

Latin/Greek Institute  
365 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10016



Fall 2019

Dear Friends,

In Summer 2019, we saw a historic expansion of the program, as we responded to increased demand for Upper-level Greek by expanding into two sections for the first time. This decision allowed us to broaden opportunities for students—especially those at schools without robust Greek programs—to improve their confidence and fluency in reading Greek across a wide variety of genres.

The work we do to open doors to classical languages and literatures continues to attract serious and eager students. Your financial support increases our impact by making this experience possible for the program's increasing proportion of students without financial means. One of our students in Basic Latin this summer, now a graduate student at the University of Michigan, attests to the

I came to the study of Latin from what I imagine must have been a non-traditional background—the child of a refugee from the Lebanese Civil War, whose ancestral village was under military occupation for 15 years, and who—to be blunt—was essentially broke. To have had my destiny so shaped by this war, and to have been a person independently financing my education, and then to have been able to cultivate a modest level of Latinity, and to have now gained access to an entire corpus of literature from the dawn of modern humanitarian discourse (with which I can perhaps make the path less arduous for future Latin students, whose lives were shaped by war as mine was), is something for which I will have eternal gratitude. It is the sort of equipment which I imagine few in my position would have otherwise been able to obtain, if not for the Stavros Niarchos scholarship.

Please consider making a gift in support of this work. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:

Latin/Greek Institute  
CUNY Graduate Center  
365 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

Checks should be made payable to “Graduate Center Foundation,” with “Latin/Greek Institute” in the memo line. You can also donate online at: [www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/lginst/donate](http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/lginst/donate). Thank you for your generosity, and please stay in touch with us!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Lu Hsu".

Katherine Lu Hsu  
Director

### Fund Raiser

On Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, at the home of Cindy Calder (L08, UL09, UL11), a group of alumni, faculty, and friends gathered to raise money for our scholarship fund. Alumni from 1979, 1999, and 2019, among others, were present. Once again, alumna M.J. McNamara (G01) provided food from across the empire. Professor Brian Sower, of Brooklyn College, gave a delightful talk, "From Ancient Letters to Instagram: How Cuisine in Social Media Feeds Friendships." Just as people nowadays take pictures of the food they're eating, so in the four hundreds A.D., Ausonius wrote poems about mussels and fish from his neighborhood. A well-attended group ate, talked, laughed, and, in general, had a good time.

### This summer

The American Classical League celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> year of existence by coming to New York to hold its annual Institute June 27<sup>th</sup> till 29<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Hotel. The Latin/Greek Institute had a table on which were displayed our flag, poster, pin, and brochure. Katherine, Rita, and especially Suklima took turns sitting at the table and interacting with visitors. The executive director of the A.C.L. is **Sherwin Little** (AL82) and the director of its placement service is **Cynthia White** (AL80).

**Kathleen de Riesthal** (G91) presided over one section and gave a paper, *A Latin Teacher's Adventure Down the Rabbit Hole: Reflections on Research in Second Language Acquisition and What We Can Learn From It*.

**Cynthia White** presided over several sections, and **Jeanne O'Neill Neumann** (AL86, AG87) gave a paper, *Commercium Epistolare Latinum via Slack: Building Facility with Composition and Communication*.

**Ledio Hysi** (G14) stopped by the table to say that he is now working in Albania for LithodomosVR. He met **Chris Tushaj** (G14) there who just got his Master's in Albanian. Chris is pursuing his Ph.D. in Indo-European.

**Bradley Maleh** (UL16) also stopped by. He is tutoring Latin and Greek. If you know someone who would like a tutor, let us know and we'll contact Bradley.

### LGI AT THE SOCIETY FOR CLASSICAL STUDIES

At a meeting in San Diego January 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>, several of our friends presented papers.

**Emmanuel Aprilakis**, *Where's the Beef? The Athletic Diet and its Resentment in Antiquity*

**Scott Arcenas**, *The Impact of Evidentiary Bias on Macro-Level Approaches to Greek History*

**Yelena Baraz** organized a workshop on the *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae: A Practical Guide for Users*

**William Beck**, *Reassessing the Evidence for Zenodotus' Cretan Odyssey*

**Carlo DaVia**, *SYNESIS: Insight into (its) Deeper Meaning in Classical Greece*

**Sarah Derbew**, *Bodies in Dissent*

**David Driscoll**, *Even When Sappho is Sung: Taste in Sapphic and Anacreontic Performance in Early Imperial Symposia*

**David Goldstein** presided over a session, *Greek Language*. He also presented a paper, *Differential Agent Marking in Classical Greek*

**Collin Hilton**, *Plutarch's Hellish Cures for Ardiaeus: The Myth of Thespesius and the Occlusion of Plato's "Incurables"*

**Stevie Hull**, *The Interdisciplinary Teacher: Augustine's Contra Academicos as a Dialogue About Rhetoric*

**Scott McGill** was one of the organizers of a session: *Thirty Years of the Jeweled Style: Reassessing Late Antique Poetry* and gave the introduction.

**Sarah Nooter** was one of the organizers of the session, *Aesthetics and Ephemerality* and gave the paper, *Ephemerality in Sappho*.

**Cameron Pearson**, Social Mobility and Athletics in Archaic Greece

**Christina Perez**, Textual Ruins: The Form of Memory in Jose Watanabe's Antigona

**Maggie Popkin** organized a joint session (Archaeological Institute of America-S.C.S.), Prospective Memory in Ancient Rome: Constructing the Future Throughout Material and Textual Culture. Her paper, The Beforelives of Votives: Prospective Memory and Religious Experience in the Roman Empire.

**David Ratzan** organized a session, Ancient MakerSpaces: Digital Tools for Classical Scholarship

**David Sider** was one of the organizers of a session, Herculaneum: Works in Progress.

**Giorgio Tsolakis** was one of two organizers of a session, Epigraphic Approaches to Multilingualism and Multilingual Societies in the Ancient Mediterranean. His paper, It seems that that are using the Carian Language: Multilingualism, Assimilation, and Acculturation in Caria

**Michael Tueller**, The Battle of Thyrea in Greek Epigram

**Jennifer Weintritt**, What's Past Is Prologue: Roman Identity and the Trojan Cycle in the Aeneid

Books advertised at the meetings:

**Scott McGill**, Virgil Recomposed The Mythological and Secular Centos in Antiquity (S.C.S. American Classical Studies Series)

**F.S.Naiden**, Soldier, Priest, and God A Life of Alexander the Great (Oxford)

**Kenneth Rothwell**, Aristophanes' Wasps (Oxford Greek and Latin College Commentaries)

Ubi Sunt?

We do not have the current address for the following people. If anyone knows how we can contact them, we should appreciate having that information. We don't like to lose contact with old friends.

Donald Ainslie (G90)

Grace Andreacchi & Edward Hadas (L75)

Lindsay Ash (G99)

Arshy Azizi (G17)

Paul Barndt (G06)

Mary Womble Barringer (G86)

Jonathan Bauer (G82)

Jana Beck (G06)

Hank Brownstein (L16)

Justin Burt (G99)

Anthony Cannaturo (L91, G92)

Paul Carty (L85)

Cecily Coddington (G81)

Steve Cohen (G83, L84)

Joseph Company (L77)

John Crain (G11)

Christopher Crosbie (L2000)

Spencer Culp (L94)

Ivone de Oliveira (G84)

Anthony DiMatteo (L77)

Toan Do (G06)

Meredith Eddy (G82)

John Elliott (L82)

Amanda Evans (G15)

Tania Forte (G83)

Emily Framton (L2000)

Matthew Fryman (G99)

Gavin Gardon (G14)

Kasey Genin (L06)

Daniel Goltz (G06)

Jackson Goodman (G11)

Vaughn Greene (G85)

Karen Hammerlof (AL82)

Elizabeth Hatcher (L94)

Miyako Hayakawa (G02)

Jamey Hecht (G92)

John Heuertz (L90)

Alan Heinrich (G88)

Adam Hochstetter (L04)

Snow Hume (G91)

Stephanie Hunt (L09)

Patrick Hunter (G11)

David Johnson (AG87)

Johanna Kaplan (G99)

Matthew Keil (G05)

Dylan Kenny (G12)

Colin King (G95, Faculty)

Benjamin Kramer (G88)

Peter Krause (L84)

Tanya Larkin (L94)

Elliot Levy (G78)

Joseph Malit (L78)

Marina Markantonatos (G88)

Michael Marton (L95)

Geoffrey Maturen (G93)

Miranda May (L99)

Nathaniel McCune (G08)  
Susan McDonough (L94)  
Shannon McHugh (L11)  
Megan McNamee (L05)  
Joshua Mendelsohn (G13)  
Michael Mule (G07)  
Daniel Murphy (G96)  
Meredith Nelson-Berry (L15)  
Peter Nichols (G85)  
Rachel Opitz (L02)  
Andrew Patch (G90)  
Kosta Potamianos (G92)  
Gregory Roberts (L07)  
Melanie Ross (L94)  
Madeleine Ruessman (L89)  
Nick Schneider (G08)  
Ryan Scott (G92)  
Allison Shwab (G07)  
Claire Shea (G79)  
Samantha Sher (G06)  
David Shumaker (G06)  
Harmon Siegel (G15)  
Peter Stein (G84)  
Harry Strickhausen (AL82)  
Thomas Sullivan (L85)  
Tallie Taylor (G96)  
Sara Jo Tessler (L81)  
Allanah Thomas (G84)  
Alison Traweek (L01)  
Matthew Underwood (L2000)  
Michael Varenne (L01)  
Nina West (L95)  
Ian White (G83)  
Mark Wilson (L04, G07)  
Barbara Witucki (G82)  
Joseph Woldman (G13)  
Jon Yamashita (L89)  
Helen Yoo (L97)  
Marco Zangari (G93)  
Christine Zapella (L13)  
Robert Zoller (L74)

### Sad News

We were sorry to hear that **James Healey (G85)** died in 1991. He presented us with the unabridged Greek dictionary along with a card signed by all the members of the Greek class of '85 at the end of the summer.

In March 2015, **Dorothy Psuty (L80)** died of pneumonia. She had a hard time in the summer she was with us,

having come alone, leaving at home her husband and two daughters. She was very lonely, but she had to stick it out because in the autumn, when she returned to her classroom, she had to teach Latin. And that she did, for many years after that.

### Hoplite Challenge

In 2019, the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Hoplite Challenge Cup resulted in a resounding student victory over faculty and alumni, 12-6. Competing on the students' side were: Alex Vermeulen, Skylar Cobbett, Evan House, Daniel Wasserman, Alexis Teh, Eric Bayless-Hall, Pawan Pahilwani, Chris Kim, Derek Foret, Belle Cui, and Jinrui Zhang. On the faculty and alumni side, Carlo Davia, Jeremy March, Aramis Lopez, Hardy Hansen, Bin Hui Kwon, and Nathan Davis competed. Students employed a variety of strategies: some opted for straightforward verbs, such as λύω or παιδεύω; others ambitiously chose εἶμι, εἶμί, or ἀφίημι. Several students chose verbs with a very limited set of principal parts and verb forms, such as χρή and δεῖ, which led to many non-existent forms, allowing students to tie the faculty and earn a full point for their side. Alice Phillips Walden served as timekeeper, Katherine Lu Hsu as scorekeeper, and Christopher Simon as the iudex.

### Rita's Digest

**Kelly Ahrens (G18)** wrote that she enjoyed Plato more the second time.

**Matthew Anderson (G03)** is living in Egypt and studying Arabic.

**Scott Arcenas (G07)** received his Ph. D. in classics from Stanford in 2018. Before that, he was awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship which he used at Clare College where he earned an M. Phil. with distinction in ancient history. He's teaching ancient history this year at Dartmouth.

**Nathan Arrington (L01)** is a professor in the art and archaeology department at Princeton.

**Jennifer Ball (G96)** was interviewed in November at the Graduate Center about a book she's written "a surreal and intimate depiction of life behind the scenes at the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

**Elizabeth Baltes (G11)** loves her position teaching at South Carolina Coastal College. She grew up in Louisiana and went to grad school at Duke and feels quite at home

in the south. She got married last December to the brother of **Jillian Murray** (G01, L02, UL05) whom she met when **Ted Graham** (G01), a good friend of Jillian, took her to a party at Jillian's.

**Nicky Bangs** (UL14, office assistant) is a data scientist and started a new position this fall.

**Philip Barnard** (G79) is a professor emeritus at the University of Kansas and continues to publish books: Pentecostal Modernism: Lovecraft, Los Angeles, and World-Systems Culture (paperback 2018), and The Oxford Handbook of Charles Brockden Brown (2019).

**Eric Bayless-Hall** (G19) has been reading Greek, first, selections from the survey book which they didn't read over the summer and then Phaedrus. **Damon Hatheway** (L19) has joined him.

**Keanna Benjamin** (L16) is working in the Center for Teaching at Brooklyn College.

**Kate Blair-Dixon** (G98) finished her Ph.D. in Late Antiquity at the University of Manchester and then "did a post-doc fellowship at Catholic University. I took off time for kids and then moved to Germany for five years with my husband's job. We moved to Kansas in 2011 where I taught at Wichita State and Emporia State until 2016. In 2016 we moved to Connecticut for the schools for our high schooler, and I am now in private educational consulting and tutoring."

**Emily Boynton** (UL14) is an artist working in creative technology.

**Daniel Brownstein** (L85) and family spent time in Greece this past summer.

**Jeff Colgan** (G15) got a master's in philosophy at Chicago, where he read a lot of Greek. He moved back to New York and has been working at the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research. He's in the midst of applying to philosophy Ph.D. programs.

**John Collodi** (L73) has "finally learned some Greek. Okay, call me the oldest Greek scholar in the world—I don't care." This time last year, he was still at Baby Steps but he's finished H. & Q. and read a little, including the first pages of the Oresteia! He intends to read Xenophon and then Plato and ultimately Homer (his goal all along).

**Nicolette D'Angelo** (G17) got a Rhodes Scholarship to add to her other achievements.

**Carol Davis** (L74) has a consulting job with the office of Mental Health. She has been a vocational rehabilitation counselor specializing in addictions and deafness.

**Michael DeNiro** (L10) is now an attorney "in the corporate and financial services of Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, where I have been practicing since 2015." He's married and has a daughter almost two years old. He met his wife at Cornell where they attended law school together.

**Nick de Peyster** (G85) works for Genesis Wealth Advisors, is married and has three remarkable sons (20, 17, and 13). He sticks to a "punishing physical exercise regimen to keep myself in reasonable physical condition and balanced mental health. I have not managed to overcome my enduring love of junk food!" He wrote to Tom Hanks, a typewriter enthusiast, and asked for a typewriter, promising that it would be used sending out weekly typewritten notes and if Tom sent him a vintage machine, Nick would buy a typewriter for another family. Mr. Hanks obliged.

**David Driscoll** (AG84) received his Ph.D. in classics in 2016 and is now a lecturer in classics at the University of California, Davis. His research focuses on Homer.

**Isaac Easton** (L17) is working for a senator in D.C. and likes it a lot.

**Elizabeth Erikson** (L18) is studying at the University of St. Andrews and says that her studies are going well and she's falling in love with Latin more and more each day.

**Martha Fleres** (AL80) is a nun in Cassino, Italy. She's been there over ten years, in a small community where she runs the pensionato that houses students. She does any driving that has to be done and sees to it that all the nuns have their medicine and take it regularly. She takes iconography classes four times a year, lasting ten days each time. She finished translating the minor works of Ambrose Aupert, an 8<sup>th</sup> century monk at San Vincenzo which was published in the spring.

**Kasey Genin** (L06) has a fellowship in Philosophy of Science at the University of Toronto. He's generating papers and gave a talk at Washington University in Missouri on the reliability of statistics and probability.

We hear that **Ted Graham** (G01) got his Ph. D. from Duke a couple of years ago and is teaching in a high school in Queens, New York.

**Clay Greene (L15), Jeremy Specland (L16) and Aaron Shapiro (L05, G06, UG07, Faculty)** all delivered papers at the international Milton Symposium in Strasbourg, France in June.

**Mary Kate Guma (L18)** read the False Decretals of pseudo-Isadore, 9<sup>th</sup> century papal forgeries, with a professor who studies them. She “got to learn a bit about manuscripts and paleography as a result.” In the Spring, she took a course on the Aeneid. Both her history courses (one on Protestant Reformation, the other on Victorian psychology) featured “readings that occasionally lapsed into Latin.”

**Tim Hampshire (G18)** read a few lines of Homer every day, making the glosses for himself and sharing them with **Michelle Lessard (G18, UG19)** and **Caroline Lee-Jeong (G18)**. Once a month they met over Skype for a close reading and tried to stump each other with syntax questions. In the Fall, he started the post-bac program at Penn, continuing with Greek and beginning Latin.

**Sebastian Heath (G92)** is at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World and is the editor of ISAW Papers.

**Ledio Hysi (G14)** received his Master’s in classics from Florida State, spent last year in Australia, and is currently working for Lithodomos in Albania.

**Nick Imbornone (L12, UL 18)** is teaching Latin in a high school on Long Island.

**Dohee Kang (G11)** won the William A. Darkey Translation Prize for her translation of an excerpt from Xenophon’s Symposium at the end of her sophomore year at St. John’s. After she got her bachelor’s, she stayed on at St. John’s for another year and studied Sanskrit in the East Asian languages program. She did a Master’s at Columbia, having learned classical Chinese and modern Japanese and is now doing a Ph. D. in religious studies at Georgetown University, focusing on Korean Buddhist literature.

**Eve Karos Romersi (L84)** is a C.P.A. and co-owner of a public accounting firm in Milwaukee. Her husband is from Italy and so they, with their children, go to Rome each year “for a regular dose of exposure to ancient history and archaeology.”

**Norbert (Leo) Keliher (G08, UG10)** entered the Dominicans in 2012, made his simple vows after a year of Novitiate in Cincinnati and solemn vows in 2017 in D.C. In March 2018, he was ordained a deacon and continued

his theological studies. He finished his basic theology degrees and is working on his License in Theology. He was ordained a priest on May 25<sup>th</sup> in D.C. He had a month’s vacation in June which he spent at home in the Seattle area, celebrating Masses at his local parishes so that he could see his family and friends as a priest for the first time. He then spent two months in Charlottesville as a parish priest, joyfully “helping people through Confession and the Anointing of the Sick.” He had free time for studying, so he brushed up on his Spanish and learned to read French. He’s back in D.C. now having two seminars and researching for his 75 page thesis. He’ll finish his License in Theology and give a public lecture. He’d like to go on to further studies in the New Testament, but his superiors will have him work in one of their ministries for two years. He says that odds are good that he’ll end up as a professor of the N.T.

**Erynn Kim (UL14, UG15)** is in the philosophy track of a classics Ph.D. at Yale. “I am so grateful for the training I got from CUNY—I don’t think I could read at this high intensity without having done Upper Level Greek.”

**Athena Kirk (G2000, UL 02, Faculty)** spoke on Homer at CUNY on October 14<sup>th</sup>, “Inventory, Infinity, and Identity in the Odyssey.” Her book will be published by Cambridge University Press next year, tentatively titled, “List Making in Ancient Greece.”

**Thomas Kolokithias (G19)** was accepted into the Peace Corps and will be spending the next two years in the Dominican Republic as a Spanish Literary Promoter.

**Katherine Kong (L98, UL2000)** is no longer teaching but is an independent researcher. She and a former colleague submitted for review a volume of essays on medieval French literature and lyric.

**Caroline Lee-Jeong (G18)** took a Plato course in the Fall, in which they read the Symposium. She started teaching herself Latin with Moreland & Fleischer; **Michelle Lessard (G18, UG 19)** is serving as faculty on call.

**Lisa Lupinacci (G86)** is currently in her 16<sup>th</sup> year in a high school in MA, teaching Latin full-time. It’s a thriving four-year program with approximately 175 students. “In 2016 we took our first group of 12 students to Rome during the April vacation. We took another group of 14 in April 2018, and now we’re committed to running the trip every two years.” Her children are now both in college. She’s looking forward to more travel time now

that the children are grown up and moving on with their lives.

**Andy Lupu** (G79) is working and teaching law both here and in Germany. He is developing his own summer law program in Italy for 2020. "Exciting/meaningful!" The latest word is that Andy is giving up teaching in Germany in the summer now that his grandchildren are old enough to play with grandpa.

**Lisa Mahoney** (L99, UL2000, G01) got tenure at DePaul last year. **Sean Kirkland** (G98, L01) also at DePaul "had an edited volume on ancient philosophy with Northwestern come out."

**Amita Maram** (L10, G11) is currently in her second year of law school. Once graduated, she'll be working in public defense "hopefully in New York."

**Elizabeth McNamara** (UG15, UL16) is spending her junior year abroad at Christ Church, Oxford. In June, she and her family spent time in London and Paris. In the month before school started, she got a job working in London.

**M.J. McNamara** (G01) is teaching Latin at City College, CUNY. She has been delivering papers at various colleges and in November she delivered one in South Africa.

**Barbara Melnick White** (L80) is now Deputy Director of the Akron Summit County Public Library. She and her husband spent a couple of weeks in August 2018 visiting Monticello, Mt. Vernon, and the Hudson Valley to spend time with Washington, Jefferson, and the Roosevelts. One child is a deputy sheriff, another works in a Constant Companion Day Program, and the youngest is in his last semester of college.

**Anna Moore** (L82) after Princeton went to the American Academy in Rome for two years and worked on Greek temples in Sicily. Then she had some teaching jobs at George Washington University and George Mason. When her husband retired in 1995, they moved to a farm in central Virginia. She's taught at Sweet Briar on and off for eighteen years.

**Barbara Morrow** (G92, UG96) and her reading group are still reading Thucydides. In January, they were working through Book Seven.

**Thomas Murphy** (L19) is teaching second year French at N.Y.U.

**Pamela Newhouse Mensch** (G78, AL80) translated Characters by Theophrastus. The book, published by Callaway, has an introduction by **Jamie Romm** (L82).

**Charles Oriel** (L84) was in grad school in D.C. when he was with us. From there, he went to St. Louis (Washington U. for 11 years), Northern Illinois U. (1 year), Penn State (3 years) and then to U. of CA—Davis. He teaches Spanish and his wife French. He says that after all these years, he still loves to teach. The two of them play music, mostly traditional blues (she bass and he guitar) on weekends, in wineries, restaurants and breweries throughout the Sacramento area. They've lived in Davis about fifteen years.

**Jonathan Pohlig** (UL11) is teaching high school Latin and Greek, has a two-year old son, and another on the way.

**Nick Popper** (L01) is a history professor at William and Mary and the book review editor for their quarterly. He teaches early modern British history, European history, and history of science. His last book was Walter Raleigh's History of the World and the Historical Culture of the Late Renaissance, Chicago, 2012. He's currently working on the formation of major state archives in early modern Britain and their role in the configuration of early modern Britain as a media society.

**Alexander Price** (G12) was graduated from Columbia with honors in classics in 2014 and enrolled the same year at Harvard Divinity School where he got his Master of Divinity last year. He's applying to Ph.D. programs in comp. lit.

**Dylan Rogers** (G05, UG07) is finishing his final year as Assistant Director of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. His book, Water Culture in Roman Society, Brill Research Perspectives' new Ancient History series, was published in April 2018.

**Rebecca Rosenthal** (G18) read Herodotus and Thucydides in the Fall and the Iliad in the Spring while finishing Medea.

**John Roth** (L78) is contemplating retirement in about three years. In 2020, he will have been teaching forty years.

**Kenneth Rothwell's** (Faculty) book Aristophanes' Wasps (Oxford Greek and Latin College Commentaries) is the only edition that provides assistance to intermediate-level students, with notes on vocabulary and grammar. It was published in January.

**Cathy Schine** (L75) was interviewed in the Book Section of The New York Times on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Her latest book is The Grammarians. She had a book signing at Barnes & Noble in Manhattan on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Paul Schwarzbaum** (L83, G88), after serving as the CEO of an automobile and truck engine component manufacturing company, began a new job as CEO of a company that makes ground support equipment for all kinds of aircraft.

**Anca Suiu** (G99) got an M.A. in theater, dramaturgy, theory, etc. and is a substitute teacher in the city schools.

**Gaudi Tomasino** (L18) got an M.A. from Queens College (CUNY) in philosophy and is now going to law school. She will work part-time.

**Phuc Tran** (L93, Faculty) wrote a memoir/coming of age tale ending with high school. It's called Sigh, Gone and is due out in April 2020, published by Flatiron books. The literary agent for his book was **Sarah Levitt** (L08), who, after seeing on line a talk that Phuc had given, "Grammar, Identity, and the Dark Side of the Subjunctive," approached him about representing him as his agent, seeing that they were both alumni of the Institute.

**Alex Vermeulen** (G19) is reading Lucian in advanced Greek at N.Y.U.

**Joel Warden** (G94) is now in charge of two parishes in Brooklyn.

Middlebury College is the only place to have an endowed classics department. It was named for a former professor in the department, Eve Adler. **Marc Witkin** (L80, AG81, 83, 84), at the time department chair, was named the Eve Adler Professor of Classics.

**John Workman** (L76) is still running the consulting firm he founded three decades ago. "Our main clients have been healthcare providers, universities, and conservation organizations." John continues to do a lot of charity work and is a trustee on two non-profit boards. He helped his mother-in-law, the first German to be admitted to Stanford after World War Two, to complete her memoir.

**Chengxi Zhang** (L16, UG17, UL18) was offered acceptance into Oxford for this Fall.

**Pamela Zinn** (L03, G05) has been busy writing book reviews and giving talks both here and abroad (Greece and Ireland). A chapter on Lucretius was included in Butler's and Nooter's book, Sound and the Ancient Senses.

### Spotlight On

Sarah Levitt (L08) credits Alan Fishbone's leadership at the Institute with turning her away from Ph.D. programs. After the Institute, she entered her senior year at N.Y.U., intending to enter a Ph.D. program in classics afterwards. She turned to book publishing instead and it is now nearly ten years that she's been a literary agent. It was incredibly challenging to break into the field, with many, many steps. Her main work is narrative nonfiction, with a small amount of literary fiction. She works primarily with academics and journalists and says that the study of languages is how she learned grammar, which she uses to edit her writers. "I think it was my love of storytelling in the first place that inspired me to devote myself to Classics, as naïve and romantic as that first blush was. I still have a soft spot for Classics, and would love to work on more books in that discipline or related disciplines.

"I think if I didn't attend the Institute, I might have pursued a Ph.D. in Classics, which at the time was my original plan and reason I was there. It was the intensity that turned me away, and the fact that translation is not my happy place nor the core of my being. I learned that through L/GI! Which saved me from my original plan. And now I get to work with journalists, experts, and academics of all kind who know their spheres deeply, but not what works commercially for trade book publishing. Now that's become my expertise, being a dilettante."

### Spotlight On

Paul Schwarzbaum (L83, G88) majored in English at Columbia and, in his junior year, thought he might like to make a career in academia and pursue a Ph.D. in comp. lit. Thus, he took the basic Latin program. He was accepted into the Ph.D. program at Columbia but deferred his matriculation, not sure if this was what he



wanted. He took a job as a secretary in an investment bank. His boss was looking to hire someone he could train to become a financial analyst and paid Paul to go to night school and take classes in accounting and finance. After six months, Paul became a financial analyst. This experience whetted his appetite for business and after two years he went back to school for an M.B.A. After graduation, he enrolled in the basic Greek program. Two weeks after the program ended, Paul flew to Taipei to work as a researcher for a year for one of his Harvard Business School professors. He enjoyed his time there so much, that after the project ended, he stayed on for two more years and co-founded a management consultancy that helped multinational corporations develop market-entry business strategies. He moved back to the States and began a thirty-plus-year career in manufacturing. He kept up his Latin for several years after college. "I remember that my Latin after ten weeks of Basic Latin was so much better than my classmates' who had studied the language for years. Unfortunately, I lost my Greek quickly because I had pivoted hard to Mandarin Chinese, which I still speak today, but I clearly recall the exhilaration of reading chunks of the Peloponnesian War in the original and I can still quote from Thucydides."

For further information about Paul, see Rita's Digest.

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