

LMU DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND ARCHAEOLOGY NEWSLETTER FOR SPRING 2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHAIR

As another exciting year draws to a close, I wish to thank my colleagues and students for making the Dept. of Classics and Archaeology such a rewarding place to work and play. Few departments offer such an opportunity for intimate classes and close collaboration, and this will never change. But the players do, and we are bidding farewell to an outstanding crop of majors and minors who will face the future with an abiding knowledge and respect for the past. The faculty also is shifting a bit: We look forward to the return of Prof. Katerina Zacharia from her year of research leave in Athens, and we mark with sadness the departure of Prof. Ethan Adams, our ace Latin teacher, who is leaving LMU to seek further adventures. We are delighted that Prof. Chiara Sulprizio, who has been filling in for Prof. Zacharia, will be Visiting Professor in 2011-12, and that our part-timers Prof. Elizabeth Waraksa (Egyptology) and Prof. Amanda Herring (Art and Architecture of Ancient Greece) will also be returning in the Fall. Further news about our Faculty and Students follows below. —*Prof. Matt Dillon*

FACULTY NEWS

Prof. Matthew Dillon will take over as Chair of the Department in the Fall of 2011. He is planning a return to Rough Cilicia in southern Turkey this summer, where he will continue his archaeological work thanks to a Summer Grant from the Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts. The archaeological team recently published a substantial article on their work so far in the *Journal of the Austrian Archaeological Institute* in Vienna.

Fr. William Fulco, SJ, has been overseeing the final updating and editing of one of his books into Arabic. It will be published in Beirut this summer. He is also preparing the archival materials for a book on the 1917 Jesuit excavations at Elephantine, Egypt, never published because of WW I. Fr. Fulco is back in “the industry” with a new Icon Productions film. It will probably be shot in Turkey in 2012.

Prof. Chiara Sulprizio recently published an article about Eric Shanower's graphic novel *Age of Bronze* in the edited collection *Classics and Comics* from Oxford University Press; the article is entitled “Eros Conquers All: Sex and Love in Eric Shanower's Age of Bronze.”

She is also contributing an article on Aristophanes' *Peace* to a special edition of the journal *Ramus* on "New Approaches to Greek Drama" that will appear in 2012.

Dr. Elizabeth Waraksa has had a busy semester, both in and out of the classroom. In addition to a thoroughly enjoyable semester teaching 11 very dedicated Egyptian Hieroglyphs students, she also taught two courses at UCLA - Ancient Egyptian Religion and Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt - while continuing to serve as UCLA's Librarian for Middle Eastern Studies. Dr. Waraksa has two book reviews in press - a review of the exhibition catalogue *Sacred and Profane: Treasures of Ancient Egypt from the Myers Collection, Eton College and University of Birmingham*, which will appear shortly in *caa.reviews*, and a review of *Die reliefierten hellenistisch-römischen Pilgerflaschen: Untersuchungen zur Zweckbestimmung und Formgeschichte der ägyptischen Pilger- und Feldflaschen während des Hellenismus und der Kaiserzeit*, which will appear in the April 2011 issue of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*.

She is also currently reviewing *Cairo: Histories of a City for Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*. In late March, Dr. Waraksa attended the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting in Sacramento, and she is very much looking forward to some upcoming international travel to the United Arab Emirates and Italy.

In January 2011, **Dr. Katerina Zacharia** assumed the Senior Foreign Research Fellowship by the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation in Athens, Greece. She continues the collection, study, and classification of historical, literary and photographic archival material pertaining to early state-sponsored tourist policy, esp. in the interwar period. Dr. Zacharia has also been actively participating in the weekly graduate seminar lectures at the Panteion University, department of Social Anthropology. On February 10, 2011, she gave a three-hour public seminar lecture on "Tourist Images in Greek Cinema", one of her two seminar lectures for her fall Senior Research Fellowship by the Initiative of Heritage Conservancy (IHC). In June, she will present the findings of her latest research in Athens for IHC, and at two international conferences in London and Birmingham.

Her published article "Reel" Hellenisms: Perceptions of Greece in Greek Cinema" in her edited volume on *Hellenisms* (Zacharia 2008: 321-353) received official recognition as one of the best 70 citations on Greek Cinema to be included in *Oxford Bibliographies On Line: Cinema and Media Studies*.

MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP

In fall 2010, Dr. Zacharia worked with the family of our dear friend, Classics major and most generous benefactor, **Mr. Paul McCauley**, who passed away in summer 2010, to raise a memorial fund for a deserving student in need to attend the 2011 Summer Field Project in 3D Laser Scanning and Recording at the ancient site of Eleusis, Greece, at the Initiative of

THE ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER GETS A FACELIFT!

Heritage Conservancy Summer School. Our recent graduate, **Aubrey Hanson** (class 2010) was awarded a generous scholarship of \$6,000 from the McCauley family to attend the 2011 IHC summer school. Dr. Zacharia has been working with the IHC for over a year to create a competitive summer school program, and is very happy such a deserving student is able to benefit from her efforts.

In late March the Archaeology Center accomplished a major renovation in the museum displays. Thanks to very generous donations from Denise Richards, LMU '68, and the Devere Foundation under the direction of Jay Grant, we were able to obtain three magnificent halogen-lit display cases for the smaller more specialized museum.

Two of those cabinets now house our extensive collection of Egyptian artifacts. The third cabinet will house a collection of Roman glass on loan from Nelly and Jim Kilroy, in addition to our own assemblage of Hellenistic and Roman glass. The present cabinets housing Greek pottery will then have more room to space the artifacts more pleasingly.

The renovation of the smaller Greek and Numismatic museum also allowed us to relocate the three cabinets that housed our collection of Tuleilat Ghassul Chalcolithic materials to the larger museum across the hall. This opened up a new space in the small museum as well which is now a highly efficient work station with lap top, printer, and specialized lighting for work on coins.

The changes in the larger museum have also been major. All of the cabinets, with the help of LMU Facilities and Maintenance, were moved to new positions, a change which gives us much more space for tours, and now as many as groups of 25 or 30 can be accommodated at once.

A new credenza graces the far wall and atop it sit the three Chalcolithic cases from the other museum area. Major collections have been completely reconfigured and displayed better: the ancient lamps, the Babylonian plaques, the History of Writing, Early Bronze pottery, and Mesopotamian cylinder and stamp seals.

In making molds of the cylinder seals we had not had the opportunity to examine before, we discovered one stunning seal depicting the locust-demon Pazuzu, an evil personage who, incidentally, graced the opening footage of *The Exorcist*.

The highlight of our renovation is the acquisition of a wonderful and very rare Roman copper scabbard, c. 200 AD, which had been found in Germany and was part of a German collection for the past generation. The scabbard is now housed in a special case (one purchased from a sports dealer intended “to display two autographed footballs”) and is attracting many interested visitors. It depicts near the handle a portrait of a Roman Emperor (Diocletian?), and toward the tip a scene of two Roman soldiers holding Roman standards, standing next to their mounts. The artifact was acquired through several monetary gifts from our donors.



Arch Students Make the Move!



Roman Scabbard



THE DIONYSUS FESTIVAL

D-fest was a resounding success this March 12, as about 50 students and friends gathered at the Bird Nest to celebrate the annual festival of skits, games, and feasting. An Aesop Fable was performed in Greek, followed by skits on the Epic of Gilgamesh, the Judgment of Paris, and a special treat, an Alumni Skit on the Sacred Band of Thebes. A special highlight was the Roman banquet prepared by Nancy Spolidoro according to the ancient recipes of Apicius.

A photo of the various gods and goddesses who deigned to attend is seen below.



(Left to Right: Fernando Madrigal, Dan Priore, Alexandra Kabbaz-Szabo, Austin Kabbaz-Szabo, Amy de Harde, Alyssa Arredondo)

ETA SIGMA PHI

On April 6, eight new members were initiated into Eta Sigma Phi, the National Honorary Society for students of Latin and Greek. After the solemn ritual was duly performed in the Archaeology Library, the group elected new officers:

President: Nancy Spolidoro Treasurer: Paulina Habash Secretary: Christopher Gipson



*The New Initiates with the previous officers: (left to right):
Jordan Christopher, Jeremy Lins, Ella Gamm, Josh Carranza,
Alexandra Kabbaz-Szabo (outgoing Treasurer), Paulina
Habash, Brenda Cano, Dan Priore (outgoing President), Nancy
Spolidoro, Christopher Gipson*

AVE ATQUE VALE!

CLASS OF 2011

As always in Spring we face the bittersweet departure of our devoted students. Here are some comments on the departing seniors from Classics and Archaeology.



Alyssa Arredondo is a senior History major and Archaeology minor. She has worked in the Archaeology Center for the past three years, this year serving as one of the curators for the museum. Alyssa was also one of five students to participate in the archaeological dig in Megiddo, Israel in summer 2010. Her plans after LMU are to apply to graduate school and eventually a PhD program.



Dan Priore is a Senior Classical Civilizations major and Archaeology minor. He traveled to Rome in the summer of 2009 for Study Abroad and Spain in 2010 for an Archaeological dig at the Celtic site of Pintia. As President of Eta Sigma Phi and a Student Curator at the LMU Archaeological Center, Dan looks forward to continuing in the field of academia by pursuing a graduate degree in Archaeology or Near Eastern Studies.



Alexandra Valentine Kabbaz Szabo is a Classical Civilizations and French literature major. She discovered her passion for both in high school at the Lycée Francais de Los Angeles. Since coming to LMU, she has founded the French club and has been an active member, treasurer and former president of Eta Sigma Phi, the Classics honors society. She has studied abroad in France and wants to return for a longer stay. She hopes to graduate with honors and continue her education throughout her life. She will always hold a special place in her heart for all those in the department.



SPRING NEWSLETTER NOTES

Dr. Ethan Adams is planning to continue work on his Latin pork epic, the *De Lardo*, which will tell the story of how Prometheus, together with the help of Hercules, gave the gift of bacon to mankind. It begins thusly:

Larda virumque cano, porcum qui primus in ora
ambrosiam divom coctum feliciter edit.

For those unfortunate souls without Latin, the translation (in the style of Dryden) would go:

Of Bacon and the Man I sing, who first in his Maw did feast
On propitiously roasted Pork, th' Immortals' ambrosial Beast.

Dr. Adams would like to wish a fond farewell to his students and colleagues, in thanks for his six years at LMU.