Your gift will change lives

As always the department is also looking for ways to increase scholarships and bursaries available for students. There are many ways for you to help – whether through increasing existing endowment, creating a new scholarship or bursary or contributing to other projects, your gift will make a tangible difference to a student’s success.

The Gordon and Hilda Fitch Scholarship supports the academic work of outstanding graduate students in the Department. In 2011 Georgina Henderson received an award from the fund. “I am truly delighted to be this year’s Gordon and Hilda Fitch Scholarship recipient. I am working on an M.A. in archaeology, and the Fitch scholarship will be a great boon in giving me the opportunity to excavate and study this summer at a Bronze Age site in southwest Greece (the Iklaina Archaeological Project). I am very grateful for this support.”

Donations to the Department of Greek & Roman Studies can take many forms – from a gift to celebrate accomplishments to a gift to remember a loved one, to annual gifts to honour your graduation, to a planned gift in your will.

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Your support makes a world of difference!

1) I wish to support the following funds:

- Greek and Roman Studies Strategic Fund
- Gordon and Hilda Fitch Scholarship
- Eastern Ionian Archaeological Project

2) Amount of gift: _______________

- one time
- monthly gift per month __________ amount date __________ end date __________

3) Method of Payment:

- Visa
- Mastercard
- American Express

- Number: _________________________ Expiry: (mm/yy) __________
- Signature (required for credit card): ____________________________

- I wish to remain anonymous
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- I would like information on bequests and other forms of planned gifts

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Thank you for your support for the students and programs at this university.

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- Your Gift Will Change Lives

Cedric Littlewood, Chair
Tel. 250-721-6535
Email: calwood@uvic.ca
Lauren Bowman spent three weeks in Greece and Turkey during the summer, engaged in field research for her “Mapping Greek Myth” project, assisted by her family. She visited Troy, Byzantium, Pergamon, Delphi, Mycenae, Ephesus, Athens, and Sparta. Lauren has a high opinion of the new Acropolis museum in Athens, and of the revitalized collection in the National Museum, which she had not visited since the previous century. Along with Geoff Koon, she is organizing the CACW conference on “Visualizing Antiquity” to be held at the Laurier Point Inn on March 16–18, 2012 (see p. 7).

Brendan Burke delivered a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in San Antonio in January 2011, concerning his archaeological survey project in Greece. In the spring he coordinated the Canadian Institute in Greece-Graduate Student Conference at Uvic. As he has done every May since 2007, he taught an international field school program in Greece and Turkey, and in June his field project in Greece began a new and exciting phase of excavation (see p. 7). During the summer months he was a Junior Associate Member of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, doing research related to his excavations in Greece and Turkey. In July, Brendan was promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Victoria. He has two book reviews in press, and one article on Phrygian textile production forthcoming. He was elected to the Publications Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and continues to serve as Archaeology editor for the EJMA (Minor Classical Review).

Patricia Clark’s long awaited publication of her research on herbs and traditional medicine – A Cretan Healer’s Handbook in the Byzantine Tradition – has appeared with Ashgate Press. Patricia remains very active in her retirement and has recently undertaken with Dr. Lynn Rose at Truman State University a revision of her A Cretan Healer’s Handbook in the Byzantine Tradition continues to serve as Archaeology editor for the EJMA (Minor Classical Review).

John Fitch and David Campbell, as authors of a grand total of seven volumes in the Leahy Classical Library (Sereni’s plays, and Sereni’s poetry, respectively), were invited guests at the Leahy Lectures, a biennial celebration in Cambridge MA in October. Some 70 people connected with the UCR, including 50 Leahy guests authorized from across the globe, were treated to a Lucullan dinner, appropriately held in Leahy Hall on the Harvard campus.

Gordon Shrimpton has submitted a chapter entitled “Memory and History in the Ancient World” to a book of essays entitled History of Memory, to be published in late 2011 or early 2012 by Bloomsbury Publishing (London). Bloomsbury, of course, has published the Harry Potter novels, so he is in distinguished company and will probably soon be very rich.

Ingrid Holmberg was on research leave for the 2010–2011 academic year. She continued to work on her book about the representation of cunning intelligence in Homer’s Odyssey and Iliad. She also completed an invited chapter on ancient epic, from which she presented a paper on the Odyssey at the annual meeting of the Classical Associations of Canada. Dr. Holmberg also wrote a couple of book reviews in her time away. As part of her role as Treasurer for the CBC, Dr. Holmberg moved membership services on-line and renewed much of the Association’s financial organization.

RES GESTAE: What have we been up to?

You Are Invited!

The Classical Association of Vancouver Island (CAVI) was founded in 1971 as a way of fostering relations between the Department and members of the general public interested in Classical Studies. The main activity has always been the organization of public lectures on all aspects of Greek and Roman studies by local and visiting classical scholars, and we have hosted over 200 well-attended presentations since the association began. Please send us your e-mail (to brendon@uvic.ca) so that we may put you on our e-mailing list for our lectures and other activities. You may also check the Department website for information on upcoming CAVI lectures and other events (http://web.uvic.ca/~grs/web_pages/eventspage.html). Membership is free to students; $10.00 per annum for others.


Eastern Boeotia Archaeological Project

Work of the University of Victoria’s project in Greece shifted focus this year, from intensive survey to excavation at the site identified as ancient Eleon, located about 20 km west of Thbes. Dr. Brendan Burke co-directs the project with American and Greek colleagues. The University of Victoria was represented by graduate students Trevor Van Damme and Craig Harvey, and by an alumnus, Greenevieve Dunhill. During a short period of excavation from June 6th to 25th, we opened three trenches to explore the state of preservation across a small sample of the site. The project will continue in 2012 on a larger scale with even more University of Victoria students. For more information, contact Dr. Brendan Burke (bburke@uvic.ca) or visit: http://web.uvic.ca/~b burke/ERAP/.

Green Space

The cost of printing and mailing paper copy of this newsletter is significant, and of course there is also an environmental impact. As a result, like many institutions, we have switched to electronic format for most of our mailing list. The newsletter will still be attractively designed and produced in colour, but we now e-mail issues as pdf files to individuals who send us their e-mail addresses. We will continue to mail out printed copy to those who request it.

If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter in electronic or printed format, please telephone (250-721-8514) or send an e-mail message (sberming@uvic.ca) to our Department Administrator Sonja Bermingham informing her of your wishes.
The Inside Story of a Teaching Assistant's Life

With the support of the Learning and Teaching Centre, the Vice-President’s Office, and the Faculty of Humanities, the Department has been providing an increased range of opportunities for its graduate students to develop their skills as teachers. Natasha Fox has been appointed Teaching Assistant Consultant for several Humanities departments including Greek and Roman Studies. Trevor van Damme contributes the following note about the role and experiences of the Teaching Assistant.

“Every year, graduate students in the department of Greek and Roman Studies devote part of their time to their role as teaching assistants. Often this labour goes on behind the scenes, and, consequently, its formative role in the education of graduate students is often overlooked. It shouldn’t be. As a second-year graduate student, I have already gained invaluable experience, not only from correcting papers and exams but also from being able to engage directly with students as their instructor for a weekly Greek Mythology tutorial. I will never forget the first tutorial session that I taught, the uncertainty of looking into 30 equally uncertain pairs of eyes, the inward satisfaction from directly with students as their instructor for a weekly Greek Mythology tutorial. I will never forget the first tutorial session that I taught, the uncertainty of looking into 30 equally uncertain pairs of eyes, the inward satisfaction from making them laugh, and the eventual feeling of accomplishment when I realized that I could in fact answer their questions successfully. I know that these experiences will be formative in my own teaching career.”

Graduate Program News


A good crop of new graduate students has arrived since the last newsletter. Distima Coia (Pauline Christiansen) has entered the programme after completing her BA in UG at Virginia, and Cody Rowland (Roman archaeology) has come from Queen’s. Both these students hold Canada Graduate Scholarships and UBC President’s Research awards. Distima Coia also holds the John G. Dell Graduate Scholarship. In November, Cody presented a paper at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting in San Francisco about the exciting Latin inscriptions found on an excavation in Jordan he participated in last summer. Our continuing MA students are Lindsey Brill (Ancient veterinary medicine), Eva Bullard (Roman in the Czech Republic), Georgia Hendron (Roman architecture), Kelsey Koons (Roman history), Angene Paus (Hittite, Jewish, and the Augustan poets), and Trevor Van Damme (Greek archaeology). Georgia Hendron holds the Gordon & Hilda Felch Scholarship, while Trevor Van Damme holds the Sheila and John Hackett Research Travel Award.

Geoff Kren has kept busy for the past year working on a book manuscript, tentatively entitled The Battle of Asculum and Modern, while negotiating with Brill to co-edit a handbook on ancient agriculture, and completing several articles and book chapters. He contributed a survey of economic growth in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean to at conferences in Chicago. This and several other papers on life-expectancy and food production will appear as chapter contributions to books under preparation at Oxford and Cambridge University Presses. He spent a month in Athens doing research at the American, French, and German schools, and making contacts with physical anthropologists working in Greece. Geoff’s comparative study of wealth at Athens will soon appear in Artchos/Entchev Konopchak. He gave a paper at a conference in Durham concerning Households, Trade and Markets in the Ancient Greek World.

Codic Littlewood gave papers on “Pompeii and the Loss of Integrity” and “Performing Power in Semitic Tragedy” to the Classical Association of Vancouver Island and the Classical Association of Canada respectively. He also wrote an article, “Bogy and Epics: Lucian’s Briton Clerk” along with Gregory Rowland. Codie continues a very successful course that teaches Latin language to high school students during the winter term.

Anne-France Morand, who taught in the Department from 2004 to 2008 and who remains an Adjunct Faculty member, has just been appointed as Professor of Greek Language and Literature in the Department of the Literature, Université Laval.

Mark Nugent has returned to the Department to teach once again during the 2011–2012 year. He is currently working on a paper exploring representations of Roman slavery in a historical novel published in the 1960s to 1980s.

John Peter Olson spent half of May and half of September in Amman working on the second volume of the final report of his excavations at Humayma in Jordan. In the spring he presented in Canada and the southern USA the last of the 11 lectures scheduled in the course of the academic year as the annual Norton Lecture for the Archæological Institute of America. He also presented invited papers in Istanbul, Amman, and to the U.S.-Israel Foundation in New York. Three articles and two book chapters have appeared this year presenting John’s research on Humayma, Roman harbours, and on Roman maritime concrete.

Nick Reymond is currently working with the Department. As the most important event of this past year was his marriage to Shane Kennedy on 25th July in Auckland, NZ. Academically, he presented a paper on Festschrift in Philo of Alexandria at the 2011 meeting of the CAVI in Calgary that will be published in Ancient History Bulletin. In addition, he presented a paper entitled “Myths, Poverty and the Poets” at the University of Victoria in Wellington, NZ (there are, and indeed, nearly a dozen Universities of Victoria around the world). Finally, his PhD dissertation for the University of Strasbourg, “The Figure of the Poor Poet in Ancient Poetry” was formally accepted in August. His graduation will be in November, but — alas — as an impromptu poet, he is unable to attend.

Greg Rowe spent a half-year sabbatical as a Visiting Researcher at Université Charles-de-Gaulle in Lille. During that period, he presented papers at Lille, Oxford, and at the Collège de France in Paris (see figure). Greg is the only member of the Department ever to have been invited to address the annual Collège de France, and his lecture (en français) was well received. He is now up to his ears with teaching — including the first Latin class he and Codie Littlewood offer to Paris high school students — and is happy as a lark.

Events of 2011

In February, classicists at the University of British Columbia travelled to Victoria for our annual joint seminar, which rotates between campuses. Dr. Brenda Burke spoke about “Eastern Beauties in the Late Bronze Age,” while Dr. Françoise Angely described Dr. present “The Making of Classical Italy.” We had several speakers since the last newsletter. In January, Professor Barbara Reynolds, Queen’s University, spoke to the Classical Association of Vancouver Island about “The Public and Private Communities at Humayma.” Dr. Reynolds took her R.A. and M.A. in our Department. In February, Wade Richards, Adjunct Professor in the Department, spoke to CAVI about poetry in the ancient Greek novel and presented a seminar on honour in the archons. In March, our Landscape visitor Professor Kim Freydenberg, the University, spoke to CAVI about “The Fishbowl of Empire: Ancient Romans “Then and Now” and presented a number of papers.

The fall 2011 semester was busy. Our line-up of guest speakers in September included Dr. Ulrike Koester, Evergreen State- College, and Dr. Michael Chase, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Paris. Dr. Koester spoke to CAVI about “From Greek, Drama, and Co-attendance at the Edge of the Greek World” and presented a seminar about “Greek coroplasty and the Ancient Economy.” Dr. Chase gave a seminar about “Myths of Weaving in Platonist and Presocratic Epicromentism.” In October, Dr. Dusa Stiperez, University of Birmingham, spoke to CAVI about ‘Corinthian vessels’ and, in November, Dr. Victoria Hask, University of Toronto presented a seminar about “The Politics of Embracing in Euripides’ Orestes.” From our own Department, Greg Harvey and Kelsey Koons spoke to us about their summer excavations at Humayma in Jordan and at Samarra on Mesopotamia in the Bahamas, respectively. In our Digital Antiquity series, faculty and students presented a seminar about their final websites and other electronic resources. Trevor Van Damme gave a seminar about “Contingentizing the re-use of weapons as votives.” For upcoming events, please visit the department’s website: http://web.uvic.ca/grs.
What does a professor do on a study leave (sabbatical)? If he or she can, he gets out of town — lest the university find ways of sucking him in. I spent my six-month sabbatical (January-June 2011) in Lille, France. I chose Lille for personal reasons, but also because Lille is a major centre for the study of antiquity and, thanks to the Emeritats carte, it’s only an hour from Paris and an hour and a half from London. At the University of Lille I was welcomed by the professor of Roman history, Stéphane Benoist, and given the status of Visiting Researcher. This status allowed me to use the university library; it also came with the tacit obligation to offer a paper (which I duly did, using a recently-found inscription to look at the institution of court fees in late antiquity). Study leaves are a time for us to do research and to write. More specifically, they are a time to have extended conversations with colleagues, to do some reading outside the strict focus of our research, to stop back and think about the overall direction of our work — and sometimes to change direction.

That’s what I did. I proceeded with my planned work on Roman law and the functioning of Roman courts. But I also found myself being pulled away from Roman law and back to my first love, the epigraphy (inscriptions) of the early Roman empire. In particular, I found myself thinking about the most famous Roman inscription of them all, the Res Gestae Divi Augusti, the first emperor Caesar Augustus’ 250-line account of his deeds and benefactions, originally posted on two bronze tablets flanking the entrance to his Mausoleum in Rome.

Recent years have seen two major new commentaries on the Res Gestae, one by a French scholar, the other by an English one. I had been asked to review the second, and I started to form some heterodox ideas. The Res Gestae are in the first person, beginning, “At age 19 I raised an army on my own initiative and at my own expense and liberated the republic from the domination of a faction; for this reason the senate enrolled me in its number...” But in what sense, I wondered, were the Res Gestae written by Augustus? The heroic deeds mentioned by Augustus had been moved by Cicero at the meeting of the senate on 1st January 43 BC. When I looked back to the full text of Cicero’s speech on that occasion (his fifth Philippic), I found that Cicero had used words almost identical to those of Augustus, and had even included them in his de nomen. Whereas Caesar has liberated the republic, for the reason the senate enrolls him, etc. In other words, the first-person account given in the Res Gestae in fact stems from a third-person account composed by Cicero and published by the senate. A little digging allowed me to extend my argument to the whole Res Gestae — and to argue that the true author of the Res Gestae was not Augustus, but the Roman senate, through a stream of honorific decrees passed during the course of

Geng with the Ars Gestaer and Champollion in front of the Collège de France.

Ryan Lewis, a major in Greek and Roman Studies, placed first in Canada’s Impact Apprentice, a national competition that challenges post-secondary students from around the country to put their business skills on display. The 32 top-ranked applicants out of hundreds of candidates travelled to Toronto to compete in a four-day marathon of collaborative and independent tasks. Ryan was quoted by the Montreal student newspaper as saying that “Greek and Roman studies, to me, was the ideal degree… [My] business idea is a small-to-medium market rentable space agency that’s built around a co-operative model.”

Ruben Post, who graduated with an Honours BA in Greek and Roman Studies in 2011, took second prize in the 2011 CAC Senior Greek translation competition and joint first prize in the CAC Senior Undergraduate Essay competition. He is continuing his studies at McGill with a SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship.

On March 18 - 19th the Department hosted the biannual CIG Graduate Student Conference, entitled “People and Perspectives: Living on the Edge.” Graduate students and undergraduates from the University of Victoria, Wilfrid Laurier and the University of Toronto presented papers spanning Mediterranean history, culture, and anthropology. The keynote speaker was Professor Mark Lawall of the University of Manitoba, who spoke about transport amphoras and economic zones in the Eastern Mediterranean. Other Board members of the Canadian Institute in Greece attended, including President Gerry Schaus, Elaine Goddren and Brendan Burke.

Undergrad News

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Student Awards in 2011

We are again having a dionymous crop of GBS prize winners. The Catois-Camren Bingham Prize was awarded to Charles Leach, the George P. Black Memorial Scholarship in Alana Fitzpatrick. The Greek and Roman Studies Scholarship was split evenly between Charlotte Drew and Ana Wagner, and the Edward F. Paul Memorial Scholarship was split between Natasha Banksy and Graham Butler. The Peter L. Smith Scholarship in Greek and Roman Studies was awarded to Nick Fulkson, the James Lee Book Prize to Julian Bedford, the Auchterlonie Law Book Prize to Benjamin Oveyrek, and the Hector McDonald Scholarship in Greek and Roman Studies to Emma Feinto. The Four Classical Association of Vancouver Island Book Prize were awarded to Tom Bedingfield, Lauren Tao, Olivia Forster, and Amanda Greene. The Richard Scott-Dundas Scholarship went to Melissa Mann, Gideon Beavars and Matthew Musikalis were each given a Lindsay Award.

Peter Miller, who did his MA with us and is now at the University of Western Ontario working on his PhD, was awarded the Graduate Student Paper Prize at the annual meeting of the CAC for a paper concerning Hamatar and the representation of gender in Antigone. David Porter, who graduated with a degree in Greek and Latin language and literature in 2006 and is now a graduate student at Cambridge, has recently had a Latin poem published in the Times Literary Supplement. In May 2011, Jessica Romney presented a paper at the CAC’s annual meeting at Dalhousie University with a travel award from the Van Rudloff Travel Assistance Fund.
argue that the true author of the Res Gestae was not Augustus, but the Roman third-person account composed by Cicero and ratified by the senate. A little in fact derived from a libered the republic, for this reason the senate enrolls him, etc. In other of Augustus, and had even included them in his decree: Whereas Caesar has fifth (mentioned above) was in the audience, and then ten days later at the Collège de France in Paris, where the French scholar is professor of Roman history. How were my papers received? I would say: graciously by the English scholar, and enthusiastically by the French one; both encouraged me to publish. The two seminars, particularly the one at the Collège de France, represent the high point of my scholarly career thus far. When I set out from Victoria in January, I had no idea that I was going to deliver either of them.

Geng with the Ars Gratiae and Champollion in front of the Collège de France.

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Romney received an award to present a paper Abroad program in Greece and Turkey. Jessica received their awards to attend the Classical Studies Program in Menorca, Spain. Danielle Appleby, Joseph Bellows, Spencer Davie, Jordy Grassick, Alyssa Gordon & Hilda Fitch Scholarship, while Trevor van Damme holds the Sheila and John Hackett Research Travel Award.

(Martial, Juvenal, and the Augustan poets), and Trevor Van Damme (Greek archaeology). Georgina Henderson holds the Diotima Coad also holds the John O. Dell Graduate Scholarship. In November Craig presented a poster at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting in San Francisco about the exciting Latin inscriptions found on an excavation in Jordan. In June and November, Diotima Coad (Pauline Christianity) has already gained invaluable experience, not only from correcting papers and exams but also from being able to engage directly with students as their instructor for a weekly Greek Mythology tutorial. I will never forget the first tutorial session that I taught, the uncertainty of looking into 35 equally uncertain pairs of eyes, the熨烫 satisfaction from making them laugh, and the eventual feeling of accomplishment when I realized that I could in fact answer their questions successfully. I know that these experiences will be formative to my own teaching career.

The Inside Story of a Teaching Assistant’s Life

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The following M.A. candidates successfully defended their theses in 2011: Jessica Romney, “The Rhetoric of Cohesion: An Analysis of the Battle of Actium and Modern, while negotiating with Briffault co-edited a handbook on ancient agriculture, and completing several articles and book chapters. He contributed a survey of economic growth in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean to a conference in Chicago. This and several other papers on life expectancy and food production will appear as chapter contributions to books under preparation at Oxford and Cambridge University Presses. He spent a month in Athens doing research at the American, French, and German schools, and making contacts with physical anthropologists working in Greece. Geo’s comparative study of wealth at Athens will soon appear in JHS(129) for Aspyrargou and Epikopoklo. He gave a paper at a conference in Durham concerning Households, Trade and Markets in the Ancient Greek World.

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Nick Reynold continues to teach Latin for the Department. The most important event of this past year was his marriage to Shane Kennedy on 27 July in Auckland, NZ. Academically, he presented a paper on poetic identity in Petronius at the 2011 meeting of the CACW in Calgary that will be published in Ancient History Bulletin. In addition, he presented a paper, entitled “Money, Poverty and the Poetics,” at the University of Victoria in Wellington, NZ (there are, indeed, nearly a dozen Universities of Victoria around the world!). Finally, his PhD dissertation for the University of Otago, “The Figure of the Poor Poet in Ancient Poetry,” was formally accepted in August. His graduation will be in November, but – alas! – as an impecunious poet, he is unlikely to attend.

Greg Rower spent a half year sabbatical as a Visiting Researcher at Université Charles-de-Gaulle in Lille. During this time, he presented papers at Lille, Oxford, and at the Collège de France in Paris (see p. 4). Greg is the only member of the Department ever to have been invited to address the august Colloque de France, and his lecture (en chantant) was well received. He is now up for his next sabbatical – including the free Latin class he and Cécile Littlewood offer to onto high school students – and is happy as a lark.

Events of 2011

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The fall 2011 semester was busy. Our line-up of guest speakers in September included Dr. Ursie Hestekin, Evergreen State College, and Dr. Michael Chafe, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Paris. Dr. Hestekin spoke to CAVI about “Eurydice, Demos, and Co-existence at the Edge of the Greek World” and presented a seminar about “Greek Fineform and the Ancient Economy.” Dr. Chafe gave a seminar about “Myths of Woeing in Platonian and Plu-Socratic Cosmogonies.” In October, Dr. Sara Spurlock, University of Birmingham, spoke to CAVI about Suetonius’ Lives, while Dr. Krotscheck presented a seminar about “Ancient Greece and the Ancient Economy.”

From our own Department, Craig Harvey and Kylee Kosko spoke to us about their summer excavations at Humaymra in Jordan and at Samarra on Messoria in the Balkans, respectively. In our Digital Antiquity series, faculty and students presented a seminar about their favourite websites and other electronic resources. Trevor Van Damme gave a seminar about “Contesting the re-use of weapons in victory.”

For upcoming events, please visit the department’s website: http://web.uvic.ca/grs.

Graduate Program News


Laurl Boxman spent three weeks in Greece and Turkey during the summer, engaged in field research for "Mapping Greek Myth" project, assisted by her family. She visited Troy, Byzantium, Pergamon, Delphi, Mycenae, Epidaurus, Athens, and Sparta. Laurl has a high opinion of the new Acropolis museum in Athens, and of the reinstalled collection in the National Museum, which she had not visited since the previous century. Along with Geoff Kees, she is organizing the CAW conference on "Visualizing Antiquity" to be held at the Laurier Point Inn on March 16–18, 2012 (see p. 7).

Brendan Burke delivered a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in San Antonio in January 2011, concerning his archaeological survey project in Greece. In the Spring he coordinated the Canadian Institute in Greece Graduate Student Conference at Uvic. As he has done every May since 2007, he taught an international field school program in Greece and Turkey, and in June his field project in Greece began a new and exciting phase of excavation (see p. 7). During the summer months he was a Senior Associate Member of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, doing research related to his excavations in Greece and Turkey. In July, Brendan was promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Victoria. He has two book reviews in press, and one article on Phrygian textile production forthcoming. He has had a year full of travel and productivity. In January, he delivered a paper at the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, which he had not visited since the previous century. Along with Geof Kron, she is organizing the CAW conference on "Visualizing Antiquity" to be held at the Laurier Point Inn on March 16–18, 2012 (see p. 7).

Brendan Burke co-directs the project with American and Greek colleagues. The University of Victoria was represented by graduate students Trevor Van Damme and Craig Harvey, and by an alumnus, Genevieve Greenway. During a short period of excavation from June 6th to 25th, we opened three trenches to explore the state of preservation across a small sample of the site. The project will continue in 2012 on a larger scale with more University of Victoria students. For more information, contact Dr. Brendan Burke (burkeb@uvic.ca) or visit: http://web.uvic.ca/~burke/EBAP/.

Eastern Boeotia Archaeological Project

Work of the University of Victoria’s project in Greece shifted focus this year, from intensive survey to excavation at the site identified as ancient Eleon, located about 20 km west of Thebes. Dr. Brendan Burke co-directs the project with American and Greek colleagues. The University of Victoria was represented by graduate students Trevor Van Damme and Craig Harvey, and by an alumnus, Genevieve Greenway. During a short period of excavation from June 6th to 25th, we opened three trenches to explore the state of preservation across a small sample of the site. The project will continue in 2012 on a larger scale with more University of Victoria students. For more information, contact Dr. Brendan Burke (burkeb@uvic.ca) or visit: http://web.uvic.ca/~burke/EBAP/.

Green Space

The cost of printing and mailing paper copy of this newsletter is significant, and of course there is also an environmental impact. As a result, like many institutions, we have switched to electronic format as the default for most of our mailing list. The newsletter will still be attractively designed and produced in colour, but we save e-mail issues as pdf files to individuals who send us their e-mail addresses. We will continue to mail out printed copy to those who request it. If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter in electronic or printed format, please telephone (250-721-8514) or visit our web site, where you can find more information and application materials, please visit: http://web.uvic.ca/~burke/UVicInGreeceGRS395.htm.

UVic in Greece and Turkey, May 2011

The Department of Greek and Roman Studies once again offered a valuable learning opportunity for UVic students. On Tolstoy Road, this group of 22 eager UVic students met in downtown Athens to begin a four-week program of study-travel. In addition to a full itinerary in Greece, this year the program included nearly 10 days in Turkey. The course was once again taught by Dr. Brendan Burke, assisted by Trevor Van Damme. After adjusting to life in Athens, the group flew to the island of Rhodes for two days, then caught a boat to Marmaris, Turkey. From there they headed up the Ionian coast, visiting Olympia, Priene, Ephesus, and Assos, to look at a Roman temple on the Prinias peninsular, the Phrygian highlands, and Gordium, home of King Midas, where Dr. Burke has excavated. The group stayed in Ankara and visited the capital at Hattusas, then traveled to Istanbul, Troy, and Pamukkale before returning to Greece. There they saw Delphi, Olympia, Pergamon, Croesus, Mycenae, and many sites in between. For these units of UVic course credit (GAR 199), eligible students prepare a site or monument report, complete three quizzes, and write a research paper. Planning is already underway for 2012, with an itinerary that will again include Turkey. The estimated program fee, designed to be as affordable as possible, is $3600 for 2012. This does not include airfare or UVic tuition. For more information and application materials, please visit: http://web.uvic.ca/~burke/UVicInGreeceGRS395.htm.
Your gift will change lives

As always the department is also looking for ways to increase scholarships and bursaries available for students. There are many ways for you to help – whether through increasing existing endowments, creating a new scholarship or bursary or contributing to other projects, your gift will make a tangible difference to a student’s success.

The Gordon and Hilda Fitch Scholarship supports the academic work of outstanding graduate students in the Department. In 2011 Georgina Henderson received an award from the fund. “I am truly delighted to be this year’s Gordon and Hilda Fitch Scholarship recipient. I am working on an M.A. in archaeology, and the Fitch scholarship will be a great boon in giving me the opportunity to excavate and study this summer at a Bronze Age site in southwest Greece (the Bakana Archaeological Project). I am very grateful for this support.”

Donations to the Department of Greek & Roman Studies can take many forms – from a gift to celebrate accomplishments to a gift to remember a loved one, to annual gifts to honour your graduation, to a planned gift in your will.

University of Victoria  Annual Giving Office  Alumni House  PO Box 3060 STN CSC  Victoria BC  V8W 3R4

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1) I wish to support the following funds:

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☐ I would like information on gifts of publicly traded securities

Thank you for your support for the students and programs at this university.

Message from the Chair

Welcome to the Greek and Roman Studies annual Newsletter! Here we share some of our activities and achievements in 2011. This issue profiles our Roman historian Greg Rowe. For this and other items please see “In this Issue” below and read on.

In 2010-11 more students than ever before took courses in the department of Greek and Roman Studies. Enrolments have increased by over 22% in the last decade. Like the rest of UVic, GRS has seen a marked increase in demand for courses at the introductory level. Partly in response to changing patterns of enrolment, partly to create a cleaner progression from lower to upper level courses, and partly to open up new fields of study, we submitted to Senate this year a major rebuild of the department’s course offerings. The changes should appear in next year’s calendar. Proposed new courses include “The Ancient World on Film” at the introductory level and at the upper level “Late Antiquity” and “Hellenistic and Greek Ethnography,” on the relationship of the Greeks to other Mediterranean and Near Eastern cultures.

The ancients too considered their curriculum and how best to prepare students for a career beyond school. Effective speaking – oratory – was the cardinal skill. Tacitus (1st – 2nd century AD) stages a debate in which Messalla insists on a broad curriculum, including science, history, literature, philosophy and law, to train effective communicators: “from great learning, from a multitude of arts and from universal knowledge flows the fertile torrent of that wonderful eloquence. The power and ability of a public speaker is not enclosed by narrow… boundaries.” A similar thought (though with strong political overtones) recurs in the words of another of his speakers, Abinemes: “For just as race-tracks and open spaces test thoroughbreds, so there is a kind of field for public speakers. If they do not run free and unshackled, their eloquence is weakened and broken.” Oratory is not a matter of superficially persuasive speech. Cicero (1st century BC), and Rome’s most famous orator, stresses the importance of critical reasoning: “In describing the perfect orator he speaks also to the value of history: “Not to know what can be deduced from what… and, since many ambiguous statements are made, how they should be analyzed and explained.” In describing the perfect orator he speaks also to the value of history: “Not to know what happened before you were born is to be always a child. For what is an adult life if it is not woven into earlier lives by the memory of the past?”

To find out about forthcoming events please visit our homepage (http://web.uvic.ca/grs) or come in person to the fourth floor of the Chvirahus Building (B wing). I look forward to meeting you.

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