

SALVETE!

Greetings from the
Classics Department
at Holy Cross

Parnassus debuts on Mt. St. James



Members of the Parnassus editorial board hold up the debut issue. Pictured are (from left to right) Tom Arralde '13, Vannak Kbin '15, Angela Yu '14, Melissa Luttmann '15, Anne Salloom '14, Michael Roberts '13, Steven Merola '16, and Kathleen O'Connor '13.

This month saw the publication of the inaugural issue of *Parnassus*, the journal edited by students in the Classics Department. The journal's aim is to share with a wider audience the work that Holy Cross students are doing on ancient Greece and Rome.

The production of the debut issue, which features nine articles, a poem, and several photographs of Greece and Italy by Christine Roughan '14, began in the fall and kept its editors busy for much of the spring semester.

"Working with the student staff members and authors to put together this year's copy of *Parnassus* has been a great experience," said editor-in-chief

Anne Salloom '14. "As a student, it is gratifying to be able to share the work of our department with others."

The contents of this debut issue are as follows: "S.O.V.," a poem by Michael Dunbar '15; "A View of Law in Ancient Babylon: A Description of the Stele of Hammurabi" by Michael Tinney '14; "Plato's Legacy: Whether the *Republic* or the *Timaeus* Reigns Supreme" by Thomas Arralde '13; "Euripides' *Bacchae* in *Aeneid* Book VII" by Christine Roughan '14; "Transference of Rage from Juno to Aeneas" by Debbie Chu '12; "Folklore and Superstition in Petronius' *Satyricon*" by Deborah Sokolowski '14; "The Complexities of Surviving Under

HELLO FROM FENWICK 4

Greetings from Fenwick 4, from whose creaky corridors eighteen Classics majors graduate this month. We highlight some of the accomplishments of the Class of 2013, as well as some of their post-graduate plans, on Page 7 of this issue.

In this issue you will also read, beginning here on Page 1, about the arrival of the new undergraduate Classics journal *Parnassus*; about the events for high school Classicists at this April's Classics Day (Page 2); and a report from one of our majors about her semester in Rome (Page 5). On Page 3 is a story on a recent talk at Holy Cross by Sara Flounders '01, a teacher at Boys' Latin Charter School in Philadelphia. We include an excerpt from Sara's talk on Pages 3-4. We have updates from several other alumnae and alumni on Page 4, and more news about the many accomplishments of our students on Page 6.

Please enjoy, and please send any of your own news to Tim Joseph '98 at tjoseph@holycross.edu.

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650 H.S. STUDENTS COMPETE AT THE 41ST CLASSICS DAY

By Andrew Boudon '15

On April 4 Holy Cross celebrated its 41st annual Classics Day, an event where high school Latin students come to campus for a day of competition and fun. This year approximately 650 students from two dozen schools attended to compete in a costume contest, chariot races, and Certamen, a Latin trivia game similar to *Jeopardy*.

Holy Cross also pioneered a new contest this year, called the Manuscript Challenge. High schools were sent a set of links to digital photographs of manuscripts; the challenge involved transcribing and translating the text, as well as commenting on unique features of the manuscript and forming conclusions about the nature of the document. Although the competition was new to students, Holy Cross received many submissions, and schools seemed very enthusiastic about it.

The goal of the Manuscript Challenge was to introduce high school students to the sort of research the Classics Department has been conducting through HC

MID (the Holy Cross Manuscripts, Inscriptions, and Documents club). This year's Manuscript Challenge winners were Boston College High School seniors Matt Luongo and Liam Walsh for their submission on a manuscript of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

Littleton High School took first place for the most creative chariot, while St. Sebastian's School had the swiftest chariot. Doherty Memorial High School in Worcester won the Costume contest, and AMSA Charter School took first in both the Upper and the Lower divisions of Certamen.

Members of the HC chapter of Eta Sigma Phi oversaw and judged the competitions; and the Classics Department administrator Ms. Toni Methe was instrumental in coordinating the event -- as she has been for the past twenty-three years.

A remarkable twelve alums of the HC Classics Department who are now teaching Latin and Greek led their students to campus for Classics Day this year: Sara (True) Pacelle '82 from Concord-Carlisle High; Michael Nerbonne

'82 and Sean Albertson '87 from St. Sebastian's; Steliane (Siozopoulos) Thompson '83 from Doherty High School in Worcester; Jon Moro '89 from Holyoke (MA) High School; Maureen Toner '97 from Boston College High School; Meredith Hultgren '97 from Acton-Boxborough High School; Sara Flounders '01 from Boys' Latin of Philadelphia; Gabe Bakale '02 from Walpole High School; Maureen (Gassert) Lamb '07 from the Westminster School in Simsbury, CT; Gregory Kakas '08 from the Rectory School in Pomfret, CT; and Connor Hayden '10 from AMSA Charter School.

Overall, the gods clearly smiled with favor upon Classics Day, bringing good weather and good fortune to all the competing schools. Holy Cross' 2013 Classics Day truly embodied the spirit of the Classics and was a spectacular success.



Members of Eta Sigma Phi at Classics Day: (front row) Ms. Toni Methe, Harry Crimi '15, Stephanie Lindeborg '13, Alex Milone '14, Andrew Boudon '15, Rebecca Finnigan '15, Nicholas Jalbert '16; (back row) Alex Krasowski '13, Angela Yu '14, Marcus Barrett '13, Tom Arralde '13, Steven Merola '16.



A togaed Andrew Boudon '15, the 2013 Classics Day chair, presides over the Certamen finals.

Flounders' 01 returns to speak of teaching experiences

By Kathleen O'Connor '13

On Friday, April 5, Sara Flounders, an alumna from the class of 2001, visited Holy Cross to discuss her experiences with Latin and Classics through the years and how those experiences led her to teach Latin at the Boys' Latin Charter School in Philadelphia. Flounders' talk was one in a series of events on campus to celebrate 40 years of coeducation at Holy Cross.

Opening her speech, Flounders admitted that she initially chose to study Latin from a fear of speaking a language. However, after learning the intricacies of Latin, she developed a great attachment to the language. While Flounders was first a science / pre-med major, she soon switched to Classics. Over the years, her love for the major only increased.

Upon graduation, Flounders participated in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC), and later attended Harvard Divinity School. However, she eventually found that she wanted to teach Latin. Flounders saw an article about the construction of Boys' Latin in Philadelphia soon after and contacted the head of the school.

While the head was at first unsure about Flounders' ability to face the challenges of working with inner-city children, he also recognized the significance of learning a language like Latin. As Flounders pointed out, "Latin is a showstopper"; it helps broaden vocabulary and improve logic, analysis, and precision. By teaching Latin, Flounders felt she could broaden horizons for her students.

Through the past few years, it seems Flounders has achieved just that. Her students are making connections with the ancient world and seeing ways in which our modern world uses Latin. Even more significantly, Latin gives these students another chance to excel; indeed, some students are doing better in Latin than their other classes. Students wear their success in Latin as a badge of honor, and often come back to visit Flounders and tell her how Latin has benefited them in their life after high school.

Some of Flounders' students came with her from Philadelphia to attend Classics Day, held the day before, and her presentation. After Flounders concluded, the students spoke highly of their teacher, and the benefits of Latin in their life. After hearing the students' perspective, one understood the impact



Sara and Prof. John Hamilton chat after her talk.

Flounders had made in the community.

Below is an excerpt from the talk that Sara delivered.

Starting a Latin program in West Philly (an excerpt from Flounders' talk)

Teaching Latin in the heart of West Philadelphia has given me the ability to help my students take those steps I took—to create order out of disorder, to delight in the memorization of rules and the synthesis of all things learned into something authentic. I can readily see the impact of Latin on my students' lives. Here we are, in the middle of West Philly, where the reality for some number of students is stark and full of brokenness and violence, where guns and drugs are a reality if not customary, and where flash mobs and this violent youth culture are so strong. I teach students who delight in immediate gratification and are not as forward thinking as we teachers would like... and I am asking them to study

what people tell them is a "dead language" (although members of the Latin club a few years back more fittingly called it a zombie language)... where they do not always see the benefit of hard work and study and effort, but would rather just get a good grade and pass... and what I am asking seems ridiculous quite often to the vast majority of students.

I hear the question "Why do we have to study this?" I have my standby answers and smartass responses, of course, but what I really want to tell my students is how proud I am of them for embracing the challenge and living up to the standards we are holding them to. And every day I see students who are overflowing with enthusiasm and energy, who

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Excerpt from Flounders' talk (from p. 3)

can't wait to see what they got on the last vocab quiz or who can't wait to translate a sentence and show me that they know how things fit together. I see students who text me in Latin or text me when they see something Latin related. I see students who rush to Latin class bursting with their latest "Latin moment," a time they saw Roman numerals or heard a Latin word in a TV show or who just want so desperately to connect what they are learning to what they are living... it's beautiful.

One of the most compelling ways I see the success of Latin in my school is in the students who struggle to read and write. For years of their lives, they have been told that they are not good students, that they can't do school. They get into this funk and settle and don't see themselves as full of the potential that they have... and they start high

school far behind their peers, already having given up and pushed into the school most likely by their parents who wanted them to be safe and focused in the all boys environment.

When I get them, they are full of potential, and I can do what I want and what I need to with them. No one has ever told them that they have been bad at Latin before, so we get to start all over and build it all up and make learning exciting and real for them. I have been teaching at Boys' Latin for six years, and I can't even begin to tally up the number of students who have gone through my class doing really, really well when otherwise they struggled. This is through no feat of mine, it is really because of our school and setting students up for success, but it's also super cool to see.



Flounders speaks in Hogan.

ALUMNAE / -I NEWS

• **Nicole LaBletta '98** is practicing estates law in Philadelphia. Nicole writes to us, "The Classics are relevant in my work in that I can write and argue logically and clearly and dissect any sentence, whether written by myself or an opponent. My study of the Classics taught me that."

• **Evan MacCarthy '03**, who earned a Ph.D. in Music History at Harvard in 2010, is a Committee to Rescue Italian Art (CRIA) Fellow at the Villa I Tatti in Florence, Italy, this year. Next year (2013-14) Evan will return to HC as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Music Department.

• **Christopher Hannan '04** is an associate at the law firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz in New Orleans. Chris was the winner of the 2012 Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival Poetry Contest, with poems titled "Deucalionids," "Diagenesis," "Katabasis," "Nekuia," and "Nostos." Read more about Chris' poetry at: <http://www.tennesseewilliams.net/susan-larsons-blog-qa-with-chris-hannan-2012-poetry-contest-winner>

• **Lisa Litterio '06** has completed a Ph.D. in Communication and Rhetoric at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In the fall she begins as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of English (specializing in Rhetoric & Composition and Technical Communication) at Bridgewater State University in Bridgewater, MA.

• **Rosemary Lee '07** has completed a Ph.D. in History at the University of Virginia, with a dissertation titled "A Printing Press for Shah 'Abbas: Science, Learning, and Evangelization in the Near East, 1600-1650." Rosemary will be a Visiting Assistant Professor in the History Department at Holy Cross next year.

• **Jennifer Adams '10** just earned an MA in Library Science from the Catholic University of America. In the fall she will return to Holy Cross as a Research, Instruction, and Outreach Librarian.

Please keep the updates coming to Tim Joseph '98 at tjoseph@holycross.edu.

Once-in-a-lifetime experiences in the Eternal City

By Gloria McMahon '14

Our semester abroad has been an amazing journey in which my classmates and I have grown as both Classics scholars and Holy Cross students. From class in the Roman Forum to Mass at the Vatican, our four-month journey included so many remarkable experiences. And in this case, the chorus "location, location, location" rings true.

Rome, Italy, is certainly a perfect locale for any student interested in the dynamic history and culture of the ancient Roman Empire. Including myself, seven such students represented the Holy Cross Classics Department this spring at Loyola University of Chicago's John Felice Rome Center.

Our classroom-based education of Classics was complemented and enhanced by our frequent encounters with the physical remains of Ancient Rome. In previous study we had viewed photos and read descriptions of archaeological sites and historical artifacts; but in Rome we experienced them firsthand.

No textbook blueprint can fully convey the sheer size of the Imperial Fora, nor can any photo

accurately capture the inherent grace of the Ara Pacis (Altar of Peace). In order to truly gain an understanding of what Rome must have been like two thousand years ago, one must see it in the flesh: the modern, living body of Rome that resides amidst the skeleton of the ancient city.

The two aspects of Rome, past and present, blend together seamlessly in a delicious cocktail more intoxicating than the finest limoncello. In fact, the continuity

century CE stadium of the Emperor Domitian; and the rounded walls of the modern Hotel Albergo Sole al Biscione perfectly trace the curve of the first century BCE Theatre of Pompey the Great.

In addition to these ancient sites, we were also able to see other Roman treasures like Vatican City. And in regards to Vatican events, our sojourn in Rome could not have been more perfectly timed! We had the opportunity to be present not only at the last papal

audience of Pope Benedict XVI but also at the conclave election in St. Peter's Square, at the induction ceremony of Pope Francis I, and at Vatican Mass on both Palm Sunday and Easter. How appropriate that we Holy Cross students were in Rome to see the election of the first Jesuit Pope!

Unforgettable events such as these were characteristic of our time abroad, and for that I

know we are extremely grateful to all of the professors, parents, and friends who helped us to reach Rome. In this unique and inspiring city, we were gifted with once-in-a-lifetime experiences . . . many more times than just once.



Gloria McMahon and Caroline Furey (both Class of '14) before Easter Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.

between the ancient and modern topography is readily apparent if one knows where to look. For instance, the current shopping strip along Via del Corso follows the same path of the ancient Via Lata. Today's Piazza Navona preserves the open space outlined in the first

PLURA NOVA

*Thirteen members of the Manuscripts, Inscriptions, and Documents (MID) Club presented their work at HC's Academic Conference in April. Stephanie Lindeborg '13, Nik Churik '15, Rebecca Musgrave '14, Brian Clark '15, Tom Arralde '13, Chris Ryan '16, Adam Sykura '15, Melissa Luttmann '15, and Alex Simrell '16 discussed their work on manuscripts of the *Iliad*. Christine Bannan '14 and Michael Roberts '13 presented their research on Athenian tribute lists, and Andrew Boudon '15 and Rebecca Finnigan '15 discussed a codex preserving the works of Archimedes. At right are pictured MID members Luttmann (at podium), Ryan, and Sykura (seated).



*Tom Santa Maria '14 won the Classical Association of New England's Phyllis B. Katz Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Research for his paper titled "The Speeches of Boudicca and Calgacus: Tacitus' Unified Text of Imperial Critique." He presented the paper on March 16 at the association's annual meeting at the University of Connecticut. For more on Tom's award see: <http://news.holycross.edu/blog/2013/04/05/classics-major-earns-award-from-classical-association-of-new-england/>. At right Tom is pictured with Jake Smith '12, who is now teaching at Marianapolis Preparatory School in Thompson, CT. At the conference Jake presented the paper "The Influence of Classical Piety in the Time of Erasmus."



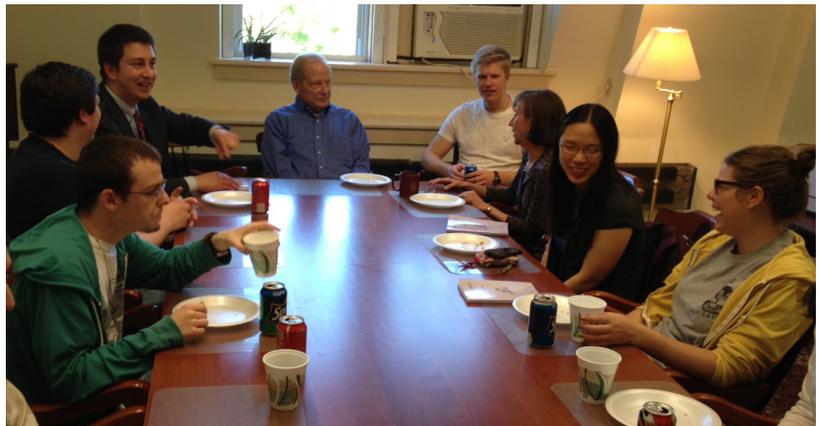
*The winner of the Ernest A. Golia '34, M.D., Book Award, which is given to a first-year student who is not a Classics major for excellence in any course in the Department, was Christina Pretto '16 for her work in Prof. Aaron Seider's course "Ancient Manhood Contested."

Parnassus debuts (from p. 1)

a Bad Emperor: The Many Meanings of *Virtus* in Tacitus's *Agricola*" by Anne Salloom '14; "Disordering Freedom: The Relation between Disorder and *Libertas* in Tacitus" by Nikolas Churik '15; "A Note on a Virgilian Allusion in Silius Italicus" by Matthew Angiolillo '13; "Greece and Rome on the French Stage: Classical Adaptation in the Theatre of Jean Racine" by Michael Roberts '13.

The online version of

Parnassus will be posted on the HC Classics home page soon.



Above: Tom Arralde '13, Steven Merola '16, Prof. Aaron Seider, Prof. Blaise Nagy, Alex Simrell '16, Prof. Mary Ebbott, Angela Yu '14, and Kathleen O'Connor '13 at the Parnassus release party in Fenwick 420.

Gratulationes et Valete to the Class of 2013

Matt Angiolillo just finished his thesis in the College Honors Program titled "An Epic Tradition Expanded and Condensed: The Structure and Purpose of Silius Italicus' Italian Catalogue." He presented on this work at the HC Academic Conference in April. In the fall Matt will be entering the Ph.D. program in Classics at the University of Virginia.

Tom Arralde, a 2012 inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, won first prize in this year's national Eta Sigma Phi advanced Latin translation contest. After graduation Tom will be joining the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph.

Marcus Barrett will be working at the Cohasset Maritime Museum this summer. He is also planning to volunteer at a hospital (with interests in pursuing medicine) while also looking into archaeological field work.

Alexis Beyerlein will be starting law school in the fall at the University of Connecticut.

Jeffrey Godowski won the Monsignor Kavanagh Medal and Award for his capstone project "Stone and Light, Life and Death: Roman Sarcophagi -- An Exhibition for the 21st Century," as the College's best original essay on some phase of Christian art or archaeology. He also received a Presidential Service Award and the Joseph J. Reilly SGA Leadership Award. Jeff will be heading to the University of Vermont for an M.Ed. in

Higher Education and Student Affairs. His assistantship will be as Coordinator for RA Recruitment, Selection, and Training.

Brian Gorzkowski will be working at UnitedHealth Group as a Financial Analyst.

Miranda Hernandez will be interning for the Illinois Cook County State's Attorney's office this summer and will be working as a staff member for the Illinois House of Representatives starting in the Fall. She plans to attend law school the following year in the Chicagoland area.

Alexandra Krasowski has just finished up a spring semester internship at the Worcester Art Museum and is planning to pursue an MA in Museum Studies.

Jenna Legros, a four-year member of the Women's Varsity Softball team, will be applying to Physician's Assistant programs this summer and in the upcoming year.

Stephanie Lindeborg, a 2012 inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, just completed a thesis titled "Creating Digital Editions of Manuscripts: An Exploration of *Iliad* 8 in the Venetus A and the Escorial Y.1.1 Manuscripts." Stephanie was also awarded the Department's Rev. Robert F. Healey, S.J., Greek Prize. She will be pursuing an MA at UMass Boston in Latin and Classical Humanities with an Initial Licensure track.

Kathleen O'Connor will be teaching with the Urban Teacher Center, a program based out of Baltimore and Washington DC, while working on getting her Masters in Elementary and Special Education.

Brigit Quirk completed a thesis for the College Honors Program titled "Warring with Images: The Relationship between the Flavian Building Program and War." She presented on this research at the HC Academic Conference in April. After graduation Brigit will be working for the Hanover Insurance Group in Portland, ME. She will be employed with Hanover as a member of their Future Leaders training program, and will be in the Underwriting track.

Michael Roberts, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, recently completed senior research on classical Athenian epigraphy and was the recipient of the Department's Philip A. Conniff, S.J., Prize for excellence in Latin. Michael will be attending Villanova University in the fall as part of an MA program in Classics, after which he intends to pursue Ph.D. study in preparation for his longterm goal of becoming a professor of Classical history.

Thomas Willis has been accepted as a seminarian for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester and will be studying at St. John's Seminary in the fall.

ΧΑΙΡΕΤΕ