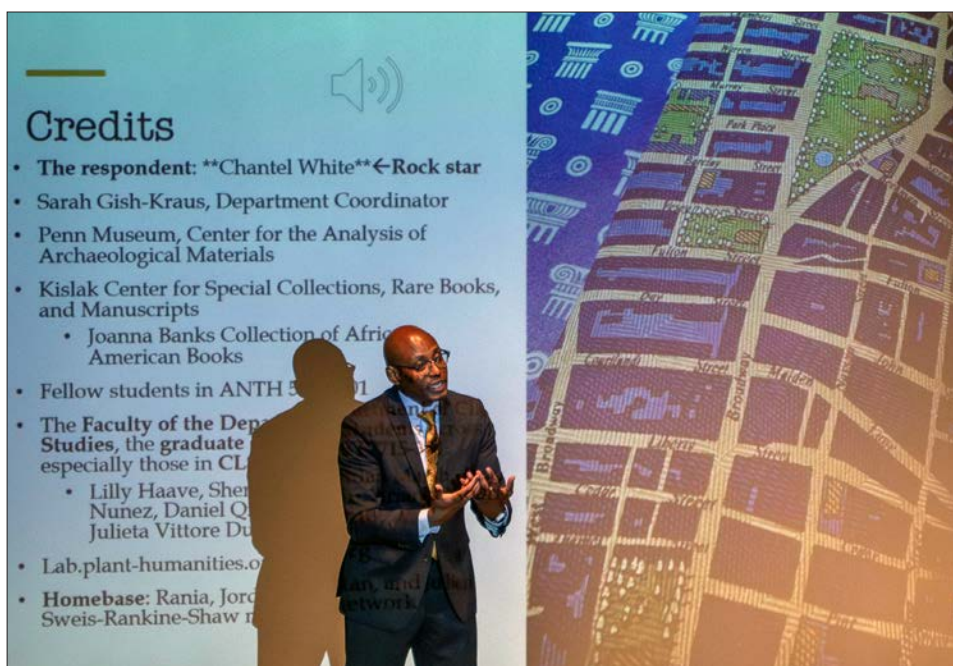


Figure 7: Patrice Rankine, Penn Public Lecturer 2024.



Figure 8: The Ancient History graduate students with Profs. Jeremy McNerney, Julia Wilker, and Prof. Carlos Noreña, Hyde Visitor 2025.



Figure 9: Students in the Troy and Homer seminar in the Justinianic cisterns in Istanbul.

the ways that out-of-place people—migrants, exiles, captives—can affect the political structures with which they interact, provoking others to develop and assert the authority to grant them asylum, or resettle them elsewhere, or ex-

change them for ransom. While she was with us, Prof. Isayev offered a stimulating graduate seminar related to her lectures and made many connections throughout the wider Penn community; one memorable result of her outreach

was a session bringing together classicists and representatives of Penn Natives to discuss the ethical benefits and pitfalls of land acknowledgements.

In the fall of 2024, we were fortunate in having Prof. Patrice Rankine (University of Chicago) join us for the entire semester (fig. 7). He taught a highly successful graduate seminar on “Classical Antiquity and the Contemporary World: Racializing Antiquity.” His three talks, on “Professional Classical Studies and its Others,” focused on the challenges inherent in studying “classics” with an awareness of the violent, racialized inequities in the past and present of the discipline, and of humanities higher education more broadly.

The first talk, “Fiery Towers,” provided a virtuosic overview of the “meme” of self-destruction, the calls to “burn it all down,” which Rankine showed have been part of our disciples “discourse” for far longer than we may think. The second, on “Streets’ Disciples,” considered urban non-elite and anti-elite poetics, both in Roman antiquity and in contemporary Black music and culture, suggesting that the “matrix of the streets” might be able to disrupt dominant ideologies. The third talk, “On Being at Home,” focused on enslaved people’s foodways and bodily histories, turning both to the Romans and to more recent violent colonial histories to analyze the possibilities of reordering what we know about the past and the present.

The talks attracted large and highly engaged audiences in person and on zoom, including members of the general public as well as students and faculty from disciplines beyond classics. We were able to schedule an end-of-semester lunch, featuring soul food and a large gathering of faculty and graduate students, in

which we had a long and deep discussion of the implications of Prof. Rankine's insights about our field and its futures.

The Hyde Lecture

Every spring the Graduate Group in Ancient History (ANCH) hosts a distinguished ancient historian for a week-long visit, made possible by a gift from Walter Woodburn Hyde (Professor of Greek and Ancient History at Penn 1910-1940). The Hyde Visitor 2024 was Lin Foxhall, Rathbone Professor of Ancient History and Classical Archaeology at the University of Liverpool. She is widely regarded as one of the world's leading experts on ancient agriculture, rural economies, landscapes, land use, material culture, and gender in the ancient Mediterranean, and especially the Greek world. In her Hyde Lecture "Political Regimes and the Rural Economies of Ancient Greece," Dr. Foxhall discussed the impact of political cultures on rural communities and the organization of agrarian landscapes from the early Archaic to the late Classical period. Equally successful was the Hyde Visit in 2025 by Carlos Noreña, Goldman Distinguished Chair of Social Sciences and Professor of History at UC Berkeley. (fig. 8) Occurring twenty-five years after the first Hyde Visit by Professor Elizabeth Meyer (Univ. of Virginia), this was also the first time we welcomed an alumnus of the ANCH program as Hyde Visitor. In his scholarship, Dr. Noreña has focused on Roman history, literary and material cultures in the Roman Empire, the topography of Rome, historical geography, and comparative empires. His Hyde Lecture "Backwaters of the Roman Empire: The Case of Marmarica"

discussed the influence and reach of imperial rule using the microregion known in antiquity as the Marmarica in the eastern Libyan desert as an example. In addition to their Hyde Lectures, Professors Foxhall and Noreña each taught two graduate seminars and met with all graduate students in the Ph.D. program in Ancient History, individually and in smaller groups, re-

alizing the main purpose of the Hyde visit: to encourage, facilitate, and foster conversations, intellectual exchange, and collaboration with graduate students.

Field Trip to Troy

A field trip to Troy and the Troad (March 6-16, 2025) was the highlight



Figure 10: The Troy and Homer seminar students at the wooden horse in Çanakkale, on loan from Warner Brothers, which used it in the 2004 Troy movie.



Figure 11: The Sorceress, Medea (Xin Ying), the Princess, Creon's Daughter (Laurel Dalley Smith), Jason (Lloyd Knight), and the Chorus (Anne Souder) in "Cave of the Heart." Martha Graham Dance Company, Suzanne Roberts Theatre, January 4, 2025. Credit: Anne Lantian Jing (ANCH).



Figure 12: Kim Bowes with Mark van Horn at his dissertation defense.

of the graduate seminar "Homer and Troy" co-taught by Sheila (Bridget) Murnaghan and C. Brian Rose. This was the third iteration of the course, and we owe a tremendous debt to the Rudy Masciantonio Memorial Fund at the Penn Museum which made the trip possible. There were 13 graduate students who took part, drawn from the Graduate Groups in Classical Studies, Ancient History, and the Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World, as well as our departmental Post-Baccalaureate Program. We began in Istanbul with an examination of the Istanbul Archaeological Museum, the underground cisterns built by Justinian (fig. 9), and Hagia Sophia, and then traveled by van along the Gallipoli peninsula to Çanakkale and Troy (fig. 10). This involved crossing the Hellespont on the new suspension bridge that opened in 2020, exactly 2,500 years after Xerxes' pontoon bridge in the same location. The students gave reports at Troy, in the new Troy Museum, next to the Tumulus of Achilles, on Mt. Ida, and at Gallipoli and Alexandria Troas. We also traveled to the Smintheion and Assos, where the class presented an impromptu version of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" in the Assos theater. The Troad field trip allowed us literally to walk in the footsteps of Xerxes, Alexander, Augustus, and Atatürk, among others, and highlighted the versatility of the Homeric tradition across the last three millennia.

Conferences

Meanings and Values of the Sacred in Greco-Roman Antiquity

The topic of the twelfth Penn-Leiden colloquium, held at the University of Pennsylvania (June 20-22, 2023) was "Meanings and Values of the Sacred in

Greco-Roman Antiquity,” the proceedings of which were edited by Kim Beerden, Irene Polinskaya, and Jeremy McInerney. Our aim was to bring together junior and senior researchers with an interest in the Sacred in all areas of classical studies, including literature, philosophy, linguistics, history, and visual and material culture, in an attempt to discover the significant points of intersection and difference between these areas of focus. Following the conference, we continued to work with contributors on the publication of their papers, the premise for which is that the concept of the Sacred in Greek and Roman contexts is due for a revision and a fresh exploration, as both an emic and an etic category. Starting from the lexical perspective and the analysis of emic vocabulary, we then expand to the conceptual inquiries such as whether the Sacred was a universal category, or locally and culturally circumscribed; whether it was conceptualized differently in the Greek and Roman cultural milieus or in a dialogue between them; whether conceptualizations of ‘the sacred’ and their roles in religious life developed and changed over time; whether “the sacred” was a conservative or receptive area of cultural meaning. In other words, was “the sacred” a common and homogenous phenomenon in the context of the Greco-Roman world, or should it be seen as a promising window into the interplay between “thick description” and “thin coherence”? We are currently editing seventeen chapters and should submit the completed manuscript early this summer.

*Values of Language(s)
in the Ancient World*

The topic of the thirteenth Penn-Leiden colloquium, to be held at Leiden



Figure 13: Kate Meng Brassel with a Renaissance portrait of Persius in Volterra, the poet's birthplace.

University, June 12-14, 2025, will be “Values of Language(s) in the Ancient World,” co-organized by Casper de Jonge (Leiden) and Rita Copeland. This conference examines the ways in which Greeks and Romans valued language in general, their own languages, and other languages. How does language acquire sociocultural value within specific Greek or Roman contexts? What are the values or powers ascribed to language in general, to language diversity, and to specific languages? Ancient and



Figure 14: Rita Copeland



Figure 15: Officers of the Accademia Virgiliana di Mantova reading Joe Farrell's award citation.

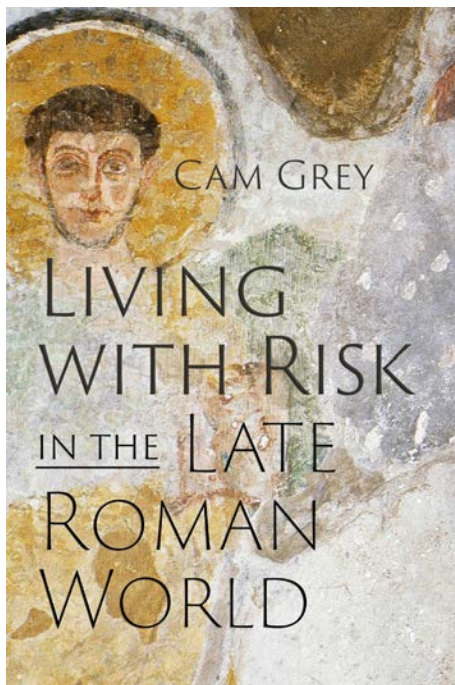


Figure 16: The cover of Cam Grey's newly published book.

modern voices have tended to associate the Greek language with such values as precision, euphony, and *paideia*; the Latin language, in its turn, has been thought to express order, rationality,

and monumentality. Such evaluations are now considered analytically flawed, but the subjective connotations of languages do reveal how human beings understood and presented themselves and others.

The conference brings together 24 speakers, from current and recent Ph.D.'s to senior scholars, to address ancient perspectives on the languages of gods, human beings, and animals, the values of written, spoken, and body languages, ancient reflections on the nature, origins, and histories of languages, and ancient views on bilingualism, multilingualism, language diversity, and hierarchies of languages or dialects. Our keynote speaker is Professor Ralph Rosen.

Passions and Politics in Late Medieval Culture

The ten speakers in this international colloquium (April 3-4, 2025; organized by Rita Copeland, Gur Zak, and Jessica Rosenfeld) considered how me-

dieval political theorists built their conceptions of the body politic on contemporary psychological theories of emotion, and how medieval literature assimilated that political theory and manifested it to broader audiences. How did literary works understand the relationship between passions and politics, and how might literary texts have served—beyond political theory—as sites that sought to foster—or even delimit—certain passions, from envy and compassion to anger and love? In the largest sense, our speakers asked how political thought on emotion finds its way into literary representations, and how literature helps us better understand the political history of emotion in the later Middle Ages. The workshop was intended to capitalize on important developments in medieval literary and cultural studies, capturing momentum and building the field further by triangulating the history of emotions and literary studies with medieval political thought. Moreover, if the field of emotions studies has given broad attention to emotions writ large (in literature, in the arts, in documentary records), we proposed to shift and focus the direction of study by examining how emotional theory evolved alongside political theory. The workshop was supported by Classical Studies as well as the University Research Foundation, the School of Arts and Sciences, the Center for Ancient Studies, the department of Francophone, Italian, and Germanic Studies, and the Penn English department.

Penn in the Spotlight with the Martha Graham Dance Company

On Saturday, January 4, 2025, Penn's Department of Classical Studies co-presented a performance, by the Martha

Graham Dance Company, of two Greek-mythology themed works by Martha Graham (fig. 11). The works were “Errand into the Maze” (1947), a duet based on Ariadne and the Minotaur, and a longer piece, “Cave of the Heart” (1946), that focuses on the Medea myth and features four dancers in the roles of Medea, Jason, the Princess, and the Chorus.

A diverse audience of over 350 attended this event at the Suzanne Roberts Theatre on Broad St, including many Philadelphians and many visitors attending the joint meeting of the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) and the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA). Most of the audience stayed on after the performance for a question-and-answer session among audience, artists, and scholars. The department was able to sponsor this event due to the generous financial support of Keith A. (C’83) and Alix Morgan. The SCS also received major support from the Virginia Wellington Cabot Foundation.

The event followed the day’s earlier academic panel sponsored by the Classics in the Community committee of the SCS, entitled “Dance and Myth: The Reception of the Greeks by Martha Graham,” co-organized by Nina Papathanasopoulou, Professor of Classical Studies at College Year in Athens, and Ronnie Ancona, Professor Emerita of Classics at Hunter College and the CUNY Graduate Center.

The performance was introduced by Penn Classical Studies Professor James Ker in his role as chair of the Committee on Classics in the Community. The Classical Studies department co-sponsored the event together with the SCS. Nina Papathanasopoulou, who is the Public Engagement Coordinator for the SCS, first conceived of the event and worked with SCS leadership and staff to bring it to reality.

Each of the pieces was introduced by Janet Eilber, the Artistic Director of the Martha Graham Dance Company, who earlier in her career worked with Martha Graham and danced many of the major roles in the MGDC repertory.

“To step briefly into the spotlight and introduce the event was an entirely new experience for me,” writes Ker. “As someone relatively unfamiliar with modern dance, I was extremely honored to have the chance to get to know the artists during the day and then to witness their truly stunning performance before an audience of classicists and locals. The academic discussion, the interaction with the artists, and their modernist embodiment of the mythic characters—I will never forget it.”

Penn faculty and students played important roles in the event. Prior and present department chairs Sheila Murnaghan and Emily Wilson gave unwavering departmental support to the planning, while Finn Dierks-Brown (Penn Postbacc.), Ana María Núñez (Penn GLLL), and Anne Lantian Jing (Penn ANCH) gave logistical support, including photography.

Teaching Workshops

In the 2024-25 school year, CETLI teaching fellow Tiffany Nguyen (GLLL) facilitated a series of pedagogy workshops where faculty and senior graduate instructors shared their knowledge and expertise on various topics related to teaching the ancient world. These workshops gave graduate students in the department the opportunity to learn teaching strategies and skills from various faculty members as they begin their own teaching experiences.

Workshops ranged in terms of the topics they covered, such as “Teaching Competing Narratives” or “Teach-

ing Translation,” but in every faculty-led workshop, it was exciting to see the faculty members share an aspect of their teaching which they have carefully developed over time. Kim Bowes, for example, taught graduate students about seeing objects by getting them to pose as statues in the Penn Museum’s Rome Gallery, while Emily Wilson shared the successes and pitfalls of using translated texts in her classes. In one workshop, a panel of senior graduate students from all three Ancient Studies graduate groups responded to questions from audience members on topics such as how to create authority in the classroom, addressing biases, and mediating between the professor and the undergraduates. These were just some of the conversations tied to pedagogy in the Classical Studies department this year.



Figure 17: James Ker introduces the Martha Graham Dance Company. Suzanne Roberts Theatre, January 4, 2025. Credit: Anne Lantian Jing (ANCH).



Figure 18: Penn Certamen—a classics quiz bowl—took place for the second time on Saturday, April 6, 2024.

List of pedagogy workshops:

- ◆ Cam Grey, “How to Introduce Students to the Ancient World”
- ◆ A. Hardy (AAMW), P. Satterthwaite (ANCH), S. Taylor (GLLL), and H. Wong (AAMW), “Teaching Someone Else’s Syllabus”
- ◆ James Ker, “Experimenting with Latin Assignments”
- ◆ Kim Bowes, “Teaching Objects”
- ◆ Emily Wilson, “Teaching Translation”
- ◆ Kate Meng Brassel, “The Teaching Statement as a Living Document”
- ◆ Julia Wilker, “Teaching Competing Narratives”

Faculty News

Kim Bowes finished up the 2023-4 year as a Guggenheim Fellow and National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow (fig. 12). The book she wrote over that

year, *Surviving Rome: Economic Lives of the 90 Percent*, which offers the first economic history of Roman working people, will be published with Princeton University Press this fall (fig. 20). Kim is also starting a new field project, investigating how Roman big businesses impacted the lives of ordinary people. The *Farmers Who Built Rome* will unravel the relationships between farmers and the Roman brick industry in the Middle Tiber Valley, Italy. She has won a major grant from the Packard Humanities Institute (PHI) in support of this project, which will begin this summer in collaboration with Jason Herrmann of the Penn Museum’s Center for Archaeological Materials, and Cam Grey of the Classical Studies Department, and will involve Penn grads and undergrads.

During the last academic year, **Kate**

Meng Brassel was the Andrew Heiskell Rome Prize Fellow at the American Academy in Rome, where she had the opportunity to work with artists and scholars on a variety of projects related to literary translation, the history of the discipline, and, happily, humor, while also spending time at ancient sites and the Vatican Apostolic Library (fig. 13). She was also delighted to see several of her Penn colleagues and students on the grounds of the Academy! She also began a two-year term coordinating the mentorship program of the Asian & Asian-American Classical Caucus. Kate has been very happy to return to teaching this year at Penn and to be working with our wonderful undergraduate and graduate students. This year, she has given talks at UNC-Chapel Hill, the University of Cyprus, and MIT, as well as at the SCS/AIA annual meeting in Philadelphia on both the final stages of her current monograph on Persius as well as studies in the history of the material text. She’s looking forward to sharing her forays into the latter subject with students in a new course featuring Penn’s marvelous collection of early printed books and manuscripts.

Rita Copeland (fig. 14) was awarded the Haskins Medal by the Medieval Academy of America for her book *Emotion and the History of Rhetoric in the Middle Ages* (Oxford University Press). The Haskins Medal is the highest honor awarded by the Medieval Academy of America and is presented annually to a distinguished book in the field of medieval studies. *Emotion and the History of Rhetoric in the Middle Ages* explores how rhetoric in the West, from Late Antiquity to the later Middle Ages, represented the role of emotion in shaping persuasions between the end of antiquity and the cusp of early moder-

nity. The impact of Aristotelian rhetoric, which reached the Latin West in the thirteenth century, gave emotional persuasion a core role in reasoning. In Aristotle, medieval teachers and writers found a new language to explain the social and psychological factors that affect an audience. With Aristotelian rhetoric, the emotions became political.

The Medieval Academy of America praised *Emotion and the History of Rhetoric in the Middle Ages* as a “deeply learned and exquisitely comprehensive account” of the history and uses of rhetoric, noting the book’s “double plot” in tracing the influence of Cicero and the Aristotelian turn in medieval thought. The citation also commended the book’s “encyclopedic nature,” recognizing it as a significant contribution to the study of emotion and rhetoric in medieval literature.

Joe Farrell reports: “An unexpected highlight of the past two years has been the reception of my most recent book, *Juno’s Aeneid: A Battle for Heroic Identity* (Princeton 2021). It’s been generally favorable, but I did not expect to receive the McKay Book Prize from the Vergilian Society in 2023, and still less the Premio Vergilius from the Accademia Virgiliana di Mantova in 2024. Traveling to Mantova for the award ceremony was one of a handful of trips to various parts of Italy during that time (fig. 15), which is always a pleasure; but in general, I am trying to travel more sparingly, for the sake of the environment. I am also trying to channel my research and teaching activities into new fields, but the old ones are hard to leave behind. So, my first publication dealing with race and ethnicity, “Vergil’s Aethiopians,” appeared in 2023 (*Maia* 75.2: 386–97); a second one on “Vergil’s Iopas” is with the editor of a volume that should be appear-

ing shortly. A new course in spring 2025 on “Love and Friendship in Greek and Latin Literature” is one that I ought to have started teaching long ago; it has me working with a number of texts for more or less the first time. I’m looking forward in fall 2025 to a graduate course, “Problems in Greek and Latin Literature,” several of which I have never taught before. One of them is the origin of the Greek alphabet, a much more interesting and dynamic subject than I expected. In short, one way or another, γηράσκω δ’ αἰεὶ πολλά διδασκόμενος.”

Cam Grey writes: “Working with rural communities in late antiquity has led me to consider the social dynamics of disasters in the period: what factors made particular communities vulnerable or resilient in the face of potentially catastrophic natural hazards, military incursions, famines, or disease, and how did those communities experience, respond to, and recover from such events. These questions are part of a broader exploration of the complex, dialectical relations between human populations and the environments in which they live, which places the project of social history in conversation with environmental studies and landscape archaeology. I’ve just finished a book about everyday experiences and constructions of uncertainty entitled *Living with Risk in the Late Roman World* (fig. 16), in the University of Pennsylvania Press’s *Critical Studies in Risk and Disaster* series.” In 2024, Cam was promoted to Professor of Classical Studies.

James Ker reports: “During the past year I have begun to settle into my role as chair of the Classical Studies graduate group—which now has a new name, Greek and Latin Languages and Liter-

atures (GLLL, aka “GL 3”—which some of us believe has the added benefit of being a typographic emoji if you stare at it long enough!). It has been a joy to welcome our new cohorts and also to preside over dissertation defenses and graduations (fig. 18). My course rotation has been centered on Greek and Latin language at the advanced level as well as CLST 3805/5805 “Classical Studies in Philadelphia Schools.” In April 2024 we held our second Penn Certamen with around 200 school students on campus, and we are looking for other ways to engage with students in the area in future years (figs. 26, 27). The highlight of my research has been the opportunity to speak about my work on Seneca and on Roman timekeeping at several international conferences, including the Australasian Society for Classical Studies in Canberra in February 2025. This sneaky sojourn was a chance for me to connect with the wonderful classicists in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, as well as fellow-keynote speakers Denis Feeney (Princeton) and Caitie Barrett (Cornell).”

Jeremy McInerney (fig. 19) reports: “Since our last newsletter it’s been a busy period, both personally and professionally. Last fall I became a US citizen, voted in my first US election in November, and in December my daughter Lucy defended her Ph.D. dissertation at Brown. So this summer there’ll be two Dr McInerneys at the Celtic Classics Conference in Portugal! This past year also saw the publication of my *Centaurs and Snake Kings* from Cambridge University Press (fig. 29). Publication was delayed by the terrible hacking of all CUP online systems but it was worth the wait: the final product is wonderful, in my opinion. CUP did a really nice job and allowed me to use dozens of illus-



Figure 19: Jeremy McInerney's Greek Epigraphy seminar.



Figure 20: Bridget Murnaghan and Ajax at Troy.

trations, including this fabulous cover.

Late last year we also submitted to the press the manuscript of Volume 1 of the *Oxford History of the Classical Greek World*, which I am editing with Hans Beck and Christy Constantakopoulou. Eventually the series will have seven volumes, but it feels especially satisfying to see the first one move into production.

Now that COVID is (largely) behind us, I've been able to switch from attending conferences online to live attendance, such as a conference on Borders and Federal States held in Trento earlier this year. I much prefer live conferences, and live teaching too. Even though numbers are down across the board in big humanities lecture classes, the students who are taking them are incredibly smart. Partially to counteract AI in these classes I've pivoted towards object biographies in place of traditional research papers and I'm finding the quality of students' written work is actually better than the average term paper of a few years ago. They seem to be really stimulated by engaging with the material culture of antiquity. Who knew that such challenging times could produce such positive results?

And coming up? Well, like everyone else, I am sad to see the wave of retirements washing over the department, and I think we are in for challenging days ahead, but I keep reminding myself that the faculty and students in our programs bring passion and commitment to our disciplines. I couldn't ask for better friends and colleagues."

Sheila (Bridget) Murnaghan (fig. 20) reports: "My term as chair ended on a high note in spring 2024 with our exhilarating career celebration for Ralph Rosen and the very positive report of our External Review Committee. I was

on leave this past fall, making progress on various projects; one that is now coming to completion is a volume on the tragic chorus, bringing together work I have done over several decades, which will be published next year by Cornell University Press.

This spring I am teaching two rewarding courses. My first-year seminar “Percy Jackson and Friends: Ancient Greece and Rome in Children’s and Young Adult Cultures” connects with students through their most frequent point of entry to the classical world and encourages them to think seriously about the sociology of classical reception, the distinctive features of children’s literature, and what about classical antiquity might or might not be considered suitable for children. I am now for the third time co-teaching the “Troy and Homer” graduate seminar with Brian Rose and finding it as fresh and stimulating as ever. It is gratifying to realize that over the three iterations of this course we have now been able to introduce forty-six students from all three ancient Mediterranean graduate groups and beyond to the challenges of integrating the material evidence and the literary traditions concerning this one remarkable site over three millennia and to give them the invaluable experience of visiting it in person.”

Brian Rose continues to oversee Penn’s excavations at Gordion in west central Turkey, where he has been director since 2013 (fig. 21). During the 2023 and 2024 excavation seasons the team uncovered the ancient citadel’s monumental gateway, which appears to have been in use for nearly 1,400 years (9th c. BCE – 4th c. CE). They also discovered a gilded ivory sphinx of the early sixth century BCE, which probably decorated the top of a chair or throne in the residence



Figure 21: Brian Rose excavating at Gordion.

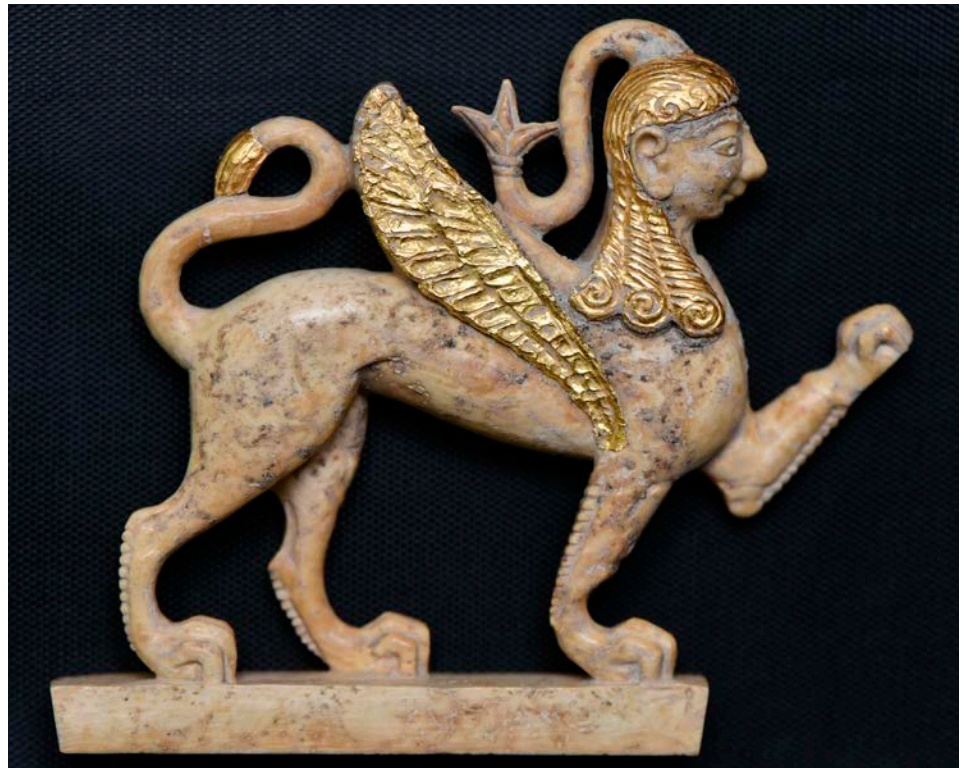


Figure 22: The gilded ivory sphinx discovered at Gordion in 2023.



Figure 23: Peter Struck saluting Bridget Murnaghan's achievements as department chair.



Figure 24: Penn Museum's Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials (CAAM) End of the Year Showcase, April, 2025.

of Gordion's rulers (fig. 22). The conservation of the ninth-century BCE Terrace Building was nearly completed, while the Gordion Museum was completely refurbished, and a new round of remote sensing showed that the ancient city was far larger than had been thought.

On September 18, 2023, in Saudi

Arabia's capital of Riyadh, Gordion officially received UNESCO World Heritage Site status, the first active field project conducted under Penn's auspices to have been so recognized. The Unesco inscription spurred a greater interest in Gordion by the media, which filmed four

documentaries at the site in summer 2024—two Turkish, one British, and one French.

He spent the fall semester of 2024 at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton completing a book on the West Sanctuary of Troy, which he excavated in the 1990s. His book on *The Topography and Monuments of Ancient Rome* is in production at Cambridge University Press, and his book on The Hellenistic and Roman House of the Lower City of Troy is being published as a monograph in the *Studia Troica* Final Publications (Habelt Verlag).

Peter Struck (fig. 23) has assumed the role of Stephen A. Levin Family Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Steven Fluharty, wrote in his announcement: "A distinguished classicist, award-winning teacher, and innovative program leader, Peter is a passionate champion of the liberal arts whose deep engagement with undergraduate education at Penn prepares him well for this important role."

Peter served as chair of the Classical Studies Department from 2016 to 2022 and has been a professor at Penn since 1999. His two monographs, *Birth of the Symbol: Ancient Readers at the Limits of Their Texts* and *Divination and Human Nature: A Cognitive History of Intuition in Antiquity* have both received the Charles J. Goodwin Award of Merit for best book in Classical Studies. He also directed the Benjamin Franklin Scholars (BFS) program from 2009 to 2023 and introduced the Integrated Studies first-year curriculum for BFS students.

In 2024 Peter was named Vartan Gregorian Professor of the Humanities.

Tom Tartaron writes: "As Executive Director of the Center for the Analysis of

Archaeological Materials (CAAM) in the Penn Museum, I have worked with Director Marie-Claude Boileau and CAAM's Teaching Specialists to continue to build up the Center's research, teaching, and outreach. The Center celebrates its Tenth Anniversary in 2024–5 with special programs recognizing its success, including the End of the Year Showcase (fig. 24), where undergraduate and graduate students present posters of the research they have completed during the academic year. The Penn Museum has devoted the newly published edition of *Expedition* magazine (66[3]) to CAAM and its anniversary. Much of my research time has been dedicated to my ethnoarchaeological work among fishing communities in Kerala state, India (Kerala Maritime Communities Project, or KMCP) (fig. 25). My Indian colleagues and I organized two symposia in India in 2024–5, one in Kerala (October 2024) and the other in the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu (March 2025). The papers from the first symposium have been sent to a publisher in Delhi. Our team has recorded more than 200 oral history interviews, which are currently being transcribed and translated. KMCP is supported by Penn Global's India Research and Engagement Fund, a Penn URF grant, and a Government of India program, "Scheme for the Promotion of Academic Research and Collaboration" (SPARC). The papers from the Center for Ancient Studies' 2022 conference, "The Future of Ethnoarchaeology," which I hosted with Anthropology professor Meg Kassabaum, have just been sent off to readers for the *Archaeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association* series. I gave the keynote lecture in the biannual *Aegaeum* (Aegean prehistory) conference, "HYDOR: Water Resources and Management in the Aegean Bronze Age" in June 2024."

Julia Wilker (fig. 26) writes: "The last two years have been very busy. In regard to teaching, I restructured my lecture class on Ancient Mediterranean Empires, enjoyed teaching graduate students in the Proseminar and a seminar on Biographical Approaches to Antiquity, and had the pleasure of reuniting

with Cynthia Damon in the classroom for a graduate seminar on Gaius Caligula. I have written and published articles on topics ranging from peace-making in the Greek world and the Second Athenian League to the history of Hellenistic and early Roman Judea, the power structure of the Hasmonean state, and



Figure 25: Tom Tartaron and colleagues at the Brihadeeswara Temple, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, India.



Figure 26: Julia Wilker reviewing the history of the Hyde lecturers.

the Jewish revolt. However, I especially look forward to finishing my biography of Julia Berenice for Oxford University Press's *Women in Antiquity* series. As usual, the annual Hyde Visits were particular highlights of the academic year, with memorable visits by Lin Foxhall (March 2024) and Carlos Noreña (February 2025). I am also nearing the end of my second term as Chair of the Graduate Group in Ancient History. The past six years have been a gratifying experience, thanks to an intellectually vibrant community of wonderful colleagues and graduate students."

Emily Wilson Since the publication of my translation of the *Iliad* in November of 2023, I have done many public talks and

conversations about Homer and translation, including a wonderful "launch" conversation at the Philadelphia FLP with Bridget Murnaghan (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOzmmNMgN-w>) (fig. 1). Other highlights have included an event in London with Professor Edith Hall, Tobias Menzies, and Juliet Stevenson, literary festivals in Edinburgh UK, Portland OR, Washington DC, Charlotte NC, Lenox MA, Kardamyli, Greece, and a reading on a New York ferryboat sponsored by Poet's House, as well as readings for the Pittsburgh Poetry Forum and the Yale Mark Strand Memorial Reading. I finished my second podcast series, *Close Reading: Among the Ancients*, with Tom Jones of the London Review of Books.

It was an honor to write and deliver a series of three new public lectures on the ancient Greeks for the Thalia Potamianos public lectures in Athens, Washington DC, and New York (<https://www.ascsa.edu.gr/potamianos-lecture-series/emily-wilson-2023-2024-lecture-series>) (fig. 27). Lisa Peterson's adaptation of my *Odyssey* translation as a play performed by four female actors, set in a migrant camp, toured the U.S., with a launch at the Penn Live Arts center, co-sponsored by the Department of Classical Studies. I also wrote a forward to the new Folio Society edition of Madeline Miller's *Song of Achilles*.

I am now at work on several new projects, including a new verse translation of Ovid's *Heroides*, a fictional retelling of the myths associated with the Trojan War, the Norton Critical Edition of my *Iliad* translation, and a revised edition of my translation of the *Odyssey*. I have also loved teaching a graduate seminar on ancient tragedy (and a little comedy) and taking over the undergraduate Greek and Roman Mythology course.

Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World Completed Dissertations

- ◆ James Gross, "Taxation, Commerce, and the Economic Experience of Late Roman Rule"
- ◆ John Sigmier, "Architectural Knowledge Transmission in the Theater Buildings of the Roman Northwest"
- ◆ Mark van Horn, "The Economic Fabric(s) of a Roman Countryside: Rural Consumer Networks in First Centuries BCE/CE Southern Tuscany"

Ancient History Completed Dissertations (fig. 28)

- ◆ Max Dietrich, "Writing Roman Civil War: Greek Elites, Stasis, and Empire"
- ◆ Irene Elias, "Elitism and Identity at the Roman-Era Symposium"
- ◆ Danielle Perry, "Embedded Histories: Belonging in the Maghreb from 1st c. BCE - 4th c. CE"
- ◆ Kyle West, "Disability in the World of Cicero"

Greek and Latin Languages and Literatures Completed Dissertations (fig. 28)

- ◆ Amelia Bensch-Schaus, "Iliadic and Odyssean Receptions in Tragedy and the Argonautica"
- ◆ Emma Dyson, "Philosophical Biography in the Greek World"
- ◆ Zachary B. Elliott, "Lucian's Mythological Playground: Time, Space, and Myth in Lucian of Samosata"
- ◆ Scheherazade Jehan Khan, "Actualized Mimesis and the Processual Animation of Greco-Roman Objects"
- ◆ Maria V Kovalchuk, "Irony and the Interpretation of Theocritus' *Idylls* 24, 18, and 26"
- ◆ Massimo de Sanctis Mangelli, "The Other Side of Democracy? The Ambiguity of Tyrants in Athenian Tragedy"
- ◆ Julia G. Simons, "Tuberculosis in the Greco-Roman World"
- ◆ Nathaniel F. Solley, "Horatian Ecopoeitics"

***Graduate Students
(GLLL = Greek and Latin
Languages and Literatures;
ANCH = Ancient History;
AAMW = Art and Archaeology
of the Mediterranean World)***

Jesse Amar (GLLL) This was my last year of coursework and I took time (2 inde-



Figure 27: Emily Wilson giving the third of her "Thalia Potamianos" lecture series ("The Wisdom of Stories") in St Bartholomew's Church, New York City.



Figure 28: Ph.D. graduation 2024: Dr. Nathaniel Fleury Solley (CLST Ph.D. 2024), Dr. Maria Kovalchuk (CLST Ph.D. 2024), Dr. Julia Simons (CLST Ph.D. 2023), and Dr. Irene Elias (ANCH Ph.D. 2024) with Profs. Ralph Rosen, James Ker, and Julia Wilker.

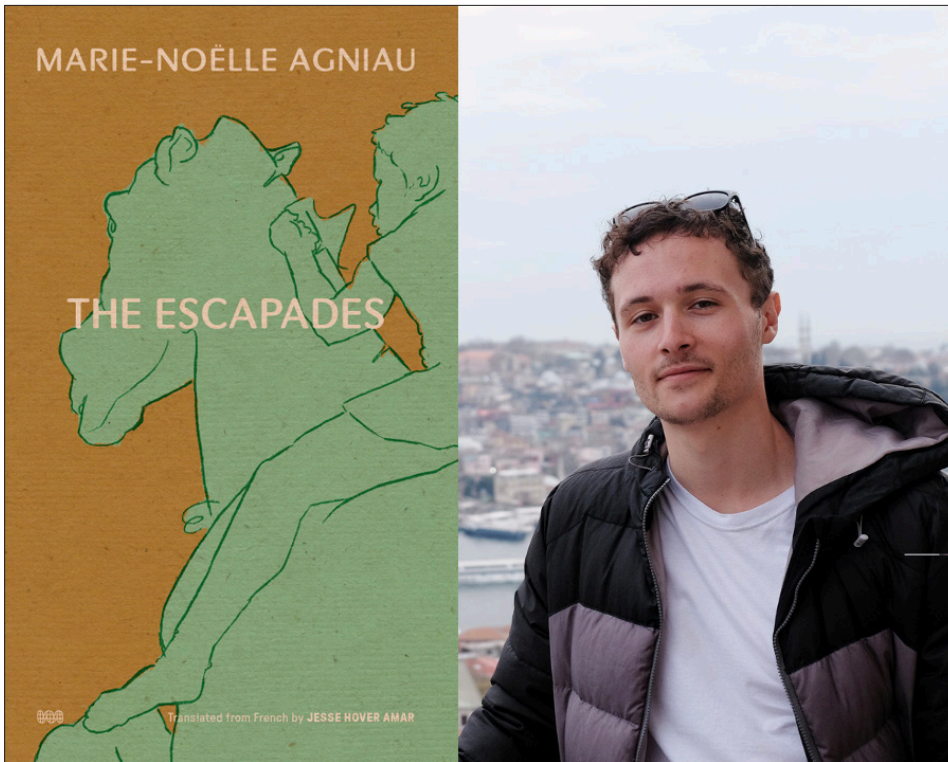


Figure 29: Jesse Amar (GLLL).



Figure 30: Emma Burton (GLLL) at Troy.

pendent studies) to explore newfound interests in rhetoric, ancient pedagogy, and the second-century writer Aelius Aristides (fig. 29). Strangely enough, this complements work I did last year on religion, especially religious developments in late antiquity. Aristides is a figure who's usually been studied either by historians of religion or by scholars of rhetoric, but I think I've found an interesting way of bridging the gap, blending social history, biography, and literary criticism. So I'm excited to embark (after my final exams later this month) on a dissertation which investigates the close connection of religious experience and rhetorical acumen in Aristides' life and work. In other news, my first book of translations—a project I started before I came to Penn—finally came out last fall. *The Escapades* is a great chapbook, both experimental and moving (with a healthy dollop of Ovidian allusion, for the reception-oriented!), by living French poet Marie-Noëlle Agniau. I'm proud of the translation, and it's available in an attractive facing-pages edition from World Poetry Books.

Emma Burton (GLLL) In the last two years of coursework, I have really enjoyed taking courses in a wide range of areas: Latin and Greek prose composition, Greek tragedy, independent study on Plato's *Parmenides*, on the fragments of Heraclitus and Empedocles, and on the *Aeneid*, the two Greek and Latin survey courses, courses taught by professors from Penn's Department of Philosophy (Plato on 'erôs', Plato's *Laws*, Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*), and of course, the incredible *Troy/Iliad* course with its trip to Turkey (fig. 30)! I have also really enjoyed teaching Intermediate Latin this year, and am looking forward to doing more teaching next year! This summer I will be participating

in two programs at the American School of Classical Studies: a summer seminar on the historical backdrop of different philosophical schools, and the Gennadius Library Medieval Greek program.

Grant Bruner (AAMW) Since Grant Bruner joined the AAMW Ph.D. program in Fall 2023, the Penn Museum has been a constant in his academic life (fig. 31). Grant leads public tours as a Graduate Guide, plans events as Academic Chair for the Penn Museum Graduate Advisory Council, and undertook a museum internship to study South Italian vases using UV imaging, a project he presented at the American Society for Overseas Research Conference in November 2024.

The twin highlights of Grant's coursework to date have been Late Antique Art and Artifact and Subaltern Archaeologies. He also has grown tremendously through archaeological science courses in archaeobotany and archaeometallurgy at the Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials. These courses and experiences have informed Grant's interests in ancient lead/silver production and labor regimes in the Roman world, themes he plans to continue developing in his work in the years ahead. In 2025, Grant also enjoyed the opportunity to teach a Classical Studies course, Introduction to Mediterranean Archaeology, and an Ancient History course, Ancient Rome.

In the summer of 2024, Grant participated in the Falerii Novi excavations and the Gordion Excavation Project. He plans to return to both excavations as well as join two other projects surveying Roman rural habitations in Spain in the summer of 2025. Grant is very grateful to have been selected as a Kolb Junior Fellow in April 2025, which will support his future research on Roman workers and resource extraction landscapes.



Figure 31: Grant Bruner (AAMW) in the Troy Museum.



Figure 32: Emanuele Filippini (ANCH) in Pompeii.



Figure 33: Lilly Haave (GLLL) in the Penn Museum's rotunda.



Figure 34: Arielle Hardy (AAMW) is interviewed about her Penn Museum tour "Climate and Energy in the Ancient World," which debuted during Penn's 2025 Energy Week. Image courtesy of the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy.

Emanuele Filippini (ANCH) When I arrived at Penn in August, I was thrown into its exciting intellectual environment right from the start (fig. 32). Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to take classes on topics as diverse as Greek Epigraphy and Biographical Approaches to the Ancient World, Worlds of Late Antiquity, and World Heritage in Global Conflict. Among other things, this meandering path through the many disciplines and approaches to the ancient world has led me, in the last semester, to discover the worlds of Bronze Age archaeology and Anatolian pre-Greek cultures with the class on Homer and Troy, and I had the privilege to take part in that fantastic experience that was our spring break trip to Turkey. Moreover, I had many opportunities to study aspects of more recent periods of history – such as the Gallipoli military campaign of WWI, or the legal and political aspects of the protection of cultural heritage around the world—in ways that have dramatically expand-

ed my personal and cultural horizons.

In the midst of all this, I have not lost sight of my main interests, which relate to the economic transformations of the late Roman empire. In the summer, I will travel to Italy to take part in an archaeological project at Falerii Novi, an almost entirely unexcavated Roman city in the Tiber Valley, which is yielding surprising results year after year, especially regarding its unexpected vitality and prosperity in late antiquity.

Lilly Haave (GLLL) I am now in my second year of coursework, which I have loved (fig. 33). I particularly enjoyed visiting Turkey recently with my *Troy and Homer* class. This past year, I began teaching Intermediate Latin, which has been especially rewarding thanks to my wonderful students. Another pleasure was joining the Lambda Classical Caucus in the role of Social Media Coordinator. Around campus, I had the pleasure of organizing the 2024 Penn Certamen and participating in the Penn Women's Center commu-

nity, thanks to whom I received the 2025 *What's Your Story?* grant. At the 2026 Society for Classical Studies conference in San Francisco, I will be presenting a paper on the panel *Lost Voices, New Approaches*. My paper will explore racialization and racecraft in the *Passio Sanctarum Perpetuae et Felicitatis*. This upcoming year, I look forward to deepening my study of queerfeminist theory and Roman fiction.

Arielle Hardy (AAMW), (fig. 34) continued work on her dissertation, "(Inter)Acting with Altars: Exploring the Relationship between Hellenistic Altar Design, Ritual Action, and Religious Agents," and presented her chapter on the altar of Artemis at Magnesia at the 2025 AIA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Another project, "Nature and Nurture: Experiencing Mythic Space in the Sperlonga Grotto," will be published in an edited volume this fall. Arielle has also been busy with other pursuits, holding a 2024 Career Exploration Fellowship

in the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, a 2024-2025 Research Assistantship with the West Philadelphia-based community archaeology project “Heritage West,” a 2024-2025 Penn Museum Assistantship to develop a new “Gallery Ambassador” undergraduate program at the Museum, and acting as Social Chair (2021-2024) and President (2024-2025) of the Penn Museum Graduate Advisory Council. She earned her “Museum Teaching and Learning Certificate” from the Penn Museum in Spring 2024 and a “Teaching Certificate” from the Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Innovation at Penn in fall 2024. Arielle was named a Junior Fellow in the Kolb Society in Spring 2024 and also received a Salvatori Fund Research Award from Penn’s Italian Studies Program, which facilitated a research trip to Sicily this spring. Arielle will participate in archaeological projects in Italy and Greece this summer, and is pleased to have received a Dissertation Research Award in the form of a Penfield Fellowship from the School of Arts and Sciences for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Brigitte Keslinke (AAMW) A lot has happened in the last two years! Here are some of the highlights (in no particular order): I led 31 tours through the galleries of the Penn Museum; I presented on my research at four conferences, including two AIA/SCS annual meetings; I learned to sew my own clothes; I served as president of the Penn Museum Graduate Advisory Council; I visited 19 new *mithraea* (sanctuaries of Mithras; fig. 35); I lectured on the origins of the mythical cyclops at Science on Tap Philadelphia; I ate my first Wawa hoagie. I’ve also, of course, been working on my dissertation, which investigates the role of food and feasting in the cult of



Figure 35: Brigitte Keslinke (AAMW) discussing the *mithraeum* beneath the Baths of Caracalla on an American Academy “walk & talk.”

the Roman god Mithras. This year, I’ve been fortunate to do that work at the American Academy in Rome, where I am Samuel H. Kress Foundation/Donald and Maria Cox Rome Prize Fellow in Ancient Studies. After my fellowship ends, I’ll spend an additional three weeks in Italy serving as the Assistant Director of the American Academy’s

Classical Summer School before returning to Philadelphia (via Chicago, to collect all the things that my parents kindly let me leave in their house!).

Theodora Naqvi (GLLL) continues to work on her dissertation about historical time in Seneca’s tragedies (fig. 36). This project examines how Roman



Figure 36: Theodora Naqvi (GLLL).



Figure 37: Ana María Núñez (GLLL) at Troy.

ideas about universal history manifest in the tragic setting. She is also working sporadically on a student commentary on the *Laus Pisonis*. Theodora is a member of the Latin faculty at the Haverford school. She has enjoyed teaching about the literature of the late Roman Republic and recently accompanied a group of students on a trip to Italy.

Ana María Núñez (GLLL) I graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in the spring of 2024 and started my Ph.D. here at Penn that fall (fig. 37). I have spent my first year familiarizing myself with the city of Philadelphia, the Penn community, and the life of a graduate student. I have been fortunate that my first year at Penn has coincided with several exceptional events: Patrice Rankine's PPL series (whose research is particularly relevant to my

own and whose fall course, *Racializing Antiquity*," I took), SCS (where I got to photograph the Martha Graham Dance Company), and the Eagle's Super Bowl win (my childhood football team). My first two semesters of coursework have been overwhelmingly fruitful including courses like "Troy and Homer," "Greek Epigraphy," and "Greek Language and Composition." These courses have led me down new research paths while also kindling the old. In particular, I have become invested in the writings of Dionysius of Halicarnassus on Thucydides, the Attic orators, and word order. I hope to spend this summer working through the works of Dionysius as well as those of other grammarians such as Donatus and Priscian. I am looking forward to starting my second year at Penn and to beginning teaching this fall!

Louis Polcin (ANCH) has spent the last two years busy not only with coursework, but also with several conferences that span a range of disciplines. He has participated in seminars such as "Jews and Violence in Antiquity," "Greek prose and poetry," "Caligula," and "Jerusalem: Holy City." Several papers which emerged from these seminars have found their way into a range of conferences. Louis compared the theological contexts of the Jewish and Boudican revolts at the Association of Ancient Historians and the Classical Association of the Mid-Atlantic. He also gave a paper on the outbreak of anti-Jewish violence in Alexandria in 38 CE at both the Society of Biblical Studies and the Society of Classical Studies. He has grown particularly interested in the province of Judaea during the 1st c. CE, both from the perspective of local Jewish elites and their interactions with the larger Roman bureaucratic apparatus, as well as through the lens of the theological and

apocalyptic ideologies which played a central role in the province's intellectual life. This summer, Louis will be participating in the American Academy of Rome's Classical Summer School, which provides an opportunity for intensive study of the topography of Rome. He also very much looks forward to organizing the 2026 Ancient Judaism Regional Seminar, which will take place during the upcoming spring semester at Penn.

Konstantinos Raptis (AAMW) is a first-year Ph.D. student with interests focusing on Late Antique economy and trade (fig. 38). He recently graduated with an M.A. in Maritime Archaeology from East Carolina University while on a Fulbright, and seeks to utilize his triple background in archaeology, history, and classics for a more nuanced understanding of the ancient world. Last summer he participated in a deep-water archaeological survey in the Strait of Sicily (*Canale di Sicilia*) utilizing AUV technologies for mapping the sea floor, below 300m. While he is working on developing a dissertation topic, his love of the underwater world remains a deep passion. This year Konstantinos is joining four different projects, taking him to the rural areas of Tuscany to study agriculture and brick production of the early Romans, to the Roman city of Lyktos in Crete, to the capital city of Gordion in ancient Phrygia, and finally to the ancient Greek city of Teos in western Asia Minor. Although this will be a busy summer, Konstantinos will return to excavating on land after a break of almost three years! In the meantime, he hopes to find some time, among all these summer plans, to visit his Greek family.

Samuel Reich (GLLL) In 2023-24, I completed my MA at Notre Dame with a thesis on the reception of Plato's idea of



Figure 38: Konstantinos Raptis (AAMW) In front of the Theodosian Walls in Istanbul.

poetic inspiration in the Second Sophistic. A highlight of the year was teaching a summer Greek class and a fall semester Latin class at Notre Dame. Last summer I spent a few weeks in Athens studying modern Greek before starting the Ph.D. at Penn. My time here has been immensely enjoyable and fruitful thus far. Highlights have been excellent seminars, numerous reading groups, and the trip to Troy. I presented some of my MA thesis research at CAMWS last year and gave a paper on etymology and allegory of Hebrew names in Philo of Alexandria at UVA's Classics Graduate Colloquium this spring. Other activities of the past year include gaining some experience in text editing by helping a Notre Dame scholar prepare the critical apparatus for his edition of a 9th century Byzantine Greek text, and collaborating



Figure 39: Matthew Reichelt (ANCH) visiting Sardis with the Gordion team.



Figure 40: Charles Ro (AAMW) descending into the Aqua Traiana underneath the American Academy in Rome.

with an illustrator to make a public-facing graphic novel adaptation of Lucian's *Timon*. I am extremely grateful for the community at Penn and look forward to spending the coming years here.

Matthew Reichelt (ANCH) In the fall of 2023, I began work on my dissertation titled "The Military Officers of the Seleukid Empire and their Social Networks" (fig. 39). My project relies on archaeological, epigraphic, and literary evidence to investigate the individual agency and perspective of military officers known as ἡγεμόνες. Because of the geographic scale of the Seleukid Empire, I have been able to incorporate evidence from across the ancient world, from Bactria to the Hellespont. During the summer of 2024, I had the wonderful opportunity to teach the summer course "Ancient Greece." Although it was taught over zoom, I enjoyed being back in the classroom even if it was a virtual one. After finishing my summer teaching, I returned to Gordion to participate in the ongoing excavations on

the Citadel Mound. Additionally, while in Gordion, I analyzed a recently discovered Phrygian inscription dated to the co-kingship of Antiochus I and, his son, Seleucus (275 – 268 BCE). The inscription's text reveals the presence of a Seleukid garrison that was previously unattested. This epigraphic evidence became a crucial case-study for the first chapter of my dissertation. Currently, I am finishing up my second chapter which focuses on the peer relationships that military officers developed throughout their lifetimes.

Charles Ro (AAMW) began writing his dissertation, which explores "colorfulness" in Roman art—not merely as the presence of multiple colors, but as an aesthetic principle tied to *varietas*, and how such variegation blurs the boundaries between abundance and decadence, harmony and disorder, nature and artifice. As part of his research, he attended the Classical Summer School at the American Academy in Rome in summer 2024 (fig. 40). He also translated excerpts of Horace and Ovid for the art exhibition *Visit to an Extinct City* (R&Company Gallery, New York, November 2023–January 2024), for which he delivered a public talk entitled "City in a Nutshell: Experiencing Antiquity and Encountering the Ancient." Over the past two years, Charles presented several conference papers, including "*Te quoque tanget amor*: Painted Cupids and the Tactile Recognition of Love in Rome" (College Art Association annual meeting, 2024), "*Nam valet in omnes dies*: Civic Origin and Function of the Temple of Fortuna Huiusce Diei" (Of Marble and Mines Conference, Princeton University, 2024), and "Haec amat obscurum: Beholding Darkness in Roman Black-Ground Wall Paintings" (SCS/AIA, 2025). At Penn, he is currently a

Ph.D. Career Exploration Fellow (Career Services), working at the Kislak Center for Special Collections and preparing a pop-up exhibit on how pre-Revolutionary American colonists encountered and studied Roman visual culture.

Peter Satterthwaite (ANCH) Since finishing coursework two years ago, I have been at work on my dissertation, which investigates the role of private wealth in the public finances of Hellenistic Greek poleis. My historical research has continued to draw heavily on epigraphical, numismatic, and archaeological training from my first three years at Penn. In connection with my dissertation research, I have also joined the excavation team for the bouleuterion of ancient Teos. I will be returning to Turkey for my second season there this summer. It has been very helpful to get feedback on my current work at the IAS in Princeton, CAMWS in St. Louis, and SCS in Philadelphia, but I have also enjoyed presenting my research to non-specialist audiences this semester at the Penn Grad Talks (fig. 41) and Penn's Three Minute Thesis competition. In the coming months, I look forward to giving a talk on Hellenistic Ilion at the "New Voices on the Polis" conference in Oxford and presenting a paper co-authored with my AAMW colleague Helen Wong at the 31st International Congress of Papyrology in Cologne; this collaboration serendipitously arose from auditing a graduate seminar on Ancient Economies last year. The intellectual community of the department has continued to be invaluable even as I focus mainly on my own research, for I consider the Penn Public Lectures, faculty-led teaching workshops, Hyde Week, and the supportive camaraderie of my dissertation writ-

ing group to be among the brightest highlights of the last two years.

Maddalena Scarperi (ANCH) Last summer I had the pleasure of teaching a virtual version of the “Ancient Rome” class to a fantastic group of 23 students scattered across the globe, from the west coast to London, Pakistan, and Shanghai (fig. 42). In September, with the generous support of a GAPSA Research Student Travel Grant and a SAS Dean’s Travel Subvention, I traveled to Accra to present at the Third International Classics Conference in Ghana a paper titled “Bearden’s *Poseidon* and African Diasporas, Past and Present,” which originated in Emily Greenwood’s seminar “Black Classicisms” (Fall 2022). I spent the second half of September and October between Naples, Basilicata, and Calabria. In Naples, I sojourned at the Centre Jean Bérard and had the opportunity to meet researchers (Carla Panico, Valentina Amenta), journalists (Marea Media Collective), and activists (Claudia Fauzia, La Malafemmina Collective) who have been doing important work to decolonize discourses and historical narratives about the Italian south. In Basilicata, I joined the fantastic team of the Università della Basilicata led by Maria Chiara Monaco and Fabio Donnici on their fourth excavation campaign at the urban site of Metaponto. This was part of a broader research project, “Abitare a Metaponto” (here featured on the local news: <https://fb.watch/z1VFPrplsY/>). Thanks to the valuable assistance of the Penn Museum’s Field Funds, I then traveled to Calabria and visited a series of archaeological sites and museums that I have been studying for the past two years (Sybaris, Francavilla Marittima, Timpone della Motta, Cirò/Crimisa, Croton, Skyllletion, Caulon, Locris, Bova, Reggio Calabria, Rosarno/Medma, Vibo

Valentia/Hipponion). Once back in Philadelphia, I completed the second chapter of my dissertation, and on February 19 I presented a paper entitled “Invaders or Refugees? Polarized Narratives and the Ambiguous Status of Migrants, Yesterday and Today. A Case Study from Ancient South Italy” at the Graduate Workshop of the Andrea Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy: “Othering the Other: Historical and Contemporary Approaches to Migration.” On February 28, I was the co-organizer with Savannah Sather Marquardt (Yale) of the Women’s Classical Caucus’s first virtual conference on the theme of “Embodying Women’s Colonial Experiences.” I am currently working on the third chapter of my dissertation, and I look forward to continuing my research next year with the generous support of a SAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

Molly Schaub (GLLL) Last academic year, I was a Regular Member and Virginia Grace Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, where I

spent much of the fall and winter visiting the sites and museums of Greece (fig. 43). I spent the spring making progress on my dissertation at the Blegen Library, and I fell in love with Athens and the academic community at the American School.

This year, I’ve had the pleasure of living between Philadelphia and Athens while continuing my dissertation work on the *Deipnosophists* by the Sec-



Figure 41: Peter Satterthwaite (ANCH) won in the Humanities Division in this year’s Penn Grad Talks with a presentation on “Crowdfunding in Ancient Greece.”



Figure 42: Maddalena Scarperi (ANCH) with the UniBAS team at the urban site of Metaponto.



Figure 43: Molly Schaub (GLLL) at the Archaeological Museum on Samos in March 2025.

ond Sophistic author Athenaeus. In the fall, I received a Salvatori Award from Penn's Italian Studies Department to visit Rome and Naples, where I looked at Roman still-life wall paintings of food and objects for my dissertation. In January, I presented my work on Athenaeus for the first time at the AIA/SCS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia and, happily, it was well received. Looking toward the summer, I was awarded a Penn Global Dissertation Grant for a research trip in June to visit museums across Europe, also looking at objects for my dissertation. In July, I will be presenting at the Celtic Conference in Classics in Coimbra, Portugal. I'm looking forward to a summer of travel but also, always, to coming home to Philly after.



Figure 44: Helen Wong (AAMW) conducting ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey at Mozia, Sicily.

Phoebe Thompson (ANCH) is a second-year Ph.D. student in the Ancient History Graduate Group. Her primary research interest is the reconstruction of past human-geology interaction, including addressing how people lived with high seismicity and conceptualized associated risks, and the role of geological phenomena in the creation of sacred space. In 2025, she presented a paper at AIA that reevaluated the sacred landscape associated with the cult of Demeter at Enna (Sicily), which foregrounded Mt. Etna. Phoebe has a secondary research interest in ecocritical classical reception, which has resulted in two papers: "Tolkien's Ithilien and the Landscape of the Ancient Mediterranean," published in *thersites* 15 (2022), and "Mortal Sanctuaries: The Vergilian Golden Age in Tolkien," published in *Tolkien et l'Antiquité: Passé et Antiquités en Terre du Milieu* (2024). She has excavated in Scotland, Sardinia, and Sicily, working most recently during the summer of 2023 as the head of the ceramics team for the American ex-

cavations at Morgantina: Agora Valley Project. She will return to that role this summer. Phoebe has also served as the Social Chair for the Penn Museum Graduate Advisory Council this year, organizing opportunities for graduate students to connect across departments and also with the wider Philadelphia museum community.

Helen Wong (AAMW) is a fifth-year Ph.D. candidate in the AAMW program. Last year she began work on her dissertation, which examines how Ptolemaic and Seleucid strategies of land occupation led to changes in funerary rituals in the Hellenistic Levant (fig. 44). She also published a chapter, "Reading for Diasporic Experience in the Delian Sераpeia," in the edited volume *Critical Ancient World Studies* (Routledge), and an article entitled "Classicizing Architecture and the *Kaiping diaolou*: Diasporic Identity in Guangdong, China," in *Res Difficiles (Ancient History Bulletin)*. Towards the end of last spring, she completed a Penn Museum Assistantship in which she digitized and reanalyzed geophysical survey data taken at Elis, Greece in the 1960s by Penn archaeologists. Last summer she worked at Mozia in Sicily, where she was part of the geophysical survey team. This work was supported by the DRF Penfield Award. Then, at the annual ASOR conference, she received the Joy Ungerleider Poster Award. At AIA-SCS 2025, she gave a paper on the *New Directions in Papyrology and Epigraphy* panel. This spring she has been in residence at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens through the support of the Penn Colburn Scholarship, where she has been working on her dissertation. This summer, she will be returning to Sicily to continue her work at Mozia and to direct a geophysical survey at Morgan-

tina, which will be supported by a Salvatori Award. Next year she will be the Bothmer Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and is looking forward to moving to New York City.

News from the Post-Baccalaureate Program in Classical Studies

The Post-Baccalaureate Program in Classical Studies had a different look this fall when Johanna Kaiser stepped in as interim director while Julie Nishimura-Jensen was on leave with a much-needed and long-overdue break. In addition, Jeremy McInerney took over as faculty co-director, while Tom Tartaron and Joe Farrell served on the advising team. Under Johanna's leadership, the fall proseminar included some new topics, including a session on Classics in a Diverse World, and one on Public-facing Scholarship, as well as the usual workshops on graduate admissions.

The fourteen post-baccalaureate students were scattered amongst the various language offerings in our department, though the majority were concentrated in our post-baccalaureate seminars. In the fall, they read texts on friendship in Latin with Johanna Kaiser (assisted by T.A. Nathaniel Fleury Solley), and texts involving dialogue in Greek with James Ker (with T.A. Julieta Vittore Dutto). The Latin seminar in the spring, taught by Julie Nishimura-Jensen and Nathaniel Fleury Solley, looked at versions of the Argonautic myth, and Scheherazade Khan taught a crowd-sourced syllabus for the Greek students, reading a large variety of authors including Sappho, Xenophanes, Aeneas Tacticus, Plutarch, and Philostratus.

In our fourth year of awarding fellowships, we were able to support two students returning for their second year in

the post-baccalaureate program, Emile Prince with the Phare Fellowship and Stephanie Sherrett with the Masciantonio Fellowship. At the time of writing, we do not yet know where our current cohort will be next year. Many of our students lost opportunities when governmental funding was revoked, and university graduate admissions reacted by shrinking the number of candidates they accepted.

Staff

Sarah Gish-Kraus – Department Coordinator (fig. 45). Outside of work, Sarah enjoys spending time in community with her neighbors, reading, biking, and gardening. She loves being with her twin six-year-olds and watching their creativity blossom and sense of justice unfold. She has been making sock monsters for the kids in her life out of old socks and leftover scraps of fabric. She has also been learning how to do visible mending.

Kate Stoler – Graduate Coordinator (fig. 46). Kate has continued to work closely with unhoused, addicted, and recovering populations in Kensington through art and various creative projects. In September, she spearheaded a weekly game night at the Last Stop Clubhouse which has flourished in recent months. She is also self-publishing art and poetry alongside members of that community. Kate just returned from a road trip through Utah and Nevada. This summer, she is hoping to get to the remaining major national parks that she hasn't yet visited with her dog Bear.

Undergraduate News

Penn Classical Studies/Ancient History undergraduates were prominent



Figure 45: Sarah Gish-Kraus, department coordinator, with Joe Farrell, Kim Bowes, Cam Grey, and Louis Polcin.



Figure 46: Kate Stoler, graduate coordinator, at Bryce Canyon in Utah.

among the Dean's Scholars and Phi Beta Kappa winners this year. Daphne Glatter won both honors, while Noah Apter, Alethea Lam, Eric Ryu (BA 2024) and Maggie Yuan were all inducted as Phi Beta Kappa members.

Six majors will also graduate with

honors, having written Senior Research Papers on subjects ranging from Etruscan musical traditions to the cult of Dionysios in India. Noah Apter, Riley Glickman, Sarah Hinkel, Jack Purple, Dara Sanchez and Maggie Yuan produced major pieces of original research, show-

casing the range of subfields embraced by classics—from archaeological science to literary analysis (fig. 47).

Finally, the department awarded a series of prizes for excellence in language and overall achievements in the field. Juniors Isaiah Weir and Iris Peron-Ames won the Allen Prize in Greek, Junior Emilia Wright the Allen Prize in Latin, and Senior Dara Sanchez the College Alumni Prize in Classical Studies. Maggie Yuan was elected department flag-bearer at Commencement in recognition of her outstanding thesis and contributions to the Undergraduate Advisory Board.

The Undergraduate Advisory Board (UAB) plans social events and hosts discussions with faculty members. This year, the UAB planned two Facultea events, where a Classical Studies professor is invited to chat with students over tea and cookies, with Professors Rita Copeland and Emily Wilson. The UAB also sponsored a tea with visiting Penn Public Lecturer Patrice Rankine (University of Chicago) to discuss his career and classical insights. In addition to the Faculteas, the UAB planned two Roundtable events, where three professors were invited to discuss a particular topic. This year, the themes were "Race and Ethnicity in the Ancient & Modern World" and "The State of Humanities Education." In the future, the UAB hopes to work on developing stronger ties with the broader Philadelphia community through mentorship opportunities, while also continuing its work uniting the Penn undergraduate Classics community.

Discentes is the undergraduate Classical Studies publication of the University of Pennsylvania. The journal accepts shortened research papers, translations, articles, and art pieces on topics related to Classical Studies. Last

year, *Discentes* revived its print edition with articles ranging from numismatics to Roman baking. *Discentes* is currently led by Riley Glickman'25 and Maggie Yuan'25 (Editors-in-Chief), and Alex Larrow'26 (Deputy Editor-in-Chief). The journal currently attracts submissions from Penn students and other universities, while working with Classical Studies magazines from other universities such as Yale's *Helicon*. *Discentes* continues to share new content on a regular basis. Please visit the *Discentes* website <https://web.sas.upenn.edu/discentes/> to explore recent articles, and you can follow the publication on Instagram.

2024-25 Senior Research Papers

- ◆ Noah Apter: Invention or Imitation? A Comparative Analysis of Greek and Etruscan Musical Iconography
- ◆ Riley Glickman: Mapping Knapping: An Exploration of Sardinian Neolithic Settlement Patterns on the Giara di Siddi through Spatial Analysis of Lithic Distributions
- ◆ Sarah Hinkel: Finishing Touches: An Investigation of Early Iron Age Greywares from the Vedi Fortress, Armenia through Surface Treatment Technology
- ◆ Lauren Kim, "In-human Anger and Foreign Joy: Illuminating divine emotion in Euripides' *Bacchae* through K-Pop performance"
- ◆ Hanzhao Kuang, "Lucretius and his Epicurean Background: A Poet or a Philosopher"
- ◆ Jack Purple: Becoming Shiva. The Influence of Dionysus and Greek Culture on the Development of a Hindu God
- ◆ Dara Sanchez: "I'm Your Man": Narratives of Female Agency in Late Republican Rome Through the *Laudatio Turiae*

◆ Maggie Yuan: "I Contain Multitudes": Identity Construction in Apuleius' *Apologia* 24

The Second Penn Certamen, and Looking Ahead

Penn Certamen—a classics quiz bowl—took place for the second time on Saturday, April 6, 2024, with 200 students competing at the Novice, Intermediate, and (newly added) Advanced levels (up from 130 in 2023) (fig. 18). Although 2025 was a "gap year" for Penn Certamen, we hope to resume this growing tradition in 2026, thanks to a groundswell of interest from new Penn students—some of them alumni or organizers of Penn Certamen in its first two years!

The second Penn Certamen was even more successful than the first. More than 40 teams came to campus for the day, from public, independent, and parochial schools in the Philadelphia area, as well as New Jersey, New York,

D.C., and ... Wisconsin! The event was organized by students and faculty in Penn Classical Studies together with an energetic team of students and teachers from Harriton High School in the Lower Merion school district. Leadership was provided by the dozen undergraduate and graduate students in Prof. James Ker's Academically Based Community Service course CLST 3805/5805 "Classical Studies in Philadelphia Schools".

We used the same tried-and-tested model from last year: soft pretzels, an early pep talk ("Fortuna fears the brave, but crushes the cowardly ..."), and many student volunteers writing questions and moderating the rounds. By the end of the day, most of the students had visited the Penn Museum and nine teams competed in the final rounds for gold, silver, and bronze medals. The MVPs received copies of Homer's *Iliad* personally signed by Penn faculty member Emily Wilson. Spot-prize "Odysseys" were also awarded. Special thanks go to Harriton High School stu-



Figure 47: The senior colloquium for undergraduate majors, with undergraduate advisor Kim Bowes.

dent Lev Weitzman and Magistra Veronica Vladimirova-Cambria for taking the initiative; to Penn community members Sunme Zhao, Peter Psathas, and others; and to the staff at the Penn Museum. The first two iterations of Penn Certamen (in 2023 and 2024) were made possible by a generous donation to the Department of Classical Studies by Keith A. (C'83) and Alixandra Morgan.

Alumni Updates

Jesse Cantrill, C '63, WG '73, I was a Classics major at Penn in the early 60's. At that time, the requirement was to do 24 semester credits in one of the languages beyond the introductory year, so I took Greek. I also played lacrosse for four years and took more than one translation exam while traveling for games. Following Penn, I joined the military and had the opportunity to visit Athens and Rome. I later used the GI Bill to do an MBA at the Wharton School and have spent the past 50 years as a management consultant. My specialty is employee compensation—fair and competitive pay structures.

I have often thought about the undergraduate courses that I did not take at Penn, either because I didn't have room in my schedule or Penn didn't offer them. So now I am trying to complete my Classics degree properly. This has involved an intensive review of Latin, a dozen or so non-credit courses in Greek and Roman history and literature at the University of Cambridge, and a trip to Mycenae and Knossos. I am now preparing to study ancient philosophy and science. Earlier I wondered why I tried to study the classical languages. Now I realize that my college major was simply an introduction to one of the greatest pleasures of my life. I continue to have a most sincere regard for the

work that you and your colleagues are doing and for the patience and kindness of my own beloved teachers.

Bonnie A. Catto (Ph.D. '81 in Classical Philology) This past year I gave two talks entitled "Recycled Rome" about my experiences teaching in Rome for Assumption College in Spring 2023. The first talk of fifty minutes was for the Amherst (MA) Travelers' Club and illustrated by many PowerPoint slides I had taken while roaming around Rome. I presented a second, shorter version at The Classical Association of New England Annual Meeting at Yale University on March 21. In these talks I examined the eternal city as a place that is constantly evolving with old material incorporated into new construction (e.g., stone from the Colosseum used to build the Vatican) or ancient buildings repurposed for new functions such as the Temple of the divine Hadrian that now houses the Roman Stock Exchange.

In addition, I participate in a Latin reading group of retired teachers, in a Shakespeare seminar, play cello in the Clark University Sinfonia, and am the assistant golf coach of the Amherst-Pelham regional high school team. Also, I'm a life-long swimmer. Lately I have been tutoring biblical Greek (on Zoom) with an excellent former Latin student. Never a dull moment!

Bill Conners (C '84) I am wrapping up my 28th year teaching US history and government at St. Joe's Prep in Philadelphia—one of the few schools in the Delaware Valley to still require Latin (2 years) and offer Ancient Greek. I recently had the pleasure of observing a younger colleague teach an Honors Greek II class, which brought back so many memories of my time in Williams Hall and at the University Museum, with

luminaries like Ralph Rosen, David Romano, Keith DeVries, and Donald White!

Jack Emmert (C' 91) After Penn, I went to the University of Chicago to receive a M.A. in the Committee on the Ancient Mediterranean World. I returned to Philadelphia for a year, then attended the Ohio State University. I attained an M.A. in Greek and Latin, and by 1999 I had passed all my Ph.D. exams. After working on my dissertation for a year, I decided to leave academia and founded a video game developer company (of all things). Cryptic Studios successfully launched *City of Heroes/Villains*, *Champions Online*, *Star Trek Online* and *Neverwinter*. Over the years, my responsibilities increased from game design to executive - and ultimately I became Cryptic's CEO. I left Cryptic several years after it was acquired to join Daybreak Games, where I was CEO of its Austin studio. I ran *DC Universe Online* and later I would also oversee *Lord of the Rings Online* and *Dungeons & Dragons Online* when they were acquired. Since 2022, I've been the CEO of Jackalypsic Games and working on an unannounced title. I also audited a graduate seminar at Ohio State on Greek Divination to keep my toes in the proverbial academic waters! I'm married and have three wonderful children. Two are in high school, though one is graduating and attending OSU in the fall. My eldest is currently at Drew University and fences for their team.

Simeon Esprit (C'16) continues to build his Financial Planning & Wealth Management practice while juggling a newfound responsibility, parenthood. Simeon and his wife, Kate Esprit (Strazza) (C'16), welcomed their first child and future Penn Quaker, Luna Esprit, in 2024. This new chapter inspired Simeon

to explore some of his childhood interests, including storytelling. He went on to self-publish his first children's book, including rhymes and lessons about the importance of financial literacy (fig. 48). The art of storytelling is a powerful tool and Simeon continues to reflect fondly on the seminars he attended with instructors Sheila Murnaghan and Jeremy McInerney.

Chrysanthé Gussis (C' 91) has been living in San Francisco for almost 30 years working as a corporate lawyer. It's not quite Ancient Greek, but during a family trip to Greece in 2021 she bought some land on the island of Paxos (Ionian coast near Corfu), and is slowly building a house on it, hopefully to be finished in 2025. "I've learned that land in Greece is conveyed with reference to the number of olive trees on it," she writes. "My land has 37 olive trees." She also learned that no matter how old you are, your father's name is also included in a land purchase in Greece for identification purposes. As a result of the purchase, she's been working on her modern Greek as part of a dual citizenship process. Midlife adventure.

Ben Grinberg (C '11) lives and works in Philadelphia as a producer, director, performer, educator, and festival creator in devised theatre, experimental dance, and contemporary circus, including as a co-founder and director of Cannonball Festival and Almanac Projects. He teaches in the Pig Iron MFA program, which, having weathered the storm of the sudden closure of the University of the Arts, is now affiliated with Rowan University. He's always grateful when his artistic work takes him back to the ancient world, whether through text, imagination, or physical travel, and he's been particularly fortunate to

have recently spent ample time collaborating with artists and festivals in Cairo, Alexandria, and Athens.

Randy Helm (Ph.D. '80 in Ancient History) I'm still living on a lake in Maine with my faithful dog, spending time in Cambridge with my partner Susan (fig. 49). I'm teaching one course each year on the Late Bronze Age Collapse at nearby Colby College, using the popular book on that topic by my friend Eric Cline (Ph.D. 1990 in Ancient History). The course is an intensive one-month seminar, with the first half being taught on campus and the second half involving travel in either Greece or Turkey and Egypt. Also trying to investigate pos-

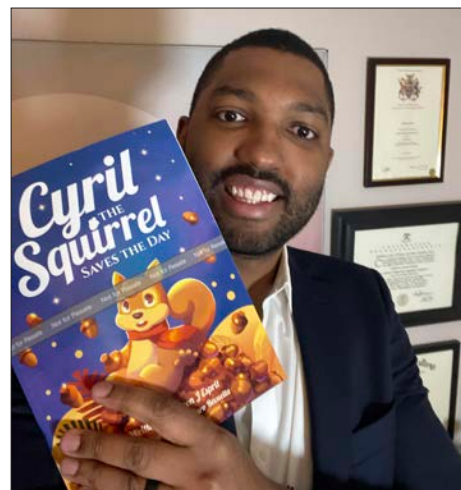


Figure 48: Simeon Esprit, C'16.



Figure 49: Randy Helm, Ph.D. '80.

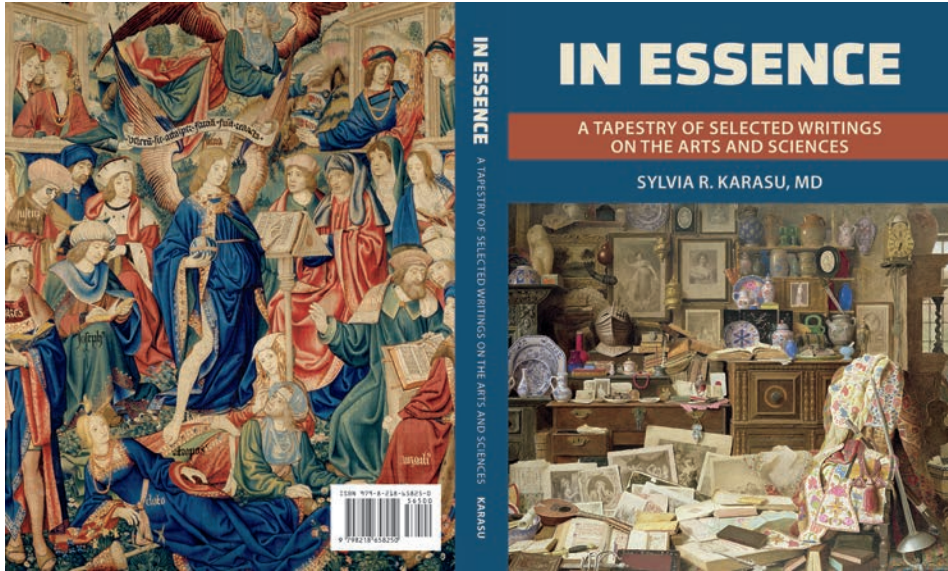


Figure 50: Sylvia Karasu's (C. '71) new book of essays.



Figure 51: Lynn Roller (Ph.D. '77) and Mark Munn (Ph.D. '83) expressing contrasting opinions about the dating of Phrygian monuments at Midas City.

sible AI applications to enhance how I teach the course going forward. Recently finished up nine years on the ASOR Board of Trustees and a three-year term as a member of the Yale Alumni Association Board of Governors. I'm still serving as my Yale Class secretary and trying not to despair about the path our country is following.

Todd Hickey (C '90) is in his twenty-fourth year at the University of California, Berkeley, where he serves as a professor in the Department of Ancient Greek and Roman Studies and directs a campus research unit, the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri. At present, he is occupied with a number of research projects that have ancient textual objects as their foundation, including an exciting interdisciplinary study of the Marmarica region (eastern Cyrenaica) during the second/third c. CE, an undertaking that was previewed by collaborator Carlos Noreña (Ph.D. '01) in his 2025 Hyde Lecture. Other work in progress, involving papyrological holdings at Penn, honors the memory of David Louder, a fellow major (also AB '90) and dear friend who passed away on October 20, 2023, after a four-year battle with ALS.

Sylvia R. Karasu, MD (C. '71) I have a new self-published book, *In Essence: A Tapestry of Selected Writings on the Arts and Sciences*, which appeared in April, 2025 (fig. 50). The book features 67 scholarly blogs and seven essays, and much of my writing is infused with references to my classical studies background from my days at Penn.

In Essence creates a veritable 'narrative scaffolding' of the arts among the sciences. A compilation of scholarly blogs and essays by a clinical professor of psychiatry, this volume weaves together references from some of our

most prestigious scholars and illustrates each piece with sumptuous color images from the world's greatest artists. Drawing insights from philosophy, culture, history, literature, film, and the arts, the author, with a medical and psychological perspective, presents an exquisite tapestry of subjects, including loneliness, resilience, pain, cancer, pregnancy, synesthesia, hypochondriasis, counterfactual thinking, compassion failure, facial deformities, the madness of hunger, face blindness, and a mathematical approach to the study of infinity.

I continue as a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine, and I am on the Institutional Review Board of Rockefeller University where we review all protocols involving human research.

Noreen Kupernik (née Sit) (C '12) is finishing her sixth year teaching Latin and second year chairing the World Languages department at Thaden School, an independent school in Bentonville, Arkansas. Noreen teaches spoken Latin to grades 6-12, but the recent addition of a Lower School offers the exciting possibility of exploring Latin with the school's youngest students!

In 2024, Noreen participated in an NEH summer institute on the ancient Greek Olympics hosted at Monmouth College. Besides learning about and competing in the earliest Olympic sports, participants also delved into ancient methods of fabrication, including weaving, ceramics, and papyrus-making.

Noreen won the 2024-2025 John Breuker Jr. Award for Exceptional Promise in Latin teaching, which will fund her participation in the Paideia Institute's Living Latin in Rome summer program. Noreen also won a CAM-WS New Teacher Start-Up Grant, ex-

panding her collection of Latin books and other teaching supplies, including two replica wax tablets.

In February 2025, Noreen and her colleague took students to the Paideia's Institute's Living Latin in NYC conference, where the group presented on a Latin graffiti project. She spoke at the last two annual meetings of the SCS/AIA in Chicago and Philadelphia.

Fran Lattanzio (C '02) is an independent researcher at CESA in New York City, where he focuses on numerical analysis, stochastic differential equations, and non-blocking algorithms. Outside of work, he is an avid golfer.

Susan Mallaney (C'09) joined the Boston Consulting Group in September 2024 as a Product Lead focusing on marketing and sales transformations after 10+ years in the startup space. Don't worry, her fun fact for all icebreakers 15+ years later is that she is "fluent" in Ancient Greek. She regularly hears how many people wish they had such a cool major. Additionally, Susan chairs the Membership Committee of the Penn Libraries Young Alumni Board as a way to stay connected to her love of ancient texts. She currently lives in Chicago with her husband and three children (8, 6.5, 5). If you are a Young Alum and interested in the Penn Libraries Young Alumni Board (<https://www.library.upenn.edu/giving/young-alumni-board>) please reach out!

Mark Munn (Ph.D. '83 in Ancient History) I came to Penn in the fall of 1974 attracted by Penn's reputation in classics and archaeology, and especially by the inter-disciplinary program in Ancient History that Michael Jameson had put together (fig. 51). Jameson and Donald Lateiner made a true Hellenist of me, and that has been the

center of my academic career at Stanford, UCSB, and now Penn State for the past thirty years. Intrigued by the civilizations of Anatolia and how they influenced the Greeks, I have recently been able to turn my attention back to subjects (Greeks, Lydians, and Phrygians) touched on in my 2006 book, *The Mother of the God, Athens, and the Tyranny of Asia: a Study of Sovereignty in Ancient Religion*. In 2024 I enjoyed an extended research trip in Turkey in the company of Lynn Roller (a seminar classmate in Greek religion with Michael Jameson in 1975). Although she and I have our differences of opinion on the dating of some of the most famous monuments of the Phrygian Highlands (she says Phrygian, I say Lydian), our mutual interests continue to enrich our thoughts and writings in this field. On our trip I was able to decipher part of a Phrygian inscription on the Arslan Kaya monument which attracted international attention in the media—amazingly! It is published in *Kadmos* 63 (2024) with a more chat-



Figure 52: Mark Nakahara, C '12, visiting Çatalhöyük while on vacation in Turkey in summer 2023.

ty version in a forthcoming issue of *The European Archaeologist*.

Mark Nakahara (C' 12) After graduating with a Classical Languages and Literature degree in 2012, I taught Latin and Greek at all levels at Scranton Preparatory School, a Jesuit high school in Scranton, PA (fig. 52). It was great to be able to draw on my Penn experiences every day in the classroom, and I even managed to take a few classes on field trips to the Penn Museum! In the summers I was on the staff of the Santa Susana Archaeological Project, excavating a rural Roman villa in the Alentejo region of Portugal. After five years of teaching, I returned to Penn for law school and graduated in 2020. A highlight of law school was taking Art and Cultural Heritage Law in my third year and writing a term paper (with significant help from Professor Rose) about repatriations of ancient artifacts from Ivy League institutions. Since law

school, I have been working at White and Williams in Philadelphia, where I focus primarily on commercial and employment litigation matters.

Jason Nethercut (Ph.D. '12 in Classical Languages) **Sarah Scullin** and I (both Penn Ph.D.s in 2012) welcomed our daughter Cora last July, and we continue to augment our fruit orchard down here in Florida (now featuring loquat and mango trees). Professionally, I was also awarded the Kourmolis Endowed Professorship in Greek Language and Literature at USF, and I am finishing up my book on Homer in Italy (c. 700-50 BCE).

Nigel Nicholson (Ph.D. '94 in Classical Languages) is in his 30th year at Reed College, teaching classes in both general Humanities and in what they have renamed the Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies department. A teaching highlight last year was having Bridget Murnaghan visit a Homer class! Nigel has a book out in May with Oxford University Press, *Victory and Celebration: An Introduction to Greek Athletics*, which aims to introduce students to Greek athletics (specifically in the sixth and fifth centuries BCE) by studying the ways in which victory memorials, primarily odes and statues, endowed athletics, or different events or elements, with various meanings (fig. 53). Please give it a look if you teach sports classes. Nigel will be taking Reed alumni to Sicily next year, and also hopes to be taking some undergraduates to Greece in January, together with fellow Reed faculty member and Penn alum, Ellen Millender.

James D. Park (C '01) I thoroughly enjoyed my undergraduate years at Penn as a Classics major (concurrent with my pre-medical studies). After graduating in 2001, I started medical school

at what is now Rutgers, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and completed a dual MD and MPH degree program. I then went to Ann Arbor, Michigan and completed my Internal Medicine residency at the University of Michigan. I returned to Penn in 2009 as a fellow in the Division of General Internal Medicine and completed a Master in Health Policy Research. My research focused on behavioral economics and understanding how we, humans, make poor health decisions and finding ways to improve them.

When I chose to be a Classical Studies major, I knew I wanted to pursue a career in medicine. What drew the two together for me—and hence my interest in behavioral economics—was seeing the perpetuity of core human emotions and behaviors (for better or worse) that affected lives similarly during ancient and modern times. I am now an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Division of Hospital Medicine at Penn. As an academic hospitalist, I take care of hospitalized adult patients while teaching the next generation of physician trainees and medical students.

Cynthia Patterson (Ph.D. '76 in Ancient History) Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of my UPenn Ph.D. degree in Ancient History, which I completed under the direction of Michael Jameson, advisor extraordinaire, and with committee members extraordinaire Martin Ostwald and Donald Lateiner. I thank my lucky stars that I landed at the University of Pennsylvania in 1971! After a number of part time and visiting positions in the New York City area, in 1984 I began teaching, accompanying my husband Richard Patterson (UPenn Ph.D. Philosophy 1975), at Emory University. I retired from Emory's Department

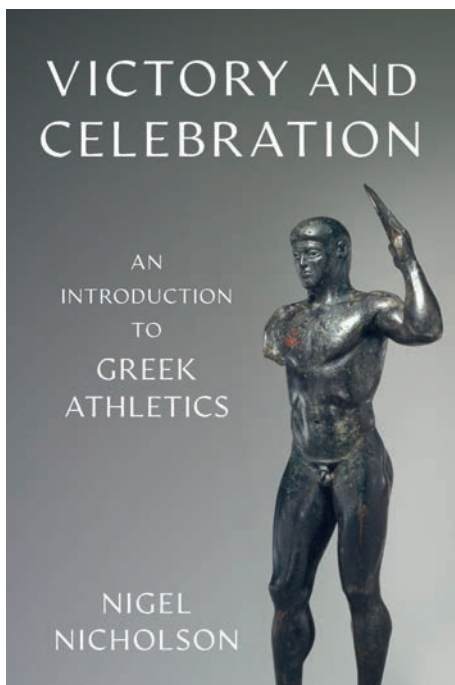


Figure 53: Nicholson *Victory and Celebration* OUP Cover Design.

of History and from Emory's undergraduate program in Ancient Mediterranean Studies in December 2022.

Since retirement I have continued to work on two major pre-retirement projects: 1) a monograph on "Plato and the Social Issues of his Time" (focusing on slavery, medicine, and religion), and 2) an article on "The Responsibilities of University Museums" (in the collection and display of ancient Mediterranean artifacts). The latter project had led me to appreciate more fully than in my student days the leadership of the Penn Museum (so adding to my pride in being a Penn alumna). My other main non-academic retirement project is playing chamber music (especially string quartets).

Guy Rogers (C '77) It seems incredible that I graduated from Penn 48 years ago. I nevertheless have vivid memories of studying Classics and Ancient History there with R.E.A. Palmer, Donald Lateiner, and other luminaries, who helped to set me on a path that led to University College London, Princeton, All Souls College Oxford, and a 40-year teaching career at Wellesley.

For inexplicable reasons I seem to be working harder now than in 1977. I recently have written a series of articles about the Jewish sicarii and Zealots, the Jewish revolts against Rome, casualty figures in Josephus, the priestesses of Artemis of Ephesos, and the (mis)use of generative AI in higher education, along with several book reviews. Last summer I taught a research course about Alexander the Great to a group of brilliant young Chinese students as a visiting professor affiliated with Jiao Tong University in Shanghai. I continue to quadrangulate among my bases in Wellesley, Litchfield County, Connecticut, New York, and Rome, herding my collection of

domestic and feral cats, watching baseball and soccer (Forza Roma!), and relaxing with my amazing partner. As a public service I also do my best to keep the Italian prosecco industry prosperous.

Jordan Rogers (Ph.D. '21 in Ancient History) In Fall '24, after spending a few years at Carleton College (MN) and Hamilton College (NY), I joined the Department of History at North Carolina State University as an Assistant Professor of Ancient Mediterranean History. I'm also happy to announce that a volume that I co-edited, *Working Lives in Ancient Rome*, was just published at the end of 2024. In the summers, I help supervise excavation work at Pompeii as part of Tulane University's Pompeii I.14 Project. Among many exciting finds has been a mineralized deposit of stored reed stems, to be used in the production of reed mats and baskets in our building before the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 CE. We think it could also contribute to the ongoing debate as to the date of the eruption! I'm currently hard at work on my current monograph project, *Neighborhoods, Neighborliness, and Urban Community in Republican Rome*. In my free time, I've returned to an old hobby of brewing beer at my home in Raleigh, shared with my wife, Cara, and two dogs.

David W. Rupp (M.A. '68 in Classical Archaeology) From Athens, David W. Rupp reports enthusiastically that a book project with a very long gestation process has been submitted at the beginning of April to Penn Museum Publications for publication review. The inspiration for the book, *The House of Eustolios at Kourion, Cyprus: The Polychrome, Geometric Mosaic Pavements of a Late Roman Elite Urban Mansion in their Wider Context*,

had its origins in the mosaic research he conducted for his MA thesis under the supervision of George Bass. At the end of August he gave a paper on the mansion and its pavements in a session at the 30th Annual Meeting of the European Archaeological Association in Rome.

Breyasia Scott (C '20) I'm a fiber artist now (fig. 54)! For context my grandmother passed away in fall of 2018 when I was studying abroad in London and I couldn't afford to go back for her funeral. She's the one who taught me how to crochet, so this became my way of saying goodbye and turned into a side passion project. I still have my full-time job, but at night I could be designing for a fashion show or doing a creative shoot in the city! <https://skystitched.myportfolio.com/welcome>

Laura Sunstein Murphy, Ph.D., Esq. (CW '69) I still live on my small horse farm in West Chester, PA, and I am still re-

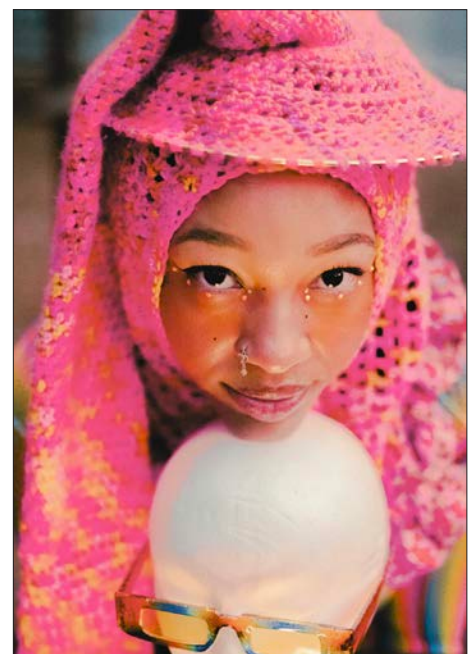


Figure 54: Sky Stitched Designs by Breyasia Scott, C '20.

tired from teaching Latin and French, from psychoanalyzing patients and from practicing healthcare law. My children and grandchildren visit me when they can. They are scattered throughout the US.

There is one update that is significant in my life. After I and my treating physician realized that many of my health problems were caused by unwitting microwave exposure, I launched an extensive research project to study and mitigate those exposures in my life. Turns out that my remaining health issues were, in large part, caused by electrical service providers' so-called mandatory smart meters in PA. I had to sue PECO to prevent them from placing a smart meter on my property or shutting down my electrical service.

My case was combined with several others. This suit took 10 years, and went all the way up to the PA Supreme Court, which, in 2022, reversed the Commonwealth Court ruling which had been in our favor. As a result, again after extensive research, I have gone completely off grid as of last year. Happy to say I am feeling much relief, physically and emotionally (PA is the only state in the USA which does not offer smart meter opt outs to anyone). I would advise anyone who suffers from EMR syndrome to move to a friendlier location if they can.

Many places around the world are indeed friendlier. A short trip to the Vatican last year was a delight for me. No microwaves in the Prati neighborhood. My best to fellow Penn Classical Studies grads!

Sheldon S. Toll (C '62) As I turn 85, I'm reminded by recent political developments of the Athenian democracy falling into oligarchy at the end of the Peloponnesian war.

Harry B. Turner (C' 75; hrenrut@gmail.com) I started as a Classics major but later asked my advisor if I could switch to archaeology. His response: "Do you want to spend every summer digging in pigeon shit?!" That did it! I decided to double-major in Classical Civilization and 19th century British Literature. I loved both majors. On the evening of Tuesday, November 28, 1972, The Classics Club staged a Neo-Mycenaean drama entitled *The Flight of Kokida*. I played Kokida, a Cretan draft dodger (the early 1970s occasioned several Vietnam protests at Penn). Marcia Bloom was the author and played Divia; Graham Bauerle played Akamenmeno; Ellen Metzger, Lynne Cohen, and Claudia Wallack were the Kurusotemi; Herman Switkay, and Dianne Lalli were the 1st Hemichorus; Beth Wilson and George Hedges made up the 2nd Hemichorus; and John Serber played "A Messenger."

My other extracurricular activity was theater. I played the comic leads in three Penn Singers' Gilbert and Sullivan productions: *The Learned Judge* in 1972's *Trial by Jury*, the Major General in 1973's *Pirates of Penzance*, and the Duke of Plaza-Toro in the 1975 *Gondoliers*. I didn't perform in the Spring of 1974 because I was in Baltimore (my hometown) interning at The Walters Art Gallery, where I spent a semester cleaning Roman sarcophagi among other classical chores. My wife and I will be up for my 50th Reunion in May. In September we're off to where else: Crete.

Jeff Ulrich (Ph.D. '16 in Classical Languages) I am in my seventh year of teaching in the Classics department at Rutgers, and I am up for tenure this year: I hear back about the decision in a week or so, which I anticipate being positive (I can further update you if you like). In fall 2023, I co-edited a volume with Kate

Gilhuly entitled *Making Time for Greek and Roman Literature* (Routledge), and my monograph was published in 2024 with University of Michigan Press, *The Shadow of an Ass: Philosophical Choice and Aesthetic Experience in Apuleius' Metamorphoses*. In terms of personal life achievements, I put out a record of my own music in 2023 (*On Memory*) with my band, *The RingOut*. At this point, we have an amazing 14 monthly listeners on Spotify! You can listen to my song "From This Height" here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6bP8FIUn9E>

Eleanor Wynn (C' 20) Since graduating with a degree in Classical Studies in 2020, I've been teaching third grade in Brooklyn for three years (fig. 55). More recently, I've pivoted to psychotherapy—I am currently an M.A. student at Yeshiva University in Mental Health Counseling. I wish it were as simple as four humors. I still live in Brooklyn, New York.

Rachel Zachian, MD (C'19) has had an eventful two years! She graduated from medical school at Jefferson, got engaged, completed her preliminary internal medicine internship at Lankenau



Figure 55: Eleanor Wynn C' 20.

Medical Center in Wynnewood, PA, and is currently completing her first year of three years of dermatology residency at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. She continues to use her Latin knowledge in dermatology practice—it's so much easier to learn about and remember conditions like *erythema ab igne* when you know the direct translation!

Departmental Lectures and Colloquia

2023-2024

- ◆ Ann Blair Brownlee (Penn) "From Orvieto to Philadelphia: Attic Black-Figure Vases in the University of Pennsylvania Museum"
- ◆ Marek Wecowski (University of Warsaw) "Greek Political Patronage in the Archaic and Early Classical Period"
- ◆ Sarah Murray (University of Toronto) "Gender and the Economy in Early Iron Age Greece"
- ◆ Matthew Leigh (St Anne's College, Oxford) "Declamatory Fictions and the Crimen Maiestatis—Seneca, *Controversiae* 9.2"
- ◆ Hérica Valladares (UNC Chapel Hill) "Women Writers from Pompeii: Epistolary Fictions in Roman Wall Painting"
- ◆ Arsen Nisanyan (Harvard) "Kindling the song of Humanism: How one translation of Homer's *Iliad* changed intellectual life in Turkey"
- ◆ Deven Patel (Penn) "New Directions in the Study of Indian Classical Humanities"
- ◆ Katherine Blouin (University of Toronto) "Doing Classics on Indigenous Land"
- ◆ Cam Grey (Penn) "Locals, Leaders and the Reverberating Consequences of Disaster Intervention: Some Case Studies from the Late Roman World"
- ◆ Emily Allen-Hornblower (Rutgers) & Nafeesah Goldsmith (COO at YFOF)

"From our Classics and Incarceration series: Breaking the Silence: The Myth of Cassandra and the Voices of Incarcerated Women"

- ◆ Peter N. Singer (Einstein Center Chronoi, Berlin) "Living in the Moment—or Not? Past and Future Experience in Graeco-Roman Thought"
- ◆ Verity Platt (Cornell) "The Stones of Posidippus: Elemental Media"
- ◆ Brian Rose (Penn) "Recent Excavations at Phrygian Gordion"
- ◆ Richard P. Martin (Stanford) "Self-fragmenting Artifacts and Comic Pragmatics"
- ◆ Kim Bowes (Penn) "Wage, slavery"
- ◆ Rocco Palermo (Bryn Mawr) "The Making and Development of Imperial Landscapes in Mesopotamia. The View from the Erbil Plain in North Iraq"
- ◆ Hyde Lecturer Lin Foxhall (University of Liverpool): "Political regimes and the rural economies of ancient Greece"
- ◆ Ralph Rosen (Penn) "Ps.-Longinus on Comedy and the Sublime"
- ◆ Maghan Keita (Villanova) "Black Athena/Black Athenians"
- ◆ John Bodel (Brown) "Roman teamsters: muliones (muleteers) and the (dis)organization of land transport in the Roman empire"
- ◆ Sara Myers (UVA) "Bodies and Boundaries: Narrative Patterns in Ovid's Italian Rape Myths"
- ◆ Joseph Medeiros (Performer) "The Odyssey: Beginnings; a performance of Homer in Greek"

2024-2025

- ◆ Joseph Farrell (Penn) "Intertextuality Outside the Canon"
- ◆ James Uden (Boston University) "The Immune System of Civil War: Lucan's Body Politics"

- ◆ Rosa Andújar (King's College London) "Fragmenting the Chorus in Greek Tragedy"
- ◆ Erika L. Weiberg (Duke) "Euripides' *Helen* and the Trauma of Survival"
- ◆ Maria Dahvana Headley (Novelist and Translator) "Reimagining Vergil's *Aeneid*"
- ◆ Claire Taylor (UW, Madison) "Who cooked Aristotle's dinner? Women and the ancient (Greek) economy"
- ◆ Marc Domingo Gygax (Princeton) "Beyond Exclusion: Non-Citizens in the Greek Cities of Hellenistic Asia Minor"
- ◆ Phoebe Giannisi (University of Thessaly) "Chimeras: poetics of assemblage and becoming"
- ◆ Christopher Childers (Harvard-Westlake) "A Mockingbird Among Nightingales: Translating Form and Voice in Classical Lyric Verse"
- ◆ Christopher Pfaff (Florida State) "Current Excavations at Ancient Corinth, Greece"
- ◆ Hanna Golab (Columbia) "The Fifty Daughters of Selene and the Aitolian Politics of Kinship"
- ◆ Cassandra Miller (Colby College) "Tinkering with Body Clocks: Inducing Menstruation in Imperial Rome"
- ◆ Dylan Kenny (University of Cincinnati) "Pindar's second Paeon and the idea of order at Abdera"
- ◆ Carman Romano (Bryn Mawr) "Mortal divinity: Epiphanic feeling in the Theogony, Homeric Hymn to Demeter, and beyond"
- ◆ Florencia Foxley (Dartmouth) "Eliminating the Other in Juan Radrigán's *Medea mapuche?*"
- ◆ H. Alan Shapiro (Johns Hopkins) "Pederastic scenes in Attic Vase-Painting: a View from the Rear"
- ◆ Jeremy McInerney (Penn) "Inhuman, Non-Human, and Subhuman. Posthumans in the Ancient Mediterranean"
- ◆ Hyde Lecture: Carlos Noreña (UC Berkeley) "Backwaters of the Roman

Empire: The Case of Marmarica”

◆ James Ker (Penn) “Seneca’s First Intervention”

◆ Jacqueline Arthur-Montagne (University of Virginia) “Herodotus in Hiding: The Histories in Roman Rhetorical Education”

◆ Joshua Billings (Princeton) “Atheism and theodicy in classical Athens”

◆ Melissa Kutner (UMBC) “Enslavement, Education, and Roman Accounting”

◆ Evan Jewell (Rutgers University-Camden) “Making Roman Youths at Pompeii: The Ethics of Appropriation from Guglielmo Plüschow to Matteo Della Corte”

◆ Tom Sapsford (Boston College) “AIDS and the *Odyssey*: a pharmacological reading”



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