



# **CLASSICS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER**

## **A memorable academic year...**

Salvete omnes! The UA Classics program celebrates another year of excellence with AY 2017-2018! So many accomplishments, so much new activity! This newsletter commemorates the most recent achievements of both our meritorious students and exemplary faculty. As always, we appreciate the efforts of all! If you want to keep up with us, please note that you may subscribe on our website to have regular Classics news sent to you!

**Fall 2017 - Spring  
2018**

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**Current Classics  
Students**

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**Faculty  
Achievements &  
Current Projects**

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**Outstanding  
Alumni**

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**New Course  
Offerings**

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**DEPT. OF MODERN  
LANGUAGES AND  
CLASSICS**

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## First, our students...

Emily Aromy

Karissa Annis

Mary Franke Beacham

Molly Buffington

Emily Grace Corley

Abby Holland

Chloe Keck

Simran Mahbubani

Austin McCool

Jimmy McGrath

Austin Mitchell

Mellyssa Miller

**Every year we honor our Classics students by calling out the names of those who are outstanding, but there is never enough space for all! We hope that if you wish to make it onto the list next year, that you will step forward and let us know what Classics is for you!**

**Emily Aromy:** Emily is being awarded for her academic excellence in her Classics courses this year with a Perry Scholarship for the first time.

**Karissa Annis:** Karissa was awarded for her academic excellence in her classics courses twice with a Perry Scholarship from the Classics Program. Karissa served as the President of the Classics Honors Society, ΗΣΦ, last year and the ΗΣΦ this year. After graduation this year she will be attending a graduate linguistics program! We will miss you, Karissa, but can't wait to hear more!

**Mary Franke Beacham:** Mary Franke was awarded for her academic excellence next year with a Perry Scholarship from the Classics Program. She was also laudably awarded a Perry last year as an incoming freshman AND she will be awarded this year with the Hanssen Scholarship.

**Molly Buffington:** In her first year participating in the Classics Program, Molly was recognized for her academic excellence with a Perry Scholarship. This year she is a triple major, one of which is Latin, and she's starting a new research project with Dr. Kirk Summers. Her stellar rise will be awarded with another Perry!

**Emily Grace Corley:** Emily Grace Corley, a first year student in the Program, is being awarded for her academic excellence in her Classics courses this year with a Perry Scholarship.

**Abby Holland:** Abby won an SGA Grant to work with Dr. K. Summers on a project that resulted in an article. "Philippians 1:21-22: Revisiting John Calvin's Innovative Interpretation" will be published this month in *Calvin Theological Journal*. Abby was awarded with the very high honor of the Lang-Harris scholarship from the Classics Program last year. She graduates this year and has accepted a most generous offer from Georgetown Law!

**Chloe Keck:** Chloe, a first year student in the Program, is being awarded for her academic excellence in her Classics courses this year with a Perry Scholarship.

**Simran Mahbubani:** Simran was awarded twice with the Perry Scholarship and now with the Lang for her continued academic excellence. She also served as the ΗΣΦ VP this year. Way to carpe diem, Simran!

**Austin McCool:** Austin will be entering his third year in Greek and he will be receiving his first Perry scholarship from the Classics Program this year for his academic excellence. Kudos, Austin!

**Jimmy McGrath:** Jimmy's efforts as President of the Academy did not go unnoticed! He is being awarded this year's Outstanding Leadership in the Academy Classics Club for his enthusiasm. *Volvere Aestus Volvere!* You make our program so much more fun!

**Austin Mitchell:** Austin was awarded for his academic excellence in Classics courses this year with a Perry Scholarship. He is currently completing his second year of both Latin and Ancient Greek. While keeping up with his rigorous languages courses, he also gave an excellent presentation at UT in Knoxville this semester AND served as the VP for the Academy. He will be presented this year with the A&S Outstanding Junior Award. Way to conquer, Austin!

**Mellyssa Miller:** Currently serving as the President of the Classics Honors Society, ΗΣΦ, Mellyssa is an outstanding leader in our program. She will be awarded with a Perry scholarship this year and is working on a very promising research project with Dr. Kirk Summers for which she is designing a website. *Bona fortuna, Mellyssa!*

**We try to include all faculty achievements and noteworthy announcements, but they never entirely fit. Please do not hesitate contact us for more information about our research, new classes being offered, or how we can help you become more involved!**

**Dr. Kirk Summers** was on sabbatical for the Fall of 2017, during which he took advantage of a fellowship to conduct research at the Meeter Center for Calvin Studies in Grand Rapids, MI. His project involved a study of Theodore Beza's *Emblemata* (1580), a book containing poems with associated images on Protestant themes. While there he presented a talk on the consolation of Huguenot refugees in Calvinist Geneva utilizing material from his research. He has submitted this paper to a journal for possible publication. Earlier, in May, he presented a paper on Reformation humanism at the Refo500 conference in Wittenberg, Germany. This paper is forthcoming (expected this summer) in the journal *Reformation and Renaissance Review* with the title "Reformation Humanism: Reading the Classics in the New Theology." He also has a paper, co-authored with graduating Classics major Abby Holland, titled, "Philippians 1:21-22: Revisiting John Calvin's Innovative Interpretation," in *Calvin Theological Journal*, due to come out in April 2018. Dr. Summers also published or has forthcoming several book reviews in the *Sixteenth Century Journal* and *Renaissance Quarterly*. He delivered a paper at the Sixteenth Century Conference in Milwaukee in October titled "Summoned from Dank Orcus: Theodore Beza's Anti-Jesuit Emblem," which he hopes to turn into an article. Finally, Dr. Summers returned from his research fellowship in Grand Rapids briefly to deliver the talk "John Calvin: Theologian of the Reformation" at UA's Quincentennial Celebration of the Reformation on October 30 in Music Moody Hall.

Next up, **Dr. Tsakiropoulou-Summers** is wrapping up a volume of collected essays she is co-editing on "Women and the Ideology of Political Exclusion: From Classical Antiquity to the Modern Era". This is an interdisciplinary and collaborative project that is part of the Alabama Greece Initiative that A&S Dean Dr. Robert Olin has instigated with Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. Dr. Summers collaborated with Dr. Kitsi, an English professor at Aristotle University, to produce this volume that involves 21 contributors and 18 essays. In addition to writing the introduction, Dr. Summers is contributing to the volume with an article on "Solon's Legislation and the Women's Incompatibility with State Ideology". Another article, on "Medea in Light of the Experiences of Modern Refugees", is forthcoming in a volume on "Displacement in Language, Literature and Culture". Dr. Summers was appointed last fall as legate of the state of Alabama for the Society for Classical Studies, the premier association of Classicists in the US, and is currently serving as President of the Alabama Classical Association. As member of the oversight committee for the brand-new Museum Studies graduate program at the University of Alabama, she has developed a course on 'Exhibition Models of Greek Museums' that she offers during her summer program in Greece, where students visit 15 different museums.

**Dr. Kelly Shannon** published a chapter on the intertextual relationship between Livy and Tacitus in an edited volume that has just come out ('Livy and Tacitus on Floods: Intertextuality, Prodigies, and Cultural Memory.' *Les historiens grecs et romains: entre sources et modèles*, edd. O. Devillers and B.B. Sebastiani. Ausonius Éditions. Pp. 225-238), and she has three more essays that will come out later this year (on spontaneous female-to-male sexual transformations in ancient literature; on women in Thucydides; and on the sources of the paradoxographer Phlegon of Tralles). Her commentary on Phlegon's "On Marvels" is nearing completion. Most excitingly, her first monograph, *Religion and Memory in Tacitus' Annals*, has been completed and is now under contract with Oxford University Press! She's had an exciting schedule of academic travel as well. This March Dr. Shannon had the opportunity to deliver two papers in Brazil: one, on Suetonius, at a conference on cultural memory in the Roman Empire at the University of São Paulo, and an invited lecture on Tacitus at the Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo in Vitória. Next month she will also travel to give talks at Yale and Birmingham-Southern College. Closer to home, she's enjoyed teaching Greek and Roman history again, as well as two new courses, on Virgil's *Eclogues* and the writings and reception of Julius Caesar.

Finally, **Dr. Yuliya Minets** presented at our Classics Research Seminar in September, a book proposal presentation and discussion "The Slow Fall of Babel: Languages and Identities in Late Ancient Christianity". She has most recently accepted Postdoctoral research fellowship in the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies at Princeton University for September 2018 – June 2019 and the Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship at the Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville for May 2018. We look forward to keeping up with her outstanding scholarship and research!

## NOW FOR THE FACULTY...

Dr. Kirk Summers

Dr. Tatiana Summers

Dr. Kelly Shannon

Dr. Yuliya Minets

## CLASSICS GRADUATES NOW...

Isabelle Cimala

Hana Gene Kessler  
Jones

Luke Knight

Virginia Wright

**We salute our graduates! The best part of our program for us is seeing what you do with what you've learned! We enjoy sharing your news with beginning students and continue celebrating your success. Check out some of our amazing recent graduate news:**

**Isabelle Cimala:** Izzy was recognized as an Outstanding Student in Greek and also demonstrated excellence in Latin. She graduated in 2016 with the highest honors is currently attending the University of Pennsylvania's Post-Baccalaureate Classics program.

**Hannah Gene Kessler Jones:** Hannah Gene graduate two years ago from our Classics program only to continue her studies now by accepting a five year fellowship to study the Hebrew Bible at the University of Chicago Divinity School. She was an outstanding leader in our club and honors society as well as a top student. Her time in Chicago will undoubtedly be amazing!

**Luke Knight:** Luke graduated in 2016 with a major in Classics. While an undergraduate he received many honors and participated in both the Classics Academy and Honors Society as an officer. This year he accepted a full scholarship for graduate study in Classics in Early Christianity at the University of Minnesota and continues his study there. We applaud his success!

**Virginia Wright:** Virginia was awarded with a Perry Scholarship for her academic excellence and was named last year's Outstanding Student in Latin. She was presented with a gift upon receiving this award, a well-deserved copy of the *Oxford Handbook of Roman Law and Society*. She spent a year in NYC and has just been accepted into Harvard Law School. Veni, vidi, vici!

### New Courses Fall 2018:

CL 380 Aristotle: This course will be taught by Dr. Kirk Summers in translation.

CL 380 Ancient Greek Tragedy: This course will be taught by Alecia Chatham in translation.

### New Courses Spring 2019:

CL 380 Ancient Greek Comedy: This course will be taught by Alecia Chatham in translation.

This newsletter was created by Alecia Chatham. More information concerning the program can be found at our departmental website or by contacting any of the Classics faculty directly.

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Department of Modern Languages and Classics

University of Alabama

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