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THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE ATLANTIC STATES, INC. (founded in 1907)

September 8, 2020

Greetings, CAAS Colleagues,

As this new and unusual academic year unfolds, I would like to remind everyone that in one month we will gather virtually for our special pandemic edition (!) **2020 Virtual Annual Meeting, October 8-10**. All of the latest information for Membership Renewal, Registration, the Program, and the Election Ballot can be found at our website.

Putting together the program of the Annual Meeting in a *normal* year is an enormous task and a labor of generosity for the Program Coordinator. Putting together a *virtual* program is an even *greater* job, requiring not only technical understanding, but also project management skills that few of us have ever had to cultivate.

CAAS has been so fortunate this year to have the impressive trio of **Program Coordinator Maria Marsilio** of St. Joseph's University, **Deputy Program Coordinator Judy Hallett**, and **Technology Manager Jennifer Ranck** working on our behalf. I have watched with admiration how fluidly they have worked together over the summer to pivot from planning an in-person meeting to a virtual one. We are all becoming familiar with the challenges of virtual meetings, but this team is doing everything possible to make the **2020 CAAS VAM** run smoothly and productively.

I draw your special attention to the **Friday, October 9, evening Clack Lecture**, featuring **Dr. Jinyu Liu**, Professor of Classical Studies at DePauw University, whose lecture is entitled, "From Rome to China: Translation, (Western) Classics, and Comparative Antiquity."

Two other special events not to miss are the honorary *Ovationes* to be read prior to the Annual Business Session, **Saturday October 10, at 1 pm**—one for **Nancy Rabinowitz**, to be read by Barbara Gold, and the other for **Maria Marsilio**, to be read by Konstantinos P. Nikoloutsos.

I have been honored to serve CAAS as President this past year, and as Vice President in the two years before this one. As you will know, the field of study that unites us faces a number of challenges as it looks to the future. Some are challenges facing all humanities disciplines in our society, others are more specific to the field of Classics and require a sensitivity to our disciplinary history and an open and honest attitude to its reception in our own time.

CAAS as an organization is well poised to meet these challenges, I am convinced, and I know that in the coming years we will play a significant role in helping our field speak with urgency and excitement to a new generation in a new era.

With warm regards and best wishes,

Ralph M. Rosen
President, The Classical Association of the Atlantic States