

CAMWS Vice President's Report, 2018-2019
Plains Region
Submitted by Marcia Lindgren, University of Iowa

This year all five Plains States submitted reports, and the tenor of these reports is somewhat more optimistic than in the past two years. In particular, anxieties fueled by state reviews and budget shortfalls appear to have eased in Kansas and Missouri. There is more good news at all levels, and the cooperative efforts that have been reported between schools and colleges or universities are especially impressive.

Anatole Mori (VP Missouri) reports that "Latin education in K-12 schools is thriving." In Nebraska and Oklahoma, Junior Classical League meetings are popular and well-attended. One concern, however, has to do with "the small number of teachers willing to take on statewide leadership. This is most evident in the Oklahoma Junior Classical League, which survives due to the personal commitment of the same four or five teachers" (John Hansen, VP Oklahoma). This is, of course, related to the continuing concern that some Latin teachers have to cover more than one school or have been reduced to part-time status.

Missouri and Oklahoma, states with teacher certification programs, experience continuing concerns about certification, recruitment, and retention. Even though teacher certification programs are being strengthened in Missouri, worries remain. A general concern, cited by John Hansen (VP Oklahoma), is "the steadily increasing impact of ACTFL policies on classroom Latin teachers, with no helpful pushback from our own professional organizations—ACL, SCS, or CAMWS."

Some colleges and universities are making programmatic changes to ensure the viability of classical studies. The loss of the Classics BA at Missouri State University last year has been tempered by the preservation of graduate programs at the University of Missouri. Mizzou has launched a new department called Ancient Mediterranean Studies by uniting programs in classics and classical archaeology. The reconfigured program offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in classics and classical archaeology, as well as a new interdisciplinary arts and humanities track at the graduate level. The University of Kansas has recently introduced a combination BA/MA program, in which students can earn both a BA and MA in Classics in five years. Efforts at Grinnell College (Iowa) to develop a Classical Civilization track within the Classics major seem to be paying off. Since the introduction of this track in 2015, there has been a gradual increase in graduating majors.

States also report on well-attended activities that bring together students and teachers at all levels of instruction. State classical associations and the Junior Classical League are instrumental in bringing these about, but some events are partnerships between colleges or universities and local schools. Some examples: a full-day workshop on Active Latin (supported by CPL) at Washington University (Missouri); the Oliver Phillips Latin Colloquium, an annual daylong conference for high school and university Latin teachers sponsored by the University

of Kansas; Truman State University's partnership with an elementary school using the *Aequora* model (*Aequora* is a K-8 curriculum focusing on literacy education via Latin); a reenactment of the battle of Zama by students and faculty from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, along with students from local high schools.

State of Iowa

Reported by Rosemary Moore, University of Iowa

I received reports this year from Xavier High School in Cedar Rapids, Grinnell College, and the University of Iowa. No reports came in from Coe College, Cornell College, Iowa State University, Luther College, Loras College, and Valley High School in West Des Moines. Courses in Greek, Latin, and Greek and Roman history and culture are offered at Coe, Cornell, and Luther Colleges with extracurricular programming offered regularly. Iowa State University has two tenured or tenure-track faculty and two lecturers in Classical Studies, offers a minor and major in Classical Studies, and Iowa State students who wish to study Greek may join a hybrid face-to-face and online course offered at the University of Iowa. Valley High School in West Des Moines offers Latin I-IV and Advanced Placement. Vanessa Espinosa, a University of Iowa graduate alumna, holds an adjunct position at Loras College, where she teaches Greek and Latin; however, Loras College no longer offers a minor in Greek and Roman Studies.

Xavier High School, Cedar Rapids (reported by Katherine Gales)

At Xavier Latin is open to freshmen through seniors. During the 2018-2019 year, 45 students were enrolled in Latin I; Latin II was not offered. Enrollments for the coming year look promising: 21 students have registered for Latin I in the fall and 28 students for Latin II. In May 2018, for the second year in a row, Xavier students participated in the annual Latin translation contest sponsored by AMICI, the classical association of Iowa.

Grinnell College (reported by Monessa Cummins)

The Department of Classics at Grinnell College has not participated in any activities associated with CPL, but has been working to maintain its staffing at Grinnell and to increase its enrollments and majors. Effort has focused on further developing our Classical Civilization line within the Classics major. Since introducing this track in 2015 and giving our students greater flexibility in choosing both language and civilization courses, we have seen a gradual increase in graduating majors from a low of one in 2014 to six this year (2019), with seven expected in 2020 and nine in 2021.

We have been engaged in mentoring student research and for the first time this spring (2019) two of our students will present papers at CAMWS in Lincoln, NE: Claire Nash, "Violence Against Women on the Column of Marcus Aurelius," and Jiayun Chen, "A Roman in Grinnell: An Investigation of an Unidentified Portrait at Grinnell College."

University of Iowa (reported by Rosemary Moore)

Classics at the University of Iowa is doing well, with faculty engaging actively in research, pedagogy, and outreach. Greek and Latin enrollments remain steady but smaller than we would like. We actively encourage students to begin Greek and/or Latin by promoting the languages in our numerous and popular courses taught in English, such as Classical Mythology or the many seminars we offer in the Honors Program. This results in a regular stream of new students.

The number of Latin programs in Iowa high schools is likely to remain small – foreign language programs other than Spanish have long been in decline. Foreign language requirements at Regents Universities in Iowa (University of Iowa, Iowa State, University of Northern Iowa) may be partially satisfied by high school credits, making it likely for many students to continue studying the language they studied in high school.

Statewide, the information reported by other schools indicates that enrollment in classical languages continues but is low. Budget reductions in higher education mean that lower enrollment departments, such as Classics, are more vulnerable and therefore always potential candidates for combining with other small departments. We at the University of Iowa have had success teaching students from Iowa State University through hybrid face-to-face/distance instruction, and we hope to see numbers increase through this opportunity. In general, Classics at the University of Iowa has been very successful in offering high-enrollment courses in ancient civilization and religion, helping fulfill a goal of state outreach.

Language enrollments for 2018-19 (reported by Craig Gibson):
(2017-18 figures are given in parentheses.)

Fall 2018

First-semester Latin: 43 (59)
Second-semester Latin: 13 (18)
Third-semester Latin: 33 (16)
Fourth-semester Latin: 5 (9)
Fifth-semester Latin: 8 (7)
Graduate courses: 11 in two courses (13 in two courses)

First-semester Greek: 11 (9)
Third-semester Greek: 4 (3)
Fifth-semester Greek: 4 (4)
Graduate courses: 9 in two courses (7 in one course)

Spring 2019

First-semester Latin: 25 (31)
Second-semester Latin: 37 (44)
Third-semester Latin: 16 (16)
Fourth-semester Latin: 33 (13)

Sixth-semester Latin: 10 (14)
Graduate courses: 12 in two courses (12 in two courses)

Second-semester Greek: 8 (7)
Fourth-semester Greek: 4 (3)
Sixth-semester Greek: 2 (0)
Graduate courses: 13 in three courses (9 in one course)

Undergraduate news (reported by Robert Cargill):

- Lauren Gentile was invited to join Phi Beta Kappa and participated in the Iowa Council for Research with Undergraduates. Lauren also won a 2017-2018 CAMWS Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Undergraduate Classical Studies
- Callaghan Todhunter will present a paper at the University of Tennessee's undergraduate classics conference and will attend the Eta Sigma Phi national convention as the new treasurer of the UI chapter
- Myles Young, president of the UI chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, organized Classics Clubs at local high schools as well as numerous outreach activities, including a demonstration and lesson on hand spinning by faculty member Rosemary Moore. Myles also won a 2017-2018 CAMWS Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Undergraduate Classical Studies.
- Brady Adolph won a 2017-2018 CAMWS Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Undergraduate Classical Studies

Graduate news (reported by Sarah Bond):

- Sara Hales-Brittain participated in a graduate conference at UW-Madison last fall and presented a paper titled, "Better Late Than Never: Roman Freedwomen as Matrons in Funerary Art."
- Edward Keough won a summer 2018 Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio fellowship. At the SCS meeting in San Diego he presented SCS Membership Map for the Ancient Makers Spaces Lightning Talks. In January 2019 he presented a paper, "The *Cena* and Rhetorical Invective," at the Classics graduate conference "Failure and Flaws in Classical Antiquity" held at UCLA.
- Peter Miller was accepted to present at the XVIII International Conference on Patristics Studies at Oxford in August 2019. Additionally, he will be returning to the Lechaion Harbor and Settlement Land Project this summer as the Total Station and GIS team leader.
- Robert Morley received a 2018 Graduate College Summer Fellowship from the University of Iowa and presented a paper at the SCS meeting in San Diego titled, "How to Talk about Money in Attic Oratory: Insults and Iambos."
- Laura Moser received her MFA in Literary Translation in August 2018.
- Ryan Tribble gave a lecture for Alpha Tau Iota, the English Honors Society, and will be presenting at CAMWS 2019.

- Jonathan Young completed the Greek Palaeography seminar at Lincoln College, Oxford in the summer of 2018.

Faculty news (reported by Rosemary Moore):

Faculty contributed to numerous outreach activities in Iowa and nationwide. Sarah Bond tweets and blogs regularly and won an SCS Outreach Award for her work sharing classical culture nationally and internationally. Robert Cargill lectured throughout the United States on topics in his book *The Cities that Built the Bible* and participated in an interdisciplinary presentation on anti-Semitism with history professor Elizabeth Heineman and Rabbi Esther Hugenholtz of the Iowa City Agudas Achim Temple.

Locally, Rosemary Moore presented a demonstration and class on Greco-Roman hand spinning. She and Deb Trusty presented on the videogame *Assassin's Creed: Odyssey* at the conference on videogaming by UI student group EPX Studio. They and members of EPX Studio also made a presentation to the general public on *Assassin's Creed: Odyssey*.

Marcia Lindgren, Deb Trusty, Rosemary Moore, and undergraduate student Myles Young are organizing a public reading of Homer's *Iliad*, to be held March 27-28, 2019. This reading is supported by the Department of Classics and Eta Sigma Phi. We are inviting participation from other departments, staff, and students, as well as the general public.

State of Kansas

Reported by Craig Jendza, University of Kansas

Overview

Classics and Latin in Kansas is steady, though statewide budget shortfalls remain. This is having some impact on Latin at the high school level, though (yet) not at the university level, which has grown stronger in the past year due to recent tenure-track hiring.

Status of Latin, Greek, and Classics in Kansas

The only university in Kansas that offers graduate level study in Classics is the University of Kansas (KU), which has an MA in Classics, with two tracks in classical languages and classical archaeology. Similarly, KU is the only university in Kansas to offer a BA in Classics, with two tracks in classical languages and classical antiquity. Recently, KU introduced a combination BA/MA program, with the goal of students receiving both a BA and MA in Classics in five years.

Other universities throughout the state with courses in Latin and Classics include Kansas State University (KSU), Wichita State University, and Benedictine College. KSU offers a full Latin sequence, with a minor in Classical Studies. Wichita State University offers an introductory and

intermediate sequence of Latin. Benedictine College offers a full sequence of Latin and Greek, with minors in Latin and Classics. A handful of universities teach Latin sporadically based on student interest (e.g. Washburn University).

A number of smaller colleges, primarily those whose missions are religious in nature, offer New Testament Greek (e.g. Barclay College, Central Christian, Friends University, Kansas Christian College, Manhattan Christian College, MidAmerican Nazarene University, Sterling College, Tabor College). Most of these universities offer two semester sequences of Biblical Greek, though some offer four semesters of more advanced study.

Many other universities do not offer Latin, Greek, or Classics at all. This includes larger state universities (e.g. Emporia State University, Pittsburg State University, Fort Hays State University), smaller private institutions (e.g. Baker University, Newman University, Ottawa University, Bethany College, Bethel College, Donnelly College, Hesston College, Kansas Wesleyan College, McPherson College, National American University) and community colleges (e.g. Johnson County Community College and others).

Latin is offered at a number of high schools, primarily in the northeast corner of the state near Topeka, Lawrence, and Kansas City, though Wichita in southern Kansas and Hays in western Kansas also teach Latin. The Kansas Junior Classical League (KJCL) regularly has approximately ten schools participating each year. The main event is the KJCL Convention, which draws approximately 250 students every April. At the convention, students participate in a costume contest, sight-reading, oratory, heptathlon, an art competition, and of course, the quiz bowl Certamen. Outside the convention, KJCL hosts smaller events throughout the year that normally draw 60-70 students, including an ultimate discus event, coin cleaning, and breakout rooms.

The University of Kansas hosts the Oliver Phillips Latin Colloquium in September, an annual daylong conference for high school and university Latin teachers. The theme for the Phillips Colloquium in September 2018 was “Gladiators, Games and the Roman Arena” and featured talks by guest speaker Alison Futrell (Arizona) as well as Emma Scioli (KU) and Lee Dixon (Shawnee Mission South High School). The Phillips Colloquium and the KJCL function as opportunities for collaboration in the Kansas Classics community every April and September.

CAMWS Membership

I have attempted to broaden CAMWS membership at the university level by encouraging graduate students and university professors to become members. This led to some success, with 10 members from Kansas presenting papers at the 2019 annual meeting, and two members applying for CAMWS awards.

Problems and Challenges

The main issue currently facing Latin and Classics education in Kansas is the state budget of Kansas. Almost all Latin in Kansas is taught at public institutions, either at high schools or state universities, and statewide budgets affect the sustainability of local Latin programs. For the most part, the programs remain steady, though there have been a few concerning developments. At KU, a \$20 million budget reduction led to certain cutbacks across the university, though this did not have a strong effect on the quality of education (at least in the Classics department). Since 2017, the Latin programs at the two public schools in Lawrence KS are being taught by a single teacher who drives to both schools every day. Other high school teachers report being worried about the long-term sustainability of their programs or the potential of being converted to part-time faculty. One experienced Latin teacher left Kansas to teach in Ohio, and various Latin teachers were shifted within the school district to compensate, leading to a fair amount of people teaching in new environments for 2018-2019. All in all, the situation for Latin at the high school level is more precarious than one would like.

Successes

Ben McCloskey has been converted from a visiting assistant professor to a tenure-track assistant professor at Kansas State University. This was largely due to the fact his impactful career as a visiting assistant professor: since 2013, he doubled to tripled enrollments, he developed a new minor in Classical Studies, and he embarked upon massive recruitment efforts via meetings with academic advisors and cross-listing courses with other departments.

Gina White (tenure-track assistant professor) and Paul Touyz (visiting assistant professor) have been hired at the University of Kansas. White has been instrumental in redesigning the undergraduate Latin curriculum at KU. Touyz offers an array of ancient history courses, which have not been taught at KU for some time.

With two new tenure-track lines (one of which was a replacement for a faculty retirement) and one visiting assistant professorship in Kansas, the situation for Classics at the university level is fairly strong.

State of Missouri

Reported by Anatole Mori, University of Missouri

Classics programs in higher education have suffered a number of setbacks this past year, but on the whole the academy is holding the line and even expanding in some ways during a difficult time. Latin education in K-12 schools is thriving, although it should be admitted that the scope of my first report is limited to schools in the Columbia-St. Louis region; I hope to provide a more representative survey in 2019-2020.

Graduate programs

In her 2017-2018 report Prof. Amy Norgard discussed the challenges to classics at public universities as a result of the review by the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE). I am happy to say that the Classics departments at the University of Missouri in Columbia together with Washington University in St. Louis continue to offer degrees at the MA and PhD levels and to enrich undergraduate programs and K-12 classics programs throughout the state.

As Prof. Norgard noted in last year's report, MU launched a new department called Ancient Mediterranean Studies (AMS) by reuniting programs in classics and classical archaeology. As the current chair of AMS I would like to express our gratitude for the show of support from CAMWS for our graduate program, which was threatened in spring 2018 with closure during an internal campus task force review of graduate programs. AMS has reconfigured its graduate program and now offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in classics and classical archaeology as well as a new interdisciplinary arts and humanities track at the graduate level; AMS graduation rates are on pace with the stringent MDHE standards (10 BA, 5 MA, 3 PhD). With a number of our colleagues planning to retire in the next year or two, hiring new faculty will be one of our primary objectives in 2020 and 2021.

In October of 2018 Mizzou again hosted the Heartland Graduate Workshop in Ancient Studies. The workshop, hosted regularly by different graduate programs in the Midwest, originated at MU in 2011. This year's theme was "Experiencing Space and Place in the Ancient Mediterranean." Faculty and graduate student participants came from Texas Tech, the University of Chicago, the University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota, the University of Missouri, and the University of Wisconsin. The University of Iowa will host the workshop in 2019, and the University of Minnesota in 2020.

Undergraduate programs

In addition to degree programs at Washington University and Mizzou, the Classical and Ancient Studies Program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City allows students to minor in Classical and Ancient Studies or major in the departments of English, History, or Foreign Languages with focus or emphasis areas in classical literature, history, or ancient languages. We deeply regret the loss of the Classics BA from Missouri State University, largely as a consequence of the recent MDHE review. The Department of Modern and Classical Languages at Missouri State continues to offer a minor in Classics with concentrations in Ancient Greek, Latin, or Classical Humanities, but Prof. Ed Carawan reports that enrollments have been declining.

The Classical and Modern Languages Department at Truman State University offers a major in Classics and a number of different minors. Their *Aequora* site at Ray Miller Elementary School is going strong. *Aequora* is a K-8 curriculum focusing on literacy education via Latin now in thirty sites in twelve states in the continental US. Truman State welcomed Marco Romani of the *Paideia Institute* to give a talk about Classics and community service, and he led a workshop with our volunteer teachers. Prof. Norgard reports: "*Paideia* claims that we are one of their

featured *Aequora* sites because of their key location in the Midwest and our teaching times with students during the school day.” Finally, Truman State is wrapping up a five-year program review; they are concerned about the MDHE expectation for ten undergraduate graduates a year per major program. Their modern languages recently consolidated into a single major, but Classics did not follow suit and it is possible that in the future Classics will be seen as more “vulnerable” for this reason.

Teacher training

The University of Missouri School of Education is rebuilding its Foreign Language Certification programs and is once again offering K-12 Latin certification at the BA level to its students. The Department of Ancient Mediterranean Studies now offers teacher certification in Latin at the BA level (Latin 4121). AMS is also working for certification at the MA level (MALT); the Masters in Teaching (MAT) program at Washington University is to my knowledge the only graduate program that currently offers certification at the graduate level. The Master of Applied Second Language Acquisition (MASLA) at Missouri State unfortunately does not include Latin. Prof. Norgard notes that long-term plans at Truman State include K-12 Latin certification. She is concerned, however, that current climate at the state level does not seem to favor adding a new program when “(1) our UG program is ‘under-performing’, and (2) the new MDHE matrices have eliminated Latin as a certification option – if we weren’t grandfathered in, can we create a new program? Is Latin valued at the state level?” Faculty at Truman hope to work with existing certification programs to find a path forward.

Regional events and outreach

In September 2018 the faculty and students of MU’s Department of Ancient Mediterranean Studies were grateful to CAMWS supporting the annual meeting of the Missouri Classical Association (MOCA) in Swallow Hall; the Missouri Junior Classical League also gathered there for a planning session at that time. The MOCA meeting was well attended, bringing together twenty to twenty-five participants from across the state (students, K012 teachers, and college/university faculty). There were two paper sessions (Literature and Reception; pedagogy) with faculty moderators and papers by grad and undergraduate students from MU, Truman State, Missouri State University, and Washington University, and during the afternoon Tom Keeline’s workshop (CPL supported) on “Using Active Latin in your Classroom.” We hope to continue next year (in St. Louis, perhaps?). As Prof. Norgard has suggested, expanding beyond mid-Missouri could garner more involvement, which is very exciting indeed.

Equally well received was a full-day workshop on Active Latin (also CPL supported) at Washington University. This workshop, organized by Prof. Tom Keeline with Patrick Owens from the St. Louis Priory School and Justin Slocum Bailey of Indwelling Language, attracted twenty-five enthusiastic participants from the St. Louis area. A team of Wash U graduate students (with minimal assistance from Prof. Cathy Keane, the chair of the Classics Department) organized an outreach event with a local homeschool group of 35 kids on November 8. As Prof.

Keane reports, "It was organized so the kids in each age group were trained to make appropriate contributions (acting, dancing, cheering, coloring pictures) to a performance of a mini-version of Euripides' *Helen*, which concluded the event." On January 29, 2019, Wash U graduate students participated in another outreach event with local 7th-graders from Chaminade College Prep School, focusing on Ovid's telling of myths in Latin.

K-12 education

From Rockbridge High School (in Columbia) Dr. Jim Meyer reports that central Missouri high school students interested in classical learning are well provided for. Columbia Public Schools offers Latin to all high school students via three teachers at their three traditional high schools. In addition to Latin offerings at AP level, all students may enroll in Language Arts electives (such as Introduction to Classical Mythology; Classical Roots). Students at the Columbia Independent School may take Latin in grades 6-12, and those at Father Tolton Catholic High School may take the language each year as well. Mr. Alex Terwelp, who recently joined the staff, adds that there are upwards of fifty students taking Latin at various levels at Rockbridge.

Dr. Meyer also reports that High School students from all across the state now have access to online language classes thanks to offering provided through the MOCAP program (Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program) <https://mocap.mo.gov/>. Coursework is provided by vendors like Mizzou K-12, an online school housed at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Columbia continues to host the annual Junior Classical League Convention every April, and this year the convention will be held all in one day at Hickman High School. Students also participate in the National Latin Exam and schools celebrate medal winners and certificated students.

From the Columbia Independent School Ms. Maegan Cooper reports that Latin is part of the standard curriculum. Over 90% of the students at CIS take Latin; there are nearly 120 students taking Latin (eighty-eight at middle/lower school level; around twenty in the high/upper school level). Other highlights: grades 7-12 participating in National Latin Exam; eighteen students traveling to Greece (Paideia Institute).

From the John Burroughs School (St. Louis) Ms. Marni Dillard reports: "We have approximately 90 students (7-12) enrolled in Latin classes and 50 students (10-12) enrolled in Greek classes. Our students use the Oxford Latin Course in grades 7-9 and read Caesar and Vergil, in preparation for the AP exam, in grades 10 and 11. Senior year offerings vary according to the instructor. Our department also offers courses in Classical Art and Foundations of Western Literature, a survey course of classics in translation. There are school-sponsored trips to both Italy (two years on and one year off) and Greece (every three years). Our students (10-12) have participated in the CAMWS translation contest, the Vergilian Society translation contest and the National Latin Exam for the past two years. Many of our students participate in local certamen matches, but we have not yet taken a group to the JCL convention in Columbia, MO. Though we fret a bit every year when waiting for our 7th grade enrollment numbers, we

are happy to report that our program is going strong.”

State of Nebraska

Reported by Mark Haynes, Creighton Preparatory High School

How many programs in Latin and/or Greek do you have in your region at all levels, and what changes have you seen in this last year in their status?

- Only two universities, University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Creighton University in Omaha, continue to teach both Greek and Latin as regular credit-bearing courses. Creighton in its Department of Classics, now housed in the Creighton Fine Arts Department, has an undergraduate program with about five classical language majors. The department has two full-time faculty members (one tenured and one lecturer) as well as people who teach classics-related courses from other departments. The University of Nebraska at Lincoln in its Department of Classics and Religious Studies continues to provide a program for classical language study for undergraduates with six full-time faculty members who teach Latin and/or Greek. No university or college in the state of Nebraska offers a graduate degree in classical languages.
- The University of Nebraska at Omaha is in its fifth year of teaching Latin as a language credit course.
- Grace University in Omaha officially closed its doors as an educational institution at the end of the 2018 academic year. So, it no longer teaches Biblical Greek.
- Ten high schools and two home school groups continue to offer Latin in Nebraska: Omaha Central, Omaha Creighton Preparatory School, Omaha Westside District 66, Brownell-Talbot School, Marian High School, Millard North High School, Bellevue West High School, Bellevue East High School, Lincoln Lutheran High School in Lincoln, Utica Lutheran High School in Utica, one school group called Mother of Divine Grace and another group associated with St. Barnabus Episcopal Church. Only two of these programs employ two Latin teachers: Omaha Creighton Preparatory School and Omaha Westside District 66.
- Only one junior high school, Brownell Talbot School, still offers Latin in Nebraska.
- There are also some scattered home school students that teach Latin at the grade school level through online courses, but it is impossible to verify exact numbers.

Both the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and Creighton University in Omaha continue to offer Latin and Greek to undergraduates. The University of Nebraska at Lincoln in its department of classics and religious studies has six full-time Latin and /or Greek teachers with five tenured professors and one lecturer. Creighton University, after moving its classics program into the Department of Fine Arts, has one full-time philologist and one lecturer to teach all of its Greek and Latin literature courses.

Marian High School in Omaha no longer allows its incoming freshmen to sign up for Latin. The administration of the all-girls Catholic school made a decision two years ago to offer Chinese instead of Latin. The Latin teacher at the school also teaches theology so that, as the number of Latin sections drop each year, he will teach more theology classes.

What achievements, projects, or outreach events have occurred to promote Latin and the classics in your area? Who should receive the credit?

- On April 19, 2018, the UNL Department of Classics and Religious Studies held its annual "Homerathon." This is a marathon reading of Homer's *Iliad* open to the entire campus and larger Nebraska community. This was a very successful event in which hundreds of people participated in one way or another. Those most responsible for the event were Mike Lippman and Matthew Loar, the UNL Classics Club advisors.
- On Halloween 2018, the UNL Department of Classics and Religious Studies hosted a re-enactment of the Battle of Zama in which students were given shields and noodle-swords. Professors were dressed in elephant suits. A narrator described the battle and gave directions to the student participants so they knew when to fight and when to die. About 80 students from UNL and from local high schools participated in the event. Here is a link to a 360 video made of the re-enactment [Battle of Zama 2018](#). The re-enactment was followed by food and conversation. Event tee-shirts were given to all the participants. Another aspect of the re-enactment was the shield-making party held on November 29 in the classics department. Those most responsible for the event were Mike Lippman and Matthew Loar, the UNL Classics Club advisors.
- On September 21, 2018, CAMWS held a dinner in Lincoln, Nebraska in preparation for CAMWS Convention 2019. The dinner, hosted by current CAMWS president Andrew Faulkner and secretary-treasurer Tom Sienkewicz, was for the local steering committee of CAMWS 2019. The attendees were primarily from the University of Nebraska, the host institution for this year's convention, but also included high school teachers from Millard North High School and Creighton Preparatory High School. The person most responsible for organizing this event was Anne Duncan, the co-chair of the UNL Department of Classics and Religious Studies.
- The Creighton chapter of Eta Sigma Phi held its Eleventh Annual Creighton Mock Certamen Invitational on the Creighton campus on January 26, 2019. In spite of weather difficulties, about 60 Latin students from four different high schools and two home-school groups participated. The person most responsible for the success of this event was Katherine Consola, the president of Eta Sigma Phi at Creighton University.
- The Nebraska Junior Classical League plans to host its annual state convention and competition on April 13, 2019, at Bellevue East High School. The Certamen Preliminaries were held on February 21 at Westside High School. It will be arranged by several area high school teachers and the student officers of the Nebraska Junior Classical League board under the leadership of Elizabeth Beman, the NJCL state chair and Latin teacher at Bellevue East High School. The Certamen Preliminaries were hosted and run by Carolyn Harvey, the Westside Latin teacher.

What dangers (if any) do you see to programs in your area in the next year?

- Although there would seem to be no grave threats to the existence of programs teaching classical languages in Nebraska, there is a concern for the trimming back of programs by reducing the number of faculty members and a shifting of emphasis. This is particularly a concern at Creighton University where the Classics Department at Creighton has been downgraded from a separate department status to becoming a program housed in the Fine Arts department. That means that the department chair of classics is now in her second full year of being a program coordinator. As the program coordinator, Martha Habash is the only tenured philologist at Creighton University. The school has made a commitment to hire an adjunct on a year-to-year basis to help her cover the Greek and Latin classes offered, but without a tenure-track professorship, it will be difficult for her to sustain the program on her own.
- All high-school programs have maintained the same number of teachers, but all teachers have mentioned that their overall number of students is either the same or lower. No teacher has seen a significant increase over previous years.
- The decision by Marian High School to no longer permit incoming freshmen to sign up for Latin is indeed regrettable, but much more complicated than it might appear. The current Latin teacher himself asked CAMWS not to protest the school's decision.

Has Nebraska made use of any CPL funds during this last year?

- Mike Lippman and Matthew Loar, the advisors for the Classics Club at UNL, received \$500 to support their efforts for the "Homerathon" mentioned above.

State of Oklahoma

Reported by John Hansen, University of Oklahoma

Latin continues its slow retreat from public school classrooms in Oklahoma. The study of Classical Languages in our state, however, has also experienced some small gains to counter that bad news. The enthusiasm and hard work of individual schoolteachers and professors—both novice and veteran—gives us hope that Latin and Greek will remain vital in our state for years to come.

High School

Oklahoma is down one Latin program. Although three programs (Heritage Hall, Southeast OKPS, and Tulsa Edison) closed, two new ones opened (Claremore Christian, St. Mary's in Guthrie). That brings the total to 32.

Public = 15 (*down two*)

Parochial/Private = 14 (*up one*)

Charter = 2 (*same*)

Home School Networks = 1 (*same*)

This overall loss would have been much greater if not for the (mostly) new teachers—at least six—that filled other open positions. Two of them, Cynthia Engelbrecht and Travis Kirk, are second-career teachers; one, Alexander Konieczny, is still an OU undergraduate! Another of the six is Heather Mulhern, former TPS Teacher of the Year, who has returned to Monte Cassino. Four schools—Broken Arrow, Moore, Mount St. Mary’s, and Tulsa Memorial—have added AP Latin to their curriculum. Ten additional schools—Bishop McGuinness, Casady, Cascia Hall, Edmond Santa Fe, Holland Hall, Jenks, Norman High, Putnam City West, Regent Preparatory, and Westmoore—confirm their AP programs, which brings the total to fourteen. Long-time teachers that left our classrooms this year include Jacquie Carr-Lonian, Rachel Dowell, Stephanie Molchan, Terry Whenry, and Marty Winters. In addition to our year long programs, Dawn Duffy-Relf also teaches a summer Latin course for high school students through the OKC Oklahoma State University campus. Three schools in the Oklahoma City area (The Academy, Casady, and Harding) also teach Greek.

Oklahoma Junior Classical League offers extra-curricular activities to its members thanks to a small but extremely dedicated group of teachers. Its current sponsors are Rachel Dowell, Kaity Sims (McGuinness), and Sarah Whipple (Jenks). Although the number of OKJCL chapters has decreased by two, the size of each chapter has increased: 2018 – 19 (503 members, 12 chapters) vs. 2017 – 18 (495 members, 14 chapters). Edmond Santa Fe (Kaity Sims) hosted the 2018 Convention on April 6 and 7, with 152 delegates, 11 chapters, in attendance. Students from Bishop McGuinness, Edmond North and Santa Fe, and Norman North (13 total) travelled with 4 sponsors to the NJCL Convention, July 23 – 28, held this year at Miami University in Ohio. This is a smaller delegation than in recent years. Yet the 2018 OKJCL Fall Forum (Southmoore, October 13, Dr. Julie Grissom) saw almost *twice* the number of students in attendance as the previous year (79 vs. 46, 7 chapters both years)! Casady (Briana Titus) hosted a *Certamen* meet on January 30, with about 60 students divided into 16 separate teams (four chapters). The 2019 OKJCL Convention (Jenks Middle, February 15 – 16, Sarah Whipple) was scheduled very early, which led to conflicts with a number of other student activities. Despite that, attendance was down by only a few students: 149 delegates from 9 chapters. Oklahoma numbers for the 2018 National Latin Exam, administered in March, were down by 71 (794 total). The NLE recognized Norman North’s Grant Hussong with one of its ‘New Latin Educator’ Scholarships; he is now enrolled at the University of Kansas. Attendance for OU’s Classics Day (November 15) also fell, with 220 students from 12 schools.

Rachel Dowell was recognized as outgoing OFLTA Teacher of the Year at the Spring Conference, at Jenks High School, April 21; three Latin teachers were there. Six Latin teachers and one OU undergraduate participated in the OFLTA Fall Conference at Highland West on September 22. There was no dedicated Latin programming at the latter (see ‘Conclusion’). There were two other outstanding opportunities for local professional development, however, this

past year. Thanks to the encouragement of retired teacher Melony Carey, the University of Tulsa included Latin (led by Dr. Robert Cape) among its Advanced Placement Institute offerings in July. Julie Grissom, John Hansen, Judy Mayfield, Laurie Motto-McIntosh, Kaity Sims, Tori Turner, Sarah Whipple, and three additional teachers from other states participated. SALVI, with the help of local sponsors Briana Titus and Sarah Whipple, conducted a Biduum (spoken Latin weekend) at the Spring Valley Ranch, northeast of Tulsa, on October 6 – 8. This is the third time our state has benefited from one of these events. Josh Higginbotham (Harding) served as one of the group leaders. Rachel Dowell, John Hansen, Dr. Margaret Musgrove, Kaity Sims, and OU undergraduate Katy Felkner and her father took part as well. Participants from surrounding states, such as Arkansas and Colorado, brought the total to close to 30. Rachel Dowell gave Oklahoma teachers an additional chance to speak Latin at her home with a follow-up *Cena Latina* on November 16; eight teachers joined in.

Colleges

There is good news all around from Oklahoma universities regarding their Classical language programs.

Latin only = 2 (*up one*)

Greek only = 6 (*same*)

Latin and Greek = 4 (*same*)

Dr. Jerry Green of UCO has compared enrollments for the past decade of Greek courses at his school: for the current academic year, the numbers are as high as they've been since 2010/11, and his retention from fall to spring is over 50%! Dr. Jonathan Arnold, University of Tulsa, reports that participants in that school's Classical Studies program have doubled in one year (now almost 20) and that enrollment in both Greek and Latin has risen as well. Tulsa Community College was able to reinstate its online Latin program when Laurie Motto-McIntosh stepped in. Enrollments at OU are up just slightly for the Spring 2019 semester (Latin = 199, Greek = 24), and the number of Classics majors remains about the same (29). Thanks to Dr. Rebecca Borden, who teaches World Language pedagogy for the OU College of Education, our university will soon be re-accredited for the preparation of Latin teachers by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. Her report for the process was accepted by that organization this past summer; she explains that CAEP does not always approve reports that include Latin along with other languages (see 'Conclusion'). Dr. Boren's predecessor had omitted Latin from the previous report, which caused OU to lose accreditation for our language. Because all of the Latin teachers OU prepared during the past decade had pursued the Alternate Certification path, this situation did not become a major issue. Nevertheless, it is a huge relief to have it corrected. Two additional OU students passed the old version of the Latin OSAT when it was last administered in November. The new test goes into effect immediately.

Conclusion

The number of Latin programs in Oklahoma schools remains impressive, especially in comparison to that of most other states outside New York, Massachusetts, and the South. We have already entered a period of decline, however, which we cannot reverse until we attract and retain new teachers. That is the central difficulty our subject faces here. Some OU undergraduates do show an interest in teaching: very few of these commit themselves to public schools or to Oklahoma in general. Tulsa Public Schools is down to one program; Oklahoma City, to two. Edmond, a respected and vital district, retains Latin only through two part-time teachers spread across three high schools. This is not a situation exclusive to Latin. In the spring of 2018, the Oklahoma legislature and governor approved a significant salary increase for public school teachers; despite this, Oklahoma has already issued close to 3,000 (!) emergency certificates for the current school year. In February, the Oklahoma State Department of Education reported that 30,000 state teachers have left the profession in the past six years. Given this, even one new public school Latin teacher in a five-year period is cause for celebration. But that rate can never meet even normal attrition.

A second difficulty is the small number of teachers willing to take on statewide leadership. This is most evident in the Oklahoma Junior Classical League, which survives due to the personal commitment of the same four or five teachers, but it is also an issue for the Oklahoma Foreign Language Teachers Association, our natural venue for professional development. This crew of loyal JCL teachers is positive-minded, and their efforts have paid off with an increase in student participation. Without their involvement, the extra-curricular opportunities that JCL offers to *all* our students would collapse in an instant. Oklahoma is particularly fortunate that Rachel Dowell has remained active as an OKJCL sponsor and ‘cheerleader,’ even though she is no longer a classroom teacher. These same teachers have also been the ones most willing to present at OFLTA meetings. Over-extended and often exhausted, they cannot do everything. Until more Latin teachers become involved, local professional development opportunities will remain limited.

A third difficulty is the steadily increasing impact of ACTFL policies on classroom Latin teachers, with no helpful pushback from our own professional organizations—ACL, SCS, or CAMWS. Some of these policies are helpful. Since Latin is, after all, a real language that has been used throughout the Western world in a variety of contexts for thousands of years, any reminder that Listening, Speaking, and Writing are crucial parts of language learning is justified. On the ground, however, this has turned into a suspicion of teachers and classrooms that focus on interpretive reading (or grammar, or etymology, etc.) A World Language teacher that uses the target language less than 90% of the time or a textbook for instruction is subject to pity or persecution. The 2017 ACL/SCS Standards for Classical Language Learning, composed as a response to ACTFL teachings of the past two decades (proficiency, performance, skills, modes, etc.) has remained in draft form for a solid two years. This document does indicate, on p. 8, that Interpretive Reading is our main focus; blink and you’ll miss it. In draft form or not, however, as far as . . .

the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation

(which accredits teacher training programs, such as the one at OU),
the Oklahoma Office of Educational Quality and Accountability
(which certifies new teachers),
the Oklahoma Foreign Language Teachers Association
(which provides them with professional development),
school principals
(who hire and evaluate them),
and other World Language teachers
(who mentor and work alongside them)

. . . are concerned, the ACL/SCS Standards do not exist. In more than ten years of experience with the above groups, I can relate no incident regarding teacher training, certification, evaluation, etc. in which one of them deferred to ACL/SCS rather than to ACTFL. This is how the state of Oklahoma ended up with its new Latin certification test, much of which fails to address skills and knowledge actually needed by classroom teachers. In its original form (April 2018), the largest number of questions centered on Interpretive Listening—not of everyday speech, but of difficult Classical poetry! As I've written in previous reports, gone are the questions about English derivatives, history, mythology, and other aspects of culture: ACTFL no longer cares about them (Goal Areas #2 through #5 now have much less importance than Communication) and our test must match those of other World Languages as closely as possible. The panel of Oklahoma teachers that worked with OEQA on the certification test protested loudly enough that Pearson did make some helpful changes. The teachers' overall opinion of the final version of the OSAT, however, remained low (February 2019).

Teachers of Latin *at all levels* have a personal stake in the health of school programs. Since the Society of Classical Studies has participated in the formulation of national language learning standards, its members—primarily college and university professors—should have some knowledge of their existence and contents. That the document has remained in draft-form for so long and has been an ineffective response (draft or not) to ACTFL indicates a need for much stronger efforts from both ACL and SCS. The two most commonly used high school textbooks for Latin (Cambridge and *Ecce Romani*) are almost 50 years old, which indicates the low importance that pedagogy now has in our discipline. SCS and CAMWS membership among schoolteachers will remain low as long as they perceive the mission of these organizations (support of specialized, high-level research) remains far distant from their own.

A few months ago, as we reflected on the challenges our state faces in keeping school programs open, a colleague asked me if I saw this as the beginning of the end of Latin in Oklahoma. I really do not, despite the struggles. This semester one of my students told me that her school, Metro Christian Academy, had offered Latin using an online learning system, Keystone. It is possible—even likely—that other unreported Latin and Greek 'programs' in Oklahoma exist along similar lines. Just a week ago, a retired teacher contacted me to say a private school in Tulsa was hoping to start a brand new program (and we may have found a teacher). Almost every week at my church, I can hear people in the pews singing Latin with clear, confident

pronunciation. Schools, parents, and students in our state want these languages. As long as there are individuals that love them enough to share them – and it's clear from this report that such people are here now – Latin and Greek will survive.