Welcome to the Cornell Classics Department’s 2014/2015 Newsletter!

The past year has seen much wonderful activity and news in the Department. A new colleague, Prof. Athena Kirk, has joined us – and, after just over half a century teaching at Cornell, Prof. Pietro Pucci retires this summer – but, typically, he continues to be active, and has a book in press with Cornell University Press out next year! Faculty and students have been engaged in a huge range of research, writing, teaching, and learning, most at Cornell, but also elsewhere, such as Prof. Fontaine being Paideia Professor in Rome over the summer. Events ranged from a really special production of the Trojan Women by our students, directed (and translated) by Prof. Fred Ahl, through no fewer than two extraordinary exhibitions employing elements of the Cornell Cast Collection curated by Profs. Annetta Alexandridis and Verity Platt (both exhibitions still available to view as of Commencement Weekend 2015), to a workshop on the Cornell Expedition to Asia Minor and the Assyro-Babylonian Orient (1907-1908), led by Profs. Eric Rebillard and Ben Anderson (History of Art). And much, much, more. A real pleasure of my first year as Chair of Classics has been getting to know more closely all the terrific work of everyone in the Department, (both faculty and students). In the modern world Classics does not always seem valued, but it remains the core of the Humanities and the Liberal Arts. It provides a timeless training and intellectual challenge, which prepares students in how to read and think critically, independent of rapidly changing trends and technologies: Classics is never out of date. The past year highlights (again) the vitality of Classics at Cornell.

Sturt Manning
Goldwin Smith Professor of Classical Archaeology and Chair
Introducing New Faculty


Annetta Alexandridis has been a Cornell faculty member for many years. We are delighted to welcome her as a full member of the Classics department.

Athena Kirk is thrilled to have joined the Classics faculty in the fall. Since arriving she has had the great pleasure of leading a graduate seminar on Greek Literacy and Orality. One particular highlight of the course has been the proliferation of epigraphic material on the Cornell campus available for study: the seminar participants have worked with historic Greek squeezes from Goldwin Smith Hall and now in Kroch library for conservation and cataloguing, returning later in the term to see other examples of ancient writing from the Kroch collections. They have also made their own paper squeezes of building inscriptions in and around the Arts Quad.

Much of Athena’s research activity this semester has been focused on preparing the manuscript for her book *Treasure Islands: Greek Inventory and Catalogue*, which examines the Greeks’ curiously pervasive habit of literary and epigraphic list-making. The book considers how and why catalogues became such crucial fixtures of genres ranging from epic to comedy; it also compares these to the often-neglected evidence of temple inventories, which have much to tell about the Greeks’ curatorial psychology and impulse to collect.

She continues work on a number of smaller projects, including an article “What Is An Epigraphe?,” on the Greeks’ notions about inscribed texts, and a piece on counting and reckoning in Hellenistic poetry. This fall she presented a paper about her work on ancient human-animal relationships, exploring Plutarch’s *Gryllus*, a philosophical dialogue between Odysseus and one of his shipmates whom Circe turned into a pig. She is also writing a series of entries for *Wiley’s Herodotus Encyclopedia*.

In May she published an article entitled “The Semantics of Showcase in Herodotus’s Histories.”
Future Plans

Yiqi Dong (Classics and Economics) will be spending the next few years earning a master’s degree in finance.

Caroline Nemechek (Classics and History) is working in Rochester. She plans to attend graduate school for Classics.

Wesley Rogers is spending the year working in healthcare and continuing the medical school application process. He plans to attend medical school in the Fall of 2015.

Lillian Sellati is starting graduate school at Yale University in the History of Art Department.

Classics Minors

We would also like to congratulate our Classics minors for 2014:

Max Daniel Berman
Thomas Gaquin Connors
Daniel Jason Cook
Eamonn Thomas Patrick
Kaiya Lynn Provost

Ph.D. Recognition

Allison Boex (Allie) did her BA in Classics at Kenyon College; as an undergraduate she also spent a semester studying Latin and ancient Greek at Eberhard Karls University in Tübingen. At Kenyon, she received high honors for a thesis on the sepulchral epigrams of the new Posidippus papyrus and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa before graduating summa cum laude. This spring she finished her dissertation on voice, audience, and space in early Latin poetic epitaphs. She is currently teaching Latin locally and doing freelance work in the field (including for L’Année philologique’s cwkb.org and Brill’s EAGLL project).

Samuel Kurland (Sam) comes from State College, Pennsylvania, and did his BA in Classics at Penn State before coming to Cornell to start graduate school. Last winter he finished his dissertation on techniques of persuasion in the Greek speechwriter Lysias. Along the way he has taught more Latin courses, mythology in freshman seminars, even Greek, and the famous freshman initiation course with Pietro Pucci. He has already started teaching a long-distance course on Greek civilization for the summer at his alma mater, Penn State, and looks forward to further teaching in Classics in the near and far future.
Plaster Blast! Casts and the Sesquicentennial

As many of you will know, Cornell once had one of the finest collections of plaster casts of Greek and Roman sculptures in North America. Since casts fell out of favor in the mid-twentieth century, however, many of us have struggled to ensure the collection’s survival. This year, Cornell’s Sesquicentennial gave us two wonderful opportunities to showcase the collection and even to restore a significant number of casts.

With the help of students in Classics and History of Art, conservator Kasia Maroney, and many members of the Facilities Staff, Annetta Alexandridis and Verity Platt first curated “Firing the Canon: the Cornell Casts and their Discontents”, which opened in November 2014. Displayed in the Weinhold Chilled Water Plant by Beebe Lake, the show explored the rejection, defacement, and destruction of casts that took place at Cornell during the 1960’s and 70’s, placing it in the context of contemporary aesthetic, intellectual and political movements within and beyond the university. The industrial space of the water plant - no longer used for its original purpose - proved an exciting and appropriate setting for the relics of a parallel “outmoded” technology, providing us with our very own version of the Centrale Montemartini in Rome.

This spring, the same team worked closely with Andrew Weislogel, curator of Earlier European and American Art at the Johnson Museum, on “Cast and Present: Replicating Antiquity in the Museum and the Academy.” Displaying casts alongside other forms of replica (including gem impressions, squeezes of inscriptions, and early modern prints from the museum collections), this exhibition looked back to the “glory days” of Cornell’s casts, when they provided invaluable tools for the teaching of the Fine Arts and Classical Archaeology. Though in many ways a more traditional show than “Firing the Canon”, the Johnson exhibition actually did something rather radical: these days it is rare to find mere “copies” such as plaster casts on display in museums, rather than their bronze or marble originals. Juxtaposed with other forms of serial reproduction in the Johnson, however, the casts were displayed as interesting objects in their own right rather than “mere” copies – a fascinating part of the university’s history and a technology which, with the advent of 3-D printing, is surprisingly back in vogue.
Caitie Barrett had an enjoyable and productive year in 2013-2014. She completed an article for *Oxford Bibliographies in Classics* entitled “Hellenistic and Roman Egypt” (forthcoming in spring 2015) and was commissioned to write another article, “Roman and Egyptian Visual Culture,” in *Oxford Handbooks Online in Classical Studies* (anticipated in spring 2016). Together with Verity Platt, she co-directed a project to digitize Cornell’s extensive collection of plaster impressions of ancient engraved gems, with funding from the Grants Program for Digital Collections in Arts and Sciences. That project has now resulted in a digital exhibit (http://www.ssc commons.org/openlibrary/welcome.html#3%7Ccollections%7C7730297%7C%7CCornell3A20Gem20Impress ions20Collection%7C%7C) with two accompanying essays: “Gems” (co-written by Platt and Barrett: https://antiquities.library.cornell.edu/gems) and “Plaster Perspectives on ‘Magical Gems’: Rethinking the Meaning of Magic in Cornell’s Daktyliotheca” (written by Barrett: https://antiquities.library.cornell.edu/gems/plaster-perspectives-on-magical-gems). Barrett also presented papers at Tufts, Yale, and the Institute of Fine Arts at NYU, and she will be delivering another paper in July 2015 at an international conference, “Materiality and Greek Religion,” at the Swedish Institute in Athens. Finally, she was honored to receive a Robert A. and Donna B. Paul Award for Excellence in Advising, thanks to which she is on leave in spring 2015. During her leave, she is working on a monograph on representations of Egyptian landscapes in Pompeian gardens, as well as an article on the Nilotic frescoes in the garden of the Casa dell’Efebo in Pompeii.

In 2013-14, Charles Brittain finished his stint as chair of the department at a highpoint, with the appointment of our new Hellenist, Athena Kirk. Since July, he has attended conferences on Plato and on the philosophers of the 1st C. CE in France and Denmark, as well as annual workshops on Plato’s Republic (at Yale) and on Plotinus (this year at Princeton). He is using his new-found leisure for research towards a philosophical translation and commentary on Augustine’s *De Trinitate* book X – a fascinating text that adapts and transcends arguments from Cicero and Plotinus to show that the human mind is the ‘image of god’ in virtue of being an immaterial substance with a trinitarian structure.

In 2013-4, Mike Fontaine taught undergraduate seminars on Catullus and the *Aeneid* and a graduate course on Suetonius’ *Lives*. He (and his family!) spent the summer in Rome teaching “living” Latin for the Paideia Institute—a spectacular humanities startup out of Princeton—to a gifted group of classics undergrads from around the US, including 4 Cornellians. He published the *Oxford Handbook of Greek and Roman Comedy*, is awaiting proofs for his Burmeister-Plautus book, and wrote or published a bunch of other papers and reviews. He soldiers on as Associate Dean of the Faculty and is proud to say his wife, Alyssa (a partner at Harris Beach), was named one of BizEventz’ “40 Under 40” movers and shakers in the Syracuse area for 2014. Ava celebrated her 4th birthday at Horace’s villa in Licenza, Jake turned 2 back in Ithaca, and both love chasing their two dogs, Izzy (9) and Panda (7).

In 2014, Kim Haines-Eitzen received an award from the American Academy of Religion for her current work on a book entitled *Acoustic Encounters in the Late Ancient Desert*, a study of the role of desert environmental sounds in Near Eastern monasticism of late antiquity. This award supported her field work: a research trip to historical monastic settlements in the Negev and Judean deserts in April, and to the four north American deserts—in both contexts, Haines-Eitzen made field recordings of environmental sounds. Over the last year, she has also delivered papers about her project at the University of Pennsylvania, Yale University, Penn State University, Lund University, Dumbarton Oaks (Harvard), and Columbia University.
In the spring of 2014, Nicole Giannella received her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California; her dissertation (“The Mind of the Slave: the Limits of Knowledge and Power in Roman Law and Society”) examined the dynamics of ownership in the master-slaver relationship. This fall, she began work on two articles: the first studies Seneca’s incorporation of legal expressions of autonomy to discuss a social conception freedom that is shared by free and unfree people and another on the relationship between intentional action and the performativity of legal status. This spring she is very excited to be offering a comparative course on Greek, Roman, and American slavery.

Hayden Pelliccia has spent his 2015 spring term leave working on archaic Greek vase inscriptions and Hellenistic epigrams, and writing book reviews. He looks forward to teaching a graduate seminar on Pindar this fall, and an upper level class on Greek lyric other than Pindar next spring. He was slightly bemused to find himself writing an article last fall on the opening words of Pindar’s third Pythian ode: the article is now forthcoming in Harvard Studies in Classical Philology, the venue in which he published a long article on the opening words of Pindar’s third Pythian ode in 1987. This past year saw the birth of his first grandchild, Rose.

Sturt Manning: 2014 saw a field season in Cyprus, with a group of Cornell students and other collaborators working on a survey of several ancient sites. This work integrated a range of archaeological approaches, from the traditional to the very modern (using three geophysical techniques to image under the ground surface). Among discoveries are two major structures, previously unknown, at the centers of two important urban sites, along with parts of the town plans. A major article on work around the Late Bronze Age site in the southern Maroni Valley appeared in the Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology. Also out in 2014 was a second edition of a book first published in 1999, along with a new 200 page update and discussion. The original challenged the standard chronology and history of the mid-second millennium BC east Mediterranean, and created more than a little controversy; the second edition, along with an article by Sturt and several collaborators at the end of 2014 in the leading journal Antiquity, takes this debate to the next stage; arguing that more or less all evidence since 1999 supports the original challenge and that it is time to write a new history rather than continue with flawed convention. Other work included study of a Byzantine era shipwreck with Postdoc Brita Lorentzen and colleagues, a contribution to an essay on climate in ancient Anatolia, and dendrochronological sampling at several sites.

Verity Platt: 2014 saw the publication of two separate articles on the relationship between art and text in antiquity - on Timanthes’ painting of the “Sacrifice of Iphigenia” for a volume on Art and Rhetoric in Roman Culture, and on “Likeness and Likelihood in Greek Art”, for a volume on Probabilities, Hypotheticals, and Counterfactuals in Ancient Greek Thought (both published by CUP). Meanwhile, Verity has been putting the finishing touches to an edited volume on Framing the Visual in Graeco-Roman Antiquity, getting lost in all kinds of labyrinthine framing devices as she does so! During 2014-15, she was fortunate enough to be a faculty fellow at Cornell’s Society for the Humanities, meeting for weekly seminars with an interdisciplinary group of inspiring scholars to discuss the theme of “Sensation”, while working on her current book project (on “Making Objects Matter” in ancient literature).

Amidst all this, it has been exciting to see the continued rehabilitation of Cornell’s once proud cast collection while curating two exhibitions with Annetta Alexandridis and a very devoted team of students. “Firing the Canon: the Cornell Casts and their Discontents” opened in a former Chilled Water Plant on campus in November, while “Cast and Present: Replicating Antiquity in the Museum and the Academy” launched at the Johnson Museum in the spring. Both shows formed part of Cornell’s Sesquicentennial celebrations, and offered a wonderful opportunity to
explore the history of our collection within the context of broader historical, cultural, and political trends, and even to restore some damaged casts. As a result, Verity’s sons Asher and Milo (now 3) have developed an obsession with statues, which come to life and cause all kinds of havoc at home!

Eric Rebillard currently serves as Director of Graduate Studies. This year has been quite busy with lectures and conferences: Berlin (Germany), Princeton University, Fordham University, Duke University. He also gave the Rothman Distinguished Lecture in Classics at the University of Florida and has served as the Christina Elliott Sorum Guest Professor in Classics at Union College. Eric is completing his project of an anthology of Acts of Christian Martyrs for Oxford University Press.

This year Courtney Roby completed her first book project (Technical Ekphrasis in Ancient Science: The Written Machine between Alexandria and Rome, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press); her article on Seneca’s “scientific fictions” was published in the Journal of Roman Studies, and she looks forward to seeing the final version of her work on embodiment in the Roman surveying texts when it comes out. As nature abhors a vacuum, she has begun work on her next book-length project, on Hero of Alexandria, whose multifaceted corpus of scientific and technical texts (on vacuums, among other things!) remained a central source of information and inspiration for scientific work and mechanical experimentation well into the early modern period. Untangling the complexities of the manuscripts and early printed editions of Hero’s corpus has been greatly assisted thanks to the Rare Book School, for which Courtney started a three-year Mellon fellowship this year. Other new projects include a chapter on framing in Hero and Ptolemy for Verity Platt’s Framing the Visual in Graeco-Roman Antiquity collection, a chapter on metaphor and metonymy in Plotinus’s model of the liver’s physiological role, for a collection on metaphor and the body in ancient medicine, and the links between Greek alchemical texts and contemporary science.

During the fall, Courtney taught an undergraduate course on Roman technology and a graduate course on Latin scientific texts. She also took up a new role as Faculty Fellow in Donlon Hall, where she sneaks in some Classics material here and there while conversing with first-year students. In the spring term, she sponsored another event in the “Medieval Cosmologies” program with Ben Anderson (History of Art) and Andrew Hicks (Music and Medieval Studies), which brought David Creese to Cornell to lecture on ancient Greek music theory.

This spring Jeff Rusten’s Loeb Library translation of Philostratus’ Heroicus appeared, and over the summer his commentary on Thucydides book 1 came tantalizingly close to completion at last – it was tested by students at the University of North Carolina in the fall, and he taught a seminar on Thucydides with it in the spring of 2015. The summer also gave him two wonderful opportunities: to hold a three-day seminar on Aristophanes at the Center for Hellenic studies to help plan the long-distance “Sunoikisis” seminar for this fall; and to present to archaeologists and historians of the Black Sea a new interpretation of the chous with comic actors discovered in Phanagoria off Crimea in 1878, and get their feedback (at a conference organized by Edith Hall and David Braund in London). Jeff also gave a talk on Thucydides at Fordham in April, and spoke on comedy at Davidson College in the spring of 2015.

Barry Strauss continues to serve as Chair of the Department of History. His new book, The Death of Caesar: The Story of History's Most Famous Assassination, was published by Simon & Schuster to great acclaim in March 2015.
**Natasha Binek** (2011) appreciated the rewarding experience of teaching a freshman-writing seminar on Greek myth last fall. Having completed her A-exams, she has turned to work on her dissertation, which will focus on Vergil’s response to and use of antecedent tradition in his portrayal of Venus in the *Aeneid*.

**Liana Brent** spent the 2014 summer visiting archaeological sites in Greece with the American School of Classical Studies at Athens on an Alumni/ae Association scholarship, followed by a month of language study at the Goethe-Institut in Berlin. Her first article on grave goods from a Roman cemetery in Southeast Italy was published in an edited volume (*Beyond Vagnari*, Bari 2014). She presented a paper on the materiality of Roman cinerary urns at University College Dublin, which will appear as an article in 2016. In Fall 2014, Liana taught Latin 1201 while preparing for her A exams.

**Jenny Carrington** presented a poster at the AIA Annual Meeting in Chicago in January as a representative for the group project on “Wax Imagines in the Roman World.” This well-received research was reported by a number of popular and academic publications, including the Cornell Chronicle, Live Science, Der Spiegel, and Antike Welt. Jenny also presented on Ptolemaic temple dedications at the Classical Association conference in Nottingham and prepared a contribution to an edited volume on change in material practices in the Hellenistic and Roman Near East.

**Carrie Fulton** thoroughly enjoyed teaching a first-year writing seminar on Greek myth in the fall. She has also presented material from her fieldwork and dissertation at several conferences over the last year including at the International Congress for Underwater Archaeology, the annual meeting for the North American Society for Oceanic History, and a conference on appropriation at Stanford University. For a few weeks during the summer, Carrie traveled to Athens—with the highlight being the opportunity to see the exhibit on the Antikythera shipwreck—and spent a few weeks surveying off the coast of Cyprus in order to document stone anchors. During the upcoming year, she is looking forward to finishing her dissertation, teaching, and presenting at several conferences.

**Jake Nabel** spent the Fall 2014 semester as a visiting student at Christian-Albrechts-Universität in Kiel, Germany, where he undertook dissertation research under the guidance of Professor Josef Wiesehöfer. He returned to Cornell for Spring 2015 with the support of a Graduate Fellowship from the Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies. Forthcoming publications include an article on Virgil in *Classical Quarterly* as well as chapters on Roman and Parthian history in edited volumes from Brill and Oxbow. Jake recently launched [parthiansources.com](http://parthiansources.com), an annotated digital collection of texts from the Parthian empire in Parthian, Greek, and Latin.

**Peter Osorio** (2014) has come to Ithaca from UPenn’s post-baccalaureate program in classics. This year, his article, “Justus Lipsius and his Confusion of Chrysippus’s Distinction of Causes in *Physiologia*, 1, 14” has been published in *Humanistica Lovaniensia* 63. At Cornell, he has continued his work on Hellenistic philosophy, having written on Horace on Stoic self-sufficiency, Cicero’s *De divinatione* II, Vergil’s uses of Stoic psychology, and Augustine’s reception of Epicureanism. He looks forward in 2015 for opportunities to test his ideas on larger audiences and to further his preparation for exams.

**Jonathan Warner** (2014) joined the Cornell Cassics department having just completed his M.A. in Classical Languages at the University of Georgia. His Masters thesis, “Vegetius’ *Epitoma rei militaris*: Institutions, Rules, and Reception,” focused on how Vegetius’ historical perspective was expressed in pragmatic rules and how those *regulae* were transferred into a Byzantine context in Maurice’s *Strategikon*. In the spring, Jonathan presented his study of Maurice’s translation at the New College Conference of Medieval and Renaissance Studies. After arriving at Cornell, he continued to explore his interest in late antiquity, writing papers on Theodosius’ anti-heresy legislation, Palladas’ epigrams, and the *De rebus bellicis*’ elemental imagery. In 2015, Jonathan looks forward to continuing his coursework at Cornell and studying in Germany.
Congratulations!

We are proud to announce that the 2014 Last Lecture at Australian National University was delivered by Ioannis Ziogas (Cornell PhD, 2010) on October 30, 2014. This "is not a University award decided by a committee, and it's not an election; it's for students to decide whom they would like to hear speaking at a 'red velvet' event in October - a symbolic end to the academic year." You can view his talk at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrqIxGYJ9Ws&index=1&list=PL13B765F4DEBC50B7.

The Cornell Expedition, 1907-1908: Deep Past and Digital Futures

This workshop was organized by Ben Anderson (History of Art) and Eric Rebillard (Classics and History) on Saturday, February 28, 2015. It brought together many of the actors involved in two grants won by Anderson and Rebillard to work on the Cornell Expedition to Asia Minor and the Assyro-Babylonian Orient (1907-1908) and one of its gems: the squeezes of the Monumentum Ancyranum (modern Ankara, Turkey) where the Res Gestae of the emperor Augustus were inscribed in both Latin and Greek. At the workshop, after a brief introduction by Eric Rebillard, Ben Anderson talked about the Expedition and its intellectual context, while Michele Hamill and Jill Iacchei (Conservation, Cornell University Library) described their work on the conservation of the squeezes and Eleni Bozia (University of Florida) presented a new digital toolbox for a 3D reconstruction of digitized squeezes. Tim Sorg (PhD candidate in History) explored some possible uses of the squeezes in the classroom. The Cornell Expedition was one of the projects selected by the College of Arts and Sciences for the Sesquicentennial celebration (http://as.cornell.edu/150/cornell-expedition.cfm) and the digitized squeezes are available both in 2D and in 3D on the Cornell Collection of Antiquities page (https://antiquities.library.cornell.edu/squeezes).

On Sunday 19th April 2015 at 7:00 PM, students of the Tragic Theatre Course, in collaboration with the Classics Society of Cornell University staged a very well received, multinational performance, in English, of Seneca's Trojan Women in the Blackbox Theater in the Schwartz Center for the Creative and Performing Arts. The cast included Julia Kurk as Hecuba, Emily Farnier as Cassandra (a member of the chorus), Samantha Viramontes as Polyxena (a member of the chorus) Erial Zheng as Talthybius, Yunqi Tian as Calchas, Michelle Quezada as Agamemnon, Ben Ross as Pyrrhus, Christina Zhang as Andromache, Emily Collins as Andromache's servant and member of the chorus, Katie Cruz as Astyanax, Thane Gray as Ulysses, and Luby Kiriadiki as Helen. The play was translated and directed by Frederick Ahl.
Alumni Profiles

Alex Callen (2009) obtained a double major in Classics and Near Eastern Studies. Then, he worked as a paralegal in Washington, D.C. for two years. In May 2014, Alex graduated from Fordham University School of Law, magna cum laude, Order of the Coif. He is now a business law associate at Goodwin Procter, LLP in New York City, where he lives with his wife, Rachel Tamaroff (Human Ecology, 2009).

Kolb Ettenger (2007, MA University of Arizona 2013) after completing a Master’s degree in Classics with a focus in Latin pedagogy, is now teaching Latin in Tucson, AZ at BASIS Oro Valley, a charter school that was listed as one of the nation’s top ten high schools in The Daily Beast’s 2014 rankings. In his free time, Kolb is a regular on the competitive air guitar circuit, and even competed in the US Air Guitar national finals in 2010.

Christina Ellinger (2013) went on and got a master’s degree in museum education at GW and worked part time in several cultural institutions in the Boston area. More recently, she started a job in event merchandising at Joss and Main (part of Wayfair), which involves preparing the site (pulling together images, copy, inventory and pricing data, etc.) for flash sales.

Kathryn (Kate) Engelhardt (2007) completed an MD at University of Cincinnati in 2013. She is currently a General surgery resident at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC.

Marcus Folch (2000) is an Assistant Professor of Classics at Columbia University. His first book, entitled The Polis and the Stage: Performance, Genre, and Gender in Plato’s Laws, will be released with Oxford University Press in fall 2015. He is currently working on a second book, entitled Bondage, Incarceration, and the Prison in Ancient Greece and Rome: A Cultural and Literary History, which offers (as the title suggests) a history of incarceration and the prison in the ancient world.

John Gerich (1965) completed an MD at Georgetown University. His residency was at Georgetown. John had a fellowship in the Metabolic Research Unit at the University of California. He has held academic positions at the University of California, Mayo Clinic & Mayo Medical School, University of Pittsburgh, The Whittier Institute and The University of Rochester. He is currently Emeritus Professor of Medicine at The University of Rochester.

Chip Godfrey (2008) left his advertising research job at Nielsen in March 2014 to join MasterCard’s advertising research group. He has been working on product development and big data analysis. In August 2015, Chip will be leaving MasterCard to return to Cornell and earn an MBA at the Johnson School. Chip has also received the Johnson School’s Park Fellowship, which is a full tuition merit scholarship for students with strong leadership qualities. Chip is so excited to be coming back to Ithaca!

Eli Goldblatt (1974) (Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1990) spent a year in medical school, taught high school science and math, and traveled in Central America. At 31, he went to grad school in English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he shifted from modernist poetry to composition/rhetoric. He is now Professor of English at Temple University and has published three collections of poetry, two children’s books and three academic books on literacy. His most recent book is Writing Home: A Literacy Autobiography (S. Illinois UP), which contains a chapter on his years as a transfer student at Cornell.

Hilary Hahn (1993). is an Associate Research Scientist and Project Director of the Childhood Violent Trauma Center at the Yale School of Medicine. For more than two decades, the Childhood Violent Trauma Center has combined direct clinical experience with advances in scientific and practical knowledge and translated this into the development of groundbreaking interventions for traumatized children and families. The multi-disciplinary CVTC team provides trauma-informed treatments and services to children and families, builds professional knowledge through clinical research, and advances the field of child trauma treatment through collaboration, training and dissemination.

Colleen Marocco (2000) has been working at Tishman Speyer, a commercial real estate firm in New York City since graduating. Over the past 15 years since graduating, she has had roles in Property Management, Portfolio Management and is currently work in the Finance group. While her role is not directly related to the degree she received, Colleen says “my experience at Cornell and everything I learned there provided me a strong foundation for my work experience. I truly value my time at Cornell and in the Classics department!”

Ashley McEnery (2011) spent two years in Investment Banking at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. She is currently part of Microsoft / Xbox’s Strategy team.

Aaron Peltari (Ph.D. Cornell University, 2012) After working at the University of California Santa Barbara and at Lake Highland Preparatory School, he moved to the University of Edinburgh in 2014, where he is a Chancellor’s Fellow in the School of History, Classics and Archaeology. In 2014 he also published his revised dissertation as The Space That Remains: Reading Latin Poetry in Late Antiquity (Cornell University Press). While his primary research interest is late antique Latin poetry, he also works on the reception of classical literature; on bilingual manuscripts and translation; on commentaries and paratexts; and, in general, on the many ways that classical literature invites and evades closure.
Joshua Robinson (1998) (Graduated Johnson School: 2011; Graduated Queens School of Business: 2011) is a finance and business development professional. He has been advising clients in the structured finance and syndicated loan markets for the last ten years. Josh is currently an Associate Director at Ernst & Young in the Private Equity Practice.

John Sander majored in Classics and Physics and graduated from Cornell Arts and Sciences in 1976. After obtaining an A.M. in History of Science from Harvard, he switched directions to law, graduating from Cornell Law School in 1980, where he was Article Editor of the Cornell Law Review. John served as law clerk to the Hon. Joseph L. Tauro (Cornell Law ’56), a federal judge in Boston, then began a career as litigator and labor/employment lawyer with law firms and as Vice President and Associate General Counsel in the pharmaceutical industry.

He is now a partner in the labor/employment law firm of Jackson Lewis LLP, where he leads the international practice. John also serves as President of the Pro Bono Partnership, an award-winning non-profit which provides legal services and training to a variety of non-profit organizations assisting the disadvantaged through the volunteer efforts of law firm and corporation lawyers. He is Vice Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce Commission on Arbitration, where he has been active in international dispute resolution and its reform.

John would love to hear from other Classics Department alumni, and can be reached at jsander7@gmail.com

Matthew Sears (Ph.D. 2011) taught for two years at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana. In July 2013, he began a tenure-track appointment as an assistant professor of Classics at the University of New Brunswick in Canada. His first book, entitled Athens, Thrace, and the Shaping of Athenian Leadership and based on my Cornell dissertation research, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2013. Currently he is working on two book projects: a traveller’s guide to the ancient battlefields of Greece, and a study of Brasidas and other Spartan leaders during and after the Peloponnesian War.

Judith Paul Starkston (1981) is currently writing historical fiction set in the Bronze Age of Anatolia and Cyprus. Her first novel, Hand of Fire, published by Fireship Press, came out September 2014. It’s the tale of Briseis as current archaeology has revealed she might have been. A sequel to Hand of Fire will take place on Cyprus in the Bronze Age. She is also currently completing the first of an historical mystery series with Queen Puduhepa of the Hittites as her “sleuth.”

Katerina Stanton (2007) ran her own freelance editing business, I Use Well Good (www.iusewellgood.com), for the last few years, and found that her studies in Classics helped her to much better understand the foundations of the English language, grammar, rhetoric, and structure. As much as she enjoy editing, this past fall she had the pleasure of accepting a full-time position at Mann Library as Access Services Evening Supervisor, Reserves & ILL Assistant, and Bindery Coordinator. Katerina supervises around 40 student employees, sees to unbound journals being bound for collections, assist in course reserves each semester, as well as facilitating interlibrary loan requests. She plans to seek a Master’s in Library and Information Science from Syracuse University in the next few years and pursue a Librarianship here at Cornell. Katerina said “My experience in Classics has well prepared me for work in an academic library! It’s wonderful to guide students and faculty alike in pursuing their academic goals. I hope that my experience can demonstrate the variety of directions a major in Classics can take you!”

Isabel Zinman started her PhD in the History of Art and Architecture Department at Brown University in September. Just before, she completed a two year Master’s program in Art History at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands through an Excellence Scholarship. She is still reading Latin! Isabel’s MA thesis examines passages on artists in chorographies of the Early Modern period. She traced how chorography derives from a combination of classical genres, as well as its frequent sections describing artists.’

Below: Graduate alumni Ioannis Ziogas and Erica Bexley met up with Aaron Pellettari in Edinburgh, Scotland for a little reunion and whisky tasting.
Graduate students Jeff Leon and Katie Kearns with Sturt Manning working at the site of Kalavasos Ayios Dimitrios in Cyprus.