Flourishing in troubled times

As another school year comes to a close, I am pleased to report that our undergraduate program is flourishing with nearly 100 majors on our spring roster (this is a new record for us, to the best of my knowledge) and our graduate program continues to thrive, with a large and active group of students who have been successful in and out of the classroom. The pages of this newsletter attest to the achievements of our students at all levels and our pride in them.

Our faculty continues to change as the years pass, with this year marked by the retirement of our dear colleague Jim Franklin. He has been a major contributor to our program for nearly 30 years and has had a huge impact on our undergraduates and graduates; his student course evaluations have regularly labeled him “the best professor I’ve had at IU.” Franklin is relocating to Chicago, in part (he reports) to facilitate his access to the airlines that will enable him to pursue his love of travel abroad. A detailed biography of Franklin will be posted with the 2011 emeriti biographies at www.indiana.edu/~vpfaa/faculty_career/emeriti.shtml.

This past year we were pleased to welcome Hellenist Meg Foster (PhD Berkeley 2010) to our faculty as visiting assistant professor, and we are delighted that she will be continuing with us as a tenure-track assistant professor in the fall.

Blending academics with adventure

Classical Summer School of the American Academy, Rome 2010

by Mike Vasta, graduate student

“Give me your hand and jump!” The path below my feet was about six inches wide and quickly crumbling, leading to a sharp drop into the trees below us. I was the last one to cross the “shortcut” our guide suggested, and the small retaining wall that had been used by the others as a handhold was giving way. One of my colleagues leaned over the edge of the secure ground, anchored by our program director, Professor Greg Bucher, and our Italian guide. I extended my hand and took a short leap — they caught my arm and hauled me up. Just another day en route to a secluded site.

The Classical Summer School revolves around onsite education, visiting the standard monuments and museums such as the Colosseum or the Vatican, but also exploring the catacombs beneath a convent and getting access to normally restricted locations like the Round Temple by the Tiber. Furthermore, it takes you beyond Rome, to Tarquinia, Tivoli, Cosa, Palestrina, and more. The instruction I received was second-to-none, and over the six weeks I developed skills that will be of great use throughout my career, in particular, the ability to look at ruins and reconstruct them in my mind.

This was, however, more than just a purely academic trip: there was a good deal of adventure and excitement, including treacherous paths to reach an out-of-the-way temple, hill climbing

(continued on page 2)
“I have gone through what no other mortal on earth has gone through; I put my lips to the hand of the man who has killed my children.”

(Lattimore trans.)

So Priam tells Achilles in that famous episode from the last book of the Iliad, the ransoming of Hector’s corpse. In his novel Ransom (2010), David Malouf flips that episode by having his Trojan king behave in a radically different way. Homer’s Priam makes his appeal to Achilles as a father to a son, that is, based on their common humanity. But that father is still a king, that son is still a hero. Malouf’s Priam sets out on his mission — explicitly and emphatically — as an ordinary man. Not until he travels to the Greek camp, however, does Priam learn what it is to be an “ordinary man.” His mission succeeds, and he returns a changed man.

In Homer, Priam’s success is not in doubt. The gods devise a plan and send messengers to prepare the mortals for their roles, Thetis to Achilles, Iris to Priam. Malouf’s Achilles had lost contact with his mother at puberty. His Priam has a vision of himself setting out on the mission, but not of its outcome; Iris even reveals the concept of free will, or “chance” as she calls it; the message from Malouf’s gods “corrects” Homer — they are not in (complete) control.

Another “correction” comes with Priam’s preparations. In the epic, his sons bring out a new wagon, drawn by special mules, to carry the treasure; Priam rides in a chariot drawn by horses he himself has tended, and his herald Idaeus drives the wagon. Malouf has those sons outside the Homeric version and then his character rejects it. When that king’s sons lead out a fancy new wagon, his ceremonial chariot, and the herald bearing a royal staff, he furiously berates them for “thinking in the old way” and sends them off to hire the work cart and driver he saw in his vision. Priam rides alongside the driver, after his own bit of old thinking: he didn’t ask the driver’s actual name (Somax), but simply dubbed him “Idaeus,” because in the past he has always traveled with a herald named “Idaeus.”

In Homer, the journey is much shorter, especially the part before Hermes shows up to be a kindly and respectful escort. Malouf’s version of the trip is the most original part of his novel. As in Homer, they reach the river crossing near dusk; Malouf’s Somax suggests they rest and eat something. Before now, Priam has led the circumscribed existence of a ceremonial, formal figurehead of a king. Now he experiences the simple pleasures and the rich particularity of ordinary life. Listening to Somax’s “chatter” about his life, he discovers that food has ingredients and cooking techniques. Hearing Somax talk about his own dead sons, Priam realizes he has not truly experienced the death of his sons because he had never known them as individuals. Returning to the wagon, the two old men find a youth lurking; this Hermes is a cooky, condescending adolescent, who toys with them until they realize what he is. This Hermes isn’t much of a guide; the cart almost founders twice crossing the river, an adventure Priam finds himself enjoying.

Of course the meeting between the two enemies differs; even that famous hand-kissing is different. When Priam arrives, Achilles has already been thinking about Peleus; he mistakes Priam for him, calls him “father,” and kneels, preempting the planned gesture, to a spontaneous reaction — Priam returns with his son’s body. But that change in Priam’s act — from a planned gesture, to a spontaneous reaction — is the essence of Malouf’s retelling. That act, by an “ordinary man” freed of the burden of his role as king, frees Achilles from the burden of his role as hero, freeing him as well from being stuck in the grief and rage that has motivated his continued defilement of the corpse.

It isn’t unusual for modern retellings of ancient myths to reduce the heroic to the ordinary. Through Priam, Malouf makes the ordinary heroic: the king leaves Troy after telling Hecuba that this mission is the deed for which he intends to be remembered (his kleos, in Homeric terms); as he returns, he is savoring it as his “triumph” (his aristeia, could we say?).

— Betty Rose Nagle, professor

From the chair

(continued from page 1)

visiting assistant professors, Dan Osland and Amanda Regan. Osland, who will be here as Case Visiting Assistant Professor, has just completed his PhD at the University of Cincinnati, with a dissertation titled “Vectors of Change in Late Antique Hispania.” Regan, a 2009 Michigan PhD, comes to us after successful stints teaching at Penn State and Loyola University (Maryland).

Our faculty members have had a busy and productive year that included travel to conferences in Australia, the Netherlands, and Italy. Special mention should be made of Jon Ready’s publication of Character, Narrator, and Simile in the Iliad with Cambridge University Press this spring; Eleanor W. Leach’s Visiting Fellowship at Magdalen College, Oxford, last fall (check out the onsite photo of her in this newsletter); and Margaretha Kramer-Hajós’s Trustees Teaching Award from Indiana University.

As I complete my sixth year as chair, I extend special thanks once again to our office staff; Derek Vint and Yvette Rollins; Kim Hinton, our undergraduate staff advisor; Cynthia Bannon, our director of undergraduate studies; Eleanor Leach, our director of graduate studies; and our generous alumni, whose support, past and present, has enabled us to continue to move forward as a department and to provide opportunities for our students despite the troubled economy of the past several years.

— Matt Christ
Graduate report for 2010–11

Report from Graduate Studies Program

Employment

Jason Tiarney, January MAT recipient, has experienced immediate proof of the demand for secondary school Latin teachers; after having stepped into a temporary replacement position in the Kansas City Blue Valley School District this spring, Tiarney has accepted a permanent appointment at the Parkway South High School in St. Louis that will begin this coming September.

Michael Holstead, currently at work on his dissertation on Homeric arming scenes, will also be leaving Bloomington to take up a part-time teaching appointment at the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay, where his wife, Jenell, has also accepted a job. As a native of Green Bay, Mike declares that this couldn’t be better.

Studies abroad

The cover page of last year’s edition of the Classical Studies at IU alumni newsletter featured a photograph of American School of Classical Studies at Athens regular member and holder of the Virginia Grace Fellowship, Robert Nichols, on the steps of the Stoa at Lindos in Rhodes; for 2011–12 Nichols will be returning to Athens as associate member and Edward Capps Fellow to pursue his dissertation research on the rhetoric of vengeance (timoria) in the Athenian law courts. He was also the winner of a College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Year Fellowship, a praiseworthy honor, but one that he was compelled to decline due to the competing appointment in Athens.

Awards from the Norman T. Pratt Traveling Fellowship Endowment will contribute support to two summer Rome travelers. Kenneth Draper, a fifth-year student, will be participating this year in the Summer Sessions of the American Academy in Rome with the additional support of a prestigious CAMWS Mary A. Grant Scholarship. Laura Brant, a fourth-year student, will join a new program, Living Latin in Rome, organized by two alumni of the well-known Latina Aestiva of Father Reginald Foster. After five weeks of daily Latin text readings and walks to related locations within the city, as well as weekend excursions to such sites as the Sabine Farm and Villa of Cicero, Brant should be comfortably at home in any number of literary ambiences and landscapes.

PhD awarded

Turning back to achievements here in Bloomington, during spring semester Joshua Congrove had the opportunity to teach a class in the Collins Living–Learning Center. Congrove is also this year’s PhD recipient, having defended on May 2 his dissertation Friendship, Rhetoric, and Authority in the Letters of St. Augustine of Hippo, which represented the first post-classical study in the department in many years.

Chair of Congrove’s committee was Edward J. Watts, professor in the Department of History and adjunct professor of Classical Studies, whose specialty in Late Antique education, biographical writings, and letters first drew Congrove to his classes. Congrove founded his dissertation on the premise that the three elements of his title show changing interactions throughout the phases of Augustine’s career of the man, the ecclesiast (moving from convert to bishop), and the rhetorician but always with an inseparable integration of the three. He was interested in what he could discover about the African aspect of Augustine’s identity as revealed in his education and in his Catholicism, but also in his episcopal negotiations with his constituency as he tried to refine their provincialism. But he was also interested in the way that the role of bishop affected Augustine’s sense of identity as shown in variations of style that accompanied the phases of his career. Congrove very precisely analyzes style as a creation of word order, sentence structure, and vocabulary choices. Throughout the chapters Congrove plays off epistolary rhetoric against that of the public spheres. In the former category he considers the vestigial principles of letter writing as included in two rhetorical treatises under the names of Demetrius and pseudo-Demetrius, and then the precedents for correspondence writing that Augustine will have known in Cicero, Seneca, and Pliny as well as the biblical epistles to Christian congregations. These recur in his discussion within the context of Augustine’s own shifting allegiances to classical literature in competition with scriptural, which he relates to theology and belief with precise comparisons not only of epistolary style but also its overlaps with the developing rhetoric of Augustine’s sermons.

(continued on page 4)
Graduate program  
(continued from page 3)

New faces in 2010
Among this year’s record number of entering students were two migrants from the far edges of the country. Californian Aleda Krill is a convert from marine biology who spent the previous year earning a classical post-baccalaurate at the University of California–Davis. From the opposite coast, Sean Tandy is a native of New Hampshire who has graduated from the University of New Hampshire at Durham. But our initiatives do also include Midwesterners. Emily Trygstad comes to us with a BA from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, where one-time Indiana graduate Steven Tuck was among her faculty mentors. Indiana native Tom Pappas is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame. Ben Howland comes from Purdue University with a master’s degree in comparative literature. New MAT students are Megan Gruntisch, from the College of Wooster, who spent her previous post-graduate year as a member of AmeriCorps working in Massachusetts; Catherine Hayward, a 2010 graduate of Truman State University in Missouri; and Matthew Talmage, an alumnus of Mercer College in Macon, Ga. Margaret Hawkins has been a teacher of English in Illinois.

CAMWS and other events
This year’s Classical Association of the Middle West and South venue, Grand Rapids, Mich., provided an academic homecoming for Alan Fleming and Joshua Congrove, both graduates of Grand Valley State University. Five members of the department, including Congrove himself, presented papers. As one of the presenters, Laura Brant once again nobly commandeered her parents’ van for the safari, but without regrets that the driving time was approximately a mere half of last year’s epic journey to Oklahoma City. At the Annual Indiana Reunion, our contingent caught up with a roster of alumni presenters: Susan A. Curry, MA’07, PhD’09; Rebecca Edwards, MA’00, PhD’03; Nick Gresens, PhD’09; Corinne Shirley, PhD’09; and Byron Stayskal, MA’87, PhD’97. And speaking of meetings, Erin Taylor — still with us in spirit as dissertation writer, if not in person — not only presented a paper at CAMWS’s annual meeting in South Hadley, Mass., but also came away as the elected vice president of CAMWS, with the aside, “I’m not sure what I’m getting myself in for.” During the meeting she was pleased to rendezvous with Sue Curry, who also presented a paper, and both had the chance to meet Teresa Ramsby, MA’95, PhD’01, now associate professor and director of graduate studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, a formidable contender in the spring recruitment of MAT candidates.

Throughout the year Charles Aull did double duty as official assistant to ancient studies director Ed Watts and as presiding officer of our Departmental Graduate Organization. Kenny Draper managed to systematize basic information on the departmental website for all living graduate students of the present moment, an amazing accomplishment. Kyle Grothoff and Alan Fleming jointly kept the graduate library in good order. Emily Trygstad and Amy Yarnell served as representatives to the university-wide Graduate and Professional Student Organization, while Laura Brant in her third year as social chair by popular acclaim kept up the communal spirit with Friday night watering-hole gatherings and other occasional weekend diversions. Among these, the annual Halloween Party is a never-failing spur to sartorial ingenuity, but this year’s new event furnished an added challenge to creativity. On the Saturday before Halloween, some persons traveled outside town to a local pumpkin patch and returned with their trophies for a pumpkin-carving party. In the capital line-up of artifacts, as transmitted electronically to the sabbaticalizing director of graduate studies, were no identifiable self-portraits, but a Cyclops that glowed threateningly after dark. Finally, on the cusp of the first summer session with teaching for some and German for others, the luxuriant Sherwood Oaks water meadow once again furnished the setting for a well-laden picnic board with Alan Fleming’s inimitable red and white sangria and some new and familiar softball talents.

Incoming graduate students
The fall entering class will have three members: Katherine Caliva, Providence College, BA 2010, Georgetown post-baccalaurate; Thomas Pappas, University of Notre Dame, BA 2010; and Martin Pyper Shed, St. Olaf College, BA 2011.

— Eleanor W. Leach, professor and director of graduate studies

Papers presented

CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLE WEST AND SOUTH
• Laura Brant, “Lucan’s Impact on Necromancy”
• Joshua Congrove, “Caritate consensio: Cicero, Christianity, and the Transformation of Friendship in Augustine”
• Kenneth Draper, “The Spoils of Peace: Hadrian’s Private Leisure and its Public Message in the Hunting Tondi”
• Robert Nichols, “The Rhetoric of timoria: Constituting Vengeance in Lysias 1.3, 12, and 13.”

VANDALIA CONFERENCE
• Joshua Congrove, “Ciceronianus sine Cicerone ipso: Augustine and the Union of Preaching and Rhetoric”

CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND
• Erin Taylor, “Deadly Resemblances: Fathers and Sons in Senecan Tragedy”
Undergraduate report for 2010–11

Adventure abroad and at home for undergraduates

Classical studies majors are seeking adventure this year, perhaps in part because of Professor Margaretha Kramer-Hajos’s capstone course on pirates in the ancient world. Many of our graduating seniors said they were inspired by this class, and we hope that their post-graduation journeys generate the excitement of life on the high seas if not all the risks. Our graduates as usual are heading in many different directions — technology, biochemistry, museums, law, theater, banking, teaching English in Spain, and even an internship at Disney! Two new alumni will enter post-graduate studies in the fall.

Ricky Owens will pursue graduate work in classics at Boston University with a Presidential Graduate Fellowship. Ian Doig will be attending the IU Maurer School of Law in August 2011 as a Dean’s Scholar.

Over the summer, some of our archaeology students are headed into the field. Both undergraduate winners of Pratt Traveling Fellowships will participate in field schools, Lizzie Oakley at the Iklaina field school and Angela Ratigan at Gournia on Crete. Ratigan will also begin research for her honors thesis on representations of manhood in Minoan art and culture, for which she won a grant from the Edward A. Schrader Endowment Fund of the Program in Classical Archaeology at IU. Joe Tarnow will attend a field school at Pylos.

Among the departures this year is Professor James L. Franklin, whose courses were longtime favorites in the undergraduate curriculum. Latin majors eagerly awaited his Tacitus and Lucretius offerings. Many students traveled with him to Pompeii and Rome as he recreated life in these ancient cities through slides, lectures, and anecdotes along with invaluable tips for those students lucky enough to visit them in person. When Professor Franklin first came to IUB, he directed the elementary Latin program; he later served as director of undergraduate studies and continued to offer guidance for the program after that. His wit and wisdom will be missed by students and colleagues alike.

It is a pleasure and an honor to teach students whose enthusiasm for the Greeks and Romans is matched by their academic achievements. We are always grateful to be able to support our students with departmental scholarships, and we are proud of the external recognition that our students have won. Caitlin Daley, Lauren Lombardi, and Catherine Suffern were elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Margaret Griesinger and Elizabeth Szymanski have been named Metz Scholars by the Hutton Honors College; these prestigious scholarships recognize potential leaders. Two classics majors won senior scholarships from the College of Arts and Sciences: Frances Frame received a Z.G. and Ethel Starr Clevenger Scholarship and a David Matthew Ver Hagen Memorial Scholarship, while Lizzie Oakley was awarded a George H. and Ruth J. Asdell Scholarship, a Z.G. and Ethel Starr Clevenger Scholarship, and a Dorotha Lee Williams Karsell College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship.

As much as our majors love classics, they always find time for an amazing range of other activities. All manner of clubs and sports occupy them as well as academic pursuits and jobs where they learn about possible careers, even professional acting. Two of our seniors, Angela Budgin and Ian Doig, have worked in labs throughout their four years at IU. Volunteer work is common, whether through local charities such as the Community Kitchen or on mission trips abroad. Many of our students also hold non-academic jobs to support their education — sometimes more than one job — and their ability to balance these responsibilities is remarkable.

As always, we wish our graduating seniors good luck and look forward to seeing our continuing students in the fall. The Department of Classical Studies welcomes visitors, so if you plan to be in the area, please let us know. You can also keep up with the department through our website, www.indiana.edu/~classics/. And don’t forget to send us your news on the reply form in the newsletter!

— Cynthia Bannon, associate professor and director of undergraduate studies

Summer school
(continued from page 1)

in hundred-degree heat, and swimming in the Mediterranean just off the coast of the Emperor Tiberius’s villa in Sperlonga. The food and the hospitality were outstanding at the Centro where the summer school participants were lodged.

As summer approaches again, I have begun to feel the itch to go back to Italy and stand in the shadows of Rome once more. I would like to especially thank Professor Greg Bucher, the program director, and those who kindly wrote letters of recommendation for me, Professors Eleanor Leach, James Franklin, Cynthia Bannon, and Jonathan Ready. Furthermore, I would like to thank the Classical Society of the American Academy in Rome for their generosity in awarding me the Mary A. Sollman Scholarship, and Indiana University for their award of the Norman T. Pratt Traveling Fellowship. They all have my eternal gratitude for making this experience possible.
2011 Departmental scholarships

Lillian Gay Berry Scholarships
Kelsey Bidwell
Kate Neff

David and Jenny Curry Scholarships
Carly Morris
Jeff Schorsch

Alice Fox Scholarships
Marie Crow
Frances Frame
Brian McConnell
Elizabeth Oakley

Gertrude Johnson Scholarship
Marie Crow

Verne Schuman Scholarship
Jordan Rogers

Norton-Mavor Latin Prize
Jessica Richardson

Norman T. Pratt Traveling Fellowships
Laura Brant
Kenneth Draper
Elizabeth Oakley
Angela Ratigan

Award winners, from left: Kelsey Bidwell, Kate Neff, Carly Morris, Marie Crow, Jeff Schorsch, Jessica Richardson, Frances Frame.

Graduating senior Matthew Uhls visits with Frances Frame, an Alice Fox Scholarship winner, at the departmental awards ceremony.

Pratt winners, from left: Angela Ratigan, Kenny Draper, Laura Brant, Lizzie Oakley

Graduating seniors, from left, Kate Suffern, Zach Barnes, and Luke Pacold at the departmental awards ceremony with chair Matt Christ
1960s

Brent M. Froberg, BA’64, MA’65, writes, “I have just completed my 10th year as a member of Baylor University’s Department of Classics where I have taught courses primarily in Greek and in classical mythology. Early in 2012, I shall celebrate the 50th anniversary of my induction into IU’s Theta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, the national honorary collegiate society for students of Latin and/or Greek. Gregory J. Nagy, BA’62, also an IU alumnus and then president of the Theta Chapter, inducted me along with other classmates. I currently serve Eta Sigma Phi as an honorary trustee and as manager of the Eta Sigma Phi Endowment Fund. I continue to take a keen interest in the Classical Studies program at Indiana University. In 1941, my late mother, Ruth Lindner Froberg, BA’41, MA’65, took an AB degree in Latin, summa cum laude, at IU where she studied with Lillian Gay Berry, Verne Schuman, and Selatia Stout. She later completed an MA degree and wrote, under the direction of James Halporn, a thesis on women’s roles in the plays of Plautus. Both my mother and I felt fortunate to have studied in a department with Norman T. Pratt as its chairman.” Froberg lives in Waco, Texas.

1970s

Karl M. Petruso, MA’75, PhD’78, is professor of anthropology and dean of the Honors College at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he has taught since 1990. Since receiving his PhD in classical archaeology in 1978 (mentored by Tom Jacobsen), he has excavated and done archaeological field research in Greece, Egypt, Portugal, Cyprus, and most recently, Albania. Petruso’s wife, Nancy (Sanneman), BA’72, MA’77, whom he met at IU, is associate vice chancellor at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. The couple lives in Arlington, and their two daughters, Stephanie and Alexis, live nearby in north Texas.

Barbara McGrath Hayes, BA’76, MSW’81, MS’01, is co-editor (with William Aspray) of two recent books published by the MIT Press. In Health Informatics: A Patient-Centered Approach to Diabetes, published in October 2010, experts in technology and medicine use diabetes to illustrate how the tools of information technology can improve patient care. Everyday Information: The Evolution of Information Seeking in America, published in February 2011, provides an intimate, everyday perspective on information-seeking behavior, reaching into the social context of American history and American homes. Hayes is associate dean for administration and planning at the IU School of Informatics at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis. She lives in Zionsville, Ind.

1990s

Alix Miculski Lopez, BA’97, writes, “I have been married for 10 years to Tarsis Lopez, BA’96, and I am now a stay-at-home mom with a 1-year-old and 6-month-old, Dylan.”

2000s

Noah L. Gambill, BA’04, writes, “I attended Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minn., and graduated in May 2008. My wife and I have moved to my hometown, Terre Haute, Ind., for the purpose of practicing law. We have a 2-year-old daughter who keeps us very busy. In May 2010, I was sworn in as a licensed attorney in the state of Indiana and in the U.S. Southern District of Indiana.” Gambill is an associate with the law firm Wagner Crawford & Gambill in Terre Haute.

Sue Friedrich White, BA’02, JD’05, is a self-employed attorney in Covington, Ind. She is also the program director of the Fountain County (Ind.) Court Appointed Special Advocate Program, an organization that recruits, screens, and trains volunteer child advocates to work in the court system in collaboration with other key agencies, community resources, and legal counsel to represent the best interests of children in juvenile court proceedings. In summer 2010, White attended a contemporary art class in London hosted by Christie’s Auction House. She lives in Covington.

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Classical Studies

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CLASSICAL STUDIES ALUMNI: What’s new with you?

The IU Alumni Association is charged with maintaining records for all IU alumni. Please print as much of the following information as you wish. Updates are used as class notes and help keep IU’s alumni records accurate and up to date. Attach additional pages if necessary. Mail to the address above, or fax to (812) 855-8266. To update online, visit alumni.indiana.edu/directory.

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