

Yale Department of Classics

Summer 2020

Greetings from the Chair:



CSK in festive dress at the virtual 2020 Graduation Party

It seems odd to be writing this letter again, eight years after the last time: but I am delighted to be able to reach out to all our former and current students and colleagues in this July Newsletter, which is—I hope—better late than never. We have been thinking for some time about converting our print Newsletter to a digital version; our thoughts about increased sustainability and ecological responsibility have been spurred into action by COVID-19. So, we hereby announce the first of what we hope will be many online Classics Newsletters from the Yale Department.

The lockdown did, of course, cause much disruption this past Spring term, but I am pleased (and not surprised)

to report that the Department adjusted well, and that everyone worked hard to keep business alive. Special thanks are due to **Linda Dickey-Saucier**, **Diana Placentia**, and **Jasmine Williams**, who worked from home and ran things smoothly; to **Colin McCaffrey**, who made the Library as accessible as he could via remote connections; and to all our instructional faculty both during the year and in the first summer session. Our creative graduate student TFs worked hard hours to convert their language courses and sections to remote delivery, while **Tim Robinson** ran his regular summer Latin class with 26 students on Zoom! We thank **Brad Inwood** and **Egbert Bakker** for their yeoman service as DGSs this year; and welcome **Emily Greenwood** back from her much deserved leave during 2019-20 and into the DGS position beginning this July.

Despite distance, the Department celebrated the graduation of our seniors, finishing Ph.D. and M.A. students, and prize winners in a slightly goofy Zoom session whose humorous content was boosted by **Emily Greenwood's** satiric, one-sided telephone sessions with world leaders needing advice from the Classics, and with **Kirk Freudenburg's** Extremely Dubious Achievements in Classics

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Students reading Alice Oswald's "Memorial," at the Yale University Art Gallery in January



Yale Classics and Bulldog Days 2020!
1,309 views • Apr 8, 2020

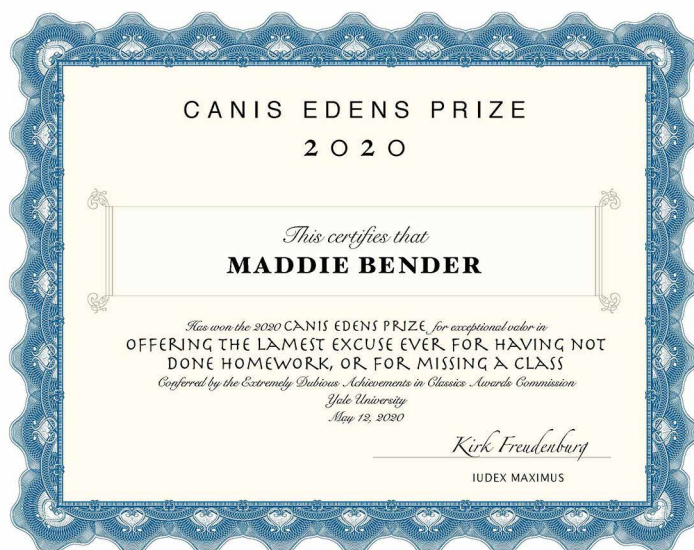
Awards in the categories of *Canis edens* and *Incredibiliter factum* (among others). The thesis-writing seniors had a final Salon ably led by DUS **Andrew Johnston**, with assistance from

his at-home junior co-workers Sawyer and Quinn. Kirk also taught a raucous course (Roman Dining, LATN 450) which ended with Roman “Chopped” style competitions in various learned categories; the competition entries can be seen [on our home page](#).

Of the many impressive activities participated in by our undergraduates this year, I single out two: several of our students read in the wonderful recitation of Alice Oswald’s “Memorial,” held at the YUAG under the auspices of Directed Studies and the Gallery+ program. And a number of our majors made [a brilliant recruitment video](#) for the (forcibly) virtual Bulldog days, a persuasively welcoming show that swept Yale’s websites and – we hope! – took the admitted undergraduates by storm.

Christina S. Kraus

Thacher Professor of Latin and Chair



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With thanks to the Yale Alumni Association

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

We are grateful to those of you who have supported our activities, and renew our call for donations.

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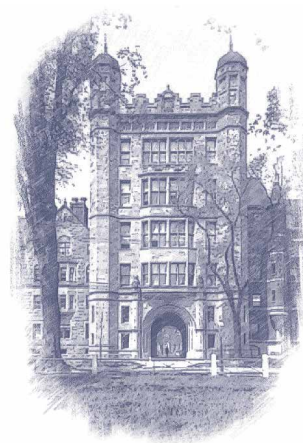
Yale Department of Classics

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Please make your check out to Yale University with “The Department of Classics” written on the memo line. Be sure to indicate if you would like to support a particular activity, such as Undergraduate Travel and Research; Graduate Student Travel and Research; Inclusive Pedagogy and EDI Events.

Thank you!



Faculty News –

Kirk Freudenburg spent a busy year teaching two versions of his Ecocultures of Antiquity class, as well as a course on Ancient Satire and Free Speech (an “Associates in Teaching” seminar, co-taught with **Niek Janssen**) and an advanced Latin course on Roman Dining. All the teaching of the spring semester’s second half was done via Zoom from the “Command Center” of his kitchen table. These sessions featured interactive presentations by experts in the field, who patched in from their own bunkers, as well as frequent cameo appearances by his cat, Scout, who now has many online admirers. He is glad to report that his commentary on the second book of Horace’s *Satires* is finished and at the press (look for it to appear from Cambridge University Press in early 2021). Next up are two large-scale projects on Virgil. In lieu of several trips that have fallen by the COVID wayside, he plans on spending lots of time in his garden this summer. He will grow vegetables, build a wall (“*sic pereat*”! *inquit*), bake sourdough bread, and perhaps he will find a way to escape to some socially distant spot to do some hiking and/or rock climbing.

Emily Greenwood has been enjoying the blessings of a research sabbatical, working on a book project tentatively titled *Black Classicisms and the Expansion of the Classical Tradition*. This past academic year she has lectured at the University of Washington, UT Austin, Trinity College, Hartford, Hunter College, and Columbia University, and given conference papers at FIEC / CA, Yale, and the Academy of Athens. Recent publications include articles on Authorship and Anachronism in Thucydides, in *Classical Receptions Journal*, and a chapter on Classics and Radical Philology in Marlene Nourbese Philip and Derek Walcott in the volume *Classicisms in the Black Atlantic*, edited by Ian Moyer, Adam Lecznar, and Heidi Morse. Graduate supervision and editorial duties have kept her on her toes: it has been a bumper year for the series “Classics After Antiquity,” with five titles published in 2019-20. She looks forward to stepping into the role of Director of Graduate Studies in July and to working hard with others in the department and university to make the experience of our graduate students livable and sustainable in these precarious times.



A scene from Athens

Brad Inwood writes: “After a busy fall semester teaching Directed Studies (Philosophy) and co-teaching a graduate seminar on Aristotle, as well as finishing my term as Director of Graduate Studies in Classics, I began my normal research

leave with great plans for conference travel and writing. One conference into the series, the COVID-19 crisis hit and the conferences disappeared one after another. Despite interrupted access to books, I’ve managed to produce early drafts of papers on Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius, Cicero and Stoic physics, as well as to finally generate a full first draft of my long-forthcoming sourcebook on later Stoicism. While it is hard to finalize papers when you don’t have full access to the library, isolation helps to concentrate the mind! Without teaching to manage in the new online format and without young children at home, I feel very lucky. One of the bright spots for the semester came on April 1, when **Reier Helle** (co-supervised by **Verity Harte** and myself) successfully defended his dissertation on Stoicism. Reier is in the Combined Program in Classics and Philosophy and will return to Norway to teach and do research next year.”

Back from a year of research leave and another summer directing the archaeological field school at Gabii, **Andrew Johnston** happily returned to teaching this past fall. In addition, he took up the reins as Director of Undergraduate Studies, a job made much easier thanks to the efforts and energy of his predecessor in the position, **Pauline LeVen**, and to an extraordinary group of Classics majors. He greatly enjoyed the year as a fellow at the Whitney Humanities Center. An article on a newly discovered imperial inscription from Gabii appeared in print (in *Epigraphica*), and he gave talks at the annual meeting of the AIA in Washington, DC and at the University of Chicago and Berkeley. He was honored to receive the 2019 Goodwin Award of Merit from the Society for Classical Studies for his book, *The Sons of Remus*. While he will miss working in Italy this summer, he will still be found playing in the dirt much of the time, albeit in his garden.



Quinn and Sawyer Johnston and dog Walker

In the last few weeks, **Diana E. E. Kleiner** was reminded by the person drafting a history of women at Yale that DEEK was the first woman to be granted tenure in Yale’s Department of Classics. After 40 years of teaching at Yale, Diana had forgotten that but she was delighted with the news! Her current project is also something of a walk down Memory Lane as she was invited by Yale University Press to modernize and glamorize her iconic survey on Roman Sculpture, which was first published in 1992. She is not rewriting the text, which will remain a monument to Roman art in the early 1990s, but she is adding a new set of color photos, almost all recently taken by her in Rome and elsewhere in what was once the Roman World. One recent travel highlight she especially recommends to

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colleagues, students, and friends is a visit to Alba Fucens, a Northern Italy version of Pompeii, complete with stepping stones. Collecting such new color images was in itself an unforgettable experience as small



Alba Fucens Streets with Stepping Stones

Italian towns north of Rome have recently been building new museums to house old favorites and to add newly accessible treasures. In designing these, talented city planners have also made sure that they provide enjoyable places to unwind in the quintessential Italian sunshine. Other books she is currently working on are those mentioned in previous reports, namely a book on online education and another on two of ancient Rome's most exceptional women. Livia and Julia. The latter is receiving more of her recent attention and she plans to get back to the famous Augustan duo very soon.

Chris Kraus has found the year challenging in many ways, not least because what was meant to be an easy interim year as Acting Chair has turned into COVID managing. She has been impressed, as always, at the helpfulness, responsiveness, and imagination of our students and colleagues. She was delighted to teach the first term of the Latin survey (F19), to see **Kyle Conrau-Lewis** finish his Ph.D. with distinction (see page 8), and to get to know many virtual Yale students in her summer courses on Classical Mythologies. In the Fall, as well, she served as Chair of the Advisory Committee to appoint (successfully) a new University Librarian; in Fall and Spring on the GSAS Executive Committee and the Advisory Committee on Library Policy; and in the spring and through this summer she has co-organized with **Verity Harte** and three others a caucus of Humanities Department chairs trying to work through the implications of the pandemic for teaching and learning at Yale. She saw two articles published: "Commenting on the *Annales*: Steuart, Skutsch, and Ennius," in *Ennius's Annales: poetry and history*, edd. J. Farrell and C. Damon; and "Fabula and history in Livy's narrative of the capture of Veii," in *Historical consciousness and uses of the past in the ancient world*, ed. J. Baines et al. One up-side of the lockdown has been that Chris and Peter's daughter is home after graduating remotely from Haverford College and is in the house again!

This year found **Jessica Lamont** happily designing two new courses here at Yale, a graduate Greek history survey that ranged from 1400 to 300 BCE, and an advanced ancient Greek class on the interactions of Greeks and Persians in the Classical period. Combined with undergraduate courses on ancient medicine and Greek history, she enjoyed working with graduate students **Ray Lahiri**, **Emily Helm**, and **Meghan Poplacean** on special field topics on "Animal Sacrifice in Classical Antiquity," "Greek Magical Texts," and "Greek and Roman Religion." Another highlight was advising undergraduate Classics major **Christina Pao** on her year-long

thesis, "The Socio-Political Constructions of Temple Asylum," which looked at asylum in antiquity, and finished with the modern sanctuary movement; Christina, seen presenting on page 5 at her Mellon Forum at Branford College, received a Rhodes Scholarship for graduate study at Oxford beginning next year. In research moments, Jessica continued work on her first book (under contract with Oxford University Press), and finished three articles, forthcoming (one day...) in *Classical Philology*, *Hesperia*, and *Greece & Rome*. Before the pandemic hit, she enjoyed giving talks this academic year at FSU (Spring Langford Conference on Tablet and Verse: Curses and Curse Poetry in Antiquity), Georgetown (North American Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy), CU Boulder, Grinnell, the University of Chicago, and the Norwegian Institute of Classical Studies at Athens. The best for last: Jessica and her partner Mig welcomed their son Jaime on Thursday, 11 June 2020 here in New Haven. She writes: "at 7 lbs 2 oz, baby Jaime is doing well as are mom and dad—everyone has their face masks and we are about to head home for long quiet naps (that's how newborns work, right?!)"



Jaime Matamoros

Noel Lenski jumped back into teaching after a year's leave with five course equivalencies. These included "Global Leadership, 500 BCE–500 CE," a new course he co-taught with his Ph.D. student Kevin Feeney (History). He is doubly proud of Feeney, who completed his dissertation this spring on "Roman Imperial Accession from Maximinus Thrax to Justinian (235 – 527 CE)," a study of remarkable scope and importance, as evidenced by its receipt of the John Addison Porter Prize. Lenski's publications since last year include a long article on "Searching for Slave Teachers in Late Antiquity," which appeared a festschrift for Robert Penella, and a new introduction for the Italian translation of his first book, *Il fallimento dell'impero: Valente e lo stato romano nel quarto secolo d.C.*, trans. Omar Coloru (Palermo: 21.editore). He managed to complete only one article on the late Roman senate for a volume he is co-editing, but he delivered public lectures in Gubbio, Ithaca, Bonn, Colorado Springs, Tempe (bis), Washington DC (at the SCS meeting), and here in New Haven at the Whitney Humanities Center. The conference he co-hosted on comparative slave studies in November 2019 is described in a separate article in this Newsletter, but another on "The Origins of the Hispanic Legal Tradition" scheduled for this May had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, as was a planned research trip to Spain. Instead he will shelter at home, cozying up with family and struggling to complete his translation and commentary of the Visigothic Law Code.

The highlight of **Pauline LeVen**'s 2019-20 year was teaching over 40 students in Greek over two semesters. With her new monograph *Music and Metamorphosis in Greco-Roman*

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Pauline and Tom's son Hudson Parker

Thought now in production with Cambridge University Press, she was able to spend time editing chapters written by brilliant young colleagues for the first volume of the *Cultural History of Western Music* published by Bloomsbury (which she is co-editing with Sean Gurd), and to finally finish an article entitled "The Soundtrack of Similes: enargeia and audio/visual imagery" for Felix Budelmann and Katharine Earnshaw's

volume *Cognitive Vision: Poetic Image-Making and the Mind*. Before the pandemic struck, she was very much looking forward to presenting to audiences in the US, Canada, and Europe new ideas for her most recent project, *Greek Poetry and the Posthuman* – it will wait, but never has the topic seemed so urgent. Pauline was also given a secondary appointment in Music this summer.

Irene Peirano Garrison taught Intermediate Latin and an upper level course on Catullus in the Fall and Survey of the History of Latin Literature II in the Spring. Together with Eckart Frahm (NELC), she served as coordinator of Archaia, the Yale Initiative for the Study of Ancient and Premodern Cultures and Societies. In this capacity, she enjoyed advising and collaborating with graduate students in the Archaia qualification and expanding programming and research opportunities in the premodern world at Yale. As part of this work, together with Mick Hunter (EALL), she designed a new initiative to support collaborative research, course design and advocacy in premodern language pedagogy at Yale. She also served as associate chair of the Women Faculty Forum, working in a variety of ways to raise awareness of gender equity issues across the University. This Fall saw the publication



Twins Ulisse and Leonardo Peirano Garrison

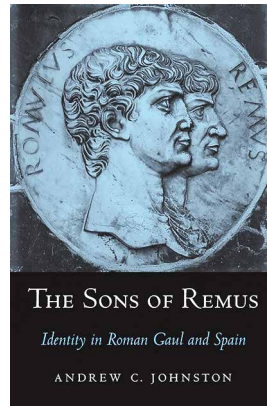
of her monograph on rhetoric and Roman poetry, *Persuasion, Rhetoric and Roman Poetry* (CUP). In the Spring, she was promoted to Full Professor.

Joseph Solodow tells us: "An article of mine was accepted by *Museum Helveticum*. It describes a neglected Latin idiom. To complete it was a special pleasure, since the topic was suggested to me years ago and some of the material was supplied by my

old teacher, George Goold, whose role was significant enough that he is named as co-author of the article. Goold was William Lampson Professor of Classics at Yale from 1978 to 1992, and so may be remembered by some of our older alumni. My usual spring teaching assignment, Latin Syntax and Stylistics, turned out to be anything but the usual: like everyone's classes (and also like the fortnight in London I'd planned for the spring break), it got overturned by the pandemic. My students and I struggled but did make it, somehow, to the finish line. Of course I missed the face-to-face exchanges and did not enjoy the extensive e-mail correspondence and recorded talks that took their place. I didn't feel quite ready to tackle synchronous classes via Zoom, but may be obliged to in the Fall, if things don't return to the old normal. I hazard the guess that I'm not the only one who has recently reread Thucydides' description of the Plague."

Two Awards

At the risk of being unduly selective, we emphasize two major awards to our community this year. **Andrew C. Johnston's** Charles J. Goodwin Award of Merit from the Society for Classical Studies for his book, *The Sons of Remus*, is a real feather in his cap. His first book studies the provincial "sons of Remus," who persistently enacted their indigenous identities, myths, and culture even under Roman authority. The Goodwin is the only honor for scholarly achievement given by the national Society, for an outstanding contribution to classical scholarship. The award was presented at this year's Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. [Read the citation here.](#)



And **Christina K. Pao**, who just completed a double major in Political Science and Classics (as well as an M.A. in Political Science), has won a Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford. Her academic research focuses on concepts of citizenship and asylum as they relate to women, immigrants, and slaves. Pao, who was a Truman Scholar, has been deeply involved in campus organizations related to sexual assault and survivorship and served as a member of Yale's Title IX Advisory Committee.



Christina Pao presenting her research to a packed Mellon Forum audience

A Belated Welcome

In June 2019, just too late for that Newsletter, Classics Librarian **Colin McCaffrey** and his wife Alison Macdonald welcomed their daughter Greta to the world. Colin wrote at the time: “Margaret Elinor Macdonald McCaffrey, aka Greta, was born on June 28th, 2019, at 8:32 am in Boston Massachusetts. She managed to postpone her arrival until her maternal grandmother’s birthday and weighed in at just under 9 pounds! Both mother and daughter are now home and doing great, and we are all especially appreciative of the amazing nursing care at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Official Hospital of the Boston Red Sox. ‘It’s on the Fenway, where I dreamed my dreams.’” Greta has just turned one and is as lively as ever.



Promotions

The Department is delighted to announce that **Irene Peirano Garrison** and **Milette Gaifman** were both promoted to the well-deserved rank of Full Professor in the Spring of 2020. Congratulations to both!



Milette Gaifman and Irene Peirano Garrison celebrate their promotions in pre-COVID times.

Farewell to Barbara Shailor

This year, we say farewell to our friend and colleague, **Barbara Shailor**, who has been a member of the Classics department for many years, at the same time as holding several senior posts in the University, beginning as Director of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. She retired from administration in December 2012, but continued at Yale as Senior Research Scholar and the Co-PI on a Mellon funded grant (“Digitally Enabled Scholarship on Medieval Manuscripts at Yale University”) and as Senior Lecturer in the Classics Department and the Medieval Studies Program. She is the author of the three-volume *Catalogue of Medieval and Renaissance MSS in the Beinecke Rare Book & MS Library, Yale University* (1984-93) and of the frequently reprinted *The Medieval Book: Catalogue of an Exhibition at the Beinecke Rare Book and MS Library*, (1988). She has published extensively in the area of Visigothic paleography and monastic book production in medieval Spain. Shailor served as a trustee of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and was elected to the Comité internationale de paléographie latine in 2000, and as a Fellow of the Medieval Academy in 2006. She currently serves as a trustee of the American Trust for the British Library and as President of the Bibliographical Society of America. Barbara has taught Latin palaeography and codicology to many classes of Yale students, both in Classics and beyond;



Professor Barbara Shailor discusses medieval manuscripts from the Beinecke’s collection with students in her Advanced Seminar in Medieval Manuscript Studies.

has served on dissertation and special field committees; and has inspired excitement in all her fields of research and teaching. While Deputy Provost for the Arts she taught **Chris Kraus** how to be a department Chair, and has never stopped offering her advice and expertise to us all. We are delighted that she is not leaving the area, but will remain with her husband, Harry Blair, in their riverside home in Branford.

Graduate Student News

Our continuing graduate students are hunkered down in various places all over the world, managing to keep their work and their humor going despite lack of access to library resources and the severe challenges thrown up by COVID-19. Much sourdough has been started; many TV and novel recommendations have been exchanged. **Colin McCaffrey**, our fearless librarian, has made many more resources accessible than at one time seemed possible, and the grad students have formed a summer Latin reading group as well as an ancient history working group to keep in touch. Many are also already working on their remote teaching pedagogy in anticipation for a virtual F20. I single out some of their achievements here: **Francesca Beretta**, **Talia Boylan**, **Max DuBoff**, **Anna Grant**, **Erynn Kim**, **Elizabeth Lavender**, **Ziming Liu**, and **Thomas Munro** all passed their Latin literature oral exams with flying colors. **Jake Rohde** passed his reading list oral exam as well as his Greek and Latin translation exams. **Meghan Poplacean**, **Emily Helm**, **Sylvia Kroeber**, and **Ray Lahiri** took successful special field exams; **CJ Rice** successfully defended his dissertation prospectus in the joint Ancient History program in August 2019, and Ray defended his in the joint Classics-Comparative Literature program in May 2020. **Lea Schroeder** took her M.A. in the Classics and Philosophy combined program and was admitted to candidacy, as was **Elisabetta Pellegrino**. **Treasa Bell** won a place on a Mellon dissertation writing workshop in SML for summer 2019, and has spent her UDF year in Berkeley, writing. **Chris Londa** won the Deborah Roberts teaching prize for his work with undergraduates this year, primarily in GREK 141 (aka “Baby Homer”). **Talia Boylan** has spent the last year as a WFF Fellow conducting archival research on the 27 women who received Ph.D.s in classics from Yale in the fifty-year period following the admission of women to the Graduate School in 1892; her podcast is featured on our department website. Talia also won this year’s Alice Derby Lang essay prize. And **Niek Janssen** won a prestigious Mellon/ACLS Dissertation completion project for his work on “Appropriate Transgressions: Parody and Decorum in Ancient Greece and Rome,” in which he asks how readers identify one text as a parody of another.

Two graduate students successfully navigated the perils and adventures of the Ph.D. program and emerged with Classics Ph.D.s in May 2020:



Kyle Conrau-Lewis with a dissertation entitled “Reading Ancient History in Miscellaneous Books: From Valerius Maximus to Aelian.” In it, he studies a corpus of classical historiographical miscellanies to challenge scholarly accounts of historiography that have traditionally privileged narrative history over excerpts, anthologies and miscellanies.

He shows how these miscellaneous compilers were deeply engaged in contemporary intellectual trends in information and book culture, declamation and geography. They created historiographical anthologies not as mere reference books but as provocative, self-critical works. Kyle will spend the next year teaching Latin at the Kuhl Academy in Stamford, and as an Alumni Fellow for Archaia at Yale.

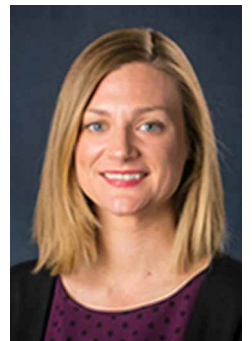


Reier Helle in the combined program in Classics and Philosophy, with a dissertation entitled “Corporeal Unity in Stoic Philosophy,” in which he develops an account of the Stoic notion of a unified body: “Like their predecessors Plato and Aristotle, the Stoics think that some things are unified, while others are not. Stoic

thinking on unity is distinctive because of their commitment to particularism and corporealism, and their rejection of atomism. For them, unity must be a result of particular, non-atomic bodies acting on one another. However, we currently have no precise understanding of what it is to be a unified body according to the Stoics. In the dissertation, I offer a systematic interpretation of the notion of a unified body in Stoic philosophy. In so doing, I give detailed accounts of key parts of Stoic physics and metaphysics, and I show that the Stoics have a sophisticated view of how a complex, unified body can be said to exist ‘in its own right’ (*kath’ hautou*) even though it is a composite of parts.” For the next academic year, Reier will be an Associate Professor at the University of Agder and a guest researcher at the University of Oslo.

Two more students finished their Ph.D.s for a December 2019 degree:

Meghan Freeman, whose dissertation on “Kings in the City: the Regal Memoryscape of Early to Mid-Republican Rome” studied the urban environment, shows how this was pivotal in shaping beliefs about the kings who supposedly founded and ruled Rome for over two hundred years. She focuses on the instrumental role of material culture as a source of Roman knowledge about the regal past prior to the emergence of historiography at the very end of the third century BCE. Before that watershed literary moment, the Romans formed, maintained, and negotiated the distant past by a variety of means. Freeman investigates early to mid-Republican “material memory” of kings on the Capitoline Hill and in the Forum Romanum; using both extant archaeological evidence and literary testimony, she sketches a “memoryscape” of regal Rome in the later urban environment of the fifth-third centuries BCE. Meghan is now Research Program Planner in the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship at her alma mater, Creighton University.



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Noreen Sit, with a dissertation entitled “Eliteness on Parade: Roman Escorted Movement as Performance of Status,” in which she analyzes the adoption and use of “the status apparatus”: the collection of status symbols, costumes, companions, and behaviors that characterized and defined an elite person’s movements in ancient Rome. This multi-disciplinary project unites language, history, sociology, gender, and performance studies. Utilizing both textual and material sources, it investigates the unwritten protocols of escorted movement that dictated this mode of social performance. It argues that escorted movement was a highly encoded performance inextricably linked to the societal worth of the person at the center of it. Noreen is now teaching at the Thaden School in Bentonville, AK.



Welcome New Graduate Students

We are thrilled to welcome five new graduate students into Classics and its combined programs: **Sydney Chavez**, **Maria Ma**, **Alejandro Quintana**, **(Seunghyun) Angela Yeo**, and **Rafael Zoulis**. Also joining Yale are the classicists **Katherine Ponds** (entering the joint Ph.D. program in African American Studies and American Studies) and **Jay Lugardo** (in the ESI Prep Post-baccalaureate research program).


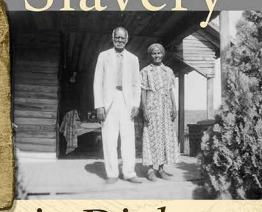


Back when we could picnic... The graduate students gather at Irene Peirano Garrison’s home to celebrate the opening of the new academic year.

A Deep History of Slavery: Antiquity and Modernity in Dialogue

Yale’s Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition hosted its 21st annual conference on the theme of comparative ancient and modern slaveries. The conference was co-organized by **Noel Lenski** and historian David Blight, the center’s director, along with its remarkable staff. The Department of Classics was a major contributor to the event, which hosted 22 speakers from five countries, among these Classics’s own **Emily Greenwood**. The aim was to put in dialogue two historical contexts deeply marked by slaveholding, the Classical and modern Atlantic worlds. Both have long been in conversation, partly due to the intensity with which each deployed slavery, partly also to the relative abundance of sources they preserve. Classicists in particular had learned much from comparisons with modern sources, methods, and scholarship, but modern historians have also drawn on the work of Greek and Roman historians to provide background and context for their work. The conference featured six panels that covered themes of “Varieties of Unfreedom: Slavery, Bondage, and Serfdom,” “Capitalizing on Slavery: Trade, Economy, and Society,” “Gendering Slavery: Men, Women, and Others,” “Representing Slavery: Voices, Images, and Artefacts,” “Othering Slavery: Race, Ethnicity, and Enslavability,” and “Escaping Slavery: Flight, Manumissions, and Emancipation.” The event drew well over one hundred participants and generated fruitful dialogue along with heated debate as speakers and audience members succeeded in expanding the comparison between ancient and modern worlds but also testing and challenging its limits. A separate session on “Teaching Slavery in the Classroom” generated huge interest from university and secondary teachers. You can learn more at [the 2019 annual conference website](#).

A DEEP HISTORY of Slavery

ANTIQUITY and MODERNITY in Dialogue

Gilder Lehrman Center’s 21st Annual Conference
With support from the Department of Classics
November 1-2, 2019
 Henry R. Luce Hall, Yale University
 34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, CT

“A Deep History of Slavery” seeks to put in dialogue two historical contexts deeply marked by slaveholding, the Classical and modern Atlantic worlds. Both have long been in conversation, partly due to the intensity with which each deployed slavery, partly also to the relative abundance of sources they preserve. Classicists in particular have learned much from comparisons with modern sources, methods, and scholarship, but modern historians have also drawn on the work of Greek and Roman historians to provide background and context for their work. The conference will continue this conversation with an eye toward expanding the comparison but also testing its limits.

Welcome and Introduction
DAVID W. BLIGHT Yale University
NOEL LENSKI Yale University

Presenters
RICHARD BLACKETT Vanderbilt University
JOHN BODEL Brown University
SARAH BOND University of Iowa
ROQUINALDO FERREIRA University of Pennsylvania
JENNIFER GLANCY Le Moyne College
THAVOLIA GLYPH Duke University
EMILY GREENWOOD Yale University
DEBORAH KAMEN University of Washington
REBECCA FUTO KENNEDY Denison University
GEORGEY KRON University of Victoria
JANE LANDERS Vanderbilt University
DAVID LEWIS University of Edinburgh
ROSE MACLEAN University of California, Santa Barbara
DAN-EL PADILLA PERALTA Princeton University
LAUREN HACKWORTH PETERSEN University of Delaware
MICHAEL RALPH New York University
ULRIKE ROTH University of Edinburgh
EDWARD RUGEMER Yale University
THERESA SINGLETON Syracuse University
KOSTAS VLASSOPOULOS University of Crete
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 of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 call 203-432-3339 or visit the
[GLC website at glc.yale.edu](#)

Departmental Colloquium: Epigraphic Habits

This year's departmental colloquium focused on the role of epigraphy in the shaping and definition of cultural identity in the Greek and Roman world. Funding for eight speakers was provided through the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, administered through the MacMillan Center. It was co-organized by Classics faculty **Jessica Lamont** and **Noel Lenski** and graduate student **Nazim Can Serbest**. The series borrowed its title from the famous and still widely influential article of **Ramsay MacMullen**, "The Epigraphic Habit in the Roman Empire," published in *AJP* in 1982. Fittingly, MacMullen was himself present for several of the events. In Fall 2019, four speakers addressed the department, including an opening lecture by **Andrew Johnston** titled "In the Name of the King: the Greek polis and the Roman Emperor as Basileus," part of the monograph he is currently writing; an event in early October by John Camp (Randolph Macon College and Director of American Excavations in the Athenian Agora) on new discoveries in Athenian epigraphy, including an inscription that reveals the location of the Leokoreion; one in

late October by Rachel Zelnick-Abramovitz (Tel Aviv) under the title "Let Everyone Know that I am Free – The Habit of Inscribing Manumissions," which showed the huge variety of styles and terms of manumission common in the Greek world; and one in December by Yale History alumna Elizabeth Meyer (UVA), who also spoke on manumission inscriptions but argued that we must take seriously the fact that these dedicate their subjects to temples. The spring series began in early February with **Nazim Can Serbest**, whose exploration of Athenian honorific decrees showed how closely these were tied to the shifting political winds of the fourth century BCE. By the time of the second lecture in early March, Gianfranco Agosti (Rome) was forced by the COVID crisis to deliver his lecture via Zoom, which nonetheless drew an enthusiastic in-person audience to learn about "Culture and Identity in Greek Metrical Inscriptions of Late Antiquity." Two final lectures, by Rebecca Benefiel (Washington and Lee) and Nikolaos Papazarkadas (UC Berkeley) were canceled but will – we hope – be able to be rescheduled in the coming academic year.

Undergraduate Student News

Five talented, energetic seniors graduated this year, with high spirits and plans.

Maddie Bender has been maintaining proper social distancing and writing about the coronavirus for various news outlets. Although her senior spring was cut short without much warning, she won't be away from Yale for long. She will be returning (hopefully in person) this fall as an MPH student at the School of Public Health!



Anthony Hedjuk will be starting a Ph.D. in philosophy at Columbia in the fall, with a focus in Ancient Greek Philosophy; he won the Jacob Cooper prize for the best essay in ancient philosophy this spring.

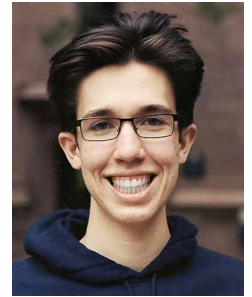
After a happy stint in Italy (a semester at the Duke Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome followed by a summer of excavation at Gabii), **Lina Kapp** was pleased to make her *nostos* back to New Haven to complete her senior year. She spent this year working as the Mininberg Intern in Ancient Art at the YUAG, writing her thesis ("*Spatium Urbis: Collegia in a Spatial Context*"), and having lots of fun with her improv comedy group, Lux Improvitas. She spent the last few weeks of the semester at home in Chicago, where she has been



plying her family with baked goods and covering every available surface in cryptic thesis-related Post-It Notes. She plans to

spend the coming year working and applying for graduate programs in classical archaeology.

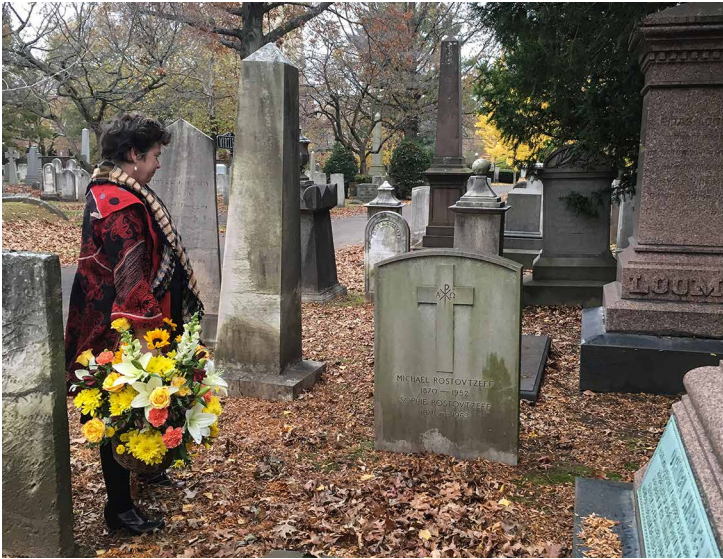
Michael Kearney returned from his summer internship at the U.S. Consulate-General in Munich to complete his senior year and B.A./M.A. In November, he directed Yale Certamen for the third time, drawing more than 200 high school students to William Harkness Hall. From Milwaukee, he wrote his thesis, "The Function of the *Lucus* in Vergil's *Aeneid*," under the guidance of Kirk Freudenburg. He looks forward to staying in the city next year, when he will teach German and Latin at his *alma mater*, Marquette University High School, and consider future plans.



Christina Pao has been finishing her senior year at home in Portland, Oregon with her parents and younger sister. She has recently completed her Classics thesis, "The Socio-Political Construction of Temple Asylum," advised by Jessica Lamont, and her Political Science thesis, "Weighing Gender and Group Identity in Refugee Integration: A Gender Analysis of Super Volunteerism in Germany," advised by Frances Rosenbluth. This year, she received the Rhodes Scholarship to pursue an M.Phil. in Sociology and Demography at Oxford (Nuffield College), and she will later return to the US to complete her Ph.D. in Demography with funding from a Truman Scholarship. Though saddened to leave Yale Classics, Christina will continue to read (and reread) some of her favorite texts and hopes to stay in touch with the wonderful friends and advisors from the department.



Some Things We Did When Life Was Normal



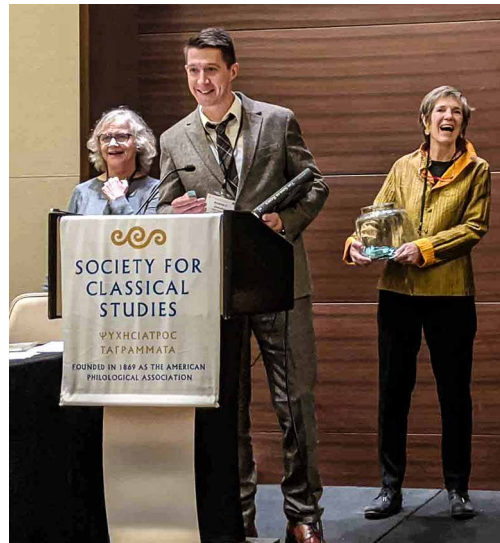
This year's Rostovtzeff lecturer, Sue Alcock, laid flowers at the grave of Michael and Sophie Rostovtzeff, 7 November 2019.



L-r: Maddie Watson, Henry Heffan (peeking), Anastasia Dalianis, Calvin Chai-Onn, and Christian Wolpert Gatzambide made sourdough with Kirk.



DEEK posed at the Chieti Amphitheater.



Andrew Johnston received the Goodwin Award.



Lina Kapp excavated at Gabii.



Classics majors were among the readers of Alice Oswald's "Memorial" at the Yale University Art Gallery in January.

How We Coped When Everything Changed



Pauline and Tom's son Hudson handled it so. Final thesis meetings were Zoomed.



Alumni News

Paula Debnar '89 Ph.D. looks forward to the appearance late this spring (at long last) of *Sparta and Thucydides*, which she co-edited with Anton Powell. Leading off the volume, which is published by the Classical Press of Wales, is an overview of the Spartans by Yale's very own Emily Greenwood. Ironically, her own contribution aims to challenge some received notions about Spartan slowness. Recently, Paula learned that in July she will be named "Professor of Classics on the Alumnae Foundation of Mount Holyoke College." Just in time, since rumor has it that retirement is looming in the not too distant future.

Owen Ewald ('92), Associate Professor of Classics at Seattle Pacific University, delivered his annual Marston Lecture, "The Perils of Universal History" in early February. Within a month, coronavirus and precautions against it canceled many things and moved Spring Quarter entirely online. "My wife, my two adult children, and I are playing games, baking, and taking non-crowded walks through our semi-suburban neighborhood."

Tommaso Gazzari '10 Ph.D. reports that he was granted tenure in the Spring of 2020 at Union College.

François Gerardin '18 Ph.D. has been appointed to a six-year Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Basel, where he will work on a second book project on Antinoopolis, the city created by Hadrian in Egypt.

Samuel Hafer '11 says, "I recently became COO of a legal tech services company. We use machine learning to generate transcripts from legal proceedings. We're working with the department of homeland security to transcribe wire taps of human traffickers. We are braving the storm like everyone else. I'm safe and sound for now in Idaho with the family."

Matthew Haiken '86 simply declines: *Coronavirus*, *Coronavirum*, *Coronaviri*, *Coronaviro*, *Coronaviro*.

Kathryn Baldwin Hecker '09 writes: "I made partner at my law firm in Atlanta as of January 1. My practice focuses on tax, trust, and estate planning for high net worth individuals. This lets me use

Latin on a daily basis, as 'per stirpes' is in almost every document I draft. My husband and I have a five-year-old daughter and a three-year-old son, and I look forward to teaching them the Greek alphabet as soon as they have mastered the Latin one!"

James G. Keenan '68 Ph.D. recently retired from Loyola University Chicago after 46 years, preceded by five at the University of California at Berkeley.

Gurcharan Khanna ('71/'80) offers a six-year update: "Left RIT in 2015 for a position at Brown as Executive Director of the Center for Computation & Visualization. Unfortunately, our elderly wire fox terrier didn't survive the move. In 2016 my daughter started the doctoral program in Sociology at Columbia. And then I retired from Brown in 2018. My wife and I have been enjoying the bucolic countryside of Rhode Island. In my copious free time I have discovered two delightful mystery series set in Ancient Greece and Rome. Gary Corby casts Socrates' older brother

continued on page 12

as a detective working cases for Pericles while Stephen Saylor's *Gordianus the Finder* takes on cases involving Cicero, Caesar, and more. Both wonderfully detail the times and customs bringing them to life. Highly recommended! Having good books around during these times is a must! (And having a Pepe's Pizza nearby in Warwick lets us keep a taste of New Haven.)"

Tom Nowicki '79 recently completed filming on a new television series PREACH as the villainous Pless Crawford, wealthiest man in town, pillar of the community, deacon in his church, devotee of The Lost Cause and aspiring kingpin of the Southern opium trade. "Look for it this Fall on a streaming platform soon to be announced. That was fun!"

Weatherly Ralph '97 writes: "I hope you're doing well! I may be too late but if not: we have been stuck inside like everyone else, of course. So we made Greek temples! All three major orders of columns, frieze (yes, I know it's supposed to be inside but we took architectural liberties) and pediment. Marian's (6) frieze is a tale of being lost in a forest and saved by a fairy. The

pediment is our family. William's (5) is a tale of being shipwrecked, saved by a narwhal, and escorted home by a giant tortoise. The pediment is sea creatures. Thought you and the faculty would get a kick out of them!"



William and Marian with William's temple.



Marian's temple.

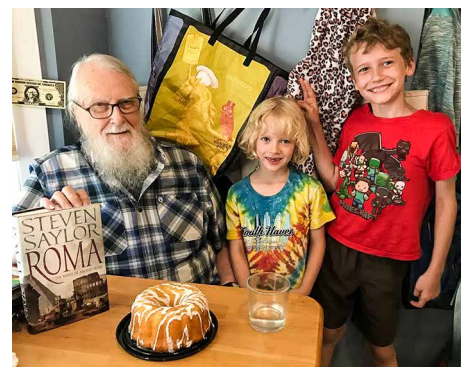
Graduate Classics Alumni in Memoriam

Robert P. "Bob" Blume, M.D., '49, '50 M.A., died on April 8, 2020. Bob was a veteran of WWII, having served as a naval reserve officer on merchant ships in the North Atlantic during the last year of the war. After his discharge he returned to Yale, earning a B.A. and an M.A. Bob then explored a vocation with the Jesuits, but discerned that he was not being called to the priesthood. After considering careers in academics and law he decided to become a physician. He graduated from Temple Medical School in 1956, completed a residency in neurology, and returned to Pittsburgh where he raised his family. He was a pioneer in the treatment of myasthenia gravis and for many years was Clinical Professor of Neurology at the University of Pittsburgh. His academic passion for the Greek language, literature and philosophy

remained with him throughout his life. A man of deep faith and a devout Catholic, Bob and his wife Liz were married for nearly 65 years.

David Douglas Coffin, '43, '47 M.A., died on December 22, 2019. He was Classics professor emeritus at Phillips Exeter Academy, where he taught from 1953 to 1987. David received the Harvard Distinguished Secondary School Teacher Award in 1967 and the University of Chicago Outstanding Teacher Award in 1984. An avid tennis player and hiker, he was a lifelong member of the Ausable Club, and a 46er in the Adirondack and White Mountains. Friends and students of David and his late wife Rosemary established [a traveling fellowship](#) in their names at the Society for Classical Studies.

W. Royal Stokes '65 Ph.D. and his family are dealing with the coronavirus pandemic as best they can, hunkered down at home and hoping for an eventual return to normalcy, for the world and its inhabitants. On the brighter side, now ninety, Royal has kept up his Greek and Latin and is currently rereading several of his favorites, namely, Herodotus, Pindar, and Propertius. Royal and his spouse of a half century Erika Hartmann Stokes departed the Washington, D.C., area a decade and a half ago, relocating to Elkins, West Virginia, where he recently put the final touches to his memoir, *The Essential W. Royal Stokes Jazz, Blues and Beyond Reader* (Hannah Books). As for Royal's memories of his time in Phelps Hall working on his doctorate, one of the more arresting is of Bernard Knox (1914-2010) pausing during a session of his 1960-61 Sophocles seminar and observing that, once past his twenties, a man was no longer fit for combat. Professor Knox never spoke in class of his wartime experiences, but hints of them sometimes surfaced in subtle fashion, as above, for we happened on that occasion to be reading the *Ajax*, whose hero went mad during the Trojan War. As a twenty-two-year-old, Knox had in 1936 manned a machine gun in the Spanish Civil War, and a few years later, in the Second World War, he commanded an infantry company of the Italian underground and parachuted behind enemy lines in France.



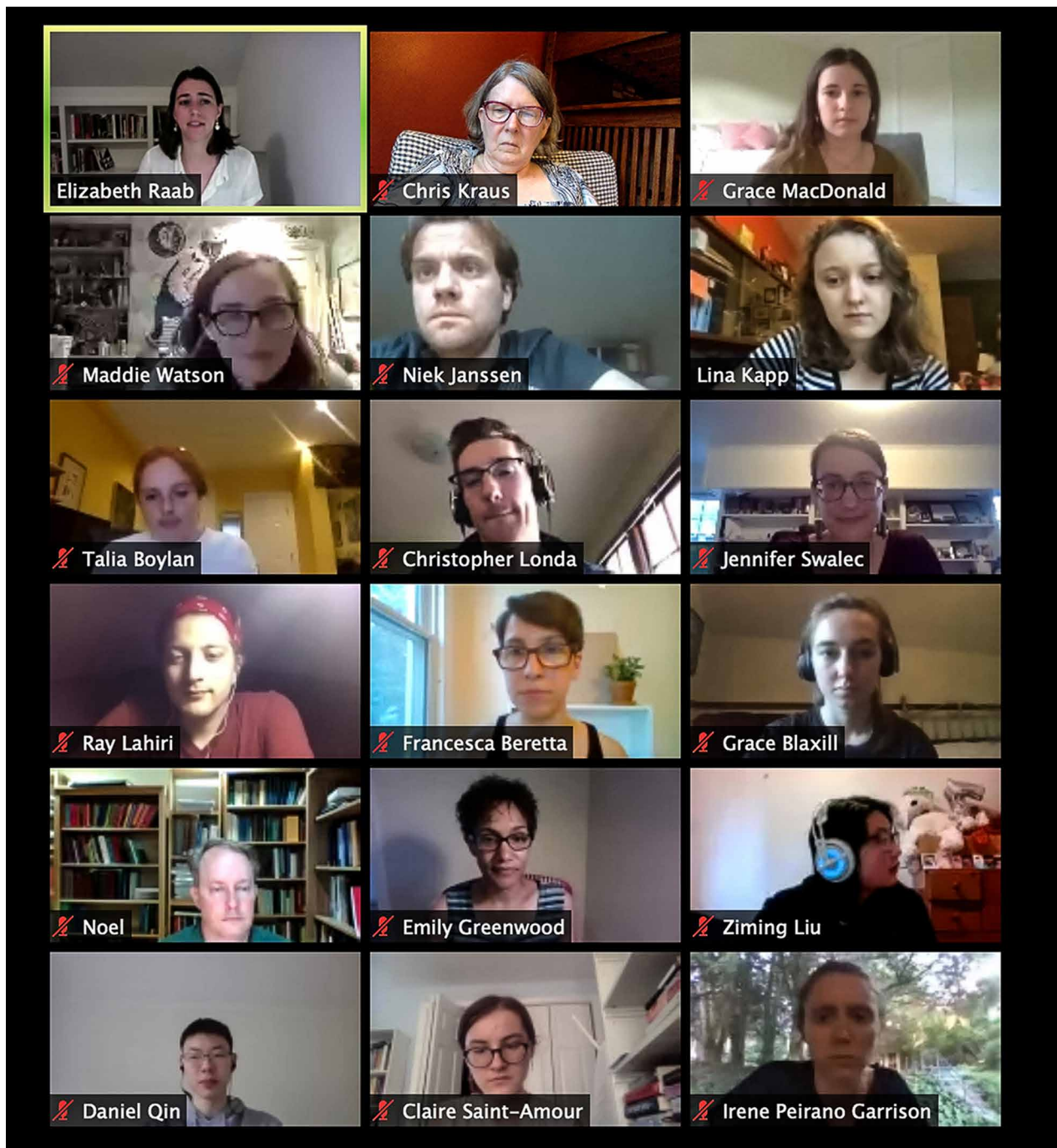
Royal Stokes and family celebrating his birthday.

Please send news to
linda.dickey-saucier@yale.edu

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

Last fall, the Department formed an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee to think through the issues of systemic racism and non-inclusive behavior in the field and the Department. The members are **Elizabeth Raab** '22, **Daniel Qin** '22, **Noel Lenski** (Classics and History), **Pauline LeVen** (Classics and Music), **Ziming Liu** grad '19, and **Ray Lahiri** (Chair) grad '17. In the course of the academic year, the committee met and produced [a collaborative statement that is now on our website](#), committing to a series of concrete actions in pedagogy, scholarly practice, labor evaluation, and accessibility. This summer the Department is also sponsoring an anti-racism reading group spearheaded by three undergraduates, **Elizabeth Raab** '22,

Grace MacDonald '22, and **Maddie Watson** '22, which will continue next year. In the Fall term the EDI Committee will work with the Departmental Colloquium organizers to arrange a series of workshops in pedagogical inclusivity and on teaching difficult topics in the classroom. This will dovetail with the Colloquium itself, whose topic is "Power, Violence, Vulnerability," and which aims to address the questions: How do Greek and Latin authors respond to the contingency and fragility of "the human condition"? How do they envision and react to those forces that strive to master the contingent and the unpredictable through the consolidation of power or the exercise of violence? How might their responses affect our own acts of scholarly interpretation and political imagination?



EDI workshop/reading via ZOOM