

CCA Meeting Saturday, 24th September, 2016
Eaton Humanities 190 University of Colorado Boulder

9:45 am Refreshments and mixer

10 am Introductions

In Attendance: Jackie Elliott (UCB), Marques Kem (Liberty Common HS), Tim Smith (Ridgeview Classical School), Mary Zang (Smoky Hill HS), Amanda Sherpe (Mullen HS), Lynn LiCalsi (Fairview HS), Amy Sommer (Cherry Creek HS), Barb Werner (Liberty Common HS), Bleys Kueck (The Classical Academy), Helen Vickery (Boulder HS), Julia Beyers (Centennial HS), Morgan Grey (The Vanguard School), Barbara Hill (UCB ret.), Francesca Filanti (UCB MA student), Brandi Boseovski (CU MAT student), Kimberly Clouser (Liberty Common HS), Tyler Lansford (UCB), Andrew Carroll (Regis Jesuit HS), Stephanie Krause (Ridgeview Classical School), Jen Kindick (Ricks Center and Cherry Creek HS), Vytas Vaznelis (Liberty HS), Wesley Wood (UCB MA student), Grace Koch (UCB MAT student), Pierre Habel (D'Evelyn HS), Bleys Kueck (The Classical Academy), Emily Sharp (The Vanguard School), Frank Gumerlock (Holy Family HS), Joy Collins (The Classical Academy ret.), Katie Regan (Colorado College), Chantel Osborne (The Classical Academy).

The meeting was called to order by CCA co-president Jackie Elliott. The following announcements were made:

- The 2016-2017 Colorado Classics Directory is almost complete. Barbara Hill passed around a rough draft, asking members to check their entries and suggest additions. The document will be sent out to members shortly.
- Jackie Elliott requested suggestions for use of the CCA website. Sanjaya Thakur (Colorado College) is the editor of this site.
- Tim Smith introduced the SALVI Latin immersion program. He suggested that the SALVI program in West Virginia is a good way for Latin teachers to gain spoken Latin proficiency. Tim achieved fluency in only a few days of total immersion, and now he and others at the Ridgeview Classical School use spoken Latin consistently in their classes. The 2017 SALVI program starts July 6th and registration is open October 1st. Spaces fill quickly.
- Tim would like to start a program in Colorado and requested suggestions for a venue. The program could accommodate about 40 people.
- Jesse Barkalow (The Classical Academy) is the contact for a spring break trip to Rome with Paideia (<http://www.paideia institute.org/>) The trip will take place in the last full week of March.
- Marques Kem announced the “Festival of Ideas” conference at Liberty Common High School. Presentations will occur on all sorts of topics. The date for 2017 is February 11th, 9 am – 3 pm.

- Frank Gumerlock (Holy Family HS) brought a number of used Latin books and urged attendees to take any books of interest them free of charge.

Mary Zang, CCA treasurer, reported that the CCA has just over \$1,000 in its treasury. She suggested the deadline for submission CCA dues as December 1. The cost of membership is \$15 regular, \$10 retired, \$10 student, and \$150 lifetime. Please make checks out to Mary Zang and send them to her home address or to Smoky Hill High School in care of Mary Zang. Write “CCA dues” on the memo line.

During a brief business meeting, Jackie Elliott explained a few minor proposed changes in the verbiage of the CCA constitution. The revisions were passed by a unanimous vote.

The program for the meeting was a Panel presentation and discussion of three different options for advanced Latin reading. Speakers were Tim Smith, who described the independent model he developed for Ridgeview Classical School, Amy Sommer, who discussed the Latin Advanced Placement program, which she employs at Cherry Creek HS, and Lynn LiCalsi, who described the International Baccalaureate Latin program, which she uses at Fairview HS.

When the AP curriculum changed four years ago, the Ridgeview Classical School decided to do a year long Vergil course (*Aeneid*, *Eclogues* and *Georgics*) instead of adhere to the new AP syllabus. Tim did not like Caesar and realized that many students do not use their AP college credit. He advocates that students take the SAT Latin subject test instead. Tim is enthusiastic about the change because it allows him to teach what he wants. Since there is no standard syllabus or standardized test for which to prepare, he and his students can explore a wide range of authors. He can also expand the role of spoken Latin in his advanced class. Tim states that his advanced Latin enrollment has not declined, he and his students enjoy the class more and their achievement is about the same despite the prohibition of the Ridgeview principal against assigning homework in elective courses.

Amy Sommer provided an overview of the AP Latin syllabus, including required Caesar and Aeneid texts, books in translation, learning objectives, curricular requirements for the teacher (syllabus creation), and exam format. The AP exam requires literal translation, sight passages, grammar terminology, figures of speech, cultural context, and analytical essays. Advantages of this program include the fact that its expectations are aligned with the format and expectations of a college Latin literature class. Since AP expectations are high, the teacher and her students become a team. The potential for college credit gives students a boost at the post-secondary level, and the combination of two Latin authors allows for rich discussion of themes, and promotes analysis and formation of arguments. Latin AP is important to the administration, parents and students of Cherry Creek HS, and Amy is pleased by how well her students do in college. She admits that she is sometimes frustrated by the rigid AP syllabus and the requirements of the College Board so she is careful to teach her class in ways that make it a great, memorable experience for her students.

Lynn LiCalsi, who has 36 years experience teaching Latin, departed from the AP program when Caesar was added to its syllabus. She teaches both standard and IB Latin classes at Fairview HS and enjoys the flexibility the IB program allows because it changes its reading list every three years. Lynn shared a number of her teaching techniques:

Beginning in Latin I, written translations are not allowed.

In Latin I, reading and composition are stressed.

Literal translations are always required.

Students are asked to evaluate frequently where they stand in regard to their achievement by describing where they fit into a picture.

Homework is not assigned. Students are asked to review the material from the day's class.

Assessments are often projects, frequently oral presentations.

Every student reads Caesar, Martial, Cicero, Ovid, Catullus, Horace, Vergil, Plautus.

Lynn advocates that teachers should design like an architect, teach like an artist. She loves the Language Lab and the technology it offers and recommends Fairview Latin films on YouTube and her favorite Links: fairviewhs.org (on her page, IB 4).

The discussion following these presentations included the fact that International Baccalaureate is a school program, and a school needs to be certified as an IB certificate program. Some school buy-in is also necessary for an Advanced Placement program. A teacher must get his/her AP syllabus approved but can use a sample from the AP website. A lower level of school involvement for is needed for an AP rather than IB certificate. Students can take an AP exam even if not in a class. Tim Smith noted that his independent model is an Honors course at his charter school. There is some approval process for Honors. Ridgeview is a counter-cultural school to regular educational processes and so they are very supportive of rogue programs.

After thanks to the outstanding presenters, the following conclusions were established:

- The spring meeting will be held on 25th February, 2017 at D'Evelyn HS (South Denver)
- Suggestions for February agenda items:
 - SAT subject test
 - NLE 3 (Everyone should take it!)
 - ALIRA exam (Wesley Wood)
 - Travel opportunity to archaeological trip to the Rhine (Joy Collins)

Request: please consider submitting a nomination for the CCA Teacher of the Year Award!

11:30 am Meeting adjourned.