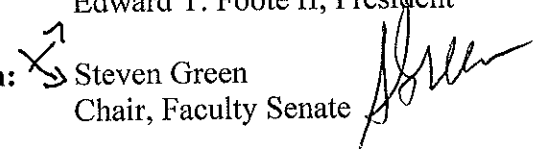


MEMORANDUM

To: Edward T. Foote II, President

From:  Steven Green
Chair, Faculty Senate

Date: 04 December 2000


Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2000-12(B) – Establishment of a Program in Classical Antiquity in the College of Arts and Sciences

The Faculty Senate, at its meeting on 29 November 2000, voted unanimously to approve the establishment of a Program in Classical Antiquity in the College of Arts and Sciences. This proposal would establish a degree minor and it is attached for your information.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

SG/kl

cc: ✓Luis Glaser, Provost
✓Daniel Pals, Interim Dean
✓David Graf, Department of History

12/6
Steve,
I approve.
Thanks.


CAPSULE: Faculty Senate Legislation #2000-12(B) -- Establishment of a Program in Classical Antiquity in the College of Arts and Sciences

RESPONSE BY THE PRESIDENT: Approve DATE: 12/6/00

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Provost

APPROVED: [Signature]

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: _____

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____

PROGRAM IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

The Need for a Program in Classical Antiquity. In a report of the University of Miami's undergraduate program, the commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) suggested that "consideration might be given to the addition of a classics program, which would help to form linkage among already strong departments in Foreign Languages, Philosophy, English and Religious Studies." This gap in our current curriculum is clearly an oversight that is in need of correction. Virtually every college and university, private or public, has either a classics department or a program in antiquity in place. It is particularly true of the private schools we commonly compare ourselves with. For example, Duke has an excellent department of classics and a fine program in papyrology, Vanderbilt has a fine classics department, and Emory has a classics department and a program in Mediterranean archaeology. Nor is this emphasis merely a vestige of the past. New "programs" in antiquity have been initiated at various institutions throughout the country, and recently at such schools in South Florida as FIU in Miami and USF at Tampa. This year, the University of Missouri is initiating a new graduate program in ancient history, and Penn State recently developed a program in Mediterranean Archaeology, acquiring leading specialists in Egyptology and Judaic Studies to enhance the effort. This recent revival of interest in classics has been developing steadily in academia in recent years. Even the contemporary emphasis on "political correctness" (race, ethnicity and gender) has served as a stimulus to this revival: see Gary Wills' article "There's Nothing Conservative about the Classics Revival: PC is BC," in the *New York Times Magazine* (January 8, 1997) 38-42. The success of major movies like "The Gladiator" and TV films like "The Odyssey" are reflections of the popular interest that sustains and supports it. A "Program in Classical Antiquity" at UM could capitalize on this large interest and provide a focal point for community interest and support. More importantly, it would meet the demand of students who have expressed their interest in such an emphasis being added to the current UM curriculum.

The Feasibility of such a Program. This interdisciplinary program is designed to provide undergraduate students with the opportunity for a minor in Classical Antiquity. At present, faculty in this area are distributed throughout various departments in the College of Arts & Sciences. A "Program in Classical Antiquity" would bring together the efforts being made in eight different departments by a dozen or more faculty. These are the departments of *Anthropology* (J. Gifford), *Architecture* (N. Patricios, V. Scully, T. Victoria), *Art History* (M. Wittmer, W. Betsch), *English* (R. Casillo, J. Russo, M. Suzuki), *Foreign Languages* (B. Halvonik), *History* (D. Graf), *Philosophy* (C. Siewert), and *Religious Studies* (D. Callendar, J. Fitzgerald). In addition, various other programs could participate in Classical Antiquity by cross-listing any special courses they offered in the ancient world. The courses outlined for the program are currently being offered on a regular basis, and others could be added (only five would be necessary for a minor, and three of these are required), so no new courses are necessary. For all essential purposes, the program theoretically already exists. All that is needed is for the College to approve and endorse the organization of these courses into a Minor. Such a program will give coherence and structure to the programs of students already taking these courses. In addition, the considerable talents and interests of current UM faculty already involved in classical antiquity will be coordinated. The program will provide a cohesiveness

to their diverse efforts and enhance the majors of students already interested in Classical Antiquity. It is also a cost efficient way of handling this curriculum component, as it avoids any costs of additional faculty that would be required in developing a new department of classical studies.

The Name of the Program. By the designation “Classical Antiquity,” a broader sphere is meant than just the study of Greek and Latin literary texts in the original language inferred by “Classical Studies.” This approach includes both a larger intellectual approach to the ancient world involving other forms of evidence (archaeology, epigraphy, papyri, etc.), other peoples and cultures (in Turkey, the Levant, Egypt and North Africa, and Iran which played an intimate and integral role in the development of Greek and Roman civilization), and other disciplines (anthropology, the sciences). Indeed, with the expansion of Alexander the Great’s empire, even Afghanistan and India were incorporated into this world. This enlarged historical and contextual approach represents the finest tradition of ancient studies in the twentieth century as reflected by the work of major scholars like Eduard Meyer (Germany), Arnaldo Momigliano (Italy), Chester G. Starr (Michigan), David M. Lewis (Oxford), G. W. Bowersock (Princeton), and Pierre Briant (Paris), to name just a few of the more influential scholars who have contributed to this emphasis. The title “Classical Antiquity” is also that of one of the most recent academic journals in the field, edited and published in Berkeley since 1982. The term “Late Antiquity” is furthermore currently in vogue among historians for designating the centuries between Constantine’s conversion to Christianity and the Islamic Conquests. Therefore, “Classical Antiquity” seems to be the most appropriate terminology for conveying the thematic, geographical, and chronological perimeters of the interdisciplinary program.

The Structure of the Program. The minor in the interdisciplinary program of Classical Antiquity consists of 15 hours, of which 9 hours will be required from a core of courses in Greek and Roman culture and the remaining 6 hours selected from a wide variety of elective courses in antiquity.

Required courses. The core curriculum will expose the student to the language, literature and culture of the ancient classical Greco-Roman world. The crucial role here is played by Professors Brent Halvonik, John Paul Russo and David Graf, whose courses (already taught on a regular basis each term) will be a fundamental part of the core curriculum. In fact, it will be possible for students to acquire a minor in Classical Antiquity by just focusing on the courses listed in the core curriculum.

- 3 credits of Greek or Latin language (FLL 101, 102 or 201)
- 3 credits in Greek and Latin literature (ENG 310 or 311)
- 3 credits in Greek, Hellenistic or Roman History (HIS 321,322, or 323)

Electives. The other 6 hours are to be selected from a variety of elective courses in Anthropology, Architectural History, Art History, English, Foreign Languages and Literature, History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies. A complete list of all the required and elective courses follows:

ANTHROPOLOGY 330 (Bronze Age Cultures)
 ANTHROPOLOGY 332 (Old World Archaeology)
 ARCHITECTURE HISTORY 302 (Theory of Classical Architecture and Urbanism)
 ARCHITECTURE HISTORY 371 (Ancient Architectural History)
 ART HISTORY 330 (Art of Egypt and Mesopotamia)
 ART HISTORY 332 (Greek Art)
 ART HISTORY 333 (Roman Art)
 ART HISTORY 335 (Early Christian and Byzantine Art)
 ENGLISH 310 (Literature and Culture in Classical Greece and Rome I)
 ENGLISH 311 (Literature and Culture in Classical Greece and Rome II)
 FOREIGN LANGUAGES 101 (Elementary Classical Greek)
 FOREIGN LANGUAGES 102 (Elementary Classical Greek)
 FOREIGN LANGUAGES 201 (Greek Readings)
 FOREIGN LANGUAGES 101 (Elementary Classical Latin)
 FOREIGN LANGUAGES 102 (Elementary Classical Latin)
 FOREIGN LANGUAGES 201 (Latin Readings)
 HISTORY 301 (The Ancient Near East)
 HISTORY 303 (Ancient Egypt)
 HISTORY 321 (The Greek World)
 HISTORY 322 (The Hellenistic World)
 HISTORY 323 (The Roman World)
 HISTORY 324 (Late Roman Empire)
 HISTORY 534 (Studies in Ancient History)
 PHILOSOPHY 271 (Ancient Philosophy)
 PHILOSOPHY 570 (Plato)
 PHILOSOPHY 571 (Aristotle)
 RELIGIOUS STUDIES 300 (Religion and Cultures of the Ancient Near East)
 RELIGIOUS STUDIES 520 (Seminar: Hellenistic Moral Philosophy and Early Christianity)
 RELIGIOUS STUDIES 520 (Seminar: The Ancient Novel)

As the interdisciplinary program is described above, eight departments will be involved and 28 courses already listed in the current curriculum. The vast majority of these courses are offered on a regular basis, so it should not be difficult for a student to develop a minor of 15 hours. Letters have been procured from the chairs of each of the participating departments ensuring the necessary courses will be offered on a regular basis. No new courses or faculty are necessary. The courses listed above are certainly sufficient for students developing a minor in "Classical Antiquity." In fact, there is the potential for a student to develop a minor around a number of different themes and foci within the classical world, emphasizing either Greece and the Near East or the enlarged world of the Roman Empire. Every effort has been made to be as inclusive as possible of all those who have expressed interest in participating in the program. Appropriate courses developed in Judaic Studies, Women's Studies, or other programs/departments can be included in the future.

A few of the courses listed are not currently offered (those in Anthropology and Greek language),

but they may be added in the near future. The Department of Anthropology is currently conducting an advertised search for an archaeologist, in which the course in "Old World Archaeology" is involved in the job description. In addition, Professor Havolnik, who is now teaching Latin on a regular basis in the Department of Foreign Languages, is currently exploring the development of a Greek course. Both the Dean and chair of the department (David Ellison) have expressed their interest in adding introductory Greek to the offerings in Foreign Languages, so we can anticipate such courses being added in the near future. In addition, guest lecturers from other areas such as the natural sciences could be arranged to enhance students understanding of the physical world of the Mediterranean basin and adjacent areas.

The program would be administered by a director with an advisory committee composed of designated representatives from each of the participating departments.

Anticipated Student Interest. The potential enrollment for a program in classical antiquity at Miami should be competitive with other programs, excluding the larger professional programs. The proposed core courses regularly draw large enrollments. This semester, English 310 (Russo), History 303 (Graf), and Latin 101 (Halvonik) have over 20 students, and many of the elective offerings have similar large enrollments, e.g. the survey in ancient philosophy (Philosophy 271) has over 20 students this semester and a seminar on Aristotle has 16 students (Philosophy 571). In 1998, Professors Russo, Callendar and Graf passed out a questionnaire in their classes to gauge student interest in such a possible program, emphasizing that such a program was only a possibility and that no one should feel compelled to fill out the form. More than 70 students indicated they would take a minor in Classical Antiquity if such a program were available. Such a minor would be attractive to students majoring in all the participating departments. Such a component would also assist students who were interested in pursuing such studies on the graduate level, and strengthen their case for acceptance in such programs.

Resources and Expenditures. A program in classical antiquity will place minimal demands on the university's fiscal budget. The program is dependent only on current faculty, and no major acquisitions are necessary.

The Dean has committed funds for a stipend for the director in administering the program and for a part-time secretary.

The Richter library has adequate holdings of books and journals in the area of classical antiquity to support the minor in classical antiquity, as this area has been of long-term interest to various individual faculty. Margaret Borgeest in the Reference & Research Services division of the Richter Library has agreed to cooperate in further developing the classical antiquity collection.

In recent years, the Lowe Art Museum has accumulated a sizeable collection of holdings in classical antiquity, and many are on permanent display. Much of this interest reflects the interest of the donors of the museum and the director, Brian Dursam, is committed to the continued development of the collection in this area.

A program in classical antiquity can be interfaced with archaeological field experiences. UM students can now take classical courses and field work in the Institute of Archaeology and Department of Classics at Tel Aviv University in Israel, with whom we have an exchange program. Furthermore, Professor Timothy Gregory, director of the Ohio State University excavations at Corinth in Greece would welcome volunteers from the UM. A program in Classical Antiquity would expand such opportunities and make our students attractive as volunteers to directors of other archaeological projects. Funds could be raised to help support UM students enlisting on such projects.

Interest in antiquity already exists in the South Florida area, and a classical program will provide a focal point for contributions and fund raising that other universities are already utilizing. For example, FSU has raised funds for the Langford chair in classics and a special lecture series on antiquity. The Greek community at Tampa recently provided USF with funds for a chair in Greek language and culture. With the establishment of a program in classical antiquity, Miami area residents will have a focus for contributing funds and expressing their interest in the classical world. Contacts with potential donors in the Greek and Middle Eastern communities have already been made, and the signs are encouraging.

David F. Graf
History Department
November 9, 2000