The VCLA/UVM Annual Fall Newsletter 2011

. . . and on the Web at: www.vtclassics.org

NOTE: If you are reading this via email and know someone who might be interested, please forward this annual update on the activities of the Vermont Classical Languages Association and the UVM Department of Classics.

Latin Day will be TBD, and the Latin Day Planning Meeting will take place Saturday, December 10, 2011, 9 A.M. to 12 noon (see below for more details)

The VCLA Annual Meeting took place on Friday, October 21, 2011, at Burlington High School. Nora Cartier, President, very graciously and efficiently organized a fine program. Many thanks to Nora for the hospitality and the effort. Lunch afterward at El Gato was delicious. Jessica Evans (BA and MA from UVM; PhD from Trinity College, Dublin), a Lecturer in the Department this year, gave an outstanding presentation on the discourse of political freedom in Herodotus and Thucydides. Thanks to everyone for helping make this year’s program such an enjoyable success.

Present at this year’s meeting (in no particular order; unfortunately, quite a few attendees had to leave the meeting early): Mary Redmond (Montpelier), Leanne Morton (CVU), Tami Munford (Harwood), George LaPierre (BFA, St. Albans), Nora Cartier (Burlington HS), Norm McClure (CVU), Ally Carkin (Lyndon Institute), Meg Holland (Lamoille), Angeline Chiu, Walter Roberts, Robert Rodgers, Barbara Rodgers, Phil Ambrose, Jessica Evans, and Mark Usher (all UVM faculty), and Becky Sahlin, Marley Evans, Katie McDonough, Christian Gonzalez, Deepti Menon, and Chris Waldo (grad students at UVM—Waldo is a recent graduate). NOTE: It was especially gratifying to see so many graduate students in attendance at this meeting.

Business Meeting (Nora Cartier, President, presiding):

The following officers were elected and/or reappointed:

President: Tami Munford
Vice President: Meg Holland
Treasurer: Norm McClure
Representative to CANE: George LaPierre
Webmaster (continuing): Leanne Morton

Financial Report: Treasurer Norm McClure reported a balance of $2,600 in the VCLA fiscus and urged payment of dues (only $10). If you have not paid your dues for the current year, please send them to Norm.
An additional reminder: the VCLA Directory of Members is available online at http://www.uvm.edu/~classics/VCLA/directory.html. Please send any changes, corrections or additions to this Directory to Pam Cunov, 802-656-3210, or email to Pamela.Cunov@uvm.edu (NOTE: current and correct email addresses are especially important to have for the VCLA e-distribution list; please notify Pam of any changes or updates.)

CANE News:

This year’s CANE meeting will be held at St. Sebastian's School in Needham, MA, March 23-24. Information about the 2012 CANE Summer Institute has not yet been posted. For further details about both events (including the call for papers), go directly to the new CANE webpage at: http://www.caneweb.org/

The CANE Student Writing Contest: The topic for 2011-12 is "Games and Gaming in the Ancient World." See the CANE webpage for guidelines: http://www.caneweb.org

Note: Cash prizes of $50, $30, and $20 are awarded by the VCLA to the best three submissions from Vermont. Vermonters have fared very well in this competition. Encourage your students to enter! The deadline for submission of entries is December 15. Please send submissions to George Lapierre (BFA).

The 36th Annual Vermont Latin Day:

Date: TBD

Place: Patrick Gymnasium, UVM, Burlington

Theme: THE ZODIAC (AND OTHER CONSTELLATIONS). Schools will choose from a list of constellations with mythological associations for their skit theme. Probationes will include questions based on related readings. We will also be taking donations for victims of Tropical Storm Irene. (1 dollar per person should raise over 1,000 dollars for this worthy cause!) We will be doing Latin Day T-shirts again this year. Student entries into the design competition are due by February 14th. Send artwork via high-resolution email attachment (JPEG or PDF) to Pam Cunov. NOTE: If you care about Latin Day and plan to attend, do plan to come to the Latin Day Planning Meeting (see immediately below), where we will vote on the winning designs (cash prizes to the top 3) and hammer out details on all of the above.

Planning Meeting for Latin Day 2012: Saturday, December 10, 2011, 10-12 noon, at the Department of Classics, UVM, Burlington, 481 Main Street, Room 207 (Telephone 802-656-3210). PLEASE COME. Your input is essential to the success of Latin Day. Bagels, fruit, coffee and tea provided. (You may park behind the building.)
Below is a brief description of some faculty activities over the past academic year.

Wishing you all many happy returns,

M. D. Usher
Associate Professor and Chair

Faculty Activities

PHIL AMBROSE (emeritus) will be giving a talk on Greek Tragedy for the Vermont Humanities Council at Essex Junction's Brownell Library at 7:00 pm on Jan. 4, 2012. He will discuss the performances of tragedies in the context of Athens' communal life and the process by which they became the foundation for the Western literary tradition.

JACQUES BAILLY is on sabbatical this year in Paris. ANGELINE CHIU recently submitted her book MS on Ovid's Fasti to a university press for consideration and is busy with various conference talks and superb teaching, as usual. JOHN FRANKLIN is on leave this year, spending with his family the Fall term at the prestigious Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton), and Spring in Jerusalem at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research. He plans to finish a book MS on ancient Greek music in relation to Mycenaean migrations to Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean c. 1200. This is WALTER ROBERTS' last year with us. We all have enjoyed Walter's hard work, good humor, high standards, good company, and sheer love of the Classics. We will miss him. Walter plans to return to his hometown of Detroit to re-introduce Latin into public and/or charter schools there. BARBARA SAYLOR RODGERS, among other things, will be delivering the CANE closing ceremony address in Latin for the third time. ROBERT RODGERS is working on a new critical edition of Varro for the OCT series. MARK USHER will be giving papers on Homer in Beijing and Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in December and on Aeschylus in Cairo in March. He will also be delivering the UVM Dean's Lecture in the Spring (April 3rd). BRIAN WALSH is on sabbatical this semester, completing work on two textbooks, one Greek, the other Latin. He also traveled to Greece this summer for some research in situ.