



CLASSICS & LETTERS NEWS

But What Can You Do With It?

By Samuel J. Huskey, Chair

I have a standard speech that I give to anyone who asks, "What is 'Classics and Letters?'" I invoke the centuries-old tradition of the liberal arts. I speak of the vast influence of Greco-Roman antiquity. After waxing eloquent on the enduring value of an education in the humanities, I sit back and wait for the question that almost always comes next:

"But what can you do with it?"

Some academics disdain such questions about practicality, but given the substantial investment of time and money that a college education requires, I think it's a good question, and it deserves a serious answer. Thanks to the alumni who responded to the survey I circulated last year, I have one: "Almost anything."

Some skepticism is to be expected, but it usually abates when I bring out my list of actual job titles held by our alumni. It's an impressive list. See for yourself on page 6 of this newsletter.

Some may scoff at the notion of a practical side to the humanities, arguing that history, language, literature, and philosophy all have intrinsic value and

are ends unto themselves. Although priceless treasures await those who seek wisdom in the liberal arts, it is worth noting that the original institutions of higher learning had a practical purpose: to prepare students for a profession, usually law, medicine, or the ministry. The humanities provided the best education for these fields because they foster intellectual curiosity, reason, and eloquence.

The range of career paths available today has expanded considerably, but that doesn't change the fact that a degree in Classics or Letters still provides solid preparation for life in the real world. Our alumni are living proof.

What have you done with your degree in Classics and Letters? If you haven't already filled out our alumni survey, please go to www.ou.edu/cas/classics, click on "Alumni" and follow the link to the survey.

The more answers we have to the question "What can you do with it?" the better.

I hope that you will enjoy this newsletter. Please let me know if you have any news of your own to share. ☺

SECOND ISSUE

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Students Achieve National Distinction in Greek and Latin

This year we began administering the National Latin Exam to all of our third-semester Latin students as part of our departmental assessment program. Of the nineteen students who took the Latin III exam, eleven performed well enough to earn special distinction.

Patrick Winterrowd, Edward Isaacs, and Michael Vanderslice received gold medals (*summa cum laude*) for their outstanding performance on the exam. Kimberly Lockaby received a silver medal (*maxima cum laude*). Alexandra Wright, Kaitlyn Buettner-Scully, Neill Plemons, Christine Hickson, Mollie Rischard, Andrew Tankersley, and Hunter Ellard earned the distinction of *magna cum laude*.

Of the advanced students who volunteered to take the Latin VI exam, Gerard Keiser and Matt Berry received gold medals (*summa cum laude*), and Chris Hains and Paula Shaibani received silver medals (*maxima cum laude*). Gerard Keiser also earned a gold medal on the National Greek Exam.

This is an excellent showing in the inaugural year of using the NLE and NGE to help us assess our language programs. Congratulations to all of the award winners! 🎉



Classical Languages major Gerard Keiser earned gold medals on both the National Latin Exam and the National Greek Exam.

Majors Recognized at End-of-Year Reception



Kyle Williams, winner of the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Senior in the Humanities Award

On April 27, we held our third annual end-of-the-year reception for Classics and Letters students, faculty, and staff. We convened in the Beard Lounge in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, where we enjoyed a delightful spread of Mediterranean foods. We also had a great time recognizing the achievements of our students.

Classics and Letters majors are some of the best students on campus, and they have the awards to prove it. **Alexis Taitel** was recognized this year with the President's Award for Outstanding Freshmen, and **Lorna Vazquez** was recognized as the Outstanding Honors College Freshman. Also from the freshman class, **Lauren Davis** earned a spot in the College of Arts and Sciences' Leadership Program. **Zach Lanier** represented the sophomore class with receipt of the President's Award for Outstanding Sophomores. **Gerard Keiser** and **Alexandrea Rahill** were among the few juniors elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa (see next page). Finally, from the senior class, **Sara Linman** received the Alvin Terrel Dixon Memorial Scholarship, and **Kyle Williams** (left) distinguished himself as the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Senior in the Humanities. 🎉

Classics and Letters Majors Elected to Phi Beta Kappa

Earning the distinction of membership in Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, has never been easy, but the national office of Phi Beta Kappa recently praised the Alpha of Oklahoma chapter for the rigor of its selection procedures. Members of the chapter's Members-in-Course Committee independently review the records of the students who meet the minimum qualifications for membership and assign each student a score based on the depth and breadth of the student's curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences. The committee then convenes to compare notes and determine the final list of students to be invited to join the chapter. Afterwards, the full membership of the chapter votes on the list proposed by the committee. This process insures that only the best of the best students in the liberal arts and sciences at OU receive invitations to join this august society.



Dr. Huskey with Phi Beta Kappa initiates Kyle Williams, Sarah Wiley, and Matt Berry at the spring convocation.

The following nineteen Classics and Letters majors from the graduating class of 2011 accepted the invitation to join Phi Beta Kappa and participated in the initiation ceremony on May 13 in Meacham Auditorium at the Oklahoma Memorial Union:

Matt Berry
 Kyle Williams
 Thomas Michael Carwile
 Claire Epperson
 Molly Hart
 Daniel Martens
 Ian O'Kidhain
 Joseph Ptomey
 Hayley Spencer
 Haley Sperry

Amber Uresti
 Sydney Vanhooser
 Sarah Wiley
 Kaitlyn Willit
 Abby Williamson
 Laura Wiederhoeft
 Furzana Iqbal
 Wilson O'Donnell
 Jillian Chance

Occasionally, Phi Beta Kappa also invites exceptional members of the junior class to join. This year's junior initiates includes two Classics and Letters majors:

Gerard Keiser

Alexandrea Rahill

Congratulations to these outstanding students! 🎓

Department Awards Scholarships

At the third annual awards reception on April 27, we presented the following scholarships and awards:

The **Peggy Chambers Scholarship**, established by an OU alumnus in recognition of Peggy Chambers' outstanding contributions to the Classics and Letters programs. It is awarded to an outstanding junior or senior Letters major. This year's recipient is **Claire Epperson**.

The **Charles and Julie Daniels Study Abroad Endowed Scholarships**, established by a former Letters major and her husband, both graduates of the University of Oklahoma, were awarded to **Zach Lanier, Erica Halley, and Daniel Mensching**.

Four students received the **Philip Nolan Scholarship**, established by a former student of Philip Nolan: **Sara Linman, Blake Jenkins, Calley Barrett, and Aili Butler**.

The **Philip Nolan Memorial Scholarship**, established by the former students, colleagues and friends of Dr. Philip Nolan, went to **Kyle Williams**.

The **Mary Enod Williams Memorial Scholarship** was established by Charles Williams for his mother, Mary Enod Williams, a long time public school teacher who graduated from OU with a degree in Latin. This year's recipients were **Breanna Edwards, Kathryn Jones, and Amy Brackenbury**.

The **Jean Herrick Scholarship** was established in memory of a long time faculty member in the Department of Classics and Letters. The intention of the donor was that this scholarship be for a student pursuing a career teaching Latin. **Patrick Winterrowd and Gerard Keiser** were the recipients.

Danney Goble was a gifted and talented and very popular lecturer and author who taught Letters courses in the department. The **Danney Goble Scholarship**, established in his memory, went this year to **Baxter Schooley**.

The **John H. Hansen Prize for Future Teachers of Latin**, established by John Hansen in honor of his father, went to **Steven Hudec**.

The **Reid Philips Memorial Scholarship** was established by the parents of Reid Philips, a Letters major. **Will Bryant** received the award this year.

The **J. Rufus Fears Scholarship**, established by donors to recognize Dr. Fears' many contributions to OU, the immediate community, and the state went to **Alex Nasr**.

Next year, we would like to offer the first **Jack Catlin Scholarship**, but we need your help. If Dr. Catlin taught you, advised you, or helped you in any way during your student career, please consider making a contribution to the Jack Catlin Scholarship fund. Contact David Quirk (dquirk@ou.edu, 405.325.3724), Director of Development in the College of Arts and Sciences, for more information. ♣



Peggy Chambers Scholarship award winner Claire Epperson with Dr. Huskey

Events in the Department



Student officers and faculty sponsors at the fall initiation ceremony for Eta Sigma Phi, the national honor society for classics majors. From left to right: Matt Berry, Sarah Wiley, Steve Wagner, Elizabeth Brand, Samuel Huskey, Kaela Patterson, and Amy Brackenbury.

The year was full of events for students and faculty. In September, Dr. Rachel Knudsen kicked off the “Faculty Chats” series with a presentation about her own research. Adrienne Jablonski, Director of Student Career and Leadership Development in the College of Arts and Sciences, gave a presentation on making a good first impression at job fairs and interviews. The Constitutional Studies Student Association and the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage celebrated Constitution Day with a forum on the Supreme Court and the Second Amendment. David Depew, Professor Emeritus at the University of Iowa, visited Dr. R. Huskey’s class on the Enlightenment and gave a public lecture about Charles Darwin.

In October, alumnus Stan Betzer (Letters, 1959) spoke to our students about his career in law and his adventures as a world traveler. We also hosted another presentation by Adrienne Jablonski on professional networking. Jerome Lynn Hall of the University of San Diego delivered a public lecture, “From the Shores of the *Yam Kinneret*: The First-Century Boat from the Sea of Galilee,” as part of the Archaeological Institute of America’s (AIA) visiting scholars program.

In November, Eta Sigma Phi, the national honor society for classics majors initiated several new members. They organized a potluck Saturnalia celebration in December.



Kaela Patterson and Amy Brackenbury look on as Matt Berry reads aloud an explanation of the original Saturnalia celebration at Eta Sigma Phi’s Saturnalia party.

After we dug ourselves out of the blizzard that brought campus to a standstill in January, we had a busy spring semester. In February, Gareth Williams, the Violin Family Professor of Classics at Columbia University, delivered a public lecture in conjunction with Dr. R. Huskey’s Presidential Dream Course on the meaning and purpose of education.

In March, Matthew Crawford, author of *Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work*, delivered the second public lecture for the class. The IACH inaugurated its annual Constitutional Studies Student Symposium with an impressive list of guest speakers on the subject of *habeas corpus*. Also in March, we welcomed Aaron Burke of UCLA, who delivered the second AIA lecture of the year, on “The Middle Bronze Age Levant at War.” Adrienne Jablonski gave a workshop on writing cover letters.

In April we co-sponsored the Phi Beta Kappa Distinguished Lecture this year. Dr. Michael McCormick of Harvard University gave a talk entitled “Climate Change and the Fall of Rome.”

Be sure to check the calendar on our website (<http://www.ou.edu/cas/classics/events/index.html>) to stay informed about events throughout the year. ♣

Actual Job Titles of Classics and Letters Alumni

This is just a selection of the job titles reported in our recent survey of alumni. We have made a poster of this information to show current and prospective students that a degree in Classics or Letters can prepare them for a variety of career paths. If you do not see your career represented, please let us know so that we can add it. Also, we would love to host any alumni willing to speak to our current students about what they have been doing since graduating. If you are interested in speaking with our students about your experiences, contact us at classicsandletters@ou.edu or (405) 325-6921. 📍

- Armed Forces Officer
- Assistant Chief Counsel, NASA Johnson Space Center
- Assistant General Counsel for Hobby Lobby
- Assistant General Counsel for Panda Energy and Total Non-Stop Action Wrestling
- Assistant Library Director, Ardmore Public Library
- Assistant Professor of Geography, Oklahoma State University
- Associate Dean in the Pamplin Business School at the University of Portland
- Associate Professor & Program Coordinator, Comparative and International Education, College of Education, Lehigh University
- Banker
- Battalion Communications Officer
- Bible Instructor & Baseball/Football Coach at Oklahoma Bible Academy in Enid, OK
- Big-Rig Truck Driver
- Case Worker with non-profit organization
- Chief of Staff for the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security
- Chief of Vascular Surgery at CoxHealth
- Consultant
- Contract Writer
- Creative Director
- Curator of Fine Prints for the Library of Congress
- Dance Instructor
- Defense Counsel with the Office of Chief Defense Counsel for the Department of Defense
- Detective, Chicago Police Department
- Director of Advising & Student Services, University College, Washington University in St. Louis
- Director of Professional Development, Public Relations and Gifted/Talented Program in a public school system
- Director of Public Information
- Director of Sales Operations for Stericycle
- Director of Student Aid Systems for StudentAid.com
- Entrepreneur
- Executive Assistant at an Internet Marketing Firm
- Executive Assistant for Hobby Lobby
- Executive Coordinator, District Attorneys Council
- Executive Director of Advanced Placement and Gifted Education
- Field Supervisor for an alternative education program in Texas
- Film Director
- Foreign Service Officer with US Agency for International Development
- General Counsel to the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
- General Counsel, Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company
- Graphic Designer
- Head Librarian at Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP in Atlanta, GA
- High School English Teacher
- High School Latin Teacher
- In-house Counsel for the FDIC in the Dallas Regional Office
- Information Technology Professional and Technical Editor
- Internal Auditor for a Pet Speciality Retailer
- Investment Banker, Summit Investment Group
- Journalist
- Junior High Geography Teacher
- Landscape Architect
- Learning Consultant for Affiliated Computer Services, Inc.
- Librarian/Asst. Professor of Bibliography, Western History Collections, OU
- Machinist
- Managing Director of The PrivateBank in Chicago
- Owner of a telecommunications design and installation company
- Owner, Wilshire Garden Market
- Park Historian at Historical Washington State Park
- Pediatric Occupational Therapist
- Pilates Instructor
- Production Manager, Whitney English, LLC
- Professor of Classics, Allegheny College
- Professor of Classics, Ohio State University
- Professor of English, Texas State University
- Professor of History, University of South Carolina
- Professor of History, University of Texas, Austin
- Professor of Law, University of Indiana
- Professor of Law, University of Mississippi School of Law
- Professor of Medicine and Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Baylor College of Medicine
- Program Manager for the IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence
- Psychologist
- Real Estate Entrepreneur
- Real Estate Underwriter
- Realtor
- Reference/Instruction/Outreach Librarian, Valdosta State University
- Regional Service Manager for an Electronic Gaming Company
- Research Librarian for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
- Sales Assistant for an Investment Bank
- Second Assistant Attorney General for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church of Broken Arrow, OK
- Sports Marketing Event Manager
- Tactical Officer in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, West Point
- Teacher Leader for Reading Recovery
- Teacher, Academy for Global Citizenship Charter School
- Technical Advisor for Client Relations at Eurosport
- Technical Writer
- Trial Attorney, Department of Justice
- Trial Court Judge
- US State Department Foreign Service Officer
- Vice President of an Oil Drilling Company
- Vice President of Development for San Antonio Symphony
- Voting Operations Analyst
- Writer

Focus on the Faculty

The faculty had another great year. In addition to doing an exceptional job of teaching our students in courses covering everything from ancient Greek to secret societies in early American culture, they distinguished themselves in scholarship and service to the community.

Rufus Fears again filled the great lecture hall in Nielsen Hall with his popular courses on freedom in Greece and freedom in Rome. He also produced a new course for The Teaching Company, *The World Was Never the Same: Events that Changed History* and published two articles in *Perspective*. Always in demand as a public speaker, he addressed several distinguished groups this year, including the U.S. House of Representatives, the Heritage Foundation Board of Trustees, and the Federal Judges and American Bar Association.

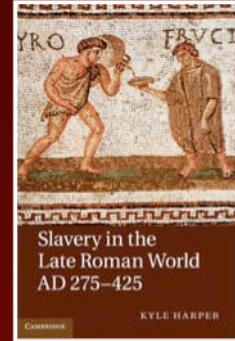
Ellen Greene's book, *The Erotics of Domination: Male Desire and the Mistress in Latin Love Poetry* was reprinted by the University of Oklahoma Press. Her articles "Greek Women Poets" and "Sappho" appeared in *The Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*, published by Oxford University Press. She also served on numerous committees and as General Editor for the University of Oklahoma Press' Series in Classical Culture. Indeed, to recognize her outstanding commitment to service, the department nominated her for the Regent's Award for Superior University and Professional Service.

Ralph Doty's eighth book, *Xenophon's Cyropaedia* (co-authored with Donald Jackson), was published by Mellen Press. His article "Ladies, Gentlemen, and Barbarians" was published in the eleventh volume of *Iris*. He also delivered a paper entitled "Kings and Kingship in Xenophon's *Cyropaedia*" at the 106th annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South.

Farland Stanley continues to serve as the president of the Oklahoma Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. In this capacity, he brings several outstanding speakers to campus every year. This year he hosted Alexander Jones of NYU, who gave a talk entitled "Greek Astronomers and the Ancient Public." Kenneth Lapatin of the J. Paul Getty Museum delivered a lecture entitled "The Last Days of Pompeii: Decadence, Apocalypse, and Redemption." Jerome Lynn Hall of the University of San Diego gave a talk entitled "From the Shores of *Yam Kinneret*: The First-Century Boat from the Sea of Galilee." Dr. Stanley also inaugurated a new lecture series of his own with a talk on T.E. Lawrence, the archaeologist in Lawrence of Arabia.

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RECENT BOOKS BY FACULTY



Kyle Harper

Slavery in the Late Roman World, AD 275-425. Cambridge University Press, 2011



Ralph Doty

Xenophon's Cyropaedia: A Late Byzantine Recension with Facing Page English Translation (Two book set). Edited by Donald F. Jackson; translated by Ralph Doty. Edwin Mellen Press, 2010

Focus on Faculty (Continued)

Samuel Huskey's project on a 15th century manuscript of Lucan's *Bellum Civile* bore fruit this year with "Three Colophons in Tommaso Baldinotti's Manuscript of Lucan" (*Textual Cultures* 5.1 [2010]: 99-110). His chapter on teaching Ovid's exile poetry appeared in *Approaches to Teaching World Literature: Teaching Ovid and Ovidianism* (Modern Language Association 2010). He also reviewed books for *The Classical Journal* and *The Journal of Roman Studies* and delivered a paper at the 106th annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. He accepted a new position as the Information Architect for the American Philological Association, which he somehow manages to handle in addition to his duties as chair of the department while also teaching a full load of courses. For his service on OU's Academic Misconduct Board, he received the Integrity Apex Award. He also won the Outstanding Mentor Award for his participation in the President's Distinguished Faculty Mentoring Program.

Kyle Harper's book, *Slavery in the Late Roman World, AD 275-425*, was published this year by Cambridge University Press, and two of his articles appeared in the prestigious journals *Historia: Zeitschrift für alte Geschichte* and *Classical Quarterly*. He also reviewed books for *Comparative Studies in Society and History* and *The Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. He was invited to give talks at the University of California at Berkeley, the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (in Tartu, Estonia), and the annual meeting of the American Historical Association. He continues to serve as the director of the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage, as well as on several university committees. In recognition of his outstanding record of teaching, research, and service, he received the College of Arts and Sciences' Irene Rothbaum Outstanding Assistant Professor Award.

Rebecca Huskey's article "Freed From What and For What? The Differing Liberation Theologies of Grant Tinker and Sherman Alexie" appeared in the *Journal of Literature and Theology*, and she de-

livered a paper entitled "Resurrection of the Living: Renewal of Life after the Death of Another in the Poetry of Greg Orr" at the 2010 Southwest Conference on Religious Studies. She also received a Presidential Dream Course Grant to support a new course on the meaning of education. The \$20,000 grant allowed her to invite speakers such as Gareth Williams of Columbia University and Matthew Crawford, author of *Shop Class as Soulcraft*, to speak to her class and give public lectures. Among her many service projects is her term as head of the section on Philosophy of Religion and Theology for the southwest region of the American Academy of Religion.

Rachel Knudsen traveled to France to participate in an international conference, Colloque Homère rhétorique: Etudes de réception antique (2): L'Homère des orateurs et des sophistes. She delivered a paper entitled "Homeric Speakers, Sophistic Words." A revised form of that paper will appear soon in *The American Journal of Philology*. She also participated in the 34th Comparative Drama Conference at Loyola Marymount University with a paper entitled, "Translating Dialect in Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*." Her paper on the Homeric Hymn to Hermes went over well at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association, and she is currently revising it for publication. The manuscript of her book, *The Artificer of Discourse: Homeric Speech and the Origins of Rhetoric*, is under review at a major university press.

Sara Coodin joined the faculty in the spring after completing her Ph.D. at McGill University. Her chapter "What's Virtue Ethics Got to Do with It: Shakespearean Character as Moral Character" appears in the recently published book *Shakespeare and Moral Agency* (Continuum Press). This summer she will participate in the NEH institute on Shakespeare ("From the Globe to the Global") at the Folger Library in Washington DC.

Kevin Butterfield, who joined the faculty in the fall of 2010 as the first full-time member of the Institute for the American Constitutional Heri-

Continued on next page

Focus on Faculty (Continued)

tage, has been busy developing new courses for the institute such as Secret Societies in American Culture, Law in American Life, Interpreting the Founding, and The Origins of Rights in Early America. He presented a paper entitled "Disestablishment and the Law of Church Membership in New England" at the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. He also received a Junior Faculty Summer Research Fellowship to support his ongoing scholarship.

Peggy Chambers has two Latin textbooks due out this year from the University of Oklahoma Press: *The Natural Histories of Pliny the Elder* and the second edition of *The Attic Nights of Aulus Gellius, An Intermediate Reader/Grammar Review*. She has also been deeply involved in OU's Journey to Italy Program, serving as chair of the committees for selecting courses and for awarding scholarships to students. After winning the Provost's Award for Outstanding Advising last year, she was nominated for a national advising award. She was recognized with an Outstanding Advising Certificate of Merit from the National Academic Advising Association.

John Hansen continues to be a vital force for promoting Latin in Oklahoma. In addition to teaching beginning and intermediate Latin, he serves in several leadership roles in professional organizations at the state, regional, and national levels. He is a member of the board of the Oklahoma Foreign Language Teachers Association. He also serves the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS) as Vice President for Oklahoma, an office he has held for the past several years. He attended several meetings this past year, including the annual meetings of the American Classical League and the American Philological Association. At the latter meeting, he delivered a paper in the session entitled "Classics Ph.D.s and Secondary Teaching: Challenges and Opportunities." At the 106th annual meeting of the CAMWS he was honored with an *ovatio*, an oration in Latin in recognition of his service to the profession.

Cheryl Walker-Esbaugh organized and led another successful OU Classics Day, one of the department's most important outreach and recruiting efforts. Dozens of high school students from across Oklahoma come to the campus of the Oklahoma College of Continuing Education to participate in a day of activities and presentations on all aspects of the ancient world. She also represented the department at OU's Majors and Minors Fair and Sooner Saturday. In addition to teaching beginning and intermediate Latin, she also devotes considerable time and effort to promoting the teaching of Latin in Oklahoma schools as the Latin Teacher Residency Year Representative for OU, the EPD Representative for Latin Language Education, and the co-chair of the department's Latin Education Committee.

Steve Wagner showed his versatility as a teacher this year by teaching not only beginning and intermediate Latin, but also Ancient Drama in English Translation, Classical Influences on Modern Literature, Classical Mythology, and Greek Literature in English Translation. He also served as the faculty advisor to two campus organizations, O.U. Improv! and Facilitating African Rehabilitation.

Richard Beck continues to foster the growth of our ancient Greek program through his tireless efforts to recruit students to take beginning Greek. He designed a brochure that explains the advantages of taking Greek and took it to all of the advising offices on campus. His efforts are paying off in increased enrollment. He also moderated and presented a paper in a session entitled "Teaching Greek in Oklahoma: A Roundtable Discussion" at the fall OFLTA meeting. This summer he will travel to Greece as co-director of a two-week study abroad trip.

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Stay in touch with the department on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/classicsandletters>

Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage

The first full year of activity for Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage was an exciting one.

Over the last year, the IACH has established a concentration within the Letters major, as well as a freestanding minor, called Constitutional Studies. With a curriculum that makes constitutional history the centerpiece of a traditional humanities education, Constitutional Studies is a perfect combination of Letters and law. The Institute celebrated its first two graduates this spring!

Two new faculty in constitutional history will be joining the department in the fall. Eric Lomazoff, Ph.D., Harvard University, and Andrew Porwancher, Ph.D., Cambridge

University, will be outstanding additions to faculty.

In March of 2011 the IACH held the first Constitutional Studies Symposium on the theme of Habeas Corpus in American history. The symposia will become an annual spring event, bringing some of the greatest minds in constitutional issues to OU.

Perhaps the most exciting accomplishment for the IACH is the addition of new course offerings, including "Law and Justice," "The Origins of Rights in Early America," "Law and Life in American History," "Interpreting the American Founding," "Debating Constitutional Controversies," "Oklahoma and the Constitution," and "First Freedoms." These courses are impacting the way in which OU students un-

derstand and appreciate our constitutional heritage.

Fifteen undergraduate students were invited to join the newly established "Society of Fellows." The selective group was formed to bring together OU's top students for challenging and intelligent debates on constitutional topics.

The fall promises to be lively, as the IACH will sponsor a speaker series commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Exciting experts on Civil War history from around the country will be coming to OU to deliver public lectures.

More details will be online at iach.ou.edu as they become available. ❧

Upcoming IACH Events

September 7: Allen Hertzke, Religious Freedom in the American Constitutional Heritage

September 14: Forum, Health Care Reform and the Constitution

September 27: Civil War Lecture Series Lecture 1: William Freehling

October 3: First Monday: Supreme Court Preview

October 17: Civil War Lecture Series Lecture 2: Vernon Burton

November 8: Civil War Lecture Series Lecture 3: Tony Horwitz

November 15: Russell Hittinger, Human Rights in the Post-War World

Spring 2012: Forum, War Powers and the Constitution, date tbd

Spring 2012: Constitutional Studies Symposium, Religious Freedom, date tbd



Visit iach.ou.edu for full details about times and venues.

Dr. Harper Receives Rothbaum Award



Dean Bell surprises Dr. Harper with balloons and some good news.

At the spring faculty meeting of the College of Arts and Sciences, Kyle Harper became the first member of the Department of Classics and Letters to receive the Irene Rothbaum Award for an Outstanding Assistant Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences. In keeping with tradition, Dean Bell, with members of his staff and the faculty of the department, surprised Dr. Harper by showing up to his class with balloons to announce the award in front of his students.

According to the description of the award, the recipient "should be a model teacher, recognized for dedication, effectiveness and ability to inspire students to high levels of achievement. [The recipient must] also show evidence for good progress in scholarship." Considering the outstanding work that Dr. Harper has done in every aspect of his career at OU, it should come as a surprise to no one that the selection committee chose him to receive the award this year. 🎉

Department Welcomes New Staff

Cyndy Adams has served ably and effectively as the department's only staff person since 1993. She does a terrific job, and the department would be in chaos without her. Because the department has grown so much in the past two years, we recently reclassified her position from Administrative Assistant to Managerial Associate, a title that more accurately reflects her duties.

This year we had the good fortune to add two more excellent staff members.

Because the Classics and Letters degree programs are such a good fit for students planning to go to law school, the department was selected as the home for the university's new pre-law advising position. We hired **Elizabeth Base** in August 2010 as the department's first full-time academic/pre-law advisor.

An alumna of OU, she received a B.A. in Letters and was initiated into the Alpha of Oklahoma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. After graduating, she attended the OU College of Law, where she earned a Juris Doctorate with Distinction. She practiced law in private practice for over fifteen years in Nor-

man before coming to work at OU.

In addition to one-on-one advising, she also sponsors the Pre-Law Club and takes an active role in helping them plan events like workshops for writing personal statements and visits from alumni in the legal profession. She also serves as an academic advisor for Classics and Letters majors.

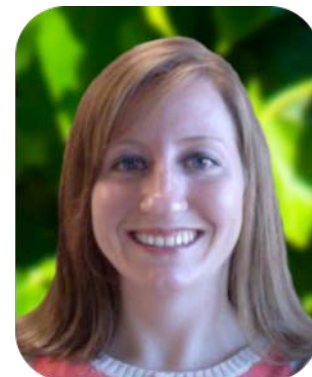
Megan Denney serves as the Program Specialist for the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage.

She graduated in 2006 from the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication with a B.A. in Journalism, with an emphasis in public relations and a minor in history. Two years later she earned a Master of Education in Adult and Higher Education from OU.

She has been not only a long-time student at OU, but also an employee of the university since January 2004. In addition to her various responsibilities in the IACH, she also serves as an adjunct instructor for OU's University College. 🎉



Elizabeth Base
Pre-law/Classics & Letters Advisor



Megan Denney
IACH Program Specialist



The Jack Catlin Scholarship

For most of his career at OU, Jack Catlin directed and guided the Department of Classics and Letters. With Jack at the helm, the study of the languages and cultures of the ancient Greek and Roman world found safe passage through the troubled waters that arose from time to time during those years, and the department now has a bright future ahead of it because of his careful stewardship. As Seneca put it, *magnus gubernator et scisso navigat velo*—a great captain sails even with a torn sail.

But Jack's real and lasting legacy will come from the scores of students he has taught, advised and mentored. Many of them became lawyers, doctors, scholars and teachers; some even became his colleagues at the university—all are grateful for his dedication and devotion to the department.

To celebrate Jack's career and his devotion to his students, Sam Fulkerson (Letters 1982) has established the Jack Catlin Scholarship Fund. The goal is to raise at least \$25,000 to endow an annual scholarship in Jack's name, given to a deserving Classics and Letters student.

This is a fitting tribute to Jack, since he campaigned for scholarships in honor of his beloved colleagues, Philip Nolan and Jean Herrick.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to this scholarship fund, go to the URL below, or send a check in any amount to *The University of Oklahoma Foundation, 100 Timberdell Road, Norman, OK, 73019-0685*, and specify "Jack Catlin Scholarship" in the memo line. You can also find the link on the department's web page at www.ou.edu/cas/classics/people.

www.oufoundation.org/onlinegiving/makegiftgen.aspx?club=0042400_Catlin&fund=0042400_Catlin

The Department adopted a new mission statement this year. After much thought and deliberation, we decided upon the following:

Through teaching, scholarly and creative activity, and service, the Department of Classics and Letters seeks to preserve and promote the study of the culture, history, languages, literature, and philosophy of Greco-Roman antiquity and the enduring influence of Classical ideals on the modern world.

The principal mission of the Department of Classics and Letters' curricular program is to provide a traditional liberal arts education that will prepare students to adapt to a variety of settings after graduation.

Our programs are based upon the assumption that cultivated intelligence, good judgment, and artistic expression in speech and writing are desirable in and for themselves.



That's fine as institutional statements go, and it accurately describes what we do and where we want to go as a department. But if you were to ask us to reduce it to a single sentence, we would say, "We want to promote the ideal of life-long learning."

The best way to judge our success in that regard is to stay in touch with our alumni. How have you pursued the lasting frontier of learning, both in and out of school? Please consider sharing your story with us so that we can include a section about alumni in the next issue of this newsletter.

Send your story to the chair of the department, Samuel J. Huskey, either through email to huskey@ou.edu or through regular mail to the address below. 🐾

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