

# Classical Studies at Wesleyan University



## JUNO'S PEACOCK

*Or The Eyes Have It*

Newsletter of the Department of Classical Studies

Academic Year 2013-2014

Issue 19

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)

## FACULTY NEWS

### KATHLEEN BIRNEY.



In the fall I taught the advanced Greek seminar on Hesiod's creation myth the *Theogony* and his poem *Works and Days*, along with the Archaeology of the Bronze Age Mediterranean. In the spring I taught Greek 101 and a new seminar, CCIV 283, the *Greek Vase as Art and Artifact*, in which students learned to identify the Greek masters while understanding the social significance of these beautiful vessels. We were incredibly fortunate to have a visit from Dr. Ken Lapatin, the Associate Curator of the Getty Museum, who discussed museum labeling practices with the class. In November I presented a paper on the results of the Persian Period excavations at Ashkelon at the annual conference of the American Schools of Oriental Research. Also in November, I co-chaired a symposium hosted at the Allbritton Center called "Archaeology and Politics", which brought together specialists from several different archaeological specializations to discuss the political challenges of archaeological work. In January I attended the conference of the American Institute

of Archaeology, while also serving as institutional representative for the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Throughout the year I have continued work on my book project, which presents the Hellenistic Period at Ashkelon. The summer has continued to be busy and fruitful, despite the clashes in the Middle East. This year nine wonderful Wesleyan students joined me to excavate and conduct research during the sum-

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mer season at the archaeological site of Ashkelon, in Israel. Our work this year focused on removing the earliest occupation levels of an entire 5th century B.C. neighborhood, founded by Phoenicians. Beneath these buildings, we found a destruction layer, the charred remains of the city destroyed in 604 B.C. by Nebuchadnezzar, in which we found two victims who had been crushed by the collapse of a burning building! I also continued to serve as a board member for *SHARE*. *SHARE* is an organization that works in areas of the world where archaeology is being used for political ends, and seeks to show citizens how to make informed judgments about archaeological data by giving them field experience in archaeology. This summer we again ran a great community archaeology program at the site of Akko in Israel, bringing 12 local Arab and Israeli students together to excavate, and to learn about archaeology and conservation practices. We were especially excited that some of the local students involved in the 2013 program returned as junior staff, to work with their younger Arab and Israeli peers. Wesleyan student Rajaa Eldrissi '16 also joined the team as an intern.



Field Trip to Nimrud's fortress, a Crusader castle. From left to right: Julian Woo, Sarah McCully, Mackenzie Schlosser, Beth Alexion, Marina Rothberg, Sam Ingbar, Emily Shames, Kate Birney

## LAUREN CALDWELL.



I'm grateful as I reflect on everything that's happened in the past year. My book, *Roman Girlhood and the Fashioning of Femininity*, will be out from Cambridge University Press in December 2014. My new research project investigates interactions between the natural and human worlds in the *History of Animals and Miscellaneous History*, two collections of moralizing anecdotes by the Roman imperial writer Aelian. As part of this project, I presented a paper on justice and nature in the

*Miscellaneous History* in Fall 2013 at 'Ancient Law, Ancient Society,' a conference at the University of Michigan. I also had the chance to present a paper on Roman law and rhetoric in February 2014 at a lovely conference in Paris, at the Sorbonne. At Wesleyan, I was happy to get acquainted with students in the College of Social Studies when I gave a talk on Roman law. The talk focused on the *peculium*, a fund provided to Roman slaves by their masters that allowed slaves a significant degree of independence in financial decision-making and, overall, contributed to the growth of the Roman economy. Household life was also the subject of one of my courses, a First-Year Seminar on the Roman Family. We all learned a lot from a guest lecture on domestic architecture presented by Kristin Triff of Trinity College. I also offered a larger course on Greek and Roman medicine, and Latin courses on Pliny and Seneca and on Vergil's *Aeneid*. Finally, I continue



At this end-of-semester gathering, students in Prof. Caldwell's course "Medicine and Health in Antiquity" shared their final projects. Each student chose a problem or issue in medicine--such as patient-practitioner ethics, or contraception, or diet and health--and investigated it from an ancient and modern perspective.

in my role supervising the mythology tutoring program for fifth grade at Macdonough Elementary. The program, now in its fourth year, helps fifth graders develop their reading comprehension skills while introducing them to the world of gods and heroes. It's been a great way for Wes students to get involved in the local community, and they've done a fantastic job with it.

**CHRISTOPER PARSLAW.** I had the good fortune to spend the entire 2013-2014 academic year on combined leave and sabbatical. This was thanks in large part to a generous grant from the Fund for Historical Studies of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton, NJ, which allowed me to spend the fall semester in residence there as a "member." The IAS, which is affiliated with, but not part of, Princeton University, is nothing less than a scholar's paradise, where all one's research needs and creature comforts are provided in a stimulating environ-

ment, complemented by an excellent cuisine. I was pleasantly surprised with the library's holdings at the IAS which allowed me to write a lengthy chapter dealing with the inscriptions from the *Praedia* of Julia Felix in Pompeii as well make substantial revisions to other chapters of my book. There are more than 100 painted inscriptions and graffiti, including the famous notice naming Julia Felix and listing the parts of her real estate available for rent. While at the IAS I gave a presentation on the graffiti of Pompeii to the Institute's trustees and another on the paintings of Apollo and the Muses from the *Praedia* to the graduate student organization at the University of Pennsylvania. In March I read a paper at the conference entitled *Monuments as Palimpsest* which was organized by the Art History department at Wesleyan. For this I focused on the painted inscriptions from the *Praedia* and offered, by way of CAD graphics, reconstructions of the *Praedia's* façades as they would have appeared at the time of the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79. At the end of April I spoke more generally about "Julia Felix and her Properties in Pompeii" in a Classics Colloquium at Bryn Mawr College.

**MICHAEL ROBERTS.** This year I was able to put the final touches to my translation of the poetry of Venantius Fortunatus and submit it to Harvard University Press. I have one or two odds and ends still to do, and no doubt there will be revisions to make, but this project should now be on the last lap. Otherwise I continue to be tapped by the journal *Gnomon* to review books on late Latin poetry. This year it was Nils Rucker, *Ausonius an Paulinus von Nola: Textgeschichte und literarische Form der Briefgedichte 21 und 22 des Decimus Magnus Ausonius*. In the fall I spoke at the meeting of the International Society for Late Antique Literary Studies at Brown University, "Venantius Fortunatus on Poetry and Song," and in the spring gave a paper at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Pompatic Poetics: Claudian's *Epithalamium for Honorius and Maria* and Some Features of Late Latin Poetry," and a lunchtime seminar on Lactantius' poem on the mythical phoenix. Here at Wesleyan I was kept moderately busy chairing the department and teaching the beginning Latin sequence and Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Always a pleasure to return to Ovid – there always seem to be new things to discover, with the help of the students, in his inexhaustibly inventive poem. Next semester, Horace. Can't wait.



### ANDREW SZEGEDY-MASZAK.



I find it hard to believe, and harder to admit, that this past academic year was my 40<sup>th</sup> on the faculty at Wesleyan. It was unusually busy in some ways, because I was chair of the faculty, which involved a great deal of administrative work and took a lot of time. Within the Department, I taught the Greek History survey again, but this time I used a partially "flipped" approach, in that the students had access to the online lectures I had done for Coursera. I thought of the presentations as a kind of video textbook, and the response was generally quite positive. I also gave a presentation called "Making a MOOC of Greek History" at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association, where I was happy to see a number of our alums. [In connection with the APA, Kate Birney, Lauren Caldwell and I were stuck for 2 days in Chicago because of the record-breaking cold wave. I was glad they were there.] Last spring I chaired an external review of the excellent Classics program at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. Fortunately the chill had subsided. Finally, I began to work with a group of 10 young military veterans who have now entered Wesleyan as freshmen, under the aegis of the Posse Foundation. I'm their faculty mentor, and it's an exciting new challenge.

**EIRENE VISVARDI.** This year was fulfilling on all fronts. After my sabbatical and leave I was back in the classroom with wonderful students. In the Fall I taught second semester Greek and my advanced seminar on *Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greece*.



In the Spring I taught our advanced Greek class, where we read Plato's *Symposium* and a large lecture course on *Greek Drama: Passions and Politics on the Athenian and Modern Stage*. In the context of my course on Greek drama, Professor and director Peter Meineck visited us to run an acting workshop, where students were excited to explore movement and expression while using masks that replicate the ancient ones. I also gave two talks in the Fall semester. In September I gave a paper on "Emotional Acts: The Case of Pity" at Yale University during a day in honor of Seth Schein and his new commentary on Sophocles' *Philoctetes*. In October I presented on "Teaching Euripides' *Medea*" at Columbia University. Last, I made final revisions to my book manuscript *Emotion in Action: Thucydides and the Tragic Chorus* and submitted it to Brill.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### GRADUATING CLASS OF 2014

*Classical Civilization:* **Olivia Alperstein, Alec Jolicoeur**

*Classics:* **Roxanne Capron, Katherine Cohen, Kim Chu, Jasper Kubasek, Portia Lundie, Alexandra Ozols**

### ACADEMIC PRIZES

*Ingraham Prize for excellence in Greek:*  
**Holt Akers-Campbell, Elizabeth Alexion**

*Spinney Prize for best original essay in Classics:*  
**Alexandra Ozols**

*Alexandra Ozols was elected to the Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, Spring 2013*

### End of the Year Celebration May 1, 2014



Classical Studies majors came together with faculty to celebrate the end of another successful year. Six senior thesis and essay writers gave brief talks on their work. The presentations were excellent, not only in their content and delivery but also in the ways they highlighted the variety of topics on the ancient world with which our majors engage.

### SENIOR THESIS AND ESSAY PRESENTATIONS



**Olivia Alperstein** (thesis):  
“Politics of Memory and Erasure During and After the Reign of Domitian”



**Jasper Kubasek** (essay):  
“The Roman *Peculium*; an Institutional Reaction to Restrictive Paternal Power”



**Katherine Cohen** (essay):  
“In the Name of the Divine Homer: Media and Myth-making in the Work of Heinrich Schliemann”



**Ali Ozols** (thesis): “Roman Culinary Poetry: Representations of Food and Dining in the Late Republic and Early Empire”



**Alec Jolicoeur** (essay): “Cannibalism on Knossos: A Response to Minoan Crisis”



**Alex Pack** (CSS): “Writing a Revolution: From Oral to Literate Cultural Transmission in Ancient Athens”

The following students submitted essays to *Metis*, a Wesleyan Undergraduate Journal of Classical Studies (2013-2014):

**Ali Rosenberg** ('15), "A Tribute to Effigy: The Story of Pygmalion"  
--"The Gettysburg Address"

**Beth Alexion** ('16), "Georgius Curiosus"

**Lili Borland** ('16), "Cinderella"

**Katherine Cohen** ('14), "The Hawk and the Nightingale and the Lamb: Animal Images of Power and Justice"

**Elena Rosenthal** ('15) "Crime of Reverence: Socrates' Defense in the Framework of *Antigone*"

**Dominic Sieminski** ('15) "Primum"

### SQUIRE FUND RECIPIENTS

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 in Athens. This year the following students received grants:

**Olivia Alperstein** (Research Study in Rome)

**Elizabeth Baggott and Kim Chu** (College Year in Athens)

**Catherine Chase** (Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome)

**Elizabeth Alexion, Rajaa Eldrissi, Sarah McCully, Marina Rothberg, Mackenzie Schlosser** (Summer excavations at Ashkelon)

**Emerson Obus** (Intensive Greek Language Summer Program)

### MAJORS' COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Majors' Committee organized several group activities for the Classical Studies majors and interested students. There was a showing of "300: Rise of an Empire" in March 2014. They participated in the 22nd Annual Student Groups Fair and the WesFest Open House, preparing a display board and Power Point presentation advertising the Classical Studies department. The Committee also got together to design a tee-shirt that faculty and majors were able to model at Classical Studies Department Open Houses.



Elizabeth Baggott ('15)  
Temple of Apollo at Delphi  
Spring 2014

## STUDY ABROAD

### COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS (2013)

My time abroad in Greece through the College Year in Athens program allowed me to observe firsthand the architectural, cultural and political remnants of classical Athens. Over the course of the program I gained a deeper understanding of the complexities of urban life in the classical period, and the means by which archaeologists date and assign relevance to artifacts from this period. The vases and shards found at the Kerameikos, for instance, give insight into Greek burial rites and into the practice of ostracism. The progression from proto-Attic pottery design to red figure painting indicates that the newfound cultural, as well as political, autonomy of the Athenian polis during the sixth century BCE. Its demokratia, the first in Western history, paved the way for the city's artistic and literary achievements of the following centuries. The CYA program, while based in Athens, took us on numerous excursions to the Attic countryside in order to understand how the city's geographical context influenced its religious customs and military history. Walking around the famous site of Marathon and seeing the "Soros" burial mound brought the words of Herodotus alive; the meeting of the Athenian generals, the clash of armies

on the field, became real to me in a way I hadn't anticipated. It is easy to forget that the accounts of Herodotus and Thucydides amount to far more than letters on a page; history is not only grounded in time, but in place. I had minimal exposure to Athenian cultural rites and rituals before this program, and to see Eleusis and Delphi – arguably the two most important religious sites of the ancient Greek world – reinforced the themes and myths I had learned in class. The Eleusinian Mysteries were closely tied to Athenian civic life; the procession, which began at the Kerameikos and wound from the Sacred Way to the Telesterion, included men, women and slaves, all of whom were eligible for initiation. Membership, then, represented a kind of spiritual “equalizer” that did not exist in the social and economic spheres of the democracy. Moreover, having visited the Temple of Poseidon at Sounion and the Sanctuary of Artemis at Brauron, I understand more clearly how, scenically, these sites produced a sense of sanctity and religious wonder in the ancient Greeks. The temple, in particular, reminded me why I find classical civilization so captivating; even though the marble was weather-beaten and crumbling, I could easily imagine how it must have looked in its prime, set atop a hillside and surrounded by the blue Aegean waters. Over and over, I was struck by the natural beauty of these sites – by the sea vistas at Delphi, by the shadow-strewn mountains around Eleutherae, by the flowered valleys beneath the Hosios Loukas monastery on Mount Helicon – and it became clear to me why these places served as inspiration for generations of Athenian poets, playwrights, actors and artists. Within Athens, the program gave us ample opportunity to study archaic and classical architecture. We were allowed access to the interior of the Parthenon and the Erechtheion, and to John Camp's ongoing archeological excavation of the Athenian agora. We explored the slopes of the Acropolis, from the Theater of Dionysus to the Propylaea, as well as the layout of the ancient agora; at the end of the program, I could name where and when structures such as the Hephaestion, the Bouleuterion, the Stoa of Attalos and Hadrian's Library were built, and their relevance to the polis. I firmly believe that you can never truly understand a culture until you are immersed in it. I have wanted to visit Greece since I became interested in classical studies at sixteen. For me, this program was the culmination of three years of hard work and individual research, but the actual experience exceeded all my expecta-

tions. Every day I learned something new or saw something fascinating or met someone interesting. I have never felt at home in a foreign city, and I'm sure this will not be the last time I visit Athens.

**Sarah Harper ('16)**

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### **College Year in Athens (2014)**

The Squire Fund allowed me to participate in the College Year in Athens program, which gave me the opportunity to personally experience all that I've studied within the Classics department. It was thrilling to walk amongst the fallen ruins of ancient sites and get a sense of how amazing the civilization was in its prime. It was living history, the ancient, but also the discovery of the ruins themselves, putting together the pieces to understand such a wondrous culture. Besides standing next to a massive column I could not hope to ever wrap my arms around, I enjoyed the modern culture as well. I loved experiencing a different perspective on our current world, seeing the old mix with new, the east and west, and how history has affected people. Also, one of the best people you could meet is the barista at your local café.

**Kim Chu ('14)**

## INTERCOLLEGIATE CENTER FOR CLASSICAL STUDIES IN ROME

I spent my Spring 2014 semester abroad at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, better known as the *Centro*. In late January, I joined thirty-five other students for a semester that we knew would be intense. What we did not quite realize though was how thrilling it would be.

At the *Centro*, every day was an adventure. We began our mornings with breakfast at 8:00 AM or earlier and continued on to a day full of classroom lectures and site visits. Our days only seemed to end in the late evening at dinner when the last few people would be beckoned out of the dining room after a delicious three course meal. This type of schedule certainly kept us busy, but we made sure to take breaks to grab gelato from the *gelateria* just next door.

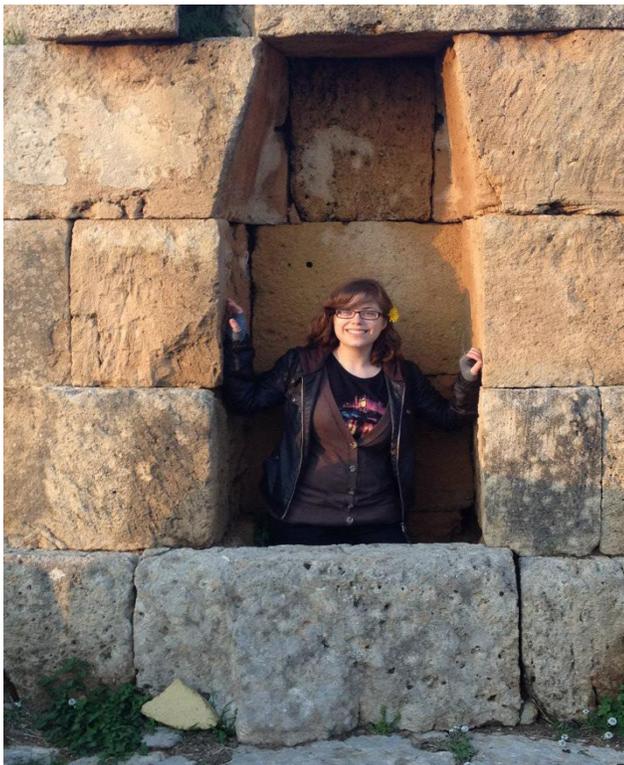
Our site visits allowed us to learn that we could not hold high expectations for the weather or Rome's public transportation system. I have vivid memories of sloshing through the mud around the Greek temples in Paestum, attempting to take notes while getting thoroughly soaked on an excursion to Tivoli, and running to catch already crowded busses only to become teeming with people once all the students and professors were aboard.

However, any displeasure caused by these trials were immediately erased by the awe-inspiring ancient sites. I got to explore Etruscan tombs, walk through aqueducts, traverse through the Campus Martius, and so much more! It was often difficult to contain my excitement, especially during our all day visit to Pompeii where we had special permission to see inside the *castellum aquae*.

Apart from classes, I also had the opportunity to be a cataloguing intern for archaeological study collection at the American Academy in Rome. Along with the other student interns, I worked on updating the catalogue database and properly storing artifacts, primarily Greek and Roman coins. I was even able to touch and learn how to photograph the coins!

My semester at the *Centro* was an unforgettable experience. I got to travel, see the most awesome sites, and meet many talented individuals, including some of my closest friends. I can easily say that the four months I spent in Rome were the best times of my life.

Catherine Chase ('15)



*Catherine Chase exploring the  
Greek city remains in  
Selinunte in Sicily.*

## THE HOMERATHON

The Majors Committee helped plan a campus-wide reading of Homer's *Odyssey* during WesFest, April 17, 2014. It was directed by Professors Kate Birney, and Lauren Caldwell. There were tales of bloody battles, vicious monsters, a sexy Circe, and the adventures of Odysseus as he found his way back to Ithaka. The Homerathon ended with a banquet at Downey House.



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## FIELD TRIP TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, NYC March 29, 2014

The Classical Studies Department sponsored a trip to the classical galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Twenty-eight students and four faculty participated.



## CLASSICAL STUDIES LECTURE SERIES

**Thomas Martin**, Jeremiah O'Connor Professor in Classics, Holy Cross, "Reinventing God: Response to Inexplicable Defeat in Ancient Athens."

**J. Theodore Peña** ('78), University of California, Berkeley, February 26, 2014, "Investigating the Life History of Objects at Pompeii."

**Brooke Holmes**, Associate Professor of Classics, Princeton University, March 5, 2014, "Galen on the Chances of Life."

**Peter Meineck**, Clinical Associate Professor of Classics and Ancient Studies, NYU; Honorary Professor of Classics, University of Nottingham, March 26, 2014, Workshop and Lecture: "Making the Mask Move - A Mind/Body Dissociation Workshop; Lecture: The Face of Ancient Drama: Emotion, Empathy and the Masks of Greek Theatre"

**Kristin Triff**, Associate Professor of Fine Arts, Trinity gave a lecture to Lauren Caldwell's First Year Seminar Class (CCIV 124, The Roman Family) on October 23, 2013. Laurie Nussdorfer's (COL) class also attended.

**Ken Lapatin**, Associate Curator of the Getty Museum of Art, discussed the nature of museum work and its challenges with Archaeology and Classics Majors on February 26, 2014. He also spoke to Kate Birney's (CCIV 283 Greek Vase as Art and Artifact seminar) about Museum labels.

*After the lectures and a reception, the speaker and a group of faculty and students got together for dinner and informational conversation at a restaurant in Middletown.*

Department of Classical Studies Spring 2014 Lecture Series

**THE FACE OF ANCIENT DRAMA:  
EMOTION, EMPATHY AND THE MASKS OF GREEK THEATRE**

**PETER MEINECK**  
Clinical Associate Professor of Classics and Ancient Studies, NYU  
Honorary Professor of Classics, University of Nottingham

LECTURE  
6:00 PM  
Downey 113

In this illustrated talk with live demonstrations Peter Meineck will propose that the Greek dramatic mask in the ancient theatre was capable of eliciting far more intensely felt emotional and empathetic responses than the actor's own face. Drawing on new research from the Affective Sciences (emotions, embodied cognition, face recognition and eye-tracking studies) combined with 25 years experience of producing Classical drama on the professional stage, this talk will explore the emotional power of the ancient mask in performance.

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

For more information contact: [Debbie Sierpinski \(dsierpinski@wesleyan.edu\)](mailto:Debbie.Sierpinski@wesleyan.edu) Wesleyan University

Department of Classical Studies Spring 2014

**PETER MEINECK**  
Clinical Associate Professor of Classics and Ancient Studies, NYU  
Honorary Professor of Classics, University of Nottingham

**MAKING THE MASK MOVE –  
A MIND/BODY DISSOCIATION WORKSHOP**

To complement his talk *The Face of Ancient Drama: emotion, empathy and the masks of Greek drama* (Downey 113 at 6:00 pm) Peter Meineck will offer a participatory workshop on performing in the ancient mask. This will be a 60 minute session and no acting or dance experience is necessary. Participants will explore the territory of the body, the cognitive dissociations between language and movement, masked chorality and individual characterizations.

WORKSHOP  
4:15 PM-5:15 PM  
TSF 001

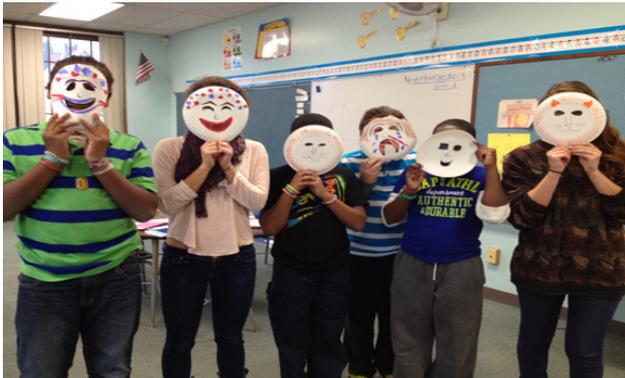
Professor Peter Meineck specializes in the performance, reception, and history of ancient drama. He is the founder of the award-winning Aquila Theatre in NYC, which he established in 1991 to present innovative productions of classical drama. He has produced and directed numerous shows in the US, Canada, Europe, and Bermuda. He also created Aquila's education program at Fordham Douglass Academy in Harlem and Aquila's national theatre education program. Professor Meineck also works as a Greek literature and mythology consultant, such as to Will Smith on the film *Troy*, Legend National Geographic, Walter Brueggemann and King IV, and as director of the National Endowment for the Humanities *Ancient Greek/Medieval Latin* program. This program has a special focus on the US veteran community and in 2011 was invited to perform at the White House.

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

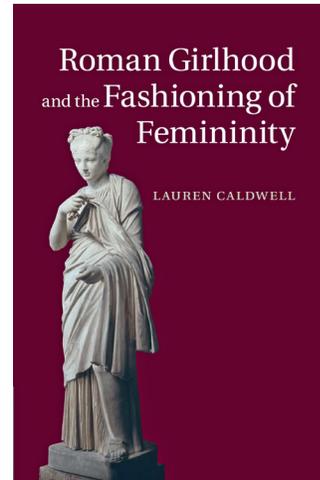
For more information contact: [Debbie Sierpinski \(dsierpinski@wesleyan.edu\)](mailto:Debbie.Sierpinski@wesleyan.edu) Wesleyan University



## MACDONOUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MYTHOLOGY GROUP



Macdonough Elementary students and Wesleyan Classical majors teamed up during the 2013-2014 school year to study the exciting world of classical mythology.



Congratulations to Prof. Lauren Caldwell for her upcoming book *Roman Girlhood and the Fashioning of Femininity*, Cambridge University Press, December 2014.

## CLASSICS AND MODERN CAREERS

*What can you do with a degree in Classical Studies?*



Come hear three answers to that question as our panelists share thoughts on how their Classical Studies major prepared them to pursue careers in medicine, law, and finance.

AMY EGOLF, MD '07

Resident Physician, Psychiatry, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY

KU YOO '00

Attorney and Partner, Chang and Yoo LLP, Boston, MA

BRENDA GRAY RENEY, CTFA '78

Partner, Chief Operating Officer, Daintree Advisors LLC

**Thursday, April 10, 2014 5:30 PM**

WESLEYAN CAREER CENTER  
41 Wyllys Avenue  
Olson Commons

Dinner Served: RSVP to Debbie Sierpinski (dsierpinski@wesleyan.edu)

Sponsored by the Classical Studies Department and the Career Resource Center

WESLEYAN  
UNIVERSITY

## ALUMNI CAREER PANEL

On April 10, 2014, three Classical Studies Alumni met with faculty, majors, and interested students to talk on the subject: "What you can do with a degree in Classical Studies?" The panelists shared thoughts on how their Classical Studies major prepared them to pursue careers in medicine, law, and finance.



(From left to right) BRENDA GRAY RENEY, CTFA '78: Partner, Chief Operating Officer, Daintree Advisors LLC; KU YOO '00: Attorney and Partner, Chang and Yoo LLP, Boston, MA; AMY EGOLF, MD '07: Resident Physician, Psychiatry, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY

## ALUMNAE/ALUMNI NEWS

**Alex Ray ('13)** recently started a new job at the Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts in St. Croix.

**Lindsey Davis ('11)** has recently accepted a new position. She is now the Community Manager at SoundFocus, a YC-funded startup located in the SOMA district of San Francisco. They are an audio company and are launching their first hardware product next month, which tailors sound to individuals using a learning algorithm to create unique hearing profiles. Lindsey says: "Students are welcome to reach out to me if they're interested in hearing more about how I got here and what I'm doing."

**Jared Gimbel ('11)** is now a Masters Degree candidate at Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg, writing his Masters' Thesis on perspectives and portrayals of Jewish Life in Finland and in Greece. He is also the Director and Founder of "Present Presence", an Online Media Project about Jewish life throughout the world, and also writes for various publications and magazines.

**Eric Weiskott ('09)** will graduate with a Ph.D. from Yale this spring, with a specialization in medieval poetry for which Wesleyan Classics was an excellent preparation. For the fall, he has accepted a tenure-track position in the English Department at Boston College.

**Joanna Kenty ('08)** is receiving her doctorate in Classics from the University of Pennsylvania in May, after completing a dissertation *Cicero and Roman oratory in the transition from Republic to principate* -- a subject she first learned to love at Wes. She loves hearing from Wes people, including run-ins with professors at the APA and e-mails about Penn's grad or post-bacc programs!

**Daniel Matzkin ('06)** After graduating from the University of Michigan Law School in 2009, Dan Matzkin spent four years as an associate in the litigation group of Squire Sanders in Miami,

Florida. He is currently completing a clerkship with the Honorable Adalberto Jordan on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and has accepted an offer to serve as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida beginning in the fall of 2014. The detailed analysis of complex texts (whether in their original language and/or in translation) that the CCiv curriculum demands instilled in Dan the ability to think critically, write persuasively, absorb large amounts of information, identify and weigh the relative strengths and weaknesses of competing arguments, and pay attention to detail without losing sight of the big picture: skill sets that Dan credits for his success as a law student and now as a budding lawyer.

**Johanna Russ ('03)** moved with her family from Detroit to Chicago to begin a new job as an archivist in the Chicago Public Library's Special Collections Division. She recently ran into fellow Wes Classics Chicagoan Molly Greenwood-Whalen ('03) at the airport.

**Beth Calamia Scheckel ('90)** works at Montclair State University, acting as the International Student and Scholar Advisor by day and adjunct in the Classics Department by night. Beth says: "I feel lucky to be using my Classics degree, and I often think back to my classes at Wesleyan which I'm teaching (I still remember Andy Szegedy-Maszak teaching us the etymology of "gubernatorial" as a bit of trivia and I like to do the same with my students). It's an honor to be able to base my lectures on what I learned from my wonderful mentors. My dream for spring 2015 is to take my Greek Civilization class on a spring break trip to Athens. At this writing it's just in the planning stages. I live in Montclair, NJ with my husband, Will, and son, Carl, who will be entering 2nd grade. His school offers Mandarin--I would prefer Latin, of course, but I am grateful that they offer any foreign language at all. Thanks for the opportunity! I do love to read the newsletters and department news."

We have had a great response from alumni for the past issues so keep the news coming, to ([dsierpinski@wesleyan.edu](mailto: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.

**COMMENCEMENT/REUNION, MAY 2014****WESCLASSICS**

*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, Medieval Studies, 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](http://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 kbirney (Kate Birney), lcaldwell (Lauren Caldwell), cparslow (Christopher Parslow), mroberts (Michael Roberts), evisvardi (Eirene Visvardi) and dsierpinski (Deborah Sierpinski). The exception to the rule is aszegedymasz (Andrew Szegedy-Maszak).