

# Faculty, students thrive

# Chair Wooten's annual letter

Cecil Wooten | Chair



When I first became chair of the Classics department five years ago, my father asked me whether I liked the job, and

when I said that I did, he asked me what in particular I liked about it. I replied that it made me feel very "grown up" and that, although it wasn't always fun, it was always interesting. I must say that the last year has made me feel more grown up than I ever wanted to be and has reminded me that the Chinese proverb about living in interesting times is probably right.

How quickly things change. Five years ago, the University seemed to have lots of money, and I could give average pay increases of almost nine percent, the highest that I ever remember. This year, my last as chair, is the most difficult financially in recent memory, with the legislature in June having cut the University's budget by 18 percent, and this on top of two much smaller cuts last year.

We are scrambling to make ends meet, but thanks to the generosity of kind people like you we are much better off than most departments. And we will survive.

In spite of the financial difficulties facing the University, the Classics department has had a good year. Last spring we admitted five new graduate students, only four of whom are funded. One was awarded a fellowship. Consequently, only three are funded from the instructional budget, which we can manage quite well due to lapsed salaries from faculty on leave. Thus, in spite of the bad economic situation, our graduate program is not suffering too much.

Since the faculty has changed so much over the last few years and many of you may not know some of them, this issue is intended to introduce you to the department.

Members of the department have won very prestigious grants for this year, and these reflect well on the department, both inside and outside the University. Monika Truemper was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, possibly the most prestigious fellowship given to American academics. Monika and Donald Haggis also won Kenan Fellowships from the University. These are very competitive grants that give faculty members a semester

off at full pay to do research. Donald also was awarded the Archaeological Institute of America's 2012 Best Practices in Site Preservation Award for his work at Azoria. Jim O'Hara was awarded a prestigious fellowship to the Institute for the Arts and Humanities. Bob Babcock was awarded a fellowship by the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts to spend a semester at the Belgian Institute for Advanced Studies (the Flemish Academic Centre) in Brussels. **Sharon James** won a very prestigious, and lucrative, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant to organize a workshop here this summer on the performance of Roman comedy, which she will direct in conjunction with Tim Moore, a UNC alumnus who will be the John and Penelope Biggs distinguished professor of Classics at Washington University in Saint Louis as of July. In addition to these awards, James Rives was invited to give three keynote addresses at conferences in Europe (in Denmark, Holland, and Italy), and Sharon was the keynote speaker at a conference in Berkeley about how women spoke in the Roman world.

Our graduate students were

|See Chair on page seven

Azoria,
AIA's
'Best'
site

S. James
hosts NEH
Summer
Institute

Bernard
Williams
6 gathering
in April

7 new prof.



# Azoria: AIA's top site





| Photos courtesy of Donald Haggis

Donald Haggis recently won the Archaeological Institute of America's "Best Practices for Site Preservation" award for The Azoria Project, his archaeological site located on Crete, Greece. Prof. Haggis (pictured digging at Azoria, right) and his co-director, Margaret Mook, work with students, archaeologists, and local specialists (pictured left) to conserve the site as they excavate. By doing so, they have created a type of eco-archaeological tourist site where locals may experience their cultural heritage first-hand. Virtually visit The Azoria Project to learn more about it and to support Prof. Haggis's pioneering methods.

# | Donald Haggis

This year, I published with former colleague Nic Terrenato, <u>State</u>
<u>Formation in Greece and Rome:</u>
<u>Questioning the Neoevolutionist</u>
<u>Paradigm</u> (Oxford University Press), and my own two reports in Hesperia on UNC's excavations at Azoria, my archaeological site on the island of Crete in the Greek Aegean Sea.

My plans at this point are to reopen excavations at the Azoria site in 2013 as a collaborative effort with the Duke-UNC Consortium for Classical and Mediterranean Archaeology.

I just returned from a fall trip to Crete -- where it was oddly colder and rainier than Chapel Hill, though warmed with raki (Cretan moonshine) stills which dot the rural landscape, operating from mid-October through November, There, I worked (appropriately) on both Minoan and Archaic Cretan sympotic practices, which are the subjects of my current research and publications. In a monograph titled Stylistic Diversity and Social Organization in Middle Bronze Age Crete, I treat the variation of ceramic styles as indications of elite consumption practices in Minoan Crete.

And second, I attended the Eleventh International Cretological Congress in Rethymnon, giving the paper, "Public Dining and Ritual Consumption in the Archaic Civic Buildings at Azoria, East Crete."

On my way back to Chapel Hill, I stopped off in Louvain-la-Neuve to speak at the international round table, "Destruction. Archaeological, Historical and Philological Perspectives," at Université catholique de Louvain. The paper was called "Destruction and the formation of static and dynamic settlement structures."

## |Owen Goslin

This is my fourth year at UNC, having arrived here from Wellesley College in the fall of 2008.

My primary area of interest — let's not call it expertise, just yet — is Greek poetry, particularly tragedy.

One of the perks of teaching in a large department such as Chapel Hill's is that I have been able to teach a wide range of courses, all closely tied to my research interests: undergraduate Greek courses on Sophocles. Herodotus, and Homer; fifth-century literature in translation (the Age of Pericles); a general introductory course on Ancient Athletics; and the graduate Greek survey of fifth-century literature.

This semester has been particularly wonderful, as I am teaching a graduate seminar on Euripides' Hippolytus and Helen (my first love). And I am also soldiering future-Hellenists through Greek 101. I have enjoyed teaching Greek students at both extremes of this spectrum -- from alpha to omega.

Last spring semester was spent at UNC's Institute for the Arts and Humanities, where I made more progress on a book manuscript provisionally entitled "Euripides' Theater of Pity and Power," an interpretation of Euripides' complex staging of supplication scenes.

I have also been writing on several other plays apart from the book, which have led to conference papers on Euripides' "Children of



| Photo courtesy of Shihoka Goslin

Heracles" and Sophocles' "Oedipus at Colonus." Perhaps because of their interpretive challenge, I have always been drawn to those less-commonly read tragedies -- the bastards of Aristotelian orthodoxy -- that have been somewhat neglected in classical scholarship.

My non-academic activities are mostly in a state of disrepair for the time being, but on occasion I do try to make progress towards two ambitious goals. As an amateur violinist I have been trying to maintain my technique by working through Bach's Partitas and Sonatas — well, the accessible bits anyway. My other goal is to learn Japanese, the better to communicate with my in-laws (though their English is quite good), and to read the great Japanese novels of the twentieth century untranslated. I'm still a long way off from reaching that goal.

## |Jim O'Hara

I have now been at UNC over 10 years.

My most recent publications have been my 2007 Cambridge book *Inconsistency in Roman Epic:* Studies in Catullus, Lucretius, Vergil, Ovid and Lucan and my 2011 school commentary on Aeneid 4 from Focus Press. That commentary is part of a project in which a team of scholars is producing new classroom commentaries on the 12 books of the Aeneid: a combined volume on the first six books aimed at advanced undergraduates will be out before long, and work on the later books is underway. For the second half of the poem I am working on Aeneid 8, and a byproduct of that work has been a paper for American Philological Association (APA) on Evander's fondness for gore, violence, killing, and revenge. I will expand this paper to give at other venues.

My current book project is a monograph entitled *Teaching*, *Pretending to Teach, and the Authority of the Speaker in Roman Didactic and Satire*. In 2010 I taught a graduate seminar on "Didactic and Satire," which examined common problems in the study of a number of Greek and Roman texts in these two genres.

Currently, I am taking a leave of absence at UNC's Institute for the Arts and Humanities to work on this project, and the project also includes talks at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Washington. My recent or upcoming teaching includes courses on Horace, Lucretius, Catullus, Vergil's Aeneid and his Georgics. For three consecutive years, or five semesters, I taught the Aeneid to undergraduates while working on the commentaries aimed at that level. I used published or draft commentaries of my own or of the team of Focus Press scholars to inform my work.

visit. learn. give.

# |Lidewijde de Jong



You may remember me from the 2008 *Tabulae* when I introduced myself as the new assistant professor of Archaeology in the Department of Classics

Since then, I have been warmly

welcomed by the department and greatly enjoy the collaboration with the faculty and graduate students in Classics.

The creation of the new Archaeology major/minor has given me the opportunity to work with colleagues in Anthropology, Religious Studies, and Art History.

This year, I am the coordinator for the lecture series of the North Carolina-Triangle chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. Please email me at <a href="mailto:ldejong@email.unc.edu">ldejong@email.unc.edu</a>, if you would like to be a member of the local chapter.

Last year, I was very lucky to take a research leave at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World at New York University. At ISAW, I worked on my manuscript on funerary practices in Roman Syria and the impact of Roman rule on local mortuary traditions.

Also, at the invitation of the German Archaeological Institute and the Lebanese Antiquities Service I traveled to Baalbek in the Beqa'a valley, where we surveyed the Roman and Byzantine cemeteries surrounding the ancient city.

More recently, I have started developing a new project focusing on North Mesopotamia between the empires of Alexander the Great and Djengis (or Genghis) Khan. This region, which covers Eastern Turkey, Eastern Syria, and Northern Iraq, was incorporated into several ancient empires: the Seleucid, Parthian, Roman, Sasanian, Umayyad, and Abbasid empires. The impact of these empires on the local population of North Mesopotamia is largely unknown and the topic of my new project.

## |Sharon James

I've had a very busy few years, giving lots of talks — including being the keynote speaker at a graduate conference at UCLA, publishing articles, working on my current book project (Women in New Comedy), coediting the <u>Blackwell Companion to Women in the Ancient World</u>, and organizing a proposal for a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on "Roman Comedy in Performance."

Also, the arrival in September of a second dog, Palaestra, has made my house much livelier and funnier — she and her older brother Lindley keep us on our toes.

The *Blackwell Companion* was considerably more work than I had expected, but my co-editor Sheila Dillon, a professor of Art History at Duke University, and I think it will be a very useful volume, so we're really pleased with the final results. Just submitting the proposal for the NEH Institute took an astonishing amount of time — UNC grants administration bureaucracy is

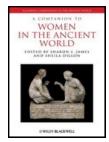
actually more trouble than federal bureaucracy! But the results have been happy so far: the application was successful — a fact I learned by telephone while I was on the treadmill at the YMCA in Watsonville, Calif., one day in late July. I was so surprised by the news that I had to get off the treadmill and sit down for a few minutes.

The institute will be held on the UNC campus from June 25 to July 20 (see page 10). My co-director for the institute is Prof. Timothy J. Moore of The University of Texas at Austin, an alumnus of our very own department. We'll have 23 professors and three graduate students experimenting with different performance choices for selected scenes from Roman comedy. At the end, we'll have a set of videotaped scenes that we hope will be useful for those who would like to teach Plautus and Terence. These instructional DVDs will be available on the institute's website.

This summer I'll be even busier than usual, but will learn a great deal and have a great time. I hope to have my book manuscript completed by the end of May, as I'll be going then to my sister's wedding in California, followed by a week as a convener for New York University's Faculty Resource Center summer seminar program, and then ... mad intense study and play with Roman plays. Next year I should have much to report!

# Sites to see

 Blackwell Companion to Women in the Ancient World.



- NEH Summer Institute: Roman Comedy in Performance
- NYU's faculty workshops

## | Bob Babcock

I spent May and June in Brussels, Belgium, studying medieval manuscripts in the Royal Library, and will return this coming May and June for two more months of the same.

My project concerns a group of eleventh-century manuscripts from the Benedictine abbey of Gembloux (30 miles south and a bit east of Brussels). Many of these manuscripts have been the subject of scholarly study for centuries. The Gembloux collection includes some of the most important manuscripts of Cicero, Lucan, Claudian, Manilius and Valerius Maximus. They were studied by Petrarch, Scaliger and Housman, to name just a few of the previous readers of the manuscripts I'm investigating. My particular focus is trying to understand more about how the collection as a whole was put together, and how it was used by the teachers and writers from Gembloux in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. My research is supported by a fellowship from the Belgian Institute for Advanced Study, which also provides me an office in the Ducal Palace (its behind me in the picture), with lovely views of the Royal Gardens out my window.

Elizabeth, my wife, accompanies me to Brussels, and we've become devotees of the weekend antiques market in the Sablon district, of the Art Nouveau architecture all over the city, of the wonderful bread and pastries, and especially of Belgian beer and Mosel wines. Sunday afternoons we have spent in the Museum of Ancient Art, admiring



| Photo courtesy of Bob Babcock

Bob Babcock outside his office at the Ducal Palace's Royal Gardens in Brussels, Belgium. Spending part of last summer in Belgium, Prof. Babcock researched a collection of eleventh-century manuscripts from the Benedictine abbey of Gembloux. In his spare time he discovered the secret to life: Belgian chocolate.

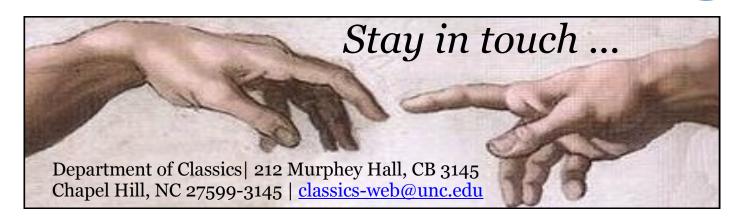
our favorite Breughels and Cranachs, and refining our taste for Belgian Impressionist painters. The sidewalk cafe of the Hotel Metropole and the hard wooden benches of Morte Subite became our favorite spots for an after dinner drink. Belgian chocolate makes life worth living.

Back in N.C., we continue to restore our old house — with the help of many friends. This past summer was devoted to rebuilding the two-

room, kitchen house in the back yard, which was destroyed by a tornado in April. We hope to make a guest house out of it, so our sons and friends will have a place to stay when they visit.

We keep hoping to start gardening in this marvelous N.C. climate, but the heavy construction equipment coming and going continues to put landscaping out of the question.

Maybe this summer!



## |James Rives



During the academic year 2009-2010 I had the good fortune to be on leave as a Member of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

This was a wonderful opportunity, since everything at the institute is set up so that visiting scholars can focus all their attention on their research. It also allowed me to make a very good

start on my next major project on animal sacrifice and cultural identity in the Roman empire.

After living in the lap of scholarly luxury for a year, it was a bit of a shock to come back to full-time teaching and service. But teaching of course has pleasures of its own, and I had some very enjoyable courses last year: a graduate research seminar on animal sacrifice, which allowed me to explore the general area of my own research with a lively group of young scholars; a First Year Seminar on barbarians in Greek and Roman culture, which attracted a range of curious and engaged undergraduates; and a graduate course on Suetonius and the biographical tradition, an interesting topic that I enjoyed being able to explore further.

This year I am taking over the teaching of Latin prose composition from Cecil Wooten, although I fear it will be a while before I attain his

level of skill. Nevertheless, Latin prose composition is something I taught a number of times in an earlier phase of my career, and I'm glad to have the opportunity to teach it again.

I'm also serving this year as director of undergraduate studies. The bureaucracy that comes with this job is not necessarily much fun (is it ever?), but it's a great pleasure to meet and talk with a much wider range of our majors than I normally do in the course of my regular teaching — they're an impressive bunch!

The demands of teaching and service mean that work on my research project has slowed down dramatically, but the opportunity to take part in conferences on topics that relate to my work (in places like Perugia, Brussels, and Amsterdam) has meant that I keep plugging away — at least at particular aspects of it.

# | Brendan Boyle

I have been teaching at Carolina since 2007, after having received my Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

I have taught a range of courses, though I think that my favorites are the two I taught last fall: one on the relationship between Greek Tragedy and the Hollywood Western and another on the place of the nonhuman animal in Greek philosophical writing.

The latter is a first-year seminar, which has allowed me to work closely with a small group of undergraduates. We read some very difficult texts like Aristotle's "de Motu Animalium" and Porphyry's "On the Abstinence from Animal Flesh," but the students responded wonderfully to the challenge. They each worked on an original research project to be submitted at the end of term. The class also stimulated my own thinking and writing about the "ancient animal," particularly ways in which the ancients avoided certain

problems about animal consciousness and mindedeness that, in my opinion, plague much contemporary writing on the subject.

I am also very excited about a conference I have organized for this spring (see page 10). Together with colleagues from the Philosophy department, I will be hosting a threeday gathering on "Bernard Williams's Antiquity." Williams, an English moral philosopher, was a penetrating and subtle student of antiquity. His "Shame and Necessity" is, in my opinion, one of the most magnificent studies of Homer and tragedy ever published. This conference will examine that work's abiding influence on moral philosophy, and it will, I hope, begin a new era of fruitful collaboration between scholars of antiquity and scholars focused on more contemporary philosophical concerns. Please email me if you are interested in attending.

If you are ever in Murphey, please do not hesitate to knock and say hello. We are so very grateful to have a cohort of such wonderfully supportive alumni and friends.



#### |Chair from page one

successful in getting jobs. Beth **Greene** got one of only three tenuretrack positions in all of North America in Roman archaeology. Derek Keyser is teaching here this year as an adjunct since we have so many faculty members on leave. Graduate students also have been successful at winning awards. We were all particularly pleased that of the five Tanner Awards given to graduate students for excellence in undergraduate teaching Beth and Ted Gellar-Goad won two of them, meaning we won 40 percent of graduate instructors' teaching awards. Rebecca Worsham won AIA's highly competitive Olivia James Traveling Fellowship in Classical Archaeology.

Undergraduates also have done well. Three of our majors, Amy Anderson, Kevin Watson, and Emmett Gillis were elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Hannah Rich was one of five undergraduates to present a paper at the 2011 meeting of the American Philological Association. Ashleigh Fata is in graduate school at UCLA.

We have had setbacks and losses as well. **Peter Smith**, who taught here for over forty years, retired in June, and Werner Riess, one of our most promising younger faculty members, was appointed to the chair of Ancient History at the University of Hamburg. We will be able to replace one of them at least, since the University has authorized us to search next year for someone in Latin prose. This year will be the last year here for Lidewijde De Jong since she has taken a job at the University of Groningen in Holland. She has liked it here but wants to go home. We will miss her. It would be immodest of me to call my retirement a "setback and a loss," but I will be retiring at the end of the academic year.

Once again I want to thank you for your support of this department. It has been invaluable. Without it we could barely survive; with it we can flourish even in bad times.

Please come see us if you are in Chapel Hill.



# Guess who!



| Photo courtesy of Emily Baragwanath

Chair **Cecil Wooten**, left, kicked up his heels for Halloween, joining Prof. **Emily Baragwanath** and her daughter, Julia, for a faculty costume party. "I always dress up as my stepmother because she's the scariest person I know," Prof. Wooten jokingly explained.

# | Emily Baragwanath

I can scarcely believe that I'm now in my fifth year in the UNC Classics department!

I've been delighted to have the opportunity to teach a number of courses directly related to my research, including graduate classes on Herodotus and Thucydides, and a freshman seminar called 'Writing the Past' (in which readings of the Greek historians are interspersed with modern film and documentary, fiction, and journalism, to illuminate the challenges involved in representing the past).

One course I've enjoyed developing from scratch is the Junior Seminar on Ancient Delphi, which aims to draw our classics majors into interdisciplinary discussion as they examine the ancient oracular site through the lenses of literature, history, art and archaeology.

A Junior Faculty Development Award enabled me to spend a week at Delphi and get to know far better both it and the stunning Delphi Museum. My husband Sean and I spent the 2009-10 academic year at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington D.C., where I embarked



| Photo courtesy of Emily Baragwanath

Prof. Baragwanath relaxing away from Murphey Hall with her daughter Julia.

on my next book-length project on Xenophon. I'm happy to report that my book on Herodotus came out in paperback in January, and a volume I've co-edited, <u>Myth, Truth, and</u> <u>Narrative in Herodotus</u>, will be out later in this year. When I'm away from Murphey I love to hang out with my baby Julia, who is one year old (pictured above), to travel the Mediterranean, and to run along coasts, especially with my mother's dog Fernando in the Far North of New Zealand.



# | Monika Truemper

2011 saw both a return to the never abandoned and still most passionately loved site of my first research, notably Delos, and a major advancement of my current large research project, namely Greek bathing culture. I have co-taught a graduate seminar on Delos with Sheila Dillon, a Duke University professor of Art History, which allowed me in a very fruitful and stimulating cooperation to systematically catch up with the most recent bibliography and particularly to study the material from the Archaic and Classical periods that I had barely examined before. As a result, I ventured to give a lecture on a topic that has not been investigated in almost 50 years, namely the urban development of Delos from the Archaic through Hellenistic periods, at a conference in Munich.

Due to several fellowships and most generous support from the department I am on leave for two years since the fall of 2011, which hopefully will allow me to finish my

Greek bathing culture project (the completion of three different books).

In the summer, I have traveled with another bath expert, Sandra Lucore, to South Italy and Sicily, studying an astonishing number of recent and ongoing excavations of Greek and early Roman baths together with the excavators. This was a most rewarding and exciting experience that even included the identification of a new Greek bath in the important south Italian city of Locri Epizefiri.

Except we did run into some troubles. We had an unfavorable encounter with a dump truck in Palermo — the dump truck driver bumped into our rental car, but would not be convinced of his guilt. Then there was a fire on the excavation site Monte Iato, which blocked access to two major peristyle houses. Then there was the fact that cappuccino is disappointingly bad in the south.

Regardless, Sandra and I have also finished the editing of the proceedings of the first conference on Greek baths and bathing culture that we had organized at the American



Academy in Rome in 2010.

As for my husband and our children, gladly enough seven-year-old Ann-Kristin and three-year-old David, share some of my professional passions such as bathing and swimming, which are the only reasonable activities in hot North Carolinian summers. Also, they excavated their first pyramid (thanks to National Geographic) that naturally included a wonderful mummy and other treasures.

# **| Ken Sams**

I continue as director of Gordion Excavations in central Turkey. I have been doing this since 1988 and will step down as director



at the end of the 2012 season. I also served for many years as president of the American Research Institute in Turkey.

My research activities continue to focus on Gordion and the Anatolian Iron Age.

I was a major contributor to <u>The New Chronology of Iron Age</u> <u>Gordion</u>, which appeared last fall.

# | Bill Race

After completing the Loeb Library edition of Apollonius Rhodius' *Argonautica* in 2008, I have been steadily working on a literary commentary as a companion to it and have completed an article on the history of translations of Apollonius Rhodius.

Last year my "Horace's Debt to Pindar" appeared in the *Blackwell Companion to Horace*, edited by Gregson Davis, professor at Duke University. In addition, I am preparing two articles, one on the end of the *Iliad*, the other on the Phaeacian episode in the *Odyssey*.

Visit <u>Harvard University</u> Press's website to learn more



about Prof. Race's two-volume translation of Pindar's works and Wiley publishing's website to read excerpts of his Blackwell Companion to Horace essay.

# Speakers and talks

Several prominent scholars, including alumna **Hunter Gardner**, are stopping by Murphey Hall this spring to share their research and findings. If you are in the area, please join us in Murphey Hall room 104. Receptions will immediately follow all lectures.

Tim Rood: 5 p.m. March 16
Hunter Gardner: 5 p.m. March 23
Jeff Royal: 6 p.m. April 9
Edward Harris: 5 p.m. May 2

### **UNC at CAMWS**

On March 28-31 many alumni and members of Chapel Hill's Classics department will participate in <u>The Classical Association of the Middle West and South's 2012 meeting</u> in Baton Rouge, La.

Faculty members presenting papers include **Emily Baragwanath** and **Bill Race**. Also, **Richard Talbert**, a professor of History and adjunct faculty member of the department, and **Derek Keyser**, a recent alumni of the department and current fixed-term professor, will give their papers.

Doctoral alumni Erika
Zimmerman Damer, Arum Park,
Mary Pendergraft, Christopher
Polt, and Robert Vander Poppen
are scheduled for panel discussions.
Joy Reeber, a former undergraduate,
also is participating in a panel.

Further, several of our current graduate students will travel to Baton Rouge to showcase their research: Katherine De Boer, Hans Hansen, Ted Gellar-Goad, Zack Rider, Erika Weiberg, and Jessica Wise will participate in CAMWS.

# 'Bernard Williams's Antiquity'

Brendan Boyle is hosting the "Bernard Williams's Antiquity" conference from April 13-15 at UNC's Institute for Arts and

# **Congratulations graduates!**

Please join us in congratulating our graduating masters and doctoral students!

In December **Dan Moore** completed his Ph.D., and this May **Ted Gellar-Goad** and **Anderson Wiltshire** will follow suit.

Graduating from our master's program to our doctoral program are Emma Buckingham, Catherine Judson, Zack Rider, Daniel Schindler, and Jessica Wise.

Members of the Classics community are invited to attend the doctoral hooding ceremony for graduate students, which will be 10 a.m. Sat., May 12 at the Dean E.



Smith Center. Graduation will be 9:30 a.m. on Sun., May 13 in Kenan Stadium. New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg will be the keynote speaker. Both events are free and open to the public. Neither event requires tickets.

Humanities.

Prof. Boyle and Susan Wolf and David Reeve, UNC professors of Philosophy, have invited several leading scholars who study and have been influenced by Williams. James Conant, Raymond Guess, Richard Kraut, Robert Pippin, Richard Eldridge, and Paul Woodruff are scheduled to speak.

Their purpose is "to examine Williams's provocative body of work on antiquity and the challenge it poses for contemporary philosophical practice," Prof. Boyle explains.

All are welcome to join Prof. Boyle in this exploration of the English moral philosopher's work. Visit the <u>conference website</u> for more information, and <u>email Prof. Boyle</u> to make a reservation.

# Roman Comedy NEH Summer Institute

Sharon James will host the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute: Roman Comedy from June 24 to July 20 in Murphey Hall. Prof. James is codirecting the event with Timothy J. Moore, a graduate of the

department's Ph.D. program who currently teaches at University of Texas at Austin and, as of July 1, will be a John and Penelope Biggs Distinguished Professor of Classics in Arts and Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. **Ted Gellar-Goad**, who is expected to complete his Ph.D. in May, will use his musical talent to compose original songs for the event.

Twenty-two professors and three graduate students will study and experiment with various aspects of Plautus and Terence, playing with the staging, actors, translation, and choreography during performances, and analyzing texts and performances during workshops.

Prof. James explains, "Our overarching questions are: how can a genre that is so incredibly fun also sometimes be so troubling? Would Romans respond the same way we do to scenes we find funny or disturbing? What do these ancient plays have to say to our own society?" Profs. James and Moore will share the group's findings by making the videotaped proceedings available on the Institute's website and on DVD.

To learn more about the Institute, visit its <u>website</u> or <u>email Prof. James</u>.