



Nuntius

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Ninety-Seventh Annual Eta Sigma Phi Convention (2025)

St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Coverage starts on page 6.

Attendees from Theta Tau, Stockton University

LIST OF OFFICERS

Megas Prytanis, Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

Megale Hyparchos, Arreya Shaw, Eta Zeta at Truman State University

Megas Grammateus, Asher Riley, Zeta Beta at Temple University

Megas Chrysophylax, Charis Morasch, Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Bridget Thomas, Eta Zeta at Truman State University (2025)
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HONORARY TRUSTEES

Martha A. Davis, Zeta Beta at Temple University

Sister Thérèse Marie Dougherty, Beta Kappa at Notre Dame of Maryland University

Mary Pendergraft, Beta Iota at Wake Forest University, pender@wfu.edu

Thomas J. Sienkewicz, Gamma Omicron at Monmouth College, tjsienkewicz@gmail.com

C. Wayne Tucker, Beta Theta at Hampden-Sydney College

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Dr. Katherine Panagakos (2025)
Theta Tau at Stockton University
School of Arts and Humanities
Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205
Office: (609) 652-4618
katherine.panagakos@stockton.edu

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.esarchives.org).

ΗΣΦ COMMITTEES

Translation Contest Coordinator

Joseph Garnjobst, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College (2026) jgarnjobst@hillsdale.edu

Fox Latin Teaching Scholarship Committee

David Sick, Beta Psi at Rhodes College, chair (2026) sick@rhodes.edu

Julia Hejduk, Gamma Omega at Baylor University (2027)

Tom Keeline, Alpha Xi at Washington University in St. Louis (2027)

Summer Travel Scholarships Committee

Molly Pasco-Pranger, Lambda at the University of Mississippi, chair (2025) mpranger@olemiss.edu

Kirsten Day, Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College (2026)

Scott Farrington, Delta Theta at Dickinson College (2027)

Program Committee

John Rundin, Eta Mu at UC Davis, chair (2027), jsrundin@ucdavis.edu

Josh Nudell, Eta Zeta at Truman State University (2025)

E.V. Mulhern, Zeta Beta at Temple University (2025)

Finance Committee

Katherine Panagakos, Theta Tau at Stockton University, chair ex officio

katherine.panagakos@stockton.edu

Lora Holland, Eta Tau at the University of North Carolina, Asheville (2025)

Charis Morasch, Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas, Megale Chrysophylax

David Sick, Beta Psi at Rhodes College (2025)

H. R. Butts Field Archaeology Scholarship Committee

Timothy Winters of Eta Omega at Austin Peay State University, chair (2025) winterst@apsu.edu

Daniel Levine, Beta Pi at 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:

Dr. Katherine Panagakos
School of Arts and Humanities
Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205
Office: (609) 652-4618
e-mail: Katherine.Panagakos@stockton.edu

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*

March 4, 2026
Exelauno Day

March 15, 2026
Beware of the Ides of March

March 20, 2026
Ovid's birthday

March 20-22, 2026
98th Eta Sigma Phi Convention hosted by the Eta Zeta Chapter of Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri

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 in Boston, MA.

April 21, 2026
Rome's birthday

May 15, 2026
Chapter Reports Due

September 23, 2026
Augustus' birthday

October 15, 2026
Vergil's birthday

November 15, 2026
Annual Reports Due

January 15, 2027
Deadline for submission of papers to be read at the Undergraduate Paper Panel at the 2027 Eta Sigma Phi Convention

February 15, 2027
Application Deadline, for all Eta Sigma Phi Scholarships

February, 2027
Eta Sigma Phi Translation Exams Administered

National Officers 2024–2025

Jonathan Rolfe, Megas Prytanis (Eta Delta at Hillsdale College), is a senior at Hillsdale College studying Latin and Greek. He is working on going to grad school for Classics in the Fall. He has long been interested in languages both ancient and modern, studying Old English, German, and Hebrew, as well as bits of Gothic, Old Norse, Russian, and Polish. He is especially interested in myth and the debates between early Christians and Pagans. J. R. R. Tolkien and Plato are two of his favorite authors. He has been a national officer for Eta Sigma Phi since 2022.

Arreya Shaw, Megale Hyperchos (Eta Zeta at Truman State University), is a senior at Truman State University where she majors in History with minors in Classical Studies and Education. She's

been involved with Classics since 7th grade when she began taking Latin. Her favorite work in Latin so far is Vergil's *Aeneid*. I'm super excited to be spending my second year as a National Office this time as Megale Hyparchos. She hopes to continue working to share her love of Classics with others. She's made so many amazing memories and connections through Eta Sigma Phi and can't wait to make even more.

Charis Morasch, Megale Chrysophylax (Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas), is a sophomore Honors College Fellow at the University of Arkansas, where she studies Political Science and Classical Studies. Charis is active in her community in her hometown of Lee's Summit, Missouri, and volunteers with ALA Missouri Girls States as the accompanist

and the with the legislative school. She is feature in the 2024 Apple Original Film "Girls State" as its opening speaker. At the University of Arkansas, Charis is secretary of the undergraduate mock trial program and serves as president of Sigma Phi Lambda (Sisters for the Lord)'s Tau chapter. Following her time as an undergraduate, she plans to pursue a juris doctorate and become an attorney.

Asher Riley, Megas Grammateus (Zeta Beta at Temple University), is a senior classics major at Temple University. He enjoys studying Ancient Rome the most and has spent two summers excavating in Italy. One of his main hobbies is glass blowing and he hopes to incorporate it into his study, potentially through historical glass blowing and the study of classical glass practices.



2024–2025 National Officers from left to right: Megale Chrysophylax Charis Morasch, Megas Grammateus Asher Riley, Megale Hyperchos Arreya Shaw, Megas Prytanis Jonathan Rolfe

2025 Eta Sigma Phi Scholarship Recipients

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

Eliana Lisa Lazzaro (Zeta Chapter at Denison University) is currently a junior double majoring in Classical Studies and English Literature, and minors in Greek and Latin. Eliana served the Zeta Chapter as its Grammateus and is its current Chrysophylax. Eliana writes, “I would love the opportunity to interact with the other Classicists on the program, particularly given the variance in experience level I know we will have. Participating in cooperative learning projects with other students would allow me to prepare for learning in graduate school, as well as post-graduate experiences such as collaborative publications. I would be particularly excited to learn from the professors on the program, as their experience and guidance could provide me with a gateway to many exciting post-graduate opportunities in the future.”

American Academy in Rome Scholarship

Holly Ann Fitterer (Epsilon Xi at Gustavus Adolphus College) graduated in 2021 with a B.A. in Classics and Latin Teaching and served as her chapter’s Chrysophylax and Prytanis. Since graduating, Holly has been teaching at Riverbend High School in Spotsylvania, VA. She teaches Latin I – AP Latin at seven of the district’s middle and high schools in all formats, in-person, hybrid, and on-line. Holly writes, “The experiential learning that is emphasized in the program . . . will most definitely allow me to embrace authentic materials, create a collaborative network with other teachers with whom I can share ideas and strategies, and cultivate my own learning, so that I can in turn enrich my own students. The experience will help me model for my students what it means to embrace the ancient world around them and see classics as a living entity.”

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

Dylan Plemper (Alpha Sigma at Emory University) is a junior double majoring in Classics and Anthropology. Last summer he was a member of the 2024 American Excavations Samothrace team, which laid the foundation for archaeological work as a critical aspect of his studies and intended career. This summer Dylan intends to utilize his time at Samothrace to further develop his archaeological skills and to explore research interests for his honors thesis and future graduate studies. Dylan has conducted independent research arguing for an architectural change in a late altar depicted on Roman coins. He presented this as a poster at the 126th Annual AIA Conference and the Emory *DigIT* student archeology event.

Marie E. Gruver (Zeta Psi at Hollins University) graduated in 2024 and double majored in Classical Studies (Ancient Studies concentration) and History with a minor in Art History. She is currently pursuing a Post-Bacc certificate in Classics at the College of William and Mary. Marie is also working towards a certification in AutoCAD, a 2D and 3D computer-aided design (CAD) software application and taking additional archaeology courses. She is currently working on a research project on Archaic Corinth and its Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore and has become deeply interested in ancient Corinth and the ideas of crossroads, landscapes, and architecture. She will be participating in the Lechaion Harbor and Settlement Land Project.

Bernice L. Fox Latin Teacher Training Scholarship Theodore Bedrick Scholarship to the Vergilian Society at Cumae

No applicants.

For more information about these scholarships or Eta Sigma Phi in general, see

www.etasigmaphi.org or contact:

Dr. Katherine Panagakos

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Convention Program

THE NINETY-SEVENTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION
MARCH 14-16, 2025
NORTHFIELD, MN



AT THE INVITATION OF
DELTA CHI
ST. OLAF COLLEGE
NORTHFIELD, MN

Friday, March 14th

5:00-7:00pm, *Trollhaugen Room, Buntrock Commons*
Registration

6:30-7:30pm, *Viking Theater, Buntrock Commons*
Concert by Wintry Elementary, classically inspired student band

7:30-9:00pm, *Trollhaugen Room, Buntrock Commons*
Certamen

Light refreshments will be served.

Transportation to the hotel will be provided afterwards.

Saturday, March 15th

7:50-8:20am, *Fairfield Inn & Suites*

Transportation from the hotel will be provided.

8:30-10:00am, *Viking Theater, Buntrock Commons*
First Business Meeting

Megas Prytanis Jonathan Rolfe presiding

Minutes of the 96th Annual Convention

Megas Grammateus Asher Quentin Riley

Reports

1. Chapter Reports
2. Report of Contests
3. Report of Scholarships
4. Report of Megale Chrysophylax Charis Morasch
5. Report of Megale Hyparchos Arreya Shaw
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Bids to host the 98th Annual Convention (2026)
9. Nominations for 2025-2026 National Officers

10:00-10:10am, *Viking Lobby, Buntrock Commons*

Break

Light refreshments will be served.

10:10-11:40am, *Viking Theater, Buntrock Commons*

Presentation of Student Papers

1. "The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness: Μελυχία, Memory, and Moments of Illumination in Homer's *Iliad*," Zachary Chen (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)
2. "*Medicator Mentium*: Philosophical Disagreements in the *Medicus* Metaphors of Seneca and Boethius," Jonathan Rolfe (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)
3. "Dastardly Dots: An Argument Against the Predominant Theory About the Codex Vaticanus (Vat. Gre. 1209) Distigmai," Martin Albright (Theta Beta, The University of Alabama)

97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

Convention Program (Continued)

12:00-1:00pm, Ballrooms, Buntrock Commons

Lunch

Boxed lunches will be provided.

12:00-2:00pm, Buntrock Commons 220, 222

Latin and Greek Declamation Contests

Breakout Sessions

1:20-2:00pm, repeated 2:10-2:50pm

Session A

Tomson Hall 308

Title: The Fathers of Telemachus: Four Instances of a Formulaic Phrase in Homer's *Odyssey*

Leader: Steve Reece, Prof. Emeritus of Classics, St. Olaf College

Description: Round-table discussion about how the relationship between Telemachus and his father in Homer's *Odyssey* can be illuminated by considering Telemachus's relationship with four "father-figures" (Mentes, Nestor, Eumaeus, and Antinous).

Session B

Tomson Hall 312

Title: Introduction to Latin Epigraphy

Leader: Kathryn Steed, Asst. Prof. of Classics, St. Olaf College

Description: Learn what epigraphic evidence can tell us about politics and social life in the ancient world, and try your hand at deciphering Latin inscriptions.

Session C

Tomson Hall 316

Title: *Ludi et Artes / ἀγῶνες καὶ τέχναι / Games and Crafts*

Leaders: Delta Chi Chapter Officers, St. Olaf College

Description: Join the officers for an interactive session to learn the arts of Athena (weaving) and protect the Republic (pin the knife on the Caesar)! Other activities as time permits.

3:00-3:40pm, Various Rooms in Tomson Hall

Committee Meetings

1. New Chapters (Tomson 316)
2. Finance (Tomson 314)
3. Contests and Scholarships (Tomson 312)
4. Convention (Tomson 310)
5. Resolutions (Tomson 308)
6. Officers (Tomson 300)

3:50-4:50pm, Tomson Hall 280

Viewing of Sophocles' *Ichneutae* ("Trackers")

Followed by discussion with cast and director

5:00-7:00pm, Fairfield Inn & Suites

Prepare for Banquet

Transportation to and from the hotel will be provided.

7:00-9:00pm, Sun Ballroom, Buntrock Commons

Banquet

Welcome by Professor Susan Rundell Singer,
President, St. Olaf College

Awards Ceremony

Vir et femina vestiti splendidissime

Certamen Award

Paper Award

Outreach Award

Greek Declamation Contest Winner

Latin Declamation Contest Winner

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Steve Reece, Professor Emeritus of Classics,
St. Olaf College

Transportation to the hotel will be provided afterwards.

Sunday, March 16th

7:50-8:20am, Fairfield Inn & Suites

Transportation from the hotel will be provided.

8:30-10:00am, Viking Theater, Buntrock Commons

Second Business Meeting,

Megas Prytanis Jonathan Rolfe presiding

1. Contest for Chapter Regalia
2. Committee Reports
3. Report of the Executive Secretary
4. Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees
5. Election of 2026 Convention Site
6. Resolutions and Amendments
7. Election of 2025-2026 National Officers
8. Installation of Officers

10:00-10:10am, Viking Lobby, Buntrock Commons

Break

Light refreshments will be served.

10:10-11:40am, Viking Theater, Buntrock Commons

Second Business Meeting, continued

Closing Remarks

MULTAS GRATIAS

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

Abigail Velazquez (Prytanis of Delta Chi Chapter and Chair of the Local Committee)

Laura Smith (Hyparchos)

Emma Winkler (Grammateus)

Violet Ecklund-Johnson (Chrysophylax)

Professor Hilary Bouxsein (Chapter Advisor)

Professor Anne Groton (Chair of the Classics Dept.)

The National Latin Exam

Executive Secretary's Report

Dr. Katherine Panagakos

I would like to begin by acknowledging the chapters that are present at this year's convention:

- Beta Pi (Univ. of Arkansas)
- Beta Psi (Rhodes College)
- Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College)
- Gamma Sigma (UT Austin)
- Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
- Epsilon (Rockford University)
- Epsilon Psi (Santa Cruz Univ.)
- Zeta Beta (Temple University)
- Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)
- Eta Zeta (Truman State University)
- Theta Beta (The Univ. of Alabama)
- Theta Tau (Stockton University)

Naturally, we all need to thank our most gracious hosts, Delta Chi at St. Olaf. Let me point out that Delta Chi has hosted the convention not once, not twice, not thrice, but quadrice! That's some record, Oles! I'm not sure anyone else has hosted so many times.

- 57th Annual Convention (1985)
- 77th Annual Convention (2005)
- 91st Annual Convention (2019)
- 97th Annual Convention (2025)

Eta Sigma Phi once again was present at the SCS Convention in Philadelphia (2025). The National Officers did a wonderful job, as always, working our table and sharing with unsuspecting passersby all the benefits of membership. Megas Prytanis attempted to eat the grapes displayed on the table but found out the hard way that plastic grapes are not edible. (See picture!)

I organized and presided over SCS-33: The Next Generation: Papers by Undergraduate Classics Students. Our anonymous program committee (whom I thank though they remain unknown), selected four papers for inclusion.

1. Zachary Chen, Hillsdale College
The Loneliness of Excellence: Social



ESP Table at 2025 SCS

- Schism in the Stories of Coriolanus and Achilles
2. Emmeline Murphy, Northwestern University
Wearied or Fallen: The Critical Reception of the Creusa Episode and Editorial History of *Aeneid* 2.739

3. Riley Parker, Columbia University
Exiled by Fate: Memory and National Identity in *Aeneid* VIII
4. Olivia Gandee, Bryn Mawr College
Presence, Identify and Legitimacy: The Power of Song in Vergil's *Aeneid*

Executive Secretary's Report (Continued)

I would like to thank Dr. Barbara Gold of Hamilton College who offered our panel a lively and encouraging response.

As a reward for their hard work, I took the National Officers to *Zorba's* for Greek dancing (sans Anthony Quinn) and more flaming cheese! Opa!

One of the most exciting things that the National Office is happy to report on is the number of reactivated chapters. They include:

1. Alpha Eta, University of Michigan
2. Alpha Phi, Millsaps College
3. Epsilon Eta, Kent State University
4. Zeta Pi, University of Utah
5. Eta Gamma, Loyola University of New Orleans
6. Theta Beta, University of Alabama
7. Theta Rho, University of Miami
8. Iota Phi, San Francisco State University
9. Kappa Zeta, Elon University

Our memberships this year seem a bit low at 286, but I am sure that the number of new members will increase exponentially (as it always does) in the late spring.

I would like to encourage chapters and individual members to submit their original poetry, book and film reviews, original art, chapter news, chapter outreach, and more. And, as always, I would like to remind everyone to submit the following by their due dates:

- Chapter Annual Report (November 15)
- Chapter Report/Res Gestae (May 15)

I would like to thank the chapters that submitted an annual report this year:

- Alpha Xi (Washington University in St. Louis)
- Alpha Sigma (Emory University)
- Beta Theta (Hampden-Sydney College)
- Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)
- Eta Mu (University of California, Davis)
- Theta Pi (Kenyon College)

- Theta Tau (Stockton University)
- Iota Mu (Virginia Wesleyan University)

I remind everyone to subscribe to our website updates and to purchase their discounted honor cords and hoods.

Finally, let's all thank our wonderful hosts, Delta Chi, for a

fantastic convention, specifically Abigail Velazquez, Chair of the Local Committee; Delta Chi Officers: Abigail Velazquez (Prytanis), Laura Smith (Hyparchos), Emma Winkler (Grammateus), and Violet Ecklund-Johnson (Chrysophylax); and Dr. Hilary Bouxsein and Dr. Anne Groton for supporting their students and welcoming all of us to their campus and home!



St. Olaf President Susan Rundell

Ovatio for Steve Reece

Eta Sigma Phi Convention, St. Olaf College

March 15, 2025

Written by Anne Groton, Hilary Bouxsein, & Peter Moench

Read by Anne Groton

On behalf of Eta Sigma Phi, it is my pleasure to present a Lifetime Achievement Award to my long-time friend and colleague, Professor Emeritus Steve Reece. Since his retirement from St. Olaf College in 2023, Prof. Reece has remained active, not only on the slippery terrain of classical scholarship, but also on the icy surface of St. Olaf’s hockey rink, where he has acquired “undying fame” (κλέος ἄφθιτον) as the College’s official Zamboni driver!

Prof. Reece grew up in Niigata on the west coast of northern Japan. He earned a B.A. and M.A. in Classics at the University of Hawaii [at this point, if I were Dr. Levine, I would ask all of you, “Which way would you sail to get from Japan to Hawaii?"]. After earning a Ph.D. in Classics at UCLA and teaching at Texas A&M and Vanderbilt, he joined the faculty at St. Olaf [for 5 bonus points, which direction did Prof. Reece travel to get from Nashville, Tennessee to Northfield, Minnesota?].

In Homeric studies, Prof. Reece is best known for two books, both of them exceptional—and both of them with exceptionally long titles! *The Stranger’s Welcome: Oral Theory and the Aesthetics of the Homeric Hospitality Scene* and *Homer’s Winged Words: Junctural Metanalysis in Homer in the Light of Oral-Formulaic Theory*. More recently, he has published two books in New Testament studies, again with great success—and again with long titles: *Paul’s Large Letters: Paul’s Autographic Subscription in the Light of Ancient Epistolary Conventions* and *The Formal Education of the Author of Luke-Acts*. He is currently working on a monograph about wordplays on proper names in the New Testament. We eagerly await the completion of this book, which is surely destined to be one of the best of “Reece’s pieces.”



Anne Groton introducing Steve Reece



Steve Reece with his Lifetime Award



Eta Sigma Phi, Societas Publica De Rebus Classicis,

STEVE REECE

Pro Rebus Gestis Gloria Dignis,
 Traditioni Maiorum Graecorum Romanorumque Studentem Et
 Discipulorum Eiusdem Patronam, Honorat.

Jonathan Rolfe
 ΜΕΓΑΣ ΠΡΩΤΑΝΙΣ

Katherine Panagakos
 ARCHISCRIBA

ID. MART. MMXXV

97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

Ovatio for Steve Reece (Continued)

Prof. Reece has conducted research on a global scale: at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, at the American Academy in Rome, at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C., and at the Center for Studies in Oral Tradition at the University of Missouri [for five more bonus points, which direction did Prof. Reece travel on his odyssey from Athens to Rome to Washington, D.C., to Columbia, Missouri?]. In addition, he

has participated in the archaeological dig at Tel Megiddo in Israel and climbed a dozen active volcanoes!

During his three decades at St. Olaf, Prof. Reece served as Boldt Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Humanities and as Chair of the Classics Department. He also contributed to the success of three Eta Sigma Phi conventions, including this one. In 2005 he was selected to give St. Olaf's prestigious Mellby Lecture on a topic that sums him

up perfectly: "Homer, Jesus, and Bass Fishing in Minnesota."

Prof. Reece and his wife Rhonda have a daughter Hannah, a son Taylor, a daughter-in-law Kayli, and two cute grandchildren, Ellie and Teddy, whom they love to visit in Sioux Falls, S.D. I now invite you all to stand and face the direction of South Dakota, and join me in congratulating Steve Reece on this well-deserved honor from Eta Sigma Phi.

97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank all those who came to the meeting, hosted by DELTA CHI of St. Olaf 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 communicated electronically regarding different matters throughout the year, met in person as a group during the 2025 convention, and met as a group via Zoom in May. Among matters that we discussed and, in most cases, resolved, either at those meetings or otherwise, were the following:

- Truman State agreed to host the 2026 convention from March 20-22.
- Kenny Morel of Rhodes College agreed to be the respondent to the three student papers accepted for presentation in the ESP session at the 2026 SCS meeting.
- For the three years for which we do not have editions of *Nuntius* (2023, 2024, and 2025), we decided that one

issue per year would suffice. Trustee Emeritus Tom Sienkewicz graciously agreed to serve as content-shaper/creator and editor for those issues.

- The Board wishes to express sincere gratitude for this gift of time and expertise; this undertaking is a significant one.
- A number of people accepted positions, or renewals of positions, on committees.
- We discussed prospective lifetime achievement awardees for the 2026 meeting and beyond.
- We decided to change details relating to ESP's paid staff, pending formal approval of the required change of constitution at the Trustees meeting at Truman State in 2026:
 - The title of the Executive Secretary will be changed to "Executive Director," and the position's wages will increase;
 - The title of the second paid position will be changed from "Associate Director" to "Associate Executive

Director." There are times when that position will instead be that of "Executive Director Elect," with an understanding that the person in the position will be formally training to take over the current Executive Director's position in a determined period of time.

- Kathryn Thomas accepted the position of Associate Director (soon to be "Associate Executive Director.")
- Bob Holschuh Simmons accepted the position of Chair of the Board of Trustees, effective at the end of the May meeting, succeeding Antony Augoustakis.
 - The Board would like to thank Antony for his five years of leadership and dutiful service in that role.

I hope to see many of you next year at Truman State University!

Quistis nos omnes feliciter tueatur!
Robert Holschuh Simmons, Chair of the Board of Trustees

φιλοσοφούμεν καὶ φιλοκαλοῦμεν

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

Jane Hall of the National Latin Exam (2006)	Susan Marquis of St. Theresa's Academy in Kansas City MO (2012)	Michele Valerie Ronnick of Wayne State University (2017)
Rudolph Masciantonio of Philadelphia Public Schools (2007)	Theodore A. Tarkow of the University of Missouri (2012)	Ruth Scodel of the University of Michigan (2017)
Kenneth Kitchell of the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2008)	Robert W. Ulery Jr. of Wake Forest College (2013)	Judith P. Hallett of the University of Maryland (2018)
Adam D. Blistein of the Society for Classical Studies (2009)	Sr. Thérèse Marie Dougherty of the College of Notre Dame (2013)	Hans-Frederick Mueller of Union College (2018)
Alice M. Sanford of Hume-Fogg Academic Magnet High School in Nashville, TN (2009)	Brent M. Froberg of Baylor University (2014)	James M. May of St. Olaf College (2019)
Christine F. Sleeper of the National Latin Exam (2010)	Thomas J. Sienkewicz of Monmouth College (2014)	Stanely Iverson of Concordia College (2019)
Sally R. Davis of the National Latin Exam (2010)	Martha Davis of Temple University (2015)	Rebecca Harrison of Truman State University (2021)
Edward V. George at Texas Tech University (2011)	Fred Mench of Stockton University (2015)	David Sick of Rhodes College (2022)
Robert LaBouce of Houston Public Schools (2011)	Linda Montross of the National Latin Exam (2016)	Anne H. Groton of St. Olaf College (2023)
	Marty G. Abbott of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (2016)	James J. Hessinger of the Educational Testing Service (2024)
		Steve Reese of St. Olaf College (2025)

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 ΗΣΦ 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.

A Picture-Perfect Convention

Right, Pin the Knife on Caesar

Below, Advisors

Bottom, National Officers at the Convention



A Picture-Perfect Convention (Continued)

Below, Zach Chen, and bottom, Martin Albright, Student Panel



*Dan Levine,
Certamenator*

*Right, Charis Morasch,
Delta Chi, Latin
Declamation*

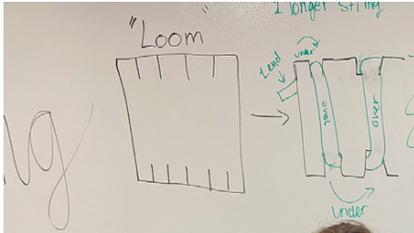


*Below, Jonathan Rolfe,
Greek Declamation*



97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

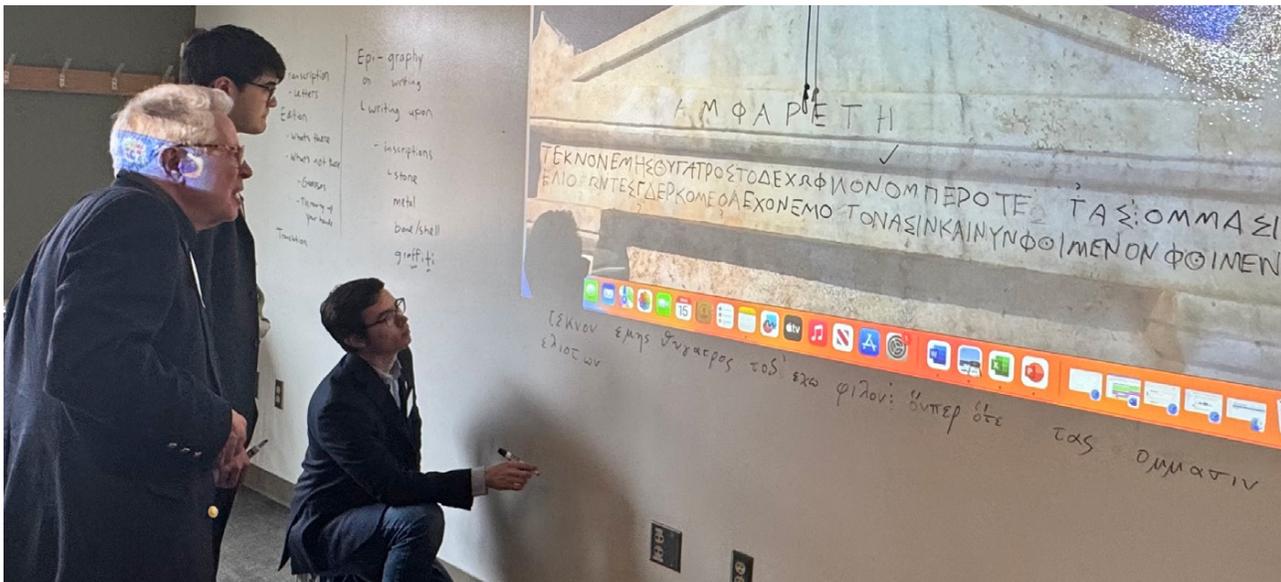
A Picture-Perfect Convention (Continued)



Above, Crafts Breakout Session

Left, more crafts, Karen Hersch of Zeta Beta

Below, Latin Epigraphy Breakout Session with Dan Levine Martin Albright, Zach Chen



97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

A Picture-Perfect Convention (Continued)

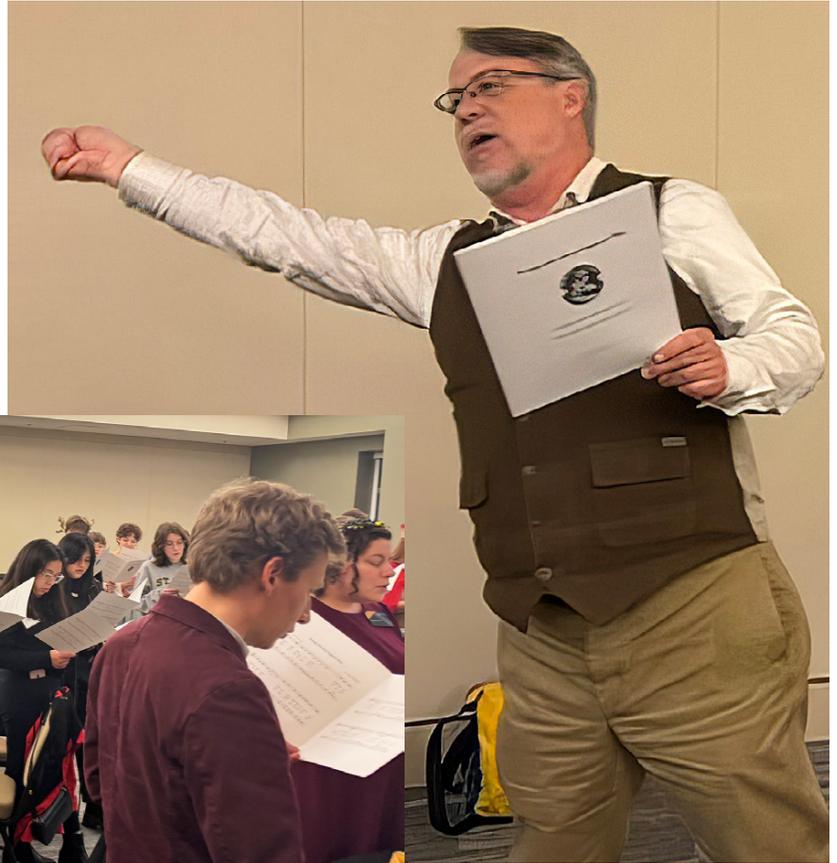


Above,, Delta Chi Chapter
Right, Evelyn Kreft, Delta Chi
Below, Sacks of Rome



A Picture-Perfect Convention (Continued)

*David Sick leading the singing
of Bearing Beauty's Flame*



97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

A Picture-Perfect Convention (Continued)



Delta Chi St. Olaf T-shirts, left and below



Swearing in of new officers:
Violet, Kailee, Zach, and Martin



Student Papers

The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness: Μειλιχία, Memory, and Moments of Illumination in Homer's *Iliad*,

Zachary Chen (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)

Notte: Chen's paper was judged the best undergraduate paper read at the 97th Convention and therefore appears in full on pg. 11 of this issue of *Nuntius*.

Zachary Chen is a sophomore at Hillsdale College studying Greek and Latin with a German minor. Following his undergraduate years, Zachary hopes to continue studying the classics in graduate school. He especially enjoys reading Homer and Vergil (along with their distinguished disciple Dante!). In his free time, Zachary enjoys participating in choirs and working on a translation of the works of the 17th century Lutheran theologian David Hollaz.

Abstract

This paper draws upon Simone Weil's monumental essay *The Iliad or the Poem of Force* to propose the quality of gentleness as the focus of Homer's epic. Though Weil's work puts forward a profound vision of force as the center of the *Iliad*, I propose that her reading does not completely account for the roles of Patroklos, μειλιχία, and memory in the *Iliad*. While force remains an overshadowing threat throughout the epic, the act of remembering past gentleness leads to pity and kindness in the present. The *Iliad*'s moments of love, light, and clarity are not, as Weil suggests, merely transient glimpses of a world which is desired but unattainable on account of the dominion of force in wartime. Rather, these moments are themselves the focus of the epic, to which the darkness of war serves as a foil.

While Weil's thesis of force accounts for Chryses' supplication of Agamemnon quite well, it does not recognize the crucial role that the memory of Patroklos and his distinguishing characteristic, μειλιχία, play in the final book of the *Iliad*. Homer identifies gentleness with Patroklos especially in speeches of Menelaus, Briseis, and Achilles. Patroklos' κλέος is tied to his μειλιχία just as Achilles is distinguished by his μήνις or Odysseus by his μήτις. The eventual death of Patroklos, then, seems to imply the death of gentleness in the world of the *Iliad*: force overcomes humanity, reinforcing Weil's fundamental thesis. As the *Iliad* draws to a close, however, the memory of μειλιχία and Patroklos, the warrior most completely defined by μειλιχία, sparks gentleness and reconciliation between Priam and Achilles. In his supplication, Priam calls upon Achilles to recall the vulnerability of his father Peleus. Almost irresistibly, the act of memory stirs up gentleness and mercy in Achilles. Memory brings about μειλιχία through shared grief.

While force, which Weil calls "that which makes a thing of whoever submits to it," may define the beginning of the *Iliad*,

then, its end is marked by gentleness born through memory. The *Iliad*'s moments of illumination are not simply yearnings after the impossible — Patroklos' μειλιχία is the standard by which force is judged tragic and is ultimately overcome. To place force at the center of the *Iliad* is therefore to misread the reason for the success of Priam's supplication. The quality of gentleness personified in Patroklos is integral to the epic's resolution. Though war may seem to slay μειλιχία and destroy gentleness, force can never truly prevail, for shared, grieving memory will always retain its power to kindle new moments of illumination, reconciliation, and gentleness.

Medicator Mentium: Philosophical Disagreements in the *Medicus* Metaphors of Seneca and Boethius

Jonathan Rolfe (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)

Jonathan Rolfe is a senior studying Greek and Latin at Hillsdale College. He plans to teach Latin next year and eventually to earn a PhD in classics. His favorite classical author is probably Plato. His interest in ancient languages was inspired by his love of J. R. R. Tolkien.

Abstract

Seneca the Younger in his *De Providentia* and Boethius in his *De Consolatione Philosophiae* both portray God as a doctor but with different sets of cures. Seneca's god uses bitter medicine and painful expedients on all those whom he loves; soft treatment from god is always bad according to Seneca. Boethius's God uses sweet and bitter medicines and treatments, depending on the situation, for all people. What leads Boethius to depart from the picture he found in Seneca? Seneca could seem to be excluding pleasant treatment on merely rhetorical grounds because of the limited scope of the *De Providentia*. However, based on the context within *De Providentia* and on Seneca's other uses of the doctor metaphor, Seneca and Boethius differ on more than rhetorical grounds. The explanation lies in their different philosophical commitments. Boethius and Seneca give different accounts of providence because of their different ideas about evil and human freedom.

Seneca and Boethius portray the divine physician differently because of their different philosophical commitments. Seneca portrays the providential doctor as only using harsh cures. Good fortune is morally degrading to those who experience it. Seneca believes that vice must exist in order for virtue to exist; his portrayal of the providential doctor as only benefiting those he loves fits with his idea that it is necessary for some men to be evil. Boethius portrays the Healer of minds as using both good and evil fortune to improve his patients. Since Boethius does not believe evil is a substance or necessary, he does not believe

Student Papers (Continued)

that providence produces it. Boethius explains vice in the world through human agency, which he believed was not determined by providence and fate.

Dastardly Dots: An Argument Against the Predominate Theory About the Codex Vaticanus (Vat. Gre. 1209) Distigmai

Martin Albright (Theta Beta, The University of Alabama)

Martin Albright is a sophomore at the University of Alabama majoring in philosophy and mathematics and minoring in Greek and Latin. His academic interests range from logic and the philosophy of mathematics to classical linguistics and New Testament textual criticism. When he isn't writing papers or playing violin in orchestra, he enjoys reading Plato and solving Rubik's cube as fast as he can.

Abstract

Perhaps the greatest puzzle of 4th century Greek manuscript Codex Vaticanus (Vat. Gr. 1209) concerns its most minute feature: two small dots located in the margin of 801 different lines known as "distigmai". How old are the Vaticanus distigmai? What is their function? Though they were thought to be original to the 4th century and used to mark textual variations, Nehemia Gordon et al. (2024) used micro X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy to date the distigmai to around the 16th century. The predominant theory that has emerged following that result

is that the distigmai retain their text critical functions but originate from Jaun Gines de Sepulveda, a Vatican librarian, and reference variations between Vaticanus and Erasmus' 1516 Greek New Testament. Not only do the dates found by Gordon et al. align well with this theory, but Sepulveda wrote a letter to Erasmus in 1533 saying that he had found 365 places where his Greek New Testament disagree with Vaticanus. Together, the dating from Godon et al. and the letter from Sepulveda ground the theory that Sepulveda wrote the distigmai in the early 16th century. In this paper, I first detail the history of the investigation into the Vaticanus distigmai, beginning with Phillip Payne's 1995 paper, which laid the groundwork for all future investigations, through the aforementioned result from Gordon et al. I particularly focus on the emergence of the theory that Sepulveda is responsible for the distigmai, emphasizing the refinement of the theory by Peter Head (in Wasserman 2009), James Snapp (2022), and Tommy Wasserman (2023). Next, I articulate a twofold argument against the Sepulveda theory. The first part of my argument concerns Sepulveda's letter, namely the discrepancy between the 365 differences Sepulveda recounts and the 801 distigmai that are attested in Vaticanus. I argue that, in order to uphold a certain standard of rigor, supporters of the theory are left liable to explain this discrepancy. In the second part of my argument, I argue that if the Sepulveda theory is correct, there must be a demonstrable correlation between the presence of distigmai and a textual variation between Vaticanus and Erasmus' Greek New Testament. I present original data that shows that no such correlation is found. Without the support of physical evidence and careful, nuanced investigation, the Sepulveda theory must be rejected completely.

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.



The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness: Μειλιχία, Memory, and Moments of Illumination in Homer's *Iliad*

Zachary Chen (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)

This was judged best undergraduate paper read at the 97th Convention.

Simone Weil's essay *The Iliad or the Poem of Force* places force at the center of war, the *Iliad*, and human life. Weil's term "force" is not an exact translation of a Homeric term like βίη or θυμός, however: under point 1 of the handout, I have provided a list of quotes which will help to show her loose definition of force. Force is "that which makes a thing of whoever submits to it" and rules almost all of mankind which it encounters: those who endure force are stripped of their agency and humanity. For Weil, force is more than simply physical or moral coercion: while she claims that "[e]xercised to the extreme, it makes the human being a thing quite literally, that is, a dead body," "[t]he force that kills is summary and crude." Its power to dehumanize stems initially from the threat of death, but force overshadows the entire life of anyone who is subject to sudden death: "[f]rom the power to change a human being into a thing by making him die there comes another power, in its way more momentous, that of making a still living human being into a thing." Force controls the suppliant who continues to live only by the whim of the victor and the slave whose every action and decision is dictated by his master, but it is equally deadly to the victor himself: "[a]s pitilessly as force annihilates, equally without pity it intoxicates those who possess or believe they possess it." "In reality," Weil writes, "No one possesses force" because those who wield force are intoxicated by its power and forget that they too could become subject to it. Force robs the conquered of humanity by taking away their agency and overwhelms the conquerors by blinding them to their own vulnerability: "[i]n the end, it seems as external to the one who wields it as to the one who endures it." Force, then, is deadly to all who encounter it: "in equal but different ways, it petrifies the souls of those who undergo it and those who ply it." Those who possess it differ from those who do not only insofar as they have a longer way to fall when they are finally conquered.

While Weil's thesis of force does much to explicate the bitterness, madness, and wrath of war found in the *Iliad*, I believe Weil's interpretation of gentleness within the *Iliad* leaves her reading of Priam's supplication to Achilles lacking. Weil is certainly correct in pointing to force as a major factor in the *Iliad*; however, the quality of gentleness, which is embodied above all by the hero Patroclus, is in my view "the true subject matter, the center of the *Iliad*." While force remains an overshadowing threat throughout the epic, the act of remembering gentleness in the past leads to pity and kindness in the present. The *Iliad*'s

moments of love, light, and clarity are thus not merely transient glimpses of a world which is desired but unattainable on account of the dominion of force in wartime. Rather, these moments are themselves the focus of the epic, to which the darkness of war serves as a foil.

Weil's concept of force is particularly well suited to the first ransom scene of the *Iliad*, where Chryses supplicates Agamemnon for the return of his daughter. Agamemnon's reaction to Chryses's request demonstrates both the intoxication of force for the stronger party and the helplessness of the supplicating person. The text is under point 2 on the handout.

One must ask why Chryses' request "pleased not the heart of Atreus' son Agamemnon." After all, Agamemnon's answer displays impatience and irritation — he goes so far as to threaten an old man and a priest — but does not give his reasons for keeping Chryseis instead of accepting the ransom. This is scarcely astonishing, however. By dint of his position and power, Agamemnon simply does not need to have a reason for his actions beyond his own preferences. There is no answer to the

*... those who endure
force are stripped
of their agency and
humanity.*

question of why Agamemnon chooses to keep Chryseis — there need only be the statement "[t]he girl I will not give back" because Agamemnon has the power to enforce his desires. As Weil argues in point 3 on the handout, Agamemnon is able to send Chryses away "harshly" (κακῶς) without concerning himself with the consequences precisely because he wields force over Chryses and his daughter: "[w]hen one can silence an old man with a word, cause him to tremble and submit, does such a one consider the curses of a priest to be of any consequence in the eyes of soothsayers?" The answer, of course, is "no." Agamemnon is cognizant of his own power and therefore ignores the claim of the suppliant under the threat of his force. In fact, Agamemnon believes that his own force outweighs the divine power which Chryses represents: he tells Chryses to go "for fear your staff and the god's ribbons help you no longer." Agamemnon implies here that the threat he poses to Chryses overshadows Apollo's ability to protect his own priest; in threatening Chryses thus, he even sets himself up against Apollo. Chryses' response as well bears out point 4, Weil's description of suppliants who "for their part, in danger of being reduced to nothing in an instant, imitate nonentity." Since he is less powerful than Agamemnon, Chryses is forced to submit to the order to leave: "the old man in terror obeyed him." Rather than relying on Apollo's patronage and protection, Chryses bows before the immediate threat of Agamemnon's anger because there is nothing else for him to do.

While Chryses' supplication of Agamemnon does lend a convincing support to Weil's thesis of force, it is not the only

The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness (Continued)

defining supplication of the *Iliad*. The opening scene of the *Iliad* is directly juxtaposed with Priam's supplication of Achilles in *Iliad* 24. Both Priam and Chryses are suppliants seeking the return of their beloved children from warriors who hold the threat of overwhelming force. Both appeal to the piety of the men they supplicate but still arouse their ire. The outcomes of these two supplications are nearly completely different, however. While Chryses' supplication is met with anger and is the spark which sets off the major conflict of the *Iliad*, Priam's supplication is successful insofar as he receives his son back from a willing Achilles. The ransom of Hector is a response to the failed ransom of Chryseis: the return of Hector's body resolves the conflict which began with Agamemnon's withholding of Chryseis. I propose that the crucial factors which separate the supplication of Priam from the supplication of Chryses are the act of memory and the quality of gentleness.

It is necessary first to illustrate gentleness itself, however: the clearest example in the *Iliad* can be found in the character of Patroclus. Though Patroclus is a mighty warrior, he is most characterized by his kind — sometimes even domestic — behavior and gentleness. When Menelaus stirs up the other Achaeans to fight for Patroclus' body, he emphasizes Patroclus' gentle nature and kindness: see point 5.

A quick note on the word *μειλιχος*, gentleness, which will be important for the rest of my argument. Words from the *μειλιχ*-root do not hold all the connotations of the English "gentleness" and may carry negative overtones. (See, for instance, Hom. *Il.* 15.741.) Moreover, the adjective often refers to winsomeness of speech. It is beyond the scope of the present paper to fully address these points, so I have chosen to use "gentleness" and *μειλιχία* synonymously to better address the argument of Weil, whose definition of force does not correspond strictly to any one Homeric word. Back to Menelaus.

For Menelaus and the other Argives, Patroclus's defining quality is his "being *μειλιχος*." In fact, Patroclus' gentleness or *μειλιχία* is precisely the reason he is valued by others. When urging on the other Achaeans, Menelaus appeals to their pity by reminding them not that Patroclus was glorious, courageous, or resourceful, but rather that Patroclus was "gentle and understood how to be kindly toward all men." Briseis also defines Patroclus by his *μειλιχία* in her eulogy (point 6): "[t] herefore I weep your death without ceasing. You were kind always [*μειλιχον* αἰει]." Though he is not the sole example of gentleness in the *Iliad* — Hector is the other hero who notably displays tenderness and kindness in *Iliad* 6 — Patroclus uniquely embodies the quality of kindness — no other hero is described as understanding "how to be kindly toward all men." The *κλέος* of Patroclus in the eyes of Menelaus and the other Achaeans rests on his kindness: Patroclus is marked by *μειλιχία*

just as Achilles is distinguished by his *μῆνις* or Odysseus is characterized by his *μῆτις*.

In point 7, Weil also recognizes that Patroclus and his gentleness are crucial to the *Iliad* when she writes that "[o]ne cannot imagine any of Homer's warriors capable of such an effort [of valuing life in another], except possibly the one who in a sense is at the center of the poem — Patroclus." For Weil, however, Patroclus' gentleness is only a small taste of hope which merely serves to reinforce the *Iliad*'s bitterness at the spectacle of men being made subject to force: "[a]ll who escape the empire of force in their innermost being and in their relations with their fellow

men are loved, but loved in grief at the thought of constantly impending destruction" Gentleness is, in a way, the opposite of force as Weil envisions it: *μειλιχία* is that which recognizes a human being and treats that person as such. In the world of the *Iliad*, then, the *μειλιχία* which Patroclus embodies is extremely vulnerable — it is subject to "constantly impending destruction" because it faces a world of force and might, not with strength, but with tenderness and humanity.

Patroclus' death is therefore in a way the death of *μειλιχία*; the tragedy of Patroclus is the tragedy of the Trojan war in miniature. As the extinction of one of the foremost exemplars of love and light in the *Iliad*, the death of Patroclus raises the question of whether any hope is left in the world of the Trojan War. See point 8.

For Achilles — and possibly for the rest of the *Iliad*'s characters — the death of Patroclus seems to reinforce the futility of warfare and its inherent compulsion of force. If Patroclus, the model of *μειλιχία* "who was better by far" than nearly all the other warriors, can lose his life and be made into "a thing quite literally, that is, a dead body," then what right has anyone else to make "all this clamor about it?" By snatching the paragon of *μειλιχία* from the world of the *Iliad*, the death of Patroclus seems to justify despair in the face of death — Achilles grimly accepts the fact that he too will die when he says, "even I have also my death and my strong destiny." Lykaon likewise recognizes the hopelessness of a world robbed of gentleness: his "knees and the inward / heart went slack" because he realized that the strong have no reason to show mercy in a world where gentleness has been slain. Just as Weil writes in point 9, "[j]ustice and love, totally out of place in this depiction of extremes and unjust violence, subtly and by nuance, drench all with their light," so the death of Patroclus makes compassion and gentleness conspicuous by their absence. It drowns the *Iliad*'s victors and victims alike in longing for *μειλιχία*, though they cannot refrain from fighting one another.

Is there, then, a way forward for Achilles or the other warriors of the *Iliad* after the death of Patroclus and of *μειλιχία*? For Weil, there is not: "war expunges every concept of a goal,

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The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness (Continued)

even the goals of war” — in the world of the *Iliad*, force rules so completely over the Argives and Trojans that there is no escape from its domination. Instead, the combatants are tragically, inevitably doomed to the vicious circle governed by force: it is impossible to break out of the harsh despair of war because “[o]nce the practice of war has made clear the possibility of death contained in every moment, thought becomes incapable of passing from one day to the next without encountering the image of death.” Though the death of Patroclus seems to take away the light of *μειλιχία* from the *Iliad*, however, gentleness does not die permanently in *Iliad* 16. Instead, the gentleness which Patroclus embodies rises again in the memory of his comrades and even his foes — he leaves behind a *μνήμη* of *μειλιχία*. Through memory, the characters of the *Iliad* recapture and act upon what Weil calls “moments of illumination — fleeting and sublime moments when men possess a soul.” Patroclus’ memory is one of the most crucial factors in recapturing these moments, but he is not unique in stirring up gentleness in the living. Indeed, the memory of paternal gentleness or vulnerability possesses in itself the power to bring about *μειλιχία* in the living as well.

This action of memory in reviving gentleness is most evident in Priam’s supplication of Achilles, seen in point 10:

Crucially, Priam’s entreaties of Achilles rely on the injunction to remember the vulnerability and pitiable situation of his own father. The call to remember Peleus, whom Priam speaks of as helpless like himself, forces Achilles to recall the vulnerability of old age and draws him to pity and tenderness. Almost against his will, Achilles is “stirred” by “a passion of grieving;” it is as though he cannot help but be moved by the very act of memory. In point 11, Weil reads Achilles’ act of pushing Priam away as evidence for the dehumanizing power of force upon a suppliant: she writes that Achilles “simply finds himself as uninhibited in his attitudes and actions as if, instead of a suppliant, an

inanimate object had touched his knees.” This reading, however, misinterprets Achilles’ actions. By pushing Priam away from his knees, Achilles causes Priam to leave the position of supplication and hence the status of suppliant. In keeping Priam from remaining a suppliant, Achilles grants him the agency and dignity which force had stripped from him. It is true that Priam remains “huddled / at the feet of Achilleus,” a position which reflects his helplessness and grief; however, this is no longer the position of a suppliant clutching at Achilles’ knees. Priam bows, but not to Achilles; he is weighed down by his burden of grief, a burden which Achilles shares with him. See point 12. After both

have wept, Achilles will “[take] the old man by the hand, and set him / on his feet again, in pity.” Achilles does not raise Priam from his kneeling merely physically. Instead, he establishes Priam to a level with himself emotionally as well: his gentleness restores Priam from his state as suppliant. Rather than callously flaunting the force he holds over Priam by pushing the old man away, Achilles raises Priam to his own level by grieving with him. They are bound together by their grief and by a shared act of memory — the Greek dual form τὼ...μνησαμένω draws attention to the fact that Achilles

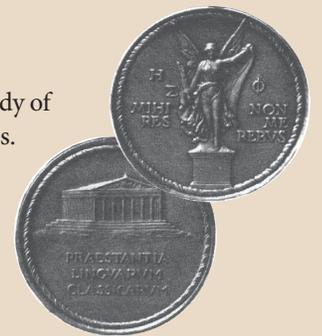
and Priam are a pair united in remembering. Furthermore, this shared act of memory also brings about *μειλιχία* in Achilles — he is gentle (*ἤκα*) as he removes Priam from the position of supplication. Achilles recognizes something familiar, vulnerable, and dear in Priam as he remembers his own father; the spectre of tenderness raised by the memory of Peleus evokes *μειλιχία* in Achilles.

Through the shared memory of gentleness, then, the supplication of Achilles by Priam succeeds where Chryses’ request of Agamemnon fails. The war does not end with this reconciliation, yet force need not conquer all: in the unity evoked through the remembrance of gentleness, even the worst of enemies may find peace through memory and *μειλιχία*.

*... the gentleness which
Patroclus embodies rises
again in the memory
of his comrades and
even his foes ...*

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.



The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness: Μειλιχία, Memory, and Moments of Illumination in Homer's *Iliad*

Zachary Chen, Hillsdale College | zchen@hillsdale.edu

Simone Weil on force

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 a) [T]hat which makes a thing of whoever submits to it. [...] Exercised to the extreme, it makes the human being a thing quite literally, that is, a dead body.
(Weil, 2)</p> <p>b) The force that kills is summary and crude. [...] From the power to change a human being into a thing by making him die there comes another power, in its way more momentous, that of making a still living human being into a thing.
(Weil, 7)</p> | <p>c) As pitilessly as force annihilates, equally without pity it intoxicates those who possess or believe they possess it. [...] In reality, no one possesses force.
(Weil, 24)</p> <p>d) In the end, it seems as external to the one who wields it as to the one who endures it.
(Weil, 47)</p> <p>e) In equal but different ways, it petrifies the souls of those who undergo it and those who ply it.
(Weil, 61)</p> |
|--|--|

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>2 ἀλλ' οὐκ Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι ἦνδανε θυμῷ,
ἀλλὰ κακῶς ἀφίει, κρατερὸν δ' ἐπὶ μῦθον ἔτελλε·
μή σε γέρον κοίλησιν ἐγὼ παρὰ νηυσὶ κίχαιω
ἢ νῦν δηθύνοντ' ἢ ὕστερον αὐτίς ἰόντα,
μή νύ τοι οὐ χραΐσμη σκῆπτρον καὶ στέμμα θεοῖο
τὴν δ' ἐγὼ οὐ λύσω· πρὶν μιν καὶ γῆρας ἔπεισιν
ἡμετέρῳ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ ἐν Ἄργεϊ τηλόθι πάτρης
ἰστὸν ἐποιχομένην καὶ ἐμὸν λέχος ἀντιώσαν·
ἀλλ' ἴθι μή μ' ἐρέθιζε σαώτερος ὣς κε νέηαι.
ὣς ἔφατ', ἔδεισεν δ' ὁ γέρον καὶ ἐπέθετο μῦθον·
(Hom. <i>Il.</i> 1.24-33)</p> | <p>Yet this pleased not the heart of Atreus' son Agamemnon, But harshly he drove him away with a strong order upon him: "Never let me find you again, old sir, near our hollow ships, neither lingering now nor coming again hereafter, for fear your staff and the god's ribbons help you no longer. The girl I will not give back; sooner will old age come upon her in my own house, in Argos, far from her own land, going up and down by the loom and being in bed as my companion. So go now, do not make me angry; so you will be safer." So he spoke, and the old man in terror obeyed him.</p> |
|---|---|

- 3** When one can silence an old man with a word, cause him to tremble and submit, does such a one consider the curses of a priest to be of any consequence in the eyes of soothsayers?
(Weil, 34)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>5 ...for their part, in danger of being reduced to nothing in an instant, imitate nonentity.
(Weil, 13)</p> | <p>Now let each one of you remember unhappy Patroklos who was gentle, and understood how to be kindly toward all men while he lived. Now death and fate have closed upon him.</p> |
|---|--|

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>6 τὴ σ' ἄμοτον κλαίω τεθνήOTA μειλιχον αἰεί.</p> | <p>Therefore I weep your death without ceasing. You were kind always.</p> |
|---|--|

- 7** One cannot imagine any of Homer's warriors capable of such an effort [of valuing life in another], except possibly the one who in a sense is at the center of the poem — Patroclus.
(Weil, 60)

All who escape the empire of force in their innermost being and in their relations with their fellow men are loved, but loved in grief at the thought of constantly impending destruction.

(Weil, 81)

- 8** ἀλλὰ φίλος θάνε καὶ σύ: τί ἢ ὀλοφύρεαι οὕτως;
 κάτθανε καὶ Πάτροκλος, ὃ περ σέο πολλὸν ἀμείνων.
 οὐχ ὀράας οἶος καὶ ἐγὼ καλός τε μέγας τε;
 πατὴρ δ' εἴμ' ἀγαθοῖο, θεὰ δέ με γείνατο μήτηρ:
 ἀλλ' ἐπι τοὶ καὶ ἐμοὶ θάνατος καὶ μοῖρα κραταιή: [...]
 ὡς φάτο, τοῦ δ' αὐτοῦ λῦτο γούνατα καὶ φίλον ἦτορ.
 (Hom. Il. 21.106-110, 114)
- So, friend, you die also. **Why all this clamor about it?**
 Patroklos also is dead, who was **better by far** than you are.
 Do you not see what a man I am, how huge, how splendid
 and born of a great father, and the mother who bore me immortal?
 Yet even **I have also my death and my strong destiny**. [...]
 Thus he spoke, and in the other **the knees and the inward heart**
went slack.
-
- 9** a) Justice and love, totally out of place in this depiction
 of extremes and unjust violence, subtly and by nuance,
 drench all with their light.
 (Weil, 72)
 b) War expunges every concept of a goal, even the goals of
 war.
 (Weil, 53)
- c) Once the practice of war has made clear the possibility of
 death contained in every moment, thought becomes incapable
 of passing from one day to the next without encountering the
 image of death.
 (Weil, 53)
 d) ...moments of illumination — fleeting and sublime moments
 when men possess a soul.
 (Weil, 63)
-
- 10** μνήσαι πατὴρ σοῖο θεοῖς ἐπιείκελ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,
 τηλικού ὡς περ ἐγών, ὀλοῶ ἐπὶ γήραος οὐδῶ: [...]
 ἀλλ' αἰδεῖο θεοὺς Ἀχιλλεῦ, αὐτόν τ' ἐλέησον
 μνησάμενος σοῦ πατρός: [...]
 ὡς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἄρα πατὴρ ὕφ' ἴμερον ὤρσε γόοιο:
 ἀψάμενος δ' ἄρα χειρὸς ἀπώσατο ἦκα γέροντα.
 τῷ δὲ μνησαμένῳ ὃ μὲν Ἔκτορος ἀνδροφόνιο
 κλαί' ἀδινὰ προπάροιθε ποδῶν Ἀχιλῆος ἐλυσθείς,
 αὐτὰρ Ἀχιλλεὺς κλαῖεν ἐδὸν πατέρ', ἄλλοτε δ' αὐτε
 Πάτροκλον: τῶν δὲ στοναχὴ κατὰ δώματ' ὀρώρει.
 (Il. 24.486-487, 503-504, 506-512)
- Achilleus like the gods, **remember** your father, one who
 is of years like mine, and on the door-sill of sorrowful old age.
 [...] Honor then the gods, Achilleus, and take pity on me
remembering your father...
 Thus he spoke, and **stirred** in the other **a passion for grieving**
 for his own father. He took the old man's hand and pushed him
 gently away, and the two remembered, as Priam sat **huddled**
at the feet of Achilles and wept close for manslaughtering
 Hektor
 and Achilles wept now for his own father, now again
 for Patroklos. The sound of their mourning moved in the house.
-
- 11** [Achilles] simply finds himself as uninhibited in his atti-
 tudes and actions as if, instead of a suppliant, an inanimate
 object had touched his knees.
 (Weil, 13)
-
- 12** ...γέροντα δὲ χειρὸς ἀνίστη
 οἰκτίρων πολλῶν τε κάρη πολλῶν τε γένειον...
 (Hom. Il. 24.515-516)
- ... thereafter [Achilles] rose from his chair,
 and **took the old man by the hand, and set him**
on his feet again, in pity for the gray head and the gray beard...

A short note on μείλιχος: The word is used three times in the Iliad and only positively describes Patroclus. According to the TLG, forms of μείλιχος occur at Il. 17.671, Il. 19.300, and Il. 24.739. The first two instances describe Patroclus as πᾶσιν... μείλιχος or μείλιχον αἰεὶ, and the third occurs when Andromache calls Hector οὐ... μείλιχος. While the shared adjective, like the wiederholungsverse Il. 16.855-857 = Il. 22.361-363, indicates a parallel between the two, only Patroclus is ever described positively as μείλιχος, which serves to associate him primarily with the quality of gentleness. The word μείλιχία is also used by Ajax at Il. 15.741: τῷ ἐν χερσὶ φόως, οὐ μείλιχίη πολέμοιο. This line juxtaposes force (ἐν χερσὶ φόως) and gentleness (μείλιχίη πολέμοιο) which seems to cast μείλιχία as an antithesis to the force which characterizes most of the Iliad.

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Renderings of the Iliad are from Richmond Lattimore's 1951 translation.

97th Convention Winners

Vir et femina vestiti splendidissime:

Evelyn Kreft (Delta Chi at St. Olaf College) and the “Sacks of Rome”: Dr. Karen Klaiber Hersch, Arreya Shaw, Benjamin Cohen, Asher Riley, Thomas Fishman, and Abigail Throne (Zeta Beta at Temple University)

Prize: \$50

Certamen Winners:

Arreya Shaw, Alexandra Thornhill, Jacob Whitley, Hannah Stark (Eta Zeta at Truman State University) and Jonathan Rolfe (Eta Delta at Hillsdale College)

Book Prize donated by the National Latin Exam: translations of Greco-Roman texts by women

Best Paper:

Zachary Chen (Eta Delta at Hillsdale College)

“The Iliad or the Poem of Gentleness: Μειλιχία, Memory, and Moments of Illumination in Homer’s Iliad.”

The winning paper is published in the *Nuntius*

Outreach Award:

Theta Tau at Stockton University for its Latin Day Program that brought nearly 200 middle- and high-school students to campus for a day of various Greco-Roman themed stations.

Prize: \$100

Declamation Contests:

5th Annual Martha A. Davis Greek Declamation Contest

Passage: Xenophon’s *Hiero* 2.3-9 on Tyrants. In this passage, Hiero talks to Simonides.

Second Place (\$50): Martin Albright (Theta Beta at The University of Alabama)

First Place (\$100): Jonathan Rolfe (Eta Delta at Hillsdale College)

First place winner recites the passage to the delegates at the banquet.

9th Annual Thomas J. Sienkewicz Latin Declamation Contest:

Passage: Selection from Cicero’s *Pro Archia Poeta*, where Cicero extols the benefits of literature and the liberal arts.

Honorable Mention (\$50): Zachary Chen, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

First Place (\$100): Charis Morasch (Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas)

First place winner recites the passage to the delegates at the banquet.

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Dr. Steve Reece, Professor Emeritus of Classics, St. Olaf College

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**

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Certamen Questions 2025

St. Olaf College.
By Daniel B. Levine.

NB: No teams answered the eight tossup questions within [square brackets]: # 8, 12, 18, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31.

TOSSUP 1:

As all educated people know, Eta Sigma Phi is an Honorary Greek Letter Society of undergraduate students, whose purposes are: a) To develop and promote interest in classical study among the students of colleges and universities; b) To promote closer relationships among students who are interested in classical study, including inter-campus relationships; and c) To engage generally in an effort to stimulate interest in classical study, and in the languages, literature, history, and art of ancient Greece and Rome. What is its Greek name for the office of *Treasurer*?

CHRYSOPHYLAX

BONUS 1 What is its Greek name for the office of *President*?

PRYTANIS

BONUS 2 What is its Greek name for the office of *Vice President*?

HYPARCHOS

BONUS 3 What is its Greek name for the office of *Secretary*?

GRAMMATEUS

TOSSUP 2:

The Greek letters Eta, Sigma, and Phi are the first letters of a phrase that describes our organization. What is that phrase?

Η ΣΥΝΟΥΣΙΑ ΦΙΛΕΛΛΗΝΩΝ

BONUS 1 What is a literal meaning of Η ΣΥΝΟΥΣΙΑ ΦΙΛΕΛΛΗΝΩΝ?

SOCIETY OF PHILHELLENES (VEL SIM.)

BONUS 2 What is the Greek motto of Eta Sigma Phi?

ΦΙΛΟΣΟΦΟΥΜΕΝ ΚΑΙ ΦΙΛΟΚΑΛΟΥΜΕΝ

BONUS 3: What does the Greek motto of Eta Sigma Phi mean in English?

WE LOVE WISDOM AND WE LOVE BEAUTY (VEL SIM.)

TOSSUP 3:

Each student at our host school St. Olaf College calls him or herself by the three letter name O. L. E., “Ole”, as though rhyming with *roly-poly*. The school mascot is a costumed lion named Ole. From the 2005 convention here I still have a t-shirt sporting Ole the Lion wearing a toga. You can win this tossup if you decline the Latin word for lion in the singular.

LEO LEONIS LEONI LEONEM LEONE LEO

BONUS 1 The English word “saint” comes from what Latin adjective?

SANCTUS

BONUS 2 St. Olaf was a Norwegian king. The Norwegian coat of arms depicts a lion holding an axe that symbolizes king Olaf II. It is remarkably similar to the St. Olaf College seal: Ole the Lion holding an ax. Google translate lists six Latin words for “ax”. Can you name one?

SECURIS/ASCIA/BIPENNIS/FERRUM/TELUM/DOLABRA



Certamen Digamma

Certamen Questions 2025 (Continued)

BONUS 3 According to its website, St. Olaf is the only American college or university whose fight song is sung in 3/4, or waltz, time. The mesmerizing repetition of the syllables *um* and *yah* when sung (as in *um yah yah, um yah yah, um yah um yah yah*) unite the student body into a veritable Norwegian Tabernacle Choir. For five points, conjugate in the present active indicative the Latin verb “to sing”: *canto, cantare, cantavi, cantatum*, followed immediately by singing in unison, *Um! Yah! Yah! Um! Yah! Yah!*
Um! Yah! Yah!, Um! Yah! Yah!
Um! Yah! Yah!, Um! Yah! Yah!
Um! Yah! Yah! Yah!

(And the audience may help by joining in the song. But, first, give the conjugation of *canto*.)

CANTO, CANTAS, CANTAT, CANTAMUS, CANTATIS, CANTANT

TOSSUP 4:

In which direction would a Carthaginian sail to reach Cyprus?

EAST

BONUS 1 In which direction would an Egyptian have to sail to get to Ethiopia?

SOUTH

BONUS 2 In which direction would Pyrrhus of Epirus have to sail to reach the east coast of Italy?

WEST

BONUS 3 In which direction did the Persian fleet sail to get from Asia Minor to fight the Athenians at Marathon?

WEST

TOSSUP 5:

What volcanic mountain in Italy erupted in the first century CE and destroyed several surrounding towns?

VESUVIUS

BONUS 1 What year did Vesuvius' eruption destroy these towns?

79 CE

BONUS 2 Name two(2) towns that the eruption covered over.

POMPEII, HERCULANEUM OPLONTIS, STABIAE

BONUS 3 Please tell us a Latin word for ‘mountain,’ giving its nominative and genitive singular, and identifying its gender.

MONS, MONTIS, MASCULINE

TOSSUP 6:

Which island in the Aegean sea was half-destroyed by a massive volcanic eruption in the 2nd millennium BCE?

SANTORINI/THERA

BONUS 1 What island did Plato name that sank beneath the Atlantic Ocean in a great prehistoric cataclysm?

ATLANTIS

BONUS 2 What is the name of the site on Santorini that has been excavated to show the houses and streets of the Bronze Age inhabitants?

ACROTIRI

BONUS 3 What is an ancient or modern Greek word for ‘mountain,’ with its nominative and genitive forms, and its gender?

ΤΟ ΟΡΟΣ, ΤΟΥ ΟΡΟΥΣ, neut./ΤΟ ΒΟΥΝΟ, ΤΟΥ ΒΟΥΝΟΥ, neut./Ο ΛΟΦΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΛΟΦΟΥ masc.

TOSSUP 7:

What volcanic mountain in Sicily did the ancients believe covered the giant Enceladus or Typhoeus?

AETNA

BONUS 1 Which 5th century BCE Greek philosopher was anecdotally said to have jumped into the fiery center of Mt. Aetna?

EMPEDOCLES

BONUS 2 In what direction would one travel to get from Mt. Aetna to Syracuse?

SOUTH (OR SOUTHEAST)

BONUS 3 Which god (Roman or Greek) is most associated with volcanoes?

HEPHAESTUS/VULCAN

[TOSSUP 8:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED.

What island was the favorite vacation spot of the Roman Emperor Tiberius?

CAPRI

BONUS 1 In order to get to the island of Capri, Tiberius probably sailed from Sperlonga. In what direction would his ship have sailed from Sperlonga to Capri?

SOUTH (OR SOUTHEAST)

BONUS 2 Tiberius had several villas on the island of Capri. What is the Latin word for ‘villa’ in nominative and genitive cases?

VILLA, VILLAE

BONUS 3 What is the Latin word for ‘island,’ in the nominative and genitive cases?

INSULA/INSULAE

TOSSUP 9:

What is the name of the island on which Greek mythology says that the god Zeus was raised?

CRETE

BONUS 1 Who were the Cretan armored men who made loud noises so that baby Zeus would not reveal his whereabouts by his crying?

CURETES

BONUS 2 According to Greek myth, a bronze giant guarded the shores of ancient Crete. What was his name?

TALOS

BONUS 3: What is the ancient Greek word for ‘island’ in nominative and genitive? Please include the articles.

Η ΝΗΣΟΣ, ΤΗΣ ΝΗΣΟΥ

TOSSUP 10:

Who was born first, Aeschylus or Euripides?

AESCHYLUS

Certamen Questions 2025 (Continued)

BONUS 1 Which of these two wrote a play called SUPPLIANTS?

THEY BOTH DID (accept one)

BONUS 2 Which of these two wrote a play called ELECTRA?

EURIPIDES

BONUS 3 Which of these two wrote a play called ORESTES?

EURIPIDES

TOSSUP 11:

What is the Latin word for “tongue”?

LINGUA

BONUS 1 What is the ancient Greek word for “tongue” (with its article)?

Η ΓΛΩΤΤΑ/ Η ΓΛΩΣΣΑ

BONUS 2 What is the Italian pasta whose name comes from the Latin word for “tongue”?

LINGUINI

BONUS 3 What is the English word for “speaking in tongues” that comes from the ancient Greek word for “tongue”?

GLOSSOLALIA

[TOSSUP 12:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS.

“Bromius” is another name for which Greek god?

DIONYSOS

BONUS 1 “Argeiphontes” is another name for which Greek god?

HERMES

BONUS 2 “Earth Shaker” is another name for which Greek god?

POSEIDON

BONUS 3 “Amphigúeis” is another name for which Greek god?

HEPHAESTUS

TOSSUP 13:

What is the Latin adjective that has the opposite meaning to the adjective *malus*, *mala malum*?

BONUS -A -UM

Bene! You got the *bonus!*

BONUS 1 What is the ancient Greek adjective that has the opposite meaning to the adjective ἀληθής, ἀληθές?

ΨΕΥΔΗΣ, ΨΕΥΔΕΣ

BONUS 2 What ancient Greek preposition has the opposite meaning to the preposition ἀνά?

κατά

BONUS 3 What ancient Greek preposition has the same meaning as the Latin preposition *super*?

ὑπέρ

TOSSUP 14:

Name one author of ancient Roman comedy whose work is extant.

PLAUTUS/TERENCE

BONUS 1 Name another author of ancient Roman comedy whose work is extant.

PLAUTUS/TERENCE

BONUS 2 Which of these two playwrights was of African background?

TERENCE

BONUS 3 What was the Latin phrase that described Roman comedies that had Greek settings? Hint: it refers to the characters’ clothing.

FABULA PALLIATA (SING)/FABULAE PALLIATAE (PL)

TOSSUP 15:

Who was born first — Plato or Socrates?

SOCRATES

BONUS 1 Who wrote “The Apology of Socrates” — Plato or Socrates?

PLATO

BONUS 2 Who traveled to Sicily to encourage a tyrant to be like a Philosopher King — Plato or Socrates?

PLATO

BONUS 3 Who fought as a hoplite for Athens during the Peloponnesian War — Plato or Socrates?

SOCRATES

TOSSUP 16:

Who was born first — Sophocles or Euripides?

SOPHOCLES

BONUS 1 Who was said to have lived in a cave on the Island of Salamis — Sophocles or Euripides?

EURIPIDES

BONUS 2 Who was said to have helped introduce the healing cult of Asclepius to Athens after the great plague — Sophocles or Euripides?

SOPHOCLES

BONUS 3 Who was said to have traveled to Macedonia, where he was the guest of the royal dynasty — Sophocles or Euripides?

EURIPIDES

TOSSUP 17:

Name two Athenian poets who wrote plays titled ELECTRA.

SOPHOCLES AND EURIPIDES

BONUS 1 Who wrote plays named *Oedipus at Colonus* and *Oedipus Tyrannus* — Sophocles or Euripides?

SOPHOCLES

BONUS 2 Who wrote plays named *Philoctetes* and *Ajax*?

SOPHOCLES

BONUS 3 Who wrote plays named *Women of Trachis (Trachiniai)* and *Electra* — Sophocles or Euripides?

SOPHOCLES

Certamen Questions 2025 (Continued)

[TOSSUP 18:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS TOSSUP.

With which Roman Emperor was Lucius Aelius Sejanus connected as the prefect of the praetorian guard?

TIBERIUS

BONUS 1 What did Sejanus die of?

EXECUTION

BONUS 2 To which of the Roman population classes did Sejanus belong?

EQUITES

BONUS 3 Which Roman Emperor founded the Praetorian Guard?

AUGUSTUS

TOSSUP 19:

Which Roman is associated with the collections called *EPISTULAE AD FAMILIARES* and *EPISTULAE AD ATTICUM*?

M. TULLIUS CICERO

BONUS 1 What does the Latin word *EPISTUALE* mean?

LETTERS

BONUS 2 Is the Latin word *EPISTULAE* a transliteration of a Greek word that means the same thing, or is it a word of a different origin?

TRANSLITERATION OF GREEK

BONUS 3 Many of Cicero's letters begin with his name and then the two letters S. D. before the name of his correspondent in the dative case. What do the letters S. D. stand for in the greetings in Cicero's letters?

SALUTEM DICIT

TOSSUP 20:

Give the Greek equivalent of the Latin numeral *quinque*.

πέντε

BONUS 1 Count aloud in Latin from 1 to 10.

unus, duo, tres, quattuor, quinque, sex, septem, octo, novem, decem

BONUS 2 Count aloud in Latin from 10 to 20.

decem, undecim, duodecim, tredecim, quattuordecim, quindecim, sedecim, septendecim, duodeviginti, undeviginti, viginti

BONUS 3 In Ancient Greek, what is the sum of the numbers ἑπτὰ καὶ δύο?

ἑννέα

TOSSUP 21:

The name of the month July comes from the name of which Roman?

C. JULIUS CAESAR (it was the month of his birth)

BONUS 1 What is the origin of the name of the month March?

MARS

BONUS 2 What is the origin of the name of the month June?

JUNO

BONUS 3 What is the origin of the name of the month December?

DECEM [10th month on old calendar (before addition of July and August)]

TOSSUP 22:

What modern country comprises the area which the Romans called Helvetia?

SWITZERLAND

BONUS 1 What modern country comprises the area which the Romans called Hispania?

SPAIN

BONUS 2 What was the Latin name for the modern country of France?

GALLIA

BONUS 3 What was the Latin name for the modern country of Ireland?

HIBERNIA

TOSSUP 23:

Where did the ancient Olympic Games take place?

OLYMPIA/PISA/ELIS

BONUS 1 Where did the ancient Pythian Games take place?

DELPHI

BONUS 2 Where did the ancient Panathenaic Games take place?

ATHENS

BONUS 3 Why were some ancient games called "stephanitic"?

PRIZES WERE GARLANDS/WREATHS/στέφανοι.

[TOSSUP 24:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS TOSSUP.

What did the ancient Greeks call the planet Mars?

ARES

BONUS 1 What was one of the ancient Greeks names for the planet Venus?

APHRODITE/PHOSPHORUS/HESPERUS

BONUS 2 What was another ancient Greek name for the planet Venus?

APHRODITE/PHOSPHORUS/HESPERUS

BONUS 3 What was another ancient Greek name for the planet Venus?

APHRODITE/PHOSPHORUS/HESPERUS

TOSSUP 25:

Quanti digiti sunt in una manu?

QUINQUE/5

BONUS 1 *Quanti oculi sunt in una facie humana?*

DUO/2

BONUS 2 *Quanti digiti pedis sunt in duobus pedibus humanis?*

DECEM/10

BONUS 3 *Quanta genua sunt in corpore humano?*

DUO/2

TOSSUP 26:

After a serious fire in Rome in 6 C.E., Augustus established a force of 7,000 freedmen to be responsible for fighting fires. What was the Latin name for these men?

VIGILES

Certamen Questions 2025 (Continued)

BONUS 1 Who was the German leader who raised a rebellion against the Romans and killed Varus and three Roman legions in the Teutoburg Forest in 9 CE?

ARMINIUS

BONUS 2 During the reign of Augustus Caesar, who was the literary patron of the writers Livy, Virgil and Horace?

MAECENAS

BONUS 3 Augustus laid the foundation of a period of relative tranquility and stability, which lasted for several generations after him. What is the Latin expression we use to describe for this time of peace?

PAX ROMANA

[TOSSUP 27:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS TOSSUP.

In Greek mythology, who was the founder of the Boeotian city of Thebes?

CADMUS

BONUS 1 Where was Cadmus' original homeland?

TYRE/PHOENICIA/LEBANON

BONUS 2 Why did Cadmus come to Boeotia?

TO SEARCH FOR HIS SISTER EUROPA

BONUS 3 After Cadmus killed the serpent of Ares, he sowed the soil with its teeth. What arose from this planting?

ARMED MEN

[TOSSUP 28:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS TOSSUP.

Who wrote biographies of the Julio-Claudian emperors including some scurrilous anecdotes about them?

SUETONIUS

BONUS 1 What is the Latin title of Suetonius' work?

DE VITA (DUODECIM) CAESARUM

BONUS 2 Who was the historian who lived during Suetonius' lifetime who also wrote about the early Roman Empire in a work called *Annales*?

TACITUS

BONUS 3 Who wrote the work called *Res Gestae Divi Augusti* ("Deeds of the Divine Augustus), recording the accomplishments of the first Roman emperor?

AUGUSTUS

[TOSSUP 29:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS TOSSUP.

Translate the Latin phrase "Festina Lente."

MAKE HASTE SLOWLY

BONUS 1 Translate the Greek phrase $\sigma\pi\epsilon\upsilon\delta\epsilon$ βραδέως.

MAKE HASTE SLOWLY

BONUS 2 Translate the Latin phrase "ne quid nimis."

NOTHING IN EXCESS

BONUS 3 Translate the Greek phrase $\mu\eta\delta\acute{\epsilon}\nu$ ἄγαν.

NOTHING IN EXCESS

TOSSUP 30

What does *Certamen* mean?

STRUGGLE or CONTEST

BONUS 1. What is the genitive form of *Certamen*?

CERTAMINIS

BONUS 2. What is the gender of *Certamen*?

NEUTER

BONUS 3. Give the ablative plural form of CERTAMEN

CERTAMINIBUS

[TOSS-UP 31:] NEITHER TEAM ANSWERED THIS TOSSUP.

As all educated people know, Gerard Butler played Leonidas in Zach Snyder's movie *300*, based on Frank Miller's comic series about the Battle of Thermopylae. Strangely enough, in this film the traitor Ephialtes is a hunchbacked Lacedaemonian reject, and the Spartan ephors are leprosy-ridden priests. According to Herodotus, what did the "real" Ephialtes do that resulted in the death of the Spartans at Thermopylae?

HE SHOWED THE PERSIANS THE SECRET PATH TO OUTFLANK THE SPARTAN POSITION.

BONUS 1: What about the topography of Thermopylae made it a good place for the Spartans to slow down the Persian advance?

A NARROW PATH BETWEEN MOUNTAIN & SEA, THUS EASILY DEFENDED.

BONUS 2: What does THERMOPYLAE mean?

HOT GATES

BONUS 3: Which Greek god was associated with the hot springs at Thermopylae?

HERACLES

TOSS-UP 32:

Which direction would a chariot have to drive in order to travel from Rome to Pompeii?

SOUTH OR SOUTHEAST

BONUS 1: Which direction would a sailor have to sail in order to go from Syracuse to Olympia?

EAST OR NORTHEAST

BONUS 2: Which direction would a ship have to travel in order to sail from Crete to Alexandria?

SOUTH OR SOUTHEAST

BONUS 3: Which direction would a traveler have to walk in order to get from Athens to Thebes?

NORTH OR NORTHWEST

Certamen Questions 2025 (Continued)

TOSSUP 33:

The Parthenon is in Athens. Where is the Pantheon?

ROME

BONUS 1 Where was the Hippodrome of Constantinople?

CONSTANTINOPLE

BONUS 2 Where was the Pharos of Alexandria?

ALEXANDRIA

BONUS 3 Where was the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus?

HALICARNASSUS

TOSSUP 34:

Which is greater in altitude: Mt. Olympus or Mt. Parnassus?

MT. OLYMPUS

BONUS 1 Which two mountains did the Giants pile on each other to reach Olympus?

PELION AND OSSA

BONUS 2 Which Olympian god was born in a cave on Arcadian Mt. Kyllene?

HERMES

BONUS 3 On which mountain on the island of Delos were Apollo and Artemis born? Hint: its name gives Artemis the epithet CYNTHIA.

MT. KYNTHOS/CYNTHUS

TOSSUP 35:

From what part of Zeus' body was Athena born?

HEAD

BONUS 1 From what part of Zeus' body was Dionysos born?

THIGH

BONUS 2 What part of Pelops' body was an ivory prosthetic?

SHOULDER

BONUS 3 What part of Odysseus' body carried his famous scar?

THIGH (accept LEG, but not FOOT)

TOSSUP 36:

Everyone loves prosody. The meter of Greek and Latin poetry depends on syllable quantity. What do we call a metric foot that consists of two long syllables?

SPONDEE

BONUS 1 What is the meter of the sixth book of Virgil's Aeneid?

DACTYLIC HEXAMETER (accept HEXAMETER)

BONUS 2 How many metrical feet are there in iambic pentameter?

FIVE

BONUS 3 How many metrical feet are there in Catullus' hendecasyllabic poems?

ELEVEN

TOSSUP 37:

Which Greek philosopher's name means something like "Best End"?

ARISTOTLE

BONUS 1 Which Greek philosopher's nickname means something like "Broad Shoulders"?

PLATO

BONUS 2 Which Greek philosopher's name means something like "helper, ally, mercenary"?

EPICURUS

BONUS 3 Which Greek philosopher's name means something like "Born from Zeus"?

DIOGENES

TOSSUP 38:

What do *amphorae*, *hydriae*, *lekythoi* and *kraters* have in common?

POTTERY/VASES/CONTAINERS/HOLD LIQUIDS

BONUS 1 What liquid is most often contained in *hydriae*?

WATER

BONUS 2 What liquid is most often contained in *lekythoi*?

(OLIVE) OIL

BONUS 3 What were *kraters* used for?

MIXING WINE

TOSSUP 39:

Whose was the face that "launched a thousand ships"?

HELEN

BONUS 1 Who took Helen to Troy?

PARIS

BONUS 2 Which goddess was responsible for Helen's abduction?

APHRODITE/VENUS

BONUS 3 Who were Helen's twin brothers?

CASTOR & POLLUX/POLYDEUCES/DIOSCURI

TOSSUP 40:

In what ancient Greek site would one find Grave Circle A, the so-called Treasury of Atreus, and the Lion Gate?

MYCENAE

BONUS 1. Which 19th Century German businessman excavated at Mycenae?

(HEINRICH) SCHLIEMANN

BONUS 2. What did Heinrich Schliemann find in Grave Circle A at Mycenae?

SHAFT GRAVES, JEWELRY, GOLD MASKS, VASE, GRAVE STELAE. it's OK if they say "mask of Agamemnon"

BONUS 3. Besides the shaft graves of Grave circles A and B, what other kinds of tombs have been found at Mycenae?

THOLOS TOMBS, CHAMBER TOMBS

TOSSUP 41:

Which dialect of Greek did the Athenians use?

ATTIC DIALECT

BONUS 1. Which dialect of Greek did the Spartans use?

LACONIAN/DORIC/LACEDAEMONIAN

BONUS 2. Which dialect of Greek did Herodotus use?

IONIAN

Certamen Questions 2025 (Continued)

BONUS 3. Which dialect of Greek was mostly employed in the choral lyric portions of Attic tragedies?

DORIC

TOSS UP 42:

I fought as military tribune in the Second Punic War, and was known for my stern traditional morality. My nickname was “Censorius”, and I was a bitter foe of Carthage all my life. Who was I?

CATO THE CENSOR/CATO THE ELDER/M. PORCIUS CATO

BONUS 1. How did Cato say in Latin “Carthage must be destroyed”.

CARTHAGO DELEND A EST/CETERUM CENSEO CARTHAGINEM ESSE DELENDAM

BONUS 2. Which of Cato’s work dealt with the development of vine, olive, and fruit-growing and grazing for profit in Latium and Campania?

DE AGRICULTURA

BONUS 3. Cato wrote a work of History that included Rome’s story from Aeneas to his own time. What was its title?

ORIGINES/ORIGINS

TOSSUP 43:

What was the basic unit of weight in ancient Rome? You may give the English or Latin word.

POUND/LIBRA

BONUS 1. How many ounces were in a Roman pound?

TWELVE

BONUS 2. What is the Latin term for ‘pound’?

LIBRA

BONUS 3. What is the Latin term for ‘ounce’?

UNCIA

TOSS-UP 44:

Who was the first Greek conqueror to take Palestine from Persian control — in 332 BCE?

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

BONUS 1: Who was the leader of the house of Hashmon who led a revolt against Antiochus IV Epiphanes in Palestine that resulted in the reconsecration of the Temple in Jerusalem to the Jewish God?

JUDAS MACCABAEUS [ALSO ACCEPT MATTATHIAS]

BONUS 2: Which Roman Emperor sought to have his own statue placed in the Temple at Jerusalem in 39-40 CE?

GAIUS CALIGULA

BONUS 3: What was the result (in 132-135 CE) of Hadrian’s prohibition of circumcision among the Judaeans, and his proposal to found a pagan city on the site of Jerusalem?

(SECOND) PALESTINIAN REVOLT, or BAR KOCHBA REVOLT

TOSSUP 45:

In order to gain forgetfulness in the Underworld, a soul would drink from this river.

LETHE

BONUS: Name the following Rivers:

1. It flows through Babylon.

EUPHRATES

2. It flows through Rome.

TIBER

3. It flows through Alexandria.

NILE

TOSSUP 46:

What is the first word in Greek of the *Iliad*?

MHNIN

BONUS 1: What is the first word in Latin of the *Aeneid*?

ARMA

BONUS 2: What is the first word of the *Odyssey* in Greek?

ΑΝΔΡΑ

BONUS 3: What is the first word in Latin of the song GAUDEAMUS IGITUR?

GAUDEAMUS

TOSSUP 47:

It’s good to know grammatical genders, is it not? Not all gender assignments are what you might expect. For example, the Greek word for young man, ὁ νεανίας is masculine in gender, though it looks like a feminine noun of the first declension in many of its forms. And the gender of third declension nouns is not always evident from their forms. But you can’t be fooled because you memorize the gender of every Greek and Latin noun you meet. What is the gender of the Greek word γυνή “woman”?

FEMININE

BONUS 1: A Greek word for “tongue” is γλῶσσα. What is its gender?

FEMININE

BONUS 2: A Greek word for “animal” is ζῷον. What is its gender?

NEUTER

BONUS 3: A Greek word for “physician” is ἰατρός. What is its gender?

MASCULINE

TOSSUP 48:

It’s good to know grammatical genders, is it not? Not all gender assignments are what you might expect. For example, *nauta, nautae* is masculine gender, though it looks like a feminine noun of the first declension. And the gender of third declension nouns is not always evident from their forms. But you can’t be fooled because you memorize the gender of every Greek and Latin noun you meet. What is the gender of *poeta, poetae*?

MASCULINE

BONUS 1: A Latin word for “help” is *auxilium, auxilii*. What is its gender?

NEUTER

BONUS 2: A Latin word for “head” is *caput, capitis*. What is its gender?

NEUTER

BONUS 3: A Latin word for “modesty” or “shame” is *pudor, pudoris*. What is its gender?

MASCULINE

Report of the Resolutions Committee

98th Eta Sigma Phi National Convention
St. Olaf College: Northfield, Minnesota.
March 16, 2025

Committee: Daniel Levine (Chair),
Alexandra Thornhill, Naomi Quedensley,
Steph Maricic, Dylan Young, Jacob
Whitley, Hannah Stark, Lucia Iurino,
Mackenzie Kuckkan, Alexander van
Ettes, and Aria Giefer

These Resolutions are like a powerful
poem, a Resolution Poem of Force. We
apologize if we seem to be coming on too
strong... Maybe these should be more
gentle... We begin.

WHEREAS, our members were so
engrossed in epigraphy that they did
not want to leave the room because the
subject made such a big impression on
us, and

WHEREAS the Latin epigrapher was
not a Latin epigrapher, nor was he an
epigrapher at all, and

WHEREAS our members listened to
freight trains all night long, and

WHEREAS there were 50 leftover lunch
boxes that had to be given away to
random starving Oles, and

WHEREAS the Minnesota weather
welcomed us with temperatures in the
70s, followed by rain, snow and pierc-
ing winds, allowing us to wear — in 24
hours — our shorts, raincoats, parkas,
mufflers, snowshoes, mukluks, hoods,
scarves, gloves and stocking caps, and

WHEREAS St. Olaf, with its slightly
labyrinthine campus provided us with
our own Odysseys to get from one place
to another, and

WHEREAS despite the best efforts of
stalwart Oles some of us still ended up
eating our sandwiches in the wrong
dining area, and

WHEREAS the morning shuttles came
to the hotel promptly at 7:50am, but
because of the leisurely breakfast nobody
boarded them until 8:15, and

WHEREAS the pre-certamen concert
was cancelled and the Philharmonia
concert conflicted with the conference
banquet, and

WHEREAS our members delighted in
the cool Eta Sigma Phi mugs that awaited
us on our arrival, and

WHEREAS the winner of the certamen
was the dynamic team “Truman and
Jonathan,” and

WHEREAS the existence of hard c’s
allowed us to make a cool motto for our
gathering... something along the lines of
Cows, Classics, Certamen, Kleos, Caesar,
Clouds, Cold, Convention, and

WHEREAS as all educated people know,
it is important to memorize the gender of
all Greek and Latin nouns, and

WHEREAS we learned that cows could
have names like alpha, iota, beta, omi-
cron, epsilon, and sigma, and

WHEREAS a member of the Delta Chi
chapter described the energy of their
members when singing um ya ya as
“sorta like a cult,” and

WHEREAS wait a minute! What’s
this in the margin here? Right here! See
it? There are two dots on the page by this
WHEREAS. What are these dots doing
here? What can we call them? How about
Stigmatographs? Do you see them? Are
they Eta Stigma Fries? Beta Blothces?
Pi Pimples? Maybe we can find a genius
from Alabama to sort these out for us...
and

WHEREAS we wish we had time now
to read aloud the names of the 65 people
that gentle Patroclus killed in the *Iliad*,
and

WHEREAS... Wait a minute! I need to
get a drink. My mouth is getting dry.
[Drinks water and spits it out, coughs
and gags] UGH! That tastes terrible!
What is it? I hate it!
[Other voice] That means it’s good for
you.
[First voice] Thanks, Seneca!...and

WHEREAS the arts and crafts breakout
session showed that nobody here is in
danger of beating Athena in a weaving
contest, and

WHEREAS Professor Reese didn’t bring
his son to the session on father/son
reverse similes, and

WHEREAS our chapters enjoyed sharing
reports of their Lupercalia, Saturnalia
and Bacchanalia experiences, and one
even made a game out of escaping from
the Underworld, and

WHEREAS over 20 people anxiously
sweated and suffered anxiety while
declaiming in ancient Greek and Latin
about tyrants and poetry (respectively),
and

WHEREAS the lunch sandwiches were
impressive, and almost as dense as a
libum, and

WHEREAS the banquet provided good
food and fantastic costumes, including
the Eta Sigma Phi warrior and the Sacks
of Rome, and

WHEREAS eleven chapters came
together in harmony and good cheer, and

WHEREAS St. Olaf president Susan
Rundell Singer said nice things about
studying antiquity before rushing off to
give a presidential address to the Girl
Scouts, and

WHEREAS the local Delta Chi chapter, its
officers, members, and faculty advisors
are masters of *XENIA*,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED
that all gathered here express our heart-
felt GRATIAS to our hosts and rejoice
that we have come together in healthy
and hearty conviviality, and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that
we dearly hope that we will have some
place to gather again next year in this
season, and

LET US ALL SAY, “UM YA YA, UM YA
YA, UM YA YA, UM YA YA, UM YA
YA, UM YA YA, UM YA YA YA.”

Was that memorable?



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 2024-2025 academic year is October 1, 2024. Chapters receiving this grant will be required to submit a follow-up report for the 2024 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
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Galloway, NJ 08205
Office: ((609) 652-4618
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Convention Minutes

March 14-16, 2025

Delta Chi at St. Olaf College

Megas Grammateus: Asher Quentin
Riley Zeta Beta at Temple University

Friday, March 14, 2025

- Concert by Wintry Elementary, classically inspired student band (cancelled)

Certamen

- Eight teams participated
Dr. Daniel Levine, Beta Pi (University of Arkansas) prepared the questions and hosted.
- Team Truman & Jonathan won
 - Arreya Shaw, Jonathan Rolfe, Jakob Whitely, Hannah Starke, Alexandra Thornhill

Saturday, March 15, 2025

I. Minutes from 96th Annual Convention

- Arreya Shaw moved to pass the minutes; Jonathan Rolfe seconded.
 - Against: 2
 - For: everyone else
 - Minutes passed

II. Chapter Reports (8:48 am)

Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)

- We met before the semester to plan events - film and theater community outreach, trip to play minigolf, Shades of Underworld Party, Saturnalia, many inductees, ancient Greek and Latin translations, potluck, weekly Latin table, Classics Club for the university (official organization)

Beta Psi (Rhodes College)

- We held two inductions totaling 15 new members, trip to Memphis Zoo w/ community outreach to local high school, discussed use of elephants in war, attended the Pompeii exhibit at Graceland

Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College)

- The Classics Club held educational weekly meetings and held public events: *Gladiator* watch party, “fight nights,” mad libs event, Halloween party, Lupercalia, Saturnalia, Cider with Classics; induction of new members
- One current initiate and one alumna initiate were the program assistants for a two-week Summer Institute at Monmouth in July, for 26 K-12 teachers from around the nation, on the Ancient Olympics and Daily Life in Ancient Olympia, funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)

- Events included: initiating 16 new members, weekly Classics conversation table dinners with different guest speakers, adaptation of play by Sophocles, annual Latin and Greek Christmas caroling, Bacchanalia, hosting convention Rockford: travel to Cuba for Classical Reception and Colonial Latin America, student version of *Medea* to local high school classroom, translation of Gospel of Mark, coffee hours with small Greek and Latin classes, organizing 2026 summer study abroad program in Italy, attended Illinois Classical convention at Monmouth presentation

Zeta Beta (Temple University)

- Wednesday Waffles, Saturnalia and Lupercalia, Latin teaching 4+1 program, members studying abroad, new scholarships for teaching and research, Latin and Greek reading clubs, trip to Philly zoo, trip to University of Delaware, planned trip to the Penn Museum, 20 new inductees

Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)

- Held Homerathon and read *Iliad* all the way through, planning Vergil Vigil, planning trip to Chicago to visit Roman statues, fundraising: paint a Classicist, Christmas card + Valentines Day cards

Eta Zeta (Truman State University)

- Our meetings doubled in size, had trivia nights, faculty and alumni presentations, language festival for community outreach

Theta Beta (University of Alabama)

- We inducted 5 members, attended University of Florida undergrad Classics Conference, biweekly study sessions and tutoring sessions, desire to expand and connect with other chapters

Theta Tau (Stockton University)

- Held Latin Day for local high school students and had a middle school attend; events included archaeology station, Escape Room, Toga station; inducted 5 new members

III. Report on Contests (9:05 am)

Dr. Joe Garnjobst, Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)

- No winners currently because the submissions are still being judged.
- Thanks to those dedicated to the translation contest and other people behind the scenes; selecting and grading the passages
- 40 chapters were invited to participate — 21 requested materials, 15 returned materials, 109 total exams in the three Latin and three Greek categories
- 76th Annual Greek Translation Contest
- 75th Annual Latin Translation Contest
- 59th Annual Latin Prose Contest

- Latin had 62 exams: the intermediate- and advanced-levels had one less participant than last year, but Prose Comp had one more; The passage was a song by Taylor Swift!
- 47 Greek exams, one fewer than last year: intermediate had 15 (20 in 2024); advanced had 14; Koine has 18 (11 in 2024)

IV. Report on Scholarships

Dr. Katherine Panagakos, Theta Tau (Stockton University)

Convention Minutes (Continued)

- See handout for a list of winners and their bios.
- In order to win you have to apply! Unfortunately, there were not many applicants
 - American Academy at Rome Scholarship had only 1 applicant
 - Brent M. Froberg Scholarship to the American Schools of Classical Studies in Athens: 4 applicants
 - H.R. Butts Summer Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology: 7 applicants
 - No one applied to the Theodore Bedrick Scholarship
 - No one applied for the Bernice L. Fox Latin Teacher Training Scholarship

V. Report of Megale Chrysophylax, Charis Morasch, Beta Pi at the University of Arkansas (9:15 am)

- As of 3/15/25
 - Total in bank accounts: \$92,684.66
 - Total in investment accounts: \$660,882
 - Masciantonio funds received: \$170,234.24

VI. Report of Megale Hyparchos, Arreya Shaw, Eta Zeta at Truman State University (9:18 am)

- New Petition from Lafayette College in PA
 - 3 full-time faculty in Department of Languages and Literary Studies
 - Major and minor in Classical Civilization

VII. Old Business/New Business (9:20 am)

- None

VIII. Bids to host the 98th Annual Convention (9:21 am)

- Beta Pi at University of Arkansas

IX. Nominations for 2025-2026 National Officers (9:22 am)

- Megas/Megale Prytanis (must be a rising senior)
 - Violet Ecklund-Johnson, Delta Chi (St Olaf College)

- Megas/Megale Hyparchos
 - Martin Albright, Theta Beta (University of Alabama)
 - Jakob Whitely, Eta Zeta (Truman State University)
- Megas/Megale Chrysophylax
 - Kailee Rowe, Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)
 - Emma Winkler, Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
- Megas/Megale Grammateus
 - Zach Chen, Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)
 - Hannah Stark, Eta Zeta (Truman State University)

Break until 10:10 am

Presentation of Student Papers

1. "The *Iliad* or the Poem of Gentleness: Μειλιχία, Memory, and Moments of Illumination in Homer's *Iliad*," Zachary Chen (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)
2. "*Medicator Mentium*: Philosophical Disagreements in the *Medicus* Metaphors of Seneca and Boethius," Jonathan Rolfe (Eta Delta, Hillsdale College)
3. "Dastardly Dots: An Argument Against the Predominant Theory About the Codex Vaticanus (Vat. Gre. 1209) Distigmai," Martin Albright (Theta Beta, The University of Alabama)

Lunch

Afternoon Events

- Latin and Greek Declamation Contests
- Breakout Sessions
- Committee Meetings
- Viewing of Sophocles' *Ichneutae* ("Trackers") followed by discussion with cast and director
- Banquet
- Awards Ceremony

Sunday, March 16, 2025

I. Contest for Chapter Regalia (8:50 am)

- University of Arkansas and St. Olaf tied

II. Committee Reports (9:00 am)

- New Chapters
 - Lafayette College
 - They want to start a chapter. They have shown effort and have interesting courses including research level course(s) and Hebrew. Some challenges would be they do not currently have a Classics Club on campus.
 - Worry about the fact that only one of three faculty are tenured and are also an administrator.
 - They have a "self-designed" classics major and have a minor as well.
- Finance Committee
 - Allocating funding towards overhauling the Eta Sigma Phi website to make it more navigable.
 - New t-shirt designs! National Office would purchase many sizes and colors and then people could buy the shirts - not chapter specific but national. Could be sold on website as well.
 - Voted on all caps or lowercase by acclimation: all caps wins

Change in agenda

III. Election of 2025-2026 National Officers (9:15 am)

- Multiple people needed to leave at 10 am and/or could not make it to SCS meeting. We would have had zero candidates for Chrysophylax. To accommodate this, we moved elections forward.

Results:

- Prytanis: only Violet Ecklund-Johnson (Delta Chi, St. Olaf) was running; unanimous vote

97TH ANNUAL ETA SIGMA PHI CONVENTION (2025)

Convention Minutes (Continued)

- Hyparchos: 11-9 Martin Albright won
 - Beta Pi, Arkansas: 2 Martin
 - Beta Psi, Rhodes: split
 - Gamma Omicron, Monmouth: 2 Jakob
 - Delta Chi, St. Olaf: 2 Martin
 - Epsilon Epsilon, Rockford: 2 Jakob
 - Zeta Beta, Temple: 2 Martin
 - Eta Delta, Hillsdale: 2 Martin
 - Eta Zeta, Truman: 2 Jakob
 - Theta Beta, Alabama: 2 Martin
 - Theta Tau, Stockton: 2 Jakob
- Chrysophylax: 17-3 Kailee Rowe won
Dr. Levine cried from Kailee's moving speech.
Emma Winkler cannot attend the SCS conference due to studying abroad in Vienna.
 - Beta Pi, Arkansas: 2 Kailee
 - Beta Psi, Rhodes: 2 Kailee
 - Gamma Omicron, Monmouth: 2 Kailee
 - Delta Chi, St. Olaf: 2 Emma
 - Epsilon Epsilon, Rockford: split
 - Zeta Beta, Temple: 2 Kailee
 - Eta Delta, Hillsdale: 2 Kailee
 - Eta Zeta, Truman: 2 Kailee
 - Theta Beta, Alabama: 2 Kailee
 - Theta Tau, Stockton: 2 Kailee
- Grammateus: 13-7 Zach Chen won
Zach gave his speech entirely in Latin
 - Beta Pi, Arkansas: 2 Zach
 - Beta Psi, Rhodes: split
 - Gamma Omicron, Monmouth: 2 Zach
 - Delta Chi, St. Olaf: split
 - Epsilon Epsilon, Rockford: 2 Zach
 - Zeta Beta, Temple: 2 Hannah
 - Eta Delta, Hillsdale: 2 Zach
 - Eta Zeta, Truman: 2 Hannah
 - Theta Beta, Alabama: 2 Zach
 - Theta Tau, Stockton: split
- IV. Installation of Officers (9:56 am)
Back to Committee Reports
 - Resolutions Committee (10:03)
 - Jokes referencing the different papers given as well as different events happening
 - Resolved that all gathered here express heartfelt *gratias* to our hosts
 - Contests and Scholarships Committee Report (10:27 am)
 - Discussed ways to increase participation for both scholarships and contests (mainly translations)
 - All information is on the website
 - Doesn't hurt to try or apply!
 - No matter how much money is given, some folks cannot afford to go away for x amount of weeks over the summer
 - Get the word out to more people to apply!!!!
 - Convention Committee Report (10:29)
 - Dr. Simmons reported that Arkansas cannot host the convention next year because they only have one faculty member
 - Discussed time, spaces, educational engagement, commitment necessary to hosting these conventions
 - Arreya Shaw is going to put in a bid for Eta Zeta at Truman State University
 - Officer Committee Report (10:31)
 - Discussed with prospective students the duties and responsibilities as well as election procedures
- V. Report of the Executive Secretary (10:32 am)
 - Dr. Panagakos is Spartan. Don't mess with her.
 - Chapters attending this convention:
 - Beta Pi (Univ. of Arkansas)
 - Beta Psi (Rhodes College)
 - Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College)
 - Gamma Sigma (UT Austin)
 - Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
 - Epsilon Epsilon (Rockford University)
 - Epsilon Psi (Santa Cruz Univ.)
 - Zeta Beta (Temple University)
 - Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)
 - Eta Zeta (Truman State University)
 - Theta Beta (The Univ. of Alabama)
 - Theta Tau (Stockton University)
 - National Convention has been hosted by Delta Chi (St. Olaf College) four times!
 - 57th annual convention in 1985
 - 77th annual convention in 2005
 - 91st annual convention in 2019
 - 97th annual convention in 2025
 - Professor Hilary Bouxein (chapter advisor) and Abigail Velazquez (local committee chair) received gift for their hard work.
 - Officers attended 2025 SCS convention in Philadelphia, PA
 - Eta Sigma Phi: The Next Generation panel at the convention
 - Dr. Barbara Gold, Hamilton College, gave response
 - Apply! It cannot hurt and it is not the most competitive
 - National Officers had dinner at Zorba's where Zeus overlooked the flaming cheese appetizer!
 - 9 reactivated chapters this year
 - Alpha Eta, University of Michigan
 - Alpha Phi, Millsaps College
 - Epsilon Eta, Kent State University
 - Zeta Pi, University of Utah
 - Eta Gamma, Loyola University of New Orleans
 - Theta Beta, University of Alabama
 - Theta Rho, University of Miami
 - Iota Phi, San Francisco State University
 - Kappa Zeta, Elon University
 - 606 new members in 2023-2024
 - Only paid initiates are confirmed members of the honorary!
 - So far in 2024-2025, 286 new members
 - We are going to work on the *Nuntius*
 - Please submit poetry, book and film reviews, chapter news, chapter outreach, submit Annual Report by November 15th (list of local officers), submit Chapter Report due May 15th - list all the things you have done for the year to be published
 - Only 8 colleges submitted this year... ACTUALLY 9!! St. Olaf's did in fact submit, however very early in May rather than November
 - Subscribe to notifications on the Eta Sigma Phi website
 - We have a Facebook so probably do that too
 - Buy hoods and chords at discounted rate!

Convention Minutes (Continued)

- Thanks to Delta Chi at St. Olaf for hosting the 97th convention; thanks to the National Officers and the Board of Trustees

VI. Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees (10:45 am)

- Meeting Friday night different than party Saturday night lol
- Some decisions must be delayed until all board members can meet
- Higher education is facing numerous challenges that affect Eta Sigma Phi as well as our field
- Good news: we have money, more than we have ever had
- Brent Froberg donated significantly
- Larry Croson student of HR Butts contributed significantly
- Rudolph Masciantonio has given funds to many classical organizations including Eta Sigma Phi
- Transfer those resources to what we are lacking: time and people.
- Faculty have more and more responsibilities, departments are closing, challenge to keep the chapters open

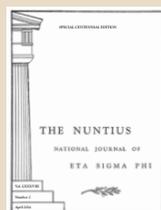
- Some money should be able to help with website (board supports this), think they have an interim editor for *Nuntius*, resources to support whoever the editor is, decision to broaden the scope of outreach and diversity for \$2,000 award. Yearly award, chapters just need to apply, and they can be funded for their chapter activities
- Need to fill positions on faculty committees — will be discussed by Board
- Prof. Bridget Thomas, Zeta Beta at Truman State, has another term as trustees
- Prof. Robert Simmons has agreed to another term on Board of Trustees
- Prof. Katherine Panagakos has agreed to serve another term as executive secretary - potentially changing the name of the position title = constitution change so will need to be voted on in the future - most likely will be changed to executive director

VII. Election of 2026 Convention Site (10:53 am)

- Beta Pi at University of Arkansas
- Arreya Shaw spoke for Eta Zeta at Truman State University
 - Decision made in haste but not without thought
 - In northeastern part of state of Missouri
 - 3 classics faculty
 - Planetarium, special collections library (including cuneiform)
 - Experience hosting virtually
 - What direction will someone be travelling from Des Moines to Kirksville?
- Columbia airport (90 mins), airport in Kirksville from Chicago (is iffy and gets cancelled frequently), train from Chicago and Kansas City which are reliable.

Back Issues of *NUNTIUS* Wanted

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.



Howard University Professor Honored by CAAS with Posthumous *Ovatio*

**Ovatio Laudatioque Funeris: Annette Eaton (1908-1985),
CAAS President 1968-1969**

Hodie, tandem, collegam praeclarissimam beatae memoriae recordemur, propugnatricem strenuissimam pro causa nostra, causa artium alenti scientiam,¹ primam feminam stirpis Africanæ quae societatem nostram duxit.² Ab atavo libertino orta,³ proles urbis praebentis iustitiam omnibus,⁴ gradum Baccalaureae artis est adepta apud universitatem illustrem sapientia virtuteque.⁵ Multos annos antequam postque consociationem turpiter divisorum discipulorum discipularumque, magistrarum magistrorumque, docuit linguam Latinam in academiis suae communitatis natalis.⁶ Postquam illuminavit in quibus modis opera Publii Ovidii Nasonis resonarent in scriptis posteris poetae Claudii Claudiani, gradum Doctoris Philosophiae meruit apud universitatem proclamantem deum esse lucem eius.⁷ Post unum lustrum, incepit non solum scribere libros de lingua Latina erudienda⁸ sed etiam partiri suos labores et ingenia sua cum universitate promulganti veritatem utilitatemque.⁹ Servivit multis aliis societatibus faventibus discendo docendoque de Graeco Romanoque mundo, praecipue illam quae sapientiam pulchritudinemque coluit,¹⁰ summa cum diligentia moliebatur ut adiuveret statum feminarum generumque diversorum.¹¹ Quomodo studium linguarum Latinae Graecaeque temporis praeteriti et in posterum, et in

omnibus partibus nostrae regionis, maneret erat sibi maximae curae.¹² Apud nos potentissime semper honos nomenque suum laudesque manebunt.¹³ Honoremus Annette Elizabeth Hawkins Eaton.

Judith Peller Hallett
Michele Valerie Ronnick
Thomas Sienkewicz

Today, at long last, let us recall an extremely outstanding colleague of blessed memory, a most energetic champion of our cause, the cause of the arts fostering knowledge, the first woman of African ancestry to have led our association (and any society for classical studies in our nation). Descended from a former slave, offspring of our nation's capital, she received her BA from Smith College in 1929. She taught Latin in the Washington, DC public schools for many years both before and after they were racially integrated owing to the 1954 US Supreme Court *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision. In 1943 she received her PhD in classics from the Catholic University of America, from which she had earlier earned her MA, submitting her doctoral dissertation on the influence of Ovid's work on the poetry of Claudian. Five years later, she not only began to write and publish textbooks and manuals about Latin learning, but also joined the Howard University faculty as Associate Professor, sharing her

Dr. Annette Eaton taught Classics at Howard University from 1943 to 1976. In 1956 she was a charter member of the university's chapter of Eta Sigma Phi (Gamma Xi). In 1968 she served as president of the Classical Association of the Atlantic States (CAAS), the first African-American woman to head any professional Classical organization in the United States.

In recognition of her important contributions, as both teacher and scholar, to the field of Classics, CAAS honored her posthumously with a long-overdue *Ovatio* at its meeting in the fall of 2024. This *Ovatio*, the text of which appears below, was written by Dr. Judith P. Hallett of the University of Maryland College Park and by Dr. Michele Valerie Ronnick of Wayne State University. It was recorded in Latin for the CAAS meeting by Dr. Thomas J. Sienkewicz of Monmouth College. More information about Dr. Eaton and this *Ovatio* can be found at www.tomsienkewicz.com/Eaton/default.html.

Dr. Anne Eaton, 1908-1985



Howard University Professor Honored (Continued)

labors and talents with its Classics Department for the next several decades. She was involved in many other classics professional organizations, devoting special energies to Eta Sigma Phi, the national classics undergraduate honor society; she worked assiduously to pioneer the efforts of our national professional classics organization toward equity for women and minority groups. She was especially concerned with the future of classics, and with promoting classical studies throughout the CAAS region. In our organization her honor and name and merits will most powerfully remain. Let us honor Annette Elizabeth Hawkins Eaton.

¹ *Causa Artium Alit Scientiam* is the Latin motto of CAAS, the first letters of its four words creating the same acronym as do the four words of the Classical Association of the Atlantic States. It means, “The cause of the arts nourishes knowledge.”

² Eaton was the first Black female president not only of CAAS, but also of any North American professional classics association; although organizations such as the American Philological Association (APA: now the Society for Classical Studies) had earlier elected women presidents, many of them from the CAAS region).

³ Eaton traced her lineage to Walter Hawkins (born ca. 1809), born a slave in Georgetown, Washington, DC; he escaped via New York and New England, to Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

⁴ *Iustitia omnibus*, “Justice for all,” is the Latin motto of Washington, DC.

⁵ The Smith College motto, Ἐν τῇ ἀρετῇ τὴν γνῶσιν in Greek, is translated as “In Virtue [One Gains] Knowledge” in English. The motto is based on 2 Peter 1:5. The distinguished Black classicist Helen Maria Chesnutt (1880-1969) was also a Smith alumna.

⁶ Prior to joining the Howard University faculty, Eaton taught in the then-segregated Washington, DC public schools. After the school system was racially integrated in the wake of the 1954 historic Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court decision, she continued to work there as a consultant, rigorously assessing the qualifications of aspiring and current K-12 Latin teachers through the 1970’s.

⁷ Her dissertation was published in 1943 as *The Influence of Ovid on Claudian*, Catholic University of America Patristic Studies No. 69. *Deus Lux Mea Est*, “God is my Light,” is the Latin motto of the Catholic University.

⁸ In 1948 Eaton co-authored a Latin textbook entitled *A Year with the Classics: First Year Latin for Junior and Senior High Schools*, with Lorraine R. Heathcock of Virginia Union College, now University (a private historically Black Baptist University in Richmond, VA); in 1966 she co-authored *A Latin Text and Teacher’s Manual for Students in Grade 6* with Sylvia Wigdor Gerber, a distinguished Jewish educator as well as a Latin teacher at Howard and in the DC Public Schools.

⁹ *Veritas et Utilitas*, translated as “Truth and Service”, is the Latin motto of Howard University, where Eaton taught from 1943-1976, first as a visiting instructor in 1943-1944, then appointed Associate Professor of Classics in 1948 and rising to the rank of Professor of Classics in 1968. Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts from 1968-1971, she also served as a Howard University Trustee from 1973-1976.

¹⁰ Among the professional classics associations in which Eaton was active were the Archaeological Institute of America, the Washington Classical Club, and Eta Sigma Phi, whose “Gamma XI” chapter at Howard she successfully labored to launch in 1956. The Greek motto of Eta Sigma Phi is φιλοσοφοῦμεν καὶ φιλοκαλοῦμεν. “We love both wisdom and beauty” (*sapientia* and *pulchritudo* in Latin).

¹¹ Her service to the American Philological Association, now the Society for Classical Studies, includes her membership on its 1972 Committee on the Status of Women, which evolved into the Committee on the Status of Women and Minorities, and later into the Committee on Diversity and the Committee on Gender and Diversity in the Profession.

¹² Her CAAS presidential address in 1968, entitled “The Future of Classics” was published in *Classical World* 62.1 (September 1968); her presidency was noteworthy for launching the “CAAS Regional Plan” “To renovate and extend the teaching of Classical Studies at all levels in CAAS territory.” She worked closely with Dr. Rudolph Masciantonio of Philadelphia on producing Latin materials for the Washington, DC public schools (FLES).

¹³ Vergil, *Aeneid* 1. 609: *semper honos nomenque tuum laudesque manebunt*, “Your honor and name and merits will always remain.” These words are spoken by Aeneas to the African queen Dido of Carthage.

SCS 2024 Next Generation Undergraduate Panel

Organized by Eta Sigma Phi Executive Secretary 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 2025 panel took place in Philadelphia, PA. Abstracts of papers read and biographies of the panelists are provided here.

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

Zachary Chen, Hillsdale College

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.



Members of the 2025 Next Generation Panel; l. to right Olivia Gandee (Bryn Mawr College), Emmeline Murphy (Northwestern University); Barbara Gold (Hamilton College), on zoom screen; Zachary Chen (Hillsdale College); and Riley Parker (Columbia University).

SCS 2024 Next Generation Undergraduate Panel (Continued)

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 sophomore studying Latin, Greek, German, and Journalism at Hillsdale College. While he enjoys studying and researching many aspects of the classical world, he is especially intrigued by the epic poetry of Homer and Vergil. Outside of his academic endeavors, Zachary is also an avid choral singer.

Wearied or Fallen: The Critical Reception of the Creusa Episode and Editorial History of *Aeneid* 2.739

Emmeline Murphy, Northwestern University

Abstract

This paper evaluates 20th century editions' treatment of line 2.739 of the *Aeneid*, where the manuscript tradition presents two readings of comparable textual strength: *lassa* and *lapsa*. Modern editions differ in which reading they print, and 2.739 remains an open issue within Virgilian textual criticism. Setting aside the suitability of one reading over another, I argue that each reading's reception within textual criticism is grounded in its interpretive value. Line 2.739's editorial history reveals how textual critics' decisions, themselves a matter of judgement, influence readers' understanding of Creusa's disappearance, Aeneas' heroism, and human cost in the *Aeneid*.

I model my examination of the episode's critical reception on Richard F. Thomas' *Virgil and the Augustan Reception* (2001). Thomas (2001) has demonstrated how textual critics have previously "textually cleansed" elements of the Creusa episode which suggest that Aeneas contributes to his wife's loss. However, this paper moves beyond explicit acts of textual cleansing (i.e., emendation) to focus on subtler reactions that infringe on the text's ambiguity.

I first examine ancient commentators' reception of the Creusa episode and their attempts to remedy the interpretive issues they identify within it. I argue that their efforts demonstrate a lurking anxiety that Aeneas' moral character is at stake. In my review of scholia, I show that Servius is troubled by instances in Aeneas' narration where he seems to lack concern for his wife. Servius explains away details that could implicate Aeneas (ad 2.711; Thomas 2001) and suggests that the text itself is at fault (ad 2.743). I also argue that ancient commentators are sensitive to Aeneas' role as a narrator, and that ancient readers considered whether Aeneas' account of the episode might be inordinately favorable to him (Servius ad 2.735, 2.744; Donatus ad 2.739; Nünlist 2011).

I then suggest that the urge to explain or reject ambiguous elements of the episode informs modern critics' treatment of line 2.739 and their reception of the readings *lassa* and *lapsa*. My review of 20th century editions of the *Aeneid* reveals that *lassa* is the reading that is most frequently printed, and that *lapsa*, which is only occasionally selected (Mynors 1969; Geymonat 1973; Conte 2009; Boyd 2013), has faced undue negative reception from textual critics (Stégen 1971; Boerma 1973; Kraggerud 2011; Casali 2017). I then demonstrate that commentators often prefer *lassa*, "the more homely word," because it imbues Aeneas' narration with pathos for Creusa (Austin 1964; Horsfall 2008; Casali 2017). On the other hand, *lapsa* has previously been selected by commentators for its ambiguity and interpreted as a critique of Creusa's strength (Boyd 2013; Perrell 2021). I argue that a critic's preference for one reading over another at 2.739 tends to promote the optimistic or pessimistic view that they espouse elsewhere. My paper demonstrates that the logic of textual criticism is sometimes unavoidably circular: interpretation of text decides textual reading, which in turn reinforces interpretation of the text.

Emmeline Murphy is a senior at Northwestern University. Emmeline is a classics major and is also pursuing a music degree in oboe performance in Northwestern's dual degree program. She just returned from studying abroad in Rome at the CENTRO, and her favorite work of Latin literature is the Aeneid. Emmeline intends to study Classics in graduate school after she graduates in 2026.

Exiled by Fate: Memory and National Identity in *Aeneid* VIII

Riley Parker, Columbia University

Abstract

Vergil's *Aeneid*, produced as it was during a critical junction between the Roman Republic and the Empire, interacts with its political environment kaleidoscopically. Other scholars have noted the various ways in which Vergil either portrays or obfuscates Roman identity in the poem (Zetzel 1997; Feeney 1991;

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Beard 2015). This paper first explores the differences in Vergil's presentations of Roman identity between Evander's tour of the future Rome and the Shield of Aeneas ekphrasis in Book VIII. The former episode depicts Rome as a safe harbor for a succession of fugitives, most notably "Saturnus...fugiens," Aeneas "fato profugus," and Evander "pulsum patria" (*Aen.* 8.319-320; 1.2; 8.333). Conversely, the latter posits Augustus Caesar as the head of a homogenized empire before whom "incedunt victae longo ordine gentes" (*Aen.* 8.723). In light of Barchiesi's observations about ekphrasis and O'Hara's discussion of deceptive prophecy in Vergil, the paper argues that this discrepancy is critical when juxtaposed against first-century political context as characterized both by ancient and modern scholars (1997; 2007; *Aug.*70; Sherman 1917; Beard 2015). The paper then demonstrates that said disparity points to the *Aeneid's* concern for mindful remembrance of the past both at the diegetic and exegetic levels; in doing so, the paper extends Bleisch's conclusions concerning Book VI (1999). In Book VIII, Vergil comments on the process of historical narrativizing through a series of different transmitters (i.e., Evander, the shield, and the *Aeneid* itself). The paper finally concludes that, with this approach, the poet adopts a metatextual argument for the importance of his work as a history of the Roman nation. Book VIII thus functions as a microcosm of greater themes within the epic and as an especially salient meditation on the past, present, and future of Rome.

Riley Parker is a junior undergraduate at Columbia University majoring in Classics. They last presented at the NYU Society for Ancient Studies Undergraduate Conference and are interested in the politics of Latin and Ancient Greek poetics.

Presence, Identity, and Legitimacy: The Power of Song in Vergil's *Aeneid*

Olivia Gandee, Bryn Mawr College

Abstract

This paper first demonstrates that references to singing and song in Vergil's *Aeneid* surround key musical or prophetic figures in the epic. It then argues that these key characters are intentional foils for Vergil's own position as the author of the *Aeneid*, which highlights his multifaceted role as a storyteller in both the musical and prophetic senses. This paper takes three characters as case studies. Vergil's invention of the musician character Iopas grants Vergil presence and a voice at an important scene of his narrative and asserts to the audience a singer's power to not just predict events, but to also take part in effecting them himself. Vergil firmly ties singing to Roman identity and culture overall, both through depicting Turnus's people as scorning music, as well as through using the presence of music and song in foreign cultures to identify them as friendly to the Trojans. Vergil's invention of the musician character Cretheus, murdered at the hand of Turnus himself, represents not only a foil for Vergil, but

the music of Rome as a whole, and Vergil thus in identifying himself with this figure declares to his audience his assumption of the role of continuing this song and upholding Roman identity and memory into the future. Vergil also makes extensive use of the Cumaean Sibyl as a foil for himself, in particular through emphasizing the difference in the legitimacy and credibility of the Sibyl's prophecies when sung in the presence of an audience versus when written as a record for later viewing, a difference which Vergil thereby shows himself to be taking into account in his decision to use the word "cano" in the incipit of his epic, thus depicting his role as storyteller of the *Aeneid* not as merely recording in writing the products of his inspiration by the Muses, but as using song to convey legitimized divine thought to the audience actively in the present moment. These three case studies together demonstrate that the prevalence of references to singing and song in Vergil's *Aeneid* is an intentional authorial choice that allows Vergil not just to illustrate through allegory his role as storyteller to the audience, but to assert to his audience the power his song grants him, declaring himself the embodiment of Roman identity as a whole and even legitimizing himself as a prophet in his own right.

Olivia is a senior at Bryn Mawr College and is majoring in Classical Languages. She is minoring in Education with Secondary Certification in preparation for her plans to become a Latin teacher in the future. Her favorite work of Greco-Roman literature is Vergil's *Aeneid*. A fun fact about her is that in high school, she translated a manga series from Japanese to Latin.

Response to 2025 ΗΣΦ Panel: The Next Generation

Barbara Gold, Hamilton College

I was honored to be invited to give the response to this year's papers by students in Eta Sigma Phi, the national Classics honorary society. I have long been involved with Eta Sigma Phi over the course of my career at many different colleges and universities, from advising existing chapters to helping to start new chapters. Hamilton College, from which I am retired, has long had an active chapter which has contributed a great deal to the life of the Classics Department. As I read the four papers that were selected (anonymously) by the national Program Committee, I was astounded at the sophisticated approaches they employed and the quality of the writing (something that Hamilton prides itself on and to which I have paid a great deal of attention). Our field should congratulate itself on attracting students of such depth and caliber who find new ways of dealing with our ancient texts and subjects and bring new insights into areas and texts that one might have thought had been so thoroughly investigated that there was nothing really new to say. These papers prove that to be a wrong assumption.

It is interesting that these four papers all deal with one genre:

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epic. One focuses on Homer (and Shakespeare), the other three on Vergil's *Aeneid* (with Vergil/Virgil doing his usual dance between Vergil with an e and Virgil with an i!). In some ways, this is not surprising since these texts are among the most compelling in all of classical literature, but since I know the program committee does try to choose a slate of papers that cover a wide range of topics and genres, it means that epic is a genre that continues to hold many of our students in awe as they progress through their four years of undergraduate school. Although the students focus on similar texts, their approaches vary widely. But there are striking similarities among the four papers in some ways, especially in their focus on identity and memory, two approaches that have gained increasing attention in the past decade or so. I found myself wondering about the genesis of the ideas for these papers: was it the students who discovered these interesting approaches and topics or did their teachers and mentors plant the ideas? Do these papers reflect and resonate with the interests of their professors? Or was it something that caught the eye of the authors and presenters here? In any case, even if the original idea was suggested by the professor, the authors of these papers ran with the ideas and constructed excellent papers around the four themes.

Let's look more closely at each of these papers to see what the authors have crafted. First we have Zachary Chen from Hillsdale College. His paper, "The Loneliness of Excellence: Social Schism in the Stories of Coriolanus and Achilles," starts with Homer's Greek hero Achilles, and then moves on to consider the Roman hero Coriolanus in Plutarch and in Shakespeare. His paper focuses on the knotty question of the moral values that are reflected in the stories of these heroes and the societies that they are a part of (or then are not a part of, in the case of the first paper). I congratulate Zachary for having the courage to take on such a difficult topic, one that has produced an enormous amount of scholarship and has bedeviled classicists over the centuries. What role does the moral virtue of ἀνδρεία, "excellence," play in the hero and what danger does it pose to the society of which the hero is a part? Zachary moves beyond the discussion of what exactly this word means and how it operates in the epic and focuses instead on the interesting question of the social schism that occurs among both the Argives and the Romans, but he posits that this schism is due not to the often cited moral values of anger and pride that seem to drive these heroes but rather to a broader social division between the "excellence" of one man/hero and the community of which he is (and is not) a part, a community that is inferior to him. The "loneliness" in his title refers to the position in which the hero finds himself: because he is marked by this excellence, he cannot be a part of his community and is in a sense exiled from it. Interesting to me are some questions that arise tangentially but are not quite explored. Achilles is a mythical hero, not historical, while the status of Coriolanus is not clear and has long been a topic of discussion - some of the scholars, writers, musicians who have been entranced by his story would make him into a historical character; others put him on a footing with Achilles. Another question that could well be explored further

is what inside and outside mean — where do the heroes stand? And, if the community is "inferior," what does this say about the class system in ancient Greece or Rome? What does it mean for a whole community to be inferior to one man, even a man who embodies excellence, and who decides that? I also wonder about the issue of gender in such a very male dominated society. If the whole community is inferior, are the women in the community more inferior? There was no time to explore these topics, but Zachary's paper planted seeds of them for future exploration.

Our next paper is by Emmeline Murphy from Northwestern University. And it delivers a surprise even as early as its title: "Wearied or Fallen: The Critical Reception of the Creusa Episode and Editorial History of *Aeneid* 2.739." As I well know from having been the editor of a Classics journal, very few classicists these days turn their attention to variant manuscript readings, but doing so, as Emmeline shows, can be a very rewarding way of understanding the interpretive issues in a text. As with the other papers on epic in this session, Aeneas' heroism comes into play but as an element in understanding which of two readings in *Aen.* 2.739 makes the most sense. So, we are dealing not with a cultural study (as with Zachary's paper) but with the best choice of two equally possible manuscript readings to make the best sense of the broader text. Emmeline gives a good overview of how an editor might choose between two readings that have equally strong manuscript traditions. What then leads an editor to make the choice if not the strength of a manuscript? It is often, she proposes, the desire of the editor to make the text reinforce a reading of the text that the editor favors. Many editors have chosen the reading *lassa* ("wearied," of Creusa) rather than *lapsa* ("fallen," of Creusa) here in order to protect the heroism of Aeneas and show him in a better light. If he has been neglectful of Creusa, his heroism falls short. This line is only one example among many of such attempts by editors to create a text which reinforces their desired interpretation.

Two points in particular stood out for me here. One is that we cannot rely on the frequency of a manuscript reading to prove it is right. The second — and this is essential if we are to understand how editorial decisions influence interpretation — is that textual critics make decisions that are at least partly a matter of their judgement. There is a circular logic at play: the interpretation of a text decides a chosen textual reading, and that reading in turn reinforces an interpretation of the text. This means that when we read a text it is important that we know the language it is written in (Greek, Latin) so that we can see the choices that have gone into making that text what it is! If we do not know Latin, we cannot understand the forces at play here. A third point that arises out of this consideration of the relationship between Aeneas and Creusa is the all important issue of gender. What does "heroic" mean for Aeneas if he abandons his wife? And how should we interpret Creusa's character and actions? All these questions reveal just how important to a broader assessment of the *Aeneid* the choice of one word can be.

Our third paper is by Riley Parker of Columbia University: "Exiled by Fate: Memory and National Identity in *Aeneid* VIII." Here we have both a textual and a cultural interpretation of

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the *Aeneid*, which ties nicely into Emmeline's paper because both concern Aeneas leaving people and places behind, and also concern the complicated character and behavior of Aeneas. Riley uses Book VIII, famous partly because of the ekphrastic shield of Aeneas, as a test case to examine the power of Vergil's *Aeneid* both to show his Roman audience the importance of their roots (is this the Roman "Roots" story?) but also to caution them about what the changes wrought from republic to empire could portend. As Riley makes clear, it is impossible to extract from the *Aeneid* - even one book as here not to mention all twelve books — one single meaning or a set of meanings as so many scholars have discovered at their peril. Riley touches on "the 'true' socio-political ideology of the *Aeneid*" — is it pro-Augustan or anti-Augustan? — but does well to avoid coming down on one side or another. Whichever side one picks, one can find fodder for her or his argument. Just as memory and memorializing are on-going processes, so the *Aeneid* allows us to see this process by showing us how the past, like Evander's tour or Aeneas' shield, shows us the future, closer to Vergil's time. But such a process is never, of course, linear or clear, not does it end with the author. It will continue on beyond Vergil, and the end of the *Aeneid* makes it clear that there are still many questions to be asked about the hero, his actions, and their reflections on contemporary Rome.

I am impressed with the way in which Riley manages to include so many key issues and approaches in this short paper. There are textual analysis — diegetic, exegetic —, metatextual analysis, arguments about identity, memorializing, imperialism and assimilationism, and socio-political ideologies. By focusing as Riley does on one book of the *Aeneid*, it is possible to understand how these aspects of Vergil's complex text work in a smaller setting. One word that kept cropping up for me as I read Riley's paper but that was not mentioned explicitly is **time**: how the passage of time and its movement backwards and forwards is key to understanding how Vergil deals with memory and identity.

Our fourth and final paper is by Olivia Gandee of Bryn Mawr College: "Presence, Identity, and Legitimacy: The Power of Song in Vergil's *Aeneid*." There is a lovely flow from one paper to another in our session, but there are particularly nice resonances between Riley's and Olivia's papers. Roman identity and memory are again key themes here, as is the role of Vergil as a storyteller and prophet. But while Riley is focused more on the **visual** (the ekphrastic shield), Olivia is dealing with the power of **sound**, of music. The storytellers of old were bards who, like Homer, sang their mytho-historical tales to music. Vergil, although not that kind of bard and a literary figure, is also a teller of tales in verse, and many of his tales of Roman identity and memory are sung by bardic figures in the *Aeneid* like Iopas. But Vergil, by his use of the musical verb *cano* in line 1 of Book 1 of the *Aeneid*, declares himself to be a prophetic storyteller

who sings his song to his audience in the present moment. I was glad to be reminded by Olivia of the Sibyl who also prioritizes the presentness of singing her songs, not reorganizing and unscrambling her previous *carmina* when the wind plays with them (a lovely Vergilian detail that brings these words to life as music does). So Olivia focuses like Riley does on the very active presence of Vergil in his epic, his role, not only as poet who records events but singer who foretells events, actively sings of these events, and participates in making them happen (as in Book 4). A further cultural element here is that music and song can identify people as good (Cretheus) or bad (Turnus and his people who murder Cretheus, a friend of the Muses).

Olivia's paper thus highlights or pulls together so many of the themes we have heard here: the power of poetry to memorialize, identity, the poet as prophet who can effect elements of his own story, cultural moments of heroism, moral deeds, singers as cultural and founding figures, and the importance of time in all its aspects (bringing the past to life, bringing the past to the present by active singing, looking into the future through characters, ekphrases of artistic objects, singing *carmina*). I have learned a lot from these terrific papers and been reminded of the importance of things I have forgotten. I hope and trust that these students will continue to investigate and puzzle over these big questions — there are many more strands to be unwoven.

Dr. Barbara Gold is the Edward North Professor of Greek and Greek Literature Emerita from Hamilton College. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before arriving at Hamilton College, Dr. Gold taught at a number of institutions including the University of Virginia, the University of Texas, and Santa Clara University. Her research interests include Roman elegy, lyric, and satire, Medieval Literature, Comparative Literature, Women in the Ancient World, and Feminist Criticism. Dr. Gold's publication record is quite remarkable: over 60 articles, 9 books and volumes, and more than two dozen book reviews. I'd like to highlight just a few of these: Roman Dining with co-editor John Donahue published by Johns Hopkins, Perpetua: Athlete of God: A Martyr's Tale published by Oxford University Press, and A Guide to Latin Elegy and Lyric published in the Blackwell Guides to Classical Literature series. She is also currently working on two more books: Juvenal Satire Six, "On Women": Essays, Commentary, Translation and Performance, Rhetoric, and Subjectivity in Juvenal's Satires. She has served on numerous committees with SCS, CAAS, CAMWS, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the Women's Classical Caucus, and our very own Eta Sigma Phi. Finally, she has been the recipient of grants and fellowships including the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Teagle Foundation, CAAS, and a Duke University Mellon Fellowship.

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.

‘Wayfinding’ through Ancient Sites

by Holly Fitterer

When I applied to the American Academy in Rome’s Classical Summer School, I anticipated some ways in which the experience could improve my teaching. In general, I thought I would explore using authentic texts and finding ways to scaffold them to my students. I also wanted to focus on the connection between the ancient and the modern experience so I could properly explain the context and perspective to students. This program allowed me to truly expand my horizons and think more broadly about the Roman experience.

“Wayfinding” served as one of the program’s central themes, framing the ways in which we interacted with the places we visited. Often, we contextualize historic spaces through the lens of the modern viewing experience and preexisting knowledge. As part of this program, however, it was refreshing to instead explore and discuss the significance of these locations from the perspective of an ancient Roman navigating their way around a city. We saw a variety of ancient sites that made us think critically about the idea of wayfinding and how this practice may have changed as time passed, from pre-Republican Latin and Etruscan colonies all the way to Late Empire or even Medieval contexts. This perspective has given me the tools to help express these ideas to my students as well.

With regard to drawing in authentic texts, I thought that I would mainly be looking at inscriptions. Instead, I quickly realized just how many resources have authentic texts and a narrative that students can understand which tie in its history and culture. The material culture workshops incited us to make connections between an object, the people who interacted with it, and, at times, the journey it may have endured, connecting to people, places, and practices. Now, when I see an object, it is no longer something to look at and move on from; instead, it becomes a conversation with the ancient people about how it connects in their world.



Holly Fitterer at Bosco Sacro in Bomarzo

Above all, this program opened up a world of resources by connecting me with amazing teachers, philologists, archaeologists, art historians, and educators of many backgrounds. It was a privilege getting to hear about their research and field work firsthand. I know that if I reach out for inspiration or information, I have a network of people in my corner, and I hope I can be the same for them. I

feel so very lucky to have these new colleagues and friends in my life.

Thank you for providing scholarship funds to make this opportunity a reality. The experience most definitely helped me find ways to model to my students what it means to embrace the ancient world around them and see Classics as a living entity, if you have the opportunity to look for it.

'Wayfinding' through Ancient Sites (Continued)



Top, Holly Fitterer holding an alabastron at a material cultures workshop

Above, Holly Fitterer giving a site report at the Baths of Caracalla

Right, Holly Fitterer Assessing a Graffito at the Villa Arianna in Pompeii

Diverse Approaches to Excavation

By Marie E. Gruver

Thanks to the H.R. Butts Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology, I had the opportunity to participate in the Lechaion Harbor Settlement Land Project field school in Corinth, Greece this last summer. The LHSLP project is affiliated with California State University, Long Beach and is directed by Dr. Paul Scotton and Dr. Katherine Harrington. The Lechaion Harbor was the first and considered one of the most important commercial ports in the ancient Mediterranean beginning in the Bronze Age through Late Antiquity. Although Lechaion had been vital to Corinth's commercial successes throughout the Greek period, the harbor continued its importance after Corinth's Roman recolonization in 44 BCE. Geophysical survey has found there to be significant activity across the site, dated by excavation as early as the 8th century BCE until the 6th century CE when a major earthquake caused the port's abandonment. After successive generations experienced the volatility and worsening of environmental disasters starting in the 5th century CE, the local community finally decided to relocate their settlement further away from the inner harbor.

My archaeological fieldwork this last summer focused primarily on the inner harbor's settlement during the Roman period. Because of the site's large size, excavations were divided between four areas (Areas A-D), with nine trenches actively being excavated. Certain areas required different archaeological techniques for excavation, by which I was exposed to a variety of archaeological practices and methodologies. The field school was eight weeks long and was organized into student trench groups which rotated between all four areas every two weeks. From this, I was able to learn from different supervisors and experience the site's wide variety of archaeological material, time periods, and site use. For example, I dug at a basilica from the Augustan and Flavian periods (Area C), a dye production workshop from the late 5th century



Marie Gruver, Lechaion Basilica in Lechaio, Corinth

CE (Area A), a Roman taverna (Area B), and a Roman mausoleum (Area D).

Over the course of the eight-week program, I had the opportunity to gain hands-on experiences from specialists and learned technical field work skills, architectural and archaeological

drawing, photogrammetry, and how to take orthographic photos with drones. The site's diversity was also reflected in the field school's staff; LHSLP's supervisors came from a wide variety of archaeological backgrounds and had their own diverse professional experiences in

Diverse Approaches to Excavation (Continued)



Gruver's trench group, left to right: Marie Gruver, Luke Bezanson, Andrea Morales, Luis Meneghini

the field. Dr. Anton Axelsson and Euan Herriot are both commercial archaeologists in the UK, from whom I learned practical and hands-on skills in the field. From PhD students in classical archaeology, Abigail Bradford and Renae Dishman, I learned the technicalities and more specialized methodologies for excavating in small, find-rich contexts. Dr. Scotton also helped to network by connecting me with Dr. Alessandro Pierattini, an architectural historian and Director of the Isthmian Excavations. After I complete my current Master's program at Penn State, I hope to work with him at Notre Dame for an M.Arch., before continuing on to PhD programs

in classical archaeology and architectural history. Dr. Scotton also helped to put me in touch with Dr. Nancy Bookidis, whom I was able to meet with to talk about the Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore excavations on Acrocorinth. This is a topic I will be exploring for my Master's thesis next year, so I was thrilled to discuss her work with her in-person.

Moving forward, I plan on continuing my work on the Archaic period Corinthia and exploring the origins of Greek monumental sacred architecture. In terms of field work, I look forward to participating in the ongoing excavations in the Cyclades with the Keros Project this upcoming summer. There are many

exciting things for me on the horizon, and I look forward to taking full advantage of any opportunities that come my way. The H.R. Butts Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology played an integral role in helping me to attend the Lechaion Harbor and Settlement Land Project field school. I could not be any more appreciative for the generosity of Eta Sigma Phi and its donors. Since given the opportunity to gain a strong foundation in archaeological fieldwork, my studies as a classical archaeologist have already (and noticeably) improved greatly—none of which would have been possible without this scholarship.

Collaborative Work at Samothrace

By Dylan Plemper

This summer I was fortunate to receive the H.R. Butts Scholarship to support my participation in my second archaeological season with American Excavations Samothrace. AES, sponsored by the Institute of Fine Arts, began its excavations of Samothrace in 1938 under the directorship of Karl Lehmann; antiquarian interest in the site, however, is recorded from as early as 1444. The project is currently co-sponsored by Emory University and under the directorship of Bonna Wescoat, director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Art History at Emory University. The Sanctuary of the Great Gods on Samothrace was an important mystery cult in the Aegean with strong maritime connections. Diodorus Siculus writes that initiates became a “better and more pious person in all ways.” The site was most active during the Hellenistic period, but there is a Classical and Roman material presence in the Sanctuary as well. The island itself is geographically important, maintaining sitelines with Mount Athos to the West and Troy to the East — indeed, Book 13 of the *Iliad* begins with Poseidon watching the Trojan War from the peak of wooded Samothrace.

American Excavations Samothrace is a multi-institutional team and represents a variety of academic interests, previous experience, and career stages. On Samothrace, the team divides into Excavation, Architecture, Survey, Conservation, and Registrar, but work is frequently conducted in collaboration with multiple teams. Outside of the working hours, the team is an incredibly collaborative unit. This season, we would wake up every morning at 6 AM with two team members having signed up to cook breakfast before beginning our working day at 7 AM. Morning work would continue until 12 PM, when we would break until 3 PM. Lunch would again be prepared by a pair of team

members. From 3 PM until 6 PM we would continue work, and then reconvene again at 8 PM for a team dinner. Regardless of the team one worked with, meals were shared between everyone. On Sunday, our day off, groups would often find themselves relaxing at a nearby beach or exploring Samothrace: whether that be visiting the Fonias waterfalls or climbing Mt. Fengari. We would reconvene for dinner on Sunday, prepared by volunteers from the team.

In Summer 2024 I came to Samothrace as a first-time archaeologist, working as a member of the excavation team. During this season, I worked primarily in an area named East of Hieron, within the Central Sanctuary. My first season introduced me to fundamental archaeological concepts and processes: how to open a trench, identify stratigraphy, and understand how trenches may relate to and inform one another. My material work was limited to brief quantification of finds from excavated strata. The 2025 season was different from previous years in that it was a study season: there was no excavation. I came into this season excited to better myself as an archaeologist by learning other relevant methods of doing archaeological work independent of excavation. To achieve this I divided my season, working first with the Survey team and then with the Excavation team as members arrived during the season.

My work on Survey consisted of site documentation — ensuring that all the known measurements used throughout the excavation seasons were still accurate — and, together with the Conservation team, documenting areas of the Sanctuary in need of site conservation. The field survey was accomplished with the use of an EMLID GNSS Receiver, work with which I am now familiar. My work also required the use of QGIS: documenting trenches excavated during the last permit, georeferencing orthophotos, and importing points taken with the EMLID into QGIS.

In the later season I worked with the Excavation team to qualitatively

review all the pottery excavated during the 2018–2024 permit. I focused on the pottery excavated from East of Hieron, opened in 2023 and of which I was one of the excavators in 2024. This work included the identification of vessel types and documenting consistent vessel types within and between strata, the identification of joins and deposition methods for the pottery, the separation of objects of interest for further analysis in future seasons by ceramicists, and where possible the dating of strata as evidenced by the pottery. Although we did not excavate this season, the review of pottery from previous sessions required an in-depth understanding of the strata, finds, and conclusions for each trench so that we could better identify relevant sherds to further our understanding of the area and aid in the answering of research questions developed for each trench.

I already knew that I loved the physical work of archaeology: the process of excavating itself. This is work I want to continue as I begin graduate school next year and throughout my career. Archaeology and material culture are important research and academic interests to me. The 2025 Samothrace season reinforced my love for archaeology in the absence of excavation and taught me how to interpret material evidence after excavation. The geospatial skills and ceramic knowledge I learned this year at Samothrace are applicable to all future archaeological work I do and on which I hope to improve through coursework and research. I am excited for my future as an archaeologist and I am incredibly grateful to the Eta Sigma Phi Board of Trustees for granting me the H.R. Butts scholarship to make this summer possible.

Collaborative Work at Samothrace (Continued)



*Dylan in the
Sanctuary of
the Great Gods*

Experiencing Ancient Sites All Over Greece

By **Eliana Lisa Lazzaro**

This summer, I had the honor of receiving the 2025 Brent Malcolm Froberg Scholarship to attend the Six-Week Summer Session at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. This year's program was led by our incredible director, Dr. Tobias Krapf. Although Athens was our home base, our field trips took us all over Greece, spanning from Knossos to Dion and back again.

The Summer Session involved plenty of time in Athens, including multiple visits to the Agora, the Acropolis, and museums across the city, but the core element of our trip was travel. We went by bus, Metro, foot, car, ferry, boat, and once in the flatbeds of pickup trucks on our way up the mountain to visit Azoria. Our mornings usually started early with a quick breakfast, before setting out to see as much as possible before the mid-day heat kicked in. Most days, we would be treated to overviews of an archaeological site or museum from its director or another expert. I learned an incredible amount from these presentations, so much that I struggled to contain it all in my small notebook (though I certainly tried). To vary the rhythm, the program also included student presentations on many of the sites we visited, as well as museum objects. I personally presented on Eleusis, Thermon, and the Dipylon Amphora in the National Archaeological Museum. These student presentations provided an excellent opportunity to either research a new subject or share a point of expertise with our peers, and I loved having the opportunity to learn so much about my peers' research areas within the sites themselves.

By far the most revolutionary element of the program for me was the unprecedented access it offered me to ancient sites. My research in the summer of 2024 centered around personal religious experiences for worshippers in the Eleusinian Mysteries. This research was one of my first ways to explore my interest in imagining the ancient world through experiential and sensory means,



On Mt. Lykaion At the Temple of Apollo in Delphi

rather than relying solely upon words on a page. Attending the ASCSA Summer Session was absolutely mind-blowing from that perspective. One of my favorite moments from the entire trip was walking inside the Temple of Apollo at Bassai, tracing over the paths people might have taken into the temple and imagining how the sun might have illuminated it at different times. Similarly, standing on the peak of Mount Lykaion after a long hike to the top reminded me of how close

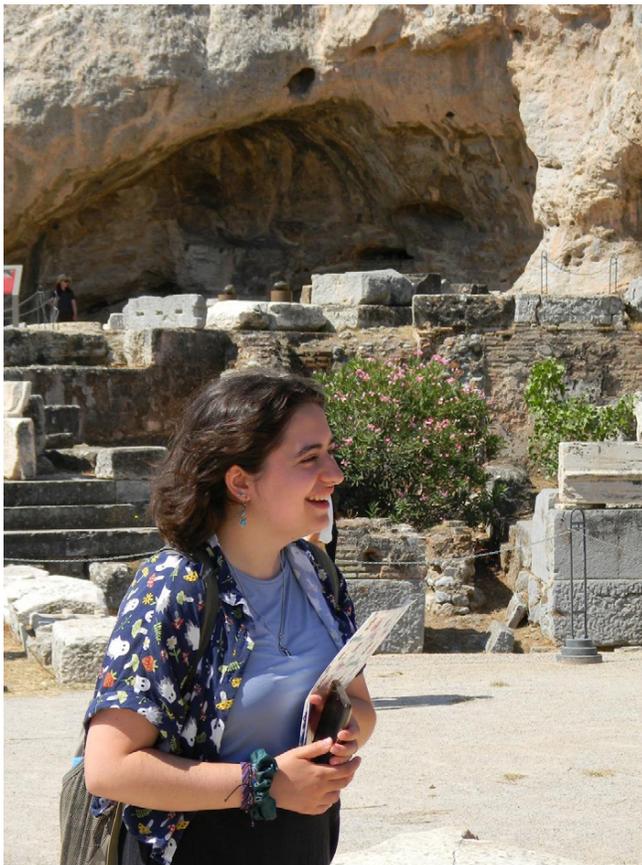
to the gods worshippers may have felt at such a site. These are only two small examples of ways that this program was able to remind me that the people we study had rich experiences and detailed lives beyond what we can find in written records.

I also found a wonderful sense of community in my time as a student of the American School. Going in, I expected to have eye-opening academic experiences — and those did come in

Experiencing Ancient Sites All Over Greece (Continued)

spades—but I was completely surprised by the strength of the friendships I was able to build with my fellow students over those six weeks. As an undergraduate student, I learned so much from the grad students and professionals on this program, as well as from the fascinating conversations I had with scholars and archaeologists at the sites we visited and during group dinners. More than that, though, this program showed me

Right, at the Temple of Apollo at Bassai



a beautiful community of learners in the field of Classics that I hadn't known existed before, and I'll always cherish the American School as the institution that introduced it to me.

Most of all, I'm extremely thankful to have received the Brent Malcolm Froberg scholarship from Eta Sigma Phi. This financial support was absolutely essential in my ability to attend this program and I'm so excited to see where this experience will guide me in the future.

Above, giving a Site Presentation at Eleusis

Right, on Mt. Lykaion



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/>.

Eta Sigma Phi Initiates 2024–2025

Gamma (Ohio University)

Emma Rogers, Nola Stowe, Molly Robinson, Arden Wells, Leah Sink, Makayla Schrader, Emma Hudnall, Bella Kammer, Emma Campbell, Madison Scharen, Benjamin Allwine, Thad Worth (April 22, 2025)

Epsilon (University of Iowa)

Adair Jost, Aidan Trabold, Chelsey Larsen (April 30, 2024); Jamie Düster, Leia Gemignani, Charlotte Hagen, Brylee Hoeg, Karlie Laugesen, Payton LeGrand, Mary Kate Lichty, Delancey Misko, Benjamin Neighbor, Anna Otten, Asa Posey, Jaydon Trueman, Jackson Zimmerman (May 8, 2025)

Eta (Florida State University)

Christopher Curry, Rachel McFatter, Brady Redman, Elijah Watson, Carter Nelson, Aubrey Tangen, Francesca Cerezo (December 5, 2024); Maxine Mandt, Micah Ongkiko, George Vetter, Ryan Magee (April 23, 2025)

Iota (University of Vermont)

Amy Colhoun, Dillon Goodwill, Eileen King, Ally Liles, Cade Riddleberger, Kieran Roberts, Logan Spicer, Rory Stein, Katrina Tracy, Jewel Wallace (May 2, 2024); Cassidy Adams, Meredith Avery, Asa Gaddis, Finn Grieger, Morgan Hubbard, Nora Ognibene, Nick Thissell, August Torres; **Associate:** Sarah Annis, Grant Geiger, Sofia Podgorski; **Honorary:** Scott Thompson (April 23, 2025)

Scott Thompson is a non-traditional student, a retiree from the State Department who decided to learn Latin. He started out in intermediate Latin class in the fall semester, and he did so well that he was invited in the spring to join the senior Latin seminar, where he held his own with senior majors and master's students. Aside from Latin, Scott has been a wonderful elder statesman and role model for all the students and the chapter at large.

Lambda (University of Mississippi)

Reese Aksamit, Joseph Baxter, Grant Bohnen, Laura Brown, Carolina Cassisa, Sophia Edwards, Addyson George,

Madelyn Janus, Addison Johnston, Zachary Kiser, Anneka McFarland, Ada Richardson, Pierce Romine, Emily Smith, Lucy Stackler, Natalie Tutor, Jackson Waldrip (March 26, 2025)

Mu (University of Cincinnati)

Katherine Wainscott, Sophie Boer, Shepard Duncan, Ben Krietemeyer (April 24, 2025)

Tau (University of Kentucky)

Brooke Alyse Boston, Jacob McClellan, Ava Xenos, Abigail Smith (April 22, 2024); Audrey Coons, Elisabeth Anne Huffman, Eleanor "Ellie" Jutze, Caroline Katterhenry, Henry Southern Rowe, J. D. Sharpe, Jagger Kylan Lane Wellman, Gabrielle White; **Honorary:** Anne Casadevall (April 21, 2025)

For the past three years, Anne Casadevall has been a vital force within Tau chapter, contributing in ways that have had a lasting impact, even though she has not held a formal position. She took the initiative to create our Discord site from scratch, which has become a central hub for fostering a vibrant virtual community. In addition to her work online, Anne has been an invaluable presence in organizing and supporting in-person activities. She has worked closely with officers to plan events, ensuring they ran smoothly and were well-attended. Her active involvement at countless functions has been instrumental in both promoting the chapter and building a sense of camaraderie among members. Anne's dedication and tireless contributions have been essential to the growth and development of Tau chapter.

Psi (Vanderbilt University)

Kailia Utley, Candace Warner, Genevieve Myers, Michal Perez (March 8, 2024)

Alpha Gamma (Southern Methodist University)

Alexander Raezer, Aidan Ryan, Demetrios Lahiri, Michael Wagers, Jacob Colglazier, Joel Barfoot, Megan Watson, Tate Phillips, Audrey Haynes, Ian Seibt, Addy Osgood, Macy Mose, Lucia Raborn, Clara Forbes, Dani Gates, Brett

Trussell, Makayla Alston, Isabella Staggs, Kyle Skinner, Michael Piekarz (March 13, 2025)

Alpha Theta (Hunter College)

Nathaniel J. Stanford, Alyssa Smith, Hazel Savenay-Burley (December 10, 2024); Thomas Warner (March 31, 2025)

Alpha Kappa (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Ace Acevedo, Kyla Lau, Francis Moffatt, Blake Petros, Jazdia Taborski (February 18, 2025)

Alpha Mu (University of Missouri)

Avie Freeman, Hailey Baker, Daphne Wilson, Leah Campo (April 18, 2025)

Alpha Xi (Washington University)

Aaron Helt, Vedul Palavajjhala, Hannah Helt, Shawn Duan, Nicole Spangler, Elio Sun, Heidi Tamm, Will Corbin (November 10, 2024)

Alpha Sigma (Emory University)

Charley Albert, Luke Broughel, Ioanna Eleni Copulos, Emma Faz, Emma Ruth Flowers, Benjamin C. Gordon, Paige Hogan, Emily Huang, Manvi Jain, Tyler Kyung-Tahk Lee, L Nash, Anissa Patel, Emma Peng, Julia Peng, Dylan M.W. Plemper, Ava Reese, Robert Steingass (November 6, 2024); Jasper Theodore Chen (February 23, 2025)

Beta Gamma (University of Richmond)

Grace Gaiser, Richard Burton, Ava Scott, Swuan Lu, Chloe Ngo, Ally Deldonna (April 18, 2024)

Beta Delta (University of Tennessee)

Robert Greene, Priscilla Owens, Drew Piper, Jr., Katie Emler, Madeleine Shroades, Landon Bryan, Apeksha Sawarkar, Wyatt Smith, Lela Flowers, Dorothea Stansell (May 1, 2024)

Beta Theta (Hampden-Sydney College)

Jacob Dean Allen, Jacob Curtis Garner, Randolph Lawson Good, Dashiell Daniel Kent, Marc Moroz, Jonathan Troy Person (April 25, 2025)

ΗΣΦ Initiates 2022–2023 (Continued)

Beta Nu (University of Mary Washington)

Ally Dawahare, Naima Mollah, Cynthia-Rose Seeds, Bex Colley; **Honorary:** Rebecca Boyd, Elizabeth Heimbach (March 13, 2025)

Elizabeth Heimbach taught high school Latin for more than thirty years and is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, from which she will be enjoying a well-earned retirement after May, 2025. She received a B.A. in Latin from Bryn Mawr College and an M.A. in classics from the Ohio State University. Her research interests include the Vesuvian cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum and the archaeological sites of Arbeia and Bignor in England. Heimbach is the author of *Latin Everywhere, Everyday* (Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 2004) and *A Roman Map Workbook*, 2nd Edition (Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 2013). She has worked tirelessly to promote Latin and is a beloved magistra whose students have frequently earned National Latin Exam awards.

Rebecca Boyd earned a B.A. in Greek and Latin from Tufts University before earning an M.A. in Latin at Columbia University, an Ed.M. in Teaching and Curriculum at Harvard University, and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in second language acquisition at George Washington University. She has taught Latin in multiple high schools in both Boston and Northern Virginia, and has been a member of the teaching faculties of George Washington University and of the University of Mary Washington, where she has taught courses in Latin language and literature, Ancient Medicine, ancient Greek, and Greek and Roman Literature. Her published works include essays on Latin pedagogy in *Classical Outlook* and the *Journal of Latin Linguistics*. Prof. Rebecca Boyd is an exceptionally outstanding professor who gets students excited about learning Greek and Latin and who demonstrates an unwavering commitment to student success.

Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)

Kaitlyn Acklin, Abigail Beale, Darren Black, Megan Boyanton, Katie Clinton, Kevin Durden, Zane Hicks, William Israel, Kaitlyn Kinnaird, Aylah MacCracken, Brooke Martin, Amy Myers, Phoebe White (December 18, 2024)

Beta Chi (Loyola University of Maryland)

Katie Beattie, Ange Dickson, CJ Laux, Genna Quinn, Abby Royle, Evy Ryan, Bradley K. Stinnette (April 5, 2025)

Beta Psi (Rhodes College)

Christyn Sanders (April 25, 2024); Kaitlin Starnes, Georgia Davis, Barrett Buchanan, Jonas Hostetler, Andrew Pickens, Sydney Lucas, Annie Spencer, Mackenzie Roach, Theodoros Akritidis, Ariyanna Donley, Sarah D'Souza (February 5, 2025)

Gamma Alpha (Indiana State University)

Alice Jones, Levon D. Adams, Reagan Banfield, Steve Branson, Evan LaMar, Brantley Littlejohn, Eliot McKeighan, Bel DiMeo, Ted Richardson, Daniel Shappard, Natalie Yarema, Brenda S. Frizzelle Lower (April 24, 2023)

Gamma Theta (Georgetown College)

Noah Smith, Ethan Vance, Thomas Spurlock, Cera Kreuger, Monya Atha, Olivia Moore (April 24, 2025)

Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College)

Jimmy Woeltie (January 31, 2025)

Gamma Upsilon (Austin College)

Elijah Budd, Anne Corrales, Natalie Nechamkin, Mattie Shrader (May 2, 2025)

Delta Zeta (Colgate University)

Aidan Chung, Sarah Goggin, Ean Hill, Kiera Lamb, Grace Kenney, Bailey Cooper, Georgia Sones, Allan Crouse, Eleanor Weber, Isabel Costa, Gavin Coull, Katelyn Devereaux, MG King, William White, Evan Zimmerman, Raina Land, Alyssa Storey (April 28, 2025)

Delta Theta (Dickinson College)

Kora Blue, Aranjit Dhillon, Donny Holdren, Maia Lindsay, Andrew Nicholas, Roan Harrington, Sophie Harberson, Elizabeth Brida, Bridget Merkel, Brooke Goldberg, Tyler Lawrence, Rowan McCue, Olivia Sell, Aspen Trent, Emily Vieira, Ben Ellis, Emilia Finkelstein, Sarah Glickson, Sachil Kenkre, Isabella Mitch, Eric Danielson (March 20, 2025)

Delta Lambda (College of Holy Cross)

Emily Addona, Eowyn Bailey, Matthew MacDonald, Liam Offer, Martin Connolly, Henry Noonan, Andrei Chura, William O'Neill (April 12, 2024); Amanda Masse, Colson Ganthier, Liandra Federico, Matthew Walsh, Rebekah Powers, Shannon Briseno (March 20, 2025)

Delta Pi (Randolph-Macon College)

Bailey Wargo, Maille Carrington, Julian Huber, James Lenihan, Chelsea Catalano, Jacob Williams, Gracen Luallin, Elisa Rodriguez, Maddy Jones, Abrionna Capolino, Kelsi Halpin, Noah Anderson Weiskircher, Brittany Harris (May 02, 2025)

Delta Tau (University of Delaware)

Hutton Ashley, Gary Conte, Jacoby Phillips, Marcus Beardsley (April 24, 2025)

Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)

Elyssa K. C. Post (July 12, 2024); Sam Barbato, Alex Bjork, Joseph Cooper, Sylvia Fleck, Hannah Freeman, Aria Giefer, Jacob Halvorson, Sydney Hugdahl, Sydney King, Evelyn Kreft, Lorelei Larson, Jocelyn Orr, Francis Ryan, Julia Thomas, Alex Van Etten, Timothy Warneck, Grace Lindquist, Liz Mills (February 26, 2025)

Epsilon Beta (George Washington University)

Hayden Denby, Megan Taylor, Kate Bonargo, Connor Buscemi Nowka, Annika Hivert Eriksen, Hannah Faberman, Lucas Flanagan, Samantha Markowitz, Grace Catherine O'Grady (February 24, 2025)

ΗΣΦ Initiates 2022–2023 (Continued)

Epsilon Eta (Kent State University)

Rachel Ott, Adam Ramirez (November 14, 2024)

Epsilon Nu (Creighton University)

Philip Richardsen, Addy Fowler, Claire Von Osterheldt, Abraham Saks, Liam Hayes, Sophia Valentine, Max Read, Liz Mark; **Honorary:** Matthew Pincus (April 12, 2024); Aubrey Diercks, Jackson Bartling, Isabelle Shehan, Khushee Kadam, Connor Buehring, Andrew Bisaga, Benjamin Robert, Madelyn Rose, Emma Thompson (March 28, 2025)

Matthew Pincus attended Dartmouth as an undergrad, and there was no ESP chapter there. He has been very supportive of the ESP activities, such as reading at the Homerathon.

Epsilon Xi (Gustavus Adolphus College)

Amelia Brannon, Kaci Kahler, Ben Larkin, Kyla Parker, Allison Power, Regan Oian Vust (March 15, 2025)

Epsilon Omicron (University of Massachusetts Amherst)

Maggie Bonassar, Cecilia Demolli, Tyler DeYoung, Keaira Ecklof, Alexander Ewing, Douglas Forsythe, Jeremy Katz, John LaMonica, Samuel Losen-Novogrodsky, Lancelot Melanson, Katie Robertson, Adriana Schleipman, Julia Sweeney, Cameron Theiss, Riya Yadav, Piper Daley, Asher Wolff; **Associate:** Vivian Dai, Melina Ryan, Bethany Sielski (April 11, 2025)

Epsilon Rho (College of Charleston)

David William Bowen, Anastasiya Budrevich, Darrah Clime, Ethan Cole, Lauren Foster, Linda Elizabeth Funkhouser, Abigail Christine Lee, Aidan Howard Ruman, Patrick Connor Ruman, Grayson Taylor, Addison Holliday Ware (November 20, 2024)

Epsilon Sigma (Augustana College)

Ronza Alkhas, Elios Blue Ballard, Sam Baugous, Mari Hanson, Pheonix Martin (April 15, 2025)

Epsilon Upsilon (University of New Hampshire)

Marlie Schmeer, Abigail Michaels, Jillian Jezior, Paul Dimitri, Samuel Vose, Steve Yianakopolos, Beatrice Mattison, Sarah-Grace Barba, Georgia Ramadanović, Jillienne Robinson-Warren; **Honorary:** Gregory McMahon (May 7, 2024); David Wilson, Tyler Abrantes, Blaise Conway, Ivy Young, Brian Stinson, Steve Yianakopolos, William Wirth (May 1, 2025)

Gregory McMahon, though not officially an Eta Sigma Phi adviser, has made an outstanding effort to advertise and attend our various meetings throughout the year, gracing us with his attendance at our Classical Banquet and teaching a workshop on cuneiform at the New Hampshire Junior CLassical League's Annual Forum. At the behest of a gaggle of students, many of them from the ranks of Eta Sigma Phi, he happily agreed to teach a full year course on Hittite, broadening our imagination of the ancient world. His enthusiasm, deep knowledge, and humor has drawn countless students over to the CLassics Departs at UNH. We wish to recognize his contribution to the Epsilon Upsilon Chapter and the broader Classics community through his induction as an honorary member of Eta Sigma Phi.

Epsilon Phi (Knox College)

Ellie Anderson, Megan Bogner (May 10, 2025)

Epsilon Psi (Santa Clara University)

Paulina Margain Gonzalez, Audrey Meilin Backof, Cyrus Wong, Thanh-Thanh Cao, Arianna Javid, Samantha Lee, Madison Craig, Ethan Richey, Elizabeth Frawley, Charlotte Colcord (May 8, 2025)

Zeta Epsilon (Rutgers University)

Ashley Baines, Ethan Bosworth, Christina Demitre, Maria Walsh, Athena Kalos (May 1, 2024); Jacob Elstein, Isha Gullapalli, Vinya Lingamneni, Lucas Lopera, Thirth Patel, Maya Zarcone (May 5, 2025)

Zeta Eta (Loyola Marymount University)

Chase Haydel, Austin Moran, Danielle Perez (September 19, 2024); David Bugdanowitz, Asa Pham, Sebastian Salazar, Elli Xu, Zachariah Michelena (February 2, 2025); Brandon Ridgeway, Louis Yanucci (May 9, 2025)

Zeta Iota (University of Georgia)

Ella Johnson, Abigail Byrd, Mattea Brown, Dorothy Elise Hearn (February 26, 2025)

Zeta Kappa (Trinity College)

Kenny Okeke (September 13, 2024); Parker Firestone (February 4, 2025); Noah Turner (April 11, 2025); Sophia Boudakian (May 9, 2025)

Zeta Lambda (University of Louisville)

Liam Buchanan, Alexandria Groves, Caden Hamilton, Alyssa Hazelwood, Ashley Kesting, Darcy Komp, Mary Nicholas, Audrey Scott, Ace Sutherland, Hannelore Tretter, Alex Woodrum (November 8, 2024)

Zeta Nu (University of Maryland)

Benjamin Feld, Max Filliben, Kalliopi Marinopoulos, Genevieve Menthén, James Schmidlein; **Associate:** Charis Addai [with certificate], Natalie Dean [no certificate]; **Honorary:** Jeremy Simmons (March 6, 2025)

Jeremy Simmons is an ancient historian housed in the History Department at Maryland. He is an expert on long-distance maritime trade in antiquity, and a valued contributor to the study and teaching of the ancient world at Maryland.

Zeta Xi (Iowa State University)

Grace Frandson, Colin Scofield (April 17, 2025)

Zeta Pi (University of Utah)

Lucas Gunyan, Elizabeth Dougall, Rhea Pintor, Bridget Kelly, Caleb Curtis, Zachery Thiede (May 2, 2024)

ΗΣΦ Initiates 2022–2023 (Continued)

Zeta Tau (University of Pittsburgh)

Delayne Breslin, Lillian Jules Arthurs, Sarah Avery Schoenberger, Onyx Stein, Sadie Carey-Tharp, Cole Romanchock, Ethan Joseph Mancillas, Josh Berardelli, Samantha Glover, Lawrence Mckay, Katie Klinefelter, Claire Frick, Andrew Berry, Kathryn Hutchinson, Christine Liu, Issabella Farah, Mary Elizabeth Long, Lily Eden Dunne, Ryan Dow, Shannon Barbara Daley, Raquel Padin-Nicholas (February 21, 2025)

Zeta Psi (Hollins University)

Jill Cook, Maggie DeVasher, Addison Haggerty, Leah Hearne, Penelope Lutz, Shasta Power (April 25, 2025)

Eta Gamma (Loyola University of New Orleans)

Max Schweikarth, Jacklyn Leo, **Honorary:** Myra Hodges, Naomi Yavneh (September 17, 2024)

Myra Hodges graduated *summa cum laude* in Classical Studies for the 2023-2024 school year. She wrote a senior honors thesis analyzing Euripides' *Medea*. We did not have an active chapter of Eta Sigma Phi then. She is still active in our community.

Naomi Yavneh is a strong advocate for Classical Studies at Loyola University of New Orleans. She frequently teaches courses for our department and always promotes the department to her students. She encourages classical collaboration and scholarship with a zest for the pursuit of Classical knowledge.

Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)

Benjamin Cook, Rebecca Gilchrist, Andrew Glover, Robert W. Keeton III, Micah Miller, Michael Rupe (October 2, 2024)

Eta Zeta (Truman State University)

Wren Crocker, Me JW Crouch, Stef Maricic, Megan Ruwe, Elsa Volkert, Jacob Whiteley (April 14, 2024); Emma Crutchfield, Naomi Quedensley, Hannah Stark, Molly Wright (February 9, 2025)

Eta Eta (Virginia Tech)

Wayne Brim, Pia Ferruffino, Minerva Gerhold, Sydney McKeever, James Rioux, Aditi Shukla, Frances Smalera, Ashlyn Turner (March 4, 2025)

Eta Theta (DePauw University)

Caroline Hadley, Caroline Soergel, Casey Laughbaum, John Gunderman, Kai Coffee, Kameron Bailey, Megan Gibson, Morgan Lawson, Samaira Snow, Sydney Sherman, Tyler Farkas (May 2, 2025)

Eta Kappa (The Catholic University of America)

Matthew Allen, Elena Bamburg, Joseph Donnelly, Anthony Gotcher, James Hollahan, Fr. André-Marie Miller, Nicholas Sweeney, Edward Tennant III, Lawrence Tennant, **Honorary:** Fabio Pagani, Paul Cooper (April 15, 2024)

Fabio Pagani shows outstanding dedication to his role of undergraduate advisor and inspires students to learn as much as they can about the ancient world.

Paul Cooper encourages students to delve deeply into classical texts and find contemporary resonances.

Both Professor Pagani and Mr. Cooper have worked effectively to increase the number of students enrolling in Classics classes and attending Eta Sigma Phi and Classics Club events.

Eta Lambda (University of Dallas)

Maria Miller, Owen Embree, John Dougherty, Ava Van Schaick, Wyatt Wilson, Bruce Bowen, Samuel Astran (November 19, 2024)

Eta Mu (University of California, Davis)

Raadha Adusumalli, Daniel Awadalla, Byron Christopher, Lance Der Manuelian, Ellie Goulding, Lorelei Kriss, Stephanie Mendez, Morgan Orlando, Miranda Sanchez, Liam Schneiderman, Ravin "Alex" Schunk, Ashton Tran, Keerti Varada (June 6, 2024)

Eta Pi (Hobart and William Smith)

Andrew Pilet, Christian Kneaskern, Joe Pariano, Journey Horeis, Grace Wilson, Molly Bluestein, Kaylin Carrier, Ryan Cekic, Ruby Hauck, Dee Gilner, Kiran Lennox, Al Levy, Kim Wick (May 3, 2025)

Eta Phi (Union College)

Cora N. Bessette, Aislinn P. Dailey, Sophia G. Glazier, Kyra J. Graham, Laura G. Kaso, Jackson Klein, Joshua P. Sestito, Krish Sharma, Victoria P. Zaledonis, William Grimwood (May 6, 2024); Melanie Brody, Faith Burroughs, Seamus Foley, Catherine Lapham, Kendall McCann, Jonathan Rust, Claire DerKazarian, Ava Duboff, Alex Mousa, John O'Connor, Eleanor Peterson, Claire Reilly, Allison Shelley, Josh Teixeira, Armaan Uppal, Dimitrios Vasileios Zora, Sofia-Aspasia Orfanidou, Konstantinos Tzimpilis, Cassandra Wiggins, Alexandros Bougias, Ryan Hobbs, Nikolaos Megas (April 23, 2025)

Eta Omega (Austin Peay State University)

Cindy Castellan, Cameron Leroy, Richard Carney, Rachel Smith, Annalycia Padilla Ruby, Anndrea Marshall, Nathan Maynard, Claire Lane, Amatzya Hightower, Mo Stephens, Grace Loggins (September 27, 2024); Calypso Lane, Poppy Ryder (April 7, 2025)

Theta Beta (University of Alabama)

Mackenzie Harless, Olivia McKelvey, Jamie Casey, Sophi Rose, Martin Albright, Gavin Day, Megan Cline, Nick Robinson (April 10, 2024); Lauren Brewer, Madison Carnahan, Lauren Kronk, Katie Farquhar, Hannah Johnson, Trevor Prescott, Ella Foes (March 21, 2025)

Theta Lambda (Hamilton College)

Alyssa Ell Grace Zamudio (December 15, 2024); Andrew James Brennan, Tate Kinkead Burgin, Adele Mae Sales, Jonathan Shi, Angela Sarai Escalante Zarco (May 1, 2025)

Theta Mu (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) Mike Nguyen, Jadon Parker, Taylor Smith, Jacob Snider, Xzaiver Worlds (May 20, 2025)

ΗΣΦ Initiates 2022–2023 (Continued)

Theta Xi (Gonzaga University)

Kyla Appleton, Tommy Gower, Noah Maffett (March 27, 2025)

Theta Pi (Kenyon College)

Shaun Flanigan (November 1, 2024); Anne-Duncan Enright, Nadya Matish, Braeden Singleton (November 13, 2024); James Landau, Lily Gregory, Amelia Sims (April 6, 2025)

Theta Sigma (Wright State University)

Molly Devan, Paige Warren, Jeremy Rismiller, John Ferraro, Akantha Lambert, Hailey Steeves, Wesley Green (April 12, 2025)

Theta Tau (Stockton University)

Pomponia Claudia Undecima, Pharaoh Sekou David Webb-Bryant, Rocco Palermo, Samantha Gonzalez (March 3, 2025)

Theta Phi (Franciscan University of Steubenville)

Grace McKeegan, Celine Young, Joseph Imholte, Alexander Prieve (September 20, 2024); Margaret Keck (February 14, 2025)

Theta Psi (Washington and Lee University)

Zac Goodwin, Myla Rice, Annabel Symington, Tommy Bradbury, Margot Vencil, Gretchen Cadranel, Audrey D'Autorio, Caleb Franklin (March 26, 2025)

Iota Beta (Scholars' College at Northwestern State University)

John Tucker-Howell, Lacey Guagliardo (February 5, 2024); Faith Sims, Brylie Brian, Cody Williams, Joshua Nordby (February 6, 2025)

Iota Gamma (Samford University)

Michael Gunter, Abigail Kizziah, Emma Mikell, Sarah Setzler, Denver Waltman, TJ Calloway, Sam Tenniswood, Mitchell Drennen, Mark Oilin (April 8, 2025)

Iota Zeta (Christopher Newport University)

Alexandra Moore, Summer Johnston, Katrina Honcharik, Lanie Zuzma, Rose Perkins, Kaylee Scherer, Lillian Stowe, Matthew Mott (February 1, 2025)

Iota Kappa (Loyola University Chicago)

Sophia Allen, Jon Barragan, Caelinn Carraher, Charles Chengary, Rory Davis, Natalie Hein, Sarah Lohmeier, Matthew Poyner, Samone Robinson, Ian Scheidel, Camerynn Teuta (February 12, 2025)

Iota Rho (Christendom College)

Ruth Bell, Marcellina Cavalier, Christopher Cruz, Alexander Dean, Bernadette Eidem, Christopher Episcopio, Maureen Loftus, Marigrace Nilson (March 1, 2025)

Iota Sigma (Grand Valley State University)

Hannah Foster, McKinley Hixon, Aoife McKenzie (December 4, 2023)

Kappa Gamma (Bates College)

Esmeralda Alfaro, Emma Gay, Shriver Harris Lakowsky Hansen, Eva Rioux Hynes, James Emily Mueller, James Usher, Truman Foster Williams (March 24, 2025)

Kappa Zeta (Elon University)

Rachel Garner, Kendall Somol, Dulio Sorel Di Donato, Lincoln McRae, Jo Bogart, Mara Waskiewicz, Ash Crouse, Brooke-Shea McKinney (December 12, 2024)

Kappa Mu (Belmont University)

Abby Schumeyer, Alec Vollans, Austin Pricket, Danielle Urton, Gwyneth Cunningham, Jordan Linsley, Meghan Wray, Millia Lindsay, Sara Davis, Sydney Badciong (September 11, 2024); Rebecca Tonguis, Sage Fikse, Mattison Sanderson, Elizabeth Burrei, Emma Hunsberger, Campbell Thompson (February 17, 2025)

New Members

Use this form to submit new initiates in your chapter: <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/report-on-initiates/>. 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.

ἡ συνουσία φιλελλήνων,

Res Gestae 2024–2025

Beta Theta at Hampden-Sydney College

On 24 September 2024 Beta Theta chapter threw a welcome back “Eat-a Pizza Pie” get-together for all active members of Eta Sigma Phi. In addition to pizza, drinks, and socializing with fellow students and faculty, the event included a guest Zoom lecture by Dr. Amy Mars of Wake Forest University about her current research project on Homeric poetry. The event concluded with the election of officers for the chapter.

On 25 April 2025, our chapter inducted six students into Eta Sigma Phi: Jacob Dean Allen, Jacob Curtis Garner, Randolph Lawson Good, Dashiell Daniel Kent, Marc Moroz, and Jonathan Troy Person. New members added their signatures to our chapter’s membership book, which dates back to 1942. The initiation ceremony was followed by a celebratory banquet open both to new members and current officers of Eta Sigma Phi. Dr. Carrie Cifers of the Hampden-Sydney College Department of Religion delivered a keynote address, on the Jewish Antiquities of Flavius Josephus, to close the evening.

Beta Psi at Rhodes College

Since the last conference, Beta Psi chapter inducted eleven new members. We also sponsored a lecture on the training, maintenance, and use of elephants in the ancient Mediterranean. Thanks to the funding of Rudolph Masciantonio, we were able to provide tickets to the Memphis Zoo at no cost to all attendees. The chapter has also transitioned its officers to prepare for the new class of seniors within its ranks. We look forward to next year’s conference, where we will hopefully be able to report on further activities.

Gamma Omicron at Monmouth College

Gamma Omicron and the Classics Department at Monmouth of which it is a

part have had another busy year since the 2024 meeting at Dickinson. The Classics Club planned and carried out educational weekly meetings and put on several well-attended public classically-related events—one on Scattergories, one on crafts, one Gladiator watch party, and two different mythological fight nights. Several other initiatives planned and carried out three publicly-accessible Cider with Classics educational and social gatherings, all with connections between contemporary holidays and classical parallels to them: one at Halloween, one at Thanksgiving/Christmas, and one at Valentine’s Day. Initiates and other department members contributed to the planning and carrying out of the annual meeting of the Illinois Classical Conference in Monmouth in November, and to the hosting of two other scholarly speakers during the year. One current initiate and one alumna initiate were the program assistants for a two-week Summer Institute at Monmouth in July, for 26 K-12 teachers from around the nation, on the Ancient Olympics and Daily Life in Ancient Olympia, funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In August, three other initiates came two weeks early to school to begin research for a different National Endowment for the Humanities project, this one on displacement and other migration in the ancient world. Those initiates have presented aspects of their research at the annual meetings of the Illinois Classical Conference and the Illinois Junior Classical League. One will continue the project with a CAMWS grant next year. Thus spoke Gamma Omicron.

Epsilon Sigma at Augustana College

This year, we celebrated the Ides of March with a historical Roman figures bracket. We also held casual afternoon hangouts for members and faculty, giving time to relax and form friendships, as well as study. As a group, we also took a field trip to the Art Institute of Chicago to view the Torlonia marbles

Annual Reports

To retain active status, each chapter is expected to submit an annual report by November 15th of each year. This report can be submitted online at <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/annual-report-2/>. A printable version of this form is also available at <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Yearly-Report-2019.pdf>

Annual Reports were submitted for 2024-2025 by the following chapters:

Alpha Xi (Washington University in St. Louis)
Alpha Sigma (Emory University)
Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)
Beta Theta (Hampden-Sydney College)
Eta Mu (University of California, Davis)
Theta Pi (Kenyon College)
Theta Tau (Stockton University)
Iota Mu (Virginia Wesleyan University)

Chapter Reports

Each chapter is also encouraged to submit by May 15th of each year a chapter report describing the activities of the chapter, including initiations, parties, sponsored lectures, field trips, etc. Photos are welcome. Chapter reports can be submitted online at <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/res-gestae/>. A printable version of this form is available at <https://www.etasigmaphi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Chapter-Report.pdf>.

Don’t wait until May 15th to share what is happening in your chapter. If you submit your news, you may find it published in the *Res Gestae* in the next issue of the *Nuntius*.



Members of Epsilon Sigma Chapter gathered for their Classics Banquet.

as well as their regular Greek and Roman art. We concluded the trip with a meal at the Village in Chicago. We will end our year with an end-of-term dinner at a local Italian restaurant. Two students participated in the Illinois Classical Conference at Monmouth College, and three students attended the Classical Association of the Middle West and South conference at UIUC. We hosted several guest speakers throughout the year, including Joe Goodkin, who performed his *Blues of Achilles*, Dr. Roberta Steward (Dartmouth College), who, as part of the AIA lecture series, presented “Augustus’ War on Antony and Cleopatra as Seen Through the Coins.” Finally, we had a lecture from Dr. Clara Bosak-Schroeder (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) who presented our *Antiquity in the New Millennium Lecture*: “Disability and Enslavement in Ancient Rome. At our annual Classics Banquet, five new students were inducted into the Epsilon Sigma chapter of Eta Sigma Phi: sophomores Ronza Alkhass, Elios Blue Ballard, Sam Baugous, Mari Hanson, and Pheonix Martin. We also said goodbye to graduating seniors Iratze Aceves and Charlotte Newport. The banquet also featured a presentation by

Nora Moriarty, assistant curator at the Putnam Museum, on the classics-related items at the Putnam as well as what a possible career in museum curation would look like.

Zeta Beta at Temple University

Recurring

- First Wednesday Waffles/ Ancient Art Club: Monthly meeting to share love of Latin and Greek and make ancient art; open to all
- Greek Club: Weekly meetings for Greek students to gain more experience reading real Greek texts. (Recent reading: Aristophanes’ *Clouds*)
- Latin Club: Weekly meetings for Latin students to gain more experience reading real Latin texts. (Recent Reading: *The Voyage of Saint Brendan*)

September 2024

- Welcome Back Party: Event with food and games for all majors, minors, and GRC students

- Fieldtrip to the University of Delaware to their library’s Special Collections, to learn with their department about fantastic beasts

October 2024

- CLA Beyond the Classroom Fest: Promoting Classical studies to prospective students
- Zoo Fieldtrip: Student and Faculty trip to the Philadelphia Zoo to study the Greek and Latin names of animal species
- Visit by Dr. Taoka, Assoc. Dean for Academic Affairs at Temple University Japan

November 2024

- Second Annual Daniel P. Tompkins lecture by Prof. Steven Smith, Hofstra University

December 2024

- Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration with the Africology Department
- Saturnalia Celebration

January 2025

- New Year celebration/ Carmentalia

February 2025:

- Lupercalentine’s crafting: Celebration

Res Gestae 2024–2025 (Continued)

of an ancient festival which may have inspired Valentine's day

March 2025:

- Spring Chicken Festival: Clay sacred chicken crafting to welcome back students from spring break
- Eta Sigma Phi Convention — St. Olaf's College: Adviser Dr. Hersch, President Tom Fishman, Vice President Abby Throne and National Secretary Asher Riley of the Zeta Beta chapter attended and won one of two coveted Costume Competition prizes

April 2025

- Floralia Festival: Lecture by Professor Sulochana Asirvatham and end of year party

Eta Delta at Hillsdale College

The Eta Delta chapter had a busy year. In the fall, we put on Homerathon, our annual uninterrupted 24-hour read-through of the *Iliad* in translation, and in the spring we hosted Virgil Vigil, a read-through of the Aeneid. Both events, held in the stone theater, attracted participants and auditors from across the campus. In the fall we organized a very successful book sale of duplicate (and triplicate!) items from our Classics library, and in December we put on a sale of Latin Christmas cards. Additional money was raised through our Paint-a-Classicist fundraiser in the fall (in which bypassers paid a small fee to throw paint at three intrepid honorary members who volunteered for this scourging) and through a table at Parents Weekend (in both spring and fall) and a tent at Homecoming Weekend. The Eta Delta chapter initiated 6 new members in the fall (including a graduate student who joined as an associate member) and 8 in the spring. In February, 7 of our students, along with 3 faculty members, made the long trek to New York City to participate in the Living Latin in New York program put on by the Paideia Institute. All of the participants stayed in immersive Latin-only mode throughout the weekend, including on the drive. Another

weekend trip in the spring brought 5 students and 2 faculty members to the Chicago Institute of Art to see the storied Torlonia Collection, the largest-ever private collection of Roman sculptures. 2024-5 was a great year for the classics on Hillsdale's campus, as highlighted by a production of Sophocles' *Ajax* in the fall by the Hillsdale College Tower Players, in which several honorary members played parts. 9 members of the Eta Delta chapter graduated in May; we thank them for their service to Eta Sigma Phi and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors. φιλοσοφεῖτε καὶ φιλοκαλεῖτε!

Theta Tau at Stockton University

The Theta Tau Chapter spent much of the fall of 2024 preparing for the 8th annual Latin Day at Stockton. This event is open to high schools (this year we even had a middle school) in which students study Latin. Under the guidance of Professor Katherine Panagakos, students helped prepare and run the various stations: Military Formations, Toga, Trivia, Pottery Painting, and new this year were an Archaeology station and Escape from Hades (escape room). Escape from Hades proved to be extremely popular with the students. Many afternoons were spent planning the day's activities, repairing shields, sewing togas, preparing the pottery, and making the various posters and escape room challenges. Roughly 200 students attended from five different schools.

In the spring, Theta Tau initiated four new members and hosted a movie night where we watched "The Return" while shooting arrows through ax heads. The highlight of the spring semester was attending the annual Eta Sigma Phi convention hosted by Delta Chi at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. As Professor Panagakos likes to remind us, "Eta Sigma Phi will take you places!"

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*.

New Chapter

Kappa Xi (Lafayette College)

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

Reactivated Chapters

2024–2025

- Alpha Eta University of Michigan
- Alpha Phi Millsaps College
- Epsilon Eta Kent State University
- Zeta Pi University of Utah
- Eta Gamma Loyola University of New Orleans
- Theta Beta University of Alabama
- Theta Rho University of Miami
- Iota Phi San Francisco State University
- Kappa Zeta Elon University

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

Winners of the 2025 Eta Sigma Phi Maurine Dallas Watkins Sight Translation Contests

76th Annual Greek Translation Contest

Advanced Greek (14 entries)

- 1st (tie) Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
(*The Lawrence Crowson Prize*)
1st (tie) Brian Curtin, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
(*The Lawrence Crowson Prize*)
2nd (tie) John Daugherty, Eta Lambda at University
of Dallas
2nd (tie) Owen Embree, Eta Lambda at University of
Dallas
3rd (tie) Benjamin Olster Eta Lambda at University
of Dallas
3rd (tie) Tori Nielsen, Epsilon Kappa at Brigham
Young University
Honorable Mention: Clifford Simpson Epsilon
Kappa at Brigham Young University

Intermediate Greek (15 entries)

- 1st Jacob Schulz, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
1st Elio Sun Alpha Xi at Washington University,
St. Louis
2nd Robert Keeton III, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
3rd Aaron Held, Alpha Xi at Washington University,
St. Louis
3rd Travis Elmore, Gamma Omega at Baylor
University
Honorable Mention: Peter James, Eta Lambda at
University of Dallas
Honorable Mention: Eli Peacock, Zeta Iota at
University of Georgia

Koine Greek (18 entries)

- 1st Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
2nd (tie) Tori Nielsen, Epsilon Kappa at Brigham
Young University
2nd (tie) Brian Curtin, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
3rd David Johnson, Epsilon Kappa at Brigham
Young University
Honorable Mention (tie) Eli Peacock, Zeta Iota at
University of Georgia
Honorable Mention (tie) Jonah Murray, Eta Delta
at Hillsdale College

75th Annual Latin Translation Contest

Advanced Latin (30 entries)

- 1st Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
2nd Zachary Chen, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
3rd Matthew Tully, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
3rd Martin Lane, Eta Lambda at University of Dallas
Honorable Mention: Eli Peacock, Zeta Iota at
University of Georgia

Intermediate Latin (15 entries)

- 1st Amelie Loya, Theta Phi at Franciscan University
of Steubenville
2nd Cooper Samuelson, Tau at University of
Kentucky
3rd Lilian Cumbee, Gamma Omega at Baylor
University
Honorable Mention: Nathan Reynolds, Eta Delta at
Hillsdale College

59th Annual Latin Prose Composition Contest

Advanced Prose Composition (17 entries)

- 1st Jonathan Rolfe, Eta Delta at Hillsdale College
2nd Eli Peacock, Zeta Iota at University of Georgia
3rd Mary Dickinson, Gamma Omega at Baylor
University
Honorable Mention: Rosemary Hartless, Delta Chi
at St. Olaf College
Honorable Mention: Keri Hoatson, Delta Chi at St.
Olaf College

Bona Notitia: Copies of previous sight translation exams and lists of previous winners are now available in the on-line Archives of Eta Sigma Phi. See <https://www.esparchives.org/TranslationContests/default.htm>

From the Eta Sigma Phi Archives

The Eta Sigma PHI Archives are housed in the Hewes Library at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois, where they are available to scholars, members of the society and other interested parties. Some of the holdings are available on line

at www.esparchives.org. If you have Eta Sigma Phi documents, photos and other memorabilia you would like to donate to the archives, please send them to Lynn Dsw,, The Archivist, Hewes Library, 700 E. Broadway, Monmouth, Illinois, 61462.

If the material you wish to donate is in electronic form, please send it to Tom Sienkewicz, the Eta Sigma Phi Archivist, at tjsienkewicz@gmail.com.

Delegates at the 80th Eta Sigma Phi Convention hosted by Epsilon Omicron Chapter at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, in March, 2008.



Delegates from Eta Zeta Chapter at Truman State University attending the 82nd Eta Sigma Phi hosted by Eta Eta Chapter at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, in March, 2012.

SAVE THE DATE!
98th ΗΣΦ
Convention
March 20-22, 2026



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

Kirkville 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.



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!