

Yale Department of Classics

Fall 2022

Greetings from the Chair

After five years of productively “doing otherwise,” I am now back in my old role as department chair. Chris Kraus held things together artfully through the Covid years. Not only did she do a magnificent job of seeing us through the ups and downs of trying times, she found a way to keep us moving forward. Perhaps the main reason that I am the one writing this letter rather than someone else is because my colleagues are much too good at what they do. Four of us in Classics now run Yale departments (I Classics, **Verity Harte** Philosophy, **Milette Gaifman** Art History, and **Pauline LeVen** newly appointed as chair of Humanities). Others have well earned their release from chairing, and yet others have massive projects and programs that they are directing, and books that they are finalizing.

This past year was, so to speak, “only mostly” Covid-challenged: a year when we were never quite out of the woods, and yet somehow managed to reach a state of near-normalcy, as well as a palpable sense of closure, when all was done. The year began with classes conducted over

Zoom. Then we masked up and came together, keeping our distance. For most of the year the Yale campus was just ours: no in-person events; no receptions; no parties, and definitely no visitors. Students and faculty made the best of it. They heeded Dr. Fauci and behaved. Some great old restaurants and bars shut down for good, but all of New Haven’s famous pizza venues were spared. It all “sort of” worked. The spring schedule was altered to keep pace with the virus’s mood swings, and one precious week of spring break was lost. But by April the barriers started to fall. After two years of virtual Bulldog Days, prospective Bulldogs were brought to campus. Lots of big smiles. After two years of virtual graduation, Yale graduates paraded in gowns. Even bigger smiles.

I know that there is still a long way to go with this virus, but I’m now allowing myself to think that this coming year may be the one when Covid no longer bosses us about. Only a few weeks back, for the first time in more than two years, the iron gates of Phelps Gate were flung wide. People, uninvited, un-carded, and unknown, wandered in. Busses are once again disgorging tourists onto Old Campus. Group pictures are being taken in front of President Woolsey and Nathan Hale.

Because our gatherings were mostly virtual this year, our “year in pictures” has little to show for itself this time around. But that doesn’t mean that we are no longer photogenic. Nor does it mean that we are any less busy than in years before. As a department, we hosted lectures, workshops, and conferences; we listened to papers, gave feedback, conducted mock interviews. And so on. Undergraduate majors wrote theses, took senior exams, won fellowships and awards. Graduate students gave talks, ran working groups and colloquia, wrote dissertation prospectuses, passed qualifying exams, and were advanced to candidacy. For their part, faculty did little travel, but they published articles and books, taught new courses, oversaw research, mentored students, and gave online lectures to groups in far-off places.

Details concerning these activities are fully described in the pages that follow. But I especially want to highlight the achievements of three faculty members for whom this past year will stand as a proud milestone. Based on her stellar performance as a researcher and teacher, **Jessica Lamont** successfully passed her third-year review, giving every indication that she is more than ready to overleap the big hurdles that lie ahead. **Andrew Johnston** presented the tenure and appointments committee with an exceptional portfolio in all the key areas of research, teaching, and



Kirk Freudenburg on the Acropolis in late June

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service. He did the impossible by getting tenure at Yale without breaking a sweat (not one that he let us see, anyway). Lastly, **Pauline LeVen** was promoted to the rank of full professor on the merits of a portfolio that is as brilliant, multi-faceted, and “many-headed” as the Muses she writes about. These three successful cases, well distributed across the year, had us busting our buttons with pride, renewing our confidence in the department’s continued success.

It is on that last note that I would like to dwell in closing. Currently we are at twelve ladder faculty in the department. Given what we do, that’s pretty small. As mentioned above, many of us do heavy lifting for other programs, and for other projects. This year six of the aforementioned twelve will be taking sabbatical leaves. To make the best lemonade from that lemony situation we hired **Rosalie Stoner**, a promising new Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, who will teach a full load for us this year. You can read up on Rosalie’s background and research interests inside the *Newsletter*. We are excited to have her with us, and determined to make her year at Yale a complete success. The extra good news is that, beginning this fall, we will be conducting two searches for new ladder faculty. As yet, we have no idea who those faculty will be, but by this time next year I should be able to feature them in a “New to Yale Classics” section of this *Newsletter*. Look forward to it!


Do keep in touch, and if you are ever in town, be sure to drop into Phelps Hall. Now that the Covid lockdown is over, our doors are flung wide, and we would love to see you again. And again.

Kirk Freudenburg

Departmental Colloquium

This past year, the Department’s annual colloquium on “Property and its Discontents” was expertly organized and administered by **Christopher Londa** and **Joseph Morgan**. We look forward to being fully “in person” with this year’s lectures.

The Department of Classics at Yale University
is pleased to announce its
2021-2022 Departmental Colloquium:
Property (and its Discontents)




Solon before Croesus, Nikolaus Knipfler, ca. 1652-1650, J. Paul Getty Museum inv. no. 19856

Select Fridays **12-2:00 PM**. Zoom link also distributed via Pinax.

Fall 2021	
October 1	Joseph Howley (Columbia)
November 5	Emily Mackil (UC Berkeley)
November 19	Michèle Lowrie (UChicago)
December 10	Lightning Talks from Yale Community

Spring 2022	
February 18 (Zoom)	Clara Bosak-Schroeder (UIUC)
April 8 (In-person)	Athena Kirk (Cornell)
April 22 (In-person)	Dan-el Padilla Peralta (Princeton)

For further information, contact
christopher.londa@yale.edu or
joseph.morgan@yale.edu



<https://yale.zoom.us/j/95860500429>

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Keep the news coming!
Anyone with news is invited to write
to linda.dickey-saucier@yale.edu

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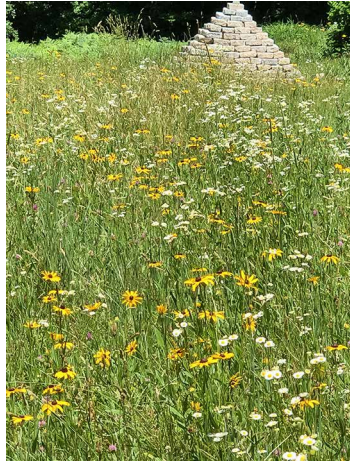
Thank you!



Faculty News

Egbert Bakker moved from New Haven to Amherst, MA and started practicing the art of commuting in the Fall semester, which saw him back again in the office of DGS. He was on leave in Spring 2022 and was able, at long last, to complete his “Green and Yellow” commentary on *Odyssey 9*. A more durable achievement during this same semester was the construction of a pyramid out of the numerous stone heaps on the old pasture land on which he lives.

The Trojan Plain outside Egbert and Melissa’s house in Amherst features a newly constructed pyramid (aere perennius).



Kirk Freudenburg spent the year trying to figure out how to run things in a world where the Covid rules were ever on the move, and nearly as adaptable and inscrutable as the virus itself. To help the cause of his own (sadly ever decreasing) agility, he purchased an e-Bike, a bright yellow one, quite garish, now a regular fixture on Old Campus, and much gawked at by the campus tour groups. In addition to keeping the Classics ship afloat and (or so he hopes) sailing ahead, he managed to put the finishing touches on a new book forthcoming in January from Oxford University Press (*Virgil’s Cinematic Art: Vision as Narrative in the Aeneid*). He also completed three large articles, all of which are now happily descending grand staircases (ready for their close-ups) at their various places of incarceration. Don’t look for them any time soon, but they will eventually appear as: 1) “Juvenal at Satire’s Xenophobic Turn,” 2) “The Flowers in Quintilian’s Garden: An Eco-tour of



Kirk Freudenburg with the family (Judi, Paul, Annah) on the occasion of Paul’s graduation in May from the Yale School of Architecture.

two Roman Farms,” and 3) “Of Wars Unspoken: The Raging Waters of Horace’s First *Satire*.” The main project that will preoccupy him in the months ahead is a new commentary on book 12 of the *Aeneid*, for a commentary series forthcoming from Lorenzo Valla. This past summer he teamed up with his Princeton counterpart, Denis Feeney (accompanied by his wife, Jude), for a tour of the Aegean aboard the *Sea Cloud II*. Among the highlights of the big blue traverse from Athens to Istanbul were KF’s first-ever visits to Santorini, Samos, Priene, and Troy. Among the trip’s less agreeable “first-ever” were matching cases of Covid for both KF and his wife, Judi. As of this writing, both are well on their way to full recovery. KF still gardens, runs, and rock climbs. This past spring his son, Paul, graduated from the Yale School of Architecture. His daughter, Annah, is in the fifth year of a Ph.D. program in English Literature at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Please hire her. She’s wonderful.

Since taking on the position of Chair of History of Art at Yale on July 1, 2021, **Milette Gaifman** has dedicated much of her time to the stewardship of her other department. Throughout this academic year, together with Lillian Tseng (ISAW, NYU), she also continued her work as the Co-editor-In-Chief of the *Art Bulletin*, the flagship journal of art history globally. Additionally, she pursued her activities as teacher, mentor and scholar. Among her various contributions, she completed her essay “Libations of Victory” which is due to appear in: *Mitos, Deuses e Heróis: As coleções de Vasos Gregos em Portugal (Myths, Gods and Heroes: The Collections of Greek Vases in Portugal)*, edited by Luis Morais (forthcoming, 2022). After more than two years of not being able to travel, Professor Gaifman is excited to embark upon a research trip this summer and visit museum collections in Scandinavia. She looks forward to being inspired by works of ancient art that she will incorporate in her publications and classes, especially her lecture course *Art and Myth in Greek Antiquity*, which she will offer on again in the fall of 2022.

Verity Harte was able to luxuriate in a full academic year of research leave and time away from her role as Chair of Yale’s Philosophy Department. She was able to write a very great deal of (though not yet all of) her commissioned monograph on Plato’s *Philebus* for the Cambridge Series *Studies in the Dialogues of Plato*, and hopes the momentum is now unstoppable even by the rigors of the semester. She also planted mental seeds for what will become her J H Gray Lectures, to be given to the Faculty of Classics at the University of Cambridge, planned for May 2023. Between that and long hikes in local woods with a newly adopted canine companion, she looks forward to returning replenished to teaching and chairing in Fall 2022.

Brad Inwood had a very satisfying year in the classroom, introducing an eager class of in-person students to the wonders of ancient Greek and Roman philosophy in the fall term, and co-teaching twice — once with Philosophy colleague **David Charles** in a graduate seminar on Aristotle’s theory of friendship (an ideal topic for shared teaching) and in the spring term working with

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Jake Rhode in an Associates in Teaching offering on the Human and the Divine in Ancient Ethics. Extra-curriculars included the joys of sitting in on fascinating seminars taught by colleagues and a variety of informal reading groups. It was a pleasure to get back in the saddle as acting DGS while **Egbert Bakker** enjoyed a well earned research leave in the spring semester. The culmination of the year, though, was the appearance at long last of his book with Cambridge, *Later Stoicism: 150 BC to AD 200*. This wouldn't have been possible without the outstanding editorial assistance of two of our graduate students, **Max DuBoff** and **Lizzie Davis**. Hearty thanks to them both.

At the time of writing this, **Andrew Johnston** has just returned from another successful season of excavation at Gabii, outside of Rome. After two years of COVID-imposed hiatus, it was great to be back in the field: this summer, he was joined by 15 current Yale students, who, through the Archeological Field School of the Gabii Project, were introduced to the cutting edge of archaeological methodology at the ideal “sandbox” of the ancient city of Gabii. Students also had the opportunity to join in the beginnings of an exciting new collaboration between the Gabii Project and the Louvre in the area of the so-called “Forum of Hamilton.” This past academic year, he served a third year as DUS, and had the opportunity to work with an amazing group of eleven graduating seniors across our various majors. He was grateful to return to teaching some of his favorite courses (the Roman Republic, the Roman Empire, and Poetry and Monarchy at Rome), and in person, no less! He is looking forward to a research leave in the fall, when he hopes to finish a draft of his book manuscript, and to many more happy years in the Department, now that he has been fortunate enough to earn tenure, thanks to the support and encouragement of so many amazing colleagues over the past ten years (especially **Chris Kraus** and **Kirk Freudenburg**, without whom he never would have made it this far).



Andrew Johnston and Yale students in the Gabii Project

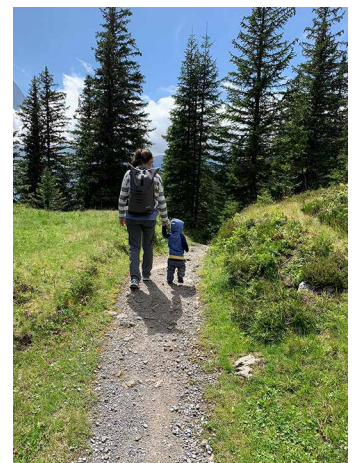
Chris Kraus is grateful to **Kirk Freudenburg** for taking back the position of department Chair — no easy task! This past year she has continued to serve on the Graduate Committee, and to mentor junior faculty in the department. As a member of the Executive committee for the Program in Renaissance Studies, she worked with colleagues to reboot the program, now renamed The Program in Early Modern Studies and designed for speed and success in the new world. A raucous and challenging course on Lucan's *Bellum civile* in the Fall was probably the most fun she's had in a classroom ever; pictures from that class's Halloween day are elsewhere in this *Newsletter*. First and second-year graduates and a crop of impressive juniors gave her a workout in the Latin Survey, while she enjoyed meeting new students in undergraduate courses on Caesar and (in translation) the reception of the Oedipus myth in modern dance, music, and drama. Highlights otherwise were seeing **Treasa Bell** finish her Ph.D. and go on to a new life in the UK, and traveling virtually to Dresden, Oxford, Gutenberg, Cambridge, Toronto, and Bloomington to give papers. She continues on the advisory boards for Brill's *Historiography of Rome and its Empire* and OUP's *Pseudepigrapha Latina*, and as the US representative for the Commission Scientifique of the Fondation Hardt, Geneva, and participated in an external review of the Toronto Classics department. Finally, in May she was made an Honorary Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. In between time was spent contemplating unfinished projects—less productive than a garden, but still weedy.

Jessica Lamont had a busy year that happily concluded with a reappointment to the position of Assistant Professor, after a midterm assessment review on Yale's newest tenure system. In transitioning back to in-person teaching in August, she taught her growing Ancient Greek History lecture course, and developed two new courses for the Classics Dept: Attic Oratory: Law & Litigation (Antiphon, Lysias, Demosthenes — Ancient Greek L4), and Ancient Greek Magic: Spells, Curses, Incantations (a new graduate seminar). She was finally able to travel to Greece in August 2021, where she met up in Athens with **Kirk Freudenburg** and **Emily Greenwood** as they led

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Jessica at the Acropolis in 2021



Jessica and Haime hiking in Spain

the “Ancient Greece, Complex Histories” travel seminar. She finished transcribing some two dozen Greek curse tablets from the Athenian Agora, which will appear in her now forthcoming book (*In Blood and Ashes: Curse Tablets and Binding Spells in Ancient Greece*, OUP 2023) and a co-authored article in *Hesperia*. The 2021-22 academic year also saw the publication of several new articles and chapters on Greek social history, magic, and epigraphy, in addition to travel with her son Haime, now a two-year-old, in Greece, Switzerland and Spain.

The past year raced by **Noel Lenski**, as he spent most of his time on the job as Director of Graduate Studies for the Department of History. The wonderful students made the job a pleasure. Amidst it all, Noel managed to co-host an international colloquium titled “The Dawn of the Hispanic Legal Tradition: A Conference on the *Liber Iudiciorum*” with Yale Law School colleague Jim Whitman and collaborator Damián Fernández. They hope to publish the proceedings with *Yale Classical Studies*. A few articles have appeared since last report, chief among them one on “Slavery among the Visigoths” in a volume on *Slavery in the Late Antique World* from Cambridge. He also somehow managed to write five more articles and give talks (some virtual) at Perugia, London, Bonn, Smith College, Fairfield University, and Harvard — as well as Yale. Home improvement continues to be a passion (refinishing the master bath) and family remains paramount — Noel’s middle daughter Helen just graduated from his own *alma mater*, Colorado College! Definitely ready for an upcoming sabbatical during which he hopes to finish a translation and commentary of the Visigothic law code.

2021-2022 was a very joyful year for **Pauline LeVen**: in the fall, she taught her favorite graduate seminar (on Beauty), to a group of brilliant students from five different departments and programs. She was promoted to the rank of Professor in late November — a very nice sendoff to her triennial leave, which she spent in Paris. As invited professor at the Université de Lille in March, and invited professor at her *alma mater*, the École Normale Supérieure in April, she gave a cycle of five lectures on the topic of her new research, *Posthuman Lyric: Reading Greek Poetry in the Anthropocene*. She also gave lectures at Urbino (where she sits on the board of Professors) and in Fribourg, and completed two chapters for edited volumes, one on “Before, Beneath and Beyond Emotions: Affects in Epic” (for E. Greensmith’s *Cambridge Companion to Greek Epic*) and “The Matter of Tragedy: Reading with Water” (for R. Woodard’s edited volume coming out of the Peradotto Sessions on Tragedy). She is excited to come back to New Haven at the end of the summer to get ready (among other things) for a stint as interim Chair of the Humanities program in the spring.

The last year was a busy one for **Joe Manning**, primarily because of the ongoing Yale Nile Initiative, a US NSF-sponsored project examining the relationship between large volcanic eruptions and the Nile watershed as the basis of further study of regional and global-scale climatic change in the premodern world. Enormous progress has been made on several fronts,

most promising (and novel) are the sophisticated climate models being done by our partners at NASA-GISS in New York, and a very important hydrological model of the Nile river basin done by our partner Jim Stagge and his group at Ohio State. Combined with our historical database constructed by **Joe Morgan** here at Yale, we will gain new insights into the dynamic relationship between annual Nile flooding and human responses, and will better understand the connections between Egypt and other Mediterranean societies as well as global responses to very large eruptions and the Indian Ocean monsoon system.

James Patterson had an exciting first year at Yale, and enjoyed every minute of it. He found a wonderful community in and beyond the Classics Department, surrounded by enthusiastic students and welcoming colleagues. As James settles in, he is turning his attention to developing new teaching materials for the department’s Greek and Latin courses and resuming work on ancient North Africa—work that was put on hold during the pandemic. Meanwhile, James spends his free time exploring New Haven and the surroundings. It is a great place to call home!

Language lecturer **Tim Robinson** has been enjoying his return to the classroom to teach intensive Greek and Latin courses after nearly two years of online instruction.

During the past year, **Joseph Solodow** saw the appearance in print of an article and a review; the latter was an extended evaluation of a commentary on Livy, Book 22. He’s very much looking forward to teaching a new Classical Civilization course in the fall, *The Greek Historians*. Well, it’s not altogether new: he taught a similar course thirty years ago at the University of Buffalo, and ever since then has been eager to tackle it again. While spending a couple of weeks in Paris during May and June, he was disappointed that he could see so few artifacts from ancient Rome. It so happened that the Roman collection of the Louvre was closed for reinstallation, and all they were showing was their Roman sculpture from Italian collections, chiefly that of the Albani. Ho-hum stuff, in his judgment. At the Musée de Cluny, however, he was able to behold the splendidly preserved vaulting of the *frigidarium* from an ancient Roman bath.

Erika Valdivieso began her first year in New Haven with a bang — she moved here just as fireworks lit up the sky for the 4th of July. She was glad to see the publication of her article in *AJP*, as well as reviews in *BMCR* and *Dieciocho*. Her work with *Hesperides* kept her very busy, planning panels for the Society of Classical Studies, the Renaissance Society of America, the *Fédération internationale des associations d’études classiques*, and the Society of Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry, but she managed to fit in a few talks of her own, most of them remote. She greatly enjoyed teaching new courses and meeting the community of classicists, early modernists, and book historians at Yale. This summer she will finally return to the archives. Next stop, Mexico City!

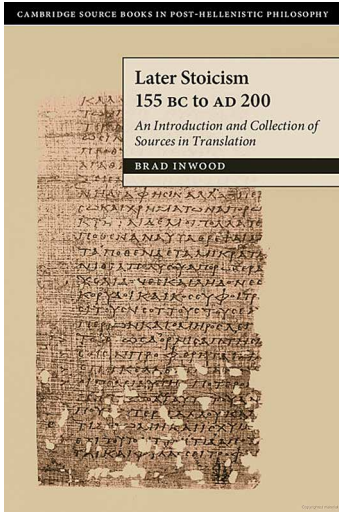
Faculty Bookshelf

Brad Inwood

Later Stoicism 155 BC to AD 200

An Introduction and Collection of Sources in Translation

Cambridge University Press, 2022



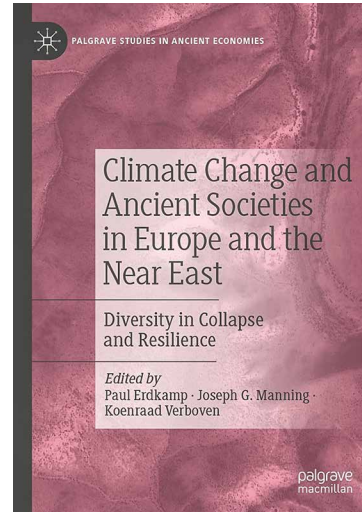
Later Stoicism, a comprehensive treatment of Stoicism in its later period, makes the case that the old categories of “middle Stoicism” and “Roman Stoicism” are misleading and unhelpful. The book is also distinguished by including abundant material on Stoic logic and physics in the later period – Stoicism wasn’t all about applied ethics, despite what you might read elsewhere!

Paul Erdkamp, **Joseph G. Manning**, Koenraad Verboven, eds.

Climate Change and Ancient Societies in Europe and the

Near East: Diversity in Collapse and Resilience

Palgrave MacMillan, 2021



Climate change over the past thousands of years is undeniable, but debate has arisen about its impact on past human societies. This book explores the link between climate and society in ancient worlds, focusing on the ancient economies of western Eurasia and northern Africa from the fourth millennium BCE up to the end of the first millennium CE.

Departmental Postdocs

This past spring, the Classics Department welcomed two new postdoctoral scholars into our community. **Isabelle Chouinard** and **Alexander Free** will be with us for the year ahead, and we look forward to working alongside them and learning from them as they pursue their projects in the friendly confines of Phelps Hall.

Last February, **Isabelle Chouinard** moved from Montreal to New Haven for a two-year postdoc at Yale, shortly after defending a dissertation on the Stoic reception of ancient Cynicism (Sorbonne Université & Université de Montréal). Isabelle’s main area of research is ancient ethics, with focus on Socratic and Hellenistic schools of philosophy. Isabelle is also interested in the ancient historiography of philosophy and in ancient women philosophers. She has published papers on Cynicism, on mendicacy and on Democritus, and co-edited the book *Women’s Perspectives on Ancient and Medieval Philosophy* (Springer, 2021). During her postdoc at Yale, Isabelle will be working on a new edition and French translation of the *Epitome of Stoic Ethics* transmitted by Stobaeus. The work, generally attributed to Arius Didymus (a philosopher of the first century BCE and close advisor of Augustus), is a long doxography that sheds light on many aspects of Stoicism.



From 2005 to 2010 **Alexander Free** studied History, Latin and Greek Philology at Eberhard-Karls University Tübingen. In 2011 he began a Ph.D. thesis dealing with satirist Lucian of Samosata’s treatise “How to Write History” at Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich. He has been working at LMU Munich at the department of Ancient History since 2014. His current research focuses on Hermopolis Magna in Middle Egypt and the development of the civic identity of its inhabitants during the first and the fourth centuries CE. During his postdoc work at Yale he will pursue his project on Hermopolis, putting it into a wider perspective by also considering civic identities of other cities in the eastern Mediterranean during Roman times and late antiquity. With **Noel Lenski** he is organizing a workshop on civic identities in the Eastern Mediterranean World between Hellenistic Times and Late Antiquity, to be held in February 2023.



Alexander Free, finding shade under the statue of Thoth, on-site at Hermopolis Magna

Visiting Lecturer and Research Scholar

The Classics Department is pleased to welcome **Rosalie Stoner** as Lecturer and Associate Research Scholar for the academic year, 2022-23.

Rosalie earned her AB *summa cum laude* in Classics with a certificate in Medieval Studies from Princeton in 2015 and her Ph.D. in Classical Languages and Literatures from the University of Chicago in 2021. Her current book project examines Quintilian's portrayal of the ideal orator (*vir bonus dicendi peritus*, "a good man skilled in speaking") as a response to the Platonic problem of how to ensure that a trained speaker uses the power of speech for good and not for evil. She argues that, by accepting the invitation of Quintilian's authorial persona to enter a series of relationships outlined and mediated by the *Institutio*—teacher and student, father and son, and friendship—the reader is empowered to experience the education of the virtuous orator and so develop the *bona voluntas* that Quintilian claims is the text's most important legacy.

Rosalie's wider interests include ideals and practices of education in the ancient Mediterranean world, the Roman oratorical tradition from Cato to Augustine, early Christian transformations of classical traditions, competition and tension between rhetoric and philosophy, and Platonic reception.



Trying to restart the Helicon: the Yale Undergraduate Journal of Classics was a challenge at first because we started the project shortly after the pandemic lockdowns when everyone was still familiarizing themselves with new forms and tools of remote collaboration. From digging through online archives, we figured that there were two forebears of the same name and we decided to carry on the name with renewed commitment to both academic excellence and inclusivity. We set out to work with students from all backgrounds to publish original authorship accessible to a broad audience on any topic related to the ancient Mediterranean world, broadly defined.

helicon
THE YALE UNDERGRADUATE JOURNAL OF CLASSICS

In our 2022 journal, we were able to showcase a variety of student pieces including a Latin translation of a Tang Dynasty poem, a literary analysis of Persian military techniques, a commentary on the reception of Achilles in modern films, and an original poem inspired by Phyllis. It has been an absolute joy and honour to work with Classics enthusiasts around the world, but especially our wonderful team of editors who have done so much to foster a supportive community, bring unique interpretations of the classical world to life in the present, and resurrect voices of the past.

We are also extremely grateful to the financial, administrative, and intellectual support of the Yale Department of Classics. We encourage you to enjoy the warmth of new ideas and promise of renewal in our 2022 issue online on our website (<https://yalehelicon.squarespace.com>), extra hard-copies are also available upon request. If you would like to get involved for the upcoming year, please do not hesitate to reach out to alisa.pan@yale.edu and/or helicon_publication@gmail.com. Yale!

Classics Library News

The Classics Library reduced its on-site activities and accessibility during the initial phase of the pandemic in the Spring of 2019, but remained a favored departmental study-space—with appropriate social distancing—as soon as campus reopened. In the absence of the usual on-site responsibilities, student assistants contributed to the [International \(Digital\) Dura-Europos Archive](#) under the direction of former Archaia Post-Doc and now Assistant Professor of Art History and Visual Culture at Bard College, **Anne Hunnell Chen**.

In early 2021 the flow of new books began to resume, and the Library reopened to the entire Yale community for the 2021-22 academic year (though with an omicron-extended holiday recess). Despite the disruptions of the pandemic, we are now close to completing the recataloging of the "Yale Class" literature collection and integrating it with the post-1970 collection, classified according to the Library of Congress System. The focus of the Classics Library's collecting remains Greco-Roman antiquity, but its scope has broadened in recent years to include relevant works on other ancient cultures and languages as well as works in and about later Greek and Latin.

The Classics Library's @yaleclassicslib twitter account continues to expand its audience, providing updates to the international classics community about new publications and resources as well as notable departmental news. This has led to the Classics Librarian's work on the [Pasts Imperfect Newsletter](#) <https://pastsimperfect.substack.com/> which is "part of a network which works to amplify and support public writing focused on a global antiquity."

Daughters Greta (left) and Iris (right) helped Colin run the Classics Library from home this year.



The Eighth Annual Adam and Anne Amory Parry Lecture

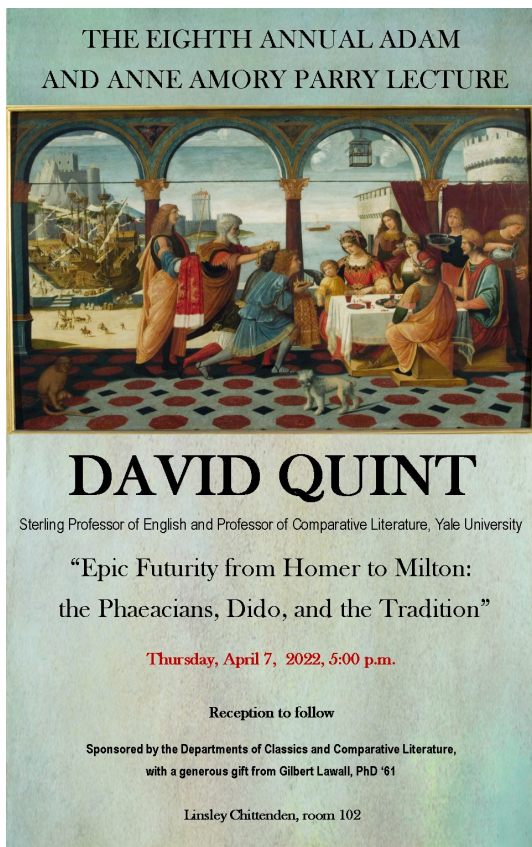
This year's annual Parry Lecture, jointly sponsored by the Departments of Comparative Literature and Classics, and supported by a generous gift from Professor **Gilbert Lawall** (Ph.D. '61), took place on Thursday, April 7, 2022. The lecture was given by David Quint, Sterling Professor of English and Comparative Literature, himself a product of the Yale Comparative Literature Department (both BA and Ph.D.). This was David's last year of teaching at Yale. As of July 1, he is now a Sterling Professor Emeritus, happily retired. David spoke on the topic of "Epic Futurity from Homer to Milton" (*see the poster below*).

Alessandro Barchiesi made the trip up from New York to introduce the lecture and give a short retrospective on David's impressive achievements as a scholar of Virgil and the European Epic Tradition. The lecture was delivered to a full house within the grand confines of LC 102 (otherwise known as the Tiffany Room), and it is now viewable online via the Yale Classics website.



Alessandro Barchiesi warms up the crowd at the Parry Lecture

<https://classics.yale.edu/lectures-workshops-etc/parry-lecture/past-parry-lectures>



David Quint fields questions from the audience

Graduate Student News

Francesca Beretta and **Thomas Munro** had a good semester with several American Classicisms events, including **Catherine Saterson** leading a discussion on depictions of slavery in textbooks and Dan-El Padilla Peralta speaking as part of the joint ARRG/American Classicisms/Colloquium event at the end of the semester. In fall 2022 Beretta and Munro will jointly organize the annual AMPRAW reception studies conference on the theme of “Islands.”

Anna Grant spent the summer in the company of wonderful new colleagues in English and Medieval Studies as part of GSAS’s Humanities Writing-in-Residence Dissertation Working Group. She greatly valued sharing writing and discussions about writing with this community as she writes her dissertation chapter on how quotation and quotability contribute to Horace’s didactic strategy in Epistles Book 1.

Danny Graves completed the Providence Marathon at a blistering pace of under three hours, which qualified him to run yet again, in Boston!

In the fall of 2021, **Chris Londa** returned to New Haven for his last semester on University Dissertation Fellowship. While making progress on his chapters, he also collaborated with **Joe Morgan** to organize this year’s Departmental Colloquium on the theme “Property (and its Discontents).” In the spring, Chris returned to the classroom to lead the inaugural version of an undergraduate seminar entitled “Identity, Power, and Practice in Classical Studies.” Outside of Yale, Chris presented his paper “Personification, Slavery, and the Roman Authorial Paradigm” at the SCS annual meeting. Other highlights of the past year include running his first half marathon, commuting to Phelps by Razor scooter, and taking a long-postponed trip to Greenland. Chris is sad to move on from New Haven this summer, but looks forward to upcoming research travel in Rome and residency at the University of Graz as a Fulbright Scholar in Austria for the 2022–23 academic year.



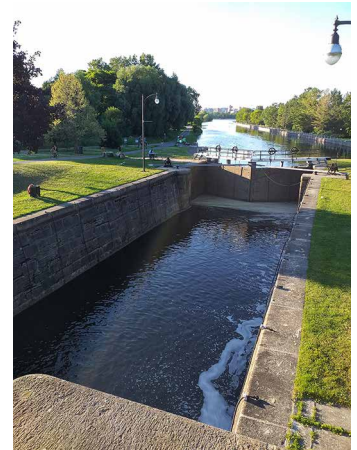
Chris Londa, Teddy Delwiche, and Danny Graves at the Providence Marathon

As part of her MacMillan Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, **Eleanor Martin** visited museums and archaeological sites in the UK and Germany.

Thomas Munro and **Eleanor Martin** re-launched Archaia Forum events and will run next year’s departmental colloquium on the theme “Negotiating Empire.” Thomas joined Joe Dodd from UCL in running a half-day conference on the theme on “Joining the Dots.” Along with **Nazim Can Serbest** he developed and launched a new graduate mentorship scheme, helped by **Chris Londa** who was the brains behind the idea. On a personal note, Thomas passed his prospectus, and was awarded the Roberts Teaching Prize, given annually to a teaching fellow in Classics.

CJ Rice continues working on his dissertation (he plans to submit in March) and this past summer he spent time in residence at the American Numismatic Society in New York City, taking part in the Eric P. Newman Graduate Seminar in Numismatics.

In July **Jasmine Sahu-Hough** traveled to Ottawa to attend a workshop on digital papyrology for the Digital Corpus of Literary Papyri held at Carleton University. She learned about the behind-the-scenes work of papyri. info. Jasmine found it “a really useful workshop.” She enjoyed meeting other grads from Canada and the US and taking a look around Ottawa.

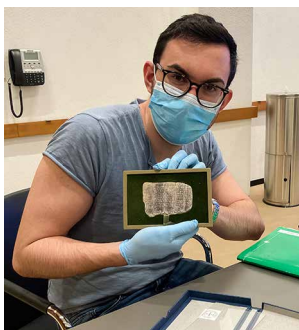


The canal running alongside Carleton

Lea Schroeder defended her dissertation “Perception and Perceptual Judgment in Plato’s *Theaetetus* and *Timaeus*” in April. She wrote of the experience, “perhaps appropriately for a dissertation that was written entirely during the pandemic, I was self-isolating at home with Covid at the time of my (Zoom) defense.” Leah graduated from the Combined Ph.D. program in Classics & Philosophy in May. In August, she started as an assistant professor of philosophy at Purdue University.



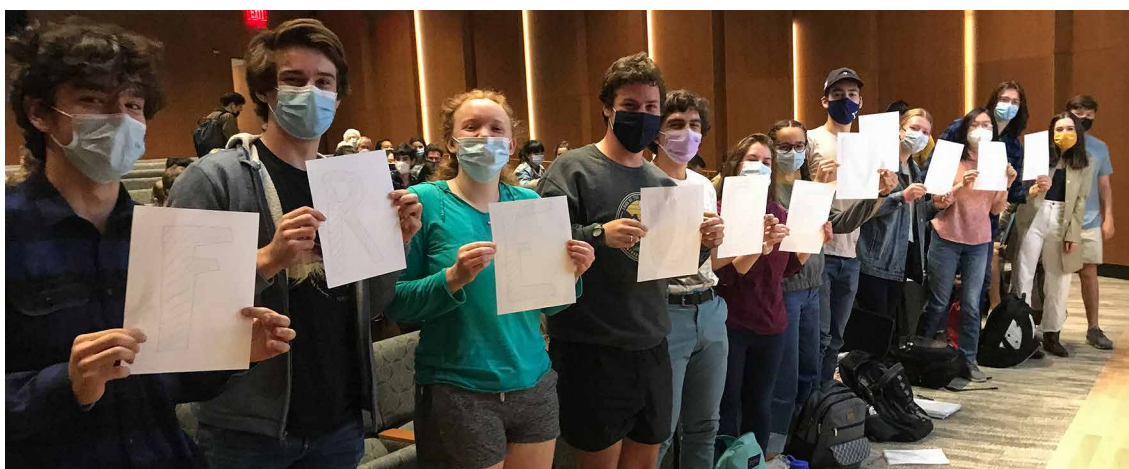
Right: Lea with advisor Verity Harte after the diploma ceremony



Antonio Cilibrizzi (above) and Mizel Stevens (below), students in Jessica Lamont's GREK 478, Attic Oratory: Law and Litigation, studying curse tablets in the Beinecke Library



Students in Professor Kraus' Lucan class dressed to kill (Caesar) for Halloween



Kirk Freudenburg's Directed Studies students stood up in protest at his Virgil lecture in October



Elizabeth Raab received this year's Alice Derby Lang Award with a handshake from Andrew Johnston



Matthew Thomas '23 won both Buchanan Winthrop Prizes – for Greek and for Latin translations



Thomas Munro, recipient of the Roberts Prize for excellence in undergraduate teaching



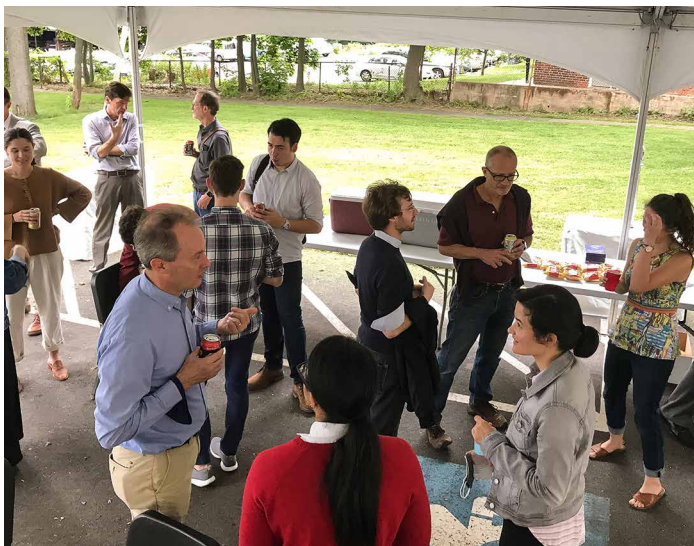
Tommaso Gazzarri, Federico Maviglia, Marta Perilli, and Connie Barchiesi in Pisa to celebrate Gian Biagio Conte's 80th birthday



Unable to host outsiders due to Covid, the Department hosted a series of Tea and Cakes gatherings to keep us in touch



Andrew Johnston, in a rut (or two), at Gabii



The scene at the Department's unmasked "Under the Tent" reception



Claire Saint-Amour '22 lectures the diggers at Gabii in June, 2022



Pauline LeVen and Jennifer Moss risk incurring a \$150 fine



The clean-up crew at the "Under the Tent" reception at the Institute of Sacred Music last September



Professor Joseph Solodow opened his home and garden for the Department's Spring Picnic in May



Danny Graves sporting his Marathon medal



Grad students, Lizzie Davis, Sydnie Chavez, Maria Ma, Chris Londa, and Max DuBoff



Left: Noel Lenski tells Abraham, son of Eleanor Martin, all about the sack of Athens by the Herulians in 267 CE. Right: Abraham reacts badly to the news



Jasmine Sahu-Hough, Erika Valdivieso, and Jessica Lamont



Claire Saint-Amour, her parents, and Chris Kraus



Jake Watson with family



Nick Jones with parents

Graduating Seniors

Ethan Fogarty (right) will be working at Ralph Appelbaum Associates (<https://raai.com/>), a museum design firm, where he will be helping select artifacts, shape museum narratives, and partner with architectural designers to build exhibits for museums across the globe! Ethan is excited to continue working in a classics and art history adjacent role, and looks forward to keeping in touch with his academic roots through the New York Classical Club.



Richard J. (RJ) Hakes graduated *summa cum laude* with distinction in both Classical Civilizations and Archaeological studies and received the Charles Seymour Prize from Berkeley College for highest standing in the Humanities. He is currently a teaching fellow for the Warrior-Scholar Project, a program that delivers rigorous humanities curricula and transition courses to active duty service members and veterans at top universities around the country. In the Fall he will begin the Archaeological Studies M.A. program at Yale Graduate School.

Claire Saint-Amour was awarded a Paul Mellon Fellowship for study at Clare College, Cambridge, for the academic year 2022-3. At Cambridge, Claire will pursue an MPhil in



Alexis Teh, Jake Watson, Daniel Qin, and Brendan Rose

Classics, attending research skills seminars and seminars on special topics, and she will work one-on-one with a faculty advisor who will guide her in developing and writing an MPhil thesis. The project that Claire plans to pursue is tentatively titled “Buried Texts: Autochthony and Authority in Greece, Rome, and Mesopotamia.”

Mizel Stevens is working as a litigation paralegal at Paul, Weiss, a law firm in NYC. He writes: “...my Classics education has molded me into the ideal paralegal. The job demands patience and an extreme attention to detail, two traits which I developed immensely during my time as a Classics major.”

After spending a relaxed summer with family and friends in Australia, **Daniel Qin** will be pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Ancient History at the University of Pennsylvania. He hopes to focus on the Hellenistic period and use material and literary sources to analyze social and cultural changes in urban communities.

Jake Watson stood on the podium at commencement to receive an honorary degree on behalf of his grandmother, Madeleine Albright. He will be teaching middle and high school Latin at Sidwell Friends School (his own alma mater) in Washington, DC next year. He will also be coaching field hockey and softball for the school. Jake will miss everyone in the Classics department dearly, and he will be sure to visit Phelps next year!



Celebration cakes all set for the champagne reception on graduation day

Alumni News

Marc Appel '08 has spent the past several years at Orange Grove Bio, headquartered in Cincinnati, building a series of biotech companies out of university technologies. He and his team are developing new drugs for the treatment of various autoimmune conditions (such as lupus and scleroderma) as well as for a number of oncology indications. In personal news, Marc's daughter is a very active 3-year-old. Marc recently took her on her first trip to New Haven and Yale!

Mallory Baysek '11 writes: "After making a pandemic pivot in 2020, I'm set to complete my MFA in Television Writing at the end of the year. I'm also helping develop a new series for Hulu. If all goes well, lots of Classics-inspired stories will be coming to a TV near you!"

Aya Betensky '72 Ph.D. left the Classics in 1981 after teaching at Cornell for several years. She worked in scholarly book publishing in NYC and New Jersey for 15 years. When her husband, Bob Kraut, became a professor at Carnegie Mellon University, she and her family moved to Pittsburgh where Aya pursued web design for another 15. Aya writes: "I remember the Classics fondly and use my somewhat rusty knowledge frequently – most recently while reading the Percy Jackson and the Olympics series to my granddaughter over Zoom during the height of the pandemic! I've been retired for about 10 years but busy with various pursuits, including reading groups, tai chi, sewing story quilts, Torah study, and more. For years I stayed in touch with Liz Asmis, who preceded me as the first woman assistant professor at Cornell and then moved on to Chicago. The last time I was at Yale was to show the campus to my older son twenty-some years ago (but he chose to go to Swarthmore.) I visited Phelps tower then, and the only person I still knew who was there was Carla in the library. It was lovely to see her. I have many good memories of the Yale Classics Department, but I also still remember **Adam Parry**, who would have been my dissertation advisor. I think for all of us in that large first-year class in 1968-69 he stood out as an impressive and romantic figure."

Patrick Bradley '94 Ph.D. just finished his 28th year of teaching Latin on the middle

and secondary school level (with a little college adjunct teaching along the way), the past 19 years at Rockbridge County High School. He has been happy to see some of his students go on to Yale over the years, with some even spending some time in Phelps Hall! One of those Rockbridge County Yalies is his son, Charlie, who will be starting his senior year at Yale this Fall (majoring in Spanish and Poli Sci – no Latin, despite his six years of it in middle and high school!). His matriculation at Yale gave Patrick the chance to visit his old carrel in Phelps for the first time in 25 years. His daughter, Susanne (another fine Latin and Spanish scholar like her brother), graduated from high school in May and will be leaving Patrick and his wife empty-nesters in Lexington, VA, where his wife has been a professor of Romance Languages and Women and Genders Studies at Washington & Lee University since 1997. Patrick writes: "I have found a supportive and active community of Classicists in Virginia (on both the secondary and collegiate levels) through the Classical Association of Virginia which does great work in keeping Latin going strong in our schools and colleges."

Nicholas Dell Isola '18 spent two years in Northern Japan teaching English and getting his master's in Classics from Durham University in the UK. He writes: "I've settled back in my home state of Massachusetts, where I teach Latin at my old high school! It has been a wild year and I'm excited to see what next year brings!"

Alex DiMeglio '21 writes: "I've had a blast teaching high school Latin this year at a boarding school in Alexandria, VA. One day, when my excellent Latin I class was ahead of schedule and eager to do 'something fun,' I regaled them with a brief lecture on the particle *quidem*, doing my best to channel **Joe Solodow**'s infectious fascination with minute (but meaningful) philological subtleties."

Radcliffe Edmonds '92 (Pierson College) is looking forward to a much-deferred sabbatical from his duties as Chair of the Department of Greek, Latin, and Classical Studies at Bryn Mawr College. Having recently published books on magic (*Drawing Down the Moon* in 2019) and Orphica (*Redefining Ancient Orphism* in 2013), he is looking forward to

delving into further research on a more mainstream and relevant topic – death and afterlife. He and his wife Susannah are making the transition to a new phase of life as both children will be in college in the coming year.

Tommaso Gazzarri '10 Ph.D., now tenured in Classics at Union College, oversaw the launch of a new journal on the Younger Seneca, *Rivista internazionale di studi senecani*, which he co-edits with **Francesca Romana Berno**, and he has a special issue on Seneca's *Epistles on Love*

which will be published in Fall 2022. He is also working on an edited volume on *cinaedi* (co-edited with Jesse Weiner) which will come out in Winter 2023, and he is writing a new commentary/edition of the Seneca's *De Tranquillitate*.



Tommaso Gazzarri in his office at Union College

Christopher Gill '70 Ph.D. has a new book, *Learning to Live Naturally: Stoic Ethics and its Modern Significance*, coming out with Oxford UP in September. He writes: "This was greatly helped in its early stages by a workshop with faculty and graduate students in Phelps organized by **Brad Inwood** in 2016, so many thanks for that." Christopher is also actively involved in a movement that uses Stoic ethical principles for life-guidance ("Modern Stoicism") and publishing papers on various topics including Stoicism and environmental ethics.

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Christopher Glover '99 Ph.D. lives in Colorado. He has been unemployed for fifteen years.

Kathryn Hill '91 is elated to report: "After a long absence, I am now teaching one class of high school Latin again! I double-majored in math and classics, and have, not surprisingly, spent most of my working career teaching math, with occasional bits of Latin on the side. As of this past year, however, I am now teaching three math courses and one Latin course — great fun for me! It's been awesome pulling back all those old Latin skills that start to fade so quickly as soon as they aren't being used regularly! Now all I need is to teach a little Greek!"

Mara (Katsos) Karamitopoulos '01 (Civ) is an associate professor of orthopedic surgery at NYU Langone Health where she is a pediatric orthopedic surgeon and associate director of the residency program. Mara lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Harilaos, and 2 kids Melina (12) and Constantine (8).

Jay Kardan '85 M.A. has recently retired from the Classics Department at Randolph College. He continues to teach online reading courses in Latin and Greek for Telepaideia.

Bryant Kirkland '16 Ph.D. continues to enjoy teaching a variety of courses to wonderful students at UCLA, where he is entering his sixth year as assistant professor. His first book, *Herodotus and Imperial Greek Literature*, was published by Oxford in July. Here he is with Yale alumna **Amy Richlin** '78 Ph.D. at UCLA's recent commencement exercises — both of them sporting Bulldog Blue!



Noreen Kupernik (née Sit) '19 Ph.D. finished her third year of teaching middle and upper school Latin at Thaden School in Bentonville, Arkansas, where the Classics program continues to grow. Noreen's students won a CAMWS travel grant to attend Paideia's Living Latin conference in NYC next year. She and her husband Jacob, an engineer, celebrated a postponed wedding last summer in Arkansas. Yale friends **Chris Londa** and **Joe Morgan** flew out for the occasion!



Peter Landers '90 writes: "I am still Tokyo bureau chief of *The Wall Street Journal*, in my ninth year in this job. When pondering the intricacies of the English definite article, a sticking point for people in Japan whose native language lacks both indefinite and definite articles, I sometimes think back to **Professor Bers's** Greek 390 class, in which he observed that the *New York Times* distinguishes famous and obscure people with the definite article. 'The conductor Marin Alsop performed etc.' signifies that she is a noted conductor. I don't know whether NYT style still calls for such a distinction (ours doesn't make a point of it), but a native speaker of English can recognize the difference when it is pointed out — as Prof. Bers was the first to do in my case. Thus I am still taking advantage, after a fashion, of my degree from the Department of Classics, aka the Department of Fine Distinctions. I hope the professor is enjoying his retirement."

Yukai Li '17 Ph.D. has just finished his first year as assistant professor in Carleton University's Greek and Roman Studies Program. His book *Future Fame in the Iliad* will be released in February. Yukai writes: "This is a revision/

rewriting of my Yale dissertation, for which I owe much to **Egbert** and **Pauline** in particular." Yukai would "love to hear from anyone who might be visiting or passing through Ottawa!"

John Oksanish '11 Ph.D. writes: "The ripples from high COVID are real, but we abide." His recent contribution to *Roman Law and Latin and Literature* (2022, eds. Bexley and Ziogas; **Thomas Biggs** is also in the volume) had its kernel in a conversation walking from Phelps to Greco-Roman lunch a decade ago. Apart from surviving the past two academic years mostly intact, John is perhaps most proud of winning an honorable mention in *Antigone Journal's* contest to set Horace Odes 1.5 to music. (Link here: <https://videopress.com/v/tCx7ojpo>)

Patrice Rankine '98 Ph.D. has published several articles recently. These include: "Odysseus as Slave," reprinted in *Homer, The Odyssey*, translated and edited by Emily Wilson, Norton Critical Editions, 2020; "Queering the Barbarian: Euripides' *Helen*," for *Queer Euripides: Re-Readings in Greek Tragedy*, Bloomsbury Academic, eds. Sarah Olsen and Mario Telò, 2021; and "A Loss of Faith Brings Vertigo: Black Lives, the Classics, and Ancient Mediterranean Politics," for *Classical Ancient World Studies* volume, eds. Mathura Umachandran and Marchella Ward, due July 2021. *Theater and Crisis: Myth, Memory, and Racial Reckoning in America, 1964-2020* is under contract with Lever Press, and Patrice has a number of other works in progress.

David Ratzan '97 writes, "This has been a year of endings and beginnings. I was glad to see several academic projects with colleagues come to completion this past year: *Missing Mothers: Maternal Absence in Antiquity* (Peeters; edited with Sabine Huebner) and *Ostraka in the Collection of New York University* (ISAW/ NYU; with Gert Baetens et al.). This was also the year in which my teacher, **A. Thomas Cole**, passed away. Tom remains one of the most generous, gentle, and learned teachers I ever had, at Yale or anywhere else. I am currently writing his biography for the Rutgers Database of Classical Scholars: I welcome any

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and all stories about Tom that are fit for print. As for beginnings, perhaps the most momentous was my stepping into the directorship of the excavations at Amheida in the Dakhla oasis of Egypt, a project that was conceived and guided by another Yale alumnus and the other great teacher of my career, **Roger Bagnall**. ”

Joseph (Jay) Reed '87 continues to teach in the Classics and Comparative Literature departments at Brown where he has been Director of Undergraduate Studies since 2020. Jay's commentary on Ovid, *Metamorphoses* Books X-XII is in press with Cambridge University Press (as part of a collaborative commentary on the whole poem, led by Alessandro Barchiesi of NYU). His latest-published paper is "The King's Nectar: Theocritean Encomium and Augustan Poetry," in Brill's *Companion to Theocritus*, edited by P. Kyriakou, A. Rengakos, and E. Sistakou (Brill, 2021): this is part of a continuing project on the Roman reception of Hellenistic literature and culture after Augustus' accession to rulership over Egypt and to supremacy in Rome. Jay writes, "I was recently fortunate to spend a beautiful Saturday in New Haven for my 35th Reunion."

Eric Simpson '11 just finished his second Yale degree, earning an MBA from the School of Management. He has moved back to New York, where he is now Director of Development for Opera Lafayette, an opera company that specializes in the performance of French Baroque repertoire.

Warren Smith '68 Ph.D. is happy to announce that his book *Religion and the Golden Ass* is forthcoming from Routledge Press.

Hugh Sullivan '08 and his wife Kimberly (JE '09) are eagerly anticipating the arrival of their second child in January 2023 to join their now two-year-old son, Martin, who would like to notify everyone that he recently jumped off the diving board for the first time. Hugh is in his fourth year leading international development and alumni relations at Johns Hopkins and enjoys spending spare time in the fall coaching Gonzaga College High School's water polo team.



Hugh Sullivan and son Martin

Robert Ulery '66, '71 Ph.D. has sent a final draft of the chapter on Sallust in the Middle Ages to Christopher Krebs, the editor of the forthcoming *The Companion to Sallust* (CUP). He also reports that he and Patricia Osmond continue to

contribute to Rodolfo Funari's ongoing edition of the fragments of Sallust's *Historiae*. He writes, "I would have loved to join the boat trip from Athens to Istanbul this summer with **Prof. Freudenburg**, but it's too close to Ukraine for me at this time. Someday I will get to those islands and sites!" In response to KF's email prompt for a memory of Phelps Hall he writes: "I can vividly remember the Friday afternoon in 1963 when I was filling in (as Prof. Havelock's student assistant) for the Classics secretary in the corner office on the top floor, in splendid isolation from the world, when **Eric Havelock** and his wife Christine came to tell me of the assassination of President Kennedy and send me back to my dorm. It was a grim start to my sophomore year."

Katherine Wasdin '09 Ph.D. is starting her fourth year of teaching at the University of Maryland, College Park, and was recently promoted to Associate Professor. This fall she will be teaching a seminar on the Historical Development of Latin (which she runs as a Latin survey) and Ancient Myths and Modern Lives, a class of c. 180 students. She had the same schedule online in fall of '20 and is excited to teach them in person at last. In the spring on leave! Her current major project is on the reception of Catullus in 20th century experimental literature and art by women. She is also finishing off encyclopedia articles on *Betrothal* for the *Reallexikon für Antike und Christentum* and on *epithalamium* for the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*.

Undergraduate Student Honored

Charnice Hoegnifioh '24 is a pre-medical double major in Classical Civilizations and Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry. Her poster "The Price of Beauty is Pain: Makeup & Women's Health in the Roman Empire" was awarded first place at the 2021 Yale Undergraduate Research Association Fall Symposium! Charnice's research aims to more deeply understand medical humanities and the intersections between the natural sciences, public health, and social identity theory in antiquity and modernity. This project on ancient cosmetics was advised by Dr. Irene Peirano Garrison through the Summer Research Opportunities at Harvard and was supported by a grant from the Mellon Foundation to the Leadership Alliance.

