



Department of Classics

University of Colorado at Boulder

Fall 2010

Classics

Alumna's Planned Bequest to Benefit Future Graduate Students

After the actual budget cuts of 2009–10 and the scary rumors about future budgets, a planned bequest by Mary McClanahan, an alumna of the program (BA '67 and MA '69) was like a ray of sunshine among dark clouds. The gift's purpose will be to benefit future graduate students in Classics.

Mary e-mailed the department in early September and expressed her desire “to give back to the university so that other students can benefit from the rewards of having a good education.” She added, “I’m obviously partial to the department in which I studied.” The beginning of the term is a busy time for everybody at the university and especially a new chair, but this was the kind of e-mail to brighten anybody’s day. It was, in addition, a great pleasure to meet Mary, a smart, confident but unpretentious person, and to discuss the ways that her gift could best serve the students’ needs.

The department faculty had long determined that better support of graduate students was our top priority, even

trumping new faculty lines. Our ability to attract the best graduate students and to train them well enough to compete for jobs with, for example, the products of Ivy League schools has often been hampered by funding constraints. We possess a fine group of faculty, but some of our best applicants end up going to programs that pay them better—not that anybody anywhere is getting rich as a graduate student! Even more important, our students often work as teaching assistants every semester. This provides excellent teaching experience, but cuts into the time they can spend on their own development as scholars. So, while a CU doctoral student might have one year “on fellowship” in a five-year program, a student in the Ivy League might only teach during two years in a six-year program. This latter is probably closer to the optimal mix of teaching and scholarship to prepare students for the competitive academic job market. We are not there yet, but Mary’s generosity—in

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Mary
McClanahan

From the Chair

It is a pleasure to write here for the first time. I have enjoyed an exciting and challenging first year as chair of Classics here at the University of Colorado.

On the one hand, it was a privilege to try to coordinate and nurture, with the help of our dedicated and able staff, the work of such a fine group of scholars and teachers and such smart and enthusiastic students. This year, we welcomed to Boulder and to our program Carole Newlands, a distinguished Latinist formerly of the University of Wisconsin (see article on page 7). She hit the ground running with a Virgil seminar, a course on ancient comedy, and, in addition, completed the manuscript of her Cambridge commentary *Statius Silvae Book 2*. Andrew Cain received tenure and was promoted to associate professor. If ever somebody made it easy for a chair to supervise a successful tenure process, it was the über-productive Cain with his several books, many articles, and cohorts of admiring and inspired students.

On the other hand, the budget crisis in Colorado resulted in a reduction of state funding of the university by 58 percent in the last year. State support now constitutes less than 6 percent of our revenue. This resulted in many painful cuts throughout the university. The measure that hit us hardest was the mandate to

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University of Colorado at Boulder

Alumna Makes Bequest, *continued from page 1*

conjunction with the educational enhancements beyond CU provided by the Diltz Swartz Graduate Opportunity Fund, to which many of you contributed—will help us train our talented graduate students at the level they deserve.

Mary grew up in Illinois and attended the University of Colorado from 1963 to 1969. Although she started out as a chemistry major, she converted to Classics after her sophomore year—and still managed to finish in four years. She was offered an assistantship and contin-

ued with her MA degree here. She worked with John Coleman—the first archaeologist in the Department of Classics—at a time when Hazel Barnes was chair, Harold and Haroula Evjen and Ernst Fredricksmeier were on the faculty, and the graduate program included 12 students. (Joy King was one of those students.) Her advisor was to go on a rescue excavation in Greece during the summer of 1968, but “he told me that he couldn’t include me in the crew because I was married!” Mary recalled. “This sort of thing would be unthinkable in today’s academic setting, but it

was not unusual then.” In addition, the prospects for Classics PhDs were gloomy at that time, so Mary finished her MA and went into computer support for the government research centers in Boulder. After a long and varied career as the top technical manager of the computer systems at the Department of Commerce Laboratories for NOAA and NIST, as well as JILA and CIRES, she retired in 1999.

A Tale of Two Reading Lists (And No Pants Allowed)

In the *Iliad*, Homer reports that Diomedes “in his hand caught/up a stone, a huge thing which no two men could carry/such as men are now, but by himself he lightly hefted it” (5.302–4; trans. Lattimore). Few historians believe that there was really a sudden and dramatic decline in the strength and stone-hefting abilities of men in Greece during the interval between Hector and Homer’s “today”—however one wants to date these. Nevertheless, the idea that people used to be better than they are today is ubiquitous and seemingly eternal. By chance Mary McClanahan still had and showed me the doctoral Greek and Latin reading list, the basis of the crucial Greek and Latin translation exams, from the late ’60s when she was here. I’m happy to say that a comparison with our current reading list of 40 years later does not reveal a decline in standards. The old list has four plays of Aeschylus, while the current list has only three; but the old list requires preparation of eight books of Homer, while we now include the whole *Iliad* and *Odyssey* on the list. There is less Demosthenes now, but Apollonius of Rhodes has been added.

So too, one can find this or that change on the Latin side, but little evidence of “Decline” much less “Fall.” Catullus and Virgil were assigned in their entirety in 1969 and still are. More Ovid is included now (Could Peter Knox be responsible?), but Augustine has dropped from the list (Noel? Andy?). Diehard believers in decline can, of course, argue that testing used to be more rigorous and thus we cannot judge from the lists alone. Unless some graded exams of ages past surface we cannot rule this possibility out. One must admit that some things have certainly changed, as Mary’s notes on CU in the ’60s reveal:

“Women students had to either live in dormitories, university-approved housing, or with their families until they were 21, in which case they could live where they pleased. There were no such restrictions on men students. Dormitories and university-approved housing arrangements had curfews, and men and women were physically segregated. Doors were locked at specific times and “bed checks” were conducted to assure that women students observed curfews.”

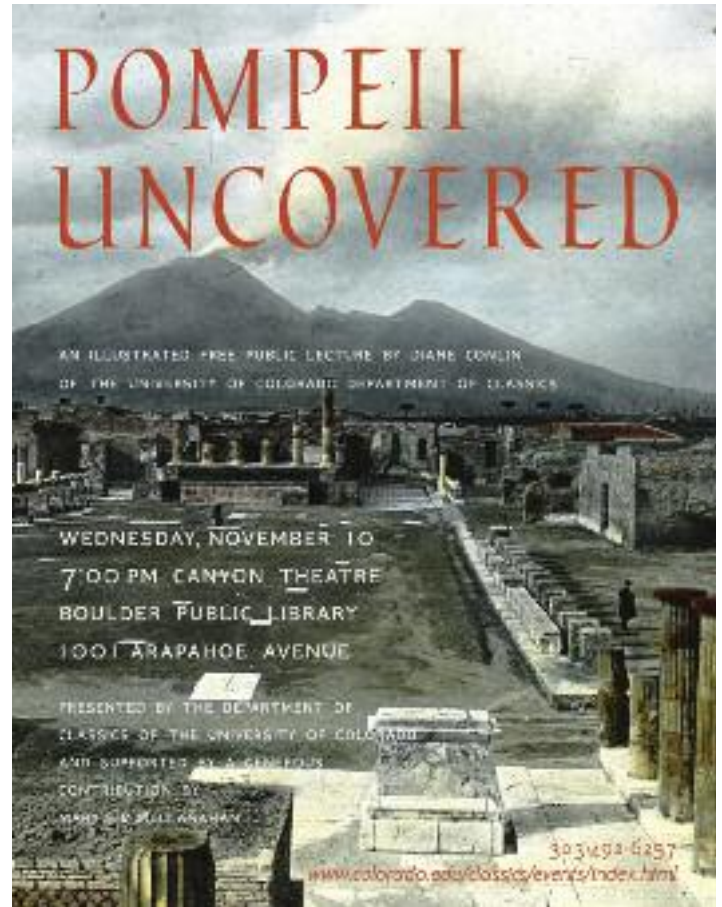
There was a swimming test and a PE requirement: “Cutting a PE class without an acceptable excuse and not making the class up resulted in an *F* for that semester.”

“Book bags, simple waterproof, canvas bags with drawstring tops, were popular. No one used backpacks, which were viewed as camping gear. Few students had cars, and there was almost no student parking on campus.

“Attire was much more formal. Women students were not allowed to wear pants on campus during the week . . . Men wore slacks, shirts, and sweaters. Jeans were rarely worn on campus, and shorts never.

“The library had a large, physical card catalog system, and you had to fill out a small card for every book that you checked out . . . I used 3x5 or 4x6 lined index cards to record notes for papers, putting just one complete thought or quote per card. I did a massive sort before I wrote the paper.”

Free Public Lectures at the Boulder Public Library



The Department of Classics, with the support of a generous donation by Mary McClanahan, is presenting a lecture series at the Boulder Public Library’s Canyon Theater (1001 Arapahoe Avenue) this fall and winter. The first lecture was by Peter Hunt on “Was there a Trojan War?” on September 1. Noel Lenski talked about “Why did Rome Fall?” on October 13.

Diane Conlin will discuss the colorful history of the excavations at Pompeii on November 10 at 7 p.m.

If you are signed up to receive the newsletter, you automatically receive announcements of these and other public lectures. To sign up for the announcements, go to classicsevents.blogspot.com and fill out the form there.

From the Chair, *continued from page 1*

teach more students with less money. In order to encourage this, the university began stringent enforcement of class size limits and required us to cancel some small language classes. Since the department prides itself on the individual attention it gives to students and believes that much of the best learning at CU goes on in small classes, this measure, however necessary, was a bitter pill to swallow. In response we have put even more emphasis on our traditional contribution of providing large lecture classes, especially in the core. Teaching these types of courses not only exposes a larger number of students to the excite-

ment of classical culture and attracts them into our language classes, but it also allows us to make stronger arguments to the administration for the occasional small Latin or Greek class.

An alumna of the department, Mary McClanahan, raised our collective spirits considerably last year. Although her subsequent career was in the field of computer systems management for scientific research, mainly at the laboratories of the Department of Commerce here in Boulder, Mary never forgot her time in the Department of Classics. She made a substantial planned gift to

support graduate studies in the future. We are extremely grateful to Mary (see article on page 1) for her gift, which provides an upbeat end to this unfortunately mixed report and confirmed our belief in the value of the education we provide.

Peter Hunt
Chair

Undergraduate News

This has been another outstanding year for the undergraduate program in Classics at CU. One of our highlight activities this year was our group trip to see the special effects extravaganza *Clash of the Titans*, a campy remake of the original 1981 film. Our undergraduate enhancement fund covered the ticket costs for all interested Classics majors to attend the show with professors Conlin

and Reitzammer and several graduate students. The CU Classics Club, which helped organize the movie event, continued to meet regularly this past year for chats and pizza under the new leadership of Classics Club president Jennifer Greenberg.



Amanda Hensen receives her diploma from Professor Gibert.

In 2009–10, the undergraduate program in Classics at CU graduated 13 majors and 8 minors. This year we bid farewell to Classics majors Chelsea Ayers-Morris, Lauren Brooks, Molly Burns, Matthew Goss, Jennifer Greenberg, Amanda Hensen, Mitchell Kosht, Rachel Plavidal, Gabriel Riddle, John Thiltgen, William White, Peter Yost, and Melissa Zepeda. Chelsea Ayers-Morris graduated with distinction and plans to attend graduate school at CU-Boulder. With a focus in classical art and



John Thiltgen

archaeology and an alumna of the Villa of Maxentius archaeological field school, Lauren Brooks also plans on attending graduate school in Classics at CU-Boulder. Molly Burns plans on staying in Boulder while she builds her creative work portfolio and continues to write for *Rooster Magazine*, while Gabriel

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Ann Nichols Scholarship Winners Announced

Thanks to the generosity of our Classics alumna and long-time donor, Ms. Ann Nichols, the Undergraduate Studies Committee was delighted to award five 2010–11 scholarships. With a focus in classical art and archaeology, Adam Tabelaing was awarded an Ann Nichols Scholarship and a Romulus Grant. This summer Adam has been studying ancient Greek through the University of Chicago's intensive language program. Adam will return to CU-Boulder for his final year to complete an honors thesis on ancient Italian art and archaeology with Professor Conlin. Kristin Bruner also received both the Ann Nichols Scholarship and the Romulus Grant. Kristin attended a CU study abroad program in Italy this past summer during which she visited

Rome and Pompeii. She delivered an on-site presentation of the Room of the Mysteries at the Villa of the Mysteries for her colleagues. Taylor DeLaura and Robert Kopperud were each awarded Ann Nichols Scholarships for their outstanding course performances as Classics majors. John Thiltgen was awarded the first Undergraduate Travel Grant to cover a portion of the costs of travel to present a paper at an academic conference. John spoke about the sculptural program on the Arch of Constantine at a Classics undergraduate symposium at the University of Michigan. Many congratulations to all of our exceptional Classics scholarship awardees!



Peter Hunt, Chair, Department of Classics, introduces the graduates.

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Riddle (double major with Studio Arts) also plans to work on his portfolio and apply for graduate school in photography. A double major in Classics and Linguistics and graduating *summa cum laude* in Linguistics, **Matthew Goss** plans to serve as a research assistant in a psycholinguistics laboratory. Two Classics honors students, **Jen Greenberg** (*cum laude* in Classics, Norlin Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa) and **John Thiltgen** (*magna cum laude* in Classics) will attend our graduate program in Classics in the fall. A double major with English, **Amanda Hensen** plans on applying for law school after a year off from her studies. Another outstanding Classics honors student, **Mitchell Kosht** (*summa cum laude* in Classics), will be pursuing a master's in Theology from Harvard Divinity School with a course emphasis in literature and religion. Finally, two Classics majors graduated with double majors, **William White** (with Philosophy) and **Melissa Zapeda** (Studio Arts). In 2010, the Classics Department also graduated minors Rachel Ackerman, John Bevis, Annie Johnston, Arik King,

David Michalak, Megan Nashawaty, Hannah O'Brien, and Bryony Walter.

Three undergraduate students graduated with honors. They had to write a research paper which was evaluated by a faculty committee and which the student then had to defend in front of the same committee. These three students were Jennifer Greenberg, who submitted a thesis on the connections between Sophocles' Oedipus Rex and the debate

between Hippocratic medicine and temple medicine (*cum laude*); John Thiltgen, who wrote on travel in antiquity, which was even more cumbersome and full of surprises than traveling has become recently (*magna cum laude*); and Mitchell Kosht, who took sides in a dispute in New Testament studies about the correct reading of a word in a letter of St. Paul (*summa cum laude*).



Graduate Molly Burns with (from left) her mother, cousin, and best friend

Graduate News



(From left) Eric Shuman, Megan Gorman, Nora Moriarty, Reina Callier, Mitch Pentzer, and Travis Rupp celebrate graduation.

This year saw a real boost to the future of the CU Classics graduate community with news of Mary McClanahan's substantial gift for graduate fellowships in the future (see www.cusys.edu/newsletter/2010/01-13/foundation.html and the article on page 1). Improved graduate funding has long been the faculty's top priority for the department, and Mary's generosity is deeply appreciated.

This year saw three graduate students, Zach Fischer, Amanda Sherpe, and Jennifer Starkey, give well-received papers at the meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South held in April in Oklahoma City. All three were awarded funding to support their attendance of the conference in campuswide competitions or by CAMWS itself, while departmental grants supplemented this well-earned funding. Several CU alumnae, Michelle Andrews (formerly Soufl, currently pursuing a PhD at Princeton), Mary Lovit (formerly Junkersfeld, cur-

rently teaching Latin at Mullen High School in Denver), and Jessica Stephens (currently pursuing a PhD at Michigan), were also spotted giving successful and well-attended papers. Jennifer Starkey was accepted to the prestigious program of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. Her performance on the entry exam earned her a full fellowship for the program, while the department is delighted to support her study with a summer travel grant. Micaela Brown successfully applied to a pottery program at the American Academy at Rome, as well as to the department for funds to support her study there. We were thrilled to receive a visit in March from alumnus Scott Farrington (PhD '08, visiting assistant professor at the University of North Dakota in fall 2009). He gave a paper, "Action and Reason: Polybius and the Gap between Encomium and History," which we greatly enjoyed hearing and which he has since presented at an international conference, *Genre in the Ancient World*, in Sydney, Australia.

Nine people graduated this year with MAs: Diana Avelis, Reina Callier, Megan Gorman, David Jaeger, Errol Jones, Nora Moriarty, Mitch Pentzer, Travis Rupp, and Eric Shuman. Jeffrey Kahane is soon to join them. We celebrate their achievements and, knowing that we will miss them, wish them every success as they move on into the worlds of teaching or further study. We are delighted that Reina and Mitch have chosen to continue their studies at CU. They begin the road to the PhD in the fall. Best wishes and congratulations to all.

This April saw the campuswide celebration of graduate students' contributions to the educational mission and intellectual life of the university (www.colorado.edu/graduateschool/appreciation/index.html). We marked our appreciation, admiration, and gratitude in Classics with a celebration including cake and coffee and by a departmental hike at the end of the week.

Faculty News

Andy Cain taught undergraduate courses on Greek and Roman comedy and the novel, and a graduate course on Augustine. He published eight articles and three books. His book on the letters of Jerome, which appeared with Oxford University Press, won a Provost's Faculty Achievement Award. He also published two edited volumes: *Jerome of Stridon: His Life, Writings, and Legacy*, and *The Power of Religion in Late Antiquity* (on this latter he collaborated with Noel Lenski). He also completed an extensively annotated translation of Jerome's commentary on Galatians, which will appear in fall 2010 with Catholic University of America Press. Professor Cain

received a faculty fellowship and a Loeb Classical Library Foundation grant, both of which will support three semesters of sabbatical. He plans to use this time to finish a literary-historical commentary on the "Life of Paula," one of Jerome's most important writings.

Diane Conlin is currently wrapping up her second book, *Political Art in Flavian Rome*, for Cambridge University Press and the publication of the 2008 season at the Villa of Maxentius. She also submitted two lengthy entries on Julio-Claudian and Flavian Rome for the *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Ancient History*. In November 2009, she trav-

eled to Texas as a national speaker for the Archaeological Institute of America, presenting talks on her excavation research in Rome. In 2009–10, Diane taught courses on Pompeii, ancient Italian painting, and Augustan Rome. She also finished up her second year as the associate chair for undergraduate studies in the Department of Classics. She was awarded a LEAP Associate Professor Growth Grant and is released from teaching this spring to write up a publication on the wall fresco fragments from the Villa of Maxentius. This past summer, Diane and her husband spent their

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Carole Newlands Joins Faculty



Carole Newlands joined the Classics faculty this fall. She has a PhD in Comparative Literature and Medieval Studies from UC Berkely; she previously taught at Cornell, UCLA, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her specialty is Roman poetry and the reception of classical poetry in literature and art. This spring she was a visiting NEH professor at the

University of Richmond where she hosted a conference on Ovid and Ovidianism. She is currently working on a book on Statius for the Duckworth *Literature and Society* series; and is co-editing with Bill Dominik *The Brill Companion to Literature* and, with John Miller, *The Blackwell Companion to the Reception of Ovid in Literature and Art*. She is looking

forward to settling back into the Classics department in Boulder this fall. She is thrilled to be part of such a dynamic department in one of the most beautiful parts of the United States.

Faculty News, *continued from page 7*

first true vacation in Rome with their daughter while their son completed basic training for the U.S. Army at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Beth Dusinberre was on sabbatical in 2009–2010, working on a book on Achaemenid Anatolia. Anatolia encompasses so many different cultures and climates that it functions well as a microcosm of the entire Achaemenid Persian empire, and the large amount of high-quality research done in the last 30 years means there is a great deal of information to incorporate into a new synthetic study of the area. Wrestling with knotty questions of approach and interpretation required Beth to learn a vast amount of new material as well as grapple with new ideas and theoretical analyses. She wallowed in the experience, as happy as a buffalo at a watering hole. Briefer studies were completed in the form of articles on the Persepolis Fortification Archive and Lydian ivories and seal-stones. She was honored to be awarded the “Best Should Teach Gold Award” last fall and is very much looking to returning to teaching in 2010–2011.

Jackie Elliott spent the past year working on a number of different projects, but focused primarily on her book-project, *Ennius and the Architecture of the Annales*, which is nearing completion. 2009 saw the publication in *Classical Quarterly* of two papers that examine

Livy’s use of Ennian tropes, in Books 22 and 9 respectively. Another paper, on the relationship of Ennius’ *Annales* to universal history, is appearing in Duckworth’s new publication, *Historiae Mundi: Studies in Universal History*, edd. P. Liddel & A. Fear (2010). Jackie gave a paper on the role of Ennius in Livy’s preface at a meeting of the RMLA in October and one on one aspect of Cicero’s view of Ennian historiography at CAMWS in March. She has greatly enjoyed her return to both graduate and undergraduate teaching, as well as serving as graduate director for 2009–10.

John Gibert was chosen as one of the first College Scholars in the fall and enjoyed a semester devoted to writing and research. The new program is supported by private gifts to the College of Arts and Sciences. (Thank you, generous donors!) He worked on various projects, including an article on “Hellenicity in Later Euripidean Tragedy,” forthcoming in *Why Athens? A Reappraisal of Tragic Politics* (ed. D.M. Carter, Oxford University Press), a chapter on “Euripides and the Development of Tragedy” for *A Companion to Euripides* (ed. R. Mitchell-Boyask, Blackwell); and an edition of Euripides’ *Ion* for the *Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics*. In the spring, he attended the CAMWS meeting in Oklahoma City and gave a paper

on “Cultic Aetiology in Euripides.” He also taught the senior capstone seminar for the first time, on Drama and Society. With his students, he enjoyed a performance of *Medea* by The E Project Theater in Lakewood, as well as visits by Edith Hall and Sander Goldberg described elsewhere in this newsletter.

At long last, **Peter Hunt**’s book on *War, Peace, and Alliance in Demosthenes’ Athens* (Cambridge) came out this year. It uses the evidence of assembly speeches to reconstruct the wide variety of ways that the Athenians in the fourth century BC thought and felt about foreign relations. For the first time he offered an undergraduate/graduate class on Herodotus, which was a great pleasure of course. He introduced another new class, on Greek and Roman Slavery, and is currently writing a textbook on the subject for Blackwell-Wiley.

In the past year, **Peter Knox**’s *Companion to Ovid* (Blackwell) finally appeared in bookstores and on the Internet, but he is still waiting for calls from Letterman and Leno. Peter currently has several other projects in the works, but for the present is concentrating on completing the *Oxford Anthology of Literature in the Roman World*, which he is editing with J.C. McKeown of Wisconsin. In his spare time he is translating the Greek and Latin epigrams of Angelo Poliziano for the *I Tatti Renaissance Library* series. Peter spent much of last summer working on about two dozen entries for the forthcoming *Virgil Encyclopedia* in the hospitable confines of the library of the American Academy in Rome, but spent most of this summer in Colorado, without complaint.

Recently back in Boulder after many years in Seattle, **Tyler Lansford** published his first book in 2009: *The Latin Inscriptions of Rome: A Walking Guide* (The Johns Hopkins University Press; reviewed in *The Times Literary Supplement*, 16 April 2010). He has a full teaching schedule in the current



Travis Rupp and Professor Eckart Schütrumpf



Professor Giuseppe La Bua, visiting from the University of Rome, taught Masterpieces of Roman Literature over the summer.

academic year, including *The Rise and Fall of Rome*, *The Roman Empire*, *Roman Architecture*, and *Classical Epic*; he is also offering a new class for the Department of Art History: *Rome through the Centuries*. He is currently working on a large-format illustrated book on the Latin inscriptions of Rome and hosts a blog on the subject: www.romeinscribed.blogspot.com.

Noel Lenski has just returned from the Washington, D.C. area where he spent the year combining fellowships from Dumbarton Oaks and the ACLS. He worked on several projects and especially his book on *Slavery in Late Antiquity*. He made tremendous progress and thoroughly enjoyed living in our nation's capital, where he and his family took in many of the sites. Since our last report he has published an article, "Schiavi armati e formazione di eserciti privati nel mondo tardo antico," in a volume entitled *Ordine e sovversione nel mondo*

greco e romano as well as a translation of the ancient sources relevant to the city of Oba-Novae (modern Svištov, Bulgaria). Together with Andy Cain, he also came out with the proceedings of the conference held in Boulder in 2007 on *The Power of Religion in Late Antiquity*, a project made possible with the generous help of many CU students. He also spoke at Spello, Konstanz, Dumbarton Oaks, Fordham, Cornell, Catholic University, and Oxford. Much as they loved their year away, the Lenskis are happy to be back in Boulder.

This year Lauri Reitzammer enjoyed teaching undergraduate classes on Greek Mythology, Lysias, and Greek and Roman Tragedy, as well as a graduate seminar on "Plato and Poetry." In October 2009, she gave a paper entitled "Sophocles' Antigone as Metis" at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, which she plans to turn into an article. She is finishing up a chapter

for a Blackwell Companion to Euripides on *Bacchae* as she continues work on a book on representations of the Adonis festival.

Eckart Schütrumpf saw a book chapter on "Eduard Zeller und Werner Jaegers Aristoteles" published in a volume on the 19th century historian of philosophy E. Zeller (publisher De Gruyter, Berlin). He spent two months this summer in Berlin where the excellent library holdings allowed him to complete three entries for the *Encyclopedia of Ancient History* (publisher Wiley-Blackwell), to submit a paper on Thucydides' methodology chapter (in press with *Philologus*), and to complete a review for *Gnomon*. He continues to work on an edition of Aristotle's political fragments. He was the recipient of a "Chair of Excellence" at the University of Madrid where he will spend the first six months of 2011 in order to do research.

Visit by Sander Goldberg

Sander Goldberg of UCLA visited Boulder as a GCAH visiting scholar April 21–24. We were delighted to welcome Sander, himself a one-time member of the CU-Boulder Classics faculty. On April 22 he gave a wonderful, stimulating illustrated lecture on the relationship between acting and oratory to a large and appreciative audience drawn from the CU Classics, theatre, and English communities, as well as from the wider Boulder community, including a contingent from the Fairview High School Latin program. During the course of his visit, he also addressed Professor Gibert’s senior “capstone” seminar on “Drama and Society.” The students had prepared for his visit by reading Plautus’ *Curculio*, Terence’s

Adelphoe (as well as the prologues to all of his plays), and a half-dozen articles and chapters on Roman comedy, with an emphasis on performance spaces, audiences, and the relevance of history (e.g., the life, accomplishments, and

funeral celebration of L. Aemilius Paullus) to literary interpretation. A lively discussion that delved further into all these topics ensued. Professor Goldberg also gave the class a glimpse of an exciting “virtual Roman forum” project being developed at UCLA with the help of the Google Earth application. Over the days of his visit, Professor Goldberg spent time getting to know students and colleagues in Classics and sharing his insights on Roman literary history, performance issues, and the direction of the field of Latin literature in the future. We thoroughly enjoyed his visit and hope to see him in Boulder again soon.



Cicero denounces Catiline, fresco by Cesare Maccari (1840–1919)

Visit by Edith Hall

Once again the department benefited from a generous grant from the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation’s University Seminars Program with a visit in February from Edith Hall, professor in Classics and drama, Royal Holloway, University of London. Professor Hall, a prolific scholar whose work centers on ancient drama and epic and their reception and performance, gave an illustrated lecture entitled “Why Was *Iphigenia among the Taurians* So Popular in Antiquity?” She also visited Professor John Gibert’s undergraduate senior seminar on Drama and Society, where she gave a preview of “Demetrius’ Rolls and Dionysos’ Other Woman: The Pronomos Vase and Tragic Theatre,” soon to appear in *Pronomos: His Vase and its World*, a collection of essays edited by Oliver Taplin and Rosie Wyles for the Oxford University Press. She also

tapped into the seminar students’ deep (indeed entirely unsuspected) reservoir of thespian talent by leading them in a spirited rendition of the recognition scene in *Iphigenia among the Taurians*. When Iphigenia and Orestes embraced at long last, there was not a dry eye in the house, though whether the tears were of joy or laughter is better left to the imagination. While Edith was in Boulder, she spent time getting to know the faculty, undergraduate majors, and graduate students, and she sampled some of Boulder’s fine cuisine. It was a pleasure for everyone

to have a chance to speak with her, as her work intersects with the interests of students and faculty alike, and she is a lively and generous interlocutor.



Orestes and Pylades in a scene from Euripides Iphigenia among the Taurians? Campanian rf. bell-krater, c. 330–320 bce, attributed to the Group of BM F 63, Louvre K 404.

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Alumni News

Will Martin (Minor '03) has just accepted a job as a librarian at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

Leif Berg (BA '08) tells us that he “got married to a wonderful woman in April and we moved to Glendale, CA. Now we both work at a consulting firm, and I handle logistics for the seminars we deliver around the country.”

Matthew Mandich (BA Classics '06) has spent the last two years living and working in Rome as a research and teaching assistant on several excavation projects in the city. Now fluent in Italian, Matt will start graduate work in classical art and archaeology at the University of Leicester, England, in October 2010.

We heard great news about **Aaron Johnson** (PhD '03): This fall he began a tenure track appointment in the Department of History and Political Science at Lee University in Cleveland, TN.

David Yates (MA '03) recently completed his doctoral thesis at Brown University on “Remembering the Persian War Differently.” Despite the difficult job market this year, he landed a position this year at Millsaps College in Mississippi.

Courtney Roby (MA '05) won a fellowship at Stanford's Center for the Humanities for this year; she'll defend her doctoral thesis, “The encounter of knowledge: technical *ekphrasis* from Alexandria to Rome,” in the fall (also from Stanford).

In a switch of fields, **Garrett Rea** recently defended his dissertation and finished his PhD in mathematics on “A Harnack inequality and Holder continuity of weak solutions to parabolic equations involving Hormander vector fields,” which proves certain interesting properties regarding the diffusion of heat through strange materials.

Theresa Obyrne (MA '05) visited Colorado in May before she headed to Queen's University Belfast next year on a teaching and research fellowship. “Hopefully, I'll be able to find some time to head back to Colorado soon after my return to the States, and I'll look forward to catching up with you then,” she says.

Rob Nichols (MA '06) spent this year at the American School of Classical Studies and will be taking part in excavations at Corinth over the summer before returning to his special author exams. He plans a dissertation on vengeance (*timoria*) in the Attic orators at the University of Indiana.