

INSTITUTUM LINGUAE LATINAE AESTIVUM

LATIN/GREEK INSTITUTE

ΘΕΡΙΝΟΝ ΔΙΔΑΣΚΑΛΕΙΟΝ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ ΓΛΩΤΤΗΣ

Newsletter | Winter 2024



Dear Alumni and Friends of the LGI,

Greetings from the CUNY Graduate Center! We are delighted to present this newsletter, the first since 2018 – and on the occasion of the Institute's 50th anniversary. It has been a very eventful few years, and we have a lot to share.

The Institute Turns 50!

Summer of 2023 was the 50th year of the Latin/Greek Institute. Since its establishment as the CUNY Latin Institute in 1973, almost 3,000 students have trained in the Institute's methods in Latin and, since 1978, Ancient Greek. As any graduate can attest, there is nothing like a summer spent at the Institute.



There is a lot to celebrate: enrollments are strong; recent graduates continue to achieve the same academic and professional success as their predecessors; and the Institute's role in ameliorating the nationwide reduction in Latin and (especially) Greek classes has never been more important. More recently, the LGI has played an increasingly vital role in helping to diversify the humanities: from 1995 and again in 2014, the number of students from historically underrepresented groups has doubled.





Scenes from the inaugural year of the Latin Institute, 1973

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Campaign for the Next 50 Years

Despite its continued success, the Institute faces a number of challenges – some quite significant. We are almost exclusively reliant on CUNY funding, which is strictly limited to in-session instructional costs and beholden to an ever-expanding array of rules, regulations, and restrictions. These, in turn, increasingly limit the Institute's operational flexibility, curtail many of its academic and social activities, and prevent any expansion or growth in programming. A few examples of this impact:

- faculty cannot be paid for any LGI work beyond teaching. Their involvement, however, is year round and much of what is asked of them is both detailed and time-consuming; they volunteer to the extent that they can, but with their own personal and professional obligations it is asking a lot;
- there are no discretionary and/or emergency funds for students or faculty (we're unable to provide textbooks to students, for instance, who are unable to afford them);
- there is no money to update and re-key the readers (a time-consuming endeavor, and long overdue);
- the first Friday party and graduation are now paid almost entirely out of pocket by the director; and
- there is a minimal budget for office supplies (most are now donated or obtained elsewhere).

As noted, launching new programs has become almost impossible. We have been long interested in offering winter intersession courses, but the development of these requires an expense outlay which the University won't provide.

All of this has a cumulative impact on faculty and staff who have willingly filled in the gaps – but the situation is unsustainable, and ultimately detrimental to morale and long-term retention.

In essence, the University would like us to simplify and streamline our operations and run the Institute like any other program or set of summer courses. <u>This is something we absolutely refuse to do</u>. We are unwavering in our commitment to maintaining the precision methods and high standards established by the Institute's founder, Floyd L. Moreland, which have served Institute students extraordinarily well over the past half century. There is nothing like a summer at the Institute, which delivers on its promise in a manner almost without peer. <u>This is non-negotiable</u>.

Accordingly, on the Institute's 50th anniversary, we are announcing the launch of a three-year campaign to establish a robust operating endowment. This effort – the Institute's first ever multiyear campaign – will seek to establish a \$500,000 endowment that will provide the Institute with \$20,000 per year of nontax funding. These funds will help provide the Institute with the academic, administrative, and operational flexibility with which to support and advance the Institute's mission and to help retain faculty for the long term. The money raised via this endowment can be used to cover almost any aspect of Institute operations – even help students with a shortfall in funding.

Through the generous support of several alumni and friends, an initial \$35,000 has been contributed towards this goal. At this landmark and critical moment in the Institute's history, we hope that you will consider making a gift.

Contributing also sends the University an important message about the Institute: its importance to the study of classical languages and the primacy of maintaining the highest academic standards. We are deeply committed to preserving the things that make the Institute special and unique – a belief we hope you share as well; together, **agemus monumentum aere perennius**...

Campaign for the Next 50 Years

There are several ways to give:

(1) You can do so online on the Brooklyn College LGI homepage.

[Or type in this address: https://www.brooklyn.edu/lgi]

(2) Via regular mail:

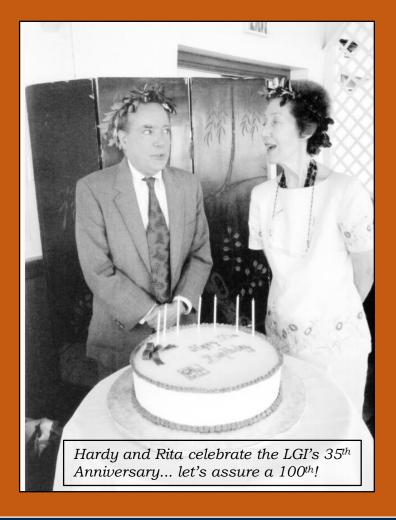
Brooklyn College Foundation 2900 Bedford Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11210-2889

Please make your check payable to: "The Brooklyn College Foundation, Inc." and be certain to note "Latin/Greek Institute Endowment" in the memo line.

(3) You can also make a gift of stock, wire transfer funds, or arrange a bequest by calling the Brooklyn College Foundation at 718.951.5074.

If you have any questions, please contact Lucas: lrubin@brooklyn.cuny.edu.

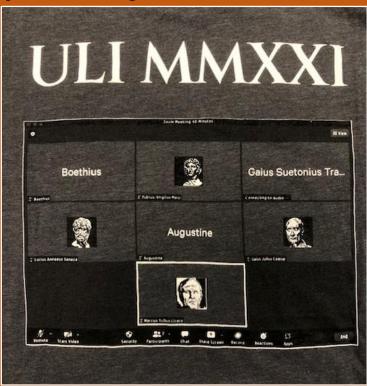
Finally, any donation over \$250 will receive a small gift from the LGI Faculty and Staff.



The Institute, 2020-2023

Summer 2020

With the rapid spread of Covid in the spring of 2020, the City University of New York directed all of its programs and operations to move online on March 13. At the time, the LGI was processing applications, and the status of the summer was unknown. Indeed, by late spring, the online directive was extended and, for the first time since 1973, there was to be no in-person Institute. Through the energetic efforts of the Latin faculty, Upper Latin was moved online, with 27 students ultimately enrolling – including several who had planned on taking Basic Greek.



The 2021 Upper Latin t-shirt – with the authors read portrayed on a ZOOM screen – perfectly captured the summer

In addition, early in the summer, Director Katherine Lu Hsu had her second child and left Brooklyn College (more details in Rita's Digest). She is now at the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts. In the interim, Brooklyn College asked Lucas Rubin, its Assistant Dean for Academics, to assume leadership of the Institute. Lucas had completed both basic programs (L95, G96) before going on to finish his Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology at SUNY

Buffalo. Like many, he retained a love for and loyalty to the Institute and was happy to step in during its moment of need; in his words: "I owe the Institute a debt of obligation I can never fully repay."

Summer 2021

In the following summer – with the online mandate still in force – sections of Upper Latin and Upper Greek were offered. Informed by the lessons of 2020 (and, indeed, that across higher education during the Covid ZOOM years) both programs were delivered with the precision and standards expected of the LGI. In addition, they demonstrated several advantages: for students who have previously taken a basic program, they were spared the expense of another summer residency in New York City. As such, the Institute will continue to offer at least some upper programs online.

The LGI faculty and staff were (and remain) unanimous in their agreement that it would be impossible to offer the basic programs online and there are no plans to ever do so (to note, the LGI's progenitor, the Berkeley Greek and Latin Summer Workshops, did move online; their Latin program has since remained so).

LGI Office Temporarily Relocated

Finally, in both 2020 and 2021, the LGI Office was temporarily relocated to 25 Broadway, Brooklyn College's downtown Manhattan campus which Lucas supervises in the fall and spring. Why? Access to the Graduate Center remained highly restricted and Lucas had both keys to and designated access approval for the 25 Broadway building. The facility hosted a virtual orientation for the online 2021 summer programs, with Hardy, Rita, and Lucas gathering together inperson for the first time in almost 14 months.

Summer 2022

In June 2022, the Institute was the first program to return to the Graduate Center for in-person instruction. Forty brave students from across the country joined eight faculty members, Rita, Lucas, and Program Manager Suklima Roy to reboot a cold system (literally: the copier and all the computers had to be serviced) with minimal onsite

The Institute, 2020-2023

support to try and generate the magic that is the Institute. To streamline operations, only the basic programs were offered. It was certainly a very different LGI summer, with restricted building entry, distancing in rooms, everyone initially (eventually becoming "most") wearing masks, no food service in the GC, and no Friday party at the end of the first week. During the course of the summer, several students became ill with Covid – one extended – as well as one Latin teacher. Those required to quarantine attended the lectures through Zoom and stayed in touch with their





2022, another COVID summer – though now inperson: despite the additional challenges (masks, entry protocols, random testing, etc.), a success

advisors. In Latin, other teachers took over for their absent colleague. Though challenging in many regards, the summer was a success – if a hard-fought one at that. Finally, in the fall of 2022, Suklima departed for a new position at Cornell's Medical School.

Summer 2023

With the pandemic having largely passed (and no measures of mitigation required), this past summer



Christopher Simon opens the 50th Anniversary summer 2023 SLI with the first Latin lecture

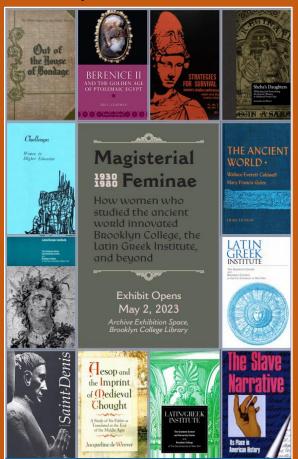
was a return to normalcy. It was, however, peculiar in other ways: though we welcomed a full complement of outstanding students (17 Basic Latin, 37 Basic Greek, and 14 Upper Latin), the faculty bench in both programs was structured somewhat differently. The Latin faculty worked like a team across both the basic and upper programs. Christopher Simon had an especially busy summer: he chaired Upper Latin, taught the first few weeks in basic, and served as the summer 2023 Deputy Director. Thom Murphy (L19) chaired Basic Latin, joined by Madison Forbes (G19) and Elizabeth Raab (L19). Lucas taught for the first two weeks as well. Alice Walden Phillips (G03, L06, UG07) lent her talents in Basic Latin for a few weeks and then taught exclusively in Upper Latin.

The Greek faculty had an especially complicated staffing schedule, the result of external conflicts and circumstances. Carlo DaVia (UG10) chaired the first three weeks of Basic Greek, succeeded by Bill Pagonis (G90, L91) for the next three weeks, with Jeremy March (UL00) closing out the last four. It was a very experienced group, and the handoffs the most in LGI history – went off flawlessly. As for the remaining Greek faculty: Hardy taught the first couple of weeks and then the whole second half - a rare treat for the students, as he hadn't participated in the latter half since 2017. Rebecca Rosenthal (G18) taught for the first six weeks and Eric Bayless-Hall (G19) for the whole ten weeks. At the Hoplite Challenge Cup, the Greek students publicly thanked (and gifted) Bill and Rebecca for their support and guidance.

Magisterial Feminae: Rita Honored

Lucas co-curated (along with Lauren Mancia, Associate Professor of [Medieval] History at Brooklyn College) an exhibition at the Brooklyn College Library's Archives and Special Collections Gallery. Entitled Magisterial Feminae: How Women Who Studied the Ancient World Innovated Brooklyn College, the Latin/Greek Institute, and Beyond, it included an entire section dedicated to the Institute.

Several display cases showcased an array of objects that highlighted various aspects of the Institute (detailing its history, academics, and traditions). These included such iconic items as the Hoplite Challenge Cup, a colorful assortment of t-shirts from across the years, as well as some rare artifacts (recruitment materials – a poster, newspaper advertisement, and button – from 1973). The May 2 opening was attended by well over one hundred guests, including the College's president, Michelle Anderson, as well as several LGI alumni and current and former faculty.



A virtual exhibition can be viewed on the library's **website**, as well as a **short video**.



The May 2 opening of the exhibition. Some of the LGI cases are visible to the right (posters)



LGI Patrona Ethyle Wolfe (and her husband, Columbia Classics professor Coleman Benedict) at the 1981 graduation (held at the famed Rainbow Room)

Rita – who was in attendance – was specifically honored. In this regard, an excerpt from Rubin's remarks:

Rita: I could never repay you (or Hardy or Floyd for that matter) for what you gave me – a passion, a career, and a livelihood. You have often told me that you have given your life to the Institute, and I want to tell you here and now, and publicly, how grateful I am – we are, every one of us who has come through the Institute – for that. Please accept what's on display and celebrated here as a simple expression of thanks from not just me – but all of us whose lives you've transformed.

Classics Chair (and later Provost) Ethyle Wolfe, who was responsible for the establishment of the Institute, provided the primary link between the exhibition's main theme and the LGI (she was also a ubiquitous presence at almost every graduation through the 1980s). In addition to Rita, former LGI faculty members Gail Smith (who passed away this year – see note that follows) and the incomparable Stephanie Russell were also highlighted. Brittany Lugo (L23) was one of the student researchers.

The exhibition was on display from May through December of 2023.

The Hoplite Challenge Cups, 2022-2023

The 2022 Contest

The 2022 Hoplite Challenge Cup was a duel of masked contestants. Social distancing didn't diminish the enthusiasm of the warring sides, especially after the students were staked to an early lead when Dustin Chen bested Greek Program Chair Carlo DaVia with one of the tried-and-true strategies employed by students for decades: an easy verb duel ($\lambda \dot{\nu} \omega$ in this instance), with intent to earn a half point via a manageable volley. In this case, Dustin scored a full point on a rare faculty misstep. In the end, the student team emerged victorious, 7-4.







The 2023 Cup

This year's contest was interesting, to say the least: five faculty members joined by a 2022 alumnus competed against more than a dozen students. From the start, enthusiasm was high: the faculty were highly motivated, not having won the cup in a few years; opposing them was a large and boisterous student team, which came with a plan: to hit the faculty with second person singular forms over-and-over again. In the end, it was a most unusual contest: though the event went the full three rounds, no single duel went beyond one turn (as in, a mistake was made in either the generation of the initial form or in the first requested transformation). As a result, there were no extended volleys (and no half points awarded in a duel of attrition). The final score? A faculty victory of 16-10. It was the first faculty victory in several years.



If you're curious: of the 44 contests held since 1978, the LGI has **OFFICIAL** record of only 27. With this year's triumph, the faculty hold a winning record of 17-8-2. As you can infer from other entries in this newsletter, we've been collecting, assembling, and archiving LGI materials. In this regard, the earliest Hoplite Challenge Cups were somewhat less formal and, even after they became more of an event, their results were not always recorded. Accordingly, we hope to eventually determine a complete and accurate accounting of wins, losses, and ties.

Summer 2023 visit to the American Numismatic Society

This past summer, the American Numismatic Society welcomed LGI students for two late afternoon Friday visits: one specifically for the SLI, the other for the SGI. The students were hosted by the ANS' Lucia Carbone, Andrew M. Burnett Associate Curator of Roman Numismatics, who offered a detailed presentation on decoding Latin and Greek on coins. The Friday, July 7, visit by SLI students included a hands-on examination of some amazing specimens – several with specific links to the curriculum, not only for syntax, but also in their specific imagery and iconography (such as T. Carisius' mid-40s BC denarius with reverse of the sacred geese of Juno - recounted in Livy V.47 and read in the prose survey).

More Scenes from Summer 2023



Faculty greet students – Day 1 (June 12)







Graduation 2023

C. 70° JM, 70°

In honor of the Institute's *Quinquagesima Aestas*, this year's graduation was decidedly retro, revisiting a number of traditions that had fallen by the wayside over the last few decades. To begin, it was held in a private room at the Playwright Irish Pub (on 35th street, less than a block from the CUNY Graduate Center), which was something of a call back to the Institute's very first ad-hoc graduation party (which took place at the Circus Bar in the basement of the [since demolished] Hotel Piccadilly [at 227 West 45th Street]). The event saw a return to the "classic" large-size, heavy-stock program (with dual language menus) and included graduates' names in Latin or Greek. There was also a reading of the traditional end-of-the-summer poems (that in Latin composed by the LGI's *conditor et paterfamilias*, Floyd L. Moreland, and in Greek by the ubiquitous Jack Collins) as well as a singing of *Gaudeamus Igitur* (which went surprisingly well, though breaking down – as was historically the case – in the last two Greek verses). The celebration concluded with a birthday cake and, of course, joyous singing of Happy Birthday. Rita was honored with candy and flowers and Hardy with his favorite IPA and a stuffed tapir. Given the significance of the anniversary, the wreathes were gold.



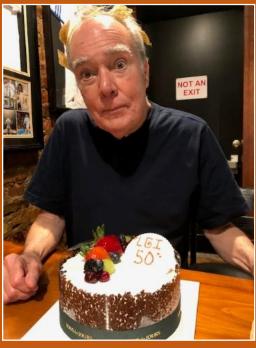




Scenes from the LGI graduation, 2023







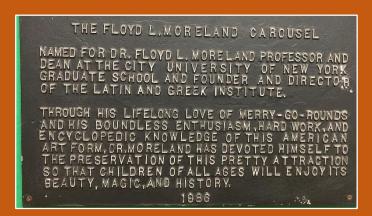
Floyd Moreland's *Aliud Monumentum*

Those who studied under (or have met) the Institute's founder know how energetic and driven he is (his genius for curriculum speaks for itself). As a graduate student (!) he developed the Berkeley Latin Workshop, whose pedagogy formed the basis of the LGI's core methodology – an approach that has yet to be superseded in terms of rapid language acquisition. He directed and taught in the Institute until 1992 (when Hardy became Director).



Less well known among the LGI community, however, is Floyd's other passion: the restoration of the famous carousel in Seaside Heights (New Jersey), which he grew up riding (and, from the age of 17 through graduate school, spent his summers working). Built in 1910, the steam-driven Gustav Dentzel/Looff amusement had fallen

on hard times by the 1980s – until Moreland got involved in its operation and rejuvenation. His fundraising efforts single-handedly saved the carousel, which was later renamed the Floyd L. Moreland Carousel. In 2021, the carousel was completely disassembled and is currently being restored piece by piece – a result, in part, of

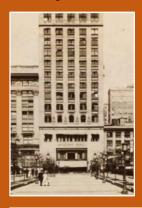


In 1986, Moreland was honored by the Seaside Heights Historical Society when the carousel was renamed in his honor. The plaque makes note of the LGI.

Moreland's continued lobbying and work with local elected officials and community organizations. The carousel is scheduled to be reinstalled in the spring and reopen this summer, so riders will once again be able to mount one of its 58 hand-carved figures and animals – some lucky enough to take a spin on a white horse named "Dr. Floyd" or that named "Rita."

From the Archives

If you attended the LGI prior to 2000, you did so at the old CUNY Graduate Center, located at 29-33 W. 42nd Street. As you may recall, its bland interior left much to be desired (for which blame rests with the New York State Dormitory Authority, which is responsible for all, ahem, improvements of CUNY buildings; we'll save our critique of the new GC for a later date). Its modest presence, however, concealed a storied history.





Aeolian Building exterior, ca. 1920 (left) and (right) its long-demolished theater

Originally known as Aeolian Hall, it was designed by Whitney Warren and Charles Wetmore, two prominent and prolific architects of the early 20th century (whose best-known work is New York City's Grand Central Terminal). Standing 260 feet tall, the structure was completed in 1912. The building's 1,100-seat theater was one of the most popular and avant-garde venues of the day. On February 12, 1924, George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* premiered here as part of a landmark concert entitled "An Experiment in Modern Music." By the time of the Institute's residence, all traces of the theater were gone (though check-in was sometimes within its former footprint). The LGI office was located on the building's tenth floor.

Sad News

Peter Giordano (L79, AL82) died in May 2021 after a short illness. He taught both here and in China and worked in school libraries in both places.

India Imperatore (G78) passed away on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. A student in the inaugural Greek class, she received a BA in Classical Languages at NYU. She was also an accomplished equestrian who later received a DVM from the University of Pennsylvania and worked in both private practice as well as for the Delaware Park Racetrack and Fair Hill Training Center.

Gail Smith (Faculty) died in July 2023 after a lengthy hospitalization. Appointed to the classics faculty at Brooklyn College in 1972, she taught in the first year of the Institute through the early 1980s (in 1978 and 1982 she taught in both the basic Latin and Greek programs simultaneously). In 1985 she published a seminal two-volume commentary on Plautus' *Captivi*, a play rich in themes of freedom and slavery. Her research stretched from Plutarch and Plautus to Zora Neale Hurston and Phyllis Wheatley. In later years she regularly taught in the Africana Studies and Classics departments.



Professor Smith was the founding director of the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program in 1989. In 1991 she was appointed founding director of the CUNY Pipeline Program and continued in that role until 2007. From 1995 to 2007, she also served as director of the Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs (OEODP) at the CUNY Graduate Center, receiving more than \$11.5 million in external institutional grants to support initiatives to broaden participation in doctoral programs in the STEM and SBES fields. Her work empowered thousands of CUNY

students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds to further their education. Her life and legacy were honored by Brooklyn College at a packed memorial service on September 13. Hardy and several former LGI faculty including John Van Sickle attended. Lucas delivered remarks on behalf of the Institute. *Aeternum vale, magistra*.

Don Spoto (Faculty) passed away in February 2023. Although he only taught once (Basic Latin, 1974) he was a remarkable figure who wrote more than two dozen books, including well-regarded biographies of Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, Alfred Hitchcock, and Laurence Olivier. He was the subject of an extensive obituary in the February 19 issue of *The New York Times*.

Donald Spoto, Biographer of Hitchcock and Many More, Dies at 81

He wrote more than two dozen books, including richly detailed biographies of Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, Laurence Olivier and Jesus.

∰ Share full article 🖈 🔲



Cameo Castle (G2000)
Julie Cruise (L78)
Linda Genovese Walrad (L73)
Janet Harris (L89)
Daniel Healey (G13, L14)
Susan Hofstetter Fenton (L91)
David Kornacker (L89)
Konstantinos Levitas (G94)
Vivek Mathew (G08, L09)



Maureen Meehan (L77)
Maya Nathan (UL09)
Cristina Perez-Diaz (G12, L13, UL14)
Ileana Quintano (G08)
Philip Schwartz (L80, AL81, AL82, G90)
Diane Sharpe Schnell (L85)
Norman Sheidlower (G93, L95)
Jay Tribby (L86, G87)
Valerie Wise (AL81)

A.I.A.-S.C.S. 2020

Some of our friends participated in the joint meeting in **January 2020** in Washington, D.C. of the Archaeological Institute of America and the Society for Classical Studies.

[Nota bene: Compiling this information takes a fair amount of time, so we'll include presenters at subsequent conferences in a later newsletter; our apologies - the editors].

Emmanuel Aprilakis (L14): *The Chorus Leader in Early Hexameter Poetry*

Emyr Dakin (G10) was an organizer of a joint panel of the A.I.A. and S.C.S., *Monumental Expressions of Political Identities*. He also presented a paper, *The Honorary Decree for Karzoazos*, son of Attalos: a Monument for a 'New Man'?

Caleb Dance (Faculty): Rome's Feminine Foundations and the Agency of the Sabine Women

David Driscoll (AG84): Always and Everywhere: Early Greek Poetry, Local and the Universal Homer in Plutarch's Symposia

Patrick Glauthier (L01, Faculty): *Homer Redivivus? Rethinking Ennian Metempsychosis*

Sebastian Heath (G92) was a panelist in a Joint A.I.A.-S.C.S. workshop, *Humanities Publishing in Transition*

Collin Hilton (G10, L11): Roman Stoic Appropriation of the Middle Platonic "Imitation of God"

Bryant Kirkland (G04): On Many Acquaintances: Friend-Making in Table Talk

Paul Ludwig (L92): *Political Friendship in* Nicomachean Ethics *IX.*6

Kathleen Lynch (G90) was a participant in a joint workshop of the S.C.S. and A.I.A., *The Future of Archaeology and Classics in American Academia*

M.J. McNamara (G01): Plataean Citizenship: Dual Identities

Mallory Monaco (G05): was one of the organizers of a roundtable discussion on *Classics for Business Leaders*

Kenneth Morrell (L79, AG81, AL82): *The Undergraduate Major in Classics Revisited: Ten Years Later*

Melissa Mueller (G91) gave the response in a session, Classical Reception in Contemporary Asian and Asian American Culture

Fred Naiden (G91) presided over a session, Greek History

David Perry (AL85): *Cicero Demonstrates a Transmission Error at* De Divinatione 1.14-15

A session on Classics and Archaeology for the General Reader: A Workshop with NEH Public Scholars included **Jamie Romm** (L82, AG84). One of the organizers of a roundtable discussion on Antiquity in Media Studies was **Emma Scioli** (UL95, UG96).

Amit Shilo (G03) was one of the organizers of a joint A.I.A.-S.C.S. Workshop, *Classics and Civic Activism.*

Jennifer Weintritt (G11): More Useful and More Trustworthy? The Cyclical Poem in Scholia

Books by LGI alumni and faculty advertised at the 2020 meetings included:

A Student Commentary on Plato's Euthyphro by **Chuck Platter** (University of Michigan Press)

Antiquities Beyond Humanism, Ed. **Emanuela Bianchi** and Others (New from Oxford)

Vergil Recomposed, The Mythological and Secular Cantos, **Scott McGill** (OUP Partnership with S.C.S.)

Religion and Reconciliation in Greek Cities: The Sacred Laws of Selinus and Cyrene, **Noah Robertson** (OUP Partnership with S.C.S.)

Horace's Ars Poetica: Family, Friendship, and the Art of Living, **Jennifer Ferriss-Hill** (Princeton University Press)

Crossing the Pomerium: The Boundaries of Rhetorical, Religious, and Military Institutions from Caesar to Constantine, **Michael Koortbojian** (Princeton University Press)



LGI booth at the 2023 A.I.A-S.C.S. Meeting. From left: Lucas Rubin (L95, G96, Director); Sherwin Little (AL82); and Dustin Chen (G22, UL23).

Rita's Digest

[Nota bene II: the Covid years had an impact on our receipt of materials from alumni; accordingly, some of the material presented below may now be superannuated; we have more to go through and will publish what's left of the backlog – and be caught up – by the 2025 edition. Apologies in this regard – the editors]

Gillian Adler (L09) is a professor of literature who holds the Esther Raushenbush Chair in Humanities at Sarah Lawrence College and is also a lecturer in English and comparative literature at Columbia. She started a "NYC-based foundation dedicated to the study of the Middle Ages; students from different institutions have been signing up for tours of the Met's medieval wing and I'm planning on developing more awards. I have two established right now."

Annie Alderman (G22) read a lot of Greek after leaving us—Plato's *Symposium* and *Apology* and she was looking forward to Aeschylus.

The Executive Committee of Coastal Carolina University has unanimously approved the nomination of **Elizabeth Baltes** (G11) to serve as secretary of the Managing Committee through May 2027.

Yelena Baraz (G94, UL95, UG96, Faculty) gave a talk at Cornell where she met **Michelle Kwintner** (L83, AL86, Faculty) and took a selfie of them together. Yelena also gave a Zoom lecture, "Prophecy and Poetry in Lucan's 'Delphic Episode'" to the Department of Classics at The Graduate Center in March 2023.

Dean Barker (L93, Faculty) is still teaching middle school in New Hampshire and is starting to teach his son Latin. He has taken on some online teaching of Latin to students from China as a side-job, which he finds lots of fun.

Mason Barto (UL16, UL17) a full instructor, expects to finish his Ph.D. in 2024; his dissertation is on the *Odyssey*. As a T.A., he gave lectures as well as led discussion sections.

Shira Billet (G05) completed her Ph.D.in summer 2019 at Princeton and had a two-year post doc in the philosophy department at Yale. In 2021, she was teaching, organizing a conference, and mostly researching/writing, while taking care of her three children (ages 6, 3, and 1).

Pearl Brandwein (L75) is employed as "cultural historian" for MHz choice.com, an American streaming service, offering "only foreign programming with subtitles." She writes for the MHz blog. An article she wrote on the Dreyfus Affair and French antisemitism was quoted in *The New York Times*.

Michael Broder (L82, G83, AG84 & 86) is the founding publisher of Indolent Books.

Dana Burgess (L75) retired from Whitman College in May 2021 and "went to Spain right away, where he studied Spanish at the University of Salamanca then did a brief stint as a tutor at the local high school in the spring, and then studied more Spanish at Middlebury in the summer." He subsequently took a position teaching English as a Second Language at Walla Walla Community College (and loves it!).

Cindy Calder (L08, UL09, UG10) left her teaching position in January 2022 to devote herself full time to Calder Classics and to teach modern Greek and English to refugee women in camps in Greece and throughout Europe, which she has been doing over Zoom for two years. She writes: "I am very motivated to keep enthusiasm for the classics alive by always looking to connections to present times." She has new courses which are classics-inspired but which don't require prior knowledge of Greek and Latin.

Anne Cherry (L85, G88, Staff) is still reading proofs, but now from Florida. She finished an article trying to rehabilitate Abbotts Odo.

Anne Marie Clifton (L09) was working as a product management lead at Acana (a work management software tool) and making art with a group that does lighting sculpture. She was married in October 2023.

Joan Coombs' (L84) daughter took her "on a bucket list" trip which included Bath and Oxford.

Tom Cutrofello (G83) had a letter to *The New York Times* published on October 5, 2022.

Emyr Dakin (G10) received his Ph.D. from CUNY in May 2020. The title of his dissertation was "Political Culture in the Cities of the Northern Black Sea Region in the Long Hellenistic Age." He has taught Greek mythology, ancient sports, and Latin at the College of New Jersey.

Ron Ditmars (L07, G17) is the Director of Erasmus Academy.

Daniela Dover (G03, UG07) is Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow of Philosophy at Merton College, Oxford.

Jennifer Ferriss-Hill's (L07, UL09, Faculty) second book was published by Princeton (see S.C.S. notice). She became a full professor and associate dean and has found work in administration fascinating and rewarding.

Alan Fishbone (G85, L87, Faculty) is a sailboat captain, running tours and charters in New York Harbor.

Derek Foret (G19) is in his second year at a Ph.D. program in political philosophy at the University of Texas (Austin). The program specializes in classical political philosophy (mostly Plato, Aristotle, and Xenophon) so he's keeping up his Greek. He hopes to take more Greek classes next year when he has more room in his schedule.

Kasey Genin (L06) is the leader of the Research Group, "Epistemology and Ethics of Machine Learning on the Cluster of Excellence—Machine Learning for Science" at the University of Tübingen, Germany.

Barbara Gibbons (G23) is reading Hippolytus in her first semester at Georgetown and is excelling in this advanced course. She's also the go-to person in Biblical literature for everything in Greek; as she writes: "the librarian in the ancient manuscript section was extremely pleased that I could sight read his thousand-year old Septuagint!"

Sealy Gilles (L74) wrote in January 2022 that she retired from teaching after one last medieval literature seminar. Her daughter Erica (G02) left academia and is Director of Legal Initiatives for Letitia James, New York State Attorney General: "although not a lawyer, she shepherds new projects through the A.G.'s office and keeps tabs on the lawyers responsible for them." Sealy and Tim adopted a puppy and planned to spend most of the summer in Ontario, where they have a small cottage on Lake Huron.

David Goldstein (UL2000, Faculty) received a Guggenheim Fellowship which he saved and used in 2022-23 so he could travel.

Dieter Gunkel (G01, L03, UG07, Faculty) was on research leave for 2020-21. He was at the Center for Hellenic Studies for a few months in the Fall and then went to Germany for the rest of the time. He wrote an offprint with a colleague about a change that was apparently underway in the *Rigveda*.

Kyle Hale (G18) defended his M.A. thesis at GSU last year. He's been working for a tech company as a software architect since then. He wants to do a Ph. D. in linguistics, his primary interest being Indo-European.

Rob Hill (L97, G98) got his Ph.D. in systems engineering from George Washington University in May 2021. Earlier, he did a degree in operations research (essentially applied math) at Columbia, while doing a

modular degree in history at Cambridge, in part studying classical reception in American politics, finishing both about five years previous. "Systems engineering and operations research might seem a bit distant from classics, but I think all those fields study human nature as it is, warts and all, rather than how we think it should be." Rob was thinking about writing an article on orality and technology for an engineering and society journal. He works in quantitative finance and works for a Connecticut-based hedge fund. His wife, Jennifer Ferriss-Hill (see above), re-enlisted for a second-vear term as a senior associate dean at the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Miami and was promoted to full professor, having published her second book in 2019, with Oxford University Press, and wrapping up a third with Brill.

Clifford Humphrey (G08) teaches leadership at Troy University, "relying on Greek very frequently."

Kaitlin Karmen (UL18, UG19) was graduated from Bard in 2020 with a B.A. in Classics. Her undergraduate thesis was entitled: "Oaths, Phantoms, Contagious Truth: The Crisis of Logos in Fifth Century Athenian Culture." She was accepted into the University of Michigan fully funded for the Ph.D. program in Classics. She taught for the first time in fall 2021, an Introduction to the Greek World. The next year she taught a course in Roman sports and daily life. She published her first article, "First Edition and Translation of an Unpublished Poem (1566) From Johanna Otho to Camille De Morel," Humanistica Lovaniensia, *Journal of New Latin Studies*.

Flora Kimmich's (L87, G90) fifth translation of Friedrich Schiller, *Maria Stuart*, was published by Openbooks. Flora relays that it's the most beautiful of the five volumes and *Love and Intrigue* the most fun to read. The other volumes in the series are *Don Carlos Infante of Spain: A Dramatic Poem*, *Wallenstein: A Dramatic Poem*, and *Flisco's Conspiracy at Genoa*.

Yekaterina Kosova-Krauss (L05, G06, UG07, Faculty) last taught in Basic Greek during the Covid summer of 2022. At the time, she was very much expecting. She and her husband John welcomed a daughter on October 1, 2022. Her name? Hardy – after our very own Hardy Hansen!



Lucas, Hardy, and Katia

Norbert Keliher (G08) began his priesthood in St. Patrick's in Columbus, Ohio. After a long battle with Covid, he got a new position, directing campus ministry for Youngstown State University. He finds it "a joy to help college students live out their faith."

Kamiar Khajavi (G78) is the Senior Technical Director, Project Director, and Executive Director at Joint Learning Network for United Health Coverage. He works on all aspects of health systems, financing and policy. In the past, he was an outstanding physician (internal medicine) at New York Presbyterian Hospital. He also worked in financial law and investment banking. He has a J.D. and M.P.H. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Katie Kretler (G91) had been teaching Latin K-12 in Connecticut but missed teaching philosophy and literature. She now has a tenure-track position at St. John's Annapolis. She taught courses on Epictetus, Thucydides, and the *Medea* to adult students in Chicago from 1999-2008. Her book, *One Man Show: Poetics and Presence in the Iliad and Odyssey* "plumbs the virtue of the Homeric poems as scripts for solo performance."

Caroline Lee-Jeong (G18) was graduated with a thesis on Plato, Pater, and Wilder. She was selected to go to Germany for a year by a program sponsored by the Department of State which, because of Covid, became virtual. The weekly Homer reading group has been put on hold since Michelle (Lessard, Classics at University of Cincinnati) and Tim (Hampshire, Art History University of Pennsylvania) started their graduate programs. Caroline read a bit of Thucydides the other day and was surprised by how easily the Greek came back.

Eillene Leistner (L79) retired and was enjoying her fourteen month-old grandson. She has been writing poetry for the past two years and "it's a joy."

Michelle Lessard (G18) read sections of the Elder Pliny for a dissertation topic. She says that Caroline Lee-Jeong (G18) is in Belgium at the Universite Libre de Bruxelles. Tim Hampshire attended her wedding last summer, the first time they'd seen each other since 2018.

Jeff Litwin (L78) is still teaching Transcendental Meditation and taught a solo dancer from the North Carolina ballet. Karen (L78) and Jeff started attending the ballet performances in the fall and were amazed at how good the choreography and dancers were (several of whom are from New York).

Dennis Looney (L82, Faculty) retired from the Modern Language Association in September. He's busy as a consultant in higher education and a councilor of the Dante Society of America. He has also been busy with talks on Dante in different places. He received the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language's Wilga Reiners Award for Excellence in World Language Education. Dennis also received the 2022 Alatis Founder's Award from the Joint National Committee for Language.

Katherine Lu Hsu (G02, Faculty, Director 2014-2020) and her husband had a second child, Aaron, on May 30, 2020. He arrived earlier than expected and weighed 8 pounds 11 ounces and was 18 ½ inches long. Her book, *The Violent Hero: Heracles in the Greek Imagination*, was published by Bloomsbury Press.

Lisa Mahoney (L99, UL2000, G01) and **Sean Kirkland** (G98, L01) went to Cyprus in February and stayed for a couple of months working on their books. Both are on leave this year.

Frances Mangina (L18) was graduated from Princeton in 2022 where she majored in philosophy and completed a certificate in Roman Language and Culture. During her studies, she received the Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence and was an early inductee to Phi Beta Kappa. Her senior thesis, entitled "The Clash of Particles and Planets: Lucretius' Poetic Case against the Fear of Death in *De Rerum Natura*," received the Class of 1869 prize in Ethics and the Warbeke Prize in Aesthetics. As class salutatorian, she delivered her address in Latin. She then went to Oxford and completed an M.A. in ancient philosophy and is now at the University of Chicago pursuing a Ph.D. in philosophy. Of note, her mother Elisa Miller is a 1991 SGI alumna.

Susan McDonough (L94) got her Ph.D. at Yale and teaches courses on medieval social and cultural history at the University of Maryland in Baltimore.

Elizabeth McNamara (UG15, UL16) directed Barnard's *Iphigenia in Aulis*. It was presented online with live talkback afterward.

M.J. McNamara (G01) taught a Greek civilization course at Fairfield University in Spring 2020 and her fourth semester of "Tyranny, Empire, and Democracy" at Brooklyn College. She catered a Roman meal for the winner and seven friends of the American Numismatic Association's auction and spoke with a small publisher about doing an online book on Greek poetry and its influence on modern political theory. M.J. presented at three conferences in 2019 and one in 2020; the subjects of which were Demosthenes, Athenian citizenship, Horace, *Odes* 2.7, and Simonides' *Elegy for Plataea*.

Barbara Morrow's (G92, UG96) Greek group continued to read Sophocles' *Ajax* in 2021 and reread the first ten books of the *Iliad* and now are reading the *Symposium*.

Steve Ogumah (G07, L08, UG10) received his Ph.D. in Classics from CUNY last year. His dissertation was about the importance of the prose tradition towards understanding and interpreting the *Argonautica* of Apollonius of Rhodes. He is currently teaching at Hofstra University.

Patrick Owens (G02) is in the Department of Classics at Hillsdale College. He is the editor of the journal *New Latin News*, published by the Sixteenth Century Society. He is also president of the American Association of New Latin Studies.

Julia Paré (G17, UL18, UG19) taught ancient history and beginner Latin to 5th graders in a private middle school. In fall 2021, she began a Ph. D. program in Princeton. Her brother David was Lucas' research assistant in the winter and spring of 2023 and helped with organizing the LGI archives.

Alice Phillips Walden (G03, L06, UG07, Faculty) and her husband had a daughter on May 2, 2021. She has been teaching regularly in the basic and upper Latin programs for almost a decade.

Peter Pilsner (G2000) was teaching remotely and said that he spent twice the time to cover half the work. He missed the students in-person. He uses his Greek to prepare sermons. He meets **Catherine Corman** (G2000) for dinner occasionally. In June 1999, he decided to learn Spanish and works over the internet with a very good tutor. He compares the Spanish and English translations of the Scriptures to the Greek.

Miles Pollin (L78) is a corporate lawyer who is glad to have left New York for the back country of Greenwich, CT.

Jeremiah Reilly (L78), while vacationing in the Alps, had a bad fall on stairs and had to be helicoptered to the hospital. It took forty-nine days for a complete recovery. He and his wife then had a two-week holiday in Tuscany, where he did a lot of walking which did not help his knee at all. He has learned Italian and is making good progress playing classical guitar and has started jazz guitar.

Paula Rodriguez (L17, UG21) in fall 2020 took a pastoral poetry course; she is still reading Latin and Greek. She is a doctoral student in CUNY and is writing a dissertation on Vergil and Dante. She taught Italian online for a while but is back doing it live.

Dylan Rogers (G05, UG07) got a two-year position at the University of Virginia as a lecturer in Roman art and archaeology in the art history department where he got his Ph.D. in 2019. He was able to "shepherd an edited volume to completion, The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Athens (a thirty-three chapter tour de force)." In January 2021, he had an article published in the American Journal of Archaeology that explores the sensory experience of fountains in Greece and was also teaching online. He is currently a post-doctoral scholar at Florida State University and has really enjoyed the move from Virginia, especially his new colleagues and students.

Adam Rosenblatt (L84) was named Director of Geriatric Psychiatry with University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health. Prior to this, Adam served in various positions at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine including Director of Geropsychiatry, Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology, Co-Director of the Huntington's Disease Program and Supervising Psychiatrist at the Center for Advanced Healthcare.

Yolanda Rosi Helfrich (L78) is residency program director and Director of Program Research in Dermatology at the Medical School of the University of Michigan.

Al Rossi (L78) started to teach himself Greek, using H & Q, as well as studying quantum computation in 2020.

John Roth (L78) retired on July 31, 2020. It was inevitable as he was doing so much remedial work and the level of reading was decreasing at the upper levels. "These are hard times for independent schools in Albuquerque and we were lucky to be able to fill our seats, albeit with lower admission standards." He has been making jewelry as a hobby and hiked the Antonine Wall the summer before retiring.

Martha Rowen (L85, AL86 & 88, Faculty) ran to represent District 33 in the New York City Council in November 2023; alas, she didn't win.

Leslie Rubenstein (L85) is teaching a college-level economics class in her high school, which requires her giving a lot of extra help during the day (which seems to be a theme across many of these updates, no?).

Lucas Rubin (L95, G96, Director) has dedicated significant time to compiling the history of the Institute, interviewing many of its earliest participants and collecting various artifacts and ephemera for official accession into the Brooklyn College Archives. Many of these items were displayed at the *Magisterial Feminae* exhibition (see preceding news item) and have been presented as part of the LGI's ongoing "50 in 50" history series on the Institute's official Facebook page and Twitter (er, "X") feed. A book of these materials, *The Latin/Greek Institute at the City University of New York* is slated to be published by Arcadia Press in 2024. He is presently scouring the country for an original LGI t-shirt (with iron-on patch) from the mid-1970s. If you're in possession of one, please let him know!

Discovery: Research at Princeton 2020 contained an article about **Marina Rustow** (G95) and her work with the Cairo Geniza.

Malcolm St. Clair (G08) teaches eighth and ninth grade history and English at St. Barnard's, a private boys' school.

Some of **Joe Salemi**'s (L75, AL80 & 81, G87) poetry and prose essays are accessible at Expansive Poetry Online.

Alan Shweky (L74), an attorney, is in-house counsel for an apparel company. This past summer, he donated some of his Latin and Greek books to the Institute.

Aimery Dunlap Smith (L86) published another article about the origins of the Melville revival, which occurred during the 1920s. He was "researching the fourth and probably the final article" on that topic.

Elizabeth Stachtiaris, D.O. (G09) practices in the emergency room of the Brookdale Medical Center.

Doug Sturdivant (L87) substitute teaches in a Catholic high school and works as a theater critic.

Erin Thompson (G03) "a specialist in art crime at John Jay College of Criminal Justice," was quoted on August 24, 2023, in an article in *The New York Times* about theft at the British Museum.

Alison Traweek (L01) is teaching in the Department of Classics at Temple University.

Jeff Ulrich (UL09, Faculty) is working at the Institute for Advanced Study, finishing his book on *Platonic Allusions* in Apuleius.

Ryan Warwick (L13, UL14) is writing his dissertation on Cicero's correspondence. His last conference paper was in Birmingham, U.K. about the younger Pliny's fascination with Cicero's erotic poetry.

Lane Worrall (G03) completed his M.A. in classics at Rutgers and then taught Latin (and Greek) at a public high school. There, he integrated technology into his Latin classes and, with a colleague, created a "self-paced Latin program in which students could progress in learning the language at a speed best suited to their learning profiles, while still benefiting from daily classroom interactions and collaborations with peers." As a result, students continued with Latin beyond the two-year requirement. He also helped fellow teachers augment their classroom experiences. He subsequently returned to his hometown of Dallas where he teaches and "as the Director of Innovation and Education Technology, has been able to design and spearhead the rollout of technology and innovative teaching practices throughout the school."

Elizabeth Wright (L04) has kept busy sewing lots of unique masks and other creations, including sleeping bags for her sons and a quilt. She assumed a new leadership role at work in April 2020, taught virtual classes during Covid, and began a book club based on technical podcasts over Zoom.

Phyllis Zagano's (L73) book, Women: Icons of Christ was published by Paulist Press. She was very, very busy in 2020: she gave lectures all over the world (some by Zoom), her articles were translated into Croatian, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish; she wrote eleven columns for the Religious News Service, and had podcasts and interviews overseas and here. Two books were published: Elizabeth Visits the Abbey and Women Religious, Women Deacons: Questions and Answers. 2023 promises her newest book: Just Church: Catholic Social Teaching, Sodality, and Women. She gave many lectures in person and by Zoom.

Jinrui Zhang (G17) is tutoring Asian students in Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit.

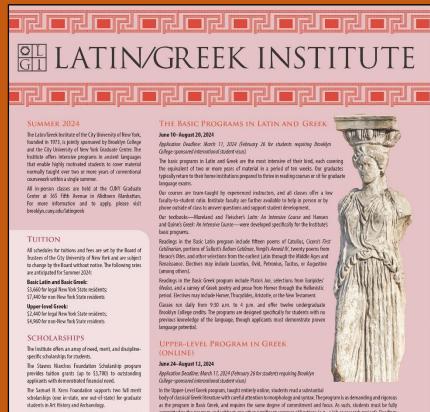
Aaron Zheng (UL18) started Northwestern University in fall 2019. He took a Latin course, but the classics department was more history-focused than language-focused. As a result, he enrolled in more linguistics courses so that he "could focus on the language part of things." He was still hoping for a classics minor. During spring break 2020, he was planning a 200-mile bike race. He participated in crew too.

Guanyu Zhu (L18), some two years after the LGI, was a student at Williams College and "able to gracefully recite the *Aeneid*, critically analyze the text, and simply appreciate the beauty of Latin itself as a language." As a freshman, Zhu faced the challenges of being far away from home, no longer a high school student, and required to take an intermediate Latin course.

Pamela Zinn (L03, G05) is on a tenure track as assistant professor of classics at Texas Tech University. In 2021, she won a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship for 2021-2022, which she is using to work on her book project. She published *Lucretius on the Salty Taste of Sea Air* in Classica et Mediaevalia.



The Summer 2024 Institute



to the Upper-Level forces program, taught entirely online, students read a substantial body of classical Greek literature with careful attention to morphology and syntax. The program is as demanding and rigorous as the program in Basic Greek, and requires the same degree of commitment and focus. As such, students must be fully committed to the program and without any other significant summer obligations (e.g., a) job or research project). Readings for Summer 2024 may include:

Xenophon – Apology • Lysias 1 – "On the Murder of Eratosthenes" • Plato – Phaedrus Thucydides – History of the Peloponnesian War (2.1-65) • Sophocles – Ajax

Classes meet Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDI. Attendance is mandatory, in addition to a significant amount of reading, students complete daily quizzes, drill exercises, and regular prose compositions. Re are further enriched through discussion of literary style, meter, textual criticism, vel sim.



Brooklyn Cóllege

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends of the Institute, further funds are also available to support partial tuition scholarships.

All scholarship applications are due by March 11, 2024 (February 26 for students requiring Brooklyn College-sponsored international student visus). Please see the website for information on how to apply.

SY M GRADUATE CENTER

Need a Transcript?

If you require proof of attendance, you have two options:

- The LGI office can issue you an official letter (as in, on letterhead) indicating your attendance; or
- You can obtain an official transcript from the

For the summer of 2024, in addition to the basic programs in Latin and Greek, the Institute will be offering Upper Greek online. For additional information, please consult the website – and help spread the word!

Contact Information

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Note that the office is only occupied sporadically in the fall and spring, though full time in the summer. If you'd like to visit in the fall or spring, best to call (or, better yet, email) in advance.

Social Media

Twitter: @lg inst

Facebook: facebook.com/latingreekinst

