

Prof. William Brockliss reports that the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Classics and Near Eastern Studies welcomed Latin students from two local high schools – Madison West and St. Ambrose Academy – to campus at their recent high-school visit day (19 March 2015). Thirty-four people attended from Madison West, including students and teachers, and twenty from St. Ambrose Academy. They visited a wide range of classes, both regular offerings and some laid on especially for the day: introductions to ancient philosophy, the ancient Greek language, and ancient medical terminology; classes in Latin literature, Greek sculpture, Roman art and archaeology, and Classical mythology. Thanks to CAMWS' generous grant, we were able to provide lunch for students, teachers and faculty after the class sessions. This was an absolutely indispensable part of the experience for the students: without the lunch we would have had no chance to interact with them after the classes, and they would have had no chance to reflect on the experience together.

The students seem to have had a wonderful time on campus; more importantly, they gained a sense of what it is like either to take Classics courses in general at the university level, or more specifically of the possibilities for pursuing a Latin and/or Classics major. This is a crucial matter for us to address in our part of the country. There are in fact a number of high schools in Madison and in Wisconsin as a whole that offer Latin, but the challenge is to ensure that students continue their classical studies at university. The Bridge Initiative Grant kindly awarded by CAMWS made a vital contribution to our efforts to bridge the gap between high school and university.

The event was publicized by the UW-Madison College of Letters and Science through the college's Twitter account (see <https://twitter.com/UWMadisonLS/status/578645455934005248/photo/1> and <https://twitter.com/UWMadisonLS/status/578660977538805760>) and at the college's Flickr library (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/uwmadisonls/>).