

## MELLON 23 WORKSHOP GRANT APPLICATION

**Project Title:** "Apuleius, Colonial of the Roman Empire"

**Proposed Workshop Dates:** April 29 – May 1, 2010

**Lead Mellon 23 Faculty:** Ellen Finkelpearl, Helen Chandler Garland Professor of Ancient Studies, Scripps College (efinkelp@scrippscollege.edu)  
Benjamin Todd Lee, Assistant Professor of Classics, Oberlin College (ben.lee@oberlin.edu)  
Sonia Sabnis, Assistant Professor of Classics, Reed College (sabnis@reed.edu)

**Participating Mellon 23 Faculty:**

Christopher Chinn, Assistant Professor of Classics, Pomona College  
Pawan Dhingra, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Oberlin College  
Robert Germany, Assistant Professor of Classics, Haverford College  
Kirk Ormand, Associate Professor of Classics, Oberlin College  
Thomas Van Nortwick, Nathan Greenberg Professor of Classics, Oberlin College  
David Roselli, Associate Professor of Classics, Scripps College  
Nancy Shumate, Professor of Classics, Smith College  
William Turpin, Professor of Classics, Swarthmore College  
Drew Wilburn, Assistant Professor of Classics, Oberlin College  
*(Funds budgeted for the participation of up to 15 Mellon 23 faculty)*

**Workshop Proposal Submitted to:**

Dean Sean Decatur, Oberlin College

**Proposed Workshop Liaison:**

Benjamin Todd Lee, Oberlin College

*Workshop Proposal: Apuleius, Colonial of the Roman Empire*

Classics faculty from Haverford, Oberlin, Pomona, Reed, Scripps, Smith, and Swarthmore propose to organize a major international Classics symposium entitled "Apuleius, Colonial of the Roman Empire." Apuleius (120-180 A.D.), author of *The Golden Ass*, was born and lived in Madauros (currently in Algeria) in the Roman province of Africa. He repeatedly discusses his identification with his native region rather than with Rome and Athens, where he was educated. And yet, despite new work in Classics on provincial cultures that are distinct from the center of metropolitan Rome, surprisingly little scholarship has grappled with the implications of Apuleius' origins. The conference will draw together leading historians of Roman North Africa, literary scholars of Apuleius' novel and his other works, and critical theorists of Latin culture, in order to open the Apuleian corpus (especially *The Golden Ass*) to new theoretical and cultural lines of inquiry. The workshop is also expected to be of interest to faculty in other disciplines interested in North Africa, ethnicity, and colonialism.

Contemporary culture has witnessed a hybridization of identity that is reflected in the academy by an interest in post-colonial studies, critical race studies, identity-formation and negotiation. We wish to bring Apuleius of Madauros into that broader discussion, as reflected by our title, which is a phrase used by Salman Rushdie, claiming Apuleius as a kindred spirit. What were the historical realities and how legitimate is it to transfer current critical lines of inquiry to the ancient world? What role do literary production and rhetorical performance on the part of the author (here Apuleius) play in the creation of provincial identity? How might material cultural evidence about the distinct culture of Rome's provinces be integrated with literary interpretation?

These issues are particularly germane to teaching because the classical canon is undergoing a process of reformation, especially as we choose texts to teach that are relevant to contemporary culture. A thorough vetting of these issues will aid our teaching as we devise courses that revive the Classics curriculum by integrating contemporary interest in identity formation and imperialism, and further, it will help Classics remain relevant to its increasingly diverse constituency of both teachers and students. As part of the conference, Finkelpearl, Lee and Sabnis will chair a special workshop session entitled "Pedagogical approaches to Apuleius" for Mellon 23 participants, which will address new approaches to teaching this important literary figure.

Support for this workshop would provide the opportunity for Finkelpearl, Lee and Sabnis, each of whom has independently been working on the complexities of Apuleius' African provincial identity, to collaborate and profit from an interchange of ideas both with one other and with the broader scholarly community. In addition to Finkelpearl, Lee, and Sabnis, who will give papers at the event, eight other Mellon 23 Classics faculty have already expressed interest in attending: Chinn (Pomona), Germany (Haverford), Ormand (Oberlin), Roselli (Scripps), Shumate (Smith), Van Nortwick (Oberlin), Turpin (Swarthmore), and Wilburn (Oberlin). The workshop and call for conference papers will be advertised to all of the Mellon 23 campuses, to encourage the participation of additional Mellon 23 faculty. We are pleased to note that Pawan Dhingra, of the Oberlin Departments of Sociology and Comparative American Studies, has also expressed interest in attending the workshop and discussion sections. We will broadly advertise the conference and look forward to participation in the workshop by faculty with interests in Middle East and North African Studies, English, and Comparative Literature.

To broaden the impact of the meeting, we will distribute packets of reading materials to Mellon 23 consortium members in advance of the conference and include discussion group work following the conference. All papers will be open to the Oberlin College community, and we think it would be highly beneficial for Oberlin students to attend the proceedings of a high-level international conference.

The enthusiastic response from scholars we have contacted here and abroad points to the timeliness of this topic, and it seems very much in the spirit of the Mellon 23 grants to enable faculty from liberal arts colleges to stage a major international conference which we hope will culminate in an important volume. The participation of a distinguished body of international Apuleian scholars will make the symposium a truly significant scholarly event, and Routledge Press (London) has expressed interest in reviewing the results of the conference for possible publication.

We are pleased to note that the Classics Department at Oberlin has generously committed \$5,000 toward conference costs.

*Provisional List of Speakers.*

Below is a provisional list of speakers, from whom we are now securing preliminary commitments to speak and abstracts (nine scholars who have already accepted and forwarded provisional abstracts are marked with an asterisk [\*]). These are all experts in the discipline and are already well recognized within Apuleian studies for their publications.

Keith Bradley\* (University of Notre Dame): The African Slave Trade and Apuleius' Apology  
Corey Brennan (Rutgers University): History of Roman North Africa  
Ellen Finkelppearl\* (Scripps College): Survey of Scholarship on Apuleius and Africa  
Richard Fletcher\* (Ohio State University): African Aspects of Apuleius' Philosophical Works  
Luca Graverini\* (Universita di Arezzo, Italy): Greece, Rome, Africa: Identity and Cultural Negotiation  
Stephen Harrison (Oxford University, UK): Roman Poetry, Ancient Novel, Apuleius  
John Hilton (University of Durban, South Africa): Translator, Apuleius' Rhetorical Works  
Wytse Keulen\* (University of Groningen, Netherlands): Fronto and Apuleius, Fellow Africans  
Andrew Laird\* (Warwick, UK), Colonial Mexican Reception of Apuleius  
Benjamin Todd Lee\* (Oberlin College): African Latin, Philology, and Society  
Lara Nicolini\* (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy): Latin Philology, Translator  
James Rives (University of North Carolina): Religion of Roman North Africa  
Sonia Sabnis\* (Reed College): Ethnicity and Identity in Apuleius

*Organizational Timeline/Provisional Schedule.*

- Spring 2009:
- Reserve hotel rooms
  - Reserve rooms for lectures, refreshments, and meals
  - Secure commitments from invited speakers and request short abstracts
  - Share conference description with Mellon 23 campuses
  - Circulate conference announcement on Internet via posts and via e-mail; announce call for papers for remaining speakers
  - Assemble and distribute bulk packs of common bibliography with synopses, to ensure familiarity with scholarly precursors on subject
  - Continue discussions about possible publication of conference papers (Routledge has expressed interest in this project)
  - Organizers remain in contact with presenters to refine paper topics and finalize panels
- Fall 2009:
- Arrange flights for invited speakers
  - Prepare and disseminate final conference poster to Mellon 23 and other Classics departments
  - Set final RSVP date for conference attendees
- Spring 2010:
- Confirm conference rooms, audio-visual support, meal and refreshment reservations, and hotel rooms
  - Assemble welcome kits with conference materials, nametags, etc.
- Thursday,  
April 29, 2010:
- Speakers and attendees arrive; conference begins at 6:00 pm with welcome and keynote address
- Friday,  
April 30, 2010:
- 9 am -6:00 pm: 8 papers with discussion sessions and coffee and lunch breaks, which will include an afternoon Mellon 23 Workshop session, "Pedagogical approaches to Apuleius," hosted by Ellen Finkelperl, Ben Lee and Sonia Sabnis. This workshop for Mellon 23 participants will discuss new ways of teaching Apuleius.
- Saturday,  
May 1, 2010:
- 9 am -1:00 pm: 6 papers with discussion sessions and coffee and lunch breaks
  - 3:00: Roundtable Discussion of main themes of conference
  - 4:00: Conference ends with dissemination of evaluation forms

## Application for Mellon 23 Workshop Support for "Apuleius: Colonial of the Roman Empire"

Submitted 15 December, 2009

### I. Speaker/Participant Costs

#### Mellon 23 organizers/presenters

Finkelpearl and Sabnis travel @ \$550/each	\$1,100
Finkelpearl and Sabnis lodging @ 4 nights each @ \$75/night	\$600
Lee, Finkelpearl, and Sabnis stipend for organizing @ \$250/each	\$750
<i>Mellon organizers have been budgeted an extra night (Wednesday) to make sure they arrive in time for Thursday afternoon's proceedings, even if they encounter travel delays</i>	

#### Mellon 23 participants

Chinn, Germany, Roselli, Shumate, and Turpin travel @ \$500/each	\$2,500
Chinn, Roselli, Shumate, and Turpin lodging @ 3 nights @ \$75/night	\$1,125
5 Other Mellon 23 participants - travel estimated @ \$500/each	\$2,500
5 Other Mellon 23 participants - lodging @ 3 nights @ \$75/night	\$1,125

#### US speakers

Bradley travel @ \$350	\$350
Brennan and Rives travel @ \$500/each	\$1,000
Fletcher travel @ \$200	\$200
Bradley, Brennan, Fletcher, and Rives lodging @ 3 nights @ \$75/night	\$675
Bradley, Brennan, Fletcher, and Rives honorarium @ \$250/each	\$1,000

#### International Speakers

Graverini, Harrison, and Niccolini travel @ \$1,000/each	\$3,000
Keulen travel @ \$1,400	\$1,400
Hilton travel @ \$1,700	\$1,700
Graverini, Harrison, Hilton, Keulen, and Niccolini lodging @ 3 nights @ \$75/night	\$1,125
Graverini, Harrison, Hilton, Keulen, and Niccolini honorarium @ \$250/each	\$1,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,400</b>

### II. Meals/Refreshments

Friday and Saturday morning and afternoon breaks 4 @ \$150	\$600
Friday Dinner for speakers and Mellon presenters and participants 28 @ \$32/each (Fee for non-speakers and non-Mellon 23 consortium attendees)	\$896
Saturday Dinner for speakers and Mellon presenters and participants 28 @ \$32/each (Fee for non-speakers and non-Mellon 23 consortium attendees)	\$896
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,392</b>

### III. Transportation costs

Van rental for round-trip transportation from Cleveland airport-Oberlin	\$300
Airport parking	\$100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$400</b>

### IV. Other Costs

Graphic design for poster	\$100
Printing costs for poster	\$100
Postage for advertising to Mellon 23 and other Classics departments	\$30
Janitorial charges for set up of tables etc	\$125
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$355</b>

**Grand Total** **\$24,602**

Amount requested from the Mellon 23 workshop program: **\$19,602**

N.B.: The Classics Department at Oberlin has generously committed \$5,000 to this project

Ellen D. Finkelparl

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1030 Columbia Avenue  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(909) 607-3048

Education

Ph.D. 1986 Harvard University  
M.A. 1979 Harvard University  
B.A. 1975 Princeton University

Academic Positions

2002- Professor of Classics, Scripps College (Helen Chandler Garland Chair in Ancient Studies, 2004-)  
2005 (fall) Visiting Professor of Classics, University of California, Berkeley  
1993- 02 Associate Professor, Classics, Scripps College  
1988-93 Assistant Professor, Scripps College  
1987-88 Assistant Professor, Columbia University  
1985-87 Adjunct Lecturer, Foreign Languages, SUNY New Paltz  
1985-86 Affirmative Action Officer, SUNY New Paltz  
1984-85 Visiting Lecturer, Classics, UCLA  
1983-84 Teacher in Harvard University Extension  
1978-83 Teaching Fellow, Harvard University

Books/volumes:

"A Review of Scholarship on Apuleius' Metamorphoses 1970-1998," Lustrum vol. 42 (2000) with Carl Schlam (covering over 500 annotated items)

Metamorphosis of Language in Apuleius: a study of allusion in the Novel, University of Michigan Press 1998.

Articles/ chapters:

"Novel" for *Oxford Handbook of Roman Studies*, Barchiesi and Scheidel, eds., forthcoming in 2008.

"Apuleius, the *Onos* and Rome," in *The Greek and Roman Novel: Parallel Readings (Ancient Narrative Supplementum 8)*, 2007, 263-76.

"The Language of Animals and the Text of Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*" (in Maaïke Zimmerman Festschrift 2006)

"The Ends of the *Metamorphoses*," in: Maaïke Zimmerman and Rudi van der Paardt (eds.), *Metamorphic Reflections. Essays presented to Ben Hijmans at his 75th Birthday*, Leuven-Paris (Peeters) 2004, 319-342.

"Lucius and Aesop gain a voice: Apul. *Met.* 11.1-2 and *Vita Aesopi* 7" in *The Ancient Novel and Beyond*, ed. M. Zimmerman, S. Panayotakis, and W. Keulen, Leiden, Brill, 2003.

"Pagan Traditions of Intertextuality in the Roman World," in *Mimesis and Intertextuality in Antiquity and Christianity*, ed. Dennis MacDonald, Trinity Press International, 2001, 78-90.

"The Judgment of Lucius: Apuleius, *Metamorphoses* 10.29-34," *Classical Antiquity* 10.2 (1991), 221-236.

"Psyche, Aeneas, and an Ass: Apuleius, *Metamorphoses* 6.10-21," *TAPA* 120 (1990), 333-347. (reprinted in *Oxford Readings in the Roman Novel* 1999)

"Juvenal 10.150," *HSCP* 84 (1980), 97-98.

Work in progress or under contract:

*An Apuleius Reader, Selections from Apuleius' Metamorphoses*, Bolchazy-Carducci fall 2009.

"Apuleius' Marsyas and being North African Under Rome" for *Ramus*.

Recent Papers Presented

"Cultural Aspects of Egyptian Religion in Book 11 (vs. Plutarch)" Rostock 2008

"Refiguring the Animal-Human Divide in Apuleius and Heliodorus," ICAN Lisbon 2008

"Marsyas as Phrygian Misfit," USC/UCLA Seminar in Roman Studies April 2007

"Aesop, Isis and Animal Fable in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*," University of Notre Dame, Spring 2006.

"Apuleius, the *Onos*, and Rome," Rethymnon International Conference on the Ancient Novel, Rethymnon, Crete, May 2005.

"Toward a New Old Apuleius," Carl Schlam Memorial Lecture, The Ohio State University, April 2004

"Troy as Invisible City in Ovid's exile poetry," Invisible Cities Conference, Stanford University February 2005

Awards, Honors

Mary Wig Johnson Faculty Achievement Award (scholarship), Scripps College 1999, 2001

NEH Summer Seminar: "Imitation, Influence, Inspiration: The Theory and Practice of Artistic Relations in the Renaissance," Leonard Barkan, Director (1991)

Athwin Faculty Development Grant (1992)

Sabbatical Research grant Scripps College 2004

# BENJAMIN TODD LEE

Assistant Professor  
Oberlin College Department of Classics  
Editorial Board, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*  
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(440) 775-8392  
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## Research Interests

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Imperial Latin Prose, Latin Poetry, Modern Critical Theory, Latin Palaeography

## Education

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2001	University of Pennsylvania Ph.D. in Classical Studies Dissertation: "Carthaginian Orations: A Commentary on Apuleius' <i>Florida</i> "	Philadelphia, PA
1996	University of Pennsylvania M.A. in Latin	Philadelphia, PA
1992	American School of Classical Studies Full Year Program Member	Athens, Greece
1991	Swarthmore College B.A. with Distinction and the Major in Greek	Swarthmore, PA

## Employment History

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2003-present	Oberlin College Assistant Professor Department of Classics	Oberlin, OH
2002-2003	Oberlin College Visiting Assistant Professor Department of Classics	Oberlin, OH
2001	University of Pennsylvania Lecturer Department of Classical Studies	Philadelphia, PA
1996-1999	University of Pennsylvania Instructor Department of Classical Studies	Philadelphia, PA

## Publications

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<i>Books.</i>	(in progress)	Apuleius <i>Metamorphoses</i> Book XI Introduction, Text, Commentary. In preparation for submission to editorial board of the American Philological Association.
	2005	<i>A Commentary on Apuleius' Florida</i> Walter de Gruyter (Berlin) <i>Texte und Kommentare</i> 23. 213 pages. The book has been reviewed in the journals <i>Gnomon</i> , <i>Classical World</i> , <i>Museum Helveticum</i> , <i>Sehepunkte</i> , <i>Scholia</i> , and <i>Symplekta</i> .



*Articles.*

2008 "Moods of Representation: The Rhetoric of the Subjective in Tibullus," in *Elegy and Narrativity*, ed. Patricia Salzman-Mitchell (Ohio State University Press).

(In Progress) "German Jewish Émigrés and Classical Studies in Postwar America"

*Book Reviews.*

2008 *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (at request of editorial board)  
Review of *Postmodern Spiritual Practices: The Construction of the Subject and the Reception of Plato in Lacan, Derrida, and Foucault*, by Paul Allen Miller. (Ohio State University Press, 2007).

2007 *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*  
Review of *Empire and Decline: Rhetorical Continuities from the Romans to the Modern Era*, by Nancy Shumate. (Duckworth, 2006).

2002 *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*  
Review of "Apuleius: Rhetorical Works," by Stephen Harrison, John Hilton, and Vincent Hunink (Oxford University Press: Oxford, 2001).

(In progress) *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (at request of editorial board)  
Review of *The Protean Ass*, by Robert F. Carver (Oxford, 2008).

**Papers and Invited**

**Lectures**

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- 2008 "The Conversion of Apuleius," Walkill Valley Literary Society
- 2008 "Multiphase-Hellenism in Xenakis' *Sappha*: Abstraction, Fragmentation, and Universality," Invited Lecture for the Xenakis Symposium at Oberlin College
- 2008 "Intertext, Palimpsest, Post-colonialism: Towards an African Latin in Apuleius," Invited Lecture at Amherst and Haverford Colleges
- 2008 "On the Subjective and the Subjunctive in Tibullus," Invited Lecture at the University of Arizona, Tucson
- 2007 "From Rilke to Dante," The Spectrum Club of Oberlin

**Grants and Awards**

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- 2008 Professor Props Award, Oberlin College  
(“To honor and recognize those professors who have performed in an exemplary fashion in reaching out to first-year students—either as instructors, advisors, or mentors”)
- 2008 Oberlin-Kalamazoo-University of Michigan Exchange Project Grant (with Julian Levinson) Project: “German Jewish Émigrés and Classical Studies in Postwar America”
- 2008 Mellon Research Assistant Award (Branden Kosch '10)
- 2004 Mellon Research Assistant Award (Elizabeth Ehrenhalt '06)

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### Curriculum Vitae

#### *Current Employment:*

Assistant Professor, Classics and Humanities, Reed College, 2006-

#### *Education:*

2006 Ph.D., Classics, University of California, Berkeley  
2005 Summer Program in Applied Palaeography, American Academy in Rome  
2000 M.A., Classics, University of California, Berkeley  
1998 B.A., Classics (*magna cum laude*, departmental honors), Columbia University  
1996 Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies, Rome

#### *Areas of Interest:*

Greek and Latin novels and their reception, Roman slavery, imperial literature, Latin palaeography, Indo-European literature and linguistics

#### *Dissertation:*

Storytelling Slaves and Narrative Resistance in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*

#### *Teaching Experience:*

Reed College:

Humanities 110, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09  
Latin 210 (*Aeneid*), spring 2007  
Latin 110 (introductory), fall 2007  
Medieval Latin (independent study), fall 2007  
Humanity in Perspective (Oregon Council for the Humanities), fall 2007, fall 2008  
Latin 312 (Horace), spring 2008  
Latin 210 (Cicero *Pro Caelio*), fall 2008  
Latin 312 (Apuleius), slated for spring 2009

Vassar College:

Advanced Greek (Hellenistic Poetry), spring 2006

University of California, Berkeley:

Latin 1, fall 2000  
Roman Civilization (TA for Kathleen McCarthy), spring 2001  
Summer Latin Workshop (grammar unit TA), 2001  
Western Civilization (TA for Mark Griffith and Caroline Humfress), fall 2001  
Summer Latin Workshop Director, 2002, 2003  
Western Civilization (TA for Erich Gruen and Ellen Oliensis), fall 2002

#### *Publications:*

Review of C. Ligota and L. Panizza, eds., *Lucian of Samosata Vivus et Redivivus* (BMCR 2008.08.11)  
Review of R. May, *Apuleius and Drama: The Ass on Stage in Hermathena* (accepted for publication)  
"Slavery" in *Encyclopedia of Political Theory* (accepted for publication)  
"Lucian's Lychnopolis and the Anxiety of Surveillance" (in progress)  
"Donkey Gone to Hell" (in progress)

*Presentations:*

- "Apuleius: A Very Short Introduction," Vassar College, February 2005  
"Lucian's Lychnopolis and the Anxiety of Surveillance," The Ohio State University, April 2005; Johns Hopkins University, October 2005; APA Meeting, January 2006; CACW Meeting, February 2006  
"Tonsure and Closure: The End of Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*" (job talk), delivered at various colleges, spring 2006  
"Apuleius' *Metamorphoses* among the Humanists," International Congress on Medieval Latin Studies, August 2006  
"Illuminated Secrets in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*," PAMLA, November 2006  
"Imperial Venus in Apuleius and Ausonius," Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Binghamton University, April 2008  
"Donkey Gone to Hell: A Katabasis Motif in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*," ICAN, July 2008  
"Horace, Hypermetra, and the Palatine Library," PAMLA, November 2008  
"The Donkey and the Dogs: Performing Animality in Apuleius," ACLA, March 2009  
"Literary and Historical Contexts for Ausonius' *Cupido Cruciatu*s," FIEC, August 2009

*Honors and Awards:*

- Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, 1998-1999  
Berkeley Fellowship for Graduate Study, 1999-2004  
Course Improvement Grants, 2001, 2002  
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, 2002  
Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, 2004-2005  
Minority Predoctoral Fellowship (via CSMP), Vassar College, 2005-2006  
Vatican Film Library Mellon Fellowship, Saint Louis University, 2006  
Humanities 110 Travel Grant, 2007  
NEH Summer Seminar, American Academy in Rome, 2008

*Professional Activities:*

- NITLE Sunoikisis Seminars (Latin literature of the Empire, Hellenistic Poetry), 2006  
Consortium for Faculty Diversity (invited speaker, November 2006)  
Reed College Latin Forum, November 2006, keynote speaker November 2007  
NITLE Sunoikisis Seminars (Homer's *Iliad*), 2007  
Classic Greek Theater of Oregon advisory board, 2007-  
Mentor, Arbor School of Arts and Sciences (Tualatin, Oregon), 2007-2008  
NITLE Sunoikisis Seminars (Plautus and Terence), 2008  
Reed College Senior Symposium, 2008

*Reading Languages:*

Latin, Ancient Greek, Sanskrit, French, German, Italian