

ECCE, SCOTI!

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Letter from Chair

SALVETE! XAIPETE!

Dear Students, Alumni, Colleagues, and Friends of Classics at Monmouth College:

I hope you will enjoy this first-ever Department of Classics newsletter, which was the inspiration of my new colleague, Dr. Robert Holschuh Simmons, and the result of the hard work of Classics major Emma Vanderpool '17. You will see that the Classics Dept. has had a very busy year, with lots of fun but academic activities.

A recently-established and very popular event is a monthly Cider with Classics, at which students and faculty gather for fellowship and conversation over locally-produced cider and, usually, Mrs. Sienkewicz' brownies. We still also have the annual and spring picnics on the deck of the Sienkewicz residence.

I taught Star Wars and Classical Mythology again this year, to a full class of 32, and Prof. Simmons introduced a course on Ancient Warfare and Sports, in which students had hands-on experience with ancient weapons and military tactics.

Archaeology is still flourishing at Monmouth. We were fortunate this year to have on our faculty Dr. Victor Martinez, who taught courses on the Archaeology of Food, Pompeii, Magic, and Roman Mythology. Dr. Martinez will move on to other pastures next year, however, and Dr. Kris Lorenzo, who was our Mellon Post-Doctoral Scholar-in-Residence from 2012 through 2014, will return as my sabbatical replacement next year. Students continue to work in the archaeology lab cataloguing the artifacts in our North American collection. Other students, like Kyle Dickson '15, Carina Moschello '15, and Tia Graham '17, worked with Dr. Mary Phillips in the Shields Collection. As usual, we also had a full calendar of archaeological events and lectures throughout the academic year. While the future of archaeology at Monmouth College is still uncertain, student interest remains strong. Not only are the archaeology classes well enrolled, but Monmouth students are also seeking opportunities for more varied archaeological experience; for example, Rachael Laing '15 spent the fall semester studying archaeology at Orkney College in Scotland where she was fortunate to visit the World Heritage site of Skara Brae. Both last summer and this summer Nick Mainz '17 has worked at the Joseph Smith House excavations in Nauvoo, Illinois. Mackenzie Davis '18 will spend this summer at the American Academy in Rome to work with Dr. Martinez on pottery from the Palatine East Excavations.

Gamma Omicron Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2016. We plan to celebrate by hosting the national convention at Monmouth April 1-3. Festivities will include our now-traditional Cena Classica, which you are all welcome to attend. More details will be provided at a later date.

Classics will also co-host with the History Dept. a reception following the Homecoming Parade this fall. Please stop by the Wells Room to say *salve* or *χαίρε*.

One sad note: You will no longer see me driving around Monmouth in my '73 Buick, which I had to sell this year.

So, please enjoy this newsletter and keep in touch!

CLASSICS DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

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DR. ROBERT HOLSCHUH SIMMONS

Alumni,

First, let me thank rising junior Latin and History major Emma Vanderpool for doing the vast majority of the work on this first newsletter, including all of the layout. Once the idea for the newsletter was proposed, she volunteered to put it together, and a few days later, she had page after page of well-organized and -formatted text and images documenting the events of the year. She then asked for feedback, incorporated our text and suggestions, and assured us that she was doing the job because she wanted to do so, not because she felt compelled to do it. That she took this job upon herself and did such a good job is not at all surprising; she has taken a strong sense of ownership of this department since her first day here, and her energy and skills are boundless.

As for me, I have taken great pleasure in getting to know the College, and a number of you, during my first year on the job at Monmouth. Though I very much enjoyed my eight years teaching at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro prior to coming to Monmouth, I am thrilled to be back in the Midwest (I am a Minnesota native, and earned my Ph.D. from Iowa), teaching at a liberal arts school (I went to St. John's in Minnesota), and living in a small town (my wife and I have four boys, ages six to ten, and they love being able to ride their bikes safely throughout the town).

Among the things I have aimed to do in my first year on the job are to give students opportunities to put their learning into action, and in the process to publicize Monmouth College and the study of Classics. For example, seven students joined me to demonstrate Roman military strategies and techniques at the annual meeting of the Illinois Junior Classical League (IJCL) South in Springfield, and eight went with me to demonstrate Greek and Macedonian military strategies and techniques at the annual meeting of the IJCL North in Itasca. Additionally, fifty or so students took part in the first annual Classics Day on April 18, about half of them putting on interactive events that Prof. Martinez coordinated in his Ancient Magic and Witchcraft class and Archaeology Lab. You can read more about all of those events within.

There are many more things about the Classics program about which you can also read within as well. The length of this newsletter is testament to just how vital the program is: our students are active and enthusiastic, they (and the faculty) win awards for their efforts, and we continue to draw healthy numbers of majors and minors.

We hope that you can come back to campus to recall some of the good times you had while at the school, to see what we all are up to now, and to learn some new things along the way. In particular, there are four big events at which we would welcome your presence: the annual meeting of the Illinois Classical Conference, which we are hosting on Oct. 2-4; the annual meeting of Eta Sigma Phi, which we are hosting on April 1-3; and Classics Day, which we are holding on April 23 (that date may change, but I don't think it will). See our Facebook page, or e-mail or call us to hear more about these events.

Enjoy this first alumni newsletter.

Sincerely,
Robert Holschuh Simmons
Assistant Professor



DR. VICTOR MARTINEZ

Originally hailing from Rockford, Illinois, Martinez received his Ph.D. in Ancient Art from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, his M.A. in Classical Art History and Archaeology from the University of Missouri, and his B.A. in Classics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He remains a proud Fighting Illini to this day. His Ph.D. dissertation was entitled *Etrusco-Italic Herclé: A Study in the Formation of Image, Cult, and Regional Identity*. He presently serves as the Co-Director of the Najarilla Valley Research Project as well as the Associate Director of the Palatine East Pottery Project (PEPP) in Rome/Italy. Joining the faculty for the 2014-2015 academic year, Prof. Martinez taught courses such as Roman Mythology, Ancient Magic and Witchcraft, and various archaeology courses.

Archaeology at MC 2014-2015

Here are some of the lectures and events the department hosted during the past academic year.

For abstracts of these lectures and others, see

<http://department.monm.edu/classics/aia/2014-2015.html>

Monday, October 6, 2014

"The Arms of Achilles: The Marine *Thiasos* as Vehicle for Early Hellenistic Royal Ideology"

Kristian Lorenzo, Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, University of Richmond (kristianlorenzo@gmail.com)

Thursday, October 16, 2014

"The Archaeology of Spain"

Víctor M. Martínez, Adjunct Professor of Archaeology, Monmouth College (vmmartinez@gmail.com)

Saturday, October 18, 2014

International Archaeology Day

Members of the Western Illinois Society participated in a special tour of the Dickson Mounds Museum.

Monday, November 3, 2014

"Hammers, Axes, Bulls, and Blood: Practical Aspects of Roman Animal Sacrifice"

Gregory S. Aldrete, Frankenthal Professor of History and Humanistic Studies, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (aldreteg@uwgb.edu)

Monday February 2, 2015

"Skeletons, Skulls, and Bones in the Art of Chichén Itzá"

Virginia E. Miller, Associate Professor in Art History at the University of Illinois at Chicago (vem@uic.edu)

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

"How to Increase Diligence and Build a Museum Collection: Case Studies from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston"

Victoria S. Reed, Sadler Curator for Provenance, Department of Curatorial Planning and Project Management, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (vreed@mfa.org)



Tim Morris '15 models linen armor used in Gregory S. Aldrete's AIA lecture, "Reconstructing and Testing Ancient Linen Body Armor: The Linothorax Project" on November 4, 2014 at Knox College. The previous evening, Dr. Aldrete delivered a talk at Monmouth titled "Hammers, Axes, Bulls, and blood: Practical Aspects of Roman Animal Sacrifice."



CLASSICS CLUB AND ETA SIGMA PHI KICK OFF THE YEAR AT FRESHMAN ACTIVITY FAIR

August 24, 2014

Pictured here are the 2014-2015 officers.

Left to Right: Tim Morris (Sentinel), Tia Graham (Fall Secretary), Emma Vanderpool (President), Amanda Bowman (Treasurer), Rachel Laing (Spring Secretary).

(Not pictured: Tiffany Shaw, Vice President)

CAUTION! Shields Under Construction

August 29, 2014



In preparation for Classics Day and presentations at the meetings of the Illinois Junior Classical League (South and North), members of the Classics Club gathered together with Prof. Simmons to sand shields and to attach handles to Greek and Roman shields.



CELEBRATING THE BIMILLENNIUM OF AUGUSTUS' DEATH

September 26, 2014



The Classics Dept. recognized the bimillennium of Augustus' death at its monthly Cider with Classics with a deathday cake.



CELEBRATING HOMECOMING

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October 4, 2014



*Alumni, don't forget to send in your bios
for next year's board!*

History and Classics alumni gathered with current students and faculty in the Wells room to celebrate 2014 Homecoming. Everyone later went outside to celebrate the bimillennial anniversary of the death of Augustus with a mock Battle of Actium and our signature "squirrel augury."



SIENKEWICZ WINS ICC LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

September 27, 2014



Thomas Sienkewicz, the Minnie Billings Capron Professor of Classics at Monmouth College, was presented with the **Lifetime Achievement Award by the Illinois Classical Conference** at its annual meeting in Chicago.

Over the summer at the 67th Summer Institute of the American Classics League, Sienkewicz also received a prestigious Meritus Award for his sustained and distinguished service to the classics profession.

Two Monmouth history professors recently shared their thoughts about Sienkewicz in conjunction with the Illinois Classical Conference honor, including one, Bill Urban, who had already been on the faculty 18 years when Sienkewicz arrived in 1984.

Urban credited Sienkewicz' s "innovative" triad for Latin, Greek and classics students for boosting enrollment in those disciplines. Sienkewicz also stressed to his students the lack of qualified Latin teachers, and many of his former students can now be found teaching the subject. One of those students, Dawn McRoberts Strauss '03, made a presentation at the Illinois Classical Conference, along with several of her Latin students at Kenwood Academy in Chicago.

"He also took students on one or two trips annually to Italy or Greece or Turkey or Spain or England," said Urban. "No one was ever bored. A trip with Tom Sienkewicz is an exciting experience."

Eventually, said Urban, increasing enrollments justified the addition of part-time help, then a full-time colleague and, later, with the help of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest, an archaeologist.

"Tom Sienkewicz is the personification of the passionate study of classics," said history professor Stacy Cordery. "His tireless outreach goes far beyond the classroom walls. He has made the classics program at Monmouth College an integral part of our very mission and, by acts large and small, reminds us frequently of the continuing importance of classics in our world."

In addition to the trips abroad, Cordery mentioned the "countless number" of students that Sienkewicz has taken to classics conferences.

"Yet it is in the daily hard labor of teaching conjugations and epic poetry and ancient cultures that Prof. Sienkewicz's dedication to the classics shines the brightest," she said. "He is an extraordinary and compassionate teacher-scholar, and for his zealous promotion of the classics in so many forums, he richly deserves this lifetime achievement award."

Sienkewicz, who currently serves as the chief executive and financial officer of The Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS), holds a bachelor's degree from College of the Holy Cross and a master's degree and Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University.

In addition to receiving the award, Sienkewicz presented a paper at the conference, titled "Discovering Emerita Augusta in Modern Merida." It was based on an academic trip he took with students in 2011.

Accompanying him to the conference was MC's newest classics faculty member, Bob Simmons, who presented a talk titled "Animating the Ancient World: Building a Thriving Classics Day." The talk described the Classics Day activities Simmons organized annually at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, which he plans to replicate at Monmouth beginning next April.

- BARRY MCNAMARA

The preceding account of Sienkewicz' award appeared on the [Monmouth College website](#).

Classics Legacies at Monmouth College

Colleges often celebrate legacy students who are the children or grandchildren of alumni. Monmouth has certainly had a great many such legacies, but another form of legacy is the student who comes to Monmouth at the encouragement of their high school teacher who also attended Monmouth. This type of legacy is particularly rewarding when the student chooses to study the same discipline as their teacher. The Classics Department is currently enjoying four such academic legacies and expects a fifth in the upcoming year.

Marlene Holverson Farley MC'84 was the high school Latin teacher of rising junior **Tia Graham MC'17** at Pekin High School. Graham is an international studies major and Latin Performance Scholar who is currently studying abroad in Japan. Farley recalls, "that personal contact, and the personal contact with professors were the reasons that I so wanted to attend Monmouth." Farley originally came to Monmouth with the intention of becoming a Latin teacher and studying under Bernice Fox, Emerita Professor of Classics (1947-1981), Farley has now taught at her *alma mater* in Pekin, IL for almost twenty-five years. Farley says,



"I have always been proud to be a Monmouth graduate, and I have shared that experience with my students. And yes, anytime there is an opportunity, I get them on campus. Even if they choose to attend college elsewhere, they at least have looked at Monmouth and made a decision that was right for them."

Her student, Graham, remembers how Farley set up such a tour of the Monmouth College campus after a meeting of the Illinois Junior Classical League on the Monmouth campus. Graham says, "I would never have known about Monmouth College if it hadn't been for MarFar taking that extra step. I honestly couldn't be more grateful for it. I found my place here; I can't even imagine being at another institution. " Graham gratefully added,

"I owe my entire college experience, joining Alpha Xi Delta, growing here, engaging with the people here, and studying in Japan to her. She made it all possible by taking an

unnecessary extra step that she didn't have to take, but it was just in her character to and it really has made a difference in my life.”

Jennifer Mitten MC’02 remarked that upon hearing that her student **MC’17** at Saint Charles East High School, **Ian Salveson** was planning on attending Monmouth and continuing his studies in the Classics, “I was immediately excited for him because I knew that he had a love for mythology and the Latin language and he was about to embark on an epic college experience, one that I had experienced for myself not that long ago.” When asked why he first started taking Latin, Salveson, a rising junior Classics and Biochemistry major, remembers that he originally just took the course to be with his friend, but that by the end of his first year, his patient and enthusiastic teacher had him “hooked” on the language. He said, “Magistra Mitten made a challenging class into a class where I had a chance to flex my neurons, piecing together the puzzle pieces of the Latin language. Ms. Mitten was one of the people that made me want to go into a teaching profession, and now I may end up teaching Latin too!”

Further reflecting on Salveson being at Monmouth, Mitten said,

“I’m incredibly proud to have had the profound experience of being taught by a master in the world of the Classics who fostered me in my path to becoming a Latin teacher, then having a student of my own continue on to follow in our footsteps. It is amazing to see firsthand the torch of knowledge being passed on from generation to generation, and I feel blessed to have been a part of that in some way.”

Mackenzie Davis MC’18, a student of **Mathew Underwood MC’04** at Cherokee High School and rising sophomore Classics major, fondly remembers how Underwood set in motion the events that would lead her to Monmouth. Hearing that his student was only considering the local community college, Underwood insisted, “My students do not go to community college!” Davis remembers how



Underwood then ran to the board and started listing schools—one of which was Monmouth. He told her that she could either write down the schools and research them, or else he would hold her after for detention to make her fill out college applications. So, she did her research, and that, Davis

claims, was when she fell in love with Monmouth. Reflecting on her first visit to Monmouth, Davis remembers, “From the moment I stepped foot on campus, I knew that I fit in and that it is where I am meant to be.” Underwood, Davis recalled, was always there to reassure her when she had doubts as she considered coming all the way out from New Jersey to Illinois.

Underwood, reflecting on his own time at Monmouth, noted,

“Dr. Sienkewicz has been a tremendous advocate for Classical learning and I could not have learned from a better example. I would like to think that the *enthusiasmos* which moves in Dr. Sienkewicz is the same *enthusiasmos* that animates my teaching career. Dr. Sienkewicz’s respect and passion for our discipline are both clear and inspiring; I certainly am moved by his example still. I think Mackenzie Davis has been inspired by it too, because she boldly sought out this small, out of the way college, even though it was far from home and in a part of the country in which she had never been.”

When asked about her thoughts on Monmouth after her first semester, Davis excitedly reported,

“I found my home at Monmouth: I have amazing friends, I have the best professors, and I’m an (the favorite) academic grandchild! I could not be happier with my decision to come to Monmouth—a decision I never would have made had it not been for the most amazing teacher I’ve ever had. I just don’t think that I will ever be able to thank Mr. Underwood enough.”



Matthew Katsenes MC’04, a contemporary of Underwood, agreed and said that, reflecting upon his own teaching career, he too could see the influence of Sienkewicz and his “boundless enthusiasm for Classics” on his own teaching. He added, “as everyone in the business knows, there’s no better place to become a Latin teacher than Monmouth College, and no better mentor than Tom Sienkewicz.”

With comments such as those, it makes sense that **Emma Vanderpool MC'17**, a student of Katsenes while he was teaching Latin at Lincoln-Way East High School, looked into Monmouth as she planned to follow in the footsteps of her Latin teacher. When asked about why she looked into Monmouth, Vanderpool said,

“Matt is one of the best people I know. Moreover, he is one of the best teachers that I have ever had. When I first looked into Monmouth, I had believed that Monmouth had had an impact on Matt’s approach as a teacher. I quickly recognized the same impressive command of the subject matter; the same genuine, unfettered enthusiasm for the Classics; and the same inspiring dedication to his students in Sienkewicz as I had seen in Matt.”

When reflecting further on Katsenes as a teacher and on his relationship with Sienkewicz, Vanderpool fondly stated,

“Matt has been one of my greatest champions. He has always encouraged me to imagine a future for myself that was brighter than anything I could ever imagine on my own. Sienkewicz, from whom Matt clearly learned so much, has graciously taken up where Matt left off, and in doing so, they have purposefully – and sometimes inadvertently – provided me with wonderful opportunities, from studying abroad to presenting at conferences across the country, all in the pursuit of helping me to become a high school Latin teacher – hopefully one even half as good as Matt.”

As far as seeing his student, Vanderpool, study at Monmouth, Katsenes shared,

I’m pleased that Emma chose to attend Monmouth College. Sharing an *alma mater*, and especially a relationship with Tom [Sienkewicz], has turned us into friends. I’m proud to see her academic achievements on the college level, and I’m sure that she will make an excellent teacher (or professor?) one day soon. I look forward to meeting my own academic grandchildren!

In the upcoming fall, the Classics Department is excited to welcome another academic legacy into its midst. Simone Johnson MC'19, student of Dawn Strauss MC'03 at Kenwood Academy, is a Latin Performance Scholar.

MONMOUTH COLLEGE AT THE 94th MEETING OF CAMWS-SOUTHERN SECTION IN FREDERICKSBURG, VA

October 16-18, 2014



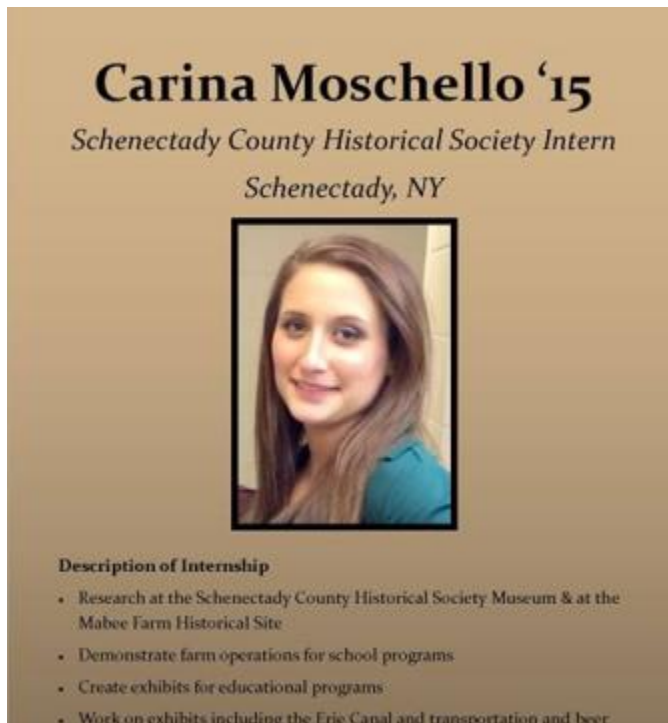
Tom Sienkewicz read a paper entitled “Latin in the 21st century – Future Challenges.” Also presenting at this meeting was Latin and History major Emma Vanderpool '17. Her paper, entitled “*Oderimus, Mea Lesbia, et Vivamus: Martial's Lesbia*,” was selected for a panel of undergraduate research sponsored by Eta Sigma Phi, who were continuing to celebrate their centennial anniversary.



HALLOWEEN: CIDER WITH CLASSICS

October 31, 2014

Students and faculty gathered together for snacks and spooky Classics stories.



Classics major, **Carina Moschello '15** was recognized on Wackerle Career and Leadership Center's #successfulstudentsaturday for her successful internship for the Schenectady County (NY) Historical Society.

MORRIS '15 AND VANDERPOOL '17 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Bravi! Timothy Morris '15 and Emma Vanderpool '17, both Latin and History majors, were recipients of scholarships to attend a Latin Pedagogy Workshop entitled "Technology in the Classroom" at National Lewis University in Chicago on December 5, 2014. Both Tim and Emma plan to pursue careers as high school Latin teachers after they graduate from Monmouth. Emma received a scholarship from the Illinois Classical Conference and Tim received a scholarship from National Lewis University.

MONMOUTH ARCHAEOLOGY LAB

After 50 years of walking his land and collecting Native American artifacts, a local farmer donated his private collection to Monmouth College in 2010 with the proviso that these artifacts be used for teaching. Collected in about a 1,000 mile radius, ca. 5,000 such artifacts used as a studying and teaching collection and not as a curatorial one. First directed by Dr. Benjamin Costello IV (2010-2011), Dr. Michael H. Laughy, Jr. (2011-2012), and Dr. Kristian L. Lorenzo (2012-2014), the archaeology



lab was directed by Dr. Victor M. Martinez during this past academic year. Following the collections of the Illinois State Archaeology Survey, Western Illinois University, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and the Illinois State Museum, the Monmouth collection is the fifth largest in Western Illinois. It is the sole collection to represent all of western Illinois. The collection represents



all phases of Native American occupation, and a collection on this scale cannot be replicated in the future because of the cost of a survey of this scale and because of it was originally collected during a time in which farmers tilled the land. Illinois is now the number one no-till state in the United States.

Current students now have the opportunity to learn how to **accession** the points and assign each object an accession number. They also have the opportunity to learn how to properly **catalogue** the points by making precise measurements of size and weight, recording the physical characteristics of each object, and recording the type and date of each object.

This course is designed so that students gain hands-on experience working with the Monmouth College Native American Artifact collection in a laboratory setting.



Archaeology also benefits the handling of authentic antiquities in a scientific manner while also being introduced to the world of cultural resource management.



The enlightened world of archaeology includes cataloguing, maintaining, and promoting the collection.



Be sure to visit the lab for more collection options to catalogue, located at the bottom of the library!



PREPARE FOR BATTLE



A group of Monmouth College Classics students, dressed as ancient Romans, and Monmouth-Roseville High School Latin students, as ancient Greeks, spar during a practice demonstration for the Illinois Junior Classical League South Meeting, which took place Nov. 15 in Springfield. At the meeting, the group of students performed authentic battle techniques of the two ancient societies.

MILITARY DEMO AT IJCL SOUTH

Monmouth Classics made the front page of the *Review Atlas* on November 19, 2014. They were photographed preparing with students from Monmouth-Roseville High School for their demonstration of Roman military techniques at the IJCL South meeting on November 15th in Springfield. Professor Simmons guided the students via a talk titled “*Testudinem Formate: A Roman Legion, Armed and Deployed*”

From left are Tim Morris, Jameyrae Valdivia, Ryan Suevel, and Jovan Petrovich. Kenz Davis, Steven Mastin, and Gabbie General are just off camera, but they also made the trip to Springfield.

CLASSICS GAME NIGHT



On February 20, 2014, Classics students and enthusiasts gathered together at Prof. Sienkewicz' home for pizza and some fun board games. The night ended with a competitive Latin Scrabble match in which Prof. Sienkewicz pulled away for a quick win.

MONMOUTH COLLEGE AT THE 146th MEETING OF SCS/AIA IN NEW ORLEANS, LA January 8-11, 2015



At the 2015 meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, formerly known as the American Philological Association, and the Archaeological Institute of America in New Orleans, LA, Monmouth Classics faculty and students alike were able to showcase their research. Dr. Victor Martinez presented a paper entitled “Palatine East Pottery Project: Approaches to the Dissemination of Results.” He presented with J. Theodore Pena, University of California,



Berkeley. Emma Vanderpool '17 presented a paper on the HΣΦ panel, entitled “Towards a New Lexicon of Fear: A Statistical and Grammatical Analysis of *Pertimescere* in Cicero.” Timothy Morris, as *megale prytanis* of Eta Sigma Phi, was also present in order to represent the distinguished honor society in the exhibit hall. Dr. Sienkewicz was present to represent CAMWS as the Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Vanderpool also assisted at the table in the exhibit hall. Dr. Simmons also attended the meeting to support his students and colleagues, to reinforce professional connections, and to learn from scholars' presentations.

VALENTINE'S DAY: CIDER WITH CLASSICS



Pictured in the images: Ian Salvesson '17 on the left and Prof. Simmons and his family on the right.



On February 13th, in honor of the impending Valentine's Day, Cider with Classics featured cookie decorating as well as the unveiling of the department's new Greek helmets for Classics Day.



Eta Sigma Phi Fall 2014 Initiates

After the Cider with Classics, the fall Eta Sigma Phi initiation was held. (L to R: Mackenzie Davis 18, Dr. Robert Holschuh Simmons, Jovan Petrovich 18, Rachel Masch '17, and Kathleen Brown '17)



Seniors Tim Morris and Ryan Suevel; sophomores Kathleen Brown, Gabbie General, Ian Salveson, and Emma Vanderpool; and freshman Mackenzie Davis and Jovan Petrovich accompanied Dr. Simmons to the IJCL North meeting in Itasca, IL, February 26th-28th. There they made an interactive demonstration titled "Come Back with Your Shield or on It: Greek and Macedonian Battle Phalanxes in Ideology and Action."

The Thirtieth Annual Bernice L. Fox Classics Lecture



Classics Now! by W. Robert Connor

March 2, 2014

Former President of the National Humanities Center
Former President of the Teagle Foundation

About the Lecture: Ezra Pound tossed and turned:

"The thought of what America would be like
If the Classics had a wide circulation
Troubles my sleep,
The thought of what America,
The thought of what America,
The thought of what America would be like
If the Classics had a wide circulation
Troubles my sleep."

Nowadays it's the opposite scenario that keeps some of us awake at night – the fear that before long the Classics won't have any circulation at all. That fear, as Mark Twain said about a report of his death, is greatly exaggerated. But what is the situation of the Classics in America right now, and what are its prospects for the future?

That question is an important one because the situation of the Classics can be an early warning system about changes affecting other academic fields, the humanities in general and perhaps all of liberal education. The "jobs-jobs-jobs" rhetoric of the recent recession has put new pressure on all the liberal arts and sciences, as students, and more often their parents, have become increasingly anxious about the kind of education that is most likely to help young people cope with rapid and often unpredictable change. Can Classics make the case that it does this very well? And if so, how can it demonstrably fulfill that promise?

These are some of the questions explored in the lecture and the discussion that followed.

Next year's Fox lecturer: Dr. William Urban – "America--A New Rome?" on Feb. 29, 2016

ROMAN SPAIN

Over spring break six students traveled with Prof. Sienkewicz to visit Roman sites in Spain. They began their trip in Barcelona, where they visited the archaeological museum, the Roman excavations under the Plaça del Rei, and the Roman burial ground. The group also visited Sagrada Familia, which was an especially moving experience for all, as well as Parc Guell. They traveled by train to Tarragona to see the famous amphitheatre as well as the remains of a Roman forum and circus; to Corduba to see La Mezquita, the famous medieval mosque, as well as the new archaeological museum built over the remains of a Roman theatre; and to Merida, a city filled with excellent Roman remains, including a theatre, circus, and amphitheatre. Merida has one of the finest Roman museums in the world. In Merida, however, the students especially enjoyed a stroll under some ancient aqueducts on which storks were nesting. The trip ended in Madrid to visit the newly reopened National Archaeological Museum, but the group also toured the Royal Palace and the world-famous Prado Museum.



Pictured in the Roman theatre in Merida are, from l. to r., Prof. Sienkewicz, Ryan Suevel '15, Rebecca Daleiden '16, Jeffrey Ricketts-Hagan '18, Corey Pearson '17, Maria Godina '17, and Rachael Laing '15.

ROMAN TOGAS



Matthew Katsenes MC'04 was Emma Vanderpool's Latin teacher at his *alma mater*, Lincoln-Way East High School in Frankfort, Illinois. Katsenes often made use of Roman costumes, made by his mother, both in the classroom and at various events held by their chapter of the Illinois Junior Classical League. Vanderpool subsequently reached out to Mrs. Rose Katsenes to help the Monmouth Classics Department create similar Roman costumes for their upcoming Classics Day. Within no time at all, she had created some forty Roman costumes for the department. *Maximas gratias*, Mrs. Katsenes!



MONMOUTH AT THE 111th MEETING OF CAMWS

IN BOULDER, CO
MARCH 25-28, 2015

Students and faculty in the Classics Department recently made their mark at the 111th meeting of CAMWS in Boulder, CO. Professor Sienkewicz has served as the organization's secretary-treasurer since 2012.

Senior Tim Morris read a paper entitled "*Mutantia Arma Virumque Cano: The Weapons and Tactics of Vergil and Homer.*"

Also presenting a paper at the meeting was Assistant Professor Robert Simmons. His presentation was titled "For Women's Tastes: Suggestions of Transgender Ideality in the Bacchae's Pentheus."

Several Monmouth College students received recognition at the meeting for their exceptional performance on the CAMWS Latin Sight Translation Contest. Junior Kathleen Brown was one of 10 students, out of 113 who took the exam, who received a book award on the intermediate college exam. Morris received a book award on the advanced college exam, which was taken by 137 students, and sophomore Emma Vanderpool '17 received a certificate of commendation on the same exam.

Vanderpool was also one of seven undergraduate students who were recipients of highly competitive CAMWS Manson Stewart Undergraduate Awards. Every year CAMWS makes these \$1,000 awards to a limited number of undergraduate students majoring in classics at the sophomore or junior level at a CAMWS college or university. Other recipients of the 2015 award are undergraduates at the University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina, the University of Georgia, the University of Texas, and Kenyon College.



Simmons was this year's collegiate-level recipient of the Award for Outstanding Activity in Classics. He was given this award in recognition of his plans for the first annual Monmouth College Classics Day.



The following week, Tim Morris '15 presented a paper at the PCA/ACA National Conference meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana (April 1-4, 2015).



MONMOUTH AT THE 87TH MEETING OF ETA SIGMA PHI

IN ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
APRIL 10-12, 2015

Six students attended national Eta Sigma Phi convention

MC students and faculty attended, and played prominent roles at, the 87th Annual Convention of Eta Sigma Phi, the national undergraduate honor society for Classical Studies, held on April 10-12 in Atlantic City, N.J.

Seniors Tim Morris, Rachael Laing and Tiffany Shaw, sophomore Emma Vanderpool, and freshmen Mackenzie Davis and Jovan Petrovich attended the event, as did classics faculty members Tom Sienkewicz and Bob Simmons, the chapter's adviser.

Morris was elected president of the organization at last year's convention and presided over both business meetings at this year's convention. Vanderpool was elected vice president of the organization for the coming year, and also delivered a paper, titled "*Passer: From Small Bird to Big Love.*" It was one of four chosen for presentation from a pool of 12 student submissions from around the nation.

Morris and Laing won awards as "best dressed" at the convention's banquet. Morris wore a Roman slave's tunic, including "wolf" pelt accent, and Laing dressed as the goddess Athena, with a tunic, a Greek military helmet, and a spear and shield, both of which had been painted by Monmouth students. The rest of the Monmouth contingent was similar outfitted in Classical garb.



All of the classical costumes, other than Prof. Sienkewicz', were designed and constructed by Rose Katsenes, mother of alumnus Matt Katsenes '04, who was Vanderpool's Latin teacher at Lincoln-Way East High School.

Monmouth College hosted its first annual Classics Day on April 18, 2015. About fifty Monmouth students contributed to the event and about 200 people from the campus, community, and beyond attended the affair. Below is the article about the event which appeared on the front page of the *Galesburg Register Mail* on April 19, 2015 and the front page of the *Monmouth Review Atlas* on April 21, 2015.

Students from Monmouth College, Knox College and Monmouth-Roseville High School sported togas and tunics in Zorn Memorial Stadium on Saturday afternoon as they celebrated the first ever Classics Day. The idea behind the event was to teach students and community members about classics in a carnival-type atmosphere.

Events and booths included Olympic Games demonstrations, a Roman fashion show, demonstrations of Greek and Macedonian warfare, learning to write names in Greek and in Latin, Greek theater mask-making and foam weapon battles.

“Our hope, in part, is to publicize the classics. The other part of that is to energize students so they get a better sense of how the life they’re studying can be realized in material culture today,” Professor of Classics Bob Simmons said.

Simmons brought Saturday’s event from his previous work at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where they have held Classics Day for four years now.

“When I interviewed with Monmouth, this is something I talked about doing if I were to be hired here, so they expected this to happen, and I think they’ve been very supportive,” he said.

For Simmons, he sees this year’s Classics Day as a grassroots effort. After watching the tradition grow at UNC he said he is optimistic about the start Monmouth’s event saw Saturday where between 50 and 100 attendees were anticipated.



Pictured here are some of the many volunteers that made Classics Day possible.

Monmouth College sophomore Emma Vanderpool estimated about 50 or 60 students were out helping Saturday, but she and a handful of students have been working on Classics Day all academic year.

Vanderpool herself said she spent about 50 hours over the year making shields and pikes and having togas and tunics made. She reached out to alumnus Matt Katsenes ('04), who was her high school Latin teacher, and Katsenes' mother — a Vanderpool family friend — sewed all the costumes.

For Vanderpool, high involvement in Classics Day felt natural.

"I'm really active in the department. I'm president of Classics Club and president of Eta Sigma Phi, which is our honor society. I'm vice president of the national organization as well, so this felt like a natural progression," she said. "The classics play a big part at Monmouth College. Today we want to show how active the department is."

Next year Vanderpool will be studying abroad through an Associated Colleges of the Midwest program in Florence, Italy, along with fellow sophomore Gabbie General to further their studies in classics.

General also put many hours into Classics Day.

"I'm a classics major and an art major, so they pretty much had me do everything art related," General said.

She painted many of the shields, created face-in-the-hole stands in the likenesses of a gladiator and Minerva, and was leading a booth dedicated to the design of Greek theater masks.

"All the effort is worth it because I want people out here today to know what classics is all about. When I tell people I major in classics they ask 'what's that' and there's a lot to it with history, art and language," she said.

Simmons, General and Vanderpool all spoke about the importance of seeing the relevance of classics studies to modern day. Monmouth-Roseville High School senior Emma Willhardt said she sees the connection. Planning to study biochemistry at Grinnell College next year, she has found her own studies in Latin helpful in the science classroom.

Willhardt is the co-consul (co-president) of Monmouth-Roseville's Latin Club this year, and she has studied the language all four years.

"It's uncommon to have Latin in high school and so I'm glad it's there. We've got a pretty good Latin Club going and we work with Monmouth when they do things related to Latin," she said.

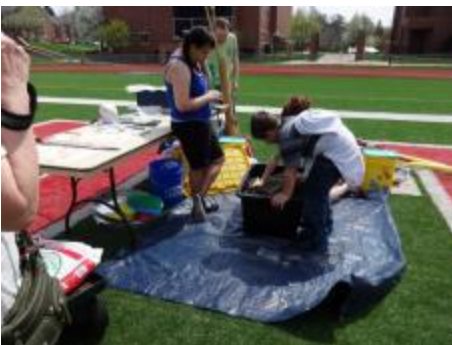
The Latin Club booth was helping attendees make buttons that say "My name is..." in Latin. The craft was popular among the younger crowd and Willhardt said she was happy about their interest. "Latin has really helped me in school. Even though I won't be studying it at Grinnell, I will probably take a few courses if they offer it. It helped me with the language portion of the ACT and has been very helpful in anatomy classes. Anyone who is pre-med should take interest. The stuff we're doing today is really old but it's still important," she said.



Prof. Sienkewicz in one of two “face in hole” cutouts, created by Gabbie General ‘17



Costumes from the mother of Matthew Katsenes MC'04 were put to good use at a “dress-up” booth as well as a fashion show.



Prof. Victor Martinez put together a handful of booths including, an archaeology excavation, a game of *kattabos*, and various magic



booths with the help of his archaeology students and ancient magic and witchcraft students. Picutred on the right is one such booth in which attendees divined the fate of the gods using muffins.



Various Olympic events also took place including a running race (left) and a race in armor (right)



Our very own Oracle of Delphi (Jameyrae Valdivia '18) and her interpreter (Brett Van Zee '18) (left) and wrestling and boxing demonstrators (Clay Marunde, Tony Brown, and Matt Thompson) (right).



There were military demonstrations, including one featuring an invasion of students by the archaeology lab and Knox (left). Knox invasion. Ryan Suevel '15 and Tim Morris '15 had a one-on-one reenactment of a battle from *Troy* (right).



Latin students from Monmouth-Roseville High School and their teacher, Brian Tibbets, joined the Monmouth College contingent and sold various treats, Latin-themed buttons, and t-shirts.

SIENKEWICZ RECEIVES HATCH AWARD FOR SERVICE

Thomas Sienkewicz, the Minnie Billings Capron Professor of Classics, was the recipient of MC's 2015 Hatch Academic Excellence Award for Distinguished Service.

Behind Sienkewicz's service award is 20 years of leadership in the college's off-campus study program. He was its coordinator from 1993 to 1995 and again from 1998 to 2010. During that time, Sienkewicz created and wrote basic guidelines, including procedures for approving and evaluating potential off-campus programs, and safety and security protocols for existing ones. He increased the number of off-campus programs available to Monmouth students and established the college's connection with the International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP). Sienkewicz further broadened opportunities by establishing exchange programs in France, Scotland, Sweden and Japan.

"Tom's passion for generating and maintaining deep learning opportunities for Monmouth students through off-campus study is tenacious and exemplary," said David Timmerman, dean of MC's faculty. "It is wonderful to imagine all of the students who have benefited from his excellent work and been inspired and transformed by traveling with him in course trips."

Nominations for the award are made by faculty colleagues. Wrote his nominator, "Tom has invested countless hours figuring out travel, coordinating academic programs and attending meetings. ... He has led many trips abroad: six to Rome; four to Greece; two to Turkey; and one each to France, Spain, and Naples."

Funded by the late 1957 Monmouth graduate W. Jerome Hatch, a retired executive for American National Can, the Hatch Awards were established in 2004 to recognize outstanding work by MC faculty in areas of teaching, scholarship and service. Through cash stipends they honor faculty who have excelled in their academic disciplines and who have served as an inspiration to both their students and their colleagues.

In the past year, Sienkewicz received two other honors. He was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Illinois Classical Conference and earned a prestigious Meritus Award for his sustained and distinguished service to the classics profession from the American Classical League.

- BARRY MCNAMARA

The preceding account of Sienkewicz' award appeared on the [Monmouth College website](#).



VANDERPOOL PRESENTS AT INAUGURATION STUDENT SHOWCASE

As part of the celebration of Clarence Wyatt's inauguration as President of Monmouth College, Vanderpool presented her paper on an analysis of *pertimescere* at a student showcase with other humanities and science students.

SCHOLARS' DAY 2015

April 28, 2015

26

On Scholars' Day (previously known as Founder's Day and Scots' Day)
Classics students received various awards at the Honors Convocation.

CLASSICS DEPT. PRIZE

Emma Vanderpool '17

ILLINOIS CLASSICAL CONFERENCE PRIZE

Jovan Petrovich '18

RALSTON CLASSICS WRITING CONTEST

Emma Vanderpool '17

Passer: From Small Bird to Big Love

AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION PRIZE

Emma Vanderpool '17

ETA SIGMA PHI PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN GREEK

Timothy Morris '15

CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLE WEST AND SOUTH PRIZE FOR THE PROMOTION OF LATIN

Timothy Morris '15

VIRGINIA HELLEGNA PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN LATIN

Emma Vanderpool '17

ARCHAEOLOGY PRIZE

Mackenzie Davis '18

Nicholas Mainz '17

OTHER AWARDS:

Kathleen Brown '17 won the **Adele Kennedy Book Award** for outstanding work in American literature, and she was acknowledged for her initiation into **Sigma Tau Delta** (The English Honor Society).

Kyle Dickson '15 won the **Garvin F. Davenport Prize in History** for a student who excels academically in History courses and is active in the department.

Carina Moschello '15 won the **Douglas R. Spitz, Sr. History Prize**, named for the late Monmouth professor who taught from 1957 to 1996, awarded to a student with an interest in public history.

Emma Vanderpool '17 won the **Thompson Prize in Humanities (1st Prize)** for an outstanding piece of creative or scholarly work in the humanities, the **Mary Bartling Crow History Prize** for a history major or minor who has been accepted to study abroad for a semester or longer in the next academic year, and the prize for **best humanities poster** for the student poster presentations. She was also acknowledged for her initiation into **Phi Alpha Theta** (The History Honor Society).

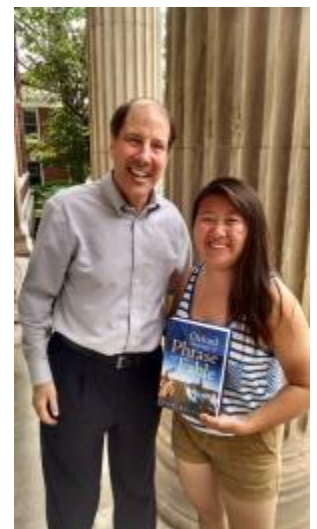
NATIONAL LATIN EXAM RESULTS:



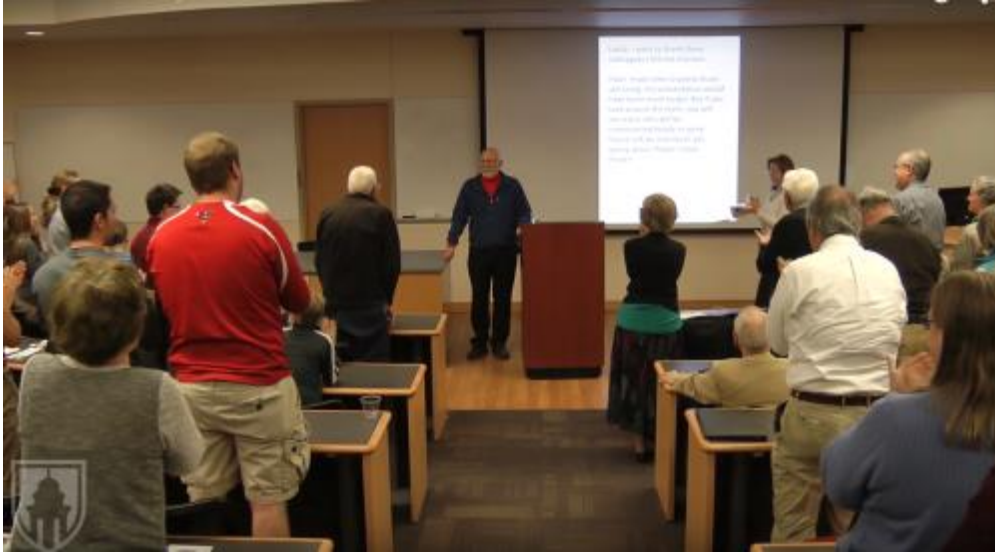
Summa Cum Laude VI
Maxima Cum Laude VI
Cum Laude VI
Maxima Cum Laude II
Cum Laude II

Emma Vanderpool
Timothy Morris
Kathleen Brown
Anthony Adams
Regan Ross
Steve Mastin

Gratulationes maximas to Emma Vanderpool '17 who earned her sixth gold medal on the National Latin Exam this year. Here David Timmerman, VP for Academic Affairs and Dean of Monmouth College, presents her with her book prize. Emma is probably the first student ever to earn six gold medals in the exam.



PROF. BILL URBAN'S LAST LECTURE



Prof. Bill Urban retired at the end of the 2014-2015 academic school year, his 49th year on Monmouth's faculty this year. He ended the year with a talk entitled "People I Have Known" on April 24, 2015.

This talk can be viewed [online](#).

Tim Morris '15, former president of Eta Sigma Phi and the Classics Club, represented the Classics Department and presented him with a parting gift to show some degree of the department's thanks for Prof. Urban's many years of service. On this occasion, Morris said the following:



"How does a student with hardly four years of a Monmouth College Education, adequately pay tribute to an educator who has given nearly 50 years of service?" This was the question I asked Dr. Sienkewicz, albeit less eloquently, and in much more of a panic, when I was asked to present this gift from the Classics Department. Dr. Sienkewicz told me about how when he first came to Monmouth, the Classics Department was basically a one-person department, and how Dr. Urban was extremely welcoming, and how the two became fast friends. This friendship is still strong today; just ask either to do anything during holy hour. Dr. Urban also helped supplement Classics courses with history courses on Rome, Greece, and the ancient world, which many Classics students over

the years have benefitted from taking. I have been lucky enough to take four classes with Dr. Urban: Peloponnesian War, Crusades, War & Peace, and the Renaissance. When peers ask me for advice on taking a Dr. Urban class, I say, "Turn in your work, late or not. Check your syllabus. And, do not try to BS anything for a research paper." Dr. Urban has read, donated, or written just about every book from the library I've ever used for a research paper for his class. Another thing that amazes me about Dr. Urban is whenever we read a text from another country, he has the text in its original in front of him. One time in Renaissance I forgot my copy of the *Decameron* for a meeting. Dr. Urban quickly offered me his copy. When I pointed out it was in Italian, he said, "You take Latin. You can get the gist." But, I digress. Dr. Urban, for your nearly five decades of unwavering service, for being a friend to the Classics Department, and for being an amazing educator. I am honored to present this scroll, signed by our majors and minors, on behalf of the Classics department."

- Tim Morris '15



Eta Sigma Phi Spring 2015 Initiates

(L to R: Dr. Victor Martinez, Emma Vanderpool
(President), and Joy Myer '15).

CLASSICS DEPARTMENT WELCOMES ITS NEW MAJORS

Daniel T. (DJ) Jones '17
Nick Mainz '17
Rachel Masch '17
Steven Mastin '17
Ian Salvesson '17
Anthony Adams' 18
Mackenzie Davis '18
Dakota Laing '18
Jovan Petrovich '18
Matthew Thompson' 18

Congratulations to our 2015-2016 Eta Sigma Phi Officers

President: Kathleen Brown '17 (Fall)
Emma Vanderpool '17 (Spring)
Vice President: Mackenzie Davis '18
Secretary: Rachel Masch '17
Treasurer: Amanda Bowman '17
ASMC Rep: Jameyrae Valdivia '18 (MC3)
Mackenzie Davis '18 (ESP)
Sentinel: Tiffany Shaw '16

What to look forward to in 2015-2016!

Monday, September 28, 2015	"The Road Less Traveled By? History, Archaeology, and Landscape in Southern Greece"
	Dimitri Nakassis , Associate Professor, University of Toronto (nakassis@gmail.com)
Saturday, October 3, 2015	Title to be Announced
	Kristian L. Lorenzo , Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, Monmouth College
October 2-4, 2015	Illinois Classical Conference
Thursday, February 18, 2016	"A Loud Silence: Greek Kouroi and Human Sacrifice"
	James Terry , Associate Professor, Stephens College (JTerry@stephens.edu)
Monday, February 29, 2016	"America – A New Rome? Reflections on a Rise and Fall"
	William Urban , Professor Emeritus of History, Monmouth College (urban@monmouthcollege.edu)
April 1-3, 2015	88th Annual Eta Sigma Phi National Convention
Tuesday, April 19, 2016	"Sand without lime': Building Disasters, Incompetent Architects, and Construction Fraud in Ancient Rome"
	John Oleson , Professor of Greek and Roman Studies, University of Victoria (ipoleson@uvic.ca)
April 23, 2016	Classics Day

This is the 60th anniversary of Gamma Omicron.

Please join us during the Eta Sigma Phi Convention to celebrate.



Congratulations to graduating senior Latin, Classics, and History major Tim Morris, who has accepted a position teaching Latin (yay!) at his old high school, North Point Christian School in Mississippi.

Congratulations, Latin major Emma Vanderpool MC'17, who was accepted for an excellent program, *Information Fluency in Classics: A Workshop for Undergraduates*, hosted by the Center for Hellenic Studies on July 7-16, 2015.

Congratulations to graduating senior Classics major Kyle Dickson who has been accepted into the Public History Masters program at Eastern Illinois University with a teaching assistantship. Well done, Kyle.

Congratulations to Classics major Rachael Laing MC'15 who was just accepted into the masters program in history at Illinois State University. Bene factum!



The Classics Department Salutes Its Graduates in the Class of MMXV!

The Classics Department faculty sending off Classics and Latin majors and members of Gamma Omicron Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi in the Class of 2015.

Pictured from left to right are Dr. Vicki Wine, Dr. Victor Martinez, Dr. Tom Sienkewicz, Tim Morris, Ryan Suevel, Mary Kate Guinea, Joy Meyer, Rachael Laing and Dr. Bob Simmons.
Not pictured are Kyle Dickson and Carina Moschello.

Ryan H. Bay '07, upon his graduation from Monmouth College, was admitted to Western State University College of Law in California, from which he was graduated in 2010. He has since passed both the bar exams in California and Illinois and is now practicing law.

Anne Cave '12 in the fall of 2012 entered a Masters program in Classics at the University of Missouri Columbia, where she is now working towards her Ph.D.

Robert Michael Cook '13 is currently pursuing music in Columbia, Missouri, where his Latin and Greek still serve him well as the lyricist for his metal band, A Hill to Die Upon.

Neil Dahlstrom '98 currently works as Manager of Research & Analysis at John Deere, leading a global team of researchers and analysts, and has had the great pleasure of serving on the MC Alumni Board

Jayne (Ayers) Davis '10 currently works at a veterinary clinic as a veterinary assistant.

Marcene Farley '84 is in her 31st year of teaching Latin—24th at Pekin Community High School.

Alex Hannah '09 is studying to obtain his Illinois Master's level social worker licence (LSW).

Richard Harrod '07 recently finished his Master's thesis in Near Eastern studies at the University of Chicago.

Matthew Katsenes '04 is teaching Latin at Moultonborough Academy in Moultonborough, New Hampshire.

Jennifer Mitten '02 is teaching Latin in the Wauwatosa School District.

Joseph O'Neill '01 successfully defended his doctoral thesis in ancient history at the University of Southern California this spring and was just offered a teaching position at Barrett College at Arizona State University.

LeaAnn Osburn '72 is currently retired in Arizona, but she wrote a textbook, *Latin for the New Millennium*, Level 3, along with her co-author Helena Dettmer of the University of Iowa and an enrichment reader to accompany the textbook.

Sarah Sherry '08 works as Sergeant in the Army Noncommissioned Officer Corps at the Army State Headquarters in Springfield.

Stacy Stoyanoff '90 is currently the Dean of Instruction at Uplift North Hills Preparatory, a high performing secondary school in Irving, TX, where I oversee both the Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs. In addition, he is about to complete my PhD in Advanced Secondary Education.

Dawn (McRoberts) Strauss '03 currently works at Kenwood Academy and has worked tirelessly to organize the Chicago Public School Latin Olympics since 2009.

Sylvia (Zethmayr) Shults '90 is still at Fondulac District Library and is still very much in demand as a speaker and author of true ghost stories. She currently has two more nonfiction books planned, which will be published by Whitechapel Press in the coming year. *Feral Trinity: A Ghost Hunter's Encounter With Evil* will come out in 2015, and *Shattered Love: The Rhoda Derry Story* will be released later. She is also working with Crossroad Press as their Publicity Director.

Mathew Underwood '04 teaches Latin at Cherokee High School in Marlton, New Jersey.

Alumni, we would like to know what you are doing, too. Please share your info with us.