



Nuntius

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Notice

Unfortunately, there has been no editor of *Nuntius* since the fall of 2022. This issue of *Nuntius* covering the academic year 2023-2024 is being published in mid-2025. Another issue, covering 2024-2025, will follow shortly. While there are typically two

issues of *Nuntius* in every academic year, there will be only one issue for both Vol 97 (for 2023-2024) and Vol 98 (for 2024-2025). It is hoped that, eventually, the *Nuntius* will return to two issues per volume.

LIST OF OFFICERS

Megas Prytanis: Laurence Pavlik, Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College

Megas Hyparchos: Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

Megas Grammateus: Alexandra Laird, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

Megale Chrysophylax: Arreya Shaw, Eta Zeta at Truman State University

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ETA SIGMA PHI: Statement of Purpose and Benefits of Membership

The purposes of Eta Sigma Phi, the national Classics honorary society, are to develop and promote interest in Classical study among students of colleges and universities; to promote closer fraternal relationship among students who are interested in Classical studies, and to stimulate interest in Classical studies and in the history, art, and literature of ancient Greece and Rome. Members are elected by local chapters which have been chartered by the society. Most members are undergraduates but chapters can also initiate graduate students, faculty, and honorees. There are more than 180 chapters of Eta Sigma Phi throughout the United States. Benefits of membership include:

- membership card, lapel pin and certificate
- subscription to *NUNTIUS*, the biannual newsletter of the society
- an annual national convention including a certamen and banquet
- the opportunity to give academic presentations before an audience of peers and scholars
- annual sight translation exams in Latin and Greek
- honor cords and sashes for graduation
- bronze and silver medals of achievement
- eligibility for summer travel scholarships to Greece, Rome or southern Italy
- eligibility for a Latin teacher training scholarship

About *NUNTIUS*

NUNTIUS is the newsletter of Eta Sigma Phi, the national Classics honorary society. It is normally published twice a year, in September and in January. Copies of the *NUNTIUS* are sent free of charge to active, associate, and honorary members at active chapters. A lifetime subscription to the *NUNTIUS* is also available to members who wish to continue receiving the newsletter after graduation. The cost of this lifetime subscription is a single payment of \$50. Non-members interested in subscribing to the newsletter should

contact the editor for further information. Eta Sigma Phi is currently in search of a new editor for the *Nuntius*. See the job description on page 3 of this issue. Thomas J. Sienkewicz of Gamma Omicron Chapter at Monmouth College, a former *Nuntius* editor, served as editor pro temp for this issue. Graphic designer is Jon Marken of Lamp-Post Publicity in Meherrin, Virginia, who also provides the printing. Electronic copies of back issues of *Nuntius* can be found in the Eta Sigma Phi Archives (www.esparchives.org).

ΗΣΦ COMMITTEES

Translation Contest Coordinator

Joseph Garnjobst of Eta Delta at Hillsdale College (2023, jgarnjobst@hillsdale.edu)

Fox Latin Teaching Scholarship Committee

David Sick of Beta Psi at Rhodes College, chair (2025, sick@rhodes.edu)
Tom Keeline of Alpha Xi at Washington University in St. Louis (2024)
Julia Hejduk of Gamma Omega at Baylor University (2024)

Summer Travel Scholarships Committee

Molly Pasco-Pranger, Lambda at the University of Mississippi, chair (2025, mpranger@olemiss.edu)
Scott Farrington, Delta Theta at Dickinson College (2024)
Kirsten Day, Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College (2026)

Program Committee

John Rundin of Eta Mu at University of California, Davis, chair (2024, jrundin@ucdavis.edu)
Josh Nudell of Eta Zeta at Truman State University (2025)
E. V. Mulhern of Zeta Beta at Temple University (2022)

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Katherine Panagakos of Theta Tau at Stockton University (2025, ex officio, Katherine.panagakos@stockton.edu)
Lora Holland of Eta Tau at the University of North Carolina, Asheville (2024)
David Sick of Beta Psi at Rhodes College (2025)
Jesus Castelan, Beta Psi at Rhodes College, Megas Chrysophylax (2023)

H. R. Butts Field Archaeology Scholarship Committee

Timothy Winters of Eta Omega at Austin Peay State University, chair (2025, winterst@apsu.edu)
Ronnie Ancona of Alpha Theta at Hunter College (2024)
Ruth Palmer of Gamma at Ohio University (2024)
Daniel Levine, Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas (2025)

Editor of ΗΣΦ *Nuntius* Wanted

The Board of Trustees of ΗΣΦ is looking for a faculty member to become the editor of the *Nuntius*. Preference will be given to someone from an active chapter.

The *Nuntius* is the biannual newsletter of Eta Sigma Phi. It is published in the fall and in the spring. Many elements will be the same in each issue, while others will change. We will provide a list of items required for each issue.

Requirements:

- Work with National Officers, Board of Trustees, and Executive Secretary to publish two editions of the *Nuntius* yearly.
- Collect articles, pictures, and submissions in a timely fashion by reaching out to the relevant parties involved with due dates for their submissions. You will do this primarily via email or other electronic means.
- Proofread and edit all articles and submissions.
- Caption all photographs.
- Comply with strict deadlines for each issue.
Fall issue: Oct. 1
Spring issue: April 15

- Send finalized articles, pictures, and announcements to the printer.
- Attend annual spring convention and January SCS meeting (reimbursement for travel and hotel) and take relevant photographs (which become the property of Eta Sigma Phi).
- Attend meetings of the Board of Trustees and Executive Secretary at the convention and via Zoom as needed throughout the year.
- Eta Sigma Phi will provide a stipend of \$2000.00 and will cover the editor's expenses to attend the annual

convention of the society and the SCS conference.

Send CV and letter of interest to the Executive Secretary:

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Eta Sigma Phi on Facebook



Eta Sigma Phi now hosts a Fan Page on Facebook. To "Like" the Fan Page, simply head to www.facebook.com/EtaSigmaPhi. This page helps everyone know where members are active, makes it easy to find friends (especially after conventions), and provides a quick way to disseminate information.

We would also love it if people would put up pictures from their chapters and from conventions, along with posting news about their chapters and providing ideas for activities. Be sure to friend national officers!



Eta Sigma Phi *Fasti*

January 10, 2026

Eta Sigma Phi Next Generation Panel at the 2026 Society for Classical Studies Panel in San Francisco, CA

January 15, 2026

Deadline for submission of papers to be read at the Undergraduate Paper Panel at the 2026 Eta Sigma Phi Convention

January 23, 2026

Last Day to register for the paper version of the 2026 National Latin Exam

February 13, 2026

Last Day to register for the online version of the 2026 National Latin Exam

February 13, 2026

Last Day to sign up for the 2026 Eta Sigma Phi Translation Exams.

February 16–20, 2026

Eta Sigma Phi Translation Exams Administered

February 23–March 13, 2026

National Latin Exam administration dates

February 15, 2026

Submission deadline for application for all Eta Sigma Phi Scholarships

March 4, 2026

Exelauno Day

March 20, 2026

Ovid's birthday

March 20–22, 2026

98th Eta Sigma Phi Convention

April 10, 2026

Deadline for submission of papers for the Eta Sigma Phi Next Generation Undergraduate Panel at the 2027 meeting of the Society for Classical Studies

April 21, 2026

Rome's birthday

Meet the 2023–2024 Officers

Megas Prytanis

Laurence Pavlik, Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College (laurencepavlik20@augustana.edu)

Salvete Omnes, I'm Laurence Pavlik, and it is my honor to serve as your Megale Prytanis this year! I'm a proud member of Eta Sigma Phi, hailing from the Epsilon Sigma Chapter at Augustana College. I study Classics there, with an emphasis on Roman Religion and Etruscan Archaeology, as well as Geology. Originally I had come to Augustana to start my career as a paleontologist, but I was quickly enthralled with my Latin class, and found myself in the Classics major as fast as boiled asparagus. Greece and Rome have always dominated my thoughts, through stories of gods and heroes or the writings of poets and philosophers, so I was quite happy to learn their tongues and base my future around studying them. I've worked hard to understand the beliefs and actions of ancient Mediterranean peoples, and have always loved to discuss them with and learn new things from other students of antiquity.

As Megale Prytanis I will strive to use the love we all have for classics to bring together the different chapters of Eta Sigma Phi outside of just conferences. I also intend to continue the goals of the last office holder, Elana Sanders-Braxton, to broaden perception of Classics, and show that this field is everyone. I will do my best to honor the trust put in me when I was elected to this position, and look forward to hearing from all sorts of Classicists as I work on your behalf! Valete, and see you at Dickinson!

Megas Hyparchos

Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College (jrolfe@hillsdale.edu)

Jonathan Rolfe is a junior Latin and Greek double-major at Hillsdale College. As a homeschooler, he first learned Latin and Greek from his big sister and his dad. He was fascinated by languages and continues to study all the ancient languages he can get his hands on, including Old English and Old Norse. His love

for the works of J. R. R. Tolkien partly inspired this focus on languages, since that was Tolkien's expertise.

Jonathan Rolfe has been an active member of his Eta Sigma Phi chapter, most notably by staying for all 24 hours of the Iliad at last year's Homerathon. He wants to encourage the deep study of Latin and Greek language and literature through the community that this national honorary provides. He is also interested in increasing the role of spoken Latin (and Ancient Greek?) in modern pedagogy. Jonathan also enjoys board games and running.

Megale Grammateus

Alexandra Laird, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College (alaird@hillsdale.edu)

Xairete! My name is Alexandra Laird (my Greek essence is Alkestis, which I also answer to), and I am a sophomore studying at Hillsdale College. I am double majoring in Greek and English. I studied Latin and Greek in high school, and decided to continue in college, especially with a focus in Greek

in our wonderful Classics Program. My favorite thing we have read so far in Greek is The Gospel of John, I prefer The Iliad over The Odyssey, and I love anything and everything Greek mythology!

In my role as Grammateus, I look forward to recording minutes at all future meetings, and to get to know new Chapters and new members!

Megale Chrysophylax

Arreya Shaw, Eta Zeta at Truman State University (Ams3562@truman.edu)

My name is Arreya Shaw and I'm a junior at Truman State University where I major in History with minors in Classical Studies and Museum Studies. I've been involved with Classics since 7th grade when I began taking Latin. In addition to being involved in Eta Sigma Phi I'm also on the exec board for my university's Classics Club. As a national officer for Eta Sigma Phi, I look forward to the opportunity to share my passion for Classics with others who may have not had the same opportunity to get involved that I have.



Officers at the Greek Isles Restaurant in Chicago, IL (left to right): Arreya Shaw, Alexandra Laird, Laurence Pavlik, and Jonathan Rolfe.



Quis-Tίς

Did you know that the Owl which appears in the Eta Sigma Phi seal has a name? The owl was named Quis-Tίς at the 84th Annual Convention of Eta Sigma Phi held in 2014 in Columbia, Missouri, at the invitation of Alpha Mu chapter at the University of Missouri. Who-who, to you, too!

Eta Sigma Phi Medals

Eta Sigma Phi medals awarded to honor students in secondary school Latin classes help promote the study of Latin in high school and give Eta Sigma Phi an excellent contact with high school students of the Classics. Chapters can use them as prizes for contests or as a way to recognize achievement. In addition, chapters can award the medals to outstanding students of the Classics at their home institutions. Two silver medals are available: the large medal (1½ inches) and the small (¾ inch). A bronze medal (¾ inch) is available. The various medals can be awarded to students at various levels of their study.

Medals may be ordered through the Eta Sigma Phi website. See www.etasigmaphi.org for order forms and prices.



Officers at the ESP Table in the Book Exhibit Area at SCS 2024 in Chicago, IL
(left to right): Alexandra Laird, Laurence Pavlik and Jonathan Rolfe.

Eta Sigma Phi Panel at CAAS 2024

Eta Sigma Phi sponsored the following panel at the 2024 meeting of the Classical Association of Atlantic States in Philadelphia, PA, October 5–7, 2023.

(Pre)Collegiate Research in Classical Antiquity and its Modern Reception

Presider: Katherine Panagakos (Stockton University)

At Your Service: Occupation as Identity and Agency for Pompeian Prostitutes

Lily Vining (Franklin & Marshall College)
Mentor: Gretchen Meyers

Abstract

For the working class in ancient Rome, one's occupation was a major factor in how one would perceive themselves and present their identity to the community. In the ancient ruins of Pompeii, scholars have uncovered wall paintings and graffiti that illustrate workers performing their craft within various workspaces like bakeries, fulleries, and shops (Clarke 2006). However, scholars have not considered the depictions of sex workers in Pompeii's brothel through the same lens. Recent work led by Levin-Richardson, focused on the humanization of Pompeian prostitutes through the reexamination of archaeological evidence within the Lupanar, Pompeii's only purpose-built brothel (2021), only begins to scratch the surface on the identities of its workers.

Frescos excavated from the walls of the Lupanar are widely classified as erotic imagery, and many are held in the Secret Cabinet in the Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli to remove them from public view. However, my analysis suggests that they should instead be compared to images of women at work in other settings, as their contents showcase personal identity as much as erotics. These images can be categorized alongside frescos from the fullery at VI.8.20, where female workers wash clothing, and the textile shop of Verecundus, where his wife controls the sales counter (Clarke 2006). With this new perspective on prostitutes' lives in tandem with existing scholarship on identity and occupation from Rome, the Bay of Naples, and beyond, I reexamine the graffiti and frescos within the Lupanar as advertisements, positive customer reviews, and candid workplace vignettes, not pornography. By challenging the perspective with which scholars categorize these artifacts, the view of these workers shifts from passive objects to active agents engaged in task-oriented, skillful work that contributed to the greater social and economic landscape of Pompeii.



Lily Vining and Madeline Leeah

Farms and Folk Tales: A Lucretian-Style Narrative of the Black Death in Late Medieval Norway and Iceland

Madeline Leeah (Texas Tech University)
Mentor: Pamela Zinn

Abstract

How does one begin to understand plagues? Is there a single approach to understanding all plagues? These are questions that writers have posed, whether explicitly or implicitly, from antiquity to the present. One plague narrative that seeks to answer these questions is Lucretius' account of the Plague of Athens, the conclusion of his *De rerum natura* (*On the Nature of Things*). Current scholarship—for example, Gardner (2019) and Gale (2021)—argues that Lucretius wrote this as a universal narrative that would

aid his readers in understanding not just one plague, but the nature of all plagues, in order to free them from their fears. Later plague narratives, by authors including Vergil and Ovid, seem to draw on Lucretius as a universalizing model, not unlike how Lucretius drew on Thucydides. This paper attempts to test whether Lucretius' model is truly universal. By applying Lucretius' way of writing about plagues to later instances of epidemic disease, I aim to determine how successful his model could be for helping us make sense of plagues since antiquity. This paper takes as its case study the Black Death in late medieval Iceland and Norway. There is ample evidence for this plague scattered across sources, ranging from the Icelandic Annals to tephrochronological studies. However, there is no coherent narrative about what happened or how people understood it. This paper

has created that narrative on the model of Lucretius. This serves as a way of comparing the two cultures and time periods with a view to seeing if a single way of understanding plagues could, or should, apply to them both. If so, then this narrative can be a contribution to the Classical tradition, and perhaps even point to a way for understanding the plague of our own time.

Gale, M.R. 'Plagues and the Limits of Didactic Authority: Lucretius and Others', in J.S. Clay and A. Vergados (eds) 2021. *Teaching Through Images: Imagery in Greco-Roman Didactic Poetry*. Leiden and Boston, 2021: 205-30.

Gardner, H.H. *Pestilence and the Body Politic in Latin Literature*. Oxford, 2019.

Lucretius. *On the Nature of Things*. Translated by Martin Ferguson Smith. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett, 2005.

Thucydides. *Essential Thucydides: On Justice, Power, and Human Nature*. Translated by Paul Woodruff. S.I.: Hackett, 2021.

Vigfússon Guðbrandur, and Þórðarson Sturla. *Icelandic Sagas and Other Historical Documents Relating to the Settlements and Descents of the Northmen of the British Isles*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

SCS 2024 Next Generation Undergraduate Panel

Organized by Eta Sigma Phi
Katherine Panagakos, Stockton University

Eta Sigma Phi has been sponsoring the Next Generation Undergraduate Panel at the annual meeting of the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) since the 2010 meeting of what was then known as the American Philological Society. The 2010 meeting was held in Orange County (Anaheim), California.

The society sponsors this panel in order to showcase the scholarship of undergraduate classics students. Papers may deal with any aspect of the ancient Greek and Roman world (e.g., language, literature, art, history, religion, philosophy) or with the reception of classical culture in modern times. An established scholar is invited to serve as respondent to the student papers.

Eta Sigma Phi hopes that this panel serves as a bridge between undergraduate students and SCS, not just by giving the students an opportunity to experience an SCS meeting and to share their views with professional classicists, but also by introducing those professionals to some of the most talented and promising students from the next generation of classicists.

Any student enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program at a college or university is eligible to submit a paper for consideration. Students who submit papers for the panel must be current members of the SCS. Submissions are evaluated by several anonymous Classicists. The deadline for submitting papers for consideration is typically in early March of the year preceding the annual meeting.

Four papers are usually chosen for the panel and abstracts for these papers are published in the *Nuntius*.

The 2024 panel took place in Chicago, Illinois. Abstracts of papers read and biographies of the panelists are provided here.

The Electra Spectrum: A Comparative Analysis of Classical Reception of Sophocles' *Electra*

Zoe Korte, University of Missouri-Columbia

Abstract

In an incisive explication of reception theory, this research proposes three selected texts as representatives of classical commentary, translation, and adaptation in relation to Sophocles' *Electra*. Beginning with Hanna Roisman's commentary, the researcher examines the subjectivity of even the most unmediated form in which modern readers inherit classical texts. Transitioning with poet and translator Anne Carson's remarks on specific semantic instances in the original text, the paper shifts its gaze to Carson's translation known as *Elektra* and its accompanying controversies. After addressing the artistic liberties intrinsic to translation, but perhaps excessively in *Elektra*, the essay arrives at Chicano playwright Luis Alfaro's *Electricidad*, a twenty-first century adaptation of the Electra myth that employs Helen Tiffin's concept of canonical counter-discourse to sublimate postcolonial trauma in the United States. The researcher dissects Alfaro's deliberate deviations from the original text and their significance for the transmission of ancient themes for a contemporary audience, concluding that while any of these samples of classical



The Next Generation Panel members: left to right, Daniel Leon, Zoe Korte, Jonathan Rolfe, Jared Plasberg, and Alex-Jordan Peart.

SCS 2024 Next Generation Undergraduate Panel (Continued)

reception may be condemned or revered, they certainly demonstrate the essential interplay between personal and political, art and audience, past and present.

Zoe Korte is a poet and writer specializing in Ancient Greek and Latin American texts. In addition to analytical research in comparative literature and linguistics, their poetry has been published in several literary magazines. They graduated summa cum laude from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Arts in English, Spanish, and Ancient Greek.

Magniloquo...ore: Ovid's Comic Use of Invented Epic Compounds

Jonathan Rolfe, Hillsdale College

Abstract

Once when Ovid was at a dinner party, his friends asked him to cut out three lines of his poetry. Ovid promised to do so, if he could choose three lines to protect from this request. Ovid wrote down the three lines he wanted to keep, and his friends wrote what they wanted excised. When they each revealed, Ovid and his friends turned out to have written the same lines. The first line that Ovid protected and that his friends attacked was "semibovemque virum semivirumque bovem," "both half-bull man and half-man bull." Ovid's audience considered the line excessive; Ovid knew it, and still kept the line. *Semibovis* is Ovid's own coinage.

In 1981, Emil Linse published a study of the words that Ovid coined, in line with several other authors' studies of neologisms in other poets. Linse's dissertation (published, beautifully, in Latin) lists Ovid's coinages and organizes them by type (Latin or Greek origin, prefixed, compounded, verbs, nouns, etc.). E. J. Kenney has used Linse's study in a general discussion of Ovid's language and style. However, neither Linse's nor Kenney's study discusses how Ovid uses his coined words, in what contexts and for what effects. I will look at the literary context in which Ovid coined words, discuss the nature of Ovid's "epic" compounds, and offer one use that Ovid makes of his new compounds: humorous effect.

Using Emil Linse's list of all the Latin words coined by Ovid, the paper studies Ovid's use of epic compounds (defined as a compound combining two adjective, noun, or verb stems) in the *Metamorphoses*. The paper examines the opinions of several Roman authors on the subject of word-coining, including Cicero, Quintilian, and Horace, then looks at the types of words Ovid coins, and the types of words other poets coined. Ovid's actual use of some epic neologisms is then examined, in contexts that demonstrate their humorous use. (As if humor can really be proven by rational argument.)

Jonathan Rolfe is a junior studying Greek and Latin at Hillsdale College. Jonathan has been an active member of his Eta Sigma Phi chapter, most notably by staying for all 24 hours of the Iliad at last year's Homerathon. He wants to encourage the deep study of Latin and Greek language and literature through the community.

He is also interested in increasing the role of spoken Latin (and Ancient Greek?) in modern pedagogy. Jonathan also enjoys board games and running and is a huge fan of J. R. R. Tolkien. He hopes to continue his education in history, Classics, or linguistics.

Reading In St. Augustine's Confessions: An Activity Moving Mind And Heart

Jared Plasberg, Christendom College

Abstract

When St. Augustine reviews his literary works at the end of his life, he says of the *Confessions*: in [confessionum mearum libri tredecim] excitant humanum intellectum et affectum (*Retractiones* 2.6.1). He expects his work to rouse thoughts and feelings within the reader. The reader should see, feel, and live differently. Similarly, rhetoric also stirs up new thoughts and feelings, and it has a threefold purpose: *docere, delectare, et movere*. (Barbara Kursawe, *Docere, Delectare, Movere: Die Officia Oratoris Bei Augustinus in Rhetorik Und Gnadenlehre*, Studien Zur Geschichte Und Kultur Des Altertums (Reihe, Monographien, N.f., 15. Bd. Paderborn: Schöningh, 2000), 1-3). Reading is significant in Augustine's *Confessions* because it equips the mind with new knowledge, delights the reader, and moves the heart. Thus, reading is an activity that engages both the mind and heart.

When Augustine read Cicero's *Hortensius*, his desire for wisdom was ignited. In this work, Cicero defended the dignity of philosophy against other arts and sciences, exhorting the study and practice of philosophy.

Jared Plasberg is a third-year undergraduate student at Christendom College pursuing a double major in Philosophy and Classical and Early Christian Studies. Jared's presentation is the experience of reading as depicted within St. Augustine's Confessions. He considers Augustine's own assessment of his Confessions as a work that "arouse(s) our intellect and feelings" (confessionum mearum libri tredecim excitant humanum intellectum et affectum). He explores the connection of that purpose with the classical duties of the orator "to teach, delight, and move" (docere, delectare, movere) his audience.

Speaking (Un)freely: Phillis Wheatley and/at the Limits of Classicism

Alex-Jaden Peart, University of Pittsburgh

Abstract

The first epeisodion (ll.147-273) of Euripides' *Andromache*, is an extended verbal ἀγών ("contest") between Hermione, the Spartan daughter of Helen and Menelaus and Neoptolemus' wife, and Andromache, the widow of Hector and Neoptolemus' concubine. Therein, the free Hermione taunts the enslaved Andromache by arguing that she, having come into the house

of her husband “with a large dowry” (πολλοῖς σὺν ἔδνοις, *l.* 153), had the right “to speak freely” (ἐλευθεροστομεῖν, *l.* 153). A fascinating verb—formed from the yoking of the adjective ἐλεύθερος (“free”) to the noun στόμα (“mouth”)—Andromache, as an enslaved woman (δούλη), did not have such a privilege, and, responding to Hermione’s claims, she notes that her status restrains her from speaking—despite the truth of her words—lest she incur harm (*Il.* 186–187). This juxtaposition of freedom/ἐλευθεροστομίᾱ (“free speech”) and enslavement/inhibition of direct, genuine speech (cf. *Ph.* 391–2 and *Ion* 674–5) recalls the ancient rhetorical idea of πάρησιᾱ (“outspokenness”).

A fundamental part of Athenian democracy, *parrhêsia* was the right of citizens within the public and private spheres to say nearly anything (Wallace 2004: 222–3). The Foucauldian conception of this term hinges its performance on the parrhesiastic individual being free and making no use of rhetoric in their speech—they speak everything candidly and accept the risks that they may experience for their words (Foucault 1983: 19–20). However, this rather narrow conception gives little to no room for alternative ways of engaging in *parrhêsia* that those who don’t have the protection of citizenship and freedom could do so.

This paper re-presents the classicism of Phillis Wheatley (c. 1754 — 1783) through the lenses of ἐλευθεροστομίᾱ and πάρησιᾱ. Provided with an overview of the historical reception of Phillis Wheatley’s relationship to the classical world, one sees that it has been a particularly fraught area of debate. Her earliest critics derided her as an *imitatrix ales* and her poetry as little more than well-polished mimicry of the established conventions that governed Anglophone neoclassicism. Such debates revealed the anxiety of a white establishment seeking to preserve Classics’ ideological liberality for themselves alone, withholding its vaunted ideals of democratic humanism and freedom they clung to from the enslaved and otherwise unfree. For, if Wheatley’s artistry was genuine, then she could be there equal as a ‘legitimate’ cultural insider, and thus could share in their ἐλευθεροστομίᾱ and πάρησιᾱ. Through an analysis of these concepts and their respective limitations, I examine how Phillis Wheatley’s poem “To Maecenas” exemplifies her command of the intellectual world of antiquity, and how she uses it to encompass her personhood and her desire to be free and to speak freely by, at once, adhering to and destabilizing established conventions, signifying her own unique positionality as an individual existing at the intersection of various traditions, nascent and not. And, in analyzing the vicissitudes of Wheatley’s life after her manumission, I raise the specter of limits to classical reception, incorporating Audre Lorde’s essay “The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master’s House” (1984) and Charles Martindale’s reception theory (1993) to make sense of Wheatley’s fate.

Alex-Jaden Peart is a junior Classical Languages and English Writing double major at the University of Pittsburgh. His primary research interests are the manifestation(s) of race and categories of human difference in the ancient Mediterranean and Near East and the many-wayed receptions of such ideas, animal cognition in Aristotelian thought, and the material and religious lives of Randfiguren in antiquity.

Response to 2024 ΗΣΦ Panel: The Next Generation

Daniel W. Leon, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

First of all, I want to thank the organizers of this panel for inviting me to give this response. It is truly an honor and a pleasure to be offered this little window into the future of our field, which, as everyone in the audience must by now realize, is unquestionably bright. The four papers we have just heard illustrate the delightfully broad range of topics that can fall under the banner of Classical Studies. While they share some common methods and points of reference, each one takes up a wholly different question and elucidates cultural contexts as distinct in place and time as classical Athens and 21st-century Los Angeles. The authors themselves have already presented their cases persuasively, so I will keep my remarks brief, but I wish to draw attention to some common threads among them, particularly their shared interest in the role of other readers in the interpretation of literature. They seem to me to fall into two natural pairs — one focused on ancient readers of ancient things, and the other on modern readers of ancient things — so I’ll take them slightly out of order for that reason.

Jared Plasberg shows us something of Augustine’s take on the power of the written word. The way Augustine dramatizes the act of reading in his *Confessions* is striking, since, on Plasberg’s account, it emphasizes the mental state of the reader as a key factor in the efficacy of a given piece of literature. It is only after reading Cicero that Augustine was ready to read scripture in a way that would move him to change his path through life, and even then, he needed more than one attempt to get where he eventually realized he needed to go. This sustained, repeated act of engagement with written texts improves the reader’s capacity and desire for change as time goes on. Crucially, Augustine describes other readers undergoing much the same experience, thus making the concept abstract and accessible — it is truly the act of reading, and not Augustine’s special mind, that has such power. When the reader is ready, the texts can do their work. For me, that raises a question that I would love to hear Jared expand on in a future version of this project: what is Augustine the author trying to inspire in readers of his own work?

Jonathan Rolfe is also interested in Roman ways of Reading, but in his case it is a group of Roman readers who helped him see one of Ovid’s poetic techniques in a new light. Ovid’s reputation as an innovator can make everything he does seem like an exercise in virtuosity for its own sake, which risks effacing his impressive command of the traditions within which he was working. Rolfe gives us a great example of that command by exploring Ovid’s interaction with the oft-repeated claim that Latin’s vocabulary was insufficient for literary purposes. A survey of Roman commentators from Cicero to Quintilian quickly shows that many Roman authors saw no problem with expanding that vocabulary through neologisms, so long as they had some clear purpose in doing so, while Greek authors, with their allegedly much richer vocabulary, seemed to feel free to

SCS 2024 Next Generation Undergraduate Panel (Continued)

invent new words on a whim. In a typically Roman move, these commentators justify a Roman practice through reference to a Greek practice, and then impose a few extra rules on themselves. After establishing this critical backdrop, Rolfe looks at one distinct group of coinages in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, the "epic compounds" that crop up throughout the poem, and finds that there is indeed a purpose. Nearly all of these coinages provide some sort of ironic, comic commentary on the surrounding narrative, and so Ovid turns out to be respecting a Roman convention — no new words unless for a clear reason — even as he innovates to serve his poetic purpose.

Zoe Korte also makes use of a range of prior readers, but Korte's readers are all quite modern and all focused on a single tragedy of Sophocles. It is not common to view the work of Classical scholars as a form of reception, but of course "reception" is what we are all doing here at the annual meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, and Korte's use of a commentary on Sophocles' *Electra* and a translation of Sophocles' *Electra* to raise some questions about an adaption of Sophocles' *Electra* yields interesting results. Korte shows that even the relatively restrained form of the commentary still conditions readings of a text by offering authoritative interpretations of ambiguous phrasing, focusing on some aspects and not others, and so forth. Yet Hannah Roisman's commentary has not faced any of the criticism that Anne Carson's translation of the same play did. Luis Alfaro, by contrast, does not purport to guide us through the Sophoclean original, but instead draws on its themes to speak explicitly to another context. Alfaro's adaptation has been celebrated — and justly so — for its recognition of a tragic element in the gang culture he represents in his play, *Electricidad*. Freed from the formalist concerns of commentary and translation, Alfaro reconfigures an ancient Greek story to encourage his audience to embrace the full humanity of a troubled community much closer to home. I wonder if that freedom could send some of Carson's critics back to her translation to view it instead as a sort of adaptation, and perhaps alleviate some of the concerns that have been raised over the "looseness" of her methods. Read together, these three receptions of Sophocles enrich one another, and show us new ways of approaching the original.

Finally, Alex-Jaden Peart takes up the challenging issue of Phillis Wheatley's place in 18th-century American literary history, focusing on her engagement with classical models. By drawing a connection between the legal ideal of *parrhesia* (the right of a citizen to say everything he wants to) and the reality of *eleutherostomia* (a literal freedom of mouth, which individuals possess in varying degrees), Peart gives us language to productively describe Wheatley's positionality. Wheatley was, as Peart shows us, caught between the need to satisfy an audience whose understanding of the world depended on their belief in

her inferiority and the desire to assert her right to freedom. The balancing act required in such a situation has brought about a great deal of unfair criticism of her work — including, I confess, from myself — but through a critical approach grounded in reception theory, Peart shows us a poet who is firmly in command of her literary atmosphere and well aware of her own literary genealogy. I was glad to see him bring up Audre Lorde, whose work has nourished, inspired and, as Peart has it, provoked so many thinkers and activists in the past half century. That allows Peart to raise the question of exactly how much world-changing impact we are expecting of Phillis Wheatley, some two hundred and fifty years removed from her lifetime. It is a fair question, and I can tell you that I will certainly be re-reading Phillis

Wheatley's work in the near future with that question in mind.

I will conclude by reiterating what I stated at the beginning: with scholars such as these charting a path into the future, we can be confident of the vitality of our field for many years to come. I thank these young scholars for their dedication, their willingness to share their work publicly, and, of course, for expanding our minds with this impressive body of research. Thank you.

Dr. Dan Lyon is an Associate Professor in the Department of the Classics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Lyon received his B.A. from Macalester College,

*his M.A. from the University of Michigan, and his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. Dr. Lyon spent a year as a regular member of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens where he was the Martin Oswald fellow. His main area of research is Greek and Roman historical narrative, particularly as it reflects inter-cultural relations and the political uses of the past. Additional interests include Hellenistic history, Roman Egypt, epigraphy, papyrology, and medieval Greek scholarship. He has published several articles on Arrian and his first book, *Arrian the Historian: Writing the Greek Past in the Roman Empire*, was published by the University of Texas Press in 2021. In this book, Dr. Lyon uses Arrian of Nicomedia as a case study to examine the role of specialized historical research within the intellectual culture of the Roman Empire.*

*Dr. Lyon has taught a wide range of Ancient Greek, Latin, and courses in translation to both undergraduate and graduate students, including *The Greek Novel*, *Sports and Society in Greece and Rome*, and *Race and Ethnicity in Classical Antiquity*. He has supervised undergraduate theses and dissertations and has been awarded excellence in teaching on more than one occasion. Dr. Lyon has also received numerous grants to support his research, including the Arnold O. Beckman Research Award for his project "Disability and Monarchy in Ancient Macedonia." Dr. Lyon has also done research, teaching, and lectures related to making paper from local Illinois papyrus plants found on campus.*

*... with scholars such
as these charting a
path into the future, we
can be confident of the
vitality of our field for
many years to come.*

Glimpses of the 2024 Annual Convention



Our Convention Hosts: Members of Eta Theta Chapter at Dickinson College. See the next page for a list of names.



*The Small World of Classics
Dr. Daniel Levine (Trustee) with Tallulah Trezevant (Alpha Kappa, U of Illinois, Urbana). Dr. Levine met Tallulah's grandfather Bob in Greece over 20 years ago and later traveled in Greece with him several years later. Tallulah is now in a PhD Classics program at the University of Southern California.*



Above, induction of New Officers (left to right): Megas Prytanis Jonathan Rolfe (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College), Megale Hyparchos Arreya Shaw (Eta Zeta, Truman State University), Megas Grammateus Asher Riley (Zeta Beta, Temple University, and Megale Chrysophylax Charis Morasch (Beta Pi, U of Arkansas).

Left, Hunter Omerzo of Delta Theta at Dickinson College (at right) displays his printed model of an Egyptian baris excavated at Thonis-Heracleon. Paul Hiltke of Theta Tau at Stockton University (at left) admires the model.

Program of the Ninety-Sixth Annual Convention

March 22–24, 2024

at the invitation of
Delta Theta
Dickinson College
Carlisle, Pennsylvania



Friday, March 22nd

Afternoon-5:00 pm — Arrival
Shuttles from airport to Comfort Inn

6:00–7:15 pm — Registration and Welcome, Stern Great Room
Registration for the Declamation Contests that will take place on Saturday, March 23.

7:15–9:15 pm — Certamen Competition, Stern Great Room

Saturday, March 23rd

7:00–9:00, Hotel
Continental Breakfast for those staying at the Comfort Inn

9:00–10:30 am, Stern Great Room
First Business Meeting
Megas Prytanis Laurence Pavlik presiding

1. Minutes of the 95th Annual Convention
Megale Grammateus Alexandra Laird
2. Welcoming Remarks
President John E. Jones III
Delta Theta Executive Board
Dr. Scott Farrington, Delta Theta Chapter Advisor
3. Reports
Chapter Reports
Report of Contests
Report of Scholarships
Report of Megale Chrysophylax
Report of Megas Hyparchos
Old Business
New Business
Bids to host the 97th Annual Convention
Nominations for 2024-25 National Officers

10:30 am–12:00 pm, Stern Great Room
Presentation of Student Papers

“The Loneliness of Excellence: Social Schism in the Stories of Coriolanus and Achilles”

Zachary Chen, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

“Plank-by-Plank: Reconstructing the baris of Thonis-Heracleion”

Hunter James Omerzo, Delta Theta at Dickinson College

“The Libyan Oracle: An Undocumented Egyptian Berber Religion and its Relation to Berber Beliefs in Antiquity”

Adam Bishop, Eta Zeta at Truman State University

“The Role of Res Publica in Augustus’ Expansion and Frontier Policy”

Nicole Bustard, Delta Theta at Dickinson College

12:00–1:00 pm, Holland Union Building Cafeteria

Lunch

1:00 pm–4:00 pm, Academic Quad Outside East College

Classics Convention

Dickinson Dig Simulator, Keck Archeology Lab

1:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 3:30 pm

Mythological Planetarium Presentation, Planetarium (Rector Science Complex)

1:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 3:30 pm

Declamations, East College

1:30 pm–3:30 pm

Latin Declamation – Room 108

Greek Declamation – Room 112

4:00–4:45 pm, East College

Committee Meetings

- Convention, Room 303
- Contests and Scholarships, Room 301
- Finance, Room 108
- New Chapters, Room 105
- Officers, Room 410
- Resolutions, Room 314

5:00 pm, Stern Great Room or Hotel
Downtime. No events scheduled until 7:00 pm.

Multas Grattias

Attendees of the 96th Convention express their thanks to the following:

Delta Theta Chapter

Executive Board
Ivy Johnson '24 - Prytanis/president
Allie Hershey '25 - Hyparchos/vice president
Nicole Bustard '24 - Grammateus/secretary
Greg Kintzele '25 - Chrysophylax/treasurer
Convention Board
Haydon Alexander '24
Nick Morris '24
Jay Case '25
Alice Thompson '26
C.J. Jacobs '26
Convention Volunteers
Sarah Tessler '25
Lindsay Werner '25

Mel Sumner '26
Jilliyn Iannace '26
Siobhan Morgan '27
Abigail Miller '27
Dickinson Classics Faculty
Scott Farrington
Christopher Francese
Ashley Roman Francese
Marc Mastrangelo
Stephanie Dyson

Special Thanks

Dickinson College Catering
C.A.S.E
Dickinson Public Safety
Facilities and Management
Shuttle driver Greg Kintzele '25
Eta Sigma Phi National Board

7:00–10:00 pm, Holland Union Building
Social Hall

Banquet

“Tales of Impossibility” by Dr. David Richeson, Dickinson College

A Cuban Medea, Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, Rockford College
Reading and Discussion

Award Ceremony, Dr. Katherine Panagakos presiding
Thomas J. Sienkewicz Latin Declamation
and Martha A. Davis Greek
Declamation Contest Winners

Certamen Award

Vestiti Optime

Paper Award

Service Award

Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. James Hessinger; Ovation read by Dr. Martha A. Davis

Singing of ΗΣΦ Song “Bearing Beauty’s Flame”

Sunday, March 24th

7:00–9:00, Hotel

Continental Breakfast for those staying
at the Comfort Inn

9:00 am–12:00 pm, Stern Great Room
Second Business Meeting
Megas Prytanis Laurence Pavlik,
presiding

- Contest for Chapter Regalia
- Committee Reports
- Report of the Executive Secretary
- Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees
- Election of the 2025 Convention Site
- Resolutions and Amendments
- Election of the 2024-25 Election Officers
- Installation of Officers

12:00 pm, Shuttles from Comfort Inn to
Airport.

Departure



Alison Reed, Mackenzie Kornbluth, and Satya Allen of Theta Tau at Stockton University singing the “Song for Eta Sigma Phi” at the 2024 Convention

The Song for Eta Sigma Phi

Did you know that Eta Sigma Phi has its own song, sung at every convention in three languages: English, Latin and Greek?

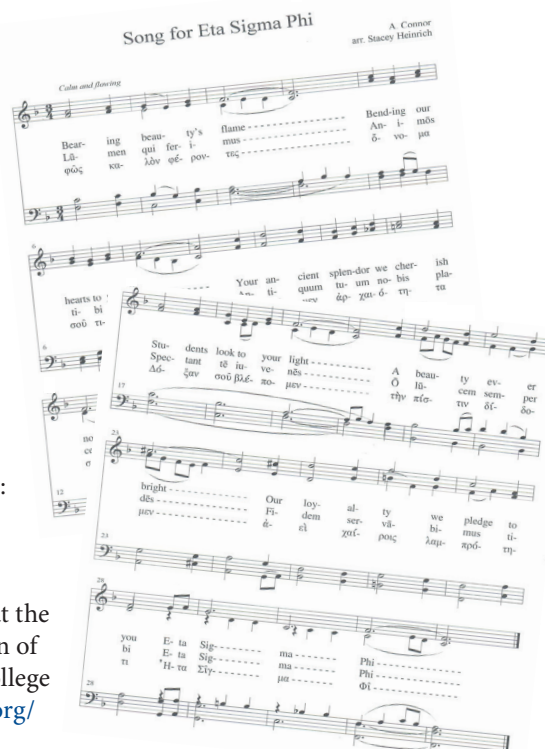
The song was composed with English lyrics in 1952 by Ann Connor of Beta Kappa Chapter at Notre Dame of Maryland University. The music was arranged by Stacey Heinrich of Monmouth College in 2005. The Latin and Greek verses were also composed in 2005 by Anne Groton of Delta Chi Chapter at St. Olaf College. A copy of the sheet music can be found here: <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Eta-Sigma-Phi-Song.pdf>

And you can hear the song sung at the 85th Convention held at the invitation of Beta Iota Chapter at Wake Forest College in 2013 at <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/hsphi/song/>.

Bearing beauty’s flame
ending our hearts to your
name
Your ancient splendor we
cherish now.
Youthful dreams tell us how.
Students look to your light,
A beauty ever bright.
Our loyalty we pledge to you,
Eta Sigma Phi.

Lumen qui ferimus
Animos tibi damus.
Antiquum tuum tibi
placet.
Hoc spes nostra docet.
Spectant te iuvenes.
O lumen semper des.
Fidem servabimus tibi.
Eta Sigma Phi.

φῶς καλὸν φέροντες
ὄνομα σοῦ τιμώντες
φιλοῦμεν ἀρχαιότητα σὴν
τοῖς νέοις χρησίμην.
δόξαν σοῦ βλέπομεν.
τὴν πίστιν δίδομεν.
ἀεὶ χαίροις λαμπρότητι,
Ἥτα Σίγμα Φί.



Awards Presented at the 2024 Convention

Thomas J. Sienkewicz Latin Declamation:

This year's passage was from Book 1 of Augustine's *Confessions*, where Augustine recalls reading about Aeneas and Dido in his school days.

Honorable Mention:
Michal Baxter, Theta Tau at Stockton University

Winner: Zach Chen, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

Martha A. Davis Greek Declamation:

This year's passage was Pericles' Funeral Oration from book 2 of Thucydides in which Pericles states how Athens surpasses all other cities.

Honorable Mentions:
Maya Toman, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
Adam Bishop, Eta Zeta at Truman State University

Tie for Winner:
Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
Michal Baxter, Theta Tau at Stockton University

Declamationes are judged on the following criteria:

1. **Pronunciation** (You may use any accepted pronunciation; e.g., classical or ecclesiastical; but be consistent.)
2. **Interpretation of the Text**
3. **Smoothness of Delivery**
4. **Appropriate Use of Gestures** (Use of costumes, props, and appropriate background is encouraged but is not necessary.)
5. **Demeanor**
6. **Textual Accuracy**



Michal Baxter of Theta Tau at Stockton University (l.) and Jonathan Rolfe of Eta Delta at Hillsdale College (r.), winners of the Davis Greek Declamation Contest, reciting the contest passage from Thucydides

Certamen:

Digamma:
Laurence Pavlick, Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College
Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
Kailee Roe, Beta Pi at University of Arkansas
Sarah Cohen, Epsilon Psi at Santa Clara University

Vestiti Optime:

Greg Kintzele, Delta Theta at Dickinson College
Nicole Bustard, Delta Theta at Dickinson College
Jilliyn Iannace, Delta Theta at Dickinson College

Paper Award:

Adam Bishop of Eta Zeta at Truman State University
"The Libyan Oracle: An Undocumented Egyptian Berber Religion and its Relation to Berber Beliefs in Antiquity"
and
Nicole Bustard of Delta Theta at Dickinson College
"The Role of Res Publica in Augustus' Expansion and Frontier Policy"



Zach Chen of Eta Delta at Hillsdale College, winner of the Sienkewicz Latin Declamation Contest, reciting the contest passage from St. Augustine's *Confessions* at the Convention Banquet

Service Award:

Alpha Lambda at the University of Oklahoma
Theta Tau at Stockton University

Both chapters did exceptional outreach to high school students to increase their excitement of the ancient world.

Lifetime Achievement:

James Hessinger of the Educational Testing Service



Dr. Antony Augoustakis (l.) and student members of Alpha Kappa at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with Lifetime Achievement Award recipient James Hessinger (r.)



Above, winners of the Optimi Vestiti contest, all from Delta Theta at Dickinson College (left to right): Greg Kintzele (as Menelaus), Nicole Bustard (as Clytemnestra), and Jillynn Iannace (as Lesbia with her sparrow)



Left, at the Annual Best T-Shirt Contest members of Gamma Omicron at Monmouth College display their entries

Ovatio for James J. Hessinger

by Dr. Martha Davis

Zeta Beta at Temple University and
Honorary Trustee of Eta Sigma Phi

It is my privilege and pleasure to introduce to you my former colleague and long-time neighbor and friend, Doctor James J. Hessinger, 2024 recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from Eta Sigma Phi Society. Jim has been a supporter of education, especially education in the field of Classical Studies, in a number of capacities during a long career.

His interest in Greek and Latin began when he was a seminarian in the Diocesan Preparatory Seminary in Buffalo, NY. He went on from the Seminary to Canisius College, where he majored in Classics, and also found time to play basketball. During his junior year at Canisius, he was inducted into Eta Sigma Phi, about which he will tell you more later.*

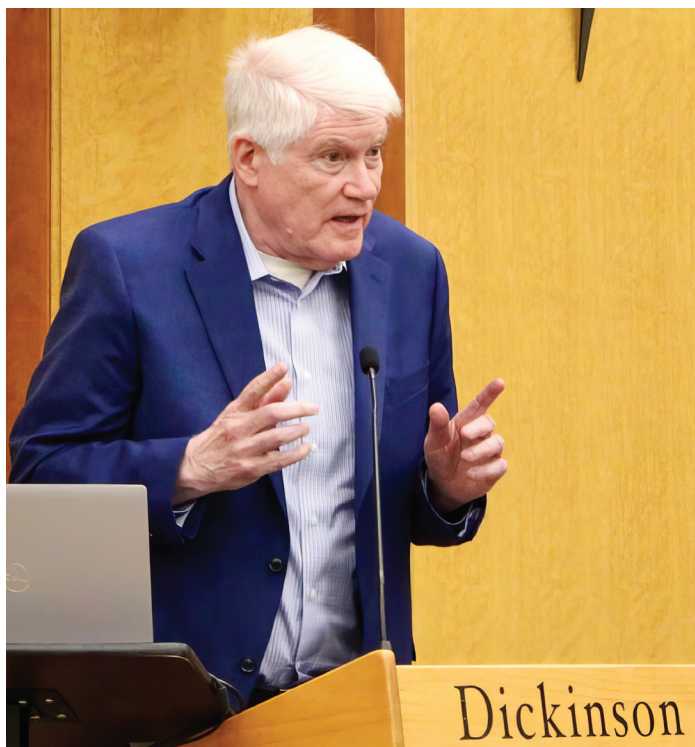
Upon graduation he received a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, with the help of which he became one of the first ever students to achieve a Ph.D. in Classics at the State University of New York at Buffalo. His specialty was linguistics, and in his dissertation he used innovative methodology for statistical analysis of a corpus of texts from a group of Latin authors, applying contemporary theories of syntax and semantics.

Through the ROTC program at Canisius, Jim earned the rank of second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, and after four years of coursework at State University completed his dissertation while serving as a Military Intelligence Officer for three and a half years. As an officer, he taught introductory linguistics to military personnel and civilian language specialists at a Department of Defense language school in Washington, D.C.

After leaving the army, Jim held temporary positions in Classics at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and the University of Minnesota. In 1976, the late Daniel P. Tompkins was brought to Temple University to resuscitate a dormant Classics program, and in 1977 hired Dr. Hessinger.

In 1978 they hired me, and so began my long friendship with Jim and his wife, Carolyn, a painter, artist in fabrics and professional chef (all excellent complementary talents for the spouse of a linguistics and language expert!). Over the years, Jim and Carolyn have proved their humane and generous natures to me, first finding me a dwelling for my family when I moved to the Philadelphia area, then helping me move into the house I purchased, and even helping me paint the cathedral ceiling of my new living room. Later, when Temple sent me to teach at the Rome Campus for a year, Jim and Carolyn were my contacts back in the USA.

While at Temple University, Jim taught Classics courses, particularly Greek. Several large corporations funded an experimental program called Freshman Interdisciplinary Studies during that time, and Jim was selected to head one of the teaching units. Each unit had professors from three different departments working with two graduate student teaching assistants to provide general education classes and training in writing to a group of freshmen they fostered for two semesters. Jim also was assigned to advise a number of other freshmen in curriculum choices



James J. Hessinger, 2024 Lifetime Achievement
Award Recipient

and mentor them as they moved through their first semesters at Temple. I'd like to interject here some remarks from Margaret Bernardi, one of the advisees lucky enough to be assigned to Dr. Hessinger. Margaret was a non-traditional student, a bit older, and is now a librarian retired from the Free Library System of Philadelphia and an accomplished artist. *Regarding Dr. Jim Hessinger, I have such grateful memories, as he was my... second student advisor... was uncomfortable working with an eager 30 year old... on the plus side, she [was shocked that my math scores were terribly low] and turned me over to Jim Hessinger... my student trajectory took a turn for the better. He was the one to place me in Freshman Interdisciplinary Studies. It brings tears to my eyes to feel that profound experience [which] was like a window opening in my life. Later, when I was struggling with another class, Jim advised me to just drop it and take it as a singular class during the first summer session. I received a much better grade that time. SUCH A NICE MAN! I don't know if he remembers me, but if you talk to him in the future, please extend my thanks... for working with me.*

Jim decided to move on from Temple after six years, but first took advantage of the opportunity afforded faculty members to take courses in other departments. He strengthened his ability in mathematics and computer science, and subsequently taught Latin and mathematics at the Haverford School in Haverford, PA and at the Tatnall School in Wilmington, DE. He thus acquired firsthand knowledge of teaching students in middle school to add to his experience working with undergraduate college students and language specialists. This served him well

when in 1989 he left teaching and joined the Educational Testing Service in New Jersey.

Among Jim's chief responsibilities at ETS was the Graduate Record Examination, for which he was overall development team leader for ten years. From 1994 until his retirement in 2008, he worked with Kate Rabiteau and John Gutgleuck as specialists who supported the Advanced Placement Latin Examination development committee and the work of the Chief Reader for the examination during the scoring of the written section of the exam each year.

Our own Honorary Trustee Mary Pendergraft, who has for many years worked with organizations such as the American Classical League, and helped influence the modification of ETS artifacts, has these comments about Dr. Hessinger:

"I can say that he was a terrific advocate for Latin at ETS; he attended the Latin Reading every summer, and all of the meetings of the Test Development Committee, where his knowledge, both of the Latin language and of the science of testing, was crucial in developing and reading the exams.

"I have one particular fond memory of Jim. At the beginning of one Reading, we were each asked to introduce ourselves and to name our favorite ice cream. At the afternoon break, lo and behold, there were all our favorites arrayed on the table!"

Jim's final work at ETS grew out of a secondary assignment he received early on. In 1990 he was asked to take the lead in developing the teacher licensing examinations for candidates in Physical Education in Georgia. His team produced the extensive exams now known as the Praxis Series.

Kate Rabiteau, who worked with Dr. Hessinger for many years while he was with the ETS, says "Here are my thoughts on [Jim's] contributions over the years that I worked with him: Jim made many and varied contributions to the AP Latin Program over the years, ranging from test development work and work on publications to developing new methods of scoring the exam. His work was invaluable.

"Jim also contributed his expertise to the SAT Subject Test in Latin (once known as the Latin Achievement Test). He attended development committee meetings and reviewed both individual test questions and new tests, in addition to publications.

"He worked extensively on the development of teacher licensing exams both nationally and for the state[s] of Georgia [and Texas.] He proposed an oral component for the Latin exam which provided valuable information on test candidates' familiarity with the oral components of Latin.

"I'd like to add a personal note: Jim gave tirelessly of himself during our test development meetings, picking committee members up at the airport, providing any additional materials that were needed and a multitude of other things. His expertise is only matched by his kindness.

"I can't think of a better person to receive this award!"

It was Dr. Hessinger's work with the PE Examinations that

led to his involvement as a consultant from ETS for the State of Texas as it sought to evaluate new candidates for Latin teaching.

Working with a committee of secondary and college Latin teachers in Texas over several years, Jim led them to the successful formation of the examination for licensing. A significant contribution of the committee was to include in the computer-administered test a segment for evaluating spoken use of Latin. The standard was to determine whether the teacher candidate could pronounce words, phrases and sentences in Latin accurately and consistently enough that they could be judged ready to work with classroom students. Teaching professionals in Texas, under Jim's supervision, were engaged to apply pronunciation standards for each of 15 items which candidates would record during the computer-delivery of the exam. The exam, containing this test of speaking ability, was implemented successfully, as was the scoring process for the spoken section, a process which Jim developed with the assistance of several Texas teachers.

At this point I would like to give my own expression of gratitude for Jim's work with statistics and Latin, since one result of his research has benefitted me personally in the teaching of Latin, first at Temple University, and since my retirement, at the

Hatboro-Horsham Adult Evening School. It has benefited others as well, and you can find it for yourselves as it first appeared in the Focus Publishing Company's publication titled *Latine Doceo*, prepared by Luigi Miraglia and Christopher Brown. This is still available through Hackett Publishing Company. In this book the Table of Contents lists Principal parts of the fifty most frequent Latin verbs, J.J. Hessinger. I have brought some copies of the chart for you to have a look at later.

Not content to devote his professional career to education, Jim worked with the local technical high school, and even was elected to the Board of Education of the Hatboro-Horsham School District. Meanwhile, he and Carolyn raised a son who is now chief technology officer of Sommsation, a community of wine experts, sommeliers and winemakers helping people gain access to the hidden gems of wine; and a daughter who has reached the rank of Colonel in the Army as a veterinarian. You may have seen some of her charges on TV during the Army-Navy games, the mascot mules of the Army! Jim and Carolyn have twin grandchildren, for whose education they are supporters in chief.

Please join me in applauding Dr. Hessinger for his well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award!

*In his acceptance speech, Jim tells how he became engaged to Carolyn the traditional college way, by pinning her with his fraternity pin—a lovely Eta Sigma Phi gemmed owl which she is wearing on her charm bracelet today!

For a list of all the Lifetime Achievement Award winners, see next page.

*His expertise is
only matched by
his kindness.*

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

Jane Hall of the National Latin Exam (2006)	Susan Marquis of St. Theresa's Academy in Kansas City MO (2012)	Marty G. Abbott of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (2016)
Rudolph Masciantonio of Philadelphia Public Schools (2007)	Theodore A. Tarkow of the University of Missouri (2012)	Michele Valerie Ronnick of Wayne State University (2017)
Kenneth Kitchell of the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2008)	Robert W. Ulery Jr. of Wake Forest College (2013)	Ruth Scodel of the University of Michigan (2017)
Adam D. Blistein of the Society for Classical Studies (2009)	Sr. Thérèse Marie Dougherty of the College of Notre Dame (2013)	Judith P. Hallett of the University of Maryland (2018)
Alice M. Sanford of Hume-Fogg Academic Magnet High School in Nashville, TN (2009)	Brent M. Froberg of Baylor University (2014)	Hans-Frederick Mueller of Union College (2018)
Christine F. Sleeper of the National Latin Exam (2010)	Thomas J. Sienkewicz of Monmouth College (2014)	James M. May of St. Olaf College (2019)
Sally R. Davis of the National Latin Exam (2010)	Martha Davis of Temple University (2015)	Stanely Iverson of Concordia College (2019)
Edward V. George at Texas Tech University (2011)	Fred Mench of Stockton University (2015)	Anne H. Groton of St. Olaf College (2023)
Robert LaBouce of Houston Public Schools (2011)	Linda Montross of the National Latin Exam (2016)	James J. Hessinger of the Educational Testing Service (2024)

Exegerunt monumenta aere perenniora

On the Selection of Lifetime Achievement Awardees

Now that we have established the presentation of Lifetime Achievement Awards as a part of the banquet activities at national conventions, the Board of Trustees invites the membership at large, and particularly the membership at the host institution, to submit nominations for these awards. The awardee should be a person who has pursued a long career in Classics, and who has contributed in an outstanding fashion to HΣΦ and to the discipline, especially as

regards outreach into the community. The Board reserves the right to select the recipients (one or two each year) from the list of persons nominated.

Please send a CV of your nominee and a brief letter stating why you think he or she deserves our recognition. Materials should be sent to the Chair of the Board of Trustees or the Executive Secretary by 1 January preceding the convention in which the award is to be made.

The Next Generation: Papers by Undergraduate Classics Students



A Panel Sponsored by Eta Sigma Phi for the 158th Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies January 7–10, 2027 Boston, MA

Eta Sigma Phi, the national honorary society for classical studies, invites papers from undergraduate members of the SCS. Papers may deal with any aspect of the ancient Greek and Roman world (e.g., literature, art, archaeology, history, religion, philosophy) or with the reception of classical cultures in modern times. Eta Sigma Phi is particularly interested in offering a variety of well-researched topics that represent the emerging interests of the newest members of the discipline. An established scholar will be invited to serve as respondent to the papers.

The honorary society hopes that this panel will serve as a bridge between undergraduate students and the Society for Classical Studies, not just by giving the students an opportunity to experience an SCS meeting and to share their views with professional classicists, but also by introducing those professionals to some of the most talented and promising students of the next generation.

Any student enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program at an accredited college or university during the academic year 2025-2026 is eligible to submit a paper. Authors interested in proposing a paper for the panel should submit the entire paper along with an abstract (of 500 words or less excluding bibliography) as a pdf attachment via the Eta Sigma Phi website (www.etasigmaphi.org). The paper must be read aloud at a moderate pace in 20 minutes, so it should be no longer than ten double-spaced pages, excluding endnotes and bibliography. The receipt deadline for papers and accompanying documents is **April 10, 2026**.

Each submission will be evaluated anonymously by several scholars selected by Eta Sigma Phi. Students who submit papers for the panel must be members of the SCS. **N.B.: To defray the cost of attendance at the meeting, Eta Sigma Phi will reimburse student panelists for their membership and registration fees.** Travel costs are the responsibility of the student and/or the home institution.

Please direct questions to the Executive Secretary of Eta Sigma Phi, Katherine Panagakos, Languages and Culture Studies Program, Stockton University, Galloway, NJ 08205, katherine.panagakos@stockton.edu.

Undergraduate Paper Panel at the 2024 Convention

The Loneliness of Excellence: Social Schism in the Stories of Coriolanus and Achilles

Zachary Chen, Hillsdale College (Eta Delta)

Abstract

In this paper, I examine the role of the city of Rome in the banishment of Coriolanus as related by Plutarch and Shakespeare by contrasting it with the story of Achilles in the *Iliad*. While much is often made of the fact that the heroes' vices — particularly anger — lead to suffering and disaster in each story, the role which the inferiority of the community compared to the hero plays in leading to separation is frequently overlooked. I propose that social schism in the stories of Coriolanus and Achilles is a natural result of the tension between excellence on the part of the hero and inferiority and resentment within the community, especially when martial excellence (ἀνδρεία) is a primary standard of virtue.

Both Coriolanus and Achilles are dominant warriors who incite the envy of their fellows and become estranged from their communities in anger at being dishonored. In the case of Achilles, Agamemnon is the major antagonist, while Coriolanus sets himself against nearly the entire city of Rome. In each case, both Agamemnon and Rome eventually deny Achilles and Coriolanus the honor due to them on account of their martial excellence: honoring this excellence would amount to an acknowledgement of inferiority. In Rome, this is further complicated by the fact that the Roman definition of virtue is intricately bound up with martial excellence, and hence any honoring of Coriolanus' excellence implies the moral inferiority of the other Romans. Each hero is rightfully incensed that his services for the community in war are dismissed: he then escalates the quarrel in anger and widens the gap between himself and his compatriots. While the anger of each hero does serve to solidify the separation between himself and his comrades, this anger is not spontaneous or arbitrary, nor is it merely a product of the hero's moral flaws. Instead, it results from a complex reaction between a superior hero and an inferior group of others. Thus, the communities as well as the heroes are to blame for social schism: the Wrath of Achilles stems, at least in part, from the weakness of Agamemnon, and the banishment of Coriolanus is ultimately rooted in the relative inferiority of Rome.

I have referenced and benefitted from the scholarship and arguments of Russell (1963), Brower (1971), Hull (2003), Davies (2005), and Nerdahl (2012), especially concerning the parallels between Achilles and Coriolanus. My argument concerning the relationship between glory and the distribution of honors in the Argive camp was particularly informed by Hainsworth (1993) and Finkelberg (1998).

Zachary Chen is a freshman at Hillsdale College, where he plans on studying Classics and minoring in German and Journalism. One of his favorite works of Greco-Roman Literature is "Dictys

Cretensis Ephemeris belli Trojani," a 4th century Latin prose retelling of the Trojan War. Outside of his academic endeavors, Zachary is also an avid choral singer.

Plank-by-Plank: Reconstructing the *Baris* of Thonis-Heracleion

Hunter James Omerzo, Dickinson College (Delta Theta)

Abstract

In Book 2.96 of *The Histories*, Herodotus describes a river boat called the *baris* while recounting his travels through the Nile Delta of Egypt. He claims it was constructed of short planks laid like bricks without the use of ribs. Frameless ships of this description have very few parallels in both historical and modern contexts, leading many scholars throughout history to doubt its legitimacy. This changed with the excavation of Ship 17 in the bay of Thonis-Heracleion in 2009, a ship which not only is estimated to have been constructed the same century as Herodotus' history, but also matches his description vividly. This discovery raises interesting new questions concerning the construction as well as the use of *barides*. Although Ship 17 was remarkably preserved, post-depositional deformation and mysteriously missing elements have led to many theories on its construction and appearance. A dearth of nautical representations during the Late Period of Egypt (that would be contemporary to Herodotus' text) makes visualizing a fully constructed *baris* all the more difficult. To answer these questions, I have created the first detailed digital 3D reconstruction of a *baris*, specifically modeling Ship 17, using all available measurements and theories provided by Dr. Alexander Belov, the leading scholar on the subject as well as a director of ongoing excavations. Making use of 3D printing technology I produced a scale model, testing firsthand the construction methods proposed by Herodotus. In this paper I theorize the purpose of existing construction elements, the arrangement of elements that are missing or displaced and, using observations from my physical model, test the effectiveness of the construction as well as the unique navigation techniques described by Herodotus. My results further confirm Herodotus' description and make a very strong case for Herodotus being a first-hand witness to a *baris*' construction.

Hunter Omerzo is a senior at Dickinson College, double majoring in archaeology and Classical Studies with a minor in Ethics. His favorite work of literature from the Greco-Roman world is Herodotus' Histories. Hunter throws javelin and discus for Dickinson's Track and Field, which, coincidentally are the two events most tied to the classics.

The Libyan Oracle: An Undocumented Egyptian Berber Religion and its Relation to Berber Beliefs in Antiquity

Adam Bishop, Truman State University (Eta Zeta)

Abstract

The undocumented language and beliefs of a Berber community in Egypt's Western Desert present key information about pre-Islamic Berber beliefs and how these beliefs evolved into a modern syncretic system. Drawing on previous research, recent elicitations, and interviews with a native speaker of a critically endangered Berber language, this paper presents an examination of a belief system that is centered on worship of the sun god Aten, but has incorporated influence from a variety of other cultures over generations. This modern system is compared to the ancient beliefs of the Berber people, analyzing writings of various ancient Greek and Roman authors on Berber beliefs, including Herodotus, Arrian, Cicero, and others, finding references to Berber sun worship that also incorporates devotion to other deities. Based on these ancient authors, interviews with a native practitioner of these beliefs, and translations of folktales in the undocumented Berber language, this paper argues that the modern beliefs of the Egyptian Berber people developed from indigenous Berber beliefs of North Africa, which date to as early as the 5th century B.C. With an estimated 20 native speakers of this Berber language remaining, this research is critical for understanding the pre-Islamic beliefs of the Berber people and modern syncretic practices, but respect for this community's privacy must always be maintained through this research.

For the full paper, see page 28.

Adam Bishop is a senior at Truman State University who is majoring in Linguistics and Classics. His favorite Greco-Roman work is Aeschylus' Oresteia, but his favorite modern author is J.R.R. Tolkien, who was his first introduction to Linguistics and antiquity.

The Role of Res Publica in Augustus' Expansion and Frontier Policy

Nicole Bustard, Dickinson College (Delta Theta)

Abstract

As ancient authors described Augustan military campaigns in Germany, they implied that Augustus' leadership had transformed Rome's borders and frontiers. And yet, as Augustus changed how Rome approached military conquest and expansion, he otherwise seemed committed to defending the *res publica*. These ancient sources captured a curious situation between Augustus and the Republic, characterized by

conditions on the frontier that sometimes demanded loyalty to republican precedents, and sometimes required deviation.

This paper seeks to explore this complicated relationship by examining how Augustus' ideas, policies, and responses to the frontier compared to those of the early Republic. Thus, the paper asks the following questions: In what ways were Augustus' actions along the frontier "Republican," and in what ways were they "Augustan?" And what do these similarities and differences between Augustan policy and Republican policy say about Augustus' attempts to navigate his newly established political position? This paper will examine Augustus' actions along the Gallic and German frontier to highlight how Augustus both adopted and deviated from Republican frontier policy. It will argue that these careful adaptations and reworkings reflected Augustus' political adaptability, as he manipulated traditional Republican structures to secure his new power and status in the Principate.

To start this exploration, the paper first introduces the difficulty of envisioning the frontier as an idea for both Republican and Augustan Romans. After attempting to come up with a definition for a frontier, it moves into a discussion of the Republican provincial system and demonstrates how Augustus openly adopted it to fit his role as an autocratic leader. The paper then discusses the circumstances and responses to the military disasters of Lollius (16 BCE) and Varius (AD 9) in Germany towards the end of Augustus' reign. By focusing on these defeats, the paper will highlight how Augustus reconfigured Rome's approach to military victories and defeats in an attempt to manage political threats and protect his authority. The paper will end by contextualizing Augustus' interactions with Republican frontier policy within his reworking of the Roman constitution. As an example of Augustan Constitutionality, Augustus' frontier policies reflected an attempt to establish a careful balance between tradition and innovation, which in turn both legitimized and protected his leadership.

The paper concludes by placing Augustus' actions within a larger, quintessentially Roman attitude of political adaptability. His attitude to replicate and adapt traditional political standards in response to new problems represented a continuity from Republican politics. Thus, despite the rapid political changes that launched Rome into the Augustan age, the institutions and the ideologies of the Republic had not become obsolete. These continuities emphasize that the decline of the Republic and rise of a particularly Augustan principate reflected a gradual transition, rather than a singular, rapid event.

For the full paper, see page 22.

Nicole Bustard is a senior at Dickinson College. She is a double major in History and Classical Studies, with a concentration in Classical Civilization. She currently serves as the Secretary for the Delta Theta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. Her favorite work of Greco-Roman literature is Sallust's Bellum Jugurthinum. One fun fact about her is that she loves visiting museums in her free time.

The Role of *Res Publica* in Augustus' Expansion and Frontier Policy

by Nicole Bustard, Delta Theta at Dickinson College
2024 Undergraduate Paper Panel
96th Eta Sigma Phi Convention, 2024,
hosted by Delta Theta at Dickinson College

This paper was judged outstanding by an anonymous panel at the convention.

According to Suetonius, Augustus suffered two major defeats during his reign: the defeat of Marcus Lollius among Germans in Gaul, and the defeat of Quintilius Varus at the Teutoburg Forest (Suet. Aug. 23). Ancient sources frequently highlighted these two defeats as devastating events in Augustus' new political system, which fundamentally changed Roman expansion and frontier policy. Florus noted that the defeat at Teutoburg was the first time Rome's expansion had ceased in its long history (Flor. Epit., 2.30). Florus' account suggests that, under Augustus, the empire's frontiers had shifted and solidified since the end of the Republic. Despite these changes, a continued "Republican" character remained in the new principate. Augustus himself claimed he sought to defend the Republic by restoring order to the state and by returning power to the Senate and the People (R. Gest. Div. Aug. 1). Gregory Rowe argued that Augustus' claims of preservation and attempts at incorporating Republican elements created a unique form of monarchical government. This monarchical-Republican government appeared, nonetheless, in Suetonius' description of Augustus' reaction to Varus' defeat. When news about the fallen legions and lost standards reached Augustus, he ordered a constant night watch, prolonged governorships, and offered games in honor of Jupiter Optimus Maximus, he acted as if to improve the condition of "res p[ublica]." (Suet. Aug., 23). The ancient sources and scholarship ultimately raise a question about how this connection between the Republic and the early Principate manifested into Augustus' political career. More specifically, how and *why* did continuities appear in his military campaigns and subsequent disasters along the frontier?

This research paper will attempt to address these questions by exploring how Augustus' expansion and frontier policies were "Republican." In doing so, this paper will argue how Augustus' adoption and deviations from Republican frontier policy reflected his political adaptability, in which he manipulated the traditional structures of the Republic to secure his new status and power in the Principate.

Conceptualizing the Frontier

Although scholars have raised concern about the possibility of defining a boundary or "frontier," of Roman power, it seems that Augustus believed in a Republican concept of a frontier. Stephen Dyson noted that the modern idea of a frontier as a

well-defined, territorial space between separate, distinct states or people, did not exist during the Republic. Few formal or visible institutions separated Romans from barbarians (Dyson, 3-5). George Cupcea has similarly drawn attention to the issue of Roman expansionist ideology. According to Cupcea, Romans generally did not believe in temporal or spatial boundaries. Rather, they believed they existed at the center of the world, either already in control or in the process of gaining control over all nations (Cupcea, 12-14). And yet, despite the lack of formal institutions and this distinct political, militaristic mindset, both Republican and Augustan Romans seemed to understand some form of a boundary of Roman power. Augustus claimed to have expanded the *fin*es of all Roman provinces,

bringing together all peoples previously unconquered under Roman control. He identified Germany as one of the provinces in which he had established peace, which he confined between the Elbe River and the Ocean (R. Gest. Div. Aug., 26). Augustus' mention of *fin*es, or boundaries, suggests that he understood an ending to his *imperium*. This mindset extended beyond Augustus' historical accounts. Florus also identified natural boundaries for Roman territory, stating that following the disaster of the Teutoburg Forest, Roman expansion ceased to extend past the Rhine (Flor.

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to his imperium.

Epit., 2.30). A similar mindset of boundaries marked by natural landmarks appeared in Florus' description of Caesar's Gallic campaigns, in which the frontier also centered around the Rhine (Flor. Epit., 1.45). When discussing both Republican and Augustan wars of expansion, Florus understood the centrality of the Rhine as a natural, geographic divider between the Romans and the barbarians. Even Velleius Paterculus, recounting his campaigns with Tiberius, referred to the Alps as the *finem Italiae*, the boundary of Italy, which separated the Italians from the barbaric Germans and Gauls (Vell. Pat., 2.111). All three sources identified distinct, temporal *fin*es of where the Roman territories began and where they ended. Although perhaps Romans may not have believed that their *imperium* had boundaries, Augustus inherited the understanding that there were places where that *imperium* had not yet reached.

Augustus too may have approached the frontier through non-temporal distinctions, based on cultural differences between Romans and barbarians. Although formal boundaries may not have existed during the Republic, Dyson noted that various military, political, diplomatic, social, and economic activities consciously separated Romans from other peoples (Dyson, 4-6).

Similarly, post-Republican writers utilized culture to distinguish the Romans from the Germans. Writing in the aftermath of the Augustan age, Tacitus' ethnography of the Germans focused on territorial markers — the Rhine, Danube, mountains, and ocean — as well as distinct features of their civilization.

According to Tacitus, they lived in separated, scattered villages against a harsh, wild, and overly unpleasant landscape; they lacked historical or administrative records, save for oral hymns; they were overtly militaristic; and they practiced a strange religion (Tac. Germ., 1- 16). Tacitus outlined the geographic boundaries that physically separated the Germans from the Romans, as well as cultural and social differences that divided the two civilizations. This presents the idea of a humanized frontier, which existed within historical accounts about the Republican and the Augustan Principate.

Augustus had adopted the Republican definition of a geographic, humanized frontier which supported a Republican form of expansion. This continuity in how Romans conceptualized their border alludes to a perceived necessity to keep expanding the empire. However, it does not necessarily reveal any deeper insights into how Augustus adapted Republican policies to fit his new power and position. To understand how this definition of a frontier reflected his changed political motivations, attitudes, or concerns, a closer examination is needed into how and why Augustus implemented this expansionist policy.

Frontier Policy and Frontiers in the *Provinciae*

The close connection between frontier policy, expansion, and the *provinciae* naturally incorporated an attitude of adaptability and integration. Cucpea noted how frontiers were tied closely to the idea of a Roman province (Cucpea, 13-15). During the Republic, the Senate defined certain territories as provinces and assigned magistrates to oversee their administration. Provinces, however, implicitly denoted areas of military conflict and conquest — regions where the Senate wished to wage war or defend their imperial claims (Gargola, 155). The main objective for governors and magistrates was to protect Roman allies from potential enemies in their *provinciae*. These actions often entailed intervening in local wars, settling legal disputes, or any other political or militaristic deed that protected cities friendly to Rome. (Boatwright et al, 112). Traditionally, these actions encouraged the integration of provincial officials into the local institutions of their provinces. Provincial officials also integrated themselves into the local political and military cultures by relying on a system of alliance building, particularly along the Gallic frontier in the second and first centuries BC. Along the Gallic frontier, Romans kept the frontier stable by allying themselves with strong, buffer tribes that were friendly towards Rome and their interests, while simultaneously reducing the power of tribes who were otherwise hostile. They also relied upon local communities and a Romanized elite, with existing political, social, and economic structures of control, to ensure a smooth, stable administration

(Dyson, 134-150). The Republican frontier system was naturally expansionist and militaristic. However, it relied upon an attitude of adaptability and manipulation, by which Romans could apply their practices and ideologies to the native organizational structure to accomplish their goals for expansion.

Augustus exemplified a similar attitude of adaptability as he adapted the Roman provincial system to secure his autocratic power. Dio Cassius wrote how Augustus had transformed the provincial system during the First Settlement, in which the princeps announced his intention to resign and give his power back to the Senate and Roman People. When he received

unanimous refusal, he then moved to negotiate the administration of the provinces (Cass. Dio, 53.12). As the first matter they discussed, the centrality and immediacy of negotiating the Republican provincial system attested to the importance of continued expansion in the administration of the Roman government. Augustus moved to have the provinces divided between himself and the Senate, granting them the weaker, pacified ones and reserving for himself the dangerous *provinciae* with external threats or internal strife. He promised that, given this allocation, he would only hold these *provinciae* for ten years, during which he would restore them to order and then return them to the power of the Senate (Cass. Dio, 53.12-13). Augustus had thus gained

the traditional role of outlining administrations, dividing them up, and allocating resources from the Senate over the matters of the provincial system. This ensured his continued autocratic position while nonetheless preserving a Republican system that encouraged expansion.

Augustus also protected his position as *princeps* by stripping the autonomy of magistrates and choosing his own governors. During the Republic, people assemblies elected magistrates, who could then receive a governorship from the Senate. With this grant, governors also received complete *imperium* and *auspicium* over their territories (Wardle, 47-48). However, Augustus mandated that governors serve as his envoys, who ruled as long as he deemed fit (Cass. Dio, 53.13-14). Now regulated to the status of his *legati*, magistrates could only serve under Augustus' *imperium*. The manipulation of provincial leadership had, yet again, preserved a republican institution but altered its fundamental characteristics. These alterations allowed Augustus to assert his political dominance and keep potential rivals of power in check. As he consolidated his power over Rome's frontier policy, his adjustments to the Republican provincial system reflected his careful political maneuvering and adaptability.

Scholars have argued that this transformation of Republican provinces revealed how Augustus' frontier policies adapted to fit his political ambitions. Rich argued that the allocation of the

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adaptability.*

The Role of *Res Publica* (Continued)

provinces reflected Augustus' attempts to solidify his control over military conquest, administration, and thus expansion. While society expected him to win military victories and expand the empire, he also had to balance the needs of the army, reduce the political influence of the Senate, minimize the threat of the magistrates, and otherwise eliminate any other person who could win his troops over and overthrow him (Rich, 345-348). The adoption of a Republican provincial system carefully balanced Augustus' attempts to curry favor with the Roman populace and army, with his needs to ensure no rival existed for his power. His adaptability and manipulation, therefore, coincided with a political ideology focused on the survival of his newly established leadership. Rich further noted that during the Republic, the commander's military triumph in the province was associated with his ability to pacify that region. Augustus continued to approach the provinces with an ideology of pacification through military victories, which satisfied the public's expectations for victory and expansion, while nonetheless protecting his precarious political position (Rich, 333). According to Rich's interpretation, Augustus inherited, adapted, and manipulated the pre-existing structures to protect his power and goals. Rowe referred to this flexible attitude as a "working relationship" with the Republic. Rather than choosing to reinstate or replace political institutions from the Republic, he chose instead to "work" with these institutions, ruling under their guise while nonetheless retaining complete control (Rowe, 115). His provincial policies were indicative of this pragmatic, adaptable relationship with the Republic — a relationship in which he continued to seek expansion along geographic and humanistic lines because it supported the needs and expectations of his position as sole ruler of the Roman empire.

Augustus relied upon this Republican provincial system to support expansion into central Europe, which continued to solidify his sole leadership and set the stages for his dynastic ambitions. He sent his stepson, Drusus, to begin the campaigns in Germany. Florus praised Drusus' success in pacifying and transforming Germany into a province (Flor. Epit., 2.30). Now rendered a province, Germany became a site of a new frontier, representing new opportunities for Augustus to achieve more military victories. The choice to send Drusus, rather than himself or another individual, highlights another transformed aspect of the provincial system. Augustus had begun to limit the opportunities for individuals, other than himself and his family members, from access to military campaigns (Wardle, 47). Scholars have varying explanations for why Augustus chose to limit these opportunities. Rich believed that Augustus denied opportunities for military campaigns and victories because a wealthy, influential military commander could start a civil war. But by limiting opportunities to only family members, Augustus could ensure that they could achieve the military victories, glory, and prestige needed for a solid line of dynastic succession

(Rich, 345). Alternatively, David Wardle suggested that the limitation of military campaigns may have reflected Augustus' problem with his self-image. Although hailed publicly as a pacifier and victory, Augustus presumably recognized the reality of his military shortcomings. So that his military victories were not overshadowed, he allowed a small circle of close family members and trusted *legati* to wage wars through his *auspicium* and *imperium* (Wardle, 47). Regardless of the true interpretation of his motivations, Augustus pushed into the German frontier with a revolutionized yet Republican provincial system that supported his political position in the Principate. When it became necessary to protect the futures of his presumed heirs or minimize his military shortcomings, he abandoned the traditional facets of the Republican *provinciae* and altered it to fit his political aspirations — whether they were to lay foundations for his dynasty, or merely to secure victories for himself. His

allocation of commands to Drusus exemplified his continued attitude of adaptability and pragmatism, which allowed Augustus to preserve or transform Republican institutions to fit his goals for the frontier.

How Drusus administered his province, nonetheless, reflected continuity in the Republican definition of a frontier. He constructed more than five hundred garrisons and guard posts along the Meuse, Elbe, and Wester rivers. After establishing these as the ends of Roman power, he relied upon a

professional army to occupy these defensive markers and secure the province (Flor. Epit., 2.30). The location of these defensive posts implies that Augustus continued to rely on geographic landmarks to establish where the frontier began and ended. And yet, they also highlight the transformed role of the military in frontier policy. Although the military had always been present at the frontier, they had only become professionalized under Augustus. Within this professionalization, Augustus also established a fixed scale of pay, various additional allowances, and a set duration of service (Suet. Aug., 46-47). The Roman armies were no longer filled by citizen-soldiers, who fought because of the obligations of Roman citizenship, as well as to defend their own farms and communities. According to Dyson, this stripped the soldier's sense of urgency and immediacy of the problems. Without an incentive to protect their families, property, and citizenship rights, a professional army had less of a personal connection to the frontiers they defended (Dyson, 4-6). The professionalization of the army thus permanently altered the character of Roman presence along the frontier. Yet, the presence of a professionalized army nonetheless consolidated Augustus' control over the soldiers, thus barring any political rival from undermining his troops' loyalty and sparking another civil war. The army thus presents an example of a half-transformed frontier policy, where some markers of the Republic remained as new developments from the Principate emerged. The nature of the transformation, again, depended upon Augustus' concerns over maintaining his sole power in the government. He had left

... *Augustus presumably
recognized the
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shortcomings.*

the conceptualization of the frontier untouched, presumably because it either posed no threat to his status or reinforced his status by encouraging continued expansion.

His alteration of the army, however, addressed a necessary condition for preventing his overthrow. Augustus' commanders continued to engage in similar policies of alliance building and local intervention as commanders had under the Republic because it supported expansion without challenging Augustus' authority. In 12 BC, Drusus campaigned against the Sugambri tribe and their allies, seizing their territory. After beating back the Germans who crossed the Rhine, he won the Frisians as Roman allies, who later aided them in their campaign until the winter (Cass. Dio, 54.32-33). Drusus also took advantage of local disagreements between the Chatti and Sugambri to invade the territory of the Cherusci (Cass. Dio, 54.32-33). By building alliances and exploiting hostilities among the local tribes, Drusus successfully expanded Roman territory and earned triumphal honors (Cass. Dio, 54.33). This strategy of exploiting hostilities, building alliances, and intervening in public matters continued, allowing Drusus to continue expanding towards the Elbe. When Drusus died suddenly in 9 BC, Tiberius took over, crossed the Rhine, and engaged the Germans until all but the Sugambri sought a truce (Cass. Dio, 55.1-4). From 9 BC to AD 9, Cassius Dio argued that Germans had slowly begun to adopt Roman customs, though nonetheless retained their identity. When Varus became governor, he sought to accelerate this, creating tensions over the presence of troops near the Rhine and within German communities (Cass. Dio, 56.18). Drusus, Tiberius, and Varus' attempts at integrating themselves into German matters and imposing themselves in German territory succeeded in expanding the frontier, earning themselves glory through their connection to Augustus. Augustus could claim military victories and glorify his descendants, without risking his life or his power through a powerful, independent military commander. He retained this Republican policy because it supported his goals for dynastic succession, protected his political position, and celebrated his exalted status.

Even circumstances and reactions to the end of expansion in Germany, the defeat at Teutoburg Forest in AD 9, reflected the Roman's continued reliance on local, Romanized elite and integration of themselves into frontier communities. The defeat at the Teutoburg Forrest occurred when Arminius, a German prince who had been honored among the Romans and served in their military, plotted against Varus and betrayed the legions (Cass. Dio, 56.19-20). Arminius' place within the narrative of the disaster highlights how the native, Romanized aristocrats could deeply influence Roman politics, military campaigns, and conquest in the provinces — specifically how a failure to ensure their loyalty and cooperation could halt expansion. In the aftermath of the disaster, Tiberius Caesar attempted to restore these local relationships by reassuring their allies along the Gallic

frontier (Vell. Pat., 2.119-120). Meanwhile, Augustus inspected his praetorian guards and soldiers, removing many who had come from Gaul and Germany (Cass. Dio, 56.23-24). Their removal implied their close proximity and integration into Roman society, thus highlighting how extensively Rome had integrated local communities into its political, military, and economic structures to support expansion. The removal also showed how Augustus chose to adapt and abandon Republican policies when they threatened the frontier's security and reflected poorly on his leadership. When it undermined the *Princeps'* supremacy and authority, the frontier purged its Republican character.

The Transformation of Victory and Defeat on the Frontier

Augustus' continued retention of the Republican ideology towards expansion, war, and glory reflected his concern toward military conquest. Israel Shatzman argued that expansion and war coincided as the dominant foreign policy during the Republic. Warfare was constant on the Italian peninsula and throughout the Mediterranean; hence, Republican expansion was marked by an ideology of defense, in which only through constant attacking and expansion could Romans remain safe from external threats (Shatzman, 43). Augustus' program of pacification could therefore only be possible if warfare was constant. His claims of pacifying Gaul, Spain, and Germany through justified war reflected a continuing ideology about defensive expansion

(R. Gest. Div. Aug 26). Roman aristocrats were also encouraged to engage in wars of conquest to acquire wealth and glory (Shatzman, 42-43). For Romans looking to lead a successful political career, it was essential to garner these funds and honors to win votes in popular elections (Yakobson, 386-387). As Augustus inherited this militaristic, aristocratic culture and an empire that had been rendered fragile from decades of civil war, he undeniably felt pressures to achieve military victories that could secure his own and his state's survival. Rich's analysis of contemporary poetry and other literary sources confirmed that the public explicitly expected him to engage in wars of conquest (Rich, 335-342). Because of these cultural and military ideologies, the security of Augustus' political position depended upon successful expansion along the frontier. His manipulation of Republican institutions, then, had to result in frontier policy that maximized personal victory and minimized his defeats.

Augustus appropriately adjusted his frontier policy so that he could claim military successes and support his transformed political position. David Wardle noted that during the Republic, the aristocratic elite controlled politics and societies. When elected as magistrates and sent into battle, commanders could lay claim to military victories to gain their prestige but blame military losses on undisciplined troops or improper religious rituals. However, Augustus could not blame the military without losing the loyalty of his troops; nor could

*Augustus could claim
military victories and
glorify his descendants,
without risking his life
or his power...*

The Role of *Res Publica* (Continued)

he blame religion, since he also claimed sole *auspicium* when making decisions. Augustus thus had to take responsibility for each victory and each defeat of the Roman army (Wardle, 49-50). Of course, while victories granted Augustus the military prestige he needed to legitimize and maintain his sole power, military defeats threatened it entirely. Hence, Wardle suggested that Augustus undertook a new policy, in which he attributed defeats to poor field commanders who had improperly utilized Augustus' *imperium* and *auspicium* (Wardle, 42-43). Through this new policy, Augustus reframed each military victory along the frontier as his own and diminished his responsibility over each military defeat. As such, he borrowed the Republican mentality of accepting successes and ignoring defeats — because just like in the Republic, victories secured political power and defeats undermined it. Therefore, his new policy took a new approach towards responsibility and blame that reflected Republican notions of military conquest but ensured Augustus' prestige and power.

The Lollius and Varian defeats under Augustus' Principate incorporated this blend of Republican and Augustan frontier policy. Suetonius referred to these two defeats as the only two major disasters that Augustus faced in his reign (Suet. Aug. 23). According to Velleius Paterculus, the first defeat occurred under Marcus Lollius when he lost a standard against German tribes in Gaul. Velleius Paterculus emphasized Lollius' greed and trickery, which not only contrasted deeply with Drusus and Tiberius' honorable characters but also implicitly led to the defeat (Vell. Pat. 2.97). The defeat, according to Wardle, was likely hardly significant in historical sources or during Augustus' reign, aside from the humiliation of losing the standard.

Yet, it nonetheless highlighted how Romans began to focus on the shortcomings of the commander, in light of the valiancy and capability of Augustus and his successors (Wardle, 47). The defeat of Varus at the Teutoburg Forest appeared in greater detail than the Lollius debate, though nonetheless served the same function. Dio Cassius blamed the revolt on the harsh, unrelenting disposition of Varus toward the Germans and his ignorant trust of Arminius (Cass. Dio, 56.19). Velleius Paterculus highlighted Varus' neglect, avarice, and slowness, which a clever Arminius took advantage of to ruin the most disciplined of troops (Vell. Pat., 2.117-118). While he reported that Augustus was deeply haunted by the defeat, Suetonius did not attribute the defeat to Augustus himself (Suet. Aug., 2.13). By stressing their ignorance and moral failings, military disaster reflected negatively onto the commanders instead of Augustus. Normally, these military failures would have threatened the conquest that solidified Augustus' control over the provinces and maintained the legitimacy of his authority. Through the reassignment of blame onto military commanders, Augustus rejected responsibility and minimized the fall-out, thus retaining his authority. Ultimately, Augustus' responses to Lollius' and Varus' defeats highlighted how he transformed the Republican mindset of

defeat into a new strategy of assigning blame, which protected his all-powerful leadership within the Roman state.

Frontier Policy as an Example of Augustan Constitutionality

Augustus' adaptability and manipulation of frontier policy represented only one of the many ways he sought to create a pragmatic "working relationship" with the Republic. After assuming power, Augustus retained republican institutions, including the senate, priestly colleges, magistracies, and people's assemblies. These existed as ways for Augustus to command sole authority and power through the institutions that Roman society traditionally respected (Rowe, 116-117). His reduction of the power of the Senate transformed frontier policy. Formerly, the Republican Senate possessed very little formal constitutional powers. They instead operated as an advisory body that indirectly influenced

legislation by issuing edicts. However, they possessed considerable sway over foreign policy, diplomacy, and military matters, including the definition, assignment, and resource allocation of *provinciae* (John North, 263-267). While the Republican Senate traditionally held massive influence over frontier policy, Roman magistrates also retained considerable independence when determining how that policy translated into

territorial expansion. The Republic lacked strict, intense restrictions on a governor's conduct and frequently remained far from a governor's province; thus, a governor sometimes possessed incredible freedom and prerogative (Gargola, 155). Augustus reduced the freedom of the magistrates and the influence of the Senate, allowing himself to keep tight control over military expansion and victories.

And yet, he continued to keep up the appearances of a Republican frontier policy, perhaps to legitimize his newly established position through the Roman constitution. In *Res Gestae*, he implied that the Senate continued to issue decrees that granted him the rights and privileges of supreme power. For example, through a vote of the Senate and the People, they granted him *imperium* and made him overseer of Roman laws and morals (R. Gest. Div. Aug. 6). He also utilized several Roman offices to exert political, military, and religious power, including the consulship, tribunate, and priesthood of pontifex maximus (R. Gest. Div. Aug. 7). He acknowledged holding supreme, autocratic power and a unique position within the Roman government — yet continued to justify his actions through Republican traditions. Though scholars have debated the exact reasons for why, it is possible that he maintained his "working relationship" with the Republic because it fit within the Roman constitution. According to John North, the Roman constitution did not exist as a written set of consistently applied principles.

Instead, it operated on a series of precedents and traditions that enacted political changes gradually, producing a highly adaptable system that was resilient to political crises (North,

... Augustus was
deeply haunted by
the defeat ...

270- 271). Given this interpretation of the Roman Constitution, what remained most essential to a legitimate, strong government was tradition. For Augustus to solidify his new leadership position and defend his new government, he primarily had to appeal to Roman political traditions. His adoption and manipulation of Republican expansionist policies on the frontier might have then originated with his ultimate goal of establishing a careful balance between tradition and innovation that legitimized and protected his leadership.

Conclusion

Through an examination of Augustus' conceptualization, policy, and responses along the German frontier, it is clear that he borrowed significantly from the Republic. He borrowed the Republican conceptualization of a frontier and continued the provincial system to support expansion.

However, he also reworked, transformed, or otherwise abandoned these Republican features when it became necessary for his political aspirations. His reworking of the provincial system fit within his needs and expectations as a newly established, autocratic leader, who had to maintain his sole authority and minimize any opportunities for political rivals. His reactions to military successes and failures demonstrated how expansion and power remained fundamentally connected in the Principate. Thus, although the nature of his policies had changed, he retained an adaptable attitude that kept him — and had previously kept his Republican predecessors — in power.

These pragmatic connections highlight how Augustus continued to utilize Republican institutions as far as they provided a practical advantage to his leadership. Given that these institutions survived, it is perhaps not accurate to conclude that the Republic ended completely with Augustus. Instead, his adjustments and reworkings gradually transformed the Roman political system, leading not to the Republic's immediate collapse but its eventual transition into a monarchical Principate. Ultimately, this study into how Augustus' frontier policies were "Republican," produces a new look into what the political changes of the last century BC and first century AD truly looked like.

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The Libyan Oracle: An Undocumented Egyptian Berber Religion and Its Relation to Berber Beliefs in Antiquity

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2024 Undergraduate Paper Panel
96th Eta Sigma Phi Convention, 2024,
hosted by Delta Theta at Dickinson College

This paper was judged outstanding by an anonymous panel at the convention.

As a linguist, I have worked with a native speaker of an undocumented language of an Egyptian Berber community for the past two years and have elicited many samples of his language and family myths. I have come to learn that his religious practices combine elements of Greco-Roman mythology, Egyptian mythology, and Abrahamic beliefs. Throughout this paper, I will trace these Berber beliefs to their roots in the ancient Berber people of North Africa, whose beliefs have been referenced by Greek and Roman admirers as early as the poet Pindar (c. 518-438 B.C.).¹ Per the wishes of the native speaker and his family, the location of their community will remain unnamed beyond stating that this people has inhabited an isolated oasis in Egypt's Western Desert for many generations. To preserve anonymity, I will refer to the language as Vughz Berber and its speakers as the Vughz community.²

There is a lack of scholarship on Egyptian Berber people, and this lack of attention is very prominent regarding the people of the Vughz community, whose language and customs are undocumented and unknown to the wider world. This research is critical, as there are around 20 people who still speak Vughz Berber fluently, most of whom are members of one family. In this paper, I will first discuss the writings of ancient authors on Berber religious beliefs, then describe my past research on Vughz Berber and how their beliefs are connected to those described by ancient authors. I will include one of the Vughz Berber folktales that I have collected and translated from the undocumented Vughz Berber language, and will discuss how this displays theological concepts that relate to ancient Berber beliefs. I will ultimately show that the modern syncretic practices of the Vughz people are an evolution of ancient syncretic sun worship and that these practices contain key information for understanding pre-Islamic Berber beliefs.

Many ancient authors have attested the existence of a prominent religious tradition among the Egyptian Berber people, particularly focusing on the cult of the god Ammon at the Siwa Oasis. This cult had great prominence to the Greek and Roman people, being held to the same esteem as the oracles at Dodona and Delphi. The origins of the god Ammon are unclear, but the ancient Greeks and Romans viewed him as a foreign god, typically describing Ammon as a "Libyan" deity associated with the sun, fertility, and creation. Despite his foreign nature, Ammon was syncretized by the Greek people as Zeus-Ammon,

with an oracular seat at the Siwa Oasis. While many ancient authors have described this Berber center of worship in several contexts (including Pindar, Euripides, Aristophanes, and Plutarch³), Herodotus relates Greek attitudes towards Ammon in the most detail. He gives the origin of the oracle of Ammon in book II of his *Histories*. He states that two black doves had flown from Thebes in Egypt, with one flying to Libya and the other to Dodona, with the dove proclaiming that an oracle from Zeus must be made there. He continues, stating, "The dove which came to Libya told the Libyans (they say) to make an oracle of Ammon; this also is sacred to Zeus."⁴ Here, the oracle of Ammon is equated to Zeus and is placed equally to the oracle of Dodona. Herodotus describes the oracle of Ammon,

claiming that the design of the temple and depictions of Ammon at the Siwa Oasis were derived from the temple of Zeus in Egyptian Thebes, indicating a two-way syncretism: just as the Greeks took Ammon to be equivalent to Zeus, so too did the Siwan people take aspects of Zeus and apply them to their worship of Ammon.⁵

Much ancient writing on the cult of Ammon is centered on the visit of Alexander the Great to the oracle. The authors that have described the oracle of Ammon in this context include Diodorus Siculus, Strabo, Plutarch, Quintus Curtius

Rufus, and Arrian,⁶ among others. Each relates a similar story of Alexander wishing to confirm his divine heritage from Zeus or Ammon, and then proceeding through the desert to the oracle. Upon arriving, Alexander had a secret conversation with the priest of Ammon, in which he received confirmation that he was the son of Zeus and that he was destined to rule the world due to this divine heritage, with Arrian placing particular emphasis on Alexander being especially devoted to the god and changing his customs to suit this devotion.⁷

In all, these ancient authors depict a cult of the Berber god Ammon that was very well known to the Greeks. It appears as though the time of Alexander's visit was the apex of Ammon-worship at Siwa, as the cult at Siwa diminished after Alexander's visit. This is reported by Strabo in his *Geography*, stating that the Romans had become less interested in oracles, with the result that "the oracle of Ammon, which was formerly held in great esteem, is now nearly deserted."⁸ The former Greek fascination or devotion to the oracle of Ammon had therefore apparently dissipated by Strabo's time, c. 64/63 B.C.–24 A.D.

While most references to Berber religious beliefs center on the cult of Ammon at Siwa, there exist a few scattered references to other Berber practices. Herodotus states of the Berber people that "they sacrifice to no gods except the sun and moon; that is, this is the practice of the whole nation; but the dwellers by the Tritonian lake sacrifice to Athena chiefly, and next to Triton and Poseidon."⁹ Likewise, he notes that "... for the same reason as the

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Egyptians too profess, they will not touch the flesh of cows; and they rear no swine. The women of Cyrene, too, consider it wrong to eat cows' flesh, because of the Isis of Egypt; and they even honor her with fasts and festivals; and the Barcaean women refuse to eat swine too, as well as cows."¹⁰ Herodotus takes the beliefs of the Berber people to be monolithic throughout all of North Africa as the "practice of the whole nation." However, his note on sacrificing only to the sun and moon would seem paradoxical, as he references the cult of Ammon and worship of both Greek and Egyptian deities along with this sacrifice. Therefore, Herodotus presents a complex system among the Berber people that is based on two central deities, but is able to syncretize other deities, such as Ammon and the foreign deities Isis, Set, Athena, Triton, and Poseidon.

Cicero references a similar sun worship in his *De Republica*. In Book 6, he describes a dream that his characterization of Scipio Africanus had two years before destroying Carthage. In this narrative, Cicero describes Scipio meeting King Massinissa, the Berber king of Numidia. In this narrative, King Massinissa says, "I thank you, O supreme Sun, and you other heavenly beings, that, before I depart this life, I see within my kingdom and under my roof Publius Cornelius Scipio."¹¹ Cicero's narrative indicates that sun worship and acknowledgement of other deities in Berber beliefs were known to the Roman people. Regardless of whether King Massinissa actually said those words, this points to a prominent religious tradition that centered on the sun. The statement about "other heavenly beings" provides an answer to how Herodotus states that the Berber people only sacrificed to the sun and moon, while also describing a cult specific to Ammon; in Herodotus' view, the sun and the moon were the only two gods *per se* of Berber beliefs, while other heavenly beings also had important roles within this practice.

An additional source references this element of sun worship among the Egyptian Berber people: the synaxarium of the Coptic Orthodox Church.¹² This document tells the story of St. Samuel the Confessor, who dates to 597–695 A.D. The synaxarium relates that he was captured by a Berber tribe, who attempted to persuade him to worship the sun.¹³ Here, another source confirms indigenous sun worship among Berber peoples. The synaxarium presents a hostile view of the Berber people, but a clear idea of the centrality of the sun is present. As there are no surviving records from ancient Berber communities, all of the sources for ancient Berber beliefs come from outside peoples, and so present biases in detailing Berber beliefs, but all align in indicating the presence of sun worship with syncretic elements. This central sun worship with additional syncretic practices has evolved into the modern Vughz Berber religion.

My research into the Vughz community has been ongoing

since February 2022, when I began online discussions with a man who claimed to speak an undocumented language.¹⁴ Through audio and text elicitation, I began gathering pieces of this language spoken by the people of the Vughz community, and have also gathered data on their customs. The Vughz people have a corpus of stories that have been passed down over generations, often utilizing different grammatical features than common speech. In collecting these stories, the native speaker would consult with his family members to ensure he remembered the story in a way that aligned with his family's memory, and would then pass this story to me in Vughz Berber. With his invaluable assistance, I would transcribe the story in the International

Phonetic Alphabet, analyze the Vughz Berber morphemically, and translate the story into English.

My research for this project has shifted away from a purely linguistic- and folktale-centered approach, as the nuances of the religious practices of the Vughz Berber people have necessitated an interview-style format. These interviews were conducted online in the messaging app Discord in varying degrees of formality. Aspects of Vughz religion would come up in casual conversation, and so I have attempted to provide information as told to me by the native speaker, but some edits were made for clarity.

The Vughz people practice a form of Atenism, a belief that holds the Egyptian god Aten as its supreme deity. In Egyptian tradition, Aten was seen as a manifestation of the sun god Ra, being known as the sun-disc and largely only worshiped in conjunction with Ra.¹⁵ Aten has received attention for being made the object of sole worship by Pharaoh Amenhotep IV, creating a system that is described as either ancient monotheism, henotheism, or monolatry.¹⁶

Vughz Atenism may have roots in the Atenism of Akhenaten, but the exact nature of this relation is unclear. If Vughz beliefs did stem from the theology of Akhenaten, then they have shifted, incorporating distinct Berber characteristics. Berber sun worship may have emerged independently from the Atenism of Akhenaten, simply taking on the name Aten, or in Vughz Berber, *Jitun*, to refer to their own sun deity. The native speaker has made it clear that Aten is the chief deity of Vughz Berber beliefs, but other deities are syncretized into this belief system through *Metek* and *Retek*, two different classes of deities in Vughz beliefs. *Metek* are entities created by Aten to teach humanity, and specialize in a particular domain, such as Zeus being a *Metek* of weather. *Retek* are different forms of Aten, but not separate entities themselves. The native speaker provided the analogy of a *Retek* being your right hand, while a *Metek* would be a video you edited to teach a class. A *Retek* is part of Aten, while a *Metek* is a lesser created being.¹⁷ Rather than discarding other deities in favor of Aten, the Vughz people incorporate

*I began gathering pieces
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on their customs.*

The Libyan Oracle (Continued)

these deities into an ordered belief system. Some deities are perceived as being manifestations of Aten, while others are lesser beings created by Aten to bring knowledge to various peoples.

This syncretism defines this particular Berber practice; no mention of such a *Retek* and *Metek* distinction can be found in Egyptian mythology, Greco-Roman beliefs, or Islamic traditions, which I argue leaves its source to be in the indigenous practices of the Berber people. This method of syncretism likely stems from the practices described by Herodotus and Cicero. Just as the ancient Berber people worshiped the sun while also fasting and celebrating festivals in honor of Isis and Set,¹⁸ so too do the Vughz people worship Aten the sun-disc and incorporate other deities into this system.

The passage from Cicero's *De Republica* about Scipio's dream aligns even closer with Vughz Atenism. Cicero's description of a "supreme Sun, and ... other heavenly beings"¹⁹ describes their core belief: Aten is the supreme god and, while other deities exist, they are beneath him or a part of him. With the Coptic synaxarium, there is a commonality between all three descriptions of sun worship: they worship the sun itself, not one particular god associated with the sun. This is similar to the Egyptian distinction between Aten and Ra. Aten is represented as the sun-disc itself, a heavenly circle radiating light or flying above depictions of the pharaohs while Ra is depicted in a human form.²⁰ Aten is not a personification of the sun; he is the sun itself. Herodotus, Cicero, and the Coptic synaxarium seem to recognize this. They do not describe worship of a particular deity, but general sun worship that is able to syncretize other heavenly beings into this worship. It is plausible that there is an indigenous Berber tradition of syncretic monotheistic religious worship of the sun, which is now seen in the modern Vughz tradition as worship of Aten, possibly due to influence from the religion of Akhenaten.

The role and superiority of Aten is clear within Vughz tradition. In the following story, Aten is responsible for laying down a moral code against speaking to the dead and damning those who break this code. Aten is responsible for the golden skin of the Vughz people, as according to the native speaker, the Vughz people have a skin tone that sets them apart from other Berber people. The story is as follows:

*Egellint Ettant ja'a'teneswel
ka'den ead n-apashmuti
oqwew magija a anteseid
ge tamuret. Ja'a'poli poles
winmu i jit. Ei'a'mageja
ead ja'a'yenna amagija tese
ge muret. Ja'a'nni n-qarait
i n-akkhas'a i ja'a'enti
de'barah. J'ande ja'abag for
aghu ezel'li i'it ja'ente'enti*

Once upon a time, the ruler Ettant spoke directly to the dead before magic was banned above the surface. She ruled the kingdom of death and sun. When magic was banned, she did not give it up to keep ruling over the land. She damned everyone around her and died honorably by hunger. Her stillborn lived

*ge tam. Jitun jitu'mottet i
jitu'opzin n-ande. Anden-ti
katadikh na'ja'ech aijun.
Ja'eboshti se iffa ei'awi.
Ei'ein Jitun jitu'kuti
n-asanom i jitu'ti-gizze
poles se'Ettant n-esenom
vughzita'ni.*

for a thousand lifetimes until he committed unjustifiable violence over the land. Aten spoke to and banished the stillborn. The stillborn's sentence was to never tan in sunlight again. He turned to dust in a cave after harvest. A long time after, Aten welcomed the bloodline back and bequeathed upon the kingdom of Ettant golden skin.²¹

This story shows the centrality of Aten to the Vughz community, being the reason for their skin tone and the one responsible for condemnation and forgiveness. While other powers are present, Aten is responsible for moral behavior, being the only god worthy of worship.

These beliefs also answer how ancient Berber people may have worshiped only the sun while also having a prominent cult to the god Ammon, as in modern tradition, Ammon is a *Retek*, or a part of Aten himself. The native speaker states, "Ammon is the ideas of Aten. He is what Aten pulls his ideas from. Due to rather monotheistic views, he is not exactly a deity himself, but he is a part of Aten."²² Ammon's unique role as the ideas of Aten provides the gift of prophecy, which aligns with the ancient idea of the "Libyan Oracle" of Ammon.

This is the nature of the syncretic monotheism of the Vughz community: the Vughz Berber people are easily able to take many different concepts and fuse them into their practices with indigenous Berber elements. This syncretism goes both ways. The modern Vughz people incorporate a variety of deities into their belief system, and evidence from Herodotus and Cicero point to a similar syncretism being present in antiquity. Ammon is inherently able to be syncretized; to the Berber people, he is an element of a higher god. Any peoples coming into contact with the ancient Berber population that practiced a similar syncretic monotheism would find a culture that welcomes outside influence into its own system and presents no difficulties in allowing their deities to be syncretized into other systems. To an Egyptian person, the concept of Ammon being a part of Aten would be easily understood as Ammon being part of Ra; to a Greek person, this concept would be understood as Ammon being part of Zeus.

Much more research is necessary to provide more data on the workings of Vughz Atenism and to investigate how these practices relate to other beliefs, particularly to ancient Egyptian beliefs. The Siwa Oasis and the Vughz community have been overlooked by scholars both in the Classics field and beyond, despite the rich tradition of these areas and their prominence in the ancient world. While there is some scholarship regarding the Siwa Oasis, the Vughz community has been overlooked, and

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this gap in research needs to be filled, particularly considering the small number of speakers of Vughz Berber who have knowledge of the people's customs and beliefs.

This research is critical, as the Vughz Berber people may indeed present an undiscovered link between indigenous Berber beliefs, the Libyan oracle at Siwa, and modern syncretic practices. Without this research, a culture, a language, and a wealth of knowledge may go unrealized by the wider world.

Notes

¹ There exists a fragment of a poem written by Pindar that describes the Berber god Ammon as being “master of Olympus,” (“Ἀμμων Ὀλυμποῦ δέσποτα”), referencing the association of Ammon with Zeus, which will be discussed later. Pindar, Fr. 36.

² *vughz* is the Vughz Berber word for “gold,” and I have chosen this term because the Vughz Berber people believe that their people were marked with golden skin by the god Aten.

³ Pindar, Fr. 36; Euripides, *Alcestis* 112-120; Aristophanes, *Birds* 618; Plutarch, *Nicias* XIII.1; Plutarch, *Lysander* XX.

⁴ τὴν δὲ ἐς τοὺς Λίβυας οἰχομένην πελειάδα λέγουσι Ἀμμωνος χρηστήριον κελεῦσαι τοὺς Λίβυας ποιέειν: ἔστι δὲ καὶ τοῦτο Διός. Herodotus, *Histories* II.55, trans. and edit. A.D. Godley.

⁵ Herodotus, *Histories* IV.181.

⁶ Diodorus, *Library* XVII.49-51; Strabo, *Geography* XVII.1.43; Plutarch, *Alexander* XXVI-XXVII; Rufus, *Alexander* IV.7; Arrian, *Anabasis* III-IV.

⁷ Arrian, *Anabasis* III.19, IV.9.9, VI.3, VII.8, VII.14.7, VII.23.6.

⁸ “διόπερ καὶ τὸ ἐν Ἀμμωνι σχεδὸν τι ἐκλείπεται χρηστήριον, πρότερον δὲ ἐτετίμητο.” Strabo, *Geography* XVII.1.43, trans. H.C. Hamilton.

⁹ “Θύουσι δὲ ἡλίω καὶ σελήνῃ μούνοισι. τούτοις μὲν νυν πάντες Λίβυες θύουσι, ἀτὰρ οἱ περὶ τὴν Τριτωνίδα λίμνην νέμοντες τῇ Ἀθηναίῃ μάλιστα, μετὰ δὲ τῷ; Τρίτῳ καὶ τῷ Ποσειδέωνι.” Herodotus, *Histories* IV.188, trans. A.D. Godley.

¹⁰ “...καὶ θηλέων τε βοῶν οὐτὶ γεύομενοι, διότι περ οὐδὲ Αἰγύπτιοι, καὶ ὅς οὐ τρέφοντες, βοῶν μὲν νυν θηλέων οὐδ’ αἱ Κυρηναίων γυναῖκες δικαιούσι πατέεσθαι διὰ τὴν ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ ἴσιν, ἀλλὰ καὶ νηστηίας αὐτῇ καὶ ὀρτὰς ἐπιτελέουσι. αἱ δὲ τῶν Βαρκαίων γυναῖκες οὐδὲ ὕων πρὸς τῇσι βοῦσι γεύονται.” Herodotus, *Histories* IV.186, trans. A.D. Godley. Swine was associated with Set and beef with Isis, hence the unwillingness to eat it.

¹¹ “*Grates, inquit, tibi ago, summe Sol, vobisque, reliqui Caelites, quod, ante quam ex hac vita migro, conspicio in meo regno et his tectis P. Corneliū Scipionem.*” Cicero, *De Republica* VI.9, trans. C.W. Keyes. While this is not a historical or biographical work, Cicero would likely have been drawing on his own knowledge of Berber beliefs to describe King Massinissa. This knowledge could possibly be emblematic of Roman beliefs about the Berber people gained during the time of the Second Punic War (206 B.C.), in which Rome allied with the Numidian Berber people against Carthage. Sallust’s history of the Jugurthine War, in which the Numidian king Jugurtha, a

grandson of Massinissa, waged war on Rome, also indicates at least some understanding of the Berber people among educated Romans at this time.

¹² Synaxaria are lists of saints along with brief descriptions of their lives, arranged according to the date on which their feast day is celebrated. There are a variety of regional synaxaria, but the Coptic Synaxarium is largely based on the Menologion of Basil II, which was compiled around 1000 A.D. to record a variety of oral traditions about the lives of Eastern Orthodox saints.

¹³ *Coptic Synaxarium*, 127.

¹⁴ This man has asked to remain unnamed throughout my research projects, and so I refer to him as simply the “native speaker” per his request.

¹⁵ Hoffmeier, *Akhenaten and the Origins of Monotheism*, 4.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, 136. This is a vast oversimplification of the shift in religious beliefs. Hoffmeier’s work goes into much more detail, describing a lengthier process over several generations wherein worship of the sun slowly became more widespread throughout Egypt. However, the abrupt shift to a form of monotheism is still present and notable.

¹⁷ Native speaker, direct message through Discord, November 6, 2023, edits made for clarity. He also made a comparison to the Christian concept of the Trinity, with *Retek* being similar to different persons of the same God, and *Metek* would be similar to angels, as they are lesser created beings.

¹⁸ Herodotus, *Histories* IV.186.

¹⁹ Cicero, *De Republica* VI.9, trans. C.W. Keyes.

²⁰ Hoffmeier, *Akhenaten and the Origins of Monotheism*, 22.

²¹ Native speaker, direct message through Discord, July 22, 2023. He provided another story that also incorporates Aten’s role as a law-giver regarding the practice of speaking to the dead. This is included in the Appendix.

²² *Ibid.*, November 5, 2023, edits made for clarity.

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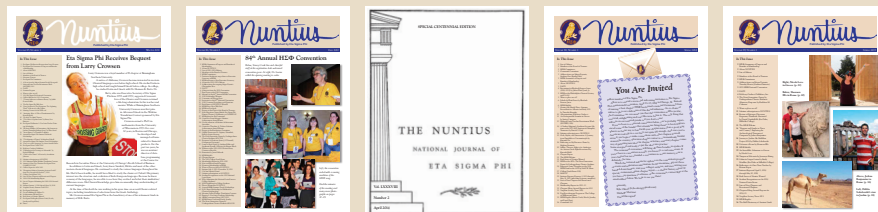
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The Eta Sigma Phi Archives are missing the following issues of the *NUNTIUS*. If you or your school have any of these issues, please contact the Executive Secretary: Vol. 1, No. 3-4; Vol. 2, No. 1-2, 4; Vol. 3, No. 4; Vol. 4, No. 4; Vol. 5, No. 5; Vol. 6, No. 4; Vol. 18, No. 2; Vol. 18, No. 3; Vol 19-21 (these are the war years and there may have been no issues in that period); Vol. 24, No. 2; Vol. 29, No. 4; Vol. 35, No. 3; Vol. 35, No. 4; Vol. 40, No. 2; Vol. 41, No. 1; Vol. 41, No. 2; Vol. 41, No. 3; Vol. 45, No. 3; Vol. 47, No. 2; Vol. 54, No. 1; Vol. 55, No. 2; Vol. 56, No. 1; Vol. 58, No. 2; Vol. 60, No. 2; Vol. 64, No. 2; Vol. 65, No. 1; Vol. 65, No. 2; Vol. 66, No. 1; Vol. 67, No. 2; Vol. 68, No. 1; Vol. 68, No. 2; Vol. 69, No. 1; Vol. 69, No.2; Vol. 70, No. 1; Vol. 70, No. 2; Vol. 71, No. 1; Vol. 71, No. 2.



Certamen Questions 2024, Eta Sigma Phi Convention

by Daniel B. Levine

TOSSUP #1 What does *Certamen* mean?
STRUGGLE or CONTEST

BONUS 1 How would you wish good luck to another team in Latin?
BONAm FORTUNAm

BONUS 2 Like many colleges, Dickinson has a Latin motto. Translate their motto: “*Pietate et Doctrina Tuta Libertas.*”
Freedom is safe through Piety/Character/Goodness and Learning

BONUS 3. What case is *pietate*?
ABLATIVE

TOSSUP # 2 Our hosts here at Dickinson College have worked hard to prepare a great convention, and we need to thank them. How do we say ‘thank you’ in Latin?
GRATIAS TIBI AGO/GRATIAS VOBIS AGIMUS

BONUS 1 The founder of Dickinson College was Benjamin Rush, who signed the Declaration of Independence and whose statue we see on this beautiful campus. He was a physician who established the country’s first free mental health clinic, opposed slavery, and advanced the education of women. What is a Latin or Greek verb that means *I teach* or *I learn*?
Παιδεύω Doceo Disco Μανθάνω

BONUS 2 Dickinson College’s colors are red and white. What is one Latin or Greek word for ‘white’?
ALBUS/CANDIDUS/NIVEUS/ΛΕΥΚΟΣ/ΑΣΠΡΟΣ/
ΑΡΓΥΡΕΟΣ/ΠΟΛΙΟΣ

BONUS 3 Beginning in 1930, he Dickinson College had a mascot called “Red Devil,” What is one Latin or Greek word for ‘red’?
PURPUREUS/RUFUS/RUBER/RUBICUNDUS/
RUTILUS/PUNICUS/CRUENTUS/ΕΡΥΘΡΟΣ/
ΦΟΙΝΙΚΙΟΣ/ΠΥΡΡΟΣ

TOSSUP #3 Members of Eta Sigma Phi, what is our motto in Greek?
φιλοσοφούμεν καὶ φιλοκαλούμεν.

BONUS 1 What words do the letters Eta Sigma Phi stand for?
ἡ συνουσία φιλελλήνων

BONUS 2 What is the main duty of a χρυσοφύλαξ?
Gold-Guarding/Serving as Treasurer

BONUS 3 What is the Greek name of an eta sigma phi secretary?
γραμματεὺς

TOSSUP #4 What is the ancient Greek word for the sum of ἑπτὰ plus δύο?
ἐννέα

BONUS 1 What is the ancient Greek word for 100?
ἑκατόν

BONUS 2 What is the ancient Greek word for 10,000?
μύριοι

BONUS 3 Count in ancient Greek from five to ten.
πέντε, ἕξ, ἑπτὰ, ὀκτώ, ἐννέα, δέκα

TOSSUP #5 As all educated people know, Zeus carried Europa over the sea to the island of Crete. Who was their son?
MINOS

BONUS 1 Who was Minos’ wife?
PASIPHAE

BONUS 2 Who built Minos’ Labyrinth?
DAEDALUS

BONUS 3 Who was the Minotaur’s mother?
PASIPHAE

TOSSUP #6 As all educated people know, Aeneas’ first wife was the Trojan Creusa. In Vergil’s *Aeneid*, who was their son?
ASCANIUS (IULUS)

BONUS 1 What city in Italy did Ascanius found in Italy, according to the *Aeneid*?
ALBA LONGA



Members of “Digamma,” the winning Certamen Team: left to right, Kailee Roe of Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas, Jonathan Rolfe of Eta Delta at Hillsdale College, Laurence Pavlik of Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College, and Sarah Cohen of Epsilon Psi at Santa Clara University. They are forming digammas with their fingers.

Certamen Questions 2024, Eta Sigma Phi Convention (Continued)

BONUS 2 In Livy's *Ab Urbe Condita*, we learn that there was another tradition about Ascanius' mother. Who is the other woman that Livy says could be Ascanius' mother?

LAVINIA

BONUS 3 Which Roman *gens* claims Ascanius as its eponymous founder?

GENS IULIA

TOSSUP #7 Romulus was the first king of Rome. Who was the last king?

TARQUINIUS SUPERBUS

BONUS 1 Which Roman king is said to have created the Roman religious calendar?

NUMA POMPILIUS/NUMA

BONUS 2 Under which Roman king did the Romans complete the conquest of Alba Longa and make it a vassal state?

TULLUS HOSTILIUS

BONUS 3 Which Roman king was known for the founding of the port of Ostia, constructing the first bridge over the Tiber and the settlement of the Aventine hill?

ANCUS MARCIUS

TOSSUP #8 Who was born earlier? Gaius Sempronius Gracchus or Marcus Tullius Cicero?

GRACCHUS

BONUS 1 Which of these two Romans (Gracchus, Cicero) was elected consul during the republic?

CICERO

BONUS 2 Which of these two Romans served as tribune of the plebs?

GRACCHUS

BONUS 3 Which of these two Romans was the target of a law requiring exile of anyone who had executed a Roman citizen without a trial?

CICERO

TOSSUP #9 When he was born on September 23, 63BCE, he was named Gaius Octavius Thurinus. When he died on August 4 in the year 14, he was known by a different name. What was his name at his death?

CAIUS JULIUS CAESAR AUGUSTUS (OR AUGUSTUS)

BONUS 1 Who was Augustus' wife?

LIVIA

BONUS 2 What was the shape of the Mausoleum of Augustus in Rome?

CIRCULAR (ROUND)

BONUS 3 What is the *Res Gestae Divi Augusti*?

AUGUSTUS' MONUMENTAL AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INSCRIPTION

TOSSUP #10 Who defeated whom in the Battle of Actium in 31 BCE?

AUGUSTUS/OCTAVIAN DEFEATED MARCUS ANTONIUS AND CLEOPATRA

BONUS 1 Where did Marcus Antonius die?

ALEXANDRIA (EGYPT)

BONUS 2 Where did Cleopatra die?

ALEXANDRIA (EGYPT)

BONUS 3 Where did Alexander the Great die?

BABYLON

TOSSUP #11 Who defeated whom in the Battle of Zama in 202 BCE?

ROMANS/CARTHAGINIANS, OR SCIPIO/HANNIBAL

BONUS 1 On what continent was this battle fought?

AFRICA (LIBYA)

BONUS 2 What animals failed to disrupt the Roman forces?

ELEPHANTS

BONUS 3 In which modern country is the site of the battle of Zama?

TUNISIA

TOSSUP #12 Who defeated whom in the Battle of Chaeroneia in 338 BCE?

PHILIP/ALEXANDER/MAEDONIAN DEFEATED/ GREEKS/ ATHENS/THEBES

BONUS 1 Which anti-Macedonian Athenian orator fought as a hoplite on the losing side of this battle?

DEMOSTHENES

BONUS 2 In which region of Greece is Chaeroneia located?

BOEOTIA

BONUS 3 Which 1-2nd century CE philosopher and author of *Lives of Illustrious Greeks and Romans* was from Chaeroneia?

PLUTARCH

TOSSUP #13 Who defeated whom in the Battle of Salamis in 480 BCE?

GREEKS/PERSIANS (ACCEPT ATHENS)

BONUS 1 Who was the Athenian commander at the Battle of Salamis?

THEMISTOCLES

BONUS 2 Who was the Persian king who witnessed the battle?

XERXES

Bonus 3 Who was the woman who fought as a naval commander against the Greeks in the battle of Salamis?

ARTEMISIA (OF HALICARNASSUS)

TOSSUP #14 In order to travel from ancient Carthage to Sicily, what in what direction would one go?

(NORTH) EAST

BONUS 1 To travel from Syracuse in Sicily to Sicilian Selinus (modern Selinunte), in what direction would one go?

WEST (AND SLIGHTLY NORTH)

BONUS 2 To travel from ancient Saguntum to Lutetia, in what direction would one go?

NORTH/NORTHEAST

BONUS 3 To travel from Rome to Sardinia, in what direction would one go?

WEST/SOUTHWEST

TOSSUP #15 In order to travel from ancient Athens to ancient Delphi, in what direction would one go?

NORTH/NORTHWEST

BONUS 1 To travel from Thebes to Athens, in what direction would one go?
SOUTH/SOUTHEAST

BONUS 2 To travel from ancient Macedonia to Thrace, in what direction would one go?
EAST/NORTHEAST

BONUS 3 To travel from Constantinople to Rhodes, in what direction would one go?
SOUTH/SOUTHWEST

TOSSUP #16 Who would be more likely to wear a chiton: Crassus or Crito?
CRITO

BONUS 1 What garment was characteristic of a Roman citizen?
TOGA

BONUS 2 Who would wear a peplos?
GREEK WOMEN

BONUS 3 What was the basic material used in everyday Roman clothing?
WOOL

TOSSUP #17 Who would be more likely to wear a toga: Ptolemy or Tiro?
TIRO

BONUS 1 Tiro was Cicero's slave and secretary whom Cicero manumitted. What was one of Tiro's best-known inventions?
SHORTHAND/TIRONIAN NOTES

BONUS 2 Several Ptolemies were rulers in Egypt. What part of Greece was the first Ptolemaic ruler of Egypt from?
MACEDONIA

BONUS 3 What is the Latin term that describes a purple-bordered toga?
TOGA PRAETEXTA

TOSSUP #18 What was the name of Alexander the Great's favorite horse?
BOUCEPHALUS

BONUS 1 According to Suetonius, the Roman Emperor Caligula had a favorite horse for whom he provided stables of marble and ivory, and to whom he assigned purple blankets. What was the name of this lucky equine?
INCITATUS

BONUS 2 In the *Iliad*, Achilles has immortal horses named Balius and Xanthus. What unusual ability does Xanthus display (with Hera's help) after Achilles chides them for not saving Patroclus from death?
THEY SPEAK ALOUD (IN GREEK HEXAMETERS)

BONUS 3 Pegasus was a flying horse in Greek myth. Which Greek hero tamed and rode Pegasus?
BELLEROPHON

TOSSUP #19 What was the name of Zeus' favorite daughter?
ATHENA

BONUS 1 What apotropaic piece of armor does Zeus give to Athena?
AEGIS

BONUS 2 What was unusual about Athena's birth?
FROM ZEUS' HEAD

BONUS 3 Which child of Zeus helped to birth Athena... with an ax?
HEPHAESTUS

TOSSUP #20 What did Hermes steal from Apollo?
CATTLE/OXEN

BONUS 1 How old was Hermes when he committed this theft?
ONE DAY OLD

BONUS 2 What is the main source for this myth?
HOMERIC HYMN TO HERMES

BONUS 3 What did Hermes do to a tortoise in the *Homeric Hymn to Hermes*, and how does that help him reconcile with Apollo?
HE MADE A TORTOISE SHELL INTO A LYRE AND GAVE IT AS A GIFT TO APOLLO.

TOSSUP #21 What did Heracles steal from Hades?
CERBERUS

BONUS 1 What was the traditional birthplace of Heracles?
THEBES

BONUS 2 Who had sent Heracles on his famous labors?
EURYSTHEUS

BONUS 3 What was Cerberus's job in Hades?
GUARD HADES ENTRANCE TO PREVENT SOULS FROM LEAVING

TOSSUP #22 What was the hometown of Lycurgus, Leonidas, and Cynisca?
SPARTA/LACEDAIMON/LACONIA

BONUS 1 What was the hometown of Epaminondas, Pindar, and the "Sacred Band"?
THEBES

BONUS 2 What was the hometown of Herodotus, Artemisia, and Mausolus?
HALICARNASSUS

BONUS 3 What was the hometown of Virgil?
MANTUA/CISALPINE GAUL/ANDES

TOSSUP #23 What was the hometown of Pericles and Thucydides?
ATHENS

BONUS 1 What was Socrates' hometown?
ATHENS

BONUS 2 What was Demosthenes' hometown?
ATHENS

BONUS 3 What was the hometown of the metic Aspasia, Pericles' *hetaira*?
MILETUS

TOSSUP #24 Which philosopher who founded the Academy wrote a work called Συμπόσιον?
PLATO

BONUS 1 What is the literal meaning of symposium?
DRINKING TOGETHER

Certamen Questions 2024, Eta Sigma Phi Convention (Continued)

BONUS 2 What is the main topic of discussion in Plato's Symposium?
LOVE/EROS

BONUS 3 Who arrives late to the symposium and tells a story about spending a sexless night with Socrates?
ALCIBIADES

TOSSUP #25 What is a Latin word for 'bird'?
AVIS/VOLUCRIS/ALES

BONUS 1 What kind of bird did the Romans put on their legionary standards?
EAGLE

BONUS 2 What kind of birds warned the Romans about an invasion of Gauls?
GEESE

BONUS 3 What was Juno's sacred bird?
PEACOCK

TOSSUP #26 Who was the Greek goddess of the Hearth?
HESTIA

BONUS 1 What is an ancient Greek word for 'fire'?
πῦρ, δάος, λάμπη, φανός, φάος

BONUS 2 Who brought fire to humans, in Greek mythology?
PROMETHEUS

BONUS 3 Who was the Greek god of the forge?
HEPHAESTUS

TOSSUP #27 Who was the Roman god of the forge?
VULCANUS

BONUS 1 What is a Latin word for 'fire'?
IGNIS/FLAMMA/FAX/INCENDIUM

BONUS 2 What did fire have to do with the Vestal Virgins?
THEY PROTECTED THE FIRE IN THE VESTA TEMPLE

BONUS 3 In what year during Nero's reign did fire destroy part of Rome?
64CE

TOSSUP #28 Who wrote a work called *Oresteia*?
AESCHYLUS

BONUS 1 Name the three plays in this trilogy.
AGAMEMNON, LIBATION BEARERS (*CHOEPHOROI), FURIES (EUMENIDES)

BONUS 2 What genre is the *Oresteia*?
TRAGEDY

BONUS 3 What was the charge against Orestes in the trial at the end of the trilogy?
MATRICIDE

TOSSUP #29 What was the name of the city in Epirus that Octavian founded to commemorate his Victory over Antony and Cleopatra in the Battle of Actium (31 BCE)?
Nicomolis (Victory Town)

BONUS 1 What was the name of the city where Alexander the Great supposedly solved a very knotty problem?
Gordion/Gordium (The Gordian Knot. Phrygia)

BONUS 2 What was the name of the Thracian city near where the Lysander and the Spartans defeated the Athenian fleet at the end of the Peloponnesian War, whose name means 'goat's rivers'?
Aegospotamoi

BONUS 3 What was the name of the Big City in the Peloponnese that Epaminondas founded to be the center of an anti-Spartan Arcadian Confederacy after the Theban victory in the Battle of Leuctra of 371 BCE?
Megalopolis (ἡ μεγάλη πόλις)

TOSSUP #30 Who wrote a work called *Ab Urbe Condita*?
LIVY

BONUS 1 What genre is *Ab Urbe Condita*?
HISTORY

BONUS 2 What part of Roman history does the work cover?
ALL OF IT

BONUS 3 Who was emperor when Livy wrote *Ab Urbe Condita*?
CAESAR AUGUSTUS

TOSSUP #31 What order of architecture includes these characteristics: Volute, Base, Continuous Frieze, Flat Narrow Fillet Between Column Flutes?
IONIC ORDER

BONUS 1 The name Ionic derives from a geographic location, Ionia, that today is in what country?
TURKEY

BONUS 2 The exterior of Colosseum in Rome features Ionic columns on which of its three levels?
SECOND (MIDDLE)

BONUS 3 Which one of the following three buildings features the Ionic order of architecture? The temple of Apollo at Didyma, The Temple of Apollo at Bassae, The Temple of Apollo at Corinth.
APOLLO AT DIDYMA

TOSSUP #32 What order of architecture includes these characteristics: Metope, Triglyph, Guttae, Sharp Arrises Between Column Flutes, No Column Base?
DORIC ORDER

BONUS 1 The exterior of the Roman Colosseum features Doric columns on which of its three levels?
BOTTOM/FIRST

BONUS 2 What do the "guttae" beneath each triglyph represent, skeuomorphically?
WOODEN PEGS FROM AN ORIGINAL WOOD CONSTRUCTION

BONUS 3 What is "entasis"?
OPTICAL REFINEMENT OF SWELLING (CONVEX CURVE) IN MIDDLE OF DORIC COLUMN.

TOSSUP #33 "Give me a place to stand, and I will move the Earth." The author of this grandiose statement was known for his famous "screw", and other inventions and mathematical accomplishments. From Syracuse, he was the one who supposedly yelled "Eureka" when he figured out that the apparent loss in weight of a body immersed in liquid will equal the weight of the displaced liquid.
ARCHIMEDES

BONUS: Name the following from their famous quotations:

1. “As a city we are the School of Hellas.”
PERICLES

2. “You might not step into the same river twice.”
HERACLITUS

3. “I grow old teaching myself constantly.”
SOLOON

TOSSUP #34 What is a Latin word for ‘slave’?

SERVUS/MANCIPIUM/FAMULUS/FAMILIARIS/
PUER/ANCILLA

BONUS 1 What does “manumission” mean?

FREEDING A SLAVE

BONUS 2 What is a term for a manumitted Roman slave... in Latin or English?

LIBERTUS/FREEDMAN/EMANCIPATED PERSON

BONUS 3 Name the Roman slave and gladiator who led a rebellion against the Roman Republic in 73-71 BCE.

SPARTACUS

TOSSUP #35 What is a Greek word for ‘slave’?

δοῦλος, παιδίον, οἰκέτης, ἀνδράποδον

BONUS 1 What is the term for the state-owned slaves in Sparta?

HELOTS

BONUS 2 The ancient Athenian police force was made up mostly of state-owned slaves who carried bows. What ethnicity were most of these slaves?

SCYTHIAN

BONUS 3 According to Greek myth, when Heracles was enslaved to Omphale in Lydia, what kind of clothing did he wear, and what kind of work did he do?

WOMEN’S CLOTHES, WOMEN’S WORK

TOSSUP #36 After which of the generals of Alexander the Great do we name the Hellenistic dynasty of Egypt?

PTOLEMY

BONUS 1 In what city of Egypt was the famous “Library” located?

ALEXANDRIA

BONUS 2 Who was the last Ptolemaic ruler of Egypt?

CLEOPATRA (VII)

BONUS 3 What artifact with a Ptolemaic Greek inscription was used to translate Egyptian hieroglyphic script?

ROSETTA STONE

TOSSUP #37 After which of the generals of Alexander do we name the Hellenistic dynasty that encompassed most of Asia and the Middle East as far as Bactria?

SELEUCUS

BONUS 1 The earliest Seleucid coins did not feature images of Seleucid rulers on the obverse. Whose image was on these early coins?

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

BONUS 2 Which Roman general put an end to the last remnants of the Seleucid empire in 63 BCE?

POMPEY

BONUS 3 Which Seleucid king provoked the Maccabean rebellion against Seleucid rule in Judea in 167 BCE?

ANTIOCHUS IV EPIPHANES — OR ANTIOCHUS

TOSSUP #38 Which Roman general was known for the destruction of Carthage in the Third Punic War?

SCIPIO AEMILIANUS (OR SCIPIO)

BONUS 1 In which decade did this destruction take place?

THE 140s BCE (146)

BONUS 2 Which Roman is known for his repeated injunction ‘CARTHAGO DELENDA EST’?

CATO THE ELDER (OR CATO)

BONUS 3 Which Numidian king provoked Rome to attack and helped the Romans in the siege of Carthage in the Third Punic War?

MASINISSA

TOSSUP #39 Which Roman general was known for his defeat of Carthage in the Second Punic War?

PUBLIUS CORNELIUS SCIPIO AFRICANUS (OR SCIPIO)

BONUS 1 What was the decisive final battle of the Second Punic War?

ZAMA

BONUS 2 Who was the Carthaginian general who invaded Italy in the Second Punic War?

HANNIBAL

BONUS 3 Who was the Numidian leader who helped the Romans to defeat Hannibal at the Battle of Zama?

MASINISSA

TOSSUP #40 What Greek building was known by a word that in Greek that means “of the virgin”?

PARTHENON

BONUS 1 What architectural order was the exterior of the Parthenon?

DORIC

BONUS 2 What is the Greek term for the two materials that made up the statue of Athena in the Parthenon’s cella, meaning “gold-ivory”?

CHRYSELEPHANTINE

BONUS 3 In which direction did the entrance of the Parthenon face?

EAST

TOSSUP #41 Who wrote works named *Philoctetes*, *Ajax*, and *Oedipus at Colonos*?

SOPHOCLES

BONUS 1 To what genre do these works belong?

TRAGEDY/PLAY/DRAMA

BONUS 2 Which of these three plays is the only surviving tragedy that has no female characters: *Philoctetes*, *Ajax*, or *Oedipus at Colonos*?

PHILOCTETES

BONUS 3 Two of Sophocles’ extant plays are named after the ill-starred king of Thebes. What are the titles of the two plays?

OEDIPUS THE KING (REX/TYRANNOS); OEDIPUS AT COLONUS

Certamen Questions 2024, Eta Sigma Phi Convention (Continued)

TOSSUP #42 Who wrote works named *Curculio*, *Mostellaria*, and *Miles Gloriosus*?

T. MACCIUS PLAUTUS (PLAUTUS)

BONUS 1 What does “Miles Gloriosus” mean?

BRAGGART SOLDIER

Bonus 2 What does *Mostellaria* mean?
GHOST/GHOSTLY/HAUNTED HOUSE

BONUS 3 Plautus’ plays are in a genre known as *fabulae palliatae*. To what does that term refer?

THE ‘PALLIUM’ OR CLOAK THE ACTORS WORE TO SIMULATE GREEK COSTUME.

TOSSUP #43 On what Greek mountain-side was Apollo’s oracle of Delphi?

MT. PARNASSOS

What is a Greek word for ‘mountain’?
ὄρος/κόλωνη

BONUS 1 What is a Greek word for ‘mountain’?

ὄρος/κόλωνη/λόφος

BONUS 2 What two mountains did the mythical Giants pile on each other in order to attack the gods on Mt. Olympus?
PELION AND OSSA

BONUS 3 What mountain towers above the city of Sparta?

TAYGETOS

TOSSUP #44 Which mountain was responsible for the destruction of Pompeii and Herculaneum in 79CE?
VESUVIUS

BONUS 1 What is a Latin word for ‘mountain’?

MONS/COLLIS/SCOPULUS/RUPES

BONUS 2 Under which mountain did Zeus trap the monster Typhon, which was also the mythological site of Hephaestus’ forge?
AETNA

BONUS 3 Through which mountains did Hannibal lead his troops and elephants in his march on Italy in the Second Punic War?
ALPS

TOSSUP #45 Who was the great mother-goddess of Anatolia, whose chief sanctuary was in Phrygia, was primarily a goddess of fertility, wore a mural crown, and was also a goddess of mountains and mistress of wild nature?

Cybele/Rhea

BONUS 1: Who was her youthful lover, about whom Catullus wrote?

Attis

BONUS 2 After the Romans brought Cybele to Rome, what festival did they hold in her honor?

Megalensia

BONUS 3: What form of mutilation did Attis suffer?

Castration

TOSSUP #46 What age, described by its metal according to Hesiod and other Greek and Roman poets, represented the *second* of the world’s periods, fabled as a time that was voluptuous and godless, and much inferior in simplicity and true happiness to the golden age which preceded it?

SILVER AGE

BONUS: Name the following metals:

1. Imported from Britain to give strength to copper and to form bronze.

TIN

2. It gave its name to the Greek Dark Age.

IRON

3. Hephaestus used it as the main ingredient in Achilles’ shield.

GOLD

TOSSUP #47 Greek and Latin are Indo-European languages, and so have many similar forms. For example, the Greek word ΠΟΥΣ (foot) is very similar to the Latin *pes* (foot), and the Greek word ΗΥΪΕΡ (above) is close in form to the Latin *super*. However, not all Greek and Latin words are cognate. What is the corresponding Latin word for the Greek word *oikos*?

DOMUS/AEDES/VILLA

BONUS: Give the Corresponding Latin words for the following Greek words:

a. The Greek noun ὁ ΗΛΙΟΣ
SOL

b. The Greek verb ΤΙΘΗΜΙ
PONO

c. The Greek noun ἡ ΠΟΡΝΗ
MERETRIX

TOSSUP #48 To which murderous Greek wife is Penelope most often favorably compared?

CLYTEMNESTRA

BONUS 1: Who divorced his wife to avoid the ‘suspicion’ that she acquired after the scandal of the Bona Dea IN 62 BCE?

CAESAR

BONUS 2: Which virtuous wife killed herself after being attacked by Sextus Tarquinius?

LUCRETIA

Bonus 3: Whose wife ran away with Paris to Troy?

MENELAUS

TOSSUP #49 Where would one expect to find *chthonian* gods?

UNDER GROUND

BONUS 1 Where would one expect to find a *cenobite*?

IN A MONASTERY

BONUS 2 Where would one expect to find a *Lacedaemonian*?

IN SPARTA/LACONIA/LACEDAEMONIA/BENEATH MT. TAYGETOS/EUROTAS RIVER

BONUS 3: Where would one expect to find the original Mausoleum?

ASIA MINOR/CARIA/BODRUM/TURKEY

TOSSUP #50 What familiar fairy tale is represented by the Latin title “Bella Dormiens”?

SLEEPING BEAUTY

BONUS 1: What familiar fairy tale is represented by the Latin title “Novae Vestes Imperatoris”?

EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES

BONUS 2: What familiar fairy tale is represented by the Latin title “Auricoma et Tres Ursi”?

GOLDBLOCKS AND THREE BEARS

BONUS 3: What familiar fairy tale is represented by the Latin title “Lacernella Rubra”?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

TOSSUP #51 This island has been popularly associated with the home of the *Odyssey*’s Phaeacians. Big and rich, it functions as a stopping-off place between Greece and Southern Italy. Well known from Thucydides’ account of its relations with its metropolis Corinth, during the Peloponnesian War it suffered from terrible stasis, which Thucydides describes in excruciating detail. It allied itself with Athens against Corinth in the early years of the Peloponnesian war. This island’s best-known artistic treasure is the great Gorgon Pediment, from the Archaic Period. Name this island.

CORFU, CORCYRA, KERKYRA

BONUS: Name the following islands:

1. It is in the center of the Cyclades, and sacred to Apollo

DELOS

2. It was home to Minoan Civilization

CRETE

3. It was home to the legendary “Colossus”

RHODES

TOSSUP #52 What was inside the Panathenaic amphoras which the Athenians gave as awards to victors in the Panathenaic games?

(SACRED) OLIVE OIL

BONUS: Name the following products:

1. What product was mixed with water in a krater?

WINE

2. What product did Athena produce in her competition with Poseidon for dominance in Athens?

OLIVE / OLIVE TREE

3. What product did Heracles have to remove from the Augean Stables?

DUNG/ MANURE

TOSSUP #53 The Romans called this god “Stator” and named a temple after him in this aspect because they believed it was his influence that caused them to “stop” in their flight when they fought the Sabines. Who was this god?

JUPITER

BONUS: Name the following divinities from their epithets:

1. “Laughter-loving”

APHRODITE/VENUS

2. “Cow-eyed”

HERA/JUNO

3. “Silver-Bowed”

APOLLO (accept ARTEMIS)

TOSSUP #54 What words do the letters S. P. Q. R. stand for?

SENATUS POPULUSQUE ROMANUS

BONUS: Name *three* of the seven hills of Rome. You get points for each of the three you name correctly.

PALATINE, CAPITOLINE, AVENTINE, CAELIAN, ESQUILINE, VIMINAL, QUIRINAL/COLLINE



In the heat of the Certamen: Moderators Dr. Scott Farrington of Delta Theta at Dickinson College (seated) and Dr. Daniel Levine of Beta Pii at the University of Arkansas (at lectern) with the winning Digamma Team at right

Minutes of the 96th Annual Convention

Hosted by Delta Chi at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA
March 24–26, 2024

Megale Grammateus, Alexandra Laird,
Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

Friday, March 24, 2024

Certamen: Digamma won (Laurence Pavlik, Joanthan Rolfe, Kylie Roe, Sarah Cohen) Members of Team Tom and Digamma competed in Final Certamen

Colleges and Chapters present at the Meeting:

- Alpha Kappa (Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
- Alpha Lambda (University of Oklahoma)
- Beta Phi (University of Arkansas)
- Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College)
- Gamma Sigma (University of Texas Austin)
- Delta Theta (Dickinson College)
- Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
- Epsilon Epsilon (Rockford University)
- Epsilon Sigma (Augustana College)
- Epsilon Sigma (Augustana College)
- Epsilon Psi (Santa Clara University)
- Zeta Beta (Temple University)
- Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)
- Eta Zeta (Truman State University)
- Theta Tau (Stockton University)

First Business Meeting

Saturday, March 25, 2024

Welcome Remarks. President John E. Jones III. gave a welcoming remark and is very excited to host for a second time after 2018, 6 years later. He publicly thanked the students, and especially the Eta Sigma Phi board and all the Classics Professors. Gave a little history of Dickinson College, first college founded after the end of the Revolutionary War, founded by Ben Rush. Quoted Aristotle.

Ivy gave an introduction and introduced the Eta Sigma Phi board at Dickinson, and said it was wonderful to see everyone. Gave a run-down of the schedule.

Megas Prytanis Laurence Pavlik, presiding, started First Business Meeting
→ Megale Grammateus: Alexandra Laird: Minutes of the 95th National Convention

Chapter Reports:

- Alpha Lambda (University of Oklahoma): Justice Neasbitt. New faculty advisors, new professor from University of Michigan, inducting 15-20 people into Eta Sigma, provide Greek and Latin tutoring from Eta Sigma Phi where students can sign up, coffee hour and speak about Classics, Classics Day, built a Lego Colosseum, lofi Eta Sigma vibes,
- Alpha Kappa (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) Tallulah Jane Trezevant. New members, readings, Classics Clubs, Ancient Stories and New friends.
- Beta Pi (University of Arkansas): Chairs Morasch. Initiated many new members, Latin language table. At Dr. Levine's house a lot.
- Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College) Rahm Pandey. Classics gatherings, Classics Day, 4 new members initiated
- Gamma Sigma (UT Austin),
- Delta Theta (Dickinson College) Ivy Johnson. Planning to host the National Convention, planning to induct a large number of inductees, largest group of Dickinson college students studying in Rome, many new projects
- Delta Chi (St. Olaf College). Joey Richards. 16 new members initiated, many speakers came to speak, annual Bacchanalia,
- Epsilon Epsilon (Rockford University). Yessenia Rosales-Moreno. Reactivated in October 2023 with initiation with 4 members, Medea play, anticipate new member, devising strategies to get new students.
- Epsilon Sigma (Augustana College). Laurence Pavlik. Symposium night, regular meeting, language Olympics.
- Epsilon Psi (Santa Clara University). Sarah Cohen. First attendee at the National convention.
- Zeta Beta (Temple University). Tom Fishman. Trying to outreach, parties.

- Eta Delta (Hillsdale College). Maya Toman. Hired new classics prof, spoken Latin conference, reading groups, Homeration.
- Eta Zeta (Truman State University). Arey Shaw. Helped high school students.
- Theta Tau (Stockton University). Toga presentation, fun aspect of Classics, organized debates for students on campus, OGRE (Order of Greco-Roman Enthusiasts) — museum trips, movie nights, game nights

Report on Contests, Dr. Joe Garnjobst

National Translation Exams Winners were announced (see handout)

Report on Scholarships, Dr. Katherine Panagakos

Not many people apply for these scholarships SO APPLY!!!

Brent M. Froberg Scholarship to the American School of Classical Studies in Athens: Jonathan Clark and Josiah Haller

American Academy in Rome
Scholarship: Kaitlyn Martin

H.R. Butts Summer Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology: Maia Tindall and Sara Dove

Bernice L. Fox Latin Teacher TRAINING Scholarship: Elizabeth Hughes and Olivia Matlock

Theodore Bedrick Scholarship to the Vergilian Society at Cumae: Matthew Tully

Report of Megale Chrysophylax, Arreya Shaw

Funds. Spending less than what we can so our accounts are good and stable.

Report of Megas Hyparchos, Jonthan Rolfe

1 bid for a new Chapter: University of CA at Santa Cruz, 21 students in Latin and 15 in Greek courses, 15 students' signatures in bid, they have a classics club, organize social events and field trips, offer introductory Greek and Latin, various Greek and Latin courses

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Bids to host 97th Annual Convention

1st Bid: Dr. Levine, University of Arkansas

2nd Bid: St. Olaf College

Nominations for 2024–25 National Officers

Prytanis: Jonathan Rolfe

Hipparchus: Alexandra Laird (Hillsdale), Arreya Shaw (Truman), David Cathel (Hillsdale), Zach Chen (Hillsdale)

Grammateus: Maya Toman (Hillsdale), Tallulah, Jacob Johnson (Rockford), Asher Riley (Temple)

Chrysophylax: Chairs Morash (University of Arkansas), Alexandra Thomhill (Truman), Matthew Resnick, Teddy McGovern (Temple)

Presentation of Student Papers

Zach Chen, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
“The Loneliness of Excellence: Social Schism in the Stories of Coriolanus and Achilles”

Hunter James Omerzo, Delta Theta at Dickinson College
“Plank- by- Plank: Reconstructing the baris of Thonis-Heracleion”

Adam Bishop, Eta Zeta at Truman State University
“The Libyan Oracle: An Undocumented Egyptian Berber Religion and its Relation to Berber Beliefs in Antiquity”

Nicole Bustard, Delta Theta at Dickinson College,
“The Role of Res Publica in Augustus’ Expansion and Frontier Policy”

Classics Convention

Conventioneers gathered together to do activities such as the Dickinson Dig Simulator and the Mythological Planetarium Presentation.

Declamations

The Latin and Greek Declamations were held, and much mightiness ensued.

Committee Meetings

Meetings were held including the Convention, Contests and Scholarships, Finance, New Chapters, Officers, and Resolutions.

Convention Meeting: The four people on board explained what their jobs were and what to expect from their respective jobs—everyone goes to SCS and mandates the table. We talked through the election process. Someone introduces you and says, “they should win,” then you go up and give a speech: hit why you are interested and why you would do a good job 2mins, nominations, chapters talk amongst themselves, 2 votes per chapter, tally them up and greet the winner, swear in the new people.

Philadelphia Jan. 6 The SCS Conference.

Jonathon: Asked if there was something we could do to connect as a larger group. Charis: suggested a GroupMe or a Discord to stay in touch Alexandra T.: get lots of social media accounts, seeing what each chapter is doing Maya: I need lots of encouragement. Eta Sigma Phi is trying to fund more people to come to conventions and conferences.

Results at Banquet

There was much presentation and dinner entertainment.

Dr. David Richardson, Prof. of mathematics—Tales of Impossibility—Ancient Mathematics. Wrote on the history of math and the ancient Greek history of math

Rockford College presented Cuban Medea

Parade of Costumes

Award Ceremony presented by Dr. Panagakos

- Costume Award(s): Lesbia and her sparrow, Agamemnon and Clytemnestra

- Latin Declamation: Augustine’s Confessions, 14 entries, honorable mention: Michal Baxter, Winner: Zach Chen
- Greek Declamation: Pericles’ Funeral Oration, honorable mention: Maya Toman, Adam Bishop; Winners: Jonathan Rolfe and Michal Baxter
- Certamen Awards: Digamma. Laurence Pavlik, Joanthan Rolfe, Kylie Roe, Sarah Cohen won books
- Dr. Levine: thank you for writing the questions.
- Student Paper award: 2 winners. Both papers will be published in *Nuntius*.
 - Adam Bishop “The Libyan Oracle: An Undocumented Egyptian Berber Religion and its Relation to Berber Beliefs in Antiquity”
 - Nicole Bustard, Delta Theta at Dickinson College, “The Role of Res Publica in Augustus’ Expansion and Frontier Policy”
- Service Award: Chapter awards. 2 winners. University of Oklahoma and Stockton University Lifetime Achievement Award: James Hessinger, read by Martha Davis.
- Then we sang the Eta Sigma Phi song!

Second Business Meeting

Sunday, March 26, 2024

Dr. Levine showed off the raise the Bacchus shirt Monmouth showed off some t-shirts (Classics day T-shirt), Dickinson showed off a t-shirt, Hillsdale showed off a mug. Dickinson won.

Committee Reports:

- Finance and New Chapters: by the Chrysopholax: getting another chapter. New member
- Convention Committee: bid from Rockford and St. Olaf—talked about the logistical tasks about running a Convention.
- Contests and Scholarships Committee: If you are going for a master’s or a PhD there are many scholarships available.
- Resolutions Committee: made resolutions.

Minutes of the 96th Annual Convention (Continued)

Report of Executive Secretary, Dr. Katherine Panagakos

Chapters represented at this year's convention, there are a few chapters who have reactivated this year. Paper Sessions and presenters CAAS.

Eta Sigma Phi sponsored a panel at the 2024 meeting of the Society for Classical Studies. One of the presenters was Jonathan Rolfe. The officers set up and manned the table with Eta Sigma Phi with the regalia and folders. The officers got to go to the Greek Islands restaurant. Ate Octopus. Encourage all members to submit to the *Nuntius*—write reviews, write poetry, etc. Submit anything! Submit a list of officers as an annual report! Go to the website and click Annual report and fill it in right there. Students must submit the annual report. Get your chords. Subscribe the Eta Sigma Phi website by email. It's all good. Everything is on the website. Extend thank you to Dickinson College for letting us come to PA for the Convention.

Report of the Chair for the Board of the Trustees, Dr. Antony Augustakis

Thanked all those who came to the Convention. Extended thanks to

Dickinson. Term of board time: 3-year term. The board discussed matters with Garnjobst concerning contests, etc. The board approved Dr. Panagakos is now with Conventions.

Bids for next Year

2025 Election Convention Site. The two bids: St. Olaf, Delta Chi Chapter and Rockford, Epsilon Epsilon.

St Olaf's ideas: April 4-6, location: Fairfield Inn and Suites, city of Northfield is a lovely city, things to do, lots of coffee shops, options for food. Many ideas for Saturday afternoon activities. Banquet Entertainment, Classics Band called Winterly Elementary, Local Committee and officers. 50 active members, very invested, very committed to the promotion of Classics. Institution Support. Annual Greek and Latin caroling.

All ayes for St Olaf.

Resolutions

Members: Sofie A., Peyton Alexander, Adam Bishop, Joe Gibson, Madison Grohman, Joey H., Justice Nesbit, Joe Moore

Voting for Officers

Nominations for 2024-25 National Officers

For Prytanis: Jonathan Rolfe

For Hipparchus: Alexandra Laird (Hillsdale), Arreya Shaw (Truman), David Cathel (Hillsdale), Zach Chen (Hillsdale)

For Grammateus: Maya Toman (Hillsdale) Asher Riley (Temple)

For Chrysophylax: Chairs Morasch (University of Arkansas), Alexandra Thomhill (Truman) Teddy McGovern (Temple)

ELECTED

Megas Prytanis: Jonathan Rolfe
Megale Hyparchos: Arreya Shaw
Megas Grammateus: Asher Riley
Megale Chrysophylax: Charis Morasch

Installation: The new national officers were sworn in.

Thank you, Delta Theta!

96th Annual Convention ended.

Want to place an ad in *Nuntius*?

Cost per issue for active chapters:

\$25 (1/4 page)

\$40 (1/2 page)

\$75 (whole page)

For other organizations:

\$200 for full page on back cover

\$150 for full page inside

\$75 for half page

\$50 for quarter page

Send payment and electronic camera-ready copy to the editor.

Resolutions Committee Report

2024 Eta Sigma Phi Convention
Dickinson College
Carlisle, PA

What a wonderful convention this has been! Our WHEREASes cannot even begin to express how resolved we feel, but here is our humble effort.

WHEREAS the Certamen team names this year were the best ever, including not only Linear A, but also Linear B, Digamma, Team Tom, Graecissimi, Slay-Son and the Argonauts, Caesar-Stabbers, and Hobby Lobbyists,

and

WHEREAS the Certamen went into two overtimes because of the superior knowledge of so many members,

and

WHEREAS we all wish we had paid more attention when talking about the Roman kings,

and

WHEREAS the BIG CITY question finally got answered., and next year we expect a question about a small city,

and

WHEREAS we accepted the minutes of the 95th annual convention, including the fact that last year's convention food was, "classical and scrumptious" and we note that both this year's cafeteria lunch and banquet in the HUB were 'classiciora et scrumptiora' or κλασσικότερα και σκρυμτότερα,

and

WHEREAS we found that every Hillsdale conventioneer capable of running for office was nominated, perhaps for all offices at the same time, thus creating the fear of a *dictator perpetuus*, and unfortunately the *Idibus Martiis* was last week,

and,

WHEREAS the chapter reports revealed that every other local chapter watched the movie *Gladiator*,

and,

WHEREAS [JUSTICE] the University of Oklahoma delegate opened the chapter reports by speaking for a perfectly reasonable amount of time,

and,

WHEREAS we appreciated the prowess in the translation contests of students at BYU and Baylor University and now understand that they must have been too busy translating to attend this convention,

and,

WHEREAS the student papers were the best ones at any convention ever,

and,

WHEREAS Adam was brave to use *Discord* to talk to an anonymous Berber in an undocumented language about an undocumented religion and read aloud credibly in that tongue with excellent pronunciation, although we had no idea if it was correct or not,

and,

WHEREAS [Adam] my research was incredibly well peer-reviewed and checked by many people,

and,

WHEREAS we learned that Herodotus actually DOES know how to build a boat and is NOT the father of lies -- and we learned more about acacia trees than will ever be practical in our lives (except for in Minecraft),

and,

WHEREAS we learned from Zachary that the reason nobody likes us is because we're just better than everybody else,

and,

WHEREAS that guy in the centurion helmet must be pretty special; he's really one in — one in ... a hundred.

and,

WHEREAS we learned that Star Trek was wrong: *Space* is not the final frontier; it's really the Teutoburg Forest,

and,

WHEREAS Dickinson's chapter advisor DID in fact make a contribution to this great convention ... but we can't use campus WiFi to google the answer to what it was he did,

and,

WHEREAS we will be Dickinson's guests in fact and in name, but not in WiFi,

and,

WHEREAS the delegates from St Olaf got to know shuttle driver well, but never got introduced formally during their airport odyssey, complete with the bag of winds that sent them back to where they had been, and in the meantime Stockton University was stopped on the side of the highway for a zoom call for their Language Department Evaluation, during which they formed the cult of the "people of the van,"

and,

WHEREAS the University of Arkansas was confident that they wanted to host next year's convention, but withdrew their bid, leaving 12 other chapters practically fist fighting for the privilege of hosting,

and,

Resolutions Committee Report (Continued)

WHEREAS the town of Carlisle looks so much like a Hallmark movie that we almost expected to see a small home-town college girl unearthing day-old artifacts in the dig simulator fall in love with a big city businessman, who will soon learn the true meaning of archaeological research and leave a big endowment for Dickinson College's chapter of Ἡ Συνουσία Φιλοσοφίας. [Someone in Audience honks horn and says "WRONG!"] [Someone else in the audience yells, BUZZKILL!] Oops, no bonus points ... OK, OK, meant to say Ἡ Συνουσία Φιλελλήνων,

and,

WHEREAS our motto Φιλοσοφούμεν καὶ Φιλοκαλοῦμεν expresses our love of the wise and the beautiful — which is what we think of the Dickinson college students and their faculty: they're wise, they're beautiful ... and we love them,

and,

WHEREAS everyone enjoyed their stay at Carlisle's Comfort Suites — not to be confused with Carlisle's Comfort Inn, which some of us mistakenly visited,

and,

WHEREAS we all looked incredibly dignified in VR headsets and felt like it was cool to be in ancient Greece, where all we wanted to do was to beat up the lower classes,

and,

WHEREAS Dickinson College President John Jones III received thunderous applause for saying that Classics will continue to be taught at this 240-year-old college,

and,

WHEREAS it was impossible to count the number of times that Dr. Panagakos used the word "apply" when discussing Eta Sigma Phi's scholarship opportunities,

and,

WHEREAS we agree that that bank should give the frog a loan because his old man's a rolling stone,

and,

WHEREAS the Dickinson Classics students and faculty are a model for success,

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that we express our gratitude, respect, appreciation, reverence, and obeisance to our hosts, and pledge to meet again soon to share more

fellowship, friendship, scholarship, non-partisanship, connoisseurship, archonship, viewership, citizenship, showmanship, and one-upmanship. [big breath]

VALETE OMNES! XAIPETE ΠΑΝΤΕΣ!

PIETATE ET DOCTRINA TUTA
LIBERTAS!

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Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, 2024

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank all those who came to the meeting, hosted by DELTA THETA of Dickinson College and made our convention once again a very successful one!

The duties of the Board of Trustees include financial and policy decisions, as well as personnel matters: as usual, the Trustees have been communicating electronically regarding different matters throughout the year and met also in person during this convention. The Board extended the term of service of Professors Garnjobst, Levine, and Sick through 2027 and of Professor Augoustakis as Chair until 2027 as well.

The Board discussed matters regarding the translation contests and scholarships as well as made recommendations to the Chair and Executive Secretary to fill committee vacancies, a process which takes place during the summer. The Board approved a new position in the National Office, that of Associate Director, to assist Professor Panagakos with conventions, the website, and the editorship of the *Nuntius*.

I hope to see many of you next year at St. Olaf College!

Quistis nos omnes feliciter tueatur!

Antony Augoustakis,
Chair of the Board of Trustees



ETA SIGMA PHI

THE NATIONAL CLASSICS HONORARY SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1914

Rudolph Masciantonio Diversity Outreach Grant

Eta Sigma Phi, the national undergraduate honorary society, announces the Rudolph Masciantonio Diversity Outreach Grant. Any active chapter of Eta Sigma Phi is eligible to apply annually for a grant of up to \$1000 in order to support the chapter's efforts to promote the Classics, especially in communities which are limited in their access to the study of the Greco-Roman world. Such communities include: various racially, ethnically, sexually (including LGBTQIA+), physically, and religiously disadvantaged groups; first-generation students (including those from immigrant families); those educated at schools which have abandoned Latin, Greek, and Classics; those for whom misunderstanding or bias has meant lack of prior exposure to the Greco-Roman past; and those for whom narrower definitions of "Classics" have meant denying the importance of other parts of the Mediterranean basin as legitimate parts of the ancient world.

This grant can be used to enable the chapter to purchase teaching materials, book prizes, museum admissions, and other activities (such as field trips) for the outreach group. Grants are made to Eta Sigma Phi chapters, not to their host departments, colleges, or universities.

In order to apply for this grant, a chapter must submit a 500-word description of the project and planned activity along with a budget. The deadline for submitting applications for the 2023-2024 academic year is October 1, 2023. Chapters receiving this grant will be required to submit a follow-up report for the 2023 convention. (Attendance at the convention by a member of the chapter is encouraged but not required. The report can be submitted *in absentia*.) Failure to submit this follow-up report for the convention will make the chapter ineligible to apply for another Masciantonio Grant for the following year. Grant recipients will also work with the editor of *Nuntius* in writing an article about the project, accompanied by several photos of participants, for the fall issue.

Chapters receiving this grant are eligible for the Outreach Prize awarded annually at convention to the chapter with the best outreach activity.

Rudolph Masciantonio devoted his teaching career to bringing the Classics to inner-city grade school children in the Philadelphia Public Schools. His generous bequest to Eta Sigma Phi funds this Diversity Outreach Award.

For more information about Eta Sigma Phi, see www.etasigmaphi.org or contact:

Dr. Katherine Panagakos
Executive Secretary of Eta Sigma Phi
Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205
Office: ((609) 652-4618
etasigmaphinational@gmail.com

2024 Eta Sigma Phi Scholarship Recipients

Brent M. Froberg Scholarship to the American School of Classical Studies in Athens

Jonathan Clark (Alpha Gamma at Southern Methodist University) is a Ph.D. student in Classics at the University of Washington who was awarded the Froberg scholarship to support study in the ASCSA's 2024 Summer Seminar, "Warrior Sailors, Traders, and Pirates: Aegean Islands Throughout the Ages." Jonathan earned B.A.s in Classics and Linguistics at the University of Maryland in 2018, graduating *magna cum laude*; he was initiated into the Zeta Nu chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at Maryland in Spring 2015. He continued his study at Tulane University, earning an M.A. in Classical Studies in 2020. Jonathan writes "this seminar is exciting for the opportunity to learn more about gender and sexuality in the material record, especially at sites beyond Athens." (Scholarship deferred from 2023.)

Josiah Haller (Gamma Theta at Georgetown University) was awarded the Froberg scholarship to attend the 2024 Summer Session of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. He is earning his M.A. from the Florida State University after receiving his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in 2021 with a perfect 4.0. While at Georgetown, Josiah received the Oxford Honors Scholarship in Fall 2018 and Spring 2020 to study at Oxford University. He was awarded Outstanding English Research (2021), Outstanding History Research (2021) and the Dean's Academic Honor Award (2021) voted on by faculty and awarded to two graduating seniors. Josiah also served as president of the Gamma Theta Chapter and participated in Latin caroling, a Greek reading group, and led induction ceremonies. He continues to support the local classics community by volunteering for the Junior Classical League. Josiah, who has never been to Greece, is thrilled to attend the American School this summer.

American Academy in Rome Scholarship

Kaitlyn Martin (Eta Eta at Virginia Tech) is currently attending The University of Virginia's Bridge Program for Classics having earned an M.A. in History from Virginia Tech (2019) and a B.A. with honors in History and Sociology from Emory and Henry College (2017). As an undergraduate, Kaitlyn was awarded the History Department's Outstanding Thesis award (2017) and won the History Department's Outstanding Student award twice (2016, 2015). Her undergraduate thesis was entitled "Power through Religion: A Woman's Role in Ancient Greece," and her M.A. thesis was "Popular Religious Practice in Classical Thebes." In the summer of 2019, Kaitlyn attended the ASCSA Summer Seminar "Find the Spartans."

H.R. Butts Summer Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology

Maia Tindall (Omega at the College of William and Mary) used her Butts scholarship to work on the Data and Geospatial team at the American Excavations at Morgantina Contrada Agnese Project in Sicily (<https://themagazzino.org/>). She is a junior double majoring in Finance and Classical Studies. She has worked for three years as a research assistant for a professor in the Economics Department where she has gained invaluable experience in proper research methods and approaches. Maia has taught herself a variety of programs including ArcGIS Pro, STATA, and R. Combining her background in Classical Studies with her interest in data management and computer science,

Sara Dove (Alpha Theta at Hunter College) used her Butts Scholarship to participate in the Lyktos Archaeological Project in Crete (<https://isaw.nyu.edu/research/lyktos>). She is a senior at Hunter College where she is majoring in

Classical Studies with minors in Classical Archaeology and Anthropology. She is currently the Grammateus of Hunter's Alpha Theta chapter. She plans to continue her education at the graduate level with a focus on rite of initiation for women and girls and the ancient perception of childhood and girlhood. Her deep curiosity about Minoan culture led her to the Lyktos Project to "learn more about how ancient Cretans lives, and how their connection to mainland Greece influenced them and vice versa, as well as the other civilizations they traded with." Her background in anthropology leads her to ask the question "why?". It is this inquiry that has directed her to employ interdisciplinary methodologies as she attempts to understand ancient civilizations better.

Bernice L. Fox Latin Teacher Training Scholarship

Elizabeth Hughes (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College), a proponent of active Latin in the classroom, used the Fox Scholarship to attend the 2024 Conventiculum Dickinsoniense (<https://blogs.dickinson.edu/dcc/2023/09/28/conventiculum-dickinsoniense-2024>). She teaches Latin to elementary and middle school students for Valor Education in Kyle, Texas. She was inducted into Eta Sigma Phi in 2019 and participated in many of the local chapter's activities including a Homerathon, volunteer Latin tutoring at a middle school in Michigan, and the spoken Latin table. She was also active in the national society presenting papers at both the 2021 and 2022 national conventions.

Olivia Matlock (Gamma Omicron, Monmouth College) used her Fox Scholarship to attend the 2024 American Classical League Institute in Tucson, Arizona. She is currently earning her M.A. in Classics at The University of Kansas where she is also a Graduate Teaching Assistant. Olivia was inducted into the Eta Delta Chapters in 2019. While at Monmouth College, Olivia

More Glimpses of the 2024 Convention

participated, coordinated, and lead initiations for ΗΣΦ. She also created and lead meetings and events for campus activities working with the Classics Club and Classics Department such as Classics Day IV, and V, and Cider with Classics.

Theodore Bedrick Scholarship to the Vergilian Society at Cumae

Matthew Tully (Eta Delta at Hillsdale College) is currently a Classics major with a strong love of languages. In addition to Ancient Greek and Latin, Matthew has studied Hebrew, German, and even Old Norse! He is eager to travel abroad and states, “Visiting Naples with the Vergilian Society is the perfect next step for me because it will help me gain a more wholistic understanding of the relationship between Roman cultural identity as understood through its literature, and the cultural landscape of Italy itself.” The Vergilian Society’s Tour “Cultural Landscapes on the Ancient Bay of Naples” has been cancelled, unfortunately, due to low enrollment, and Martin is currently looking into other options.

For more information about these scholarships see pages 54–55.



Trustees Dan Levine of Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas and Joseph Garnjost of Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

Below, Trustee Dan Levine with honorary trustee Martha Davis of Zeta Beta at Temple University



Delegates from Gamma Omicron at Monmouth College

Eta Sigma Phi Website

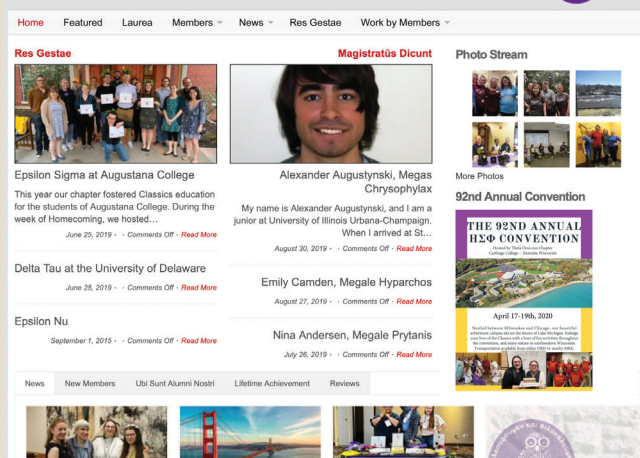
Take advantage of ΗΣΦ’s national website. Powered by WordPress, the setup makes it easy for any registered personage to comment on others’ work and publish their own.

If your chapter just pulled off a great event — tell us about it. If you’ve written a great Classics-related something — let us read it. If we all take advantage of the new website, it will provide convention-style collaboration and idea-trading in the comfort of our own homes.

To check it out, go to www.etasigmaphi.org.

Eta Sigma Phi

Honorary Society for Classical Studies



A Journey of Epic Proportions

by Kaitlyn Martin
Eta Eta at Virginia Tech

Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit
(Vergil, *Aeneid* 1.203)

Aeneas' words were meant to comfort his men at the beginning of his tale, but they were also words of encouragement to our group of 15 participants as we traipsed through the Roman landscape in 40° C heat, with not a cloud in sight. Maybe, at first, this does not seem to be a stunning endorsement for the Classical Summer School at the American Academy in Rome, but it truly was a journey of epic proportions. Our journey took us high into the mountains as well as deep underground into catacombs. We explored the sites of Ancient Italy, from the Etruscan necropoli of Tarquinia and Cerveteri to the Roman colonies of Pompeii and Ostia Antica, tackling history from before the rise of the city of Rome to the rule of Constantine. Such an ambitious timeline and exploration of the geography of the ancient Roman Empire required an ambitious itinerary, which was no doubt delivered by our program leaders.

Instead of Aeneas, but arguably more epic, we were led by Dr. Evan Jewell, Dr. Emily Hurt, and Dr. Valentina Follo. While all three took us through the landscape, covering the historical and cultural significances of particular sites and monuments, they each brought their own expertise to the forefront and even some of their personal research interests (e.g. the art of city destruction and colonization, the narrative of Roman history created under the Fascist regime, and even the study of men's beards in sculpture). The main theme of our program, however, was wayfinding in the ancient world. We were walked through the Roman landscape, focusing on specific chronological phases in order to understand how the individuals of the ancient world would have perceived and navigated the ancient world, and we discussed how that navigation would have changed depending on the status of the individual.



Kaitlyn Martin posing in front of a statue of Antoninus Pius in the Museo Nazionale Romano — Palazzo Massimo alle Terme in Rome. Martin was assigned this statue for an “Emperor Roll Call” Class Assignment in the American Academy in Rome Summer School.

They also made sure to make clarifications when needed, covering more foundational information when the needed was expressed. This meant a crash-course in topics like Roman fresco styles, mosaics, brick styles, and building materials. I will forever remember construction terms like *opus reticulatum*, *opus sectile*, *opus quadratum*, and I will never forget the importance and prominence of tuff throughout the Roman world.

Throughout this experience, we had the opportunity to connect with other members of the program, fellows at the school, as well as academics who were asked to lead us through specific sites, such as Dr. Allison Emmerson in Pompeii, Dr. Joanna Spurza in Ostia Antica, and so many more. As scholars largely dealing with the literature and language of the ancient world, and some having studied the art and architecture

of the Roman world, being introduced to the physical landscape of the ancient world that we study was invaluable, and the introduction through an art historical or archaeological lens opened my eyes to new interpretations and expanded breadth of knowledge about the world of our authors.

This program also allowed us to build lasting connections with fellow scholars, PhD students, and teachers of Latin in the middle school and high school. The experience of having daily conversation regarding classics, and even being able to express humor surrounded by people who would understand was priceless. I was not only humbled to meet so many good people and excellent scholars, but I was also inspired by their passion for their work. Through pedagogical

workshops and as well as the site reports or teaching demos given onsite, I was able to experience how these individuals portrayed information to their students and engage them in a way that they are both learning and having fun with the material. Latin, in their lessons, was both enjoyable and accessible. It is encouraging to know that these individuals are cultivating the future of Classics.

As a graduate student new to Classics, I came into the program with a love of Augustan poetry and the work of Lucretius. This program renewed my love for the representation of the divine in ancient art, especially those divinities that cross the boundaries of the ancient world from psychopomps like Mercury to the blue Etruscan demons to those divinities that straddle and transcend perceived

barriers of gender. Finally, also, my ongoing love of representations of femininity, from the divine to the mundane, was nourished quite extensively. As I proceed in my graduate studies, I am so very thankful for this experience. I am grateful for the financial support provided by Eta Sigma Phi as well as the department of Classics at UVA. The information that I have learned through this program, the professional and amicable connections that I have made, and the pedagogical training I have experienced have made me a more informed scholar, a more competent colleague, a more confident future educator, and certainly a better, more well-rounded person.

So, yes. *Haec meminisse iuvat.*



Kaitlyn Martin with the other members of the 2024 American Academy in Rome Classical Summer School in front of an Etruscan tomb in Cerveteri.

Lyktos Archaeological Project Yields Many Treasures

by Sara Dove

Alpha Theta at Hunter College

In the heart of Crete lies the small town of Lyktos, once a renowned ancient city mentioned by scholars like Polybius and Hesiod, and even featured in Homer's *Iliad*. The archaeological remains of Lyktos are nestled amid a vast olive grove on the side of a mountain, 620 meters above sea level. This is where I spent four weeks in the summer of 2024, looking out from the heights down to the Aegean Sea during breaks.

The Lyktos Archaeological Project is a collaborative effort between the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW), New York University, and the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, as well as Dr. Vasiliki Sythiakaki from the Greek Archaeological Service, and the Archaeological Society at Athens. Dr. Antonis Kotsonas of ISAW and Dr. Angelos Chaniotis from Princeton co-direct the project. While the Princeton team focuses on the Roman and later occupations of the site, the ISAW team primarily investigates the Greek period, especially the Archaic era, to uncover more about the site's early significance. Though it's known that the city expanded during the Hellenistic era, much remains to be learned about its earlier

stages of settlement. The project, active since 2021, continues to yield intriguing discoveries each season.

The excavation is divided between two areas: a cemetery and a presumed sanctuary on the olive-covered mountainside. At the top of the mountain lies a Byzantine chapel. I worked primarily on the sanctuary, rotating between trenches. This rotation allowed me to observe differences in stratigraphical levels and how ecological changes influenced deposit migration. I handled ceramics from various eras, noting shifts in pottery design over time. Besides ceramics, we uncovered animal bones, charcoal, loom weights, and various figurines depicting humans and animals. All of which offered intriguing insights into daily life, rituals, and trade patterns of ancient Lyktos. Over the weeks, I became adept at identifying materials and artifacts. This was the first time I had seen such things in person, and not behind a museum glass.

As the digging portion of the day wound down, we would transport large bags of ceramics, bones, and other noteworthy finds to the lab. The lab was in the modern village of Lyttos in an old schoolhouse. Here, I deepened my understanding of ceramic identification, learning to differentiate between styles and fabrics as we washed pottery with water and toothbrushes. I



The view from the top of the site.

learned about the chemical compositions of the land and of the pottery, and how they affect the finds over centuries. I also was able to contribute to the database, applying my previous library experience to catalog and organize the finds.

When not excavating, we engaged with the local community, participating in festivals, dancing, and dining with locals. On weekends, we visited other historical sites, such as the temple at Knossos and nearby Minoan sanctuaries. Immersing ourselves in both the ancient and contemporary culture of Crete was a profound experience. The interplay between past and present in Crete's modern identity was enlightening, and I cherished the opportunity to experience both aspects of Cretan life. Being able to experience this helped me understand how the relics we were uncovering wove into the cultural fabric of the island, even after all of this time. This, of course, was all made possible by the generous support of the Eta Sigma Phi's H.R. Butts Scholarship, which allowed me to travel to this site and participate in my first archaeological excavation as a trench assistant.



*Above, Sara Dove,
Byzantine chapel in the
background*



*Left, the ISAW team
digging in one of the
biggest trenches, Sara
Dove in the center*

Froberg Winner Visits Multiple Greece Excavation Sites

by Josiah Haller

Gamma Theta at Georgetown University

My time spent in Greece during the ASCSA Summer Session was a priceless experience. Over the course of six weeks, I got the chance to travel with expert archaeologists to many of Greece's most incredible sites, including Mycenae, Corinth, Knossos, Olympia, Pylos, and of course, the Athenian Acropolis. In doing so, I also got to meet the renowned scholars and archaeologists leading these projects, an opportunity I never could have had outside this program. Having never been to Greece before, these experiences brought new life my understanding of the ancient Greeks, and transformed the way I now study and teach on them. I am incredibly grateful to Eta Sigma Phi for providing this opportunity which will forever make me a better educator of the Classics.



Josiah Haller leaning against one of the columns of the Temple of Athena Nike on the Athenian Acropolis

Winners of the 2024 Eta Sigma Phi Maurine Dallas Watkins Sight Translation Contests

75th Annual Greek Translation Contest

Advanced Greek (17 entries)

- 1st Owen Embree, Eta Lambda, University of Dallas (The Lawrence Crowson Prize)
- 1st Jonah Murray, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College (The Lawrence Crowson Prize)
- 2nd Peyton Louise Robuck, Gamma Omega, Baylor University
- 2nd Kanu Mahasivam, Alpha Kappa, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 3rd Emily Saladino, Gamma Omega, Baylor University
- Honorable Mention: Jonathan Hanna, Epsilon Kappa, Brigham Young University
- Honorable Mention: Andrei Chura, Delta Lambda, College of the Holy Cross
- Honorable Mention: Zachary Chen, Eta Delta Hillsdale College

Intermediate Greek (20 entries)

- 1st Michal Baxter, Theta Tau, Stockton University
- 2nd Clifford Simpson, Epsilon Kappa, Brigham Young University
- 3rd Tori Nielsen, Epsilon Kappa, Brigham Young University

Koine Greek (11 entries)

- 1st Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College
- 2nd Brian Curtin, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College
- 2nd Steven Anderson, Iota Delta, Arizona State University
- 3rd Noah Gernenz, Gamma Omega, Baylor University
- 3rd Andrei Chura, Delta Lambda, College of the Holy Cross

74th Annual Latin Translation Contest

Advanced Latin (31 entries)

- 1st Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College
- 2nd Zachary Chen, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College
- 3rd Owen Embree, Eta Lambda, University of Dallas
- Honorable Mention: Michal Baxter, Theta Tau, Stockton University

Intermediate Latin (16 entries)

- 1st Howie Eldridge, Beta Psi, Rhodes College
- 2nd Keri Hoatson, Delta Chi, St Olaf College
- 3rd Viola Townsend, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College
- Honorable Mention: Allison Gale, Epsilon Kappa, Brigham Young University
- Honorable Mention: Jonathan Hanna, Epsilon Kappa, Brigham Young University

58th Annual Latin Prose Composition Contest

Advanced Prose Composition (12 entries)

- 1st Zachary Chen, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College
- 2nd Peyton Louise Robuck, Gamma Omega, Baylor University
- 3rd Emmett Van Houten, Delta Chi, St. Olaf College
- 3rd Isabella Krob, Eta Delta, Hillsdale College

List of Eta Sigma Phi Scholarships

HΣΦ Scholarship deadlines are February 15th.

Scholarship recipients will be announced at the National Convention (March/April).

Applicants must be valid members by registering with the national office of HΣΦ by the deadline.

H.R. Butts Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology

Eligibility: Membership in Eta Sigma Phi. Open to undergraduates who will be rising juniors, seniors, or newly graduated and to members who have received a bachelor's degree within the eight years prior to application. The scholarship is intended for archeological fieldwork conducted between the spring and fall semesters. Preference will be given to those who are undergraduates at the time of application and who have not yet had experience in archaeological fieldwork, but graduate students, teachers, and experienced fieldworkers are also welcome to apply.

Award: \$2000 to support fieldwork experience at an archaeological site in the Greco-Roman world. (The "Greco-Roman world" here includes cultures related to the Greeks and Romans by space or contact, such as Neolithic Cyprus or Iron Age Germany.) The award will be issued once definite proof of participation in the fieldwork has been provided.

Application: In addition to the application form, applicants will submit official transcripts, two (2) letters of recommendation, a budget, and a statement not to exceed 500 words, briefly stating their background and preparation for the program, and how participation in this program fits their future plans. The Committee expects applicants to have contacted the director of their preferred fieldwork. For an application form and further information see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/scholarships/archaeological-fieldwork/>.



Bernice L. Fox Latin Teacher Training Scholarship

Eligibility: Eta Sigma Phi members who are now teaching, or preparing to teach, at the pre-collegiate level; who have received a bachelor's degree within the last ten years or who expect to receive it before the summer of the current academic year; and who have not received a doctoral degree.

Award: The award of \$750 will support a summer activity contributing to the recipient's preparation for teaching. Examples of such activities include the American Classical League's Summer Institute, the Conventiculum Latinum at the University of Kentucky, and the Latin/Greek Institute of Brooklyn College, the Living Latin Seminars of the Paideia Institute, or university courses leading to certification.

N.B. The Paideia Institute has agreed to match the Fox Scholarship for those using the funds to attend one of the Institute's seminars. Thus, a recipient would receive \$1500 to be used toward tuition and fees.

This scholarship honors Bernice L. Fox, who taught English, Latin and Greek at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois, from 1947 to 1981, and who served as chair of the Department of Classics from 1970 until her retirement in 1981. Throughout her long and dynamic career, she worked tirelessly to promote the Classics in Illinois high schools and colleges. In 1956 she founded Monmouth College's Gamma Omicron Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. She was the author of *Tela Charlottae*, the Latin translation of E. B. White's *Charlotte's Web*. In 1991 Monmouth College conferred on her the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. She passed in 2003.

For an application form and further information see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/scholarships/teacher-training/>.



American Academy in Rome

Eligibility: This scholarship open to members who have received a Bachelor's degree within the eight years prior to application (or shall have received it by June 1st of the current year) and who have not received a doctoral degree. Six semester hours of credit may be earned and applied toward an advanced degree in Classics at most graduate schools, provided that arrangements have been made in advance with the graduate school.

Award: Scholarship to the American Academy in Rome has a value of \$3575.00. Additional information: Website: <https://www.aarome.org/>. E-mail: info@aarome.org. Please contact AAR about application deadlines.

Application: Applicants must submit a transcript of undergraduate work, letters of recommendation, and a statement not to exceed 500 words to include purpose and reasons for desiring the scholarship.

For an application form and further information see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/scholarships/summer-travel/aar/>.



The Brent Malcolm Froberg Scholarship for the Summer Session of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens

Eligibility: Eta Sigma Phi members who have received a bachelor's degree within the eight years prior to application (or shall have received it by June 1st of the current year) and who have not received a doctoral degree are eligible.

Award: The Brent Malcolm Froberg Scholarship to the American School of Classical Studies at Athens has a value of up to \$3,300, not including the remission of tuition by the ASCSA. Eta Sigma Phi covers one-half of program fees and the American School remits the other half. Eta Sigma Phi will select either one recipient for the Summer Session or up to two recipients for the Summer Seminars. If two Summer Seminar participants are chosen, the scholarship will be divided equally between them (\$1,650). Any remainder, beyond one-half of the program fees, goes to the recipient(s) for travel expenses. <https://www.ascsa.edu.gr/>. E-mail: ascsa@ascsa.org. The annual deadline for applications to ASA is January 15th.

Application: Applicants must submit a transcript of undergraduate work, letters of recommendation, and a statement not to exceed 500 words to include purpose and reasons for desiring the scholarship.

For an application form and further information see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/scholarships/summer-travel/ascsa/>.



The Theodore Bedrick Scholarship for a Summer Session at the Vergilian Society at Cumae

Eligibility: Eta Sigma Phi members who have received a bachelor's degree within the eight years prior to application (or shall have received it by June 1st of the current year) and who have not received a doctoral degree or members who will be rising juniors or seniors in the coming summer; preference will be given to such undergraduate students. Recipients may receive credit applicable toward a degree, provided advance arrangements have been made.

Award: The Theodore Bedrick Scholarship to the Vergilian Society at Cumae has a total value of up to \$2,900, including the remission of one-half the tuition fee by the Vergilian Society. Only tours in Italy are covered by this scholarship. Additional information: website: <https://www.vergiliansociety.org/> or the secretary of the society, Amy Leonard (vergiliansociety@gmail.com).

Application: Applicants must submit a transcript of undergraduate work, letters of recommendation, and a statement not to exceed 500 words to include purpose and reasons for desiring the scholarship.

For an application form and further information see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/scholarships/summer-travel/bedrick/>.

HΣΦ Initiates 2023–2024

Zeta (Denison University)

Charlie Herron, Emily Gryllakis, MJ Mitchell, Mia Fischel, Jason Chen, Katherine Young, Anton Maninang, Olivia Howe, Armaan Tucker, Thomas Murphy (February 12, 2024)

Eta (Florida State University)

Sarah Eschrich, Sara Friedmeyer (November 14, 2023); Reagan Gibson, Elisa Moscone (April 16, 2024)

Iota (University of Vermont)

Tori Jarvis, Katherine Isler, Johanna McDonald, Ailinn Santos, Jesse Sprague (April 21, 2022)

Lambda (University of Mississippi)

Lauren Austin, Isabella Clark, Buchanan Cook, Chloe Dobbins, Peyton Holden, Jessie James, Anna Laurenzo, Clayton Murry, Jerrika Pardubsky, Maguire Slackhouse, Emily Suh, Matthew Verges (March 27, 2024)

Mu (University of Cincinnati)

Maddie Brown, Cooper Buchholz, John Pachuk, Lucy Wohlers (April 19, 2024)

Omega (The College of William & Mary)

Maia Tindall (April 21, 2022); Sofia Atkinson, Kelsey Heifer, Ben McClarty, Alec Mahone, Hollis Martin, Mary Musick, Alex Radke; **Associate:** Caroline Snodgrass (April 17, 2024)

Alpha Gamma (Southern Methodist University)

Joy Ayodele Adeyemo, Isaac Ahmed, Davis Billups, Stephen Francis Cahalan, Rose Hill, Michael Alexander Medveckus, Maddie Mossman, John Brodie Santry, Nicholas Valencia, Hannah Atkins, Cai Aberle, Owen White, Raegan Tidwell, Alex Dutka, Sophie King, Khari-Alexis Brejona Bing, Conner Woods, Daniel Kulti, Lynn Mounce, Shivani Modadugu, Penelope Brushwood, Wesley Iversen, Alexandra Geer, Georgia Derry, Mackenzie Clarke, Kennedy Downing, Elia Stelzer, Devon Coates, Katherine Zappos (March 5, 2024)

Alpha Delta (Agnes Scott College)

Lily Shainheit, Mia McCown, Kaitlyn Fairbanks, Anna Hillesheim, Mercury Lapham, Casey Rice, Jade Thigpen (May 2, 2024)

Alpha Theta (Hunter College)

Francesco Gambino, Erasmia Mastora, Alyssa DiPaolo, Lyle Grayson (March 28, 2024)

Alpha Kappa (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Julia Kulinowski, Drake Southwell, Marissa Elle Bivens (February 13, 2024)

Alpha Lambda (University of Oklahoma)

William Bouchard, Taylor Broadbent, Caroline Lancaster, Mariana Lisset Mena, Zachary Poole (April 6, 2022)

Alpha Sigma (Emory University)

Maxine A. Coplin, Christopher Dieffenthaler, Kaylor H. Garamella, Sabrina Marvil, Brigid May, Jonathan Ng, Jingchen Ni, Parker Shimp, Ada Noel Weaver, Scarlett Whitney (October 19, 2023)

Alpha Upsilon (The College of Wooster)

Abigail Reytblat, Andrew Hammer, Brandon Grindall, Ella Biondi, Emilee Brown, Grace Sweeney, Julian Grimes, Khaliff Robinson, Nathan Budge (September 14, 2023)

Beta Gamma (University of Richmond)

Ally Deldonna, Kate Cropley, Lindsey Johnson, Danny Saravia-Romero, William Hunt, William Tune (April 24, 2023)

Beta Theta (Hampden Sydney College)

Joshua Paul Campbell, Graeme Patrick Ebert, Conor John Kilfeather, Ansen Lackner, Matthew Troy Miskowski, Zachary Michael Mowbray, Daniel Robinson Nivens, Drake L. Wellborn (April 18, 2024)

Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)

Maddie Bruce, Jordan Christopher, Adam Donaldson, Alicia Doyle, Gracey Hauschildt, Ella Hendricks, Emma Johnson, Charis Morasch, Megan Pesek, Reid Petrie, Beth Shannon, Elise Wilkin, Louise Whittemore, Dylan Young (December 9, 2023); Soph Ware, Ava Simpson, Jaden Perry (May 5, 2024)

Beta Upsilon (Marshall University)

Ethan Hatfield, Devyn Samples, Anna Spagna (April 15, 2023); Lio Frye, Mia Crookshanks, Brenton Doty, Ethan Lilly, Gracie Bumgarner, Mike Edwards, Andie Valles, Bianca Wingard, Thomas Hartley (April 12, 2024)

Beta Chi (Loyola University Maryland)

Abby Royle, Jacob Martin, Robbie Buhite (April 2, 2024)

Beta Psi (Rhodes College)

Elizabeth Acree, Willow Blythe, Trinity Liaw, Sarah Sanders, Matthew Bishop, Megan Patterson (November 29, 2023)

Beta Omega (Ball State University)

Hunter Bays, Jeremiah Forker, Daniel Schultz, Rebecca Wacker, Erica Wood (April 19, 2024)

Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College)

Jeffery Schnetzler, Eli Douglass, Lynn Rech, Ryan Bowman (February 2, 2024)

Gamma Upsilon (Austin College)

Lee Campbell, Jen Gruver, Aiden Schneck, Grayson Stacey, Chris Teichmann (May 6, 2024)

Delta Zeta (Colgate University)

Fernando Cuellar Rivas, Bennett Steifman, Coleman Wohlken, Ekaterina Balsan, Benjamin Dokupil, Persephone Sween-Argyros, Zoe Tzivas, Jamie Anderson, Milo Austin, Jacob Denekamp, Thomas Nemec, Elsa O'Brien, Bennett Rowe, Lindsey Schwartzman, Sean Wallace, Wyatt Hall, Lilia Hayduchok, Evan Sheldon, Chenhao Wu (April 30, 2024)

Delta Theta (Dickinson College)

Abigail Miller, Catelin Blaszczyński, Emery Hutchins, Erin Hinchey, Hannah Pates, Ian Trabucco, Jenna McCullough, Jude Schroeder, Katie Winston, Mikaela Franklin, Neville Krueger, Olivia Burns, Orion Giles, Riley Heffron, Sarah Farrell, Sarah Grashof, Siobhan Morgan, Sophie Borden, Teresa Suntang, Antony Rogers (March 9, 2024); Jillian Innate (April 15, 2024)

Delta Sigma (University of California, Irvine)

Rollins Benson, Mollie Chambers, Colette Johns, Ilsa Madison, Isabella Robinson (May 19, 2023)

Delta Chi (St. Olaf University)

Maddie Alexander, Lauren Bell, Nick Braun, Sonja Ebey, Shayla Gleason, Rosemary Hartless, Keri Hoatson, Jackson Hoch, Lucia Iurino, Amelia Johnson, MaKenzie Kuckkan, Dermot O'Connor, Nick Rhodes, Anthony Rink, Abby Schroeder, Emmett Van Houten (March 30, 2024)

Epsilon Beta (George Washington University)

Erin Anderson, Rylie Hocker, Lola Kapila, Margaret Ann McMillin, Rachel O'Sullivan, Jalen Revyn-Winkler, Emma Robles, Emma Schmidt, Lillian Smith (November 23, 2023); Madeline King Goldstein, Anushka Hassan, Lily Haubrich, Yuwei Zhou (April 18, 2023); Elisabeth Delpouys, Maria Elizabeth Natsis, Ava Thompson, Grace Zwolinski (May 1, 2024)

Epsilon Epsilon (Rockford University)

Jacob Johnson, Laura Medina, Yessenia Rosales-Moreno, Rodolfo Vazquez (October 3, 2023)

Epsilon Xi (Gustavus Adolphus College)

Emma Erickson, Sam Hendrickson (April 21, 2023); Lindsay Bangs, Claire Brings, Jay Erickson, Tanner Hopkins, Jaden Knutson, Ava Kraemer, Taylor Storlien (May 6, 2024)

Epsilon Omicron (University of Massachusetts Amherst)

Brian Beltrami, Grace Bertone, Riley Bowen, Noah Bromberg, Andrew Carleton, Jeffrey Crosier, Aaron Diener, Roxanne Edel, Cameron Fritts, Maira Mendes-Galvao, Christopher Govang, Maryn Kellysawyer, Susan Machado, Ravenna Omran, Juliet O'Neil, Eleanor Margaret Peltz, Caspian Roberts, Lily Smith, Nathaniel Swanson, Audrey Sytsma, Victoria Thompson, Alexander Tirabassi, Elias Touchette, Phoebe Whitham, Cameron Woltje **Associate:** Timothy Horton (April 12, 2024)

Epsilon Sigma (Augustana College)

Jules Fielder (May 1, 2024)

Epsilon Upsilon (University of New Hampshire)

Benjamin J. Menard (November 30, 2023)

Epsilon Phi (Knox College)

Julia Morgan (May 19, 2024)

Zeta Beta (Temple University)

Jasem Al-Mutairi, Julia Becker, Sam Coffin, Matthew Chewning, Alexander DeWitt, Nideen Froukh, Charlotte Mansfield, Edward McGovern, Autumn Rush, Charles Schiffer, Abigail Throne, Lauren Urosvich, Kenny Winton (December 11, 2023); Christopher Klapakis, Dominic Savino, Maddox Alwood, Lav Jones, Gabriella Schwager, Anna Thanasi, Fiona Moser (April 29, 2024)

Zeta Eta (Loyola Marymount University)

Tanya Rasheesa, Aidan Foucher, Elizabeth Salaski, Garrett Collins, Joseph Barragan, Maximillian Nicolais; **Associate:** Matthew Parachou (January 11, 2024)

Zeta Theta (Penn State University)

Jonah Babusci, Carlyle James Engel, Leah Gallo, Seth Hamel, Kevin Ma, JT Thomas, Aimee Thompson, Mercer Weaver (April 21, 2023)

Zeta Iota (University of Georgia)

Zara Saberi, Jordan Sul, Brynn Atkins, Leta Brewer, Erin Mulkey, Elijah Peacock, Jordyn Faucette, Josephine Klinar, Chamberlain Lunceford, William Becker, Blaire Mars; **Associate:** Dane Kreeft (September 27, 2023); Abigail Fisette, Madeleine Rosenberg, Ella Thomas, Sarah Ellington, Rosemarie Owens (February 28, 2024)

Zeta Kappa (Trinity College)

William Bundy (May 23, 2023); Paulina Campanella, Rachel Place, Ellie Gray, Alexander Casella, Molly Levesque (April 26, 2024)

Zeta Lambda (University of Louisville)

Alison Brown, Elijah Deters, Jonas M. Hammond, Summer M. Olmsted, Angelina N. Patel, Matthew K. Stuber, Tashiana J. Walker (November 10, 2023)

Zeta Nu (University of Maryland)

Clementine Bills, Noah Swank, Jackson Faunce; **Associate:** Shandi Li (certificate), Leonid West (no certificate); **Honorary:** Lillian Doherty, Chiara Graf, Peter Osorio (March 7, 2024)

Lillian Doherty, Professor Emerita of Classics, is a renowned scholar of Homeric poetry. She has been a stalwart supporter and advisor of our chapter of Eta Sigma Phi for many years.

Chiara Graf and Peter Osorio are both Assistant Professors new to our department. Prof. Graf studies Latin literature and her book on affect in Senecan philosophy is forthcoming from Oxford University Press. Prof. Osorio studies ancient philosophy and has published articles on Cicero, Vergil, and Lipsius. Both are already beloved by our students and excited to be an active part of the Eta Sigma Phi community.

Zeta Xi (Iowa State University)

Michael Pfab, Maedhbh Rohling, Atlas Kunkle, Layk Nollen (April 4, 2024)

HΣΦ Initiates 2022–2023 (Continued)

Zeta Tau (University of Pittsburgh)

Emma Grimaldi, Madeline Rose McElroy, Cassidy Hensch, Alexandra Moore, Anna Trimble, Cody Arthur McSherry, Connor McDermond, Maryn Dubay, Alison K. Huettner (March 22, 2024)

Zeta Phi (UC Santa Barbara)

Max Pagano, Gus Greene, Kaine Byrne, Eric Bañuelos, Michelle Woo, Isabel Cherwin; **Associate:** Rick Castle (June 3, 2023); Niableu Correal, Summer Tucker, Aurora Robathan-Wu, Leila Shahidi (June 2, 2024)

Zeta Psi (Hollins University)

Autumn G. Baxter, Marie Elizabeth Gruver, Susanna Helms, ShiLeea Rountree (March 29, 2024)

Eta Alpha (University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill)

Emily Rednall Smither, Jack Ross, Bradley Sadowski, Lauren Gilbert, Sara Herbst, Jacob Schwier, Thomas Robinson, Niko Cuervo, Emily Feren, George Nielsen, Ashley Dowdney, Mia Hoover (March 20, 2023)

Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)

Matthew Tully (November 17, 2023); Benjamin Burnett, Zachary Chen, Brian Curtin, Caitlin Filep, Helen Foley, Clare Horvath, Natalie Spaulding, Stella Webster, Micah Wooddell, John Worachek (November 29, 2023); Zelda Gilbert, Aidan Christian, Aurora Muggeridge, Sophia Labonte (April 20, 2024)

Eta Eta (Virginia Tech)

David Carter, Ily Fleenor, Issac Horger, Darby Logan, Santi Naylor, Kareisa Nix, Timmy Ramsey, Ai-Vi Ribler, Lyndi Thornhill, Conan Ugaz, Rebekah Zummo; **Honorary:** Lauren DiSalvo (March 14, 2024)

Lauren DiSalvo is a collegiate assistant professor at Virginia Tech. A Roman archaeologist turned art historian, her interests lay at the intersections of these

two disciplines in the field of classical reception. She has published and presented on topics including plaster casts in museum and university collections in the 19th and 20th centuries, material culture associated with the Grand Tour, and portraiture of the long 18th century.

Eta Theta (DePauw University)

Anna Jager, Ashton Johnson, Carson Carpenter, Carson Empie, Charlotte Brooks, Emma Tobin, Grace Thomas, Ian Butcher, Katherine Lorenz, Kaylie Phelps, Maxwell Fallin, Paige Yarrington, Raiden Miyamoto, Rowan Herring, Samantha Bilunas (April 12, 2024)

Eta Mu (University of California, Davis)

Grace Gallup, Lidice Garcia, Sarah Jane Gilbertson, Eunice He, Aristaeus Hsu, Kate Jennings, Madison Polizzotto, Yanbin Qian, Sidney Sheets, Adrian Kiswani, Cole Young, Jana Lim; **Associate:** Joseph White (June 1, 2023)

Eta Pi (Hobart and William Smith Colleges)

Hannah Baker, Leo Bonacci, Abigail Dillavou, Yi Ling Weng, Isabel Parker, Cam Amado, Maggie Compton, Rachel Faust, Elizabeth Legg; **Honorary:** Basil Snyder (May 2, 2024)

As a recent graduate, Basil continues to work with our campus on how to best preserve and honor “The Ancestor”, a Ptolemaic mummy. Their work throughout the year and now, as a graduate has been well-received by the entire campus.

Eta Phi (Union College)

Patrick F. Allen, Jessalyn A. Bonaparte, James C. Hogan, Harrison T. White, John G. Masci, Noa E. Raskin, Sandeep Alampalli, Kieran S. McGovern (May 12, 2023)

Eta Chi (Purdue University)

Michael Alwell, Zijan Sun, Taz Butler, Alexis Wrede, Katie Green, Emma Jobe, Bryn Kozuch (April 12, 2023)

Theta Beta (University of Alabama)

Mackenzie Harless, Olivia McKelvey, Jamie Casey, Sophi Rose, Martin Albright, Gavin Day, Megan Cline, Nick Robinson (April 10, 2024)

Theta Lambda (Hamilton College)

Helen Siobhan Higgins, Madeline Rose Mulligan, Margaret Belle Ling Nye (March 15, 2024)

Theta Mu (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Olivia Shultz, Eli Childs, Suzette Donovan, Ella Heng (May 15, 2024)

Theta Xi (Gonzaga University)

Ashley Larkin, Beck Waxman, Ryan Hoffman, Marissa Holland, Kaly Keating (February 12, 2024); Diana Ramirez-Leon (April 30, 2024)

Theta Pi (Kenyon College)

Alexis Mladineo (January 2, 2024)

Theta Tau (Stockton University)

Joseph J. Gibson, Madison E. Grohman, Ken Kornbluth, Joseph R. Moore, Kaz Murray, Sophia Ponticelli, George C. Sicknick, Matthew T. Truax (February 11, 2023)

Theta Phi (Franciscan University)

Andrew Cronk, Patrick Morgan, Theresa Antony, Matthew Lydon (February 9, 2024)

Theta Psi (Washington & Lee University)

Sloan J. Criner, Sam W. Dowda, Katherine I. Martin, Kirk E. Moessbauer, Allison E. Sanchez, Will Joseph (April 4, 2024)

Iota Beta (Northwestern State University)

Joan Barbier, Laurel Dickinson, Heather Rodriguez, Sam Young, Ren Nance (April 28, 2023); Abigail Thomas, Amber Kearney, Madison Little (September 21, 2023)

Iota Zeta (Christopher Newport University)

Noelle Straka, Gillian Stoltz, Katarina Demcheshen, Kiana Michaela Lawson, James McQuilkin, Megan Huffstutler, Lucas Stopper, Catherine Dickason, Colton Parham (April 10, 2023)

Iota Kappa (Loyola University of Chicago)

Gwenyth Acosta, C. Luc Bieri, Rachel Chinchilla, Kate J. Douglas, Nicholas Edward Fletcher, Nicholas M. Skabich (February 19, 2024)

Iota Mu (Virginia Wesleyan University)

Regis Collins, Tate Stephenson (February 15, 2024)

Iota Xi (Bucknell University)

Jack D'Ambrosio, Annie Glenning, Julie Kulesza, Brigid McGuire, Siobhan Nerz, Olivia Tadorian, Lancelot Yi, Nicolas Yu, Hannah Sims (April 11, 2024)

Iota Rho (Christendom College)

Mark Cermak, Thomas Crnkovich, John Paul Luvera, Kenton Wassum (November 18, 2023); Hannah Blosser, John Dillon, Brodie Guscott, Jillian Vincent (May 4, 2024)

Iota Upsilon (University of Oregon)

Cash Robinson, Karson Melby, Anne Gottfried, Shaylon, Hawkins, Ines Beltranena, Philip Chan, Gabe La Perle (June 9, 2023)

Iota Psi (University of California, Los Angeles)

Rachel Liu, Alec Cabral, Khushi Bhatt, Nathan Wong, Kaitlyn Coons (May 19, 2023); Seán Lazarus Basu, Rory O'Regan, Maria Eirini Varsou, Chloe Gupta, Aiden Glennon, Jingtong Lin (June 5, 2024)

Kappa Alpha (Augustana University)

Alexis Rennerfeldt, Jordan Hastad, Maia Morrison, Matthew Binder, Quincee Schloegel, Connor Bates, Morgan Eckert (May 6, 2024)

Kappa Gamma (Bates College)

Ethan Bean, David Ingraham, Nate Lewis, Aidan McGaugh, Durgan Harris, John Price, Brian Tran (March 25, 2024)

New Members

Use this form to submit new initiates in your chapter: <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/InitiationReport-F19.pdf>. Remember that only those individuals whose names are submitted to the national office are members of Eta Sigma Phi and are eligible to run for national office or to apply for any Eta Sigma Phi fellowship.

Share Your Chapter News

Eta Sigma Phi would like to know about some of the fun and exciting things that are happening in your chapter. Please use this form to submit information about your chapter's activities: <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Chapter-Report.pdf>. Photos are welcome.

Please note that chapters are expected to use this form to submit an annual report due annually on May 15th, but don't wait until then to tell us what is happening in your chapter. If you send your news now, you may find it published in the *Res Gestae* in the next issue of the *Nuntius*.

2023–2024 Reactivated Chapter

Epsilon Epsilon, Rockford University

To reactivate a chapter see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/hsphi/reactivate-a-chapter>

There were no new chapters.

To petition for a new chapter see <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/chapters/prospective-chapters>

φιλοσοφούμεν καὶ φιλοκαλοῦμεν

Res Gestae 2023–2024

Eta at Florida State University

The Eta chapter has planned a number of events for the Classics student body including a Halloween reading and pumpkin painting event as well as several classics themed movie nights. Eta Sigma Phi is responsible for assisting with and planning events for FSU's Classics Week. This is the main event that Eta Sigma Phi is responsible for each year. We put on a performance of Euripides' Hercules, hosted a pottery mending event, and a power point night for students.

Beta Theta at Hampden-Sydney College

The Beta Theta chapter inducted eight new members this year, and our initiation ceremony was followed by a celebratory banquet of Italian cuisine. The keynote address at the banquet was delivered by our own Dr. Paul Hay, who gave a lecture titled "Trees in Latin Pastoral Poetry" based on previous scholarship he has published in collaboration with a certified botanist. New members signed their names in a membership book that has been continually updated since 1942.

Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas

This year the Beta Pi chapter of Eta Sigma Phi yielded many events for its members and fun yet informative events open to the public. Listed below are all of the events put on by Eta Sigma Phi both for the members and the public.

Fall 2023

All semester: Medieval Latin by Joshua Byon Smith

October 12th: play some mini golf at Gator Golf

October 26th: "Create your own Roman Tombstone!" and "Curse Like a Greek or Roman

December 7: Hockey night

December 9: Saturnalia, the annual festive to initiate new Greek and Latin scholars

At Saturnalia, we initiated 14 new members into Eta Sigma Phi: Maddie Bruce, Jordan, Christopher, Adam Donaldson, Alicia Doyle, Gracey Hauschildt, Ella Hendricks, Emma Johnson, Megan Pesek, Reid Petrie, Charis Morasch, Beth Shannon, Elise Wilkin, Lousie Whittemore, Dylan Young

Spring 2024

All semester: Medieval Latin by Joshua Byon Smith

February 21- end of semester: Latin table
March 7: Gladiator showing (not an official event)

March 14: Gator Golf

March 22-24: 96th Annual Eta Sigma Phi Convention hosted by the Delta Theta Chapter at Dickinson College (Carlisle, PA)

March 30-31: Camping trip

May 5: Lemuria

At the National Convention Charis Morasch was elected as national treasurer and Kailee Rowe was on the winning Certamen team. At Lemuria, there were around 25 people in attendance and we initiated three new members, Soph Ware, Ava Simpson, Jaden Perry. We also elected new officers for 2024-2025: Prytanis: Kailee Rowe, Hyparchos: Christina Burkhalter, Chrysophylax: Emma Johnson, Grammateus: Kate Schlagel.



*Above,
Daniel
Levine of
Beta Pi*



*Left, Beta
Theta
banquet*

Gamma Omega at Baylor University

This Gamma Omega Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi has had a busy year! Among the professor lectures, game nights, and study sessions, here are a few of the highlights. In the fall, we walked as a chapter in the Baylor Homecoming parade, dressed as Greek gods and goddesses. In the winter, we put on and assisted with a production of the *Menaechmi*, done entirely in the original Latin. This past spring, we had our annual chapter Olympic Games, where chapter members competed for glory and honor. Finally, we hosted an end-of-year celebration, sharing in fellowship and fun one last time before bidding a fond farewell to our seniors.

Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College

This year our chapter fostered Classics education for the students of Augustana College.

During Diversity Week we hosted

our third annual Language Olympics, where we showcased work from classics students. Members of HΣΦ and Classics Club hope to continue the event next year and beyond. At the end of each term, we held an End of Term dinner for the professors and students where we enjoyed Italian food at a local restaurant.

This school year we hosted several lectures on campus. Our Archeological Institute of America Lecturer was Dr. Yorke Rowan, who gave a talk titled “Desert Kites: The Enigmatic Traps from the Air and on the Ground.” Our spring Antiquity in the New Millennium lecturer was the University of Chicago’s Patrice Rankine who spoke on “Does History Have a Mood?”

In the fall, Classics majors and HΣΦ members Laurence Pavlik, Iratze Aceves, and Jessica Zabala attended the Illinois Classical Conference in Chicago. In April, Allie Anderson, Laurence Pavlik, Iratze Aceves, and Sam Baugous attended the Classical Association of the Middle West and South Conference in St Louis.

In May we held our annual department banquet where we inducted new member Jules Fielder into HΣΦ. We also welcome three new majors and two new minors.

Senior Laurence Pavlik spoke about his experience working on an Etruscan excavation during the summer of 2023.

This year our Classics department said goodbye to four seniors: Allie Anderson, Laurence Pavlik, Via Montgomery, and Jessica Zabala, who graduated in December 2023. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Zeta Iota at the University of Georgia

Our chapter held an undergraduate academic conference on March 16th. We also held monthly business chapter meetings to keep our members informed of any upcoming events or to hold necessary votes. We held a coffee hour to network with the professors within our department, workshops about cursed tablet composition and Lupercalia, and game events such as Caesars vs Senators and a themed board game night. We also held fundraisers such as out book sale, bake sale, and Eta Sigma Pie event where people could pie Eta Sigma Phi members to raise money for the conference.



Epsilon Sigma induction



- More than 100,000 registered students in 2025
- 40-question multiple choice exam
- Grammar, reading comprehension, mythology, derivatives, literature, Roman life, history & oral Latin
- Gold and silver medals
- Opportunities for Scholarships
- \$8 per US student, \$10 per foreign student
 - See NLE registration page for shipping costs.
 - For orders outside North America: Students must take the ONLINE exam.
- Registration for the paper exam ends January 23;
registration for the online exam ends February 13
- Testing window: February 23rd to March 13th

NLE 2026

Sponsored by the American Classical League / National Junior Classical League

FOR REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

National Latin Exam
University of Mary Washington
1301 College Avenue
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.nle.org nle@umw.edu



WHY ADMINISTER THE NATIONAL LATIN EXAM TO COLLEGE STUDENTS?



• TO GIVE STUDENTS A SENSE OF GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

- Certificates and medals are given by the NLE to high-performing college students, just as they are to high school students.
- The names and institutions of all college students who perform well on the NLE are published each year in the summer issue of *Nuntius*, the Eta Sigma Phi newsletter, which is accessible online.

• TO ACT AS AN OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT TOOL

- The NLE provides an objective, external check on how well an institution's students are performing, both within the institution and compared to other students at the same level across the country.
- The NLE is not based on any one textbook. Instead, a syllabus for each exam level is posted online.

• TO JOIN OTHER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHICH HAVE ADMINISTERED THE NATIONAL LATIN EXAM TO THEIR STUDENTS, INCLUDING:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| • Ave Maria University (FL) | • Loyola University Chicago (IL) | • University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (IL) |
| • Baylor University (TX) | • Macalester College (MN) | • University of Mary Washington (VA) |
| • Catholic University of America (DC) | • Monmouth College (IL) | • University of North Carolina at Greensboro (NC) |
| • Christendom College (VA) | • OLLI @ Furman University (SC) | • University of Oklahoma (OK) |
| • Colgate University (NY) | • Purdue University (IN) | • University of Richmond (VA) |
| • College of Notre Dame (MD) | • Seton Hall University (NJ) | • University of South Florida (FL) |
| • Gainesville State College (GA) | • St. Norbert College (WI) | • Wake Forest University (NC) |
| • Howard University (MD) | • Stanford University (CA) | • Washington & Lee University (VA) |
| • Hunter College (NY) | • Tehachapi Mt. Adult School (CA) | • Washington State University (WA) |
| • Kalamazoo College (MI) | • Temple University (PA) | • West Virginia University Honors College (WV) |
| • Laramie County Community College (WY) | • Thomas More College of Liberal Arts (NH) | • Xavier University (OH) |
| • Letourneau University (TX) | • Truman State University (MO) | |
| • Loyola Marymount University (CA) | • University of Florida (FL) | |

VISIT THE NLE WEBSITE TO VIEW PAST EXAMS AND INSTRUCTIONS ON ADMINISTERING THE NLE TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

www.nle.org

**Contact Liane Houghtalin - lhoughta@umw.edu
or Brian Warren - warrenbm@wfu,
the NLE's college consultants, with questions.**

SAVE THE DATE!

98th ΗΣΦ
Convention
March 20-22, 2026

Kirksville is in northeast Missouri — about a 3-hour drive from Des Moines, Kansas City, and St. Louis. Travel by car, train (to LAP), or plane (via Chicago, ORD to IRK)!

Nota Bene: Come celebrate Ovid's birthday with us on March 20.



The 98th annual **ETA SIGMA PHI** Convention will be hosted by the **Eta Zeta** Chapter of Truman State University in **Kirkville, Missouri**.



More info will be on the website:
www.etasigmaphi.org

Gather with old and new friends to do the organization's business.
Highlights of the weekend will include

- Certamen (Classics trivia)
- Chapter Reports (get ideas for your own organization; inspire others!)
- Contest and Scholarship Results
- Student Papers
- Classically themed workshops featuring local talent
- Banquet (bonus points if you dress like an ancient Greek or Roman)
- Elections of National Officers for 2026-2027
- Fellowship among Classics students from across the country!