



Amicitiae immortales,
mortales inimicitiae de-
bent esse—Livy 40.46

Amicitia

New Officers, New Initiative

Lots of news from AMICI. At our Fall AMICI meeting October 20, we elected a new consul, Cindy Smith of Loras College, succeeding John Finamore, who had served in that position for more than a dozen years. The membership also approved a move to create a new secretary-treasurer position, and elected John Gruber-Miller (Cornell College) to that position. We welcomed Jeannette Rowings, a new teacher to Iowa, but who has had lots of success teaching Latin in her previous home of Indiana. We also discussed how our various programs are doing, sharing success stories and offering advice and support. Finally, we discussed a new mentorship program that would pair up college or high school teachers with programs across



From L to R: Mary Ann Harness (high school consul), Cindy Smith (college consul), and John Gruber-Miller (secretary-treasurer)

the state that have only one Latin teacher. But of course, the highlights of our Fall meeting this year were the delightful setting and the wonderful meal shared by all

who attended. Special thanks to Mary Ann Harness for going above the call of duty, hosting our meeting and serving a delicious Italian feast.

Kudos to John Finamore

Thanks to John Finamore (University of Iowa), who has been college/university consul of AMICI since its inception in 1988. Without doubt, John has been the vital cog that has held AMICI together through the last thirteen years. He organized the annual AMICI

Translation Contest (and read every translation submitted), edited the bi-annual newsletter, *Amicitia*, maintained communication with Latin teachers and Classicists throughout the state, interceded when a Latin program needed help, facilitated JCL meetings, and

most of all, was a tireless promoter of the Classics in Iowa. And these are just the most visible ways in which he has served us. In fact, John did so much for AMICI that it has required two people to replace him—an indication of just how

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Did You Know?

- Latin has the fastest growing enrollments of all European languages taught in the U.S. after Spanish
- For example, public secondary-school Latin enrollments increased nation-wide by more than 15% between 1990-94
- During the same period Latin rose by more than 34% in public middle schools and by more than 113% in public elementary schools

Introducing Cindy Smith, AMICI college consul

Salvete Amici!

As a member of AMICI from its earliest days, I am glad to be able to serve with Mary Ann Harness as one of the consuls for the next two years. Let me introduce myself. I am Cindy Smith, and I teach in the Classical Studies department at Loras College in Dubuque. We offer courses in Latin, Greek, Classical Mythology, Tragedy, Comedy and Satire, Epic Poetry, Art and Architecture, Historiography, Oratory, Roman and Greek Civilization, Ancient Gender and Sexuality, Church Fathers, and others.

I'll go back a bit further in my academic career. Out of sheer love of the language, I majored in Latin (much to the shock and chagrin of my dad; I think he was imagining something more lucrative) at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, PA. Several years later

I found myself teaching Latin I-IV and French I at Marian High School in Mishawaka, IN—and without a license! I even took students to Italy twice—and I didn't have a license for that either. During my four years "in the trenches" there I earned a teaching certification for Latin and a Masters of Science in Secondary Education: specialty in Latin. Although those were undoubtedly the busiest years of my life (I had two young children and a husband in graduate school at ND at the time), I still count them as the most rewarding.

I started teaching part time at Loras in '85, and then decided to go back to school to earn a Ph.D. I started at the University of Iowa in 1987, and didn't defend my dissertation until 1999. I really didn't want to be working on that in two different millennia! The dissertation, entitled something like "Gift-giving

patterns in the Argonautika" now sits gathering dust in the U of I library.

Anyway, enough about me. Let's do our best to promote the teaching and learning of Latin and the Classics in Iowa this coming year. If our meeting at MaryAnn's was any indication, there is lots of enthusiasm, energy, and creativity just waiting to be tapped! The JCL meeting in the Spring should be a sign of good things to come, and John Gruber-Miller's suggestion that we partner ourselves with other Iowa teachers of Latin not-yet-active-in-AMICI should gain our tiny-but-important circle further recognition.

Please send any creative suggestions to John G-M, MaryAnn, or myself. And send any challenges in chariot-racing and catapult flinging to Jeannette Rowings. Pax omnibus!

"Out of sheer love of the language, I majored in Latin, much to the shock and chagrin of my dad. I think he was imagining something more lucrative."



Jeannette Rowings, new teacher at St. Katherine and St. Mark School, Bettendorf

Welcome to Iowa, Jeannette!

We are delighted to welcome Jeannette Rowings to the state of Iowa. After a very successful career teaching Latin in Indiana (including Latin Teacher for the state of Indiana in 1979), Jeannette took an early retirement to devote herself to other activities. But Jeannette quickly discovered that she was not satisfied with volunteer work and part-time substituting. So when St. Katherine and St. Mark School in Bettendorf lost their

Latin teacher, Jeannette jumped at the chance to get back into the classroom and do her first love: teach Latin. She inherited 15 eighth graders in Latin I, and next year she hopes to teach first and second year Latin. In a few years, if the gods are propitious, the program will feature three years of Latin.

Jeannette is also a mover and a shaker. Since she took her new job at St. Katherine and

St. Mark, she and members of her Latin class set up a booth in North Park Mall with the theme, "Bring Back Latin to Iowa." They passed out flyers, spoke with passersby, and stirred up so much excitement that Channel 4 News interviewed her for their nightly newscast and did a story on the resurgence of Latin.

Jeannette also seems to have a competitive streak. She and

(Continued on page 3)

New Mentoring Program Needs Mentors

We all know that Iowa Latin teachers are among the most dedicated teachers in the state, but many of us face challenges. Some because we do not have colleagues, some because we must divide the day among several subjects, some because we must teach several levels of a language in the same class session. At the Fall AMICI meeting, it was proposed that one way we can create stronger bonds between members, share teaching ideas, and provide advice and support for small programs would be to begin a new mentoring program.

The mentoring program is designed to match each program in the state that has only one Latin teacher with either a high school, a college, or university teacher. Programs that have recently dropped Latin have been included in order to learn why the program was discontinued and see if AMICI can offer help to re-instate the program. Here's the list:

School	Location	Teacher/Contact
Abraham Lincoln High	Council Bluffs	Donald Scheibeler
Assumption High School	Davenport	
Bettendorf High School	Bettendorf	Pat Burr
Dowling High School	West Des Moines	Vicki Campbell
New FLES program	Iowa City	Jane Smith
Heelan High School	Sioux City	Thomas Brunkan
Kuemper High School	Carroll	Sister Janine Bayley
Lincoln High School	Des Moines	Marilyn Groth
Newman High School	Mason City	Leo Stattelmann
North High School	Davenport	Joe Scott
Notre Dame High School	Burlington	Mary Billing
St. Edmunds High School	Fort Dodge	
St. Katherine & St. Mark	Bettendorf	Jeannette Rowings
St. Mary High School	Storm Lake	Paul-Louis Arts
Valley High School	West Des Moines	Mary Ann Harness
Wahlert High School	Dubuque	Loras Otting
Xavier High School	Cedar Rapids	Jacqueline K. Niffenegger

Each mentor (called a praetor in the parlance of AMICI) would work to strengthen the presence of Latin in the school through various ways:

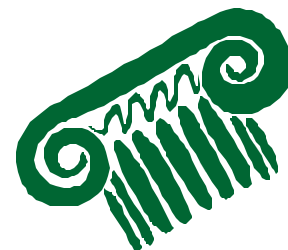
- Be in contact with the teacher, either in person or on the phone, twice a year to ascertain the health of the program and/or discuss Latin teaching methods
- Make materials available in the spring to recruit new Latin students
- Provide a sounding board to discuss challenges at that school
- Offer to visit the school
- Act as a liaison with the school principal and/or superintendent when needed

If you are interested in helping Latin grow in Iowa, would like to volunteer to mentor one school listed above, or would simply like to find out more, please contact John Gruber-Miller, AMICI Secretary-Treasurer (319-895-4326; jgruber-miller@cornellcollege.edu).

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her students challenged all other Iowa schools that offer Latin to a catapult contest. In addition to the catapult contest, she has accepted an invitation to compete in a chariot

race at Moline High School across the river in Illinois. If anyone is interested in competing, contact her at St. Katherine and St. Mark School, 1821 Sunset Drive, Bettendorf, IA 52722; 563-

359-1366; e-mail: ADIO3rd@aol.com. Bona Fortuna!



“One way we can create stronger bonds between members, share teaching ideas, and provide advice and support for small programs is to begin a new mentoring program.”



Student from St. Katherine and St. Mark School at North Park Mall promoting Latin

AMICI Translation Contest Winners

The annual AMICI Translation Contests were held last spring. Three schools participated: Bettendorf, Valley, and Xavier High Schools. The winners, who received a certificate of achievement, are as follows:

Bettendorf High School (Teacher: Pat Burr)

Latin I	1st Place	Dolph Westlund
	2nd Place	Jacob Kincaid
Latin II	1st Place	Kyra Olds
	2nd Place	Meredith Lowe

Valley High School (Mary Ann Harness)

Latin I	1st Place	Michael Burke
	2nd Place	Aashish Manglik
Latin II	1st Place	Jack Ewing
	2nd Place	Elizabeth Beerman
Latin III	1st Place	Scott Beeman
	2nd Place	Jay Jenkins

Xavier High School (Teacher: Tom Conley)

Latin I	1st Place	Graham Alldredge
	2nd Place	Alec Seelau

BEST IN IOWA: The winners of the state-wide awards at the three levels received checks for \$50.00:

First-Year Latin: Dolph Westlund (Bettendorf)
Second-Year Latin: Jack Ewing (Valley)
Advanced Latin: Scott Beeman (Valley)

Congratulations to all participants.
—
John F. Finamore

Latin Pledge of Allegiance

Fidem meam obliquo
vexillo civitatum Americae Foederatarum
et rei publicae pro qua stat
uni nationi
Deo ducente
non dividendae
cum libertate iustitiaque omnibus.

Some of the teachers commented that "sub deo" is often used in place of "deo ducente."

—
Donna Winstanley (courtesy of the Oxford Latin list serve)

"A good classics graduate would be a first-class thinker, and that's the sort of employee we want. We can teach them about computers."

Chris Wells, Personnel Manager, IBM

AMICI Secretary-Treasurer Position Created

At the Fall meeting of AMICI, the constituent members voted unanimously to approve an amendment to the AMICI Constitution. The amendment, to be added after the first paragraph of Table IV, reads as follows:

"In addition to the consuls, there will a secretary-treasurer, who may be from either the collegiate or elementary/secondary-school level. The secretary-treasurer will be elected for a three-year term and may be elected to subse-

quent two-year terms. The secretary-treasurer will be responsible for dues collection and the AMICI treasury, the biannual newsletter *Amicitia*, and the AMICI web page."

Why Study Latin? One Student's Response

Dear Mrs. Harness:

I finally got around to writing you this summer, and it's already the first day of class. It was a very busy summer for me. I worked at the Science Center of Iowa the entire summer, as a camp counselor. I had to devise "lesson plans" for the two camps that I was lead counselor for. ...I returned to Drake University, as a sophomore Biology/Pre-med student. It is looking to be an exciting year.

I went and got all my books and noticed some things in the introduction to my Comparative Anatomy textbook that will impress you. I was very pleased to see the references to Latin. Also, today I was pleased when I got to my Comparative Anatomy course and the teacher handed out two pages of a "Latin and Greek Lexicon." It's nice to not have to refer to the list as many times as other students, because of my prior Latin background. Attached to this letter is a copy of the first page of the introduction and the Lexicon. It makes me appreciate how wonderful my decision in 8th grade was to take Latin and then each subsequent year not to quit because it wasn't easy. I have found in this last year that knowing Latin has given me a boost in many of my classes, and almost on an everyday basis (not only in Science classes, but also in English).

You are one of those teachers that I will always remember: not because you were easy, or wanted to be everyone's friend, but because you made me work hard and learn things that someday I would want to know and with that you became my friend. I remember sitting in Latin 4, wondering why I wanted to translate some long translation, looking through three or four books to figure out the correct translation. Now, to this day, when I'm studying (especially for Biology) I will look through many books to see what they say about the subject, and if that's not enough I'm researching on the internet, so I can find the best understanding of the subject. Sure it may be a lot of extra work, but I learn a lot more, and it's all from you "molding" me into the student I am today. All the hard work with translations and vocabulary had paid off; let your students know that it is worth it to continue in their Latin career. It was my best high school decision. Thank you for everything you have done for me. Always keep in touch.

Sincerely,
Angela Paulsen



Mrs. Harness and Latin IV students at the annual Roman banquet (May 2001)

"I have found that knowing Latin has given me a boost in many of my classes, and almost on an every day basis."

Latin Enrollments Look Good Across Iowa

Here is a quick look at Beginning Latin (Latin I) enrollments at select high schools, colleges, and universities across the state:

Bettendorf HS	20 students	Newman Catholic HS	11 (Latin IV only)
Cornell College	43	St. Katherine/St. Mark	15
Dowling HS	10	University of Iowa	96
Grinnell College	31	Valley HS	18
Iowa State University	90	Xavier HS	26 (Latin II only)
Loras College	10		
Luther College	37		



IWLA Conference Offers Something for Everyone

“What I saw were hundreds of language teachers busily engaged in attending stimulating presentations, visiting book displays, discussing the latest teaching methods, and making new acquaintances.”

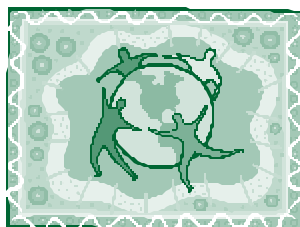
As a first-time attendee of the Iowa World Language Association annual conference, I did not know what to expect when I entered the Collins Plaza Hotel in Cedar Rapids on October 5. What I saw were hundreds of language teachers busily engaged in attending stimulating presentations, visiting the book displays, discussing the latest teaching methods, renewing old friendships, and making new acquaintances. I was impressed by the number of languages represented, the number of teachers attending, and the enthusiasm for teaching languages by all the participants. Altogether, there were close to 500 language teachers, from elementary through university, who were present.

The program featured seven or more concurrent presentations each session on topics ranging from the practical to the more theoretical. Topics ranged from teaching culture, using the Internet, and story-telling to assessment, mentoring teachers, and study abroad. Most of the sessions were designed to help teachers of all languages (including Latin) use new approaches in the classroom. One I attended, entitled “Fun x 8: Multiple Approaches for

Success in the Classroom,” made practical suggestions to help students of different learning styles be successful in learning a language. Another gave a status report on early language learning, comparing Iowa to the rest of the nation. At the bottom of this page, you can find the results of the survey on “Early Language Learning in Iowa.” At lunch the first day, I also met Jane Smith, a graduate student in foreign language education at the University of Iowa. She is working on a new FLES (Foreign Language in Elementary Schools) program for the summer of 2002 in Iowa City. Perhaps it will include Latin!

There was also time set aside on Friday afternoon for state language organizations such as AMICI to meet. Those attending our Fall AMICI meeting agreed that we should plan to make our Fall 2002 meeting coincide with the IWLA meeting. Next year’s IWLA meeting will again take place in Cedar Rapids the first weekend of October. Mark that weekend on your calendar and plan to attend.

—
John Gruber-Miller



“More teachers are certified for foreign language teaching at the elementary school level in Iowa than are teachers in programs throughout the U.S..”

Early Language Learning in Iowa: Results of a Survey

- Just 13% of children in Iowa’s elementary schools had the opportunity to study a foreign language in the 1998-99 school year; in Midwestern states, 25% studied a foreign language and nationally, 31% did in the 1997-98 school year.
- Iowa elementary schools offering a foreign language decreased 12% from 1991 to 1999— in contrast to an almost 10% increase nationally from 1987 to 1997.
- Almost all of Iowa’s elementary school foreign language programs provide only introductory exposure to the language, while more U.S. programs focus on language proficiency as a goal.
- The percentage of elementary schools in

Iowa and the nation that teach French and German has decreased markedly, and the percentage that teach the less commonly-taught languages also has decreased.

- Spanish is the language most taught in Iowa and the nation.
- More teachers are certified for foreign language teaching at the elementary school level in Iowa than are teachers in programs throughout the U.S.

These results are from *Early Foreign Language Learning in Iowa: Results of a Survey*. For more information contact Marcia Rosenbusch, Director; NFLRC; N131 Lagomarcino Hall, ISU; Ames, IA 50011; 515-294-6699; nflrc@iastate.edu; www.educ.iastate.edu/nflrc.

Classical Theater Takes the Stage in Iowa City

October and November witnessed four separate productions of Greek theater from tragedy to comedy.

In October, Dreamwell Theater produced Aristophanes' comedy, *Lysistrata*, using a new translation by X.J. Kennedy. Kennedy's translation emphasizes Aristophanes' use of the sexual impulse as a seductive plea for peace, and an end to the absurdities of war.

The weekend of November 1-4, the University of Iowa Theater Department staged two plays about the House of Atreus, Aeschylus' *Agamemnon* and Sophocles' *Electra*. Both plays reveal how one family dealt with the return of its patriarch, Agamemnon, after the Trojan War.

Finally, on November 17-18 Hancher Auditorium presents Tadashi Suzuki's *Dionysos*.

This new production of Euripides' *The Bacchae* transforms the ancient story of madness and murder into gripping theater. While rooted in traditional Japanese theater traditions, creator/director Tadashi Suzuki, a seminal thinker and innovator in contemporary theater, uses intense physical movement and provocative visual images to reawaken the ancient power of the myth.



(Continued from page 1)

important John has been to AMICI. Of course, John's work is not done. He is soon to become Chair of the Depart-

ment of Classics at the University of Iowa. We wish him luck. Gratias plurimas proconsulari agimus.

Join
AMICI



Special Offer

For just \$5.00 you can join AMICI and know that you are supporting Classics in Iowa. Additional gifts are tax-deductible and support the AMICI Translation Contest and other activities across the state. Please return the form to the right with a check (payable to AMICI) to John Gruber-Miller, AMICI Secretary-Treasurer, at the address below.

AMICI Membership Form, 2001-02

Yes, I want to join AMICI. Enclosed are:

Annual dues (\$5)

Additional gift

Position:

Administrator

Teacher

Graduate Student

Friend of Classics

Yes, I want to volunteer to mentor a Latin program in Iowa.

I want to find out more about the AMICI mentoring program.

If you know of anyone else not on our mailing list who would benefit from receiving a copy of our newsletter (e.g., a principal, guidance counselor, dean, or colleague), please send the person's name and address.

AMICI, CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF IOWA

Classical and Modern
Languages
Cornell College
600 First St W
Mt. Vernon, IA 52314

Phone: 319-895-4326
Fax: 319-895-4473
Email: jgruber-
miller@cornellcollege.edu

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Exploring our past in order to
understand the present

Email: jgruber-miller@cornellcollege.edu

Fax: 319-895-4473

Phone: 319-895-4326

Mt. Vernon, IA 52314

600 First St W

Cornell College

Classical and Modern Languages

AMICI, CLASSICAL
ASSOCIATION OF IOWA



AMICI, Classical Association of Iowa

AMICI was founded in 1988 as a non-profit organization to promote the study of Latin and the ancient world in Iowa schools, colleges, and communities. The name of the organization is the Latin word *amici*, which means “friends,” and comes from the Latin root for “love.” AMICI sponsors a bi-annual newsletter *Amicitia*, an annual Translation Contest, and a speakers’ bureau. If you are looking for a Latin teacher, are looking for a speaker, or want to know more about Latin or the ancient world, contact one of our officers:

- Cindy Smith, college consul (563-588-7953; csmith@loras.edu)
- Mary Ann Harness, high school consul (515-226-2600; Harnessm@home.wdm.k12.ia.us)
- John Gruber-Miller, secretary-treasurer (319-895-4326; jgruber-miller@cornellcollege.edu)