

# Antiquity Now

Macalester College Classics Department Newsletter

Spring 2015



The informational meeting for the **Summer Archaeological Conservation Field School 2015** season is Thursday, April 2 11:30-12:30 in the Old Main 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge.

At left: Macalester Students do hands-on conservation work on the stucco podium of a Roman shrine in July 2014. The conservation program will continue this summer.

## Macalester College Classics Students Put Their Educations to Work

### Welcome to **ANTIQUITY NOW**

*ANTIQUITY NOW* is an update and review of activities and opportunities in the Macalester College Classics department. Students and faculty have a lot to share with respect to publications, internships, new classes, study away and research abroad, and our alumni continue to do important and interesting things around the globe. So *ANTIQUITY NOW* provides a way for us to stay in touch and on top of what's new in *Antiquity*. Thanks to Herta Pitman our multi-gifted Department Coordinator for pulling *ANTIQUITY NOW* together. And many thanks to all the faculty, students and graduates of Macalester Classics who make the department such a lively and rewarding place to be. *ANTIQUITY NOW* is a publication of the Classics department which comes out twice a year.

| 2015    |          |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          |
|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| 1       | 2        | 3     | 4     | 5   | 6    | 7    | 8      | 9         | 10      | 11       | 12       |
| 13      | 14       | 15    | 16    | 17  | 18   | 19   | 20     | 21        | 22      | 23       | 24       |
| 25      | 26       | 27    | 28    | 29  | 30   | 31   | 1      | 2         | 3       | 4        | 5        |
| 6       | 7        | 8     | 9     | 10  | 11   | 12   | 13     | 14        | 15      | 16       | 17       |
| 18      | 19       | 20    | 21    | 22  | 23   | 24   | 25     | 26        | 27      | 28       | 29       |
| 30      | 31       | 1     | 2     | 3   | 4    | 5    | 6      | 7         | 8       | 9        | 10       |
| 11      | 12       | 13    | 14    | 15  | 16   | 17   | 18     | 19        | 20      | 21       | 22       |
| 23      | 24       | 25    | 26    | 27  | 28   | 29   | 30     | 31        | 1       | 2        | 3        |
| 4       | 5        | 6     | 7     | 8   | 9    | 10   | 11     | 12        | 13      | 14       | 15       |
| 16      | 17       | 18    | 19    | 20  | 21   | 22   | 23     | 24        | 25      | 26       | 27       |
| 28      | 29       | 30    | 31    | 1   | 2    | 3    | 4      | 5         | 6       | 7        | 8        |
| 9       | 10       | 11    | 12    | 13  | 14   | 15   | 16     | 17        | 18      | 19       | 20       |
| 21      | 22       | 23    | 24    | 25  | 26   | 27   | 28     | 29        | 30      | 31       | 1        |
| 2       | 3        | 4     | 5     | 6   | 7    | 8    | 9      | 10        | 11      | 12       | 13       |
| 14      | 15       | 16    | 17    | 18  | 19   | 20   | 21     | 22        | 23      | 24       | 25       |
| 26      | 27       | 28    | 29    | 30  | 31   | 1    | 2      | 3         | 4       | 5        | 6        |
| 7       | 8        | 9     | 10    | 11  | 12   | 13   | 14     | 15        | 16      | 17       | 18       |
| 19      | 20       | 21    | 22    | 23  | 24   | 25   | 26     | 27        | 28      | 29       | 30       |
| 31      | 1        | 2     | 3     | 4   | 5    | 6    | 7      | 8         | 9       | 10       | 11       |
| 12      | 13       | 14    | 15    | 16  | 17   | 18   | 19     | 20        | 21      | 22       | 23       |
| 24      | 25       | 26    | 27    | 28  | 29   | 30   | 31     | 1         | 2       | 3        | 4        |
| 5       | 6        | 7     | 8     | 9   | 10   | 11   | 12     | 13        | 14      | 15       | 16       |
| 17      | 18       | 19    | 20    | 21  | 22   | 23   | 24     | 25        | 26      | 27       | 28       |
| 29      | 30       | 31    | 1     | 2   | 3    | 4    | 5      | 6         | 7       | 8        | 9        |
| 10      | 11       | 12    | 13    | 14  | 15   | 16   | 17     | 18        | 19      | 20       | 21       |
| 22      | 23       | 24    | 25    | 26  | 27   | 28   | 29     | 30        | 31      | 1        | 2        |
| 3       | 4        | 5     | 6     | 7   | 8    | 9    | 10     | 11        | 12      | 13       | 14       |
| 15      | 16       | 17    | 18    | 19  | 20   | 21   | 22     | 23        | 24      | 25       | 26       |
| 27      | 28       | 29    | 30    | 31  | 1    | 2    | 3      | 4         | 5       | 6        | 7        |
| 8       | 9        | 10    | 11    | 12  | 13   | 14   | 15     | 16        | 17      | 18       | 19       |
| 20      | 21       | 22    | 23    | 24  | 25   | 26   | 27     | 28        | 29      | 30       | 31       |

### Dates to Remember:

**March 26, 11:30-12:30**  
Classics Pre-registration  
Lunch in Old Main 111

**April 2, 11:30-12:30**, Old  
Main 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Lounge,  
Summer Archaeological  
Conservation Field School  
informational meeting

**April 20 – May 1**  
Fall 2015 registration

**May 5, 4:00-5:30 pm**  
Department Picnic  
at Alumni House

**July 7-25, 2015**  
Summer Archaeological  
Conservation Field School  
in Omrit, Israel

**January 2016**  
January in Rome.

### Inside this issue you'll find:

- The Study Away Experience  
Students share stories about their time abroad.
- Classics Courses
- Study Away with Classics  
Classics Summer Archaeological Conservation Field School in Omrit, Israel, Summer 2015, and January in Rome 2016
- Department News  
Arabic Cottage becomes Arabic House and other news.
- Classics Professor Updates  
Beyond their classrooms, classics professors are engaged in research, writing and projects.
- From Interests to Internship



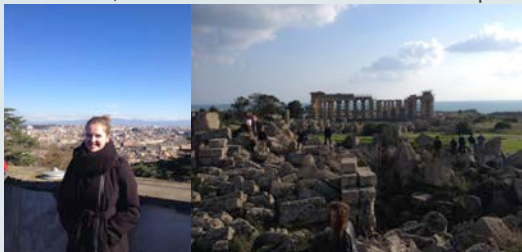
## The Study Away Experience

Study away is required of all Classics majors. Our students may fulfill the requirement to study away with semester, summer or January programs. To learn more about studying away in Classics visit the [“Study Away” page of our web site here.](#)

Students who have recently returned from semester study away, or are currently abroad, tell about their experiences.



David Goldstein, and the Coast of the Musandam peninsula.



Ella Heaton, and ruins of Doric temples at Selinus.

### David Goldstein, of Newton, MA

Last Fall I traveled to the United Arab Emirates where I studied Arabic Language and Computer Science at the American University of Sharjah. Sharjah is a captivating Emirate, whose deep cultural heritage is matched in its beauty as a city bordering the Persian Gulf and expanding right into the desert. My university was only a 20 minute drive from Dubai, the financial, tourist, and shopping capital of the Emirates. Besides avoiding the Minnesota winter, the Emirates is a mesmerizing country and I am truly fortunate to have met such welcoming, sweet, and warm people.

Beyond the Emirates, I also traveled around the region as a whole—Oman, Jordan, Israel, Palestine, and Turkey. Using Arabic skills learned at Macalester and from my previous adventures in the Middle East, I met a fascinating variety of people and heard stories along my journey I will never forget. At Macalester, I hope to incorporate these stories into my coursework as a culminating project of refugee issues in the Middle East.

My time in the Gulf was a challenging, exhilarating, and tremendously affirming experience. I greatly improved my articulation of complex cultural or political issues and expanded my knowledge and appreciation for multiculturalism in the Middle East, Islam, and the US's role abroad. Thank you to Andy Overman and Wessam El-Meligi in particular, as well as the Macalester Classics department as a whole for supporting and encouraging me in my Arabic studies and journey overseas!

### Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies, (ICCS) Rome -Ella Heaton, of McKenzie, ND

My time at the Centro has been a whirlwind. Each week is packed full of on-site lectures for the Ancient City Course, more traditional Latin class, and full immersion Elementary Italian class. We are responsible for two independent reports where we write a short essay about a specific site that we have not visited in class. Each centrista must give an oral report on-site in front of the professors and students during the day's lecture. Early on in the semester I did mine on the Fasti Praenestini and Roman calendars. Additionally, we have to write several online forum posts and prepare final papers and projects aside from studying for midterms and finals.

ICCS-Rome has been termed by many of my classmates as “polarizing.” People who enter the program leave it very sure that they either want to continue with a career in Classics or that Classics is absolutely not for them. It is undoubtedly one of the best programs for learning Roman history, and consequently is very intense. As a result of the rigor and time commitment required in this program, weekend travel is more difficult than for most other study abroad programs. Those who wish to use their study abroad city as a jumping-off point from which to explore Europe might want to consider another program.

That being said, the Ancient City course takes us to many sites in and around Rome itself. We already knew the city very well by the first quarter. Once a week we go by coach bus on day-long excursions, usually well outside the city, to see Roman colonies, cemeteries, and other sites. The program also takes two week-long trips. The first of these was in mid-March, during the week before spring break, where all the students, faculty, and our program director Franco took a coach bus through southern Italy and all around Sicily. During this excursion, our focus was Greek colonization, along with the extremely diverse set of influences which allowed Sicily to be a seat of power and wealth for much of its history. We worked to untangle the interactions of the indigenous populations, Phoenicians, Carthaginian, Greek, Roman, Arab, Norman, Spanish, French, Fascists... What Plato said is true, “Sicilians build things like they will live forever and eat like they will die tomorrow.” The amount of Doric temples which are still standing is astounding, and the amount of fish, pasta, and fresh oranges we consumed will linger long on our minds and our waists. The landscape of the island is of both sandy beaches with excellent harbors and rolling, sometimes jagged, lush green pastures and fields. In the middle of April, we will be taking our second trip to Campania to see Pompeii, Herculaneum, Naples, and Cumae.

In addition to academics, we have learned how to navigate the Roman bus system, how to order coffee and favorite pastries at bars, and where to buy a kilo of gelato. Rome is surprisingly gritty, with modernity pushed aside to let the city's ancient character shine through. Every building and street and park here has a many-layered story, making the city inexhaustible; you will never, ever see everything. Nevertheless, Rome has been a great place to spend springtime with a bunch of people just as crazy about Classics as I am.

## New Course Offered in Spring 2015

Wessam El-Meligi and Andy Overman are Team-teaching *Frenemies*



### Professor El-Meligi says about the course:

***Frenemies*** tackles the Islamic-Byzantine complex relations from as early as the 6th CE until the mid 12th CE. The course has a historical/cultural approach, focusing on aspects such as diplomacy, politics, language, art and literature. The archeology of Byzantine and Muslim sites, the rise of Islam, *The Arabian Nights*, Arab poets, the translation of Greco-Roman works into Arabic are examples of the variety of topics discussed in the course. By talking about the interaction between two of the major entities that shaped our world today, the course is significant as it sheds light on the roots of what some consider a conflict of clashing civilizations, but, more importantly, as the title

suggests, it highlights the realistic possibilities of co-existence and mutual benefit that, as the course shows, were quite often not only a possibility, but also the more fruitful choice for everyone involved.

### Classics Courses for Fall 2015

| class number | class name  | teacher      | days | time        |
|--------------|---|--------------|------|-------------|
| 111          | Elem Latin I  | Goldman      | MWF  | 2:20-3:20   |
| 111-I1       | lab   | Goldman      | T    | 8:30-9:30   |
| 113          | Elem Arabic I   | El-Meligi    | MWF  | 9:40-10:40  |
| 113-I1       | lab   | El-Meligi    | TBA  | TBA         |
| 113-I2       | lab   | El-Meligi    | TBA  | TBA         |
| 115          | Elem Greek I  | Lush         | MWF  | 2:20-3:20   |
| 115-I1       | lab   | Lush         | T    | 1:20-2:20   |
| 115-L2       | lab   | Lush         | T    | 3:30-4:30   |
| 121          | Greek World   | Lush         | MWF  | 1:10-2:10   |
| 127          | Women, Gender and Sexuality<br>in Ancient Greece and Rome | Severy-Hoven | MWF  | 10:50-11:50 |
| 231          | Latin Prose   | Severy-Hoven | MWF  | 8:30-9:30   |
| 237          | Int Hebrew I  | Goldman      | MWF  | noon-1      |
| 241          | Int Arabic I  | El-Meligi    | MWF  | 10:50-11:50 |
| 241-I1       | lab   | El-Meligi    | TBA  | TBA         |
| 241-I2       | lab   | El-Meligi    | TBA  | TBA         |
| 261          | Greek Prose   | Overman      | MWF  | 1:10-2:10   |
| 261-I2       | lab   | Overman      | TBA  | TBA         |
| 487          | Adv Greek: Sophocles' Oedipus<br>The King                 | Goldman      | MWF  | 1:10-2:10   |
| 490          | Senior Seminar  | Overman      | MWF  | 10:50-11:50 |

## Classics Upcoming Study Away Programs



### Classics Summer Archaeological Conservation Field School in Omrit, Israel, Summer 2015

The Omrit Conservation Field School will run again this summer from July 7 - 25.

The Field School is a unique opportunity to get trained in the field by some of the world's leading conservators of ancient art and artifacts.

We are trained in the ancient, and still used today, techniques of saving wall paintings, ancient plaster and stucco, conserving architectural elements, and stabilizing buildings. There is no other program like it in the Mediterranean world.

Macalester runs this program with the Israel Antiquities Authority just for Macalester students. Professors Andy Overman and Nanette Goldman will be leading this summer's field school along with Erin Gibbs ('09 Classics; MS, The Art Institute of Chicago) who helps direct the field instruction and theory.

We also have evening lectures and events. We travel the country visiting important sites ancient and modern. The program helps connect the ancient with the contemporary politically and culturally. We are allowed to bring ten students.

### Interested in participating in The Omrit Conservation Field School?

Come to the informational meeting on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30-12:30 in the Old Main 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge, or talk to Professor Overman or Goldman.

### January in Rome 2016

Many of you have asked about the Classics January in Rome program for 2016.

The department will be leading another trip. Rome in January with Macalester Classics is hard to describe and hard to top. So we will be having an informational meeting for those interested early in the fall semester. Please note it on your calendar. The trip usually costs around 3,000.00 USD. We will have more specifics in the fall. If you have any immediate questions you can talk to anyone of the Classics faculty.



## Arabic Cottage becomes Arabic House

Arabic language students have had the opportunity to extend their Arabic



language learning by living in Arabic language student housing since September 2014, when Arabic Cottage at 53 Macalester Street opened. This fall the program will relocate to 176 Vernon, in the neighborhood with many other language houses. Since the house has a kitchen, students will be cooking up new ways to extend their language learning. They will also be

hosting periodic events that will be open to our campus community.

Students who are interested in living at Arabic House in 2016-17 must apply during Residential Life's language house application period (late February-early March), using the "Application for Residence in the Macalester College Arabic House" which can be found at [Classics' Arabic web page here](#).

## Introduction to Museum Studies Exhibition



Students in the new team-taught *Introduction to Museum Studies* course created exhibits that were displayed in multiple campus locations in December. To learn about the projects, [see the catalog here](#).

### Classics Honors Project 2015 by Rachel Wilson

Rachel Wilson is writing an honors project on three women from antiquity, and will defend her project in April. Here, she tells about her project:

For my Honors Project, I am writing a fictional story that revolves around three women from antiquity: Livia, Tanaquil, and Alexandra. To do this, I will examine the different ways historians, both ancient and modern, have written about these women and evaluate the ability of the modern scholar to truly understand their lives and characters. To accompany the story, I am writing a separate analysis for each of the women that explains the historical and artistic reasoning behind their actions. This will allow for a deeper exploration of the lives of these women.

### Performance of *Homer's Odyssey* in New Mairs Concert Hall



Fifty people attended a performance by Joe Goodkin, a Chicago-based musician, on February 25 in Mairs Concert Hall. The Classics Department hosted *Homer's Odyssey in Performance*, an original, one-man, folk opera consisting of 24 short songs sung in sequence over 30 minutes and accompanied by acoustic guitar. Each song characterized an episode of *The Odyssey* and taken in sum portrayed the emotional core of the story while staying true to the themes of the original. Goodkin describes it as "an experience akin to hearing the poem sung by a bard, but with a modern twist."

## Classics Professor Updates: Classics Professors Publish and Receive Honors

### Professor Beth Severy-Hoven's New Book

#### *The Satyrca of Petronius*

#### Wins Prestigious Bolchazy Pedagogy Book Prize

Beth Severy-Hoven is the recipient of the first Bolchazy Pedagogy Book Prize from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS) for her school edition of Petronius, *The Satyrca of Petronius An Intermediate Reader with Commentary and Guided Review* (<http://www.oupres.com/ECommerce/Book/Detail/1865/the-satyrca-of-petronius>). The prize is awarded for a distinguished work of pedagogy that meets the following criteria: appropriateness for the target student audience, clarity of presentation, excellent quality, effective pedagogical practice and design, and potential for broad impact. The prize will be awarded at CAMWS 111<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Boulder, Colorado on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Professor Brian Lush will receive the award for Severy-Hoven, who is in Italy this year serving as Professor in Charge of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome.



Severy-Hoven in Egypt

**Andy Overman** is to receive an honorary doctorate from Tel Hai Academic College in Qiryat Shemona, Israel. Tel Hai has been a partner in the Roman temple archaeological conservation project that Overman directs in Omrit, Israel. An interview with Overman about this honor is included on page 7 of this newsletter.

**Brian Lush** has had two articles accepted for publication: "Popular Authority in Euripides' *Iphigenia at Aulis*" (forthcoming in the *American Journal of Philology* 136.2 [June 2015]), and "'What Sacrifices Are Necessary': Corruption of Ritual Paradigms in Euripides' *Electra*" (forthcoming in the peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal *College Literature*). He also has a third article under review: "Simulacra, Simulation, and Seduction in Euripides' *Helen*." He has given several academic lectures during fall and spring. These include: "*La Guerre de Troie n'a pas eu lieu: Heroism and the Glory of Troy in Euripides' Helen*," Classical Association of the Middle West and South (March 25-28, 2015, Boulder, CO); "Simulation and Seduction in Euripides' *Helen*," Invited Lecture in Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Minnesota (February 6, 2015), and to Macalester College Faculty Humanities Colloquium (November 18, 2014); and "Commemoration of War Trauma in Athenian Tragedy: An Overview," Visualities of Memory Colloquium at Macalester College (September 19, 2014).

**Nanette Goldman** has been busy directing Rachel Wilson's honors project; a short story about three women from antiquity – Livia, wife of the emperor Augustus, Tanaquil, wife of the Etruscan king Tarquin, and Alexandra, the Hasmonean queen of Judea. She also continues to perform around the Twin Cities. Her current musical engagements include performing with Bernadette Peters to inaugurate the new Ordway Theater in St. Paul, and with the Minnesota Sinfonia in weekend concerts in venues around the Twin Cities and daytime seminars and performances in the Minneapolis and St. Paul public schools.

**Wessam El-Meligi** has written an article that will be included in a book that is scheduled to be published later this year. The book is a study of the Egyptian theater focusing on plays translated from and into Arabic. The article Professor El-Meligi wrote is titled, "*It is not Just Phonetics and Aristocrats, it is Sexuality and Politics: The Adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion in the Egyptian Theatre.*" The book is titled, ***Translating Egyptian Realities: Rewriting of Dramatic Texts for Different Audiences***. Ed. Aaltonen, Sirku and Areeg Ibrahim. It will be published by Routledge Advances in the Theatre & Performance Studies series.

## HERTA PITMAN INTERVIEWS PROF. ANDY OVERMAN ON COLLABORATION WITH TEL HAI COLLEGE



HP: You are receiving an Honorary Doctorate from Tel Hai College in northern Israel in June. What is that for and how did it come about?

AO: The award is not about me. It is a very nice recognition of our fifteen-plus years of work in the region – our excavations at Omrit, our conservation efforts, and especially the collaboration between students and faculty. I will receive the award in June in honor of all the Macalester students and Omrit staff who did such great work over many years.

HP: How does that make you feel?

AO: Well it is great to have people in the setting where we work recognize its importance. Archaeology has a long colonial history. And we have striven to be part of the setting and the community in which we work. In all our projects we have teamed with local people and students. While we are there we try hard to contribute to the community and the people around it. So yes that part is very gratifying.

HP: How did this collaboration begin?

AO: Tel Hai College is only a few kilometers from the site we excavate, Omrit. It is growing very rapidly. It has a very diverse population. – ethnically, religiously, and economically. We observed it from afar for a while and finally decided to explore some joint programs. We first began participating in their *Peace and Democracy Center*. We had shared seminars and discussed current issues, mostly the conflict.

HP: I understand there are plans for a permanent archaeological exhibit of Omrit finds at Tel Hai. What is that about?

AO: Tel Hai has a new beautiful campus, with a new library. They have proposed that many of our rarest finds and elements be displayed permanently in the library.

The designs for that are finished. The exhibit includes a complete column inside a spiral staircase as well as columns outside the building. As far as I am aware this is a unique kind of collaboration.

HP: What was the thinking behind this?

AO: We wanted the finds to stay in the place, or provenance, in which they were recovered. We do have some of our finds permanently displayed at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. But too often museums are sterile environments where too few people see the exhibits. We thought displaying the Omrit finds on an educational campus, in the library at the center of that campus, was novel, but in fact a perfect place to permanently show the material. It is educational, introduces students to past cultures in the region, and further cements our collaborative work.

HP: Is this work continuing?

AO: Yes the Conservation work and the construction of the exhibits will be roughly a three-year project. We will be going to the region again in July with Macalester students to continue the work.

## From Interests to Internship

Kelsey Coia's (Arlington, VA) interests led to an internship at the Midwest Art Conservation Center, located in the basement of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. A story about her internship was featured on Macalester's home page. [Read the story here.](#) Talk to a Classics professor about finding the right fit for your internship goals.



Kelsey Coia, '16

photo: <http://www.macalester.edu/news/2015/01/art-saver/>

### CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST SEMINAR

The two-credit course on the Conflict in the Middle East has been meeting every Tuesday morning at 8:00 AM this semester. There are fifteen students in the seminar which is usually offered every other year. "This seminar is a great group. They are very passionate and very well informed," says Andy Overman. The Middle East is well represented by the students, as is Europe, and even Korea. The seminar itself has a global face and feel to it. The foci of this seminar has been Syria, Syrian refugees, ISIL, Palestine, and Israel, and the recent Israeli elections.

The Seminar usually makes use good use of Skype to talk with experts in the field from around the world. Earlier in the semester the seminar talked with the former Director of UNICEF in Syria about the acute refugee crisis there. He is Yousouff Abdel-Jelil who is also the father of awesome Mac Senior Anissa Abdel-Jelil. The seminar will Skype with Dr Moustafa Barghouti in Ramallah, Palestine next week. Each student will develop a project on a theme important to them and the seminar and present it to the class. At the end of the semester a poster session and volume will be produced from all the projects.