

Wabash Classics

NEWSLETTER

September 26, 2022



RES NOVAE:

Our biggest news is the hire of **Matthew Gorey** as **Byron K. Trippet Assistant Professor of Classics**. Matthew has been in a visiting position within our department since 2019 and we are delighted to welcome him in this new position. We look forward to many years together of community, collaboration, celebration and Classics shenanigans.

We also hired **Prof. Robert (RJ) Barnes** as **Lecturer in Classics** for the 2022-23 academic year. RJ completed his PhD at Bryn Mawr College and will be teaching a course on Magic this fall. Welcome, RJ!

More big news: **Jeremy Hartnett** has been named the next **Charles D. and Elizabeth S. LaFollette Distinguished Professor in the Humanities**. This is a huge honor. Congratulations, Jeremy!

On a related note, **Professor Bronwen Wickkiser** just delivered the **42nd LaFollette Lecture**, "Embodied," on Sep 22 at 4:45 pm in Salter Hall. She was delighted to have been invited to deliver this lecture by the most recent LaFollette Professor and Professor of Philosophy Cheryl Hughes.

STUDENTS

2022 Senior Majors:

- Andrew Boyer
(Classics)
- Aaron Dowdle
(Classics)
- Emanuel De-Leon Lara
(Classics and Greek)
- Wade Haesemeyer
(Classics)

2022 Senior Classics Minors:

Isaac Cloran, Reese Fokine, John Holle, Drew Linder, Reed Mathis, Evan Nichols, Sam Pipiras, Shane Stroh, and Devin Vanyo (Greek).

**Congratulations to all of
our Class of 2022 majors
and minors!**



AWARDS CHAPEL 2022

The **McLain Prize in Classics** was awarded to Emanuel De-Leon Lara, a double major in Classics and Greek. Emanuel studied the languages and literatures of the ancient Mediterranean intensively, starting with Greek his freshman year, adding Latin his junior year, and taking advanced seminars in both languages his senior year as well as coursework in Greek and Roman history and culture. Emanuel traveled to the Bay of Naples with Jeremy Hartnett and shared his language expertise as a Greek tutor for several years at Wabash. Kudos, Emanuel!

STUDENT RESEARCH & CREATIVITY:



Students in a **Latin seminar on Ovid** penned their own hexametric poetry—in Latin, of course—inspired by Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*. They presented their work to an eager crowd at the **Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work** in April. Left to right: Wade Haesemeyer ('22, Classics), Lucas Daniken ('23, Greek and Latin), Gabe Cowley ('24, Greek minor), Brayden Lentz ('23 Classics and Latin).

Wade Haesemeyer ('22) created a spectacular video for an art project inspired by Ovid that features **Professor Emeritus David Kubiak**. If you’ve been longing to hear David’s resonant voice vocalizing Roman poetry, this is your chance. Wade’s creativity and skills as a carpenter and videographer will knock your socks off.

Wabash semper pugnat!

The students in Ancient Greece (CLA 105) took to the field to test hoplite tactics and maneuvers. One group cleverly staged a reenactment of Thermopylae at the very gates of the stadium.



IMMERSION LEARNING IN THE BAY OF NAPLES:



Jeremy Hartnett took an intrepid group of Classics students, all of whom study Latin and/or Greek, to the Bay of Naples in November to explore the region's amazing sites. We are delighted that the trip went without a hitch despite challenges posed by COVID. Pictured below is the group in front of the Sixth-Century BCE Temple of Hera at Paestum, a Greek colony south of Naples. Back row (L-R): Emanuel De-Leon Lara, Ben Marino, Drew Boyer, Prof. Dan Rogers (Spanish), Gabe Cowley, Lucas Daniken, Thomas Kay. Front row: Jeremy Hartnett, Dale Hartnett.

President Feller's Inauguration:



The Classics Department scanned the skies keenly for favorable signs before the ceremony, and Bronwen Wickkiser was most honored to be part of the platform party and to offer the official welcome to our newest President on behalf of the Faculty. We also created a limited-edition T-shirt for the inauguration. Keen-eyed readers will note the way it plays on Wabash diplomas.



INVESTITURE:

As we all know, Wabash students love ceremony, especially when it involves inside jokes and free swag. And so, as tradition dictates, the Classics Department held its annual investiture in late March. We munched on pizza, learned about course offerings and upcoming events, honored our not-so-inner-nerds with Classics-specific humor, and bestowed crowns on our senior majors and t-shirts on students who have declared a major/minor or simply shown a lot of interest in the ancient world.



Left: Coronae in capitibus discipulorum seniorum sunt! (L-R): senior Classics majors Emanuel De-Leon Lara, Aaron Dowdle, and Wade Haesemeyer. Right: Jeremy Hartnett and a tunic-clad Wally form a digamma (the Greek equivalent of a W).

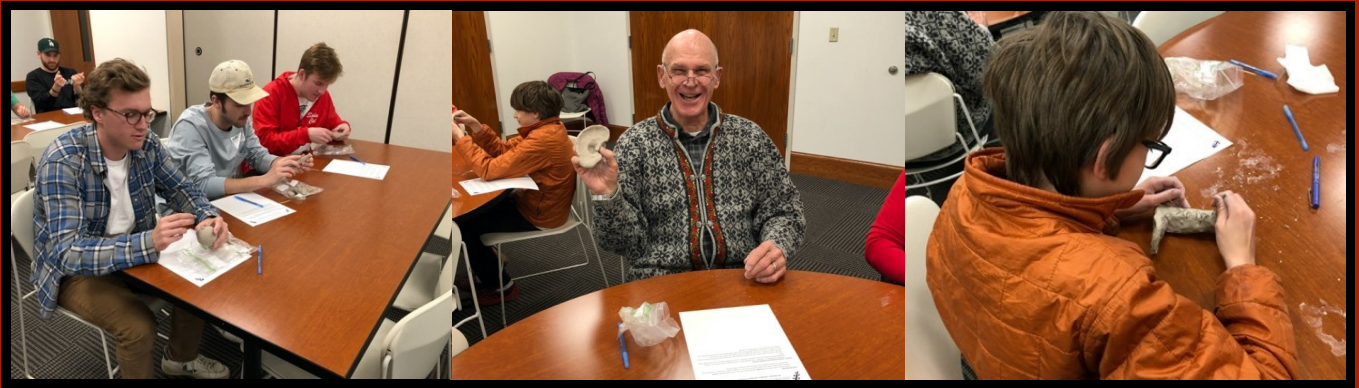


We also invested the US Surgeon General!

Drew Boyer ('22) presented Dr. Jerome Adams, 20th US Surgeon General, with Classics swag on his visit to Wabash.

SENIOR SEMINAR:

The students in the senior seminar took a deep dive into the study of ancient medicine and, just as importantly, took their knowledge out into the community. This year they organized a community-wide event at the Crawfordsville Public Library in April. After a general overview of ancient medicine, they offered hands-on opportunities for the audience to craft their own anatomical votives and write their own healing narratives, both based on ancient rituals.



ADVENTURE OFF-CAMPUS

Senior Seminar students presenting at the local library (L-R): Aaron Dowdle, Emanuel DeLeon-Lara, Wade Haesemeyer, Sam Malott, Reese Fokine, Drew Boyer, and Thomas Kay.

SENIOR SEMINAR DEBRIEF

Senior Seminar students debriefing over dinner (L-R): Thomas Kay, Reese Fokine, Sam Malott, Drew Boyer, Aaron Dowdle, Emanuel DeLeon-Lara, and Wade Haesemeyer.



CLASSICS STUDENTS ABROAD:



Matt Franz ('25, Classics) visited Athens in May 2022 before his internship with the Austrian Economics Center in Vienna.

Brayden Lentz ('23, Classics and Latin) hiked, sailed, and swam around Greece this summer as part of a seminar offered by the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, "Thanatopsis: Greek Funerary Customs Through the Ages."



Tom Ratekin ('24, Classics) is studying at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome this fall.

Gabe Cowley ('24, Greek minor) is studying at the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics this fall and plans, in good Greek tradition, to run a marathon while he's there.



John Charles Lecture:

The annual John Charles Lecture was back this year after a two-year hiatus, thanks to the generosity of **Bruce McGar** ('72). Robin Jensen, Professor of Theology at Notre Dame, spoke to a packed house in November 2021, on "Destroying the Old Gods: Sacred Images and Idols at the End of the Fourth Century CE."



Verity Platt

The 13th John Charles Lecture is coming up: Oct 24, 8 pm in Hays 104. Prof. Verity Platt, Cornell University: "Classicism and Contemporary Art at the Mall: A Report from The Sculpture Shoppe."

FACULTY NEWS

For **Matthew Gorey**, the 2021-22 schoolyear turned out to be productive in more ways than one. On the home front, Gorey and his wife welcomed their first child, Eleanor, in November. They also moved, bought a house, and composed an original 10,000-line epic poem in Ancient Greek (kidding about that last one). The past year also saw Gorey publish two scholarly journal articles and one book chapter, each of which examines different aspects of classical reception in early modern Portuguese and Spanish literature. Now that he is on the tenure track, Gorey's next project will be to memorize the lyrics of "Old Wabash."

After far-too-long away from Italy, **Jeremy Hartnett** delighted in showing off the Bay of Naples' many archaeological, cultural, linguistic, and gastronomic delights to a superb group of Greek and Latin students over Thanksgiving "Break." We all reveled in encountering the ancient languages "in the wild," puzzling through inscriptions, and getting up-close with Greek and Roman (and Oscan and Lucanian and...) history and civilization. Hartnett completed his first full year as Chief Executive of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (aka "The Centro"). And thanks to the help of current sophomore Andrew Dever and senior Brayden Lentz, he's submitted the manuscript of his book project, *This Roman Life* (tentative title –subtitle suggestions welcome!), which uses a Roman funerary monument from the Indianapolis Museum of Art as a lens to examine the lives of Romans outside the halls of power.

Bronwen Wickkiser explored the antiquities and cultures of Malta this summer where she presented at a conference on religion and maritime mobility. In spring 2023, she's looking forward to taking Wabash students to Greece for immersion study. And after six years of chairing Wabash Classics—through a department review and a successful tenure-track search—she's ready to hand off the baton to her talented colleagues. If you'd like to see this newsletter continue, please let Jeremy and Matthew know.

PROBISSIME!



Standing on the Shoulders of Giants:

This year for the first time three Classics alumni offered a Classics Challenge on the Day of Giving: Allen Yow, Jeremy Walker, and Daniel Emerson. Their challenge raised \$14k for the Annual Fund. Gratias to Allen, Jeremy, and Dan, and to all of you who contributed!



LAFOLLETTE LECTURE 2022

The LaFollette Lecture series was established in 1982 by the Wabash College Board of Trustees to honor Charles D. LaFollette, their longtime colleague on the Board. The lecture is usually given annually by a Wabash College faculty member who is asked to address the relation of their special discipline to the humanities, broadly conceived. This year's lecture, 'Embodied,' was delivered by Bronwen Wickkiser, Professor of Classics. A photo album featuring images of the lecture, as well as excerpts of her presentation can be found here:

https://www.wabash.edu/photo_album/home.cfm?photo_id=86415&photo_album_id=5584