



# RES CLASSICAE

THE UMBC ANCIENT STUDIES DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

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*Editor:* Melissa Bailey Kutner

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## FROM THE CHAIR

*David Rosenbloom*



*Walt Sherwin*

As everyone affiliated with the ANCS Department at UMBC knows, Dr. Walter Sherwin passed away January 30, 2018. For me, the celebration of his life held at Our Lady of Angels Chapel on February 3, 2018 conveyed powerfully how excellent and meaningful a life Walt lived. As a husband and father, grandfather, brother, neighbor, campus leader, educator and colleague, he touched more lives than can be counted and has left a legacy which we will all cherish.

Many thanks to those who donated to the Sherwin Family Fund—formerly the Christopher Sherwin fund but renamed as a fund to honor the entire Sherwin Family. Giving to the fund is a fitting way of

honoring Walt and a testament to the generosity of the Sherwin Family.

This academic year came and went in what seems to be the blink of an eye. Among the numerous noteworthy achievements of this academic year, graduating senior Flora Kirk's Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research on Roman coins in Romania (ancient Dacia) stands out. Eight UMBC students received Fulbright Awards this year, but only two of the awards funded student research—the rest supported the teaching of English in various countries. This type of Fulbright Award is a remarkable accomplishment for an undergraduate Ancient Studies major. Such awards normally go to more seasoned scholars. You can read more about Flora and her Fulbright Fellowship at <https://news.umbc.edu/flora-kirk-to-extend-study-of-ancient-coins-through-fulbright-research-in-romania/>.



*Hadrian's Wall near Greenhead Lough*

## TRAVEL TO THE UNITED KINGDOM WITH THE ANCIENT STUDIES DEPARTMENT IN SPRING 2019

The UMBC Ancient Studies Department will conduct its 53<sup>rd</sup> annual study tour in the United Kingdom, March 16-24, 2019. The itinerary has not yet been finalized, but visits to London and environs (British Museum, Crofton and Lullingstone Villas, Calleva Aribatum), Wiltshire (Stonehenge), Bath (Roman Baths), Oxford, and Newcastle upon Tyne (Walls of Hadrian, Museum of the Great North), and Vindolanda are being planned.

The cost (still to be determined) will include all air and land travel, twin-share hotel accommodation for eight nights, eight breakfasts, three dinners, two lunches, and entrance to all archaeological sites and museums on the itinerary. Single rooms will be available at an additional cost. ANCS majors and minors, UMBC students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the community are all invited to join us. The trip can be taken as a three-credit course in the Winter 2019 term (ANCS 301). Scholarships to help pay for the costs of the trip are available to Ancient Studies majors who enroll in the course.

Places are limited, so reserve yours today! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Domonique Pitts (dpitts@umbc.edu). An initial deposit of \$350.00 will be due in *October 2018*.

## UMBC'S ANCIENT STUDIES DEPARTMENT TAKES ACTIVE LEARNING ON THE ROAD

*Molly Jones-Lewis*



*Jasmine Chaudhary, Gurjot Gill, and Chanler Harris guide us through the history of the temple to Athena Polias and the Erechtheion on the Athenian Acropolis.*

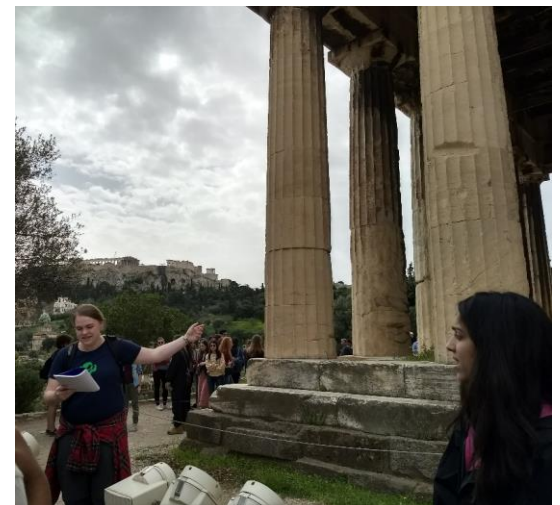
As we boarded the plane to leave for Greece, the UMBC men's basketball team was winning its game against the University of Virginia in the NCAA tournament. It was a wonderful high note on which to kick off our study tour, but we were shocked by how many people congratulated us as we traveled halfway across the world. We couldn't have picked a better group to represent our UMBC: returning alumni, family, friends, and students, including some taking their first flight *anywhere* (let alone abroad!), who were all as friendly and engaged as a tour leader could ask for. It was an absolute pleasure to spend our break tromping around Greece (and finding cats to pet) with this excellent group!

This year, we decided to do something a little different with our study tour to Greece: we asked our ANCS 301 students to act as guides to the hidden gems scattered in our path. They researched monuments, artifacts, sites and rituals, then shared what they had learned with the rest of the group. We also gave them practical

training in reading Ancient Greek inscriptions, identifying Greek art and architecture, and making the best use of their time in museums. The results were everything we had hoped for and more!

We began in Athens and were welcomed to the country with the first in a series of wonderful meals – a true perk of traveling to Greece. The next day saw us braving drizzle to tour the Acropolis and the New Acropolis Museum, which is truly worth seeing if you have not been to Greece in a while. The top floor allows you to see the Parthenon marbles (some original, some replicas of those still held abroad), and you can walk around the Parthenon's "roof-line" at eye level. The museum itself is built over an excavated ancient neighborhood, and the glass floor allows you to look down and see houses, basements, and waterworks. The evening ended with a sunset hike up the Lykavittos, then down again through the Roman Agora.

The next day we began a trip to the Agora, the Agora museum and the Hephaisteion, a particularly well-preserved temple where many features of the Parthenon were tested and refined. We followed Pausanias' route through the Agora, walking on ground where Socrates engaged with his fellow citizens and passing the buildings where the Boule met and debated the issues facing the city. In the afternoon, we did our best to see as much of the National Museum as we could, an impossible task in a place with so many years of history on offer. We had to be a little sneaky with our presentations in the close spaces of the museums, but Grace Ghinger and Jasmine Chaudhary managed to deliver excellent (and stealthy) reports on the bronze statue of Poseidon/



*Kaitlyn Summers introduces us to the Hephaisteion: Doric on the outside, Ionic on the inside, Athenian all over.*



Zeus and the Phrasikleia Kore. We also found the Antikythera mechanism tucked away in a side room on our way to the gold of Mycenae. Our sunset visit to the temple of Poseidon on Cape Sounion was stymied by Zeus; a stiff wind nearly blew us off the hill, so we diverted down the path to see the ship shed at the base of the promontory.



*Dimitri Hamilton and the new replica of the Serpent Column at Delphi.*

ahead of noisy flocks of high school students; it was spring break in Europe too, and we soon developed skills in dodging boisterous youngsters standing between us and the antiquities. We were just in time for Dimitri's presentation at the Lion Gate to proceed uninterrupted. We climbed to the heights of the citadel, then descended into the bug-infested depths of the cistern; a highlight for me, but perhaps not an ideal vacation spot for the claustrophobic. After elbowing our way around the crowds in the museum at Mycenae, we were more than ready to visit its equally cool but less famous sister city Tiryns, where Chanler could tell us about the masonry in peace. It was blessedly empty, allowing us to follow the pinkish stones studded along the cyclopean walls to the summit, where Dr. Lane and I indulged in a re-enactment of the murder of Agamemnon at the hands of his wife Clytemnestra. I assure you, he had it coming.

That night, we saw a strange orange-clouded sunset from the Palamidhi fortress in Nafplio, Greece's old capital, where we also visited the museum containing one of my favorite artifacts—the Dendra Panoply. We found out later that a dust storm had blown up from Libya, casting Saharan sand across the Aegean and shrouding Crete in a red sandy haze. We saw the evidence of the storm as soon as we landed in Crete the next day: sand drifted in eddies over car lots and streets until rain began to wash it all away.



*Grace Ghinger soldiers on with her presentation on kouloures as Zeus thunders above.*

Our next stop was Thebes, where we enjoyed the newly renovated museum and enjoyed Chanler Harris' presentation on comast and Kabeiroi cups and Jasmine's on herms. We were successful in convincing our driver to stop at Glas, where Dr. Lane showed us the site of the summer excavation he runs with UMBC students. After a night of feasting in Itea, we made our way up the winding road to Delphi, where Jasmine Chaudhary showed us the manumission inscription wall where slaves were effectively freed when the owners "gave" them to the god Apollo. Dimitri Hamilton took over from there and reported on the new replica of the Serpent Column (actually a tripod consisting of three snake heads), a war memorial to the dead from the Battle of Plataea during Xerxes' failed invasion of Greece. The original, which we saw during our 2015 trip to Turkey, is in Istanbul.

We got to Mycenae early in the morning,



*Chanler Harris introduces us to the finer points of cyclopean masonry and corbeled arches.*

Thunderheads rolled in as we toured Knossos, pausing for Kaitlyn Summers' presentation on lustral basins as Zeus made his imminent arrival known. As many of you know, Knossos has undergone extensive anastylosis – that is, Arthur Evans attempted to restore portions of it to what it might have looked like when it was in its Bronze-Age prime, using concrete and fanciful guesswork. The result is a pretty but flawed site where it is difficult to see what is old and what is new. Not so at Malia, where the French excavators took a less-is-more approach to preserving their excavation. The rain came to meet us there, but Gurjot Gill and Grace Ghinger continued with their presentations on Quartier Mu (the artisans' quarter) and the mysterious *kouloures* (round structures of uncertain use) despite gusting winds and cold water. Undaunted, we took a stroll through the abandoned foundations and engaged in imaginative

reconstruction. Phantom walls rose, and the dead lived again in our minds; we could almost see the potters eyeing the basket weavers as they imitated each other's art.



*We take advantage of a break in the weather for one last group photo at Malia*

Sitting here at home and looking back at the experience, I am struck by how amazing UMBC's extended Ancient Studies family is. Returning alumni brought friends and family to join current students, all united by a sense of adventurous curiosity and a desire to know more about Greece, ancient and modern. They hiked up mountains and down and braved rowdy crowds that stood between them and a well-deserved lunch, giving just as much attention and enthusiasm at the damp end of the trip as they did on the first day in Athens. Prof. Lane, Prof. Phin, and I could not have asked for better company, and it warmed our hearts to see current students getting to know those alums who have gone out into the world to do amazing things. I hope to see still more of you on our future adventures – join us next year as we march to Hadrian's wall on the Roman Empire's northern border!

## OFFERING AN OLYMPIAN PERSPECTIVE: THE VIEW FROM TWO "DEATH MARCHES"

*Michael Lane*

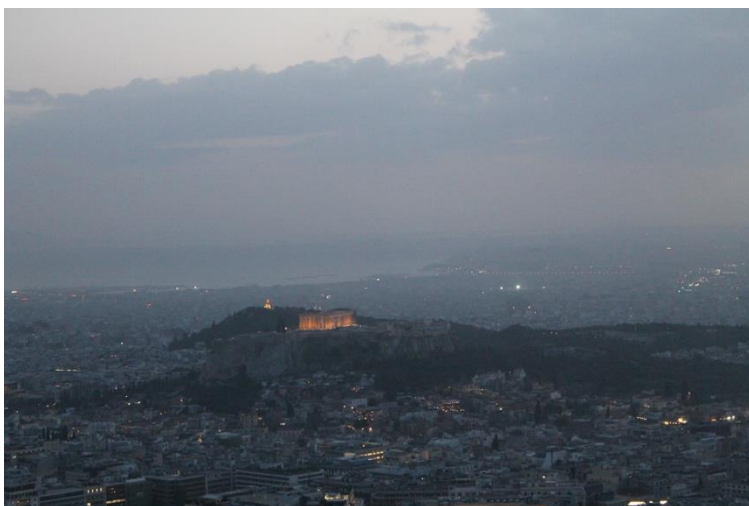
In its earliest manifestations, the Greek language already possesses words gleaned from unknown sources. Even the words for "sea," *pelagos* and *thalassa*, are pre-Greek. The ancient Greeks acknowledged that, even in the heart of the territories they inhabited and claimed for themselves, peoples of non-Greek descent had been living since time immemorial—Carians, Dryopes, Leleges, Pelasgians, and others. Initially, at least, the cultural knowledge and materials of these peoples contributed to the unique senses of identity the Greeks came to share.

Explaining such interactions, including how identities of opposition and resistance were forged, through material cultural media (whether pots, sanctuaries, or inscriptions), clearly strikes a chord in my Archaeology of Greek City-States course, and has provoked lively and constructive discussion in class. During discussion, I often resort to the Greek word "palimpsest" to express the resulting overlapping and only-ever-partly-erased material traces of past human activity. This term applies both to the so-called "archaeological record" and to linguistic hybridization.

It is in this context that two "death marches"—long walks on which I lead students during our Spring Break trips—are to be understood. These "death marches," as participants first called them on the Ancient Studies trip to Greece in 2014, have become a tradition. My original purpose was to take the group away from the controlled circumstances of the archaeological

sites scheduled in the itinerary. These sites, though wonderful in themselves, are stages set for contemplative gazing and the academic performances of students or teachers. The death marches, on the other hand, are as much about the shared journey and return as any destination or turning point.

The express aim of "Death March 1" is modest. As soon as the group is well rested after arriving in Greece, I invite them to walk from the hotel near the Acropolis in Athens to the highest point in the central Attic plain, Mount Lykavittos, to view the sun set over the Saronic Gulf and watch the city's lights twinkle on from the surrounding mountains. We then return by way of the Areopagus, Athens' preeminent court and the site at which St. Paul



*View of the Acropolis from Lykavittos*



preached to its citizens. The march (really no more than a vigorous stroll) starts near the whitewashed houses of the Anafiotika on the slopes of the Acropolis, where central Aegean stonemasons employed to build the modern capital erected the squatters' encampment that gives the neighborhood its foundations and its name. We then pass Hadrian's Arch, inscribed on one side with "This is Athens, of Old the City of Theseus" and on the other "This is the City of Hadrian and not of Theseus."

Soon the spire of Lykavittos, adorned with the chapel of St. George, heaves into view before us, while Mount Ymittos, which flanks Athens to the east, is seen to loom above the palm trees of National Gardens. These mountains were, respectively, *Lykabēttos* and *Hymēttos* in ancient times, both names bearing the distinctive *ēttos*-suffix of a pre-Greek language, but whose precise meanings were lost even to the ancient Athenians. Thus, by the time we arrive on the summit of Lykavittos, we have already waded through thousands of years of legend and culture, from the "Pelasgian Wall" at the Acropolis' base to the modern parliament building, and we have gazed on mountains much older than the people who gave them their now-mysterious names.

The first time we made the trek, I soon realized that the archaeological palimpsest of Athens is most fully appreciated by achieving this lofty position. To the southwest, in the direction of the sunset, are the glimmering, glorious remains of the Parthenon and the Erechtheion on the Acropolis—"tidied ruins," as I like to say, that entomb their Mycenaean forebears, yet are stripped of their Roman and medieval trimmings. On the hill beyond are the massive baroque crags of the Roman-period Philopappos Monument, proof that one's name, if no other fame, will be recollected through the ages if one is a wealthy member of an imperial elite with kin devoted to commemoration in death. Below, near the ancient Agora, are deconsecrated mosques of the Ottoman Period, long abandoned but now refurbished and used for public exhibitions and a folklife museum. Turning toward the eastern gloaming, as the streetlights start to flicker on the slopes of ancient Mount Parnes, I point out Acharnai, the rural deme of Classical Athens made famous by the comic playwright Aristophanes, now almost entirely swallowed by the Athenian sprawl. Less recognized is a Mycenaean tholos tomb, now next to a basketball court in a town-center park. There too, at the headwaters of the Kephisos, is the largest settlement of the Roma people in the relatively young nation-state of Greece.

"Death March 2" offered its own astonishing views of natural and human wonders and curiosities. We ascended the 900-plus steps to the gate of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Venetian fortress on the Palamidhi peak, which rises over 700 feet above the coastal town Nafplio in the Argolid. Nafplio's narrow streets offer shelter from the sun in summer, and traditional crafts, gelato, and photo opportunities for cats at any time. With imposing sculptural reliefs of Venice's Lion of St. Mark on the fortress walls, it is easy even for classicists to forget that this peak is named for the hero Palamedes, son of eponymous Nauplios, who detected Odysseus' feigned madness at Ithaca before the Trojan War.



*A view of Nafplio from the Palamidhi*



*A close-up of the Bourtzi*

The express aim of this death march was again to view the sunset—at least as much as we could through the pall of Saharan dust that filled the upper reaches of the sky and reminded us of how close the shores of Africa are to Greece. Even in the strange gray light we could discern the Cyclopean walls of Bronze Age Tiryns, some three miles to the north, which perhaps was the *na-u-pi-ri-ja* ("Nauplia") of Mycenaean records. Directly below, in Nafplio's harbor, sits the fortified islet known as "the Bourtzi." This is the Greek rendering of the Arabic word for "tower," by way of Turkish, which ultimately is related to ancient Greek *pyrgos* "tower" and *phyrkos* "fortification"—two more words whose

origin is not Greek but lost in prehistory. Jutting toward the Bourtzi and sheltering the harbor from the sea is the lower Venetian fortress on the Classical Akronauplia, where centuries later a hero of the Greek War of Independence, General Kolokotronis, was briefly imprisoned for rejecting the establishment of a Bavarian monarchy after the Ottomans were defeated. The site, used

again for political prisoners in the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, is now adorned with the Xenia Palace Hotel, taking its name from an ancient word for “hospitality.” This hotel was built in the 1960s, developed during the then-military junta, abandoned with the colonels’ fall in 1974, and is now covered in brilliant urban spray-paint art—a palimpsest indeed.

Climbing the Palamidhi to attain this view demanded will and stamina and, most of all, camaraderie, mutual encouragement, and collective effort among the diverse persons who had been cast together on the trip. The unbroken and resilient threads of the human spirit still run through this complex landscape of ruins and rebuilding, as they have since antiquity. Beneath appearances, I would submit, our convivial “death marches” are marches *for* the dead—remembering them, learning from them, and persevering for them.

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For the delightful video by Marina Congedo (ANCS/PHYS 2017) that includes the “death marches” of 2018, visit “The Ancient Studies Department at UMBC” YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/2vHRwXC> (or view [https://youtu.be/beCi7X\\_6AaU](https://youtu.be/beCi7X_6AaU)).

## SEEING THE “GLAS” HALF FULL

*Chanler Harris*



*Karyatid Porch of the Erechtheion*

While taking the ANCS 301 class over the winter session, everything felt very familiar. Quizzes on pottery and myths were the norm, and though I learned something new in every class, it was another addition to my knowledge of an ancient world that did not seem to exist outside of a classroom.

But then we landed in Athens, and once I saw the Parthenon, that changed—or, rather, once I saw the Erechtheion, that changed. The Parthenon is great—but have you *seen* the Erechtheion? That’s really the cream of the Acropolis.

I was face to face with everything that I had seen in pictures and read about. Now, seeing how immense and detailed these structures were, I began to appreciate them anew. It is one thing to learn about the misfortunes in Thebes, and it is another thing entirely to stand on the road where Oedipus was rumored to have killed his father. We visited a number of museums and sites, and seeing the tiny brush strokes, elaborate building techniques, and

even complex surgical procedures ancient peoples were able to use was fascinating.

Our professors were fountains of information, but at most sites there came a time when the tables turned and my fellow ANCS 301 classmates and I gave presentations and answered questions about topics we had researched. My group was tasked with reporting on the Erechtheion in Athens, and I explained Cyclopean masonry in Tiryns, and discussed Komast and Kabeiroi cups in Thebes. This assignment, though nerve wracking, was also fulfilling. This was my first time acting as the expert on material that I had studied, and I was surprised by my own ability to answer queries that the others had for me—including an impromptu explanation of pederasty. Even when I was not the presenter, some of the other members of our trip would ask me about sites or myths, and it felt reassuring to be seen as a dependable source of information when it came to my area of study.

The trip covered a large area of southern Greece, but one of my favorite stops was one that was not part of our itinerary. Glas is a site where Dr. Lane works in the summer. We walked up the untrodden hills through thistles and massive plants to reach the ruins of these expansive Mycenaean fortifications. Dr. Lane spoke of the entire area and its history expertly, and it was



*Presentation at the Archaeological Museum of Thebes*

refreshing to see a professor talk about work that he currently does in the field. This was my first time seeing in person what archaeologists study, and having a professor who was the expert on the area made it all the more exciting. It was a reminder that there is always more to discover, and *someone* has to do it.

When I received the travel-study subvention for this trip, I did not expect to see so much of Greece, receive daily impromptu modern Greek lessons, or be faced with the parallels between the Pied Piper of Hamelin and Apollo. I gained more from this experience than just putting stories into context—I learned about history, cuisine, and both modern and ancient cultures unlike my own. My experience is a testament to the belief that if you can take your learning to new places, you should. You'd be surprised by how much you gain and grow.

## PICKING UP THE PIECES

*Esther Read*

Robert Silverberg, in his introduction to *Great Adventures in Archaeology*, wrote that archaeologists deal “with the most glorious moments of the human past” through clues left behind in the form of artifacts. What Silverberg didn't tell us is that 75 percent of an archaeologist's time is spent in the lab analyzing the artifacts or in the archives or library. Only a small percentage of our time is spent doing field work—or at least, that's how it *should* work. But we archaeologists have a few skeletons in our closets, and they aren't the ones we find buried on our sites.

Across the United States, there are unprocessed collections of artifacts in the storage facilities of museums, universities, State Historic Preservation Offices, and the National Park Service. Many collections were generated during the Great Depression as a result of New Deal projects, which produced a tremendous volume of artifacts and other data such as maps, photographs, and paper records. Because many of these projects were associated with large public works, emphasis was on the fieldwork and not on the analysis of the artifacts. Most projects ended when World War II began and funding for analysis, reporting, and artifact curation disappeared. Many collections are still unprocessed today, although most are protected by at least the minimum of curatorial standards.

Other collections languishing in repositories around the country are those generated by avocational archaeology groups, which have their roots in the nineteenth-century. Artifacts collected during expeditions to local sites were presented at club meetings and later donated to a local museum, often with little or no documentation. Avocational groups continue to exist today, and many are an archaeologist's greatest ally because they know an area's history and artifacts. In Maryland, we have the Archaeology Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM), with chapters across the state. I and many of my professional colleagues are active in this group, though most members are not professionals. ASM is a powerful advocate, and its members produce a journal and host training sessions. If you've ever walked past my office, you've probably noticed the archaeology posters. You can thank ASM for those posters and for the archaeology events (lectures, tours, workshops, etc.) that they host throughout the state.

Avocational archaeologists are an important part of archaeology. However, the activities of some past avocational groups have produced huge headaches for the professional community. A case in point is a collection with which I and my ASM volunteers are working in Charles County, Maryland. The collection is the result of excavations undertaken between 1967 and 1973 in the village of Port Tobacco. Founded in the early eighteenth century, Port Tobacco was the county seat and an important economic hub along a tributary to the Potomac River. After the American Revolution, it experienced economic decline as towns like Baltimore became the new commercial centers. The death blow came in the late nineteenth century, when the railroad bypassed the town and the courthouse burned to the ground. The county seat moved to La Plata in 1895, as did all the businesses and most of the town residents. By the early twentieth century, most buildings were gone, and the lots were covered with tobacco fields.

The first excavations began in 1967, after the county's bicentennial committee decided to rebuild the old courthouse in time for the 1976 celebration. Buoyed by the success of Williamsburg, the committee and remaining town residents hoped to use the reconstructed courthouse as a tourist attraction. They decided to use archaeology to help in designing the new building, as there were no surviving plans or photographs of the original. The first group to excavate in the late 1960s was headed by a husband and wife, at least one of whom was a trained archaeologist. The few surviving records indicate that the site was excavated using established methodology. There is a draft report detailing the excavation, but it was never finished, since the couple moved out of state.



The second excavation group was headed by another husband and wife team. They were locals with no training beyond what they had picked up during the first phase of excavation. There are almost no records for this excavation, which took place from about 1970 until 1973. I have a series of letters from the state archaeologist, who was concerned with the lack of professional standards and asked that the excavation stop (a request that was ignored). The second group was ordered off the site around 1973 by the property owners. I'm not sure what precipitated the "eviction" notice, but the second husband and wife team appear to have taken all the field and lab notes with them. My recent efforts to retrieve them have not been successful.

In 1972 and 1973, when the letters from the state archaeologist failed to stop the excavation, two professional archaeologists—Stephen Israel and Gerald Braley—spent time working with this group in an attempt to institute standardized excavation techniques. They were successful in one area of the site, and for this I owe them a debt of gratitude. The section of the site where they worked was designated Area B. I have a sketch map indicating Area B's location, which was drawn in 1978, several years after the excavation ended. Because my two colleagues were involved in the 1972-1973 field season, their field bags



*An Area-B artifact pre-cleaning*

are labeled with provenience information: unit #, level #, depth below surface, the date, and in some cases the names of the excavators. This information is very important in helping to reconstruct where the artifacts came from and in developing a context that will allow us to interpret this area of the town.

Israel and Braley left the project in 1973. Within a year, the entire project was shut down. During that last year, some of the artifacts from Area B were processed, but many were not and are still in their original field bags. The people working in the lab in the 1970s wrote provenience information directly on the artifacts in the form of a string of numbers. When I first started working with the collection, I had no idea what the numbers on the unbagged, processed artifacts meant, since there was no documentation for the lab procedures. But then my team started to find bags of

unwashed artifacts, and in a couple of bags the artifacts were labeled (under normal lab procedure, artifacts are washed before they are labeled, so this was unusual). By matching the information on the outside of the bag to the labeled artifacts inside, we were able to decipher the numbers on the other artifacts and to deduce in what unit and level they had originated.

Once this breakthrough was made, my lab group and I turned our attention to another problem. The labels were written directly on the artifacts with permanent marker. Lab protocol, even in the 1970s, dictated that a clear base coat of some sort of polymer be placed on the artifact before labeling. The provenience label is then written in black India ink on the base coat, and this is all sealed with a clear top coat, generally of the same polymer type. In this system, the polymer and the ink can be removed with acetone, which is important, because anything you do to an artifact should be reversible. In addition, the label should be legible and small. If an object is reconstructed for display, the labels should be placed on the back of the individual pieces where they will not be visible to the public. Finally, one should never label on top of a design element on an artifact.

The 1970s group violated every one of these protocols. Since there was no documentation, we have no idea what type of ink was used. We tried soaking the ink off with room-temperature water, or removing it with acetone, isopropyl alcohol, vinegar, and hydrogen peroxide (not all together or at the same time), all of which are non-abrasive and when properly applied will not damage the artifact. More abrasive efforts involved baking soda. None of these common household chemicals worked. I spent hours combing professional conservator sites for advice. They all recommended the same methods we had already tried. According to these sites, if all else failed there were other more caustic chemicals that would remove the ink but should only be employed by a professional conservator. In other words, "please contact us before you hurt the artifact." As I don't have a very large conservation budget, this was not an option.

Finally, in desperation, I turned to my professional colleagues and did some crowd sourcing. Most of their solutions involved non-abrasive scrub pads, similar to those used by conservators to clean paper. We experimented on one eighteenth-century Chinese porcelain piece that had been damaged by a fire when it was originally discarded. The piece was heavily labeled. First, we soaked the piece in warm water for several hours, then gently rubbed it with the non-abrasive pad. To our delight, most of the ink came off: just a few ghost letters are barely visible on some of the pieces.



As we continue to clean, stabilize, catalog, and photograph the collection, we are documenting everything that we do. Copies of our records will be deposited with the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab (MAC lab) at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. The artifacts and the original documentation will remain on site in the collections storage area of the Society for the Preservation of Port Tobacco, who is the legal owner of the collection. We have processed about 10,000 artifacts, a third of the overall collection. But instead of spending time analyzing the collection, I will be spending the next year simply trying to untangle its basic provenience. This entire process has brought home to me how important documentation is, not only in the field, but throughout analysis. Future archaeologists may need to look at our collections, and we are ethically responsible for making sure that they are conserved and documented to established standards and that their long-term storage locations also meet those same standards.

## FACULTY ACTIVITY 2017-2018: PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCE PAPERS, ETC.

### DR. MICHAEL LANE

In May 2017, my article, “Four Probable Terms in Mycenaean Greek Pertaining to Water Management, Some Possible References, and Broader Implications” appeared in the epigraphical journal *Kadmos* 55.1-2 (2017) 83-130. In June, I won a National Science Foundation award of \$33,336 to conduct radiocarbon, luminescence, and amino acid racemization dating of sediments and gastropod shells from archaeological contexts discovered during fieldwork in the Kopaic Basin, Boiotia, Greece. This May, I received the second tranche of \$10,000 for field and laboratory operations in Greece in June and July 2018.

### DR. MOLLY JONES-LEWIS

It's been a busy year behind the scenes for me as I've been working on the manuscript to my monograph, *The Doctor in Roman Law and Society*, forthcoming in Routledge UK's *Monographs in Classical Studies* series. In April 2018, I gave a paper based on that work at the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS) conference in Albuquerque titled “The Case of the Missing Ban: Cadaver Dissection in Roman Law,” the gist of which is that despite what Wikipedia says, cadaver dissection was never illegal in the Roman Empire and doctors practiced it when opportunity allowed. What was illegal was removing bodies from graves, so keep that in mind should you ever find yourself in Ancient Rome. Best to stick to the bodies of executed, unclaimed criminals, or non-Romans dead on battlefields.

In less gruesome publication news, next year's Association of Ancient Historians *Geography* volume will contain my chapter on the way Caesar and Tacitus used Greek ethnographic theory to create the borders of Germania. I also had the great pleasure of attending a conference on outreach and pedagogy at Swarthmore College last summer and presenting UMBC's recent use of living history and experimental archaeology in the classroom and beyond. Our Scribe School tutorials were of particular interest to colleagues from other institutions, and we might have set a new trend for active learning outreach events.

I'd like to end this on a personal note with one final forthcoming publication. My husband Rob and I are expecting our first child James Robert this coming August; he very much enjoyed his first study tour in Greece this Spring, and our cats are looking forward to having a new human to attend to their whims.

### DR. MELISSA BAILEY KUTNER

Over the summer of 2017, I excavated in Jordan and conducted an archaeological field school along with colleagues from the University of Liverpool and Knox College. The project addresses the economic forces shaping the late Byzantine prosperity of Dhiban, a multi-period site in Central Jordan occupied at varying levels of intensity from the Iron Age through the Mamluk period. After a successful field season, I submitted a report on the fieldwork to the Jordanian Department of Antiquities and wrote a paper on the results that was presented by a colleague at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Boston.

I also submitted an article to the journal *Past & Present* that investigated the kinds of small objects habitually carried by Romans and the meanings surrounding the space in which these objects were carried (folds of cloth, purses); I am now revising this article. In addition, I recently published a piece in the online journal *Eidolon* addressing the antiquities collecting and display practices at the controversial Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC.

**PROF. TIMOTHY PHIN**

This year I had the great pleasure of serving as the Acting Director of the Humanities Scholars Program. The program serves exceptional students dedicated to the pursuit of the Humanities in all their diversity. Throughout the year I have gotten to know each of these students. I have advised them, helped them plan their semesters abroad, and, best of all, learned about all the wonderful academic and extracurricular work that they are doing. I have also worked closely with my colleagues in the Dresher Center, and I have gained a new understanding of where the Humanities are at UMBC and where they are going. This vibrant, committed community works every day to enrich the life of the mind, and I have been so grateful to have had the opportunity to join it. This has been a year of service for me. In addition to my time as Acting Director, I also served on the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. I continue to work on my research into Roman and modern pedagogies, and I hope to spend the summer months completing an article about Quintilian's use of personae.

**DR. DAVID ROSENBLOOM**

My chapter on "The Comedians' Aeschylus"—the Greek comedians' uses of Aeschylus as a tragedian, character, and proxy for the heyday of Athens as victor in the Persian Wars and benevolent leader of Greece—was published in R. Futo Kennedy ed., *Brill's Companion to the Reception of Aeschylus* in late 2017. After I finish a review of Edmund Stewart's study of the diffusion of Athenian tragedy throughout the Hellenic world, I hope to turn to several projects in various stages of completion this summer.

## 2017-2018 ANCS STUDENT-AWARD WINNERS



From l to r: Prof. Phin, Flora Kirk, Chanler Harris, Dimitri Hamilton, Dean Casper. Missing: Matthew O'Keefe and Irene Nolan

Five ANCS majors were recognized for their academic excellence at this year's College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Student Honors and Awards Ceremony. *Flora Kirk* and *Matthew O'Keefe* shared honors as co-winners of the Outstanding Senior in Ancient Studies Award. *Chanler Harris* was recognized as winner of the Christopher Sherwin award, which goes to an outstanding major and contributor to the Department. The award has been given in memory of Christopher Sherwin, UMBC alumnus and son of Walter Sherwin, late emeritus professor and founding member of the ANCS Department; starting next year, the award will be named the "Sherwin Family Award" and be given in honor of Christopher and Walter Sherwin. *Irene Vizcarra Nolan* was honored as winner of the William and Martha Christopher Award, given *in memoriam* to the parents of ANCS alumna Barbara Quinn. *Dimitri Hamilton* was recognized as the winner of the Robert and Jane Shedd Award for Excellence in Ancient Studies. This award is named after the UMBC Professor who was a pioneer in Humanities education at UMBC from its inception and his wife.

## SUMMER 2018 COURSE SCHEDULE

Class	Title	Day/Time/Room	Instructor
ANCS 150 (Hybrid) Session 1	English Roots from Greek and Latin	T 1:00-4:00 PAHB 107	Prof. Danilo Piana
ANCS 202 (Hybrid) Session 2	The Roman World	T 1:00-4:00 Fine Arts 018	Prof. Danilo Piana
ANCS 210 (Hybrid) Session 1	Classical Mythology	Th 1:00-4:10 Sherman 003	Prof. Timothy Phin
ANCS 210 (Hybrid) Session 2	Classical Mythology	Th 1:00-4:10 Sherman 003	Prof. Timothy Phin
ANCS 330 Session 1	Ancient Science and Technology	TTh 6:00-9:10 Sherman 150	Prof. Esther Read
ANCS 350 (Hybrid) Session 1	The Ancient World in Film	Th 6:00-9:10 Fine Arts 006	Dr. Molly Jones-Lewis



## FALL 2018 COURSE SCHEDULE

Class	Title	Day/Time	Room	Instructor
GREK 101	Elementary Greek I	MTWTh 9:00-9:50	PAHB 441	Dr. Michael Lane
GREK 201	Intermediate Greek	MTWTh 10:00-10:50	PAHB 441	Dr. David Rosenbloom
GREK 401	Special Author Seminar: Lucian	TBD	PAHB 441	Dr. David Rosenbloom
LATN 101-01	Elementary Latin I	MTWTh 9:00-9:50	FA 006	Staff
LATN 101-02	Elementary Latin I	MTWTh 11:00-10:50	FA 006	Dr. Molly Jones-Lewis
LATN 201-01	Intermediate Latin	MTWTh 9:00-9:50	FA 018	Dr. Molly Jones-Lewis
LATN 201-02	Intermediate Latin	MTWTh 11:00-11:50	PAHB 441	Staff
LATN 402	Special Author Seminar: Juvenal	MW 1:00-2:15	PAHB 441	Prof. Tim Phin
ANCS 200	Israel and the Ancient Near East	MW 1:00-2:15	ITE 456	Prof. Willian Reed
ANCS 201-01 and ANCS 201H-01	The Ancient Greeks	TTh 2:30-3:45	ITE 229	Dr. David Rosenbloom
ANCS 201-02	The Ancient Greeks	MW 2:30-3:45	SHER 150	Prof. Danilo Piana
ANCS 210-01	Classical Mythology (Hybrid)	Th 4:00-5:15	ITE 102	Prof. Timothy Phin
ANCS 210-02	Classical Mythology (Hybrid)	W 4:00-5:15	ENG 027	Prof. Danilo Piana
ANCS 210-03	Classical Mythology (Online)			Prof. Danilo Piana
ANCS 305	Warfare in the Ancient World	TTh 2:30-3:45	FA 215	Dr. Molly Jones-Lewis
ARCH 100	Introduction to the Archaeology of the Ancient World	TTh 2:30-3:45	PAHB 132	Dr. Michael Lane
ARCH 120	World Archaeology	TTh 4:00-5:15	ENG 027	Prof. Esther Read
ARCH 200	Greek Archaeology and Art	TTh 11:30-12:45	UC 115	Dr. Michael Lane
ARCH 220	Archaeology and Art of Ancient Egypt	MW 1:00-2:15	UC 115	Dr. Melissa Kutner
ARCH 325	Life and Death in Pompeii	MW 4:00-5:15	PAHB 441	Dr. Melissa Kutner
HIST 453	Greek History	TTh 11:30-12:45	FA 011	Prof. Timothy Phin

*Please help Dr. Lane's ongoing fieldwork in Greece*



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