

# MÉΛI NUCESQUE

A Newsletter for Classics at the University of Dallas

## Classics Departmental News

On Friday, May 3, the department hosted Dr. Gwendolin Grewal of Vassar College's Department of Greek and Roman Studies. In her well-attended lecture, "Lucretius' Mirror on the Nature of Things," Dr. Grewal explained her reading of Lucretius' *De Rerum Natura* as a mirror.

After the lecture, Dr. Danze presented translation awards and called up the Classics seniors, who presented Dr. Sweet with a cake and a card signed by current Classics majors, concentrators, and students.

**Congratulations** to our national translation contest winners! In the 2019 Eta Sigma Phi Advanced Greek Sight Translation Contest, Irene A. Carricker won first place, Thomas J. Hogan won second place, and Sean Mangan earned an honorable mention! Students also found success in the 2018-2019 CAMWS Latin Translation Contests! In the Advanced Latin translation exam, Thomas J. Hogan and Kathleen Cammack placed in the top 9%, earning Book Awards, and Cecilia Hassan and Irene A. Carricker placed in the top 25%, earning Certificates of Commendation.



Dr. Danze presents Irene Carricker with her certificate for winning the Eta Sigma Phi Advanced Greek Sight Translation Contest.

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**Congratulations** to this year's Karl Maurer Translation Contest winner, Diego Brand! His translation of Horace's *Ode 4.7*, found below, speaks for itself:

The snows have fled, e'en now returns the grass  
To fields, the trees regain their green;  
The earth is changed in turn, and rivers pass,  
With flow decreased, their banks between.

The Grace with Nymphs and both her twins doth dare  
Disrobed to lead their dancing play;  
"Hope not for things immortal," bids beware  
The year which steals the gracious day.

Cold melts by Zephyr, spring's o'ertrod by heat  
Soon perishing; immediately,  
When fruitful autumn bears her grains, repeats  
The winter solstice lifelessly.

The heavens' loss by lunar hastening's  
Repaired, but fall we mortals must  
Where good Aeneas and the wealthy kings  
Did go; we are but shades and dust.

Who knows if gods above to add will deign  
Tomorrow's time to this day's whole?  
Thy heir with greedy hands will naught obtain,  
Should thou give all to thy dear soul.

Once thou art killed, and judgement's radiance,  
By Minos made, confounds thee more,  
Not birth, Torquatus, not thy eloquence,  
Not piety will thee restore.

Diana cannot free him, who remains  
In deathly dark, Hippolytus,  
Nor Theseus can break Lethaeon chains  
Around his dear Pirithous.

# Professor Spotlight

In this issue of *MÉLI NUACESQUE*, instead of our usual feature of one of our University of Dallas Classics alumni, we offer the congratulations of many alumni and current Spring Romers in honor of Dr. David R. Sweet, who celebrates forty years at the University of Dallas this year.



I am so happy to hear that the Classics Department is honoring your 40th year at UD. I don't think there's a single person at UD who deserves it more than you. I think about UD daily, and miss you and the other classicists most sorely.

- Maggie Dostalik, Class of 2017

Your forty years at the University of Dallas have been a gift to all of us! I keep returning to classes that I took with you, and I wish I could have you in my classroom, explaining Diotima's Ladder of Love, or Odysseus' trick of "Nobody" (with its pun!) to my students. Thank you for teaching us to love and to live in these texts.

- Emily Austin, Class of 2006

Congratulations on your 40 year milestone! Thanks for being a great teacher and a wonderful mentor. I always said that you are as your name implies.

- Phil McMillan, Class of 1992

Congratulations, David, on 40 years of bringing the Classics to life. Not a week goes by without your observations on the Euthyphro or Virgil finding their way into my own lectures and comments. I am now and always will be grateful to you and to your guidance.

- Anthony Hollingsworth, Class of 1989

Congratulations on 40 years. Ad plurimos annos!

- Patrick Callahan, Class of 2005

Dr. Sweet, congratulations on 40 years at UD! You are the best mentor one could ask for, and I sincerely appreciate all you have done over the years to guide and help me to become a better Classicist and teacher.

- Stephanie Riley, B.A. 2010, M.A. in Classics 2018

Congratulations on reaching such a milestone! Thank you for your dedication to enlightening your students and encouraging us to delve further and think more deeply.

- Paula Shelburne Read, class of 1982

Dr. Sweet, congratulations on your 40 years at UD! Your wisdom and knowledge have made the UD Classics Department a truly desirable place to study. In my own teaching, I often find myself explaining a concept in the same way that you taught it to me while I was at UD. I will forever be grateful for your guidance and support!

- Kimberly Read, Class of 2013

Congratulations, Dr. Sweet, on your 40 years at UD! Translating Virgil's *Eclogues* in Roman Lyric with you led to my dissertation on the eclogue in English Renaissance pastoral. You've inspired so many students to love the beauty of language, literature, and the Italian countryside.

- Elizabeth Malone Bloch, Class of 2008

I have fond memories of classes with Dr. Sweet, mainly in Latin (I am trying to recall if I took a Greek course as well). He combined a mild-mannered demeanor with a mastery of the language material. I wish him a very happy 40th anniversary.

- Patrick Manion, Class of 1982

Congratulations on your 40th at UD, Dr. Sweet! Thank you for all of your invaluable guidance, patience, and wisdom. All the best!

- Rebekah Wallace, Class of 2014

He's the reason I came to UD. I can't imagine it here without him.

- Alex Broussard, Class of 2021

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## Professor Spotlight (continued)

Just today at noon - so I hadn't seen that I had received this email yet, (5/2/2019) as I was discussing the Odyssey with fellow UD alum, Peter Fletcher, Dr. Sweet's name came up. I mentioned how Dr. Sweet covered the minute details of the Greek language but also the depth of meaning in the classics.

What a coincidence! Or a symbol - Dr. Sweet explained to Greek Drama class when we covered Oedipus Rex that 'symbol' and 'coincidence' mean essentially the same thing.

- Mike Burns, Class of 1998

Congratulations on 40 years of gracing students with your knowledge, wisdom, and encouragement. We have all been so blessed to have you. You are a blessing and an inspiration to me and I cannot ever repay all that you have done for me; thank you!

- Rebecca Thomason, Graduated December 2009

Congratulations on your many years at UD! I cherish the many contemplative moments and delighted musings on the ancient Greek and Latin texts you shared with us.

- Arielle Villanueva, Class of 2014

Dr. Sweet, Thank you!! Your kind demeanor and openness have taught me so much more than just the basics of Latin and Greek. We are so very blest to have you at UD! Congratulations on 40 years and here's to a great deal more!

- Emma Kate Callahan, Class of 2021

I still remember the Homer lecture Dr. Sweet gave at my Fall Visit Day, when he introduced me to triliteral Indo-European roots by showing that "druid" and "dryad" were related to "tree". I never would have translated and staged the Alcestis if it weren't for him, and I owe him a great deal for teaching me to read closely, and more importantly, slowly.

- Alex Alderman, Class of 1999

*Quis iam locus, David, quae regio in terris vestri non plena laboris?* Your students have by now carried your unflagging enthusiasm for philology across the nation and the world. I am grateful for your patient care for me as a student and as a fellow instructor for Latin in Rome. May we meet again and again.

- Patsy Craig, Class of 2012

Thank you for your dedicated and joyful service! The tenth of it in no small part made my time at UD so wonderful and formative. Ad multos annos!

- Kevin Simmons, BA 2013

Dear Dr. Sweet: Congratulations and best wishes! You were one of the best and kindest teachers I ever had (with legendary patience when I missed a class or two). Thank you!

- Patrick Ring, Class of 1999

I hope you get a wonderfully full idea this week of how much all of us students love and appreciate you. You have been there for so many of us in so many different ways. Thank you for being by my side as I came to UD as an inexperienced and wishful classicist, and showing me your care and friendship in a variety of forms over the four years. Thank you for being there for me exactly as I needed you to be when I was finishing my thesis after we lost our dear Dr. Maurer.

Love, prayers, and fond greetings from Norway, Isabel Dubert, Class of 2015

Dr. Sweet, ὁ ἐπώνυμος, your gracious and gentle wisdom inspired me every single semester at UD and afterwards. I shall always remember sitting in awe of your exegesis of Vergil, with the Hyblaean bees buzzing accompaniment outside. Most of all, thank you for building and strengthening one of the most rigorous classics programs in America.

- Karen L. Carducci, née Jones, BA Classics (Latin), minors Greek and Italian, Class of 2000

# Professor Spotlight (continued)

There is no man alive more worthy of his own name than is David *Sweet*, he the paradigmatic example of the liberally-educated man and the finest pourer of martinis I know. Thank you, Dr. Sweet, for your teaching, mentoring, and comradeship, and may you not leave our campus on a hill any time soon.

- Daniel Orazio, Class of 2013

Always my advocate, you supported me from the summer I matriculated at UD by encouraging me to attend, through my mildly controversial senior thesis which you trusted would be a compelling, convincing paper. Thank you for continuing to dedicate your career to elevating students' experience of the classical world.

- Ruth Fritz, Class of 2016

## Penned after Greek with Dr. Sweet

The elusive Mr. Digamma,  
Though never yet captured on camera,  
Has been tracked to a dusty old grammar:  
How  $\phi\tilde{\iota}\delta\alpha$  came  $\phi\tilde{\iota}\delta\alpha$ , left *video*, wit;  
How, though no witness videoed it,  
The vanishing letter became an Idea,  
A kind of reverse onomatopoeia.  
And if disappearance enhances his glamour,  
What wonder we lost dear Digamma?

- Adam Cooper, UD Graduate Student in Literature

Dr. Sweet, Congratulations on your 40th year of teaching at the University of Dallas. It feels like yesterday I was reading Roman Satire with you on a late afternoon in Carpenter Hall. May you continue on for years to come so others might experience the same.

- John Owen, Class of 2014

Dr. Sweet, thank you for your dedication and care to every student! I feel so blessed to have been taught by you. Congratulations on this anniversary!

- Olivia Close, 2016

Thank you for giving me a love of languages and grammar, Dr. Sweet! I will never forget sitting in your Tacitus class sophomore year, listening you talk about the historical roots of various Latin words. I was planning on quitting Latin that day--after that class, I put in five more years of language learning!

- Dr. Mary (Schuhriemen) Cuff, Class of 2010

Dr. Sweet, thank you for sharing your love for the classical world with us! Your classes were a highlight of my college experience. Congratulations!

- Amanda Wade, Class of 2015

How amazing it is, Dr. Sweet, that in your classes we learned rigorously the languages themselves, learned subtly a humility before the greatness of the authors and the text, and learned only much later that you had given us an invaluable gift, one that changed our lives forever. The time my classmates and I spent as your students was immeasurably good, both for our Latin and Greek and for our souls. I wish you every blessing as you celebrate your 40th year at the University of Dallas and continue your work as a professor of Classics.

Sincerely, Molaika Cañas Beer, Class of 2004

The course listing said "Juvenal." We spent seven-eighths of the semester reading Horace. Rarely have I been so grateful to go off script. Congratulations, Dr. Sweet, on your many years of teaching, and I wish you many more.

- Mary Elizabeth (Tetzlaff) Halper, Class of 2009

Congratulations dear Dr. Sweet. What a blessing to the University you were when we were there; I am so happy for those in Irving with you, now!

- Janet (Kowalewski) Yaceczko, Class of 2005

**Many thanks to Dr. Sweet and to everyone who has helped us to celebrate his achievement!**