



2012

# Classics Newsletter 2011

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**CLASSICS**  
 NEWSLETTER

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**MITROU** 2011 & 2012: THIRD AND FOURTH STUDY SEASONS

BY ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTELE

In the summers of 2011 and 2012 the Mitrou team continued to study the finds of our 2004–2008 excavations under the direction of Eleni Zahou (Greek Archaeological Service) and myself (www.mitrou.org). Our core team is an international group of scholars and supporting staff of about thirty people coming from twelve different countries and representing twenty-three institutions.

Each year UT students take part in the research, either as assistants or as scholars studying their own material. In 2011, Rachel Vykukal (PhD anthropology) continued her study of purple-dye production from Murex shells, and in 2012, Kaitlyn Stiles (PhD anthropology/Mediterranean archaeology) and Hannah Fuson (classical archaeology, Honors) joined the team.



Fragment of a fine bichrome Middle Helladic bowl

Kaitlyn assisted Nick Herrmann (Mississippi State University and UT) in the study of skeletal remains while gathering DNA samples for a pilot project in preparation for her own dissertation (described in her article in this newsletter). Hannah did an expert job studying the ground stone tools from Mitrou; her travel was funded by a UT Undergraduate Summer Research Internship and the Chancellor's Honors Program. Rachel and Hannah also served as project photographers, a task they fulfilled very well. In 2012 we were joined for the first time by a Classics alumna: Lizzi Kersey, a Latin teacher at Karns High School in Knoxville, joined us as the assistant to the storeroom manager. She was a great success all around, and in return we believe she had a blast.

Our team did again an excellent job and made significant progress toward the publication of the Mitrou finds. Katerina Psimogiannou (University of Thessaloniki) studied the Neolithic pottery from Mitrou and found that the large majority is of advanced Late and Final Neolithic date. Christopher Hale (Melbourne University) finished his study of the Middle Helladic pottery, and he and Salvatore Vitale (University of Calabria) began the chronological study of Mitrou's LH I pottery. Since Mitrou has an unusually rich and detailed Late Helladic I stratigraphic sequence, it offers a unique opportunity to subdivide this pottery phase, which may have been as long as 100 years (late seventeenth to sixteenth century BCE). Using stratigraphic studies by myself and Vitale,

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**FACULTY** NOTES



**SALVADOR BARTERA**

has been busy with both teaching and research. Upon returning to UT in the fall after a summer spent between England (for work) and Italy (for pleasure), he had the pleasure to teach, once again, beginning Latin, and—unusually for him—beginning Greek. In addition, he taught Latin lyric poetry to a gifted group of students, many of whom had started Latin with him. At Latin Day in November 2011, he gave a presentation on Julius Caesar, building on the recent reintroduction of Caesar's writings into the AP Latin curriculum. Shortly after attending the APA in Philadelphia in January, he was invited to present

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his ongoing research on Tacitus at the University of Liverpool, UK, at an exciting seminar on Latin prose commentaries. In March, he chaired a session at the undergraduate conference. The following month he visited the University of Dallas, where he gave a paper on the intertextualities of Latin prose and poetry texts. On the research side, two articles of his have appeared in print: one on Tacitus and one on a Latin Jesuit play of the 1600s. In addition, he wrote a review for *BMCR* and another for *CR*. The summer was spent partly working on Tacitus and visiting friends and family in Italy.

**CHRISTOPHER CRAIG** has long felt privileged to bask in the talent of our students. His first year as department head was spent basking in the talent of his colleagues



as well. Having already assembled an outstanding group, we have in successive years hired for our two Hellenist positions our top choices from a deep national pool. The addition of John Friend and now Athanasios Vergados is historic. Combined with the other members of our team, they make this the strongest faculty of teachers and researchers on the classical world that we have ever had. In his own little patch, Chris taught for the first time the 200-student early Greek mythology lecture, and learned some hard lessons. (If you are going to talk to 20-year-olds about Greek ideas of the divine nature of the erotic, do NOT show pictures.) For the rest, Chris continued to work on his larger Cicero project, submitted two articles for publication, and continued his work on the editorial boards of the *Classical Journal* and other publications. At CAMWS last spring, he had the honor to present a paper on a panel with alumna Stephanie McCarter, and the sheer

joy of seeing our own Susan Martin receive the association's lifetime achievement award.

**ROBERT DARBY** joined the department as a lecturer in January 2012. He comes to us from North Carolina, where he taught at North Carolina State University and Elon. His areas of specialization are Roman archaeology and art with special emphasis on the provinces. His present research focuses on the Arabian frontier, specifically on a line of Late Roman military outposts in the southern deserts of Jordan, where he co-directs an ongoing archaeological excavation with his wife, Erin. He is teaching Greek and Roman art and archaeology, along with special topics courses in the School of Art.



**KATHRYN DEBUSK** is the department's ever-efficient administrative assistant.



**JOHN FRIEND** had an enjoyable and busy first year as a permanent member of the department. He taught several Greek and classical civilization courses and considers himself fortunate to teach such able and motivated students. He presented a conference paper on Athenian military discipline at the 2012 CAMWS meeting and delivered a presentation on young citizens in Classical Athens at the 2011 TFLTA. He also continued work on his book on the fourth century BC Athenian *epehebeia*. His summer project involved researching the tactics of Spartan hoplites, and he is currently preparing this article for publication. He was made a faculty fellow for the UT Center for the Study of War and



Society, and happily serves as the departmental representative for the Classics honor society, Eta Sigma Phi, and as undergraduate research coordinator.

**GERALDINE GESELL**, professor emerita, spent the fall and spring of 2011-12 at the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete, where she studied the Kavousi shrine material.



She delivered a paper at the eleventh Cretological Congress in Rethymno, Crete, in October. Two of her articles came out this year: "The Handmade Terracotta Animal Figurines at the End of the Late Bronze Age and in the Early Iron Age in Crete: Chronology, Technology, and Function" in *The "Dark Ages" Revisited*, and "The Goddesses with Up-raised Hands. New Information on Technology" in *Studies in Honor of Costis Davaras*. During the winter she attended the annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, where she represented UT at the Managing Committee of the ASCSA and served as chair of the Financial Committee of the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete.

**THEODORA KOPESTONSKY** enjoyed her first year as a lecturer in the department and is looking forward to her second. This past year she presented a paper at the CAMWS annual meeting. Currently she is editing the papers delivered at the colloquium "Silent Participants: Terracottas as Ritual Objects," which she co-organized at the AIA/APA annual meeting in 2012. This past summer, she continued her research on Greek ritual practice and the cult of the nymphs. For the fall term, she is teaching introductory and intermediate Latin as well as a survey of Graeco-Roman epic.



**MAURA LAFFERTY** spent the summer expanding her knowledge of codicology and textual editing at the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies in Toronto. She continues to work on a text, translation and commentary of the letters of Abelard and Heloise, while her next project is "The Rhetoric of the Latin Page," on how scribes guide readers' responses by their presentation of the texts they copy. She had a busy year at home as co-organizer of the Marco Manuscript Workshop and the Marco Symposium.



**MERLE LANGDON** has devoted much time in the past year to studying the rock engravings and graffiti that he has found over the past years near Vari in Attica—almost 1,500 items—and has written a summary of his findings for a festschrift. He also completed a study of ancient agricultural terrace walls for another festschrift. Finally, he is working on a chapter on rupestral inscriptions for the *Oxford Handbook of Greek Epigraphy*. He has been preparing a new course, Greek and Roman Religion, for spring 2013.



**SUSAN MARTIN** completed her fourth year as provost this summer. She regrets that she has not been able to teach Roman Law recently, but has reconnected to the world of Classics in two ways this year: In March, she was the recipient of an Ovatio lifetime achievement award from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. In June, she was part of a group of about 15 people who convened in Edinburgh, Scotland, to present papers on the recent history and current status of studies in the Roman law contract of *Locatio-Conductio*. The conference was sponsored by the College of Law



at the University of Edinburgh. As provost, she continues to work on a variety of issues and projects associated with the Vol Vision/Top 25 strategic plan (see provost.utk.edu).

**ROBERT SKLENAR**'s teaching duties during 2011-12 fell entirely on the Latin side, including a memorable spring 2012 advanced Latin class that afforded the opportunity to read the entire authentic corpus of Tibullus, plus Sulpicia and the Amicus Sulpiciae, with a talented group of students. On the research front, he published a book chapter, "Lucan the Formalist," in *Brill's Companion to Lucan* and a review of Paul Roche's *Lucan: De Bello Civili Book 1 in Gnomon*. He also gave a paper on Ausonius at the 2012 CAMWS meeting. He continues to serve the university on the Faculty Senate, the ONSF screening committee, and the Linguistics Committee, and the department in various capacities, including editor of the newsletter.



**ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND** is spending this year on leave in Massachusetts, where she is finishing up some articles on Horace and trying to remember where the kids' winter clothes are. The Classics Department of Wellesley College has been very kind about arranging library access.



**DAVID TANDY**, professor emeritus, is enjoying his appointment as visiting research scholar at the University of Leeds. He is able to state that the West Riding of Yorkshire is at least as lovely as East Tennessee, and he can appreciate both even more now that he has undergone a hip replacement. Nostalgia for Knoxville does not prevent him from worrying about the deficiencies of ancient and modern



democracies, ancient subaltern trade, and Sappho's brothers, about which topics he is completing several papers and articles and a monograph. He plays with his old band when he is in Knoxville, and they will be touring the UK in 2013 (details available from breakfastmeats2013@gmail.com).

**ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTEL** spent an enjoyable year teaching Aegean prehistory and Greek, Etruscan, and Roman archaeology, and she is glad to see that the new classical archaeology major is thriving. She continues to co-direct the Mitrou Archaeological Project in Greece, and a highlight of her year was attending an international conference in Greece with seven other Mitrou team members.



In 2011 she saw four articles appear in print: one co-written on the use of geophysical surveys for archaeological purposes at Mitrou; one on the Bronze Age-Iron Age transition at Mitrou; one on the LM IB phase at Malia proposing new arguments for the destruction date of its palace; and one presenting a new synthesis of medieval boat-building traditions in northern Europe. Aleydis also continues to serve happily as secretary-treasurer of the AIA's East Tennessee Society.

**ATHANASIOS (THANASIS) VERGADOS** is pleased to be joining the Big Orange crew. Fall 2012 found him teaching beginning Greek and Lysias, to his immense enjoyment, but he derives the greatest satisfaction from his early Greek mythology course. Before coming to UT, he was a Humboldt research fellow based in Heidelberg. His commentary on the Homeric Hymn to Hermes is scheduled to appear in *De Gruyter's Texte und Kommentare* series, and he continues to work on a book manuscript on Hesiod's conception of language and its relation to early Greek thought. ■



## LATIN DAY<sup>XXX</sup>

BY CHRISTOPHER CRAIG

The University of Tennessee Latin Day celebrated 30 years in 2011. UTLD<sup>XXX</sup> brought students from high schools and middle schools in this area, and intrepid bands from as far away as Nashville, for a day of fun and fellowship featuring a great lineup of seminar talks by faculty in classics, history, and religious studies, and a special (and especially popular) hands-on display of reproductions of ancient weapons. There were 60 more students than had registered the year before, and we expect this growth trend to help us make good use of the new supersize university center that will be finished next year. We are glad to note that area teachers have some exciting ideas for changes in the format of UTLD, and we will be talking with all stakeholders as we explore ways to make the second 30 years even better.

This year's presentations:

**SALVADOR BARTERA**, lecturer in Classics: "Julius Caesar"

**TOM BURMAN**, professor and head of History: "Learning and Loafing in the Medieval University"

**CHRISTOPHER CRAIG**, professor of Classics: "Criminal Justice—Roman Style"

**JOHN FRIEND**, assistant professor of Classics: "Life on Hadrian's Wall"

**THEODORA KOPESTONSKY**, lecturer in Classics: "Cave Nympham: The Role of the Nymphs in Roman Society"

**MAURA LAFFERTY**, associate professor of Classics: "Where Did Your Vergil Text Come From?"

**JACOB LATHAM**, assistant professor of History: "Veniant modo reges Romam: The Adventus Ceremony in Late Ancient Rome"

**LYNN ROGERS**, independent scholar: "Arms and Armor of the Roman Army and Cavalry"

**ROBERT SKLENAR**, associate professor of Classics: "Lucan: Or The Epic Tradition Meets Frankenstein"

**CHRISTINE SHEPARDSON**, associate professor of religious studies: "The Latin Bible and the Birth of Jesus"

**ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND**, associate professor of Classics: "Space and Power in the Elite Roman Household"

**ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTELE**, associate professor of Classics: "The Pantheon: A Marvel of Roman Engineering and Design" ■

## VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT 2011-12

These are the distinguished AIA/East Tennessee Society lectures and visitors to the department:

**IANNIS LOLOS**, University of Thessaly, "The Archaeological Exploration of Sikyon: A Comprehensive Approach to the Study of a Greek City-State." AIA Kress lecturer.

**TAKIS KARKANAS**, Greek Archaeological Service, on soil micromorphology at Mitrou. In conjunction with DIG (Developing International Geoarchaeology) Symposium, organized by UT's Archaeological Research Lab.

**MARCUS MILWRIGHT**, University of Victoria, "The Archaeology of Early Islam and the Mosaic Inscriptions of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem."

**LYNNE SULLIVAN**, McClung Museum, "Digs, Dams, and Dallas Culture: Mississippian Period Archaeology in the Upper Tennessee Valley."

**JEAN TURFA**, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, "New Approaches to the Ancient Etruscans. How Archaeological Research Is Changing Our Picture of Rome's Nemesis." Fifth Rutledge Archaeology Lecture. Extra class lecture for Classics/Anthropology 444: "Love and Death in Etruscan Urns."

**ROBERT DARBY**, University of Tennessee, "Bathing on the Edge of Empire: Exploring the Baths of Roman Arabia."

**MATTHEW J. ADAMS**, Bucknell University, "Ancient Mendes: Reflections of Early Egypt in the Heart of the Delta." AIA Young lecturer. Extra lecture: "Armageddon's Earliest Temples: New Discoveries at Early Bronze Age Megiddo, Israel." Rodney S. Young AIA memorial lecturer.

**DAVID G. ANDERSON**, UT Anthropology, "Recent Advances in Eastern U.S. Archaeology."

**JULIE HRUBY**, Berea College, "Feasting with Nestor: Class, Gender, and Mycenaean Cuisine"

**FREDERICK H. VAN DOORNINCK, JR.**, Texas A&M University, "The Eleventh-Century Serçe Limani Shipwreck: Sailing to Byzantium with a Bulgar Crew." Haines-Morris Distinguished Lecturer, Department of Classics. Co-sponsored by Marco.

**THOMAS PALAIMA**, University of Texas at Austin, "Power in Mycenaean Palatial Territories: Where to Find It, How to Use It, How to Make It Last." Rutledge Memorial Lecturer. ■

## UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

BY JOHN FRIEND



Left to right: Elizabeth Cross, Mark Huggins, Christina Salvatore, Leah Parton Jenkins, Garrett Fagan, John Friend, Rachel Cumbest, Megan Goodwin, Tyler Denton, Kristen Welch, Alexandra Creola

The First Annual Undergraduate Classics Conference at the University of Tennessee was held at the Black Cultural Center on Friday, March 2, 2012. The theme for this year was Senators, Soldiers, and Slaves: Perspectives on Life in Antiquity. The day began with insightful opening remarks from Executive Associate Dean John Zomchick and Professor Tom Heffernan. The tone for the conference was then set by our keynote speaker, Garrett Fagan of Pennsylvania State University, who delivered an informative and thoroughly entertaining speech, "Watching the Fighters: Exploring the Roman Fascination with Gladiatorial Combat."

Afterwards, our nine student speakers made presentations on ancient authors ranging from Sophocles to Tacitus, Ovid to Alcman, and covered such diverse topics as love, Greek cavalry, and Roman nymphs. The presenters were Tyler Denton, Megan Goodwin, Mark Huggins, Leah Parton Jenkins, and Lance Pettiford (UT); Alexandra Creola, Christina Salvatore, and Kristen Welch (University of North Carolina, Greensboro); Rachel Cumbest (Wake Forest University). Christopher Craig, John Friend, and Aleydis van de Moortel presided over the three sessions. The quality of the research and the delivery of the papers were uniformly good and each paper was well received by an appreciative and supportive audience. Throughout the day the conference's atmosphere was relaxed, with the result that the undergraduates, presenters and audience members alike, could socialize with one another and interact freely with faculty. This led to many lively discussions on various subjects and made the experience enjoyable for all the participants. The department looks forward to hosting another conference in 2013.

As the faculty sponsor for the conference, I would like to thank not only my colleagues who gave their wholehearted support and donated their time generously but also Elizabeth Cross and Mark Huggins, whose hard work contributed so much to the success of this event. My sincere gratitude is also given to those departments at UT for their financial support, including Chancellor's Honors Program, Classics, English, History, and Philosophy. ■

## ETA SIGMA PHI

BY JOHN FRIEND

At the spring 2012 Eta Sigma Phi banquet, we initiated the following students in recognition of their outstanding performance in Greek or Latin classes: **ARVIS BLAKLEY, PAMELA BRYAN, CANDACE CATES, LEIGH ANNE CUTSHAW, JOEL DUARTE, SAMUEL GLEASON, BETHANY GOOD, HUNTER HAMMOCK, JEREMY HAMMETT, ISHAM HEWGLEY IV, EMILY HILL, BETHANY JONES, TIMOTHY KIMBROUGH, SEAN SMITH, AND EMILY STARNES. THEODORA KOPESTONSKY** was the banquet speaker and honorary initiate. The Senior Latin Prize, presented annually to the strongest graduating Latin student, went to **TYLER DENTON**. The Senior Greek Prize was awarded to **MARK HUGGINS**.

Scholarships and other awards for the 2012–13 academic year were announced: **LEIGH ANNE CUTSHAW** received the Moser Scholarship; **BETHANY GOOD** and **TIMOTHY KIMBROUGH** received full Haines-Morris Scholarships; **ELIZABETH CROSS** and **ALEX MANGONE** received Rutledge Awards toward teacher training; **SAMUEL GLEASON, MEG GODDARD, EMILY SCHUTT, CHRISTINA WEBB, ALLEN WILSON,** and **MATTHEW YLITALO** received Haines-Morris Awards for the academic year. **TIMOTHY KIMBROUGH** is the CAMWS scholar for 2012–13.

Members voted at the banquet that **MATTHEW YLITALO** will be next year's president. In addition, we announced the awards given to the department's students who had excelled in the 2012 Eta Sigma Phi Maurine Dallas Watkins Sight Translation Contests: **MARK HUGGINS** won second place in Advanced Greek, **JUSTIN APTAKER** won third place in Intermediate Greek, and **RICHARD CENTERS** gained an honorable mention in Intermediate Latin. The department is very proud of the excellence of our students and all those mentioned above thoroughly deserved the honors given to them. ■

## REPORT FROM KAVOUSI

BY GERALDINE GESELL

*Kavousi IIB: The Vronda Settlement. Buildings on the Slopes and Periphery* is in the process of final proofreading and should be out in early 2013. *Kavousi IIC: The Vronda Settlement. Analysis* is nearly ready to be sent to the press. Four more volumes are in various stages of completion.

Three other articles written on Kavousi material appeared in the Coulson memorial volume: K. Glowacki and N. Klein, "The Analysis of 'Dark Age' Domestic Architecture: The LM IIIC Settlement at Kavousi, Vronda"; M. Mook, "The Settlement on the Kastro at Kavousi in the Late Geometric Period"; and L. Day, "Appropriating the Past: Early Iron Age Mortuary Practises at Kavousi, Crete." ■

MITROU, *continued from page 1*

Hale and Vitale—assisted by Kyle Jazwa (Florida State University) and Kimberley van den Berg (Free University Amsterdam)—were able to identify four LH I subphases. These need further examination, but it is expected that their work will be of tremendous benefit to archaeologists working in central Greece, enabling them to date their own finds with greater precision.

Vitale also continued his work with Late Helladic II and IIIA pottery from Mitrou (fifteenth to fourteenth century BCE). He found that the Mycenaean-type pottery from elite complex Building H is of significantly higher quality than that from Building D (the elite complex with the large tomb). Within Building H, there is an area with pottery of ritual character and another area with evidence for communal drinking activity. Smaller events of communal drinking may also have taken place in Building D.

During excavations we had noticed that Mitrou was fairly inactive during the Mycenaean palatial period (fourteenth to thirteenth century BCE), and revived some time in the Late Helladic IIIC period (ca. twelfth century BCE). Precise dating of these postpalatial contexts has been notoriously difficult, however, because the local pottery is largely idiosyncratic. In 2011 I was able to reconstruct a stratigraphic sequence of 12 LH IIIC levels, and on the basis of this Bartek Lis (Polish Academy of Sciences) could fine-tune his dating of events.

We now know that Building F was rebuilt as early as the LH IIIC Early phase (early in the twelfth century BCE), and that the last two levels of adjacent Road 1 were laid

at that time. The dromos and tomb chamber of large Tomb 73, located within Building D, had been filled in some time during the LH IIIC Early to Middle phases. Building B was most likely constructed in LH IIIC Middle, and its second floor laid in LH IIIC Middle 2. In two areas—Building G and the southernmost excavated part of Building F—Lis found stratigraphic evidence for continuity of occupation from the Bronze Age (LH IIIC Late) to the Iron Age (Early Protogeometric) without an occupational phase that can be defined as Submycenaean. Št pán Růckl (University of Amsterdam) likewise continued his chronological study of apsidal Building A, finding good evidence for dating its demise early in the Late Protogeometric phase (mid-tenth century BCE).

Caroline Belz (UCLA) and Amanda Iacobelli (Penn State University), assisted by Lorenzo Mazzotta (University of Pisa) continued their study of surface survey finds. Since we have excavated only about 2 percent of Mitrou's surface area, but surface surveyed about 25 percent, their study of patterns in the surface finds help us to put the excavation finds in a wider context. In 2012 they identified bones of a human burial from the northeast of the islet, where presumably a cemetery was located. They also found remains of metalworking, suggesting that this activity took place in an area north of Building D.

Kyle Jazwa finished his study of some 3,000 architectural fragments from all levels. He found distinct changes in the composition of mud bricks at the transition from EH IIB to EH III, in the LH I phase, and in LH IIIC/PG, coinciding with major societal changes at Mitrou and elsewhere on the Greek mainland. The

significance of these changes needs more study.

Paul Halstead, Valasia Isaakisou, and Angelos Gkotsinas (all from Sheffield University) studied faunal remains from EH IIB-LH IIIC Late contexts. The majority belong to domesticated animals, occasionally including horse and donkey remains. Notable among the wild animal bones are some boar remains and a first phalanx that probably belonged to a lion; it comes from a MH II context.

Ioannis Manos (University of Montpellier, Greek Archaeological Service) continued his study of lithics. He noted that obsidian is by far the most common material used for tools in the EH IIB and MH II phases, indicating increased maritime contacts in those phases. His conclusion agrees with Chris Hale's previous finding of a distinct and sudden rise in the number of imported vases from the Cyclades and Aigina in the MH II phase.

Kerill O'Neill continued his study of jewelry and ornaments. He identified an unexpectedly large range of materials, including agate, amber, bone, bronze, carnelian, electrum, faience, glass, glass paste, gold, iron, rock crystal, shell, steatite, and terracotta. These finds contribute to the picture of elite exchange, trade networks, and social stratification at Mitrou.

Nicholas Blackwell (Bryn Mawr College) began his study of metal finds; he noted evidence for small-scale production of bronze and lead at the site in every period. Lead finds are numerous and include remains of a large lead cauldron in a LH IIB level in Building H, just north of the area with LH I and LH II Murex dumps. Such lead cauldrons are rare in Bronze Age Greece, and seem to be associated with elite contexts. Its



location at Mitrou led me to think that perhaps a lead cauldron was used to boil Murex snails for the extraction of purple dye, as the later Roman author Pliny prescribed.

In addition to doing our own research at Mitrou, we visit other sites in Greece each summer to keep up with new finds. One of the highlights of the 2012 summer was a guided tour by Adamantia Vasilogamvrou (Greek Archaeological Service) of two very promising large buildings that she is excavating at Agios Vasiliou, south of Sparta: a potential LH IIIA palace

and a monumental building of Early Mycenaean date. In return, many scholars dropped by the Mitrou storeroom to look at our finds and discuss their significance with our experts. We also are happy to see that Mitrou has become a regular stop on the study tours of the American School Summer Sessions.

Our 2011 and 2012 seasons were made possible by funding from the University of Tennessee Department of Classics, College of Arts and Sciences, and Office of Research; the National Endowment for the Humanities (Grant No. RZ-50652);

the Institute of Aegean Prehistory; the Greek Archaeological Service; the Cobb Institute of Mississippi State University; Colby College; and private donors. We are extremely thankful to all. We also are grateful to Maria Papakonstantinou, the head of the Archaeological Service at Lamia, and Jack Davis and James Wright of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, for their invaluable support. Last but not least, we want to express our warm appreciation for the people of Tragana for making us feel so welcome each summer. ■

# MITROU AND ME

BY LIZZI KERSEY PHOTO BY HANNAH G. FUSON



pottery sherds, and (most importantly) helping the storeroom run smoothly. I watched first hand as the bone specialists reassembled the skeletons of adults and children. As I went about my other tasks, I watched the pottery experts glean information from sherds that would have revealed nothing to the common person. History was being discovered right before my eyes.

The Mitrou team's knowledge about ancient peoples and archaeology is comparable to Atreus's riches, a vast treasure trove of information just waiting to be collected. They willingly took time from their work to explain their jobs and why they love archaeology. I in turn passed their knowledge on to my students with anecdotes about my own experiences in the field.

I had numerous opportunities to experience Greek culture in my free time. One evening I attended a local pie festival in a neighboring village with Aleydis and friends. At the festival, traditional Greek folk dancers clothed in authentic costumes reminded me of the ancient Minoans; dancing their row dances they looked like they had jumped right out of a Greek vase painting. The similarities between the ancient peoples and their modern counterparts struck me. This experience proves that ancient history still lives.

Some may be surprised that the most rewarding part of this experience has taken place in my classroom. When I am bombarded with questions about the pictures from my trip, I can't help but smile because I know the Classics bug has struck again. ■

**LIZZI KERSEY ('07 CLASSICS) TEACHES LATIN, MYTHOLOGY, AND ETYMOLOGY AT KARNS HIGH SCHOOL IN KNOXVILLE.**

When people ask me, "Why would anyone want to teach Latin and mythology?" I reply, "I blame my mother." My mother unknowingly sent me down my current career path when she placed her battered copy of Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* in my eight-year-old hands. The Classics bug had bit me. I felt that it was God's (or maybe, the gods') preordained task that I must preach the Good Word about the ancient Greeks and Romans. This obligation came to fruition this summer at Mitrou.

I had the good fortune to sit next to Aleydis at the Eta Sigma Phi banquet last spring. I confessed to her that my biggest regret from college was that I never studied abroad. Aleydis, ever the saleswoman, mentioned that the Mitrou project just happened to need a volunteer. Suddenly, the heavens opened up and bathed me in a golden glow and lyres played a sweet tune; I knew this was my chance.

Upon arriving in Greece, I realized that all my preconceived notions about Greece's landscape were grossly inaccurate. When one reads the myth of how Theseus travelled to Athens by land, it is easy to think, "Big deal. I could do that." Looking at the landscape from the backseat of Aleydis's car speeding toward Sparta, I finally connected with the myth. Greece's geography shaped these myths, pure and simple. That was one of the most important lessons I now stress to my students. I want to make Greece real for them by connecting my personal experiences with their curriculum. When we read a myth, we explore the landscape through the pictures from my trip.

At Mitrou I had many responsibilities as a volunteer. I added to the ever-growing database and sifted through crates of artifacts in search of another piece of the Mycenaean puzzle. A few of my other tasks included cleaning shells with the survey team, labeling

# MY SUMMER AT MITROU

BY HANNAH G. FUSON PHOTO BY LIZZI KERSEY

During the 2012 summer season, I received the incredible opportunity to join Dr. Aleydis Van de Moortel's team at Mitrou as a summer research intern through the University of Tennessee's Office of Undergraduate Research and through grant funding from the Chancellor's Honors Program for travel abroad and undergraduate thesis research. This experience marked my first foray into the exciting world of classical archaeology, and I was thrilled to see the ancient Greece that had captured my attention within the classroom brought to life.

During my two-month stay in Greece, I studied ground stone tools from the Mitrou site while serving as the project's object photographer. Ground stone tools comprise a subject area that has been thus far neglected in many archaeological studies; through my research at Mitrou, I hope to contribute not only to our understanding of the site but to current studies in tool production and use as well. This summer, I focused on collecting data to determine classifications based on function groups and patterns in change over time.

Outside of work, I enjoyed swimming in the sea, hiking in the mountains above town, and getting to know the locals. Through immersion in the small and charming



Greek community of Tragana and weekend trips to vibrant cities such as Athens, I was able to experience and gain a deep appreciation for modern Greek culture. Meanwhile, visits to archaeological sites and museums kept me fully enthralled by Greece's ancient peoples. By the end of the summer, I had seen the Early Bronze Age Corridor House at Lerna, explored the incredible palace at Mycenae along with its surrounding chamber tombs, toured the Athenian Acropolis and the new Acropolis Museum, and spent hours wandering through the impressive exhibits at the National Archaeological Museum. In addition,

our team from Mitrou visited ongoing excavations at Eleon, Kalapodi, Sparta, and Thebes to talk shop with fellow archaeologists and see how other projects were progressing.

Through my studies at Mitrou and travels around the Greek mainland, I have developed a deep appreciation for the archaeological work taking place in Greece. My summer was an unforgettable and enriching cultural experience that has left me eager to return for more. ■

**HANNAH G. FUSON IS AN HONORS CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY MAJOR AT UT.**

## FUN MAKING POTTERY

BY ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTEL PHOTOS BY KRISTEN PALACIOS



Every year our faculty members have an opportunity to teach a course that is directly related to their research. In spring 2012, I was lucky enough to gather fifteen undergraduate and graduate students for a seminar on pottery analysis. As part of their training, students had to learn how to make pottery themselves. This gave them a much better understanding—and appreciation!—of the craftsmanship of ancient potters. ■



PHOTOS BY KRISTEN PALACIOS

# THE QUEST OF A BIOARCHAEOLOGIST

BY KAITLYN STILES PHOTOS BY HANNAH G. FUSON

Thanks to the generous support of the Classics Department through the Haines-Morris Travel Scholarship, I was able to travel to Greece this summer to conduct research and gain experience working as a bioarchaeologist in Greece. I spent about eight weeks there working, traveling, and meeting new people. It had been four years since I was a field school student of the Mitrou Archaeological Project in 2008, and it felt so good to be back.

One of my goals this summer was to collect skeletal samples for DNA analysis from four Bronze Age sites to conduct a pilot study investigating the feasibility of doing DNA analysis on Bronze Age Greek material. This opportunity also made it possible for me to establish relationships with individuals in the Greek Archaeological Service and other archaeologists working in Greece.

I spent my first week in Athens, where I worked with Greek physical anthropologist Anastasia

Papathanasiou to collect samples from two of the four sites. She was very friendly and helpful, making the experience really pleasant. Dr. Papathanasiou played a key part in helping me gain access to the material and facilitating communication with other involved parties. While in Athens, I also made it a point to meet the director of the Wiener Laboratory at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Dr. Sherry Fox. She gave me a tour of the lab and answered my questions about the possibility of working at the lab for dissertation research. Dr. Fox generously introduced me to other researchers in the lab at the time and welcomed me back any time.

After my week in Athens I traveled on to Mitrou, where I would be working with Dr. Nick Herrmann (UT anthropology research professor, also with Mississippi State University's Cobb Institute) on the skeletal remains. Returning to Mitrou felt like coming home. I was reunited with people I had not seen in four years, including one of my fellow field school students from 2008 who is now publishing some of the pottery. The Mitrou project is like a fun, nerdy, amazing family. Everyone is excited about what they are doing and that excitement is contagious.

When Dr. Herrmann and the rest of his team arrived at Mitrou, we began working on the skeletal remains from Mitrou and Tragana—Agia Triada. The Agia Triada bones come from Mycenaean chamber tombs excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service on a hill slope near Mitrou. It was our task to finish inventorying and analyzing the last few boxes of this material. Many



The experience of living in Greece, even for a short while, is unique. I thoroughly enjoyed living in Tragana because everyone in the village knows you and accepts you.

of the remains were fragmentary, making it an interesting challenge to identify specific bones. Cranial fragments were my personal favorite. As we worked, I was able to mark certain teeth out for the possibility of future DNA analysis. In addition to practicing my osteology, I learned how to operate a 3D scanner, which takes 3D pictures of an object from multiple angles and then puts them together in a composite image. Since the machine does not always match up the pictures correctly, someone must tell the computer where certain points match up. This process then produces a fairly accurate 3D image of the object. We used the 3D scanner to scan bone fragments as part of a project Dr. Herrmann is working on in collaboration with others at UT that may one day allow us to reconstruct whole bones from fragments. I am glad to have helped with this project, as it has promising applications for those of us working on ancient, often fragmentary, skeletal remains.

Contacts were another important product from my time at Mitrou. Dr. Van de Moortel actively introduced me to people in the Greek Archaeological Service. Because of these introductions I was able to talk to Greek archaeologists about conducting bioarchaeological research

in Greece. I met with one archaeologist to discuss the possibility of studying one of the cemetery sites she had excavated. Very few skeletal remains from Locris and North Phokis have been studied, which makes the possibility of working on one of these sites very exciting. This meeting went well and I have received tentative permission to study the remains from a large chamber tomb cemetery. Working with the Greek Archaeological Service is a significant part of working in Greece which is why I was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet and work with these Greek archaeologists.

Another great thing about being part of the Mitrou team is everybody's sense of adventure and insatiable curiosity. One weekend we were able to travel to a new site being excavated just outside of Sparta. Only curious archaeologists would cram themselves into tiny European cars like clowns and drive four hours to see a new site. I also took a couple of trips to Athens to see sites and museums—especially the Acropolis museum, since it did not exist the last time I was in Greece.

Being in Greece, I realized how important it was to learn the language. I found that even my halting attempts to speak were met with

smiles and appreciation for the most part. I even got a free bracelet from a shop owner named Kostas after a very short conversation in Greek.

The experience of living in Greece, even for a short while, is unique. I thoroughly enjoyed living in Tragana because everyone in the village knows you and accepts you. They accept your awkward, broken Greek and sometimes give you free melons for your efforts (which were delicious, if you were wondering). Besides the occasional heat exhaustion, working in Greece has been a dream come true. This experience was made possible because of the Haines-Morris Travel Scholarship. The generosity of the Classics Department continually amazes me. Its support for its students is unique and very special. The Classics Department has truly made it possible for me to break into the business of Mediterranean archaeology as a bioarchaeologist, and I deeply appreciate their continuing support and encouragement. ■

**KAITLYN STILES IS A DOCTORAL STUDENT IN ANTHROPOLOGY AT UT, SPECIALIZING IN BIOARCHAEOLOGY AND MEDITERRANEAN ARCHAEOLOGY.**





# STANDING TALL *for* CLASSICS

BY LYNN CHAMPION

Salvador Bartera is in his sixth year as a full-time lecturer in the Department of Classics. During this time, he has taught an average of twelve hours per semester and covered no fewer than ten different course preparations, including classical culture courses and Greek and Latin and literature at all levels. He has taught an advanced course on Roman civilization and teaches the Roman half of the general education course Introduction to Classical Civilizations, which regularly has 200 or more students.

From the smallest language class to the largest lecture, Bartera's performance has consistently been excellent. Peer evaluations of his teaching are enthusiastic, and his student evaluations are simply stellar. In a department that takes great pride in the quality of its teaching, Bartera's colleagues and students agree that he stands out.

"I can attest that he goes beyond the usual virtues we expect," says Christopher Craig, professor and department head. "He is, of course, well prepared, highly organized,

personally engaging, varied in his presentation, and welcoming of questions, which he answers thoroughly and kindly. But Salvador does much more."

Bartera's doing "more" means that he cares deeply about students' learning, and he shows it by carefully attending to the students' class participation and writing assignments.

"I accept that students don't start at the same level, so I place a lot of stock in student effort and improvement," Bartera says. "If I sense students may be having difficulty even before they express it, I reach out to them to offer help, particularly the shy ones." He encourages students to ask questions after class and to make an appointment during his office hours.

But Bartera isn't considered an easy teacher. It's not uncommon for student evaluations to include comments like "This was the most difficult class that I have ever taken, but the one where I learned the most."

Bartera admits that he spends many hours preparing for each

class, even the ones he has taught several times. "I share with my students the most recently published scholarship in the field," he says. "It keeps the subject matter fresh for me and for my students."

Michael Lumley, now a third-year student at Harvard Law School, recalls that students were motivated by Bartera's personal interest in their learning.

"Salvador is more than a fantastic teacher, he is a good man who cares about his students, and that's a tremendous asset to him as a teacher and a mentor," Lumley says. "I remember that Salvador was so invested in us as students that none of us wanted to let him down."

Betty Carmon, a non-traditional student who completed four semesters of Latin study with Bartera, says his classes inspired her to return to school to continue working on a degree. Like Lumley, Carmon acknowledges that Bartera's personality and teaching style made difficult material easier to learn.

"Dr. Bartera has the talent of presenting challenging material in such a way as to promote enthusiastic conversation," Carmon says. "Of all the classes I've taken at UT, he stands above all other teachers."

Bartera says students like Carmon who stay with language study for the long-term are the most rewarding to teach. "The mastery of the language that advanced students bring to the classroom enables me to take the class to a higher level, making it more challenging for me and the students," he says. Bartera admits that studying Greek, Latin, and classical studies is not for the timid and undisciplined student. "The material is very difficult, but the investment of effort and time returns extraordinary dividends."

He argues that studying classics equips students with a historical perspective and a broad understanding of the achievements of the Roman and Greek worlds. Likewise, studying Greek and Latin languages empowers modern language comprehension and is good preparation for leadership.

"Records of testing data show that students who have completed classical language studies in Greek and Latin are consistently the highest scorers on verbal comprehension sections of the college entrance exam (SAT), the graduate school entrance exam (GRE), the law school admission test (LSAT), and the medical school admission test (MCAT)," says Bartera. (He keeps the documentation nearby for anyone who might question that assertion.)

Interest in Roman history and classical languages came naturally to Bartera, a native of Urbino, Italy. Bartera completed his Laurea (master's degree equivalent) from the University of Urbino in 2002 and completed a doctorate in classics from the University of Virginia in 2008. To date, he has published two peer-reviewed scholarly articles and a

total of nine book reviews. Among the several projects he is currently working on are two books: *A Commentary on Tacitus, Annals 16*, and *Bernardino Stefonio: Flavia tragoedia*.

As his teaching schedule permits, Bartera accepts invitations to present his scholarship at other universities and at national and international conferences. He presented most recently at the University of Liverpool in January and will return to the United Kingdom in November for an engagement at Oxford University.

A lover of the outdoors, Bartera found it easy to call East Tennessee home. Of course, home means something different now, thanks to his wife, Whitney Bryan, whom he met locally in 1998. While he brings his Italian heritage to his marriage, he admits that he's glad he exercises regularly due to his newfound fondness for three Southern food classics: biscuits, barbecue, and pecan pie. *Lynn Champion is director of communications for the College of Arts and Sciences. This article was originally published in "Higher Ground" on May 3, 2012, and is reprinted by permission.*

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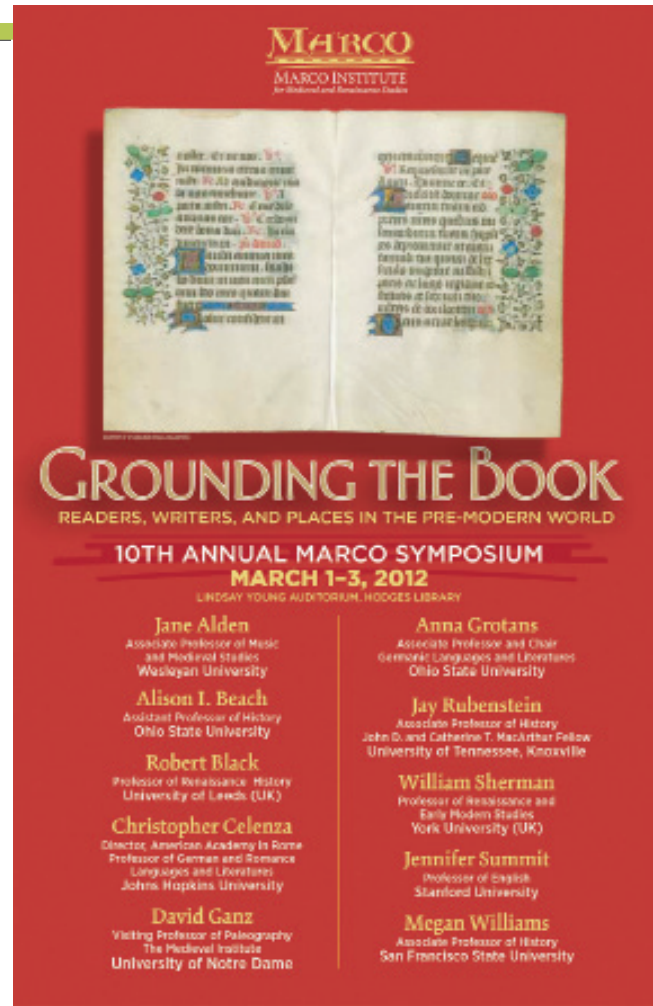
## REPORT ON MARCO

BY MAURA LAFFERTY

The Marco Institute of Medieval and Renaissance Studies had a bumper year in 2011-12. The Marco Manuscript Workshop on Readers had an international panel of presenters: Emily Francomano, Georgetown University; Michael Barbezat, University of Toronto; Adam Bursi, Cornell University; Scott Gwara, University of South Carolina; Matthew Hussy, Simon Fraser University; Guido Milanese, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuoro, Milan; Nandini Pandey, Loyola University Maryland; Luigi Silvano, La Sapienza, Rome. Several presented on the manuscript evidence for readers' response to classical texts.

The annual symposium, "Grounding the Book: Readers, Writers and Places in the Premodern World," featured Anthony Grafton of Princeton University as its keynote speaker (listen online at [tiny.utk.edu/xtind](http://tiny.utk.edu/xtind)). The other speakers were Megan Williams, San Francisco State University; David Ganz, University of Notre Dame; Anna Grotans, Ohio State University; Alison Beach, Ohio State University; Jay Rubenstein, UT; Jane Alden, Wesleyan University; Christopher Celenza; Johns Hopkins University/American Academy in Rome; Robert Black, University of Leeds; William H. Sherman, University of York; Jennifer Summit, Stanford University.

The Marco Undergraduate Conference, organized by two of our own Classics students, Tyler Denton and Matthew Ylitalo, had as its theme "Ab Urbe Recondita: the Reception of the Roman Classics in the Middle Ages and Renaissance," and the keynote speaker, Christopher Baswell, presented a paper on Alexander the Great in medieval literature (listen online at [tiny.utk.edu/j6BNa](http://tiny.utk.edu/j6BNa)). The Marco Medieval Latin Sight Reading Group continues to meet weekly, and alumni are welcome to attend. ■



## ALUMNI NEWS

**MEAGAN AYER** has just completed her PhD in Classics at SUNY Buffalo. In May of 2012, she gave a presentation at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of Canada. She is also a member of the Waterloo Institute of Hellenistic Studies based at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, and will be working as a research associate, possibly fellow, with them for at least the fall semester doing Works in Progress presentations and possibly helping with the planning of a conference to be held in 2013.

This past year, **H. CURTIS BOWER III** has been continuing his full-time status at the Episcopal School of Knoxville. He is currently teaching sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade Latin, music appreciation, and sixth

grade literature. He is also an information technologies facilitator with ESK, making sure that his colleagues in the areas of social studies and world language know about the latest in the world of ed tech available to them. During this past year in Latin, he has had a Certamen team place third in the state TJCL competition and one student place second in the Grammar 1/2 Division. Along with other young professionals in the Knoxville area, he is looking to start a local Rotaract chapter.

**ROBERT CROSSLEY** has completed his second year at UT College of Law, and subsequently interned for the Federal Magistrate Judges Guyton and Shirley during the summer. Throughout this time, he has continued to work part time as a shift

supervisor for Starbucks. He is now in his third and final year at the law school.

**JESSICA DAY** is currently the Latin teacher at the Brown Summit Middle School for Advanced Academics in Greensboro, North Carolina. "I have the unique privilege of teaching every student at our school," she reports, "because Latin is a required subject for all grades. I am having a wonderful time so far! I love being able to share Latin with such bright-eyed and brilliant little students."

In the past year, **J. LOGAN DYER** has been growing his Knoxville law practice. On April 8, 2012, he and his wife, Kate, welcomed their son Elliott Frederick Dyer into the world.

CONTINUED ON PAGE VI

## THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

2013-14 Classics Appeal

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I would like to contribute to the University of Tennessee.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Mitrou Excavation         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rutledge Archaeology Fund<br><i>(This fund honors Harry Rutledge's memory by supporting an annual lecture in archaeology.)</i>   |
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### NEWS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

You may send news in the attached envelope or directly to the department.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

After receiving an MA in ancient history from the University of Colorado, **JOSH NEWTON** has accepted a teaching apprenticeship at Ridgeway Classical School in Fort Collins, Colorado ([www.ridgewayclassical.com](http://www.ridgewayclassical.com)), and will be apprenticing in history, Latin, and possibly Greek.

**ASHLEY VANN** (née **PARROTT**) is a second-year master's student at the University of Georgia, where she is also a research assistant. She is working on a thesis, tentatively entitled "The Influences of Ovid on Religious Latin Texts in Twelfth-Century France." She will graduate on May 10, 2013. She is also teaching Latin part time at a private high school, St. John Bosco Academy, in Suwanee, Georgia. After graduation, she hopes to begin teaching full-time in the metro Atlanta area while her husband completes his last year of law school.

In addition to completing her first year of teaching ninth- and tenth-grade

English at Hardin Valley Academy in Knoxville, **KATIE WOOTEN** has engaged in a number of other projects. In May, she attended the International Reading Association conference in Chicago, Illinois, where she participated in the United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY) author session. In June, she traveled to Nicaragua for three weeks to work with and minister to teachers and students in schools in various rural regions around León. In August, she presented a research project on new internationally published children's and young adult literature at the International Board on Books for Young People World Congress in London, England. In November 2012, she will be presenting with UT Associate Professor Sterg Botzakis at the National Council of Teachers of English in Las Vegas, Nevada, their joint research on implementing graphic novels in the high school classroom. ■



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