

# THE CLASSICS NEWSLETTER

Volume XXVII

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Fall 2008

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These last few years have been a time of transition for the Classics Department. In my last letter I reported on Bob Renehan's retirement. And now I must also report Jo-Ann Shelton's decision to retire this last June. Jo-Ann has been a mainstay of this department, beloved by her students, admired by her colleagues, and regarded with sincere affection by all who have had the privilege of working with her. Luckily for us, she will not disappear but continues to teach for us on a "recall" basis. Still, she will have more time for her research and we wish her well on the various projects to which she will be devoting her time in what looks likely to be a very active retirement.

On the other side of the balance sheet, however, there will soon be new faces in our halls. Helen Morales, a specialist in Greek literature and culture during the Roman Empire and also an inspiring interpreter of Classical Mythology, will join us in January from Cambridge University (see article below). Her much-anticipated arrival will raise our profile nationally and internationally and give renewed impetus to our long-standing interdisciplinary efforts. And as I write we are receiving applications for our present search to fill a new position in Greek Literature recently authorized by our administration. These are very positive signs for our future.

Another, less important transition is on the horizon. This is my fifth year as Chair, and while I am very grateful to have been given the chance to lead such a congenial and energetic department, I will certainly be equally grateful to pass the helm to someone else. I thank all members of the Classics Department – faculty, staff, and graduate students – for investing their trust in me and putting up with me this long.

—Robert Morstein-Marx

## The UCSB Classics Department

Tel: 805-893-3556 Fax: 805-893-4487

Web: [www.classics.ucsb.edu](http://www.classics.ucsb.edu)

Email: [classicsinfo@classics.ucsb.edu](mailto:classicsinfo@classics.ucsb.edu)

## Helen Morales joins UCSB Classics



The Department of Classics at UCSB is delighted to announce that Helen Morales, currently Senior Lecturer in Classics at the University of Cambridge, will be joining our faculty on January 1, 2009.

Dr. Morales received her Ph.D. from Cambridge University and has taught at the University of Reading, Arizona State University, and Cambridge (from 2001), where she is also a Fellow of Newnham College. In 1998-9 she was a Fellow at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington DC.

She is a leading international figure in the interpretation of the ancient Greek novel, with strong interests in fiction, the relations between art and text, and gender studies. Her 2004 monograph, a study of *Vision and Narrative in Achilles Tatius' Leucippe and Clitophon* (Cambridge U.P.), offers a fresh reading of the Greek novel in its cultural, literary and visual contexts ("the razor's edge of ancient novel studies today" - *Times Literary Supplement*). She has broad interests in literary criticism, ancient and modern; co-edited the

volume *Intratextuality: Greek and Roman Textual Relations* (Oxford U.P. 2000) and also co-edits *Ramus*, the international Classics journal devoted to critical readings of ancient texts.

Dr. Morales has the kind of interdisciplinary outlook for which UCSB is increasingly noted. At Cambridge she was co-organizer of seminars and symposia on histories of sexuality, on ancient ideas about shame, and on the ancient Jewish historian Josephus. She also served on the Management Committee of the Cambridge Centre for Gender Studies, and co-organised a major conference on new solutions to old gender problems (with speakers including Catherine MacKinnon, Carole Pateman, John Dupre, and Halef Afshar). Following her participation in a series of externally-funded seminars on Art and Law (with the Arts Council of Great Britain and Kings College Research Centre), Dr Morales, together with Simon Goldhill, is writing a book on the problems that the law has with art (and *vice versa*).

Her interests in the past have been always connected to major contemporary concerns – leadership, class, race, feminism, aesthetics, law – a better understanding of which, she insists, comes through appreciating their investment in the Classics. Her latest book, *Classical Mythology: A Very Short Introduction* (in Oxford's *Very Short Introductions* series) is a good example of this, highlighting not only ancient mythology in its original contexts, but also its impact on art, politics, philosophy and literature throughout the ages, from Freud and Mozart to Rockefeller and New Age goddess worship. She is therefore a natural "fit" for our lecture courses in translation, as well as for our more specialized and graduate courses, above all our survey of Greek Mythology that every quarter packs IV Theater I with 500 students. She has done consultancy work for the Royal National Theatre, reviews books for a wide range of journals including the *Times Literary Supplement*, and is in demand as a speaker on the radio (most recently on Tibor Fisher's program on the ancient novel on BBC Radio 4).

Among her current projects are completing an edited volume on Josephus (with Simon Goldhill), launching a new Penguin Classics on *Greek Fiction* (with translations of Chariton, Longus, and Chion of Heraclea), and starting a major new research project on a cultural history of incest in antiquity.

And how does she feel about coming to Santa Barbara? "Thrilled! What's exciting about UCSB Classics is its real commitment to teaching it in a truly interdisciplinary way: as part of intellectual history, as part of cultural studies. It's a department that is on the up-and-up – with a growing Ph.D. program, bold new research initiatives in modern and ancient Hellenic Studies, the Getty Villa on the doorstep – I couldn't be happier."

## UCSB Archaeological Field School at Priniatikos Pyrgos, Crete

by Brice Erickson

On July 21, 2008, eight UCSB students and their professor met in a remote Greek village on the north coast of Crete and made history. They traveled across the world to participate in UCSB's first excavation in Greece. The site chosen, Priniatikos Pyrgos, a rocky peninsula jutting out on the north coast, is today a refuge for sunbathers and swimmers wanting seclusion from the overcrowded beaches of the eastern part of the island. In antiquity, this was a thriving port town that connected the Bronze Age palaces and Classical city-states in East Crete to other parts of the island and the outside world. The setting is dramatic—on windy days, waves crash ashore on all sides of the peninsula, dousing tourists and archaeologists alike with spray. We began early in the morning, as the sun was rising, to make the most of the cool part of the day. The first order of business was setting up the grid system for the trench and determining elevations for the corners of the trench. Then we broke ground, taking swings with our big picks. Our trench was eight meters wide and ten meters long, large enough for a team of five to dig and three to assist by moving the earth away from the trench and sieving for artifacts. We were part of a larger team, with Irish archaeologists and students running other trenches on the peninsula. Within days, Californian and Irish participants had become fast friends.

I expected to find a coin near the surface on the first day, and had the students sieve everything we dug. Surprisingly, we didn't find a coin—the ancient inhabitants of Priniatikos Pyrgos must have been much more careful about loose change than people in a typical parking lot today—but this didn't seem to dampen the diggers' enthusiasm for hard work. We excavated for over a month, day in and day out, arriving at the site in the early morning and digging until the afternoon heat forced a retreat to the storerooms, where we processed finds and worked on excavation records. We lived nearby in rented rooms with basic amenities and no decorative touches apart from the purple bougainvillea against whitewashed walls. Also nearby was our favorite restaurant, a small shack on the beach that offered the best French fries and pork souvlaki in Greece.

We soon found out that our trench had an unusual number of modern (19th century A.D.) field walls and a large, cement-lined pit connected with industrial activity. Although these remains were not as old as we had hoped to encounter, we excavated and recorded them as carefully as we would a Classical Greek temple. The phrase "Greek in a week" began to be heard as we painstakingly removed soil around the modern field walls, hoping to find earlier remains beneath.

Other distractions from the hard work were singing songs (Disney tunes were a favorite in our trench, less so with the Irish) and late afternoon soccer matches at a derelict field as tired diggers proved they had an ounce of energy left. Things in the trench took a dramatic turn in the final week. Just as I had begun to reconcile myself to having nothing older than the 19th century, we discovered an enormous pebble



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## Gifts to the Keith Aldrich Memorial Collection

by F.H. Hahn,  
*procurator librorum*

I have the pleasure of announcing three recent gifts to the Keith Aldrich Memorial Collection housed in the Classics Reading Room in HSSB. Last spring our own Theony Condos, Ph.D., instructor in the Summer Sessions Greek Travel-Study program, made a substantial donation in memory of her friend Lena Dumas. You may recall that Mrs. Dumas and her husband gifted the department with a collection of ancient Greek artifacts used in our archaeology classes and also established a fund for the Nicholas and Lena Dumas Prizes in Greek Mythology and in the History and Culture of the Greek People. We received another generous donation from the Santa Barbara Lodge of the Oddfellows Society given at the behest of Dr. James G. Stathis. Dr. Stathis is a local dentist who has made other such gifts to the department.

These cash donations are used to expand our collection of text, commentaries, and scholarly works, especially on authors taught in our reading and seminar classes. Since the hire of our own Greek archaeologist, we have also begun to establish a small collection of texts essential for study of art and archaeology.

Most recently, Lisl Auf

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*(Crete, continued from page 3)*

floor under the modern field walls. It ran across much of the trench and abutted an early wall in the corner. Had we found our "Greek in a week"? On the final days of excavation we dug smaller test pits through the floor to gather pottery associated with the construction of the floor. What we discovered shocked everyone. The pottery from the floor dated to 2,000 B.C., before the Classical Greeks and even the Bronze Age palaces on Crete. We had found one of the earliest architectural features at the site!

The material we found in just one season will take years to study and publish and involve specialists from many different branches of archaeology. To take just one example, the Irish discovered a medieval church crowning the high point of the peninsula, and near the church was a burial ground, with dozens of skeletons. Our students took turns excavating the human remains with a physical anthropologist, whose study of the skeletons will enable us to say something definitive about diet and disease in a poorly documented period of medieval Greek history. This is perhaps the most important lesson we took from Priniatikos Pyrgos: archaeology is a collaborative effort, bringing people from different backgrounds, nationalities, and specialties together for the common purpose of understanding the past. We hope to return with students next summer for the second season of the UCSB excavations.

## Featured Alumnus: Ryan Platte

*This year we feature an alumnus of our undergraduate program. Ryan Platte was hooked on Classics after taking our Greek Mythology survey (Classics 40) and starting Latin shortly thereafter. He earned his B.A. in Classics in 2001, winning in that year our Keith Aldrich Memorial Award for outstanding undergraduate major. He then entered the graduate program at the University of Washington, and received the Ph.D. in June, 2008, completing a dissertation on "Horses and Horsemanship in the Oral Poetry of Greece and the Indo-European World." He took some time out this fall from his first set of lectures in his new job to write this reminiscence of his time here.*

Having recently completed my Ph.D. at the University of Washington and taken a position as



assistant professor at Washington University in St. Louis, it's a great pleasure to reflect on, and to appreciate, the time that I spent as an undergraduate at UC Santa Barbara. I didn't begin my academic career as a Classics major, but as an English major with an interest in Latin and Greek. Classics, however, rapidly grew into my primary field of study, due, in very large part, to the quality of my experiences in the UCSB Classics Department. I encountered there intellectual encouragement and support, both from faculty and fellow students, that was quite remarkable and that I can now recognize was a formative influence on my studies and my career. A sense of camaraderie was a consistent element of my time in the department. What I recall most clearly, however, is the atmosphere of the classes, which were congenial and familiar while consistently intellectually rigorous. I also remember, and deeply appreciate, the department's eagerness to foster the professional ambitions of the graduate and undergraduate students alike. And Professor Dunn's homebrew maintains a special place in my heart as well.



## Faculty News

**Apostolos Athanassakis** was pleased to see the publication of *The Orthodox Study Bible* in the spring of this year. He was responsible for the final text of the translation of the Psalms and The Book of Job. Many evenings of delightful yet hard work went into this project. As he reported in our last newsletter, he is working on the *Orphic Hymns*. He has done a new translation and has been through it with Greek text in hand four times. This translation is ready now. He is close to finishing the introduction. Benjamin Wolkow, our own Ph.D., is working on the notes and the indices. Johns Hopkins University Press has offered a contract for the book. A collection of poems in Greek is with Pella Publishing Company in New York. The projected publication date is December 2008. A collection of poems, essentially monologues by women who appear in *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, is almost ready. These monologues are meant for performance. Much as in the past five summers, AA took UCSB students to Greece for a summer study program. There were thirty-four this summer as opposed to fifty-four last summer. It was clear to all involved that the drop was due to financial distress. However, this summer was as successful as all previous ones. This is reflected very clearly in the student evaluations. In keeping with the thrift which had to be practiced, this summer the trip to Naxos was regrettably cancelled. Students are knocking on the door for summer 2009 and that is a good sign.

In the past year, **Francis Dunn** spoke on "Sophocles and the Narratology of Drama" at a conference on *Narratology* and *Interpretation* in Theassaloniki, Greece and on "Apollo in Sophocles' *Electra*" at the annual meeting of CAMWS in Tucson, Arizona. He is currently at work on a raft of papers and chapters dealing with Sophocles, Euripides, False Closure, Intertextuality, and Theatre in Crisis. When not staring at his computer screen, he is planting or harvesting vegetables in his year-round garden.

After the long hours of seclusion necessary to completing her book, *Feminine Discourse in Roman Comedy: On Echoes and Voices*, which was released from Oxford University Press in August, **Dorota Dutsch** has endeavored to rejoin the world and communicate viva voce whenever possible. She has given papers on topics ranging from the use of obscenities by modern feminist performers to vocal techniques used by Roman actors impersonating women, as well as ancient perceptions of suicide. She is currently working on her new book project, a translation and commentary on Pseudo-Pythagorean letters (allegedly) authored by female philosophers, tentatively entitled *Tales of the Bitten-off Tongue*. Last but not least, in collusion with the students enrolled in her graduate seminar in Spring 2007, Prof. Dutsch



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(Gifts, continued from page 3)

der Heide offered the department her late husband's collection of books in the classics. In addition to translations of ancient works, there were several Loeb editions that we did not have in our collection. Ralph Auf der Heide, founder of the Wine Cask, was a lover of Greek and Roman literature and was learning to read Greek so that he would no longer be dependent on translations. Finally, our own professors have added to the shelf of books by faculty authors, including Francis Dunn, Dorota Dutsch and Robert Morstein-Marx.

We are grateful to each of these donors, who have helped to support this important resource for students and faculty in the Classics department. *Multas gratias.*

## Graduate Student News

This year we welcome three new graduate students:

**Angela Holzmeister** comes to us from the University of Toronto, where she received an M.A. in Classics. Prior to her stint in Canada, Angela studied at the University of Kansas where she earned B.A.'s in both Classics and German. She is looking forward to continuing her study of Greek and Latin poetry and contemplating a dissertation on Ovid.

**Liem Hinh** received his B.A. from UCLA and spent a year in the post-baccalaureate program there. He will be pursuing his graduate degree in Classics with

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(*Grad. Student News, cont. from page 5*)

an emphasis in Ancient History, focusing on the late republican and early imperial periods.

**Jordan Roberts** received his B.A. from the University of Connecticut in the Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies. He is pursuing a doctoral degree in Classics and plans on concentrating on sixth and fifth century Greek literature.

New Ph.D. student **Angela Holzmeister** delivered a paper last April at Harvard's graduate conference in Classics, "Coping with Trauma in the Ancient World." Her paper was titled "Anticipating the Past: Freud's Theory of Repetition Compulsion in Trauma Patients and Aulus Gellius 6.11."

**Christine Maisto**, Ph.D. student, presented a paper entitled "Controlling Gut Reaction" at the panel on *Performing Obscenities* at the *Feminism and Classics V Conference* at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in May. Her paper "Gorgias Signifies Nothing" was accepted for presentation at the annual spring meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS) in Tucson.

Ph.D. student **Tracy Jamison Wood** gave a paper at the annual CAMWS meeting in Tucson, "The Best Imitation of Myself: Helen and Her Artistic Streak." Last summer she

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(*Faculty News, continued from page 5*)

produced Hrotsvit's *Calimachus*—in Latin—directed by Andrew Henkes (Drama), starring Seth Jeppesen as the title villain and Michael Kelleher as the innocent Drusiana (see photo!). Many thanks to our learned/Latinate audiences!

**Brice Erickson** had another productive year. He spent much of his time outside the classroom setting up a new excavation on the island of Crete. A field school was part of this project and enabled eight students to join the team this summer and excavate at the ancient port town at Priniatikos Pyrgos. He also worked on a publication of votive plaques and figurines from a seventh-century B.C. Cretan sanctuary at Roussa Ekklesia. The most exciting development last year was the birth of Brice and Jobeth's first child, their daughter Fallon.

**Ralph Gallucci** mentored several undergraduate research projects this past year. In June Mike D'Hondt completed his Senior Thesis on the historical reliability of oral tradition in Homer. Earlier Mike made a presentation on the same topic at the spring UCSB Undergraduate Research Colloquium along with Michael Uhl (on Tiberius and Sejanus) and Leslie Yedor (on Darwin and the Classical Tradition). Ralph completed his fifth year as Director of the Freshman Summer Start Program, now enrolling over 350 students.

**Frances Hickson Hahn** returned full time to teaching in the Spring quarter after spending winter quarter recuperating from surgery for a detached retina that took place in Richmond, Virginia, where she was visiting with her late father. Despite some optical distortion due to what the surgeon describes as "wrinkles on the retina," she has a full schedule this year, including the position of graduate advisor. During fall quarter she is riding the Pacific Surfliner from Santa Barbara to Irvine in order to participate in the Resource Sharing Consortium, which facilitates faculty exchanges between UCSB and Southern California Universities. It is as part of this program that Professor Sissa will travel here from UCLA in the spring. In November, FH will be attending the southern section meeting of CAMWS to present a paper on the "Theology of Thanksgiving." In addition to teaching, she has resumed the position of graduate advisor, which she held several years ago. While much has changed in terms of courses and requirements, she finds that the camaraderie of the graduate students has survived and even flourished; witness the fall reception and dinner for new graduate students.

In April, **Sara Lindheim** traveled to Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, to deliver the third annual Shilpa Raval Memorial Lecture in Classics and Women's Studies. Her talk, entitled "What's Love Got To Do With It?: Mapping Cynthia in Propertius 1.12," was drawn from a new section of her long-term project on the space of empire and Augustan

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(Faculty News, continued from page 6)

poetry. Though she steps down this year after a five-year stint as graduate advisor in Classics, she continues her commitment to Graduate education by taking on the position of Vice-Chair of UCSB's Comparative Literature Program and by joining the APA's committee on the status of women and minority groups.

**Robert Morstein-Marx** trudged on dutifully into his fifth year as Chair. His research time since the publication of the last Newsletter not so many months ago has been spent working on an ever-expanding article about "The Struggle over Italian Voting-Rights in 88-87 BC and Its Implications for the Debate about Political Participation in the Late Roman Republic," which grew out of a 15-minute talk at the APA in January. In other news, he is teaching his son Eric to surf (without actually doing it himself—quite a feat!) and instructing the chess club at his boys' elementary school.

**Robert Renehan** continues to experience the truth of the saying that one is not a whit less busy in retirement. "Could be worse," he sighs. He is still engaged in preparing his collected papers for publication and also is well along in another *LSJ* supplements piece.

**Jo-Ann Shelton** retired as of June 2008, but is looking forward to teaching during the Winter and Spring Quarters on a recall basis. She has just returned from another tour of duty as a lecturer on a Mediterranean cruise ship. Most of the ports were familiar ones, but the ship also traveled to Casablanca and Tangier, Morocco. "One of the highlights of the trip was sailing westward, at sunset, from the Mediterranean, through the Strait of Gibraltar, to the Atlantic, and watching the sun set into the Atlantic as we turned south toward Casablanca." Her chapter on "The State and the Family in Ancient Greece and Rome" will appear soon in *A Cultural History of the Family In Antiquity*.



Congratulations to **Stan Rauh** (Ph.D.student), who received the University's Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for 2007-2008. One faculty nominator described him as a "teacher of quiet energy, who spends a lot of time outside class preparing and forging relationships with students. In class he is positive and committed to creating an environment where each student feels comfortable." One student wrote of his "approachability, knowledge of the subject, willingness to help, fairness, and his caring that they learn."

(Grad. Student News, cont. from page 6)

delivered a paper at the Greek Drama IV conference in Wellington, New Zealand.

Second year student **Seth Jeppesen** is presenting a paper at the fall UCLA graduate conference "Who's Your Daddy?" He has titled his paper "Rape and Paternity in New Comedy." Seth also volunteered to give a preview of his talk at the first Friday Colloquium of this year.

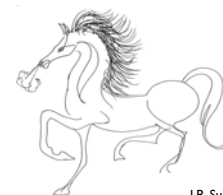
Recent Degrees

**Randy Pogorzelski** earned his doctorate last year with a dissertation entitled *Epic and the Nation in Virgil's Aeneid and Joyce's Ulysses* (S. Lindheim, advisor).

He is presently teaching at UC Irvine as a visiting Assistant Professor.

**Laura Behymer** received her M.A. this spring and is continuing her graduate studies here at UCSB.

**Michael Kelleher** completed requirements for the M.A. this past summer. He presented the paper "Reconstructing Motherhood: Byzantine Reception of Women in Tragedy" at the *Feminism and Classics V Conference* at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in May.



J.P. Sullivan

**Departmental Prizes  
and Awards for  
2007-2008**



*Keith Aldrich Memorial Awards  
for outstanding academic  
achievement in Classics*

Michael Kelleher  
(Graduate)

James Wilson  
(Undergraduate)

*Nicholas and Lena Dumas  
Prizes for outstanding essay in  
Greek mythology*

Sara Jones  
(Fall '07)

Dominick Costantino  
(Winter '08)

*Nicholas and Lena Dumas  
Travel Scholarship for study of  
Greek antiquities*

Michael Hale  
Tamara Serrao Leiva

**Food for thought: Lectures, Conference and Colloquia**

Distinguished visitors from other institutions are crucial for renewing and sustaining the intellectual life of the Department. This year's lectures constituted a particularly bountiful feast. **Erich Gruen** came up from the Getty, where he was Villa Professor this year, to speak to us on "Fictitious Kinships and Dissolution of Boundaries" – a salutary reminder of how fictional family-lines could work to connect cultures and people, qualifying by this means the "Other." **Susan Lape** of USC gave us a foretaste of her current project on "Racial Democracy," presenting her thoughts on Euripides' *Ion* against the background of Athens' claims to ethnic purity ("Euripides' *Ion*: Reproducing Autochthony and Racializing Reproduction"). **Giulia Sissa**, who is appointed both to the Classics and Political Science departments at UCLA, presented a paper on "The Irony of Travel: Herodotus on Persian Democracy" which forms part of her current research on the origins of political theory in Greece. **Helen Morales**, then of Cambridge University (see more on p.2 of this Newsletter), spoke to us about "Fantasising Phryne," a look at early and late accounts of this famous courtesan and her scandalous activities as a way of examining the psychology and ethics of ecphrasis. **James Porter**, our new distinguished neighbor at UC Irvine, lectured on "The Disgrace of Matter in Ancient Aesthetics," a wide-ranging exploration of the effects of systematic depreciation of the concept of "matter" from Plato to Sartre. Finally, **Thorsten Fögen** of the Humboldt University in Berlin, who was visiting UCLA as Feodor Lynen Fellow, delivered a paper on "Scholarship and Competitiveness: Pliny the Elder's Attitude Towards His Predecessors in the *Naturalis historia*," a glimpse into an ancient version of intellectual agonistics, with whose modern descendant we are all quite familiar!

The Classics Department also hosted two lectures under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America visiting lecturers program. **John Hale** of the University of Louisville delivered the annual Sandra Church lecture, "In Poseidon's Realm: Underwater Archaeology in the Mediterranean," and **Salima Ikram** of the American University in Cairo spoke on "Food Fit for Pharaohs: Food and Drink In Ancient Egypt."

A highlight of the winter quarter was a two-day international conference on a modern Greek topic sponsored by the James and Sarah Argyropoulos Endowed Fund in Hellenic Studies and co-organized by our own Argyropoulos Professor in Hellenic Studies, **Apostolos Athanassakis**, and **Voula Tsouna** of the Philosophy Department (who is also affiliated in Classics): "Geography, Tradition, and the Individual: The Case of Modern Greek Architecture." The conference was a great success, among other things in bringing to a US campus a fascinating picture of Greece's importance in the vanguard of contemporary European culture.

Last but certainly not least, the Classics Department held a number of its lunch-hour colloquia over the academic year to hear about current work by faculty and graduate students and to afford a friendly "dry run" of upcoming conference papers or other lectures. **Dorota Dutsch** gave a preview of her APA paper in the fall, "A Pythagorizing Woman in Plautus' *Poenulus*," and graduate students **Randy Pogorzelski** and **Michael Kelleher** gave talks respectively on "The Continuity of Discontinuity in Virgil's Temple of Apollo at Cumae" and "Reconstructing Motherhood: Byzantine Reception of Women in Tragedy."