



JUNO'S PEACOCK

Or the Eyes have it

Newsletter of the Wesleyan University Department of Classical Studies

Issue 14

Summer 2009

When Argus, the hundred-eyed guard animal (and also the name of Wesleyan's student newspaper) was killed by Hermes (Jupiter's hit-man, and the name of Wesleyan's alternative campus paper), some part of him survived death. His eyes were saved by Juno and set in the tail of her peacock.

Argus, you lie low; the light you had in so many eyes is extinguished,
And your hundred points of light are now all dark.
But Juno saved the eyes, and set them in the feathers of her peacock:
She filled its tail with jewels as bright as stars.

(Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 1,720-23)

We have had a great response from alumni for the past issues so keep the news coming, to the address listed below or to email (dsierpinski@wesleyan.edu). Please let us know what else you would like to see in Juno's Peacock, and thanks to all of you who sent in information for this issue. Logo by Cindie Cagenello ('88).

FACULTY DOINGS

ROBERT CALDWELL The highlight of the year was the birth of Bruce Pennington Caldwell on March 8. Bruce and Georgia, his two-year-old sister, keep Lauren and me busy, but I did manage (just!) to teach intermediate courses on Lysias and Cicero in the Fall semester and an advanced Latin class on Pliny's letters and a seminar on Rome in the Near East in the spring. I will be teaching as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Trinity College next year and would like to thank every one for three good years at Wesleyan.



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LAUREN CALDWELL Lauren Caldwell had a busy, happy year. In the fall she taught Roman Elegy to a group of excellent advanced Latinists in a course that managed to combine an enjoyment of the lighthearted themes of love poetry with an appreciation of the serious artistic elements of that genre. In the same semester she shepherded new Latin students through the first half of Wheelock and organized, with Prof. Szegedy-Maszak, the first "Lunch 101," a mid-term gathering to encourage beginning Latin and Greek students to meet each other. Always ready for entertaining extracurricular activity, Prof. Caldwell was involved with the exhibit "Roman Art from the Louvre" at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, for which she created a podcast about one of her favorite pieces of Roman imperial art, the biographical sarcophagus of the young Cornelius Statius. Studying that sarcophagus has encouraged her to begin an article comparing more broadly the portrayal and conceptualization of life stages of young males and females on Roman funerary monuments. Prof. Caldwell was on leave in the spring for the birth of son Bruce, who joins two-year-old sister Georgia.

CELINA GRAY "Kostis and I are happy to announce the birth of our daughter, Kalliope, on October 19. (She was named for a favorite aunt and wasn't intentionally given a Classical name, although it is a nice coincidence.) I returned from leave for Spring 09 to teach the combined intermediate/advanced Greek course on Herodotus and a survey of Greek art & archaeology. Both classes were terrific and my students kept me on my toes! In May, I presented research for a forthcoming article about the famous Marathon painting in the Athenian Stoa Poikile at the MACTe colloquium in New Haven. This is a new forum for junior faculty in Classics from Massachusetts and Connecticut and one of my co-presenters was our new department member, Eirene Visvardi."

MARILYN KATZ taught GRK 261 The Greek Tragedians in fall 2008.

CHRISTOPHER PARSLAW In the fall I taught my survey of Roman History and my seminar on Roman Villa Life. The seminar was small so I greatly appreciated the enthusiasm

and dedication of the students, who prepared a fascinating series of presentations on various aspects of villas and villa life in the Roman provinces. I have been on sabbatical this spring and have managed to accomplish a great deal, despite having to juggle work and Olivia, who is now 20 months old and still absolutely adorable. In January, I chaired a session and read a paper entitled "The *sacrarium* of Isis in the *Praedia Iuliae Felicis* in Pompeii in its Archaeological and Historical Contexts" at a symposium organized by the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC on *Rediscovering the Ancient World on the Bay of Naples*, held in conjunction with the exhibit at the National Gallery *Pompeii and the Roman Villa: Art and Culture around the Bay of Naples*. I have now converted this into a more formal paper which will be published along with the others in the seminar in a volume of the National Gallery's series on *Studies in the History of Art*. In February, I gave a paper for the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, which held its meeting at Wesleyan, entitled "Recent archaeological findings in the *Praedia* of Julia Felix in Pompeii." In April, I gave the William T. and Elizabeth McKibben Memorial Lecture at Grinnell College on "Love and Life in the *Praedia* (Properties) of Julia Felix in Pompeii." The McKibben's taught me Greek and Latin at Grinnell and so it was an honor to repay my debt to them with this lecture. Since my talk was so heavily based on the graffiti and inscriptions from Pompeii, I offered to give the students an additional lunchtime seminar on what we can learn about Pompeian life from the inscriptional evidence. In the meantime, I have continued to plow through my manuscript on the *Praedia* of Julia Felix and have now finished almost all of the CAD drawings and the chapter on the so-called domus.

MICHAEL ROBERTS Michael's book *The Humblest Sparrow: The Poetry of Venantius Fortunatus* (University of Michigan Press) finally saw the light of day this May. His next project is a translation, with parallel text, of Fortunatus' poetry for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library. In June he will be traveling to Ghent (Belgium) to speak at the conference *Intermixti Spiritus Oris: The Interface Between Rhetoric and Poetry in Late Antiquity (From the Age of Diocletian Until Arcadius)*. His paper will be on rhetoric in the *Natalicia* (birthday poems) that Paulinus of Nola wrote each year for the an-

nual festival of St. Felix. It has, as always, been an interesting year as chair. The high point was a successful search for a new tenure-track faculty member in Greek literature. Everybody in the department is thrilled that Eirene Visvardi, a specialist in Greek tragedy, will be joining us in the new academic year. On the institutional front Michael served as chair of the university's Review and Appeals Board and on an ad hoc committee to review tenure and promotion procedures. Among the courses he taught was a second iteration of his first-year course *In a Manner of Speaking*, on ancient rhetoric. The interest in rhetoric sparked by President Obama's oratorical skills gave the course particular immediacy and students devoted some time to studying his rhetorical characteristics.

ANDY SZEGEDY-MASZAK Andy Szegedy-Maszak taught the elementary Greek sequence for the first time in several years, to a lively and enthusiastic group, and he found that he very much enjoyed teaching (and re-learning) the basics of Greek grammar. He also taught a freshman seminar, "Three Great Myths," and the lecture survey of Greek Drama. He also did some European travel, to Paris in the fall to discuss an exhibition of modern photographs of Greece by Robert McCabe, and to Athens, just after Thanksgiving, to deliver a paper at an international conference on "The Creative Photograph in Archaeology" sponsored by the Benaki Museum. He also chaired the University's Educational Policy Committee and has been elected to chair it again next year, in the hope that he will have learned from his mistakes. He notes with some bemusement that this past academic year was his 35th at Wesleyan.

EIRENE VISVARDI In 2008-2009 I was at Brandeis University for my second and last year as a Florence Levy Kay Fellow in Ancient Theater. In the Fall Semester, I taught a course on "Lovers, Tyrants, and Other Enemies: Greek Tragedy from Aeschylus to Brecht" and team-taught advanced Greek on Euripides' *Hecuba*. This play became the focus of a number of projects. Along with my colleague Leonard Muellner and our students in the advanced Greek course I produced a literal translation of Euripides' play which the professor of Theater Arts and director Eric Hill used as the basis for an adaptation of the play for an onstage production by the Brandeis Theater Company. In the Spring term I also taught a course with Eric on

"*Hecuba in Performance*". The course combined training the MFA students in the Suzuki acting method with an examination of the play in its original performance context in Classical Athens. In this course and during rehearsals for the final production I enjoyed the fascinating process of turning words into action for the stage. The production of Euripides' *Hecuba* by the Brandeis Theater Company took place in April. It opened with a symposium organized by the Department of Classical Studies in which I gave a presentation titled "Euripides' *Hecuba*: The limits of Sympathy, Past and Present". As a Kay Fellow I also had the opportunity to serve as a member of the Interdisciplinary Arts and Humanities Committee. The committee organized events that facilitate interaction between scholars and artists from different Arts and Humanities Departments at Brandeis. At one of these events, I discussed my research and collaborative work with the Departments of Theater Arts and Music. In May I participated in MACTe, a colloquium at Yale University for scholars from Massachusetts and Connecticut. I presented parts of my research on Greek tragedy and the emotions with a paper titled "Fear and the *Polis*: Emotion in Aeschylus' *Eumenides* and Euripides' *Bacchae*". I was happy to see my (now) colleague Celina Gray and hear more about both her research and Classics at Wesleyan. On the publication front, I submitted my article "Pity and Panhellenic Politics: Choral Emotion in Euripides' *Hecuba* and *Trojan Women*". It will appear as a chapter in David Carter's *Why Athens? A Reappraisal of Tragic Politics*, forthcoming by Oxford University Press. In the summer I enjoyed team-teaching with Emily Allen Hornblower of Rutgers University an intensive graduate seminar at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington DC. The seminar, titled "*Tragic Pathos: Body and Mind in Greek Tragedy*", focused on the interconnection between physical and emotional states in Greek drama; it also included training in the electronic publishing of tragic fragments. I first visited Wesleyan last February. After a welcoming and inspiring visit with the faculty and students from Classical Studies, I look very much forward to joining the department in the new academic year.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2009

Classical Civilization

Trevor Adams
Carly Bollinger
Paul Gerdes
Anna Pachner
Eric Weiskott
Fred Zenker

Classics

Candace Buckner
Stephanie Leung
Thomas Sisson
Thomas Van Denburgh

Academic Prizes

Ingraham prize for excellence in Greek

Thomas Van Denburgh ('09)
Eric Weiskott ('09)

Sherman prize for excellence in Classics

Erik Weiskott ('09)

Spinney prize for excellence in written work in Classical Studies

Fred Zenker ('09)

Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (Fall 2008)

Thomas Van Denburgh ('09)
Eric Weiskott ('09)

Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (Spring 2009)

Fred Zenker ('09)

Senior Theses and Essays

--Trevor Adams (essay), "The Heroic Theme: Ancient Values in Relation to Modern Society"

--Candace Buckner, "Fashioning the Desert"

--Thea DeArmond, "The Menelaion"

--Stephanie Leung (essay), "Camilla and Dido: Roman Identity and Female Sexuality"

--Thomas Van Denburgh, "PRESSULE: The Egyptian Ass; Or the Incest Motif in Apuleius' *The Golden Ass*"

--Frederick Zenker, "The Rural Basis of the Ancient Greek City"

Junior/Senior Dinner, April 30, 2009



Trevor Adams



Candace Buckner



Thea DeArmond



Stephanie Leung



Tom VanDenburgh



Fred Zenker

Thesis and essay writers gave brief presentations on their work (pictures above). It was a memorable evening and a joyful end to the year.

SQUIRE FUND

The department makes small grants to students from the Squire Fund, which help cover part of the cost of study abroad or of classics-related projects, of summer language courses and of programs such as those offered by the American School at Athens. This year the following students received grants:

Jessica Cepeda, College Year in Athens

Stephen Grodski, College Year in Athens

Christopher Kaltsas, Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome

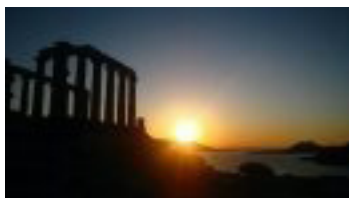
Anna Pachner, Study Abroad in Greece

The Major's Committee met periodically during the year. Events included a viewing of episodes of the TV series "Up Pompeii" at an ice cream social.



With my grant from the Squire fund, I was able to travel to Greece in March of 2009 to do research for my thesis on rites of passage at Brauron in northeast Attica. I visited Brauron (both the ancient site and modern day camp) and conducted several interviews with women who had participated in the modern camp.

Anna Pachner '09



Senior Major's Future Plans

Anna Pachner will be pursuing a Master's degree next year at Christie's Education in NYC in Modern Art, Connoisseurship and the History of the Art Market.

Eric Weiskott will be studying for a Ph.D. in English at Yale. His main interests lie in medieval literature, but he also plans to try his hand at Byzantine Greek, and to address himself to pan-historic issues of periodization.

STUDY ABROAD

Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome
When I first embarked on the ICCS - Rome program in January, I was unsure what it would be like. My home in the United States is in a rural area, so one of my challenges would be living in a foreign city. My concept of modern Rome was also a little blurry - I had no idea how the modern city interacted with the ancient remains that once lay beneath its surface. After three months and three weeks of living in the city, it still amazes me that such interaction exists. The ICCS program is designed to cement the idea of Rome as a growing entity. The program took field trips to archaeological sites three times per week, totaling up to twenty hours of class, and though this might sound like it's a lot, it's necessary in order to understand the achievements and the magnitude of the ancient Roman empire. That's not to say that the program explored the entirety of ancient Rome - with twenty hours of class time per week, we were able to explore Rome and its immediate environs, the Roman and Etruscan Bay of Naples Area, and Greco-Roman Sicily. My idea of what the classical world was like was redefined - I had never before imagined anything like this. The program went beyond the Classics, however. Professors and fellow students became close-knit very quickly, and so the mentality of going to school soon turned into one of going out for a day of "adventures," as the program director, Franco, would say. The administration also helped students get acclimated to Italian culture and language, and would help students with whatever they needed. All in all, the program helped me grow both personally and intellectually. I wholeheartedly recommend it to

any classics major, and especially to Romanists. The close (sometimes extremely close) nature of those working and living at the Centro (our building) is an experience that would be great for anyone. I would definitely do it again, if given the chance.

Chris Kaltsas 2011



Chris in the ancient city of Herculaneum

CLASSICAL STUDIES LECTURE SERIES 2008-2009

Celia Schultz, Yale University, November 13, 2008, "The Romans and Ritual Murder."

Petra Schierl, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton, April 23, 2009, "*Deus nobis haec otia fecit:*" Recontextualizing Virgil's bucolic *deus*.

After each lecture and a reception, the speaker and a group of faculty and students got together for dinner and informal conversation at a restaurant in Middletown.

COMMENCEMENT/REUNION 2009



ALUMNAE/ALUMNI NEWS

John McLucas (1974) became Chair of Foreign Languages at Towson University, Maryland in August 2008. He is introducing Ancient Greek and Biblical Hebrew to the curriculum in Fall 2009.

Deborah Lyons (1976) was awarded the Women's Classical Caucus prize for the best article of 2009, "The Scandal of Women's Ritual," published in *Finding Persephone: Women's Rituals in the Ancient Mediterranean*, ed. A. Tzanetou and M. Parca (Indiana University Press, 2007).

Richard Order (1978) is a commercial litigator at Axinn, Veltrop and Harkrider in Hartford, CT. He and his wife Denise live in Simsbury, CT. Their older son, Jonathan, is a junior at Hampshire College, and their younger son, Daniel, is a freshman at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Beth Calamia Scheckel (1990) lives with in her husband, Will, and her 2 year old son, Carl, in Montclair, NJ. She is the international student advisor at Montclair State University. She also teaches in the Classics department. She says: "I am so happy that I am able to continue using my classics degree, and I have to admit to checking Wesleyan professors' syllabi on occasion to "borrow" some good ideas. Carl has recently become interested in my Latin version of "Green Eggs and Ham" so I hope that he will follow my footsteps one day.

Josh Arthurs (1997) says: "It has been a big year for me." Since finishing his doctorate in modern European history at the University of Chicago in 2007, he has spent the past two years in a postdoc at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. Josh says: "After a long and daunting search for that elusive tenure-track position, I am happy to report that I will be starting as an assistant professor at West Virginia University this fall. My wife, Malayna (Wes '97) and I had our second son, Carlo, in December 2008. Along with big brother Eli (4 years old), we'll be moving to Morgantown over the summer."

Dina Guth (2004) is presently at the University of Michigan and just started working on her dissertation. She says: "Ann Arbor always felt a lot like New England to me, though it is larger

than Middletown, of course. And the University doesn't feel so big since I'm teaching a lot of tennis, of course. I still see Nate Andrade around here as well, though he's finishing up this year."

Michelle Paul (2004) Michelle lives in Brooklyn, New York, and is the Business Development Manager at Patron Technology. She does online marketing for the arts and non-profit organizations. She says: "Mostly this means that I give seminars to art marketers, teaching them how to use e-mail, Facebook, and Twitter."

Katherine Harkins (2006) finished her first year at the University of North Carolina School of Public Health. She is working on her Masters in Healthcare Administration. The Summer of 2009, she is interning at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She says: "Then one more year to go."

Anne Bodel (2008) is currently working for AmeriCorps in Florida – Tallahassee – where she spent the winter building suspension bridges for the Florida Trails Association in Ocala National Forest. She will start leading work crews in the summer, after another training program in New Hampshire. She says: "Every month of AmeriCore puts another \$500 into a graduate school account, courtesy of the federal government."

Joanna Kenty (2008) made the decision to start Penn's Ph.D. program in Classical Studies in the Fall of 2009.

Heather Teixeira (2008) has been working for Strategic and International Studies, a think tank in Washington D.C. which is in their global health policy center. She will leave for Africa (country to be determined) with the Peace Corps in April 2009.

KIDS CORNER



Georgia and Bruce

Parents: Bob and Lauren Caldwell



Olivia

Parents: Chris Parslow and Christina



**Kalliope correctly identifies
the architectural moldings.**

Parents: Celina Gray and Kostis



Alina Christine

Grandparents: Debbie and Bryan Sierpinski

WESCLASSICS on the WWW

Juno's Peacock is on-line and can be accessed through the Classical Studies home page on the World-Wide Web (*check out our new web page*). Information is also available on faculty, current course offerings and requirements for the Classics and Classical Civilization major, summer programs and study abroad. There are also links to other Wes pages, and to our Resources for Archaeology and Classical Studies on the WWW, which has been named a "Recommended Website" by the History Channel. The www address is <http://www.wesleyan.edu/classics/>; if you lose this info you can just go to www.wesleyan.edu and poke around. Also look for the home page for the Archaeology Program at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/archprog/>. All of the Wes faculty and staff are on electronic mail as well: for most, the address is the first initial plus last name with no spaces, followed by @wesleyan.edu; this holds for [lcaldwell](mailto:lcaldwell@wesleyan.edu) (Lauren Caldwell), [cgray](mailto:cgray@wesleyan.edu) (Celina Gray), [mkatz](mailto:mkatz@wesleyan.edu) (Marilyn Katz), [cparslow](mailto:cparslow@wesleyan.edu) (Christopher Parlow), [mroberts](mailto:mroberts@wesleyan.edu) (Michael Roberts), [evisvardi](mailto:evisvardi@wesleyan.edu) (Eirene Visvardi), and [dsierpinski](mailto:dsierpinski@wesleyan.edu) (Deborah Sierpinski). The exception to the rule is [aszegedymasz](mailto:aszegedymasz@wesleyan.edu) (Andrew Szegedy-Maszak).