



Department of Classics  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Fall 2016

# Classics

## Colorado Classics Day



Colorado high school students at Colorado Classics Day



Winners of the CCD costume contest, holding their prizes

On 19th September, 2015, the Classics Department again hosted Colorado Classics Day, bringing together primary, middle and secondary school students from across the state who share an interest in the ancient Greek and Roman world. Classics faculty, graduate students and members of CU's Classics Club and newly launched chapter of Eta Sigma Phi (the national Honors Society for Classical Studies) co-ordinated the event and ran sessions, which included "Digging for the Ancient Past", "Greek in a Day", "Decipher an Ancient Inscription", "Linear B: write like Achilles did!", as well as "Animals in the ancient world", which took students on a guided tour of the ancient artefacts (coins, vases, glasses) housed in the CU Art Museum. Also present was the re-enactment group, the Rocky Mountain Romans, offering fun and informative interaction and dazzling visual display. Be sure to join us for the next such event in September 2017!



**W**e are delighted this year to welcome two new faculty members, Isabel Köster and Dimitri Nakassis,

New Faculty  
**Dimitri Nakassis**

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## The Fourth Annual Celia M. Fountain Symposium

We held the fourth annual Celia M. Fountain Symposium in early March 2016. People from both the university and the city community flocked to the event, which was attended by around 90. In "Kings, Conquerors and Coins", Liv Yarrow (Brooklyn College and Graduate Center, CUNY) took us through a rich Republican coin series of striking types of Hellenistic monarchs and symbols of Hellenistic monarchy. She explored how these coins reflect the influence of Hellenistic royal portraiture on the self-representation of individual Romans or the Roman state, along with a series of thematically connected issues, including the representation of enemies such as the Gauls, and how emergent fears of a return to autocratic rule in the late Republic are reflected in the continued use of the iconography of Hellenistic kingship. In "The Creation of Roman History in the Hellenistic World", Denis Feeney (Princeton) adopted a conventional perspective on the

In the fall of 2015, Dimitri Nakassis was announced as a recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship, sometimes called the "Genius Grant." It is a no-strings-attached five-year grant (totaling \$625,000) for individuals across all fields "who show exceptional creativity in

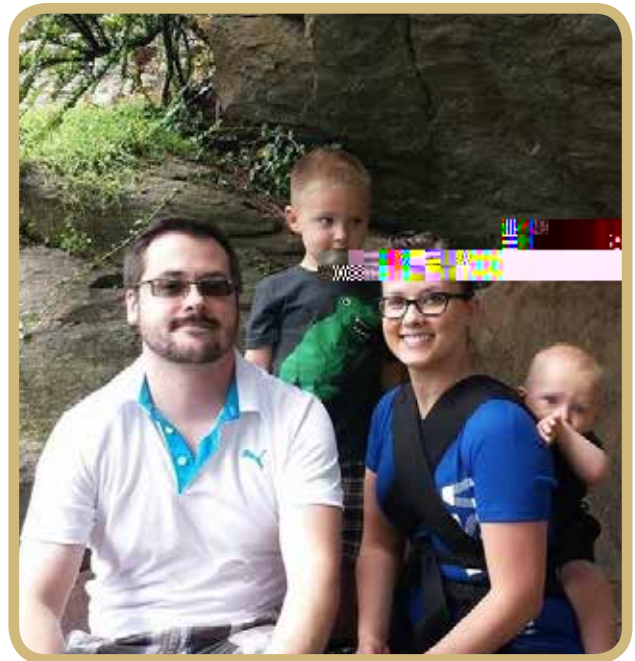


## Recent PhD Graduates

Reina Callier



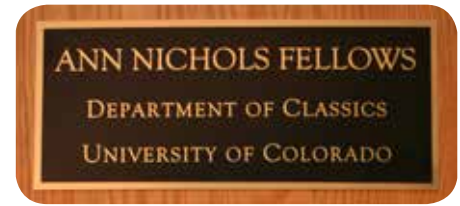
Mitch Pentzer and his family



With the help of the Thomas Edwin Devaney dissertation fellowship from the Center for the Humanities and the Arts, Reina Callier completed her doctorate, written under the direction of Carole Newlands in the summer of 2015. Her dissertation

( ) explores how - and why - Ovid manipulates the traditional stories about legendary Roman figures in his calendar poem . Since then, she has taught a variety of courses for CU's Classics Department, and she is pleased to continue to do so for the 2016-2017 academic year. She and her family adore Colorado and hope to call it their home for years to come!

In June 2015, Mitch Pentzer finished his dissertation, written under the direction of Jackie Elliott. In it, he explored instances of humor in the works of Martial, Statius, Tacitus, and Juvenal, some of whom authored works traditionally taken seriously or else treated taboo subjects; and showed how the treatment of humor furthered the texts' individual agendas. Over the course of his degree he was supported by the Boulder Classics Department through opportunities to teach, as well as by full dissertation writing support in his final year in the form of a dissertation fellowship from the Center for Humanities and the Arts. He is currently teaching full-time at Boulder and applying for further positions in the field for next year.



Thanks to the continued generosity of our donors, we are pleased to announce the following Ann Nichols Fellows for the Fall 2016 semester:

**Meghan Dulsky** (Ann Nichols): Meghan, a winner of last year's Ann Nichols Herodotus Fellowship which enabled her to study in Scotland for a semester, is writing an honors thesis on women in late Roman Scotland. She hopes to earn her PhD and pursue a career in research and teaching.

**Amanda McKenzie** (Romulus): Amanda currently is brainstorming ideas for her honors thesis. She enjoys her duties as Secretary of the CU-Boulder chapter of Eta Sigma Phi because they allow her to share her love of Classics with others.

**Conor Mead** (Romulus): Conor has a passion for archaeological lab and field work and plans to earn her PhD in Classics (with a concentration on archaeology) and pursue a career in academia.

**Seth Osborn** (Romulus): Seth is primarily interested in the Greek and Latin languages and hopes after graduation to teach Latin at the high school level.

**Mikaela Razo** (Romulus): Mikaela plans on earning her Masters in Information Science so that she can work in a museum or library special collections with a focus on Latin American Studies.

**Spencer Renteria** (Romulus): Spencer wants to become a medical doctor and help to establish local outpatient clinics for economically disadvantaged communities.

**Erin Rodriguez** (Ann Nichols): Erin intends to enter a graduate program in biological anthropology, but after graduation she first wants to join the Peace Corps.

**Casey Van Campenhout** (Romulus): After graduation Casey plans to enter the United States Air Force.





## Kevin Jefferson Wins McClanahan Essay Prize

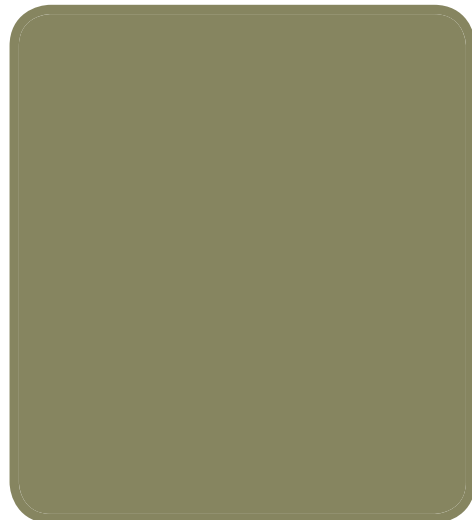
Kevin Jefferson was awarded the McClanahan Graduate Essay Prize for his paper, "Minerva Capta and the Origins of the Quinquatrus." In it he argues that, although the Quinquatrus festival became more concerned with the goddess Minerva as patron of the arts during the republican and imperial periods, the cult first took shape during the archaic period to honor a "Powerful Minerva" before the military campaign season.

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## Susan Niederhof and Nick Zyzda



This spring the Department held its annual Matthew Dwyer Translation Competition, in which our undergraduates translated sight-unseen passages from Latin (this year, from Virgil's *Aeneid*) and Greek (this year, from Demosthenes' \_\_\_\_\_). Susan Niederhof, an Astrophysics major and Classics minor, won the Latin prize, a new Lewis & Short Latin Dictionary. Classics major Nick Zyzda took home first prize for the Greek exam, a new Liddell & Scott Greek Dictionary. These prizes are made possible thanks to a





# REPRESENTATIONS OF A MURDERER

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
CLASSICS GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM

Fri: HUMN 150  
Sat: British & Irish  
Studies Room





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The King-Hill award was established to commemorate the work of Joy King,

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The Dilts/Swartz fellowship this year was awarded to Classics graduate students Rachael Dodd, Joseph Frankl, and Jacqueline Schmit to join the department's field project, the Western Argolid Regional Project (WARP). Thanks to this generous fellowship, they gained valuable experience in landscape archaeology and in archaeological survey in southern Greece.

## Archaeological Fieldwork in Greece



WARP group photo in the field at the polis of Orneai



Conor Mead and Pasha Berkowitz in the field

This summer fourteen CU students had the opportunity to do archaeological fieldwork in southern Greece as part of the Western Argolid Regional Project (WARP). This archaeological survey is co-directed by CU Classics professor Sarah James, in cooperation with colleagues at the University of Toronto, Wilfred Laurier University, and the University of North Dakota. In previous seasons, we had discovered numerous ancient sites, including villages and cemeteries, dating from ca. 2500 BC to the 19th century AD. This summer, we focused on an area south of the modern town of Sterna. To our great surprise, we discovered several Medieval sites, including two probable settlements, and stretches of a massive Roman aqueduct that brought water to the city of Argos. CU students learned and practiced various survey methodologies and techniques of architectural documentation. The results of the past three seasons will be presented in a McClanahan lecture this spring!

# McClanahan Lecture Series



Thanks to the support and generosity of our dear friend, Mary E. V. McClanahan, the Department of Classics held two McClanahan lectures in 2015-2016. These lectures are free, open to the general public, and showcase the teaching and research interests of the Classics faculty at CU Boulder. On November 4th, Prof. Elspeth Dusinberre presented an illustrated talk titled, "Power and the Ideal in the Ancient Persian Empire." Prof. Dusinberre discussed the history, art, and archaeology of ancient Persia, the largest and most powerful socio-political empire in history. On December 9th, Prof. Peter Hunt delivered a lecture titled, "Love, Slavery, and Disease: Life Stories from Ancient Gravestones." Prof. Hunt reviewed several fascinating examples of poignant epigraphic testimonies, including those of a slave miner in Athens as well as bitersweet epitaphs from Rome.



## Undergraduate News



December graduate on ceremony class of 2015

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In 2015-2016, the department graduated 21 majors and 4 minors, of whom 5 graduated with departmental honors for the theses they wrote. This year we bade farewell to Classics majors Catherine Alameddin, Katelyn Asa, Timothy Barham (*summa cum laude*), Salpi Bocchierian (*summa cum laude*), Taia Butler, Cathryn Caveney (*magna cum laude*), Megan Fryer, Amanda Gardner (*magna cum laude*), Alexandra Heller, Noah Hornbein, Sean Irwin, Lilly Jones, Joshua Kopp, Danielle Maxey, Sabrina McCue, Caitlin Phillips, James Quispe, Magdalena Rost, Sariah Rushing, Eric Steele, and Shannon Whalum. The Department also graduated minors Hannah Cohen, Yune Kim, Joshua Rheins, and Alec Trollan. Hearty congratulations to all of our graduates!



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## Graduate News

In May 2016 we graduated 8 MA students: Amanda Arnold and Rachel Fernandez (MA Classical Art and Archaeology); Nadia Ghosheh and Kevin Jefferson (MA Latin); Will Heberlein, Kylie Koger, Kevin Lawrence (MA Classical Antiquity); Stephanie Krause (MAT). Their degrees represent the culmination of a tremendous amount of work. Our students were busy during their time at CU, studying for exams, delivering papers at conferences, organizing a graduate student conference here at CU on Medea (see p. 9) at ending lectures delivered by visiting scholars, serving as teaching assistants, and grading the work of their own. Q A r v h t a h t



# *In memoriam*

## **Ernst Fredricksmeier**

**E**rnst Fredricksmeier was a member of CU Classics from 1966 until 2003. While still only 17, Ernie embarked from Germany for the US by himself, with little money and no knowledge of English except for the







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The Department of Classics has developed strong relationships with our network of alumni/ae and friends. We regard the maintenance of these ties as an important part of our mission. Whether we are providing recommendations, planning public events, or simply sharing in the joys and successes of your lives, we feel very proud to be part of an extended family, a family that shares in our love for and fascination with the ancient world.

We are so very grateful for the financial support to help us share the field of Classics with the next generation. In one way or another, all of the financial support we receive from you benefits our students, whether by providing them with scholarships and fellowships or by improving the quality of our facility and faculty. Gifts of any size are welcome, and we also welcome the opportunity to work with you to direct your donation to the cause of your choice.



Enclosed is my gift of: \_\_\_\$\_\_\_ \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\$200 \_\_\_\$500 \_\_\_\$1000

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: \_\_\_\_\_

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