Greetings from Murphey Hall. After a year’s absence, Tabulae is back; I hope my letter last summer helped fill the gap. In that letter I talked about how busy we all are, and everyone’s still very busy, teaching more students with thirteen faculty than we did with sixteen a few years ago. But things are great, and not just because we’ve seen a Red Sox World Series victory (hi viri, hi sunt, tibi quos promittis saepius audis—I know it doesn’t scan). I won’t go over much of what I mentioned in that letter, and I don’t have to, because good things continue to happen to the Department. The biggest news is that we’re doing three searches this year, looking for assistant professors in Greek literature and in Hellenistic and/or Roman Art, and for a “Kenan Eminent Professor of Classics,” for which position “the field of specialization is open,” as our advertisement says, but for which “an attempt will be made to complement the Department’s current and continuing strengths.” If these three searches are successful, we will be back up to fifteen FTE, and will have hired nine new colleagues since 1999, at a time when scholars working on the classical period have also been added in the Departments of Philosophy (Reeve), and Religion (Plese, Magness). Everyone’s been working hard to get everything done with a reduced staff, and the three searches themselves mean one more year of everyone doing too much. But when the administration gives you three positions in one year, one of them at the distinguished professor level, you’re not supposed to complain.

I mentioned in my summer letter that we had a fine year in recruiting graduate students, with nine new students accepting our offers of admission last spring. They’ve arrived, with a refreshing impact on our numbers and esprit. Two of them are Yankees fans, which does limit their chances for success in graduate school as long as I’m chair, but I have to admit they were gracious when the Yankees were up 3-0. Our four-year-old post-baccalaureate program is also thriving, with students regularly moving on (with financial support) to other graduate programs, and in one case even to the Ph.D. program here at UNC. The post-bacc program had been in a “quiet stage,” but now we’re happy to have all of you tell your students and friends to look into the program. (Information is on our website.)

The older graduate students continue to thrive, with two winning Fulbrights the last couple of years to go to Greece and Rome, and two dissertation completion fellowships from the graduate school this year, and impressive numbers continue to give papers at CAMWS and other conferences. Faculty too continue to win honors, and produce new books and articles: you can read elsewhere in this newsletter about who won a Rome Prize, a Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement by Young Faculty, and a Reynolds Competitive Leave, as well as the title of Carolyn Connor’s brand new book. In my summer letter I mentioned Sara Mack’s retirement party last spring; this fall’s event has been the reception and dinner held on the occasion of the presentation of a Festschrift to Jerzy Linderski, about which you can also read more inside. Collaborations with Duke also continue: last spring History’s Richard Talbert taught a seminar on “Space and
Place in the Roman World” with Grant Parker of Duke, and this year Sharon James and Duke’s Sheila Dillon are co-teaching a graduate course on “Approaches to Women in Antiquity.”

In last summer’s letter I provided a url leading to pictures of the renovated Murphey Hall, www.classics.unc.edu/facilities/murpheyhall/MurpheyPage.html. The newest addition to Murphey is not inside but outside of the building: on the southwest corner is the new “Paul and Sheila Wellstone Memorial Garden” built to commemorate the late senator from Minnesota, who received bachelor’s and doctoral degrees in political science from UNC. The garden and its three benches immediately became a popular destination for students; I don’t know who will be the first of us to hold office hours there.

I close this year by noting how gratifying it has been for me as chair to learn how many of our alumni/alumnae care enough about the Department to send in contributions large and small. In a time of reduced state funding, donations have been crucial to our efforts to maintain excellence while rebuilding the Department. Another distinguished department’s newsletter listed the names of all those who had contributed in the last year, but to me, given the number of letters I’ve sent out in the last year to donors to UNC Classics, it was a paltry list, with half of the names from current faculty. The list of names of those who have sent checks to us is long, broad in its scope and range, and a fine cross-section of the many fine Classicists receiving this newsletter. My thanks to all.

—Jim O’Hara

**JERZY LINDERSKI FESTSCHRIFT**

Ten of Jerzy Linderski’s students have contributed papers to a volume in his honor: *Augusto augurio: Rerum humanarum et divinarum commenationes in honorem Jerzy Linderski*, edited by Christoph Konrad and published by Franz Steiner (Stuttgart, 2004). To mark the publication of the book, and present it to Jerzy, there was a reception and dinner on Saturday, October 16, in Chapel Hill. Contributors to the volume came, as well as other colleagues, friends, and former students, some from faraway places such as California, Texas, New Jersey, and Florida, others from our neighbor Duke. Some fifty persons came. Some colleagues and former students, of course, could not come to Chapel Hill, but many sent letters which were gathered by Kathryn Fiscelli in a book and presented to Jerzy, and one former student sent a CD with pictures of former students and a dedication; those present had a look at the pictures, thanks to Jeff Becker, who provided his laptop. During the reception, Christoph presented Jerzy with a copy of the *Festschrift* after a few words of praise and thanks; Jerzy then responded in Latin, the highlight of the evening. A dinner at the Weathervane Cafe followed.


![Eight of the contributors to Augusto augurio
gathered in Chapel Hill for the presentation of the volume.](image)


purchased online for 36 Euros from Steiner (Google for Steiner Verlag, then search for Linderski). You can also view and, if you wish, buy pictures taken at the reception at <photorefleet.com>; you will be asked for the Customer or Event Name, which is “Classics Department Festschrift.”

—GWH, with thanks to Kathryn Fiscelli and Chris Konrad

**THE KENNETH RECKFORD FUND**

For many years, Kenneth Reckford has made all kinds of contributions to the Department of Classics. He has, of course, been a superb teacher, at all levels; he worked tirelessly on committees and in administrative assignments, not least during his many years as Director of Graduate Studies; and his many articles, books, and papers constitute an exemplary contribution to our research mission. But there is another way in which Kenneth has been generous to this Department: for many years, he has made anonymous gifts to the Department to provide travel grants for our graduate students, helping them travel abroad in the summer or attend professional meetings. Often, the funding Kenneth gave us in a given year was equal to the funding for student travel that we had from all other sources combined.

Thus I was not surprised when, toward the end of my term as Chair, Kenneth came to me with a wonderfully generous proposal. He wanted to establish a graduate fellowship. He would, he told me, match whatever funds we could raise from other sources, up to $150,000. If we could raise that much, it would (when matched) provide a total endowment of $300,000, or enough to produce an annual income of about $15,000. The student would teach for three years of the fellowship, and that would provide additional income and the student’s tuition, making the fellowship a very generous one indeed. Needless to say, I was delighted by Kenneth’s proposal, and jumped at the chance. Although Kenneth at first thought of this as an anonymous gift, he agreed to let us name the fund after him, and in this way the Kenneth Reckford Fund for graduate fellowships came into being.

We began the fund drive in late spring, 2002, sending letters to all former graduate students in Classics, to many of Kenneth’s former undergraduate students, to Kenneth’s own family and many friends, and to current and past faculty in the Department. By the time twelve months had gone by, 116 individuals (of about 300 to whom we sent letters) had responded, sending in gifts or pledges that totalled more than $112,000. In 2003 we sent out a second appeal, and as of September 2004 we had a total (counting Kenneth’s own contributions) of over $274,000 in gifts and pledges from over 130 individuals. Thus the campaign for the Reckford Fund has gone very
well, and we are very grateful for the wonderful and generous response we have received, but we are still about $25,000 short of our goal. We could stop here and offer the fellowship with a somewhat lower stipend than we had planned; but it is our hope that Kenneth’s many friends and students will continue to support the campaign and help us reach our ultimate goal of $300,000 or more.

At this point, it is up to you, the readers of *Tabulae*. If you have received a letter from us but not yet sent in a gift or a pledge, we hope you will respond soon. If you have not received a letter, but would like to help establish the Fund and in so doing celebrate the career and accomplishments of Kenneth Reckford, please write or call me and ask for a pledge form. I can be reached at <gwhousto@email.unc.edu>, at 919-962-7646, or at: Department of Classics CB 3145, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3145. It is my hope that in the 2005-2006 issue of *Tabulae* we will be able to report that we have met our goal, and that the first Reckford Fellow will soon be on campus.

—George W. Houston

**Variæ Viae Reportant**

Various of our former students have wandered north in recent years. There are, of course, the Minnesotan Carolinians, in Northfield and Saint Peter. But there are others. **Jim Yavenditti** (BA ’97) completed his MA at Georgia in the summer of 2004, and is now in his third year at St. Luke’s School in Canaan, Connecticut. Enrollments have increased so much in Jim’s three years there that the school is hiring a second Latin teacher this year; Jim will teach in the Upper School only, and be the Tenth Grade Class Dean. He took students to Italy last March, and plans a trip to Roman Britain next spring. **Jeff Mikell** (BA ’03) spent last year in snowy Buffalo. He read Greek and sat in on classes at SUNY-Buffalo on Hesiod and Proto-Indo-European. He worked as a substitute teacher in Latin, English, and Math (but not proto-IE), and somehow found time to write a novel which, as of January, had been accepted for publication if not quite finished; he hopes that it will be out by the end of 2004.

In other north-bound moves, **Hans Mueller** (PhD ’94) and family headed up the road from Gainesville to Schenectady, New York; Hans will be Professor and Chair of Classics at Union College. His edition of Gibbon’s *Decline and Fall* appeared in the summer of 2003 (Random House) and as of this fall had risen to number 45,676 on Amazon.com’s sales rank. And, finally, **Jeff Beneker** (PhD ’03) has decamped to St. Anselm College in Manchester, NH, where he is now an Assistant Professor. St. Anselm, with some 2000 students, has no fewer than 40 Classics majors.

**Joann McDaniel** (PhD ’95), by now a long-time northerner, started a new position with the University of Michigan effective at the beginning of this academic year. Now Director of Undergraduate Academic Services in the School of Art and Design, she is the hands-down winner of the 2004 Mentor/Chiron Award. **Eric Dugdale** (PhD ’01) has, for this year, left Gustavus Adolphus to be the assistant professor at the Intercollegiate Center in Rome, where he is working with Mary Sturgeon of the UNC Art Department. (Check out the picture of Eric in his bright red parka at the ICCR website!) **Harrison Williams** (MA ’74) is one of several former students who have dropped by to check on the New Murphey, which he liked very much. He has been working in the library at Gardner-Webb for some twenty years now. **Chris Cudabac** (MA ’04, with a thesis on the Venerable Bede) now teaches Latin, Greek, and history at Charlotte Latin School in Charlotte, and **Matt Henstridge** (MA ’04) has moved to the Cincinnati area to teach at Villa Madonna Academy, a Benedictine School.

Juno Lucina smiles on Murphey and its denizens past and present, as young classicists are appearing in numbers: Earle Wren Cheshire-Wood, daughter of **Keyne Cheshire** (PhD ’01) and Alyssa, born July 26, 2004; James Edward Draper, son of **Mary McElwee** (current PhD student) and husband Edward Draper, born May 27, 2004; Isabelle Anne Marie Hawkins, daughter of **Shane Hawkins** (current PhD student) and Victoria, born December 23, 2003; and Sydney Campbell Gardner-McCrossin, six-pound four-ounce daughter of current PhD student **Hunter Gardner** and husband Sean McCrossin, born on October 19, 2004. And more are expected: watch this space in next year’s *Tabulae*.

We reported two years ago about the inaugural season of the UNC excavation at Azoria in Crete.
This past summer Don Haggis had a staff there of no fewer than forty students, among them six of our current undergraduates: Miles Brown, Charles Newsome, Caitlin Johnson, Rachel C. McCleery, and Anne Sassin, all archaeology majors or minors, as well as Agnes B. Gambill (Classical Humanities). In addition, one of our new Post-Baccalaureate students, Erin Galligan (BA, Duke), joined the Azoria team in 2004. And other students have been digging abroad, too. Working with Nicola Terrenato in Italy were undergraduates Missy Rattliff, Katie Huntley, Rachel Opitz, Joy Rebeer, Christopher Cline, and Elisabeth Dale, as well as current graduate students Hilary Becker and Kristina Killgrove.

—GWH

*The Wednesday Tea tradition continues*

**NEWS OF CURRENT GRADUATE AND POST-BACCALAUREATE STUDENTS**


**NEWS OF THE FACULTY**


Donald Haggis excavated at Azoria, Crete, this past summer, continuing a project begun in 2002 ([www.azoria.org](http://www.azoria.org)). The excavation explores the Early Iron Age origins of an Archaic Greek city, its sociopolitical institutions, and its economy. While the focus of this season’s work was the excavation of the city’s andreion, new discoveries include a pryteen, perhaps the earliest yet recovered in the Aegean, and a small temple on the edge of the agora. For Fall 2004, Donald has won a Reynolds Competitive Leave from UNC.

Happily on leave in the spring of 2004, George Houston continued working on Roman libraries. He turned to material from Egypt and spent the summer learning about papyri and what they can tell us about ancient book collections. He and Jean also travelled in Spain in June and July, visiting as many of the Roman bridges, aqueducts, and other technology-related sites as they could in 25 days. An article on Galen and the Horrea Piperataria in Rome appeared in MAAR 2004.

TAPA. She will present a paper on women’s speech in comedy and elegy at a special seminar on “The Gender of Latin” at the APA/AIA meeting in Boston. In the fall of 2004, she is team-teaching, with Sheila Dillon of Duke’s Art History Department, an interdisciplinary graduate course on the study of women in antiquity. They believe no class like it has ever been offered anywhere, although, as Sharon says, “we could be wrong about this, of course.”

Maura Lafferty won the Rome Prize at the American Academy and is in Rome this year working on her book, Empress of Languages: The Culture of Latin in the Early Middle Ages. She hopes to return to Chapel Hill fluent in Italian.

“On the work front,” reports Sara Mack, “I am reviewing Michael Simpson’s translation of the Metamorphoses. I began a career as a house painter in Maine this summer by helping a crew of high school teachers paint our cottage. I continue my knitting career by making baby things for upcoming grandchildren (and the occasional graduate student).”

Jim O’Hara is cautiously optimistic about being able to survive his term as chair. He has three articles forthcoming: “‘Some God… or his Own Heart’: Two Kinds of Epic Motivation in the Proem to Ovid’s Metamorphoses” (in Classical Journal), “War and the Sweet Life: the Gallus Fragment and the Text of Tibullus 1.10.11” (in Classical Quarterly), and “Trying not to Cheat: Responses to Inconsistencies in Roman Epic,” in a special issue of TAPA that will contain papers from a 2003 conference at Rutgers University on “Critical Divergences: New Directions in the Study of Roman Literature.” He is close to finishing his book Inconsistency in Roman Epic: Studies in Catullus, Lucretius, Vergil, Ovid and Lucan, for the Cambridge University Press series “Roman Literature in its Contexts.” And he is doing the “Aeneid 4” portion of a school commentary on the Aeneid for Focus Press.


After coming to Chapel Hill in January 2004, Werner Riess and his wife Claudia have managed to settle in. Work on Werner’s project, “Violence in 4th century Athens,” continues, but he has also been busy writing and delivering talks about “The Battle of Chaeroneia” (CAMWS 2004) and “Hunting down Robbers in third-century Central Italy” (Lyon, France, fall 2004). Werner adds: “As exciting as these topics may seem to me, nothing matches the excitement about our first child, to be born by the end of the year!”

Both Smiths are busy this Fall, Peter teaching three Greek courses (which, he claims, is like eating nothing but desserts), Rebekah setting an example of cooperation by teaching Greek Civilization at Duke and Vergil at UNC.

Philip Stadter has taken advantage of his retirement to travel to Europe to deliver papers at the Symposium of Spanish Plutarchists at Barcelona on “Revisiting Plutarch’s Lives of the Caesars” (November 2003) and in Leuven, Belgium, and Exeter, England, on “Herodotus and the Cities of Mainland Greece” (November 2003 and June 2004). In May he had two chances to observe European academic ritual, first at the inaugural address of the Regis Professor of Greek at Oxford (Chris Pelling, recently Visiting Professor at UNC), and later at a doctoral examination at the University of Leuven, Belgium. In September 2004 he visited Delphi, where Plutarch was priest for many years, and there he spoke on philonikia, the desire to win, at a conference on Plutarch’s ethics.

Nicola Terrenato won one of UNC’s 2004 Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prizes for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement by Young Faculty. The award carries a $5,000 stipend, and Nic was recognized for his achievements in archaeology by Chancellor Moeer at a Faculty Council meeting in September. Nic also received the Cullen Prize in 2003. Presented by the Trustees of the journal Antiquity, the Cullen Prize recognizes “the most promising contribution to archaeology by a younger author.” Nic is currently serving as director of the summer archaeology
program of the American Academy in Rome.

In his retirement, Bill West has been studying virtues in inscriptions and has written on Cretan inscriptions which cite the andreon (place for common meals). He has travelled to Athens and Crete, and he and Jo Anne have two new grandchildren, one each in Alexandria (VA) and Boston.

Cecil Wooten spent most of his time over the last year teaching his classes, working on a reader’s guide to Demosthenes’s Philippics, and taking care of his aging dogs, who are now fifteen and fourteen. He has been thinking about retiring, at least part-time, in two or three years.

THE FAUNA OF OLD MURPHY,
A REMINISCENCE

In some ways, I miss the animals. The old, old Murphiey had neither air-conditioning nor screens, and for months each year the windows stood open. Animals took advantage. Mud-dauber wasps built nests every year high in a corner of my office; large buzzing insects drifted into class and mesmerized the students; one year a beehive right outside the upstairs graduate office made work there very difficult. Or birds would fly into Murphiey, then be completely stumped as to how to exit. You would chase them down the hall, trying to force them out an open window, but they would resist (having, after all, only bird brains), turning at the last moment and flying back over you toward the other end of the hall.

There was ivy on Murphiey, too, providing a kind of highway for small animals. My lunch in those days often featured a peanut-butter and jelly sandwich, and late one morning, returning to my office after a class, I found that a squirrel had come in my window and helped himself to part of the sandwich. When I arrived he was trying to drag the rest, baggie and all, to the window. Panicked by my arrival, but reluctant to abandon the peanut butter, he hesitated, as squirrels will, then decided on safety and took off for the window.

All this (and more) is gone. Murphiey now is climate-controlled (and very nicely so), and its windows can be left closed. Once in a while, especially on a crisp fall or a gentle spring day, I still open my window. At first, it’s nice to hear the sounds from outside, but it’s not long before the indistinct sounds become distractions, the muted noises turn into leaf blowers, and a persistent mosquito or fly finds me. I am happy then to close the window. The AC is great. Long live the New Murphiey.

—GWH

Have you moved? Do you have news? Let us know!
Please fill out this form (or a copy of it) and return it to: George Houston, Dept. of Classics, CB 3145, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3145.

I have a new address (whether email or regular mail).

My old address (the one this Tabulae was sent to) is: ____________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Please change that to:

__________________________________________________________________________________________

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Yes! I have news! It is: ____________________________________________________________

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