

# Pennsylvania Classical Association Newsletter

The Pennsylvania Classical Association  
Department of Classics  
Duquesne University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15282-1741

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Spring  
2002

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*From the Desk of the President . . .*

Salvete, sodales!

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as president of PCA this year. Terry Klein did a superb job last year, and I hope we can keep the positive momentum going. Here are some quick updates on current issues:

## *State Language Standards*

Any minute now—perhaps already by the time you read this—the Pennsylvania Department of Education will release the proposed standards for World Languages. They are to be posted on the PDE website: [www.pde.state.pa.us](http://www.pde.state.pa.us). This long deferred event will signal the beginning of a public comment period.

The World Language standards are supposed to apply to all modern languages, and there is a separate but parallel set of standards for the classical languages (based on the national standards published by the American Classical League).

The commonwealth's World Language Advisor, Pam Kolega ([pkolega@state.pa.us](mailto:pkolega@state.pa.us)) has been guiding the proposed standards, Ariadne-like, through the labyrinthine process of creation, review and (perhaps) eventual approval by the board of education. She attended the PCA conference in 2000, and will speak at the next one, in Carlisle in September (see below), on the subject of standards.

What will the advent of state standards for Latin mean in practical terms? Will there be testing associated with them? How will they affect curricula, pedagogy and the status of Latin around the state? All this remains to be seen. But the department of education really does want feedback, so if you would like to put in your two sesterces, go to the PDE web site and have a look.

*Act 48*

Those of you who work in public schools will be quite familiar with this 1999 measure that mandates 180 hours of professional development or six college credits in your field every five years to maintain certification.

PCA is an approved provider of professional development under Act 48, so every minute you spend in a session at a PCA meeting will automatically and without question count towards the Act 48 requirement. The hours are simply entered directly by PCA into the state's record keeping web site, bypassing those pesky administrators. This system was inaugurated last October at the Pittsburgh meeting, and from all I have heard it worked without problems (if there have been any, I would appreciate hearing about them).

If you know any Latin teachers who are not members of PCA, let them know about this service that we provide. I'm hoping it will in the long run boost our membership and foster Latin and classical studies around the state.

## *Annual Meeting 2002*

The dates are September 27 and 28, 2002, in Carlisle. As they used to say about my hometown, Ithaca, New York, Carlisle is centrally isolated. Still, I am sure we can get a good turn out, not only from the middle of the state but also from both ends. Carlisle is two hours from Philadelphia and about three from Pittsburgh.

As with last year's very successful meeting in Pittsburgh, the sessions will consist not of the traditional 15-minute research reports, but substantial 45-minute talks on topics of general interest. Just to whet your appetite, this year's speakers will include Robert Phillips from Lehigh University on Roman ghosts, Gail Cooper from the Academy of the New Church on teaching about Roman women, Michael Comber from Oxford University on film and classical mythology, and Christofilis Maggidis, the assistant director at Mycenae, on new discoveries there. And, as mentioned above, Pam Kolega will be on hand to discuss the new state standards.

I look forward to seeing you there. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions or ideas relating to PCA, please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the other officers.

*Te cura,*

Chris Francese  
[francese@dickinson.edu](mailto:francese@dickinson.edu)

### ***E-MAIL CORRECTION***

The e-mail address for Sylvia Affleck, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president, was omitted from the last newsletter. She can be reached at: [76235.664@compuserve.com](mailto:76235.664@compuserve.com)



## **PEDAGOGY CORNER**

### ***TIPS FOR TEACHERS***

***Working on Poetry with your class?*** Check out the fabulous Classical Language Instruction Project from Princeton (<http://www.princeton.edu/~clip/>). It has short passages from a number of authors, Greek as well as Roman. Students can follow along highlighted texts while listening to the passages read aloud. For some, an English translation can be generated underneath the original text. There is also a page of notes on meter.

### ***CANE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS***

Contact Gilbert Lawall for a current price list or visit his website (listed below). Selections from a wide variety of Greek and Latin authors are available in user-friendly format with facing vocabularies and notes and study questions. Suitable for secondary schools and intermediate college/university courses.

Contact Gil if you would be interested in authoring materials of this sort. Help expand the range of options available for Greek and Latin instruction.

Gilbert Lawall  
71 Sand Hill Road  
Amherst, MA 01002  
e-mail: [glawall@classics.umass.edu](mailto:glawall@classics.umass.edu)  
web-site: <http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~glawall>

### ***ATTENTION ECCE ROMANI TEACHERS***

Publication of the *Ecce Romani Newsletter* has been discontinued as of Spring, 2001. Therefore, please share materials that you have created for use with the *Ecce Romani* series with other teachers by submitting them to Gilbert Lawall to be posted on his website (see the address above). Send materials in camera-ready format printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper. Materials sent electronically will not be accepted.

### ***NETWORKING FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS OF CLASSICAL GREEK***

Consult the results of the survey of Greek teaching in the schools on the following web site:

<http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~glawall>

and contact other teachers with whom you would like to share information, ideas, and encouragement.

***NOW AVAILABLE FROM CANE:***

**Nina Barclay**, EUCLEIDES' WORLD: An Exploratory; Introduction to Ancient Greek to Accompany Ecce Romani. 96 pages, 20 chapters, each in the form of a mini-lesson, illustrated.

As students read about the Romans' world in their Latin texts, they encounter Greek characters, stories, and ideas. This ancillary text will help extend their study of Latin by

including some elements of the ancient Greek language. We have called this text Eucleides' World after the Cornelius family's Greek tutor, Eucleides.

You can use Eucleides' World in Latin classes on a daily, weekly, or occasional basis. You can also use the material in your Latin club as part of a co-curricular study. Using Eucleides' World will help your students understand the role of Greek in the ancient Roman world, and it will help them recognize vocabulary of Greek derivation in English. After completing this book, students will have a good foundation to begin a more thorough study of Greek in high school or college.

To order, send a check for \$10.00 in US dollars payable to the Classical Association of New England or a purchase order to Gilbert Lawall, address above.

**PCA NEWSLETTER: SUBMISSIONS NEEDED**

*Submissions are needed for future PCA newsletters. Book reviews, pedagogical hints, conference announcements, trip advertisements are all welcomed. Submit your items to Vicky Jordan at [TVDJordan@aol.com](mailto:TVDJordan@aol.com). Thanks!!*