

# CLASSICS CONVIVIUM

*Fall 2023—Summer 2024*



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# From the Chair

## Hello from Ann Arbor!

Art Fair has just ended, which means that the summertime quiet on campus is more than halfway through. It's a good idea to get this newsletter out now, before the colleagues and students start flooding back into town.

This past year was a busy one for the Department of Classical Studies, with numerous speakers and other events. A few stand out. First, on a sad note, in the fall we honored the memory of our colleague, **Ludwig Koenen**, who passed away the previous spring, at a memorial that was packed with friends, colleagues, former students, and family members. Ludwig was a beloved teacher, a dear friend, a generous host, and a prominent figure in Ancient Studies.

In more upbeat news, we partnered with LSA's Honors Program to bring the novelist **Anthony Doerr**, best known for his novel *All the Light We Cannot See*, to campus. To prepare for his visit, we ran multiple reading groups of his latest novel, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, over the summer. It's a fast-paced and engaging love letter to librarians and the people who treasure old books, especially from ancient Greece. Since Honors arranged for him to give a lecture in Hill Auditorium, we opted for a different format for his visit to Classical Studies: an interview, à la *The Actors Studio* tv series, with Netta Berlin. It was a completely rewarding, completely hilarious afternoon.

We celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Copley Latin Day**, our largest public outreach event, this year. Copley Latin Day brings hundreds of Latin students from across the state to campus for a day of creative and informative sessions that center on a theme selected in consultation with the state's K-12 Latin teachers. This year's

was "Latin and Science." Gina Soter, who organized the event and her team of volunteers pulled off multiple seminars, lectures, and activities in several different venues across campus. No one got lost moving from place to place, and everyone had fun. I can personally attest that the atmosphere at the opening ceremony was electric.

In May, we inaugurated what we hope will be a series of **annual travel abroad opportunities for majors** in the Department. Just after graduation, where we launched an exceptionally large group of undergraduate majors (19!) and minors (15!), our own Richard Janko and Michelle Biggs, along with Michèle Hannoosh from the Department of Romance Languages, led nine students on a 10-day tour of Greece. I'll let Michelle tell you all about it in her article elsewhere in this newsletter.

In other news, two colleagues have received prestigious honors: **Nic Terrenato** has been invited to become a member of the Society of Antiquaries of London and **Ruth Scodel** has been elected to the American Philosophical Society. It is a pleasure to see these scholars recognized for their substantial and sustained contributions to the field. A third member of the Department, **Chris Ratté**, has been all over the news lately: his excavation team at the site of Notion in Turkey uncovered a hoard of Persian gold coins dating to the 5th century B.C.E.

I wish you a restful and restorative remainder of the summer. Autumn will be upon us soon enough.

- Celia Schultz





## Honoring Ludwig Koenen

By Arthur Verhoogt

On October 7, 2023, friends, family, former students, and colleagues gathered in the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology to remember and celebrate the life and accomplishments of Ludwig Koenen, who died May 9, 2023, at the age of 92. Ludwig, the Herbert C. Youtie Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Papyrology, was a scholar of exceptional importance in papyrology and Greek literature and religion, a tireless and generous editor, advisor, and teacher, and a model of service to his department and his discipline. As part of the memorial program, Cornelia Römer, Peter Bing, and Bruce Frier shared their personal memories of Ludwig as a teacher, research collaborator, and col-

league. Several audience members then added moving tributes to Ludwig as a person and scholar, whose intellect, vision, kindness, and generosity will be missed by all. After a reception in the Kelsey Museum, the Koenen family invited all those present to the Koenen house on Culver street.

## An Interview with Anthony Doerr

By Netta Berlin

Last September, I had the pleasure of interviewing Anthony Doerr about his most recent novel, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, before an audience of Classical Studies students, faculty, and staff. The Department arranged this special event in conjunction with Doerr's residency as the DeRoy-Graf Memorial Visiting Professor in the LSA Honors Program at UM.

*Cloud Cuckoo Land* unfolds as a complex narrative comprising several intersecting stories. Time and place shift back and forth across the Ottoman siege of Constantinople in 1453, a remote corner of present day Idaho, and the confines of a spaceship on a survival mission in the future. Internal to this narrative is an ancient Greek novel that Doerr has plotted along the lines of Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*, titled from Aristophanes' *Birds*, and attributed to Antonius Diogenes. The internal novel's adventure story, fragmentary condition, and survival capture the imagination of Doerr's characters over time and place. The transmission of knowledge is the main throughline of *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, which Doerr has dedicated to "the librarians then, now, and in the years to come."

In advance of Doerr's residency on campus, many of us in the Classical Studies community read *Cloud Cuckoo Land* and discussed it in small groups.



Left to right: Anthony Doerr and Netta Berlin

While the narrative complexity and reception of the ancient texts were obvious topics, the most striking observations (at least in the group I participated in), centered on Doerr's deep generosity of spirit toward his characters. Despite the narrow constraints of their lives, they are animated by reading, translating, and reconstructing the fragmentary novel when it comes into their hands.

Doerr brought this same generosity of spirit to the interview, which ranged from his daily practice of trying to re-see the familiar in his writing to the challenges of writing a novel with several storylines and settings (diagrams of *Cloud Cuckoo Land* can be seen at <https://www.anthonydoerr.com/book-schematic>). As I listened to how Doerr answered each question, I was reminded of the many ways in which *Cloud Cuckoo Land* demonstrates the power of a story well told.

# Copley Latin Day 2024

By Gina Soter

Copley Latin Day highlights the vibrancy of studying classics in college and attracts high school students from public and private schools in southeast Michigan. The theme this year was, “Classics and Science.” Professor

Francesca Schironi delivered our keynote:

“Ancient Skies, Stellar Stories, Heavenly Mathematics”. We also celebrated the 10th anniversary of this annual event in a way that both honored the person for whom it was named — Frank Copley, admired as much for his teaching

as for his scholarship — and invited students to connect their study of classics to the real-world choices they make on their path through college.

Faculty and graduate students offered lectures, workshops, seminars, and tours (at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, the Papyrology Collection in Hatcher Library, and the planetarium at Museum of Natural History). All together there were 35 different events, attended by 278 students from seven different schools. A record 39 students competed in our certamina, for which they either wrote Latin haiku on a science topic or recited passages from Galileo’s *Siderius Nuncius* (on his discovery of the moons of Jupiter) or Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* (on the comet signaling Caesar’s apotheosis).

The success of the day itself was due in part to the 26 undergraduate and graduate student volunteers, who provided various types



of support, crucially in guiding our visitors to five venues across campus. In the planning and designing of Copley Latin Day, I was aided by a grex consisting of Netta Berlin, Elaine Medrow, Hannah

Resnick, Elizabeth Zollner, and Abhi Sastri.

Sally Bjork, a photographer from the History of Art, produced a magnificent record of the day. It takes a department to hold a Copley Latin Day! Thank you to everyone who contributed and participated in any way. Your enthusiasm and good will were palpable and intoxicating.

Next year, Copley Latin Day will be on April 2 and our theme will be “Classics and the Arts”.

(Photos by Sally Bjork)



Pictured from top to bottom, left to right: Francesca Schironi; Laura Motta; student panel; student participants; Brendan Haug.

## Faculty Honors



**Nic Terrenato** has been elected as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London—a royal learned society whose Fellows have inspired scholarship, debate, and research for over three centuries. Attaining a Fellowship requires the endorsement of existing members who recognize an individual’s “achievements in a particular field of antiquarian activity.” Nic’s election as a Fellow is a rare honor and a reflection of his significant contributions to archaeology and classical studies.



**Ruth Scodel** was elected to the American Philological Society, the oldest learned society in North America. The department was already represented in this prestigious society by Bruce Frier and Richard Janko.

## Department Members Volunteer at Local Food Bank

*By Basil Dufallo*

On April 26, 2024, members of the Department of Classical Studies volunteered at the Ann Arbor warehouse of Food Gatherers, the food bank and food rescue program serving Washtenaw County. The lead agency for hunger relief in the County, Food Gatherers supports a network of more than 140 community partners with free and low-cost food, deliveries, and trainings. They operate several large direct service programs — the Food Gatherers Community Kitchen, the Summer Food Service Program, and the Healthy School Pantry Program — and work closely with community schools, universities, and healthcare providers to address gaps in services. Food Gatherers also advocates for policies and system changes to create an equitable food system. In their last fiscal year, Food Gatherers distributed 9.9 million pounds



Left to right: Back row — Basil Dufallo, Celia Schultz, Arthur Verhoogt, Joey Frankl, and Netta Berlin; Front row — Hannah Resnick, Anna Bonnell Freidin, and Sierra Jones

of food — the equivalent of 8.2 million meals — through our network of partner programs.

After a brief training and tour of the facility, the Classical Studies volunteers helped assemble and fill boxes of food for delivery.

# Persian Gold Coins Unearthed at Notion

By Christopher Ratté

The Classics department has sponsored archaeological research at the ancient city of Notion in western Turkey since 2014. The first phase of this project consisted of an extensive survey of the site. Excavations based on the results of the survey were begun in 2022.



Christopher Ratté

The best-preserved remains of the city belong to the Hellenistic period, but excavation in 2022 of a large courtyard house in the center of the city had already given hints of earlier phases of habitation in the form of fragments of fifth-century pottery found in association with earlier walls incorporated into the foundations of the house. In July 2023, excavation beneath the area of the courtyard revealed a hoard of gold coins, buried in a small pot. Now, almost exactly a year later, we have received permission to publicize this significant discovery.

The coins show a figure of a kneeling archer, the characteristic design of the Persian daric. The hoard was found in the corner of a room in a structure buried by the Hellenistic house. Presumably it was stored there for safekeeping, and for some reason never retrieved. The discovery of such a valuable find in a controlled archaeological excavation is very rare. The context of the hoard from Notion provides a secure date of the last decades of the fifth century BC.



According to Xenophon, a single daric was equivalent to a soldier's pay for one month, and it is possible that this hoard was associated with military operations in the area around Notion. Several such operations are mentioned by ancient historians. The conflicting loyalties of the inhabitants of Notion and nearby cities in the time of the Peloponnesian war, when this hoard was deposited, are illustrated by a dramatic episode related by Thucydides. Between 430 and 427 BC, a group of Persian sympathizers from the nearby city of Colophon had occupied part of Notion with the help of Greek and "barbarian" mercenaries. In 427, an Athenian general called Paches attacked and killed the pro-Persian mercenaries, after luring their commander into a trap. The Persian

sympathizers were then expelled, and Notion was reorganized under Athenian supervision. This is exactly the kind of sequence of events that could have led to both the deposition and the loss of this hoard, but it is not the only possibility. The hoard may also represent the private savings of a veteran soldier or prosperous citizen.

The new field season at Notion is now underway, and it is hoped that continued excavation will clarify the archaeological context of the hoard, while study of the coins, now in the care of the Ephesus Archaeological Museum, will provide further evidence for the date, function, and historical implications of this remarkable archaeological find. For more information visit the [Notion Project website](#).



Christopher Ratté and Turkish colleagues Hazar Kaba and Gülşah Altunkaynak at Notion

## “Who Cooked Aristotle’s Dinner?” *The 2023 Else Lecture in the Humanities*



Claire Taylor

By Sara Forsdyke

With great energy and eloquence, Claire Taylor, the John W. and Jeanne M. Rowe Chair of Ancient Greek History at the University of Wisconsin Madison, delivered the annual Else Lecture on the topic of the role of women in the ancient Greek

economy. Drawing her title from a recent feminist account of the modern economy — a Katrine Merçal’s 2015 book “Who Cooked Adam Smith’s Dinner? A Story about Women and Economics” — Taylor argued that both ancient and modern accounts of the ancient economy have discounted the contributions of women.

To prove her point, Taylor examined the case of a building, Bau Z, in the Kerameikos area of ancient Athens. Despite the discovery of many loom weights indicating that the building was a site of textile production, modern scholars have argued that the women who worked there were primarily prostitutes. Taylor suggests



Woman cooking watched by a girl, 500-475 BCE, Boeotian terracotta.

that this interpretation is a product of the absence of discussion of women’s economic activity in our ancient sources, combined with ancient and modern gender ideologies that relegate women to the household and/or sexual labor.

In order to compensate for the neglect of women’s economic activity in our ancient sources and in



Left: Terracotta model of a woman seated at an oven. Her face is painted red. Right: Terracotta model of a woman grinding wheat at a basin.\*

modern scholarship, Taylor proposed that scholars examine the evidence from the perspective of women’s experiences and agency. For example, we must take seriously the scanty but revealing evidence that women were engaged in all sorts of productive labor from agriculture to manufacturing. Taylor concluded that it is only by centering such evidence that we can begin to fill in the gaps in our sources and thereby give more complete picture of the ancient economy.

## Inaugural Gerald F. Else Diversity and Justice Lecture and Seminar

By Basil Dufallo

On February 5 and 6, 2024, Professor Erika Valdivieso of the Yale University Department of Classics delivered the inaugural Gerald F. Else Diversity and Justice Lecture and Seminar in the U-M Department of Classical Studies Library. This lecture and seminar series is devoted to bringing scholars working from perspectives on antiquity informed by DEI-related concerns to our campus, both to help foster this kind of work in our field and to help our students and faculty learn from it with an eye to applying it to their own research and teaching.

Professor Valdivieso's lecture examined the role of the Mexica past in Jose Antonio de Vilerías' *Guadalupe*, a Latin epic from baroque Mexico. Written at the start of the eighteenth century, this text reflects different strategies whereby elite Spanish Americans, or creoles, began to separate themselves from Iberia, on the one hand, and from indigenous Americans, on the other. Attention to the epic's deployment of words like *indigenus* and *nativus* shed light on how this text recuperates indigeneity as it eliminates Indigenous



peoples from Mexican history. Virgil's highly visual poetry informs scenes of historical fiction in *Guadalupe*, which rewrite the past to create a natural transition from the greatness of Tenochtitlan to the splendor of creole Mexico.

Professor Valdivieso's graduate student seminar addressed the intersection of the archival turn in the Humanities and the subfield of Classical Reception Studies. As Alberto Manguel has stated, a library, by its very existence, conjures up a shadow library of the books that have not been included. Archives and collections, similarly, carry the specter of all that has been left out, thrown out, and deliberately excised in the shaping of these prized groupings of materials that persist from the past. How do archives shape different ideas of classicism? How do they structure literary canons? The seminar explored these questions in two sections, beginning with one case study from colonial Mexico before turning to three works-in-progress by current Ph.D. students in the Classical Studies department.



Chimalpopoca is depicted in the Tovar Codex.



# 2024 Phillips Classical Prize and Vassilis Lambropoulos Modern Greek Translation Prize Winners

The Phillips Classical Prizes are a long-standing tradition in the Department to promote and encourage the study of Greek and Latin. They originate from an endowed scholarship fund, bequeathed to the Department in the will of Henry Phillips, who died in 1895. The Phillips Classical Prizes are awarded annually to outstanding undergraduate students who, by virtue of a special examination, prove their excellence in the various levels of Latin or Ancient Greek. Modern Greek Prizes have been awarded annually since 1993 to undergraduate students at an intermediate and advanced-intermediate level for excellence demonstrated in the Modern

Greek translation competition. Thanks to a generous donor, the award has been renamed the Vassilis Lambropoulos Modern Greek Translation Prize to honor Vassilis Lambropoulos. Professor Lambropoulos was the first Director of the Modern Greek Program beginning in 1998 and continuing until his retirement in 2018.

Exams were taken on March 12 and winners were honored at the 2024 Translation and Teaching Awards ceremony on Monday, April 22 in the Michigan League. Each winner receives a book prize of their choice.

## The Department of Classical Studies is pleased to announce this year's winners:

### VASILIKI AMOURGIANOS

#### Recipient of the Vassilis Lambropoulos Modern Greek Translation Prize — Advanced Intermediate

Vasiliki is a sophomore from New Jersey and a first-generation college student and second-generation Greek-American double-majoring in Biopsychology, Cognition and Neuroscience and Modern Greek with a minor in Writing. She is a member of the Hellenic Student Association (HSA) and the Michigan International Student Society (MISS). She is currently an Undergraduate Research Assistant at U of M's Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center where she's studying neuroimaging techniques on the potential neurological correlates associated with chronic pain diseases, particularly Chronic Pelvic Pain (CPP). She is intrigued by the correlation between neuroscience and chronic pain since her dad has a permanent spinal injury. She is also training to become a Peer Writing Consultant at Sweetland for next semester, and she writes for the Opinion Column for The Michigan Daily. Her future goals are to pursue neuroscience research ideally internationally between the U.S. and Greece, so that she can keep traveling, and learning about science and her roots, and hopefully find a way to subside her dad's physical pain through neuroscience.

### ALI ELHADI

#### Recipient of the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 1

Ali has a long-standing fascination with the ancient world that primarily began with Homer and mythology. This passion has found strong expression at the University of Michigan, where Ali has begun learning Latin, Greek, and Middle Egyptian. This is something he did not have the opportunity to do before, as there was no emphasis or attention placed on the ancient world in the schools he grew up attending. Winning the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 1, a language he's come to adore (and the first he has begun learning), was a satisfying and profound honor, marking the beginning of what he hopes will be a long relationship with the language and classics.

Ali plans to attend dental school after concluding his undergraduate studies. However, he occasionally finds himself considering graduate school in classical studies — a testament to the deep impression the ancient cultures and the Department of Classical Studies UM has made on him. Regardless of where he decides to go down the road, he knows that his interest in and study of the ancient world and its languages will continue to positively shape his thinking.

## QUENTIN KING

### Recipient of the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 2

Quentin is originally from Columbus, Ohio, where he began studying Latin in the 6th grade and continued through high school. He is a second year Economics major at the University, planning to minor as well in Latin Language and Literature. After completing his undergraduate degree, he plans on attending law school with an ultimate dream of working in sports operations. In Quentin's free time, he interns with the Detroit Pistons Public Relations Department and enjoys reading all kinds of genres — from ancient mythology to biographies on famous historical persons to accounts of pivotal events in sports.

## ELLIS MUCCHETTI

### Recipient of the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 5

Ellis is a third year and senior majoring in Classical Languages and Literature with a focus in Latin. Ellis has a love for ancient grammar and was excited to begin studying Sanskrit last semester. After seven years of tutoring over two dozen students in Latin, Ellis will be moving on to a Master's in Education at the UofM School of Education this summer and plans to become a Latin teacher. Elsewhere on campus, Ellis has enjoyed playing cello in the Campus Symphony Orchestra and Residential College chamber music program, learning to play viola da gamba, and volunteering at the Campus Farm.

## IRMGARD PALLAS

### Recipient of the Vassilis Lambropoulos Modern Greek Translation Prize — Intermediate

Irmgard is a junior majoring in psychology and plans to go to grad school for clinical psychology. She is a research assistant in the Suicide Prevention, Treatment, and Research Lab through the School of Social Work. Irmgard grew up learning Greek, going to Greek school, and decided to take Greek at the University of Michigan because she wanted to improve her grammar and vocab, which has challenged her in the best ways. Irmgard enjoys playing guitar and basketball in her free time.

## GRACE SCHUUR

### Recipient of the Phillips Classical Prize for Latin 4

Grace is a freshman hoping to double major in Latin Literature and English. She's been reading Livy with Professor Schultz this semester and is excited to continue reading more Latin authors throughout her time at UM. Grace is from New York City, and her high school teachers are the people who inspired her love of Latin and motivated her to continue pursuing her passion in college.

## DAVID SHUTT

### Recipient of the Phillips Classical Prize for Greek 3

David is a 3rd year student double majoring in Ancient Greek and Linguistics. While most things ancient and linguistic interest David, his particular interests are in developments in post-Classical Greek, 2nd Temple Judaism and its contact with other cultures in the Mediterranean, and early Christianity. David's senior's thesis will examine the Greek words for "altar" used in the Septuagint and by other early Jewish authors in order to understand their mental lexicon. After completing his undergraduate degree, he hopes to do graduate work in linguistics and lexicography of the Greek Bible.

# Graduate News

# Undergraduate News

## GRADUATING MASTERS STUDENTS

Andrew Tao, Classical Studies

## GRADUATING PH.D. STUDENTS

### **Classical Languages and Literature**

#### **Marshall Buchanan**

*Narratives of Decline in Roman and Chinese Historiograph*  
Committee Chair: David Potter

#### **Brittany Susan Hardy**

*Women and the Nonhuman in Pindar's Epinician Odes*  
Committee Chair: Margaret Foster

#### **Fernando Gorab Leme**

*Hymen Will Light Up Our Torches: The Significance and Transformation of the Wedding Song in Greco-Roman Antiquity*  
Committee Co-Chairs: Ruth Caston and Ian Fielding

#### **Matteo Milesi**

*Philology and Philosophy in Porphyry of Tyre: Reading, Interpretation and Authority at the Edge of Late Antiquity*  
Committee Chair: Francesca Schironi

#### **Sara Panteri**

*Mind and World in the Iliad and the Odyssey*  
Committee Chair: Jonathan Ready

### **Interdepartmental Program in Ancient Mediterranean Art and Archaeology**

#### **Leah Bernardo-Ciddio**

*Ceramics, Craft Communities, and Cultural Interactions in the First Millennium Adriatic: Production and Trade of Apulian Matt-Painted Pottery*  
Committee Co-Chairs: Nicola Terrenato and Natalie Abell

#### **Machal Gradoz**

*Of Sherds and Stones: Transformation and Continuity in the Ceramic and Epigraphic Records of Late Hellenistic-Early Roman Epirus*  
Committee Chair: Christopher Ratté

## SENIOR AWARD WINNERS

**Isabella Amelia Blanton**, Classical Archaeology Prize: Awarded to the top undergraduate student for distinguished achievement in the study of Classical Archaeology

**Portia Noel Juarez**, Classical Civilization Prize: Awarded to the top undergraduate student for distinguished achievement in the study of Classical Civilization

**Ellis Malandra Mucchetti**, The Copley Prize: Awarded in memory of Frank O. Copley, recognizing the most outstanding undergraduate senior who excels in the study of Latin.

**Ellis Malandra Mucchetti**, Deborah Ross Award: Awarded in honor of Deborah Ross to promising students who are preparing to teach Latin at the secondary level upon graduation.

## SENIOR HONORS THESES

The following students have completed a senior Honors Thesis:

#### **Isabella Amelia Blanton**

*Memory, Migration, and Myth: Negotiating Greek Identity in the Built Environment of West Anatolia c. 400 BCE – 150 CE*  
Faculty Advisor: Christopher Ratté

#### **Yuan Fang**

*The Composite Zhuangzi*  
Faculty Advisor: Sara Ahbel-Rappe

#### **Mary Terese Klygis**

*Words as Weapons: Political Rhetoric as Violence in the Roman Republic and the Modern United States*  
Faculty Advisor: Sara Forsdyke

#### **Jason R. Leaym**

*Deciphering an Enigma: Maecenas and Gender Nonconformity*  
Faculty Advisor: Anna Bonnell Friedin

## **Undergraduates**

Sofia Meryam Belabbes	Evangelia Kahremanis	Ellis Malandra Mucchetti	Carter M Starr
Isabella Amelia Blanton	Antonina Karolina Kilian	Hunter Daniel Kanaiela	Brianna Evelyn Thebo
Jordan Elizabeth Drayer	Mary Terese Klygis	Tze-Cho Muench	Peter C Timon
Yuan Fang	Rose Martin Knapp	Brisilda Nilaj	Madison E Winston
Cody Ignis Caspian Fenby	Jason Robert Leaym	Yule Eve Kasmira Osband	Arlie Elizabeth
Sophia Isabel-Nalani Garcia	Juno Lee	Noah William Payne	Wisensbaugh
Britton Elizabeth Goodling	Madeleine Sophie Lynch	Bailey Madison Redler	Audrey Ming Sze Yung
Jacob Michael Herman	Joseph L Micale	Sarah Elizabeth Shepard	
Portia Noel Juarez	Jackson Dennis Morgan	Sara C Short	

## Classics Undergraduate Travel Program: Athens and Mycenaean Greece

By Michelle Biggs

Last Fall, the Department of Classical Studies initiated a travel program for undergraduate majors. Faculty were asked to propose a 10-day trip to a city or region relevant to the mission of the Department, to be led by two faculty members and accompanied by a staff facilitator. The trip would offer students the opportunity to explore places they have learned about in their classes and to use that knowledge to further their academic career.

In May 2024, nine undergraduate majors participated in the first trip of the new travel program, spending 10 days in Athens and visiting Mycenaean sites. The trip was led by Professors Richard Janko and Michèle Hannoosh



**Agora** — Sitting on the steps of the Stoa of Attalos — Museum of the Ancient Agora. Pictured (from left) Back Row: Taylor Hagen, Arlie Wisenbaugh; Middle Row: Ali Elhadi, Richard Janko, Rory McDaniel, Lucia Van Fleet, John Papadopoulos, Leyla Dumke, Hayden Collingham; Bottom Row: Alyssa Wakefield, Michèle Hannoosh, Isabella Huang

with Student Services Coordinator Michelle Biggs providing logistical support.

The itinerary began in Athens with a private tour of the Athenian Agora by the Director of the Agora Excavations, Dr. John Papadopoulos. Dr. Papadopoulos enthusiastically explained the history of both the site and the excavations and challenged the students to think about the importance of an agora and what it means to a city. His tour was one of many highlights of the time in Athens. Other Athens highlights included a visit to the National Archaeological Museum to see artifacts from Mycenae and, of course, a visit to the Acropolis. Professor Janko ably led a tour of the Acropolis on a beautiful morning in Athens followed by a lively lunch and a visit to the Acropolis Museum.

After two and half days in Athens, a KTEL bus took the participants to Phichitia where they stayed for two nights to visit the Archaeological Site of Mycenae – something everyone was looking forward to. Professor Janko gave an expert tour of the site and the museum, and everyone enjoyed getting their photos taken at the famous Lion Gate. At the end of the day everyone



**Treasury** — Standing at the entrance to the Treasury of Atreus, Archaeological Site of Mycenae. Pictured (from left) Michèle Hannoosh, Richard Janko, Isabella Huang, Rory McDaniel, Alyssa Wakefield, Ali Elhadi, Lucia Van Fleet, Taylor Hagen, Michelle Biggs, Hayden Collingham, Leyla Dumke, Arlie Wisenbaugh (crouching)

*Continued on page 12*

## Annual Vassilis Lambropoulos Essays on New Directions in Modern Greek Studies

By Artemis Leontis

The endowed annual [Vassilis Lambropoulos Essays on New Directions in Modern Greek Studies](#) has been launched. Offering new perspectives on the field, the newly endowed series honors [Vassilis Lambropoulos](#), the first C.P. Cavafy Professor of Modern Greek and Comparative Literature, who directed the Modern Greek Program at the University of Michigan from 1999 to 2018. It joins the future of Modern Greek studies with the past.

Two essays are commissioned each year by the chairs of the departments of Classical Studies and Comparative Literature (or a proxy whom they select) and the Director of the Modern Greek Program, to be published on a UM site.

Selected for publication in 2024: Dimitri Nakassis, College Professor of Distinction, Classics, U Colorado, and writing "On Time, Archaeology, and Greece," and Christine Philliou, Professor of History and Director of the Programs in Ottoman/Turkish and Modern Greek Studies, UC Berkeley. Writing "On Time, Archaeology, and Greece," Nakassis wonders what archaeology might have to offer to Modern Greek Studies. In "Between the Temple and the Palace" Philliou uses a historian's lens to explore new directions into the past.

*Trip to Greece continued from page 11*

returned to one of the two rented villas in the hills above Phichtia to enjoy the beautiful pool, fabulous views and dinner. It was a lovely way to end the day.

The group then took a bus to the seaside town of Nafplion for four nights. Everyone enjoyed exploring the charming and beautiful city from the hotel in the old town. During the day, the group took trips to various sites in the Argolid: Tiryns, Argos, Epidauros, Dendra, Medea and Asine. A highlight was watching Greek schoolchildren perform scenes from "Lysistrata" in the theatre of Epidaurus! They also enjoyed a visit to the Archaeological Museum of Nafplion.

After returning to Athens, everyone enjoyed a group dinner in the shadows of the Acropolis to celebrate the final night of the trip.

With support from the Carrie Arbour Fund, the department plans to make this an annual trip for undergraduate majors, offering future students the chance to experience a once in a lifetime trip.

## Upcoming Fall Department Events

### September 11, 2024

Gerald F. Else Lecture in the Humanities | [Winckelmann and Pindar: Figures of Friendship in Winckelmann's Letters](#)  
*Katherine Harloe*  
Hussey Room, Michigan League | 5-6:30 pm

### October 5 & 6, 2024

[Ancient Greek History & Political Theory Colloquium](#)  
LSA Building, Room 2001 | 9 am-5pm, 9 am-12pm

### October 7 & 8, 2024

[Ancient Manuscripts and AI Conference](#)  
Oct. 7: Hussey Room, Michigan League | 10 am-6:45 pm  
Oct. 8: Papyrology, Hatcher Library | 9:30 am-12:30 pm

### October 8, 2024

Foundation for Modern Greek Studies Visiting Lecture | [The Greek-Turkish Populations Exchange of 1923 as an Ambiguous Paradigm between Peace and Violence](#) | *Konstantinos Tsitselikis* | Hussey Room, Michigan League | 4-6 pm

### October 24, 2024

[Late Antiquity in Heavy Metal Music](#)  
*Jeremy Swist*  
Michigan Room, Michigan League | 5:30-7:30 pm

### Monday, October 28, 2024

[Caliopi Papala Politou Lecture | Putting the Black Back in the Mediterranean: The De/faceament of Whiteness and European Innocence in Contemporary Greek Society](#)  
*Penelope Papailias*  
Michigan Room, Michigan League | 4-5:30 pm

### Friday, November 1, 2024

[Onassis Business History 1924-1975: The Creation of an Archive and a Book](#) | *Gelina Harlafti*  
Michigan Room, Michigan League | 3-4:30 pm

### Tuesday, December 3, 2024

[Assembling an Affective Archive in Performance: The Work of the Mourning Mother](#) | *Marissia Fragkou*  
Comparative Literature Library, 2021 Tisch Hall | 4-5:30 pm