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Cover: Students in the Department of Classics begin reconstructing the rural agricultural economy in the Loukkos river valley thanks to a new collaborative archaeological project with researchers in Morocco.

From left to right: Alex Grimm, Stephen Collins-Elliott, David Guffey, Emily Gregg, and Nate Cordle.
July 10, 2016, marked the start of fieldwork on a new collaborative archaeological project for the Department of Classics at UT. “Gardens of the Hesperides: The Rural Archaeology of the Loukkos Valley” is a joint Moroccan-American collaboration between the Institut National des Sciences de l’Archéologie et du Patrimoine (INSAP) and UT. Directed by Professor Aomar Akerraz and Professor Stephen Collins-Elliott, the goal is to reconstruct the rural agricultural economy in the Loukkos river valley around the ancient city of Lixus, the oldest city in northwestern Africa. In ancient classical sources, it is one of the locations of the mythical gardens from which the project takes its name. The aim is to study the degree to which the regional economy of the Loukkos river valley was integrated with the city of Lixus and whether or not these connections changed during the period of Roman occupation.

As a new collaboration, the 2016 season involved a pilot season of field survey primarily to test out the methodology and procedures of the project, which will lead into two more years of surface survey in 2017 and 2018. Five UT classics students participated in this venture. They joined Professor Collins-Elliott, who had been in Casablanca the week prior, and met up with Professor Akerraz and his group in Larache.

The work provided students with experience in survey methods, identification and processing of archaeological finds, and use of geographical information systems. They learned about cutting-edge tools in digital archaeology, like photogrammetry, and were also exposed to Moroccan history and cultural heritage through visits to Tangier to the north and the ancient site of Volubilis to the south. They also worked alongside Moroccan colleagues, professors, and students throughout the survey.
Nate Cordle
IMMERSION AND INSIGHT

My time in Morocco was an experience full of cultural immersion, fulfilling work, and great camaraderie. When I stepped off the plane in Casablanca I knew this place would be nothing like the United States. I knew I would be able to experience a completely different culture in a place where I would be contributing to groundbreaking work.

We stayed in the city of Larache for a month where we conducted our lab work and processed the finds we recovered in the field survey. We searched the fields in the rural areas surrounding the town for artifacts and features from the ancient and medieval periods, which we processed by washing, identifying, and entering them into our database.

We had some downtime after our work was complete and usually spent the evenings exploring the town, studying, or hanging around the house. We interacted with the people of Larache, and the Moroccan team helped us navigate the unfamiliar landscape. This trip was a rewarding experience that gave me insight into another culture and allowed me to gain knowledge in my field.

Emily Gregg
ANCIENT CULTURE IN SITU

This summer, I was lucky enough to be able to work with Professor Collins-Elliott in the Loukkos Valley. For a classics major, the opportunity to feel and examine ancient materials from which we glean so much knowledge is incomparable. Participating in the pilot season allowed me to learn about an ancient culture in situ, recognizing how the material found reflected the needs and values of these people in an intimate way. Spending time with our counterparts in Morocco further deepened my understanding of archaeology; emphasizing strengths on all sides. Additionally, it served to make me aware of what historical studies can do to bring together people of different cultures. It was a beautiful and inspiring experience.

Alex Grimm
BARBED PLANTS AND SOUK MUSIC

The survey in Morocco was a difficult, but rewarding experience. Even through the heat and the myriad of barbed plant life, it was exciting crossing fields with large concentrations of diagnostic sherds and finding the remains of ancient structures. Discovering finds that had not been in use for hundreds or thousands of years makes you really think about the world and your place in it.

Working with the Moroccan team was fun and interesting. Speaking with them also enlightened us more on the country and its culture. Along with the survey, it was very interesting touring the ancient sites of Lixus and Volubilis and seeing the remains of Roman towns up close. This was my first time seeing such structures in person, as well as the incredible mosaics at Volubilis.

Overall we had a lot of fun sharing stories, going on adventures in the “Barely-Go” van, and getting the Arabic pop music of the souk stuck in our heads. It was definitely a month I will never forget.
David Guffey
STEPPING OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

My time in Morocco was my first experience traveling outside of the United States. It proved to open up my eyes to a new world of possibilities and deepen my love of Mediterranean archaeology.

Project Hesperides was the first archaeological survey that I had ever participated in, which introduced me to the practice itself. From fieldwork in a beautiful region of Morocco to cleaning and documenting ceramics at home, there was never a moment that could be described as dull, boring, or uninformative. But it was not all work. We also had the opportunity to explore several sites in Morocco, both ancient and modern. The kasbah of Tangier was a particularly fun adventure. Seeing the coast of Spain from the northern point of the city was something I will not soon forget. The ancient ruins of Volubilis made for an informative look into Roman town life that I had not yet had outside of classes and textbooks. It was truly an amazing experience.

Rick Robinson
DISCOVERIES OF THE PAST

Morocco was my first trip to North Africa; an entirely unique environment and culture. Morocco is a different world. I was anxious to experience the Moroccan way of life, and the Moroccan people were incredibly helpful and patient with me. Our first night’s dinner under the stars on our roof terrace was unbelievably delicious, and each meal that followed introduced me to the flavors and tastes of Moroccan cuisine.

Having never participated in an initial field survey, everything was new that first day. Professor Stephen Collins-Elliott introduced us to the methodology of the survey and our responsibilities. After locating the field with our handheld GPS, we recorded the field coordinates for our first survey day. Spacing 10 meters apart, we walked across the field looking for artifacts, which we collected in a plastic bag and combined in a field-coded bag for later identification.

I was amazed when I found pottery fragments more than 2,000 years old in the first field. I can’t tell you how much that experience meant to me and how excited I was to be a participant. Just imagine walking in a field and picking up pottery used by a family thousands of years ago. The excitement of finding that first fragment will forever be with me. I know my team members had the same experience when they found their first fragment. Yes, Morocco was a challenge physically, and at times mentally, but to be there and accomplish what our team did was incredibly powerful and rewarding. Even finding that rare structural sign of ancient civilizations kept me curious about what I may find next. Making that next find is a compelling experience.
This summer was another productive and enjoyable Mitrou season. From June 13 through August 13, 2016, an international team of 21 scholars and support staff under the direction of myself and Eleni Zahou (Greek Archaeological Service) studied excavation finds for publication. UT was well-represented on the team.

UT alum Lee Anderson began the systematic study of Mitrou’s ground stone tools, which will be part of his PhD dissertation in classical archaeology for the University of Victoria, Canada. Anderson, who graduated with an MA in Mediterranean archaeology from UT, studied the geological provenance of these tools and various architectural materials from Mitrou for his thesis. He returned to continue his research of the wider geological Mitrou area. Accompanied by an enthusiastic group of UT undergraduates, he was successful and identified the origin of the fine greenish sandstone widely used for ground stone tools at Mitrou. His discovery throws important light on the history of Mitrou’s trade contacts.

Among our undergrads, Abby Durick, a Haslam Scholars Program member with a focus in the honors concentration of classical archaeology, finished her study of potter’s marks on Aeginetan imported pottery from Mitrou for her honors thesis. We also welcomed three new students. Elizabeth Myers, who is studying classical archaeology and photography, brought her considerable talents as a photographer, working side-by-side with our Greek photographer Thomas Mafredas. Thus far, we have photographed about half of the 13,000 finds. Isaac Wittenberg, a classical archaeology major whose interest is in the classical period of Greece, did a wonderful job as a lab assistant, was very helpful with anything computer-related, and took over the management of the lab for the last three weeks of the season. Meggie Briggs, an architecture major with a classical archaeology minor, put her special skills as an architect to work and created a three-dimensional digital reconstruction of the Middle Bronze Age boat we excavated at Mitrou in 2007. With this model, we will be able to obtain more accurate estimates of the boat’s cargo capacity and seafaring capabilities.

Volunteer Rebecca Hoffecker (East Tennessee Society/Archaeological Institute of America) came for a few weeks and provided our lab manager with much-valued help in a variety of tasks. Marine biologist Barbara Dinkins, a consultant of UT’s McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, returned to study shells from Early, Middle, and Late Bronze Age contexts. She noted significant changes in the consumption and the use of shells after the demise of the Corridor House civilization towards the end of the Early Bronze Age and much continuity in shell use after that. This finding supports our current hypothesis that new people may have come to Mitrou at that time.
Calla McNamee (formerly at UT’s Archaeological Research Lab) carried out extractions of starch grains and phytoliths from some of Lee Anderson’s ground stone tools. These particular tools showed little use wear, so we want to find out whether they had been used for processing plant foods or for other purposes.

Other team members continued their studies as well. Caroline Belz (UCLA) and Amanda Iacobelli (Penn State University) made progress on the analysis of the surface survey material. They discovered a fragment of an Early Cycladic marble vessel, as well as another Aeginetan potter’s mark for Abby Durick. In addition, they identified fragments of about 10 Minoan vases from Crete. Architect Giuliana Bianco and I continued the production of stone-by-stone plan drawings of each of our 57 levels of occupation. A French team of specialists came to study our chipped stone tools (lithics) for publication. Lolita Rousseau (University of Nantes) conducted a typological study and discovered there was much recycling of older stone tools not only in the Middle Bronze Age, as would be expected, but also in the Late Bronze Age. The significance of this discovery needs more study.

Marie-Philippine Montagné, a PhD student at the University of Aix-Marseille, brought an impressively large microscope (filling up most of a small car) to study traces of use wear. She took casts of the tools to study them in France. This is the first time that a large-scale analysis of the actual use of chipped stone tools was carried out at a Bronze Age and Early Iron Age settlement in the Aegean. We are all very curious to learn what she will find out. Marie and Lolita’s supervisor, Professor Maxence Bailly (University of Aix-Marseille), came to lend them his considerable expertise.

As in previous years, many finds were drawn with infinite patience by archaeological illustrator Marcella Rossin. Vlasis Carachliannis, our beloved guard, friend, and Greek teacher, helped us in anyway he could. He was assisted for part of the season by two lovely juvenile canines (i.e., doggies), Apollo and Artemis. Our cook, Stavroula Kyriakou, kept us healthy with her delicious meals. Nitsa Spanou provided help with cooking and a variety of tasks in the lab. As with every year, the people of Tragana made us feel welcome with their warm friendship.

Our 2016 study season was financed by the University of Tennessee (Department of Classics, College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Research and Engagement, UT Graduate School), the Institute of Aegean Prehistory, the Greek Archaeological Service, and private donors. We are extremely grateful for their continued support.

We also would like to express our gratitude to Efi Karantzali, the new director of the Archaeological Service of Phthiotida and Euvrytania at Lamia, and James C. Wright, director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, for their unfailing support of our work. We are most thankful to everyone who makes the Mitrou Archaeological Project possible.
RETURNING TO MITROU

Before traveling to Greece this past summer I was fortunate to spend three and a half weeks in the United Kingdom. UT’s Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships funded my journey abroad to explore graduate programs in classical archaeology and philology at the University of Oxford, the University of Sheffield, and the University of Cambridge. My time in England granted me a vision for my future academic goals. I am now applying to all three programs.

My solo travel experience is glittered with memories from handling the original correspondence from Michael Ventris to John Chadwick indicating that Linear B was an early form of Ancient Greek in the Mycenaean epigraphy room at Cambridge, punting past King’s College, getting lost in the British Museum, engaging with students at formal dinners, a Polynesian night at the Pitt Rivers Museum, lectures on Italian archaeology in Sheffield, visiting multiple theaters in London, and watching an orchestral performance by the Oxford Symphony. All this has increased my desire to pursue graduate studies in the UK.

Following my travel to the UK, I was graciously funded by a Haines-Morris Travel Scholarship from the Department of Classics to participate in my second excavation season at the Palace of Nestor in Pylos, Greece, under the direction of the University of Cincinnati Department of Classics. During my excavation season, I helped uncover a rich deposit of Late Helladic pottery, animal bones, and part of a painted plaster ritual table. During our weekend off, I traveled to the Mani Peninsula, visited Neolithic cave sites at Diros, and had the opportunity to explore an abandoned city along the way.

After Pylos, I took two buses cross-country and made it back to Mitrou in Tragana, Greece. This was my third year as a part of the Mitrou Archaeological Project where I have been conducting my honors thesis research on Late Helladic imports with Aeginetan potmarks. In addition to my research, I crossed off a few bucket-list items, such as cliff jumping from Mitrou islet and hiking the mountain.

My three summers at Mitrou helped shape my future. Every music night, dinner at the Butcher’s, town festival, and late night card game is something I will always miss. As a graduating senior, I am currently applying to study topics in prehistoric Aegean scripts—Linear A and Linear B—in the UK before pursuing doctoral studies in prehistoric Aegean archaeology.

ISAAC WITTENBERG
LASTING CONNECTION TO THE PAST

Thanks to the generosity of the Department of Classics and the Haines-Morris Scholarship fund, this summer I was finally able to “export myself” as I have been so often encouraged. I began the summer at my first ever archaeological project in Eleon, a Mycenaean site in Eastern Boeotia directed by Brendan Burke of the University of Victoria and Bryan Burns of Wellesley College. While there, I learned a lot about the basics of field work, including how impossibly difficult it can be to keep a clean trench, the satisfaction that comes with creating a perfectly level trench floor, and an unreasonable animosity towards strong breezes that blow dust back into your recently-cleaned and level trench.

But even stronger than my newfound distaste for certain forces of nature, I developed a deep and lasting sense of connection to the past. Although I’ve been keenly interested in the world of the ancient Aegean since I was a child, nothing has ever cemented that interest quite like holding a fragment of a Mycenaean roof tile and seeing a fingerprint left by its creator. To hold in your hand real, tangible evidence of human work more than 3,000 years old is an experience so profound I don’t think I’ll ever shake the feeling that reached me in that first moment after pulling the sherd from the trench.

After Eleon, I moved to Mitrou to work as a lab assistant for Professor Van de Moortel where I gained experience in the other side of an archaeological project. Working in an apotheke (or lab) can be, I was surprised to discover, just as rewarding as excavation. Even though I was only working as a lab assistant, I was really able to engage with the material on a much closer level than is possible during the excavation.

Overall, after my first experience in Greece, I’m ready and eager to go back for more in the coming years.
**Meggie Briggs**  
**DRAWING THE PAST**

In order to truly understand, one must pursue knowledge and experience. This past July of 2016, my pursuits led me to the Mitrou Archaeological Project in Greece, supported by a partial travel grant of the project. Guided by Professor Van de Moortel, my fellow UT cohorts Abby Durick, Isaac Wittenberg, Lee Anderson, and Elizabeth Brakebill, along with a host of other colleagues and researchers, I studied the importance of ancient architecture and the impacts of the context and landscape therein. As a student of architecture, design, archaeology, and conservation this experience was invaluable because I was able to parallel multiple topics of interest to me while experiencing a different culture.

Thanks to the opportunities provided by the funding of the Mitrou project and the Department of Classics at large, I was also able to expand upon my studies by visiting other significant sites including Athens, Thebes, Delphi, Glas, and Thermopylae. At each site, Professor Van de Moortel took the time to introduce, explain, and present intriguing and important pieces of information, which made the experience more exceptional.

While I studied, I used rhino (a three-dimensional, computer-aided drafting program) and other digital software to model a reconstruction of the Middle Bronze Age boat at Mitrou. This project was very insightful because it provided opportunities to not only enhance my drawing capabilities, but to examine more closely the thought, time, and care that went into crafting (in this instance) a boat to simply travel or move goods, and other objects that would have been needed in everyday life.

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**Elizabeth B. Myers**  
**A NONTRADITIONAL SUMMER**

As a nontraditional student, my summers usually include taking a class, maybe two, on top of 40-hour work weeks. This summer, however, I participated in the study session of the Mitrou Archaeology Project. My role was to be that of photographer, photographing everything from people at work and play to pottery sherds and shells. I had the opportunity of a lifetime to travel to Greece and combine my two passions: photography and archaeology!

I arrived in Mitrou at the beginning of the season and assisted in the opening of the apotheke, our lab. The accommodations in Tragana reminded me of days spent at camp: bunking with new friends, a central kitchen where we gathered for breakfast before beginning our day, lunch and dinner around a common table, regardless of our numbers. We became a family; just like camp years ago!

Nothing prepared me for my first “field” experience in archaeology! The apotheke is warehouse-like, housing bone remains, pottery (intact pieces, large pieces, and sherds), stone tools (lithics), and computer equipment to keep track of the thousands of items uncovered. Documenting a find requires meticulous record keeping by every team member—from the person uncovering the find to the one creating computer records.

The summer was not all work; we also played. The people of Greece are warm, welcoming, and eager to share their homeland and history. We took a ferry to Evia, visited Eretria, Lefkandi, and Delphi. We saw ruins, churches of all sizes, water mills, beautiful scenery, and exquisite sunsets, but my favorite excursion was to the Mitrou site. Hearing about the excavations, seeing the working olive grove, finding pottery sherds, standing atop the bluff, catching the breeze from the water – it would be easy to slip back in time to the Bronze Age.

It was a busy five weeks: new skills, new friends, new language, new experiences. The perfect summer vacation! Thank you for the amazing opportunity! I look forward to my next summer vacation.
The last year of Chris’ stewardship was a banner year. He added Dianna Beeler as a part-time accountant to our staff, and expanded the number of our full-time PhD lecturers from three to four, and our graduate teaching assistants from one to two. We are very grateful to Dean Theresa Lee of the College of Arts and Sciences for granting Chris’ requests.

This summer, lecturer Daniel Moore and his wife Jocelyn (along with their baby daughter Evangeline) returned to the University of Virginia where both accepted teaching assignments. We welcomed two new lecturers to our department: Thomas Rose, a Greek historian from the University of Iowa, and Taylor Coughlan, a Greek poetry specialist from the University of Cincinnati. With our two GTAs Tony LoPiano and Emily Noyes – both MA students in Mediterranean archaeology – we are now able to create discussion sections in our large introductory archaeology course for the first time, which has already produced positive educational results.

Susan Martin returned to our department after eight years of service as senior vice chancellor and provost of UT’s Knoxville campus. We are honored to have Professor Martin back with us. With eight tenure-stream faculty, four full-time PhD lecturers, one part-time lecturer, two GTAs, 47 majors, and 29 minors, our department has reached its largest size since its founding.

In addition, our Roman archaeologist Stephen Collins-Elliott started a new archaeological field project in Morocco in collaboration with the head of the Moroccan National Archaeological Institute, creating new training opportunities for our students.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to our revamped Department of Classics website (classics.utk.edu), which is frequently updated with news about our activities and projects. Inspired by our Classics Advisory Council, we have stepped up recruiting efforts. We posted a video interview with council member Bettye Beaumont about the usefulness of a classics education for a career in business. We also added a page titled “Classics: A Major for All Seasons” with inspirational texts by faculty members Stephen Collins-Elliott and Justin Arft about the benefits of studying classics. Written and video testimonials by our students will be added in the coming months. Moreover, frequent Twitter and Facebook posts by Justin Arft, our social media Meister, keep viewers informed about new archaeological discoveries and other news from the world of classics.

Please visit our website often and let us know what you think!

- Aleydis Van de Moortel, Professor and Head

NORTHERN EXPOSURE: UT Classics Takes Québec

At the end of the 2015-16 academic year, two adventurous members of the classics department headed north of the border (far north!) to Québec City on the shores of the Saint Lawrence River for the annual Classical Association of Canada (CAC) meeting, hosted by the Université Laval.

Jessica Westerhold presented a paper titled “Altera Medea: Euripides, Sophocles and intertextual doppelgängers in Ovid’s elegy;” Robert Sklenár presented a paper titled “Langage, société, et cosmos dans le premier monologue de l’Œdipe de Sénèque” and fielded questions en français!
Eta Sigma Phi
Initiation and Awards

The 2016 Eta Sigma Phi initiation and awards banquet for our Beta Delta chapter added the following new members on account of their excellent performance in Greek or Latin: Callie Ann Feezell, William Plank, Robert Turner, Isaac Wittenberg, Hayley Baldwin, Abby Durick, Emily Gregg, Alexander Grimm, Casey Hall, and Claire Rowcliffe. Stephen Collins-Elliot gave a heartfelt and incisive speech on the value and importance of a classical education. Justin Arft and Kathryn Weaver received honorary memberships in the organization.

Several students were recognized for their outstanding academic work during the 2015-16 academic year. Abby Durick, in addition to becoming our chapter’s new president, received a Rupp Scholarship, a Haines-Morris Travel Scholarship, and was recognized for her 2016 Summer Undergraduate Research Internship Grant and Exploration Grant from UT’s Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships.

Sarah Parsley received a Moser Scholarship and was awarded the CAMWS Award for Outstanding Achievement in Classical Studies.

Coral Thayer also received a Rupp Scholarship. Isaac Wittenberg, Alexander Grimm, Emily Gregg, and David Ryan Guffy all received Haines-Morris Travel Scholarships.

Our senior prizes for outstanding work within a departmental discipline were awarded to David Housewright for Latin, Victoria Banks for Greek, and Matthew Goldstein for classical civilization.

Among other awards and accolades recognized at the banquet, we celebrated several of our members who represented UT in the

Annual Conference
Exceeds Expectations

The Fifth Annual Undergraduate Classics Conference at the University of Tennessee took place in Hodges Library Saturday, February 21, 2016. It was sponsored by the Classics Enrichment Fund of the Department of Classics, with co-sponsorship by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Chancellor’s Honors Program, the Office of Undergraduate Research, the Departments of English, History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies, and the School of Art.

Beginning with the opening remarks of Dean Theresa Lee, College of Arts and Sciences, this year’s conference exceeded all expectations. Our keynote speaker was Craig Gibson (University of Iowa), editor of *Transactions of the American Philological Association*, who delivered a fascinating and insightful talk on “The Myths of Crete in Ancient and Byzantine Greek Education.” Twenty-nine speakers coming from 16 colleges and four countries then presented their research on a wide variety of topics, ranging from Sophocles to Catullus, Livy to Thucydides, early Christianity to Greek philosophy, and Bronze Age Sardinia to the Roman Army. The three concurrent paper sessions were well-attended, and throughout the day the atmosphere was relaxed, with the result that students and faculty alike socialized with one another freely, leading to several lively discussions and a productive exchange in ideas between the participants and attendees.

The presiders of the eight paper panels were Justin Arft, Stephen Collins-Elliot, Christopher Craig, Maura Lafferty, Stephanie McCarter, Robert Sklenář, Aleydis Van de Moortel, and Jessica Westerhold. Christopher Craig eloquently ended the conference with well-deserved praise for the student presenters.

Maurine Dallas Watkins Translation Contests, a national translation contest for students of Greek and Latin. Jacob Brakebill, who won second overall in advanced Greek, was also recognized for his research presented at both URSA and at EUReCA, and his acceptance into the graduate program in classical studies at the University of Missouri with a fully-funded assistantship.

Thomas Carpenter was recognized for being nominated for a Torchbearer award. Coral Thayer and Bethany Good were recognized for presenting at NCUR in Asheville. Kaitlyn Stiles, alumna, was recognized for winning the Olivia James Fellowship for 2016-17, which is the national annual fellowship of the Archaeological Institute of America.

All of us in the Department of Classics congratulate the students recognized for their devotion to the study of classics and their hard work. We are all very proud of their success.
In February, our alumna and advisory council member Bettye Beaumont announced the foundation of the Athena Travel Fund, which aims to help classics undergraduates have a study abroad experience. She named the fund after Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom, because international cultural exposure does so much for a student’s intellectual growth. With various donors already stepping up to Bettye’s challenge, this fund is well on its way towards endowment before its target date in December 2018.

Later in the spring came another happy surprise. At the reception hosted to celebrate our colleague Susan Martin’s eight-year tenure as senior vice chancellor and provost of the Knoxville campus, Chancellor Jimmy G. Cheek announced a new fund in classics, created by Susan Martin, professor of classics. The Dr. Susan Martin Excellence Endowment for Classics will provide support for classics students to pursue educational and research opportunities (travel to museums, study abroad, attend conferences and symposiums), as well as support for student scholarships. This fund is also receiving contributions from other donors and is well ahead of its target date for endowment in July 2017.

As the number of our classics majors grows, and we aim to send more of them abroad to experience first-hand the glories of Greek and Roman civilization, we are immensely grateful for the generosity of our friends and donors who are helping us to achieve this dream.

Ex imo corde/ἐκ τῆς καρδίας: maximas gratias/μεγίστην χάριν ἴσμεν!

Classics Advisory Council
Dedicated to Student Success

All participated in animated discussions about how to recruit more students and how to help our majors secure employment after graduation.

As John Friend reminded us, students are under financial pressure and finding a good job is very important to them. Bettye Beaumont and Vickie Weaver, both with impressive careers as HR executives in business, offered to assist our majors with resume and interviewing skills. Bettye recorded the video interview on employment prospects for classics majors that is featured on our website.

In attendance at the February 19, 2016, meeting were Vicki Weaver (chair), Bettye Beaumont, Chris Craig, John Friend, new member Anderson Gaither, Jennifer Hardy, Stephanie McCarter, Aleydis Van de Moortel, and development officer Holly Jackson-Sullivan.
Latin Day XXXIV

The 34th annual Latin Day again brought more than 400 high school and middle school Latin students and their teachers to campus for a day of classical learning and fellowship, interacting with UT faculty, taking campus tours, and enjoying a Roman lunch of teenager haute cuisine (mostly pizza and coke). Since the old Student Center has been torn down and the new Student Union is still under construction, this was our first Latin Day in a classroom building. Consensus was that we traded up; the energy of our young Latinists filled the building, and a very good time was had by all.

This year’s roster of speakers and talks, all enthusiastically received, was:

**Justin Arft**, assistant professor of classics, “Not Cool, Man: Why the Romans Really Didn’t Like Odysseus”

**Stephen Collins-Elliott**, assistant professor of classics, “How to Read a Roman Coin”

**Christopher Craig**, professor of classics, “Honesty or Politics in Cicero’s Rome”

**John Friend**, assistant professor of classics, “Life on Hadrian’s Wall”

**Theodora Kopestonsky**, lecturer in classics, “Cave Nympham: Nymphs in the Roman World”

**Maura Lafferty**, associate professor of classics, “Where Does Our Vergil Text Come From?”

**Jacob Latham**, assistant professor of history, “From Principate to Dominate: The Transformation of Imperial Governance”

**Lynn Rogers**, collector extraordinaire of Roman regalia, “Roman Military Equipment”


**Aleydis Van de Moortel**, professor of classics and Lindsay Young Professor of the Humanities, “Do We Really Have the Tomb of Philip, Father of Alexander the Great?”

**Jessica Westerhold**, lecturer in classics, “Romans in Tears”

**ETS/AIA Lecturers**


**Gwyn Davies**, Florida International University, “The Late Roman Fort at Yotvata, Israel.” Linda G. Feinstone Lecturer, AIA.


When I decided to become a classics major in fall 2011, I could have never imagined that it would lead me to New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art. At the time, I had lofty ambitions to work in government. I was studying political science and chose to also study classics because I enjoyed it; not necessarily to pursue a career in it. I quickly discovered that classics was not a casual interest of mine, but something I found to be incredibly exciting and rewarding.

The amazing faculty at UT gave me the freedom and opportunity to explore anything and everything I was passionate about—from encouraging me to go on an excavation in Bulgaria to presenting at, and later organizing, UT’s Undergraduate Classics Research Conference, to studying Bronze Age frescoes from Akrotiri that (without exaggeration) changed my life. My classes were as fun as they were rigorous, and my peers were excited about what they were studying. My professors challenged me and gave me the confidence to pursue interests and a career that never would have occurred to me. Through my studies, I discovered that the art and actions of ancient peoples impacted my life in a visceral way, and I cannot emphasize enough how grateful I am for that discovery.

Because of my experience in the Department of Classics, I applied to and received an internship in Egyptian art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where I now have a permanent job in college and university programs. I feel lucky to get to spend every day at my favorite place in the world, to walk through the Greek and Roman galleries of the Met, and feel motivated to move forward and continue to pursue a career in art and museums. As I apply to graduate programs in art history, I am filled with the promise of infinite possibility and am excited to see where classics can take me.

We hope that alumna Stephanie McCarter, associate professor of classics at Sewanee and a member of the Classics Advisory Council, will pardon us for sharing the link to one of her online publications. Her powerful essay, “Aeneas, My Grandfather, and the Memory of War,” has become a must-read for all her former teachers: https://tiny.utk.edu/59FSf.

Bettye C. Beaumont, a retired executive with a Fortune One Hundred company and a guiding light of our Classics Advisory Council, has blessed us with clear-eyed counsel since the council’s inception. We have now prevailed on her to make a video discussing the value of a classics major for a career outside of academe. For Bettye’s signal contribution to our common cause, the creation of the Athena Travel Fund, please see “Ensuring Our Future,” pg. XI.

We are thrilled to welcome to the Classics Advisory Council Magister Anderson Gaither, who retired as Latin teacher and department chair at Montgomery Bell Academy in 2014. He retired after only 42 years and 10 months of service at MBA and has much more to give our common cause. Magister Gaither has been a strong force for good in Tennessee classics for more than a generation. We are delighted to have his guidance.

Jacob Brakebill, now joins Emma Pugmire, at the University of Missouri, where he has been admitted to the PhD program in classics with full funding. At our Eta Sigma Phi initiation this spring, Chris Craig presented Jacob with a special award for the special character he had brought to our cadre of majors during Chris’ headship.

Robert L. Crossley III, who graduated summa cum laude with a BA in French and classics, is currently an attorney in private practice in Knoxville, specializing in the court-appointed realms of juvenile child custody and criminal defense.

Magistra Susan Neas Hankins, in the Latin program at Greeneville High School, is coming up on her 13th year in our vocation and showing no signs of slowing down. She makes Susan Martin and Chris Craig feel a little old and very proud.

David Housewright graduated last spring summa cum laude and is now doing his student teaching internship with Magistra Connie Weaver at Maryville High School. He knows how lucky he is to be working with Connie. We expect their students know how lucky they are to have them both.

Deborah Gibson Thomas, our sometimes Latin teaching colleague and constant friend, graced us after too many years last February when she came to see big brother Professor Craig Gibson of the University of Iowa give the keynote lecture at our undergraduate research conference. It was great to see her before she adjourned to lunch with her former classmate, and our current Classics Advisory Council chair, Vicki Weaver.

Magistra Madeleine “Lizzi” Kersey, in the Latin program at Karns High School and (through video hook-up) at Gibbs as well, was our expert coordinator of the Latin section for the seventh annual TFLTA East Tennessee World Language Workshop hosted by Magistra Leigh Anne Cutshaw at Hardin Valley Academy in April. The presentations by Lizzi, Brad Crattle and Chris Webb of the L&N STEM Academy, and Leigh Anne were all worthwhile. A special treat was our communal lunch, funded by Harry Rutledge, of blessed memory, through the Rutledge Memorial Fund, and included (among other luminaries), Samantha Kolyer of Episcopal School of Knoxville, Sam Gleason, now at Episcopal School of Knoxville, Jaclyn Friend, our dynamic young colleague at Halls, Wayne Buchanan from Dobyns-Bennett in Kingsport, and Josh Crumm from Ravenwood High School. Our gathering was a symposium in every sense.

Chris Craig and Magister Sandy Hughes of Bearden High School were thrilled to witness the marriage vows of Lizzi Kersey and Rachel Bast at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Knoxville June 4. Chris has never attended a more joyful wedding. As a bonus, the happy couple really knows how to dance! We wish them every happiness.

Magistra Jean Susie has retired from William Blount High School after arranging for a superb successor, Sarah Cooper, who interned at the L&N STEM Academy last year, now carries on Jean’s proud tradition.

Maddie Briner, after graduating in May, was lured back to a teaching position in her native Ohio. It was a pleasure to work with her in our classes and to bask in her leadership role in the National Senior Classical League. We are glad to count her an interstate colleague.

Ryan Sellers of Memphis University School has become the CAMWS vice-president for the Upper South region (Tennessee, Kentucky, and Arkansas). Ed Long of Clarksville High School remains our CAMWS state vice-president for Tennessee.

In Memoriam:

Judy Mitchell, who spent 17 years as a superb Latin teacher at Knoxville Central and West high schools and a founding mother of the UT Latin Day, passed away in June at the age of 69. She leaves behind her husband of almost 50 years, Don, two sons and their spouses, five grandchildren, an enormous circle of friends and family, and an undying memory of the many lives that are better because she was in them.
JUSTIN ARFT returned for his second year in the department with a semester of leave granted for the birth of his daughter, Penelope (of course), last spring. He is working on his book about Queen Arete of the Phaeacians and the composition of the Odyssey and is awaiting his forthcoming article, “Structure as Sema: Structural and Liminal Middles in the Odyssey.” In Brill’s new Yearbook of Ancient Greek Epic. This January, he looks forward to presenting his paper “Odysseus’ Success and Demise: Recognition in the Odyssey and Telegony” on a panel at the annual SCS meeting. Later in the spring he will join Theo Kopestonsky at the annual CAMWS meeting to co-preside a panel titled “Finding a New Beat: Teaching Latin Poetry with Popular Music.” In the fall, he will be back at it in the classroom teaching an upper level course on Greek poetry and a large lecture course on classical and Roman mythology. Justin also looks forward to an active year with our Beta Delta chapter of Eta Sigma Phi and the Classics Club.

STEPHEN COLLINS-ELLIOTT has happily returned home to the Department of Classics after his year at the UT Humanities Center. He had a busy year sending off articles, publishing a report on a new tile stamp in Etruscan in 2016, as well as a computational algorithm to create a concordance between different ceramic vessel classes and types. He also gave papers in London and San Francisco and made progress on his book manuscript, The Table of the Transient World, which examines long-term changes in food consumption in ancient Italy during the rise of Rome. Last summer he also took five UT classics students to survey the countryside around the ancient city of Lixus on the new Moroccan-American archaeological project, “Gardens of the Hesperides: The Rural Archaeology of the Loukkos Valley” (INSAP-UT). (See pg. II)

TAYLOR COUGHLAN is pleased to join the Department of Classics as a lecturer this academic year. Before arriving at UT, he completed his PhD at the University of Cincinnati with a dissertation on “Aesthetics of Dialect in Hellenistic Epigram.” Taylor recently published a review in Bryn Mawr Classical Review, delivered a paper at the University of Cambridge on the language of inscribed epigram, has a book chapter on dialect imitation forthcoming, and looks forward to putting the final touches on a co-authored papyrus edition accepted for publication in the International Journal for Papyrology and Epigraphy (ZPE). He is excited to be teaching Latin, Greek, and ancient epic (in translation) in the fall and spring semesters.

CHRIS CRAIG has finished his five-year stint as department head and has happily passed that torch to Aleydis Van de Moortel. Through all the achievements and challenges of the last five years, he is grateful to have a great group of colleagues focused on our common cause and to have the pure joy of working with extraordinary students who have good heads and good hearts. This year, Chris is on research leave to get back to his long delayed project on outrage, pain, and persuasion in Cicero’s speeches. He is reveling in the precious gift of time to read and write. In support of his project, this fall he submitted a chapter for an edited book and will give three papers at regional and international conferences. He looks forward to returning to colleagues and students and to a much smaller (and quieter!) office in the coming academic year.

This is JOHN FRIEND’s seventh year in the department. He was invited to Brown University in November 2015 where he talked about “Lycurgus, Ephebes, and the Gods.” He also presented a lecture titled “Unfulfilled Potential? The Skirmisher in Greek Warfare ca. 431-362 B.C.” at the 2016 SCS annual meeting. His article concerning the early Hellenistic ephebeia was submitted and accepted for a volume on Lycurgan Athens. He continues to work on his book, The Athenian Ephebeia in the Fourth Century B.C., and aims to complete his manuscript before next year’s newsletter. He thoroughly enjoyed his teaching duties (Greek and classical civilization) over the last year and is happy to serve as the co-departmental representative for the Beta Delta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi and as the Undergraduate Research Conference coordinator.

During 2013-14 GERALDINE GESSELL, professor emerita, continued to work on the publication of the Kavousi Excavations (see pg. XII) at the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete spring and fall and at the UT Hodges Library summer and winter. She continues to attend the annual meetings of the AIA, this past year in San Francisco, and to attend the meetings of the managing committee of the INSTAP Study Center of East Crete. She enjoys traveling for pleasure as well. This year she visited Seattle, where her brother lives; Oklahoma City, where she grew up, taught high school Latin, and still has friends; and Aspen, Colorado, where she attended a reunion of former high school Latin students, all enjoying dinners together and the Aspen music festival. She also visited New York City with college friends to enjoy ballet and theater.

THEODORA KOPESTONSKY is pleased to return as a lecturer in the Department of Classics. This past year, her work at Corinth and the HYDROMED research consortium on water and cult led to a paper titled “Little Gifts: Dedications at the Sacred Spring in Corinth,” which she presented at the AIA/SCS annual meeting in San Francisco. An article of the same topic has also been submitted for publication. This December, her long article concerning the cult of the nymphs at Corinth will be published in Hesperia. In the summer, she continued her research on dedications, particularly the terracotta assemblages at small shrines at Corinth, with an eye to writing a monograph on the character of offerings for minor deities, such as heroes and nymphs.

Teaching has been going very well. The enthusiastic students in the gender and sexuality course have inspired her to think about ancient literature in new ways. As a result, she has begun to include popular music and lyrics as tools to teach Greek and Latin poetry. This, in turn, has prompted her and Justin Arft to propose a pedagogy panel for CAMWS about using these techniques. She was honored to be awarded the Lecturer Excellence in Teaching award for 2015 by the College of Arts and Sciences. She was a 2016 finalist for the Chancellor’s Excellence in Teaching award. She is teaching a wide array of courses this year including Greek archaeology, Greek, Latin, and a survey of Graeco-Roman epic.
This fall, MAURA LAFFERTY is teaching CLAS 351 for the first time. This is the first course in our advanced Latin sequence with readings from Cicero and Sallust. She is also teaching her standby course in medieval Latin. She is working on two papers: “The Shifting Mise-en-Page of the High Middle Ages” and “Epicharis and the Power of a Freedwoman in Tacitus’ Annals.” She is also working on a book, The Rhetoric of the Latin Page, on the ways in which medieval scribes present Latin texts to their readers. She continues to serve as the department’s liaison to the MARCO Institute of Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

SUSAN MARTIN returned to the Department of Classics August 1, 2016, after serving eight years as provost and senior vice chancellor at UT. She is absolutely delighted to rejoin her colleagues, old and new, in a department that is stronger than ever. She looks forward to reengaging with students and with the department’s research and service efforts. She continues to enjoy travel with family, including recent trips to France and England.

THOMAS ROSE comes to Tennessee after completing his PhD at the University of Iowa, where he was managing editor of Syllecta Classica. His primary research area is the history of the early Hellenistic period, in particular the career of Demetrius Poliorcetes and the development of Hellenistic kingship and ruler cult. Thomas was delighted to spend part of last summer on Sicily, where he took part in an investigation of the Elymian sanctuary of Contrada Mango at Segesta. He is very excited to begin teaching Latin language and Greek mythology courses this semester and looks forward to presenting at the upcoming AIA/SCS conference in Toronto.

ROBERT SKLENÁŘ’s monograph, Plant of a Strange Vine: Oratio Corrupta and the Poetics of Senecan Tragedy, has been accepted for the monograph series Beiträge zur Altertumskunde published by de Gruyter. During the past year, he published a review in Gnomon: Beiträge zur Altertumskunde von Gewalt (Heidelberg 2014) and gave a paper at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of Canada (see “Northern Exposure,” pg. IX). This fall, he is teaching CLAS 431 with readings consisting of Catullus 64 and Aeneid Book 4 in the original Latin, as well as CLAS 273, our online course on medical terminology, in which he often finds himself consulting the tech-savvy students on navigating the material. He continues to serve the university on the ONSF screening committee, the Steering Committee of the Humanities, and the Linguistics Committee, as well as the Department of Classics in various capacities, including associate head, coordinator of advising, and editor of the newsletter.

DAVID TANDY, UT professor emeritus and visiting professor of classics at the University of Leeds, gave papers in 2016: “Land transfers in Boiotia and Aiolis” at the UK Classical Association meeting in Edinburgh and, at Oxford, “Who were the Mediterranean traders in the tenth and ninth centuries?” He published a short article on “Xenophon of Paros, Sculptor (SEG 47 1663)” in Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik 197 (2016). Two essays are in press for volumes on Hesiod and on Paros.

ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTEL taught the basic survey course of Greek and Roman archaeology and upper-division courses on Aegean prehistory and Greek archaeology. She also developed a brand new course on ancient technology, which explores the ingenuity and technical achievements of the Ancients. This course was loads of fun and an eye-opener for everyone, herself included. In the last year Aleydis submitted two articles for publication: one article about ceramic connections between the Minoan palatial settlements of Malia and Phaistos; the other on a new typology of Bronze Age Aegean ships. She delivered three lectures and conference presentations about Mitrou’s architecture and Bronze Age shipbuilding in the Aegean. During the summer, she co-directed the eighth study season (pg. V) of the Mitrou Archaeological Project, taking with her four UT students.

ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTEL also organized eight public lectures last year as secretary-treasurer of the AIA’s East Tennessee Society. In August, she handed the baton of the organization into the capable hands of Stephen Collins-Elliott. At the same time, she took over from Chris Craig the headship of our beloved Department of Classics. She is looking forward to her first year in the new job with excitement and some trepidation.

JESSICA WESTERHOLD returns as lecturer in the department for a fourth year. Previously, she was a visiting assistant professor in classics at Skidmore College. She earned her MA in classics from the University of Kansas and her PhD from the University of Toronto. Her dissertation is on Greek tragic heroines in the poetry of Ovid. This summer, Jessica researched the final chapter of her book project, which she presented in Atlanta at CAMWS-Southern Section in October 2016. She also gave a talk at Latin Day 2016 on mothers and motherhood in Rome and is looking forward to returning to Toronto in January to present a paper on Cicero’s poetry for a panel she helped organize. Her paper explores Cicero’s translation of Sophocles’s Women of Trachis in his Tusculan Disputations. In May of 2016, she delivered a paper at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of Canada (see “Northern Exposure,” pg. IX). Jessica is excited to introduce her Latin students to the poetry of Catullus and Horace, teach ancient drama in translation, and complete the beginning year of Greek next spring.

KATHRYN WEAVER (left) is the department’s administrative assistant. DIANNA BEELER (right) is our part-time accountant.