



WABASH CLASSICS

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF '23!



**2023 Senior Majors
(left to right on front):**

Thomas Kay (CLA | BIO)
Brayden Lentz (CLA | LAT)
Hawk Ricketts (CLA)
Ben Marino (CLA | HIS)
Lucas Danekin (CLA | HIS)

2023 Senior Minors:

Austin Johnson
Bradley Johnson
Jose Grimmett
Stuart Anker
Justin Michna
Adam Hilliard
Sam Proctor
Drew Hollingsworth

**STUDENTEM CALCEM
FERENTEM TIMEMUS.**

For his final project in Latin 302, Eero Gross '24 drew inspiration from the walls of Pompeii, where graffiti sometimes quoted lines of Vergil's Aeneid, even adapting them for local settings. Eero did the same, but with a twist, as he rewrote famous Vergilian lines to have Wabash-specific references, and then chalked them on buildings around campus. Though the project was approved by the Dean of Students and the head of Campus Services, Eero still received a bunch of weird looks and Campus Security fielded several concerned reports of vandalism!

»» CLASSICS COOKOUT

CARNIS FIAT!



“Take me out to the ballgame. Take me out with the crowd. Put on a toga and feed me some meat.” What do you get when you combine some bedsheets, a grill, a baseball game, ivy crowns, some naughty Greek chanted at opposing players, and about 150 lbs of dogs, burgers, and chicken thighs? The Classics cookout. (Despite the rumors, we played no role in student efforts to construct a gigantic slip-n-slide behind left field.)



French teaching assistant Morgane Cuoc (left) and Evan Kanetkar '24 (right) cheer on Cooper Jacks '24 as he combines his Classics minor (crown, smile) with his German major (Wie sagt man “double-sausage” auf Deutsch?)

Study Abroad Lunch

We welcomed back to campus two of our majors, who shared their stories of studying overseas in the Fall 2022 semester. Tom Ratekin attended the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (aka The Centro), where he encountered not just Rome’s sites and museums, but also spent a week with the program around the Bay of Naples and another in Provence considering the dynamics of power in a Roman province. Gabe Cowley studied at the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics program in Hungary. When he wasn’t up to his elbows in math, Gabe explored Classical sites around the region and ran in the Budapest marathon.

In omnibus disciplinis victores!

Classics students clean up
at annual Awards Chapel!



Gabe Cowley '24 (left)
Harold Q. Fuller Prize in Physics

Brayden Lentz '23
·McLain Prize in Classics
·James E. Bingham Award
·George Lewes Mackintosh Fellowship



Logan Weilbaker '25
Phi Beta Kappa Prize
(for constructing original crossword puzzles in
The Bachelor)

Congratulations to the award recipients!

John Charles Lecture:

Thanks to the generosity of Bruce McGar '72, we will host Prof. Sonia Sabnis from Reed College. She will deliver the 14th lecture – entitled “Reading Apuleius as Resistance: Case Studies in Classical Reception” on Monday, October 23rd at 8pm in Hays 104. Please join us!



The 13th annual John Charles Lecture was delivered on Oct. 24th 2022 and featured Prof. Verity Platt from Cornell University. Her presentation was “Classicism and Contemporary Art at the Mall: A Report from The Sculpture Shoppe.”

FACULTY NEWS

R.J. Barnes is happily back at Wabash this year. He was able to publish two scholarly articles last year and put a few more into the pipeline over the summer. This fall, he'll be test-driving some hot new courses, including a seminar on ancient sports and a Latin course on the topic of magic in Roman fiction. If you don't see him teaching Wallies in Detchon or nosing through some antique esoterica in the Lilly Library, you may spot him on the mall or in the arboretum walking his new (nerdily-named) dog, Ozymandias (Ozzy, for short). If so, be sure to stop and say hello...or salve...or χαῖρε...

After an eventful summer of attempting to keep up with his toddler daughter (who is very fast now), **Matthew Gorey** is happy to be back in the classroom. In addition to the standard slate of Greek and Latin classes this past year, he taught a new course in Spring '22 on Science, Tech, Engineering, and Math in the Ancient Mediterranean. On the scholarship front, he recently published an article in the flagship journal for the Society of Classical Studies on everyone's favorite fragmentary 2nd-century Platonic philosopher, Numenius of Apamea. In December he will also be traveling to Portugal for a long weekend to present some of his research on classical reception in early modern Portuguese poetry at the University of Lisbon.

Jeremy Hartnett returns as department chair after Bronwen Wickkiser's six-year tour of duty in the role. Keep an eye out for his new book, *The Remarkable Life, Death, and Afterlife of an Ordinary Roman – A Social History*, which should come out in the coming year from Cambridge University Press. Classics major Elijah Greene '25 was a major help in drawing groundplans, taking photographs, and generally whipping the book's images into shape. Jeremy's work as head honcho of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome keeps him busy, and his time directing Wabash's Pep Band keeps him relatively sane.

Students Uncover Greek Religion... in Greece!



Fifteen Wallies traveled to Greece in May to conclude a course dedicated to Greek religion. Based in Athens, the group studied a number of important sanctuaries: Delphi, Aegina, Epidauros, and Corinth (pictured here) among them. Check out the rest of the photo album [here](#). Thanks to Prof. Wickkiser for leading the course and to Prof. Derek Mong for helping out.



SENIOR SEMINAR AND COMMUNITY ENCOUNTER SOPHOCLES' PHILOCTETES



As the culminating experience of their semester studying in a course entitled “Healthcare in Greco-Roman Antiquity: Bodies and Community,” the 2023 Classics majors presented a staged (and shortened) reading of this Attic tragedy. The play involves Odysseus and Neoptolemus’ attempts to persuade Philoctetes, a gifted archer who has been gravely injured and gone into exile, to return to battle and to help the Greek cause. After the reading, seniors hosted a panel discussion of the moral complexities of the play, particularly as they speak to wounded soldiers, the challenges they face, and the needs of communities. Participating were Tobey Herzog (emeritus professor and scholar of war literature), Helen Hudson (League of Women Voters), Bonita Clement (Commander of the VFW post in Crawfordsville), and Zachery Koppelman (director of the writing center and a veteran). Huzzah to these students for getting ancient texts to speak to the contemporary world and for engaging the community in meaningful conversation about important issues.

FAREWELL, PROFESSOR WICKKISER!



With bittersweet feelings we bid farewell to Professor Bronwen Wickkiser, who has been named the inaugural holder of the Bluhm Chair in Classics at Hunter College in New York City. Bronwen will take up that post after serving as Elizabeth A. Whitehead Distinguished Scholar at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA) for the 2023-24 academic year.

Over the last decade, Bronwen has been a terrific colleague, professor, and friend on the Wabash campus. We will miss her smarts, creativity, love of a good (or bad) pun, integrity, and laughter around Detchon and all the other places she took Wallies: the Indianapolis Rowing Center, the Ezkenazi Art Museum at IU, collections of ancient medical instruments around the Midwest, and of course Greece!

Thanks, Bronwen, for all you've done for Wabash and the Classics Department. And good luck in the *Grande Malum*!