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Letter From the President

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L E T T E R F R O M
T H E P R E S I D E N T

 Anno exeunte, convento Societatis perfecto, praeses collegis ultimam salutationem scribit. Si valetis, bene est; ego Societasque valemus.

I write this just a couple of weeks after the completion of the 2017 Annual Meeting, where nearly half of CANE's members came together for two days of scholarship and collegiality. I'm sure most attendees gained new ideas, bought a book or poster or other classical trinket, connected with former students or teachers or other friends, met new friends — as I did. It's not too soon to start making plans to come to the University of Rhode Island next March: the submission deadline for papers and workshops will be 1 December.

But CANE isn't just the Annual Meeting in March and the Summer Institute in July. Our work goes on throughout the year in this *Journal*, in our blog, in grants and awards to members, and in the offerings of the Press and the Emporium. CANE can be a constant part of our professional lives.

At this time of year, though, perhaps we're thinking beyond our professional lives. I have only a dozen meetings left of my various classes: the school year is winding down. I'm watching the seniors as they prepare for graduation, followed by jobs or graduate school. I've known some of them since their very first weeks in college, when they took my Intermediate Latin class. Since then they've learned Greek, or Sanskrit, or Japanese, or German; they've studied abroad; they've taken film studies, gender studies, political science, or digital humanities; they've competed in intercollegiate debate or in Quidditch. I'm proud of what they've done and happy to have been a small part of their achievements.

Meanwhile, sophomores are declaring majors and joining our department, we've got a list of entering first-years who might be interested in classics, and our newly admitted graduate students are writing their advisors with questions. One class grad-

uates, and another rushes in to fill the void. There will always be new students eager to meet Cicero, Catullus, Erasmus, Sophocles, Pindar, and all the rest; there will always be a new chance to inspire the next generation of colleagues. We are part of a chain of teachers and students, going back to our own teachers, their teachers, and all the way back to the first bards who taught their successors how to sing of κλέος ἄφθιτον, *akḗiti śravas*, unwilting and imperishable fame. May that chain never break.

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