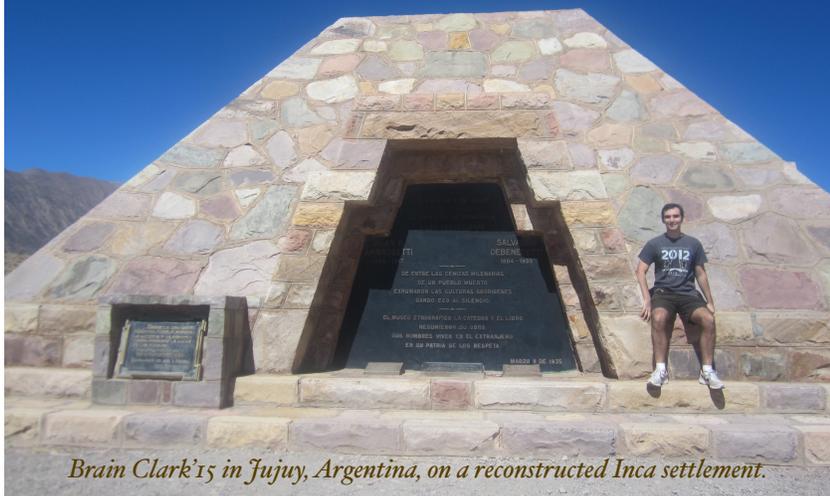


# SALVETE!

Greetings from the  
Classics Department  
at Holy Cross

## A Classicist in Latin America



*Brian Clark '15 in Jujuy, Argentina, on a reconstructed Inca settlement.*

By Brian Clark '15

There exists a long standing debate about the true identity of Latin America. Does it fit into the category of Western Civilization, or did its genesis create a new entity? In his essay entitled “Nuestra América” (“Our America”), the Cuban author José Martí wrote that “Our own Greece is preferable to the Greece that is not ours.” He believed that Latin America should break with the Western tradition of Europe in order to forge its own place in the world. In contrast, Argentine statesman Domingo Sarmiento believed that the Western foundation of Latin America was vital to its essence and that this tradition should act as a guide for the countries in this region.

While there are distinct characteristics that set Latin America apart from the rest of the Western world, I believe that the roots of this region can be traced back to Ancient Greece and Rome.

At the University del Salvador in Buenos Aires, my first class was a literature lecture on Esteban Echeverría, the founder of Argentine literature. In his poem *La Cautiva* (*The Captive*), a group of indigenous Machupe warriors recount how fiercely an Argentine settler fought in a recent battle. In a war hymn, the natives list each of their men that fell to the long spear of the settler-warrior with great flashing eyes. My professor agreed with my interpretation that this passage was meant to be a reference to the battle scenes of the *Iliad*. Within the first work of Argentine literature, features such as this comparison of a New World warrior to an epic hero served to continue the legacy of the ideas that built the Western world. By evoking the classical tradition, Echeverría worked to join the two cultures, while still allowing Latin American culture the freedom to take its own shape.

## HELLO AGAIN FROM FENWICK 4

This week twenty-one Classics majors graduate from the College and head forth to locations and vocations around the world. As we do in each spring issue of *Salvete!*, we bid them farewell on page 6.

In this issue we also feature stories by majors on their study abroad experiences in Argentina (beginning here on p. 1) and in Italy (p. 3). Page 2 includes a story about the (once again) record-breaking turnout of high school students at the 42nd annual Classics Day. Please also read about the recent work of the Manuscripts Club on p. 4, as well as updates from departmental alumnae / -i and other news from Fenwick 4 on p. 5.

The fact that Latin America exists as a blend of classical heritage and its own indigenous roots allows its culture to grow out of the two sources. Authors such as Jorge Luis Borges and Julio Cortázar also utilized this dual foundation by blending Greek and Incan myths in their writings, drawing from both fountains of their culture.

Beyond a love for Argentine rock music, a bitter drink called *mate*, and my newfound *porteño* accent, one of the lessons that I will take away from South America is that Classics allows one to find connections everywhere. One reason we slave over hundreds of lines in the Fitz or Dinand is to be able to recognize these classical references.

Continues on Page 5

## OVER 800 STUDENTS CONVENE AT HC FOR CLASSICS DAY

By Nicholas Jalbert '16

Annually, Classics Day colors the College of the Holy Cross campus with a patchwork of eager secondary school students hailing from a variety of high schools. Wearing homemade togas and sporting enthusiastic expressions, these younger disciples of the classical tradition also bring a comforting reminder that the study of the Latin language is alive and well. The unprecedented turnout of students this year proved this especially well. Over eight hundred students hailing from twenty eight schools trekked up to Mount Saint James for our annual celebration of the Latin language and the Classical civilizations. Students traveling from New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island joined students from all over Massachusetts in the competitions this year.

During a salutatory assembly, Classics Day chair Deborah Sokolowski '14 announced the winners of the Manuscripts Challenge, a nascent tradition in the history of Classics Day that began just last year. The challenge, stemming from the department's Manuscripts, Inscriptions, and Documents Club, asks a team of three to five students to examine a small portion of one of four Latin manuscripts, transcribe it, and comment on the quality and unique faculties of the given passage. This year, Boston College High School triumphed.

As in years past, the visiting students participated in the upper and lower divisions of Certamen (for beginning and advanced students of the Latin language, respectively), a costume contest, and a chariot race at which awards were given for both swiftness in racing and creativity of chariot design. Award winners this

year came from Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, Arlington High School, Bishop Guertin High School, Boston College High School, Doherty Memorial High School, Holyoke High School,

Unprecedented turnout and boundless enthusiasm among all participants, faculty chaperones, Holy Cross student volunteers, and Classics Department administrator Ms. Toni Methe marked this year's



*Meredith Hultgren Morgan '97 (right), with students Ryan Engert, Natasha Golovchenko and Jason Li from Acton-Boxborough Regional High School in the packed Hogan Ballroom. Their team finished third in the Upper Division.*

Littleton High School, Saint Sebastian's School, and Walpole High School.

Nine HC Classics alumni and alumnae returned shepherding flocks of budding young Latinists this year: Sean Albertson and Michael Nerbonne with St. Sebastian's School; Gabriel Bakale with Walpole High School; Peter Caccavale with Needham High School; Gregory Kakas with The Rectory School; Meredith Morgan with Acton-Boxborough Regional High School; Jon Moro with Holyoke High School; Katie Schmieg with Newton Country Day School; and Steliane Thompson with Doherty Memorial High School.

Classics Day and contributed to its overwhelming success.

In addition to a feature on the Holy Cross website, Classics Day also received mention from publications such as the *Boston Globe* (<http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2014/04/10/high-school-students-celebrate-ancient-roman-culture/4CK80tHWgQkBIbJIWd865I/story.html>) and the *Worcester Telegram and Gazette* (<http://www.telegram.com/article/20140410/NEWS/304109625/1246>).

*Nicholas is a Classics major from Monson, MA.*

## Eternal memories from the Eternal City

By Nik Churik '15

Poe writes in "To Helen" of the "glory that was Greece, and the grandeur that was Rome." After nearly one and a quarter centuries since that line was written and two millennia since the inspiration came to be, the truth of the phrase remains. The City and its monuments, both ancient and modern, present themselves as a mix of relics from the past and reminders of the current station of the city.

The grandeur is obvious: the Colosseum and the Arch of Constantine, or, at the very least, the scaffolding covering them, are impossible to miss. These are the very clear and iconic reminders of the civilization that flourished in the city for over a thousand years, and their presence is an unmistakable testament to the extraordinary feats accomplished by the Romans. Their presence doubtless has shaped the landscape and conception of the city, but what lies beneath does not fail to illuminate further the face of the ancient city.

The most complete example might be the Basilica of St. Clement. The basilica currently standing is an impressive twelfth-century church, now run by the Dominicans, complete with a

*schola cantorum* and courtyard, which is ringed with contemporary inscriptions. One thinks one has become a master of reading Latin inscriptions in Rome, until one tries to read one from this part of the Middle Ages.

As one descends into the excavation site below, one is first met by a fourth-century church, purportedly destroyed in the Norman sack of the city in 1084. As one continues down, one sees how the brick work changed and eventually reaches back into the first century. Remaining are walls of an *insula*, which housed a mithraeum, abutting a larger and contemporaneous house, which at varying times served as an early Christian house church.

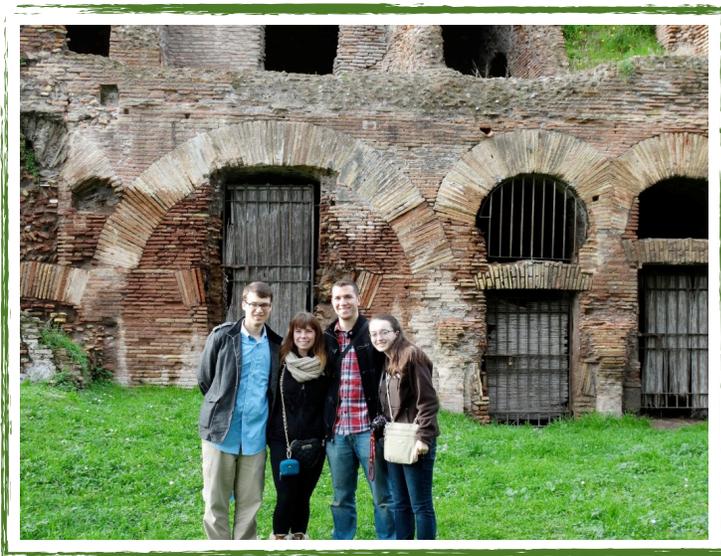
The changes and facets of daily life are felt in places such as this. The monumental edifices in the

streets above are marvels and make evident the might of the Empire, but the subterranean remains of the daily existence on the Mediterranean provide a glimpse into something else.

Although ancient houses are preserved elsewhere, Ostia, Herculaneum, and Pompeii allow one to grasp better the sense of the size of the places where the urban masses lived and how they changed. Going into these more hidden spots, one feels the reality of the people who once lived. More broadly, it reminds one that the Romans lived once; of course, the authors whose texts survive were not word generating machines, but by entering into these former dwellings, away from the crowds, one can focus on the once tangible inhabitants.

Seeing these smaller places was truly one of the many gifts of studying in the City for a semester: we were able to take the time to search out and reflect on these less famous, though in their own right no less impressive, wonders.

*Nik, a Classics major from Hempstead, NY, spent the fall in Greece before crossing the Adriatic over to Italy.*



*Nik Churik, Jess Bailot, Harry Crimi, and Rebecca Finnigan, all class of 2015, in front of the House of Tiberius on the Palatine Hill in Rome.*

For more stories and pictures from a Crusader's time in Italy this spring, see the blog by Harry Crimi '15 at [hgcrim15.me.holycross.edu/](http://hgcrim15.me.holycross.edu/)

## More innovation and travel for the MID Club

By Christopher Ryan '16 and Alex Simrell '16

This past semester the Manuscripts Inscriptions and Documents Club (MID) continued to thrive both on campus and beyond the gates of Holy Cross. Returning members are working on the Homer Multitext Project, St. Jerome's *Chronicles*, the Archimedes Palimpsest, Athenian Tribute Lists, and Latin Epigraphy.

Two teams work on the Homer Multitext Project, striving to create digital and diplomatic editions of early *Iliad* manuscripts. The work is digital because the teams work to preserve the editions online in an accessible format, and diplomatic because the teams strive to represent every mark on each folio of the manuscripts. One team is continuing to edit Book 22 of the *Iliad* in the Venetus A manuscript, while the other team is conducting a systematic comparison between the Venetus A (housed in Italy) manuscript and the Upsilon 1.1 manuscript (housed in Spain) from digital photography. This team has presented both at the National Endowment for the Humanities Conference at Tufts University and at an Undergraduate Research Symposium at Boston University.

This semester, the Jerome team was able to give two presentations outlining important aspects of two manuscripts (Geneva 49 and Codex Vadianische 298) and how they lend themselves to a diplomatic approach. They

have also begun to create an XML edition of the Geneva 49 manuscript and are looking forward to continuing the XML editing this summer.

Continuing their work with *The Sphere and the Cylinder*, the Archimedes team has focused much of their time this semester on figuring out the best way to digitally represent the complex mathematical diagrams from the Archimedes palimpsest and Codex Bodmer 8. Christine Roughan '14, a member of the team, presented her work at a conference in Spain.

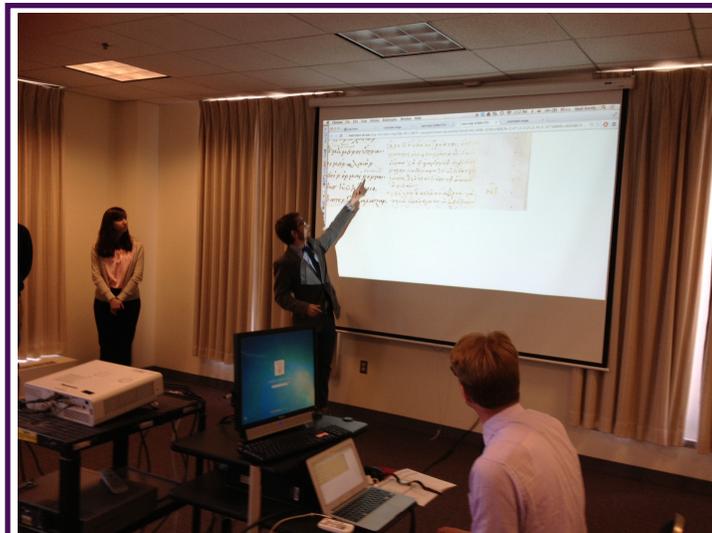
Christine Bannan '14 completed her work on the Athenian Tribute Lists that she began while studying in Greece during her junior year. Christine worked to represent the lists in a diplomatic manner online, providing crucial data for understanding the Athenian economy and why the Athenians taxed their neighbors.

Megan Whitacre '14 spent the rest of the academic year finishing her project with Latin inscriptions. Using photos from her year abroad, Megan created a resource to help teachers make real Latin inscriptions part of their curriculum. Megan presented her work at the NEH Institute.

While making many trips afield, several members of the MID spoke at HC's Academic Conference in April. Megan and Christine Bannan presented on their projects. Neil Curran '14, Rebecca Musgrave '14, Chris Ryan, and Alex Simrell explained their work on the *Iliad*, while Christine Roughan, Matthew Wasser '15, and Melody Wauke '17 discussed their research on Archimedes. Members of the Jerome team Nicholas Jalbert '16, Steven Merola '16, Stephanie Neville '17, and Charlie Schufrieder '17 presented their work on the *Chronicles*.

The MID Club was honored to have Prof. Maxim Romanov of Tufts University come to campus this semester. Prof. Romanov lectured on biographies in Islamic History and on their representation online in an accessible format.

Chris, a native of Milton, MA, and Alex, from Scranton, PA, are both Classics majors at the College.



Neil Curran '14 points to a digital photograph of the Venetus A manuscript of the *Iliad* at HC's Academic Conference in April, while Rebecca Musgrave '14 and Prof. Neil Smith, the MID Club advisor, look on.

## Latin America through Classical eyes (continued from p. 1)



Whether it is an allusion in a novel, caryatides on a governmental building, or the custom of sharing *mate* with guests, a classical education opens the mind to all of these links. To see the world through a classical lens helps one see similar themes in widely different aspects of life. If we can critically examine the world in the light of these connections, we open ourselves to what the world has in common, rather than what divides it.

*Brian, a double major in Classics and Spanish, spent the fall semester in Athens before traveling to Argentina for the spring semester.*

*The neoclassical Congress building in Buenos Aires.*

### ALUMNAE / -I NEWS

- ▶ **Edward Soltesz, MD, '94** is a surgeon in the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.
- ▶ **Steven J. Stack, MD, '94** is an emergency physician residing in Lexington, KY. He recently served as chair of the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association.
- ▶ **Trevor Bonat '96** has been named the new principal of De Smet Jesuit High School in Creve Coeur, Mo. Trevor heads to De Smet after serving as the principal of Bishop Brady H.S. in Concord, NH.
- ▶ After teaching at Yap Catholic High School in Yap, Micronesia, **Tim Casey, S.J., '03** is in First Studies at St. Louis University as part of his Jesuit training.
- ▶ **Jennifer Adams '10**, a Research, Instruction, and Outreach Librarian at Holy Cross, and **Josh Whelan '10**, who teaches Latin at Rising Tide Charter School in Plymouth, MA, have announced their engagement to marry.
- ▶ **Brian Livingston '10** will begin teaching Latin at Mystic Valley (CT) Regional Charter School this fall.
- ▶ In the fall **Melissa Browne '12** will begin teaching Classics courses at the Hill School in Pottstown, PA. Melissa is the first woman to teach in the Classics faculty at the Hill School.

*Please let us know what you're up to by sending updates to Tim Joseph '98 at [tjoseph@holycross.edu](mailto:tjoseph@holycross.edu)*

### ALIA NOVA CENACULO FENWICKIENSI ACTA

- This spring students in Prof. Aaron Seider's course on Vergil's *Eclagues* and *Georgics* took part in the College's iPad pilot program. Please click on this link to see the story by Nikolas Markantonatos on the College's website: <http://news.holycross.edu/blog/2014/05/12/students-illuminate-vergils-poetry-in-podcasts/>
- The Ernest A. Golia '34 Book Award for excellent work in Classics by a first-year non-major went to Stephanie Neville '17.
- The second issue of *Parnassus*, the department's journal of classical studies, was published earlier this month. Debbie Sokolowski '14 was the editor-in-chief of this issue, which includes original artwork, photographs of the ancient world, and nine articles. Three of the articles, which came out of Prof. John Hamilton's Aeschylus course in the fall of 2013, concentrate on aspects of the *Agamemnon*. They are "The Representation of Entrapment" by Michael Russo '15, "Blood and Watchdogs: Two Images in *Agamemnon* 607-612" by Anne Salloom '14, and "Corrupt Bloodshed and Faithful Weeping" by Angela Yu '14. The other pieces are "Annals 15 and the Annalistic Tradition: Structuring History Under the Principate" by Michael Roberts '13; "The Two Loves in Propertius, Elegy 1.19" by Steven Merola '16; "Eric Auerbach Thinks Yvain is a Romance, but He's Lion" by David Peretta '14; "The Yoke of Liberty: St. Augustine and the Freedom of the Person" by Chase Padusniak '15; "Waste Through Diction: A Look into the Fourth Satire of Juvenal" by Rebecca Finnigan '15; and "Philosophy and Democracy in 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC Athens" by Christine Roughan '14.

## ΧΑΪΡΕΤΕ et Valete to the Class of 2014

**Christine Bannan** completed a thesis through the Honors Program titled "A Reassessment of Athenian Imperial Tribute." Earlier this month she presented part of her thesis at the University of Leipzig. She will be going to Notre Dame University Law School next year.

**Rachel Bocchino**, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, plans to apply for medical school, matriculating in the fall of 2016. In the meantime, she will be volunteering at a hospital in Surat, India, during the month of June and then pursuing work in clinical research in Boston.

**Neil Curran**, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, will be entering the Ph.D. program in Classical Language and Literature at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

**Caroline Fador** completed a capstone project for her second major in Visual Arts -- Art History entitled "Degas: The Copy, The Creator, The Collection." She will be working at the Eze Software Group in Boston after graduation.

**Caroline Furey** completed a capstone project with the Visual Arts department entitled "Sex and Violence in Ancient Art." She has accepted a position with EMC Corporation as an Associate Business Operations Analyst.

**Deirdre Koenen**, a double major in Classics and English, was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu and Phi Beta Kappa and did a thesis for the Honors Program titled "Falling from Paradise: John Milton and Christopher Marlowe Articulate the Crisis of Modern Autonomy." Next year she will be teaching Latin and English at Holyoke Catholic High School in Chicopee, MA, through the Providence Alliance of Catholic Teaching.

**Gloria McMahon**, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Sigma Nu, received the John L. Philip Memorial American Sign Language Award. After

graduation she will be moving to Washington, DC, and hoping to find work in a museum or art gallery.

**Rebecca Musgrave** was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and will be attending Wake Forest Medical School in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for the next four years.

**Christine Roughan** was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, and this year she delivered a joint presentation with Prof. Neel Smith titled "Constructing, Testing, and Analyzing a Semantic Graph of Manuscript Features" at the 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies, as well as a presentation of a paper titled "Digital Editions and Diplomatic Diagrams" at Digital Access to Textual Cultural Heritage 2014. Next year she will pursue a Fulbright Student Award to Germany, where she will do research in connection with the Open Philology Project at Universität Leipzig.

**Anne Salloom**, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Sigma Nu and the recipient of the Department's Philip A. Conniff, S.J., Latin Prize, has recently concluded a research project on Tacitus, titled "An (Un)expected Absence: *Virtus* in Tacitus' *Histories*." She will be teaching middle-school English and history at St. Martin de Porres Academy in New Haven, CT, in the fall, before she pursues a career teaching Latin.

**Tom Santa Maria**, a double major in Classics and History, was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu and Phi Beta Kappa and completed a thesis for the Honors Program titled "Caravaggio and Bellarmino: Painting and Preaching for a Post-Tridentine Paideia." He will be attending the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry for a Master's in Theological Studies.

**Debbie Sokolowski**, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, just completed a thesis through the Honors Program titled "Augustan Imagery in Mussolini's Rome." She was recently awarded

the Maurizio Vannicelli Prize in Italian Studies for a chapter of her thesis, and the Department's Rev. Robert F. Healey, S.J., Greek Prize. This summer she is participating in the Bir Madhkur Project in Jordan with Eta Sigma Phi's H.R. Butts Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology. Debbie also received the George H. Hampsch Award, which goes to a senior Peace and Conflict Studies concentrator "for outstanding contribution to the cause of Peace." Next year she will be teaching Latin and coaching crew at Boys' Latin School of Philadelphia.

**Megan Whitacre**, an inductee into Phi Beta Kappa, has spent this year working with Prof. Neel Smith on a final project called "Latin Epigraphy and Pedagogy," which is a resource for bringing inscriptions into an introductory Latin classroom. After graduation, she will be relocating to Jackson, Mississippi, to teach middle school Latin at St. Andrew's Episcopal School.

**Yong Ha (Chris) Won** worked all year as the coordinator of the Spring Weekend Concert that took place on May 5. Next year he will serve as a Jesuit Volunteer for JVC-Northwest in Juneau, Alaska, as a student support specialist for the Yaakoosge Daakahidi Alternative High School.

**Angela Yu**, a Classics and Sociology double major with a concentration in Women's and Gender Studies, was also on the Finance track in the Pre-Business program. In April she presented her senior capstone titled "Unspoken Decorum: Navigating the Hill and the Corporate Ladder." After graduation she will return to New York City, where she plans to utilize her academic coursework and technical skills in the non-profit industry, with particular emphasis on financial services and fundraising.